MADE WITH LITTLE STORYBOOK

Asha and Jai's Five Days of Diwali



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Five Little Lamps

Nani set a brass tray on the shelf by the door. On it sat five little clay lamps. "In our family, Diwali is not one day," said Nani. "It is five! One lamp for each day." Jai's eyes went round. "Five days of Diwali?"





Day 1 · Dhanteras

Day one was Dhanteras. Everyone cleaned. Swish went the broom, swoosh went the mop. Then Nani bought one new, shiny steel pot. Jai saw his face in it and pulled a silly face back!

The First Lamp

That evening, Nani lit the first little lamp on the tray. One small flame, glowing by the door. "One day done," said Asha. "Four to go!"





Day 2 · Choti Diwali

Day two was Choti Diwali, little Diwali. Asha and Mei made a rangoli by the front step, with petals and coloured powder. Jai helped too, and got pink powder on his nose. Achoo!

Day 3 · The Big Night

Day three was the big night: Lakshmi Puja. Everyone wore new clothes. Nani lit lamps in every window and said a prayer with flowers. "Thank you for our home, our family and our friends," whispered Asha.





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Sweets and Far-Away Sparkles

Then came sweets, round ladoos and sticky jalebis! Far away, fireworks sparkled over the town. Laddoo the dog snuggled into Asha's lap, and they watched the lights from the cosy window.

Day 4 · A Mountain of Food

Day four was Govardhan Puja. Nani and the neighbours piled up a mountain of food to share. "Long ago, Krishna lifted a whole hill to keep people dry in a storm," said Nani. "So today we make a little hill of food!"





Day 5 · Bhai Dooj

Day five was Bhai Dooj, a day for brothers and sisters. Asha put a little red dot on Jai's forehead and gave him a ladoo. Jai gave Asha a present: his very own drawing of their star lantern.

A Sister for a Day

Mei watched quietly. "I don't have a brother or a sister," she said. Asha took her hand. "Today you can be our sister!" So Mei got a red dot and a ladoo too. And the three of them promised to look after each other.





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All Five Lamps

That night, Nani lit the fifth lamp. Now all five little lamps glowed on the tray. "Which day was your favourite?" asked Nani. Jai thought very hard. "All five!" he said.

THE END

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