القيادة العامة لشرطة الشارقة
Sharjah Police Headquarters

The Thief Nobody Saw



Author: Reem Saud Al Matrooshi

Illustrations: Zobida Kahtan Al Tallaa

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Sharjah Police Headquarters

Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

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Story (The Thief Nobody Saw)

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On a beautiful spring day, a children's festival called The Fun Festival was held in the neighborhood park.

The children were very excited because they looked forward to the festival every year.

There were games, contests, colorful balloons, candy carts, and popcorn...

Yum... yum!

Saif was very excited to go to the festival.

He always carried his phone because he loved capturing everything.

Click... click!

Saif said to his friend Rashid,

"I'm going to be famous! I'll be one of the most popular influencers on social media.

I'm going to film the strangest video at the festival!

I'm sure something exciting will happen today."

Rashid laughed and said,

"Even if someone sneezes in front of your camera?"



Saif replied,

“Of course! A special sneeze is worth filming too!”

While the children were laughing and having fun,

something strange happened.

Suddenly, the music stopped. Everyone looked around in surprise.

“What happened? Is there a problem with the electricity?

Or is something wrong?”

Then everyone heard a sad voice over the microphone:

“The prize box is missing!”

Parents and children began whispering to one another.

“Whisper... whisper... whisper!

Did someone steal it? And why?” Who could have taken the box?

The box held all the prizes for the contest winners.

The festival supervisor cried,

“The box was right here just a few minutes ago!

Did a stranger come in? Where did it go?”

Then she added sadly, “We’ve lost all the prizes... Oh no!”



The park staff called Sharjah Police

and asked for help finding the box.

Only a few moments later, the police arrived.

Wee-woo... wee-woo!

Officer Salem walked over to the children and asked,

“Did any of you see anything strange?”

Several children raised their hands.

“We saw some things... and we captured it too!”

Saif said proudly,

“Me too! I’ve been filming everything since the festival started.

Click... click... click!”

The children gathered around Officer Salem.

“Great!” he said. “We might find lots of clues.”

The children opened the video clips.

In the first video, a boy appeared filming himself

jumping and saying: “Look at my jump! It’s so high!

Boing... boing... boing!”

Officer Salem asked,

“Did you see the prize box while you were jumping?”

The boy replied, “No... but my jump was amazing, wasn’t it?”

Everyone laughed. “Ha... ha... ha!”

Officer Salem said, “Let’s see the second video.”

At first, the whole screen was red. Officer Salem looked confused.

“What is this?”

Suddenly, a little girl appeared, happily holding a red balloon.

Then they heard her cry, “My balloon flew away!

Waaah... waaah!”

Officer Salem sadly said,

“I don’t think she saw the box while she was crying.”

Then it was Saif’s turn. He opened the video he had recorded.

And what a surprise it was!





Saif had been filming himself the entire time, saying,

“Welcome to Saif’s channel!”. Everyone laughed.

“Ha... ha... ha!”

Then he turned the camera toward Rashid, who was sneezing.

“Aaaachoo! Aaaachoo!”

He had also filmed the popcorn machine, the pet stand,

and a little duck. “Quack... quack!”

Officer Salem smiled.

“We have dozens of videos, but not one of them shows what happened.”

Then one of the children raised his hand.

“I didn’t take a video, but I saw something!”

Officer Salem asked, “What did you see?” The boy replied,

“I was playing nearby when I saw someone walking toward the box.

I couldn’t see his face, but I noticed three things.

He had white hair and was carrying a blue bag with a star on it.

And he was wearing funny yellow shoes!”

Officer Salem said,

“Excellent! That is our first clue.”

Everyone began searching the park for that person.

Suddenly, they heard a sound. “Meow... meow!”

Rashid said, “It’s a little cat! Maybe it needs help!”

Everyone followed the cat’s sound until they reached a cart near the stage.

Inside, they found the little cat, and beside her was a blue bag with a star on it.

Saif said, “Don’t tell me the cat is the thief!”

The children laughed. Officer Salem smiled.

“Let’s see where this clue takes us.”

Then they heard another sound.

“Snore... snore... snore!”

They walked behind the stage. And there was another surprise!

They found Uncle Omar, who had worked at the park for many years, fast asleep with the prize box beside him!





And on his feet were a pair of funny yellow shoes.

There was no thief at all! Uncle Omar opened his eyes in surprise.

“What happened? Why are you here?”

Officer Salem asked, “Do you know how this box got here?”

Uncle Omar replied, “I was cleaning the area, so I moved

the box here, Then I felt sleepy and took a little nap...

Uh...

Just a little nap, wasn’t it?” Everyone laughed.

Uncle Omar said, “I’m really sorry!”

One of the children replied,

“That’s okay, Uncle Omar. You work very hard.

Today, we’ll all help you clean the park!”

Officer Salem smiled. “So, there was no theft after all.”

Then he looked at the children and said,

“We learned something important today.

We should always check before we judge anyone.”



Saif looked at his phone and said,

“From now on, I’m not going to film everything!”

Rashid asked, “Then what will you film?”

Saif smiled. “I’ll film the beautiful things...

And if there’s a problem, I’ll use my eyes and my mind first!”

Everyone laughed and took some lovely pictures

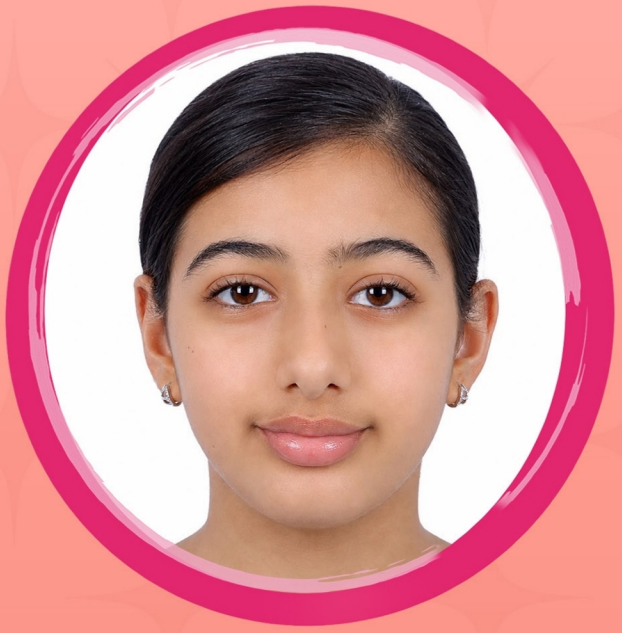
with Officer Salem and Uncle Omar.

The prize box was returned to its place,

and the children went back to playing and having fun.

But they never forgot the adventure of...

The Thief Nobody Saw!



The prize box suddenly disappears

Is there a thief at the festival?

Strange clues, a blue bag, and a little cat lead

the children to an unexpected surprise!

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