

Michael and The Gift

Micheal's little brother has a birthday in just about a week and he hasn't bought a present yet, eegads, oh eek! he knows his friends are waiting so he'd better buy it soon they've got their plans for baseball scheduled all afternoon

Little brother comes to Michael and Mom can hear him say "Oh please big brother, please, won't you come with me and play?" "I'm sorry little brother", says Michael, dashing out the door "I can't right now little brother, I'm heading for the store"

with saddened eyes and pouty lips he knows he can't compete with older boys that are allowed to even cross the street so Michael buys a toy car that he saw on TV last night it's the kind of toy that Michael likes, so thinks it will be all right

The next day Michael's mom sees the gift, and seems a little bothered "The car is nice", she said, "if it's for you, but not for your brother. "You like this kind of toy, but he has something else in mind. Why don't you think about it and see what else you find?"

Then little brother came in and asked, "Michael, can you play?" And big bothered he said, "No. I have a chore to do. I can not stay" so Michael heads to the store, and this time buys a toy phone while little brother with saddened eyes stayed home, all alone

The next day Michael's mom sees the gift, and seems a little bothered "The phone is nice", she said, "if it's for you, but not for your brother. "You like this kind of toy, but he has something else in mind. Why don't you think about it and see what else you find?"

Then little brother came in and asked, "Michael, can you play?" A little more bothered he said, "NO! I have a chore to do. I can not stay" so Michael heads to the store, and this time buys some silly foam while little brother with saddened eyes stayed home, all alone

The next day Michael's mom sees the gift, and seems a little bothered "The silly foam is nice", she said, "if it's for you, but not for your brother. "You like this kind of toy, but he has something else in mind. Why don't you think about it and see what else you find?"

Then little brother came in and asked, "Michael, can you play?" Michael being really bothered said, "NO! I HAVE A CHORE TO DO. I CANNOT STAY" so Michael heads to the store, and this time buys a shiny stone while little brother with saddened eyes stayed home, all alone

The next day Michael's mom sees the gift, and seems a little bothered
"The shiny stone is nice", she said, "if it's for you, but not for your brother.
"You like this kind of toy, but he has something else in mind.
Why don't you think about it and see what else you find?"

Michael was so frustrated that he just wanted to go away
Michael didn't want little brother coming in asking to play
He didn't want to say "I HAVE A CHORE TO DO. I CANNOT STAY"
so Michael went to hide himself away, and hide himself away, all day

Little brother came to Mom and asked her, " Where did Michael go?"
She said, "He his hiding from you and where exactly, I do not know
but I think it would be fun if you started to look around"
and all of a sudden a great big smile replaced his little frown.

So little brother thinks...

Where would he hide
and he thinks "Outside!"
and thus begins his quest

he looked in trees
and piles of leaves
to the north, south, east and west

he can't be far
then behind the car
he thought he saw some shoes

but they were dads
he wasn't mad
surely this must be a clue

then he heard a noise
like those squeaky toys
so he ran to the back of the house

behind the shed
he saw a head
that was way to big for a mouse

was it Michael? NO!
just an old scarecrow
that grandma kept in the garden

he saw birds fly
and he wondered why
because someone probably scared them

he heard dogs bark
over by the park
so he new he was getting close

then he saw the wall
with the gate that was tall
which he knows is normally closed

it's getting late
so through the gate
and down the hill he went sliding

past the greenhouse
down to the tree house
where he is sure that Michael is hiding

Can you guess who he found when he got there?
It was Michael in the tree house way up in the air.
"Michael, Michael. Thank you ever so much.
This was the nicest gift." Little brother was very touched.

Michael looked very confused and ask his little bother this,
"What are talking about? For I have returned all your gifts."
I bought you things I was sure you would like,
I know, because they were all the things that I would like"

Little brother looked up with a wide grin on his face
"I never asked for any of those things in the first place
All I ever asked you for, was to come outside and play
and this Hide and Seek was your gift for my birthday!"

although he heard the words it took a while to understand
that it wasn't the gifts that Little brother was asking for, and
that's when it occurred to Michael what he had been doing
It was his own ideas and his own gifts he was pursuing

When Michael thought about it Little brother was very clear
he had simply asked Michael to just stay and play, right here
sometimes it's hard to hear what people are saying
because we'd rather give gifts than be outside playing

spend some time with a friend and listen to their words
because there's nothing worse than disappointment after words
if you listen to them carefully then you will surely know
that it may not be a gift you buy wrapped up with a bow

sometimes it's things that you make with your hands
like going to the beach, building castles with sand
perhaps it's a picture or something you bake
like maybe a pineapple upside down cake

believe it or not it could be just "time"
a little bit of YOU might make them feel just fine
for most gifts, you need not look that far
it could even be the gift of who you are

Gifts will come and gifts will go
and the more you listen, the more you will know
exactly what gift is right for your friend
Whatever the gift, give of yourself.