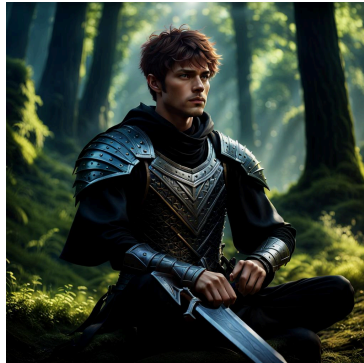


Characters



Khell, the young protagonist, seems to be hunted by some kind of presence, but he has no time to inquire since he's in search of the group of bandits who killed his friends.



Domnhall is a mysterious man who helps Khell escape from some trouble. He joins the young one since he was headhunting the same bandits.



Nader is a fortuneteller who lives in a small village and has a peculiar clairvoyance power. He and Domnhall have already met once in a distant past.

Nader the fortune teller

[The old fortune teller Nader helps Khell and Domhnall to elude the guards searching for them. He leads the two in his house and waits with them for the chaos to settle down.]

Domhnall

[Sits down on a chair resigned and in visible discomfort.]

Why have you helped us, Nader?

Nader

[Slowly takes a seat in front of the guests.]

I see you remember my name even after all those years.

Domhnall

It's hard to forget the one who fooled you promising a peaceful life.

Nader

[Laughing loud.]

You're very different from the kid I remember.

Domhnall

Cut the crap and answer.

Nader

I will not ask in return more than the time you're obliged to stay here if that's what you're asking.

Khell

Very nice of you, but I don't believe in free kindness.

Nader

[His assistant brings tea, and he begins to sip it.]

I don't think you believe in anything aside from yourself, but if it helps you be more comfortable, let's just say my blind eye saw something interesting.

Khell

[Sceptic.]

How can a blind eye see anything?

Domhnall

This charlatan claims to be a fortune teller, don't listen to his bullshit.

Nader

Sometimes blind eyes see better. This blindfold is not meant to cover an eye that cannot see, but to limit one that sees too much.

Domhnall

[Starts to get nervous.]

Time must have hit you harder than I imagined, you're rambling.

Nader

Anger clouds your soul the same way as your judgment. You have experienced my clairvoyance first-hand, Do you still refuse to acknowledge the gift the gods gave me?

Domhnall

It's true, I've experienced your lies; I've deluded myself with the dreams you sold for a pittance, but the truth is that you're nothing but a fraud, an old fool who pretends to possess some kind of power and invents idiotic stories to scrape together a living.

[Spits on the floor.]

You have no idea what the future holds.

[Stands up loudly moving his chair.]

You don't fucking know anything!

Nader

[Sympathizing with Domhnall.]

I made you no promises then, nor did I lie to you. I only foretold what I witnessed: a young girl in an apron, holding a baby in a house amidst the trees. This was as far as my gaze had been able to wander.

Domhnall

[Screams.]

But you did not see her death! Nor that of our son! You are only a...

[Collapses on the chair clenching his teeth.]

Nader

No one knows all the outcomes, neither the wise nor the foolish, and so cannot I. What I am allowed to see is merely a possibility, there is no certainty in the future because it is not engraved in stone or in the cloth of time; it's ours, to forge with our choices. It depends solely on us.

[There's silence in the room for quite a moment.]

Khell

So you are implying that you have no power to predict what awaits a person.

Nader

As I said, kid, I can only see a few of the hundreds of possible outcomes, but my ability lies in being able to determine which is the most likely of these.

Khell

Domhnall is right, you are nothing but a fraud. Even if what you say turns out to be true, all you are doing is selling visions that may or may not come true. You are no different from many others in that.

Nader

That may be so, but I am certain that what my eye allows me to see is no lie, whether it be the future or the shape of a soul.

[Khell stays silent with a doubtful face and Nader stands up and walks toward him.]

Nader

I can see your soul has been eaten alive by some sort of... fury. Your spirit is cloaked in clouds, and you're full of doubts and anger.

[He pauses for a moment and starts walking around him while staring absently.]

But there's still something you lean on. I can see a little red-furred ermine entwined around your neck; she is praying for you to feel her warmth as you used to do when the two of you were still together.

Khell

[Shocked.]

Rose...

Nader

That's what I saw out there; that's what convinced me to help you. A
disparate plea for help from the depths of your soul.

[Walks toward Domhnall, still collapsed on his chair.]

And the similar call that I can still sense from the crow that swirls on top
of your head.

Domhnall

[Mumbles.]

Maya, even now...

Nader

But I think I've spoken more than enough. You better rest a bit. More time
will be needed before the guards stop searching for you; till that moment,
you're my guests.

[He turns back to his assistant.]

Lead them to the guest room. We'll finish our talk later.