

He wasn't just the sort of hero you *could* believe was out there, he was the sort of hero you *wanted*, or maybe even *needed*, to believe in. He was the most intuitive person I ever met; he could change the way you saw the world with just a few words on a piece of paper. That is, after all, why we started calling him "Letters."

While his story started years ago, for most of us it started with a simple news broadcast.

The video started with an image of a pleasant looking newscaster speaking into the camera:

"It seems we have our very own guardian angel here in New York City. Ten days ago, we ran the following story: a young girl, who prefers to remain anonymous, sought to take her own life after a recent family tragedy. She left her suicide note and went to the Brooklyn Bridge intending to jump."

The video switched to an image of the bridge, on the platform around the first tower out from Manhattan.

"When she arrived, at the very spot she'd chosen, she found a letter addressed directly to her attached to the bridge. It said exactly what she needed to hear to change her mind. That letter saved her life. The question remains, however, who wrote the letter? It was signed simply, 'A Friend.'

"She returned home to find her family and friends understandably frantic, having found her suicide note some time earlier. When her father saw the letter left on the bridge, he felt he needed to thank her rescuer. So, with no way to trace the sender,

they sent the letter to us with this message: ‘Whoever you are and wherever you’ve gone, thank you. You are a hero.’”

The video returned to the image of the newsroom.

“Within hours of airing the original story, our offices were flooded by walk-ins, call-ins, emails and other forms of communication, reporting other similar letters found throughout the city. Dozens of them have been discovered.

“The M.O. is always the same. They appear exactly where and when the person needs them, and they never come through the mail. They are all signed, ‘A Friend.’ And they say exactly what the person needs to hear.

“No one seems too great or too small. Again, thank you, whoever you are.

“More on this story as it becomes available.”

After everything that happened, though, we should have realized that sometimes it’s the hero that needs saving the most.