

The Curse of the Third Eye by Lionora
Chapter 15: Hope in Dreamland

Prince Lotor looked upon the brilliant crystal. There he saw what looked like a dormitory and seated upon a desk was the beautiful princess that had bewitched him since the first time he saw her. She was trying to write something but she seemed frustrated and unable to do it. So with hope reflected in his eyes, he called her:

"Princess Allura?"

She looked up from where she was seated, seeking for the voice that had spoken to her. She seemed startled but her grimace turned from surprise to a kind smile.

"Prince Lotor? Again? What are you doing here?"

"So you can see me..."

The princess saw the prince peeking through her bedroom window, it was strange because she could have sworn that it was daylight in her dream, but from where the prince was looking at her, it was completely dark.

"Yes I can...But what are you doing outside my window?" she asked curiously.

"I do not know. I just know that I need to speak to you." He said thinking that this may be a way to seek

help from someone who might be willing to listen. But, would she believe what was happening to him? There was only one way to find out, talking to her and trying to convince her. But, would it work?

She interrupted his thoughts, "well, I will talk to you but you have to and come sit by my side."

"I am afraid that I do not know if I can comply to your petition...I am kind of trapped here". He said with weariness in his voice.

"Well, let me see if I can help you..." She said and then proceeded to open the window of her room. It opened easily and when she looked toward he was she could appreciate how dark was the place he was in. She commented: "Wow, how can you be in a place so dark? Come take my hand..." She finally said extending her right hand to him.

He hesitated for an instant, but he clearly saw her hand extended towards the place he was at. He silently hoped that her hand was real and that he could be far away from that darkness at least for a while. So he extended his hand towards her and when he touched her, he could sense a softness comparable to the finest silk he had ever sensed. She must have felt something similar because her face looked surprised at the touch. He grabbed firmly her hand while she pulled him gently towards her room. Then he helped her get him out of the darkness until he entered her chambers or her mind for that matter.

She noticed that his clothes were completely black and contrasted a lot with his white mane of long hair.

"There, do you feel much better now?" she added while letting him go.

He was looking at the room, it was strange, like everything moving constantly, and he realized it was all a dream. But through all the changes, she still remained the same beautiful angel that had just helped him out of that darkness. It was good to be out of his mind and find himself inside of hers. There was so much brightness and light. He could almost feel her thoughts reaching his.

"Yes, I do feel better now", he said gazing at her with a pleasant smile.

She smiled back at him and told him: "Well, this is the second time I see you in my dreams, now that is strange..."

"Well it is....actually, you are the only person that can see me...the true me, that is." He said, not sure that he could convince her of his strange story.

"The true you? I see you all dressed in black, does that have something to do with the true you? And anyway, why are you here?" she said shaking her head.

He gasped and responded: "I do not know exactly why I am here...I just know that I need you to listen to me carefully...I really need your help".

Her looked turned to worry: "Prince Lotor, are you in trouble with your father?"

Prince Lotor thought that he could tell the princess without fear of being eavesdropped by Masserath.

He noticed that Masserath somehow didn't have access to his previous intrusion to Allura's dream

because he didn't mention it on their latest conversations. Prince Lotor felt secure that Masserath for some unknown reason was not in contact with Allura's mind like he was.

So he answered kneeling before her: "Not just my father, it is also witch Haggar. You have no idea of the terrible things that have happened. I have no one else to turn to...you are the only one that can hear me and I do not know why either. But if you are willing to listen to me and believe me, I will be forever in depth with you."

She was startled at how desperate he seemed to be while he spoke to her. He reminded her of her people's desperate pleas for help whenever Doom attacked Arus. He seemed like a very tormented soul. Somehow, his words touched her and she wanted to listen to him.

"Ok, you can tell me...I will listen to you and help in any way I can." She said softly.

"Thank you, princess." He decided to sit and thought on where to start his incredible story. So he recounted her from when he left Arus and was punished by his father. She shuddered at the mention of him being whipped by his own father and the days he spent without food or medical treatment.

Then he started telling her about his experience with the witch; about all that Haggar had told him about the third eye curse. He described to Allura the ceremony where Masserath took possession of his body and how he was now trapped inside his own mind. He also told her about the latest attack on Pollux and how Masserath gave Princess Romelle to his father. Allura listened carefully to everything he said.

But she looked at him not totally convinced, the story sounded too weird to be true. He seemed to notice her incredulous expression so he added:

"Princess Allura, I know this story sounds too incredible to be true. But I can assure you that everything I have told you is accurate. You can check my information on Pollux if you need to believe me. But right now, King Zarkon and Masserath are planning to come back and claim Arus again. I cannot hold Masserath back if he traps you and hands you to my father. You are the only one I have been able to reach in the outside world. I really do not know why but I'm begging you to please believe me."

She thought that he sounded so sincere, but this was all a dream, wasn't it? This couldn't be true. It was all a figment of her imagination. This wasn't really Prince Lotor telling her some spooky story about witches, demons and attacks on planets...she would just go along and follow his lead.

"Ok, Prince Lotor, what would you want me to do about all this information you just gave me?"

