## Sovereign Esteria

I was still a girl when i inherited the Rainbow Star
Parasol from my Mother making me the new Sovereign
my name is Esteria the day of my Mother's funeral was
hard on me when a faery passes away they shatter into
silver dust then we gather the Dust and bury it along
with a seed preferably the seed of the Flower that was
most beloved by the Sovereign in my Mother's case she
loved Peonies the most

When a Faery's dust is buried with a flower the flower will grow within a matter of seconds and it will give off a beautiful glow we call these Flowers Mors Lumina my Mother's Mors Lumina shines in the sacred grove but besides that my Mother also had another important obligation besides leading our clan Mother was the only Faery who could reproduce

She was incredibly important but with that said i open my eyes finding myself in my Mother's room clutching my Rainbow Star Parasol i then got out of the bed and i began to get dressed i look at myself in the mirror and smile at my beautiful white hair my clan has prismatic hair that changes color depending on how the light hits it however my Mother and i being Sovereign's did not have that ability our hair remains as white as snow another thing about Faeries is that our hair is incredibly important to us i don't really know why though but if a member of our clan cuts their hair it's an incredible shame only certain professions can allow you to cut their hair

But that's enough about that i fly over to my wardrobe and i begin to get dressed i choose to wear a crystal blue top with a white and red striped long skirt i also adorn myself with some jewelry mainly two emerald anklets then i place ladybug hair pin into my white locks i then take my Parasol and i fly out my balcony window the sun rises on our little settlement and soon i hear the sound of the birds my first order of business is to go to the Faery dome i fly over and see Maia

Maia she's one of the elders of my clan she was good friends with my Mother and a second parent to me she was dressed in white and pink robes and smiled at me Maia smiled and instantly hugged me and said oh my sweet little Esti you've grown so beautiful your mother would be so proud of you"

"Thank you Maia but you know why i'm here" i said Maia nodded her head she then opened the curtain and said yes my Sovereign please head inside and i will guide you to the best of my abilities" i found myself in a beautiful room filled with soft blue flowers and a pond in the center of the room Maia then placed a hand on my shoulder and said "now my Sovereign please relax in the pond and let yourself go" Maia spoke with a tone that was gentle but stern i then landed on the ground and i flew into the pond the water felt so familiar when i was deep enough in the pond i began to lay in the water and soon i began to flout when i looked up i saw so many white and pink Mors Lumina each one giving off gentle light it was like looking up at a sky full of moons

Maia then flew over me and smiled softly "now my Sovereign i want you to close your eyes take deep breaths and think about your Mother your friends everything that makes you happy"

I did as instructed i closed my eyes and took deep breaths i began to hear my heart beat i felt so relaxed i then began to think of my Mother all the good times we shared the joy she gave me then i thought about my friends Amira she was so hot headed always getting into fights with Rays he was always incredibly artistic but also very complex those two would always but heads but at the end of the day they were good friends

Then i felt a warmth well up in my chest it was so lovely soon that warm feeling spread throughout my entire body and then spread into the water then i felt a burst of love well up in my heart and when i opened my eyes i was surrounded by Water Lilies each one held a white glowing Faery Bulbs some water lilies held three or two Bulbs i was so impressed Maia then looked to me and said

"I'm so proud of you my Little Esti you have produced some marvelous Bulbs i can tell they are strong your mother would be proud Esti" i then rose from the water and i took a closer look at the Bulbs they each gave off a beautiful white light but if you look closer you would see a fetus inside them it was small but it would grow in time and on that day the Bulb will burst open and a Faery will be born Maia's attendants soon came in when they saw me they bowed their heads i then used my wings and began to fly out of the Faery Dome

By the time i got out of the dome the Settlement was more active i then flew around the settlement everyone was happy to see me and i was happy to see them eventually Rays came to me the Elders decided that he should be my Advisor Rays adjusted his glasses and said "my Sovereign i'm sorry to interrupt your stroll but we have several things to go over" i nodded my head and left with Rays he guided me to the Knights barracks Rays informed me that i needed to oversee the Final trial to become true Faery Knights

Faery Knights are the basic infantry units of any Faery Clan they wield swords made from magically imbued stone these Swords are able to channel magic and they can also absorb magic there shields are made from oak wood with charms of protection drawn into them each shield bares the crest of my Clan then there is the armor made from a mixture of wood and stone and a warding charm Faery Knights are dependable soldiers Rays leads me inside the Knight's Barracks where i meet with the headmaster Her name is Resella she is a seasoned warrior who survived twelve invasions during my Mother's time as Sovereign in that time Rosella earned the Crown of Jubilee from my Mother and the Elders the Crown of Jubilee is a relic that holds a lot of respect and honor a Faery can only obtain it by performing an outstanding service

Rosella smiled at me and said "Greetings my Sovereign i'm glad you could be here to see our graduates off today" i smiled softly and said im happy to be here i'm sure i can boost some moral for them so shall we begin"

Rosella smiled and led me to the training ground and i took a seat upon a throne made just for me Rays stood by my side as Rosella then began to say an empowering speech to the graduates then when Rosella was finished she began the event the first event was they had to tame a Male Shimmer Rhino Beetle this Beetle is comparable to the size of a an actual Rhino compared to us and we are about the size of Dolls compared to a Dwarf or Human so a Shimmer Rhino Beetle is big and these Beetles can use barrier and rage Enchants we use Shimmer Rhino Beetles as Mounts and companions they are incredibly fierce fighters

Rosella then announces that each potential Knight will have to somehow have to appease this Shimmer Rhino Beetle this is to test their resolve because a Faery Knight is not just a soldier they are also protectors of the Clan and the Nature around them soon the bell chimed and Rosella took a seat beside me she told me that this Particular Shimmer Rhino Beetle is one she raised herself for this exact event

I watched as the Graduates tried their best to appease the Beetle at some points the Beetle charged at them and they had to protect themselves with their shields but others managed to appease the Beetle and get him to settle sure enough those who managed to appease the Beetle were going to be Knighted the exact number of Graduates was three out of sixteen i guess it was back at the drawing board for several of them now for my part the Knighting ceremony was held right away i was waiting on the center podium while the three Knights approached me i held out my Parasol as the three Knights kneeled before me

I then stood before the Graduate in the center and said "young Knight state your name" this night was Faery Man with styled red hair he spoke with a hardened and stern voice "i am Desdon my Sovereign" i smiled and tapped each of his shoulders with my Parasol i then said "Desdon i saw how you calmly appeased the Shimmer Rhino Beetle with a stern look and Kind actions for those attributes you shall be Knighted Desdon of Ironclad Mercy"

I then moved to the graduate on the right and asked for her name she said "i am Fernai my Sovereign" i smiled and said 'Lady Fernai i admire how you sheaved your Blade to gain the Shimmer Rhino Beetle's trust you were clever and showed so much patience for this i Knight you Fernai the Wise" i then approached the last Graduate and before i asked for his name he had Purple hair he cleared his throat and said "i am Clin INy Sovereign" i gave a stoic look and said "Graduate Clin you showed great courage by dropping your shield and taking the Shimmer Rhino Beetle by the horns gaining the Beetle's respect for that alone you deserve to be Knighted from this day forth you will be known as Clin the Courageous"

I then asked all three of these Knights to rise and i addressed the crowd my friends the Knighting Ceremony has reached its conclusion may we celebrate the new generation that will devout themselves to the Clan" then a party began things were good at the moment but for me my work had just begun Rays told me i was needed somewhere else so away i flew

Rays informed me that i needed to meet with the Cavaliers they are a mounted infantry unit they wear armor like the Knights but they mainly rely on special Lances made from clay some Faery Cavaliers use staves they are a different sect though there main priority is to support other combatants we call them Faery Bellum Maidens another difference between them is that Faery Cavaliers usually ride large Red and Gold Skinks while the Bellum Maidens ride white rabbits that have frilled ears that sort of resemble wings

Both these creatures are like the Shimmer Rhino Beetle the Skinks are referred to as Geo Skinks they are a hybrid between the Fire Elemental Salamanders and the their Cousins the Wind Elemental Gale Iguana's the Geo Skinks possess both Fire and Wind magic they mainly use the wind magic to increase their movement speed and the fire magic is to fight or clear away enemies the Rabbits are referred to as Concordia Hares they are incredibly Rare creatures with the ability to empower their riders powers the only problem issue is that Concordia Hares choose their Riders

I should mention that there is two other factions within the Cavalier branch but i can get to that later anyway the Cavalier's have another another job and that is to patrol and scout around our Clan's Territory so me meeting with them is to get any information i can on the lands surrounding the Settlement when we arrive at the Cavalier base i meet with the Captain Sir Tantalo he's pretty young to be the Cavalier Captain but he has the experience of a true veteran Tantalo bowed to me and guided me to the meeting room and displayed a map of our known territory there was a mark on the south eastern border

