

This story is not canon as it is based on rumors and tales told from ear to ear until it became legendary in nature. It is thus not an accurate portrayal of the true origin of the clan. Thus, you may lead the story as you desire.


From the east you say? Led by a dokkalfar? Interesting... I will met with them.
Greetings, travelers. I am Halira'maa, Val of Kashyra, marshal and ruler of this nation. What brings you to Mimaneid?
Yes marshal!
Year 894 of the Moonless Age.
Be greeted, marshal Halira'maa. I be Seli'malika, Val of Jaal'indra. This be my advisers, scholar Tali'mal and warrior-mistress Kaliya. Also my granddaughter and heir Asira'sima.
Forbidden arts... The nether. Did they follow you here!?
We come her seeking refuge. There be war in our land of home. Victory ours, but enemy use forbidden technique in last defeat. Devourers came to eat all mana.
Be not alarmed. We fled far before coming here. No devouring nether chase us anymore.
I understand your plight. I will provide a small mansion for you and your people, but that is all I can do.
Eria, show the Val and here people to their new home. You know the one I mean.
Mistress Val, please follow me.

Be grandmother speaking truth, Tali? The nether will not get to us here? I know we not have seen any for some time but...

Belike she did. The nether can follow not if food there be none. We passed through several areas where mana grew not. Too barren for nether to follow. Hard for us too.

Damadi belike is empty and dead. We killed dokkalfar and his queen but Seli'malika unable was to close nether gate. How he learned forbidden arts we know not. No time to find out.

War taken too many of our people. Fled instead. Go to our palace to grab you and other children. What warriors and supplies were left. Could take not much as speed essential. Could feel nether spreading, hungry to devour. Many we lost in war, more still when fleeing here.

If not for our arts we would-

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Heh, scholar I am still.



You look to be pretty. Why have you been hurt so?

I- I was once a Val, mistress. My clan ruled this city. The Kashyra clan allied with Rajada, Sindri and Liwar'aje and took over. Our Eij'haless was killed and, and I was rendered barren, tortured and made a slave. Halira'maa believes in making examples of the Val. F-former Val. I... do not wish to speak of it.

Eij'haless?"

Queen and leader, I think. Old tongue, changed over time.

Queen and marshal, yes, m-mistress Val.

Grandmother, maybe I could practice in our arts on her?

Belike she could be assisted some, but we have little proper resources yet.

Mistress Vals, please no! If you help me I will be tortured again by Halira'maa!



After Jaals settling in, they are called to attend Halira's private dinner : 77 votes
Jaals settle in their new home, Halira discuss about them with her advisers : 72 votes
The Jaal'indra settle into their new home. : 69 votes
Timeskip 2 years. Jaal are settled in. : 44 votes
More than a dream : 21 votes











Halira and Seli have orgy with servants; Asira meets Halira's twin children : 130 votes
Seli and Asira return home. Jaal meeting. : 61 votes
Others have noticed the refugees too... : 47 votes
Sarv'anga and the scouts backtracking. : 45 votes
After dinner, Halira wants some 'fun'. : 34 votes










Please, Seli'malika,
join us in sharing pleasure as our next step
of this pleasant evening.
I don't-
It be not our custom to-
Please, it is alright.
Stay a little longer.
Mayhap I can stay a little...
You have been very courteous and...

Ami & Gav give Asira the grand palace tour, Asira gets curious : 109 votes
Seli has doubts, she talks with her advisers on what happened : 85 votes
Halira & Seli engage in Pillow Talk in the aftermath of their orgy : 61 votes

Oh,
it be beautiful.

Yep. Say what you will about the Nal'sarkoth, but they do know how to cultivate gardens.

One of the few things mother wanted to preserve.

Now this is all our construction!
Jiam has water sorcery and with some rockshapers he found and led this hot spring up under the palace.

Is child alright?

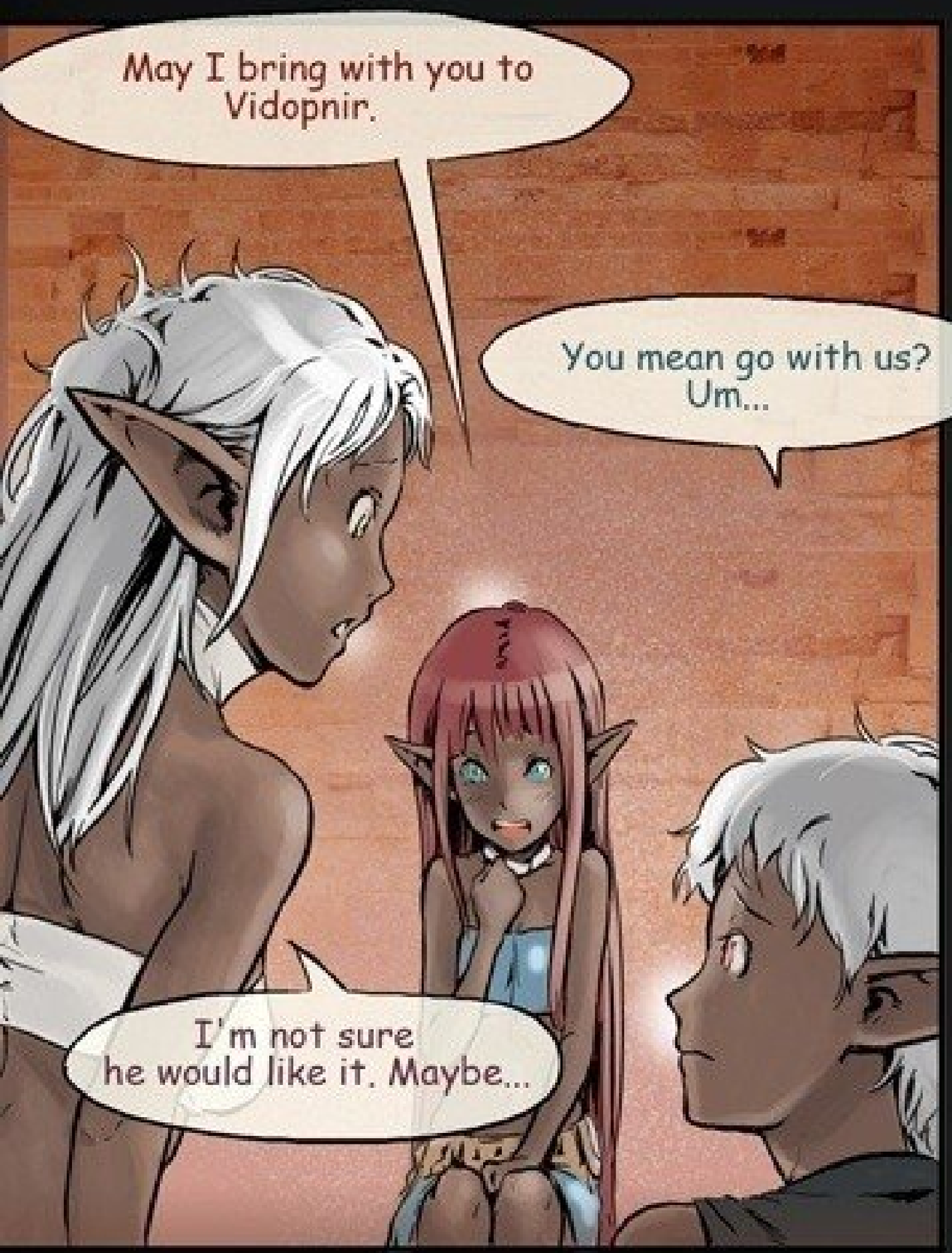
Oh he's just being taught to swim.


