

I Love Life - by Islam (aged 9)

Leila looked at the view from the window of her room which was overlooking the garden of her house. Leila was sad and crying for her mother had passed away a week earlier.

This is what had turned Leila's life from a happy one into a sad one.

"What's the benefit of nature and its beauty if I lose the dearest person to my heart?" she said.

Leila closed the window and walked with heavy steps to her bed to start crying again. Life had lost the taste of happiness and become meaningless and black.



Suddenly she heard a bird warbling continuously. She opened her window again but could see nothing. "I'll go down to the garden to see what is happening." said Leila.

She followed the sound till she was stopped by a bird warbling sadly. She approached the tree to find that the bird's nestling had fallen from the nest. Leila tried moving it with her hand, but the nestling was dead.

Leila returned to her room feeling even sadder. But she continued watching the bird from her little window. While she was watching, she felt tired. She moved to her bed and lay on it. She fell asleep deeply for hours.

She woke up terrified because her mother's voice was calling her name. Then she realized it was just a dream.

"I wish it was true. I wish I could see my dear mother once again." Leila thought.

She remembered the bird so she jumped up and went to the window. She saw the bird feeding her other nestlings in the nest. Leila was surprised.

The next day she opened the window to look at the tree. Again she saw the bird looking after her nestlings. "Could it be that she forgot her little baby?!"

"No, Leila. She didn't. No mother forgets her babies." answered her father, who was watching her. "But this bird is optimistic. Weeping and crying will change nothing. We must work and look for a better future. Life will not stop when someone passes on."

"And I should forget my mother, who raised me and helped me to become the girl she was proud of?" said Leila.

"No, dear daughter, but you must be optimistic and don't stop here. Move on with your life as if your mother is here by your side." said the father.

That night Leila lay in her bed thinking about her father's words. Signs of hope appeared on her face. "I am going to school tomorrow. I must stop weeping and crying so my mum would be happy. I am certain that she will be happy for my happiness. I will not surrender." Leila smiled.

"I love you mum!" said Leila and soon she fell asleep.

Leila woke up the next morning, she opened the window and took a deep breath. She started getting ready for school. She grabbed her bag and opened the door, filled with strength and optimism to start her life again. She headed to the tree, raised her head and said: "Thank you bird. I will never forget you!"

And Leila continued on her way to school.