"My Sovereign my troops tell me that a Basilisk has made its nest in this area it's far enough away that it won't cause any harm but there are eggs in it's possession and we believe that if left unchecked there could be problems in the near future" Tantalo said

Basilisks are powerful creatures they are birdlike creatures with the head of a chicken and the body of a lizard they are best known for being incredibly toxic one touch can cause severe harm to you i thought for a moment and said i want to handle this peacefully

send our best Naturae Speaker to try and reason with the Basilisk" with that said Tantalo bowed to me and began to get things underway Rays then reminded me that there are still two more things that need to be done and right now i need to speak with the Council of elders i sighed when i heard that I Nother always dreaded speaking with the Elders she said it was because the meetings would last for hours i sighed but Flew with Rays to the Elder's tower

Even though i lead the Clan the Elder's also hold some sway they act as a council that speak for the entire clan if i wanted to move the Clan to another location the Elders would have to hold a vote and depending on how that vote would play out we would move or not

But there is the fact that since i am the only member of the clan that can reproduce i hold the Most power since my clan relies on me to survive when i walk into the tower i meet with all the elders as of right now there is a council of 43 elders and they all have one thing in common they don't approve of me being the Sovereign i

stand in the center of the room as all the Elders take there seats and we begin the meeting the meeting will mainly discuss upcoming events such as festivals ceremonies and planning for the future

When everything is sorted i walk out of the Tower and Rays announces that my final task is to spend time with my clan this was my favorite activity i went to the Settlement Plaza and began to talk with my subjects everyone was so nice i even helped with the chores like sorting food and making clothing i had experience in many types of chores Mother insisted on it she always said the best type of Sovereign is one who can easily work with her subjects especially when things get tough

It was 8 pm when i returned to my chamber and began to relax today was a good day it was my first day as my Mother's successor and even though it was scary i greatly enjoyed it i love my Clan and i will protect them with my very life

End of Prologue

## Chapter 1.

Awoke the next day feeling well rested a servant brought me breakfast it was hot Spider milk cereal with a side of water my favorite once i was finished with breakfast i got dressed in my usual attire then i began to brush my hair soon Rays came in he smiled at me and said 'my Sovereign i have good news we don't have much to do today but i figured we get the most tedious thing out of the way first i was able to get you an audience with the Elder Council' i sighed finishing up i was glad we were able to get this done first i grabbed my parasol and walked out onto the balcony and flew to the Elder's tower i sat at the podium and i watched as all the elders got seated and yes i had to wait for all 43 elders Rays had informed me that this meeting was about the basilisk in our territory the elders were concerned mainly because of the Basilisk's poisonous nature they were worried that it could infect our water supply and spread disease i was adamant about my decision however if possible

i would rather resolve this peacefully rushing into war would only cause uneccessary losses the meeting ended with a stalemate ultimately nothing got resolved at all

The next appointment was with two members of the Farmer's

Society apparently they wanted my input on a dispute they had
been having i flew to the Farm and i met with Farmer Layloon and
Farmer Hestro Rays in formed me that the dispute was over a
thievery claim Farmer Layloon had noticed that his stock of
Raspberries has been running low while Farmer Hestro's stock of
Raspberries has suddenly been expanding

Farmer Hestro stated that he had started growing Raspberries in his own garden and that it was purely a coincidence i would ask to see Farmer Hestro's garden but then i remembered that a Farmer Faery's garden is sacred only the Farmer's family may enter it the reason i can't go there or no about it is because it's an ancient custom going against it would be heresy i then moved to the next best thing

I asked Farmer Layloon to show me her storehouse Farmer Layloon agreed and led the way to her Storehouse and i began to investigate it i then noticed the smell of chipmunk droppings this was a smell i knew all to well because i had raised a Chipmunk until Mother told me to send him away i now understand why

I then took another look around and i saw a large hole in one of the walls it was blocked by several rocks it seemed hastefully done as well when Farmer Layloon saw the hole she was shocked

I then turned to Farmer Layloon and asked "my Dear do you have children?" Farmer Layloon nodded her head and led me to her home there i saw that Layloon had adopted two Children they were both boys and i could sense it these two were born from my mother i then approached the boys and said "hello little ones" the two just waved and said hi they were obviously too young to know who i was i just smiled and said "do you kids know anything about a Chipmunk?" the two slowly began to look nervous but they shook their heads no

Farmer Layloon then began to dig into them the two were forced to bring out the Chipmunk pup they were hiding the two then explained that they had found him while cleaning the store house and they had been caring for him ever since

Layloon was furious but she calmed down upon seeing the
Chipmunk Pup's cute face i volunteered to take the Pup to the
Ranger's base Layloon happily agreed and her children had to say
a heartfelt goodbye to there new friend but i promised them that
they could visit him any time they wanted

I then held the pup in my arms and i carried him over to the Ranger's base it was a rather short trip to say the least i met with the Ranger Warden and i told him the whole story he agreed to take in the Chipmunk and raise him until he was ready to be released with that done came the final task for today i had to see how meeting with the Basilisk went i then flew over to the Cavalier base i Flew into Tántalo's office he had a pained look on his face i wondered if the mission was a failure Tántalo then spoke up and said

"Greetings my Sovereign i have dire news" i took a deep breath and took a seat across from Tantalo he told me that the Basilisk refused to leave for a very important reason the Basilisk had just laid her eggs and she was brooding them and if that wasn't bad enough this Basilisk was a Matriarch who had lost her entire lounge i got incredibly worried it would be one thing if she was brooding but the fact that she was a matriarch had made it even worse but at the same time this was an opportunity i asked Tantalo to retrieve the Natuserpentrae Speaker because i wanted an audience with her Rays opposed the entire thing but i was firm Tantalo also insisted that i not go but i needed to do this

I compromised with Rays he let me go as long as i wore the Serpent's charm it was a relic gifted to us by the Dwarves when we traveled through there domain the Serpent's Charm's soul purpose is to nullify the effects of creatures with the Reptilian Genus with that done Tatalo pulled together his finest Cavaliers and the Naturae Speaker and we made our way to the Basilisk Matriarch's nest

As we traveled closer to her nest the smell of Decay was heavy in the air but this wasn't a misuse of her powers this was her marking her territory you see a normal Basilisk has no control of her poisonous powers and there Poison is so bad that it makes anything unlivable it's so strong that if there poison touches the bare soil it becomes so bad that nothing will ever grow from there again but a Basilisk Matriarch has the ability to control her poison witch is good because compared to her male counterpart a Matriarch's poison is stronger and more deadly

So i know that this display is not out of pure whim the Matriarch is simply marking her territory but the deeper we went the worse the smell got this only strengthened my resolve

Soon we heard a loud screech the Speaker called out and said "that was a warning cry she knows we are here"

I took a deep breath and spoke up "Matriarch Basilisk i am Esteria the Sovereign of the Arcus Stella Clan we live in this forest as well and your future Lounge threatens my Clan but i have come here hoping to create an Accord between our two races"

The Matriarch Basilisk then let out another Screech this one seemed calmer somehow the Speaker then translated 'let me come to you please wait a moment" soon we began to hear footsteps it got closer and closer soon two legs came into view they were slender and green i look up and see a raptor like body with two green wings the feathers on those wings are bright pink and blue with shades of dark green mixed into the design the the Frilled neck is the color of purple and gold the eyes are that of a snake she is a Matriarch Basilisk in her full magnificence

She let's out another Screech Translated" i am impressed with your courage little Faery the fact that you entered my territory yourself shows great courage"

I bowed respectfully and said i am glad to see you in your full radiance your grace now i know that nothing i can offer can make up for the loss of your entire Lounge but i wish to make an offer"

The Basilisk Matriarch tilted her head inquisitively showing she was interested my Offer is this your radiance we split the forest in two parts with you keeping your Lounge on the Northeastern side and you leave the Southwestern side to us we will also make sure you have an abundant supply of food and your own personal spring that will never run dry all but in return our two races are to never cross into each other's border do you agree to this arrangement?"

