

Coventry Building Society's Young Writer of the Year competition 2026

People said the big tree was magical. And if you found a golden leaf under it, you could make a wish and it would come true...

Every day, Jenny walked past the tree on her way to school. Magically, the tree...
stood next to the golden fairy light on the poster. It was a magical, enormous tree with tall, rocky branches and muddy, twisted roots. She always looked under the tree, hoping to find a golden, crunchy leaf but she only found brown, boring leaves. It made her heart feel sad.

One Tuesday, Jenny walked past the tree once again but stopped to put her hat on. Suddenly, a huge gust of wind rustled through the tree and something caught her eye. Her eyes lit up. Her hands were shaking. It was a leaf, but not just a normal one. It was a golden leaf! She was filled with happy tears. Gently, she picked it up. She felt like she was a queen with the only magical, enchanting golden leaf and she knew she would be the popular girl at school. Finally, she had got the golden leaf. She was too excited that it made her tired.

There were so many things to wish for! Could she wish for a bowl full of sweets? or maybe even a pet ~~thing~~ thing? Then, she remembered! Her most important wish. Now, she remembered her grand wish, it was to heal her little sister because she was sick. It was so sad to see her like that. Calmly, she held the leaf tight and then took the leaf and wished in tears. Suddenly, the leaf sparkled then vanished. Only a few



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Shimmering specks remained!

Later that day, when Jenny got home she couldn't believe her eyes! The wish had come true. Now Jenny's sister felt much better for she hugged her. Her eyes were full with happy tears and her heart was so happy. Full of enjoyment, she loved the tree more than anything. She felt so lucky.

She went to that tree again every day and looked under the branches but she never saw a golden, crunchy leaf only brown, broken leaves. This didn't matter because Jenny remembered that she had her sister and that made her happy.