

1 My Friend Never Said Goodbye

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3 **CHARACTERS:** ANNIE: a teenager; TOMMY, Annie's friend.
4

5 Scene 1

6
7 **TIME:** Today.

8 **SETTING:** A park bench. Trees are behind the bench. It's a peaceful
9 summer afternoon in the park. It's quiet except for the sound
10 of birds singing. And it's not just a park. It's a cemetery. We
11 don't see any tombstones, however. There is only one headstone,
12 and it's hidden behind some weeds Up Right.

13 **ATRISE:** ANNIE enters, carrying a handful of flowers — daisies.
14

15 **ANNIE:** *(Stands by weeds, then sits on bench)* I never thought
16 anything like this could happen. Tommy, I thought you
17 were my friend. Then you do this. *(Pause)* You didn't give
18 anyone even a hint. You just . . . did it. *(She gets up and*
19 *walks around.)* Maybe if we had had a fight. Maybe if
20 something had been bothering you. *(She thinks.)* Maybe
21 something was. You were moody — but so was I. *(She*
22 *thinks.)* Maybe it was my fault. Maybe it was something
23 I did? Tommy? *(She thinks; sit on bench.)* Maybe. But it's
24 too late now. You're gone. And I'll never know. *(Looks up)*
25 Thanks, Tommy. Thanks for not trusting me enough to
26 confide in me. *(Pause)* Tommy, we used to talk. We used
27 to do everything together. *(She tries to smile as she smells*
28 *the flowers.)* Everything. *(She smiles and sighs.)* It was
29 always Tommy and Annie, never Tommy or Annie. We
30 came as a set. Tommy, what went wrong? Was it me? *(She*
31 *pets the flowers.)* This is not fair. You shouldn't have done
32 it! *(She is unable to speak.)* I'm sorry. But you really know
33 how to hurt a guy. You know? You hurt me. We had so
34 much. We had something special. *(She shakes her head.)*
35 "Had" is right. It's all gone now, but the memories. *(She*

1 *thinks, then smiles.)* You were always so shy. I'll never
2 forget the first time you kissed me. *(She half giggles and*
3 *sighs.)* It sure wasn't what I expected. I guess it wasn't
4 what you expected either. It was . . . I'm not sure what it
5 was. But we managed to get it right that night. *(She is sad*
6 *and mumbles the next two words.)* You rat. I miss that.
7 Tommy, I miss you. I miss us. It's just not fair. Why did
8 you do it? You should have told me something was wrong.
9 You know us. We could have worked it out. We worked
10 out so many things together. We were always doing that.
11 You helped me and I helped you. Together we could solve
12 any problem — or so I thought. I guess this one was a
13 beaut, huh? But then you never asked for help. Tommy,
14 the he-man. Always keeping his feelings inside. Never
15 telling anyone. Sometimes not even me. At least I know
16 that now. You should have told me. *(Thinks)* I should have
17 asked. See? It was me. I knew it. My fault. *(She gets up and*
18 *paces.)* Tommy, I'm sorry. I should have known something
19 was wrong, but I didn't. *(Thinks)* Yet . . . remember the
20 last time we kissed? I should have known then. Oh, I
21 know at first you'd never admit you liked kissing me. You
22 were so cool. But once we got to really know each other,
23 you never stopped telling me how much you loved me.
24 Not so much in words, but in other ways. *(Thinks)* Then
25 it stopped. At first I thought you had found someone else.
26 No. That wasn't it. I should have known something was
27 wrong when summer came and you didn't want to go to
28 the lake, our lake, with me anymore. You always liked
29 the lake. We'd spend hours and hours alone out
30 there . . . together. *(She sits on bench.)* You really hurt me,
31 you know. I miss us together at the lake. I miss us alone
32 at the lake, Tommy. Do you hear me? I miss all those
33 hours and hours alone with you . . . *(There is a long pause.)*
34 So what can we do about it now? Huh? Tell me. Can you
35 do that? Is that possible? *(She waits.)* I guess not. It's gone

