



The Bracelet – Daniel Francis

I found a bracelet when I was a young boy on vacation.
I had been walking with my family,
when my eyes caught it lying upon the sidewalk.
I picked it up and instantly the light from the sun reflected
off the diamonds and into my eyes.
There were many people walking around the big city.
I stood there to see if anybody had been looking for it.
But nobody was.

I gave it to my Mom.
She told me she would hold it for safe keeping.
I asked her when I could get it back.
She half joked...when I find that special someone...
And get married.
Than I could give it to my wife.
I was young, and had no use for a bracelet; so, I told her OK.
If my memory serves me, she gave me twenty dollars for a down payment.
To an eleven year old, that was a lot.

Many years later, I had forgotten all about it.
But when that day came.
The day I asked that special someone to marry me.
My mother approached me soon after.
She had a wooden box with her.
When I opened it and saw the bracelet I couldn't believe it.
She held it the whole time.
I stood up and hugged my mom.
And thanked her.
For accepting the woman I love into my life.

After the wedding was over,
I took my bride to our room.
I sat her down upon the bed and kissed her.
The knock on the door meant the package was here.
I opened the door and thanked my friend for bringing it already wrapped.
I approached my wife with a smile and a gift.
The look upon her face told me she couldn't wait to open it.

I told her about what it meant to me.
I told her that it wasn't just a bracelet that I bought in a store,
it was something that meant so much more.
It meant that she was the one.

She was the one to be my wife.
And that I was always suppose to give this to her.
When she had it in her hands, that light from the diamonds hit my eyes again.
The same light that hit me years ago.
But this light wasn't from the sun; this light was from the beauty that was her smile.

It was in a way...
...Her Glass Slipper.

Years of happiness had past, and she still wore it around her wrist.
I had bought her other bracelets since than, but she would just put the new ones on her other arm.
One day I asked her if that bracelet would ever leave her sight.
She simply told me: **Never.**

After many great years, there was one year that wasn't so happy.
I still can't speak of what happened to my wife that year.
Because I still can't believe it.
Something so horrible to somebody that was so good in life...
I don't think I'll ever understand.

It is just my little girl and I now.
Well, she's not so little I guess; for tomorrow is her wedding day.
So, I guess it's time to go to my wife's jewelry case and take out what she made me promise to
give to our daughter.
The bracelet she forever loved; the one I had given her on our wedding day.

When it was time for you to go, you still found the strength to take it off.
For the first time since I placed it on your wrist; you laid it within my open hands.
My hands that were holding both of our tears at that moment.
You told me to keep it safe, to one day give it to our daughter by
placing it upon her wrist on her wedding day.
You told me that you would be there next to me watching and crying.

So, I kept it safe.
Safe in a jewelry box that I made especially for this bracelet.
It was made out of glass, glass so you could look at it from time to time.
It will always be in my sight, just like you were every day that we were together.

But now I will take the bracelet out of the glass case, and I will bring it over to the night stand by
our bed on the eve of our daughters wedding day.
It will stay there next to me until morning,
where we will be present for our daughters wedding.
Where you will catch her tears while I am placing the bracelet upon her.

You were right; the bracelet will never leave your sight. I thought to myself.
For it shall now be on your daughter's wrist.
As I go over to our bed, I looked over at the bracelet for a second, only to turn off the light and
say goodnight to you, like I do every night in my prayers.