

Lilly Gray – Sacred Heart

The Mysterious MVA

It was the summer of 1990. John, Elizabeth, Kate, and Noah Greenwood were an extremely rich family living their everyday lives in Los Angeles, California. John Greenwood was a very high-paid lawyer with many clients who kept him busy the majority of the time. He was a tall man with brown hair and eyes that were as big and blue as the ocean. For months, he had been planning a trip to New York City with his family to go and visit his brother and sister-in-law, Tom and Michelle Greenwood. He also happened to have an event for his job in New York City at the same time as their visit. The whole family was very excited to go, especially Elizabeth. Elizabeth Greenwood was a woman of average height, with brown hair, and a smile that lit up a room. She was a great mother and worked as a nurse in a pediatric clinic. Their two children, Kate and Noah, had never been to New York City before, so they weren't sure what to expect. Kate Greenwood was a very kind, selfless young teenager who loved everything in life. She had long, brown hair, and sparkling blue eyes. Her younger brother, Noah, had a passion for sports and the outdoors. He had short brown hair and big brown eyes.

As the time neared for them to leave for their trip, the Greenwood home was filled with excitement and chaos. “Hurry and finish packing! We have to leave in two hours!” yelled Elizabeth. “In a minute,” yelled Noah in reply. He had spent the day practicing his free throws outside. “Oh and John, don’t forget your suit for the big event!” said Elizabeth. Kate had finished packing hours ago. She stayed in her room and thought about all of the things she could do in New York City. She had done lots of research on the biggest landmarks in New York that she thought she might want to visit while she was there. Two hours had passed quickly and it was now time for them to head to the airport. “We can’t be late!” said John loudly. “Please kids, try

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to hurry,” said Elizabeth. Kate and Noah were trying their hardest to get everything into the car so they could leave for their big trip.

They flew first class and had a very luxurious flight. When they landed, they rented a BMW to have for the week. Once they arrived, they were immediately greeted with open arms and big smiles from their relatives, Tom and Michelle. The Greenwoods would be staying with Tom and Michelle for the week they were there. Tom and Michelle Greenwood were not very wealthy people. They were extremely jealous of all the money and luxuries the other Greenwoods had. They had always longed for such a life. When they all got settled inside, Kate immediately went upstairs to go unpack all of her things. Michelle followed her. “Hey,” she said, “Want any help unpacking?” “No thanks,” replied Kate quietly. She was anxious to get into the city to see all of the stunning, fascinating sights. All of the Greenwoods spent the first few days visiting, playing games, and enjoying each other's company.

Seeing the other Greenwoods made Tom and Michelle even more jealous than they had ever been before. “We’ve been planning this for months. It’s now or never,” whispered Tom. “Just follow the plan and keep quiet. You wouldn’t want to wake them up, would you?” whispered Michelle in reply. “Of course not,” said Tom quietly. It was 2:45 in the morning as Tom crept his way down the stairs slowly and quietly, like a mouse trying to creep past a cat. He made his way into the small shop that stood tall like a statue in the night. He grabbed his pliers and a few other tools just in case. “I have to get this right,” said Tom. “It's the only way to get what we’ve been desiring for years.” Tom slowly crept under the car, and carefully snipped the brake line on the Greenwoods' rented BMW. “They’ll never know,” Tom said. “They’ll never know.” Tom made his way back inside and crept silently back up the stairs. “It's done,” whispered Tom. “Perfect! Now we wait,” replied Michelle.

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The next day was the day of John Greenwood's big event for his job. Elizabeth was accompanying him as his significant other. John wore a pair of black slacks, a black blazer, a white tuxedo shirt, a black tie, and a pair of black oxfords. He had his hair slicked back with gel, and he was wearing strong but appealing cologne. Elizabeth wore a silver dress that was as sparkling and bright as the sun. She wore tall, sparkling heels and her hair was curled and fixed. She had her makeup professionally done, and it looked flawless. "Is it okay if the kids stay here while we are at the event?" asked Elizabeth. "Of course it is! They're angels," said Michelle. Kate and Noah hugged their parents tight. "Bye, mom! Have fun! I love you!" said Kate. "I love you too, Kate!" said Elizabeth. Just as they were about to leave, Noah rushed inside to say goodbye to his parents. "Bye, mom! Bye, Dad! I love you!" he said. "We love you too!" replied Elizabeth and John at the same time. Kate and Noah both raced up the stairs and into their rooms. "Bye!" said Michelle. "Have fun!" said Tom. They both flashed a suspicious grin at each other.

Half an hour had passed and Kate decided she would go downstairs to get a snack. "Aunt Michelle?" she called. "Uncle Tom?" She searched the whole house for them but could see they were nowhere to be found. "Hey Noah, come here for a second!" called Kate. "What is it?" called Noah in reply. "I can't find them," said Kate worryingly. "Find who?" said Noah. "Aunt Michelle and Uncle Tom," said Kate. "It's fine, they probably just went for a walk or something," said Noah. "Okay, if you say so," said Kate. Both Kate and Noah made their way back up into their rooms for another half hour.

When they came back downstairs for the second time, Tom and Michelle were there, just as they never left, and nothing ever happened. "Where were you guys? I couldn't find you anywhere," said Kate. "We've been here the whole time," Michelle lyingly said. "Oh, okay,"

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said Kate. She knew they were lying. Little did she know that Tom and Michelle had gone to see if their parents had crashed, but could not seem to find the route they took.

