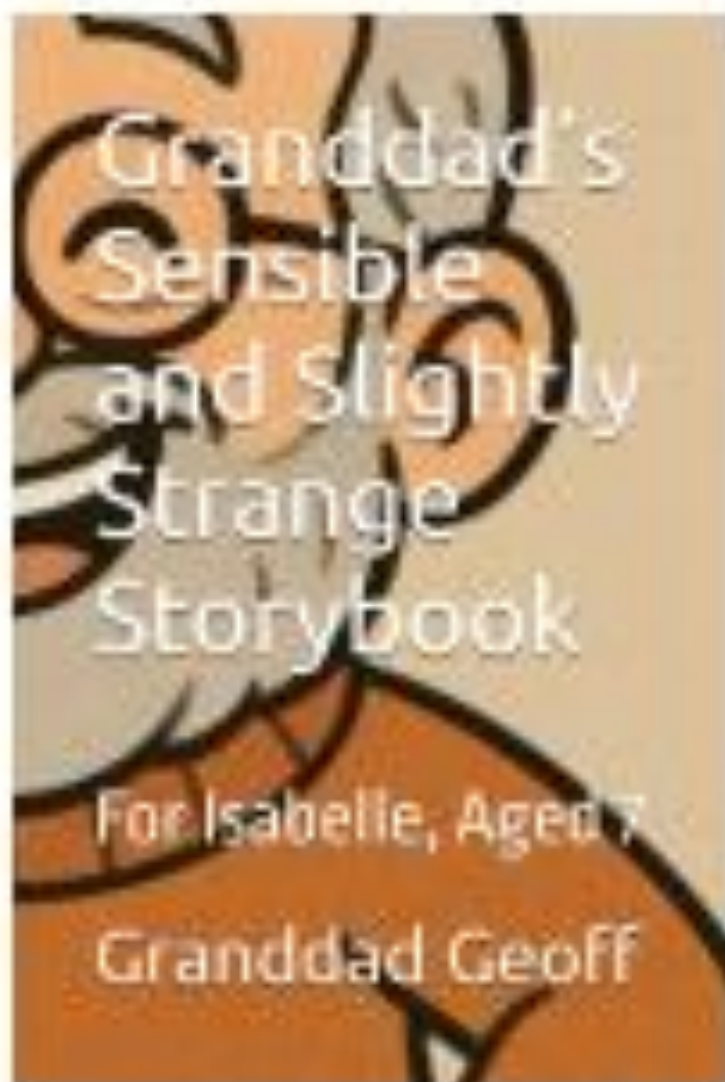




PDF VERSION

Isabelle,

You are seven now and you can read.
Both are wonderful things.

So I thought I would create this special
reading book just for you and for you
to share with your wonderful brother,
sister, mum and dad.

It is my somewhat zany take on
things you have done aged six and
things I hope you will think about as
the seasons pass, and you grow into a
super young woman.
Grow slowly little one.

Granddad

©2025 Geoff Hannan (Granddad)

Feel free to write to me- share your stories etc- geoff@hannans.org.uk



Isabelle and the Great Tooth Fairy Mystery



Isabelle had been waiting all week for her wobbly front tooth to finally fall out. She had been wiggling it at breakfast, during

phonics time at school, and even while brushing her teeth (which made her mum slightly nervous). Then one morning, while munching on a particularly crunchy piece of Krave breakfast cereal, pop! Out it came!

She was thrilled. She held it up like a trophy and ran around the house shouting, 'TOOTH FAIRY TIME!'

But then... disaster struck.

She put the tiny tooth on the kitchen table while she went to find a special box to keep it in. When she came back — it was gone. Vanished. Disappeared. Like it had sprouted legs and run off.

Isabelle launched a full-scale investigation. She interrogated her younger sister (who was busy smearing jam on the dog), checked under the table, inside the fruit bowl, and even in the draw with her dad's boxer shorts —

just in case the tooth fancied a change of scenery.



No luck.

That night,
she wrote
a very
serious
letter to
the Tooth
Fairy-

Isabelle,
Powys,
Wales,
The World,
The Universe

Dear Tooth Fairy,

I had a tooth. It was lovely. But
now it's gone.

