

Rising Depths

By Stravix

****Pip****

The dive watch attached to Selene's wrist beeped helpfully as they reached the desired depth after what seemed like forever of swimming straight down into a darkening abyss. The shot line, a bright yellow rope that acted as a visual anchor and a guide to their boat above, still sank further below into nothing. Several emergency extra scuba tanks bobbed in a ring around the line, offering insurance against potential disasters.

"Desired dive depth reached. 180 feet. 55 meters. 20 Feet above the oxygen toxicity line for standard air-based dive mixtures."

Swimming herself upright she spun in place. Reaching out with the dive watch she held down a button for a few moments to test signal strength. As she did so she took in her surroundings. An open expanse of dark blue ocean stretched out before her in one direction, while behind her loomed a massive rock wall. Stone shelves reached out towards the expanse and sent shadows cutting through the water around them, darkening the surroundings even further.

****Pippipippip****

"Connection confirmed. Readings for air composition look stable. Starting recording. Field Test for Dive Mixture 12-B has commenced. Following one hour of dive-time subjects will surface gradually to confirm complete removal of decompression symptoms outside of enclosed parameters."

She stopped her spin and reached out to grasp the shot line when her vision was blocked by a blast of bubbles. She let out a sigh as the unsuccessful attempt at a surprise bobbed up to the surface.

"Data. Recording. Interrupted. Take. Me to. Your *leeeeder*."

Her partner in diving, research, and love, Alice, ascended into her vision. Her mess of blonde hair waving around her mask failing to hide her illuminated grin. A new development at the institute, the new dive masks removed the need for a respirator constantly in your mouth. A sheer glass window framed the divers face. It even came with facial lighting and a short-wave radio. All in a push to do away with hand signs.

Selene never mentioned how she missed the old-fashioned ones sometimes.

"Very funny." Selene huffed. Reaching out to tap the glass of Alice's dive mask lightly.

Alice reacted as expected. "Oh! I've been hit!" Starting to swim in a lazy backflip, arms outstretched, she gave Selene a full view of her form as it drifted up. With a body streamlined like a fish she had no chest to speak of, but years of swimming had gifted her with beautifully shaped legs and a curvy

backside. The latter she was proud to emphasize in a silver-coloured high leg dive suit that left her thighs for all to see.

"You do remember this is *your* field test right." Selene wrapped her fingers around the shot line as her friend spun end over end in the water nearby. "...also aren't you cold in that?"

"*Our* field test." Alice corrected, as she finished her display and joined her. "And you do remember that anything can be science if you just record the results, right?" Tapping Selene's dive watch pointedly before kicking and slipping away again. "And no. Your admiring gaze is all the warmth I need"

Selene suddenly decided that her dive watch was urgently needing her attention as she tried to hide her blush.

"The results are being recorded, so why not cut loose a little?" Alice swivelled and spun off into another display of underwater acrobatics.

Selene sighed, but could not deny she was correct. The test for the new air mixture had started the moment they reached the desired depth, and aside from that all they needed was to spend time there and then resurface.

"Because the test subjects are *us* in case it isn't obvious." Selene let go of the shot line and kicked out to her partner who had resumed an upside-down pose to watch a school of brightly coloured fish swim by. Putting a firm hand on the cavorting diver's shoulder to spin her around, the two looked face to face.

"...and we *are* testing a new breathing mixture, which means keeping a steady pace and a controlled breathing rhythm is important. Swimming around carelessly means you are just sucking in more and...AH!" Selene gasped as Alice swung her hands down and grabbed her chest roughly.

"Maybe *you* need to in order to keep these big buoys of yours filled but I have no such weight" She giggled as Selene swatted her hands away. "It's scientific fact that smaller bodies consume less air to operate, and I have **nothing** on your curves."

Selene felt her face flush in embarrassment. "...I do more deskwork than you! And the past few months have been hard to find time to exercise!" If Alice was a fish, Selene was a galleon. Large, curvy, and far from athletic. It was true she had put on a few in the past year. Months of slaving away in a lab did her diet no favours as she binged on whatever snack was available to keep her energy up. She was highly conscious of her figure, and decided on wearing a standard black dive suit that clad her from neck to toe.

Realizing she was getting caught in her partner's rhythm she took another deep breath and forced herself to settle down as Alice slowly spun herself upright before her.

"Oh, don't be too embarrassed. I'm actually a little jealous of your figure. It's like everything you eat goes into your boobs. All mine goes south, but on a serious note."

Lining up her fingers with her partners lips Alice pressed them gently on the glass. "I want to add I also trust your numbers with my life. This test will go great, we will get our approval and our names will be stamped on diving history" Selene all but stared at the hand gesture for a kiss before Alice withdrew them to cross them behind her back expectantly. "Anyway! When are you going to ask me *why* I requested our outing to be here of all places and not a boring old dive pool in Europe?"

Selene shook her head to finally regain her focus to resemble herself again. "...I *was* fairly curious, yes."

Alice spun effortlessly in the water to face away once more. "Well, aside from wanting to ensure we are absolutely alone together with no outside admirers, I have found the perfect conditions for a test area, and I have a surprise to show you..." She started swimming away towards the underwater shelf without adding anything further.

