# Lisa and her Secret





Lisa is a 9-year-old who loves to sing. At home, after she finishes her homework, she will sing to her baby sister while her parents prepare dinner.



One evening during dinner, her parents tell Lisa that her Uncle Jin is coming to live with them while he does some work in town. Uncle Jin is her mother's younger brother.



A few days later, Uncle Jin arrives.

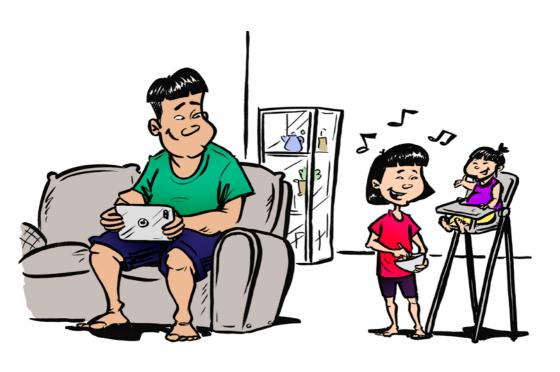
He brings with him a few board
games for the family.



Lisa starts to play these games with Uncle Jin.



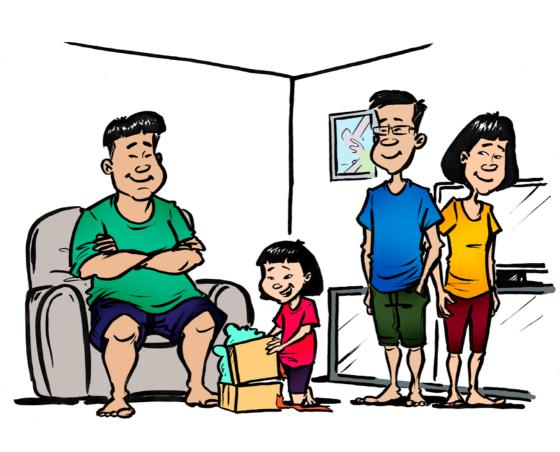
Soon, playing board games after dinner becomes a family routine.



One evening, Uncle Jin hears Lisa sing to her younger sister. He tells her parents how talented she is.



Uncle Jin praises Lisa and gives her a present.



Lisa is very happy and says, "Thank you."



One day, when Lisa is finishing her homework in her room, Uncle Jin comes to her room. He tells her he can help her with her homework.



Uncle Jin sits next to her. He checks her work and gives Lisa a 'high five' for getting all her homework correct.



At dinner, Lisa tells her parents that Uncle Jin is helping her with her homework. They are so happy. They say it gives them more time to do the household chores, prepare dinner and look after Lisa's younger sister.



Now, Uncle Jin comes to Lisa's room every evening to help her with her homework. Lisa and Uncle Jin talk a lot.



Uncle Jin puts his arm around her shoulders. He says, "You are very special, Lisa." Lisa is so happy.



One day, while Lisa is finishing her homework, Uncle Jin comes into the room and closes the door.



He sits next to Lisa as usual. But this time he touches her thigh.

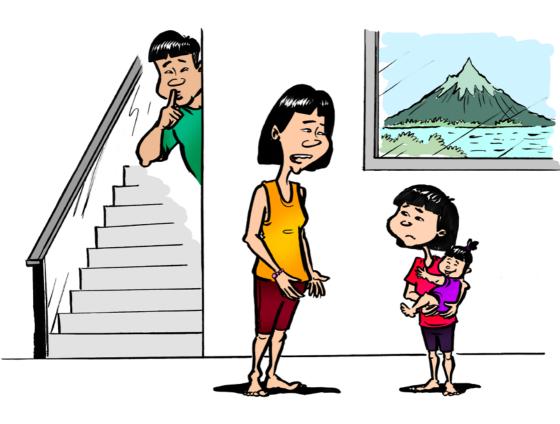


Uncle Jin tells her, "It's just a game...
only because you are special."
Lisa feels uncomfortable and tries to
move away. He tells her, "You can't
tell anyone about this because they
won't believe you."





The same thing happens the following day and the day after.
Lisa does not know what to do.
She is frightened. She stops singing to her little sister.

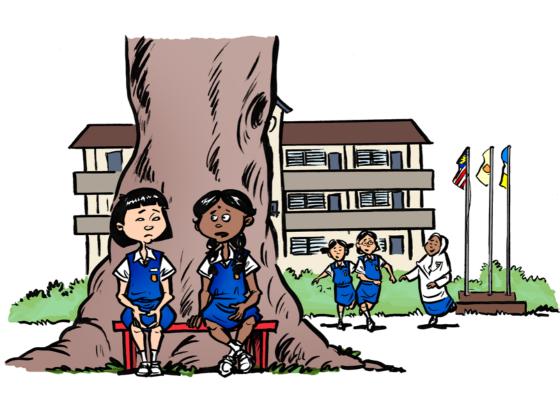


Her mother asks her, "Is everything alright? I haven't heard you sing for a while." Lisa keeps quiet.