This is the barracks and main training area for our troops. I'll be here with my squad tomorrow.
Our rooms are this way. We'll go past the kitchens and pick up a snack.
Blood of the Goddess! What dimwitted moron let the tiktikkis out of their pen!?
Tch!
Tcheek!
Oooor we can come back for a snack later...
Thank you for showing me around. But I be wondering about something.
Shortly, in Ami'tana's room.
Oh? What?
Who be Vido...pinir?
Vidopnir! He's the dragon who lives in the world tree. We wanted to speak with him.
He is ancient and knows more than anyone else alive. And he agreed to meet us!
An ancient dragon...

Asira with twins go back to Halira's quarters and they caught Hali+Seli in bed : 154 votes

After the Orgy - Seli'malika's Thoughts : 101 votes

After the orgy's completion, Halira & Seli enjoy some pillow talk : 72 votes













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Like I said, asleep.
SIGH
Mother...
Not again...
But... it be not our custom to do this so soon.


What's this about? Maybe I can help?
Well, Asira wanted to come with us when we visit Vidopnir.
We wanted to ask mother, but you have met him too, right?


Please come here, Asira'sima. Ami, when is the meeting?


In two days.
Interesting.
Yes, bring her along. Asira'sima, you and Val Seli malika can stay here tonight. I will send a message to inform your clan.
I can come? Yes!
Thanks, Quin!
Great! Asira, you can sleep in my room if you like.

Ami and Asira have girl's night, while Seli comes to her senses in bedroom : 86 votes
Ami and Asira slumber party develops into something much deeper <3 : 75 votes
THUNDERTWINS : 56 votes
Prepping montage : 49 votes
Val Gal slumber party & Prince Gav's admirer >;3 : 40 votes
Twins take Asira to Ami's room, Gav helps girls pick out sleepwear :D : 29 votes
Ami and Asira goes to bed, timskip to visit. : 27 votes
Kashyra message inform Jaal and next day Seli return. : 9 votes





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Later.
Sleep well, Asira.
M-my s-sister used to kiss me g-goodnight like t-that... S-she died on the w-way here...
Hey, just cry it all out, ok?
H-had to be s-strong when we w-walked... D-didn't know i-if...
I know what it's like. I lost my older sister too. It's why I'm heir now.


That night a connection was formed between the two heirs. Each found in the other someone who truly understood and who they could share their grief with.


2 days later on the path to the Aerie, home of Vidopnir.
So high...
Not much further now!

The proper etiquette for requesting entrance into a dragon's home :D : 140 votes
Tuckered out : 85 votes
Time to start Jaal business in Mimaneid! Seli has a meeting with advisers : 59 votes
Every trip needs some surprises : 34 votes

Ooh...
It be beautiful...

Greetings young ones.
I am Naria, one of the keepers.
I will guide you to
Vidopnir.

Um, is there
anything special we should say,
or do?

Just be yourselves.

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Vidopnir.
Ami'tana and Gav'eshi, Val of Kashyra and Asira'sima, Val of Jaal'indra is here.

Ah yes.
Little Halira'maa's spawn and the newcomer.
Do send them in.

But! You be not as large as I thinked!

Heh.
You are not the first to say that, youngling.

Asira gets her curiosity loose! : 158 votes
Dragon's have a very refined taste : 84 votes
Ami & Gav sit down with Vidopnir & begin their arranged meeting : 68 votes
THERE IS A PRICE! : 27 votes

How can you speak?
How old be you?
Why do you live here?
Is she always this talkative?
Be this on-
Nono!
She's usually much quieter. Really.
I will speak with you later. For now, be quiet.
Later, after the twins had spoken with the dragon sage.
What kind of dragon be you?
They will wait for you by the entrance. Now, you had questions for me?
What kind? Well, I was once an elf like you. Long ago.


You be a shaped one! But, long ago... Did you always live here?
No. I was born in the nation of flowers, before the great war.
Ooh, you were in the war?
Yes. Modifying me into this new form was the only way to save my life after I was wounded.

Asira asks how Vidopnir was changed/healed : 108 votes

Honor is a constant : 97 votes

Asira asks more questions, Ami & Gav replay their meeting with Vidopnir : 76 votes

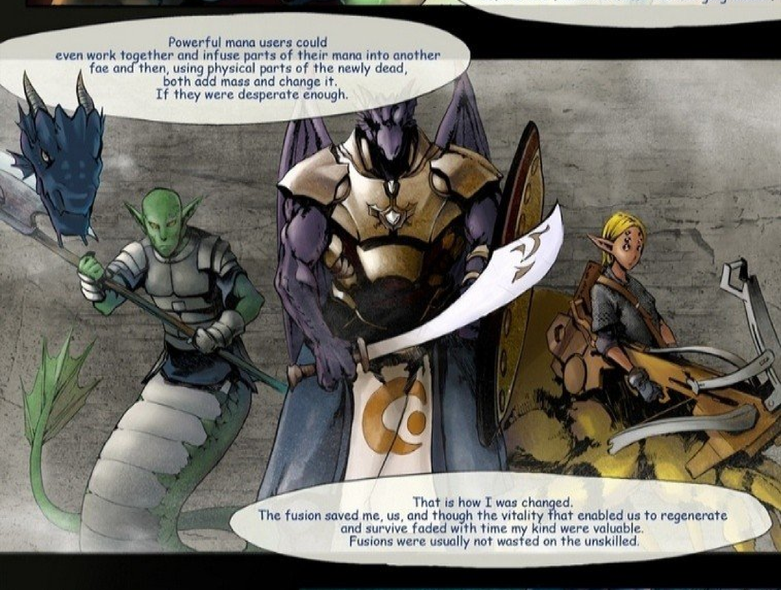
Asira asks what he looked like : 43 votes




Can tell me what you know?
It was discovered by accident. A fledgling summoner taking her first summon.
Something went wrong. The creature fought back and somehow they... fused.
The resulting abomination was insane and went on a rampage. Killing it was hard because it had gained in aura and seemingly regenerated wounds quickly, for a while.


