



The Christmas Eve Wish

by Marcus Wendel



It was Christmas Eve in Santa's Toy Shop! Santa and Mrs. Claus were busy wrapping presents, their cheeks rosy from the cold. The workshop was filled with the sweet scent of pine and the cheerful sound of wrapping paper. Santa rubbed his hands together, excited for the big night ahead.



Suddenly, the workshop went quiet, and the toys began to stir. A teddy bear yawned, a doll stretched, and a robot whirred to life. Each toy started boasting about why they were the best gift, arguing over who would bring the most joy to a child on Christmas morning. The air buzzed with playful disagreement.



A small door creaked open, and a young boy named Harry peeked inside. His eyes widened at the sight of the toys, his worn clothes a stark contrast to the colorful scene. He gazed in wonder, admiring the toys he had never seen before.



The toys paused their argument, noticing Harry's presence. Derek the Teddy Bear gently greeted Harry, and one by one, the toys came alive again. Harry confessed he had no toys of his own, which saddened the toys, who had never encountered a child without any toys.



Santa and Mrs. Claus, hearing the commotion, came to see what was happening. They learned of Harry's situation, and Santa declared that they must give him something very special. The toys, understanding the true spirit of Christmas, offered themselves to Harry with open hearts.



Each toy, filled with newfound understanding, offered to go home with Harry. The toys realized that bringing joy wasn't about being the 'best,' but about sharing love and happiness. Harry smiled, feeling the warmth of Christmas in his heart, and all the toys shouted together, "Merry Christmas, everyone!"