

Blue Haired Angel

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Tsukasa wakes up from her coma and realizes that she still has feelings for Subaru.

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1 - Blue Haired Angel

Looking for the truth from behind a faceted lens, Tsukasa lay back on her bed in her new caretaker's house, known in The World as Bear. She breathed deep the cleanliness of the room, glanced at the pristinely folded clothes, the organized furniture. If she opened the closet all would be in order from her rolled up socks to her skates sitting side by side. Ever since she had awoken from her coma, Tsukasa had kept everything very neat; a contrast to the chaotic experience she had gone through in The World. She did not, however, look badly upon her time in the world. How else would she have met Subaru? She toyed with her auburn hair with one hand and fiddled with the hem of her skirt with the other. She had not yet removed her school uniform although she would change before Bear got home sometime that night. She had learned in the two weeks that she had lived here that, although a loving "father", he worked late most nights except Sundays.

She wanted to see Subaru today.

The thought popped out of nowhere, leaving behind a dreamy residue. She would get up now and go see her. Her body did not obey. Get up, she told it. Her feet swung to the side of the bed and she sat up. She would expend only enough energy as it took to change. She glanced at the folded clothes unhappily. Or she could just go; Subaru would not mind the uniform.

A few moments later a flock of nosy sparrows would spy the girl walking slowly down the cracked sidewalk. It looked, thought Tsukasa, like a desert she had seen in a video. The cracks all formed strange, almost geometric shapes and spewed green vegetation towards the dusty grey sky. She kicked a rock and watched it skitter over the dreary surface, ducking under a low sign.

It would be her birthday in a month or so, she did not care enough to count exactly. She would turn eighteen. Time seemed to hide from her, she mused, always popping out at such inopportune moments. Subaru's seventeenth birthday had been just after she had woken up from her coma. Unfortunately she had been in the hospital that day, unaware that Subaru even lived in the same city. They had met the next day. Subaru claims it was the best present she received but Tsukasa didn't really believe her. She noticed the sidewalk had gotten smoother, broken only by a few cracks now. She was getting closer; Subaru lived in the richer side of the city.

She had become more and more attached, if that was possible, to her Subaru over these past two weeks. She visited almost every day and called her when she didn't, even when she did. While she was a boy in The World she had lost almost all memory of being a girl in the real world. She had been attracted to Subaru... a lot. She was not sure that the attraction had dissipated. She must, for Subaru's sake, not let any of these feelings show. She did not want to lose one of her only friends to a prejudice. She had reached the house. It was very large for the city, two stories tall with a basement. It housed the lovely Subaru and her two parents. They both worked even later than Bear did to provide for their crippled daughter. Subaru was confined to a wheelchair due to an illness she had had as a small child. She didn't speak of it often so Tsukasa was unaware of the details. She let herself in so that Subaru would not have to get the door in case the nurse wasn't still there. Tsukasa walked into Subaru's room, knocking on the door on the way in. A smile blossomed on her face and she beamed at the small girl. She had long dark blue hair, very cute thin wire glasses and the smooth and perfect face of an angel. Tsukasa quietly, and hopefully unnoticed, admired Subaru's beauty. This was the girl whom she loved, would always love, and would never have. Tsukasa smiled wider in attempt to steady a tear. Subaru smiled back happily.

"Why Tsukasa, I had not realized you would be coming over! A pleasant surprise" She beamed and

turned to her very advanced computer to shut it off.

She wheeled over to the bed and joined Tsukasa on it, pushing herself up with her very strong arms.

"So what's new today?" she asked with another heavenly smile.

Tsukasa loved any excuse to talk to the wonderful girl and ranted on about her day at school. She talked and talked with interjections from Subaru, she was always at ease when talking with her. Tsukasa was a different person around Subaru, more open, cheerful and kinder. To most others, a few exceptions included Bear and Mimiru, she was cold and distant, always off in her own world and allowing no one to enter it. She smiled as she explained how she had proven a teacher wrong that day and said man's reaction. Subaru's eyes glittered like amber polished to a sheen.

A pause in the conversation, unnoticed really except by the mocking time, brought about a turn of events. Subaru had caught Tsukasa looking at her and blushed a little. She looked away, towards the door before collapsing back onto her bed, trying to think of something to say to fill the peephole in the conversation.

"So, you wanna' watch a movie or something" Tsukasa asked, noticing the uninvited and very rude guest: the entity of an awkward silence. Subaru nodded happily and got back in her chair. They both went to the other side of Subaru's very large room and sat on the extremely comfortable leather love seat across from Subaru's television, a 52" plasma TV. Tsukasa wondered how one girl could be so lucky and unlucky at the same time...

