ANNE AND THE REUNION’S DIARY

Chapter 4

Anne was very confused and had even more questions in her head than before the time trip ( if that’s even possible). Struggling to stand on two feet she grabbed the first object that could help her keep the balance. Fortunately or unfortunately, it happened to be an old-fashioned lamp with a very colorful lampshade. When she finally got to stand still and got rid of fulfilling dizziness, she took a closer look at it.

The lampshade showed pictures that looked like an old photos but with different filters on them. Some were blue, other green, and the main one (that was the same on every site of the lamp) showed a group of young women sitting in similar positions, waiting for a photographer to take the picture. Many of them were smiling, some looked a little anxious, but each had some spark of happiness and pride glowing. Looking closer Anna saw Madame Molina at the right bottom of this art piece. She looked much younger than at their previous meeting. Along with other women she was dressed in a long dress made from some strange material and had a small hat on her head. She looked like her dream finally came true. Anna stepped even closer. And to her astonishment she saw the date.
- Minsk, 1941… - Anne read – but it is impossible. Madame Molina said that they didn’t succeed, so how come they’re so happy? And why Madame Molina is among them, she shouldn’t be….- the girl was truly shocked.

From the letters and stories included in the diary, she recognized most of the women. She knew what they looked like but what else could she do?

She decided to take the precious book, the three rules and go back home. But before she walked out she thought that she could take a photo of that lamp and its riddles. She aimed at doing it but when she got back to the living room, there was no lamp and no doors. It looked like no one lived there for a long time. The couch was covered with a layer of dust, as well as the other things in the room. The shocked girl thought that it must be some kind of a joke. How could it be possible?
“ It must be a weird dream…that’s all

“, she thought.

Anne heard some strange noise coming from the upper floor of the building.
“Well, if that’s just my imagination, why not see, what it was?”

Slowly, she started going up the stairs, when she reached the top, she saw a giant tree. A family tree to be exact.

Anne took a closer look. She saw a lot of names and golden lines connecting people. She was searching for some name she could know from somewhere. And she found it…
“ Adalina Naranjo (maiden name Valor) born in 1890… but it is impossible, that’s my great-grandmother name. How come…” Then she heard a voice coming from behind.

“Adalina, but my friends liked to call me Molina, it was like our secret code”.
“What are you doing here Madame Molina? “, asked Anna in a frightened voice.

“ Well, since you’ve found three of the rules I came to tell you a little more about our organization, because for the next ones you will need a little more knowledge “, said the elderly lady and went downstairs, making Anne follow her.

They sat in the big, bright room ( which looked like during the first visit ! ) and Madame Molina spoke:

“I realize, that you have many questions, but we don’t have much time, so we’d better start .”

“ Ok. So why me? Why do I have to find those rules and no some other person?”

“ Well, Anne you are my heir, I want you to do something, that we couldn’t do back in our times. I want you to change the reality for better”, said the elderly lady with a teary eyes for the memory of uncompleted mission.

“But how do I get to do it? If you failed and all… how are you so sure that I will make it ? “, asked Anne rather upset, she couldn’t even properly speak Spanish, let alone change the world for better. “We have our reality, and most people like it the way it is. “

“Ah… reality… what a beautiful world… How sad it is only an imagination. What for one person is normal for others is chaos. Anne you must remember, that if you truly want something, the sky is the limit and no one can stop you. Believe in yourself and remember, what you read in the diary I gave you. All of it will be important in order to get the next rules. And for now I must say goodbye. My time has come to an end. Be brave my great- granddaughter.”, said Madame Molina and walked away, before Anne could say anything.

“Wait!!! What should I do, when do I find the rest rules?! How do I know I’m the right person?.....”, Anne was screaming in the air .

Frustrated, she opened the diary with a desire to destroy it along with all the rules and the riddles inside of it, but she saw another card. It was green with big number 4 on it.

Anne opened it and read :

***“ Courage is one of the best and most important virtues. Without it you cannot practice any other virtue consistently. Strength and courage aren’t always measured in medals and victories. They are measured in the struggles they overcome. The strongest people aren’t always the people who win, they are the people who don’t give up when they lose.”***

She finished reading with teary eyes and knew, why those women were smiling and why she should complete her task. Those rules were worth it, the change they would bring was worth it. She saw, that along with the card, another key was inside the diary. This time it was a silver one.

“Well, it better be good … “, thought Anne and rushed upstairs, where she had a feeling that a new set of doors would be located.