

"LIFE WITH GRANDPA" PRESENTS:

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST!

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DFO

PART 2: "LOVE LOVES THE UNLOVELY!"

Showing Manuel a little real love has really changed him!

Hummm, it reminds me of the story of "Beauty and the Beast!"

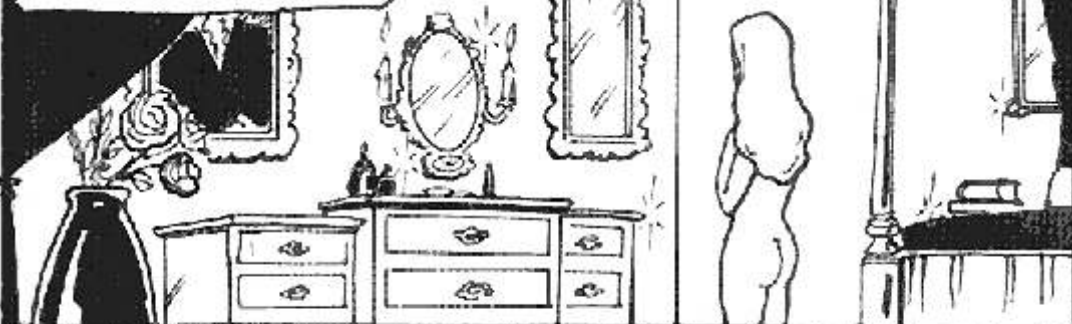


Art by: Jeremy
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Beauty has arrived at the Beast's mysterious palace in the forest! At their first meeting he promises that no harm will come to her, and that all he asks is to be able to sit and talk with her each evening as she dines.

While getting ready for bed that night, Beauty begins to cry a little because she is missing her dear father, but suddenly she notices a curious mirror on her dresser!

There's something written beneath the mirror in letters of gold! I wonder what it says?



Little Beauty, dry your eyes,
Needless are those
tears and sighs!
Gazing in this looking-glass,
What you wish
shall come to pass!

Oh, good! Maybe if I miss
father too much, I can just
wish myself back home again!



Hummm... I wish I knew how my
sisters are getting along
without me!

And looking in the magic mirror, she saw--

No, Delphina! * Beauty did it like this! She put the herbs in first!

(* "Del-fee-nah",
** "Daf-nee")

SLOSH!

Don't be dumb, Daphne! ** Beauty put the milk in first, like this!

Ugh! This is going to be a terrible dinner without Beauty to help us!

Oh, Beauty, I wish you were here!

Poor sisters! They surely seem to appreciate me more now that I'm not there!

Every evening at supper time, the same sound was heard at the door of the dining hall, and a big, gruff voice whispered--

Beauty... May I watch you while you dine?

Yes, Beast!

Am I very ugly, Beauty?

Yes, Beast, to be honest, you are ugly.

Beauty! I have a question that I must ask you.

What is it, Beast?

But you have a good heart and your words are gentle and kind!

Will you be... my wife?

Every evening the Beast asked this question, and every evening Beauty gently replied--



I'm sorry, Beast...but no!

One day Beauty decided to explore a part of the woods on the Beast's estate where she had never been before! Suddenly she heard a grunting noise coming from behind a bush!



Funny! I didn't know that the Beast kept pigs on his estate!

With no housework and cooking to do, the days seemed long to Beauty, but the Beast had provided many things for her entertainment, interesting hobbies and activities, swimming, sewing, painting, flower arranging and many other things. He was always very kind to Beauty.

God bless the Beast, he tries so hard to please me! Inside that rough and hairy body beats a kind and gentle heart! But his eyes...they always look so sad! Poor Beast!



Oh, good! It's only one hour to dinner time with the Beast!

Oh, I'm sorry, I didn't mean to --



BEAUTY!

GO AWAY! I'm ashamed that you should see me behaving like an animal!



See what I am? Just a monster! A horrible monster!

No, Beast! Many men are much more monstrous than you! But they hide it inside!



On the outside you may look like a monster, but inside you have a beautiful soul and a tender heart!

Th...then you do not find me awful, scary and ugly?



No, Beast! I've only known you to be loving and giving, and with the manners of a gentleman!

