

Amanda Jordan

The Room

“Roger, you and Ben have been wanting a vacation for the last two years! Is this motel so bad that you are willing to pack up and go home?”

“Mary, it is not like that! I had a specific image in my head for the last two years of how this vacation was going to go, and now it is just ruined. We were going to go swimming and to the beach. Then we would eat ice cream on the boardwalk, and rollerblade in the park. Now all of that is ruined and it is not my fault!”

“Roger, I don’t like you blaming me for everything! I did the best that I could.”

“Not everything Mary, just this!”

“Well, you have a bad attitude Roger, because this place is just fine. It might not be the luxurious Hilton Hotel that you wanted to stay at, but it is clean and cheap, and it has enough room for all of us.”

Roger looked out the window of this cheap motel and wondered why his wife had to book them a room that looked like it hadn’t been upgraded since 1975.

“Mom, can you tell me why Dad thinks our vacation is ruined?” asked Ben, “What is wrong with this place, mom?”

“There is nothing wrong with this place Ben and our vacation is not ruined. Your father just needs to pout for a little bit and then he will be fine.”

“Pout, Mary, I do not part like you say I do!”

Roger looked back out the window and wondered if his wife was right. Was he pouting and overreacting?

“Oh, Roger, shush!” We are already here, and we are going to have a marvelous time.”

Roger smiled at his wife and wondered how they could be so different from each other, and still love each other as much as they did. He knew she was right and that his attitude was poor. He also knew that nothing could be changed, and it was time to have some fun.

Mary smiled and started packing their pool bag.

“I think it is time we get out of this room and go check out the pool. You two are going to have a blast once we get there. Let the vacation begin!”

“Yay, I am ready to swim with Daddy!”

Just as Mary was grabbing towels from the tiny bathroom, there was a ring on the telephone.

“I wonder who could be calling us here, said Roger.”

“Hello, this is Mary, how can I help you?”

Roger sat on the end of the bed as he listened to Mary side of the phone conversation.

“Who was that,” Roger asked as Mary hung up the phone.

Mary started laughing hysterically.

“What in the world is so funny Mary?”

“That was the front desk and they wanted to know if we knew how to work the heating unit in our room since they don’t make them anymore!”

Tears flowing down Mary’s face as she continued to laugh making her whole-body shake.

“Why is that so funny?”

Ben starts to laugh as he watches his mother hysterical episode.

“Goodness sakes Mary!”

“Ha-Ha Mommy is funny!”

“Roger, I am sorry for laughing that way! I am sure you are very confused, but it just struck me funny that this room is so old that everything inside it is obsolete. Including the rotary phone!”

“That is what I was trying to tell you Mary!” “Why do you think I got so upset?”

“Oh, Roger I am sorry, and if you would like to find another place to stay, we can do that.”

Roger looked around the old room and at his old-fashioned wife and realized that she must love this room because it reminds her of a simpler time. He didn’t need a fancy room since most of his plans involved being outside of the room and Mary was right it was clean and plenty big enough for the three of them.

“This room will do just fine Mary.”

They grabbed their stuff and headed to the pool to swim.

Roger and Ben jumped in the water as Mary pulled up a lounge chair to sunbathe in.

Mary looked over at her son and husband. She knew then that as long as they were together that would have a great time.