

Kingdom Hearts: Hall of Abandon: Part One

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After a mysterious hooded man tells of a mysterious entrance to Kingdom Hearts, Sora and his friends are launched on another adventure.

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1 - Paradise

"Riku! Come on! You are going to miss the ball game!"

The white haired teen rolled over in his sleep.

"Just a couple more minutes..." he mumbled.

Sora walked over to the bed and began to tug on Riku's arm.

"We don't have a couple of minutes! Now get up! When did you get so lazy?"

Riku groaned.

"Ugh. Alright alright! I'm getting up! Stop pulling on my arm! Just go and let me get dressed."

"Okay," Sora replied, "But hurry! Tidas and Wakka are playing! We're supposed to meet Selphie and Kairi at the field."

Riku began to push Sora out of the room.

"Alright! I'll meet you outside. Go."

Sora ran out under Riku's stern gaze. Riku closed the door behind him.

"Another day on Destiny Island"

A few minutes later Riku exited his house. Sora was already slowly wandering up the road.

"Hey! Wait up!" Riku called.

"Come on, slowpoke!" shouted Sora, who began to break into a run.

Riku groaned and took off to catch Sora, whom he easily overtook. He playfully bumped into Sora, causing him to stumble.

"Hey! Don't make me!" said Sora threateningly.

Riku laughed, "Don't make you what? I bet even after all the practice with the Keyblade you still can't beat me!"

Sora growled and picked up a long stick that he found lying along the side of the road.

"En garde! Let's see if you're still as good as you say!"

Riku grinned and picked up another stick that also lay by the road.

"Don't forget that I beat Roxas when we fought!" He slashed the stick at Sora.

Sora raised an eyebrow.

"That's not what I've heard!" said he after parrying the blow.

They continued running up the road in their mock sword fight, striking and blocking each others' attacks.

Suddenly a voice called their attention.

"Ahem!"

They stopped in their tracks. Sora looked over to see Kairi and Selphie standing at the entrance to the field.

"Oh, hey Kai- OW!"

Riku had swung his stick and smacked Sora square on the head. Sora rubbed his battle bruise.

"Gotcha." said Riku proudly.

"Hey! Not fair! I was distracted!" Sora whined.

Kairi giggled.

"It looks like you two haven't grown up one bit!"

Everyone laughed.

2 - Confrontation

Kairi, Riku, Sora, and Selphie walked over to the bleachers that lined the blitzball pool. It was an above ground pool that had a depth of about thirty feet. Encased in thick glass, the pool was ideal to play blitzball. The group of friends could see Wakka and Tidus already warming up for the match.

Selphie looked over at Riku, Sora and Kairi.

"It's supposed to be a good matchup today. I heard Kael and Raenis are playing for the opposing team."

Sora smirked and said, "I hope they lose horribly!"

He and Kael never got on good terms with each other. They were always trying to start fights with each other. A lot of times these fights were to compete for Kairi's attention, since they both liked her. Unfortunately, when Sora and Kairi came back from their distant adventure, their love for each other was established and Kael became jealous. Ever since, he's been trying to win Kairi over.

Suddenly a voice spoke out of nowhere

"Well, look who we have here! If it isn't Shorty and the gang!"

Sora turned around to see Kael walking over with Raenis close behind.

"What do you want Kael?"

The tall boy grimaced and pushed Sora out of the way.

"Hey Kairi! How are ya?" he asked confidently.

Kael stood about five feet eleven inches with a fit, lean body. His long blue hair came down to his shoulders with his bangs stretching to his nose. He had stone gray eyes that flashed with ignorance.

"Hey Kael why don't you leave! Nobody wants you here!" Sora stated with a menacing undertone.

Kael rotated to face Sora.

"What, are you gonna make me?"

Sora's eyes gleamed.

"I might." he said dangerously.

They stood facing each other waiting for one or the other to make a move.

"That's enough guys."

Riku had stepped between them and looked from one to the other.

"Kael, don't you have a game to play?"

The blue haired boy scowled at Sora and turned to go. Raenis looked at Riku and Sora for a moment, then followed.

"Sora." said a stern voice.

Sora turned to come face to face with Kairi. She was glaring at him and had her hands at her hips. Sora cringed.

