

Opposite sisters

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Ti- a 17 year old fire bender girl saves a 7 year old waterbender (Ami)... (full summary 1st chapter)

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1 - Full summary

She was a 17 year old fire bender. A wanted criminal of her country of birth, hated for her origin by everyone else she's never had any responsibility for anyone outside herself for 5 years.

But when she saves a 6 year old water bender from some fire nation soldiers she finds herself at odds with the youngster and at first is unwilling to accept someone else to care for.

But through her elemental opposite her eyes are opened to the world around her- through the ugliness her eyes always saw she can now see beauty as the young girl can, and begins to learn to laugh and love all over again.

And then she finds the child is the holder of a great secret- one which will turn not just hers- but everyone's world on its head.

Particularly when she meets "baldy" and his friends...

Well that's the summary- do you like it? If you do I'll continue with it...

Angsty sort of at the start (it has to be) but it will become uplifting I promise!

For all its lies, thievery and deceit it is still a beautiful world... work hard and strive to be happy
(anonymous)

2 - Enter Ti

The girl pulled the hood around her head more tightly in an attempt to cover her face.

Her eyes could not be seen, they would expose her for who she was.

Such a pure amber colour- they yelled out her nationality to everyone- particularly the way they flared up when she was enraged.

Luckily it was raining and getting pretty dark, or she would have seen out of place in this market area of this earth village- the place was pretty much deserted however a part from some hardy customers and some desperate stall owners hoping to catch them.

She drew the earth kingdom money from her pockets; it wasn't much but it was all she could earn that day from doing what she usually did- odd jobs. She was skilled at craftship which meant in most of the areas of the land she travelled she could find some work in order to get money to survive.

She refused to beg or steal unless she had to, on principle, it was the one thing she could say about herself with pride.

Exchanging the money for a loaf of bread and some cheese she shifted her back pack which she carried with her everywhere, it was becoming uncomfortable, and no wonder, she'd travelled through the forest for almost 2 days without stopping.

It was time to find somewhere to set up camp.

She groaned slightly as she moved herself- she was just starting to realise how tired she actually was. *It's times like this I wish I was an air bender* she thought to herself as she climbed up a rather steep hill in order to reach her destination- a small cave.

No Platypi bear...good she said.

The cave was pretty much well sheltered- but there still were some leaks, so she placed up her tent quickly as she could.

Then, removing the bundle of wood she collected earlier from her sac she arranged it in the centre of the cave, surrounding it with stones.

She then snapped her fingers and a flame extended across from her index finger.

You she thought to it *are the reason I'm like this... but nonetheless without you still, I wouldn't be alive*

She sighed as she flicked it into the pile and watched as the flames danced, allowing the warmth to surround her.

She looked across from her seat to the mouth of the cave as the storm grew more violent- and to think

the day started bright. It mirrored her soul- on the outside a simple calm person could be seen, masking her torment.

She'd seen so much in her short life- things she'd never wished to see.

Was this her life now? Just surviving from day to day and nothing more?

She'd toyed with the idea of suicide before, of course she had- but she wouldn't, that was the coward's way out in her view- no she'd just keep moving until she stopped.

The problem was, she had no idea where she was going or what she was looking for.

3 - Enter Ami

Ti groaned as the light hit her eyes from the gap in her tent... she'd have to get it fixed... she looked outside... goodness the sun was just rising! What had made her wake up at such an early hour?

Wait... what was that noise by the river...?

"Let me go! Please!" the young child cried out "I haven't done anything wrong!"

Her deep blue eyes began to fill with tears. They glistened so hard that one of the slightly less cruel soldiers even seemed taken aback.

"Maybe this is a bad idea" the youngest of the four said "She's just a little kid..."

"I don't care," the eldest snarled "She's a water bender... have you forgotten our father? He was killed by the avatar during the North Pole siege! As was our uncle! He was killed because of people like THIS. Think of it... as justice"

His younger brother's face twisted as he remembered. He slowly nodded and advanced toward the child.

"Justice? And what would four fire nation soldiers know of that?" murmured a female voice from above them.

The men gaped as the hooded figure descended, quickly yet gracefully from the tree beside them.

