

## JUST A POISON

By: Sophia B.

I was only eight when it happened. It was the most horrible moment of my entire life. I had made the most horrid mistake a kid could ever make when I almost lost my mother.

I had woken up to my alarm on the third Sunday of May (Mothers Day). The sun wasn't up yet and my mom was still sleeping across my bedroom but that's how I wanted it. I was going to get the most wonderful flower on the planet for my mother. I just wanted her to feel better because my dad had died from cancer only a month before.

I set out with my pair of garden gloves and some of what I called "garden tweezers". I went out to a patch of wild flowers across the field. I ignored the sign that little did I know was very important. I rushed into the flowers because Mom would be expecting me home soon. I looked around the flowerbeds but they were all so alike! Where was the most unique flower? Then I saw it, the prettiest flower I've ever seen. It had a green stem and the petals took a rose shaped form. It had purple at the tips and it blended into white as it got further down the petal. I picked it and I didn't need to smell it because it was the most beautiful flower on the earth. I knew she'd love it.

I ran back to the house, making sure the flower didn't get damaged by the wind. She hadn't woken up yet so I had just enough time to put it in a vase and put water in it. When I heard her coming downstairs I was so excited. She was going to love it. As she came down the stairs I presented my flower to her. "Happy Mothers Day!" I exclaimed. "Thank you Georgiana, it's the most beautiful flower I've ever seen!" said my Mom. She took a huge whiff of the scent. Then she got dizzy and before I knew it she collapsed.

"Mom!" I yelled desperately. She wouldn't stand. I bent down to her. "Mom? Please wake up!" I yelled as I shook her on the cold, hard ground. I came to the conclusion that she wasn't going to get up. I pulled her limp body with all of my might over to the couch in the living room and got a pillow for her head and a blanket. I tried to think of something, anything to help me, but nothing came.

Suddenly I thought of something! It was so obvious! Last week in school we tested blood samples from animals. All I needed to do was get a blood sample to the doctor. I found a needle that she was using to sew my dress yesterday and pricked her arm. I got a little sample of her warm, red blood in a jar from my science project the previous morning. I put a couple of drops in the jar to bring, then I put a band aid on her arm to stop the blood. "Don't worry Mom, it'll be okay."

I ran as fast as my little legs could carry me to the doctor's office since it was only a mile away. I finally reached the plain, white building and ran in. I gave the

doctor the sample and told him how she collapsed. "We will send an ambulance to retrieve your mother from your house," explained the doctor. He rushed into the laboratory and I waited for what seemed like forever. He eventually came out. "We have never seen this type of poison, which means we do not have an antidote. There is a very slim chance she will live... I'm truly sorry."

My eyes started burning with tears but I decided I would find an antidote. Some way or some how my mother would not die. I ran back to the house only to find they had already taken her. I flipped through books, skimming the pages trying to find something to save her. Then I saw it. "*Some plants provide their own antidotes,*" I read. I jumped up and ran through the living room to the wooden kitchen table and grabbed the flower, knowing she was losing her life by the minute. I was careful not to touch its thorns or smell the petals. I tested the flower with a scientific solution from the book. I took all the poisoned particles out of the solution and hoped this would save her life.

I biked quickly to the hospital this time. I burst into the plain room my mother was occupying. She was connected to many tubes and electrodes. "I've got an antidote!" The doctor didn't agree to my plan at first. "Please she's all I got, let me try," I pleaded. "This is dangerous and there is a milli-" He was interrupted by a beeping sound that was coming from the monitor. It had gone into a straight line. Doctors came rushing in. They began CPR and tried shocking her but it would not work.

"The kid's got a supposed antidote! Let her try," exclaimed the doctor. I poured it into her mouth. Everything stopped and became silent. Suddenly she burst to life, gasping for air. "Mom!" I exclaimed. "Mom, I'm so sorry, I didn't know." She smiled. "You saved my life and you're ok. That's all that matters." I hugged her. It was like the first time I had breathed in months. But it's no big deal, it's just a poison.