

Losing Teeth

By

Brad Huffman-Parent

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

DAD sits at the table, newspaper held in front of his face. Front page reads: "BURGLAR STRIKES AGAIN: 5th House in 3 Days."

MOM stands by the counter pouring herself some coffee.

5 year old twins EMMA and ALLY burst into the room. Emma with her fist and mouth closed tight. Ally with a huge smile.

ALLY

Daddy! Daddy! Guess what!

Dad lowers his paper and smiles at the girls.

DAD

Purple monkeys playing hockey?

Ally puts hands on hips, serious.

ALLY

No, don't be silly.

Emma bounces up and down, giving a giant, gap-toothed grin and holding her tooth out between finger and thumb.

EMMA

I lost my tooth!

DAD

Cool! Why don't you go put it under your pillow, then we'll see what the tooth fairy brings you tonight?

Emma wide eyed with wonder.

EMMA

The tooth fairy's gonna come?

DAD

Of course she will. And since it's your first tooth, maybe she'll leave something extra special.

The girls giddily pull each other from the kitchen towards their bedroom.

ALLY

Come on, let's go!

Dad returns to his paper. Mom sits at the table, hands around her coffee cup.

MOM

Did I ever tell you about when I  
lost my first tooth?

Dad grunts from behind his paper.

MOM

Yeah, my dad actually dressed up  
and climbed through my window to  
leave a brand new shiny quarter  
under my pillow.

DAD

Hmmm, interesting.

MOM

You know, wouldn't it be great if  
you did something like that for  
your adorable little daughter? I  
think I still have dad's costume up  
in our closet, just waiting for  
this occasion.

Dad peers at her over the top of his paper.

DAD

No. Absolutely not. There is no way  
I am dressing up like a fairy and  
climbing through a window. That's  
just ridiculous.

INT. GARAGE - NIGHT

The door opens and Dad steps through--wearing a pink tutu,  
wings, and a tiara.

DAD

(mumbling)

Captain of the debate team. That  
means she's beautiful and smart.  
Yeah, right. Look where that got  
me.

He pushes a button to open the garage door, grabs a ladder,  
and heads out.

EXT. SIDE OF HOUSE - NIGHT

Dad extends the ladder and leans it up just under a second  
floor window.

DAD  
 (still mumbling)  
 Yeah, let's put the kids in the second floor bedroom. They'll be safer there, and it'll make it so much harder when I have to climb a ladder in a tutu.

Dad steps on the first rung of the ladder. The bottom sinks a bit into the ground and the top slams loudly against the side of the house.

Dad starts climbing.

INT. NEIGHBOR'S BEDROOM

DORIS and ED, 60-something, asleep in bed.

A loud THUMP outside startles Ed awake. He leans towards the window and looks out.

ED  
 Doris, wake up, quick!

DORIS  
 What's the matter, dear?

ED  
 I think it's that burglar, breaking into the Johnson's. Call 911, I'll go outside and hold him until the police get here.

EXT. SIDE OF HOUSE

Dad reaches the window. He grabs the edge of the window and starts to pull, but it won't move. He shifts on the ladder and pulls harder when--

ED  
 Don't you move, just hold it right there!

Dad twists around on the ladder to see Ed below holding a garden hose.

DAD  
 Ed? It's me, it's--

ED  
 You know my name? How do you know my name!?

(MORE)

ED (cont'd)

Have you been going through my  
garbage? Are you one of those  
identity thief people, too?

Ed shoots a stream of water at Dad's face. Dad puts a hand up  
to block the spray.

DAD

Ed, cut it out, it's--

Another stream of water right to his face. He extends his  
hand to block it and stretches too far.

The ladder begins to swing towards Ed's house. Dad puts both  
hands back on and balances, keeping it straight up.

Ed shoots another burst from the house. Dad swings towards  
his own house, back towards Ed's, then straight up again.

INT. GIRL'S BEDROOM

Emma sits up in bed, rubbing her eyes and looking towards the  
window. She shakes her sister sleeping next to her.

EMMA

Ally, wake up, I think she's here.

They both climb out of bed and towards the window.

EXT. SIDE OF HOUSE

Dad continues his balancing act on the ladder. He walks the  
ladder around so his body is now on the side closer to his  
house. He begins to fall towards Ed's house.

Ed adjust the nozzle and fires his most powerful burst yet,  
hitting Dad directly in the chest.

Dad swings back towards his own house, fast!

INT. GIRL'S BEDROOM

The girls are crouched, peeking out the window.

EMMA

I think I see her. I think that's  
her, she's flying.

SPLAT! Dad's face slams into the window, squishing against  
the glass.

EMMA

It's her! She's here, she's here!

ALLY

She's hairy.

The face slides down the window and disappears.

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

DAD sits at the table, newspaper held in front of his face. Front page reads: "BURGLAR STILL ON THE LOOSE: Ed Morris to head new Neighborhood Watch" with a picture of Ed holding his hose.

Emma walks quietly into the room, head down. Mom turns from the coffee pot.

MOM

What's wrong, sweetie?

EMMA

The tooth fairy came, but she didn't leave me a surprise. She just left a bunch of teeth on the windowsill.

ALLY (O.S.)

Daddy, daddy!

Ally bursts into the room, her closed hand held out in front of her. She throws a giant gap-toothed grin at her father.

ALLY

I lost a tooth! Do you think the tooth fairy will come see me , too?

Dad lowers his paper, his mouth open in shock, his four front teeth missing.

DAD

You better ask your mother.

FADE TO BLACK.