

TEDDY BEARS AND RAINDROPS

BY

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INT. KATIE'S HOME - HALLWAY - DAY

The hallway is brightly lit up by the afternoon sun.

A little girl KATIE (4) dressed in a floral dress and white socks sits at the bottom most step of a tall stairway.

With head in hands she gazes sadly down to the floor.

A tall man UNCLE PHILLIP (32) plops down on the step beside her.

UNCLE PHILLIP

It's not like he's going to
be gone forever you know. So
there's no need for looking
so sad.

Katie gives her uncle a quick glare before returning to the floor. She folds up her arms.

Uncle Phillip looks over and shrugs to AUNT ALEENA (33), a friendly looking woman, she gives off a soft smile.

A sudden deep THUMP cause all to look at a nearby door. It opens up revealing --

MR. GRUNELLS (30), he staggers into the hallway dragging behind him a large suitcase. He drops it with relief.

MR. GRUNELLS

Whew! That's heavy!

Katie lights up with a smile as she races over and clamps her arms around her father.

He sinks to his knees and wraps her up in a big hug.

MR. GRUNELLS

I'm going to miss you
sweetie.

KATIE

I'll miss you too daddy.

They share a brief moment until uncle Phillip pips up from the stairs.

UNCLE PHILLIP

Would you like some help with
your luggage Dane?

EXT. KATIE'S HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - DAY

Two cars sit in the driveway.

Both Aunt Aleena and Katie stand and watch as both of the
guys place the suitcase into the trunk of one of the cars.
It sinks slightly with the weight.

MR. GRUNELLS

Well that should be good.

Uncle Phillip closes the trunk slowly. He grins happily
when it shuts.

UNCLE PHILLIP

Close, but it fits.

Both guys stride over towards Katie and Aunt Aleena. Mr.
Grunells kneels down in front of Katie.

MR. GRUNELLS

This is it pumpkin. We won't
see each other again for one
week.

Katie leans in and gives him a small kiss on the side of
his face.

KATIE

I know the drill.

He smiles lovingly at his daughter then momentarily
freezes.

MR. GRUNELLS

Oh, I nearly forgot!

He rushes back to the car and reaches in through an open
window quickly returning with a white box in hand.

MR. GRUNELLS

Since I'm not going to be
here I got you a little
something to help with your
nightmares.

Katie tosses the lid of the box off with excitement. Inside lies a snow white fuzzy teddy bear, its round black eyes reflect Katie's wide smile.

MR. GRUNELL

He told me he will protect
you and keep you smiling till
I came back.

KATIE

Thank you!

Katie once again clamps her arms around her father in a big loving hug.

A watch on Mr. Grunells wrist BEEPS out loudly shortening the moment. He gives her a kiss.

MR. GRUNELL

That's my last minute call, I
have to hurry now. Love you,
see you on Thursday.

KATIE

Bye daddy.

Mr. Grunells jumps into his car and starts it up. He waves to them before backing up down the driveway.

Aunt Aleena turns to Katie.

AUNT ALEENA

Should we get your things
then?

UNCLE PHILLIP

I'll go get the stuff.

Uncle Phillip walks inside the house.

EXT. KATIE'S HOME - FRONT LAWN - LATER

Katie walks in the long grass of her front lawn. The white fuzzy bear held in her arms.

In the background are Uncle Phillip and Aunt Aleena, they load up their car with Katie's luggage.

KATIE

I suppose you need a name.

She looks at the bear as though she hears a reply.

KATIE

We'll need a good one then if
we're going to be friends.
Friends need really good
names.

She sizes it up with her eyes. Her face scrunches up in thought.

KATIE

What do you look like?
Snowball? No, that no good.

Katie walks over and takes a seat inside the shade of a small tree. The bear held out in front of her as she struggles with a name.

Suddenly her face lights up.

KATIE

I know, Ordie! I like that
name, do you?

KATIE

Well Ordie it is then. I
think we'll be just fine till
daddy comes home.

Aunt Aleena calls out from the driveway.

AUNT ALEENA

Alright Katie, it's time to
go. Say goodbye to the place
sweetie.

