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A Mission of Love

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Beacon Of Light

Babump babump,
A new life begins.
Home to an eternal Soul
Babump, babump
It grows, even though no one knows.
The very beginning of a loving bond between
mother and child
The Light of Life Shines Bright
Ten tiny fingers and ten tiny toes
Counted by a beaming dad
A grateful mother reaching out to cuddle her newborn
to her chest
Tears of Joy running down her cheeks
His favorite Lemon-iced Birthday cake
His first boo-boo fixed with a hug, a kiss and a band-aid.
Proud, tearful, parents watching their son leave home on
his first day of College.
A giving, loving mother awaiting her first grandchild
A mother and son holding hands in a dark hospital room
Sharing how much they mean to each other on the night
her light dims, flickers
Then goes out, here on Earth.
A grieving son who knows he has a legacy of love to forward on to his kids and grandkids.
Or
Babump, Babump, Babump, Babu.....A Choice.
An Earthly Light goes out here on Earth.
A Golden Beacon of light shoots down from Heaven
On a Mission of Love.

Forward



This story is Fiction.
People don't come back to Earth as Angels when they die.
The Theology in this story is not correct.

The Horror of Abortion is real
The Guilt and Sorrow of Abortion is Real

What if?
What if there's something more?
What if it IS more than a mass of tissue?
Where does the Soul of a unborn Child go
After its "Light" goes out here on Earth ?
What is the Answer?
Can we look at it from a Different Perspective?

"Red, Yellow, Black and White
They are Precious in His sight
Jesus Loves the little Children
Of the World"
Born and Unborn

Thanks
Mark W Stracener



John looks at his Mother and nudges Paul. "She's really Beautiful, isn't she Paul?" "Wow, she sure is John. Let's hope everything works out. We only have seven Earth days to do this." John cocks his head to the side and asks, "Uh, Paul, what's a day?"

It was done. It was over. No one knew, no one except her best friend, Lucy. She was the one who bought the pregnancy test. They had been friends forever, the best of friends. "Now," she thought, "Now is going to be the tough part. How would her and Lucy keep this a secret from the rest of her world?"

Turning down the sun visor to check herself in the mirror, she had tears running down her cheeks. "Why am I crying?" She thought. "Girls have abortions everyday." Her beautiful brown eyes are swollen. Pulling a brush from her purse, she brushes her long black hair and puts it into a ponytail through the back of her ball cap, trying to be as inconspicuous as possible. She thinks of her mother and how upset she would be, to know that she and Chris had gotten to this point in their relationship. He can never, ever know. She starts her

car and turns the volume up on the radio. The extra noise is a distraction to this terrible day.

Kathy is unaware of the fawning attention being paid to her. Her hands are shaking as she takes the wheel. Changing her mind, she reaches down to turn off the blaring radio, because for some reason, silence seemed a much better option right now.

Her cell phone startles her, as it rings in her purse. The ring tone seems so inappropriate today. She looks to see who it is and takes a deep breath. "Hi Lucy", Her voice cracks unexpectedly. "Yes Lucy, I did it, it's all over now, Yes, I'm OK I guess, still really sore. One things for sure though, I won't be stuck with that cheater and his baby. It's just not a good time for me. Don't forget Lucy, you absolutely must keep this a secret for all time, especially from my mom and Chris. Yes, I'm leaving now, I'll see you soon.

John looks at Paul with a puzzling smirk. "What is time Paul?" Paul sighs, "It's something they use here on Earth John, not something we need to worry about". "And Paul", John asks, "What is that dripping down my Mothers face?" "Those are what you call tears. It's what people here do when they are sad." "Paul, stop it. Now what is sad?" "I tell you what John, right now, let's start working on that Beautiful Momma of yours and we'll talk about all of that later."

Paul and John are Angels. They are on a Heavenly mission. Paul remembers the time he was the one who was clueless. He knows the mission and John desperately wants to know the, who, why and where of everything. John only knows Love. He is beautifully naive. He has no judgment or opinion of anything or anyone. The two have only spent a few minutes together so far and Paul is giving him instructions on how to proceed on this mission of theirs. John is very adamant about using one of the loving tools given to them for their quest.

“Can I do it now Paul? You said I could.” Paul showing his frustration with John, tells him, “You will know when to, *Kiss and Whisper*, not yet!” Paul puts his hand on Johns Wing and gives him a reassuring pat. John whispers back, “But I Love her so much!”.

Kathy’s call with Lucy comes to an end and she lays her phone on the seat beside her. The seat is covered with pamphlets from the clinic and she sweeps them off into the floorboard. “Time to get on with this Life of mine.” The car in reverse, she slowly backs out of her parking spot and heads for the exit. “ It just feels like I’m leaving something important here,” she whispers to herself. Stopping one more time , she stares at the Clinic. Reaching for the radio yet again, she turns it on and cranks the volume up loud as she pulls into traffic.

“Once!” Paul tells John, as he looks into his eyes. “One chance is all you get to, *Kiss and Whisper*! You have to be

sure it's the right time." "But Paul, How do I know when it's right?" "Believe me", Paul assures him. "You'll know John, you'll know."

Kathy pulls up in the driveway singing along with her music. Checking her self in the mirror again. she hopes her Mom won't be able to see the puffiness around her eyes. The door makes a loud creak as it opens. Kathy cringes, hoping her mom doesn't hear it. "Is that you Kathy?" she yells out from the kitchen. "Yeah, it's me Mom." She quickly walks straight to the stairs to go to her room. "Pretty hot today, I think I'm going to take a quick shower". "Ok dear, is everything OK?" "Yeah, Mom, just kind of sweaty."

The warm water of the shower feels good as it hits her. She doesn't understand why, she just wants to cleanse herself from this stressful day. Feeling somewhat refreshed, she comes downstairs in her bathrobe with a towel still wrapped around her head. Her mom has prepared her lunch and she motions Kathy to sit down. "Take a load off girl" she smiles, "what's up with you?" "Oh nothing mom, just doing that teenager thing".

Susan is a single mother. She tries her best to give Kathy everything she needs. They have always been close and could always tell each other anything. She always worried about not having a father around for Kathy. Her husband Jerry died years ago. They both still missed him terribly. Like Kathy, Susan had long black hair but hers was beginning to have those silver highlights. She was a stunning woman but had no desire to

replace the love of her life. She had always leaned on her deep Christian faith and no matter how hard she tried, never seemed to make it as important in Kathy's life. She would never stop trying and praying for her beloved daughter.

"Is that *her* Mother?" John asks, as they sit on top of the large china cabinet in the dining room. "Yes it is John, why do you ask?" "Well Paul", John paused, I have so many questions". "I mean, like, just where do Mothers come from? How did I get here, where did *you* come from and why doesn't my mom have any wings?" Paul smiles at John, "John what is so funny is, those are some of the same questions that I asked. All I can say is, you will answer those questions yourself, very soon John, very soon.

Kathy and her mom sit quietly at the kitchen table. Kathy picks up her sandwich and takes a small bite and steals a look at her mom as she puts her sandwich down. Susan returns her glaze, "Kathy", "Are you *sure* you're OK?" Kathy wants to quickly turn and run, because this conversation was the last thing on Earth she wanted to talk about right now. Trying to change the subject, Kathy asks, "Mom, I told you, everything is fine, How's work?" Mom continues, "I see it all over you dear, I know you more than you think I do. Is it Chris? Did you guys have a fight, because you know all couples fight and..." "Stop it Mom", Kathy interrupts, *Just stop it*. If you really must know, yes, we broke up. He was a cheating monster. You have no Idea". She wanted to tell her mom everything but she knows this secret would destroy her. They

had always been able to talk about anything but this time was different.

