

Undying Loyalty

A voice speaks, "Long ago the Ant Kingdom and the Wasp Kingdom were at peace, and they ruled the world together. Until food began to become scarce, that's when the two Kingdoms started a war with each other, in an attempt to keep their people fed. Although they had tried to work together and find solutions to survive together but with their people dying and anarchy rising, war was inevitable. This war had lasted many generations, until the day it ended because each side had almost nothing to fight with. Now all that's left of both kingdoms is the queen, her subjects, her army, and their home. Knowing our history, aren't you more motivated to help your people Antonius? To kill all threats that face our kingdom, so that we may prosper and to push our kingdom back to our glory days?" Antonius, kneeling before the Queen who is sitting at her throne, says "Yes. I am at your service, my queen." "Thank you Antonius, I promise you I will grant you your wish of earning your knighthood and living up to your name, 'Antonius'. Now I shall grant you the 'Queen's Blessing', use it to repair your body when needed." Queen Velvet Citronel uses her powers to grant Antonius the "Queen's Blessing". After this, Queen Velvet Citronel says one last thing to Antonius. "Now go, Antonius, and save our kingdoms from these threats." Antonius gets up and heads to the Castle's personal tunnel system. Inside he passes, soldiers guarding the tunnel and traps that can be triggered by them. The tunnel system was designed to be a maze to easily kill trespassers, but its sole purpose was to traverse the lands safer.

Antonius finally exits the tunnel and finds himself in a mausoleum grave. He opens the door and sees graves that have been broken by time. Judging by the years some of these tombstones have, these graves were for citizens that starved right before the war started. Antonius moves on ahead, already knowing the locations of these great threats. He passed the graveyard and into the foggy forest filled with trees that reached above the clouds. When traversing the forest Antonius comes across another Ant. Antonius stops because the ant's posture is unnatural. The ant turns around and it's relieved that a parasite has taken over this ant's body. It charges at Antonius, but he kills it in one swing of his sword. He moves deeper into the forest to arrive at the village that resides in the center of the giant tree forest. However, sounds of slithering around him begin to form. At first it was one, then two, and then much more. He's surrounded by infected ants and they charge at him. But they are no match against Antonius and they are defeated. Except for one parasite, it leaps from this victim and tries to infect Antonius. Antonius with his quick reaction slashes the parasite into two. He continues to travel further until he finally arrives at the entrance of the village. The forest fog seems to be present in the village. But not enough as the cathedral, which resides at the center of the village, is still visible from the entrance. Yet, Antonius is blocked from the entrance by an Ant infected by multiple parasites. This Ant is also three times Antonius' size of 5.9ft. The Parasites of Emerson challenge Antonius and they begin their battle.

Antonius puts himself on the defensive as being caught by one of those parasites will end his journey very quickly. Some of the parasites spring themselves towards Antonius and Emerson charges Antonius, attempting to run him over. Antonius quickly slices the parasites and jumps to a tree behind him. Emerson slams into the tree, but Antonius is high enough to be safe. Antonius lands behind him to slice at Emerson's abdomen to kill off the many parasites living there. However, Emerson decides to fall on his back. Antonius quickly dashes back. Emerson vomits parasites towards Antonius and the parasites attack. Antonius continues to cut every parasite exposed, but Emerson gets up and rips a big piece of the tree he slammed into. He takes a big swing at Antonius with it, but only crushes the parasites still attacking Antonius. As Antonius jumps back landing on his hands and then pushes himself forward to land the tip of the wood. He runs towards Emerson and stabs his face pushing Emerson to fall against the same tree. Antonius unleashes a fury of slashes until all the parasites begin pouring out, only to be cut up by Antonius. It's over, The Parasites of Emerson are no more.

Antonius now enters the foggy village. Right in the entrance, Antonius notices a hole. Inside the hole contains a small white glow, so Antonius enters it. The small white glow turns out to be a small crystal. He feels the queen's presence, so he kneels, bows his head, and holds the crystal up in the air. The queen speaks his name from inside the crystal "Antonius?" Antonius responds "Yes my queen?" "I had felt a familiar power surging within me and when I looked within, I saw you Antonius. These crystals can only be activated by those who have the 'Queen's Blessing'. I believe there are more scattered around the world and if you come across one. I can heal your wounds, re-charge the 'Queen's Blessing' so you can use them again. I can also transport you to any other crystal you've found or to myself." Antonius responds "My queen thank you, I am in your debt of your generosity." The queen says "I appreciate your gratitude, but a queen is nothing if she doesn't look out for her subjects. Now carry on your journey Antonius, may you come out victorious." The queen cuts off the transmission from the crystal. Antonius gently puts the crystal down and exits the hole.