Selene kicked off and followed behind quietly. Her mind still a little jumbled from the bout of emotions before. Alice always knew how to push her buttons in a way to push her out of her scholarly mental state and into a fog of blissful confusion. Many evenings of mind-numbing research were halted by teasing words followed by mischievous fingers. Selene was convinced the woman knew precisely when her mind was most vulnerable and delighted in the act of making it stumble over itself as it switched from scholarly pursuits to hormonal abandon with all the grace of a penguin trying to walk down a flight of stairs.

She loved her all the more for it.

As the sheer rock face loomed steadily closer Selene glanced back to make note of the shot-line. Its bright yellow coloured rope was faint in the short distance, but importantly the lights around the backup air tanks shone through the gloom. A reassurance in deep dive conditions, Selene decided to keep their mixtures the world standard in the case of emergency. Her attention was brought back to what was in front of her when a similar man-made light shone ahead. Alice looked back at her and smiled.

"We're here!"

The source of the light turned out to be a thin light stick wedged into the rocks surrounding an almost completely circular crevasse cut into the immense wall of stone.

"An underwater cave? *This* is your test site? Alice we aren't equipped! *I'm* not even certified for cave dives yet. We need more lights and..."

"Won't need them." Alice tapped the light marker before thumping her chest. "And *I'm* a certified instructor"

"Not to mention a map to..."

"Path is already mapped and lined"

"Plus, all the risks in *addition* to this test...also when did you get the time to do all that?"

Alice shrugged. "I pulled a favour to a diving instructor I know. But *trust* me, it's all taken care of and there will be no extra risk to our little outing here. We aren't going to be wandering some sunken labyrinth for kilometres. It is a short swim down and a bit of a longer one up, but the surprise will be worth it!"

Selene stared at the opening as her thoughts ran about her head. The mouth was only large enough to allow them to entry one by one. She had little experience in cave dives and the thought of the narrow paths squeezing in around her caused a knot to form in her stomach. But Alice's brightly lit smiling visage and a little bit of curiosity tipped her judgement over the precipice.

"Okay...okay I'll do it."

Alice let out a whoop of happiness and beckoned her over. Swimming closer to look in Selene noticed a thin yellow line zig-zagging its way down. The winding descent was marked by several other glowing sticks intermittently placed throughout the cavern like a highway tunnel. The cave was positively glowing.

"Your friend must have been busy...what favour did you do for him?"

Alice tugged the guideline experimentally. "Oh, just nudged a few things here and there to get him a date with Grace in biology."

Selene swam over to where the guideline was tied to an outcropping of stone. Pulling it tightly to lessen the knot in her own stomach about the coming venture. Before she could voice anymore concerns however Alice had already angled herself and slipped through the opening in one smooth motion. She could only sigh once more and follow behind. As she passed the cave mouth, she was relieved to note the space widened slightly as the smooth tube circled downward in a lazy incline. Silt and the remains of invertebrates settled in nooks and crannies along the bottom. Small fish zipped quickly into hidden burrows and small holes along the walls as they approached.

Selene was engrossed in examining all the details when she suddenly snapped to attention having noticed Alice looking back at her, smiling. Keeping herself quiet to let the sights and sounds of their serene little adventure stand out as they continued to swim further down. Selene returned the smile.

"*Maybe this won't be so bad*", she thought to herself.

Until a wiggling, grasping sensation brushed up against her chest.

"Eek!" Selene recoiled as she kicked up a dust of silt in surprise as hundreds of white wiggling tendrils all shrank back, seemingly as surprised as she was. As the sand settled a mass of sea anemones stretched out before her along the floor, ceiling, and walls of the cavern; all waved their long thin tentacles at her in expectation.

"Heeheehee!"

Alice's laughter flowed through the radio as Selene struggled to find a position in the water where she felt safe from the array of flower-like sea creatures. Unfortunately, the enclosed nature of their surroundings prevented her from getting out of reach of them all as they brushed up and feebly grasped their floundering prey.

"Alice! ALICE!! S-STOP LAUGHING. Ahhh!"

Alice had turned around to watch the spectacle. Giggling uncontrollably as her own body was covered in the exploring tendrils. Her body settled on the bed of the cavern easily within their reach. "I...HeHEE...don't see a-AHAHA.. p-problem?" she chimed through bouts of laughter.

Selene finally found a position free of their touch. "A-Aren't they venomous?"

Alice pushed off of her makeshift bed and freed herself of the anemones curious tentacles. "Only if you are something they can eat. Though it doesn't stop them getting touchy feely even if are far bigger than their usual diet." Alice threaded her fingers through a mass, smiling like a child playing with a toy. "They kinda tickle a little bit don't they?"

Staring at the colony Selene didn't share her friend's nonchalant view of the sea life. "There's not going to be more of them ahead is there?"

“There’s a bit more of them ahead I was told! But only until the route goes up. We can keep out of reach if we stick to the middle” Alice spun around and continued onward. Selene followed behind a little more closely. Her gaze firmly on her partners shapely rear as she followed the safest route.

Sure enough, the writhing mass ceased as soon as a lip became visible. Her view of Alice vanishing momentarily as their lined path shot upward into a straight ascent.

****Pipipipipipip****

Selene jolted as her watch sounded out. Righting herself in the water to stop her forward momentum she squinted at the display.