Susan gets up from her chair and comes to where Kathy is sitting. Standing beside her, she opens her arms to beckon her in. Kathy stands, turns and then collapses into her Mothers arms. The tears come like a flood. She has never cried like this before. It feels like it comes from so deep inside. Her Mom hugs her tightly and cries along with her. She whispers in her ear, "I Love you Kathy, no matter what"

John and Paul leave their lofty seats and surround the two, sensing the Love in the room. Hovering around them, their wings began to slowly spread until they surround them completely. Eyes closed, the Angels bask in the warmth of the love of Mother and Child.

Suddenly breaking from her Mom, Kathy exclaims. "I Love you so much Mom, you're the best, but I need to go upstairs for a minute, Ill be right back."" Ok dear, you go ahead. We'll talk some more when you come back down."

Paul and John's wings retract. Sitting on the back of the couch in the living room, Paul nudges John, "It's so Beautiful John." What is?" John asks. "Do you mean the Light of Love?" "You're right about that John, but I'm also talking about the Light inside of Susan, her Mom. She found her light many years ago and it still burns so very bright." "Where's my Moms light Paul? I didn't see it. I saw a place where the light should be." "Look!" Paul interrupts pointing. Susan reaches for a Book on the kitchen

table and opens it. As she opens it, an explosion of colors shine out that only the two Angels can see. Susan's light begins to glow brighter. "Wow!" John says, grabbing Paul by both shoulders. "What is that beautiful, wonderful Light? It looks like Love but one thousand times brighter. "That" Paul beams, is the Light of the Light. That, John, is the Light of the World and I think she's going to share it with Kathy. This may be it John, get Ready, Get Ready!" All three suddenly turn their heads to look upstairs as they hear Kathy scream, "*Momma, momma, come quick!*"

"Kathy!" Bolting from her chair, Susan taking two steps at once as she climbs the stairs. "Kathy, Baby, what's wrong?" "Mom I'm so Sorry!" Kathy sobs as Susan finds her daughter on the floor of the bathroom. She runs to the hallway to call 911 and hears Kathy exclaim, "Please forgive me momma!" Hearing her Mothers frantic 911 call, she begins to lose consciousness. She whispers, "Please forgive me Momma."

Unknown to both Kathy and Susan the two Angels have dropped beside Kathy on their knees, heads and hands lifted up. The light from their face so bright they are unrecognizable. Their whole bodies illuminated with a Golden glow. Susan rushes back to Kathy's side and holds her head in her lap. "Help is on the way dear, help is on the way. What have you done to yourself Kathy, what have you done?" After what seemed to be an eternity, she finally hears the siren of the Ambulance coming ever closer. "Thank God!" she says through her tears "Please hurry!" The Paramedics rush into the house and Susan yells out, "*Up here, please hurry!*"

The Paramedics rush up the stairs to where Kathy lay in Susan's arms.

"I don't know what to do Paul, I feel so helpless. Is there anything at all?" John pleads, as he paces back and forth on the roof of the Hospital. Momma was just fine and then, *whoosh*, something happened. Susan was ready to share the light with her and now this."

Paul is sitting on the edge of the Hospital roof, 10 floors up. "John, we petitioned the light for help and that is enough, you'll see." We must go inside now, Kathy and Susan will need us. Paul gets John's attention, "John listen to me, a man in a white coat will come soon to talk to Susan and will take her to a private room to talk to her. I want you to go to your Mom and I will go to Susan." "Ok Paul, but can we go *now*?"

Susan is sitting, quite un-patiently, waiting for news. She thinks back to the last time she was here with her husband, Jerry. It seemed like forever until they came to her and she knew the second she saw their faces, that he was gone. How she longed for his warm embrace and strength right now. She wasn't sure what was wrong but thought about how evasive she was. That mid-day shower just wasn't normal for Kathy. "Mrs. Hunt", a voice pierces her fog of concentration. She stands to greet the Doctor, "Oh yes Dr. Please tell me she's OK .He assures her. "I think she will be fine, soon, but we need to talk. Please come with me." The Dr. opens the door to a conference room and motions Susan in. In the corner of the room, Paul hovers, waiting for them. She sits down and leans back in her chair, hanging on to the arms for support. The Dr. begins," Mrs.

Hunt, your daughter had some complications from a procedure.” Susan interrupts, “A what? A procedure, I don’t understand.” Paul knows what’s coming and comes down behind her and slowly moves his wings back and forth creating a small hint of breeze. “ Mrs. Hunt, Kathy had an Abortion this morning, where you aware of it?” Paul closes his eyes as if the word itself hurt. “Kathy had a hemorrhage from the morning procedure.” Susan is speechless. She puts both hands over her mouth and shakes her head, “ *No!*” as the tears well up in her eyes. “I’m sorry Mrs. Hunt, looks like I need to get someone to help you. You can go in to see your daughter if you’d like. The Dr. places his hand on her shoulder, gives her a pat and softly says, “*I’m really, really Sorry Mrs. Hunt.*” as he leaves the room. The closing of the heavy door chills her. Slumping in her chair, she buries her head in her hands and sobs.

“Kathy *no, Please God, no!*” Paul, sensing her devastation draws close to her and for the second time in many years, leans over and as lightly as can be felt by human skin, Kisses her on the cheek and Whispers, “*I Love You Momma*”.

Susan sits up in her chair and remembers the last time she hurt so deeply. She wonders what her life would be like now if things could have been different. He would have been 19 years old and he would have been her rock. Maybe a big brother would have made Kathy’s life different. Allowing her mind to roam, she remembers that dark day so long ago....

The nursery was beautiful. They had decided on greens and yellows because being their first baby they had decided to wait to find out if it was a boy or a girl. She would stand

at the door to the nursery and imagine a beautiful baby sleeping there. She imagined her happy baby playing on the floor with toys strewn all around the room. A girl was what she wanted, one to dress up and put bows in her hair. She couldn't wait for those toothless grins in countless picture frames. Jerry would drive by the ballpark and imagine his boy on the field and himself in the stands cheering him on. "That's MY boy right there!" he could hear himself saying. It was going to be a great. That morning she got up just like any other. She walked over to her full length mirror and turned sideways to see if she had gotten any bigger. Rubbing her big belly she talked to her baby. "You sure are stretching mommy out", she'd say. They had discussed names and she had decided on naming her girl after her beloved grandmother Sadie. Paul thought long and hard about what he would call his new baby. He was to chose the name if it was a boy. The obvious person for Jerry to name his son after was his dad but he didn't think Susan would go for it. Hezekiah Paul Hunt. Everyone knew him as Paul. Susan nixed Hezekiah, but thought Paul was perfect. She always looked forward to those first movements in the morning. It was a precious "good morning" nudge between Mother and Child. "You must be sleeping in this morning" she thought as there didn't seem to be any movement. By lunch she still had no movement. Even after a shower and a few small exercises still nothing. She wouldn't allow any questions to pop up in her head. "I'm sure it's nothing" she assured herself, "everything's going to be just fine." Noon turned to afternoon and she called Jerry at work. She told him about what was going

on and he felt like someone had kicked him in the stomach. He tried to hide his concern and told her, "hey, maybe we just need to go to the ER and get you and the baby checked out, I'm on my way now." Everything seemed to go in slow motion for Jerry as he made his way home. "God, please don't let anything be wrong with our baby!" he pleaded as he finally turned into the driveway. Susan was waiting on the front porch as Jerry pulled up. Her concern had turned to tears. Jerry held her tight and looked into her eyes and managed a brave smile. "Maybe he's just resting dear, getting ready for the big day." he added, as he opened her door and helped her scoot sideways into the front seat. The drive to the ER was mostly silent with a hopeful pat on Susan's leg. They took quick action at the ER and asked Jerry to sit outside her room until they checked her out. He felt helpless sitting there. When they motioned for him to come in Susan was in the bed as the Ultrasound was starting. They were all quiet as they listened for the first, babump, babump, babump, she had heard so many times during the tests. The two held each others hand as they searched for movement or heartbeat. Finally Susan couldn't take it any longer and asked, "Dr. is my baby OK? I don't see any movement on the monitor or hear any heartbeat. Please tell me!" The nurse looked at the Dr. as he tried different places in vain. He reached over to take her hand and she heard the words that would change her forever. "Susan, I'm afraid your baby is gone. I can find no noticeable movement or heartbeat. I am so very Sorry" Jerry bent down to his knees and covered his face with his hands. "NO Dr! Are you sure?" Susan stared at the monitor

in shock as the Dr. said, "Yes, I am afraid so. We will leave the two of you alone for now. "But what now." Jerry asked, what do we do now." "We will meet here shortly, but now I think you two need some time." the Dr. said as he left the room with the nurses. "Call Mom, we have to call Mom". Jerry looks at his wife and in a near whisper says, "I've got quite a few calls to make, but I am not leaving you until a nurse comes back in."