They spent the next few hours watching a new series of anime Subaru had gotten recently, it hadn't come out on television yet but Subaru's father worked for a company that dealt with anime products and had received the pre-release edition from his office. It was ok, not bad but not especially interesting either. That, however, may have been due to the fact that Tsukasa was preoccupied with the small girl sitting alongside her.

Subaru had leaned her head on Tsukasa's shoulder halfway through the series and Tsukasa was having trouble controlling her breathing and heart rate. The scent of her shampoo had a euphorically miasmic effect, causing her to feel a bit giddy. It was so hard to control things such as her racing heart that she almost wished Subaru would not lean against her, maybe then she could wipe the red flush from her cheeks. Or maybe not...

After the series was over the last beams of the dying sunset were struggling valiantly across the floor to kiss their feet. The curtains made flowery patterns in the pools of scattered gold and made the light appear in blotches across the room, even on Subaru's folded hands. Subaru leaned away from Tsukasa to turn off the DVD player and stop the theme music that had been playing for the sunlight. They sat there in silence until the light had stretched farther and was now kissing their faces. Tsukasa glanced quickly at the blue haired beauty incarnate and watched her amber eyes glitter. It was as if God had hidden a thousand faceted gems under the long lashes, but they were not for just anyone to find. Who is it, Tsukasa wondered, who is the lucky one to whom you will give permission to uncover your secrets? I wish it was me... She looked away again.

"Well, I suppose I had better go, Subaru." She was looking down a bit so she would not catch the suspicions of her friend. "I suppose so, you don't want to worry "Uncle" now do you?" Subaru and Tsukasa smiled. Tsukasa had called Bear "Uncle" in The World and the nickname had carried over into the real world.

"Well" she said, "I shall see you tomorrow." Subaru then did something very unexpected, she leaned forward and kissed Tsukasa on the cheek gently.

The next thing Tsukasa could coherently remember was walking over the threshold to her new residence, the crumbling cement looked bleakly at the young woman, questioning the odd expression on her face. Tsukasa walked straight through a welcome from "Uncle", mumbling a reply almost coherently at him and turning down dinner for that night. She walked straight to her room, a smile chasing the not-so expertly faked nonchalant expression she tried to wear. The expression fit as well on her face

as well as a camel would fit through the eye of a needle.

Bear had learned to leave her alone when she was in moods like this so he respected her privacy and merely told her goodnight a half hour later. Tsukasa sat staring around her room for hours. She did not actually see the room because she was deep in thought. She was almost certain that Subaru was at least a little attracted to her. But what would she do? What would she do about it?

She thought and planned until almost midnight. Finally she dozed off with the light still on and awoke the next morning in her school uniform. She straightened it out as best she could and proceeded to get ready and go to school.

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School had gone by as quickly as a tree grows old and dies, branching off every so often in rivulets of daydreams. After school she dropped her things off at Bear's apartment and changed into one of her more attractive outfits, pristine and perfect, and she headed to the florists'. She picked out a dozen light blue roses sprinkled with little white flowers that looked like clumps of snow that had fallen on silvery green stems.

Once she reached Subaru's house she must have stood at the doorway for at least ten minutes, pondering what she was about to do. Finally (when she realized how silly she must look) she opened the door and called out Subaru's name and prayed the nurse would not still be there (she usually wasn't). "In here!" Subaru called from her room. Tsukasa gulped at the nervous lump forming in her throat and entered the room. She was met by Subaru sitting on her bed. She was in a very attractive outfit consisting of khaki pants, a tight light blue shirt and a white button up shirt. She was holding a bouquet of dark red roses tied up in a dark red ribbon. When each of the girls saw what the other one was holding they smiled and laughed.

They exchanged gifts and Tsukasa sat on the bed. "So, I was thinking, Subaru..." She said softly, fingering the silken ribbon, "I was in love with you in The World... when I thought I was boy, remember? And, I, well I don't think that I ever got over that. My mind and my heart speak in unison, telling me that I still love you. I can't not do anything about it any longer."

Subaru looked directly into Tsukasa's eyes and leaned closer, "Tsukasa, it never mattered to me that you were a girl. From the time I met you to the moment you told me you were a girl, through your awakening and now, I still love you. I won't do anything about it... anymore." And then she kissed Tsukasa. Her lips pressed softly on the older girl's; they felt like the velvet roses clutched and forgotten in both of their hands. They wrapped their arms around each other and deepened the kiss.

When the late evening sunlight came to kiss the two figures today it would find them leaning against one another still. The trickling light held them in rapture for a single timeless moment before disappearing and letting the moon have a glimpse. And so the moon watched the two hold one another silently until he also disappeared. It was long into the night before Tsukasa even thought to leave. She kissed Subaru on the forehead and promised to return as soon as school was out the next day. Walking home that night Tsukasa was the happiest she had ever been in her living memory, she slept well with dreams of her blue-haired angel.

The End