

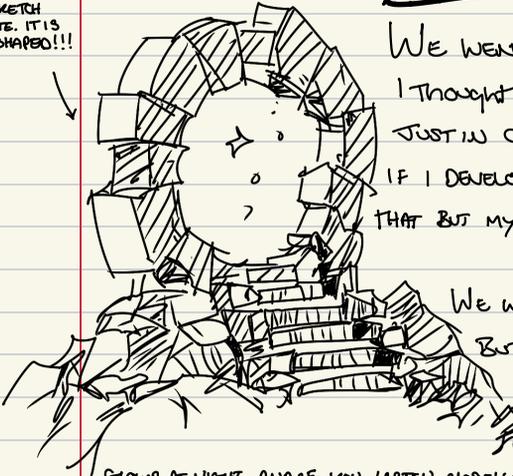


FENGARI!!



ADVENTURES OF FEN - THE BRAVE PALADIN!

ROUGH SKETCH
OF THE GATE. IT IS
WEIRDLY SHAPED!!!



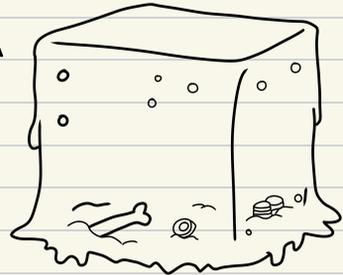
WE WENT TO A TOWN TODAY + I FOUND THIS JOURNAL. I THOUGHT I SHOULD START DOCUMENTING MY ADVENTURES JUST IN CASE I FIND MYSELF NEEDING TO LOOK BACK OR IF I DEVELOP A FOLLOWING. (I DON'T THINK PEOPLE WILL EVER DO THAT BUT MY GRANDPA SAYS OTHERWISE.)

WE WERE JUST LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO SLEEP TONIGHT BUT THEN THE TOWNSFOLK TOLD US OF THIS STRANGE LOOKING DOOR/GATE. THEY TOLD ME THAT IT HAS BEEN THERE SINCE THE TOWN WAS FOUNDED. WEIRD, RIGHT? IT GLOWS AT NIGHT, AND IF YOU LISTEN CLOSELY, IT MAKES A LOW HUMMING NOISE. THE LOCALS SAID THAT NOTHING HAS EVER GONE IN OR OUT. BUT THE ENERGY AROUND IT IS DRAWING, AS IF IT WANTS SOMETHING FROM ME.



WE ARE STAYING AT A TAVERN CALLED 'BRIDGE TO HEAVEN' TONIGHT. THE ROOM WASN'T TO MUCH COIN. I ATE THIS DISH CALLED JELLY SLIDERS. THEY WERE TINY CUBES OF SLIME, AND THEY PUT SMALL BITS OF FRUIT INSIDE THEM. I TOLD THE COOK THAT I LOVED THEM AND HE LOOKED PLEASED! ❤️

THIS IS THE SLIME
THAT THEY USE TO CUT THE JELLY
SLIDERS FROM. A LITTLE GROSS BUT I
HAVE BEEN MUCH WORSE.



I THINK NEXT TIME I WILL TRY THE
SHADOWFRUIT. I WATCHED AN ORC EAT NINE





I'M WRITING THIS JUST BEFORE I SLEEP FOR THE NIGHT. BEFORE I TURNED IN, A LOUD BARD SILENCED THE WHOLE TAVERN, AND IT WAS FOR A SHORT + SWEET WEDDING!!! A CHORTER THAN AVERAGE BERSERKER WAS MARRYING AN ODDLY TALL HOBGOBLIN. THEY LOOKED SO EXCITED, AS IF IT WAS A SPUR OF THE MOMENT DECISION, BUT NOT ONE THEY WOULD END UP REGRETTING.



a ^o b ^o c ^o d ^o ←
 e ^o f ^o g ^o h ^o
 i ^o j ^o k ^o l ^o
 m ^o n ^o o ^o p ^o
 q ^o r ^o s ^o t ^o
 u ^o v ^o w ^o x ^o
 y ^o z ^o

• ^o or ^o , ^o / ^o ; ^o : ^o
 ... ^o ! ^o ? ^o

" , " ()

My REFERENCE THAT I HAD BEEN ALLOWED TO COPY DOWN!

