

Being Father

By

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Version: 4
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1 EXT. PARK IN HOUNSLOW - EARLY MORNING.

Mark, a tall, cool and charming man in his mid forties is walking in the park.

MARK(V.O)

I never felt excited about anything in life. Life, I have taken it as it comes; never imagined, never planned, never guided. I enjoyed my life to the fullest only after my daughter was born.

Jenny, daughter of Mark, a young, cute, self-disciplined girl in her late teens jogged, tired started walking beside him.

MARK

Tired?

JENNY

Not much.

MARK

So, have you inquired about the college.

JENNY

Yes.

MARK

How much is the fee?

JENNY

Eight Thousand for an year.

Jenny, bends down to tie her shoe lace. A chain hanging around her neck.

JENNY

I think the fee is so high in that college. Shall i try in other colleges also papa.

MARK

No. not at all. You don't worry. I will take care of that. You know there is an old phrase for this. "If you think education is expensive, try ignorance".

Jenny laughs seeing Mark.

(CONTINUED)

JENNY

But for Maths, Imperial college is
the best in the world, papa.

Mark looks at her and smiles.

MARK

My daughter also.

Jenny hugs Mark. And they starts walking back to home.

2. INT. MARK'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

HELEN, a short, middle-aged woman, in her late thirties, is
busy arranging breakfast in the kitchen.

3. INT - MARK'S HOUSE - STAIRCASE - DAY

Helen walks from the kitchen to staircase and calls
upstairs.

HELEN

Jenny, Are you coming.

JENNY

Yes mom. Coming.

HELEN

How many times should i call you.
What are you doing there?

Helen walks up through the staircase and reaches the
entrance of Jenny's bedroom.

4. INT. MARK'S HOUSE JENNY BEDROOM - DAY

A well-decorated room, with some hand-drawn children
drawings glued to the wall and photos with her dad, mom. A
chalk board with some mathematical theorem written on that
is glued to the wall. And Jenny is searching for her debit
card all over the place.

HELEN

What happened?

JENNY

I'm trying to find my debit card.

HELEN

Where did you keep it?

JENNY
Mom, If i knew that, i wouldn't be
looking for that.

Helen smiles.

HELEN
Why do you need money now?

JENNY
It's papa's birthday tomorrow and
I'm planning to buy him a gift!

Mark shouts from his bedroom.

MARK (V.O)
What's going on?

Helen turns her head back.

HELEN
Nothing. Are you ready?

MARK (V.O)
Two minutes.

HELEN
Jenny, hurry up.

JENNY
Ok, you go, I will be there in five
minutes.

5. INT. MARK'S HOUSE - STAIRCASE - DAY

Helen walks back to kitchen through the staircase and Mark, adjusting his belt, comes to the kitchen through the staircase picking up the news paper. Mark sees the flower bouquet on the dining table and sits in a chair at dining table and picks up his coffee cup and takes a plate with bread served by Helen reading the news paper.

6. INT. MARK'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Jenny comes down from the stairs and walks to kitchen and sees the flower bouquet. A tag was sticked to the bouquet saying "Happy Butterfly - Congratulations on your Good Grades - From Sam." Helen is busy in arranging the things in kitchen. Jenny goes directly to the flower vase which is on top of the refrigerator removes the old one and puts the fresh flowers into vase. Jenny comes back to dining table and sits opposite to Mark and picks up her Coffee.

(CONTINUED)

JENNY

Papa, I am going to meet my
school friend in staines today.
Can i borrow your car.

Helen walks towards the dining table.

HELEN

You have only just passed your
test. Take the train.

MARK

Let her drive Helen.

JENNY

Thanks papa.

Helen raises her eyes to the ceiling. Mark and Jenny
finishes their breakfast and gets up from the dining table.

7. INT. MARK'S HOUSE - HALL ENTRANCE - DAY

Mark and Jenny walks from kitchen to the main door. First
Mark leaves the door and Jenny follows.

JENNY

OK mom bye.

HELEN

Come early.

JENNY

OK.

Jenny walks through the main entrance door and closes the
main door and sits into the parked car and leaves.

8. EXT. MARK'S HOUSE - ENTRANCE DOOR - AFTERNOON

A house with white front door and Tim Brown, a police
officer in staines knocks the door of Helen's house. Helen
comes with her spectacles on and opens the door and
surprises to see a police man.

TIM

Are you Mrs.Collins!

HELEN

Yes.

TIM

May I come in.

Helen confused and worried.

(CONTINUED)

HELEN

Yes.

9. INT. MARK'S HOUSE HALL - AFTERNOON

Tim follows Helen to Hall and Helen shows couch to sit.

HELEN

What did you like to have?

TIM

Nothing, Thanks.

TIM

My name is Brown. I am an sergeant
in Staines. May i know when your
husband will be back.

Helen sits in another couch, removes her spectacles and holds it in her hand, looks at clock and as it shows four in the afternoon, turns to Tim.

HELEN

In another two hours. Why?

A two seconds pause.

TIM

Helen, I have a very bad news for
you.

Helen is more worried.

HELEN

What?

TIM

Please try to listen to me
carefully.

CLOSE UP: HELEN SHOWING MORE WORRY.

HELEN

Please tell me what happened?

TIM

Helen, Your car met an accident
near Staines A308.

CLOSE UP: HELEN SHOCKED.

(CONTINUED)

HELEN

What. what happened to my daughter?

TIM

I am so sorry Helen, but your daughter and a couple in the other car are dead.

Spectacles from Helen's hand drops on the floor.

TIM

I am so sorry for your loss.

