



A Portrait of Ramon

Do you know what this is? It's a very special book. It's an album. Maybe you've got one? This one belongs to Ramon and it's full of stories. Ramon keeps all of his memories in it. Would you like to have a look at it together?

A PORTRAIT OF RAMON

When he was very young, Ramon decided that he wanted to remember everything. He didn't want to forget anything that had made him happy, and because sometimes his memories slipped out of his head as if it were a sieve, he decided to make an album of memories. That way he'd never forget all the good times he spent with his fluffy toy, Toto. Or that time when they lost the candles on his Dad's birthday, and he had to put his crayons on the cake.

Or when he learned how to ride a bike and crashed into a lady with a very big bottom. Ramon liked his memories a lot. Often, when he was on his own and feeling bored, Ramon took out his album and had fun remembering all of his adventures. When he looked at them, he re-lived those moments, and felt really happy.

But there was one thing in all of those photos that made him a little sad every time he looked at them: he was always by himself. Ramon would have loved to have had someone to share all his happy memories with.

One day, his parents took him on a long journey. "Where are we going?" asked Ramon, who was dying of curiosity.

"To meet someone very special" -said his Mum.

Ramon was nervous. He hoped that at least that special person would be... Father Christmas, a famous basketball player, the person who invented chips, or the world's tallest man. But he was totally wrong.

The special person was actually a girl called Nadia, who from that moment on was going to be his sister.

"Don't touch my pencils!" - Ramon had to tell her every time she grabbed them with her sticky fingers, rummaging around in his pencil case.

"What's that toy kitchen doing in my room? I asked the Three Kings to bring me a double decker lorry with a turbine engine." -he complained.

“Who thought it was a good idea to give Nadia my basketball? Can't you see, she doesn't know how to play and she gets it covered in snot.”

“Mum, Dad! Get her off me! She's let go of her float and she's going to drown both of us!”

But all of a sudden, Ramon realised something that he hadn't noticed before. Well? Have you seen it? That's right! He was never alone in the photographs any more! Little by little, his album was filling up with memories that always included him and Nadia.

Now, whenever anyone came to visit, Ramon came running to show them his album and showed the photos they had taken when they went on the roller-coaster at the theme park. Ooh, just remembering it made him dizzy.

At the beach, they had loads of fun, playing at crocodiles versus sharks. Nadia was the BEST goalkeeper –she could always stop the ball. When they took their letters to the Three Kings, she asked one why he had such a big nose. And Nadia's first drawing was a portrait of Ramon.

How things in his album had changed since Nadia arrived! Now, all the things that made him laugh, or made him feel happy weren't just memories for him. He could share them with Nadia.

Nadia and Ramon carried on making their album. And when the pages ran out, they started another one to help remember their adventures. Ramon never looked at his album by himself. These days he looked at it with Nadia, and if anyone asked him what his favourite memory was, Ramon didn't hesitate for a second. He quickly leafed through the pages until he found the portrait by the girl who always got his crayons all sticky.

She was his little sister, and remembering the day when Nadia appeared in his life was definitely the best memory of them all. We look great together! Her in her train pyjamas, and me, with three hairs on my forgetful head!

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