

## Armchair Adventures

### A Time Travelling Cricket Bat Adventure

#### Part 2

Connie: Welcome to the Armchair Adventures Travel Agency, journeys of the imagination. I'm Head Travel Agent and Host, Connie!

#### **Armchair Adventure Theme Song:**

*On an armchair adventure you can go anywhere you like,  
On an armchair adventure imaginations fly.*

Connie: When we left off last time, we were stuck in the future and it wasn't looking good! I was giving a presentation at the Junior Presentation Championships.

#### *SFX Grand Championship trumpet fanfare*

Connie: But it was so awkward, nobody was interested.

#### *SFX Connie runs off stage*

Connie: That was terrible, Kanti. I thought if I jumped to the future and saw myself being successful then I'd have more confidence doing the presentation.

Kanti: But we hadn't done any work to help build your confidence yet. Of course you weren't ready.

Connie: We need to go back to where we were, on a train in the 1960s, on our way to Loughborough, so that you can start your first day at college!

Kanti: I don't know if we can now we're in the future. We might be stuck here forever!

Connie: Then we need **everybody's** help! Adventurers, are you ready to tap the bat on the floor three times to get us back? Tap it with me.

#### *SFX Ding*

#### *SFX 3 knocks on the floor as Connie says...*

Connie: One, two, three. To the Sixties!

*SFX whizzing sound of being transported in a time wormhole...*

*SFX Train chugging along the track from inside the carriage*

Connie: Oh, thank goodness! We're back!

Kanti: That's a relief! The cricket bat isn't a toy, Connie. If you aren't ready now, you won't be ready in the future!

Connie: I know that now. Sorry everyone. We'll only travel when we're ready! Adventurers, this is Kanti, our second competition winner. We've used his cricket bat to travel through time to see him when he was younger, in Tanzania and England in the 60s.

*SFX trolley cart coming past*

*SFX Mumbled chipmunk*

Ronnie: Ooh, the food trolley. My favourite part of a train journey.

*SFX trolley moving*

*SFX Mumbled chipmunk*

Ronnie: Yes please, I'll have a cuppa and some chocolate fingers. Would anyone else like anything?

John OG: Have you any sardine sandwiches?

Lily: Jam roly poly?

Connie: What would you like from the trolley on a long train journey, adventurers?

*SFX Ding*

Kids: Err, a packet of nuts.

Kids: Galaxy chocolate bar please.

Kids: I'll have a spam sandwich please.

Kids: I'll have a caramel chocolate.

Kids: I'll have a mars bar please.

Kids: I'll have a lion bar duo and a drink of vimto please.

Kids: I'll have a cold fanta please.

Kids: Got any biscuits?

Connie: Yum. I'll have a cup of tea, please. Kanti?

Kanti: And one for me, too, please!

Connie: Anyway, where were we? I was invited to speak at the Junior Presentation Championships...

### *SFX Grand Championship trumpet fanfare*

Connie: That happens whenever I mention the (*whispered*) ch'.. shps! I originally said no, because I'm sooooo shy and don't like speaking in front of people, especially other teenagers. But Kanti did scarier things when he was my age and that inspired me, so I changed my mind and agreed. But when I saw all the other REALLY CLEVER speakers I panicked and used the bat to go to the future, but my presentation wasn't ready and now I think I should just back out because... I just. can't. do it...And now you're up to date!

Kanti: Connie, you can do it. We just need to get you ready!

Connie: I don't know where to start!

Kanti: At the beginning. How did Armchair Adventures get going?

Connie: Well, it was during the pandemic. My customers couldn't leave their houses and we wanted to do something together as a community.

Anne: So, we started meeting over group telephone chat.

Keith: Our chats were a lifeline.

Pat: And you convinced us all to come onboard adventures of our imaginations.

Jan: In the hardest of times, we were having a laugh!

Christine: And now look at all the adventures we've been on together!

Connie: With all of you, and with our adventurers at home.

Pauline: You have wonderful skills, Connie. You bring people together.

Linda: And inspire others.

Connie: Oh, you guys!

Kanti: So that's your story! Where you started, what you did and where you ended up!

Lynda: Really, Connie. Look how far you've come. I bet if someone had told you when this all started what you'd achieve, you wouldn't believe them!

Connie: Maybe not.

Lynda: You're bound to inspire everyone you're presenting to, as well!

Connie: What about you adventurers. Imagine you were doing a presentation. What would you speak about? Something you're passionate about.

### *SFX Ding*

Kids: I love golf.

Kids: Sketching.

Kids: I like to help animals.

Kids: I love athletics.

Kids: I love doing artwork

Kids: I'm good at doing races.

Kids: Harry Potter books.

Kids: I'd speak about coding.

Connie: These are great. If only I was able to speak in front of people.

Steve: You're speaking in front of us!

Connie: Yeah but you're my friends.

Kanti: Just imagine everyone at the Championships are your friends, too.

Connie: It's easy for you, you're so good at this, Kanti.

