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Small Acts of Love

Small acts of love can be easy to forget—like when Mom gives you the last cupcake or Lil' Sis gives you her favorite cookie. I'm sure many people have done them for me, even though I don't remember. Honestly, we wouldn't be human without them, because there's no such thing as a feelingless person. However, recently, Mom and I encountered someone who really changed my perspective on human kindness and made a memory that will last forever.

Maa (my mom) needed to sell one of the game sets we had, a Plinko tabletop board game set. She went to an online Marketplace and listed the price as 80 dollars. One day, a lady contacted my mom and requested that she reduce the price to 60 dollars because she needed the game set for her side business, which was creating personalized water bottles for people. Mom agreed, and the woman asked my Maa to place it on hold for three days. My mom did, and the woman came to pick it up. Later, she messaged my mom and asked her if she could make free customized bottles for my sister and me. Mom, obviously shocked, asked the woman why she would do this. The woman, and I kid you not, said just because. This random stranger wanted to do something out of the goodness of her heart! After some thinking, Maa said yes. The woman crafted a *Kpop Demon Hunters*-themed water bottle for me, and a *Ben and Holly*-themed one for my Lil' Sis. She gave us the tumblers, and holy guacamole, they were stunning! My bottle had kawaii-like images of Huntrix, Saja Boyz, Derpy the tiger, and Sussie the Magpie. My sister's one had a flower background, topped off with little scenes of Ben and Holly, and that little ladybug, Gaston. I, obviously stunned by her compassion, sent her a card, which had a picture of Sussie the Magpie drawn onto it. She posted on a social media app (can't remember which one), gushing about how kind it was of us to make that card, when in reality, her kindness was the most surprising thing (and most appreciated) part of this chance encounter.

Remember earlier, when I said that this experience forever changed my perspective on human kindness? Let's elaborate. First of all, the smile she put on my face? Priceless. I want to be able to do that to someone. Such a random act of love for an unknown fella, just to make them happy. That's what I want. To give love to someone and have it return tenfold, that's life. I'm

lucky to have so many people caring for me, and now there's one more person who has shown kindness to me. You know what my goals are now? Get into the University of Iowa's Young Writers' Workshop, become a writer, write great books, and show kindness to everyone I meet. And honestly? This run-in has given me inspo for a story I could write! So, to the woman who is now a digital friend of my Maa, cheers to your pure and kind heart. I hope you're blessed with a prosperous business and a wonderful life, and thank you for being one of many people who have inspired me in my life!