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The Kid and the Soldier®

SHARON ORSBORN

He was the baby of the family with two big sisters to boot.

He had no intention of growing up; the kid was really a hoot.

One thing he really loved to do was entertain his nephews and nieces.

He'd be rowdy and goof around. And those little kids loved him to pieces.

He'd play with them and make them laugh; he was really good at that.

Wrestle and giggle and make rude sounds and chase around after the cat!

The boy who loved babies and kittens went off to fight in the war.

After that, those simple things brought pleasure to him no more.

He'd had a special way with kids that babies sensed as well.

But all of that was gone from him when he came back from hell.

Innocence was what connected them, a trait we all have at first.

But life is hard and innocence fades as we begin to see the worst.

He saw a lot in that awful war, more than he ever should have seen. He went from being a kid to shooting at kids, with little in between.

Some things wouldn't leave him, memories ruled his every thought.

The kid remembered what the soldier did on the days that they had fought.

So the kid and angry soldier lived inside the same sad man.

The two of them were at odds; the kid needed to take a stand.

But how does a kid take back the life that the soldier stole away? The poor kid finally figured it out and fixed it one sad day.

So the kid is no longer with us and the soldier... he's gone as well. Both of them are in heaven for they'd already been to hell.

They had both fulfilled the missions assigned to them here on earth. Each one of us has a purpose from the very day of our birth.

With their missions accomplished they went home on a balmy Texas night.