

Anime Idol 2 The Phantom Castle

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The characters from Anime Idol are back for another adventure. We go to a normal town headed by a mysterious castle. What will happen when we enter the castle grounds?

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1 - Sanjaya's Hair

Part 1- Sanjaya's Hair

Hello people, its me, Emma, and I'm back for the long awaited sequel of Anime Idol. Basically, the story starts a year after the first story ended. We hadn't heard much about Simon. He was behaving. I still hadn't changed my mind and Hannah and Archie were still begging me to.

I guess I should talk about David first. Remember when he told me he could wait? Well, he lied. He was at my door every day the second I woke up. Every monring he had found some new way to, hopefully, make it impossible for me to say no. No one, not even David, seemed to understand that there was absolutely nothing that could change my mind.

Well, David was around me so much that it made me wonder how his guitar shop stayed in business. Then I wondered if there could possibly be two of him. It turned out that there were two of him. (The person I am about to describe is ficticious. I made him up.) He had a twin brother named Daniel Cook who he had never told us about. Daniel may have been shaven and not as good a singer as David, but he was still easy on the eyes. We found out that he was an amazing bass player so he joined Arc Angels.

So Arc Angels had a bass player. All they needed was a drummer, which we had. Our new drummer's name was Sammy Phoenix. She became one of my best friends. She's kind of like Hannah because she likes to hug people, especially the Cookies. He he, Cookies. Now I'm hungry. I'm going to Subway cause their chocolate chip cookies are the awsomest!

Alright, now that you're updated its time to start the story. I just woke up. I knew that David would be at my front door that day. It was my birthday. Sure enough, there was a persistent knocking at my front door as I walked downstairs. I opened the door and David was there.

"David, we've been over this at least a thousand times," I groaned.

"No, its not like that. Today I'm not trying to make you change your mind," he said quickly.

"Why else would you be here this early?"

"To wish you a happy birthday of course."

"Oh no, oh please no!"

"That's not the only reason I'm here. Hannah called and she said that she found this video tape we all need to see. She said we were meeting here."

"Leave it to Hannah to invite everyone over to my house and forget to tell me! I thought I told her that these little meetings were never going to be at my house! Alright, come on in. One thing I can not stress enough, DON'T TOUCH ANYTHING!"

I made sure to let Hannah know that I was not happy about this. Everyone was there, even the two newest additions to our group. One of them was the new drummer for Arc Angels. Her name was Angel. The other person was the new bassist for The Ninjas. She was my Japanese penpal, Ayuri.

When everyone arrived I was glancing around the room suspiciously. Archie was kneeling next to my coffee table eyeing my priceless jade dragon sculpture. I could tell he was contemplating touching one of its sharp fangs or stroking its tail. I tried to catch his eye so I could give him a warning look but he was too engrossed in its intricate design.

"David, I would appreciate it if you didn't touch that," I said loudly. My words came out a bit too sharp and rude. My snappy tone made him jump.

"Oh, sorry, I was just looking," he said apologetically.

"I didn't mean to sound rude. I'm very defensive over my stuff. Uhh, Hannah, didn't you have something

you wanted to show us."

"Oh yeah, I got this in the mail yesterday," Hannah said holding up the video tape.

Hannah put the video tape in my VHS player. The face of The Evil Simon appeared on my tv screen. We all groaned as an evil grin spread across his face. We groaned even louder when he started monologing.

"Hello, kids. As you may or may not already know, the guards that were watching us have gone missing. My newest evil plan is going perfectly. I got some help from Malefacent, Kadaj, and Xemnas. We spread heartless, fiends, and nobodies to all the anime worlds. Once our evil creatures have taken over, all you will have left to watch is The Backyardigans! The only way you can stop me is by going through the anime worlds yourselves and destroying all the evil creatures! And that's impossible! Muwahahaha!" At that point something big and hairy had moved in front of the camera.

"Hey, Sanjaya, your stupid pohawk is getting in the way of the camera! Move! You messed up my evil laugh!"

A bright blue screen with an evil pablo with an ax on it popped up. It said 'we are having technical difficulties, please stand by.' There was wierd elavator music in the background. That went on for about five minutes until it finally went back to Simon.

"Uh, where was I? Ah yes, MUWAHAHAHAHAH!"

That was the end of the tape. We all looked at each other as if we were all thinking the same thing. Then we ripped off our clothes to reveal our portal jumping outfits. The Ninjas were dressed like ninjas and Arc Angels were dressed like Kingdom Hearts characters. We were ready to save the anime worlds once again.

2 - Setting Out on Another Adventure

The anime worlds were once again in turmoil and we were the only ones who could save them. I couldn't shake the thought from my mind that Simon sounded suspicious. We couldn't afford to leave them be. Even if Simon was lying, we had to go.

None of us knew how we were going to get from world to world. Thank goodness we had Hannah. It seemed like every time Hannah went to the research center she had a new cool gadget. This time she brought us all these special James Bond watches. There was a button that could take you from world to world.

I was a little worried about leaving my house and Saphira for a long time. Angel and Ayuri had to stay behind and they agreed to watch our houses with our friends, Jackalynn and Angie. Saphira said that she wanted to go with us. Hannah had to go back and get a bigger watch so Saphira could go. So there we were, outside of David's Guitar Shop. We were all silent. I was the first one to break the silence.

"You know what? There's something about this that has been bugging me," I said reluctantly, "Simon was all too willing to tell us exactly what he was planning and how to stop him. I thought he would have a new objective as well."

"Emma does have a point, it could be a trap." Sammy agreed disappointedly.

"It could be a trap but he's giving us no choice," said David.

I could tell what David and Sammy were thinking. I could tell what they were all thinking. Sammy wanted to try out her new ninja moves on the bad guys. David was going to use this as a opportunity to make me fall in love with him. Hannah couldn't wait to see the anime characters again. Archie was still a little freaked out by the evil pablo. Daniel was another story.

