

The Teenage Superheroes

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“Yvonne, Yvonne? Wake up,” a voice whispered in her ear, “Come on. We’re in class!”

Yvonne jerked awake, “Huh, what?”

Students giggled, but one voice was most prominent, “Looks like someone was getting their beauty sleep in class,” It was unmistakably Aiden’s. He loved making fun of Yvonne at every opportunity. When Yvonne turned to glare at him, he snickered and high-fived his friends.

“Ugh.” Yvonne mumbled under her breath

The teacher silenced the class and went back to teaching after asking Yvonne to pay attention. Yvonne grumbled and rested her chin on the table. Her friend, Fiona, looked concerned. They have been best friends since they could remember.

“Seriously, what is up with you? Do you ever sleep at night?” Fiona asked

“Let’s just wait for class to end,” Yvonne paused, “And thanks for alerting me.”

Fiona stared at Yvonne for a few more seconds then turned back to the teacher. Yvonne kept staring at the board and took small glances at the clock. Five more minutes left. Four more minutes... Three minutes. Two minutes. One more left. Then, the bell rang. Everyone rushed out the door. Yvonne swung her backpack around her shoulder and walked out of class.

She entered the cafeteria and saw her friends sitting at a table. “Seriously! We’re right next to Aiden and his minions?” Yvonne said pointing at Aiden and his friends.

“Don’t worry. Just ignore them.” Fiona said

Yvonne took a deep breath and sighed. She made her way to the table and sat down.

“Hey, sleepyhead! Did you dream of unicorns and rainbows?” Aiden sneered, Yvonne just wanted to punch his smug face.

Aiden took a big bite of his food, smirking and whispered something to his friends. Yvonne just ignored them.

Once school ended, Yvonne walked with Fiona to Fiona’s house for their much anticipated sleep over. They were talking excitedly about how to spend their weekend when they heard footsteps following them. Yvonne turned around.

“Ugh!” Yvonne cried out, “Will he ever leave us alone?” Fiona didn’t say anything. “What are you doing here? You never take this route!” exclaimed Yvonne, annoyed.

“Well, look who’s surprised. It’s Sleeping Beauty!” Aiden said, “Anyways, I’m on my way to my new house, so get out of my way.” He stormed past them disappearing from sight.

After a few minutes, Yvonne and Fiona noticed Aiden frozen, just a few steps ahead of them, staring at something down the sidewalk. It was glowing eerily.

The girls hesitated but walked up to him curious. “Wh-What is that?” Fiona asked.

“Don’t know.” Aiden said.

They inched forward to investigate and discovered two gemstone necklaces that looked other-worldly. One was shaped into a star with a brilliant bluish purple color. And the other was an oval stone with a reddish orange glow. Yvonne sensed something about them that felt unnatural and eerie.

Aiden picked up the oval necklace before Yvonne could stop him. “Looks cool.” he said, putting it around his neck.

“Aiden!” Yvonne shrieked, “We don’t even know what those are! I have a really bad feeling about them.” Aiden just looked at her, perplexed. Fiona picked up and examined the star necklace. Yvonne hollered, “No Fiona!” and tried to grab the necklace from Fiona’s hands.

Yvonne pulled the necklace from Fiona’s hand with such force that she tripped and landed on her back. Yvonne groaned and sat up. Aiden stared and Fiona gasped, her eyes widening with fear. “What is it?” Yvonne asked, wincing.

“It’s on you. On your neck.” Fiona croaked. Yvonne gasped and saw that the necklace had gotten on her somehow. She tried to take the necklace off but it resisted. She tugged at it and did everything she could to get rid of it but nothing worked. Seeing this, Aiden tried to pull off his own necklace. He couldn’t get it off either.

Yvonne kept yanking it while Aiden said, “I don't think we can get it off. I don't mind wearing it.”

“Oh no no no! We just put on some random necklace that we can’t get rid of!” Yvonne panicked. Fiona just stared worriedly at them.

“I think we all need to rest and think about this with a clear mind. It’s getting dark. Let's go, Yvonne” Fiona said softly.

“I suppose you are right. Let’s go.” Yvonne said, slowing her breathing. Aiden shrugged and left.

“Don’t worry. We will find a way to get it off somehow” Fiona reassured Yvonne. But Yvonne was silent, her mind racing with thoughts. She was scared, angry and curious.