This is a language we came across while in this town! I will likely use it for further adventures as it is very unknown, we can use it to communicate in secret.



I found a necklace on the ground that looked like this. I feel bad for taking it but it was just so beautiful. maybe it will make a good gift one day.

Separate words with ←

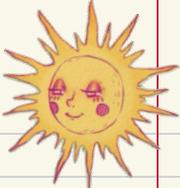
Example:

fengari peredhel!

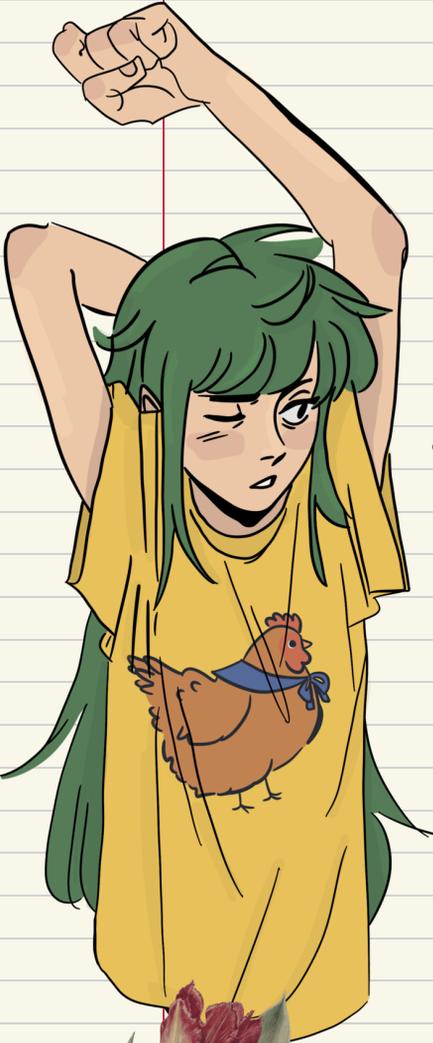
It says "my name is fengari peredhel!"

We spoke to the bartender about some ghost that haunts the local inn. I told him we'd look into it but not tonight. I'm so very tired. I don't remember the last time I slept in a proper bed.





I guess I should tell you a little bit about myself, in case anyone finds this. I'll stick a picture that a sweet friend made of me! chicken shirt and all!!



she/her

FENGARI

THE HALF-ELF



5'6

PALADIN OATH OF REDEMPTION

♂ **LAWFUL GOOD**

🌸 KIND OF NAIVE. TRIES TO STAY OUT OF TROUBLE (AND FAILS)

🌸 TALKATIVE, ZERO VOLUME CONTROL; LOVES PEOPLE!! FORGIVES EVERYTHING!

🌸 WORKS AT HER FAMILY'S FARM + SKIPS SPELL PRACTISE

♂ bruised from horse kicks + geese ☹️

🌸 her god is imater!!

🌸 OATH OF REDEMPTION

IMPORTANT

- 🌸 Peace
- 🌸 innocence
- 🌸 Patience
- 🌸 wisdom

SKILLS

- MEDICINE
- RELIGION
- FEY ANCESTRY
- DARK VISION
- KNOWS: COMMON, ELVISH, ORC





I'VE BEEN THINKING A LOT ABOUT HOW I GOT HERE. WE'VE SPENT THE LAST FEW DAYS CHASING THAT STORY ABOUT GHOSTS AND TRYING TO FIGURE OUT MORE ABOUT THIS GATE. WE WEREN'T MEANT TO STAY HERE FOR MORE THAN A DAY, BUT SOMETHING ABOUT THAT PORTAL IS DRAWING US IN, LIKE IT WANTS TO BE FIXED OR SEEN CLOSER. I DON'T MIND IT HERE. IT HAS GIVEN ME TIME TO GET TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE PARTY AND MEND MY ARMOUR WITH THE HELP OF THE LOCAL BLACKSMITH.

