

Serenyia

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A teenage girl crash lands into another dimension after a long battle with some seemingly evil people and now she's trying to find her way back home but after meeting a young man named Kayden, she soon realizes that it's not going to be an easy task.

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1. Melonda Arrives

Like a meteor falling from the sky, a young girl crashed into the ground. As the dust cleared she slowly lifted herself up. She staggered to her feet and pulled her long red hair away from her eyes.

"Where am I?" she asked herself. "What is the place?" She slowly tried to walk around a bit to get her bearings. She was completely lost. She looked up at the sky as the sun shined brightly down upon her.

"Man, that's really bright," she complained aloud to no one in particular. She had no idea where she was or how she ended up there but she was already determined to find her way back to her home of Serenyia, which was in another dimension.

"How did I end up on such a pathetic little place?" she thought to herself as she brushed the dirt off of her long black dress. She looked down at her bare feet in frustration. Her pale skin did not take well to the hot sun.

"It's so hot, it burns," She complained as she walked around some more not having any idea where she was going but she hoped it would lead her to a way out this strange uninviting place.

"Excuse me, are you alright?" She heard the voice of a young man behind her. Her instinct told her not to let him get too close.

"What do you want?" She asked him as she turned around eyeing the young man that stood before her, prepared to fight him if he tried anything. He didn't really look like he wanted to fight though. He had a small bag on his back and his straight brown hair blew in the slight breeze around his chin. His pants were torn at the knees and his shirt was not much more than some thin white fabric sewn together to make a shirt that only covered his front and back. His shoes were brown and worn out.

"You seem kind of lost," he said. "Did you see that big crash not too far from here? From the looks of you, I'd say you were probably in it."

"What's it to you?" She asked still defensive.

"I saw a big crash so I ran over to see what was going on and I find you walking around, looking like you've been through some kind of battle or something." he tried to explain himself. "I just wanted to see if I could help, that's all."

"You want to help? Tell me where I am and how I can leave!" She demanded.

The young man began to get a bit nervous. "You're near Crystal Springs, um, it's about 50 miles from the nearest city, if that's what you mean." He told her, a bit confused.

"Huh? You mean to tell me I am that far from home? There's no way they could have thrown me this far away! Oh they're going to pay for this!" She yelled practically ignoring him now, realizing she was not even in the same dimension anymore. "They actually had the strength and ability to hurl me all the way to the other dimension? You've got to be kidding me!"

"Uh, I have no idea what you're talking about but I think you should come with me into town. I'll take you to the inn and you can get cleaned up and rest if you want," he said trying to calm her a bit not knowing what she was capable of.

"Huh? You want to help me?" she asked, letting her defenses down a bit.

"Yes," he said. "That's what I tried to tell you before. If you stay out here much longer in your condition, I'm afraid to even think of what might happen to you."

"Alright," she said. " I'll go with you."

"Ok," he said. "Let's go." He began walking in the direction of the town nearby.

They walked for what seemed like an eternity in complete silence each not knowing what to do with the other.

"By the way," he finally broke the silence. "I never got a chance to ask you your name. My name is Kayden. What's yours?"

"My name? It's Melonda," she told him.

After another eternity of silence, he decided to try again to start a conversation. "So where are you from?"

"I come from Serenyia," she told him.

"Oh," he said. "I've never heard of it."

"That doesn't surprise me," she told him. " It's not even in this dimension."

"Really? I didn't know there were any other dimensions let alone that anyone could live in one," he told her, very curious about her now.

"How far is it to your town?" asked Melonda, not wishing to reveal any more information.

"Not too far, we should be coming up to it pretty soon," he said. "You see that tall building with all the pointy things on the roof?" He pointed to the building in the distance.

"Yeah," she said looking to where he was pointing.

"That's the temple in the back part of town," Kayden explained. "We should be in town in a few minutes."

"Good," said Melonda. "The sooner we get to town, the sooner I can find a way back home."

"That may not be an easy task," Kayden informed her. "and try not to go around telling everyone about where you're from, it might cause them to panic and we don't want that."

"Panic, huh? So tell me, Kayden, why aren't you afraid?" Melonda asked.

"I don't know," he told her honestly. "I just felt a need to help you when I saw you and I didn't really care who or what you were or even where you were from. To be quite honest, I only asked out of curiosity and the fact that the silence between us was slowly driving me insane."