That was indeed a dark day. She thought forward to the next day when it was time for her to deliver. Jerry still in shock from the ordeal was there to help deliver what they were to discover was his son, Paul. The room was silent as the two held their beautiful boy and cherished every second. It was a moment of pure love and pure sadness all at once. Susan always wondered what Paul would look like as he grew from boy to man. How she needed him right here, right now. Standing to her feet to go see Kathy, she imagines Paul here now, beside her. Closing her eyes, she imagines holding him close as he comforts her. Unaware, Susan can't see Paul reaching out to take her into his arms. Time stands still for the two. Opening her eyes, she reaches down to take a tissue to wipe the tears from her eyes. She takes a deep breath and for some reason, she suddenly feels empowered. "Now," she thought, now it's time to see Kathy". Paul smiles and looks Heavenward, "That's my momma."

Opening the heavy door to the conference room, she steps into the hallway. The smells and hurried pace of the hospital

catch her attention. Doctors and Nurses are going room to room in their daily routines, seemingly absent of personality, almost robotic. She glances into the rooms as she walks. A few patients manage a smile while others are oblivious to the world, sleeping through whatever had changed their lives and placed them here.

Her thoughts are with her daughter. Her emotions range from extreme anger to the deepest sadness. How could this have happened? She wanted to know who knew about it and why didn't anyone let her know what was going on, especially Kathy. Who is this daughter she thought she knew that has taken away her chance to have a grandchild? Where is this Clinic that botched the "procedure". Finally, just how do I handle this?

Coming up on Kathy's hospital room Susan stops and leans on the wall to try and compose herself before going in. Somehow she must find the Love that she knows she has for Kathy. Out loud she says, "That's the answer! Love is always the answer and God is Love." Paul passes Susan in the hallway, her hair moves slightly in the breeze of Angels wings. Flying into the room, Paul asks, "How are we doing in here John? How's your Mom?" John is sitting on the foot of Kathy's bed watching her as she pecks on a little black box in her hand. "This is all she does Paul, she keeps looking and pecking on this little black box with her finger." I can't say I know what that is John but Susan is on her way." John leaves the bed and comes over to where Paul is at the window and

asks, before Susan comes in, I have a question. I have been sitting here wondering, what happened to my Mother and what is this all about?" Paul sensing that John was ready for some answers, began with what he knew would be difficult to explain. "This John" he haltingly begins, this is all about you." John cocks his head to the side and flutters his wings, "Me?" he questions, "Me? How is this all about me?"

Susan begins to walk in when someone walks up behind her. "Mrs. Hunt, Is Kathy OK? I heard she came here. Please tell me she's OK." Susan turns around, "*Chris!* I can't believe you are here!"

She notices the rage in her tone and she sees it reflected back in fear from Chris' eyes. "Mrs. Hunt, I don't understand. I got a strange call from Lucy and she said Kathy was here and, of course, I came right away. Are you upset with me?" The two stare at each other, not knowing what to say. The Hospital intercom pages fill the void of silence. Their attention is taken away as hurried steps are heard in the hallway. "Maybe she can shed some light on all of this." Susan says as she points down the hallway at Kathy's best friend Lucy.

Lucy and Kathy had been friends since elementary school. She was like another daughter to Susan. The two had been inseparable for years. Wherever Kathy was, Lucy was surely to follow. She had come from a broken home and for the most part, raised herself at Susan and Kathy's house. When Kathy went to the clinic for her abortion she asked Lucy to

stay home. It was something she felt she had to do on her own. Lucy had always been Kathy’s protector but she had also been the one to introduce her to things she knew better than be around or try. Street smart and cocky, she cared deeply about Kathy and Susan. They were her family. She was blonde hair to Kathy’s black, jeans to Kathy’s slacks and sandals to Kathy’s heels.

Lucy approaches Chris and hits him in the shoulder. “This is all *your* fault Chris! You’re a *monster*!” In total exasperation, Chris shouts out “*Stop!* Would someone *please* tell me what’s going on here, obviously I am clueless! What I mainly want to know right now is, is Kathy OK?” Susan tries to soften her voice and exclaims, “Quiet, the both of you, Kathy will hear you as well as the rest of the hospital. Chris, seriously, you don’t know what’s happening?” “No, Mrs. Hunt, I honestly don’t.” “Clueless is right.” Lucy adds as she rolls her eyes” Susan grabs them both by the arm, “Let’s step into this empty room and get this all straight.” The three go in and close the door.

The two Angels are still in Kathy’s room. A nurse checks her vital signs and IV. She makes small talk with Kathy. “Paul, let’s me and you go to the roof again, I have questions that need answering.” They make their way to the roof and sit on the ledge again, legs dangling off the side, their white robes blowing in the breeze. “OK Paul, let’s start at the beginning. Who am I?” Paul dreading this enquiry searches for the right words. He pauses looking out over the city, the

clouds beginning to drift in covering the sun. "John, let me answer your question with a question. Do you ever wonder why I am the one who has the answers?" John strokes his snow white feathers and adjusts his robe. "Well", he ponders, "I guess not, just how *do* you know these things?" "I, John have been here before. I, like you, came with a purpose. I had some help also. I asked all the same questions. I, like you, am an Eternal Soul. I was sent here in the beginning to inhabit and be contained in the body of Paul Hunt until that time when my light would be released. I don't know why, but my light was released very early. My Mother Loved me dearly as well as my Dad and I came back to pull, push, prod or whatever I had to do, to help them find their Light so we could be together Forever." John stands up from the ledge, looks down at Paul and attempts to speak, "Paul, this is a lot to take in. I know they call Momma Kathy Hunt when they speak of her, so if you were to be a Hunt and I was to be in the Hunt family, that means...." "Yes", Paul adds, we are Family. Susan is *my* Mother. She Loves me and looks forward to our wonderful reunion some day." John had to ask, "Paul, does my Mother.... Love Me? Does she long for that same reunion one day?" "She does John, she just doesn't understand yet because like you said before, she has a place for the Light, but darkness still persists in her. Her choices to except or deny the light will be numerous in her life, but *we* have only a short time to help her shine. Still eager for answers John asks," Paul, why was my light released before I got the chance to inhabit my body? Doesn't she Love me *now*?" Paul hesitates and sighs, "No John, she doesn't Love

you now, she doesn't even want you, but John, when she does find her Light, she will. I Promise!" The two stand on the roof looking out at the early evening as the sun begins to fade in an orange and red explosion of color. John's silence is long as he paces the rooftop, thoughts racing in his head. Walking back beside Paul, he places his hand on his shoulder, "I still Love her Paul, nothing, can stop that, nothing. The two Angels embrace. "Let's get busy Paul, we've got a lot of loving to do." The two take off toward Kathy's room with a purpose.

