

## The Whisper of the Highlands

In the green hills of 13th-century
Scotland, there lived a young man
named Calen MacDair. His village
was small, and his life was simple—
until the day the soldiers came.

They wore red coats, spoke a different tongue, and took what they wanted. Food. Land. Even silence.

Calen was only a boy when he saw his father taken for speaking out against the English king. From that day, Calen made himself a promise: "If I ever find the strength, I'll fight not for revenge, but for freedom."

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Years passed. Calen became a man. He worked as a blacksmith and learned to read—rare for someone like him. He studied old maps and listened to travelers' stories. But most of all, he waited. Not with anger, but with purpose.

One autumn, rumors spread of rebellion. Farmers in the south had risen up. A leader had appeared—a man who wore no crown but had the heart of one.

That man's name was Wallace.

Inspired, Calen left his forge and joined the rebels. He wasn't the strongest, nor the fastest—but he was calm, clever, and kind. He earned trust not by shouting orders, but by listening.

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One night, under a sky full of stars, Wallace himself asked him:

- "Why do you fight, Calen?"
- —"Because if we don't speak now,"
  Calen said, "our children may
  never learn the sound of their own
  voice."

In the battles that followed, Calen fought beside men who had once been strangers. They weren't just soldiers—they were dreamers, builders of a future they might never see.

And even when Wallace fell, and many were captured, the whisper of freedom didn't die.

It echoed through valleys and mountains, carried in songs and stories, until it became something

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stronger than fear: hope.

Today, they say the wind in the Highlands still carries Calen's words—soft, steady, and free.

Wart really wanted to help, but didn't say anything. Kay was older **Speaking - Society** +1 (689) 243-0302 +1 (407) 777-6895 Akadian academy LLC Orlando Florida, USA Get a zoom link for the class stayed in th

Wart really wanted to help, but didn't say anything. Kay was older and in charge. The story ends with both boys looking up at Cully, who stayed in th

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