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Matilda and her Overcoming Adversity

Imagine a young girl achieving justice over cruelty through her intelligence and supernatural abilities. In the novel “Matilda” by Roald Dahl, the protagonist Matilda, identified as a genius at a young age, faces varied adversity including being neglected by her parents and constant physical threats from her headmistress. Moreover, Matilda gets support and love from her teacher, Miss. Honey, who plays a crucial role in helping her overcome difficulties over tyranny. Throughout “Matilda”, the novel contrasts the genius Matilda with her disrespectful parents and tyrannical headmistress, Miss. Trunchbull, highlighting the struggle between good and evil as well as overcoming these adversities and fortunately achieves happiness and justice.

The struggles between Matilda and her parents, Mr and Mrs. Wormwood who neglected and treated her poorly is one of the key factors highlighting the adversity Matilda faced. The quote “‘I don't want to know what it's about,' Mr. Wormwood barked. 'I'm fed up with your reading any-way. Go and find yourself something useful to do. With frightening suddenness he now began ripping the pages out of the book in handfuls and throwing them in the waste-paper basket.’” (pg.4) shows Mr. Wormwood’s complete lack of support for her love of reading and learning. His physical actions of ripping Matilda’s book shows him disregarding Matilda, underscoring the kinds of struggles she’d experienced. The relationship between Matilda and her family demonstrates the shortage of love, which she hopes for.

At school, Matilda meets Miss. Trunchbull, the cruel, tyrannical headmistress who's acting evil for all the students. Miss. Trunchbull uses physical punishment in order to control the students, as well as using her authority to bully Matilda and the other students. For example, "Eat!" she shouted. 'Greedy little thieves who like to eat cake must have cake! Eat faster boy! Eat faster! We don't want to be here all day! And don't stop like you're doing now! Next time you stop before it's all finished you'll go straight into The Chokey and I shall lock the door and throw the key down the well!'. This demonstrates how Miss. Trunchbull tyrannically punishes students that could even lead the boy to become violently sick. Additionally, this constant threat of Miss. Trunchbull's punishment drives more fear in students, including Matilda. However, when the boy was battling himself with Miss. Trunchbull, Matilda shouted "Come on, Brucie! You can make it!", taking her risk off and showing her bravery over tyranny. The school adversity was one of Matilda's adversities that threatened herself and her classmates, making it difficult for them to enjoy school or feel safe due to the hostile environment she'd created.

Finally, the kind-hearted teacher, Miss. Honey plays a crucial role in helping her overcome difficulties and achieve justice. This includes the uncovering of Miss. Trunchbull's secrets, in which Miss. Honey shares her personal story with Matilda, revealing how Miss. Trunchbull took her house. Additionally, this story has been crucial in Matilda's plan on Miss. Trunchbull. For example, Matilda uses her supernatural abilities and writes "Give my Jenny back her house, give my Jenny back her wages, give my Jenny the house then get out of here. If you don't, I will come and get you. I'll come and get you like you got me. I am watching you Agatha" in the chalk, leading Miss. Trunchbull to fall from being shocked. With this, Miss. Honey was able to reclaim her father's house, achieving justice to her life. Moreover, when Matilda's parents decide to leave the country, Miss. Honey adopts Matilda.

“Matilda leapt into Miss Honey's arms and hugged her, and Miss.Honey hugged her back,” finally marking Matilda’s achievement of justice and deserving a new loving and supportive family. They were both able to overcome the adversity faced in both of their lifetime by being supportive for each other.

Throughout the novel, Matilda successfully overcomes her adversity by achieving justice for herself and Miss. Honey which transformed her from a life full of threats to the one filled with love and happiness. This transition allows readers to gain understanding of using personal intelligence within the support from goods could completely overcome the adversity over tyranny and live a stable life with the loved ones. Matilda had faced several hardships such as being neglected by Mr and Mrs.Wormwood ever since she lived with them together and being threatened by the tyrannical headmistress Miss. Trunchbull, but she was able to overcome this adversity through the knowledge she gets from the support within her use of supernatural ability. Furthermore, these factors made both Matilda and Ms.Honey achieve justice which changed the environment they lived positively in, in which Matilda finds a life with love one and Ms. Honey reclaiming her inheritance.