

A Fairy Tale for Adults Episode 4

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Tales of the Forgotten Fiction Network

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1 EXT. FOREST CLEARING

Colin and Nia stare, shocked, as the Unicorn is captured by mean gargoyles and evil versions of Colin and Nia.

DANIELLA (V.O.)

You're back dear listener! And not a moment too soon! To recap, Colin and Nia, after sharing a wonderful moment of reconnection, were woken by the terrible sounds of this poor Unicorn being captured not just by mean spirited gargoyles, but carbon copies of Nia and Colin!

COLIN

What the hell?

NIA

Why do they look like us?

COLIN

I don't... I don't know.

DANIELLA (V.O.)

The doppelgangers of Colin and Nia looked in their mirrors direction. It was cruel smiles they gave their counterparts. Evil Nia offered a mock salute before they turned, and with the gargoyles forcing the unicorn along, they ran off!

NIA

C'mon, we can't let them take it!

DANIELLA (V.O.)

Setting aside the impossibility of staring at her twin for the moment, Nia tugged at her husband's hand and once more they were in motion. The villains were fast and reached a stone chamber that was similar but different than the one previously used by the Crofts. The gargoyles, unicorn, and doppelgangers disappeared inside of it, and by the time the real Colin and Nia burst through the archway they were gone.

DANIELLA (V.O.) (cont'd)

It is at this point, dear listener, I could not longer just observe. I had to help!

DANIELLA

Oh no! Oh no, oh no!

NIA
What was that?

COLIN
Who said that?

DANIELLA (V.O.)
Colin and Nia while startled by my voice began searching for it. Colin was the one to find me first of course, because he'd always loved crickets as a boy and that's exactly what I was.

DANIELLA (V.O.) (cont'd)
I had my front legs pressed over my eyes and I was shaking my head. At this point the Crofts didn't even balk at a talking Cricket. The matter of the Unicorn was simply more urgent. They both went to the ground to be on eye level with me.

COLIN
Why do they look like us? And where did they go?

DANIELLA
They are you.

COLIN
Bull crap. I am not-

DANIELLA
They are the part of you that doesn't believe in such things. What you humans don't realize is your power to create. Every nightmare or dream you give power, every deeply held belief manifests in some form, somewhere. That form either does good or wrecks havoc, if not in your world, then in someone else's.

DANIELLA (V.O.)
Nia looked crushed, guilty, and deeply sorry. It is the feeling a child has when it realizes it has the capacity to cause harm, even when it doesn't mean too.

NIA
Oh no...

COLIN
What the hell are you saying? That I made that version of me? Why would I do that?

DANIELLA

Oh for Heven's sake why don't they teach this to you all anymore!

DANIELLA (V.O.)

I shoved my prickly right leg into Colin's nose, clearly frowning at him.

DANIELLA

It's the side of you that believes in order to grow up, beliefs such as unicorns and 'magic' as you call it must be destroyed. So, you made something that will destroy it so you can be an 'adult'. Don't you realize that's why you can't see us in your world anymore? When you stopped believing, you gave us no choice. Sometimes we don't just fade away, sometimes we have to run and hide from the monsters you create to destroy us.

COLIN

(beat)

Shit.

NIA

Yeah.

(beat)

How do we stop them?

RAZIEL

It's not that easy anymore.

DANIELLA (V.O.)

Nia and Colin looked over their shoulders, and there stood the towering imposing figure of the Angel. They got to their feet, but remained careful of where I was, which I appreciated.

COLIN

Why? What changed?

RAZIEL

They took the unicorn to your world. Taking your power back won't be enough. It must be rescued.

NIA

We'll do it.

COLIN

Send us back.

RAZIEL

How do I know you'll be successful?

COLIN

You have to trust us. Let us make it right again.

NIA

Please, we can do this.

DANIELLA (V.O.)

Raziel looked sternly at them for a long moment. It is unnerving, getting stared down by an Angel. It can feel as if they are looking into the deepest parts of you, where not even the lies you tell yourself are safe from the truth your heart keeps. Yet, Colin and Nia were not unnerved. They were speaking from their hearts. Colin even took a step closer to Raziel, holding her ageless gaze.

COLIN

We can do this. Please.

RAZIEL

(beat)

So be it.

2 INT. STONE CHAMBER

DANIELLA (V.O.)

