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Suraya's Gift: The Story Catcher Children by Malavika Nataraj – [#Giveaway]

Team IMC



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Suraya's Gift : The Story Catcher Children , by Malavika Nataraj, published by Penguin Books.

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Suraya's Gift by Malavika Nataraj is that one book that is interchangeable with your childhood. Suraya, a nine-year old, is the type of girl who scribbles stories on the back of her school and is often told she has a 'big imagination'.

She dreams of becoming a famous adventurer, and the one person who understands that more than anything is her Aunty Lila. When she learns Aunty Lila is coming to visit, she is instantly excited.

When she arrives, Aunty Lila gives Suraya a book. She tells Suraya that the book wasn't any ordinary book. She explains that the book is blank, and the book is for Suraya to write her own stories in. Suraya is confused and a little disappointed at first. However, the book, as she soon learns, is magical.

Every story Suraya writes in the book comes to life. But she can't just write whatever she wants in it; good stories make good things and bad stories make bad things. Suraya must be careful to write only good stories.

At first, Suraya manages to be a good storyteller. She writes a story about a girl who wanted a sibling more than anything in the world, and coincidentally finds a baby on the streets. Her family adopts the baby and the girl is happy. Later Suraya finds out that one of her good friends is going to have a sibling- something she's always wanted. Suraya understands the power of a good story.

But then she sees a boy cruelly beating a dog on the street. She wants him to stop but he doesn't listen. Angry at the boy, Suraya writes a story about the boy becoming a dog and going to a cruel owner who chains him up. Suraya knows she has written a bad story, but cannot help it.

The next day, something bad happens. It makes Suraya realize she never should have written that story. She immediately goes to erase it, but the book is gone.

Read [Suraya's Gift](#) by Malavika Nataraj to find out what made Suraya change her mind and how she fixes the mistake she made of writing a bad story.

One thing that really stood to me while reading this book was the fun, childish atmosphere. The book is a little pocket of magic that perfectly encaptures all of my childhood fantasies. Suraya is a very relatable character, and anyone reading this book will immediately feel that they've found a friend.

Editor's Note: This book review has been written by Esha, our 13 year old intern.

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