It was discovered that you could infuse even soulless animals with mana, but you had to give of your own to make it permanent. Almost like birthing a child.
But, the infused could not use it. They had enhanced vitality but no perception of their new soul. Some soulless could not handle the shock of the soul infusion and died.


Oh! But it be not a shaping like yours. What happened?
War happened. The vanir and the dökkalfar clashed, I do not why really, and the world trembled."
Cities fell, the land was broken and people died. Many ways to save the fallen were tried. A fusion of a fae and a soul-infused animal worked best.
Fusions with summons and beasts with souls of their own were tried but could not be controlled. The two fae souls fought for dominance. The infused animals made for a more... docile fusion.
Later, as the art developed, the infused animals were altered before the fusion to make the merging easier.


Powerful mana users could even work together and infuse parts of their mana into another fae and then, using physical parts of the newly dead, both add mass and change it. If they were desperate enough.
That is how I was changed. The fusion saved me, us, and though the vitality that enabled us to regenerate and survive faded with time my kind were valuable. Fusions were usually not wasted on the unskilled.


That is what I know. Alas, I can not show it to you, young one. I do no know how it works in practice. So much has been lost...

Asira's ambition & replay of Ami & Gav's discussion with Vidopnir : 93 votes

Asira asks about other sources : 69 votes

Meanwhile: Quin & Haless having a dispute : 35 votes

Asira thoughts while going down from Vid place; Seli meeting with advisers : 29 votes





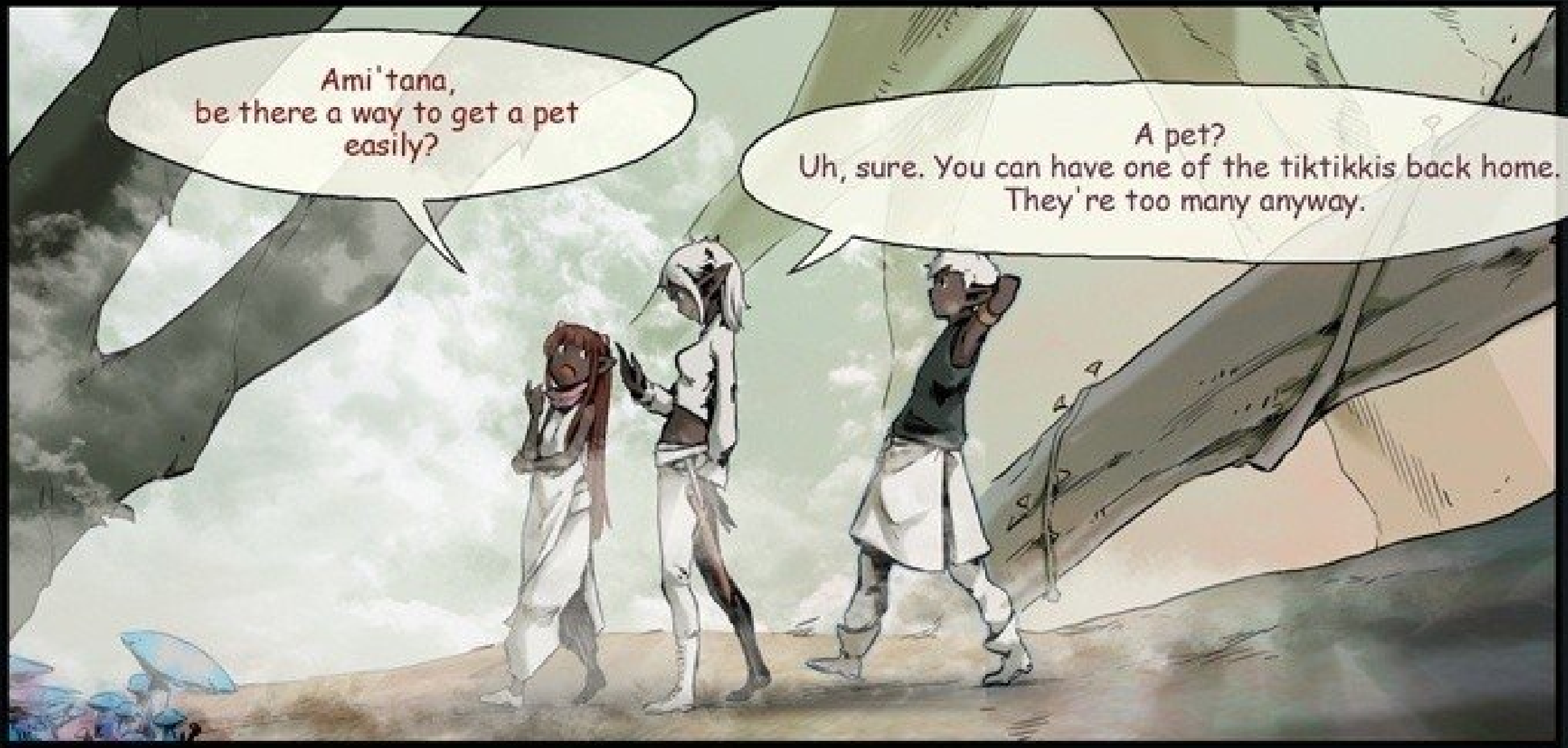

Just as I thought. The sage agrees mother shouldn't have treated the Nal'sarkoth Vals so harshly.
Yes, but I doubt she'll listen to us, even if we claim Vidopnir said it.
She might.
I think his suggestion to cultivate closer alliances with the others clans is a better course.
What about Laisa Sindri? I know her a bit and she treats her lovers well and are willing to listen to male advice.
Yes, but to what degree? Sure, I'm just a male, but with the Kashyra I have a position as Halira's son. It's not an important position perhaps, but to take a mate from another clan? In their clan I'd be a nobody, just some girl's lover.
Huh, maybe. I'll think about it. What about you?
I'm going to build a power base with warriors loyal to me and the clan, in that order. And I'll cultivate the Rajada and Liwar'aje if you get the Sindri.
You better be careful so mother doesn't think you're going to rebel against her.
I'll be careful.
Do you think that little darkling will have a chance to make good on her declaration, old friend?
I should have known you would eavesdrop, Remond. And she just might.
Truly?
She seemed to grasp what I was talking about in regards to fusion and shaping better than anyone I've met since Sha'iva died. Who knows? Let's see what happens.

