

Ada Ríos _____ (grow) up in a slum near the Cateura landfill in Paraguay. Every morning, garbage trucks _____ (roll) into the landfill and _____ (unload) tons of trash. People in the slum then _____ (look) through the trash for things they can _____ (recycle) or _____ (sell). This was how they _____ (make) a living, and Ada _____ (believe) her future would _____ (be) no different.

One day, Ada's grandma _____ (see) a poster that said "Free music lessons from Mr. Chávez." Ada's grandma _____ (know) Ada _____ (love) music, so she _____ (apply) for Ada. Ada really _____ (look) forward _____ (learn) how _____ (play) the violin and _____ (be) carried away by the power of music.

Ada and some other children _____ (take) Mr. Chávez's lessons, but there were not enough instruments. _____ (buy) new ones was impossible, since a violin _____ (cost) more than a local house! Fortunately, a garbage picker who was good at _____ (use) tools _____ (learn) about their trouble and _____ (try) _____ (use) what was at hand. By _____ (put) together metal cans, forks, and other items from the landfill, the garbage picker somehow _____ (manage) _____ (make) various instruments. They weren't very traditional and barely _____ (cost) anything, but to these children, they were invaluable.

At first, each child _____ (play) in his or her own way, and only screeches _____ (come) out of the instruments. Some kids _____ (quit) the music lessons after a few weeks, but with Mr. Chávez's encouragement, Ada and the others _____ (keep) _____ (practice), sometimes for several hours a day. Slowly, their musical skills _____ (improve). They _____ (begin) _____ (hit) all the right notes and _____ (play) together harmoniously. Finally, they _____ (form) the "Recycled Orchestra." After the orchestra _____ (perform) several local concerts, they _____ (attract) wider attention and even _____ (receive) invitations _____ (perform) abroad. Ada and the other members _____ (visit) different countries. The world _____ (dazzle) them just as they _____ (dazzle) the world.

Four years later, a world-famous rock band _____ (see) the children's potential and _____ (invite) the orchestra _____ (tour) with them. At their first concert with the band, Ada and her friends nervously _____ (step) on stage in front of nearly 35,000 people. They _____ (see) glaring lights and _____ (hear) screams of excitement. These children _____ (feel) dizzy and didn't know what _____ (do). However, as soon as the orchestra _____ (begin) _____ (play), everyone _____ (cheer). When Ada and her friends _____ (bow) to the crowd at the end, they _____ (know) that the performance was a triumph.

Touring overseas _____ (change) their lives in other ways, too. With the money they _____ (earn), Ada and her friends _____ (have) larger, safer houses _____ (build) for their families. More importantly, they _____ (show) the locals that children's dreams didn't have to _____ (end up) in the trash. Through determination and hard work, these children were able to _____ (create) beauty out of garbage and _____ (have) faith in their abilities _____ (pursue) greater things.