Daniel had this special telepathic power. He was sending me strange messages. They said something about beware the son of Simon. I didn't think Simon had a son. I dismissively brushed that thought aside.

"So, where are we going to go first?" Hannah asked excitedly.

3 - Defeating the Enemies

Chapter 3- Defeating the Enemies

The first place we went was Kingdom Hearts world. Sora and Axel were very happy to see us. They introduced us to the other characters and they all knew us. All except for Hayner. Apparently he didn't watch any anime at all. The other Kingdom Hearts characters were looking at him like he was an idiot. Sora, Donald, and Goofy helped us fight the giant army of heartless, fiends, nobodies, and...uh, fangirls. Back off ladies, Cookie is mine! Eventually we destroyed all the enemies and scared away the fangirls. That was a lot easier than I thought it would be. That made us even more suspicious of Simon.

Next we went to Naruto world. Hannah and Naruto were happy to see each other again. Their chibi hugs made Archie jealous. Hannah gave Archie a chibi hug and he blushed heavily. Sasuke showed up and started asking where the princesses were. Then Sakura, Ino, and Tenten showed up with a giant army of fangirls who were looking for David.

I scared the fangirls away by making a scary scowly face. They were followed by another army of heartless, fiends, and nobodies. We fought off this army too but the Naruto characters just stood there and watched us fight. They must have thought we could use ninjutsu and genjutsu when all we could really use was taijutsu. Look's like Lee's found some new friends. Wait, nooooooo! I AM TERRIFIED OF LEE'S EYEBROWS!

That was too easy. That made us even more suspicious than before. Then we just came to the conclusion that Simon was getting weaker. After that fight all suspicion was gone.

We went around to every world and we always found an army of enemies. It certainly was good to see all of those anime characters again. Everything was going according to plan until we arrived in modern day Japan.

The city where we appeared was large and populated so the enemies were hard to find. We ended up splitting up into our normal groups. David and I had chased some heartless into an alley and we saw a shadow in front of us. After we defeated the heartless we went to investigate. The shadow was getting bigger and it had formed the shape of a monster. I didn't turn to look at David but I was shaking in my Chucks.

We could hear the monster's scary voice, "Fe fi fo fum, I smell apples!" What a relief! It was only our apple loving Shinigami friend!

"That's right, Ryuk! We brought some apples for you!" I said in relief.

"Oh, thank you, Emma! How can I ever repay you?"

"You can help us fight off all the heartless, fiends, and nobodies."

"Do you have any more apples?"

"Absolutely, here you go."

"It's a deal!"

With Ryuk's help we defeated the enemies in double the time. I only wish we could have defeated Misa afterward. We had to say goodbye before I had a chance. We only had one more world left on the watch. That meant that David only had one more chance to wow me and so far he was doing a little less than wow. I had a funny feeling that this last world was going to give us a harder time and that we were going to be there longer. Much longer.

We arrived at a town not much different from our own. The only difference was that it was a normal town and that it was headed by a ginormous, menacing castle. I didn't see any enemies and neither did anyone else. It seemed that the only way to find the enemies was to enter the scary castle.

4 - Captives of the King

I woke up in a strange room. I didn't remember how I got there or even what had happened. My hair was to my waist and it was curly. I was wearing a medieval dress that was red and black. I sensed another presence in the room. There was a prison cell in the room that had someone in it. I couldn't see him because he was covered by a hood and a long black cape. I didn't really care at that point.

(You are now one of my princesses. Each princess has a captive in their room. If he behaves, you may choose to make him your prince.)

I looked around the room. I had been lying on a couch that was red and trimmed with gold. Everything in the room was red and black. There were four doors in the room. One led to a bathroom, one led to a bedroom, one led outside to a beautiful garden, and the other led to a corridor.

I went outside first. As I said before the garden was beautiful. There was every kind of flower you could imagine growing there. There were a few benches and little hammocks all over the place. Saphira looked beautiful laying among the violet flowers. I think the only bad thing about it was that it was one story above ground. Saphira noticed me and walked over to see me.

"Emma, thank goodness you're alright! I thought they had done something terrible to you! What are you wearing on your head?" Saphira clamored excitedly.

I felt something cold and hard sitting in the midst of my curly locks. "A tiara's my best guess," I said unenthusiastically.

"Well, I must say you look absolutely gorgeous!"

"I'm not cut out to be a princess. I'm getting out of here once I find the others."

(Once a princess has found my castle, she can never leave. If she tries to escape, she will be found and punished.)

"On second thought I think I'll stay. I'm going back inside now."

I went back into my room. It was time for me to try the other door I opened it and two tall guards automatically turned around to bar my way. On their shirts they had the heartless symbol. I looked up at them curiously.

"Where is David?" I asked cautiously.

"He's most likely with another princess," one of the guards said with a smile.

"I want to see him. I want him to be my prince."

"Then it looks like you're out of luck sweetheart cause you get what you get and you don't throw a fit. It would be best if you just forget you ever knew this David guy."

"You expect me to just FORGET about David?!"

"It would make things a lot better. You'll be miserable if you don't."

"Then I want to be miserable!"

With that I slammed the door shut and crashed onto the couch that sat before me. Tears poured down my face. I just wanted this all to go away. I wished then that I hadn't said no to David. I never had the chance to show him how I truly feel.

"Why are you crying?" asked a very sweet and broken voice.

"There is someone I love very much and I may never see him again," I sobbed.

"Join the club. I never had a chance to impress the girl I love. It makes me sad just looking at you because you look a little bit like her."

"Well, your voice does sound a bit like his but I could be imagining things. I think we might learn to live with each other."

"Don't hold your breath."

"If I hold my breath for too long, my broken heart will stop."

