Rising from Ashes



By Abiha Fatima

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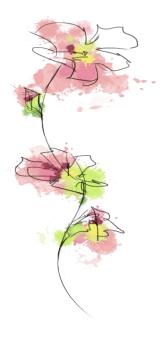
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Book Introduction

In a world where privilege and power shape destinies, young Akmal finds himself at a crossroads. Raised in luxury, he has been given everything—except the discipline and guidance he desperately needs. His behavior spirals out of control, leaving his parents helpless and society unsure of what to do with him. But when Akmal is sent to a boarding school led by the mysterious Mr. John, everything begins to change. What starts as a journey of resistance soon becomes one of self-discovery, as Akmal is drawn into a web of hidden secrets and complex relationships. Along the way, he finds himself torn between two powerful figures—one who seeks to guide him and another who thrives on manipulating him. As friendships are tested and loyalties shift, Akmal must confront not only the people around him but also the person he is becoming. In a battle between the forces of influence, will Akmal choose the path of redemption or be consumed by the very darkness that threatens to take over? This is a story of brotherhood, manipulation, and the quest for identity, set against the backdrop of a world where nothing is ever as simple as it seems.

Author Introduction

Abiha Fatima is a dedicated student pursuing a bachelor's degree in computer science at Virtual University, Pakistan. With a lifelong passion for writing, she is excited to embark on her journey as an author with her first nonfiction book "Rising from the Ashes". Abiha aims to inspire readers to reflect on their own experiences and explore the deeper meanings of existence



Born into wealth

Akmal is a 7-year-old spoiled rich kid. He is very arrogant and disrespectful. He is on his PC and mobile 24/7. He has access to everything around him. He has zero interest on how to live his life properly. He is very abusive and if someone tries to stop him from being abusive, he starts to get extremely frustrated and throw tantrums. His parents are very worried about his rude and unacceptable behavior, but they are helpless because if they punish him, he cries out loud and becomes unmanageable.

Clash of Attitudes

Akmal: Mom where is my PS5, I want to play *Valorant*

Mom: Dear! I don't know, Go find it by yourself.

Akmal: What? This is not my job! you're my mom; it's your duty

Mom: Watch your tone, Akmal! This is not the way to talk to your elders you should behave yourself

Akmal: *Starts Crying*

Mom: Okay, relax let me find it

Akmal: Yes, go find it.

Mom: *hands over the PS5 to Akmal*

Akmal: Next time you better do what I say, otherwise I will hurt myself

Mom: Akmal, why are you like this? the way you behave is very inappropriate. You should not behave like this.

Akmal: *Starts abusing* What do you expect me to do. I will do whatever I want. Go get your chores done and leave me alone.

Mom: *Controls her tears and goes out of the room*.

Sweet 16

"Akmal is now 16 years old and more spoiled than ever. He parties a lot, drinks alcohol, gambles, objectifies women, and has a girlfriend whom he regularly abuses, treating her less than human."

A New Chapter

"Today is Akmal's 16th birthday. He is very excited for his grand party. He woke up at 8:00 AM and began playing his favorite game, 'Valorant.' He didn't realize that his parents weren't at home. He played for five hours nonstop.

The doorbell rings
He furiously smashed his mouse and opened the door to find a tall man standing there, gazing at him with a fierce expression."

Man: What was that noise?

Akmal: *Out of rage* It's none of your concern. This is my house; I can do whatever I want. You tell me, who are you? Why are you here?

Man: My name is Mr. John, and I am here to take you with me, so hurry up and pack your bags.

Akmal: What? No way! I am not coming with you, where are my mom and dad?

His parents arrived

Akmal stomped his feet angrily and said

Akmal: How can you do this to me? Today is my birthday and you're sending me to a boarding school!

Mom: Happy Birthday dear! And this is your birthday gift. Now that you're 16 you must take control of your life, and this gentleman will help you and buy you whatever you want.

Akmal: Really? Mom? This is amazing!

"He goes into his room and packs his bags and leaves his house*

Arrives at the boarding school

Mr. John: *Hands Akmal a rule book and orders* You better follow all the rules, or you will face serious consequences.

Akmal: *Cowardly replies* But my mom told me you're going to give me everything I demand.