"Um... yeah Kairi?" he said cautiously.

"Why do you always have to fight with Kael every time you see him? Why can't you just let him be? He's not going to change, just like none of us are going to change, okay? And besides," she took his hand, "you should know that I only like you."

Sora smiled and blushed simultaneously.

"Okay, I'll try."

They heard Selphie's voice.

"Come on it's about to start!"

Kairi smiled at Sora and went to join Selphie.

Riku walked up next to Sora.

"You owe me one."

Sora grinned.

"Yeah right! I coulda taken him hands down!"

They went over to where Kairi and Selphie were sitting. All of a sudden the loudspeakers blared.

"Ladies and Gentlemen! May I have your attention! Today we have the Blazers playing the Warriors!
Let's play BLITZBALL!"

3 - Just a Game...

A referee swam to the center of the enormous pool while the players gathered around him. He spoke a few words regarding the rules and held the ball out in front of himself. Tidus approached on one side while Kael did on the other.

"Didn't you guys learn from the last time we beat you?" Tidus asked sarcastically.

Kael grinned maliciously, but said nothing.

The referee got their attention on the ball and placed a whistle in his mouth.

The loudspeakers boomed.

"Now we have Tidus from the Blazers and Kael from the Warriors lining up for the Startoff! Ready? Three! Two! One!"

The bleachers erupted with cheers as the ref dropped the ball. Kael shot forward to try and grab it but failed as a much quicker Tidus reached it first and kicked it into the air. After a brief airborne moment the ball hurtled downward into Wakka's arms. After diving underwater, however, he was tackled by one of the opposing players who had tracked his movement. The ball dashed from Wakka's grip and into the hands of Raenis who accordingly kicked it to Kael. He swam viciously to one side of the pool while Tidus blasted after him.

"Come on Tidus!" Selphie yelled, though she knew he couldn't hear her.

Catching up, Tidus barreled into Kael from the side. The ball left his grasp. The other teammates blasted towards the two players in order to help. Tidus was shooting to snatch the ball when Kael rushed in front of him. He looked at Tidus, and with the same malicious smile, grabbed the ball. He began to swim towards the goal as players from both teams swam around him in chaos and confusion. Tidus caught up with and tried to check Kael, who dodged the attack successfully. Frustrated Tidus grabbed Kael's ankle and pulled him back. His lungs began to burn from lack of air as he struggled to pull Kael toward him. Unexpectedly, Kael looked back and aimed a kick at Tidus's chest, forcing the remaining air that he had out of his lungs. Tidus let go of Kael's leg and flailed to get to the surface.

Sora looked on in horror as his friend began to drown.

"Referee!" he shouted, "You need to get Tidus! He's drowning! Help!"

The referee dove into the cool water and, a few moments later, hefted a motionless Tidus above the surface. Sora and the others ran to the stairs that led up to the pool. The referee had lain Tidus upon a wooden platform that was floating on the water. As Sora, Riku, Kairi, and Selphie approached, the ref began performing CPR on Tidus's inert form. Selphie began crying.

A cocky voice spoke.

"So the best Blitzballer team on the Destiny islands finally loses! Looks like the star player is going to be out for a while. A long while."

4 - All in Spite

Sora turned to see a soaking wet Kael walking towards them.

"You did this!" he yelled angrily.

Sora ran at Kael and tackled him, but before any blows were exchanged, Riku pulled them apart.

"Stop! Now what are you talking about Sora?"

Sora breathed hard while glaring at Kael.

"He kicked Tidus in the chest while they were playing! The air was knocked out of 'im so he couldn't breathe."

Kael's eyes hardened.

"It was an accident! Tidus was grabbing my leg so I tried to escape. I accidentally kicked him."

Sora flushed red.

"So you just accidentally put all of your strength into that one kick!? You're a liar!"

Kael got up and started walking towards the stairs.

"I don't need this."

"YOU!" yelled a deeper voice from behind. Kael turned. Wakka stood at the water's edge breathing heavily, his brows furrowed in hatred.

"I saw what you did! You kicked Tidus.

Suddenly there was a loud sob. Everyone turned to Selphie who was looking at Tidus. His body was covered in an emergency blanket. The referee was on a cell phone calling a nearby hospital. Sora ran to Tidus's corpse and dropped to his knees. Tidus's hair was matted against his head and drops of water began to dry up on his skin. His eyes were closed and his chest wasn't moving.

