

The Jousting Tournament

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Princess Kel's father has announced that a jousting tournament will be held for her hand in marriage. A few days later eight princes arrive in the kingdom. Who will win? Read to find out.

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Chapter 0 - Characters	3
Chapter 1 - The King's Announcement	4
Chapter 2 - Prince Victor	6
Chapter 3 - Prince Pete	7
Chapter 4 - Prince Martin	10
Chapter 5 - The Arranged Marriage and Prince Victor's Page	11
Chapter 6 - Prince Ed	13
Chapter 7 - Spying on Princess Hannah	14
Chapter 8 - Prince Joe	15
Chapter 9 - Prince David	17
Chapter 10 - Prince Jesse	19
Chapter 11 - Prince Kyle	20
Chapter 12 - Childhood Friends	22
Chapter 13 - Part two: The Jousting Tournament Begins	24
Chapter 14 - Round One of the Jousting Tournament	25
Chapter 15 - Round Two of the Jousting Tournament	31
Chapter 16 - Round Three of the Jousting Tournament	34
Chapter 17 - Prince Victor's Evilness	35

Chapter 18 - Prince Pete's Heroics	36
Chapter 19 - Framed	38
Chapter 20 - The Final Match	39

0 - Characters

This story is dedicated to and made with love for my boyfriend. I LOVE YOU KYLE!

Princess Kel

Princess Meghanchan: has one brother(Prince Kyle) Is friends with Princess Kel and in love with Prince Victor's Page

Princess Hannah:Has one brother(Prince Jesse) is friends with Princess Kel and in love with Prince Martin.

Princess Sammy:Friend of Princess Kel, in love with Prince Cookie.(yes, that's right Sammy, you get DC this time.)

Princess Yugachan:Friend of Princess Kel who has come to see her.

Prince Kyle:Prince that comes from Hyrule(lolz). The prince that Princess Kel is in love with. (Prince Cool and AWSOME!)

Prince Pete:Prince from a kingdom that I can't pronounce. (he's Prince Emo Bangs)

Prince Victor:The evil prince in the story who only wants the king's money. (Prince Evil)

Prince Victor's Page:Person that Princess Meghanchan is in love with. (Speed)

Prince Martin:Prince from the kingdom of Germany. (Prince Hottie)

Prince Ed:Prince from(guess where) Alagaesia.(he's Ed Speleers peeps, that's Eragon). (Prince Eragon)

Prince Jesse:Prince from the castle Oblivion in the kingdom of hearts.(lolz)(Prince Roxas)

Prince Joe:Prince from the magic kingdom(disney kingdom lolz). (Prince....um...Prince Crazy?)

Prince Cookie:I really didn't say where he was from. I'm just assuming that you all know that this is David Cook. Oh, and...(Prince Sexy)

1 - The King's Announcement

Chapter 1-1: The King's Announcement

I must say that, for once, I don't know where to start. I guess I should probably start by explaining what occurred before the jousting tournament. Yes, that's it. I suppose that is a very important part of the story. Pardon me for ranting. Now I shall begin my story.

All of this nonsense began on the day my father summoned me and announced that it was high time I got married. He seemed to have this all figured out. It was a plot, practically an arranged marriage in my opinion. He was planning on inviting princes from every far off land he could think of for a jousting tournament. First prize, his daughter's hand in marriage.

I didn't let on that I wasn't crazy about his idea. I had always dreamed of falling in love and an arranged marriage sounded incredibly dull and tragic to me. I was thinking of those things as I watched the workmen prepare for the jousting tournament. Suddenly, a single white dove flew across the sky and landed upon my balcony. When I realized why the dove was there, my heart skipped a beat and I ran up to my room.

As I reached the balcony the dove flew into my room and perched on the table next to my bed. I looked for a moment at the beautiful ribbon tied around its leg. I knew that the thing tied behind the ribbon was much more precious than the ribbon itself. Keeping that in mind I pulled out the note that was tucked behind the ribbon and opened it with the gentlest care.

My dear Princess Kelalailea,

I have decided to participate in your father's jousting tournament. With such an amazing and beautiful prize I suppose I can't afford not to. I will win and then we can finally be together. I can't tell you how many times I have dreamed of that day. There is no need to fear for my love for you will lead me to victory no matter what. I am sitting here impatiently waiting to see your face. I guess I will just have to endure a few more days. Until then...

I am always yours

Prince Kyle

Oh, my sweet Prince Kyle! Not a sweeter or more wonderful boy existed in this world! That is, if he even did exist. I would have to wait until the jousting tournament to find out. Maybe the piece of paper in front of me, the ribbon, and the dove were all figments of my imagination.

Yes, it's true, I was already in love. It's also true that sending those letters back and forth was terribly forbidden. I wanted to at least give love a fighting chance before my father gave me away to the wrong person.

* * * *

A few days later all of the princes arrived. With them came my friends, Princess Meghanchan, Princess Hannah, Princess Yugachan, and Princess Sammy. I was very much looking forward to seeing them again. One thing I was not looking forward to was the ceremony that I would have to sit through that morning.

I slumped down in my chair and barely paid attention to the ceremony. Right at that moment the princes were more interested in pleasing my father than they were pleasing me. No, I was told that I had to introduce myself to each prince individually and on my own time.

After the ceremony I went back to my room to prepare for the long day ahead of me. I didn't so much as groan, though, for I knew that it was the day when I would finally meet my dearest love. For my prince and my prince alone did I dress my best. Then, as soon as I was done dressing, I went out to meet the

princes.

2 - Prince Victor

Chapter 1-2: Prince Victor

I walked out into the garden and found one of the princes there, picking apart a rose. He wasn't very tall but I could tell he was older than I was. He was extremely handsome. His black hair hung down in his emerald eyes and formed a small ponytail in the back. He dressed a bit different. He wore all black and his clothes were quite plain. Just the fact that a few buttons on his shirt were undone made him look unbelievably sexy, though. When he realized that I was there he looked up at me with eyes that seemed a bit too innocent.

"H-h-hello," I stuttered.

"Greetings my dear princess," he said as he rose from his seat. The way he held his head reminded me of a cobra.

"Are you one of the princes?" I had no way of knowing for he wore no crown on his head.

"Indeed I am one of the princes. I am Prince Victor." He bowed slightly, lifted my hand, and kissed it.

(Such things were customary in that time)

"Then it's a pleasure to meet you."

"Ah, the same to you. I suppose it would be necessary for the princess to meet the one she is to marry."

"A bit overconfident, are we?"

"Not in the least. I was only stating the obvious for it is apparent that no prince in this competition, save the one you see before you, had any talent for jousting at all."

"Well, I suppose I will just have to see for myself on that matter." I gathered up my skirt as if I was preparing to leave.

"Wait, does the princess not wish to give her handkerchief to her champion?"

"No, she does not."

I walked off without another word. I was appalled at the rudeness of Prince Victor's tone and words. It also may have been the expression on his face as well. The nerve of him! Who would dare ask for my handkerchief like that?! He could have at least asked for my favor. Even if he had asked for my favor, I wouldn't have given it to him. I had someone else in mind.

I was really hoping that the other princes weren't like Prince Victor was. I prayed that they weren't. Prince Victor was rude and overconfident and he gave me a bad feeling in the pit of my stomach. I wanted a prince who was sweet and loving and made me feel like heaven was nearby. I kept those things in mind as I made my way to find the next prince.

3 - Prince Pete

Chapter 1-3: Prince Pete

As I walked out of the garden I came across another one of the princes. I knew he had to be a prince because he had a crown. Besides that he had black hair that covered one of his eyes and one black eye that was showing. He was wearing a tight, dark red shirt and black pants. This prince also had a few buttons of his shirt undone. (Were all of these princes trying to look sexy?!) I didn't feel quite as intimidated by this prince as I was by Prince Victor.

"Hello there," I said with a smile.

"It's a pleasure to meet your acquaintance, Princess Kel," he smiled and bowed.

I apologize; I don't have the greatest memory. Could you please refresh my memory as to which prince you are?"

"Prince Pete, at your service."

"Oh, it is a pleasure."

"The pleasure is all mine."

Well, I must say that meeting Prince Pete was a great deal more pleasurable than meeting Prince Victor. He was definitely making me blush. I held out my hand and he grabbed it and kissed it. I blushed again. At this point I felt comfortable enough to make conversation with Prince Pete. Maybe we could discuss the topic that I was very curious and a bit worried about. I thought that he and some of the other princes may be able to shed some light on the subject.

"So, what kingdom do you come from?" I asked completely ignoring my passing thought.

"I come from the kingdom of Soligonta," he replied, grinning as my cheeks flushed a light shade of pink.

"Is that far from here?"

"Just a bit. It's two hours by horse."

"Oh, that is a long ride."

"Yes, but it's well worth the ride to see such a beautiful sight."

