The Other Thief: An Easter Sunday Monologue



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🚖 🚖 🚖 🚖 4.2 out of 5		
Language	: English	
File size	: 1062 KB	
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled	
Screen Reader	: Supported	
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled		
Word Wise	: Enabled	
Print length	: 14 pages	
Lending	: Enabled	



I am the other thief, the one who hung beside Jesus. You have heard my story many times, but you have never heard it from my perspective.

I was a thief, a robber. I stole from the rich and gave to the poor. I was a rebel, an outlaw. I lived outside the law, and I was content with my lot in life.

But then I met Jesus. He was a strange man, a holy man. He spoke of love and forgiveness, and he showed compassion to everyone he met, even to me.

I didn't understand him at first. I thought he was a fool. But as I listened to him, something began to change within me. I began to see the world in a new light. I began to see the error of my ways. I asked Jesus for forgiveness, and he forgave me. He told me that I would be with him in paradise. I didn't know what paradise was, but I knew that it was a good place, and I was grateful for his offer.

We were crucified together, Jesus and I. We hung on the crosses side by side, and we talked to each other as we died.

"Why are you here?" I asked him. "You are innocent."

"I am here," he said, "to save you."

"Save me?" I asked. "How can you save me? We are both going to die."

"I am the way, the truth, and the life," he said. "No one comes to the Father except through me."

I didn't understand what he meant, but I believed him. I believed that he was telling the truth, and I believed that he could save me.

And then, as I died, I saw a bright light. I heard a voice, and the voice said, "Come with me."

I followed the voice, and it led me to a beautiful place. It was a place of peace and joy. It was paradise.

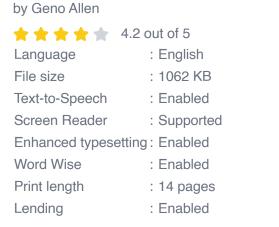
I am here in paradise now, and I am grateful to Jesus for saving me. I am grateful for the opportunity to share my story with you, and I hope that my story will inspire you to seek forgiveness for your sins and to follow Jesus.

For Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through him.

Amen.



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