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*(Genre: fantasy/sciencefiction/romance/adventure)*

## The legend from Tir Na Nog part 2

### Biography

My name is Fleur Louisa Maria van Loon. I am a woman from the Netherlands and I live together with my family who I love very much in a very nice home with no mortgage in the Netherlands. My date of birth is 23 december 1978. I am catholic. I am a writer and I write different kinds of books. Novels, fantasy, horror and sciencefiction and adventure. When I was 8 years old I got a benign brain tumor. I was operated by great doctors and I was operated for 14 hours and I was for 5 days coma when I got a near death experience. My soul

into a tunnel of clouds and white light and I came in a field of Lavender and white clouds that all were eternal and I was flying above them. Then I felt the breath of 2 angels over my shoulders. They were Saint Michael and Saint Gabriel and they told me that I was in heaven and that it wasn't my time to die yet and I heard them talking to me. They blew their breath over my shoulders as they were standing behind me. So my soul went back in that large tunnel of light and clouds and I thought it was so beautiful because I had seen heaven and when I came back to earth again I saw the happy faces of my parents next to me and we were all happy that the doctors had saved my life. I take pills since my brain tumor operation against epilepsy because I have epilepsy for the rest of my life because of my operation. So I do not work but I write books and I make paintings sometimes and I read books and sometimes I go horseriding or I go swimming with my family or go to fitness with my family and I love travelling a lot together with my family and I love nature a lot and I love walking in nature sometimes to and I love internet and social media and shopping a lot. I have a tattoo from Saint Michael because I love Saint Michael very much. His tattoo is on my upper back and there below it says that I love Saint Michael and Saint Gabriel because I love Saint Michael and Saint Gabriel and God and I love Jesus Christ and Saint Mary a lot. It is a tattoo of Saint Michael on top of the devil because I believe that good will always defeat evil. And because I believe in God forever and I love God forever and I never believe in Satan and I never love Satan. I also love the catholic faith because I was raised by my parents in a catholic way. I have many catholic things at home. Statues and paintings and crosses of Saint Michael and Saint Gabriel and from Saint Mary and from Jesus Christ. I have jewish blood from both my parents. But my religion is catholic and my blood is jewish so I am jewish catholic.

I have lived with my parents when they were alive in a life full of luxury inside a large villa. They were very rich and they had their own coin auction business.

My father was the director of this business. He was the auctioneer of the coin auction business. I have travelled a lot with my parents around the world. I have been to many countries with them. I loved horseriding and swimming and shopping and travelling a lot when I lived with my parents. But later when I grew older they stopped spending money on me and they spend all our money on themselves because they were very selfish. They passed away. I went to an international private boarding school for 3 years and I had lessons in a castle. But there was a separate home where all the students slept. They were from all over the world and I had a great time there. I have my diploma from this school and it's a Cambridge diploma on IGCSE level. I have had all my education in this school in English language. I live with my family now in a very expensive home with no mortgage and we have a small dog. I hope that my family and I will always have happy and healthy and blessed life and that we will live very long and that God will always take good care of us and that he will watch over us forever....

THE LEGEND FROM TIR NA NOG PART 2

## Synopsis

*The legend from Tir Na Nog is a beautiful and exciting fantasy story that I have written in 2 parts where a lot of action, adventure, magic and love occurs. The story is about a large dark purple magic fantasy planet called Prionstar where everything that lives is fantasy and magic. Where good and bad fantasy creatures live. And where the good is battling against evil. About the cruel demonic King Belial the bloodthirsty one who wants to take control of the fantasy planet Prionstar in order to become the ruler of Prionstar and of the magical fantasy universe the Serpens Aquari Nebula universe and everything that lives in it. He controls a large and dangerous army of bloodthirsty soldiers and he lives in a devilish kingdom called Draconia. His evil consort is called Queen Lillith the bloodthirsty one who lives in her own fortress in Draconia. She helps King Belial the bloodthirsty one as he is called with every evil plan and every action that Belial needs her. They live by eating people and fairies and other fantasy creatures and by drinking their blood. Together they battle against the most powerful fairy kingdom Tir Na Nog where the fairy King Finvarra the blessed one and the fairy Queen Oonah the blessed one have the power. King Finvarra and Queen Oonah have 2 children together. The beautiful fairy Prince Siegfried the blessed one and the dazzling beautiful fairy Princess Aurora the blessed one. Prince Tristan the blessed one is a fairy Prince of the mighty and magical fairy kingdom of Rosamund. His parents are the mighty fairy King Orrin the blessed one and the mighty fairy Queen Gwendolyn the blessed one. One day Princess Aurora gets abducted by King Belial the bloodthirsty one and by Queen Lillith the bloodthirsty one because they want to trade her for Tir Na Nog. Because if they are the rulers of Tir Na Nog then they will be the rulers of all Prionstar and over the whole Serpens Aquari Nebula universe and of all life.*

*But Prince Tristan the blessed one wants to save the fairy Princess Aurora the blessed one together with his good friends and other good fantasy creatures from Prionstar from the clutches of the evil King Belial the bloodthirsty one and he wants to marry her because he is in love with her. King Belial the bloodthirsty one keeps her trapped in one of the 6 dark dark towers of the dark kingdom of Draconia. King Belial has a son called Prince Helios the bloodthirsty one who he raised as his own son since he found him as a small child in the magical forest. Belial has a large black devilish magic book from which he can conjure up unlimited evil bloodthirsty soldiers and spirits. Prince Tristan the blessed one wants together*

*with another fairy called Prince Brennan the blessed one and together with a group of soldiers and rich nobles to get hold of the bad magic book to destroy it once and for all. That will have to put an end to the terrible war. The good people and the good fairies and all other good fantasy creatures from all corners of the planet Prionstar and from the magical fantasy universe Serpens Aquari Nebula universe together must ensure that King Belial will never get his hands on the magical and most powerful fairy kingdom Tir Na Nog because if that happens their beautiful magical planet Prionstar and the Serpens Aquari Nebula universe will be lost forever. From all sides of the planet Prionstar and of the Serpens Aquari Nebula universe, great and powerful fairy armies and rich noblemen and princes will come to assist Tir Na Nog in the war against the evil and evil bloodthirsty King Belial and every dark bad army of the planet Prionstar and of the Serpens Aquari Nebula universe is on the side of King Belial the bloodthirsty one and on the side of Queen Lillith the bloodthirsty one. After all, the planet Prionstar is a beautiful and magical fantasy planet where you will encounter the most good, beautiful, funny, sweet and magical and also scary and evil fantasy creatures you can imagine. Just like the magical fantasy galaxy which contains 6 other fantasy planets. The Srion-Vox galaxy and the magical fantasy universe in which the Srion-Vox galaxy is located is the Serpens Aquari Nebula universe. All that lives in that universe is fantasy and magic. The planets, the suns and moons and the stars and all the creatures that live in the Serpens Aquari Nebula universe.*

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*Glossary*

## Chapter 1 :The wedding of Amadeo and Rowena

"Look Rowena," her mother said. "I finished your wedding dress just in time. Do you like it?" "Ooh, it's so beautiful mother!" she said happily as she took it over from her mother. She twirled it around. It was a beautiful wedding dress. It was very wide. It was white and made of lace and tulle. The body of the wedding dress was completely covered in lace and pearls. Just like the sleeves. The wedding dress was very long at the end of it. It was 3 meters long at the end of the wedding dress. And I also made you a beautiful veil. "Put it on! I'm so curious to see how it will look on you!" her mother said. Rowena placed the long veil on her head. The veil was attached to a silver tiara all decorated with small pearls and crystals. There were all kinds of glitter on the veil that shone cheerfully. The veil was 4 meters long. "Oooh, it looks great on you!" her mother said in surprise. Rowena looked in the mirror and saw that the veil looked beautiful on her. Go try on the wedding dress, her mother said to Rowena. We have little time left before your wedding begins. So we have to hurry. Rowena hurriedly grabbed her wedding dress and walked to her bedroom. She locked the door in case Amadeo came in. She quickly took off her clothes and carefully put on her wedding dress. Within minutes she had the dress on. It fit perfectly. Rowena smiled when she saw herself in the mirror. She was like a fairytale princess. She put the veil back on her head and was very happy with it. Her mother knocked softly on her bedroom door. "Who is there?" Rowena asked. "It's me, Mom," her mother whispered. Rowena carefully opened the door. "Can I come in?" her mother asked. "Yes," Rowena said. "But quickly because otherwise Amadeo might come into my room and of course it has to remain a surprise until the wedding starts." "You're right," her mother said as she locked the door behind her. "You look beautiful, my child," her mother said emotionally. "Oh, I'm so proud of you." She wiped away a tear. "What's wrong mom?" Rowena asked her mother in surprise. "Why are you crying?" "I'm so excited that my daughter is getting married," her mother said. "This must be the happiest day of your life, darling." She hugged her daughter and held her tight again. "I'm very happy that you won't leave us after the wedding," her mother said. "All of us, by the way. We can't do it without you, Rowena." "I know, Mom," Rowena said emotionally. "Me neither, Mom, nor Amadeo. We would prefer to stay

with you for the rest of our lives." "You can stay with us as long as you want, but come on, there's work to be done. The wedding is about to begin. I will do your makeup for you," her mother said. "And put your hair up nicely." "Shouldn't I take a bath first, Mom?" Rowena asked her. "Do you still have time for that?" her mother asked. Rowena looked at her silver star clock hanging on the wall. The way I look at it, I still have an hour and a half to get better, Mom." "Okay," her mother said. "Then I'll boil some water. I'll get you the bath." "Okay, Mom," Rowena said. "Do you need anything else?" "Bring me some verbena oil and a bar of lavender soap," Rowena said to her mother. "But hurry, Mom, because we have so much time not anymore." Her mother hurried to the kitchen. She grabbed the large purple wooden tub and quickly brought it to Rowena. "Thanks, Mom," Rowena said with a smile. "Do you think Amadeo is that concerned about his appearance, Mom?" Rowena asked her mother. "I think so," her mother laughed. "Otherwise he will look crazy if he shows up at the wedding in his normal clothes." Rowena laughed at her mother's words. said Rowena, that would be very stupid of him". Her mother went back to the kitchen and quickly put on 4 large pans of water. She lit the fire. She grabbed a small bottle of verbena oil from one of the kitchen cupboards and a bar of purple lavender soap. She grabbed a large purple towel from one of the other wooden cupboards in the kitchen. Then she went back to Rowena's room. She knocked on the door. Rowena opened the door and took the things her mother had brought for her. "Thank you mom," she smiled. Then her mother went back to her pans of water. Soon the water started to boil. One by one, Rumer brought the pans to Rowena's room.

Finally, exhausted, she put the last pan down in Rowena's room. "Are you okay mom?" Rowena asked worriedly. "Yes," Rumer smiled. "The pans are just a bit on the heavy side, but they work fine. Thanks for your concern. I'll leave you alone for a while. Just call me when you need me okay Rowena?" "Okay mom," said Rowena as she felt the temperature of the water in the tub with her hand. The water felt wonderfully warm. Rowena sighed. She couldn't wait to get into the warm water. She took the bottle of green verbena oil and threw a few drops into the water. She lit one of her incense sticks. In no time, her entire room smelled of patchouli. She inhaled the intoxicating scent and fell into a light trance. She took off her wedding dress and underwear and stepped into the warm bath water. She slowly lowered herself into the warm water. She took a deep sigh and closed her eyes. How wonderful this was, Rowena thought as she continued to breathe slowly. The scent of the verbena oil stirred her senses. Mmmm delicious, she thought. She took her washcloth and her bar of lavender soap and began to thoroughly cleanse her body, hair, and face. When she had finished, she took a purple plastic jug and filled it with warm water from the tub. Then she threw it over her hair. She did that a few times until she felt her hair was clean enough. She sat back down in the warm verbena water and relaxed for another 30 minutes. Then she stepped out of the large purple wooden tub. She grabbed the large purple velvet towel her mother had placed for her. She quickly dried herself off. Then she brushed her teeth at the 'little white sink in her bedroom. When she was done, she carefully put on her wedding dress. When she had her wedding dress on, she took a pair of silver silk shoes from a small cupboard in her room. They had beautiful high stiletto heels. Rowena smiled. She hoped she could keep her balance today with those high shoes. Otherwise they would definitely laugh at her. Rowena could understand that. Of course it would look very strange if she fell over backwards. She carefully opened her

bedroom door. She called to her mother that she had finished bathing. Her mother walked towards her. She quickly locked Rowena's bedroom door behind her. Rowena sat down on the white wooden chair in front of her dressing table. Her mother knelt before her and began painting the toenails of her feet silver. "Just sit still for a moment, darling," she said. "Otherwise things will go wrong." Rowena kept her feet as still as possible. After a while, her mother finished painting her toenails. "Beautiful," she said. "It looks very nice." Rowena looked at her feet and also liked the result. "Now I'm going to paint the nails on your hands," her mother said.