He continues into the village to get to the cathedral, as one of the kingdom's great threats lies within. Antonius quickly comes to find that the village is filled with parasites but this time the victims are wasps and ants. Antonius battles his way towards the cathedral. He finally arrives at the entrance of the cathedral and enters it. He sees more parasites, but a loud screeching sound occurs. It came from the ceiling of the cathedral, he looks up and sees the threat he's been after. However it escapes to the roof of the cathedral. It seems it wants to get away from Antonius. The screech, however, made the parasites turn their attention towards Antonius. As if they were commanded to. Antonius battles the parasites while heading his way to the roof. When he finally makes it, he is met by Arisanna The Corrupted Parasite, who is four times his size. She is a thread waisted wasp who became a monster when she lost her sanity and began laying parasites on her victims.

Arisanna throws her parasites at Antonius, but he cuts those parasites and runs to Arisanna. He lays blows against Arisanna's abdomen using his sword but it's not enough. Arisanna grows six tentacles out of her body and flings them all towards Antonius. He dodges five of them but gets hit by the sixth one. He is knocked back and almost falls off the roof. Luckily he managed to grab onto the ledge, avoiding falling to ground level and risking Arisanna escaping from him as he tries to get back up. He pulls himself up and charges at Arisanna. Arisanna tries the same tactic but Antonius, learning, manages to dodge all of them. However, a parasite breaks from Arisanna's stomach and lunges at Antonius. Antonius spins, slices the parasite, and leaps to her chest. He stabs her, she lets out a screech. Arisanna uses her tentacle to crush Antonius but he dashes to the ground and Arisanna ends up hurting herself to the point where she falls to the ground. Antonius finishes the job and stabs her brain. One of the great threats has been killed.

A white glow comes from Arisanna's corpse. Antonius pulls it out and finds it's the same white crystal from before. He immediately kneels, bows, and holds it up in the air. "Antonius, I congratulate you on your victory for killing Arisanna. Furthermore, this crystal you've found has extra power. Enough to give the Queen's blessing another charge, but you need to extract the extra power and return it to me in person." "I understand but I'm afraid if I go off track on my mission the threats may make their move on the kingdom." Antonius replied. The queen says "I understand your fear, but I don't want you to push yourself beyond your limits. If you fall Antonius, then so will the kingdom.". Antonius replies "I will keep this in mind and I also wish to be teleported to the entrance to the village" "Very well." After saying this, the queen teleports Antonius back to the entrance of the village.

Antonius appears in the hole where the first crystal was located. He exits the hole and sees a short cuckoo wasp with a big bag on her back, peeking from a fence that's holding the town's name sign. Antonius slowly draws his sword, but the cuckoo wasp falls to the ground, curls into a ball, and starts crying. "Pleeeassee don't kill me!" Antonius sensing no threats from this cowardly wasp, he puts his sword back. "Relax, I'm not going to hurt you." says Antonius. She speaks while still crying "Liar! I-I saw you cut a-all t-those monsters up. Y-you I-look scary, act scary, and sound scary. Y-you're just a big scary monster!" Antonius gives an annoyed sign and tries to walk past her. "See! I knew it! I annoyed you and now you're gonna eat me!" She says while crying even harder. Antonius, ignoring her, walks past her without making eye contact. The cuckoo wasp interrupts her crying with "wait, so you're not going to eat me?". Antonius walking away says "No.". The cuckoo wasp gets up and follows Antonius. He stops and turns towards her. "Why are you following me?" "Well, since you're not going to eat me. I thought I'd introduce myself. My name is Poco and I sell stuff, see?". Poco opens her bag and Antonius sees a wide range of items. Some are useful, while many aren't. "I only ask for any type of meat in exchange." "I don't have any meat to give." says

Antonius. "Oh... well that's okay. Maybe I can give you a free item of your choosing. That way, you can be motivated to gather meat." Upon further inspection of Poco's items, Antonius notices a rope that's quite long. An idea sparks from Antonius. He can use this rope to pull himself too high to reach areas and pull others towards him so it'll be easier to fight battles without being outnumbered. Antonius takes the rope from her bag. Poco says "Thank you for doing business with me. Oh! Before I forget, you don't need to come back here to do business everytime. I'll be around in your travels. By the way, what's your name?" "My name is Antonius and that's fine by me." When Antonius said that's fine by me, he didn't realize that he gave the ok for Poco to follow him in the shadows until he's ready to do business, oh well. Antonius heads back into the forest for his next target, Goliath. In the giant tree forest, he takes the path that will lead him to the mountains. That's where he'll find Goliath.

