

Sadness Overwhelms, Happiness Overcomes  
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It was wintertime when it happened, when the saddest thing he had ever seen happen, the death of those closest to him die, in an instant. This boy's name, is Alan Houston, and he just saw a car coming straight for his parents car, then nothing. The police arrived on the scene first, then the ambulances. Alan was unconscious when they found him underneath one of the cars seats. When he woke up, he had no idea what had happened to him. "Where am I, who are you, what is happening?" Alan tries to sit up in his bed, but then he suddenly discovers, it hurts way too much to sit up. The nurse in his room walks over to his bedside and looks very somber. "Before I answer your questions, will you answer one of mine, and right after I will answer your question, alright?" Alan nods in agreement "Alright what is your name? I need to know to check for any memory loss." Alan nods again "My name is Alan Houston." The nurse looks up from her computer in the room. "Alright good, now I will answer your questions, first of all, you are at the Danville Hospital, my name is Ms. Benton, and what is happening, is that you have been in a car crash with your parents, and you were very badly injured, you broke your legs, and are now here." Alan looks a bit confused as he tries to remember the car crash, and then he remembered, he thinks his parents died from the way they looked when he was being carried away in the stretcher. "I remember now, and did my parents really..." as he trails off Ms. Benton finishes his sentence "Were you about to say, dead?" As she looks like she is just about to cry, Alan says "Yes I was, what am I going to do?" As hot tears start rolling down his face. "Well the best thing for you to happen now, would be, you would be sent to the closest orphanage with other children." She types in what he looks like and his age "Black hair, green eyes, five and a half feet tall, twelve" she mutters as she puts it into her computer. "You are going to stay here, you do need to recuperate for about a week before we will truly know if you are ok to walk or run, with your leg." As she says that Alan nods his head, and falls into a deep sleep.

A week later nothing significant happened to Alan, the doctors said he would need a couple years to help his leg go completely back to the normal way to walk, they gave him a decision, use a crutch and try to walk a little bit, or use a wheelchair for a longer time, but he would feel no pain in his leg while it recuperated. Alan chose the wheelchair, and he was put into a car, and went back to his home in Corverton to collect his things. "Am I only allowed to take a couple of my things Ms. Benton?" Alan wanted to know, because he had clothing, but he also had a lot of things he wanted to take with him that were important to him. Like his father's pen, and his mother's apron, as he loved using those things when they were alive, it would be no different when they were dead. Alan had gone through a lot of feelings that week, many of which, were the feelings of grief, he was having an extremely difficult time getting over his parents deaths, and he has mostly given up speaking. When the police had come to talk to him

about what exactly had happened, they said that when he was sixteen, he could go see the man who killed his parents, as the jury had just given that man, a life sentence in jail for drunk driving. Not only for driving drunk, but killing two people, and leaving their son, an orphan. "No Alan, you can't take much, until your parents will has been read, and all of their thing given to the rightful heirs." Ms.Benton was allowed to come with Alan as she had been with him through most of his stay at the hospital, and all the doctors had agreed that it would be best if she went with him. A couple hours later, they finally got to Alan's home, as Alan took all of his belongings, Ms.Benton, stayed outside thinking to herself, I have been wanting a child for a long time now, and one has just come up to my doorstep, he is a child who has just lost his parents, and it would be easier for the doctors if I took care of him for a while. As Alan got back in the car with a backpack full of his clothing, and toys, and other assorted items. Ms.Benton asked Alan "hey Alan, how would you like it if I were your foster parent, at least until someone would adopt you?" Alan's eyes widened at the thought of someone already offering to foster him until he got new parents that wanted him. "Like it? I would love it if you fostered me, you are the best thing that happened to me since my parents died! I would love it if you fostered me! She and Alan talked and talked then, Alan fell asleep in the car.

Four years later Alan had been bullied, been made fun of, and gone through much grief, when he finally met the man who had killed his parents, he had raged at him, "The man's name was Garrett." Ms.Benton started making dinner while she spoke "I used to know a Garrett, if this were the same one, I would have no idea." As Alan sat on the couch alone and feeling somber as he finally knew his parents killer, and Ms.Benton put her arm around Alan on the couch. This proves that happiness can overcome sadness whenever, wherever, and however it happens.