

**BE MY FRIEND**



Huda Khot





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By Huda Khot

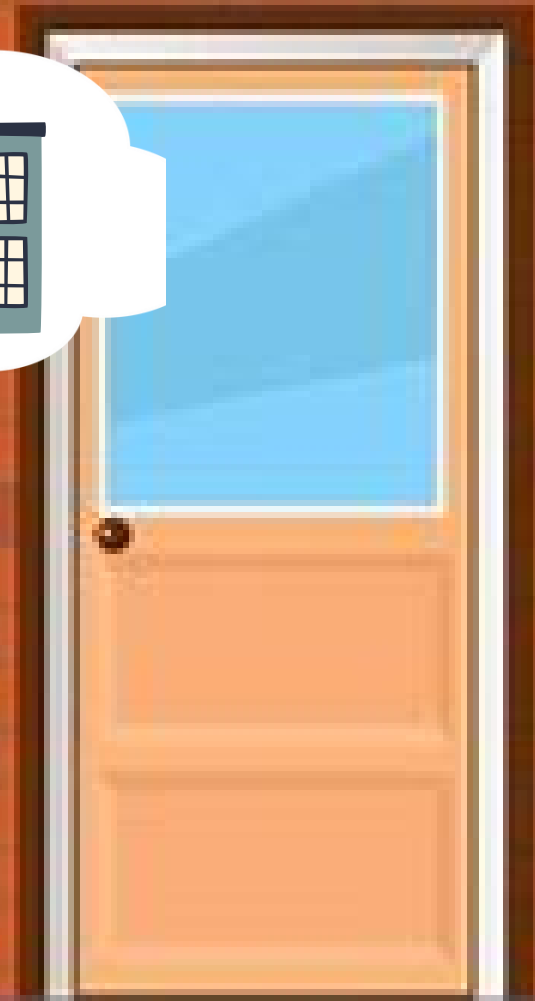



***To My Bullies -  
Be a better person and you  
will find something amazing!***

**It was a warm, sunny Monday.  
Petunia, a sweet, kind panda  
was getting her school bag,  
ready for her first day of school.  
She was going to Animal Zoo  
School.**

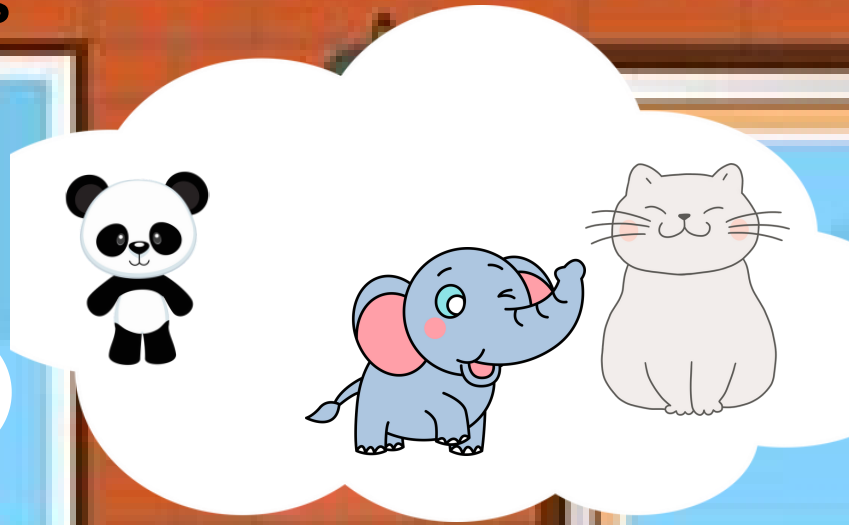


**Petunia changed and went to her kitchen. She fixed up a nice plate of pancakes with some milk and sat on her porch, with the sun waking up. She was imagining how amazing her first day of school would be.**

