

What shall I be when I grow up?

By Rutvi Ashar

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Not so long ago, in a not so far away land lived Mr and Mrs Brush. Tim had first seen Lily at Painting 101 when they were 16. It was love at first sight and Tim thought to himself, "She's going to make a fine Mrs. Brush!"

Today he anxiously paced the hospital halls when he finally heard his daughter enter the world. Tim took his daughter in his arms and it was as if a film of her future played in his mind. He dreamt of a day when Lily and he would view the beautiful paintings Alice had created.

Alice was like a rare, delicate flower who drew everyone's attention and immediately became its centre. From a young age, Alice realised the dream her parents had for her and often worried about not being able to carry their legacy forward. It was in those times that she would find a quiet corner and sing to herself. It always took her to a calm and happy place.

Once the music stopped, worry crept in, "Why do I need to just paint Dad, why can't I sing, too!?" Alice often practiced this with the hope that one day she would say it to her parents. However, she hadn't mustered the courage to say it out yet.

The rule at St. Patrick's School were clear: you didn't venture out of the assigned role. Alice was a Brush; a Brush singing was preposterous! As everyone prepared for the annual day, it was obvious that Brian Bass would shine! After all he was a natural strummer. It was no secret that Brian had a soft spot for Alice. Often, he would look at her from across the class and the melody would go off!

Today as he approached Alice, sweat beads formed on his forehead. "Um hi, m-may I speak to you?" Brian stammered. "Hey Brian! Of course!" Alice said. As he grinned broadly, Brian asked, "So, I was wondering if you want to pair up for the talent show on Annual Day." Immediately, Alice panicked and said "What would a paint brush do with a guitar?"

Annual Day:

Alice gulped as she stood in the wings. She had practiced painting a lily. 'Let me paint a flower today, it will please daddy and mommy.', she thought. As Alice heard Brian's name, she took a step back to allow Brian pass her in the wings.

"....and joining him, will be our very own secret nightingale, Alice"

The look on Brian's face made Alice realise that he had no idea what was happening. Alice took a big sip of water before stumbling on stage. Alice scanned the crowd and spotted her parents, they looked pale. She closed her eyes as Brian started playing her favourite song, 'More' by Sandra Day.

9 years later, Alice Brush is still the perfect balance of harmony and hue!