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Miss Park

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The Struggles Towards Dedication

Living in a world that contains different people with different types of characteristics can be a struggle. This is proven in the short fiction story, “Flowers for Algernon”, by Daniel Keyes. Charlie Gordon is a special ed 37-old-man that wishes to be smarter like everyone else. He tries the hardest that he can to just get smarter like everybody else. He makes the simplest things seem so complicated since he over thinks it so much. Throughout the story Charlie’s hard work pays off at a certain point. Towards the end of the story, he becomes temporarily smarter... Charlie keeps working harder to succeed after many attempts. His learning abilities all change during the story depending on how much he learns. Throughout the short story he goes from being incapable of learning to turn into a really intelligent man, then back to what he was before.

In the first place, Charlie tries and tries to become smarter, yet he always fails. Charlie would try anything so he would get smarter; even the smallest things he would do. In the short story, Charlie states that he would go put on his glasses to look at what the inkblot might be (285). If he wears them, he thinks he will be able to see images in the inkblot like other people. Charlie would find the most minimal things to use, therefore he would become “smarter”. Charlie would also try to focus in school that way he would improve in his learning abilities. He claimed that Miss Kinnian told him that he was his best alumni in the night school since he was the one who tried the hardest and wanted to learn (286). He

thinks that by simply trying hard or wanting to learn faster. This way he would get smart like others or even smarter quickly. Charlie tries the most minimal things to get smarter and doesn't stop trying harder after many failures throughout time.

In addition, Charlie eventually got smarter after the operation and was still willing to try harder to get even more smarter. Charlie would begin to try harder no matter how hard it is in order to be smart. Charlie states that after the operation he will try to be smart awfully hard (287). He wants to achieve his goals which is to be smart and even smarter than others. Charlie thought that every test he took would help tell if he was smarter and he tried way too hard in them. He would also force himself to do many things that did not involve thinking about it. While Dr. Strauss takes off the bandages from his eyes, he told Dr. Strauss that he did not know how to think, yet, Dr. Strauss tells him to keep trying and he tries but nothing happens (288). Charlie forces himself to think when thinking does not involve forcing yourself to. When he was told to do even the most smallest thing he would make it seem as something he had to force himself to do when it was a simple fact of just doing it. Therefore, Charlie would try awfully hard to become smart or force himself to try in situations that does not need to try in.

Moreover, all the hard work he does pays off because he is learning much more, quickly, and getting smarter. Miss Kinnian teaches Charlie many new things which he understand quickly and is picking them up fast. Charlie claims that Miss Kinnian teaches him to spell better and whenever he does not know a word, she says to look at it and say it over and over that way he would remember it (291). Charlie believes that he gets smarter thanks to the practice that he receives. In Charlie's thoughts the more he learned the smarter he was. He claims that he knows that he gets smarter every day because he now knows punctuation, knows how to spell good, and whenever he does not know a word he would look it up in the dictionary (293). Charlie's reports has been improving with fewer grammatical errors

compared to his earlier reports. From Charlie's first report to his most recent ones, it shows the improvement Charlie has made because of practicing. Due to the fact of Miss Kinnian teaching Charlie correct grammar and punctuation helped him a lot. The hard work that Charlie does pay off because he knows that he gets smarter everyday thanks to this.

Due to the fact, of Charlie's hard work throughout the time it helps him become smarter. If you work harder and harder for what you want, you will succeed after the many attempts. Charlie did not give up and kept trying although he did not succeed after many attempts. This is important because when you try hard for a goal, you will succeed after you practice it and attempt things various times. Once, Charlie got the operation and learned many things he finally achieved his goal; being smart. You will not get it quickly but it is something that does require time, effort, and practice like Charlie did. He took a part from his time to study the many things he needed to get smarter. The effort we put into something we want to acquire pays back in the end when we finally reach our goal.