



One day, a sad princess was sitting alone under a tree. She saw the boy and quickly wiped away her tears.

"Hello," the boy said.

"Oh my!" she said. "It's you. You're the strange boy I've heard about." She paused. "My name is Estelle. What's your name?"

"I don't know," he stated, "but why are you sad?"

"No one in the castle will play with me."

"Why is that?" he asked.

"Everyone is a grownup," she pouted. "I feel alone all the time. I don't belong at home even though I live there."

She stood up and brushed off her dress. "Why don't you have a name?"

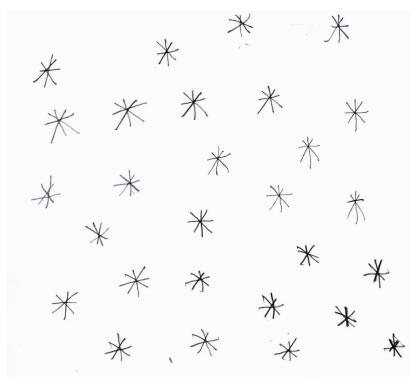
He replied with a shrug.

"Then I shall give you one... how about ... Lux."

"Lux?" he asked.

She smiled, "Yes, because you

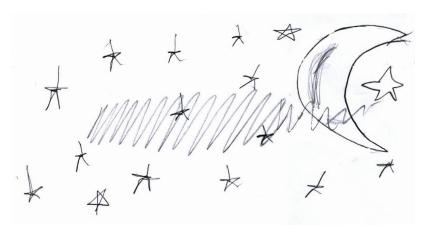




The boy was happy that Estelle gave him a name, and he came to see her often. "Will we be friends forever?" Estelle suddenly asked one day.

"Of course!" he said. "I have never met anyone who can warm my heart like you. So no matter the distance between us, we shall always be friends."

"I feel that you will leave me soon," Estelle said.



"I am always around. If you wish to see me," he stated, "then simply look to the night sky."

"Why the sky?"

"You'll understand," he replied with a small smile.

"So you are leaving," Estelle said sadly, "but you are my only friend. I feel safe and happy around you."

"You'll understand," he said again. Then he left.



Every day, Estelle searched the night sky, trying to understand what Lux had said. Many years passed, and she was engaged to be married. "I wish I knew what he meant," she complained, "because I can't find him in the sky."

"Then you aren't looking hard enough," said a familiar voice. Estelle turned around, and Lux was standing there. He was still a child with a white glow around him.

"Lux!" she exclaimed. "I can't believe it's you! You're still so young."

"I am a star, and stars age very slowly," he said.

"Stars? You're a star? That's why you're such a strange boy," she said.



"I understand you're getting married soon, but you still seem so lonely and unhappy," said Lux.

"That's because you left!" Estelle frowned.

"I told you I felt safe and happy when you were around."

"My true home is in the night sky," said Lux. "But, now that you have found me, you no longer have to feel alone, because I will always be around. When there is darkness, I will be your light."

"I understand," Estelle said happily. "So we shall always be friends! I shall never feel alone knowing that you are always near."