Just like that, as if they were never gone, Colin and Nia appeared in the stone chamber on Earth at the exact same moment they disappeared. Time is different in the 3rd dimension because Allie and Ethan didn't know their parents had gone. The children were standing in the exact spot, with Allie holding their video camera and Ethan watching them.

DANIELLA

At first Nia and Colin were slightly disoriented. They looked at each other, at the kids, then back at each other.

NIA

We're back.

COLIN

The unicorn!

DANIELLA (V.O.)

Colin and Nia ran out of the chamber.

ALLIE

Guys! We didn't take the picture yet!

ETHAN

Where are they going?

3 EXT. STONE CHAMBER

DANIELLA (V.O.)

Colin and Nia, ignoring their children's shouts and questions, burst out of the chamber and immediately began scanning the field.

COLIN

There they are!

DANIELLA (V.O.)

Maybe a hundred yards away, at the second stone chamber a large van idled. A gargoyle climbed into the back with the Unicorn and slammed the doors closed. Not a second later, the van tires squealed and the vehicle took off. At this point Allie and Ethan walked out of the chamber, looking at their parents curiously.

ALLIE

What are you guys doing?

NIA

We can't lose them! Get in the car!

ALLIE

We just got here. What's going on?

ETHAN

Where are we going?

We should hear the beep beep sound of a car being unlocked, and doors being opened.

COLIN

Hurry up, we've got to save the unicorn!

ETHAN

We've got to save the what?

DANIELLA (V.O.)

Nia stopped at her open car door, giving her children the firm unmovable expression of a mother that is not to be questioned.

NIA

Ethan and Allison Croft get in the car right now!

DANIELLA (V.O.)

Ethan suddenly grinned. I said before children were intuitive, and Ethan could sense that something was different. He ran over to the SUV, while Allie reluctantly followed behind them.

ALLIE

What is wrong with you two? Who are you chasing?

COLIN

I told you, they stole a unicorn. Buckle up.

4 INT. THE SUV

We should hear the tires screeching over gravel as Colin jams his foot on the gas and takes off.

ALLIE

What are you talking about? There are no such things as unicorns!

NIA

Yes there are. We're so sorry, we didn't know what we were doing.

ETHAN

It's okay, mom.

ALLIE

You guys are seriously freaking me out. What happened?!

DANIELLA (V.O.)

The SUV was faster than the van, and better off road. Slowly but surely, they were gaining on other vehicle.

COLIN

You'll see. Are you wearing your seatbelts? I'm gonna ram this guy.

ALLIE
You're gonna do what?!

ETHAN
I'm buckled in dad!
(beat)
Allie's good too!

ALLIE
Did you guys have a mid life crisis and
smoke some weed or something?

NIA
Do it Colin. Get em.

COLIN
Here goes, hang on!

DANIELLA (V.O.)
Colin grinned at his wife. He tugged on the
wheel, and the SUV slammed into the van.
The impact jerked them all, and sent the
van skidding wildly to the side.

ETHAN
Yeah! Get em Dad!

ALLIE
(screams)
Have you two lost your freakin minds?!!!

DANIELLA (V.O.)
The van regained traction and the
passenger side window rolled down. An
angry looking gargoyle stuck his head out,
holding what looked to be a shotgun and
shouted angrily at the Crofts.

ALLIE
Oh my god what is that!!!

ETHAN
It's a troll!

NIA
Have you never read any fantasy books?
It's a gargoyle!

COLIN
Heads down kids!

NIA
Hang on everybody!

DANIELLA

Colin slammed on the breaks, causing the SUV to skid to a halt in the damp dirt. Colin's timing was perfect because the gargoyles shot sailed harmlessly in front of them. However, they were not safe just yet. The van rocked to a halt, and the gargoyle jumped out.

NIA

Crap. Colin look.

COLIN

Reverse?

ETHAN

Run him over!

NIA

No time. Everybody out!

5 EXT. SUV

DANIELLA (V.O.)

The kids wisely didn't ask questions this time. All four jumped out of the car just as the gargoyle pulled the trigger a second time. A large beam of blue energy wrapped around the SUV and the vehicle exploded.

Get your Michael Bay on with these sfxs.

DANIELLA (V.O.) (cont'd)

Nia shielded Ethan with her body, in the same way Colin did to Allie as their car blew up. Fiery pieces of metal from the destroyed car rained down around them, but luckily none of it hit the family (which is a good thing, because a hospital visit would have slowed their quest considerably).

