

*First Day of  
Spring*

**By Emily Cameron**

Late afternoon sunlight shone down on Little Village, making the town shimmer and glow. It wrapped the village in warmth, and fireplaces everywhere were being put out. Coats were quickly shoved into closets, for they weren't needed anymore. Snow melted completely outside, and the chillness in the air went away. Earmuffs, hats, and all the other things that would protect you from the cold were put away. Little Village was suddenly filled with a beautiful buzz of people talking, singing, and laughing. Children giggled quietly and whispered secrets to one another. Mothers and fathers sighed and began to feel cheerful. Babies, even, snuggled down under their sheets, slowly falling asleep. The whole town was now growing warm, cozy, and joyful. At last, spring had arrived!

The last fireplace was put out and every single person in the village skidded over to a window. There was no mistaking the huge, orange fireball hovering above them. The people who lived in Little Village hadn't seen the sun for quite a long time, and they were happy to see it again. There wasn't a cloud above, and only a wonderful light blue was spread across the sky for as far as the villagers could see. Every single day in autumn and winter they had woken up to find that there was not a single bit of that lovely blue in the sky, simply gigantic puffy clouds. The villagers had had enough of those ugly white things and couldn't explain how glad they were to get away from them and see the sun.

The kids who lived in Little Village began to laugh. First it was a soft laugh, like a quiet little chuckle, and then it grew louder and louder until the whole village rang with uncontrollable laughter. It wasn't hysterical laughter, like the kind bullies did after they had finished teasing first-graders at school, but a noisy giggle, the kind girls made after they had told a funny joke. Mothers and fathers began to chortle too. Finally they could escape all that wind and rain and have sunlight and flowers. It was just perfect. And the little ones would get to play on the playground at school. They hadn't been allowed to because playing in the rain wouldn't be fun. But now there would be no rain, and that meant the kids could play!

Then the children of Little Village all frantically scrambled to the front doors of their houses, trying to get outside. Today would be the best day *ever* to go to the big field nearby and play, maybe picking flowers on the way. They didn't want to pick *all* the flowers, because if they did the field would look empty without those pretty little things. Maybe they could try to find mice and keep them as pets! Why, that would make the day the most happy, joyful day ever!

What I am trying to say is that it was the very first day of spring and the villagers were relieved to escape the bad weather of fall and winter.

Parents sighed contentedly. "Silly children!" they were all thinking with admiration as they gazed lovingly at their kids. One mother let out a laugh. "Now, aren't they having a good time!" she smiled, folding her arms and leaning against her house.

Spring was here at last!