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From *Before Oz* by Lauren Grove

Frank, 30s, tells his dying niece one last story...

FRANK: You were right all along, Dorothy. It wasn't a boy. It was actually a little girl who once went to Oz... and her name was Dorothy. She lived with her aunt and her uncle in the prairies of Kansas. One day, after a long drought, the rains finally came. But with them came a giant cyclone. The cyclone swept up the little girl and whisked her away to the magic land of Oz! She made many new friends in Oz. Including a man made entirely of tin. He didn't start that way. He was once a regular man who chopped wood for a living. But he transformed after the Wicked Witch of the West placed a curse on him! The cursed man was forced to go to the tinsmith for a cure. The only thing the tinsmith could do was build the man a new body, made entirely of tin. Well, every part except one. The tinsmith forgot to give the Tin Man a heart. His chest... His chest was empty.

But, other than the missing heart, he didn't mind having a body made of tin. He shone so brightly in the sun that he felt very proud. There was only one danger—that his joints would rust; but he kept an oil-can with him at all times just in case. However, there came a day when he was chopping wood in the forest and became caught in a rainstorm. He had forgotten his oil can back at his cottage. Before he realized the danger, his joints had rusted, and he was left to stand in the woods, frozen, with nothing to do except remember his missing heart. You see, Dorothy, sometimes a heart can break so completely, that it feels like it's gone forever.