

CECELIA'S MIRROR

Written by

Ashlee Winters

Based on, A broken mirror my grandmother refuses to get rid of and
the Flash Fiction, "Thorns".

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

A tall lamp next to an old body length mirror is dim, full moving boxes line the walls and sit on a desk in the corner, some are still open.

CECELIA, 14, lays on bed, baggy sweatshirt and jeans, holding a day old newspaper that reads: "Women killed by drunk driver."

CECELIA
I'm so sorry Mom.

PRINCE ELLIOT, 16, enters through mirror, victorian shirt and button pants. Muddy boots print the carpet as he walks. Cecelia turns away when he sits on the foot of the bed.

PRINCE ELLIOT
Good evening! My apologies for not making it last week. Did June already read the story?

CECELIA
She's not reading tonight. She's not home.

PRINCE ELLIOT
No worries there's always tomorrow--

CECELIA
She won't be here! She left and she's not coming back.

PRINCE ELLIOT
Of course she will. June wouldn't leave her pride and joy.
(Touches Cecelia's side)
Are you alright, Cecelia?

CECELIA
She's gone.

Cecelia rises and pushes the paper to his chest. Prince Elliot reads the paper.

PRINCE ELLIOT
Killed? That's treason, she's the queen!

CECELIA
Maybe to us but not to this world.

Prince Elliot stands and slaps the paper.

PRINCE ELLIOT

He should at least be tortured for his crime!

CECELIA

It doesn't work like that. The only price he pays is jail.

Cecelia stands, snatches the newspaper from Prince Elliotts hands and shoves it inside an open box on the desk.

PRINCE ELLIOT

What's going to happen to you?

CECELIA

I'm leaving.

Cecelia keeps busy, packs leftover books on desk.

PRINCE ELLIOT

Leaving, when? Why can't you stay here?

CECELIA

Tomorrow. My dad has full custody of me now, I have to.

PRINCE ELLIOT

I don't know what that means, but I know I don't like it.

CECELIA

It means I am going to live with him until I can live on my own.

PRINCE ELLIOT

What about--

CECELIA

Grann's too brittle to even take care of herself.

PRINCE ELLIOT

So you're stuck with Mr. Overruling... June would want you here. She expressed that enough when she told us stories about your father. Here is where you belong. This is your home.

CECELIA

She was my home and now its gone. It doesn't matter if Dad is strict.

(MORE)

CECELIA (CONT'D)
I should learn how to listen
anyway.

PRINCE ELLIOT
Live with me.

CECELIA
What?

PRINCE ELLIOT
Stay here and live with me. Father
wouldn't mind.

CECELIA
Elliot.

Prince Elliot grabs Cecelia's hand and pulls her toward the
mirror.

PRINCE ELLIOT
You always loved the kingdom, the
food, the festivals. We can have
more adventures and create our own
stories, like June. I can be your--

CECELIA
No, stop it! Do you know why she's
dead? It's because she had to come
looking for me. If I just stayed
home she wouldn't have gotten hit.
I killed her because I couldn't
listen.

PRINCE ELLIOT
You didn't kill her and that's
different from now.

CECELIA
How? Grann and Dad would do exactly
what she did! Who's to say it won't
happen again.

PRINCE ELLIOT
But June--

CECELIA
But nothing! I'm not risking
anything again.

PRINCE ELLIOT
Nothing would happen. You'd be with
me. You'd be safe. I don't see the
problem.

CECELIA

I don't care if I am safe. Those two are the last of my family! I don't want them getting hurt because of me too.

PRINCE ELLIOT

Well I care for you, does that not matter? You shouldn't have to live with someone that will take your adventures away.

Prince Elliot pulls her toward the mirror. Cecelia pushes him away. Prince Elliot falls.

CECELIA

No! I'm not leaving my family!

PRINCE ELLIOT

Am I not your family?

CECELIA

You're a made-up story my mother and I created. You're a prince and princes don't exist.

PRINCE ELLIOT

I thought--

CECELIA

You thought wrong.

Prince Elliot stands, fists clenched. He steps to the mirror and stops. He slams his hand on the wall.

PRINCE ELLIOT

Are you saying all of this was a lie?

CECELIA

It wasn't a lie. It just wasn't real.

PRINCE ELLIOT

Then all the things we did--

CECELIA

Was a story.

Cecelia walks to her bed, grabs a tattered notebook from under it. She hands it to Prince Elliot. The cover reads: "The Story of Cecelia & Prince Elliot's Adventures"

PRINCE ELLIOT

I know I'm real. But even if I was imaginary, I was made for you... I apologize for being insensitive and forceful, but I still want you to come with me.

Cecelia sighs and sits on the bed. She plays with her fingers, she cries.

PRINCE ELLIOT (CONT'D)

June would want you to be happy and like your old self, not rule bound. I know the you I saw last week would want to stay.

Prince Elliot walks to Cecelia. He drops the notebook on the floor, kneels and grabs her hands to comfort her.

CECELIA

I just want my mom back.

PRINCE ELLIOT

I know. I'll miss her too.

Prince Elliot hugs her. Cecelia sobs.

CECELIA

What am I supposed to do?

PRINCE ELLIOT

I don't think you belong here anymore. I want to be selfish and take you with me, but you must decide on your own. If you come with me I'll help fix what's broken.

(Wipes Cecelia's Tears)

I'll even find good stories to read. And if you stay, I'll try my best to understand.

He stands and walks to the mirror, he gives her a hopeful smile.

PRINCE ELLIOT (CONT'D)

I ask that if you stay, you don't forget about me. I'll wait for you on the other side of the mirror... Sweet dreams, Cecelia. I hope to see you tomorrow.

CECELIA

Goodnight, Elliot.

Prince Elliot leaves through the mirror. She wipes her eye and glances at her reflection.

CECELIA (CONT'D)
Mom. What should I do?

Her eyes catch on the muddy footprints on the floor. She follows them to the notebook, picks it up.

Cecelia PHONE RINGS. She pulls the phone out of her pocket and answers.

CECELIA (CONT'D)
Dad. I was just thinking of calling you.
(Bites thumbnail)
Yes, I'm all packed.
(grabs notebook)
I want to stay. I have a friend here that Mom and I were close to.
(Flinches)
How do you know about the mirror?
(Shakes head)
What? Break it? You can't do that.
(Stands up)
No! I-I understand... You too, Bye.

Cecelia hangs up and stares at the mirror.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Prince Elliot stands in front of the mirror, boxes are gone. On the stripped bed is the notebook and a note. Prince Elliot walks to the bed, picks them up and reads the note.

PRINCE ELLIOT
I promise I won't forget. I'll find my way back.

Prince Elliot sighs and sits on the floor, back against the bed. He hugs the notebook.

PRINCE ELLIOT (CONT'D)
I'll be waiting.