

## The Hospital

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*(at an art show at a hospital)*

**Reporter:** And this?

**Arabic**

**Interpreter:** It says "Salaam."

**Reporter:** That means peace in Arabic, right?

**Arabic**

**Interpreter:** Very good!

**Reporter:** And what about this one?

**Chinese**

**Interpreter:** It says...

**Reporter:** Peace?

**Chinese**

**Interpreter:** No. It says, "Get well soon."

**Reporter:** And what do you do here at the hospital?

**Chinese**

**Interpreter:** We are interpreters. I help Chinese patients who don't speak English. And my friend...

**Arabic**

**Interpreter:** I help patients who speak Arabic.

**Reporter:** Nice. Thank you.

**Photographer:** Thank you.

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**Toni:** This is art you can wear. I make them for the West Indian Day Parade... in Brooklyn. This is a small one!

**Photographer:** Thank you.

**Reporter:** Dr. Collins?

**Dr. Collins:** Yes?

**Reporter:** I heard the art is made by the workers. Was that your idea?

**Dr. Collins:** No, no, it wasn't me. This art show was really the idea of our employees. They came to me with the idea. You should talk to Alisha. There she is.

**Reporter:** Alisha? Hello. I'm Nguyen Tran from the Big City News. Can you tell me how the art show got started?

**Alisha:** Well... at first, I wasn't even thinking about art. I was just trying to help a patient get better.

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*(flashback)*

**Grandson:** Don't worry about anything, Grandma.

*(The family leaves and the nurse speaks with the patient.)*

**Alisha:** So, how was your visit with the family? Oh, I see you have an artist in your family!

**Mrs. Medina:** My grandson.

**Alisha:** Is that your house?

**Mrs. Medina:** Yeah... It is nice to see my home again.

**Alisha:** You must miss it very much.

**Mrs. Medina:** Yeah. I can't wait to go back home. But sometimes, I think I'll never...

**Alisha:** Mrs. Medina, we want you to get well as soon as possible. We will do everything we can to help.

**Mrs. Medina:** It is funny. I was always the person in the family who took care of everyone. And now...

**Alisha:** Soon, you'll be back in that picture, at home with your family. It looks like your grandson left

these.

*(Alisha gives Mrs. Medina a drawing pad and markers.)*

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**Alisha:** Hi, Halina.

**Halina:** Alisha... hi!

**Alisha:** *(to a coworker)* Geraldine, how are you?..  
*(to Daniel)* She's afraid she may never walk again.

**Daniel:** Who? Mrs. Medina?

**Alisha:** If we could only find a way to encourage her.

**Daniel:** Maybe if she talks about happy times.

**Alisha:** Maybe that would work.

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**Alisha:** That's my tree!

**Mrs. Medina:** Did you... how do you say it?... Put it in the ground?

**Alisha:** Do you mean *plant*?

**Mrs. Medina:** That's it. Did you plant these trees yourself?

**Alisha:** No, no, not me. My father planted them. One for each child. One for my brother. One for my sister. And one for me!

**Mrs. Medina:** You know, I grew up on a farm, and I used to climb a tree just like this when I was a child.

**Alisha:** I'd love to see a picture.

**Mrs. Medina:** We don't have any photos of that.

**Alisha:** But I'm sure you have beautiful memories. You must remember what it looked like.

**Mrs. Medina:** Maybe I could draw it.

**Alisha:** You draw?

**Mrs. Medina:** I used to love to draw when I was growing up in Colombia.

**Alisha:** That's why your grandson is so good at drawing. He takes after his grandmother.

**Mrs. Medina:** Some people told me... I was pretty good. But when I came to this country, I was so busy. I stopped.

**Alisha:** Drawing is like riding a bicycle.

**Mrs. Medina:** Riding a bicycle?

**Alisha:** Once you learn it, you never forget. I bet you can still draw.

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**Alisha:** *(talking to reporter)* I never imagined that drawing a picture would help her so much. But it did! She started to get much better.

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**Alisha:** You called?

**Mrs. Medina:** Yes... I have something to show you.

**Alisha:** Oh, my goodness! That's Dr. Patel. She's going to love this! And that's Daniel! How funny. It looks just like him.

**Mrs. Medina:** Oh, I almost forgot... I have one more to show you.

**Alisha:** Who's that?

**Mrs. Medina:** Just a wonderful nurse that I know.

**Alisha:** These are so beautiful.

**Mrs. Medina:** Take them. They are yours. They are for everyone.

**Alisha:** Thank you.

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**Dr. Patel:** What's this?

**Daniel:** Oh, Dr. Patel. Look!

**Dr. Patel:** Look at me!

**Dr. Collins:** What's going on? What's all the excitement about?

**Daniel:** Oh, Dr. Collins. A patient did these. Aren't they wonderful?

**Dr. Patel:** It would be great if we could hang them on the wall.

**Dr. Collins:** Hang them on the wall, Dr. Patel?

**Dr. Patel:** Yes, hang them on the wall, Dr. Collins. Don't you agree, Alisha?

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**Visitor:** Excuse me. Room 413? Thank you.

