The story of the little soap

that discovers her beautiful inner crystal

Once upon a time there was a little soap. She was very thoughtful and asked the other soaps, “Hey, why are we here in this world? I heard we are just here to wash hands? Is that right?"

Another taller soap replied, "No, we're not just here to wash hands. There is much more to us than you think!"

"Is there?" asked the little soap, "Is there really?"

Then the bigger soap said to the little one, "You don't realise your worth, how great and pure you are. Come, I'll show you what a great soap you are, layer by layer!"

The little soap was pleased: "All right, help me understand."

When the little soap got her place in the shop, she was quite nervous about what would happen next.

Then a woman appeared. She walked through the shop, looked around and picked up the little soap. She smelled at it and became immediately angry. "Why doesn't that soap smell good? I want a different one," she said. She put the little soap back on the shelf.

The little soap became very sad and said to herself, "Why doesn't anyone take me? I know I don't smell that strong, but I smell so light because I smell like myself!"

The little soap started crying. She was lying next to other soaps that smelled very strongly and drowned out her own scent.

One of her neighbours noticed that she was crying and said, "Hey, little soap! Don't be sad. One day even this woman will realise your true worth! Maybe you smell less strong than the other soaps. But you smell natural! The other soaps are chemically made and that is why they smell so strong. They are masters of camouflage and manipulation. That is why they are favoured at first."

The little soap was scared and thought: *Why are they so blind and do not recognise my beauty? I smell very light and I give people the virtue of nature.*

A new day began.

The soap was woken up by the first ringing sound of the day in the supermarket.

The little soap was happy und hopeful. *New day, new chance.*

A new customer walked past the little soap. He was tall, wore a great suit and seemed to be stressed, because he searched frantically from left to right. He quickly picked up all the soaps one after the other – including the little soap. He read what was written on its packaging and laughed: "HAHAHA, natural soap... with a crystal? That's ridiculous!"

He put the little soap away again and turned his attention to the other soaps. "Oh yes, these look much prettier and more perfect!" he exclaimed. "Great packaging! With the plastic you can just store them better and they don't get dirty."

The little soap started crying again, "Why am I not as perfect as the others?"

"Because we have rough edges," she heard one of her neighbours say.

The little soap was puzzled: "But why do we have rough edges? Why can't we be as perfect as the others?"

The soap next to her replied, "You know, little soap, the man with his great suit, he has rough edges, too! But as you could see, his life is much too hectic. The way he touched you... He didn't realise what a treasure he was holding in his hand. He then chose another option. That's how it will be in his life too. He does not see the beauty of life at first sight. But to discover the true beauty, he would have had to have an open mind about you..."

This made the little soap think...

The next day began.

The supermarket door opened. A beautiful lady came by the shelf where the little soap was lying, talking on the phone. She didn't really have eyes for all the things there, though. She was wearing a beautiful dress, high-heeled shoes, sunglasses, a big hat and a classy bag.

*She really looks great*, the little soap thought. Every man was staring at her. She didn't notice any of the looks, though, because she was on the phone the whole time. She also didn't really look at the products and beautiful things to be discovered.

She came closer and closer to the little soap. Her bag waved from left to right. Suddenly she hit a can with it, which fell off the shelf. However, she was so engrossed in her conversation on the phone that she didn't notice the can and just kept walking.

The lady came even closer, with her bag still wobbling back and forth. The little soap started to get scared – and rightly so: the classy bag hit the little soap. She fell on the floor. BOOM!

The little soap could not believe what had just happened. Shocked, she found that a small piece of her had broken off.

The lady did not care. She did not deign to look at the little soap and just kept on talking on the phone.

The can looked at the little soap and asked her, "Hey you, why did she throw us down?"

The little soap was still in shock and wondered why the lady didn't pick her and the can up.

Then the can said: "That device on her ear made her ignore us. She didn't even look at us. Do you know that a piece of you has broken off? Something is sparkling inside of you. I just can't make out exactly what it is, unfortunately. But you are beautiful!"

This made the little soap smile. The compliment felt so nice. The feeling made the little soap rejoice and she noticed something changing inside her.

After closing time, the supermarket owner came and picked up everything that was lying on the floor and put it in a basket. The little soap too. He sorted out all the things that were no longer good, didn't look nice or had a stain. All the imperfect products ended up in a big bin that was next to the shop.

All the products were wondering, "What happened? Where are we? Why have we been sorted out?"

They comforted and hugged each other. There was a sense of community and understanding.

*The feeling of togetherness feels great,* thought the little soap. No one had to keep up with the other or strive for perfection. Everyone was imperfect in their own way. One had a bump, one was a little bigger, one a little smaller, one was missing a corner and everyone looked at each other. They laughed together at each other's little rough edges. In this way they experienced joy and fun. They had a wonderful time in the bin.

Suddenly the lid of the bin opened and a hand came in and reached for the things inside.

It was a very nice young woman called Moon. She looked lovingly at the products, put them in her bag and took them with her.

Her husband Sun was already waiting for her. He beamed, took Moon in his arms and asked her, "What wonderful things did you find today?"

"I found beautiful fruits and vegetables and even an awesome little soap," she replied.

The little soap was all ears: G*reat?* She wondered if Moon could really mean her.

At home, Moon took out the little soap and immediately wanted to test it with Sun. Sun went to the sink, let the water run and took the little soap in his hand.

The little soap felt good in Sun's hand. It was nice and warm.

Suddenly a big warm jet hit the hand and bathed the little soap. She started laughing and noticed that she was foaming. She felt quite smooth. Surprisingly, she saw that her colour was changing.

Sun seemed to have noticed it too, because he was really excited: "I haven't had such a great soap for a long time. How natural it is, how it cherishes my hand and how subtle it smells – like nature."

The little soap smiled and she felt like the greatest soap in the world. At last she felt loved and needed. Then she remembered what another soap in the shop had once said to her: "You will be one soap of many, but when people realise your worth, maybe they will wake up and choose you and not the others. Because you are unique and wonderful! They will see your real beauty only when they use you."

Day after day, the little soap spent time with Sun and Moon.

She listened to great music in the shower and always had great conversations with Sun and Moon's hair. They were always quite funny and danced with her.

But it wasn't just the nourishing properties of the little soap that made Sun and Moon glow, it was also the scent that had a positive effect on their well-being. They were more relaxed and satisfied after washing.

Every day, the little soap shed another of its layers, all of a different colour. The sight pleased the little soap.

One day, Sun screamed while washing his hands.

The little soap suddenly felt so pure, light and clear.

Sun and Moon discovered a beautiful crystal that had been hidden in the little soap all along. Only no one had noticed it. They held it up to the light. It was so beautiful, all the colours sparkled. It was given a place of honour in the shower.

You are welcome to paint your own crystal in all kinds of colours. Give one of these wonderful soaps to a loving person so that they too can find their own diamond.

With love,

Waldbaden