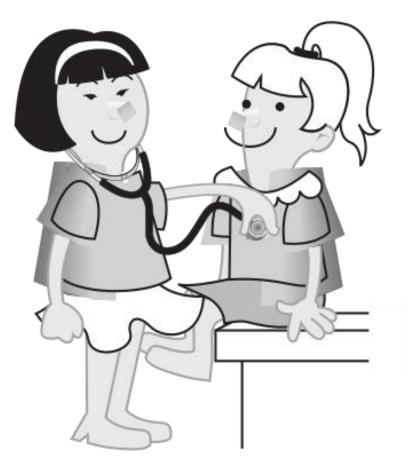
## THE LIFE OF LONG DISTANCE



AUTHOR ELLA YOUSSEF THERE WAS ONCE TWO COUSINS WHO LIVED IN A SMALL TOWN FAR AWAY FROM THEIR FAMILY. THEY WOULD ALWAYS CRY ABOUT IT BUT NOW THEY'VE LEARNED TO BE STRONG AND AT LEAST THEY HAD EACH OTHER THEY WOULD ALWAYS SAY. THEY WERE BUSY WITH SCHOOL SO TIME FLEW BY FAST.



EVERY SUMMER AND WINTER THEY WOULD GO TO SEE THEIR FAMILY IN LEBANON. THEY LOVED MUSIC SO THEY WOULD ALWAYS WRITE SONGS. WHILE ONE OF THEM LOVED DANCING TO POP THE OTHER ONE WAS THE COMPLETE OPPOSITE! SHE LOVED TO LISTEN TO CALM AND SOOTHING MUSIC. AND IN THEIR FREE TIME THEY WOULD CALL THEIR FAMILY AND TALK ABOUT THEIR CURRENT LIVES AND IT WAS THEIR FAVOURITE TIME OF THE WEEK BECAUSE THEY LIVED IN A SMALL CABIN IN THE FOREST WITH NO SERVICE AND THEY COULD ONLY AFFORD TO PAY FOR ONE DAY A WEEK.ONE OF THEM WAS ALWAYS LAYING ON THE COUCH WATCHING TELEVISION AND EATING SNACKS ALL THE TIME WHILE THE OTHER ONE WAS HARD WORKING. WHENEVER THEY FIGHT WHICH WASN'T A COMMON THING THAT THEY WOULD DO THEY WOULD ALWAYS FIND A SOLUTION TO MAKE UP AND WHEN ONE OF THEM IS SAD THE OTHER ONE COMFORTS HER. AND THEY ALWAYS STAY BY EACHOTHERS SIDE. ONE DAY THE GIRLS DECIDED TO GO ON A NATURE WALK WHEN SUDDENLY A LITTLE BEAR JUMPED INFRONT OF THEM, THE FIRST GIRL SCREAMED WHILE THE OTHER ONE LEPT AT IT AND KILLED IT AND THEN THEY BOTH STARTED RUNNING AWAY BUT WHEN THE GIRLS STOP TO TAKE A BREATH ONE OF THE GIRLS SAID IN A LOW VOICE DON'T MOVE AND THEN THE OTHER GIRL LOOKED UP TO SEE THE MOTHER OF THE BEAR THEY KILLED BUT THEN THEY SEE AN ABANDONED BABY BEAR, GRAB IT AND GIVE IT TO THE MAMA BEAR.



