

Kate is an 11-year-old girl who loves animals, writing, Roblox, and her friends and family. She loves her parents and little sister, Izzy very much. Kate is in the 5th grade at Marvin Academy in NC and would like to give a shoutout to her ELA teacher, Ms. Franklin for all of her support and encouragement.

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**Turtle Dreams**  
**by Kate Kinnin**

Hypatia awoke flustered from the horrible nightmare—the one that had been playing in her head since last year. It was about her brother, Orion. He had gone missing in the depths of Turtle Beach on their last cruise because he had to leave and join the Navy. She was here back on the scarlet colored ship wishing she could go home.

“Come on Franklin,” she said to her bright blue eyed husky. She patted his head and headed onto the deck of the ship. Hypatia sat with Franklin and wrote a poem about all the constellations she saw. The Big Dipper, Ursa Major... she got a little sad when she saw Orion’s Belt. Then suddenly, the ship hit a large reef and Hypatia flew overboard into the sea of coral. She watched as Franklin barked and howled. Hypatia’s father walked out of bed to grumpily take him back inside, not even knowing what just happened.

A couple hours later, Hypatia just couldn’t tread water anymore and she sank down to the bottom of the reef. Just when she thought it was all over, she found herself on the back of a blue sea turtle breathing underwater and gliding across the sea. “Did you save me?” she asked the turtle. The turtle nodded. After expressing her thanks to the turtle she asked for his name. He then grabbed a piece of dead coral and spelled out o-ri-on in the sand. Hypatia’s head then got flooded with sad memories of her brother but she felt better once Orion the sea turtle nuzzled her.

Then all of a sudden, Orion’s expression changed from happy to terrified/ When Hypatia looked over her shoulder, she saw something awful. A SHARK! She grabbed onto Orion’s shell and they sped across the ocean, dodging the rocks and seaweed, but they reached a dead end. They both thought they were between the jaws of a great white when they heard some chirping. A pod of dolphins! They were fighting off the shark, flying under the waves like birds of the ocean. They were so sleek and elegant as they defended Orion and Hypatia. The shark finally swam away. Orion and Hypatia said goodbye to the dolphins because they had to get to shore.

After a few minutes of gliding through the reef, watching all the beautiful and colorful fish play, they reached the shore. Hypatia saw her mom and dad searching for her like a chicken with its head cut off. Hypatia felt happy knowing that her parents and Franklin were trying to rescue her. When Hypatia arose from the warm salty ocean water her parents held her in their arms so

tightly, they were squeezing the life out of her. Franklin jumped up and knocked Hypatia over. He was so happy that she was safe, but Hypatia was a little sad about saying bye to Orion. She'd had to do something like this before when Orion joined the Navy, but remembering all the good times she had with him made her feel good instead of bad, and when she slept that night with Franklin at her feet instead of nightmares she had...turtle dreams.

The End