

## Hope Saves the World - by Jed (aged 8)

*Beneath the ordinary world where we all live our lives, do our jobs and go to school, there exists a whole other world, peopled by a family called The Values: Love, Friendship, Forgiveness, Truth, Peace and Hope.*

*They used to exist alongside humans, guiding us to do good deeds like little fireflies; and the brightest, feistiest firefly was Hope.*

*But gradually, as humans became more and more distracted by the shiny buzzy, beepy, scary gadgets of modern life, the Values became weaker. Their lights dimmed and they became buried by layers of rubbish.*

*So the Values lived underground. Love, Friendship and Forgiveness huddled together but Peace and Truth felt abandoned and Peace was suffering most of all. Like all the Values he fed on people's good deeds and amid the swarm of Conflict, Enmity, Hatred and Lies, which plagued the world like wasps, there was no place for Peace.*

*These were the Negitivions and the most powerful was Despair. He clouded the world because the humans believed that Hope had gone forever.*

*But Hope was strong. One night by poor, dying Peace's bedside, she whispered, "I'll save you, little brother. I promise I'll save us all."*

*At this moment, up on the surface, a small boy, desperate for the world to become bright again, went out and planted a snowdrop seed. He buried it in the rubbish, hoping fervently that it would grow.*

*His act of hope caused the cloud of Despair to break a little and rain watered the flower. It put down roots which made their way through the rubbish to Hope, trapped underground.*

*She gathered up her brother and sisters and with all their strength, clinging to the roots, they flew up to the surface.*

*Suddenly, the cloud of Despair burst. All the Negitivions were washed away in the monsoon. Conflict and Hatred sank deeper into the rubbish as Love and Friendship soared into the sky.*

*Peace was restored and the humans only had to look up from their gadgets to find Hope in the world.*

*The End*