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A Modern Fairy Tale

"Tomorrow, I will send you two to a summer camp for 3 days. Your father and I will go to Shanghai and visit your old granny. Can you two hear me?" Mrs. Lee announced the news to her children impatiently.

"Okay, okay." Kuen replied without even a glance. This little chubby 10 year-old boy was concentrating on his own Lego world. He moved the tiny Lego people around, and tried to have a voice over for them.

In the other corner of the living room, "Yes, yes, yes." Kam, the younger sister of Kuen, murmured back slowly with a sound expressing her annoyance. She continued with her Barbie's kingdom. Beautiful clothes, luxury toy mansions and cars were all around her.

The next day, Mrs. Lee dropped the children off in a campsite in the New Territories. Kam lined up quietly behind her brother at the end of the line and waited for instructions.

Suddenly, Kam heard a whisper, "Help! Help me please!" She turned around and saw nobody, but only a fragile golden butterfly which seemed exhausting.

Kam couldn't believe her ears, so she tapped her brother's shoulder and faltered, "The butterfly is...talking to me."

"What? Stop the nonsense!" Kuen turned his head toward Kam with his beetle-browed face.

"Help Me!" the golden butterfly cried. This time, Kuen heard the sound and he was shocked.

"What...do you want?" Kuen stammered.

"I am chased by an old wicked witch, she wants to capture me and take away all my golden powder. Without the powder, I will die. Could you please protect me and bring me home? I am too tired to fly now. After I am safe, I could fulfill one of your wishes for both of you using some of my magic powder as a remuneration of your help," the butterfly implored.

After hearing the word "wishes", both Kuen and Kam agreed undoubtedly.

The butterfly hid in Kuen's backpack and guided them into a forest. During the journey, the butterfly asked, "What are your wishes, and why do you want that?"

"I want power! I would like to control everything and make the world act as I want it to. I want everyone to follow my instructions just like the little Lego people." Kuen said ambitiously.

"I want wealth! I want to enjoy a luxury life, just like Barbie. She got beautiful clothes, shoes, mansion and cars. I want all of them to become real." Kam replied. The butterfly remained in silence.

They continued their journey. When they reached a river, some memories were recalled in Kuen and Kam's mind. When they were younger, they used to be very friendly. Their mother and father used to drive them to the country park every weekend. The whole family would play games and catch fishes in the river. Now, their parents were too busy with their work and the relationship between the siblings was worsened. Both of them could only sigh while looking at the beautiful sparkling river.

All of a sudden, the evil cackles interrupted the silence. All of them knew the witch was here.

"Oh no! She found me! We must change our plan now. We must fight against her!" the butterfly exclaimed.

"How?" Kam questioned with worries.

"Can you see that little skull necklace on her withered neck? That's where she stores her evil spirit. If we could destroy that, we could defeat her," the butterfly said.

"Let me do it then," Kam said confidently. She hid in the bushes and waited for the witch to land from her obsolete broom.

A black robe supported by a skinny body reached the ground. The witch's face was as pale as death and her hair was black and curly, just like a pile of string tangled altogether. The wrinkles were all over her skin. She pointed her long finger with dirty, black nail at Kuen and demanded in a husky voice, "Give me that butterfly immediately!"

Right after the last word of the witch's demand, Kam jumped out from the bushes, rushed towards the witch and grabbed her necklace. The witch was shocked and attacked Kam with her wand. Kuen ran towards Kam and blocked the spell with his body.

Kam smashed the skull into pieces and the witch broke into pieces too. Yes, they defeated the witch, but Kuen turned into a tree because of the spell.

Kam now noticed how much her brother loved her. She cried and begged the butterfly, "I don't want beautiful clothes, houses and cars anymore, can you please give me back my brother?"

The golden butterfly flew towards Kuen's tree and spread its golden powder on it. Kuen turned back into a human right away. Kam hugged Kuen and they cried loudly together.

After they both calmed down, the butterfly asked Kuen, "What is your wish now?"

Looking at his sister, Kuen asserted, "I just want to live happily ever after with my family."