The Bedtime Sound Map



Familiar noises make a picture of home.

A short story to enjoy together

The Bedtime Sound Map

At bedtime, Tali heard a soft bump in the hall.

"What was that?" she asked.

Mum listened. Bump, shuffle. Bump, shuffle.

"My slippers," she said. "One keeps catching on my heel."

Tali giggled. Then she heard a little click from the kitchen.

"And that?"

"The kettle switching off."

Tali sat up. "Our home is talking."

Mum brought her paper and crayons. "Shall we make a picture of what it says?"

Tali drew her bed in the middle. Along one side, she drew two enormous slippers. Near the top, she drew a kettle with a curl of steam.

They listened again.

Tick, tick, tick.

Tali drew the clock. Then came a soft scratching sound at the door. Their cat pushed it open with her nose.

The Bedtime Sound Map

"That sound needs whiskers," Tali said.

She drew the cat beside the bed. Mum added a tiny arrow showing where the sound had come from.

Outside, a car rolled past. Tali put it near the edge of the page. Its sound belonged beyond their window.

At last they heard almost nothing. The kettle was quiet. The slippers were still. The cat had curled into a round, warm shape.

Tali looked at her map. All the little noises had places now.

Mum tucked the blanket around her and set the crayons aside.

"Goodnight," she whispered.

"Wait," Tali said sleepily. "We missed one."

"Which sound?"

"That one."

Mum kissed her forehead. Tali closed her eyes. Tomorrow she would draw a small heart beside her bed.

THE END

LET'S TALK

Which sounds belonged inside Tali's home? What familiar sounds would be on your map?

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