The Basilisk Matriarch thought it over for only a second before nodding her head in agreement with the arrangement in play i would then use the Serpent Charm as the catalyst for the Accord using my magic i would inscribe our arrangement into the Charm suddenly the clouds would gather starting to form a storm the wind would how! and a light would gather in the sky suddenly a it came down upon us forming a wall between us and the Basilisk Matriarch lightning would fill the sky for the rest of the day in that time Tantalo had escorted us back to the settlement

I gathered the whole settlement together and told them about the Accord I had made the Elders were furious at me saying i had

risked the entire clan's life and that Basilisks can't be trusted i remained adamant on this plus i didn't tell her about the punishment for Breaking the Accord and it was another stipulation why i couldn't tell my Clan that detail either because i want our arrangement to be of mutual faith i then told our finest Geomancer to go to The Basilisk territory and create a Lake Burst he looked to me and nodded he took a team of Faery knights and left immediately until that Lake Burst is performed the Accord will not manifest luckily Geomancers can create lake bursts from several yards away

When i had made my announcement everyone slowly returned to there routines i then learned from the Farmer's society that several Faery Gardens were in the Basilisk territory and i simply shrugged saying they would have to start new gardens they were furious with me but they had no other choice at that time the Geomancer had returned stating that the lake was created safely within the Basilisk domain i smiled because now we only had to worry about keeping them fed i sent a letter to the Ranger base telling them what to do luckily we have Piper's to lure in animals

Pipers are a faction within the Ranger Base who focus on routing animals with special flutes made from Moonstone luckily the Ranger Warden would be able to keep that up with all that done i was incredibly tired i took a long bath to unwind then i began to melt in the tub it was absolutely nice when i got out of the bath i dried off and began to relax i placed my parasol on the bed and i stepped out onto my balcony and observed the Settlement all the comings and going it was absolutely beautiful i then realized that i was still wearing the Serpent's Charm it was the very symbol of our accord meaning it was now much more important i traveled to the treasury and locked it up safely i then returned to my room and began to people watch from my balcony once again i started to think about everything i had accomplished today it was wonderful i then began to wonder if my Mother would be proud of me or not

I soon felt a hand on my shoulder i jumped and saw Maia she smiled and said 'hello my child i heard about what you did today"

I blushed and looked to the ground i was kinda conflicted about it "i'm sorry Maia but honestly i'm conflicted about my decision i've been up here wondering what my Mother would have done "Maia rubbed my back and said oh you sweet thing i know your Mother would have done the same thing she was always the type to make peace then again she would have moved the entire clan if things got bad but the fact that you choose to coexist shows great Promise i know it"

"Thank you Maia but why did you come i'm sure it wasn't just to cheer me up" Maia chuckled and said my child i came to show you something really important please follow me" Maia led me to the Faery Dome and led me inside once we were in the darkness of the Fairy Dome i felt a strange wave of joy wash over me it was soft and gentle i then went into the Pool of bulbs once in the pool i saw that the Bulbs were giving off stronger light some were even flashing multiple colors but one Bulb was shining like a star the closer i got to it the feeling of joy began to rush over me some more it felt like i was in my Mother's embrace again The Bulb then began to open revealing aa small Fairy baby resting inside it i then picked up the small newborn in my arms and began to cry tears of joy this

small child was my first born i just couldn't stop crying he was beautiful my heart felt so bright i then felt Maia flutter up to me she smiled and said welcome to Motherhood my Sovereign this is your first born"

The newborn then opened his eyes and looked up to me and smiled i stopped and whipped my tears away "hello Little one welcome to the world i then gave the child to main the moment i did the child began to cry and it broke my heart Main smiled and said don't worry my child it's common with newborns they imprint on the first thing they see and get so attached and what your feeling is perfectly natural your mother felt the same way" i gave the child a kiss on the head he smiled at me then he settled down i then made my way back home i layed in bed crying because i would never get to raise any of the children i bring into the world

A Sovereign's bares no responsibility to any child she births a Sovereign may only care for the successor to her reign that is her burden so basically as long as i survive it doesn't how many of

children die in my name i wonder if my Mother felt this much remorse about her own obligation soon dinner had arrived it was a berry and veggie stir fry with fried frog meat as a side dish it was heavenly i wonder if they would let me take a shot at cooking i then made a call to the staff and my tray was taken i then went back to my vanity mirror and i began to brush my hair and sing it was a song my Mother liked she was a terrible singer though her voice was like listening to a frog being castrated

But Mother loved this song even though she would constantly forget the words it was such a good memory i then got ready for bed i began to sleep i kept thinking about the Child i held today he was so sweet so innocent and he quickly consumed all my thoughts this was bad because a Faery Sovereign must think about the entire clans well being focusing on just one is just selfish but i want to be with him i want to hold him and raise him as my own it feels as though my instincts are conflicting with my duty i was tossing and turning all night i somehow managed to get three hours of sleep by morning light i just remained in bed with Rays came in he was concerned he reminded me that i had important tasks to do today but

i refused to leave my bed Rays ultimately conceded and said he would add my tasks to tomorrow's schedule

I ended up resting till noon when i got up i began to get ready for the day i brushed my hair and got dressed and i grabbed my

Parasol and flew from my balcony over to the plaza i began to socialize with my subjects since yesterday my subjects have been divided down the middle when it's come to my choices some respected my decision others were reviled by it and it stung to have my own subjects think of me in such a way but i really did appreciate those who were on my side i just hope the council of Elders were just as

Divided because if they could over turn my decision if they get the full support of the citizens

Eventually i went back to the Palace and i began to rest for the remainder of the day but i couldn't get any sleep due to me sleeping all day i then wandered through the Palace halls i began to think about the future of the clan and the forest where we lived if the Basilisk I Natriarch sticks to her word we won't have to suffer even though have of the forest will become unlivable we might need to create some detoxing shrines to ward off the poison

A Faery Architect can create more then just standard buildings they can also create Shrines, Shrines have multiple uses it mainly depends on what crystal is used for the catalyst for a Detoxing Shrine we would need to use Howlite gems that is something i would need to tell the Chief Architect to construct one right away but we would also need to get Howlite gems from the Gnomes that come by to trade with us they come by once every so often they usually trade Gems for food and medicine i can only imagine how precious a Howlite Gem could be

I eventually found my way to the Palace greenhouse all the plants here radiate with perfect beauty and so much life energy they are all so beautiful i smile and pick a berry and i bite into it i smile at the flavor it's so flavorful and vibrant i soon make my way to my room and i lay in bed and soon sleep consumes me

Chapter 2.

Tonight is the Night of th Amethyst Comet shower a night sacred to us facries Facry Clans across the land will all be celebrating it's also the Night where the Gnomes come to the surface to trade there gems with us like i mentioned before we trade food for there Gems it's how it's been for Generations in fact that's why Mother chose this forest to make our Home she sensed the Gnome Tunnels below Gnomes are Earth elemental Fac who take the Forms of Moles the only difference is that Gnomes always walk on two legs and they come in two Colors red and blue the female Gnomes are blue while the males are red another thing about the Gnomes is that all Gnomes Carry a pickaxe similar to a Sovereign Facry's parasol a Gnomes Pickaxe is there most valued treasure

It's used for both mining and a way to Channel there Magic we Faeries have always had a good relationship with the Gnomes in times of Hardship the Gnomes have sheltered us Faeries from harm

But back to the main subject at hand the Comet Shower on this night i will perform the rite of Orchidaceae umbra Flosculus it is a vital ritual that needs to be performed in just a right way in order to produce Mana Blossoms these flowers do not grow naturally and as such are incredibly rare

Mana Blossoms can be used for a variety of things but they are heavily valued by the Gnomes the Gnomes use them to create Medicine and Lighting for there Tunnels i should also Mention that the Gnomes are gifted with Earth Magic but they don't have much talent with other types of Magic hence why they value Mana Blossoms Mana Blossoms when made into Potions boost a Creature's Magical abilities but the effects will wear off within 20 days

So they use I Mana Blossom Positions sparingly even still there supplies do run low hence why we Faeries perform these rituals and in return the Gnomes trade their finest gems with us and that is another thing about the Gnomes can also unlock the dormant Powers within Gems and frankly that is something we'll need in

Since tonight is the Comet Shower all my tasks that i would be doing are going to be pushed to the next day right now i need to relax and save my energy because the Rite needs to be my main concern right now i am in the Ballroom auditioning a series of Musicians the goal of this is to find one i vibe with to do this i am blindfolded and i listen to them play this is to make sure that my choice isn't compromised by appearances soon i hear the sound of a beautiful flutist they are playing an interesting yet somber song it reminds me of the day Sir Densna died Desna was my Mother's Protector and a surrogate Father to me one day Desna and my Mother were traveling alone in a storm and they ran into a Goblin Scout Desna single handedly fought him off while My Mother fled to safety she was able to return to the Settlement and she quickly sent Knights to go add Desna but sadly it was too late Desna was brought back to us with his wings plucked he died an hour later

Desna was then Buried with a Primrose seed and a Mors Lumina quickly sprouted that was the worst event of my life i then stood up and said i choose you to be my lead Musician for the Rite i then heard the Flutists Voice for the first time "Thank you my Sovereign i swear i Res won't let you down"

Next was the accompanying musician soon i hear a variety of of instruments and they are all wonderful however none of them sing to me then i hear the strings of a harp each strum is like someone pulling at my soul i start to feel a wave of joy and i'm reminded of the feelings i felt when i held my first child and it brings a tear to my eyes i then stood up and said "Harpist what is your name please i must know it"

The Harpest Squeaked and said oh my i am ever so pleased you enjoyed my song My Sovereign my name is Wensk and thank you for allowing me to perform for you" i then removed my blindfold and saw the faces of my two performers Res had soft pink hair and was dressed like an artist Res told me that he was a Member of the Fables they are a beloved acting troupe that provides entertainment

for the Local Children of the settlement Wensk however was just a teen he told me that he was an apprentice Musician and that his master encouraged him to try out today