Three people, in an empty hospital room look back and forth at each other waiting for the first one to speak up. Lucy breaks the icy silence, " So, who *is* she Chris? Why don't you just fill us in." Chris, having had enough of all of this mystery reaches for the door handle. "Look, I'm going to see Kathy and find out from her what's going on. It's obvious neither one of you is going to tell me." Susan reaches for Chris' arm and their eyes lock, "Chris, Susan begins, "did you know that Kathy was Pregnant? Chris slowly takes his hand off the door handle and turns, "*What!* Kathy is *pregnant!*" He feels the acid begin to boil in his gut and the blood start to leave his brain. "Mrs. Hunt, I had *no idea!* Kathy hasn't told me anything but this does explain a whole lot. She has really begin acting strange lately, not herself at all. She wanted us to break up and wouldn't tell me why, only that she wanted a break for a while. Lucy, I don't know what you were told but you have to know one thing for sure. I Love Kathy, I would never hurt her, you have to believe me, Please!" " So", Lucy

says through clinched teeth, you are calling Kathy a liar?" Chris gives Lucy an exasperated look and bolts through the door to rush into Kathy's room. Kathy sees him come in and sits up in the bed. "Chris!" What are you doing here? "Are you OK?" he asks, and I also should ask, is the baby OK?" Kathy pulls the covers up to her face. He can see her tears begin to flow. "Chris, I'm so sorry, I didn't know what to do. I was so scared!" He approaches her in the bed, "What did you *do*?" Susan catches up to Chris and puts her arm around him. "Chris, the baby is gone, the abortion was this morning, we are just finding out ourselves." He turns to look at both Susan and Lucy, "Why didn't I have a chance to be in on this decision! I am *only*, the Father of this child, or should I say *was*, the Father of this Child!" He yells as he turns to leave, bumping into Lucy on the way out. They all hear him talking to himself as he makes his way to the elevator down the hallway. "I can't believe this!" he grumbles as he throws his hands up.

Johns eyes perk up as he hears the word, *father*. "He said he was the Father." John points down the hallway, "Paul, that's my father and it sounds like he wants me." "Of course he does John, and so does your mother, you'll see." "I did notice my fathers Light, it's there, a little dim, but I saw it, did you?" "I sure did John, I sure did. I think you need to go to him." "I'm confused Paul, mother is really upset, shouldn't I stay with her right now?" Paul points to the window as they all hear Chris' car tear out of the parking lot. "His Light"

Paul says, “ could be just what you mom needs right now, go to him.”

Lucy approaches Kathy, “Kathy, what you told me was all lies, wasn’t it? *Wasn’t it!*” Kathy sees her whole world falling around her, “Yes, Lucy that’s true, please forgive me.” Lucy turns to walk out of the room.” I’m sorry Mrs. Hunt. I need some time, I’ll be back.”

John ponders what Paul said, “Your right Paul, we need to make his light really shine” He zips out the window and in seconds is riding on the top of Chris’ car. His wings stretched backwards in the wind as well as his robe. John’s curly hair is swishing to and fro. “This is great!” he yells out as the car makes it’s way through the streets of the city, then slows and turns into a Parking Lot. Trying to catch his breath and compose himself, Chris turns off the key. The music and the engine come to a silent stop. “I just can’t tell mom and dad right now, I just can’t”, he says out loud to himself. He opens the car door and stands beside the car. He looks at the Church he has attended all of his life. The massive cross on the steeple seems to beckon him in. “I’ll talk to my Pastor”, he says, nodding his head in agreement, “That’s exactly what I need to do”. It was then John noticed Chris’ Light begin to brighten, “That’s right dad, you’re on the right path now” John says with a fist pump. He walks up to the huge Sanctuary door and walks in. The silence of the Church was so noticeable, especially with no one in there. Walking down the long aisle toward the Altar, he hears the creaking

of a Heavy door and turns to see who it is. "Well, Chris", a familiar voice echoes, "Is there something I can do for you today?" Chris sits in the first pew he can find, head in hands and cries out, "Something terrible has happened! Please help me Pastor, Please help me !"

The Pastor sees the hurt in Chris' eyes as he raises his head from the pew. He hears the pain in his voice as he begs for some word of consolation." Brother Kreise, I need help." The Pastor sits beside Chris in the pew and puts his arm around him. "Chris, you need to try and compose yourself and just start from the beginning. I have all day to listen, go ahead." Chris takes a deep breath and begins to tell him all that had transpired in the last few weeks up until now.

John is watching every move and listening to every word as the two discuss the days happenings back and forth. The Pastor can't help but feel the depth of Chris' pain and his Love for Kathy.

John kneels in the aisle beside them, clasping his hands together in prayer. He feels the Love and surrender that has taken place in the Church as the Light in the Pastor and Chris Glow Golden. John knows his father will indeed spend forever with him and that he hopes Chris can share that same Light with his Mother. He smiles as the two men bow together and he sees a beam of Beautiful Light shoot upwards through the roof of the Church. The Angel feels a chill go through him

and he can't help but to take off toward the top of the Church to do a few Angel Acrobatics out of pure Joy.

The silence hangs in the air like ice as mother and child are all that is left after a barrage of loud emotions. "I want to go home momma," is all Kathy could think of to break the awkward silence. "I'm sure they will keep you tonight Kathy, just to be safe" Susan assures her. The two look at each other and Susan drops her gaze and whispers, "Kathy, why didn't you tell me? Why?" So many things go through her head and finally Kathy surrenders, "Mom, if only I would have, I know things would have been different. I just know Chris hates me now. I was trying to protect him Mom, I really was, and you too." Susan, raises her head up to look at her daughter, "We would have worked it out, believe me"

Paul has left the two to talk it out and has flown to the Hospital Nursery. He walks from bed to bed to see each newborn. The babies see him and they exchange glances of Love, their Spiritual sight still intact. He sees the Light potential in each one. Paul thinks just how blessed they are to have the opportunity to experience Life here on Earth. What a Joy to feel that warm touch from mother and father. "Such a small span of time here until Eternity begins", he thinks to himself. Walking out, he notices a mother slowly rocking a little girl. There are numerous wires and tubes attached to her baby. Machines are making noises and lights flashing all around them. Paul approaches her and strokes her fine blonde hair. The baby opens its eyes briefly to see Paul. He returns the

look with a smile and realizes that this little one will earn her Wings very soon. "Paradise will soon be your home sweet Spirit" he whispers to her softly.

The evening sky is lit bright with a full moon as Paul once again sits on the roof of the hospital. He watches the people below coming in and out. He can see the Light in some but others are dark and sad. Ambulances come and go, lights and sirens blazing coming in but strangely silent leaving. John's mind is on the little girl in the Nursery. "*What a day!*" John shouts out as he flies by. Paul is shocked back to the present as he shakes his head. In the moonlight Paul sees John doing a loop de loop before coming to a soft landing besides him. "You should have been there Paul, you should see the Light in my Dad! It is beautiful! I just hope we can help my mother Shine just like him. I just know it's going to happen, I just know it. How is she doing now Paul?" "Well mother and daughter did a lot of staring at each other and there was a lot of not knowing what to say. The two should be sleeping right now, but to answer your question, I'm not really sure how your Mom is doing. I think we will see more in the morning." "Paul" John asks, "what if she never shines, then what?" "John," Paul answers, "we will not even allow ourselves to think about that right now, we must do everything we can do then it's all up to her." "I guess your right Paul, I guess your right."

"So what have you been doing Paul?" John asks. "I made a trip to the Nursery to say Hi to the new guys and I did get

a chance to Whisper to a Beautiful little Spirit.” John cocks his head to the side. “So that’s *it* for you Paul, you said we only get one chance to Kiss and Whisper.” “No John, I said *you* only get one chance and that is still true. Don’t worry you will get your chance. I have the clearance to do it whenever I feel that it’s the most appropriate and the biggest opportunity to touch someone’s soul. It’s not the first time since I have been here and it may not be the last.” “WELL!” John barks back, hand on hips, “NOT FAIR, NOT FAIR!” “It’s also not fair that you got to ride on top of Chris’ car and I had to stay here and listen to all this commotion in Kathy’s room” Paul barks back, hand on hips. “Oh yeah” John says there’s that.”

