

THE CANDY MAKER

Yeshua & Sciantay

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Acknowledgments

To entertain, but I hope to do a little bit more...

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1. WHERE IS AUSHUA?

I guess the best way to start is at the beginning.

Once there was a superior race that lived on a planet named Ayanna. This super race was called Travelors. They were a mighty people. They could change their appearance if they fell into a deep sleep called Stasis Generation. It only happened if they got seriously hurt. They only had to sleep 3 or 4 days at a time, about 3 or 4 times in a year.

They had 2 hearts and they were made to last longer than humans on Earth. They reigned over Ayanna with justice and all fairness. Of course some bad apples came from the bunch as does from all races and civilizations.

One such Travelor by the name of Olivah Aushua traveled to Earth and he fell in love with an Earth woman named Oasis. They got married. Yes, she knew of his secret. He was banned from Ayanna never to return. They had a child and named him Ahahfvayah, pronounced AWE-HAWF-VAH-YAH.

Now, he did not have the same traits as his father did. He could not fall into a Stasis Generation, you know, change his physical appearance if he got injured, and he had to sleep every night just like every other Earth human did. But his dad loved him just the same. He was glad Hahf hadn't any of his abilities.

Ahahfvayah was an inventor. His father became a famous candy-maker while living on Earth. Ahahfvayah followed in his father's footsteps, only he added a bit of the inventive to his factory.

Ahahfvayah wanted to open his home and his heart to a child. A child to follow after and take on his name when he passed. Hahf was not a people person and did not desire to marry, but he did desire to take in a child.

Ahahfvayah went and visited orphanages but never found the right kid. He had to feel it and he didn't. So in the end, this one child had wandered into his candy factory one day by the name of Archie-Ball Ankeridge.

Archie was very skinny and very hungry. All he had had was his mother which she was very ill at the time Hahf had met the boy.

Archie had stayed home from school to try to take care of her. As the days passed he could not go to school, instead he cared for his poor sick mother. Archie had to do the shopping but then the cash ran out and her not able to go to work cause she was too sick, he ended up sneaking into Hahf's candy factory one day and asked him for a job. Hahf hired the kid to come around on the weekends and help him with tours. He paid Archie \$10 bucks a day. Everything was going well until Archie and his mother got evicted. She was too ill to get out of bed. That was when Archie confided in Hahf how sick his mom was.

Ahahfvayah had her transferred to a hospital and paid for the best care. Ahahfvayah now took the boy in to stay at

his candy factory and manor while his mother re-cooperated in the hospital.

Archie just loved Aushua's candy factory. He had been staying there for about 6 months now. See, his mother had Tuberculosis.

Ahahfvayah Aushua was gone. He left about 3 months ago for a much needed vacation. "I need a vacation!" he had boomed. Hahf told Archie that he'd be left in good hands while he was away.

Ahahfvayah's factory was run by little people from his home world, Ayanna. They were not midget men. But none stood any taller than 4 feet. They were called the Hahobey, pronounced HA-HOE-BEE.

See Ahahfvayah told Archie he needed a child in which he could intrust his secret to, about his little helpers. They looked human enough, except for their size and they looked like they all had deep, dark tans, and very blond hair.

Mr. Aushua told Archie he'd be back but he didn't know exactly when. Told the boy he had to go to get more supplies. He had to keep his little men a secret and he knew he could trust this boy, to look after his Hahobey while he'd be away.

"Where are you going again, sir?" Archie had asked Mr. Aushua. But he only replied with, "speak up boy. I didn't get that last part."

Hahf knew he must get his right ear looked at by an ear

doctor but that would have to wait until he got back.

So now 6 months later and Ahahfvayah Aushua still was gone.

To make matters worse, Archie's mom had lost the fight with her disease. She had made a turn for the worst and died.

But Aushua had just upped and left and no one knew where he went. No one. Well one hahobey knew. Bingal, but he wasn't to get in contact with Mr. Aushua unless it be an emergency. Ahahfvayah had been very strict about not being disturbed.

"Someone had better be dead for you to call me," he had told Bingal.

"Um, someone has, sir, Archie's mother. She just died," Bingal relayed the message. There was complete silence and so the little man waited for the reply from his boss.

"That's is just terrible... Bingal, just terrible news! Tell Archie that I am so sorry... So very sorry," Aushua told him.

Archie was now all alone. His only parent or living relative for that matter, was gone. All he had now was Mr. Aushua and he didn't know where he was.

"I'm so sorry Archie. About your mother," said Bingal. He was Chief Hahobey, in charge of all the rest. Their leader. He came second to Aushua. He was his associate

actually. Bingal was also the only one who knew where Ahahfvayah Aushua was.

He had put out a call to Aushua on his secret communications equipment that was in Mr. Aushua's office.

"Speak up! I can't hear you. Bad connection!" Hahf had hooted through the static. Bingal then tried to explain all that happened. He wasn't sure Ahahfvayah had heard it all. "He has nobody? No one at all?" Aushua had asked.

"No. The poor, poor lad," replied Bingal.

"I'll be right there in a few days. Tell Archie I'm on the way!" Aushua then horned through his receiver. The connection was then ended.

Archie couldn't wait to see Mr. Aushua again. He waited and waited every day for him to arrive. He looked out of the big windows for him. But no sign.

He kept walking through the entire factory in search of Aushua. To no avail. What seemed like weeks after Aushua was told of the situation and the message relayed back to the boy that he was on his way, but in fact it was only 5 days, and he finally saw him coming down one of the many corridors inside his factory.

"Mr. Aushua!" Archie outburst then and went a running toward him. They embraced. Aushua felt just awful for this sweet little kid. He really didn't know what to say, except, I'm so sorry. So very sorry. That's all Archie heard from people since it happened.

2. MISS ANGELICA JENS

Summer passed by. Aushua tried to be a comfort to Archie. Keep him busy so he wouldn't think about his mother as much.

"I'm thinking about, come this October, of having a special tour of children through the candy factory. What do you think, Archie?" Aushua asked him. Archie misunderstood.

"You want to find a different child to help you with your factory tours?" he replied.

"Oh no Archie! No! I'd like to have a contest is all. To see if there is a sweet, innocent child like you, or if the next 5 children will be nothing but spoiled, rotten apples! If there is a nice child and he or she, proves him or herself good, he or she will win a year's supply of chocolate. How does that sound?" Ahahfvayah asked.

"Oh that would be great Mr. Aushua!" said the boy. Ahahfvayah smiled. "I'll have you help me like the Hahobey do with the tour," said Aushua. Now Archie was smiling from ear to ear.

Aushua and Archie both took a boat ride through his beautiful factory and it also went outside and through the grounds. He had a wondrous amusement park and the boat went down a steep chute. Kind of like what a log ride is like.

Also Ahahfvayah had a Roller-coaster ride as well as

other swell rides. In this one particular place you could even eat some of the trees, grass, and other various artificial things inside a massive green house type room. This was Archie's favorite place too. He loved to come here with Mr. Aushua. His factory was a dream come true for Archie.

"Archie it's time for you to be starting school," Aushua then said. Archie would be starting next week. He was 11 years old.

For his birthday Aushua made him the hugest chocolate bar Archie had ever seen! Why, it would take Archie a year to eat it all.

"Can't I stay here and have you help teach me?" Archie asked.

"Archie I haven't got time. Too little to do and too much... Wait a minute! Scratch that! It's in reverse," Aushua said then smiled. Archie laughed. Sometimes Mr. Aushua could be so kookie headed.

"It will be alright, Archie. You go to school and I will make candy, alright?" Ahahfvayah told him. They then got off the boat ride and walked through the vast new Mall Aushua had built just in the last year.

"You must grow and learn so that someday you can help run my factory, and amusement park successfully," Aushua explained.

"We will do it together. You don't have to ever go away," Archie then said. Sometimes the boy could really touch

Aushua's heart. No way would he leave for other places and adventures when Archie needed looking after. He knew for now while Archie was still a kid he'd have to stick around.

The Hahobey sure were glad to hear that Aushua was going to stay and still run the factory. They didn't want their Ahahfvayah going away on his adventures. But still, it was strong in Aushua's blood and he feared it would take over one day. He was in fact an inventor.

Archie went to school today. Was his first day for the 5th grade. He met his teacher, Miss Angelica Jens. She sure was nice. Young in her 20s. She was very pretty too. She gave Archie a lot of attention. Answered his questions. Took the time to help him. Archie got teased and treated roughly by some of the kids cause they were jealous he got to stay at Ahahfvayah Aushua's Candy Factory, Amusement Park, and Mall.

"Give me a free tour through Ahahfvayah's factory or I'll beat you up!" said a fat kid named Blitz. He pushed and picked on Archie at all the recesses.

Archie had been talking about how Ahahfvayah Aushua was going to open his factory for a free tour for children and have them spend the night and shop at the new mall with \$50 free bucks! It was for 5 children who found the special wrappers that had the private invitations.

"I won't do that. Play favorites. You will have to go out and buy chocolate bars and candy just like everyone else," Archie told him.

"You will get me an invitation or I will mess up your face!" the mean boy then said grabbing Archie by his shirt with a fist in his face.

"Oh Ok. Geez, I'll try. I can't guarantee anything though," said Archie.

"Oh, you'll do it or else," warned Blitz. Poor Archie. He had to give that bully all his lunch money, every day that Ahahfvayah gave him, to Blitz or Blitz would beat him up.

So everyday after school Archie came back to the factory starving cause all he had all day was his breakfast. Ahahfvayah always sent the boy to school on a full stomach of a hearty, healthy breakfast but it only lasted so long.

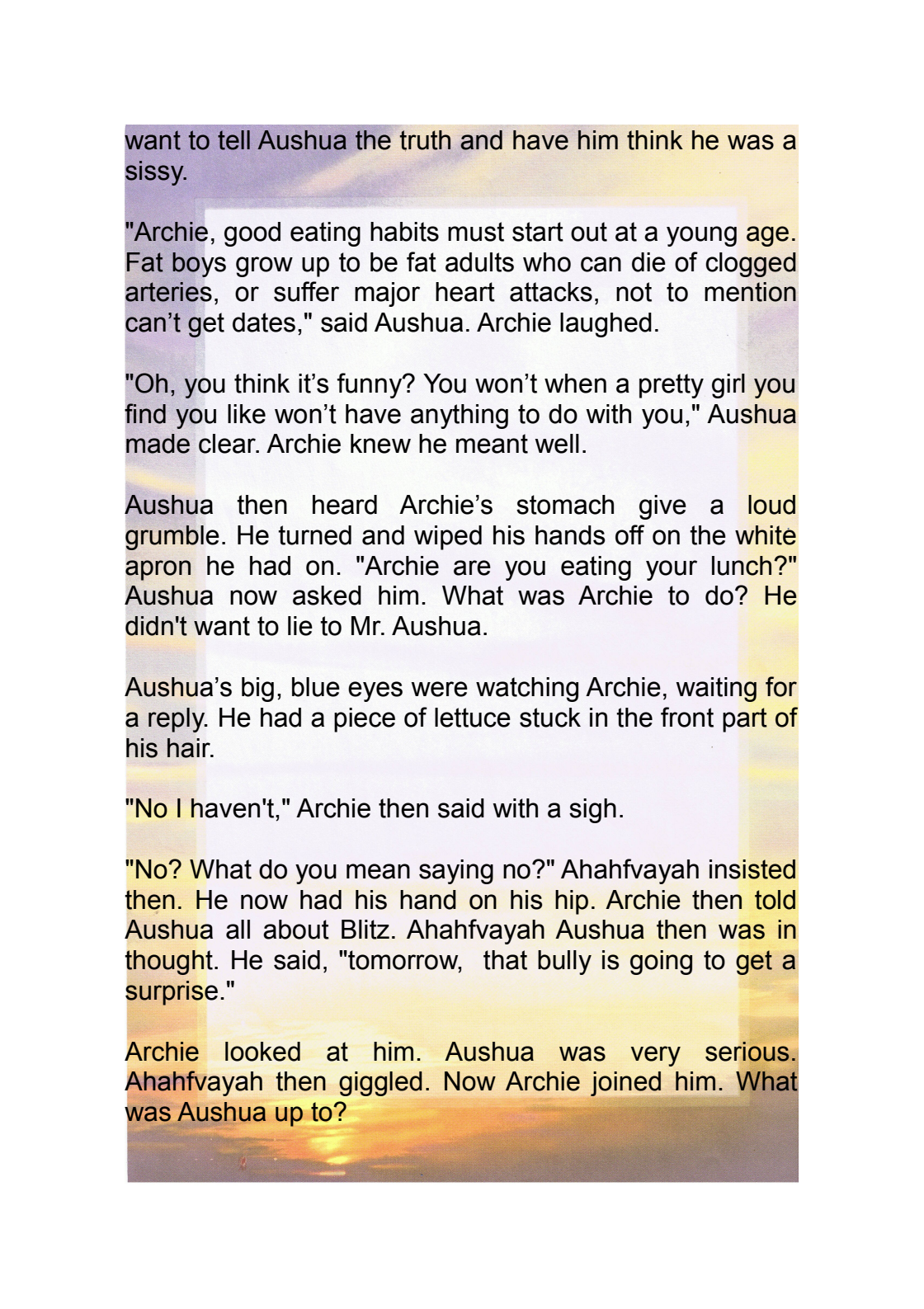
Archie got into trouble on several occasions after school cause Ahahfvayah caught him snacking and Aushua made it very clear there would be none of that before supper.

Aushua always gave Archie a snack in his knapsack to eat with his hot lunch Archie would get from his lunch money Ahahfvayah sent. But Blitz not only took Archie's lunch money but the snack as well.

Ahahfvayah was busy in his big kitchen fixing dinner. "Archie," he spoke seeing the boy out of the corner of his eye, take a bite from a cookie. Archie then put it down.

"What have I told you," Ahahfvayah said.

"I know but I am a growing boy," Archie told him. He didn't



want to tell Aushua the truth and have him think he was a sissy.

"Archie, good eating habits must start out at a young age. Fat boys grow up to be fat adults who can die of clogged arteries, or suffer major heart attacks, not to mention can't get dates," said Aushua. Archie laughed.

"Oh, you think it's funny? You won't when a pretty girl you find you like won't have anything to do with you," Aushua made clear. Archie knew he meant well.

Aushua then heard Archie's stomach give a loud grumble. He turned and wiped his hands off on the white apron he had on. "Archie are you eating your lunch?" Aushua now asked him. What was Archie to do? He didn't want to lie to Mr. Aushua.

Aushua's big, blue eyes were watching Archie, waiting for a reply. He had a piece of lettuce stuck in the front part of his hair.

"No I haven't," Archie then said with a sigh.

"No? What do you mean saying no?" Ahahfvayah insisted then. He now had his hand on his hip. Archie then told Aushua all about Blitz. Ahahfvayah Aushua then was in thought. He said, "tomorrow, that bully is going to get a surprise."

Archie looked at him. Aushua was very serious. Ahahfvayah then giggled. Now Archie joined him. What was Aushua up to?

Ahahfvayah Aushua gave Archie some play money that looked so much like the real thing, but when it was put into someone else's hand, after Archie gave it to Blitz, it would turn into this yucky, purple color and have a stink, coloring up the hand who held it.

Aushua told Archie it was hard to wash off too. He chuckled and chuckled, his eyes looking at the money all big. He called it, STINK DOUGH. It was a new invention of his he planned to sell at an auxiliary shop in his new mall.

It was actually made to turn the hideous purple and stink after it was passed into a 3rd hand. The first hand was Aushua giving it to Archie. Second hand was Blitz's after Archie gave it to him and the 3rd would be to whoever Blitz passed it off to.

Hopefully the cashier at the cafeteria would be the 3rd person. Boy would Blitz be in TROUBLE!

Once given, it would then change into the ugly purple color and reek of a horrid, nasty smell. Aushua also put a cream puff into Archie's knapsack. Instead of putting whip cream in the middle, Aushua put shaving cream of the worst flavor. He called it: SKUNK CREAM.

Ahahfvayah had all sorts of good tasting shaving cream but not this one. Aushua had 6 flavors in all. 5 good and one bad. He told Archie the skunk cream was for your enemies.

Ahahfvayah had mixed up a rare skunk juice potion, and he could use on any intruder or whatever. Was perfect to

use on this bully. That'll teach him to mess with Archie. After Blitz bit into the cream puff, a flag would then pop up from it saying: *GO PICK ON SOMEONE ELSE. NOT ARCHIE!*

Archie just laughed and laughed.

"Archie, you don't have to take it from those bullies. I don't believe in violence but I will teach you how to defend yourself, but in a safe way. Humiliation," Mr. Aushua told him.

That next day at school Archie gave the snot-nosed, fat bully his lunch money. "Wow, a whole 10 Bucks!" Blitz hooped and honked. Archie smiled when he wasn't looking, knowing what Blitz was in for. Mr. Aushua was so clever.

Blitz then demanded the snack from Archie. "Great! A cream puff! I love them!" he said taking it and he put it away for later, after lunch.

At lunchtime Blitz went to the cafeteria to have a feast. He put mostly junk foods onto his tray. Pies and cookies, cakes and candy bars. Ahahfvayah Aushua's candy bars actually. He hoped to find a private invitation wrapper. He then went to pay the cashier knowing he'd have extra spending money even after all this. 10 bucks was a lot of money for a kid to have. More than he ever got in allowance money from his parents.

You can imagine the look on the cashier's face, after Blitz handed over the money and it instantly turned purple with an awful stink. Was like rotten eggs.

Aushua actually used some juice he had from a rotten egg that was so bad. It was 10 years old. He'd been saving it for a special occasion.

"This some kind of joke!" boomed the overweight, middle aged cashier lady. She was as crotchety as an old barn yard rooster too. She was even fatter than Blitz was. Someone never to mess with.

Blitz looked up at her with huge eyes. What had just happened? Blitz then high-tailed it and ran away.

"You come back here, you rotten punk!" roared the cashier.

She then went to call the Principal. "That rotten brat, Blitz, is at it again!" she boomed to him over the phone. He had to jerk his ear away to keep from going deaf from her load, booming voice.

"This time he's really done it!" she hollered to him.

Blitz' fat heart was just a pumping. He was all out of breath from running so fast. He was out of shape cause he was fat and lazy. He was hungry. He reached inside his backpack then and pulled out the cream puff. At least he wouldn't starve. What had happened to that 10 bucks?

He was all confused. He began to jam that cream puff into his mouth. He was so hungry. A horrible expression then came across his face. He began to spit parts of the cream puff out. He gagged and gagged. Tasted like, like skunk!

A little flag then popped up from the uneaten bit. It said: *GO PICK ON SOMEONE ELSE. NOT ARCHIE! Signed Ahahfvayah Aushua. HA HA HA:*

Boy was Blitz MAD! Oh was he ever going to get even with Archie!

Blitz was waiting for Archie after school. He beat Archie up. Gave him a big, black eye. Archie wore his hat down low over his face so it wouldn't show. He tried to pass Aushua as quickly as possible, not wanting him to see it. "Archie," he heard Aushua call. He stopped but didn't turn around.

"How'd it go at school today?" Aushua asked him.

"Fine," Archie replied. He then walked on.

"Archie," Aushua called again. Archie stopped again. He didn't turn.

"Want to come into my Laser Game Room? I'm going to be testing out a new laser gun," Ahahfvayah asked him.

"Can't. I have homework," replied Archie.

"Archie, I think that can wait. Tomorrow is Saturday. I'm installing a special invention that will enlarge items twice their size. I thought we'd try a watermelon. How does that sound?" Aushua asked him.

"Ummm. I," Archie spoke.

"I think your going to like it," said Aushua going over to

where Archie was turned now. He then noticed the shiner. "Archie! What happened?" he boomed.

"Oh thanks to your little inventions, Blitz beat me up after school," Archie told him.

Now Aushua was concerned. He made Archie go to his office. Hahobey were looking wondering what was going on. Aushua wanted more privacy. He made Archie take off his shirt.

Ahahfvayah wanted to check and see if Archie had any other more serious injuries from the beating. He found Archie had a possible broken rib.

Aushua took Archie to the emergency room at the hospital. He wanted an x-ray. Sure enough his rib was cracked.

Boy Ahahfvayah Aushua was mad! Those gags didn't harm Blitz physically in any way. He had some nerve doing this to poor Archie!

"That does it! Come on Archie, I'm calling that kid's parents!" Aushua hooted as they left the hospital.

"That will just make it worse for me. Let's just leave him alone," Archie said. He got into Aushua's car. It was a white, old classical station wagon Aushua had restored.

It soon roared to life as well as Aushua's temper. Oh the more he thought about it the madder he got. "I'm going to teach that kid a lesson," he boomed and boomed. He drove off in a huffy frenzy then. Someone beeped at him.

Ahahfvayah then pressed a button and a goofy looking Dodo bird popped up from the top of the car and out fired from its beak, eggs that broke onto the other car.

"I've been egged! That jerk just egged my car!" the man behind the wheel of the other vehicle who beeped at Aushua, said.

Archie saw Ahahfvayah Aushua was in a bad mood, and you best just leave him alone when he was.

"Let it go. Please," begged Archie.

