Memory of a Wandering Widower

Every day, I searched through the mountains, yet in order to do so I would always pass by the rapidly changing Tazmily village. I would go through the sunshine forest in order to get to the mountains, and every time I did so, I couldn’t help but to remember the first day…

It was the most important day of my life, which started off in such a casual manner. I had just finished shearing my sheep and was going off to the Sunshine Forest to go mushroom picking. It was when I reached Tamily square where destiny took its course.  
 Lisa and a pretty lady in a red dress, who I had never spoken to before, were talking by the well in the center of town. Even from a distance I could tell that they were talking animatedly about something. As I passed by, the two abruptly stopped talking, and they started to softly giggle. Lisa approached me with a little smile.  
 “Oh Fli-int, whach’ya doing?”  
 “Um, gonna pick mushrooms.”  
 Lisa continued smiling.  
 “Well, have I introduced you to my friend Hinawa.”  
 The lady in the red dress did a little curtsy. I slightly tipped my hat in greeting.  
 “Howdy, I’m Flint.”  
 I stuck out my hand. She went a little pink in the face, but nervously shook my hand. She turned to Lisa, who sighed and shook her head.  
 “That’s funny, she’s usually quite chatty. Anyway, I think that you should take her with you Flint. Hinawa knows everything about plants and wildlife.”  
 I glanced at Hinawa, then back at Lisa, and nodded.  
 “Sounds good to me.”  
 Lisa grabbed Hinawa by her arm and dragged her towards me. She gently shook Lisa off.  
 “Alright, I’ll go then!”

She let go of Hinawa, but still gently pushed her towards me.

“Splendid! Now you two have fun!”  
 Hinawa slowly approached me, as I beckoned her to follow. Lisa waved us as a send off as we walked off to the forest.  
 “Good luck!” she called. What was she on about? There’s probably a hidden reason to why she wanted Hinawa to go with me. Did she expect us to get hitched? Knowing Lisa, that was probably the case. Doesn’t mean that I can’t be friendly with Hinawa though. I didn’t want for there to be a long awkward silence so I decided to start talking to her.  
 “So… don’t see you around.”  
 “R… really!? I see you around all the time selling wool or going off to the forest.”  
 I continued to stare at her, hoping that I would remember those facial features, had I seen them before.  
 “I ever sell you wool?”  
 “You did once, I was the one who bought your entire lot!”  
 I was starting to remember now, yes she did buy all of my wool that one time. It couldn’t have been so long ago, she looked just as young now as she did then. I asked her why she needed all that wool.  
 She gave a small smile.  
 “Well, why else would I need wool? I got it to knit of course! Though I haven’t continued knitting after that one time, I’m glad I did it! I’ve never run out of outfits since.”  
 Wow, Lisa was right, Hinawa was very chatty! Once our conversation got going I felt like we could talk forever. It was while we were passing a clearing near the lake when our conversation stopped, as some bushes nearby started violently rustling. I immediately held my fists in front of me, prepared to take down whatever would charge at us.  
 Another violent rustle and an incredibly agitated boar leapt out at me. Hinawa swiftly moved out of the way, while I grabbed onto its horns and wrestled it to the ground. It writhed and wriggled as hard as it could to escape my grasp, but despite that, I managed to pin it to the ground. The beast and I were both breathing quite heavily as Hinawa calmly approached us.  
 “Flint… don’t harm it, please.”  
 I looked up from the beast, into Hinawa’s soft brown eyes.  
 “I won’t!”  
 Hinawa nodded and told me to stay put. I watched as she went over to some trees by the lake. The boar continued to wriggle, preventing me from getting a better look at her. Half a minute later, Hinawa returned with some plants in hand.  
 She gently walked to the boar’s side and started dabbing at a huge cut on its thigh. How had I failed to notice that? It immediately started to calm down. I sighed in relief as I gently loosened my grip on the boar. The freed animal bounded back towards the woods again.  
 Well… I don’t think anyone has ever impressed me so much before. The way she handled that situation was better than I ever could have handled it. I tipped my hat at her.  
 “Good job there, how’d you know exactly what to do though?”  
 Hinawa smiled and shook her head.  
 “Surely anyone would know what to do when bitten by a Mighty Bitey Snake. You’re just thick!”  
 I started to scowl, but she gently pushed me back and started giggling.  
 “Only joking Flint! You did fine against the boar.”  
 We didn’t even go mushroom picking in the end. We ended up heading back into Tazmily to continue talking over some Innit tea. As we passed by Tazmily Square, I noticed that Lisa was looking our way. She gave Hinawa the thumbs up sign, and Hinawa motioned for her to cut it out.  
 Ever since then, I wished that we could have never stopped talking. I still talk to her every day, but alas, she can never talk back to me…