

The Tears of My Childhood

Written By: Praful K M

The First Year

It was my first day to 6th Standard. I was pretty excited. I had been shuffled from my old class. Meanwhile I was also eagerly waiting to meet new classmates and make friends. On my way to school, I was wondering if I could make good friends. We had gone to our school auditorium after the snacks break.

I was just having a look at everyone. I could observe that Nick and George were always close. I approached them, "You both are good friends I guess" "Yea" they replied. I asked "Can I be your friends if you don't mind?? " "Why Not?" That was the time I made a couple of friends. Nick and George were one of the favorite students of some teachers and were good at studies too. That made me feel that they were the best friends I could have

It was an awesome week where I also made several other friends like **Grayson**, **Pablo**, **Picasso and Simon**. They were also sitting with me during classes, and lunch breaks. I was also told that **N**ick **A**dam and **G**eorge were best friends and

many others were also close to them. I also wanted to be a part of their friendship. Later, I made a lot of friends. I believed everyone were awesome and good friends. I also had few serious fights with my friends. I also learnt to enjoy my childhood. It was one of the golden year I had. George was a very good friends of mine. As of Sixth, He was the one of the friend with whom I could always share my feelings. We both were alike in thinking but I wasn't as intelligent as him x D. The other best friend of mine was Nick. He was very friendly to all the classmates. He always would motivate others. He was very social, awesome and what not.

I was very happy those days. I was also improving in my studies. When it came to studies, we didn't have much competition in 6th Standard. At several tests I would get less marks. I would get into depression at times, but it would be either my friends or my family who would always encourage me. I also felt that **Nick** was one of the friend who would always motivate others.

At the end of the year there were two facts that made me sad as a student. Firstly, I was harsh to some people. I should have apologized, but I think it was my ego that restricted me to do so. Another reason for my disappointment was my very close friend **G**eorge had to move to his native.

I was glad that I had made cool bunch of friends that year and wanted to make more the following year too. They were the few of the best people I could ever meet in my life.

Coming back to studies, at the final exam, scored excellent marks in every subject. I was among the top 5 of the class. We also had a pretty strict class teacher. She was very good, but many felt a bit annoyed because she used to scold a lot.

Her name was **A**njali. It was here first year in the school. We also had a cool set of teachers. It was they who brought out the studious guy in me[©].

Meanwhile, I was also happy that my friends from the older class were still talking to be. Most of them didn't wanted **George** to leave the city. But finally we had accept the truth.

It was the last week of the school. I could see both happiness and sadness in everyone. I felt sad cuz my Best Friend was leaving and on the other side I was happy cuz I was promoted to 7th Standard. ⊗

Overall it was a cool year with a little disappointment.

Entering into Seventh

It was a worst vacation I could have ever had. I had lost my grandfather during the month of May. He was serious from a couple of days. I felt very disappointed when I came to know that my grandfather was no more. The only thing I could do is to accept the truth and carry on with my life⊗. It was the time I prepared myself to face more difficulties

It was my first day to seventh. My emotions very mixed with both happiness and disappointment. I met all of my friends. My happiness increased. This time we very happy because our chemistry teacher was our class teacher. She was a very friendly teacher. She understood almost every students feeling at different situation. Coming back to education, our school never declared ranks neither told internal marks. While, this teacher showed our ranks and encouraged the others to get ranks. Thus, the competition increased between us to score ranks. The first time she announced ranks, I wasn't expecting any rank but still I scored 7th Rank which brought motivation into me. I was also bit disappointed while my friends scored me. Both my parents and my friends encouraged me. The following exam, I scored 5th Rank.

Everyone like our new class teacher and most were missing George. I still had my best friends Nick & Adam.

The Unique 5??

One Day, in the class we were discussing that our friends group has to meet somewhere. Before this we had met several times but few were missing. The following day, after a lots of discussion we met near our school. I asked if everyone could come to my home. They agreed. They all followed me with their bicycles. It was **Adam, Nick, Pablo & Grayson** who came to my home.

We all had loads of fun. We were discussing about making a group of our own. I suggested that I could design a website for us. We were interested in music so planned to make a band website (#fun). We were planning for a name for the group. **Pablo** suggested the name '**The Unique 5**'. We made the website, uploaded an image and published it. After a while, many left to their home.

This group became quite popular in our class after I showed my website. Soon, many others became friendlier to me. We had an awesome time. We used to meet more frequently. I had a quality time with all my friends. We also made a WhatsApp group where we all used to chat frequently. My other friend **Mark** told that he wanted to join us

A month later, no one knows what plans **Adam** had he told that anyone had to get eliminated from the group. He also added that Mark would replace the person to the group. No one wanted elimination but still he pleaded. Everyone told whom they wanted to eliminate from the group to **Mark**. After the process, **Mark** told that it would be Pablo whom he would replace. It was a bad day for **Pablo**. I could feel his distress. I felt sad for him. I expressed my feelings to everyone but **Adam** restricted **Pablo** from joining back. Now it was 'Unique 4'

Adam & **Mark** were best friends. The worst thing **Adam** did again was he asked all of us to pretend in front to **Mark** that he is in the group while he actually isn't included in the group. I felt bad for **Mark** to.

