

Call No. : F PHI

A bit of a hero

Author : Gervase Phinn

' A Bit of a Hero ' is about the lives of Tom and his mother, Margaret, after the death of his father who had lost his life when he was rescuing people in a fire. In addition to his father's death, Tom was unhappy because he had to face the bullies at school. Both Tom and his mother's attitudes to life changed after they had met Roy, whom Margaret came to know in her new job.

The title of this book attracted me when I found it on the shelf of a bookstore. I want to find out who the hero is, how Tom can overcome the sadness about the death of his father and how he can solve the problem of the bullies at school.

My favorite part in this book is about Tom's past funny experience with his father, Jimmy, in the water chute. The author makes a vivid description of this adventure. It described a huge woman who was blocked in the tunnel round the bend of the chute. Jimmy was not aware of it. He set off fast after the woman had slid down the chute. He bashed into her and shot out at the end of the chute. They were knotted together. It was so funny and interesting. I laughed every time when I read this part. I wondered if the chute is wide enough for the obese people. Poor Jimmy was so unlucky and embarrassing!

My favorite character is Roy. He was an American soldier. At first, Tom did not like him because he was afraid that he would take away the love of his mother from him. He treated Roy cool. However, Roy was considerate and kind. He was patient and always shared his experience with Tom, encouraged him and gave advice to him to deal with the bullies. Finally, they became good friends. They still kept contact with each other even when Roy had gone to Iraq for warfare. Roy helped the family to go through their tough period. He was the kind of person who could bring out the goodness of others as it was described by Margaret. I appreciate him very much.

I like this book very much. It teaches me how to face the difficulties in my life. Just as Tom's Dad said, ' Never let the sun set on your anger.' It is really true since anger hurts our relationship with others. In addition, anger may affect our concentration on our work. We need a positive attitude to face the things in life and keep going when our life gets tough.

I am a bit upset with the ending of the story. Roy was killed in the war in an incident to save other soldiers. He was brave and I am proud of him. He chose to give up his life to rescue others. This ending is so sad. Tom and his mother had to suffer the loss of their dear friend, Roy.

I would prefer to have another ending like this one: Roy comes back to America after the war. He can meet Tom and his mother again.

3E Poon Hoi Yan Grace

A Bit of a Hero

*Tom has lost his dad.
Now he must face the bully at school...*



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