

"TOM SAWYER in my dream"



We were having our literature class and the story we were reading today was Tom Sawyer. I had already read the whole story before. I always have a bad habit of losing things and when I finished reading the whole book except for a few chapters, I lost my book. I cried a lot, and looked for it, possibly in all the places I could think of but couldn't find my book. I also asked my parents to buy me a new one, but they wouldn't, telling me that it was my punishment for losing the book.

Not only this but yesterday the story was shown as a film on television. I started to watch the film with a lot of interest. The film started at eleven. One hour went away, two hours passed out and now the film seemed to be never ending. I read the story with so much attention that I already knew all the dialogues and what was going to happen. But I didn't want to miss the end of the film. I felt so sleepy, but I was sure that I wouldn't sleep of course. I couldn't miss the end this time. I kept my eyes wide open but what happened was that I actually slept and went to the world of dreams. When I woke up in the morning I knew that I was a total fool and I was so angry with myself. I became angrier when I came to school and found all my friends talking about yesterday night's movie with interest. It was so embarrassing when I told all my friends that I actually started snoring while watching the film.

They kept on gossiping and chattering about the same subject. How clever Tom Sawyer was,

how dirty Huck Finn was, how bad they felt when Aunt Polly beat Tom with her stick and how lucky Becky Thatcher was and this started giving me a real bad headache. I was sitting in one corner getting bored of the shouts of all my class mates about the same subject and at that time my best friend came to me and asked me if I wanted to listen to the end of the story. I really wanted to but the bell rang and I couldn't. But I became happy in a moment when I heard that now we were going to read Tom Sawyer in our English literature class. This was the third time I was going through this story and now it was totally boring. But I knew that the end must be very interesting and so I kept on listening to the teacher but just as half of the story was finished I was called to the office. There I found my mother who came to take me to the hospital because my grandma became very sick and she was taken to the hospital. Filled with sadness and anger when I went to the hospital and my mother asked the doctor about my grandma. The doctor said that she was totally out of danger. I was happy that my grandma was okay but I was very angry with my mother for bringing me to the hospital without any reason.

Later on I had chicken pox and could not go to the school for about two weeks. It was quite boring to lie on the bed for two whole weeks having medicine, chicken soup and milk. Two whole weeks passed out and I almost forgot about my folly for which I couldn't go through Tom Sawyer's whole adventures.

Then one day, before going out, my mother told me that she was going to buy me another book of the adventures of Tom Sawyer. Now I knew, that this day was going to be the happiest day of my life when Tom and me going to share all our excitements and interests- to the end. As I thought about what the end of the story would be- something emotional, thrilling or whether it would be a happy ending. I felt asleep. And what happened was that I saw Tom Sawyer. I saw him in my dream and I was with him too. I became Aunt Polly and was scolding Tom at the top of my voice and telling him not to touch the jam with a stick in my hand and giving Tom punishment by making him whitewash the fences. Again I became the dirty friend of Tom Sawyer, that is Huck Finn, talking about the spirits of dead cats and being scolded and ignored by the town people. Sometimes I was Becky Thatcher and sometimes Margaret and I was in so many characters and in so many different shades that I got a little confused in my dream. I even saw myself as Tom's schoolteacher telling him not to loose any books, not to sleep when watching movies and not to leave the school early. When he entered the class lately I shouted 'Thomas Sawyer'. That was his full name and it was a signal for Tom that danger was coming. And sometimes I made him sit with girls but I don't know why I made him sit with Amy Lawrence instead of making him sit with Becky Thatcher. Sometimes I saved him from dangers and sometimes I complained to Aunt Polly that he was becoming naughtier day by day. And sometimes I found myself crying with the others at his false funeral. And in the end when I was going to return to real life I made him promise something. I made him promise that he would never ever be a naughty boy again. I gave him a ton of advise and told him that there were better ways to impress people, (especially the beautiful ones with blue eyes and yellow hair) instead of jumping and dancing. And at last I told him the three most special things that I used to tell him as his teacher in the dream. Can you guess what they were?

A Friend in Need is a Friend Indeed

by Tahia Rahman

Once upon a time there lived two girls named Rosana and Dorani. They had been best friends for six years. Both of them lived in Dhanmondi and they would often visit each other's places. They were in the same school and the same class and would go to school and return home together. Some people mistook them for sisters. They both thought that they were made for each other. Their parents liked their friendship and respected it.

One day when Rosana returned home from school to find her mother very upset. She asked her mother, "What's wrong Mom?" Her mother did not answer. She asked again, "Tell me what's wrong?" At last her mother said, "There is a bad news for you, my child. Your father had been posted to America for one year. We all have to go and stay there from the next month." Rosana was shocked. She told her mother that she would not go there, as she would miss her friend very much. Her mother said that they did not have any choice. Rosana did not know how to recount his shocking news to Dorani. On the next day Dorani came to pick her up for school. On the way to school she told it to Dorani. Dorani almost cried hearing Rosana's words, as she could never even think of spending her days without Rosana.

