

Too Old, Two Loved

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SCENE ONE: GRANDPARENT'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

HAROLD, a somewhat grumpy elderly man sits down heavily on the squeaking queen bed.

He spits his false teeth into a glass of water at his bedside table, digs the hearing aids out of his ears, and kicks off his carpet slippers.

Grunting with pain, he wriggles himself into bed.

At the same time on the other side of the bed, his wife JULIE neatly folds back the covers and sits.

With knotted arthritic hands, she shakes a few pills out of a container on her bedside table and swallows them with a glass of water.

She takes off her glasses, brushes her silver curls and slides herself into bed.

Harold and Julie turn to each other and share a quick but heavy goodnight kiss.

Julie turns off the bedside lamp, and the couple are soon fast asleep, Harold snoring loudly.

SCENE TWO: GRANDPARENT'S BEDROOM CONT. - NIGHT

In the crack of the open door, Harold and Julie's grand-daughter, EMILY peers at her grandparents.

At six years old, she is curious and tactless enough to enter their bedroom, turn on a bedside lamp and climb atop the bed between them. The elderly couple don't even notice.

Emily first looks at her grandfather snoring loudly. She pinches his nose, but he continues to snore deeply.

She settles her head to his chest and listens to his breathing, but she is suddenly distracted by something on his exposed chest.

Pulling his night-shirt down a little, Emily examines a tattoo stamped over his heart.

It depicts a simple heart shape, with the word 'Julie' written inside it. The tattoo has smudged and faded much from age.

Intrigued, Emily shuffles over to her grandmother and pulls down her covers and nightdress a little.

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Sure enough, over her heart is the same aged tattoo with 'Harold' written within it.

Emily smiles at her new discovery.

She crawls under the blankets between them and is surprised to find her grandparents holding hands beneath the covers.

Crawling deeper under the covers, she pulls their clasped hands up to her chest and hugs them tightly as she falls asleep between them.

The old love-birds have not woken up the whole time. All three now continue to sleep, with Harold snoring loudly.

THE END