

Miguel's Christmas Miracle

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In this story, young Miguel Sandoval asks Santa for a very special Christmas miracle.

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Miguel had just arrived at school when the call came into his teacher, Ms. Jones. It was the last day before the start of the Christmas vacation. **"Miguel! Miguel,"** Ms. Jones called out over the excited children who were looking forward to the classroom Christmas party. **"Yes, Ms. Jones?"** Miguel replied. **"Principal Rodriguez needs to see you in his office right away, please stop what you are doing and go with monitor David. He will see that you get to the office with no problem."**

Concerned that he had done something wrong, Ms. Jones assured Miguel that wasn't the case. When Miguel arrived at Principal Rodriguez's office, Monitor David mentioned to the principal's assistant that Principal Rodriguez was expecting him. **"Ah...yes,"** said the assistant. **"Please go right in Miguel, he is expecting you."**

Miguel proceeded cautiously. He pushed open the door with a gentle nudge which was already slightly ajar which caught the attention of Principal Rodriguez. **"Hola Miguel. Please, come in,"** Principal Rodriguez said. **"I am afraid I have some bad news for you. It's about your Abuelita Sophia. Your mother called and said that she has taken ill and has been rushed to the hospital. You are to remain here in the office until your papa arrives."**

Miguel's heart sank to his knees. He knew that his grandmother was ill, but he did not think she was that ill. Tears began to roll down his face as he took a chair in the waiting room just outside the principal's office. **"No dear Lord,"** he prayed, **"Not my Abuelita. Not now. It's Christmas!"**

Just then a big burly man dressed as Santa Claus entered the room. He took a seat right next to Miguel. He hadn't been there but a moment when he began to speak to Miguel, **"Ah Miguel. You're worried about your grandmother, aren't you?"**

Miguel looked up in amazement with tears still in his eyes. **"What!?"** he thought to himself. **"Could this be...could this be the real Santa Claus? How else could he know my name and about my Abuelita Sophia?"**

"Ahhhh!" Santa said. **"You would be surprised just how much I know. Now tell me little one, what is on your heart?"**

Miguel told Santa everything ... **"Principal Rodriguez said that my Abuelita was rushed to the hospital. It doesn't sound good. Mi papa is on his way to pick me up. Please sir, if you are the real Santa Claus, can you not bring me any presents and instead make my Abuelita well?"**

Santa was deeply touched by Miguel's innocents and his desire to put his grandmother before himself.

"Ho! Ho! Ho!" Santa said. **"Miguel, you know that I do not have the power to do such things. There is only one who is greater than all of us who has the power to give life and take it away. You know about whom I am speaking, yes?"**

"Yes, Santa," Miguel said. **"I do."**

"Then let us kneel down together," Santa said, **"...and imagine that He is here in front of us, laying in a manger, wrapped in swaddling clothes. Let us ask Him through prayer and with faith for the gift of this Christmas miracle."**

At that moment Santa disappeared.

However, before Miguel could react, the door flew open and a Christmas scent filled the room. Miguel recognized the scent because it was similar to the incense he sometimes would smell at church. Just

then his papa entered into the room with tears of joy in his eyes. He reached out his arms and lifted Miguel into them saying, **"Miguel! Miguel! Your mama just called. The doctors cannot explain what happened except that it is a Christmas miracle. Abuelita Sophia is going to be okay."**

Miguel knew exactly what had happened and said, **"Amen!"**