

The Teacup Cruiser

I couldn't believe it. Nine years of my life, gone within minutes. I couldn't fathom that he had left me. I needed to do something big, but I didn't realize how big that "something" was going to be. I returned home, sobbing, and packed all my things as quickly as I could. I didn't know what to do or where to go, but I knew I needed to leave. I needed to start something fresh; I needed to get out.

I make my way down to the nearby dock, about twenty minutes away from my home. I sat on the edge, my feet dangling below me. I hear the sound of waves crashing against each other. I had never felt so lonely.

All of a sudden, I saw something small drifting up towards the dock. I looked down, and it was a small teacup. It looked rather normal, it had flowers coming up the sides, a gold trim on the handle, and in bright gold cursive letters on the side, it said "Teacup Cruiser." As I looked a little closer, there were sails that resembled tea bags tied to a post connecting to the handle. It seemed to be some sort of teacup vessel.

Suddenly I heard a high pitched voice coming from the water. I leaned closer, and came face to face with a rather small man on the rim of the cup. He had dark brown hair with a bright pink hat. His vintage-looking coat adorned with a multitude of pins and trinkets.

"Well hello there", he says, "My name is Darcy Earl and I'm the captain of this ship! A little birdie told me that you needed an adventure." I looked down at him cautiously.

"How did you know where I am?" I said.

"The Teacup Cruiser always knows where to go. I don't steer the ship; I just go where it leads." he replied with a smirk.

All of a sudden, his hat lifted up about a foot above him, and up popped a little red panda. "Oh, don't mind her; that's Taro, my friend. Why don't you join us for a little adventure across the ocean?"

I sighed and looked down at him and his peculiar companion. "I don't know how you expect me to fit in such a small boat," I said.

"Well, you didn't let me get to that part of it," he replied. He reached into his pocket and pulled out a small jar with a bright yellow ribbon around the lid and said, "Here, drink this! I promise it won't harm you" he says, with a grin on his face.

I carefully reached down to grab the jar from him without slipping into the cold blue waves. I carefully examined the jar. It seemed to be some sort of purple shimmery liquid. What else did I have to lose at this point? I popped open the lid of the jar and chugged down the mysterious substance in one gulp; suddenly my limbs began to tingle, and I felt very strange. It was almost as if the sky and the dock were growing around me, and the teacup seemed like it was getting bigger and bigger. Suddenly, I was eye-to-eye with Darcy. He extended his arm to me to help me into the boat, while Taro hopped up on the dock to grab my now shrunken luggage.

The inside of the boat was surprisingly spacious, considering it was a teacup. I set my things down and walked around the porcelain floor for a second, taking in my new surroundings. "Nothing like anything you've seen before, is it?" Darcy said from behind me. I whipped my head around and smiled. "This is exactly the adventure that I needed, I think," I said. "Like I said, the Teacup Cruiser always knows where to go" he replied. Taro grunted in response, rolling her eyes and walking in the other direction. "Don't mind her, she likes to get a little feisty" he chuckled.

At this point I didn't even care where we were going. I just needed a fresh start.

"Wanna see something cool?" Darcy questioned. He led us up to the rim of the cup and we sat on the edge. The boat had begun to move after I had gotten in, although I hadn't noticed. We looked across the waves, no longer being able to see the land. I was unsure of what new adventure was coming. I took a deep breath, excited for this new chapter of my life.

