

## Kindness Brings Hope

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Back in 1812 something was happening between the Americans and the British and it wasn't like a small argument like you might have with your friends; it was a...war and you might know which war it was. No, not World War 1 or anything like that, it's not even the first war fought in America, but it was a war fought for freedom and for America's future.

In 1812, there lived a girl named Kristi and ever since the day she was born she saw the smoke from muskets and heard the awful sound of them shooting and life wasn't easy for Kristi at all. Firstly, her father was a soldier in the war, and her mother was a baker who baked the best cakes, madeleines, bread, and cookies. One thing that always cheered Kristi up was Ellen. She was always there when Kristi needed her, she was just about 7 to 8 months older than Kristi. Ellen always brought goodies with her whenever she visited but little did they know danger was approaching...

One Thursday morning, Ellen, Kristi, and Merge (housemaid) were playing with dolls and marbles while chewing taffies.

Knock! Knock!

"What's happening?" Says Kristi holding on to Merge.

"Honey, hopefully it's nothing bad. Try to relax. Will you?" Says Merge grabbing a bright red taffy and then sliding the plate to them.

"I'll be back." says Merge "Sure thing, M." says Ellen trying to sound brave while her voice was shaking like crazy. Mother opened the door to a patriot officer standing in the doorway.

"Stephen Alexander Brown! You almost gave us a heart attack!"

Dad just laughed while coming up to her room and saw the taffies "Hey children, it's me. Can't you see?" dad said chuckling.

"Yeah, yeah we can see." Said Ellen as she rolled her eyes.

"Hey dad." Kristi says, "Do you want this?" she says holding up a dark blue taffy in front of him.

"Obviously after 2 weeks battling I do!"

"Well too late", she says plopping it in her mouth...

2 weeks later: Ellen called Kristi hoping for shelter her family ran out of money they only had about 200 in their pockets and no food. Ring! Ring!

“Hello, it’s Kristi who’s this?”

“It’s Ellen. Listen Kristi, we got robbed last night by some **British** men our landlord also is going to kick us out in 3 hours can you maybe get some sort of room for us working in your basement big enough for the family? The **British** are also heading to the west. Please, Kristi please?”

Ellen had burst into tears on the other side “You’ve always wanted sisters, think about that.” said Ellen while wiping her tears and when Blossom is born we’ll be 3 sisters right?” Silence. “I’ll tell mother about it, wait.” Said Kristi. Kristi walked over to the kitchen hoping mother was going to agree and after a quick talk mother agreed “I’ll let Ellen stay. She only did so much for you Kristi. I’d never let Ellen down. Call them and tell them I agreed. I’ll bake a batch of cookies and boil some tea.” Kristi ran to the telephone to call Ellen to tell her the news they were both excited about living together. Ellen’s mother said she’d be coming with the first bags in about 1 hour and a half and Kristi hurried to get the rooms in the basement and the nursery ready for baby Blossom and even put her favorite squishy cow for Blossom to play with when she was born in 3 hours Ellen’s entire family had arrived Kristi’s mom hugged each one of them “I’m so glad that you have come and ask Merge if you need anything.” Mother said motioning to Merge who politely waved at them “And for supper there’s chicken soup also, Kristi helped decorate the rooms each room has a radio and a television...”

The next day... Ellen was enjoying her room and playing with the doll she brought with her when Kristi’s mother walked in “Hello dear!” said Kristi’s mother “I wanted to talk to you about something.” Ellen quietly nodded. “Remember long ago how you would comfort Kristi whenever she was sad? Well this is something I want you to remember forever: Never when you know the right thing to do and the wrong thing to do always choose the right no matter what they did to you and remember **Kindness only brings hope to the people who share it** and that what you did Ellen I’m proud to raise Kristi and you together”. And from that day on Ellen and Kristi always did the right thing no matter what they would also always give sweet tea and biscuits to the volunteers.