

AHANA & THE MISSING DRAWING



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Ahana and the Missing Drawing

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On my way to Aventura Towers

In a vast, beautiful and colourful land, called Sikkim there lived a young girl. She was on her way to a boarding school in Goa. Her name was Ahana, she was 13 years old. She was kind, mischievous, had a sense of humour and loved to read, draw and swim. She lived with her mom, dad, brother and sister. She was not worried about starting a new school away from her parents, brother, sister, in a new state. Her younger sister and brother were 9 and 8 years old respectively. Her sister's name was Anvita and her brother's name was Arjun. Her sister was mischievous, sweet and cute. Her brother was also mischievous, kind and loving. Ahana had to shift her school because her father thought that her old school taught her what she already knew. But Ahana didn't agree!!! However, her parents finally convinced her and so she agreed. The next day she would have to wake up at 6:00 am and get ready by 7:00 am. Then reached the airport at 8:00, her flight was at 8:30 am. Then after boarding the plane and deboarding the plane her Aunt would drop her off at her new school. So, the next day Ahana woke up at exactly 6:00, when everyone else was snoring!! Then she took a bath, brushed, combed her hair, cooked some pancakes and ate them. By that time, it had become 6:30 am and her parents had woken up, she asked her dad to get ready quickly and take her to the school. By the time her father had gotten ready it was 7:00, so they got in the car and set off to the airport. They reached at 8:15. When they reached the airport Ahana sprung out of the car and then her father helped her to check in. They then said goodbye to each other, Ahana promised them she would write to them.



It would be a long time before she sees her family again. Soon the plane took off. One hour passed and Ahana got bored, so she decided that she would sleep. Then with her eyelids getting heavy she dozed off to dreamland. She then woke up terrified of the dream she had. She started panting and her face was all sweaty. Then she realized a menu was in front of her. When she opened the menu, she was spellbound by what she saw, there was spinach cheese sandwich, cheese sandwich, coconut juice, footie, coffee, tea, egg roll, Maggie, chocolate etc she forgot all about her nightmare. She ordered some coconut juice, spinach cheese sandwich and a nice, chocolatey chocolate. She wolfed it down in less than a second. Then she looked out of the window and noticed that she was above the clouds! It was magical. She looked outside for some time and then started reading a book. The book was all about her new boarding school. It was by the coast with a swimming pool which was filled by the sea water, in the photo the water shimmered in the sunshine! Ahana was so excited to swim in that swimming pool. Next there was a page about the school, the name of the school was Aventura Towers, the school looked like a castle, there were four towers on each side, the tower on the north was called north tower, the pool was located near the north tower and had the best view of the seaside, the south tower was called south tower and it had the school greenhouse in front of it, the east tower was called east tower and there was basketball court and football field close by it and last but not the least there was the west tower, there was a huge hall located inside the west tower at the bottom of the tower which was used for performing dramas and plays! There was also a dispensary for sick or injured girls and a music room with pianos, violins, trumpets, flutes and drums. The classes at the school are mathematics, English (which includes drama classes), science, geography, history, French and art classes. Soon it was time to land and Ahana put on the seatbelt. Then the plane landed and then she saw her Aunt waiting for her. Her aunt greeted her and so did she. She said there is a taxi waiting outside it will take them to the school. So, she took her to the taxi, they got in and soon they were off to her new school.