"Oh?"

"Yes, you are as beautiful as a rose." His words made me blush yet again.

"Wow, that's very sweet of you."

He smiled when he noticed I was blushing again.

"Well, I was told to tell the truth, so I did."

"You're making me blush." I felt my cheeks turn a darker shade of pink.

"I'm sorry."

"There's no need to be sorry. I like it." I giggled as I continued to blush.

Prince Pete was smiling at me. I decided that it was time to bring up the subject I was worried about.

"Prince Pete, I have a few questions. I want to know if the things I've heard from my father about jousting are true," I said hesitantly.

"Fire away," he replied, dismissing my hesitation.

"Do they really kill each other?"

"No, that is, I've never killed anyone."

"Well, I really didn't like the things my father said. They have me the impression that you were killing yourselves for my sake."

"If I do die, it was most definitely a pleasure meeting you."

I let out a long, loud sigh. "I don't want anyone to die. I don't like the idea of people putting their lives

on the line to marry me, a princess whom none of them have ever met. That sounds just horrid to me.”

“Death really isn’t as bad as it sounds.”

“But that hardly seems fair.”

“Yeah, you’re right.”

“So, what did you mean when you said that it isn’t as bad as it sounds?”

“Well, you go to a better place.”

“Yes, that is most definitely true but people shouldn’t have to die for me.”

“If they truly love you, it is an honor.”

“I guess I never really thought of it that way before. Not every prince will love me though.”

He nodded his head. “But that’s why I’m willing to die.”

“If you say so.”

“I must get going.”

“Then I guess I will see you at the jousting tournament. Good luck.”

“Thank you.”

He bowed and departed. Prince Pete was not exactly what I was expecting. I didn’t want to believe that there was a prince, other than Prince Kyle, who could affect me in that way. I didn’t want the remainder of the princes to be like Prince Victor but...I didn’t want them to be like Prince Pete either. That would prove to be a severe problem.

* * * *

Prince Pete was on his way back to his camp when he ran into Prince Victor. Apparently Prince Evil had something he wanted to say to Prince Emo Bangs. HE was just casually leaning against a tree when Prince Emo Bangs walked by.

“Hey you,” he shouted just before Prince Emo Bangs was out of earshot.

He turned around.

“Hey what?” he asked confusedly.

“You’re Prince Pete, right? The one from Soligonta?”

“Yeah.”

“In that case, I have a little proposition for you.”

“What is that?”

“Say we should be paired up some time in the tournament. You wouldn’t have any trouble throwing the match, would you?”

“Sorry, not interested.” He started to walk away but Prince Evil jumped in front of him.

“Wouldn’t you like to know what would be in it for you?”

“Whatever.”

Suddenly Prince Victor grabbed Prince Pete by the collar of his shirt, threw him to the ground, and put his foot on his chest to hold him down.

“If you throw the match, I won’t kill you,” he spat with anger.

“If I loose, I might as well be dead,” Prince Pete replied, not backing down.”

“DO you really want the king’s money that badly?”

“What are you talking about?”

“You know, the only real incentive to win the tournament. The king gives you his daughter too but who really cares about that?”

“You’re a moron.”

“What makes you say that?”

“I’m not going to agree to you’re little proposition.”

“So, be it.”

Prince Evil put his foot back on the ground and Prince Emo Bangs got up and dusted himself off. He

looked at Prince Evil with an angry scowl.

"I am curious to know what you are interested in besides the king's money," Prince Evil said in a tone that implied that he thought Prince Emo Bangs was an idiot.

"Like I said before, you're a moron," he said continuing to scowl at Prince Evil.

Prince Evil scowled at Prince Emo Bangs. He realized that this prince was not going to play his little game and it made him angry. He walked away without saying another word to Prince Pete. He may have walked away this time but he was not about to give up so easily. He would get respect from Prince Pete even if he had to beat it out of him.

* * * *

Prince Victor walked back to his tent where his sister was waiting for him. She wanted to know all about what happened that day. They both knew that they would be in trouble if they didn't come home with the money. Neither of them really cared what happened to me. As a matter of fact, they weren't even royalty. Victor was pretending to be a prince just so he could get my father's money.

"How did it go?" she asked eagerly.

"Well, I didn't make a good impression with the princess but that doesn't really matter."

"Did she look smart?"

"It was difficult to tell but it doesn't matter as long as her father buys into our disguise."

"Did he buy it?"

"Most definitely."

"Then we've got nothing to worry about."

"Not quite." His pleased expression turned to a nasty scowl, "I met all of the princes, save one."

She began to look worried. "So they weren't what we were expecting?"

"Most of them were exactly what we expected. Two of them were not. Prince Martin, Prince Joe, Prince Jesse, Prince Cookie, and Prince Edward all seemed to have no skill and don't seem to be smart enough to suspect me."

"That's only five. Weren't their eight of you?"

"Prince Kyle and Prince Pete are the only flaws in our plan. I didn't actually meet Prince Kyle, but I saw him practicing. He's strong and he has enough skill to easily defeat me in a jousting match."

"Would you like me to eliminate him for you?"

"If at all possible. I have a backup plan though. Prince Pete may also cause a problem. He seems to be nosy and obnoxious. He completely ignored my death threats and may be getting too attached to the princess."

"You shouldn't have any problems with him. Princes like that are often foolishly bold and it leads to their downfall."

"That's not what I'm worried about. He is smart enough to discover our plan and he will spill it to the king."

"We'll find a way to make things work. Prince Pete will be dead before this all ends."

"Now I think I'm starting to understand this. It's just that I can't figure out what we are going to do with the princess after I win the tournament."

"We can dispose of her on our way home."

"Excellent... my dear sister, it appears that our plan is officially foolproof."

4 - Prince Martin

Chapter 1-4: Prince Martin

I continued to walk along and I found someone sitting on a bench, reading a book. I noticed his crown and figured that he must have been a prince. He dressed plain in green and purple and he didn't have any buttons on his shirt undone (yay!) but he sure was hot (prince hottie). I mean like gorgeous indescribable hot. (you'll have to wait for the picture peeps) he closed his book and rose from the bench when he noticed that I was there.

"Hello there. I'm sorry if I startled you. I didn't want to interrupt your reading," I said as I walked up to him.

"Good day milady. You didn't interrupt at all. I had just finished when you walked up," he replied taking a low bow.

"You're one of the princes, aren't you?"

"That is correct milady."

"Oh, which one are you?"

"I am Prince Martin, from Germany." He bowed again.

"It's a pleasure to meet you, Prince Martin." I held out my hand and he kissed it softly.

"It's a pleasure to meet you too."

(I could tell that I was blushing again.) "So, how is Germany?"

"A beautiful place," he smiled softly, "You would love it if you saw it."

"Really?"

"Yeah." He smiled again and nodded his head.

"I'm sure I would love it."

"I hope I can show you some day."

"Oh?"

"Did I say something I shouldn't have? If so, I am very sorry."

"No, not at all." I smiled to reassure him.

"Ah, good." He smiled back.

I liked him. He didn't seem like he was trying to court me and it didn't sound like he wanted my father's money either. I doubted that he was even in the competition for me. I would have to look into that later. I was continuing to seek another second opinion on my father's words.

"Uh, I was just wondering...jousting doesn't kill very often does it?" I asked worriedly.

"Deaths are very rare, nothing to worry about," he said with a smile.

(I realized just then that I was running out of time to meet the other princes.)

"I'm afraid I must take my leave now. It was a pleasure meeting you."

"Goodbye milady, the pleasure was all mine."

5 - The Arranged Marriage and Prince Victor's Page

Chapter 1-5: The Arranged Marriage and Prince Victor's Page

I was walking past the princes' camps and I noticed Princess Meghanchan waking out. I really wanted to talk to her but I really didn't have time. I ran over to talk to her even though I didn't have time. (I had to talk to someone who wasn't one of the princes.) She seemed happy to see me.

"Hey, Princess Meghanchan," I said as I walked up to her.

"Oh, hello Princess Kel; it's so nice to see you again," she said happily.

"Can you believe all this nonsense?"

"Not at all. Your father doesn't know you, Princess Kel."

"I always said I wanted to marry someone I love."

"How are you going to get out of this?"

"There's only one way. I have fallen in love with one of the princes who has come for the jousting tournament. He and I have been sending letters back and forth for about a year now."

She gasped. "But isn't that forbidden?!"

"Shhh! Yes, I know it's forbidden. That's why I need you to keep this a secret."

"Alright, you can trust me." She did a little salute.

"I know I can." I laughed at her for saluting.

"So, who's the lucky guy?"

"He's your brother." She sighed, "That doesn't surprise me."

"Why is that?"

"He's been acting strange lately."

"Has he mentioned my name?"

"No, not yet. Princess Kel, you're lucky you get to choose."

