



A Spark for Leo

Charles Chiu



Arthur sits in Dr. Lena's brightly colored office, a thoughtful frown on his face. He's trying to find new ways to connect with his adult son, Leo, who has autism, and often struggles with communication. Dr. Lena, with a warm, encouraging smile, gestures towards a sleek tablet, proposing a fresh, exciting idea to bridge the gap.



Dr. Lena explains the "Story Spark AI" app on the tablet, its screen glowing with playful icons and swirling colors. Arthur leans forward, a mix of skepticism and hope on his expressive face, as he considers this novel approach. They begin to brainstorm, imagining a world filled with Leo's favorite things, like rockets and friendly dinosaurs.



Arthur, now more animated, types excitedly into the tablet as Dr. Lena watches with a proud grin, her hands clasped encouragingly. The AI's interface visually transforms their words into quirky characters and fantastical settings, like a train that flies through space with a dinosaur conductor. The room buzzes with creative energy as their unique story comes vividly alive.



Later, in a cozy living room adorned with soft pillows, Arthur reads aloud from the newly printed storybook to Leo, who sits beside him, completely engrossed. Leo's eyes, wide with wonder, follow the vibrant illustrations of a space-train adventure, captivated by every page. A gentle, joyful smile spreads across Leo's face, a precious and rare sight for Arthur.



Arthur and Leo share a quiet, comfortable moment, the whimsical storybook resting between them like a newly forged bridge. Dr. Lena, peeking in from the doorway, offers a discreet, knowing smile, her heart warmed by their connection. The "Story Spark AI" tablet sits on a nearby table, a silent testament to the power of technology, creativity, and enduring love.