I think it might have been eaten
by the dog. Or my brother.

Please still come. I promise I'm not
making it up, literally.

Love,

Isabelle

(Age 6 and very honest most of the time.)



She tucked the note under her pillow and went to sleep, slightly worried the Tooth Fairy might need actual proof or her alleged loss.

The next morning, she woke up to find a shiny coin and a glittery note that said-

Dear Isabelle,
Well done for your excellent
detective work!
I found the tooth — it was
hiding in the cereal packet!
You're officially my Tooth
Fairy Assistant now.
Keep up the good work!
Love, TF 

Isabelle was delighted. She spent the rest of the day telling everyone she had a new job and was now 'basically, actually, literally magical.'



Isabelle and the Ear Piercing Adventure



Isabelle had been dreaming of sparkly earrings for weeks. She had practised with stickers, buttons,

and even glittery pasta glued to her ears (which her mum did not appreciate).

Finally, the big day arrived. Isabelle marched into the ear-piercing studio

like a superhero on a mission. She sat in the chair, puffed out her cheeks, and announced, 'I'm ready for my sparkle!'

The piercing lady smiled and asked, 'Are you sure you're not scared?'

Isabelle rolled her eyes dramatically. 'Please. I've survived Chirbury Primary School plays. I can handle this.'

With a quick click-click, the earrings were in. Isabelle blinked, looked around, and said loudly, crying just a little bit, 'THAT DIDN'T HURT AT ALL!'

She spent the rest of the day showing off her new earrings to everyone: the postman, the dog, even a confused

squirrel in the backyard. 'Look!
Sparkles! And I didn't cry *ish*!'

Her brother tried to stick jellybeans to his ears just to be like her. Isabelle told him, 'You need real bravery and a professional sparkle technician.'

That night, she went to bed smiling, already planning her next adventure: maybe glittery nail polish or a diamond-crusted hairdo. But for now, she was happy just being 'Isabelle the Brave' — with sparkles to prove it.



Isabelle the Hairdresser- Doctor



Isabelle
had big
dreams.
She wanted
to be a
doctor *and*
a hair-
dresser.
Why
choose one
when you

can fix boo-boos and make people
fabulous?

She practised her doctor skills on her
dolls. She gave them check-ups,
wrapped their legs in toilet paper
bandages, and even gave one a special

glitter sticker for bravery. Her dolls were the healthiest patients in town!

But hairdressing was trickier. She didn't have anyone willing to let her snip and style. Oscar, her brother, ran away when she came anywhere near him with scissors, and the dog hid under the sofa. Her baby sister Lacey ran screaming into the bathroom and Nanny suddenly had always something to do at the bottom of the garden.

So Isabelle made a bold decision: she would practise on herself.

Armed with scissors and a mirror, she began her masterpiece. Snip here, snip there — a little fringe, a little side

swoop. When she was done, she looked like a cross between a rock star and a pineapple.

She marched into the kitchen and announced, 'I am now officially a Hair-Doctor!' Her mum gasped, her dad screamed, and her brother said, 'You look like a llama.'

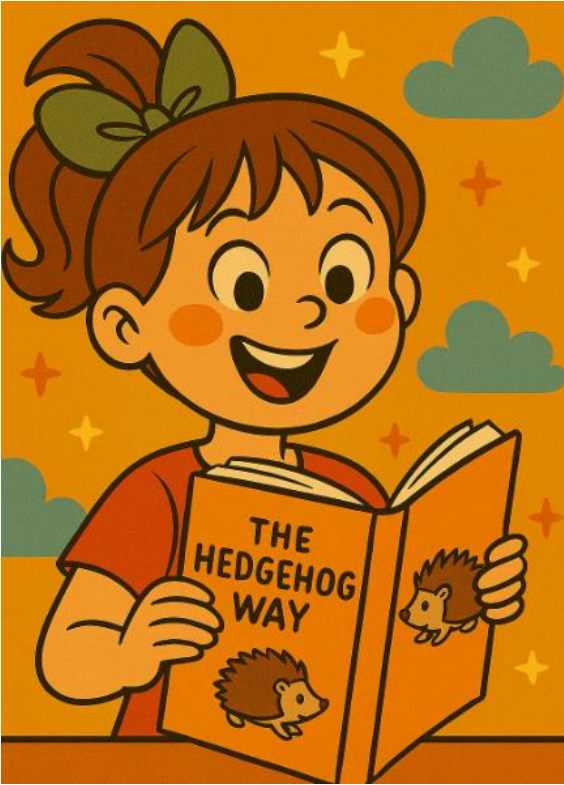
Isabelle beamed. 'Llamas are fabulous. And I didn't even cry!'

