Climate Future Fiction

Prologue

4 days 12 hours 33 minutes 24 seconds is the time left to live. We knew this day would come. But it feels so surreal that the day is so close. The bubble that was made in 2045 to protect the earth was coming to it end. It is now 2062. The bobble would get smaller with every year that would go by. People were fleeing from their country to get on safe grounds. But over the year the population had become smaller and smaller. It was the earth's way of saying there were too many people, and we didn’t take care of it. We knew that, but it is still hard to accept that we are going to die, because of one´s ancestors and past generations. And we don't even get to have a say in it.

3 days 12 hours 33 minutes 24 seconds….

It had been raining the entire night, so it is muddy outside, and Sophia is loving it. Sophia and her sisters Ava and Ivy have always loved the rain, it reminds them of their parents. Sophia and her sisters lost their parents, when Sophia only was 16 years old, and her sisters were 10. They died 6 years ago. It was the year they were supposed to have moved, because of the bobble shrinking. Sadly, Sophia's parents didn’t manage to escape before the bubble engulfed them. But just right before, they told Sophia it was now her responsibility to protect her sisters and make their life the happiest, they will ever know. It was also Sophia's plan and every time it rained or had rained, they would dance in the grass. Just like their parents used to do with them. And today is no excuse. Sophia jumps out of bed and run to her sister's room, jumping up and down shouting:

“Get up, get up, get up. It has been raining all night you have to get up”

The two sisters looked at each other before jumping out of their beds running towards the door almost running down Sophia.

“Slow down girls the grass isn’t going to dry any time soon and I kind of want to dance with you without a broken foot,” Sophia says with a smile on her face. Ava and Ivy just laugh and start running again. Sophia walks after Ava and Ivy but stops in the doorway looking out on the beautiful farm she has built with her sisters. They have all the animals a farm must have. Cows, horses, sheep’s, rabbits, pigs, and chickens. Most of the animals were already on the farm when Sophia and her sisters took over the farm. And then they have fields with corn, wheat, and various vegetables. They are pretty much self-sufficient in everything they could possibly need. But it has been a tough year. There has been a lot of rain and far too little sun. It has been difficult to get anything to grow or to keep anything alive. But it probably doesn't matter when there is only so little time left.

“Sophia, Sophia” Ivy yells. Sophia is in her own thoughts, so she gets startled when Ivy shouts.

“What,” Sophia says.

“I said your name like 5 times. What are you thinking about?” Ivy answer.

Sophia debates with herself whether she should tell the girls the truth or not. She chooses the latter. Why ruin the good mood? Instead of answering, Sophia runs down to Ava and Ivy and grabs their hands. Holding each other's hands, they dance around in a circle until they fall over laughing on the grass.

2 days 12 hours 33 minutes 24 seconds…

“Look there is a rainbow” Ava shouts from the dinner table. Sophia and Ivy look out the window. And Ava is right, there is a rainbow. The rainbow sparkles as if it were covered with ice and the sun shines on it. It is starting to become difficult to find out when it is summer and winter. It's mainly always hot, but then sometimes it gets really cold. There was a time when it had snowed so much that Sophia and her sister could make a snowman. It was the only time Ava and Ivy have experienced snow. Sophia begins to inhabit her thoughts with all the memories she has of her parents and sisters.

“Do you know what I think we should do?” Sophia asks her two sisters.

“No what” Ivy and Ava they say at the same time.

“Jinx, Jinx, Jinx again” Ava and Ivy continue to say at the same time.

“Girls, girls don’t you want to know what I wanted to say?” Sophia asks.

“And just nod if you want to” Sophia adds before Ava and Ivy get to say another word.

The two girls nod eagerly to find out what their sister has to say. Sophia adjusts her clothes a little and settles into the chair before she beings to talk.

“So, I know you've always wanted to go to the beach. And as you already know, unfortunately, that is not possible. So, I thought what about bringing the beach to us.” Sophia looks expectantly at the girls. As expected, the girls are overjoyed and ask when they can start digging a hole for the pool.

1 day 12 hours 33 minutes 24 seconds…

Sophia spends the whole day trying to find a way to tell her sisters that there isn't much time left. The girls can sense that something is up with Sophia, but they don't dare to ask what it is. Day turns to night, and it becomes a new day and Sophia still hasn't found a good way to tell her sisters that they are going to die soon.

12 hours 33 minutes 24 seconds…

Sophia ends up with the best is probably just telling it like it is. So, when evening comes, Sophia sits the girls down and tells it like it is. The girls start crying and Sophia can't do anything but to hold them.

“How long have you known we were going to die?” Ava asks. Sophia considers whether to lie or just be honest.

“I've known that ever since Mom and Dad died. They told me right before.” Sophia answers honestly.

“They gave me this,” Sophia says while holding out her hand with a small watch lying in it. This is the watch everyone got when the bubble was created so everyone knew when the bubble would be gone.

33 minutes 24 seconds…

Sophia and her sisters are just sitting out on the grass looking up at the sky and holding each other. It gets harder and harder with each passing minute to catch your breath. As the bubble contracts, it feels like an elephant sits more and more on you. The only thing Sophia can think of that is positive to say at this moment is:

“Soon we will be together with mother and father again”

24 seconds…

Sophia looks at her sisters trying to take their pain away, but with no luck. And when…

No air…