"Archie I can't," replied Aushua as he drove on.

Back at the factory, Archie said it again, to let it go. Aushua began to pace. He paced and paced and paced. He then got an idea. "Don't worry Archie," he now told the boy. "I'll handle that mean bully. He won't bother you ever again."

"Ah oh," replied Archie. What was Mr. Aushua up to now?

Archie and Blitz got into a fight at recess. Archie was sticking up for himself. He had just plain had it. He wasn't going to take it anymore. He told Blitz he was not giving him any more of his lunch money or his snack, and that was that.

That was when they got into a fight. Hitting and punching, they were both going at it on the ground.

Miss Jens came out and went to break it up. "Archie,

Blitz, you two come with me," she made clear. She grabbed hold of both of them. They were waltzed in to the Principal's office. Archie was sent home early that day with a note addressed to Mr. Aushua from Miss Jens. She wanted to see him in person about this bully business. He had to come cause he was the only one who had custody of Archie. He was now officially his foster father.

"Your teacher wants to talk to me?" Aushua said after Archie came home and told him. He then showed the note. Aushua grabbed it and read it. "I'm too busy," he told him after reading it. He crumpled it up and threw it away.

"You have to come or I could be expelled," Archie told him.

"Archie, Archie, Archie... Why did you have to go pick a fight with him? I told you I'd take care of it," Aushua now said.

"Hey, as I recall, he started it. I wasn't going to take it from him anymore," Archie said raising his voice to Mr. Aushua.

"I said I'd take care of it," Aushua snapped back. This was getting them nowhere.

So Ahahfvayah Aushua found himself on his way to see Archie's school teacher, Miss Angelica Jens. He hated going out from his estate. He wasn't a people kind of person.

Archie's school teacher kind of took him by surprise. She was awfully young and very pretty. He found her quite a distraction. He sat there as she explained the situation.

"Than what do you suppose we do?" he asked her.

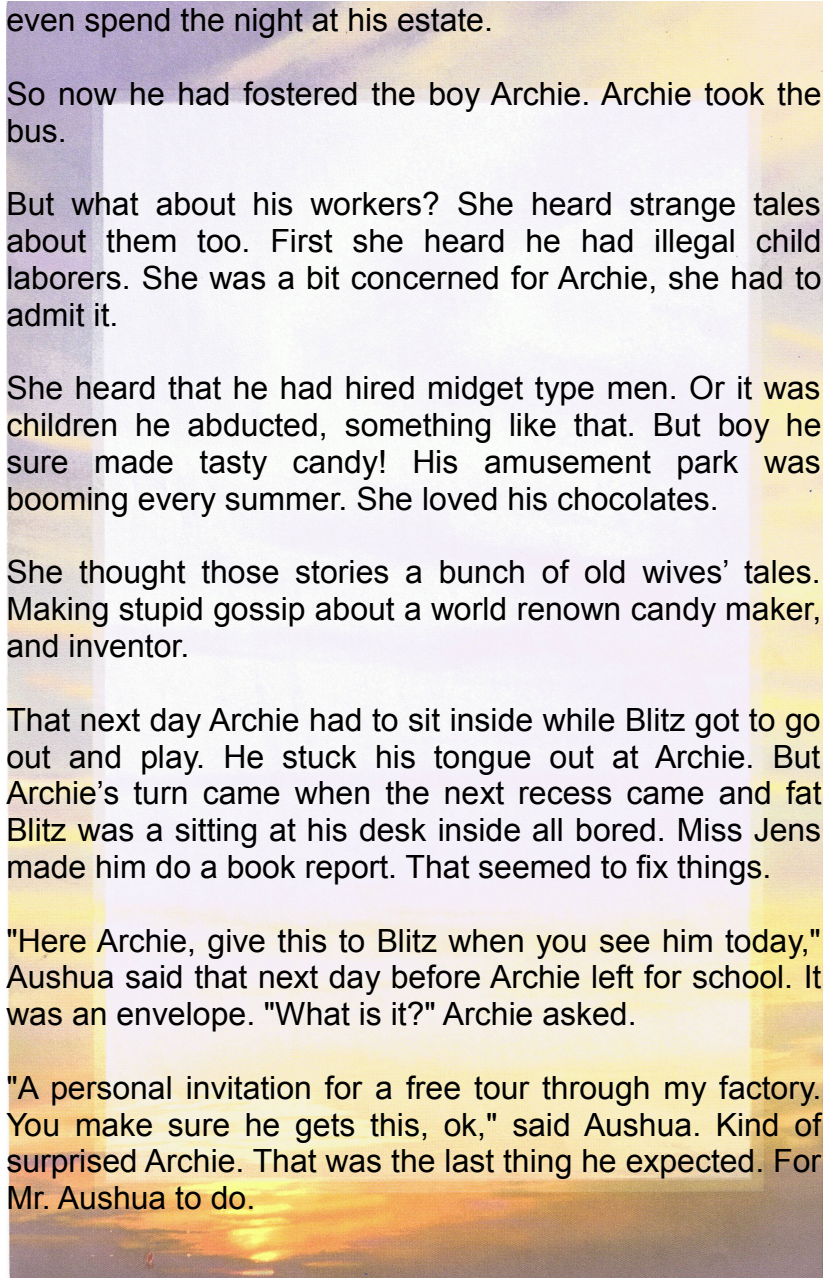
"I will do my best to keep the two of them apart. Especially at recess. I will rotate and at every recess I will keep one of them inside. Blitz will go to recess and Archie will stay inside, than Archie will go out and Blitz will have to stay in," she said.

Aushua found himself staring at her. She had incredible light blue eyes. "I think that's a perfect solution," he told her then got up and they shook hands then he left.

He had been quite a distraction to her as well. She had no idea he was as young. She was expecting an older person. With his candy and amusement park, and now the huge new Mall and all. He must only be in his 30s?

She was expecting him to be at least 40 or even near 50. And he was very handsome she noticed. She had heard tales about him. That he did strange experiments. Was a weird, eccentric person. She heard rumors about that factory of his too, and about his oddball inventions. About what went on inside.

She heard that people could hear strange noises coming out of there at night. And no one ever came out from his factory any at all, not even hardly him. What was he doing? She guessed he was very private. He held his weekend tours for grade schools, and he had a grand tour for 5 children once a year where they got to go and



even spend the night at his estate.

So now he had fostered the boy Archie. Archie took the bus.

But what about his workers? She heard strange tales about them too. First she heard he had illegal child laborers. She was a bit concerned for Archie, she had to admit it.

She heard that he had hired midget type men. Or it was children he abducted, something like that. But boy he sure made tasty candy! His amusement park was booming every summer. She loved his chocolates.

She thought those stories a bunch of old wives' tales. Making stupid gossip about a world renown candy maker, and inventor.

That next day Archie had to sit inside while Blitz got to go out and play. He stuck his tongue out at Archie. But Archie's turn came when the next recess came and fat Blitz was sitting at his desk inside all bored. Miss Jens made him do a book report. That seemed to fix things.

"Here Archie, give this to Blitz when you see him today," Aushua said that next day before Archie left for school. It was an envelope. "What is it?" Archie asked.

"A personal invitation for a free tour through my factory. You make sure he gets this, ok," said Aushua. Kind of surprised Archie. That was the last thing he expected. For Mr. Aushua to do.

"A peace offering huh?" questioned Archie with a smile.
"That might not be such a bad idea."

"Speak up. I can't hear you!" Aushua boomed pulling on his right ear. Archie only chuckled. He then went to school. If he could make friends with Blitz that would really solve his problems.

Blitz was in the bathroom wanting to start some trouble with Archie when he saw him come in. "I finally got you alone, you little dweeb," Blitz said and began pounding on his hand.

"I'm going to smash your head!" he told Archie.

"I have something for you," said Archie then and handed over the envelope. Blitz then opened it. His face brightened up after reading it. "Hey does he really mean it?" he asked next.

"Yeah," replied Archie. He really didn't know what was going on. He hadn't read it He only knew Aushua had invited Blitz to the candy factory, amusement park, and to the new mall.

All that day Blitz and Archie palled around together. Blitz wanted to know all about Aushua's grand estate.

"I'll give that bully a tour he will never forget!" said Mr. Aushua to Bingal, one of his little hahobey men. Blitz was to come that next Saturday.

"I'm sorry Archie, but this tour will be just me and Blitz," Mr. Aushua told him after he came home and asked

about it.

"You mean I can't come along?" Archie asked. What was Ahahfvayah Aushua up to?

"It will be just him and me. Me and him," Aushua replied.

Blitz came sharply at 8:00 that next Saturday morning. He was so excited. He would get to spend the whole day here!

"Hello Blitz. I've heard a lot about you," said Mr. Aushua to him.

"Oh, so have I about you. People say your a quack. A real nut job," replied Blitz.

"Charming," Ahahfvayah said but then mumbled next, "you piece of snake skin."

He'd take Blitz on a tour that was sure to change him. Blitz would never forget it alright.

Aushua scared the pants off that kid. Archie never saw Aushua or Blitz all day. Not until 4:00 that afternoon. Blitz looked as pale as the grim reaper himself too.

"You will be on your best behavior from now on or I'll fetch you and put you through my factory again. Do you understand, you miserable little cockroach," Ahahfvayah said in Blitz's ear before letting him leave out the door.

Blitz then left. He was shaking like a leaf in a storm. Archie sure wanted to know what was going on but

Aushua wouldn't tell him a thing. All he did say was, "he won't bother you again, Archie."

"Mr. Aushua, Blitz and I this past week have gotten along and have become friends. It started right after I gave him your invitation," Archie told him. He felt Aushua had ruined everything now.

"Archie, someone who uses you for your wealth is no real friend at all," Mr. Aushua reminded him.

"Yeah, well, at least he wasn't picking on me and taking my lunch money anymore, and now by the looks of it you've ruined it," Archie then mumbled away.

"Speak up Archie, your mumbling," responded Mr. Aushua. But Archie only rolled up his eyes at Aushua then.

"I have work to do, and you, go do your homework," Mr. Aushua made clear now.

Blitz ignored Archie at school. Wouldn't tell him a thing. He didn't pick on him either but also wouldn't talk to him. Ignored him like a plague.

Blitz had been ill all that week. Absent from school just right after going to Ahahfvayah Aushua's Estate. Archie wondered if that had something to do with it. What did Aushua do to him?

Blitz's parents had a private talk with Miss Jens. They were extremely upset. "Our son says that Mr. Aushua

tortured and tormented him all that day he went over for the free tour," the mother confided now.

"Blitz, is that true?" Miss Jens then asked him.

"Mr. Aushua said never to reveal this or he'd come and get me," Blitz finally confessed and began to sob.

"Blitz, you are safe. No one is going to come and get you. You tell me what he did to you," Miss Jens insisted now, concerned. Blitz dried his eyes and looked around. As if Aushua had spying equipment in the room even, hidden ready to hear all that he said. He swallowed.

He then began, "first he made me labor making candy and other sweets. I had to walk in a bin of smooshed bananas with my bare feet, and I also had to use my hands. It was just awful. He then put me through some kind of spook house. We went on this boat into this tunnel first. He had me get out then. He told me where to go. To follow this red path, to never venture off it or he said I could get lost somewhere in time forever. He said it would lead me back out eventually, if I stayed on it. I got lost. He made me go through it for what seemed like hours, all alone. I saw all kinds of horrors. Funny, flashing lights. I saw ape-men and they acted like they could see me despite the fact that Mr. Aushua said that as long as I stayed on the red path nothing would be aware I was there, but they acted like they wanted to come after me. Oh it was awful!" cried and cried Blitz.

"That terrible man horrified my son," said his mother.

"Blitz, what else did he do?" Miss Jens asked.

"Made me wash all these little peoples' clothing in a laundry room. In this other room he took a marshmallow and by a special device he used, made it gigantic! He said since I liked to steal and eat his stuff so much from Archie at school, he was going to make me eat that marshmallow. I had to eat it. All of it! I got so full I could puke! He said I couldn't leave until I ate it all. I had to eat it all!" Blitz said getting very upset. Miss Jens tried not to but she let out a little giggle. It all sounded SO outrageous!

She wondered just how much of it was true and how much he had made up. She knew Blitz could be extreme on the stories he told. She knew by the ridiculous stories he gave her of why he came to school late most of the time. She just bet his parents had trouble getting him up in time for school.

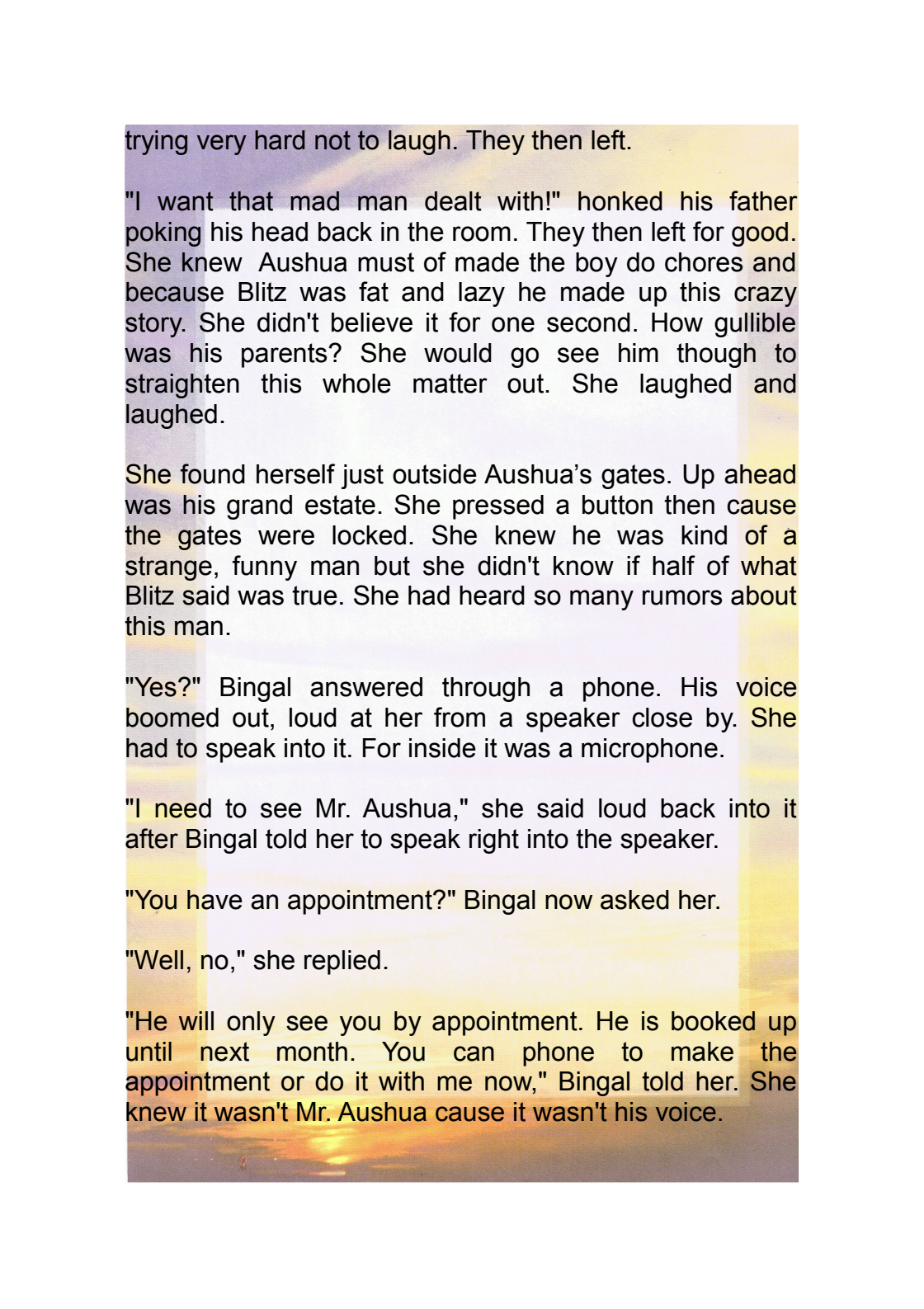
"I want to know what you intend to do about this, Miss Jens?" now boomed Blitz's father. He was just as fat as Blitz.

"I will go see Mr. Aushua at his estate and find out," she replied.

"He also made me ride this weird roller-coaster thing. It went upside down and very fast. He made me ride it for hours," said Blitz.

"I assure you I will find out what went on," Miss Jens then reassured.

"I thought I was going to crash," Blitz spoke. She was



trying very hard not to laugh. They then left.

"I want that mad man dealt with!" honked his father poking his head back in the room. They then left for good. She knew Aushua must of made the boy do chores and because Blitz was fat and lazy he made up this crazy story. She didn't believe it for one second. How gullible was his parents? She would go see him though to straighten this whole matter out. She laughed and laughed.

She found herself just outside Aushua's gates. Up ahead was his grand estate. She pressed a button then cause the gates were locked. She knew he was kind of a strange, funny man but she didn't know if half of what Blitz said was true. She had heard so many rumors about this man.

"Yes?" Bingal answered through a phone. His voice boomed out, loud at her from a speaker close by. She had to speak into it. For inside it was a microphone.

"I need to see Mr. Aushua," she said loud back into it after Bingal told her to speak right into the speaker.

"You have an appointment?" Bingal now asked her.

"Well, no," she replied.

"He will only see you by appointment. He is booked up until next month. You can phone to make the appointment or do it with me now," Bingal told her. She knew it wasn't Mr. Aushua cause it wasn't his voice.

"I need to see him this minute. You tell him that it concerns Archie at school. I am Miss Jens, his teacher," she made clear.

"Hold please. I will relay the message to him," Bingal now said.

"You do that," boomed Miss Jens into the speaker. There was then silence. She waited. Seemed like she waited 20 minutes.

Bingal's voice then came back on. "Mr. Aushua wants to know what this is all about concerning Archie. He says he can come back to the school tomorrow to talk with you there," he said. Miss Jens was getting mad. "I want to see him, right now! I have waited long enough out here, let me in!" she bellowed. Bingal flinched. She was one woman not to mess with.

"I will tell him. One moment," Bingal's voice crackled over the speaker.

"This is just great! Another 20 minutes!" she yelled into the air. But about 5 minutes later Bingal told her to come right in. He buzzed open the gates. She stormed up the road straight to the door. She couldn't help but feel she was on her way to a torture chamber or something.

This was silly! She was not going to let this man intimidate her like this.

"What is this all about? I am extremely busy," Mr. Aushua now spoke suddenly poking his head out the door. He had startled her. He held the door open and stepped

aside so she could enter. Aushua led her into his study.

She then told him how upset Blitz's parents were and that they came to see her privately.

"What's that got to do with me?" he asked her lighting up a cigar. He asked her to sit down. He puffed a few times on his cigar. It wasn't as fat as cigars usually were. Had a different smell than what she was used to. Like wild cherries or something. She kind of liked it. Must be imported.

He put it down and took off his blue jacket and he removed his hat. He sat in a chair. Took the cigar and puffed some more on it. She then told him how upset Blitz's parents were for the treatment their son received while here at his estate.

"The kid needed to be taught a lesson," Mr. Aushua now spoke with the cigar still in his mouth. "He beat up Archie. He had to go to the hospital for a fractured rib," he added further.

Miss Jens remembered the brawl Blitz and Archie had. That must of been when it occurred. "It is not your place to discipline the boy but his parents," said Miss Jens.

"Oh, and what kind of parents let their son go around being a bully, beating up others," Aushua said angrily.

Angelica could tell Mr. Aushua wasn't an easy man to get along with.

"Mr. Aushua. You can't take it upon yourself to torture

children even if they are a bully," she then said.

"Miss Jens, I assure you, I never harmed that boy in any way. I hope I taught him a thing or two. He was taking Archie's lunch money. Blitz needed to know what it felt like being the victim for a change," Aushua told her.

"From a bullying, abusive adult?" Miss Jens put straight.

Aushua shot her a sharp look then. "Now see here! I do not feel I have to explain my actions to you!" he now spat putting his cigar out.

"I think it's time for you to leave," he said getting up. She jumped up now too. "I don't know if I should let this thing go or report you to the Authorities," Angelica told him.

"Well, you do what you want to," he said taking her arm and unkindly waltzed her toward the door. "Good day Miss Jens," he said now shoving her out the door.

She was appalled. "Who do you think you are!" she demanded. "I know it's been hard on Archie but that is no reason to be rude, Mr. Aushua," she told him flat out.

"I said, good DAY!" he roared at her, shutting the door in her face.

"You selfish! Maybe your not the right person to be caring for Archie!" she yelled at the top of her lungs. Ahahfayah was afraid she'd draw attention towards his estate. He opened the door and went out a ways. "Now see here, lady! You give me no respect barging into my residence, demanding what you see fit! You haven't the

first clue of how I care for Archie so don't assume you know! He is now my foster child and it is not any of your business to tell me how to raise him!" Mr. Aushua boomed at her.

"Oh and what kind of things do you think he will learn living with you, Mr. Aushua! I'll tell you what, he will learn to become a bullying adult, just like you! I was raised in a Christian home, Mr. Aushua. I do not believe in using violence against violence. You do it with love. Not being a bully!" she told him about to tears.

