

THE LITTLE HERO

BY KIMBERLY

My name is Qaniit. It means ‘falling snow’. I have wispy blond hair and sparkling blue eyes. I always wear a sweater because in the arctic it gets pretty cold sometimes. I don’t mind.

I never thought anything important would happen to me. It’s always been the same for me. Waking up every morning and taking the huskies out on a run. I eat then I play in the snow all day long until it is time to eat and go to sleep. But that all changed on one single day.

I saw darkness and I heard an unearthly sound. “Ahhwoo!” I froze in terror. And the image was gone.

I woke up. “That was a bad dream” I thought and dressed myself. I decided to wear a navy blue sweater and light blue sweatpants. I went down the narrow flights of stairs and out the door to where the huskies slept. I woke them up and told them we’re going out. The black and white dogs shook sleep from their body and panted excitedly, waiting to go out. I hooked the sled up to each of the dogs and we went off.

We zoomed though the land and pretty soon, our house was just a tiny blur. I noticed the dogs were getting a bit tired and I told the lead dog Suka, to slow down. We were getting near bunny territory anyway and I gazed across the tundra, trying to spot rabbits. Strangely, there was none and I decided to come back later to investigate.

“Suka, boy, mush, mush!” I yelled. You say ‘mush’ when you want them to go faster. They picked up speed and again they raced across the land, snow flying everywhere. But that wasn’t on my mind. Why were there no bunnies? There were always bunnies every single day on the tundra.

During the afternoon, I came back as I promised with Suka, his dogs and a slice of cranberry pie.

When we got to the rabbit home, I told the dogs to stay where they were. The lead dog stared pleadingly at me as if to say, *please don't go*.

“I have to, boy.” I said firmly. I patted his soft head and I went off.

I walked on the snow, making a ‘crunch’ sound every time I go by. The snow went into my boot and it felt cold, not very cold, but just a little.

I found little footprints in the ground a while later, I found bunny tracks but they looked very faint. It was starting to snow, and if I don't hurry, I might never find them!

I followed the trail and it led me to a burrow but it was deserted. I checked around it but there was still no sign of life!

I was getting hungry so I ate the cranberry pie. It was more sweet than bitter and it had a crunchy crust.

“Ahhwoo!” That voice from my dream howled.

I turned around. What I saw was the worst scenario ever. A pack of wolves were circling me! What should do?! Ahh! I'm panicking, I'm panicking! Ok, deep breaths, I should think fast. If I didn't... I'll literally be dead meat.

I've got it! Abandoning the rest of my cranberry pie, I stood up and tripped over a bump of snow

“Suka! Come here boy! And come fast...” I shakily yelled.

The wolves are very close! Please come Suka...

Dark figures leaped gracefully on the wolves. The lead dog jumped on a wolf an arm length away from me. He sat on the gray mat of fur and looked into my eyes. He was saying *I told you not to go Qaniit but you didn't listen and this happened*.

The battle finally ceased and the pack slunk away into the dark.

Were the wolves chasing away the rabbits? Probably. I noticed that most of the wolves looked extremely hungry and you could see their ribs.

I heard a scuffling in the bushes and I saw a little bunny head poke out. It was searching for food too. Then a thought came to me. What if there was too many wolves and they started to prey on rabbits but the rabbits got scared and they ran away! I know what to do now! I told Suka to come over here and his team came too. The bunny raced backed the hollow that I tripped over. Not important right now!

I sped back home and I uncovered a bag of lamb meat from the ground. We didn't have refrigerators like you do in your homes so we put meat in the ground where it's cold and nothing will eat it.

I rode Suka and his team and I carefully picked up a piece of lamb meat and threw it on the ground. Then another chunk a couple of meters away. I made a trail to a different forest for the wolves to live and told Suka to lead us to the bunny burrows. On the way, I saw the pack eagerly gobbling up the lamb meat and they paid no attention to us.

I saw a whole crowd of fluffy white bunnies when we got back and I saw the bunny from earlier. He looked grateful to me and I knew that he got the other bunnies to come out.

Suddenly an owl swooped out from the air carrying a laurel wreath and placed it on my head. I felt proud of what I done.

When I got back my mom asked me if I had fun.

“Yeah, I did mom”

“Oh, Qaniit dear, did you happen to see some lamb meat? I can't find it and we were going to eat it for dinner.”

I shook my head and she brushed past me to go search some more. But I knew she won't ever find it.

THE END