

Júlia’s birthday

Júlia was five, with red hair that shone like fire in the sunshine and brown eyes full of curiosity. Soon she would turn six, and she was terribly excited. She loved birthdays, but that year she had a special wish: to learn to roller skate.

Every afternoon after school, she watched the older children skating in the park. They turned, spun and jumped as though they were flying. She dreamed of doing the same one day.

One morning, while having breakfast with her parents, she received an incredible surprise: a large box tied with a blue ribbon.

“An early happy birthday, Júlia!” they said with smiles.

Her eyes shining, she opened it. Inside were beautiful roller skates! They were sky blue, with sparkling details like tiny stars.

“They’re for you,” her mother said. “Now you can start skating, just as you’ve always wanted!”

Júlia could hardly believe it. She put them on straight away and went into the garden. But despite her excitement, skating was harder than it looked. She fell several times, and each time she got up again.

That evening, as she put her skates in the cupboard, she noticed something strange: a little note stuck inside one of them. She took it out and read:

“These skates are magical, but they only work with your heart. Believe in yourself and fly like the wind.”

She did not quite understand, but smiled and closed her eyes, dreaming that one day she would skate without fear.

The next day, she took her new skates to the park. At first, she fell again and again. Then she remembered the note. She closed her eyes for a moment, took a deep breath and thought, “Believe in yourself.”

When she tried once more, something happened that felt magical. She began gliding gently, at first nervously, then with growing confidence. Her feet found their rhythm, as though the skates knew what to do. Little by little, she stopped worrying about falling, turned gracefully and felt as if she were flying on wheels.

“Júlia! You’re doing it!” shouted her friend Laia, who had been watching.

With an enormous smile, Júlia kept skating and turning. She realised the magic was inside her: believing in herself and refusing to give up.

From then on, she kept practising and improved every day. When her birthday arrived, she skated in front of her family and friends. They admired her confidence and movements. Her dream was beginning to come true.

Júlia learned that perseverance and confidence helped her achieve what she set out to do. Her skates were special, but the real magic had always been inside her.