

Reading Is Magic!

"Mum! Can you get the pink book, please? I can't reach it!" yelled Zara.

"Coming, darling, one second, please!" shouted Mum.

Zara patiently waited, thinking if she wasn't disabled, she could reach that interesting, pink book she wanted to read! Zara had blonde hair and blue, delightful eyes. Zara was always looking down because she couldn't go anywhere but her home! She had always dreamed of going to a peaceful calm beach, but her parents were either too busy or too tired. Zara knew they worked very hard to bring food home.

Knock! Knock! "Zara, can I come in?" asked Mum.

"Yes, come in," Zara said.

"What's the matter, Zara? Is there something bothering you?" asked Mum

"No, I want to read that pink book behind you." Zara quietly said,

"Okay I will get it for you" Mum said.

Zara took the book from her mum and blew the dust off the cover. Its golden shimmering letters said **READING IS MAGIC!** Zara's tiny pale fingers quickly flipped through the pages, and the book was talking about the rainforest. The beautiful pictures and descriptions drew Zara's attention immediately. In the blink of an eye, Zara's world shifted, noises from the kitchen and chores from the house disappeared. Instead, Zara felt herself land on a slippery lichen. She was amazed by the amazing aroma of fresh leaves. Birds were singing a melody and frogs were croaking loudly. Zara pushed her wheelchair so she could see nature all around. The trees around her seemed like they were holding secrets they dared not share. The sun hung up high casting golden rays on the trees. Zara's wheelchair had never felt as flexible as this before. She pushed the wheelchair up and down the hills, feeling the sunshine over her face, she never felt so free and happy before. The forest, which she had only read from the book before, was now right in front of her. She carefully spread her hands out to touch everything she could see. Zara felt so jubilant "So this is how the rainforest feels like, nature is beautiful and amazing. Now I wonder what a beach will look like."

The book flipped to a colourful page and Zara's head was dizzy seeing the forest slowly fade away and turn into a beach! Was this a dream or was this real? Zara wondered to herself. Waves crashed gently on the sandy shores, and palm trees were whistling as if they were talking to each other. The elegant smell of

wildflowers drifted to Zara's nostrils. The crystal blue sea made Zara feel overjoyed. Zara closed her eyes, feeling a breeze blow past her face. Zara pushed her wheelchair to the waves. The drops of water fell to Zara's face. The waves gently kissed her bare feet, it felt so cool and ticklish. Zara was overwhelmed. She thrust her wheelchair here and there, and danced with naughty waves. For the first time in her life, she was not scared of the roaring waves and sandy shores. The wheelchair she used to hate behaved like an obedient army soldier, following orders and taking her everywhere she wanted.

From far beyond, Zara suddenly heard a loud bang! The colours of the beach started to fade. Zara reluctantly rubbed her eyes, she was holding the pink book she was reading and sitting in her room. She knew the book took her on an adventure! She closed the book and had a closer look at the golden shimmering letters, murmured to herself "Wow, reading is truly magic, now I can go wherever and whenever I want with this book."