

THE TOOTH FAIRY

by

James Barron

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

MINKA AVERY, 6, a cyclone of pigtails and gangly limbs, storms past waving a twenty dollar bill, a GAP in her grin.

MINKA

Look what the Tooth Fairy left!

CHARLES and LAURA AVERY, 30's, glance up from their coffees.

And just like that, she's gone, pigtails rounding the corner, feet clomping up stairs. Charles frowns at Laura.

CHARLES

So you bust my ass over a pair of pliers but she gets twenty bucks.

LAURA

I didn't give her anything. You said you'd take care of it.

They stare at each other a moment, confused.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Floorboards groan as Minka hop steps down the hall. Up ahead, a door ajar, pale light seeping out.

BEDROOM

A breeze leaks through an open window. Curtains flail. Minka takes one big hop inside to reveal a FIGURE in a white dress.

A MAN, 50's, with jet-black flowing locks. On closer inspection, his dress is actually a torn medical scrub. The label reads: GLENWOOD PSYCHIATRICS.

MINKA

Thank you for my gift.

MAN

You've wonderful manners. But it wasn't a gift. You earned it. Would you like more?

Minka nods. The Man pulls something from behind his back.

MAN

Has to be fair trade, though. Think I'll need a fresh one...

In his hand, a bright new pair of PLIERS.