MYTHICAL BEINGS

How It All Began



The elementals had listened to Tobi's story of how he came to live in the park. As they talked among themselves, they started looking back and remembering how they too had come to live in the park. Tia and Gema began to reflect as they remembered the area before it was a park and their own part in its creation.

"We have been here long before the park was ever thought about. There was a fairy village near where the Cooper Dam is now. Gema and I were here long before the humans and the dam were here. There was an elfin village above where the Cooper Reservoir is now. It was a peaceful time. When the humans came they needed a water source. Our parents helped the humans with the dam that created the Cooper Reservoir," Tia explained.



Gema spoke up. "Tia and I were best friends and did everything together. We were fascinated with the humans and often hid out near town to watch them. Many years later humans from a far away place came and claimed the land now known as the park. At first we were alarmed for the area was one of our favorite places to play."

Tia sighed. "Remember how our playground had been trashed by the humans from town? They seemed to have no concern for the land or the care and preservation of the plants and animals who lived here. Our fairy village had been abandoned and many moved to less populated places. Gema and I were no longer children and decided to stay behind and watch how the new group of humans would behave. That is how we came to know the blue man and Tobi when they came to build a place for traveling humans that we learned were called RVers. We had never seen little houses on wheels that moved from place to place."



Gema laughed. "Remember how we tried to find a way to guide them to be more responsible than the ones who had left trash and discarded items all around? It was a real challenge to watch them struggle, especially when the underground

springs erupted and flooded their work. They looked like a new form of elemental with mud stuck all over them."



Tia smiled at the memory. "We started trying to find some of the workers with more open minds. We hoped we could influence them to make a light filled place that honored Mother Earth and protected her. We met with Tobi, the blue man and his wife. Tobi was able to work with them and we found others who wanted a community built on cooperation and caring for each other. Gema and I made contact with several and the park began to take shape."

Troi, the regal elf, quietly spoke up. "My people had also moved further away but I wanted to see what these humans could create if they continued as a cooperative group. The animals in this area were being protected and great care was taken to make them part of this new community. They have fared well over the years. Many generations have benefited from the humans willingness to include them in the structure of the park." Troi faded back into the forest.



Tia continued. "Over time more and more humans came to accept our presence even though most could not see us. Troi found Boi and he agreed to come here to patrol the boundaries and keep the elementals, animals and park residents safely within the perimeters of the park. All of us who have worked with the humans have seen great progress not only in the creation of the park but also in the attitudes and behavior of the humans. Sometimes a human will come here who doesn't fit in and disturbs the cohesiveness of the park. Those humans usually move on to somewhere else. Specialty groups within the park make new people welcome and that they are contributing to a better way of life."



All the elementals nodded in agreement for most of them had seen the progress the humans had made. All felt the humans had created a beautiful place to live. As they traveled in their little homes on wheels they told others of this place and encouraged those

of like mind to come be a part of this special place. This park and its sister parks are well known for being safe and harmonious places humans can travel in and out of and as they age it becomes a permanent place to settle in.



As the elementals started to drift away a ‘Zing’ sounded with a cheerful giggle as Pika once again pranked a fellow elemental with a blackberry.

Ruby Bonham

Pictures by Trisha  Wallace