5 - Fate Loves Me

Exactly a week after I had arrived in the castle I had begun to like the man in the cell. He sang all the time. Most of the time I couldn't tell what he was singing but I did catch "How Do You Love" by Collective Soul and "Dying" by Five For Fighting. He reminded me so much of David and my heart hurt every time I heard his voice.

That night something about him was different. He was singing louder and I could hear him from my bed. This was unusual because usually he sang very quietly. I could barely hear him in the same room. That night he was much louder. The song he was singing so loudly was "I Don't Wanna Miss a Thing." That song was one that David sang to me alot.

Then it hit me. There, lying in my bed I realized that the man in the cell was David. I had to use all of my strength to keep myself from running into the room to kiss him through the bars. My heart was bursting out of my chest. I was full of elation, then nervousness, then determination, then a combination of all three. This always happened to me. I would get my hopes up so high, then my lover would disappear or meet his impending doom.

I finally decided what my plan was going to be and I sprinted into the room.

"Well, you're certainly in a hurry to be somewhere," said a person I now knew to be David.

"David! Its me! Its Emma!" I said desperately.

"Emma, it can't be! Why didn't you tell me before?"

"I didn't know it was you."

"Wow, Emma, you look beautiful!"

"C'mon its not that bad, is it?"

"why won't you come closer?"

"We had a deal."

"Emma..."

"I don't want to go back on my word."

"Emma, I know how you feel about me. I heard what you said."

His arms were reaching out to me. I walked slowly and cautiously accross the room and carefully pushed his hands down.

"David...please don't do this. I'm not strong enough to resist right now," I sighed.

"Then don't! Its only me so you have nothing to prove!" he said with determination.

"No, you don't understand..."

"What don't I understand? I heard you were heartbroken because you were never going to see me again."

"I just got an idea. I'll explain everything later. Uhh, guards! I need to speak with you."

The door swung open.

"Well, by the cheerful tone of voice I guess its safe to say that you've moved on," said the same guy I talked to before.

"Not quite, my captive is David. I want to make him my prince," I said cheerfully.

"Just one question, what did you do with the original captive?"

"David was the original captive, I just didn't know it."

"Alright, permission granted. You'll have to wait until tomorrow though."

"Why, all you have to do is let him out of the cell, right?"

"No, he has to prove his love by saving you from the giant serpent. She and the king are sleeping. The

king enjoys watching especially when he knows that you're going to loose."

"David...doesn't need to prove his love."

"Every captive must defeat a monster before he can become a prince."

"Fine, you better be here bright and early."

"We definitely will be here. The king will be glad to hear that he gets to use his serpent again. He's been down in the dumps because he lost his favorite dragon yesterday. She didn't go down without a fight, though. The prince and the princess both recieved serious burns."

"Who were they? What were there names?"

"It was a purple and black princess named Sammy. Her prince was a young man that went by the name of Daniel."

"Alright, you can go back to your guarding now."

The two guards turned around and the door swung closed. I rushed into by bedroom even though David was pleading for me to stay. A huge grin spread accross my face as I realized that for the remainder of that night and the next day David wasn't leaving my sight. I quickly stripped the blankets and pillows off of my bed and walked back into the room where the cell was.

I set the blankets and pillows next to the cell and slipped into bed. The look on David's face said 'I told you so' all over.

"I wowed you, didn't I?" he asked happily.

"I don't see how someone behind bars can be so happy and no. But you're going to wow me tomorrow," I laughed.

"C'mon Emma, tell the truth."

"Alright, I confess, if it weren't for those bars I wouldn't be able to restrain myself."

"So, what did those guards say that made you so upset?"

"Oh, that? Daniel had to fight a dragon for Sammy."

"They didn't die, did they?"

"They both recieved serious burns. Wait...what's wrong?"

"Its nothing. I'm just being pessimistic. I just have this strange feeling that nothing is ever going to change between us."

"If that's the case, then it looks like I'm going to have to do some explaining."

"Can it wait until tomorrow? I'm really tired."

"You read my mind. I was planning to tell you tomorrow anyway."

"In that case, I hope you have very sweet dreams."

"Well, I hope your dreams are as sweet as you are."

We were lying there staring at eachother for a long time. Then David realized that he was hampering my efforts at falling asleep. All he wanted to do was make me fall asleep. He started stroking my hair and softly humming. He was singing "I Don't Wanna Miss a Thing" again. Even though I didn't want them to, my eyes began to droop. Before I knew it, the voice I was hearing was in my dreams.

6 - Surviving the Giant Serpent

I was awakened by hands gently shaking me. I rubbed the sleep from my eyes, sat up in my makeshift bed, jumped back, and yelped. David's face was literally two inches away from mine. My surprise overpowered the urge to wrap my arms around him and give him a kiss. What was he doing out of the cell? How did he get out? Could he not wait just one more night?

"What's going on? Where did you come from?" I asked breathlessly.

"Emma, don't you remember last night?" he answered with a question.

"Well, how did you get out?"

"They let me out."

David moved so I could see the two guards that always stood just outside my door. The one that I always talked to was twirling a ring of keys around clumsily.

"Bright and early, remember?" he said in a joking voice.

Suddenly the two guards got serious. One of them grabbed me and bound my hands and arms with rope while the other restrained David. The guard continued to restrain him as the one that had bound me dragged me out of the room.

(My princesses are helpless damsels in distress. Any who are more or attempt to defend themselves will be severely punished. That is the most important princess rule.)

"This guy sure knows me well! I absolutely HATE...no, scratch that...LOATHE being helpless!" I shouted into the air.

I remained silent and glared into space as the guard continued to drag me. He dragged me to the back of a large room and let me lean against the wall.

"HEY! Aren't you going to untie me!?" I demanded angrily as he walked away.

"Leave that to your prince," he laughed as the other guard shoved David into the room.

