Ruth's Last Festival (B1 · English B1)

Tekst / Transcript

Every summer, the small town of Willow Bay holds a music festival by the sea. This year the main organizer was a woman called Ruth, who had planned the event for eight years. She loved the work, but she was tired. In January she told everyone that she would retire after the festival and spend more time in her garden. The town was worried, because nobody knew the job as well as she did.

Ruth decided to solve the problem early. She asked the management of the town hall for a small budget, and they agreed. With that money she could hire two young people for the summer. One of them, Peter, had worked as a swimming trainer at the local pool, so he was good with big groups. The other, Lena, had studied media and wanted to be a film producer one day. Ruth also called her old friend Sam, a retired teacher who still had plenty of energy. He came in twice a week to help with the tickets.

The small staff met every Monday morning in Ruth's kitchen. They drank tea and made long lists. Lena found a young photographer who agreed to take pictures of every concert for free. Peter spoke to the newspaper, and the editor there promised a full page about the festival in June. Ruth watched them work and said very little. She only helped when something went wrong.

The festival weekend was warm and busy. More than four thousand people came, and the music went on until midnight. On Sunday evening, Ruth stood on the stage and thanked everyone. She said that a good event needs no boss and no servant; it only needs people who care. Then she announced that the town would promote Peter to festival director for next year. Everybody clapped, and Lena took the microphone and promised that the pictures would be online by Tuesday. Ruth walked home slowly along the beach, happy and finally free.

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