Veda and the Ribbon Across the Grass

The shortest route is not always open.



AGES 4-7 | AN ORIGINAL MIMOMANGO STORY



Veda could see the garden shed from the gate. A narrow grass strip ran straight towards it. The long path curled around three beds and a water barrel.



Today, a ribbon stretched across the grass strip. Veda could step over it easily. Her watering can was empty, and she wanted to reach the shed quickly.



She lifted one foot, then noticed small sticks in the soil. There were no flowers yet, only faint lines where someone had worked. Veda lowered her foot again.



Grandpa came along the curved path. "Why is this closed?" Veda asked. "New grass seed," he said. "Feet could press it down before it has a chance to grow."



Veda looked at the bare patch. The reason for the ribbon had been there all along, but it was too small to see. She picked up her can.



They followed the curved path. It took longer. Veda did not pretend to like that part. She counted the bends and arrived at the shed slightly out of breath.



On the way back, she saw another child approaching the ribbon. "There are seeds growing there," she said. "The open path starts beside the blue barrel."



The child nodded and turned. Veda helped Grandpa make a clear sign with a grass picture and an arrow towards the open path. Grandpa fixed it securely.



Over the next week, tiny green threads appeared behind the ribbon. Veda watched them from the path. At first they looked like scattered eyelashes, then a soft brush.



Rain came. Sunshine came. The grass thickened. Grandpa kept the ribbon in place until the patch was ready. Veda used the long path even on impatient afternoons.



One day, Grandpa removed the ribbon. They walked across together. The ground felt springy under Veda's feet. "This is the shortcut," she said, "now that it is open."



She carried her full watering can back by the wide path, where there was more room. A good route, she had learned, depended on more than being short.

The End

A little story. A moment to share.

Why was the empty-looking patch protected?

What helped other visitors understand the ribbon?

Choose a favourite moment and draw what happened next.

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