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The Lemonade Stand

Destiny is a thirteen year old girl, who grew up poor. Her dad is in the army, he has been for two years already. She is walking home from school with her friend Ava, "I'm so excited for the solar eclipse!" Ava shouted. "Yeah me too..." Destiny mumbled quietly, she already knew her mom couldn't afford the special glasses you're supposed to use, after all they were \$25.99. Her mom already works overtime just for bills and groceries, so she doesn't want to pressure her more. "My mom said she wouldn't get me the glasses...but I'm still gonna look at it. Wanna do it with me?" Ava questioned, Destiny was conflicted, she didn't want to hurt her eyes, but she couldn't turn down her best friend, so she nodded. "Okay see you tomorrow for the big event. Oh and stay after school to watch it with me." Ava was already far away so Destiny didn't respond. Her mind was racing, she was supposed to lie to her mom so she could stay after school. She had never lied to her mom before. Destiny reached her house heart beating against her chest. "Hey mom I'm home..." Her mom was making mac and cheese for the third time this week. Her mom looked up from the food. "Hey sweetie," her mom said. "Um...I have...Student council tomorrow after school" Destiny replied. Her mom looked confused, "Ms.Henderson didn't send me an email. I'm going to email her just to make sure." Destiny blurted out, "No! I mean...Her email hasn't been working..." Her mom nodded looking back down at the food she was making, "okay that's fine you can go." Destiny thought the lump in her throat would go away after the conversation, but it didn't. Destiny didn't sleep the next day she was just tossing and turning all night. Then her alarm went off, she was surprised she had gotten no sleep at all. As she was getting ready she just kept thinking if she would hurt her eyes doing this Ava has always been stronger than her, did that count for eyes too? During class that was all she could think about and then...*ding* the last bell rang. Her mind was racing, she was quite scared because she was so concerned for her eyes. "Why am I like this, I'm so scared but why..?" She mumbled as she ran to the courtyard. She saw Ava already there, Ava yelled "Hey girl c'mon over here you can see better!" Destiny jogged over, "Ava I'm scared I'm gonna hurt my eyes..." Ava chuckled, was she laughing at her? Ava paused. "Don't be so dramatic it's fine." Destiny stared at Ava for a second "...I guess..." Ava squealed, "Look, it's starting!" Ava pointed towards the sky. When destiny looked her eyes stung. You see Destiny is supposed to have glasses, but her mom couldn't afford them, so she just struggles in class. Almost her entire family had glasses, I guess it runs in the genes. Ava and destiny watched for about fifteen minutes then...everything went black and then it was over. Ava and Destiny walked home afterwards, though one thing was different, Destiny's eyes were insanely blurry. "You know what I have to tell mom, even if I get grounded." Destiny went home and immediately went to her mom. "Mom, I have something to tell you.." Before her mom could even respond destiny said, "There wasn't actually a student council meeting, Ava just wanted me to watch the solar eclipse with me and now I can barely see and im so so so so sorry." Destiny talked so fast that her mom barely even registered what she said. Her mom went through different emotions: shock, then anger, then concern. "We are going to the eye doctor right now!" Destiny's eyes widened, "But-" her mom interrupted her, "No buts! We are going right now go get in the car!" After about one hour they went home, it turns out destiny is now half blind...in both eyes, and they didn't make lenses for that type of vision. Destiny got pulled

out of school and started getting homeschooled. Then one Saturday her mom came home from work looking conflicted. "Hey mom, are you okay?" Her mom nodded, "Yes, but a brand new surgery for eyes specifically for half-blindness just came out.." Destiny's eyes lit up "Really?! Can I get it please? I know it's dangerous but please mom please?!" her mom shook her head, "it's 2,500 dollars..." Destiny's face fell, "What?! That's so expensive.....It's ok mom you don't need to buy it for me." Her mom sighed, "sorry honey." Destiny thought in her head, because I will buy it! Flashback to kindergarten she made lemonade for her class and her class begged her to make it since then. Destiny thought long and hard, "on every Saturday I will have a lemonade stand until I have enough money for that surgery." Over the next two years rain or snow or sun she had a lemonade stand every saturday until she had enough money she counted it every Sunday. Her mom supported her in all of it. Then one Saturday, " Oh. my. God. Mom I did it, I did it!" Her mom burst into the room, "What?!" And just like that she got the surgery. Her eyes were sore for about a week, but she could finally see. She enrolled back in school. And that is Destiny's story.