

What have I done to be hated?

The butler spent a good while trying to convince the princess to return to the palace. However, there was no way to change her mind. In the end, the butler had to return to the palace and report to his majesty that the princess had refused to return.

"Why did she refuse to come back?" The king asked.

"She said she preferred to live in that place rather than in the palace, Your majesty," the butler responded.

"Very well, leave it."

"When I feel better, I will bring her back myself."

"For now, you can send the maids to take care of her." The king said.

"Yes, Your majesty." The butler replied.

A few hours later, the butler sent several maids to attend to the princess. They saw the princess barefoot and her clothes covered in dirt, and they looked at her with contempt, but they spoke courteously.

"From today onwards, we will take care of the princess."

Despite their words, Abril could feel how much those maids despised her. She didn't want to continue being marginalized, so she said to them.

"I don't want you here, go away."

"We can't, this is an order from His majesty." They replied.

Abril took a bucket of dirty water that she had been using to wash her muddy hands and said to them.

"I don't want you near me, go away, or I'll throw this dirty water at you."

"Don't be unreasonable, princess, we'll be your help whether you like it or not." One of them replied.

"You have never been my help."

"I don't want you."

"Now leave!" The princess replied with anger visible in her voice.

The maids kept insisting until Abril threw the bucket of dirty water at them. With their soaked clothes, they ran back to the royal palace and went straight to the butler and said,

"The princess is a wicked and aggressive woman."

"She threw dirty water at us even when we only wanted to help."

The butler sighed heavily and sent the other maids. All those who came looked at Abril with contempt and mockery. She didn't want people like that by her side. She would rather live alone, forgotten by everyone.

Abril received them all with a bucket of dirty water. In the end, she even found it amusing and started looking forward to their arrival. She enjoyed seeing how they reacted after getting soaked in water.

Interestingly, she ended up using clean water because they didn't even give her time to get dirty water. Abril knew that everyone saw her as an evil woman, even though it was the others who were mean to her. For the first time, she decided to behave just the way others saw her.

Abril was sitting on a chair in front of the door, waiting for the maids to knock so she could open it and throw the bucket she had next to her.

"I hope they soon get bored and stop coming to bother me."

"Although I find it somewhat amusing to do this every morning, I want to have my peaceful days back." She said to herself.

When she heard a knock on the door, Abril stood up very excited, took the bucket of water, and after opening the door, she threw the water. But when she saw the person in front of her, she opened her eyes wide and wished the ground would open up and swallow her. It was Alessandro. He looked at her with an angry face as the water dripped from his clothes.

The butler had sent several maids to the small house where the princess lived to serve her, but they all returned with their clothes soaked in water. They claimed that the princess was evil and always threw a bucket of water at them with a big smile on her face.

The butler, tired of this situation, went to report to His Majesty what was happening. He had told him to let him take care of the princess.

Alessandro had personally gone to speak with Abril, but he never imagined he would receive such a reception. He frowned, clearly annoyed. When he raised his hand, Abril stepped back. He took out a handkerchief from his pocket and, although it was also soaked, he used it to clean his face.

"What does this mean?" He questioned.

"I did not know that it was Your majesty that knocked." She replied.

Abril stammered in fear, she had offended the king, she only hoped that her head wouldn't roll on the floor.

Alessandro entered the house and closed the door behind him. Abril wondered what he was planning to do with her.

"Bring me something to dry myself with!" He ordered in a stern voice.

Abril did as she was told and handed him a towel to dry himself.

"I have ordered you to return to the palace."

"Why haven't you done so?" He asked.

"Because I don't want to." Abril replied.

"That is not an answer."

"What is the reason for you not wanting to return to the palace?"

That's my question, the king said.

"I don't like it there." Said Abril

"Do you prefer to live here as a beggar?" He questioned further.

"Yes, I prefer this place over the palace."

"Please allow me to stay in this place," She begged.

"It's unimaginable for a princess to live this way."

"You must show the dignity of royalty," he replied.

"What's the difference? "

"After all, no one will see me here."

Abril muttered with her head down.

"Stop muttering and look at me when I'm talking to you."

Alessandro's beautiful golden eyes stared into Abril's, waiting attentively for what she would say.

Alessandro noticed that she was still wearing her old dress. He noticed that the length of the dress was short, and it was not worthy of a lady. She showed her legs without any modesty, and he realized that she was barefoot, he said to her.

"What you're wearing can't even be called clothes."

"You truly are a shameless princess."

"I can't imagine what kind of education you had." He said with disappointment written all over his face.

Abril wore short dresses because they were more practical when working and, as for her education, she had never had such a thing.

"But I have never had it." Abril muttered.

"You are a real nuisance."

"Can't you live peacefully without bothering anyone?" Alessandro said.

Those words bothered Abril. Since she had arrived at that palace she had stayed locked in silence in a room. Even when she was bothered by the servants she didn't complain, she had even been hurt and suffered pain. She never complained.

Now the first time she said she didn't want anything. The first time she wished her life in that small place wouldn't crumble, now all these?. She tightened the skirt of her dress firmly, she couldn't stay silent anymore, like a boiling pot she exploded.

"Didn't you want me to stay calm?"

"That's the only thing I've done since I arrived at this place."

"I've been ignored and mistreated, but I never complained."

"I just stayed silent."

"Your majesty forgot that I existed for three years."

"Why not do the same now and let me live peacefully in this place?"

"Is that too much to ask for?"

"Is your majesty's hatred so strong that I can't even be allowed to live in this remote part of the palace in peace?"

"What have I done for your majesty to hate me so much as to make my life miserable?"

"Tell me, because I don't understand, why does everyone hate me when I've done nothing wrong?"

Abril began to cry, tears rolled down her cheeks. That was the first time Abril told someone how she felt, the first time she cried in front of someone else, the first time she wished her words would be heard.