

Little Talent

By Vannesa Blanco

In a hidden green village full of plant and flowers, Rosie awoke to the noise of a new day. She was a vibrant red ladybug with ten black spots on wings, six legs, and two antennas. Her mom was already awake and her dad was reading the newspaper. Her mom made Rosie her favorite breakfast of all time, a leaf omelet with a side of bean stock soup. Her dad was having a deep rich cup of coffee. He had a hard day of work ahead because the vegetable garden he was helping protect had a lot of predators.

That day was special because it was Rosie's first day of second grade. She had a best friend named Sunny. She was a beautiful bee, she had rows of yellow and black hair, clear wings, and spiky legs. Sunny loved to wear a violet flower on the side of her head.

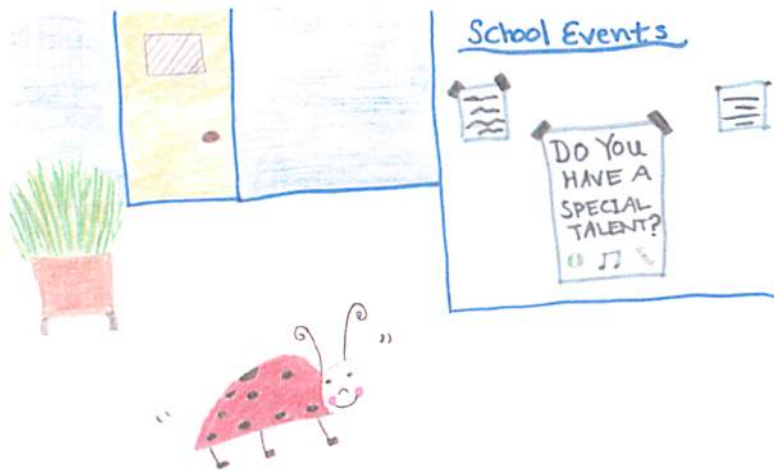


“Hey Rosie aren’t you excited for a fun first day of school,” said Sunny

“Yes of course I’am, I cant wait to draw, and play on the swings!” said Rosie.

School was going great, Rosie’s teacher Ms. Bubbles was so nice, and the outside

playground was huge like an amusement park. When Rosie was leaving school she walked past a colorful poster that asked a question, 'Do you have a special talent?' Rosie yelled, she couldn't believe her school was going to have a talent show. She loved to dance, but she wasn't sure on what style she was good at. So she thought hard, she never knew what to call her dancing she just liked to move when music came on. 'Maybe I'll ask people what kind of dances I should do?' Rosie told herself. So she went home and prepared herself in front of a mirror, Rosie was very shy and she couldn't go in front of strangers and ask them for help.



The next day Rosie's mom yelled for her to get up. She had made her a special breakfast.

"Honey I made you mint leaf pancakes, I hope you like them," said Sally.

"Mother there is going to be a talent show at my school, but I don't know what type of dance to do," said Rosie.

"Oh honey go ahead and do the sweet duckling dance, the one you would did when you were little," said her mom.

“Mom that dance is for babies,” said Rosie

“Well you should go out into town and ask our friends, maybe Mr. Polka Dot or Wendy would help you.”

“Thanks mom!” said Rosie with a huge smile.

Rosie flew over to Mr. Polka Dots candy shack, she just couldn’t wait to ask him for help.



“Hi Mr. Polka Dot I have an urgent question for you.”

“Sure tell me Rosie, but hurry on up I have a big day ahead of me,” said Mr. Polka Dot.

“I was wondering if you could help me decide on what type of dance to do for my school talent show,”

“Hahaha, Ladybugs can’t dance, sorry Rosie I don’t know where you got that crazy idea from,” unexpectedly said Mr. Polka Dot.

“Why-why what do you mean? I know how to dance, I mean at least I love to dance,” said Rosie

“Look Rosie I’m sorry, every Ladybug I’ve known sure has never had any special talent, why don’t you go off and guard some little garden.”

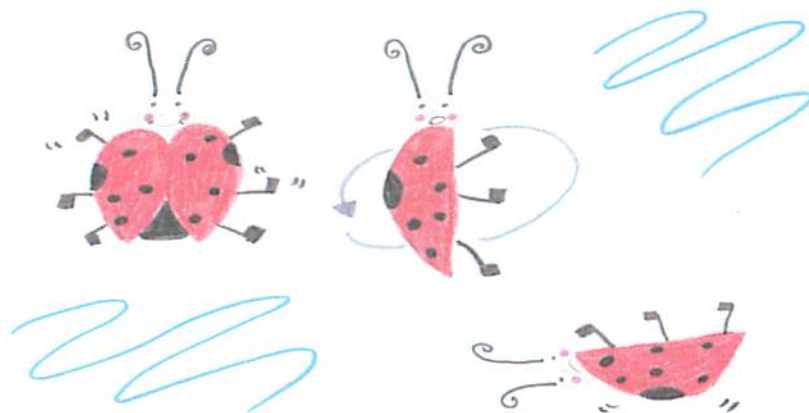
Rosie couldn’t believe Mr. Polka Dot was being as mean as an ogre.