That night, she gave her dolls haircuts too. One ended up bald, but Isabelle convinced her that it was a 'bold fashion choice.'

She went to bed dreaming of her future salon-hospital, where patients could get Band-Aids and bangs at the same time.



Isabelle and the Hedgehog Way



Isabelle loved to read. She loved to read all sorts of stories. Some about princesses and space adventures. But most of all,

Isabelle loved reading stories that made her think.

One morning, waiting to go to school, Isabelle sat cross-legged on her bedroom floor, her nose buried in a book titled 'The Hedgehog Way'. It was about a clever hedgehog named Hazel

who always found peaceful solutions to tricky problems.

As she read, Isabelle began to wonder: what would Hazel do if she lost her

favourite toy? Or if someone was being unkind?



That day at school, Isabelle faced a puzzle of

her own. Her best friend, Mia, was upset because someone had taken her sparkly pencil. Isabelle saw it later in Tom's pencil case—but Tom looked nervous and sad.

Hazel the hedgehog wouldn't shout or accuse. She'd think carefully and kindly.

So Isabelle wrote a little note and slipped it into Tom's desk. It said:

'Sometimes we make mistakes. If you want to fix it, I'll help you. — Isabelle'

At lunchtime, Tom came over quietly and gave Mia her pencil back. 'I'm sorry,' he said. 'I didn't mean to take it. I just wanted to borrow it but forgot to ask.'

Mia smiled. 'Thanks for giving it back.' Isabelle felt warm inside. She hadn't

just read 'The Hedgehog Way'—she'd
lived it: it had become 'The Isabelle
Way!'



Elsa Lebli and the Paper Bridge



Once
upon a
time there
was a
little girl
called Elsa
Leblie
who, just

like Isabelle, was seven years old.

Elsa could solve puzzles faster than most grown-ups. But despite being smart, Elsa had a secret: she was terrified of failing.

At school, her teacher announced a class challenge: 'Build a bridge out of paper that can hold a small toy car.'

Elsa's mind buzzed with ideas. She sketched blueprints, calculated weight distribution, and even researched trusses. But when it came time to build, she froze. What if it collapsed? What if it wasn't the best?

So she didn't build anything.

Her teacher, Mr. Patel, gently asked, 'Why didn't you try?'

Elsa shrugged. 'I didn't want to mess it up.'

Mr. Patel smiled. 'You know, engineers fail all the time. That's how they learn what works.'

Elsa frowned. She'd always thought being smart meant getting things right the first time. She didn't like being told she was wrong either, it made her feel like she wasn't really smart at all.

That afternoon, Mr. Patel gave her a book called 'Bridges That Broke'. It was full of famous failures—bridges that collapsed, designs that didn't work, and the lessons engineers learned from them.

Elsa was fascinated.

The next day, she brought in a new design to school. It was wobbly and

uneven, but she tested it anyway. It collapsed. She felt her cheeks burn.

But Mr. Patel clapped. 'Excellent! Now, what do you think went wrong?'

Elsa opened her eyes wide in surprise. He wasn't upset?

They talked through the design, and Elsa then realised she could improve it. She rebuilt it, and this time, it held the toy car.

From then on, Elsa very gradually started taking more risks. She still wanted things to be perfect, but she understood that failure wasn't the

opposite of success, **it was part of it.**

She learned to accept feedback-not as a judgment but as a tool to help you get even smarter.

And she discovered that her identity wasn't tied to being 'the best,' but to being curious, brave, resilient and willing to grow.



Meet Oscar and Lacey



Isabelle has a big brother named Oscar. He's nine years old and really good at remembering facts about things like directions, cars and farmyard work. Oscar is on the autistic spectrum. That means his brain sometimes works in a special way—he sometimes sees the world differently from other people.