DANIELLA (V.O.) (cont'd)

The gargoyle laughed in delight at the destruction, jumped back in the van, and once more the vehicle sped off.

COLIN

You okay? You all right sweetheart?

ETHAN

That was awesome!

DANIELLA

Both parents checked over their children to ensure they weren't harmed. Allie was clinging to their father's side, trying to come to terms with what had happened. They were a teenager you see, on their way to becoming an adult and because of it, it was harder for her to swallow this sort of scenario.

ETHAN

Where'd they go, Mom? And did they really have a unicorn?

NIA

Yes baby they did. We've got to find them somehow

COLIN

And get another vehicle.

ALLIE

Will you two please explain to me what the hell is going on?

ETHAN

Guardian Angels. They'll help

COLIN

I don't know about that, Ethan. The last Angel we met was a real stick in the mud.

ALLIE

Seriously, why are you all ignoring my very important freaking question?

NIA

Allie, take a breath. I'll explain everything later. Right now, your father and I have done something bad, we've created something we didn't mean too, it's taken a unicorn, and it's going to kill it if we don't do something.

(beat) ALLIE

You're serious?

NIA

Yes. This isn't a joke. We're serious.

DANIELLA (V.O.)

Allie glanced at their brother who was excitedly taking a picture of the wreckage on his iphone. But they did take a calming breath.

ALLIE

Okay. Let's go save the Unicorn, I guess.

ETHAN

Do you know where they've gone?

NIA

Colin. The chamber Colin! Calanon said his son used his mind to navigate it.

COLIN

(laughs)

Oh my god. Allie banished us. That's how we got to Carsteim!

NIA

All right, so they're us right? Where we would go if we were going to kill a unicorn?

ALLIE

Wait, I banished you to where?

NIA

Wait! I know. Ethan, let me see your cell phone.

ETHAN

Sure mom.

We hear the sounds of Nia typing on the cell phone.

NIA

(beat)

Okay, we're going to run back to the chamber, and when we get inside you have to think about this place.

ETHAN

Why that place?

NIA

(emotional)

When I was a teenager, one day, I got really angry at your grandfather. He kept encouraging me to use my imagination more.

(MORE)

NIA (cont'd)

But we're really poor, there were a lot of bills piling up and I didn't want to listen to him. I needed to, grow up, get a job find a way to support him.

(beat)

To get him to stop, I wrote a story about killing a unicorn and I did it in this castle. The death of Imagination I called it.

ALLIE

(beat)

Wow. That's mean. And really sad, Mom.

NIA

I know. I was angry, and I didn't know that it might actually happen somewhere.

ETHAN

It's okay. We all do dumb things sometimes, right?

NIA

Yes we do. Let's go you guys.

DANIELLA (V.O.)

Nia quickly wiped the tears away, drawing in a deep breath. Colin bent and kissed her cheek. Nia smiled affectionately up at him and touched his face. He winked at her.

COLIN

Let's write a new ending to your story.

DANIELLA (V.O.)

The Crofts ran as fast as they could back to the chamber. The children being in better shape got there first. Colin and Nia arrived a few seconds afterwards a bit out of breath.

6 INT. STONE CHAMBER

ETHAN

Everybody hold hands.

ALLIE

Should Ethan and I both think it?

COLIN

Why not. Can't hurt.

ALLIE

Ready?

ETHAN

Ready.

DANIELLA (V.O.)

They closed their eyes and not five seconds later, the Crofts disappeared.

Epic transition sounds go here.

7 EXT. CASTLE RUINS

DANIELLA (V.O.)

Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world. - Albert Einstein

DANIELLA (V.O.) (cont'd)

Waves crashed again the cliff. Atop it, sat the remains of an old castle. Nature in all it's majestic beauty nearly reclaimed this magical place. The grass was tall, vines, and moss caressing stone walls that still stood. The Crofts appeared in a stone chamber just outside the ruins, and as they exited they saw the Van. The back van doors were open, and tracks in the dirt lead inside.

DANIELLA (V.O.) (cont'd)

The Crofts ducked behind half a broken wall, peering at the structure.

NIA

Okay. You two wait here. Your father and I will go inside-

ALLIE

(interrupts)

Not a chance. We're going to help you.

COLIN

This could get really dangerous. They have weapons.

ETHAN

All the more reason you need our help.