Antonius gets close to the mountains but needs to climb up the sunflowers to get to the tall cliff that will allow him to start his journey up the mountains. These sunflowers range from 150ft-210ft, making reaching the cliff possible. Once he makes it to the cliff he sees another crystal but he ignores it because there is no need to use it. Upon traveling a little further, Antonius encounters hostile bees and beetles. They speak another language and begin to attack Antonius. They all end up dying to Antonius. Antonius fights more of them until he travels deeper into the mountains. Now he can finally see more mountains ahead, but he sees a massive exoskeleton of a spider giant that covers two mountains. He knows he's getting closer, to where Goliath may be. Then a strong quake occurs and a spider leg almost crushes Antonius. The area around him crumbles and he is forced to run further ahead. Antonius runs to a flat surface of the mountain and the quake stops.

Despite Antonius being a speck of dust compared to Goliath Eater of Worlds, Antonius has earned the attention of Goliath. Goliath reveals his head to Antonius and tries to crush him with his leg. But Antonius is too quick and agile for Goliath. Antonius and Goliath's difference in size makes this battle much more difficult. Not to mention Goliath's size alone makes him the most powerful in this world. Antonius tries slashing at Goliath's legs but it does nothing. Goliath tries shooting his venom at Antonius, the venom covers most of the area. Antonius then leaps to Goliath's leg then jumps to Goliath's face, stabbing him in the eye. Goliath screeches in agony and angrily stomps his two front legs. Antonius falls to the ground and immediately moves out of the way before he gets crushed by Goliath's leg. The mountains begin to crumble, Antonius must think fast before the mountain completely falls apart. He takes Poco's rope and lashes onto one of Goliath's hair, then flings himself onto Goliath's head. The mountain has completely fallen apart. Antonius is then greeted with multiple baby spiders. He fights the horde and eventually wins, but he is injured. More baby spiders are coming his way. Antonius quickly heals himself with the Queen's Blessing. He then quickly comes up with an idea. Antonius starts cutting into Goliath's head. The skin is very

tough but Antonius puts all the strength he can muster and manages to cut a hole big enough for him to enter. He enters it right before the baby spider can overwhelm him. Once inside Antonius cuts many times through the tissue and eventually makes it to the brain. He starts slicing away at Goliath's brain. Goliath starts screeching and stomping desperately to stop his brain from being destroyed. Antonius delivers the killing blow and Goliath Eater of Worlds is no more.

Antonius comes out from the cut he made earlier, he makes his way down Goliath's corpse to the base of the mountains. There he finds a white crystal covered in webs, it seems one of Goliath's children was holding onto it. No dead spider is near it so it must've dropped it while running away. Antonius takes it and kneels, bows, and holds it up in the air. Queen Velvet Citronel speaks "Antonius, your defeat of Goliath will be a tale told until the end of time. But do not get overcome by pride as my previous left hand was, as he abandoned our people." Antonius replies "I would not even dream of letting my pride bring wrong doing to our people. However, my queen, if I may. I am only following your will, I'm not in it for self glory." The queen responds "You may be a squire but you hold more honor and loyalty than most of my knights ever will. I hope it's because you understand my ambitions and not because you are young. I must ask you, Antonius, to find and kill the remaining spiders before it becomes impossible to find them." "I will do so right away." says Antonius. The transmission cuts off. Antonius looks ahead and sees Poco jumping joyously, he approaches her and asks "Why are you so happy?" Poco responds "It's because I saw how coooool you were! You were fighting this giant spider and then you fought more spiders except tiny, like a hero! Then you went inside his head and killed him and came out of his head and you looked soo awesome!" Antonius, a bit embarrassed, says "Ok. You can stop. Do you know where the rest of the spiders have gone?" Poco replies "Yeah they all ran into the dark cave up ahead. But it looks scary so I won't follow you this time." "This time?" said Antonius "Well yeah I've been following you this whole time. Why else would I say I'll be around in your travels?" said Poco. Antonius responds "Your words make more sense now." "Right?" says Poco. Antonius heads towards the cave but Poco says "What! Don't you want to do business now?" Antonius turns back to see what she has in store. Poco lays her items out on a worn out piece of cloth. The item that catches Antonius' interest is a bottle containing a white crystal. "Where did you get this?" Antonius asks. Poco tells him "I found it laying in the ground a long time ago. It looked very pretty so I kept it in a clear bottle so I could look at it from time to time without dropping it. I'll sell it to you for forty pieces of meat." Antonius takes the deal and buys some very sharp rocks with the rest of the currency he has. As soon as Antonius touches the bottle, the crystal glows white. Poco in shock says "Wait a minute! Why did it glow for you and not me!" Antonius walking away says "It was a pleasure doing business with you Poco." Poco, being upset, stomps angrily and says "You better make it out of that cave safe and sound! So I can give you a piece of my mind later you scammer!"

