

A TALE

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NOTE: This short fiction is my first try at writing and it is dedicated to my family, especially to my mother who has always believed in me and who is always by my side when I need her; also my husband and my 3 and a half year old daughter whom I adore.

It is also dedicated to my friends from a video game called Celtic Heroes which we've been playing together for more than 2 years. They were my inspiration. Enjoy!

## Chapter 1 : Going hunting

In the beautiful kingdom Donn there was peace and harmony for the last 500 years. All ended with the evil wizard Gelebron' s obsession for Miihah, the king' s beautiful young wife.

But let' s see how it all happened.....

Miihah is a ravishing dark haired healer . She is the mistress of the Enchanted Forest, a land feared by the evil doers and sought as refuge by honest people who suffer at the hands of the first category.

Miihah' s best friend is Bratty, a beautiful but quick tempered mage. So whenever Miihah , or the Lady of the Forest, as she is known to most of the people, needs advice, she goes to Bratty. Miihah is the protector of the Enchanted Forest, the protector of life in all forms. She always likes to see the good in everyone and if there is no good, she tries to make them see themselves the way they are, hoping to eventually turn them around.

Meanwhile, Scar, the king of Donn , the most powerful, respected and feared king that the land of Donn has ever had, decides to take a day off from his daily duties and to go hunting alone. So he tells his right hand man, his most trusted friend and counselor , the general of his army , Harry the Dwarf, to take care of the kingdom while he goes hunting.

- But my king, take me with you, you know it is not safe to go hunting alone. You never know what might happen and as I always like to say, better safe than sorry.
- What? Do you think I can't take care of myself? Scar said, wanting to have a day off of all responsibilities and just enjoy a beautiful day wandering in the woods and hunting like he used to do when he was a child and didn' t have to care for a kingdom. He had his parents back then...
- No my king, I would never imply anything like that. We have fought side by side for so many times. It is common knowledge that you are brave and honest but that is just it... I always go where you go. As Donn is your responsibility, you are my responsibility. Maybe Ulo could watch over the kingdom while we go hunting together?
- Hmmm, as much as I trust Ulo when he is sober, I can' t trust him on a Sunday.... You know as well as I do that he always drinks on Sundays.

- Ok, if you are not back till sunset, I...
- Enough Harry. I should be out hunting already. See you at sunset!  
 Harry mumbled something to himself and plucked a few hairs from his beard. Then he went to have a talk with Ulo, a tall lean man whom they befriended many years ago during one of their adventures. Ulo's best talent is picking locks. He never found a door which he couldn't unlock, a skill which proved useful many times. A skill which opened many doors, including the door to Scar's castle and circle of trusted friends which Ulo knew was worth more than any riches he could find behind a locked door.
- Hey,Ulo, how are you today?
- Good, good, having a drink ..What is it Harry?
- Well,how about you refrain yourself from drinking today and see that everything stays ok within the kingdom?
- Uhm, I don't know...as tempting as it might sound, I would rather drink.
- Not today my friend. Scar is out hunting alone. I want to make sure he gets back safe!
- A little too late for that..I am already tipsy. But you know what? You stay in charge here as Scar probably assigned you and send someone else on the king's tail to make sure he returns safely.
- Who do you have in mind then?
- Mongo, of course!
- Mongo, the king's assassin!
- Yes, he works best in the shadows. So Scar won't even know he is being followed. This way Mongo will have something to do to get him out of his boredom and the king will think he is hunting alone... Everybody wins!
- You know Ulo, sometimes I wonder if the ale you drink has any effect upon you. You must be immune cause this idea of yours is going to work. I am off to see Mongo. By the way, do you know where I can find him ?
- He should be in his room , bored to death.  
 Meanwhile in Mongo's private chamber.
- Sometimes I think that everyone forgets I even exist until some threat has to be dealt with. It is all very exciting but there are periods when nobody has to die, no traitor has to be punished and it gets very boring... Maybe I should get a hobby!
- Knock knock!
- Harry, come in!
- How did you know it was me?