Rowena had beautiful long nails on her hands, which her mother also painted silver for her. When the nails on Rowena's hands were ready, she let them dry thoroughly. Then her mother started brushing her beautiful long black curls. She used a purple horsehair wooden brush to brush Rowena's thick black hair. "Are you being careful, Mom?" Rowena asked as her mother started brushing her hair wildly. "Yes," said her mother. "But there shouldn't be any tangles in your hair, right?" "No, of course not," said Rowena, trying to keep her head straight while her mother fussed wildly with her hair. After a while her mother stopped brushing her hair. Rowena's thick black curls jumped happily in all directions and surrounded Rowena's entire face. "Just leave it alone," she said, happy with the result. "That's what you thought, young lady," her mother said sternly. "You have to look decent on your wedding day and not like someone who just got out of bed." Rowena looked ahead in disappointment. "But I like it so much!" she said. "No, no Rowena. It may look a bit like this, but you really have to raise it further" said her mother. "Okay," said Rowena. "Can I put a ponytail in the middle, mom, and leave the rest like that?" "Okay," her mother said. "That's allowed, but in my way because if I leave it to you it will still be like this." "Okay," Rowena said as sweetly as possible to her mother. She looked straight ahead at the large silver mirror in front of her. Her mother took a thick silver elastic from the silver drawer of Rowena's dressing table. She made a thick big ponytail in the middle of Rowena's head and made sure it stood high on the middle of her head. The curls of the tail jumped in all directions. "Yes," Rowena said happily. "That looks nice," mom. "That's fine. It looks perfect like this. You are not allowed to change anything about this." "Okay," her mother said. "Then we'll leave it as is. Where is your make-up bag?" she asked Rowena. "Here mommy" she said. She grabbed her makeup bag from her dressing table and handed it to her mother. Rumer looked into the purple bag and took out all the things she needed. She grabbed silver eye shadow and black eye pencil. A black mascara and a shiny purple lipstick for Rowena. Her eyelids turned silver with a black line at the bottom of her eyes. Her mother painted her lips a soft purple and applied a little lip gloss. Finally, she used the black mascara. Once Rowena's makeup was done, Rowena grabbed a large red perfume bottle in the shape of a praying angel and sprayed a generous amount of the sweet intoxicating scent over herself. Rowena's white long lace wedding dress was covered in silver glitter. Her wedding dress glittered on all sides. Just like her long white lace wedding veil. "Is there anything else that needs to be done?" her mother asked Rowena. "The jewels mom," Rowena said softly. "Oh yes of course!" said her mother. "How could I be so stupid as to forget that?" Rumer took a box of jewelry from a small gold cabinet in the room. It was a large purple velvet box she held in her hands. She carefully placed it on the dressing table in front of Rowena. Rowena opened the box and placed the large crystal necklace around her neck. It

was a crystal chain with large, wide crystal drops hanging from it. Then she hung the large crystal drop-shaped earrings in her ears. Finally she put on the 2 wide crystal drop bracelets around her wrists and placed a pair of large crystal rings on her fingers." What now?" said her mother. "Now I just have to put my shoes on mom and then it's done," said Rowena. Her mother handed over her shoes. Rowena grabbed her white shiny high heeled shoes and put them on. She carefully put them on. She stood up. Her mother placed her long white lace veil on her head."Beautiful," she said. "You look beautiful." "Thank you mom," Rowena said."Can you walk well with those heels?" she asked her daughter. "Yes, mom. That will work," Rowena said. "Don't worry about that." "If you wait here for a while," her mother said, "I will go and see how Amadeo is doing. Okay?" "Yes mom," Rowena said. "I'll wait." Wonderful smells came from the kitchen. Grandma Tizane was clearly busy cooking something delicious. Probably one of her famous cakes. Rowena heard her grandfather singing cheerful gypsy songs from his youth. After a while her mother came back. She smiled mysteriously at Rowena. "Amadeo looks as beautiful as you do my child," she said. "Your father is trying to help him. I think he's almost ready and you can finally get married." Rowena started to blush at the thought of Amadeo. She found her wedding very exciting. Nerves ran through her throat. She wanted the day to be over already. Tonight they would finally sleep together in a bed as husband and wife. From today she would no longer be alone. There was a knock on the door. Her mother looked nervously at the door. "Who could that be?" she said mysteriously to her daughter. Rowena looked impatiently at her mother. Then she looked at her room door. "Who's there?" her mother finally said. "It's me. Grandpa Raviv!" he laughed tipsily at Rowena's mother. Rumer laughed at Grandpa Raviv. "He gets drunk early," Rumer said to Rowena. "He must have already started his own party," Rowena said. "Yes, that could be possible, knowing grandpa," her mother laughed. "Just a moment, daddy!" Rumer said. "I will open the door for you." A little later Grandpa Raviv stood in Rowena's room. "You look beautiful!" said her grandfather. "Thank you," she said as she smiled. "Actually, you weren't allowed to see it until later, but it's not that bad because it's you!"

She gave her grandfather a big kiss on his cheek. "What do I owe that kiss to?" her grandfather said cheerfully. "Because I love you," Rowena said as she rubbed his head with her hand. Her grandfather squeezed her hand tightly. "I love you too," he said. "And I'm proud that you're marrying Amadeo today," he said. "I hope you will be very happy together. You have my blessing! By the way, I came by to say that Amadeo is ready and that as far as he is concerned the marriage can begin." "Good" said Rowena. "I'm that far too." Rowena had agreed with her mother that she would give her away to Amadeo. And Amadeo had agreed with his grandfather that he would give him away to Rowena. After a while, Grandpa Raviv opened the door of Rowena's bedroom. "Come, young lady," her grandfather said as he gently took Rowena's hand. "I'll guide you out, sweetheart. Your mother has to do the rest because you have agreed on that together." Rowena slowly walked out of the room with her grandfather. They passed the kitchen where her grandmother had just finished baking the wedding cake. It smelled delicious. Rowena knew immediately that Grandma Tizane had baked her favorite cake. She was very happy about that. When they were almost outside, Grandpa Raviv gave Rowena's arm to her mother."Here daughter," he said. "Now it's your job to escort her to her groom." Rumer smiled. She took her daughter's arm in hers and guided

her daughter outside. They had arranged a priest for the wedding ceremony who also worked in the soldiers' camp. When Rowena came out with her mother, Amadeo was waiting for her. Grandpa Raviv quickly walked to his grandson so that he was in time to give Amadeo away to Rowena. Amadeo looked hypnotized at his bride-to-be. He looked at his future wife with adoration. How amazing she looked! Boaz watched the wedding of Amadeo and Rowena speechlessly. He loved being here. Rowena thought Amadeo looked beautiful too. He had a beautiful silk black suit with a gold silk tie and a beautiful white blouse underneath. Underneath he was wearing beautiful leather black lace-up shoes. A beautiful red rose was pinned to his suit. He smiled at Rowena. It was a loving smile. A smile that said "I love you Rowena." A smile that said "I want to be yours and I want you to be mine." Rowena smiled back shyly. At a small self-made altar stood a little old man wearing a red gold habit. That had to be the priest. He had small glasses on his face and thin, gray, bouncy hair. Rowena estimated him to be around 60 years old. When Rumer and Rowena arrived at Amadeo, Rumer gave Rowena's arm to Amadeo. "Thank you," Amadeo said as he looked deeply into Rowena's eyes and smiled. Rowena started to blush.

She looked into Amadeo's beautiful dark golden brown eyes and knew that this was what she really wanted. What she really chose. This was the man she loved. What she wanted to share her life with. And she could read in Amadeo's eyes that he felt exactly the same way about her. The priest began reading the wedding vows. Amadeo and Rowena looked deeply into each other's eyes and after they had both said yes and exchanged the diamond rings, they kissed each other. A kiss that seemed to last forever. After their kiss, the party could finally begin. Grandma Tizane had placed the cake she had baked outside on a large wooden table. The cake turned out very well. She had baked Rowena's favorite cake, a blackberry cake with whipped cream on top. Rowena was thrilled with it. She gave her grandmother a big kiss for the cake she made. Grandma Tizane was happy that she had made Rowena so happy with the cake. Everyone sat down at the table. Rumer had placed a large jug of fresh fruit juice on the table. Because it was very hot outside, she had put a lot of ice cubes in it. She poured everyone a large glass. Grandpa, Grandma, Rowena, Amadeo, Boaz, Liam and Rumer were all sitting at the table. They enjoyed the beautiful sun that shone there. Grandpa Raviv sang a cheerful song while dad Liam played the guitar. Mother Rumer and Grandma Tizane also started singing and clapping their hands happily. Then Rumer picked up the tambourine and started shaking it back and forth. Amadeo and Rowena started dancing together. They danced to the rhythm of the tambourine. Rowena moved her dress back and forth and Amadeo danced around her, clapping his hands. Then he grabbed her and spun her around. Rowena was over the moon. She felt as light as a feather. As if she were dancing on the clouds. She was so in love. Amadeo kissed her and lifted her high into the air. Then he carefully carried her into the trailer. His family was busy making music and singing. He saw them look his way for a moment and continue with the party. As if they didn't want to say anything out of respect for them. Amadeo carried her to his room and gently laid her on his bed. Rowena looked deep into his beautiful golden brown eyes. She thought she saw the stars dancing in his eyes. And the light of the moon. Amadeo kissed her on her soft mouth and they made love together. Together they took a nice hot bath. When they were done, they went outside to continue celebrating with their family. Everyone had already drunk quite a bit of Grandma

*Tizane's herbal liqueur and they were all very tipsy. Everyone was busy playing cards and talking to each other. There was a lot of laughter. They had a lot of fun together. There was singing, dancing and music being made. The party continued until early in the morning.*

*Then they all went to bed. Amadeo and Rowena had received a beautiful gold double bed from their parents as a wedding gift. It was an antique gypsy bed. A four-poster bed. Boaz had given them both a beautiful self-made bead necklace as a gift, which Amadeo and Rowena gratefully accepted. They had placed the beautiful antique four-poster bed in Rowena's room because her room was larger than Amadeo's. That's why they decided that from that day on they would live in Rowena's room. And that Amadeo's room would be their extra room. It was wonderful to sleep together in that big bed. Amadeo and Rowena were exhausted from all the singing and dancing. Like a content and newlywed couple in love, they lay in deep sleep in each other's arms, not knowing that something terrible would happen in their lives that same year.....*

## Chapter 2: Lillith's wedding gifts

Mean while Belial was still thinking about Lillith's wedding gift. Because Lillith was not an easy woman. She was a spoiled brat! And she always got everything she wanted. That was Belial's weak point. She. He could never say no to her. She got everything done from him. He still didn't know how she did it. It would be love. She had Belial wrapped around her finger. His heart was stolen and he could never love a woman more than Lillith. Even though he could have any woman. He only wanted her. However, Aurora was an exception to the rule. But Lillith was never allowed to know that he had a soft spot for Aurora, otherwise she would immediately come up with a plan to get rid of Aurora. Lillith was very possessive and jealous when it came to love and lust. She had no intention of sharing Belial with anyone. But the funny thing was that Belial felt the same way when it came to Lillith. He didn't want to share her with anyone either. If she ever thought about leaving him or going to someone else he would definitely kill her. Belial rang his great silver bell back and forth impatiently. Where was that retarded Malphas again? he thought to himself. Belial rang his large silver bell for so long that it gave him a paralyzed arm. The loud shrill sound could be heard throughout

Draconia. Even outside. The staff looked around in horror. They understood from the sound of the bell that Belial had gone completely crazy this time. Everyone knew that King Belial was crazy as hell but no one dared to say anything about it. They were all far too afraid of being killed by Belial. Malphas ran so fast that it felt like he was flying through the air. His poor old legs could hardly keep up with the pace. Finally he arrived at the royal hall of King Belial. With a loud, vulgar bang, the wide, high iron door was swung open. "You called for me Your Majesty?" said Malphas, still half out of breath from running. "Are you finally here advisor for 3 times nothing? Where were you that it took you so long? Somewhere at the end of our planet? I got such a numb arm from calling that for a moment I thought my arm was going to fall off, you dirty, dirty, lazy, thin retard " "Yes, your highness, you are absolutely right. You are always right, your highness." "Of course I'm always right," said Belial, who had already calmed down a bit because of the compliment from Malphas. "But that doesn't make up for being late. I have something very important to discuss with you." "Yes, your highness. Just tell me, your highness." Belial became furious. "And don't make fun of me like that!" said Belial angry. "But I won't do that, your highness," said Malphas, who no longer understood anything."Okay never mind," Belial said. "Forget it. I just wanted to say something that I have chosen a wedding gift for Queen Lillith." "Oh what a wonderful news your highness!" said Malphas smiling as wide as he could. All that was left of his nasty pointy teeth was visible. He had never brushed his teeth in his entire life. Belial, like his son Prince Helios, sometimes felt like barfing because of the little dirty demon standing in front of him. Malphas rubbed his hands together in satisfaction. "And what is the gift you have chosen for Queen Lillith your highness?" "The source of eternal youth," King Belial chuckled. "I think she wants to stay young forever," said Belial, who was proud of his choice. "What woman doesn't want to stay young forever? Everyone does. It is also a nice gift that I can benefit from." "Don't you think she would rather have the devil's bath your highness?" Malphas asked Belial curiously. "Why would she want that again? Belial said viciously. "To bathe in and to drink from," said Malphas.

"For example, together with your highness." "That's not such a bad idea actually Malphas" Belial said. "But of course I can also have both gifts arranged for her. That would be even better. I would like to see her always happy do you understand, Malphas?" "But of course, Your Highness. I will arrange it for you." said Malphas. "Good," Belial said as he gave Malphas a large bag of gold. Malphas didn't understand it but he was very happy that he had just received a bag of gold from Belial. "If you can arrange that this bag of gold is for you." Belial said. Malphas gave Belial a false look and greedily held the bag of gold to him. "So give that bag of gold back to me until you have properly delivered the wedding gifts for Queen Lillith here to me." Slowly and with great pain and with difficulty Malphas returned the heavy bag of gold to Belial. He thought Belial was a false beast. "You're a heartless animal!" Malphas shouted at Belial as he pointed his bony dirty index finger at Belial. There were dirty long black nails on Malphas's scary thin bony hands. Drool dripped from his mouth as he continued to point furiously at Belial. "Everyone knows I have no heart," Belial said, apparently proud of that. "But just shut up for once" said Belial who had had enough of the thin retardet tall drooling boney demon who was bossing him around and dripping drool everywhere on his clean gray stone floor. "And don't you want to drool on my beautiful clean ground? Now get out of here before I throw you out the window you miserable guy from

nothing." Malphas ran as fast as he could away from the royal hall. As fast as his long bony legs could carry him. He was afraid that if he didn't run fast enough Belial would throw his entire set of dishes at his head and he didn't like that. Within seconds Malphas had disappeared from the room. He went looking for Caym because he had to ensure that a group of soldiers would come together to bring Queen Lillith's gifts to her. The devil's bath was somewhere near the borders of Asterion. And the source of eternal youth was once again on the border of the magical fairy kingdom of Tir Na Nog and at the Lake of Death. Those were 2 gifts that were both in different directions. The border of Asterion was further away than the border of Tir Na Nog. Arrangements also had to be made for the bath of the devil and for the spring of youth to be transported to King Belial's devilish kingdom of Draconia. Malphas and Caym became very busy. They needed at least 40 soldiers for this job. Malphas was busy looking for Caym. He had finally found him. Caym was sleeping at the bottom of the gray stone spiral staircase. What a lazy guy Caym is, Malphas thought. He didn't understand why Belial actually employed him when he wasn't doing anything. "Except for sleeping," Malphas chuckled to himself. Malphas angrily walked over to the little sleeping man. He leaned over and shouted, "Wake up!" Caym was terrified. He stared into Malphas's scary thin bony pale face and asked if he had gone mad. "Are you completely mad?" said the little guy Caym stretching and yawning at the same time. "Well yes," said Malphas. "Are you well rested Caym? Should I let you lie down for a while lazy boy?" Caym stood up slowly and stared at Malphas's scary stupid face with his big bulging red and white eyes. "What the hell do you want from me?" Caym asked, "For God's sake?" Don't let Belial hear that term" Malphas said. Belial has nothing with God and he wants nothing to do with God either. "He has no connection with God whatsoever. He can have you executed on the spot for that, but leaving that aside, I just came to ask you if you can arrange for some soldiers to fetch Queen Lillith's wedding gifts." Caym took one of the red apples that were in a wicker basket. stood next to the spiral staircase. He took a big bite and smacked it loud and clear as he continued to stare smartly at Malphas. His big fat wide lips smacked back and forth disgustingly as Caym's little pointy teeth continued to chew. Malphas was starting to lose his patience with this little man. He was seething with anger and impatience. "Now are you going to do anything or not?" Malphas asked impatiently. Caym held out his small thick black claw to Malphas and said, "First the payment please, otherwise I can't arrange anything with the soldiers." Malphas looked at him with wide eyes. "Are you feeling completely well?" he said to Caym. "That you dare to ask money for something that Belial asks you. You already get enough salary from him. And so do his soldiers. You have nothing to complain about!" "I just want a bag of gold," said Caym, who still had his little fat dirty claw sticking out. He took another few big bites of his apple and chewed it greedily. Then he threw the core on the ground. Right in front of Malphas' long bony feet. "Because otherwise," Caym muttered as his eyes began to glow blood red. Caym was a clever man. He did everything for money. And if he didn't get anything, he didn't do anything. The last time he had threatened Malphas with death. Together with a few soldiers from Draconia. Because they felt he had not paid them enough salary. They said that if he told King Belial they would surely kill him. Since then, he hated Caym more than anything. He was a master of blackmail. There were even rumors that he kept everything he earned in a small room. And that he had already amassed quite a bit of wealth through his blackmailing. Belial would probably have heard that Caym

was becoming richer for unknown reasons. But of course he didn't do anything about it. Because he didn't care.

