The Hidden Friend

One cold evening, a traveler named Aarav was attacked by bandits near a dark forest. Just when he thought his life was over, a mysterious hooded man appeared. With quick moves and strange glowing symbols on his staff, the stranger scared the bandits away.

"Go," the man said softly. "This road is not safe at night."

Aarav, still shaking, thanked him but could not see his face. The hooded man disappeared into the shadows before Aarav could ask his name.

Days passed. Aarav reached the nearest town and was invited to a village festival. While walking among the crowd, he heard a familiar laugh. He turned and froze. The hooded man was there — without his cloak this time.

*It was **Riyan**, his childhood friend, whom he had lost years ago.*

"You?" Aarav whispered in shock.
Riyan smiled. "I promised long ago that if you were ever in danger, I would protect you. Some bonds never break."

Aarav's eyes filled with tears. All those years, he thought his friend was gone forever, but destiny had brought them together again.

🌟 ***Moral of the Story***

True friendship never fades. Even if time and distance come between, real friends will always stand by each other in the moment of need.