

The center of the universe

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The last thing you expect when looking for superhero recruits is finding the someone just for you.

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" Ugh..."

Robin got to his knees. The masked teen had fainted due to a lack of air from his attack. Robin rubbed his face, searching for any blood or injury, but what he did find, or lack there of, was his mask. It must have fallen off or had been taken off while he was incapacitated. He scanned the ground around him in order to locate it.

" I believe this mask belongs to you."

The unmasked teen looked up from his position to the ground in front of him. Nothing.

" Umm, up here?"

Robin focused his attention upward. He saw long, slender legs wearing purple platform boots, an equally colored miniskirt. He sped upward towards her face. It was downcast, revealing only long, slightly unkempt red hair. The masked teen came to his feet and brushed himself off. Reaching out his hand, he noticed his savior clutched her chest very warily. He withdrew, and introduced himself.

" Hi, I'm Robin."

The redhead lifted her head. Robin saw a beautiful face, stained and battered by the rain. Her large, green eyes were heavy lidded, a sign of her fatigue. She opened her mouth to speak, but no words escaped. Instead, a heavy, raspy cough came out. The girls' eyes became glassy, losing focus. She started to descend. Robin sped forward, reaching out his arms in order to catch the falling girl. Eyes half closed, she unconsciously planted her lips onto his. Great surprise came with this unexpected kiss, and Robin found himself staring past red hair, off into the distance. It was awkward, yes, but...

" Jeez, she's heavy."

He pushed all thoughts of ANY kiss from his mind, and started his long trek home; passenger and all.

CHAPTER 1!!!!!! OMG!

2 - Interview with an alien

The Center of the universe
A semi-AU Teen Titans fanfiction
Rob/Star with one-sided Rob/Rae

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Chapter two~Interview with an Alien

Rain pounded heavily on the windows. Starfire woke up in a daze. What had happened? Had she been the victim of a Glindleblork pollen storm? No, there were no Glindleblork blossoms on Earth. She looked around, taking in her surroundings. It was the same dull, cold, industrial grey as the rest of the city. Yet, this room felt, somewhat warmer, more friendly....wait. A room? Yes, a room. Starfire noticed that she was no longer in an alley, underneath a makeshift roof of strange, brown material. She was in a bed, covered with a white blanket. How had she gotten to where she was now?

" I see you're finally awake."

The redhead focused her attention to the right of her. A young man, dressed in red and green looked at her warmly. She could see through his messy, jet black hair, the same mysterious, thin mask she had held in her hand before. It saddened her that she couldn't stare into the deep blue eyes more closely, but it couldn't be helped. Starfire rubbed her face. She could feel the blood rushing to her cheeks. Had he brought her here?

" How're you feeling?"

The young man stood up to examine her more closely. Starfire could see small lines of worry run across his cheeks. She felt strange, sort of entranced by him. He was so worried about her, so concerned. Nobody had been this worried about her since she arrived. The young man withdrew, and rested his head and arms on the bed.

" I'm glad you're awake. Now I can say thanks for saving me."

Starfire turned away from the teen. She looked towards the door, which stood some 5 feet away. A silhouette was moving closer and closer to the translucent glass frame. The door slid open, revealing a most unique character. He was rather short and scrawny, much like a weed. He certainly was colored as such; his hair was deep, pine green, and his skin was a lighter shade of the same hue. He was carrying a tray covered with small orange tubes. His face was distorted with unhappiness, as if he was forced to do something he did not want to do. The strange green boy slammed the tray heavily onto the counter.

" Whoa, Beast Boy, " The first teen stood up " What do you think you're doin? We have a guest."

Beast Boys' expression became one of quiet apology. He raised his left arm and rubbed the back of his head while reaching out the other.

" Hi! I'm Beast boy! Welcome to our humble abode, well, the medical room at least."

Starfire started to laugh. The one called Beast boy was rather entertaining. His unique appearance paired up with his sunny shady demeanor was quite enjoyable. Star fire held out her hand, as she learned that the grasping and shaking of one another's hands was a sign of acknowledgement and friendship. Beast boy gladly accepted.

" So, What's your name?" Beast boy began to play around with the caps of the bottles.

