Nia and the Wobbly Tower

A little patience. A stronger beginning.





Nia tipped her blocks onto the floor. Today she would build a tower taller than her knee. She chose one small yellow block for the bottom.



Up went a blue block. Up went a green one. Nia balanced a red roof on top. Her tower leaned like a sleepy sunflower. Then it fell.



Clatter! Blocks scattered across the rug. Nia pressed her lips together. Her little brother Bo came over, carrying a wide wooden block in both hands. "Me too?"



"Not yet," said Nia. "This tower is tricky." Bo sat nearby. Nia tried again, very slowly. She held her breath. The little yellow bottom began to wobble.



Nia caught the top before it fell. "Why won't you stay?" she asked the blocks. Bo put his wide block flat on the floor. He patted it.



Nia looked at the wide block. Then she looked at her own two feet. When she stood with them apart, she felt steady. "Could we try that?"



Together, they laid three wide blocks side by side. Bo pushed the edges close. Nia added a shorter row above them. Their new tower had a broad bottom.



Bo reached for a shiny blue block. "Here?" he asked. Nia nearly said no. Instead, she pointed to a space. "Let's see." Bo placed it with careful hands.



The tower stood firm. They added a little window, then a doorway for a wooden horse. Nia forgot to measure. She was busy finding places for Bo's ideas.



At last, only the red roof remained. Nia held it out. "Your turn." Bo stretched up, tongue peeping between his lips, and settled it gently on the top.



They sat back. Their tower was wider than Nia's first one, brighter, and full of little surprises. Best of all, it stayed standing.



Bo rolled the wooden horse through the doorway. "Home!" he said. Nia smiled. Tomorrow they might build higher. Today, they had built something with room for two.



The end

What helped Nia's tower stand?

How did Bo help?

What could you make with someone else?

Little adventures. A kinder tomorrow.

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