

A GUARDIAN ANGEL



Uriel had just finished his training at Angel University. Now it was time for his first assignment. Like the other students in his class, he was so excited he could not wait for the list to be posted on the bulletin board.

After graduation and as soon as the list was pinned to the board, all of the angels pushed forward to see their names on the list. They wanted to know whom they were going to protect. Uriel was not as big as most of the angels, so he was the last one to see the list.

When he looked at the list, he could not find his name. Everyone else had an assignment but him. He was confused. He wondered why his name was not there.

He asked the teacher who was standing next to the board, “Where is my name? I don’t see my name anywhere on this list.”

The lady, who put up the list, told him he needed to speak to the dean of students. She did not have any answers for him right then.

He went to the dean’s office to ask why his name was left off the list.

The dean said, “I’m concerned about the baby I had originally planned for you. I suggest that you should wait until the next term, so you can get an easier case to work on.”

Uriel’s grades at the university were not that good; in fact, he had just a passing score. The dean thought he was not ready yet.

“Please! Let me have an assignment. I’ll take anything. I don’t want to wait

another year,” Uriel begged the dean.

The dean looked over the list on her desk.

She said, “There is only one name here, but looking at what his life is going to be like, I’m not sure you can handle him. I think you need to wait. I need to find a more experienced angel to take him.”

Uriel kept insisting that he would do a great job, if only given a chance.

Finally, the dean gave in and made him the guardian angel of the boy on her list. His name was Peter Duggins. He was going to be born in two days.

“I hope I don’t regret this,” she said as she handed him the file.

Uriel took the file about Peter’s information to his room. He studied about his parents, about his home, about his life. At first, he was excited and then, as he continued to read the file, he realized why the dean had been worried.

Then he thought to himself. “I can do this. I can prove to them that I’ll be the best guardian angel ever!”

The day came for Peter’s birth. Uriel was in the room watching. He had never seen a baby born before. He wondered why anyone would ever want to have a baby. It was just too much pain, but when it was over everyone was so happy.

Peter looked terrible. He was red and his skin was all wrinkled. When he started to cry the whole room filled with the sound. Uriel had to cover his ears.

Uriel stayed with Peter as he went home. He stayed in Peter’s room and made sure everything was perfect. He did not want any harm to come to his first assignment. He made sure the baby did not fall out of his crib, made sure his bottle was not too hot, and made sure that he was comfortable when he slept.

As Peter grew, he became more and more of a challenge. He would run too fast. He would jump too high. He would always fall down. He would hit the dog. He did many things where he could get hurt badly. It was up to Uriel to keep him safe.

Uriel had his hands full protecting Peter from himself.

Peter continued to grow and continued to get into more trouble. When his parents

were not watching, he would walk out of the house. Uriel had to whisper in the parent's ears to warn them that he had gone out the door.

He would walk away when they were in the grocery store and Uriel had to tell strangers how to find his parents.

When Peter got to elementary school, he loved to play on the jungle gym. He would hang upside down. He would climb to the top and jump as far as he could. Uriel had to watch him every minute of the day.

In middle school, he played every sport: football, baseball and basketball. He was a pretty good athlete, but when he was in school, he misbehaved in class. He was sent to the principal's office almost every day.

The other kids teased him and called him names because he was always in trouble. He got into many fights with kids older than he was. He became a big bully and treated the other kids in his class very badly.

It was becoming a fulltime job for Uriel. He had to keep up with all of the times Peter could have injured himself.

Uriel was determined to prove the dean wrong.

When Peter got to high school, he became even more difficult to control. He found friends who were into many bad things. Uriel did his best to help him, but Peter had a mind of his own. He began to smoke and then take drugs. His life became a big mess.

The other guardian angels could not believe what was going on with Uriel's assignment. They watched as he found creative ways to protect Peter, but it was becoming more and more difficult.

The other guardian angels asked Uriel why he was helping such a bad person. They wondered why he did not ask to be reassigned to another person who was not so much trouble.

Uriel replied, "Peter needs me. It's my job. It's what I was born to do. He's my assignment. I have to do all I can to protect him. If I'm not here, he will surely die."

One day, Peter and his friends decided to rob a store. Peter was the first one in the

door. A lady started to scream so Peter became nervous. He shot his gun and killed her.

The gang ran out of the store, but as they did, the police arrived. There was a gun battle with bullets flying all over the place.

One of the bullets hit Peter. He fell down and he lay on the street in great pain. The police arrested him and took him to the hospital. Uriel had managed to keep him from being killed. All of his friends died there.

Peter went to trial and was convicted of murder and robbery. He was sentenced to spend the rest of his life in prison.

After a few years, a big riot happened in the prison and Peter managed to escape. He hid in the back of a garbage truck. When the truck stopped in the middle of the garbage dump, Peter jumped out and ran away.

Uriel was still there protecting him as best he could.

Peter ran from the police for two years. He lived in the mountains and lived in a small cabin. During this time, Uriel was able to finally relax. Peter did not do much of anything. He was hiding.

Then the day came when the police found him. They surrounded the cabin and told him to come out.

Peter refused to leave. The police began to fire their guns into the cabin. Peter lay on the floor, but several of the bullets hit him. Soon he was dead.

As Peter's spirit left his body, he was able to see Uriel for the first time.

"Who are you?" Peter asked.

"I'm Uriel. I've been your guardian angel," Uriel replied.

"You were my guardian angel?! Why didn't you protect me just now?" Peter asked in an angry tone.

"What are you talking about?" Uriel asked. "I've been watching over you all of your life.

"Who saved you when you walked out of the house? Who protected you when you fell off the jungle gym? Who protected you when you got into fights? Who protected you

when you were shot after the robbery? Who kept you from being sentenced to die?

“It was me!” exclaimed Uriel.

“However, I couldn’t save you this time. It’s your fault. You are responsible for your own death, not me!” Uriel said as he disappeared.

Uriel returned to Angel University. He met with the dean of students.

“I’m sorry I failed. I thought I could save Peter, even though I knew what he was going to be like. I’ll return to school to learn the lessons I should’ve learned before,” Uriel said, staring down at the floor in despair.

“Uriel, look at me. You did an amazing job of protecting Peter. The one thing you could not protect him from was himself. No one can do that. I’m proud of you,” the dean told him.

“What do you mean?” Uriel looked up in surprise.

“We’ve been watching you over the years. You did an amazing job,” the dean complimented him.

“And because you have done such a good job, we are promoting you to guardian angel level two.

“Here is your next assignment. I hope you do as good a job with him as you did with Peter,” the dean said, as she handed Uriel the new folder.

He looked at the name. It said, ‘Justin Bieber’.