

Courage through Shakespeare

Maddie is the girl who sits in the back of the class. The one you never know is there. She is teased, made fun of, and put down lower than everyone else in the 7th grade. Maddie wants to be a completely different person, and she will jump at any chance she can get. The person she wants to get away from the most is the most popular girl at school Peyton. Peyton is fashionable, pretty, and can boss everyone around. She is like an angel to everybody else but her. The only time she escapes it is at dance. Where she can express herself and do things not everyone can do.

Maddie woke up to her loud alarm clock on a cold, wintery, Monday morning. " Ugh, Monday! That means school, and where there is school there is Peyton, and where there is Peyton nothing good ever happens," said Maddie sadly.

Maddie pulled herself out of bed anyway. She got dressed and brushed out her long brown hair. Maddie ran downstairs and started to get breakfast ready, when she looked at the clock she saw it was 6:45, she had to get on the bus at 6:50. She had to skip breakfast so she wouldn't be late for the bus.

" This already isn't a good day," sighed Maddie.

She ran to the big, yellow, shoe smelling bus and got on she greeted her bus driver Adriana.

Maddie walked to her usual seat at the back of the bus. When she walked by people would laugh and point at her. Peyton the blonde hair popular girl was already on the bus. With her sidekicks by her side Lexi, Jamie and Sydney. As Maddie passed Peyton, Peyton stuck her foot out and tripped Maddie. Her books came flying out of her backpack and went all over the floor.

" Ahhh," Maddie screamed as she fell to the floor

" I am so sorry!" Peyton said sarcastically.

But the laughter from the whole bus and loudest from Lexi, Jenna, Sara, and Peyton (of course) said it all.

Sure that's it she didn't mean to. Maddie thought.

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Maddie gathered her books and walked to her seat she tried to ignore the laughing and mean comments as she passes by the seats full of kids. The rest of the school day went by. Maddie tried her best to avoid the name calling like clumsy, loser, and a lot more.

When Maddie got home she flung herself onto her bed.

“ Why does Peyton have to be so mean to me?’ Maddie cried. Now she was crying into her pillow. She continued, “ It is just so annoying she only cares about herself and nobody else, but nobody sees that!”

Just then the house phone rang and it was her Dad.

“ Maddie get ready for dance I’ll be back to pick you up in 10 minutes.” He said.
“Okay Dad,’ she replied

Maddie got ready for dance feeling excited. Ready to do whatever dance threw at her. Maddie loves dance. It is her favorite place on earth. Dance went by fast and she got to learn part of her new dance. When she got home she was exhausted, she plopped down in her bed.

Maddie slowly opened up her eyes she was in the back of a carriage.

Um how did I get hear? She questioned.

She looked down and instead of her leotard she was wearing a fancy blue dress with gold embroidering.

What am I wearing? She exclaimed.

Suddenly the carriage stopped with such a jerk that Maddie flew out onto the sewage filled streets. She stood up and brushed off her dress. When Madiie looked up she saw a tall building, with a white flag on top.

“Maybe I can go into the hotel and ask for directions?” Maddie said to herself.

She opened up the door and walked in she saw a crowd of people in peculiar costumes.

She walked up to a man sitting at a table.

“Excuse me sir?” she asked.

But the man wasn’t paying attention.

“Excuse me sir?” she said a little louder.

“Did thou come to be a part of the company?” the man questioned.

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"No I came to ask for directions." Maddie answered.

"Does thee have no intrest in the arts? The man asked.

"No, it is not that, I am lost and I need to find a way home." Maddie cried.

"I see, well you are in thy great Globe Theatre." He exclaimed.

"The, the Globe Theatre? She stammered

How can this be? That would mean I am in the 1600's. She thought.

The man waited for her response, but nothing would come out of Maddie's mouth.

Maddie looked closely at the man studying him. Then it hit her like a ton of bricks!

"You are not really William Shakespeare are you?" Maddie asked.

"Thou is right," He answered." Shakespeare answered.

Maddie was in shock somehow she had gotten to the 1600's. But how?

The only way I could have possibly gotten here is if I time traveled. But I don't have a time travel machine, so I am stuck here! Maddie thought.

