

Collins

AMAR  
CHITRA  
KATHA

# Pain & Gain

Written and Illustrated by  
Yashvi Bajpayee

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It was a cold breezy morning. The blaring sound of the alarm scared Sonalika to death and woke her up from her peaceful slumber. Her room was a total mess with clothes lying on the floor like rags. There were candies galore ,candies lying on the floor, bed, bathroom and everywhere. She could have a snack everywhere around the house. Finally she got up and walked to the bathroom, the thudding sound of her feet waking her neighbour up.



She looked at her figure in the mirror and said, "Ah, I wish I had a slender waist and a model figure but alas, you need to workout a lot and give up junk food." She got ready for college and left. As soon as she entered the college the bullies started throwing paper bombs right at her face then the biggest bully of the college Kolunya came to her and dropped all her books and when she bent to pick them up Kolunya kicked her on the back. Sonalika's day was already ruined. She went to her best friend and cried her heart out, her best friend was also an unpopular student, both their lives were filled with sorrows.





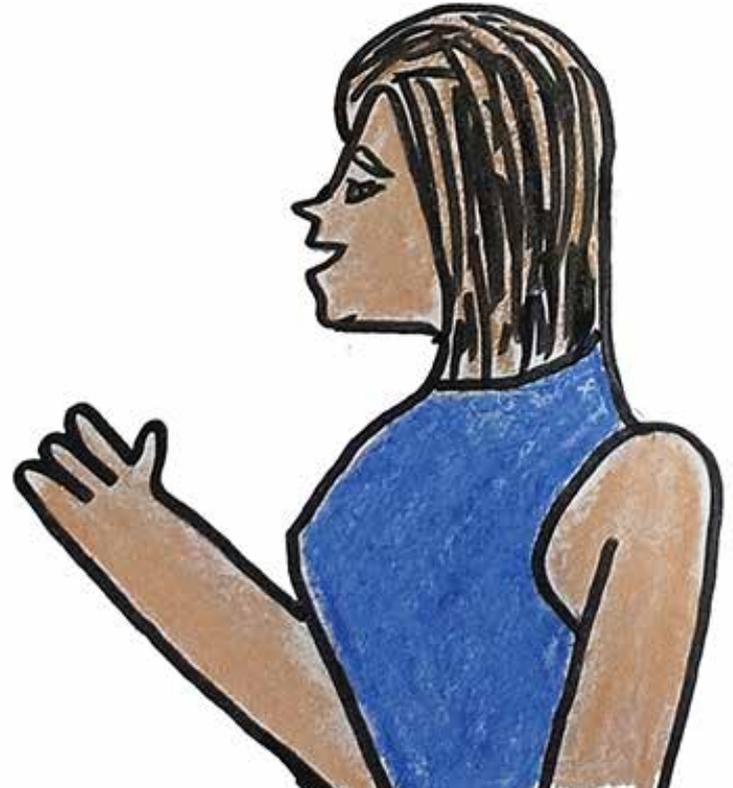
Sonalika went to class and the bullies started bullying her again, they started kicking and punching her and throwing trash at her. Finally the professor entered and stopped the fight. When the day was over Sonalika was heartbroken, she was sick of being bullied. She went home and was crying bitterly when she saw a poster of a Psychic in the newspaper who promised to solve all the problems in the world.

Sonalika quickly booked an appointment and rushed to the Psychic. She told the Psychic all about her problems. The Psychic gave her a bracelet and said, "This bracelet will make you as pretty as a supermodel but don't take it off, as soon as you take it off you will return to your original self." She tried the bracelet on right away and looked in the mirror, she could not recognize herself. She had a slim waist, perfect body and face. She looked like the prettiest girl in the city. She went home happy. The next day she went to the college, everyone thought that she was a new student. She even changed her name to Lisa. She only told her best friend about her secret.



Lisa got so popular that whenever her best friend asked her something she used to shoo her away. Her best friend got fed up of Lisa ignoring her so she went to the same Psychic and told her the whole story. The Psychic gave her a serum and said, "Put a drop of this serum on the mirror in her house. When she

looks at herself in the mirror she will be taken to another world." Her friend stole the keys to her house and quietly tiptoed and put the serum on the mirror. When Lisa returned home, she started admiring herself in the mirror, and as soon as she looked at it, she teleported to a different world.



In the other world, she found herself inside her house standing in front of her mirror. She was not scared and went for a walk outside confidently. As soon as she stepped out everyone started teasing and gossiping about her. She still walked and kept smiling but she still got weird looks from the people around. Scared, she went home and thought about it. Finally she realized that fat people were popular in this world and everyone here was fat. She immediately took off her bracelet and returned to her true self. After that she went for a walk again and got all the good attention from people.





The next day when she went to college ,instead of being bullied she was popular and was loved by everyone and had a great day. This continued for a few days and she realized that being her true self is the best decision for her. At night when she reached home she started admiring her fat but real self in the mirror, suddenly a ray of light came out of the mirror and she reached the normal world. Once there, she threw away the bracelet and accepted herself as she is. The next day she went to college and told everyone that she has accepted her true self and she wont stop admiring herself. At last she and her best friend were reunited and started talking to each other again.

Yashvi Bajpayee loves swimming and making art, playing badminton and basketball and eating cheese drenched pasta and pizza. If she could have a super power, she would want the ability to fly as she would reach her destination faster than anyone else. Yashvi aspires to become an Artist and go to the world-famous museum - The Metropolitan Museum of Art to sell her paintings. She would like to make the world a better place by stopping pollution and deforestation.

**Mentor**

Poonam Dasilva

Dhanashri Ubhayakar

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Sonalika is a college girl who gets bullied for her weight. Life takes a turn when she meets a Psychic and embodies a new personality. Will she be able to accept her true self? Read more to find out.