

The Mysterious Man:
Preview

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First Printing: 2017

ISBN: 978-1-387-39440-1

Lulu Press

3101 Hillsborough St, Raleigh, NC 27607

www.lulu.com

Introduction

There was a girl who lived in New York, a large city full of bustling people. She was born in a well-built hospital, with smart doctors and helpful nurses. Her mother, with great power, delivered her baby... but she wasn't happy.

Her father was right next to her, and he was happy. When the mother handed the baby to him, he held her warmly. The mother needed to sleep, so the nurse wished her a good night. By the evening, the mother was in a deep sleep, but the father wasn't tired. He was admiring the baby's looks. She had closed little eyes and a soft face. He sat in a chair next to the bed and held her tightly. He wanted to make sure he was a good dad, the kind that cares about his child deeply.

As he was holding her tightly, he whispered to her. *I want to take good care of you. Don't worry, because I will never leave you.* And soon, he dozed off to sleep, dreaming of the wonderful times he will have with his child. He wanted to make sure he will never leave her. But unfortunately, he broke his promise.

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One day, when the little girl was 2, the father grew very ill. The mother was worried, so she took him to the doctor. While in the waiting room, the doctor had a grave look on his face and told them the horrible truth that the father had a horrible disease, and there is no cure.

The father was devastated. He feared that he will not be able to be with his daughter ever again. So... he planned this. He wrote a long list of things that he wanted to do on the last days with his daughter. He planned on taking her to the park, and that was what he did.

The father took his girl to the park. The girl had a wonderful time. She rode on the swing with her father pushing her. She got on the slide with her father waiting at the bottom. She got on a painted wooden giraffe installed on the grounds of the playground. The girl smiled widely. The father did too, but up next, he wanted to take her to the zoo the next day.

The little girl walked the first time with her father to the zoo. She had never seen these creatures before. It fascinated her. She saw lions, penguins, hippos, crocodiles, and many more. She got the chance to feed them. The fun part was that she got a balloon to hold. It was taller than her and her father. The girl was happy, and the father was happy too, but up next, he wanted to take her to the aquarium.

The next day, the father was about to head out with his daughter, but then as he walked closer to the door, he collapsed. The girl watched as her father fell to the floor. Her mother was in the kitchen, screaming and trying to get him to get up.

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After a few hours, her father was in bed, coughing up blood. His face was pale, looking heartbroken. The mother called the doctor and he came right away. He gave him antibiotics to help him fight off the disease, but they couldn't cure him in any way.

When the evening came, none of the antibiotics worked and the father looked even worse. The girl was by the doorway, seeing that he was in pain. She ran up to him, holding a stuffed giraffe. She gave it to her father and he looked amused. After he looked at the doll, his smile slowly vanished. He now knew that he couldn't take her the aquarium, but he doesn't want her to know. He looked down at his daughter one last time. He wanted to assure her everything will be fine and said, "I'll be fine."

The mother took her daughter out of the bedroom. She put her in her bed and told her to go to sleep. She left a nightlight on and turned off the lights. She closed the door behind her. While lying there, the girl didn't want to sleep, she wanted to get out of bed. But remembering hearing what her father said, she was sure that her father will be alright. She slept on the bed, knowing that her father will be okay. But unfortunately, he died later that night.

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Years later, the girl continued on, went to school, and made a few friends. But at home, her mother was still mad about the death. She never wanted anything to do with this girl. She treated her badly and made her do many errands. She showed no love whatsoever, just cruelty.

The girl did what her mother said, but she didn't like it. It feared her mostly. Sometimes, her mother will have so much anger swelled up into her while thinking about her husband's death. She would show it all out to her daughter, who would run for her life and into her bedroom, locking the door behind her. She would wait in her room until it is over. And then, she would doze off to sleep for another beautiful morning.