"Mr. Shakespeare, is there a place I might be able to stay here?" Maddie asked.

"Thou can stay in my household," Shakespeare answered.

"Really? Thank You so much!" Maddie exclaimed.

"It is my great pleasure," Shakespeare replied.

"The night is upon us, does thou need to go to sleep?" Shakespeare continued.

"Yeah I think I need to go to bed, it has been a long day," Maddie explained.

Maddie and Shakespeare headed outside of the Globe and walked down the sewage filled streets that looked like the ones she had fallen on before. After a while they ended up in front of a large cottage. Shakespeare lead Maddie up to the front door and let her inside. The house looked different to Maddie. It was larger than her house but the beds were old and ragged, the wallpaper was extravagant bright patterns and colors, the kitchen didn't have anything close to the appliances in her house, and the bathroom didn't have a plumbing system! When Shakespeare lead Maddie into her room his wife Anne Hathaway was fixing the bed. Weirdly enough her face looked exactly like Peyton, but Anne was older.

"Welcome home Will, and who is this young lady?" Anne questioned.

"I am Maddie, I got lost and I need a place to stay," Maddie replied.

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"Thy is welcome to stay her is long as needed," Anne continued.

After Anne finished she left the room and it was just Shakespeare and Maddie. Maddie remembered what she read in her book about Shakespeare not that long ago. He was great at giving advice and Maddie needed that.

"Mr. Shakespeare can I ask you a question?" She asked.

"What is troubling thy mind?" Shakespeare asked.

Maddie told Shakespeare all about Peyton and how nobody is her friend and that she only feels safe at dance. She asked him what she should do and how to tell Peyton to stop.

"What piece of work is a man I often say, it means that every person has a future and a meaning. I also say one may smile and be evil. If Peyton is evil her cover or looks maybe different. You need to stand up for what you believe in," Shakespeare responded.

"I never thought of it that way. Thank you!" Maddie replied.

"Freshen up and then at dawn we can go to the Globe to watch a play I wrote, A Mid Summer's Night Dream," Shakespeare said excitedly.

"That sounds like so much fun!" Maddie exclaimed.

Then Maddie went to sleep waiting impatiently for the next day to come.

The next day Maddie woke to the sound of knocking on her door it was Shakespeare.

"Come in," Maddie said.

"Did thy sleep well?" He asked.

"Yes I did, Can we go see a Mid Summer's Night Dream now?" Maddie Asked.

"Sure the first play starts in ten minutes, let's go," Shakespeare said.

Shakespeare and Maddie headed down the same streets as yesterday. When they got to the Globe there was a white flagon the top. They went in and got a seat in the top row. Maddie could see the grownlings down below. Then the play started. Maddie could almost quote the play, because she had heard it so many times. When the play was over Shakespeare and Maddie went back to his house.

"That was really fun, thanks!" Maddie exclaimed.

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"Very delightful indeed," Shakespeare replied.

Just then Anne walked into the room.

"Why don't you clean up and sleep," Anne suggested.

"That's a great idea, I am exhausted!" Maddie replied.

Maddie got ready for bed and fell a sleep instantly.

BEEP! BEEP! BEEP! Maddie woke to the sound of her alarm clock on a Tuesday morning.

I am back!! It was all a dream! Maddie thought excitedly!!

Maddie got dressed for school and ran down stairs. After she ate breakfast she walked to the bus. When she got on the usual teasing, laughing, and pointing happened.

Peyton stuck her foot out when Maddie wasn't looking and Maddie fell to the floor!

Maddie wanted to cry but then she remembered what Shakespeare told her!

"Peyton, don't do that! Hurting isn't the way to be popular!" Maddie shouted.

Peyton couldn't believe that Maddie just did that! Peyton didn't even know what to say! That time Maddie walked with her head up to her seat! Even a girl from her Math class Katie asked her to sit next to her! Maddie was relieved and happy that the school year went way better than it ever had! It turned out that Katie liked all the same things she did and they became best friends.

Maddie learned an important lesson to always believe in yourself and everybody is a special. Maddie loved life and life really opened to her after she saw who she really was. Remember believe in yourself you are special!

☺ *The end* ☺