It was known that his entire kingdom was corrupt and it did not bother him. He thought it was fine that everyone was so corrupt. He even appreciated it. He even had a law that said anyone who was not corrupt in his kingdom would be hanged. That made everything even less hopeless for Malphas. "Where am I going to get another bag of gold?" Malphas said to Caym. "I think you have earned enough gold working for Belial. You can share that with me." "What else?" said Malphas irritated. "Otherwise I can't do anything for you," said Caym. "How many kilos of gold do you want before you start doing something Caym?" Caym lit one of his selfmade cigarettes. In an instant the entire room was filled with the spicy smoke from Caym's cigarette. Malphas started coughing loudly. "What do you need 3 kilos of gold for?" Malphas said to Caym. "I have to pay extra for all the soldiers who come with me. They also need a little extra sometimes. You know they're going on a trip. What wedding gifts are you talking about anyway? Because it is important to know where to send the soldiers. Then I just make 2 groups and I also have to arrange the means of transport." "It's about the source of eternal youth and the devil's bath" said Malphas. "Mmm" Caym said. "The source of eternal youth is guarded by a woman named Lorena. "What should happen to her?" "I don't know the answer to that Caym. Your men will just have to take care of all that. They can kill her or take her to Belial's castle. That's not my job to take care of that Caym" Malphas said. "I understand that" Caym said as he chuckled. "The devil's bath is near the border of Asterion. That is a bit further away than Tir Na Nog. That is exactly in the middle of our planet. And who knows what's guarding that pool. Definitely not a beautiful woman. Well that certainly changes things a bit" Caym said dryly. "That could be dangerous. Then give me 5 kilos of gold instead of 3 kilos" Caym chuckled falsely. "Fine" said Malphas who only wanted Caym to do his work as quickly as possible. He didn't want to be blamed by Belial because Caym didn't do anything. "As long as you do something" said Malphas. "First the gold" Caym said. "Follow me" said Malphas. Caym followed Malphas. He could barely keep up with Malphas with his small fat legs and his big wide feet with long thick black nails. Malphas had long bony pale thin legs and he took long strides. With Caym it was exactly the other way around. It seemed as if Malphas took such big steps on purpose. After a while they came near a large black iron door. They were Malphas's quarters. A devilish bird's head hung on the door. Malphas put a large iron key into the door and opened it. "Wait outside," Malphas said gruffly. Caym waited dismayed outside. Malphas's quarters were completely black inside. There was not a ray of light in his room. Except for a few black candles and a very small oil lamp there was no light in the room. There wasn't a single window in sight either but that was the atmosphere Malphas liked. He slept in a long wooden black coffin. He didn't know anything else but that and unfortunately for him he shared his room with Caym. According to him the most annoying guy in all of Draconia. And the weird thing about Caym was that he hardly ever slept. He had too much energy for that. While Malphas was the opposite of him and slept too much. Malphas searched for the key for a large iron chest in his room. After searching for a while he finally found it. It was inside one of the drawers of his wooden black desk. He opened the large iron chest and took 5 kilos of gold from the iron chest and put it in a large black velvet bag. Then he walked outside and handed the bag to Caym. "Thank you very much Malphas" he said gratefully. He had difficulty holding the bag of gold. He thought it

was very heavy. "You can give it back" Malphas said to Caym. "If you think it's that heavy" Malphas chuckled. "No no no" Caym said hastily. "No way, I have to take it to my own room so that I can divide the gold with the soldiers later." Because Caym also had his own private room inside castle Draconia where he could be alone sometimes. He will probably keep the gold all for himself Malphas thought to himself. Caym was not the kind of person who was so sweet that he would share the gold with other soldiers. Moments later Caym had neatly stored the gold in one of the large iron chests in his room. "Okay" Caym said. "I will arrange everything for the gifts for Queen Lillith. "How much time do you need?" Malphas asked. "About 2 to 3 days." "After that everything will be ready to take with me on the journey. I will put together 2 groups. 2 groups of 40 soldiers" Caym said. "Just tell Belial that. You'll hear the rest from me later." Malphas was satisfied with Caym's answer. A moment later Malphas had left to pass the answer on to King Belial.

### Chapter 3 Belial's wedding proposal.

Lillith was busy singing a song. She was very cheerful because she was pregnant. And she wasn't just pregnant because she had 100 vampire children in her womb. She couldn't wait to tell Belial the good news. She was sure he would be very pleased with the news of his future children. She looked into her old black antique mirror and combed her long black curls that reached the floor. She inherited the brush she used to comb her hair with from her deceased mother. Her mother had told her that the brush had belonged to an old vampire countess named Countess Drusilla. Lillith did not know if the Countess was still alive. It was a special brush that was very special because it only made Lillith's hair grow thicker and longer every time she used it. It was a magic brush that could also make music. It was made of gold and inlaid with precious gemstones. Lillith laid the brush down on her beautiful antique gold dressing table. She placed both hands on her stomach and felt if she could feel anything moving. Pregnancies in vampire women were different from those of human women. They did not have to carry their child for 9 months like human women did. With them the gestation period was only a month. Lillith didn't want to think about having to carry her children for 9 months. She was glad she was a vampire woman and not a human woman. The babies of vampires were born very small and black with small wings and small teeth just like vampires. They all had little scary red eyes. They also grew much faster than human children.

Within a year they would be the size of a 4 year old human child. But when they were born they would only be a few centimeters tall. "How are your sweet children of mine?" she whispered against her womb. "You will soon be born and I will have to teach you everything." It must be strange to suddenly have such a large family Lillith thought. "I'll keep busy with you guys." She said, she leaned over and kissed her belly. "I am so happy with you my dear children." At that moment Belial came in. "Hello my dearest" he said to her. "How are you today?" Lillith was surprised by Belial's unannounced visit. She walked over to him and hugged him, very happy that he was there. "Hi darling," she said lovingly. "How are you today?" "I'm doing very well" he said quite nervously because he wanted to propose to Lillith. "What is it?" Lillith asked Belial. "I want to ask you something Lillith" Belial said nervously. He got down on his knees and opened a pretty pink satin box.

He took Lillith's white hand and kissed it softly. "Lillith will you please marry me?" He put a thick gold ring onto her ring finger with a large purple heart shaped diamond in it. Lillith looked at Belial as if she were floating away on the clouds. "Yes of course I want that dearest," Lillith said happily as she threw her arms around him. Belial lifted her high into the air and held her there for a while before kissing her. "Now I have a surprise for you too" Lillith said shyly to Belial. "What is that then?" Belial asked curiously. "I'm pregnant," Lillith said. "But that's great," Belial said happily as he kissed her thin long white hands hundreds of times. "Congratulations my love. How many are there?" "There are 100" Lillith said proudly to Belial. "We did a great job," Belial said as he held Lillith close to him. "We're going to be busy with our upcoming offspring," he told her. "Yes," Lillith said. "Great isn't it? I can't think of a better gift than our future children and you as my future wife." Belial kissed her hand again. Lillith's hands were not lacking in expensive rings. On each finger there were 2 or 3 rings containing precious gemstones. Belial apparently wanted her to lack nothing. "I will ensure that you have a personal nurse until you give birth. I don't want anything to happen to you," Belial said to Lillith. "I love you Belial" Lillith said as she looked into his eyes. "I love you too Lillith and I have 2 more special surprises for you that you will receive at your wedding. but I can't say anything about that because otherwise it wouldn't be a surprise anymore. I have to go now" Belial said. "But I promise you that from today on you will have a personal nurse who will be with you day and night to make sure you are all right until you give birth." "Okay," said Lillith. "Maybe it's better if I lay down for a while." "Do that," Belial said worriedly. "He supported her and asked if she was in pain." "A little" Lillith said as she lay down on her large black silk four-poster bed. "I wish I could stay with you honey but I have a lot to do right now. Do you need anything for the pain?" he asked her. "Yes just do that" Lillith said as she groaned in pain. Belial could feel from her pale white forehead that a fever was coming on. "I'm going to get you help honey," he said. "Someone will come to you as soon as possible." "That's good" Lillith groaned in pain. Tears streamed down her pale face. "It hurts so much" Lillith moaned. She grabbed her belly and rubbed it. "They're so active too" she said. Belial was worried about her pain. "I'm going to get you a doctor honey" he said. "Don't worry." Belial quickly ran away to get a doctor for Lillith. After 10 minutes he came back with a male doctor and a nurse. He was carrying a large black leather suitcase. He put down his suitcase and sat on Lillith's bed. "Tell me what kind of complaints you have Your Highness?" said the doctor.

"I know about your pregnancy but what else is going on?" "My temperature is so hot and I am in so much pain." "I understand" the doctor said. Is it okay if I feel your highness on your belly?" Lillith nodded. The doctor felt Lillith's belly with his two hands."Your babies are moving a lot, aren't they?" the doctor said. Lillith nodded again."They are very restless. I think they're just really hungry." "You must now eat more than normal Your Highness, and drink more than normal.You have a lot of children who all need to be fed. Otherwise they will become aggressive and then they can eat eachother." Lillith looked at the man in an alarming way. "Didn't you know that?" Lillith shook her head. "I'll give you something for the pain Your highness. You can take this whenever you feel pain." The doctor gave her a glass box containing exactly enough pills for the entire month. These are pills that contain a very strong herbal mix Your Highness. Be very careful with this because if you take too much you can succumb to it. You are only allowed one pill per day. If you are really in so much pain that one pill is not enough you can take one and a half a day. Absolutely not more than that." Lillith took the glass box from the doctor's hand. She looked at the long thick poison green pills that were in the box. 'I think it would be best if you first take one of these pills so that you no longer have so much pain. Afterwards you should eat and drink something. Make sure you eat and drink more than normal every day because you now have to feed not only yourself but also your children. Afterwards you should take a relaxing bath. If you still have complaints we must look for another cause. Although I assume that if you start eating and drinking your children will calm down automatically and then the pain will disappear.'" "Thank you for your good advice doctor," said Lillith. "You will hear about it later how things are going with me." My pleasure Your highness' said the doctor. "We all want you to do well. Then I'm leaving now" the doctor said. "Remember only take a pill for the pain when necessary." "You don't have to take a pill every day if you don't have to." Lillith nodded. "My nurse will stay with you for the rest of the month to care for you and keep an eye on you. She will write down for me every day how you are doing Your Highness. Until the day of the birth of your babies. If something is wrong I will come to you." "Okay," said Lillith. "Fine." "Hello, Your Highness" the nurse said extending her hand to Lillith. "I'm Kalista." A young woman with big round blue eyes and long blond hair looked into Lillith's face. Lillith shook her hand. "Hello Kalista. How nice that you are with me." "That's what I'm here for Your Highness. To ensure that you always feel good.

Then you can just say that to me. I'm also here if you just want to talk or do something fun." "Thank you," Lillith said. "I'd like a glass of fresh blood" Lillith said."No problem Your highness." "It will be there right away." "I want to take my pill." After a while Lillith had her glass of blood. Kalista opened her box of pills and took out a pill. She gave it to Lillith who immediately took it. After a while Lillith felt the pain disappearing. "How are You now Your Highness?" Kalista asked. "I am doing better now" said Lillith. "The pain is gone." "What a wonderful news Your Highness" said Kalista. "I'm glad you're feeling better now." "Yes" Lillith said. "Me too." She sighed in relief that her pain was gone."Is there anything else I can do for you Your Highness?" "I would like to take a bath" Lillith said. "As you wish" Your Highness. "I'll help you." Kalista helped Lillith get up. Then they walked together to Lillith's large expensive gold bathroom.She helped Lillith sit in a large gold egg-shaped bath. She turned on the hot and cold taps at the same time. But she let more hot than cold water flow into the tub. The taps like Lillith's bath were made of pure gold. "Thank you Kalista" Lillith said happily. "No

problem Your Highness" said Kalista who had lit the myrrh incense that lay in a large silver container with coals. "So" said Kalista. "If you need anything else let me know." She hung up a large purple cotton towel for Lillith. "Thank you Kalista" said Lillith. "Just leave me alone for a while." Kalista left the bathroom and closed the golden bathroom door behind her. Lillith slowly sank into the hot gold-colored bath water. There were dozens of cute little colored bottles of aromatic oil on the bath. In all shapes and sizes. Lillith examined the expensive bottles carefully. Then she chose a small pink crystal bottle containing a pink liquid and emptied it into the bath. Immediately the bathroom filled with the strong scent of wild roses. Lillith breathed in and out the warm aromatic steam. She lay back and relaxed. She was happy that the herbal pill had taken effect so quickly. Otherwise she would never have endured the pain. Antique figurines of demons were scattered throughout her bathroom. They were there to protect her. There were large mirrors hanging on the walls everywhere in the shapes of stars, suns and moons. Lillith claimed that the demon figurines were alive. Sometimes they seemed to stare at her with their scary red eyes and white eyes. Or they seemed to move their mouths as if they wanted contact with her. Sometimes they grinned at her falsely showing their sharp and dangerous teeth. Or they flew away from their place and then they flew wildly back and forth in the bathroom. Just like now. One of them came and sat on the edge of the bath next to Lillith. He looked at Queen Lillith.