"No... no it can't be..."

Selphie's sobbing could be heard in the background as tears began to slide down Sora's face, neverending and relentless. Wakka approached his best friend's body and kneeled before it.

"Tidus..." he mumbled, "why... you?"

He began to cry.

At once there was a flash. Sora clinched his eyes as the light intensified. It seemed to be coming from everywhere. Sora opened his eyes as the bright light faded. He looked around. Everything seemed the same. Kairi and Riku looked at him as if the same thing had happened to them. Sora's right arm seemed really heavy, however, and when he looked down at it he saw...

5 - Trinity

... the Keyblade. It was this key, the key to Kingdom Hearts, that started his previous journeys to rebuild the worlds, rescue the Princesses of Heart, and Destroy Organization 13. The Keyblade hadn't come to him since then until now, a year later, as he sat on his knees over his friend's body.

"What must I do to get rid of the Keyblade?" he mumbled to himself.

Suddenly he realized that he was holding the Key with everyone around. He looked to the left at Wakka. For some strange reason he wasn't looking at Sora, or acknowledging his presence at all, or even moving for that matter. Wakka looked as if he was frozen in time. Sora waved a hand in front of Wakka's face. He didn't move. Sora looked around at Selphie, who was locked in a position with her hands over her face unmoving. He looked at Kairi and Riku who were looking at him with the same confused look. In their hands Sora could see their respective Keyblades in their hands.

"Sora what's going on?" Riku asked as he and Kairi approached.

Sora opened his mouth to speak but a powerful voice cut him off.

"Ah, so we have here the three keys of destiny. Wielders of the Keyblade, I greet you with utmost respect."

Sora, Riku, and Kairi turned to see a hooded figure in long white flowing robes standing before them.

"Who are you?" questioned Riku.

The man continued as if not hearing Riku, "I have always marvelled at the power of the Keyblade and have tried so many times to trace where that power comes from. Not long ago I researched all known material regarding the Key and have finally come to a conclusion."

Sora got to his feet and looked at the Keyblade.

The man continued, "The Keyblade is already known to use the power of the heart but I have found patterns that lead me to believe that it is created using the power of many hearts. That is why you are able to open Kingdom Hearts with it. That is also the reason why you will always have the Keyblade."

Sora's mind raced.

"What do you mean 'always have it'? You mean I can't get rid of it?"

The man stepped closer.

"The Keyblade will always be with you as long as you live. You see, once its power is harnessed the Keyblade becomes tied to the wielder's heart. The blade itself lives because you live. The reverse became true once you first held the Keyblade."

Kairi cut in.

"Your saying that we live because it does? But that's impossible!"

The man turned his head towards her, "As long as the Keyblade has a heart nothing is impossible. You cannot simply give away the Keyblade as I'm sure you've tried. Nor can you lose it or forget it save for one thing. Through the last door lies Kingdom Hearts but to reach it you must overcome the Hall of Abandon. It will tempt you to leave your Keyblade there for eternity, never to see it again. This is folly for whoever does it because by leaving your Keyblade, you leave part of your heart, thus giving control of it to whoever finds it."

Riku spoke, "But then what if we never find this door? We won't have to worry about this temptation, will we?"

"Unfortunately you don't have a choice but to find it, because it is written in all of your destinies. My friends, you have come a long way, but you have one more journey ahead. You will encounter an enemy that is subtle, but more dangerous than any you have encountered before. Wielders of the Keyblade,

Defenders of Destiny, I wish you the best of luck. Sora, Riku, Kairi, may you complete your journey stronger than before. Goodbye."

A portal of darkness opened behind him. He turned to enter it.

"Wait! Who are you? How did you know our names?" Sora called.

The man turned back to face the three friends.

"My name is of no importance. I am nothing in a world of everything. I am what you three call a Nobody. But don't be alarmed. I seek not Kingdom Hearts, but wisdom, The wisdom to find out who I was. I don't know how I know you three. All I know is that I needed to help you. Good luck on your adventure."

He then stepped backwards into darkness, leaving Kairi, Riku, and Sora to ponder what he said.

