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A CLOCK WITH NO SENSE OF HUMOR

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Life is tough for people without a sense of humor. And it is even tougher for a person who is a clock and has no sense of humor. The reason is, that a clock measures the passing of time. If it has no sense of humor then its whole life is anguished. "Oh, this moment has gone too". "Oh, this hour has passed also." "Oh, there is no time" A whole life full of "Ohs" we may say.

The grandfather clock on the wall of Alikis house, has no sense of humor at all. "Tick, tack, tick, tack" from morning to evening and from evening to morning without stopping to relax or take a breath.

On the other hand, the little red alarm clock on Alikis bedside table has a sense of humor and likes to joke. For example at three in the afternoon it starts ringing madly.

"Drrringggg. drrringgg" wake up everybody... it is time."

"What? what is the time?" says the grandfather clock on the wall, upset. "I didn't stop? Oh, tell me what is the time?"

"Ha, ha, ha, I fooled you again" says the little red alarm clock and bursts into laughter. "You have no sense of humor at all. It is only three in the afternoon"

"Then, why are you ringing?" says the grandfather clock. "Your job is to ring at eith in the morning to wake up Alikis. Why are you ringing now?"

"It's a joke" says the little red alarm clock, which just dies for jokes. "Isn't it funny?"

"Mum, quit. joke" says the grandfather clock and hurries to find its usual rhythm. "Tick, tack. Tick, tack." "The only thing you succeeded, was to make me loose one second in my confusion."

"Nice" thinks the little red alarm clock. "Next time, I'll make you loose two seconds."

One other time the little red alarm clock stopped. Maybe because its batteries were gone, maybe because it wanted to play again with the grandfather clock.

A Hention - Mr. PAEONIDES

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So at eight, the grandfather clock waited like every morning to hear the little red alarm clock ringing to check whether it was correct too. Eight o'clock passed. Eight, past a minute passed. It was almost two minutes past eight, nothing. The grandfather clock could not wait anymore.

"Hey, alarm, what are you doing? Why don't you ring. The time passed."

What are you talking about? Time has not passed. It is still seven o'clock" It said with great assurance the red alarm. See? It is exactly seven o'clock."

"The grandfather clock look at the red alarm. It really seemed to be seven o'clock, sharp. It checked itself. It was three minutes past eight....

"My time is three minutes past eight" it said

"You are sick, you have to be examined" said the little red alarm persuasively. "Some old people like you suffer from arthritis and diabetes"

The grandfather clock wondered what relationship would have a difference in time between two clocks, to diabetes and arthritis which are human sicknesses. But as we said the grandfather clock had no sense of humor and one who has no sense of humor usually is not very clever. Or if we turned it around, one who has a sense of humor is usually clever, as well. The little red alarm clock has much humor and so it is as clever as a little devil. It knew from the first moment that its batteries had run out, but it wanted to have fun.

At nine o'clock Alike woke up worried. With her woke up the shoes, the socks, the comb, the brush and they all ran hurriedly to get ready.

"Oh, we are late for school".

"Oh, it is nine o'clock"

But the little red alarm clock had stopped at seven.

"Ha, ha, ha," it laughed "I fooled you all, I fooled you" It laughed quite a lot by itself and then it got bored.

"It's so boring to show continuously that the time is seven" it thought. Around ten o'clock it called "Hey, Mr clock..."

What do you want? don't bother me, I'm busy" said the grandfather clock. To tell the truth it was cross with the silly behavior of the little clock.

"Say something, to have a laugh together"

"What should I say? I have no sense of humor. You are the one who is known for having a sense of humor...."

"Well, sure, nobody can compete with me on humor. Do you remember that time when I rang at three in the afternoon and all of you thought it was morning? Ha, ha, ha" laughed the red alarm, but nobody else laughed

"Well, please tell us a joke" complained the red alarm.

"All right, I'll tell a joke" said the grandfather clock.

"Do you know what I learned yesterday? That you batteries are gone and so you are not going to work for the rest of your life, but you will be stuck at

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seven o'clock. Ha, ha, ha."

"This is not a joke, absolutely it is no joke" said the little red alarm.

"You can say this because you need no batteries. They wind you up with that ancient key every two or three days and that's all. But for me, batteries are a matter of life and death.

"Well, it depends, how you look at it" said the grandfather clock and went on ticking rhythmically "tick, tack. Tick, tack." The little red alarm clock had a very worried day. "Is Aiki going to find batteries? And if she does what's going to happen in the morning without me ringing at eight o'clock?

The grandfather clock was laughing secretly, like this "Tick, tack, ha, ha. Tick, tack, ha, ha."