

## The Best Advice I Ever Had

When I was about 12, I had an enemy<sup>1</sup>, a girl who liked to point out<sup>2</sup> my shortcomings<sup>3</sup>. Sometimes she said I was lazy<sup>4</sup>. Sometimes she said I wasn't a good student. Sometimes she said I talked too much, and so on.

I tried to put up with<sup>5</sup> her as long as<sup>6</sup> I could.

At last, I became very angry. I ran to my father with tears<sup>7</sup> in my eyes. He listened to me quietly<sup>8</sup>, and then he asked, "Are the things she said true or not? Mary, didn't you ever wonder<sup>9</sup> what you're really like? Go and make a list<sup>10</sup> of everything she said and mark<sup>11</sup> the points that are true. Pay no attention to the other things she said."

I did as he told me and to my surprise, I discovered<sup>12</sup> that about half the things were true. I brought the list back to my dad. He refused<sup>13</sup> to take it.

"That's just for you. You know better than anyone else the truth about yourself. When something said about you is true, you'll find it will be helpful to you. Don't shut<sup>14</sup> your ears. Listen to them all, but hear the truth and do what you think is right."

Many years have passed. The situation often appears<sup>15</sup> in my mind.

In our life we often meet with some trouble<sup>16</sup> and we often go to someone and ask for advice. For some advice, you will treasure<sup>17</sup> all your life!

- 1 enemy n.敌人
- 2 point out 指出
- 3 shortcoming n.缺点
- 4 lazy adj.懒惰的
- 5 put up with 忍受
- 6 as long as 只要
- 7 tear n.眼泪
- 8 quietly adv.安静地
- 9 wonder v.想知道
- 10 list n.列表
- 11 mark v.标记
- 12 discover v.发现
- 13 refuse v.拒绝
- 14 shut v.关上, 封闭
- 15 appear v.呈现
- 16 trouble n.烦恼
- 17 treasure v.珍视, 珍惜