

Cherry Blossom

By M.H.

The sun set on the horizon making a perfect pleated pastel sky as a young tree named Cherry dug her roots into the luscious soil and went for a doze. Then out of thin air came a dream, no, a nightmare.....

Cherry stood surrounded by falling trees which the horrible humans were sending down, down, down to the ground. THUMP! BANG! CRASH! The millions of strong, healthy, green, leafy trees were sent flouncing to the ground. Suddenly she was the only one left and surrounding her were small staring faces holding axes.

Her eyes snapped open to be greeted by a welcoming sight, all the tall trees, shrubs, flowers and seedlings were peacefully dozing in the soil, swaying in the wind.

Weeks passed and evil thoughts invaded and conquered her mind. 'What if my dream was the future?' 'Where would I go if my dream was the future?' 'What if it's something that happened in the past?' and 'what if no one replanted the trees?' 'What would happen then?' all these thoughts stayed with her for months (but all these queries made it feel like centuries,) until eventually, she came to the conclusion it was probably like most dreams. Not real, not fake, just a thing lost in a maze, just a thought like all her others. That night, after forgetting all these thoughts, she realised what she should have done sooner...

The next morning she noticed a *slight* change about the park, was it the bright blue sunny sky or the thicker wormier soil? No... unfortunately it was none of these.

Looking around she saw an alarming sight. What she wanted to see was the three tall pine trees but instead she saw a threatening axe and there were three little pine tree stumps; the sight made her jump. **THE TALLEST PINE TREES IN THE PARK HAD BEEN CHOPPED DOWN!!!** She shook so much in surprise that some of her beautiful blossoms fell to the floor. She now knew her nightmare had started...



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Graciously, the next night a robin landed on one of her sad drooping branches; it was then it struck her, she could make a difference. The robin looked at Cherry knowing something was wrong she chirped “Why are you so sad, what's wrong?”

Full of happiness and sorrow she replied “I had a dream no, not a dream a nightmare all our beautiful trees got chopped down and now... now it's happening,” she continued “can you help me? I need you to find a kind, true hearted person to help plant more seeds.” Without a reply or even a chirp, the little robin flew off but for weeks Cherry witnessed the dreaded humans sway and swing their axes but had still no sight of the robin.

After weeks and weeks, more and more trees got chopped down and then finally, after weeks on end, the men chopping the trees stared at her with all their little stone-hearted faces. As the first man swung his axe, Cherry shuddered and glued her eyes shut... but then the little robin flew down and the axeman stopped. He stared awestruck, as for weeks no birds, nor people or even life came as there were no trees, flowers or beautiful skies to see, no shrubs or flowers. He was even more surprised at the sight of an old friendly man. But this man was in a hurry...

“Please,” he begged out of breath, “before you cut this beautiful tree can I take some of her sweet cherries?” The axemen shrugged but allowed this, whilst the man picked the berries, the young tree said goodbye to the young robin and thanked her for everything before saying goodbye. Then the axemen swung his axe and Cherry saw a final flash of silver lining then, a deep endless blackness.

But the man replanted....

He went to the towns, cities and even countries that had no trees, to plant his seeds. He was hated by many in these towns as they were grumpy and cold but after he passed, his children, grandchildren and even great great grandchildren kept planting and planting, seed after seed until everywhere had trees to look at and admire. He, however, watched them from above, happy about the changes he had made.

Smiling he whispered,

*“All you need is a small seed
for it can become great things.”*



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