



Didit's ALARM CLOCK

Nandyka Yogamaya

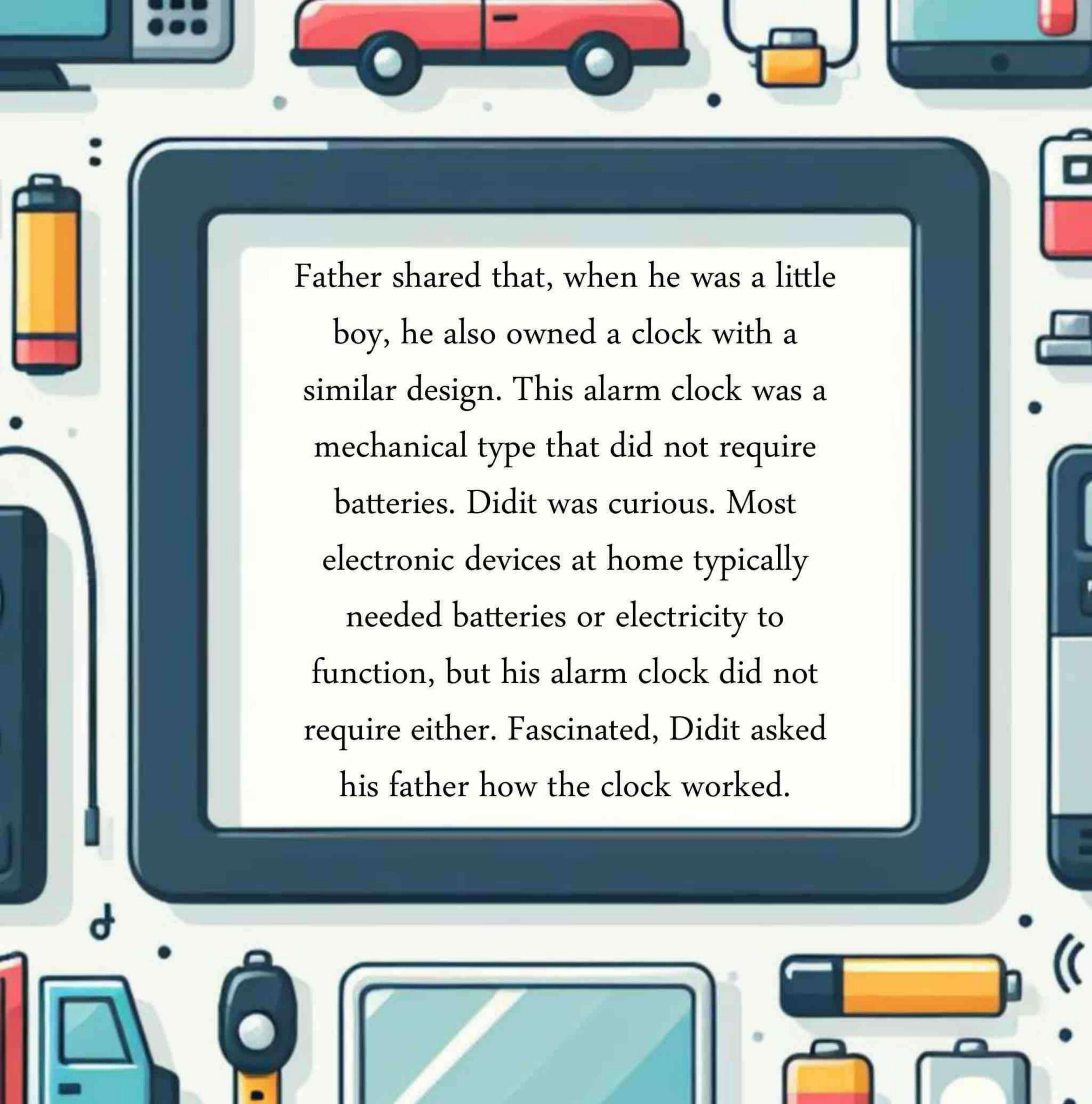
Illustration by Nida
(Was Created with the assistance of dall E)

Father returned from a business trip out of town, bringing a surprise gift for Didit. Didit expressed his gratitude to his father and eagerly opened the gift box. Inside, he found an alarm clock.



