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GONE Missing



Crone
Missing

Gone Missing

By: Emily H.

Chapter 1

Every single day Gracie walked out to her bus stop every day with her mom. Every day when she went home from the bus, her dad would be there waiting for her and he would walk her home. Sometimes her dad would have to work late and he wouldn't be there, but her little puppy would be there, barking with excitement to see her, instead.

One day, she got off the bus all happy and joyful and her dad wasn't there. Her puppy was there, but he wasn't barking or wagging his tail. He lay there silent as a mouse. When she skipped over to him, he slowly got up and slumped to the home. She walked in the door but she didn't see anyone. She looked all over the place, but didn't find anything, not even a note. Nothing happened at all that night. Nothing! She slept in her parent's bed hoping that they would come home

in the night and see her there. The next day she walked to her bus stop alone. The same thing happened after school. Later that same day, Gracie was at home watching TV and playing with her puppy when a loud knock came from the door. She opened the door and saw a police man standing there.

“Gracie Talia Gimzy?” he asked.

“That’s me.” She answered with a confused expression.

“Come with me.” He demanded.

Chapter 2

The police station was a small place, not much bigger than her home. The familiar police man opened a file cabinet and pulled out a file.

“I am Mr. Walsh. Last night at the Grand Junction Cemetery, a couple was driving by when suddenly a large creature jumped on the roof of the car. That creature could have been anything, an animal, a man, or possibly a *monster*. The couple was terrified. The man got out and tried to knock the creature off the roof when it swung it arm and knocked him out. In the morning we found the woman in the car with a broken window right next to her. She had strange claw marks on her neck, not like any claw marks I’ve ever seen. The man was found on the ground close by with lots of bite marks and the same claw marks. That couple was your parents.” He explained harshly. Gracie started to cry.

“Oh no! How sad! I can’t believe they’re gone! My whole life I never thought this would happen. I wasted my life not spending enough time with them.” she winced.

“You’ll have to go to the orphanage. You can bring all your belongings and your puppy.” He said. Even he started to cry.

The next day she was rushed to get her stuff and was brought to the orphan house.

Chapter 3

After two years of living in the orphanage, nothing happened at all. Nobody adopted her. Gracie had just turned 8 years old and was starting to get good at solving puzzles. She even started investigating her parent's murder mystery. She found pictures, and reports of strange things, and cemetery facts and information. Her puppy was starting to get old and soon she would no longer be able to keep him.

One day she was doing research in her room when she heard her dog bark. He was staring at a window as if barking at somebody nearby. Gracie got up and looked out the window. She looked at the alley across the street and saw something lurking in the shadows. It was tall and strong. It lifted up a trash can filled with trash that was in front of him and threw it into the street. A car crashed in to the trash can and a bunch of cars followed.

Gracie looked back at her dog. He was lying on the ground, eyes closed, not moving. She leaned over him and checked to see if his heart was beating. It wasn't.

“When he barked, it knocked his last breath out of him.” She whispered with a tear rolling down her face. Gracie fell to the ground passed out. In the morning she woke up to find the window open and the strange claw marks on her dog’s body.

Chapter 4

The next few days nothing happened. She stayed in her room watching out the window to see if the strange figure appeared again. Every time she was hungry she knocked on the wall three times and a sandwich would slide under the door. Finally she got tired of looking for nothing.

The lady who took care of the orphans was very generous and she let all of the kids watch a movie with their own bowl of popcorn and a soda. When the movie ended, Gracie was very tired and she went to bed.

A few hours later, she woke up. She saw the large strange figure in her room searching for something. She pretended to be asleep. It shuffled through her dresser and her desk. It seemed it didn't find what he was looking for, so it hovered to the window and leapt out. It wasn't seen again for days.

Chapter 5

Each night she stayed awake in case the thing came back. She hid a sharp piece of glass under her pillow just in case. A week later she saw its hand grab the window seal. It let go.

She got up and opened the window. She climbed out and scanned the area for the thing. She had decided a name for it, and she now calls it claw-dia. She saw claw-dia running over in the distance.

She jumped to the ground, ignoring the pain. She sprinted after claw-dia. Claw-dia opened a sewer plate and jumped down. Quickly Gracie grabbed the rusty ladder and climbed down. The ground was slippery, yet she ran.

The tunnel was finally unwinding and it was running out of turns. Yet claw-dia ran on. She seemed to know where it was going. Gracie figured it was a she. Finally claw-dia came to a halt in front of a big ladder.

Claw-dia climbed up a ladder into a room. The room was tidy and not as stinky as the rest of the sewers. In the corner was a small bed fit to hold one person. There was a small couch and a TV on the other side of the room. But what shocked her most was a bulletin board hanging on the wall with pictures and newspaper clippings. The clippings were about strange things and sightings and the pictures were of people. There was a picture of her parents and her dog with a big red X on each, but there was another picture. It was her and it had a big red circle around it. Gracie had no idea where claw-dia had gone. She felt a tap on her back.

“Shhhhh! be quiet the monster might hear you” she whispered. Another tap on her back. She turned around about to scold whoever it was when she saw the silver eyes of claw-dia. Claw-dia grabbed her neck and pushed her to the ground about to choke her. She heard shouting and police sirens. Claw-dia leapt out of the room and back to the sewers. Gracie couldn’t move. She passed out on the cold ground.

