



#79 *The Genius of Rocks*



There was a fellow in the neighborhood that was a little bit flashy in his manner. We will call him FIRE. He was with AIR, who could shift her disposition and go where the wind blew her.

WATER lived down the road. She could soothe and calm just about any situation. WATER lived with ROCK, who liked waiting for WATER and AIR and FIRE to visit. He liked to be steady so that he could listen to them as they moved about.

One day, FIRE was tearing through the neighborhood making a bit of trouble by starting fires. AIR was swirling around in circles. WATER was ready to put out the fires, but could only be counted on for so much. You see, FIRE kept spreading bad news

and rumors that enflamed the neighbors. And once a worrisome story gets started, it is hard to calm things down. AIR certainly could not stop FIRE, and although WATER could, it seemed that FIRE was pushing its way through the neighborhood like wild, stirring everyone into a rage, so WATER simply could not come quickly enough to put out the conflagrations as fast as they would start.

And so, it was up to ROCK. FIRE and ROCK had a relationship. You see, FIRE could come up with the most disturbing news to incite impetuous action and ROCK just would not budge. The reason they had a good connection was that FIRE had finally found a real friend in ROCK - someone to push against. As hard and as long as FIRE pushed, ROCK remained a shoulder to lean on - and would never push back. In the end, FIRE calmed to a smolder, and the whole neighborhood cooled down.

*THE GENIUS OF ROCKS
IS THAT THEY DO NOT PUSH BACK*