

Hindi transcript:

प्रश्नकर्ता - तो आप...आपने इंडिया में साइन्स लिया था, ग्यारहवीं और बारहवीं में। और यहाँ पे आप काफी अलग, काफी different कुछ कर रही हैं, जो हाफ़िल्म...फ़िल्म की कोर्स कर रही हैं। तो यह फ़सला आपने कैसे लिया... क्योंकि कुछ अलग... literature and film, writing काफी कॉमन नहीं होता। तो...

अर्पिता - जब मैं अपनी ग्यारहवीं और बारहवीं कक्षा में थी तो मेरेको यह हमेशा लगता था कि मैं यह कर... यह मेडिसिन के लिए तैयारी कर रही हूँ, या इंजीनियरिंग के लिए तैयारी कर रही हूँ। क्योंकि यह मेरे माँ-बाप कह रहे हैं। और मैंने कभी सोचा नहीं था कि मेरेको असली में क्या करना है और हमेशा... विद्यालय में जब भी कोई writing competition होता था, या कोई debate होती थी, या कोई quiz होता था, तो वे मेरेको भेजते थे। तो मेरेको लगता था कि...। और साइन्स में मेरेको सिर्फ़ biology में interest था, न...न physics, chemistry, math – मेरेको कुछ पसंद नहीं था। ...मेरेको पूरे टाइम यह लगता था कि मैं यह बस कर रही हूँ क्योंकि pressure है – parental pressure है और peer pressure है। पर असली में कोई इच्छा नहीं थी करने की। और जब वह... जब टाइम आया कि entrance exams के paper भरने थे, तो... मैं बहुत भयभीत हो गई, और मैंने कहा कि यह मैं क्या कर रही हूँ? यह मैं कर रही हूँ क्योंकि मेरे माँ-बाप चाहते हैं, कि मैं कर रही हूँ कि मैं खुद करना चाहती हूँ? और उस समय मेरे पिताजी से मिलने के लिए Amherst College से एक लड़की आई हुई थी, जो... जिस... जो मेरेको बता रही थी Five College के बारे में। और उसने मेरेको... उसने मेरे साथ बहुत time spend किया और ऐसे ही मज़ाक में कहा कि तुम तो क्वकी Hampshire student हो। फिर मैंने ऑन-लाइन जा के Hampshire College के बारे में रीसर्च की। और बहुत... मैंने अपने पिताजी से बहुत... beg किया कि वे मुझको SAT exam देने दें। फिर पता चला कि Hampshire के... Hampshire जाने के लिए SAT की ज़रूरत ही नहीं है। फिर, बहुत, बहुत ज़िद करने के बाद मेरे पिताजी ने मुझको पचास डॉलर दिए और Hampshire की मैंने application भरी, और भेजी। और मैंने इच्छा की कि मेरेको बहुत सारा financial aid मिले, क्योंकि उनका, उनका कहा था कि Hampshire ने पैसे नहीं दिए तो एक भी... एक भी पैसे मेरे पे नहीं spend करेंगे। और मार्च आया, और Hampshire ने खूब सारा पैसे भेजा मेरेको, और फिर decision बन गया। मेरे माँ-बाप को कुछ कहना नहीं था। बड़े... थोड़े अचरज में रह गए, बस चुप रह गए कि, अरे, जा रही है।

English translation:

Interviewer: So you had taken science [subjects in school] in India, in grades eleven and twelve. So, you are doing something quite different here, which is film ... you are taking courses in film (speaker should have said **फ़िल्म का कोर्स**). So, how did you make this decision ... because [this is] quite out of the ordinary ... literature, film [and] writing aren't very common choices. So ...

Arpita: When I was in my eleventh and twelfth grades, I always wondered what I was doing ... I am preparing for [a life in] medicine or engineering. It's because my parents are telling me to. I had never thought about what I would really like to do. And always... whenever there was a writing competition, debate or quiz at school, they would send me. Then I would think that ... And among the science subjects I was only interested in biology; not physics, chemistry or math – I didn't like any of those. I would feel at all times that I was [studying science] simply because of parental pressure and peer pressure. But in reality I had no desire to do it. And when it ... when the time came to fill out papers for the [medicine and engineering] entrance exams, I became frightened; I said [to myself]: what am I doing? Am I doing this because my mother and father are telling me to, or am I doing it because I myself want to it? And at the time a girl studying at Amherst College had come to meet my father, who ... who ... was telling me about the Five Colleges. And, she ... spent a lot of time with me, and joked that I was [exactly like] (speaker says “I was a real ...”) a Hampshire student. So I went online and did some research on Hampshire College. And, very ... I ... begged my father a lot to let me take the S ... SAT exam. And then it turned out that one does not have to take the SAT to go to ... Hampshire. Then, after a lot of pleading with my father, he gave me fifty dollars, and I filled out the Hampshire College application for admission, and sent it off. And I wished that I would get lots of financial aid, because he (i.e., the speaker's father)* had said that if Hampshire didn't give me money, he would not spend a single penny on [my education at Hampshire]**. And [then], March came around, and Hampshire sent me a lot of money (sic), and the decision was made. My parents had nothing to say. They were just very surprised; they were suddenly quiet from surprise; [all they could say was:] oh, she's going!

* The speaker should have said **उन्होंने**, not **उनने**. **मैंने इच्छा की** is incorrect in this context. You might say **मैंने इच्छा की** when you want to express a wish *for* something, not when you wish *that* something be the case.

** Ideally, **मेरे** **पै** should be replaced by **मुझ** **पै**. **मेरेको** should also be replaced by **मुझको** in all instances.

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