

DAD has some trouble replacing this envelope, and begins to tear up. He reaches for a blank piece of paper and begins to write, speaking out his heart.

DAD: (Read out the current date) Dear Ronny ⁺ /// I tried so many times to write this letter to you, but I could never do it /// I just got too angry. It just seemed like ⁺ time stood still while the war went on. We just waited for you to come home. Even, today, I still hope to hear your footfalls on the hardwood floors in the hallway. But it isn't going to happen. /// Not much has really changed around here. Oh, wait, they're tearing down the old high school. I hear talk about a mini mall, but that doesn't mean much to you, does it? Well Ronny, I'm 72 years old, now, and mostly grey. But you'll always be nineteen to me. Your Mom, well, she's just as beautiful as ever. She kept all your letters all these years. Kept them in a metal box, tied up with ribbon. Your sister Janie got married back in 1974. You'd love her husband Reg. He's a good and godly man. They have four children, and they're all grown now. She told them all about you, and her son even named his first son after you. Anyway, Ronny, my breakthrough finally came. But you probably all ready know it, don't you? The preacher said there was joy in heaven over one sinner who repents. Hopefully one of the angels told you. But, yeah, your old Dad, got saved. I've finally been able to let go of the stupid self pride, and the anger. And, after 40 years, I can write you back. I now understand how much your sacrifice meant. Besides, you made it home, to the one home that counts. You're safe at home with God. Rest well, Ronny, and in peace. Love, Dad. PS: I'll see you when I get home.

DAD carefully folds that letter, and places it lovingly in the box with the others. He closes the box, puts it back, and EXITS.

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| ⁺ Short Pause | Character Line |
| <u> </u> Phrase | <u>~~~~~</u> Slow down speech |
| <u>/</u> 1 second Pause | <u>~~~~~</u> Speed up speech |
| <u>//</u> 2 second Pause | <u> / </u> Rising Pitch |
| <u>///</u> 3 second Pause | <u> \ </u> Lower pitch |
| <u>—</u> Simple Stress | |
| <u>==</u> Stronger Stress | |
| <u>===</u> Strongest Stress | |