

Scarlet tightened her grip on her backpack, as she quickened her pace toward home, causing her to bump into a passerby. "Sorry!" she exclaimed, helping him to his feet. "I didn't see you coming."

"Its okay," he said. He had brown messy hair and blue eyes, eyes that were looking straight at the ruby necklace her mom gave her right before she died.

"That's it," he said so softly that she had to strain to hear. Her hands shot up to her necklace, breaking him out of his trance. "The necklace," he said pointing, "How much for it?"

"Its not for sale," Scarlet said coldly. Clutching her necklace tighter.

"Well, here's my number, in case you change your mind," he said, handing her a piece of paper with some numbers scribbled on it. "The names Aaron by the way," he said, and then walked off. And seconds later Scarlet did the same.

When she finally reached home, she stopped as she saw the strange car parked at the curb. Nobody ever parked at her house. She had no friends and if her guardian, Ms. Stocks, wanted to visit the other old hags in the neighborhood, she would go over to their house. As she walked in Ms. Stocks jumped out screaming.

"Where have you been?!" she shouted, " I've waited all day to have this floor swept. Do you know how hard it is to walk on this littered floor ALL day?!"

"Yes," said Scarlet sarcastically as she got out the broom.

The next day as she walked outside she noticed that the car was still there. Curious she walked closer, and noticed that it wasn't any of the cars her neighbors owned. Intrigued she pressed her face into the window, before the massive hands picked up and threw her in the back seat, causing her too black out. When Scarlet finally woke up she was in a dark room, tied to a chair. All of her instincts told her to thrash and scream and run, but she resisted. She could barely make out the figures of two guys in the darkness.

"Cant we just take the necklace now?" said one of the men.

"No! Boss said it would only work if she gave it willingly!" said the other man.

Scarlet's heart almost stopped as she craned her neck to see if it was still there. When she saw that it was, she sighed a breath of relief.

Unfortunately the sound made her captors turn their heads.

"Well, well, well, sleeping beauty awakes," said the second man, sneering, as he nodded to the other guy. The first man nodded back,

disappearing into the shadows. "What do you want?" said scarlet hoping her voice didn't sound too shaky.

"We want your necklace," said a third man emerging from the shadows with the first man. Scarlet immediately recognized him as Aaron.

"I told you it's not for sale!" Scarlet said.

"Are you sure?" said Aaron, " We could give you anything. A million dollars, a puppy, you can even have your parents back." At that moment a photo appeared in front of her. It was of her and her parents, the picture was taken right before the fire that killed them. Scarlet looked away sadly.

"What do you need my necklace for?" she asked cautiously.

"World domination. Once the necklace is inserted in this mechanism," he said pointing at a small weird contraption, "everyone will see me as their king. You can even rule your own country if you want. And don't forget, after you give it to us you can leave, never to hear of us again."

Scarlet sighed. She knew what she had to do.

"Fine," she said, "but only if you untie me."

"And let you run away?" said Aaron

"Then no deal," said Scarlet, turning her nose up. Aaron grumbled.

"Let her go," he said, and the two men from before walked toward her and started to undo her ties.

"Don't even think about trying to run," said the guy on her left.

"Yeah," said the other, "we've got guns." And then stepped back to show off their weapons. Finished with their task, Scarlet shaking stood up and undid her necklace.

"You'll let me go?" said Scarlet

"Promise," reassured Aaron.

Scarlet looked down at her necklace sadly.

"Any time now," said Aaron impatiently.

Scarlet gave her necklace one last squeeze before she threw it to the ground and stomped it to pieces.

"NO!" Aaron screamed.

He lunged for her. Scarlet kicked him and ran, the sound of gunshots behind her. She ran and ran, screaming at people to help her as she sprinted to her house. When she finally reached her house, she buried herself under the covers of her bed and fell asleep. The next morning she picked up the newspaper and read, "3 Villainous Men Trying To Overtake the World Caught!"

Scarlet smiled. Looks like their plan failed after all. Although she was curious of what happened after she ran, she was quite happy going on safer adventures now.

Total Word Count: 843