

9/17/2021 Prompt: The End (I'm starting with final lines). I decided to sum up the Chess Guy storyline so far, now Owen & Karina. This is #5. See my Highlights for the rest in order.

-OWEN-

The Huntress held me captive, my taut bowstring all but forgotten. Curly raven hair in a loose braid brushed her waist, wisps framing her slender face. Once gentle curves, now hardened muscles were clothed in a shade of cornflower that tricked the eye like an invisibility cloak. Eyes like sunlight through leaves but sharp as an eagle peered down the sight of her crossbow, familiar yet threatening.

"Karina?"

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The night we opened the portal in the lunar eclipse is forever etched in my mind. Karina begged me not to go. I didn't listen. As soon as the Master's men captured me outside of Irrenthall, the dark city, I knew my mistake.

After weeks alone in a dank cell, the Master offered me liberty in exchange for chess. Win one out of three, gain my freedom. He didn't expect to lose, but thanks to my king, he did.

Once released, I sought the portal, but no hint remained on this side. Finding me lost and starved, the Faerie Queen enlisted me into her service as the turmoil between the Faeries and the Master churned the Realm. My skills were needed in the fight...and now, I owed her my life.

We traveled over land and sea, the burden of my mission warring with the weight of my memories. It wasn't fair to keep her waiting. With a word, the Faerie Queen erased Karina's memories of me forever. I punched the bunk in my cabin at thoughts of star footballer Xavier getting a chance at my girl, my Uni sweetheart.

He would be good to her, though, and that had to be enough.

-KARINA-

"Where am I?" I asked the man called Master, knowing I wasn't in Kent anymore.

"Ne'erendi, the Land Beyond the Lights."

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Mwahaha! The opening is from the climax of the *whole story,* so we'll see how #flashfictionmagic treats us!

TAG

#flashfiction #flashfictionfriday #owenandkarina #chessguy #theendprompt #summary #shortfiction