

# RAIN GIRL

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The rain pattered on the roofs of the skyscrapers and ran down the windows of the shops and cafes. People hurried along the sidewalks, but the bustle did not bother the girl standing in the middle of the sidewalk. The girl's light brown hair cascaded down her back as she gazed up at the falling rain. Passerby, if they bothered to listen, could hear her whispering, "Tell me what you know, rain. Tell me what you know." The rain fell harder, smacking the pedestrians' shoulders and heads as they ran for cover; still the girl stood looking up reflectively, whispering, "Tell me what you know, rain. Tell me what you know." Finally the heavens opened and dumped bucket after bucket of icy water on the city as the earlier rain had promised. Everyone wisely went inside, except for the girl standing in the middle of the sidewalk. Her smile was huge and bright, like an arc of light. Finally the rain stopped, and the sun peeped out from behind the clouds. The girl went home, a dusty, drab apartment, and sank into a hot bath. She smiled as she thought about what the rain told her.