

# Have An 'Ice Christmas!

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*This is my first story! just to tell u, this story has a LOT of drama. ok, this is a Christmas story thats... not very Christmasy... please comment, but don't flame ^^*

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## 1 - A Temporary Truce

It was Christmas week. The bandicoots were getting ready for the holidays. They put up decorations, hung stockings, and lots of other stuff. Crash even snuck a mistletoe onto the doorway. There was a knock (Jingle Bell tuned) at the door. Who could possibly be knocking at our door at this time of year? Asked Coco. Ah well. Crunch, can you answer that? Crunch obeyed Coco's orders and answered the door. It was Dr. Cortex and his posse.

Merry Christmas, disgusting bandicoots, Greeted Cortex.

Dr. Cortex? What are you doing here, asked Crunch, full of suspicion.

My posse and I wanted to make a temporary truce with you guys. Only for the holidays, though, explained Cortex.

Crunch looked at Coco. Coco looked at Aku-Aku. Aku-Aku looked at Crash, who started jumping around the place, presumably meaning yes. I guess you guys can stay here for the holidays. As long as it's not a scam, explained Crunch.

Oh, don't worry. If it were a scam, I would have shot you by now.

He's got a point, Coco explained.

Alright, come on in; it's freezing outside. Crunch let them in.

What's Little Ms. Gothic doing here? Coco asked after she noticed that Nina was with the rest of the group.

What did you just call me? Nina asked, furiously.

You heard me, replied Coco. The two rivals dived into a fight, but Cortex stopped them.

If you two are going to fight, take it outside. I mean, *really*. You don't see me and Crash fighting, now, do you, asked Cortex. Crash walked over and started to annoy Cortex with his weird language or whatever you wanna call it. Get away from me, you disgusting freak of nature. Crash continued to annoy him. I mean it! Alright, that's it! Cortex started to chase Crash around the house. By then, Coco and Nina had gone outside to continue their fight.

It was a pretty gruesome fight. The two rivals used their claws, kicked, and punched; they even bit each other! About a half-hour past, and Coco and Nina were pretty close to knocking each other out. Then Coco jump-kicked into Nina hard enough to throw her against the house, knocking her out. Unfortunately for Coco, Nina's bionic hand had pushed and threw her against a rock about a millisecond later. The two were knocked out, cold.

## 2 - An Ice Cold Tragedy

Three hours past, and Nina finally woke up. She got up out of the snow and tried to open the door. It wouldn't open; like it was locked. Nina went over to Coco and kicked her foot. Blondie, wake up, ordered Nina. Coco woke up. You have an extra key? The door's locked.

Impossible. Why would they lock the door if they knew we were out here? Coco asked.

Beat's me. My uncle's minions do it all the time, said Nina. I dunno about you, but I'm getting weird a feeling that something happened.

Then go check it out. You have the bionic hands, not me. Nina grappled onto the roof and found a huge hole in it. Nina climbed in and saw that the whole house was frozen. The N. team was frozen, the bandicoots were frozen, the declarations were frozen, even the fire was frozen! Nina gasped.

Blondie, you gotta come see this, shouted Nina. She looked over at the door; it was frozen. So *that's* why it wouldn't open, Nina said to herself. She kicked down the door for Coco to get in.

Coco came inside and gasped. Who would do such a thing? Coco asked in shock. She walked over to an ice statue, which was really her beloved brother, Crash. Crash & Coco said, depressed. Nina did the same thing.

Uncle Neo & Nina whispered sadly. She wished she could just kill the person who did this. She walked over to the door.

Wait! Where you going?? Asked Coco.

I'm going to find the person who did this, answered Nina.

I'm coming with you.

Why?

Because I wanna get revenge on the person who did this too.

Nina sighed. Fine. But you have to keep up with me. If you fall behind, I'm not looking for you.

Fine.

The two started a perilous journey through the woods. The two rivals knew they would have to work together to save their teams and families, even though they didn't like it. On the way, Nina was giving Coco numerous orders. Coco was getting sick of it, but she knew she had to keep on Nina's trail to save her family.