Mr. John: For that you must follow my rules and do your tasks properly.

Akmal: *Feeling scared* OK

Akmal opens the rule book and realizes that the rules include not crying and controlling his anger, or he will face physical punishment.

This marks a new start for Akmal, as his parents are no longer there to tolerate his behavior and endure his tantrums.

Mr. John is 34 years old man who got divorced at 26 because his wife turned out to be a gold-digger. He lost his parents at 21, which motivated him to build his empire at very young age and achieve wealth. He is tall and has brown skin. He married Rosie at 24, but due to her wife behavior he divorced her at 26. Mr. John is a soft-hearted person, but when it comes to discipline, he is very strict. At 27, he established a boarding school for children who are particularly spoiled. He has successfully trained and guided up to 100 kids onto the right path. His next challenge is the 16-year-old Akmal, who is abusive and extremely stubborn.

First day First Friend

Akmal awoke up at 11'0 clock, finding Mr. John standing over him. His expression became stern He angrily asked

Mr. John: Why are you so late? you must wake up at 7:00 am sharp. Since this is your first day, I'll let you off with a warning

Akmal: What is your problem? You're extremely annoying. Why don't you just leave me alone?

Mr. John: First of all, watch your tone, secondly, I am not your parent, who allows you to do as you pleased. This is a boarding school where I teach and guide troubled kids like you

on the right path. So, you'd better adjust your attitude—unless you're looking for trouble.

Akmal: Oh yeah? What are you going to do, punish me? Go ahead! I don't care.

Mr. John: *Smirked and responded*As your wish. Go change yourself I have a surprise for you downstairs.

Akmal: Yeah whatever

He went to change and reluctantly came downstairs

*To his shock, He found a large group of students standing in a queue *

Mr. John: Good morning, my lovely students. Today, a new friend has joined us—Akmal. Unfortunately, he didn't follow the very first rule of the Rule book which is to refrain from abusive language. Therefore, he will have to learn a lesson.

Mr. John grabbed Akmal by the arm, dragged him to the front, and struck his hand with a hard wooden stick

Akmal screamed out of pain

Mr. John: I hope you now understand that disrespect and abuse will not be tolerated here. I hope this serves as a reminder to all of you, so behave or there will be consequences.

Akmal: *Holding his tears* I am sorry I wouldn't do this again

Mr. John: You'd better not. Now, students, proceed to your classes and prepare for your upcoming exams.

Akmal: *nervously asked* Sir? What Exam? When will it be conducted?

Mr. John: It will be conducted after 3 weeks

Akmal: What?? Only 3 weeks. How can I cover 6 subjects in 3 weeks? This is impossible!

Mr. John: Take notes from your class fellows and start preparing for exams. Now go to your class and Good Luck!

Akmal: *Went to his class 11 C and sat beside another kid*

Other Kid: Hey, buddy! I am Hadi and you're the new kid Akmal right?

Akmal: Hmm, so what?

Hadi: Oh, you're just like my past self.

Akmal: So, what do I do? I don't care so shut your mouth

Hadi: Hey, buddy its ok relax.

Akmal: I will relax if you keep your mouth shut

Hadi: *smirked* OK

For the first time Akmal realized his behavior and he apologized

Akmal: Ok sorry!

Hadi: Oh, so friends?

Akmal: What friends? I hate friends, they all are so mean and are gold-diggers

Hadi: Listen your story is just like mine. I can understand and I will help you. Just be confident and be yourself, you don't need to worry.

Akmal: *smiled* This is the first time someone said something nice to me

Hadi: So, friends?

Akmal: *laughed* yes.

Teacher came into the classroom

All students: *Stands up excitedly* Good Morning Sir Arsalan

Sir Arsalan: Good morning lovely students.

Stares at Akmal and said Come here Akmal. Introduce yourself

Akmal: * irritably responded* Hello my name is Akmal. I am 16 and my parents forced me to go to this hell

Sir Arsalan: Its ok dear! I can understand you. You missed your PS5?

Akmal: Yes, so much

Sir Arsalan: Ok than I promise that if you behave well in class, I will let you play with my PS6

Akmal: Really sir? You have PS6. Oh, that's amazing I will do my best then

Sir Arsalan: *smiled* No problem, dear! Now go and start focus on the exam

Akmal: Thanks sir!

