

Chapter 10

“Wedding Song”



He awakened to the racket of kids moving about and the smell of something cooking. He must still be dreaming.

Slowly, Professor Sarantos opened his eyes, but immediately squinted from the sun pouring in between the openings of the tiny hut.

“Is that food I detect?”

“Finally, you’re awake,” said Charlie.

“Yep, awake, that’s me.” The best day is the day that’s in front of us.

“Yes, it’s food. Gorilla went out to see if there were any dinosaur leftovers from last night. He found some scraps. He also caught two fish in the lake. The big oaf’s becoming handy.”

“Yes, that’s great. I take it last night was uneventful?”

“No, it got loud twice during the night. Woke the two of us up, but not you, I guess. Although, you were restless and kept saying ‘I do’. We were wondering what you wanted to do?” She giggled.

The fish smelled intoxicating. He liked fish. It reminded him of when he was a kid and his dad would take him on a fishing trip. Gorilla came back in the hut and had what looked like chives in his hand and two other unknown plants.

“Well, he lives. Must’ve been an amazing night, Doc. You were making weird sucking noises, moaning, and the words ‘I do’ were gushing out of you like running water. What gives Doc?”

Gorilla grinned while pulling his knife to cut up the greens. He then threw them on the cooking fish and leftovers from the dinosaur battle. The aroma immediately filled the small hut and reminded him of home.

“What do you mean, what gives? Obviously, I slept well, however, I feel like I was up all night.” He sat up and rubbed his eyes. “I think I got married.”

The kids laughed.

“Doc, that’s not cool. Who did you marry?”



“I don’t know. But she was beautiful, and I couldn’t refuse her, that’s for sure.”

“Well, Professor, I’m disappointed we weren’t invited.” Charlie chuckled and said, “Food is ready.”

Gorilla couldn’t help himself. “Glad you got married Doc, but it’s not for me. I fall in love every weekend!”

He took his plate from her outstretched hands and nodded. "Great job getting breakfast, Gorilla. You're a true naturalist."

Gorilla grinned and stared at him with eyes that grew wider and wider in horror. "Doc, bushwa, what's all over your body?"

He suddenly felt nauseous. He pulled up his sleeve and looked at his arm. Bite marks, hickies, bruises. He stared blindly. He couldn't speak.

"Let me see," said Charlie as she pushed his other sleeve up and checked his back, shoulders, and neck. "Professor, you have more hickies and bruises all over your body. Your face has them from chin to cheek. I'm concerned."

"Doc, if I weren't so horrified for your health, I'd give you a handshake. That must've been an amazing bearcat. It looks like she came to life in your dream."

“I told you her beauty spellbound me. It was just her and I.” He frowned. “We were dancing in the clouds, and a wedding song was playing. I’ve never heard it before in my life, but I knew what it was. I won’t be able to stop it from playing in my head the rest of the day. The whole moment was like a nightmare trying to disguise itself as a pleasant memory.”

“Doc, that might not have been good... the part where you said I do. In this world, we do not understand what creatures live here, and what they are after.”



Charlie screamed. “Oh my God, Professor. You might’ve just allowed her to own your soul? Professor, you could wander off; you might be a slave to her will?” The more voices he hears, the worse it’s going to get.

He shook his head in denial. “No, that couldn’t be right.”

Gorilla's mouth fell open. "Doc, what if she won't let you go back?"

"Stop it, you two. I'm sure it's not that bad." He was hungry, so he continued eating even as his audience of two rambled on. "Eat your food," he blurted out.

He could taste her. He could smell her fragrant skin touching him, caressing him. That woman made him feel good, wanted, and happy. Last night felt like paradise, and the sweet melody played into his core. They made love as the sun set on a sea of white, and his heart filled with love and beat for her, it beat hard for her! Love never dies a natural death.

He'd never seen himself as a married guy, and in the actual world had already backed out of an engagement when he realized he wasn't the marrying type. How could he be? He was an adventurer and wouldn't be home long enough to make any marriage work.

He never thought the day would come when he would say, I do. But it was here now. Or was it? He

got married in a dream? Droplets of sweat formed on his upper lip.

