

Killer Queen

written by: Ryan Smith

FADE IN:

INT. CAMILLA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

It's dark and stormy. CAMILLA (18), a not so prim-and-proper princess, lays in her bed covered with clothes and food scraps. Drool streams out of her mouth. A dark silhouette fills her window.

WITCH (110) presses her eye against the glass. Her smile is filled with horrid teeth as her breath fogs the glass. The window CREAKS as she slowly opens it.

Camilla continues to sleep. Witch gently walks over and looms above the princess. She pulls out a knife and raises it to strike. She swings down and opens a pack of feathers with the knife.

WITCH
(cackling)
Wakey wakey!

Witch tickles Camilla awake. Camilla flails in her bed launching Witch to the floor.

CAMILLA
(breathless)
Who are you? Guards!

WITCH
Shhhh.

Witch seals Camilla's mouth with a wave of her hand.

WITCH (CONT'D)
There isn't much time dear.

Witch lays a scroll on the bed.

WITCH (CONT'D)
You must overthrow your father.

Witch lays down the knife. She winks at Camilla as she leaps onto the window sill. She waves her hand again. Camilla falls asleep.

INT. CAMILLA'S BEDROOM - DAY

GUARD 1 enters the room. He nudges Camilla awake.

GUARD 1

M'lady?

CAMILLA

(confused)

I had the strangest...

She freezes as she notices the scroll at the foot of her bed. She rushes to the window. Camilla's jaw drops as she realizes how badly the kingdom looks.

Royal Guards abusing their power. People living on ends meat. Poverty rules outside of the castle.

EXT. KINGDOM STREETS - CONTINUOUS

The TOWNS PEOPLE, unhappy, dirty, walk the mud covered streets. ROYAL GUARDS enforce harsh treatment to the peasants. The people are impoverished.

INT. CAMILLA'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Camilla steps away from her window. Speechless.

GUARD 1

Your father requests you in the Throne Room.

CAMILLA

Right.

Guard 1 exits. Camilla examines the note.

CAMILLA (CONT'D)

"End the tyranny."

Camilla examines the knife in the sunlight.

INT. THRONE ROOM - DAY

Camilla takes her seat. KING (60), an iron fist ruler, takes his seat.

KING

Send them in.

Guard 1 leads in PEASANT 1 and PEASANT 2.

KING (CONT'D)

It is my understanding there has been an issue with your inn?

PEASANT 1

Yes, your Majesty. Your guards keep bringing their whores and not paying for rooms.

KING

I see. Well, we can't have that at your inn, now can we?

King signals Guard 1. Camilla notices.

CAMILLA

Father?

KING

Hush.

(beat)

Guard, go ahead and repay our subjects.

Guard 1 stabs Peasant 1 through the neck. Guard 1 quickly grabs Peasant 2 by the hair, he can't flee.

KING (CONT'D)

Will there be anymore problems?

PEASANT 2

(fearfully)

No, your Majesty.

Peasant 2 is escorted out. Camilla is in shock.

CAMILLA

(Horrificed)

Father?

(beat)

How could you kill him like that?

King stands. He towers over Camilla.

KING

(powerfully)

As their King, I may do as I please. If my royal guards wish to use the town then they shall.

King exits the room.

INT. CAMILLA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Camilla lies awake on her bed.

WITCH
Awful, isn't it?

Camilla nearly jumps out of her skin.

CAMILLA
(confused)
Where did you come from?

WITCH
Shhhh. Now you see why it must be
done.

CAMILLA
(quietly)
I can't kill my father.

WITCH
And yet he can kill all who
oppose him?

Camilla hesitates to answer. KNOCK KNOCK comes from the door.

GUARD 1 (O.S.)
M'lady are you alright?

CAMILLA
Yes. Everything is fine. Just
reciting poetry.

Witch smiles as she climbs out the window.

WITCH
Good luck.

Camilla walks over. She looks out the window and studies the
terrible conditions of the kingdom.

Camilla examines the knife in the moon light. Her grip
tightens. She knows what must be done.

INT. KING'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Camilla slowly enters the king's bedroom. She walks as though
the ground is covered in landmines. The floor CREAKS. Camilla
pauses. King mumbles in his sleep.

Camilla continues her advance. She stumbles on a rat and falls to the ground. King awakes from the commotion. Camilla slides under the bed.

KING

Who's there?

King stands and grabs a dagger on his night stand. Camilla rolls out from under the bed. She cuts his ankle. King falls to the ground.

KING (CONT'D)

(confused)

Camilla?

Camilla kicks the dagger across the room. She holds her knife to King's neck.

KING (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

Camilla stares down King as she towers over him. Her first taste of power.

KING (CONT'D)

You won't kill me. You're too weak.

Camilla's eyes widen as anger flows through her. She screams and drags the blade across his throat. King bleeds out. Guard 1 stands at the door.

GUARD 1

(shocked)

M'lady! What have you done?

Guard 1 takes off down the hall way. Camilla chases after him.

CAMILLA

(shouting)

Stop him! He's killed the king!

GUARD 2 trips Guard 1. He holds his spear to Guard 1's chest. Camilla approaches. She's breathes heavily.

GUARD 2

Orders, M'lady?

Camilla's thirst for power and blood rises. She stares at Guard 1 drained of emotion. She can feel her power rising.

CAMILLA

Kill him.

GUARD 2

(Surprised)

Are you sure?

CAMILLA

(sternly)

Kill him!

Guard 2 hesitates. Camilla takes his spear. She drives it into Guard 1's heart. She watches him cough up blood and die. Camilla watches him die without flinching.

CAMILLA (CONT'D)

If you ever hesitate again, it'll
be you on the end of the spear.

EXT. CASTLE BALCONY - DAY

Camilla steps out onto the balcony. Dressed in royal attire. A hush falls over the crowd.

CAMILLA

The king is dead. But I shall
take his place as queen.

The crowd murmurs.

BOY 1

Oye, a woman ruler? No way this
will work.

Camilla smiles.

CAMILLA

Guards bring me this doubter

Boy 1 is placed at Camilla's feet. Camilla grabs him by the hair and presents him to the people.

CAMILLA (CONT'D)

As queen, I will not tolerate
disloyalty.

Camilla pulls out the knife she used to kill the king. She presses it against BOY 1's neck.

CAMILLA (CONT'D)

(yells)

Long live the Queen!

Camilla slices his neck. As the crowd erupts.

CROWD

Long live the Queen. Long live
the Queen. Long live the Queen.

FADE OUT.