

The Story of the Sea Lion and The DREAM GIVER based on the book
“The Dream Giver” by Bruce Wilkinson

Everybody has a dream for their life. You may not have discovered it yet, but it is there in the corner of your heart waiting to be discovered. It was placed there before you were born by..... The Dream Giver’.

PART 7

The Land of Promise.

The next morning Ordinary began his inspection of the city. He saw joy and new hope on the faces of the Anybodies particularly the children. Some cried out “Thank you Warrior Sea Lion for helping us.” However, as he went further into the city he saw that great poverty and homelessness was the condition for many Anybodies. Ordinary’s heart was grieved by what he saw. Many pleaded with him to stay a while and help them recover from the years of tyranny they had suffered under the Giant of Darkness. Much work was indeed needed for the city was badly damaged and broken. As he stood looking at the sorry site he heard the Dream Giver ask “*What do you see?*” ‘I see beautiful Anybodies in great need.’ “*Look up and tell me what else you see?*” Ordinary looked up and there above him, carved on the city gates was the Name of his Dream! “*Your Big Dream lies here.*” the Dream Giver said.

Could this be true? Ordinary wondered why he had not recognised his big dream when it was right in front of him. The lovely city he’d imagined all along was not his dream...but a picture of what his dream would accomplish! The big needs of these Anybodies matched perfectly the Big Dream in his heart.

The next morning he began. He had no idea where to begin so when he saw a need he did his best to meet it. Time passed. Doing his dream was difficult but he had never felt more fulfilled. He was building something new from something that was broken. The look of the city gradually began to change for the better, especially when a few new Dreamers arrived. They told Ordinary that this was their dream too. They had resources and skills that Ordinary did not have. In all they did they only did what the Dream Giver told them to do...nothing more and nothing less. The team of Dreamers grew over a year or so, as did their devotion to the Dream Giver. Soon the city began to take on the look the Ordinary had imagined it to look like, the walls gleamed in the sunlight and the streets shone with promise. The Anybodies worked hard too to rebuild their city and were now proud to live in such a beautiful place.

Then one day an Anybody told Ordinary that ‘he was didn’t enjoy his job very much and he wasn’t much good at it either.’ Ordinary was puzzled for a moment but then asked him ‘What would you love to do most?’ Ordinary saw immediately that there was no opportunity for this Anybody to do what he most wanted to do in his city. ‘I wish I had a Big Dream.’ said the Anybody. ‘But you do!’ replied Ordinary. ‘you just haven’t realised it yet.’ The Anybody went on to say ‘Everything is so ‘familiar’ and ‘comfortable’ here...I feel that something Big is missing. ‘Say no more’ cried Ordinary. That night Ordinary held a meeting for the Anybodies of the city. He taught them his tune. The tune was about the special place every Anybody has in the Dream Giver’s heart and how every Anybody is made to be a Somebody special and to accomplish great things. Not long after that, a lot of Anybodies began waking up to their Big Dream. Some found their Big Dream right there in their city and others set off on journeys of their own.

Then one day the Dream Giver asked Ordinary to come outside the gates at the back of the city. *“What do you See?”* he asked. As Ordinary looked more closely, he could see very, very faintly something blue shimmering on the horizon. He sniffed with his whiskers spread wide apart. ‘Yes’ he said to himself ‘That smells like the sea, it looks like the sea...and it even sounds like the sea! *“It IS the Sea.”* the Dream Giver said *“I have a new and bigger assignment for you, which I have planned for you alone. You will accomplish great things for my kingdom and bring me more glory.”* Extra-Ordinary found it very difficult to sleep that night knowing that he would be setting out in the morning on his new adventure. But eventually he drifted off into a deep sleep. Then he experienced a most vivid dream. In the dream he was standing on the seashore of a beautiful bay. The sea breeze was calling to him. The water was sparkingly clear and so inviting he could not resist. He had a wonderful time doing all his usual tricks, diving deep and then shooting up out of the water, doing a three loop-a-de-loop with pike and anything else he could dream up. Boy was it fun! Eventually he got tired and swam back to the beach. He just lay there for a while basking in the sun. When sea lions do this they sort of go into a trance. It’s like when you tickle a dog on the tummy. Eventually he opened his eyes and got the shock of his life. Sitting right in front of him was a beautiful golden sea lion. Boy, was she a corker! He had never seen any female sea lion so stunning! She had dark eyes and long lashes, whiskers of course and an inviting smile. Her fur looked so, so silky. This was LOVE at first sight. *“This... is Esmeralda.”* he heard the Dream Giver say. Then Ordinary woke up!

(The original story has been adapted and content added.)

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