1 forever. Boys. Hey, I've been hurt by boys before. You
2 weren't the first. *(She covers her mouth.)* But you hurt me
3 the most. You never even said goodbye! *(She's almost in*
4 *tears, then controls herself.)* Not even a last hug. Tommy,
5 this is not right. You can't just do things like that to
6 people who love you. It's not fair. It's not. I wouldn't do
7 that to you. I wouldn't do that to my dog. But not you.
8 Not Mr. Macho. How can you hurt me like this? *(She is*
9 *silent.)* You were such an actor. You had all the other guys
10 thinking you were such a big man. When we were with
11 the others, you'd act so cool. You'd try to make believe I
12 was just some girl who happened to be lucky enough to
13 have you. I was nothing special. Just another female. At
14 least that's what you wanted the other guys to think. Hey,
15 I understood. You had to maintain your macho image
16 with the guys. We girls are not so dumb, you know. But,
17 Tommy, when we were alone. *(She smiles.)* You had a way
18 of making me feel . . . like . . . you made me feel good. Like
19 I was the only happy girl in the world. I couldn't imagine
20 anyone being as happy as I was. Did I ever tell you that?
21 It sounds funny even now, but it wasn't then, when we
22 were together. You shouldn't have done this. *(TOMMY*
23 *enters and sits on the bench beside ANNIE.)*
24 TOMMY: I'm really sorry, Annie. *(She doesn't answer.)* Annie?
25 ANNIE: *(Totally ignoring TOMMY)* It was just not fair, do you
26 hear me?
27 TOMMY: Annie, it wasn't you. Really.
28 ANNIE: I'll never know now if it was me. If I hurt you.
29 TOMMY: Oh, no. Annie, you were the best thing that ever
30 happened to me. You were. Annie?
31 ANNIE: You used to tell me everything, I thought.
32 TOMMY: I did tell you everything. At least at first.
33 ANNIE: *(She gets up and walks around, clutching her flowers.)*
34 And I always told you everything. There were no secrets
35 between us. None.

1 TOMMY: I know.
2 ANNIE: If I was mad, you knew it.
3 TOMMY: *(Smiles)* I know.
4 ANNIE: Maybe I was a grouch at times . . .
5 TOMMY: Hey. Never.
6 ANNIE: *(To herself)* Yes. I was. I know I was. And we'd argue
7 and fight. *(She smells the flowers.)* But we always made up,
8 Tommy.
9 TOMMY: We sure did. I'll always remember that. One of my
10 good memories.
11 ANNIE: So why? Can you tell me?
12 TOMMY: *(Gets up and follows her around, but she doesn't ever look*
13 *at him. He tries to catch her eye, but can't.)* I can tell you this
14 much . . . Annie? Can you hear me? It wasn't you.
15 ANNIE: I know it was me. It was always me.
16 TOMMY: *(Trying to catch her eye)* No. No. It wasn't! I loved you!
17 I always loved you! I'll always love you.
18 ANNIE: You probably just got tired of my grouchiness.
19 TOMMY: No. Never. Hey, I was a grouch at times, myself.
20 Remember?
21 ANNIE: But you were no angel, Tommy.
22 TOMMY: *(Sits on bench)* Tell me about it.
23 ANNIE: *(Covers her mouth for a second)* Oh, I'm sorry.
24 TOMMY: Hey. Stop apologizing. I'm not worth it.
25 ANNIE: See? Even now I hurt you. You never thought much
26 about yourself, and when I called you names you must
27 have really been hurt.
28 TOMMY: Yeah, I was — but I deserved it, Annie.
29 ANNIE: You'd always say, "But I deserved it, Annie." *(Pause*
30 *as TOMMY nods)* I miss you, Tommy. Do you know that?
31 TOMMY: I do now. Yes, I do now.
32 ANNIE: No matter how much we fought or called each other
33 names, I still miss you. And you didn't even say goodbye.
34 People who love each other shouldn't do that.
35 TOMMY: I know.

1 ANNIE: You should have told me something was wrong. I'd
2 never have left you. I loved you.
3 TOMMY: I was going to write a note, but . . . I couldn't think
4 of what to say. What could I say? You know me? I was
5 never much with words.
6 ANNIE: You were never good with words.
7 TOMMY: Hey, I could barely spell.
8 ANNIE: And your spelling. You spelled "Love" (*Spelling*) L-U-V.
9 TOMMY: She remembers.
10 ANNIE: How could I forget that? You were never good with
11 words. You had other ways of showing me you loved me.
12 TOMMY: Now that is one thing I'll really miss.
13 ANNIE: Big macho man. You'd die if the guys knew how you
14 used to pick me daisies at the lake and put them in my
15 hair . . .
16 TOMMY: Annie, don't . . . (*He's in real pain.*)
17 ANNIE: Who'd buy me silly cards and mail them to me for
18 no reason . . . but to . . .
19 TOMMY: Please don't, Annie . . .
20 ANNIE: For no reason, but because . . .
21 TOMMY: Don't.
22 ANNIE: Because you loved me.
23 TOMMY: (*It's as if he's been wounded.*) I loved you, Annie! I did.
24 Annie, please don't be sad.
25 ANNIE: Everyone keeps saying, "Annie, please don't be sad."
26 TOMMY: I'm not worth it, Annie.
27 ANNIE: "He's not worth it, Annie."
28 TOMMY: Annie . . . please . . . Annie.
29 ANNIE: Annie, Annie, Annie. What do they know? (*She sits*
30 *beside him on the bench.*) What did anyone know? How can
31 they possibly know how I feel? You broke my heart.
32 TOMMY: Annie, I didn't know.
33 ANNIE: Tommy . . .
34 TOMMY: Yes . . .
35 ANNIE: Why did you do this to me, Tommy? Can you tell me?

