

My very own lighthouse

If you come to my house, from the window in my bed room you will see the sea, the beach and lots of fishing boats.

One of them, the prettiest one of all belongs to my daddy. My daddy's a fisherman.

He always brings lots of fish back with him and my mummy runs to the market to sell it.

—"People like fresh fish"—, she says.

In the living room below the frame with the knots is my favourite picture of my mummy and daddy with me in the middle.

Sometimes my daddy goes far out to sea for many days. That is when I have these dreams.

Sometimes I have nightmares of stormy seas and see my daddy all alone on his boat... I wake up very scared.

That's what happened tonight, I ran to my mummy and told her about my bad dream. She told me about lighthouses and how they help the fishermen and she gave me a book with lots of pictures in it.

I think she is a bit scared too.

I spent a lot of time looking at the book full of big lighthouses, little lighthouses, colourful ones too...

Did you know that some people live in lighthouses? I would like to live in a lighthouse and help my daddy come home.

I know! I'll build my own lighthouse! The biggest and tallest one in the world! I'm going to ask all my toys for help and together we'll bring my daddy back.

The toys were very happy with the news, even Ronaldo, my lazy yellow duck.

We worked for hours! We piled up the wooden cubes my Auntie Jo gave me so high that they reached out of the window.

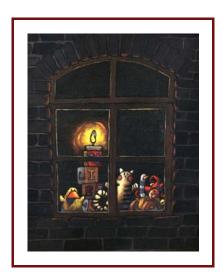
I climbed and climbed... up into the clouds until I reached the brightest star in the sky, the one my mummy told me was just for me...

I asked her to sit on my lap and help me and she did.

I sat on top of my lighthouse with my star on my lap.

Now even if daddy was far away, even if it was really dark... He would see my light from the lighthouse I built just for him.

If my daddy comes home tonight I would ask him to look out of my bedroom window. He would see the sea, the beach and lots of fishing boats—and my very own lighthouse of love.



Francisco Cunha My very own lighthouse Windged, Chariot Press, 2005