CUTAWAY:

Only on spectacles.

CUTAWAY:

TIM(V.O)

Helen, Helen are you OK.

Police sound starts playing continuously and some voices in the background discussing about the accident. Slowly all voices dissolves into silence.

10. INT. MARK'S HOUSE - HALL - DAY

A pair of spectacles on the floor. The hall is dark and a small light is falling onto the chair in which Mark is sitting. Mark slowly takes the paper and looks at Jenny's photo on left side and a mid sized couple photo on the right side with the header "Accident on A308 Staines". Mark keeps it aside and opens a sealed cover, which Tim had send it to them as the last remains of Jenny which has written as "From Tim". First, her chain with blood stains. Next a lighter, falls onto his hand.

[FLASHBACK]

11. EXT. STREET IN HOUNSLOW - DAY

Mark and Jenny walk beside the shops. Mark suddenly stops beside one shop and sees a lighter through the glasses window of that shop.

MARK

Oh, this is very nice.

JENNY

What is that?

Mark shows the lighter to Jenny.

(CONTINUED)

MARK
But it's too costly!

JENNY
Oh! That's OK papa.

MARK
But for a lighter, I don't want to
spend that much.

DISSOLVE TO:

12. INT. MARK'S HOUSE - HALL - DAY

Mark's tears fall on the cover.

CUT-IN:

Lighter in Mark's hand will be dissolved to pendulum clock
disk. Pendulum makes a sound as it is four in the evening.

13. INT. MARK'S HOUSE - STAIRCASE - DAY

Helen walks into kitchen through the staircase.

14. INT. MARK'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Helen goes to the dining table to pick up some water in a
glass. She looks at the flower vase and a dried bunch of
flowers in the vase. She goes near to the vase holding the
glass and reach there and puts near the vase and touch the
dried flowers in the vase.

CUTAWAY:

Jenny's smiley face.

Helen moves to the Hall leaving the glass behind.

CLOSE UP: A GLASS WITH WATER.

Helen sees Mark sitting in a dark corner of the hall in a
couch. She reaches him slowly and sits on the other couch
close to Mark.

HELEN
Mark.

MARK
Please leave me alone.

(CONTINUED)

HELEN

Please Mark. I don't have anybody except you. We need to get over this.

MARK

Get over on what? I can't imagine any reason to be alive. Jenny is not a memory to forget, Helen. She still is my life.

After remaining silent for a moment.

HELEN

I can understand Mark, but we need to get on with our lives.

MARK

I can't do that so easily.

HELEN

I have some thing to tell you from so many days.

Mark looks at Helen.

HELEN (CONTD)

Mark, I know a girl who is a musician at church. Her parents died in an accident.

MARK

Helen, What are you talking about?

HELEN

Please listen to me Mark. She is very good at music and she wants to pursue it as her career But she is too young to fund her studies. So If we.

Mark looks at Helen.

MARK

Helen, Why you are doing this?

HELEN

My point is.

MARK

I am not talking about money.

(CONTINUED)

HELEN

I know it's not about money. I just want to.

MARK

You just want to replace Jenny in our lives.

HELEN

It's not like that Mark. I am just trying to fill the gap.

MARK

Gap, What do you mean by gap. There is no gap.

HELEN

There is no Jenny also. This is fact. Please try to accept it Mark. For god sake please.

MARK

May be its so easy for you but i can't do it as easily as you.

HELEN

Easy for me, do you think it's easy for me. I am struggling to come out of Jenny's loss and your silence. you know your silence is killing me each and every second of my life.

WIDE: HELEN AND MARK ARE LOOKING AT DIFFERENT ENDS.

Helen takes his hand into her hands. Mark looks at her with tears in his eyes.

HELEN

You need to know about a fact what happened when Jenny died!

CLOSE UP:

Mark.

CLOSE UP:

Helen.

15. EXT. PARK IN HOUNSLOW - EARLY MORNING.

Angelina, a young, cute, self-disciplined girl in her late teens is walking beside Mark.

MARK

How much is the fee?

ANGELINA

Nine Thousand for an year.

Angelina, bends down to tie her shoe lace. A chain hanging around her neck.

ANGELINA

I think fee is more high than other colleges. I know another college which is less. Shall i try for that Mark?

MARK

No. not at all. You don't worry. I will take care of that. What's the name of that college?

ANGELINA

Royal school of Church Music. I did think about Imperial college as i got good grades also.

MARK

No. No. Your interest is in music. Don't change it for anybody.

Angelina stops and looking at Mark but Mark didn't observe her and walks forward.

MARK

Not even for me.

Saying this Mark will look back at Angelina. Angelina starts walking.

ANGELINA

Mark, Are you ready to do all these things even after knowing who i am.

MARK

Yes.

ANGELINA

But Mark.

(CONTINUED)

MARK

Ange, Having father is the greatest thing in the world but Being Father is the toughest and loveliest thing men can ever have in his life. I thought i lost it but with you i got it again.

Tears in Angelina eyes.

ANGELINA

I promise you Mark, I will do my best in music.

Mark looks at her and smiles.

MARK

You are already doing the best in music.

ANGELINA

Thanks Mark.

Angelina and Mark starts walking back.

16. INT. MARK'S HOUSE - ANGELINA'S BEDROOM - DAY.

Angelina knocking the floor with her feet. She holds a photo frame in her hand and moving her hand across the photo frame sitting on her bed.

ANGELINA

I miss you mom.

Angelina slowly moves her hand across the frame once again.

ANGELINA

I Love you dad.

Angelina puts the photo frame next to a cover on her bed which has written as "From Tim".

THE END