

Finding the Light

By the Dogwood Community, November 2017

One dark and stormy night in the forest, there was a little lantern. His mother and father were the sun and the moon. On this night, the little lantern was the only light in the night. Without the light, nobody could see in the dark. The little lantern couldn't find his parents, the sun and the moon, so he decided to go look for them. He was scared because he didn't know what had happened to the light. He wondered, "Are my parents hiding or have they been captured?" He started running down a dirt road through the woods to try and find them. WHAM! The little lantern ran into something.

"Ouch!" he said. He looked up and saw he had ran into a tree with a door carved in it. His hand shook as he slowly reached out to open the door. Before he could grab the doorknob, the door swung open on its own knocking the little lantern down again. He got back up and tiptoed inside the tree. He saw his worst fear... a fan!

With shaking feet, he tried to creep past, but his candle blew out. Everything went pitch black. Suddenly stairs started glowing, so the little lantern walked up the stairs. Once he got to the top of the staircase, he heard a thunderous BOOM! He ran down the staircase and out the door. When he got outside, he saw some trees that looked like they had been stuck by lightning that he hadn't seen before.

The clouds flashed and a croaky voice growled, "Little lantern!" He looked up and saw a face in the clouds.

"Who are you?" asked the little lantern.

"I am the lightning god," he bellowed.

"Do you know where my mom and dad are?" replied the little lantern.

The lightning god thundered, "Yes! I know where they are, but I'm not going to tell you!"

Just then, the little lantern saw a dim light over the hillside. He ran as fast as he ever had to the light. The lightning god chased after the little lantern. He tried to strike but missed by one inch. The Earth shook from booming thunder. The little lantern started running even faster because there was something he realized: the dim light was the sun and the moon. They were in a cage with strong metal that couldn't be melted in a cave filled with water. The little lantern floated through the water to the cage. He saw the key at the bottom and he dove down and returned up holding the key unlocking the sun and the moon. But when he turned around, he saw the lightning god behind him.

The lightning god struck the lantern with lightning and knocked him back. The lightning god was laughing but when he opened his eyes, he saw that the little lantern had his light back on and the sun and the moon were out of the cage. The lightning god was shocked. The sun and the moon gave the little lantern a big hug and they noticed the lightning was crying rain.

The whole family asked, "Are you okay?" The lightning god answered, "No! I'm not okay. I want to be the only light in the sky."

"You can come join the sky with us" said the moon.

The sun offered, "You can take the twilight sky. The moon will take the midnight sky and I will take the daylight sky."

The lightning god felt so included by the offer that he changed his mind because he realized he would feel so lonely with no one else in the sky. For the first time, he felt so loved and cared for even when he made a mistake. He was inspired by their kindness that he realized that there's enough space in the sky for anyone's light in their heart. And you can be reminded of this when you look up and see all the stars that share the sky.