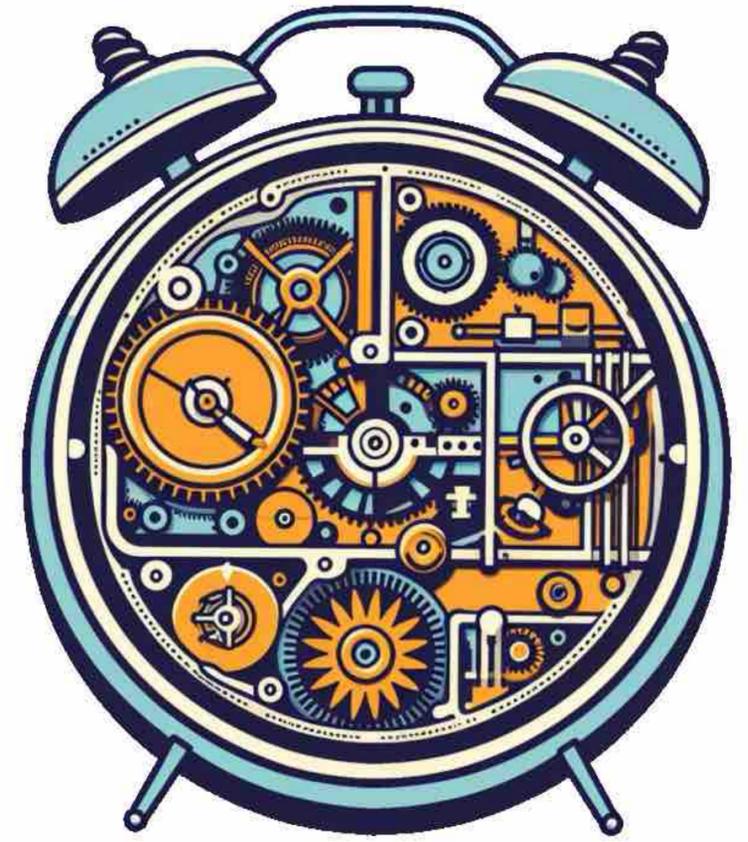


Didit was delighted to see his new alarm clock. The clock had three moving hands: a short hand indicating the hour, a long hand indicating the minutes, and a second hand. The second hand was uniquely designed in the shape of an airplane. At the center of the clock, there was a blue circle with illustrations of small clouds. The second hand, with its airplane design, appeared to be continuously flying through the blue sky.



Father shared that, when he was a little boy, he also owned a clock with a similar design. This alarm clock was a mechanical type that did not require batteries. Didit was curious. Most electronic devices at home typically needed batteries or electricity to function, but his alarm clock did not require either. Fascinated, Didit asked his father how the clock worked.

Father explained that Didit's alarm clock was powered by a spring. At the back of the clock, there was a small lever used to wind the spring. When the spring was fully wound, it provided energy to a series of gears, enabling the clock to operate for a certain period. Without the energy generated by winding the spring, the mechanical clock would stop functioning.



Did you know?

Horology is a branch of science that studies time, time measurement, and timekeeping devices.



Kriiiiiing!



Didit's alarm clock also featured two bells on top. Between the two bells was a small hammer. Didit could set the clock so that the hammer would move at a specific time. The hammer would strike the bells, producing a loud "riiiiiing" sound. Didit planned to use the alarm clock to help him wake up for the subh prayer.

After using the alarm clock for some time, Didit began to wake up on his own. However, there were still days when he failed to wake up, even though he had set the alarm. On such occasions, his father would come to wake him up.



Didit felt confused, why sometimes it seemed like he could not hear his alarm. His father listened to his story and offered a valuable piece of advice. He praised Didit's good intentions of not wanting to miss the subh prayer and his effort to set the alarm every day. However, his father reminded him of something important that Didit might have overlooked: the need to rely on Allah.



Father advised Didit to entrust the matter of waking up for the subh prayer to Allah. He explained that it was not enough to rely solely on setting the alarm. Didit then prayed to Allah, asking for ease in performing his prayers and waking up for subh prayer.



A prayer for ease:

اللَّهُمَّ لَا سَهْلَ إِلَّا مَا جَعَلْتَهُ سَهْلًا وَأَنْتَ تَجْعَلُ الْحَزْنَ إِذَا شِئْتَ سَهْلًا

"O Allah, there is no ease except that which You make easy.
And You make sadness (difficulty), if You will, easy to
overcome."

Didit recited this prayer daily and memorized its meaning.
Afterward, he wound the lever to set the alarm on his beloved
clock. The next morning, Didit's alarm clock would ring loudly
as usual, but something had changed in Didit's heart. His heart
now felt closer to Allah, as he remembered to pray more often.