

1031 SIDE STORY (ABBY): HAPPINESS

And just like what Abby had predicted, the moment the three elders stepped their foot in the Andel continent, the support for them increased significantly. Those people, who disagreed with Abby's decision to end the reign of the Holy Kingdom and decided to share the power with the royal family were quick to stick by the elders' side. However, it was so unfortunate for them, because it was already so late. The collaboration between Holy Kingdom and Andel Kingdom was a refreshing air for the people. Serafim Abby and prince Barry became a new icon for them, the icon of peace and unity. The two of them were loved by the people. Therefore, the Elders would only dig their own grave if they tried to disrupt this peaceful era. Nonetheless, despite the support they had from a few people in the Holy Kingdom, there was nothing they could do. They had been absent for three years and they had lost all the support and real strength that once they had.

" Don't you want to see them?" Barry asked Abby when he just returned from his meeting. "I heard they have been here for a month." He didn't bring this topic up sooner, because he knew how sensitive this topic was for Abby, but he felt they needed to address this sooner or later, especially when he received a letter from Elder Rose.

" There is no need for me to see them." Abby took off her hair piece and let her cascaded down her back. They had been married for less than a year and their interaction would always be related to the state affair, it really felt like a marriage business, though they always showed the people how affectionate they were with each other, to the point, most of the people forgot this marriage was an arranged one.

" Elder Rose sent me this letter," Barry said, he put the letter in front of Abby and stood behind her to comb her hair.

" Why did she send you a letter?" Abby opened it and read it casually. Even though the letter was directed to Barry, but the content was directed to Abby and the gist of it was; Elder Rose wanted to see Abby, she asked for Barry to help.

" Probably because she knew that you wouldn't open the letter if you knew it came from her."

"I wish she could understand that and leave me alone," Abby said, she stared at Barry. This man was always kind and respectful toward her. He kept his word to treat Bielle nicely and in this past year, he became a father figure for her little one.

" Okay." Barry nodded.

" Thank you, Barry. I will not have someone more understanding than you." Barry smiled. " Don't say that when you have Cedric. It didn't sound genuine." He then added. " Can you avoid to meet with him alone? People talked." Abby was slightly taken aback and lowered her head. " Understood." She understood that they had to fulfill their own role, but Abby felt comfortable with Cedric. Not in a romantic way, but she saw him as a big brother. She always saw him in that way, but with her status as prince Barry's wife, she wouldn't be able to afford to have scandalous rumor about her and Cedric. It wouldn't only hurt her, but also Cedric. People could be very vile and vicious and a rumor could be the start of a downfall. Abby had worked so hard for this, she couldn't take a risk when her daughter was also added into the equivalent. However, Abby needed to make it clear with Cedric for one last time, thus she met with him in secret to tell him that he was released from his duty as her personal knights.

"I am sorry, Cedric." Abby felt so sad to have to let go the last person from her past. She felt like their day together when they were little, when there were only the three of them, were the best moments of her life. She really wanted to return to that moment, even though life didn't treat her well, but she always had Cedric and Liam to rely on. [www.ovElu\(orm\).com](#)

"I understood." Cedric nodded. To Abby's surprised, Cedric didn't argue with her. She had prepared a long explanation and thought about all the answer for a possible question that Cedric would give to her, but as it turned out he accepted it without any question.

" Don't you want to know why?" Cedric chuckled. He looked relax. "I know this day will come one day, Abby. I am well aware of the rumor that started among the people." People knew that Cedric was Abby's childhood bestfriend, along with Liam. Some people could guess that Bielle's father was Liam, since the little girl took after her father so much, but there were also people, who assumed Cedric was the father, since he was so close with Bielle and how Abby kept him with her.

"I know it's time for me to let you go. You have done so well all this time and prince Barry is a decent man. He will be able to protect you." Abby bit her tongue, she wanted to cry and hug him, but she couldn't. It would only make it harder for the two of them. They were innocent. They didn't do anything inappropriate, but they couldn't risk it. Just like what Barry said, people talked.

" Thank you, Cedric, thank you for everything."

" Just promise me one thing." Cedric wanted to hug her, comforting her because he knew that she was about to cry, but he didn't do it for the same reason like her. " Be happy. Be strong and know that you will always have me to help you. You just need to call me and I will come. I will do everything to keep you and Bielle safe. No question asked." After that, Cedric was being transferred to different area, where he would lead a few knights to relief the disaster in a city that was so far from the capital. They did it very subtle, as if Cedric went away in the name of the Holy Kingdom, the Serafim, but with the great distance, it meant, the two of them wouldn't see each other and probably, they wouldn't encounter each other anymore. This was very effective to shut people down and stop them from talking. [www.ovElu\(orm\).com](#)

"I know this is hard for you." Barry approached Abby, he helped her to take off her hair piece and let her long hair cascaded down her back. She looked beautiful and regal. " Cedric came to me before he left." Barry could see how Abby's body turned rigid with the mentioned of Cedric. " What did he say?" [www.ovElu\(orm\).com](#)

" He told me to treat you well and make you happy." Abby nodded. " That sounds like him."

" Are you happy?" Barry took a brush and combed her hair. " Do you finally feel happiness?" Abby didn't want to answer that. "I have you as my husband and Bielle by my side, I will be so greedy if I asked for more. You can't live to have everything." Barry didn't say anything at all. He only lowered his head to kiss her neck. He always did it whenever he wanted her, but he would stop his advance if Abby gave him any indication that she didn't want it. However, Abby let him to kiss her nape, neck and then her shoulder. He hugged her from behind and when Abby didn't resist, he took her to the bed. Still, even until this day, Abby felt this strong feeling of guilty whenever Barry touched her, which was so absurd, since she was his already. Even after five years they were together, this guilty feeling didn't disappear, until one day, she overheard Barry's conversation with Bielle.

" Why don't you be my father? People always reminded me that you are not my father and not to call you as such." Bielle was only eight years old now and she grew up to be a happy child, Abby and Barry always tried to shield her from the negative words from people around them, but it seemed, there was nothing they could do to really shield her from this. [www.Noelw\(orm\).com](#)

" If you thought of me as your father, it would be an honor for me, Bielle, to have a brilliant child like you is a blessing." But then Barry added. " But, you need to remember your own father. You couldn't forget about him, no matter what, he will always be your father, even though he is not here. He loves you from above. That must be what people wanted to tell you."

" Really?"

" Of course," Barry reassured her. " You can think of me as your father and treat me as such, but don't forget that before me, you already had a father."

"I will not forget about my father, but I would love to treat you as my father too."

" Okay." Abby heard about this conversation and she Barry had put an effort for her and Bielle. She then approached them to let Barry knew that it was time for them to leave and meet with the people. Bielle kissed both of them and waved to them, as they entered the carriage.

"I know you heard our conversation. I will handle the people, who talked that way to Bielle," Barry said. Abby looked at him closely for the first time in their six years of marriage. " Thank you so much, Barry. I am happy to have you by my side," she said genuinely.