"What makes you say that?"

"My parents have set me up with an arranged marriage to Prince Martin."

Immediately my mind began to work. It was hard for me, one who believes in marrying someone you love, to believe that Princess Meghanchan could be happy in an arranged marriage. I felt the need to help her out of it. I wanted my friend to be happy so I quickly thought of a way to do just that.

"Can you think of any way to get out of it?" I asked in defeat. (I couldn't think of anything.)

"Nothing at all," she replied sadly.

"Well, I guess an arranged marriage isn't so bad. They picked a good guy. Prince Martin is a lot better than some of the others. That is, unless you're already in love with someone else. Are you?"

"Yes, and it is the most forbidden."

"Who?!" I suddenly felt even more of an urge to help her.

"Prince Victor's page."

"Ah, I see, that is quite a problem. We're going to have a heck of a time getting your parents to accept him."

"I know. Now you see my dilemma."

"I will do my best to help you out of this but, for the time being, I will have to go. I still have many more princes to meet."

"I hope we can talk again soon."

With that we went our separate ways. I was racking my brain for such a long time that it hurt my head. Then, all of the sudden, I had an epiphany. It was suddenly obviously apparent to me that Prince Martin

liked this predicament just as much as Princess Meghanchan did. That was probably his reason for entering the jousting tournament.

When I took this whole predicament into consideration I realized that Prince Martin's parents must have known exactly what he was trying to do. I felt a, most likely fictitious, scorn emanating from his parents. I was worried that this would cause problems between our two kingdoms, but I was more worried about the fact that my friend needed out of an arrange marriage. (I was really starting to wonder what this world was coming to.)

6 - Prince Ed

Chapter 1-6: Prince Edward

I walked into the camp and I found one of the princes pacing next to a tree. He had curly blonde hair and bright blue eyes. There's not much to say about what he was wearing. It was pretty much normal other than the fact that he wore a blue cape. He looked up right away when he noticed me. I walked over to the tree and smiled at him.

"Hello there, which prince are you?" I asked holding out my hand. (This was starting to get a bit tedious.)

"My name is Prince Edward, but you may call me Prince Ed," he replied as he bowed, took my hand, and kissed it. (Very tedious)

"Pleasure to meet you."

"Oh no, milady, the pleasure is all mine."

"So, Prince Ed, why have you entered the jousting tournament?"

"I had no choice. My parents are forcing me to marry. Not that I have anything against you. You're a fine princess...it's just...I don't want to marry."

"You mean you never want to marry ever?!" I was in shock. For a prince to not want to marry meant that he desired the destruction of his family.

"Oh no, of course not. I want to marry, just not now."

"That makes more sense. I didn't think you would want to destroy your family."

"No, not at all. It's really a blessing that I have an older brother. I have no desire to rule."

"What will you do with yourself then?"

"Well, to be honest I just want to run away. It doesn't matter whether I'm with someone or alone. I want to run away, disappear, and never come back."

"Are you tired of your parents or are you just a free spirit?"

"I don't have anything against my parents. I just feel the need for wide open spaces and wilderness."

"I hope you can get there someday. I apologize, I must go now. It's getting late and I still have four more princes to meet."

"That's quite alright; I've got things I must attend to as well. We were well met, princess."

Prince Ed bowed and went back to his pacing. I continued to search for princes. I found Princess Yugachan as I was searching. I decided to stop and talk to her for a moment. We didn't talk for very long. I explained everything that was going on with the jousting tournament and she told me about everything that was going on with her and Prince Taylorkun. (She knew that I liked to hear about those kinds of things.) I did not talk to her as long as I would have liked, but I had to move on.

7 - Spying on Princess Hannah

Chapter 1-7: Spying on Princess Hannah

As I was leaving the camp I saw, out of the corner of my eye, Princess Hannah walking toward the library. I was curious as to what she was doing. I had to follow her. (Don't worry people, if I were a cat I'd already be dead.) I often let my curiosity get the best of me.

I found out that Princess Hannah had gone to the library in search of some manga. I was in the upper section of the library so I could see everything. Prince Martin was also in the library. He was walking around with his nose in a book. Princess Hannah didn't see him coming. I watched him turn the corner and bump right into Princess Hannah.

She took one look at Prince Martin and her cheeks turned the same color as mine always did. I suddenly wished that I could hear what they were saying. I leaned over the railing, and I could hear a bit. It was nothing to get excited about. I was much more excited about the look on his face. With "that" look on his face I could tell exactly what he was thinking. I knew that look very well.

I was jumping up and down on the inside. This was the answer we were looking for. What a beautiful opportunity. (Now activating Princess Kel's matchmaker mode) I was thinking that if those two fell in love, the arranged marriage would be no more. I guessed that Princess Hannah didn't notice his face because she didn't change at all.

I had to keep myself from running to Princess Meghanchan to tell her the news. There was no more time to talk idly with my friends. I had princes to meet and not much time to meet them. I sneaked out of the library and continued to search for princes

8 - Prince Joe

Chapter 1-8: Prince Joe

I walked, next, to the practice fields. Right away I noticed a prince riding toward me. He was a prince that I recognized. His black hair and sparkling eyes both looked familiar to me. They belonged to Prince Joe, one of the three princes who had been my childhood friends. I smiled at him.

"Well, well, well, if it isn't Prince Joe," I said rubbing my hands together. (It had grown quite cold as the sun began to go down)

"It's good to see you again, Princess Kel," he said hopping down off of his horse.

"It's wonderful to see you again as well."

He gave me a hug and I held out my hand. He then looked at my hand in a puzzled manner.

"Uhh, do you want to dance?"

"Not right now. I'll wait until the ball for that. You're supposed to kiss it, Prince Joe." I took his hand and laughed. (Prince Joe was known to be very funny)

"Grrr, I do that often. I apologize, Princess Kel." He kissed my hand and made a sad face.

I put my hand on his shoulder. "That is quite alright. I am a bit forgetful as well."

I knew that there was no pressure when I was with Prince Joe. Our relationship was purely of friendship. He loved me the same way he loved Princess Sammy. He was a very good friend that I regretted having to lose. (all will be explained) the thought of seeing Prince Joe only as a good friend made me curious as to the reason for his participation in the jousting tournament.

"Princess Kel, do you need to talk to more princes?" he asked holding his horse steady.

"Yes, I have three more to meet," I answered with a touch of confusion.

"Then go ahead and hop on. I know where you can find one." He patted his horse's saddle.

"Is there room for me?"

"I'll walk."

"Alright."

He held me up so I could reach the saddle. His arms didn't leave my side until he was sure I wasn't going to fall off. Then he slowly began to lead his horse away from the practice fields.

"Prince Joe, there is something I must ask you," I said after a while.

"Ask away," he said happily.

"Why did you enter the jousting tournament? I know you don't love me."

"I do."

"No...no you don't."

"Like a sister, princess."

"Oh, but why did you enter the tournament?"

"I entered to keep you safe from the bad princes. After I do that, I will bow out gracefully."

"Bad princes?"

"Yes, there are a few princes who do not have honorable intentions. You remember Prince Jesse, don't you?"

"Of course I do."

"He just wants to make trouble for Prince Kyle. I will defeat him in the first round."

"But then you'll be jousting against Prince Kyle."

"Don't let a worry enter your cute little head. I haven't a prayer of defeating Prince Kyle. He is by far the most skilled of all the princes who entered."

“That’s good to know.”

We reached the edge of the practice fields. He once again put his hand up and I jumped off the horse and into his arms. he gave me a quick hug, hopped onto his horse, and rode away.

9 - Prince David

Chapter 1-9: Prince David

I looked around and finally noticed the prince sitting on a bench a little way off. He looked quite charming. His hair was short and spiky and it looked like he was growing a beard. His hair was brown and his eyes were a dark olive color. I slowly walked up to him and waved.

"Hello there," I said cheerfully.

"Am I right in saying that you are one of the princes who are competing in my father's jousting tournament?"

"Yes."

"So, which prince do I have the pleasure of meeting?"

"Prince David, at your service, m'lady."

"Well, Prince David, it's a pleasure to meet you." I held out my hand. (Tedious t-e-d-i-o-u-s)

He bowed and took my hand. (Hey, that's different) "The pleasure is mine."

"I noticed that you are going up against Prince Victor first. Are you very skilled at jousting?"

"I have a brief history, but I think I will do well."

"I see. I was also curious as to your reasons for entering the tournament."

"Simply to impress my dear Princess Sammy."

Ahah! Now things made more sense. Prince David must have been the handsome, romantic prince that Princess Sammy told me about. (we talked before I found Prince Joe) That must be the reason he didn't kiss my hand.

"So, you must be the prince that Princess Sammy told me about," I said with a suspicious smile.

"Probably."