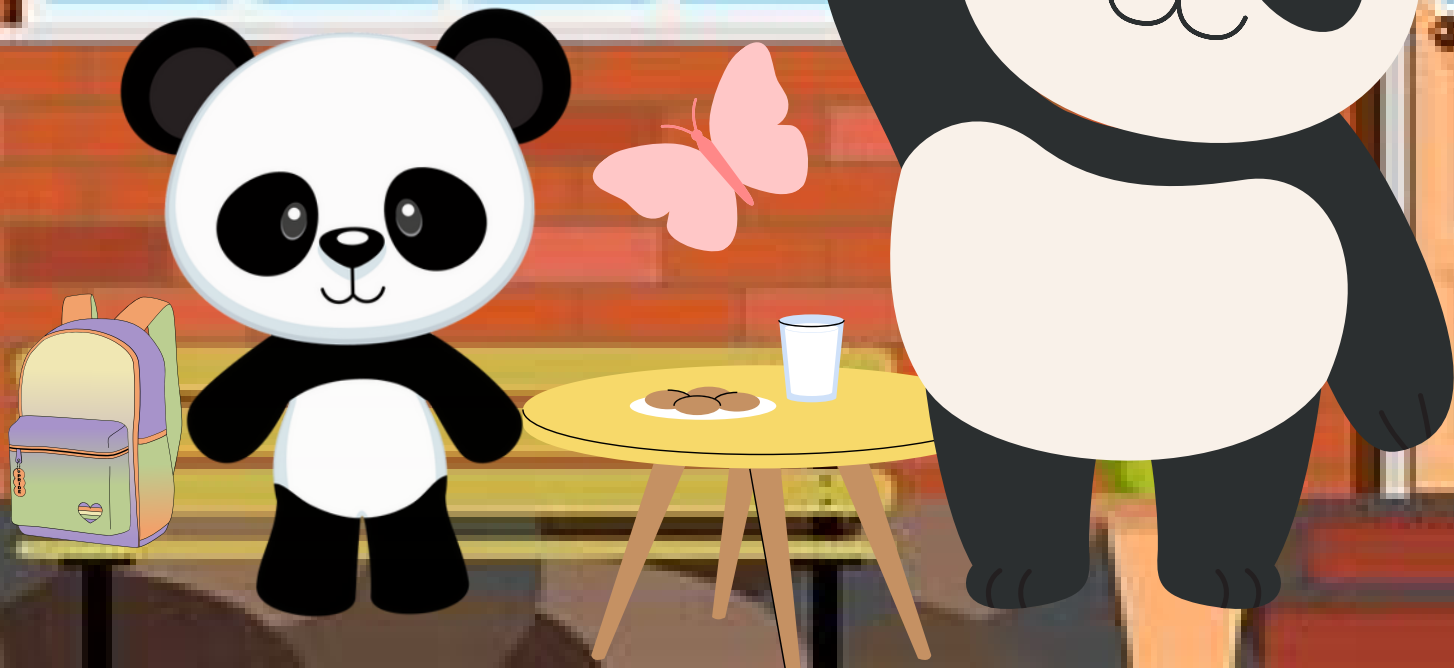




But Petunia was feeling very nervous. This was her first time meeting new people, and she was worried that she would not make any friends.



Her mother came in  
and told her that she  
will make new friends  
sooner than ever. But  
Petunia was still  
nervous about her new  
school.





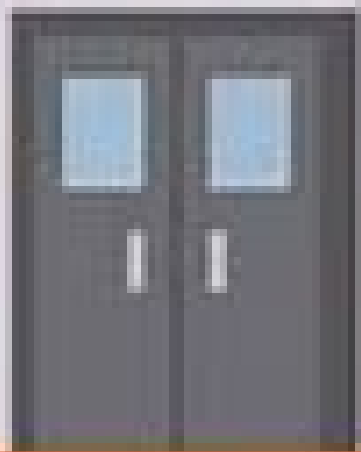
**Soon she arrived at her new school. She looked around as many students rushed inside the building. With a sigh, she gained her courage and headed for the front door.**



**At recess, a lion named Leo, who was with a football, stomped over to Petunia, who was quietly sitting on a bench, reading a book.**



**"Hey you!" Said Leo. "This chair isn't for newbies like you. Go somewhere else!"  
Petunia looked at him with a scared look on her face, unable to move. Leo was as scary as a real lion!**



Fortunately, the bell rang and everyone headed back to class.

