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IMAGINATION OVER KNOWLEDGE

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The big flood

It was the middle of winter and the middle of the night when the Watersnoodramp of 1953 struck. A young girl, whose name was Maria, whose family lived on a farm in the Netherlands, was suddenly awoken by the sound of rushing water. She could see that the water was coming in from the mailbox and was rising higher and higher.

"Daddy, what's happening?"

What's all this water?"

Maria asked, her voice trembling with fear.

"We need to get to the roof, now!" her father replied, his voice firm and urgent. "Everyone grab whatever warm clothes you can find and let's go!"

Maria and her family quickly grabbed what they

could and made their way to the roof. They were all freezing in the cold winter night, and they could see the devastation all around them. Their animals, their equipment, and even the neighboring houses were being swept away by the flood.

"Oh no, look at our cows! They're drowning!" Maria's mother exclaimed, tears streaming down her face.



"We have to stay calm, we'll figure something out," her father reassured her.

They had no way of communicating with anyone as modern technology did not exist and the telephone network was damaged in the flooding. They could only watch helplessly as their farm and their village were destroyed.

"It's so cold, I'm so scared," Maria said, her teeth chattering.

"We'll be okay, I promise," her father said, pulling her close to him.

Luckily, the whole family was saved by soldiers who had come to rescue them. They were happy to have made it out alive, but they were also sad for the loss of their farm and the many casualties in their village. They relocated and built a new life in the east of the Netherlands, but every year the family would return to their old village and remember the catastrophic event.

"We'll never forget what happened here, but we have to keep going and make a new life for ourselves," Maria's father said, determination in his voice.

The story of the family's survival and the tragedy of the watersnoodramp was passed down from generation to generation, serving as a reminder of the power of nature and the importance of being prepared for disasters. Maria and her family never forgot the night that changed their lives forever, but they were grateful for each other and the strength and resilience they found in one another.