The clouds have moved in and the Moons Rays are breaking through them in a beautiful array of color. The two Angels are admiring the Beauty of it all when they are pushed over by an even brighter beam that shoots skyward. They watch it as it travels upward through the moonbeam toward Heaven. John stands and helps Paul to his feet. “What was that Paul?” “Wow!” Paul puts up both his hands toward Heaven and exclaims, “Welcome sweet, sweet spirit, welcome!”

John and Paul are sitting side by side, their robes flapping in the wind. The two Angels are sitting on top of Susan’s SUV as they make their way home from the Hospital. “You know what John”, Paul yells out over the wind, “This is fun, just like you said. One things for sure though Paul, she’s sure

going a whole lot slower than my Dad. I thought my wings were going to fly off with Dad driving.” “It’s still a lot slower than flying John. That may be, but this is a whole lot easier on my wings.” “Not to worry John, your strength will come when you’re soaring through the clouds, you’ll see.”

It had been a very long, awkward night in the Hospital for Kathy and Susan. So many things were almost said, so many quiet glances given and received. Sleep was hard to obtain with all the questions in each other’s mind. On the way home both mother and daughter are still sharing an awkward silence as they arrive. Home is such a welcome place after spending what seemed to be an eternity stuck in the confines of the hospital. “Well, we’re here, we’re finally home” Susan sighs as they both slowly pull into the driveway. The two turn as they hear a car honking its horn pulling in behind them. “I bet you’re glad to get out of there girl “ Lucy exclaims as she gets out of her car and rushes up to give Kathy a big hug. “I am so sorry, I should have stayed there with you, Please forgive me. Everyone is asking how you’re doing at School.” Kathy feels a rush of heat as she realizes her secret is probably out now. “Lucy, just what did you tell every one? “I just told them you were having, you know, girl problems and that you were going to be ok.” Kathy gives out an audible sigh of relief. “That’s good Lucy. Have you seen Chris?” “ No I haven’t, I don’t think he really wants to talk to me right now. Lucy asks, “Do you really want to see him?” Kathy thinks and pauses, “ I don’t know Lucy, I really don’t know.”

Susan reaches for Kathy's arm, "Come on dear, let's get inside the house and you can sit and talk with Lucy some more." Lucy grabs a hospital bag full of clothes and things as the three go in through the back door. "You girls sit in the living room and I'll get you something to drink." The two girls continue to talk as Susan goes into the kitchen. Seeing the open Bible still sitting on the table just as they left it, she remembers back to the moment when she was going to talk to Kathy. She wanted to tell her how she found her answers when she was so down after losing the baby and then losing Jerry.

He never seemed to recover from losing Paul that day. He really struggled to return to his normal routine. Susan always thought Jerry died of a broken heart even after they told her it was heart attack. Placing her hand on the pages, she looks to Heaven, "I never would have made it without you Lord, Please help Kathy and help me to show her the way." A lonely tear finds it's way down her cheek and lands on the page. Looking down at her Bible, she notices where it has landed. Smiling, she again looks upward to Heaven, "Thank you, she whispers, Thank you so much."

The two Angels are looking over her shoulder. Amazing lights and colors are swirling out of the pages and they see that the tear has fallen on a verse in the book of Romans, the third chapter, the third verse. In unison, John and Paul speak it's message. " for all have sinned and fallen short of

the Glory of God.” It’s finally beginning isn’t it Paul? There is no beginning John, only Love, only Love.

Susan walks into the living room to bring the girls their drinks. “Here you go girls, are you hungry?” Kathy and Lucy have their phones out and are texting friends who are concerned with how Kathy is feeling. “I think we’re good Mom, thanks.” The two girls take a long look at Susan and she senses that they want to be left alone. “I’ll be in the kitchen, if you need anything, ok? Great Mom, thanks.” The two turn their glaze back to their phones as Susan returns to the kitchen. “I’ll catch her when we can talk alone” Susan whispers to herself.

Lucy watches as Susan goes into the kitchen. She leans over Kathy and asks, “are you up to a little fun?” “ Really Lucy, are you kidding me? How about giving me just a little time to get myself together.” “ Yeah, I guess you’re right. It’s just that my parents are out of town this weekend and I thought we’d have ourselves a little party. After what you’ve been through, you deserve it. Who knows, maybe you could meet someone new. It’s not until Friday night, so you have a few hours to think it over. Promise me you’ll think about it, OK?” Trying to think past her current mood and tiredness Kathy assures Lucy, “Ok, I’ll *think* about it.” Lucy stands up by her chair, “great, sounds like a plan. I guess I’m going to let you rest girl. I’ll call you later with some plans.” “Lucy”, I said I would think about it, we’ll see”. She reaches over to hug her as she leaves, “See you later girl.” Slumping down

in the chair Kathy finally closes her eyes for a few minutes. Sleep comes easy until she is startled by a text message on her phone. *YOU DESERVE IT!* Pops up on the phone. "Maybe I do, thought Kathy, just maybe I do."

John is watching all the things going on in the Living room. He turns to Paul and asks, " What do you think of Lucy, Paul?" " She worries me John. She spends a lot of time with her and Susan really needs to talk to Kathy alone right now." " I agree with you John, but don't forget, Lucy needs to find her light too. What if your Mom finds hers and then talks to Lucy about hers. That would be great." " It sure would Paul, they could be friends of the Light." The two watch as Kathy slowly drifts off to sleep on the couch..

Searching her Bible, Susan is trying to find just the right verses to go with her verse in Romans. She wants everything to go really good when she approaches her daughter. She remembers all the trips Kathy took with her youth group at Church and she always hoped that special day would come when she finally understood just what living her life for the Lord would mean. It seemed to happen to all the other kids but she just never seemed to be receptive. She became very close when Chris gave his life to the Lord and was baptized. Chris really tried to talk to her but she still just didn't seem interested. Now, she felt, this was the time and she wanted to be the one to finally get through to her. Hearing a car pulling up in the driveway, Susan looks out the window to see who it is. She hurriedly gets up to try and stop them

from knocking and awakening Kathy. Opening the screen door, she welcomes the two visitors in. "Well hello Brother Kriese and hello Chris. Reaching out to hug them both, she tells them, "She's asleep right now guys if you came to see her. Can I get you something, some coffee or tea or water?" " Mrs. Hunt, we would love to see Kathy, but right now, we would like to talk to you for a moment. Chris has told me all about what happened and this has really broken him and he just wants to talk to you and Kathy about where we need to go from here." The Pastor looks at the kitchen table and sees the open Bible. "I see you are searching for yourself Mrs. Hunt" "Yes Pastor, I am, but also searching for a way to try and reach my daughter. I still don't know how to feel yet, only that I love her and I know the Lord does too". Chris' lifts his head up to look at Susan, "That is exactly how I feel Mrs. Hunt, Exactly." " Look", Chris continues, we need to sit and we need to talk" " Ok, Chris," Susan responds, as she pulls out two chairs, "Let's talk."

Chris scoots his chair up to the table. He fumbles with the placemat for a few seconds then slowly looks up at Susan. "I am *so* sorry Mrs. Hunt." His voice struggling, He tries to go on without breaking down. "I can't for the life of me, tell you how terribly sorry I am. Please believe me. If I would have known about the pregnancy I would have done everything in my power to do the right thing. I would have tried to persuade Kathy to keep our baby and I know everything would have been just fine. I have done so much Soul searching and I know that I still Love Kathy. I just hope that you can

forgive me and her.” Chris looks over at the Pastor for some acknowledgement that he is doing OK. Putting his hand on Chris’ shoulder, the Pastor continues. “Mrs. Hunt, I can’t put myself in this situation but I must say the Love that Chris has for your daughter goes far beyond what I have seen in a young man. I believe it is real and also that it is from deep inside and God given.”

