

Queens of Doom – Two Tales of the Forgotten by hafedor
Chapter 4

“Princess, Princess!”, shouted the royal nanny, “Princess Roman, it is time to get up! You have a busy day ahead of you.”

“Oh nanny.”, replied Roman, who rolled back over in her bed, “Just five more minutes, I just need a little more rest.”

“Absolutely not!”, she replied, “You have a lot to do, including getting ready for the ball tonight. This is a very important ball. Your father has a new ally, and you are expected to attend the ball in his honor.”

“Who is this new ally?”, asked the Princess.

“He is King Zarkon of Planet Doom which is part of the Drule Empire.”, replied the nanny.

“Doom?”, replied the princess, “That’s sounds like terrible place.”

“I’m sure it’s just a name.”, said the Nanny, “This evening is very important to your father, I’m sure that being part of the Drule Empire will assure Arus’s safety for many years to come.”

“Well, if it’s important to father, then it’s important to me.”, Roman responded. She soon got out of bed as the servants drew a bath for her. As she relaxed in the tub, the servants brushed her long golden main.

She was known for her great beauty. She had been named Roman, after the Arusian goddess of love and beauty. Anyone who saw her commented on fitting it was for her, and many men fell for her at first glance. She was the apple of her father's eye.

Roman closed her eyes, and took in the warm water. She relaxed as she inhaled the fragrance from her bath oils. She was glad that Arus was finally a peaceful world. Arus had been divided into two kingdoms for centuries. The Kingdom of Altea, which was ruled by her father, and the Kingdom of Helena.

There had been much discrepancy over land, and who was the true ruler of Arus. This had lead to a bloody civil war that lasted for over a hundred years. There was a time of peace when the very goddess she was named after built the love bridge. But, eventually, old arguments lead to old wounds being reopened. Soon the fighting, and the blood shed resumed.

Her father's new ally, King Zarkon, aided her father in the battle. The Arusian king soon claimed victory. But, many were killed, and the collateral damage was astronomical. Unfortunately, part of that damage included the love bridge. Zarkon had destroyed it as Helenian forces attempted to cross it.

It saddened her. The love bride had been her favorite story, especially since her name sake had created it. However, she loved he father. In her eyes he could do no wrong.

"I know he's done what's best for Arus.", she thought. After her bath, she soon got dressed. While walking down the castle corridors she ran into her twin brother, Prince Raimen.

Like most of the men, in her family, he was strong and handsome. Like her, he had blond hair, and blue eyes. When they were younger, they were inseparable. Over the years, they had grown apart. This was due to her always taking her father's side over his. How she longed to be close to him once more.

"Are you going to the ball tonight, Raimen?", she asked.

"I suppose I have no choice.", he replied. She could tell by his response that he was not happy about it.

"Why must you always give father such a hard time?", she asked, "He's a good ruler, who cares about his people."

"Oh Roman.", he sighed, "You are so naive. The only thing father cares about is power. Why do you think he's allied with that tyrant?"

"That's not true!", she exclaimed, "He had no choice, he had to defend Altea against Helena. He would never ally himself with a tyrant, I don't believe it."

"Why after fifty years of peace did the war with Helena erupt, again?", he asked.

"Because the king of Helena broke the treaty, and tried to usurp Altean land.", she told him.

"Wrong!", he told, "It's all a lie that father has told you, and our people. Our father restarted the war to take control of the kingdom of Helena. He is power hungry, and has allied himself with a like minded mad man. King Zarkon is evil. He has conquered, and enslaved many worlds. As far as I'm concerned, our

father is no better than that bastard who was banished to Pollux. He has sold all of our souls to the devil”

“Liar!”, she screamed, and with that, she slapped him. He grabbed her wrist as soon as it hit his face, and looked her straight in the eye.

“Someday, I’ll be king.”, he told her, “And, and I will find a way to repent for our father’s sins. I pray that you will someday learn to except reality, and not just want you want to believe. I just hope you will never have to learn that lesson the hard way.”

“I can take care of myself.”, she told him, as she remove her wrist from his grasp. With that, she turned and walked away. This saddened him, like her, he wished they were as close. However, he had more important things to take care of at the moment. The love bridge wasn’t the only legend on Arus. There was another, and he was determined to find it.