1 TOMMY: It had nothing to do with you! Can't you hear me?
2 ANNIE: I know it was me.
3 TOMMY: (*Screaming in pain*) NO! IT WAS NOT YOU!
4 ANNIE: Yes.
5 TOMMY: No, no. Can't you understand? It was not you,
6 Annie. I love you.
7 ANNIE: He never really loved me.
8 TOMMY: (*In real pain*) What?
9 ANNIE: If you loved me, you'd have told me.
10 TOMMY: I did love you! And it had nothing to do with you.
11 Nothing!
12 ANNIE: Whatever it was, it had something to do with me.
13 TOMMY: No.
14 ANNIE: Yes. I guess we're all partially to blame . . . That's
15 what everyone says.
16 TOMMY: No.
17 ANNIE: I know it's true. I'll never forgive myself.
18 TOMMY: It's not your fault, Annie.
19 ANNIE: Yes. It had something to do with me.
20 TOMMY: No, no, no . . .
21 ANNIE: It had everything to do with us —
22 TOMMY: How can you say that?
23 ANNIE: — because we were friends. And friends help each
24 other no matter what it is that is bothering them. That's
25 what friends are for.
26 TOMMY: Annie, I'm sorry. I should have told you.
27 ANNIE: Tommy, no matter what it was, I would have
28 understood. You should have told me.
29 TOMMY: Annie, I'll tell you now. Can you hear me? Annie?
30 Are you listening to me?
31 ANNIE: We always listened to each other. Always.
32 TOMMY: Always.
33 ANNIE: But now it's too late.
34 TOMMY: No.
35 ANNIE: Yes. Too late. You're gone forever.

1 TOMMY: Annie, I'm right here. Beside you. Right on this
2 bench. Can't you see me?
3 ANNIE: I'll never see you again.
4 TOMMY: Annie, look! I'm right here!
5 ANNIE: If I could only feel your arms around me.
6 TOMMY: *(He hugs her, but she feels nothing.)* Annie, I love you!
7 ANNIE: *(She shivers.)* What was that icy chill?
8 TOMMY: Chill?
9 ANNIE: I must be getting a cold. *(She stands.)*
10 TOMMY: A chill? From me? I love you.
11 ANNIE: I'd tell you how much I loved you. But it's too late
12 for that now. I'll never know why you did it, Tommy.
13 TOMMY: Annie, neither will I!
14 ANNIE: It was so sudden.
15 TOMMY: It was a dumb, stupid mistake. I was just so down
16 over so many things. It seemed there was nothing left.
17 ANNIE: You could have gotten help. Everyone can.
18 TOMMY: I know that now.
19 ANNIE: It's too late now. I know you could have worked
20 things out. Even this. Together we could have.
21 TOMMY: Yes.
22 ANNIE: I guess for as long as I live, I'll always blame myself
23 for what happened.
24 TOMMY: Oh, no. Annie, I'll never be able to rest in peace if
25 you think that.
26 ANNIE: *(Goes over to headstone)* Look at these weeds. *(She gets*
27 *on her knees, puts flowers on ground and pulls weeds away little*
28 *by little, revealing the headstone of TOMMY's grave. She picks*
29 *up the flowers and lays them on the grave.)* These are for you,
30 Tommy. Daisies.
31 TOMMY: Annie, I love you.
32 ANNIE: I'm sorry if I caused you any pain. And I'm sorry if
33 I can't come to see you anymore . . .
34 TOMMY: What? No . . .
35 ANNIE: It's been a year now. A whole new summer is here.

1 It's beautiful. I wish we could enjoy it together. I wish I
2 could be with you, but my doctor says it's not healthy to
3 dwell on the past. So, Tommy, I've come for the last
4 time . . .
5 TOMMY: Oh, no . . . please, Annie, don't leave me.
6 ANNIE: I just had to come here one last time . . .
7 TOMMY: No . . .
8 ANNIE: I had to come just one more time just to say goodbye
9 to you . . . my dear, sweet friend . . . Tommy. *(She stands.)*
10 TOMMY: Annie, no. Don't go. I love you! Don't go!
11 ANNIE: I have to go. Goodbye, Tommy. *(She exits.)*
12 TOMMY: Noooo . . . Annie, please don't leave me alone.
13 Annie! *(Curtain falls as TOMMY puts his head in his hands.)*
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