



The Answerless Journey

"Elora, open the door!" Ginny said. "If you don't, I'll kick it open." Elora was swaying back and forth, on the floor of her room, clutching the door knob. She felt tears prickling in her eyes as she struggled to breathe. Her best friend Ginny was knocking hard on the door as she called out to Elora. "Come out, please. Don't be such a crybaby. You're making me cry too."

Elora have always been a target for bullies at school, she was a fourteen-year-old pretty girl. She was a Straight-A student and the 'Little Miss Perfect' for teachers at school. But she had a big insecurity; her nose. It was slightly larger than a normal one. It was tall and ~~crooked~~ crooked. That made her fellow students bully her. But Ginny always stood up for Elora. As weak as Elora is, Ginny's strong. She is always there for Elora.

As the sounds outside had slowly died away, Elora got up. She went for the mirror. Her eyes.



were red as a cherry. She wiped her tears and looked at her nose. It is something she can never change. It is going to be with her for her entire life. But why be ashamed of it. She started to calm down. "It's okay. It's not my fault," she said to her self. That was it. After a few tears everything's going to alright to her. She doesn't take insults to her heart. She always gets scolded by her parents. They want her to be the topper, to have not the highest but the best grades. It is normal for any parents to think that way. But they don't know the burden they put on the child's shoulder. Elora can't always put up with her life. She made her way down stairs into the living room to find her father sitting on the couch. He has her report card in his hand. Giving it a disgusted look he turned to Elora. "What is this? I told u I don't want ~~any~~ anything else than the best. Second place in your class. I knew you haven't been studying well. Answer me, what? Cat got your tongue?"



..... That was enough for her. She didn't say anything, went upstairs, locked her room and started to pack. That was a stupid idea for a young teenager like her. But she didn't know what else to do. She glanced out of the window and saw Ginny waiting outside. She packed up, opened the door and left.

..... "Where do you think you're going?" her father's outraged voice followed her as she ~~ran~~ ran through the gate, to Ginny. Ginny embraced Elora. "I thought you wouldn't get out of your room." "We gotta go! Your house... I'll explain later. Let's go!" Elora breathed out fast. Ginny held Elora's hand and the former ran, pulling the latter.

..... Elora put her bags down as she sat down on Ginny's bed. "Ginny, I know this is a big favour to ask, but can I stay here until, um... you know, things get right?" "Ofcourse you can. You're always welcome here." Elora breathed a sigh out. It seemed to get reverberated across the small silent room.

* * *



..... Elora handed the parchment over to Ginny. .
"Take a look. It seems to be a way to a ~~great~~ .
great treasure." Elora said. "Or it could be
some one pulling a prank on us. Come on!
treasure? In this era? You've got to be kidding .
me." Ginny laughed. But something in Elora's soul .
started to poke her head. I told her that it does .
lead to some thing very valuable, something special,
something precious. "No! We gotta take it seriously. .
I've got a feeling that it's not just a prank. What .
is the worst that could happen?" Elora asked, in
a serious tone. "Okay", Ginny uninterestedly said. "This .
seems like a map to ~~me~~, but where does this map .
leads to? I mean, we don't even know what .
place this is." "We can do a research, maybe?" . .
"Why though?" "I'm so curious to find what .
this mysterious treasure is." Elora says excitedly. . .
"I think we'll have to give it a go. What's
life without a pinch of adventure. You ready?"



..... They got the brown coloured parchment from the grounds of their school. It was dirty and it had a wierd smell arising from it. Nevertheless, Elora found it interesting. Ginny is ignorant on such matters. But she decided to take part in this adventure due to Elora's whining. They have succeeded in finding a place that is exactly the same as the territory in the map. But they were surprised that the place was not very far away from their city. Ginny's suspicions about the prank was getting stronger. But Elora seemed determined. They decided to go searching for the 'so-called -treasure'. Ginny ~~asked~~ told her parents that they were going on a one-week-trip from school and she needed to go really bad. Her parent weren't very rich like Elora's. But they were happy. They didn't have very high expectations from their daughter, but they loved her nevertheless. They seemed hesitant at first but as Elora stepped in to help with money, they agreed to let her go.



..... Glorás parents haven't heard from her for a while. But they knew she was safe in Grinnys house and was resistant against forcing her to come back. Grinnys parents easily believed in her lies so they were off to go. They packed up clothes, shoes and money. Money for food and drinks, but they were unsure for the fact there will be places for them to buy food. The place they were going to was likely be a deserted ~~the~~ forest for sure.

..... "Glora, we won't always get a second chance. Answer my questions. Who, would you ask for help, if we got lost without food? When or how do you expect us to get out of that place? I don't know what creatures live inside those large ~~the~~ trees. And who, in the first place, made us get the piece of parchment?? Is it just a person looking for fun or is it some 'mysterious universal force' that made us get it? ~~That~~ This is absolutely ridiculous. We could just leave plan behind. please?"



