

Good Things Come

written by

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EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

OWEN, a 10-year-old boy missing a front tooth with a too-big backpack, scans the recess yard. He ducks under a slide and opens his backpack. STUDENT ONE, another 10-year-old boy, approaches.

STUDENT ONE
You got the stuff?

OWEN
Yup.

He faces the open backpack towards STUDENT ONE, who claps with joy.

OWEN (CONT'D)
Shh! Keep it down.

STUDENT ONE
How much?

OWEN
Lollipops are one dollar, the big
candy bars are two, and gummy bags
are three dollars.

Student One nods and slips Owen five dollars, grabbing two lollipops and a gummy bag. He then runs out from under the slide. Several more students approach Owen to buy candy, the contents of the backpack quickly dwindling.

SUSIE, a nine-year-old girl with star earrings and braids, meets Owen under the slide.

SUSIE
Did you make good money? Recess is
almost over.

OWEN
Yeah, but I still have two
lollipops left.

SUSIE
I'll take em.

Owen grins wide and exchanges the lollipops with Susie, sliding the two dollars into a secret pouch in his backpack. A bell rings to indicate the end of recess, and the kids run off.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD - DAY

Owen walks home and counts his money, eyebrows furrowed. He notices a neighbor, MISS WILSON (elderly, wearing a big sun hat), pulling weeds. He stops by and stands at the end of her driveway.

OWEN

What're you doing?

MISS WILSON

Oh! Pulling weeds, dear.

OWEN

I'll do it for you if you pay me!

Miss Wilson laughs, getting up from the ground with a little struggle.

MISS WILSON

Okay, dear! Go for it.

Relieved, Miss Wilson hobbles to her porch, fanning herself. Owen pulls all the weeds in the garden until the sun changes position in the sky. Panting, he rushes up to Miss Wilson.

OWEN

I'm done!

Miss Wilson scans the garden, then nods. She rifles through her purse and pulls out a twenty dollar bill, handing it to Owen.

Owen holds the money with a big grin, then rushes away.

INT. HOME - DAY

Owen creeps inside his home, looking around. Quietly, he approaches his parent's room and puts his ear to the door. His FATHER and MOTHER can be heard through the door, whispering.

FATHER (O.S.)

See, honey? That was him. I told you he'd be home soon, love. He's a smart boy. He knows not to wander too far.

MOTHER (O.S.)

I know, I just worry. He's just a boy. How's he supposed to handle this?

FATHER (O.S.)
He'll be okay. He's a good kid.

Owen pulls away from the door, pausing for a beat like he wants to enter. Then, suddenly, he rushes to his room. At a quick pace, he begins to throw all of his toys in a bag.

EXT. HOME - DAY

Owen drags a fold up table from the garage and sets it up in the driveway. He lines his toys up neatly and stands at the edge of the curb.

OWEN
Toys for sale! Toys for sale!

A few neighbors approach, scan and leave. An elderly woman buys Owen's train set. A Mother and Daughter buy his favorite teddy bear, Mr Snuggles. The toys begin to diminish.

Suddenly, Father, a dark-haired man with deep bags under his eyes, exits the home and runs over to Owen.

FATHER
Owen! What on earth are you doing?

OWEN
I was just selling some of my toys.

FATHER
Your mother and I paid good money for those! You should've asked before setting up a garage sale. I'm very disappointed.

OWEN
I didn't know! I was just trying to make some money.

Father pinches the bridge of his nose and takes a breath.

FATHER
Owen, what could be so important that you feel you have to sell all your toys? Is it that video game you were talking about? Some trendy new NERF gun?

OWEN
No!

FATHER
Then what?

Owen looks at the ground and crosses his arms. He unzips his backpack and hands Father a wad of cash and coins.

OWEN

It's for you and Mommy. I know she's really sick, I hear you talking at night. I heard you talking about how we don't have enough money to pay for her medicine. I just wanted to help.

Owen sniffles, then begins to cry. Father scoops him up and holds him tight.

FATHER

Oh, Owen. You shouldn't be worrying about all that.

Father looks at the wad of cash. It's a good amount of money, just a little over a hundred dollars. He tucks it away, then sets Owen down and wipes his face.

FATHER (CONT'D)

How about we tidy up out here, then we can go inside and see mommy?

Owen nods, and the two begin to break down the garage sale.

INT. HOME - NIGHT

Father holds Owen's hand and guides him into the bedroom. Mother, a sickly yet beautiful woman with no hair, smiles wide at him.

MOTHER

There's my handsome boy! Oh, I've missed you all day. Come up here with me, wont you?

Owen nods, then starts to cry as he runs to his Mother's side of the bed and climbs up with her. Mother cradles him in her arms. Father joins them both, kissing Owen's head.

THE END