

# Synopsis

Snow Angel is a story told without words, in full mask using movement and music about the ripple effect of kindness, set in an Alberta community during winter. It is appropriate for all ages and is approximately one hour in length.

In a community where neighbors are disrespectful and uncaring, Angela tries her best to find belonging. When she befriends the Old Man next door, her brother Ethan, in an unthinking act, makes a big mistake. Ethan wants to apologize, but is afraid. Angela's kind act of shoveling the Old Man's walk changes everything. Snow Angel is a gentle story that confirms the benefit of living in a community and how kind acts can have a positive effect on all of us.

Angela and her older brother, Ethan, awake to see freshly fallen snow that has turned their neighbourhood into a veritable winter wonderland. Ethan can hardly wait to get to the ice rink to play hockey. He shovels his walk as quickly as he can. Before he can get away, Angela is tagging along. Ethan cuts through the elderly neighbour's yard being careful not to get caught. When Angela follows, he rings the Old Man's doorbell to get her in trouble. Sure enough, Angela is caught and scolded by the Old Man. She sheepishly gets out of his yard and takes the long way round to the rink.

The lonely Old Man shovels his walks and is distracted by his bird who comes flying in for some companionship. The Old Man interacts with the bird and when she is gone, he is again alone. He exits into his house.

At the rink, Ethan skates with his friend, Buddy, who shows off his new hockey jersey and makes Ethan feel jealous. When Angela, a novice skater, tries to join in, the boys are mean to her and push her into a snow bank.

Alone and dejected, Angela takes the long walk home. She finds a stick and plays with it, pretending it is a hockey stick. She hears a bird and fascinated tries to catch it without any luck. She makes a snow angel in the snow. The boys returning from the rink don't even see her and walk right over her snow angel. Angela is upset, but eventually follows them home.

The boys return to the neighborhood where Ethan suggests a prank – to pour water onto the Old Man's sidewalk so he will slip and fall. They dare each other but eventually convince Angela to take the water bottle and do the deed. All three hide and wait for the water to freeze. Buddy finally is bored and leaves, making Ethan grumpy.

Ethan believes if he had money to buy a hockey jersey, Buddy would like him. Angela offers him her 83 cents from her coat pocket. Pathetic.

A grocery delivery man appears with supplies for the Old Man. Ethan offers to take the parcels to the Old Man's door, but instead, places them at the base of the tree beyond the icy zone. Angela rings the doorbell and rushes back to hide with her brother. They watch as the Old Man slips and falls. Ethan roars with laughter and runs away before he is caught. Angela feels terrible that the Old Man has injured himself. She takes the blame squarely on herself. After another huge dump of snow, in an attempt to apologize, Angela retrieves the stick that she had previously played with in the field, and sets it on the Old Man's doorstep. The Old Man retrieves the stick and uses it as a cane. Ethan arrives to shovel the huge dump of snow. He dreams of playing hockey in the NHL. He sees the Old Man clumsily trying to shovel his walk while leaning on the stick. Ethan offers to do it for him. The Old Man thinks Ethan is being kind, so he is taken aback when the boy asks for payment. He

gives him a quarter. Feeling ripped off, Ethan demands more. The Old Man rejects him and leaves. Ethan picks up his shovel looks at the quarter and gets a great idea to go and shovel walks in the neighborhood for money and heads down the block to do so.

Angela enters her yard to play in the snow. A bird arrives and Angela, still longing to interact with the bird follows it to the edge of the Old Man's yard. The Old Man enters. Angela is spooked back to her yard. The Old Man impressively interacts with the bird and senses Angela's longing. He offers her some birdseed. She eagerly accepts. They feed the bird together.

Ethan appears with money from shoveling other walks. He sees Angela in the Old Man's yard and pulls her from him. Angela rejects her brother and goes back to her new friend. Ethan takes out his sling shot and lets off some steam by shooting some rocks. He accidentally lets a rock fly in Angela and the Old Man's direction and hits the birdhouse sending it crashing to the ground with the bird inside. Shocked and dismayed, the Old Man carefully takes the injured bird into his house. Angela cleans up the broken birdhouse and tries to apologize to the Old Man for her brother. He simply takes the birdhouse pieces and goes back into his house. Angela turns on Ethan, who is devastated at hitting the bird. She encourages him to apologize, but he is too afraid and runs away.

More snow. Angela shovels the Old Man's walk with Ethan's shovel hoping he will forgive her brother. It doesn't work. The next morning, Angela shovels the walk again and leaves the shovel so that Ethan can't avoid the Old Man. He is still too afraid and ashamed to say that he's sorry.

The next morning, after attempt #3, Angela shovels both walks. Ethan and the Old Man are puzzled; however, the Old Man, thinking Ethan has shoveled his walk three times now without asking for money, waves thank you. Ethan waves in return. The first steps have been taken. Kindness prevails.

Angela finds Ethan's slingshot and leaves it outside the Old Man's house as a final piece offering. She rings his doorbell and then hides. Old Man comes to the door and picks up Ethan's slingshot. The Old Man makes a beeline for Ethan as he enters. Ethan is afraid, what is the Old Man doing? The Old man takes him to his door and asks him to wait. Both Ethan and the hidden Angela don't know what is going to happen. The Old man brings out the bird with a splint on its wing. Ethan is so happy that the bird is fine. Angela is elated. The Old Man indicates that everything is alright between them. Once the Old Man has left Ethan pulls out his money, looks at it, and exits with an idea. Angela jumps for joy – she made it all happen!

A new day, Ethan shovels his walks while Angela waits nearby with all their hockey gear. Finished his chore, he looks at Angela, then turns and shovels the Old Man's walk in kindness. Angela is surprised. A delivery man arrives with a package for Ethan. Angela assumes it is the new hockey jersey her brother has been wanting. Ethan brings the package to the Old Man's door and gives it to him. It is a brand new birdhouse! Ethan and Angela go to the ice rink. As Ethan generously tries to help his sister learn how to play hockey, the Old Man appears in full hockey gear. As it turns out, he is an excellent hockey player. He shows them lots of pointers and they catch on quickly. He gives Angela some hot chocolate and Ethan his old vintage hockey jersey. Forgiveness and acceptance abound, and lasting, respectful friendships are made as they have a fun, good-natured snowball fight to end the story.