

### **Somchai means “the one who’s always happy”**

Somchai was born in Thailand, the place that could never escape the heat from the sun. As she grew up, she loved Thailand and enjoyed always being able to go out and enjoy the fresh summer air. She never took it for granted and lived to the fullest. Once she reached her teen years, she was exposed to technology. When using such technology, she realized there was more in the world than warm weather. She saw colder weather, changing seasons where the trees would turn orange and the leaves would fall off. It made her curious, especially the snow. To Somchai, the snow created a beautiful winter wonderland, which she's never experienced before. They were tiny, beautifully sculpted ice crystals that fell from the sky to the ground. They came in all shapes and sizes and turned into water when they came into contact with something. And when there was enough of it, it'd pile up and leave a nice white sheet on the ground. It left her wondering what it'd feel like to touch it. After seeing people bask in the snow, it made her want to as well. She wanted to touch the snow, feel it, let it fall on her face, make snow angels, and do everything that everyone else was able to do. As her life continued to adulthood, it left her wanting to study abroad in the city, to finally experience the snow that she's been dying to feel ever since she was a kid. Despite hearing that the snow is cold after having grown up in such a warm place, she still can't wait to experience it in person for the first time.

### **Bianca means white**

Bianca was born in Canada, the place that couldn't reach the heat from the sun. In Bianca's experiences, it was always freezing cold and the snowy weather would come as early as October and last all the way to April. The snowfall would always be heavy, and whether it was snowing or not, the climate was freezing regardless. The heaviest snowfall would often occur throughout December to February. As a baby, she adored the snow. She loved how white and sparkly it was and how it made her skin freeze. But as she grew up, she developed a distaste for it. She hated how cold it would get her and how dirty it could get. But since she grew up with it, she grew a slight resistance to it. Bianca wanted an escape from the snow, somewhere where it was warm, somewhere where the snow couldn't touch. This led her to dorm elsewhere, away from Canada; New York. New York was better for her. It was warmer, livelier, and a brand new experience for her. But, she couldn't escape from the snow forever. It had also snowed in New York, but it didn't last as long as it would in Canada, so she could tolerate it. The difference was, in New York, it was a lot nastier than Canada. The snow would turn into slush, the dogs would piss in the snow and when the snow was scooped up, dirt from the ground would be mixed, making it disgusting. Thankfully for her, this season would usually last for 4 months and past that, the season would actually change, unlike Canada. This was something Bianca was satisfied with, leaving her happy in the Big Apple.

### **Togetherhness**

In 20XX, both Bianca and Somchai went to The City College of New York in Harlem. They were both freshmen and they happened to have this one class together. In this class, they

happened to do a group work assignment together and their differing personalities matched perfectly. They continued being friends throughout the school year and the conversation soon came up about nationality. Somchai shared how she was from Thailand and it's always so warm up there, leading her to never experience snow firsthand. Somchai spoke so highly about the snow and how she couldn't wait to experience it and even wondered if she had to put up her umbrella for it. Bianca found this weird, since she'd dealt with snow all her life. Hearing this, she also shared her experience with snow. Bianca shared how she was from Canada and it was always cold, leading her to hate the snow. Bianca spoke about how the snow would always get dirty as it would here, the difference being that New York experienced the changing seasons. Sure, the snow lasted for up to four months, but it still went away unlike the cold and snow in Canada. It would always stay cold and unbearable. Though Somchai hears this, she still encourages Bianca to give snow a chance because it can truly be a beautiful thing despite the slush and dirt. The more Bianca would talk about the snow, the more she'd realize that she does truly love the snow despite its flaws. She recalls her memories from her past with her grandmother where she'd put maple syrup on the snow and write their names in the fresh white sheet. As Somchai hears this, she gets excited and suggests they do it together. That makes Bianca happy and in the next winter, they'd do whatever they could think of; dancing in the snow, singing in the snow, eating the snow (with maple syrup), carving their names in the snow, having snow ball fights, making igloos and snow angels. This would've been the one of the best winters they've both experienced in a very long time, solidifying their bond and creating new memories that would last a lifetime.