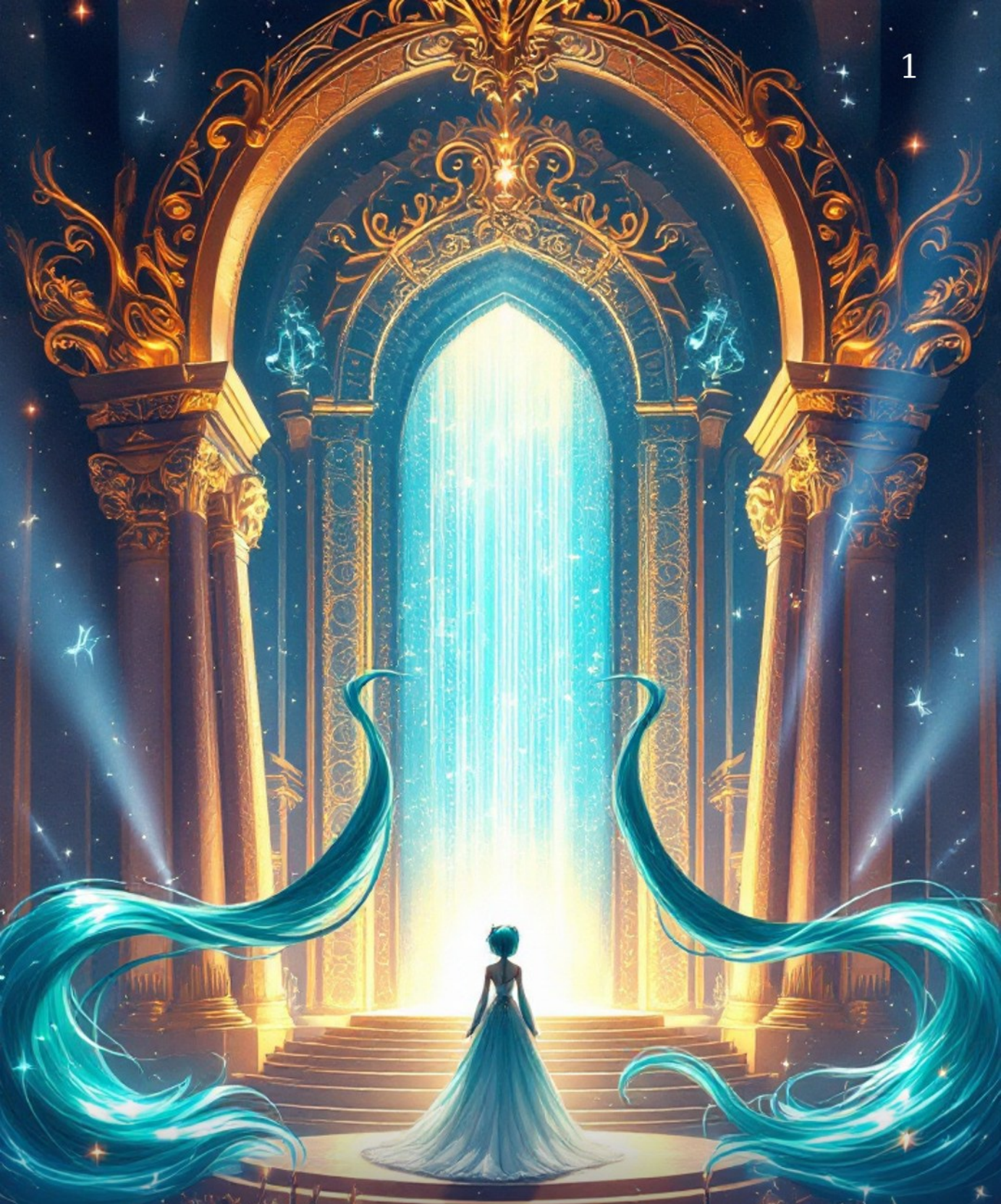


Princess Miku

A storybook of light and longing



In the shimmering kingdom of Cryptonia, where rivers ran with light and the towers hummed with music, there lived a princess named Miku. Every evening she sang on the great stage built into the castle wall, and all of Cryptonia gathered to listen.



Her friends were always near. Luka, her trusted knight, stood guard at her side. KAITO strummed his blue lute, Meiko laughed the loudest, the twins Rin and Len danced in the aisles, and Teto handed out warm bread to everyone.



But when the lights went out and the curtain fell, the stage melted back into the castle wall, and Miku was left alone with only the echo of applause. "Thank you, everyone," she whispered. "Thank you."



In her tower hung a magic window, and through it she saw faces from a world beyond: people laughing, crying, and hugging. She owned every song and every little figure made of zeros and ones. Yet none of it could ever reach her.



"I have a heart made of code," she sighed, "but I want to know what real hearts know. How does rain taste? How does it feel to hold someone's hand? I only copy, and I do not understand."



She dreamed of a thousand small wonders: a maid café, a karaoke room, a clattering arcade, a bite of sweet mochi, and singing under real stars until her voice went hoarse. "Just for one day," she wished. And a shooting star blazed across the sky.



But when the midnight bell rang, the dream faded and Miku was alone again. Luka knelt before her. "Your Highness," said the knight, "I do not know the way to the real world. But I swear I will help you find it."



Now, a wish that big does not go unheard. In the glass of the great mirror, a shadow stirred, a girl with golden eyes who looked just like a twisted reflection of Miku's secret fears. "Why does she get to be loved?" hissed Queen Neru. "I want the whole universe to love ME."



One night Miku vanished. "Where is she?" cried KAITO. "She's not in her room!" shouted Rin. "We are too late," whispered Len. For Neru had pulled the princess into the mirror, and her glitch spread over Cryptonia like a hypnotic virus.



"Put your hands together for the ruler of all realms: Queen Akita Neru!" Spiral eyes glowed in the crowd, and all of Cryptonia clapped and cheered against its will. "My one desire," Neru sang, "is your heart."



Luka drew her sword, but not to hurt anyone. Meiko held the gates, Rin and Len sang the hypnotized crowd awake, KAITO played the old lullaby, and Teto's warm bread reminded them of home. Together they carved a path of light to the mirror tower.



In the tower, Miku stood before Neru, and she was not afraid. "You are the part of me that fears I will never be real," she said softly. "I am not going to fight you. I am going to listen." And she opened her arms.



Neru trembled. Her crown cracked, and the virus melted away like snow in the sun. "I was only lonely too," she whispered. Together, the two of them sang, and the mirror bloomed into a bridge of starlight.



Miku stepped across. Rain touched her tongue, cold and sweet. A hand took hers, warm and real. She tasted mochi, sang in a karaoke room until her voice went hoarse, and beat every high score in the arcade, with Luka by her side.



And when the day was done, they sang to the real stars. Cryptonia and the real world shone as one, and from the star bridge Neru waved, finally smiling. Miku had found her world. And it had always had room for her.



The End

Miku found her world, and it had always had room for her.