Kate had noticed that both Tom and Michelle seemed very nervous and fidgety. Kate wondered for a while what they could have been up to while they were gone. It wasn't long after that, that they got the awful phone call. One that Kate and Noah never dreamed would happen, and one that Tom and Michelle were expecting. Michelle put it on speakerphone. "Hello, is this the Greenwood residence?" the 911 operator said. "Indeed it is," said Michelle. "We are so sorry to inform you that Mr. and Mrs. John Greenwood have been involved in a head-on collision and have both sadly passed away." Kate instantly broke down. You could hear her sobs from miles away. Noah stood there, in shock. "Do you know of anyone else who was involved?" asked Michelle. "We are sorry, but we cannot give you that information right now," said the operator. "Thank you, goodbye," said Michelle. Kate and Noah never in their lives thought this day would come so soon, and too soon at that. Tom and Michelle also stood there, in shock. They were shocked at the fact that they had done it. Their plan had worked. Tom and Michelle both effortlessly tried to comfort the kids, but obviously, it didn't work. "What will happen to us? What are we going to do without them?" cried Kate. She continued to sob.

A few hours later, Kate and Noah had both calmed down a little. They drank some water and headed back up to their rooms to try to come to terms with everything that had happened that day. Kate started to think about things that had happened earlier, before the phone call. She remembered how suspicious Tom and Michelle both looked when she saw them after she had come downstairs for the second time. "I wonder," she thought. "I wonder if they could possibly have something to do with it." Kate got up and went to Noah's room. "Hey Noah," said Kate. "Yeah," said Noah sadly. "Do you think that Aunt Michelle and Uncle Tom had something to

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do with the accident?” she asked. “What? No, it was just a freak accident. How could they possibly have had something to do with it?” he asked, a little shocked at what he had just heard. “Well, I don’t know that yet, but I have a bad feeling and I’m going to get to the bottom of it,” said Kate. “I’m telling you, Kate, they did nothing, but there is no use in trying to stop you,” said Noah. Kate left Noah’s room and went back to her own room to think of a plan. “They never seemed suspicious until after I came back downstairs.” she thought.

A few sad days had passed and Tom and Michelle were going out for the day and leaving the kids home alone. “We’ll be back later!” said Michelle. “Okay,” said Kate. She knew this was her chance to get to the bottom of things. “I have to look for evidence,” she thought. She spent hours searching their house. She couldn’t find a single thing. “Maybe they really didn’t have anything to do with it,” she thought. Kate then realized that she still had one room left to search, hoping it contained any and all of the evidence she needed to prove herself. The room was Tom’s office. Kate walked slowly to the entryway and opened the door. She could see tons of files, stacked as tall as the Empire State building. “It’s got to be in here somewhere,” she thought. “I have to go through all of these.” After what seemed like days of searching, she finally found what she was looking for.

“Oh my,” Kate said as a wave of nausea rolled over her. “It was them.” She read their plan and sat there in shock. “All for money,” she said in disbelief. She stole the file from Tom’s office and took it upstairs to show Noah. She rushed into his room. “Noah, I was right,” said Kate. “No way!” Noah said, taking the file from her. “They want to become our guardians so they can get all of our money,” Kate said with tears in her eyes. “We have to do something about this,” said Noah angrily. “We will, we just have to wait for the right moment,” said Kate.

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A couple of hours later, Tom and Michelle made their way back home. “Were you guys alright while we were gone?” asked Michelle. “Yes, we were just fine,” said Kate in reply. “Well, we have an announcement to make,” said Michelle. “Since you two have no legal guardians, we will be going to court to see if Uncle Tom and I can become your legal guardians.” “When?” asked Kate. “In two days,” said Michelle. “We need to become your guardians as soon as possible.” “Oh, okay,” said Kate. Kate and Noah walked back upstairs to make their plan for when they would go to court. “We have to find a way to sneak the file into court,” said Kate. “I can handle that,” said Noah. The two days passed by quickly and it was soon time to go to court. “Come on kids!” said Michelle. “We're coming!” yelled Noah. They all gathered in the car and were soon on their way to the courthouse. When they arrived, they made their way into the courtroom and took their seats. It got started very quickly and Kate and Noah were waiting patiently for the right moment. As the end of the custody trial neared, Kate and Noah were ready for the big moment.

“Will you sign this paper that states that you will provide, protect, and love these children with everything you have?” said the Judge. “We will,” said Tom and Michelle with big, guilty grins on their faces. “Wait!” said Kate as she motioned to her brother to get the file. “My brother and I have reason to believe that Tom and Michelle Greenwood are behind the death of our parents, John and Elizabeth Greenwood,” said Kate. “What! Are you crazy?” Michelle said nervously. Her face was bright red. “We have proof,” Noah said. “Bring it forward,” said the Judge. Noah carefully pulled the file out from the inside of his jacket and took it to the Judge. Tom and Michelle’s faces were as red as tomatoes by now. “This file has everything to prove that Tom and Michelle are responsible for our parents' death,” said Noah. The judge took the file from Noah and took a long look at it. He opened up the file and read everything. “It seems that

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Mr. and Mrs. Greenwood are responsible for the death of John and Elizabeth,” said the Judge.

“You will not be taking custody of these children.” Kate was overcome with emotion. Tears were flowing down her face like a waterfall. Noah breathed a sigh of relief. Tom and Michelle Greenwood were taken into custody and were awaiting further trial. As for Kate and Noah, they lived with their grandmother in California and had very happy lives. They never saw Tom or Michelle Greenwood again.