

## **I Could Never Be Buddha**

(Original)

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"When you make peace with yourself, you make peace with the world.", said my father as I was putting medicine to my wounds. "Why would you fight your friend?" a voice came from behind. It was my mother. She was mad at me for the argument with my friend. I immediately stormed off to my room and threw myself on the bed.

I didn't eat anything that day. I was so stressed that I wanted to leave everything behind and run away. I could see myself crying to death. The next day at school, I was all on my own. Cheryl glared at me every time I went near her. It was recess. A girl in my class kept staring at me. Then, she came to me and said gloomily, "Why did you do that yesterday? I was there watching you two." she said. How come I never notice her at all? I yelled at her, "Look, I don't want to talk about it right now. You should probably get out of here."

She asked me to calm down and assured me she completely understood that. She was kind enough to give me some water to wash away my emotions at the time. "She, that girl I had claimed to be my friend, now hates me." I cried at Cheryl. I could see sympathy in her eyes. She tried her best to convince me to make up with Cheryl. But I remained adamant about my words and refused to talk to her again.

At this point, she was tired. She had lost all hope of making me talk to my friend. But then, an idea struck her mind. I was astonished by her words, completely speechless. She said, "You cannot be like this. One of you has to put your ego aside and talk to the other, so you should be the one to do it. I know it's not easy. You must view this problem from Cheryl's perspective too. Forgiving each other and accepting your mistakes can avoid further misunderstandings. By engaging in meaningless conflicts, you can disrupt the peaceful environment."

"Not doing this will only cause pain to you and mentally affect others too. You need to be responsible for spreading tranquility in the surrounding with the help of mindfulness. Violence is the biggest enemy of success. Working for its abolishment can bring change in the future.", she said.

Her words touched my heart. They opened my eyes to picture this situation from a different viewpoint. As she advised me, I went to Cheryl and asked her to forgive me. She was delighted at my behavior and indisputably agreed. We were close, so how could she resist excusing me?

From that day, I decided to work for the welfare of the posterity. Participating in peacekeeping missions and preventing conflicts, violence, and other crimes became my daily accomplishments. I even helped to conduct numerous awareness-raising programs related to peace. As for today, I encourage young minds to resolve their conflicts peacefully and to value forgiveness.