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Darkness was a hungry monster, it devoured and savored the bright lights, thus leaving me empty and lonely. When I was a kid, I once thought that it is the bad and foul Darkness Monster which took Mommy away from me every night. Mother was a single mom, who raised me up all on her own. Because of the financial problem, she had to work double, sometimes triple jobs to pay the bills. In the morning, she worked in a department store selling fragrance, and convenience store at night. Therefore, whenever she came back from work in the afternoon, she brought home

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the soothing smell of jasmine with her. I always knew that Mom was coming up stairs to our apartment, through my tiny nose sniffing. However, Mother had to leave for work, hours later. Mother always tucked me to bed and made sure I had fallen asleep before she tiptoeing away. That is why I woke up at midnight crying my eyes out searching for her. We always do things together, I couldn't stand even a bit of loneliness without her.

After acknowledging my emptiness and loneliness, one day, Mother brought back home a cuddly and fluffy teddy bear for me. I named it Jasmine, and I even sneaked into Mother's closet, to get a few drops of fragrance to put on the teddy bear. Thereafter, whenever Mom went to work at night and I felt lonely, I hugged the teddy bear close to my chest and felt the scent of Mom. As years passed by, this teddy bear which helped me get through the lonely nights still sleeps beside me every night.