Oscar might not always like loud noises or bright lights, and sometimes he finds it tricky to know what someone is feeling just by looking at their face. But he's brilliant at acting things out on his own and noticing tiny details that others might miss. Sometimes Oscar had meltdowns, and Isabelle knows all about them and often explains them to her friends.

‘You know how sometimes your brain feels like it's full of too many things at once like loud noises, bright lights, or too many people talking—and it gets really hard to think or stay calm? A meltdown is what can happen when someone’s brain gets *too full* and can’t handle any more.



It’s not the same as being naughty or having a tantrum. It’s more like their feelings are so big and strong

that they come bursting out—like a fizzy can of lemonade that’s been shaken too much.

Meltdowns can make autistic people feel very scared and panicky.

When someone has a meltdown, they might cry, shout, cover their ears, or want to be alone. It's not their fault. They just need some time and space to feel safe again. And the best thing we can do is be kind and patient with them.'

Isabelle knows that Oscar doesn't always want to play the same games she does, and that's okay. She's learned that being kind and patient helps Oscar feel safe and happy. Sometimes he needs quiet time, and sometimes he wants to talk and play about his favourite things for ages—and Isabelle listens, because she loves him.



Then there's Lacey, their baby sister. She's only two, but she's already full of giggles and adventure.

Lacey loves to explore, copy what Isabelle does, and try to say new words. She's always curious—especially about Oscar's toys and Isabelle's books!

Together, Isabelle, Oscar, and Lacey make a very special trio. They are all different, and that's what makes their family so interesting and full of love.

Isabelle, Oscar and Lacey and The Autumn Spell



One chilly
morning in
October,
whilst playing
with his
sisters
Isabelle and
Lacey, Oscar

saw a glowing leaf floating in the air-
totally still and suspended outside their
window. With his great appreciation for
details, Oscar saw how it shimmered
with gold and orange sparkles, but it
didn't fall to the ground as you might
have expected. It just hung there
moving back and forth as if to say,
'follow me!'

‘It’s from the Forest of Seasons!’
whispered Isabelle. ‘It means the
Autumn Spell needs help!’

They grabbed their warm coats and
followed the leaf deep into the woods.



In the
woods,
they met a
wise old
squirrel
named
Nutters,
who wore
tiny
glasses
and a
scarf.

‘The Autumn Spell is broken,’ Nutters squeaked. ‘The leaves won’t change colour, the air won’t cool, and none of the animals know it’s time to get ready for winter!’

Isabelle stepped forward. ‘We’ll fix it!’

Nutters thought deeply and eventually gave them three magical tasks that he said would fix it:

‘Task one,’ he said, ‘is to colour the leaves!’

Isabelle, who loved to make things in her art’ made a magical wand and waved her wand over the trees.



‘Red, orange, yellow—let the colours mellow!’ she said in her spell-binding voice.

Suddenly, the leaves began to glow and swirl, painting the forest in warm autumn shades.



‘Well done,’ said Nutters, ‘Now task two... you must blow the winds more chilly to make the plants all sleep.’

Lacey blew raspberries gently into the sky.

‘Chilly winds blow up and say, Autumn-come here, dance and play!’

A soft breeze swept through the trees, making everyone shiver just a little. The air smelled like apples and woodsmoke.

‘Task three,’ said Nutters, ‘You must wake the animals!’

Oscar clapped his hands and shouted rules loudly as only Oscar can,

‘Rule 1: time to gather. Rule 2: time to store. Winter’s approaching- Rule 3: no time to snore!’

All around them, animals popped out—hedgehogs, rabbits, and even sleepy bears. They began collecting nuts, fluffing their fur, and building cosy nests.

The forest sparkled with autumn magic.

‘Well done you three!’ Nutters said with delight, ‘You are gently moving the seasons on.’

‘Thank you,’ smiled the Earth as it moved on round the sun.



Isabelle, Oscar and Lacey in the Upside- Down Winter Wonderland

One frosty morning in December, Isabelle, Oscar and Lacey woke to find their sleepy village blanketed not just in snow—but in upside-down snow. It floated upwards, defying gravity, forming glittering clouds above their heads. The trees wore icicle hats, and the rivers flowed with warm peppermint tea.