- That is easy, by the way you knock on my door, as if afraid I am behind it with a knife or something! Mongo said while he hid his silver knife in his secret pocket sewn on the interior of his jacket.
- I hear you are bored. How about a job? Protect and follow the king today, unseen of course?
- Finally something to do! Ok, where is he?
- He went hunting half an hour ago.
- Ok then hi and bye, going after him!
- Thank you Mongo! But Mongo was already out the door, hurrying to catch up with Scar.
- Finally, a day off , I will hunt some boars and then have a nap. Scar thought to himself while he entered the Enchanted Forest without even realizing it. This is weird, how did it get so dark? And where am I? I don' t remember this path nor that big oak. There is something behind it. By the sound of it, it must be big! Scar took his trusted bow and an arrow and waited silently in a nearby bush. A rustle came from behind the oak again. Then the oak was unrooted by a huge troll. He seemed to be in a rage, knocking down trees as if sticks. Scar took aim and....nothing! The arrow had hardly scratched the troll, only making it even angrier than it already was.

Then out of nowhere Mongo screamed:

- Run my king, I will take care of the troll!
- Mongo, what are you doing here?
- Trying to save you I would say!
- Why does everybody think I need help? I can manage! And besides, I never run from a fight!
- This is a troll, not an ordinary enemy! But if you don' t want to run and save yourself, then let us fight it together!
- This answer I like better, charge!

Mongo took his swords and charged the troll. Scar dropped his bow and took his large sword from the scabbard and also charged with a fierce battlecry. The enraged troll also attacked the two . Mongo sprinted ahead of Scar and pierced the troll' s right foot. The troll , with one of Mongo' s swords still dangling from its foot, tried to step on Mongo but Mongo was swifter than the troll and managed to retrieve his sword from the troll' s foot and when he was about to hit the troll again Scar came from behind and plunged his broad sword in the troll' s back . It roared in agony. His roar was heard by Miihah, the Lady of the Forest.

- Stop , please! Miihah addressed the two, not knowing she was talking to the king.
- Who are you young lady? And what do you mean stop? We are trying to kill the beast!
- The beast as you call it is my pet! And is harmless!
- You must either be kidding or you are crazy! Scar said.
- Neither! I am Miihah, the lady of the forest and this is Snorri, my pet. You have wounded him, now just go away and let me heal him!
- Sorry my lady, we didn't know that a troll could be tamed and someone's pet. Saying that, Scar bowed to the beautiful lady.
- What happened Miihah, do you need my help? Want me to fry the two or turn them to frogs for what they did to poor Snorri? Bratty who was always by Miihah's side asked.
- Shut up witch! This here is the king of Donn and I am his personal assassin, uttered Mongo.
- No Bratty, they had no idea Snorri was harmless. No need to turn them into anything.
- Not even for a minute? Come on Miihah, it would be fun!
- No, it would be wrong!
- If you say so...
  - Then Miihah focused on Snorri's wounds and uttered a healing spell.
- Go now Snorri!
- It seems it was all a misunderstanding my lady. We are sorry for the trouble we've caused! We will be getting back to the castle , hunting is over for today I guess. I hope we shall see each other again soon my beautiful lady!
  - This is how Scar and Miihah met for the first time. On the way back to the castle she was all Scar could think about.
- Have you ever seen someone more beautiful Mongo?
- Truth be told , they were both astonishing.
- Yes, but Miihah...
- An exotic beauty!
- I wanna see her again Mongo!
- You mean now?
- No, don't be silly! We just left. But...I think I will go hunt more often in those woods.
- Ok, just be careful.
- Always. Now let's get back before Harry worries himself to death. You know how stubborn that dwarf can be and he really wants me back by

sunset so let's hurry up. I'm afraid that if we don't get back in time Harry will gather the army and come looking for me! So let's make haste!

