Nita's heart fluttered and a smile found its way to her face for the first time since she had arrived at the school.

"Do you understand?" Sister asked slowly.

Nita nodded vigorously.

"There is a car waiting for you outside," the Sister told her.

The engine rumbled as the car started. Nita was too excited to sleep, but soon sheer boredom got hold of her and caused her to finally close her eyes. Nita opened her eyes and saw the familiar dirt road lined with the strong, thick pine trees that resembled fearless, proud warriors. Nita smiled. Images of warm embraces, bannock, and running through the field with her little brother, Anoki, danced in Nita's head. The car pulled into the driveway. Nita jumped out of the car and sprinted to the cabin. Nita pushed open the door of the cabin.

"Mama! Papa! I'm home," cried Nita.

"Nita? Nita!" her Papa cried, pulling her into a tight hug.

"Nita? My Nita?" screamed her mother as she ran full speed and grabbed Nita.

Nita hugged her parents tightly, breathing in their woody smell. Nita poked her head out of her parents' entangled arms.

"Is Anoki in bed?" asked Nita excitedly.

Her parents glanced at each other worriedly. Her mother's smile disappeared and a mask of sadness and fury replaced it.

"What?" Nita asked.

"We don't know where he is; we thought he would be placed with you." Sobbed her mother quietly.

"What? Why did you let them take him away? Anoki is gone forever because of you!" accused Nita, sobbing hysterically.

"Nita, Nita, dear sweet Nita there was nothing we could do. They told us we weren't teaching our children properly. They promised us they would take better care of you and Anoki than me and your mother ever could," sighed Papa.

"Our way of teaching was wrong," said her mother.

"What was wrong with our way?" asked Nita.

This time nobody had an answer.