Antonius enters the cave with the crystal being his light source. However, the light only lets him see 30ft around him, beyond that is pure darkness. With his vision limited he must tread carefully or he may be devoured by whatever creatures rest here. As Antonius goes deeper, sounds of fast footsteps come around him. It doesn't feel like he's surrounded. A creature appears in front of him and sprints at Antonius, he quickly cuts it down. It was a cave roach, these cave roaches only act on instinct just as all cave dwellers do. Which makes this cave more dangerous than just being dark. Unfortunately this type of noise continues. It comes and goes, but it never stops. Antonius comes across a gap, before he is even able to cross it a cave centipede tries to snatch him from inside the gap. It fails to take Antonius into the darkness and eat him. Antonius cuts it and stabs it in the face, but before Antonius can deal the finishing blow. The cave centipede gets snatched away and pulled into the dark gap. Antonius finally crosses the gap and continues deeper into the cave. He encounters one of the spiders he is hunting, but it's twitching and nearly dead. Antonius kills it but upon further inspection he finds that it's been torn apart. He travels further in the cave, Antonius is met with more cave dwellers but not as much as he expected, it's unnatural. He sees another dead spider but it gets pulled into the shadows. As Antonius tries to follow the blood trail it left behind, he gets stopped by a very big hole. He questions his sanity for even considering jumping in there blind. But he must, if he ever wants to earn his knighthood and live up to his name. Antonius takes the plunge. The fall was 6 seconds long, making it a 579ft drop. He lands unhurt however, this is because ants forced evolved surviving falls that would normally kill them. When he lands he sees blood everywhere, but there are no corpses. This puts Antonius on high alert, so he keeps his sword out and continues onward. A drop of blood falls from above, Antonius looks up and sees a spider dangling. Antonius prepares himself for what may emerge from the dark, nothing emerges. He is forced to move on head, more blood is found and eventually something does emerge from the dark. It's horrifying, corpses mashed together move as if they're one body. It's large; the only sounds it makes are sounds of corpses being crushed together. Antonius throws the sharp rocks he got from Poco but it doesn't flinch. Antonius doubts he can even hurt it, but no other options are available. The abomination tries to swing corpses at Antonius as if it's swinging an arm. Antonius dashes back but the abomination makes an awful noise. Parasites, who have taken over the bodies of ants, come out from the abomination and attack Antonius. Antonius fights off the parasites and makes enough cuts against the abomination to see a crystal in the center of it. He throws a sharp rock at the crystal and destroys it. The pile of corpses all fall down, ceasing movement. A white mist exiting the destroyed crystal travels to Antonius, another charge for the Queen's Blessing is gained, a total of three charges he's gained. From three defeated threats of the ant kingdom. The crystal from the bottle glows brighter, however the pile of corpses begin to move again and try to

swallow Antonius whole. But Antonius is teleported just in time to the last crystal he spoke the queen to, at the defeat of Goliath.

Antonius does the usual pose with the crystal to speak to the queen. He asks her "Did. You see, what I saw... my queen?" "Yes, I saw it all through the crystal Antonius. I never knew of its existence until now. I never even felt the crystal's power when you were near... that thing. As I should've when you neared every crystal from before. Antonius, do NOT go into that cave again. I will close it off from the rest of the world after you finish your quest, for it's too dangerous for me to go outside. Now Antonius, I need to inform you that an assassin has started to make his move to end my life. I know it's him" said the queen. "The Avenger of the Lost" said Antonius. The queen replies "Yes, one of your targets. My informants tell me his last known location is at the giant flower forests. I will teleport you to the crystal you walked by at the cliffs." "Wait, my queen, I have some business I need to attend to." The queen responds "You may finish up your business with your wasp merchant." "I didn't mean to hide her from you." Antonius replied, speaking honestly. The queen also speaking truthfully says "That wasp's inventory has helped you two times already. I believe that's deserving of my mercy. Go and attend to your merchant, I shall wait." She cuts off the transmission. Antonius heads to Poco who is waiting where she last spoke to him. Poco spots Antonius and says happily "Antonius! You're still alive!" She hops with joy. Antonius tells her "The meat I found in the cave was rotten, so I have none to give now." "It doesn't matter right now. I'm just glad my friend is safe." said Poco but Antonius replies "Friend?". So Poco, wanting to explain herself, says "Of course! You're the only one that treated me this kindly before and you actually buy my stuff!" Antonius gives a happy "mhf". Antonius tells Poco "Listen Poco, don't follow me this time. I'll be out hunting someone trying to assassinate the queen and I don't want you to be killed while following me. Stay away from the giant flower forest." "I get it Antonius, but I made you a good luck charm so you can stay safe. I tried to make it look like you, while I was waiting for you to come back." Poco hands Antonius a small clay ball with tiny sticks pointing forwards on top of the ball. (This looks nothing like me) thought Antonius, but he still accepted it realizing it's value to Poco. Poco waves goodbye as Antonius heads towards the crystal and teleports away.