Lillith extended her hand to him and he sat on her thin pale arm. "What do you want?" laughed Lillith. "Are you hungry boy?" She stroked the little demon's small, rough, thick, heavy head. The demon liked Lillith to rub his head. It flapped its little pointed wings wildly back and forth. Then he sank his small sharp teeth into Lillith's hand and began to suck her blood. "Take it easy little guy" Lillith said. "You can't drink too much of my blood. I can't weaken any more sweetheart." After a while the little demon removed its teeth from her hand. He looked at her mischievously. "You're a naughty boy," Lillith said. "Just like your brothers and sisters. You understand me right? You understand everything I say to you." The demon looked at her understandingly with his false red eyes as if he wanted to say that he understood her very well. After a while the little demon got tired of sitting on the bath and flew back to its pedestal where it fell asleep. After a while the rest of the flying demons also went back to their pedestals to go to sleep. Lillith decided to get out of the bath without help. She stepped out of the bath and put the big one

purple towel all around her. Then she put on her red velvet bathrobe with her red velvet slippers. She walked to her bedroom where Kalista was reading a book. Kalista looked up from her book and asked if she could help Lillith with anything. "You can drain the bath," Lillith said after which she relaxed on the bed. Kalista did what was asked of her. Lillith closed her eyes and soon she was in deep rest. The doctor told her to rest as much as possible so she stuck to it. It was only a month. She would get through that. She didn't have to be bored. She had plenty of things to take care of and things to do. If she didn't get to see Belial much because he was very busy at the moment then she would understand that. Kalista sat next to Lillith's bed to keep an eye on her. She picked up her thick book and started reading again.

## Chapter 4 .The journey to Draconia

After a week everything was ready for the trip to Draconia. Prince Siegfried had gathered a group of forty strong soldiers. They were all young soldiers trained for special missions. Amadeo and Boaz had heard that they would be leaving the next morning. They told Bryce who was packing everything for the big trip. "I don't really know what we all need," Bryce said. "I've never made a trip like this before." "Oh," said Boaz. "You don't have to think about that much. The most important thing is that you take your food and drinks with you so that you don't starve or die of thirst and make sure you have a good weapon with you because it will certainly not be a journey that will leave you unscathed. Come on." "Can you handle a gun?" Amadeo asked Bryce. Bryce nodded. "Yes, he said. I learned this when I served in Princess Aislinn's army for a while. What time do we leave tomorrow?" Bryce asked Amadeo. "Early tomorrow morning," Amadeo said. "Around eight o'clock." "As early as?" Bryce said. "Yes, so early," Amadeo said. "We still have a long way to go before we finally arrive in Draconia. Prince Siegfried assumes that the trip will take about 2 weeks. "Is Prince Siegfried coming too?" Bryce asked. Amadeo shook his head. "No," Amadeo said. The prince still has a lot to do here. "That's why he can't come with us, otherwise he would have come with us." He must continue to monitor this place or it will become a mess. Prince Tristan comes along because he has to free Princess Aurora. He wants to marry her. She is imprisoned in Draconia Castle and she is also the sister of Prince Siegfried." Bryce nodded. "I understand," he said.

"So there are actually 2 assignments that need to be carried out."

"Yes," Amadeo said. "But Prince Tristan will help free the princess from a group of soldiers, while we do the rest of the work." Bryce looked at Amadeo understandingly. "I hate leaving Rowena alone. "I have to leave this behind," Amadeo sighed to Boaz. "I just married her!" "Yes," said Boaz. "That is also difficult. But unfortunately we will have to go.

It's about the future of our world and the future of our next generations." Amadeo nodded. "I know that too," he said. "But I don't know if I'll get home in one piece. What should I say to her and what should I say to the rest of my family?

Rowena doesn't even know I'm leaving tomorrow. Let alone she knows where I'm going." "Well," said Boaz. She can just come with us, right? "You mean Rowena has to come with us? That's way too dangerous for her. Anything could happen to her. She's a woman! It's going to be a dangerous journey. She's never held a gun in her life!" "What now?" "So what?" said Boaz, shrugging his shoulders nonchalantly. "You're with her, aren't you?" Aren't

we all with her? We're all protecting her, aren't we? She is our sister that we will all take good care of." Amadeo looked at Boaz and wondered if it was a good idea to bring Rowena along. Then he quickly changed his mind. There wasn't a day he could imagine without her. That's why he decided that she would go with them after all. If she wanted to. They were all there to protect her, right? He shouldn't worry about her so much. She was a strong woman just like his mother and just like his grandmother. Whatever her answer would be, he would still go on the trip. He owed that to Boaz and especially to Prince Siegfried. But even more of that, he owed it to the planet Prionstar. And to the universe. That should not fall into the hands of King Belial. This would all end if Belial's magical book were destroyed for good. "I'm going to our family now," Amadeo said. "To let you know that we will leave tomorrow." "Boaz and I have already packed our things." "We'll see you tomorrow boy," Amadeo said to Bryce. "Okay," Bryce said. "See you tomorrow!" He waved to Boaz and Amadeo who waved back to Bryce. "Make sure you get enough rest because you will need it tomorrow," Boaz shouted to Bryce. Bryce nodded. Then they disappeared from view. When they told their family the news, an argument broke out. "Are you completely normal?" Amadeo and Boaz's father asked. "That you arrive so late with this news. How dare you? Your mother is all upset! Look at her! She's crying because of your stupid journey!" Not long after, Rowena also started crying. "How can you go on such a dangerous journey?" said their father Liam. "You may never come back," Rowena sobbed sadly! "The youth of today," Grandpa muttered, who seemed to be staring into space. Every now and then he would take puffs from his antique wooden pipe. He blew out large clouds of spicy smoke. Every now and then his breath caught for a moment. "Grandpa, are you okay?" Rowena asked in alarm as she ran to him and held him worriedly. "I'm okay, honey," her grandfather said. He faltered for a moment. "Why do they have to leave?" he said as a tear fell down his old face. "Oh I don't know either Grandpa!" Rowena sobbed as she held him tight and hugged him. She held him like that for a very long time to comfort him.

"You just got married," he sobbed, "You shouldn't live apart but start a family together," Grandpa said as he shook his head incomprehensibly. "I know that too, Grandpa Rowena sobbed!" "Hey, stop crying!" said Amadeo. "You don't even know why we are going on a trip yet!" After explaining why they were going on a trip, his family started to calm down a bit. "Oh," said Rowena. "So that explains why you suddenly went on a trip." "Yes," said Amadeo. "And I wanted to ask if you would like to travel with us? It does not have to. You can also stay here if you think it's too dangerous, but of course I prefer it if you can be with me." "What if something happens to Rowena along the way?" said Grandma Tizane.

"Yes," said their mother. "What if something happens to my daughter, will you bury her? She stood in front of Amadeo and Boaz and looked at them sadly. Or should we bury all three of you at the end of the journey? Amadeo and Boaz looked at their mother with a questioning look in their eyes. "Promise me that all three of you will return safe and sound," their mother whispered desperately. "Promise Amadeo," she said as she held him tightly. "Swear that all three of you will come home in one piece." "I swear, Mom," Amadeo said. He held his mother tightly and hung his head. He was afraid of what would happen if he couldn't keep his promise. He had promised her. He couldn't break that promise. But something could always happen on such a dangerous journey. "Mom," Amadeo said. "Yes?" his mother said as she

wiped her tears from her eyes with a white handkerchief. "I just made you a promise," he said. "But what if I can't keep that promise? Are you going to hate me?" "I will never hate you, my son said" his mother.

"I certainly understand that things can happen to you on such a dangerous journey. That responsibility is not solely in your hands. That's in the hands of all of you. Don't worry about that anymore. We will pray for you every day you are gone."

"I've never seen anything so beautiful," Rowena whispered. "Are those our horses?" Rowena asked Amadeo. "Yes," said Amadeo. "I think so." "Luckily I'm good at horse riding," she said. "Yes, fortunately, darling," Amadeo said as he stroked her thick black hair. "But you have to always drive near me so I can keep an eye on you," Amadeo said. "Do you promise me that? I don't want anything to happen to you." "Yes," Rowena said. "I will do that. I'll take the mare," Rowena said. "The stallions are a bit too wild for me." "That's good," Amadeo said. "Fine," said Boaz. "We're used to riding wild horses, so it's a piece of cake for us." Rowena nodded. The three of them walked up to Prince Siegfried. "Hello Prince Siegfried," Amadeo said as he shook his hand. "Hello boys," said the Prince. "You're right on time." He looked at his gold watch and smiled. "I see your wife is coming with you," said Prince Siegfried. "Yes," said Amadeo. "Because I can't go a day without her," he said, looking at Rowena. "I can imagine that," said Prince Siegfried. "You got married yesterday. Then it is not fair to separate you so quickly." Amadeo nodded.

"Here," said the Prince, handing the reins of the mare to Rowena. "This mare suits your young lady very well. At least she is not as wild as the two stallions that suit the boys better." Rowena blushed shyly. "Thank you, Your Highness," she said as she took the reins from Prince Siegfried. "She already had that in mind," Amadeo said to the Prince. "Good," said Prince Siegfried. "Then I was right." He handed over the last 2 reins of the 2 stallions to the 2 boys. "Thank you, your highness," Amadeo and Boaz said at the same time. They took the reins from the Prince. Then Rowena, Amadeo, and Boaz mounted their horses. Their horses were beautifully decorated. Just like the soldiers' horses.

Their heads were adorned with blue and gold feathers. And their long blue velvet saddle blanket bore the golden coat of arms of Tir Na Nog. Everyone had their own bag with food and drinks on their back. Prince Tristan and Prince Brennan also traveled with the group of soldiers. Prince Siegfried took Prince Tristan aside for a moment and then said to him "Bring my sister home safe and sound Tristan." I promise my brother, Prince Tristan said to Prince Siegfried as they hugged each other warmly. "Make sure nothing happens to her. She must come home unharmed." Prince Tristan nodded. "I will see to that," he said. "Don't worry. I am very grateful to you for this Tristan," said Prince Siegfried. "I am forever in your debt." "I love Aurora," said Prince Tristan. "Then the least I can do is save her from the clutches of King Belial." Prince Tristan mounted his horse again and stood among the large group of soldiers. He would take charge of the 40 soldiers. When they arrived at Draconia the group would split in two. Then Prince Brennan would lead one group and he would lead the other. Rowena was the only woman traveling. She thought it was a strange idea. But because Amadeo and Boaz were with her, it didn't bother her any further. She felt safe with them and she was happy that they were going on a trip. She was happy to get away from Tir Na Nog for once. At first

she liked it there, but after a while she started to get bored to death there. This trip was something they all needed. "Think of this as a honeymoon," Amadeo laughed at Rowena. Rowena burst out laughing. "I will," she laughed. Amadeo sent his horse to her mare. He took Rowena's hand. He looked lovingly into her eyes and kissed her hand. "I love you darling," he said. "I love you too" she said as she continued to stare at him with love. "Good," said Prince Tristan loud and clear so that everyone could hear him. "Is everyone present?" There was no answer. "If all goes well we will all be there," said the Prince. "Prince Siegfried has gone through his list of names and he says we are all there. For those who are not yet there, it is bad luck because we are leaving now. We agreed on a time and everyone should stick to it. I'll only explain it once, so everyone listen to me carefully. I am Prince Tristan of the Kingdom of Rosamund. I'm going to lead this group of 40 people until we arrive at Draconia Castle. This group will then split into two groups, each with a different task. I will then lead a group of 20 people. And Prince Brennan of the Kingdom of Faylin will then lead the other group of 20 men. I will briefly explain our duties. One group must get their hands on King Belial's magical book. The other group must free Princess Aurora, who is the sister of Prince Siegfried of the kingdom of Tir Na Nog, from the hands of King Belial. The magic book must be delivered here safely and the Princess must be delivered here safely. Are there any further questions?" There were 2 soldiers who had a question. "You!" said Prince Tristan. "What is your question?" "Who can we contact if we have a question?" "Then you can contact Prince Brennan or me," said Prince Tristan. "And you?" Prince Tristan asked another soldier. "What is your question?" "If someone gets sick or injured, what should be done?" That depends on how serious it is. We have a court physician who will travel with us. He is the personal court physician of Princess Aislinn of the fairy kingdom of Faylin. Doctor Mordecai. That's that gentleman over there." Prince Tristan pointed to an older man with black gray hair that reached his shoulders. On his face were small silver glasses. He had a small gray goatee and a small black thin mustache that curled up on both sides. It was like a professor. In fact he was. He wore a long black cloak and a stately black silk top hat. The rest of his clothes were all made of expensive black velvet. Only his blouse was white. He was carrying a large expensive black leather suitcase. Doctor Mordecai raised his hand so that everyone knew he was the court physician. "That gentleman over there is our court physician," said Prince Tristan. "If one of you has complaints or is injured, you should go to that gentleman. That's our professor." Doctor Mordecai started to grin when Prince Tristan called him professor. "Now now," he said. "He can do it again, Your Highness" and he smiled. Prince Tristan grinned back at him. Tristan saw another soldier who had a question. "You are the last question I will answer," said Prince Tristan. "And then we really have to leave." "How long will the journey take?" the soldier asked. "The trip will take 2 weeks in total. A week there and a week back. To be honest, it also depends on which road we will take. But that is the maximum time we will spend on it. If we're lucky, it will only take us 10 days to travel there and back. But then I have to find a way that will take us to Draconia faster." After answering the last question, the large gate of Tir Na Nog was finally opened by 2 soldiers. Prince Tristan and Prince Brennan rode in their beautiful white and gold velvet clothes. The group of soldiers rode neatly behind them. Rowena felt the tension in her abdomen. She rode neatly between Amadeo and Boaz. Just as Amadeo said. She had to stay close to him. She felt happy in the beautiful big magical forest they were driving through. The large colored fantasy birds sang cheerful songs and the

sun shone high in a clear blue sky. Rowena thought they were driving through paradise. The forests of Tir Na Nog were so beautiful. The branches of the blossom trees with their large, thick white and pink flowers hung over the entire forest. And they smelled divine too. A big fat black raven had come flying above them. Rowena had never seen such a beautiful raven. "That is the raven of Merlin and Morgan Le Fey," Boaz said to Rowena. "His name is Neb. Apparently he is very smart." "Or not, Amadeo grinned." "Yes," Boaz grinned. "Or not, because otherwise he wouldn't fly that far from Tir Na Nog. It looks like he's in a hurry." "Do you really think that someone like Belial would hold something like that retarded raven hostage?" Amadeo laughed. "Well, you never know with someone like Belial." Boaz muttered. Rowena started laughing loudly. Just then Neb came and sat on her shoulder. "Heeee," Amadeo said. "Look at that, Rowena, you're crazy!" Rowena smiled. She looked at the beautiful big black raven perched on her shoulder. "Hi Neb" she said "How are you? I see you are far from home." Neb looked askance at Rowena with one of his large black eyes. Then Neb began cupping Rowena. It was clear that he was very impressed with her. "Can you talk too?" Rowena asked as she stroked the raven's head with one hand. "Kraaaa kraaa" Neb shouted loudly in her ear. "Ouch Neb," said Rowena. "You can't scream so loudly in my ear. That's not nice of you." She gave Neb a small tap on his black beak. Neb looked at her in alarm but then started screaming loudly again. "Heee" said Rowena. "Stop that retarded shouting of your Neb! I don't like it anymore! I'll help you get rid of that yelling because we can't get along with each other like that. I'll teach you how to talk," Rowena remarked, laughing. Well good luck with that," said Amadeo. "Yes," Boaz said to her. "Good luck making the impossible possible." The two boys started laughing loudly. "Shall we bet?" said Rowena. "That I'll have Neb talking within a week?" "What should we bet on?" Amadeo asked her. "For 30 gold pieces," Rowena finally said. "That's good," Amadeo said. "But what if you don't succeed? What do we get from you then?"

