

**The Rock Shop Owner**



**By**

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FIRST EDITION

Once upon a time, a Rock Shop Owner received a pile of rocks all sent by God for her to buff. Sadly, she looked down at the pile they all had; ruff spots, holes, lost pieces and all where ruff around the edges and to the touch.

They were not the prettiest to the eye but beautiful to hers. To her they were all charming and all needed some love. She overlooked the weathered coats, worn and untidy appearances, but instead she knew they all hold a treasure within.

Friends and relatives would say, "They are just a pile of rocks, why waste your time!" The Rock Shop Owner would always come to her little rocks defenses, "They are priceless and they are everything to me!"

Everyday she held them close with a tender hand and heartfelt of love, never leaving them, just cresting and whispering of what they will someday become. Some were cold, lukewarm and others she was not sure what they were. She felt she had to give them sunshine, laughter and joy because they were hers.

She washed away their tears and fears, she knew her job in life was to make them shine and bright. The rocks at first would not answer, too stubborn to open up, they

wanted to stay rocks and not venture out. The Rock Shop owner would keep buffing and sometimes wanting to laugh, but only letting out a sigh and trying to hold back the tears.

The Rock Shop owner with her delicate hands gave each rock a kiss, as she worked on them to make them shine, as she buff away their scars that life left behind.

Never leaving their side as she buffed and shined and expressing, "You are just beautiful and your all mind, God gave me this pile rocks to shine. So hold on little ones I'm doing the best I can!"

The road toward buffing the little rocks was sometimes tiresome, but she would not give up. Sometimes she would upset the rock, but she would try her best to patch it up with a kiss and a hug. A few times the rocks would rebel and give her pain by falling or doing their own thing, but with God's help she would pray for guidance to make them dazzling like new. Sometimes she wanted to give up, but than she looked at her little rocks and smiled, as she saw a little shine coming through. "There is hope, I do love you!"

Everyday the Rock Shop owner buffed and kept telling stories of her own dreams, about God, her joys and her adventure that they too will experience. Never leaving her precious rocks as she buffed. As years past the rock shop owner kept buffing her little rocks, they were changing a little each day.

Then one day unexpectedly, the Rock Shop Owner was excited as the rocks started to grow and change with the turn of the buffer wheel. They turn from; gray, white and suddenly they were sparkling and each had their own distinct beauty making them unique from the others, they kept turning colors as the buffer wheel kept turning with the control of the Rock Shop Owner's hands. The Rock Shop Owner chuckled with delight, "Look at my little rocks, they have turned into the most beautiful gems. They are priceless! I'm so proud of each one of them!" She picked each one up and gave them a big motherly kiss.

The Rock Shop Owner with a big smile looked at her collection of rocks that has turned from ugly unkempt rocks to beautiful and stunning gems. "My loves, my job is done, I did my best to make you shine and alive, now it's time I let you go!" As the rock shop owner was about to leave and place the Close sign on the door. She looked back at her little priceless gems with tears flowing down her cheeks, "My little gems, I must go, don't be frighten, remember I will always love you and I'm always with you with!" She stepped away as she turned and walked through the Rock Shop door, she turned and disappeared from their sight. It was silence in the little rock shop and the buffer machine stood idle. All the gems sat unhappy waiting for their little Rock Shop Owner to come and give them little buff and shine.

Like time in a kaleidoscope.... the gems left the Rock Shop to make their own adventure in life, but they always remember their little Rock Shop Owner and all the love she show them without a sigh.

Then one day just like the Rock Shop Owner, they went through the sky like little stars heading for the heavens. All placed into a golden crown worthily for a special King. All the gems sat nervously, whispering, "Which King, could this crown be for?"

When suddenly they saw with love their little Rock Shop Owner with tears in her eyes coming to pick up her gems in the priceless golden crown. She spoke to the gems, "My little gems made it, I'm so proud of all of you! I buffed you and care for you, because I wanted this special day for you!" The Rock Shop Owner was so proud of her little gems now a crown, suddenly there was a beautiful light as the heavens filled with cherubim, seraphim and countless hosts of angels as they proclaim in song.

The little Rock Shop Owner nervously carried her priceless gems and kneeling down handed over the crown. Just as the crown was lifted by the heavenly host, unexpectedly all the gems let off the most beautiful rays as each gem shined a brilliant light that shine around the world trillion times as the crown was placed on God 's head. The heavens started to sing praise and thanksgiving as the golden crown filled with the Rock Shop Owner's handy work and endless love, once a pile of rocks was now a crown fit for God.

## THE END

The Rock Shop Owner is a special tribute and loving memory to Delia Agnes Young, my dear Grandma Dee. Who own and operated her adorable Rock Shop that she owned and cherished for 20 years. So many wonderful memories of the hours I spent learning about stones and watching her buff a ruff stone into a beautiful gem. Many wonderful stories she shared as she buffed stones, telling of her childhood and her love for her family, so many people she has helped through her friendship and love. Grandma Dee and her Rock Shop is part of history that will live on forever. Thanks Grandma Dee, I love you!