

Rainy Day

By: Samiya A.

On a dark gloomy rainy day, a baby boy was born right as lightning struck the ground. This baby was named Jack. In his world, it was always sunny, and anyone born on a rainy day was bad luck. Because of this, no one wanted to be near him, even his family, except for his grandfather, Grandpa Joe. Grandpa Joe gave Jack his first and only present on his fourteenth birthday. It was a bright golden parakeet named Wish. Wish and Grandpa Joe were the only two things that kept Jack alive and happy.

One day, Grandpa Joe got really, really sick. The doctor said that Grandpa Joe has only two days to live. When Jack's family heard what happened, they blame it all on Jack because he was bad luck. They told him in disgust that he would be the end of the whole family, starting with Grandpa Joe. Jack wanted to disappear, so he ran away from home carrying only a bag full of clothes and a cage with Wish in it.

Jack continued running to the middle of nowhere until he lost his breath. He started walking afterward, till he saw a sign saying "Rainy Day Cafe! Exit 38". Curious, Jack decided to go see what this 'Rainy Day Cafe' was all about. Being afraid of getting yelled at, Jack and Wish went through the back door.

As soon as Jack stepped in the cafe, he was hit by a strong smell strongly brewed coffee and homemade fudge. The cafe was a small but cozy place, filled with bizarre things. For example, in a corner there was a lamp shaped as an elephant juggling three teacups, while balancing on a bouncy ball. Instead of tables and chairs, they were a pile of large thick books and bean bag chairs. Jack wanted to explore more, but he heard someone coming out of the kitchen. Panicking, Jack hid himself and Wish behind the sticker covered counter.

A middle-age woman came out of the kitchen. She didn't look like a regular person. She had cork-screwed teal blue hair and goggle like glasses. Her apron was tie-dye and she was humming something about burned peas. Her name tag said Sugar. To Jack, she seems to be the most interesting looking person he has seen in his entire life.

Sugar started walking towards the counter. Worried, Jack tried not to move nor make a single noise so he wouldn't get caught. But Wish, started squawking real loud. Trying to keep him quiet, Jack threw a blanket on the cage, but it was too late. Sugar had already spotted them. She looked concerned when she asked

Jack if he was all right and why he was here. Jack lied and said he was lost, tired and trying to find a way back home. Sugar invited him to stay for night at the cafe and Jack agreed.

Sugar was real nice and cheerful. She didn't move away from him like most people did. She told Jack about her life and why she named this cafe this way. Long ago, the world was always raining. The rain gave us rainbows each day, knowing there would be a pot of leprechaun gold at the end of it. The rain gave us hope, freedom and something unique that other places did not have. We were lucky. But then one day everything changed. A spell was put on the world, were days were only sunny. Now people believe that sunny days brought you happiness while rainy days brought you despair. Anything on a rainy day was bad luck. When everything seemed lost, the Sphere of Prophecy lighted up and said that a boy born when lightning struck the ground, would break the spell and change the world with just one wish. Sugar named this cafe after a rainy day so that whenever that boy felt lost, this cafe will always give him hope.

As Sugar went back into the kitchen to get hot chocolate, Jack thought about what Sugar told him. He knew that he was born when lightning struck the ground because Grandpa Joe told him. But he was not so sure about the wish. And even if he had the wish, he would use it on Grandpa Joe to get his health back. Defeated, Jack went to Wish to calm down. But then he realized that Wish was a wish! Wish would have started glittering gold whenever Jack said 'wish'. Leaving a fifty on the counter, Jack ran outside with Wish, looking up at the sky and wished it would rain and turn this world from sunny to rainy just the way it was before. He knew it wouldn't change Grandpa Joe's health but he hoped it would.

Jack walked home with Wish on his shoulder. He wasn't sparkly but still golden. After Jack made the wish, it started raining. People came outside dancing in the rain. It was refreshing. Jack walked into Grandpa Joe's room, fearing the worst, until he saw Grandpa Joe sitting on his bed looking out the window watching the rain fall, cheeks flushed with pride.