

By Omotola A.

How my Dream won Me a One-Way Trip to Detention. “Hey” I said. “Until this

day I had no idea that having a great talent can get me a detention apparently” I remarked.

*Well technically I was the cause of the school’s sudden drop in grades, I thought*

“But in my defense, I only did it because of the dream I had the night before. Well I better start from yesterday.

“Yes”, I screamed. “I love the talent show; all the acts and captivating performances is the best”.

Today the teachers announced the school’s annual talent show and the whole school was full buzz and talking about what are they going to do. Before I was heading to my locker, I felt an odd feeling on my arm I looked around and saw the 6<sup>th</sup> grade’s bully, Michael Ferguson tapping on my shoulder “Hey Robot Boy, don’t

tell me you are entering in the talent show”, He said with a sneer.

“And so, what if I am”, I replied defensively.

And I told you to stop calling me that, my name is Jack”.

“Whatever Robot Jack”, he retorted.

“But you can’t enter the show without a real arm and leg”.

*But at least a robot has a higher IQ than a million of you put together,* I silently thought to myself. After he walked away, I felt sad inside because he had a point. I have had a prosthetic leg and arm since I was 7 and is often teased about it. Even the teachers can’t help but ask about it. My dad got into a car accident with me in the car. Unfortunately, he didn’t survive but my leg and

arm were so messed up the doctors amputated it, but the thing that really stings is that even though he was just a dumb bully, he was right. *I couldn't enter the talent.* I concluded in my head. And that was the last of the talent show until that night.

After I did my homework, I read my favorite book, *Jokes and more Jokes*. I read it a million times and I still can't help but laugh at its jokes. Sometimes I gather my stuff animals and act like I'm in Las Vegas doing an act for them. After going to bed, I woke to a bright setting and it took a moment for my eyes to adjust. Then suddenly I noticed was on a cloud and that my book "Jokes and more Jokes." was right beside me. At that point I realized "*I was in a dream*". Then behind me a massive blue ship appeared with a short man on it. "Hello Jack, welcome to the Dream Boat, my name is Landor", he hollered.

Then he threw a ladder down off the boat, and hollered, "Come aboard the magnificent Dream Boat".

So, I reached for my book and got on the boat. Then he said, "Welcome to the dream boat Jack - Wait", I interrupted.

"How do you know my name". "Well", he replied. "We are inside your head."

*"Wow, I am really bad at dream stuff."* I thought.

"Okay, now that we have introductions down", I said.

"When can I get off of here?"

"When we reach your deepest desire."

"Which is?", I asked.

"Well", he said. "A talent for the Talent Show, of course".

I was stunned, completely stunned. *“I do not want to do the talent show, or do I”*, I thought to myself. “No”, I screamed. “I can’t do the talent show, I just can’t.”

But he pressed on, “Ask yourself why”.

“Because I can’t, I just can’t. I’m just a helpless boy who has a robot arm and leg.”, I screamed at the top of my lungs, and noticed I was crying.

Then I was just moving and hugging Landor as hard as I can. “It’s okay, I know how hard it is to be a boy like you”.

“It doesn’t matter how much of a helpless boy you think you are. You have to give yourself a chance, and don’t tell me you haven’t made someone laugh.”, and then made a gesture with his hands meaning that he wanted me to look around.

Around me memories floated of me making people laugh, and not fake laughing, actual laughing. “Now you could be the boy those bullies think you are, or you could be the person you want to be.”, Landor concluded.

“But I am not that funny.”, I said.

“And you were able to bring this much joy.”, he said

“And I know that’s why I will always be with you.”, Landor said, and suddenly the Dream Boat came to a stop, and started to fade.

And then I noticed everything was starting to fade, even Landor. “Before I go, I want you to know something.”, he said.

“What?”, I asked.

“I am sorry for what I did all those years back, and I just want you to know I will also be with you.”, he concluded, and then like everything else, he faded.

I woke up and noticed I was crying, but I was puzzled at what he meant, and then I realized the reason the book was in my dream. I looked at it and noticed a writing saying, “For my son Jack, from your father, Landor.”

That morning I went to school and signed up for the show. The wait was long, and I was nervous, but I remembered what my dad told me in my dream last night, and while holding my book I used it for encouragement. When they called me at first my throat was dry, but I pulled through. And guess what, I crushed it.

Which brings me to today, apparently the teachers were mad that students were distracted and failing from my jokes, so they had to punish me. Well thanks to my dream I got a detention, but it was worth it.