First day at school

It took her four hours to reach the school. When they came closer to the school Ahana saw the sea side and the pool, just like in the picture the pool was simmering in the sunshine! It looked just marvellous! Soon she reached Aventura Towers, there were many girls there but none of knew her. She felt left out. She took her suitcase out of the car and thanked the taxi driver. She went to the dispensary to give her health certificate. There she saw jolly & stern looking women in a formerly black dress. She was very nice to everyone,

but not when they would not listen to what she says. Her name was Miss Gupta. She said "I will be your nurse in the health office". Ahana greeted her and so did she while she was taking out her health certificate she bumped into a girl, Ahana and the strange other girl said sorry, the girl was wearing a hood that covered her face when she started picking up her things her hood fell off, it was just another young girl she looked about 13 years old. Ahana asked her to join her because it seemed as if she didn't have any friends either. "Wait before you two go first, give me your health certificates" said Miss Gupta. Both the girls giggled and said "Whoops sorry Miss Gupta here are our certificates" and they hurried off to their dormitory. On the way to the dormitory Ahana asked her new friend what her name was. The other girl said "Isabel, what's your name?". Ahana said "my name is Ahana". Inside their dormitory there were seven other girls there. Isabel seemed to know them all, she introduced Ahana to them "The girl with short, brown hair with freckles is Maya, she loves all kinds of sports, especially swimming, the girl with long, Dark black hair and a pink shirt and skirt is Amelia, she loves fashion, the girl with the dark brown hair and black dress is Aparna, she loves all kinds of music and can play all the instruments in the music room, the girl with spectacles and black hair is Dhriti she loves to read, stitch and draw, the girl with green eyes and dark black hair, she is not good person to be friends with she is a big show off her name is Geeta and the other girl with green eyes and black hair is her sister but she the total opposite of her sister her name is Meeta, the girl with freckles and dark red hair is Turvi, she loves to play pranks and cook ". All the other girls welcomed Ahana except Geeta. "What is your name?" they asked. "I'm Ahana, how long have you known each other?" she said. "We have known each other since we were in kindergarten, where are you from?" said Dhriti. "I am from Delhi" said Ahana. "Is this your first year too?" she said. "Yes" said the others. "Come on, let's go see the swimming pool" said Ahana. "Yes" said the others. They all set off to the pool! When they reached the pool, it was glittering in the sunshine, it was so bright the girls had to turn away! They immediately decided to come and swim later that day. Soon it was time for tea, the tables were spread with marshmallows, chocolate fountains, veg sandwiches, milk, pancakes with maple syrup and whip cream, sausages and tea! The girls were so excited. They took the table near the window, where Ahana saw a nest of robins and some bunnies going in the burrow. "Finally, she is gone!" said Turvi. "Who?" asked the others. "Geeta of course" said April, "why did she have to go?" they asked. "Because I want to tell you my latest prank! So, my older sister gave me this before school started. It is chalk when anyone writes with it, whatever they write will disappear, isn't it cool?". Everyone agreed. "I want to

play it at the end of the year" said Turvi. They were all confused why she wanted to play it at the end of the year. So Ahana asked "why is that?". she replied "to brighten things up if we get bored.". "OH" the others said. Just as Turvi finished explaining the prank to the others Geeta came back, she suspected something had happened when she was gone because everyone was murmuring or giggling. On the way back they met a woman in the hallway, Ahana was confused she did who she was and what she would teach, Isabel noticed that and said "that is our Class Teacher she will be making sure everything will be clean in the mornings and if go to bed at the given time, her name is Miss Agarwal.". "Okay" replied Ahana. Miss Agarwal told them to go to bed early because they had a long drive. When they reached their dormitory, everyone was sleepy except Ahana for some reason she felt like she had forgotten something. Then her eyelids slowly got heavier and heavier until she fell asleep. In the middle of the night, she woke up as she remembered that she had to write to her parents once she reached. She turned on her night lamp and started writing. She said -

"Dear mum and dad,
I have reached Aventura Towers. At first, I felt very lonely but then I met a girl called Isabel, she showed me around the whole school! There are many amazing things here, like there is a swimming pool and theatre!! I have made many new friends, they all made me feel welcome but there was just one girl, she is very rude and pompous. I don't like her. I will miss you all.
Give my love to Anvita and Arjun."

Ahana folded the paper, put it in an wonderful, colourful envelope and dropped off to sleep.