Yvonne calmed down and sat on Fiona's bed once they reached home. "I'm sorry. I think I overreacted a bit. I was just very concerned. I mean, we don't even know what these are!" Yvonne exclaimed, pointing at the necklace.

Fiona nodded, "Yeah, I understand. But they seem to be harmless." she said.

"Yeah." Yvonne mumbled, "I guess I was just exaggerating everything. Maybe it's just stuck onto something. But..." She hesitated for a moment and said "This might sound bizarre but I have a feeling they came from somewhere far beyond Earth."

Fiona chuckled. "Umm. Outer space necklaces? I think the idea that it is stuck to something is more logical. We'll see what to do tomorrow. But today, let's just go to sleep." she smiled at Yvonne.

Yvonne jolted awake the next morning. She felt oddly energetic and awakened. She shook Fiona awake, who grumbled sleepily and sat up slowly.

"What's wrong?" she asked, concerned.

"I feel lively. I'm not usually like this in the morning!" Yvonne chirped.

"Maybe the necklace did something to you." Fiona said. Yvonne couldn't tell if Fiona was joking or actually suggesting that idea. But Yvonne had a feeling that the necklace really had done something to her.

Fiona raised an eyebrow at her. "Seriously, what happened to you? That necklace really turned you into someone else. You are not the sleepy Yvonne I used to know." Yvonne smiled and went downstairs to the kitchen to get water with Fiona.

Fiona and Yvonne made their way down the stairs and into the kitchen. Fiona's parents greeted them there and left to go outside for a walk. Yvonne and Fiona waved them goodbye. Yvonne was getting water when the necklace shimmered and pulsated.

"Why is it doing that?" Fiona asked. Yvonne shrugged and held the star in her hands. She suddenly felt an urge to hold it to her chest. She slowly covered the gem and held it to her chest. "What are you doing?" Fiona asked confusedly.

Yvonne shushed Fiona and closed her eyes. Fiona stood still and silent, watching with worry. First, the faucet tap opened and water rushed out of it. Fiona gasped. Yvonne opened her eyes and glanced at Fiona. She concentrated on trying to get the water into her and Fiona's cups.

The star glowed more fiercely. Fiona was frozen in shock and excitement. The water from the tap flowed gracefully in the air and into the cups without spilling. Then, the water receded back to the faucet and the tap closed.

Fiona gaped, "You have superpowers! Oh my gosh. You can control water!" she squealed.

"Fiona, it's like I wasn't even in control of my own body. This is crazy! Do I have other superpowers?" Yvonne asked, equally stunned. Her mind started racing again. Maybe she had invisibility or super-strength or....

Fiona shrugged, "Let's find out!"

Fiona and Yvonne got ready and left the house to a nearby deserted clearing behind the woods at the edge of the community. It was the perfect spot to experiment unnoticed.

"Should I punch a tree?" Yvonne asked, pointing at a small pine tree nearby.

“That was the most unreal question I have ever heard anyone ask me.” Fiona said, “Umm. Sure, but be careful not to hurt yourself.” Yvonne nodded and clenched her hand into a fist and swung. To Yvonne and Fiona’s horror, the tree split in half with a deafening crack and collapsed.

“What!?” Yvonne cried out, “How did I do that? I didn’t give that much force!” Fiona was speechless. Yvonne had super strength. “Wow! That is crazy! But I think we should leave before someone comes investigating the cause of the sound.” cried Fiona. They left the clearing and went back home.

They tested for other powers but couldn’t identify any. “Let’s just go eat.” Yvonne said, exhausted. “Let’s go to the restaurant downtown.” Fiona agreed.

Downtown was only a 15 minutes walk away. “I can’t believe I have superpowers. If I told anyone, they would never believe me!” Yvonne said as they walked. Fiona chuckled and nodded in agreement. They reached the place and opened the door to find that it was packed. They scanned the room for a table but there were no empty ones. There was one near the corner with someone at the table which they could share if the person agreed.

They approached the table and Yvonne groaned as they got closer. “Oh great! It's him!” Aiden seemed to have heard Yvonne and looked at her. Yvonne and Fiona walked and sat down across from him. “Do you mind?” Fiona asked. Aiden shrugged. They sat there in awkward silence for a brief moment.

