**Rokiatou Bah**

**Tales of “Uncle Wally’s Funfair Mentorship”**

The day was bright and frosty, and the melodies sound of the birds would be heard from a distance as they chirped. As the sun shined, its rays would be seen on the driveway and through the windows. It was a normal beautiful morning. However, for James, Peter, Laura, Katerina, and Jean, it was the day they had waited for over the past months. The teenagers who were now senior students in McGraw High School were soon graduating and about to join their colleges of choice. The years spent in high school were filled with many activities as the students focused on rediscovering themselves and finding the meaning of their life and what they anticipated accomplishing on campus.

James was a top student in the class, but he suffered from extreme anxiety and depression due to the challenges he experienced in his childhood. His parents had separated at an early age, and James lived with his mother. Over the years, his mother dated an abusive boyfriend, an aspect that drove her to alcohol and drug abuse, and within no time, she was hooked. As a result, James mastered self-reliance and independence at an early age since he was left to cater to himself and his addict mother for many days. Although his mother eventually died after an overdose, James remained relentless in his studies with the ambition of changing his future and not following the path his parents had taken. His life was characterized by many obstacles, and even though James remained relentless, he suffered severe anxiety and depressive episodes that limited his functioning and made him worry too much about his future. As he was preparing to join college, he was more anxious about how the experience would eventually be for him and his friends.

Peter was James’ best friend, and they happened to live in the same neighborhood. Just like his friend, Peter was also experiencing depression and low self-esteem issues. Peter had been sexually abused by a close relative at an early age. The incident affected his childhood and self-esteem as it was ugly and popular in their then small town. Although his family had relocated to the new neighborhood, Peter still had trust issues and difficulties making social connections at home and school.

Jean was ambitious, intelligent, and had a charming smile. In high school, she was known for participating in various team activities. However, she had major anger issues, and it was challenging for her to control her temper. Jean was always on edge over minor issues that triggered her, and she constantly engaged in fights with her classmates. She would also break and throw things around when upset, making her mates avoid her. As a result, Jean experienced extreme loneliness at school and at home, and the only people that understood her were James, Laura, Katerina, and Peter.

Katerina was from a migrant family that settled in the state when she was nine years old. Her life experienced constant strains as she focused on balancing her family traditions and the new cultures she was experiencing in the new country. The constant struggle made Katerina vulnerable to anxiety as she was torn between following her dreams and doing what her parents wanted. However, the main issue that she was experiencing now that she was done with senior high school was the choice of major to pursue in college. While her parents wanted her to major in a medical course, Katerina wanted to pursue an arts course; hence, the conflict of interest was overwhelming.

Laura was the heart of the group. She would always bring others together, even during conflicts. She would organize fun picnics where all the friends would meet and discuss their schoolwork and personal issues weighing them down. However, Laura had a major issue with self-esteem due to her chubby physical appearance. She had gained too much over the years, affecting how she viewed herself. While her family always supported her and showed her love, she was not contented with her size compared to other girls her age. Laura would always complain about how unattractive she was and how she would not fit in all the lovely dresses her peers wore during summer. Hence, the entire issue really affected her self-esteem and confidence, and she would always avoid showing up at social gatherings.

Although they excelled in their studies and were talented in different areas, each of the students had a personal issue that limited their potential and made them perceive their future differently. The experience of meeting Uncle Wally was all the students ever wanted; it seemed like they had unlocked a key that would guide them to their future. The event named “Uncle Wally’s Funfair Mentorship” would enable them to interact with their mentor, who would counsel them on their struggles. Uncle Wally was popular for his ability to counsel and help people struggling with personal issues. He accomplished the counseling process through the aid of 8 angels; GENTLENESS, LOVE, FAITHFULNESS, JOY, GOODNESS, KINDNESS, PEACE, and SELF-CONTROL, as they were all committed to helping others manage their everyday struggles. Uncle Wally had invited the group of friends over to his castle for the mentorship program that would last the entire day as he had a personal interaction with each of them. On this day, all the five friends met over at Laura’s driveway, where Uncle Wally would send an angel to pick them up. As the team waited, anxious about their experience, they made many jokes about the supposed mentorship.