This wasn't going well. Not at all! She turned to leave. Her shoes end twisted at the last minute breaking off. She felt herself falling down the stairs with no means to catch herself. She badly twisted her ankle on the way down, as well as hitting her chin against the hard cement.

"Miss Jens, are you alright?" Ahahfvayah replied rushing down the stairs to her side.

Her ankle hurt bad. Her chin throbbed. Her face was tear streaked. Her chin was bleeding as well as her knee now where she had hurt it, taring her nylons. Bingal was standing by the door next.

"Get some help over here!" called Aushua. Miss Jens felt dizzy. Sick to her stomach and that she might faint. Aushua helped her up. Had her lean all her weight on him. Miss Jens then saw small sized men coming out and down the stairs. Like the 7 dwarfs even. It was just too much then, so she passed out.

Ahahfvayah picked her up and carried her back inside.

He laid her on a couch in his study. "Get me a cold cloth," he ordered to an hahobey. He came back from a bathroom. Aushua cleaned up her cuts. He had them bandaged. He put another wet, cold cloth over her forehead. "Miss Jens?" he spoke. "Angelica?" she thought she heard as she began to stir a little.

"If she doesn't start to improve I'll take her to the hospital," said Mr. Aushua. She still felt so light headed and weak. But it soon began to fade. So did her nausea.

Archie was there now she noticed asking if she was ok.

"I'm taking you to the hospital," Ahahfvayah then told her.

"I'm,-I'm ok," she said trying to sit up.

"Oh, I'd stay down if I were you," Aushua warned. She then put a little weight on her ankle with Aushua warning her that it might be broken.

"I wouldn't do that. I really wouldn't," he said.

It hurt when she tried. Nausea returned to take control again. She had to sit down. Aushua held onto her and she was helped to his station wagon.

Her ankle wasn't broken, just badly sprained.

"Are you sure your going to be alright?" Ahahfvayah asked her helping her to her apartment. He stood outside the door. She had just unlocked it. "I'm fine. Thank you for helping me," she told him.

"Miss Jens, Angelica.. I'm really not the bad guy here. I being of the Christian faith also, believe in peace, but why should Archie have to take that crap from a mean spirited, spoiled misfit who probably doesn't even know what a good, structured family home is," Aushua said to her kindly.

"Well, scaring people isn't the answer either Mr. Aushua," she replied.

"Please, call me Ahahfvayah. You can't think it's right to let Blitz get away with beating up on Archie, do you? I felt something had to be done. I don't take it back. I will not teach Archie to hurt another soul but I will with my own means show him how to defend himself. I'm sorry about your accident. The hospital bill will be taken care of. Goodbye Miss Jens," Ahahfvayah told her tipping his hat then he left.

She still didn't quite know what to think of him. At first before she fell, she would of pegged him a selfish man not caring about anyone, but he showed genuine concern then for her accident. He had been kind to her even. She was confused. He was a very complex man.

But then the next day when he came to see her after school to tell her he was taking Archie out of that school, it hurt her feelings cause she thought the reason why was her.

After he left, her lip began to quiver. Why did he have to be that way?

"That Miss Jens is a flaring, fireball thing isn't she,

Archie," Aushua commented, smiling at the boy as they drove off.

Aushua had decided, talked it over with Archie, that the best thing was for him to teach Archie himself. Some of the Hahobey also could help. Archie would miss his teacher though. "She really was a good teacher," he told Mr. Aushua as they drove away. Aushua would get all the books and materials required through home teaching courses.

3. SLOSHHORN'S SPY

Miles Mandry went in to see his boss.

Sloshhorn was a very twisted and demented Mayor of the city where Aushua lived. A small New England town called Autumn.

Sloshhorn turned in his squeaky, leather black chair. He wanted to shut Ahahfvayah Aushua's whole estate down, for good. But in order to do so, he'd need someone on the inside. Someone Aushua trusted, to be in fact Peabody Sloshhorn's spy. Maybe this Miss Jens was the perfect candidate.

Sloshhorn had been watching Aushua's vast estate through binoculars. He saw Miss Jens go inside. That gave him the idea because Aushua never let anyone in his estate, save for the paid tours, and children who won a free tour once a year.

Sloshhorn sent Miles Mandry to see Miss Jens after school. Peabody sent him in disguise as a Children's Welfare Agent. He told Miss Jens he was concerned for Archie hearing all the things said about Ahahfvayah Aushua.

But he needed someone who Aushua reasonably trusted to report back to him if Aushua was abusing Archie. Miss Jens didn't know if she should do this or just stay out of it.

"Aushua took Archie out of school. He's going to teach him now himself," Angelica told him.

"Well, can't you see how even more you needed. He's shutting the boy away in his factory. Who knows what he's doing to the poor kid. It could be for child slave labor," said Mandry.

"Look, it isn't illegal to teach at home," Miss Jens told him.

"I know, but how could you sleep at night knowing Aushua could possibly be harming the boy. It is better to find out for sure than to just let this go. Call him up and request helping the boy in his school work. Aushua should go for that. He won't suspect you at all, and I am good friends with Mayor Sloshhorn, who has suspected Aushua for some time about having children in his factory slaving away. You'd be doing a service to him," Miles assured.

"Oh, that's ridiculous! Ahahfvayah is not doing anything illegal! He has hired dwarfs, not children! Special needs men with short statures who get mistreated anywhere else and can't get work cause they are too short or ridiculed for their appearance. He does it as a kindness service for them. He gets them off the streets," Miss Jens said in Aushua's defense. Miles Mandry made her sick! She didn't much like Mayor Sloshhorn any more than she did him.

"Please, just keep an eye out for Archie then, to make sure," begged Miles.

"I don't know if Mr. Aushua will let me through his gates, let alone into his factory again to help teach Archie. We

kind of had a falling out," Angelica told him.

She really did have a fall. At that she chuckled.

"Well, all you can do is try. I know I will be able to sleep better at nights knowing Archie is really alright. Wouldn't you?" Miles asked.

"Well yeah, I see your point. Ok. For Archie, I can give it a try," she then said and they shook hands. Miles told her they'd be in touch. He tipped his hat then left. She swallowed.

She then got on the phone and called the operator. Aushua was not listed in the phone book she came to find so she called for assistance.

"Unlisted number Miss," said the operator in a very hose-nosed accent. This was ridiculous! Was Ahahfvayah paranoid?

"Wait. He does have a number you can leave a recorded message at," the operator then told her. She then gave Angelica the number. Miss Jens then hung up and dialed the number given.

After Aushua's brief message on the answering machine, she then left her message and the number where she could be reached. She said it concerned Archie. She didn't go into it. Just said to call her as soon as possible.

Days passed. Nothing.

A week. Still no Ahahfvayah Aushua called her back. She

knew by now that he wasn't going to call.

A week later it was midnight. She was in bed when the phone rang. To her surprise it was Ahahfvayah Aushua.

"What's this about Archie?" he asked her.

"Huh?" she spoke still half asleep as she flipped on the light. She looked at her clock. She hadn't recognized his voice at first, being half asleep and all. "Who is this?" she boomed.

"Mr. Aushua. You called and left a message on my machine, so I've called. Tell me what you want?" said Aushua bluntly.

"You normally make a habit of calling people in the middle of the night?" Miss Jens then said to him. He then looked over at his clock. Saw that it stopped at 10:00 O'clock. "Great heavens! Miss Jens I apologize. I didn't realize it was so late," he then told her.

"That's ok," said Angelica.

"I was meaning to call you last week but I've been extremely busy," he told her. She then explained to him what she wanted to do.

"Let me get this straight. You want to come here and help with Archie on the weekends?" Aushua repeated after she was finished.

"I know your a busy man. I have my weekends free. I'd love to help on his homework on Saturdays. Coach him

since you won't be letting him come back to school. I'd like to keep up with his progress," said Miss Jens.

"Why?" replied Aushua.

Oh no! He must be suspicious. "He's a very bright, promising boy, Aushua, please don't take offense, me wanting to tutor him a little. I just want to make it easier for the both of you. It would give me something to do. I like to work with children," Miss Jens found herself yapping on and on.

"No, I'm not offended. That sounds fine with me. Saturdays would be perfect. Say you come at 8:00?" asked Ahahfvayah Aushua.

"8:00 in the morning right?" said Miss Jens.

"No, in the middle of the night. Yes, at 8:00 in the morning," Aushua said being a bit smug now. Angelica wasn't sure she could ever get along with this man. What was she doing?

"Actually, tomorrow is Saturday," said Aushua.

"You mean today," corrected Miss Jens.

"Yes fine," Ahahfvayah said not really caring for being corrected. She was about to speak more when the man just hung up. She wasn't sure how to take that.

Her alarm didn't go off. Her eyes popped open and she looked at her clock. It read 9:00. "I'm late!" she boomed jumping out of bed. Her showing up late on her first day

wasn't going to look good.

Ahahfvayah Aushua had been standing by the gates for an hour and a half by the time she finally arrived. "Your late," he informed her trying not to get huffy. He opened the gates for her. She went in and he reclosed them.

"I expect if all goes well today you will want to get paid," he said to her. She hadn't thought about that.

"You don't have to pay me," she told him. Now he was surprised. "Fine with me," he spoke.

Now that she thought about it she did have more bills than money. Too late now. She couldn't say, oh I'll go ahead and take some pay.

"If you are to come every Saturday I will have a key made for you to get in through the gates. I always keep the factory gates locked, which lead to my main estate. The amusement park and mall are open during normal business hours and weekends too. If it works out... We'll see," said Aushua. He led the way. She hurried to keep up. She was wondering how old he was. They went in.

"Hi Miss Jens," Archie happily greeted her.

"Hi Archie," she replied with a smile. Mr. Aushua then told her what needed worked on for today. Archie's math. Aushua boomed that he was very busy and please don't disrupt him unless it was DIRE important. Archie was just beaming to show her around. She noticed the little men standing around again.

"They are called the Hahobey, Miss Jens. They work for Mr. Aushua. They live here too as well. They never leave," said Archie.

"Happy-whats?" she replied.

"Hahobey. Don't worry. You'll get used to them after a while," said Archie smiling.

"Where did they come from? I always thought that Aushua took in derelicts and dwarf rejects," Miss Jens asked.

"Well, I guess he calls this little clan of workers his Hahobey. It probably means just what you said. The dwarfed derelicts," Archie spoke.

"It's cute," she admitted. He smiled. One offered her a cup of hot cocoa, or was it coffee? She took the cup as did Archie. It was definitely cocoa. Aushua made the best hot chocolate. Miss Jens had to admit, it was lip smacking good.

Ahahfvayah Aushua she was coming to find, was no ordinary candy maker at all, not with his amusement park and big mall.

She and Archie then got busy with his math. Bingal came in after a while and offered her some tea and cookies. Were the best things she'd ever popped into her mouth! The tea too. Had an odd flavor she couldn't pin point. Oh it was y u m m y.

"Ahahfvayah made the tea and cookies just this



morning," Archie told her.

After about an hour and a half it was time for a break. Archie took Miss Jens to see Aushua's edible candy filled green house. It went outside to a beautiful garden and she saw big lolly pops and candy swirled pops all around sticking up from sticks in the ground.

There also was a little chocolate creek!

"It's real chocolate, not water flowing," she then heard. Aushua stood there smiling. It was a great secret that only he knew of. How it began.

"How?" she asked.

"Oh no. Not even Archie knows all my secrets," he said.

"Aushua is an inventor," Archie now spoke.

She fell in love with the place. It was so breathtakingly beautiful!

Archie took Miss Jens into the Laser Tag room. She had to put on special protective clothing first. Not only was it Laser Tag but Paint Ball too. They went into the room now. Ahahfvayah was dressed in white attire. He was working on some kind of micro-chip or something. He looked up and noticed them.

Archie was smiling ear to ear. "You are not supposed to be in here," he scolded the boy. Made his grin fade. "We were taking a break so I thought I'd show her around," Archie told him.

"The factory and my estate are off limits to Miss Jens, Archie, she is only allowed in the main building where you do your schooling," Aushua, made perfectly clear.

Now Miss Jens' feelings were hurt. Aushua noticed the distress on her face. "Please, no offense meant," he said to her taking off his magnifying lens. It was rubber banded around his head so it could fit snug right over his eyes.

His eyes really looked exceptionally big in the magnifying lens. Aushua couldn't help but notice her eyes looked so blue and perfect. Aushua smiled and said, "I suppose a bit of a demonstration won't hurt."

He went over to another table. Aushua took a small cookie. Chocolate chip. He had just made them yesterday. He went to place it in something that looked like an oven now. He then pressed a gadget button and in what seemed like only a few seconds a timer binged. He opened the oven and not only was the cookie piping hot, but huge as well!

Miss Jens couldn't hardly believe her eyes! The cookie was as big was a plate!

"Gigantic cookie anyone?" Aushua asked. Archie looked at him licking his lips. But Angelica was afraid to touch it. "How Mr. Aushua? Is it safe?" she asked him.

"I assure you dear lady, the only thing that's different about this cookie is that it is bigger, nothing else. Yes, it is quite safe to eat it. Go on, try some," he gestured. So she

took a bite. It was delicious!

"How did you do this?" she barked now.

"I'm sorry but I never give out my trade secrets. Not even to Archie here who will get my whole estate someday," Aushua shocked the boy by saying.

"Really, you mean it?" he asked.

"Yes, I do," Ahahfvayah told him. It was a very pleasant moment and Miss Jens knew she should not be here as the mayor's spy. She felt guilty then, seeing how Aushua cared for this kid.

Aushua then had some tea brought in. He poured everyone some. The cookie was the best chocolate chip cookie she ever tasted. The chips were his own chocolate. She tasted a bit of coconut flavor in the cookie. "Ummmm, very good," she said and smiled to him.

They all sat around one of the tables munching away.

"Blitz told me a strange story. That you made a marshmallow huge and made him eat the whole thing before he could leave," she said and laughed.

"He's right. I did. Maybe now he won't be so apt to eat like a pig. Maybe he can start to lose some of that unattractive fat he has," said Mr. Aushua. Miss Jens could believe it now after seeing the cookie enlarged.

"Archie, back to work," he then said getting up. A

Hahobey showed them out.

"Lunch-time," said Mr. Aushua about an hour and a half later as he peeked into the study. It was 1:00 O'clock. Archie was just finishing up on some school work. He was all ready for Monday.

"Very good Archie, you may be excused," Miss Jens said.

"Come. We will have lunch out on the Terrace," Mr. Aushua told them. She wondered if he meant her too or only Archie. The way he acted not wanting her at his estate hardly. She assumed he meant only Archie. She went to put on her coat.

"Are you leaving? Won't you join Archie and me first for lunch?" Aushua asked her. Now she was confused. "Well, ok," she said putting her coat back down. Ahahfvayah smiled and said to follow him. It was a rather nice picnic indeed.

"Let's all go on a boat ride around the estate," Archie then said. Mr. Aushua was still chewing on some cake. He looked at Archie. Then at her. Miss Jens felt so unwelcomed here. She was sure he'd say some other wise crack why she shouldn't be included. He swallowed. He wiped his mouth with a napkin. "Ok," he then said instead and smiled. He got up. So did they. He led them to the boat. She commented on it. It was so pretty. Aushua was smiling. So was Archie, from ear to happy ear.

"Madam Jens," Ahahfvayah then addressed taking her

hand, and as she got in Aushua looked over at her. They were all sitting on nice cushioned seats. The scenery of the estate was gorgeous!

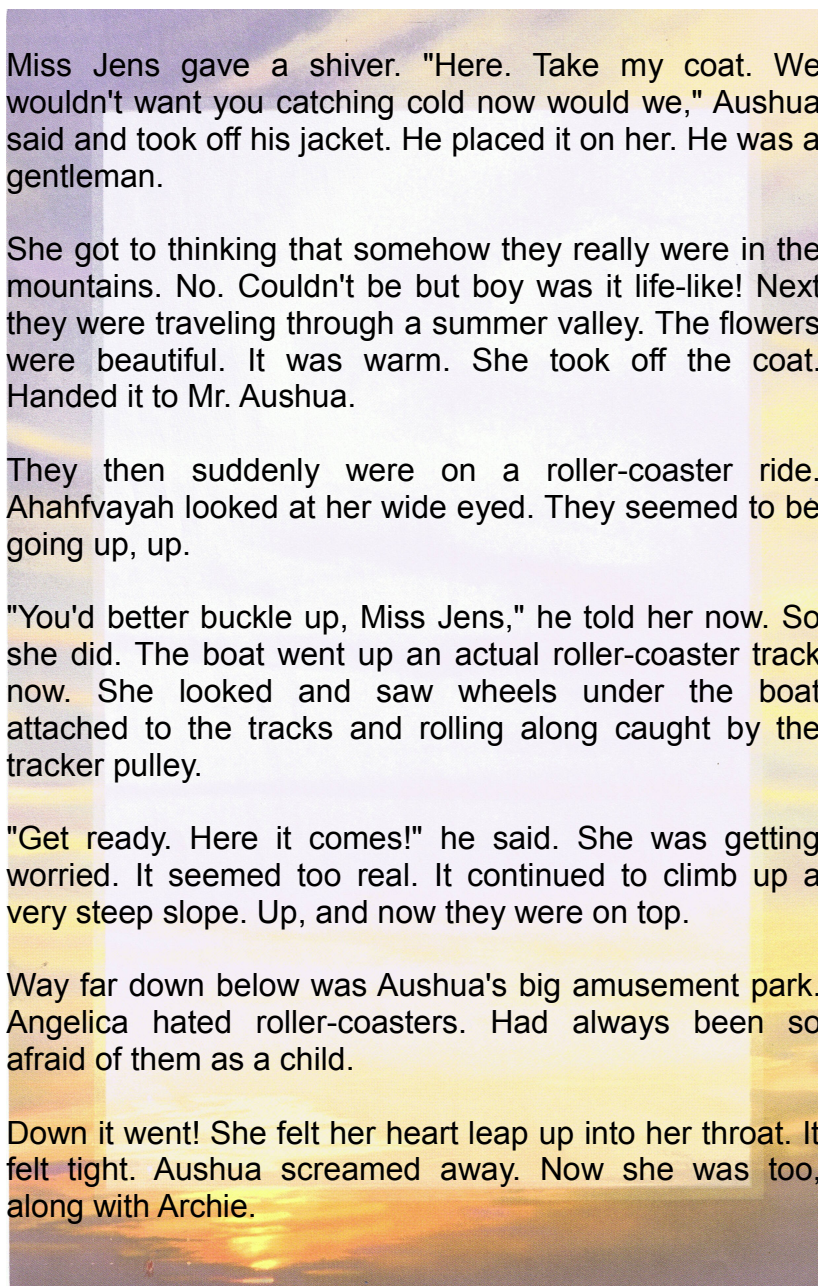
"This is wonderful!" she barked but then felt embarrassed that she might of been too loud. But Aushua didn't seem to mind. She felt a bit awkward though. She could tell as plain as day though that Mr. Aushua cared for Archie. The way he looked at him. Smiled. He had a lot of affection for the boy. As if he was his own son. It touched her heart.

Aushua's factory was a fine environment for him as far as she could see. Ahahfvayah Aushua and Archie had a special friendship going. Miss Jens then noticed this tunnel was coming up ahead. Was this the tunnel Blitz talked about was so frightening?

Surely Aushua wouldn't put HER through the same thing! But after they went inside it, it wasn't horrible at all. In fact quite the opposite. It came out into the most beautiful and lush green land. But she got a sense then, a fright that quickened her pulse. They seemed to be in an alien place now! The scenery had changed drastically. Did he venture back in time? Was this the future or the past?

Snowflakes soon were falling all around. They saw a snowy mountain pass then. Oh it was breathtaking! It was nippy out too. But how could they really be here? Ahahfvayah saw she looked most puzzled.

"My dear woman, do not be troubled, we'll be back to the factory in no time at all. Enjoy the view," he told her to sooth her mind. She tried to relax.



Miss Jens gave a shiver. "Here. Take my coat. We wouldn't want you catching cold now would we," Aushua said and took off his jacket. He placed it on her. He was a gentleman.

She got to thinking that somehow they really were in the mountains. No. Couldn't be but boy was it life-like! Next they were traveling through a summer valley. The flowers were beautiful. It was warm. She took off the coat. Handed it to Mr. Aushua.

They then suddenly were on a roller-coaster ride. Ahahfvayah looked at her wide eyed. They seemed to be going up, up.

"You'd better buckle up, Miss Jens," he told her now. So she did. The boat went up an actual roller-coaster track now. She looked and saw wheels under the boat attached to the tracks and rolling along caught by the tracker pulley.

"Get ready. Here it comes!" he said. She was getting worried. It seemed too real. It continued to climb up a very steep slope. Up, and now they were on top.

Way far down below was Aushua's big amusement park. Angelica hated roller-coasters. Had always been so afraid of them as a child.

Down it went! She felt her heart leap up into her throat. It felt tight. Aushua screamed away. Now she was too, along with Archie.