At that moment something hit me. I had this strange feeling that Prince Kyle hadn't come. I just had a sudden need to be with him. The only problem was I couldn't shake the feeling that my need would never be satisfied.

"You wouldn't have happened to see Prince Kyle around, have you?" I asked trying not to sound desperate.

"I'm sorry m'lady, but I have not," he replied.

"Oh." I sighed.

"Is something the matter?"

"No, not at all." I blinked and I realized that a tear was rolling down my cheek.

"Are you sure, m'lady?"

"I'll be honest, I don't know anymore."

"I am detecting a soft spot for him in your heart."

"You would be right about that."

"Is there anything I can do to help m'lady?"

"It would help a great deal if you had seen him for I fear he hasn't come."

"What do you mean m'lady? Have you not seen him in some time?"

"I haven't seen him at all. Not even since the tournament began."

"Maybe he fears for his life, and has fled."

"He wouldn't do that. I know he wouldn't."

"Maybe someone has taken him."

"I don't want to think of it."

“Then, until my match, I shall search for him.”

“Oh, thank you.”

“It will be my pleasure, m'lady.”

“Thank you, Prince David.”

“You are most welcome, my princess.”

“I'm afraid I must now depart.”

“Pleasure meeting you.”

10 - Prince Jesse

Chapter 1-10: Prince Jesse

I was walking back toward the castle because I had just realized that it was my bedtime. One of the two remaining princes was waiting for me at the door. He was not Prince Kyle though he did look familiar. He had sandy, blonde hair and blue eyes. His sly smile that even seemed a bit joking was the most familiar. I stopped and addressed him.

"Hello there. I feel like I know you from somewhere," I said holding out my hand.

"That you do, my lady, I am Prince Jesse, leader and warrior of the greatest army the lands have ever seen," he replied kissing my hand.

I laughed. "Are you telling me a premonition of yours or do you boast about that which you wish you had?"

"It looks like you caught me."

"So, you were trying to impress me. Prince Jesse, it's been a long time. It's good to see you again."

"No, my lady, it's good to see you. Long have I waited to hear your voice again."

"I see you haven't changed. How is Princess Hannah?"

"She is doing fine but never mind about her. I care about you and you only."

"Oh really? Maybe you have changed...just a bit." I was blushing again.

"I have changed. We've both changed. I have changed into a man and you into a beautiful woman."

"Did you forget about what happened when we were young or do you believe that it didn't count for anything because we were naïve?"

"It doesn't matter because your father gave us all this chance to have you."

"I've changed more than you know. I'm not as easy as I used to be. I will accept on one but Prince Kyle."

"Make that well known and he'll be sentenced to death."

"Prince Kyle will win."

"Pardon me, Princess Kel, but I think you need a reality check. You need to realize that your hero, Prince Kyle, is not going to come for you. The reason you haven't seen him isn't because you haven't found him yet, it's because he didn't come."

"You're wrong! I will see him because he did come, and he is going to win!"

I didn't wait for his answer. I ran away from him as fast as I could. Tears were starting to fall down my cheeks. I knew he was wrong. Prince Jesse was very wrong. Prince Kyle would never desert me like that. I knew he wouldn't. (If you're confused, just wait. All will be explained in the following two chapters)

11 - Prince Kyle

Chapter 1-11: Prince Kyle

When I arrived in my room I threw myself onto the bed and burst into tears. I had searched so hard that my feet hurt. My heart was so sore that I could barely move. Prince Kyle had promised to come and he let me down. I felt as if I would die right then and there. Then I felt an unfamiliar hand gently place itself on my shoulder.

"Why are you crying?" said a voice that undoubtedly belonged to the person whose hand was on my shoulder.

"W...w...who are yo.." I looked up at him and my face was full of shock, "Prince Kyle?"

"Yeah, are you alright?"

I jumped up and threw my arms around him. "I was afraid you weren't going to come."

"I'll always be here for you from now on." He spoke softly in my ear. I felt safe in his arms. I couldn't let him go just because I was tired. I moved my arms off of his shoulders and let them rest on his chest. He took both of them in his hands.

"Will you stay with me tonight?" I asked in a still shaky voice.

"Yes, of course."

"I'm kind of tired."

"Me too." We both yawned.

"We should get some sleep soon."

"Alright." He smiled.

"I was so worried that you hadn't come or that you didn't exist at all."

He laughed. "I tend to show up when you least expect it."

"Well, I'm glad that you did show up." I got up on my tip toes and kissed his cheek which caused him to laugh again.

I sat down on the bed and motioned for him to sit down next to me. "Do you know what happens next?"

"Okay, but I'll warn you, I'm not very good at guessing."

(I thought it was necessary for him to know about Prince Victor) "There is one prince that I am worried about." I rested my head on his shoulder.

"Who is this prince you're worried about?" he held me protectively in his arm.

"Prince Victor is the prince I am worried about. He scares me and I don't like him."

My eyes were full of worry. It was not worry for Prince Victor (obviously), nor was it for myself. I was worried most about what Prince Victor might do to Prince Kyle. Prince Kyle slightly tightened his embrace in a small hug. I realized that he was under the impression that I was worried about myself.

"There's no need to worry about him. I'm here, and I will always protect you," he said as he kissed the top of my head.

"You're going to beat him, right?" I asked, changing my worried face to a smile.

"I will, for you."

I suddenly slipped out of his arms, fell back on the bed, and hid under the covers. Please don't ask me why I did that because I really have no idea. He immediately began to look for me.

"Where'd you go?" I think I heard him ask.

I came up from underneath the covers, "I'm right here."

"There you are." He put his arm around me as if it were second nature.

"You know, Prince Kyle, if you are going to be staying with me tonight, you'll have to take off your

sword and your boots.”

I grinned as I wrapped my arms around his waist, undid his belt, and watched his sword fall to the floor. Then, all at once, he was barefoot and beltless and lying next to me on my bed. I felt my heart start beating faster and faster.

“So, Prince Kyle, do you think you are more skilled than the other princes?” I asked with a smile.

“Yes, but even if I’m not, love will help guide me to victory,” he said smiling back at me ever so sweetly.

“Of course.” I snuggled up next to him and he put his arms around me.

“It will, I promise you that.”

I rested my head on his chest and closed my eyes. He smiled as I slowly opened my eyes and moved my head up to look into his eyes.

“I know you’re probably tired right now, but I have other thoughts. Would you mind staying up a bit longer?” I asked innocently.

“For you, of course,” he said sweetly.

“Good, not you have to guess what I’m thinking.”

“That might be quite hard. It could be anything.”

“I won’t make it very difficult.” I snuggled closer to him while he thought.

“Hmmm...”

I kissed him and he kissed me back. “I wouldn’t be surprised if you were thinking the same thing.”

“Is it...sorry, I just don’t know.”

“Well, I can tell you this. I was imagining, for just a moment, what you might look like without your shirt on.”

“So, you want me to take my shirt off?”

“That was only a hint.”

“Regardless, before I eventually figure this out, would you like me to take my shirt off?”

I smiled as my cheeks flushed that familiar shade of pink. “If it wouldn’t be any trouble.”

“Alright, then I will.” He grinned at me as he started to unbutton his shirt.

What I saw after that was something I could hardly believe. He looked strong, and he had a pretty big six pack. I couldn’t help but stare. I had to use every muscle in my body to stop my hands from running themselves all over his chest. He had to know. There was no way he couldn’t know exactly what I was thinking.

“Do you seriously not know what I’m thinking?” I asked worriedly.

“Well, I’m not exactly the sharpest tool in the shed,” he said sadly.

“Well, I’m not the smartest person in the world either but...hey, would you like to take my dress off as well?”

“Oh, is that what you’re thinking?” he asked as if he had just had an epiphany.

I think you’ve got it figured out now.”

“Yes, I do. I really can’t believe I didn’t get it earlier.”

“Don’t feel bad, I should have just told you.”

I started to turn around but he stopped me. “Wait, I have something to ask you first.” He held up his arm and looked back at me. “What do you think?”

I giggled and pushed his arm down. “Very sexy, Prince Kyle.”

He kissed me and turned me around. I felt his fingers carefully tug at the lacing of my dress until it was loose enough that I slipped right out of it.

12 - Childhood Friends

Chapter 1-12: Childhood Friends

Though my body was falling into a deep sleep my mind was wide awake. I was having a vision, a flashback, in fact. I was having dreams of forgotten memories. As soon as sleep claimed me I had traveled to another time and place where there was no jousting tournament and life was easy.

* * * *

I was in the garden next to the throne room and it was midmorning. My reflection in one of the windows informed me that I had shrunk down to around the age of twelve or thirteen. There were three boys, whom I deemed Prince Joe, Prince Kyle, and Prince Jesse, standing in the garden before me. I couldn't hear what they were saying, so I came up closer. A twig snapped beneath my feet and each prince turned toward me. All three of them smiled and Prince Joe waved like a crazy person. Prince Jesse walked up and put his arm around me. The moment he touched me I remembered the content of the memory.