Antonius travels from the cliff to the giant flower forest. Once he's in the territory, Antonius gets attacked by a member of the Reduviidae race. The Reduviidae are a race of natural born assassins whose poweress surpasses the common folk. They hated both the ant kingdom and the wasp kingdom for the longest time. They've been attacking these two kingdoms since the great war started and now they wish to take their opportunity of ending both kingdoms while they're at their weakest. Antonius defeats the reduviidae and continues fourth. Looking for more reduviidae to kill in hopes to draw out the leader. He finds and kills more reduviidae until eventually he is almost stuck behind by an assassin bug. But parries at just the right time for the blade to slide

right past him. "The Avenger of the Lost" says Antonius. The avenger stares at him until he speaks. "You. Your queen. Your people. Will all die. Then the dead may rest." They begin their battle, it becomes a series of clashes. Antonius begins to soon take the advantage but gets parried and stumbles back. The avenger throws a kunai at Antonius. Antonius hits the kunai away but the avenger quickly slashes Antonius. His chest gains a deep cut, but toughs it out until he can heal. Antonius clashes against the avengers next swing. The avenger pulls away and jumps to the flowers, he quickly moves from one flower to the next. Antonius quickly heals but that's what the avenger was waiting for, the moment Antonius stops and heals himself. Antonius realizes what he's put himself into and interrupts the healing. He immediately gets out of the way and dodges a plunge attack. It takes two seconds for the Queen's Blessing to fully heal the body, but since Antonius interrupted the healing it only healed half of his injuries. As soon as the avenger touches the ground he dashes towards Antonius. Antonius leaps over him and slices the avengers arm that was carrying his sword clean off. Antonius then pulls the avenger with his rope to himself from behind. Antonius stabs him in the back and lifts the avenger up in the air with his sword still lodged in his back. Then slams the avenger in the ground, pulls the sword out and stabs him in the neck. The queen is safer now.

Antonius pulls his sword out from the avenger, fully heals himself, then heads to the queen herself on foot. He needs to inform her that all targets have been killed, except for the wasp queen Evania Vespula and her left hand, God Stinger Garima. As Antonius makes it to the ant graveyard, he sees Poco staring at another ant with a spear on his back looking over a grave. "What's wrong?" Antonius asked. "Gah!" Poco shouts "Sorry," says Antonius, then Poco answers his question "I forgive you. Anyway I was following that guy for a while because I thought it was you. I mean can you blame me? The fog in the giant tree forest has gotten so thick after you left the cave. But I followed because I wanted to know why you were going the wrong way. Then we ended up here and I realised it wasn't you. Then you scared me a few minutes later." Antonius looks towards the ant and tells Poco "Stay here." He approaches the ant and the ant, still looking over the grave, says "The queen's new slave has finally come back home, my name is Ashmit and I know my name is on that list." Antonius responds in a threatening tone "I will give the queen her long awaited justice." Ashmit says in return "Justice?" he scoffs and continues "Antonius, do you have any idea what the queen has done to this world? Her actions in the great war have made this world hell! Don't you think it was odd when you killed those two monstrosities the queen's crystal came out of them? I started to follow you from when you entered that village and eavesdropped on your talks with the queen because I just knew that the queen had found her new slave. I left the kingdom so you became my replacement. Your loyalty makes you blind to see she's the problem." "I am not a slave. The queen and I do what we must for our people." says Antonius. Ashmit takes a deep breath and says "Antonius I thought the same thing when I served her. But she would send this world to eternal damnation if it meant saving

her people and that's what she almost did if I didn't stop her madness in the war. The queen had the power to corrupt anyone using those white crystals if they didn't have the Queen's Blessing. So her plan was to corrupt members of the wasp kingdom. Once they were corrupted they would lose their minds and attack the wasp kingdom, ending the war quicker. However, some managed to steal the rest and use it's power for themselves. But it was all a part of the queen's plan. More and more began to become corrupted and turn into monstrosities. My squad and I were tasked by the queen to corrupt Arisanna. A wasp that seeks forbidden knowledge to use in the war, a great threat to the ant kingdom. We traveled to the village in the center of the giant tree forest where she hid. I was told by the queen that the village was used for a military base, but I realised that was a lie too late. Once we found her, we used the queen's crystal to corrupt her and we left the village to see it all unfold. She lost her sanity and began to lay parasites on the soldiers, that's when I discovered the lie. There were villagers hiding in their homes from us, not realising that their protectors became parasites. The parasites began attacking the villagers and they began to scream in terror begging for someone to come save them. My comrades, feeling guilty, decided to go and save them. I followed them back to the village but there were too many parasites and the situation turned mad. My comrades, my friends, were taken over by the parasites and I killed them. Except for one, Emerson. The whole village was taken over by the parasites, the queen later sent soldiers to clean up the mess but they never returned home. After I escaped, I spoke to the queen using the crystal to tell her what happened. She told me that everyone in the village, including my friends, was a necessary sacrifice! That HEARTLESS monster could care less about the innocent or her own people! Do you even understand who your queen is Antonius!? If you have any sense of good in your heart then I implore you to help me off the queen! What's your choice, Antonius?" Antonius pauses before he responds. His choice can change the future of the world at this very moment.

