

Nemi and the Bedtime Visitor

A small visitor needs a gentle way home.



Nemi was nearly ready for bed. Her yellow quilt was smooth, her storybook was closed, and her little table lamp made a warm circle on the bedroom wall.



Then something fluttered past her nose. Nemi ducked beneath the quilt. A small brown shape circled the lamp, brushing the shade with soft, papery wings.



'There is something flying in here!' she called. Grandpa Deer came to look. 'A moth,' he said gently. 'It seems to have found its way indoors this evening.'



Nemi waved her storybook towards the window. The moth fluttered faster and disappeared behind the curtain. She lowered the book. That had not helped it find the way.



They sat quietly on the bed. Soon, the moth came out and circled the lamp again. Nemi watched its wings. 'It keeps coming back to the light,' she said.



Grandpa opened the window wider. Outside, the garden was turning blue in the evening air. The moth stayed near the bright lamp, circling the same small space.



'Could we make outside easier to find?' Nemi asked. Grandpa switched on the little porch light beyond the window. Then he reached towards the lamp beside her bed.



Nemi caught his sleeve. She did not want the room completely dark. Grandpa waited. 'I can leave the hall light on and sit right here,' he said.



Nemi held his hand and nodded. The table lamp went dark. A soft strip of light still crossed the floor from the hallway. Nemi could see Grandpa beside her.



For a moment, the moth rested on the curtain. Then it lifted its wings and fluttered through the open window towards the porch. Nemi watched until it disappeared.



Grandpa switched the porch light off and closed the window. The garden belonged to the night again. Nemi listened to the leaves rustling softly beyond the glass.



She tucked herself beneath the yellow quilt. The gentle hall light was enough tonight. 'Goodnight, little visitor,' she whispered. Helping the moth had begun when she stopped chasing and started watching.

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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