

Lily L. Sinatro is 10 years old and lives in Avon, CT. She is on a competitive dance team and loves to write, draw, and play catch in her backyard. Lily's favorite school subjects are math, writing, and science! She has a younger brother named Carter, a younger sister named Elle, a dog named Rucker, and a mom and dad. Her BFF is Isla Strait. Her 4th grade teacher is Mrs. Roy. Lily's favorite color is **sage green**. She loved writing this book and wants to say thank you to Ms. Davis for helping her with this story!

The Girl Who Turned Into A Tree
by Lily Sinatro

Once upon a time there was a girl named Oakley. She lived in a small, poor village overlooked by Zeus. Oakley was a very pretty girl but she was also very ungrateful. She always wanted more and thought whatever someone gave her was not enough.

One day, Oakley saw a tree covered in **pink, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple,** and even **magenta** flowers! Oakley thought that the flowers were very pretty, so she decided to take some for herself. She took almost all of the flowers off the tree without knowing that those flowers were actually blossoms that made apples for her village. When Oakley got back to her home in the village, she hid all of the flowers underneath her shirt so that no one would see them. When Oakley got home, she ran into the barn in her backyard and put the flowers right next to the horse's stable.

Two months later when farmer Jones went to look at his apple tree, there was only **ONE** apple! It was not enough to feed the whole village. This situation got into the weekly newspaper. Farmer Jones sent out separate flyers too, asking if anyone knew what happened to all of his apples. Oakley's parents received this news and were instantly shocked! Oakley didn't tell her parents that she was guilty. She didn't even realize that the flowers she took were from an apple tree!

Everyone in Oakley's village believed in Zeus, one of the Gods who lived way up high in the sky. Zeus saw what Oakley had done. He also thought that Oakley should tell her parents what she did. Four days later, he realized that Oakley still hadn't told her parents what she had done. Because of this, Zeus had to punish Oakley. Oakley's punishment was, the next time she was greedy or ungrateful, she would turn into an unknown type of tree!

Now, Oakley didn't know about the consequence the Gods had given her. She had to get her act together and be grateful for her surroundings. Five months after Oakley took the

flowers off farmer Jones' apple tree, Oakley was very ungrateful at **CHRISTMAS!** Her grandma made her a red and green sweater and she said it was too itchy and that it was **sooo UGLY!**

Zeus and the other Gods had enough of this. They decided to give Oakley her punishment.

After Oakley received all of her gifts, she went outside with her cousins to play in the snow. Zeus and the other Gods had a perfect plan of when to give Oakley her punishment. When Oakley was playing in the snow, she felt her feet stick to the ground. Then her legs felt stiff. Before she knew it, her whole body was planted in the ground! Her arms, hands, legs, everything was stuck! Oakley looked at her body. It was **brown** and looked like **TREE BARK!** Her head and arms were colored with all different shades of **green leaves!**

Oakley's cousins ran to get Oakley's parents. When her parents came outside, Oakley knew that she had to tell her parents what she had done. She also knew that the Gods had punished her. Oakley's parents thought that the Gods did the right thing. Her parents also were very disappointed in Oakley for her trashy behavior. Oakley was an **OAK TREE!**

Because Oakley was a tree, she had to learn how her body adapted to the different types of weather! In the winter, Oakley's body was no longer covered in lush green leaves.

In fact, her body had no leaves! In the spring, her body was covered in lush green leaves and colorful flowers. The weird thing about her body was that her bark was white with small, **black** stripes! Oakley didn't really know why her bark was colored in that specific way but she actually kind of liked it! In the summer, Oakley still had lush green leaves and black and white bark, but towards the end of the summer some of her leaves fell to the ground! In the fall, Oakley's leaves were **red, orange** and **yellow!**

Oakley spent all year round adapting and growing her love of nature! Zeus and the other Gods thought that they could give Oakley her freedom now that she has learned her lesson! In the spring, the Gods gave Oakley her freedom. Oakley didn't know that this was coming but before she knew it, her roots started to come out of the ground. All of her leaves started to dissolve and fall to the ground! Oakley was no longer an oak tree, she was just Oakley! Oakley now knows that she always has to do the right thing, or else a consequence is coming! She learned how to be grateful for her surroundings!

