

GRANDPA GARY & THE MELBOURNE CUP



BY **CHILDBOOK.AI**

Young Alfie walked through the door so wide, to Grandpa Gary's office with a skip in his stride. At Ross and Galloway, the real estate place, photos of houses hung all over the space. But Alfie's eyes found something more grand, a picture of False Bravado, the finest in the land! "Grandpa, tell me about your horse!" Alfie said with glee. Grandpa smiled and winked, "Come sit here with me! False Bravado's special, he tries with all his might, though he's always come second, he races with delight!"



Grandpa Gary leaned back in his chair so tall, gazing at the photo upon the wall. "You know what, Alfie? Today's the day! Let's visit False Bravado, what do you say?" Alfie jumped up with a happy cheer, "Yes, yes, Grandpa! Let's go see him here!" They packed up their things and headed out the door, excited for the adventure that waited in store. "We'll visit Trainer Hec at the stable so fine, where False Bravado lives and loves to shine!"



They drove down the road in Grandpa's blue car, the stable wasn't too very far. Through green fields they went, past trees standing tall, Alfie could hardly wait to see the horse at all! "Is False Bravado big?" asked Alfie with wonder. "As tall as a house?" Grandpa laughed like thunder. "He's strong and he's fast with a coat shiny brown, the finest racing horse in all of the town!" Soon the stable appeared, with a fence painted white, and Alfie clapped his hands with pure delight!



At the stable they met Trainer Hec with a smile, he'd been training horses for quite a long while. At ninety years old, he was wise and quite spry, with gray hair and a twinkle right there in his eye. "Welcome, young Alfie! And Gary, my friend! I'm giving False Bravado a treat without end!" In his hands was a milkshake, thick, creamy, and sweet, a special surprise for the horse as a treat. False Bravado nickered and tossed his brown mane, happy to see them again!



"What's in that milkshake?" asked Alfie with care, watching the horse drink without any spare. "It's oats and bananas and honey so pure," said Trainer Hec kindly, "it makes him feel sure! It makes him strong, it makes him run fast, this time at the race, he won't finish last!" False Bravado drank every delicious drop, his tail swished about and he started to hop! Alfie giggled and clapped at the wonderful sight, False Bravado looked ready, prepared for the fight!



False Bravado stood proud in his stable so neat, stomping around on his four strong feet. "He's come second so many times before," said Grandpa Gary, "but he wants something more. He dreams of winning, of being the best, of finally beating all the rest!" Alfie reached up and patted the horse's soft nose, False Bravado bent down, as close as he goes. "You can win!" whispered Alfie with hope in his heart, "I believe in you, you'll have a fresh start!"



"Let's go to the Melbourne Cup!" Grandpa Gary cried, the most famous horse race, known far and wide! They loaded False Bravado into a trailer with care, Trainer Hec sat in front in the driver's chair. Alfie sat with Grandpa, excited and bright, the Melbourne Cup track was a wonderful sight! When they arrived, there were crowds everywhere, people were cheering and waving in the air. Flags were flying, the sun shining down, the greatest horse race in all of the town!



The jockey arrived in colors so bold, purple and gold, a sight to behold. He climbed on False Bravado with skill and with grace, ready to ride in the big, famous race. False Bravado pranced, he was ready to go, his muscles were strong, his eyes had a glow. "Good luck!" called Alfie, waving his hand, Grandpa Gary and Trainer Hec began to stand. They watched as the horses lined up at the start, Alfie could feel the hope in his heart!



The bell rang loud and the gates opened wide, all of the horses burst out in their stride! False Bravado galloped with power and speed, taking the lead, yes indeed! Around the first turn and down the long track, other horses were trying to catch up and come back. "Go, False Bravado!" shouted Alfie so loud, Grandpa Gary cheered along with the crowd. The horse ran faster than ever before, showing everyone what his heart had in store!



They came to the final stretch of the race, False Bravado kept up his incredible pace! Another horse tried to catch up from behind, but False Bravado had victory in mind. His legs moved like lightning across the green ground, the crowd's happy cheering made such a loud sound! "He's going to do it!" cried Trainer Hec with joy, Alfie was jumping like a wind-up toy. Closer and closer they got to the end, False Bravado was running around the last bend!



False Bravado crossed the finish line first, his dream of winning had finally burst! He'd won the Melbourne Cup, the greatest prize, under the bright and beautiful skies! The crowd went wild with cheers all around, the sweetest and happiest sound! Grandpa Gary hugged Trainer Hec with glee, "Our horse has won! At last he's free!" Free from always coming in second place, False Bravado had won the famous race! Alfie ran onto the track with pride so true, his heart filled with happiness through and through!



Alfie hugged False Bravado's strong neck with care, the horse nuzzled him gently with love in the air. Then Alfie hugged Grandpa Gary so tight, "This is the best day, everything's right!" Grandpa smiled down with tears in his eyes, "You brought us luck beneath these skies!" They posed for photos with the trophy so grand, Trainer Hec shook everyone's hand. False Bravado had finally reached his goal, with love and courage filling his soul. Alfie knew he'd remember this day, when dreams came true in every way!



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