



The sperm whale's tooth.



Adam, the sperm whale, is worried. The little boy Matthew, who was fishing with his dad on his boat, told him an incredible story. Matthew has just lost one tooth and tonight the fairy's tooth is going to come to reward him for his courage.

Adam, who is 10, has just had his first tooth. But he didn't want to lose it like Matthew, let alone to meet the fairy that could sneak into the blow-hole !

He's waiting in tears on the surface for his mother to swim up from the depths. She had left almost one hour ago to catch a squid over 2000 meters depth.

Whew, there she is ! As she sees him all worried, she gives him a piece of tentacle. It's usually his favorite meal, but he's too worried to appreciate it !

- Mom, he whines ! Is it true that a fairy will come and take my tooth through my blow-hole ? This is what happened to Matthew, my human friend.

- But you're not a human, you're a whale. You have your first teeth when you are 10 and they are definitive. Moreover, they only grow on your lower jaw ! On top of that, you live in deep waters. It's much too far for the fairy, she can't swim up to you. And you only need to blow into your blow-hole to chase the fairy.

- I have nothing to fear, Mom ?

- Of course not! The milk I gave you when you were small isn't enough anymore. Your teeth will help you catch big fish and squid.

- And Matthew tells me he cannot even see the little fairy in the dark. Why doesn't he click?



- Human doesn't know how to click. Your head produces clicks and which bounce on your environment. Clicks come back in your head and give you a "picture" of what is in front of you. You can detect the hidden animals in the sand, day and night! So you could see the fairy in the dark!
- Ah, that's what you call echolocation. You already told me about that! You know, Matthew explained that we, the sperm whales, were "vulnerable". I don't understand why, because you are very strong, Mom, aren't we ?
- Unfortunately, he's right. We are a "vulnerable species" because we were killed in large quantities in the past in order to be eaten, or for using our oil as perfume fixative. Currently, for us to survive, we are protected, except in some countries like Japan or St. Vincent of the Grenadines in the Caribbean. And in addition, in the ocean there are chemical pollution, noise, nets... Fortunately, there are people like Matthew who help us.
- Mom, I'm scared, I will always stay with you.
- No, my darling, you're a boy and you will migrate each year further and further from me into the cold water to find good food. And when you will come back into the warm water, you will find a female sperm whale and you will have a beautiful baby, as beautiful as you were, coming out tail first.
- Meanwhile, Mom, I'll have a rest close to you because all these torments have tired me. Click me a song and I will have a very good piece of squid to test my new tooth. Breach a little into the air to watch that a fairy isn't coming . But do not make waves around Matthew, I have no grudge against him !

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