

Where Did Everybody Go

By Tina Ray

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I Am A Watchman Publications * Union City, California * iamawatchman.com

Printed in the United States

ISBN: 9781642543216



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I woke up this morning and got out of bed.

The house was too quiet.

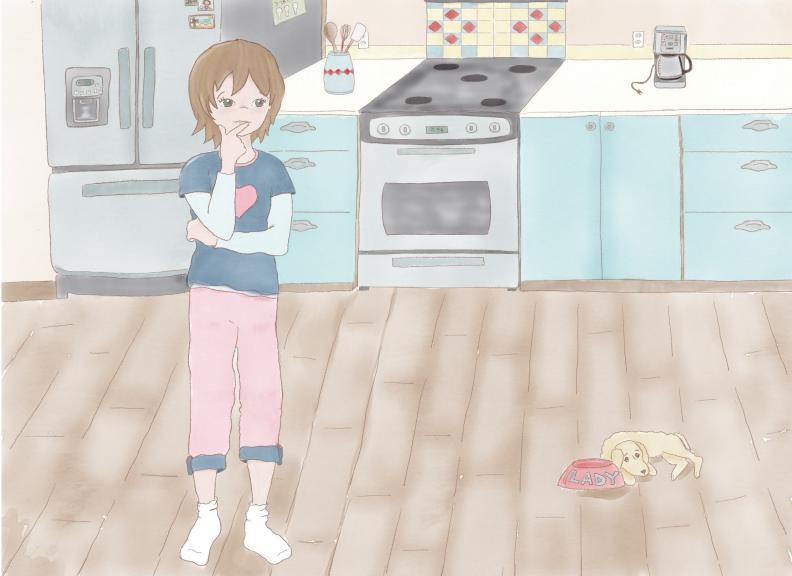
No pets had been fed.

No coffee was brewing.

No breakfast was ready.

Is this a bad dream?

My heartbeat's unsteady.



My new baby brother's not making a sound.

My mom and my dad—nowhere to be found.

And when I step into his bedroom to see,

his crib is all empty.

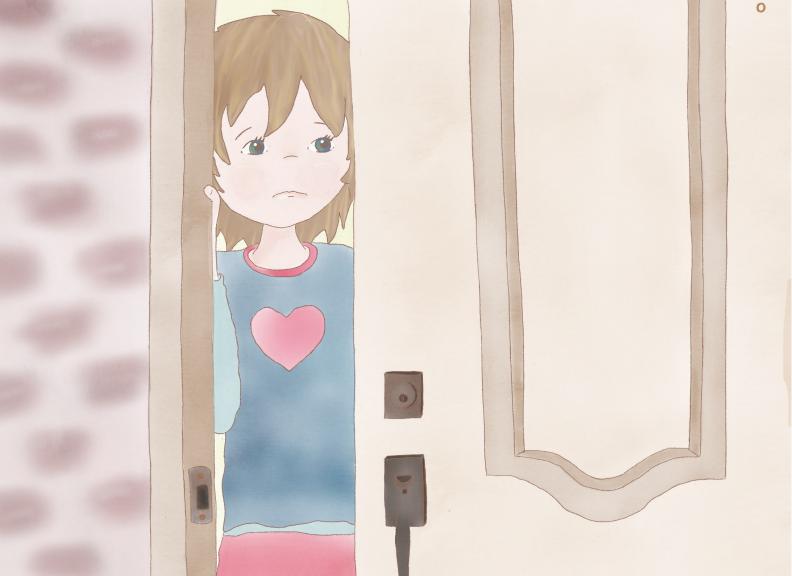
What's happening to me?



I run let her in.

A knock on the door sends me out of my skin.

"Are you there, dear? It's Aunt Dee!"



There's nobody here!

They've all gone away!"

"What's happened?!", I ask her as she holds me tight.

"I think that they all disappeared in the night!

The tears fall and Aunt Dee has nothing to say.



As we cry together, the telephone rings.

I jump up to answer, hoping news it will bring.

It's just my dad's boss asking why he's not in.

My tears fall again.

I hang up, not speaking.



Then, Aunt Dee turns on the TV to the news.

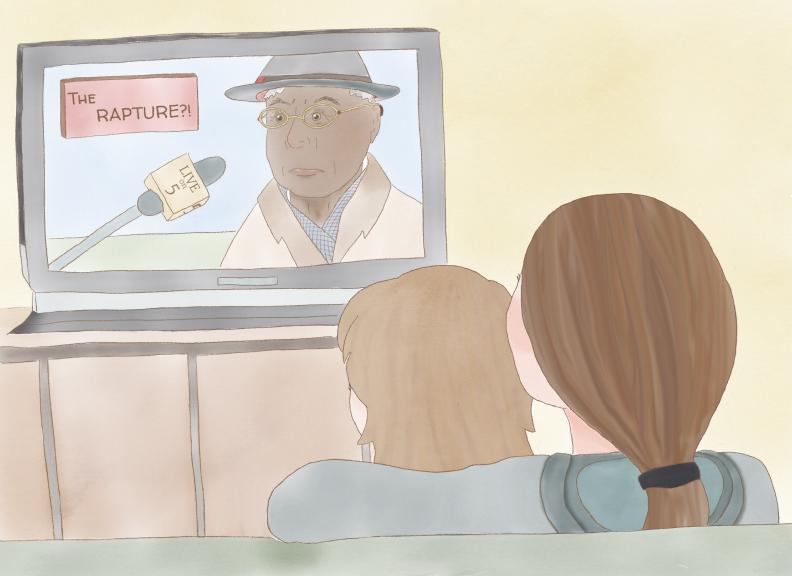
Every channel's the same—all are looking for clues.