I was happy with my selection Rays took the two to get ready for the Rite and i was allowed some freedom a Knight notified me that that a Gnome Merchant had arrived with two of his companions i then went to see them the Gnomes have a series of tunnels running below the Forest with a series of entrances hidden around i feel that since the Basilisk Matriarch had made her home in our forest they may not use the entrances on the Northeastern side of our Forest soon i followed the commotion to the Wanderer's Respite this was where traders set up there stands and soon i met with the Merchant he was busy talking with one of his companions i approached him and said

"Greetings sir merchant i am Sovereign Esteria" the Gnome turned around and looked surprised i then noticed the sash around his chest it had a series of golden medals on it the medals all had the same symbols on it i then noticed that this Gnome was wearing a bright green bracelet on his left arm

But the Gnome Merchant quickly regained his composure and said ah your radiance i am honored to make your acquaintance but pardon my confusion but our archives say that the current Sovereign of the Arcus Stella Clan is Mai Prisma" upon hearing this i felt a pit in my stomach

I then said 'Mai is my Mother i inherited her title my Mother passed away not to long ago" the Gnome Merchant then began to apologize and said 'forgive me your grace let me introduce myself my name is Giovanti i am a high ranking member of the Gold Merchant's Guild this year we are handling the Trade for Mana Blossoms my Craftsmen have prepared the Finest Gems available"

Giovanti then introduced me to his Companions first was his Lovely wife Anitoli a Blue Gnome dressed in a white gown she was obviously a Gnome of high society she also had a beautiful pink pony tail

She also wore the same green band around her arm that Giovanti wore next was Giovanti's brother he was a Gnome Knight his

pickaxe was made from Lapis lazuli and the handle was made from perfect silver his name was Roti

I took a moment to talk to Anitoli i noticed that she didn't have a Pickaxe when i asked her about it she simply said a Lady of high society only needs two things to succeed her elegance and virtue Magic has no place in a Lady's repertoire"

Roti then told me that his Sister in law is a traditionalist he told me that back in the day Gnome Women were not allowed to use magic but in recent years those laws were overturned Giovanti then showed me his coffers they were filled with a variety of gems all of them gave off a slight magical aura that would be enhanced in time i then told Giovanti that i was mainly interested in Gems with purifying capabilities Giovanti promised that if the rite was successful he would send twenty extra Coffers of Gems with Purifying capabilities to my Clan i smiled i then offered to show Giovanti and Anitoli around the settlement the two happily agreed the first place i took the couple too was our bakery in the residential sector i bought the couple a bunch of pastries and the two Gnomes swooned and gleefully squealed at the taste of every pastry

## Giovanti told me that all Gnomes have a weakness for sweets of any kind it's almost crippling

They then went onto tell me that a Gnome's diet consists of worms, roots, and an incredibly fragile stone called Moldavite i then asked the couple if Gnomes cook their food the two tilted their heads and asked what is cooking Giovanti then said it is vital for a Gnome's health that worms be eaten as fresh as possible eating a dead or fried worm could cause sickness this is why we have dedicated Worm Breeders"

I was fascinated by Gnome culture Anitoli then mentioned that the Gnomes share an ancestry with the Dwarves most Dwarven Kingdoms are built inside of Mountains and i hear that Dwarven craftsmanship is unmatched i hear they can even withstand an attack from a dragon army the next place i took Giovanti was the stables where we raise our mounts and companions Giovanti was impressed by all the animals we had Anitoli wanted to purchase one as a pet but Giovanti quickly told his wife that they couldn't keep a pet due to there confined home Anitoli was saddened by this

the last place i took the couple was our plaza i told them that this is where i come to people watch and socialize with my subjects

Anitoli loved this place because of all the beauty around us we stayed at the plaza until 5 pm then i escorted them back to the Wanderer's Respite i then made my way back to the Palace and began to get dressed in my gown for the ritual it was a beautiful white gown decorated with a wave and lotus pattern i then wore a white scarf around my arms and and i waited for nightfall at around 7 pm the sun had set and the stars filled the night sky then Wensk and Res began to play there instruments and they flew behind me to the Plaza as Maia sang a hymn soon i flew towards the gazebo

I then rested my feet on the cold wooden floor and i opened my Parasol witch soon started to give off a soft prismatic light and then the music stopped i began to concentrate and soon i felt it the first Amethyst Comet raced across the night sky then the music started up again

I then began to dance using my Parasol as an extension of my arm the music was a mixture of both joy and sorrow the music filled me with a mix of emotions and i channeled all my emotions into the rite soon i began to feel a mystical energy well up inside me and that energy began to radiate off my body and then i pointed my Parasol towards the north and in that direction a large field of I Mana Blossoms began to instantly grow from the ground i then pointed to the other three cardinal directions and in each one a field of I Mana Blossoms grew instantly then i pointed my Parasol up towards the heavens and soon a stalk grew from the top of the Gazebo and from it a large bush of I Mana Blossoms erupted in a beautiful display i then fell to my knees exhausted Rays soon came to my side and held me close then the entire audience cheered

"My Sovereign you did so well the sheer number of Blossoms you produced is almost unprecedented Rays said Rays then helped me to a bench and soon Giovanti came over he looked so impressed "Lady Esteria i am dumbfounded the sheer number of Mana Blossoms you created is far more valuable then anything i can offer i can

# only imagine there potency please i must offer you at least 60 Coffers of Gems to properly compensate you"

I then looked to Giovanti and said my friend i would happily give up all the Mana Blossoms but i must think of the good of my Clan we can also use the Mana Blossoms to full effect so i offer you this deal we split the turkey hand in hand you take 60% and i take the remaining 40%"

Giovanti thought for a second and said 'you are a wise women Lady Esteria i agree to your terms but my payment shall remain as is" we both shook on it and Rays brought me flask of water it was soothing

My Clan celebrated for a very long time before things died down i then returned to my palace and began to rest i then had a dream of an army of bats that attacked my entire Clan by morning i awoke in a cold sweat i was worried bats are usually symbolize death and rebirth but to a Faery Bats can also symbolize the wings of a Lich Faery

Lich Faery's are Faery's imbued with Death Magic usually a Lich Faery is usually a Sovereign and the reason they become Lichs in the first place is to preserve there lives a Faery Sovereign can only live for so long and some can slowly become infertile with time or sometimes the heir dies either way no matter the reason a Lich Faery will always be Sovereign and in time that sovereign will slowly go insane from the death magic that flows through her veins

Lich Faeries will rarely produce an heir and if they do they will usually kill it to preserve their reign Lich Faeries also gain a plethora of abilities the first and most obvious is the ability to raise and control the dead another ability is unparalleled Shadow magic that could rival even the eldest dark witch next is the ability to steal life from any living thing a Lich Faery will often use this power on her own subjects to regain some vitality or to show dominance

I swear that dream was a warning for things to come i quickly met with Tantalo and the Ranger Warden Erical and i told them about my dream the two promised to do some patrols i felt so scared

I then Met with Rays who escorted me to all of my tasks when it came time to meet with the Elders i told them about my dream and they simply laughed at me saying "Esteria please be real the odds of a Lich Faery in this lifetime is just utter hogwash don't bother us with such fantasies"

I growled the Elders were all such conceded old fools i knew this peace would not last something kept nagging at me that something dark was coming but the Council wouldn't let me alert the clan they told me that if i did they would seize control of the Clan from me and i knew for a fact that there true goal was to make me into a figure head while they controlled the Clan i wouldn't let that happen so i bit my tongue and simply bided my time

Two weeks later Giovanti's delivery of Gem Coffers arrived i was greatly impressed with the quality of the Gems the Architects went

to work on the Detoxing Shrines almost instantly i was happy that they could get started so soon

But then the architects didn't return later that day i sent scouts out to investigate them and when they returned they had a look of pure terror on there faces that was when i knew that my Clan was in jeopardy

### Chapter 3.

The Scouts recalled the grisly scene of arcane spirits feasting on the corpses of the Architects i had set out i was horrified this can only mean two things one a Lich has discovered our location and is actually hunting us or there is a disturbance in our forest if this is the latter then the disturbance could be a curse from a lingering

soul slowly gathering power both of these options are the worst case scenario i quickly send the scouts to recover and i call for Tantalo Erical Resella and Scout Commander Giavon i tell all of them about what i had just heard they all share my concern and vow to look into the matter

I ask each of them to be careful the four then take their leave their is nothing but fear in my heart Rays then comes over to me me he places a hand on my shoulder doing his best to alleviate my fears but it's no good i had never known fear like this it wasn't just fear it was an instinct deeply rooted and ingrained in my heart Mother told stories of how my great great great grandmother led the charge to bring down a powerful Lich Faery she died in that battle and somehow i know the fear she felt it's as easy to remember as what i did yesterday