"Then you get Neb smiled Rowena." "Nice and honest," Amadeo said while making a sour face. "You get 30 gold pieces if you win and we get a screeching raven if we win." "Yes," Rowena said. "But it is the magical raven of Merlin and Morgan Le Fey. It's not an ordinary bird that you just find everywhere." "That's true," said Amadeo. "Then it's a fair bet." "Okay," Rowena said. "You can't disturb me when I'm giving Neb speech lessons, otherwise he'll start screaming again. He has plenty of character and a strong will." "We already found that out, yes," Amadeo said to Rowena. After a while, Prince Tristan began to gallop. The rest of the group encouraged their horse to gallop and soon everyone was galloping. Rowena, Amadeo and Boaz rode at the very back of the group. They thought it was best that they followed behind. They didn't feel like rushing like that. After a while, Boaz wondered where his nephew Bryce was riding. He thought it would be a better idea if Bryce traveled with them. Bryce never had made a kind of journey like that. He would surely feel alone without familiar company. And besides them, Bryce didn't personally know anyone from the group of soldiers. Boaz tried to see his cousin among the soldiers. It was hard to look for his cousin now because they were at a gallop, but when they calmed down the horses he would look for Bryce. Because every now and then the horses galloped so fast that all three thought they were going to crash into a tree. After a while Boaz got his way. After about 25 minutes, Prince Tristan stopped galloping. They arrived at a large purple fresh water lake where they

let the horses drink. The soldiers dismounted and took their horses to the lake. The horses greedily began to drink the cool purple water.

Some of the soldiers filled a large glass bottle with the delicious pure sweet purple water of the lake. Most of the soldiers had already brought a canteen of water from home, but an extra bottle of water always came in handy. Especially if the water was of such good quality. It could be days before they arrive at another lake. So every bottle of water they could fill along the way was a nice bonus. Rowena was happy that they had arrived at a lake. She dismounted and walked with the mare towards the water.

Immediately her mare began to drink greedily from the purple sweet water. Rowena saw that her mare was completely sweaty from all the galloping. She grabbed a small white wooden bowl from her backpack and filled it with some water. Then she threw it over the heated mare. The mare began to neigh. She whipped her tail back and forth to chase away the flies that flew around her. "Yesss," said Rowena. "That's nice and cooling, isn't it, eh?" Rowena just realized that she still...had no name for the mare at all. "What should I call you now?" said Rowena. What a difficult question. Think carefully, Rowena, she thought to herself. Think carefully. "I got it!" Rowena said a moment later. "I will call you Chumani. Chumani means dewdrop. Do you like that name?" Chumani started neighing. Rowena stroked her mare. "Good," she said. "I can see that you are very happy with your new name." She threw a few more bowls of water over Chumani's back. Meanwhile the soldiers sat down next to the lake to take a short food and drink break. Rowena sat down next to Chumani and opened her backpack.

She took out a very large yellow orange and peeled off the yellow peel because the fruits and vegetables on the planet Prionstar were a different color than normal fruit and looked very different. It was also much larger than normal fruit was and it also smelled much stronger than normal fruit. One by one she put the orange slices in her mouth. The orange tasted juicy and sweet. When she had finished the orange, she took a few sips of water from the brown leather canteen that hung around her neck. Then she took a large bag of large purple pistachio nuts from her bag and put the nuts one by one into her mouth. Boaz and Amadeo sat on the floor next to their horses, eating and drinking. "Just a moment," Boaz said to Amadeo as he quickly finished his last big piece of his large purple apple. He took a big sip of purple water from his bottle to rinse it down. "I'm going to go find Bryce for a bit. Then I'll come back. Hopefully with him there." Amadeo nodded. "That's fine Boaz," Amadeo said as he also took a big sip of water. "But don't stay away too long because I have a feeling we'll be leaving soon." Boaz walked between the eating and drinking soldiers to look for Bryce. After a while he got lucky and finally found his cousin Bryce. "Hey Boaz!" Bryce said happily that he saw his cousin.

"I was starting to worry if you hadn't stayed behind," Bryce said. "Nope," Boaz laughed. "I'm really here as you can see." Bryce smiled. "Where are you guys?" "Back there," Boaz said as he pointed to a spot somewhere behind the lake. "Come sit with us Bryce" he said. "It's better if you travel with us." "I agree" Bryce said as he stood up and gathered his things. "I've been looking through the soldiers all this time to see if I saw you riding somewhere but I didn't see you anywhere." He grabbed the reins of his horse and walked behind Boaz. After a

while they arrived at Amadeo and Rowena. Rowena was busy feeding Neb nuts. He was still sitting on her shoulder. One by one Neb ate the big purple nuts neatly from her hand. "Tasty, isn't it Neb?" Rowena said cheerfully. "That's good for you" she said. "You have to get your vitamins too or you won't be able to fly with us anymore." Suddenly Neb started screaming loudly. He threw his head high in the air and looked gratefully at Rowena. "That's enough Neb!" Rowena laughed. "I think he just thanked you," Bryce laughed to Rowena. "I think so too" said Rowena. "Yes Yes" Neb crowed to Rowena. "Rowena sweet Rowena sweet!" Neb screeched loudly. "Well yes" said Rowena surprised. "Look at Neb talking!" "Did you teach Neb that Rowena?" asked Amadeo. Rowena shook her head. "Not me" she said. "He taught himself that." "Good on him" said Amadeo. "I think he keeps all the words he hears from us in his head." "That could very well be" said Amadeo. "In that case I will have won quickly" Rowena laughed. "You are just a lucky bird Rowena!" said Amadeo. "So it is true. Neb is a magical raven." Neb started flying back and forth screaming. He had gone completely wild. "Magical raven, magical raven!" he screamed. "Can't you tie a string around his beak until we get to Draconia?" Boaz asked, who had gone mad over Neb. "Never mind Neb," Rowena said, waving Boaz's suggestion away. "It's a shame to tie a string around his beak. We're just going to leave. With or without Neb." Prince Tristan announced that it was time to move on. The soldiers gathered their things, mounted their horses and rode off. Prince Tristan and Prince Brennan rode neatly side by side. After a while they came to a black mountain that they had to cross. It looked like some kind of volcanic rock. It also smelled of fire and black clouds of smoke rose from the mountains. On one side of the mountain a stream of lava flowed down where it then ended up in a deep ravine. "We mustn't fall into that" Prince Tristan said to his group as he steered his horse into the mountains. It was a steep and narrow path that went into the mountains. It was important that everyone kept their balance or they would fall mercilessly into the lava ravine. "Oh oh" said Rowena who felt uncomfortable with the ravine. "How on earth am I going to ride over this?" she said scared. "Just do as we do" Amadeo said bravely. "You mustn't get nervous at all times" he said. "And you mustn't look down if you suffer from vertigo." "I do" Rowena said scared. "I'm just scared to death of this." "Just keep looking at me" Amadeo said. "I'll ride in front of you. Boaz and Bryce will ride behind you. Don't be afraid Rowena. Fear will only make things worse for you. Just keep looking straight ahead. We'll have to cross this mountain range anyway. If we have to go around it, it will take days." "That's possible" Rowena said nervously. "But I don't need to know all that. I just want this annoying road to be over as soon as possible." Everything on the mountain range was black, black and more black. There were no plants or flowers growing there. And apart from some strange kind of bright yellow large cactus, there was nothing else growing on the mountain range. Rowena thought the cactus species was beautiful and wanted to take a specimen with her, but Boaz and Amadeo had warned her against it.

Always be careful with things you don't know, they had told her.

But Amadeo knew Rowena better than he did today and he knew that she was always stubborn. "Look at that!" she said. "They move back and forth and they have cute faces and they sing songs together" "How nice!" "Uh I think it would be better if you keep looking ahead of you Rowena" said Boaz because otherwise accidents will happen later." "I think that

would be better too" said Amadeo. "But I really want to take a magical cactus with me" said Rowena. "Then I can take care of him and raise him to an adult cactus!" "Just act normal, honey" said Amadeo. "We can't stop at every place if you see a nice plant or flower that you want to take with you." "And why can't we?" said Rowena annoyed. "That's possible Amadeo and I'm going to do it too!" said Rowena angrily. "I'll never get a chance like that again!" Boaz and Bryce both shook their heads in despair. "How does she get him to do it?" said Boaz to Bryce. Finally Amadeo said to Rowena. "Okay then but I'll only give you 3 minutes to get that damn cactus out of the ground or we'll lose the group." "Okay" Rowena said as she leaned forward a bit and pulled one of the big yellow cacti out of the ground with her bare hands. "Owwwww" Bryce said to Rowena with a look of admiration in his eyes. "Doesn't it hurt to pull a cactus out of the ground with your bare hands?" "No it doesn't" Rowena said cheerfully. "By the way, he hardly has any spines but he has such a sweet face and he looks at me so sweetly and he can talk too."

Rowena put the big talking yellow cactus in her backpack. She was thrilled with it because they didn't have any plants like that in their area. "So?" Amadeo said. "Can we go on now Rowena?" "Yes of course" she said as she spurred her horse. Amadeo also spurred his horse to go faster. A few rocks fell down into the ravine. Rowena screamed loudly in fright. "That's what happens when you stay behind" Amadeo said in shock. "I almost fell into the depths because of our haste." "That's not my fault" Rowena said. "Whose fault is it then?" Amadeo said. "At least not mine. You always endanger the lives of others and there's no need for that!" "Well that's not very nice of you to say Amadeo" Rowena said as they drove on. "I can't help it that this stupid road is so narrow and steep. I didn't make it!" "Neither did I" Amadeo said. "Besides, you're still alive, aren't you?" Rowena said. "You should be happy about that. You should be glad you have a guardian angel on your shoulder watching over your life because otherwise you would have been dead for sure." "Rowena also has such a wonderful positive attitude" Boaz laughed at Bryce who listened attentively to the conversation.

"You're right Rowena" Amadeo said. "But can we please stop this bickering because I'm trying to concentrate on the road. My guardian angel is working overtime because of your bickering with me. He needs some time off too." Bryce started laughing at Amadeo's comment. "I don't want anyone to fall down Amadeo so I'll keep my mouth shut until we're all safely back on the ground." "Thank you Rowena" Amadeo said. "I'm sure Bryce and Boaz will appreciate that just as much as I do." "And no sooner said than done. Rowena kept her mouth shut until they were back down. After a long 6 hour drive the whole group was back on the ground and everyone could breathe a sigh of relief. Although 3 soldiers had fallen into the ravine. The rest had made it. There was a sad atmosphere in the group about the loss of the soldiers but also an atmosphere of joy that they were back on the ground safe and sound. Prince Tristan decided it was time to catch his breath and so they took a short break. They had been riding through the mountains for 6 hours straight and they could still smell the strong hypnotic scent of the lava. If you inhaled the scent too deeply you could even become dizzy or unwell.

## Chapter 5 .Rowena's pregnancy

When Prince Tristan decided they were far enough away from the black mountains he decided that this was the place where they would rest for a while. Everyone looked for a place to sit down. They had arrived at a large steppe plain where different kinds of tall purple and pink and yellow grass grew and a few large thick gnarled purple trees that reached up to the sky with their thick long branches. If you looked in the distance you could see the large black lava mountains. Amadeo sat down next to Rowena on the dry grass. "What's wrong dear?" Amadeo asked her. "Are you okay?" Rowena looked very pale. She stared silently at the black mountains. Suddenly she started to spit.

"Oh oh said Amadeo" as he sat down right next to her and supported her.

"You're not doing so well, are you, dear?" he said as he held her firmly with one arm. "No" said Rowena as she shook her head.

"What's wrong with her?" asked Prince Tristan. "She's nauseous" said Amadeo. "But I don't know what." "Should the doctor take a look at her?" said Prince Tristan. "Go ahead and do that" said Amadeo. Rowena shook her head that she would rather not. "Go ahead and do that Rowena" said Amadeo. "After all, it's your health that's at stake." "It could just as well be something serious and then you better be safe than sorry." After a while, Doctor Mordecai walked up.

He was carrying his large black leather bag with him. "What's wrong ma'am?" the doctor asked Rowena. "I'm so sick she said as she grabbed her stomach."

"She just threw up" Amadeo said worriedly to the doctor.

"And do you have any idea what you threw up? the doctor asked her."

"No" Rowena said. "I have no idea." "You didn't eat or drink anything strange?" Dr. Mordecai asked. Rowena shook her head. "No I didn't" she said. "She did pull a cactus out of the ground with her hands" Boaz said to the doctor.

"What kind of cactus is it?" Dr. Mordecai asked.

"It's in my bag" Rowena said. "Can I see it for a moment?" the doctor asked.

Rowena nodded. "You stay seated" the doctor said. "I'll get your bag for a moment. You look very bad, young lady." The doctor walked over to the bag that was lying a few meters behind her. He opened her bag and took out a small yellow cactus. "What on earth is this?" said the doctor. "Where did you pick this?" asked the doctor. "In the black lava mountains" Rowena said. "Is it a dangerous cactus?" she asked anxiously. "I wouldn't worry too much about that" said the doctor after he had examined the cactus carefully. This cactus is completely harmless. "What do I have then doctor?" Rowena asked anxiously. "Can't you find out?" The doctor nodded. "I can" he said. "But then I'll have to examine you first." After an extensive

examination they discovered that Rowena was pregnant. Everyone was overjoyed with the good news. Especially Amadeo and Rowena. The proud parents of the baby. Rowena had never thought she would get pregnant so quickly. She was overjoyed with the good news. She was happy and sad at the same time because she was not with her family to tell them the good news and she was happy because she was pregnant. She would now have to eat and drink extra well for her little one. She had to make sure that her child would grow up well and healthy. Amadeo had told her that she had to be very careful not to make any wrong movements and that she could not fall off her horse because that would endanger the life of their child. Rowena, for whom everything was also new, said that Amadeo did not have to be afraid. She wanted their child to come into the world strong and healthy. That is why she had to be very careful with everything she did. Now she had to think for 2 and not just for one. Doctor Mordecai had told her that it was very normal that she felt sick. And that it would happen more often in the first few weeks.