They were down. It had been more thrilling than any thing. A bit scary. No wonder Blitz got so scared. The roller-coaster came as such a surprise, the person never saw it coming. still it was nothing like what Blitz had cried over.

She figured the roller-coaster ride had been what scared him so bad. Maybe Aushua made him ride it over and over again. Made him upchuck his lunch. She had even felt a bit queasy herself. But still it was fun. She wondered how he made it seem like they were really there at the mountains and forest? No way they could of been there, right?

Maybe Blitz peed his pants and because being embarrassed, made up the whole story he concocted.

"Blitz said you made him ride for hours and hours all by himself through this, is that true?" she now asked Aushua.

Aushua's forehead wrinkled. "I really must have my hearing checked," he said a pulling on his left ear. That struck Archie so funny because just the other day Aushua acted like it was his right ear that he had trouble hearing out of. Archie figured it must be an excuse for every time Ahahfvayah did not want to answer a question.

"I didn't hear a word you just said," he spoke. She saw they were now out of the amusement park and back inside the beautiful estate's garden.

"Thank you for choosing Aushua-lines. Boat of a million fantastic rides," Ahahfvayah boomed at her. They then

got off.

"Why don't the two of you come with me to my church tomorrow," Miss Jens then offered.

"Oh, I never go to church," Mr. Aushua told her. She just looked at him.

"Oh, I've read the Bible mind you," he went on to say.

"Still, going to church," Miss Jens began.

"What is a church anyway but a temple within ourselves," he spoke further.

"Maybe so but Archie needs a good spiritual growth. At least let me take him to mine tomorrow for Sunday School and then the sermon. You don't have to go," she told him.

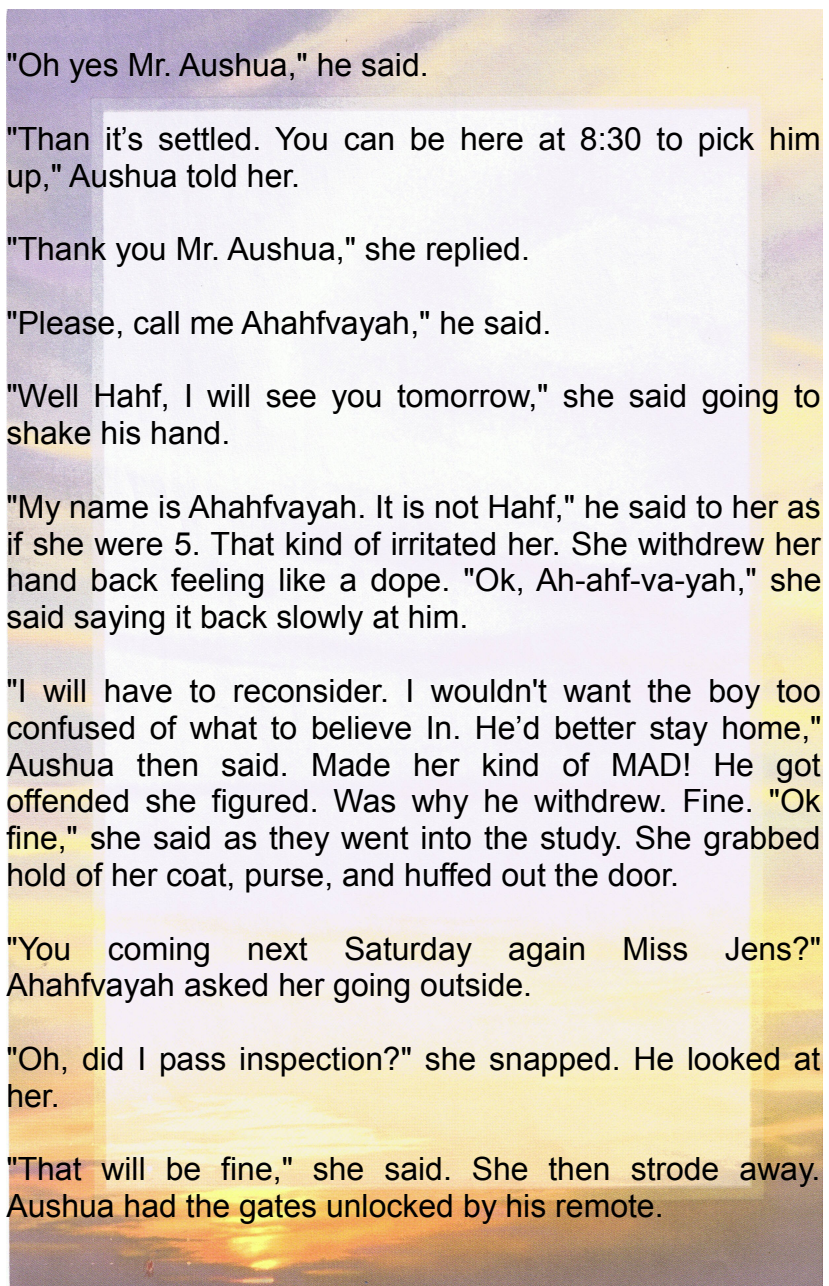
"And what church is that?" he asked.

"It's charismatic," she replied.

"Oh, so you mean jumping and dancing all up and down the pews, shouting and carrying on. I don't know," Ahahfvayah told her.

"What denomination are you?" asked Miss Jens.

"Oh, not really any. I'm no Bible thumper but I can respect your beliefs. To each his own. I'll let Archie decide. Archie, would you like to go with Miss Jens to her church tomorrow?" Aushua asked him.



"Oh yes Mr. Aushua," he said.

"Than it's settled. You can be here at 8:30 to pick him up," Aushua told her.

"Thank you Mr. Aushua," she replied.

"Please, call me Ahahfvayah," he said.

"Well Hahf, I will see you tomorrow," she said going to shake his hand.

"My name is Ahahfvayah. It is not Hahf," he said to her as if she were 5. That kind of irritated her. She withdrew her hand back feeling like a dope. "Ok, Ah-ahf-va-yah," she said saying it back slowly at him.

"I will have to reconsider. I wouldn't want the boy too confused of what to believe in. He'd better stay home," Aushua then said. Made her kind of MAD! He got offended she figured. Was why he withdrew. Fine. "Ok fine," she said as they went into the study. She grabbed hold of her coat, purse, and huffed out the door.

"You coming next Saturday again Miss Jens?" Ahahfvayah asked her going outside.

"Oh, did I pass inspection?" she snapped. He looked at her.

"That will be fine," she said. She then strode away. Aushua had the gates unlocked by his remote.

Miss Jens was awakened at 2:00 in the morning. "You can take Archie to your church tomorrow morning. I've thought it over and it's fine with me," Ahahfvayah told her.

"It's 2:00 in the morning Mr. Aushua," she replied a bit annoyed now. Ahahfvayah then looked over at his clock. "I'm sorry. I forgot to fix the clock in my office," he said apologizing. She yawned.

"I've thought about what you said. That a growing child needs spiritual guidance. I'm much too busy to take Archie to church so I will let you, that is if he likes it. I will not force him to go," Aushua told her.

"Nor would I. That will be fine. Goodnight Mr. Aushua," Miss Jens said. She yawned again.

"Good night Angelica. Sleep well," Ahahfvayah surprised her by replying. He then hung up. She was wondering, did he ever sleep?

So at 8:30 AM she arrived at the gates. Mr. Aushua was dressed in the same white attire he wore the last time she saw him. He was a strange, funny man. "Your late," he boomed.

She looked at her watch. "It's 8:30 just as you said," she remarked.

"It is 8:45. You are 15 minutes late. Your watch no doubt is too slow," he replied to her. She felt a tad bit irritated. She looked down at his white boots. She gave out a giggle. Just a small one. He looked at her. He then opened the gate.

"Enlarge anymore cookies?" she asked. She gave another giggle.

"No, actually I've turned my special chocolate sauce white," he told her matter of fact. He opened the door to his estate to let her in. He told her he'd have a key made for the gate by next Saturday. She continued to giggle as she followed him. He rolled up his eyes ignoring it. She couldn't help it. He looked a sight. Archie was all ready to go when she reached the study room.

He looked like a little man. "Do I have to wear this?" he protested to Aushua again. He had been all morning.

"Want to look sharp for church," Ahahfvayah replied.

"I look so sharp I could cut anything," Archie mumbled.

"Funny Archie," Aushua responded. Off Archie and Miss Jens went. Aushua watched them leave from a window. Aushua said to be no later than 4:00 that afternoon.

Miss Jens was going to spend the afternoon with Archie. Maybe alone with her he'd tell her some things about Mr. Aushua. After church they went for a walk through the park. It was a nice day. They went to the zoo.

"That Aushua is a strange man," she commented to Archie.

"I think he likes you," Archie took her off guard saying. How was she supposed to respond to that? "What gives you that idea? What did he say?" she asked, now

curious.

"He hasn't really said anything but I can just tell. A feeling I have," Archie replied. Silly kid! What did he know? She would never of guessed. She didn't believe it.

"Well?" asked Mr. Sloshhorn himself that next day on Monday after calling her into his office to talk about the Aushua incident.

"Well what?" she replied.

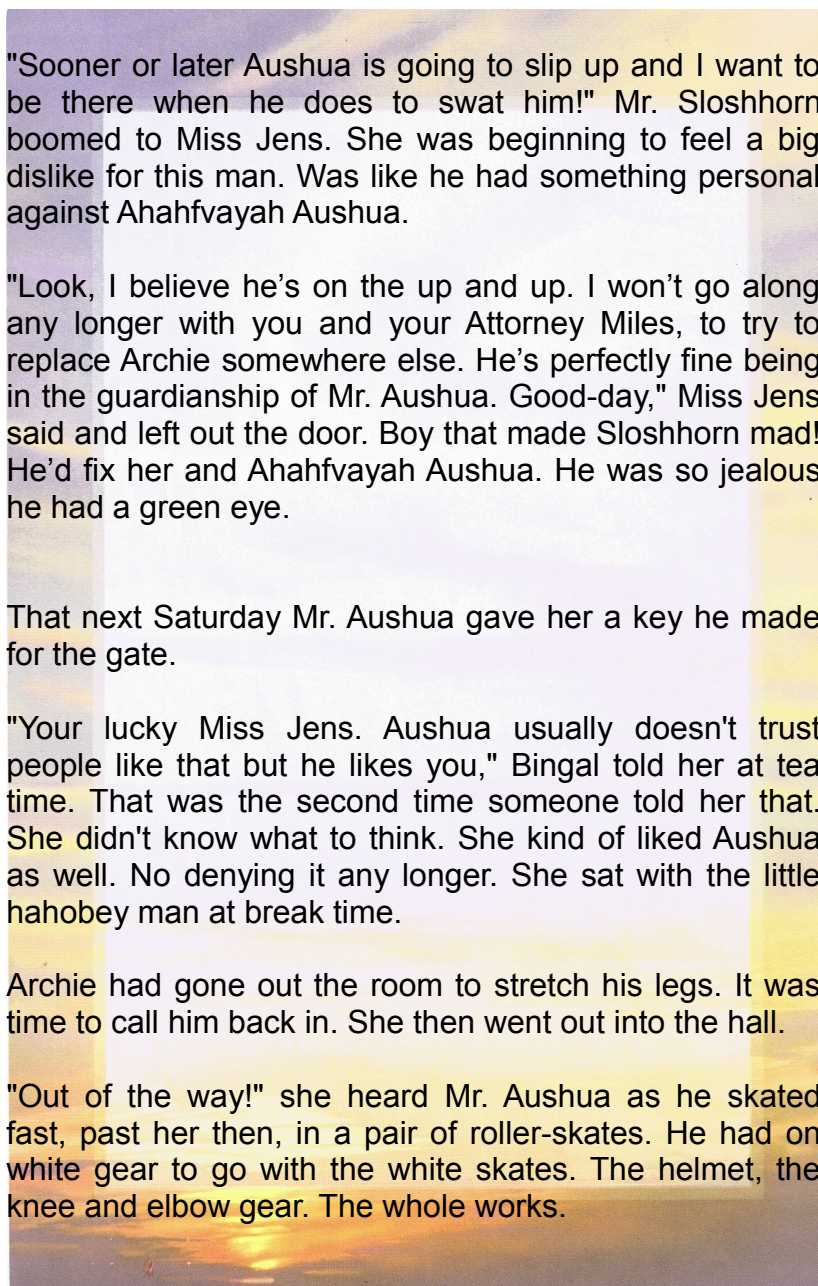
"You got anything on Mr. Aushua?" Sloshhorn more like snapped. Right off she didn't care for his attitude. He then said more softly, "did the boy tell you anything yesterday after church?"

Man what a snoop, she thought. "No. Not really. Aushua seems to be a very nice man. Eccentric but that's not a crime. I don't think what Blitz claimed to have happened really did, the way he said," Miss Jens told him.

"You have a nice time with Miss Jens today, Archie?" Ahahfvayah asked him after he came inside.

"Oh yes Mr. Aushua. I want to go to her church again with her," Archie said enthusiastically.

Aushua smiled. "Well good," he replied. Aushua had to admit. She did bring a sense of cheer to his place. He didn't mind her coming around.



"Sooner or later Aushua is going to slip up and I want to be there when he does to swat him!" Mr. Sloshhorn boomed to Miss Jens. She was beginning to feel a big dislike for this man. Was like he had something personal against Ahahfvayah Aushua.

"Look, I believe he's on the up and up. I won't go along any longer with you and your Attorney Miles, to try to replace Archie somewhere else. He's perfectly fine being in the guardianship of Mr. Aushua. Good-day," Miss Jens said and left out the door. Boy that made Sloshhorn mad! He'd fix her and Ahahfvayah Aushua. He was so jealous he had a green eye.

That next Saturday Mr. Aushua gave her a key he made for the gate.

"Your lucky Miss Jens. Aushua usually doesn't trust people like that but he likes you," Bingal told her at tea time. That was the second time someone told her that. She didn't know what to think. She kind of liked Aushua as well. No denying it any longer. She sat with the little hahobey man at break time.

Archie had gone out the room to stretch his legs. It was time to call him back in. She then went out into the hall.

"Out of the way!" she heard Mr. Aushua as he skated fast, past her then, in a pair of roller-skates. He had on white gear to go with the white skates. The helmet, the knee and elbow gear. The whole works.

Even the padded suit was white. He about knocked her over. Archie was coming up fast. They were playing laser tag. On roller-skates.

"I'm gaining! I'm going to blast you Mr. Aushua!" the boy hooted and hooted. Only Aushua was now hiding behind a corner. He flung himself out into the hall then and zapped Archie. "I got a hit!" he roared.

"Oh!" Archie boomed. Miss Jens didn't know who was the child and who was the adult. It did look like fun though.

"Grab a pair of skates and join us," Mr. Aushua invited.

"Oh no," was her reply.

"Come on Miss Jens," Archie now horned.

"You get back to work," she boomed.

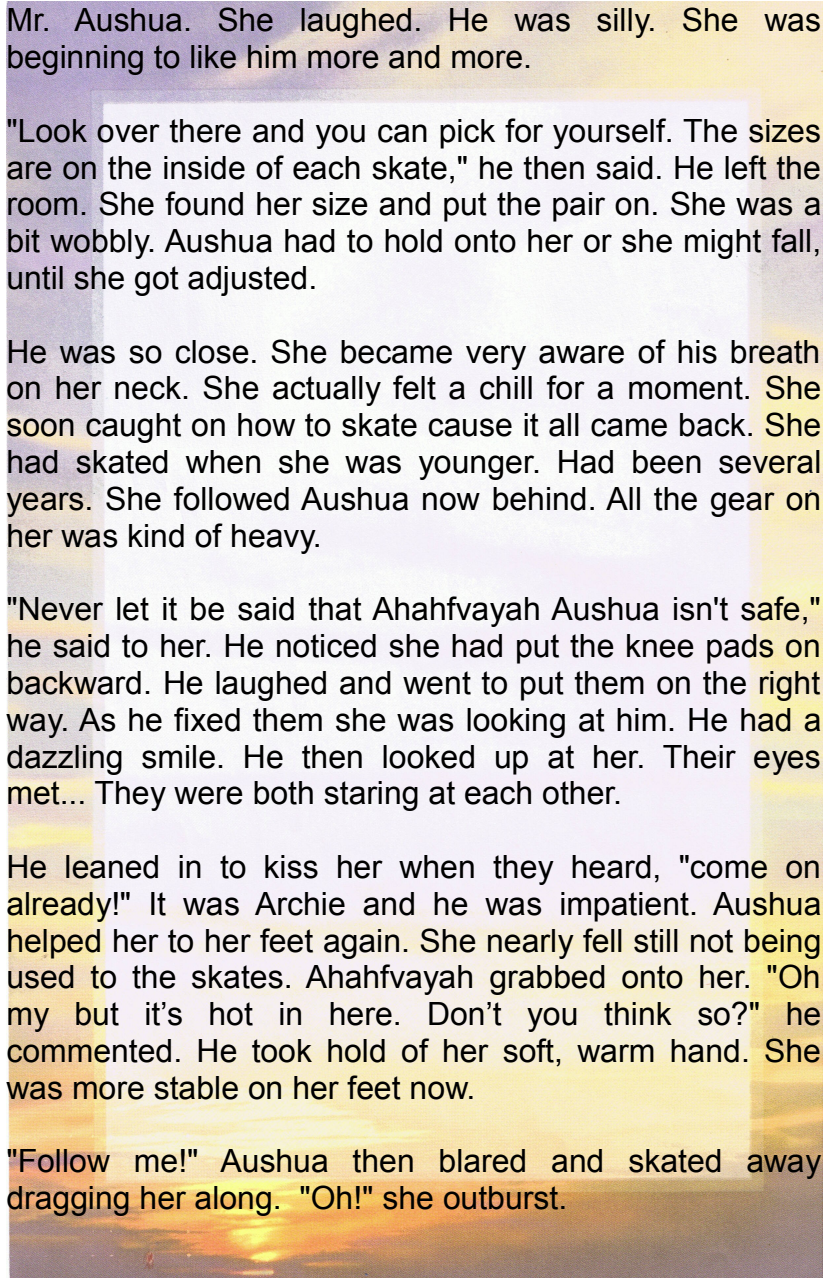
"Just for a little while. What do you say? I'll show you where to gear up. Come on or are you CHICKEN?" Aushua blared.

Oh that had done it! "Ok Aushua your on!" she hooted.

"Come on," he said taking her hand. He showed her to a room. There she suited and geared up. He gave her a laser gun.

"What size shoe?" he then asked her. She really didn't want to give him that.

"Your feet size, your hand, you toes, your nose," asked



Mr. Aushua. She laughed. He was silly. She was beginning to like him more and more.

"Look over there and you can pick for yourself. The sizes are on the inside of each skate," he then said. He left the room. She found her size and put the pair on. She was a bit wobbly. Aushua had to hold onto her or she might fall, until she got adjusted.

He was so close. She became very aware of his breath on her neck. She actually felt a chill for a moment. She soon caught on how to skate cause it all came back. She had skated when she was younger. Had been several years. She followed Aushua now behind. All the gear on her was kind of heavy.

"Never let it be said that Ahahfvayah Aushua isn't safe," he said to her. He noticed she had put the knee pads on backward. He laughed and went to put them on the right way. As he fixed them she was looking at him. He had a dazzling smile. He then looked up at her. Their eyes met... They were both staring at each other.

He leaned in to kiss her when they heard, "come on already!" It was Archie and he was impatient. Aushua helped her to her feet again. She nearly fell still not being used to the skates. Ahahfvayah grabbed onto her. "Oh my but it's hot in here. Don't you think so?" he commented. He took hold of her soft, warm hand. She was more stable on her feet now.

"Follow me!" Aushua then blared and skated away dragging her along. "Oh!" she outburst.

A while later they 3 were just a chasing after each other through his entire estate and candy factory. They almost tripped up a hahobey.

"Here I come!" boomed Mr. Aushua. He was after Angelica. With wild anticipation in his eyes, he came charging. She tried to skate as fast as she could but he was gaining. They were playing CATCH. He soon caught onto her. They both were laughing and laughing. Miss Jens completely lost all track of time. She'd never had so much fun in her whole life!

Archie got no school work done that day. Archie skated by and Aushua and Miss Jens were embraced in a kiss now.

"Hey, what is this? Catch and go kiss?" he asked. "I told you he liked you," he then embarrassed Mr. Aushua by saying.

"Archie!" he boomed.

"Well, I like Mr. Aushua too," she replied. He smiled at her.

Bingal had fixed a nice picnic lunch for everyone in Aushua's private garden, outside. Everyone took off their skates, gear and suits. They then all headed outside. Angelica found that she was starving!

"Rollerskating will do that to you," Ahahfvayah told her. Aushua never got out much. He was stretched out on the blanket. She found herself telling Aushua about her life.

"My family was very poor as I was growing up. I grew up wanting to make the planet a better place for children to live, That's why I'm a candy maker," he told her. He had his jacket off. His blond, curly hair was combed back neatly.

She found herself attracted to him. She wasn't so sure if it was a good idea or not. How did he feel about her? She was too shy to ask. Was up to him to make a move. All he'd done was kiss her. Was a nice kiss. But he didn't venture further by speaking his feelings. If he didn't, she wouldn't. She sure didn't want this day to end. 4:00 O'clock came around too quickly and it was time for her to go.

