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Milad Goes to the Library



Written and Illustrated by Lauren Piovesan

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Milad Goes to the Library Level 4

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Author: Lauren Piovesan

Illustrator: Lauren Piovesan

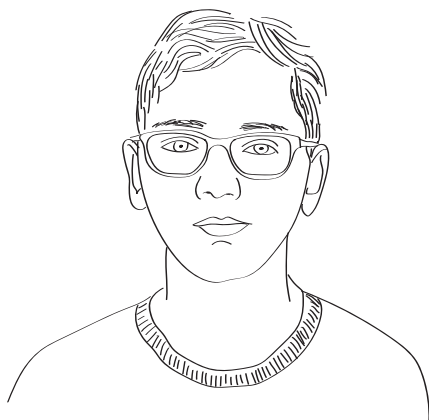
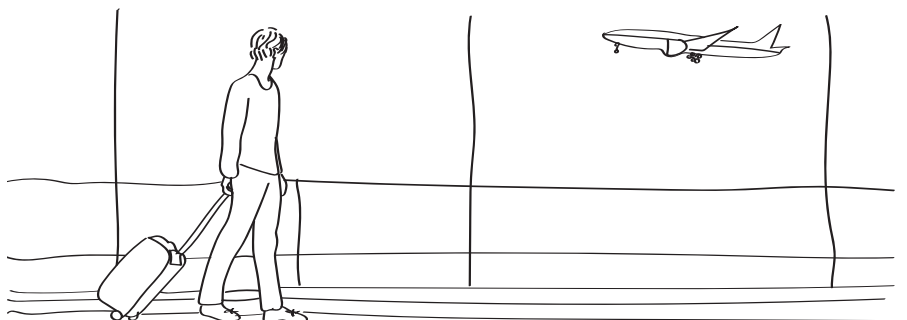
Editor: Lauren Piovesan

This story has been checked for cultural appropriateness by Anahita Diba, a member of the Iranian community.

Thank you to the above and to the many people who have inspired and supported these stories; in particular to the wonderful students and school staff that I have had the privilege of working with.

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This is Milad and he is from a small town overseas. He moved to a new country on his own to study English. He was afraid to leave his family behind but excited for this new adventure. He knew that sometimes, you had to take a risk.

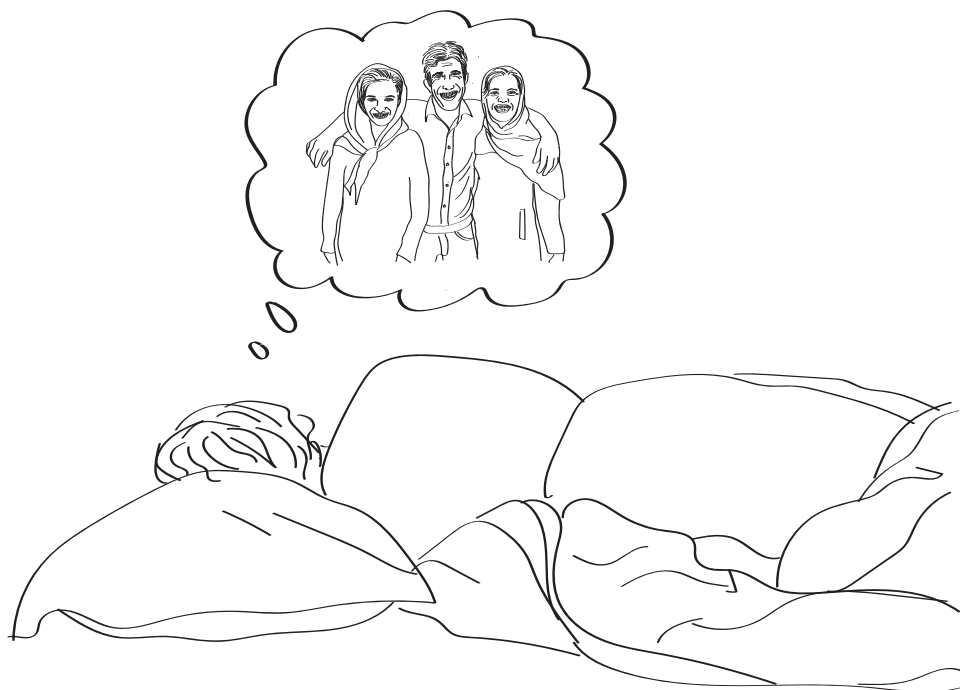
“Nothing ventured, nothing gained,” he believed.