I knew exactly what would happen next and each thing happened exactly as I had predicted. Prince Kyle would say that I mustn't trust Prince Jesse, and that he loved me dearly. He and Prince Jesse would start shouting at each other and Prince Joe would come between them when they were almost at blows. Then I would propose a nice, safe game of chess. I decided that the winner would receive my heart and my hand. (as you can see I was quite a bit more enthusiastic about such things than I am now) In the end, Prince Kyle ended up winning. He promised me that he would do everything in his power to keep us together and I was glad of it. That was the day I realized that Prince Kyle was the only one I wanted to be with. We had been together since we were very young and I had never noticed the way he looked at me and smiled sweetly until that moment. I was in love.

Then my mind flashed to a new memory. It was one that occurred a few months before the previous memory. I was sitting alone with Prince Kyle in the same garden. This was my memory of our first kiss. I realized now that we hadn't chosen the best place to be alone. I fought with all my might to wake myself before my sweet dream turned to a nightmare but it was to no avail. We were caught and I was forced to watch my father give Prince Kyle a harsh beating.

I was sure that tears were rolling down my face as my father forbade him from seeing me in the near future. 'Until he has better manners and a sense of honor,' is what my father said. That was the reason my father wasn't exactly "overjoyed" to see that Prince Kyle had entered the tournament. * * **

I woke up confused and crying. I had forgotten all about the previous night. I had no idea where I was or who I was with. The only things I knew were that I wasn't wearing any clothes and that my heart was filled with love for Prince Kyle. I felt another presence in the room and noticed the man lying on the bed beside me. He was looking straight at me with worry in his eyes. His hands softly dried away my tears.

"Are you alright, Princess Kel?" he asked with confusion.

"I'm fine, it was only a bad dream," I answered still a bit confused.

"Ah, how are you then." His arms wrapped around me and he held me protectively.

"Oh! I almost forgot about last night. How could I?" I set my head on his chest and looked up into his eyes.

"Well, how are you?"

I smiled at him. "I am absolutely wonderful. I truly believe that last night was one of the greatest of my life."

"Mine as well. That was amazing." He smiled and kissed me softly.

“You know, I really don’t see the point of this jousting tournament.”

“Wouldn’t it be so I can win over your parents?”

“Father must have forgotten that I was already promised to you. He must have thought it was a joke.”

“Fathers always think of things as jokes, but I don’t think that is the reason. Your father seems to dislike me a great deal.” He lowered his head a bit.

“That’s why you have to win. Hey, what are you looking at?” I was a bit shocked.

“Oh, sorry. Yeah, and for you.”

“Oh no.” I started to panic and he held me tightly.

“What is it?”

“Someone is going to be coming to wake me soon. I don’t even want to think of what they will do if they find you here.” (Actually I did think. I knew that they would kill Prince Kyle if they caught him there)

“Is there somewhere I can hide?”

“We still have time. If you get dressed quickly you can make it back to your camp before the guards make their rounds. I can meet you there after I get dressed.”

“Alright.” Prince Kyle started to put on his clothes.

I slipped back into my dress and went around to the other side of the bed where Prince Kyle was lacing his boots.

“I have something to give you before you go,” I said as he stood up.

“What is it?”

I handed him the handkerchief. “I now bestow upon you, Prince Kyle, my favor.”

He took my handkerchief, kissed it, and grinned at me. “Did I not have your favor before now?”

“Oh, you had it before now. You had that and many other things belonging to me, including my heart.”

He gave me a passionate kiss and let his arms fall out of our embrace. “Thank you, my princess. I will go now.”

I put my hand on the side of his face. “I will be there very soon, I promise.”

“I’ll be waiting.”

13 - Part two: The Jousting Tournament Begins

I'm not going to say that much in this part. Just that part two is when the jousting tournament starts. I also wanted to let you all know that this is supposed to be in parts. There are three parts and, as you already know, part one is all there. I hope to get part two done quickly. It is going to consist of three chapters that have several sections in them.

14 - Round One of the Jousting Tournament

Match Number One: Prince Martin Vs. Prince Pete

That morning I was informed that Prince Pete and Prince Martin would be competing in the first match that day. I decided that I would visit Prince Pete before the first match. (That was a big mistake on my part. At least I think it was) I found him passing around his camp. I came up behind him and he jumped when he turned around.

"Oh! You startled me," he said, still a bit surprised.

"I'm sorry. I just wanted to come and talk to you before the first match," I said apologetically.

"It's fine. Would you like a seat?"

"Thank you for asking, but I think I'll stand. There was something I wanted to tell you."

"Yes?"

I had a sad look on my face. "I'm very worried about you." (I will explain in a moment)

"I'll be fine, I promise."

"I really like you, and I don't want you to get killed." I began to cry. (I know you may think me a crybaby but please, hold your judgment for my explanation)

He wiped my tears. "I'll be fine."

"Do you swear it?"

"Cross my heart and swear to die."

I buried my face in his chest and sobbed. "You can't let Prince Victor win."

"I won't let him win. Just look up and hope for the best." He lifted up my chin and I looked into his eyes.

"Is there anyone around?"

"Uh, no, I don't think so, why?"

"Well...it's nothing, never mind. I should be going." I backed away and my eyes filled up with tears.

"Okay, I'll see you later."

I let a single tear escape my eye. "Is that all you had to say?"

"There is much more that I have to say, but I can't say it now. Someone is spying on us."

"Really?"

"Yeah."

"Well, I really must be going."

"Alright."

"Until we meet again."

With that I walked away. I believe I promised an explanation so I will give it now. Before the jousting tournament began I talked to our resident magician, Candy. She told me that I would meet a prince whom I would become quite fond of. She also told me that the events of the jousting tournament would include his death. That was the reason for this great amount of worry that I felt for Prince Pete. I feared he would perish at the hands of Prince Victor.

When I was gone Prince Pete glared at a nearby bush.

"What do you want?" he asked the bush in an unfriendly tone.

Prince Victor came out from behind the bush, "I just wanted to warn you to stay away from the princess. Everyone knows I'm going to win and it would cause quite a problem for you if you got too attached to her."

"You, win? That's a laugh. You're too full of yourself."

"Are you challenging me? I don't think that would be wise unless you can back up your words."

"I'll make my point at the match."

"Alright, if you beat Prince Martin, I might give you a little credit, but in the second round you'll have to face me, and you might not be so lucky."

"Okay then."

"So, I guess we'll just have to wait and continue this conversation tomorrow, before the second round." He turned around and walked away before Prince Pete could say another word.

* * * *

Back at the castle Prince Martin was looking for Princess Hannah. (They had had plenty of time to get to know each other and there was something that he wanted to say to her) after a while he stopped looking and she showed up.

"Hello Prince Martin," she said cheerfully.

"Hello Princess Hannah, I've been looking for you," he said with a smile.

"Well, it looks like I found you."

"Yeah, it looks like you did. Here, close your eyes and come with me. There is something I must tell you."

He held out his hand and she took it and closed her eyes. He took her to one of the many gardens surrounding the castle and they sat down. Then he picked a rose from the rose bush and told her to open her eyes.

"For you, Princess Hannah," he said holding out the rose.

"It's beautiful, thank you," she said taking the rose and blushing heavily.

He leaned in closer, put his lips to her ear, and whispered, "I love you."

She blushed and looked into his eyes. "I love you too."

"May I give you a kiss, Princess?"

"You don't have to ask."

He put one arm around her waist, his other hand on the side of her face, and kissed her softly on the lips. He held her in his arms for a moment, and then he realized something.

"I'm going to be late for my match," he said, a bit worried.

"Well, you better hurry. Good luck," she said hopefully.

"I don't need luck to lose. I hope to lose. The only reason entering this tournament wasn't a mistake was because I met you."

He gave her one more kiss and ran to the jousting arena as fast as his legs could carry him. In the end his hopes were realized when Prince Pete won the first match, thus beginning probably the best day of Prince Martin's life. (A few minutes later Princess Meghanchan announced that she received a letter from her parents that said the wedding was off)

Match Number Two: Prince Ed Vs. Prince Kyle

There was about an hour before the next match started so I went to talk to Prince Kyle. His camp was a bit hard to find so I searched for quite a while. Eventually he showed up out of nowhere. (So like him)

"What are you looking for?" he asked, coming up behind me and wrapping his arms around my waist.

"Oh, there you are," I said as I turned around and put my arms around his neck.

"Were you looking for me, princess?" he lightly brushed his lips against mine.

"Of course I was. Who else would I be looking for?" I smiled and looked into his eyes.

"You might have been looking for someone else." He laughed.

"I just wanted to wish you luck. I know you will win. I love you, Prince Kyle, I always have, and I can't imagine the sorrow I would feel if you ended up losing."