HIS NAME IS MARTIN HARPPAR. HE HAS HELPED ME IN FIXING MY BOOTS FOR NO COST. HE JUST WANTS TO CONVERSE, AS IF BORED OF ONLY HAVING THE LOCALS TO TALK TO. MARTIN ALSO HAS A CAT!! HIS DAUGHTER KNITS HER JUMPERS AND HATS. I DON'T KNOW IF THE CAT LIKES IT, BUT DOES LOVE THE CHILD SO PUTS UP WITH IT.

CAT LOOKED LIKE THIS BUT WITH A JUMPER!



WE HAVE DISCOVERED THAT THE PORTAL IS ONLY TRULY ACTIVE AT NIGHT. THIS COULD MEAN A COUPLE DIFFERENT THINGS. WE HAVE TESTED MANY THEORIES ALREADY. THERE IS NO FOLKLORE OR MEMORY OF IT EVER NOT EXISTING. IT APPEARS IN ALL PAINTINGS, STORIES, AND SONGS. ALL LOCALS BELIEVE IT IS NORMAL. IT DOES NOT REACT TO ANY LANGUAGES, TONES, OR PHYSICAL ACTIVITY. WE ARE STILL TO CHIP OFF A PART OF THE STONE TO TEST IT. I PLAN TO TALK TO THE ALCHEMIST ABOUT POTIONS + ACID. PERHAPS SOME COULD BE USED TO AID OUR TESTING. WHILE I TAKE THE TRIP FOR THESE, I'M HOPING TO EXPLORE THE OUTSKIRTS OF LESTEAD.

LESTEAD ISN'T THE SMALL VILLAGE WE THOUGHT IT WAS. THE PLACE IS DEFENDED BY A MOAT, THEN SURROUNDED BY STONE WALLS. I DON'T KNOW (YET) IF CREATURES LIVE IN THE MOAT. I SHOULD GO AND LOOK. I'M NOT THE BEST SWIMMER THOUGH. THE PEOPLE HERE ARE ALL FRIENDLY, A MIX OF FOLKS. MORE ORCS THAN I EXPECTED. I'M THE ONLY ONE IN THE PARTY THAT SPEAKS ORC. IT'S GETTING FRUSTRATING. THE LOCALS ALL SEEM TO WORSHIP JENA. SHE IS THEIR GOD OF FIRE. MOST BUSINESSES HAVE HEARTHS EITHER INSIDE OR RIGHT OUT FRONT TO HONOUR HER. I WOULD ASSUME THAT FOLKS HAVE SMALLER ONES IN THEIR HOMES. THE MAYOR IS A SWEET SMALLER HUMAN NAMED HILY MENSON. SHE IS CURRENTLY WORKING ON SETTING UP A MARKET FOR THE TOWN. I WISH I COULD HELP HER. MAYBE I COULD GO AROUND AND ASK STORES IF THEY'RE INTERESTED. THAT MIGHT HELP.

WHAT IF WE FIGURE OUT WHAT THE GATE DOES? OR WHERE IT LEADS? MAYBE IT WILL HELP LESTEAD THRIVE AND BRING IN MORE FOLKS. I THINK THAT WOULD MAKE HILY HAPPY. SHE ONLY WANTS WHAT IS BEST FOR EVERYONE, I CAN FEEL IT RADIATING OFF OF HER. MY LAST THOUGHT BEFORE I SLEPT: I WONDER IF SHE WOULD LET ME PUT CREATURES IN THE MOAT IF THERE ISN'T ALREADY? MAYBE SOME SEA BEES, OR A FEW NETTLE DRAGONS. THAT WOULD BE CUTE.