ALLIE

Exactly. We're coming with you.

DANIELLA (V.O.)

Allie fist bumped their brother, who nodded firmly at his parents. Colin and Nia shared an unspoken glance, communicating in that way parents do, with a single look.

COLIN

All right but you stay behind us, and you have to promise to be really careful.

ALLIE

We will.

ETHAN

Scouts honor.

NIA

Hey Allie?

ALLIE

Yeah mom?

DANIELLA (V.O.)

Nia came closer to her child, framing their face between her hands.

NIA

Who you are is beautiful, and I want you to always feel comfortable with who you are. So please know that no matter what, *no matter what*, I love you, I'm proud of you, and I am here for you.

ETHAN

Awww. Me too, Allie.

COLIN

Me three.

DANIELLA (V.O.)

The unexpected words went straight to Allie's heart, warming parts of them, that were once afraid. Allie struggled not to cry, words failing them. But, that's okay. Sometimes we don't need words, sometimes a hug will do. Allie hugged their mom, brother, and father all at once.

ALLIE

(emotional)

Thanks you guys.

(clears throat)

Okay. Enough of this. We gotta help the Unicorn.

NIA
Right. You ready?

DANIELLA
Wait for me!

ALLIE
Who said that?

DANIELLA
I did!

COLIN
(grining)
Look down.

DANIELLA (V.O.)
Their gazes lowered, and there I was,
waving up them.

ETHAN
No way! What's up Jiminy?

DANIELLA
Why do all you humans call me that? My
name, is Daniella Snugums.

DANIELLA (V.O.)
Allie struggled not to laugh, because
obviously I was very serious about this
(and I was. I'd gotten into one or two
arguments with Jiminy over the years and
though he was a fine fellow, he and I didn't
always see eye to eye where Gepetto was
concerned).

ETHAN
Oh. My bad. Hi, Daniella!

NIA
Let's go.

DANIELLA (V.O.)
Colin kissed the top of his children's heads,
before he and Nia lead the way towards
the Castle. It was probably a funny sight
as the Crofts tried to sneak around the
van. We all peeked inside but there was
nothing useful. We followed a winding path
towards a large archway that at one time
was probably a beautiful entranceway. The
light of the day came through the cracks in
stone and open windows, making it easy
for us to see inside.

8 INT. CASTLE RUINS

DANIELLA (V.O.)

As soon as we stepped in, the sounds of the distressed Unicorn echoed down the hallways towards us.

NIA

Hurry.

DANIELLA (V.O.)

We all broke into a run, rounding a corner, and before our eyes could process the situation we were attacked!

ALLIE

Look out!

DANIELLA (V.O.)

Two of the gargoyles dive bombed us, ready to snatch up the children, and we absolutely could not have that! What the Crofts (and these meanies) didn't know is that I am a special agent in her Angelicness secret service. My code name is Flip, given to me by Raziel herself. With a flutter of my wings I jumped into the air and kicked one of the gargoyles right in it's mean face. And I kicked it hard, sending it spiraling to the ground.

ETHAN

Don't you touch my sibling!

ALLIE

(struggling)

Let me go! Seriously I can beat you up!

DANIELLA (V.O.)

Simultaneously the second Gargoyle grabbed Allie! Ethan picked up a rock as Allie began wildly flailing and struggling, trying to get the creature off. Ethan threw the rock and it struck, but the creature didn't let go! Colin and Nia were coming to help but here came the doppelgangers too! Oh no!

DANIELLA (V.O.) (cont'd)

Colin tackled, Colin. Nia grabbed Nia from behind, lifting her off her feet and dragged her backwards.

COLIN
(grunting)
Damn you!

NIA
(struggling)
Let go of me!

DANIELLA (V.O.)
If all that wasn't terrible enough the third gargoyle, standing by the unicorn, that was chained in the center of the room, pointed its ray gun at us, shouting for it's comrades to move so it could get a shot.

STUFFED PIG
HANG ON ALLIE! WE'RE COMING!

DANIELLA (V.O.)
Princess, Sparks, and the other Imaginary Friends from the meeting were here! The rabbit gave Princess a boost and she landed atop the head of the gargoyle trying to grab Allie! Thinking fast Princess did the only acceptable thing, she bit down hard on the gargoyle's ear!

PRINCESS
(with a mouthful. Lots of grr)
Let... go...!

