

9/10/2021 Prompt: Corn Field and a Flashlight/Lantern; Continued from The Weight of Memory.

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Why am I so tense?

In through the nose, out through the...

My breath catches. The brush of a wing, the kiss of a star. A memory...

Gone.

-LATER-

"C'mon, Karina! It'll be fun," Jasmine shouts from the entrance to the A-Maize-ing Maze.

"But guys," I reply, wringing my hands, "it's closed for the night. What if we get caught?"

"We should split up," Harper suggests. "Race to the middle."

"I don't think that's a good idea." I peer down a dark tunnel. No light from the moon, a massive orange sliver, shines into the depths. "I'll go, but let's stick together."

"Don't be such a scaredy cat!"

"I'm not scared!"

"Prove it!"

My retort is lost on the autumn wind as they bolt into the maze. Flipping on my torch, I start down the last path. Best get this over with.

Left.

I pull my collar up, the still air between the stalks chillier than expected.

Right.

Harper giggles off to my left, basking in our nighttime shenanigans.

Right.

Left.

The straw path, trampled by the day's patrons, glows under my light like the yellow brick road. Would the Emerald City lay at the end?

Left.

"Shoot!"

Darkness engulfs me. I look up, but clouds have obscured the stars. A light flashes ahead. Exhale. They wouldn't leave me behind.

Right.

Hm?

The flame of a lone lantern, a beacon in the center of the maze, is my only hope of escape. Snatching it up, I whirl around.

Daylight?

“Master, she’s here.”

A man. A prisoner. A chessboard.

“Ah, so she is. Take this one away. Karina and I have much to discuss.”

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#PlotTwist #Karina

For the full story, read Kings & Queens and Solar Eclipse. (shortcut “I heart writing” Highlight)

TAG

#flashfictionmagic #flashfictionfriday #flashfiction #cornfield #memoryloss #chessguy #lantern  
#flashlight #torch #momswowrite