

## THE GHOSTLY PHOTO

The night show began as usual. Anil had plugged the earphones to his ears as the radio show started with its ghastly note to attract the horror lovers. Anil placed well his ventral part on the soft cushion of the bed and a mathematics book was lying in front of his closed concentrated eyes. The charming yellow coloured pen which had already taken a credit into its pocket that it had attracted a varied types of fauna on its arrival to Anil's home. This set also includes a dog and a canary bird.

Then began the story: Ashok a child of 13 years always slept on a bed from which a drop of blood fell during the night into a pot which was till date half-filled. One night before the day on which the pot filled completely a number of spooky things happened. During his way to school he saw a grandmother who was walking holding a stick but as she saw Ashok, she started running and when he caught hold of him he broke his both legs and ate the bones in front of his tear filed eyes leaving him a lamenting child who was not able to stand..... The story will continue and stay tuned.

Anil completely adsorbed on the start and absorbed in Ashok's character got a slight relief and opened the mathematics book but to his great disappointment, he did not saw a single lucid and limpid problem for his mind to solve. He shook his head and turned to the old mathematics book which he had just received from his mother. His mother said that this book has a lot of nice eye-catching problems definitely making the brain somewhat in a better position.

Anil's curiosity increased remembering these words and he opened the book to see the contents and got hold of them the chapter Polynomial Factorization. He started running his eyes on the page numbers and index and middle finger with the pages to reach page number 113. He on the

way felt a glued thick substance on some few pages back and then he turned to that page and saw a photo pasted opposite.

He saw the white back of the photo and saw the words *Glamour* word written in italics. He then turned to see the front of the photo but the quartered story began: Ashok has seen a dreadful situation in his life for the first time in his life and then thought of crying but 'Wake Up it is late to school' broke his dream and he got ready to go to school and while running he saw a stick was lying on the road and a grandmother was trying to pick it up. He got a terror and asked one of his friends to help her.

'Why can't you help? You always like to help everyone and now what happened?'

'Today I made a promise to help no one so can you please help her?' said Ashok and waited to see the old wrinkled sad and miserable grandmother being helped by his friend and saw the watch and ran to his school overlooking and overtaking the grandmother.

The grandmother when she saw Ashok ran after her shouting but Ashok reached his school and looked back but he saw nobody behind him but a grandmother cursing and shouting Ashok. Ashok what he could have done but closed his ears and ran to his school and after the school was over there was a parent teacher association meeting as the exam results were out already and Ashok was happy.

But what he saw was enough to make his complete blood go cold and freeze like the ice caps. He saw the same carbon copied grandmother in front of his eyes holding one of his classmates and smiling and smiling at him..... The story will continue and stay tuned.

Anil again turned his eyes to the old book and saw the photo and it was enough to make him shout but he controlled and observed the photo of a man whose eyes were black and not a single part of the face visible except the complete black eyes.

He changed the page but the image was still printed on his mind and he thus observed the photo from some proximity and saw another face and this was like an alien and he shouted this time. His parents came rushing to him and he told that a cockroach passed through his feet making him to shriek.

His parents then called him and made him to sit on the dining seat and gave him food to eat. All the terror was gone when he saw two chapattis and some fish curry. He ran his fingers through the curry and felt the congenial smell and scrumptious taste. But before even he started to eat the halved story began:

The class teacher asked Ashok to help her in arranging and distributing the answer sheets and Ashok though doing his work was remembering the grandmother's smiling face. He then asked one of his classmates to take his seat and duty and he went to the washroom and saw a chalk in the gate of the washroom. He then lifted that chalk and saw that it was completely dry and as he broke the chalk he saw red blood dropping on his shoes and he rushed inside the washroom and after five minutes came out and occupied his seat. He continued his work and then suddenly the grandmother came and asked for a Romen's paper and then Ashok searched the papers and then realised that no such name was there in the bundle of the answer sheets. As Ashok answered with a fear in the tone that there was no such paper but the grandmother said that to search for another time..... The story will continue and stay tuned.

Anil was in a stagnant position but one of his fishes piece was missing and he got terrified that he has not ate then still it was gone but how? Then he asked his father and he replied that the fish was in his name and laughed. Anil ate very sadly the second piece and completing his dinner went to the bedroom and there he looked at that book and then he opened that page and then saw that photo has changed a bit and he was then accompanied with a fear that what the heck was

happening with him that night. Then the story began its last tone: Ashok then saw that his teacher was coming and then saw that the grandmother started running towards the out of the class and when his teacher entered the classroom he saw that only Ashok was sitting with a gaping mouth and then the teacher asked the reason but Ashok nodded his head and asked if to pack the bundle and keep it in the examination room and if he can then disperse. The work was completed and then he set off towards his house and on the way saw the same grandmother at the same spot where he had seen her earlier was picking the same stick and called Ashok but he overlooking and acting as if he was not able to listen a single word ran towards his house and as soon as he reached his house he saw that the grandmother was sitting on the sofa and his mother was serving her by giving a cup of tea and grandmother was smiling at Ashok and Ashok came near his mother and asked who she was then Ashok's mother said that she was tired and asked me to take her in and I took her in and asked me for a cup of tea. But why are you asking these?

And suddenly the plugged earphone created a *shhhhh*..... sound and as Anil looked to the mirror he was terrified to see that no earphone was attached to his ears but still a *shhhhh* sound was coming and looking at the mirror he touched his ears and then felt that the earphones were still plugging but he was not able to see it in the mirror. Then he got a little bit of rile and closed the book and slept.

Anil heard the story from his fellow students and Ashok woke up from the dream and got relief. Then he went somewhat forcefully into the below area of cot and got stuck and then he touched the pot and the water in it got Ashok drenched and somehow with the help of his parents and smelt the liquid and said 'Sweat! I would have to bath 10 times now!'

Then his mother said 'Don't worry the sweat is yours that is you disagreed us to move the fan and you thus sweated so much that the pot is filled .' And then Ashok's parents laughed.

And this made Ashok rise up really in the 3 AM and turned on the fan and looked below the pt to see non pot available!!!

Anil then said 'He woke up four times. Better he should not have slept!!' And all his friends were laughing.

After the school hours were over he came home and opened the same page where the photo was there and tore the photo and then and then laughed so loudly that his parents came rushing to him and then they also started laughing as it was the younger newly born version of Anil!!! On the face there was written 'the younger newly born version of Anil.'