"You're really weird, you know that?" she said as they finally made it into town.

"Oh well," he laughed. "We're here."

They walked into the small town of Crystal Springs, searching for a place for Melonda to rest. They came to an inn and went inside.

"Hey, Wally!" Kayden greeted a round man in overalls sitting behind the counter.

"Hey, Kayden," he said with a smile. "It's been a while since I've seen you. How have you been?"

"I've been alright, still running from you know who," Kayden told the man. "Listen I need a room. Are there any available?"

"Oh," Wally said with a sly grin acknowledging the girl standing behind Kayden. "You need a room for the two of you?"

"Well, yeah but it's not what you think, so wipe that goofy grin off your face!" Kayden said.

"Alright, alright. I won't even bother asking. " said the man, "There's one right through there, if you want it." He gestured down a hallway lit up by the windows surrounding it, and doors lining either side as he handed Kayden a key. "It's the second door on the left and there's a wash room at the end of the hall if you want to use it."

"Ok, thanks," Kayden said as he took the key and headed down the hall.

The man stopped Melonda before she could follow by grabbing her arm. "You're awfully pretty to be hanging around with a boy like him, why don't you stay with me instead?" Wally asked with a grin on his face that told her just exactly what he wanted.

"Back off, old man," she warned as she took his arm and bent it back causing him to yell out in pain. She then proceeded to follow Kayden down the hall to their room.

"Don't worry about Wally," he told her. "he doesn't mean any harm. He just can't resist a pretty face."

"Well, he'd better learn to keep his hands to himself if he wants to continue to have the ability to use them." Melonda told him, a little aggravated with the man for touching her.

Kayden laughed. "You need to keep that temper under control if you don't want to cause trouble."

"I don't, I just want to go back home," she told him. "And I don't appreciate creepy old men grabbing me for no reason!"

"Ok, I get it," Kayden tried to calm her a bit, as he opened the door for her. "Sorry I didn't know he would do that. Let's just come in and get settled."

"Fine," she said flatly as she entered the small stuffy room. It had one window and two beds on either side of it with a flower pot of roses and a nightstand between them.

"It's not much but at least you're out of the sun and you can rest," Kayden told her noticing that she had a slight sunburn and she looked exhausted as he followed her into the room and sat on one of the beds. She followed and sat on the other bed. There was a silence between them once again.

"So, who is it that you're running from?" This time it was Melonda that broke the silence.

"Oh, no one important. Just my crazy ex girlfriend," he told her. "She's been after me since I broke up with her last year. Everything was going great and then she started getting really weird. She started saying things like, You're never going to leave me are you? We have to stay together forever. We'll get married and spend the rest of our life together. It started getting really weird when she started telling me I wasn't aloud to leave the house and that if I ever left her she'd die and all this other crazy stuff."

"You lived with her?" Melonda asked, not because she actually cared. She was just trying to make conversation.

"Yeah, she convinced me to move in with her after we were together for about three months," he told her.

"Three months? That's all? You must have really cared about her," she said.

"Yeah, I did, but I only agreed to move in with her because I didn't want to hurt her feelings by telling her no," he explained.

"Oh, I see," she said.

"Yeah, but after I moved in, that's when she started getting crazy. She was gone all the time and when she came home she'd make me promise I'd never leave," Kayden told her, looking out the window. "I did leave her though. She started to scare me so I had to get away. She was not to happy about that and she's been after me ever since."

"Oh, so you're just running from a crazy woman who can't figure out the meaning of no?" she said looking out the window and noticing the sun had now set and it was dark out.

"Yeah, well you'd run too if you met her," he told her.

"Whatever, I don't really care about your life. I'm more concerned about getting my life back in order," she told him.

"That's ok, I don't even know why I said all that anyway," Kayden told her as he stood up. "Listen, I'll be right back. Try to get some rest, ok?"

"Where are you going?" she asked.

"I'm going to get some supplies for our journey," he explained. "Unless you don't want me to come with you."

"No, if you want to come then come. I don't really care either way," Melonda said.

"Well, then it's settled, besides you really shouldn't go out alone anyway," he said as he walked out the door leaving the key on the nightstand.

