

12/31/2021 The Finish (Owen & Karina 19)

-OWEN-

“Enough!” Kili’s voice deepened as his moth body transformed. Karina gaped at the old man kneeling by her in the gloom.

“Mr. Charlie?”

Grandad? The Queen roared, propelling the dagger forward, straight toward his heart.

“No!”

As my eyes locked with my great-grandfather’s, my strength returned. The dagger arced down, grazing my trousers. The spell broken, it clattered to the flagstones.

“Remove your gloves, Karina,” Grandad commanded. As soon as her bare skin touched the Element, we exploded in a ball of light.

Charlie beheld his brother, a grey old man, same as he, but glowing with an inner peace thought sacrificed forever.

“Must you leave, Master?” a courtier asked. “Irrenthall is loyal to none but you!”

“I’m no longer the Master,” Alfie replied, patting the young man’s shoulder. “You’re well prepared for the task. Only rule in kindness.”

“Yes, sir.”

Charlie met his gaze with a nod. Time to go home.

Turning to find his grandson and Karina kissing again, he rolled his eyes, but a smile teased his lips up. Youth. His own time in Ne’erendi had blessed him with renewed vigor, and he looked forward to the future.

“I’m game if you are, love,” the pirate said, drawing Charlie’s attention. Rory Jones stood by Quin, hand in hand – something about a dead battery and a rescue... “I’m due my old man a visit, and I must admit I’m intrigued by those ‘smart’ phones. How do they work?”

“She tried to explain it...” Quin shrugged. Charlie chuckled.

“Ready to go?” Alfie asked, eyeing the open portal. “Has the world really changed so much in seventy-five years?”

“It has,” Charlie replied, slapping his brother on the back. “We may not have much time left, but I intend to enjoy every moment.” He cupped the Element in his palm as they passed through side by side. “And if we get bored, there’s always this.”

-

FFM is on break! This is the last episode of Owen & Karina. I hope you enjoyed this story! The rest: my Highlights or my website on The Art of Shorts page (link in bio).

#flashfictionmagic #flashfiction #flashfictionfriday #owenandkarina #ongoingflashfiction #finish #momswhowrite