

An Unexpected Hero

by Andrea

Problems, everyone has them. Big, small or persistent. The most important is the way that we handle it.

Michael had problems, oh yeah, a lot of problems. It's true that he is not a very positive's boy. He was content to suffer and thought he was enduring all the misery in the world. He wasn't what we usually call a good student and didn't understand the professors were too severe with him. Also, at school he wasn't very social and introverted. His best and only friend, Tim and him were an inseparable duo. Although the others teenagers found them weird, crazy and stupid, together, they were funny happy and in their world. This world was the safe place of Michael, where he could be himself without judgement. Because at home, it wasn't the same story. His parents were always arguing, one against the other. They couldn't speak quietly and that made of Michael's life hell. He couldn't speak with them about his day, his problems or something and this relation was toxic for him. He couldn't breathe and have some peace.

This evening after a bad day because Tim wasn't at school and the other of his class laughed at him and pushed him around in the hallways.

He heard his dad scream before his mother answered him even louder. Michael went straight in his room and slammed the door.

Later, he heard someone knocked at the door but Michael didn't want to answer.

He felt lonely.

Michael fell asleep and during the night, he had a fabulous dream. It was a wide full, where the grass was green and the sky was blue and clear. We could see hills in the background.

While the little boy saw the scene, something like a thought was happening in his mind and showing him that everything seemed possible in this wonderful place.

So, Michael changed his dream and forget him but this thought remained and anchored in him. For once, Michael had a particularly good night. He slept soundly and woke up ready for a new day. He felt better than the day before and no longer resented his parents.

He wished a good day to his parents, all surprised to see him so jovial. Barely out, Michael looked up and realized the beauty of this sky he had never seen so beautiful. All the trees seemed him green and full of brilliance. The life seemed to smile at him.

Arriving at school, Michael instinctively looked for Tim. Unfortunately, he came across Peter's group. "Hey Michael, you're still alone. It's not a surprise." He said with a sneer.

It's typically in a time like this that Michael could have been hurt. But as Eleanor Roosevelt said: "No one can diminish you without your consent." But Michael remembered of his night and the feeling he felt. There was a straight fighting within him. He told himself: "Others can think what they want but the most important is my opinion and my decision." And he knew he had no desire to be diminished. So, Michael starred Peter with pity and amusement before telling him ironically: "Obviously, you're right. So, goodbye."

And he left them like that before joining Tim, whom he had seen at the classroom door. All the day Michael saw all in a good way and talked enthusiastically to Tim.

It was when returning home that he faced a big problem that he had forgotten.

His parents were still arguing and it wasn't possible anymore. Michael stepped in and shouted: "Stop it!" "You're no longer children. You have to be responsible. Because of your disputes, I cannot talk to you, ask you for advices and share my days without you as with real parents. I feel alone, can you understand? I am sad to see you always in conflict. I know it's difficult but I just want you to make an effort. His parents looked at each other. His father said: "Honey, your mother and I are so sorry. We are to focus on ourselves and we don't see the harm we can do to you." His mother continued: "Tomorrow, we are going to visit a therapist. If you want, you can come with us." "Thank you" said simply Michael, a little relieved. It was difficult to talk about this with you but now, it's done. I love you so much." "How was your day, honey?" asked at the same time the two parents. Michael smiled: "It was wonderful, I saw another world today but I'm a little tired. It's a lot of emotions. So, I'm going to go to bed and I see you tomorrow. Good night."

He kissed his mother; he hugged his father and then go to bed. He fell asleep quickly and had a dream. It was the same place as last night: a fabulous place with sunny sky. He saw the good thought go away but now one thing changed: not everything seemed possible because in truth everything is possible.