

THE UNDERWORLD'S NEW SOVEREIGN

Written by

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COLD OPEN

INT. EARTH. KARMA'S ROOM. WASHINGTON STATE.

The greek gods, Persephone and Hades appear suddenly in a small room in front of a 22-year old with ginger hair and blue tips, who is eyes wide open on a gaming chair.

PERSEPHONE

We did not meant to barge in, our apologies, Karma.

Karma is eyes wide open starting at two of the greek gods she had been most fond of in her life.

HADES

In our defense, we were supposed to knock on your door but I got distracted by your mothers beauty.

PERSEPHONE

Thank you, dear, but an apology for the violation of privacy to our daughter would be appreciated.

HADES

Our biggest apologies. We are here to take you back home.

PERSEPHONE

We need to start by saying we are your parents, Karma. We sent you to earth to get the perspective on the human experience.

Karma raises her eyebrows in disbelief.

HADES

Take your time to process this.

Karma stands up slowly.

KARMA

Am I dreaming or going crazy?

PERSEPHONE

None of that, we are real, you can touch us.

KARMA

Persephone, your pink hair and Hades, your hair is blue.

(MORE)

KARMA (CONT'D)

I thought that was a myth, not you as gods but that is wild.

PERSEPHONE

You can change your hair color too once we go back home.

KARMA

How much is that going to cost?

HADES

Did you heard anything we have said? Not to pressure you but we kind of have to go back, I do not fully trust Cronus alone.

KARMA

I am trying to process this, is this Cronus THE titan? Why is he out...?

PERSEPHONE

Cronus had done a lot of bad things but he has redeemed himself by spending many centuries in Tartarus. He is the king of the Elysian Fields.

KARMA

I have so many questions.

HADES

We will answer them once we are back home, we got to go now, we overstayed here, let's go now.

KARMA

What about my stuff? Can I say bye to at least my best friend? She is in the room on the other side of the apartment.

HADES

Make it quick please. You cannot say we are here or catastrophes will happen to erase any confirmation of the gods. Say you found out you found your real parents and you will go to find them in another city or state.

Karma nods and goes down the hallway, she spends about a couple of minutes in the other room and goes back to them.

KARMA

I am ready to go, please don't make
me regret this.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONETHE UNDERWORLD. INT. HADES AND PERSEPHONE'S CASTLE. DINNING ROOM.

A big banquet is in front of Karma, she notices she is wearing a dark purple formal dress and looks up to Persephone who is smiling big.

PERSEPHONE
Welcome home, Karma.

HADES
Welcome to the Underworld. I know you have many questions and we have arranged this great banquet in your honor. We will answer any questions you may have.

KARMA
Well, to start with, why did you sent me to earth? Did you get to choose my adoptive parents? Did they knew about you guys?

PERSEPHONE
We sent you to earth to experience the human life so you could restore balance or change the system for the underworld when it's your turn to rule. We did choose your adoptive parents, they were a loving couple and we knew they would take proper care of you.

HADES
Your adoptive parents knew us as mortals, we pretended to be human and told them we could not raise you how you deserved.

PERSEPHONE
Karma, You are meant to become the balance between the underworld and earth. You will become the new sovereign of the underworld.

KARMA
Am I human or a goddess? Am I immortal? Wait this means I cannot go back home? Do I have powers?

Karma starts to hyperventilate.

PERSEPHONE
Breathe, dear, inhale...exhale.

HADES
Are you okay?

KARMA
Why do I still have human reactions
if I am not one?

HADES
Your time on earth helped you feel
all the human emotions and
reactions, this will help you be
fair to humans when deciding their
fate.

PERSEPHONE
We realized we were no one to judge
a human when we have never lived
like them or understand why they do
things. We need someone to
empathize with them.

HADES
You are an immortal Goddess and we
are actively working on a deal with
Zeus. We want you to be able to
return to the human realm to visit
your loved ones.

KARMA
Does this mean everyone is real?
Hecate, Artemis, wait-is Zeus my
grandfather or my uncle?

HADES
It is more complicated than that-

There is a quiet pause, Karma looks and points with her index finger to Hades then Persephone, then back to Hades.

KARMA
Wait a minute- technically speaking
Persephone is your ni-

HADES
If you put it on the human
perspective it looks bad but-

KARMA

I am going to pretend I did not just realize this.

HADES

It is more-

KARMA

I know, it's more complicated than that.

There is a pause of complete silence.

PERSEPHONE

We will introduce you to everyone tomorrow and prepare you to be the new ruler.

KARMA

Are you both dying?

PERSEPHONE

No, not at all. Why the question?

KARMA

Then why does the Underworld need a new leader?

PERSEPHONE

We wanted to experience the human life, be a fair advocate for humans. You understand humans better than us, you have gone through what they have gone through. You have studied their history, you understand their decisions and what drives them.

HADES

Besides, you never got corrupted by the evil on earth. I am proud of you for that. You will help us create the perfect Underworld system according to today's lifestyle.

PERSEPHONE

You will decide the rules, the qualifications for entering Elysium, Tartarus, Asphodel Meadows, and the Fields of Mourning.