### 3 - The Deal

The two had gone to the forest, asking every person they came across if they knew who this ice person was. No one had a clue on whom they were talking about. Nina was still giving out orders to Coco, which still got on her nerves. Finally, Coco couldn't take Nina's orders anymore. She started a jump kick, but Nina noticed this and grappled Coco, pushing her against a tree. Nina kept her grip on Coco's neck, not choking her, though.

Listen, Blondie; I don't like you. Nothing would thrill me more greatly than to crush your puny, orange neck. But since we're after the same thing, I'll let you choose your path, Nina explained to Coco. You can either tag along with me, and not be bothered for the rest of the year by me, my uncle, or the rest of the N. team, or you can live six feet underground. Your choice.

Fine. I'll come with you. Now let me go. And stop giving me so much orders, Coco bargained.

Yeah, yeah. Nina let Coco out of her grip. And if you were getting annoyed, then you should've told me! It's not that hard! They continued their journey to find the ice witch/wizard.

## 4 - Info On The Ice Witch

The two made it through part of the forest. Nina still gave out orders to Coco, but not as many; she even helped with some. Anyways, they asked a couple more people about who this ice infant was. They finally came across a weasel who had some answers.

Excuse me, can you help us? Coco asked.

Sure. What s up? replied the weasel.

We re looking for a person who freezes people, homes, and, somehow has the ability to freeze fire, explained Nina.

Oh yeah, her. Yeah, I know her. Well, I don t *know* her know her, but I ve heard of her. She likes to call herself the Ice Queen, but I say she s more of an ice *witch*.

Why do you call her that? Asked Coco.

Cause she *is* a witch. She goes around freezing homes and land, making it her ice kingdom. She s even trying to freeze the world! And she s freezing everybody she knows that could get in her way, explained the weasel.

That answers a lot of questions. Do you know where she lives? asked Nina.

The weasel pointed to a faraway building that had the form of a restaurant. That s her castle. She calls it her White Castle.

&I think I ve been there before, Nina said awkwardly.

Don t let its appearance fool you! It s a real deathtrap! It only takes the shape of a restaurant so the Ice Witch can lure people into coming in so she can freeze them!

Well, at least we know where she is and who she is now, alleged Coco.

But its still a long way, Nina acknowledged.

I wouldn t go there. Everyone who went there never came back, Advised the weasel.

What happened to them? Coco asked curiously.

Froze them. Its quite obvious, the weasel began. That s why everyone I know calls her a witch. Families around the world have lost their loved ones because of her, and would do anything for

revenge.

That s like our problem, Nina brought up. Come on, Blondie, we gotta go!

Thanks for your heeeelp!! Coco thanked as she was yanked away by Nina. The two rushed toward the white castle.

## 5 - Attack of the Ice Dragon

Thanks to the weasel's information, Nina and Coco now knew where to find this ice witch. The two traveled through a deep, dark, and dangerous part of the forest, looking out for each other's backs. It was said that dangerous creatures ran amuck through this part of the forest, including snakes, spiders, tigers, dingoes, and sometimes dragons. Coco knew more about this part of the forest than Nina (which Coco was surprised to know), so she led the way. The forest was quiet and motionless, which it normally wasn't. A ferocious roar broke this silence. Nina and Coco looked at each other with fear in their eyes.

What was that? asked Nina, terrified.

Probably our imaginations, answered Coco in the same terrified voice. There was another roar in the distance. I hope. Another roar was heard. Then, from out of nowhere, a white dragon glistened with sparkling winter colors pounced out of nowhere, breathing out specks of ice.

An *ice-breathing* dragon?? Nina exclaimed in shock.

And I thought *fire-breathing* dragons were bad, Coco avowed. The dragon breathed out ice in their direction, and the two dodged this attack. Then the dragon started going after Coco. It kept breathing ice everywhere, freezing even more things. Coco attacked the dragon with her martial arts skills a couple times. The dragon finally pinned down Coco. The dragon opened its mouth to chomp on her. Yum& wait, what the?? Something was hanging on to the dragon's tail! Coco looked to see what stopped the dragon from chowing down on her; it was& *NINA???* Nina was actually risking *her life* to save her *rival???*

*That's strange*, Thought Coco. The dragon swung its tail around, trying to get Nina off, but Nina kept clinging on. Coco managed to slip free from the dragon's clutches while Nina was distracting the dragon. Although Nina wasn't so lucky. The dragon finally tossed Nina off its tail, making her fly up into the air. She came down with a devastating blow to the dragon's head, causing it to pass out.

