The Day Their Home Felt Lighter

After many hungry and sleepless nights, happiness filled Sornasto's small home when the meal package arrived. The house, which had once felt heavy with hardship, suddenly felt a little lighter. Sornasto is six years old and has a sister named Mohona. They live with their mother and their grandmother, who is old and often sick. Sornasto and Mohona never had a father. Growing up with only one parent is hard, but their mother tried her best to fill that gap. Still, there were moments when the children could not hide their sadness. When they saw other children walking hand in hand with their fathers or coming home with sweets and small gifts, they felt a quiet pain inside. They kept those feelings to themselves because they did not want to worry their mother more.

Rubina Raye, their mother, is twenty-seven. She has been looking after her two children and her elderly mother-in-law almost entirely by herself. It is a tiring survival. Each day she leaves the house to work in the burning sun and each return with only a small wage. Taking care of the house, raising her two growing children, and looking after her sick elderly mother-in-law with almost no help leaves her exhausted. She frequently finds her children sitting in a corner quietly or lying on the mat, too weak to run about and play how children should be. This sight brings her a sense of guilt.

Sornasto is six years old and dreams of becoming a police officer one day. He imagines himself catching criminals and helping people in need. Sometimes he tells his mother about this dream with excitement, but other times he stays quiet for days. Seeing him moving between hope and silence hurts Rubina deeply. Mohona, who is eight, also struggles at school. Hunger makes it

hard for her to focus or speak in class, so she often remains quiet during the day. Their grandmother wants to help more, but her poor health stops her from doing much.

Their life began to improve when they received a meal package from “Feed Hunger.” As Rubina cooked the food instantly, their small, dull home was filled with warmth, light and a smell they had not known for a long time.

Sornasto was the most excited to eat a proper meal after so long. He had been waiting for a meal that would fill his stomach and make him feel strong instead of tired. When he took his first bite, joy filled his face. A big, open smile appeared, the kind of smile that comes from real relief. It was not only the food that made him happy; it was the feeling that, in the end, he had enough.

Rubina knows their problems are not over. Money is still short; work is still hard and there are still nights when she cannot sleep because she worries about tomorrow. But something has changed. The meal package was more than rice and beans; it gave them a little space to breathe and a little strength to keep going. Because of it, Sornasto can dream again of one day wearing a uniform and helping others, just as this small act of kindness helped him. Thank You, Feed the Hunger, for standing beside this child and bringing hope for his future.