

Suriya

Rhianna tied her hair up in a plait and gazed out of the window, clutching her suitcase. She wouldn't be back here in a long time. Her soft brown eyes travelled to every tree to every flower. She left the room quietly and met Violet, who had a haughty expression on her face.

"Ready to go?"

As Rhianna left the building, she swung the few auburn strands of hair over her shoulder. She looked around, forgetting about the pace Violet had told her to go at. She looked at her watch and went pale all over. Time was flying! Rhianna grabbed Violet by the wrist and ran. The airport! It was there.

When they got there, Rhianna flung the passports at the lady with a desperate face. The bewildered lady nodded and they barged through into the plane. They took their seats and a sense of relaxation washed over Rhianna.

Minutes passed like hours and soon Rhianna was fast asleep. She blinked into the morning light and saw Violet shaking her. Everyone had left the plane. They hurriedly said their thanks to the pilot and stepped into the heat of Italy.

Rhianna wandered round their new Italy home, trying to pick out a good sized bedroom. When she had chosen, she let loose her hair. Her weariness had gotten the better of her and she started to fall asleep. It was just a minute that she was in sleep's possession, when a lamp fell to the ground.

Rhianna, forcing her eyes open, bolted out of her bed. The lamp was on the ground, pieces everywhere. She shrieked in dismay. The door flew open with a BANG! Violet was there, her terrified blue eyes darting from here to there.

Rhianna rushed to her sister, eyes wide. "Violet, what's happen-"

But Violet wasn't looking at her. She barged past her and stood still by the window, gripping the ledge.

"Violet? Violet!" Rhianna said in strained tones. She hardly dared to meet her gaze. But curiosity got the better of her and she went to look. Rhianna gasped.

"Earthquake." she muttered, feeling faint. She stumbled back. Then the ground shook. Rhianna's possessions tumbled to the floor. The girls were knocked off their feet. Rhianna's plait came loose and her hair tumbled over her face. She grasped the strong bed. Violet looked jittery and pale. The bookshelf suddenly scattered over them. They gave a cry of pain and Rhianna pulled her away. Violet couldn't stop the tears from her eyes, but Rhianna shut her eyes tight. She huddled in a corner, afraid. The glass window smashed and showered them. Violet crouched down. The shaking was getting unbearable. Rhianna screamed in fury. She turned to her sister, whose black hair was matted and tangled.

Then Violet's eyes fixed on something in horror. Rhianna stood stock still, paralysed. There were cracks in the wall.

"Run!" Violet's startled voice made her spring into action. Her hands fumbled into her pockets for the keys. A tap on the shoulder made her realise; Violet had got the keys. They tried to make their way to the door with a lot of sliding and bumping. Finally Rhianna managed to twist the key into the lock. The safety of outside; it welcomed them!

But the ground still had the danger of swallowing them up. It still rumbled fiercely. The girls' were still in fear's clutch. But they tried to be brave.

Hoping to the bottom of her heart, Rhianna waited for it to end. She clutched at a tree branch, but it just snapped off in the strong wind. She caught a glance at her sister, who was trying to steady herself. Then Rhianna lost sight of her as a dirty white mist clouded her eyes.

With a violent thud, a tree fell inches away from her. She shut her eyes, her hair resting as a pillow and fell asleep.

Later, she opened her eyes and knew it wasn't a dream. Rhianna saw what a wreck it was and squinted into the morning sun. No more earthquake. Wait. Where was Violet?

She went inside, searching. Violet! Her hair was neatly combed and she had sad eyes.

"The garden's ruined, all our things are mostly destroyed. You slept all night you know. Yes Rhianna, ALL NIGHT! Don't go in the bedroom. There are still cracks in the wall."

Violet seemed so gloomy that Rhianna had to do something. She picked up the phone and called a builder.

There. Someone was coming in to fix the walls. So she went and made some pancakes. Well, not exactly. They were burnt around the edges, but she squeezed some honey and lemon on it.

Rhianna went out and cut the flowers that were destroyed and tidied the rest up. She suddenly burst in and met Violet's surprised face and led her outside. Rhianna chattered about what she had done. She knew it would please Violet immensely. They scoffed the pancakes greedily and they headed to the beach. Rhianna dragged her sister over the soft sands into the relaxed sapphire waves.

A grin spread over Violet's face and she splashed a tiny bit of water over Rhianna. Rhianna shrieked with laughter.

"Is that it?" and she drenched Violet. They dried off and then treated themselves to an ice cream. Rhianna's hair sparkled in the sun and looked pretty |combined. She licked her strawberry ice cream delightedly.

Violet had finished and she laid down to sunbathe. Rhianna moaned and threw her sister gently into the water. The two soon were mucking about. As her watch read lunchtime, Violet climbed out. Rhianna stayed in, looking at the horizon wondering what a day it was.