Curious and bundled in rainbow scarves, the trio followed a trail of

floating snowflakes to a shimmering archway made of frozen jelly.

As they stepped through, they entered the Upside-Down Winter Wonderland, a place where penguins flew, snowmen danced ballet, and the moon wore earmuffs.



Oscar, ever the adventurer, led the way to the Marshmallow Mountains, where the snow was soft and bouncy.

Isabelle, the clever one, deciphered the riddles of the Talking Icicles, who guarded the path to the Crystal Carousel—a magical ride that spun time backwards and forwards. The Talking Icicles had asked Isabelle what they became when very hot- ‘Easy!’ she replied, steamily.

Lacey, with her gentle heart, befriended a lonely Yeti named Bumble, who had lost his laugh. Together, they searched for the Giggleberries, rare fruits that grew only in the laughter of children.

When they finally found them in the Tickle Tree Forest, Bumble laughed so hard he turned pink.

But the Wonderland was growing colder—too cold.

The trio discovered that the Snow Clock, which kept the balance of seasons, had frozen solid.

Only a song sung in harmony by children playing together could melt it.

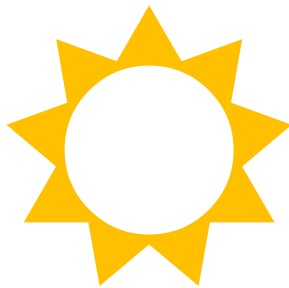


So Oscar strummed a tune on icicle strings, Isabelle hummed a melody she learned from the wind, and

Lacey sang with the warmth of friendship.

The Snow Clock ticked once more, and the Wonderland sighed in relief. Snow began to fall downward again, and the peppermint rivers cooled to frothy water.

As they stepped back through the jelly archway- now made of fine trees- Oscar, Isabelle, and Lacey vowed they'd never forget the upside-down world where winter was strange, magical, and full of surprises.



Oscar, Isabelle and Lacey's Springtime Surprise

One bright and breezy morning in early April, Oscar, Isabelle, and Lacey zipped up their jackets and met at the edge of Buttercup Woods. The sun was peeking through the clouds, birds were chirping,



and the air smelled fresh and earthy.

‘Let’s go

exploring!’ said Isabelle, her eyes sparkling. ‘I bet spring has woken everything up!’

As they wandered into the woods, they noticed the first signs of spring. Tiny

green buds were popping out on the trees, and daffodils danced in the breeze.

‘Look!’ Lacey pointed. ‘That robin is building a nest!’

They watched quietly as the bird flew back and forth with twigs and moss.

Oscar pulled out his notebook. ‘Robins build nests in spring so they can lay eggs,’ he said. ‘Spring is baby animal season!’

Further along, they found a patch of bluebells. ‘These only bloom in spring,’ said Isabelle. ‘They’re like a secret signal that winter’s over.’

Suddenly, they heard a rustling in the bushes. Out popped a fluffy rabbit with

a white tail. It paused, twitched its nose, and then hopped away.

‘Spring is when lots of animals come out of hiding,’ said Oscar. ‘They’ve been sleeping all winter!’

They followed a winding path to the stream, where frogs were croaking loudly. ‘They’re waking up too!’ laughed Oscar. ‘And look—frogspawn!’



The trio sat on a log and shared a picnic of jam sandwiches and apple slices. As they munched, Oscar made a list of all the things they'd discovered:

1. Birds building nests
2. Flowers blooming
3. Animals waking up
4. Frogspawn in the stream
5. Longer, sunnier days

‘People get busy too, in spring,’ said Isabelle. ‘It’s the season of new beginnings!’

As the sun dipped lower in the sky, Oscar, Isabelle, and Lacey promised to come back next week to see what else spring had in store.

Oscar, Isabelle and Lacey's Magical Summer Voyage Through the Universe



Oscar, Isabelle, and Lacey were not just best family
and best friends—they were, of course, astronauts!
One hot and sunny morning, they climbed aboard
their sparkling silver spaceship,

The Starhopper,

ready for a magical voyage around the universe.
Their mission? To explore strange planets that held
the magical secrets about growing up. With a
whoosh and a whirl, they blasted off into space!

