



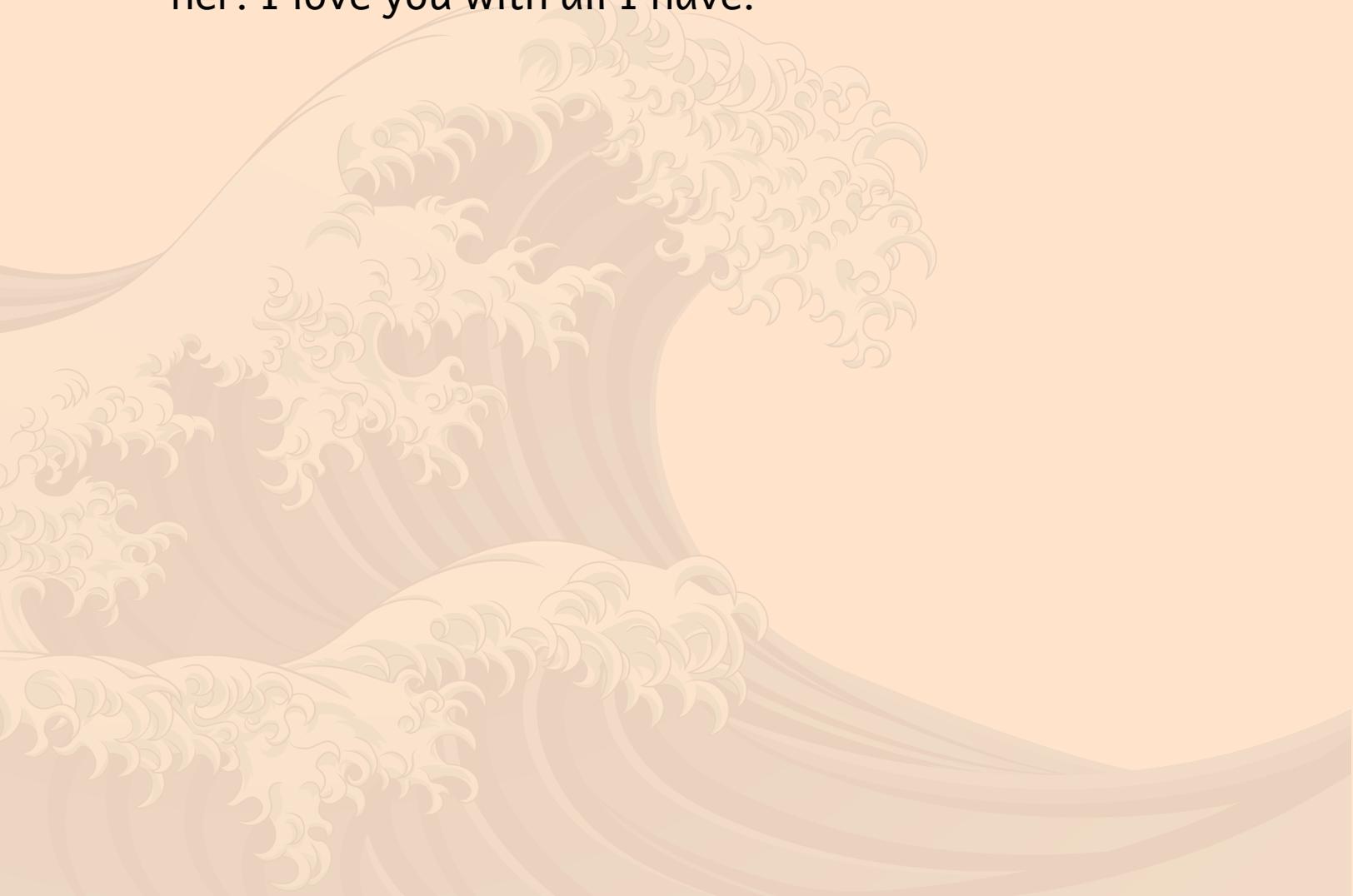
**The Tsunami
and the Boy
With a Troubled
Heart**

By: Paul Christino



Dedications

This book is dedicated to the two women who have made my life a beautiful one. My Mother, who sacrificed everything just to see me smile. And my Wife, who captivates me every time I lay eyes on her. I love you with all I have.



There once was a boy with a troubled
heart.



One night, he cried so much that he filled his whole bedroom with tears. The tears made his mattress float like a raft, and that night he floated right out of his bedroom window onto the street. Of course, this brought him great fear, which caused him to cry even more. In fact, he cried so much that his tears created a big wave. The wave grew higher than the houses and higher than the treetops.

So, here was a little boy holding onto his mattress for dear life, riding an enormous wave made from his own tears. What happened next was unbelievable. The wave became so big that the people on the news began reporting that a wave was taking over the boy's city.

The city was nowhere near the coast, so scientists took samples of the wave to figure out how it had formed. Since tears are salty, the wave was similar to water from the sea. Naturally, the scientists believed it was no ordinary wave from the ocean, but a destructive tsunami that had reached all the way to the city.

The wave gathered so much momentum that it flooded everything in its path.

The destruction brought the boy much guilt and shame because boys are supposed to be tough and never cry. "It's entirely my fault," the boy said to himself. "If I never cried in the first place, this would never have happened." Of course, this only made him shed more tears, which added to the force of the tsunami.