## Chapter 2: Royalty in love

- Scar, welcome back! So what did you hunt? Asked Harry, noticing that Mongo was by Scar's side although he should have kept to the shadows as they had agreed and realizing that something must have gone wrong for Mongo to have revealed himself.
- Oh, nothing, the usual stuff. A deer, a troll...
- Say what? A troll?!?
- Yes, a big ugly troll. And this is not all. That thing is the lady of the forest's pet, said Mongo a bit upset for having allowed such a vile creature to live.
- Wow, you met the lady of the forest? I heard stories about her but I thought it was all a myth. Harry said this and wanted to hear the answer from the king himself.
- Yes Harry and she is the most beautiful woman I have ever laid my eyes upon. I want to go hunting tomorrow again. Maybe I get the chance to see her again but she had a mage with her. Bratty I think was her name. She wanted to turn us to frogs, said Scar.
- In this case, if you go hunting tomorrow, said Harry, always protective of the king, then perhaps you should take our mage with you, just to make sure.
- Oh, Mean the Wizard? Asked Scar.
- Who else? Do we have another and I don't know?
- No but he is almost always so grumpy. He is no fun. Said Scar.
- Well, he won't be going to entertain you but to protect you from Bratty.
- I think it wouldn't hurt to take him along. He spent too much time among those dusty spell books anyway. He needs some fresh air and he will get some fresh air either he likes it or not.
- Well spoken, my king, both Harry and Mongo said at the same time.

In the highest tower of the castle Mean, Donn's most powerful mage, was brewing an invisibility potion.
- This should do it I hope. I will try it on this bug. Yes, it works!! I did it, this potion will surely come in handy. Now to write down the formula before I forget it.
- Mean, are you there?
- Scar, is that you? Anything wrong or you need my magic?

- Mean...I need you to accompany me tomorrow when I go hunting.
  - You never asked me to go hunting with you, you have Ulo and Mongo for that. Me and Harry have always stood by your side in battle. Are we fighting tomorrow?
  - Not that I know of. No, you can relax. But I hope to meet someone again tomorrow and she has a mage friend who didn't seem very friendly so I thought if you came along things would be equal.
  - Well, I just finished this invisibility potion. I will use it on myself tomorrow and protect you without being seen. How does this sound to you my king?
  - Even better than I hoped for . Then it is settled. Get some rest and meet me tomorrow morning.
  - Good night my king!
- Meanwhile in the Enchanted Forest Miihah talks with Bratty.
- Bratty, what did you think of that king ...Scar ...and his companion Mongo?
  - They were stupid to mess with Snorri but brave. If we hadn't interfered I am afraid Snorri would have been in trouble. Good thing we stopped them in time and you used your magic to heal him.
  - Yes, yes, not what I meant however. I mean did you find Scar handsome?
  - Well, I am just a bickering witch, not sure what to say. Is the Lady of the Forest in love?
  - Have you ever been in love Bratty?
  - Me, no.
  - I can't imagine you in love Bratty. You would probably turn him to some hideous creature just for fun.
  - Probably! Hahaha!!
  - Not sure if it is love but he was so brave to attack a troll. Did you see how he wielded that sword? How it shone in his hands?
  - If you ask me I think someone' s in love!
  - Sshh, good night Bratty, will see you tomorrow.
  - Good night my lady, sweet dreams.
- They both went to sleep, Miihah thinking of Scar and Bratty thinking of Scar's mage, Mean.

### Chapter 3: Gelebron



The Enchanted Forest lies in the kingdom of Donn but beyond Donn there lies a barren land called Arcania, the land of Gelebron, an old and evil wizard who wants to conquer Donn and make Miihah his bride. Gelebron sits on his throne contemplating on a way to kidnap Miihah as he knows she would never come willingly. The proud young lady of the forest would never accept life next to an old wrinkled wizard in a dark castle surrounded by demons and evil sorcerers. Gelebron knows she wouldn't give up life in the forest to live in this barren land locked up in one of his towers but he has to have her. She has to be his one way or the other. With her by his side, with her healing powers, he would be invincible. He is determined to have her.