“How do y’all think this mentorship will work out?” Peter asked his friends in a low tone. “I’m looking forward to having a ball!” Laura responded as the rest burst out laughing. However, Katerina, who seemed rather silent, cleared her throat as she asked the rest, “How can we trust Uncle Wally? Shouldn’t we have notified our caregivers of our whereabouts today?” There was silence for a minute as each of the teens digested the question. A minivan pulled over as they were thinking, probably willing to pick up their phones to call their caregivers. On the driver’s seat was Angel GENTLENESS; he looked at the teenagers with a smile on his face. “Hop in; I’m your designated driver for the day!” He said in an affirmative tone. The group looked at each other, probably unsure of what to do next. However, the large banner on the minivan written: “Uncle Wally” affirmed to them that this was probably the right car. They got in the car one after the other and sat on the seats engraved with their names. After they were all sited, GENTLENESS drove off with his halo shining to the astonishment of the students. They were amazed by the entire experience, but they tried to remain calm throughout their journey. The minivan had a white interior and white tinted windows; hence, it was hard for the students to even trace the route they were using to Uncle Wally’s Castle. In the van, each seat had a partition with candy and fruits, and it was as if Uncle Wally was aware of their preferences as each student was served their favorite candy and fruits. As they looked at each other, unsure whether to eat the treats or note, Jean broke the silence by whispering, “Guys! Guys! What do you think? This is my favorite candy; I cannot resist it!” Her friends turned to look at her, and she was already unwrapping the candy to eat. As they watched her devour the treats, it motivated them to also continue eating. “I hope you guys are having a great time back there; enjoy everything you want. We also have more awaiting at Uncle Wally’s,” GENTLENESS announced.

After what seemed like a smooth journey that took forever, the students heard a loud announcement. “You are now approaching Uncle Wally’s Castle in a short while!” They were so excited, and it was evident from the smiles on their faces. The nervousness was slowly fading as they made themselves comfortable with the treats offered in the minivan. As they exchanged glances and low-tone conversations, the minivan stopped, and the door was opened slowly. “You are welcomed to the Castle!” Angel LOVE announced to the team as they stepped out of the car. The entire environment looked sparkling white. The lawns were mowed, and colorful flowers were surrounding the castles. Love looked down at the students as the halo was glowing due to excitement. The students were amazed by the appearance of the angels. “Are we in heaven, mates?” Laura asked in a shaky voice. The event seemed so surreal, and they tried to grasp an idea of what was really happening. Although they had heard many tales about Uncle Wally, they had never in their wildest dreams imagined that the place would look as magnificent or the angels were as beautiful. “Oh, Heavens! Is this real?” Katerina shouted as she touched the sparkling and beautiful flowers. Angel LOVE guided the students through the allurethat led to the castle as he smiled while listening to the rhetorical questions the students were asking each other.

As they walked through the castle gates, the other six angels were gathered along the entrance. They were amazed to see the students as they seemed so composed walking down the terrains. “Seems we have interesting guests today,” FAITHFULNESS announced to the others. They all looked down at the students as their halos glowed, and their white attires shone extra-ordinarily. JOY was more thrilled than the rest, “Awh! They look so beautiful, and I hope their stay in the castle is as beautiful!” He announced. “How is Uncle Wally going to manage the young ones? He is used to mature audiences. Will they stay calm when they see him and listen to his advice? Oh, mercies!” Angel GOODNESS said in a soft voice. As the other angels looked at him, they could not resist his sentiments about the young students. However, SELF-CONTROL affirmed to the rest that Uncle Wally was skilled in handling people of all nature and age groups. “He always has something to say and is suitable for everyone irrespective of who they are and where they are from,” GOODNESS added positively. “We can only hope for the best, and I believe that today is an enjoyable day as we get to guide the students through whatever they are experiencing.” KINDNESS affirmed. All the angels nodded in affirmation as they slowly approached the castle behind the students.

As GENTLENESS was guiding the students to Uncle Wally’s office, he stood to show the students different arts within the castles. He would gently explain the meaning and significance of each element. LOVE also helped him to respond to the questions, and he could not hide his excitement about having the guests. The students felt like a dream come true. They could only reminisce about how they came to learn about Uncle Wally’s mentorship. It was one of their normal afternoon picnics organized by Laura, where they were sharing their challenges and how excited they were to complete senior high school. During the meeting, James informed them of an email he had received a few days ago inviting him and some of his friends to a mentorship program created for the chosen few. Initially, he had ignored the message, thinking it was a scam designed to swindle people. But as he received a second email detailing the names of each of his friends and some of the problems they were experiencing. As a result, James looked up Uncle Wally’s mentorship on different websites. He could not get any conclusive results, but there were many controversial stories that people posted and debated on various sites on the existence of Uncle Wally and his eight angels. Many people had argued that it was just a fairy tale created to encourage people and there was no existence of angels on earth. Others claimed that angels would not relate to humans; hence, the eight angels were just a myth. However, there were some that seemed to believe that Uncle Wally was real and that he was playing an essential role in helping people.