“200 feet...” She had set the watch to warn her about passing the toxicity depth for oxygen. Suddenly reminded again that they were in the middle of a field-test her mind was yanked back to hours of calculations. Their mixture was intended for well below this level, but that was in lab conditions. Pressing a button to cycle the display to check their breath readings for anything unusual she felt a pang of anxiety. The watch shone blank as an error message slid across it’s surface.

-UNABLE TO CONNECT-

“Selene?”

Alice hovered above her. Her face not visible past the shining light of her mask at the angle, but the tone of voice sounded concerned.

“...Nothing! J-just checking the time. Sort of lost myself a bit back there.” Selene kicked off the bottom in a small cloud of silt as she started upward. Alice nodded and resumed swimming. Staying just ahead of her with a finger twirling the guideline idly.

Alice chimed in as the cave became noticeably darker. “Keep a hold of the line by the by. My helper said there wasn’t a good spot to anchor a light up this tube. Too smooth. It’ll get black around the middle...but it’s okay! Just swim straight up towards the light ahead.”

Selene’s felt a knot in her chest. They didn’t pack any lights on themselves, as standard with cave dives. Things *could* go wrong and then what? They’d be left stranded with no way out but touch and the limited illumination of their masks with their backup air tanks sitting outside in the deep!

These thoughts and more spun around her head in a vortex. As the shadows grew around her, she imagined the walls pressing in tightly.

“Keep calm at all times in dives. Breathing is your lifeline underwater.” Her dive instructor’s lessons echoed in her head. Holding the guideline tighter between her fingers she breathed in slowly and deeply. Feeling her legs move through the water she concentrated on moving at a steady, controlled pace. Focusing on the sound of her scuba gear alone to remind herself of who was in control.

****Hisssss..****

Breathing out she felt a little calmed mentally, but the tightening in her chest didn’t subside. Concluding the darkness around her was the cause she focused on the light ahead as Alice told her while maintaining her breathing.

****Hisssss.....Hisssss****

Deciding that listening to the sound of her own breath wasn't helping Selene forced herself to talk. "I...I hope that our data recording is being picked up in here. My watch said we aren't connected..."

"Mhm. Yeah! Me too..." Alice replied. Her voice came off distracted.

"When did you find this place?"

"While I was on holiday."

Alice being uncharacteristically short in her replies only put Selene further on edge. Focusing once more on her breathing.

****Hissssssssss.....Hissssssssss****

The tight sensation only worsened. But past the shadow of Alice above the light grew closer steadily. They were nearly there.

"I'm going to go ahead a bit!" To her surprise Alice suddenly accelerated. Her flippers kicking furiously as she shot up the cavern.

Selene pursed her lips as she struggled to keep herself following suite and swimming faster to escape the gloom. "Alice? Why? What's"

Alice's voice shot through the radio. Her voice halting from her effort to accelerate. "Don't worry! I just want to be sure everything is ready!"

Selene couldn't help but worry. "For the surprise? Look I'm sure it's wonderful but remember to keep yourself calm and..."

"I know! I know...I'm just...ohhhhh I can barely hold it in!" Her form zipped over the edge of the lit-hole above and vanished from sight. Selene could only imagine what surprise had her friend acting so strange in such circumstances. Taking a deep breath to steady her nerves as the light neared, she readied herself for whatever comes.

****HIIIIIIIIIISSSSSSSS....creeeeeak****

Selene jerked in surprise as an unexpected noise invaded her ears. Reaching back to feel her diving apparatus she didn't note anything peculiar. Looking up towards the light once more she scanned the water for any tell-tale unaccounted bubbles indicating a leak, but nothing was apparent. Further mulling over the possibilities ended abruptly as she finally crested the opening and the sight took her in.

A massive gallery of white rock stretched out in all directions around her. Crystalline overhangs glittered overhead in an array of colours as dozens of light sticks dotted the surroundings like an underwater party.

"A gypsum cave..."

"And that's not all"

Alice hovered in the water above a spectacular crown of the pale white crystals. Her hands clasped in front of her holding a small open box. A ring glittered faintly from it's confines. Resting on a bed of sand below her however was a set of lights strewn about to form brightly coloured letters.

MARRY ME

Once Selene registered the view she gasped in a mix of astonishment and surprise. Though not because of the message alone.

Alice had a chest.

Shadowed from in between Alice's arms, forcing themselves out of the tight swimsuit, was a pair of breasts adding curvature to what was normally a flat surface.

Alice shimmied in the water. Nervousness and her quick ascent to apparently check if her display was fine had her face flush behind her mask as she tried to catch her breath. "...Well...say something."

Selene's mind was too overwhelmed by all the information to give a reply. A mix of confusion and fascination, along with a new emotion as her eyes glazed over the message, added to the mess; assaulting her analytical mind in a whirlpool of emotions.

As she struggled to process it all, her partners new 'developments' shifted in the light. It was no illusion of the sea. As Alice's chest heaved in and out it kept swelling bigger little by little. The shadows stretching beneath her growth.

The situation finally sinking into her muddled head Selene sucked in a breath in alarm.

HiiiiiiiSSSSSS...creeeeeak...

The foreboding noise returned. Realizing her chance to see for herself what the cause was in the brightly lit surroundings she glances down. Examining her body for the first time since the dive began her eyes widened. Her swimsuit bulged out noticeably further from her body. The spandex continuing to stretch as the same change in Alice took hold in her own.

