

The First Cold Day

It was that morning when the wind seemed to want to fight with everyone. It blew through every corner of the playground, lifting the dry leaves like confetti and sending the children running around looking for a sunny spot.

At the school gate, Laia was shivering. She had left home so quickly that she had left her scarf on the coat rack. Pol, who always arrived wearing that red coat that looked like mountain armor, saw her and said:

“Here, put this on, winter bites today.”

And without waiting for a reply, he wrapped the scarf around her neck. Laia smiled, and the cold—a little offended—decided to head off to the next street.

Inside the classroom, the radiator was making a strange noise, like a cat with hiccups. The teacher came in with a smile and a thermos of coffee that smelled like home.

“Good morning, brave winter explorers! Today we’re going to learn something that isn’t in the books.”

The children looked at each other, curious.

“We’ll learn,” she continued, “that there are things that warm you more than a blanket: sharing.”

Then the little miracle began. Nil, whose hands were always freezing cold, noticed that Isona was wearing some colorful wool gloves. Without hesitation, she shared one with him. And they both laughed, because now each of them had one warm hand and one cold hand, like siblings of the weather.



At recess, someone started a scarf fight (no casualties), and another handed out cookies that still smelled fresh from the oven. Even Marc, who usually acted tough, ended up sharing his cap with Eloi, who was

sneezing like gunshots.

When the bell rang to go back to class, the whole school seemed warmer. Not because of the radiators, nor because of the sun that had finally decided to peek out, but because, somehow, everyone had learned the secret: winter is less cold when you spend it with someone.

That afternoon, Laia returned home with Pol’s scarf around her neck and a smile on her face. And the cold, resigned, sat down on the sidewalk, thinking that perhaps it, too, needed a friend.