



The Wheel Chair

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About twenty years ago the wheelchair that was lying in the storeroom was bought by Rajah, a rich businessman who owns three pharmacies' and a Medical equipment mart. It was for the mobility of his beloved mother Janaki who was a retired pharmacist. She was responsible for his success in his life. She was on time a rich lady but was very unfortunate for losing her husband, a medical doctor in a car accident. Rajah was her only son. Janaki who suffered from Type 1 diabetes. She looked after the five-bedroom house with the help of two servants. The doctors advised her to control her diabetes, but she ignored it. Her more concern was her son's future.

As a result of her neglect of diabetes, her two legs were amputated. One time she was an active lady but loves sweets. It all started with a wound when she had a wound in both legs by knocking against a stone in the garden, she did not take care of it. It ended up the serious infection and resulted in amputation both legs. She was depressed as she could not look after the house and her son's family. Rajah decided to buy an expensive a remote control Wheelchair from a Medical Mart. It operates on a battery. His mother could move

around without any body's help, but still, for all in the evening Rajah takes her out in the wheelchair.

Because of her depression about her health, she developed Alzheimer and could not operate the wheelchair. Her mobility was restricted. Rajah and his son took her out in the wheelchair daily out in the Park to breath fresh air. At one stage she was bedridden and lived only for few months.

Razh's wife Madhavi. hated the wheelchair as her friends commented it.

“ Is it a remote control Wheelchair”? her gest friend Sivagami asked her.

“ Yes it is an expensive wheelchair, My husband bought it for his mother after her two legs were amputated”

“ How much it cost’?

”Well, I think it is about 3000 dollars.”

“That looks an expensive item. Your family is rich hence could afford it”

“ It is not the question of cost, there was an urgent requirement for it, My mother-in-law was a one-time active woman. Her mobility was restricted. She went depressed. My husband has to buy the wheelchair. She used it for two years until she passed away. Now the chair is in the storeroom, I am seriously thinking of donating it to charity, But my husband wants it to be in the house in memory of his mother. Once in a way he cleans it.” said Madavi

Rajah's son Gajan was a lover of a sports car. He takes part in car races. Rajah bought him an expensive sports car. Madavi did not like it. Being the only son he was scared that one day anything could happen to him due his fast driving. As she anticipated Gajan met with an accident and his two legs were badly damaged it ended up in the amputation of both legs. They decided to bring to life the wheelchair that was lying in the stores. Gajan started using it. Being an active youth he was depressed that he could not move around freely with his

friends and go to parties. One time he was a good dancer. Many girls liked to dance with him. But now he avoided going for parties. Rajah could not find a partner for him because of his disability.

It all happened unexpectedly. The doctors identified that he had blood cancer He passed away within six months. The wheels chair became an orphan and went back to the storeroom

“Mathavi was upset. She thought the good chair has brought bad luck to the house and advised the husband to give it to charity. He refused to give it to charity.

“Looka Mathvai we know one day you or I may need its services. We are getting old. Let it be there. It revies the memorize of my mother and son.:

Mathavi was furious. “Rajah you are stubborn. I am not going to touch that wheelchair. I am of the opinion that this wheelchair has brought bad luck to the house”

”You are talking nonsense, Let it be there I will look after it. One day We may need it: Rajah replied.

When Rajah and Mathavi returned home after consulting the doctor about the numbness in the leg of Mathai, they were both worried about it. After many tests the Foot specialist doctor told them

“numbness in the legs of your wife is due to extremely poor circulation to the extremities because of peripheral arterial disease, in which the arteries narrow or have suffered damage, can cause tissue to die and bring on infections to your wives’ both legs. The dead tissue must be removed. The most common amputations take place on the leg, just above or below the knee, Anyhow there may be an option to cure it temporarily. Ask your wife to avoid too much walking”

Mathavi never expected the doctor to say that.

After returning home, Rajah saw Mathavi cleaning the wheelchair. It became active again. Mathavi started using it to go to the park.

Rajah could not believe it. He thought to himself how can and the wheelchair that brought bad luck has become useful for Mathavi. It is all superstition”, his mind replied.
