

Petey's Hat Trick Award
By
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Mom took me to the hospital because my tonsils got sick. My throat hurt a lot and then my ears got sick, too. Now, when Mom talks to me, it sounds like she's under water.

Mom works at the hospital at nighttime, and comes home to take me to school. One night, I went to work with her and stayed there even after she went home.

Mom came in to my room to see me before she went home to sleep. A lot of other nurses came in, too. Mostly they just patted my head and smiled. Only my Mom looked a little worried.

My room has two beds in it and the girl in the other bed is way more sick than me. The doctor pulls the curtain around her bed so she can sleep better. I think the sun coming in hurts her eyes or something.

Her name is Amy and she gets a lot of visitors, not just doctors. Her mom and dad and granpa and granma sit in chairs by her bed everyday.

When Amy is awake, they all smile a lot and bring her tons of presents. Then the visiting hours are over and everyone leaves. Sometimes her mom stays a little longer and sits by herself. When Amy is sleeping, her mom gets real sad and cries.

In the morning, the nurse brings us breakfast. She helps Amy sit up and changes the channel on the TV so we can watch cartoons. Amy gets special food and pills and I get cereal and toast.

After cartoons, we read books or color. Amy has the big box of crayons, the one with the sharpener on the back. I have the littler one from the gift shop. It has the hospital's name on it.

I like the monster coloring books and try real hard to stay in the lines. Amy's book doesn't have any lines. She draws everything by herself. I think she must be really smart, but she's nice, too.

She talks a lot, but I can't hear her that good. I think she mostly talks to herself, kinda like my Mom does sometimes. When she draws in her book, she looks happy. Most of the other times, she just looks sleepy.

She showed me her drawing book and inside was a bunch of pictures of her dancing. She had on a princess costume or a ballerina costume, mostly pink ones. Her pink crayon was all used up because of it.

I gave her my pink crayon and she smiled really big at me, like it was special or something. I never color my monsters pink.

The second day I was in the hospital, a doctor came in and put a big popsicle stick in my mouth and pushed on my tongue. Then he shined a light in my ear. He wrote something down and then messed up my hair.

The doctor said something that I couldn't hear, except when he called me "Petey". Then he smiled and gave me a thumbs-up and left. My dad does that a lot, except he always calls me "Pete".

After breakfast, Amy was too sick to color or even watch TV. She slept through Bugs Bunny and her visiting hours too. Her mom kept touching her face, but it didn't bother her. She rolled over and I could see the pink crayon. She was holding onto it when she was sleeping, kinda like a teddy bear or something.

After that, a new doctor came in and looked at my eyes with a light. Before I could do anything, he stuck a big needle in my leg. I didn't want to cry in front of Amy, but it hurt really bad. I looked over at her, to see if she was looking, but then I fell asleep.

The next thing I remember is seeing my mom looking at me. It was all kind of blurry, then I went to sleep again.

When I woke up, the sun was shining in my eyes, so the nurse closed the curtains. She asked me how I felt, but I couldn't talk at all. My throat really hurt bad.

I could hear pretty good though, so the doctor must have fixed my tonsils.

I looked at Amy's bed to see what she was doing, but she was gone. Her toys and coloring book were all gone too, and her bed was made.

When the nurse came back, I tried to ask her where Amy went. She looked at me for a minute, like she didn't hear me. I think my voice was quiet from the operation.

She told me that Amy went home to be with her mother, and asked me if I wanted some ice for my throat. She went to get it and then my mom came in. Mom looked happy to see me and asked me if I wanted anything from the gift shop for being brave about my tonsils.

I said I wanted more crayons, the big box with the sharpener, and some plain paper with no lines on it. I said I wanted to draw something for Amy and mom said she would give my drawing to the other nurse so Amy's mom could get it.

Then I got sleepy again, so mom went to the gift shop.

When I woke up, there was a new box of crayons on my table and some paper with no lines on it. The room was dark because it was nighttime out, but the moon was shining really bright in my window. The nurses were all gone and I was thirsty, so I got up.

I opened the box of crayons and made sure there was a pink one inside. Pink is okay if you don't use too much. Maybe for inside a monsters mouth or something.

I was going to get some water, but then I saw Amy outside of the window. Our room was pretty far up, but I could see her really good because the moon was so bright. She was all dressed up in a princess costume, like in her book, and she was dancing outside by the trees.

I waved to her and she stopped dancing for second and waved back. She had a pink crayon in her hand and waved it at me and smiled. Then she started dancing again. She's pretty smart for a girl. She can draw without lines and she can dance all by herself without any music.

When I go home tomorrow, I think I might try to draw a picture of her dancing in the trees with the moon really bright. With pink shoes. I think Amy would like that.

THE END