**An Experience that taught you to appreciate life more:**

“Be safe,” he told me. Wet drops fell from the sky onto his glasses. The lenses fogging up and dripping from the rain, he left me by the curb as his yellow pick up truck rolled away.

I forced my lung to fill with air as I walked towards the business building that would be my place of work for years to come. Completely covered in windows, the sun reflected off the surface, blinding me momentarily. Standing up straighter I walked a few steps forward and paused to gather my thoughts. It’s my first day at a new job. What could possibly go wrong?

I was so completely engulfed in mountains of folders I almost didn’t reach the phone in time. A massive stack of paperwork tipped over, crashing onto the floor.

I sighed, “that took me 2 hours to organize!” Usually Aaron would call me around lunch time to see how my day was going and send cute puppy pictures if it wasn’t going too great. Judging by the clock that read 1:45, I should’ve been on my lunch 45 minutes ago, but I was in such a groove that I hadn’t noticed. Remembering the cellular device blaring a tune at me, I pushed the button marked answer.

“Hello?”

It wasn’t Aaron. The female voice on the other end seemed very tense about whatever she was about to tell me.

My throat suddenly turned dry and chalky. My eyes found a spot on the wall where the paint was chipping and didn’t move for what seemed like years. I was frozen, unmoving, unsure of what to do.

Finally speaking, I choked out “I see, thank you for the call.”

In a daze, my phone almost reached my desktop before my grip suddenly gave way and it was falling. Along with my body. Sitting on the floor, I began to tremble. My hands were shaking and all I could do was unblinkingly gape at the ground. I sat like that for 10 minutes before the realization finally sunk in to my heart. A dull pain that had been there was suddenly bursting with the hot pain of despair on my chest. With burning eyes, I started to sob. It didn’t matter who heard me or saw me. All I could feel was the misery that had engulfed my body. A car accident. A car accident on the highway between a semi-truck and my husband had happened. The semi-truck driver had walked away unscathed. Aaron, however…

I was hiccupping now. An ugly kind of cry. He told me to be safe every single day, but I never thought to make sure he was too. Wet drops fell from my eyes onto my lap. He had left me by the curb and rolled away in his yellow pickup truck. And I never saw him alive again.