

## **Extra Credit**

**by Andrew Clements**

Q. Where does Sadeed live?

A. Bahar-Lan, Afghanistan.

Q. Why can't Sadeed sign letters to Abby Carson?

A. Sadeed's sister, Amira, will sign the letters because it is not proper for a boy to write to a girl in his culture.

Q. Where does Abby go to school & live?

A. Baldrige Elementary School in Linsdale, Illinois.

Q. What is Abby's favorite subject?

A. Gym, she likes to scale the rock climbing wall.

Q. Why does Abby write to Sadeed?

A. For extra credit, (the title of the book), Abby doesn't want to fail 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

Q. Why did Mahmood, Sadeed's teacher, ask him to write the letters for Amira?

A. Sadeed was the finest student in the village.

Q. Why didn't Amira & Sadeed send a photo to Abby?

A. They didn't have a photo or camera.

Q. What arrangement did Sadeed & Amira come to about writing letters to Abby?

A. Amira would dictate a letter to Sadeed. Sadeed wrote the letter & added a poem & his drawings, then he wrote his own letter. It was exciting to write to someone from America.

Q. As Sadeed was walking home from school, what happened to Abby's letter that he was carrying in his pocket?

A. A man wearing a whitish gray turban jumped out from behind a rock. When he saw the American flag stamp, he tore Abby's letter to pieces, saying that foreign letters were not welcome here.

Q. Where do Sadeed's parents work?

A. His father has a grain stall & his mother is in a sewing group.

Q. What color turbans did the Taliban wear?

A. Black.

Q. Was Abby also writing 2 letters?

A. Yes, one for her classroom bulletin board & a more personal letter for Amira & Sadeed.

Q. What did Abby do with Amira & Sadeed's letters?

A. Abby made a display of them on her classroom bulletin board.

Q. Why did Abby's teacher take the picture of the Afghanistan flag down from her bulletin board display?

A. Because the pictures of the Islamic mosque & prayer on the flag made one of her classmates uncomfortable.

Q. What did Sadeed help Abby to appreciate?

A. Abby's family cornfield. It wasn't flat & boring, but BEAUTIFUL!!

Q. How did Abby end her oral report?

A. Abby said that people are simple, but things around them can get complicated and even dangerous.