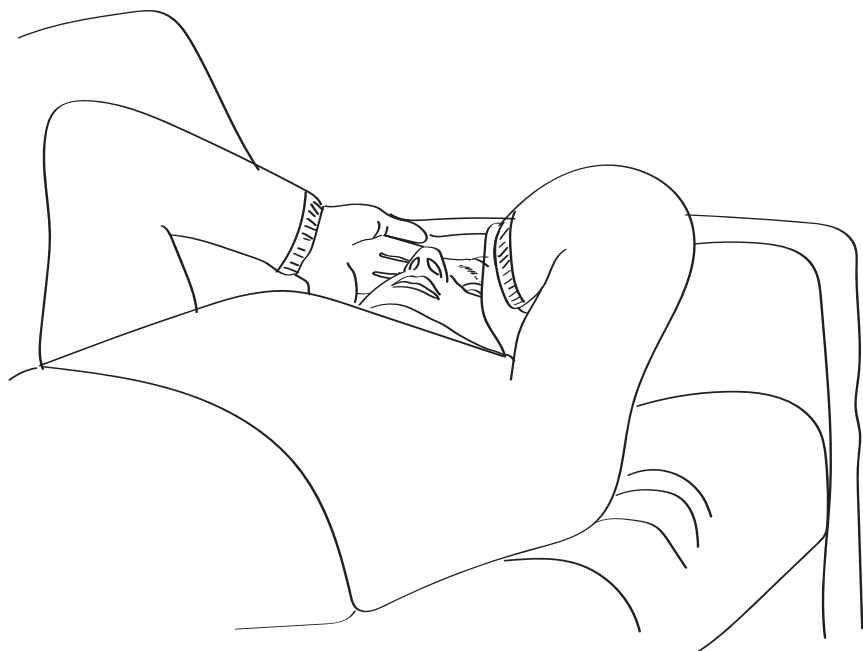
When Milad first arrived, he was very pleased. He loved the big city; the skyscrapers, the shops and all the different types of restaurants. It was a loud and busy place, and while it was very different to his hometown, he felt safe. There was a lot to see and do in the city after his English classes and on the weekends.



However, six months later, Milad began to feel differently about his new country. After he had explored most of the city, he found it harder and harder to fill his time with different places to go. He missed his family back home desperately and would speak to them on the phone nearly every night!

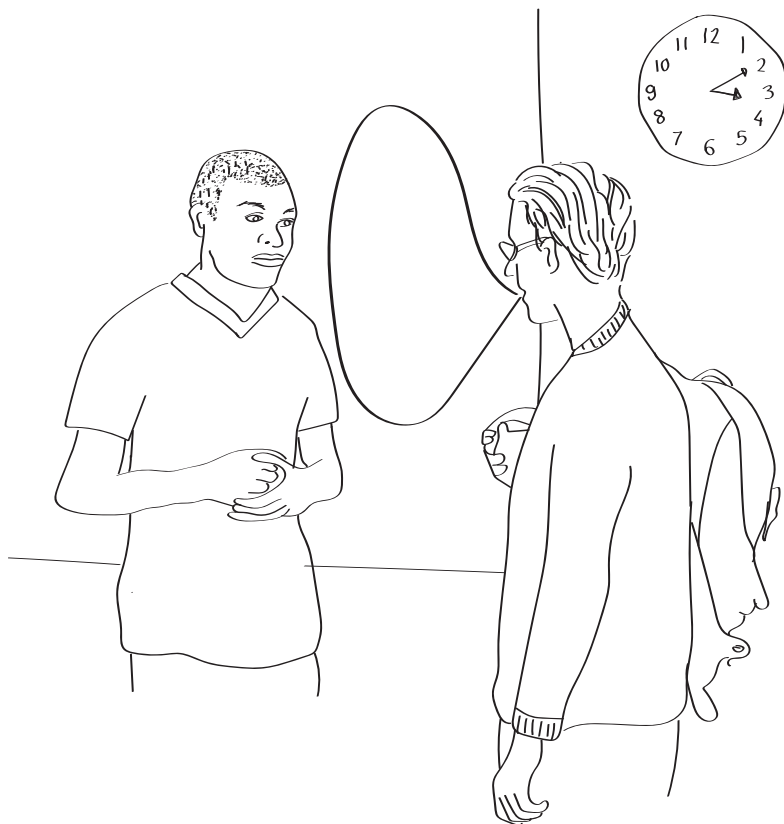


He didn't know anyone and he was finding it increasingly difficult to make friends. It was especially hard because he was still learning English himself. So most of the time, Milad sat in his bedroom all alone. He got used to staying in the safety of his own home and began to lose the desire to leave.



Milad noticed a change in his mood too. He began to feel nervous and afraid more often. He knew it wasn't good for his mental health to be spending so much time alone and inside. He just didn't have a clue what to do!

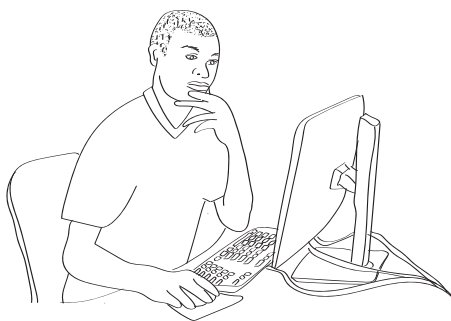
Finally, he decided he would talk to one of his classmates to get some ideas.



The next day, Milad worked up the courage to ask his classmate Amadi, “What do you do after you finish English classes?”