"I'll see you for church tomorrow Miss Jens," Archie said after saying his goodbye to her.

"Ahahfvayah, why don't you come too this time," Miss Jens invited taking his hand. She then decided she'd been too upfront. He kind of was smiling fake like he was annoyed or something. Maybe he didn't want her taking his hand.

"I'm afraid not Miss Jens," he told her. So it was back to Miss Jens again. She got her feelings hurt. Why was he like this?

"I'm not a people kind of person I'm afraid. I like children. They and the hahobey workers are the only people I can tolerate," he told her.

"Your a funny man Mr. Ahahfvayah Aushua," she commented.

"Why, I make you laugh or something?" he asked her seriously. He opened the door for her now. She then left.

"I had a real nice time today. Thank you," she said descending down the stairs.

"I did too but I'm afraid it all went to my head just a little. I apologize for any behavior that was less than proper," he told her. She knew he was meaning the kiss. She wasn't sorry for it but he was acting like he was. This depressed her somewhat. She then walked off.

"Bye, thanks for coming," he called out. He really didn't know what else to say. Miss Jens really didn't know what to expect from that man. He was an adult child.

Sloshhorn went to see Miss Jens at her apartment. He was the last person she expected to see that evening. With a big smile he showed forth all his unusually large cow teeth. As he was talking to her he happened to notice her key. It said Aushua, on it. Gave him an idea.

He smiled at her. She felt creepy around him. When she wasn't looking he slipped it into his pocket. She told him they really had nothing more to say about Ahahfvayah Aushua. She no longer wished to be in league with him. He then tipped his hat saying goodnight. He then left.

That next Saturday at the gate she noticed her key was missing. She dialed the house. Aushua himself answered. She had hoped it would be Bingal.

"I left my key at home," she lied. She didn't want to tell him yet that she lost it. Maybe it was at her apartment and she only misplaced it. She sure hoped so. She felt so stupid.

Sloshhorn had the key copied.

"Ok, I'll be right there," said Aushua after Miss Jens told him she left her key at home. He came and opened the gate. He smiled at her and it was genuine. She smiled back. He seemed more at ease today. "You are having a nice effect on Archie," he said to her. He meant himself as well but he just couldn't make himself say it. He knew he should.

"Can we skate some more today?" Archie asked her.

"No, now down to business," she made clear.

"Oh alright," he sighed disappointed. Aushua smiled looking into the study room. He then left. He had so much to do today.

For lunch as a desert they all had cream puffs. Archie told Miss Jens what Aushua did to the cream puff that was given to Blitz.

"Oh how awful. The poor brat," Miss Jens spoke and laughed. Aushua noticed she got cream on the end of her nose. He and Archie laughed away.

"What? " she demanded. She then felt it. She took her puff and jabbed it on the end of Ahahfvayah's nose. "Oh

you shouldn't of done that, you really shouldn't," he told her.

"Food fight!" Archie blared.

By the time it was over they were all covered in cream puffs. Bingal came in and just looked at them all. They then took hold of a puff each. "Oh you wouldn't! You better not!" Bingal said and tried to run off but they plastered him. His little legs just couldn't get him away fast enough.

Archie came back to the parlor after cleaning off. Aushua and Miss Jens were just a smooching again, cream puffs and all. This was great! If Aushua married her he'd have, well parents again. Sort of. He laid the towels on the table, then left so they could be alone. They didn't even notice him. He was smiling ear to ear.

Sloshhorn used the key and snuck into Aushua's factory. He set a bomb to go off a week from tomorrow. On Monday.

Miss Jens had finally done it. Talked Ahahfvayah into coming to church with her and Archie. He had on a white suit. His vest was blue. He wore a gray top hat and gray bow-tie. He looked so handsome, Miss Jens thought.

Many were shocked to see Mr. Aushua come to church. Many after the service told him how glad they were to have him there. Told him how they enjoyed his candy.

It was while he was at church that Sloshhorn snuck in.

He was surprised to see so many small men but he'd heard about Ahahfvayah's special services for the dwarfs. He called it something like the Hahobey Union. He was careful not to be seen.

Aushua said a lot of thank you's that day. He was afraid his mouth would be all worn out from so much smiling.

Sloshhorn was sneaking over to a bush just as Aushua, Archie, and Miss Jens were heading from the gates up to the main estate doors.

Aushua had noticed before coming in through the gate that it was unlocked. "Now how do you suppose that happened?" he had asked taking off his hat, scratching the top of his head. "I could of sworn I locked it," he said frowning.

"You probably just forgot," said Angelica now.

"I never forget to lock this. I know I did," he replied. Not long after, he spotted the sleazy Mayor Sloshhorn lurking about. Aushua caught sight of him. He couldn't believe his eyes!

Aushua went running after him. "Oh no you don't!" they heard him saying. Aushua grabbed hold of him.

"Mr. Sloshhorn, what are you doing here?" asked Miss Jens now noticing him. She had no idea he was a most disliked foe of Mr. Aushua's. That they were in fact rivals. Bitter enemies.

"You know him?" Ahahfvayah asked all confused now.

Miss Jens did not know how to respond to that. "Well, yes, I do," she began but then Sloshhorn flapped, "yes, we know each other. We have been in contact together against you, you fiend!" he told him. He knew they liked each other. Aushua then whirled around and just looked at Miss Jens harshly. "What have you got to do with him?" Ahahfvayah snapped.

"He is blowing this WAY out of proportion. It was his lawyer in fact who approached me one day and just wanted me to keep an eye on Archie, that the Mayor here suspected you were using Archie for child labor in your factory. I only looked into it for them in case you might be hurting Archie. That's the only reason why I said I'd help them to expose you. His lawyer Miles is a social worker. What was I supposed to do?" Miss Jens said coming to her defense. Boy that Sloshhorn was a jerk putting it all off on her like that!

"First off Miss Jens, Miles is a scum-bucket, and furthermore, he is no social worker. He is Sloshhorn's spy against me! That's what he is, and he uses every chance he gets, to try to bring up a scandal against me!" Aushua spat. Miss Jens was speechless.

"How could you? How dare you come into my home and betray us like that!" Aushua blared at her. Her eyes were tearing over.

"Hahf, please, he lied to me. I wouldn't on purpose harm you or Archie. I think a lot of the both of you. I'm sorry," she said crying.

"Oh, spare me your crocodile tears!" he boomed.

Sloshhorn stood there just a smirking, then trying to keep a straight face.

Ahahfvayah had no idea Angelica was just as much a victim as he was. Sloshhorn snickered and he ran off then past the opened gates. Aushua was so shocked. He tried now to run after him.

He looked at Miss Jens with hatred. "How could you do that to me? Let that man in here? I trusted you!" Aushua yelled at her. Archie was looking all confused. "Who was that?" he asked, his voice squeaked.

"The crooked, no good Mayor, that's all! Nobody important," he boomed at Archie. Aushua was red in the face.

"He told me Miles was a child welfare agent. Honest," Angelica said. Aushua looked like he swallowed a rat. A rat she had fed him forcefully. She felt so bad.

"You thought I was abusing Archie? Abusing him! Me!" he hollered now.

"No. I don't. I never did," she sobbed.

Bingal had heard yelling outside. He peeked out a window and saw Mr. Aushua just a roaring at Miss Jens about something.

"After I heard what Blitz said, I was suspicious. That was when Miles approached me saying Sloshhorn sent him to investigate it. But after I got to know you I knew you were a good influence on Archie," Miss Jens said. She wanted

to take his hand, hug him. Hold him, kiss his face. Anything to comfort him.

"You are to leave at once. I never want you to return here. Don't come back! Don't try talking to me or Archie. Just get out!" Aushua bellowed.

"Ahahfvayah no," she said. He grabbed her by the arm then and briskly waltzed her toward the gates. He then shoved her away and locked them. He looked at her all a flare then turned and walked away. She just cried and cried. He turned. "If I ever catch sight of you here again I will call the police and have you arrested," he made clear, coldly.

She then left just a sobbing away. Archie looked up at Aushua. He looked back where Miss Jens was. She was running, crying.

Bingal then came out. "Tend to the boy. I want to be alone," Aushua told him then huffed off into his factory. Bingal took Archie inside.

"I want that lock changed now," Aushua then ordered. He went into his study, slamming the door. Archie never saw him the rest of that day. When Aushua came to check on Archie that evening to make sure he was alright, he was asleep in his bed. Aushua went in. Sat by his bed. He stroked his hair. He was careful not to awaken him. He went to check with Bingal.

"Poor lad. Cried himself to sleep," Bingal reported. Aushua was just sick. "I will never let anyone hurt him like this again," Aushua told him.

Angelica cried herself to sleep. She really was beginning to care for Ahahfvayah. And Archie. It was now all ruined because of stupid Sloshhorn! She just cried away into her pillow.

Aushua sat in his chair in his study. He had the look of revenge on his face. He'd get even. With Sloshhorn, Miles, and especially Angelica Jens!

Ahahfvayah had never felt so used in all his days. Why did he ever allow himself to trust her so much? He let her into his home. His life. Archie's life. Women were vipers. Every one of them! He'd never trust them again.

Archie was sick that next day. Ahahfvayah knew what it was. He was sick in his heart.

"I feel the same. You don't have to do any school work today," he told the boy.

"Why can't Miss Jens come around anymore? I don't understand? I thought you liked her. Might even be going to marry her," Archie said.

Aushua just looked at him like he was crazy or something. "Marry her? Are you nuts! What in Heaven's name ever gave you that idea?" he hooted at the boy.

"I just wanted her here. You two can't work it out?" Archie asked.

"Archie, that woman isn't fit to be my maid," Aushua told him more quietly. He then tucked Archie in his bed. He

kissed him on his head and told him to get some rest.



4. FIRE AT THE FACTORY!

Archie moped around for days. He wouldn't do his school work. He wouldn't obey Aushua. Had been quite impossible towards Mr. Aushua that week. "Archie! Now that is quite enough from you!" Aushua boomed becoming angered.

"You are just plain mean! I don't want to listen to you or live here anymore!" Archie retorted back. He went a slamming his bedroom door. He locked it so Aushua couldn't get in.

"Archie, open this door," Ahahfvayah insisted.

Nothing. "Archie I'm not in the mood for one of your tantrums. Open the door!" he hooped.

"Archie, you unlock this door at once! Do you hear me!" Aushua was ranting now.

"Go away!" yelled the boy.

"You open this door or I will use a chainsaw and break it down!" Ahahfvayah hollered. All Archie's dreams went up in one 12 hour day. Last Sunday. Why couldn't Aushua and Miss Jens just patch this up? He didn't understand adult things. That's what Ahahfvayah had said anyway, that this was an adult thing and one day Archie would understand.

Archie knew Miss Jens didn't betray them. Was all a misunderstanding. Archie just knew. So why didn't Aushua see it that way as he had?

Archie came out of his room. Aushua was standing there about fit to be tied. He sat poor Archie in a corner. Nothing to do but look at a plain, white wall for the morning until lunch.

Archie tried to talk to him about Miss Jens but the man wouldn't stand for it. Was so stubborn. "I do not want HER name mentioned in this house ever again," he made clear.

Aushua was being impossible! "No Archie, you are being impossible and I want it to stop!" Aushua told him. His blue eyes looking at him big.

"Ok, go to your room," boomed Aushua after lunch. Archie after entering his room and shutting the door, packed a backpack. He was running away. It was Monday. The same day the bomb was set to go off that Sloshehorn planted in Aushua's candy factory. He put it into a ventilation shaft.

Miss Jens had tried to call Ahahfvayah Aushua last week. He refused to talk to her. He'd just hang up if it was her voice.

So now he had Bingal answering every call.

"That impossible man!" she boomed. She tried calling again and this time Archie had answered. But Aushua finding out who it was grabbed the phone away and just

hung up. He told Archie he did not have permission to answer the phone. "I don't want that woman talking to you," he made clear. He and Archie got in a big fight then. After that Archie wouldn't obey.

Aushua saw the boy try to sneak out with his backpack. He whisked him right back inside. Archie locked the door to his bedroom again. Aushua was mad! He went to find his lock-pick. That's when the huge explosion was felt.

Several of his little workers were killed instantly. Aushua was horrified. He came out with only a few scratches. He bent down to one that was still alive but hurt just too badly to be saved. He died in Ahahfvayah's arms. Ahahfvayah was appalled. He knew who was responsible for this. "Sloshhorn!"

He had no doubt planted a bomb. Aushua then remembered the boy. "Archie?" he said rushing toward his bedroom. The door was knocked open. Bingal was alright. The bomb got 1/4 of Aushua's factory. The bomb was old. If it hadn't it would of taken it all, just as Sloshhorn had wanted.

After the big explosion, plaster from the ceiling falling in, hitting Archie in the head. "Archie!" Mr. Aushua cried out rushing to him. He lifted the rubble off him. He feared the worst.

Archie was alive! Aushua scooped the boy up in his arms and carried him to his car. He then got him to the hospital. Archie had a head injury and Aushua didn't know how serious it was.

Miss Jens heard about the explosion at Aushua's factory cause it was on the news that night. She rushed to the hospital. "Oh please let them be ok," she said. She prayed. She didn't know what she'd do if Aushua or Archie were hurt badly. Archie had only a concussion but the doctor wanted to keep him overnight just to make sure. As a precaution.

A reporter shoved a microphone up to Aushua's face. "No comment," he told him.

Miss Jens had to make Aushua see. She was just as fooled by Sloshhorn's fake concern as his lawyer had been. He really had only wanted what was best for the boy but Sloshhorn could of cared less what happened to that brat.

Angelica's heart leaped with joy when she saw Ahahfvayah in the hall telling a reporter to beat it. She wanted to just hug the stuffing out of him.

Aushua never hardly left Archie's side. Archie was disoriented and couldn't see well. It was all blurry but he thought Miss Jens was inside his room. "M-Miss Jens? Is it you?" Archie questioned.

"Yes Archie. I'm here," she replied coming into the light that was above his bed. She smiled down at him. He smiled now too. She took his hand. "How are you doing? You alright? I was so glad to see that Aushua wasn't hurt," she spoke.

"I'm fine. I'm not sure what happened. Ahahfvayah told me there was an explosion. Something like that," Archie

said.

"Archie, I sure didn't mean to hurt the two of you. I never intended on using you like Hahf has said. I just wanted to make sure you were in safe hands. That's all. I thought Sloshhorn was just concerned when his attorney who I thought was a social worker told me his worries for you at the candy factory. You think I'd trust a man with that kind of bad reputation as Aushua has claimed? I just did not know they were rivals," Miss Jens said.

"I know Miss Jens. I know that Ahahfvayah will see the truth one day too. He just has to get over being mad. He hates Sloshhorn. I guess they went to school together or something and have been in competition against each other ever since," Archie told her. She gave him the stuffed horse she got him at the gift shop then. "Oh thank you!" he replied.

As Miss Jens was on her way toward the cafeteria, Ahahfvayah was on his way back to Archie's room. She came around a corner and they ran smack right into each other. "You? What are YOU doing here?" he demanded.

"I came to see how Archie was," she spoke.

"Your not welcome here so get out!" he then boomed.

"I happen to care about him too!" she outburst then.

"That's a laugh!" he hollered.

"Aushua please, we need to talk. You don't understand," she pleaded.

"I have nothing to say to you!" he spat. People turned and looked so he tried keeping his voice down. "You have some nerve coming here after what you did!"

"Hahf, you don't know the whole story," she replied low. She began taking hold of his arm then to lead him to a more quiet place to talk. He swatted her hand away. "If I weren't a gentleman I'd slug you one!" he roared in her ear. Her lips quivered.

"Because of you 20 of my little workers are dead!" he boomed at her.

"Aushua, I didn't set that explosion!" she boomed back.

"Well you might as well as far as I see it. You stay away from Archie. I don't want you anywhere near me so get out!" he bellowed low. That really hurt her. Him being so re-pulsed by her. She saw he just wouldn't listen. How could she get through to someone who just wouldn't listen?

"It wasn't Miss Jens' fault Mr. Aushua," Archie told him after he came back into his room telling him she would never be bothering him again.

"Archie, I don't wish to fight with you. You've been through a very terrible ordeal. Please try to understand I will not discuss that woman with you now, or in the future. You need to just forget about her," Aushua said.

"She didn't realize what an awful man he is, Ahahfvayah,"

the boy whined.

"Hush now. Go to sleep. I will be here all night with you,"
Aushua spoke softly. He went and sat in a chair.



5. LOST WORLD OF DREAMS

Archie and Mr. Aushua were way underground by way of an elevator. Under the Grand Estate were caves and caverns. Ahahfvayah had all his Hahobey living down here in apartment houses.

Here is where Ahahfvayah had buried his dead little workers. He gave a funeral service for them. He stood by 20 freshly drug graves. He had taken off his hat. He looked so sad. Here he shed his tears for the lives that were so unfairly snuffed out. With a shaky, choked voice, he bid them farewell.

Sloshhorn had intended to destroy Aushua's entire estate but the bomb was weak from being over 20 years old so it lost its kick, so to speak. Good thing Sloshhorn was so cheap!

Mr. Aushua had to rebuild and remodel on his factory affected by the bomb. Sloshhorn was distraught when he learned the damage was only minimal. He'd have to come up with another plan. He then remembered what Miles, his attorney told him about what Aushua did to Blitz. Aushua could be sued and Archie taken away. Miles would defend Blitz' family. He called and told them then.

"Revenge will taste so sweet, Aushua!" Sloshhorn boomed after Miles said they had a good enough case now, thanks to Miss Jens and she would be notified to be character witness against Aushua.

You can imagine the look on Aushua's face when a REAL social worker came to his factory ready to review the case.

Aushua refused to let the woman into his main house. She was a hose-nosed, saucer-rimmed, glasses wearing, middle aged twit.

She told him he could lose guardianship of Archie if he didn't and wouldn't cooperate. So Aushua let her in. The mousy woman that she was. Unfriendly and unattractive. She went through his estate making notes. "Humm," she'd comment every so now and then. She had a neck like a turkey gobble.

"Not a safe environment. He has this strange laser room. It has very dangerous nuclear power. He also is conducting weird experimentation, so I suggest the boy be removed at once," the lawyer relayed what the social worker had found to a district court.

Aushua was then summoned to appear before the Judge there. He was going to be sued for abusing Blitz at his amusement park and because the court deemed his estate not safe, Archie was to be removed and placed into different foster care.

Poor Aushua. It couldn't get much worse for him. He was being sued for intent of personal harm against Blitz, and Archie was to be taken from him next week. They only had a few days to say goodbye to each other.

"But why? I don't want to go away," Archie sobbed and sobbed when Aushua had to tell him he couldn't live with

him any longer.

To say Ahahfvayah was upset was an understatement. "Listen Archie," he spoke as the boy cried and cried.

Aushua then had an idea. "Archie, I know how we can stay together but we'll have to leave this place. Even this planet, see... I'm not really from here," Ahahfvah said and chuckled. Archie wiped his sleeve and smiled. "You mean your an alien?" he honked.

"My dad is from a world called Ayanna. My mom was from Earth," Hahf told him.

"I knew it! Those inventions of yours!" Archie blared.

"I'd go anywhere with you just as long as I don't have to be taken away," Archie spoke.

Miss Jens had tried to speak highly on behalf of Mr. Aushua at the court hearing despite she had to give the details of what Aushua put Blitz through at his factory and amusement park, but it still all fell through against him.

She had been disqualified when she tried to speak to them that she was on his side cause she had shared a personal relationship with the man. This was what Sloshhorn wanted all along. To make any words she spoke kindly about Aushua to blow right up in her face and to use the harming evidence about Blitz against him.

"We have not! There was no personal relationship whatsoever!" Aushua had objected and hooted. Miss

Jens felt so alone and unloved. She went home that night and just sobbed.

Angelica Jens was running. Sloshhorn was after her. He had threatened her not to testify for Aushua in any way but against him when she went to the courthouse. To not support Aushua at all. Of course she didn't listen to him.