DANIELLA (V.O.)
Ethan, the cougar, and the rabbit grabbed the Gargoyle's tail. Allie reared back their fist, (their form made me so proud) and punched that mean gargoyle right in the nose!

DANIELLA (V.O.) (cont'd)
And wouldn't you know it these gargoyles are just bullies! The gargoyle howled and wailed as it eyes began to tear! It stopped trying to grab Allie, and began yelling for a time out. Can you believe it? A time out!

DANIELLA (V.O.) (cont'd)
I kept my attention on the meanie I'd rightfully and expertly jump kicked, giving them the warning they would catch the business side of these legs if they tried to get up! Spoiler alert, they didn't!

DANIELLA (V.O.) (cont'd)

And while all this was going on Sparks, taking advantage of the chaos, crept to the center of the room. The gargoyle there must have sensed it was no longer alone, because it whirled around pointing it's ray gun at Sparks. But Sparks was unafraid. That old bear just kept walking closer.

SPARKS

You don't have to be mean and you don't have to be afraid. It's okay to be wrong. It's okay to say I'm sorry. I know it's going to hurt at first but... afterwards, you're going to be free. You're going to heal, and we'll help you. I promise. We all will.

DANIELLA (V.O.)

The Gargoyle's eyes began to water. It's lower lip quivered. A wealth of emotions ran through it. The kind of emotion we feel when we know we've done something we shouldn't. When we've stopped caring because it's easier than healing. But you don't have to be afraid anymore than this gargoyle does, because we're here for you too.

DANIELLA (V.O.) (cont'd)

The gargoyle sniffled, ears lowering, wings tucking in. It dropped the ray gun, looking sad and dejected, even scuffing it's feet on the ground. Without hesitation, Sparks went up to that gargoyle and gave it a hug.

SPARKS

We got you, friend. We got you.

ALLIE

Princess? Is that really you?

PRINCESS

Yeah it is! What kind of a friend would I be if I didn't help you save a unicorn.

ALLIE

I... I'm sorry. I stopped believing in you, I stopped talking to you, and I'm sorry.

PRINCESS

It's okay. Your parents reminded me not to give up on you.

ALLIE

They did?

ETHAN

Oh crap. Where are mom and dad?!

9 INT. RUINS CHAMBER

DANIELLA (V.O.)

Dragged away into another room of the Castle Colin and Nia were dealing with their Doppelgangers! Colin was struggling underneath, well, Colin!

Dramatic punching sound effect and grunt.

COLIN

Did you just punch me!? What is wrong with you?

EVIL COLIN

You made me Colin! I'm like this because of you!

COLIN

Well I was wrong, okay! You're wrong!

EVIL COLIN

You don't get off that easy! You made me a coward! You're a coward! You gave up on your dreams! You don't believe in anything if it's not logical, if it's not practical. You sucked the color of my world, out of both our worlds and now you're gonna pay for it!

Another dramatic punching sound. More sounds of struggling.

COLIN

Stop that! Stop it right now! We can change!

EVIL COLIN

No we can't!

COLIN

Yes we can! Any day, any moment, any minute we can change. I know I was wrong! I did what I thought was right because nobody showed me how either! It's not an excuse but it's real.

(MORE)

COLIN (cont'd)

(emotional now)

I don't want mundane, I want magic, I want color, I... I don't want to be afraid anymore. I'm sorry, okay? Is that what you want to hear? I'm sorry. I was wrong, and I'm sorry and I'm going to do better, but you have to give me a chance...

We hear the sound of Nia and Nia struggling. Evil Nia slams Nia up against the wall.

NIA

(painful grunt)

EVIL NIA

This isn't one of your stories, Nia. This is the real world. That means I can kill you.

NIA

Wow, that got dark.

EVIL NIA

I'm just doing what you wanted. I'm bringing your story to life see?

NIA

You don't get to use my pain against me.

EVIL NIA

You pushed your pain out into the world like it was acceptable. You made me because you wanted to hide rather than heal. Well here I am, Nia.

NIA

(emotional)

I know I did... I know but... my grandparents were sick, and this world doesn't care. Not if your sick, especially not if your black, nobody was going to help us. I had to let that part of me go. I had too.

EVIL NIA

Yes! That's it Nia. Let it die. Let it all die.

NIA

(choking)

Stop.... choking me...

10 INT. NIA'S MIND

NIA (V.O.)

