



## Light and Shade by Flo Taylor

**(Finalist, 7 years and under category, Janis Clark Short Story Competition)**

Rosie was a little girl. She lived in an ordinary kind of village, in an ordinary kind of house and went to an ordinary kind of school. She was like any other ordinary kind of little girl really except for one thing...

When Rosie looked out of the window, she could tell what kind of day she was going to have. If it a light, sunny, shiny kind of day, Rosie would be the most kindest, friendliest, nicest little girl that you could ever meet. But, when it was a dark and shady day, Rosie would be the most grumpiest, trumpiest, meanest little girl that you really wouldn't want to bump in to. Now, this wasn't quite the problem you might think as on sunny days she could play out and on a shady day she tended to hide away.

She looked out of the window one morning. It was a shady day, so she went outside and hid behind a tree. She was alone, or she thought she was. She heard a little voice behind her say

'hello, my name is Rosetta, what is yours?'

Rosie turned around and snarled 'go away, I don't talk to people on shady days...I only talk to people on sunny days.'

'why would you do that? That's about half of your life that you don't talk to people' said Rosetta in a little whisper.

'yeah that's right, so what?'

'then you must be lonely cos you don't have anyone to play with.'

Suddenly, Rosie burst into tears. She was lonely and she didn't know what to do. Rosetta said

'well, do you want to be my friend, even on the shady days?'

Rosie said yes and from that day on, she looked out of her window and it didn't matter if it was a light or shady day, she always had a friend to play with. Days and days later, it didn't even seem to matter what the weather was like. Rosie is now always one of the kindest, friendliest, happiest little girls, well, most of the time.