They closed and locked the door behind them. David rushed to my side. A large sword hung from his belt. I hadn't paid much attention to what he was wearing before. I didn't know why it really mattered. His medieval prince outfit actually looked very sexy. His eyes burned with worry. How was I supposed to tell him that I had to be helpless.

"Emma, are you alright?" he asked quietly.

"Yes, I'm fine. I'm afraid that all I'm going to be able to do for you is scream," I said disappointedly.

"That's alright, you need to be helpless sometimes so I can save you."

"It was you that got me started with martial arts in the first place."

"I had no idea you would be better at it than I am."

"Do you even know how to use that sword?"

"No, but I'm going to wing it. It can't be that hard. Will you help me?"

"As best I can. I must say I had no idea what I was getting us into."

"I don't really mind. In fact, I'm glad you got us into this mess."

"I'm glad you think so and...LOOK OUT!"

David hardly had time to block the fangs of the giant snake. I had been watching it come out over his shoulder but didn't know what I was looking at. The snake continued to advance but never tired. David tried with all his might to stop the snake's advances but she was slowly overpowering him. I was shouting foot positions and I screamed every time her fangs came close to him.

Eventually the snake gained an opening. She knocked the wind out of David and sent him to his knees with a single blow from her massive tail. Then she turned her attention toward me. Her forked tongue

flailed about outside her mouth. It looked like she was licking her lips. She was enjoying this. The snake's massive jaws came down upon me as I screamed in terror. She swallowed me whole and a large lump appeared in her skinny belly. After that it was like David was a whole different person. Suddenly he was the one advancing on the snake and the snake was the one who was getting weaker. While David was fighting outside the snake, I was inside the snake clinging to the only thing I had left to cling to. All I had left was hope. At that moment I heard a voice and I thought I was crossing over to the other side. The voice was familiar to me. It was Daniel. He was trying to contact me.

'Emma, I was right. The king of this castle is the one I spoke of before. he is the son of Simon.'

There was that nonsense about the son of Simon again. Well, Daniel must have been right.

Back outside the disgusting interior of the snake's belly David was winning. He was getting closer and closer until he finally found his opening and cut her head clean off. I crawled as far forward as I could bare and collapsed from the weight of the dead snake. I thought I was done, I thought I was dead. Then a hand reached for mine and I took it without question.

David's arms welcomed me back to the real world. I coughed and stuttered and cried until I couldn't take it anymore. A sharp pain ran up my bad arm. I could tell without looking that the cut was open again. I didn't care. I knew, there in David's arms, that I had made the right choice. Victor would have never done what David did. He would have avenged me and left me for dead.

I was truly happy to be in David's arms instead of Victor's. I whispered a silent thank you as he carried me down the hall to my room. He took me into the bathroom so he could wash my arm and give me a fresh bandage. Then he carried me to my bed so I could rest. I stared at him for the longest time.

"I'm not going to sleep. Not even if you sit there and stare at me all day," I said defiantly.

"Don't you want to get better?" he asked gently brushing my hair out of my eyes.

"Yes but I have to tell you something important."

"I won't stop you."

"I was very reluctant to go through with this. I've seen centuries of heartache and I'm finally starting to get smart. I should never have turned you down. You are the one I've been searching for. My love with you is stronger than it ever would have been with Victor. I know you don't know who Victor is but I will explain. Its kind of a long story."

"Then wait, you need your rest. There will be time for explaining later."

"Alright, you win. If you want to know now you can ask Archie but I'm not sure how happy he'll be to tell you about Victor."

"Its alright, I can wait."

By then he had learned my weakness. It had only been one night but he already knew how to make me fall asleep. He started stroking my hair and singing softly and within minutes I was fast asleep. As I was drifting off to sleep I heard him whisper, "With you its never just 'I love you' is it?" Just before I fell fast asleep from his dizzying spell I answered, "I already told you, I'm new at this."

7 - Victor

Part7- Victor

When I woke up David was in the garden speaking with Saphira. I wanted to put this off for as long as I possibly could so I didn't bother him. Instead I reached for my copy of "Eragon" and stuck my nose into the book. I had just gotten to the best part when two strong arms wrapped around me precluding the turning of the page. David's lips pressed gently against my cheek.

"So, what is it about this Victor guy that I need to know?" he asked far too happily.

"Its not just about Victor," I said in a tiny voice, " Its also about me, Archie, and Sammy."

"Alright, what about you?"

"I don't even think you are going to believe me."

"No, I'll believe anything you say."

"In that case there is currently a monkey with wings flying by this castle that just happens to be a fan girl of you. You only say that because you haven't heard what I'm going to tell you yet."

"Then tell me."

"Alright, it took me a long time to figure out how I was going to explain this. I guess I will start like this. All four of us were geniuses at birth. We knew everything about the past even though we were only children. None of us knew why but we knew that we all had the same strange things happening to us. One day we were finally all together. We had been talking about our knowledge. Suddenly the lights in the room began to flicker on and off. A sorcerer appeared and said that we were part of his newest experiment. He was planning to send us to the past so we could relive every age of the Earth. That was how we received all of that knowledge. There was another flash of light and we were no longer in the present time. We were forced to live every age of man until we got back to our time. I still remember wearing a dress like this one. I didn't like it very much. You are probably wondering how Victor ties into all this."

"I'm wondering a lot of things. Where were you in the first place? What was the present time?"

"Well, that is the confusing part. It wasn't really an alternate dimension. It was like now but none of you existed. Somehow by leaving we changed the future. Now our parents and many other people we know no longer exist. We never aged a day all of those centuries. Now I will explain about Victor. You can't expect me to live through all those years alone. I didn't even know you existed back then. I was in love with many people before you. Victor was my last boyfriend. It made it all the harder because he was one of us."

"What happened to Victor?"