Sir Arsalan is a substitute teacher. He is 24 years old currently completing his internship. He is doing master's in software engineering. He believes in power of softness and calmness. He deals with kids with kindness and motivates them so much that's why the students love him so much. He had so much trauma in his past, because everyone treated him so badly even his parents let him down in front of his relatives and friends that's why he decided to deal kids with kindness because he doesn't want to make someone feel the way he felt.

The Bonding

Akmal woke up early at 5:00 Am and went to the park for jogging where he saw Mr. John jogging. Mr. John were surprised to see Akmal. He came to Akmal and asked in a serious tone+

Mr. John: How did you get up so early?

Akmal: *mumbles*

Mr. John: What did you say?

Akmal: Nothing Sir! I decided to wake up early and start jogging like I used to when I was younger.

Mr. John: Why did you stop jogging

Akmal: Umm...... because of my childhood trauma......

Mr. John: *raises an eyebrow* What childhood trauma?

Akmal: *reluctantly* Some kid thought I was mocking his sister... she was disabled, so He beat me up. After that, I swore I wouldn't let anyone hurt me again. So, I fought back, changed who I was

Mr. John: It doesn't mean you have to fight and be disrespectful to other.

Akmal: You would never understand me, Mr. John.

Mr. John: It's not like that I do understand you and genuinely want to help you.

Akmal: Really? You want to help me?

Mr. John: Of course I want to

Akmal: Then why don't you leave me alone

Mr. John: *Pats on Akmal's head and responded calmly* Its ok, if you need something let me know.

Mr. John walks away, leaving Akmal both surprised and shaken by the sudden warmth in his behavior

Ultimate Betrayal and conflict

Akmal was very surprised by the sudden change of tone in Mr. John. He was so shocked that he arrived early at assembly hall. He was 15 minutes early. After 15 minutes students are started to come and saw Akmal is early at assembly. All the students were very shocked, and Mr. John was staring at Akmal with a smirk and feeling proud. Hadi was also very shocked

Hadi: *pinched Akmal and asked sarcastically* Who are You?

Akmal: *hits Hadi softly* Are you crazy I am Akmal.

Hadi: Wait..... Really? that's so unexpected, you're early today.

Akmal: Hmm, so what's the big deal?

Mr. John interrupted both Be silent both of you.

Both: *responded* Sorry Mr. John

Mr. John: *smirked*

Assembly ended and everyone went to their classes

Hadi: Mr. John is very strict yet so interesting because of his mysterious personality.

Akmal: He is a little bit weird to be honest

Mr. John enters the class, and both get scared. *Mr. John approached to both and asked*

Mr. John: Akmal what makes me a little weird?

Akmal: No sir I was just joking pls forgive me

Mr. John *responded sarcastically* Well today is your lucky day. Have fun

Then Mr. John addresses the student

Good morning students! I hope you all are doing good. Today we have a very special guest joining us, Please Welcome, your new class teacher Mr. Affan. *Everyone starts clapping*

*Mr. Affan enters the classroom

Mr. Affan: Well Thanks a lot John and everyone. I am so excited to be here and implement some new rules too.

Akmal: *Asked to Mr. John* Mr. John but our class teacher is Sir Arsalan. Where is he?

Before Mr. John responded Mr. Affan interrupted and spoke

Mr. Affan: Oh well hello little champ, you must be john's favorite student Akmal, right?

Akmal: *in total shock* What? Favorite?

Mr. Affan: Oh yes, he talks about you all the time

Mr. John: *frowns but remain silent for a moment and then responded* Everyone be respectful and try not to break the rules. *Turns to Akmal* He is here to help you

Mr. John left the class

Mr. Affan: Students it's time for you to have a free period today I won't give lecture as your syllabus is covered

Akmal: But sir what about me? I just joined this school, and only 10 days left for the final exam.

Mr. Affan: *smirks* Oh don't you worry about your exams; I am here to help you. Just come with me outside.

Mr. Affan and Akmal walks out of the class

Mr. Affan: Do you know I am john's brother?

Akmal: Really?

Mr. Affan: Yes, I am.

Akmal: Can you tell me about him?

