

Donghwa

~ a written k-dorama ~

Von 55-69

Kapitel 1: As long as you don't get yourself some new friends...

Episode 01

Once upon a time... that's how fairy tales normally start with, right? But don't get mislead by some little words. This just tells the story, of four girls who desperately wanted to be happy with the life they were living.

"Kang In-Young!"

The older lady eyed up her daughter from head to toe. Her appearance this day was far away from what Mrs Kang would call appropriate. The skirt was too short, the sweater too flashy, the shoes definitely not her taste and the hair a total mess. But as her mother was never satisfied with what Youngie was wearing, she didn't even care anymore.

"This is all because of this ... poor people your hanging out with."

"Mum!"

The thing InYoung hated the most was her mum talking in this dismissive voice about her best friends. Living in this rich household had as many advantages as disadvantages. But because this was one of the most striking disadvantages Youngie hated to live there.

"Would you please stop saying things like that!"

She still wasn't good at talking back on her mother.

"I cannot stop it since you wouldn't listen to what I'm saying!"

"Because they're my friends."

"Yes! And as long as you don't get yourself some new friends I will keep on saying it!"

"Whatever!"

She walked out without waiting for a reply

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When people don't get the chance to see each other over a longer period of time, the change that has inevitably taken over is not visible at first sight. Maybe because they get thrown back into the past that quick, that they don't remember the way they are but the way they once were?

Whatever it is, it was exactly the feeling that took over HaNeul when the automatic

door opened and YooChun walked out with a smile. After 4 years they met again. His steps got faster when he spotted his best friend in the crowd. She became really mature, he almost didn't recognize her. But that smile was still the same. The one he loved, as he loved her. And she loved him. Not the romantic side of love. The most deep and platonic love you might find on this planet. The love you feel for your family. Yes, they were one family and after 4 years of waiting they were reunited.

"I still cannot get you dyed it."

She glanced up to him and touched his light brown hair. The last two days she repeated this sentence about 20 times and she still didn't get it.

"And I cannot get you didn't grow one bit the last 4 years."

HaNeul pouted since she was not really satisfied with her height and didn't need YooChun to tell her she was small.

He sighed. Took a look around the campus.

"So that's the university?"

"Something's wrong with that?"

"The American college buildings are much .. nicer."

"Then go back there." It hurt to hear things like that, 'cause it gave her a feeling of being alone. That YooChun was still somewhere else. She started hating America.

"HanYeol-a.."

She looked at him in a really surprised way, then giggled.

"You know how much I missed the way you say my nickname?"

"You.." He grinned. "Let's go, okey?"

She nodded happily. He might compare all this to America, but all in all she knew he was happy to be back.

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Youngie decided to skip university that day. No problem since she always attended her classes regularly. Instead she bought a huge bunch of kimbab and took her way to Hankuk University of Foreign Studies.

As she had really no idea if and how she could find her friends she searched through the campus bit by bit. She really liked the atmosphere here. Although the buildings were blockhouse type just like her own university, the atmosphere around here was much friendlier.

"Youngie?" HaNeul's astonished face told YooChun that something uncommon happened.

"Hey, YOUNGIE!" InYoung turned around.

"Ah! HaNeul-unnie!" The sound didn't really come out, 'cause her chops were filled with kimbab.

"What are you doing here?"

"Nothing special.." More and more kimbab entered her mouth.

YooChun was not saying anything.

"You had a fight with your mum again?"

While chewing the incredible amount of food in her mouth InYoung pouted. HaNeul knew about the relationship between her friend's mother and her. The old lady was a really snobby human being and dead set against all of Youngies friends.

"She can be such a pain..."

"I know.. so wanna join us? We still have a lot of time left since we're quite early to check our schedules again. Maybe we should have some breakfast."

"Don't think she need that anymore."

They turned around and saw SooJin and SeulGi standing there. Both of them were studying English literature like HaNeul and YooChun, but they knew each other since childhood or high school.

"You should stop eating all that kimbab. You'll get fat." SeulGi had this mean womanlike laugh when she was teasing InYoung.

"Not as fat as you!" She stuck her tongue out at her friend.

"YOU!" SeulGi wanted to jump at the younger one when HaNeul stopped her.

"Well, well.. some of you might still know him and some might not. Let's welcome back: the incredible PARK YOOCHUN!"

SooJin and InYoung started clapping while SeulGi still waited for her chance to get revenge. As the first excitement abated she took advantage of her friends inattention.

"YOU!!"

No chance to interfere anymore. They started some kind of strange "friends wrestling fight".

"Ne HanYeol... who's that?" YooChun pulled his friends aside so he could question her without any disturbance. The girls were still fighting, SooJin was counting hits and points.

"Who? Youngie?"

He nodded.

"Why?"

"Just because.. I mean never saw her before.. you know..."

He stuttered a little bit. HaNeul slightly got an idea what was going on. She grinned.

"Well.. her name is Kang InYoung. 20 years old. Studying at Seoul National University."

"Really?"

