

The story that was changed



*He heals the brokenhearted
and bandages their wounds.*

Psalms 147:3

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Sarah lived a happy life. Her book was full of colorful memories, for many things that had already happened in her life. Although there had been some ups and downs, the book made her happy. It had become part of her. Sarah was still young, and so her book had only a few chapters.

Her imagination ran wild as she thought things that would make her story exciting and beautiful.

One day, as she sat with her book, it suddenly became dark. Something wasn't right and Sarah was afraid. She tried to cover the book because it was the most precious thing she had.

in her mind, and she gave them life.

She knew that God was very pleased with her story and she hoped that her book would help others see themselves in the beautiful light of his love.

well as God's name on the front cover. He was even keeping a special place for it on his heavenly bookshelf.

What Sarah heard gave her hope. From that day on, she thought about her life differently, as if God were writing the story with her. He would often put beautiful thoughts

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With tears in her eyes, she told Sarah how sorry she was for what had happened.

As time passed, Sarah tried to forget about the page. But somehow the book often fell open on the blotchy page. Sarah became angry and she didn't like the book anymore. She tried her best

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But when the darkness had left, there was a terrible mess on the page she'd been working on.

For a few moments, Sarah sat there wide-eyed, unable to move. Her heart pounded in her chest. She quickly closed the book.

Perhaps it had just been a bad dream.

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a missing page would make her book incomplete.

As Sarah's jumbled thoughts started to settle, she felt ashamed. She had always tried to keep her book clean and beautiful. Now there was a blotchy page.

So Sarah decided to pretend that nothing had happened: that the page wasn't there.

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But as she opened the book again, there it was.

Frightened and confused, Sarah wondered what had happened and why her page looked like that.

She blankly stared at her book and thought of tearing the page out. But then she realized that the pages were numbered; and having

No one needed to know about it.

The next day she'd be able to start a new page, and life would carry on.

But that night, when her mom came to say good night, she asked Sarah how her book was coming along, for she'd noticed that something wasn't right.

to keep to herself so she wouldn't say hurtful things to her mom and to others. What made her angry was that it was *her* book, and no one had the right to ruin it!

Then one day, someone told Sarah that God loves her book and that he would help her finish her story. It would have her name as

Sarah was afraid of showing her the page. What would her mom say? Yet, the bad feeling that was filling her heart had to come out. Sarah took a deep breath. As she did, courage welled up from inside her, and she told her mom.

Sarah's mom hugged her and held her for a long time.