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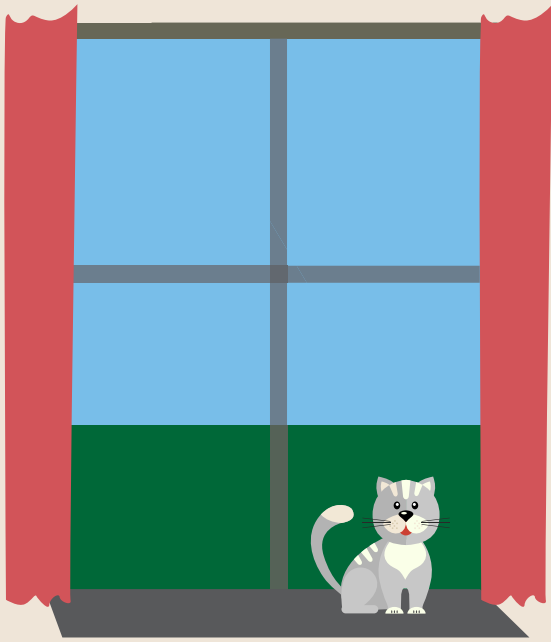


A  
WISH  
FOR TANIA

WISH  
BOOK

Make a real  
difference in lives  
like Tania's.

*Learn more on pages 10-11.*



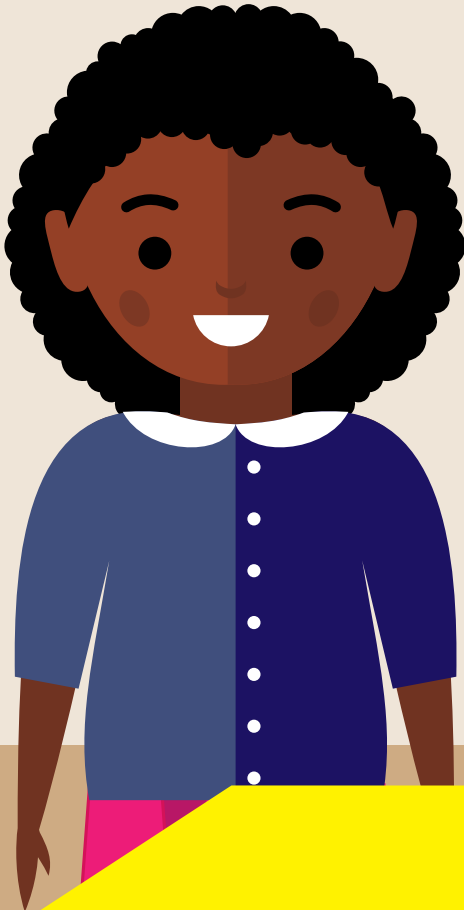
Tania is in the dining room finishing her breakfast when her friend Lila breezes in.

“Are you coming to school?” Lila asks. “I don’t want you to be late!”

“I’ll be right behind you,” Tania says, clearing her plate.

“See you there!” Lila shouts back as she skips off to the classroom.

Tania is new to Friendship Home, where she, Lila, and several other girls and boys live and go to school. There’s also a basketball court, a living room, a game room, and plenty of fun things to do.



That day at school, the teacher, Miss Hope,  
makes an announcement.

“Class, tomorrow is a special day.  
Do you know why?”

“Are you canceling the quiz?” Miles asks.

Miss Hope laughs. “That’s not the answer I was  
looking for. Tomorrow is a special day because  
it’s Tania’s birthday!”

“Yay!” The kids all cheer.

Tania’s face brightens into a big smile. She didn’t  
think anyone at Friendship Home knew about  
her birthday.



“What’s your birthday wish?” Lila asks Tania.  
“I’d wish for a new bike!”

Miles cries out, “I’d wish for a baseball bat and  
ball! What about you, Tania?”

Tania’s smile suddenly disappears.

“I...I...” She tries to speak, but she feels shy,  
and the words won’t come out.

“It’s OK, Tania,” Miss Hope says with a smile.  
“Maybe you’ll feel like sharing later.”