“So, do you have superpowers?” Aiden asked casually, “I do. I can control fire and I have super speed. I think it’s from the necklace.”

Yvonne was shocked. “I have superpowers but you got them too? How are you so relaxed?” Yvonne responded quietly, she couldn’t risk anyone listening to her.

“Hmm. What powers do you have?” Aiden asked.

Yvonne and Fiona glanced at each other, “I have super strength and I can control water.” Yvonne whispered.

Aiden was about to say something when a waitress appeared,

“Hello there! What would you three like?”

“We’ll go with some waffles.” Aiden said without asking the girls. But the girls were too preoccupied with the new information to even care.

“Sounds good,” the waitress said. She walked away with their orders.

Once she was gone, Yvonne turned back to Aiden and Fiona, “We should talk about our powers outside, where no one can hear us.” she suggested.

The other two nodded, “Let’s finish eating first.” Fiona said. They gobbled their food and left after paying their share.

They walked to the nearby park and sat down on a picnic bench. “So. Have you been able to get your necklace off?” Aiden asked.

“I didn’t even think about that! I suppose I could try right now. What about you?”

“I can’t get it off. It’s still stuck” he said glumly

Yvonne looked down at the necklace charm and sighed. She then held it in her hand trying to get it off but it didn’t budge. Suddenly, it started to pulsate. And she saw that Aiden’s necklace started to do the same. Before they could understand what was going on, a beam of light shot out of each of their necklaces and hit one another on the ground beside them.

“What!?” The three of them cried in unison shielding their eyes as the light grew intense. To their horror , a shape started to form out of the beams. When the light died out there stood a presence that was unearthly .

It was the size of an average person but completely black like a shadow. Yvonne and Aiden hastily left the bench and maintained distance. Fiona looked baffled. “What’s wrong?”

“Fiona, get out of here!” Yvonne yelled. But the shadow monster didn’t seem to care about Fiona. It charged for Aiden first. He shot a blast of fire which stunned it. And Yvonne swung at it to help Aiden. As much as she didn’t like Aiden, she doesn’t want to see him get hurt.

The monster recovered and attacked Yvonne but she punched it again. The monster fell to the ground. It jumped back when Yvonne turned her back to it. Aiden shot flames at it quickly realizing it could hurt Yvonne.

The creature screeched in agony as it disappeared into the air. Yvonne thanked Aiden who thanked her back for coming to his aid in the beginning. Fiona looked utterly perplexed. “What just happened? What were you both doing?” she asked, frightened.

“Well we had to do something about the shadow that attacked us!” Aiden asked her, “But it didn’t try to attack you at all. But it definitely wanted to hurt Yvonne and me.”

Fiona was confused. “A shadow wanted to hurt you both? What are you even talking about?”

Aiden and Yvonne were confused. “You didn’t see anything?” Yvonne asked.

“I could only see Aiden throwing fire and Yvonne punching the air. It freaked me out.” Fiona replied.

Aiden and Yvonne realized only they could see the creature. They explained to Fiona about the shadow and what they had done. They ushered her to the exact place where the creature disappeared.

Fiona followed them. But when they reached the spot, there was a written note glowing softly. Yvonne reached for it cautiously.

“Yvonne and Aiden,” Yvonne read it aloud with Aiden and Fiona listening intently. “You are now chosen to protect your world. You are the worthy bearers of the necklaces. Keep them safe and make sure they never fall into wrong hands. No one can see the creatures you encounter so be careful when you are around people. The monster you destroyed is from another dimension and they have found a way to Earth. They only know to destroy and so we have sent you the necklaces to help. There will be more of these monsters and we hope you will fulfill your duties for your world. - The Keepers”

Yvonne looked at them both. “Umm. Who are The Keepers? Goodness, there are so many questions that I don’t have answers to. But I think we have to do our best to protect our planet if this letter is true.”

“Yes! I will be by your side. I guess we do make a good team. Friends?” Aiden said, holding his hand in front.

Yvonne smiled and shook his hands, “Guess you are not all that bad.” They all laughed together. Yvonne knew she would do anything to protect the world and her friends. And the necklaces had to be in safe hands. And she realized, this was her life now. Her destiny. To do the right thing.

The End