As James introduced the idea to his friends, they were nervous and had mixed feelings about the entire invitation. However, Jean was the only one that appeared willing to take the risk and attend the program. “What are you scared of guys? The sender of the email knows all our details, so do you think if they wanted to harm us, they wouldn’t reach us?” Jean asked others. Katerina was the most scared, and she tried to caution the others against the idea. “Don’t even think about it! What if it’s a kidnapping scheme? They could be kidnappers hunting for human organs or sex traffickers?” Katerina emphasized. As the group continued debating their different opinions about the email and supposed invite, it seemed harder for them to reach a conclusion. However, after a day, they met on their way home from school, and each had a conviction to attend the program. They wanted to prove the existence of Uncle Wally and the eight angels, and they also had different issues to address before they joined college. Their agreement compelled James to respond to the email confirming their willingness to attend the “Uncle Wally’s Funfair Mentorship” event. The sender also confirmed and told them the location where they would be picked, which happened to be Laura’s family driveway. However, they were given strict instructions about the big day, and they were cautioned about disclosing the details of the event to their families or friends. It was supposed to be only known to the five students as they were the chosen few for the program. As a result, they had to come up with a mutual agreement to convince their parents that they were all attending their usual picnics where they were catching up for the last time before joining college. As the day came, they all had mixed reactions towards the anticipated day, what would happen, and how it would impact their current and future lives. And now, here they were, walking through the castle corridors, an experience that seemed so beautiful and breathtaking but still gave them goosebumps as everything around them seemed like what they had read in the fairy tales.

As they approached an office with large golden doors, it opened automatically, and GENTLENESS and LOVE led the way inside, and the students followed slowly. At one edge of the seat, they would see a large desk and many beautiful arts emphasizing the roles of each of the angels. Uncle Wally’s name was engraved on the walls in large bold words that signified his presence in his room. However, no pictures were hanging around either the angels or Uncle Wally. The environment was beautiful, but they would not even capture a picture of it. They had been instructed to leave their cellphones on the seats in the minivan as they stepped out. Although Jean had tried to sneak in a phone, it was detected even before the gates to the castle were opened, and GENTLENESS politely cautioned them to follow the instructions they were given in the castle. LOVE also affirmed to them that all they saw on that particular day and within the environment was real and that the memories would forever remain engraved in their hearts. As they approached the desk, the magnificent white chair turned around, and behold; Uncle Wally was seated there in all his grace. He was an older man, wearing a crisp white sharp suit, a white shirt, a white tie, and white shoes. His hair was white as snow, and he had a long white beard to match his appearance. The students were excited to see him. “It’s finally happening, mates!” Peter gasped as he held onto Laura’s hand. Katerina was scared, and she hid behind Jean. “Welcome to Uncle Wally’s Castles, friends; I am glad to have you here!” Uncle Wally said in a strong voice. “I appreciate that you honored my invitation, and I hope that you enjoy your stay and learn more from the eight angels and me,” Uncle Wally continued as the angels nodded in approval. “You are real!” Jean gasped as she stretched her hand to greet Uncle Wally. “We are also honored to be here,” James announced, and others agreed in affirmative. The angels standing behind the students also showed appreciation for the moment as their halos shone brighter. “So where do we begin?” asked Uncle Wally as he walked towards the students with arms stretched out. Indeed, this was the beginning of a beautiful day.

