



## Buchi and the Blushing Kiss

Ab Kiya



Buchi, an 18-year-old Ethiopian boy, was always surrounded by friends, but his closest companion was undoubtedly Edu. They spent countless hours together, their laughter echoing as they walked home from school, always sharing secrets and dreams. Their bond was special, a vibrant tapestry of shared moments.



One sunny afternoon, Buchi found himself alone, sitting beneath a grand acacia tree near the school, lost in thought. His mind drifted to Edu, her bright smile, her infectious giggle, and the way her eyes sparkled when she was excited. A new, fluttery feeling began to bloom in his chest.



As he pondered, a realization dawned on him, a warm, overwhelming wave of emotion. He wasn't just friends with Edu; he was falling in love with her. A whimsical heart-shaped cloud seemed to form above his head, reflecting his newfound affection, as a wide, dreamy smile spread across his face.



Suddenly, a playful spark ignited in Buchi's eyes, and a mischievous grin stretched across his face. An exaggerated cartoon lightbulb popped into existence above his head, signaling a daring idea. He knew exactly what he had to do, a bold move to express his burgeoning feelings.



With a burst of energy, Buchi raced through the colorful neighborhood until he reached Edu's house, a cheerful building painted in bright blues and yellows. He stood outside, taking a deep breath, then called out her name, his voice filled with a mix of excitement and nervous anticipation.



Edu, looking curious, stepped out onto her porch, her hair playfully bouncing with each step. Buchi, with a dramatic flourish, told her to cover her eyes, a playful twinkle in his own. She giggled, trusting him completely, and playfully shielded her eyes with her hands, ready for a surprise.



In a swift, sweet moment, Buchi leaned in and planted a quick, soft kiss on her cheek. Before Edu could even react, he was gone, a blur of motion as he dashed away, his heart pounding with a mix of exhilaration and sudden panic. Edu stood, hands still over her eyes, a look of delightful surprise slowly dawning on her face.



Later that evening, Buchi was huddled in his room, overwhelmed by what he had done. Cartoonish tears streamed down his face, and his worry was exaggerated, forming a swirling cloud of anxiety above his head. He panicked, regretting his impulsive act, convinced he had ruined everything.



As days turned into weeks, the initial awkwardness faded, and their friendship slowly returned to normal. Buchi and Edu were back to their usual selves, laughing and sharing stories as if the kiss had never happened. Their bond, though briefly shaken, settled back into a comfortable, easy rhythm.



Years passed, and now, Buchi and Edu were attending the same university. They walked hand-in-hand across the bustling campus, their smiles radiant and their eyes full of warmth. The once-awkward kiss had blossomed into a beautiful, undeniable relationship, proving that some loves are truly meant to be.