



Item Code:

695

Participant Code:

110

NOT ALL SUPERHEROS FLY

"So Riya, tell us about your favourite superhero" teacher asked. The eyes of all the students turned to Riya. Riya stood up with ~~a~~ hesitation. "Hey come on. Share your favourite superhero with your friends. Don't be afraid" told the teacher. The ~~eight~~ ^{eight} year old girl stood up with her lips trembling. The whole class changed into a drama hall. Every student started laughing, which made Riya even more sad. "Bismillah" teacher shouted. "I don't know anything about a superhero" Riya said. "Hm? Does she really don't ~~not~~ know anything about them. She's such a fool, dumb girl". Students started whispering in their ears. Even though they were whispering she could easily guess what they were saying and it ~~teared~~ ^{teared} her up. She started crying.

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"It's okay Riya, don't cry" said teacher.
Riya sat by sobbing. The whole ^{day} there was
only one thing in her mind
"Who is a superhero?"
In the evening when she
~~reached~~ reached her house her father was
looking for her. "Daddy I'm home" she
said with trembling voice. "Oh my little
angel is here, but why is your voice
like that? What happened, do you want
some hot water. I'll give....." before he
could complete his words a soft and
warm body hugged him from behind.
He stood there for a minute. Because
he could easily guess who that was.
"Daddy I don't want to go to school
tomorrow. Everyone will make fun of
me". she said. "What happened dear? Tell
me and stop crying. You know what,
you don't look good when you are crying"



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* Said John to make her happy. "Oh so are you saying I'm ugly"? asked Riya with a furious look in her eyes? "No. I didn't mean that I just... I mean... you...? John never thought that it would backfire at him. She started crying even loudly. "No, no stop, you are my beautiful little angel, princess, sweet heart... whatever that is beautiful in this world, it's all you. Okay" John said with a nervous face. "Fine" she said. John sighed with relief. "Now tell me what happened at school" John asked. Riya rubbed her eyes and said what happened at school. She said "I don't know anything about a super hero or what they do!" John held her in his arms and made her sit in his lap. "Hm... now that's something you should know said John. John continued.

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"Who is a superhero? A superhero is someone who always help people, take care of them and maintain peace and harmony among people. In my point of view that's what a hero does." Can I meet a superhero?, she asked "Hm.... I'm not sure, but I'm pretty sure you will meet a prince in your future" said John. Priya started blushing and giggling. John just realized what he said. ~~and~~ He told "Excuse me young lady don't take it too seriously and why are you giggling?" "Daddy was mama your princess?" she asked. John's smile slowly faded. He looked into the photo of his wife that was hunged in the wall. His eyes leared up. "Daddy... daddy what is this smell?" she asked. John ran into the kitchen and sighed. "It's all

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learned" said John. Biya started laughing. Watching her laugh made him also laugh. At that ^{night} she was thinking about a superhero and only one man came into her mind. "Yes I got one" Biya shouted. John jumped from his bed and asked "Wh. Who? What? What is that sound?" Biya started giggling. "Can you please sleep. Tomorrow you don't have to go to school?" he yelled and again went to sleep.

Next morning when teacher came to her class, she stood up with confidence touching the sky and said "Mam I have a superhero." everyone looked at her. "Biya you surprised me. By the way who is that superhero?" Teacher asked "my daddy" she said. Again the class started laughing. Teacher had never seen Biya with such confidence in

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her eyes. "Don't laugh. I know maybe my daddy won't fly but he is a real superhero for me." She continued. "A superhero is someone who always help people and make them happy. That is what my father do. He is always their for people who need help. He saves lives of people". Teacher smiled and everyone sharpened their ears to Riya's words. One student stood up and asked "Does he fly"? No, but you know what except for flying he does everything. He looks for me, makes me laugh, my friend not every person can do it" she said. After saying this she sat down teacher started clapping and after her everyone also clapped. Teacher was very happy with her. She even gave a chocolate to her to appreciate her. She was really happy that day.

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Biya ran to her house that day. When she reached her house she called for her superhero. But surprisingly her grandmother approached her. "Grandma, where is daddy" she asked. "Dear your father had an urgent work to do. So he left" she said. Biya's smile faded and her eyes drowned into the sea of tears. "Again? He does this to me everytime. I'm sad" she said and went to her room. Grandmother called John many time but he was out of reach.

The teacher was thinking about what her student told her. At that night teacher called John to share what his daughter said in the class. She called him, but again as expected he was not answering. After one and a half hour later a call came from John to the teacher. She picked the call.

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"Hello, is this Priya's father. I am her class teacher," she said. "Oh yes hello mam, so is everything okay with Priya" he asked. "Yes everything is perfectly fine. Actually I called you to share something that happened in the class" and she said everything John was teased up. She continued "and do you know what she said lastly?" "Uh.. What?" asked John with his voice shaking. "Not all superheroes fly" she said. "Can I ask you where her mother is?" she asked. "She is not anymore" he said. ~~Uh~~ When she again started saying something, she heard a voice from the phone. "Doctor the patient is having trouble in breathing. It's an emergency" and it became inaudible. "Yes I'll be there in seconds" John replied to that voice. Teacher asked "I'm sorry, but can I ask you what is your profession?" "I'm a doctor"

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John replied and the connection was broken. Intense beeping was coming from phone. Without removing the phone from her ear, she revised all the things said by Biya. And surprisingly it was all true. Everything said by her matched with her father's profession.

The next morning when he reached house, he went to his mother and asked where she was. "She is sleeping soundly. Today is Sunday right?" grandmother replied. Because of the stress from his work, he was not aware of even the days. He went to Biya's room. As he opened the door, Biya jumped into his body. After having breakfast John asked about what the teacher had told him. "Biya did you really said something like that" he asked with a soft voice. "Yes I said. I said so

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because you were the only person who came to my mind as a superhero" she continued "You save the lives of people and make them happy. You make me sad and make me happy. Am that not aren't you the real superhero? John felt proud of her. "Hm can I ask you something?" he asked "Yes" she replied. "Do you love me?" he asked "Yes. I love you so so much because you are my superhero" said Riya giggling. "But why are you giggling saying that?" "Because I want you to know that I don't love you as much I love my prince" she said. "Prince. What prince?" he asked. "The same prince who you said would come to me" and bursted into laughing. "What I told to forget all these things that day. #Then why are you thinking about that again" said John as he moved forward to tickle her. She ran

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here and there to escape from her father's tickling attack. Grandmother was standing there watching all these dramas. She looked into her daughter in law's picture and murmured "Don't worry both of them are doing great." Thank you for making my son a superhero to his daughter she said with tears flowing down her cheeks.

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