HHiiisssssssss.....

As the rushing sound of air began to subside and the growth slowed. Selene finally managed to force a sound out.

"Something is wrong!"

Alice flinched in surprise. A look of confusion crossed her lit features and her grip on the box between her hands tightened. She swivelled in the water as she struggled to find her own voice.

"W-wrong? ...Ahhh...is it the cave? Or...or your watch?" She glanced up at the light sticks dotting the ceiling. "Oh...i-if you are worried about having to carry all these back don't worry, my friend will..."

Selene stared at her. "Alice! You. Have. *TITS!*"

As if on cue Alice's growth stretched out enough to touched the skin on her bare arms. Her hands still clasped on the precious box she looked down for seemingly the first time herself. Eyes widening as her chest continued to balloon out from underneath her swimsuit, her arms squeezing it all together.

"O-oh...those are...new?" she stammered.

"You *think?!!*" Selene shouted as she swam over to look at her closely.

Alice reached a hand up to grope one of her breasts. Gasping in a mix of realization and arousal as the reality of her new chest dawned on her.

"I have tits?!" She shouted into the radio, causing Selene to wince. Bringing up both hands now, one still holding the box, to press into them. She let out a soft moan of pleasure as she explored herself.

"AH!" Her eyes widening further as another quirk surge of growth pushed into her wandering fingers. "T-they are...how? Why?!"

Watching the process unfold in front of her Selene's mind raced. Searching desperately for any known explanation of what was occurring and finding none. Sensing the anxiety creeping into the edge of her thoughts she forced herself into her exercises again. Sucking in a deep breath to...

HiiiiiiiiiiSSSSSS

The noise returned louder than before now. Selene felt her swimsuit start to tighten as her chest loomed outward. The material visibly starting to thin as it stretched from the excess flesh forming underneath it. As the hissing finally subsided Selene came to a dreaded realization.

"It's the air! *OUR AIR!*"

Hands still wrapped around her own assets; Alice stammered. "Our air? H-how?! This...this never came up in tests...AH!". Her own growth had slowed but not stopped completely. Her now volleyball sized chest steadily becoming more visible from within the stretched material. The silver material of her swimsuit becoming transparent as it struggled to contain a body it wasn't designed for.

She squirmed in the water as she felt the nylon rise and sink into every nook it could find. "How is this even possible. W-what are we filling with?!"

"I...I don't know. I don't know! But whatever the cause is, we need to get out of this cave *now.*" Selene spun in the water and started swimming downward, grasping the guideline firmly between her fingers. Alice soon swam up beside her. Her new bust already surpassing Selene's own in size and only getting larger by the moment. The panic in her face plainly visible.

Seeing her usual bubbly visage twisted in fear instilled an urge for Selene to kick faster.

Hissss...CreeeeeeeeaaAAAK

Selene's heart sank down to her stomach as felt her chest swell faster in response. Forcing back the reaction to gasp as another realization set in.

"Wait..Wait wait WAIT!!" Selene forced herself to slow down. Reaching out to grab Alice beside her to slow her own descent.

"Selene?! What is it?"

"We have to do this...calmly"

"But!"

"I know...but think, okay? Swimming faster means we need more air...and the more we breathe..." Selene motioned to her own chest. Alice pursed her lips and nodded slowly. "Slow...and steady."

Releasing her friend Selene gave a nervous smile and gave the hand signal to 'follow me' as she headed down. Her mind racing in possibilities. Doubtless it was the mixture's fault, but she couldn't think of a possible explanation as to why every breath was swelling their breasts like two emergency life rafts. Tests in the lab's diving facility showed no sign of side effects.

hissssssssssss

As Selene looked down the shaft the lit bottom of the tube seemed miles away as the faint hissing sounded out in her ears...then it dawned on her.

"Alice...what was the depth of the dive facility?" Selene's asked, her mind forcing her to find the answer.

"Huh? Wha...Ah...185 metres." Alice's voice shuddered on the radio.

Selene noted they never passed the 200-metre mark in testing. Her watch blaring a warning at her earlier all but cemented a conclusion in her head. Something in the mixture changed when they passed that depth. But what?

"An oxygen reaction? Is the nitrogen breaking down? Did the whole mixture change just by going that deep?!" She pondered as she tried to form some kind of hypothesis. *"Please don't be the helium..."*

Swimming in as slow a motion as they could manage while trying and failing to ignore the sensation of their swimsuits tightening around them. They passed into the darkened section in forced silence. As the shadows grew around them Selene took the moment to think back to her own lone foray into the darkness earlier, as she tried to stimmy her thoughts in a bubble of cold logic. She grasped at any sort of reasonable explanation she could think of for their predicament. But could only come upon the ridiculous.

She bit her lip as, bit by bit, their chests swelled like two pairs of balloons plugged into an air compressor. Selene thanking her judgement that the growth had slowed considerably with their measured pace. Much to her relief they finally emerged into light once more. The lip of the turn becoming tantalisingly close.

Strrrrrrrrrrch

"S-Selene..."

"Let's try not to talk...we are nearly to the bottom"

CreeeeeeeEEEAk

"Nngh...SELENE!"

