Binti Knows Her Mind

Author: Richa Jha
Illustrator: Kalyani Naravane
Every day, Binti woke up with the energy to move a mountain.

Today, she could move five. It was a special day.

Everyone at home was busy. Binti wanted to help too.
“Binti, stop!” said Papa. “You’ll hurt yourself.”

“I can do it Papa, I can,” said Binti.
And she packed a box of yummy biscuits for Dadi, then ran outside.
“Binti, stop!” said Didi. “You’ll fall.”

“I can do it Didi, I can,” said Binti.
And she made the car the cleanest it had ever been.
It was almost time to leave. Binti loved watching Dadi getting ready.

Mummy took out the watch that Dadi had gifted Binti.

Binti did not like wearing it because the strap made her wrist itchy.

But today, she wore it with a smile.
They were about to leave when Dhuli Aunty, Pooran Uncle and Pinku came home.

Binti knew what Dhuli Aunty would do. Pull her cheeks and make them go round and round.

But today, Binti would have none of it!
Binti had barely escaped Dhuli Aunty’s fingers when she saw Boro in Pinku’s hands.

“Give me back my Boro,” said Binti.

Pinku squeezed Boro’s tummy tight.

“It’s good to share, Binti,” said Papa.
That is what everyone always said.

But they didn’t know the horrible things Pinku did with her toys.

“He hurt Boro’s eyes last time, Papa,” said Binti.

Pinku held Boro tighter.
“GIVE ME BACK MY BORO,” Binti roared.

Boro was happy to be back in Binti’s arms.
Mummy said they were getting late.

They said their goodbyes to Pinku and his parents, and soon they were off.
Binti had never seen so many people together. Her Dadi looked the smartest.

Dadi had decided to study in college the year she turned 70. Mummy said Binti couldn’t even walk back then.

Today, Dadi was finishing 3 years of college. She had worked hard.
Everybody clapped for Dadi when she got her medal.

Binti clapped the loudest.
Binti selected a delicious cake for Dadi’s celebrations.

“Binti, stop!” said Mummy. “You’ll drop it.”

“I can do it, Mummy, I can!” said Binti.

Oops! The slice of cake rolled on to Dadi’s sari.

“That was only one slice, Didi,” said Binti, “now look at this.”

Binti sliced through the cake, this time slowly, and scooped up a neat piece for Dadi.

“My Binti, she always knows her mind!” said Dadi, giving her the biggest hug she ever had.
Story Attribution:
This story: Binti Knows Her Mind is written by Richa Jha. © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

Other Credits:
'Binti Knows Her Mind' has been published on StoryWeaver by Pratham Books. The development of this book has been supported by CISCO.
www.prathambooks.org Guest Art Director: Vidyun Sabhaney

Images Attributions:
Binti Knows Her Mind
(English)

You can try telling Binti that she can’t do something, but she knows best!

This is a Level 2 book for children who recognize familiar words and can read new words with help.

Pratham Books goes digital to weave a whole new chapter in the realm of multilingual children's stories. Knitting together children, authors, illustrators and publishers. Folding in teachers, and translators. To create a rich fabric of openly licensed multilingual stories for the children of India and the world. Our unique online platform, StoryWeaver, is a playground where children, parents, teachers and librarians can get creative. Come, start weaving today, and help us get a book in every child’s hand!