

TEN WORD TALES No. 10
All the Difference
by The Story Spinner

CHAPTER 5



“Welcome Mr Walker!”

There was quiet in the room as Mr Walker’s face zoomed into the room via Zoom. He was an old gentleman with grey-white hair, sitting on a red and white striped deck-chair, waving.

“Greetings to you all tonight. I am far away on an island called Waihiki, where I have lived since I was ten. This is the story of me and the Bookworm. I have had many adventures, some happy and some sad. After a sad one I came back to England to visit some

friends who live near The Bookworm. One day I went inside and started to talk to Miss May about books.

She told me how stories could change everything, introduce you to new worlds, teach you about other people, how information in books could even save a life. She told me little stories about her own favourite books. I did not tell her I was feeling sad but when she had finished I felt better. The next day I went home. Every day since that day I have ordered a book from her so she will recognise my name and my address. She does not know what I have done with those books. I am going to show you.”

He disappeared for a minute, the camera twisted up and down and there were whisperings; then the camera turned right round and everyone could see an amazing sight.

There was a wide white beach with crashing blue waves in the background. There was a long wooden hut and a sign saying LIBRARY. In front of the hut were children holding books and a few grown-ups, and in front of them were another group of children smiling and waving. One child stood forward and said in a very serious voice, “Thank you Miss May for all our books. You have made a library on the beach of an island far faraway, *Thank You.*”

The children seemed to explode, as they had been keeping still for a while. The ladies and gentlemen in the Majestic saw them leap and cartwheel and cheer. Mr Walker reappeared on camera. “I have recommended you Miss May because you understand books make all the difference and because you and your bookshop has made a difference on the other side of the world.”

Miss May, who had been feeling trembly for a while, felt very trembly indeed, but also happy, very happy indeed too.

The Majestic was full of the sound of its own cheering too. The chairman spoke into the microphone, “And for that reason you will not be surprised to know that Miss May who owns The Bookworm has won the award. She has made a difference to many far and wide but we don’t want her to ever be different. She’s perfect as she is.”

The cheering got louder. Miss May collected the award, a tiny golden book. “It isn’t me that’s makes the difference, it’s the books, but thank you,” she said. “Thank you. Thank you.”

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