



**CHAPTER 12**  
**(PART 02)**

**BUKKAPATNAM DAYS**







Sathya's life was very simple. The family's monetary condition was not good yet the boy was very happy and contented with everything. He had to pack His tiffin in an old cloth and hang it over His shoulders.

The food used to dry up and get stuck to the cloth. Therefore, Sathya had to soak the cloth in water for a few minutes.

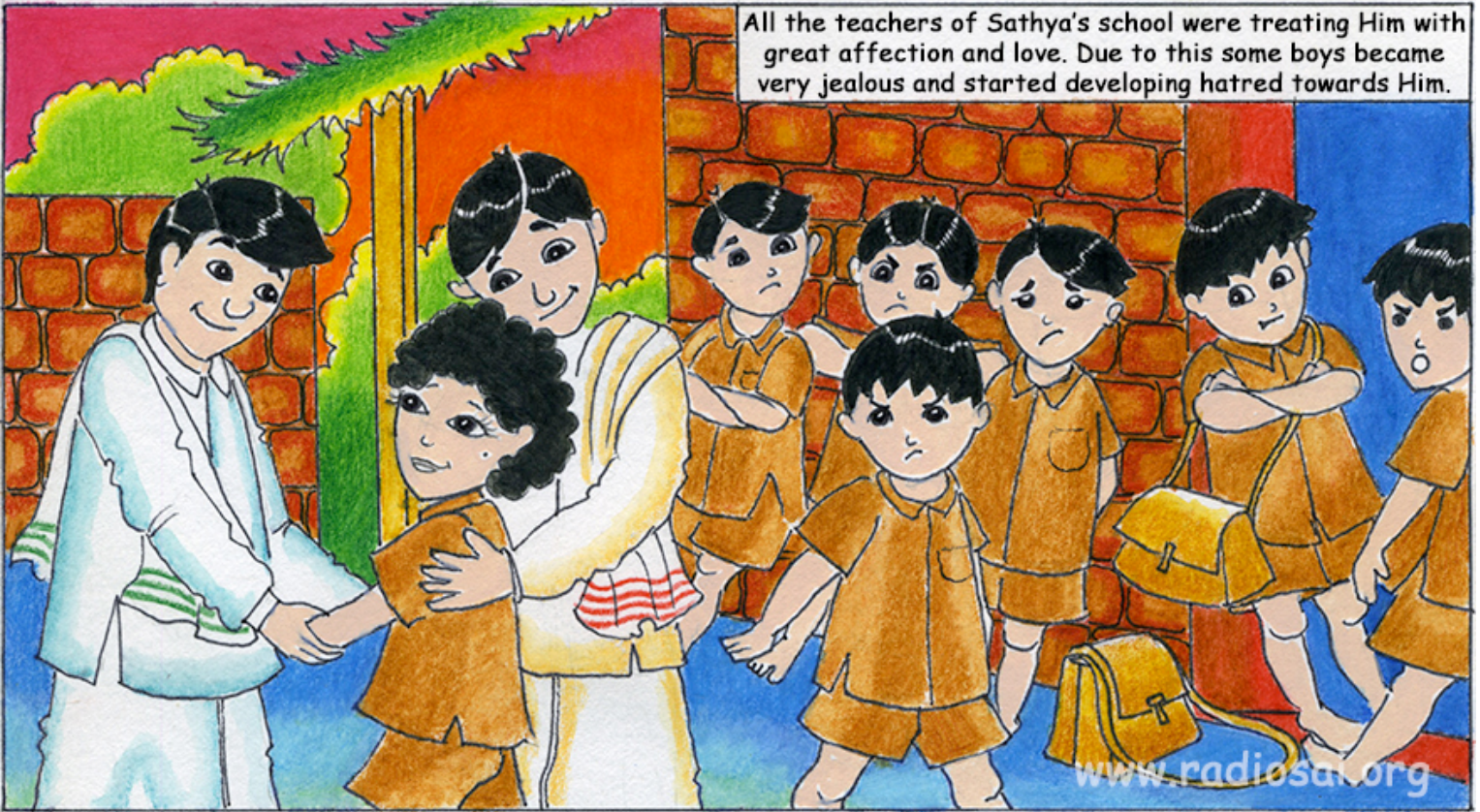


All the children shared their food with one another. They experienced tremendous joy in unity.





All the teachers of Sathya's school were treating Him with great affection and love. Due to this some boys became very jealous and started developing hatred towards Him.



Those boys dragged Sathya on the sands of Chitravathi river bed during their return trip to Puttaparthi from school. They splashed dirt on His clothes and tore off His shirt.





Sathya always kept His cool.  
He used to tell them -

Love is My form,  
Tolerance is  
My nature.  
You may do  
whatever you like.



