Gloria was blinking away sparkles of light in her eyes when the rushing of the waterfall filled her head with a hushed roar. She stretched her stubby legs then rolled onto her large hip and yawned. The world continued to tilt sideways before she stopped dead in her tracks at the sleeping blue bird that rested by her belly. Heksile's fur jutted out in different directions from his head down to his naked arms as if he had been asleep for days let alone a few hours at best. The gentle whimper he gave was enough for Gloria to smile upon him as she rose to her feet and brought her arms up high behind her head, safe with the knowledge that last night truly did occur.

Granted she wouldn't dare lean forward to kiss Heksile yet, lest he woke up too soon. His sweet face free from the confines of her big butt was enough for her to be at ease, his chest rising with each snore. Gloria rubbed a hand through the matted tufts of fur on his head before tending to her pudgy belly. To think she wanted another hippo as huge as hers when the man of her dreams went up to her hips. She could have been content to lay there waiting for him to wake up until a bellowing grumble shook the cave and brought Gloria's breath to a halt. And the reverberations continued on where her paw laid.

Her stomach growled at the fire churning within, though Gloria knew better to swing for a bite so soon. Having Heksile building pressure by laying against her all night couldn't have helped, but she never got cramps bad enough for her to stagger in place, let alone force her to breathe slowly. Her fingers shifted to her hip when a wad of pressure churned a brew of bubbles within, and the grumbles turned to a dull roar.

*Oh, I am NOT having an air baby here of all places!* she thought to herself. It didn't take long for Gloria's legs to shake, realizing what the pit in her stomach truly meant. Yesterday's snack was kicking at Gloria's back door and if she wished to have Heksile stay asleep, she couldn't be beside him another second. So she bolted to the watery entrance of their home and dove beneath the surface; a murder of bubbles surrounding Gloria everywhere she swam, especially from the front and back.

Right when she stuck her massive butt towards the sun, Gloria clenched her mighty ass cheeks tight until it strained holding herself together. It squirmed and wobbled as warm beams of light reflected off her otherwise damp skin, her freckles glowing like diamonds in the rough. When her stomach quaked again, Gloria puffed her cheeks as her lungs tightened and the promise of fresh air taunted her from above. The smell of clean fruit and sparkling rivers awaited below the bottom of the rank pool she wallowed in where darkness greeted Gloria wherever she shifted her head.

Nothing better than to stink up the outside world on her first true day as a new woman then.

## 

Beginning with what sounded like a dying frog, Gloria heaved with all her strength until her monstrous fart grew to a sputtering scream tearing through the jungle, well beyond the humble cave she made herself home in. The edges of her face curled to a cheeky grin before her thighs and especially her ass kept rumbling well after she first let loose. She counted the seconds slipping by as her smile grew larger; seven, eight, nine, ten. At that point, Gloria's body shivered giggling from the muffled cries she heard past the invisible swaying around her. Pity to those who were no doubt forced to smell her raucous fruity gas, but she could hold her breath better than most mammals she knew, and her mom didn't raise a fool.

It helped that the raucous waterfall muffled what was otherwise an ear-splitting fart no matter where the few remaining denizens of the island dared to reside, nevermind the powerful stench. The nearby trees shook and twitched while flocks of unevolved birds took to the sky, unable to appreciate Gloria's boisterous behind quite like the man she met. As Gloria pinched her brow together, she moaned at what felt like drops of water rapidly falling off her stomach. Cool winds were blowing against her before the humid air quickly took hold and she shuddered. Gloria clamped her eyes shut then coughed twice, bringing her fart to a merciful end at a little over half a minute now that she could taste her own foul brew. Whatever was in those fruits must have spoiled them long before she arrived. Perhaps she and Heksile could do some fishing later today, provided he didn't mind her carrying their stash in her stomach much like his mother kept his food in her-

Gloria's eyes shot open as she turned her head down in an instant. Her pale reflection casted off across the large pool of water that expanded before her. The clear sapphire sky greeted her above with the waterfall and the small island where she and Heksile shared their first kiss was quickly pulling away. She swung her arms through the air as if she were still swimming, still wading in the pool that she charted through easily without a second thought. The world was disappearing. A streak of white swelled across her line of sight that swallowed her view soon after. And worst of all, her butt kept letting off smaller, nastier puffs the higher she rose up.

## PVVVPPPPPLLLLTTT!! BBBRRRMMMPPPTT-BRPT-PRRRMMMBBBPPPBBBTTT!!

Gloria blinked away tears from the sulfurous winds fluttering past her. Either aliens were real or this must be a dream she could smell. But even if the latter happened to be true, why else did Gloria's chest lurch when the island vanished, removing all feeling from her? And what would her loved ones think if they ever arrived? Perhaps the answer awaited her on the other side, but for now, all she could do was scream and scream, until her voice abruptly faded out, and the skies were bereft of life once more.

Heksile stumbled to the front entrance of the cave before leaning his shoulder on the wall, forced to give in to the gentle yawn that escaped his beak. He brought his hand to the rushing water inches from where he stood then splashed it into his face when his heart stopped. Somebody else should have been there with them when he woke up. That persistent gelatin warmth which greeted him on the beach was replaced by a cold sweat as he shifted behind himself and froze dead in his tracks.

The cheeky swipe across the cave walls greeted him, as did the twin craters and the little cracks which splintered off. But other than the echoes from the waterfall, nobody besides Heksile stood in the cave. He whispered one simple name to himself that was drowned out by the blitz behind, yet it rang in his mind louder than anything that dared threaten him.

"Gloria...?"