

Dangerous

By Katy Koop

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Scene 1

SFX: The sound of pen on paper, paper folding into an envelope, a ripped seal. Just a general letter writing SFX, if possible.

It fades out.

E

Dear H,

You do not know how much you mean to me, but you are a worthy friend. I do not know why we can't just leave it at that.

Warmly,

E

H

Dear E,

I do not want to be a worthy friend. I doubt you call that fiance of yours worthy.

I long for you, like a damsel for a beautiful prince. Or maybe it's deeper, maybe, I love you like a man.

I don't think I told you of a rose I put under your pillow that summer. I took in its scent and kissed the petals, thinking of you. Maybe I'll kiss this letter before I send it to you, maybe I'll scream into it. I need some way to send how I burn for you.

Love,

H

E

H — you write too much.

I do not know if you screamed or kissed this letter, but I felt it. When I say you are a worthy friend, I do mean you are worthy.

As nice as it might be to think about it, whatever it is you mean by all of this—this is not our story. It can't be. I'm sorry.

E

Scene 2

H

Dear E,

I was thinking of what our story *could* be and I think it would go something like this:

There was once a little mermaid with hair red like the dawn that lived deep in the sea. When she turned fifteen, just like her sisters before her, she was allowed to swim to the surface and see the world above. On that day, she saw a handsome prince with beautiful hair and sharp eyes on a ship and she fell in love with him instantly. Suddenly a violent storm hit, sinking the ship, and the little mermaid saved the prince from drowning and left him alone on the shores of his land.

The mermaid, longing for the prince, goes to the Sea Witch deep in a dark dangerous cave. The witch sells her a potion that gives her legs in exchange for her tongue and beautiful voice. In order for the potion to transform her human forever, she must win the love of the prince and marry him. If he marries another, the dawn of that next day she would die, dissolving into sea foam. The mermaid swims up to the surface near the prince's castle to drink the potion and the

pain, like a sword passing through her, was so great that she passed out on the steps of the prince's palace, naked and transformed. The prince finds her and is mesmerized by her beauty, even though she is mute. Soon, she never left his side, pain like knives shooting up her legs with every step. Later, it is revealed that the prince must marry a princess in a neighboring kingdom and... big surprise- he does.

As the prince and princess celebrate their wedding, the Little Mermaid's heart shatters. Just as she begins to weep, her sisters rise out of the water and bring her the sea witch's curved, bony dagger. She must, according to the bargain they struck with the sea witch, kill the prince and let his blood drip on her feet, so she will become a mermaid once more and all her suffering will end.

She held it in her hand and considered it, but she couldn't. She couldn't destroy his happiness. She couldn't hurt him in the way he hurt her. She wouldn't. She throws the dagger and herself off the ship into the water just as dawn breaks. Her body dissolves into foam and she feels the warmth of the sun spread through her in her last moments.

The end. The prince and the princess live happily ever after but the mermaid becomes nothing and evaporates into the sky.

Let me know what you think.

H.

SFX- the sound of waves washing up and away from the shore to express the passing of time

It fades out.

Scene 3

E

Dear H,

It's been a long time.

You told me a sad story once. I was not ready to hear it.

I know you asked me to tell you what I thought and I didn't. You wrote again and I never wrote back. I sent the letters you sent to my husband back unopened. When I read that story, I couldn't cope with the tragedy of it.

No justice. No happiness. Only space. Only yearning. Only death.

I'm going to try to tell you a story.

A new one.

Once, there was a beautiful mermaid living under the sea. Her eyes were sharp and full of starlight. She had crimson hair and a beautiful voice. She was dangerous—the blood of sailors and their broken ships stained the rocks she and her sisters lay on. And yet, there was one sailor she would not drag down with her.

He knew the danger but he would come out just to be close to her. She told him he had no business here and to never come back, but she always longed to see him every night.

One day, he could take it no longer. He traveled deep into the forest to speak to the elder witch.

He told her that he wanted to be with that beautiful mermaid and would do anything. They

bargained that she would take his legs and he would never walk as a man again or see his family again.

He sailed out to sea one final time. When he got to her rocky filled domain, he jumped straight into the water and drank the potion. Just as she was moving to save him, she realized he was transforming. His legs disappeared and turned into a tail as well.

She couldn't believe it and told him she was dangerous and he didn't have to do this. He said he was dangerous too. They swam into the deep blue sea together and they lived happily ever after.

The end. Maybe our story could be something like this. I don't want you to turn to seafoam for me. When it comes down to it, I think, and I hope it's not too late, I want to transform with you. Even if it is a little dangerous.

Love,

E

SFX: the sound of water and bubbles and of sinking beneath the sea

It fades out.

End of Audio Play.

SOUND CUES

**added fade outs as .5's as sound cues if needed*

<u>SQ</u>	<u>PG #</u>	<u>CUE:</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION OF SOUND:</u>
1	1	Beginning of the piece	Letter Writing Sound- The sound of pen on paper, paper folding into an envelope, a ripped seal. Just a general letter writing SFX
1.5	1	Fade out when appropriate to end before the dialogue starts (or fading out as the dialogue comes in)	FADE OUT 1
3	3	“... the mermaid becomes nothing and evaporates into the sky. Let me know what you think. H.” (after the end of H’s monologue/story)	Waves Washing Up on the Shore- the sound of waves washing up and away from the shore to express the passing of time It fades out.
3.5	3	Fade out when appropriate to end before the dialogue starts again (or fading out as the dialogue comes in)	FADE OUT 3
5	5	“...I want to transform with you. Even if it is a little dangerous. Love, E” (after end of E’s monologue/story)	Sinking in Water Sound- the sound of water and bubbles and of sinking beneath the sea It fades out.
5.5	5	Fade out when appropriate to bring an end to the audio piece	FADE OUT 5