Mr. Affan: *smirks* Of course

Akmal: *curiously asked* Why is he like that?

Mr. Affan: John is very oppressive. He always tries to be so mature, but he isn't. That why his wife Rosie divorced him after being in a toxic marriage with him for two years.

Akmal: What? Divorced?

Mr. Affan: Yes, he just wants to control everyone that's why he made this boarding school to control students

Akmal: But I guess he is changing

Mr. Affan No he is not, He is just making you obedient so that he could control you just like other students like Hadi

Akmal: No, Hadi is not under control

Mr. Affan: He is under control, even John told him to be your friend. He is just making you obedient but fortunately I am here to help you, and you'll help rest of the student

Akmal: Yes, I will

After talking to Mr. Affan Akmal started to doubt his surroundings. He also started to doubt on Hadi

Hadi: *approached Akmal* Hey buddy! What happened?

Akmal: *Angrily pushed Hadi* Stay away from me

Hadi: What? Why are you fighting?

Akmal: It's none of your business. Stay away from me for now on.

Hadi left the classroom crying and Mr. John saw and approached Akmal

Mr. John: *with a stern expression* Akmal why did you pushed Hadi. Isn't he your friend?

Akmal: Shut up!

Mr. John *shocked* Akmal behave yourself!

Akmal: Oh, you're going to punish me. This is the only thing you can do. You know what this is reason why your wife left you. You are so arrogant.

"Mr. John stood there, unbelievably stunned. His face tightened with hurt as his eyes filled with sadness. Without saying a word, he turned and walked away, his heart clearly heavy with disappointment."

Mr. Affan: *approached Akmal* Well done Akmal. You did a very good job. Let me just give you something. *Hands over the bottle of wine to Akmal*

Akmal: Wine? Sorry I can't drink it

Mr. Affan: Of course you can. We will drink it and party tonight.

Akmal: *Got excited* Yes, we would have so much fun.

Hadi listened all the conversation between Mr. Affan and Akmal and heads to Mr. John, seeing him feeling upset.

Hadi: Mr. John

Mr. John: Yes, Hadi what happened?

Hadi: I know you're sad because of Akmal, but there's something you need to know

Mr. John: What? Say it

Hadi: Mr. Affan is manipulating Akmal against you and me. He was the one who told Akmal about your divorce.

Mr. John: I should have not trusted him; I knew it he will do something like that.

Hadi: Don't worry sir I will fix this

Mr. John: *smiles*

Hadi: Sir one more thing, Mr. Affan is influencing Akmal to drink alcohol

Mr. John: *In rage* I won't let that happen.

Thanks, Hadi, for letting me know I'll handle both of them.

Mr. Affan is Mr. John's younger brother who is 28 years old. Mr. Affan was just like Akmal. He was also very spoiled. After the death of their parents Mr. John took care of Mr. Affan because he was 15 at that time but he never realized how much his brother loved him, instead he blames his brother for their parent's death. That's why

he's trying to manipulate Akmal because he isn't fully disciplined and its easy for Mr. Affan to manipulate him.

The Plan

Mr. John and Hadi arrived at Akmal's room before Mr. Affan.

Mr. John: Is it a good time to talk with you?

Akmal: Hmm, what's your problem?

Hadi: You are the problem, are you thinking straight? Why can't you understand that little s...... *Mr. John clears his throat* I meant to say Mr. Affan is manipulating you against us.

Mr. John: *sarcastically responded* Just like a stupid hero in movies

Both replied at the same time You know about movies?

Mr. John: Of course I know. I watch movies at my free time

Again replied Seriously? You watch movies? We thought that you read books on how to control students.

Mr. John: *laughed* No

Akmal: Umm so you're not trying to control me or anyone?

Mr. John: No, I am just here to help you because.....

Both get curious Tell us the story please.

Mr. John: I was 21 years old and Affan was 15 when we both lost our parents. He was just like

Akmal. Abuses, parties a lot, drink alcohol and everything. So, I decided to help him and get him on the right track but unfortunately it was too late he went too far. So, I unfortunately abandoned him that's why he hated me. He even tried to end my marriage by bribing my wife, so I divorced her. But after years of hatred, few days ago he apologized, but I didn't realize that he would end up doing this.

