

Share the Light

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In a large city, where towering skyscrapers cast long shadows, there lived a young woman named Calli. She worked as a junior accountant in a large corporation, her days filled with endless spreadsheets and the constant demand for intense focus to avoid making accounting errors.

Calli's world had become a monotonous cycle of work and sleep, with her dreams and passions slowly fading into the background of her daily routine.

One particularly gloomy Monday morning, Calli found herself running late for work. As she rushed through the crowded subway station, she accidentally bumped into an elderly man, causing him to drop his worn leather briefcase. Flustered and anxious about being late, Calli quickly helped him gather his scattered papers, muttering a hurried apology.



To her surprise, the old man smiled warmly at her. "No need to rush, young lady," he said, his eyes twinkling. "Sometimes, the most important moments in life happen when we least expect them."

Something about his gentle demeanor made Calli pause. She introduced herself, and the man replied, "It is wonderful to meet you, Calli. My name is Elior."

Calli responded, "Your name, Elior, is interesting; I've never heard it before. Can you tell me more about it?"

He replied, "Thank you for your interest in my name. Elior, spelled E L I O R, is a name that carries deep meaning and significance, rooted in Hebrew origins. Translated, it means 'my God is my light.' This phrase encapsulates a powerful message about illumination, guidance, and hope.

The name reflects a belief in a divine presence that offers light in times of darkness, symbolizing positivity and the strength to overcome challenges. In many cultures, light is associated with knowledge, wisdom, and clarity—qualities I strive to embody in my life.

Interestingly, the name Elior is not very common, which makes it feel unique and special to me. It resonates with warmth and optimism, suggesting that those who bear the name are often seen as beacons of light for others. This aligns with the idea that even small acts of kindness and encouragement can have a significant impact on those around us.

Moreover, I appreciate how names can influence our personalities and paths in life. Elior evokes a sense of responsibility to share light with others—whether through compassion, understanding, or simply being present for someone in need. I believe that by living up to the meaning of my name, I can inspire positivity and foster connections that illuminate the lives of those I encounter.

Ultimately, my name serves as a reminder to embrace the light within me and to share it generously with others, creating ripples of positivity in the world."

The elderly gentleman then invited her to sit with him on a nearby bench in the busy subway station. Despite her initial reluctance, Calli found herself drawn to his calm presence. As they talked, Elior shared stories from his life—tales of overcoming adversity, finding joy in small moments, and the power of kindness. He spoke of how a single act of compassion had changed the course of his life decades ago, inspiring him always to take the time to be kind to others.

Elior went on to say, his voice filled with warmth, "Each of us carries a light within. It might seem small and insignificant, but when we share it with others, it grows. It has the power to illuminate the darkest corners of someone's life."

As Calli listened, she felt something stir within her—a spark of hope and inspiration that she hadn't experienced in years. Elior's words and the genuine kindness in his eyes seemed to awaken something long dormant in her soul.

Calli asked him, "What act of kindness inspired you to begin sharing light with others?"

Elior replied, "It was a simple act of kindness—so simple that one might dismiss it as trivial—but to me, it was extraordinary. At that time in my life, it seemed as if no one truly cared for me. I had fallen on hard times and found myself penniless and hungry.

While wandering down a long dusty road that seemed to lead nowhere, a farmer working in his apple orchard approached me and said, 'Son, this is my apple orchard. The apples are now in season and

ready to be eaten. Please help yourself to as many apples as you wish. If you need a place to sleep, you are welcome to stay here in my orchard for as long as you wish.'

No one had ever been that kind to me before. That act of kindness changed my life; I could not help but share that same type of kindness—share that same light—with others.

I asked the farmer how he became such a kind and giving person. His story was similar to mine, as someone had shown him an act of kindness as well. The farmer explained how he traced these rippling acts of kindness back through time, following the chain of kindness that had traveled forward until, one day, he too received an act of kindness.

The earliest link in this long chain of kindness that he could trace was a simple gesture—lighting a candle—performed hundreds of years before he received his own act of kindness.”

The farmer then proceeded to tell a story he called "One Candle."

The farmer's story began:

“In a small village nestled in the rolling hills of medieval Europe—where candlelight was the primary source of illumination—there lived a young woman named Adeline. Her days were filled with monotonous tasks tending to her family's small farm; her dreams of a brighter future slowly faded like the flickering flames of the candles that lit their humble home each night.

One particularly dark and stormy evening, while Adeline hurried home from the market, she stumbled upon an elderly man struggling to light a lantern against the howling wind. Without hesitation, she

shielded the flame with her cloak so he could successfully ignite his candle.

To her surprise, the man's eyes twinkled with gratitude. 'Thank you, child,' he said warmly. 'Sometimes the smallest acts of kindness can illuminate the darkest paths.'

