

# AVACAYAM

by SOCIETY FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT

SATURDAY

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*This story is about a young woman from a very poor family who dreamed of having a family of her own.*

*One day...*

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## “Her First Words”

...a couple visited her home with their son, seeking to discuss a marriage proposal with her parents. The young woman fetched her mother, who welcomed the visitors. The man said, “I wish to speak about your daughter’s marriage to my son. Is your husband here?”

“He’s at work but will return in the evening,” the mother replied.

“Please discuss it with him. I’ll come again.” The young woman, watched with excitement and anxiety. The boy was handsome and shy. After they left, she anxiously awaited her father’s return, watching the horizon for his silhouette.

**“MAAA...MAAAAA!!!”**

Her mother hurried out, relieved to see her husband approaching. He noticed their expectant faces and his daughter’s gleeful smile peeking from behind the curtain. The mother explained the proposal. He smiles, “Let’s go and meet them tomorrow.”

The next day, both families met and bonded well, arranging the marriage and bringing joy to all. About nine months later, the couple had a baby girl with eyes like the moon and a radiant smile. However, the baby looked different from her parents. Concerned, they decided to visit the doctor.

After a thorough examination, the old doctor gently said,

“Your daughter has **Downsyndrome**. She will never have a normal life.”

Silence filled the room. The doctor spoke, “If you are thinking about abandoning her, ...”

She looks at the doctor almost in tears, “I won’t abandon my child.”

The young mother teary eyed looks at her baby, the baby joyfully looks back at her,

**“Aaaa, aaa-mmma,”** her first words.

This story is about Ruby, the girl in the picture above, who comes from a very poor family. Her mother is illiterate, yet she has created a loving family for Ruby.



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