

You Are Always Loved

Mighty Lad was a young superhero. He lived in a big glass castle high on a hill. His mother and father lived there, too. One morning, Mighty Lad heard his mother call. But he didn't feel like getting out of bed. He was grouchy, so he stayed in bed. His mother called him again.

Finally, Mighty Lad rolled out of bed. But he left his pajamas on the floor. He didn't comb his hair. He put on a wrinkled super suit. He stomped down the stairs. He didn't care how much noise he made. He didn't smile at his parents. He just grumbled when they said, "Good morning," to him.

Mighty Lad was in a really grumpy mood. His mother brought his super cereal. He reached for the fruit. But Mighty Lad's other hand hit the milk carton and knocked it across the room. The milk spilled down the wall. His parents had Mighty Lad wash the wall.

Mighty Lad was angry. He sat at the table and pouted. He would not eat his super cereal. He just sat there tying knots in the silverware.

Then Mighty Lad's father and mother had to leave for work. They had to save a city from an earthquake. Mighty Lad had to leave for school. He got up from the table and broke the chair with his fist as the family flew out the window. His parents said, "Good-bye!" as they flew off. Mighty Lad did not say anything. Then, on his way to school, he remembered that he did not do his homework. It was too late for him to do it now—even at super speed. Mighty Lad landed in the school yard just in time.

When school started, Mighty Lad tried hard to pay attention in superhero class. But he kept thinking of how he would like to be flying around the moon. He heard someone calling his name. It was the teacher. Professor Power was calling Mighty Lad's name. Mighty Lad was too busy daydreaming to hear it. All his classmates were looking at him. He blushed.

"You must stay after school," said Professor Power. "A superhero must learn to pay attention. You must also do the homework that you did not do."

It was late when Mighty Lad flew home. His parents knew that he had done something wrong to be kept after school. Mighty Lad felt bad, but he did not say anything. Instead, he leapt up the stairs to his room. He was too scared to face his parents.

Mighty Lad sat in his room. He heard his mother and father coming up the stairs. He was afraid that his parents were going to scold him. Mighty Lad's parents came into the room. They walked over to Mighty Lad. They each gave him a little hug.

His mother said, "It has been a rough day." Mighty Lad started to cry.

"We all have bad days, sometimes," Mighty Lad's father said.

"You know what?" his mother asked him.

"What?" Mighty Lad asked.

She said, "We love you, Mighty Lad. Sometimes you have a bad day and do things that are wrong. Sometimes, you need to say, 'I'm sorry.'"

Mighty Lad's father said, "But we'll always love you. Come on, let's jet downstairs and eat dinner."

Mighty Lad ate dinner with his parents. Then, he got ready to go to bed. His mother and father kissed him. Mighty Lad felt much better. Soon, he was asleep, dreaming about flying around the moon.