Hey, wait a minute. You're in my head too, aren't you?

EVIL NIA (V.O.)

Obviously. I'm you.

NIA (V.O.)

Okay. Okay. We're going to figure this out. Me and you. Before I run out of air.

EVIL NIA (V.O.)

There's nothing to figure out. You said it yourself. No one helps. No one cares. Imagination has to die.

NIA (V.O.)

(her voice should get
stronger the more she
speaks)

But that's... that's not the whole story. I can be honest about the reality of my situation and still believe in something better. In fact, I... I think have to. Because if I don't, if I just accept the mundane, it will never change. I should have listened to my grandfather, I should have kept writing. Maybe it wouldn't have paid the bills, I don't know. But it would have helped me heal, and it would have helped me keep believing in what could be, so I could teach my kids that this reality...

11 INT. RUINS CHAMBER

NIA

(strong voice)

Aint it, sister.

EVIL NIA

What are you doing, stop that.

NIA

Chapter 10. Nia realized she'd been mean, cruel even to the inner child inside of her that needed her.

EVIL NIA

Stop it...

NIA

Nia realized the spark of magic and imagination that existed inside of her was something her little corner of the world needed. It was Something her children needed. And Nia vowed, she would never...

EVIL NIA

....don't you dare.

NIA

....Ever Stop believing in what could be possible, what she knew was possible somewhere, ever, **ever**, again.

EVIL NIA

.... nooooo

NIA

The End.

DANIELLA (V.O.)

And just like that, with a flash of light and a reverberating boom, with all the power you beautiful humans possess, of healing and believing in the power inside of you, Evil Colin and Evil Nia, disappeared. The chains fell off the unicorn. The gargoyles, rightfully put in their place, returned to their world where there was a very angry Angel waiting for them.

Transition sound effect. Some magic fucking music goes here okay.

12 EXT. CASTLE RUINS

DANIELLA (V.O.)

Slowly the Crofts emerged from the Castle ruins. Colin and Nia held hands completely trusting of the unicorn that lovingly carried Allison and Ethan on it's back and the Imaginary Friends sat behind them. I, perched on the unicorns horn like the hero I was of course.

NIA

(emotional)

Oh my god. Colin, kids, look.

DANIELLA (V.O.)

Nia's voice trembled because all around them, things you can no longer see knew it was safe to once more expose themselves to the Crofts.

DANIELLA (V.O.) (cont'd)

What things you're rightfully asking. So I'll say to you, what have you stopped believing in? That's what they saw.

ETHAN

That is so friggin cool!

ALLIE

(happy crying)

I thought... but I didn't... and now... they are real. I knew they were real! I knew it!

ETHAN

Well, duh. Why wouldn't they be real?

DANIELLA (V.O.)

At that moment, Raziel appeared, as I suspected she would. When she came into view time froze. Well, for Allie and Ethan anyway. The rest of us were perfectly aware.

RAZIEL

Well, well. You did it.

COLIN

Told you we would.

RAZIEL

Now you see. The unicorn was never lost. You were. If you do not change, nothing else can.

NIA

There's so much we don't know.

RAZIEL

You do not always have to teach them, but you must let them learn.

DANIELLA (V.O.)

Colin and Nia looked at their children, eyes moist.

NIA

I understand.

COLIN

So do I.

RAZIEL

This experience was for you. Ready?

COLIN

Oh, Raziel, I was rude to Calanon when I first arrived. Would you apologize to him for me?

RAZIEL

I am not your messenger human.

DANIELLA

I'll do it, Colin.

COLIN

(emotional again)

I use to talk to you. A long time ago.

DANIELLA

I know. I heard you. I answered you too, you just couldn't hear me because you didn't believe I could speak.

DANIELLA (V.O.)

Colin stared me with the kind of childlike wonder I'd not seen in his eyes for a very long time. I must admit I nearly teared up at the sight of it. He brought his head down and I lovingly hugged his nose.

DANIELLA

If one must grow up and get married though Captain Croft, she's a really good choice.

DANIELLA (cont'd)

Both Nia and Colin laughed as I had intended. Captain Croft was the childhood superhero name Colin had given himself when we played together. His face softened as he looked at Nia.

COLIN

Yes, she is.

DANIELLA (V.O.)

A blush spread across Nia's cheeks, but her smile could not have been any wider. I winked at them both, and jumped off landing perfectly on Raziel's shoulder.