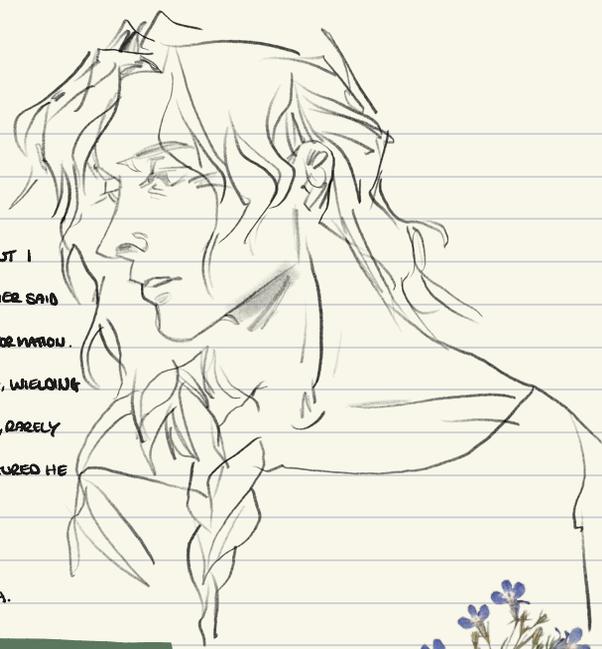


ANSOKUTELT MORRIC (HE/HIM)

HUMAN, 28, 6' 1", STRONG.

HE IS OUR FIGHTER. EVERYONE CALLS HIM ANSO, BUT I REALLY LIKE HIS FULL NAME. IT'S PRETTY. HE HAS NEVER SAID WHERE HE'S FROM, AND LOOKING UP HIS NAME GIVES NO INFORMATION. REGARDLESS, HE IS VERY PROTECTIVE OF US ALL. HE IS STRONG, WIELDING TWO-HANDED. HE SCARES THE FOLKS WE COME ACROSS, RARELY SAYING A WORD, JUST STARING AT THEM FROM BEHIND. I FIGURED HE IS WORKING OUT HOW TO TAKE THEM OUT IF THINGS GO SOUTH.

LANGUAGES: COMMON. CURRENTLY LEARNING ELVISH.



VIOLETS ARE HIS FAVOURITE FLOWERS



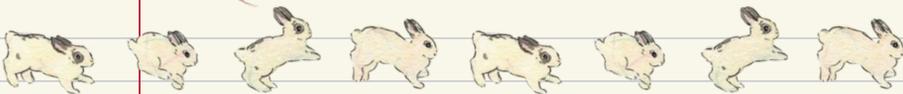
XEI CANOOR (SHE/IT)

TIEFLING, 29, 5' 7", RED.

SHE IS OUR ROUGE. DESPITE HER STATURE, IT IS ABLE TO GET PLACES UNDETECTED. LOOKS DON'T STAND A CHANCE. IT HAS TAKEN THE VIRTUE OF HONESTY AND INTEGRITY, SO SHE DOESN'T STEAL OR TRESPASS WITHOUT PROPER REASONING. ONE OF THE BIG REASONS I ADORE HER SO.

LANGUAGES: COMMON, INFERNAL.

IT LOVES RABBITS + THE OCEAN!





KIP (HE/HIM)

VERDAN, 27, 3'ft 7"IN, GREEN.

HE IS OUR DRUID, CLOSE WITH ALL OF THE NATURE AROUND HIM.