“One thing I want all of you to understand is that the world does not exist in black and white; there are grey areas that we all need to understand to ensure that we effectively move on with life.” Uncle Wally announced as he stood on a podium addressing the group of students. “today is a day when you reconcile with your past, and I would like each of you to reflect on being a better person for the future,” he continued. As he was speaking, all the students sat attentively, and each seemed to be lost deep in thoughts, probably about their past and how it affected their present situation. At some point, they would smile, nod, or just stare at Uncle Wally as he continued with his speech enlightening them on the main events of the day. “I hope that this day will yield positive results for each of you, my chosen ones!” Uncle Wally concluded as he stepped down the podium. He beckoned the angels and whispered something to angel LOVE, standing close to the entrance. After the little chat, angel LOVE approached the students and asked them to follow him into a brightly colored room. The hall had different doors, with each door guarded by the angels. As the students were staring at the magnificent space, Uncle Wally appeared from the other door adorned in a gold and shimmery suit, a white shirt, and gold shoes. He seemed heavenly and walked down majestically, whistling and waving his wand. All the students looked at him eagerly, expecting that he would say something to break the prolonged silence in the hall. “So here we are again, guys!” Uncle Wally exclaimed. “Now, on each of the doors lays something that each of you desires from the bottom of your hearts, and I urge that you are honest with yourself as possible in this quest.” He continued. The student’s eyes shone in amazement as they looked at each other. James, who had been silent for a long period, slowly exclaimed, “This is the moment we have been waiting for, guys!” Laura mumbled, “Damn sure it is!” Uncle Wally approached James with a huge smile on his face. “Hello, Mellow James; I’m glad you accepted the email and convinced your friends to join us,” Uncle Wally said to him in a low tone. “Each of you will have an opportunity to enter in one of the rooms labeled with your name,” he stated while beckoning the angels to be ready.

All the students were now sited on a large white couch listening to Uncle Wally’s instructions. “In no order, respectively, I would like James to proceed to the door labeled his name!” Uncle Wally announced as James stood up and approached the door. As he entered the door, he could not help but notice that it was such a blank space colored white with one single chair placed close to the large window. From the window, one had a view of the blue skies and nothing else, seeming like the room was on an elevated level. “Can I sit? James asked politely. “Sure, go one, please, and take a minute!” Uncle Wally stated as he entered the room, followed by angel LOVE and PEACE. As James was well set on the seat, Uncle Wally approached the window, and James would only see his back. “Close your eyes, son!” Uncle Wally prompted James. “I need to take a minute to be calm, reflect, and tell me what you see!” he continued. As James closed his eyes and meditated, he had this vivid memory of her mother. On a fateful afternoon, he had just arrived home from school to find his mother on the floor, high and beaten to the pulp. His mother was groaning in pain, and James panicked as he thought she would die. However, as she saw James enter the room, she beckoned him to come over and help her. As she sat, James offered a glass of water and some painkillers as they waited for the ambulance, which he called immediately after seeing her on the floor. On this particular day, her mother held his hand firmly and said, “James, you are my only child, and I love you to death.” She said in a shaky voice. “I am sorry for all I put you through, I am sorry for not giving you the best life, I am sorry for not being the perfect mother, and I am sorry you have to see me this way,” James’ mother continued. “However, I want to know that while these memories may fade, may you never forget that I love you so much, and I wish everything was different,” his mother concluded. All over a sudden, James was startled like he was in a dream that seemed so surreal, and with tears in his eyes, he looked up to Uncle Wally. “You know James, you are a strong young man, and you have maintained resilience throughout the years,” Uncle Wally broke the silence as he tapped James’ shoulder. “Your childhood trauma and strained relationship with your late mother have been a baggage you have carried for many years,” he continued. “I want you to understand that your mother loved you very much. She cared for you till her last day and would have wished for you to lead a happy life.” Uncle Wally said affirmatively. “But why did she put me through the struggles, why did she do the drugs, why?” James said with tears in his eyes. “Son, some questions are better left unexplained, but all I can say is to leave the past baggage and fill your heart with love and peace.” Uncle Wally announced. As he was saying so, angel LOVE and PEACE approached and placed their hands on James’ shoulders, and all over sudden, he felt so relieved. It was like something heavy had been lifted off his shoulders, and he had a radiant smile on his face. “I want to be better and make my late mom proud; I won’t let the past define me,” James exclaimed. “That’s the spirit, son. Hold on to that as you proceed to your next step, and never forget the best is yet to come,” Uncle Wally affirmed. After the statement, angel PEACE and LOVE led James outside to the foyer where the others were sited.

