

Chapter Six

Within a short time, I started studying with Rachel two or three times a week. Sometimes, she came to my house, and sometimes, I came to her house. Sometimes, we only did homework, and sometimes, we also studied for quizzes and tests. Sometimes, we only spent an hour together, and sometimes, we stayed together for hours, and even ate supper together. But no matter what, we enjoyed each other's company.*

Soon, I felt like I knew Rachel well. She was a great girl, clever, nice, funny, and fun to be with. I was so lucky to have her as my friend. But sometimes, I wondered* if she really wanted to be friends with me, or if she was just being kind* to me by helping me with my studies.

Both Rachel and I started getting better marks in school – of course, Rachel's marks were higher than mine, but they had been higher than mine before we started learning together. One day, Mrs. Goldstein gave us back our *Navi* tests, and I couldn't believe my eyes. I had gotten an 82! I saw that Rachel was also very happy, so I asked her what her mark was. She had gotten a 96!

The interesting thing was that Chaya Hirsch, who was usually the best student in the class, looked very sad and angry about her *Navi* test. I wondered what was happening to her. I knew that her mother had recently had a baby, so she probably didn't have a lot of time to do homework and study for tests. I didn't say anything to Chaya because I didn't know how she would react* and I didn't want to embarrass* her.



^{*}company = חברה

^{*}wondered = תהיתי

^{*}kind = אדיבה, נחמדה

^{*}would react = תגיב

^{*}to embarrass = לבייש