

JUST WAIT A LITTLE

Tori watched her mother rock Jesse to sleep.

“Mommy, do you still love me?” asked Tori.

“Of course I love you, Tori,” said Mother.

“But you spend so much more time with Jesse than with me,” said Tori.

“Jesse is a baby, and he needs more care than you do. When you were a baby, I spent a lot of time with you too.”



Mother put a sleeping Jesse down in his crib. "Even though I don't spend as much time with you as I did before, I still love you," explained Mother. "And I'm very proud of you, too!"

"Proud of me?"

"Of course!" Mother said as she lifted Tori into her arms. "You're my best little girl! And you are a wonderful helper to me, an excellent big sister to little Jesse, and you make Daddy and me very happy with your kindness and joy!"

"But sometimes I like to have you just to myself," said Tori.



“Well, let’s make a deal,” said Mother. “When you need time with Daddy or me, you can come and ask for it, and we will do what we can to make some special time with you either at that moment or at a time we set aside for it.”

“But sometimes you don’t listen.”

“There are times when Daddy or I will be busy, and we cannot stop what we’re doing right that minute,” explained Mother. “When that’s the case, you may have to wait till a bit later, but you can trust that we will take time with you.”

“I don’t like to wait,” said Tori.



"I understand. It's hard to not get the things we want right away, but having patience to wait is important. And sometimes when you wait a little longer, you get something better."

"What do you mean?"

"Well, like what just happened. You waited patiently for me to put Jesse down for a nap," said Mother, "and now we can do something together while Jesse sleeps. Would you like to bake some cookies?"

"Oatmeal raisin cookies?" asked Tori.

"Of course!"



“I’m glad I get to spend time with you, Mommy! I love baby Jesse, but sometimes I like time with just you.”

“Me too, Tori! Me too!”



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