But, Beauty, you're unhappy, I can tell you are!



Only because the days seem so long before I see you at dinner! I would be much happier if I could see you more often!



You would?

Yes, Beast! I enjoy your company, I really do!



Oh, Beauty! Beauty! You're so good to me!

And so Beauty and the Beast became the best of friends. They played together every day--

Whooooooooo! I feel like a bird! Thank you, Beast! This is such fun!



I'm happy too, Beast! Happy that I've been able to make you happy!



Do you love me, Beauty?

Yes, I do love you, Beast, for you are so sweet and kind!

They walked together--

I never realised how beautiful this garden was until I saw you walking in it!



Thank you, Beast! That's so sweet!

And they talked together--

Before you came, my house was so dark and lonely, but you have brought back joy and happiness and the sound of laughter, Beauty! I enjoy so much being with you! I've never been happier!



Then, Beauty... will you make love to me and be my wife? Please, Beauty!

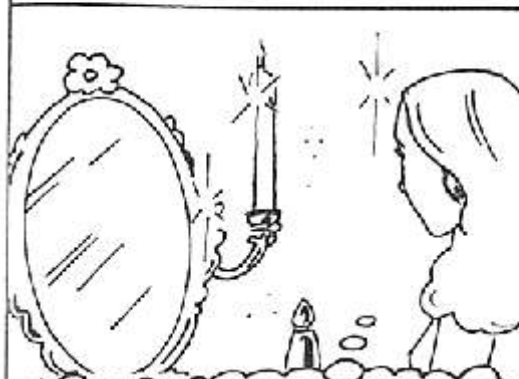
Oh, Beast, I don't want to say no and make you sad!



...But please give me more time to think about it and decide!



One morning Beauty looked into her mirror, the magic mirror that was on her dresser!



I wish I could see how my dear Father is doing!

And then, as she gazed inside, she saw a very sad picture indeed!



Beauty...Beauty..
If only you could
be here...Beauty!

Oh, dear Father!

That night at dinner--



Beauty! What's the matter?
Are you ill?

My father is sick in bed and is dying! I just can't bear to think of his pain and loneliness!



Oh, please let me go home and
take care of him!

Very well.

You mean,
you will let
me go?

Yes, because I cannot bear to
see you grieve like this!

But if you
should not re-
turn, it...it
would break my
heart!



Oh, thank you! Thank you, Beast! I will return! I promise! I will be back within seven days!



And now, farewell, my sweet Beauty! I shall miss you terribly!



Goodbye, dear Beast!

The next morning at her father's cottage--

No, that's not how you do it! Add more milk!



No, no, no, you do it like this!

The Beast looked very doubtful, for he was afraid that he was going to lose Beauty forever! But he said,

Take this ring, and in the morning when you wake, put it on your finger!



Then close your eyes, and when you open them again, you will be with your father!

Dear Daphne and Delphina!
Good morning!



BEAUTY!

But...But where did you come from?

We thought that you were dead!



Well, I'm very much alive, as you can see!

Here, let me help you with that!

My, my, my! Getting quite fashionable, aren't you?



Yes, all dressed up like a little princess!--while we're living in poverty and eating only porridge!

Yes, and being driven mad by our father, waiting on him every minute, day and night!



Then, dear sisters, now that I am home, I will be very happy to take care of father for you!



From the very moment he saw her, Beauty's father began to get better!



Father! I'm home!

Beauty!... My Beauty!

God be praised!...Beauty... is it really you? I never thought I'd see you again!

But how did you escape?



Oh, there was no need to escape! The Beast gave me this ring and it brought me here!

Beauty was a good faithful nurse and was so busy taking care of her father that she could hardly believe it when she found that a week had already passed!

Careful, Father!

Now, now! It's alright, my dear! I'm not that old that I can't walk in my own garden, you know!



Yes, you're doing wonderfully, Father!



It's a miracle how much his health has improved, but I don't think he's well enough yet to be left with my selfish sisters!

--I'd better stay home for just a few more days!



But that night Beauty had a dream. She dreamt that the Beast was suffering, lying on the grass, near the white rose-bush in the palace garden!

Beauty! Beauty! You said you would come back, Beauty!...I shall die without you!