" My name is Starfire, of the planet Tamaran." Star responded happily.

Beast boys' ears perked up. He stared at her in disbelief and amazement. The green teens' mouth dropped slightly. Starfire couldn't help but giggle.

" You're an alien?"

The alien girl focused her attention back to the doorway. A large, strong looking man walked in, pushing some sort of equipment. His body reflected light quite well, and the blue, electrical parts of him glowed with energy. Stopping at the foot of the bed, he pulled out a long, thin rod, which was attached to the machine. He held it towards her, and (to her surprise) it extended and found a temporary home in Starfire's mouth. The device withdrew, and the new person turned his attention to the larger machine.

" Temperature seems normal. So, what was this about you being an alien?"

" I arrived here from the planet of Tamaran. I felt it important to find who I am and what I truly love before having my Merenial."

" Whata merenial?" Beast boy asked.

" Oh, The Merenial is the Tamaranean wedding... but it is not important. I wish not to talk about it."

Just then, a third person entered the room. It was a girl this time. Her hair was bluish purple, the same as the night sky. She wore a dark blue cloak fastened with a red jewel with the faint shape of a bird in the center. The girl's skin was gray, and her face seemed to express an uninterest in the world.

" So, this is where you all went." The new girl accused.

" Raven, come say hi to Starfire!" Beast boy waved his arms in a 'come here' gesture.

Raven folded her arms and walked slowly over to the collection of teens. Her expression remained stoic as she greeted, or rather, acknowledged Starfire's arrival. Nevertheless, Star remained happy and cheerful.

" Hello! My name is Starfire, I hope that we can be good friends...Raven, yes?"

" Yes." Raven acted indifferent.

" OH!" The metal and electric teen smacked his head, making a clanging sound. " I forgot to introduce myself! I'm Cyborg, second in command to the Teen titans and first class technician and mechanic!"

" Ok, so you are Beast boy, Cyborg, Raven and..." Starfire paused. She had not learned the name of the first young man. "Umm...."

" Robin. I'm Robin."

3 - Disbelief and Acceptance

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A semi-AU Teen Titans fanfiction

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Chapter Three~Disbelief and Acceptance

" Do you think it's a good idea to let her stay here?"

The rain was really pounding. The titans gathered outside the medical ward, discussing their current situation. Raven was showing obvious signs of doubt.

" I'm sure she'd be an excellent member of the team. She seems trustworthy and friendly. Plus she saved my life." Robin objected.

" How do you know? It was dark, and you were tired. For all we know, she was the one that assaulted you!"

" Will you chill?" Cyborg scolded Raven for her outburst " She could have heard you!"

" I dont think she can hear anything." Beast Boy withdrew his head from the medical room " She's GONE!"

" WHAT!?!?!?" Robin rushed to the medical room. He discovered that the window had been opened, and the patient obviously escaped. " Where could she have gone?"

The masked hero rushed to the open window. Looking out, he could see nothing short of a pitch black sky, lit up only by the faint windows of the city across the harbor. He couldnt see her. Robins' hair became limp and covered his pain. He hadn't done anything to repay his debt. Despair overcoming him, Robin looked towards the sky, wishing for some sign of hope. What he got, was a faint green light, the same that he saw just hours before. His eyes filled with hope as he rushed out of the room and to the stairs.

" ROBIN! Where are you going?" Raven inquired.

" The roof!"

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Starfire endured the freezing rain. It was nice to have met someone so kind and caring, but it was time to go. She had to find him, it's what she came to Earth for. The redhead closed her eyes, trying to push out the pain of leaving. Tears beginning to cumulate in her eyes, she began her ascent. Began being the operative word. Starfire found herself being restrained; something or someone was clutching her wrist.

" Where do you think you're going?"

Starfire turned around. The same mysteriuos mask and jet black hair stared at her with worry once more. The alien descended, hand still captured by the mysterious hero.

" Where do you plan on going?" Robin asked, voice displaying his anxiety.

" I...I do not know. I have no home on this planet. I suppose I have to go out and look for one..."

" Why dont you stay here?"