IF YOU LOOK REALLY CLOSE, THE TIPS OF HIS EARS BLUSH BLUE. HE IS A

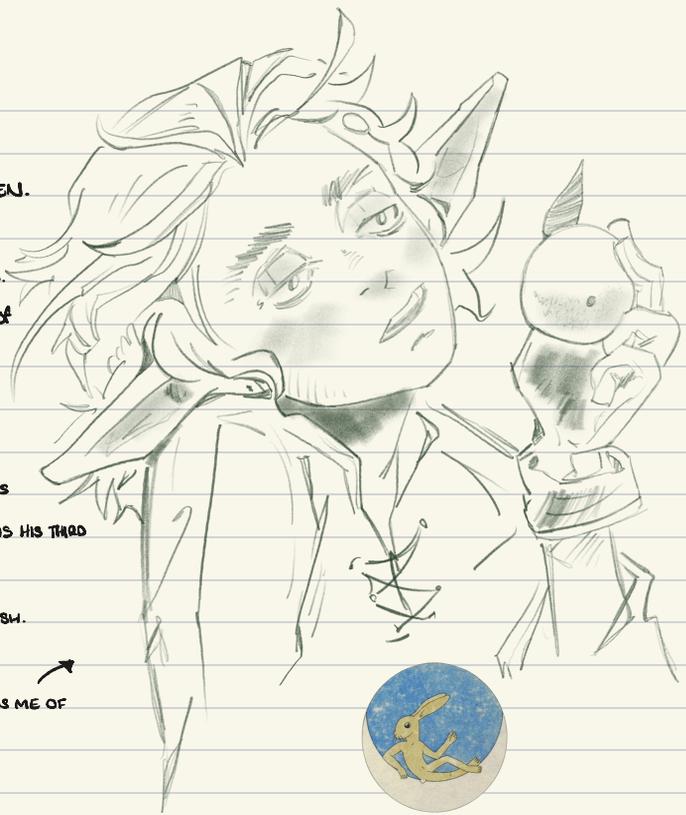
PHENOMENAL COOK, AND CAN MAKE ALMOST ANYTHING TASTE GOOD.

HE HATES BEING CALLED A GOBLIN. HE IS VERY PROND TO BE HIM. HE TOLD ME THIS IS HIS THAD NAME! SO COOL!!!

LANGUAGES: COMMON, GOBLIN, GNOMISH.



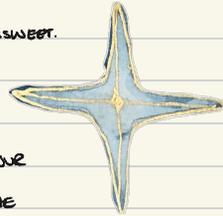
REMINDS ME OF HIM!!



WE MET A MOON OR SO AGO. THEIR CLERIC HAD TO DEPART, SAYING THEY NEEDED TO GO BACK TO THEIR CHURCH. THE 3 OF THEM ARE TRAVELING TOWARDS HAMOR. THEY HAD BEEN TOLD OF A TYRANT RULING OVER THE CITY. BUT FURTHER INVESTIGATION REVEALS THAT IT IS TRULY RULED BY A GROUP OF WEALTHY STRANGERS. THEY'VE ENSLAVED COUNTLESS GNOMES. WHEN THE GANE THROUGH MY VILLAGE, XIA APPROACH ME. KIP HAD BEEN WATCHING MY FAMILY'S FARM, KNOWING I'D BE A GOOD FIT TO JOIN THEM. I HAVE A FEELING MY GRANDPA TOLD THEM TO SEEK ME OUT THOUGH. NOW WE TRAVEL THE LONG WAY TOWARDS THE CITY, TRYING TO GET STRONGER AND BETTER WITH EACH DAY. I'M GRATEFUL FOR HAVING SUCH KIND PARTY MEMBERS, ONES WHO WILL STOP IN VILLAGES AND TOWNS TO HELP THE FOLKS. ANSO SAYS IT IS GOOD TO PRACTICE SOCIAL SKILLS. KIP HAS BEEN WORKING ON HIS PLANT IDENTIFICATION. IT'S SWEET.



AM I GOOD ENOUGH TO BE A PARTY MEMBER YET? DO I HAVE THE STRENGTH TO MAKE IT THROUGH OUR TROUBLES WE MAY FACE? WILL I WATER GRANT ME THE COMPASSION IT TAKES TO FORGIVE THOSE WE MEET ON OUR TRAVELS? I MUST FIND MY COURAGE. THEY RELY ON ME TO GUIDE WITH PEACE. I WONDER IF THEY HAVE WORRIES TOO.





