

Mary was going to go to work on Monday but she came down with a terrible cold on Sunday. It was awful, really really bad, made her throat swollen up, in fact even swallow was really painful. She got really upset about it and decided to call in sick on Monday.

The boss answered, and she didn't need, to say much for him to realise, how ill she was. She sounded terrible, really really bad, her voice was all garbled and he could barely make her out. So he said don't worry, take the day off work and see if you're well enough to come back in on Tuesday.

- But on Tuesday she felt even worse. She thought, maybe there's something wrong with me, I mean really wrong with me as she hadn't felt this bad in ages. She talked to her husband and he said well why not go and see a doctor and he might have some good advice for you. So Marie said okay I will go and see the doctor this afternoon.

But she felt so *awful* that her Husband had to drive her to the doctor's surgery as she couldn't even walk. When she got out of the car she nearly fell over and her husband had to help her up and help her into the surgery and help her into a seat. She was

crying by then cos she felt so bad. Finally the doctor said okay you can come in now and he saw to her.

He checked her throat but it all looked fine to him. Maybe a bit swollen. But otherwise oK So he prescribed her some cough medicine and told her to get plenty of rest. So it looked like she wasn't going to go work on Wednesday after all. She would have to see what she felt like on Thursday.

When she got home that night she just wanted to watch the lion King on DVD and curl up on bed. It had been her birthday recently and her husband had brought the Lion King for her on DVD.. So she took her cold medicine and Ted said to her do you want anything else to make you comfortable and she said not really I think I will be fine now if I just take my medicine and get into bed and put on this DVD and rest.

The Lion King DVD was really good and Mary fell asleep feeling happy. **The next morning** she still felt really bad though and so she called in sick again. Her boss was quite understanding about it, she even said that Mary could have the whole week off if she wanted. But Mary said I will try and see if I can come in on

Thursday.

Thursday came round like a flash in the pan and Mary did feel a little better. She had been taking her cough and cold medicine for a few days and felt quite a lot better. She put on her best work suit and did her makeup and went into work feeling brand new. Her boss said to her that she looked much better and he hoped she stays better because there was a big project coming up that she needed her help on.

Mary said well what is this big project? Her Boss said it is going to involve some long hours and you might need to work over the week-end on this one. Mary frowned. She didn't really like working on weekends. And also, lately, she had been thinking that she didn't much like her job at all. She decided it was time for a change and thought maybe it's time for a real change. Maybe I should become a librarian or a hairdresser or just anything that doesn't involve me sitting at a desk 9-5 and occasionally having to work week-ends. She thought, it isn't fair for me to have to work weekend's when my friends all get to have time off to look after their kids.