The thing we 4 (especially me) were excited about was we planned of go to McDonald's on the next Saturday. We had wasted a lot of time in the discussion. We would meet near the school and proceed to McDonald's by walk. Everything was perfectly planned. On Saturday, at the last moment Adam lied that one of his relative had met with an accident by which he couldn't come with us. Nick, Grayson and Me had a lot of confusion. They told that we would go the following week. I was pretty sure that he was lying. I argued that we had to go the same day. They agreed. We had loads of fun at McDonalds. We felt very satisfied.

After a week or two, he wanted to add three more girls, namely **Sarah**, **Nicola** and **Pia**. He also added their numbers to the WhatsApp Group and renamed it to **Unique 7**. The group became intensively active. That bad soul, wanted elimination again. This time he the fight was between me and **Grayson**. He declared that it would be **Grayson** who would be getting out of the group.

Now it was now **Unique 6.** The group still had loads of fun. It consisted of 3 boys and 3 girls. Now almost the whole class wanted to join the group. The bad thing was we were still forced to pretend that **Mark** is in our group. Sad little **Mark** he believed that he was truly there in our group. He always supported **Adam** in everything he did including all the elimination.

Pia wasn't that active in the group. So, Adam wanted to remove her too. I don't remember exactly, but there were times where she was removed and added frequently for various reasons. I felt something fishy and on the other side I was always ready to get eliminated. (#seriously®). I felt that **Adam** wanted very limited number of people in (so called) his group. This group brought lots of fights between others (multifarious with me).

Kacey's Birthday Party!

Here comes another friends of mine. Kacey was pretty close to me. He was a pretty good guy. His talent never showed up on the marks card. He had a lot of knowledge of Computer, both Hardware and Software.

He celebrated his Birthday Party at **Tamarind Restaurant**. He had also invited several classmates, out of which **Adam**, **Nick**, **Grayson and Me** were a few. I attended his party. I met his family, a pretty decent one! I was with him the whole day, not because he was his birthday, because I admired him as a best friend. At the party everyone took several photographs. Even I took a few and uploaded on the social media. **Kacey** took a video, as I was with him, even I was a part of his videos too. These videos mainly screened me and Kacey

Later he told that he would upload it on YouTube. I was pretty excited of YouTube those days. I asked to show the video to me. As usual, my voice sounded very dumb in it and in addition to it the video wasn't that crispy due to very soft lighting. I refused.

The Game Plan Starts

It was a normal day, just like others. Kacey wasn't talking to me anymore. I didn't know why he stayed silent even if he wanted to talk to me. I was astonished by his acts. He was ignoring me for no reason. I approached him, but he just walked away. Meanwhile both **Adam** and **Nick** were weird in their acts. Both weren't talking to me as usual. I found that there was something fishy, happening around me, but I wasn't that interested to find out what. Later inquiring my other friends, I came to know that Adam and Kacey had teamed up against me. Adam had insisted Kacey not to talk to me and had persuaded him by telling him that I was with him only because I had to attend the birthday party not because I was his true friend. He also added that I was a Fake Friend. Kacey was now angry on me. Many others had teamed up and roasted me up!! I was totally disappointed. At that point of time, I didn't know anything about what others were doing to me. I, thus, couldn't concentrate on my classes. I started thinking deeply about why they turned up to be my enemies. At the end of the day, the only thing I could have done was, either apologize for the misconception he had about me or should have ignored him and talk other bosom friends. I felt that this was the start of a master plan he had over me.

The Next Elimination

I had undergone through this strange pressure from those demons of being a so called 'Fake Friend'. This prolonged for a long period of time. I was still a part of the Unique 5. I was pretty happy but not as much as I felt sad. I was on my way to school, I was thinking of what to do if they threaten me.

I entered the classroom. **Adam** and his best friend. I just went near them. Meanwhile, **Adam** was talking of an elimination. He gave a brief explanation of how would the process be. I was pretty sure that it would either me or Pia. He told that all the members would list down the people who they would like to eliminate with a simple reason.

Almost everyone wrote and now it was my chance. Adam gave the paper to me. I saw and was pretty joyous because no one had talking my name. Everyone had taken Pia's name saying that she wasn't as active as others in the WhatsApp group we had made. Adam took the paper saying I will say the result within a minute or two.

He approached others, while I thought that he was just clarifying the result or just saying it out. We he came back to me. I was literally shocked!! Everyone had scratched Pia's name and had writing my name without any reason written against it.

