

11/26/2021 Prompt: Contemplate (Owen & Karina 14)

-KARINA-

“Not another maze.”

The dark corridor of Castle Evertrue loomed before me, lit only by our non-electric torch. Somewhere in the gloom was the Element of Seren.

“Footprints,” Quin whispered, lowering the light. “Male. I’d guess about six feet.”

“A male with six feet?” I tried to imagine this creature as my friend giggled. Can’t see the ranger giggling? You’d be surprised what female bonding can unleash!

“No! Six feet tall.”

“Think it’s the Archer of Larudana?” I asked, remembering the Master’s warning. “Could he have beaten us here?”

“Possible.”

I readied my crossbow, but I knew it was little more than a threat in the confining passage. Quin pulled her dagger.

We kept to the main hallway, getting a feel for the place. Would the Chamber of the Nightingale be obvious or hidden?

A sharp inhale spun me around, my aim true. Not ten feet away was an arrow, a longbow, and a dangerously good-looking bloke. Gulp!

“Karina?”

How did he know my...ahem... “How do you know my name?”

His dark eyes flickered between Quin and me as he contemplated our dilemma. “Friend or foe?”

“That depends,” Quin replied. “Who are you?”

Please be friend, please be... The quizzical twitch of his mouth warred with the concern in his gaze.

“Owen.”

O-yes! But how does he know my name?

“What are you doing here?” he asked, lowering his weapon. On instinct, I did the same.

“Do I know you?”

His jaw clenched. Was that pain...or grief? “No, I suppose not, but I’m a friend. An old friend.”

I shivered, a part of me longing to fly into his arms. Weird.

“We’re seeking the Element of Seren,” I blurted.

Quin groaned at my honesty.

“Dirty rat,” Owen muttered, his face darkening. “Join the club, Huntress.”

“Wait, YOU’RE the Archer?!”

This is the scene from THE END prompt from Karina’s POV with a little more context. Even though there is only one more official FFM prompt this year, I’m going to try to finish this storyline before the year’s out. I feel a bit like a dog let off its leash...scattered but excited!

TAG

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