A light of hope shined in his eyes, maybe she had believed his story after all! So he said: "Princess, I need you to contact my commander Cossack and tell him about the visions, tell him to find a magic person who could help me break the curse or at least help me to be free again."

She repeated: "The curse..."

"Yes, the third eye curse, that's what Haggar called it...", he explained.

"Prince Lotor, and how exactly am I supposed to contact your commander Cossack...?" she said slowly

looking at him in a strange way.

"I do not know...." He paused to think...she was right. How in the hell was she going to contact his commander...? Then he remembered about a secure connection they had in the interstellar net used at the empire; he was sure that it could be used all through out the Denubian Galaxy. Maybe if she could send a message through their private connection...there was only one way to find out.

He decided to give her the simple address where she could send an encrypted code to his commander. Cossack would know that the message was legitimate; only if the princess didn't forget the secret code that just Cossack and he knew about in case of an emergency. The secret code was his mother's name. He made her repeat the secret code so that she would not forget it.

She memorized the secret name and promised him that she would send the message to Cossack. The address to send it to Cossack was very simple. Maybe they used that method like that so it wouldn't raise any suspicions. But, she found herself feeling like this was a situation that she could not control anyway. She would get the information even if everything he had told her wasn't true in the end. But, what if it was?

Well, all in all this was the weirdest dream she had ever had in a very long time. But, suddenly she felt like her dream was ending so she tried to control it the best she could. Then she said:

"I'm almost waking up now..."

Unfortunately, Lotor felt himself slowly being dragged again to the darkness of the crystal, the only thing

he could tell her before leaving was: "Please remember princess, you are the only one who can help me..."

The world in her mind started to vanish in a haze, she could see Lotor being dragged away while he begged her to help him. She woke up with a sense of sadness that she couldn't explain. The dream was so real...oddly, she could still remember the details of his strange story and the address with the secret code. She usually forgot details of her dreams but somehow this was no ordinary dream. So she went to her desk and wrote down that info that the prince gave her. Maybe the dream meant something important. She thought it could be her father sending her a message...but why use Prince Lotor to give her the message? Her father usually appeared to her as himself. This was so weird.

Princess Allura got dressed and ready so she could go to breakfast. The day was cloudy and windy. So it seemed that she would be stranded in the castle doing her princess duties for the rest of the day.

The guys were already in the dining room helping themselves with the food displayed before them. Keith and Lance looked as gorgeous as every day. Hunk was as hungry as always and Pidge had his eyes glued to whatever was interesting in his comp while he was eating his cereal. She greeted them with a good morning and took her seat so she could join in the conversation while they commented on the different things that were happening all around them.

Suddenly, Keith looked at the princess and told her: "Princess, I have good news for you..."

She smiled and said: "Really? What happened?"

Keith said with satisfaction: "The blue lion is almost repaired and you should be airborne in it most probably tomorrow".

She said happily: "Wow, that's great..." Oh, how she loved flying that blue lion. She had missed the freedom of doing it since the last battle with Doom when its landing gear got badly damaged.

She also asked: "And how about the other lions?" Keith was eating at that moment so Lance answered: "Well, those were not as badly damaged as the blue one was, so those were easier to repair."

Keith added: "Today we test the other lions and hopefully tomorrow the blue lion will join the rest of the team".

"That sounds wonderful," she grinned.

Nanny interrupted while she entered the dining room to serve some bread. "Oh no my princess, it's time you consider stop flying around in that lion. It's too dangerous for you, last time you almost got killed."

"It was a dangerous attack, but...how am I supposed to save my people if I don't risk my life? Besides we are always in danger. I recall that in the last attack, all of us were almost killed." The princess said obviously annoyed with her nursemaid.

Keith added: "Yeah, that sure was a close call...but I hope it will never happen. We learned a lot from that experience. If Zarkon attacks again, he would have to use another tactic, because we found a way to overcome the last one. But I don't think that he'll be coming anytime sooner."

"Well, we can't be completely sure", responded the princess remembering when Prince Lotor told her in her dream that Zarkon was planning to attack again. She wasn't sure that the dream was real, but the possibility of a new attack was always a reality.

Hunk added: "Yeah, Zarkon is not the giving up type...I bet that after giving his little prince a good whooping in the butt, he must be gathering his forces to come back again."

Lance added: "Just a good whooping? I bet he killed his own son...he's a mother fuckin' psychopath..."

"Hush! That language!" Nanny screamed. "And in front of the princess..."

Lance rolled his eyes while the princess giggled at him. The princess could always hear the guys talk like that and she would just laugh at them. Sometimes she would speak like that in her mind, specially when her nanny was making her life a living hell. She loved her nursemaid a lot, but sometimes Nanny was just impossible to handle.

Hunk asked Pidge: "Hey little buddy, what you're doing with that comp?"

"I'm just reading some interesting news from the galaxy..." Pidge said.

"Yeah? And what does it say?" Hunk asked.

"The spying news from the galaxy just informed that planet Pollux was attacked by Doom..." Pidge said.

CRASH!!!

A crystal glass filled with juice crashed to the floor, everyone at the table looked at the princess who was staring at Pidge with her eyes wide open in shock...