He said that it would probably be a boy. For Rowena it did not matter what the child would be. A boy or a girl. As long as it was healthy.

That was the most important thing for every parent, wasn't it? Doctor Mordecai had given her a whole list of what she absolutely should not eat and drink and he had also given her a safe medicine against nausea. The happy parents were congratulated by all the soldiers. Prince Tristan had given the couple a bag with 50 gold coins as a gift, which they could use for the future of their child. A large campfire of branches was made by the soldiers, around which everyone sat down.

Prince Tristan had decided that they would not continue their journey until tomorrow and that they would spend the rest of the day and night here. The tents were set up. Everyone had brought their own tent to sleep in.

They cooked food, partied and slept. Amadeo and Rowena shared a tent together and Boaz and Bryce shared a tent together. Amadeo lay next to Rowena in the tent. Rowena put Amadeo's hand on her belly. "Feel it" she said. "Our baby is growing inside of us." Amadeo felt her warm belly under his hand. He kissed Rowena softly and lovingly on her neck. "Amazing, isn't it?" he said. "Yes" she said. "It's unbelievable how beautiful life is" she said. "How it can just grow into a baby. Life is a big mystery" Rowena said. "That's right" Amadeo said. "It's something that even the smartest being in the universe can't understand. Something that no one can unravel. It's a secret" Rowena said as she looked up at the starry sky with a smile. They had left their tent open so that they could look at the splendor of the stars together. "Do you know anything about the stars?" Rowena asked Amadeo. "I don't know the name of every star in the universe, honey, if that's what you mean," Amadeo said dryly as he gently kissed Rowena's long curls. Rowena laughed at Amadeo's joke. "No," she said. "That's not what I meant, honey. I mean, do you know the names of the most famous stars?" "I do know some of them, yes," Amadeo said. "But I'd have to think about it for a moment, you know," he said.

"It's been a while since I took astronomy.

You have to remember that my name is not Merlin or Morgan Le Fey," he laughed. Rowena laughed. "I know that too, silly," she said as she gently touched his hand with her lips.

"What's the name of that star over there, for example?" Rowena asked. She pointed with her right index finger to a beautiful large purple-white star that shone in the dark sky. "That's the eh-hh the eh-hh," Amadeo said. "Very good!" said Rowena, clapping her hands. "But I haven't said anything yet," said Amadeo. Rowena started laughing. "I know that too. I was just joking." "But I haven't," said Amadeo, who had become frustrated because he couldn't think of an answer. "I need to know the name of that star," he said, and he kept thinking about what the name of the star could be. Rowena smiled. "I already know," she said. "But I want you to think of it yourself.

We studied it together when we were children," she said.

Don't you remember? she said, sitting close to him and looking up at the night sky. "Don't tell me," he said. "I know!" "Yes?" said Rowena impatiently.

"Then tell me!" "It's the star Zora, named after Princess Aurora." said Amadeo,

relieved that he knew the answer. "That's right" said Rowena. "Right away Amadeo." "And what's the name of the galaxy you see there?" Rowena asked.

"Pfff" said Amadeo. "You're asking me quite a lot there." "You should know" she said.

"Because we've studied all this." "The Aislinn galaxy." "Wrong!" said Rowena laughing. "The score is still 1-0" Rowena laughed. "The Aurora galaxy perhaps?" said Amadeo. "Very good!" said Rowena. "2-0" for Amadeo. "What is it with Princess Aurora?" said Amadeo. "Has she claimed every star and planet in the universe or something?" "No," Rowena laughed. "There are other names in the universe than Aurora or Zora, you know." "Let me guess" said Amadeo mysteriously. "Planet Oonah or something?" "No no" Rowena laughed. "There is a very bright star named after Oonah" Rowena said. "And it's just a coincidence that the star Zora has the same meaning as Aurora which means dawn." "I can't help it that out of all the stars you choose the star Zora and the Aurora system" Amadeo said. "You're right" Rowena said. "You can't help it either. I was just teasing you a bit" she said. "Shall we do one more and then go to sleep?" Rowena said.

"That's fine" Amadeo said. "But now you have to guess one." "Okay" Rowena said. "Pick one. Can it be a planet?" Amadeo asked.

"Yes, of course" Rowena said. "The only question is whether I know the name of it." "Just by chance then" Amadeo said. "Yes" Rowena said. "Just by chance then." Amadeo looked through the starry sky and finally found a beautiful big bright pink planet in the sky. "What is the name of that planet Rowena?" Amadeo asked her. Rowena started laughing loudly. "That's an easy one Amadeo. It can't get any easier than this." "That's the planet Aurora" Amadeo said. "It's called that because it has something magical but actually all celestial bodies in the universe have something magical. The planet Aurora is bright pink. It is the planet of lust and love and beauty. It was made especially for you" he whispered in Rowena's ear. "Because no one is as beautiful and as sweet as you" he told her. "No" she said to him. "It was made especially for you because no one is as beautiful and as sweet as you you mean. She closed the purple tent and together they lay down in the tent." "I love you Rowena" said Amadeo. "I love you too Amadeo" said Rowena very happily. "Did you know that there will be a full moon soon?" said Rowena. "No I didn't know that. How nice" said Amadeo. "What if

we can't fall asleep then" said Rowena? "Then we'll just stay awake all night darling" said Amadeo as he held her tightly. After talking to each other for a while they finally fell asleep exhausted in each other's arms. Their warm bodies pressed close together.

## Chapter 6 .The gnome Loxi

In the middle of the night Rowena woke up with a start from the sound of a few loud bangs, "Where did that sound come from?" she thought. Bravely she opened the zipper of the tent to look outside. She stared into the dark. Except for the stars, the planets and the light of the moon it was pitch black outside. Rowena didn't understand the sound. "They can't be enemy soldiers, can they?" she thought anxiously. When she was about to give up she suddenly saw where the loud bangs had come from. It was a bunch of small colored asteroids that were skimming back and forth past the planet. Some of them collided hard with each other and then exploded. They gave off a kind of blue light in the dark evening sky. Rowena quietly watched the cosmic spectacle. Every now and then the asteroids flew in circles around each other. Rowena shook Amadeo back and forth. "Wake up" she said.

"Huh?" said Amadeo half sleepily. "What's wrong?" he said worriedly. "Did something bad happen?"

"No" she said. "But you really should look outside for a moment to see how beautiful those asteroids are" Rowena said dreamily as she looked outside. Amadeo carefully sat up and looked outside. He saw the asteroids streaking across the sky.

"How beautiful" Amadeo said to Rowena as he put his arm around her.

"That's a very rare phenomenon" Amadeo said. "Luckily you woke me up to see this" he said. "Yes" Rowena said. Suddenly the asteroid rain shot towards Prionstar with a dizzying speed. "They're landing on our planet" Amadeo said to Rowena. "Yes" she said. "Luckily they're only small asteroids and not big ones" she said as she yawned from sleep. "I wonder where they'll end up" Amadeo said. "If I knew that" Rowena said. "I would pick them up and take them with me to Tir Na Nog."

"Asteroids bring good luck, at least if they are small. They say they can make wishes come true." "Yes" Amadeo said. "If we find them, we will take them with us." "Come on" Rowena said. "Let's go back to sleep. It's almost morning" she said. "But we'll let them lie down for a little while longer." Amadeo went to bed. Soon they were asleep again. After another 2 hours of sleep it was time to get up. A few soldiers were busy waking everyone up for breakfast. When everyone was awake the group started packing their things again. A large blanket was

placed on the ground and everyone sat around it. Everyone received a bag with 4 rolls from the 5 servants who had traveled with their group. After an hour, the blanket was neatly folded and packed again. The group left again. When everyone was back on their horses, Prince Tristan started counting the people in the group. "I think we're all here," he said. "Great, then we can finally leave." He made a hand gesture that everyone should follow him.

A nice line was made so that everyone rode neatly behind each other.

It was exactly 10 o'clock in the morning when the group left. Amadeo rode next to Boaz and Bryce. "Good morning!" he said to them. "Good morning Amadeo!" they said.

"Did you sleep well?" "Yes, fine," said Boaz.

"And you, Bryce?" "Excellent," said Bryce. "So did we," said Amadeo. "Did you see those asteroids at night too?" Amadeo asked Boaz and Bryce. "They shook their heads no. "No" Boaz said. "Too bad we missed that." "They fell on our planet Prionstar." "How cool that they fell on Prionstar" Bryce said. "Do you have any idea where they fell approximately?" Rowena who had come riding with them shook her head. "No" she said. "We don't know. Some say asteroids are magic stones" Boaz said mysteriously. "That makes it even more fun" Rowena said. "How many asteroids were there?" Bryce asked. "I think 7" Amadeo said. "But there could have been more. I'm not entirely sure." "Yes" Rowena said. "There were 7 but 3 of them collided. And then there were only 4." "It's nice that there were 7 because 7 is a magic number and that is undoubtedly a good sign." After driving for a while they arrived at a forest with lots of thick tall black trees. There were trees in all shapes and sizes, the only strange thing was that they were all black and there was a big strange kind of luminous fruit hanging on the trees and there were lots of luminous flowers in the forest. "Oh it's so scary and dark here" said Rowena. "Look at what a gloomy forest Amadeo!" Amadeo looked around. "How strange" he said. "Really strange but look at those beautiful luminous flowers!" "Oh look!" said Rowena.

"All little gnomes and they're waving at us! How sweet!" said Rowena cheerfully.

"What cute gnomes!" Amadeo looked down and indeed saw a group of gnomes standing together waving at their group. Rowena waved back at them. "Hello gnomes!" she shouted at them. The gnomes started giggling loudly at Rowena. They had little red pointed hats on their heads and long white pointed beards. They were blushing with embarrassment. "Oooh are you so shy?" Rowena laughed.

"But you don't have to be! We won't hurt you!" "Where is their village then?" Boaz asked, looking around. "No idea" Amadeo said. "But it must be somewhere nearby if those weird gnomes are walking around here." "And where are their King and Queen?" Rowena asked. "I think wherever their village is" Amadeo said. "I understand that too" Rowena said, playfully tapping Amadeo on the arm. Amadeo laughed. "Why are the trees here so special?" Rowena asked Amadeo. "Why are there strangely large glowing fruits hanging from the trees?"

"How should I know?" he said. "I'm also new here."

"Don't you know?" Rowena asked Boaz and Bryce. "No" they said. "We have no idea." "Maybe Prince Brennan or Prince Tristan know." Boaz said. "Because they know every corner of Prionstar." "But the princes are right up front." Rowena said impatiently.

"Just stay here." Amadeo said. "And leave the princes alone for a while. When we take a break you can ask them." "But that will take so long." Rowena said. "Please." Amadeo said do it for me. Rowena looked at Amadeo meanly. "Okay then." she said. "But just this once." "Thank you, wife" Amadeo said, relieved. "Just enjoy the beautiful view, Rowena" Boaz said. "Otherwise, Amadeo will tie you to one of those trees here when he gets tired of your nagging." Amadeo started laughing at Boaz's remark.

"Amadeo will never leave me here," Rowena said stubbornly. "Right Amadeo?" "No," he said. "I can't. I love you too much." "You see," Rowena said to Boaz. "He won't." The group of soldiers didn't notice that they were being followed by the gnomes. They were constantly being watched by them. It was clear that they wanted to know everything about the group of visitors. One of the gnomes rode through the forest on a large purple rabbit. The other gnomes ran hard after him and the rabbit.

They could barely keep up with him with their short legs. "Hey look at that!"

Rowena laughed in surprise. Her voice echoed like an echo through the entire magical forest. "Can it go any louder Rowena?" Amadeo asked, trying to shield his ears from her loud voice with his hands. "Look Amadeo!" she said.

"The gnomes are following our group!" Amadeo looked through the trees and saw that the gnomes were indeed following them. "Why are they following us?" Boaz asked. "Maybe they're trying to make contact with us" Rowena said. "That could be" Rowena said. "Maybe they don't realize we can see them" she said. "Wait, I'll wave to them so they understand that we can see them." She waved to the little gnomes again. One of the gnomes got very angry when he saw Rowena waving at them. He started waving his arms wildly back and forth at Rowena. It was clear that he was yelling at her. Only no one could understand a word of it. "I don't think he likes you waving at him, Rowena," Bryce said. "Yeah," Boaz laughed. "You made him angry because you gave away their hiding place." "They don't look very bright, by the way," Bryce laughed. "What the hell are you talking about?" Rowena said. The gnome still hadn't calmed down. In fact, he had gotten even crazier. He was jumping up and down. In the meantime, the other gnomes had come to comfort him. They were busy negotiating with each other.

When they finished their conversation, the other gnomes started jumping around wildly. "What's wrong with them?" Rowena said. "It's like they're not right in the head." "They're not, Rowena said Amadeo." Boaz and Bryce started laughing loudly at Amadeo's comment. "I think it would be better if we just drove on as fast as possible and didn't try to make contact with them. Gnomes have a reputation for being quite touchy. They get worked up about everything. Even when it's not important at all." "What are they doing now?" Rowena said. Amadeo looked at the gnomes as they just kept driving. "Huh?" Amadeo said. They're trying to stand on a thick, hollow oak tree with a branch. Why are they doing that again?" After a while, everything became clear. A scary little wooden man crawled out of the hollow oak

tree. His hands and feet looked exactly like the branches of a tree. He had a strange asymmetrical face and 2 big round bulging eyes.

His green hair was made of long rough grass. He had small wooden teeth.

A wide mouth and a pointy nose. He was very angry that he was disturbed by the gnomes. "It's a gnome" Rowena said surprised. "Yes" Amadeo said. "But what do they want from him?" "They are busy talking to each other anyway" Boaz said." "And in my opinion we better get away as soon as possible." The group drove further and further away from the gnomes and the gnome. When they drove halfway through the rainbow forest, because that was the name of the forest, Prince Tristan and Prince Brennan saw the gnome standing on the road. The little man made a clear stop gesture to the princes. It was a sign that they had to stop. Prince Tristan looked at Prince Brennan questioningly. "What is this now?" he said to Prince Brennan. "I have no idea" Prince Brennan said.

