

# *The Story of Amy Carmichael*

Characters: Narrator, Amy, Brothers, Mother, Father

**Narrator:** Amy lived in a big house near the sea, with her mum, her dad and brothers.  
Amy was always looking for adventures

Amy spotted a rowing boat one morning and said to her brothers,

**Amy:** Let's go out to sea in this rowing boat

**Brothers:** OK

**Narrator:** It was exciting at first but then the tide carried them further and further out to sea

**Amy:** Row harder!

**Brothers:** I'm getting scared!

**Narrator:** Then Amy had an idea...

**Amy:** Let's sing as loudly as we can.

**Narrator:** A sailor heard them singing and rescued them.  
When they got home their mother told them off

**Mother:** Sailing is too dangerous!

**Narrator:** A little while later...

**Amy:** Let's climb onto the roof – it will be a great place to see the sea.

**Narrator:** When Amy's dad saw them he ran upstairs and onto the roof. He told them off

**Father:** Climbing on roofs is dangerous!

**Narrator:** Another time, when Amy had been told that eating plum stones would make her ill, she thought.

**Amy:** I wonder if that's really true.

**Narrator:** So she sat down and ate 12 plum stones. She felt very ill. When her mum and dad realised what she'd done they told her off.

**Mother & Father:** Eating stones is dangerous!

**Narrator:** Some time later Amy was looking in the mirror...

**Amy:** Brown eyes are boring! Why did God give me brown eyes, not beautiful blue eyes?

**Narrator:** Amy knew that God answered prayers so she prayed ...

**Amy:** Please give me blue eyes.

**Narrator:** But the next morning her eyes were still brown.

**Amy:** Why didn't God answer my prayer?

**Mother:** God always answers prayer – but sometimes the answer is "no".

**Narrator:** When she was still a teenager, Amy's life changed. Her father died and she had to stop going to school to help her mum look after her younger brothers and sisters. One cold day, as Amy was leaving church, she saw an old beggar woman, with torn clothes and dirty rags on her feet instead of shoes. She could barely walk. Amy felt sorry for the woman and so she and one of her brothers helped the lady along the road. But Amy thought,

**Amy:** What if someone from church sees me with this beggar lady.

**Narrator:** So she hid her face. When she got home she realised she had wrong to worry about what others thought....so she prayed..

**Amy:** Dear God, from this day on I will only do things to please you and not worry about what others think.

**Narrator:** God then challenged Amy to think about what she spent her money on and she made another promise to God:

**Amy:** When I'm grown up I will give my money to help the poor.

**Narrator:** Now Amy wanted to do what God wanted her to do, so she started to help these poor people (known as "The Shawlies" because they wore their shawls over their heads to try and keep warm.) She started to tell them about God's love and many of the Shawlies believed. Amy prayed,

**Amy:** God, please help us build a church. I don't want the rich people in my home church to help because they don't really care. Please God, will you provide.

**Narrator:** And He did!.

**Narrator:** Many years later, when Amy was 27 years old, she went to India. She still loved to go on adventures, like she did as a young child, but now she also wanted to tell people about Jesus.

Not many people knew about Jesus and many people worshiped false gods in temples. Sometimes people would sell their baby girls to the temple priests believing that would please their gods.

**Amy:** This is awful, I must do something!

**Narrator:** So Amy would rescue the babies and look after them. One night as she was rescuing a baby, the little girl was crying - but when she looked at Amy's soft brown eyes she stopped crying and smiled. Then Amy remembered her prayer as a child.

**Amy:** Now I know why God gave me brown eyes - all the Indians have brown eyes! If I had blue eyes the babies would be scared of me! When God said, "No", He knew I would go to India, even though I had no idea then. He was right after all!

Amy Carmichael lived in India for 55 years and never visited back home. She wore Indian clothes and made her skin darker using coffee. Of course her eyes were already beautifully brown like the Indian women! The centre for rescued girls that she founded saved over 1000 children from being mistreated in the temple worship.

Amy wrote lots of books and inspired many men and women to go and serve Jesus around the world.

*(story adapted from the Little Lights series for young children, by Catherine Mackenzie)*