

Little Brother

Fil'iz and her brother Tinb'in were looking at the sea ten feet below. They had escaped their parents' watch and were now heading toward a sea cavern she had discovered with her friends.

Fil'iz pointed to a rock formation in the sea then jumped. When she reached it, she turned but could not see her brother.

Something grabbed her by the legs and dragged her down for a second before releasing her. Tinb'in was looking at her, grinning. *This little brat. He will see...*

She took a deep breath then dived into the underwater tunnel and followed it till she emerged in the cavern.

"Whoa! That's so cool!" said her brother who had followed her. The cavern was covered with fluorescent barnacles, painting a gorgeous fresque.

While he was awed Fil'iz grabbed a pebble, closed her eyes and threw it at the wall. She could see the flashes of light through her eyelids.

She heard a splash.

She opened her eyes and saw Tinb'in on the cavern floor, convulsing. *What... Why?*

She got closer and gasped. A pool of blood was forming around his head.

"Tin-tin, stop. We need to come back, you're bleeding."

She put her weight on his arms to stop him scorching them further. She felt useless, so useless, and after what seems hours, he stopped convulsing.

"Tin-tin, are you, okay?" she asked him, patting him on the cheek.

He did not answer.

"Brother, no... brother..." she said, tears starting to stream. A deep pain spread inside her, he was dead, it was her fault, she had killed her little brother.