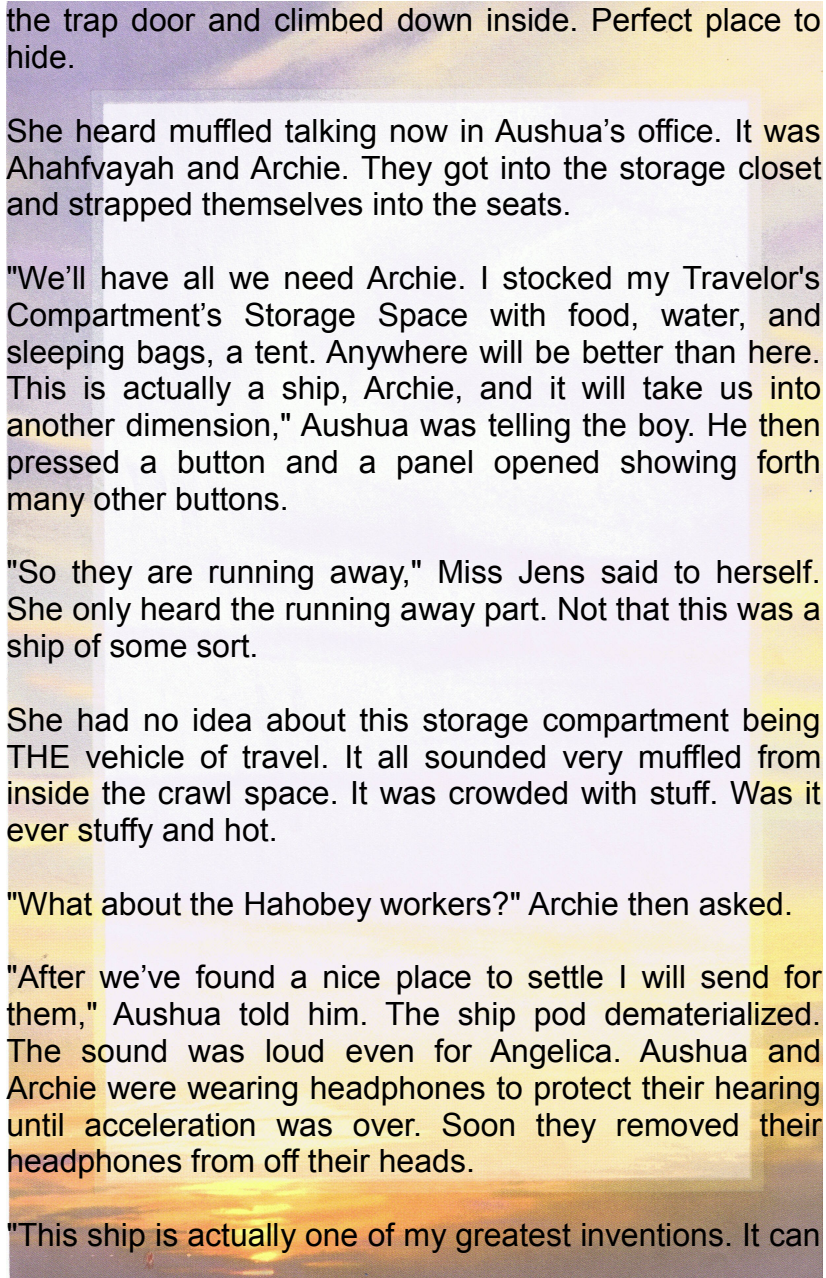
Now he was out to kill her. She had no one to help her. But Aushua, maybe he would. Had some decency left of his feelings towards her. Surely he wouldn't turn her away if her life was in danger?

She had to chance it so off she ran to his estate. She just couldn't believe that he didn't care about her at all after what they'd been through together. The man had a heart. He wasn't like Sloshhorn. Was he?

She climbed over the gate. Snagged her pantyhose. She used a credit card to try to unlock his front door. She just had to find him.

The card was no good so she climbed in through an opened window she found. She heard someone coming. She was scared it was Sloshhorn. He had gotten in with the authorities to take Archie away. She ran towards Ahahfvayah's office.

Once inside she dashed for what she thought was an elevator. It was a storage compartment instead, of some sort. A closet maybe but the little room was made out of some kind of metal and had white sitting seats on both sides. A crawl space below the floor too so she opened



the trap door and climbed down inside. Perfect place to hide.

She heard muffled talking now in Aushua's office. It was Ahahfvayah and Archie. They got into the storage closet and strapped themselves into the seats.

"We'll have all we need Archie. I stocked my Travelor's Compartment's Storage Space with food, water, and sleeping bags, a tent. Anywhere will be better than here. This is actually a ship, Archie, and it will take us into another dimension," Aushua was telling the boy. He then pressed a button and a panel opened showing forth many other buttons.

"So they are running away," Miss Jens said to herself. She only heard the running away part. Not that this was a ship of some sort.

She had no idea about this storage compartment being THE vehicle of travel. It all sounded very muffled from inside the crawl space. It was crowded with stuff. Was it ever stuffy and hot.

"What about the Hahobey workers?" Archie then asked.

"After we've found a nice place to settle I will send for them," Aushua told him. The ship pod dematerialized. The sound was loud even for Angelica. Aushua and Archie were wearing headphones to protect their hearing until acceleration was over. Soon they removed their headphones from off their heads.

"This ship is actually one of my greatest inventions. It can

travel to any dimension in existence!" Aushua proudly boomed. Miss Jens was wondering, WHAT WAS GOING ON!? Why was this thing shaking madly?

"Ok Archie, we are about to enter a portal," Aushua warned him. The little pod was shaking extremely bad right now. Miss Jens tried to scream but nothing could be heard above the ruckus. Bright lights began to flash all around them.

As the pod entered the void, it gave a great jerk. Something fell hitting her over her head. It knocked her out. The ship stopped and Ahahfvayah Aushua and Archie looked outside windows now after Aushua pressed a button and panels opened on the walls to reveal little windows all around. It was beautiful here!

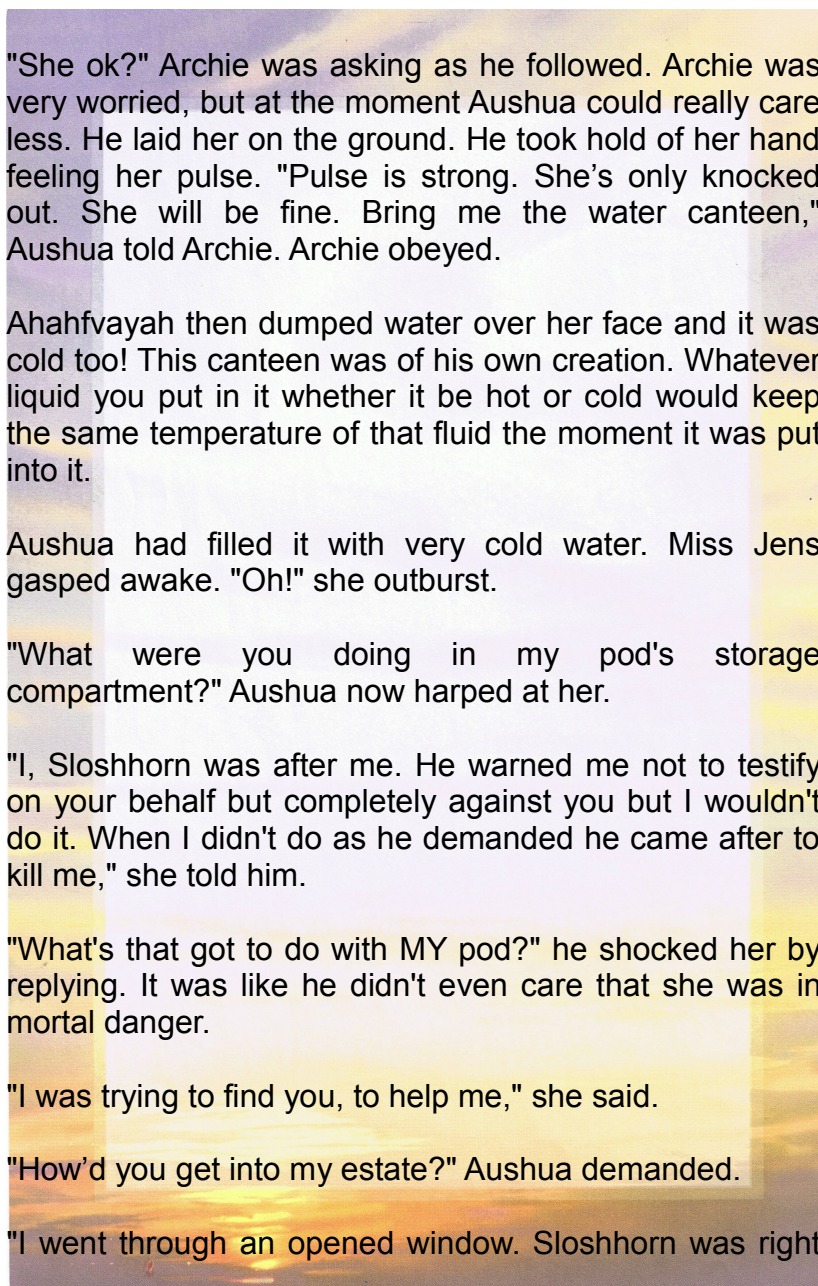
There were green trees and blue pools. Archie noticed a waterfall. "Where are we?" he asked then.

"I'm not exactly sure Archie. I have never been here before. At least I don't think so. Maybe in a dream," Aushua told him.

"Yeah. I feel that way too," replied the boy. Aushua then opened up the trap door on the floor and got a shock!

He was going to get two backpacks he prepared for them. He then noticed Angelica Jens. "Great heavens!" he had boomed. Archie now noticed her sprawled out in the cubby space too now. "Miss Jens?" he questioned.

Aushua got her out from the storage space. He carried her outside. She was knocked unconscious.



"She ok?" Archie was asking as he followed. Archie was very worried, but at the moment Aushua could really care less. He laid her on the ground. He took hold of her hand feeling her pulse. "Pulse is strong. She's only knocked out. She will be fine. Bring me the water canteen," Aushua told Archie. Archie obeyed.

Ahahfvayah then dumped water over her face and it was cold too! This canteen was of his own creation. Whatever liquid you put in it whether it be hot or cold would keep the same temperature of that fluid the moment it was put into it.

Aushua had filled it with very cold water. Miss Jens gasped awake. "Oh!" she outburst.

"What were you doing in my pod's storage compartment?" Aushua now harped at her.

"I, Sloshhorn was after me. He warned me not to testify on your behalf but completely against you but I wouldn't do it. When I didn't do as he demanded he came after to kill me," she told him.

"What's that got to do with MY pod?" he shocked her by replying. It was like he didn't even care that she was in mortal danger.

"I was trying to find you, to help me," she said.

"How'd you get into my estate?" Aushua demanded.

"I went through an opened window. Sloshhorn was right

behind me with hurtful intentions, as well as the authorities to get Archie," she tried to get through to him.

"Oh, you don't say. Well, I'm sure you are exaggerating just a tiny bit. They weren't due till the end of next week," he boomed at her.

"You ok?" Archie then asked her. Ahahfvayah just looked at him. "Don't talk to the enemy," he told him.

"I'm fine. Oh," Miss Jens replied then noticed a sore spot on her head where she got hit.

Aushua put up two tents. One for he and Archie to share, and the extra tent was for Miss Jens.

"Archie and I will stay in that one. You will take the other. It will be scrunchy, Archie. I wasn't expecting company," Ahahfvayah then told the boy and gave Angelica a dirty look. She felt so unwanted by him.

Aushua sent Archie to fetch some water for cooking. Aushua then took this opportunity to talk to Miss Jens alone. "If it weren't for the fact that Archie is here, I'd be less than civil towards you. You are a nobody in my book. Your no better than Sloshhorn himself. A con artist piece of trash. But I will act accordingly for the boy's sake, but frankly I'd just as soon leave you here. I don't want to help you," he hissed low. His words were vicious and very unkind. Went straight to her heart.

"Your a heartless machine!" she spat and got up. She went into her tent and quietly sobbed away. He could

hear her cause they got loud. He went over to her tent. "Stop with the cry-babying. Archie's returning. Try to act like a lady for once," he said in at her. She sobbed even louder now. "Shut it up! I can't stand it!" he boomed.

"You hate me that much! I didn't give Slosshorn my key. He took it. I just thought I lost it. He really was trying to kill me!" she bellowed. Archie was back. He looked in their direction.

"Let's turn off the soap opera cause it's really getting on my nerves! I don't give a hoot-owl about you or do I believe one lie you've told me. As far as I see it we are stuck with you but I could easily take the boy in the night and take off in my pod, leaving you here alone, and I just might too!" he roared low. She only looked at him. "You scoundrel!" she hissed back. She believed he meant it.

"You are no lady!" he retorted low then left her tent and went over to Archie. Angelica's head hurt. She got a dizzy spell so she just remained in the tent lying down.

"Come and eat. I've made some supper," Aushua said an hour later waking her up.

"Ahahfvayah, I am sorry," she apologized.

"That's Mr. Aushua to you and I do not accept your apology. You coming or not?" he spoke.

"No," she replied.

"Suit yourself. You not eating just saves more food for us. Starve all I care," and with that he left her tent. She

sobbed again. He rolled up his eyes.

After they ate, Archie sat eating a chocolate bar. Aushua went over to him. Smiled. "Do you believe all that Miss Jens said, Archie? About Sloshhorn being after her I mean?" he asked. Children sometimes had a special 6th sense. They could tell a crook from a genuine truth.

"I think Miss Jens has been a victim just as us all along. I think she only meant good intentions. I believe Sloshhorn tricked her concerning his lawyer, and she thought he was a real social worker. I believe she had the purest of motives for me and my welfare. Sloshhorn used her Mr. Aushua," Archie said.

"You too have taken her for granted, misunderstanding this. I think maybe her life was in danger for her to be so desperate trying to come to you for help, all the while knowing you've been awful toward her. I think he was chasing her, or why was she so frightened that she hid in your storage pod?" Archie told him. Aushua was silent. Maybe Sloshhorn really had come to take Archie early, just as she said.

"All teachers should be like her. She really does care for me or she wouldn't of risked visiting me in the hospital knowing she might run into you," Archie said further.

"And a child shall lead them," he finally said. He smiled and got up. Could he have gravely misjudged her? Was it possible HE owed HER the apology?

Aushua brought supper again for Miss Jens. He went into her tent. He had food pills. Tasted like the real thing. "Oh

their good Miss Jens. Please try to eat something," Archie told her going into her tent too this time.

"I don't want anything. My head hurts," she replied. It really kept repeating in her mind all the cruel things Aushua had said. That he'd leave her behind.

Aushua and Archie left her alone to rest. He did offer her some aspirin for her headache. What if he were trying to poison her?

"It's ok. I just need to rest," she said refusing them.

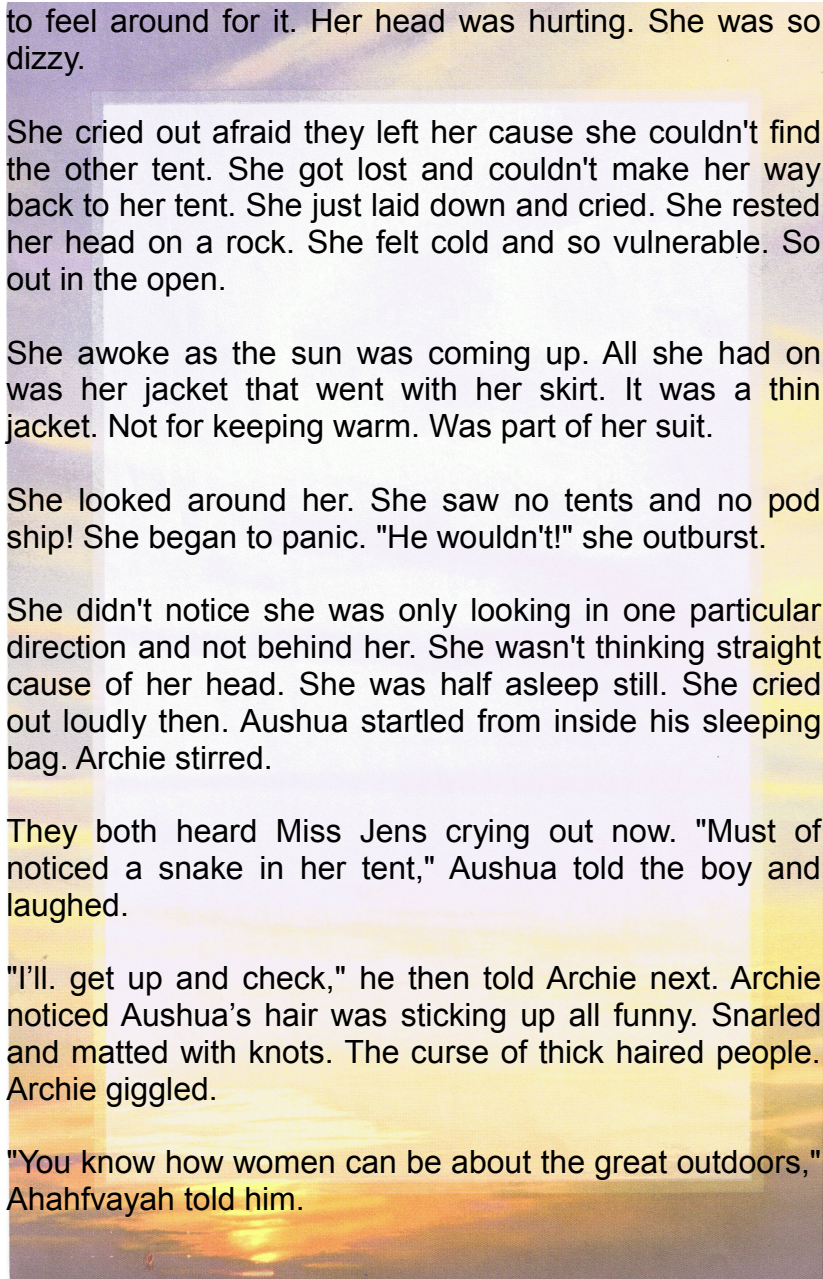
"Fine. Must not hurt that bad then," he remarked and left. Thing was it hurt bad but she was afraid he might do her in himself.

Later in the night she kept waking up. She was so afraid he really was going to leave her behind. She was convinced, utterly, that if she went to sleep, she'd wake up to find they had left her behind on some weird, freaky planet!

Angelica knew they were not on Earth. That Aushua's storage closet was really a ship of sorts. It was beautiful here but she was afraid he'd leave her on it all alone to fend for herself.

Archie and Aushua turned in soon after it grew dark. Was so peaceful here. Perfect.

Angelica got up once. She had dreamed Aushua had left her. She went outside. There were no city lights and so it was pitch black out. She couldn't see the ship! She tried



to feel around for it. Her head was hurting. She was so dizzy.

She cried out afraid they left her cause she couldn't find the other tent. She got lost and couldn't make her way back to her tent. She just laid down and cried. She rested her head on a rock. She felt cold and so vulnerable. So out in the open.

She awoke as the sun was coming up. All she had on was her jacket that went with her skirt. It was a thin jacket. Not for keeping warm. Was part of her suit.

She looked around her. She saw no tents and no pod ship! She began to panic. "He wouldn't!" she outburst.

She didn't notice she was only looking in one particular direction and not behind her. She wasn't thinking straight cause of her head. She was half asleep still. She cried out loudly then. Aushua startled from inside his sleeping bag. Archie stirred.

They both heard Miss Jens crying out now. "Must of noticed a snake in her tent," Aushua told the boy and laughed.

"I'll. get up and check," he then told Archie next. Archie noticed Aushua's hair was sticking up all funny. Snarled and matted with knots. The curse of thick haired people. Archie giggled.

"You know how women can be about the great outdoors," Ahahfvayah told him.

Miss Jens turned around then and noticed the 2 tents and the little ship. Aushua got up. He forgot he was only in his white undergarments. Was a lot like long winter underwear. He put on his hat.

He then went outside. Her eyes looked at him big then, after he came out. He tipped his hat to her. "What's all the ruckus I'm hearing?" he asked her.

He had decided last night to give her the benefit of a doubt because Archie trusted her. Maybe Sloshhorn did approach her making her think he was a real nice guy, fooling her to believing that his crooked attorney was a social worker wanting to check out the candy maker, being Archie's guardian and all but it was the way she spied for him. Aushua wasn't sure he could forgive that.

Aushua stepped on a rock with his bare foot. He then noticed what he was dressed in. "Great Neptune's Ghost! I'm not decent!" he roared. He more like leaped back into his tent. He was all red in the face. "That dratted woman! A man has to be on his best behavior constantly!" he boomed. Archie chuckled and chuckled. Aushua then began putting on his clothes. Archie just laughed.

"Oh you think this is funny, do you, Archie? You just wait till your older and start noticing the pretty faces. If just one hair is out of place you'll know how it is then!" he honked at the boy.

Aushua avoided Miss Jens as much as possible that day. "Didn't ask you to come along anyway," she heard him just a mumbling. She felt like a wart on the end of a nose.

6. THE MYSTERIOUS RAINBOW

"Let's get packed up," Mr. Aushua said later that afternoon. "We need to see if there's a city close by. We need to find out where here is," Aushua said.

"What about your traveling space pod?" Miss Jens asked. She wasn't sure what to call it.

"I will make it invisible," Ahahfvayah then replied. He took out a remote control from his jacket pocket. Acted like it was the simplest thing in the universe and she should know that. He had his pod all locked up and he pressed a button making it disappear then.