Antonius answers "Queen Velvet Citronel made a choice to set herself as the villain of the world when she was brought into power so she can end the war that lasted many generations. Then she will atone for her sins of sacrificing the innocent and her own people. By making a world where the ant kingdom can prosper and live in abundance in peace. I, Antonius, am the one who will fix the queen's mistakes and protect our people. Ashmit, by the will of the queen, you will be sentenced to death." Ashmit defeatingly says "So be it." They both pull out their weapons and they clash. Two of the ant kingdom's strongest warriors fight to the death, with the future of this world at hand. They both attack, parry, and block each other for fifteen minutes. Their stamina begins to drain and one mistake can cost their life now. Ashmit with the tip of his spear faints an attack. Antonius falls for it and tries to hit Ashmit's spear in an attempt to stop it's momentum. Ashmit quickly pulls his spear back and hits Antonius on the head with the butt end of the spear. Antonius becomes disoriented but manages to parry away the

fatal blows from Ashmit, but still continues to get hit by the butt end of the spear. Antonius can no longer take the blows and falls on his back. Ashmit goes for the killing blow. Then suddenly, Ashmit gets stabbed in the back with a sharp rock. It seems Poco threw it, saving Antonius from certain death. Antonius uses this one second opportunity to cut Ashmits arms off and knocks him back with a kick, his spear goes up in the air as a result. Then Antonius takes Ashmits spear, spins it around to gain momentum, and throws it at Ashmits chest before he can recuperate. Antonius has won this battle with the help of Poco. Ashmit spits out blood and screams with his last breath
“AAAAAGGGGAAAAHHH! ANTONIIIIUUUSSSS! YOU JUST SENT THIS WORLD TO DAMNATION! CITRONNNNEEEELLLLL!” Ashmits voice then fades away as he dies.

Antonius falls to his knees and Poco runs to her friend’s aid. Antonius, weak, tells her “I’m. Fine. Look” He heals himself with the Queen’s Blessing. Poco gives a sigh of relief but Antonius says “You saved my life, thank you Poco.” Poco says blushing “Aww shucks, it was nothing” Antonius gets up and informs Poco “I need to see the queen. It’s time. I’ll tell you more after I come back.” Poco nods her head and waits for Antonius to return. Antonius heads to the mausoleum grave and enters the tunnel. He arrives at the queen’s throne room. Antonius informs the queen “The betrayer is now dead.” The queen responds “Thank you Antonius for killing him and not being dismayed by his foolishness. I will forever be grateful for you understanding me and why I do what I do. You are just one more step away from receiving your knighthood, all you need to do now is kill the wasp queen Evania Vespula and her left hand. Who is referred as God Stinger Garima. Sadly you will be alone. Our kingdom doesn’t have enough soldiers to protect both the kingdom and fight alongside you.” Antonius says “I understand, I will go alone and achieve victory, you have my word my queen.” Antonius then goes back to the surface and sees Poco still there. Antonius says “Poco... do you carry any bond with the wasp kingdom?” Poco replies “No. I know that I’m supposed to feel something towards the wasp kingdom, but I don’t. It’s mainly because my people, the cuckoo wasps, weren’t chosen to be a part of the kingdom a long time ago, way before I was born, and still aren’t. The kingdom saw us as cowardly people unfit to be a part of their society, saying they’ll tarish the kingdom’s name and generations. Because of being abandoned by them, we struggled to survive and eventually died out, leaving me behind.” Poco looks down, saddened by the memory. “I’m sorry you had to go through that.” said Antonius. Poco looks at Antonius and says “It’s ok, because I’m not alone anymore. I have you now. But why ask me that?” Antonius answers “It’s because the final step of fulfilling the queen’s will is to kill the wasp queen and her left hand.” “Oh! Then in that case you should buy my wares. I have special items now, look!” said Poco excitedly. Antonius believes Poco’s uncaring attitude towards the potential destruction of the wasp kingdom is justified. If he was in Poco’s standpoint then he would feel the same as her. Antonius looks at her new wares as she lays them down on a worn piece

of cloth. He chooses sharp rocks again but also gets a rock shield and a greatsword. Poco tells Antonius "Since you're my friend, I'll give you the friend discount. Everything is half off!" She claps as a little celebration for Antonius. Antonius pays for the items with meat. Poco chose meat as a currency because it acts as her source of food. Despite being cowardly at times Poco does eat other people as a way of survival. They are always dead when Poco finds them so she never needs to kill, but she isn't physically or mentally capable of killing someone. If Poco could have it any other way, she would eat something else that doesn't hurt her heart when she does. Antonius makes a promise to Poco before he leaves: "I promise I'll come back." Then he leaves.

