



Guillem and his brother

Have you ever noticed how many things there are around you? They're not all what they seem, and many come in all kinds of shapes and sizes. Can you see them? That looks like a house. It's Guillem's house!

What Guillem likes best in the world, is looking at all the things he comes across on the way to school! As he's still quite young, his big brother goes with him. And it's a real pain because he never stops bossing him around.

"Guillem, stay close to me!" "Guillem, don't get distracted!" -his brother always says.

You see? You can't look at anything like that. They're in such a hurry they can't look at the colours of the cars, or the man on the zebra crossing sign. If you look at him really closely, you can see that he doesn't always stand still. Sometimes he passes the time by... dancing samba!

"Guillem, concentrate! You could get run over by a car!" -shouts his brother.

Guillem is really fed up of his brother always watching him and telling him what to do. He's convinced that he has the most annoying brother in the world!

GUILLEM AND HIS BROTHER

Every day was the same. They hurried to school, and couldn't stop and chat to the red man and the green man at the traffic lights, who told funny stories in their squeaky voices, about the people who passed by. And they couldn't stop to say hello to the children on the road sign –the one that says you're near a school- who would hop out as soon as they saw him, hoping to run a race so they could stretch their legs.

"Guillem, don't talk to strangers!" – he heard his brother say.

And poor old Guillem had to carry on walking. Oof, his brother was soooo annoying. Next day, they were in as big a rush as usual, and his brother was just as annoying. Guillem couldn't understand why his brother didn't want to have fun looking at the lovely things all around them. He was always on edge, and he saw dangers wherever they went. No matter how often Guillem told him about the samba dancer, the green and red traffic light men's gossip, or the races he ran with the children on the school sign, all his brother cared about was hurrying on and making sure nothing happened to them. / But how could anything bad possibly happen on the way to school? -thought Guillem.

One fine day, Guillem decided that he'd had enough. He didn't want his brother to keep on watching him, and he decided to show him that he was big enough to walk to school

by himself! That morning, he left home before his brother finished eating his cereal, and quick as a flash, he started to walk. He had such a lovely morning. Finally, he could look at anything he liked! He could look at the cars which said hello:

“Morning Guillem”

And he even made friends with a bus.

“Nice to meet you, son”

He had such a good time and was so happy that when he reached the school gate he decided to wait for his brother, to tell him about it. He wanted to tell him that he wouldn't have to take care of him any more. But the minutes passed, and his brother didn't show up.

Suddenly, Guillem felt funny, it was as if he'd swallowed a mouse that wouldn't stop gnawing at his belly button. What if something had happened to his brother? And before anyone could answer, Guillem ran to look for him. He started to run back home as quick as he could, but everything looked so different now that he was going back by himself. Suddenly, the children on the school sign looked like gigantic monsters. The green man and the red man started chasing him! The samba dancer at the zebra crossing wanted to make him to dance, and the cars stared angrily at him, as if they wanted to run him over.

“I wish my brother was here,” -thought Guillem, feeling scared and very worried.

But after a few metres he heard a groan, and saw his brother sitting on the kerb. He had slipped and twisted his ankle. Guillem ran to help him, feeling awful that he hadn't been with him. The two brothers walked home together. And that day, they both learned something. Guillem's brother realized that Guillem had grown up. He had proved he could walk to school by himself. But Guillem had also discovered something important: the knot he felt in his stomach, meant that his brother protected him because he loved him.

“Hey, wait for me” -shouted Guillem when he saw his brother leaving by himself.

Guillem never felt the little mouse in his belly again, and suddenly he understood what his name meant. Guillem means “protector.” And would you believe it, now it's his big brother who gets distracted. He knows that Guillem's there, and since he notices everything, they'll always find their way back. He's become the best protector ever.

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