

Victory Wings

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1 INT. CASTLE CORRIDOR - NIGHT

CAROLINA (25), wearing a torn dress, runs in a hurry. In her hand, she holds and clutches tightly a piece of luminous paper and a red ribbon.

The sound of several STEPS of metallic boots moving at high speed towards her. Carolina stops right in front of a gigantic, imposing door. She looks to her sides and sees that, at the end of the corridor, soldiers in silver armor are running in her direction.

SOLDIER 1
Princess! Stop.

Carolina looks at them, grabs the doorknob and opens the door. She enters the next room.

2 INT. CAROLINA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Carolina closes the door, locks it, and rushes inside. Into an immense cage of golden grids, there is a small owl. She opens the door at the bottom of the cage and the bird comes out. She places the piece of luminous paper on its left paw and she ties the red ribbon around it. Carolina immediately rushes to open the window.

As the soldiers bang sharply on the entrance, the owl hops to the edge of the window and watches Carolina for a while. Its gaze meets hers. They both stare at each other. She strokes it, nods and it flies off with the piece of paper and the red ribbon on its leg.

The soldiers break the latch and aggressively open the door, causing it to slam violently against the wall. SOLDIER 1, SOLDIER 2, SOLDIER 3 and SOLDIER 4 enter the room. SOLDIER 1 and SOLDIER 2 grab Carolina by the arms.

SOLDIER 3 goes to the window and from his arrow stand on his back, takes his bow and an arrow. He aims at the owl and shoots.

CAROLINA
(alarmed)
No!

The arrow grazes the bird's left leg and the piece of glowing paper falls to the ground. SOLDIER 4 approaches SOLDIER 3.

SOLDIER 3
Damn it! I missed.

Soldier 3 tries to grab another arrow, but Soldier 4 grabs his arm, stopping him. He points to the ground where the piece of glowing paper is and looks him in the eye.

SOLDIER 4
Not the animal, but the message.
That's what matters.

SOLDIER 3 and SOLDIER 4 withdraw as SOLDIER 1 and SOLDIER 2 carry Carolina by her arms. She closes her eyes.

3 EXT. CASTLE - NIGHT

The owl opens its huge blue eyes and blinks again.

CAROLINA (V.O)
I will trust that my message will
reach you, father.

The bird flies away from the castle. The ribbon still remains on its leg. On it is engraved: "IT IS A COUP OF STATE". The owl's wings flutter slightly and its eyes are illuminated by the moonlight.

END.