

Mama's Birthday Present

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Francisco ran into the garden. His grandmother was reading a book. "Grandma! Grandma!" called Francisco. "Next Sunday is Mama's birthday! Mama always surprises me with a party for my birthday. Can we surprise Mama with a party?"

"That is a wonderful idea, Francisco," said Grandma. "Today is Monday. If we begin today, we will have seven days to plan a party."

"Mama always gives me a present for my birthday," said Francisco. "What present can I give Mama?" "I don't know," said Grandma. "But don't worry. We can make a piñata to break. Your mama will enjoy that." So Grandma and Francisco made a piñata.

On Tuesday, Francisco wondered about Mama's present. Francisco went to talk with Papa about Mama's birthday party. "What present can I give Mama?" asked Francisco.

"I don't know," said Papa. "But don't worry. I can play my guitar. Your mama will enjoy that." So Papa promised Francisco he would play his guitar.

On Wednesday, Francisco wondered about Mama's present. Francisco and his older brother went to invite Senora Molina to Mama's party. Senora Molina had a tortilla shop.

"What present can I give Mama?" asked Francisco. "I don't know," said Senora Molina. "But don't worry. I can bring some hot tortillas, fresh off the stove. Your mama will enjoy that. So Senora Molina promised Francisco she would bring hot tortillas, fresh off the stove.

On Thursday, Francisco wondered about Mama's present. He went to talk to his friend Gina about it. "What present can I give Mama?" asked Francisco. "I don't know," said Gina. "But don't worry. We can make confetti eggs to crack on people's heads. Your mama will enjoy that. So Gina and Francisco filled and painted the bright confetti eggs.

On Friday, Francisco wondered about Mama's present. So he went to speak to Grandpa Perez. "What present can I give Mama?" asked Francisco. "I don't know," said Grandpa Perez. "But don't worry. We can make some sweet bunuelos. Your mama will enjoy that. So Francisco and Grandpa Perez made some sweet bunuelos.

On Saturday, Francisco still wondered about his present for Mama. But Francisco had many things to do.

He helped his brothers and sisters look for a place to hang the piñata. He talked to Papa about the songs Papa would play on his guitar. He talked to Senora Molina about the tortillas she would bring. He found a safe place to hide Gina's confetti eggs and Grandpa Perez's sweet bunuelos. Everyone was ready for Mama's surprise.

On Sunday, everyone came to the party. Mama was very surprised. Papa played his guitar. Senora Molina's hot tortillas smelled wonderful. Grandpa's sweet bunuelos tasted wonderful.

Everyone ate and sang and had fun. The children cracked confetti eggs over everyone's heads. Then they all lined up to take a swing at the piñata. Everyone looked happy. Everyone except Francisco. "Francisco, what is the matter?" asked Mama. "I did not know what to give you for your birthday, Mama." "Oh, Francisco," said Mama. "This party was the best present you could give me. No, the second best." "Second best?" asked Francisco. "Yes, The best present of all is having my family and friends here with me. That is the most wonderful part of our party!" Mama gave Francisco a big hug. Then they all took turns hitting the piñata. The one who broke it was Francisco. And Mama enjoyed that.