Just as she fell asleep Geeta got up, she was silently watching all this happen, she wanted to know the secret that Turvi told them. She took it and wanted to make Ahana tell her everything!

A Surprising Morning

It was a glorious morning; the birds were chirping and the Sun shone bright! Everybody was cheerful except Ahana, she realized her letter was missing. The first person she asked was Isabel, but it was no luck she did not know how it looked. She looked and looked, asked everyone. Soon she went up to Geeta, she dragged her into the bathroom and told her "I have your letter but if you want it you must tell me the secret Turvi told you!". Ahana was now in a pretty fix, "Please wait for just one day, I will see what I can do but first you must give me my letter back.", she said, "Deal?". Geeta was deep in thought for a while, then she agreed. Ahana happily took the letter, put it in her locker and went down to the dining room. There the table was filled with pancakes, fruit salad and sandwiches. Ahana went and sat beside Isabel, she was worried. Isabel quickly noticed this and was curious. "What's the matter?" she said. "I found my letter but Geeta had it and she wanted to know the trick April told us about if I wanted it. I told her I will decide by tomorrow but I don't know what to do." said Ahana. "I think you should give the letter back to her and write a new one," said Isabel. "Why didn't I think of this before. Oh! Isabel you are the best!" said Ahana. So, Ahana went to Geeta and said "Geeta, you can take the letter back but I will not tell you what Turvi told us.". Geeta was astonished by this. Ahana dropped the letter on the table and left. She felt good about that. Soon the class started, Ahana and Isabel sat together, Geeta and Sophie sat together, Amelia and Aparna sat together and so did Maya and Dhriti, but Turvi was the odd one out so she sat alone. Soon their Class teacher entered the room, her name was Miss Agarwal. She was stern looking and had a formal, black skirt. Everybody stood still as she entered the class, she stood in front of the class and said "I think you are all wondering who will be monitor for this term.... It will be Ahana.". Ahana first thought she heard her wrong but when everyone came up to her and congratulated her, she was bursting with pride. Miss Agarwal clapped her hands three times loudly and said "everybody back to your seats, let's start by writing down your timetables.". The rest of the classes went calm and silently. A few classes later it was time for a snack, everybody went down the hallways to the dining room. They all sat down, chatted and happily ate except Geeta. Amongst them Ahana was the happiest! Whereas Geeta was as grumpy as ever. She was so grumpy that she only stared at Ahana and played with her food! After snacks she stomped back to the class and thought of a way to get her revenge! She thought and thought but she could think of nothing. Just at that moment their Art teacher, Miss Basu was giving

them an assignment, she said "This year we are having an art exhibit, you will have to draw and design a drawing yourself and submit it to me on my desk by next month.". Suddenly an idea struck her! She thought 'if I find a way to take Ahana's drawing and hide it I can ruin her impression as the monitor of the class! I am a genius!".



The rest of the days went by calmly, everything was in place. Ahana's time as a Monitor was going great, but little did she know something bad was coming her way.

Big Bad Days

Next week everyone had to submit their drawings. Geeta said to herself "day after tomorrow I will put my plan into action, this will be the best day of my life!", but then she noticed see Amelia and Aparna come into the dormitory, but they did not notice Geeta was there instead they noticed Meeta. When they came, they noticed that Meeta was smiling and whispering to herself. Amelia and Aparna felt suspicious about the way she was acting and wanted to find out what made her act so differently because she was pretty sad this week because she was going to have a picnic with her mom and Geeta, but Geeta said she had some work to do, so the picnic was cancelled. They went up to Turvi and Isabel and told them what had happened in the dormitory, Turvi and Isabel too found it suspicious. They all were worried that something bad would happen if they did not find out what Meeta was up to. So, Turvi came up with a plan, she said "I think we should keep a close eye on her for a while, just to make sure she is not up to something bad.". Isabel said "I think we should inform Ahana about this, she is the monitor after all.". "Oh no, we mustn't, we don't really know if she is up to something, let's observe her for a while if she continues to act odd or does something, then we will inform her" said Turvi. They all agreed. So, the rest of the day Amelia, Aparna, Turvi and Isabel followed Meeta secretly all over the school. That night everybody was all very tired. When the light went out not one person said a word as they were all asleep. The next morning everyone was up and early. They all got ready and quickly went down to the dining room. They all ate happily, as usual the food was the most scrumptious food they had ever tasted. They all chatted for some time and