Nina, are you ok? That was AMAZING!! Coco exclaimed with delight.

I'm ok, Nina said with fear in her eyes. I think I'm gonna stay away from dragons for, I dunno, maybe the rest of my life.

Well, thanks, Coco thanked. I never thought I'd say this, but, without you doing all your evil& doings, you actually make a good friend.

Nina looked down, then smiled at Coco. You're not half bad either. Coco smiled. Come on, Blondie. We still gotta save our families and, well, the world.

I told you about a hundred times: call me Coco! Coco coaxed as they continued their journey through the forest.

## 6 - Out of the Forest, and Into The Ice

The dynamic duo, err, Coco and Nina finally got out of the forest, and into the open landscape. The whole place was covered in ice and snow. Coco told Nina that there was a nearby lake, which is always frozen in the wintertime. She told her that crossing the lake would make the trip quicker, but it would be dangerous.

Coco remembered an event from her childhood that took place at the same exact lake: her and her brother were ice-skating on the lake. The two were unaware that the ice was so thin. Coco fell through the ice, and her big brother, Crash, had to save her. Coco never went to lake in winter again. And now Coco was worried that that event would soon happen again. Nina tried to calm her down, knowing she might go nuts about this.

Nina looked ahead. Well, I think we're here. Coco looked at it with fear. It was exactly how she remembered it. Flashbacks of that event filled her mind. Nina calmed her, then told her that they should get started.

The two started to cross the lake. Coco took any precautions she could, tip-toeing her towards the end of the lake. Nina, however, didn't think straight. She thought that since the Ice Witch was freezing everything, the ice would be thicker.

Careful, Nina. You can fall through this easily, Coco warned.

Don't worry, I'll be fine-! Nina replied, before falling through the ice so suddenly.

Nina? Nina! Coco tiptoed quickly over to the hole where Nina was standing. Oh my god, it's de-javu all over again! Coco started examining the hole, and Nina was nowhere to be found. Of course, the water was really dark. Then Coco heard the ice break. Nina popped out of another hole she made, struggling and gasping for breath. Coco helped her out of the freezing cold water. The ice cracked. Nina and Coco ran to the end of the lake, with each passing step, the ice broke into even smaller pieces. The two jumped to the snow-filled shore, and, out of breath, just laid there for a while.

Are you ok? Asked Coco, breathing heavily.

Yeah& you? replied Nina, even more out of breath than Coco.

Yeah, replied Coco. The two laid there for a while, then moved on.



## 7 - The Land Of Abysses

Coco and Nina continued their journey from the lake to The Land of Abysses. Both of them had never been here before, so they took any precautions they could. The two finally learned to look after each other. They both knew that the adventure would be more dangerous without the other; that, and it would get pretty lonely traveling without the other.

Exactly *why* is it called The Land of Abysses? asked Nina.

Probably because this place is *full* of abysses, answered Coco.

Well, if the people who live here call it The Land of Abysses because of *that* reason, they must be *blind*, cause I haven't seen *one* abyss since we got here!

They might just be hidden. That said, Coco took a wrong step, and fell through a hidden abyss. Nina thought quickly, and grappled Coco's wrist. Unfortunately, it was too sudden of a jolt, making Nina's other wrist extend. Nina, again, thought quickly and grappled onto a tree branch.

Well, this sucks, acknowledged Coco. Nina reduced her wrist, getting herself out of the abyss, then reducing her other wrist, getting Coco out of the abyss. The two then made their way out of The Land of Abysses, and to the White Castle.

## 8 - To the Ice Witch!

After a ***long*** day of traveling, the two finally reached the White Castle.

