

Fairy Tale – The Circus

Once upon a time there was a little circus that pulled into town. It was a little makeshift group but they were hard workers and each person had their job to perform. The dad of the group was quite the magician. He was funny and helpful but his best trick was a disappearing act. He was there and then before you knew it – he was gone and no one knew where he went or when he would come back.

The mom of this odd little troupe was a tremendous juggler. She could keep 5 plates spinning in the air at one time! She ran the show, chased after the kids, cooked the meals, carried water for baths, changed the baby, and tried to keep track of the magician. This act kept her SO busy that none of the little ones dared fuss in fear that she might drop one or more of those spinning plates. She looked so tired and the children loved her so much that they let her be and spent lots of time playing outside.

The big sister loved her job as the animal keeper. She fed and groomed the animals and kept them looking very nice. She interacted with the mom juggler, but not so much that she had to be honest about her activities outside the family tent. With too many plates in the air, mom couldn't keep a close eye and ol magician dad sure wasn't around to help. Her desire to please led her to places that could not please and a life filled with shame.

The big brother was a funny clown. He loved to make people laugh and to do silly things. Some of these things could have been life threatening but mom juggler kept him in sight when she could. He was slow of brain but very fast in body and lots of people laughed at him -even when he wasn't in his clown suit. This made his family sad.

The next brother became the ring master. He knew what everyone was doing during show time. Everyone loved him, respected him and depended on him. He talked with the magician dad who cried a lot in his confusion. This ring-master brother consoled the frantic juggler mom trying to help her with her sadness and pain. He affirmed his animal trainer sister whenever he could. He kept an eye on his clown brother, played with him and kept him safe if he could. He stayed close to his little sister, the little girl who watched the show whenever it had a performance.

This little one was such a cute little girl. She loved her family and they adored her. Lots of the time as a performance was on, she played in the corner and let the act go on as she busied herself with her dolls and little dishes. She never knew where the magician was and her juggler mom, although very kind, loving and caring, needed her to be good, so she was. All the while deciding that it was better to play and keep to herself than become involved in any of the 3 rings currently going on.

This little girl grew up always feeling like she never quite knew what was going on. She was very quiet and shy and uncomfortable around people – especially the cute boys who lived in the town. She loved to read and write and talk to her brother ring-master. She had friends but never really confided in any of them. And she worried. She thought that she would never get to join the circus and that no young man would ever choose her to join his act. She felt ugly and fat and often uncomfortable. And besides that there was a huge JUMBO elephant in the middle of the tent that nobody even thought to talk about. Everyone knew it was there! What was that all about?

As time went on the magician disappeared almost completely. The group found that he decided to live in another tent with the red headed acrobat who slyly caught his eye. She and her husband had been close friends of the family but now she left her husband and 4 little ones to join him in a place all their own. The magician would magically reappear off and on but a fight would always occur. Angry words and whining and begging would always end the show and the little girl usually wandered off so she wouldn't have to listen.

Little did she know but the Owner of the circus had his eye on her. He knew she was very special and he loved her – in fact he created her straight from his hand! Her mother-juggler knew and trusted Him. Her ring-master brother also knew and trusted him. She eventually came to know him also and trusted him as far as she could. He led her to many adventures and always kept her safe. She got to go to college and to travel to foreign lands singing and telling about how great the Owner was. But she always longed for someone to love her and she didn't know the Owner had plans for even that. So she worried, cried, felt inadequate, ugly and oh so shy.

The Owner gave the little girl opportunities to grow. She became a teacher. She got to know new people. She moved to a big town. She found a group of other young people who knew the Owner and who wanted friends. In this group, when the time was right, a bright shiny tight-rope walker noticed her cute little face. He invited her to come watch his show and she was delighted! They got to be friends and eventually got married. She was never as athletic as he was, but he loved and cherished her. They had two darling boys and adopted one very sweet little girl.

The Owner kept close to the little girl always giving her chances to trust him. She longed for freedom from fear. She was a brave girl though and took many chances to test her trust of her Owner. She grew in her confidence. She tried new things. She grew in her love for the Owner and came to know him better and better. Trusting Him became easier and feeling loved felt more real. Eventually she worked at a BIG Tent that helps other women to find freedom and the love of the Owner of the Circus. She is thankful.