"You got lucky," said Leo. Petunia ran to class, hugging her books. She was terrified of Leo!



**Petunia came home and ran up to her room. Her mother asked how her day was. Petunia was afraid to tell what happened, so instead, she smiled and said it was great.**




The next day, as she was having lunch, Petunia spotted Leo. She tried to quickly pack her lunch, but it was too late.



Leo came over and put his food on the table. "Get out of here! This table belongs to us. Go find somewhere else to eat. How about the bathroom?" Leo laughed and Petunia packed her stuff and left the cafetorium as fast as she could.





After school, Petunia was walking home when Leo stopped her. "If you tell anyone what happened, you're going to be sorry!" He said as he walked past her. She ran home, quickly.




**Next day, Petunia didn't want to go to school. She was afraid of Leo, but didn't want to know what was going to happen if she told someone what had happened.**





Her mom told her that everything would be okay. However, when she got to school, Leo stood at the gates. He looked at her and smirked like an evil wizard. "Oh look, It's Miss. Newbie. Surprised you made it today." Petunia just ignored him, but knew her day was going to be bad.



**The day at school went okay as Petunia avoided Leo. But, when school was over, Leo and his gang surrounded Petunia. "You're such a scaredy cat, a newbie and a nerd. No one should be your friend. If they were, they would wish they were not." Leo hollered.**

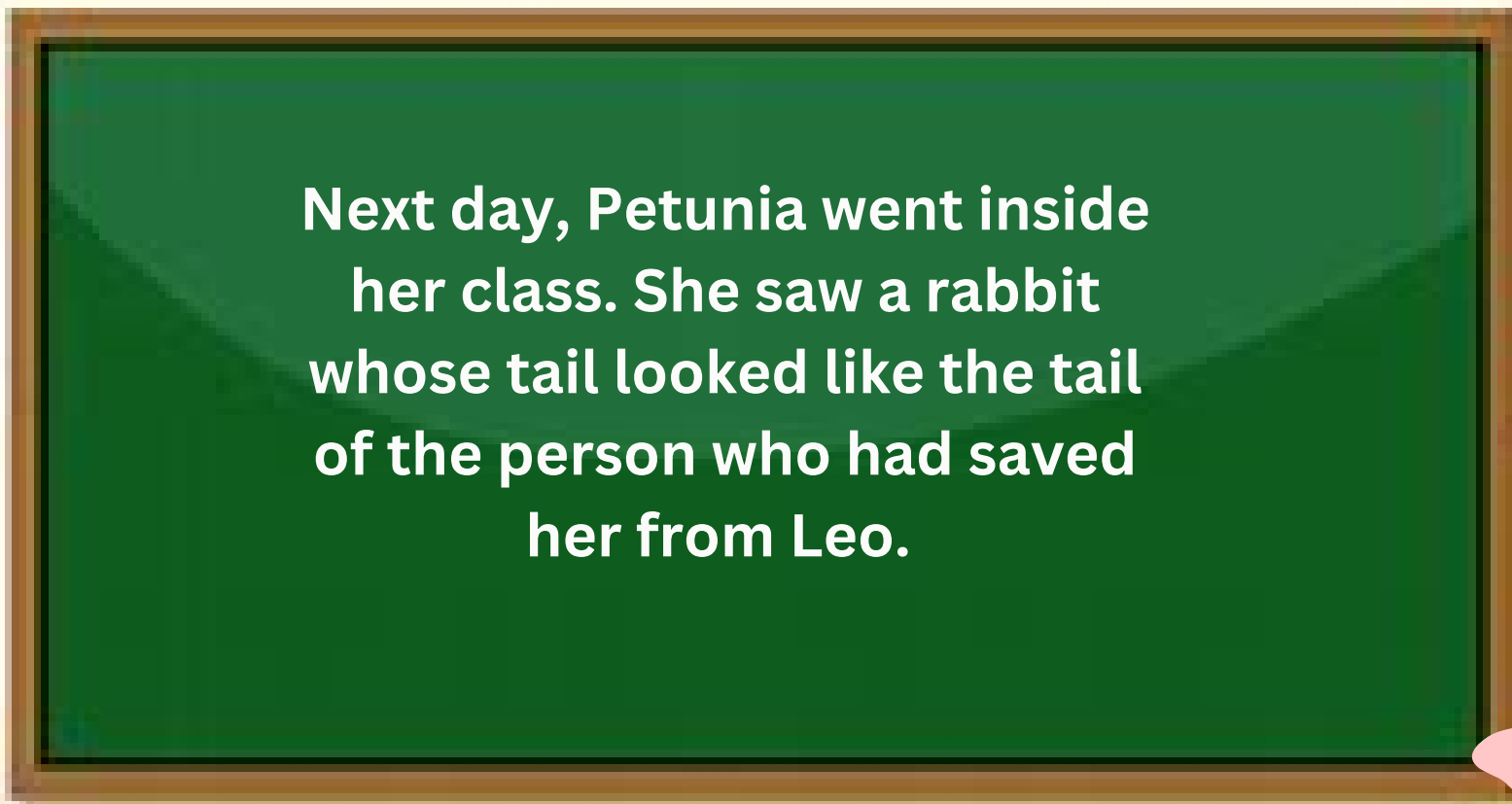
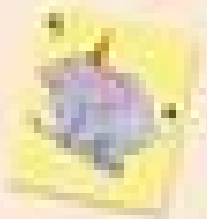