XIE ASKED ME ABOUT ILMATER TODAY. SHE SAW ME PRAYING, RED ROPES AND ALL SHE WASN'T ASKING TO WORSHIP HIM TOO, JUST CURIOSITY. I LET HER READ SOME OF THE PASSAGES IN ONE OF MY BOOKS. ANSO SAID I CARRY TOO MANY BOOKS, HE JUST DOESN'T UNDERSTAND BEING CLOSE TO A GOD. HE DOESN'T WORSHIP ANYTHING.

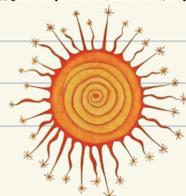


We must at all times recall a central fact - to suffer is not holy. To suffer is a consequence of holy duty made practice. Ilmater does not enjoy his pain, my friends, he endures it because it is just. Our own pain is an acceptable price to pay - but it is not a good in itself.

I THINK ABOUT THIS PASSAGE A LOT. IS IT TELLING ME PAIN IS WORTH A SACRIFICE? BUT PAIN IS NOT GOOD. I KNOW THAT. ILMATER DOESN'T LIKE HIS PAIN. I KNOW I DON'T EITHER. BUT I ALSO KNOW I WOULD TAKE ANY AMOUNT OF PAIN FOR SOMEONE ELSE TO NOT SUFFER. I AM CAPABLE TO ENDURING MUCH. OTHERS MAY NOT BE. MY GRANDPA TOLD ME ILMATER LOVES ME FOR MY STUBBORNNESS. I LIKE TO THINK HE LOVES ME FOR MY KINDNESS.

ALL CAN BE FORGIVEN. NOTHING IS BEYOND REDEMPTION. WE ALL HAVE OUR REASONS FOR OUR ACTIONS, EVEN THE TERRIBLE ONES. THERE MAY BE CONSEQUENCES BUT AFTERWARDS, FORGIVENESS IS NEEDED. SHAME LEADS MANY TO CONTINUE THEIR PATH. ACCEPTANCE AND BEING FORGIVEN ALLOWS THOSE TO WANT TO DO BETTER. THIS OFTEN REQUIRES YOU TO HOLD NO JUDGEMENT.

ILMATER ENTRUSTS ME TO BE COMPASSIONATE AND SHOW MERCY TO ALL. SO FAR, I HAVE HAD LITTLE TROUBLE. I PRAYED FOR MY PARTY THIS MORNING. I ONE DAY HOPE THAT THEY FIND PEACE IN SOMETHING OR SOMEONE. I'M NOT SURE IF KIP'S EVEN ALLOWED TO WORSHIP. I KNOW ANSO IS, BUT CHOOSES NOT TO FOR SOME REASON. HE GRUMBLES AT ME WHEN I BRING UP RELIGION, ALTHOUGH HE NEVER EVER INSULTS ILMATER. HE KNOWS BETTER, WHICH IS REFRESHING. MANY FOLKS THINK FOLLOWERS OF ILMATER ARE ALL WHIPPING THEMSELVES AND BELIEVE THE ONLY WAY TO WORSHIP IS THROUGH PAIN. THEY ARE ALL VERY WRONG. I SHOW MY HONOUR WITH MY ACTIONS: HELPING THOSE IN NEED, GIVING AWAY WHAT I DON'T NEED, AND HELPING FOLKS WITH FORGIVENESS AND SHAME. I ALSO ALWAYS KEEP MY RED ROPES ON ME. EVEN IF IT IS TIED TO MY SHOE OR AROUND MY ARM. IT STAYS. IT GROWS WITH ME. ILMATER STAYS WITH ME, LEADING ME AND HELPING WITH MY OATH. EVERYONE IS BORN INNOCENT. IT IS THEIR INFLUENCE AND ENVIRONMENT THAT GIVES THEM A PATH. BY SETTING A RIGHTEOUS EXAMPLE AND HELPING TO HEAL WOUNDS CREATED BY A HARSH WORLD, YOU CAN HELP THEM DOWN A BETTER PATH WITH TIME. THE CHANGE WILL TAKE TIME. PATIENCE IS THE KEY. REMIND THEM WHY THEY ARE CHOOSING CHANGE, ALLOW SPACE FOR SHAME. IT TAKES HARD WORK DAY AFTER DAY. BUT, WITH TIME, THEY WILL FLOURISH.