After a few minutes, Melonda decided she needed to do something. "I have to get out of here," She thought to herself. "I can't take much more of this! Well, I'll just clean myself up and go. So what if I leave before he comes back. I never asked for his help."

She stood up and walked out the door down the hall to the washroom. She walked in and looked around.

"How quaint," she thought sarcastically as she took a towel off a rack and took a wrapped bar of soap off a shelf near the small tub and prepared to fill it with water. She turned on the water and let it run until the tub was full and then undressed and got in. She sighed and took the wrapper off the soap and washed. Once she was finished with her bath she got out and wrapped herself in the towel. She picked up her dress noticing it was quite dirty. She decided to wash it in the remaining bath water. "Not the best way to wash things but it's better than nothing," she thought as she used the soap to scrub the remaining dirt off her dress. She took the wet dress with her as she walked back down the hall into the room. "He's not back yet. I guess then I'll have to let him come with me," She sighed as she hung her dress by the window sill hoping it would dry with the slight breeze still blowing. She laid down on the bed and began to drift in and out of sleep waiting for Kayden to get back.

2. Melonda Tells Her Story

He came back in some time later with a bag full of different things and his own bag filled as much as possible. He sat the supplies down on the floor at the end of his bed. Melonda was awake now. She lifted her head and noticed Kayden had come back and was standing close to her bed.

"Don't get any ideas," she growled.

Kayden laughed, "Calm down I was just making sure you were still breathing. By the way, why aren't you dressed?"

"My dress was dirty and I took a bath. Now leave me alone so I can sleep," She pulled a sheet over herself and closed her eyes.

"Alright, sorry I asked," Kayden sighed and laid down in his bed and soon fell asleep. Melonda fell asleep not long after Kayden did.

Morning came quickly and Melonda woke up. She slowly opened her eyes only to be instantly blinded by the bright sun shining through the window. "Ugh, that sun is relentless. I guess it's not dark for long in this dimension is it?" she complained to herself as she groggily got out of bed and walked over to the window to see if her dress had dried. She picked it up to find that it had and the dirt came out of it well. "Well at least one thing has gone right since I got here," she thought. She looked over at Kayden to see that he was still asleep and quickly got dressed and waited for him to wake up. It seemed like hours before he finally decided to wake up and get out of bed.

"It's about time you got up," Melonda complained at him as he yawned and stood up.

"Did you sleep well?" he asked.

"No," she told him. "Something kept waking me up."

"Oh really?" he seemed intrigued. "What?"

"I don't know," she said with a confused look. "It sounded like someone crying."

"Maybe someone in another room was crying," he said.

"It didn't sound like normal crying," she told him.

"What do you mean?" Kayden looked at her strangely.

"I don't know," she said. "It sounded like they were right in the room but at the same time so far away."

"That's really weird," Kayden looked a bit lost.

"Yeah, it's hard to explain," she told him. "While I was asleep it was so loud and then when I woke up it faded. You must think I'm insane." She laughed at herself for trying so hard to explain something that even she didn't quite understand.

"No, not really. Maybe you were dreaming." He suggested.

"Maybe, but that doesn't explain why I could still hear it while I was awake." Melonda informed him.

"I guess not," Kayden said.

"Anyway," Melonda wanted to change the subject. "Are you ready to get going?"

"Yeah," he told her as he walked over to the foot of his bed and picked up the supplies he had bought the day before. "In fact, here." He held out the extra bag. "I bought this for you."

"I didn't ask you to buy me anything," she told him but took the bag anyway.

"I know," he said. "I just thought you could use it, that's all."

"Whatever, let's go, I want to go home sometime before I get too old," she grumbled at him as she started to walk out the door.

"You're welcome," Kayden said as he followed her grabbing the key on the way out.

They walked in silence down the hall to the counter.

"Hey, Wally, here's your key back," Kayden said as he tossed the key to the man.

"Thanks," he said lazily hanging it on a hook behind him.

They turned to walk out and Melonda couldn't help but notice Wally winking at her as she walked away. "What a perv," she thought and walked a bit faster. They then walked on in silence until Kayden suddenly realized something.

"Do you even know where you're going?" he asked Melonda.

"Not really but anywhere is better than here," she told him.

"Maybe you shouldn't be so judgmental," Kayden said. "I think if you gave this place half a chance you'd come to find that it's not so bad."

