

Granaid

Grandpa looked tired and frustrated as he entered the back door, through the courtyard. "Where did I drop that wallet...." he cursed himself aloud. I sensed his desperation as my mom gave him a condescending look. This was the nth time already and I knew a commotion was brewing. Mom was burdened as a breadwinner, a housekeeper and a parent and taking care of grandpa was the last straw. As I forced myself onto my book, I mused, Why? Why did absolutely nobody think about grandpa or get something that could help him? Alas, Today's Newton's and Einstein's should have done better for our golden folks! And then it flashed before me- the new Granaid!

The granaid is basically a computerized headphone with a screen like a Cell phone. It has a voice prompt and a small speaker with a recording camera. It can capture grandpa's movements each day and record it for the previous twenty four hours. It keeps a constant record of where grandpa leaves his wallet, hand phone, spectacles....etc and hey, presto! Things are never lost again! Grandpa just needs to review his headset!

"Ring a tring tring..." The phone went on. Grandpa was almost deaf and hardly heard the ring. But granaid detecting the ring, thundered the sound onto grandpa's ear. Quickly grandpa undid his headset and scrolled through till he identified his hand phone in the living room where he had last placed it and as he walked to retrieve the phone Granaid reminded him to mind his head at the archway. Grandpa found the phone just in time to take the call.

"Snrrrrrr..... Snrrrrrr.... "Grandpa was asleep. " Time for Ecosprin, Time for Ecosprin" chirped Granaid beeping until poor Grandpa had to hurriedly switch off the alarm. As he gulped the tablet, the act was captured onto his headset, evidence which would convince dad that he took care of himself!

Come evening and Grandpa decided to go for a walk. As he got up from his bed, detecting his movement Granaid cried-"Put me on, Put me on". Happily Grandpa took his friend along. He opened the front door, but forgot to close it and continued down the stairs. Granaid called out, "Shut the door....Shut the door", in a shrill voice. Grandpa quickly turned back to do it's bidding, when mom patted his shoulder and asked him to carry on- she would take care now that she was home.

With the Granaid, Grandpa would never be lost. Yes, he was demented, but granaid had a GPS and quietly directs him home and if he cannot make it, we can always find him with that traceable chip. As he washed his hand before dinner that night, the machine gently prompted him to turn off the

tap. The clever device always reminded him to switch of the lights and fans too.

Life has been kinder to all of us with granaid. It has become Grandpa's personal secretary, his connection to today's world, his laptop, helping him cope with our fast track lives. It has reduced mom's burden, her worries and helped her balance her life.

"My eyes were moist- Well, Grandpa's life has changed- Nay it's water, it's the tap, he had forgotten to close it and the room was flooded! As I ran to turn it off I chuckled about my dream- Time to call a Newton! With a Granaid, Grandpa will never be a nuisance anymore, "Snrrrrrr.....Snrrrrrr", Grandpa was peacefully snoring on his bed oblivious to all my thoughts!

THE END