Antonius heads towards the wasp kingdom to end the journey. Antonius will need to traverse the giant tree forest once again because the giant tree forest takes up most of the territory of the remaining ant and wasp kingdom. Long ago when the ant and wasp kingdom were at peace. They had many kingdoms expanding across the super continent, but when the war had started many kingdoms had fallen by the end of it. The last two kingdoms both reside on the edge of the giant tree forest. The ant kingdom on the south side and the wasp kingdom on the north side. It takes Antonius an entire day to reach the wasp kingdom. When he finally arrives Antonius notices details about the wasp kingdom. The castle resides on a hill towards the center-back of the kingdom walls, the town lived at the base of the hill, behind the kingdom is the ocean, and their walls, made out of stone, were designed to be a hexagon shape. The kingdom overall rests on a cliff to make it easier to focus on their sides and front when being invaded. It being the last wasp kingdom is enough evidence to prove this strategy is effective. However, they had still not recovered from the war. The walls still have damages and some are severe enough to have gaps. There can be many reasons why they are slow to rebuild, internal struggle, insufficient resources, etc. After scouting, Antonius makes a choice to go to the wall gap on the right side. Antonius spots four guards posted by the gap. He swiftly kills all four of them without them alerting the others. He enters the town, but oddly there are no townspeople. Some houses have boarded up windows/doors and some don't. Guards come towards Antonius but are, of course, killed by him. When Antonius fights more guards and comes closer to the castle hill. A voice speaks to him, from inside a boarded house. It's a dying man and he speaks in a whimpering weak voice "Please, oh please. Let me out of here. I don't want to die here. Please, oh please." The dying man begins to softly cry. Antonius doesn't say a word, not because he doesn't care but because he can do nothing for him so why speak at all? Antonius begins to go further ahead but is stopped again by another voice. This time it's a woman's voice, she speaks calmly "Hello? Is someone there? I can hear your footsteps. Can you please let me out, I haven't seen my mother in two days. She's sick you see, I've been trying to take care of her to make her better but she's been worse by the day. I fear if I don't see her soon, then she.... she..." The woman begins to cry softly. Antonius believes that whatever happened to the townspeople can explain why the kingdom

hasn't recovered from the war. The wasp kingdom is also lacking soldiers, this is why the queen was ok with sending Antonius by himself to off queen Evania Vespula. It was not only because queen Velvet Citronel had great confidence in Antonius' skills. Maybe the townspeople and army problem are connected? A question for another time.

Antonius leaves and makes it to the base of the hill. There he can walk up the hill and up the castle wall to one of its windows. While he's doing this, Antonius is attacked by flying guards, some shoot him with arrows, while others attack with their spears. Oddly enough their spears look similar to Ashmits. Antonius makes it to the castle window without being killed or knocked to the bottom and even manages to kill them. Then he breaks through it and lands inside. He's currently near the lowest level in the castle. When landing inside Antonius is met by the royal guards. This is where Antonius must fight his way to the highest level in the castle. Where the wasp queen is located, the throne room.

Eventually he makes it to the room before the throne room. Here he meets the wasp queen's left hand God Stinger Garima, a cow killer wasp who is the wasp kingdom's strongest knight. Garima is seen staring at her reflection in her sword, still staring at her reflection she says "I must know..." she looks at Antonius "...why?" Antonius answers her "Redemption". They both ready themselves to fight. Garima is 40ft away from Antonius but nearly instantly closes the gap and Antonius barely blocks her attack. She goes back to her spot before Antonius can even hit her. Garima attacks again and again with her incredible speed. This puts Antonius on the defensive. Garima tries to kill Antonius with her stinger. Antonius tries to block it with his rock shield but it gets shattered to dust when it gets hit with Garima's stinger. The impact forces Antonius to stumble back and Garima unleashes a fury of attacks. Antonius tries to block as many attacks as he can but keeps getting hit with the ones he fails to block. Antonius is put in a dire situation and Garima is giving Antonius no time to breathe. Antonius tries to look for an opening, but Garima is flawless in her barrage of swings. Until Antonius figures out her pattern and manages to parry her next attack before Antonius is killed by the next attack he misses, stumbling her back. Antonius, being bloody and battered, musters up all his strength to stab Garima in the chest before she regains her footing. However it's too late Garima recovers and tries the same as Antonius. Antonius stabs her in the chest and Garima misses. Antonius pulls the sword out of her body and steps back. Garima holds her chest and almost falls to the ground. She's not finished yet. Both seriously injured, clash swords but are slower than before. The faster they move the faster they die, but the slower they move the faster they die. Garima, knowing this, tries to give it her all because her only goal is to protect her queen. The only way to do this now is to kill Antonius in one final strike. However, she didn't realise this was a fatal mistake. Antonius was using the minimum amount of energy he had left so he can give an all out counter attack to any all out move Garima makes. Which she did. Garima dives at Antonius with her sword ready to stab Antonius in the face, but Antonius quickly

