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Crit. Studio: Everyday Objects

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Miranda's Necklace

One object that holds importance for Miranda is a necklace given to her by her mother that she wears almost every day. When asked how much it means to her, she replied, "If I lost it I would die." Miranda had received this necklace right after one of her close friends, Andrea, passed away at the age of five. On the day of the memorial Miranda's mother had woken her up after the service and given her the necklace, a gold chain with an angel wing charm. Engraved on the back of the charm is the phrase, "Andrea, friends forever." Andrea's death was extremely sudden and to this day the cause is unknown to Miranda. Her and Andrea had met in preschool when they were three years old and were basically inseparable. They were the best of friends; always having sleepovers and talking on the phone when they weren't together. Their parents also became very close through their friendship. After Andrea's passing, a foundation was created by Miranda's mother and grandmother in her name that assists families with medical bills they may not be able to afford for their children. They felt that it was important for something good to come out of such a tragic event. The foundation also gives Miranda some sort of peace as it shows that Andrea's death was not insignificant. Coincidentally, an angel wing is the foundation's logo. The impact this event had in Miranda's life was catastrophic. Losing a

loved one is possibly one of the most painful and challenging experiences anyone could ever go through. However, the necklace is something that has allowed Miranda to feel connected to Andrea and a way to commemorate her life in conjunction with the Andrea Foundation. Miranda says she has always felt that Andrea is her guardian angel and that when she wears the necklace she feels protected. Miranda feels that she always has a little piece of Andrea with her as she moves through life.

It is amazing that one object can hold such significance for a person. However, it is usually the memory that is attached to that object that gives it such power and value. People can collapse into emotion at the mere sight of an old T-shirt, or a dusty wooden jewelry box. There are many people out there who keep mementos from loved ones who have passed which gives them a sense of security knowing that they still have a piece of them. It is a beautiful phenomenon and is something that is part of the wonder that simplicity brings.