A Morning at the Gallery (B1 · English B1)

Tekst / Transcript

Nadia had waited three months for this Saturday. A famous painter was showing her work in the city, and the exhibition was open for only ten days. Nadia loved painting, but she had never seen real works by this artist. She got up early and took the first bus into town.

When she arrived, a long line stood outside the door. Nadia felt a warm excitement in her stomach as the line moved forward. The building was old and beautiful. Everything was quiet inside, except for the soft sound of shoes on the wooden floor. A guide gave her a small map and explained the plan of the rooms.

Nadia walked slowly from picture to picture. She stopped in front of a huge blue painting and began to examine every detail. The colours seemed to expand across the wall, and the sea in the picture looked almost alive. Two visitors near her were talking about the artist's early years. Nadia listened for a moment and then moved on. In the next room she met a student called Ben, who was drawing in a notebook. They started to talk about the paintings and to exchange ideas about colour and light. Ben said that patience is essential for any painter, because good work takes years.

The morning passed faster than Nadia had expected. She had planned to stay one hour, but she was still there at two o'clock. Ben told her about a small art class in his neighbourhood. Every student there had equal chances to show their work at the end of the year, and the teacher treated beginners and older members equally well. Nadia wrote down the address. She had almost no experience with oil paints, but she wanted to learn. Eventually she found the exit near the café, and she stepped into the bright afternoon. On the bus home, she already knew that she would come back.

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