



Children's Day Through the Eyes of Maria João

Elsa Cunha





Maria João stands by her bedroom window, looking out at the bright morning sun with a cheerful smile. Today is a very special day, and her eyes sparkled with the excitement of celebrating Children's Day.



Sitting at her wooden desk, Maria João opens her journal and begins to write down her deepest thoughts. She believes that every single day should be dedicated to celebrating children, not just today.



She reflects on how Children's Day shouldn't just be about receiving colorful wrapped gifts and toys. Instead, it should be a day where every child around the world is remembered, truly heard, and fiercely protected.



In the vibrant green backyard, Maria João and her friends laugh out loud while chasing butterflies and building imaginary castles in the air. For her, being a child means having the freedom to play, laugh, and ask endless questions about the universe.



Maria João walks past a cozy neighborhood street, looking at the warm houses and a bustling school full of children. She reminds us that all children have a fundamental right to a safe home, healthy food, a good education, and proper healthcare.



Sitting under a big shady tree, she shares her favorite books and toys with a friend, laughing under the golden sunlight. Playing is not just fun, it is how children learn to dream big, share with others, and grow into kind adults.



Maria João looks up at her parents, who are busy looking at their phones and talking about adult schedules. She realizes that sometimes adults forget how the smallest things to them can feel incredibly massive inside a child's heart.



Standing in front of a toy store filled with bright displays, Maria João turns away with a smile, knowing she wants something completely different this year. On this Children's Day, she chooses not to ask for any new toys or gadgets.



Instead, she imagines a world where adults look into children's eyes with full attention, offering warm hugs, dedicated time, and unconditional love. She wishes for grown-ups to slow down and truly listen to what children have to say.



Sitting together on a cozy couch, Maria João is wrapped in a warm embrace by her smiling parents as they read a book together. Growing up happens much too fast, and every child deserves to be happy, protected, and deeply loved.