AFTER THEY FINISHED UP WITH ALL OF THAT THEY WERE ON THEIR WAY HOME BUT SINCE IT WAS ALREADY NIGHT TIME THEY STOPPED BY A RANDOM CABIN FOR THE NIGHT EVEN THOUGH IT GAVE THEM CREEPY FEELINGS, IN THE MORNING THEY WOKE UP TO A TERRIBLE NIGHT OF SLEEP BUT THEN THEY RELISED IT WAS TIME TO GO HOME SO THEY STARTED THEIR WALK WHEN THEY SAW A BABY DOG HIDING IN A BUSH AND WHILE ONE OF THEM WANTED TO TAKE IT HOME THE OTHER WAS SCARED OF DOGS SO THEY CONTINUED ON WITH THEIR JOURNEY. ONCE THEY ARRIVED HOME THEY IMMEDIATELY SEARCHED UP THE LOCATION OF THE CABIN BUT IT DIDN'T EXIST AND THAT GOT THEM REAL SCARED BUT ANYWAYS THAT THAT WAS THEIR WEEKEND. IT WAS THE NEXT DAY AND THEY WOKE UP EARLY TO GO TO SCHOOL AND ONCE THEY ARRIVED THE FIRST THING THEY DID WAS GREET THEIR BEST FRIENDS SARAH AND JENNIE LILY THE FIRST COUSIN SAT NEXT TO SARAH AND LILAC THE SECOUND COUSIN SAT NEXT TO JENNIE ALL 4 OF THEM WERE WHISPERING AND PASSING NOTES AND THE TEACHER HASN'T CAUGHT THEM TILL THIS DAY SO SHE LET THEM OFF WITH A WARNING. IT WAS FINALLY RECESS THEIR FAVORITE TIME OF THE DAY BEACAUSE THEY GET TO PLAY AND HAVE LUNCH .SUDDENLY ONE OF LILYS FRIENDS HAD PUSHED HER ABRUPTLY AND SHE FELL TO THE GROUND LANDING ON HER HEAD AND WAS UNCONSCIOUS, WHILE THE TEACHER WAS SCOLDING HER FRIEND, LILAC RUSHED OVER TO LILY WHILE CRYING, SHE WAS ALWAYS A STRONG GIRL SO SHE LIFTED HER UP AND TOOK HER TO THE NURSES OFFICE AND THEY TOOK HER TO THE HOSPITAL. THE RESULTS WERE IN AND LILY WENT INTO A COMA FOR 2 DAYS WHEN SHE WOKE UP THE DOCTORS HAD DISCOVERED THAT LILY HAD LOST THE MEMORY OF EVERYONE SHE KNOWS INCLUDING HERSELF SO THEY GAVE HER A FILE EXPLAINING HER PAST LIFE CAUSE SHE COULD STILL READ, THEN HER COUSIN LILAC CAME IN RUSHING AND PUSHING PAST EVERYONE TO HUG HER BUT SHE PUSHED HER AWAY AND

SCREAMED FOR HELP THEN THE NURSE RUSHED IN ASKING WHAT HAPPENED AND LILAC STAYED FROZEN IN SHOCK WHILE THE nurse explained to lilac that Lily had lost her memory and that she doesn't remember anyone she knows including herself so lilac immediately called her whole family and explained to them everything that happened so they're family came to Qatar the country that Lily and Lilac lived in and visited her in the hospital, they were devastated when they found out that lilac was telling the truth about Lily losing her memory .So the first thing they thought of was to leave Lily and Lilac's life since Lily didn't remember them and Lilac was extremely mad because they wanted to leave but reluctantly Lilac decided to forgive them because arguing with them wouldn't be a good idea but she cut them off and blocked them from every platform, Lilac cried her heart out not knowing how to pay the bills of the hospital especially without insurance or any family and relatives left .



Now Lilac started applying for jobs none stop and was working day and night. She was so busy with working overtime that she fainted while cleaning a mansion owned by an old lady who was kind and happened to be a billionaire so she helped Lilac up and gave her a cup of tea while asking her if everything was ok and Lilac couldn't hold it in any longer so she burst into tears while explaining everything that has happened these past few days so out of sympathy cause Lilac has worked for

her for quite a while and since she didn't have much days left with no family or relatives, so she decided to sign a contract saying that she will give all her assets and money to Lilac and Lily Lilac refused saying that it was to much and they kept going back and forth until Lilac agreed cause the old lady wouldn't take no for an answer . Lilac was overjoyed and she ran to the hospital to the hospital to pay the bills. After paying the bills she went home and started packing when she got a call from the hospital saying that the old lady had a heart attack and died which broke Lilacs heart but legally she couldn't do any thing about it since they weren't related but Lilac continued packing to move to her new mansion . Once she arrived to the mansion she unpacked everything and bought groceries to make it feel like they've lived there for a long time . Two weeks later Lily got discharged from the hospital and came to the mansion, she was still confused but understood that Lilac is her cousin but didn't find anything about any part of her other family so she questioned about it from time to time but never got a valid answer. A few years later Lily got all her memory back but nothing rung a bell of why Lilac hated her family so one day Lilac decided that it was about time she told Lily what happened and Lily didn't like that but she stayed calm and forgot about them eventually after that they continued on with they're life normally as if nothing happened.