At first no-one spoke for a few moments- the only sound which could be heard were the heavy breathing of the child as the soldier gripped her arms behind her back and the rushing of the river beside her... so close to her own element and yet so far...

The men then laughed. "A girl? THIS is the best defence you people have here? You amuse me... and for that we'll at least let YOU leave... now go... we have business with this girl..."

"I'm not leaving without the girl" she said harshly "Now, if you'll be so kind stop scaring her and let her come with me- I don't believe she wants your company"

The young waterbender's eyes widened at this person- she... she was so BRAVE. In fact her hero's defiance gave HER courage and she decided to do something she had been too scared to think about before.

"AGGGH!!!" she wrenched her arm quickly from the captor and kicked him. HARD. On the nuts.

As he lay winching she quickly ran to the other girl. Who she could swear gave her a small smile... but it was hard to tell under that cloak...

"Good job" she said softly "Only next time- I'd advise you to aim a little to the left and just a smidge higher for maximum impact...now you run along the river... you got it? Stay way back... things could start to get a bit messy..."

"We did not wish to do this but I'm afraid you've given us no choice." he nodded to his fellow soldiers as the one who'd been so "viciously attacked" composed himself and also stood up to join them.

Summoning their element all four aimed at the hooded girl.

She simply stood, waited and smiled again.

Suddenly at the last moment she spun round on her heels bending the fire to her own will- and twisting it back upon the four men.

They all yelled as the impact caused them to be thrown into the river which (thankfully) for them. Put out the flames- however the current being so strong they were soon pulled away from the bank from the mountain.

Suddenly a gust of wind wipped through the area and blew off Ti's hood. But she didn't quickly put it back on- under the circumstances there was really no point.

She winced as she made to walk past the child. Bracing herself for the inevitable accusations and suspicious words which tumble from this seemingly innocent girl's mouth.

The first time she'd encountered racism, she'd been shocked- but even after 5 years of it it was now just as hurtful

"That... was so COOL!!" she yelled "You're a bender? I'm one too! But I bend water..."

Slightly stunned, Ti continued walking to the cave- as the young child continued to chat excitedly to her behind.

"I'm Ami by the way" she heard her say from the mass of words

"You can call me Ti" she replied then she coughed "Um, no offence kid- but don't you have a family you should be getting back too...?"

4 - Responsibility sucks

Ti sighed as she watched Ami water bend down by the river. The formations she was trying to form were advanced, given her extremely young age (6 years old).

Hell, Ti had only truly started to realise she was a fire bender at that stage in her life- she'd nearly singed her father's eyebrows off on that day. She cracked a rare smile as she thought of how ridiculous he looked- with no eyebrows, and yet so joyous at the fact this meant all 3 of his children were benders as he'd twirled her round.

It was one of the few happy memories she had- her older brothers had begun teaching her almost immediately- until she found a true bending teacher a year later- but it was her father who'd taught her perhaps the most important lesson of all.

"It is important to realise that although you're a fire bender, the other elements can help you on your way to mastering it"

He said that was something his teacher had taught him- though he never told her who that was.

Getting back to the present, Ti sighed again in irritation as she watched Ami. She was doing that move all wrong- that stance was way off- and what the hell was that?!

She felt an urge to go down to her and tell her how to do it correctly- but she relented. She'd only get the wrong idea and stick around longer.

She'd let the young girl stay last night- after Ami had told her her mother was planning to meet her there, yet never turned up.

Now if whoever her mother was didn't show up it looked like Ti was stuck with her.

Which she was not happy about. Not at all.

But she had saved her- and until her family picked her up she was her responsibility.

That didn't mean she had to like it though. Far from it. Yet she thought Ami would have got the hint from the cold shoulder she was giving her.

Unfortunately the child had a "water of a mouse-duck's back" attitude it seemed.

Ti's ears twitched as she heard a crack echo from near where Ami was practicing.

"Ami! She hissed "Get your butt in here!"

The girl dropped the water she was bending into the river, smiled (insanely, in Ti's view) and ran up to

the cave quickly.

Ti pushed her back further into the cave "Wait there- and DON'T come out- understand?"

