

# LISKEARD: *Stories of Stuff*

## Grace Kelly Monaco by P. T. McAllister

I feel awful for not remembering her dying. It must have been happening all around us, but I really don't remember any of it.

I mean, if you hadn't had your first heart attack that same day, Frank, you know I'd have been there with the rest of them, laying flowers at the gates. I love that sort of thing, don't I? Hollywood, royalty. Always have. Can't say why. Silly, really.

Anyway, I suppose we had more important things on our minds. And thank God you pulled through. Poor Princess Grace though – she wasn't so lucky.

I know it sounds strange, but I suppose that's why I brought you back here. You never said where you wanted to be scattered and this just seemed... right, somehow.

I don't know if I ever told you, but it was such a comfort when I found out you were having your operation in The Princess Grace Hospital. Such a silly thing, I know.

Just a name.

But I felt like she was looking down on us. The whole time I thought of her up there, rather than you on the table with your heart outside of your chest. You made it through then too. I suppose I just got used to you always making it through. And then, finding you like that. And now... holding you. Like this.

Oh Frank. I don't want to let you go, but I can't exactly keep you in a pot on the telly, can I? You'll be happy here, I'm sure. Look how beautiful it is. And warm. And I'll make sure I join you when the time comes. Till then, my darling. Find Princess Grace and tell her I'm ever so sorry I don't remember her dying. I just had you on my mind the whole time.

*Inspired by a Ted Baker handbag owned by Maureen from the Knit and Natter group at Liskerrett Community Centre*



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THE  
WRITERS'  
BLOCK

Liskeard Stories of Stuff was a training programme led by writer Anna Maria Murphy for six emerging writers from SE Cornwall: Liz Berg, Joshua Edwards, P.T. McAllister, Cheryl Nosworthy, Shelley Trower and Nell Turner. The project focussed on the rich seam of stories to be gathered from real experiences or from precious objects.

This project was created and managed by The Writers' Block but could not have been successful without the collaboration of Liskerrett Community Centre, Liskeard Museum, Liskeard Library and Real Ideas along with funding from Liskeard Town Council and Feast. Thanks must also go to the people who have shared their remarkable and individual stories so generously.

[www.thewritersblock.org.uk](http://www.thewritersblock.org.uk)



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