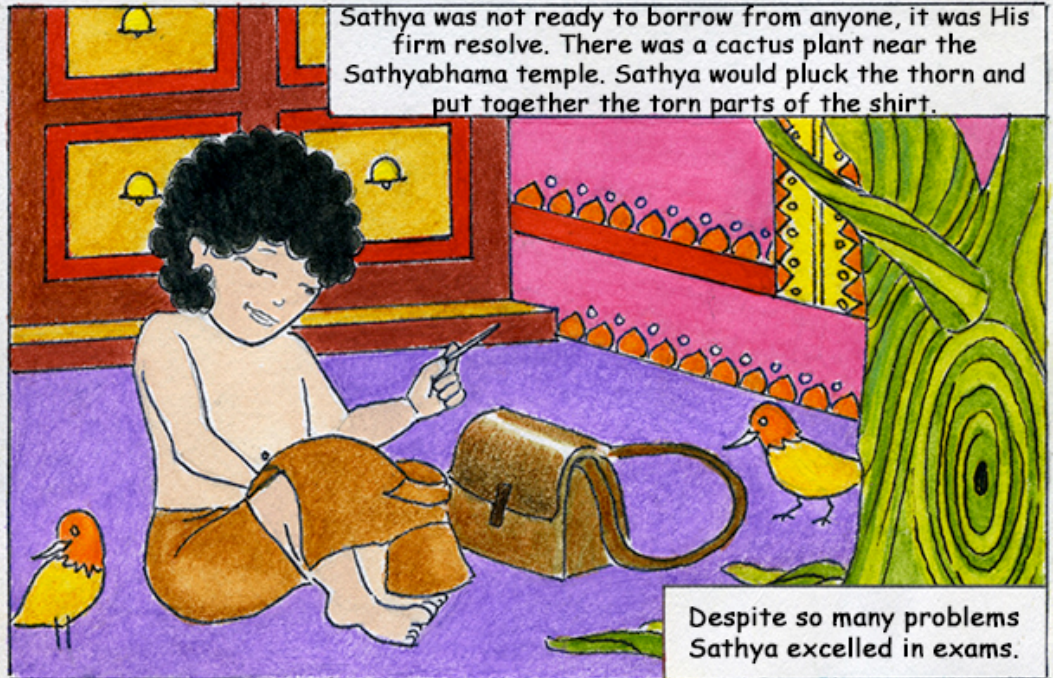
Saying so He used to walk up to the tank  
near the Anjaneya Swami Temple and clean  
His clothes with water there.



There was no safety pin also to  
put together a torn shirt. A  
cactus plant came to the rescue.



Sathya was not ready to borrow from anyone, it was His  
firm resolve. There was a cactus plant near the  
Sathyabhama temple. Sathya would pluck the thorn and  
put together the torn parts of the shirt.



Despite so many problems  
Sathya excelled in exams.



Two hours were given to answer the question paper. But Sathya finished writing His papers within half an hour.



Sathya was the youngest in His class. There were boys quite old in age, even in class fifth. The literacy rate in the British times was very low. The teacher was surprised, he enquired -



To which Sathya replied -

Sir, I have written all the answers correctly. You yourself can see it tomorrow.



The next day He took out Sathya's answer sheet from the bunch and went through it.



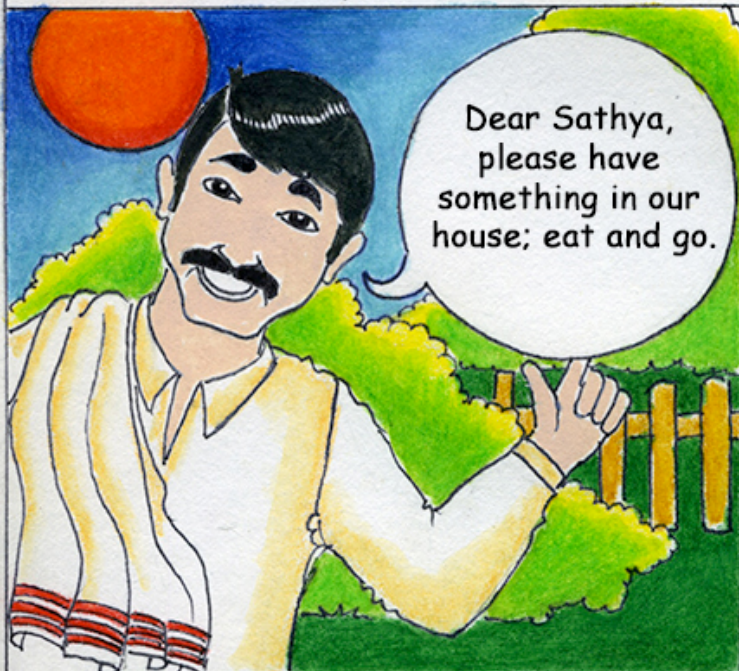
Therein he found certain topics which he wasn't aware of. He wrote in Sathya's sheet - 'Very very good'.



