

10/29/2021 Prompt: Hocus Pocus (Owen & Karina 10B)

-KARINA-

“Hocus pocus?” I repeated. “You mean magic?”

“Call it what you like, love. It’s all the same to me.” Rory’s hand rested on his pistol, his dark eyes amused. Quin was a clam, meeting my glance with her characteristic frown.

“If you’re looking for a girlfriend, we’re not interested,” I said. “Best move along.”

His chuckle crashed like a breaker. “I’m not seeking a friend, Karina, but that would be a bonus. Come, I’m no scoundrel.” I snorted, but he cut me off. “It’s not a bad post. My wife would have free rein of the ship, treasure aplenty,” he pointed to himself, “and my fierce loyalty and affection forever.”

Eternity on a ghost ship – er, soul ferry – with Davy Jones’ son? My mouth went Sahara dry. With no help from Quin, I must be my own hero, but how?

I smoothed my Irrenthall-issue cornflower vest, a rectangular lump raising my pulse. Bars on my mobile? Blimey! Now for a little hocus pocus of my own.

“How do you feel about marrying a sorceress?”

Concern flashed before the side of his mouth tipped up. “I’m interested.”

“I’ve got people in here...thousands of them. They tell me everything, spill their secrets.” I tapped on a gossip vlogger, her screeching soprano cutting through the ghostly quiet. “See?”

Horror cloaked Quin and the crew, but Rory held out his gloved hand. “May I?” When he stroked the screen, it didn’t register. “Zephonia? How did you,” my stomach roiled, “find her? I thought I’d lost her forever.”

What are the chances?

“Keep it,” I said, urging the distracted Rory back to his ship. I turned to Quin. “Get us out of here now!”

“But...”

“Wind’s up!” the captain called, my breath returning.

“Brill! We don’t want to be near Rory when the battery dies.”

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Karina still has one foot in the “real” world, so in general, she seems a bit less serious than Owen. I think it’s also her coping mechanism, lol. Does it work? It may fade the longer she is in Ne’erendi.

TAG

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