The first planet they visited was Planet



Courage. It glowed orange and had tall mountains. Here, they learned that growing up means facing fears and trying new things, even when it's scary.

Next was Planet Kindness, a soft pink world with floating hearts. The trio discovered that thinking about and being kind to others helps you grow a big, warm heart yourself.



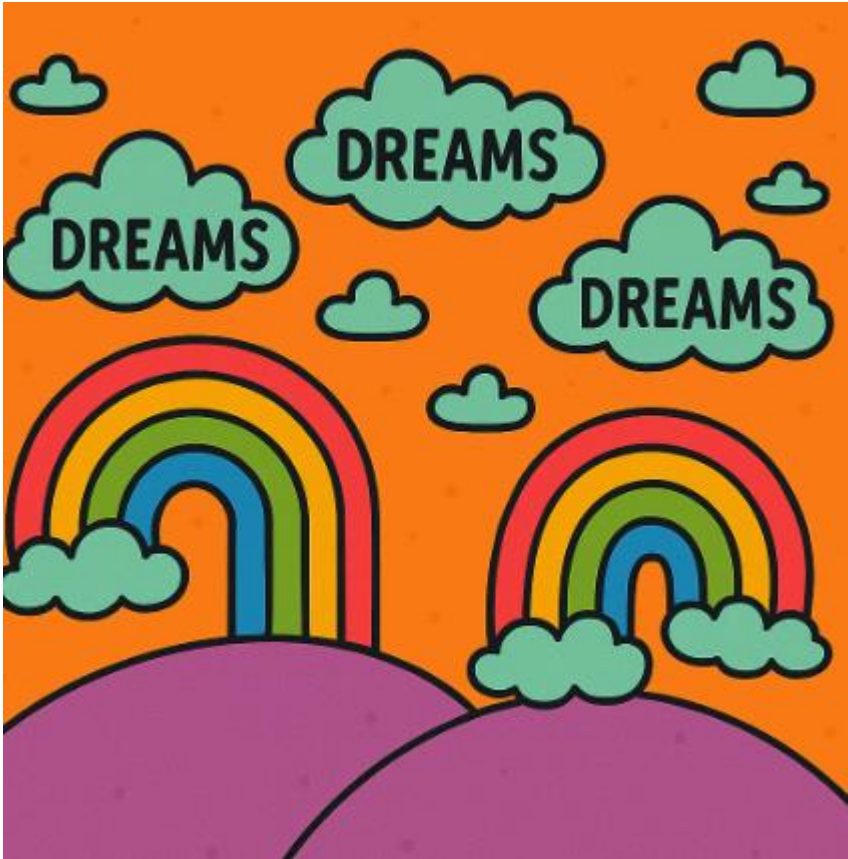
On Planet Curiosity, everything was shaped like question marks! Oscar, Isabelle, and Lacey learned that asking questions and exploring new things help your brain grow smarter.



Planet Friendship was green and full of giggling aliens. The family trio learned that making and keeping friends is a big part of growing up.



On Planet Imagination, the skies changed colours and dreams floated like clouds. Isabelle said, 'Imagination helps us remember, think and dream big and believe in ourselves'

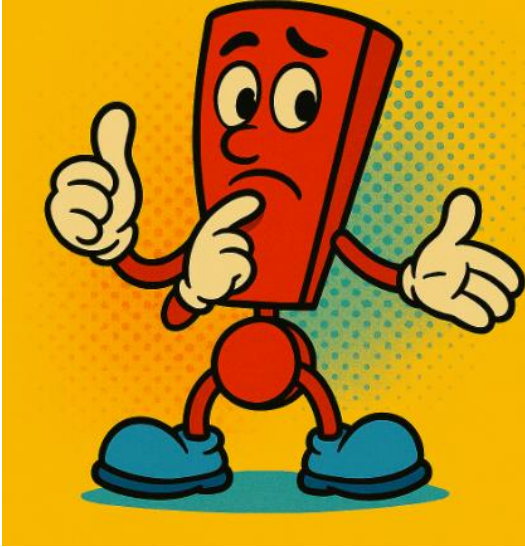


Then came Planet Responsibility, a blue planet with calendars and clocks. They found out that growing up also means remembering things, helping out, and being dependable.



