Pippo and the Slow Surprise

A story about patient making



MimoMango
Little Adventures. A Kinder Tomorrow.



Pippo wanted to make a surprise for Lark's garden party. He had no ribbons or coloured paper. But fallen flower petals lay all over the courtyard after a breeze.



He picked up a yellow petal and put it on a pale paving stone. Then he placed another beside it. Two tiny pieces of sunshine waited near his toes.



Lark hurried past with cups. "What are you making?" she asked. Pippo smiled. "A surprise." Lark looked at the two petals, nodded kindly, and carried the cups inside.



Pippo added a curving line of pink petals around the yellow ones. It took time to find pieces that fitted. A petal stuck to his nose, and he sneezed.



The sneeze scattered his little curve. Pippo stared at the stones. He wanted to leave the petals and find something faster to make.



Then he noticed how the scattered pink pieces looked like a winding path. He moved just two petals and let the path bend. His surprise could grow a different way.



He worked a little, then rested in the shade. He drank some water and watched a beetle walk around his yellow centre. The picture could wait.



When Pippo returned, he added orange petals along one side. The pattern began to spread across the stone like a small sunrise. Each petal made a little more of the picture.



Lark came out with cushions. This time, she stopped. "Oh! It's getting bigger." "Slowly," said Pippo. Lark smiled. "Would you like me to keep this corner clear for you?"



Pippo nodded. Lark placed the cushions on the other side of the courtyard. Pippo finished with a wide pink circle. He looked at the whole pattern, then put the last petal down.



When the guests arrived, they gathered around his bright petal sun. Nobody walked on it. They noticed the curved path, the orange glow, and the little yellow centre that had started everything.



By evening, some petals had curled at the edges. Pippo still smiled. His slow surprise had made a happy moment. Tomorrow, the petals could return to the garden and help it grow.



The end

What helped Pippo keep making his surprise?

What could you make a little at a time?

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