"We were nearing the time when we were born. We all knew something would happen to us then. I was with Victor on the night when "it" happened. Archie was his best friend and he will never forgive me for letting this happen. That night he ran away from me and I followed him. He turned a corner and disappeared. No one ever saw him again. I leave the blame all to me. I should never let him out of my sight. We all fell into a sleep when it was time for us to be born and then I knew that he was gone forever. Sometimes I wonder if he's still out there somewhere."

"Well, you shouldn't take the blame for that. It wasn't your fault."

"Well, at least I have you. What am I saying? You are the best thing that's ever happened to me."

"Emma, when you said you have endured centuries of heartache, you meant that literally, didn't you?"

"Yes, my lovers would get old and die but I would linger. Its actually about time for me to start growing soon. Yes, I do really think you are the one I've been searching for."

“Wow, I wonder what it would be like to travel back in time.”

“It was terrible. Most people think of it as a good thing but we lost everything we held dear. Then we gained it all back again in a different way but the past will never leave.”

“I see, Emma, I have an idea. Come out to the garden.”

When David said those words I didn't know what he was up to. We sat there and stared at each other again. He would often kiss my forehead or my cheek. We were getting nowhere and he wouldn't say anything. Saphira was watching us attentively. It was a different story on the other side of the garden where our four other friends were.

Sammy was also sitting in the garden. She spotted Saphira, then she spotted us. Then she ran back into her room. Neither of us saw her.

“Daniel, I found Emma and David,” She said when she was back in the room.

“They're together?” Daniel asked in a surprised voice.

“Yes, and I thought I saw them kissing.”

“You must have been imagining things.”

“No, I really did! Come out and see! C'mon Daniel, I really mean it! I did see them!”

“Alright, I'm coming.”

The two of them sneaked up to a wall that was halfway blocking the two gardens. They overheard our conversation about David's idea.

“Alright, do you think you can do it?” David asked hopefully.

“So you are saying that there is a secret doorway just outside of this room and if I can get the guards away, we can escape? I think I could do that,” I said optimistically.

“Ok, I know a way we can make this work. I saw these two guys who lost their princesses to a monster and they were checking you out.”

“Oh no, David, you better not be...are you sure you're ok with that?”

“Yes, its fine. Eventually they will come to this room and try to steal you from me. Then the guards will take them away and we'll be alone.”

“David, that's pretty smart. I'm impressed.”

“I knew you would be.”

“Alright, I'll do it! Then we can come back for the others later.”

“That was my plan.”

Sammy and Daniel had seen enough because every time I started talking David would kiss me on the cheek. They were on their way to find Hannah and Archie. The four of them sat there spying on us until Saphira found them and chased them off. We saw them then and started laughing. Well, at least we knew that Sammy and Daniel were alright. That was the important part. We could get back at them for that later.

* * * *

Well, the escaping thing didn't work out as well as we would have hoped. We got out but we got caught before we left the castle grounds. That was when we were called to a secret meeting with Sammy, Hannah, and Daniel. Where was Archie? It was late at night and I was tired but David made me come. They informed us that Archie had gone missing again. I really hoped that Simon hadn't decided to join in now. Well, we had to find Archie and then we were getting out of there for good.

8 - The King of Phantom Castle

The King of Phantom Castle

For the next few days we searched for Archie. We were having no luck. Ever since our attempted escape the guards had been watching us like hawks. David and I were growing closer and closer. I often caught him trying to keep in step with me when I walked across the room. He always had a hand on me ready to catch me if I should trip over my feet.

One day the guards came into the room. They said that the king wanted to see us in person. They lead us to the throne room at sword point. Sammy and Daniel were also there. The king was tall and thin. He wore the same kind of outfit as the princes but he had a long red cape. A hood and a net covered his head and face.

“Emma and Sammy, I’m glad you could come,” he said taking off the net mask and the hood.

I froze when I saw his face. The king looked so familiar. His black hair in his eyes and the little ponytail in the back belonged to “that” person. It was him. His emerald eyes looked at me and only me. I looked over at Sammy and the look of surprise on her face confirmed that it was really him.

“Victor!” we shouted at the same time.

“Emma, you seem so very happy to see me and Sammy, I’m flattered that you feel the same way,” he said with a suspicious grin.

“Wait a minute, Victor is the son of Simon?” Sammy asked.

“Victor is alive?” I asked half dazed.

“Please allow me to explain. Simon adopted me. Wait...there’s something else I have to tell you first. Guards!”

At his command the guards standing on the side of the room got out bows and arrows. The arrows were pointed at us. I glanced down at the hand that was resting on my hip. The arrows weren’t pointed at us. They were pointed at Daniel and David.

Victor’s words burned in my mind, “Kill the Cookies!”

“NO!” Sammy and I screamed in unison.

I pushed my body up against David’s so that no matter how good their aim was they would have to kill me too. Victor stopped the guards and looked at me with pleading eyes. My eyes gave him a silent no.

“Alright Emma, I’ll try giving you a deal that you can live with. If you agree to be my second captive, my guards will return David to your room unscathed,” his voice was firm.

“Your second captive?” I asked curiously.

“Well, what is your choice?”

“Give me a minute.”

I turned around and buried my face in David’s chest. He wrapped his arms around me and squeezed me until it hurt but I didn’t care. My bad arm was burning with pain but I didn’t stop to wonder why. I had something important that I needed to say.

“David, I won’t let you die,” his chest muffled my voice.

“But Emma, he could kill you,” he said softly.

“No, I don’t think he will.”

“Alright, I’m fine with it if you really trust him.”

“I know this will sound ridiculous because I know you will come for me. I have something I want to give to you just in case we never see each other again. It’s a gift that you can give to the same person many times. I want to have a chance to give it to you at least once.”

“What is it?”

“I’m going to show you.”