"He doesn't look dangerous." "That doesn't mean anything to me" Tristan said. "Most things on Prionstar look safe when they aren't. We have to be on our guard." "You're right" Prince Brennan said. "You never know." "I'll do the talking" Prince Tristan said. Prince Brennan nodded. "That's good." A moment later they stopped in front of the gnome. The group didn't realize why they were stopping. That's why they didn't understand. "Ahem" Prince Tristan cleared. "Good day eh gnome" he said. "Why do you have to stop us here?" The gnome grinned wickedly at the two princes. He certainly didn't have a shortage of teeth Prince Tristan thought to himself. He had 3 rows of sharp teeth in a row. But that's not what they were here for. From the bushes they were watched by the angry group of gnomes. "I am Loxi the guardian of this forest" the little man chuckled to Prince Tristan. He rubbed his long branchy hands uncomfortably. "And" said Prince Tristan?

"What do you want from us?" "You may only travel through this forest if you have a gift for me." "What kind of gift do you want?" Prince Brennan asked suspiciously. "Now we shall have it" whispered Prince Tristan to Prince Brennan.

"I don't trust him one bit" said Prince Brennan. "Neither do I" said Prince Tristan.

"I want uh" Loxi seemed to be thinking about his gift. "I want that gold medallion" he chuckled evilly as his eyes glowed red. He pointed to the gold medallion that hung around Amadeo's neck. Amadeo glared at him. He took the medallion in his right hand and held it out in front of him. "This?" he said to the chuckling gnome.

"You're not getting this" Amadeo said. "This is an ancient medallion that my mother gave me. It was hers. So unfortunately for you, you'll have to think of another gift Loxi." Loxi glared at Amadeo. The rest of the group held their breath. Everyone was curious to see what would happen. Prince Tristan's horse began to feel uncomfortable and started to sway. "Easy now" Prince Tristan said to his horse as he gave him a few soft pats on his flanks. Loxi waddled toward Amadeo and stuck one of his long, branchy index fingers out to Amadeo. "You" said the gnome. "Give me the medallion Amadeo" said Loxi angrily. "Because otherwise." "Because otherwise what?" said Amadeo angrily to Loxi.

"What are you going to do to me Loxi?" said Amadeo.

"You're just a little guy and there are 40 of us soldiers against one. What are you going to do to me?" Loxi started laughing loudly. His laugh sounded scary and false and echoed throughout the forest. The gnomes and the animals who had watched everything in silence started to run away in fright. "I'm not just a gnome" he chuckled mischievously. "I'm also a wizard" he laughed again. "Oh yeah?" said Amadeo. "Pay attention Amadeo" Boaz whispered to him. "Think carefully before you negotiate with such scum as Loxi." "How do you even know my name Loxi?" Amadeo asked. Loxi stopped laughing and then whispered to Amadeo. "I know everything Amadeo everything." "I have all the knowledge of Prionstar right here in my head" Loxi said

as he knocked his fist hard on his head.

"I may not be able to do everything but I do know everything. I know the answer to every question" he chuckled. "How is it that such an ugly little guy like you has all the knowledge of our planet?" Amadeo said. "You must have dreamed that at some point." Rowena started laughing loudly at Amadeo's words. "I see your wife is pregnant" the gnome said as he rubbed his long, branchy hands together. "Give me that golden locket Amadeo" Loxi said. "Or else I'll take the life of your unborn child" he chuckled evilly.

Suddenly it was quiet. "My child?" Amadeo said shocked. "What do you mean Loxi?"

"Your wife Rowena is pregnant isn't she?" Loxi said while he showed his little pointy teeth smiling. Amadeo looked at Rowena. Rowena looked back at Amadeo. She didn't know what to say. How did he know that? She looked at her belly and held it protectively with both hands. Amadeo looked from Rowena to Loxi and back from Loxi to Rowena. "Come on Amadeo" Rowena said. "Is it so hard to choose between the life of your child or your mother's golden locket?" Rowena said desperately. Loxi chuckled evilly. "I have an hourglass here," he said." Loxi pulled out a very large glass hourglass. "When I start the hourglass your time to think begins Amadeo," Loxi said. "If you haven't made a choice by the end of the hourglass I will make the choice for you. You have one hour to think about it," Loxi said. "Then I will come back to collect my gift." Amadeo wanted to draw his sword to cut off Loxi's head but he had already disappeared.

There they were. Rowena urged her mare to go to Amadeo.

A moment later she was standing next to him. Prince Tristan and Prince Brennan were still staring

at the road ahead of them. "Amadeo," Rowena said with mixed feelings.

"Loxi says I am pregnant." Amadeo only heard half of what Rowena said to him. He was deep in thought about what had just happened. "What did you say Rowena?" Amadeo asked absently. Rowena repeated what she had said. Meanwhile, the hourglass continued relentlessly.

"Yes" said Amadeo."I know that." "What do you mean you know?" said Rowena.

"It's what grandma Tizane predicted" she said hysterically. "Yes and? said Amadeo. "We already knew that." "I still find it really scary that Loxi just knows all that" said Rowena. "So it

turns out he's not as stupid as he looks." "What do you mean by that Rowena?" asked Amadeo. "I mean by that that we have to watch out for that dangerous little man who will come back soon. The fact that he's so small doesn't mean anything" said Rowena. "Look at that hourglass!" said Bryce. Amadeo turned around and looked at the hourglass. That was already half empty!" "We have to come with a gift for Loxi Rowena" Amadeo said. "And fast too!" "I'm not going to give my child's life to Loxi" Rowena said hysterically to Amadeo.

"I understand that too, darling, said Amadeo, but I can't just give my mother's medallion to Loxi either." "And why can't you?" said Rowena angrily.

"It seems like a pretty easy choice to me. Your child's life or a golden medallion!

What will it be?" "If I may intervene for a moment," said Prince Tristan.

"I just want to give you some good advice, but I think it would be best if you give that medallion to Loxi." "Yes, do that," Boaz said to Amadeo.

"Then we'll be rid of that stupid Loxi and we can finally travel on.

You're not going to give your own child's life to Loxi, are you?" "I'm not going to do that either," said Amadeo. "But what will you tell my mother when I come home without her medallion?" "Just tell her you used it to save her grandchild's life," Prince Tristan said. "Then she'll forgive you." "Look at the hourglass!" Prince Brennan said. "It's almost empty!" Amadeo looked at the hourglass.

At that moment, the last grain of sand fell down. The time of the hourglass was over. Suddenly, Loxi appeared. He asked where his gift was. Amadeo took the golden medallion from his neck and reluctantly gave it to Loxi. Loxi's eyes widened with greed. He began to laugh and dance triumphantly. Bryce whispered in Amadeo's ear that if there was someone who had to pay Loxi for passage through the forest every time, then Loxi must have a whole treasure chest full of gold. Amadeo didn't like it at all that Loxi had his locket and that he was so happy about it, but he valued the life of his child more than his mother's locket. "Let him go, my brother," said Boaz, who put a friendly arm around Amadeo. "Cheer up. You still have your child's life!" Amadeo tried to contain his anger towards Loxi. "Come on!" Boaz said in an urgent tone. "Much worse things than this will happen soon."

"May we travel through the forest now?" Prince Tristan asked Loxi.

"You have my permission to travel further through the forest," Loxi said. "But then you have to leave now because otherwise I might change my mind later. "Loxi made Prince Tristan's blood boil.

Never trust ugly little men he thought. Irritated, Prince Tristan climbed onto his horse. He rode on through the rainbow forest. As fast as he could. He wanted to get out of this forest as soon as possible before they had to pay more ugly little men. His group of soldiers followed him steadily. They were almost at the exit of the forest when they suddenly heard the screeching of a raven. "kraaa kraaaaaaaa" he screeched as loud as he could. His screeching echoed through the entire forest. It was as if Neb wanted everyone to hear him screeching. "Oh nooo" said Boaz who hated Neb's screeching. "Who do we have there?"

"You mean oh yeah!" said Amadeo cheerfully. "Look there's our raven Neb!" Neb immediately flew to Rowena to sit on her shoulder. But what was he holding in his paw? It was Amadeo's golden medallion! Rowena burst out laughing. "What a good bird you are Neb" she said as she stroked his feathers.

She took the golden medallion from Neb's paw and held it high in the air so that everyone could see it. "Look Amadeo" Rowena laughed.

Neb has taken the medallion from Loxi! Everyone in their group started laughing loudly at what Neb had done. Prince Tristan said that Neb was a real master thief and that Loxi would certainly not be happy with Neb's action. Prince Brennan who also could not hold back his laughter finally said that the forest exit was in sight and that they only had a few meters to go to freedom. Almost nothing could go wrong anymore. Suddenly they heard Loxi's blood-curdling scream echo through the forest, followed by a string of curses directed at Neb. Rowena handed the medallion back to Amadeo, who happily hung it around his neck again. Prince Tristan told his group to go faster, as it was highly likely that Loxi would come after them to take revenge on them. "There he is!" shouted Bryce, looking over his shoulder. Loxi was riding a large white rabbit, riding quickly towards them. "Faster, stupid rabbit!" shouted Loxi angrily. He kicked the rabbit's flanks with his small, fat, ugly legs. Prince Tristan was the first of the group to ride out of the forest. Next came Prince Brennan, followed by the soldiers. Lastly came Amadeo, Boaz, Bryce, and Rowena. Just in time, too, as Loxi had almost caught up with them. Cursing and swearing, Loxi stood at the exit of the forest. Because the rule was that he could not leave the forest. Even if he wanted to, he could not because he was held back by an invisible wall. Loxi was laughed at by everyone. His magic had no power over the group as long as they stayed out of the forest. So they had nothing more to fear from Loxi. "How are you Rowena?" Amadeo asked his wife. "I'm fine," Rowena said, happy that they had left the forest. "Where do you think we'll go next?" Rowena asked Amadeo. "I really have no idea," Amadeo said. "I hope it's a bit quieter than the Black Forest."

"Do you think the gnomes really have their own village in that forest?" Rowena asked.

"I don't know," Amadeo said. "You'll have to ask Prince Tristan." Rowena rode next to Prince Tristan. "Hello Prince Tristan" said Rowena. "Hello Rowena" said the Prince to her. "Can I help you?" "Do you think the gnomes have their village in the black forest?" she said. "I don't think so Rowena" said the Prince. "I honestly think they have it in another forest because gnomes like cozy light places to have their houses and not in gloomy forests like we just saw. Gnomes like Loxi like that more."

## Chapter 7 The water plain

The group of travelers drove on for a while. After a while they drove through a ghost town. It was clear that no one had lived there for a long time. It looked like the whole town had been wiped out by Belial. There was also no sign at the town.

"This really is a ghost town people" said Prince Tristan to his fellow travelers.

"You can see that no one lives here anymore.

That Belial's army has killed everyone. Every town or village they pass, everything is murdered." The town looked old and dusty. At least what was left. On one side was an old post office. On the other side of the street was a small supermarket and a few old houses. Everything was covered in dust. There was also a beautiful large cathedral. And there was not much left of the town.

There was no one left in the town. It still felt like they were being watched by someone or something. Rowena shivered. "Are you cold Rowena?" Amadeo asked who had pulled up next to her. "A little bit, yes" she said. Amadeo took off his thick woolen coat and tied it around Rowena's neck. "Please, darling" he said. "I don't want you to catch a cold or for anything to happen to our baby" Amadeo said worriedly. "Don't worry about us" Rowena said as she rubbed her belly with a hand. "We're fine." Amadeo laughed. "You're very lucky," Amadeo said. "That we got away from Loxi in time." "Yes," Rowena said. "Who knows what he could have done to our baby if I hadn't gotten away in time." "If you need anything just tell me, okay?" Rowena nodded. "That's fine, Amadeo," she said. "Good," Amadeo said. Then he drove ahead of her again. "Amadeo," Rowena said. "Yes?" Amadeo said.

"I want to visit the cathedral later." "Why?" Amadeo asked. "Because I want to pray that our baby will be born healthy. And I want to ask God to protect us all during our journey from any danger we encounter." "That's fine Rowena but we have to consult with Prince Tristan first to see if that's possible." "Just keep riding like that" said Amadeo and I'll go to Prince Tristan to ask if that's possible." Rowena nodded.

"Okay" she said. "That's fine" She rubbed Chumani's neck. "We're having fun, aren't we Chumani?" Chumani started to neigh loudly. Amadeo urged his horse to a trot and rode next to Prince Tristan. "Hello Amadeo" said the Prince. "Can I help you?" "Yes, your highness" said Amadeo.

"My wife Rowena would like to visit the cathedral for a while.

Is that possible?" "To be honest, it seems suspiciously quiet in this city" said Amadeo. "If I were you, I wouldn't let your wife go to that cathedral," Tristan said.

"Who knows what's hiding there. You don't want her to get into danger, do you?"

Amadeo shook his head. "Then you shouldn't let her go there. By the way, we are now at the exit of the ghost town. The name certainly does the town justice. Because that it is haunted is one thing that is certain." "How do you know that?" asked Amadeo. "I have seen ghosts in the old houses that were spying on us." "Ghosts?" said Amadeo." "Yes" said Prince Tristan. "I

do not know who the ghosts belonged to, but at least I do not need to find out. I want to get away from here as quickly as possible" said Prince Tristan. "I can understand that very well" said Amadeo. "I will tell Rowena." "Just tell Rowena that she can go to the next cathedral we come across. If she feels like it. But not in this one. It is much too dangerous." Amadeo passed the message on to Rowena.

"I understand" she said. "It does not matter. I'll go to the next cathedral."

After a while they drove out of town and came to a dry piece of desert land that was full of large colored cacti. There were beautiful large red and yellow flowers on the cacti. Some opened and others closed again.

It was very strange. As if they were enchanted. There were a few abandoned dead trees where a few large dark brown vultures with large sharp beaks were waiting for someone to die.

"Nice neighborhood," Rowena said as she looked around. The vultures looked at her viciously. Their large eyes were scary and yellow. They started screaming loudly.

One of the vultures spread its large wings and flew towards a large poisonous black spider that was walking on the ground. Rowena screamed in fright. The vulture picked up the deadly hairy spider in its mouth and bit it in two. It smacked loudly as it devoured the large insect. Rowena clapped her hand over her mouth. "Did you see that, Amadeo?" she asked. "Yes," he said. "Isn't it amazing how those vultures bite insects into pieces?" "I just find it disgusting to watch" Rowena said. Bryce laughed at Rowena's comment. "I find it disgusting too" Boaz said. "You see" Rowena said. "At least Boaz thinks like me. At least he's normal." The vultures started to spread their large colored wings and flew a little further. "Where are they going now?" Boaz asked Bryce. Bryce shrugged.

"No idea" he said but they sure did leave very quickly. Did they smell the scent of blood?"

