



When Big Waves Come

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Leo sits on the soft woven rug in the sunlit living room, carefully trying to stack smooth wooden blocks into a tall tower. Warm, natural daylight pours through the sheer curtains, casting a gentle glow over the calm beige tones of the room. His little hands work intently, balancing each piece with utter concentration.



With a sudden wobble, the top blocks tumble onto the carpet, scattering in every direction. Leo freezes, his brow furrowing tightly as a surge of disappointment takes over. He sets his chin and clenches his small hands into fists, frustrated that his hard work has fallen apart.



Leo sits back on his heels, turning his face toward the floor with a heavy pout. A few feet away, his mother rests on a plush linen cushion, keeping her posture grounded and calm. She observes him with a gentle, patient expression, giving him full attention without rushing in.



Rather than fixing the tower for him, his mother takes a slow, steady breath and shifts a bit closer on the rug. She keeps her arms relaxed and her posture open, offering a quiet, comforting presence in the quiet room.



Leo glances up through his eyelashes, meeting his mother's tranquil gaze. The frustration is still there, but her serene demeanor helps him feel completely safe to express his uncomfortable emotion.



Taking a deep breath of his own, Leo lets his shoulders drop a tiny bit. His mother softly extends her hand palm up across the soft rug, an unspoken invitation for connection whenever he is ready.



Leo scoots forward across the floor and leans gently against his mother's side. She wraps a warm arm around him, pulling him close in a quiet embrace that lets him simply rest until the big feeling passes.



Side by side in the soft afternoon light, they sit together in peaceful stillness. Leo rests his head on her shoulder and lets out a long sigh, feeling the remaining tension melt away.



Reaching down slowly, Leo picks up a single rectangular wooden block from the rug. His mother looks down at him with a tender smile, giving a slight, encouraging nod.



Together, Leo and his mother begin laying the foundation for a brand-new tower on the rug. The living room stays wrapped in calm beige daylight, filled with patience, trust, and gentle comfort.