

## The Astonishing Bicycle

By Amina Khan

I used to be shiny, bright and fun, but now I'm rusty, old and abandoned, though I still have hope that one day I will return to the life I once had.

The dust fills my throat and I feel a sneeze coming up. My tires were once plump and black, but now they're withered and covered in dust. My body creaks and groans, although now still and stagnant for so long.

Where has she been? The young girl with hair that shines in the sun. We used to spend so much time together. Though I know she's as old as I am, with fluffy, white cobwebs that cover her head, she creaks and groans as much as I do.

Creeaak the shed door starts to open, a small foot steps in, followed by the rest of the body. She is small with hair that also shines in the sun, could this be my owner? Has she finally returned, I had dreamt of this day for years, but how? How has she been made new again? Can I be made new too? She runs her young, soft hands along me, I can't help but to give a little smile. The girl shooed away the spiders, their legs tickled my body, she then whipped off the cobwebs, they hid in all my corners.

I was held by the neck and wheeled outside, the ground feels fluffy and painted green. Craackk! That right there was my back, the little girl who looked as light as a feather just sat on my seat, she was heavier than an elephant. "Take it for a ride!" called a voice, a voice I recognized, my original owner gently encouraging her grandchild to have as much fun with me as she did. Before I knew it I was off again, I was being ridden again! It was a miracle! Above all it was astonishing!

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