Santa Vidopnir brings fireworks for Midwinter!

And presents!

And booze!

Asira wants to starts RIGHT NOW! : 142 votes
Gathering knowledge - interruptus : 86 votes
The Kashyra clan's mount & Gav's career choice :D : 57 votes
Well that is convenient : 47 votes




Later that day.
This is a young female, should be fine. They're calmer than the males, unless they have babies.
I see.
Take good care of it.
Teek?
Take care of it? You yell at them all the time, Chief.
Yah, because they're mine and I take good care of them.
Your mother does the same with her warriors. You should learn it.
Bah, what does a cook know about warriors? Eh, Cookie?
How would you like to be served cold gravel tonight, girl? And that's Chief Cook Mala to you.
Methinks the orc is getting uppity sister.
Hah! I could give you a ding around the ear and your mother would back me, not you two scamps. She knows both me and you too well.
True enough. You know what mother says; Gav.
Never piss off the cook!
Shortly, at the Jaal'indra manor.
Tali, Tali do you kno- Oh!
I'm sorry! I not did mean to be rude!
Bad timing, Asira.
We're busy! You can have him when I'm done.
A while later.
Alright Asira, what did you want?
I want to know more about our healing arts! How did they begin?
Hmm, now that's a story...

Tali tells it all : 180 votes
Politics is always made in bed! Seli and her warrior-mistress Kaliya talk : 77 votes
Tali's lover has plans :3 : 34 votes
Asira's little friend goes exploring as Tali tells his tale : 32 votes



There be more to tell not.
We worked and developed arts over seasons since they were taught to us.
Seli'malika be our most skilled healer and you know
already what she can do.

Meanwhile.

Conniving little fledgling!
Manipulation like that I like not! Still,
our position be too weak as of yet.

...

Keep warriors alert
but ordered to defend only.
We must seek out allies next.
Business partners.

Your will, Seli'malika.

Experiments and allies : 119 votes
Before finding allies, Seli needs to relax in which Kaliya helps gladly : 103 votes
When in doubt check the archives : 68 votes
Time to find us some allies. Seli makes her move. : 43 votes



