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Delivered

Bonnie Frazier

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pulled higher and higher into the air. In a sudden burst of panic, you scream and reach out for me, "John...No!" You struggle and twist, fighting the serpent-like grip with every bit of energy you have. The bird screams as you flail and begin to pry the claws loose. With a desperate last heave, you pull yourself free and fall to the pier below. I cover you with my arms as the bird breaks away and begins spiraling above, leering at us with his giant checkered eyes.

A warm gust of air blows in from the ocean and the heavy veil of fog swirls and scatters. Darkness gives way, and the sky ignites into a radiant orange glow. The bird shudders and turns to retreat, screeching in vain as he flees from the miraculous light. He tears through the sky like a comet and is quickly lost in the fiery firmament above.

The winds slow to a gentle breeze and a peaceful calm ensues. The ocean face sprawls out before us like glass, and the division between water and sky is lost in a shimmering horizon.

"It's gone Leah," I whisper. We're alone now on the pier, and your face is buried against my chest. The sun spreads over us like a blanket of warm protection.

"Do you still love me?" you ask, squeezing me tightly. My eyes swell and begin to burn from a sudden rush of emotion; I find it hard to reply without sobbing.

"Of course I do Leah. I love you more than ever."

You turn and look up at me. The familiar signs of age have returned, but the gloomy veil has been lifted. Your crystal blue eyes are as big and bright as the sun and a sparkle of hope dances freely within them, signaling to me with flashing colors.

Delivered

Bonnie Frazier

The International Bible Deliverance
Center

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Dallas.

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Some days there is warm lemonade.

I saw a sign.