INT. HADES AND PERSEPHONE'S CASTLE. DINNING ROOM. NEXT AFTERNOON.

Karma is given a black suit after requesting to wear one instead of a dress. Persephone is preparing a lunch with Tartarus, the ruler of Tartarus, Cronus, the titan ruling Elysium, and the family most trusted friend, Hecate, the Goddess of witchcraft and crossroads. Karma stands by the staircase away from the door, admiring the love of Hades and Persephone from afar.

Hades and Persephone's are on the dinning room close to the door. There are three knocks on the door. Hades grabs Persephone by her waist and kisses her before they head to the door. Hades does a hand gesture and the door begins to open.

PERSEPHONE

Good afternoon, welcome to our home.

Karma starts talking to herself while standing at the top of the stairs, away from the door.

KARMA

Are Cronus and Tartarus going to be giants?

Hecate, a beautiful Goddess walks in first, she wears a black cloak with a red and purple dress underneath. Hecate wears a tiara with seven spikes and a crescent moon in the middle. Then two tall and muscular deities walk in behind her. Tartarus has red skin and horns, while Cronus has a gold shine to his skin. Hades and Persephone greet everyone and moves her arm directing them to the dinning room.

PERSEPHONE

It's a pleasure having you all here, we have some good news. Karma is back home.

HECATE

Splendid, I am psyched to see her.

CRONUS

How old is the kid now?

TARTARUS

She should be around 22?

PERSEPHONE

Correct, she just turned 22.

They all take a seat and Karma slowly and quietly starts making her way to them.

TARTARUS

Don't you think she is a little too young to rule?

CRONUS

I think any of us would be better and more qualified rulers. We are older, we been around.

HECATE

This is not about who the oldest is, none of us have experienced the human life. This is about relatable experience and fairness. We are trying to make a change, justice is what matters.

CRONUS

But a child is not going to know what to do with higher beings. Plus she had the human experience and none of being a Goddess.

PERSEPHONE

That is one of the reasons why I wanted to talk to you all about this. When Karma becomes a ruler, we all need to help her.

HADES

We will guide her, share our knowledge, she will need us for a couple of centuries for advice.

CRONUS

I think a kid would create more chaos, she is not qualified, this is not fair.

TARTARUS

I think it would be fair for one of us to rule and for Karma to work for us, not the other way around.

Karma clears her throat and smiles. Everyone at the table stands up to greet her.

PERSEPHONE

This is our daughter Karma.

HADES

Karma these are our most trusted allies and friends. The balance of the Underworld.

PERSEPHONE

This is Hecate, the Goddess of-

Karma smiles widely.

KARMA

The Goddess of witchcraft, the crossroads, necromancy, she symbolized the mysterious, the hidden, and the unknown. Big fan, it's my pleasure to meet you.

HECATE

The pleasure is mine, I am excited to work with you.

Karma blushes as Hecate grabs and caresses her hand. Persephone and Hades smile to each other.

CRONUS

I am Cronus, although you may already know that. I am a titan who ruled before the Olympians.

KARMA

Didn't you swallow Hades, Poseidon, Hera, Demeter, and Hestia? And the only reason why you didn't swallow Zeus is because-

CRONUS

We all have made mistakes, you should know that kid. You were the one who said abortions were only okay when-

KARMA

I was a kid raised on a christian church, do you know what they teach you? I corrected myself and advocated constantly for pro-choice movements. I also raised thousands of dollars for plan-

CRONUS

I rest my case, we all mistakes and learn to be better.

TARTARUS

I emerged from chaos along with Gaia and Eros. I am Tartarus, I confine powerful beings and punish unforgivable sins.

KARMA

You are one the third primordial god, you represent the earth, darkness, and desire. Cool.

TARTARUS

Hades, Persephone, did you share all of this with her already?

KARMA

I got my Masters degree in Ancient Greek studies. You all would be amazed to see how much information they have about you all. I don't know how much of it is true but I will figure that out with time?

TARTARUS

What is a Masters?

KARMA

An advances academic degree, it shows your deep understanding and expertise on what you decide to focus on to study. Also I did it faster than a lot of people since I skipped a few grades. I am pretty smart for a human.

TARTARUS

Quite impressive, young lady.

CRONUS

What was said about me?

KARMA

There is a lot of different versions of stories, I would love to hear all of your point of views and share what I have read if you would want to compare.

PERSEPHONE

I am sure there would be a time for that. For now, we are discussing how we will prepare you to rule the Underworld.

KARMA

You have not talked about this before?

PERSEPHONE

We did, we all made the choice of sending you to earth.

HADES

We need to prepare you for any type of difficult situation or decision you have to make.

HECATE

We will help guide you.

CRONUS

I am intrigued to exchange our knowledge with each other, Karma.

TARTARUS

I agree to help you if you can tell me and possibly show me what the human kind has said about me.

HADES

We could start different sessions with Karma tomorrow, a one-on-one meetings. We need to teach Karma how to activate and use her powers.

PERSEPHONE

Hades and I could take the first two days, giving you all time to prepare what you want to teach her. We could do a day each and a rest.

Everyone in the table nods, they all keep eating and talking.

END OF ACT ONE