Hot Springs and Brown Bears



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Chapter One

The Competition

Sai saw the letter on the kitchen table when she got home from school. It was addressed to her.

Sai Chandra
356 Fern Drive
Brooks, ME
04921

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Write a poem about your new toy. You could win a trip for your family to any place in the world!

Five hundred runners-up will receive $20 gift cards.

Poems cannot be longer than 35 words.

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She looked at the back.

Pa's Plush Toys
4856 Valley Road
Burbank, CA
91508

Sai's heart started racing. She had entered a contest after she had bought a teddy bear from the toy store. The bear had come with an entry form for the contest.



Sai had spent days writing and re-writing her poem until she was completely happy with it. As Sai opened the envelope, she started thinking, *What if I won? I could go anywhere in the world!* She quickly got rid of the thought. *That's impossible!* But maybe she could start thinking about what she could buy with a $20 gift card!

Inside the envelope was a letter.

Dear Sai,

I am pleased to tell you that you have won The Pa's Plush Toys Poetry Contest. You and your family can choose to go anywhere in the world for a two-week vacation.

That was as far as Sai read. She raced into the living room, squealing with delight. Her dad and younger brother Ben could hardly believe the news.



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