

You Rip What  
You Sow



Many years ago, a wise old woman lived in a cottage along with her two grandchildren. These children were very different from each other. The girl was bright and cheerful, while her brother was rude and unkind. He was not liked by anyone, which made the grandmother unhappy.



One evening, she said to him,

"My child, I fear if you are like this, you will not be happy. You need to show kindness and consideration to others for them to treat you kindly. Try not to use bad words."

The boy only laughed at her and went to bed. He fell asleep, and he had a dream.



He stood with his sister at a cottage door, and his grandmother was pointing to a path across the fields. She said,

"That is the path of life. Both of you go on it till you reach halfway and come back. Behave yourselves on the way because you need to return on the same path. Now you can go."



The brother and sister set off. For everyone who passed, the girl had a cheering smile and a pleasant word, so the path grew flowers behind her. The boy only frowned and used bad words at the man who wouldn't let him get mangoes from his trees. He also scowled at the man, who corrected him for spitting on the road. As he walked, the path behind him broke into great jagged stones and thorny shrubs.



When the time came for them to return, the sister's path was soft with green grass and beautiful flowers, but her brother's path was painful because of the thorns and stones. With sore feet and an unhappy feeling, he reached his grandmother's door. Right then, he woke up from his dream. Oh, how happy he was that it was only a dream.



Since then, he had become a different boy. He never used bad words, scowled, or got angry with others.

