



THE RED RAPID TRAIN

In Ookachooka, the red rapid train comes by the bridge, near the hillside, every hour. Anna and her father would watch the trains every Saturday and wave to the engineers. The wild bunnies would scamper to the hillside, too, whenever they heard the “Choo-Choo” from the trains. It was always a special time for Anna, as she always dreamed about riding on a train one day. Her father couldn’t afford to take trips anymore so this was the next best thing. It did, although; feel like a mini vacation, just being there. There on the hillside, they were surrounded by humungous mountains and pine trees that went on for miles, nothing like the shrubs and cemented roads they had back in the city where they lived.

Anna’s father had told Anna many stories of the times when he had rode the red rapid train through the mountains, on several of his business trips, from when he used to clean carpets in other cities abroad. He had invented a strong carpet cleaning solution and everyone, everywhere, was excited to try it, until one day, families were reportedly becoming very sick from the strong fumes in the solution, and so Anna’s father had to close his solution business down. He now works at the train yard and just

barely can afford to put food on the table. Never the less they were very happy.

Anna's father told her that whenever he rode the red rapid train he could feel his heart palpate over a mile a minute from the sheer adrenaline rush he got when he felt the speeding jolts of the train. Anna would light up whenever she heard her father talk about the train rides, as she rarely heard him be this excited, ever since his business had to shut down. Working at the train yard over the years had caused Anna's father to become over exerted and mentally fatigued, thus, he began to lose part of his memory from time, to time. Anna vowed to herself that she would never get bored of hearing one of her father's train ride stories, even if he had told it to her for the millionth time. With every Saturday, another piece of her father's cherished memories of the trains would come alive, and it was in those times that Anna felt she was also along for the ride.

THE END

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