He shouted in front of the whole class saying "Guys, Praful has been eliminated from Unique 4". Everyone laughed at me but I didn't care about it because it was just a grain of sand in my life. Now all the old members of unique came to me. One guy laughed at me while other welcomed me out of the group. I just ignored them.

The whole class thought I was an unfit and ineligible for their group. It just brushed them aside.

The Isolation

Now, the count of people who would talk to me slowly reduced. My best friend, who always stood by my side **Nick**, didn't have a look at me. I was totally disappointed now. **Adam** talked to me as usual. He wanted me to think that he wasn't the person who did what had happened to me but, unfortunately, I knew his bitter truth.

People who would share their cool experiences with me now didn't even utter a word to me. If I approached them, the only thing they would do is to walk away from me. A few days later, after a keeping an eye on **Adam**, I found out that he was the one who made everyone not to talk to me, including my best friend **Nick**.

He and his bestie had roasted me to the extent. The time gap we would have between 2 periods was also an irritation to me. They would come near me and always threatened me saying that I couldn't stay without them. I took it in a sportive way!

Kacey would come to me and speak badly about Adam and Adam would come to me and speak badly about Kacey. I would just give out a brief response. Later both of them would roast me saying I spread rumors about them to others.

The Anti-Me Gang!

Adam became very egoistic about me. He started telling other people that I would feel jealous when he talks with girls. I literally didn't have any special feeling of jealous towards anyone because I had my own uniqueness.

Adam, Nick, Greystone and Picasso ganged up on me. Nick told both Greystone and Picasso that I removed them from the Unique 'x' as I wanted to become the supreme most guy amongst the others in that group. Adam also added that it was because I wanted to impress my fellow mates. I straightaway slapped Nick because he shouldn't have done that being my bestie. We both were pretty close to each other and shared a lot of experiences. I was literally very disappointed. Each and every person in the whole class were against me. Adam spread rumors about me that I spoke badly about others and their parents. I felt extremely bad. He wasn't trust worthy anymore. Thus, everyone felt that I wasn't a good company for them.

This was the time when Adam, Nick, Greystone and several others ruled the class. They made people believe in them so much that they could easily wash-off everyone's mind.

That's what they did. I lost my reputation in the class. Meanwhile I turned out to treat teachers as the only friends I could find at my school. This continued right from December to April, till the end of 7th Standard.

The Face Bake Stories

On the first day to 8th, I thought I could have patched up and everyone one would talk to me as usual. It so happened that everyone in the class were talking to me except the 'Unique' Members. I tried to them. They responded but then Adam would always give them an alert not to talk to me.

I approached Nick and Adam. Adam was talking to me while Nick wasn't. I expected it the other way round. They both were very best friends now. Their homes were so near that they could meet whenever they wanted to. Sarah's Home was also close. They both met at a bakery call the FACEBAKE where they would spend their value time.

Their friendship kept on increasing. Adam was so intelligent that he could separate me and Nick and make Nick his best friend. I just didn't get carried away and thought I would get better friends. Both Nick and Adam would post a few pics of their meetups at the bakery. I would reply to those but they wouldn't give a damn about my replies.

They would get so close. They would stand for each other, no matter what the thing is, just like the way which I did which

went unnoticed. They were close to each and every one of the class, the best advantage they had.

Both Adam and Nick weren't only friends but were also so close that they called each other **Brothers**. They became very popular in the class. No one could break their friendship because no one even had the evil mind to do so.

Traps for Others Continues

After I lost my identity in the class and people stopped talking to me, now it was time to try it on others whom he wanted to degrade. I didn't wanted that to happen because that's the worst thing anyone could go through at that particular age. Unfortunately, no one could stop that evil mind from doing so.

First it was mainly tried on his very own best friend Mark. Kacey was one such guy who was degraded, after they had ganged up on me. He had told everyone that no one should have talked to Kacey. But on a particular day, Mark talked to Kacey. To take a revenge for such a small incident, he started spreading rumors about him. "He speaks about other's parents", "He says you're a black guy", "He says you're poor and cannot afford an independent home".

In the same way, he indoctrinated everyone and made each and every one not to talk to him. The class split into two gangs, Adam's and Mark's. I didn't support anyone, because I knew inexplicably, I would be isolated again. I had learnt it

from the mistake I had done the previous year. Meanwhile my other friend, Ulfred and another boy was degraded and lost the respect others had for them.

Stop talking to him

Computers. I personally admired the subject and was very good at it. Most of them would ask me doubts instead of the teacher. I solved all of those with lots of scrutiny. It was a breezy and a cloudless day. The most awaited competition, the quiz competition was held.