"Maybe," she said. "If dirty old men could learn to mind their own business."

"What, you mean Wally? I told you don't worry about him," Kayden tried to tell her but she wasn't in the mood to listen.

"Whatever," Melonda grumbled as she walked up ahead of Kayden.

"Why are you so angry anyway?" he asked her once he caught up.

She stopped suddenly and turned around causing Kayden to almost bump into her. "Why? I'll tell you why! Because they thought that just by beating the crap out of me and discarding me into another dimension that they'd get rid of me! Well, I'll show them! I'll find my way back and kick their a**es!" Melonda angrily ranted.

"Who? And why did they want to beat you up and discard you or whatever?" Kayden asked, now very curious about this strange girl who seemed to just magically fall from the sky.

"What do you care?" she asked. "They're cold heartless people. They said I was too powerful to control, whatever that means. They discarded me because they were afraid. They were afraid of what I could do to them. They had good reason to be though. I destroyed their laboratory after I woke up from the deep sleep they had me in. I wanted them gone. They had no right to do what they did to me. They called themselves my family! They betrayed me. They made me feel like I was nothing, so that's exactly what I was going to make them. Nothing..." Kayden watched the intensity grow in Melonda's eyes as she told him all of this.

"What did they do?" he asked, not sure if he really wanted to know the answer.

"They made me," she told him. "They couldn't control me so they tried to get rid of me. I fought back but I lost, so here I am."

"So you're like some kind of genetic experiment or something?" he asked feeling like perhaps he should have kept his question to himself.

"Yeah, you could say that," she said with little emotion in her voice.

"Well, you seem pretty normal to me," he said.

"Really?" she looked at him questioningly.

"Yeah, I mean, aside from your temper, you seem like a normal girl to me," he told her.

"Well, I have a feeling you'll change your mind soon enough," she said and continued walking.

"We should at least decide where we're going instead of wandering around like this," Kayden said trying to catch up to her.

"Ok, so where do you think we should go?" she asked.

"Well, first, I want to stop by my house and drop off some of the stuff I bought yesterday. We can stay there for the time being until we figure something out," he offered.

"Alright, so where is your house?" she asked him.

"It's right down this road," he told her pointing to the right of where they were. With that Melonda was off. She ran down the dusty path a ways before Kayden could catch up with her.

"Wait," he tried to say. "I haven't told you which house it is yet!"

"Well, just stop me when we get to it," she said as she continued to run.

"You enjoy being a pain don't you?" he complained at her hoping she wasn't going to turn around and smack him for it or maybe something worse.

She simply grinned in response. "It's what I live for."

Suddenly Kayden grabbed her and she skidded to a stop.

"We're here," he told her.

"Good, now let go," she said shoving him to the side.

"You know you run pretty fast," he said, trying to ignore the fact that she had just pushed him. "I got quite a work out trying to catch you."

"And your point is?" she asked, seeming a bit annoyed.

"Let's go inside," Kayden suggested so as not to annoy her more. Melonda walked past him and up to the door.

"It's locked," she complained, jiggling the handle.

"Patience my friend, I have the key," he told her holding it up like a prize. He walked up to the door and unlocked it and walked inside, holding the door open for Melonda. She walked in and looked around.

"Nice," she said with a bit of sarcasm in her voice.

"Thanks," he said ignoring her sarcastic tone. He sat his things on the table. "Just make yourself at home." He smiled hoping she would relax a bit. She sighed and walked over to his couch and sat down placing her things beside her.

"So what do you do here?" she asked after a moment of silence.

"We can do whatever you want," he told her.

"Really?" Melonda got a sly grin on her face at this comment.

"Just about," he said, relieved that she seemed to be calming. He sat down next to her hoping that this was not a mistake. Her reaction was little more than moving over a bit. "I'm glad we got to rest a little, my legs feel like rubber." He laughed hoping she would do the same. Much to his disappointment, she didn't make a sound. She stopped smiling and just looked over at the window in front of them. Silence returned to the room.

Kayden's cat decided to show itself after a while and jumped up onto the couch to greet their new guest. It slowly stepped into Melonda's lap and meowed.