Kanti: Only because I've had years of practice. We should see how terrified I used to be!

Connie: Could we?

Kanti: Yes, come on! Let's meet my younger self giving my first speech as Secretary of Ashton Cricket Club.

Connie: Ok! Adventurers, cricket bats at the ready!

*SFX Ding*

*SFX 3 knocks on the floor as Connie says...*

Connie: One, two, three. To Ashton Cricket Club!

*SFX whizzing sound of being transported through time in a wormhole*

#### **Scene 4**

*SFX hum and shushing of an auditorium with a full audience present*

Steve: (*Whispers*) The audience are in their seats.

Anne: (*Whispers*) The auditorium is dark.

Connie: Before we see younger Kanti giving his speech, let me tell you about another podcast I like...

*Promo swap – advert for another podcast*

Connie: Now back to our Armchair Adventure. Where's Younger Kanti?

Kanti: There I am!

Connie: Oh yes! Why is your back to the audience?

Kanti: Because I was so scared! I turned away from the audience, asked for the lights to be turned off and I'm holding my notes! You'd be so much better than this, Connie!

Connie: I wouldn't be so sure.

Kanti: Oh, Younger Kanti! I wish you'd Say hello to the audience!

*SFX mumbled undistinguishable speech from Younger Kanti*

Cyril: Ssh, the audience will hear you!!

Kanti: They can't hear us! The magic doesn't work like that. I want to tell myself to relax, they're only people! I look so nervous and awkward.

Lynda: You don't stand still. You're shuffling from side to side.

Hazel: You're not talking very loudly either. I can barely hear what you're saying!

Steve: You seem very hesitant.

Kanti: I forgot that people wanted to hear what I was saying! What use is mumbling and being uncertain?

Connie: You were right! You were so different back then to how you are now.

Kanti: I told you.

Connie: I really want you to believe in yourself. I want to tell you we're all rooting for you and to just do your best!

Kanti: Exactly, the audience wants you to do well!

Connie: I don't want anybody watching me to feel uncomfortable. So how would you do it differently?

Kanti: I'd start by facing the audience and saying good evening. And, I'd throw away those notes I'm holding!

Cyril: Make eye contact with people. And keep your head up.

Christine: Crack a joke. Show the audience you feel comfortable.

Connie: Come on then, adventurers. Let's pretend you're making a speech. Look people in the eye and say "Good evening, my name is ...", then your name! And tell us a joke!

### *SFX Ding*

Kids: Good evening. My name's Lewis, and knock knock...

Who's there?

Done-up

Don-up who?

You just said you've done a poo mate!

Kids: Good evening, my name is Max. Why did the student eat their homework...? Because the teacher said it was a piece of cake!

Kids: Good evening, my name is Jessica, what do you call a deer with no eyes...? No idea!

Kids: Hi my name is Ava, why did the cow cross the road...? To go to the moo-vies!

Kids: Hi, good evening, my name's Ikra, what do you call a bear with no teeth? A gummy bear!

Connie: Haha, they're so funny! I'm going to remember some of those!

Hazel: And don't forget, it's ok to make mistakes! We know you're human!

Connie: That's true, Hazel. You do a lot of amateur operatics, so you know a lot about breathing exercises and how to make your voice loud. Can you teach us? Could you show us a voice warm-up?

Hazel: Yes of course. Ok, if you put both of your hands, fingertips touching, just below your ribcage, then breathe into where your hands are. And breathe out with a big haaaaaaaaaaaaa.

Connie: Ready adventurers?

*SFX Ding*

Kids: Haaaaaaaaaaaa.

Hazel: Another deep breath. This time let it out on a baaaaaaaa.

Kids: Baaaaaaaa.

Hazel: Now let's try warming our mouths up. We'll use a tongue twister to help with our pronunciation – so we can clearly say our words. Repeat after me.

One-One was a racehorse.

Connie: Everybody!

*SFX Ding*

Kids/everybody: One-One was a racehorse.

Hazel: Two-Two was one, too.

*SFX Ding*

Kids/everybody: Two-Two was one, too.

Hazel: When One-One won one race.

*SFX Ding*

Kids/everybody: When One-One won one race.

Hazel: Two-Two won one, too.

*SFX Ding*

Kids/everybody: Two-Two won one, too.

Connie: Now can you do it at speed, adventurers?

*SFX Ding*

Kids: One-one was a racehorse,  
two-two was one too,  
when one-one won one race,  
two two won one too!

Connie: That was great! Thank you Hazel. I can already (*over-enunciated pronunciation*) 'feel the difference!'

Kanti: What do you think about giving a speech now, Connie?

Connie: I'm pumped! This time I'm definitely ready. I don't want to wait. If I could do it right now, I'd smash it!

Kanti: Why wait? We have a time travelling cricket bat, remember? You already showed us we can travel to the future!

Connie: Awesome. Ready to tap the cricket bat one more time, Adventurers?

*SFX Ding*

*SFX 3 knocks on the floor as Connie says...*

Connie: One, two, three. To the Junior Presentation Championships!

