The Box on the Bus (B1 · English B1)

Tekst / Transcript

Every morning, Daniel took the same bus to the city library. He sat by the window and watched the streets. One Tuesday, something odd happened. A woman in a yellow coat got on the bus and left a small blue box on the empty seat beside him. She got off two stops later without looking back. Daniel waited. Nobody came for the box.

He did not open it. Instead, he carried it to the library and put it on his desk. All morning he could not work. He kept looking at the box and trying to guess the mystery. His first theory was simple: the woman had forgotten it by accident. But she had placed it so carefully. It suddenly occurred to him that she might have left it there on purpose. In films, that idea sounds exciting. In reality, it mostly makes you nervous.

At lunchtime he took the box to the front desk. The librarian looked at it and smiled. She said people left strange things all the time: umbrellas, gloves, and once a violin. Daniel asked her to open it, since he was a little afraid of what was inside. There was only a folded note and a small mirror. The mirror was clean enough to reflect the whole ceiling. The note said: "For the person who finds this. Have a good day."

Daniel laughed out loud. He had built a whole story in his head, and the truth was gentle and kind. Since that day, he has kept the mirror on his desk. Sometimes he still wonders about the woman in the yellow coat. He never saw her again on the bus, though he looked for her every morning for months. Last week he spotted a yellow coat in the market and felt his heart jump. It belonged to a stranger. Daniel smiled and walked on. The mirror still sits by his lamp, and it still reminds him therefore small kindness is real.

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