“Oh well I can show you I could dance, tell me what to do,” said Rosie in a tough little voice.

“Okay do the Cha Cha twisty-lot,” said Mr. Polka Dot

“How do you do that?” said Rosie.

“Well you twist ten times, very fast, and you flap your arms in circles while shaking your head.”



Rosie tried to do the strange move but she got dizzy very fast. She had never heard of the dance so she tried as best as she could, but she fell on her back. Rosie bolted out the candy store in tears.

“See I told you, lady bugs just cant dance,” said the mean Mr. Polka Dot.

Even though Rosie felt really sad, she couldn’t stop her search for a dance. She decided to ask Wendy the Lizard for help.

When Rosie arrived to Wendy’s house her mom answered the doorbell.

“Hello is Wendy there? I just have a quick question to ask her,”

“Why hello Rosie I haven’t seen you in a long time, well Wendy is in her room, go on upstairs.”

“Ok thanks,” said Rosie. She bolted upstairs and knocked on her door two times.

“Hey its Rosie the ladybug,”



“Hi what are you doing here? This is a surprise,” said Wendy.

“Well I’m here because I need help figuring out a dance style to do for a talent show in my school,” said Rosie very fast.

“Did you say, dance?”

“Yes, why?” said Rosie.

“Well because I’ve never heard of a dancing ladybug, maybe you could try to sing or do something else, but not dance,” said Wendy.

“Why is everyone saying that, sure I could dance, just have me do anything,” said Rosie again in a tough voice.

“Ok, can you salsa?”

“But you need two people to salsa,”

“Well could you tango?” said Wendy.

“That’s the same too.” said Rosie in anger.

“Well any good dancer could do any dance by themselves.” said Wendy

Rosie left in a hurry with another set of tears trailing her. Why were people doubting her? She actually started to believe them. Maybe ladybugs really couldn’t dance. If she couldn’t do what Wendy and Mr. Polka Dot told her to do maybe she shouldn’t be a dancer on a talent show. When she got home she didn’t feel like eating, even though her mom had made her a delicious tomato and beat salad . When it was time to wake up for school Rosie didn’t feel so good.

While walking to school, she wasn’t sure if she should still ask anyone for help. She really wanted to find a dance that would suit her, but she couldn’t stand being treated like Wendy and Mr. Polka Dot had treated her. Yet she quickly remembered the nicest person she knew, her teacher Ms. Bubbles.

“Hi Ms. Bubbles yesterday I asked two folks if they could help me figure out a

dance to do for the talent show. But they were very mean, and they told me ladybugs couldn't dance. And I tried to prove them wrong, but they had me do the Cha Cha twisty-lot, and then the salsa even though it was only me. Oh I know I can't dance! I'm horrible," said Rosie all in one breath.



"Whoa honey calm down, so you like to dance?" said Ms. Bubbles.

"Please don't tell me the same as everyone before,"

"Oh dear no those two people were very mean, and you can't believe people that try to put you down, you have to have trust yourself. And you have to do what makes you happy," said Ms. Bubbles.

"Okay, but it was very hard to hear them say stuff like that," said Rosie.

"Alright honey if you want to dance, I know the perfect dance for you to do. Ballet! I'm sure you'll be great, your cute and sweet," said Ms. Bubbles. "Now lift your left leg up, raise your chin, and arch your arms. And slide on the floor, and one, two, three, hop, one, two, three, hop."

“Wow, I think I’m getting all of this. Ballet is so fun.”

Rosie was practicing every day for the talent show. She spent hours twirling and jumping in her room. Ms. Bubbles helped Rosie pick out a ballet outfit. The tutu, tiara, and ballet shoes looked so beautiful on Rosie.

Finally after weeks of getting ready for the talent show, the day had arrived and Rosie felt nervous and thrilled to go on the stage. Ms. Bubbles told Rosie to just have fun and she gave her a huge hug.

“Ladies and Gentlemen welcome to the 5th annual school talent show, lets first welcome Sam the Spider, lets see what his special talent is.” said the announcer.

Seeing Sam play the flute made Rosie a bit more nervous, she didn’t want to fall or trip in front of everyone. But she calmed down, and focused on what she had practiced.

“Next we have Rosie the Ladybug and she’s going to show us her special talent.”



Rosie walked to the middle of the stage, she saw everyone, even Mr. Polka Dot and Wendy. The music came on, and Rosie started to dance her six little feet, she

leaped so high, and whirled perfect circles. Everyone was amazed of her dancing that they gave her a standing ovation. Rosie was so happy everyone liked her dancing, and she was glad she didn't listen to Mr. Polka Dot or Wendy. When everyone was done they announced the first, second and third place winners.

“Third place goes to Andrew the Ant for his singing. Second place goes to Sam the Spider for his flute skills. And finally first place goes to Rosie the Ladybug for her beautiful ballet.” said the announcer. Rosie leaped for joy, she was thrilled for coming in first place. Rosie went over to every contestant and told them they were really good to. She was glad many kids had the courage to show people their special talents, and that truly made them all winners.