The old man introduced himself as Brother Thomas—a traveling monk.

Intrigued by his gentle demeanor, Adeline found herself sharing her fears and doubts about her life in the village. Brother Thomas listened intently before speaking about the transformative power of compassion and the importance of sharing one's inner light with others.



'You see,' he explained with wisdom in his voice, 'each of us carries a flame within our hearts. It may seem small and insignificant, but when we share it with others, it grows—dispelling the shadows of despair and ignorance.'

Inspired by Brother Thomas's words, Adeline began looking for ways to share her light with others in her village. She started by teaching children to read by candlelight in the evenings, using the few books available to her. She visited those who were sick—bringing not only physical comfort but also warmth through companionship and hope.

As weeks passed, Adeline noticed changes not only within herself but also throughout her entire village. The atmosphere grew warmer and more supportive as people began gathering each evening, sharing stories and knowledge by candlelight. The village became known for its hospitality—drawing travelers who brought new ideas and opportunities.

One day, while comforting a young girl afraid of the dark, Adeline shared Brother Thomas's wisdom about the power of inner light. As she spoke, she realized how far she had come since that stormy night. By choosing to share her light, she had transformed not only her own life but also become a beacon of hope for her entire community.

Adeline's story spread into neighboring villages, inspiring others to embrace kindness and the power of learning. She often thought fondly of Brother Thomas—grateful for that chance encounter which changed everything. Though she never saw him again, his impact lived on through her actions, touching countless lives.

In the end, Adeline understood that sharing one's light wasn't solely about grand gestures; rather, it involved small, everyday choices—to be kind, to offer hope, and to see the best qualities within others. She realized everyone possesses this power—the ability to illuminate the world, one small act at a time.

As Adeline continued sharing her light, she saw the truth behind Brother Thomas's words: a single flame, filled with compassion, courage, and love, could indeed dispel even the deepest darkness, creating a brighter world for all... one candle at a time.”

Elior paused for a moment, and then said, with his voice imbued with warmth. “So, Calli,” from Brother Thomas’s simple act of encouraging Adeline, acts of kindness have rippled across the ages—with these ripples reaching me. And now, perhaps they will reach you too, encouraging you to create your own ripples of kindness that can positively affect others for generations to come.”

Calli smiled at Elior, feeling uplifted by their chance encounter. After they said their goodbyes and parted ways, she found herself enriched by the moment—a turning point marking the beginning of a new chapter filled with possibilities. Inspired by Elior’s wisdom, Calli began seeking opportunities to share her own light. Starting small, she offered genuine smiles to the barista at her local coffee shop, volunteered at a community center on weekends, and took time to listen to coworkers who needed support.

Calli was amazed to notice changes not only in herself but also in those around her. Her colleagues became more supportive, creating a collaborative atmosphere that brightened the office and lifted

everyone's spirits daily. Even her family remarked on the renewed energy and positivity radiating from within her.

Months passed, and the small acts of kindness Calli initiated began creating ripples of change in her community. The community center where she volunteered welcomed an influx of new helpers, while her office launched a mentorship program for underprivileged youth.

One day, while mentoring a young girl struggling with self-doubt, Calli shared Elio's insights about the potential of inner light. Speaking those words reminded her of just how far she had come since that gloomy Monday morning, when she met Elio in the subway station. Choosing to shine brightly had transformed her life, allowing her to become a beacon of hope for many.

Calli's story spread, inspiring countless individuals to embrace kindness and compassion. Often reflecting upon her chance meeting with Elio, she felt immense gratitude for how it had changed everything. Even though she never saw him again, his impact lived on through her actions, touching countless lives.

Ultimately, Calli grasped a profound truth—that sharing one's inner light extends beyond grand gestures or monumental events. Instead, it lies hidden within everyday choices: to extend kindness, offer hope, and recognize the beauty around us all. She realized everyone possesses this incredible power—the ability to illuminate the world through simple yet meaningful acts of kindness.

As she continued sharing her newfound brilliance, Calli witnessed firsthand the truth behind Elio's words: that a single flickering flame of compassion, courage, and love is indeed capable of dispelling even the deepest shadows, creating a brighter tomorrow for everyone involved.

The end.

"One Candle"

Verse 1:

In utter darkness, a candle, they did light,
A single flame to challenge the night.
Love conquers hate, hope conquers fear,
The smallest light makes the path clear.

Verse 2:

Candle light that is shared, keeps its glow,
To light the way, that we should go.
Darkness fades where courage stands,
Just one candle, can brighten the land.

Verse 3:

So be the star that lights the skies,
The dawn will come when shadows die.
A single candle lights the night,
Dark shadows will vanish, when there's **light.**