"What the...?" She jumped at the sound of the meow and looked down at the cat strangely. She hadn't seen anything like it before. Its big blue eyes stared up at her as if it were begging to be petted. Melonda continued to stare at it, completely taken by surprise by the friendly cat.

Kayden laughed. "It's just my cat. Don't worry she won't hurt you, she's very friendly."

Melonda responded by picking the cat up and plopping it onto Kayden's lap. "I don't want it on me," she told him.

"Don't you have animals in your dimension?" he asked her, wondering why she seemed

to be so shocked by a cat.

"Yes, but they aren't anything like this," she told him gesturing to the cat, who responded by batting at her hand a bit. Melonda glared at the cat, not understanding that it was just playing. Kayden chuckled in response to her angry look. Melonda sat silently once again.

"What's with these strange creatures and people? Why are they all so weird?" she thought to herself in aggravation.

"So what do you want to do?" Kayden asked after yet another seemingly eternal moment of silence. When she didn't answer, he just sighed and petted the now sleeping cat on his lap.

3. Exploring the World Outside

"So what do you want to do?" Kayden asked after yet another seemingly eternal moment of silence. When she didn't answer, he just sighed and petted the now sleeping cat on his lap.

"Why are you so quiet?" He asked her hoping that by doing so it would at least give him some idea as to why there had been so many awkward silences between them. "Are you shy?"

"No," Melonda said. "I'm not shy. I'm just not used to people talking to me so I don't know what to say to you. Oh and to answer your question about what I want to do, I want to go outside." She never got to go out much even in her own dimension so she wanted to go out in this one since there weren't any major threats for her to worry about and nothing for her to feel the need to hide from.

"That's it?" he asked. "That's all you want is to go outside?"

"Yeah, got a problem with it?" she asked.

"No, I just thought maybe you'd want to do something more interesting." He tried to explain himself but Melonda glared at him as if he had insulted her somehow. "I can't shake this feeling like you only give me that attitude of yours as some sort of defense, if that's the case, I can assure you that you don't have anything to worry about. I really am a nice guy. I promise I won't do anything to hurt you."

"You know me not even a day and you already think you've got me figured out huh?" She asked him. "Well, here's a surprise for you, Kayden. I'm not worried about you. I'm not afraid of you and by the way, if you ever did try anything, I'd kill you before you had the chance so I don't need your empty promises."

"Alright, alright, geez I just can't win," Kayden complained. "I offer to help you and I even invite you into my home and you act like I'm the devil or something."

Melonda's expression went from that of anger to that of almost sadness. "I'm sorry," she said in a voice that was nearly inaudible. She was hurt by Kayden's sudden outburst and didn't understand why he was angry.

"Don't feel bad," He told her not liking the hurt look that Melonda was giving him. "I shouldn't have said that. Let's just go outside and do...well whatever it is you want to do." Kayden laughed hoping Melonda would do the same but she just stared at him as if she were a child being punished.

"Ok," she agreed quietly and stood up heading for the door. Kayden went ahead of her to open the door and waited for her to step out before closing it behind him. He was very confused by Melonda's sudden mood swing but at the same time relieved that he didn't have to put up with her attitude for a while. They walked around Kayden's yard for a few

minutes then Melonda suddenly stopped in front of a large tree in his back yard. She looked up at it wide eyed like a child in a candy store. Kayden smiled amazed that someone could be so excited to see a tree. He wondered what else Melonda would enjoy seeing. He watched her eye the tree appearing to be in deep thought. She looked up at a high branch and suddenly jumped up onto it perched there like a cat. Kayden stared at her in awe. The branch was so high from the ground yet she leaped to it like it was nothing. Her eyes had a sense of wonder about them as she sat there. It was as if she had never even seen anything like that let alone actually come in contact with it. She sat proudly on the tree branch as if she owned it. Kayden simply stared at her not sure of what to say. Melonda looked down at him and her expression quickly changed to that of slight annoyance.

"What? Why do you keep looking at me like that?" She asked him, the look in her eyes quickly fading back to their usual angry state.

"It's just that you seem so....I don't know....child like in that tree....besides...I've never seen anyone jump that far before...it was awesome," Kayden laughed a bit nervously hoping he didn't upset her. Much to his surprise, she simply smiled in response and went up further into the tree.

"Hey wait a minute," Kayden began climbing after her. "Don't go up so high, you might get hurt."