"Say the magic word."

"Huh?"

"PLEASE"

Ti growled "Just do as you're told."

"Say please!"

"Fine- PLEASE. Satisfied?"

The girl nodded and grinned again; Ti shook her head- how did that kid smile so much? Didn't her face hurt from it?

She darted from the cave to a nearby tree and watched intently.

Earth Kingdom soldiers.

She raised an eyebrow perhaps they could help.

Quite often she'd follow people for a while before enlisting help- observe them, in order to gauge whether they were trustworthy (she often came to the conclusion they weren't).

But she couldn't exactly do that, leaving a 6 year old in a cave all by herself...

She sighed and watched the 5 men go past.

Responsibility sucked.

5 - Broken

"So kid..."

"Ami- my mother always said it was rude..."

"Ami, she isn't here- though it was about her I wanted to ask about"

"Oh okay then." she smiled

Ti shook her head as she looked at the young girl lay on the ground, talking to a bug; usually when people asked you a question you were supposed to pay attention weren't you? But in the short time she'd met her she'd already learned this- ami got distracted easily- it didn't just have to be a bug- it could be a flower or even a rock- she seemed fascinated by everything and got side tracked. Not only that she'd often ask her questions.

Some Ti didn't know the answer to- like "How do bumblebees fly when their wings are too short?"

Some of which she did know the answer too, but were far too complicated for a 6 year old to understand like "Why is the sky blue?"

"Well light is..." and then Ami didn't listen.

Quite often Ti didn't answer- just said "Why do you need to know?"

And mi would just shrug and smile.

"Ami"

"Mmmm?"

"Pay attention will you? This is important."

"Okay"

"Look, we've been in this area for nearly a WEEK- I've never stayed this long in an area before, you keep telling me that your mother is coming, and yet I don't see it- we've moved caves several times, I know, but its unwise for me, or anyone I'm associated with to stay in one place for such a long time- it's dangerous"

"Why?"

"Because I'm a fire bender? Those soldiers can't be too far... they've probably started handing out my description to people..."

"But you're a GOOD fire bender- not like those soldiers..."

"Ami, I know you're young- but even you should realise 100 years is a long time..."

"Yeah..."

"Hardly anyone who remembers being friends with any firebenders is even ALIVE. I bend fire and therefore I am the enemy it's that simple."

"I didn't think of you as an enemy... besides the avatar is here now isn't he? Soon the war will end and life will get back to normal" she smiled ever the optimist

"There's no guarantees that he'll win- besides do you even if he does the rest of the world will be so forgiving after such a ,long and brutal war? Where the firenation showed no mercy? I don't THINK so... I mean my kind murdered an entire race of people...the air nomads... and the way they've treated the earth people and your kind Ami isn't exactly hospitable..."

Ami's face fell and she went red, shifting her eyes "Don't... Don't say that"

"What?"

"MY kind and YOUR kind- it... makes it sound like there's a great divide between you and me..."

"There kind of is you know... we're both foreigners to this land- but you'd be accepted- I wouldn't"

"Fire benders aren't all bad..." her lip quivered

"Most of the world will disagree with you though... including the avatar probably... I mean geez he's the last air bender isn't he?" she created a flame in her palm "And THIS is what killed them... wouldn't your mother be angry if she knew you were with me? Would she not clutch you closely if I walked past you two from fear? Heck, where is your mother? Does she not know that I really AM dangerous- and that I don't even trust myself...?"

Ami got up, and tears began streaming down her face- and then she ran, ran down further by the river. Ti didn't stop her- she knew where she was going, and it wasn't too far...

She'd hadn't meant to make her cry, but it was time someone told her the truth. Ami's life seemed filled with love and butterflies and she couldn't see what was really going on. At least that was what Ti thought.

Little did Ti know was that SHE was blind, and Ami was the one who could see.

She just didn't know it yet.

As Ti heard Ami's heartbreaking sobs echo throughout the mountains she began to hate herself a little more. 'Why does the truth have to be a way that we wish it wasn't?'

She'd probably broken the child's spirit, at half the age she was when hers had been and she hated herself for it.