Chapter 6

Gracie woke up in her bed at the orphanage. There was a crowd of people around her. There was the leader of the orphanage, all her friends, and the police man. There was the same police man that told her that her parents were dead. He didn't look as concerned as the rest of them did. In fact he looked angry. She looked around.

"What happened?" she said as if she didn't know. She glanced at her arm and saw a small cut, just like the claw marks. They stayed and chatted, came and went, soon she was left alone in her room. Her arm was now wrapped up in gauze. Later that night, she got up and grabbed the shard of glass from her pillow and put on her hoodie. She slipped it in the hood and grabbed her flashlight. She climbed out her window, this time more carefully.

She ran through the alleys and toward the sewer plate. She struggled to get it open but she was able to manage. She grabbed the side of the ladder with her

hands and feet and slid down the sides. Twisting her way through the tunnels, to the small room. Slowly she went in. Gracie moved throughout the room searching for clues. Against the bed was a small table. She yanked open the drawer and found something shocking. In the drawer, lay a police uniform with a badge and a name plate that said Mr. Walsh.

Suddenly she heard a loud screech and got knocked to the ground. Claw-dia landed on top of her and scratched hard. Gracie managed to get the shard away from her hood and held it up to claw-dia. She pushed claw-dia to the ground and cut Claw-dia's neck. Claw-dia knocked the glass out of Gracie's hand and punched her chest. Gracie's chest exploded with pain. Why wasn't claw-dia in pain? Then Gracie noticed that there was no blood coming from claw-dia's neck, or anywhere else.

A large bird swooped in and dropped a spray bottle that you would use on a cat if it was bad. The bird seemed it was on fire but Gracie thought that was impossible. She grabbed the spray bottle and squirted

her. Angry shouts came from claw-dia. Before Gracie knew it, claw-dia swung and scratched her.

Then claw-dia just stood there, like a statue. Gracie fell to the ground. Her leg had gotten scratched badly. It felt like it was screaming a thousand times to get out of a hole with nails and dynamite that was going to explode.

The bird landed near her and knelt down. Was it crying? It was. Clear tears escaped the bird's eyes and landed on her wound. It didn't hurt anymore. She looked down and saw the marks were gone. Claw-dia still stood there. It's not that she wanted too, but Claw-dia couldn't move. Gracie didn't know how, she didn't know why but she wasn't complaining. It hit her. She knew how the bird healed her. It was phoenix. A phoenix is a fire bird that can heal anything with its tears. When it gets old, it bursts in to a fire and out of the ashes comes a baby phoenix. She grabbed claw-dia by the neck fur.

Is this rubber? Gracie thought. Just to test she yanked hard on claw-dia's head. And off came a mask.

Chapter 7

A familiar face was exposed. It was Mr. Walsh.

“You! Why are you doing this to me?” Gracie screamed.

“I don’t know, I.... I... just take me to jail.” He stammered. Gracie moved around him. She grabbed both his hands and pushed him along.

“Why couldn’t you move at first?” Gracie asked.

“Well you see, this kind of rubber shrinks when it gets wet. So when you sprayed me, it shrunk and I couldn’t do anything about it.” He explained.

“Why Mr. Walsh? Why did you do this to me? And my parents? My family didn’t ever do anything to you. In fact we didn’t know you existed.” She said painfully as she remembered the smiling faces of her parents.

“That’s just it. You didn’t know me. Everybody knew me in town except your family. I wanted everyone to know who I am. I tried everything. I was always there. You just didn’t know it.” He sighed.

A flashback appeared in Gracie's mind. At school, he was her teacher; at the store, he was the cashier; and at the pool, he was the life guard. Gracie had made it to the edge of the room. A small staircase emerged from the corner of the room that she hadn't seen before. She climbed the stairs pushing Mr. Walsh along. She came to the top of the staircase had a door in front of her. She twisted the door knob and walked into a room. Along the walls were masks and costumes. All a disguise. Another door was at the other side of the room. It opened to a ladder.

"Up!" she urged him. It was a challenge, but while she climbed the ladder she held his hands behind his back. When they reached the top, she pushed open a sewer gate to the surface. It was just beginning to be dawn.

"Walk to the police station." She demanded. When they arrived, she reported him and had him taken to jail. Still, she had to go back to the orphanage.

The next night she went to bed and in the morning she woke up to a wonderful surprise!

Chapter 8

The happiest day of her life was the next day. She woke up with balloons all around her and a piece of cake in her stomach. Joy struck her that next second. She realized she wasn't in her orphanage room. She was home in her own room. And she heard familiar voices and then a shout;

"Honey she's awake!" it was her dad. Her dad? *That's impossible.* She thought. Soon people were by her. Sure enough, it was her parents.

"But how?" she asked. "I... I... I thought you were dead." Her mom explained it all.

"It's the strangest thing; we woke up on the ground at the Grand Junction Cemetery and I could have sworn I saw a bird... and it was flying away... and I swear it was on *fire.*"



The End

Happy Ending other
Then^{the} Dog Dies. ☹️/😊

Gone Missing

Poor Gracie Gimzy witnesses a
terrible tragedy when she is
forced to go to the orphanage.
She starts to put pieces
together and reveals the
shocking truth!
