Northern Cross

The crunching sound suddenly came to an end. Nella looked out of the window. It was the Northern Cross Station. Outside the window, a big clock was hanging above the church-like station, and the surface of the clock, which Nella was unsure about what the material was, was as clear as the water. A sense of familiarity and warmth struck Nella, and he decided to have a walk around the station. He got out of the train, and the difference in temperature made him shivered. Apparently, it was much warmer on the train. There was a ticket office located beside the exit of the platform. There were no one in the office. Only a dimming purple light was shinning in the dark. Nella had an uncomfortable feeling that someone might be watching him from the purple light, so he rushed past the ticket office. Outside the station, it was a wide river. The river was so wide that it was almost impossible to see the other side of the river. The water of the river was reflecting the lights from the northern cross, and pale reflections shined through the space. The pale reflected lights can’t travel far, Nella thought. He had a feeling that he was the only person that was enjoying the astonishing view right now. There were crystals covering the most part of the riverbank. Nella picked one up. A small fire ball was burning inside the crystal. The fire ball flickered and went out. Nella sat down and started to play with the crystals. Suddenly, his head started to ache, and he heard a girls’ voice. ‘Nella! Let’s go to the riverbank and play with those sands!’ The voice was cheerful and high-pitched, just liked an oriole was singing. A blurred figure of a blonde girl appeared beside him. Nella was pretty sure that all these things were just part of his memory, but it was so real. The steam whistle of the train pulled him back to reality. Still trapped in his own thoughts, Nella stood up and stumbled for a several times during his trip back to the train.

2nd time

It was the northern cross station again. Nella rushed down the train and walked directly towards the riverbank. The blurred figure of the blonde girl appeared again, so did her voice. ‘Look at the stars!’ ‘It’s beautiful, isn’t it? Do you see that cross in the sky? That is the northern cross.’ A boy’s voice appeared. It was Nella’s voice, just seemed much younger. The girl giggled, ‘You really like stars.’ ‘Yes! Last week, my father showed me a photo by the name <the pillars of creation>. He said that it was taken by some huge thingy in the sky by the name Hubble.’ ‘Hubble? Sounds like my uncle’s name.’ ‘Yes, the thingy they built was powerful enough to take photos of stars and cosmic dusts! I wish that I can watch those stars from a closer distance one day. The scenery will be breath-taking!’ ’Maybe you can become an astronaut in the future!’ The figure of the blonde girl suddenly became clear, and the girl looked directly at Nella through her blue eyes. ‘Yes! Yes!’ Nella stood up and stroke his head with both of his hands. ‘Why did I forget about it? I was an astronaut, and that’s why I’m not afraid about the space!’ Overwhelming happiness flooded over him, and he ran back to the train before it left the station.