

Sarah's year on the Run

By Gabriella Horvath

I am a mistake.

I was never meant to happen. I am the only one of my kind on planet Setora TY14. I am a girl, not a boy or a man like everyone else here. I am different. Pain kills me every day. I was made accidentally by my father, the head of science technology in creating babies. He was the one who invented how to make babies without any women. He spared my life and sold me to a poor man for one Utiops. While, all the other babies were getting sold for more than 100 Utiops, to all the rich families. Anyway, I didn't care, I was grateful I had a family. He tried to make me blend in, but I had features on my body that none of the other boys had, it got me noticed but no one said anything until now.

I was walking down to the supermarket to get some bread and milk for this week. My father was working, so he asked me to pick up the groceries. I walked past the newsagency, always excited to see what the newspapers have to say, as we could never afford one. This time the headline states, 'Another girl detected, if located call the police.' I was fearful. If this girl was identified, then I would soon too. What would happen to me? What if I was wanted? The more I thought about, the more depressed I became. I looked down at the picture, a bit blurry, but good enough for me to see.

I ran for my life, sprinting to my house. The picture was of me. As I ran, my heart felt broken and the tears running down my face felt as if were punishing me. I felt I was already punished by this world. Why did I have to be punished even more? I was afraid, too upset to speak. All my feelings were mixed but right now, I just wanted to disappear from Setora TY14 and start a life on a planet with boys and girls.

I ran into my tiny room, hiding into my bare closet, where I cried for hours until my dad came home. I dried my tears and put on my best happy act. I told him that, I had forgotten about the groceries and he believed me. The next morning, I wrote him a letter explaining what was happening and how I am running away. I thought that it was the best thing to do, as I didn't want to drag my dad into this. I left my house, leaving the letter on my half-made kitchen table.

As I left my house, I start to make tracks towards the next city. They knew I lived in Section Ingwood. They wouldn't find me in the next section, well hopefully.

Hours later, I arrived at the next city, Garville. I found a quiet alley to spend the night in. I was tired from all the walking and running, so I fell asleep. The next thing I knew, was I awoke to the sound of a new section announcement.

" Hello, Section Garville! It has come to the police's attention that a young girl has entered into this section. Keep a lookout for any suspicious people or girls. If you identify this girl, call

the Police immediately. You will be rewarded with 10 000 Utiops. Thank you and enjoy your day."

They knew I was here. But how? I am in danger again. I thought that they wouldn't find me.

But I was wrong again.

I stayed in the alley for the next half of the year, eating on bugs and people's garbage around me. Then, one day I couldn't take it anymore. I came out of the alley and walked across to the supermarket. I was hungry, I hadn't eaten proper food for so long. I only had 5 Utiops on me. I didn't know what I would be able to get with this. I saw the fruit section. I went over to grab an apple and accidentally dropped it on the floor. I bent over and grabbed it. As I stood back up, my hood fell off. Every man or boy in the supermarket saw that I was the wanted girl. The owner called the police.

"Hey, I found the girl, she is at my supermarket, come quick and my supermarket is called Ollie's Grocery Store."

I froze, I couldn't take in what had just happened.

I heard the police car sirens; they were close to the shop. I quickly ran out and the owner yelled, "Get back in here, lady." I kept running, the policeman in the car saw me.

I ran. They were still following. I mustn't stop. I can't. Even though my legs were aching and making me slower, I couldn't. I froze, staring motionless at the brick wall ahead of me, how could this un-noticed wall suddenly be the end of my existence. I turned around to face the police officers, there wasn't any shine in my eyes and all I could taste was fear. Why did I have to be a girl born into a world full of boys? I felt defeated by them and all of a sudden alone. I couldn't leave this world, no my world. Thank you to my father who raised me and helped me get this far. They walked towards me, I am ready to die, I thought. They knocked me out with a laser. Goodbye world.

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The next thing I know, I am awake at a camp, they kept me alive? Why? I look around, about 200 other people are here too. They all turn around and I now realised that this is where I belong. They are all mistakes too. I am now known as 257, the 257th mistake in Planet Setora TY14. This is my story.