Finally, they landed on a very strange planet call Planet Change. It was a rainbow planet that kept shifting shapes. Here, they learned that growing up means changing- inside and out- and that change always happens.





The family trio didn't know what to make of this planet. Oscar, didn't like it very much at all. But they all knew as they grew older, they would learn to accept and understand it more. And they could make it also fair and beautiful through the love they had received themselves and the love they would give to others.

With their spaceship full of memories and lessons, Oscar, Isabelle, and Lacey zoomed back to Earth.

They weren't just astronauts anymore—they were **Path Finders** of growing up!

And from that day on, whenever they faced something new, they remembered the magical planets and smiled, knowing they were growing up



in the
most
wonderful
way.

Walking the Hedgehog Path





Elsa was eight years old and lived in a small village tucked between hills and hedgerows. She had developed a quieter way about her as she got older, never quite part of the noisy games in the playground, never quite interested in the things other children seemed to love. She liked walking slowly, noticing

things others missed: the way the ivy curled around the old stone wall, the sound of the wind in the ash trees, the tiny footprints of hedgehogs in the mud.

Some children found her a little strange. They didn't mean to be unkind, but they didn't understand why she didn't want to race or shout or talk anymore about the latest Barbie toys. Elsa didn't mind too much, but sometimes she wished she could be like everyone else, just for a little while.

One autumn afternoon when she had just turned eight, Elsa wandered down a path she hadn't taken before. It was narrow and overgrown, with brambles

and golden leaves crunching underfoot.
At the end of the path was a clearing,
and in the middle of the clearing was a
small wooden bench.



Sitting on the bench was an old woman
with a sketchbook.

The old woman looked up and smiled. 'You've found the hedgehog path I see,' she said.

Elsia blinked. 'Is that what it's called?'

'It is now,' said the woman. 'Because you noticed it.'

They talked for a while. The strange, yet strangely familiar, old woman's name was Mrs Lebli, and she came to the clearing to draw the animals and plants she saw. She showed Elsa her sketchbook—full of foxes, owls, mushrooms, and curling vines. And, in her sketchbook too, there were stories she had written for children, full of love and hope and joy. Elsie was enchanted.

From that day on, Elsa visited Mrs Lebli often. They sketched and wrote stories together, watched the seasons change, and talked about all the quiet, beautiful magical things that most people missed.

Mrs Lebli never asked Elsa to be different to how she was.

She simply saw her.

Gradually, Elsa began to feel something new: not just contentment, but pride.

She realised that being smart or a little different like her brother Oscar, didn't mean being wrong. It meant seeing the world in their own way. And that was something truly, wonderfully, special.

One day, when Elsa was older still, she brought her own picture storybook to school. A few children gathered round, curious.

They asked questions. They wanted to know how she'd drawn the hedgehog's tiny toes, how she'd made the leaves and the feelings her characters expressed seem so real. And for the first time, Elsa felt not just accepted, but admired.

She still walked slowly. She still noticed things. But now she knew: the hedgehog path was hers, and it was unique- and it was beautiful.

End of Book Quiz



To win a special certificate answer these questions and send your answers to Granddad at geoff@hannans.org.uk-

1. Where did the Tooth Fairy find Isabelle's tooth?
2. What two professions does Isabelle want to do when she is older?
3. What did the snowmen dance?
4. What is the second planet the children land on?
5. What planet did the children like the least?
Why? What do think about growing up?

You may need some grown-up help with the last two....

6. What secret is hidden in the name Lisa Lebli?
7. Why do you think the picture of the bench in the last story does not show old Mrs Lebli sitting on it?



In springtime's bloom, with skies so wide,
We plant small seeds of love with pride,
As laughter dances on the breeze,
Among the buds and waking trees.

In summer's sun, the days grow long,
Children's voices rise in novel song.
They chase the light, they learn, they play,
In our kindness growing day by day.

Then autumn comes with golden hue,
And every leaf holds something new.
They share, they care, they start to see
The joy in living selflessly.

Winter whispers soft and slow,
With quiet time now to learn and grow.
By fireside glow and stories spun,
We find that hearts can beat as one.

And through the years, as time flows on,
The love we give is never gone.
It lights the world, both near and far-
In every child, a shining star.