



A Summer in Surat

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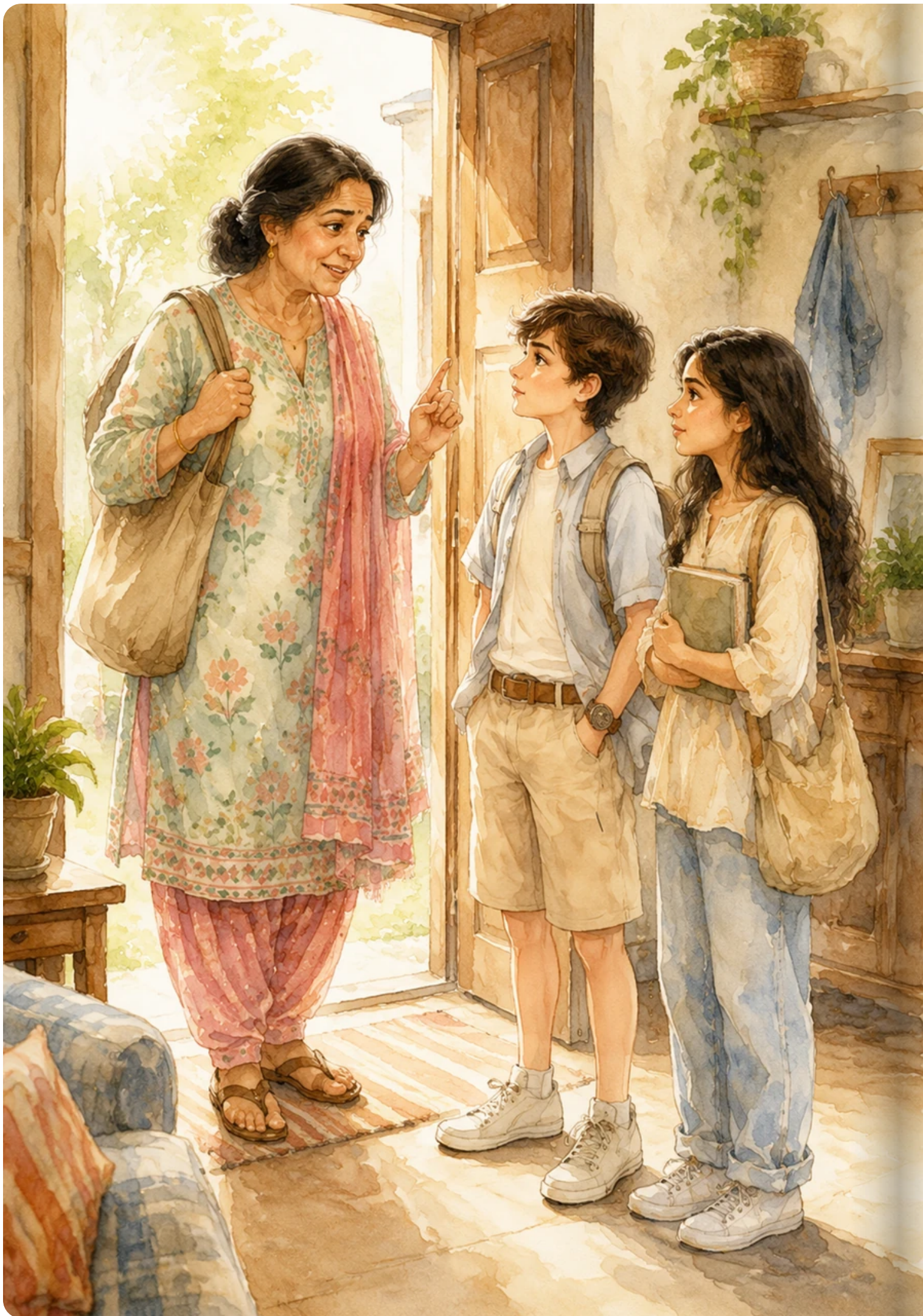




Aavish arrived in the bustling city of Surat, excited to spend eight wonderful weeks of his summer vacation at his Aunt Rita's vibrant home. The warm sun shone brightly over the city streets as he was greeted with open arms and a cheerful smile by his cousin, Prerna.



The first few weeks flew by in a blur of delicious traditional meals, laughter, and stories shared around the dinner table. Aavish adjusted quickly to the rhythm of the household, enjoying the lively atmosphere of the city and the comfort of family.



One sunny morning, Aunt Rita and Uncle received an urgent call from work requiring both of them to head into the city center for the entire afternoon. Before leaving, they reminded Aavish and Prerna to look after the house and enjoy their day together.



As the front door clicked shut, a quiet calm fell over the spacious house, leaving the two cousins alone together for the first time all summer. They stood in the living room, wondering how to spend the long afternoon ahead of them.



Prerna suggested they dust off the old board games tucked away in the living room cabinet, sparking a wave of childhood nostalgia. They sat cross-legged on the cool floor, setting up the game pieces while chatting about their favorite memories from past family gatherings.



