When Sari Lost Her Spots
Little calf Sari woke up in a good mood. She was well-rested and ready to start the day. She went to the bathroom to brush her teeth, she looked into the mirror and was shocked! The spots that normally splattered across her white skin were no longer there! They had disappeared! Sari stared at her reflection in shock.
”I don’t look like a beautiful calf anymore, I look more like a lamb!,“ she thought. She was not pleased. She loved her spots. How could she live like this?
She went to her room and drew them back on with a marker. Now everything was alright - just like it had been. She ran back to the bathroom, curiosity getting the better of her. She looked into the mirror. But it wasn’t the same... her spots weren’t the same! They didn’t look good.
“I haven’t washed my face or brushed my teeth yet...” thought Sari. Perhaps that is why I looked so ugly. She immediately began to wash her face and brush her teeth. But, what was that? As she washed her face the spots that she had drawn on her face streaked down. Sari was very angry about this. Why hadn’t it worked? Where had her spots gone? Why had they left her?
She went to his room. She wanted to hit his pillows and cry loudly. Then she silently sat on her bed. She looked at his freckleless reflection in the window. She didn’t understand what was going on. She was stunned by this sudden change. She didn’t want to eat, play or go outside.

She was very sad. Suddenly, her friend Boncuk appeared in the window. Boncuk was a blue crow with shiny feathers. She tapped his beak on the glass.
Sarı opened the window, hesitantly. She was not in a good mood. Boncuk began to speak:
- "You look pale, Sari."
- "Yes, I lost my spots."
- "Do you know where they are?"
Sarı had not given this any thought. Where could her spots have gone? Could they have streaked down and left just like the marker had? Or, perhaps, they had evaporated and were floating around with the rain clouds. Maybe they had turned a white cat into a spotted cat? Perhaps they were invisible and they were watching her. She couldn’t know.
"I don't know, but I miss them very much."
"You loved them very much, it must be hard to lose them...."

Boncuk saw that her friend was very sad. She wanted to do something to make her feel better.
"Hey, you know what? Today we’re going to have a picnic at the lake this afternoon. Would you like to come with us?" she asked.
"I don’t know," said Sarı. She didn’t want to leave the house without her spots. "How about this. Let’s make a nice salad together. The last time we made one, it was very yummy."
Sari, really didn’t feel like it. But, Boncuk seemed very excited. She didn’t want to spoil it. They prepared an enormous salad together. The delicious salad that they prepared did make Sari feel a bit happier. “Come on! Let’s take our salad down to the lake and eat it at the picnic?», What do you say?», Boncuk asked.
Boncuk looked like she really wanted to go with Sari to the lake. Sari didn’t want to turn Boncuk down.
“Alright,” she said. Together Sari and Boncuk went to the lake. However, Sari was still nervous about being seen without his spots. She wondered what her friends would think.
When they went to the lake, they were first met by Ala, the joyful sparrow with flapping wings. Small orange fish were jumping and flipping over the water’s surface. The horse Doruk, offered them carrot cookies that his grandmother had baked. Sarı and Boncuk shared the salad they had made together with their friends. Then, small turtle Akça showed them the kite he had made. They started to fly kites together. Sarı was a bit worried about being with her friends without her spots. She was worried that they wouldn’t want to play with her she didn’t have spots.
But, she had nothing to worry about. Her friends continued to play with her just like they always did.

-“How do you feel?”, asked Boncuk. -“I wish I had my spots. It would have been better with them... but it was nice being with you guys.” replied Sari.

- “It’s nice playing with you too Sari. We love you - with or without spots!”, said Boncuk.
Sari loved her friends too. After lunch, they had a wonderful time playing games together. When she was with them, her missing spots weren’t important. They were having fun just like they always did.
When evening came, Boncuk pointed to the sky and said, “Look! Sarı, a shooting star!” It was the first time Sarı had seen a shooting star. It was as if someone were drawing a line with light across the night sky. Sarı liked seeing that shooting star.
Sari thought about many other things that she would like to see - her friends, toys, little green caterpillars, fruit salads, shooting stars - life was full of surprises. This thought made Sari excited and happy.
This book was prepared by the Ministry of National Education with financial support of UNICEF within scope of Psychoeducation Project in Challenging Life Events (ZOHOP).

This story book was provided free-of-charge by the Ministry of National Education. It cannot be sold for fee.