... Ginny was full of questions. And none of them, Flora knew answers for. "I know just as much as you do. I don't have answers to these questions of yours. But I'm sure we won't regret what we will come across. Please let's just go," Ginny gave a faint nod and they left for the journey.

... After walking for three or four hours they reached the place. It was a creepy jungle which seemed like it was decorated just for someone new arriving. "Ginny had a terrifying look to her face and she was violently shaking. "Didn't I ~~to~~ tell you that this was p-planned?" "Come on! Don't be a scaredy cat." They went into the jungle. It was a quiet place. But they could occasionally hear the screeching of insects and other creatures they-dont-know-what. They were starting to get hungry and they couldn't seem to find a water source. Suddenly they heard a ~~dot~~ sound of a dried twig breaking. They looked to the sound to be met with two yellow eyes, watching them.



..... "What-Is-That-Thing?" Ginny shouted as she ran for her life. "I dunno.. It must be a - I think - .. ~~werefo~~ werewolf?" Elora gasped out. They both ran. Its been minutes since they started running from the creature and it followed them. Elora looked up to see the full moon. "It is surely a werewolf, RVN!" Elora screamed as she tripped over a root and fell down. 'This is the end' Elora thought. ~~for~~ She saw the monstrous figure slowly approaching. She thanked god for all the fortune he gave her and thought what she did wrong to deserve this ending. She closed her eyes, waiting for the non-tolerable pain that is yet to come.

..... Nothing came so Elora opened her eyes, only for it to be shut once more as a huge stone flew past her face hitting the creature's head. Blood started to flow from the gash on its head and Elora's ears started to pain hearing the shouts and screams of Ginny. She was probably trying to scare it off..



..... Ginny's trick worked. The werewolf slowly turned away and ran for its life in fear of being attacked again. Ginny held out her hand for Flora to take. The latter got up and brushed off the dirt off of her clothes. "We lost our BATS! What were you thinking coming here? What were you thinking when you couldn't answer my questions. Did you think that the God himself himself will come down to present you that stupid-silly-ridiculous-treasure-thingy if we come here? You could've, we could've died! Thank you." Ginny spat in an ungrateful tone. Flora felt so stupid for bringing not just herself, but her best friend also to danger. She started to broke down and cry. Ginny felt sad too. She came to hug Flora, picked her up and started to apologize. "I was sorry, alright? I was really so mad and scared. We could've died here without even having a last meal. Do you know how much I'm craving ice-cream?" Flora lost it and laughed at that.



..... Suddenly, a golden light seemed to appear from near them. It just formed there like magic. They took a few steps back. The light was so dazzling that it made them unable to open their eyes. The light faded down and they saw a golden lamp on the floor. "Did you see that?" Ginny pointed at the lamp. "It is like the Aladdin's story. Unbelievable. Is my mind playing tricks on me? Is it really magic or what?" Ginny said, shocked and rooted to the spot. Although Elora marched up to it and picked it up and rubbed it. Suddenly, a blue wind-like substance formed from it and turned into a little tornado-like thing. It was dropped back to the ground from Elora's hand. The genie-like ~~sub~~ man came from it. Both the girls were not believing their eyes. "Magic?" Elora asked. "Hello, little children. I have - I mean - you have found my lamp and set me free. I'll grant you three wishes now. Ask me anything." "Wait, I have a question," Ginny said.



"Are you the genie from Aladdin?" Ginny asked.
"I'm a what?" "A genie." "I don't know what you're talking about," genie said. "Then who are you? Where do you come from? Can you do magic? Can you show us? Will you teach us too?" Ginny was flaming with more. "First off, I can't answer your questions. Second, you ask a lot of questions, you know?" Genie replied. Ginny mumbled something like "Why no - ... answer ... question ...". "Three wishes you have ladies," the genie coughed. "I know," Ginny said. "Elora listen, I wish for us to get back safely, your parents to be proud of what you are and my parents to be rich. How does that sound?" But Elora had other plans. "I don't think that is a great plan," Elora said. "I wish for us to be safe from all the mysterious beasts that lie in this very jungle. I wish for us to eventually find the great beast that hides at the end of the jungle. I wish for us to get back safely after



Item Code: 695

Participant Code: 114

we got hands on the treasure," Elora said to the genie. "Wish granted." And with a snap of a finger he disappeared. "Are you out of your mind, you filthy beast?" Ginny snapped. "You don't know anything about this place. How do we get back? Where do the treasure lie? What we will come across the place? We don't even have the stupid map with us. How do you expect us to survive without food and water?" "We will find a way," Elora said calmly. "Do you think this is a great mystery-fantasy movie or something. I don't know what happened to you? You lost your ~~mind~~ mind." "You ask a lot of questions," Elora said. "Let's go. We don't have a whole year."