

One Wish

I have been working for the Baker Law Firm for ten years now. I really love the job, it pays well enough to support my family and have a little extra. Although yesterday, I received a new case. A bunch of rich businessmen want to put in new luxury condos, but the only available land is the local park. The locals love their park and don't want to destroy it for some condos, so they are taking the businessmen to court. I have been assigned as the lawyer for the businessmen.

I have had a lot of cases like this before, where I have had to defend a side that I do not agree on. The first rule of our firm is that if you decline a case, no matter what it is, you get fired. I have lost a lot of good coworkers to this rule. During the ten years I have been here, I have dealt with defending rapists, terrorists, and con artists. It breaks my heart to see someone who is guilty of a serious crime, go back out into the world.

Set aside from other cases, this one has really troubled me. I have lived in Chicago all my life and spent my childhood running through that park with my friends. We would play hide-and-seek in the woods and climb the trees. And now, it is all about to be blown away forever.

I decided to go to the park on my lunch break. The clock hit twelve and I grabbed my bag and ran out. I was going to take the subway there, but I thought it was nice enough to walk. As I'm walking, I look to my right and see people with their families having a picnic and children playing. Then, I look to my left and see people bound to their desks, working a grueling nine to five job, coming home then doing it all over again. No excitement, just the same thing everyday.

After a ten minute walk, I get to the park. It looks the same as it always does. The bright red playground, the glistening blue pond, and the gravel path leading deep into the woods. I

walk past a group of kids playing in the sandbox while their mom is staring aimlessly at her phone. I guess that is what the world has come to, mothers scrolling through their facebook page rather than spending time with their kids.

As I walk through the woods, the fresh smell of pine fills my senses. I haven't been to the park, let alone outside, in forever. It's nice to be here, I wish I could come here more. I reach a wooden bench, although I do not remember it being there before. I sit down and open my lunch bag. As I am eating a squirrel runs up to me. It jumps up on the bench and sits next to me, staring at my peanut butter and jelly sandwich. I break off a piece of crust and give it to the squirrel.

Suddenly, the squirrel starts glowing a bright blue. I get scared and jump off the bench. It started to morph into a human like creature. As the light faded, an image of a beautiful woman with long black hair stood in front of me. She wore a green flowy dress embroidered with flowers. Her presence left me speechless.

She approached me slowly, leaves flying out of her path as she took each step.

“Hello my darling,” she said softly “my name is Evita”. I was still so confused.

“What is going on?” I asked. She looked at me with her soft blue eyes and said

“Because of your act of kindness and selflessness, I will grant you one wish”. Ideas filled my head, I could wish for infinite money, or that new car I've been wanting! I came to a conclusion,

“Evita, I wish that no one will ever try to destroy this park again”. She pulled out a magic tree branch and waved it in the air

“Are you sure that is what you want?” she asked. I thought about it, there are so many things that could benefit me and my family with this one wish, I might not have to work another day in my life! I stopped myself, I need to make the right decision.

“Yes I am sure I want this wish” I said. A big flash went off and she disappeared.

I walk back to work, still confused of what really happened. I get to my desk and see a yellow folder. I look inside and it is a different case. I can't believe the wish worked! The park will remain where it is for the rest of time.