The three continue to talk as Kathy lay on the living room couch. She is dreaming of a bright sunny day. Her and Chris are married. They are pulling up to the babysitters house. The two get out and go to the front door. The screen door is locked as they walk up, so they knock. “Mommy and Daddy are here John!” A beautiful little boy runs up to the door screaming with glee. “Mommy, Mommy!” he yells out as he comes to the screen. “Hang on John, I’m coming.” The babysitter steps up to the screen door and unlocks the latch but can’t seem to open the door. “It’s probably stuck.” She says as she continues to try and open it. Chris tries and tries and nothing seems to be able to budge it. The baby starts to cry. “*John!*” Kathy cries out, as she sits up on the couch, heart racing. Hovering overhead John the Angel looks over at his mom, “Yes Momma?” he speaks out, thinking she is talking to him, what is it? Getting Paul’s attention, he comes over to the couch also and notices that she has just awoken. “She is dreaming John. I don’t know what’s going on in that mind of hers right now.” “I sure did Love it though Paul, I hope she’ll call me for real one day.” Kathy realizing that she has never given her baby a name suddenly feels very overwhelmed

and she cries, trying not to be heard. She whispers to herself, "John." Wiping the tears from her eyes, she hears the sound of voices in the kitchen. Slowly and quietly, walking up to the door she presses her ear against it. Realizing the voices inside are from Chris, her mom and Brother Kriese she becomes terrified. "He told the Pastor, I can't believe he told the Pastor! Oh my gosh! How could he! They're coming over here to tell me how horrible I am. No thanks!" Kathy heads back to the couch where her phone lay on the table. Cupping her hand over it, she dials Lucy's number. "Lucy, it's me, I am going to go to the street behind my house and I want you to come and pick me up, and Lucy, please hurry! She ends the call and quietly escapes through the front door with two very concerned Angels behind her.

"Where's she going Paul? She looks very upset." "I'm not sure John .I'm not liking this at all." The two angels hover around Kathy and watch her walk around in circles. She nervously checks the door to see if she has been discovered running out. In her mind, she keeps trying to come up with an excuse for her unexpected departure. She knows that her mom didn't see Lucy leave so maybe she could tell her she just needed to go for a ride. She hears a familiar, loud car screeching tires and revving up his engine. There's no doubt it's Steve, Lucy's' boyfriend. Kathy wishes his arrival was a little more, quiet and hopes her mom doesn't recognize the noise and come outside to check. Steve pulls up beside Kathy and slings open the door. Pushing the front seat forward to let her in the back, Lucy hollers out. "Steve! Stop it,

I'm sitting up here!" He yells back at her, "well, I thought we were in a hurry here! Get in already Kathy, let's roll!"

Steve has been Lucy's boyfriend for a couple of years. She sometimes thinks he loves his old car more than her. He takes a lot of pride in his fast car. He built it in High School in automotive class before he dropped out. He always wanted to open his own garage some day. He was rough and tough but no matter how tough he acted, it was obvious that he and Lucy were in love. She had her rough patches also but like a mixed up vessel of oil and water, they seemed to be made for each other.

The three in the kitchen hear all the commotion outside and come into the room where Kathy was supposed to be sleeping. Looking out the screen door, they see Kathy getting into the back seat of Steve's car. "Kathy! What you doing? Where are you going?" Hearing her mothers' anguish, she feels a huge urge to stop and talk to her mom but instead yells out to Steve, "Go Steve Go!" The two angels look at each other in bewilderment and confusion. "Paul, I don't know about you but I'm going with my momma." "That's right John, that's right, you go with her and I'll stay here with Susan. This could be pretty scary John. Be ready, be ready for anything." John leaps up to catch up to Steve as he blasts through the neighborhood and yells back, "Sure thing Paul, I got this." Chris, seeing all that's happening starts running to his car to catch Steve, Lucy and Kathy. Susan grabs his arm and pleads, "Wait Chris, just wait. We need to think

this through. The last thing we need now is a race between you and Steve with my daughter in the car.” “But Mrs. Hunt, you don’t understand, Steve is bad news. He’s capable of anything.” Susan looks over at the Pastor and starts to break down. Through her tears she’s able to mutter out, “God, I don’t know what to do!” The Pastor places his hand on her shoulder. “Mrs. Hunt, let’s go inside. We need to pray and we need to pray right now!”

Steve reaches down to turn the knob on the radio up as heavy metal blasts for the whole neighborhood to hear. “Oh yeah, sweet freedom Kathy! How does it taste?” Kathy opens her mouth to speak but realizes the music is much too loud for her to be heard. Lucy interrupts her, “Steve you big moron, maybe we aren’t in the mood to lose our hearing right now.” She reaches for the knob to turn it down. “Whatever.” Steve mumbles in disgust, “Whatever, Queen Lucy.” She looks into the back seat to ask Kathy what happened between her and her mother. She explains as the car speeds down the road leaving a smoke trail as an Angel coughs in the wake.

Inside the house, Susan paces and talks to herself as the other two listen patiently. Her outbursts go from frustration to Love to anger. “I’ve lost her Chris. What has happened to my little girl? Where did I go so wrong? I’m a failure as a mother. I’m a failure as a Christian!” Paul, sitting on the kitchen table feels her pain. He feels every word of anger like it pierces him. “I need to go get her Pastor. I am her mother and as long as she lives here, I’m in control! I must suck it

up and be a better mother. I've got to stop trying to be her friend and be her mother." Brother Kriese turns to face Susan and waits for her to make eye contact with him. When she realizes he is waiting for the end of her rant, she stops. He begins to speak low and deliberately. "Mrs. Hunt, God is in control of every situation, even this one. We are going to be witnesses to Gods' greatness. I don't know what He has in store, but you need to let go and let God, be God. Let's pray. All three bow down to Pray and each one pours out their Love for Kathy as well as their desires and concerns. Paul feels the unconditional Love in the room and smiles. Suddenly he feels a great stirring inside and he begins to grow larger and larger. His boyish form is transformed into a mighty, powerful presence. He knows his time is running out here on Earth and his chances to help John and his mother are getting fewer and fewer. His appearance is something to behold as the light from the Praying three increases and bathes him in a Golden Luminescence.

John and the three friends arrive at Lucy's house. The party has already begun on this late Friday afternoon. Ther parents are hardly out of sight, before people start arriving. Kathy looks around and notices that she hardly knows anyone. She asks, "Who are all these people?" Lucy looks at all the people coming in and says, "Well, Kathy, I really don't recognize all of them either." She looks over to Steve, "Steve, who are all these people in my house?" "Oh come on Lucy, don't be such a downer. The more the merrier right?" Lucy puts her hands on her head, "I'm not sure about that

Steve.” Lucy and Kathy watch, as car after car pulls up and they all seem to be carrying their drink of choice. Going in the house the girls are deafened by the music coming out of a stereo system someone has brought. Getting up close to Kathy so she can hear, Lucy yells out, “Looks like a Party to me!” Kathy halfheartedly nods in agreement as the two blend in with the crowd to introduce themselves.

John sees all the chaos going on. He sees the sad darkness in so many. Losing Kathy in the crowd, he suddenly feels small. He thinks, “Just what can I do here? I’m just one little angel. He no more gets out the thought when he notices he is trembling and shaking. He starts to grow. His wings become full and powerful. “Whoa, I don’t know what is happening, but I like it. This is awesome!” His height and power increases. Flexing his muscles and flapping his wings, he realizes that his time is growing shorter to help Kathy. Looking back at the party people he knows that the fight has already been fought over this sad and terrible darkness and he indeed is on the winning side. He looks upward to Heaven and thanks God for the victory and Gift of His Son.

Friday afternoon turns to Friday night and the party drones on with loud people and loud music. The party supplies start to slowly dwindle down and a collection is taken up to replenish what has been snacked and drank. Kathy wonders about how her mother is doing and how she hoped she could see past all this chaos and still love her. A voice suddenly invades her space. “You look really out of place

pretty lady.” Kathy looks up, “Billy, how are you?” She forces a smile as her classmate from school spots her sitting on a couch.

