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PRESENTS



MIKE KUNKEL'S
HEROBEAR

and the **KID**®

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MIKE KUNKEL'S HEROBEAR™ and the KID



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CHILDHOOD...

WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER?

FOR SOME, THE MEMORIES CAN BECOME HIDDEN OVER THE YEARS...WHILE FOR OTHERS, THEY CAN REMAIN AT THE VERY EDGE OF THEIR THOUGHTS.


I REMEMBER THOSE YEARS WHEN I WAS YOUNGER. HOW DISTINCT THE SEASONS WERE...WHEN THE END OF ONE BECAME THE BEGINNING OF ANOTHER...

WHEN
SPRING
TURNED INTO
SUMMER...

WHICH GAVE WAY TO FALL...

...THEN FINISHED WITH WINTER.

AND IT WAS ON ONE PARTICULAR WINTER SEASON THAT I ENCOUNTERED MY BIGGEST BEGINNING... FROM A MOST DIFFICULT ENDING.



CHRISTMAS. . .IT WAS MY GRANDFATHER'S FUNERAL. A COLD WINTER DAY IN THE TOWN OF SIMPLETON. TO MOST PEOPLE, HIS LIFE WAS GRAND, MYSTERIOUS AND UNIQUE. HE TRAVELED ALL THE TIME, AND LIVED A RATHER JOLLY LIFESTYLE.


BUT TO ME, HE'D ALWAYS JUST BE MY GRANDPA.

SOMEONE WHO INSPIRED AND ENCOURAGED ME AND WHOSE STORIES ALWAYS ENTERTAINED ME.

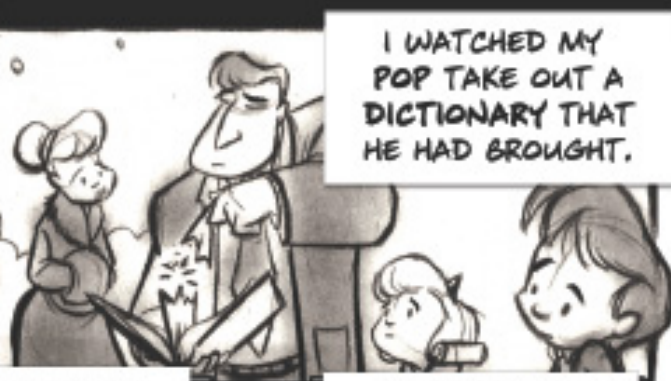
AND NOW HE WAS GONE.

I STARED AT ALL THE FACES IN THE GROUP. WE ALL JUST STOOD THERE QUIETLY.

SO MANY PEOPLE, YET NO ONE KNEW WHAT TO SAY.



WHAT DO YOU SAY
WHEN SOMEONE DIES?



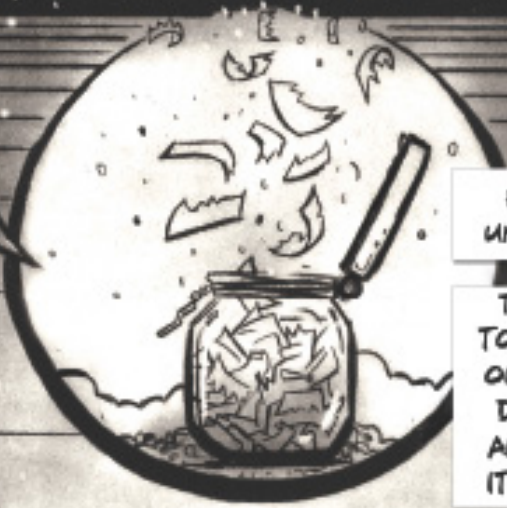
I WATCHED MY
POP TAKE OUT A
DICTIONARY THAT
HE HAD BROUGHT.

HE TORE A WORD
OUT OF IT...


...AND PASSED THE
BOOK AROUND.



EVERYONE
UNDERSTOOD.



THEY EACH
TORE A WORD
OUT OF THE
DICTIONARY
AND PLACED
IT IN A JAR.



I LEARNED MORE ABOUT MY
GRANDPA THAT DAY THAN I HAD
EVER KNOWN...AND HARDLY A
WORD WAS SPOKEN.

MY WORD WAS **GENEROUS**. FOR THOUGH I WOULD MISS
HIM, I CERTAINLY WOULDN'T FORGET HIM. FOR TO EACH
OF US HE LEFT SOMETHING TO REMEMBER HIM BY...

AFTER THE FUNERAL, WE WENT TO MY GRANDPA'S HOUSE. WELL, ACTUALLY IT WAS NOW OUR HOUSE.

SEE, GRANDPA HAD WILLED IT TO US....

TO MY PARENTS, IT REPRESENTED A CHANGE IN SCENERY. BUT, TO MY SISTER, KATIE AND I...IT WOULD CHANGE OUR LIVES.

ALONG WITH THE HOUSE CAME THE SERVICES OF HENRY.

HELLO, HENRY.

WELCOME HOME, SIR. YOUR BAGS HAVE BEEN UNPACKED AND YOUR ROOMS ARE PREPARED.

MISTER 'ENRY, IS MY ROOM READY TOO?

MISS KATIE, MASTER TYLER... GLAD TO SEE YOU BOTH ARRIVED SAFELY.

YES, YOUR THINGS ARE READY...AND WAITING FOR YOUR BOTH.

"WAITING FOR ME"?? I GUESS THAT MEANT THAT OUR INHERITANCES WERE UPSTAIRS. NOW...KATIE WAS TOO YOUNG TO UNDERSTAND... BUT, I FELT A LITTLE BIT ODD TO RECEIVE A GIFT BECAUSE GRANDPA HAD PASSED ON.



WOW! TYLER, LOOKIT!! IT SPINS!

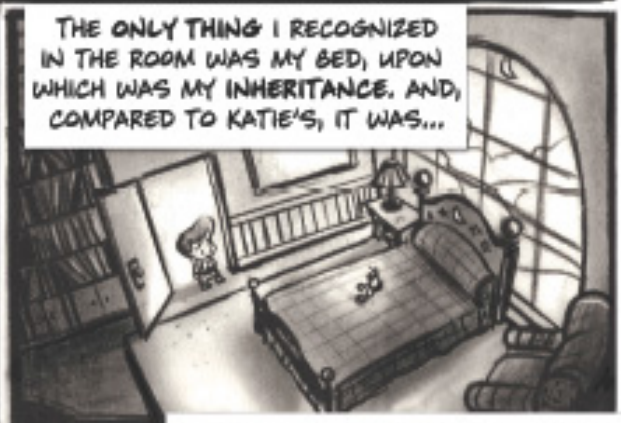
HMMM, OF COURSE, A FREE GIFT IS A FREE GIFT...



I DECIDED TO GO TO MY ROOM, WHICH WAS IN THE LIBRARY TOWER.



THE ONLY THING I RECOGNIZED IN THE ROOM WAS MY BED, UPON WHICH WAS MY INHERITANCE. AND, COMPARED TO KATIE'S, IT WAS...



WELL, SLIGHTLY LESS HIGH TECH...

IT WAS JUST AN OLD
STUFFED BEAR AND A
BROKEN POCKET WATCH.



I FOUND MYSELF JUST STARING AT IT.
AND IT SIMPLY STARED BACK...