6 - The Half Heart Key

Riku sat on his, Sora's, and Kairi's favorite tree, watching the sun sink below the horizon. He noted the gentle ripples on the surface of the vast ocean, the brilliant gleam of the sun reflecting on it, extending forever into the fading twilight. He closed his eyes and felt the whirling breeze blow through his hair. Riku reopened his eyes and held out a hand in front of him, summoning Way to Dawn, his Keyblade. Gazing at it silently, he ran his soft blue eyes down the extended wing that formed the blade section, slightly reminiscent of Soul Eater. He shifted his concentration to the gleaming green eye that lie at the base of the blade, on the center of the hilt. As he did so, something lying on the ground caught his eye. After jumping off the tree to get a closer look, he picked up off the ground what looked like a keychain. It was black and ended in a heart, or at least half of one. Riku pondered on it for a second then proceeded to remove his Way to Dawn keychain and attach the half heart chain. As soon as it clipped on, it was as if someone had hosed out the sun. Darkness consumed everything. Riku frantically looked around for some source of light but none was there to be found. But just as soon as darkness came light blasted through and illuminated the ocean once more. Strangely though, the sun was rising from the horizon instead of falling as it had a minute ago. Riku waited for his eyes to adjust from the sudden change, and as he did so he looked at the Keyblade. The blade itself was sleek and black running down to meet a blood red hilt. The hilt was in the shape of half of a heart as if someone had broken part of it off. As he held it out in front of himself, Riku realized that something about his arm looked off-kilter. His arms, normally uncovered, now had red sleeves, and as he searched himself realized that he was entirely different. Running to the shore, he looked at his reflection, not to see long silver hair, but spiky, red hair. He also wore sunglasses, which explained why his eyes were having trouble adjusting to the light. His mind reeled at his sudden change in appearance as he ran his hand over his face. He removed his glasses, but, as he did so, noted that his reflection didn't do the same. Instead his reflection began extending a hand out towards riku as if he was trying to escape from the water. Riku stood up and took a step backward, dropping his Keyblade on the ground. The reflection rose up out of the water and solidified. Startled, Riku stumbled backwards onto the ground as the figure approached. Picking up the Keyblade, the spiky-haired boy spoke.

"Hello Riku... my brother."

Riku struggled to comprehend this statement.

"What do you mean? I don't have a brother!" he said in a panicky tone.

The boy smiled his eyes flashing under his dark glasses.

"Of course mother never told you did she... I guess it would be too much HEARTBREAK for her to. Nonetheless, I have other things to do so I'll make

this quick, goodbye brother..."

The boy ran at Riku, swinging the Keyblade in a high arc. It rushed down at Riku and then, everything went black.

...

"Riku..."

leave me alone...

"Riku wake up."

no just let me die...

"What? Riku, WAKE UP!"

Riku shot up out of his bed almost hitting heads with Kairi who had been leaning over him. He looked at her with a confused look.

"But... I thought... he killed me."

Kairi gazed at him with a worried expression.

"You must have had a nightmare. You're fine. But you need to hurry, Tidus has been revived at the hospital. He, Selphie, and Wakka are there right now. Sora's outside come down when you're ready, okay?"

Riku just laid there awkwardly.

"But... but... I was, him... and he was me and... he killed me with my own Keyblade..."

Kairi looked at him sternly.

"It was just a dream, you're fine! Come on we'll be waiting outside, hurry."

With this she strode quickly from his room, leaving Riku confused on his bed.

7 - Deja Vu

After rushing to put on his clothes, Riku kissed his mother goodbye and left the house. Sora and Kairi were waiting in a car outside. After getting in Riku saw Sora's mother in the driver's seat.

"Hey Riku," she said, looking back at him, "are you all ready?"

"Yeah let's go."

After a short drive to the hospital and a wait at the counter in the emergency room, Riku, Kairi, Sora, and Sora's mother entered Tidus's room. His father, Zacharia, was sitting in a chair next to the bed holding his son's hand. As they entered he looked up and smiled weakly.

"Hello everyone." he said his voice cracking slightly.

He stood up and approached Sora's mother, who proceeded to embrace him in a hug.

After returning it and separating Zacharia spoke.

"Alanna... how are you?" he said quietly.

She looked at him worriedly.

