

Surprise Element In “*The Gift Of Magi*”

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Abstract: O. Henry wrote a short story titled *The Gift of the Magi*. The narrative is on a young married couple who lose their personal belongings in order to overcome the difficulty of giving each other Christmas presents. They both came from middle-class families, and although though they didn't have much money, they wanted to surprise each other with a present to express their love. Although everyone needs money in their lives, love is more necessary for success and happiness than material wealth.

Keywords: *Love, Marriage, Sacrifice, Money*

Surprise in love:

One of O. Henry's most well-known works is *The Gift of the Magi*. This is the tale of a young, impoverished couple whose love for one another is more precious than everything else. Since they believed that their love was the greatest of all, they both gave up their most prized item. The crucial skill that a husband and wife should possess in their relationship is sacrifice. Their life will be the finest if they are filled with unadulterated love and a selfless attitude. True love is a whole life; money is simply a fraction of it.

The two central figures in *The Gift of the Magi* are Della Dillingham, who comes from a low-income household, and James, also known as Jim. They were just getting by on a daily basis. due of their financial situation, they had many difficulties to deal with every day, yet they were able to live happily due of their deep love for one another. Their affection for one another served as their sole line of defence. In a lot of circumstances, they both gave their other away. They never let go of their love for one another, no matter what.

Although Della and Jim didn't care about money, the narrative starts with \$1.87. One day after finishing her shopping, Della realised it was Christmas the following day and wanted to get her husband Jim a gift. Except for \$1.87, she had nothing in her hands. She felt terrible about it, but she never gave up. She was hoping to locate her spouse the ideal present. Returning home, Della began to consider how she would accept her husband's present.

Jim and Della are literally in very bad financial shape. Della's long hair is her only thing, while Jim's is his family watch. To purchase a gift for her husband, Della made the decision to cut off her long hair. She was devastated to lose her belongings, but she was also ecstatic to have lost them for her beloved. She went straight to the hairdresser Madame Safronie. Safronie looked at her hair and was about to offer Della \$20. Della nodded and braced herself for hair loss. Della was prepared to cut her long hair that hung below her knees, even if none of the other ladies agreed to do so. Her genuine love for her spouse is the only explanation for this.

Della is holding \$21.87 at this moment. She dashed inside a store and picked out the ideal present for her spouse. The only item her spouse owned was a gold watch with a cracked band. Della made the decision to replace the damaged watch strap with a \$21 platinum band as a result. She cuts off her hair to make her spouse happy, and when she returned home, she was a little anxious about how her husband would react to her hair loss. Della, however, was very content that she had sacrificed her hair in order to show her love.

After doing all of her household chores, Della was waiting for her husband to arrive. She was glad that Jim would be delighted to see this gift and that it was also worth enough. Because of the broken strap, Jim was protecting his ancestor's item without holding it in his hand. Della was pleased that Jim would cry over this unexpected present.

Jim arrived home in the evening and even told Della that he had purchased her a Christmas present. When they saw their Christmas present, they were both astonished. Jim got confused when he saw that Della had chopped off a portion of her hair. Della was unable to comprehend the cause of his predicament. When Della opened Jim's present, she became quite anxious since it was a set of Combs, which she no longer needed.

Jim, meantime, was opening Della's gift, the platinum watch strap, and he was even more concerned because he had sold his possessions to get the set of combs. The one gold watch that he has. To purchase a present for his spouse, he gave up his possessions. Jim and Della felt horrible that their gifts to one another were meaningless.

Even if Jim and Della's gift is worthless for now, it could come in handy later. Jim and Della both gave up their own belongings to express their love for one another. Even though the two presents are now worthless, they nevertheless show their genuine affection. They gave up their personal fulfilment and the possessions they treasured. Ultimately, Jim and Della realised that their true love and sacrifice were their sole possessions—not Della's hair or Jim's watch.

Cash comes and goes. In life, things are not always solid, but genuine love never is. Every husband and wife should strive to establish a relationship based on genuine love and selflessness. They can conquer any obstacles in life if they are truly in love. Despite losing their belongings, Jim and Della were aware of their steadfast love and unity.

References

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