INT. AIRPORT - GIFT SHOP - DAY

Mr. Grunells stands by the counter filling out information on a piece of paper.

A plump cheery looking woman SASHA (40) waits patiently for him to finish.

She places down a pretty necklace with a blue stone.

SASHA

I think she'll love it.

Mr. Grunells look up to Sasha with a smile.

MR. GRUNELLS

She loves blue so she should.

A BULKY MAN in a leather jacket walks up to the desk holding a white teddy bear.

SASHA

What can I do for you sir?

BULKY MAN

Mail this.

He tosses the bear down on the counter top. Sasha eyes him up before handing him a piece of paper and a pen.

SASHA

You'll need to fill this sheet out first.

He half heartedly picks up the pen and starts to fill in the information quickly.

SASHA

Is this for someone special?

BULKY MAN

My daughter.

Sasha opens up a tag attached to the one of the bear's ears. She smiles.

SASHA

This is so sweet.
(Reading the tag)
Keep him close, love dad.

Mr. Grunells finishes his paper and hands it over to Sasha, the man does the same then immediately walks away. Both papers are now mixed up in one hand.

MR. GRUNELLS

Is that all I need to do?

SASHA

That is all.

With a quick nod goodbye he exits the gift shop.

SASHA

Have a good flight sir.

She places both the necklace and the teddy bear over on a side table then looks down to the papers with a frown.

EXT. AUNT AND UNCLE'S HOUSE - POND - DAY

Katie looks down with a slight frown on her face as she sizes up a small boat like object with Ordie inside it. A long strand of rope is tied to it.

Uncle Phillip snores loudly nearby in an armchair.

KATIE

I'm not too sure about this
Ordie.

She squats down and grabs hold of the other end of the rope and looks at the bear.

KATIE

Well hang on then and don't
fall in the water.

Lightly the boat is pushed out into the pond. Katie watches it carefully as it goes further and further.

INT. AUNT AND UNCLE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

A phone RINGS out loudly in the small kitchen.

Approaching footsteps get louder and louder until a hand picks up the earpiece.

Aunt Aleena answers the phone with a friendly voice.

AUNT ALEENA

Hello, Merone residence... uh
huh... uh huh.

Suddenly she gasps. A hand goes up to her chest.

EXT. AUNT AND UNCLE'S HOME - POND - DAY

Katie now watches Ordie with a smile. The bear is still snugly fit inside the makeshift boat.

KATIE

You see any fish out there
Ordie?

Aunt Aleena, in the background, quickly walks down to where
Katie and Uncle Phillip are.

AUNT ALEENA

Katie.

Katie turns around as sees her Aunt with teary eyes. Uncle
Phillip wakes up in the armchair. He looks to his wife
concerned.

UNCLE PHILLIP.

What is it, what's wrong?!

Aunt Aleena's voice shakes as she fights to hold herself
together.

AUNT ALEENA

It's your father Katie,
something's happened.

EXT. CEMETERY - DAY

Katie stands in front of her aunt and uncle in a black
dress. Her face is saddened and eyes red and teary.

A mass of people all dressed in black stand around a single
grave. No trace of joy is found within anyone.

A PRIEST speaks softly from the end of the grave.

PRIEST

And now we say a final
goodbye to Dane Grunells, a
widowed husband and a loving
father. May God comfort him
and all the other souls that
perished in that terrible
crash.

INT. AUNT AND UNCLE'S HOME - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Terrified screams and cries burst out into the hall from
behind a closed door. Footsteps quick in pace get louder.

Suddenly a hand grabs hold of the doorknob, twists it, and throws the door open. The light from the room reveals Uncle Phillip. He rushes into the room.

INT. AUNT AND UNCLE'S HOME - KATIE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

A lump in the bed sheets squirms and kicks uncontrollably. The screams and cries continue on.

He runs up to the bed and tosses off the blanket to reveal Katie. He shakes her.

UNCLE PHILLIP
Katie honey wake up! Come on
wake up, you're having a
nightmare.

Katie jolts awake, beads of sweat glisten in the lights as she looks up.

KATIE
Daddy!?

UNCLE PHILLIP
No...sorry honey. You're
having a bad dream again.

Katie looks around the room lost.

