

THE GIFTS

Written by

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Based on,
'The Gift of the Magi,' by O. Henry

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INT. DELLA'S BAKERY/KITCHEN - DAY

JAMES, mid 20's, leans against a stainless steel work surface, wearing a graphic t-shirt with blue jeans and a backwards cap, stares perplexed at a large vintage mixer.

DELLA, mid 20's, dressed in a light green tee with a white apron covering the white lettering on the tee, raises her wooden rolling pin and clubs the side of the mixer.

Little by little her blonde hair comes loose from her ponytail upon each swing of the pin.

James wincing and flinching with each blow.

JAMES

Easy there. You're gonna break it.

WHACK... WHACK... She draws back for another swing, determined look on her face.

JAMES (CONT'D)

Whoa... I think its had enough.

James waves his hands in the air and breaks Della's focus.

Della lays the rolling pin down.

DELLA

This thing though... ugh.

Della still stares at the old broken down mixer.

DELLA (CONT'D)

This usually works. When I tap on it like this, it usually kicks on.

JAMES

How much is a new motor for it?

Della looks up at James.

DELLA

More than I have.

DELLA (CONT'D)

Looks like I'll have to make the dough the old fashion way.

Della points at her bicep and smiles.

DELLA (CONT'D)

I could use a workout anyway.

James pulls out his phone and checks something.

JAMES

I just remembered I have something to do for work. Sorry, I'll be back later. It shouldn't take too long.

James walks over and hugs Della.

JAMES (CONT'D)

It'll be alright. I'll help out when I get back. I better hurry since my bike has a bum wheel now.

EXT. FRONT OF DELLA'S BAKERY- DAY

James exits the front door of the bakery and stops for a moment then turns and sees Della through the large front window. Behind the counter and through a door, Della is wiping off a table and then walks off out of James' view.

James pulls out his phone and makes a call.

JAMES

Hi, I was wondering if you guys bought used bikes?

James looks back at Della's Bakery.

JAMES (CONT'D)

It's a Trek Madone... It just needs a new front rim and tire...

James walks away from the bakery.

JAMES (CONT'D)

Ok... I'll see you in a little bit.

INT. BIKE SHOP/SERVICE COUNTER - DAY

James stands at the counter with his bike. Across from him, behind the counter stands a male BIKE SHOP EMPLOYEE, 30, dressed in a red tee, with the store's logo on the front.

The employee comes from behind the counter and looks over the bicycle. He circles it then returns behind the counter.

BIKE SHOP EMPLOYEE

I can give you three hundred.

JAMES

Dang, that's it? I paid almost a grand for it.

BIKE SHOP EMPLOYEE

Yeah, afraid so.

The employee leans over the counter and looks at the bike.

BIKE SHOP EMPLOYEE (CONT'D)

After we fix it, we'll probably price it just north of \$600.

JAMES

Ok... I'll take the three hundred.

The bike shop employee taps on the register and the drawer pops out. He takes some cash out and hands it to James.

BIKE SHOP EMPLOYEE

Here you go. Have a nice day.

JAMES

Thanks.

A defeated look comes over James' face as he turns and walks towards the exit.

James' phone buzzes in his pocket. He quickly grabs it and the phone screen shows an image of Della.

A smile comes over James' face as he taps on the screen.

JAMES (CONT'D)

Hey... I have one more stop...
Probably like two hours or so.

James approaches the bike shop exit.

JAMES (CONT'D)

Ok... See ya then... Love you too.

The smile stays on James' face as he exits the shop.

INT. APPLIANCE STORE/SERVICE COUNTER - DAY

James stands on the opposite side of the counter from a female APPLIANCE STORE EMPLOYEE, 40's, dressed in a white button-up shirt. The employee is engrossed in the computer in front of her and doesn't acknowledge James.

JAMES

Excuse me?

The sales associate looks up slowly.

APPLIANCE STORE EMPLOYEE

Yes.

JAMES

Yeah, I called a little bit ago
about a motor for a mixer.

She turns slowly and walks to a table behind her. Various
boxes and parts sit on the table.

She carries back a small box, walking slowly.

JAMES (CONT'D)

So this is the mixer motor?

APPLIANCE STORE EMPLOYEE

It's what they pulled and put up
here to be held for you.

JAMES

Ok...

APPLIANCE STORE EMPLOYEE

That will be two hundred and ninety-
eight dollars and thirteen cents.

James pulls out his wallet and hands her some cash.

She takes the money and returns his change.

APPLIANCE STORE EMPLOYEE (CONT'D)

Here's your change, a dollar eighty-
seven. Have a nice day.

James exits the store with the box under his arm.

INT. DELLA'S BAKERY/KITCHEN - DAY

The door swings open and James enters the room. Della is
working some dough on a table, her hands covered in flour.

James approaches Della, concealing the box behind his back.

DELLA

I'm just about finished here. I
have a surprise for you. Give me a
sec.

Della wipes her white flour-covered hands on her apron.

JAMES
I actually have a surprise for you
too.

Della looks surprised, then delighted.

DELLA
Ok, let me go first.

Della walks past James towards a closet.

DELLA (CONT'D)
I know you've been busy lately,
with your job, and well, this may
solve your transportation issue.

Della opens the closet.

DELLA (CONT'D)
So... here you go.

She turns and rolls out a new bicycle tire.

James stares in shock.

DELLA (CONT'D)
You like it right? The guy at the
bike shop said this would fit yours

JAMES
You kidding? I love it.

James walks over and hugs Della with one arm, box still
concealed

JAMES (CONT'D)
This is the nicest thing someone
has ever done for me.

James lays the box on the table.

JAMES (CONT'D)
Here's your gift and not to toot my
own horn, but I'm pretty sure I
nailed it.

Della's delighted expression gets even more so as she opens
the small box. Once the box is opened the look on her face
becomes less delighted.

JAMES (CONT'D)
Don't you like it? It's a motor for
your dough mixer. I can try and fix
your mixer tonight.

James looks around the room.

DELLA

Of course, but how did you pay for this? I know both our money situations aren't the greatest.

James shifts around a bit and breaks eye contact with her.

JAMES

Well... I kind of sold my bike.

DELLA

James, you shouldn't have sold your bike.

JAMES

You're more important than that bike or anything else that I own. I can always get a new bike.

A questioning look comes over James' face.

JAMES (CONT'D)

How did you get the cash for the tire?

Della now shifts around a bit.

DELLA

I uh, sold the mixer.

Both stand staring at each other for a moment and then the gifts.

JAMES

You know what? I'll return the tire and try to get your mixer back.

DELLA

But--

JAMES

No. You need this more, plus I kinda like walking and taking the bus, it's good exercise.

The two laugh and embrace each other.