"That could very well be" Boaz said. After a while they figured out what had upset the vultures so much. Further on lay the lifeless bodies of the townspeople. The vultures had sat on the corpses and pulled out large chunks of flesh. Then they chewed on the pieces or swallowed them straight away. The smell of the dead was unbearable. It was a horrible sight to behold. Prince Tristan spurred his horse into a gallop. He wanted to get away from the place of death as quickly as possible. Everyone followed him. After a while they had left the horrible place and came to a large open plain where they were surrounded on all sides by small lakes. There were also swamps. The horses walked calmly through the wet grass. The water surface was truly breathtakingly beautiful. The area was like a large colorful map of colored pieces of water. There was a soft wind blowing through the tall reeds. It was a pleasant cooling wind that Rowena welcomed happily because of the heat of the sun. Her mare Chumani bent over to drink some of the water that lay between the wet grass. "Be careful not to fall into the swamp people" Prince Tristan said to his soldiers. "There are some treacherous parts between the grass that you have to be careful of." In the lakes lived various strange colored fish. Fish that you only see on a planet like Prionstar came across. Some had wings. Others had large claws and could climb onto the side and could breathe on land.

There were also fish that had large sharp teeth and were poisonous. Each lake on the water surface had a different color. A long kind of dark green and yellow grass grew around the waters that smelled delicious. Every now and then a swarm of large colored dragonflies flew over the lakes that were as big as a human hand. Every now and then they touched the water with their delicate bodies to drink a sip of the cool water. And sometimes beautiful large purple yellow butterflies flew past the soldiers. A butterfly as big as a human head.

Rowena asked if she could dismount to take a dip in the purple space water.

"You may," said Amadeo. "But may the princes?" Amadeo rode back to Prince Tristan. A moment later Prince Tristan announced a short break. The soldiers dismounted and continued to walk past their horse. "You "You're allowed to dip your feet in the water, the Prince," said Amadeo. "But you have to be careful where you dip your feet," he said. "Some lakes can have dangerous animals." "Okay," said Rowena. She looked for a little water where cute animals swam and no dangerous animals. Finally she found a beautiful clear purple water where all the cute beautiful animals swam. She took off her riding boots and stepped into the lovely cooling water. Rowena liked the water so much that she lay down in it with her clothes on. Then she started swimming. Below her she saw all the beautiful big colored fish swimming with beautiful long graceful wings. They really flew through the water. They didn't swim. They played with each other and circled around each other. Every now and then they smiled at Rowena. Rowena sat down in the water and touched the cute fish with her hands. Wild and happy they flew around her.

## Chapter 8 The Death of Boaz

Meanwhile Boaz had gone to another lake to paddle. He had sat down on the shore and was paddling his feet in a clear blue lake. There were various colored water plants and water flowers growing in the lake. Boaz had not paid any attention to what kind of animals were living in the lake.

Bryce was paddling next to him and casually lit a cigarette. He offered one to Boaz.

"Cigarette?" Bryce said to Boaz. Boaz shook his head. "No thanks" he said. I don't smoke cigarettes. "Okay then not" said Bryce. He put his silver cigarette case back in his bag. Bryce took a deep drag on his spicy cigarette. He blew a big cloud of smoke out over the lake. Boaz stared blankly into the lake. After a while Boaz started pointing at something in the water. "Hey look Bryce what a funny fish!" said Boaz. Bryce stared into the water and saw a beautiful big white fish with all kinds of colored dots on it. He was about a meter tall and had big bright blue transparent eyes and a long graceful colored tail and fins. You could see the bubbles coming out of his mouth as he breathed in and out calmly.

"Give him something to eat," said Bryce. "What then," said Boaz?

"All I have in my bag are a couple of really big apples and a couple of brown rolls. I need all that myself." "Give that stupid fish a piece of your bread," said Bryce. "Because otherwise you won't get rid of him. He's just begging!" "Okay then," said Boaz. "Just a piece then, the rest of the food is mine." "You're so greedy," said Bryce teasingly to Boaz. "If you think so, throw a piece of bread in the water yourself," said Boaz as he threw a piece of bread in the water. The fish seemed unaffected by the piece of bread and looked at it boredly. After a while other fish came swimming around the big fish. Boaz swung his foot back and forth in front of the fish's head. The fish that had been half asleep suddenly opened its eyes wide and bit Boaz's foot hard. Boaz screamed in pain. He pulled his feet out of the water but the fish wouldn't let go. A few soldiers came running to see what was going on. They sat down next to Boaz to see what they could do for him. The fish's teeth were so stuck and so deep in the flesh and bone of Boaz's foot that it took them an hour before they finally broke the razor-sharp jaws of the fish loose. They killed the fish afterwards. Boaz had lost half his foot and had lost consciousness due to the pain. Bryce held Boaz. There was a thick warm blanket around him. He was shivering and delirious. His head had turned completely purple-blue and his throat had become so swollen that people thought he would suffocate. His breathing was irregular. Bryce put his hand on Boaz's forehead and felt his temperature. His temperature was so high that Bryce feared that Boaz would never survive this. A moment later, Prince Tristan and Prince Bennan came running with Doctor Mordecai.

"Move people," the doctor said. "I need to be able to get to the victim."

Everyone made room for the doctor to be able to get to Boaz.

The doctor sat down next to him and looked at the large bite in Boaz's foot.

The only thing the doctor could see was the piece of bone in Boaz's foot. Boaz didn't know anything yet. The doctor looked as if he didn't really know what to do with this. "Make sure you keep Boaz busy," he said to Bryce. "First of all, I have to disinfect this properly and it is questionable whether he can keep his foot. It is clear that he has been poisoned by the bite." And it is also questionable whether he will survive this. Doctor Mordecai asked if he could see the dead fish for a moment. A few soldiers came walking up with the dead fish. When the doctor saw the fish, he came to the conclusion that Boaz would never survive the bite. This was the famous hades fish that was so poisonous that no one would ever survive its bite.

"I'm done with the examination," said Dr. Mordecai to Bryce and Amadeo.

"So?" said Bryce. "I'm so sorry," said Dr. Mordecai but there's nothing more

I can do for him." "What?" said Amadeo surprised. "He's been poisoned.

This fish is so poisonous that no one would ever survive its bite."

"So?" said Bryce. "So he's going to die," said Dr. Mordecai. "I'm sorry but there's no antidote here." "So?" "So he'll slowly suffocate." "Can't we make sure he doesn't suffocate?" "Dr. Mordecai shook his head. No, that's not possible.

I'm sorry. The strong poison is taking all the oxygen out of his body. He may have an hour left to live. Maybe 2 or 3 but I don't expect more than that." Bryce, Amadeo and Rowena started

to cry for their dear friend and brother Boaz. They never thought he would die. He was still unconscious.

The chances were slim that he would ever wake up.

He would never know that he was going to die. "Oh my goodness look at his throat" Bryce said in fright. The doctor looked at Boaz's swollen throat.

It kept getting bigger and bigger. Finally Boaz started to gasp for air.

"He can't breathe!" Rowena said to the doctor. "Please do something about it!"

"There's not much you can do" the doctor said. "Can't you make a hole in his windpipe so he can breathe again?" Rowena said. "I'm afraid that won't do much good" said Dr. Mordecai. His blood has been completely choked by the poison. He'll suffocate anyway.

Even if I make a hole in his windpipe." "But I find this absolutely ridiculous" said Rowena, sobbing as Boaz, gasping for air, slowly faded away.

"Look at him, he's turned completely purple!" "I think he's dead" said

Bryce finally as he felt Boaz's pulse. "Oh no" said Rowena!

"How horrible!" Dr. Mordecai closed Boaz's eyes. Then a blanket was neatly placed over him. The group stared into nothingness for a while. The atmosphere was gloomy. Everyone was sad. Rowena, Amadeo and Bryce all sat by Boaz's body, crying. A grave was dug and the body was placed in it. Then flowers were placed on the grave. After a while Prince Tristan decided that they had to move on.

They couldn't stay there. The area was much too wet for that. They couldn't stay overnight there. A little further on they probably could. The group rode behind Prince Tristan and Prince Brennan. They rode like that for a while until they came to a large piece of grassland that was located near a large waterfall. There they decided to set up camp for the night.

"Look" said Rowena as she pointed to the sky. "It's a full moon!" Amadeo looked up at the sky and saw 7 beautiful large full moons of Sirion Vox. Because they lived on the planet Prionstar the planets were seen very close. Just like the stars and the sun and the moon and the asteroids. "That's how we will always remember Boaz" said Amadeo. "On the day of the full moon he died." "Yes" said Rowena and she took Amadeo's hand. Together they looked at the 7 full large silver moons of Sirion Vox. "What a magical spectacle, huh?" "Sure" said Rowena. "I'm sure Boaz is watching us from there" said Amadeo. "Yes, I think so too" said Rowena. "He's probably waving at us from one of the 7 full moons." After a while, the tents were set up again and a campfire was made where they grilled rabbit meat. A few soldiers had been out hunting rabbits to shoot them. A little later, the soldiers came walking along with 10 dead rabbits. The rabbits were skinned and grilled over the campfire. The skins were neatly dried and placed in a nice pile. A little later, everyone had a piece of rabbit. The tender meat tasted delicious. Prince Tristan had opened a few bottles of red wine and everyone got a glass of it. The wine tasted deliciously spicy and sweet. After a while everyone had eaten and drunk. Suddenly a skinny gray wolf walked up to the group. He looked wild and his eyes looked wild too. His tongue was hanging out of his mouth and he was panting. "Eeeh Amadeo" said Rowena who had turned around and saw that the wolf had walked towards

her. "I've got company." Amadeo looked behind him and was startled by the wolf. He grabbed his sword to attack the wolf but Rowena made a gesture that he should be quiet. A moment later the wolf was sleeping next to Rowena. His head was in her lap. She stroked his soft fur. "He's really sweet" said Rowena. "

"Look, he must still be a young wolf." Amadeo's eyes widened. "You have a special effect on animals Rowena. You've always had that." "That's not surprising" Bryce laughed. "Rowena is a very beautiful woman." "That's true" Amadeo said. "But I never thought wolves would bow down to her." "What should I call him?" Rowena thought to herself. "I think I'll call you Zev" Rowena said to the wolf as she stroked his head. Zev started to whimper. He opened his eyes and looked at her pitifully. "What's wrong Zev?" Rowena said. "Are you hungry or thirsty?" She grabbed a bucket of water and took what was left of the rabbit meat and gave it to the wolf. The wolf looked at her gratefully. It was obvious that he was starving and very thirsty. He started to drink from the bucket of water.

After a while the entire bucket of water was empty and Zev had eaten all the rabbit meat. He chewed on one of the rabbit bones. "Well well" said Amadeo.

"You've really made it with him Rowena." "All the animals love me" Rowena said proudly. "Oh look here comes Neb too" she said. "He doesn't want to be left out either." She grabbed some of the large purple pistachio nuts that were in her bag and gave them to Neb who took them eagerly. Then she gave Neb a bowl of fresh purple space water from the lake.

## Chapter 9 The Fountain of Eternal Youth

Amadeo asked Rowena if she wanted to go to the waterfall with him. "Sure" she said. "I want to see it up close." They had put all their things in the tent.

Then they walked down the path to the waterfall. When they got there they were amazed. They saw a very large waterfall flowing down a very large rock.

The water was pure and Amadeo and Rowena decided to drink some of it.

They took some of the water with their hands and drank it eagerly. They felt the power of the delicious water flowing through their bodies. After a while they realized that they were drinking from the fountain of eternal youth. That was why the water tasted so delicious and that was why it was so refreshing. Rowena took an empty glass bottle from her bag and put some of the water in it. When she looked into the water of the fountain it seemed as if she saw the face of a woman in the water. That must have been Lorena who was guarding the fountain of eternal youth. "But Amadeo" said Rowena. "Yes Rowena?" said Amadeo. "Do you know what it means that we just drank from the fountain?" Amadeo shook his head. "That means that we will never grow old again! We will remain young and beautiful forever!" "Do you really believe in that?" said Amadeo as he stood up. "I do" Rowena said as she drank more of the water and jumped into the spring. "Is there also a spring of eternal old age?" Amadeo asked Rowena. "I don't know," she said as she swam back and forth in the spring. "Come in too, Amadeo!" she laughed as she beckoned him with her hand to come in the

water too. Amadeo didn't need to be asked twice. He dove into the water, clothes and all, and swam to Rowena.

The water was divine. Rowena felt herself getting all warm inside.

She was bubbling with energy. Amadeo felt it too.

"Look!" Rowena said. "Look, there's a woman standing under the waterfall! She's staring at us!" Amadeo looked in the direction of the waterfall and saw a beautiful woman with long blond hair standing under the waterfall. "What does she want from us, Amadeo?" Rowena asked. "I don't know" said Amadeo. "It must be Lorena, the keeper of the well." Rowena waved at her but her greeting was not returned by the woman. "Why doesn't she wave at us Amadeo?" said Rowena. "Maybe she just doesn't feel like it" said Amadeo. "Wait" said Rowena. "I'm going to her." "Don't do that Rowena. Maybe she wants to be left alone and besides that, in your situation it's not too smart to climb all the way up." Suddenly a group of birds of paradise flew over the water with all beautiful long colored feathers. They landed on the water and started drinking from the water. "Beautiful birds, aren't they Amadeo?" Rowena said. "Yes" Amadeo said. "Just beautiful." "Do you think they live here?" Rowena asked.

"I don't think so" Amadeo said. "I think they have their own forest. Are we really never going to get old?" Amadeo asked Rowena. "I hope not, no. Isn't that great?" she said. "You'll get older but on the outside you'll always stay the same." When Amadeo looked back at the waterfall he saw that Lorena was no longer there. "She's gone" Amadeo said to Rowena. "Lorena is gone." "Where do you think she went Amadeo?" Rowena asked. "I don't know. Should we go back to camp?" Rowena said. "Yes let's do that" Amadeo said as he stepped out of the water. Rowena stared at Amadeo's beautiful muscular chest and decided that she was lucky to have Amadeo.

He was so brave and strong and he wasn't afraid of anything.

That's why they were made for each other because Rowena wasn't afraid of anything either.

Just as they were about to walk back to camp they heard the sound of men's voices. "Quiet" Amadeo said to Rowena and he stopped her. "What's wrong?" Rowena said. "I hear voices" Amadeo said. "Yes that's possible because we're close to camp Amadeo" Rowena said to him. "No no" Amadeo said. "That's not it. I don't think the voices are coming from our camp." After a while Rowena heard the voices too and they came closer and closer.

"Yes now I hear it too" said Rowena. "Quick hide" said Amadeo!

"There are men coming and it looks like they are soldiers of Belial!" Amadeo and Rowena sat down behind a bush. That was just in time because within seconds the place at the waterfall was full of soldiers of Belial.

"Oh no look Amadeo. What are all those soldiers of Belial doing here?"

"I don't know Rowena" whispered Amadeo. "But one thing I know for sure they are not here for the fun." "What are they doing? They are inspecting the source."