KATIE
Where's Ordie?

Uncle Phillip reaches beside and grabs Ordie. He hands it to Katie.

UNCLE PHILLIP
He's right here beside you.

Katie stares at Ordie with disbelief.

UNCLE PHILLIP
Come on.

Uncle Phil picks up Katie in his arms. She drops the bear back on her bed.

UNCLE PHILLIP
Isn't Ordie coming too?

KATIE

No.

UNCLE PHILLIP

What, why?

KATIE

He's not making my bad dreams
go away anymore.

UNCLE PHILLIP

Well alright then. Goodnight
Ordie.

He switches off the light and exits the room with Katie.

EXT. AUNT AND UNCLE'S HOME - POND - DAY

Katie stands close to the edge of the large scummy pond.
Ordie is hanging from one of her hands.

KATIE

I thought we were friends
Ordie? Why are you letting me
have bad dreams?

She lifts the bear up to her face and glares at it. Her
eyes start to form tears

Taking a step closer to the edge she holds out Ordie over
the dark water.

KATIE

I gave you your last chance last night!
I'm better off without you!

The bear is sent splashing into the water. Katie turns her
back and runs away.

Ordie swirls out into the centre of the pond, his white fur
turning a dirty brown from the water as he slowly sinks.

INT. AUNT AND UNCLE HOME - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Uncle Phillip sits relaxed on the chair watching television
with a beer bottle in hand.

Katie walks in and jumps up on the couch next to him, her
arms cross. Uncle Phillip looks at her.

UNCLE PHILLIP
Everything alright Katie?

Katie rubs her eyes to in an attempt to wipe away the tears.

KATIE
Yeah.

Uncle Phillip leans over to get a better looks at her.

UNCLE PHILLIP
Want me to get Ordie
sweetheart?

She loses her battle with the tears as she begins to sob.
She leans into her uncle's arms.

Uncle Phillip shocked at first gradually comforts her.

FRONT DOOR

Aunt Aleena stands by the open front door speaking with a
MAIL MAN.

MAIL MAN
Once again I'm really sorry
for the...

AUNT ALEENA
I know.

MAIL MAN
It's just that sometimes
things get a little jumbled
up you know?

The mail man hands over the package to Aunt Aleena.

AUNT ALEENA
Thank you.

MAIL MAN
No problem
(tilting his hat)
Have a good day ma'am.

AUNT ALEENA
You too.

She walks into the house using her foot to close the door as her eyes find the tag. She freezes, smile vanishes from her face.

Aunt Aleen
(calling out)
Phillip.

KITCHEN

Both Uncle Phillip and Aunt Aleena sit by the circular table. On it is the package.

UNCLE PHIL
No, no way.

AUNT ALEENA
We have to give it to her
Phillip.

UNCLE PHIL
She tossed Ordie.

Aunt Aleena looks at her husband taken aback.

AUNT ALEENA
What do you mean tossed?

UNCLE PHIL
She told me she threw him
into the pond because he
wasn't helping with the
dreams. We can't give this to
her!

AUNT ALEENA
We have to Phillip, this is..

UNCLE PHIL
...the last thing she needs!

AUNT ALEENA
This is from her father. We
can't keep it from her.

UNCLE PHIL
Yes we can, for a little bit
until she gets over Ordie.

AUNT ALEENA

The only reason these nightmares get through is because she misses her father!

She rises up from her seat in frustration and walks outside. Uncle Phillip does the same.

UNCLE PHIL

Where are you going?

AUNT ALEENA

To get Ordie out of the pond.

INT. KITCHEN - LATER

Katie walks in curiously. She looks around for her aunt and uncle.

KATIE

Where are you guys?

Suddenly she spots the white box up on the table. She pulls up a seat and stands on it.

KATIE

What is this?

She lifts off the lid of the box and momentarily freezes.

KATIE

Ordie!?

Inside lies a snow white fuzzy teddy bear, its round black eyes reflect Katie's puzzled look.

She opens up the heart shaped tag on the bear's ear, with graceful blue writing it reads "Keep him close, Love Dad"

Katie picks up the bear in awe.

KATIE

Did daddy get you out of the pond?

THE END

