

Sesame Street, Mr. Hooper's Death

(Big Bird gives everyone pictures that he drew of them.)

Big Bird: And last but not least, ta-da!

(Shows picture of Mr. Hooper.)

Big Bird: Well, I can't wait till he sees it!

(silence)

Big Bird: Say, where is he? I wanna give it to him. I know! He's in the store.

Bob: Uh, Big Bird. He's ... he's not in there.

Big Bird: Oh. Then where is he?

Maria: Big Bird, uh, don't you remember we told you? Mr. Hooper died. He ... he's dead.

Big Bird: Oh yeah. I remember. Well, I'll give it to him when he comes back.

Susan: Big Bird, Mr Hooper's not coming back.

Big Bird: Why not?

Susan: Big Bird, when ... when people die, they don't *come* back.

Big Bird: Ever?

Susan: No, never.

Big Bird: Well, why not?

Luis: Well, Bird Bird, they're dead. They ... they can't come back.

Big Bird: Well, he's *gonna* come back. Why, who's gonna take care of the store? And who's gonna

David: Big Bird, I'm gonna take care of the store. Mr. Hooper, he left it to me. And I'll make you you

Susan: We'll look after you.

Big Bird: Hmmm.

(silence)

Big Bird: Well, it won't be the same.

Bob: You're right, Bird Bird. It's ... it's ... it'll never be the same without him.

Big Bird: Mmm.

Bob (crying): But you know something? We can all be very happy that we had a chance to be with

Big Bird: Yeah.

Olivia: And Bird Bird, we'll still have our *memories* of him.

Big Bird: Well, yeah ... yeah ... our memories. Right. Why, memories, that's how I drew this picture.

David: We all feel sad, Big Bird.

Big Bird: He's *never* coming back?

David: Never.

Olivia: No.

Big Bird: Well, I don't understand! You know, everything was just fine! I mean, why does it have to be this way?

Gordon: Big Bird, it has to be this way ... *because*.

Big Bird: Just because?

Gordon: Just because.

Big Bird: Oh.

(Looks at Mr. Hooper's picture.)

Big Bird: You know, I'm gonna miss you, Mr. Hooper.

Maria (crying): That's *Hooper,* Big Bird, *Hooper.*

Big Bird: You're right.

(Everyone gathers around Big Bird for a hug.)