

# Forces

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## Rise and Shine

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**Rise and Shine**  
Jayna Burch

## **Last Dawn from a Balcony**

Emma Tran

**Opening the balcony's door, suddenly getting blasted by the fresh air of the morning, I woke my friend up to enjoy that wonderful scene.**

**The clouds were so soft just like feather pillows.** I felt like there was a whole fairy village hiding in those soft clouds. The sun was starting to rise a little bit, so the sky was still dark. The bottom of the sky was a tiny part of the sun, yet it was so bright, then a masterpiece which I later realized was the connection of the brightness of the sun to the darkness of the sky. At that part, it caused a diffraction, it was neither bright nor dark. It made me feel that the sun had a halo on its head. Above the sun is the ash blue color of the sky; I will never forget the color of the sky that morning, because it was like my feelings and my mind at that time. My soul felt so sad and hurt just like the ash blue color, but my mind was so happy and excited just like the yellow of the sun. And the connection of brightness and the darkness was my thinking at that time. I was confused, nervous, felt like I was lost and would get lost. "Oh, that connection of the brightness and the darkness was so beautiful, but what is that called?" I asked myself. I did not

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know what it was called, like I did not know what I was thinking at that time. Every time I look back to that memory, it hurts but I do not know why. My friend and I rented an apartment from a building in Ho Chi Minh City, and it was surrounded by a street market. Luckily, the apartment faced the east, so we could always see the sunrise. But we never did, we were always too busy with studying and working. That was the first time I enjoyed the sunrise with my friend and probably the last time too. That was the last time I lived with her in this apartment because I would go to the U.S. in two more days. The reason we could wake up that early was we did not sleep. I was just