



# Maryam and the Whispers of Oman

Rahf



A vibrant schoolyard bustles with children and families, all adorned in cheerful colors and Omani flags for National Day. Little Maryam, with her bright, curious eyes, stands close to her parents, eagerly watching the festive preparations. In the distance, the rhythmic 'DUM-DUM-DUM' of Omani drums echoes, making her tilt her head in wonder. She can hear the music clearly, even though the drummers seem so far away.



Maryam, her face alight with curiosity, turns to her kind teacher, Ms. Fatima, who has a warm, inviting smile. "Ms. Fatima," Maryam asks, her voice full of wonder, "how does the drum's sound travel all the way to us?" Ms. Fatima winks playfully and points towards the drummers, inviting Maryam to come a little closer for a special secret.



With Ms. Fatima's gentle guidance, Maryam carefully places her hand on the taut skin of a large, beautifully decorated Omani drum. As a traditionally dressed drummer gently taps the drum, Maryam's eyes widen as she feels a tiny, ticklish tremble under her fingertips! "See, Maryam?" Ms. Fatima explains, "When we hit the drum, its skin dances and vibrates, sending little shivers of sound through the air!"



Maryam closes her eyes, a radiant smile spreading across her face as she truly understands. Around her, the air fills with a joyful symphony of Omani National Day sounds: the rousing national anthem, the enthusiastic clapping of her friends, and the deep, celebratory thrum of the drums. She imagines the vibrations as tiny, invisible messengers, carrying the joy of her homeland right to her ears.



With a newfound understanding and a heart full of happiness, Maryam looks up at Ms. Fatima, her chest swelling with pride. "Now I get it!" she exclaims, "Oman's beautiful sounds reach us because vibrations travel!" Ms. Fatima places a comforting hand on Maryam's shoulder, her expression conveying warmth and wisdom, affirming that just like sound, love for Oman travels deeply within their hearts.