

Pets

By Shannon Xiao

Age 5

One day, I was shopping with my mom at a pet store. She promised to buy me fish on my birthday. There were so many fish that I couldn't decide which ones to get. Suddenly, two goldfish caught my eye. I walked over to their tank and tapped on the glass. The other fish swam away, but these two stayed and swam to my hand. From that moment on, I knew that they were the perfect fish.

That night, I was so excited I could hardly sleep. I dreamed about my fish. In my dream, I was in the tank with them and taught them tricks like flipping and swimming backwards. The next day, my family and I set up the tank. We had a miniature palace in the tank for the fish to play in. We also had fake seaweed and pebbles on the bottom of the tank. After everything was set up, I put the fish in the tank. I tapped on the glass, and the fish swam to my hand. I started moving my fingers around the outside of the tank, and the fish followed. Just then, one of the fish did a flip! I couldn't believe my eyes! Then the other fish started swimming backwards! "Wow," I thought, "They must be magical fish!"

I played with them everyday and had a lot of fun. After a while, the tank was filled with baby goldfish. One month later, I had a "great" idea. I decided that if I liked candy, the fish would too! I took a box of my favorite chocolate and put some in the tank. The next day, I didn't see any of the fish in the tank. I asked my mom what happened to the fish and she sadly shook her head. "They moved on, Shannon. I ran up to my room and started crying. For the next few days, I couldn't look at the empty tank without crying. I missed my fish so much!

A couple weeks later, I found the tank filled with new, different fish. I was so happy to have new pets! I tried putting my hand to the glass, but all of the fish swam away. I was sad when I realized that the goldfish that I had were special. They went back to where they came from, and are probably happier there.