

The DIAMOND NECKLACE

By Nabeeha Rahman

Far, far away in a village with the most beautiful waterfalls and riversides, lived a girl named Natalia. Now you would think that she was graceful and obedient but she was far off, you see, she was the most mischievous cheeky girl in the village! She lived with her mum and dad in a little cottage; her mum worked at home and her dad was a woodcutter. Natalia was often told to behave by her mum, dad and sometimes even her teachers but she ignored them as always.

One morning, when school was off, Natalia went along with her dad to watch him cut wood. While her dad cut some wood, she wandered off to explore the woods and while she was doing so she stumbled upon an enchanting necklace. Since she was curious, she went ahead and took it to home but deciding not tell her parents about it. She soon arrived home and went to her room to take a look at the necklace. It had a rose-gold chain and the pendant had a scarlet red ruby in the middle that was surrounded by gleaming diamonds. That night she couldn't sleep properly—she spent the whole night wondering where the necklace could have come from and who would own such an elegant necklace.

It was the next night and Natalia was still unable to find out who owned the necklace. But that very night she noticed something strange: she saw that at night the necklace would strangely disappear and reappear in the morning just as dawn approached. This went for many days until one night, Natalia stayed awake to see what was going on. She was staggered to see that every night a fairy wore the necklace, disappeared into the night and placed it back at dawn. The next night Natalia decided to follow the fairy. She crept down the stairs, put on a pair of shoes and went out of the cottage. Entering the deep part of the woods, she saw that there was a fairy festival and soon realized that they were all starring at her, so she introduced herself and afterwards the fairies invited her to join them in the fairy feast and also let her join the competition for the most polite and obedient being. Now, Natalia thought she couldn't possibly be obedient; after all she was the cheekiest of all. But the fairies all insisted and to encourage her they said a speech about being obedient and kind and how it was really important to be polite. Natalia was inspired by the speech and though she was cheeky, she determined and entered the competition. Most surprisingly, she won and was given that enchanted necklace she had found in the woods; it was called the DIAMOND NECKLACE! She loved it and promised never to be cheeky again.

Although her parents were surprised to see her change, they were really proud and soon Natalia became the most polite girl in the village!!!

THE END

The Wonderful World of the Ladybird Book Artists exhibition

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