

Sami Turns the Picture Around

An original MimoMango story



Sami painted a tall purple mountain with a green river underneath. At least, that was the plan. The river wandered straight into the mountain instead.



'Oh,' said Sami. The colours spread into a very strange puddle. Cousin Jo looked over. 'What happens if we leave it alone for a moment?'



While the paper dried, they washed their brushes and sorted the crayons. Sami kept glancing at the puddle. It looked less like a mountain every minute.



When it was dry, Jo turned the paper sideways. 'I see a sleeping dragon.' Sami tilted their head. 'I see a sock with an enormous toe.'



They turned it again. The mountain became a purple cave. The river became a green curtain. 'Who might live behind that?' Jo asked very softly.



Sami chose a yellow crayon and drew two small eyes inside the cave. Then came a round nose and a glorious moustache curling both ways.



'A cave keeper,' Sami decided. 'They collect lost yawns.' Jo added a tiny shelf. Sami filled it with spirals, because that was what yawns looked like.



Soon the cave keeper had slippers, a teapot, and a green curtain that opened only on windy Tuesdays. Sami could hardly draw quickly enough for the story.



Then Jo lifted the picture. 'What if the shelf were on the ceiling?' Sami laughed. 'Of course! That is where sleepy yawns would like to rest.'

They pinned the picture where both could see it. Sami wrote their name on another scrap, asking Jo to help with the tricky last letter.



'Will you paint another mountain?' Jo asked. Sami thought about it. 'Perhaps. Or perhaps I will begin with a puddle and see who moves in.'



The next blank page waited on the table. Sami turned it sideways before making a mark. Already, it seemed full of places they had never been.

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Which part made you smile?

How did our friend feel at the end?

What do you think might happen next?

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Designed for reading together, ages 4–7.
All story scenes feature individually created illustrations.