“I go to the library around the corner from school,” replied Amadi.

“Cool, what do you do there?” asked Milad.



"I read books, use the internet and attend different programs there," explained Amadi. He spoke about how he liked to go to the library because it was a tranquil space compared to his chaotic family home. "It's so quiet!" he said happily.



Milad had never been to the public library before. He had no idea that they had programs and classes! So Amadi insisted that he would take Milad to the library with him and give him a tour. The next day, after English class, Amadi found Milad.

“Follow me!” he said, as they walked to the library.



When they arrived, Milad was in awe. There were aisles and aisles with shelves from the floor to the ceiling full of books. There were multiple desks, computers and printers. It seemed that there was a book on every topic you could possibly think of! Milad even found a few books in Farsi! Amadi was right. It was so peaceful here.



Milad scoured the many book shelves and selected a couple of books to take home.

“How do I pay for them?” Milad asked Amadi innocently.

Amadi laughed at Milad, then realised he wasn’t joking.

“They are free for you to borrow for one month,” he explained. “Do you have a library card?”



Amadi took Milad over to the librarian's desk and helped him answer her questions. Then, the librarian handed Milad his shiny, new library card. Once he had his card, she proceeded to show him the other libraries that he could go to. There were four in his area and some were even bigger than the one Amadi had taken him to!

LIBRARY

Program Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Writing club 10.00am 	3 year old Storytime 9.00am 	2 year old Storytime 9.00am 	Book club 11.00am 	3 year old Storytime 9.00am 
Homework club 3.30pm 	Resume Writing 4.30pm 	Crafts 3.30pm 	Computer Class 4.00pm 	English Conversation 2.00pm 

The librarian explained the many different services available at the library. She described how you could borrow books, study in the quiet section, use the computers and printers and go to different programs and events. She gave him a timetable of the library's weekly programs and recommended that he give them a try.



Milad was so excited! He saw computer classes, English conversation classes, homework clubs and even a resumé writing class! Milad decided to try the computer class first, which was on the upcoming Thursday at 4:00pm. He also wanted to try the resumé writing class as he had been thinking about getting a part-time job.



After Milad had had a good look around the library, he went to the front desk to check out his books. He gave his big pile of books to the librarian and she showed him how to scan them using the self-serve machine. The machine spat out a long, detailed receipt.

Public Library
Card no: 46829
22/04/22 3:30pm
You checked out:
1. Learn English
Due: 22/05/22
2. All about the
City.
Due: 22/05/22
3. ماهی سیاه کوچولو
Due: 22/05/22


“This is a really important receipt,” explained the librarian.

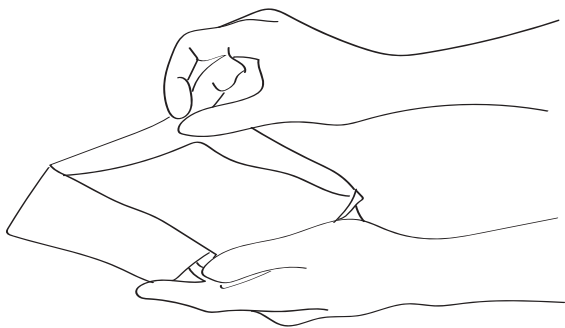
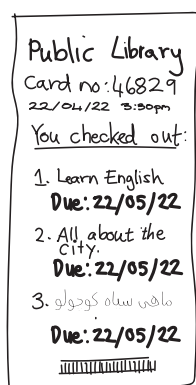
“These books are only to borrow and this receipt tells you when you need to give them back, so make sure you keep it safe,” she warned.

“Thanks for your help,” said Milad gratefully. He looked at the due date on the receipt.



“One more question. What happens if I forget to give them back on the due date?” Milad asked.

“Each day they are late, you will get a small fine. If you lose or damage a book, you will need to pay for it,” said the librarian with a serious look.



Milad carefully folded the receipt and placed it in his wallet for safe keeping. Milad and Amadi walked out of the library grinning at each other and carrying a heavy pile of books.

“Which one should I start with?” Milad thought as he looked excitedly at his books. It had been so long since he had read a book in his language!



“Thanks for taking me here Amadi. I hope we can go together again,” said Milad. He felt grateful to have a friend like Amadi who could help him discover new places. It made him feel hopeful for the first time in a long time. “The library seems like a great place to learn new things and meet new people!” he thought.

Ana Sees the Doctor



Written and Illustrated by Lauren Povey

Jok Feels Stressed



Written and Illustrated by Lauren Povey

Taw Meh Can Speak



Written and Illustrated by Lauren Povey

Sayed's Test



Written and Illustrated by Lauren Povey

Filan and Mariam Go to a Café



Written by Lauren Povey
Illustrations by Anna Di Quinto

Layla Wants a Job



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Milad loves his new country but recently, he can't stop thinking about home and his family. He stays in his house a lot and finds it hard to leave. He knows he needs to change something to feel better. What will Milad do to feel like himself again?



Pre-Level 1

Level 1

Level 2

Level 3

Level 4