Her friend's troubled voice over the radio forced Selene to look away from the warmly lit surface below and check behind her. Grasping onto the side of a cavern like a rock-climber about to fall upwards, Alice clung precariously to a stone outcrop. The light from ahead shone off her silverly suit as it stretched out to contain two basketball sized tits.

Selene's eyes widened as she stared. *"Why is she so big?!"* Alice was only just past her size when they started the descent.

"I...can't...swim down...NNGAAH"

Selene barely had time to register the moment before the two mounds trembled and surged larger. The sudden gush of air caught Alice by surprise and her handhold slipped as her chest bounced her off the side of the cavern.

Alice's voice screamed into the radio as an invisible upwards force started to take hold and yank her back to the top. Her hands flailing. Desperate to find another handhold on the smooth surface. "Ah! AHHH! SELEEEENE!"

Summoning agility and speed she never knew she could muster even under normal circumstances, Selene whirled in the water and shifted into a full mermaid style kick. Hand outstretched desperately as she saw her friend accelerate back away from her.

"HAND! GIVE ME YOUR HAND!" Selene shouted.

Alice ceased her panicked scrabbling and reached out as far as she could. A perilous second stretched out before their eyes as their hands came together and locked tight. Selene grunted as the inertia took hold and she found herself being pulled upward along with her. Thinking quickly, she reached out to her side for the only firm thing she knew would be there. Her fingers wrapped around the bright guideline strung to the side of the cavern and prayed to whatever God of the deep would listen as she felt the loose rope move with them for a moment before snapping taut.



The two divers hung there suspended in the water like a child's balloon tethered to a string. As Alice reached out and grabbed the line herself Selene stared at her in awe. In the span of a few minutes of swimming in darkness Alice's figure had swelled several inches further. Her breasts straining the nylon of her suit to the point it was just a thin film encompassing her chest.

"Alice...how...you need to control your..."

Alice's sobbing cut her off. "I'm sorry Selene...this is... all my fault."

The chaotic vortex of emotions from love and nervousness to dread and panic had taken their toll during their swim down. Controlling her breath was far from her mind. Tears dotted the glass panel of her mask as Alice cried uncontrollably.

"I just *had* to try a proposal...during an experiment..." another racking bout of sobs overtook her. "It was...so beautiful...in my head...now this..."

Hiss....hisssssss...ccrrrrreeeeeeAK

Alarm bells sounded in Selene's mind as she watched her friend's chest lurch outward with every halting breath.

"Alice...i-it's okay..."

Alice all but shouted back into the radio. "IT'S NOT OKAY...LOOK AT US".

HisssssSSSSSSS....ccrreeEEEAAAAAK

The sound of air and straining nylon grew louder in the depths. The silver swimsuit groaned in protest as it neared its limit from the mounds of flesh pressing underneath. Several tears ran across its surface. Her chest filling every gap as it tried to escape into the sea.

"I...I know but we need to..." Selene urged.

CRREEEEAK!

"This was meant to be perfect. You must hate me now!! You should just..."

"ALICE!"

Alice stiffened in surprise. In their entire relationship Selene had never once raised her voice, much less shout. Always quiet and controlled, she was Alice's anchor in the most emotional times. It was something she admired deeply.

Selene was surprised at her own sudden outburst, but her heart had overwhelmed the cold mutterings of her mind about the current circumstances and sank the thoughts into the depths of the sea.

"Alice, it'll be okay. We will both get out of this."

"But..." Alice whimpered.

Selene cut her off again. "No buts! I still don't know what is going on exactly, but I have a good idea about it, and I need my cheery *partner for life* to keep me from focusing too much on the finer details...okay?"

It took a few moments for the words to sink in before Alice's eyes widened. The telltale rising of her chest warned of the gasp to be...

"AH!" Selene shouted as she pointed a finger imperiously at her love's mask in warning. However, it was all too late as the intake of air rushed in. Alice's breasts rumbled and grew...

CRREEEEEEAAAAAK...BWOOMPH!

Her breasts burst free of their confines in an explosive mess of silver tatters. Wobbling in the current like two air-filled beachballs forced underneath the water. Her nipples sticking taut as the sudden rush of cold set in. Much to Selene's surprise a small box tumbled free of the immense cleavage.

"Eek!" Alice yelped as she struggled to reach for it while keeping her grip on the guideline.

The box fell into Selene's outstretched fingers.

"Y-you mean that...a-about that part?" Alice stammered. Her voice still trembling from the outburst earlier.

Without a word Selene opened the box to look upon the shining white engagement ring and without further comment picked it out and slipped it over her finger. Holding it up for her partner to see.

"Yes. We can redo the gifting properly when..."

HissSSS...Sttrch

Selene shuddered as the backlash from her heated exchange came back to fill her. Her swimsuit protested as her chest fought against its black nylon prison.

"...when we aren't becoming the next breakthrough in pool toys, okay?"

Alice nodded. A face of sheer focus overcoming her features as she became determined to see the hopeful future ahead of her. Gripping the guideline she started pulling herself towards the bottom. Selene swam alongside her in case of another slip as they swam downward.

"So, what do you think is causing this?"

"When we passed below 200 metres the chemical composition of the mixture changed, somehow?" Selene shifted uncomfortably as her suit started to squeeze some sensitive areas. "It's just hypothesising right now. But, now I know we are becoming more buoyant now too."