Sarah was a good friend. She was a social bird. She mingled with everyone in the class. We had been to the lab for the quiz. The computer teacher had sent us to class. We both had some crazy talks. It was a good time I could have ever had with her. After we returned, we both were give quiz papers. Everyone finished our worksheet and gave it to our teacher. While we were on our way back to class, me and Sarah were deliberate about the quiz paper and were discussing the answers. Suddenly Marie dragged away Sarah. I couldn't discern why she did so. I went back to the class and approached Adam. Adam and his group were talking about the conversation me and Sarah had had. I just realized that Sarah wasn't talking to me for long. That was a major eye-opener to me that it was Adam who told Sarah not to talk to me. Let me say you another situation.

It was a hot and sluggish day. Meanwhile, all the students were happy that our class teacher had changed our placements after a loads of demand. I was pretty happy because I had been given a better setting than before. This time Sarah was crosswise to me. I had my friend Andrew and another girl beside me. They were a pretty good company. Sarah was talking socially with me and my bench mate. We 4 together had a great time.

Meanwhile Adam, the evil mind, was observing everything from his place. He became angry now. He was like the monarch of the class. I don't know why, but most of them were following whatever he told. He approached Sarah and started scolding her. I overheard their conversation as I was pretty sure that it was about me what they were talking about. Here's what Adam told, "Hey!! You don't have common sense huh?? How many times to say you not to talk to him? Stop talking to him." And so on. I felt bad because I am such a character who never wishes anyone get scolding because of my involvement. I wanted to ask sorry but couldn't.

Break in the Friendship

It was the first month of the year. It has almost been an year from when Adam started troubling me.

Our class was filled with joy. Many boys and girls played together by splashing water or each other. Adam, Nick, Sarah and many others were involved in this. I felt pretty happy watching the fight. Meanwhile, Adam kept warning people for talking to me. Many stopped talking to me, while few people like Marie and Sarah spoke to me!! Adam was very rude to them as they were talking to me. I was very angry on him. He shouldn't have scolded any person for talking to me. I am also a common student in the class just like others.

Meanwhile, Sarah was angry on Adam for being so rude to her. Sarah started hating him. She didn't like him anymore. She now started talking to me more. On the other side was Marie, who was talking to me from long even if many said her not to do so. Both Sarah and Marie were now able to realize things that happened to me. They had some care over me. Sarah, Marie were no more the friends of Adam.

We Don't Care

It was a cool and calm day. Several people were angry on me as he again started spreading tittle-tattles about me. I was sad again. My friend ray roasted me as I had insulted him the other day. Adam had sent him to me to start a fight. I knew his objective. The conversation starts like this.

Ray: Hey who is bad?? Who is cheap??

Me: It's me itself. What will you do?

Repeats the same thing!!

Ray: I know you are scared to grow a fight

Me: I don't care about people talking about me

Adam yells at me

Adam: Even we don't care, Even we don't care.

Me: I don't care

Adam: Even we don't care, Even we don't care.

Me: We all are humans, we don't care

Adam: You are human huh??

Me: What about you then?? (Thinking about his cruelties)

He later got embarrassed. He never expected me to shout back at him. He walked away to washroom.

She stands for herself

In the break, after the language period, I saw Adam seriously talking about something to Marie. I also spotted that she was angry at him. Later I was damn sure that they were talking about me. It grew to a big fight. Sarah also joined. They were fighting against Adam, who was supported by none. All others were just staring at them.

It was Adam who provoked Sarah and Marie. He tried hitting Sarah but she defended. Adam's problem was that Sarah and Marie were talking to me. Sarah erupted. She was fighting with Adam, the person who was once her best friend. Sarah and Marie started yelling at Adam as he said that they talk to me in an improper manner. I felt happy that there was at least a single person who could go against for Adam, standing for themselves or for the truth. Adam became more Angrier.

I don't know what happened, but later, Adam and Sarah turned up to be friends again within an hour. I felt bad, misunderstanding them. Later I realized that what she did was true from her point of view. She wasn't talking to like before. I knew that it would heal and I would end up being disappointed.

In the same way, I faced a lots of ups and down in my childhood. I could have given up, but I didn't. My parents kept encouraging me not to stay strong. People like Adam and Nick always flash in my life. They bully me, but I just keep ignoring such demons and keep going. If I would have started arguing against it, it would have turned to a bigger fight. Meanwhile Adam also taught me many lessons. He taught me to ignore, to stay strong, and to face problems and a lot more.

Many people play with our lives, but its up to us to take it in a positive manner. If I would have taken everything negatively, I couldn't have neither stayed mentally healthy nor concentrated on my studies. Now, I am always prepared to face betrayers like Adam who would put me down or cheaters like Nick who would believe others who told false about his very own best friend. Please do not mind my language. I am a bit weak at writing but wanted to express my feeling in form of a book. I got inspired by a story written by Nick "A Bad Friend", which inspired me to record the:

The Tears of My Childhood

THE END 🗆