DANIELLA
Now they're ready ma'am.

13 INT. STONE CHAMBER

DANIELLA (V.O.)
In the blink of an eye, Nia and Colin appeared back in the chamber. This time, Allie was standing in front of them, holding up the video camera. Ethan paused his perimeter walking to watch his parents. Colin and Nia were still hand in hand as they'd been when Raziel and I left them; Nia blushing, Colin smiling lovingly down at her.

ALLIE
Perfect you guys, hold it!

DANIELLA (V.O.)
They did, because you could say in that moment Colin and Nia were looking at each other the way two people in love do, who had forgotten they were in love, and were now realizing it again. It was Nia who looked away first, gently disentangling herself from Colin. After everything that happened she was a little emotional, and needed a moment to herself.

NIA
I'll be right back guys, keep doing your experiments.

DANIELLA (V.O.)
Colin watched his wife leave, understanding as husbands who know their wives do. He gave her a moment, and turned his attention onto his son.

COLIN
Hey, Ethan? I need to go talk to your mom, but when I come back, I want you to show me how to use your dowsing rod.

ALLIE
Don't make fun Dad.

COLIN
I'm not. I'm being serious. I'd like to know.

ETHAN
Seriously?

COLIN
Yeah, seriously.

ETHAN
Okay!

DANIELLA (V.O.)
Colin winked at Allie and was rewarded with their playful eye roll.
Colin walked out of the chamber and found Nia. She wasn't standing far from it, but her back was to him, her gaze set on the woods. Colin smiled quietly at her back.

14 EXT. STONE CHAMBER

COLIN
Hey Nia?

NIA
Hmm?

COLIN
If you live to be a hundred, I want to live to be a hundred minus one day, so I never have to live without you.

DANIELLA (V.O.)
Nia turned around and Colin could see quite clearly she wasn't expecting him to say that. The surprise in her eyes was drowning in a sudden swell of emotion as unexpected as his words. Her eyes teared and he reached up, framing her cheek gently in his hand. Nia drew in a watery breath, letting loose a soft laugh and even softer smile.

NIA
What poetry book did you steal that from, Captain Croft?

COLIN
Winnie the pooh.

NIA
(laughing)
Let's stop acting like ridiculous adults.

COLIN
I agree,
(beat)
Come home?

DANIELLA (V.O.)
Rest assured, dear listener she did.

Magical fucking transition music goes here.

15 INT. CROFTS HOME

DANIELLA (V.O.)
Six Months later...

ETHAN
Daniella, come get in the picture!

DANIELLA (V.O.)
I was perched on Colin's shoulder. Colin was sitting in front of his piano, studying a piece of music he was composing and stubbornly refusing to listen to me.

DANIELLA
E-flat man. I'm telling you-

COLIN
Look cricket, I'm the composer, you're the secret agent. Let me do this eh?

DANIELLA
Fine, fine. Don't listen to me.

DANIELLA (V.O.)
Colin and I grinned at each other. We often bickered as old friends do. I hopped off his shoulder, and bounced my way into the living room. Ethan and Allie were standing with Calanon and Thalion. Thalion and Ethan had become fast friends.

(panic)^{NIA}
Colin!

COLIN
Coming!

We hear the sound of footsteps.

COLIN (cont'd)
What's wrong?

NIA
Raziel wants to come over. She's bringing two Dwarves and the unicorn.

COLIN

Cool.

NIA

The dining room isn't big enough for a unicorn!

COLIN

Oh... Umm... manifest a barn?

NIA

I will cut you.

COLIN

(laughing)

Okay, okay. We'll get the backyard set up. I clean off the deck and-

NIA

There is no way I'm going to have enough time to-

DANIELLA (V.O.)

Colin cut his wife off smoothly by taking her face between his hands and planting a sweet kiss on her mouth. Nia, being quite the sucker for her husband was immediately softened by it.

COLIN

Captain Croft to the rescue ma'am. We'll handle it.

DANIELLA (V.O.)

As you can see, it was shaping up to be a wonderful dinner and I don't want to miss it. So! If you take nothing else from this story take this; love is powerful, as is your ability to create. You were not given imaginations just to craft fancy stories for your childhood toys. You were given imaginations so that you could build a world.

DANIELLA (V.O.) (cont'd)

So build it.

DANIELLA

Perhaps then, you and I can have a conversation one day. I would like that very much.

THE END