

Jack wouldn't tell anyone about this. Not because he didn't love the tradition, but because he suspected others would mock him. He appreciated the effort his father made, getting up early to make a special breakfast, and his insistence on taking photos. Sure it was sappy, but after losing Mom a few years back, Jack knew Dad wanted to commemorate big life events as she had. And he'd patiently indulged his father over the years, from photos with Santa to Easter egg hunts. He figured it gave Dad something to focus on, a place to put the energy that might otherwise drown him in grief. It might be time for his dad to find a hobby, though, because Jack doubted most guys were devouring an elaborate breakfast, complete with a new lunch box, and back-to-school photos after Christmas break — not if they were returning to the classroom as the teacher.

The Reluctant Author

