
Holly and Tafu have been friends for a long while now, both feel as if they have been friends forever. Their friendship is important to each of them in their own special way. They depend on each other for many things, even if they don't know the true extent as of yet. In reality Holly and Tafu met in middle school, in their science class. Holly asked Tafu, being the new student, if she had a pencil she could borrow. Tafu gave the pencil to Holly, when their hands touched there was a spark. Not many people noticed this spark they had with each other except the teacher, a young blonde lady, who had just recently gotten a job at the local middle school. She later moved up with the children to see where this spark that Holly and Tafu had would take them. The teacher believed that everything in life happened for a reason, her getting this job, Holly coming in as a new student and her meeting with Tafu. The teacher believed that this relationship they had to cultivate into something many would consider rare, true love. She knew that at the time the girls were young, but she saw what others could not, she saw potential for the two young girls.

A few years after their, what many would call a love meeting. The girls were on their way to becoming full adults, but they would have to go through one of the hardest parts of a young girl's life, high school! During the middle school years Holly and Tafu stayed relatively close, hanging out close to everyday be it at Holly's house or at Tafu's house. But just like any future couple and even many friendships, there were ups and downs, highs and lows if you could say. Both girls grew apart over the years, but something unexplainable pulled them back together, each girl apologizing every time. This gave their young teacher hope, hope for the girls and their future together.

One day, in early spring, of their second year of high school. Tafu and Holly were walking in the campus garden, this garden held many flowers and plants. The school believed that the Botany class could use some real life examples, so the courtyard was a perfect place to walk as it was both a fast way to class

as well as quite beautiful, with flowers and plants from many backgrounds including Mani flowers.

A few days after the girls walked through the flowers in the courtyard, Holly came into class with a high fever and a little bit of nausea. Tafu showed concern for her forever friend. Asking the young teacher to leave for the nurse for a little while, she said to go and wrote a pass to go. When the girls arrived at the nurses office, the nurse checked Holly's temperature. It was 104 degrees, Holly also explained to the nurse that she has also been feeling a little bit nauseous. The nurse asked if Holly was allergic to anything that could have caused a reaction of this magnitude. Both girls knowing each other for so long, answered "no, not that i know of", they both looked at each other after saying the same thing in unison. They both gave a quiet chuckle to this little interaction.

The nurse walked away, picking up an emergency contact card for Holly. She called home, and Holly's parents picked her up from school. Tafu asked if she could come and take care of Holly since the school day was almost over anyway. Holly's parents agreed as they drove to their house. Tafu walked into Holly's house, helping Holly through the doorway, and taking her up the stairs to her room. As Tafu walked up the stairs towards her forever friends room. she thought of all the times she's been in there, playing with new toys, or talking about who they liked and disliked within school throughout the day. Something felt different to Tafu this time, something she couldn't quite place her finger on. Perhaps Holly's parents redecorated or changed the furniture. She definitely knew something was up and different between her and Holly, she felt it in her bones to her very core. Holly fell into a deep sleep of sorts, Tafu kept watch while she slept. Holly's breaths up and down, up and down. Holly looks peaceful, she thought. Tafu decided at that very moment that the best thing she can do for Holly is to be there. Wait for her to be needed or to at least help Holly's parents in taking care of her while she was under the weather. Tafu continued watching Holly's breaths up and down, up and down. She thought to herself, what exactly got her in this place in her life. She briskly remembered Holly asking her for a pencil in science class. Them becoming friends, and then best friends, and

fighting and then making up with each other time and time again. Tafu thought, Holly and her had gone through so much and a little cold will never stop the love and admiration they had for each other, or at least the admiration Tafu had for Holly. Tafu remembered Holly's silky black hair, blowing in the wind the day walking through the mani flowers. "THE MANI FLOWERS" That's it! Tafu thought to herself, she quietly left Holly's room and ran down the stairs as fast as she could, to reach Holly's parents. "I think I figured it out", Tafu exclaimed to Holly's parents in the small kitchen of the house. They looked at Tafu puzzled, then asked "what?". Tafu continued on, "I think the mani flowers in the school courtyard have something to do with Holly being sick". Holly's parents look at each other, then at Tafu. They started explaining, "many years ago Holly and I went to a mani flower garden" they continued "a few days after the exhibit, Holly seemed a bit under the weather, we went to the doctors but they said it was just the common cold, so we shook our heads and waited it out". Tafu looks at Holly's parents, understanding every word as they say it. Tafu goes back up to Holly's room, suddenly understanding perhaps every feeling she has had for Holly. She slowly walks into Holly's room, as Holly wakes up. Both give each other a sincere smile. Tafu walks over to Holly's bedside, she sits down, they both longly gaze at each other, as if their hopes and dreams are given with just one look. The outside world was quiet. They share a kiss, and just like that, a new story begins in front of our eyes.

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