



# *The Gingerbread Man* **JOINS A BAKERY SHOW**

A PRESCHOOL STORY IN THE 21ST CENTURY



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**ONE SUNNY MORNING, INSIDE A COZY BAKERY, A FRESH GINGERBREAD MAN POPPED OUT OF THE OVEN. HE STRETCHED HIS COOKIE ARMS AND SNIFFED THE SWEET SMELL OF SUGAR AND SPICE.**

**"I FEEL READY FOR AN ADVENTURE TODAY!" HE SAID WITH A BIG CRUMBLY SMILE.**



**THE BAKER PLACED A SHINY POSTER ON THE WALL.  
IT READ, "BIG BAKERY SHOW TODAY! PRIZES FOR  
THE BEST BAKE!"**

**THE GINGERBREAD MAN GASPED. "A BAKERY  
SHOW? THAT SOUNDS LIKE FUN! I WANT TO JOIN!"**



**HE HOPPED DOWN FROM THE TRAY AND RAN  
ACROSS THE COUNTER. "RUN, RUN, AS FAST AS YOU  
CAN! I'M GOING TO THE BAKERY SHOW!" HE SANG.  
THE CUPCAKES CHEERED, "GOOD LUCK,  
GINGERBREAD MAN!"**



**HE REACHED THE MIXING TABLE, WHERE A GROUP OF BAKERS WERE BUSY DECORATING. "CAN I JOIN THE SHOW?" HE ASKED. THE BAKERS GIGGLED. "OF COURSE! BUT YOU'LL NEED A LITTLE SPARKLE!"**



**THE BAKERS GAVE HIM A MAKEOVER! THEY  
ADDED SHINY RED BUTTONS, A SWIRL OF  
FROSTING HAIR, AND A TINY CANDY BOW TIE.  
"WOW," HE SAID, ADMIRING HIMSELF IN A SPOON.  
"I LOOK DELICIOUSLY DASHING!"**



**WHEN THE SHOW BEGAN, TABLES FILLED WITH  
COLORFUL TREATS TALL CAKES, TWIRLY  
CUPCAKES, AND SPARKLY PIES.  
THE GINGERBREAD MAN STOOD PROUDLY ON HIS  
OWN PLATE, READY TO PERFORM.**



**THE HOST, A FRIENDLY MARSHMALLOW MAN,  
ANNOUNCED, "WELCOME TO THE BAKERY  
SHOW! LET'S SEE OUR FIRST CONTESTANT!"  
THE GINGERBREAD MAN GULPED. "OH  
CRUMBS, I'M FIRST!"**



**HE TOOK A DEEP BREATH AND BEGAN TO  
DANCE!  
HE TWIRLED, TAPPED, AND SPUN ACROSS  
THE TABLE, LEAVING TINY SUGAR SPARKLES  
BEHIND.**



**EVERYONE CLAPPED! "THAT WAS THE SWEETEST DANCE WE'VE EVER SEEN!" SAID THE MARSHMALLOW MAN. THE GINGERBREAD MAN BLUSHED. "THANK YOU! I JUST LOVE TO HAVE FUN!"**



**NEXT CAME A FANCY CAKE THAT COULD  
JUGGLE CHERRIES!  
THE GINGERBREAD MAN WATCHED IN AWE.  
“WOW! HOW CAN I COMPETE WITH THAT?”**



**THEN A DONUT ROLLED IN AND DID  
CARTWHEELS! "I PRACTICED ALL WEEK!"  
SAID DONUT PROUDLY.  
THE GINGERBREAD MAN CLAPPED. "GOOD  
JOB, DONUT! YOU'RE AMAZING!"**



**FINALLY, IT WAS TIME FOR THE RESULTS. THE MARSHMALLOW HOST ANNOUNCED, "THE WINNER IS... EVERYONE! BECAUSE TEAMWORK MAKES BAKING SWEET!"**



**THE GINGERBREAD MAN CHEERED. "WE ALL  
WON? THAT'S EVEN BETTER THAN A  
TROPHY!"  
HE DANCED AGAIN, THIS TIME WITH HIS NEW  
BAKERY FRIENDS.**



**AFTER THE SHOW, THE BAKER CAREFULLY PLACED THE GINGERBREAD MAN BACK ON THE BAKERY COUNTER. "YOU WERE WONDERFUL TODAY," SHE SAID.**

**"THANK YOU!" HE SMILED. "EVERY COOKIE CAN SHINE IN THEIR OWN WAY!"**

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AND FROM THAT DAY ON, THE GINGERBREAD MAN  
BECAME THE BAKERY'S STAR DANCER.  
EVERY MORNING, HE TWIRLED AND SANG, "RUN, RUN,  
AS FAST AS YOU CAN! THE GINGERBREAD MAN'S  
YOUR BIGGEST FAN!"