Akmal: *Apologized* I am so sorry I said that to you

Mr. John: *smiles* It's ok I understand

Akmal: I don't have any brother. Will you both be my brothers? Mr. John as my big brother and Hadi as my little brother

Both get emotional Yes, we will

All of them shared a tight hug

Comeback of Sir Arsalan

Due to personal issues sir Arsalan took a break, that's why Mr. Affan manipulated his brother Mr. John and took his position. Sir Arsalan approached Mr. John and argued with him

Sir. Arsalan: Mr. John (call him twice)

Mr. John: Oh, Arsalan you're back

Sir. Arsalan: Of course I am, but I told you not to give my position to anyone. And you give it to that Affan. I told you about him, He's not a good person. Why did you give him my position?

Mr. John: Arsalan I told you, he apologized to me, and you know he's my younger brother.

Sir Arsalan: So, what if he's your brother. He is not good.

Mr. John: I know I am sorry. I didn't know until Hadi told me that he saw manipulating Akmal.

Sir Arsalan: Oh no this is not good. He's after Akmal. You know he will try his best to manipulate him again.

Mr. John: Don't worry I already warned Akmal about him

Sir Arsalan: And you think he will stop there? Mr. John Affan is very clever, he will find another way to manipulate him.

Mr. John: Don't worry I will handle him.

Sir Arsalan: Seriously? You will handle him? In my experience I haven't seen you manage handling anything. If you would've handled things, he wouldn't have been in my position right now

Mr. John: Enough Arsalan, Stop it. I know you're worried because of Akmal, but it doesn't mean you have the right to say that to me.

Sir Arsalan: Its funny how I thought you would think about me and will never let anyone take my place, but I was wrong. Of Course, he is your brother, and you'll take stand for him.

Sir Arsalan left Mr. John emotional

After the argument Mr. John felt so disappoint and heartbroken. He started to blame himself. Mr. Affan was watching all of this and was smiling. He approached Mr. John **Mr. Affan:** It's so sad that Arsalan has started to hate you

Mr. John. *Furiously replied* Shut up Affan. This is all because of you. I shouldn't have listened to you.

Mr. Affan: This is not my fault!

Hadi and Sir Arsalan interrupted Mr. Affan

Hadi: You betrayed Mr. John, so shut up

Mr. Affan: *smiled* Listen kid this does not involve you. You should stay away from this or else you'll face big consequences.

Hadi: This is my problem; you're using my friend for your own good. I won't let that happen

Mr. Affan: Ok Fair enough, if you really want to be involved in this after all then be ready for major consequences

Sir Arsalan: Stop fighting with kids Affan. Fight with us

Mr. Affan: With whom?

Sir Arsalan: Me and Mr. John.

Mr. Affan: Oh, but I thought you two are fighting

Sir Arsalan: He will always be my big brother. I won't leave him alone even if we are fighting

Mr. Affan: Aww! That's so sweet. But you know right, every student likes me here it'll be difficult for john to fire me or fight against me

Hadi: We'll see about that. You should go now; we don't want your bad company around us.

Mr. Affan: *laughed* I see you're being protective, I kind of like that these two are using 16-year-old to defend themselves

Hadi: Just shut your mouth and leave

Mr. Affan leaves with a wicked smirk

Mr. John: *in a serious expression* Hadi behave yourself, you should not talk to him like that. He's your teacher.

Hadi: Sorry sir I can't myself when he's around

Sir. Arsalan: I agree, he doesn't deserve that respect.

Mr. John: Still, you shouldn't behave like that

Hadi: Ok sir as you say.

Mr. John approached Sir Arsalan for a hug, but he refused

Sir Arsalan: Sorry I don't feel good right now I need to rest. *leaves*

Mr. John: *cries*

Hadi: Mr. John don't worry, Sir Arsalan will understand eventually, he just needs time

Mr. John: I need some time as well

Mr. John leaves

Hadi: *feels sad*

The Exam.

Today is the day of final exam and Akmal is feeling anxious because of exam. Hadi approached Akmal

Hadi: Hey buddy! All good?

Akmal: No Hadi I am too scared because of my exam. You know this is the first time I am this worried about an exam.

Hadi: And why is that?