"O-oh" Alice murmured. The sting of knowing she was the reason why still fresh, "but how is it blowing us up?"

"I have NO idea...but I'll be happy to find out when we are back in the lab, dry, and not swelling up in a confined space."

As the two divers passed over the lip of the shaft Selene felt a bit confident, even hopeful about their escape from the predicament, until she was reminded about what waited ahead of them.

****PIPIPIPIPIP****

The dive watch reminded them of its existence as it blared helpfully. The 200-metre mark passed once again.

"Ah...Okay, here we are again" Selene sighed mentally.

The wiggling, grasping maw of anemones stretched out once more before the two. As a faint current swept down across them Selene saw a sea of bright white smooth tentacles sway out towards them in silent greeting to their guests.

"T-this is fine. Harmless to humans, right?" She glanced at Alice who was now upside down above her. Staring ahead with hands planted on the rough ceiling to keep her bloated chest from its desire to sit on the top of the cavern. Sensing her gaze, she tilted her head 'up' to lock eyes

"Y-yeah, harmless...though...they tickle"

Selene pursed her lips.

"I...I'll try not to laugh." Alice gave a nervous smile.

All too aware of how impossible that was Selene groaned inwardly. Alice was sensitive to tickling enough at the best at times, but with no protection and her weak points being blown up to a far larger target was not going to help. With no other options and her own groaning swimsuit reminding her of the press for time, there was no choice.

Selene swam up to her partner. "I'd...rather not risk it. My buoyancy is still okay, so I'll act as your anchor and we'll swim through together." Alice couldn't help but wiggle in pleasure as two arms wrapped around her exposed midriff from behind.

"Will to thank the vending machines back at the lab after this." Selene let out a half hearted laugh before catching herself.

Hiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiii

"You are always my anchor" Alice quipped, her personality regaining some of it's old self, before feeling Selene's own two tits squish against her lower back. She couldn't help but blush as the volleyball sized mounds rubbed her with every motion of Selene shifting her body in the water. This close she could feel a slight vibration in them as they gradually filled bit by bit with air.

"Ready? Let's go." Alice felt gravity affect her once more as her hands lifted off the ceiling. Selene letting her weight pull her down gradually so they sat in the centre of the cave and pushed forward into the awaiting mass of invertebrates.

It wasn't long before the two divers were completely surrounded by waving, curious tentacles. Alice watched nervously as her inflated breasts came close enough for the blind creatures to sense the presence of *something* in their territory. The long feelers following their movements as they loomed overhead, but thankfully out of reach.

Selene kept her eyes forward. Scanning for every curve and drop in the cavern to try and guide her blimped friend safely through. Trying hard not to be distracted as her arms came into contact with the bouncing of her friends' inflated assets as they shifted in the currents. It was like holding onto a balloon doll.

"Uh, Selene. Getting a bit close up here..." Alice shivered as one white tentacle brushed up against her skin. Startled, Selene exhaled all the air she had in her in an attempt to let her weight bring them down. Her eyes widened when they kept on level. Going straight even with no air in her lungs.

She couldn't sink anymore.

"I can't bring us down? Alice, I can't bring us down!" Their simple plan washed away by the sudden revelation brought in a new wave of panic as the mass of feelers reached up ahead of them. As a group of the white threads brushed up against their curious visitors Alice shuddered, then tensed. She snorted as she fought the feeling building up rapidly inside her, and ultimately lost to.

"AHAhahahaAHAHAH!" Alice's laughter rang through the radio. A normally joyful thing to listen to, but to Selene it was a sound of dread.

HiisssSSSSSSSSSSSSSS

The hissing sound of air filling her friend's chest returned. Alice convulsed with laughter as tangle upon tangle of tentacles groped and slid across her exposed breasts. Their enlarged size only making them more sensitive to their touch as they forced bouts of giggling, snorting mirth from their victim.

HIIIIIIIIIISSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSS...

Alice's chest ballooned out of control. After every burst of laughter their size surged forth in a pulsing, hissing burst of pressure, which allowed more anemones to reach and add to their tickling curiosity. She was helpless.

Selene's eyes widened as she could see the breasts even from her position hanging onto her back.

"Alice...Alice! You're getting too big. ALICE!"

Selene threw all training and caution to the wind. Deciding that getting out of reach of their wiggling embrace was more important now than anything she took the deepest breath she could manage and kicked her legs hard.

PHISSSSSSSSSSSSSH!

Instantly she felt her own breasts begin to fill in mirror to her partner. Her swimsuit enclosed around her like a straight-jacket as the material surrendered more and more to accommodate her swelling mounds. She wrapped her arms around tighter as she felt her chest begin to push her away. Her chest spilling out to the sides of Alice's back as they squished down.

HIIIIIISSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSS

Selene gritted her teeth as the sound grew louder in her ears. Swimming was already difficult holding onto one underwater blimp of a woman haplessly rising to plunge into the mass of tentacles, but as her tits filled, she felt the pull upwards grow exponentially.

HiSSSSSSSSSSSSSS...RRRRRRRRRRRIIP

"AHAHAHA..S..Selene?! A-are you...AHAHA...Okay?!" Alice cried out between fits.

A new sound of tearing nylon added to the cacophony of swelling balloons. Her suit had reached its limit. Tears formed up and down the sides where her tit-flesh pressed out. Every rip eagerly filled by her chest like an entity desperate to break out of its prison.

HISSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSS

"J-just..my suit Alice. All okay down here..hah...we are nearly there!" Selene panted.

Pushing thoughts of modesty back in her mind with the rest of the superfluous things she was ignoring at the present, Selene continued to kick hard. The end of the tickle torture in sight as the cavern curved up and away from the anemone horde. Every motion of her flippers bringing them ever closer to sanctity.

HISSSSSSSSSSS...CREEEEEEAAAAAAK.

Her legs burned in protest to the effort. But still she kicked.

HIIIIIIIISSSSSSSS.

GRROOOOOOAN!

“We are...hah...here!” Selene shouted in triumph as they finally passed the threshold. The cave curved up and away from the tickle hell behind them. Her feeling of relief was short however.

HISSSSSSSSSSSSSSCRREEEEEEEEEEAK...BWOOMP!

“Gah!” Selene cried as a surge finally pushed her off Alice’s back. Bouncing her away like someone smacking two balls together. Blowing out the sides like a confetti cannon Selene burst out of her dive suit. What shreds remained that did not sink down to the bottom adorned her beachball sized tits like decorations.

Still panting from her exertion, the two balloons continued to swell. The rounding mass of skin in front of her bringing Selene no small amount of curiosity as to the how and why. The faint sense of pressure building in her chest gave some cause for concern, but as she felt the buoyancy take hold, she felt some relief. Happy to let physics take over as her legs screamed at her for the effort forced on them earlier. Rising rapidly in the cavern like a bubble she only had to push herself off the sides occasionally to keep control.

“We...we made it Alice!” Finally looking up from her chest she fought back a gasp from the spectacle.

Alice rose with her. Panting and red-faced from the laughter she stared at her chest in a daze. Her slim body was suspended from two enormous orbs that could double as life rafts each. What struck Selene was not the size however, but the sense of tightness. She watched as an outcropping of stone bounced an overinflated breast off the side like a child batting away a balloon.

GrrroooooOOOOaan.

The ominous sound from earlier punctuated the moment as Alice’s chest rumbled in protest to the overwhelming pressure inside them. Her skin was stretched taut. Resembling overinflated party balloons than breasts, the two round spheres bobbed in the currents.

“A..Alice...t-this is...that is...” Selene stammered.

Alice placed a tentative hand on one swollen boob. Amazed at her own growth to heed the warnings her body was giving. “Y-yeah...I...think I’m just about full...”

“Nearly?! Okay...okay okay...Ah...control your breathing...”

“I am Selene.” Alice replied, surprisingly calmly as she looked at Selene in the eyes.

“Y-you aren’t panicking?”

"I-I want to, you have *no* idea, but seeing your gears turning in that pretty head of yours is helping with that."

Selene could all but stare at her friend's predicament. Pulsing angrily like a pair of blowfish her breasts sent warnings shooting through her head. Could she get any bigger? How much time did they have? Could they escape and reach the backup air tanks, no too far and they can't fight the buoyancy. How long will it take for them to ascend to the surface and into the clean air above the sea?

She is forcing herself to be calm to slow her air intake, but how much longer until her chest could hold no more and pop.

"I...I" Selene stammered. Voice trying to push out something her mind has not quite grasped yet. But before she could continue her mental wrestling match, she was interrupted by her head smacking into a rock.

"Ow! Wha?"

Much to her amazement they had already risen to the exit. The round hole opening into the free waters outside. Far away in the gloom the shot line shone like a far away beacon teasing safety.

Alice's voice rang out over the radio. "Are you okay? I tried to warn you but you were in your own little world again. You were thinking pre-tty hard there"

"N-no, not really." Wincing in pain she rubbed where her head impacted the stone. "We...we are here already. Surprising, it took us minutes to swim down."

An idea struck her harder than any stone.

"Alice. I-I have the semblance of an idea"

"That's good. What do you need me to do love lab-partner!" Whether Alice was forcing her usual cheeriness was beyond Selene's mind as numbers raced through her head, but the familiar confidence helped the decision.

"First problem. Can we somehow fit..." she gestured vaguely at Alice's mass of boob wobbling in the current. "...*that* through the exit?"

Striking a pose as best she could with her chest suspended on the mouth of the cave. "Are you kidding? Remember *I* am the swimming and anatomy specialist of us. You are the numbers, chemicals, and eye-candy gal. I'll slide right through like a slimy sea cucumber"

GrooooOOOOOOOooaan

She winced as her overinflated breasts gave off another muffled rumble in the ocean waters.

"A-and after that?" Alice added. A tinge of nervousness in her voice.

"Get past the first problem and you'll see"

"Okay, but just in case, you'll go first." Alice pointed at Selene imperiously.

"What? No, what if you get stuck?"

"I won't!"

“But...” Selene started to protest before Alice silenced her by pressing her fingers against her partner’s mask.

“I trust your numbers with my life, remember. So, trust me, okay?” Alice’s whispered words over the radio pushed away any further notions of protest.

Both research partners shared a knowing nod as Selene pushed herself off the rocks. Using her buoyancy, she ‘walked’ across the roof on her hands towards the exit. The opening had already challenged her once when she had a bust that *didn’t* make the porn industry jealous.

