

The Mirror

Screech! The train came to a sudden halt. We were far from our home. Sandy was crying softly on my shoulder. "Why are they making us leave?" Sandy asked between sobs.

"It's just to keep us safe," I said, holding back tears myself. I had to be strong, Sandy relied on me.

I took Sandy's hand ushering her outside. The cool air felt refreshing on my skin after being on a train for eight long hours. My ginger hair was blowing wildly in the breeze. Then, I heard someone calling my name. "Erin, Erin, where are you, Erin?"

I gripped Sandy's hand tighter until I finally saw my Aunt Margaret walking around aimlessly. "Erin, Sandy oh my gosh I was so worried!"

"Margaret it's fine we're safe," I said in a reassuring voice.

"You may be safe now but not for long" she replied in a hurry, "Now come along we don't have much time."

Sandy and I hopped into her small car watching Margaret intently. We don't see her often because she lives so far away in Willowville. "So, where are we going?" I said trying to break the silence.

"We are going to my house immediately; it isn't safe here." That is when I stopped talking.

When we arrived at Margaret's house, we were stunned since we had never been there before today. It was surrounded by flowers and had a stone walkway to the front door. It was quite small but enchanting. "Welcome to my home," Margaret said as she stepped out of her little blue car. "I think you will be quite happy here."

I stepped into the house and was extremely surprised. It was nothing like I imagined. There was a colorful tile that covered the floor, and it was topped with gorgeous blue carpets. There were stairs that spiraled up elegantly. Margaret walked Sandy and me up the staircase and into an amazing room.

Inside the room were two beautiful beds with light purple pillows and a stunning bedspread. A dresser across the room had memorable pictures of Sandy and I when we were little. "I am exhausted," I said, truly wanting to crawl into my big bed.

I didn't dream at all that night. I hardly slept even though I was exhausted. Something about your first night in a different room makes you uneasy. I looked over at Sandy's bed and she wasn't there. I started to panic but reminded myself to stay calm. Rushing down the stairs, I saw Sandy walking out the front door. "Sandy!" I exclaimed, "What are you doing? Stop!" I must have awakened Margaret from all the shouting because she rushed out in a panic.

"Erin where's Sandy?" she asked in a voice full of worry and panic.

"She just went outside, come on!" We rushed outside to see Sandy walking down the road. "Sandy stop!" I shouted. No response.

I rushed down the street at full speed and grabbed Sandy's skinny arm. "What!" Sandy screamed seeming alarmed to be halfway down the street.

"Are you insane? Why are you walking down the street!" I hissed furiously.

"What... what happened?" Sandy asked tears welling up in her eyes.

"I don't know, I just don't know."

We walked down the road to Margaret who was standing in the front yard. "Sandy I'm glad you're okay. Why don't you go inside and get some rest?" Margaret asked intently.

"Okay," Sandy replied seeming terrified by the strange occurrence.

“Erin, you and I are going to have a little chat.” We walked into the kitchen as Sandy rushed up the spiral staircase. “Sit down,” Margaret said. I obliged. “I haven’t told you the truth about what is happening across the country. I was hoping I wouldn’t have to add more worry to your life, but this is a big deal with Sandy being drawn down the street by Odessa.

“Wait! Being drawn! By Odessa! Who is that?!”

“Odessa is a powerful mystic who uses her magic for evil unlike Sandy, You, and I. She lures innocents to her evil lair and then traps them in a mirror for eternity. Sandy is being drawn, and Odessa won’t stop until she is in that death trap of a mirror.” Suddenly, I heard a bang upstairs.

“Oh no! Margaret said, the window!” Sprinting up the stairs, I expected the worst, and when I burst into our room, it became a reality. Sandy had escaped out the window! “I’m going to find her!” I yelled.

“Erin, not without me. It will be dangerous.”

“Fine, I said, we’re leaving now.” Margaret and I hopped into her car and started driving down the long winding roads of Willowville.

Margaret then broke the silence and said hastily, “Here it is, the forest with Odessa’s lair.” I stared at the emerald green forest, and it looked back at me menacingly. I jumped out of the car and started running through the thick bushy trees searching, searching, searching for Sandy.

“Erin!!” Margaret shouted. I would’ve stopped and waited for her if I knew she wasn’t going to hold me back. I couldn’t risk being slowed down. My sister’s life was on the line, and nothing was stopping me now.

I rushed through the forest, not knowing exactly where I was going. I heard feet rustling behind me. I turned to see if it was Margaret and was tackled to the ground.

I awoke in a dark cave. Spiderwebs covered the ceiling, and I heard talking in another room. I got up to find that I was walking with a limp. Whoever kidnapped me was not being gentle. I peeked into the other room when I heard an evil, menacing voice. "Don't just stand and stare dearie, come in."

I walked into the room and was startled. There was a woman with high cheekbones and long bony arms. *Odessa*, I thought.

"Well, so much for an introduction don't you think?" Odessa asked sarcastically.

"Where's my sister? I know you took her! Where is she!" I screamed no longer able to hold back my anger.

Odessa replied, "All in good time, all in good time."

I was fed up; I couldn't hold back any longer. So, I attacked. I felt my hands burning ice-cold, then the pressure released. I watched Odessa's body suddenly turn blue, and she shivered from the pure cold I shot from my hands. I was tackled, and Odessa's body slowly started turning back to its natural pale shade.

"Ha! You thought you could defeat me?! You are more stupid than you look!"

Odessa's minions felt no sympathy for me because I was immediately held up by my shirt and thrown into the dark terrifying mirror. I was falling into a pit of pure darkness and evil. Its stench was of hate and despair. Suddenly, I saw that I was closer to the ground than I thought, and I hit with a SMACK!

My leg was swollen feeling like it was on fire. I ignored the pain and began searching for Sandy. The mirror was even worse than I had imagined. It was dark, and the only light was

burning fire that was everywhere. There were dragons in the sky circling the land making sure nobody escaped. *Wow Margaret never warned me about this!* I quickened my pace desperately hoping Erin might still be alive! Suddenly, I heard screaming. "Erin! Erin!"

"I looked behind me, and screamed" "Erin, it's me, Sandy!" Standing there, I saw Erin engrossed in flames. Hot fire was only inches from my skin. I shot Sandy with my ice trying to extinguish the flames surrounding her, devouring her!

"Erin, stop!" Sandy screamed. I backed up giving her space. Slowly the flames started to reside.

"Are you okay?" I said.

"Yes fine, now let's find a way out of here!" We immediately dashed to the mirror's entrance. A dragon started following us giving me an idea. "Erin, the dragon is already following us, so we should have it blast a hole through the portal!"

"Are you sure it will work?" Erin asked fearfully.

"We have to try. I will not allow us to live here forever!" I replied. Dashing to the mirror, the dragon started shooting its flames. The dragon directed its head towards the mirror entrance, where I was and shot flames right as I leapt out of the way. There was a small hole in the portal; we could escape! We jumped through the hole which was just big enough to let us through, and stepped out the other side. Odessa was standing there.

I didn't let her speak before I froze her solid. Her minions started running into the room; I froze them too, and Erin and I raced through the door and into the woods where Margaret was waiting with the car running. I hugged Sandy tight, and said to her, "Now we know why we are really here; it is up to us to end Odessa's reign of terror."