side-steps to the left. He moves his sword against Garima's legs, cutting them off. She falls to the ground and tries to crawl to her dropped sword. Antonius pulls his greatsword out of his back and slams it against Garima's neck. Her head rolls away from her body. Antonius immediately heals himself before he dies, the Queen's Blessing brings him back to full recovery. All that's left is Evania Vespula and it's over.

Right before Antonius enters the throne room, he takes out the good luck charm Poco made for him. Poco was Antonius' only friend as well. He puts the good luck charm away and enters the throne room. The wasp queen says nothing to Antonius, but Antonius says nothing as well. The yellow jacket queen exits from her high throne and as she's walking down the stairs. She begins to glow white, until the glow consumes her and she transforms. She's humongous, her wings are a white transparent color but look like that of a butterfly's wing. She now has six arms, two skinny abdomens with two very sharp stingers. Her black and yellow color scheme has changed to a snow white and grey color. Antonius pulls out his great sword and prepares himself to put an end to the wasp kingdom. The queen creates white orbs from all six of her hands and each of those orbs fire white colored lasers at Antonius. Antonius dodges and dashes to the queen to slash at her abdomens. The orbs vanish, those orbs only stay until the attack is finished. The queen tries to penetrate Antonius with her stinger. Antonius shields himself with the greatsword and gets flung back. The queen throws three orbs at Antonius, he dodges but the orbs come flying back to him. The queen fires three lasers at Antonius from three new orbs. He tries to dodge both the orbs and the lasers but gets hit with an orb and gets knocked to the ground. The last orb flies at Antonius and he blocks it with the greatsword. The queen moves towards Antonius so she can crush him with her stingers. Antonius shifts his greatsword and the orb quickly flings to the queen's chest. With the queen staggered, Antonius leaps and stabs the queen in her chest. He pulls the greatsword out and lands on the ground. The queen slowly lifts her hands up and her eyes begin to beam a bright glow the whole room shakes and collapses. The room is now exposed to the dark blue skies. Antonius survives the room collapsing and he pushes the rubble away from him. The queen summons lighting from the skies, Antonius tries to dodge them but is met with a direct attack from the queen's stingers. Antonius avoids the stinger by backflipping away but gets directly hit with lighting. With the lighting surging through his body he finds it very difficult to move. The queen forms six orbs and fuses them at her chest, she charges it for a super laser. Antonius must act fast or he'll be obliterated. The lighting surging his body begins to calm and he's able to move his arms. So he takes his queen's crystal from the bottle and throws it towards the giant orb. The orb starts to go crazy and the wasp queen can't stop or control it anymore. Queen Velvet Citronel is manipulating the orb to become unstable using her crystal. The orb finally lets out a giant explosion that blows the entire castle to smithereens, engulfing the wasp queen, Antonius, and everyone near the castle. It's been done, the wasp kingdom is no more. Antonius has truly lived up to his name of

being worthy of praise and value in the eyes of his people and queen. But Antonius truly did it for redemption, which is why earning knighthood was important to him. To have the queen redeem him by knighting him, thus earning the queen's favor.

From Antonius' view-point everything began to fade to white, and the wasp queen's screams began to fade as well. Antonius believed it was his time to die so he accepted it, breaking his promise to Poco.... or so he thought. Queen Velvet Citronel's voice can be heard "A queen is nothing if she doesn't look out for her subjects. That includes you as well, Antonius." The white light begins to fade away and Antonius, lying on the ground, sees Poco in his face. He gently pushes her aside and is able to see that he's in his queen's throne room. The queen standing in front of her throne holding a sword says "Come, Antonius, allow me to grant you knighthood." Antonius gets up and walks towards the queen. Antonius kneels in front of the queen, bowing his head. She begins the ceremony of knighthood. Poco feels joy that Antonius was able to achieve what he's been working for ever since they met. For why Poco is in the queen's throne room is because ever since Poco gave Antonius the bottle with the queen's crystal inside it. She was able to watch Poco help and save Antonius throughout his journey. It was then she decided to award Poco greatly by giving Poco the queen's protection and citizenship. After the ceremony is complete, Antonius is now officially a knight of the ant kingdom. However, Antonius, still kneeling and bowing, says "My queen." The queen responds "Yes? What are your desires?" Then Antonius says "What will you have your knight do next?"

The End