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Chapter One

Phil wants a girlfriend, but he can't find one. He is thirty-six. He works in a factory. His co-workers are all men. So, he doesn't have the chance to meet women. Last year, he downloaded many dating apps onto his phone. He contacted some women from the dating apps. He went on some dates. Some of the women were nice, but they were not interested in Phil.

Today is Saturday. Phil is walking in the park. It is a beautiful day. There are many families in the park. They look happy. Mothers and fathers are playing with their children. He watches a man and his son play football. Phil feels sad.

I want a family. I want a wife and a child. But maybe I will be single forever, he thinks. Some children run past him. "The balloon man is next to the lake!" they shout. "Let's buy a balloon!"

Phil looks at the lake. There is an old man selling balloons. Some of the balloons are star-shaped. Some are heart-shaped.

Children like balloons, he thinks. He watches the children buy some balloons. Then, he has an idea.

He goes to the balloon seller.

"Could I have a heart-shaped balloon, please?" he asks the balloon seller.

"Of course," says the old man, smiling. "Is it for your wife?"

Phil smiles. "Er...yes," he says.

He buys the balloon. The balloon is big. Some people look at him. He walks home to his small apartment.

He ties the balloon to the door knob. Then, he goes to his computer desk. He prints out a photograph of himself. He picks up a small piece of notepaper and writes,

--- "Hi, my name is Phil. I am looking for a girlfriend. If you find this, will you be my girlfriend? Thank you! phil @abc.com."---

He gets some tape and walks over to the balloon. He ties the message and photo to the string of the balloon. Then, he takes the balloon to the window. Phil's apartment is on the 6th floor. He opens the window. It is a windy day. He puts the balloon out of the window and releases it. The balloon flies high in the sky. He watches the balloon until he can't see it anymore.

I hope the balloon brings me love, he thinks.

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Chapter Two

The next day is very sunny. Many people are in the park in the town next to Phil's town. Ethan and Dominic are eight years old. They are playing in the park.

Dominic looks up at the sky.

"Look! There is a balloon!" he shouts.

Ethan looks up too.

"Oh yes! It is coming lower! Let's chase it!"

The two boys run after the balloon.

"It is moving very fast!" shouts Ethan. "But it is coming lower. I think we can catch it."

The two boys run faster. The balloon comes lower. It lands in a tree.

"Let's climb the tree! Let's get the balloon!" says Dominic.

----END OF SAMPLE-----