

‘Light and Shade’ by Eesa Tafazal

(Finalist, 8 to 10 years category, Janis Clark Short Story Competition)



Have you ever wondered what happens when the fridge door shuts and the lights in the fridge turn off? Once there was a little boy, called Tom who found out, but as usual his parents were too mad with him to listen. Tom’s story will explain it all.

After dinner everything has been cleaned up and the left overs have been put in to the fridge and the fridge door is shut, the lights turn off, but this is when the fridge comes alive. In this fridge, there is Miss Chocolate cake, The Sausage family, Mr Sausage, his wife Mrs Sausage and their mischevious son, Helzel. The Green Cress family, Mr Ketchup, Mr and Mrs Yogurt and their son squeezey yogurt, Miss Juice and Mr Milk; and the Egg family. On this night Miss Juice was dancing with Mr Milk as they were rehearsing for Strictly come Dining; Mr Ketchup was doing his pressups so he didn’t get cramps when people were squeezing him. Miss Chocolate cake was admiring her glossy brown coat. Helzel was boasting to squeezey yougurt that he could climb to the top shelf, whilst his Mum and Dad were doing their daily stretches with the Cress family. As Helzel began arguing with squeezey yogurt over how quickly he could get to the top shelf of the fridge, the lights in the fridge turned on. This, as you know means someone’s hungry and is going to rummage around to find some food. This time it was Tom. But because the fridge food didn’t think anyone was coming, Tom saw all the magic of the fridge food coming alive. He was so suprised he ran upstairs to tell his Mum.

Helzel was too busy arguing with Squeezey to notice and went to show off his climbing skills and left Miss Chocolate cake on the bottom shelf for his grand climb. Higher and higher he went, past Miss Juice and Mr Milk whilst they were practising their Tango. On the next shelf he ran past Mr Ketchup but couldn’t stop himself from laughing at the noises Mr Ketchup was making. This made him slip over the Egg family. A loud CRACK was followed by a high pitched scream, “Agggghh”...Miss Chocolate cake, three shelves below was dripping in egg yolk and she was bawling, like the music on full blast on the radio. Helzel, knew he was in trouble and he hid on the top shelf. The commotion was interrupted by the fridge lights coming back on. Outside, Tom’s Mum had come to find out why Tom had interrupted her favourite TV programme. When she saw her chocolate cake covered in a gooey, orange, slimey covering, she turned to Tom and said “Tom, I’m not happy with you, straight to bed and no storytime.”

Slam shut, lights off, the door shades the fridge...only for everything to come alive again.