

## THE **LEGO** STORY



Many years ago There (be) \_\_\_\_\_ a skilled and hardworking carpenter. His name (be) \_\_\_\_\_ Olley. He (have) \_\_\_\_\_ his own company, but times (be) \_\_\_\_\_ hard. He (not have) \_\_\_\_\_ much money, so he (close) \_\_\_\_\_ down his workshop and (dismiss) \_\_\_\_\_ the last worker. He (feel) \_\_\_\_\_ very sad. And soon another big drama (happen) \_\_\_\_\_. He (lose) \_\_\_\_\_ his wife. But Olley (be) \_\_\_\_\_ a special person. He (not be) \_\_\_\_\_ the type that (give) \_\_\_\_\_ up. He (have) \_\_\_\_\_ 4 sons and (need) \_\_\_\_\_ to take care of them. One day he (get) \_\_\_\_\_ an idea. He (put) that idea into action very soon. He (decide) \_\_\_\_\_ to make wooden toys. It (make) \_\_\_\_\_ his boys really happy.

Time (pass) \_\_\_\_\_ by. And even Olley (be) \_\_\_\_\_ a skilled carpenter and (have) \_\_\_\_\_ a good eye for quality and detail, sales (be) \_\_\_\_\_ very slow. Luckily, one of his sons (start) \_\_\_\_\_ helping him. Together they (manage) \_\_\_\_\_ to keep the production. Soon more and more people (know) \_\_\_\_\_ about his wonderful wooden toys.

One day a man (drive) \_\_\_\_\_ into their town. He (be) \_\_\_\_\_ a wholesaler and (place) \_\_\_\_\_ a big order before he (leave) \_\_\_\_\_. He (buy) \_\_\_\_\_ toys for his store. Olley and his sons (build) \_\_\_\_\_ toys day and night to get the order finished on time.

In the middle of their work Olley (receive) \_\_\_\_\_ a letter where he (know) \_\_\_\_\_ that a wholesaler (file) \_\_\_\_\_ for bankruptcy and (not can) \_\_\_\_\_ buy the toys he (order) \_\_\_\_\_.

Olley (become) \_\_\_\_\_ very sad.

Suddenly he (find) \_\_\_\_\_ a way out. He (pack) \_\_\_\_\_ his car with toys and (go) \_\_\_\_\_ to sell them in town. Unfortunately, he (not be) \_\_\_\_\_ a good salesman. In the end he (sell) \_\_\_\_\_ all the toys but (not receive) \_\_\_\_\_ much money. But he (be) \_\_\_\_\_ happy because he (have) \_\_\_\_\_ food for his family.

Time (pass) \_\_\_\_\_ by. Olley (think) \_\_\_\_\_ that his company (need) \_\_\_\_\_ a good name. He (find) \_\_\_\_\_ a short word 'leggo'. In Latin it (mean) \_\_\_\_\_ 'I put together'. Everybody (like) \_\_\_\_\_ this name and soon the company (start) \_\_\_\_\_ to move forward.

He (dream) \_\_\_\_\_ to improve the quality of the toys and (buy) \_\_\_\_\_ a milling machine. Now he (can) \_\_\_\_\_ produce toys for shipping abroad. For Olley every detail (matter) \_\_\_\_\_. He (believe) \_\_\_\_\_ in high quality and honesty to customers.

In the late 1930s Lego (make) \_\_\_\_\_ a good profit. He (try) \_\_\_\_\_ to make the best even of the most difficult time. Nothing (can) \_\_\_\_\_ go wrong. But a stormy night in 1942 (change) \_\_\_\_\_ their luck. There (be) \_\_\_\_\_ a fire in the workshop. When the firemen (arrive) \_\_\_\_\_, they (not can) \_\_\_\_\_ save it. The workshop (burn) \_\_\_\_\_ to the ground. Olley almost (lose) \_\_\_\_\_ his company and hope. But He (think) \_\_\_\_\_ about his

family and workers all the time. It (inspire) \_\_\_\_\_ him. Soon he (rebuild) \_\_\_\_\_ the factory. They (construct) \_\_\_\_\_ a new one. The production of wooden toys (start) \_\_\_\_\_ again. The little company (fight) \_\_\_\_\_ its way back into the market. Gradually it (begin) \_\_\_\_\_ to run smoothly and Olley (start) \_\_\_\_\_ looking for new challenges.