WE FIGURED IT OUT!! THE GATE!! IT NEEDED MUSIC! XIE FOUND SOME OLD SONNETS AND FOUND THE SHEETS OF MUSIC INSIDE THEM. WE ORDERED THE CROWD THAT GATHERED AROUND US TO STAND BACK. REALLY FAR BACK. THANKS TO THE SONNETS, SOME ELDERLY LOCALS STORIES, AND ANSO'S OBSESSION WITH ALL THE PAINTINGS AROUND TOWN, WE WERE ABLE TO SOLVE THE MYSTERY. BUT WE STILL DON'T KNOW WHAT WAS GOING TO HAPPEN WHEN WE PLAYED FROM THE SHEETS. WE DON'T HAVE A BARD WITH US (YET), BUT XIE KNOWS HOW TO PLAY THE LUTE. WHEN SHE STARTED, THE GATE INSTANTLY STARTED GLOWING. IT GREW BRIGHTER AND BRIGHTER WITH EACH NOTE, AND THE HUMMING GOT LOUDER. MY EARS STILL HURT. KIP'S WENT PINK. ANSO COVERED HIS. XIE REMAINED CALM AND CONTINUED PLAYING. THE LAST NOTE HAD THE GATE GROW A SHINY FILM. A HAND CAME OUT FIRST, AN OLD HAND. EVERYONE DREW THEIR WEAPONS. THERE WAS NO NEED. A VERY OLD MAN WALKED OUT, AND BEHIND HIM, A VERY LARGE TOAD. THEY LOOKED SIMILAR. ANSO TOLD ME THAT WAS A MEAN THOUGHT, BUT I SAW HIM LAUGH. HE WAS A WIZARD WITH HIS FAMILIAR. HE HAD BEEN TRAPPED FOR CENTURIES IN ANOTHER REALM. HE PAID US FOR OUR HELP. THE MAYOR TRIED TO HUG KIP WHEN THANKING US, AND I SAW HIS EARS BLUSH. THE WIZARD NOW HAS A ROOM AT THE INN, AND I TRIED TO CATCH HIM UP ON THE LARGER EVENTS IN THE WORLD BEFORE WE LEFT HIM TO COLLECT HIS THOUGHTS.

WIZARD



← DON'T THEY LOOK THE SAME?!
IT'S NOT MEAN, ANSO! NOT IF IT'S
TRUE!!

I have never met such an old wizard before. I'm growing tired, but cannot stop thinking about the man. I can hear kip snoring, and Anso is pacing around. He doesn't sleep much. I wonder if the wizard is sleeping. Is he comfortable? Did we help him as much as we could? What if he is now regretting it? I will pray for him and then try to sleep.



ILMATER GRANT ANSO THE PEACE TO SLEEP. MAY YOU ENTER MY DREAMS AND SHOW ME MY PATH AND HOW TO MOVE FORWARD WITH GRACE.



WE STOPPED FOR REST TONIGHT. WE HAVE BEEN STOPPING IN TOWNS AND VILLAGES TO SLEEP, EVEN A RANDOM INN THAT WAS SURROUNDED BY NOTHING. OUR MAP SAYS IT WILL TAKE UNTIL THE SUN IS HIGH IN THE SKY BEFORE WE FIND ANOTHER POPULATED PLACE. KIP SAYS HE IS MAKING US DINNER RIGHT NOW BUT IT LOOKS MORE LIKE ALCHEMY TO ME.