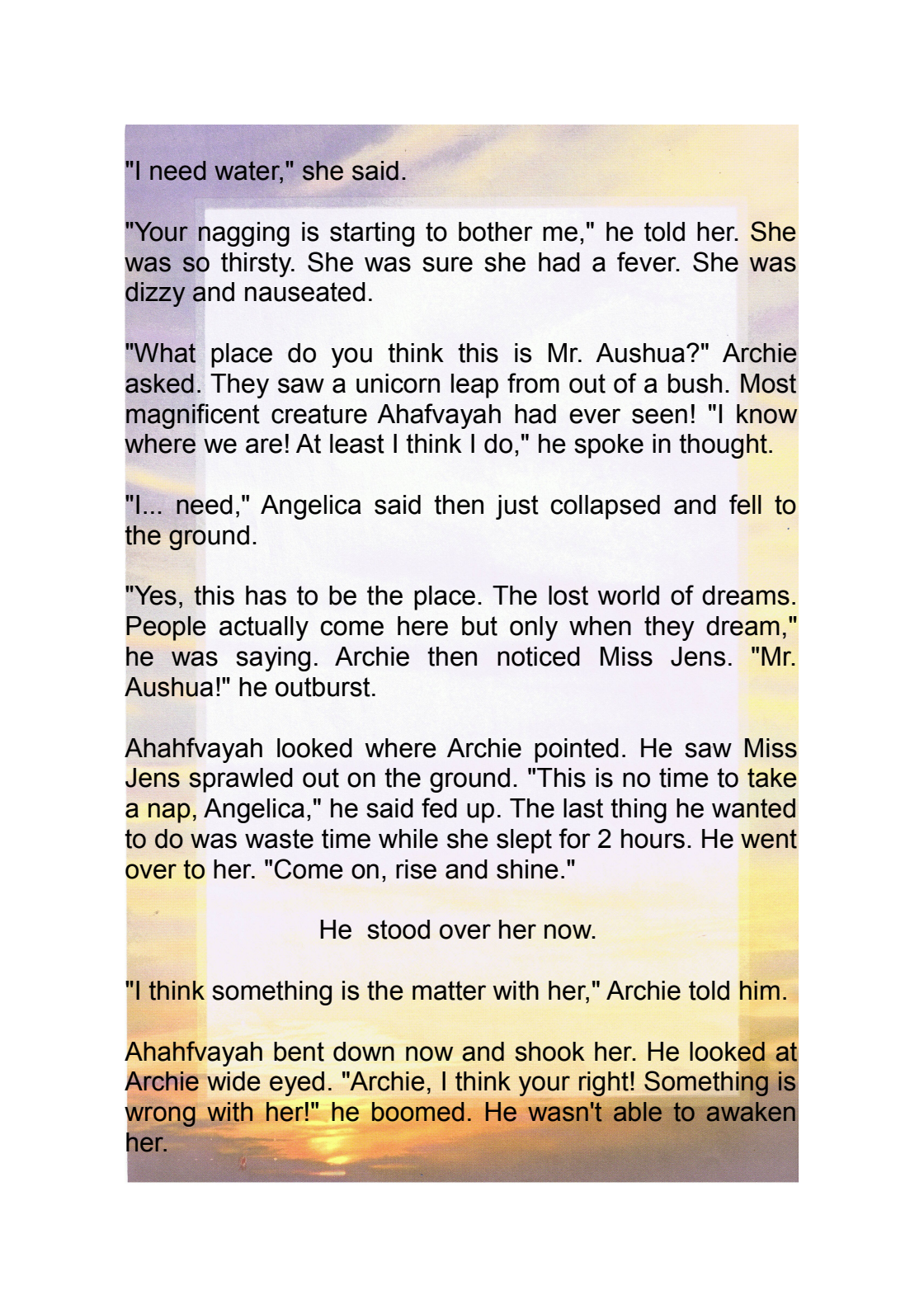
"How did you do that?" Miss Jens asked.

"I simply rearranged the molecules," he said like she should know that.

"Ok, off we go," he boomed now making her jump. He walked on ahead of them. He turned and walked, looking at them. He had on a backpack and so did Miss Jens. It was heavy and uncomfortable. She wished she didn't have to carry it.

"I need to stop," she said about an hour later. He rolled up his eyes. They had just rested an hour ago. A half hour later she complained again.

"At this rate we'll get someplace maybe by next year," he commented.



"I need water," she said.

"Your nagging is starting to bother me," he told her. She was so thirsty. She was sure she had a fever. She was dizzy and nauseated.

"What place do you think this is Mr. Aushua?" Archie asked. They saw a unicorn leap from out of a bush. Most magnificent creature Ahafvayah had ever seen! "I know where we are! At least I think I do," he spoke in thought.

"I... need," Angelica said then just collapsed and fell to the ground.

"Yes, this has to be the place. The lost world of dreams. People actually come here but only when they dream," he was saying. Archie then noticed Miss Jens. "Mr. Aushua!" he outburst.

Ahafvayah looked where Archie pointed. He saw Miss Jens sprawled out on the ground. "This is no time to take a nap, Angelica," he said fed up. The last thing he wanted to do was waste time while she slept for 2 hours. He went over to her. "Come on, rise and shine."

He stood over her now.

"I think something is the matter with her," Archie told him.

Ahafvayah bent down now and shook her. He looked at Archie wide eyed. "Archie, I think your right! Something is wrong with her!" he boomed. He wasn't able to awaken her.

Aushua looked around. "I don't see any dandelions," he then spoke.

"Huh?" replied Archie.

"A witch's spell, Archie. This could possibly be the spell of a witch. Remember Dorothy in The Wizard Of Oz. The evil witch. Her sister was killed by Dorothy's house cause it fell on her. The other sister then wanted revenge, and her magic slippers," Aushua told Archie.

"But that was only make-believe," Archie spoke.

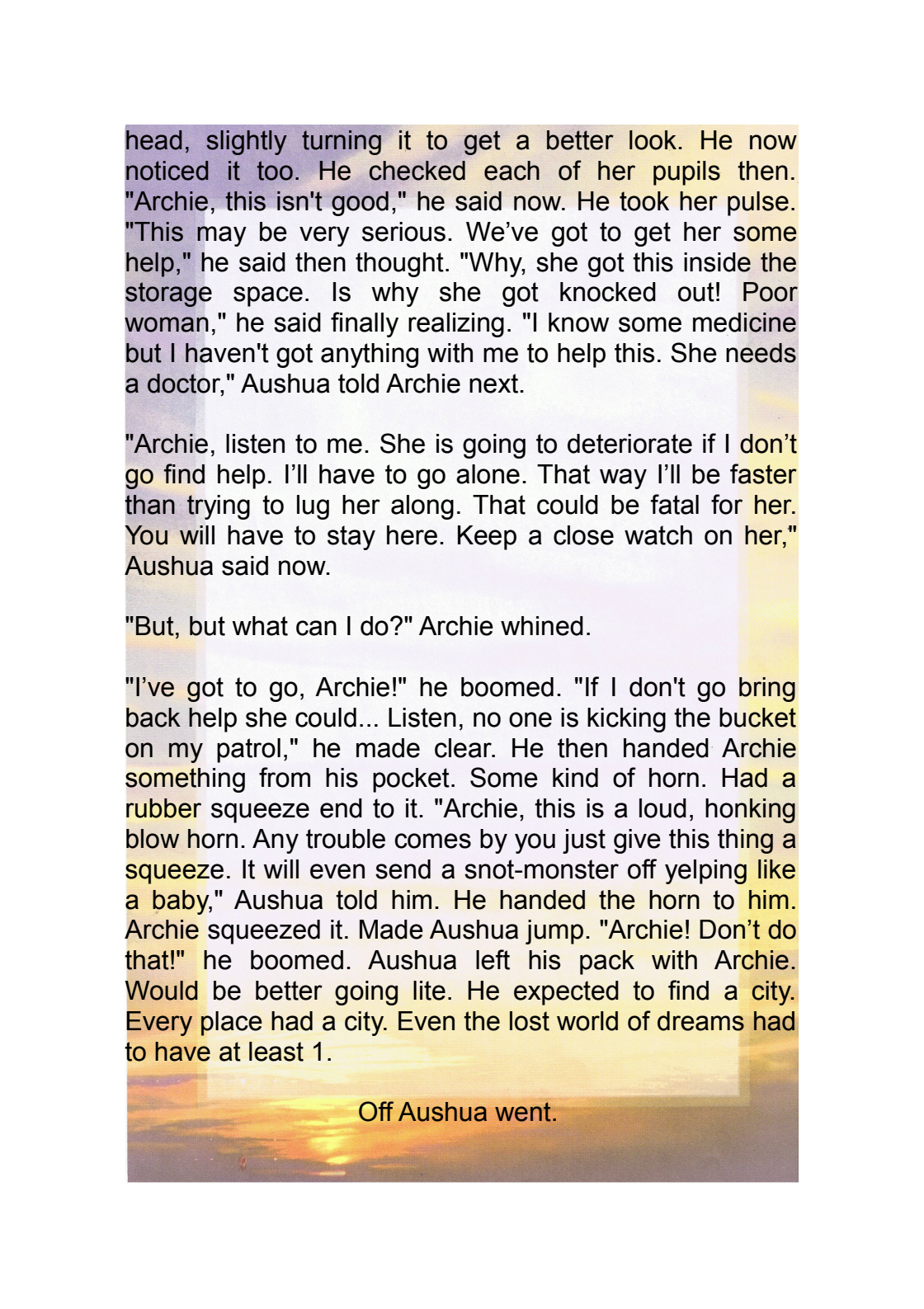
"Well, I wouldn't dismiss it so easily, Archie. That movie could of come from this place. You never know. This is the lost world of dreams. What may not be real on Earth may very well be real here," Aushua told him.

"Oh, so a witch put a spell on Miss Jens," Archie said kind of sarcastically.

"It's not that far fetched coming from a place like this!" Ahahfvayah boomed. Archie knew he meant well but sometimes Mr. Aushua could be, well let's just say, floating out in space upstairs so to speak, at times.

"I don't have any anti-witch syrup, spell breaker with me. I forgot to pack some," Aushua said biting his lip. His forehead wrinkled up.

Archie now noticed a swollen, red swelling on the side of Miss Jens' head near her face. Was a nasty bump. "Mr. Aushua, look at this," he then showed him. He took her



head, slightly turning it to get a better look. He now noticed it too. He checked each of her pupils then. "Archie, this isn't good," he said now. He took her pulse. "This may be very serious. We've got to get her some help," he said then thought. "Why, she got this inside the storage space. Is why she got knocked out! Poor woman," he said finally realizing. "I know some medicine but I haven't got anything with me to help this. She needs a doctor," Aushua told Archie next.

"Archie, listen to me. She is going to deteriorate if I don't go find help. I'll have to go alone. That way I'll be faster than trying to lug her along. That could be fatal for her. You will have to stay here. Keep a close watch on her," Aushua said now.

"But, but what can I do?" Archie whined.

"I've got to go, Archie!" he boomed. "If I don't go bring back help she could... Listen, no one is kicking the bucket on my patrol," he made clear. He then handed Archie something from his pocket. Some kind of horn. Had a rubber squeeze end to it. "Archie, this is a loud, honking blow horn. Any trouble comes by you just give this thing a squeeze. It will even send a snot-monster off yelping like a baby," Aushua told him. He handed the horn to him. Archie squeezed it. Made Aushua jump. "Archie! Don't do that!" he boomed. Aushua left his pack with Archie. Would be better going lite. He expected to find a city. Every place had a city. Even the lost world of dreams had to have at least 1.

Off Aushua went.

7. CRYSTALPLIS

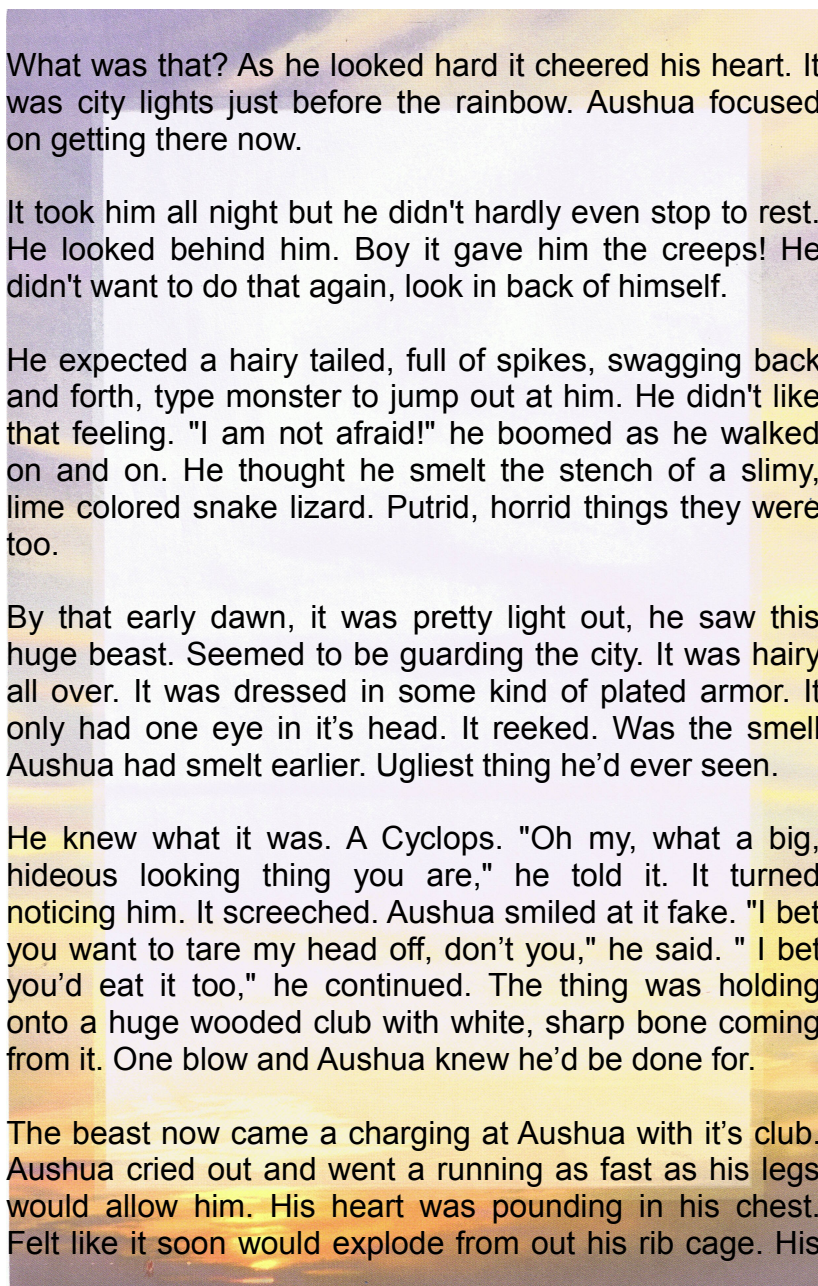
It was now dark out. Archie hoped Mr. Aushua was doing alright. Archie didn't know one thing how to put the tent up. Aushua forgot to put it up in the rush of needing to bring back help. Archie heard all sorts of noises that night.

Aushua was walking along, well after dark. His eyes looked this way and that at every little noise. He felt a bit spooked.

Archie kept blowing off the horn cause he was jumpy and thought every sound was a danger.

Aushua finally decided he had to stop. He had tripped over a log he didn't see. If he fell and broke his leg or something worse, he'd never find help. So he had to stop. He rubbed his sore foot from where he fell. He sat on a tree stump, stumped. Forehead wrinkled as he was in thought. What was he going to do now? In the dark of night of all things. He remembered then that he left his flashlight with Archie. So he just sat there in the dark. He had no supplies. Only the clothes on his back. What was he thinking not to take anything? With his hat on his head, his head turned left then right. His eyes switching side to side at every sound he heard.

Something then screeched, Aushua screamed and went a running off. He saw some light up ahead. Was that a rainbow? Yes, it was a rainbow off in the distance! It didn't rain, or were rainbows here a popular, everyday sight without the rain?



What was that? As he looked hard it cheered his heart. It was city lights just before the rainbow. Aushua focused on getting there now.

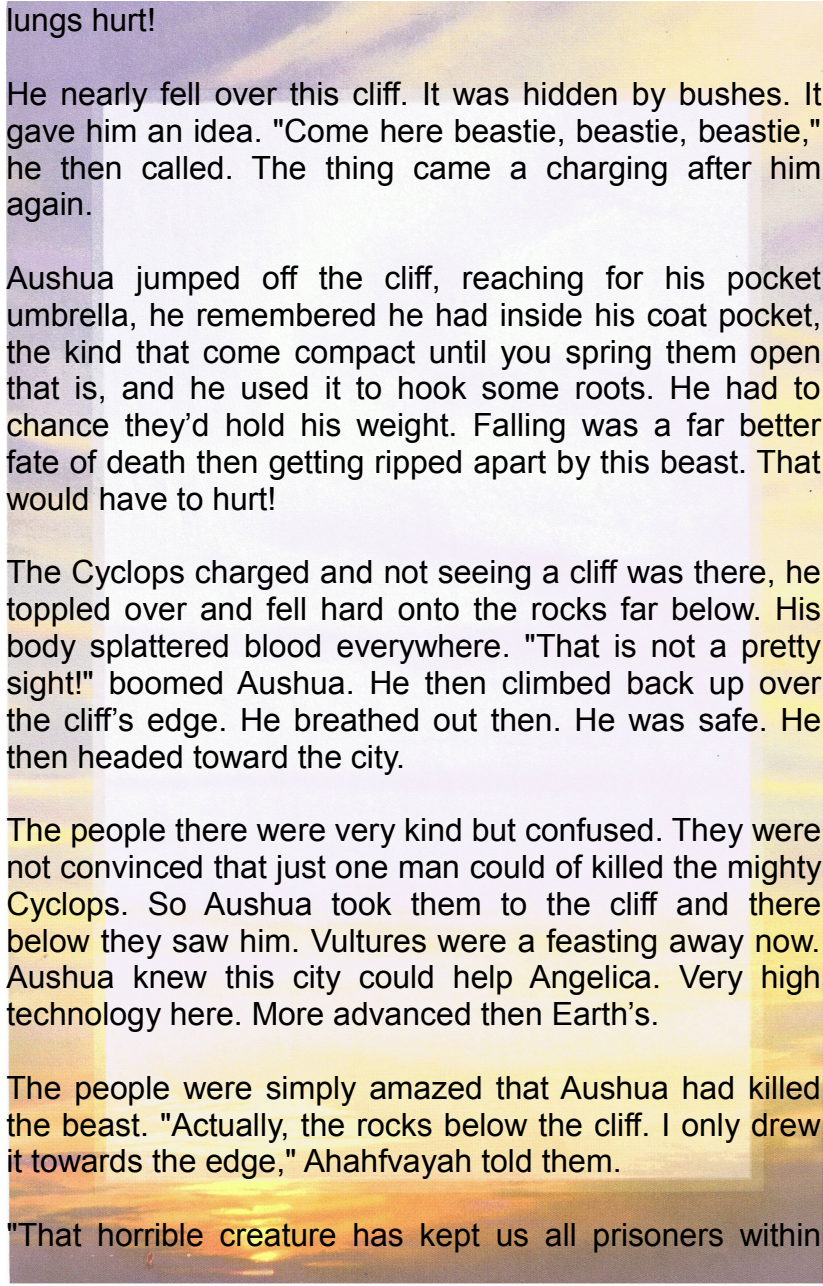
It took him all night but he didn't hardly even stop to rest. He looked behind him. Boy it gave him the creeps! He didn't want to do that again, look in back of himself.

He expected a hairy tailed, full of spikes, swagging back and forth, type monster to jump out at him. He didn't like that feeling. "I am not afraid!" he boomed as he walked on and on. He thought he smelt the stench of a slimy, lime colored snake lizard. Putrid, horrid things they were too.

By that early dawn, it was pretty light out, he saw this huge beast. Seemed to be guarding the city. It was hairy all over. It was dressed in some kind of plated armor. It only had one eye in it's head. It reeked. Was the smell Aushua had smelt earlier. Ugliest thing he'd ever seen.

He knew what it was. A Cyclops. "Oh my, what a big, hideous looking thing you are," he told it. It turned noticing him. It screeched. Aushua smiled at it fake. "I bet you want to tare my head off, don't you," he said. " I bet you'd eat it too," he continued. The thing was holding onto a huge wooded club with white, sharp bone coming from it. One blow and Aushua knew he'd be done for.

The beast now came a charging at Aushua with it's club. Aushua cried out and went a running as fast as his legs would allow him. His heart was pounding in his chest. Felt like it soon would explode from out his rib cage. His



lungs hurt!

He nearly fell over this cliff. It was hidden by bushes. It gave him an idea. "Come here beastie, beastie, beastie," he then called. The thing came a charging after him again.