went straight up to their classroom. There their class teacher was already waiting for them. She was wearing a nice flowery skirt and a blue T-shirt that day. Everyone was surprised. Miss Agarwal said "today we are going on a..... field trip! We are going to the seaside all day, we will have a picnic and play some games, so start packing whatever you think you might need".



Everybody's heart pumped with joy, they all ran back to the dormitory and immediately started packing. They were all back in the class in a jiffy. Soon they all set off to the seaside! Miss Agarwal had a picnic basket, in it there were spinach corn cheese sandwiches, lemonade, cupcakes and some fresh water. Everybody played badminton, volleyball, baseball and catch-catch. By the end of the day everyone was so tired they could barely walk! They directly went back to their dormitory. Soon everyone was snoring except Geeta. She was so excited about the plan that she was going to put into action the next night. For a while she couldn't get any sleep. Soon her eyelids got heavy and she dropped off to dreamland. The next morning everyone was still tired because of the amount of fun they had had yesterday. They all slowly ate and got to class; Miss Agarwal was surprised that everyone was so distracted while she was teaching. After all the classes and dinner everyone directly went to the dormitory. Ahana kept her drawing on her table. It was very beautiful, there was a flower on each corner, in between the corners there were strings of roses, inside the border there was a picture of a hummingbird and a flower. Everybody saw it and were in amazement. They loved it so much! They praised Ahana and she thanked them. Soon everyone was asleep except Geeta. Once she was sure everyone was asleep, she got out of her bed and slowly tip-toed up to Ahana's bed. She quietly took the drawing and hid it under her pillow. She soon dropped off to sleep. The next morning Ahana got to know that her drawing was missing and was getting very worked up about it because the submission date was tomorrow! The first person she went up to was Geeta. She allowed Ahana to take a look around. She searched everywhere except under her pillow. What could Ahana do?! Ahana sadly went down to the dining room and ate breakfast and went to class. After seeing what happened in the dormitory Amelia, Turvi, Aparna and Isabel decided to tell her what they already knew. After all the classes they took Ahana to the swimming pool and told her all that they knew. Ahana was

astonished by this. She thought they should do a little investigation first. They all agreed except Turvi because she had a strong feeling that Meeta was the culprit of the thievery. Ahana said "we must not suspect anyone without any proof.". Turvi had no choice but to agree. They all went to the scene of the crime. They all examined the place carefully hoping to find something to find the culprit. Isabel saw something that was a dark-blackish colour. She picked it up and said "I found something!" they all had a look at it and said there are many people in this class who have dark black hair!! Ahana said "I think we should ask everybody with dark black hair and the crime was obviously done in the cover of night". So, they all went to collect everyone with dark black hair. They collected Amelia, Dhriti, Geeta and Meeta. Ahana questioned them "were you all asleep at the time of the crime!?". Amelia said "I was so tired after playing so much volleyball with Turvi.". Dhriti said "I was directly asleep as my leg was hurting because I fell while we were playing catch.". Geeta said "I was very tired after eating so much!". But she had not eaten more than one sandwich! Meeta said "I was asleep because I was very full after eating all those delicious sandwiches.". Ahana immediately knew who it was. She planned to tell everyone tomorrow as she was very tired. The next morning, she told everybody who did it but she was very confused how it was Geeta she had checked her bed yesterday and it was not there! Turvi said "maybe we should ask her.". Ahana said "okay but let's ask her tomorrow in the evening, it's time for us to sleep.". Ahana, Turvi, Isabel, Amelia and Aparna were still very confused about where Geeta could have hidden it and why. They all went back to their dormitory and asked Amelia and Aparna to let the class know what they had learnt. Amelia and Aparna then told them all what they had thought and what they had learnt about the case of the missing drawing. Meeta was the one who was most in amazement because she would never even dream of doing that to Ahana. Dhriti was really confused about how they got to know it was all Geeta's doing. Ahana said "we went to the scene of the crime and looked for some clues. There we found a strand of black hair and we all questioned all the black-haired people, Amelia, Dhriti, Meeta and Geeta, Geeta said that she was very tired after eating so much. I knew she did not eat more than one sandwich, so we knew it was Geeta and that brings me to the point why does Meeta and Geeta have different eye colour. One more thing Meeta, why were you happier than you ever were?". "First me and my sister have different eye colour because Geeta looks more like my dad and I look more like my mom but she is mean because she thinks I get more love than her from my parents so to get what she wants she does a lot nasty stuff. Second, I was happy because my mom, dad and I are going on a picnic together next Sunday because the other

