

Left Brain; Right Brain

By A. C. Zito

Their mother looked at her two boys with love. She was so happy everything went as planned. They both were born into a great and wonderful world.

“What should we name them, Mother?” Her husband asked. She smiled up at him and replied:

“They will grow up to be two African kings. Two men of knowledge. I can already see it in their four eyes as they stare up at me.” Her husband smiled at this.

“Well, they have two parents of notable stature; a doctor for a father and a scientist for a mother; I think they’ll turn out just fine, no doubt.” The mother nodded at this.

“I think...” she said, “I think we will name this one with the glistening eyes, Taavi, and we will name this one with the birthmark on his forehead, Tadaaki. Taavi and Tadaaki.

“Taavi and Tadaaki? What are you doing to me, woman? I’m going to have a tough time as it is telling them apart being twins and all... but also giving them names that sound similar?”

“Hush now!” she quieted him, “They will learn to grow up and love and respect their mother’s wishes as for being given the names that were chosen for them.”

“Mother gave you the better name.” Tadaaki laughed at this.

“But I like the way Taavi sounds too, brother.” Taavi shrugged at this. He took a seat on his couch placed away from the sunlight hitting him in the eyes. They were out on Tadaaki’s porch. It had the best view of the Savannah grasslands he called his backyard. It even had the iconic acacia tree resting with the sunlight hitting it gloriously in the distance.

“Just for being a famous scientist you get a house like this? I don’t understand, brother?” Tadaaki smiled back at him and replied:

“Understand this; brother, I’m about to make us both famous beyond belief! We will go down in history. With your surgical hands and my idea... Taavi, this idea that I have pulled from the outer reaches of something greater is something I never thought I would stumble upon. So I did some research and... and...”

“And what, brother?” Taavi couldn’t handle the anticipation. Tadaaki had to sit down as he took his brother’s hands. Taavi felt uncomfortable from this. Tadaaki had always been unusually touchy with him when he had exciting news come about in his life.

He placed two chips in his brother’s hands. They looked like they were thrown together in haste. Not as good-looking as some of his other inventions.

“I call these Left Brain; Right Brain.” He pointed to one as he said *left brain* and the other as he said *right brain*.

“I don’t understand? You made Artificial Intelligence?” Tadaaki shook his head.

“No. I made a new addition to our fellow human that might have brain damage on one side of the brain or the other. It will take over as the left brain or the right brain. Now people who have Parkinson’s, who have Alzheimer’s, everyone who has brain problems will be cured with the help of these two chips. They are only prototypes, but they will actually be able to function as the left brain and one actually functions as the right brain! Isn’t this great, brother? We will be part of history now! Tadaaki and Taavi Aguda will go down in history!” Taavi looked at his brother in disgust.

“No, brother. Only Tadaaki Aguda will go down in history. I had no part in this.” Tadaaki looked at his brother in concern.

“Why do you have to be like this? Of course you have a part in this. Who do you think is the neurosurgeon who will have an increase in work.” Taavi stood up as his brother said this and looked down at him with a glare.

“It sounds more like a curse for me than anything else.” Tadaaki stood up. His face was flushed with anger for the brother he shared his mother’s womb with.

“A curse? *A curse?* A CURSE?” Brother... think of all the lives, all the people who no longer have to die, all the families that get to keep their loved ones. But no. No, all you care about is yourself. All you care about is still having enough time so you’ll be able to go *fuck* your bimbos!” Taavi took the lamp from the sofa table behind the couch and struck Tadaaki on the head.

Taavi looked at his brother laying on the floor feeling a string of panic wash over him. He had to only be unconscious; right? He couldn’t be dead! He couldn’t be! It was his brother! His older brother! He had to still be alive!

“Tadaaki? Tadaaki, are you okay, brother?” Taavi checked his brother’s pulse. Nothing. Taavi looked at his brother’s house and ran to see if Tadaaki’s wife was home yet. He was lucky. She wasn’t. He quickly ran back over to Tadaaki’s body, picking him up and pocketing the two chips he had shown him.

Taavi came home to see that his family hadn't gotten back yet. They said they'd be going into town for the whole day. But what did they mean when they said that? They could be back any minute and who knew how long this complicated of a surgery was going to take.

He rushed inside with his brother's dead body and down the stairs into the basement. His work room was just as he left it. He placed Tadaaki onto one of the two operating tables and then went over to the nuero-transiamatic 500. It had some dust and cobwebs on it since the last time he used it. He couldn't believe it when the hospital let him buy it off them after the newest nuero-transiamatic machine came in.

"Wake up," he told the machine. It came to life in a matter of minutes. The interface popped up showing a display of what possible surgeries it could conduct. He chose to try to decode it the best he could which would be fairly hard with the limited time he had. After what seemed like forever but was only actually just a couple of minutes, Taavi figured it out. He lay down on the operating table next to the one his brother was on and gave himself enough of a dose of his supply of anesthesia to knock him out until the surgery was over. He hoped to God it would work. His brother's invention *had* to work or he'd be going to prison for life. He couldn't last in prison. Prison couldn't, wouldn't be his fate. Now... now his fate lied in the hands of an outdated machine that he had to decode to get to do the job he wanted. He didn't even know which brain hemisphere it was going to let him keep and which hemisphere it was going to give to his brother's body. He thought he better not worry about it as he felt himself drifting off into a peaceful bliss, the thought of him becoming a murderer today drifting out and away from him.

"Darling... darling, wake up. Dinner's ready! Hello, Tadaaki." Taavi woke up to see his wife looking down at him. But in the eyes of his brother he could see his wife looking down at his original body. He couldn't believe it! He now existed in two entities. Two persons at once. But where was Tadaaki's brain?

"I'm on my way up darling..." Taavi said this while Tadaaki's mouth said this as well.

Oh no Taavi thought. His wife looked at the two of them, a look knowing something was up.

"What's that?" she said as she looked at flies swarming around at a half-open trash can. Taavi tried to stop her. Both Tadaaki's body moved to stop her as well. She looked in the trash can at the fresh brain with maggot's covering it in horror.

"You've killed your brother and turned yourself into a freak show." she muttered as she tried to back away from the two brothers.

"We're going to go down in history, darling. We're going to go down in history. We're going to go down in history." Taavi and Tadaaki repeated this to her over and over as she backed into the corner of the wall screaming. And that day the two Aguda brothers went down in history.