"I can't imagine what life would be like if I end up losing."

"Well, your match starts soon. I should probably go."

“Hold on a minute. I just got you in my arms and I have to let you go already?”

I laughed and touched my nose to his. “There will be plenty of time for that tonight, after the ball.”

“Alright, hurry up and go before I change my mind.”

“I’ll see you tonight.”

I turned to leave, but I had not walked more than a few feet before he called me back.

“Princess Kel, wait,” he shouted when I kept on walking.

I suddenly ran back into his arms. “Yes?”

He kissed me ever so passionately, looked into my eyes, and grinned. “I love you.”

“I love you more.”

“Well, I love you more than you love me more.”

“Really? Prove it.”

“How? How do I prove it?!”

“Tell the world...win. If you win that’s all the proof I’ll ever need.”

“I swear I will.”

“I’m going now.”

“Farewell.”

After he said that I left and returned to the jousting arena. With my departure came Prince Victor’s appearance. He walked up to Prince Kyle and stared at him.

“You must be Prince Kyle,” he said in his usual joking tone.

“Yes, I am Prince Kyle,” he replied confusedly.

“In that case, I want to warn you to stay away from my princess.”

“Your princess?”

“That’s right; you’re getting far too attached to her.”

“Am I? I hadn’t noticed.” (He was obviously being sarcastic)

“Well, not you know.”

“Why are you so rude?” I’m thinking that Prince Kyle was thinking something else that he wouldn’t dare say.

“I’m not; I’m simply stating the truth.”

“You’re really very rude.”

“You know what; I don’t want to talk to you.”

As usual, Prince Victor walked away without waiting for Prince Kyle to reply to his statement. Prince Kyle didn’t really need to say anything to Prince Victor. His jousting did the job for him. He defeated Prince Ed in the second match. Now, please don’t mistake my words when I say “defeated”. I mean he totally destroyed Prince Ed. He made a joke of him. His performance scared Prince Victor and caused him to take drastic measures.

I don’t have much to say about the third match. I wasn’t sure how skilled either prince was at jousting. They seemed to be evenly matched and it was very close. It appeared that the extra willpower that Prince Joe exhibited led him to victory. We may never know. (Oooooo!)

Match Number Four: Prince David Vs. Prince Victor

There wasn’t much time before the fourth match began. There was, however, plenty of time for Prince Victor to find Prince David. He suspected that Prince David was in love with Princess Sammy and thought him an easy target. I believe he was mistaken.

“So, you must be Prince David,” he said after he had found him.

“That is correct,” Prince David replied.

“Ah, then I believe this is the part where you agree to throw the match.”

He placed his hand behind his back and crossed his fingers. “Agreed.”

“Oh really? Show me your hands.”

"He uncrossed his fingers and held his hands out in front of him. "Is there a problem?"

"Are you going to lie and say that you didn't have your fingers crossed?"

"What would I gain by doing that? I have not lied this entire time."

"I'm tired of this. I have other things I could be doing right now."

"It looks to be like you have nothing better to do than quarrel with me."

"Well, no one cares what you think."

Once again Prince Victor left yet another prince with a thought unsaid. The match began shortly after their quarrel. Much to my horror, Prince Victor defeated Prince David even though he was at his best. Prince Victor's performance was similar to that of Prince Kyle's. (Did he really love money that much?) After that match I deemed Prince Victor mentally unstable and a threat to Prince Kyle's success. (You cannot, however, deny that Prince Kyle was quite a virtuoso when it came to jousting)

The Ball

After the fourth and final match of the day my father announced that there would be a ball to celebrate the tournament. This was yet another chance for me to get to know the princes. (As if I hadn't been through enough already) I had a feeling that this night would reveal many things about the princes. I danced with all of the princes. I am not, however, going to write an account on each interaction I had with the princes. Instead I am going to write an account of my interactions with Prince Kyle and Prince Pete only. Prince Kyle was the first prince I danced with.

"Hello, Prince Kyle," I said cheerfully.

"Hello, Princess Kel," he said taking my hand and kissing it softly, "My princess."

"Are you going to dance?"

"With you, I am."

"Then shall we dance?"

"Yes, we shall." He took my hand and put his arm around my waist and I put my free hand on his shoulder.

"I'll let a rope down for you tonight," I said as we danced across the floor, "You do intend to come, don't you?"

"Of course I do."

"The important thing is that I get to spend more time with you."

"Soon we will get to spend even more time together."

At that moment, Prince Ed cut in and I had to say goodbye to Prince Kyle. I danced with Prince Ed for a while then moved on to another prince. I did this until there was only one prince left. That was Prince Pete. I found him walking and humming in tune with the music.

"Prince Pete, aren't you going to dance?" I asked curiously.

He laughed, "I'm not much of a dancer."

"You mean you wouldn't even dance with me?"

"If you want me to, I will."

"I won't mind if you step on my foot."

"Alright, I'll dance with you."

We assumed the dancing position.

"So, you've never danced with a princess before?"

"No, this is my first time."

"I'm a bit surprised by that. You're very good looking. What do the princesses in your kingdom think of you?"

"Well, they think I'm just another pretty face."

"You are so much more than that...I have an idea, come with me."

He followed me to a secret door in the ballroom and we went inside.

"This is my secret garden, no one can come in here," I said happily.

"Woah, this is nice," he said as he looked around.

I smiled. "I knew you would like it. Now you can tell me what you wanted to say."

"Honestly, I've forgotten everything since that match. I got hit on the head."

"Oh, but if it was something important, surely you would not have forgotten so easily." I rubbed his head until my fingers came across a big goose egg atop his head and he winced.

"I wish I could remember, but I got hit really hard."

"That looks like it hurts."

"It does."

"Hmm, is there anything you want to say to me right now?"

"I just remembered."

"Alright, tell me."

"I've been very happy ever since I met you."

"That's good to know. Was there anything else?" I began to feel worried.

"Yeah, there was. I'd rather be with you than with anyone else."

He smiled and I frowned. I didn't want this to happen. I was trying hard not to show it on my face but it wasn't working. I knew that falling in love with Prince Pete would leave me heartbroken. I had to admit that I was a bit fond of him, but I would never choose him over Prince Kyle.

"Prince Pete, I'm worried," I said quietly.

"Huh? Why?" he sounded confused.

I had to make up a lie. "Well, I thought that when you love someone..."

"What? You want me to kiss you?"

"Yes." (That was more like a 'we'll go with that')

"Some people need to know when it is a good time. One example might be myself."

"When is it a good time for you?"

He grinned. "How about right now?"

I blushed. "If that's what you want, now is fine with me."

He leaned in close, kissed me, and wrapped his arms around me. I was a bit surprised but it didn't show. I wrapped my arms around his neck and sighed.

"What's wrong?" he asked, sounding a bit concerned.

(Time to lie again) "Nothing is wrong."

He smiled. "I'm glad."

"We should probably get back."

"Yeah, okay."

"You don't want to go back?"

"It doesn't matter to me."

I put my hand on the side of his face. "I can tell you don't want to go. I don't want to either."

"Well, do we have to?"

"I'm afraid so."

"Then, let us go."

* * * *

I was standing at my balcony when he came. I looked around, but I did not see him. Then he was calling out my name from beneath the balcony.

"Princess Kel, I am down here," he called out ever so sweetly.

"I let the rope down for you, Prince Kyle," I called back.

"Oh, right." I saw him climbing the rope I had let down from the balcony.

I reached down toward him. "Hurry, I need you."

"I'm coming." he took my hand, leaped over the railing, and took me in his arms.

"I missed you." I put my hands on his chest.

"I missed you too. I couldn't stop thinking about you." he smiled.

"Oh, I found out something."

"What is that?"

"Hmmm...what if I told you that Candy said that if you don't kiss me more, I'll die?"

"Well, I'll show you." He kissed me.

"Oh no, I fear our time has ran short. I'm afraid you must go."

"I wish I could stay with you just one more moment."

"A guard comes and stands beneath my balcony at about this time every night. He stays until morning."

"Then I will go. Farewell, my dear princess."

"Farewell."

He gave me one last kiss and leaped back over the railing. I watched him climb down the rope and run into the darkness. The guard arrived just as I pulled up the last bit of the rope. I worried that Prince Kyle hadn't made it. It would probably bother me all night. I tried not to think of it so much as I slowly drifted off to sleep.

15 - Round Two of the Jousting Tournament

Chapter 2-2: Round Two of the Jousting Tournament

Before Match Number One

I had to see Prince Kyle before his match. Prince Victor was really starting to scare me. I definitely didn't want Prince Victor to marry me, and I certainly didn't want him to be in charge of my father's kingdom. I felt like I needed to tell Prince Kyle about my fears, but I didn't know how he would react to it. I found Prince Kyle at his camp. He was taking a nap.

