



THE SWAYING

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Long long ago

The trees were really tired of standing tall.

They were irritated of having to constantly stay upright.



The trees thought...

For how long will we have to stand like this?

Why should we always sway with the winds?

Why must we always see things from above everyone else?

Why should we be the first to feel the drops of rain and rays of light?

Why must we be the one's to provide shade to travelers in the sweltering hot afternoon sun?

Why should birds always build their nests on our branches?

Why must insects slither up & down our bodies?

Why should wild animals scrape their claws on our rugged bark?

Standing for such a long time makes our legs ache.

The animals often bruise our barks with their claws.



Our branches fall off while trying to stop the winds.

Our leaves turn pale & yellow from having to bear the sun & the rain.

Are we allowed to sit only when we are finally uprooted?

May we only sit when we collapse to the ground?

Is sitting for us like being chopped off our roots?

No! It can't be so!!

We should also be able to sit.

We also want to spread our legs through the forest floor.

We also want to sit down and be able to stretch our arms and legs.

Our leaves & branches want to roll in the mud.

We want to sit.

That's it!

WE MUST SIT!

And really...



When the sun rose the next day...

The trees had slumped & stretched their arms across the ground!

Their roots & branches lazily spread in the mud.

Their leaves & branches rolled in the mud.

The trees felt really nice.

Finally they got some rest.

Finally they got some calm.

Now no need to sway.

No need to swing.

No need to bear the sun & the rain.

No need to take care of birds and their nests.

No need to see things from above everyone.

But...



Because the trees became short

Because they stretched their legs across the ground...

Extra-ordinary things began happening...

Men began chopping trees regularly.

They began trampling on trees without any reason.

**People used to come... Pluck fruits to their heart's content... Eat them
if they felt like...**

Or then simply throw them away.

Soon there were no fruits left on trees.

**All that was left was a pile of half eaten fruits, peels, & seeds that were
dumped besides the trees.**

People would pluck flowers & leaves for no reason.



They would throw them around the trees.

People would often kick & stomp over trees.

Tigers, horses, elephants, Hippos, Zebras and many other animals began to sit on trees.

The trees got squashed.

Giraffes, Blackbucks, & horses began to stand on the trees.

The trees got crushed.

Alligators & crocodiles began to roll on the trees.

The trees cried out in pain.

The birds could not build their nests on the trees.

They could not sit on the trees & sing. The birds began flying in the sky helplessly.

The birds began to feel restless.



Because the trees were short...

Rain clouds could not be stopped.

There was no rain.

Because it did not rain...

The strong & healthy branches were reduced to trash.

The bright green leaves wrinkled, dried, & fell to the forest floor.

The branches broke.

The leaves withered.

The trees became battered.

The trees became weak.

The trees began to dry.

The trees felt very sad.

The began to dream of the olden days....

"Trees swaying with the winds.



Rustling leaves.

The birds singing on the branches, chicks playing in their nests.

Butterflies hovering around flowers.

The moist fog lingering around the higher branches.

And the dark shadow cast around its bark by the lower branches.

Its sweet juicy fruits.

Its beautiful fragrant flowers"

The trees began crying with their heads ducked between their stumps.

The few leaves left became moist with tear drops!

The trees realized their mistake.

The trees though again.

And truly from that day onwards...



All the trees happily stood up again.

They began swaying with the wind.

Their leaves began rustling with the wind.

They happily got drenched in the rain.

They began bearing fruits & flowers with joy.

Birds came & sat on the trees.

Animals came to the trees.

Butterflies hovered around flowers.

The trees sang with joy.

The trees took in the sunshine.

They played with the wind.

They bumped with the clouds.

They cast beautiful shadows.



People took rest under trees.

They thanked the trees.

NOW...

Little children decked up in colorful flowers picked from the trees...

Played in the shade of the trees and ate its juicy fruits.

That's when the trees felt really happy.

AND THEN TRULY...

The trees swayed happily without the winds.

And blossomed with fruits and flowers.

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