I forced my head up to gaze longingly into his eyes and my hands were touching his face. My head moved closer to his. Then I gave him the most passionate kiss I had ever given. His lips quivered beneath mine. I had forgotten that this was the first time I had ever kissed him. He tried to follow me when I left his embrace but he knew it would do no good. I turned back to Victor and let out a long, loud sigh.

“So I take it you’re going to cooperate?” Victor asked happily.

I nodded slowly. Suddenly the guards grabbed my arms. They led me to a double door sized curtain. One of them pulled a string and the curtain moved to the side revealing yet another prison cell. One of the guards opened the cell and the other one shoved me inside. Before I was able to comprehend what was going on a chain attached to one of my legs and the curtain dropped.

I sensed another person in the cell with me. This person must have been his first captive. I couldn’t see his face because it was pitch dark but I could pretty much make out his outline. He looked strangely familiar.

“Emma, is that you?” he asked weakly.

“How did you know it was me?” I asked.

“I saw your red and black dress.”

“Who are you?”

“I am a friend.”

9 - Victor's True Intentions

Victor's True Intentions

"Archie?" I guessed.

"That's right," he replied sadly.

"What does Victor want with us? Do you know?"

"I don't know any more than you do. You know Victor. Maybe he just wanted to see us."

Yes, I definitely knew Victor. He always went through a lot of trouble for the simplest things. He did the most ridiculous things. To go to all the trouble of capturing us just to say hi sounded just like him.

"Wait... Archie, if he only wanted to say hi, why would he threaten the Cookies?" I asked rather loudly.

"Well, he is the son of The Evil Simon. He could be under orders," Archie added.

"I guess we'll have to wait for Victor to tell us."

"Uhh, Emma, there's something I've been meaning to tell you. It's not like me to hold grudges and I'm really sorry that I got so mad at you."

"You mean about Victor's disappearance? I've already forgotten all about that. You have nothing to worry about."

Just then Sammy was thrown into the cell with us. The way that she was thrown in caused the bottom part of her dress to come us over her head and her underwear was showing. She quickly pulled it back down at her feet and she had a chain on her ankle as well.

"Sammy, are you alright?" I asked worriedly.

"Yes, I'm fine," she said quietly.

"What do you know about this?"

"Not much, you probably know more than I do."

"Is David alright?"

"Man Emma, sometimes you can be so predictable. Actually, I thought that would be your first question. Well, first he and Victor got into a shouting match about which one has more of your love. I'm assuming you would side with David. After that the guards dragged him away in the direction of your room. Physically he looked fine but mentally he was falling apart."

"That could partially be my fault."

"That was really funny, I thought he was going to faint when you kissed him."

"I know that was probably my best kiss ever. I am so proud of myself."

"Uhh girls, don't you think we should think of an escape plan?" Archie asked suddenly.

"Archie! When did you get here?" Sammy exclaimed.

"I'm pretty sure it was a couple of days ago."

"Oh well, you know Victor. He probably went through all this trouble just to tell us something. He'll probably be in here in a minute."

"Yeah, I agree with Sammy," I said rather dismissively.

"Me too," Victor said poking his head in the door.

When we saw him we all jumped back. I was the only one who noticed that he was acting different from when I saw him a few minutes ago. He seemed calmer and not as smug. Now as long as I could keep away from him magic, emerald eyes I would be able to confidently return to David.

"Well, you don't look happy to see me now," Victor said in surprise.

"Victor, you threatened Daniel and David, don't expect us to welcome you with open arms. We already know you have something to tell us so speak," I was kind of surprised that Sammy snapped at him.

“Alright, I’m sorry if I offended you. I just wanted to tell you that, this time, all the trouble I went through to speak to you was necessary. I’m being controlled by the heartless guards. They’re everywhere and they won’t leave me alone. I was going to ask for your help but I see now that it would do no good. There’s one other thing. Do any of you remember the one condition that the sorcerer gave us?”
If no one else remembered the condition, Victor and I would stand alone. The sorcerer’s spell forced us to find our true love before our next birthday after we start growing. If we fail to fulfill his condition, we will die on our birthday. Victor was the youngest one of us. Yes, I know there was a huge age difference between Victor and me but age doesn’t matter when you’re in love. There are six years between me and David but that’s not stopping us.

“I remember, Victor,” I said worriedly.

“You would, you’ve tried harder than anyone,” Victor laughed.

“So, what about it?”

“Well, there are only three and a half months left until my birthday and...I’m dying.”

I was in shock. Victor was the best looking guy of his age. He might even have been hotter than David. Wait...no, he was almost as hot as David, that’s it. Poor guy, where had he been?

“I haven’t even gotten a chance,” he said hoarsely, “The only reason I did all this was so I could make sure that you three don’t meet the same fate.”

“Victor, we could help you,” Archie said without thinking. (Well, that’s what I thought)

“Archie, we can’t make him fall in love! What do you think Simon would do if he saw Victor with us? Besides, he threatened the Cookies!” Sammy shouted angrily.

“You know what Sammy, I think Archie’s right,” I mumbled.

“Archie? Is that some sort of pet name?” Victor asked with a grin.

“Well, we tried out lots of nicknames. Arc Angel, lettuce, the webkinz come to life, and our little cupcake to name just a few.” (These are all nicknames that I’ve hear him called on TV. All of them except for lettuce.)

“Uhh, lettuce?”

“That one’s fairly new. The new drummer in Archie’s band accidentally called him David Archulettuce and the name stuck. Now she calls him lettuce.”

“Ok, so why Archie?”

“Oh, that’s easy. We all started calling him Archie because that’s what David calls him.”

“Cookie can only serve as a nickname when you’re being cute. On the other hand, Archie can be used any time and it just works better that way.”

“Ok, Emma, I can see where this conversation is going and there’s no need to start talking girly again,” Sammy said dismissively.