-Demonizer, come here! Gelebron's voice resounded across the long halls of his castle, waking up every mouse from every nook.

-Yes, my Lord?

-It is high time we did something about the Lady of the Forest. She has to be mine and you will bring her to me or your head will stand next to your feet! Everyone else I've sent so far has failed me and you know how that ended up for them... Now I will send my best wizard to get her, you! If you don't succeed you had better not return. If you don't succeed I will make sure you will suffer before I will end your miserable life. Understood?

-Yes, my Lord! You will have her before the end of the month!

-Take whatever potions you need and do not forget I will know your every move. My crystal ball can show me whatever I want to see even in the Enchanted Forest. If you can't take her, there is no place you can hide from me. So my advice to you is to do your best and get her!

- Yes my Lord, you will have her, I promise. But I want something in return...

- Name your prize Demonizer! If you get Miihah for me, you can ask for anything you want and you shall have it, although I have no idea what else you could possibly wish for. You already are my favorite general, my best wizard, you have access to everything, what else should you want Izer? Gelebron always called Demonizer only Izer whenever he was in a good mood. When he wanted to obtain something from him or he had a job for him, he called him by his full name.

-My Lord when I get Miihah for you I want her mage friend for myself. This is all I ask my Lord.

- Hahaha! You can have the witch, you just bring me the healer and we have a deal!

Gelebron smiled very satisfied with how things turned out. This is as if he works for free this time, he doesn't want riches this time, just the wench! This is great, if he wants Miihah's little mage he must be even more determined to do the job. We shall see..

Gelebron dismissed Demonizer and went to his secret room, the only room where his first mage Izer didn't have access to, the room where he kept his spell books, his own potions and the most important thing, his crystal ball, the one that revealed what the owner wanted most to see. He only had to focus on the object of his desire and look in the crystal ball. Then the ball would show him where the object of his desire was.

-So my lovely Miihah, it seems you met Scar... and you like him... doesn't matter, you shall soon be mine and no one can save you from my tower!!

#### Chapter 4: Hunting for love!

- Good morning your Highness, I will use the invisibility potion and will follow you up close in case Miihah's mage tries anything funny, said Mean.

- I hope you won't need to reveal yourself but let's go and see what happens!

Scar felt his heart jumping out of his chest at the thought of seeing the beautiful lady of the forest again. He put on his best hunting clothes and he took his trusted bow and quiver and was ready to impress Miihah . But how? How to find her? The Enchanted Forest is a large area and she could be anywhere. Maybe Mean could help.

- Psst, Mean, are you here?

- Of course, where else?

- Good, hmm, maybe you should whistle in a low tone so I know where you are cause I can't see you.

- Ok, how about a lullaby?
- Huh? Are you mocking me Mean? Watch your tongue wizard or..
- Oh, who's grumpy now? I was trying to lighten up the mood. You are too tensed.
- Nah, why would I? I will impress her with my charm. Ha-ha...You are right, I am a bit nervous. Do you think she will like me?
- Why not? You are the king. No worries, if she won' t like you, I will put her under a spell and she will adore you!
- Don' t you dare do anything like that Mean. I want her to like me for what I am, not thanks to one of your spells! You hear me?
- I knew you wouldn't want that, you are too honest. No worries my king, if she likes you, it will be her own will, you can rest assured.
- Sshh, I hear something!
- Oh, my ! You are right! I have never seen such an exquisite beauty! Her hair, her eyes! I am in love myself!

Miihah and Bratty were bathing in the lake unaware that they were being watched.

