



# The Tale of the Healing Shrub

Jennifer Okolo and Preston Smith



Once upon a time, in a not-too-distant future, people struggle to survive amidst polluted air, contaminated water, and barren landscapes. To make matters worse, there is a deadly disease spreading in New Haven and scientists cannot find a cure.



One day, two children, a young girl Lily and a boy Oliver were wandering in the woods of East Rock when they stumbled upon something glowing in the distance.



It was a shrub - a magnificent and mesmerizing scrub. The shrub was beautifully colored with waxy green leaves, pristine white flowers, and black drupes. Lily and Oliver wondered how this could be possible given the ruin that surrounded them.



As they were admiring the shrub, a wise professor approached them. Her name was Professor Wells, and she was an expert on all things plants and insects.

"Hello, Lily and Oliver," said Professor Wells. "I see you've found the magical tea shrub."

Lily and Oliver looked at Professor Wells apprehensively but urged her to tell them more.



Professor Wells told the children that the shrub has healing powers and that there are only a few left in the world. Professor Wells showed them how they could break down the leaves to create a tea with special healing qualities.

Lily and Oliver knew they had to act fast. They ran back to their families and told everyone about the magical shrub and its healing powers. The townspeople were skeptical at first, but when they drank the tea, they immediately felt better.

They quickly gathered together and marched up the trails of East Rock to gather as much of the tea as they could. They worked tirelessly, picking every leaf from the shrub until there was nothing left.





But it was worth it. The tea worked wonders, and soon everyone in the town was cured of their sickness. They were so grateful to Lily and Oliver for finding the shrub and to Professor Wells for her wisdom and guidance.

From that day on, the town people made a promise to protect the magical Appalachian Tea shrub and ensure that it never went extinct.





And as for Lily and Oliver, they became heroes of New Haven, loved and respected by everyone. They knew that the magical shrub had brought them all together, and they were proud to have played a part in its story.