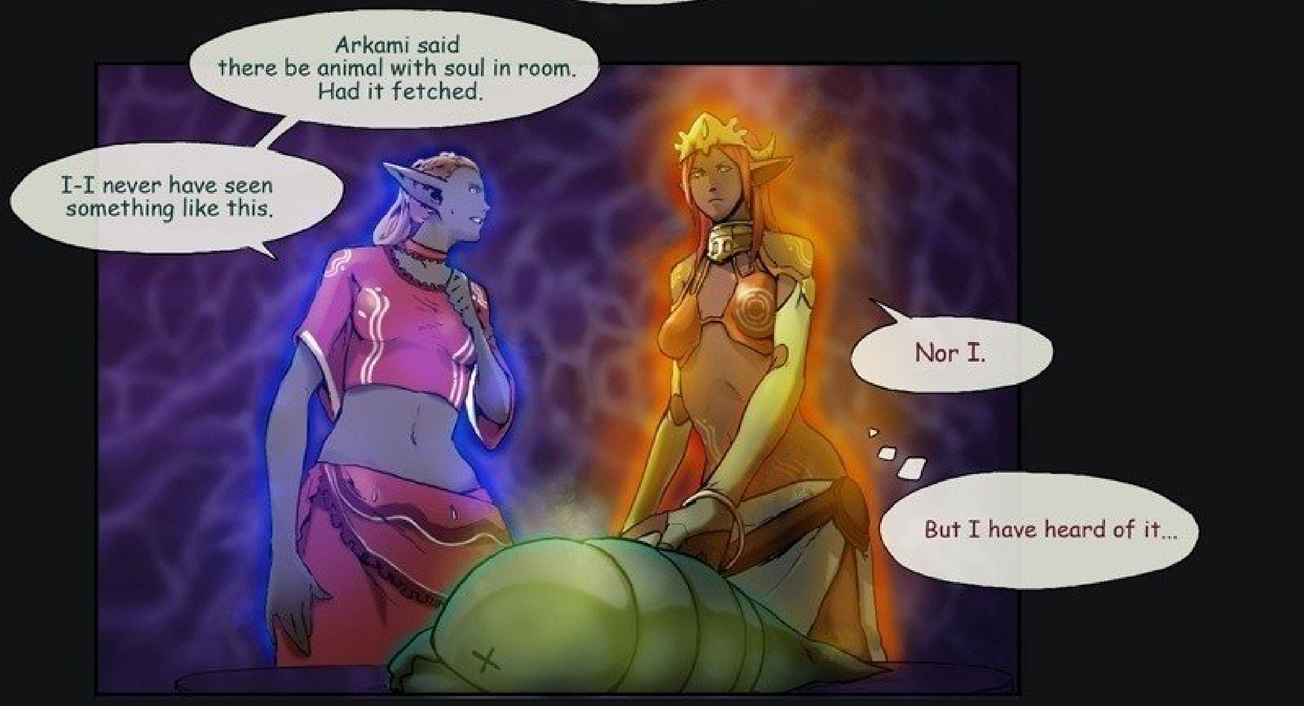


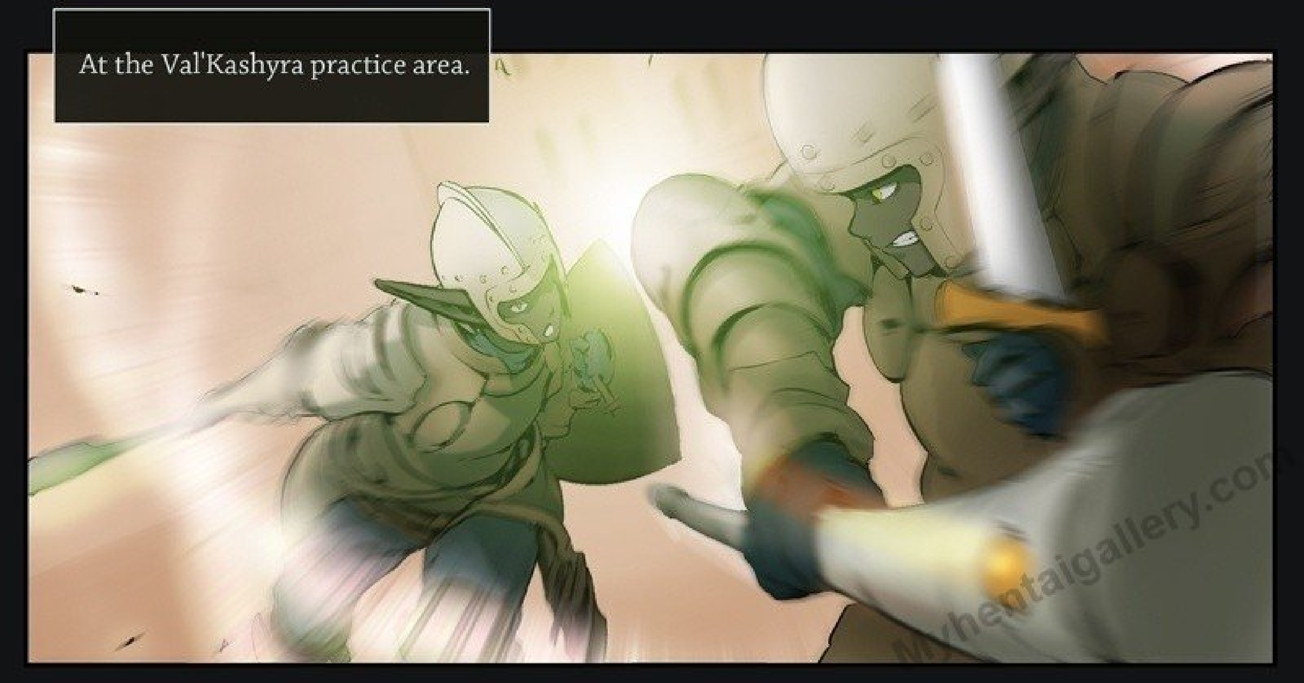

He said it be like birthing.
I have no child... If I give of my own aura?
Yes, might work.
Teek?
Tali'mal approached the Rajada clan.
AAAAAAAAAHH!
TEEEEEK!
Semira met with the Liwar'aje clan.


Asira'sima!
What happened!? Are you alright?!

Emergencies and Alliances : 135 votes
While out cold Asira has a odd dream. : 77 votes
Asira experiments more, ambassadors report. : 48 votes
Asira gets herself confined to bed for a week : 32 votes
Advisers gone to minor clans, Seli gone to Halira herself to discuss things : 23 votes
ever on! : 14 votes








Shit, thought I...had you there... Nirmala.
Yup. That's how... I got you. Used... my strength when you... over-extended. Too eager.
Thanks, Dhirej. Nir, I'd like to see you after dinner tonight.
Phkt! Sure, I'll find you then.
The Sindri manor.
...so to make the alliance between our clans stronger, I ask that you to consider taking me as your mate.
That's... an interesting proposition.
Ami suggested this, didn't she? It would be her style.
Yeah, she did. I agree with it though.
You agree, but you don't like the idea. Afraid of becoming my accessory I suppose. Typical Kashyra warrior pride, even if you are a male.
I...

Unexpected changes : 96 votes
Laisa & Gav's balcony scene & Seli's ambassadors report : 89 votes
Asira wakes up from her slumber, Seli immediately question her : 82 votes
Asira decides to hide what happened : 72 votes















Asira's unexpected guests; gets hugs from Ami and good word from Gav :132 votes
Seli goes to Halira to negotiate. : 103 votes
The duties of a leader and grandmother : 32 votes







Give me one reason
I shouldn't kill you right now!

You be dead if you try.
Your warriors can overwhelm me, eventually,
then make my tribe be no more. But you be dead too,
Eij'haless. Listen instead,
for I come not for battle.

Speak then!
Or my guards -will- attack!

I would seek alliance with your clan.
We are great healers; warriors need healers.

But I will be manipulated not
for your pleasures like common wench!

By showing my power I make you listen, Val of Kashyra.
Treat me as equal, consider my words. My tribe be very useful to yours.

Your power is... formidable, Seli'malika.
I.... will comsider your offer.

Collage of events leading to timeskip : 70 votes
Don't split the votes: pick this option if you want the story to continue : 63 votes
Let Suntiger write the next two pages without our "help" : 61 votes
Baby's arn't grown in a day : 60 votes
Timeskip - how Mimaneid, Jaal clan and Asira life change over the years : 40 votes
Diva'ratrika looks up from the book, cross-eyed. : 30 votes



The Val'Kashyra and the Jaal'indra became allies soon after Seli'malika and Halira'maa had their little talk in the throne room.



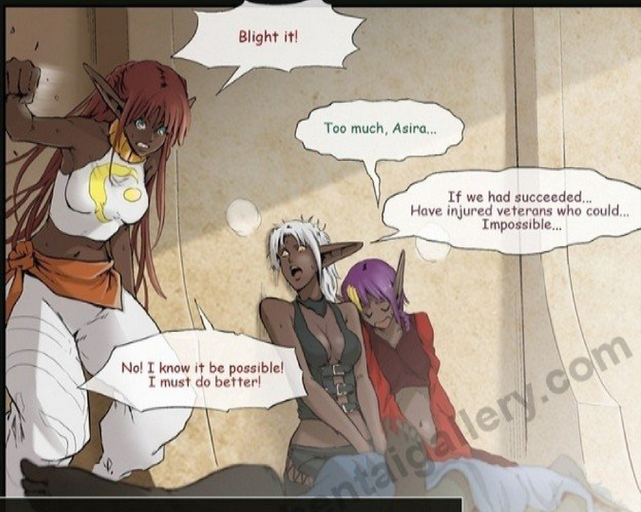
Laisa took Gav'eshi as her mate a year later



Asira continued her experiments and gathered a few others who shared her interest. Two years after her first experiment, the first breakthrough came.



And five years into their alliance Seli'malika decided to reaffirm it and strengthen it, forming a closer bond with the Val'Kashyra Eij'haless.

