

The Ignorant Child

MUTUYIMANA Iranzi

Pre-reading questions:

- Have you ever been lost?
- Have you ever disobeyed your parents?



Many years ago, there were a wife and husband whose child was named Niyo. One day, the mother went to the market to buy some food, and she left Niyo alone at home. After her departure, the child wanted to follow her, so he ran after her, but she had already disappeared. Later, when his mother came back, there was no one at home. Niyo was gone. The mother looked **everywhere** but she saw no one.



In the **evening** when the man arrived, there was nobody at home. The mother was still looking for her missing child. He asked his **neighbors** where his family was, but no one knew. He became very sad and sat down by the closed door, waiting for his son and wife. Suddenly, his wife arrived, weeping.

“My dear wife, **what happened** to you? What makes you weep?” inquired the husband.

“Our child is missing. I looked everywhere, but no one was here. Please help me find him.”

So in spite of the **darkness**, they took the path, looking for him everywhere. They met an **animal**

when it was very dark.

“Why do you go through the darkness?” the animal asked.

“We are looking for our missing child,” the parents replied with great sadness.

“Do you think that he has entered this forest?” the animal asked.

“No, we do not know anything about which direction he went,” the parents answered.

“What reward will you give me if I help you find your child?” the animal said.

“We will give you a reward of eight cows,” replied the parents.

Then all of them entered the forest. In the middle, the animal smelled a human smell. When they stepped ahead, they found the child in the bush, and they felt great excitement. They took the child and gave the promised reward to the animal for helping them find their child.





The parents earnestly told their child to **obey** them and take seriously their advice to stay home even when they were absent. They taught him to wait patiently in

difficult situations.

They invited their friends and relatives for a great **party**. They ate, drank, danced, and praised God and the animal for helping them find their child.

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MUTUYIMANA Iranzi is twelve years old. Her favorite subject in school is English and her favorite food is tomatoes. When she grows up, she wants to be president.