Akmal: It's because I failed my exam multiple times, but my parents always have given a hefty amount to promote me to next class. Now I realize how ungrateful I was to my parents.

Hadi: Buddy don't blame yourself. Just be happy that you have changed now.

Akmal: Thank You so much Hadi for having my back. I can always count on you.

Both shares a deep hug

Hadi: Now don't be scared and just do your exam.

Akmal: Yeah of course, your notes can help me pass. I just want to be promoted to 12th with you

Hadi: *laughed* Yeah don't worry you will

Mr. Affan interrupted both

Mr. Affan: What you two are laughing at?

Hadi: You

Mr. Affan: *tightened his grip on Hadi's neck, his voice dripping with anger*

Mr. John: *slaps Mr. Affan* What are you doing Affan?

Mr. Affan: How can you slap me john? Don't you see? This little kid is laughing at me

Akmal: That doesn't mean you should grab him by his neck. He's just a kid

Mr. Affan: These two are using you

Akmal: If that's what they are doing, I want to be controlled by them. In fact, I am tired of your manipulation. Stop it.

Mr. Affan: You'll regret this

Akmal: Fair enough. I am ready for that. Just leave.

Mr. Affan: Don't worry I'll be back soon

Left the school with anger

Everyone got shocked

Akmal: Sorry Mr. John and Hadi. I should have never doubt on you two. Sir Arsalan told me everything about Mr. Affan.

Sir Arsalan enters

Akmal: Sir Arsalan and Mr. John please be friends again.

Mr. John and Sir Arsalan looks at each other for a moment than shares a tight hug

Both: Thank You Akmal for this. Also, good luck for the exam it's time.

Akmal: Thank you sir!

Both goes in the exam hall

Arsalan: Sorry Mr. John I blamed you

Mr. John: It's ok Arsalan. I am not upset with

you.

Arsalan: Thank You brother

Mr. John *smile* Welcome.

The End?

Today is the result of final exam. Akmal is worried because his parents are also coming to take him home after 2 months. Janitor calls Akmal

Janitor: Akmal Mr. John is calling you downstairs

Akmal: Ok I'll be there in 5 minutes

*Akmal changes and goes downstairs where he saw his parents with Mr. John.

Akmal: *rushed to his parents* Mom Dad

*His mom and dad looked so happy to see their son.

Mom: Son, Are you Good?

Akmal: Yes mom, I am

Mr. John: *smiles* Let us talk about the result

Dad: Yes sir Of Course. I know he didn't qualify right?

Mr. John: What are you saying? He did qualify. He got 55%

^{*}Parents got shocked*

Dad: really? He passed?

Mr. John: Of course. He did his best.

Akmal: *Got excited* Wow I passed. Thank You Mr. John for leading me to the right path.

Gives Mr. John a big hug

Mr. John: *Hugs him back* I am so proud of you. I'll miss you.

Akmal: I'll miss you too.

Akmal saw Hadi leaving with his parents

Akmal: *Rushed to Hadi and shouted* Hadi stops right there.

Hadi: *stopped* Buddy

Akmal: Buddy I passed I got 55%

Hadi: *excited* And I got 60% close right?

Akmal: Oh, wow congrats

Hadi: You too Buddy

Akmal: Thank You so much Hadi for having my back all the time. I will miss you so much. Please don't forget me.

Hadi: Are you stupid? Of course I won't

Both shares a deep hug

Hadi: Now buddy it's time for me to go. I'll see you after the vacation. Until that have fun and bye.

Akmal: *smiles* bye buddy.

^{*}Hadi leaves*

*Akmal's parents was so happy to see their son changed behavior, His dad thanked Mr. John.

Dad: Thank You so much sir. I am so happy to see improvements in Akmal's behavior.

Mr. John: No Problem, Also I wasn't the only one who lead him to the right path. Sir Arsalan also helped to reform him.

Sir Arsalan enters

Sir Arsalan: No that's not the case. Brother john also helped him so much.

Akmal: *sarcastically said* Stop it. No one helped me it was me who changed my behavior.

*Everyone laughed

Akmal: Well, thank you so much. I had so much fun here and I'll miss you Sir Arsalan and Mr. John.

Both: We will miss you too.

Shares a tight hug

The End?

