



## Beauty in the Brokenness

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Jerry hands possessed a unique ability to bring objects to life. Years of tireless honing had enabled him to produce cups, plates, and vases that were both functional and aesthetically pleasing. While each creation carried its distinct personality, there was an underlying symmetry and perfection evident in all his works. One day, after carefully designing a small vase that was meant to be adorned with a rich blue glaze and specks of glittering gold, the artist eagerly pulled it out of the kiln. It had survived the final firing and appeared marvelous in every way. However, in a momentary lapse, the vase slipped from his grasp and fell to the ground, shattering into countless pieces. What was once an immaculate piece of art, down to the minutest detail, now lay in fragments on the floor.

Many who faced such a devastating loss would have been consumed by anger and frustration, discarding the shattered remnants without a second thought. But Jerry was different. Rather than succumbing to despair, he saw the broken pieces as an opportunity for something extraordinary. With great care, he collected each fragment and placed them on his working table. Employing the Japanese lacquer known as Urushi, a material renowned for its adhesive properties, he meticulously reunited the shattered parts and painstakingly reconstructed the vase. While others saw a vase that was rendered useless by its broken state, Jerry viewed it through a different lens.

In life, we all bear emotional and physical scars. Each experience shapes us and influences the individuals we ultimately become. At times, these wounds may run deep, leaving us feeling damaged and unworthy. In those moments, it is important to remember that our creator, our God, has the power to mend us. Just as Jerry used his golden Urushi to piece together the broken vase, our divine creator can repair our shattered lives.

The families who participate in the Starlight program embark on a journey of seeking God's healing touch for their lives. They attend transformative spiritual healing classes, where they humbly open their

hearts and souls to receive the divine restoration they long for. Guided by God's compassionate presence, these families discover that even in their brokenness, they have the potential to be made whole again. They learn that their imperfections and struggles are not obstacles, but rather stepping stones towards becoming the remarkable individuals they were meant to be.

Jerry's story serves as a reminder that even in the face of despair and seeming irreparability, there is hope. No matter how broken or unworthy we may feel, our creator sees the beauty and potential within us. He has the ability to meticulously assemble the shattered fragments of our lives, crafting something even more magnificent than before. It is through these challenges and times of brokenness that we can discover a newfound strength and resilience. Like Jerry and his reconstructed vase, we can rise from the ashes and showcase a beauty that is truly remarkable.