

-
1. Jelena Wong Chin Yan
 2. Age: 11
 3. Mr. Robert O. Burton (Teacher)
 4. St. Paul's Primary Catholic School
-

Change!

At the secondary school, there was a poor girl called Connie and a rich girl called Clarice. Connie lived at the foot of a mountain, and it took her two hours to get to school. To get to school, she needed to walk past the mountain; that's why she was always late to school. Clarice always laughed at Connie and played tricks on her. It made Connie feel miserable.

One day, their classmate Hailey saw Connie crying, so she sat beside Connie and said, "Don't be sad, Connie! It's Clarice's fault. The reason that you are late is because you live far away from school. You can't help it."

"Thank you, Hailey. You are truly kind, and I feel better now. I hope Clarice will start to think about my feelings and stop playing tricks on me!" Connie said with a smile.

"If it makes you feel better to express your feelings, then feel free to talk to me whenever you are unhappy!" Hailey said.

"Sure!" said Connie.

When Hailey got home that day, she thought about how to help Connie. Her sister Macy asked her to play a game with her. When Hailey said "Change!" they pretended to be each other. After the game, they went to the kitchen for afternoon tea. They found out that their food prepared by mum was exchanged! Usually for afternoon tea, Hailey ate cake and her sister ate biscuits. But this time it was different. The food that Hailey got was biscuits, and her sister got a slice of cake. But when Hailey said "Change!" again, things suddenly went back to normal. The sisters were very surprised. However, when they told their parents, no one believed them.

When Hailey went back to her room, something popped into her mind. She could use her superpower to help Connie and make Clarice put herself in Connie's shoes. Hailey told Connie of her idea and Connie agreed with her.

Connie invited Clarice to play the game. When Hailey said “Change!” their belongings got swapped. Now Connie and Clarice had each other’s clothing and backpack.

On the next morning, Clarice woke up and found that she was living in a small, old house.

Connie woke up and found that she was living in a big, beautiful house. The house was magnificent. It had three floors, nine bedrooms and a giant crystal light in the dining room. Outside her bedroom, there was a garden with a swimming pool. There were two maids to serve Connie. When she looked out the window, she found that her house was near the school.

Suddenly, the doorbell rang. Ding-dong! It was Hailey! “How do you feel, living in a big, comfortable house?” Hailey asked Connie.

“It’s quite cool!” Connie said.

“Let’s walk to school together after you wash up!” said Hailey.

“Sure!” Connie said with a big smile.

After the second lesson finished, Clarice had still not arrived at school! She arrived an hour after school started.

“Clarice, why are you so late today?” asked Connie. “Did you oversleep? Did you stay up to finish your homework because you needed to help with the housework?” Connie and Hailey laughed at Clarice.

“My home is so far away from the school,” Clarice said.

During the class, Connie played a trick on Clarice, and Clarice started to feel sad.

“Change!” Hailey said during recess. “Now you know how Connie feels when she is late, right, Clarice?”

Yes, I am really sorry for being rude to you, Connie. Now I understand why you are always late and I know what it feels like to be laughed at by your classmates. We should understand that everyone has different circumstances, and we should always respect each other. Please forgive me,” Clarice said.

“Do you promise to be friends again and to never argue anymore?” Hailey said.

“Of course,” said Clarice and Connie. “Thank you for helping us, Hailey! We will be best friends forever!”