

Michael and the Ice Cream Cone

Michael is sitting on a branch way up in the top of a tree
It's the middle of July and it is as hot as can be
There is nothing to do, all his friends are gone
and he is afraid the summer is going to be very, very long

the good news is someone opened a new ice cream store
and he wants his mom to take him because he is so board
and from way inside the house, his mother heard him scream,
"Hey Mom, I'm tired of waiting. I really want some ice cream"

Michael was a little rude, and she did hear what he had to say
but she refused to answer, hoping he'd ask a nicer way
so down the tree Michael climbed, and marched straight into his home
in hopes that Mom would give him a great big ice cream cone

he was determined to get it by hook or by crook
But mom gave him that 'stop-right-there' kind of a look
she said, "We don't have any ice cream, and even if we did
I won't give any to a young man that yells just like that little kid!"

"You will have to use your own money and buy it yourself"
So a frustrated Michael took his piggy bank off the shelf
He gave it a good long shake in hopes that he would hear
the sound that meant that his ice cream cone near

but all he heard was . Where did his money go?
then he remembered the popcorn and the movie show
and mom telling him that he should not spend it all that way
and that maybe he should save some for a rainy day

well this wasn't a rainy day, but he understood what she meant
if you have all your fun on one day then all your money is spent
So with his head hanging down, Michael heads out for a walk
actually, the only reason he walked was so he could sulk.

maybe he could find a coin or two that someone had lost
he wasn't sure how much that ice cream was going to cost
perhaps 1 quarter, 2 quarters, 3 quarters or 4
5 quarters, 6 quarters, 7 quarters or more

he shuffled his feet as he walked rather slowly
and because he was sad, he just hung his head lowly
and that 's when he noticed a coin on the sidewalk
and he felt a bit better about his little 'sulk walk'.

He went a little further and it happened again.
Things like this don't just happen now and then.
He was starting to feel lucky as he continued to look
He was determined to buy ice cream, no matter what it took

He search that sidewalk in a detective sort of way
and found somethings that really made his day
he found 1 quarter, 2 quarters, 3 quarters and 4
5 quarters, 6 quarters, 7 quarters and more

He had found a quarter again and again and again
he felt so happy, like his luck would never end.
He had enough money now to buy the ice cream
that's when he heard a wail, a cry, a sobbing scream.

it was a little boy sitting on the edge of the street
who was all dressed up nice and neat.
Michael didn't know him and figured he was new to town
the boy had been crying and had a very sad frown

"What's the matter?" asked Michael trying not to be a bother
the boy replied, "I was about to buy a gift for my mother
I put my quarters in my pocket as I headed for the mall
but I found a hole in my pocket and I have lost them all"

Michael could feel the weight of the coins as he sat
but the weight on his heart was even heavier than that
He really wanted to buy himself that ice cream cone
and he only had enough to buy one, for him alone

a thousand thoughts raced through his mind
"I found those quarters so they must be mine"
"I can't really prove they belong to this little boy"
"Maybe he saw me find them and this is a clever ploy"

But Michael trusted people and he usually did what was right
and those thoughts almost won but he bit his bottom lip tight
and then with a deep sigh and great big grin
he realized that THIS is where honesty begins

“You don’t need to worry,” said Michael, “I have found them! “
and with great surprise the little boy looked up at him
“You found my quarters and you’re giving them back to me?
Thank you so much. You are as nice as anyone could be

Michael felt a little funny because he’d still rather have his ice cream cone
but he felt sorry when he heard the story and saw boy was all alone
he seemed new to town and he was just sitting on the street corner
so he reached into his pocket and gave him all 8 quarters

the boy’s face more than lit up and he couldn’t believe his eyes
to have someone find AND return them was quite a surprise
he thanked Michael and said “Thank you. My name is Jim
my parents just bought a house here and we just moved in.

Michael introduced himself and the two boys began to talk
they a lot in common and Michael was happy that he took that walk
Jim and Michael talked and played until the day came to an end
Michael did not get his ice cream cone but he did get a new friend

Jim said, “Why don’t you come over and meet my Pop.
My parents opened a new business. We can stop by his shop.”
Michael said, “It’s getting late and I should be getting home
“Ok,” Jim said, “but it’s an ice cream shop and we’ll get a free cone!”

This time Michael’s eyes lit up. Could he have heard it wrong?
He said, “I have been wanting an ice cream cone all day long.”
So Jim and Michael walked over to “The Ice Cream Shoppe”
and Michael was very, very happy to meet his mom and pop.

Michael finally got his ice cream cone that day
and he got something else along the way
he learned that honesty pays off in the end
and being kind to someone can make a friend

eating ice cream is definitely very, very good
but if you have a chance to make a friend, you should
and if you ever have the chance, there is no better place to be
than eating ice cream *with* a friend, especially when it’s free