"I'm more worried about you and Tidus." she replied, looking over at the semi conscious boy, "How is he doing?"

The man looked over to his child, who raised a hand weakly in response.

"They had one heck of a time reviving him, but they said that he would be just fine. He'll be in here for a couple of days though..."

Sora approached his friend's father quietly. Zacharia turned his attention to him.

"I want to thank you, Sora, for helping my son. You, Riku, and Kairi are such nice friends."

The wizened man crouched down and gave Sora an appreciative hug, then stood back up.

"Sora... I will need to have a talk with you sometime soon. It's very important. But it will have to wait for now I don't have the energy."

Confused, Sora replied, "... Sure whenever you want."

He looked over to Tidus to see Riku and Kairi next to the bed. He went to join them. Tidus looked at him tiredly and spoke in mumbles.

"Hey... Sora...what's up?"

Sora smiled warmly.

"It looks like you're doing a lot better. You had us very scared back at the pool."

Tidus looked over to his father who was in deep conversation with Sora's mother and sighed deeply.

"Yeah, I guess I had my dad pretty scared too. I just don't understand how Kael could do something like that though. I mean, it's just a game, right?"

Sora felt his face grow hot in anger. About then, Sora realized how much he actually hated Kael. Kairi, seeing his face quickly answered."

"Yes Tidus, it's just a game, and I'm sure it was an accident."

Sora looked at her complainingly but met an unsympathetic gaze.

Riku looked at them and whispered.

"I think we should let him get some rest, he looks exhausted."

Sora and Kairi nodded and they each embraced Tidus. As they left the hospital room, Tidus and Sora's parents made their way to his bed. Outside the three friends talked to each other quietly.

"He does look like he's doing better." Riku commented.

"Yeah he does-" added Kairi, but as she did so, a cold chill ran down her back.

Seeing the expressions on the other's faces, she continued.

"Did you guys feel that too?"

Sora looked around.

"Yeah it felt kinda like some sort of ghost passed through me."

As he said this his eyes widened.

"Oh no! I've felt that chill before! There's a Heartless here!"

8 - Another one?

Sora, Riku, and Kairi hurried into the hospital room in a panic. Sora looked behind curtains, Riku under the bed, and Kairi on the ceiling and behind furniture.

"Ahem!"

The three friends paused and turned towards Sora's mother. Who was watching them with Zacharia.

"What is going on here?"

Kairi looked at the other two and quickly answered.

"We, err... lost something."

Zacharia spoke.

"Well what is it? Maybe we can help you look."

Kairi thought quickly.

"Uh, my charm it is made out of flower petals."

Sora saw movement on Tidus's bed and when he looked carefully at it he saw a faint shimmer just above Tidus's chest.

Sora's mother looked around and picked something up off of the ground.

"Is this it?" She asked.

Sure enough, there was the petal charm that Kairi had made when she was little.

"Wow!" Kairi said, slightly bewildered, "That's it alright! Thank you."

"You're very welcome." said Sora's mother as she turned back towards Zacharia and proceeded with their conversation.

Kairi turned back to Riku and Sora.

"I didn't realize that I lost it!" she whispered to them.

Sora looked back at the bed to see the shimmer still there.

"Do you see the shimmer over Tidus?" He asked.

Riku and Kairi both looked. Riku turned back to Sora.

"Yeah, do you think it's the Heartless?"

Sora also returned his gaze back at his friends.

"I think so but I'm not sure."

Kairi somewhat panicked.

"What can we do? We can't just pull out our Keyblades in front of everyone!"

Riku thought for a moment then spoke.

"We have to wait and see what it's going to do."

"Right." said Sora and Kairi in unison.

They then pivoted to face the bed, watching the shimmer. It didn't do anything for several minutes when there was a brief flash of light. Tidus began to toss and turn as if having a bad dream. Another flash and he began shaking violently. Suddenly there was a last bright flash and he went still, his eyes open and empty as if...

Sora gasped. Only one time had he seen that look before when he saw Kairi without her heart.

"The Heartless took his heart!" He told Riku and Kairi.

Zacharia and Alanna were trying to get a response from Tidus but none came.

"No! Tidus! Wake up! Please! Nooo..." Zacharia embraced Tidus and began to sob.