Billy has been in love with Kathy for years. They have been classmates since elementary school. He has tried his best over the years to impress her and get her to notice him. He has always known Kathy and Chris were together but had gotten word that they had broken up. This was his best chance now to make a great impression. In his most manly and debonair voice he asks her. “Are you ok? I heard you were in the hospital.” Kathy had always looked at him as a good friend but never thought of him as a potential boyfriend. It was always going to be Chris for her. Forever and always.

Dreading more questions from him, she chimes in quickly. “I’m better, nothing serious really, how are you?” He glances down at Kathy’s hand to check for Chris’ class ring. “Well, since I heard you and Chris weren’t together anymore, I’m doing pretty good. Do you want to dance? You aren’t together any longer, right?” Thinking back to the last couple of days, Kathy can’t imagine Chris taking her back. She responds with a sigh, “Yep, that’s true, we’re done.”

Chris looks out a dark window. His heart aches for Kathy. He loves her, he knows it and he is terribly worried about what state of mind she is in. Looking over at Susan, he tells her, “Mrs. Hunt, I have to go and find her. I have a terrible feeling in my gut and I think God wants me to go and find

her. Susan stands up from her chair and exclaims, "You are right Chris? There has been enough hand wringing and worry. Let's go get our girl!" The Pastor has left to go home. He instructed them to call him if they hear anything from Kathy. Susan tells Chris to call Brother Kriese and tell him what they are going to do and to pray for her safe return. Chris takes his phone out of his pocket to call the Pastor as a call from a friend is coming in. Chris answers his phone, "Hey man, I can't talk right now, I'm on my way out." The friend continues, "No problem Chris, I just wanted to know if you and Kathy were coming over to Lucy's house. Her parents are gone for the weekend and I hear there's going to be a huge throw down party." Chris could tell his friend has been drinking as he mumbled out his words. He keeps talking as Chris hangs up his phone. "No, no, no." he repeats. "What is it Chris?" Susan demands to know. "It's not good Mrs. Hunt, not good. There's a huge party at Lucy's house. Her parents are out of town. We must go and we must go now!" Paul watches all of the drama and he knows that this will be a night to remember. He wishes he could just pick them up and take them there. Quickly, he takes off toward Lucy's house to find John.

"That's it, we're officially out!" Someone yells out from inside Lucy's house. "No chips, no dips and dare I say it, no more beer!" Billy, keeping his glance toward Kathy yells back, "No good man, no good at all!" He asks Kathy, "Hey, you want to go with us? We're going to make a run to the County Merchant store to get some more beverages. You want to

go?" She looks at him holding his empty beer can and says, "boy you don't need to go anywhere. Give me your keys and I will drive you." "Don't be crazy girl, I can handle it. I do this all the time." Steve and Lucy walk by and Billy puts his arm around the two. "Besides, I need to ask ole Stevie Boy if he still drives that mosquito wagon of a car. Well do you, Stevie Boy?" Feeling challenged, Steve throws Billy's arm off of him and Lucy. "I'll bet you my ole skeeter wagon can beat you to the Merchant big boy! My car's made in the good ole U, S of A my friend, not made out of chopsticks and rice like yours." The two boys square off in a stare. The two girls know what is about to happen. Rushing out to the two cars, they get in the drivers seat and ask for the keys. Billy looks at Steve. "So Steve, I guess the girls are going to drive, right?" Steve puts his hand on his chin and tells Billy, "well, that would be very interesting." Both boys throw their keys to the girls and they start the cars. Lucy and Kathy rev up their engines like they're going to race and they have a good laugh. Billy laughs out loud then lunges into his car knocking Kathy out of the way to take the wheel. Steve sees what's happening and he jumps into his car and pushes Lucy over to the passenger seat. The front yard explodes with dust as the two back out of the yard spinning their tires to try and beat each other to the liquor store. The girls are screaming at the boys as they push back at them. "Buckle up girl, here we go!" Steve warns, as he peels out of the yard onto the pavement in a cloud of rubber smoke. "We got this for sure!" The crowd in the house hears all the noise and rushes out into the yard to see what all the commotion is about. Kathy begs

Billy to stop and let her out. Ignoring her demands, he just pushes harder on the accelerator. Looking in his rear view mirror, Billy sees Steve catch up to him on the dimly lit two-lane highway. Looking over, Steve sees Billy beside him in the other lane as they get ever closer, ever faster. Grinning, Billy looks over and taunts Steve. The two girls exchange glances of fear as both are scarred by all the excitement and danger. Placing both hands over her eyes, Kathy wishes she were home safe with her mother.

Not seen by any of the participants in the race, is John, who has placed himself in front of Billy's car, doing anything he can to slow him down. He pushes on the front bumper but nothing seems to help. Looking up, John sees Paul doing the same with Steve's car. He yells to John, "It's not helping John, not helping." The two angels fly beside each car as they continue to pick up speed down the highway.

Susan and Chris have called the Pastor and are now on their way to Lucy's house. "I'm pretty sure it's down this way Mrs. Hunt." Chris points, as they turn onto the highway. "She lives about four miles past the County Merchant liquor store. Susan hopes they don't see them there, buying beer. She asks Chris, "What am I going to say? What am I going to do?" Chris pauses to think and gives Susan his answer. "Love is the answer Mrs. Hunt. Love is always the answer and God is Love." She thinks back to the hospital when she thought the same thing. The two pass the busy County Merchant store and breathe a sigh of relief that they don't recognize

any cars there. Chris tries to console Susan, "Maybe everything will be just fine, maybe I just worry too much, Lucy would never put her in any danger." She hears his fake optimism and buys in. "We can hope Chris, we can hope."

The front hoods of the speeding cars are even as they continue to taunt each other and hurl insults. Traveling well over one hundred miles per hour now, Steve looks over at a terrified, speechless Lucy and with a sly grin tells her, "Watch this Lucy, we're going to light speed!" Reaching under his dash, he flips a toggle switch to activate a nitrous canister to boost his engine. Lunging forward, his car starts to pull in front of Billy. Steve jerks his steering wheel to pull into Billy's lane. He hits the front of Billy's car with his rear bumper and both cars go into a horrific spin. The girls catch each other's terrified glance as their world goes into slow motion. Billy and Steve desperately hang on to their steering wheel as they try to right themselves but all control is lost as they leave the pavement onto the grass. The two cars start to roll and flip as they continue their trek through the grass and into the thick woods. The sounds of glass breaking and metal crunching, is muffled by the frantic screams of the four kids. The landscape turns upside down as they finally come to a stop in the trees. Silence takes over for a few seconds then Steve's car explodes with a terrible sound as it lights up the dark rural sky. Billy's car is now just a clump of metal pieces. Smoke billows from the engine then fire erupts in a massive cloud of black smoke. A large gust of wind blows through the terrible accident. The smoke swirls to make a clear path. On the side

of the road stoops an Angel. In his grasp and holding tight, John has pulled Kathy out during the horrible accident. The dense smoke hovering over them, he lays her gently down in the grass and wipes the debris and soot from her face. Bending down, he kisses her cheek ever so lightly and whispers, "I love you momma, I love you so much. Please find your light, the light of Jesus." Kathy slightly opens her eyes and looks into the face of her son. Then blacks out again.