- What? Are you dumb? I am your king, I fell in love first, I shall marry her!
- My king, shouldn't it be wiser for you to marry some rich queen? I mean you are royalty and all...
- So you can have her?!? No, the dark-haired beauty shall be mine! I can't believe the nerve you've got Mean!!
- Huh? Dark- haired? Hahaha! You can have her, excellent choice my king. I was talking about the red- haired one Scar!
- Oh, that is Bratty, Miihah's little mage friend. What kind of a wizard are you? I thought you knew who was who. Anyway let' s go a bit further till they finish bathing and put their clothes back on. I see a hare, let' s go after it.
- You wanted me to be invisible, remember? Asked Mean, chuckling and feeling happy and so much alive or rather so much in love...
- Yes, you can make yourself useful and help me get that damned hare! I can't seem to focus my aim!
- Maybe because you are thinking of something else entirely, laughed Mean giving Scar a friendly nudge.

## Chapter 5: (In)Visible

- Bratty, I don't want to alarm you or anything but I thought I saw something moving behind those bushes!
- Want me to check?
- No, I finished bathing anyway, let's get back to the palace.
- As you wish my Lady.

While they were laughing and talking they bumped into Scar who was about to release an arrow targeting a small white hare.

- I am sorry, I didn't mean to make you miss your target! Lied Miihah glad in fact that Scar had missed and the hare got away. She couldn't stand to see a poor little creature being killed. She loved the animals and the plants, she was a healer, always protecting life in all shapes and sizes.
- Oh never mind that hare my beautiful mistress! Truth is I went hunting today only hoping to see you again.

Mean, hearing the way Scar was almost babbling the words because he was too excited to see Miihah, started giggling, forgetting to keep quiet as he was invisible and Scar had made it clear to intervene only if necessary, only if he thought he was in danger.

-What was that sound? Asked Bratty. I thought I heard something. Miihah, did you hear anything?

-No Bratty. Just your imagination playing tricks on you. So Scar how about I show you my palace? We could have a cup of tea.

- You have a palace?

-What did you think? That I lived in the trees? I may be the Lady of the Forest but I don't sleep on the ground or in the trees you silly. Of course I have a palace. It is in the middle of the forest on a beautiful meadow.

Come, I will show you.

- Ok, lead the way. Just one question: how come I have never seen this palace of yours? Asked Scar, a little confused as he had never seen a palace in those woods and never heard anyone talk of a palace existing there which meant that probably nobody had ever seen it either.

- That is because it is hidden from sight. It is magic. Only after I say the magic words will it materialize for you to see. Simple answer, right?

- Now you made me curious. I would love to see it!

- Follow me and Bratty!

-Scar? I don't think they are dangerous. Whispered Mean in Scar's ear.

Want me to tag along or should I get back to the castle?

- Keep quiet. And yes, come. You will taste the tea before I drink, ok? What if she wants to poison me? But Scar only said that to make Mean come as he remembered that Mean liked Bratty.

-Ok. I will come. But I will be bored. I will have to find some amusement to pass the time.

- I have my horse Bolg here said Scar, but I don't see your horses ladies. Where are they?

- We don't ride horses, we have Snorri. And saying that Miih whistled from a tiny whistle and it only took a moment for the big troll to appear in front of them. I hope Bolg is as fast as Snorri! And Snorri kneeled in front of the two ladies and allowed them to sit on his palms. Then it started for the forest leaving a cloud of dust behind.

-Ha-ha, these ladies are something! Said Mean in an a tone full of admiration. Maybe it won't be so boring after all!

In half an hour they were in front of Miih's palace. After she said the magic words Scar saw the most wonderful palace he had ever seen take shape out of thin air right in front of his eyes. It looked as though the walls were made of gold and the large windows were shining as if the sun itself was behind them. He was agape in astonishment.

-Not quite the trees you imagined hahaha ! Laughed Miih when she saw the bewilderment on Scar's face.

- You can say that again! Said Mean out loud forgetting he was supposed to be quite as only Scar knew he was there.

-Who said that? Miih and Bratty asked at the same time startled.

-Oh, that was or rather is me ,Mean, the king's wizard. With saying that Mean drank a sip from another puny bottle and became visible again as there was no point in hiding now.

-Wow, have you been following us all this time? Asked Miih astounded.

-Want me to turn him into an icicle, Miih? Asked Bratty nervous for not having realized Mean's presence. I could turn him back after we have our tea . Or let him melt himself if you'd prefer.