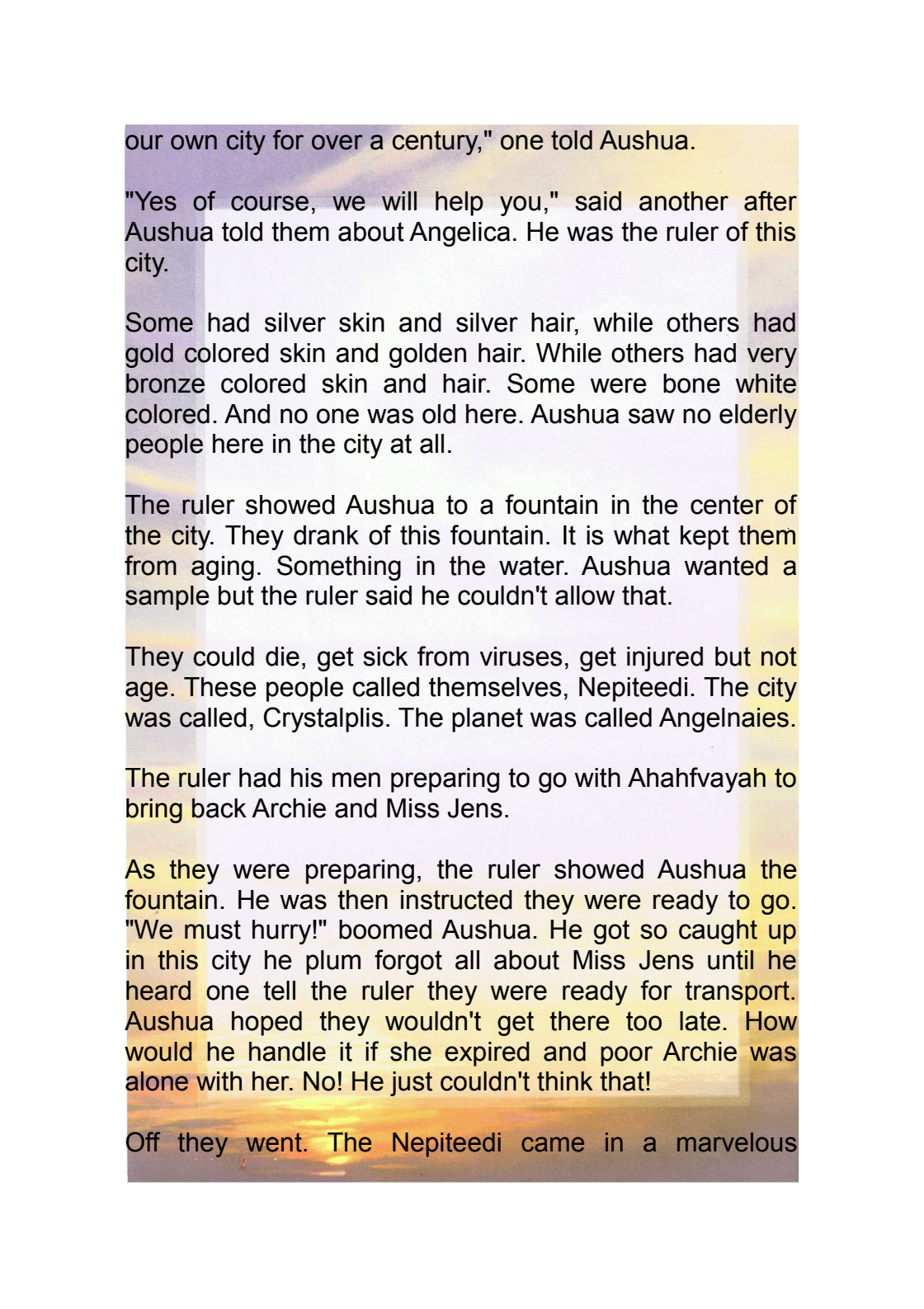
Aushua jumped off the cliff, reaching for his pocket umbrella, he remembered he had inside his coat pocket, the kind that come compact until you spring them open that is, and he used it to hook some roots. He had to chance they'd hold his weight. Falling was a far better fate of death then getting ripped apart by this beast. That would have to hurt!

The Cyclops charged and not seeing a cliff was there, he toppled over and fell hard onto the rocks far below. His body splattered blood everywhere. "That is not a pretty sight!" boomed Aushua. He then climbed back up over the cliff's edge. He breathed out then. He was safe. He then headed toward the city.

The people there were very kind but confused. They were not convinced that just one man could of killed the mighty Cyclops. So Aushua took them to the cliff and there below they saw him. Vultures were a feasting away now. Aushua knew this city could help Angelica. Very high technology here. More advanced then Earth's.

The people were simply amazed that Aushua had killed the beast. "Actually, the rocks below the cliff. I only drew it towards the edge," Ahahfvayah told them.

"That horrible creature has kept us all prisoners within



our own city for over a century," one told Aushua.

"Yes of course, we will help you," said another after Aushua told them about Angelica. He was the ruler of this city.

Some had silver skin and silver hair, while others had gold colored skin and golden hair. While others had very bronze colored skin and hair. Some were bone white colored. And no one was old here. Aushua saw no elderly people here in the city at all.

The ruler showed Aushua to a fountain in the center of the city. They drank of this fountain. It is what kept them from aging. Something in the water. Aushua wanted a sample but the ruler said he couldn't allow that.

They could die, get sick from viruses, get injured but not age. These people called themselves, Nepiteedi. The city was called, Crystalplis. The planet was called Angelnaies.

The ruler had his men preparing to go with Ahahfvayah to bring back Archie and Miss Jens.

As they were preparing, the ruler showed Aushua the fountain. He was then instructed they were ready to go. "We must hurry!" boomed Aushua. He got so caught up in this city he plum forgot all about Miss Jens until he heard one tell the ruler they were ready for transport. Aushua hoped they wouldn't get there too late. How would he handle it if she expired and poor Archie was alone with her. No! He just couldn't think that!

Off they went. The Nepiteedi came in a marvelous

machine like a helicopter but different. Miss Jens was still alive when they reached her. Aushua felt her pulse. She was considerably weaker. She was loaded up then. The great machine then flew away, back to Crystalplis.

She was flown to a spectacular medical building. She was examined by the city's best doctor.

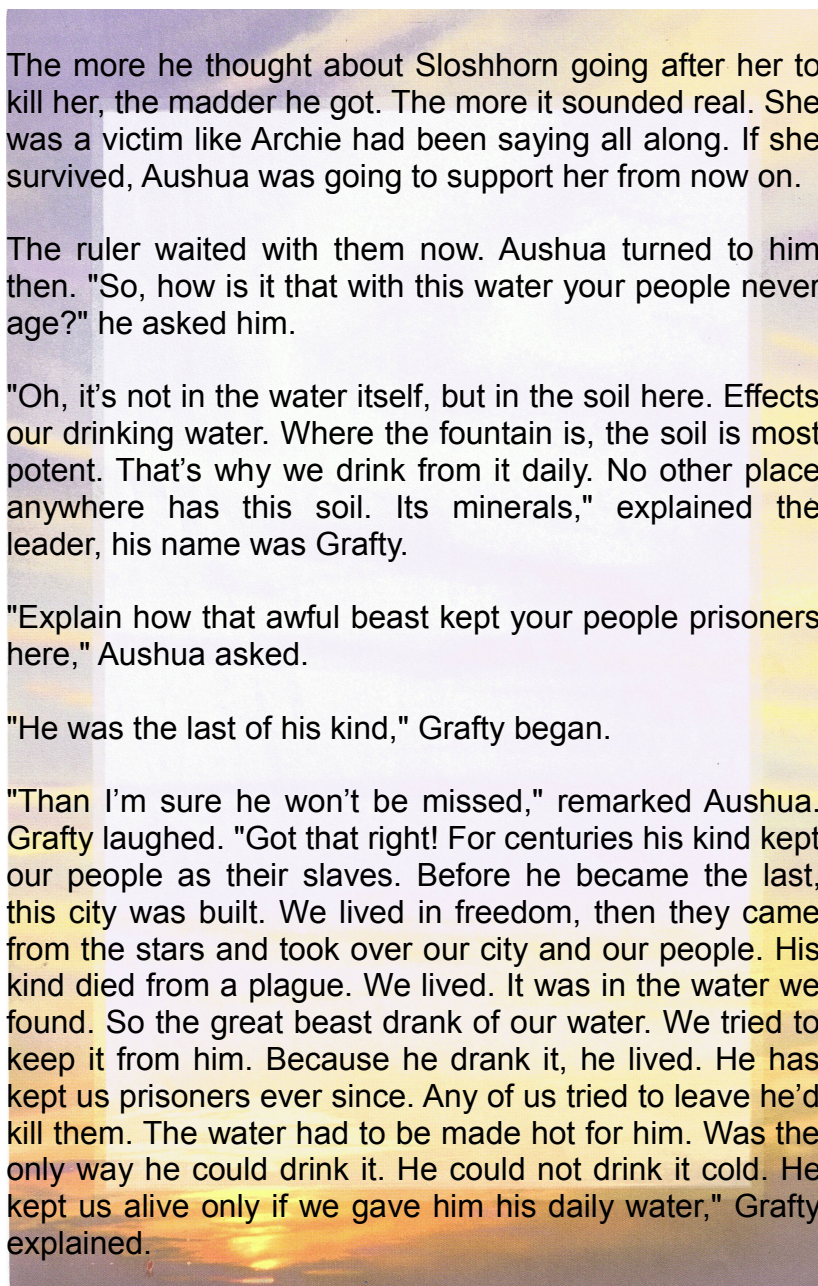
"Well Doctor, how's she doing?" Aushua asked. Miss Jens looked so pale.

"She is going to require surgery. She suffers a borderline skull fracture. She has some internal bleeding from bad bruising," the doctor informed him. Aushua was put back a bit. He had no idea she had been that bad off!

He remembered how awful he had been towards her. A clear, blue mask was put over her face cause she had stopped breathing then. She was rushed into surgery. "We got her here with no time sparing," the doctor said then strode off. Aushua looked at Archie. He looked up at Mr. Aushua all worried. "She won't die, right?" the boy asked. Aushua sighed. "Archie, I don't know? She must of hit her head very hard when we entered the dimensional vortex. I didn't know she was stowing away," Aushua explained.

"But I don't want her to die," Archie said about to tears.

"Archie I don't want her to die either. We will just stay positive. No use thinking the worst until we know for sure," said Aushua. He sat. He looked a trifle worried as well. To say he felt guilty for the way he acted would be an understatement.



The more he thought about Sloshhorn going after her to kill her, the madder he got. The more it sounded real. She was a victim like Archie had been saying all along. If she survived, Aushua was going to support her from now on.

The ruler waited with them now. Aushua turned to him then. "So, how is it that with this water your people never age?" he asked him.

"Oh, it's not in the water itself, but in the soil here. Effects our drinking water. Where the fountain is, the soil is most potent. That's why we drink from it daily. No other place anywhere has this soil. Its minerals," explained the leader, his name was Grafty.

"Explain how that awful beast kept your people prisoners here," Aushua asked.

"He was the last of his kind," Grafty began.

"Than I'm sure he won't be missed," remarked Aushua. Grafty laughed. "Got that right! For centuries his kind kept our people as their slaves. Before he became the last, this city was built. We lived in freedom, then they came from the stars and took over our city and our people. His kind died from a plague. We lived. It was in the water we found. So the great beast drank of our water. We tried to keep it from him. Because he drank it, he lived. He has kept us prisoners ever since. Any of us tried to leave he'd kill them. The water had to be made hot for him. Was the only way he could drink it. He could not drink it cold. He kept us alive only if we gave him his daily water," Grafty explained.

"Why not try to kill that beast yourself? You certainly have the technology," asked Aushua.

"We are a people apposed to violence. We know you had not killed him with your hands. Our scout saw everything. If you had then we would not permit you into our city or saved your friend," said Grafty.

"How'd you see? You said none of you could leave your city?" Aushua asked suspicious now.

"One is allowed to bring the beast his daily water. That same scout caught sight of you. Reported to me," Grafty told him.

Aushua and Archie were then given a glass of water. "You must drink it every day or you will die of the plague. Every day you stay here you must drink. We have given your friend the same, introly," said Grafty. He meant through her vein.

Was the best water Ahahfvayah had ever tasted! Archie too!

Angelica was now out of surgery. Aushua was allowed into the special care unit to see her. She was on something like an IV but instead of the IV bag, a device with a flashing colors tubing, was connected to an outlet so to speak, also was a catheter inserted into a major artery.

The medication flowed through this blue glowing tubing. Aushua had never seen anything like it. The young lad

wasn't allowed to go inside. No children were allowed in these critical care rooms. "I doubt she's awake to even know your there, Archie. She will still be unconscious. I'll come report to you how she's doing," Aushua said then left to go see her.

Angelica was in a hospital bed. Given her various intro-fluids. Plus she had something placed over her nose. Like a mask, only smaller. Tubes within the mask were inserted into each nostril and the mask was held into place. This device was to give her oxygen, Aushua was sure.

She looked so vulnerable. He sat close to her bed. "Your going to be alright now. I am sorry for all this," Ahahfvayah said taking her hand.

The doctor had told him that she would come through this making a full recovery. Aushua found he still cared for this woman. They were no longer bottled up deep inside. This beautiful, vulnerable, good natured woman.

Archie stayed in a guest wing. Aushua stayed with Miss Jens most of the night. She awoke and was wondering where she was. She tried lifting up her head to look around. Aushua stirred awake from the chair he was In. She was crying out.

"Oh, easy Angelica. Everything's ok now," he told her softly. He took her hand. He smiled down at her. Was this the same Ahahfvayah Aushua who had been so awful towards her before?

"You had me scared pretty good. Don't do it again," he

scolded. She snorted through the nose mask trying to speak.

"You bumped your head, Angelica. Why didn't you tell me you bumped your head so hard?" he said to her. She tried to feel on her head then. It was covered with a head wrap. She felt on the cone over her nose. She sighed. "I hit it stowing away in your storage," she spoke but it sounded funny with that thing covering her nose. Like she was all stuffed up or something.

"You should of informed me I had another passenger," Aushua told her.

"It all happened so fast," she spoke.

"Well, it's all water under the bridge now. Best forgotten. All of it," Aushua said. She was glad to see his change of heart. "What place is this? " she then asked him.

"This is the city of Crystalplis. You are safe here. The Nepiteedi are friends," he assured her. He then told her she was in a hospital of sorts. He told her about the Nepiteedi but she fell asleep on him before he was finished.

That next day she was much better and more awake. Couple of days later she was as good as new and released from the medical facility.

Grafty gave them living quarters. Invited them to stay as long as they wanted. Aushua was their hero here.

"Oh? How'd you manage that?" Miss Jens asked him. So

he told her. She laughed at him. She couldn't help it. He got a bit offended. Began ignoring her again.

"Oh come on! It sounds so far fetched!" she hooted.

"It happened. It is dead. End of story," he boomed back. "Wasn't much anyway. The Nepiteedi have made too much out of it, I assure you," he said more on the subject.

"Aushua had the beast follow him and it went off a cliff, SPLAT! Far below," Archie said loud at her.

"The thing was actually quite stupid," Aushua spoke.

"My hero," she then said and planted a kiss on his cheek. He couldn't help but smile about it. "I don't have time for such nonsense," he said. He almost blushed. "I need to go bring my pod back here," he then said. Grafty said some of his men would help Aushua get it here.

"Archie, how does this place being our new home sound to you?" he then asked the boy.

"Oh, it would be just fine!" he replied right back.

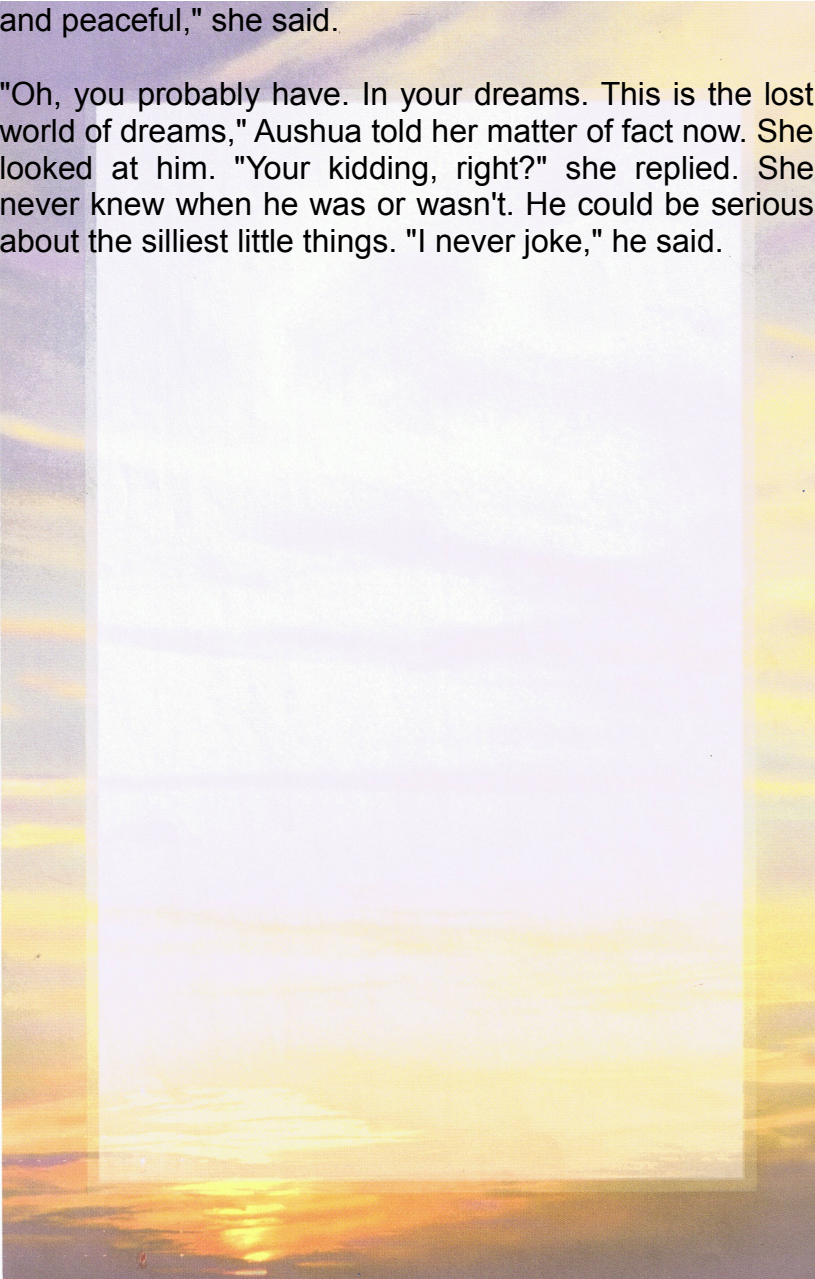
Aushua then thought about Angelica. "I suppose you want to return to Earth. I will return you there if you do," he said. She had to admit. Here, was growing on her too. All she had to look forward to back on good old Earth was Mr. Sloshhorn doing her in.

"Your welcome to stay a while," Aushua said to her.

"I feel like I've been here before. A place where it's safe

and peaceful," she said.

"Oh, you probably have. In your dreams. This is the lost world of dreams," Aushua told her matter of fact now. She looked at him. "Your kidding, right?" she replied. She never knew when he was or wasn't. He could be serious about the silliest little things. "I never joke," he said.



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About The Authors

A Word From Sciantay

I will never allow comments for these precious books. That is of the Devil. He sits high and mighty and thinks he's so great, but one day he will be humbled and he will be silenced.

Stars and ratings belong to him and this present earth, not for me and mine. You hold in your hand a priceless treasure!

Here every book I give solely over to Christ, and each book will bear His name next to mine. That is all you need to know of me for now. I am unique, but no one can really know me, no, not here. Not until all is said and done, then you can know me, if you know Him, the One I serve. The One who redeems. If you are bold enough to dare.

Know that I am not the sole author of this story, but Christ also, who resides within by His Spirit. We are of ONE mind, body, and soul, weaved together beautifully. No one can know me unless they know Him who sent me.

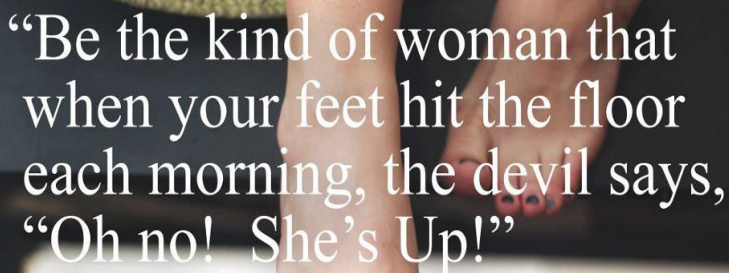
Here I am world. I was born to bring the truth, to anyone who has ears to bear it.

In 1995 I was computer illiterate. I knew NOTHING about them. But I went to my library and taught myself. Then I bought a computer notebook. Big mistake! It had more glitches in it than I can list. I sold it at a pawn shop and got me a desktop computer in 2007. I have created all

these books with my Savior looking over my shoulder, and learned to paint pictures even from my computer! I have accomplished a lot, but credit all goes to God the Father, His Son Jesus, and Their Spirit who is my best friend and constant Companion!

When you read one of Our books, for it was not just written of me. No! We are partners, He and I.

Know Him who sent me. It is for Him that I have sent these books into the world in the first place. To receive a broken heart, to be counted as worthy to be His Apostle. I plan to shake up the world with what He has had me write. This world needs a wake up call! At least get this world's attention.



“Be the kind of woman that
when your feet hit the floor
each morning, the devil says,
“Oh no! She’s Up!”

