

I am 19 years old. My eyes flutter open, a white light blinding me. Kina, my spirit animal, was nestled under my arm. I was laying on a bed of tulips, a meandering pathway beside me. All around, there was only one main thing in sight, flowers.

Kina awoke, quickly launching to her feet. She growled, a low defensive tone escaping her. I goggled at her. She was the friendliest fox I knew! A realization seeped through me. Every fox out in the world that I knew were hostile.

"You look lost, fair lady. Allow me to give you a ride," a well-built teen said.

He was wearing an outfit like that of a guard. A dark blue jacket hung around his neck and was tied in the front. He was wearing tan breeches and an ocean blue formal T-shirt with a white tie. I, on the other hand, was wearing a pair of gray leggings and a black top. My top had a few white swirls, but other than that, it was pathetic compared to his get-up.

"I am lost actually. I suddenly woke up, only to find myself here, wherever here is."

"Ah. Then that means you are worthy and pure of heart. Those who get transported here after they're born, are pure good. People like me who are born here are not as much," the lad said.

"I see. Is that beautiful stallion your spirit animal?" I asked.

"Yes, he is. His name's Dalko. My name's Kevin. What's yours?"

"I'm Tara and this is Kina, my spirit animal. She's a fox in case you couldn't already tell."

Hopefully my long, wavy chestnut hair covered the cut on my cheek. The last thing I needed was to seem like a helpless little girl. I gathered up the spilled contents of my bag and shoved them deep into my backpack.

"How do I get on?" I asked Kevin.

"Allow me," he said.

Kevin hopped off Dalko, and lifted me up onto the horse's back. I don't weigh that much for my age, but it seemed like I was a piece of cardboard to him. He attached another pair of stirrups to the saddle and I slipped my feet through them. Kevin used the pair of stirrups behind me, and pushed up, using the momentum to swing his other foot over.

"Should Kina stay on the floor or can she ride on Dalko?" I asked.

"Why don't you let her decide?" he said vaguely.

Kina barked and raised a paw up at me, showing her pleading puppy eyes at the same time. I reached a hand down and she placed her belly on it, dangling, about to fall off. I lifted her up and laid her in front of me on the saddle.

\*\*\*A Few Minutes Later\*\*\*

I looked out to the sided, Kevin clutching the reigns with each hand, one on either side of me. Out in a clearing, I witnessed the incredible, an average commoner was pulling a cart of apples away from the rock in front, while the farmer stood there watching.

"I see you've witnessed a hero around us in action. An average towns person being the hero," Kevin said, noticing my gaze.

"It's amazing. Back in Larda, my home town, everybody only did things for themselves. The only people who helped others were the firefighters, police, and any other truly kind and selfless people," I told him.

"Oh? Were you one of those truly kind and selfless people?" Kevin asked.

"It depends on the type of person. If a really nice person sees me, then they would think I'm not as nice as them. If a mean person sees me, they would think I'm really nice. So, it really depends on who sees me."

We rode along the pathway until a castle made of white marble started forming in the distance. A large river was going around the castle and continued flowing to a waterfall about thirty meters away from the castles edge.

“In case you didn’t know, any girl who gets picked to live here lives in the castle. They are supposed to be chosen by a knight to marry them. I am a knight and so are thirty-six other people,” Kevin said as he hopped off the Dalko. “Every knight gets a notification when a lady gets teleported here. When a knight gets married, they become a guard. Every time I get a notification, I always come to meet the new girl. Just in case, I always carry this.”

Kevin pulled out a red velvet box and kneeled down on one knee. “Will you marry me?” he said.

“Yes! Of course, I will! One question, though, will I be able to visit my family?” I asked, a serious attitude seeping in.

“Once you’re married in this realm, you will be given a key. This key is actually a necklace with a golden ball at the end that has swirls in the color of the person’s choice. This key will allow you to teleport to anywhere you want to, as long as the place is real,” Kevin answered.

“Well, I’m now yours, forever and always.”

I will always be joyful in my heart and my soul from now on. I guess we have to find Kina a husband now to!