"Un, her family is of this rich snobbish type. She had problems with some pervert. We got to know her two years ago while helping her out."

"Helping her?"

"I bet that bastard up."

YooChun had to laugh out loud.

"Hey!"

"Sorry.. but you changed so much. Remember our childhood? I always had to protect you from being bullied."

"Yes, yes.. I learned from the best." She poked his head. "But back to main topic.. InYoung-a."

The younger one blushed and HaNeul knew. Just when YooChun wanted to object, Youngie jumped in.

"What are you guys talking about?" She didn't like it when things were kept away from her.

"Nothing.. just talking."

"Yes, sure! YooChun-oppa! Tell me! She is saying bad things again, isn't she?"

"Youngie!"

Both of them started fighting like they used to do it every time, while YooChun still couldn't think about anything else than Youngie calling him 'oppa'. Sure he was in love before, even had a girlfriend the time he was in America, but he really couldn't compare all this to this utterly cute girl he was staring at.

Everything matched so perfectly. The light brown dyed hair. The dark brown eyes. These soft lips. The small figure.

// She must be really light. //

He caught himself thinking about other things and strongly blushed. Then he spotted a guy who was standing near SooJin watching the scene.

"Hey! Who are you?" He shouted.

Everybody was looking at YooChun then turned to see who he was shouting at.

// Where did he come from? //

"ChangMin-a..." SooJin poked his arm. "Tell me you're around.. don't sneak behind my back!"

"Sorry." ChangMin smiled.

SeulGi stepped near SooJin. "Who's that?"

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"Who?"

"Shim ChangMin."

The far taller guy smiled at her. She had to admit that he was somehow really handsome. Slim and tall. Longer, nutbrown dyed hair. Honest smile.

"We're in the same English Literature Class."

"Really?"

Until now she hadn't recognized him.

"So you need help with some homework or something?"

"No, no. Just thought... since I don't really know anybody... I wanted to say 'Hi!'"

"Hi." Was SooJin's short reply

"Hi!" ChangMin grinned and there was no other opportunity than to grin back 'cause this smile was infective.

"May I join you?"

Whatever she wanted to do next.

"Ehm.. sure.."

As she couldn't think of any reason against getting to know this odd smiling guy she agreed. From then on he followed her around.

And SooJin was slowly getting annoyed.

A fact that she ignored when she introduced him to her friends. Five people lined up in front of a bright smiling ChangMin who didn't say one word and just let SooJin tell "the story". HaNeul was slightly irritated without exactly knowing the reason for it. But right then was no time to spend more thinking on it.

"Well.. really nice to meet you, but YooChun and me need to check schedules so think we should leave now."

She tried to smile honestly at him but she was not able to.

ChangMin bowed, thanked her for her kindness and told her that he was looking forward to see her again.

Strange guy.

"Let's meet again in the evening. We should celebrate YooChun's 'comeback'!" Another motive for Youngie to come forward with such a suggestion was her will to forget about her dominant mother.

No need to tell that everybody was taken with this idea.

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The [HAZE] was a small club located in an old buildings basement. The stairs leading

down to the wooden door were attrited, the banister's varnish was spalling. However, the furnishing was far away from what the outside showed. Huge, brown leather armchairs were placed around beautiful narrow tables, with candles and all kinds of different dried flowers on it. There was black grand piano located in the back on a small stage where, from time to time, unknown artists could share their work with a small audience. The smell of cigarettes mixed with the scent of joss sticks while the dimmed yellow light made it kind of hard to see anything when entering the club. Nevertheless it had this special atmosphere that made people feel comfortable. What was exactly the reason for the six friends to choose it in order to escape reality even if it was for a limited period of time. They ordered lots of Soju. Laughed. Joked around. Complained about university and their parents. Drank more. And joked around again.

*It's feel like
beautiful thing*

SeulGi, drunk as she was, suddenly had to stop listening to Youngie babbling about her parents unfair way to treat her.

*Below the moon's shadow
The wind whispers in my ear*

When did this guy started singing?

*Where will it take me
Making the night turn white*

She turned around to look at a smaller young man with short black hair singing the most beautiful song she ever heard. She couldn't help but staring at him unsure if the dizziness that overcame her was because of the alcohol in her blood or the strong voice taking over her heart.

*A spirit that walks on clouds
Till the dawn comes
Till the night goes to sleep*

Soojin leaned towards ChangMin to hit his shoulder. "Ne! What's wrong with her?" He just needed one small glance to know what was going on. "Love at first sight."

*Time of love, Oh my life
When will be the chosen day*

"Eh??" Youngie turned around all of the sudden that only YooChun sitting next to her could keep her from falling off her chair. She glanced at him with drunken eyes and smiled.

His shy smile was not even worth mentioning.

"You know what, oppa?" He shivered. "How can she fall in love that easily , while I'm in such a pain?!"

"Why don't you stop already."

YooChun wanted to understand how InYoung felt, but hearing nothing else but complaints made him angry. Her gaze was telling total disorder.

