# Rafi and the Faraway Birthday

Love can travel across a screen.





Grandma's birthday call had begun. But Grandma lived far away. Rafi could not knock on her door or give her a squeeze. He stared at their little cake.



"We can celebrate together on the screen," Mum said. Rafi frowned. A screen could not share a slice of cake. It could not join a race around the garden.



He made Grandma a birthday card anyway. He drew a great yellow sun. Then he held it up to the laptop. The camera showed only one enormous yellow corner.



Mum helped him move the card back. Now the whole sun appeared. Rafi waved it slowly. "Can Grandma see everything we hold here?" he asked. Mum nodded.



Rafi fetched three small things: a shell, a spoon, and his toy bus. He hid them beneath a cloth. Perhaps a birthday game could travel through the camera.



Grandma blew a kiss, and Rafi's heart jumped. "Happy birthday!" he shouted. Grandma laughed and waved both hands. Behind her stood flowers, a blue chair, and her own little cake.



Rafi showed the three objects, one at a time. Grandma named them. Then he covered them, removed the spoon, and lifted the cloth. "What's missing?" he asked.



Grandma leaned close. "The bus?" Rafi giggled. "Try again!" She tapped her chin. "Something for my soup?" Rafi held up the spoon. They both cheered.



Then Grandma had a turn. She showed a button, a pencil, and a bright scarf. Rafi watched carefully. When the pencil disappeared, he knew exactly what to say.



They sang together. The sound arrived a little late, so the song became wonderfully wobbly. Rafi didn't mind. Grandma was singing his name into their warm, busy kitchen.



Mum took a picture of Rafi waving at the screen. Grandma waved back. They each ate a slice of their own cake and described how sweet it tasted.



Before saying goodbye, Rafi pressed his hand near the camera. Grandma did the same. It wasn't a squeeze, but it was theirs. "Same game next time?" he asked. "Always," she said.




# The end

What could Rafi share from far away?

How did he solve the card problem?

What game could you play with someone far away?

Little adventures. A kinder tomorrow.

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