Well, looky here. We finally made it, attested Nina. The restaurant changed its shape into a real castle made entirely of solid ice.

The two entered the castle. Coco examined it, looking for guards and things that could get in their way. Coco and Nina started their journey through the corridors. Although, the two were totally unaware of the deathtraps that filled the halls. *Bam!* The deathtraps rolled in like a storm. Nina and Coco made their way through the deathtrap-filled corridors, and to the throne room.

## 9 - Finally Defeated

Coco and Nina reached the throne room. They took a look around. There were people that the Ice Witch had frozen everywhere! Coco and Nina's studying the place was broken by the Ice Witch's voice.

So you little insects actually made it through my security? Hmm& I misjudged you two. No worries, though. I can still squash you like the bugs you two really are, alleged the Ice witch.

How do you know who we are? asked Nina.

The Ice Witch chuckled. Little fool. I know everything about your pathetic families and teams.

Then, why didn't you freeze us when you had the chance? Coco asked.

Enough talk, insect! Prepare to meet your cold, icy doom! The Ice Witch started attacking them, and Nina and Coco fought back.

10 minutes past, and the Ice Witch found out most of her attacks were defecting to Nina and Coco. She then shot a power shot at Coco. Fortunately, Nina grappled Coco, pushing her out of the way. Then the ice witch shot a power shot towards Nina. Thinking quickly, but not very straight, Coco got up from the ground and jumped in front of the shot. The blast from the shot caused Coco to fly back, unconscious.

COCO! Shouted Nina. Nina turned back to the Ice Witch. She growled at her. You& WITCH!! The anger inside of her exploded in fury. Nina started punching the Ice Witch like there was no tomorrow. Nina finally pushed the ice witch through an opening that led to the ice dragon's (the one from chap. 5) keep. Nina heard the snarling of the dragon and the blood-curdling scream from the Ice Witch. Nina tried not to pay attention to this, and ran over to Coco.

Oh my god. Blondie! Blondie, wake up! Coco? Come on, Coco, you can't die on me! We've been through so much! Come on, Coco, you *can't* die! Nina pleaded.

You're finally calling me by my real name, alleged Coco softly, as she woke up.

You're alive!! cheered Nina with joy. I knew you couldn't die!

Then what was with the long speech? asked Coco.

What if I was wrong and you did die?

Never mind, chuckled Coco. You know, I couldn't help but notice that there was a warp pad over there in the corner.

Well, we're wasting a whole lot of family time sitting here, talking our heads off. Lets go, advised Nina. That said, the two went over to the warp pad and warped themselves back to the beginning of the forest.

## 10 - The Return Home

The ice in the Bandicoot home crackled. The ice on top of the fire quickly melted. *Crack!* The ice broke off of everything and disappeared, and everyone fell down from unsteadiness. The fire quickly warmed the house. Everybody got up and observed the place, making sure there were no more surprises waiting to happen.

Coco and Nina made their way back to the house. Nina told Coco that they would never hear about the ice witch again, for the ice-breathing dragon had eaten her.

Coco opened the door and stepped inside. CRASH!!!! Coco shouted with joy. She ran over to her family and started a group hug. The N. Team sort of awed. It sort of *was* an adorable sight.

That s a cute sight and all, Cortex started. But where s- Cortex stopped and turned around. His niece was standing right by the door.

Nina dropped the royalty clothing she was holding. UNCLE NEO!!!!!! She ran over to her uncle and friendly tackled him.

&Hello Nina, Cortex said awkwardly, not knowing that his niece would tackle him.

Hi Uncle, Nina said. Oh, by the way, we can t bother the bandicoots for the rest of the year.

Why not? asked Cortex.

Because I made a deal with Coco about it. If I hadn t, you guys would still be frozen, explained Nina.

Can I at least plot against them?

hmm.. yeah. Nina and Coco told everyone about their adventure. The teams congratulated them, then moved on to more important things, like the holidays. The two teams put the whole mess behind them, and spent the holiday together. And after the holidays and the end of the year, Cortex found himself plotting yet *another* plan to destroy the Bandicoots and take over the world.

The End&