

## A Birthday



Crowds of people filled the room, bringing in sounds of laughter and joy into the house. Chatters filled the entire house as I walked down the twirling stairs. I walked into the living room filled with all my relatives and friends. They were here to celebrate my 12<sup>th</sup> birthday and also an early Christmas. Shining decorations hung on the walls and windows, along with colourful balloons and streamers.

I have been waiting for this day since I was 9 years old. My parents have been planning this day since the starting of the year. They could not believe that I was turning 12 and kept saying that I was growing up too fast. My family and friends wished me a happy birthday as I walked past them to go to the kitchen.

The kitchen was filled with different delicious smells wafting around. I took in a deep breath as I walked over to my mother, hugging her tightly. The kitchen was filled with different delicacies, all made by my family.

My mouth watered as the different smells entered my nostrils. I swiftly picked up a chocolate eclair from the table and popped it into my mouth.

Closing my eyes, I enjoyed the savoury goodness of the eclair as I went out to the living room in search of my cousin. Walking around the room, I discovered that she had not arrived yet. I walked out to the small garden in front of our house and sat on the bench facing the neighbourhood.

As I stared up at the sky, someone tapped my shoulder. Turning around, I realised that it was only my brother. He told me that the feast was starting soon and I headed back in. Inside, my

mother was ushering everyone outside towards the public pond near our house. A long table set with chairs was placed beside the dark blue pond. People started taking seats, talking and laughing with each other.

I immediately spotted my cousin and immediately ran over to her but my father forced me to sit at the head of the table and placed a small glittering silver tiara on my head.

Smiling widely and mouthing “Thank you”, I took my seat and looked at all the people who was there. My friends had made it and many of my family members were there. Eventually, everyone sat down and looked expectantly at me. Realising that they wanted me to say something, I cleared my throat and stood up.

“Thank you to all of you for making it here today. I am glad that you are all celebrating my birthday with me here, at the pond. So...enjoy the food!” I grinned widely and sat back down as my parents and brothers appeared with dishes in their hands. Everyone started digging in once all the food was set on the table. I felt elated to be able to celebrate my birthday with everyone here. It was a very joyful occasion as kids started running and playing with each other around the pond. The food cooked by my mother was delicious and I savoured every mouthful of it. After a while, dessert was laid out and I stuffed my mouth with different cakes and pastries.

As everyone finished their food, my mother pushed a cart towards the table. A cloth was covering the top of the cart, covering the item underneath it from my sight. Stopping beside me, my mother pulled away the cloth in a flourish and revealed the most beautiful cake I have ever seen in my entire life. It was a two layered rainbow coloured cake and had the words ‘Fit-Rah Nabilah’ in royal purple at the top. Tiny purple and gold flowers speckled all over the cake.

I squealed in delight as I started jumping up and down like a little girl. I could not contain my excitement. As I finally managed to calm down, everyone at the table began singing 'Happy Birthday' and snapping photos as I cut the cake.

I could not believe that my feast was such a success. It had been my best birthday and I would never forget it.

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