

THE MOONLIT PAGE

A Loop Beside the Door



The gardening bag arrived with soil in its seams and one hanging loop pulled loose. Jo brought it to her neighbour Ari, a retired sailmaker whose repaired bags always had neat, closely spaced stitches. He found a broad scrap of canvas and folded it into a new loop, leaving enough length to stitch firmly onto the bag.

Jo watched him turn the raw edges inside.

“That stops them fraying?”

“And makes it nicer to hold.”

He let her sew the last part. When she finished, he pulled gently on the loop. It held.

Jo took the bag to the hook beside the shed door. Ari usually left his own bag on the floor; the hook was tucked where he could not easily see it from outside.

She tied a short piece of pale cord below the hook, making its position visible against the dark wood. Then she hung the repaired bag above it.

Ari stepped back into the garden. From there, the small pale line showed him exactly where to reach.

“I've been looking for that hook for years,” he said.

Jo opened the door wider while he tried hanging his own bag beside hers.

They stood for a moment looking at the two bags, now off the floor. Ari brushed a few canvas threads from the empty doorstep.

To remember

1. Ari folds a broad canvas loop to repair Jo's gardening bag
2. Jo finishes the stitching and Ari checks it
3. Jo marks the hard-to-see hook with pale cord
4. Both bags hang beside the door, leaving the doorstep clear.