“I had to say, I do. She is everything I need. It works for me, because I travel so much, and she only comes out at night.” She possessed him. He was mesmerized and enthralled by her.



Both kids looked at him like he was a zombie.

“Doc, what?”

“Professor, do you hear what you’re saying? That makes no sense. She’s not real! She’s controlling you; we must get rid of her before she takes your soul. Do you know her name?”

He didn’t care. Yes, he knew her name, but it wasn’t their business. Her kiss was seductive, and he couldn’t exist without her in these long and lonely evenings.

The Professor said, “No, I don’t know her name.”

Gorilla looked at Charlie. The concern on their faces broke his heart, but she was more important to him. They were kids, what did they know? They worried too much.

“Doc, it could be a problem. We need a solution fast.”

“Yes, we do. The solution is for you two kids to quit worrying about me and my new wife.” He managed a forced laugh. They smelled his vulnerability.

They finished eating quietly. He felt them watching him like he was going to turn into something grotesque, maybe before he disappeared in front of them - lost to this world forever.

The air was thick. His thoughts scared him. It might happen. Why couldn't they see it his way? Was there something holding him back from understanding the truth of the situation?

Gorilla sat down his empty plate and looked at him with an intensity he only thought possible from Charlie's eyes. “Doc, I know this seems fabulous to you, but something about it is all wet. It's baloney Doc, and I feel once she's used you all up, you're going to get bumped off.”

Charlie hit his arm. “Don't say that, Gorilla. That's a little harsh.”

“Ouch. That was a little hard. Whether it was harsh, or not, you’re thinking it too. We need to fix it. If it were one of us, Doc would do something.”

Charlie pointed awkwardly. Her mouth fell open, and her eyes bulged. She was shaking.



Gorilla’s eyes followed her outstretched arm and jumped to his feet, knocking the plate on the ground next to him.

Professor Sarantos was too scared to look. He didn't need to though because he felt her presence. The wind changed. What the hell was she doing out in the daytime?

He finally gave in and turned to look. There she was in all her ghostly beauty. Nothing felt wrong... but it was.

Sarantos couldn't stop his voice. "My beautiful wife. How I missed you. We met in the dark, but now you grace me with your presence in the light of this world."

"What?" Gorilla raced to him and pulled him to his feet, all the while the Professor reached towards the woman he loved. Soon the Doc would become her latest game of chance.

Gorilla was raging. He pulled the Doc over behind the two of them. They stood like a brick wall, a force to be reckoned with. They would die trying to save him. He knew that, but just smiled like a crazy man.

He never thought he would get married, he never thought he would be the one, but here he was. The stars trapped in a perfect relationship. It was like a Disney movie.

The ghostly woman smiled and waved her hand at Charlie, knocking her to the ground. Then her eyes smoldered, looking Gorilla up and down.

Gorilla's chin went up in the air in defiance.



She laughed a most seductive laugh, like the wind gently touching wind chimes.

Charlie couldn't get up.

Gorilla gulped; he was losing ground.

Her body moved closer to Gorilla. His chin lowered, he worked to lift it up. You come to a point where it stops being easy.

All he could do was smile at his wife's antics; she was so gorgeous.

Her delicate arm reached out and touched Gorilla's shoulder. His body began shivering uncontrollably.

She disappeared inside him, and Gorilla fell to the ground moaning in pleasure.

Charlie couldn't move and the Professor just smiled like a giddy, hormonal teenage boy.

"Professor!" Charlie raised her voice so loud it hurt her own ears, but nothing could break the Professor out of his stupor.

Charlie wasn't sure how long she held that pose or how long the Professor stood there grinning like a lunatic. She wanted to hold her hands over her ears to stop the sounds coming from Gorilla.

In that moment, she realized she was envious. What? She was jealous of a ghost? Yes! That ghost was taking advantage of the guy she was crazy about, and he was enjoying himself way too much. She intended to hold him until she broke him.



His body would flail and flinch as she became angrier and angrier. She was helpless, and that was hard for her to manage.

She'd never been that way in her life. Helpless wasn't in her vocabulary until today.

