The American Library, The American Story

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Imagine an American library.
There are many books, but one book is very special.
It is the American story.
This story has been passed down for centuries upon centuries.
The book is bound in the spirit of its ancestors.
It had been shared among families, grandmothers, grandfathers, sons and daughters, and onto their children.

The American story was special to the library.
It was always held in a very special case.
Those who passed down the book were sure to take care of its pages.
Though tarnished and weathered from the years, its pages were still in near perfect condition.
And the words had special meaning to the Americans.
Not everyone who was not American would understand them.
Yet the words lived in their hearts and the souls.

Then one day a newcomer came.
They read the book and decided they did not like the words.
They brought in a new page.
They wanted their page to go into the book.
The page they brought was not well written.
It was written by hand, and the words were not easily read.

Though the paper was brand new, it was missing the same soul of the American book.
The Americans made a decision, no new pages in the book.
The book would be kept as is, because it was special to them.

The newcomer decided their decision did not matter.
Over time, they worked their way into the library as an employee.
They weaved the new page into the book when the Americans were not looking.
The old story would be read with the newcomers page, but read in secret.
The American children were hearing a new story, but the Americans were unaware.

Then one day the Americans overheard the newcomer reading the new story to their children.
They confronted the newcomer.
They told the newcomer he would no longer be allowed to read the American story.
He would need to leave his job.

The newcomer in a fit of rage, threw the old American book down.
Some of the original pages fell out.
Some had crumpled. Some had ripped.
The Americans put the book back together again, piece by piece.

The Americans told the newcomer, the book was now off limits.

Time passed.

The newcomer returned.
This time with demands.
Though, it wasn't just him.
He returned with a group of other newcomers.
They brought torches and signs.
"We demand the new page or else!" "Burn the old library!"
Their signs read, no more American book!
Close the old library!

The Americans were scared.
They felt threatened by the newcomers.
The Americas yelled, "Please stop!"
"This is our special place!" "This is our library!"

The newcomers made their demands.
"We will not leave until you place the new page in your book!"
And they would not leave.
Instead the chose to desecrate the American library.

If it were not for the Americans, they would have burned the library to the ground.
The police and the firefighters came.
Thankfully they were able to disperse the newcomers.

Their neighborhood was destroyed with fires, trash and debris.
Still, the library remained.
It remained because the Americans worked together to protect it.
And they protected their book.

The newcomers continued to make demands in other ways.
The newspapers were littered with anti American library messaging.
Some opinions even changed.
"Why not a new page in the old book?"

The Americans became stronger, however,
in their protections of the library and their book.
But also of themselves.
They learned to be on the lookout more.
And they made a choice.

Instead of a new page, they decided.
How about a nice new fence?