

Story of Leah

by Anna Šimůnková

I'm Leah. I'm different, I always have been. When I was born, everyone was laughing at me. I live only with my mum. One time I heard my parents fighting and screaming at each other, my dad said I'm a monster and Mum should get rid of me, so she kicked him out.

When I was younger, I liked smiling, but every time I smiled everyone laughed at me, so it always made me sad. My mum is a journalist, so we often move from one place to another, and I have been in lots of schools. My best friends were the nurses and doctors, from the hospitals I was in.

I have a pet bunny, her name is Carrot. She has light brown fur, I always cuddle her when I'm sad. Carrot likes to run around my room or cuddle me while I'm reading a book. She doesn't laugh at me!

Tomorrow is my big day! It's the first day at my new school. This evening I tried almost all of my dresses, because in this school kids does not wear uniforms.

"Oh God! Which should I pick?" I wondered. "Precious uniforms!", "Mum help!!"

"What happened?" asked Mum.

"I dont have anything to wear tomorrow!" I replied. In the end we chose a blue dress. I'm really nervous about tomorrow.

"Go to sleep now, you should be rested for tomorrow." Said mum strictly."

It's Monday morning, the alarm clock rings. I need to get up and brush my teeth, eat breakfast, brush my hair and get dressed. I'm not feeling very well, I don't want to eat breakfast, but I have to. I dress fast, because I dont want to be late.

"Ok, Ok, I hope I have everything I need," I say as I'm putting things inside my bag. I put my shoes on quickly. I feel nervous again.

I quickly grab my bag and leave for school. We have to go by bus because it is quite far. We get off the bus, and get closer and closer to the school door. I slowly touch the handle and open the door. I'm going with Mum to the principal's office.

The principal gave mum some papers about me signing in to this new school. She also gave mum a small paper with the number of my locker and classroom. Which is 47 and classroom P39.

With Mum we go through the long hall and finally we find classroom P39.

Mum hugs me and I hug her back. „What if they make fun of my smile?“ I asked sadly.

„Dont worry, it will be fine. Even if they laugh at your smile, for me your smile is the most beautiful smile on the world.“ said Mum to me.

I'm opening the door slowly. I go inside and close the door behind me.

„Hello, I'm Leah. Im new here.“ I say nervously. Everyone went quiet and just stared at me. After several seconds they started laughing and pointing at me. My eyes were filled with tears and I lowered my head. Then I noticed!... ONE OF MY SHOES IS BLACK AND ONE RED!! I started laughing too! They weren't laughing at me because of my cleft lip but because of my shoes!