“Right, what was I thinking? Anyway, I think we should help Victor. I mean, we are helping Victor.”

“No, you don’t have to help,” Victor said sadly.

“Victor, we’re helping!”

“Alright, fine you can help. Next week I’m hosting a ball for all of the princes and princesses. At that time you can go out into the courtyard. There you will find a secret door where all of your weapons are hidden. Then you can call up some of your anime character friends to help.”

“Do you have an anime world portal?”

“It’s hidden with the weapons. Now go, you must be missed.”

Suddenly the chains around our ankles disappeared. All three of us gave Victor chibi hugs and went to our rooms. When I arrived at my room I greeted the guards and opened the door slowly. I ducked just in time to miss a chair being thrown at me. It hit the wall and shattered into a million pieces. I was immediately worried about David. I didn’t even see where the chair came from. I crouched down, hugged my legs, and kept my eyes tightly shut. I was quickly becoming the helpless damsel that I was

pretending to be.

10 - The Ball

After that chair was thrown at me I realized that I was losing the ability to fight back. My arms were shaking and I felt numb all over. When I opened my eyes I was sitting in the room with the cell alone. There were tearstains on my cheek but the tears didn't belong to me. I must have fainted. Where was David? My question was quickly answered when he walked out of the bedroom. His head was down so he didn't see me until he got to the couch.

"Emma!" he exclaimed as he ran over and knocked the wind out of me with a crushing hug.

"Okay, ow, what is the meaning of this?" I asked confusedly.

"Emma, I thought I killed you!"

"What?! You threw that chair?!"

"I thought you were someone else."

"You thought I was Victor."

"He made me really mad. I can't believe some of the things he said about you."

"I never actually kissed him if it makes you feel better."

"That does make me feel a little better. When were you planning on telling me we were bringing him back with us?"

"Uhhh, David, can you read minds? How did you find out? I'm not thinking of cheating on you if that's what you think. I am offended that the thought even came into your head!"

"I was a little suspicious but now I'm not. Emma, I'm so glad you're alright. You have no idea..." he started tearing up again.

"I know exactly how you feel because it's happened to me before. You know what? I really missed you even though it was only a short time."

"Emma, that doesn't sound like you at all."

"Well, I took your advice. Now c'mon, we have to get ready for the ball."

"What ball?"

"Oh, I forgot to tell you..."

So I told David all about the ball that we were going to next week. I rolled my eyes when he looked excited about it. I HATE dancing! He was probably going to make me dance. We decided that we would wear our ninja outfits underneath our medieval costumes so we could fight the heartless guards. I didn't know how David found out about Victor but it scared me. I was glad that I had to explain the whole situation to him because I was afraid that he really could read my mind. He seemed to know that I was becoming helpless too. I was not surprised about that.

We had to call anime characters from all of the shows that we knew. First we called the Naruto world and, not much to David's liking, we got Kiba Inuzuka and Kankuro. It was much to his disliking because Kiba is my favorite guy from Naruto and he didn't want me crushing on him like I did with Light. Then we called a character from a new anime. The character was Destiny Hero Doom Lord from Yugioh GX. Then we called Joey Wheeler and Tristin Taylor from Yugioh because they are good at fighting. Next we called some more characters from anime shows new to Anime Idol. There was Edward Elric, Aido Hanabusa, and Mew Ichigo! They all agreed to help.

We called a few more people after that. There was Byakuya Kuchiki, Toshiro Hitsugaya, Ryuk (an old friend of course), Vincent Valentine, Yuna, Yuffie, Squall Leonheart, and Sora. Then we told our buddies about the secret plan. We would take our anime friends and destroy all of the heartless guards and then we would take Victor back with us. David was very much opposed to the idea of bringing Victor back

because he thought he was competition. I silently hoped that those two would become friends because I didn't know how much more of this my fragile little heart could take.

* * * *

On the night of the ball we were all ready to go. Everyone but me was excited to be dancing. I was just looking forward to holding my katana again. I was thinking that I would luck out and David and I would just talk the whole time but he forced me to dance. Halfway through one of the songs he finally noticed that I wasn't having much fun. I kind of wondered why he hadn't noticed that I wasn't too excited about this before.

"Emma, what's wrong?" he asked in a confused tone.

"What's wrong? I hate dancing that's what's wrong. Why did Victor have to make it a ball? He knows I extremely dislike dancing!" I shouted quietly so Victor couldn't hear.

"Well why didn't you say so? We don't have to dance if you don't want to"

Suddenly an anime tear drop appeared on my head and I thought I was going to cry.

"Are you serious?"

"Uhhh, no I'm David."

"Just forget it. Can we go get our ninja weapons now?"

"Not yet we have to wait for the signal. Emma, there's something I've been meaning to ask you for a long time. Do you mind if I ask now?"

"Sure, I'm not going back onto that dance floor."

"Well, I was wondering if it's going to be the same between us when we get back home. You've been treating me differently here."

"Well, I think it's a definite maybe but we'll just have to wait and see. I don't know myself how it's going to be. I sure hope it is because I don't think I've had more fun in my whole, long, thousand year, life than I've had here."

"Emma, there's something else. Are you sure you're going to be able to fight?"

"What do you mean? Of course I'm going to fight. Why would you think I wouldn't be able to fight?"

"It's the way you've been acting lately. It's like you really are as helpless as you are pretending to be. I'm really worried about you."

"Well, I guess my ninja skills may have gotten a little rusty because I haven't done any fighting in a while. It's been almost two months in this castle and I haven't done any fighting."

"I sure hope you're right."

As a matter of fact, David and I were feeling exactly the same thing. I was also worried that I was not going to be able to fight. I didn't want Victor to see me that way. He would blame David. I didn't know how I was going to handle this at all. As I was thinking about those things we got the signal. I was actually a little scared now.