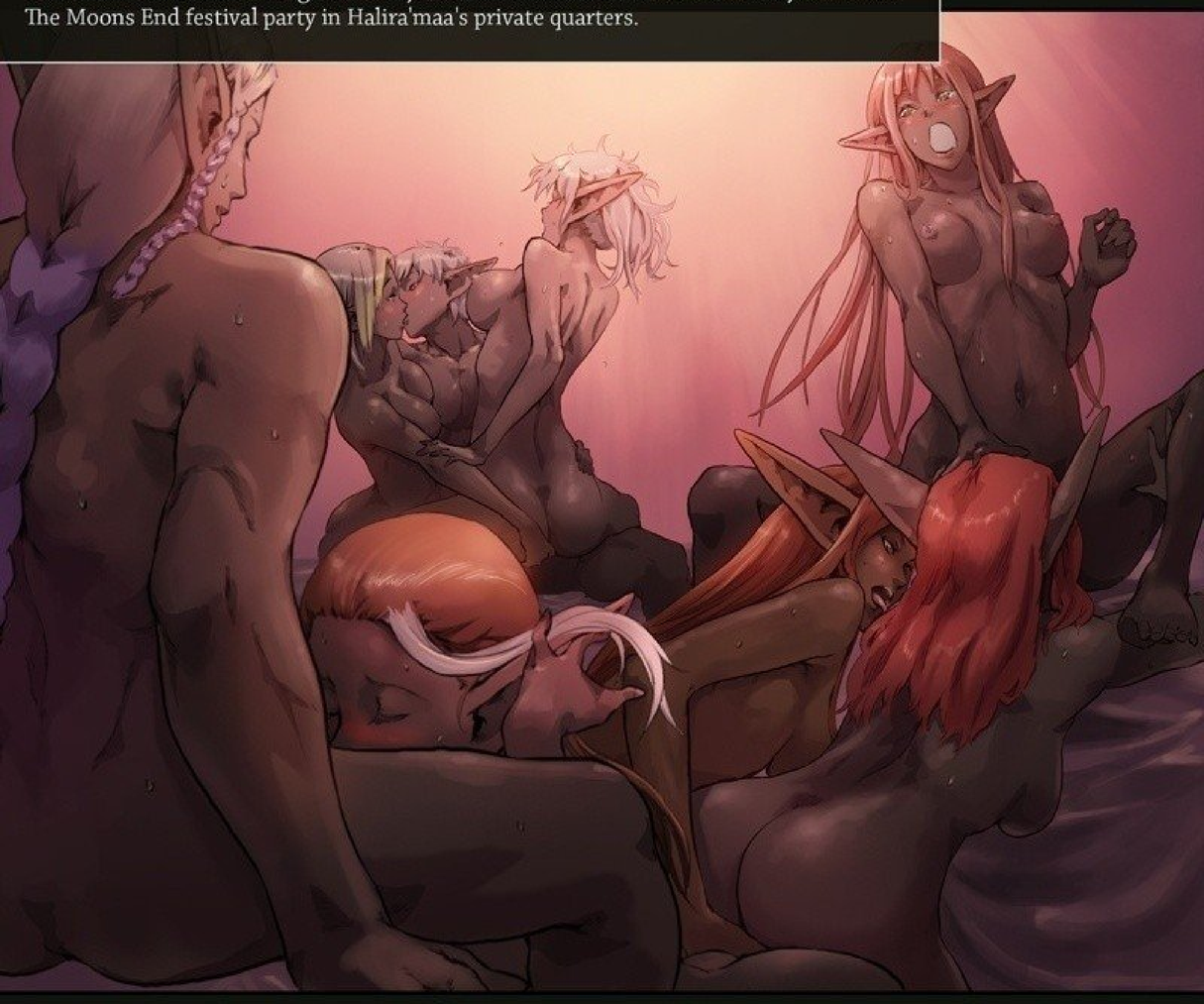


After eight years Asira, inspired by Vidopnir's words and her own creativity, grew more ambitious in her goals. Yet success eluded her.



Two years after the failure Asira bore a daughter.
Conceived for the purpose of furthering her understandings of the soul, the pregnancy and birth did reveal things Asira had not previously grasped.

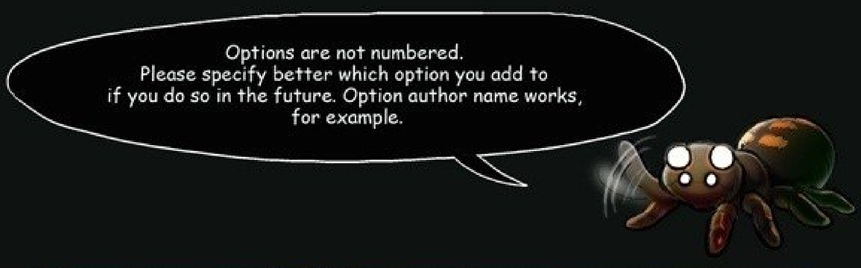
Year 906 of the Moonless Age. Twelve years after the Jaal'indra and Val'Kashyra alliance.
The Moons End festival party in Halira'maa's private quarters.



The joy of the festival was short-lived though.
Only two weeks later, disaster struck.



Option 1+ : 84 votes
Halira questions the injured survivors, sends for the Jaals to treat them : 76 votes
Asira and her daughter come to offer assistance : 69 votes
Question the survivors : 16 votes













Black sun?

Yes, Siyah-korshed.
A nation of nomadic plunderers.
They are a scourge on...

...the surface as well as in the underworld.
Damn bitches are

Now it be our turn.

Right behind you,
Asira.

Be you sure about this?

Asira conducts her innovative experiment with getting successful result: 208 votes
Add on to Kirik's option, Hali & company discuss Black Sun menace : 72 votes
Add onto Kirik's option. Explanation of Experiment : 36 votes
Experiment on wounded to attempt guardians : 34 votes
Experimental Research... : 28 votes

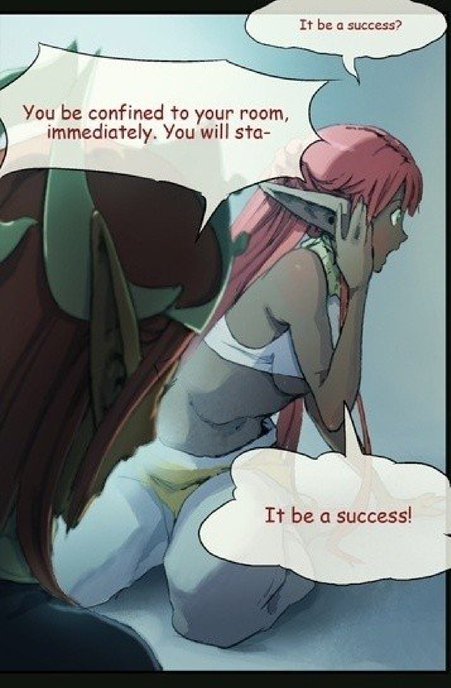





Ooh, my arm...
That be a bad one...


