Leni and the Long Ribbon

A change can begin a new dance.





Leni had practised a ribbon dance in the sitting room. Up, around, and down. Her yellow ribbon made a shining loop. She couldn't wait to try it outside.



Grandpa took her to the park. There was plenty of space on the grass. Leni lifted her handle and began. Up, around, and... the wind snatched the loop away.



The ribbon streamed behind her instead. Leni stopped. "That isn't my dance." She tried again, faster this time. The ribbon fluttered into a tangle beside her shoes.



She put the handle down and carefully spread the ribbon straight. Grandpa waited nearby. "What is the wind doing?" he asked. Leni watched the grass bend in little waves.



She held her ribbon still. The wind lifted its end, then lowered it. Up and down. A small dance was already happening, even before she moved her arm.



Leni raised the handle slowly. The ribbon floated in a long golden curve. She took three gentle steps. It followed her like a stream of sunshine across the grass.



Then the breeze stopped. The ribbon drooped. Leni sighed, but only a little. She made a small circle with her hand. On the grass, the ribbon drew a yellow spiral.



"A resting dance," she told Grandpa. He nodded. Leni traced another spiral, then a long smooth wave. She was finding movements she had never tried indoors.



A stronger breeze arrived. Leni felt it on her cheeks. Instead of pulling against it, she turned slightly and let her ribbon stretch. It fluttered proudly beside her.



She joined the movements together: a floating curve, a gentle wave, a little resting spiral. The dance changed whenever the wind changed. Leni kept watching and listening.



Grandpa clapped when she finished. "Was that the dance you planned?" he asked. Leni looked at the yellow ribbon curled neatly beside her. "Not quite," she said.



On the way home, she carried the handle while Grandpa gathered the ribbon. Tomorrow's wind might be different. Leni smiled. There would be another way to dance.



The end

What happened when Leni watched the wind?

How did she change her dance?

When have you tried a different way?

Little adventures. A kinder tomorrow.

An original MimoMango story. First edition, 2026.
Story and illustrations created with AI assistance.
Designed for reading together, ages 4-7.