

A Little Kindness Goes a Long Way

by Yip Hoi Hang 5A

In the heart of Kennedy Town, a small estate known for its rudeness and lack of empathy, lived a woman named Cherry. At fifty-four, she had seen her share of life's ups and downs, but what remained constant was her heart being always open, always warm. Cherry worked part-time at the estate library, where she spent her days surrounded by books and stories, but what she treasured most were the people who walked through the doors. She wanted to change them; she wanted them to be kind and warm.

One chilly autumn morning, Cherry decided it was time for a change - a change she could initiate herself. She believed that simple acts of kindness could spark joy and foster a sense of connection in the estate. With that thought, she made a list of gestures she could undertake in the coming weeks.

On the very first day, she baked a batch of her famous chocolate chip cookies. They were warm, gooey, and made with love. On her way to the library, she stopped by Chris's home, the elderly widower who lived on the corner. Cherry knocked gently, and when Chris opened the door, the warmth of the cookies welcomed her like a cozy embrace. Cherry handed over a plate. "I thought you might enjoy a treat." The surprise lit up Chris's face. "Thank you, dear! You've made my day!"

Encouraged by this small success, Cherry continued her mission. At the library, she reserved a quiet spot for story time, inviting kids from the neighbourhood. Each week, she read them tales of adventure and wonder, always ending with a discussion about kindness. The children loved it and began to share their own stories of helping others - picking up litter, sharing toys, and visiting the sick.

As the leaves fell and winter approached, Cherry reflected on her journey. It was remarkable how small acts of kindness could change the atmosphere of an entire community. Her heart swelled with gratitude. It reminded her that love and appreciation were gifts anyone could give, and that with time, a little kindness could truly make the world a better place.