

## **A stranger I met**

I pack up my art supplies and stare at my unfinished painting. I just can't seem to get it right. Every time I try to make it better, it just ends up looking twice as bad. I need to get something out to the public soon. I turn around and almost jump out of my skin, when I see my own reflection. I don't remember a mirror being there before. I tilt my head, and the reflection does the same. I walk closer to the mirror, and it appears to do so as well. The closer I get, the more I notice differences. That's when I realize. This isn't a mirror. There's an actual person that looks exactly like me, standing right in front of me.

My doppelganger flashes a wide smile which sends shivers down my spine. She puts her hand out to greet me, and introduces herself as Astrid Ravenwood. The exact same name as mine. I'm frozen with shock and fear. Is this some kind of prank? I burst out in laughter.

"Okay guys you got me, not funny." I announce to anyone who may be listening. Although the only response I get is the echo of my own voice and laughter. My smile slowly fades when I look back at Astrid, who is now looking at me with confusion.

"This is not a prank, Astrid. I am you, well, you are me." she tells me with certainty.

She can't be serious. Even if she is, I am clearly the original. She is the copy of me, not the other way round.

"Listen ma'am, I don't know where you came from or who you are but you can't come here feigning to be me" I firmly state.

Her smile immediately drops along with her hand that I didn't shake.

"Feigning? I'm not pretending." She slowly says with a chuckle. I scoff and walk past her, brushing my shoulder with hers. I don't get far before I'm shoved to the ground. I try stand, but a heavy weight presses on my back and pins me to the floor. I can barely choke out a scream.

What is this psychopathic woman doing?

She grabs me by the collar and brings my ear near her mouth.

She whispers "Unfortunately, there isn't room for two of us."

All of a sudden, something hard hits the back of my head.

Then. Everything. Goes. Black.

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