

What is a Father?



Fathers Fight Dragons

A father is a person who is forced to endure childbirth without an anesthetic.

He growls when he feels good and laughs very loud when he is scared half-to-death.

A father never feels entirely worthy of the worship in a child's eyes. He is never quite the hero his daughter thinks.

Never quite the man his son believes him to be. And this worries him sometimes, so he works too hard to try to smooth the rough places in the road of those who will follow him.

And, while mothers cry where it shows, fathers stand and beam—outside—and cry inside.

Fathers are men who give daughters away to other men, who aren't nearly good enough, so that they can have children that are smarter than anybody's.

Fathers fight dragons almost daily. Knights in shining armor; fathers in shiny trousers. There's little difference as they march away each work day. They hurry away from the breakfast table, off to the arena which is sometimes called an office or a workshop. There, with callused hands, they tackle the dragon with three heads; Weariness, Works, and Monotony. And they never quite win the fight, but they never give up.

...earning our stripes, every day.