

MRS. MURRAY DID TALK TO SUSAN'S MOM, WHO HADN'T REALIZED THAT SHE WAS TOO PREOCCUPIED TO PAY ATTENTION TO HER DAUGHTER. SHE CHANGED HER SCHEDULE AROUND, AND NOW SHE SPENDS MORE TIME WITH HER DAUGHTER. SUSAN IS ALSO GETTING ALONG BETTER WITH HER CLASSMATES, AND SHE HAS FOUND A SPECIAL FRIEND IN A BOY NAMED KEVIN.

34 YOU'RE UGLY, SPIDER-MAN, AND YOU'VE GOT STICKY FEET!

BUT MY WEBBING'S STICKIEST OF ALL! RIGHT, HOBBY?

AND THE WORSE SHE FELT THE MEANER AND ANGRIER SHE ACTED, AND THAT MADE PEOPLE LIKE HER EVEN LESS!

SUSAN'S MOTHER OFTEN SAID THINGS TO SUSAN THAT WERE UNKIND-- LIKE THAT-- OR EVEN UNTRUE!

BUT SUSAN LOVED HER MOTHER AND SO SHE BELIEVED WHAT SHE SAID; AND THAT MADE SUSAN FEEL BAD ABOUT HERSELF.

SUSAN WAS CAUGHT IN A DANGEROUS CYCLE, BUT SHE WAS ABLE TO BREAK IT!

35 HEY, HOBBY, GOT A PROBLEM?

MY PROBLEM, WEB-HEAD, IS YOU!

HE'LL NEVER CHANGE! BUT SUSAN WANTED TO CHANGE! SHE ADMITTED SHE HAD A PROBLEM-- THAT WAS THE FIRST STEP!

TELLING AN ADULT SHE TRUSTED-- HER TEACHER-- WAS THE SECOND.

WHAM!

SUSAN AND HER TEACHER PICKED A QUIET TIME-- NOT LIKE THIS!-- AND SPOKE TO HER MOTHER ABOUT HOW SUSAN WAS FEELING.

WHEN HER MOTHER REALIZED HOW SHE WAS HURTING SUSAN, SHE WENT FOR HELP!

SHE LEARNED TO COMMUNICATE BETTER, AND NOW, SUSAN IS MUCH HAPPIER!

36 THE HOBGOBLIN'S GONE FOR NOW, BUT HE'LL BE BACK.

MOST PROBLEMS-- EVEN PROBLEMS LIKE THE HOBGOBLIN-- DON'T JUST GO AWAY. YOU HAVE TO WORK AT THEM.

AND ASK FOR HELP WHEN YOU NEED IT!

JUST LIKE KEVIN AND SUSAN, YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF YOUR OWN LIFE. YOU CAN MAKE GOOD THINGS HAPPEN!

SUSAN! KEVIN!

WOW! WHAT A COINCIDENCE! I WAS JUST THINKING ABOUT YOU TWO!

37 WHAT ARE YOU KIDS DOING HERE?

WE'VE BEEN VISITING SCHOOLS EVERYWHERE, TO SHOW KIDS WHAT STEPS THEY CAN TAKE IF THEY FEEL THEY'RE BEING EMOTIONALLY ABUSED!

C'MON, GANG-- IT'S SPIDER-MAN!!

38 HEY, I'M FLATTERED YOU WANT OLE SPIDEY'S AUTOGRAPH, BUT MY PAL SUSAN IS THE ACTRESS, ISN'T THAT RIGHT, SUSIE?

THAT'S OKAY, SPIDEY-- KEVIN AND I HAVE ANOTHER SCHOOL TO VISIT AT--

-- TWO O'CLOCK? OH, NO! WE'LL BE LATE! IT'S AT MY SCHOOL AND THAT'S ALL THE WAY ACROSS TOWN!

WHAT'LL WE DO?!

39 AND... HANG ON TIGHT, BUCK-ARCOOS-- WE'LL BE THERE FASTER THAN YOU CAN SAY--

--YAHOOOOO!

THAT'LL WORK.

KEVIN-- SUSAN-- I WANT YOU BOTH TO KNOW HOW PROUD I AM OF BOTH OF YOU. NOT ONLY HAVE YOU FACED UP TO YOUR PROBLEMS AND FOUND HELP--

-- BUT YOU'RE TRYING TO HELP OTHER KIDS WHO ARE IN TROUBLE! IT'S IMPORTANT TO BE THERE TO HELP YOUR FRIENDS-- HELP THEMSELVES!

MOST KIDS DON'T EVEN REALIZE THAT THEY'RE BEING ABUSED-- THEY TEND TO BLAME THEMSELVES WHEN ACTUALLY THEY'RE VICTIMS!

SOMETIMES KIDS DON'T REALIZE THAT THEY'RE HURTING OTHERS! EVERYONE HAS FEELINGS-- AND PEOPLE CAN BE HURT EASILY-- WITH THOUGHTLESS WORDS OR ACTIONS.

40 IT'S KIND OF STRANGE, SPIDER-MAN-- BUT BEHIND THAT MASK-- EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE A HERO-- I GET THE FEELING THAT YOU'VE BEEN HURT BEFORE--

-- I'M ONLY HUMAN!

UH-- YOU'RE RIGHT, SUSAN-- AFTER ALL--

41 OOKAY, PASSENGERS-- MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. PUBLIC SCHOOL. LAST STOP! THANK YOU FOR RIDIN' THE S.T.A.

THAT'S THE SPIDER-MAN TRANSIT AUTHORITY-- NATCH!

42 WELL, KIDS-- I GUESS THIS IS IT! HATE TO SWING AND RUN--

BUT SPIDEY-- I THOUGHT YOU COULD COME DOWNSTAIRS WITH US. YOU'D BE A REAL BIG HIT WITH ALL THE KIDS!

-- REGULAR PEOPLE LIKE YOU AND ME CAN BE HEROES BY REALIZING THAT WE'RE NOT POWERLESS. WE CAN HELP OURSELVES, AND OTHERS!

SUSAN! GOOD HEAVENS! I WAS WORRIED SICK ABOUT YOU! THE ASSEMBLY WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE STARTED FIVE MINUTES AGO! WHO WERE YOU TALKING TO UP HERE?

THANKS FOR BEING CONCERNED, MRS. MURRAY. I'M SORRY WE'RE LATE-- WE WOULD'VE BEEN MUCH LATER, IF IT WASN'T FOR SPIDEY!

OH, MY!!

KEVIN! SPIDER-MAN'S A BUSY GUY-- AND BESIDES, WE HAVE TO SHOW PEOPLE THAT THEY CAN FIND HELP THROUGH FACING THEIR PROBLEMS--

43 WHO WAS THAT MASKED MAN?

HA HA HA HA

END

The future looks bright for Susan and her mom. Susan had the courage to tell someone, a teacher, about her problems at home and to accept part of the responsibility for improving her relationships with others.

Being a parent is the toughest job most of us will ever have. Learning how to parent begins when we are children ourselves, since we tend to develop the behaviors of those who care for us.

So, remember what Spider-Man says: If your parents' words are hurting you:

1. Try to find a time to talk it over with your parents.
2. Write your parents a note.
3. Talk with someone else you know and trust--an aunt or an uncle, a teacher, a minister, a friend.

You are not alone. There are other children like you, who have been helped, so reach out!

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