picnic with Geeta, mom and I got cancelled." said Sophie. Ahana said "okay, but why didn't you tell me before?". "I was going to tell you earlier but then your drawing went missing and I had forgotten about it." said Sophie. Geeta came in smiling. All the others knew why. Ahana went up to her and said in a taunting manner "wow Geeta you are looking rather happy, why so?". Geeta said "I don't know, I just feel so great!". They were all soon tired and lay down on their beds. Soon not one noise came from that room. Everyone was fast asleep. As the Moon's rays fell onto their beds.

A Nice End to The Year

In the morning Isabel was getting impatient to find where Emily had hidden the drawing. So, she went up to Ahana and said "when are you going to talk to Emily?". Ahana said in the evening in the dormitory.". "Okay" said Isabel. So, everyone went to the dining room and ate, then went to the classroom. All their classes went by calmly. Soon it became evening everyone went to have dinner. After dinner they went back to the dormitory. Ahana went up to Geeta and said "I know you have hidden my drawing so stop trying to hide and tell me where it is!". Geeta said "oh fine you got me, it's under my pillow.". Ahana said "Wow it's still in perfect condition. Now Geeta you have to tell me why you hid my drawing.". "I wanted you to tell me what Turvi had told you all and I wanted to be the monitor.". Ahana said "okay fine but that's not what you should do, there is always another year.". "Yeah, I realize that now, please can you forgive me.". "Yes, I forgive you, can we be friends and if you want to know the secret Turvi told us you should not tell anyone, it's a prank that Turvi's sister gave her, it is a chalk if anyone writes with it the thing they write will disappear! Isn't it amazing?" said Ahana. "Oh, yes let's be friends and I admit that prank is pretty cool!" said Geeta. So, then she and Ahana became friends and Geeta changed a lot, she was kinder and sweeter. Everybody started liking her and she even joined the picnic with her mum, dad and sister. Everyone felt very happy once the drawing was returned to the rightful owner. But just one thing was left to do, submit the drawings of course! Everybody went to Miss Parker's study and gave her their drawings. Miss Parker was delighted to see such wonderful drawings. The next day was the art exhibit, thousands and thousands of wondrous colourful drawings were displayed. All the children's family members came to see their drawings. Once Ahana's Aunt saw her drawing she was in awe. Ahana's drawing was placed right at the top of them all. Ahana's aunt was overjoyed to see such a wonderful drawing. Everyone was in amazement when they saw it. After the art gallery everyone had the most scrumptious snack, there was peanut butter jam sandwiches, lemonade, orange juice, brownies and

ice cream. After that snack Ahana and her aunt went to see the seaside. The waves crashed lightly on the seashore. They played a few games, chatted a bit and went back to the school. Ahana waved goodbye to her aunt as she left the school. The next day was the last day of the school year. Ahana would miss this place. It was soon time to sleep. Everyone had the most splendid day and had all fallen asleep. It was the last day of the school year and everyone was feeling very sad. Just then Turvi had an idea. "I think now is the right time to play the chalk trick, what do you guys say?" she said. "Yes, let's do it," said the others. So, they decided to play the trick on their science teacher, Miss Dutta.