- How clumsy of me for having spoken aloud! I didn't mean to offend you, was just here to protect my king. And if you are an ice mage, well you should find out that I am a fire mage so...

- What's with boys and fire? They always like to burn stuff. Said Bratty mocking Mean.

-It is my fault! Said Scar. I asked him to come. No need to start a battle of ice and fire. I am sure he would rather have a cup of tea, isn't that so Mean?

- I would rather burn than have a cup of tea with that braggart! She thinks she can turn me to ice? I will burn h...

-Don't be grumpy again Mean. Act nice.

- Here is your tea gentlemen! Said Miihah in a soothing voice. Enjoy!

- This tea smells wonderful! Said Scar then he drank from his cup.

-Indeed, agreed Mean and he also drank. What is it?

-It is the tea of truth. Whoever drinks cannot tell a lie for the next hour , said Miihah smiling content with herself. Now tell me Scar, why are you really here?

- You didn't need the tea for this answer. I am here for you and only you. I love you from the moment I first saw you! I want to marry you!

- It must be true then. I thought that maybe you just wanted to expand your territory and conquer this piece of land.

- This territory is a part of Donn so it is already mine.

- You are wrong. You know you have no power here. This land is filled with magic, my magic, and everything and everyone is under my protection here!

- I don't want to argue... But you are right. Not even my ancestors could take this piece of land . I don't even want it. Donn is big enough without me ruling over a small forest too.

- Ok, forgive me for making you drink the tea but I wanted to know your intentions. Now we can be friends.

-Friends? That all? Marry me Miihah!

- Alright! Truth is I also like you Scar. You will be invincible with me by your side and I will always protect you my love!

-Oh hell! What about me Miihah? Asked Bratty nervously.

-What about you? You can come in my castle and choose what room you like to be near Miihah. Your friendship won't end, it will just get stronger! Said Scar in a calm voice.

-What about me Scar? Asked Mean this time. If Bratty comes I will have to see her every day and she is annoying me! She thought of turning me to ice, me , the first mage of the kingdom. Imagine the nerve of this girl!

- Ha-ha, I don't like you either Mr. first mage of the kingdom! You are so conceited. I am more powerful than you even in my sleep!

Bratty had hardly uttered the words when Mean put a spell on her which made her meow instead of talk. He started to laugh heartily.

- Miss mage , turn me to ice now if you can! Meow! Ha-ha! Mean laughed at Bratty for meowing like a cat when she stopped meowing and next thing he knew he was barking like a crazed dog!
- Who's laughing now? Said Bratty who had recovered from Mean' s spell because she too was a powerful mage. It looks like you are barking in the wind Almighty Wizard!
- Bow wow! Damn! You are good Bratty but you can't believe that your spell could last on me!
- Stop both of you! I command you to stop Bratty! Miih ordered her.
- And I command you to cease this foolishness Mean! Act like a gentleman, be nice to Bratty! Kiss and make up , Scar laughed at both Bratty and Mean.
- Yuck! I am tired Miih, may I be excused?
- No need ,it is getting late so we are leaving. I think the tea' s effect has worn off but I still want us to get married Miih if you want me!

Instead of an answer Miih leaned over and passionately kissed Scar who cupped her face in his hands and returned the kiss. They were so blinded by their love that they didn't see the dark figure lurking in the shadow. Bratty and Mean on the other hand were trying to avoid each other so nobody noticed that Demonizer , Gelebron' s puppet, was watching everything with a grin.

## Chapter 6: A royal wedding

-So Miih is marrying Scar... No matter, I will take her on the wedding day. Bratty might put up a fight though but as Gelebron wants Miih I want Bratty. I will put Bratty under a sleeping spell and with her out of the way , taking Miih will be a piece of cake. This invisibility cloak will help me take Bratty unnoticed out of the castle and then I can come back for Miih. I will wait till evening when they are all drunk at the wedding party and when they are with their guard down. Will be much easier to take Miih then. I don't think they will be coming with their weapons at the king' s wedding party especially as nobody suspects anything.

