



Dance Around Death

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Also By Sarah Mahon

And Somehow We Became Friends

Free To Be

*To Hannah, Jordan, Morgan, Viky, Shea, Rainy, and
Chris without you guys I don't think I could have
continued.*

Chapter 1

“Bryan Topice you’re under arrest for the murder of Elliana Greenwood. You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say can and will be used against you in a court of law.” Emerald told Bryan.

“Emerald, you can’t do this.” Bryan said as she tightened the hand cuffs on his wrists.

“I’m just doing my job Bryan. I thought I loved you, but I didn’t know that you were capable of murder.” Emerald said.

“Elliana deserved it.” Bryan snapped.

“Don’t say that. You’ve destroyed poor Allison. She lived with Elliana for two years before she had disappeared.” Emerald said.

Four years earlier

“Your name is now Elizabeth Reed. Allison you know how important this is. You have to go off grid. Save your friends and protect yourself.” Agent Amanda said. “You know why you have to be under witness protection right now. Until things are clear and we can find the person who tried to kill you and your friends, you have to leave.”

“Amanda are you a hundred percent sure that this is the best idea. What will happen to Chris and Mike?” Allison asked.

“Chris and Mike fled. They think that you’re dead. Remember, they left you. They left you to die.” Amanda replied. “Let’s go get your hair cut and dyed.”

“Of course,” Allison muttered.

Later that week

“Welcome Miss Reed. You shall be rooming with Miss Greenwood.” The headmaster of Grand Junction School of Dance told Allison.

“Of course sir,” Allie said.

“Ah sir, is this my new roommate Elizabeth?” Elliana asked walking into the room.

“Yes, this is Elizabeth Reed. Show her around and get to know each other.” The headmaster said.

“Of course,” Elliana replied. “Come,” She said grabbing Elizabeth’s arm and dragging her away.

Elliana showed Elizabeth around the dance studios, the dorms, the kitchen, and then their room.

“Please just call me Ellie. Once we get the spare bed and my stuff moved around again, that’ll be your bed. Sorry for the mess.” Ellie said.

“Its fine, we don’t need to worry about it. I’m fine with mess. Traveling the world with ten people for

quite a few years, you learn to deal with mess and disorganization. And, if possible, I would prefer to be called Allie. My real name is Allison but witness protection forced me to change my name.” Allie told Ellie.

“Of course. We won’t announce that to the whole school though. That would be a death wish.” Ellie told Allie. The two girls quickly bounded and became good friends.

A few months later

“Hi, my name is Shea. I’m new here and I want to make friends if I can.” Chris said walking into class Monday morning.

“Hi Shea, my name is Elliana and this is my best friend Elizabeth. We’re the best dancers here.” Elliana told Shea.

“Ellie get your pointe shoes on. We’re being called to center.” Elizabeth said.

“Coming,” Ellie replied tying her second pointe shoe.

“To center, we’ll be running the party scene from Swan Lake and then split off into our groups. Ellie and Elizabeth welcome Shea into your group; he is new and doesn’t have a group yet.” The instructor said.

“Of course Madam,” Ellie said politely. Shea walked over and smiled.

“So we’re to work together, wonderful.” Shea said smiling. Elizabeth and Ellie took their places and went through the steps with everyone else. Shea stood on the sidelines watching Elizabeth.

“She has the kind of technique that a dancer at the Paris Opera Ballet would have.” Shea muttered to himself.

“Elizabeth? That’s because she trained in Paris for awhile. I don’t know how long but as soon as she got here, she was made a principal. Same thing that just happened with you,” A boy named Derick said grumpily.

“Sorry, didn’t mean to suddenly come in and destroy the system.” Shea said.

“No, you’re just like Elizabeth. She came in from Paris and was promoted to principal. I’m not sure where you came from but I know that you’re good. Blake wouldn’t have allowed you in their group if you weren’t. I’m the only other guy in the group. It’s just the four of us. We’re the four principals. Don’t freak. Everything is cool with me, just as long as you leave Ellie alone.” Derick said.

“Girlfriend? I’d say the same thing about my ex Allie. I never let anyone near her.” Shea said chuckling.

“What happened to her?” Derick asked.

“She died in an explosion in Paris. As far as I know anyways. We’re sure she died in an explosion shortly after we got back from a tour. The ten of us that danced with her realized she was missing when we went to dinner.” Shea said.

“That’s tragic.” Derick whispered. “We’re up.”

The two boys leapt to the middle and worked with their pas de deux partners. As soon as the party scene was over the dancers broke off into their groups.

“Madam Lovell requested that we work on Emerald and Diamond. She said that we will be working on Jewels next week as the entire class. Derick and Ellie are Diamonds, Shea, you and I are Emeralds. Let’s get to work.” Elizabeth said grabbing Shea. “We’ll work over here; I’m assuming you’ve at least seen part of Jewels before.”

“I did Emeralds with my pas de deux partner Allison about two years ago. I know the part by heart.” he replied.

“Good, it’s a hard duet and I love the piece. We cannot screw it up.” Elizabeth said smiling. Shea took the starting position and Elizabeth followed his lead. For the first time in nearly a year Elizabeth felt comfortable dancing with her pas de deux partner. Shea reminded Elizabeth of the way her and Chris managed to always be in perfect harmony when they were dancing. Practicing Emeralds with Shea reminded her

of when she and Chris danced Emeralds two years before.

“Hey Elizabeth, its lunch time,” Ellie said awhile later.

“There’s no way. We’ve only been here...” Elizabeth said looking at the clock. “We’ve only been here for about five hours,” She said.

“It’s 1 P.M. Let’s just go eat.” Ellie said.

“Can I tag along? I don’t know anyone else yet.” Shea asked the girls. Elizabeth nodded and the two girls took off their pointe shoes and put them in their bags.

“Let’s go,” Ellie said laughing.