

Among shadows: Sunrise

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Capítulo 1

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Sunrise

We started walking through the field of yellow flowers, searching, probably, for the best place to kiss each other, only she knew I was always looking for a beautiful undiscovered place... Would it be ok that tall tree six meters away? —I asked. "It's too far" —she said—. In the North, the earth was cold in winter. And the days were short. "I will carry your body and heavy world inside of it till the furthest hill if it's necessary" —I said. "There is no way you can bear the weight of all this darkness" —she said. "I've carried monsters in these arms; the bitterest tears of the history I've cried; the most horrible secrets a man can hide are contained inside my mind —I said. But somehow, my power was not real for her, even though she knew for all the things I'd been through before. "So... Do you want us to go near that tree or not? "Yes —she answered, anxious and full with feeling—. We may go on our feet from one place to another... Whatever we do the distance will remain the same.

Things which give us pleasure have an attraction for us; I put my arms around her made of cotton body and looked it with a boundless lust. Slowly, she began to give in to the uncontainable desire, not without a bit of nervousness.

—Wait. What time is it? —she asked.

—It's eight. Not only is the earth cold here in the north, my love, but the time passes slowly and pity.

—What do you mean?

I placed my soft lips on hers that were dark clouds in the sky of her pale face, although her tongue tasted like the warm air over the flame.

—When I'm done with you —I said— you will see.

In spite of the cold, I took out my shirt as I bound her body to mine in an endless and sweet exchange of kisses. I never considered her as an easy lady, but the way she was looking at me let some space for a reasonable doubt.

—What time is it now? —she asked again.

—Now it will be nine —I whispered— still too early for you. Why do you

ask again?

—No reason in particular.

Then, suddenly she took control of my impulse and made it hers. Her entire body and mine became a system unable to respond to anything but pleasure and joy. She was faster than me; she was absorbing my vital energy ¿did it make me weaker? No, it only made me think that even though I had lied to her about the time, it was completely worth it.

Two bodies like an eclipse rolling over the skies, under a burning apple tree.

—I can feel the sunrise, Aelfwine —she said— and the moon long way gone.

—The moon is near the earth. The earth is long way from the sun. The moon is smaller than the earth. Some of the stars are much larger than the sun. They are much farther away than the sun. The nearest star is over four light years from the earth.

As she was hugging and kissing me, I noticed a white owl on a branch. He was looking at us... All the sudden, an apple fell down and somehow Sarah caught it with her right hand. A thunder killed the silence and the sky got filled with dark clouds.

—Aelfwine... we should stop.

—I don't want us to stop.

—The weather...

—We may not have another chance to do it. Tomorrow the weather may be worse. All the water may be ice. The snow may be coming down and make everything white...

—Or it may be better. The sun may be bright again and the air may be warm again, and what's more important: inside your lungs.

—What is that mean? Are you wishing me Death?

—No —she said—, I just may not be able to keep you safe. Sometimes things are not what they seem —there was a prolonged pause. Then she added—: You lied to me. About the time... Now I smell the sun coming up in the east and the moon going round the earth.

She started to grab my back with more strength and desire... until she ended up thrusting her teeth into my neck. Noises and songs came to my

ears and brain. An indescribable pain reached my body diving it in a deep darkness which soon, became a certainty of death. My mind went round and round...

"Salt has a sharp taste. Sugar has a sweet taste. To the eye salt and sugar seem alike. But to the tongue they are very different. Their taste is very different. Same thing happens with blood. I've never imagined its taste until Sarah cut her own chess and made me drink her blood. We can take a train or a carriage drawn by a horse, but nothing could ever take you further than a bite of Sarah...Soon my life ran away like smoke coming out of the fire"

After that experience I fell into a deep sleep and lost all sense or awareness. When I opened my eyes, the first thing I saw was the white covered of a coffin. I tried to move but it was worthless, nothing could break the hard casket. Was wood harder than iron or what? I used my nails to rip up the wood and I felt a burning pain and a helpless madness inside my chess. I destroyed the coffin and a giant avalanche of earth came on me. Desperation was so great that I ignored the pain completely and made my way to freedom using my whole body. Somehow my muscles were able to penetrate the earth and displaced it. I sensed the panic as I swam threw the heaviness. I kept digging to the surface until my hand felt the rain coming down and the wind blowing.

My entire body emerged to the new life, to a new world in an old universe. I started running and shaking. Where was Sarah? I could smell the sun too in that moment, and for the first time in my life I got scared because of it. I sensed her essence not too far away, so I ran in her search. I ended up in front of a family house of the village and stood near the window, which was opened. Sarah's father, John, took a bottle of wine from the shelf. He took the cork out with the corkscrew. He put the wine in two wine glasses. There was wine in one glass, but not in the other one. The water in the kittle was boiling and I could see the steam coming out of it. A big brown dog was under the table, sleeping.

—You are going to drink what I pour in this glass and swallow it all —he commanded.

—But dad...

—A clock has no nose! It has no eyes and it has no mouth! It has two hands! YOU let this happen by trusting in that human and ignoring your salvation. The sun comes up every morning ¿Did you forget about it?

Sarah started to cry and her father poured a strange liquid in her glass.

—Drink! —John screamed.

But she refused to obey and he grabbed her violently by her shoulders. They went to a room and John threw her daughter in there like she was a pile of garbage. He took a key from his pocket. He put it in the lock of the door. He gave a turn to the key. Sarah gave several pushes to the door and had no success.

I was witnessing the scene, terrorized, when I saw a clock on the wall. It was above the bookshelves: It was seven. My panic increased; the dog under the table woke up and began to bark to the window from where I was standing. John did not pay attention and he had a black box in his hand. It was nearly eight centimeters long and four centimeters high. The box was smaller than he, but its content seemed extremely important. He was about to open it when the sun came up and I felt its burning breath on my skin. "A thick roof keeps the heat of the sun out too" —I thought—. Quickly, I climbed up the roof, went to a more fragile part and broke in. I passed to some kind of attic and I remained alive...

Only I didn't know for how long.

To be continued...