"Hey, Prince Kyle," I said as I shook him lightly.

"Oh, it's you," he said sleepily.

"Tired?"

"Nah, I'm just resting before my match."

"There's something I wanted to tell you." I sat down next to him.

"Go ahead, I've got time."

"It's about Prince Victor. He's really starting to scare me quite a bit."

"How is he scaring you?"

"Well, he's awfully strong. He's almost as strong as you. He's also extremely rude."

"He was rude to you?"

"Yeah, he was rude to me."

"That's not right." He stood up.

"Where are you going?" I stood up too.

"Prince Victor shouldn't be rude to you like that." He walked toward Prince Victor's camp, and I followed him.

"What are you going to do?"

"Someone's got to stand up to him."

"Prince Kyle..."

He stopped and turned around. "What?"

"...Please be careful."

He hugged me. "I will be, don't worry."

"I trust you."

He let go of me and walked over to Prince Victor. I followed close behind.

"Hey, I thought I told you to stay away from my princess!" he snapped.

My mouth shot open. "Your princess?"

"Don't worry, Princess Kel, I'll take care of this," Prince Kyle said quietly.

"Take care of what?" Prince Victor growled.

"You!"

Prince Kyle punched Prince Victor in the face. Before he could react, Prince Pete showed up and came between them. (silence the violence, increase the peace.) The facial expression that Prince Pete flashed to Prince Kyle was not a friendly one. In fact, his expression looked a bit jealous.

Match Number One: Prince Joe Vs. Prince Kyle

I am going to estimate and say that this part of the story won't be quite as long as the others for I don't have as much to say. I'll start out by saying that Prince Kyle defeated Prince Joe in the first match. It may have been my imagination, but it seemed that Prince Kyle wasn't at the top of his game that day. I decided that I would talk to him about it.

I thought it would be nice to talk to Prince Joe before the second match. I was surprised to find him packing up his camp like he was going to leave. He welcomed me with friendly chibi hug.

"Princess Kel, I didn't expect to see you again," he said in surprise.

"You're not going to stay for the wedding?" I asked motioning toward the thing that he was packing.

"Well, I can't. early this morning I was notified that my sister had gone missing. She was last seen with Prince David, and he's missing too."

"They could have run away together."

"Well, I'm at least going to make sure she's alright."

"You're such a good brother."

"Thank you, Princess."

"So, I guess that since you did what you set out to do you'll be going home."

"I'll come back if you want me to."

"I won't die if you're not present at my wedding. Put your sister's safety first."

"Then I won't come unless I come with Princess Sammy."

"Good luck, Prince Joe."

With that Prince Joe was prepared to leave. I sincerely hoped that he would find Princess Sammy, safe and sound, and make it to the wedding. I didn't have time to worry about that for I had to speak with Prince Pete.

Match Number Two: Prince Victor Vs. Prince Pete

Though I had already seen Prince Pete that day, I still wanted to talk to him. I found Prince Emo Bangs sitting under a tree. He looked either troubled or deep in thought. I walked over and sat down next to him.

"Hello," I said quietly.

"Oh, hey there," he replied giving me his attention.

"What is troubling you, Prince Pete?"

"I was just thinking about my next match."

"I'm sure you'll be able to beat Prince Victor."

"I just can't think of a way I can do it."

"I know you'll find a way. Speaking of which, why were you looking at Prince Kyle like that earlier?"

"Oh, no reason." he laughed.

"C'mon, Prince Pete, you have to tell me."

"It was nothing, really."

"If you say so."

"You know, I really don't see what you like about that guy."

"Do you mean Prince Kyle?"

"Yeah..."

"I should have seen this coming. You are going to make me choose between the two of you, aren't you?"

"Well, you really have to."

"Can't you give me more time? I don't know who I will choose yet. You'll just have to find a way to convince me while you are waiting."

"I can live with that."

"So, what are you going to do?"

"There are many things..." he kissed me at that very moment and I was in shock. He stopped immediately and apologized when he noticed my shock.

I sighed. "Don't apologize, you're supposed to be convincing me."

"Oh, that's right."

I didn't expect him to do it again so I was still in shock when he kissed me again. That did not, however, keep me from wrapping my arms around his neck and running my fingers through his hair. He was still kissing me when I heard a voice.

"Hey, what do you think you're doing?!" the voice shouted angrily.

I recognized that voice. It belonged to Prince Victor. He ran over to us, pulled us apart, and threw Prince Pete to the ground. Prince Pete got up and let out a long, loud sigh. I glared at Prince Victor then looked back at Prince Pete.

"What are you up to, Prince Pete?" Prince Victor snarled.

"I could ask you the same thing," Prince Pete replied angrily.

"You answer first."

"And what if I don't?"

"Hmmm, I could always tell the king about this."

"Knowing you, you'd probably blow it out of proportion and turn it into a falsehood."

I tried to speak but I was interrupted by Prince Evil.

"I've had about enough of you."

"I was about to say a similar thing."

"The king will hear of this if you win, though you have no chance of winning. I have nothing more to say to you." then, yet again, he stomped off.

"Well...your hair is stupid!"

I laughed, "Nice comeback."

He helped me up and laughed with me. "Thanks."

"That Prince Victor is starting to scare me."

"That makes two of us."

"Oh dear, look at the time. I should probably go."

"Then I will see you at the match."

I noticed my friends and ran to them. I was extremely nervous about this match and it helped that I was with my friends. I was very correct to be nervous. Prince Victor (unfortunately) prevailed and defeated Prince Pete. I could see that his heart was breaking. That made me feel bad for lying to him. It caused me to shed many a tear for him. I would have been in much less sorrow if Prince Kyle were jousting Prince Pete.

Part 5

Later that evening I decided to tell my mother about Prince Kyle. She seemed to understand what I was going through. She was nice about it and she said she would try to help me out.

Prince Kyle came to my room again that night. He seemed happy to see me. Neither of us were very worried about the upcoming match. Prince Kyle was the strongest of all the princes in the tournament. Everything was going to work out perfectly.

16 - Round Three of the Jousting Tournament

Chapter 2-3: Round Three of the Jousting Tournament

Before the Final Match of the Jousting Tournament

Prince Victor came up to Prince Kyle when he was on his way back to his camp. He had a friendly smile on his face which scared Prince Kyle quite a bit.

“Hey, Prince Kyle, can I talk to you for a minute?” he asked, stopping in front of him.

“Ummm, sure, go ahead,” Prince Kyle said confusedly.

“Well, I wanted to apologize for yesterday. I didn’t mean to push you that far, and I’m sorry.”

“Okay?”

“My sister made you breakfast if you’re hungry.”

“Oh, thanks.”

Prince Victor led Prince Kyle to his camp where his sister was making breakfast. They all sat down and started eating.

“So, Prince Kyle, do you think we might be able to be pals?” Prince Victor asked with a smile.

“Well, if you’re going to be nice from now on, I don’t think I would mind,” Prince Kyle said, smiling back.

“So, since we’re pals now you wouldn’t mind throwing the match, right?”

Prince Kyle’s mouth hung open. “You want me to throw the match?”

“Yeah, if it isn’t too much trouble.”

“If it isn’t too much trouble?! No! I’m not goanna throw the match for you!”

“You don’t know how much I need this!”

“You don’t need this! What you need is for someone to teach you a lesson!”

“Try anything and you’ll find yourself dead.”

“Listen well, Prince Victor, I love Princess Kel a lot more than you love money, and I want what’s best for her. That’s why I have to beat you. I know you don’t care about her at all.”

“None of that matters. You won’t win even if you try.”

“I won’t let you near her!”

“I’m sorry, I have a jousting match to win.”

Prince Victor ran away in the direction of the jousting arena. Then Prince Kyle realized that he was about to be late and ran to his camp.

The Final Match of the Jousting Tournament

When I saw Prince Kyle come out on his horse I knew something was wrong. He looked slow and tired. The expression on his face was not a happy one. I wanted to know what was wrong with Prince Kyle. I watched with horror and heartbreak as he was defeated by Prince Victor.

Immediately after the match I ran away to my room. I didn’t know what to do. There was no way I could ever marry Prince Victor. I had to find a way to get myself out of that most dreadful disaster. Until I thought of something, I was fine with sobbing my eyes out in my room.

17 - Prince Victor's Evilness

Part 3: After the Jousting Tournament

Chapter 3-1: Prince Victor's Evilness

The next morning I got dressed and went back to bed. I was still miserable, and I couldn't stop crying. Just when I was starting to fall asleep, Princess Yugachan burst into the room, ran over to my bed, and shook me violently to wake me up.

"Princess Kel! Princess Kel!" she shouted excitedly.

"What?" I yawned.

"This morning your father announced that you get to choose between Prince Victor and Prince Kyle!"

