NIKOLAS ROMAN AND THE VAMPIRE QUEEN

(SAMPLE)

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1

A group of three young adults cautiously walk through a dark and decaying cemetery. They are wearing Halloween costumes and have obviously been drinking.

One of them, HELENA (20s), is dressed as a vampire queen. With black lace, red lips, and a crown-she is the picture of dark gothic beauty.

Her two best friends DIANE (20s) and RACHEL (20s) are dressed as a sexy pumpkin and a flirty butterfly; respectively. Diane pushes Helena towards a tomb. It's made of cracking grey stone and has gargoyles guarding each side.

DIANE

C'mon Helena, go!

HELENA

I change my mind. I pick truth.

RACHEL

Nuh uh. That's not how the game works. You picked dare. This is your dare.

DIANE

Just go in, say his name three times, then count to ten. Easy.

Helena looks at the tomb. Etched into the stone is the name *Nikolas Roman*. The birth year is blank, however, the death year says 1842.

She turns back to her friends, wide eyed.

HELENA

It's just a scary story, right?
There's not actually a vampire in there.

RACHEL

Yep, just a story.

DIANE

Definitely.

Helena takes one last look at her friends then walks towards the tomb. Instead of a door, there is an open archway that leads deeper into the structure.

Helena enters. Besides a sliver of moonlight that seeps in from the doorway, she is nearly blind.

HELENA

Hello?

(whispered)
Please don't kill me.

She takes a deep breath.

HELENA (CONT'D)

Nikolas Roman. Nickolas Roman. Nicklas Roman.

She waits and begins to count to ten softly under her breath.

HELENA (CONT'D)

One...Two...Three...Four-

MAN'S VOICE (O.S.)

Beauty fit for a queen.

The voice is deep, caressing, and way too close to her ear. She flinches away, her back hitting the cold stone wall. From within the darkness, she sees a tall shadow slowly glide towards her.

Then, through the beam of moonlight, she sees the face of a man. Or at least, he looks like man. But there is something about him that's cold, ancient, otherworldly, and... beautiful.

Helena's breathing stops as the being inches closer to her. In the tiny sliver of light, she can see his eyes glimmer for just a moment; like an animal watching it's prey.

The man smiles and somehow she knows who he is.

NIKOLAS ROMAN

You called?

TO BE CONTINUED