

Lemonade Of Life

Sadie

“Today is election day for the new president of our class. The person who wants to be the new president is going to give a short presentation in front of the class.” Ms. Lee said to us. Nobody raised their hand, except me. “Hmm... OK, Sadie is going to be the new president, but she was the president last year, nobody else wants to be the president?”

Still quiet.

Hi, I am Sadie, a fifth grader in Ms. Lee’s class. I can tell I am the smartest person in the whole school. Of course my parents are rich: we live in a big house and I go to the best school ever!

One Saturday morning, I went to a mall with my parents, because they promised I can have my own computer. It’s a new one. After shopping, we were going to our parking place. It was snowing and I couldn’t really see what was in front of us. 5 minutes later, I saw a dazzling light. I don’t know what happened next.

Ann

Hi, my name is Ann. I moved to Michigan only 10 days ago. I lived in Ohio State before I came here. I have three younger sisters and five younger brothers. Tomorrow, I am going to my new school. I am really excited.

Sadie

“Where am I? Mom, Dad!” I opened my eyes and I couldn’t see anything. It was dark. I felt I didn’t have any energy, and my body was light. “What is going on here, are you okay? You look pretty strained. My name is Dr. Gen, you are at a hospital, because you hurt your legs.” “I don’t care! I want my Mommy now! Where is she, she is the best person ever!” I was yelling at her, even though I knew that was not really polite, but I couldn’t live without my parents! “Calm down, Sadie. Don’t yell out loud, now it is the middle of the night, every patient is sleeping. You are weak, don’t do that, it is going to hurt your body very much.” Dr. Gen said softly. “I’m sorry,” I said impatiently. “Please tell me the truth!”

“A car was speeding toward you and your parents, and...” Tears were flowing from the corner of her eyes. She turned quickly and I could see that she didn’t want to let me know she was crying. I wanted to comfort her, but I couldn’t. I didn’t know what to say, because I also needed someone to comfort me. I dared not to think what would happen next. I didn’t want to know. “You are lying, that is not the truth! My parents are at home now!” I was crying and was speaking in a hoarse voice.

Then, I closed my eyes and fell asleep again.

Ann

The first day at school was fun, I made a lot of new friends. Someone said in our class there is a girl named Sadie. I have never seen her before and she wasn’t at school that day. When I asked Ms. Lee, she said she was sick. But I wanted to know more about Sadie. I hear she is smart and her report card is better than anyone’s.

When I got home from school a few weeks later, Mom told me that a girl is coming to our home. Mom is adopting a girl? Actually, I didn't want Mom to adopt any children. Suddenly she is going to get busier. I am the oldest child in my family and my Mom always takes care of my little sisters and brothers. Mom didn't have any time to take care of me. It was fine, I already knew how to take care of myself, but still, I didn't want mom to do that.

"Mom, why? I ..."I asked my mom, I had no chance to finish my sentence. "We are helping other friends who need help. Don't worry Ann." OK, it was Mom 's choice. I can't have any opinion, I thought.

Sadie

When I opened my eyes again, it was morning. The sun shined through the cream-colored curtain. I felt my body was no longer weak and Dr. Gen told me I would be released from the hospital soon. I would live with an adoptive family for now.

Suddenly, I remembered something I had read in a book before. It said, if you are feeling very sad, even feeling despair, that means your heart hurts. I would say there was a wound. But, after a while, your wound will slowly heal. You won't be sad anymore. It was like that book was talking to me now.

A week later, I was going to leave the hospital. A man came who wore black and grey pattern glasses. He was tall and thin. He was my adoptive father. He was Mr. Disney . He picked me up from the hospital. His car was very small, it could only carry four people. My parents' cars were bigger than his. I could see that he was POOR! I didn't want to be poor! On the way to his home, he kept asking questions about me, but I didn't want to answer. I closed my eyes, as if I was sleeping. "Sadie, we are home!" Mr. Disney said. I opened my eyes and I saw a house in

front of the car. It was a big house for his family, but it was a small house for me. "Oh my goodness," I thought. "I can't live in such a small house!" We came into the house, and I saw that it was clean.

A woman wearing a yellow dress sat on a wheelchair. She cleared her throat and said, "Hello, Sadie. I am Mrs. Disney. Welcome. You can call me mama if you want, or Mrs. Disney as well. Your room is over there. You can go take a look." "I am never going to call her mama," I thought. I climbed up the stairs, and I saw a small bed in a small bedroom. I couldn't sleep on it, it was too small! "Mrs. Disney, why are there two beds in my room? Can I put them together?" I asked. "Sorry, that one is Ann's bed." "Who is she?" "I am, Sadie. Please don't yell at my Mom. And by the way, you'd better take your luggage to our bedroom." "WHAT? You didn't bring my luggage here? Oh my goodness!" I was yelling at them.

Ann

It was horrible. The new girl at our house didn't know anything. I knew she was from a rich family, but she didn't know basic commonsense. I couldn't imagine that she was Sadie! She told me the whole thing about her parents: it was upsetting. I wished I could help this girl and become her friend, she really needed helping.

After a few more days, Sadie finally could go to school. She told me, "Going to school is the best way to forget something sad." I thought so, too.

Ms. Lee

Since she lost her parents, Sadie was almost like a different person. She was always in a daze. Also her learning stopped. I tried to talk with her several times,

but she pretended she didn't care. I was worried about her. I didn't send an e-mail to her foster parents because I knew she was still in an adjustment period. I didn't want to hurt her feelings.

Sadie

I was dizzy those days because I cried so much. At school, I almost fell asleep on my desk. Hmmm, but that was not the most important thing. You know, this story is almost over, and I think I need to tell you the most interesting and the most touching part of the story. Because of it, my life changed. It was a cloudy Sunday morning and I woke up earlier than before. I saw a letter on my desk, and I opened it:

Dear Sadie,

I am happy I have become friends with you. You are a very smart girl. Sorry I didn't tell you, but I am going to California. I have to go because in California there is the best hospital for cancer. I need to go there with my mom and my grandparents. We need to take care of my mom. Don't worry, my dad, my brothers and sisters are not going there with me, so you can keep living in my house.

Mrs. Disney, my mom, she is a brave lady .Five years ago, she got cancer, so she can only sit on the wheelchair. But still, she is friendly and she still is my beautiful mommy. She always teaches us to be helpful people and to do our best when we are helping someone. I was confused why she is smiling every day. She told me: "Life is just like lemonade: it is sour, but if you add some sugar, that will make your lemonade taste good. However, if you add lots of sugar, then it makes your lemonade too sweet. It is

not a good thing! So, just add a little bit of sugar! Remember, do your best all the time.

I hope I can be a little bit of sugar in your life.

I always give my friends some tips that I learned from my mom. those tips might help you. Bye! I hope you have a good weekend! See you!

FROM Ann TO Sadie

Tears flowed from my eyes and were dripping onto the paper. I felt my body was hollow. I looked at her bed. It was still very clean. I stood and sat, because I didn't know what to do next.

"We want you to become the real Sadie," I murmured.

I promised Ann, I would do my best.

THE END