

TOPIC: „He stopped, looked back and he stood frozen.

Santa Claus was in front of him”

The homelessness was really common in this area of the town. People were sitting on the sidewalks begging for a penny to buy something to eat. They were doing whatever possible to keep warm, using old blankets, cardboard boxes. Well, let's just say, nobody liked driving through this area and it wasn't really often and definitely not during Christmas.

In this situation there was a boy, also homeless, dressed in old ripped clothes and shoes with holes in them. His brown, unevenly cut hair was falling into his eyes, when he begged a wealthy looking man for money. A tall man looked at him with disgust in his eyes, walking by the little boy, whose name was Daryl, looked down into his hat that he found a few weeks earlier in a trash can two blocks away. Inside there were few pennies and dust. He sighed deeply and shivered when the cold wind hit the back of his neck, shivers went down his spine. Daryl quickly ran towards his cardboard box and hid in it, wrapping himself in an old rusty towel he used as a blanket. He was starving and cold, wishing to receive something nice from the world some day. His biggest dream was to meet Santa Claus, he never learnt how to read or write and if he knew how, then still he had no paper or pen to write the letter to Santa. While he was daydreaming he fell asleep in a very uncomfortable position. The next day he woke up, saw snow laying on the roads and sidewalks. He smiled because of the nice sight, but then the reality hit him. He will be even colder now. Daryl bent his knees up to his chest and pouted looking to the side, he noticed his hat and opened his eyes wide. It was filled with pennies. Did the good spirit of Christmas come to meet him? He would count what he received, but this he also couldn't do. He hid his hat with money under the rusty towel and walked out of his cardboard box while looking around. He slept during the day because the sun was already setting down. Daryl sighed feeling his shoes already soaking due to the snow melting because of the warmth radiating from it. He looked around again when he heard jingles unfamiliar to him. He saw something light and red walking along the alley, usually dark, now shining

with bright light and sparkles. He couldn't resist. He tiptoed to the alley and peeked inside. His eyes widened in a shock when he saw a big, red sleigh with reindeers attached to it. Daryl gasped, sneaking to them. He looked at the animals with interests, they looked at him in the same way. He put his hand up to pet the reindeer when all of a sudden he heard heavy steps behind him. He turned around, looked up and stood frozen.

Santa Claus was just in front of him. The big man smiled: "ho,ho,ho, who do we have here?" he laughed warmly..

„I'm Darys Sir, it is so nice to meet you. I wanted to..." said the boy

„Hey there young man, let me check "Santa opened his large book and was looking for „D" like in some dictionary. Santa's smile dropped when he realised the fact;" Boy you are not on my list. Why is that? This must be some mistake"

„No Santa, I've never written a letter to you", he said playing with his fingers.

„I can't read or write and I dont' have a paper either".

Santa let out an „ouf" sound.

„I wanted to ask you for something, just one thing."said the boy.

„Of course son"

„I would like to know where my mum is, my dad took me from her when I was little and then left me here"

Santa decided not to show how Daryl's story moved him.

„You know what, I can do more than that. Do you want to go for a ride?" he asked pointing his sleigh.

Daryl's eyed widened and he nodded and smiled while jumping inside and sitting next to Santa. They set off flying in the sky. Santa knew what to do, he ordered his reindeers to go in the specfic direction. After a few minutes they were there. There was a nice house in the city and a woman crying on the staircase. She loood up the boy and was found in a shock when she saw the sleigh and Santa Claus. Daryl noticed the woman and knew immediately

who she was. He jumped out of the sleigh and ran to his mum jumping into her arms. They both cried.

„I thought I will never see you again. I looked for you everywhere!” The woman cried

„Thank you Santa. Bless you” she smiled at him

He smiled back. „ No worries, it’s my job to make sure people are happy during my holiday” he said and ordered his reindeer to fly up. Daryl watched Santa disappearing in the sky with a calm smile.

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