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**Halina:** Oh, Mrs. Medina. I see you're eating more. You must be feeling better. You aren't making one of me, are you?

**Mrs. Medina:** Of course not. Just don't move.

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**Orlando:** Well...

**Daniel:** They look great!

**Alisha:** Everybody loves them.

**Halina:** People on the other floors are talking. They want pictures, too.

**Alisha:** We should get more.

**Daniel:** Good idea.

**Orlando:** I'll have to get some more frames.  
**Halina:** But Mrs. Medina can't draw pictures of everyone.  
It's a big hospital.

**Alisha:** It is big. But wait a minute... Some of the  
people who work here are artists, too.

**Orlando:** Dominic, who works the night shift... He loves to  
draw. He could make something.

**Daniel:** There are probably lots of people who work here  
who draw and paint and take pictures and..

**Alisha:** I have seen Halina's photographs. She's really  
good.

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**Dr. Collins:** So, you would like more pictures on the wall.

**Alisha:** That is correct.

**Dr. Collins:** I like this idea... But, I'm not sure. Where are you  
going to get this art from? Do you know any  
artists?

**Halina:** Yes, we know a few.

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**Dr. Patel:** Oh, Dr. Mendez. How are the kids?

**Dr. Mendez:** Great.

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**Orlando:** Hey, Clayton.

**Clayton:** Orlando.

**Orlando:** Did you hear about the art show?

**Clayton:** No.

*(Orlando hands Clayton a flyer about the show.)*

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*(back to the present, at the art show)*

**Clayton:** I used my own mop, my own technique.

**Reporter:** You painted with a mop?

**Clayton:** That's right.

**Reporter:** Mop Art.

**Clayton:** When my friend, Orlando first told me about this art show, I thought, I am not an artist. What can I do?

**Reporter:** So, how did you get all of this art?

**Orlando:** It was easy. There is so much talent in this hospital.

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*(flashback to the preparation for the art show)*

**Toni:** This is for the art show.

**Orlando:** We don't have enough space to hang all of this!

**Alisha:** I think we need to speak to Dr. Collins again.

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**Dr. Collins:** All of this for the art show? Alisha! I don't know what to say. I'm not an art director. I'm a medical director.

*(Mrs. Medina enters.)*

**Mrs. Medina:** Excuse me? Are you in charge of this hospital?

**Dr. Collins:** Yes, I am.

**Mrs. Medina:** Can you please come into my room for a minute?

*(A little later, Dr. Collins reappears with a portrait of himself in his hand.)*



**Dr. Collins:** You know, Alisha? What's good for the people who work here is good for the patients.

**Alisha:** But, Dr. Collins! The space...

**Dr. Collins:** Not enough room in this hallway? We'll find bigger space. Art in the hospital... I love it!

**Daniel:** *(looking at the portrait of Dr. Collins)* That's very nice.

**Dr. Collins:** Thank you, Daniel.

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*(back to the present, at the art show)*

**Halina:** When I was a young girl in Poland, my father gave me a camera and I never put it down! I learned to see the beauty in everyday things.

**Reporter:** Nice photographs!

**Halina:** Thank you.

**Photographer:** Thank you.

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**Mrs. Medina:** *(to visitors at the art show, pointing to her portrait of Dr. Patel)* That's the doctor that operated on my leg.

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**Alisha:** *(to the reporter)* Ms. Tran? You see that woman over there?

**Reporter:** Yes.

**Alisha:** She's the one I was talking about.

**Reporter:** Thank you.

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**Mrs. Medina:** *(to a visitor at the art show)* You see the nurse



over there? Thanks to her, I am home with my family again. The people in this hospital are fantastic.

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**Reporter:** Excuse me. My name is Nguyen Tran with the Big City News. Can you tell me your name and a few things about yourself?

**Mrs. Medina:** My name is Viviana Medina. I come from Colombia.

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*(some time after the art show)*

**Alisha:** Dr. Patel! Listen to this! Daniel, listen to what Mrs. Medina says:

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*(flashback to the art show)*

**Mrs. Medina:** *(to the reporter)* Four months ago, I had a terrible accident. I thought I would never walk again.

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*(back to the present)*

**Alisha:** *(reading)* "But thanks to the staff here, I am alive today, and I'm walking. You see, I am not rich, but my life is rich. I live in a city with people from all over the world."

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*(flashback to the art show)*

**Mrs. Medina:** *(to the reporter)* My life is beautiful because I see beauty in everything. But the most beautiful picture is not on the wall in this art show. It's the picture I have in my heart of the wonderful people...

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*(back to the present)*

**Alisha:** *(reading)* "...who work in this hospital. There is beauty in the hands of these workers and in the goodness of their hearts."

**Intercom:** Dr. Patel... paging Dr. Patel... room 1225.

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*(flashback to the art show)*

**Grandson:** Did you make those, Grandma?

**Mrs. Medina:** Yes. I'm an artist like you!

We Speak NYC, formerly We Are New York, is a production of the City of New York.

