

Zuri and the Slowest Seed

Growing takes more than watching.



Zuri planted three bean seeds in three pots. She pressed each seed into the soil, covered it gently and placed the pots on a bright, sheltered window ledge.



Every morning, she checked them. On the fifth day, two green hooks pushed through the soil. The third pot looked exactly as it had looked before.



'Wake up,' Zuri whispered. She watched until her neck felt stiff. Nothing happened. She wondered whether the last seed had forgotten what a seed was meant to do.



Her neighbour, Mole, came to visit. 'Shall we dig it up and check?' Zuri asked. Mole shook his head gently. 'We might disturb its new little roots.'



Instead, they checked the soil with careful paws. It was slightly damp. The pot had holes underneath. Sunlight reached the ledge. The seed had what it needed.



Zuri drew the three pots in her notebook. Two had green shoots. One had a question mark. 'You can notice what changes without staring all day,' Mole suggested.



So Zuri weeded her carrot bed. She filled the bird bath and ate lunch beneath the plum tree. When she looked again, the third pot was still quiet.



The next morning, she saw a tiny crack in the soil. Zuri nearly clapped, then leaned closer. Something pale was curving upwards beneath a little crumb of earth.



By afternoon, a green hook had appeared. It was smaller than the other shoots, but it was there. Zuri added one curved line beneath her question mark.



Over the next few days, the little plant opened two leaves. Zuri kept checking the soil before watering. She turned all three pots so they grew towards the light.



When the plants were ready, Mole helped move them into the garden. The smallest one needed a shorter support. Zuri placed it carefully beside the other two.



That evening, the smallest plant still stood below the others. Zuri smiled and went to play. It did not need to catch up to belong in her garden.

The End

A little story. A moment to share.

What did you notice?

Which moment would you like to talk about?



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