I guess that is the curse of a Sovereign to carry the emotions of our predecessors i then get ready to go outside but Rays stops me he says i should stay in the Palace i sigh and agree but it is important to have options in the future i go to my Room and i right a message to

the Gnome Formen i want to make sure that if things go wrong he is willing to provide us with assistance

I then entrust this message to a Faery Cavalier and i send him on his way i take a deep breath and return to my room where i lay in bed and begin to pray if you were wondering if we Faeries pray to a god we do we pray to the two forbearers of Faery kind Mother Titania and Father Oberon there are others but we shall focus on the highest of the Pantheon

Titania is the Mother of all Faery kind she birthed the first court and taught us of our innate magical powers and Father Oberon taught us of Order and the ways of the natural world countless moons ago Mother and Father returned to the world of mist and left us to fend for ourselves you would think we would be put into a wave of despair but our ancestors stood up and ventured out into the world confident in our future

Eventually the First Faery Court was founded it is known as The court of the Amandum Blossom that court is still thriving so i hear and the only reason why i know about it is because the First Sovereign was born of that Court her name was Helon and legend says she was born with a surplus of magical power due to a Birth defect she was shunned by her court and was considered a disappointment that is until she met a Faery man who loved her for who she was the two eloped and started the First Faery Clan

Helon had unimaginable power so she crafted the first Parasol known as the Ever Dream Parasol Helon was full of love and kindness it is said that she had brought three Thousand Faeries into this world halve of them Sovereigns those Sovereigns would carry on her harmonious Legacy but sadly when Helon Died her children drifted apart all of them Grieving in there own way some with anger others despair and some went mad due to the realization of their own mortality and as such some Sovereigns went through the painful agonizing process of becoming Lichs

And this would lead to an all consuming war between the Lich
Faeries and the other Sovereigns we would get help from other Fae
Creatures notably the Gnomes our Brothers the Faery Purests and
the Human Quartet it was the first alliance between Humans and
Fae and it worked we were able to slay all Lich Faeries and wipe
them off the face of the earth

But besides the Lich Faeries there are the Normal Liches only they know how to stay hidden and the fact that no one has seen a active Lich in centuries so if this is a Lich then we need to be careful if this is due to a Lingering soul then this can be resolved easily but we need to know for sure the worst case scenario is that the Soul is on the North Eastern side of the forest where the Basilisk Matriarch makes her nest if this is true then we'll need her permission to cross over and deal with it but i'm too important dammit!!!!!!

I lay in my bed crying i need to protect my clan but i need to be safe how can i keep them safe please someone tell me please

I end up crying myself to sleep only to be awoken by Rays he helps me to fix my face and demeanor and leads me to the meeting room where i can get the reports from the knights the four kneel before me and they each give me a different report but there is one recurring key detail in all of there reports the fact that the Arcane Spirits are wondering the forest aimlessly without direction and they seem to be stemming from the Northern side of the Forest something i have feared

I quickly stand up with newly enkindled resolve i grab my Parasol and i hold it tightly in my hand "i am Esteria Prisma Lyrica Sovereign of Arcus Stella i am the holder of Basilisk Arcus Accord Arcane Spirits have invaded my lands and it is my duty to Dispel them now my knights you will aid me in my mission all of you as my protectors"

All four knights bowed their heads and said "We will Follow you my Sovereign" Rays was speechless he knew at this point that he couldn't stop me so away i flew my protectors and i flew to the border and i held my Serpent's Charm a loft and soon The basilisk Matriarch came over careful not to cross

I then spoke a loft "greetings your grace i have called you here to ask a question"

The Basilisk let out a low growl as if saying "speak now Faery" i think it was due to our Accord because even without the Speaker i felt like we were talking in a way

"Your grace i need to know do Arcane spirits plague your domain if so i need your permission to cross your border and deal with the Lingering Soul creating them" the Basilisk Matriarch let out a purr like growl and turned to the North the Serpent's Charm let out a soft blue glow meaning we had a temporary truce my Protectors and i then crossed over with no incident

We began heading towards the North and the further we went the more vial Mana was produced Vile Mana is a corrupt in every way it's toxic to living beings but Arcane Spirits love it empowers them in a way usually souls filled with all kinds of regret can create it in droves so if they aren't purified things can get difficult

but still we continued on soon we found it a corps of a human women she was pregnant and obviously the child didn't make it so it was obvious the Child's soul wanted to live and never got the chance

"You sweet child' i feel your pain everyone wants to live and you never got that chance i'm so sorry" i slowly point my Parasol towards the corps and i begin to speak the incantation slowly light begins to come off my body the Soul begins to shriek and Arcane spirits begin to appear i sigh and try to hurry but my Protects are quick to come to my aid all i hear is them fighting the Spirits and from what i hear they are doing well soon a spell circle begins to form under the soul it starts to radiate with white light the Soul slowly begins to shift i feel so bad for this child all he wanted to do was live

So i decide to take a chance i slightly change my intent and things slowly start to feel right but then i start to sense more spirits they're swarming i was starting to get afraid this is taking too long but if i try to hurry i could make things worse then i hear it it's a scream from Tantalo my heart starts to sink i should be the one helping him

he needs me a tear falls from my eye as i continue trying to block out his screams so i can complete this spell

Then an explosion of white light comes from the soul the Corrupted mana slowly dissipating and the Spirits started to fade from this world i then looked to the Soul and in it's place is a Faery seed bulb i can sense powerful magic coming from it i gently cradle it in my arms and i come over to my Protectors Tantalo and Erical are pretty banged up i end up helping them back to the settlement

Everyone is rushed to the Healer's circle and i take the bulb to the Faery dome i leave the Bulb in the care of Maia who shares my surprise she says that this Bulb could be a Sovereign hearing this fills me with a sense of relief and fear in our culture when there is another Sovereign born into a clan with an existing Sovereign the existing one must mentor them until they are ready to come into their own after that the two Sovereigns will either fight for the right to rule the clan or the newer Sovereign will go off to start her own clan

But this could wait for later the moment i leave the Faery Dome i am met with the Leader of the Elders Destai he glares at me and says

"Esteria your choices have put this Clan in serious danger we the Elders have decided that your rite to rule should be reconsidered for the time being we the Council of Elders will rule the Clan in your stead you can only focus on Creating more Bulbs for the future of the Clan but we also ask that you return to the Palace and stay there"

At that point two guards loyal to the Council of Elders take me by the arms and they escort me to the palace they take me to my room and stand outside the door blocking me inside i try to leave out the balcony but there are guards there as well

i'm trapped i start to hyperventilate i lay in my bedlike several times before i curl into a fetal position and i began to weep

For the next three weeks i am bound to the Palace only being able to go to the Faery dome and back and besides from the one seed Bulb i

Sovereign but according to Maia this one seed Bulb seems to hold greater powers than i do and that might be what the elders are hoping for they would love nothing more then to throw me aside so that they could abuse their power and live the life of Luxury i end up laying in bed as i stare at the ceiling i hear Rays voice he comes in and smiles handing me a letter and quickly leaving i assume the guards don't want him around i look at the Letter and it's blank but there is a faint scent of Spider milk coming from the paper witch can only mean one thing i wait until nightfall and once i'm alone i create a fairy flame and set the Paper on fire the letter is quickly enveloped in it but if doesn't burn completely

The fire then reveals the hidden message witch is as Follows

"My Sovereign i write this letter to you on behalf of Clan the Elders have already set there plan into action they are throwing lavish parties in there tower using up all our resources the clan is

steadily running out of food they are also forcing the maidens of the clan to service them and if that is not bad enough we suspect they now about the Sovereign resting in the Bulb at the Faery dome if this is true they may be planning your assassination know this Esteria we the people will not allow this to happen i have met with the people and we have a plan for your freedom there is a list of instructions on the other side of this letter please read them carefully this starts tomorrow at dawn"

I let out a sigh of relief it was comforting knowing that i had the support of the people but i can't believe the elders would do this but then again it's not too far fetched the elders have always taken a backseat when it comes to to the politics of the Clan but for them to actively abuse their power and try to assassinate me why would they even do this

I was so worried for the rest of the night i could barely sleep i was worried for my safety like at any given moment an assassin could come in and try to take my life i didn't sleep at all when dawn

came i heard what sounded like a club striking metal it came from the balcony i came over and opened the door and saw Faery dressed in purple and pink fishnet clothing he had black hair that gave off a neon purple sheen and he wore a mask covering his face he looked to me and said

### "Come hurry"

Then the door burst opened and in came two guards loyal to the Council of Elders they came towards me but then they were stopped by two servants who were doing their best to stop them i was so touched then i turned to the Faery in Fishnet clothing he created a fog of dark mist that engulfed the Balcony and soon we escaped under the cover of night soon i found myself in a small house on the edge of the Settlement and there waiting for me was Rays a long with an elderly Faery Couple that seemed familiar to me

Rays Hugged me and said

Rays: "Esteria thank goodness we succeeded praise the Mother and the Father"

Esteria: "Rays it's so good to see you but what are we to do now"

Rays: "we are working on that your Radiance until then these two will be sheltering you they are more then willing to secure your safety"

I looked to the couple and soon i remembered them

Esteria: "Nanny Layai Uncle Coba? Is that really you"

Layai: "it's so good to see you my sweet Flower it's been so long"

Coba: "when we heard what the elders were doing you better believe we jumped at the chance to help you and luckily the rest of the Clan agreed the entire Senate has gone mad and needs to be taken down"

I smiled and hugged them both these two were like a second pair of parents to me they helped raise me whenever Mother was busy Coba was my Mother's Personal Bodyguard and Layai was My Mother's Aviser they treated me like i was there daughter and they were so kind to me when they retired they were offered a seat on the senate but they turned it down a wise decision if you asked me

### A voice then spoke up and said

????: "ahem i hate to break the mood of this touching moment but there is the matter of payment for my service"

Rays turned to the Masked Faery and said

Rays: "yes of course i will handle this we are prepared to offer you any reward you could possibly desire"

Sai: "the name is Sai and all i ask for is a months supply of provisions so i may continue my travels"

Rays: "is that all i thought all Rogue Faeries required a kings ransom?"