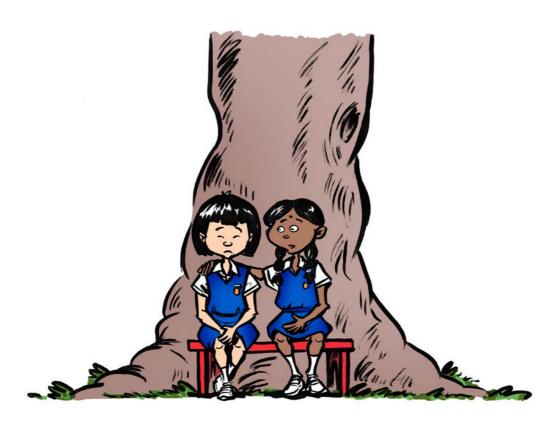
She can see Uncle Jin watching her from the stairs.



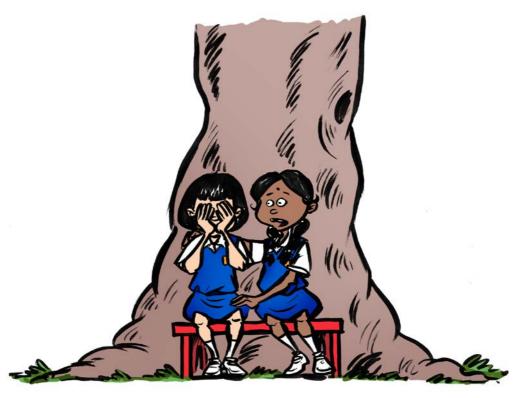
Uncle Jin comes down the stairs and asks, "Hey! What's for dinner?" Lisa's mum laughs and tells him, "Pizza!"



At school, Lisa has become very quiet. Her best friend Rani asks her, "What's wrong, Lisa? Why are you so quiet? How come you don't play with all of us anymore?" Lisa just shakes her head and looks down.



Rani looks at her. She says, "You look sad. My mummy says if something makes me sad or scared, I must tell someone. I must not keep it a secret. So, tell me lah. Why are you sad?"



After a while Lisa looks up and says, "Uncle Jin is... touching me... I don't like it. He does it every evening in my room... when Mummy and Daddy are preparing dinner in the kitchen. I am so scared." Then she cries.



Rani says, "You have to tell your parents." Lisa says, "I can't tell them because they really like Uncle Jin. And Uncle Jin says they won't believe me."



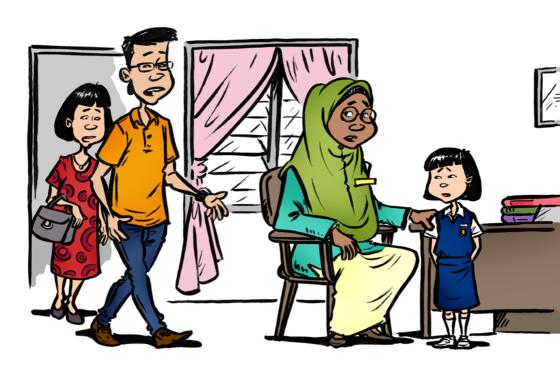
As soon as Rani gets home from school she tells her mother, Mrs Mala, what Lisa told her. Mrs Mala is shocked and tells Rani that she will get help for Lisa. Mrs Mala then phones Puan Julia, Rani and Lisa's class teacher.



The next morning, Puan Julia calls Lisa and talks to her gently. Lisa tells Puan Julia what had happened.



Puan Julia says, "Lisa, you must have been so frightened. Your Uncle Jin shouldn't have done that. It is good that you did not keep this a secret and told Rani. Now let's find a way to stop this."



Puan Julia immediately calls Lisa's parents to school and tells them what has happened.



Lisa's parents are shocked. Her mother puts her arm around Lisa and says, "I am so sorry that happened to you. I did not know. Uncle Jin was very wrong to do that. You are so brave for telling Rani and your teacher."



Lisa's father says, "We are going to lodge a police report now. Uncle Jin cannot stay with us anymore.

You did the right thing by telling us.

Don't worry, we will make sure he does not hurt you anymore."



Both parents hug Lisa.



Remember this: if you receive a bad touch, don't keep it a secret. Tell someone about it. That's the way you can get help to stop it.



Fill in the bubbles with the names of people whom you trust and who can help you.



The Women's Centre for Change is a non-profit organisation whose mission is to end violence against women and children, and promote gender equality and social justice.

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