**Connect to Your Life**

**Haunting Memories:** In the story you are about to read, Granny Weatherall is unable to shake the memory of an event that occurred 60 years earlier. Think about memories that replay again and again in your mind.

Which of these do you recall so vividly that you can almost relive the moments? They may not necessarily be bad memories; they may, indeed, be good ones. Choose one to tell about.

**Student Response**

A memory that has replayed in my head over and over again in my head is my uncle's funeral when I was 5 years old. This memory affected me so much because he was like my second dad and it was like losing someone who I looked up to and always wanted around. When I saw him laying in the casket and trying to understand the fact that I will never get to see him again, he was a special person in my life. This memory will always be in my head, you never know what it feels like until you lose someone extremely close to you. Because of his death it affects many decisions that I make in my life today, I always think about what he would want me to do and how proud he would be of me. Because my uncle was so close to me it hurt to know he was gone thirty minutes after he left my house that very night and not being able to tell him what I wanted for my birthday after he told me to think about it and tell him in the morning. No one can truly understand the pain that you experience when you lose someone so close.

**My Feedback**

Can you remember any specific incidents with your uncle when he was alive? I try to hold happy memories of events with my parents when they were young and happy rather than their old age, sickness, and deaths.

You are right about pain. Just know that you are not alone. Others have experienced pain too; it may not be just like yours, but we have something in common.