

Angelina Marino turns 10 years old this May! She enjoys going to the beach, spending time with my family and friends, and loves all animals, especially dogs. When she grows up, she would like to be a writer or a teacher.

The Ocean Adventure
by Angelina Marino

The sea is a wondrous body of water filled with amazing sea creatures, such as sharks, fish, and even sea monsters! The sea is mighty, but Poseidon, God of the Sea, made the ocean seem weak and small. He had power over all of the seas around the world. Though sometimes, Poseidon got bored of the ocean, and went to visit the people on land. One time, when Poseidon went on land, he fell in love with a beautiful maiden and didn't return to the sea for a long while.

He and the maiden had twins together, one boy and one girl. The boy was named Elijah and the girl was named Ruby. Their life was rough, for their father abandoned them and their mother - the maiden Poseidon fell in love with - when the twins were born. They grew up very poor, living off of fish Ruby and Elijah caught in the river by their small and cramped old cottage. They roasted the fish over a campfire for dinner.

The twins' daily routine was usually very simple: they got up, got ready, met their mom for breakfast, did their chores, got food for lunch and dinner, and so on and so forth. But on this particular morning, they got up and got ready. But after Elijah and Ruby met their mom for breakfast, they went out to explore. The twins talked and ran and played. They wandered far from their cottage and came across the ocean. They played in its waves. They dove under water, but Ruby's foot got stuck! She couldn't stay under the water for long. Finally, her lungs burned and she took a breath in. Somehow, her lungs weren't full of water and she could breathe, but she was still under the water!

Once Ruby got out of the water, she told Elijah everything that happened. She told him how she got stuck. She told him how she almost drowned. Finally, she told him how she could breathe under the water. Elijah just stared and stared and stared. Ruby bit her lip, but she wasn't sure if Elijah would believe her. Finally, after *a lot* of staring, Elijah stopped staring and started to talk.

“Are you *sure* you could breathe underwater?” asked Elijah. “I know our dad was Poseidon, but still. We've never had any powers before.”

“Yes, I'm very sure! Also, I - wait, do you not believe me? Do you think I'm lying to

you?!” Ruby didn’t realize how much she was raising her voice, but it was so loud that if they were any closer to the village, everyone would be able to hear them.

Elijah shrugged. “I don’t know. It seems a little off, don’t ya think?”

Ruby seemed distracted by something behind Elijah. She squinted her eyes. “Did you see that?!” She asked Elijah, almost dazed by what she saw. “It looked like the ocean just shrugged with you! Watch this!” Elijah turned around. Ruby flailed her arms around wildly. The sea flailed with her. Elijah did a huge wave motion. So did the ocean. The wave was so big it knocked them down and almost swept them into the sea!

“Woah!” Exclaimed Elijah, stumbling back.

“I told you!” bragged Ruby. It felt good to prove her brother wrong when he didn’t believe her. Then Ruby smiled a great, big smile, flattened out her foot, and stepped on to the water. Ruby could stand on the water! Elijah tried next. He could stand on the water, too! They played all day, discovering all their powers. It started to get dark so the twins decided that they should get home so their mom wouldn’t worry. Besides, they wanted to tell their mom about their new powers. But there was one problem.... they couldn’t find their way home!

Elijah and Ruby kept wandering, not knowing which way was home. They wandered deep into the sea when they heard funny sounds. *Slish slosh, rumble rumble, slish slosh, rumble rumble!* Then, out of the water emerged a great, big sea monster! He was as tall as a skyscraper and he had wet, slimy green scales. His claws were long and sharp and he was using them to pick something out of his massive teeth.

“Hellooo, children!” The monster said in a booming voice. “I understand that you both are Poseidon’s kids. He sent me to uh... assist you on your way home,” the sea monster lied with a sly smile.

“Oh, no thanks, w-we can find our own way back!” The twins hurried the other direction.

“Oh no, I insist you come with *me!*” And before Elijah or Ruby could disagree, they were pushed the other way. As they were wading, the air seemed to get colder and foggy. They kept walking for what seemed like an eternity. And just when Ruby and Elijah felt like they were about to collapse, the sea monster stopped.

“Well here we are,” the monster said cheerfully. The twins looked around, but there was nothing there except fog and the soft sound of the water sloshing.

“Where are we exactly?” There was no answer. The twins looked around. The sea monster was nowhere in sight. But then, the water seemed to move under their feet. The sea monster was swimming fast with his mouth open directly below them! There was no time to warn each other but Ruby and Elijah were thinking the same thing anyways. They sprinted as fast as they could away from where they were, but they didn’t get far before - *woosh!* The monster swirled into the air, knocking the twins down under the water.

There was a loud clash and a commotion. The twins couldn’t hear or see very well from where they got knocked down. Hours later, Elijah and Ruby found themselves on the shore but they weren’t alone. Poseidon was gazing down upon them.

“Oh, you’re awake! I’m Poseidon, your father.” Poseidon said.

“How is that possible? Our father abandoned us when we were born.” The twins exchanged confused glances.

Poseidon smiled, “I have been watching over you your whole life. And I always will. But as God of the Sea I have other work to do.”

“Well, if you are our father, then you shall take us home to our mother. We have had enough of this adventure,” said Ruby.

“And so I shall!” said Poseidon.