Goddess' eyes, Asira!
What have you done!?
Looking for new ways, malika.
Yours be not enough to save her after all.


This be an abomination!


It be a success?
You be confined to your room, immediately. You will sta-
It be a success!


Be you mad?!
How is -this- a success, Asira'sima?
Look!
It still retains aura!
The possibilities...!


Soul always linger after death, you kno-
No,
this be different! Look closer!
See how it-
Enough!
This can wait.
Seli, I need you at the council, now.

"Its ALIVE!" : 86 votes
Asira doubt about her grandma ways if they can't accept progress : 66 votes
Mimaneid council, Gav and Laisa sneak in some sex : 54 votes
Miscommunicated feelings & intents, the Mimaneid City council begins : 41 votes
Something random happens : 36 votes
We need to study the bio mass left over. : 31 votes



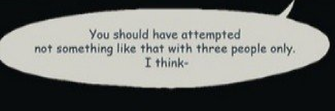




CHOMP!











More!

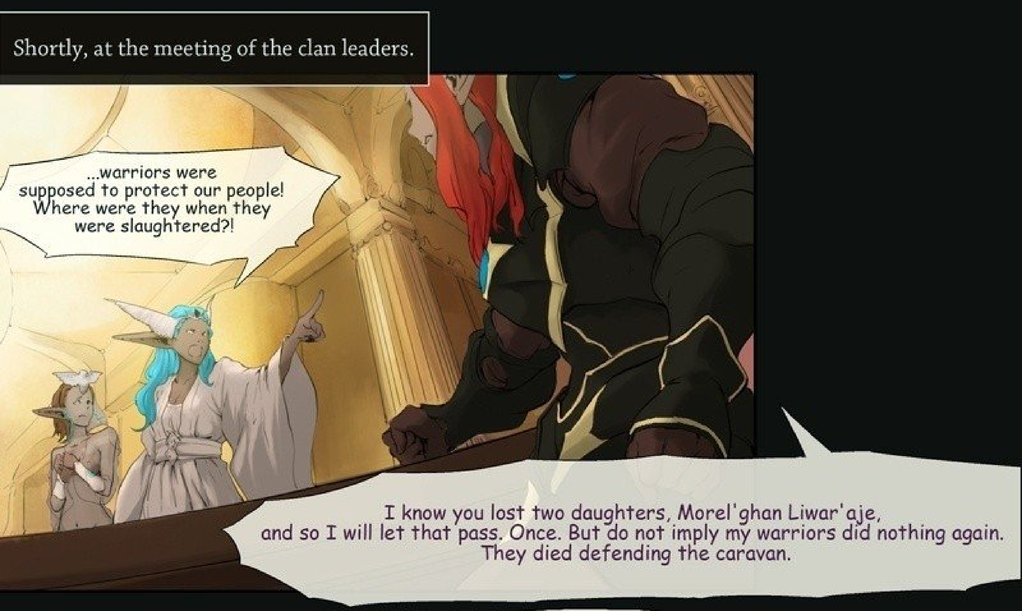
Did not work...
Now I'm just... sore too.

Do not ask...
me to do that again,
Asira...

Think you, we,
should visit Vidopnir.

Mimanied Council, Gav & Laisa Sneak in some sex >;3 : 84 votes
Regret but resolve strengthened... Investigate : 64 votes
Asira meets with her fellow researchers, later Mimaneid council begins : 48 votes
Time for a trip back to Vidopnir : 46 votes
Asira swears chastity until she resolves the morality of her creation : 13 votes











Later at the meeting.

I will lead my troops,
Zhenya of the Sindri will lead the hunters and trackers,
Seli'malika of the Jaal'indra will be in charge
of the healers.

I do not see why
you should use her and her abominable methods, Halira'maa.
The Liwar'aje has very skilled healers and herbalists.

Your granddaughter be walking on two good legs
despite getting right leg crushed in rock fall last year, Morel'ghan.
Thanks to my arts.

...

Netherspawn!
No sign of them, whoever they were.

We must report this to
our mothers.

...remember that Zhenya is in charge
of the search and you're backup.
Don't get too eager.

Yes marshal.

How many days
to the ambush site,
marshal?

Not sure.
Our best guess so far is between three to
five days travel.

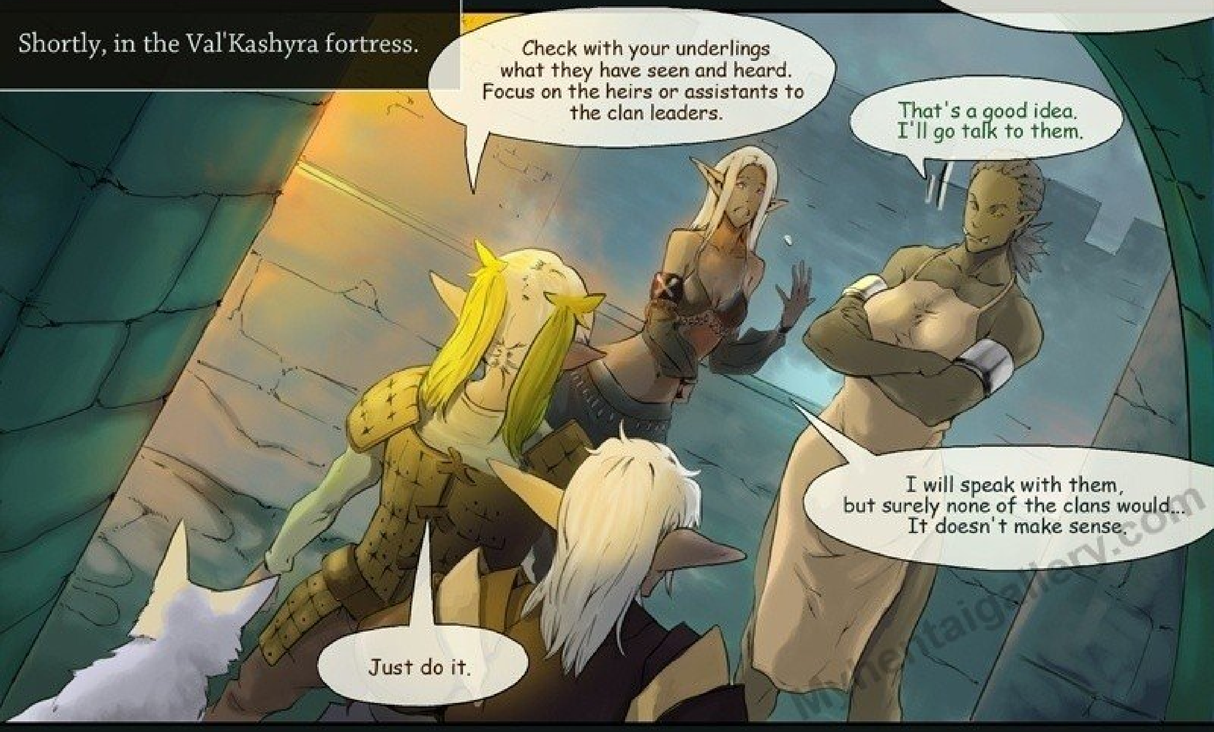
The report from Laisa and Gav made Halira'maa change her plans.
Laisa was given command of the hunters and trackers going with the marshal while Zhenya was put in charge of the search for the unknown, potential antagonists within Mimaneid, with Ami and a group of Kashyra warriors for backup.

