



The Lantern of Kindness

Arru Here



Hamdan, a young boy with bright, curious eyes, tenderly holds a small, ornate lantern. He walks along a peaceful village path at dusk, the lantern's warm glow creating soft shadows around him. The air is calm, and a gentle smile plays on his lips as he thinks of his grandfather's cherished gift.



Suddenly, the sky darkens ominously, and a fierce storm sweeps through the village. Rain lashes down, wind howls, and all the village lights flicker and die, plunging everything into terrifying darkness. Hamdan looks out his window, his face reflecting concern, as lightning briefly illuminates the chaotic scene.



Remembering his grandfather's words about being a light in the dark, Hamdan, now wearing a rain slicker, bravely steps out into the stormy night, his small lantern clutched firmly. Its steady flame cuts through the gloom, a beacon of hope against the swirling wind and rain. He is determined to help his neighbors.



Near the village well, Hamdan spots a tiny figure crying in the dark. It's a little girl, distraught because her bucket has fallen deep into the well during the blackout. Hamdan shines his lantern down, revealing the bucket far below, and offers a comforting smile to the tearful child.



Hamdan quickly finds his father, and together, guided by the lantern's light, they carefully lower a rope into the well. His father skillfully retrieves the bucket, and the little girl claps her hands in delight. Hamdan's lantern illuminates their faces, glowing with relief and gratitude.



Continuing his journey, Hamdan notices an elderly woman struggling to find her way home on the slippery, dark path. He gently guides her with his lantern, ensuring she avoids puddles and obstacles, until she reaches her doorstep safely, offering him a warm, thankful pat on the head.



Further on, he hears faint whimpers coming from a dense bush. Shining his lantern, Hamdan discovers a frightened kitten, separated from its family in the storm. He carefully coaxes it out and, with the kitten nestled safely in his arms, guides it back to its worried owners.



Word of Hamdan's kindness spreads, and soon, other villagers, holding their own small lights, join him. They form a small, impromptu community watch, checking on neighbors and sharing stories, all connected by the central glow of Hamdan's unwavering lantern. The dark alleys feel much less frightening now.



Just as the storm begins to subside, the village power flickers back on. Streetlights blaze to life, and house windows glow with warmth. Yet, even with all the electric lights, Hamdan's small lantern continues to shine, a quiet symbol of his courage and the kindness that lit up the darkest hour.



Hamdan returns home, tired but with a heart full of joy. He places his lantern carefully on his bedside table, its flame still dancing softly. He understands now that his grandfather's gift wasn't just a light for his path, but a reminder to always share his light with others.