Outside in the courtyard we found the secret door that Victor told us about and in it were our weapons. We all changed into our ninja and KH outfits and got our weapons. I noticed how my hands were shaking as I attached my katana to my belt. If anyone asked I was shaking with excitement. Then all the anime characters arrived and it was time for the battle.

At first the guards were confused when we all rushed into the room with our weapons. Then they attacked us all. I didn't know why I was afraid because I was doing just fine. Because I had shown my fear to David, he never left my side in the battle. He was watching my every move. Then it happened. This huge knot formed in the pit of my stomach and the heartless guards in front of me became something else. I began to make more openings for the enemies rushing at me and I was getting weaker by the second. Then, suddenly I was hit by an arrow and I collapsed onto the ballroom floor. David was

by my side in seconds calling out my name but I couldn't hear him. I didn't know what was going on but I was scared now more than ever.

11 - The Setup

The Setup

When I woke up I was in a strange room. There was an IV on my arm and it smelled like a hospital. There were two other beds in the room besides mine in the room. Daniel was in the bed to my right and in the bed to my left was David.

Everyone else in the room was crowded around Daniel's bed. Well, everyone except for Sammy, who was sitting beside the bed. What was wrong with Daniel? I turned my head away from them and noticed that David was looking at me.

"David, what has happened to me?" I groaned.

"I don't know but you should have warned me that you were going to freeze up like that," he sighed.

"Well, if I knew I was going to freeze up..."

"I wouldn't have let you fight in the first place if you told me you would freeze up!"

"Alright, no need to get angry. I'm sorry I put my life in jeopardy like that. It won't happen again."

"On a lighter note I wanted to be the first to welcome you back to reality."

"So we're home? Where are we?"

"This is a secret place that all of our friends made after we sprung the trap."

"What?! What trap?!"

"Oh, I forgot you didn't know. This whole thing was a trap and we walked right into it. While we were gone Simon brainwashed Tina, Audrey, and Katherine so he could become supreme ruler of Anime Idol. He said that the only way he would surrender his position was if a duo sang and he gave them a good critique."

"That's not even fair. So, which duo did they choose to sing?"

"That's another thing I was about to tell you. They chose us to sing."

"Wait...us a in you and me?"

"Yeah, is there something wrong with that?"

"No, that's actually pretty nice that they trust us with the fate of Anime Idol."

My mind left our conversation and flickered back to Daniel. I looked over at Sammy again. She didn't look back because she only had eyes for Daniel. I wondered what happened to him and David didn't know. I was stuck wondering until Christin came in and took off our Ivs. She told us that his heart stopped about an hour ago and everyone thought he was going to die. We were both curious as to where Betsy was and Christin told us that she quit being a doctor and now she owned a fancy restaurant called A Taste of Betsy.

At A Taste of Betsy Restaurant

Betsy does a little dance in the kitchen waiting for customers. A giant shadow comes up behind her and she turns around and screams. A monster? No, it was not a monster.

"Hello, do you sell apples at your restaurant?" asks a very happy shinigami.

"Apple pie?" Betsy says shaking in her shoes.

"Yes, gimme!"

He steals the apple pie from Betsy and runs out of the restaurant with it.

Back in Reality

It was time for me and David to go and save Anime Idol so we had to leave them all worried about

Daniel. When we arrived we noticed that Anime Idol had been turned into some sort of Simon shrine. There were pictures of him up all over the place. It was not pretty. Inside the castle Simon was sitting on a throne and his evil minions were standing next to him. (his newest minion, Kimberley Caldwell, was checking David out and I wanted to go up there and kill her.)

Anyway, Simon thought he had really heard us before and he thought we didn't have a chance. We sang the song "I Want to Spend my Lifetime Loving You" from that Zoro movie. After we got done singing Simon started freaking out.

"I can't believe I'm saying this but... THAT WAS AMAZING! HOW DID YOU DO IT?! YOU WEREN'T REALLY SINGING! NOOOOOOOOOOOOO! I'M MELTING! I'M MELTING!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!" Simon exclaimed.

So, to make a long story short, we defeated The Evil Simon. To celebrate our victory all of Anime Idol had a huge party and The Ninjas and Arc Angels had a victory concert. We sang too many songs to mention because we were so happy for everything to finally be back to normal. So, that's basically it. Oh, I forgot to mention that Daniel lived. Wouldn't it be a downer if he died? Well, there was lots of kissing and stuff but I'll save that for later.

Back at The Evil Simon's evil lair

The Evil Simon walks through the spa part of his resort and notices Itachi, Pein, Deidara, and Hidan all getting massages from hot girls. He walks up to them and they all stare at him.

"Hello guys, I was wondering if you might like to help me with this new evil plan that I'm creating so I've prepared a presentation," Simon said all business like and takes out a poster board.

"What?!" All of the Akatsuki guys get confused.

"Are you tired of always losing to the good guys?"

"You know it! Sometimes they just won't explode!" Dei starts to get excited.

"Would you like to be the one to get all of the girl's attention for once instead of your stupid little brother?"

"You practically read my mind!" Itachi said also getting excited.

"Would you like to recruit more people to follow Jashin?"

"**** yeah I would!" Ooooo! Even Hidan is loving this.

"Are you ready to have world domination?"

"ALRIGHT, WE'LL DO IT! JUST TELL US WHAT WE HAVE TO DO!" Now Pein is going nuts.

"Well, all you have to do is join me and all of your wildest dreams will come true!"

"EXPLOSIONS?!"

"Uhuh."

"HOT BABES?!"

"The hottest."

"FOLLOWERS OF JASHIN?!"

"You bet."

"FREE SPA TREATMENTS FOR ALL OF MY BODIES?!"

At those words they all froze and stared at Pein.

"Uh, sure. Now, let's do it."

To be continued...