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Childish Things

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Childish Things (above), Anna Tausz

Tipping over

That winter long ago, dressing your two-year-old in a pink snowsuit and purple snow boots, you let her go. She tipped over in two minutes surprising you but you were quick to catch her.

On one frigid, snowy morning, you were lifting the heavy nozzle to fill your gas tank, it snapped back at you trying to tip you over.

This summer afternoon, your dysfunctional spine lacked the strength to tilt the bag of rice, exactly twenty pounds, from the grocery cart to the trunk of your car. You were about to tip over.

Then, remember the scene from Kolkata? A man was stacking a dozen bricks on the head of a frail, kneeling woman. She stood up slowly hobbling for hundred yards, to the high-rise under construction. Consequences would have been dire if she tipped over.