

The Legend of Aramelle

written by

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1 INT. CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS - DAY

1

F/X: SHIP CREAKING.

ARAMELLE: Orson...can you hear me?

F/X: ORSON APPEARS IN CABIN.

ORSON: (Screams)

ARAMELLE: (Screams)

ORSON: /How'd you do that?

ARAMELLE: /It worked!

ORSON: //Sorry...

ARAMELLE: //Sorry...

ORSON: You go.

ARAMELLE: I've been trying to reach you. I've tried a load
of ways.

ORSON: Is that what the candles and the pentagram are
for?

ARAMELLE: Yeah the pentagram didn't work actually. Turns out you just need the candles.

ORSON: Mmm.

ARAMELLE: I'm sorry I killed you.

ORSON: I know. It's ok. (BEAT) Well...I'm ok.

ARAMELLE: What's it like?

ORSON: Dying? (PAUSE) Well, I didn't get much of a chance to...find out. Got told I'd be summoned when I was ready.

ARAMELLE: Death said something like that to me, too. Do you know what it means?

ORSON: No idea.

ARAMELLE: Oh! So you've got to work it out?

ORSON: Yep!

ARAMELLE: If you're sticking around, you can help me. (BEAT) I mean. If you want to help me...after...

ORSON: Yeah! I'll help! I was going to the prison to find you anyway.

ARAMELLE: You were?

ORSON: The wording of my vow of protection didn't actually state that it stops at death. I knew you were going to the Cobalt Mountains to find your mother, along with Liam.

ARAMELLE: I've been thinking...about my father...Death said he'd died, but has unfinished business? I wonder if he's going to look for Liam. Have you seen Liam by the way?

ORSON: No...

ARAMELLE: You don't think he died too, do you?

ORSON: If he did, wouldn't your father's business be finished?

ARAMELLE: I suppose. I'm glad you're here. Even if you do look see-through.

ORSON: So am I.

ARAMELLE: Until you find your roots. Do you really have no idea what that could mean?

ORSON: I haven't even worked out whether Persephone meant it literally or not, at the moment.

ARAMELLE: Sorry. I'll leave you here. To think.

ORSON: No! You don't have to leave. Aramelle? I wanted to ask you something.

ARAMELLE: What?

ORSON: (PAUSE)...(Lying) Never mind. Can't have been important. I've forgotten it already.

ARAMELLE: I need to go on deck, anyway. Check our positioning. I'm getting quite good at it. We won't run aground again.

F/X: ARAMELLE LEAVES.

2 EXT. SHIP - CONTINUOUS

2

F/X: WAVES CRASHING, BIRDS SQUAWKING.

F/X: DEATH ARRIVES.

ARAMELLE: Aah! Why are you here?

DEATH: You're about to visit a prison. They aren't the safest places.

ARAMELLE: Oh. Fair enough.

DEATH: Orson's found you already then?

ARAMELLE: Technically, I found him.

DEATH: (BEAT) A summoning spell? They're quite hard.

ARAMELLE: Well it took me a while.

ARAMELLE: Do you know what Persephone means by find his roots?

DEATH: Yes.

ARAMELLE: Are you going to tell me?

DEATH: No. Why would I tell you?

ARAMELLE: Will you tell Orson then? If I get him?

DEATH: I have better things to do than tell people what 6.

Persephone has already told them as clear as she

ARAMELLE: ~~F~~and your roots isn't very clear! It's just a riddle!

DEATH: It's only a riddle because you don't know the answer! Princess.

ARAMELLE: Princess? Persephone calls me Princess...

DEATH: Yes she does.

ARAMELLE: Orson...used to call me Princess...

DEATH: Yes he did.

ARAMELLE: Now he calls me Aramelle. Just now.../

DEATH: Why do you think that might be?

ARAMELLE: Well...I did accidentally kill him. That would make anyone lose respect for titles.

DEATH: He didn't lose respect, Princess. (Sighs) He...

ARAMELLE: What? What are you not saying!

DEATH: Nothing! We've told you!

ARAMELLE: In a damn riddle!

DEATH: If we told you in clearer terms you wouldn't believe us.

ARAMELLE: Why? Because I think I'm better than you because I'm a princess?

DEATH: No. Because you're in denial. (BEAT) Wait, you think you're better than me?

ARAMELLE: Well...no. That was my point.

