

Lyla the Girl with the Unique Heart

By Leah Payne

Highly Commended in the Under 11 Age category

Lyla was a girl who was fabulously artistic, she loved every part of art from painting to singing and everything in between. Nothing made her more joyful than creating new things in life. She had dark brown silky hair that went all the way to her shoulders, she always had her own style and looked unique.

She went to school in North Cornwall and she loved school except from one thing, MIRABELLE! Mirabelle has curly blond hair; she would always wear the uniform from her favourite sport team. Mirabelle was loud, confident and sporty but was quite mean to Lyla for being different. Mirabelle was always in the centre of the group and made Lyla feel left out. Unlike Mirabelle, Lyla was quiet, kind and didn't like attention.

One day Mrs Rully her teacher, rang the bell and told all the children to pay attention. Mrs Rully made an announcement that the end of term obstacle race was next week, and everyone had to take part. Later that day in PE, where all the children began to practice for the race, Lyla tried her best, but it was hard for her because she didn't enjoy sport and found it tricky. Lyla kept making mistakes, having accidents and began to feel bad about herself.

She saw Mirabelle whispering in the other children's ears and they all began laughing. Lyla was upset and went to Mrs Rully crying. 'I'm sorry, but I don't want to do the race, I just can't'. Mrs Rully said "I know it is difficult for you, but I believe in you, if you do your best everything will be okay. "

That night at home before bed Lyla talked to her Mum, her mum told her that winning doesn't matter, what matters is taking part and being proud of who you are. She asked Lyla what it was that she really loved. Lyla said 'ART'. Lyla's mum told her to use what she loved, to have fun and enjoy it, then everything would be okay. This gave Lyla a great idea. That night Lyla had a dream, where she saw how she could make the race fun and good for her.

The day of the race came, they all lined up to start the race. Mrs Rully said Ready, Set and then blew the whistle. Mirabelle and the others raced in front of

her, Lyla took a deep breath and used her love of singing and dancing to get through the race. The people watching started to clap along to her song and cheer her on. As she passed the finishing line everyone was supporting her. Mirabelle started to walk towards her, she said "I'm sorry for being mean to you, you did very well. Would you mind teaching me that dance and being my friend?" Lyla responded with "Thank you, I would love that. "

Even though Lyla lost the race, she felt like she had won. As she had fun, made friends and most importantly, was true to herself.

The moral of the story is to understand others and know that differences are good. The end.