

Through Kiki's Eyes

On Sunday afternoon, Annie sat by the window with Kiki curled on her lap. The cat's fur was warm and soft, and his tail twitched every so often, like a secret thought.

Annie stroked him and asked, "Kiki, what is it like to see the world your way?"

Kiki blinked slowly, a sign of **affection**, though of course he gave no answer.

"Do the garden fences feel like tall cliffs to you?" Annie wondered. "When you leap, does it feel like a grand **expedition**?"

Kiki's ears flicked toward the glass. Outside, a bird's wings gave a faint **flutter**, but Kiki stayed still, his purr steady and calm.

"Do you think the sunbeam on the floor is a golden **treasure** just for you?" Annie asked. Kiki stretched a paw toward the light, catching only the **gleam** before it slid away.

Annie smiled. "Are you my quiet **sentinel**, keeping watch while I do homework?" She balanced her notebook on one knee, careful not to disturb him.

Kiki shifted, circling once before curling again into the **crescent** shape of sleep.

Annie listened to his breathing, steady as a lullaby.

"Maybe being a cat," Annie whispered, "means finding **contentment** in small things—like sun, or warmth, or me."

Kiki purred louder, and Annie felt her question had been answered, in its own way.

Glossary

1. **Affection** – a gentle feeling of liking or love.
2. **Expedition** – an adventurous journey or exploration.
3. **Flutter** – quick, light movements, often of wings.
4. **Treasure** – something valuable or special.
5. **Gleam** – a small, shining flash or beam of light.
6. **Sentinel** – someone or something that keeps watch.
7. **Crescent** – a curved shape like a thin slice of the moon.
8. **Contentment** – a state of quiet happiness and satisfaction.
9. **Disturb** – to interrupt or bother someone's rest or peace.
10. **Lullaby** – a soft song or sound that helps someone fall asleep.