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He was so impressed with the boy that the next day he came to invite Sathya to his home. He said -

Dear Sathya, please have something in our house; eat and go.

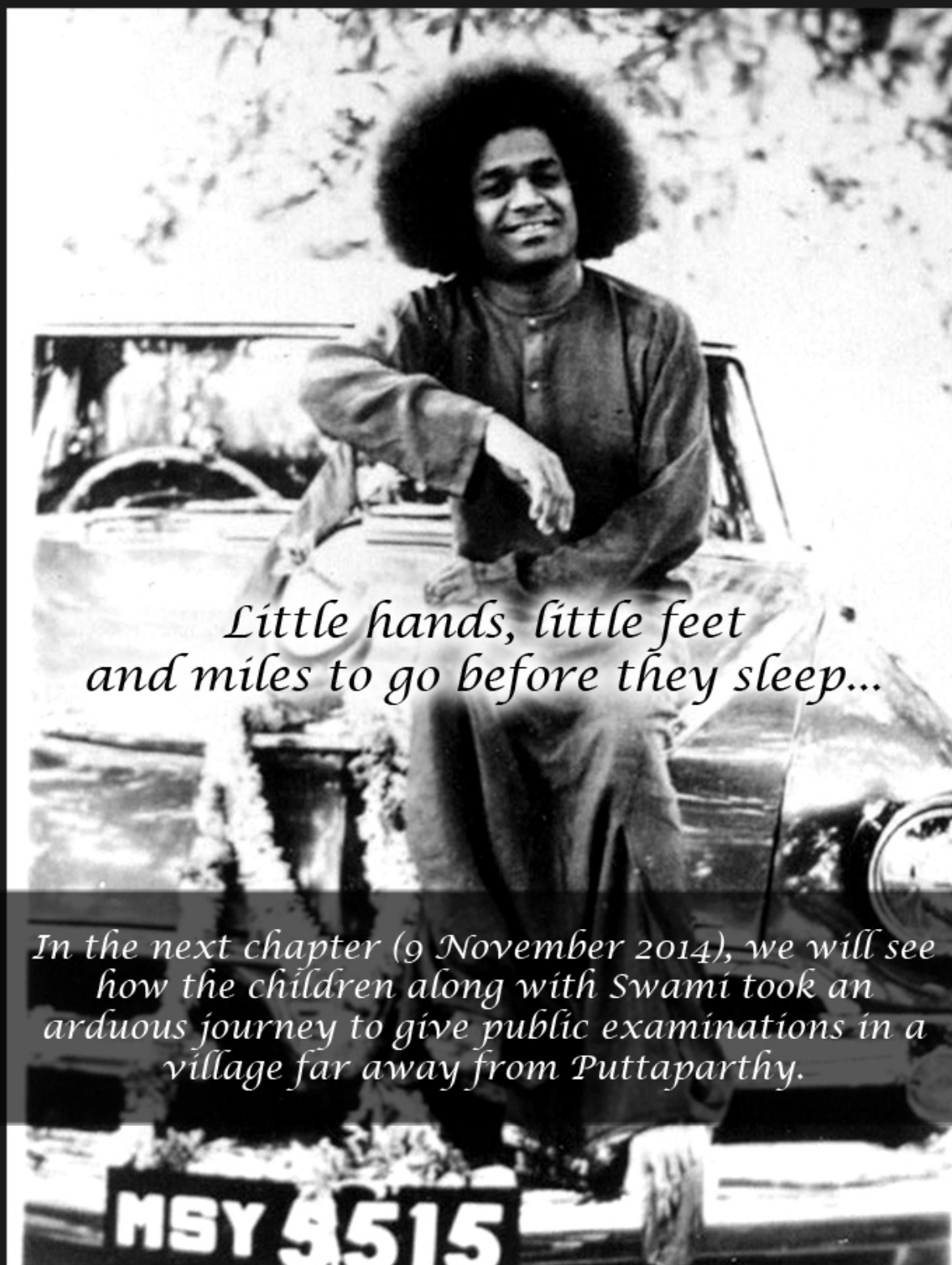


Sathya never took advantage of such opportunities. He politely refused saying -

It is my duty to answer well. Besides, I don't take anything at this hour Sir.







*Little hands, little feet  
and miles to go before they sleep...*

*In the next chapter (9 November 2014), we will see  
how the children along with Swami took an  
arduous journey to give public examinations in a  
village far away from Puttaparthi.*