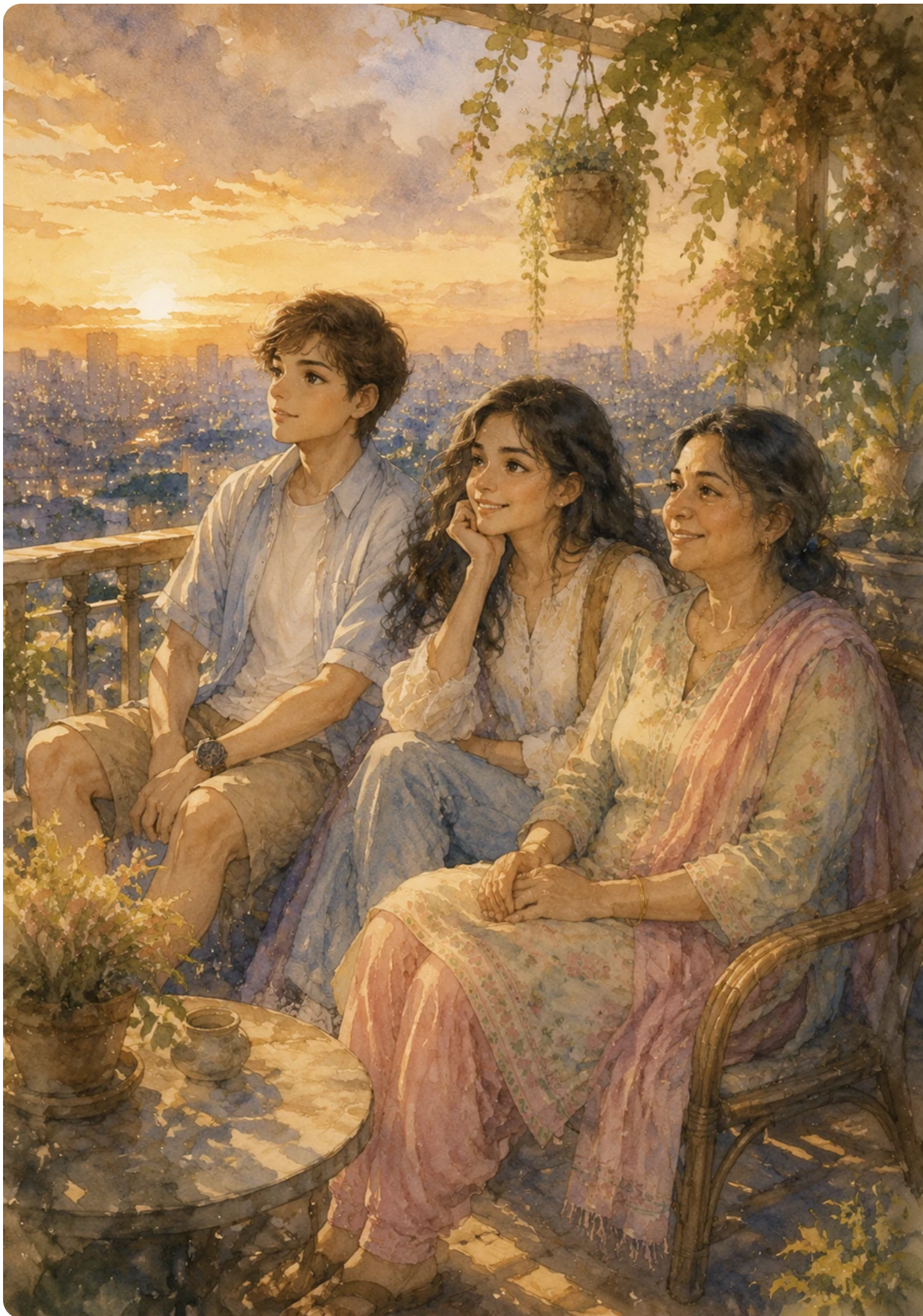
The competitive spirit quickly took over as they played, filling the quiet house with genuine laughter, playful banter, and friendly rivalry. With each turn of the game, the initial awkwardness melted away, replaced by a deep sense of companionship.



After the games, they decided to prepare a surprise evening snack for their hardworking parents, heading into the kitchen to see what ingredients they could find. Together, they carefully chopped vegetables and mixed spices to create a traditional Surat street food snack.



Working side by side in the kitchen, they shared their dreams, future aspirations, and the challenges they faced at school and college. Aavish realized how much Prerna had grown into an insightful and supportive friend over the years.



As the golden light of the late afternoon began to filter through the windows, they cleaned up the kitchen together, proud of the teamwork they had shown. They sat on the balcony, enjoying the cool breeze and watching the city below begin to light up.



When Aunt Rita and Uncle finally returned home exhausted from work, they were greeted by the wonderful aroma of food and two smiling faces. The afternoon had brought Aavish and Prerna closer than ever, turning a simple summer stay into an unforgettable bond of friendship.