

Jeremy's Egg

An Inspirational Easter Story

Jeremy was born with a twisted body, a slow mind and a chronic, terminal illness that had been slowly killing him all his young life. Still, his parents had tried to give him as normal a life as possible and had sent him to St. Theresa's Elementary School.

At the age of 12, Jeremy was only in second grade, seemingly unable to learn. His teacher, Doris Miller, often became exasperated with him. He would squirm in his seat, drool and make grunting noises. At other times, he spoke clearly and distinctly, as if a spot of light had penetrated the darkness of his brain. Most of the time, however, Jeremy irritated his teacher. One day, she called his parents and asked them to come to St. Teresa's for a consultation.

As the Forresters sat quietly in the empty classroom, Doris said to them, "Jeremy really belongs in a special school. It isn't fair to him to be with younger children who don't have learning problems. Why, there is a five-year gap between his age and that of the other students!"

Mrs. Forrester cried softly into a tissue while her husband spoke. "Miss Miller," he said, "there is no school of that kind nearby. It would be a terrible shock for Jeremy if we had to take him out of this school. We know he really likes it here."

Doris sat for a long time after they left, staring at the snow outside the window. Its coldness seemed to seep into her soul. She wanted to sympathize with the Forresters. After all, their only child had a terminal illness. But it wasn't fair to keep him in her class. She had 18 other youngsters to teach and Jeremy was a distraction. Furthermore, he would never learn to read or write. Why waste any more time trying?

As she pondered the situation, guilt washed over her. "Oh God," she said aloud, "here I am complaining when my problems are nothing compared with that poor family! Please help me to be more patient with Jeremy."

From that day on, she tried hard to ignore Jeremy's noises and his blank stares. Then one day he limped to her desk, dragging his bad leg behind him. "I love you, Miss Miller," he exclaimed, loudly enough for the whole class to hear. The other children snickered, and Doris' face turned red. She stammered, "Wh-Why, that's very nice, Jeremy. Now please take your seat."

Spring came, and the children talked excitedly about the coming of Easter. Doris told them the story of Jesus, and then to emphasize the idea of new life springing forth, she gave each of the children a large plastic egg. "Now," she said to them, "I want you to take this home and bring it back tomorrow with something inside that shows new life. Do you understand?"

Yes, Miss Miller!" the children responded enthusiastically - all except for Jeremy. He just listened intently, his eyes never left her face. He did not even make his usual noises. Had he understood what she had said about Jesus' death and resurrection? Did he understand the assignment? Perhaps she should call his parents and explain the project to them.

That evening, Doris' kitchen sink stopped up. She called the landlord and waited an hour for him to come by and unclog it. After that, she still had to shop for groceries, iron a blouse and prepare a vocabulary test for the next day. She completely forgot about phoning Jeremy's parents.

The next morning, 19 children came to school, laughing and talking as they placed their eggs in the large wicker basket on Miss Miller's desk. After they completed their Math lesson, it was time to open the eggs. In the first egg, Doris found a flower. "Oh yes, a flower is certainly a sign of new life," she said. "When plants peek through the ground we know that spring is here." A small girl in the first row waved her arms. "That's my egg, Miss Miller," she called out.

The next egg contained a plastic butterfly, which looked very real. Doris held it up. "We all know that a caterpillar changes and grows into a beautiful butterfly. Yes, that is new life, too" Little Judy smiled proudly and said, "Miss Miller, that one is mine."

Next Doris found a rock with moss on it. She explained that the moss, too, showed life. Billy spoke up from the back of the classroom. "My Daddy helped me!" he beamed.

Then Doris opened the fourth egg. She gasped. The egg was empty! Surely it must be Jeremy's, she thought, and, of course, he did not understand her instructions. If only she had not forgotten to phone his parents. Because she did not want to embarrass him, she quietly set the egg aside and reached for another.

Suddenly Jeremy spoke up. "Miss Miller, aren't you going to talk about my egg?" Flustered, Doris replied, "but Jeremy - your egg is empty!" He looked into her eyes and said softly, "Yes, but Jesus' tomb was empty too!"

Time stopped. When she could speak again. Doris asked him, "Do you know why the tomb was empty?"

"Oh yes!" Jeremy exclaimed. "Jesus was killed and put in there. Then his Father raised him up!"

The recess bell rang. While the children excitedly ran out to the school yard, Doris cried. The cold inside her melted completely away.

Three months later Jeremy died. Those who paid their respects at the mortuary were surprised to see 19 eggs on top of his casket, all of them empty.

Written by

Ida Mae Kempel





LOCAL MARKET STATS

ORANGEVILLE:
March 2019

MAR
2019

MAR
2018

MAR
2017

# OF SALES	AVG. PRICE	AVG. DOM
54	\$587,233	27
54	\$508,871	19
76	\$596,387	11

Well the March 2019 market has mimicked the number of sales in March 2018. Average sale price is up around 15% compared to March of last year but average days on market is up 42%. We're seeing a more healthy balanced market compared to 2017.

With the first quarter of 2019 behind us already, we'll have to see what the rest of the year will bring! With talk of mortgage rates falling - prospects for the real estate market look good! Don't forget to call us with any real estate questions! - Dave



Happy
Retirement
Vanessa!



Thank you for everything you have done for The Grime Team for the past 12 years; it's much appreciated and we shall miss working with you. We hope you enjoy this new chapter of your life. Just think... no more alarm clock or dressing up for the office. *Wishing you all the best!!*



HOME STAGING...

"To Stage or Not To Stage"?

The 2018 Home Staging Statistics reflect the current Real Estate Market.

- over 85% of 4200 staged homes saw 6 - 25% more from their sale
- 68% of the staged homes sold for at least 9% more than their neighbours un-staged home
- the largest percentage of results came in at 9 - 12% increase in value

Why stage your home? What can home staging do for you? **Staged homes typically:**

- ✓ Sell faster allowing for minimal showings and less disruptions to your daily routine.
- ✓ Sell for more money.
- ✓ Have an edge over similar homes in the area.
- ✓ Allow potential buyers to focus on the qualities of the home without distractions.

**For more information about home staging benefits refer to www.nar.realtor and www.thegrimeteam.com

Statistics show that a Staged Home sells **QUICKER AND FOR MORE MONEY IN LESS SHOWINGS** than a home that is not staged.

Additionally, staging **ATTRACTS MORE BUYERS** to the property and allows them to focus on the qualities of the home without distractions.

Pictures and videos via the internet are the first introduction of your home to your potential buyer.

Always make the first impression a lasting one!!!