After school, Tania looks around at the empty walls of her new room. She imagines what it would look like filled with birthday cards and decorations, or pictures that make her feel happy.

She thinks about Lila's question at school that day. Tania has a wish, but she is embarrassed to share it.

It would be easy if all she wanted was a new toy, but Tania wants something that you can't buy at the store.

Tania's wish is to feel at home until she can go back to her family.

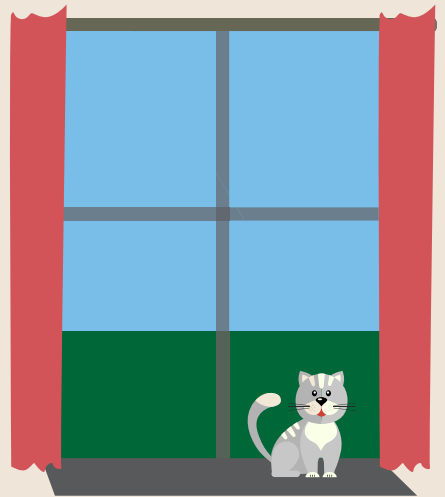
Just then, Lila comes to Tania's room to see if she's OK.

"If something is bothering you, you can tell me," Lila says. "I'll try to help."

Tania can tell that Lila cares about her. That gives Tania the courage to tell Lila her wish.

Lila gives Tania a hug. "I understand how you feel," Lila says. "I have an idea! Is it OK with you if I ask our friends for help?"

"Yes, please," says Tania. "Thank you."



Tania wakes up on her birthday and isn't sure how to feel. She thinks she should feel happy, but instead she feels anxious.

Will it be a happy birthday?

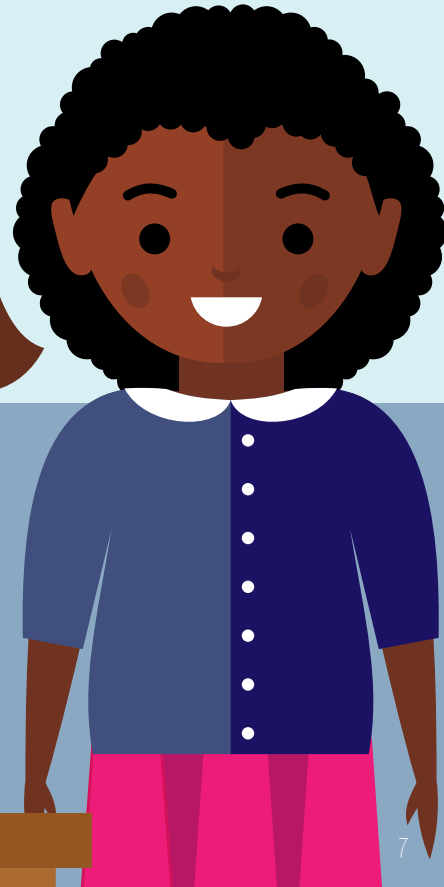
She knows Lila wants to help, but she isn't sure what Lila or anyone else can do.

When Tania gets to school, she finds a box on her desk.

“What's this?” Tania asks.

All of her friends and Miss Hope stand around her, smiling.

“Open it,” says Lila.



Tania opens the lid to find a piece of paper. She reads it:

ON THIS MOST SPECIAL DAY,  
YOUR FRIENDS WANT TO SAY,

WE KNOW YOU'VE BEEN BLUE  
SO WE DID THIS FOR YOU

TO HELP YOU TO SEE,  
WE'RE ALSO YOUR FAMILY

FROM YOUR WISH DIVIDED  
COMES ONE HOPE UNITED!





“Surprise!”