Meanwhile the shimmer moved from the bed across the floor and out the door. Sora, Kairi, and Riku ran

from the room just as several nurses entered. The shimmer was moving quickly down the hallway and, when it was about to turn the corner, turned into a Neoshadow, looked back at Sora and the others and continued into the next hall.

"We can't let it escape!" said Riku angrily as they turned down the hall after it, just in time to see it exit out the entrance of the hospital.

The three friends rushed out the door and continued chasing the shadow. Kairi's legs began to burn when suddenly a red van drove up next to them. The driver's window rolled down to reveal Sora's sister, Ichigo.

"Come on!" she yelled, "Jump in."

Sora looked over to her.

"We can't sis!"

Determined she kept driving alongside them.

"You're trying to catch that Heartless right? Get in and I'll help you!"

9 - Love's Regime

After getting in the car, Sora looked over to his sister who was concentrating on following the Neoshadow.

"How did you know about the Heartless?" he asked in a confused voice.

She straightened slightly and sighed.

"Well, I had a dream about them, actually. I was on a stained glass platform, when all of these shadow creatures began overrunning it. You jumped in front of them with some sort of key sword thingy in your hand and told me to pull mine out. I said, 'I don't have one' and then suddenly one popped into my hand. You and I fought the shadows off and won. You told me that they were called heartless. The platform shattered and everything went dark. I woke up after that."

Kairi gasped.

"Does that mean... that you have a keyblade too!?"

Ichigo nodded.

"Yes, but I'd rather not talk about it right now we need to focus on catching that Heartless."

Sora looked ahead to see cars stopped at a traffic light.

"No! We can't stop now!"

His sister slowed down the car.

"Unfortunately I have to Sora."

Riku squinted ahead at the Heartless. His eyes widened.

"Hey look it stopped!"

He pointed ahead, and sure enough, as the others eventually saw, the Neoshadow was stopped on the side of the road looking back at them.

People were pointing at it yet it did nothing but stare back at Ichigo's car.

As the light turned green and the car surged forward, the Heartless continued running. Riku thought for a moment.

"I think it's luring us." he said indecisively.

"You're right." said Sora who continued to watch it carefully.

Kairi, who was also watching it, asked, "Why do you think it's doing that?"

"I don't know." said Riku.

Abruptly, Ichigo pointed ahead.

"Hey it just turned onto a bridge!"

Sora murmured.

"That's our island. I know where it's going..."

"Where is it going?" questioned Ichigo, who turned onto the bridge.

Sora paused and looked towards the Island.

"To where everything started. Our cave..."

"Why?" asked Kairi.

Riku answered.

"Because, that is where all of our dreams and fantasies began, in that small cave. That is where we are going to find all of the answers and it's where we are going to end this once and for all."

As they drove onto the island, Sora noticed something moving high in the sky. After a hard look his eyes widened.

"Hey look! It's the Gummi Ship!"

Sure enough, coming down rapidly from the atmosphere was the ship that Sora, Donald, and Goofy had used on their previous adventures.

Riku, Kairi, and Ichigo looked up at it.

"What's a Gummi Ship?" asked Ichigo.

Sora leaned forward, excitedly, watching the ship land.

"We'll explain it when we're not doing something too important. Just keep following that Heartless." said

Riku., "Seeing whoever's on that ship will have to wait."

Sora looked down disappointedly.

"Hey! It's landing ahead!" exclaimed Ichigo.

Sora looked back up and grinned.

"I'll get to see them!"

But as drove up, Ichigo kept going.

"Hey! What're you-?!" Sora complained.

"You heard Riku, we have somthig that we need to do right now, you can see them later." said Ichigo.

Sora crossed his arms and frowned. But then jumped when he saw.

"It went into the cave! You were right Sora." said Kairi.

They pulled up next to the hole that led into the cave.

Everyone got out and lined up before the hole.

Sora looked at Ichigo and his friends.

"Well, are we ready then?"

Riku faced him.

"No turning back!" He ran up to the hole and crawled through.

Ichigo went in next.

Sora looked at Kairi, who looked back at him. She smiled.

"Together this time, right?"

Sora smiled back.

"Yeah! Let's go!"

They went into the crevice without a single look back.

--END OF PART ONE--