Ash and the Finish Line

COMPANION READING EDITION | Scene 1 of 20



A lunchbox for race day

Ash checked her lunchbox twice. Today, it was coming to a race—and so was she!

Ash and the Finish Line

COMPANION READING EDITION | Scene 2 of 20



Selected at the trial

A little earlier, her teacher had held a cross-country trial. Ash ran, did her best, and was selected to take part.

Ash and the Finish Line

COMPANION READING EDITION | Scene 3 of 20



Looking forward to race day

She was in Grade 6, and the thought of representing her school made her smile. Race day couldn’t come soon enough.

Ash and the Finish Line

COMPANION READING EDITION | Scene 4 of 20



All aboard

That morning, Ash packed her lunch and climbed onto the school bus with the other selected students.

Ash and the Finish Line

COMPANION READING EDITION | Scene 5 of 20



Arriving at Heart Lake

When they reached Heart Lake Conservation Area, the place was buzzing with voices and excitement.

Ash and the Finish Line

COMPANION READING EDITION | Scene 6 of 20



So many running shoes

Almost three hundred students were taking part, including runners from Grades 6, 7 and 8. That was a lot of running shoes!

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COMPANION READING EDITION | Scene 7 of 20



Listen before the start

Before the races, everyone listened to the briefing. Ash paid attention. She wanted to know what to expect.

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Discovering the route

They looked over the running route. Now the race wasn’t just something she had imagined. There was a real path to follow.

Ash and the Finish Line

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Joining the girls’ race

The boys and girls would race separately. When it was time for her race, Ash joined the other girls.

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Butterflies at the start

She looked towards the start. She was excited—and now there were a few butterflies in her stomach too.

Ash and the Finish Line

COMPANION READING EDITION | Scene 11 of 20



They’re off

Then they were off! Ash began slowly, finding a pace she could settle into.

Ash and the Finish Line

COMPANION READING EDITION | Scene 12 of 20



Finding her pace

Some runners moved ahead. For a moment, Ash wondered whether she should rush after them. But she kept going at her own steady pace. One part of the path, then the next.

Ash and the Finish Line

COMPANION READING EDITION | Scene 13 of 20



More effort to give

Around the middle of the race, Ash began to run faster. She still had more effort to give.

Ash and the Finish Line

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Closer to the finish

Her legs were working hard now. The finish was getting closer, but she had to keep moving to reach it.

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COMPANION READING EDITION | Scene 15 of 20



Encouragement along the way

Around her were other runners, all making their own effort. There was competition, but there was encouragement too.

Ash and the Finish Line

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Across the line

Then Ash saw the finish line. She ran towards it—and crossed!

Ash and the Finish Line

COMPANION READING EDITION | Scene 17 of 20



A proud moment

She had finished the race. Breathless and smiling, she took a moment to enjoy that feeling. There had been so many students and so much excitement. Now she had a memory that belonged to her: I did it.

Ash and the Finish Line

COMPANION READING EDITION | Scene 18 of 20



Lunch together

Afterwards, everyone ate their lunch. Ash opened the lunchbox she had packed that morning. What a day it had travelled through!

Ash and the Finish Line

COMPANION READING EDITION | Scene 19 of 20



The journey home

Soon, the students climbed back onto the school bus. Ash was tired, happy, and glad she had taken part.

Ash and the Finish Line

COMPANION READING EDITION | Scene 20 of 20



Your own proud moment

What is something you felt proud to finish? Share it with a grown-up—and ask them to help you subscribe to Ashwika’s Story World for another adventure.