Beast...Beast!...

Oh, thank God it was just a bad dream!

But maybe it's true! Maybe the poor Beast really is dying of loneliness without me!

Oh my! I'd better put on the magic ring!

Quickly, quickly, magic ring! Take me to the Beast again!

When Beauty opened her eyes, she found herself back in her own room in the Beast's grand palace!

Oh, thank God! I'm back!

Now to find the Beast and make sure he's alright!

Beauty ran frantically* up and down and all around the huge palace, calling:

BEAST! BEAST! WHERE ARE YOU, BEAST?

(* frantically = desperately)

But her dear friend the Beast was nowhere to be found!

Then suddenly she remembered her dream!

Oh, dear! Maybe the dream is true! Maybe he really is lying by the rose-bush!



Oh, Jesus! Please help me not to be too late!

At her loving touch the Beast opened his eyes!

Oh, Beast! Forgive me for not keeping my promise! I'm the monster, not you!

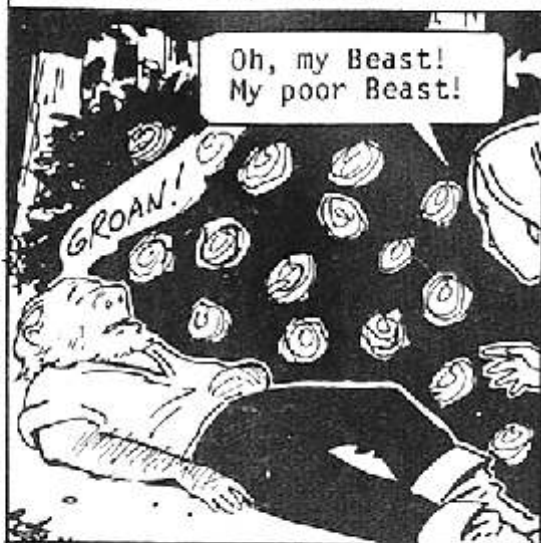


No, dear Beast! You must live! I could not bear it if you'd die! I love you!



No...you only pity me like an animal!

And there, lying on the wet grass beneath the rose-bush, she found the Beast!



Oh, my Beast!
My poor Beast!

GROAN!



I...cannot live without you, Beauty...so I am dying of a broken heart!

--But now that I have seen your face again, I shall die happy and content!



Goodbye, Beauty...
good...bye.

In desperation, Beauty threw her arms around the Beast, hugging and kissing him and trying to show him how much she really loved him!

NO, BEAST! Please, don't die! I love you so much, I really do! Please live and I will marry you!



No sooner had she spoken these words than a miraculous change took place! As she drew back to look into his face...

Wh..Wh.. What???



To her great astonishment (surprise) Beauty found that it was no longer the Beast that she held in her arms, but a very handsome young man!

Who...who are you?



I am Prince Charming! Thank you, Beauty, for freeing me!

What do you mean? Where's my Beast? I want my Beast! What's happened to my dear Beast?

Beauty, please let me explain!



I was the Beast! But now
the Beast is no more!

You?

You are that beautiful girl,
Beauty!

Oh, Beast!--I...I mean Prince
Charming! I don't know what to
say! It's such a wonderful
miracle!

Yes! I was under an evil curse
that I must live my life as an
ugly beast! The curse could
only be broken if a beautiful
girl would love me enough to
be willing to marry me!

A miracle of
love! Only the
beauty of God's
Love can take an
ugly beast and
turn him into a
Prince Charming!
You're the Love
of God to me, Beauty, and you
and your love have saved me!

Beauty married
Prince Charming,
and with her dear
father living near
them, they lived
happily ever
after!
Long live Love!

Oooh, thank you, Uncle James!
What a beautiful story!

Mmmmm...and
sooooo romantic!

Was it a true story,
Uncle James?

Well, Grandpa said
that, who knows,
maybe it really
did happen. But at
least it is an
exciting story
with a wonderful
lesson!

People have passed
these stories on from
generation to genera-
tion, but have forgot-
ten the real meaning
of them, and often
miss the lessons they
contain.

Suddenly--surprise, surprise!

Hello, children!

We're back!

Grandpa!

