## GENTLE GIANTS OF THE OCEAN

BY TAYLOR MCINTOSH



Bobby loved visiting his grandad for so many reasons..

Not just the lollies and choice of choosing the tv shows, Bobby's grandad lived near the ocean, where you could see the crystal clear blue water and the wind blowing in your face, they always went to the boardwalk that led them into the heart of the deep ocean. It was something Bobby looked forward to, at the end of that path you could see the large group of whales that looked like gentle giants, so elegant but so poweful with each pounding wave into the water.



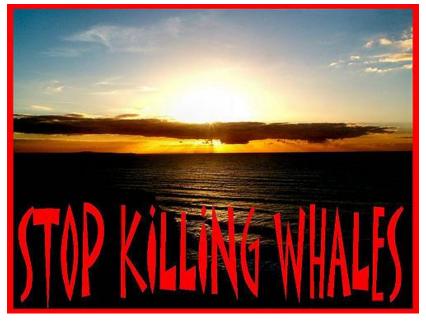
However today Bobby looked concerned as he stared out into the sea.

"Grandad", why is there fewer whales than last time?

Have they gone somewhere else? No said grandad, his eyes looked saddened, these big bold creatures are slowly disappearing in population,

"But why" shrieked bobby? Well unfortunately whales have always been and will continue to be a target for hunters that kill them for their flubber or oil to make products such as soap, make up, and machine oil





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And if not the hunters that get them then they get caught in fishing nets, fishing gear or struck by boats. Pollution in their water also makes it hard for them to reproduce, as the chemicals threaten to poison them. Bobby's face turned somber and he said "we have to help them grandad"! After looking at the group of whales that where visiting the ocean spot. Bobby went to the computer and did research, he even passed on watching tv, but not on the lollies.

Grandad took him to visit a conservation group in town, they gave Bobby lots of flyers and explained how they where dedicated to protecting the whales. Bobby jumped up and said "I want to help too". So he got to work straight away, he went out on the beach handing out flyers to the public, then he went to the shop and helped them sell t-shirts with all the money going towards the fund.



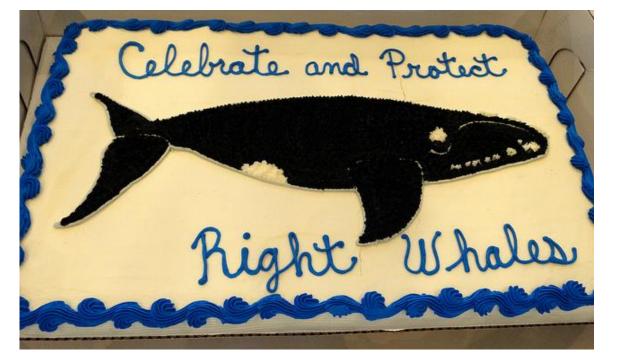
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Bobby knew he had to tell more people and educate them, he had to help his fine fishy friends.

When he went back to school he did a speech and presentation on the importance of conservation of whales and how the number is decreasing slowly but surely and that we can all make a difference.

The school was very inspired by his speech. That night as Bobby was laying in bed as his eyelids were getting heavier, drifting into a deep sleep he thought of his ocean friends and how he would keep fighting for them, he knew he would be

their voice!



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