Starfire focused on the young man. She tried hard to replay the words over in her head. Had he just asked her to *stay*? In this place? Well, it wasnt Tamaran, but the people were just as accomodating. They all seemed to like her, even want her around. Starfire broke free of Robins' grasp, and clutched her

hands together, close to her heart. Maybe, maybe this is where she belonged. Looking up, she saw Robins face, which still showed signs of worry, but also displayed something new. A faint glimmer of hope resided in his slight smile. The Tamaranean herself found hope in this young mans' face, and, for once, felt at home.

" I will."

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" Where is she going to stay?!"

" We have plenty of rooms. I dont think that accomodations will be a problem."

" Well...Are you absolutely sure we can trust her?"

Robin turned from the medical rooms' door, to face the empath, whose expression was one of deep skepticism. Taking in a deep breath, Robin said:

" ...If we cant, we'll learn in due time."

Raven crossed her arms in anger.

"Look, " Robin sighed heavily. " Either way, shes' gonna be here for a while. And there's a very good chance that she'll be the 5th Teen Titan. So, tomorrow, after she's all rested, we're gonna see what she can do."

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It was a beautiful June day. The sky was a perfect sapphire, and even the city looked somewhat inviting. Starfire followed the Titans out of the building and into, what appeared to be a desert wasteland. The Tamaranean could not understand why they had brought her to such a lifeless place. By Earth standards, it was a perfect day to immerse yourself in water with friends, or enjoy a midday meal outside. There certainly was no water here, and no food had been brought...so....

" Are ya' ready?!?!?" Beast Boy shouted out.

" What?" Starfire had noticed that they had walked out farther, and they were now standing by a large machine. She ran out to their location, but came to an unwelcome surprise. She was standing on top of a large, metal pillar, and it was swaying dangerously.

" WHAT FORM OF TRICKERY IS THIS?!?!?" Starfire fought hard to retain her balance. " Was I mistaken when I believed that you were helping me?!?!?"

" You're here arent you?" Raven asked in tones of anger and disbelief. " You HAVE to undergo tests like this, to see how well you can fight, and how you react under pressure."

" Well," Starfire was clutching for dear life on the swaying pillar. " Could you have told me first?!?!?"

" No." Raven replied, the annoyance growing in her voice." You assailant wont tell you when theyre going to attack, and neither will we."

Starfire was too busy trying not to fall to reply. The teen shut her eyes, praying to the Gods that the pillar will stop. It did. Getting up, Starfire was getting ready to shout angry Tamaranean curses at them, but found herself dodging what appeared to be a giant marble. The object shot at her with great force, it was hard to tell what it was.

" WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO NOW?!?!?" Starfire yelled.

" We also need to see how you fight." Cyborg said. coolly." You need to if you're gonna be a Teen titan." Starfire continued to dodge the volley of bullets. Various protests and commands issued from the Teen titans, demanding that she show her fighting technique. This was not what she needed. She could not fight this way. All of the pressure...

" YOU CAN DO IT!"

Starfire looked up, towards the small crowd. A solitary figure was cheering her on. His mask was wide, a sign that his eyes were full of hope. His mouth was curled into a smile. He thought, no, KNEW she could do it. Starfires' heart filled with joy, her feet lifting off the ground. She had began her ascent. Pride and



happiness swelling within her, Starfire dodged the bullets with exceptional ease and control. After a while, the bullets stopped, and were replaced with immense flying disks. They were far too large to avoid, so the Tamaranean switched her strategy. As the disks flew at her, she imagined them to be the ships of the dreaded Psions. Harnessing the power she gained from them, Starfire's eyes began to glow in a brilliant green. Light collected around her hands, which seemed to pulsate lethally. Righteous fury enveloped her as she shot her own volley of disks. Slicing through each of the spheroids, each Starbolt continued on, and demolished the deployment systems. The onslaught ceased. Starfire took this as a sign that she could again rejoin the Teen Titans, and flew over to them.

"That was amazing." Robin said, mouth agape.

"Thank you." Starfire replied, blushing slightly. "Now I say we break for lunch. Who desires Zorka berries on toast?"

WAS IT WORTH WAITING FOR?!?!?!?!?