## AWESOME stories

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## The Bath



## THE BATH

By Janice Veldman

She came to bathe me. can you imagine? How does one go about that? The Depend is removed. *I* sat on the safety seat We will have to remove your top Really? Could we just leave it on? It is a covering. Completely vulnerable. Thankfully the faucet needed attending. I quickly removed it and wrapped myself with myself. She prepared the water, the cloth *Gently she started washing my back* Then one arm *Leaving the other for my covering* Some covering I thought One leg, then the other She let me do what is private Shampooed my hair Then, like a mother, she took a cloth and wiped the water from my face Seemed like an unnecessary step at the time Covered me with a towel as she began drying Combed my hair, another unnecessary step For I was headed to bed Dressed me Tenderly tucked me into bed Hooked up the oxygen Lingered asking if there was anything else needed What could be needed? She ignored my frailties, my ugliness Said I was beautiful when I apologized for my appearance She did not shame me

> She gave me the gift of dignity. She is a Mother of Mercy.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at: <a href="http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/The-Bath">http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/The-Bath</a>

See Learning Tasks for this story online at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/The-Bath