**STOP!**

They were about to hit Petunia when they heard an unfamiliar voice. "Stop! Stop right now!" Leo and his gang were so startled, they ran away.

Petunia opened her eyes and looked at the wall, where the mysterious person was leaving. Petunia noticed that she had a fluffy white tail. As Petunia was walking home, she thought about the person who had saved her. *It was kind of her to do that for me.* She thought.







After school, Petunia went to the rabbit. "Hi," Said Petunia. The girl turned and smiled. "Hi. I'm Rebecca." She said. "I really appreciate what you did for me yesterday." Said Petunia. "I don't have any friends." Rebecca asked to be friends. Petunia smiled and nodded. Then they walked home together.



A week later, there was a big exam. Petunia and Rebecca were prepared. When they reached school, they saw Leo panicking. "I haven't studied for the test!" He told his friends. They shrugged and told they couldn't do anything. Petunia and Rebecca went to him. "We can help you study. There are 2 hours before the test. Come on!" Exclaimed Petunia.

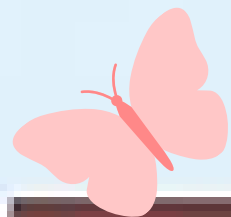
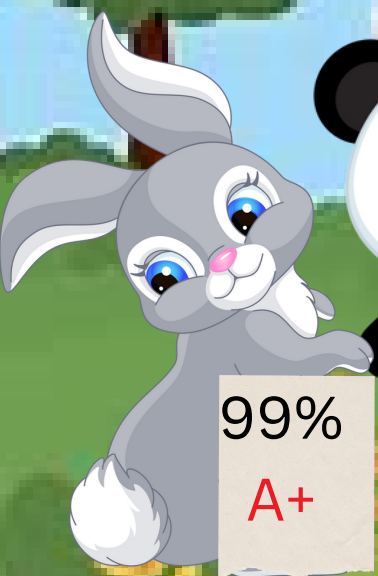




"Really? After all I've done?" He asked.  
The girls dragged him to the library  
where they studied together. After  
school, everyone was talking about their  
exam marks.



Leo rushed up to Petunia and Rebecca, happily. "Look! I got 95%!" He exclaimed. The girls had gotten 99% but they were very happy for him.



"Thank you again! And sorry I was being mean to you." He apologized. "It's okay!" Exclaimed Petunia. And they all walked home happily.



# ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Huda is a student who is 10 years old. She is from UAE and likes to read and write. She also enjoys cooking and spending time with friends and family. She has a passion for art and one day wishes to be a travel blogger.





**'Be My Friend' is a story of Petunia the Panda going to a new school. At her school she is being bullied by Leo the Lion. This story teaches children to not be afraid and to always be kind to each other, even though they bully you because kindness is the key!**



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