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The Dream of a Poor Girl

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There is a small house in a small country side. An old man with wrinkled face lives with her fragile better half and three cute little daughters. The house is actually a rented one, as the poor folks are not able to have their own house. It is very difficult for the poor old man to even eke out a living and rear the three soft souls. The eldest daughter, Sita, who is nothing less than a fairy is blossoming through her 10th spring of life with her poverty stricken family. The hard realities of life cannot take away the dream, the dream of the curious and talented girl. Her eyes always dream of becoming a doctor, adorning the white uniform and serving the humanity. The fragile kid of 10 years is mature enough to feel for the vulnerable. She keeps on thinking about it, sometimes feeling excited and sometimes depressed at the reality of the miseries of poverty. She is a child who wants to fly, but is tied in chains.

The ill-clad and fragile figure of his father is a cart puller. He is meeting their both end by carrying the people's loads at the grocery market the city. He is the only bread-earner as Sita's mother was a chronic patient of tuberculosis. She cannot even perform the routine house hold work. The whole responsibility is on the weak shoulders of Sita, who manages it with the help of her younger siblings. She even has to take care of her tender sisters, cook food for everyone. The burnt hands with roughness at this formative age can tell the whole story. She sees her mother dying day after day in front of her as there is no health care facility and cure of the fatal disease in the village or the vicinity. One unfortunate morning, her mother dies in her soft arms. A small kind at the age of having fun and enjoyment, is burdened with all the loads of life. However, the tragedy shakes her deep inside and kindles in her the desire to be a doctor. The dream of serving the humanity, especially the poor and the needy, takes birth inside Sita.

She goes to her old father and with a shivering and reluctant voice said, "Father, I want to go to school. I want to become someone big in my life. I will study hard and bring every one out of this life of misery. I know it is hard for you to send me to school, but I promise that one day you will be proud of me. I want to be a doctor so that no mother should die because of non-availability of medical facility in our village. Please, father, allow me to study. I will manage everything. You know how my mother has suffered all these years. I will not let anybody suffer like her. Daily our villagers face the misery of many diseases without and medical facility. I will become a doctor and open a hospital for them in the village." She is sobbing and talking and literally begging for the permission. She explains the plight of her neighbor to her father, "Father, look at Rona (Rona is the daughter of her neighbor) she is an orphan, her step mother is doing laundry of people but she allows her daughter to school for study. Why cannot I go to school? Please, allow me father."

The poor father, totally confused, is sometimes looking at her daughter and sometimes skywards. After a long battle with himself he decides to send her ambitious daughter to school. But he puts forward a condition. With a heavy heart the poor father tells Sita, "Sita, my daughter, you may go to school, but I will not be able to pay the fees. You know our condition. It is even difficult to meet both ends, my daughter. But, my child, I will try to work harder to earn more and support you. I cannot promise, my child, but I will try. Let's believe in the God. HE is great and kind and will show us the way. Go my child, follow your dream". The next day her father takes her to the school which, is located in their village. Eventually, Sita gets admission. Sita is immensely excited. Jumping with joy and with tears rolling down her soft cheeks, she hugs her father.

On a bright sunny next morning, Sita is filled with hope and expectation. She starts her day with passion and excitement. She finishes the daily chores of her household work. She is ready to step into a new life with the first day of school. Wearing new uniform, new shoes, she looks like a bundle of cuteness and determination. She is extremely happy that she is able to fulfill her dreams. She is punctual to the schools. She completes all the school work, along with the domestic tasks with enthusiasm and vigor. Her hard work and passion starts bringing dividends. She clears four grades with first position and starts winning accolades all around. Gradually, she has become the talk of the village.

But the life is not so kind, always. One fine day, her father comes to her with a tired and hopeless frame. He sits beside her daughter. He holds her hands and with water in eyes, he tells, "My sweet little child. I have tried a lot to manage your studies. It is becoming very hard for my aging body to take the burden, further. I am exhausted and may crumble, anytime, my dear. I am not able to stretch further. The needs of your growing sisters are also increasing day by day. It is becoming difficult to manage the day to day expenses. I do not know how I will pay for your studies. I think it is not possible for me to send you to the school, further. She becomes very sad and gloomy. The life seems to be a harsh joke to her. She gets heartbroken for a while. Suddenly, she looks skyward and prays to God in her mind. A new lease of strength springs into her. She is not ready to accept defeat and quit. A fourteen year old girl is ready to fight her way through the adversaries.

She eventually decides to give it a shot and find a job for herself to meet her expenses by herself. She starts searching for job. After a month's persistence and running from pillar to post, she finds one. As the fate has something in store for her, she lands into the house of a doctor as a house worker. It is the house of a gynecologist in the neighboring village. The doctor happens to be a kind and merciful lady. She encourages Sita to continue her school, along with the house job. Sita starts getting 500 bucks per month. She is very happy at the idea of furthering her education with this money. After years of hard work, she comes out of the school education winning all the laurels and good grades. She works diligently and is never tired of putting long hours. Noticing her sincerity and dedication, her classmates and teachers, all are very kind to her. Everyone starts helping her. She graduates from a university in the coming years.

She is all set to start a new phase of her life. Sita starts visualizing her dreams becoming a possibility. She is full of hope and positivity. She feels like a free bird with her own wings to soar high in the sky. But the time does not stop here. She once again finds herself in very difficult position. Suddenly, she feels her dreams shattering. It is her paternal aunt who is becoming a spoilt sport in this fairly tale. She wants Sita to marry her cousin. Sita wants to pursue her career and build on her dream of serving the humanity. She blackmails them and the nuptial knots are tied. Suddenly it turns into a nightmare. She confronts the worst behavior of her life. The in-laws start treating her shabbily. After marriage her husband stops her from going to university, but she is still determined to find her way out of this problem too. She tells her husband, "It is the last year of my college and let me complete it". But of no avail. He does not allow her at any cost. Ultimately she loses hope and surrenders to her fate.

Meanwhile, her husband becomes jobless. He leaves to country in search of job and she is back with her father. But the circumstances give her another opportunity to complete the unrealized dream. She rejoins the university and completes her last year of university by the help of the kind gynecologist doctor. With the help of the doctor, Sita buys a cow and starts selling the milk of the cow. Then the doctor helps her to attend a nursing college. Within two year she becomes a qualified nurse. In the meanwhile, she gives birth to a baby. The doctors helps her to open a health center in the village. She finally starts living her dream. Though she doesnot become a doctor but she is serving the needy as a nurse. People start calling her, "Florence Nightingale" of the village. She starts educating her sisters and her father helps her in her center. Her dream gives a new life to the villagers. She is happy that she is able to save many mothers now. There is a new house which has been built by the help of villagers. Her husband comes back from his trip and announces his remorseful past behavior and is very glad when he sees his son. Now they have a very happy life and enjoy their life.

Moral: successful are those who are determined.