“Wake up. Wake up.”

Margaret swatted randomly at the source of the pesky whisper.  A sharp poke with a finger was enough to cause Margaret’s eyes to shoot open while adrenaline coursed through her veins. Margaret groaned and rolled over to face her little sister. “What?” she whispered loudly in annoyance.

            “I can’t sleep.”

            “Just close your eyes.”

            “That doesn’t work.”

            “Whatdoyou *wan*t? I’m trying to sleep here,” murmured Margaret.

            “Can you play a game with me? Please? I’ll go to sleep after,” begged Alida.

            “What do you want?”

“Shadows!” replied Alida in excitement.

Alida grabbed the flashlight lying next to her and switched it on. The room was illuminated with blue light, and Margaret shielded her eyes as Alida directed the beam on her face purposefully. Unwilling to get out from under her warm blanket and into what felt like the North Pole, Margaret commanded, “Get me a flashlight.”

“No.” Alida stuck out her tongue and blew a raspberry.

“Wanna play or not?”

“Fine! But get it yourself next time.”

Alida got up from the carpet and grabbed another flashlight sitting on the computer desk and tossed it to Margaret. “Here.”

She crawled back under her own covers and made a rabbit. Margaret sandwiched the rabbit between her hands and clapped them together. “Hah!” she exclaimed. “Alligator just ate you!”

Margaret watched as the rabbit hopped out of the alligator’s mouth, then she switched her light off. “Night. Don’t wanna waste batteries,” she yawned.

“We’re not finished,” complained Alida, “and look at my toucan!”

“I didn’t say how long I was going to play with you. Go to sleep. Just close your eyes already.”

Alida grumbled and the rustle of bed sheets could be heard when she put the flashlights back onto the desk and flopped onto her bed. “You’re no fun,” she huffed.

Margaret was about to comment when she heard a snore. “Seriously? How do you fall asleep so fast?”

She closed her eyes and tried to ignore the loud rumbling. It was going to be a *very* long night.