

CLOUDY

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EXT. ROYAL GARDEN - DAY

PRINCESS ALEXANDRA SPECTRE, 19, in a maroon gown and voluptuous curly locks, levitates a bright red shoe on a small cloud with her hand out, grinning. PIOTR, 16, a more innocent-looking version of his older sister, jumps her.

PIOTR

You only come to Cloud Lessons to brag!

They're in a massive green garden, filled with other students spread out across the field, all practicing with their hands out. Alexandra laughs.

ALEXANDRA

At least we have it easy with our powers. Kingdom Perfection's shape-shifting is a whole other story.

PIOTR

I don't want to imagine how easy it is to screw that up!

The floating shoe drops.

ALEXANDRA

I'm done. Father can't watch me excel if he's not here, right? Heading to the Throne Room to watch the rulings.

Alexandra runs off towards the castle.

INT. THRONE ROOM - SAME DAY

The door opens slightly. Alexandra sneaks through. KING SPECTRE, 45, a regal and well built man, sits on a large throne, watching the MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, 42, present her case.

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

... and based on these projections, my Lord, the subsection of this budget requires...

King Spectre nods to Alexandra as she takes her seat next to him. She smiles and rubs her blue bracelets, one with a golden crown above another one which reads the word, "KING."

INT. SPECTRE LIBRARY - DAY

A large library, with an infinite amount of bookshelves. At a large study desk, Alexandra plays chess with her father.

ALEXANDRA

Wouldn't it have turned out better if the Northwestland kingdoms amended the treaty BEFORE asking Herrington to join in?

The king smiles while moving his chest piece.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)

The symbolic show of unison would have drastically-

KING SPECTRE

Your move, firecracker.

ALEXANDRA

But don't you think shifting the focus to unity would have lessened the violent consequences?

KING SPECTRE

It certainly would have changed the course of history.

The KING'S ADVISOR, 33 and stone-faced, walks in and beckons to the king, who gets up from the chess table.

KING SPECTRE (CONT'D)

We'll have to continue this later, but that was a good move, Alexi. And you've got some good ideas in that head of yours.

Alexandra smiles proudly at herself as her father walks away. Piotr suddenly jumps in from behind her.

PIOTR

Alexi, is your cape clean? I need one. Father and I are going hunting before the History of Kings banquet tonight!

ALEXANDRA

Yes, it's in my room. The History of Kings banquet? Is that new?

Piotr hands her the flyer. Alexandra examines it.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)  
 "Celebrating every great man of  
 Spectre Kingdom." Hah! What about  
 the women Kings?

PIOTR  
 What women kings?

Piotr runs off and shouts a fading THANK YOU as he disappears from sight. Alexandra stares at the chess board and scrunches her face. Piotr's statement is spelled out and rings repeatedly behind her head.

ALEXANDRA  
 What women kings...?

Alexandra's face is suddenly red. Her angry face shows fire in her pupils, and THUNDER and lightning strike behind her head.

INT. ALEXANDRA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

A queue of servants are lined up to the entrance of the Princess' bedroom, each holding a different large book. The trail continues to the exit on the other side of the bedroom door.

ALEXANDRA (O.S.)  
 Why didn't I bother to notice this  
 before?

Alexandra sits in the middle of the room with her legs folded and a conveyer belt of clouds slowly bringing in book after book past her face.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)  
 Spectre King. There has never been  
 a female Spectre King!

She flips through every book's pages furiously.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)  
 How am I going to be like my  
 father? If I can't be Spectre King,  
 what else can I possibly be?

She suddenly halts the conveyer belt and pulls a leaving book back onto her lap. Alexandra opens up to a page and slams her hand onto it.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)  
 A-ha!

A lightbulb of clouds appears above her head and the rest of the floating books drop to the floor.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)  
 Queen. I'll have to rule another  
 kingdom through marriage. But...  
 where am I going to find a Prince?

EXT. PERFECTION FOREST - DAY

Princess Alexandra is striding alongside KING PERFECTION, 47, a very tall man with a kind face.

ALEXANDRA  
 ... So Prince Eric is next in line  
 for Kingdom Perfection's throne  
 then, your highness?

The king nods.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)  
 It's quite the responsibility.

KING PERFECTION  
 You would know that, Alexandra.

The Princess winces and a small flame erupts in her pupil but she blinks it out and snaps back into a smile.

ALEXANDRA  
 He used to be so shy when we were  
 kids!

KING PERFECTION  
 You remember well! He remembers you  
 too; the Princess Next Door. Oh,  
 there he is now.

The two arrive at a river, where PRINCE ERIC, 21, tall and lanky with a cute face, is apparently meditating.

KING PERFECTION (CONT'D)  
 Have fun, children!

The King leaves the two alone and walks away. Prince Eric stands up.

PRINCE ERIC  
 Alexandra!

The two hug.

PRINCE ERIC (CONT'D)

It's been so long! I hope you've been well.

ALEXANDRA

I have, thank you. It feels like I haven't been back here since I was a child.

PRINCE ERIC

I agree, it's good to have you back here.

ALEXANDRA

Well, I know things ended awkwardly between us the last time I was here.

Prince Eric laughs and shakes his head.

PRINCE ERIC

We were young. It wasn't strange for you to think that our relationship wasn't platonic. I must have sent mixed messages.

Alexandra shrugs.

PRINCE ERIC (CONT'D)

We're here now. Let's start over.

The Princess smiles and the two walk together, their CONVERSATIONS and LAUGHTER fade as they walk.

EXT. PERFECTION FOREST - LATER

The sun sets and the duo's LAUGHTER is clearly audible again.

PRINCE ERIC

Wow, it's almost supper time already! Should we go back and change before dinner?

Alexandra's smile switches to a grin.

ALEXANDRA

Yes, it would be nice to get into something a little more... comfortable.