

# Bribed

The chapter titled **"Bribed"** presents a tender depiction of a grandparent's affection and weakness for their grandchild's innocence and charming antics. The narrator confesses to succumbing to the child's endearing forms of persuasion, such as smiles, hugs, and tears, despite knowing that these indulgences might not always be in the child's best interest. For example, the grandparent gives in to granting treats like chocolate cake and watermelon, leading to the child's stomach ache, and buys roller skates against the mother's wishes, fearing potential accidents. The narrative is a lyrical confession of love overpowering discipline, showing the grandparent's internal struggle to adhere to set rules but failing in the face of the child's innocent bribes.

The verse beautifully conveys the grandparent's struggle between enforcing discipline and succumbing to their grandchild's delightful forms of 'bribery.' Despite understanding their actions may not be for the best, such as enabling snacking that causes a tummy ache or buying forbidden roller skates, the grandparent is rendered powerless against the child's tearful pleas and joyful smiles. This portrayal captures the universal theme of the unconditional love grandparents hold for their grandchildren, highlighting the warmth, affection, and occasional indulgence that characterize their relationships.