“Laura, you are up next!” angel GOODNESS announced as he approached where the students were waiting eagerly. Laura stood and walked towards the door inscribed with her name. As always, she had this hearty smile, and as the door opened and she entered inside, she was amazed by the number of mirrors in the room. all she would see was her stunning image and hearty smile. “Welcome Laura,” Uncle Wally stated as he entered the room. “I hope you are enjoying your stay at the castle; please have a seat,” he continued. Uncle Wally requested her to also close her eyes and reflect on a memory. Immediately, Laura remembered a school dance night that had happened a few years back. During the event, Laura had been stood up by her date and her song presentation that night was catastrophic. As she reached for the mic to make her presentation, she slid and fell off the stage. Laura’s dress was ruined, and all she could hear was the bullying students chanting the song “*This little piggy went to market, This little piggy stayed at home, This little piggy fell off the stage*!” After the event, Laura was the school’s laughing stock, and she was nicknamed ‘Miss Piggy,’ an aspect that negatively affected her self-esteem. As she opened her eyes, tears were dropping from her eyes, and she turned to see Uncle Wally and angel JOY, GOODNESS, and LOVE. “Do you know how incredibly beautiful you are, Laura?” Uncle Wally asked gently. Laura looked down and smiled weakly. “You are an incredible young lady with a good heart, and you always see the best in others,” he continued. “Tell me why you don’t do the same to yourself?” Uncle Wally asked. “But I am not beautiful; I am fat, look older than my peers, and don’t fit in my favorite dresses!” Laura responded with tears rolling down her cheek. Uncle Wally walked to where Laura was sited and held her hand firmly. “These are the lies we tell ourselves. Beauty is not on how we look, how the dress fits, or what our friends think of us. It’s all our hearts, loving ourselves unconditionally and focusing on being the best version of Laura.” Uncle Wally affirmed. As she thought about what Uncle Wally had said, angel LOVE, GOODNESS, and JOY approached Laura and placed their hands on her shoulders, and their halos shone brighter. It was like a moment of transformation for Laura, who immediately stood up, looking at herself in the many mirrors in the room. “I need to embrace that, SURE! I am beautiful, happy, and I love myself,” Laura exclaimed as the angels ushered her out of the room.

Uncle Wally approached the white couch and could see the students enjoying some refreshment. They all looked up in anticipation as they saw him walking toward them. “I hope you are all having a wonderful time here?” he asked. They nodded in affirmation, and they seemed happy and confused, especially those that had not had a personal meeting with Uncle Wally. “Jean, it’s your turn!” angel PEACE announced as she beckoned Jean to proceed to the room. As Jean walked into the room with her name label, she noticed that it had a mint green color, which was her favorite color. She approached the single seat at the corner and comfortably sat without waiting for any prompt. Jean was always a free spirit, and she always did whatever she deemed right without asking questions. Uncle Wally walked in and proceeded to the large window as she was admiring the walls. “Jean, are you comfortable in the castle,” he asked playfully. “I guess; it looks great,” Jean responded. “Okay, now I would like you to sit still and meditate on one of the things that easily bothers you the most today,” Uncle Wally announced. As Jean sat still, she remembered her years in grade 5 when she joined a new school. On her first day, she was bullied by some older students for being the ‘new kid,’ and they embarrassed her in front of the others. As a result, she was always picked on in school, and it was hard to defend herself. However, one day she had enough, and she fought back aggressively, injuring the other student, leading to her expulsion from school. When Jean opened her eyes, she had a long face as she understood how the anger and pain, she had built in her over the years had caused more harm than good. “I am sorry that you have been misunderstood for the longest time, Jean,” Uncle Wally stated. “You are an incredible young lady with an adventurous spirit, but you need to let go of the past hurt. Do not let people’s actions define how you respond to them,” he continued. Before he could say anything else, Jean looked up and stated, “but nobody understands me and what I go through.” “The anger and pain in me is a buildup of many years,” she continued. “Worry not, I understand,” Uncle Wally stated as he patted Jean on the back. As they talked, the angel SELF-CONTROL, KINDNESS, PEACE, and LOVE surrounded Jean and harmoniously said, “It shall be well, Jean,” and they tapped her shoulders. Jean had an awakening, and she felt the pain and anger fade away. She felt lighter, and she stood and ran to hug Uncle Wally. “Thank you Uncle Wally and the angels, Thank you!” Jean exclaimed as she walked outside with a massive smile on her face.

