

Adelaide needs to heal Regulus. She needs to put the binding on Regulus. They need to get to the palace.

**Commented [SRG1]:** I got stuck party way through writing SoN. This was me trying to figure out how on earth the plot was going to unfold.

Alfred, Adelaide, and Regulus head to the palace as guests for the masquerade. They split up, all trying to make their way to warn the royal guards. The crown prince and princess are present, but the king and queen have yet to make their grand entrance, waiting until all the guests have arrived.

**Commented [SRG2]:** For timing reasons and because they just felt weird, the idea of them showing up at the masque at the last minute got scrapped early.

Kirven catches her, and forces her into a dance while he sends Nolan to look for Regulus. The music suddenly stops, and guards pour into the room, ordering everyone to remove their masks. The prince and princess are whisked away. Kirven angrily gets the staff and starts blasting people, making his way toward the door where the prince and princess left. Adelaide tries to protect as many people as she can and stop Kirven. But then Nolan attacks her. Kirven pushes past, exploding open the doors. Regulus attacks Nolan so she can go after Kirven.

**Commented [SRG3]:** For a few reasons, this got changed, one of which being—Kirven wanted a dramatic entrance. The other main one being it made more sense for this to be Nolan.

EPIC BATTLE ENSUES Nolan v Regulus! ← this is tricky because neither of them can die while Adelaide and Kirven live. Adelaide v Kirven!

**Commented [SRG4]:** “So anyway, I started blasting…”

**Commented [SRG5]:** Before I even seriously started writing this scene, this sequence wasn’t working. I struggled a lot with the climax and the scenes leading up to it, and this idea was already probably the second or third.

**Commented [SRG6]:** Excellent notes here. My writer friends know the struggle. XD

Okay, new plan. It’s the old plan, but different.

**Commented [SRG7]:** Literally me talking to myself in frustration in my notes. XD

Go to palace, but they get in before the masquerade starts and warn the king. The king secretly sends his wife and kids away, but he won’t run away. He doesn’t cancel the masque—he hopes to be able to talk to his brother. Regulus goes to look for Nolan and Kirven among the guests. Adelaide stays near the king, but out of sight, ready to protect him. Kirven challenges the king, then attacks. She throws up a barrier. The king tries to talk to Kirven, but he won’t listen.

**Commented [SRG8]:** Once I actually started writing the king, I realized he was a pompous idiot who SHOULD have done this, but in his great wisdom, thought “business as usual” was a better plan. He’s also not this forgiving—in his defense, Kirven is awful.

Adelaide struggles to maintain the barrier. Regulus tries to attack Kirven. Kirven is surprised when his attack doesn't kill Regulus. Nolan keeps Regulus from attacking Kirven while Kirven using the staff to wreak havoc on the palace. People are running and screaming. The royal guards take the king away. Kirven is furious and tries to go after the king. Adelaide can't maintain the barrier. They have a bit of a fight, but the staff makes Kirven too strong. She is knocked aside and buried under some rubble. When she comes to, she learns that the king is dead and Kirven has seized the throne. Regulus, Adelaide, and her father barely escape. The prince, thankfully, is in hiding, but they have to dethrone Kirven. So Adelaide sets out to learn more from the fairies. They help her strengthen her power and show her how to focus her magic to make it more potent with less energy lost. She goes back to

**Commented [SRG9]:** As often happens when I start actually writing a scene, the character start doing things and former ideas and sequences of events get broken, forgotten, or replaced.

**Commented [SRG10]:** Me, in planning stages: IDK, there is fighting?? Me, writing: Dangit, now I have to write all the fighting... This is a large part of why scenes can change, haha.

**Commented [SRG11]:** As I thought about this, I realized it wasn't going to work. It was too complicated, was going to make the book too long, and was possibly going to require a third book—a third book I knew the story couldn't sustain.

**Commented [SRG12]:** Awwww, there was a time when poor Alfred didn't die...

**Commented [SRG13]:** It is HILARIOUS to me that this note literally cuts off mid-sentence. I can feel my frustration and rising sense of "crap, there's no way this will work, it's too convoluted" and metaphorically crinkling up the paper and tossing it on the floor. But I'm glad I didn't delete this note document, because now I can trace how this part of the story developed!