

## THE QUEEN

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28 Plays Later - Challenge 21

*The balcony of Arendelle castle**Newly crowned Queen Elsa waves to the crowds below**Her sister, Princess Ana, approaches*

ELSA Hello

ANA Hello

ELSA You may stand

ANA Thank you

ELSA You're looking well

ANA Thank you.

ELSA How have you been?

ANA Well, thank you

ELSA You, you don't need to keep saying thank you.

*KRISTOFF, in clean but shabby clothes, enters*

KRIS Queen Elsa, my congratulations

ELSA Thank you Kristoff, how is your father?

KRIS He sends his apologies he could not attend himself.

ANA Kris! Why so formal? We've known each other since we were children!

ELSA Shh Ana

ANA Well he has

KRIS It is good to see you again Ana

ANA It's been far too long! Now the gates are open once more you must visit us all the time

KRIS If my father can spare me, I will try.

ELSA Give him our regards. He was a loyal and faithful servant to our dear father.

*Kris bows and leaves*

ANA I miss them every day.

ELSA They're never far from my thoughts...But look at all these people!

ANA I know! I've never seen the castle so full. I like it.

ELSA It's different.

ANA Maybe it can be like this all the time?

HANS Your highness

*PRINCE HANS enters*

ANA Elsa, I present to you Prince Hans of the Southern Isles.

ELSA Hello

ANA Prince Hans has seven brothers.

ELSA Does he? How nice for him.

HANS Thank you your majesty

ANA We're going to be married!

ELSA What?

ANA It all happened so fast – we met yesterday, Hans came here for your coronation, we're thinking to get married in two weeks, it will be the first Saturday of the summer

ELSA No.

ANA Huh?

ELSA No. Ana, this is not appropriate. You are 16, and a princess. We will find you a husband at a more suitable juncture.

ANA No! No, I love him, he loves me.

ELSA You don't know what you're talking about. Excuse me.

ANA No!

ELSA Don't touch me!

*Ice flies from her fingers in all directions and hits Ana in the chest.*

*Elsa recoils in horror and flees from the castle*

*Where the ice lands, it spreads*

HANS Ana! Are you alright?

ANA I. I'm fine. Where, where is she?

HANS She left

KRIS Ana! Here, let me help you up

HANS I have her

ANA Thank you Hans. Did anyone see where she went?

*Ice spreads across the floors, up the walls*

HANS Ice! Everywhere, what has she done?

ANA I don't know

HANS She's dangerous

ANA No, she was upset.

KRIS She was heading for the North Mountain

ANA I must go to her

HANS I'll come with you

ANA No, you must stay here. Hans, you must rule in my place until we return. This is all a misunderstanding

HANS I can't let you/

KRIS /I'll go with her

HANS How dare you presume to interrupt me, peasant?

KRIS I grew up in those mountains – if anyone can get Ana safely to the mountain and back it's me

ANA Hans, please. Kris can help me

HANS Alright, but return soon my beloved.

ANA I will

## ACT 2

### *In the mountains*

KRIS Are you alright?

ANA Yes

KRIS Your hair, it's growing white

ANA I'm fine

KRIS What do you plan to do, to Elsa?

ANA Do? Nothing. I'll talk to her. She's my sister

KRIS You think that'll work?

ANA I have to try

KRIS You're braver than you look

ANA You don't know me at all

KRIS What's that?

### *They see Elsa's ice castle*

ANA Wow.

KRIS It's beautiful

ANA You see – if she was bad, how could she make something so incredible?

*ELSA enters*

ELSA Ana! What're you doing here?

ANA You have to come back

ELSA No, Ana. This is where I belong. Finally, I'm free to be myself.

ANA But we need you

ELSA Arendelle will be fine without me.

ANA I need you.

ELSA Ana, I know this is difficult. But my power – my whole life I've lived under the threat and fear of being found out. And now everyone knows, no one will want me to sit on the throne. And I don't want it. I never did. But you – you will make a great queen. You love Arendelle, the people, you want to invite them in. All I want is to be alone.

ANA But you'll die on your own!

ELSA Leave me!

*Ana collapses*

KRIS Ana!

ELSA What's wrong with her?

KRIS She has ice in her heart – your ice

ELSA No!

KRIS What do we do?

ELSA I don't know.

KRIS You must know – you must save her!

ELSA Love. Only an act of true love will save her

KRIS I must get her to Hans

ELSA Yes. Hans

### **Act 3**

*Arendelle castle – grand hall*

*KRIS enters carrying ELSA in his arms*

*HANS rushes to meet them*

KRIS Help!

HANS What is wrong with her?

KRIS Elsa, the ice. It's in her heart, it's killing her

HANS Where is Queen Elsa?

KRIS On the mountain – she has renounced her throne for Ana

HANS Then we must save Ana

KRIS An act. Of true love. Only that will save her

HANS Thank you. Thank you. Ana? Ana, can you hear me?

ANA Hans?

HANS Ana, I thought we'd lost you

ANA No, your voice – it's all I was waiting to hear. Kiss me.

HANS Ana, will you marry me? Right now?

ANA Yes, yes of course

HANS Then it's settled – with Kris here as our witness, we are married in the eyes of the law. Thank you Kris, for bringing her back to me.

KRIS Keep her safe

*KRIS exits*

ANA Kiss me

HANS Why?

ANA The ice

HANS We're married

ANA Quickly

HANS Elsa has given up the throne and once you are dead, Arendelle will be all mine

ANA What?

HANS Let me take off your shawl, you look warm

ANA You don't, you don't love me?

HANS Shhh Ana. Close your eyes. Think of your parents.

*HANS lies ANA on the floor*

*ANA begins to freeze*

*ELSA enters*

ELSA What are you doing?

HANS Elsa! Thank goodness you are here – Princess Ana, her heart. I fear it is too late

ELSA But, don't, don't love her?

HANS Of course, of course I do

ELSA Then she doesn't love you

HANS We're married. That boy, Kristoff, he witnessed all

ANA (weakly) Elsa...

HANS Shhh Queen Ana, save your breath

ELSA (realises) So you will be king?

HANS Arendelle needs a strong leader! For too long it has been without a firm hand and strong rudder. How could I let it be ruled by a weak girl such as yourself? For the good of the country, I will be the King it deserves

ELSA The King Arendelle deserves died ten years ago. He was strong and kind - the people loved him. You are without honour - you will lead this country into ruin!

HANS Enough!

*HANS draws his sword, he swings at Elsa. The half frozen Ana launches herself between the blade and Elsa. As the sword hits Ana, Ana freezes entirely and the blade bounces off*

ELSA Ana! No!

*Elsa throws herself on Ana and sobs*

HANS The throne will be mine

*HANS lifts the sword again to strike the weeping Elsa.*

*KRIS enters at a pace and tackles HANS, disarming him*

KRIS Ana?

*ELSA sobs. As her tears fall, Ana unfreezes*

Ana!

ELSA Ana – you're alive!

*The two sisters embrace*

#### Act 4

*The courtyard of Arendelle castle*

ELSA Long live the queen!

ANA Will you stay?

ELSA I cannot

ANA Just for a little while?

ELSA A kingdom can only have one queen, my place is in the mountains now.

ANA I'll miss you

ELSA I'll visit – the mountains are not far

ANA I love you

ELSA I love you

*They embrace*

(tearfully) Look after my sister

KRIS I will

ELSA Goodbye Ana

*ELSA exits*

*KRIS kisses ANA's hand*

KRIS What now your majesty?

ANA Do you want to build a snowman?