"Whoa, what was that?" Chris yells as he sees explosions in front of him in the distance. Something just exploded, something huge! Call 911 Mrs. Hunt. I think there has been an accident up ahead. The grass and trees on the side of the road are blazing from the crash as Chris slows down to see if there's anyone he can help. The black smoke makes it hard to see. Paul has found Lucy in the burning grass and is fanning the smoke and flames away from her with his wings. She is unconscious and hurt badly. Suddenly, Paul hears the voice of a child behind him. "She sure is beautiful, isn't she" Paul turns to see a little Angel gazing at Lucy. He reaches to pull the little one to him and puts his arm around her. "She sure is little one, who are you?" "My name is Debbie and I am here to meet someone to help me with my mother. I have so many questions. Can you help me?" Paul pats the little girl on her back and assures her, "I'm not that Angel. My time is almost done here but don't worry, someone's coming very soon. Paul no sooner gets out the words before a golden light beams down from Heaven. Paul tells her, "Go to that light little one, she will help you. Debbie walks toward the

light as a tiny hand extends out to take hers. “Hi, my name is Donna. I’m your twin sister. Where’s my Mother?” Debbie smiles and points over to Lucy in the grass. She looks Lucy over, as she lay there covered in soot and debris. “She sure is beautiful.” Debbie nods her head in agreement. The two embrace and speak in unison “Yes she is.” Paul shakes his head as another light comes down. “Well girls, I think *that’s* the one you need.” The girls rush over to greet their mentor with a hug. Paul points to Heaven and smiles.

Chris stops his car and jumps out. He looks desperately for someone to help. In the light of the fire, he makes out a silhouette, sitting up in the grass. He yells out, “Are you hurt? I’m coming to help you.” Kathy recognizes Chris’ voice and yells out, “Chris, It’s me Kathy! Please help me!.” Chris yells back at his car to Susan, “Mrs. Hunt, it’s Kathy, come quick, she’s hurt!” She bolts from the car through the dense smoke and fire to run to her daughter. Chris gets to Kathy first and bends down to wipe her face with his shirt. She reaches for him and they embrace. “I’m so sorry Chris, please believe me. I Love you so much.” “I Love you too Kathy, it’s all going to be ok.” He looks around and notices the creeping grass fires and asks her “Can you walk?” Kathy examines herself and slowly tries to stand. With Chris’ help she stands to her feet. “How? How did you get way over here and how did you escape this horrible crash?” Kathy suddenly gets a flash of a face in her mind like a lightning bolt. “An Angel. Chris, I think an Angel helped me. I saw his face. Do you think I’m crazy?” Chris smiles at her, holding her face with

both hands. "No Kathy, I think that's the best thing I've ever heard." Kathy jerks around to look at the scene, "Where's Lucy, Chris, have you seen her? What about Steve and Billy?" "I don't know yet, let's get you away from all this smoke and fire." "Where's my mother Chris, is she here?" The police and ambulances have arrived and their lights add an eerie glow to the dismal scene. Through the lights, smoke and fire, Kathy sees a figure walking towards her. Susan has no words as she approaches her daughter, except to thank God that she seems to have survived the crash. She embraces the two kids as they fall to their knees and cry. Kathy wipes the tears from her eyes and tells her mother, "I saw an Angel momma, I really did. He saved me." "That's what she told me Mrs. Hunt, she told me the same thing." "Kathy I believe you. If you say an Angel saved you from this horrible wreck, who am I to think anything different. I believe in God, I believe in His Son and of course I believe in Angels, now, more than ever. I think you do too".

John and Paul are standing beside the trio and they hear the conversation. A small light appears in Kathy that the two Angels can see. John points to the glow, "There Paul, there it is! "It sure is John." This could be the start of something Eternal my friend. We're getting close." The two Angels kneel and lift their hands to Heaven in Praise and Hope for Kathy.

The three walk over toward the ambulance as the fire department starts to put out the fires in the grass. The two blackened cars are still crackling and smoking. Walking past

a policeman talking on his radio, they hear the awful news for themselves. "Looks like we have two fatalities and a badly hurt young lady. We are loading her into the ambulance now for transport." "No!" Kathy sobs, I can't believe it". Grabbing the policeman by the arm, she begs him, "Please sir, where is my friend Lucy? Is she ok?" The officer points over to the ambulance as they are loading a gurney in the back, "You'll find your friend over there." Kathy breaks from the group and runs to the ambulance. In the distance she can see the police and paramedics standing beside two tarps. It's almost too much to take in as she reaches the ambulance to take her friends hand.. "Oh Kathy, please tell me Steve's ok, please tell me!" Kathy knew the truth but didn't want to tell her friend until she got some help. "I don't know yet Lucy, but I will find out. Are you ok?" "My legs, it's my legs Kathy, I think they're broken and I'm bleeding. Please pray for me, I don't know what's wrong yet." "Of course I'll pray for you, don't worry it's all going to be just fine." The paramedics push the gurney into place as Lucy asks her one more time, "Please find out about Steve, you can tell me at the hospital. I just know he's ok." "I love you Lucy!" She yells out, as the doors shut on the ambulance and it takes off towards the hospital. Lucy and the paramedics inside the ambulance don't notice that they are joined by Debbie, Donna and their mentor Angel Mary who are praying for Lucy. Paul and John watch the ambulance drive away as the beautiful lights of prayer can be seen through the back windows. The sound of the siren can be heard in the distance as the parents of Steve

and Billy arrive at the grisly scene seeking answers to questions that will change their lives forever.

ONE MONTH LATER

The pastors' face is blurry as Kathy opens her eyes under the water. Coming up out of the water of her baptism, she triumphantly raises her hands in celebration. She reaches out to take the cane of her friend Lucy and help her down the wet stairs into the warm water. The pastor puts Lucy under the water. When she emerges, she leaps up to embrace Kathy and the Pastor. Lucy's mother is there in church for the first time in her life. She weeps as she sees the joy in Lucy's face. Susan and Chris are on the front row beside Chris' parents. They all arise to share in Kathy and Lucy's celebration. Chris steals a look at Susan and whispers to her, "That's going to be my wife Mrs. Hunt, very soon, that is if I have your permission." Tears of joy fall as she hugs Chris. The girls continue to embrace in the baptismal waters as the congregation erupts in applause.

Way up high in the rafters six Angels gaze down on the joyous scene. Their smiles are huge as they watch an incredible display of colorful lights fill up the church. Paul looks at the other five and says, "I wish they could all see this like we do." They have no idea." Another Angel speaks up, "No, they really don't." Standing to leave, they all share an embrace, "Well, Paul, John, Debbie, Donna and Mary, I guess I need to move on. I just wanted to stop in and see this

awesome sight". They all look over at him and agree. John adds, "Awesome indeed, but I'm sure you have an appointment to make. Good Luck and God bless you my friend. We'll see you soon." Spreading his wings, he soars down through the church and out of a beautiful, ornate stained glass window.

Glancing back down at the joyous scene, John beams, "Hey Paul, check out mommas' light now!" Paul nods, "Pretty awesome John, pretty awesome." Reaching in the pocket of his robe John pulls out some golden sunglasses, "Yes sir, that's going to be one very bright light for sure." Pulling out his shades, Paul looks over at John, "Bright is Right, John, Bright is Right! The Angels huddle together tightly as a huge Golden Beam takes them home to await the arrival of their loved ones.

Leaving the four friends, the Angel flies through the white billowy clouds. He soars upward past them. Further and further he soars until the whole Earth is in his sight. Hovering there, he watches, as thousands of Golden Beams continuously shoot down from Heaven. "One at a time he thinks, one at a time". Looking toward Heaven, he prays. "Even now Lord Jesus, Come." Leaving his lofty space, he flies down toward Earth. Closer and closer, through the dense clouds until the streets, houses and trees are in sight. He approaches a small parking lot on the edge of town. In the corner of the lot is a small car. He has reached his destination. Inside the empty car are pamphlets from the clinic strewn about on the

seat and floorboard. The Angel lands on the roof as a young lady is being rolled over to the car in a wheelchair. He looks Heavenward as a Golden beam of light breaks through the clouds. "There you are little one!" he exclaims. An Angel appears before him, wiping his eyes and shaking his wings. The two watch as a nurse helps the young lady into the car. The little Angel reaches out his hand to greet his mentor, "Hi, my name is Michael." "Well hello sweet spirit, welcome. My name is River'. Michael leaps off the car and hovers beside the drivers window looking in. "She sure is beautiful, isn't she River." "She sure is Michael, she surely is."