She was a strict teacher yet had a sense of humour.



Her class was the second last class. Turvi had made a plan, she said "when Miss Dutta enters the class Dhriti will keep her distracted because we all know that Dhriti is Miss Dutta's favourite student, while Dhriti is distracting her Maya will exchange the chalks, okay?". "Okay" said the others. Everybody was so excited they could not pay attention in the other classes. Finally, it became Science class. Miss Dutta was entering the classroom and Dhriti had already started to distract her and their plan was coming in place. Maya slowly crept up and quickly switched the chalks. Dhriti noticed and let Miss Dutta enter the class. Miss Dutta said "today we are going to take down notes about the Human Body chapter.". She picked up the chalk and started to write, the others quickly started writing and within twenty seconds it vanished! Miss Dutta was extremely confused. She started writing from the start again but it was gone. She looked so confused that the whole class burst out into laughter. Then Miss Dutta understood that was a trick and too burst out into laughter. They laughed so much that tears ran down their eyes and they almost choked themselves. At tea time everyone was still talking about the way Miss Dutta looked. Her eyebrows were in a V-shape, her eyes looked very small and her mouth was funny looking. Even thinking about it made them giggle. They all had the most delicious snack anyone could ever think of. There were sandwiches of every flavour, apple and mango juice, chocolate and vanilla cupcakes and chocolate, vanilla, butterscotch and strawberry ice cream. After snacks

everyone including the teachers were full, so they told the cook not to make any dinner. All the girls went back to the dormitory and got ready for sleep. They all went to their respective beds, sat and chatted for a while. Ahana said "I will miss this place in the Summer holidays.". "Me too" said Isabel. "We all will" said Dhriti. They chatted for some more time until all of their eyelids got heavy. Once their head hit the pillow all of them were sleeping soundly. The next morning, they all woke up, got ready and ate breakfast. They got back to the dormitory and chatted as they cleaned their belonging. "this has been the most splendid year" said Ahana. "yes, it certainly has" said Isabel. "I loved the art gallery the most" said Dhriti. "me too" said Maya. "I loved the way Miss Dutta looked when we played the chalk trick on her, it was ridiculous" said Turvi. "yeah, it was!" said Maya. "I loved the time Geeta learnt to kind and generous, when you came with mom, dad and I on our picnic" said Meeta. "yeah, even I felt good when I changed my ways" said Geeta. "hey everyone I finished packing, anyone else done?" said Ahana. "I'm almost done" said Meeta. "I am" said Turvi. "I see some car coming, hey Geeta and Meeta isn't that your car?" said April. "oh yes, it is" said Meeta. "some more cars are coming, see" said Turvi. "that's my aunt's car, she came" said Ahana. "that one is mine" said Isabel. "that one is mine" said Maya. Soon everyone finished packing they all went down the hallway, saying goodbye to their teachers. There was a lot chatter going around the hall. All the teachers had to plug their ears! Everyone soon went up their cars and said bye to each other. They all got in to their cars and waved goodbye to their dear school.

About the Author



The author is a nine-year-old girl, studying in grade four. She is a sweet girl and a loving elder sister. She loves to play outdoor games and has developed a new habit of baking cakes. She is an ardent reader and loves to read mystery story books.

Blurb

Everyone at Aventura Towers is excited for the upcoming Art Exhibition, but what's this, Ahana's drawing goes missing! Will Ahana and her friends be able to find the culprit in time? Read the book to find out.