Chaos and confusion and questions abound—

for folks have gone missing the whole world around!

One word keeps repeating, a word that I've heard.

"Some say it's the Rapture!", an old man observed.



The Rapture!

I know how I know it!

I heard it in church, and Mom's Bible would show it!

The Rapture?



I run to the table and open the Book. My tears make my vision too blurry to look.



So, Aunt Dee, quite gently, sits me down and together we turn through the pages of tissue and leather.



And then like a light shining down from above—

a page caught my eye filled with hope and with love.

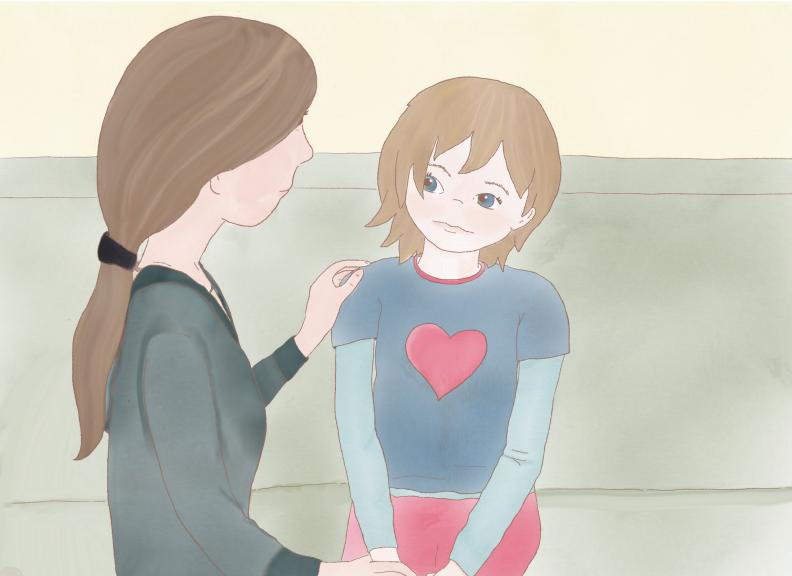
A note from my mom saying simply...

The prayers I have prayed for you may Child, read: geous died for our sins and came back for still succeed! If you are still here, there is hope! Don't despair! Read these pages of South and then share them There is no better wish for a child from This road will be hard and the world may be scary. But Hod will be with your this burden to carry. their mother. now cling to the ones who are left that now see The Word that is truth and the life that can be.

"Honey, it's time."

As my Aunt Dee and I read my mom's final line,

she looked in my eyes and said,



We knelt down together and prayed from our heart.

And God entered into us, never to part.



The A-B-C's of Salvation

Some elements are from Calvary Chapel, Kaneohe, HI. Used by permission

If you are reading this book you may be in the same situation as the girl in this story. She and her aunt were *left behind* because they had not accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior. Salvation is **necessary** because all have sinned (Rom. 3:23). Salvation is possible because "*Christ died for our sins [and]...and rose again...*" (1 Cor.15:1-4)

Many believe they are going to heaven because they do good things. No one can earn their salvation—but God offers it as a free gift to those who believe and trust in Jesus. Scripture notes: "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God..." (Eph. 2:8-9). Followers of Jesus are promised eternal life in heaven. The simple A-B-C's of Salvation below explains how you can be saved:

dmit that you are a sinner. We are all sinners. Romans 3:23 notes that "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (what God wants us to be). Even one sin makes us imperfect, but in Christ we can be made "holy and blameless" (Col. 1:22). The only way for sins to be forgiven (and to be made "holy and blameless") is to confess your sins to Jesus and ask for forgiveness (1 John 1:9).

elieve that Jesus died for your sins, was crucified, buried, and rose from the dead on the third day. Romans 10:910 says, "If you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved..."

all upon the name of the Lord. Pray. Ask for forgiveness. Tell God you believe. Ask Jesus to save you. In the book of Romans it says, "Whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 10:13).

Becoming a Christian is the most important decision you will ever make. Don't wait until later — do this now. God knows your heart. If you truly believe and want to be forgiven and saved, then pray something like this:

"God, I admit I am a sinner and I'm sorry for my sins. I believe Jesus Christ died on the cross and rose from the grave so my sins can be forgiven. I place my faith in Jesus as my Savior, and I commit to live for Him! Thank You, Lord Jesus, for saving me. Amen."

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About the author and book: Tina Ray lives in the beautiful pacific northwest with her husband, children and grandchildren. She has served in ministry with her husband for over 35 years, assisting in various aspects of children's, youth, college, women's, music, drama, and outreach ministry efforts. She is a teacher and encourager, and

contributes to the development of *I Am A Watchman* ministry resources.

Tina's stories and illustrations flow from the heart and are designed to communicate spiritual truths. This book seeks to provide comfort and guidance to families missing loved ones in the wake of the upcoming Rapture event. This story is told from the point of view of a girl who is *left behind*. With the help of her aunt, the Bible, and a note left by her mother, she finds hope in the midst of uncertainty and despair.