*SFX whizzing sound of being transported in a time wormhole...*

*SFX Grand Championship trumpet fanfare*

Connie: Will you come on stage with me, adventurers? You can do your speeches, too!

*SFX Connie and the adventurers walk onstage. Mic gives feedback.*

Connie: (*Clears throat*) Good evening! My name's Connie.

### **Song**

Sometimes you might feel like there's things you just can't do,  
And you can't find the confidence that's hidden inside you.  
Even when you're stumped,

Down feel down in the dumps,  
'Cos you can do anything.

Maybe you might find a talent you've got inside,  
But you will never know if you don't give things a try.  
So don't give up.  
Your best is good enough.  
'Cos you can do anything.

So stand tall,  
Give it all you've got,  
Don't worry what others say.  
'Cos people will be there  
To help you along,  
So face your fears and do it anyway.

Believe,  
You can do it!  
Take a leap,  
Take a breath with me.  
You won't let anybody down so don't be scared.  
Believe, just believe!

Sometimes you might feel like there's things you just can't do,  
And you can't find the confidence that's hidden inside you.  
Even when you're stumped,  
Down feel down in the dumps,  
'Cos you can do anything.

So stand tall,  
Give it all you've got,  
Don't worry what others say.  
'Cos people will be there  
To help you along,  
So face your fears and do it anyway.

Believe,  
You can do it!  
Take a leap,  
Take a breath with me.  
You won't let anybody down so don't be scared.  
Believe, just believe!

That's when you learn,  
That's when you grow.  
That's when you discover things  
You don't already know.  
That's when you learn,  
That's when you grow.  
That's when you discover things

You don't already know.

Believe,  
You can do it!  
Take a leap,  
Take a breath with me.  
You won't let anybody down so don't be scared.  
Believe, just believe!

Believe,  
You can do it!  
Take a leap,  
Take a breath with me.  
You won't let anybody down so don't be scared.  
Believe, just believe!

*SFX Connie presenting to a rapt audience*

Connie: ...”And finally, by sharing my imagination, along with my customers here...”

Cyril: That's us she's talking about!

Lily: Ssh, I'm missing what she said.

Connie: “And going to different worlds. I learnt more about myself and the world we live in. And you can, too. Thank you”

*SFX applause, whoops, standing ovations*

John R: What an amazing reaction from the audience.

Connie: Come on everybody, let's take a bow!

*SFX Ding*

*SFX Everybody bowing. Connie leaves the stage to meet the gang*

Kanti: That was fantastic, Connie! You could hear a pin drop!

John OG: Your enthusiasm really showed.

Linda: You were so inspiring!

Connie: Thank you everyone! I didn't believe I'd be able to do that. But when you showed me it's all about telling your story, talking about what you're passionate about and sharing it confidently, I realised I had everything I needed to feel brave!

Connie: How did your speech go, adventurer?

### *SFX Ding*

Kids: The audience seemed to love it!

Kids: The better my breathing grew, the more my confidence grew.

Kids: I didn't stop believing in myself.

Kids: I was nervous at first, but then I loved it.

Kids: People really understood what I was talking about.

Connie: Well done, adventurers!

Kanti: How do you feel now, Connie? After you've faced your fear?

Connie: Really glad that I did it. Thank you all for encouraging me. I now know that people don't have to be born confident, but if you're prepared then you can feel confident!

Linda: You certainly looked it. Not a hint of nerves!

Connie: Thank you. And thank you Kanti, for sharing your story with us! I would never have recognised you as a young, uncertain person. It was a brilliant adventure!

Kanti: I had a lot of fun, too! I never would have dreamed I could visit my younger self. Especially by travelling with a cricket bat! It was magical!

Keith: It was great to meet you, Kanti. You and your younger selves!

Kanti: And to meet all of you. I really enjoyed our adventure!

Hazel: I've learned a lot. I'd be excited to give a speech myself now... if I had to!

Pauline: It was fabulous to travel through time and see places I'd never been to.

Connie: Brilliant. I suppose I should let you all get off home. It was amazing to meet you, Kanti. I'll see you all soon for another adventure! Bye everybody!

Kanti: Goodbye, Connie.

Ensemble: Bye, bye Connie, goodbye, Au Revoir, Arrivederci, See ya...

Connie: End. Call. Now.

*SFX of a dial-tone as Connie terminates the call*

*Music - Armchair Adventures theme starts*

### **Outro.**

Connie: I loved that! ... thanks sooo much for joining in adventurers!

Before you go Adventurers, don't forget to follow or subscribe to Armchair Adventures. And if you're listening on Apple Podcasts then please leave us a rating and review and we'll read out some more next time!

See you soon adventurer. Love you guys!

### **Armchair Adventure Theme Song:**

*On an armchair adventure you can go anywhere you like,  
On an armchair adventure imaginations fly.*

Credits: This is a Made By Mortals production, supported by the Arts Council of England. Thank you.