Angel FAITHFULNESS approached the couch, and he called out Katerina’s name from other students. “Katerina, it’s your turn; please walk to the door with your name,” she announced. Katerina stood and walked to the room. The room had different artistic paintings, which were among her favorite. It represented all that she desired to fulfill in life, although her parents would constantly disagree with her. As she approached the seat at the corner, there was a blank canvas and some painting brushes. Katerina was admiring the paintings when Uncle Wally walked in with a smile. “The talented and meek Katerina! How are you today?” He asked. Before Katerina would respond, Uncle Wally continued, “I need you to use the brushes on the blank canvas and paint something from your heart.” Immediately Katrina picked up the brushes and started painting a scenery of a beach. It reminded her of a holiday she had spent at her aunt’s house in Mexico, and she discovered her passion for arts by seeing her cousin’s workspace. However, upon telling her parents about her passion, they strongly opposed and insisted that she would only major in a medical course. She was lost in thoughts as she finalized the painting, but the outcome was incredible. Uncle Wally hovered close by, amazed by Katerina’s talent. “You make it seem so easy, child. You are so talented,” Uncle Wally exclaimed. “One secret about life is never giving up on your dreams, no matter what you experience! Art is your passion, do the best you can to ensure that you fulfill your dreams.” He continued. “But my parents oppose any discussion about me majoring in an art course, and they don’t understand that it’s all I desire,” Katerina interjected. “If it’s important to you, make them understand. Do not bend to the pressure of doing things that do not please you.” Uncle Wally affirmed. Angel FAITHFULNESS, LOVE, and GOODNESS nodded as they approached where Katerina sat and patted her back in affirmation. “Thank you!” Katerina stated with a smile on her face. She walked out of the room feeling rejuvenated, and her initial fear had already disappeared.

Peter was the last on the couch, and he was anticipating going to the rooms and understanding what was behind the white walls. As he sat on the couch reflecting, angel KINDNESS approached him and announced, “Please follow me, Peter.” As Peter entered the room, he was amazed by how beautiful the paintings on the wall were and the huge window with an exceptional view. There was only one sit in the room, and he proceeded to himself comfortable. He heard some footsteps only to turn and see Uncle Wally. “I like the view from here,” Peter indicated. “I appreciate that, Peter, and I am glad you are having an amazing time here at the castle,” Uncle Wally responded. After the little chat and catching up on the day’s events, Uncle Wally requested Peter to meditate about his life and what he wanted to do in the future. As Peter looked out of the window, the memory clouded his mind, and he remembered that fateful day. His parents were away for a business trip, and he had been left under the care of a close relative who sexually abused him one night in his room. Although he avoided telling his parents about the event, he later had to, and they later relocated to a new neighborhood. However, the issue depressed him and lowered his self-esteem. Peter snapped from the thought when he felt Uncle Wally pat his shoulder. “Pain weighs us down and blurs our vision of the past, but healing allows us to get over it.” Uncle Wally stated. “I am sorry you have held on to the pain for this long; I am sorry it ever had to happen to you in the first place. But you are strong, and you need to put the baggage down for a better future.” He continued. “But how do I forgive him? How do I learn to overcome the pain and be better?” Peter asked. “One step at a time, it’s going to be better.” Uncle Wally affirmed. Angel KINDNESS, LOVE, JOY, PEACE, GOODNESS, and SELF-CONTROL were now in the room. They gently patted Peter one at a time, assuring him that all would be well. As Peter stood to walk out of the room, he looked back at Uncle Wally and the Angels and thanked them for the epiphany.

All the students were outside in the garden, sharing jokes and admiring the beautiful landscape. They had a happy glow, and they looked relieved compared to how they seemed when they first walked into the castle. “I think we all needed this!” Katerina announced. “Yes, I can agree with you Uncle Wally is the best,” Jean emphasized. The rest nodded and smiled in approval. The angels were hovering at the castle’s entrance looking at the young students enjoying themselves. “This has been an incredible day; I appreciate their smiles,” LOVE announced. “Indeed, Uncle Wally save the day!” SELF-CONTROL asserted. As they were all admiring the students, Uncle Wally approached the students, “Ladies and Gentlemen, it’s time I said my goodbyes. I hope you had an incredible time today!” he stated. “Yes, we did. It was amazing,” they all responded harmoniously. “Keep the memories, and we will always watch over you,” Uncle Wally said before disappearing in the thin air. As the students were gasping, GENTLENESS honked and notified them of their departure. As they sat back in the minivan back home, they anticipated a better future as they joined college.

Indeed, it was an extraordinary funfair.