

The Last Time

Sitting there looking at Ace, Sandy, and the others, I couldn't help thinking about the amount of time I have spent getting to know these people. Twelve years of my life! I'm not saying it's a bad thing, anything but. What I am saying is that, you can't learn about someone for twelve years and not look back fondly on the memories without feeling sadness. I am not completely sure why I am sad, but I am. These people have become real to me in a way only people who read comics can understand. I have grown up with them, laughed and cried with them. I talk to other people about them. They were a very big part of my life.

But now, I have to leave them. Venture out into the 'big wide world.' Find my own way, learn new ways to solve problems by myself (with God's help of course). Even though I have mostly just been annoyed at them for living in this perfect fantasy world where the worst thing they can do is think about doing something bad. I now know it was for a reason.

I have just started to realize that we need some form of steadiness in our lives, Ace and friends have perfectly provided that steadiness for us. They have always been there, helping us solve problems, opening up about themselves in a way that shows us we can also open ourselves up to the right people. They have given us a reason to dream and hope that we can also find happiness and true joy if we have faith in God. It's an amazing feeling, and I love and appreciate it.

I know they are not real people, just a fun part of the system. But, if I could tell them something, I would want to tell them 'thank you.' Thank you for being who you are, thank you for making Paces less boring and dull with your horrible jokes and colourful comic strips. Thank you for never telling us what 'really' happened to Baba. Thank you for being consistent in the way you figure out problems, and the way you helped us find ourselves. We learned by reading about your problems, we benefitted so much by watching you as you solved problems. You solved problems together, as a team. That is such an inspiration for me as I meet new people and stretch my wings. I hope to do you proud and to be the best person I can be. In God is our Rock and our Refuge, in who shall we be afraid?

-Chloe Leaf