

I'll Do It Myself

Katrina is very independent, and she often resists group activities or assistance from others. I introduced the concept of "interdependence" to her in the hope of helping her understand that sometimes we really are better together than alone. This is the story that she wrote that evening.

Good morning, Kermit the Frog here, and today, my best friend Katrina wants to do everything independently. That means she wants to do everything by herself so she doesn't have to rely on me for help. This morning after we used the bathroom, I asked Katrina what she wants to eat for breakfast.

"I usually eat yogurt back home on Camano Island." Katrina said opening the refrigerator. She got her vitamins from the pantry, and fruit from the bowl.

"Do you want me to fill up a glass of water for you?" I asked.

"No thanks Kermit, I'll do it myself." Katrina said and reached for the glass in the kitchen cupboard. Then she fill her cup with ice cubes and cold water.

"See Kermit, I'm so independent of getting my own breakfast." Katrina said, finishing her yogurt and fruit. Afterward, we went upstairs to get dressed. Katrina put on her socks, pants, bra, and shirt all by herself.

"See Kermit, I'm so independent of dressing myself." Katrina said getting her green coat and black bow headband. Then we went to Grover's house for a playdate. I told Grover about how Katrina was so independent and how she had done everything by herself without my help.

"Wow, Katrina's such a big girl now, I'll bet she can do everything on her own." Grover said.

"That's right Grover, I can do anything, I'm Ms. Independent." Katrina said in a positive way.

"Wonderful, then let's go play." Grover led us inside his house. We went into his play area where Grover is building a puppet theater. He showed us how to make it with the instructions. We put all the parts together and assembled the theater.

"Hey Katrina, you would like some help putting up the curtains?" Grover asked.

"No thanks Grover, I'll do it myself." Katrina put up the curtains on the curtain rod.

"See Grover, I'm so independent of putting up the curtains myself." she told Grover.

"Very well, now let's make our puppets for the puppet show." Grover gave us some art supplies and we made our own puppets. Grover made a dragon, I made a green knight, and Katrina made a pretty pink princess.

"Do you need help making your puppet?" I asked.

"No thanks Kermit, I'll do it myself." Katrina made the body, the head, and the curly hair. She added the silver tiara, the glittery pink cape, and a beautiful pink rose gown.

"See guys, I'm so independent of creating my own puppet." she tested out and made it move.

"Now we have to make the scenery for the puppet show." Grover got out a poster and a paint set. We started painting the scenery to go with our story.

"Katrina, do you want some help painting the palace?" I asked.

"No thanks Kermit, I'll do it myself." Katrina painted the palace pink, purple, and peach.

"See Kermit, I'm so independent of creating my own art." Katrina put her princess puppet on the theater. I put my knight in the castle and Grover put his dragon in the cave. At twelve o'clock, we went to the restaurant called Charlie's for lunch. Grover's the waiter, I'm the bus boy, and Katrina is the chef.

"Hey Katrina, want some help cooking the food?" I asked.

"No thanks Kermit, I'll do it myself." Katrina cooked cucumber and eggplant soup. She also made some chili radish carrot muffins.

"See Kermit, I'm so independent of cooking my own food, order up!" She gave the food to Grover and Grover served all the food to the customers. Then it was our lunchtime, Katrina, Grover, and I ate angel hair pasta with fresh vegetables. After lunch, I helped clean up all the tables because I'm the bus boy. While our puppets dried, Grover, Katrina, and I went to Sesame Park to play. We played boing tag, hide-and-seek, and duck duck goose. Afterward, we went to the playground on the other side to of Sesame Park to play with our friends. We played on the slide with Elmo and Abby Cadabby. We played on the seesaw with Big Bird. We even played on the swings with Ernie and Bert.

"Hey Katrina, need a push?" asked Bert.

"No thanks Bert, I'll do it myself." Katrina put her feet on the ground, pumped her legs and held on to the chains.

"See Bert, I'm so independent of swinging on a swing." Katrina said swinging on the swing. Afterward, we flew our kites with Julia and Rosita. Julia's kite is in the shape of a bunny rabbit. Rosita's kite is in the shape of a paparo, a bird. Our kite is in the shape of a green fairy.

"Hey Katrina, do you need help with your kite?" asked Rosita.

"No gracias, I'll do it myself." Katrina held the string and flew our kite. But suddenly, a big strong wind blew the kite into the sky carrying Katrina up into the air. We chased after the kite until it finally landed in the tree. Katrina landed in the tree too and got stuck.

"Hello down there guys, I seem to be stuck! Can you help me, I can't climb down the tree by myself!" she called from up the tree.

"Don't worry Katrina, we'll save you." Rosita called. She and Julia tried using a ladder to climb up but Katrina can't climb down it from the tree. Big Bird tried reaching for Katrina but he got our kite instead. So Grover put on his Super Grover costume and tipped the tree over.

"No Grover, if you tip the tree, Katrina could fall and get hurt, and we don't want that do we?" Rosita warned him.

"You're right, I didn't think of that. Who else can get Katrina down from the tree?" wondered Super Grover.

"Hey, I can climb up the tree and rescue Katrina." I thought.

"Great idea Kermit, do you need any help getting up there?" asked Rosita.

"No thanks guys, I'll do it myself, Katrina's my best friend." I climbed up the tree independently. Even though I'm not a tree frog, I still saved my best friend. Katrina and I grabbed a vine and swung down the tree.

"Hooray for Katrina Manalo and Kermit The Frog!" everybody cheered.

"Thanks everyone, now let's go back to Grover's house and start our puppet show." the wind carried me and Katrina back to Grover's house and everyone followed us. At Grover's house, Grover, Katrina and I put on our puppet show. In this story, a princess was trying to be independent of fighting the fire breathing dragon. Somehow she got captured by the dragon and the dragon put her in a tall tower. But then, a brave knight came to rescue her and fight the dragon. The princess learned how to be independent, but she also learned that she can rely on someone and ask for help; that's called interdependence.

"And they all lived happily ever after, the end." Grover, Katrina, and I bowed as everyone did an ovation. Later, the sky was getting dark and it's time for everybody to go home. We thanked Grover for helping make our puppet show exciting. Then we said goodbye to our friends and headed home to our apartment. That night, Katrina and I had tomato stew for supper. Next, we went upstairs and showered together, brushed our teeth together, and put on our pajamas tgr.

"Kermit, I'm not so independent of flying kites. But I'm so independent of getting ready for bed. Hmm, maybe I have to admit I do need to rely on you and ask for help." Katrina told me.

"Well Katrina, the important thing is that you're okay. I know you want to be independent and do everything on your own. But in the future, you really got to rely on someone and ask for help, that's called interdependence." I told my best friend.

"I promise I will Kermit, I'll always rely on you because you always take good care of me and you're my best friend." Katrina hugged me.

"Ah Katrina, you're my best friend too and I'll always take good care of you." I hugged her back. Katrina and I will always be close best friends forever and help each other a lot. And as long as I have Katrina, she can rely on me to help her and take care of her. Now it's time for us to go to bed so this is Kermit The Frog and Katrina Manalo saying good night and sweet dreams.