

Fenn and the First Stitch

A small repair can begin something lovely.



Fenn's favourite cushion had a red patch shaped like an apple. He took it everywhere: under the willow, beside the window and into his snug reading corner.



One afternoon, a little seam opened. Fluffy stuffing peeked out. Fenn poked it back with his paw, but the opening only became wider when he sat down.



'We can mend that,' said Aunt Fern. She brought a sewing basket to the table. Fenn stared at the thread. 'What if my stitches look funny?'



Aunt Fern gave him a blunt practice needle, thick thread and a square of cloth with ready-made holes. 'Let's learn slowly together,' she said, sitting beside him.



Fenn pushed the thread through one hole and pulled it back through the next. The thread tangled around his paw. 'It has made a nest!' he said.



They loosened the tangle together. This time, Fenn pulled a shorter length. Up through one hole, down through another. A small row appeared beneath his paws.



His first stitches were different sizes. Fenn frowned. Aunt Fern turned the cloth over. 'They are holding,' she said. Fenn gave them a careful little tug.



After more practice, Aunt Fern helped him choose a green patch for the cushion. She handled the sharp needle while Fenn guided the cloth and counted the stitches.



The patch slipped sideways. They stopped, smoothed it flat and tried again. Fenn noticed that stopping to check was part of sewing, just like pulling the thread.



At last, the opening was closed. The green patch looked like a leaf beside the red apple. Fenn ran his paw across the neat, sturdy edge.



He carried the cushion into the garden. When Bo asked about its new leaf, Fenn told the whole story, including the tangled thread and the sideways patch.



That evening, Fenn practised another row on his holey cloth. His favourite cushion rested behind him. It felt soft, familiar and a little more his than before.

The End

A little story. A moment to share.

What did you notice?

Which moment would you like to talk about?



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