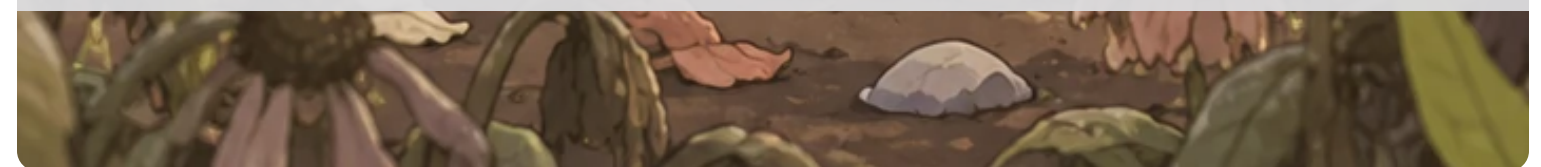




The Garden That Forgot How to Bloom

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At the center of Sunflower Primary School stood a magnificent garden where four close flower friends lived together beneath the warm sun. Poppy had brilliant red petals and loved to make everyone laugh, Daisy was thoughtful and gentle with a golden center, Bluebell possessed delicate blue blossoms, and Sunny was a tall, cheerful sunflower.



The four friends spent their days playing joyful games like Cloud Creatures, where they would describe passing clouds and guess what magical beasts they resembled. They watched the pupils race across the playground and enjoyed each other's unique personalities under the bright blue sky.



One bright morning, as Daisy admired the sunlight shining through Poppy's petals, Poppy made a thoughtless joke about Daisy's white petals looking plain and unfinished. Although Poppy meant it playfully, the words deeply stung Daisy and made her feel small and self-conscious.



Later that day, when Bluebell asked to join their game, Poppy brushed her aside by telling her she was too quiet to make the game fun. Bluebell turned away in sadness to watch a line of hardworking ants, wishing she could hide herself away.



By the next morning, a heavy and dull atmosphere had settled over the entire garden as Daisy's petals refused to open fully and Bluebell leaned away from the group. Even when Poppy tried to tell one of her usual funny stories, her friends remained completely silent and unresponsive.



The change quickly spread across all the flowerbeds, causing marigolds to curl inward, roses to lose their sweet scent, and the once-vibrant grass to look gray beneath the sky. Even the school caretaker's watering could not brighten the garden because the spirit of joy had faded.



Noticing the deep sadness among her friends and the confusion in Poppy, Sunny gathered them together to talk honestly about what was happening. She gently explained that while weather affects plants, friendship requires kindness and honesty to truly thrive.



Encouraged by Sunny, Daisy finally spoke up and bravely shared how hurt she felt when her petals were compared and criticized. Poppy was surprised and apologetic, realizing that her careless joke had deeply wounded her dear friend's feelings.



Understanding the impact of her words, Poppy listened carefully and offered a sincere apology to both Daisy and Bluebell. Together, the friends acknowledged how important it is to make everyone feel valued and happy rather than small.



With forgiveness filling the air, warmth and color slowly returned to the garden as the flowers opened their petals and began to bloom once more. The friends stood side by side stronger than ever, ready to share laughter, kindness, and sunshine together.