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CORONA: THE GAME CHANGER

Part 1

Chapter 1 [An Unbearable Life]

Joe was in grade 6 in the US state of New York but unlike any student he was very different. He could not bear the pressure applied on him by the teachers. Joe was a top student in the last five years and the teachers were all impressed by how a student could perform this much. He was an outstanding stage speaker since grade one but he was a top of his class in the last five years outperforming all the people in his way. People never dared to compete with him neither in sports nor in the academic level, he was continuously dominating for the past five years, but not this year. His confidence had fallen from a very high cliff of success. Neither could he perform in academics, nor sports. He was a totally devastated young man but his teachers could never understand this, they always forced him with more work pressure even though the result of his devastation could be seen clearly in his marks and finally he could not take this situation anymore and he said he wouldn't do this anymore. Until one day, he told this to his mom, who was the closest person to him so she understood her son's feelings but when she told the principal he gave her a very irrelevant answer. She said she noticed what a changed student Joe was and that he used to be top of his class and now he is a big chunk of an item completely filled with molecules of failure. His mom was astonished to receive such a negative answer from the principal who continued, "In other words, your son is clearly dumb."

The mother burst into tears as she heard these remarks from the principal, the same principal who had motivated her son, provided inspiration for him. His mother however said to the respectable principal, "I am not supposed to be saying this to you but I do have trust and confidence in my son," she continued crying, "I have confidence in my son that he will return back to normal. I have trust in him that he will exceed his past self."

the principal replied, "We will see about that."

The mother left the office devastated but with a tiny hope that her son would return to normal and deliver more than his former self. But, as soon as she reached the footsteps of the house she regained more hope and said to herself if she wanted to bring her son back to normal she and her husband should first should feel hope inside them.

But, waiting on the doorstep of the house was Joe. As soon as he saw his mum he ran to her and asked her, "What did the principal say?"

The mother lied. "Your principal was very supportive and said that you are a brilliant student and will overcome this. You are not like any other student and are capable of handling tough situations."

Joe was happy to hear this message from his mum. That night, Joe's mum and dad discussed the irrelevant answer given by the ever motivating principal of their son. The father said, "There's only one thing that we can do now, we have to keep him motivated for the upcoming days. If we drop the news and let it somehow get into his hands he won't be able to handle it. If he hears about it he will not only try not to climb back to his former self but also start hating his principal who has a special spot in his heart as his motivator and inspirator."

The mother agreed and they both promised neither of them would ever break this remark to Joe. The next upcoming days were really hard for Joe. As if problems in school were not unbearable enough, there was one more problem that Joe had to face; the new student Anthony. Anthony was a very bright student just like Joe. Some people [the teachers] compared Anthony to Joe's former self, but Joe consequently tried to beat Anthony, but no matter whatever he did, he could not beat him in studies nor in sports. But one day he dared to

challenge Anthony in front of his friends. Joe said, "Anthony I challenge to beat you in studies or sports."

Anthony replied, "We will see about that." Smirked. everybody in the whole middle school section was talking about the challenge given by Joe to Anthony, even the teachers, but majority of the people were on Anthony's side since they all knew Anthony was much more brighter than Joe. On Joe's side was a very small minority of students, and even the people who stood on Joe's side were not sure if they had made the correct choice. But Joe believed that he could defeat Anthony. That day, the first period was science. Everybody was guessing Anthony would dominate and crush Joe, but to everyone's surprise that science period was a pretty big deal for him because during the whole period he did not allow Anthony to speak nor let him ask any questions. After the period Joe went straight to Anthony and said, "I said I would show you and here you are. You've been defeated," but Anthony didn't want to be humiliated in front of his friends so he said to Joe

"That was good Joe, but you will pay for what you did." That day's break period was one of the worst moments of Joe's life. He was in the washroom when Anthony and his goons came in and started bullying and cornering Joe. He burst into tears and ran outside. As he couldn't take it, the rest of the day he didn't speak to anyone. Knowing that no one would support him he was silent and did not dare to speak up to Anthony or launch any type of complaint against him. He was so scared of Anthony that he did not speak about Anthony to his mom or dad.