I shot up out of bed. "Really?!"

"Yeah, you better get ready. Everyone is waiting for you downstairs."

"Okay!"

Princess Yugachan ran out of my room, and I rushed into the bathroom. I was thinking so many thoughts that I confused myself. The most irrelevant of those thoughts was that I had left the rope hanging off the balcony. I saw a flash of light come out of my dark room, but I thought nothing of it.

When I was done getting ready I walked back into my room. Suddenly a hand went over my mouth. I smelled an odd scent, and I fainted immediately.

When I woke up I was being dragged into a dark room, and I was tied up. I heard people shouting but it took me a while to understand what they were saying.

"Speed, you better not squeal to anybody," said one of the voices. I recognized it as Prince Victor's voice.

"And what if I do?" asked the other voice. This one was Speed, Prince Victor's Page and Princess Meghanchan's boyfriend.

"Well, then your dear Princess Meghanchan will pay the price."

"You leave her out of this!"

"You won't have any trouble as long as you follow your orders. Watch the princess and make sure she doesn't escape." Prince Victor waked out and a light came on.

"Speed?" I said confusedly.

"I'm sorry, Princess Kel," he said, looking at me.

"It's alright. Do whatever you have to in order to keep Princess Meghanchan safe."

"I'm going to tell someone."

"You'll get caught."

"I have to get you out of here. What Prince Victor is doing isn't right. It isn't fair."

"That's what you call evilness."

18 - Prince Pete's Heroics

Chapter 3-2: Prince Pete's Heroics

After a while Prince Victor came back and ordered Speed to go get his horse. Speed angrily left to get the horse. Along the way he found Prince Pete. He told Prince Pete about how I was kidnapped by Prince Victor, and Prince Pete ran straight to his secret hideout.

Prince Pete found the hideout in no time and walked right in. Prince Victor walked out of the shadows, and the door closed behind Prince Pete.

"Hello, Prince Pete, I was expecting you to come and try to save the princess, considering how foolishly bold you are," Prince Victor laughed.

"No, I was just going to sit and watch grass grow," Prince Pete said sarcastically.

"Well, we're both here now, so let's get this over with, shall we? I've had just about enough of your nonsense." Prince Victor drew his sword.

"Can't we just talk? There's no need for violence."

"You have got to be kidding. You're not going to get the princess back without a fight, and I've been wanting to kill you for the longest time."

"Are you sure you really want to fight?"

"Hmmm...how can I put this into words you can understand? Oh, I know, duh."

"So, you really want to fight? Then have at it!" Prince Pete took out his sword.

"Why should I? you're the one who's trying to save the princess here."

"You just like to make things difficult, don't you?" he swung his sword at Prince Victor.

Prince Victor ducked and watched Prince Pete fall to the ground. More lights flashed on revealing that I was sitting there. Prince Pete's sword had landed inches away from me.

"Oh, I thought you were the one who liked to make things difficult. You might want to watch where you swing your sword, you could hit the princess," Prince Victor snickered.

"Making things interesting, eh?" Prince Pete laughed.

"Not at all. I'm just making things easier."

"Oh, yes you are."

"Easier for me that is."

"It makes it easier for me too."

"I can't see how. You're going to have to be careful not to hit the princess. I, however, don't really care weather the princess gets hurt or not."

"All I have to do is cut the ropes and leave."

"Alright, be my guest." Prince Victor stepped aside and Prince Pete came over to me.

"Prince Pete..." I called weakly.

"Yes?" he replied as he cut the ropes.

I reached out to him. "He's going to kill me."

"He won't as long as I'm here."

"Save me, Prince Pete, I'm scared."

"I will, don't worry."

"Prince Pete....LOOK OUT!"

I gasped and watched in horror as Prince Victor came up behind and stabbed Prince Pete straight through the middle.

"I can't believe you fell for that. I'm out of here," Prince Victor said with a smirk.

I rushed to his side. "Are you alright?"

he was breathing heavily I started sobbing and I was looking into his eyes. He looked up at me, and I put my hand on the side of his face.

"This can't be happening..."

His eyes started to close.

"No! Prince Pete, don't go!" I sobbed.

"I-I...I'm sorry..." he stuttered.

"No...please don't die on me, I love you."

"I...love you too..."

"Tell me what I can do to save you."

"Just run...save yourself..."

"I can't, you'll die."

"My dying wish, Princess...I came here to rescue you."

"Okay, but I'm not going to abandon you."

"Don't worry about me...just go...hurry..."

I ran with tears in my eyes. I carried out Prince Pete's wishes and ,somehow, I managed to make it out.

Then I silently promised myself that I would come back for him. I wasn't ready to say goodbye to him.

He and I would have been great friends. Oh, why did he have to be so foolishly bold?

* * * *

After I had ran for a while I stopped to rest. I was quite worried that I had been followed. A noise came from one of the bushes and I shot up. Prince Kyle emerged from the bushes, and I ran to him.

"Prince Kyle! He killed Prince Pete!" I threw my arms around him and burst into tears.

Prince Kyle tried to comfort me. "What happened to you?" he asked worriedly.

I had forgotten that he didn't know what was going on. "Prince Victor kidnapped me."

"Are you alright?"

"I'm fine, but Prince Pete..."

"We have to get out of here."

"Why?"

"You're not safe while Victor is around."

"Victor?"

"He's not even a prince. He was faking it to steal your father's money."

"Okay, but what about Prince Pete?"

"I can have that taken care of. We need to leave immediately."

Prince Kyle pulled his horse out of the bushes and helped me onto it. Then he hopped on behind me and rode away.

19 - Framed

Chapter 3-3: Framed

About a month later we returned to the castle. Victor met us on the road, and Prince Kyle got down off of the horse. He helped me down and I stood behind him.

"So, you have returned," Victor smirked.

"That's right," Prince Kyle said, taking a step forward.

"You're not welcome here anymore. You would be smart to leave the princess here with me and run."

"I'm not going anywhere."

"Guards!"

Four guards appeared and looked around.

"It's him....seize him!" one of the guards shouted.

Two guards came up and put handcuffs on Prince Kyle.

"What's going on here?!" he asked confusedly.

"You are being put under arrest for kidnapping the princess and murdering Prince Pete," said the same guard who had spoken before.

"I did no such thing."

"See, I told you he would try to deny it," Victor said with a smile.

"Take him away!"

Victor stepped in front of Prince Kyle.

"Oh, and if you were wondering why you were so slow in that last match, it was because my sister poisoned you."

"I knew it!" Prince Kyle shouted.

The guards took Prince Kyle away at sword point and he was sentenced to death.

20 - The Final Match

Chapter 3-4: The Final Match

A week had passed since my beloved Prince Kyle had been sent to the dungeon. I needed so badly to talk to him, and to see his face. My father told me that it would not be a wise idea, but he didn't listen to him. I went to the dungeon to visit him. One of the guards opened the cell for me and that's when I saw him. He was chained to the wall, and he almost looked sick.

"Prince Kyle!" I exclaimed, running into his arms.

"I'm sorry, Princess," he said weakly.

"You have nothing to be sorry for."

"How are you?"

"I'm fine...I found out that there may be hope for us."

"how is that?"

"Well, I explained the situation to my parents, but I don't think they believed me."

"I don't understand."

"Well, after that they became suspicious of Victor, and he came up with a proposition. My parents liked the idea, so they approved it."

"What was the proposition?"

"There is to be one last jousting match. The winner will, indefinitely, marry me. If you lose, your death sentence will be carried out, but if you win, Victor will be drawn and quartered in your place."

"That's quite barbaric."

"I know, but it's the only chance you've got. Just think of yourself as the framed defendant in a trial. If you're found guilty, you get the electric chair. If you're found innocent, your accuser gets what he deserves."

"Alright, I'll do it."

* * * *

A little while later a guard went into Prince Kyle's cell and unlocked his shackles.

"What's going on?" Prince Kyle asked in confusion.

"The only thing you need to know is what an unlucky man you are going to be if you end up back in this cell," the guard said, putting a pair of handcuffs on him.

"What's that supposed to mean?"

"Be quiet and get moving."

The guard forced Prince Kyle onto his feet and poked him in the back with his sword. He led Prince Kyle to the jousting arena where his horse and armor waited.

"You better hope you don't lose," the guard said, taking off the handcuffs.

"Oh, I won't," he replied optimistically.

"How do you know that?"

Prince Kyle reached into his pocket, pulled out a handkerchief, and kissed it. "The princess's favor and true love is all I need to win."

After Prince Kyle got his armor on, the match began. That was when I saw how much Victor's sister's poison had effected him. He had almost inhuman power. Victor didn't stand a chance. So, in the end, Victor got what he deserved, Prince Kyle and I got married, and we all loved happily ever after....until Prince Bob, but I don't even want to comment on that.

THE END....or is it?