Sai: "that's not always true i'm happy to help my fellow Faeries in need plus this seems to be a dire situation for you all i don't want to make the situation any worse"

Nanny Layai then handed Sai a bag full of supplies he then made his way out of the house i then stopped Sai by grabbing his wrist and saying

Esteria: "wait can i please see your face i wish to know the face of my Hero"

Sai turned around to face me and nodded his head he then removed his mask revealing his icy blue eyes and black sclera these were the eyes of all Rogue Faeries the reason why a Faeries eyes change to this haunting appearance is because a faery must commit the worst sin of all the sin of murdering their most treasured companion upon

committing the deed their eyes change and they stop aging and they gain the ability to use shadow and curse magic

I looked into those ghostly eyes admiring them Sai then put his mask back on and said

Sai "for my kind our masks serv a vital role of protecting our identities when Faeries see our true face they cower in fear and flee but you are the first to show general intrigue and compassion

Sovereign Esteria i shall always remember your name"

Sai then left i suddenly felt so exhausted i soon began to fall to the floor only to be caught by Uncle Coba who carried me to my room he tucked me in and soon i was sleeping soundly i would soon wake up to breakfast in bed it was my favorite treat Spider Cider with Strawberry cakes with blue berry syrup Nanny Layai smiled and began to pick out my clothing as i ate

Layai: my dear for the time being we can't let you leave the house the Senate's guards are frantically searching for you so i hope you understand

Esteria: "i completely understand Nanny for the time being i'll help with the house chores it's about time i learned how to keep house"

Nanny Layai smiled and began teaching me how to cook clean and sew i was incredibly bad at cooking everything i made somehow wound up turning yellow in color but it was still a nice experience Uncle Coba kept me informed about the goings on with the senate they were furious about my escape they began to spin a tale of how i had gone insane and was actively trying to hurt my people fortunately they all failed to convince them the Senate really underestimated the bonds i had formed with the people

Soon there would be a revolution in my Clan the Senate will be brought down and things will change for the better

#### <u>Chapter 4.</u>

In the span of two months the Senate had completely tarnished their reputation they had started taxing everyone and there were

several riots over this to make things worse they had imprisoned several members of our settlement and practically left them for dead hearing these things broke my heart i wanted to get out there and help my people but i was told time and again that it wasn't the time Nanny Layai did her best to ease my worries but there was nothing anyone could do to alleviate my concerns another week had past and i heard that the Senate had started to turn on each other actively assassinating each other or going into hiding to avoid the carnage

Rays took this opportunity to start another riot this time he planned the entire event and took advantage of the Senate's divided forces i was then brought out of hiding and i was escorted to the palace when i finally arrived the remaining members of the Senate were in chains i sighed when i saw them they were incredibly pitiful many of my subjects asked for an execution i thought of something better an Execution would be too easy these Faeries were old they couldn't fend for themselves so i banished them knowing them they wouldn't last long as for the soldiers that served under the Senate they were all incredibly corrupt i then used my Parasol to use a spell that would make them regress into Faery Bulbs

My Subjects cheered for my return to power i simply smiled and undid all of the Senate's laws as for the members of the Senate that went into hiding they actively apologized and swore loyalty to me they then tried to get in my good graces i felt nothing for them so i let my Subjects decide their fate either they would be banished or they will regressed into Faery Bulbs

The vote was unanimous and the remaining Members of the Senate were banished the Senate tower was converted into a Beehive this would allow us to have another source of food as well as a new ally we searched high and low for a roaming Queen Bee and soon we had found one we offered her shelter and security in return for honey and she agreed to our terms and soon Valisa a young Queen Bee was a member of our settlement

My Palace had to be restored from the damage the Senate had done to it and their was the manner of redistributing the food that the Senate had stowed away it was truly an ordeal for everyone but

i refuse to sit idol at this time i actively helped with the restoration and it was grueling many of the Architects laughed at me saying that i was too delicate for such work this only bolstered my resolve i got right back up and began to work even harder earning the respect of the Architects within the span of 5 months the palace was looking better then ever

We were able to build a new Faery Dome in the back of the Palace Maia appointed a young Faery Midwife named Ecalon to this New Dome i used it quite frequently but i did still visit Maia's Faery dome every now and then in the Palace's Faery dome the oddest thing had happened i had somehow produced two more Sovereign Faery Bulbs this was considered a miracle among my kind and for safety reasons we kept these two bulbs a secret from the public

Once everything had settled down i was once again bound to my strict schedule but i was able to act freely without the Senate judging my every action it became quite refreshing soon i was able

to dress in my normal attire as i did when my Mother was still alive everyone welcomed my new attire commenting that i looked happier than ever and i was able to be myself and the entire Clan seemed more upbeat

The Arcus Stella clan soon began to shine like the sun but with all this happiness we didn't notice another problem lying under the surface because the river that flowed through our domain dried up and our forest began to wither when we discovered this we began to douse for other possible water sources there was none fearing the worst i was considering moving the clan but Rays pointed out that there was Mountain to the west of us i knew what he was getting at the Possibility of Dwarves residing in that Mountain was a gamble i was willing to take the Dwarves are known for forging items of incredible power they can solve almost any problem

I sent a team of scouts to investigate the Mountain meanwhile i was busy sorting out our supply of water you see for us Arcai Faeries water is used for more then quenching thirst we also use water to supply Faery Domes with water to support the lives within

the Faery Bulbs they require Purified water in order to grow to their full glory in time the water of a Faery Dome becomes impure so we refill it with fresh water from time to time normally we would utilize the power of a gems with purifying capabilities to make this problem easier but i'm sad to say my Mother and i never saw the need of doing so due to our spring

I am now paying for that oversight so right now a large portion of our water reserves are going to the Faery Domes and what is left is going to the general public i fear the future scorn from my subjects because i am sure they will grow discontent so that is why in case there are no Dwarves i will have the Gnomes dig for hidden source of water

In three days the Gnomes are brought before me and i tell them about my peoples plight the Gnomes think for a moment before suggesting the use of invoked Sapphire Gems but they warn that the water that they'll produce will only be a small fraction of what we need even if they use all the Sapphires in their possession i let out a soft sigh if that is all they can do then i will accept i tell the

Gnomes to construct a fountain right away in exchange for their services i will offer them anything within my Settlement the Gnomes gleefully chuckle stating that they will do it for free and i am incredibly thankful soon they take their leave and the next day the scouts return with news

They state that there is in fact a Dwarven settlement i smile thanking the gods for this stroke of good fortune i then make preparations to leave for the Settlement leaving Rays in charge with a team of three knights and a single Faery Cavalier at my side we travel for six days to reach the mountain following the map the scouts made we find an entrance to the Dwarven settlement and we are welcomed warmly by the current Fudge of the Settlement his name is Fudge Thengrin

Fudge Thengrin: "ah an Arcai Faery hmm that explains the size of those scouts from earlier what brings you here my friend

Esteria: "Fudge Thengrin i have come asking for your aid the forest where my Clan resides is withering due to the spring running dry we were hoping you could help us somehow"

Fudge Thengrin: "so you wish to go against the will of nature hmm sadly i must decline if nature dictates that your forest is to wither then so shall it be"

Esteria: "i had a feeling you might say that you Dwarfs are strict followers of Nature's laws but what if i offered you something so great that you would have to say yes"

Fudge Thengrin: "i am quite sure you have nothing of that great of value"

I took a pair of scissors from my pocket and i cut a lock of my hair and held it out towards the judge

Fudge Thengrin: "are you doing what i think your doing ...."

