



The Hero Under the Ground



Lily loved it when it rained. It meant she could wear her bright red rain boots and go for a walk, splashing in all the puddles. But sometimes, when the rain came down really, really hard, she felt a little bit scared.



One rainy day, in her driveway, Lily saw a strange black block she had never seen before. "Who are you?" she asked. The block gave her a friendly wink.



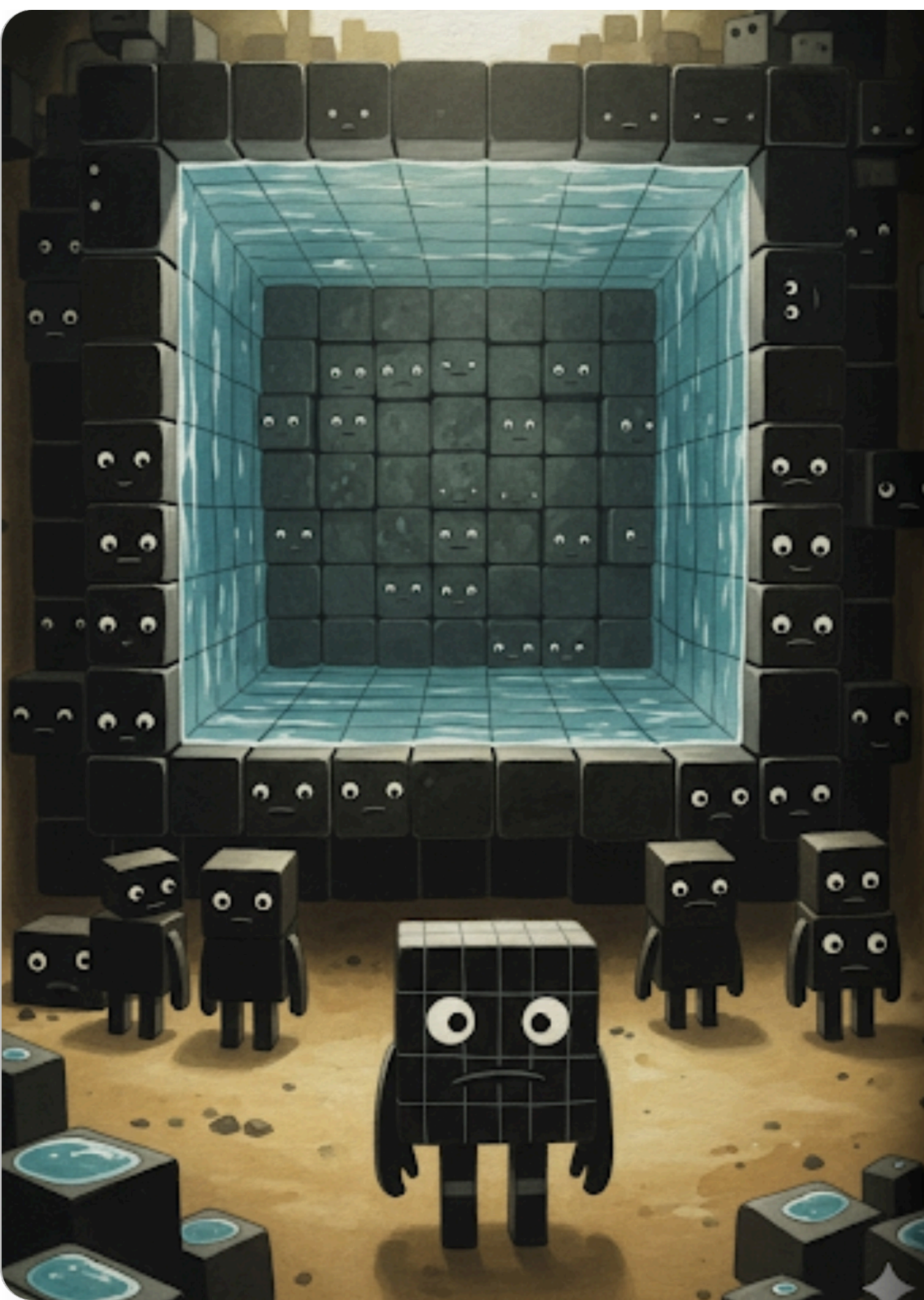
"I'm Blocky!" he said proudly. "I'm a secret hero! I live under the ground and protect everyone from floods!" "A hero?" Lily said, surprised.



"That's right! When lots of my friends and I get together, we're like a giant puzzle," Blocky explained. A construction worker helped connect all the Blocky blocks together in a long line.



"We join together to build a big, big room deep under the ground," said Blocky. In no time at all, the blocks had formed a giant, hollow cube.



"When it rains too much, all the extra water flows down here and fills our room. That's how we stop the town from flooding!" Blocky explained with a proud smile.



A few days later, a huge storm arrived.
Thunder rumbled and lightning flashed!
Lily looked out her window, worried. "I
hope the town will be okay," she
whispered. "Do your best, Blocky!"



Deep under the ground, Blocky and his friends were hard at work. "Heave-ho, heave-ho!" they shouted, holding back all the rainwater. "We'll keep our town safe!"



Soon, the storm passed and the sun came out, painting a beautiful rainbow across the sky. Lily's town was safe. The streets weren't flooded at all.



"Thank you, Blocky and friends!" Lily whispered to the ground. She knew that deep below, her secret heroes could hear her.