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**Earth Error Alert!**  
**by Olivia Kim**

**Chapter 1: Santa Claus can't..... *WHAT!***

It was a frigid, cold morning, and all I could think about as I grabbed my coat was, *How is it May and yet there's no flowers or sunshine?!*

I was deep in thought when I'm interrupted by a loud, irritating noise that came from the sky. Ugh, thunder again! Suddenly, I'm in the middle of the street and I realized I forgotten my badge for work! I sprinted to the lamp in my bedroom and staring at me is my badge: Alice Clip, TV reporter, Hartford, Connecticut.

I glanced at the clock and saw that I'm already 5 minutes late and I hadn't even gotten my cup of coffee and brownie from the store.

I started each morning off with a cup of coffee, and everything was awful and I couldn't do anything worse than being 5 minutes late for work. I thought nothing could be worse than that... But I was wrong.

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So I drank the last sips of my coffee and ate the brownies, but then the wind started to blow hard. The dark fluffy clouds shifted and covered the entire sky as rain started to pour. I checked my phone as it vibrated. Another flood warning! Flood warnings are coming a lot these days.... like a billion times! Also the newscasters are too busy telling about the weather. It was supposed to be nice, but nope not at all. So nobody knew what was actually going on and why. I was trying my best to discover, and almost gave up, but now I'm on the news telling what the situation was!

*5 hours ago...*

I was reporting the news, how another flood might be approaching us, and then I saw a man a bit round, with a white beard, shiny golden buttons, and a red suit. He spoke in a panicked tone, "Can I speak on the microphone?"

His eyes seemed demanding so I gave the microphone.

He was hesitant for a bit and then took a deep breath in and released his words, "I am Santa Claus. I apologize but I cannot deliver presents this year!"

*WAIT-WHAT? This man...this person ... is Santa Claus from the North Pole? What is he doing here in May?*

## Chapter 2: Santa Claus's Explanation Story.

Santa Claus explained everything.

“I was gazing up at the pretty sky here and thus opened the door so I could go to my toy factory. Suddenly I saw the ice melting, the factory drowning and worst of all, the reindeers can't swim. *Even though they can fly*. So now, all the reindeers have died. We shall stop being Mr. and Mrs. Claus. No more magic, no more Christmas presents because they all drowned. My house was slowly sinking, so Mrs. Claus and I used a bit of magic and built a house here in Connecticut. My house is only a few blocks away from here.”

He wiped tears from both cheeks and finished his explanation.

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This was broadcasting live so kids can see. But I was curious. Why was this happening and was there something similar to this happening everywhere on Earth?

I knew the exact person to ask.

## Chapter 3: Hey girl.... What the heck?

I headed over to Herb Street to see my friend. As I rang the doorbell, the door swung open and I saw my friend, Amber, with dirty blonde hair and scattered freckles. Her pink, juicy lips form into a smile.

“ALICEEE!!!” She shrieked as she squeezed me too tight.

I thought I was gonna die! HELP!

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My friend Amber, handed me a nice brew of flower tea. I explained everything to Amber as her face contorted into a variety of emotions.

“WHOA!” said Amber.

“So... I want you to study what's happening and how we can fix this,” I said seriously.

The gloomy serious mood disappeared as Amber's eyes turned into spotlights. Her freckles glowed and her lips became wide. “Of course! Anything for YOU!” Then she used her manners and excused herself so she could research.

I had a silent moment for a second, when suddenly I heard a terrible scream from Amber's room.

“WHAT HAVE WE DONE!”

## Chapter 4: WHY HUMANS?

As Amber came back after some extra screaming, I noticed she was piling a stack of papers. She prepared another cup of flower tea and sat on a floral chair. She gave me this look like I did something wrong, but I thought it was a great choice to contact her.

“Alice, it's called an Earth Error Alert. Which means the earth is sick, and we need to help it.” She showed me a piece of paper with a list.

It read:

- *When Earth sneezes: Earthquakes and Tsunamis (happened to Hawaii and Los Angeles)*
- *When Earth has a fever: Ice caps are melting (like what happened to Santa)*
- *When Earth feels bad: Plants start to die.*

“Also it’s causing problems,” Amber explained.

She handed me a newspaper. It read:

*“Mysterious things are happening at once! Los Angeles earthquake, Hawaii tsunami, and so on! Plants not growing in May, Santa is not bringing presents this year, WHAT HAPPENED!”*

“Remember that warning 9 years ago? It’s that...but we didn’t fix that problem because we thought it was a false alarm. If we don’t start to fix it NOW, the earth is gonna die!” Amber shouted.

I started to sweat. “We have to tell everyone before it’s too late!”

## **Chapter 5: Hope And Earth Goes Together**

We rushed to the park nearest to Amber’s house. We set up all the cameras and the microphones. After that, it was broadcasting live.

“Hello everyone, and welcome to Channel 7!” I said. “Today we found something very unfortunate. We found out that the earth is very sick.”

I zoomed in on the paper that Amber showed me. The news and the list. People watching all gasped. I passed the microphone to Amber.

“Adults, you probably remember the Earth Error Alert from years ago. Let’s be honest, we all thought it was a fake!”

Everyone went quiet.

“Amber, why is the earth sick?” I asked.

“Well, the earth is sick because we are using too much energy. Meaning, we are using non-reusable objects too much. Or it’s that we use disposable objects but throw them on the streets. Non-reusable objects like candy wrappers and soda cans. Look around outside, especially at the park, there’s like billions of cans. That’s a problem. We can do that quickly, but we need to *produce energy*. But do you know *how you can constantly produce energy?*”

I took the microphone from Amber. “According to Amber and other databases like Oracle, and Factcite, it is not too late to save the earth yet. There are several ways to help cure the earth. One way is to use less energy and find other ways to produce energy. For example, using solar panels at your house. For kids, you guys should stop using plastics and use reusable items, like a tumbler. It is also helpful to pick up the opposite of reusable items, non-reusable objects! If you just leave the object on purpose or by accident, nobody picks it up. That’s also affecting the earth’s health! So we have to pick them up. Like these kids are doing!”

I turned the camera to a boy and girl as they picked up empty soda cans. “What’s your name?” I asked them.

“I’m Cole, and this is my sister Emma.”

They seemed identical, they both had brunette hair, and both had red and pink mixed lips. The only difference was that Emma had green eyes and Cole had blue.

“Well, Cole and Emma are heroes! They are greatly making a difference by picking up soda cans.”

Soon, all of the people in the park were picking up junk in the streets.

“We didn’t fix the earth 9 years ago and now we have to fix it, or it’ll fall apart. Also we don’t want this to happen again, and Santa... we’ll make you a brand new factory, with water-proof-reindeers.”

Santa smiled and wiped tears again as he was leaning against the pine trees.

“Also, I love instant coffee at the store, but now I’m gonna stop using non-reusable objects and start making homemade coffee in a tumbler. If I use non-reusable objects, I’m not gonna leave it on the streets, but throw it into the recycling can,” I said kindly.

I cut the live news broadcast, then said to myself, “Maybe the morning was bad, but now the sadness disappeared. I guess I was right, nothing bad could happen now.” I looked up to the sky as I felt something amazing.

It felt like..... Mother Earth had given us another chance.