

The Day Everything Changed

When I found the love of my life, the world seemed quiet and merciful. With Thea by my side she kept me moving forward. Now I stand, old and hollow with no passion or desire to move on with my life. I stand with my soulless eyes on the tombstone of my lovely wife. Her name, "Thea Brooks", was carved in the hard, cold stone surface of the tomb. The love she gave me was like a drug that numbed my stress, pain, despair and struggle to make ends meet.

Later on, I went to the highest local hotel building in the town. It was high enough to get a beautiful view of the horizon. However, even that couldn't remove the pain and sadness within me. I looked below and saw my wife signaling me to come and join her in the afterlife. So I let my body go and-
," Hey grandpa, I missed you so much!", my son's daughter said with a cheerful smile on her face.

The voice made me stand back from the edge, but then I remembered when my wife was on her deathbed and she said to me that she always wished to see her grandchildren, and that she asked me to see them for her. As my granddaughter came to me, I hugged her tightly and was silently sobbing. After that day I lie awake knowing I survived—not because I wanted to live, but because I was not allowed to die.