As Demonizer was thinking about all these a large distorted grin appeared on the corner of his lips. Demonizer, as his name clearly suggests, was evil in the

purest form. He was a fire mage who liked to put his enemies through the flames of hell until all that remained was ashes. He killed whoever Gelebron ordered him to and was thrilled to kill them slowly, making them suffer first. He was proud to be Gelebron's choice whenever he had some important mission that needed his magic skill and his cold blood.

Meanwhile there was a lot of agitation at the king's castle as everybody was getting ready for the royal wedding. All the servants were working without a moment's rest so everything would be perfect and ready till noon when the wedding was to take place. The king's chef, Syngates, and his best cook after himself, of course, Adi, were working on the royal cake which had to be 7 layers high. This was a real challenge as they had never made a cake that big and they didn't want to lose their jobs or their heads... It was for the king's wedding, the most important day in the king's life and everything had to be perfect.

-Enough with the sugar Adi! If you put any more sugar nobody will be able to eat it without developing a severe case of diabetes! Syngates almost yelled at Adi. Although they were just cooks, their jobs were very important and today they were under huge pressure because of the wedding. They didn't want to ruin the party with a less than perfect cake and foods.

-Calm yourself Synny my friend, cakes are supposed to be sweet. Don't be so bitter about everything. And don't put too much salt in the stew or they will be drinking more ale and not I am not in the mood to go for more supplies tomorrow after the party when I would rather sleep.

- You old goat! Not in the mood to go for supplies? And since when do you give me advice on the way I cook? Now Syngates was annoyed. He wouldn't allow Adi or anyone else criticize the way he cooks. Any other objection concerning any other subject he would take like a man. But not when it came to cooking. He came from a long line of cooks, his father had been a cook, his grandfather had been a cook, his great grandfather had been... Oh no, nobody messes with the way he cooks.

-I am sorry, didn't mean to offend you but you called me a goat? What's wrong with you? Adi said and slammed the door behind him. On his way out he bumped into a man with a hood whose face he couldn't distinguish in the dim light of the torches.



- Sorry, began Adi but hardly had he uttered the word when he felt a skinny hand with long bony fingers choking him till his face turned pale and he felt he couldn't breathe anymore.

- Show me the way to the future bride's maid's room. The mage, Bratty, which one is her room? Demonizer was so close to put his hands on the beautiful mage that he could almost feel her next to him.

- I don't know, I am just a cook. Said Adi crying his eyes out. How should I know? Please have mercy!

- I bet you know and you will tell me if you want to see another sunrise. If you think you have lived enough, I will find someone else but you won't be around for any of these to matter anymore. So what do you choose?

- Sorry, come, I will lead you. But do you promise you will let me live if I show you?

- I don't make promises because I never keep them!! And Demonizer laughed with his evil laughter.

- Then if you kill me anyway, find her yourself! And Adi waited for the dark figure to kill him but instead he heard him say :

- Ok, I want to finish this fast, lead me to her and you shall live. I will simply put a forgetfulness spell on you and it will be as nothing happened. You won't remember anything so you won't be drawing any attention upon me, so I can let you live after I get Bratty. Now move !

Bratty was arranging her hair in her room, trying to look her best at her friend's wedding. And maybe she wanted to look good for Mean although she wasn't sure how she felt about him. She wasn't sure if she liked him or hated him. Anyway looking good wouldn't hurt, right?

- May you forget everything that happened today so you can live and see another day! Demonizer said and released Adi from his grip.

- Am I getting soft? Nah, just better this way, not to leave any mess behind, grab Bratty and come back for Miihah. If I had killed him someone might have found him before I can get away with both ladies. Better keep things simple. He then slowly pushed the door to Bratty's room, hoping it wouldn't creek. It didn't. Then he saw her brushing her hair, so beautiful, so perfect. She was taken by surprise and didn't realize there was someone in her room. Demonizer took

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