

The Music Box

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DEDICATION



**KRISTEN, DIANNE & KAREN. THANK YOU FOR BEING PART
OF MY WORLD.**

**MY TRUE EXO SISTERS, OLDIES BUT GOODIES.
WE ARE ONE ALWAYS AND FOREVER.
I LOVE YOU GUYS!**

**JORDAN, KELSEY, LANI, JM & LEIA, NO MATTER HOW OLD
YOU ARE OR WHEREVER YOU ARE, YOU WILL ALWAYS BE MY
BABIES. THANK YOU FOR YOUR LOVE AND PATIENCE. I
LOVE YOU ALL.**

**KAIA, MY BEAUTIFUL STINKY BOOTIE. MEEMA LOVES YOU
MUCH TOO MUCH.**

DAIJA KIM, I MISS SO MUCH YOU EVERY DAY!

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KIM JUN MYEON, I HAVE ALWAYS SAID IT.
YOU INSPIRE ME.
YOU ILLUMINATE MY MIND!
YOU IGNITE MY SOUL. 항상
THANK YOU FOR ENCOURAGING ME TO BE MY BEST.
MY LOVE FOR YOU IS ETERNAL...

하루... ONE DAY...



*Have you ever loved someone so much that
it took over your entire existence?
My sister and I haven't had that experience
yet but throughout our lives we knew
someone that did.*

Our mom.

We remember listening to her stories as children but never really understanding them. We knew the concept of love but as children it wasn't as pronounced.

As we grew up, we began to notice how beautiful love could be. How magical it could be. Even as adults, we still enjoy hearing the stories because it gave us a sense of enlightenment.

This day was special because we walked into her room to see her smiling. She sat in a soft pink dress, holding a picture of herself & him in a dandelion field. She looked towards us and motioned for us to sit.

"Hello, my sweet girls." She said in a frail voice.

We smiled and took turns kissing her cheek.

As usual, she smiled and said she wanted to tell us a story.

We smiled and sat near her not knowing this would be her last.

“Do you remember all those stories I told you about Jun?” She asked us with a smile.

We nodded and smiled back.

“This is what really happened.” She said with a smile.

We didn’t understand what she meant but we listened.

“A long time ago, I briefly met a man who made an impact in my life. He gave me strength, love and hope just with this one picture.” She whispered with a smile.

Kelsey reached for the picture and passed it over to Lani. She stared at it.

"Is this the same dress mom?" Kelsey asked surprised.

She nodded yes.

Then she handed her another picture.

"Is this Jun?" Lani asked with a flirty tone.

She giggled and nodded yes. The love in her eyes for him was still so pronounced.

"He's in the same spot, were you together that day?" Lani added.

She smiled and nodded no.

"I wish we had been together, though." She said with a smile.

*We didn't even think what that meant.
We always assumed they were together.
We gathered around her to listen.
She glanced at his picture and held it to her
heart before starting.*

*"You really did love him, huh mom?"
Kelsey interrupted.*

*"Hangsang." (항상/Always) She whispered
as she smiled and nodded yes.*

"Shhh. Listen." Lani interrupted.

And her story goes a little like this...



*As I took a stroll on the Olle Walking trail
I came upon the most beautiful site I had
ever seen.*

*Many would have believed I was looking at
the sea but I wasn't.*

I was looking at him.

*I didn't know who he was but there was
something about him that drew me to him.*

As I got closer he smiled and turned away.

*I looked around for an area to sit and just
watched him.*

*I saw a lovely field full of dandelion puffs
and colorful flowers, so I sat there.*

*As I watched him from a distance, I blew
the puffs, making wishes. Acting as if I
wasn't watching him.*

*They made a beautiful trail as they flew
away.*

*Every now and then he would glance at me
and smile.*

I strangely felt warm with his gaze.

*To this day, I have no idea what he was
taking pictures of,
but every day that I would pass, he was
there doing the same thing.
And I did the same too, I watched him from
a distance.*

*This one day I decided I was going to talk
to him. We always shared smiles; maybe we
had something in common.
But to my surprise, today he wasn't there.*

*Every day after that, I still took my evening
walk in hopes to bump into him but I never
saw him again.*

*I never got the chance to know him but I
thought of him often. I don't know why but
to this day, he has never left my mind.*

As my vacation came to an end, I went to checkout of the hotel. As I approached the concierge smiled and handed me a package. I found it strange because I knew no one on this island so I just put it in my bag and made my way to the airport.

On the plane, I decided to see what was in the package. It had no note, no return address, nothing. As I opened the package I gasped.

“Oh! It’s pictures.” I said to myself.

Photographs of the ocean and of me.

A warm feeling took over me and I smiled as my mind was transported to that beautiful moment.

I looked carefully at them, etching them into my mind.

*I would have never thought he was
watching me as I sat in the field.
I guess I was so mesmerized by what I was
doing that I didn't even notice him taking
pictures.*

*Then I reached the last one and my heart
skipped a beat.
There he was in a beautiful self-portrait in
the same place I was.*

Holding a dandelion puff.

*If you put the two pictures together they fit
perfectly as if we were both there together.*

*His features were perfect.
His chestnut brown hair looked so soft as
the ocean wind blew through it.
His sweet brown eyes were deep but soft
and loving.*

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