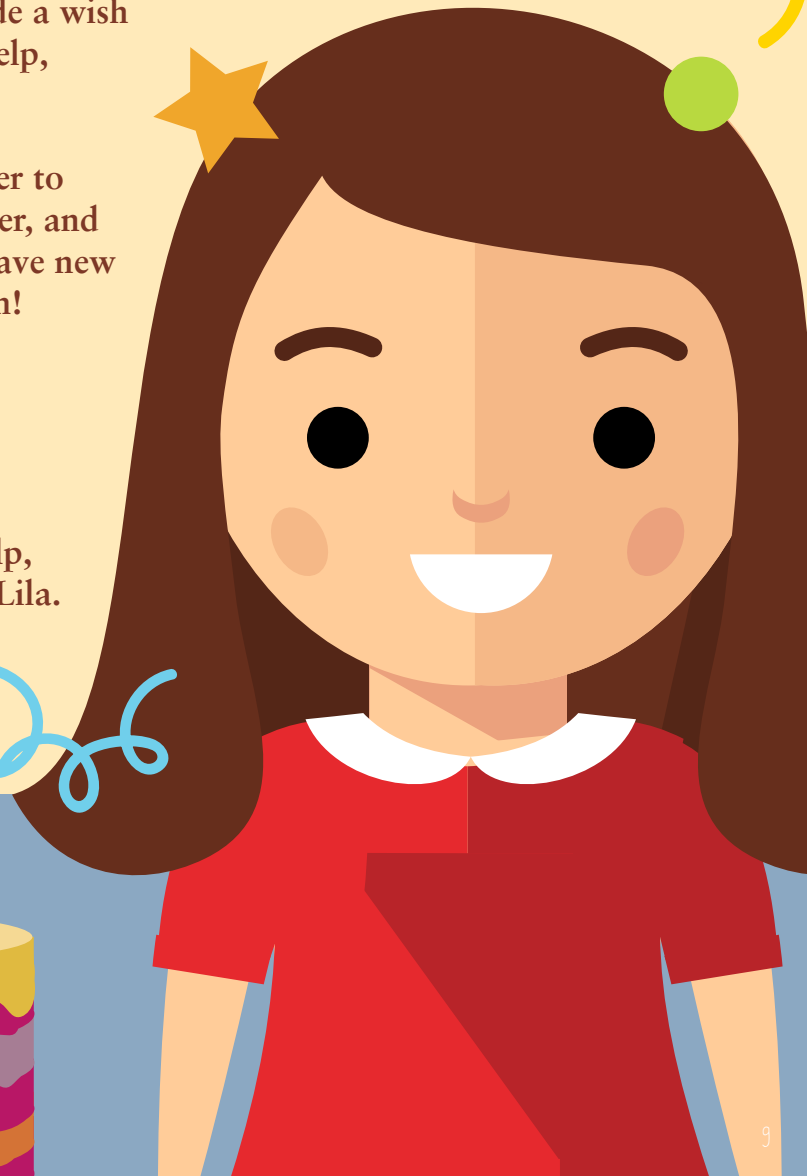
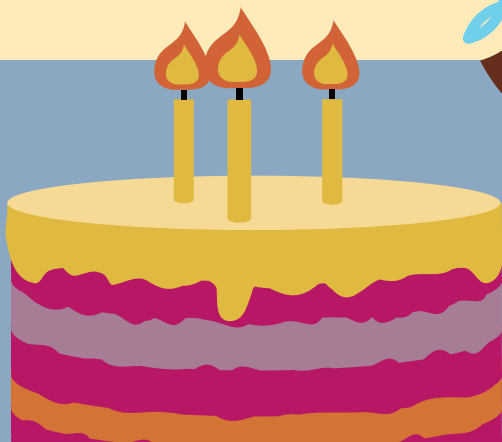
Tania’s friends throw confetti all around her. Miss Hope brings out a birthday cake, and Lila and Miles bang on pots and pans. “Happy Birthday, Tania! We love you!”

Tania is overjoyed. She can’t believe her friends threw her a surprise party. Each of her friends also made a wish for her. With Miss Hope’s help, the wishes came true!

Lila wished for Tania and her to attend summer camp together, and Miles wished for Tania to have new posters to decorate her room!

“Thank you, thank you, thank you!” Tania shouts. “I really do feel at home!”

“Sometimes, with a little help, wishes do come true,” says Lila.





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