It made her sick. Her stomach churned, and she wanted to blow away that awful spirit.

“Stop it,” she screamed. There was no response. She screamed louder.

The spirit didn’t care if she was even there. She could feel the woman seducing her Gorilla. Why did she call him hers?? It was the first time she’d felt that way about him, but maybe she had all along and repressed her genuine feelings. What was happening now bore itself into her heart and broke down the barriers she’d placed there.

It was almost unbearable. The emotions she was feeling didn’t happen with the Professor. She couldn’t witness the seduction. Why? Her mind was racing when it stopped. The room began swirling around her and if she were standing, she would’ve fallen over.

She watched helplessly as the woman came away from Gorilla, threw a wicked grin her way and floated onto the Professor.

Gorilla sat up. “That was embarrassing. Honest onions that just blew my mind. I can understand what Doc was talking about.”

“Oh, men are stupid. You can, you big oaf.”

“What’d I say. What happened to you, Charlie? Are you okay?” He rushed to her side and helped her stand.

“What’s going on between you two?” The Professor was standing by them, looking confused.

Gorilla patted him on the back. “Congrats on the wedding, Doc. You’re one lucky guy. She’s a keeper.”



What's wrong with men anyway? Charlie hit him as hard as she could on his arm. "He's not lucky, you goof. He might not return to our world, and now you might not either. Looks like I'm going back home all alone and collecting that Pulitzer prize for

myself.” She turned and waved back. “Bye, bye then, catch you on the flip.”

She picked up her belongings and headed out of the hut.

She wasn’t sure if they would follow her or not. The brave act left her overflowing with tears, but she bit her lip and shoved them back deep inside where they originated from, weakness.

Ever since Charlie was a young lad, she had an appetite for adventure, and if she ever doubted herself or showed any sign of fear, her father would say, ‘Pick yourself up girl and keep going. The world will not pamper you or wait for you. Make your own world, my darling, and stand on top of it.’

Her parents were British and a firm believer that you keep moving. They had no time for anyone who sat on their bums and did nothing.

She bit her lip again and this time harder. Charlie looked around, trying to decide where to go. She

hadn't thought this far ahead because the boys had the sword. She had no way of getting back.

The tears burned her eyes. Before she released them in full force, she felt movement behind her. Someone placed a hand on her shoulder and pulled her close.

"You're not going anywhere without us, ever. I can see you care. I could be your flapper."

"What?" She turned and smacked Gorilla on the arm. "Blimey you're kidding right? I could never be your girlfriend! Just look at you. You're a pain in my behind, you are."

He laughed. "Yes, I am. And I always will be my love."

It wasn't easy for her to let her guard down, especially not out here. This was no place for romance. He made her smile and for now that's all she needed. Well, not all. She needed them too.



“Besides, I only paused because you blooming goofs have the sword. How’s a girl supposed to get out of this world, anyway?”

Professor Sarantos winked at her and smiled.

She had to admit she loved them both, even if they were now bethrothed. Well, only the Professor was a married man, Gorilla just had a fling with one married woman, if she could even be called a woman. He was still a silly boy after all, and not in full control of his faculties.

She laughed until tears flowed down her cheeks.

“Are you okay?”

“Yes, Gorilla, I’m fine. I just thought of how I almost let a spirit split us up. I’m sure that’s what she wants. She’s just a stupid ghost and we can beat her together.”

“Baloney, that woman has some power and if we think like that, we’ll be all wet, and never beat her at her own game,” said Gorilla.

The Professor moved between them and looked like he just walked into a funeral parlor. “I’m not sure if this is a game. It feels real to me. No matter how hard I try to get control over it, I can’t. I feel married

to her and don't want her to leave me... ever. She's my wife, and that's the end of the discussion on removing her from my life. If I can't go back with you, you'll just have to do it without me. I go where she goes."

Gorilla backed up and looked at Charlie. Her immediate task was to prepare them for a journey that no one had ever taken. She frowned and studied the Professor's face. He was serious. Then there she was, his wife, smiling wickedly next to him dressed in a white cloud. She felt fear.

A whisper blew her away.



“Applesauce,” said Gorilla.