Now it was the time for Rosana to leave for America. Dorani and her parents came to the Airport to say 'Goodbye'. Rosana's relatives were also there. Both the friends cried as if Rosana was leaving the earth. After Rosana left both of their lives changed a lot. Rosana was admitted in a school in America. Though she had many friends there she missed Dorani a lot. Dorani at first missed the absence of Rosana but then she found some new friends and almost forgot her beloved friend. Rosana wanted to keep in touch with Dorani through letters. Dorani answered some of her letters but then once she stopped answering. Rosana was quite surprised by not getting any response from Dorani but consoled herself by thinking that her address might have changed.

Now the time came for Rosana to return. She was very excited about this and informed her friend through a letter. She could have called her over phone but she lost Dorani's phone number. She asked for her phone number in one of her letters but there was no response to that letter.

When Rosana returned she was very surprised to see that Dorani did not come to receive her at the airport. That day she went to Dorani's house in the evening and Dorani's mother said that Dorani went to her

friend's house. Rosana requested her to tell Dorani to call her back as soon as she comes. Rosana then returned home. She waited eagerly for Dorani's phone call but no one actually called.

After a few weeks she went to her previous school. She saw her beloved friend busy with other friends. She approached Dorani thinking that she would be very excited to see her but she was not as excited as Rosana expected. Rosana spent that day with Dorani though Susan, who was now the best friend of Dorani, was also there. Rosana did not like the presence of Susan but still she did not say anything to Dorani. She thought that it would be better if she did not continue her friendship with Dorani.

Rosana soon had many friends but she still liked Dorani as she liked before. She always helped her as much as possible, but Dorani was never thankful to her. Instead, she behaved in rather rude manner.

One day a girl named Sheetal invited both of them to her house. Both of them decided to go there. Rosana went there a bit early and was expecting other friends to be there any moment. While Sheetal and Rosana were talking in the verandah of the first floor, they saw a car parking on the other side of the road. Then she saw a girl coming out wearing a black long dress. That girl was Dorani. Rosana called her to say 'hello!' As Dorani looked up and waved back to Rosana, suddenly a car passed very fast dashing over her. Rosana screamed and closed her eyes. When she opened her eyes she saw Dorani lying on the road. Both of them then ran to Dorani and

took her to the nearest hospital. Doctor at one stage said that she would not be able to walk for some years.

Dorani was senseless for seven hours. When she opened her eyes she found Rosana and her mother sitting beside her. Rosana looked after Dorani while she was in the hospital. When Dorani was released from hospital, she could not walk, and Rosana pushed her wheel chair all thorough the way to home. In school also she looked after her and used to remain with her all the time, but the surprising thing then was that Rosana was the only one who used to be with her. The other friends for whom Dorani was ready to leave Rosana's friendship were not with her in the time of her sorrows. Dorani started to realize that Rosana was the only true friend she had.

Dorani realized that everyone could share one's happiness but not sorrows.

By Irtifa Tazkia Islam

Class VI



The Treasure Map

by Mustaqim Ahmed Choudhury

Once there was a boy named Razin. He was a boy of Class-VIII and he was interested in his studies.

One day Razin's mother said to him: "Go and bring a packet of bread." Razin went out to bring a packet of bread. On the way he saw a beautiful bird carrying a piece of paper. The bird suddenly threw the paper over to Razin. He opened it to see it was a map.

He thought that it was a treasure map. He began to search for the treasure and forgot to buy the bread for his mother. As he was not home yet, his father and mother were scared. Mr. Jamal, his father went to search for him, but there was not a sign of Razin. Then Mr. Jamal went to the police station. Once there, Mr. Jamal said to the policeman, "Our son Razin is lost, we can't find him, can you please, look for him?" The policeman said that they would look for him. The policeman went to search for their son with three others. After five hours they came back and said, "Sorry, we couldn't find your son". Mr. Jamal and his wife came back to their house.

During this time Razin was searching for the treasure. Suddenly he found the place where the point was given on the map but the place was in the middle of a big field. He thought the treasure was under the ground and he began to dig the ground. Suddenly he found a box, he opened it, and found a paper on which was written "Learn more and obey your parents and you will get the treasure". Razin understood the meaning and got ready to go home. When he saw that he was lost, he was a brave boy. He went to the police station and told a policeman that he was lost. The policeman took him to his house. When Mr. Jamal saw Razin he began to beat him, and Razin began to cry: "Don't beat me! Don't beat me!" Suddenly he heard that his mother was saying, "Wake up, Did you have a bad dream. Razin replied, "No, mother I didn't have any bad dream but I learnt something." His mother said "What have you learnt?" Razin did not say anything but from the next day he studied hard and obeyed his parents, so that he could find the treasure of his life.