THE OPENING WE FOUND IS PRETTY CREEPY. THE TREES ARE GNARLED AND LOOK LIKE THEY'RE CLOSING IN. XIE LIT A FIRE THAT SHOULD BURN ALL NIGHT, AND I'M USING MY PRAYER CANDLES FOR A LITTLE EXTRA LIGHT. I WILL HAVE TO PRAY SOON.

I DON'T FEEL COMFORTABLE PRAYING BY ANSO. HE LOOKS AT ME THE WHOLE TIME. HE DOESN'T KNOW THAT I CAN FEEL HIS EYES ON ME. IS HE JUDGING ME?

I FOUND THIS WHEN LOOKING FOR FIRE WOOD. A VIOLET, BUT LITTLE WHITE SPOTS. JUST LIKE ANSO'S SCARS.



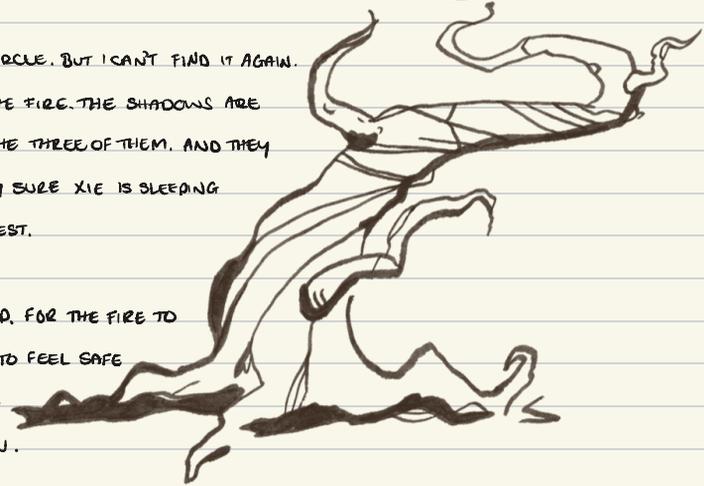
HAS HE EVER WORSHIPPED BEFORE? I WANT TO ASK BUT HE ISN'T TALKATIVE. NONE OF US KNOW WHERE HE'S FROM, OR WHAT HE DID BEFORE THIS. BUT WE DO KNOW THAT HE IS OUR PROTECTOR. HE HAS PROVEN THAT MANY TIMES ALREADY. THERE WAS A PATRON AT A BAR A FEW VILLAGES BACK THAT WOULDN'T LEAVE XIE ALONE. ANSO SHATTERED A GLASS OVER HIS HEAD.



I THINK I SAW A MUSHROOM CIRCLE. BUT I CAN'T FIND IT AGAIN.

WE ARE ALL SLEEPING BY THE FIRE. THE SHADOWS ARE BERY BUT I FEEL SAFE WITH THE THREE OF THEM. AND THEY FEEL SAFE WITH ME. I'M PRETTY SURE XIE IS SLEEPING WITH ITS KNIFE ON ITS CHEST.

I PRAY FOR A SAFE SLEED. FOR THE FIRE TO KEEP BURNING. FOR ANSO TO FEEL SAFE TALKING. AND FOR ILMATER TO SHROUD US IN HIS PROTECTION.



FOR ILMATER!
↓



"PICK A GOD AND PRAY TO IT."

THAT'S WHAT ANSO SAID TO ZAHAL, JUST BEFORE KILLING HIM. ONE SWING OF HIS SWORD AND HIS HEAD CAME CLEAN OFF. HE DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO PRAY. WE TRIED TO REASON WITH HIM, BUT THEN HE LUNGED AT ME. WHY HE CHOSE HER, I DON'T KNOW. I HOPE HIS AFTERLIFE IS KINDER TO HIM THAN THE YEARS HE HAD IN THIS DEATH. I ALREADY PRAYED FOR UMATER TO PICK UP HIS SOUL. I THINK ANSO LAUGHED AT ME, BUT I'M NOT SURE.