F/X: DEATH PULLS OUT TICKING CLOCK.

DEATH: Hmm. Duty calls. See you next time, Princess.

F/X: DEATH LEAVES.

3 EXT. COBALT MOUNTAIN RIVER - DAY

3

F/X: BIRDS, WIND IN SAILS.

ARAMELLE: It's quite difficult to sail up a river instead of down isn't it, Clive?

CLIVE: That's what sails are for, Captain. (BEAT) Hoist the main sail!

ARAMELLE: Thank you, I don't know which ones we need up.

CLIVE: What is the plan for the prison?

ARAMELLE: Plan?

CLIVE: The Cobalt Mountains are the most inhospitable place in the world. And you're going to go in to a prison there. I'm presuming you have a plan?

ARAMELLE: Yes! Of course! I'm going to go in. Find my mother. See what she wants. Then I'll come back out, back to you all on the ship and that largely is the plan.

CLIVE: Where's captain Liam?

ARAMELLE: I don't know. No-one's seen him since the fire. He might have changed his face again.

CLIVE: Where's Orson?

ARAMELLE: I don't know. He's around somewhere. Seems to be a thing with him now, he just appears and disappears. (BEAT) What is that?

CLIVE: That's the prison, Captain.

ARAMELLE: It's huge!

CLIVE: It's on a mountain for a reason. We need to dock.

ARAMELLE: Yes...It's really huge! Dock the ship!

F/X: CREW DOCK THE SHIP.

CLIVE: Right, Captain. We'll wait here for you, for the escape.

4 **EXT. MOUNTAIN PRISON - DAY**

4

F/X: BIRDS SINGING

F/X: ARAMELLE WALKING UP PATH.

ARAMELLE: ...nearly there.

F/X: A BIRD FLIES BY HER. PERCHES ON HER SHOULDER.

ARAMELLE: Ah! A bird!

F/X: BIRD SQUAWKS.

ARAMELLE: You look just like the bird that Captain Liam got turned into.

F/X: BIRD SQUAWKS.

ARAMELLE: Wait? Are you Captain Liam?

F/X: BIRD SQUAWKS.

ARAMELLE: One squawk for yes...

F/X: BIRD SQUAWKS. ONCE.

ARAMELLE: This is how you changed your face? You went back to being a bird?

F/X: BIRD SQUAWKS.

ARAMELLE: Do you just love being a bird?

F/X: BIRD SQUAWKS.

ARAMELLE: Very well then. Let's hope they allow pets.

THEY REACH THE PRISON.

GUARD: Halt!

F/X: SWORD CLASHING.

ARAMELLE: I'm halted. Can I go in?

GUARD: Who are you here to see?

ARAMELLE: Beryl.

GUARD: Really? She never gets visitors.

ARAMELLE: Do you think that's maybe because of the position?

GUARD: The position of what?

ARAMELLE: The prison. It's right at the top of the mountain.
I've been walking for days.

GUARD: The people here are here for a reason.

ARAMELLE: Whatever, can I see her?

GUARD: What is your relation to the prisoner?

ARAMELLE: She's my mother.

GUARD: You're...But...We thought you were dead!

ARAMELLE: And I thought she was. Can I see her?

GUARD: And she'll be very surprised that you're a pirate.

ARAMELLE: How do you know I'm a pirate?

GUARD: The hat is a bit of giveaway.

12.

ARAMELLE: Ah, yes. I always forget I'm wearing that.

(Beat)

Can I see her?

GUARD: Very well. In you go.

F/X: SWORDS UNBARRED.

5 **INT. MOUNTAIN PRISON - CONTINUOUS**

5

F/X: WATER DRIPPING.

F/X: ARAMELLE AND GUARD WALKING THROUGH CORRIDORS.

ARAMELLE: It's not a very crowded prison is it.

GUARD: Well, it's the furthest away. No point putting people here for short sentences. They'd have served their sentence by the time they arrived.

ARAMELLE: Fair enough. But why all the empty cells? Is my mother the only prisoner you have?

GUARD: We have seven prisoners, over seven floors.

ARAMELLE: So each prisoner gets their own floor? How very lovely. I've stayed in dungeons where I didn't even get my own cell, let alone floor.

GUARD: Can you feel that?

ARAMELLE: Feel what? The dripping water? Because, yes, it keeps going down my back.