“You got this, love!” Alice’s voice rang out in encouragement. She had a knack of sensing when doubts started to form in Selene’s mind.

With determination and the warmth in her heart Selene ‘leapt’ into the opening. Kicking off the top of the cave she let buoyancy take hold. As it guided her body upwards, she brought her hands together and pressed her chest tightly. The opening grew closer as she angled her body and, like a circus acrobat jumping through a hoop, slid out of the cave with grace.

Selene didn’t have time to congratulate herself as she spun and lunged at the guideline she had secured at the very start of this perilous expedition. The line snapped taut and she hung suspended from the force of her own chest.

“Woohoo!” Alice’s voice rang out. “You looked beautiful! Now my turn!”

Selene stared at the cave mouth. Anxiety seeping into her thoughts. Not wanting to think of what would happen if Alice wouldn’t be able to fit through.

“You might want to stay...hah... clear...here I go!”

A shadow appeared over the cave mouth momentarily before one over pumped breast pressed over the opening. Skin filling the stone gap entirely like a cork.

GRooOOOOOOOAAannn....crreeeeAAAK

Selene bit her lip as strained noises sounded over the water. Pulling herself over she reached out to attempt to help before the mass of flesh shuddered. Like an enormous bubble being forced out of a ring the breast slowly emerged out of the cave. Slow at first, but growing faster as if sensing newfound freedom in the open expanse.

CRREEEEAAAK Bwoomph!

The breast bounced into the open sea, not long after pulling its owner along with it. Alice’s face held an expression of absolute focus as she placed one arm across the free half of her chest to force it underneath her. Seeing Selene tethered nearby she let out a bright smile as she began to rise. Her expression failing slightly as she the harsh stone rubbed against her bare skin. But slowly and surely her other half began to squeeze through the gap.

“S-see! Ow! Ah! No problem”

HissssSSSSSSSSSSSS

The hissing noise sounded out of her enlarged bosom. Deeper and hollower than before as it echoed within. Alice bit her lip, almost in pleasure, as the pressure inside grew.

“Ah! Hah...okay one problem. I-I had to do a bit of acrobatics to get here. God, this *pressure* is hard to ignore now!”

Selene let go of the line and drifted up to her. Hand outstretched. Alice reached out her own and clasped her partner tightly as Selene swung over from the momentum.

“Lock arms!”

Without further questions the two divers linked their arms together. Adding her buoyancy to Alice’s own.

CrreeeeeAAAAAAAK POP!

The other breast freed itself from its rocky enclosure. Selene’s stomach lurched as momentum took hold. She watched as the cave mouth grew further and further away as the pair started rising gradually to the surface.

“S-so...what is problem two? Ah!”

HiiiiiiiSSSSSSSSSS...GROOOOOOAN.

“UUUNGH!” Alice moaned as her chest rumbled again in protest. Even forcing herself to breathe as little as possible sent her mind reeling from the pressure mounting inside her.

Selene’s voice cut through the noise urgently. “Can you fill your lungs one more time. And then...how long can you hold your breath?”

Alice, sensing her partners intent, looked at her overinflated tits before her and smiled nervously as she rubbed a hand along their taut surface. “A-as long as I need to. But before that...”

“What? Alice we haven’t got the time!”

“Love you!” Her voice rang out happily, and before Selene could reply, she gulped in one last breath. She squirmed as felt the pressure mount inside.

HISSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSS

As the hollow sound reverberated through her chest Selene knew this was her last breath.

HIIISSSS GROOOOOOOOAN POP POP!

Two loud pops startled the two divers as Alice’s nipples puffed out angrily and swelled out. She was full. And without a word Alice reached up and tore her mask from her face. Removing the option for anymore air to enter her body. It was all or nothing now.

Selene watched the mask tumble off the side and fall into the depths. Her partner more at the mercy of time than ever. Taking her resolve she enacted her *semblance* of an idea.

She inhaled.

Sucking in as much air as she could from her mask. Then, after breathing out the air as hard as she could, she inhaled again.

GROOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOAN.

KABLOOOOOOOOSH!

Bright light and air filled their senses as the two divers erupted from the sea. Their momentum catapulting them out of the water like two whales breaching. They fell into the water again with a splash.

Ripping her mask off and throwing it to the side Selene coughed and spluttered as seawater went up her nose. Opening her eyes, she was taken back by the sight. Her chest loomed above her like a small island had decided to sit on her.

It took but a moment for her to process it all before her thoughts moved to her partner. "ALICE!"

"Heeeere!" Alice sang out through the first deep breaths in what seemed like forever. Her own chest forming two enormous buoys bobbing along the waves. Relishing the taste of fresh, non-inflating air she sighed and relaxed. "We...we made it!"

"Y-yeah, we did," Selene replied.

Looking over to her partner with a smile. "You should check your watch"

Taking a moment to register the request she glanced at the device. It blinked helpfully as it relayed a bunch of data back to her, it's connection long since restored. She squinted as the numbers ran through her head before finally arriving at a conclusion.

"The test was a success?!" she shouted, before a wave dumped more seawater into her open mouth.

"Always trust your numbers!" Alice chimed. "Great test, love!"

Selene was once again befuddled by everything. She sighed and flopped her hand back into the water as she stared at the clouds above.

"Great test, love.."

The End.