"Relax...I'll be fine." Melonda told him with little emotion in her voice.

"Nice to see you're so sure," Kayden replied with slight sarcasm. Melonda let out a small almost inaudible giggle enjoying the annoyance she was causing Kayden. She was unsure why she enjoyed it so much but didn't take the time to think about it at the moment. She climbed higher and higher up the tree until she reached the top and sat there staring at the scenery around her. It seemed to comfort her somehow. She felt a strange new emotion begin to fill her mind. She wasn't exactly sure what it was and was a bit confused by it. She was unsure if she liked this new feeling she was having but it seemed so nice so different than the usual feelings she had. Kayden suddenly interrupted her thoughts by calling to her from near the bottom of the tree.

"Hey! I think you should come back down here before something bad happens," He began to worry about her being so high up and wanted her to listen to him and come back down before she ended up falling.

"I told you I'll be fine," Melonda called back to him now completely annoyed with him for taking her new feeling away. She looked down at him and thought about what she could do to let him know just how annoyed she was. Then it came to her like a bolt of lightning. She suddenly jumped down at him from her high spot in the tree and knocked him down to the ground. Kayden yelled out before getting the breath knocked out of him for a moment as he hit the ground taken completely by surprise by Melonda's sudden attack. He began to realize that she could be dangerous. "Maybe that's why her creators were so afraid of her," he thought to himself as he lifted his head to see that she had landed softly on her feet and was now walking back toward the house.

"Hey, Melonda! What was that for?! That really hurt," He yelled at her, angry that she had

attacked him for seemingly no reason. He stood up and went after her. "Hello! Can you hear me?! I'm talking to you!" Melonda stopped suddenly and turned around. She had the same confused expression to her face that she had earlier when he yelled at her. It caused Kayden to stop in his tracks. He was almost afraid to come any closer and he didn't want to cause another attack so he stood there waiting for her to react.

"Why did you take my feeling away?" She asked.

"What are you talking about?" Kayden was still a bit angry with her but was now more confused than anything else.

"You took my nice feeling away. Why did you do that?" She asked again.

"How did I do that?" He asked her, still not sure what she meant.

"You interrupted my thoughts and the nice feeling I had went away...." She looked at the ground seeming to be hurt somehow.

"I didn't mean to take your feeling away. I just didn't want you to get hurt, that's all," he tried to explain himself to her but he was distracted by her hurt expression.

"I told you I was fine." Her face returned to its usual emotionless state as she said this.

"I'm sorry," Kayden said, not sure what else he could do to make her feel better.

"For what? It's fine...I'm not hurt," she told him with the same lifeless tone she had used with him so many times before. She turned back around and began walking back to the house again. Kayden followed her in complete confusion. Her emotions fluctuated so wildly he wasn't sure how to adjust to her. "This trip might not be such a good idea," he thought to himself. "I don't know if I can handle her. That attack came out of no where. She hurt me and I couldn't defend myself at all. She could have killed me if she wanted to...." His thoughts were interrupted as he came up to the door. Melonda was standing there waiting for him to open the door even though it wasn't locked. He opened the door for her and motioned for her to go inside.

"It wasn't locked. You could have just come in on your own, you didn't have to wait for me," he told her as he walked inside after her.

"It's not my house," she said flatly. Kayden just shook his head and walked into the living room. His cat came to greet him with a meow.

"Hey, Mekyiu." Kayden smiled and bent down to pet the cat. She happily rubbed against his hand as he pet her purring loudly.

"Mekyiu...?" Melonda asked, wondering why he called the cat such a strange name.

"That's her name," he told her looking up at her still smiling.

"I thought you said it was a cat," Melonda returned his look with a rather confused one of her

own.

"Yeah, it is and her name is Mekyiu," he said. "I guess I forgot to introduce you when she jumped on you earlier." He laughed hoping to ease Melonda's confusion a bit.

"Oh...." Melonda was still confused but decided to let it go for the moment. "I'm hungry." Melonda was suddenly very aware of her empty stomach.

"Oh, I almost forgot. I bought some food yesterday. I'll make you something if you want." Kayden stood up and started walking toward the kitchen. Melonda followed him ignoring a very loudly meowing Mekyiu that was trailing behind her craving attention.