GUARD: No. Not that. There's magic...it's coming from that bird!

ARAMELLE: Oh! Yes! This is the former captain of my ship! Liam!

F/X: BIRD SQUAWKS.

ARAMELLE: I took over. How did you recognise that Liam was a magic bird?

GUARD: My sister is a soothsayer. That sort of thing runs in the family.

ARAMELLE: I don't like soothsayers.

GUARD: It was my sister who prophesised your birth, you know.

ARAMELLE: Oh. Even worse.

GUARD: You know everyone left before she had finished her prophecy?

ARAMELLE: I've heard that, but no-one seems to know the other half. When the foulest sin has been committed by your own foul hand, the golden age will last forever, silver flows throughout your land. What could possibly come after that?

GUARD: What was going to happen next. Obviously.

ARAMELLE: Do you know where I can find it? Can I contact your sister?

GUARD: Just a little further.

ARAMELLE: Can I contact your sister?

GUARD: (PAUSE) She...she died. She's not around. Sorry.

ARAMELLE: Oh! No. I'm sorry!

GUARD: That's alright. It was a long time ago, now.

F/X: GUARD STOPS.

F/X: GUARD USES KEYS ON CELL DOOR.

GUARD: It's just through here. You can go in. And Princess?

ARAMELLE: Yes?

GUARD: I'm glad you didn't get sacrificed.

ARAMELLE: Thank you.

F/X: ARAMELLE ENTERS.

F/X: DOOR CLOSES BEHIND HER.

ARAMELLE: This is just another empty corridor!

F/X: ARAMELLE STARTS WALKING.

ARAMELLE: Hello? Mother! Mum! Beryl?

BERYL: Aramelle?

ARAMELLE: Mum? Where are you?

BERYL: So it is true then?

F/X: SHE LEANS AGAINST CELL BARS.

ARAMELLE: What is true?

BERYL: You do live.

ARAMELLE: Yes. Hello. Did the guards tell you or do you get the papers here?

BERYL: No. I have a cauldron.

ARAMELLE: Why are you in here?

BERYL: Why do you think?

ARAMELLE: You committed a crime?

BERYL: That's the usual reason.

ARAMELLE: Is it your reason? Why is everybody being so cryptic about this? I just want one straight answer!

BERYL: There isn't one.

ARAMELLE: There isn't a straight answer?

BERYL: You see, it all traces back to you.

ARAMELLE: Me? Why? How?

BERYL: Here, come look in the cauldron. I'll show you.

—
F/X: BERYL OPENS DOOR.

ARAMELLE: They don't even lock your door?

BERYL: They lock the one at the end of the corridor. I can go where I like in here.

F/X: ARAMELLE ENTERS CELL.

F/X: BERYL STIRS CAULDRON.

BERYL You want to know the second half of your prophecy?

ARAMELLE Yes please.

BERYL: Here. Look inside the cauldron. Tell me what you see.

ARAMELLE: What will I see? Surely it is just...Oh! It's the past!

BERYL: It is you.

ARAMELLE: I see...everything...I see an army...marching with me! And a wedding! My wedding! Oh...

BERYL: Yes?

ARAMELLE: I...

F/X: ARAMELLE STEPS BACK.

ARAMELLE: I don't want to see any more.

BERYL: You have to see it Aramelle.

ARAMELLE: No I don't! It's...that's not possible! That won't happen! I won't let it!

BERYL: It took me a long time to find out the full prophecy, Aramelle. There was a pathway where you died, and the country remained in pieces. Now it will be one. When you are queen.

ARAMELLE How?

BERYL When the deed is over and done, Death will take another one. When the spirit is brave enough, the country will take up your arms and when the union is finally done, only then will you know the heart you've won.

ARAMELLE: What deed? What spirit? What union?

BERYL: You're going to marry a prince.

ARAMELLE: No I'm not! I'm...I won't marry anyone! I'll refuse!

BERYL: The path may be long, but good will come in the end. And you will be remembered.

ARAMELLE: As the queen who started a war!?

BERYL: And ended countless others.

ARAMELLE: Guard!! Guard!! I want to leave now!

BERYL: It doesn't matter, Aramelle. This is the pathway that will happen.

F/X: GUARD COMES THROUGH DOOR.

GUARD: You ready to leave Princess?

ARAMELLE: Yes. Take me away from here.

END.