Daddy!

Is Mommy home too?

Mommy and Aunt
Sara will be
home a little
later, because
guess what?

The Lord answered our prayers and led
them to meet 2 very lonely travelling
businessmen, Tom and Len, who are in
town for a business convention!

But my goodness! Are you all still up?

We had a special story with Uncle James!

It was so exciting we couldn't stop!

It was "Beauty and the Beast!"

That story has a real meaning for us today!

The "Beauty and the Beast" story reminds me of when Mama and I first went dancing in that little native (local) night spot (club) in Tenerife--

Look at poor Manuel! He looks so sad and lonely and down-hearted--like he's lost his last friend in the world!

You could ask him to dance, Honey, and show him a little love!

Oh, yes! That will cheer him up!

Would you like the next dance, Manuel?

Who m..me?--

Why, yes!

It's so wonderful that Maria can gently pet the hard, rough hands of this poor labourer who is so clumsy and ugly and doesn't get much love!

I'm amazed! No one ever asked me to dance before!



It's because I love you, Manuel! And God loves you!

Si! Si! Someone up there must love me, for such a beautiful senorita* to ask me to dance!



(* girl)

Oh, Manuel! You look so hand-
some when you smile!



Then I looked at a snooty tourist couple and thought--



They're only selfishly concerned with their own problems! They never dance one dance or share any love with these common people! How sad!

Maybe I'm a little like Jesus: I like to be with the needy and unlovely and heartbroken! It almost makes me cry with joy to think that we can help them and show them God's real love!



Jesus loves you, Manuel! Thank you for the dance!

Showing him a little real love has really changed him! Now he looks so radiant and happy!



Hmmm, it reminds me of the story of "Beauty and the Beast!"



Oh, gracias*, Maria!
Gracias a Dios!**

(* thank you,
** Thanks to God!)

Well, see, Tech, anyone who is not saved, ugly or handsome, old or young, may look like an ugly Beast to us until their hearts are changed by the "beauty" of God's Love, and then they become "new creatures in Christ Jesus!" (2 COR. 5:17)-- Real Prince Charmings!

Well now, before we sleep, let's pray that our two "Beauties", Mama and Sara, can win these two "Beasts", Tom and Len, to the Lord, so that Jesus can turn them into Prince Charmings too!

Were they ugly?

Amen!




The next morning--

Thank you all so much for keeping us in your prayers last night!

Why don't you tell the children what happened, Mama?

Well, after Grandpa and Alf left us, Tom and Len asked us if we'd like to go up to their rooms!





So Sara and I excused ourselves and went to the "Ladies Room" so that we could counsel together!

What do you think, Maria?

Well, Tom seems very desperate and heart-broken and genuinely in need of love!

Yes, Len too seems really needy and sincere.

I think the Lord is definitely leading us to show them a sample of real love!

But why are you doing this? For money?

No, Tom! For you!

Because I want to show you how much I really love you!

But how can you love me? You've just met me! You don't even know me!

Oh, but I do! Because God knows you and loves you, and He cares about you!


I've never met a girl with so much love as you!

It's because I have Jesus in my heart!


You can have Him in your heart too, Tom!

You're so different from the others!

Yes, I'd like to!



Both men were wonderfully saved, and when we left the that evening, they looked so happy and changed!




Thank you, sweet Sara! I'll never forget you! You've changed my life forever!

You know, Maria, I thought I was beyond hope, an ugly old sinner...but you've changed me and given me a new Love to live for--Jesus!

Hallelujah! Thank You Jesus! God bless you, girls! What "Prince Charmings" you've turned some of these "Beasts" into with just a little "Beauty" of unselfish, sacrificial love and affection!

Jesus even loves the un-lovely and the least likely to be loveable--brute beasts who blossom into beauty at His loving touch! It's hard to love sometimes that much, but you never lose by loving! You always get back much more than you give!



All they need is love! Try it! You'll love it! Try giving the "Beauty" of God's love to some "Beast" today and see if he won't turn into a "Prince Charming"! Your smiles, your kisses, your kind words, and your messages of Love can touch the hardest hearts!

Jesus loves you!

Thank you!
How nice!

Are you one of the Lord's lovers?