



## Piano Full of Memories

*by Makiyo Xue*

"We're here! We're here!" my dad yelled as we burst into the waiting room in the hospital.

Everyone stops what they are doing and stares at us. The nurse waved her hand at us, signaling to go to her.

"We came as soon as we could, how's she doing?" My dad asked, running out of breath.

"You might want to follow me." The nurse said, walking to another room so we can talk privately.

This isn't a good sign. Usually she just tells us in the waiting room but let's see what's happening.

"Take a seat" the nurse said as she closed the door behind us.

"I'm terribly sorry to have to inform you that Mrs. Smith — your wife, your mom — passed away a few minutes ago." the nurse said.

At that moment my dad burst into tears and kept repeating:

"why didn't I come here earlier, why didn't I come here earlier?"

While I just sat there letting it sink in. After a few minutes, the nurse left the room, letting us have some privacy, and then I heard crying. It was me.

The hospital let us stay there for a week because there is this new thing called "TIP" that stands for "Taking In Patient."

It's basically for any patient that lost a family member or a friend and you stay there for a week to get in your comfort zone, and it's free.

Anyway, they brought us to this room that has two beds (touching each other), two drawers, possibly for food and a tv.

The first day I wasn't doing too bad. They had my favorite meal, spaghetti and meatballs with some cheese.

But my dad on the other hand, just cried and barely ate any food.

The first night I couldn't sleep and I knew that my dad couldn't sleep as well. He just sat there staring at the ceiling.

Then all of a sudden a cold hand touched mine; my dad's. I grabbed on tightly and we just lay there holding hands for the rest of the night.

But suddenly out of the blue a nurse knocked on the door and came in and brought us food. I could tell my dad wasn't in the mood of eating. I was very hungry so I dug in. But suddenly I had a thought.



“Wait that means I can’t see her again” I don’t know why but I didn’t understand this. I put the food down and I closed my eyes and opened them again thinking I was dreaming but I wasn’t.

I sat there for hours until the nurse came back in and gave us lunch. Just a peanut butter jelly sandwich. This time I ate it all. My dad took 1 bite and put the food back. I was very worried about my dad.

Last night I slept but all of my dreams were nightmares. Every time I close my eyes I have a nightmare. Each time I wake up my dad is there, his eyes wide open. If you didn't know this was happening and you saw him you would think he is dead.

In the morning a nurse walked in and gave us food. It’s the second day already. When the nurse walked in, I wanted to ask the nurse to check on my dad because he hasn't slept in such a long time.

But my mouth didn’t move. It was like it was taped shut. But after the nurse left my mouth open and said: “the dad check please on him” I don’t know what I said. My dad just stared at me.

His eyes were black like he was just in a fist fight. He looked tired. But after a while he just started eating. That is a good thing. He’s actually eating!

Last night I slept soundly, and when I woke up my dad was sleeping! He is definitely doing better. The nurse came in and gave us food and my dad said thank you! I know this sounds like what a parent would say but I’m so proud of him!

At lunch I had my favorite lunch! Spaghetti and meatballs! This is the best day so far! How can this day go wrong? Answer: **very**

My dad went to the bathroom so I decided to watch some tv. I went through all of the channels and then I came upon this one. It was a piano. My mom’s favorite song.

You see... Everyone in my family plays piano. My mom had to stop playing piano when she was my age because they didn’t have any money. My dad stopped because he wanted to play guitar but after he started playing many other instruments he decided that he didn’t want to play any instruments.

I quickly closed the tv. Just the thought of her made me cry. I just wanted to punch myself for not spending that much time with my mom when I still could.

I was so mad at myself, and I started crying. My dad walked in and saw me crying and quickly went by my side. He hugged me and gave me a kiss on the forehead and told me to stay strong. On the outside I was smiling, but on the inside, I was burning.

The next day my dad said we were ready to go. He thanked the nurses and doctors and we left. When we arrived home I was so happy that I could even kiss the floor!

An urg inside me made me go towards the piano. My mom always sang along when I would play some songs. I could almost hear her singing. Her beautiful voice made me smile.



威斯学院  
WELLS ACADEMY

I started playing and I closed my eyes and when I opened them I was in a museum, the one me and my mom went together. There was a piano there and I was glowing. I could see my mom, she was smiling, I wanted to just touch her but I was still playing the piano.

It was like I was living in a memory.

I closed my eyes and when I opened them I was in a giant clock in London. I went with my mom and dad. They had a piano there too and I played it. I could see my mom looking so proud and this time I reached out trying to touch her.

And I heard my dad's voice saying "what are you doing?" That's when the flashback ended. I was just reaching out to nothing. I put my hand down in embarrassment.

I wish I could see my mom again, her smile and tell her I love her one last time and that would mean the world to me.

WELLS ACADEMY