Esteria: "yes i am a Faery's hair is highly valued for it's capabilities in alchemy but cutting it is the greatest Faery taboo but it is the only thing i have to offer that is truly that great"

I would then proceed to cut my hair until it was incredibly short i then offered my hair to Fudge Thengrin who took it and inspected it's quality he then turned to me and said

Fudge Thengrin: this is truly a worthy offering we will in fact aid you please wait here for just a moment

I then went over to my group they all looked at me in disbelief and i just silently cried i cut my hair my sweet sweet hair i felt so ugly and dirty right now it took an hour but Judge Thengrin would return he placed a large skinny vase beside us i was curious how this would help but Judge Thengrin recited a spell and the Vase Shrunk down to a size where i could hold it the Vase was decorated

## with paintings of snow and ice i held it in my hands and Fudge Thengrin took a breath and said

Fudge Thengrin: "now then your familiar with the Lake Burst spell correct young Sovereign"

## I nodded my head and answered saying

Esteria: "yes i am Lake Burst will only work if there is already an existing source of water and if the source dries up then the newly created lake dries up as well"

Judge Thengrin: "exactly this Vase is known as the Snow Spring Reservoir it was crafted using ice magic it never runs out of ice cold water and serves as a limitless source of water if a Geomancer were to use the Lake Burst spell then you would never run out of water"

I smiled and thanked Judge Thengrin and soon my escorts led me back to our settlements when they saw my hair they were horrified and i couldn't blame them but i explained everything to them and in their eyes i was even more inspiring i soon sent Geomancers out to create more Lake Bursts around the forest and after a series of shakes the drought had ended me were safe

Our clan safe i sat upon the throne happily my hair was gone along with my pride this would greatly weaken my resolve i now see why Faery's are not allowed to cut their hair the harmful effects are incredibly damning

After a number of years the First sovereign Faery Bulb in Maia's care blossomed and to everyone's surprise this Sovereign was a boy when news of this traveled through the settlement confusion took root in their minds since time in memorial all Sovereigns have been Female but then again this young Sovereign was not born through natural means but that bit of information remained secret for the safety of the Sovereign himself

I decided to name this child Fezon and he was put in my care this child would soon grow into my possible successor i would raise him to be kind as my Mother did for me

Soon young Fezon had stolen my heart he was so full of life it was incredibly refreshing sweet Fezon became my shining light fighting the growing darkness within my mind everything seems so bright and Maia is teaching me how to tend to his needs and i;m getting better and better currently little Fezon sleeps with me in my bed he clings to me late at night it's incredibly sweet

I start every morning by feeding Fezon a bottle of spider milk with honey extract after that i spend a little time with my sweet Fezon before entrusting him to Nanny Layai after that i proceeded with my day i decided to do something different i went to the Beastmaster and i asked for a steed the Beast Master showed me all the available mounts there was only one that i was interested in it was a Concordia Hare as i said before Concordia Hare's choose there riders so i approach all the Hares in the stable eventually one of them walks up to me i smile gently and let him sniff my hand the

Hare slowly begins to nuzzle into my hand i think i've been chosen i then have a saddle harnessed i then name my new friend Adono and i ride him around the settlement Adono seems to enjoy the stroll

Soon we return to the palace and Adono is taken to the stables i was then reunited with Fezon and i spent time with my sweet sweet child as Fezon and i are cuddling in the garden Rays comes in and tells me that we are being visited by an emissary from another Clan

I'm curious to hear this and i tell Rays to send this Emissary to my meeting room handing Fezon to Nanny Layai i would then meet with the Emissary they had cyan blue skin and bright green hair his eyes were a deep blue and he was garbed in clothing with frog designs on it

Emissary: "greetings my fellow Arcai i am Splash an Emissary of the Frog Song Clan"

## Esteria: "i'm happy to make your acquaintance Splash, is your Clan nearby?"

Emissary Splash: "yes we are currently setting up a settlement near the lake a ways off our Sovereign detected your Clan with her relic the Hawk Eye and we wanted to make presence known we are hoping to be the best of Neighbors"

Esteria: i see i would love that though i have to say your presence would have been greatly appreciated sooner am i to guess by your attire and skin your Clan is aligned with the Water element?"

Emissary Splash: "yes we are in fact water Faeries we live in the Bottom of the lake with our prized companions Frogs"

Esteria: "i see well hopefully this can be the beginning of an incredibly strong relationship please tell your Sovereign that i am willing to form a alliance with her"

### Emissary Splash: "thank you your grace but may i have your name to take back to my Sovereign"

Esteria: "my name is Esteria Sovereign of the Arcus Stella Clan"

Emissary Splash: "thank you your grace"

Splash soon took his leave i was excited to gain a new ally and Water Faeries are incredibly good company to keep around they are very go with the flow and calm Rays was excited as well though we both agreed that they could have shown up earlier and helped us with our drought

As i was about to go back to Jezon Rays told me that there was some business i needed to do i let out a soft sigh and left to handle it apparently a young Faery was turning 12 years old and his deepest wish was to be visited by The Sovereign i couldn't help but smile i came to the little ones home and i saw the biggest smile on her face

she then showed me her room and she shared her dream of becoming a Knight i told her that if she tries hard she will be the greatest Knight ever

I spent so much time their and we had so much fun soon the small

Faery child fell asleep i spoke with her parents and they were

incredibly happy i could come i was happy as well it felt good to

fulfill the dreams of a child i then made my way back to the Palace

I then found Fezon resting in my bed i then got into my night clothes and snuggled my child in my arms i then had a dream i was in a field of Flowers and their were three Hawks circling above me i stood completely still and tried to take cover from them then it happened all three Hawks began to swoop down at me i evaded them but they had completely destroyed the Flowers

I started to hyperventilate but then the three hawks came at me again this time they surrounded me and just loomed over me then

one hawk grabbed my left hand another grabbed my head and the final one grabbed my legs they all yanked in different directions and their talons dug into my skin

I woke up at 5 am drenched in sweat i took a few deep breaths and looked down at my son he was sleeping peacefully but i can't help but think that dream was about him somehow as i was getting Fezon ready for the day that dream loomed in my mind i tried to push it aside but it became harder and harder as the day went on

I would then hear word from Ecalon that the other two Sovereign Seed Bulbs were almost ready to bloom as well this was a little stressful for me i tried my best to relax with Fezon in my care but i did wonder if my mother had the same issues she never told me about the Sovereigns she birthed i'm sure if i venture into the Archive i can find some information about them but i'm sure i'm not the Only Sovereign my Mother fostered

As i was feeding Jezon his lunch Rays came in he was reminding me of today's task it was going to take all day Nanny Layai gently took Jezon from me and i kissed his head i then followed Rays to today's task it then dawned on me that today was the night of the first frost moon meaning winter was on its way meaning food Sources become scarce Valisa is still setting up her colony we would need to support her and we would need to make some of our food supply into preservatives this was going to be a long day

But it also meant the winter solstice and a time of togetherness and bonding so there was a good and a bad i was led out of the Palace and i felt the cold wind blow yep the chill is coming Rays took me to the Plaza and i took a deep breath and addressed the crowd

Esteria: "greetings my Subjects today marks the beginning of the Frost Moon season meaning we'll need to band together more then ever this season first off the Farmer's Society will need to bring in their harvests as well as find time to convert a portion of our crops into preservatives we will also be losing our mounts as a majority of them will either be hibernating or migrate to warmer pastures we

will also need to gather resources for firewood medicine and so on but all of this hard work will be paying off when the Solstice comes around and we all gather sing carols and share gifts with one another but as i have mentioned before we all need to work together that means no hoarding but with all that said let's make this a Frost Moon season to remember"

Everyone cheered as they continued on their way i met with the leader of the Farmer's Society he was a muscular elderly Faery wearing orange and green robes he removed his hood to reveal his divine face he bowed before me and said

Egala: "My Sovereign i'm glad to see you i am Egala i manage the Farmer's Society i am glad to say that i will work as hard as ever to make this Frost Moon season the most prosperous"

Esteria: "i certainly hope so Egala your group has the most important task of them all"

Egala: "My Sovereign i am one of the few remaining members of your Mother's Generation i served her dutifully and you have my word that i will also serve you as well"

Esteria: "speaking of my Mother i was about to head to the Archives to find something out but maybe you can help me"

Egala: "whatever you need My Sovereign i'm sure i can help now what do you need"

Esteria: "i was wondering if my Mother raised any other
Sovereigns i don't recall her mentioning any others and i was just
curious"

Egala's face turned as pale as night it was as if my question frightened him to his very core

Egala: "My Sovereign if i may be honest your Mother didraise other Sovereigns but they are not listed in our Archives they are listed in your Mother's Memoir and i must say the Memoir has been hidden and so few know about it's existence"

Esteria: "why would my Mother's Memoir be hidden Egala is there something your not telling me?"