"Instead of complaining all the time you should be honest with your mum. Parents tend to be harsh but in the end they love their children. Stop whining about a bad situation that so easily can be changed. You will regret not talking to your mother one day."

Youngie was not able to look at him anymore.

SooJin on the other hand observed the scenery with much interest.

"You should listen to him." HaNeul drank another shot of soju. "Will help you a lot."

"What if this is a once in a lifetime chance?" YooChun went on talking. "It's now or never is it?"

Even if she tried to understand she was way to drunk to get what the older one was trying to tell her.

"Oppa... you can be.. really strange." After saying that her last will to stay awake bent down and she immediately fell asleep.. still lying in YooChun's arms. His mind went blank for a moment.

"He's right!" SeulGi stood up. "Now or never!"

She waited for the singer to finish his performance, trotted in his direction and tried her best not to show her drunkenness.

"Annyeong!" She bowed.

The other one quickly eyed her up.

"Hello."

"That was really awesome."

"Thanks." He smiled.

"I'm Han SeulGi."

"Kim JunSu."

"Maybe you want to join us?"

"Why don't you get sober first, so we can lead a intelligent conversation?" He grinned. And she immediately hated that grin.

"You mean you're too good to talk to drunk people?"

"I'm too good to talk to drunk girls." JunSu laughed. In a way only he could laugh. He was very confident about his sense of humour. SeulGi understood this just hearing this laugh. And it took her over. She was in love.

"I'm drunk.. so what? It's not that you never have been like that before, isn't it?"

"Ha. I'm never that way. I'm Mr. Never-to-lose-my-constraint!" Again this laughter filled the room.

"Too young?" SeulGi overcame a feeling of superiority.

"As if!"

"Who knows." She shrugged.

"Listen up, Ma'am!"

"Ma'am??"

Declaration of war. Followed by swearing and sarcastic comments which mixed up with blues songs from a jukebox located in a dark corner next to the stage.

"They won't stop."

ChangMin was impressed by the staying power both of them showed in their never ending battle of words.

The others nodded in agreement.

Watched.

Amused themselves.
While InYoung was still asleep.

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// Now or never... // As she walked down the empty street, these words resounded in SooJins mind again and again. She left the happy gathering earlier. Pretended to be tired.

Her eyes faced the tarmac while her feet took her all the way to a three story building. An illuminated panel with swung letters saying [ANTIQUE] lighted the way down a red carpet which was a bout 3 meters long and lead the way to huge doors decorated with old rappers.

When the light hit her face she looked up for the first time and her heart started beating a marathon. She observed the two young men trying to catch customers for a while unsure what she should do next.

She knew that place. Her cousin worked here. But that wasn't the reason for her unsteadiness.

*During my past childhood, I dreamt a beautiful dream about riding a balloon and flying
If a yellow balloon flies in the sky, my heart remembers beautiful memories*

All of a sudden she had to think about HaNeul. The 23 year old who always tried her best to keep the atmosphere up at all times.

*My dream as a child was to ride a yellow balloon and fly high into the sky
I forgot about that small dream and lived till now because I grew up too much*

About YooChun who fell in love at first sight unable to cover his shy self and acting a bit clumsy when being around InYoung. And that it will take a long time for her to recognize him.

*But when I'm miserable I want to run around and play like a child
Filling a balloon full of my small dreams*

About SeulGi and "the new guy". Whoever he might be, SeulGi was totally captured by him.

*During my past childhood, I dreamt a beautiful dream about riding a balloon and flying
If a yellow balloon flies in the sky, my heart remembers beautiful memories*

Even About ChangMin. That strange feller; always smiling.

*I can't understand why tears come out when I look at the sky
I wonder why you forgot the tiny childhood when you become an adult*

She felt that they all were giving their best. Trying to be as positive as possible. Not including her. She was hiding this little secret for far too long and the heavy weight on her heart was suffocating her bit by bit.

*At times I too want to just fly high into the sky
With my forgotten dreams and memories*

She took a deep breath, walked towards the doors and bowed to the men who opened the door for her. At that moment she entered a new part of her life not aware that it was one of the hardest times she will face.

... to be continued.

insert songs:

#1 - Xiah Junsu of TVXQ - Beautiful thing

#2 - TVXQ - Balloons

explanations:

oppa - female addressing a older male person *lit: older brother*

Author's notes:

omg.. can somebody believe I really finished the first episode?

You might not believe it but it took us quite a while to get everything ready. And so many really strange things happened since then. o.o

This project started in October and we decided on the title quite fast. donghwa is the Korean word for fairy tale. And for some reason we were captured by Balloons. That's how it became the theme even we couldn't find a translation for it.

Well, some time after that they decided to do a repackage of the 3rd album.. and what seemed to be the seem of Version D?

Fairy Tale ö_ö

Somehow it still creeps me, as well as the fact that the Opening Theme fits into all of our plans!

Anyway, this was the first episode and I really hope you enjoyed it! Do believe me when I say that a long journey is lying in front of us. ^__^

And for those who missed YunHo and Jae: don't worry! They're coming up next!