

“Life is a movie, and you’re the star. Give it a happy ending” – Joan Rivers.

The initial part of this movie was set in Karaikudi. Karaikudi- the heart of Chettinad, is famous for its cuisine and architectural style. The first scene opens with a dusky young lady admitted in a hospital at Karaikudi. 30 June, 1998 wasn’t just another Tuesday for her because the doctor had told her that she would give birth to her baby that day. She was expecting a girl as predicted by an astrologer. Matching her expectations, she popped out a girl at around 10.30PM. The family adored the little girl as she resembled her great grandfather. Soon the little girl was named Abirami. I bet each and everyone of you would want a kid like her because unlike most children she was an easy-to-handle child, never demanding. Since situation demanded the mother to work she had no other choice but to leave her little princess in Karaikudi and leave for Chennai. Until the age of 2, the little one was the ruler at her grandparents' place. Whenever her grandfather asks her to pose for a picture, she would run to get her coolers. She was fondly called SaiBaba as she had a bushy and curly hair like Sai Baba did. The family admired her as she recited Aathichuvadi at the age of 2. She had a happy time at her grandparents' place her aunt assuming her aunt to be her mother due to close resemblance. Time flew, the little girl flew to Chennai as well.

Scene 2. New city and a new environment. She was 3 and had to be admitted into a school. Trouble was brewing for the parents as the little one had to be admitted into a good school. She was admitted into SBOA school and junior college. SBOA was her happy place. It was a place where children would never be given homework. Is there a better reason to love the school? The little one was smart in studies and did not require assistance from her busy parents. For her parents, raising her was as easy as eating a pie because she was an independent child.

Scene 3. Years passed and the little girl wasn’t little anymore. Life till tenth grade was an easy ride. After 10th grade she had to decide if she should stay in the same school or leave for another school. There, she made a mistake. She decided to jump into this pressure cooker named Velammal. When it comes to hosting rat races, Velammal is undisputedly the winner. 9 hours of class and examination on Sundays were a bitter pill for her to swallow. Though choosing Velammal wasn’t a prudent choice, what an amazing set of friends she had earned! As the board exams approached, her blood ran cold. From burning the midnight oil to writing multiple exams in a day, the stress had reached alarming levels. This drama doesn’t end when the exam ends. It continues till the result day. May 9, 2015 - The judgment day. It was a dicey situation. As the webpage was loading, she was quaking in her boots. Fear blossomed into smile as she had scored way more than what she expected. Stepping out of school is a big milestone, isn’t it? So, what next?

Scene 4. Neither did she want to do an MBBS nor an arts degree. Engineering was the only choice that was left out. “I want to pick Mechanical” she said. None agreed. The family focused on hatching plans to convince her to pick Computer science. Clearly, the conflict was between Mechanical and Computer Science. Electrical came out of nowhere. Picking Electrical was by far the biggest mistake of her life. Only during the third semester of her engineering did she realize that Electrical engineering was not her cup of tea. There is a quote that goes like “When you make a mistake, there are only three things you can do about it : admit it, learn from it and don’t repeat it”. She was clear about the fact that everybody messes up but once you realize that you’ve messed up, don’t let the mistake impact your life any further. She was strong about not

Scene 5. Two years of college life had ended within a blink. Rotoract and art were the medicines to her stressful life. Rotoract had helped her discover her interest in event management and the latter was her long lost love. College life had transformed her from a fickle-minded person to a stable person. Also it did bring a lot of self realisations thus moulding her into a better person. Like anybody else, she too had the fear of being judged and the fear to speak up. “Where there's a way, there's a will”. That was the time when her mother found this amazing club on Google. She felt Toastmasters might be the right place to battle out her daughter's fear. On the first meeting, she felt like Sridevi in “English Vinglish”. What a blessing it is to finally find a crowd that embraces your flaws! “A journey of thousand miles begins with a single step”. Here she is, taking her first step towards her thousand mile journey called toastmasters. Toastmasters is the happy last scene to “The story of my life- Part 1” casting me, because I couldn't find a better actor.