Egala: "i swear to you my Sovereign i am only thinking of your best interest and it's for the better that the Memoir stay hidden"

Egala then left back to the Farmer Society's headquarters and i was even more confused from what i heard about my Mother she was wonderful beloved even then why wasn't anyone talking about her i took a deep breath and made my way to Maia's Faery Dome i walked inside and saw that Maia was busy tending to the Bulbs i watch on in amazement at how delicate she is with them i then move to the Market i pay for the last Honey and spider milk cake and it tastes heavenly i then return to the Palace when i get inside i

walk to my room i hear Fezon's laughter from the Balcony and when i get out there i see Nanny Layai playing with him the two are an incredibly cute sight it honestly warms my heart

I soon come over and Fezon sees me he then lets out a happy loud squeal he then begins to reach out to me i hold my little one in my arms and i kiss his head my sweet little prince Nuzzles into me as i take him inside i then begin to spoil him rotten my sweet little Fezon

In two weeks my clan was buffeted by snow and ice we were processing the last of the resources we had collected and we had barred the entrance to the Settlement mainly to keep everyone safe inside and might i add that we had a hard time keeping the snow off our buildings and streets we are very small so we need to work extra hard to keep the snow at bay the Faery's with the fire Element worked around the clock to melt the snow

Eventually we created special braziers that gave off a warm aura keeping the snow and ice at bay we had to carve holes in our frozen over lakes to get water besides that everything was going well we

# were also preparing the Plaza for the upcoming Solstice it was going to be a wonderful time

But with most of our offensive mounts temporarily out of commission we could only rely on the Faery Maiden's they are a sect within the Faery Cavaliers that use support Magic they are clothed white and soft pink armor with long flowing skirts they are healers and menders at heart but on occasion they will use their magic to weaken or disorient oncoming enemies they will be acting as the main patrol force for the Clan currently i am inside the Palace's Faery Dome creating a new patch of Bulbs i hear that all of my Bulbs went to good homes and i wish i could just see them just once

I then rose from the pond and stretched my wings i then returned to my son he was happily sleeping away in his crib beside him was his two younger sisters Belsa and Wendalia i do so wonder what the future held for these three i stepped out onto my Balcony and looked down at the Plaza they were still preparing for the Frost Moon Solstice i thought it was going great in fact i was sure it was

But then a fierce Blizzard began to rear its ugly head our braziers were no match for such strong and harsh winds it was crippling we were all bound to our homes and though we tried our best to distribute rations and food to everyone for some it was far too late for others we never got to celebrate the Frost I Noon Solstice and my Clan's population had shrunk greatly when winter had passed us we began to dig a way out of our homes we then held a memorial service for those who had lost their lives it wasn't pretty for the first time i felt scorn from my Subjects it wasn't a heavy scorn but i could tell they did hate me

With spring under way we began to plant new gardens for future food harvests we also began to wake our hibernating Mounts we then began to clear more snow away from our homes and we dismantled our Braziers so we could ready them for the next winter season i was then informed of the Rite of Spring this was a Rite i was more then happy to perform performing the Rite of Spring it was a chance for everyone to relax

The Rite of Spring is considered by some to be a ritual of luck performing it in the right way would ensure good Fortune for my clan and it would create a beacon of hope in my Subject's hearts so preparations were going to be put into place so I could perform the Rite of Spring Rays told me proportions could be completed in two days time i then told Rays that the discontent within my Subject's heart needed to be addressed

So i flew out to the Plaza Parasol in hand and i spoke up and said

Esteria: "my friends i Know this Winter Season has been Hard on all of us we have all lost someone important to the frigid cold and my lack of leadership but to ensure the Gods of Luck smile upon us all i offer this the Rite of Spring i shall perform it now right here in the Plaza"

With no music or even my best gown i opened my Parasol and began to dance it was slow uncoordinated at first but soon

musicians began to join in and with the aid of the their music my dance became more organized i was solely focused on the right nothing else mattered at this key point performing the rite mattered the most to me

As i danced things seemed to be getting easier my body was beginning to radiate a soft light i could feel it surging within my breast it was hope i didn't know how long i had been dancing for but it was enough to make my feet hurt i soon fell to the ground panting when i had opened my eyes i saw my entire clan they were cheering it would seem i was able to light that spark many of my subjects came to me and actively complimented me and i couldn't help but smile i was helped to my feet by Rays i was then laid in bed with my three children the next few years were uneventful we did our best to survive negotiated with the Basilisk Gnomes and Frog Song Clan and of course my children were preparing for the day when they must create Clans on their own though one of them will have to stay to take my role

In all confidence i hope Jezon will take my Role he's the first

Male Sovereign to be born in centuries and his magical prowess is

unmatched even by his sisters and in all honesty that frightens me

his powers far surpasses my own even at his young age and worst of

all i think he knows this but thankfully he's incredibly kind and

considerate he has no ill intent at least i think he doesn't

I take my children with me when i do my tasks it's so they can get a better understanding of my work they all seem to enjoy the idea of becoming a Sovereign they have all gained delusions of grandeur but the title of Sovereign is not all fun and games when you truly think about it half your Clan is expendable so long as the Sovereign Survives then there is still hope for a clan

All three of my Children believe they can do no wrong like it will come so easily to them i must burst that bubble if they are too succeed in this life

I gave each of my children a challenge they needed to keep a flower alive i told each of them that this flower represents the future of their clans Fezon Besla and Wendalia thought this would be easy they quickly tried to use magic to preserve their plants but little did they know i chose these plants knowing they had high magical resistance

I watched on as each of my children did struggled to keep their plants alive Fezon became the most upset mainly because this was the first problem he couldn't solve with magic my daughters.

Wendalia and Besla were each very devoted to the task of keeping their plant alive and though this was an independent exercise i chose to help each of my children

Besla was applying too much water and i gave her some advice Wendalia was being a little too rough with her plant so i helped her gain a gentle touch then i came to Fezon i sat down with him and explained that while magic can make life easier it shouldn't be used as the answer to everything

Fezon took my words to heart and he began to embrace the idea of hard work i didn't give them another moment of help i simply watched from the sidelines and i am proud of what i saw each of my children nurtured their plant to maturity and each of them became beautiful i was so proud of them and from that day onwards each of my children took an active role in the Settlement

Fezon studied with the Royal Mages and the Faerie knights gaining combat training and tempering his magical abilities meanwhile Besla spent her time with the Faerie Ranger's and fell in love with all forms of nature she even adopted a Fox as her mount

Wendalia chose to become a scholar and spent most of her time in the Archive learning all the secrets of the prior generations meanwhile i had brought another Sovereign Faerie Bulb into the world the Clan was once again abuzz with excitement

And my other three Children were excited as well i couldn't blame them this was a whole new experience for me honestly after a few

months Fezon went though a very important milestone in an Arcai Faerie's life we call it a Blossoming basically it's our version of puberty

Fezon came to me worried mainly because he felt this strange feeling and i hate to say it but i laughed mainly because my mother did the same thing when i told her the same thing

I sat down with Fezon and explained to him that he was now ready to become a Sovereign and he was incredibly confused so i told him that he would be able to create Faerie Bulbs

Jezon: ..... i don't think i'm ready for this

I chuckled even more i then placed a hand on his shoulder and held him close saying

Esteria: listen to me Jezon i know this is scary i felt the same way but since you've blossomed that means that your life is just beginning and i know your going to do great things

### Fezon: Mother how do you know?

Esteria: because your my Son and i believe in you with all my heart

Fezon then hugged me close for the following months i trained

Fezon personally the goal was to prepare him for any possible

outcome i had to get his sisters involved as well mainly because i

felt like my time was coming to an end i kept it to myself but i could

feel myself getting weaker and weaker still i continued

It eventually happened 15 years later i became barren Ecalon eventually had to help me to my room in time i could barely walk or fly i needed a wheelchair my youngest child Verilla stayed by my side the whole time she hasn't blossomed yet she is still only a child

But she is such a lovely child so pure and sweet she has some talent with songcraft her songs can cause miracles to happen others have seen it

The next day soon arrives and Rays helps me into a dreaded ballroom gown i have to wear this because now i have to crown my successor with Rays helped he pushed me to the steeple and the entire settlement is gathered for this day when the door opens everyone rises and i wave as i'm pushed to the front of the room where my Three children stand awaiting my choice once i am in the front of the room everyone sits down and i speak

Esteria: greetings my children we are here today to bare witness to a most wonderful occasion today i shall choose my successor now this event is much different then the other events of the past we have three Heirs Besla Wendalia and Jezon one of them will be your new Sovereign while the others will start a new Colony with their own customs but this Tradition is not strict our customs are fluid and allow for change so my children are free to join together and create a super colony if they so wish the choice is theirs but as for my successor

Esteria: i cannot decide

# The entire Steeple let out a gasp and so did my children i then turned to face them saying

Esteria: my Darling Children each of you have the potential to guide this colony to greatness this is a decision i refuse to make so i want you each to go in the back room and contemplate your options the future belongs to each of you

Taking my words to heart Wendalia Besla and Fezon went into the back room and began to think meanwhile i sat back in my wheelchair and closed my eyes for the final time i died at that very moment a tear escaping my eyes i so desperately wanted to see the future each of my children would bring but fate had other plans i did so much good for my clan and i can say this i have no regrets

#### The End