



The Weeping Tree

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One day, our class went for a field trip around Sheridan College. On our way towards the forest, I had an eerie feeling, and I heard a voice coming from far away, as if it was calling out for help.



I entered the forest with my friends, wondering where this noise was coming from. I looked everywhere around me and suddenly, I saw a house far away through the thick trees of the forest. I assured myself, “This is definitely where the noise is coming from!” I felt worried. I wondered, “Who is calling for help? And what happened?” As I started approaching the house, I realized my feet were racing, just as my heart was. With every step that I was taking, the voice became clearer and clearer.



All of a sudden, the voice became crystal clear. I was sure that the voice was coming from the house now. I looked around and I found a broken tree. I approached the tree then noticed that the sound was actually coming from the tree. This made me feel uneasy. I thought to myself, “Is this tree really talking to me?” And as if she heard my wonder, I heard, “Yes, I am talking to you.” I thought to myself “Am I losing my mind? Am I actually talking to a tree?” Then I heard her weeping. I came close to the tree and touched it to make sure that I was still in touch with reality. The tree was really there. I pet her broken branch. The crying slowed down. I was sure then that this was real. I asked her, “Why are you crying? Why do you hurt?” She answered, “I am crying because of what humans did to me”.



She calmed herself down and began explaining her story. “I was once a big, tall tree. Just like all the other ones you see around you. Then, along came a human. Without mercy he cut me to use me for his own sake. He burned me to make himself warm. Then, broke me into pieces to make a home for himself. He killed me so he could live. He made me so weak, that he turned me into pray for the smallest animals in the forest”. “After he used me, he used me some more. He turned me into a garbage bin”. She began crying again.



I asked her, “Why did you choose me?” She said, “Do you remember when you were walking in the forest and your clothes were full of burs? And you were in pain because of them? When you went home, you carefully took them out of your clothes. And though you were in pain because of the burs, you never complained, and you watered your plants and took great care of them at home”.



She continued, “When you removed one of the burs, she flew back to me and told me about your kindness. From that day on, I knew that you are full of kindness and mercy”.



I asked her, “What can I do for you to help you?” She replied, “Now, I am not talking about myself, I am dead. I am talking on behalf of my fellow tree friends, so you can save them before it’s too late. See this tree to your right? The big men started cutting her, but because she’s so big, they weren’t able to finish the job in one day, and they are planning on cutting her down tomorrow and see this tree to your left? “You need to save them”.



I called my friend Sherin to tell her what happened so she can give me advice on what to do with all this information. She hurried down the stairs – even though her foot was in a cast – so she could help me out as fast as possible.



Fatma and Lirije said that they were witnesses to this. Moumen said that he would photograph everything. Hani said that he would make a shortcut through the forest so that we could save the trees quicker.



Finally, Prof. Marlon said that he supports us and will lead our group to help us raise awareness to the Sheridan administration.



First, we moved quickly and built a fence around the forest in order to protect the trees. Second, we placed cameras in the forest and placed signs along the trail to inform people. Last, we arranged a meeting the following week with the Sheridan Administration and named our group GTC (Green Trees Community).





We need your help! Please join our group and follow on GTC on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook. If you have any questions or concerns don't hesitate to contact us.

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