

The Bullied



This play was created and performed by Mohannad Radwan, Ezzeddin Jaber, Naser Alhafi, Salah Aqel, and Hassan Alnairab from Palestine B UNRWA school, Jabalia, with support from their teacher, Imadeddin Almadhoun.

Scene. At the school canteen, at lunchtime. Four boys come into the canteen and see another boy getting ready to have his lunch sitting on a nice table by the window. Boy 2 approaches Boy 1 and slaps him from behind.

Boy 2: Give me your lunch you coward, and get away from this table.

Boy 1: Why did you do that? Leave me alone!

Boy 2: You are sitting at a nice table and I want it.

Boy 1: I was sitting here before you, so it's my place.

Boy 2: pushes Boy 1 again violently.

Boy 3: Yes, it's his table. You have no right to sit here. GET UP!

[Boy 4 and Boy 5 are standing near Boy 2, watching with an evil smile on their faces]

Boy 1: I will not leave here. This is my place. You cannot take it from me.

Boy 2: Yes, I can, and I will because I have them *[pointing at Boy 3, Boy 4 and Boy 5]*.

They pull Boy 1 away from the table and push him to the ground.

Boy 2: Get this coward away from my table! *[The others do what he asks with no questions]*

The lights go out. When the lights come up again Boy 2 is sitting at the table, eating Boy 1's lunch. Boy 3, 4 and 5 are protecting him while Boy 1 tries to get his place back. He is pushed to the ground every time. He does not give up and keeps trying.

Boy 1: *[talking to Boy 2's friends, on his knees]* It is not right. This is my place. You cannot give it to him.

Boy 3: It's his place now.

Boy 4: And it's his right to be here.

Boy 5: And you should find another place.

One is getting weaker and weaker every time he tries to get back to his place, he sits down hungry. He is under siege by Boy 2's friends in a tiny spot. Boy 1 and Boy 2 both stand up.

Boy 1: I will never give up and will keep trying until I get what is mine back.

Boy 2: *[laughing]* In your dreams you weak coward!

Boy 1: *[to Three, Four and Five]* Even if you protect him and make me hungry by stealing my food and you punish me for trying to have what is mine back, eventually things will return to their rightful owners.

Two and his friends laugh in an evil way.

Boy 3: He is stronger than you are. You should surrender.

Boy 4: Yeah, do as he says, and you will get to live.

Boy 1: NEVER!

The lights go out. When the lights come on again Boy 1 is standing right up close to the audience. He looks out in every direction. There is a very long pause. The lights go out. When the lights come on again Boy 1 is violently pushing Boy 3, Boy 4 and Boy 5. Darkness.



Imadeddin says...

"I only heard about the competition one week before the deadline and I wanted so much to participate, so I delivered the idea to my headmaster and he was of great support to my enthusiasm and facilitated everything for me. With the help of some of my colleagues I held auditions for students to choose the actors and within two days I found what I was looking for, so I met with the students and started to discuss ideas about the play until we reached an agreement about the theme. I asked the students for the events and they all discussed their ideas and we agreed on the events. That night I stayed up till around 4am, adjusting the final script based on their ideas. Then we made the set out of some unused furniture and black posters and curtains. One day before the deadline, we were ready to film the play. It was a very interesting challenge for us all."