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# The Two Trees
# by Annie Formosa

      Craaaaack!!! I swing my branches to the side. My friend falls to the ground with a loud thump and her leaves make a soft bristling noise across the ground. Gone.

      My memories flood back and fill me up and I think back to the very first day we met. "Hello?" the tree beside me said. "Hello,"I said in response. The tree smiled at me and I smiled back:that's when I knew we were friends. We grew up side by side, I took pride in being taller than her, until she was taller than me.

      I remember one time we got in an argument. I wouldn't talk to her and she wouldn't talk to me, but then it started raining. I was mad and cold, but then the rain seemed to have stopped… I looked over and my friends' branches covered mine, guarding me from the rain. Suddenly, I forgot why we were fighting. We got taller and taller and we showed each other every new branch we grew. We looked forward to the Spring when our branches would fill up with beautiful, colourful flowers. I look at my friend on the ground being hauled away into a big truck. For her, those flowers would never come.  I try to be happy, but it's not the same.

      "Hello?" I hear a voice say. I turn to the noise. There's a new tree, a little one. "Hello," I say. The tree smiles at me, and I smile back.