

I - Megoosa, Gabriella

The Witch's Princess by Don Zolidis

NARRATOR 2: Also social media.

NARRATOR 1: Her heart blazed with rage and the sight of her was enough to freeze the blood of any man. She kept no mirrors, could not bear to—

(MEGOOSA takes a selfie. Posts it. GABRIELLA, ALESSANDRA, and GRENDEL'S MOTHER enter cautiously, not looking in the direction of MEGOOSA.)

GABRIELLA: All right let me handle this one.

ALESSANDRA: Are you sure? She could be trouble.

GABRIELLA: She was jilted in love—I get that. You guys hide here.

ALESSANDRA: Okay.

(GABRIELLA starts to approach, not looking at MEGOOSA.)

GABRIELLA: Um... Hey there.

(No reaction.)

NARRATOR 1: If the monster heard the distant sounds of humanity, she gave no indication. She was human once, but now an abomination—her hair slithered around her scalp, poisonous and deadly.

GABRIELLA: *(Waving, louder:)* Hello?

(MEGOOSA takes out her earbuds.)

MEGOOSA: Oh sorry had my earbuds in.

(She turns to look at GABRIELLA.)

GABRIELLA: No don't look at me!

(GABRIELLA ducks. MEGOOSA removes her hood. She has geese for hair.)

MEGOOSA: What. Ohhh you must have been talking to some of the guys in town. "Don't go near the monster—she's got snakes for hair—she turns you to stone if she looks at you!"

GABRIELLA: That's what they said.

MEGOOSA: No it's cool you can look. Go ahead.

(GABRIELLA turns to look.)

GABRIELLA: You're not what I expected.

Start

MEGOOSA: Definitely. Basically what happened—this knight came to kill me or whatever? And my geese scared him—I mean, they won't kill you from a distance, but they can be straight-up *mean*— (*She strokes her geese hair and talks to them:*) “Yes you can my little goosies yes you can. Mama loves you.” And I guess it was a little embarrassing to admit you got beat up by a bunch of geese, so he invented this whole story about snakes and turning to stone and it's a whole *thing*. So what's up?

GABRIELLA: (*She's got this prepared:*) Noble Medusa—

MEGOOSA: (*Correcting her:*) Megoosa—

GABRIELLA: Megoosa. We know that you've been hurt. We know that you've been shunned—

MEGOOSA: Which is ridiculous because I am *amazing*— not today, I'm having a bad goose day, but sometimes this is a killer look.

GABRIELLA: We know that you've been shunned, but what we are offering is a chance at redemption. We're putting together a crew for the deadliest job imaginable. Come with us and—

MEGOOSA: Done.

GABRIELLA: That's it?

MEGOOSA: Sure yeah I'm super bored up here. Nobody invites me to anything! Even though I am FUN AT PARTIES. Sometimes I need to remind the village that I am a total blast.

GABRIELLA: Which is why we need you—we need a demolitions expert—

MEGOOSA: Ooh that's me! I'm a bit of a mad scientist in my spare time. I mean if you're living alone you gotta have hobbies right? So I just love trying to make things blow up. Which is again—WHY I AM FUN AT PARTIES. You wanna see?

GABRIELLA: I trust you.

MEGOOSA: No no no it will just take me a minute. What do you want me to explode?

(*ALESSANDRA and GRENDEL'S MOTHER approach.*)

ALESSANDRA: The job requires stealth.