The Marshal's team departs for battle, Zhenya's thoughts on men : 82 votes
Hali reaches ambush site, meantime in city hidden forces make first move .: 69 votes
The girls wish each other good luck, check out Gav in his warrior duds : 68 votes
A bloody confrontation among friends : 28 votes









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Evening, the same day.
Should I send out some more patrols? I'll have to change the rota anyway...
Nope. Now we wait. A good hunter knows when to stalk and when to set an ambush.
And waiting will work now?
Sure. Servant's gossip, and they see almost everything. Let your servants speak to those of the other clans when they go out shopping for goods tomorrow. Place a few careful questions over a friendly chat. Then see what our little net drags home.
Tomorrow... My other commands were much more straightforward. This... I hate waiting.
Suck it up, sister. Go do those patrol rotas, have dinner, get laid or go spar or something if you want to distract yourself. Just stop clanking around the room, I'm going to take a nap.
Why are you so sure this will work?
Kashyra fortress the same night.
Heh. Here's some free advice when hunting people, especially nobles - track them through their servants. Merchants usually works too.
Trust me, we'll get something we can use to set up an ambush.
And if the traitors notice and tries to flee?
Even better. Means we have flushed the prey. I've people posted on the most likely escape routes in case that happens.
... You're awfully good at this.
Of course, I'm the best.

Ok that's just got to backfire on Zhenya : 102 votes
Zhen's flushing works too well. : 62 votes
Zhenya plan succeeds a little, one servant is found later almost dead : 60 votes
Ambush at the ambush : 51 votes









*Translated from the halme language.



‹Die, black devils!›

Down!

AMBUSH!

AAAAH!

They're beast-men!
Warriors,
eradicate the vermin!

Their emotions are stronger now.
Easier to Feel, but strange.

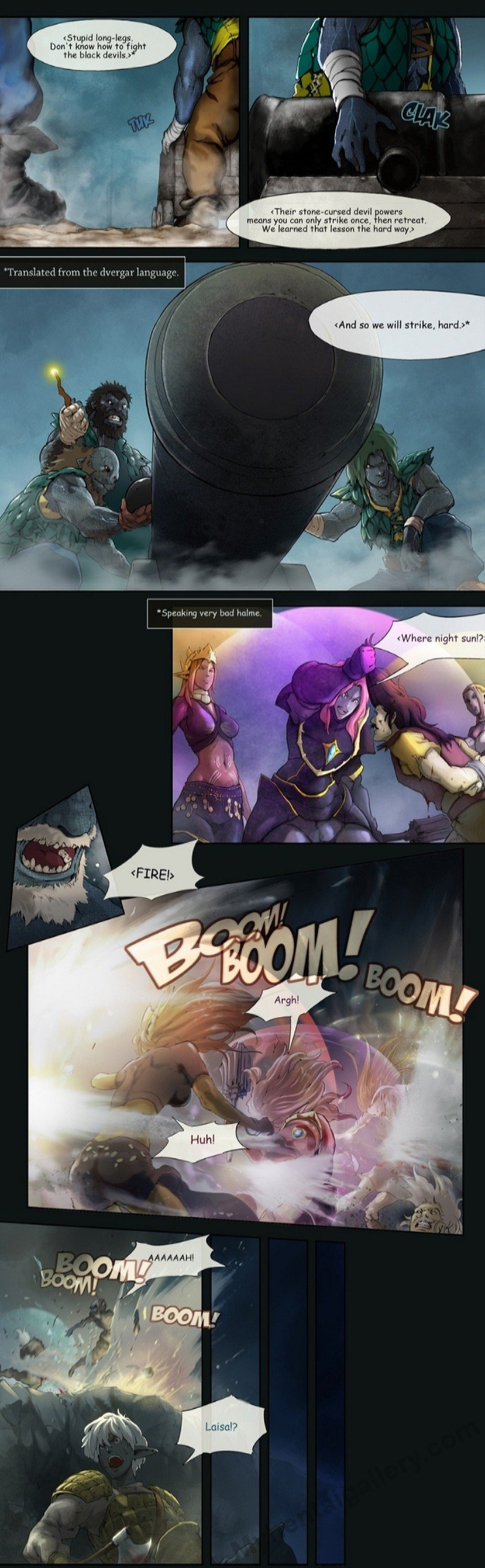
Ass kicking and hunting : 85 votes
Diva Interlude, and return to story. : 81 votes
The real fight begins, Halira's forces vs Black sun Clan menace : 72 votes
Bloody fight and the massacre of humans! Some casualties on Hali side. : 36 votes






Well done, lover!
Gav?!


Son, fight properly like a Kashyra and quit showing off!
I thought it was quite impressive!


‹Stupid long-legs. Don't know how to fight the black devils.›*
TIK
CLAK
‹Their stone-cursed devil powers means you can only strike once, then retreat. We learned that lesson the hard way.›
*Translated from the dvergar language.
‹And so we will strike, hard.›*
*Speaking very bad halme.
‹Where night sun!?›
‹FIRE!›
BOOM!
BOOM!
BOOM!
Argh!
Huh!
BOOM!
BOOM!
AAAAAAH!
BOOM!
Laisa!?

Shortly, as silence settled aside from the cries of the wounded.

It was dvergar, Marshal!
They fired those... things... in a staggered volley
and then faded into the stone.

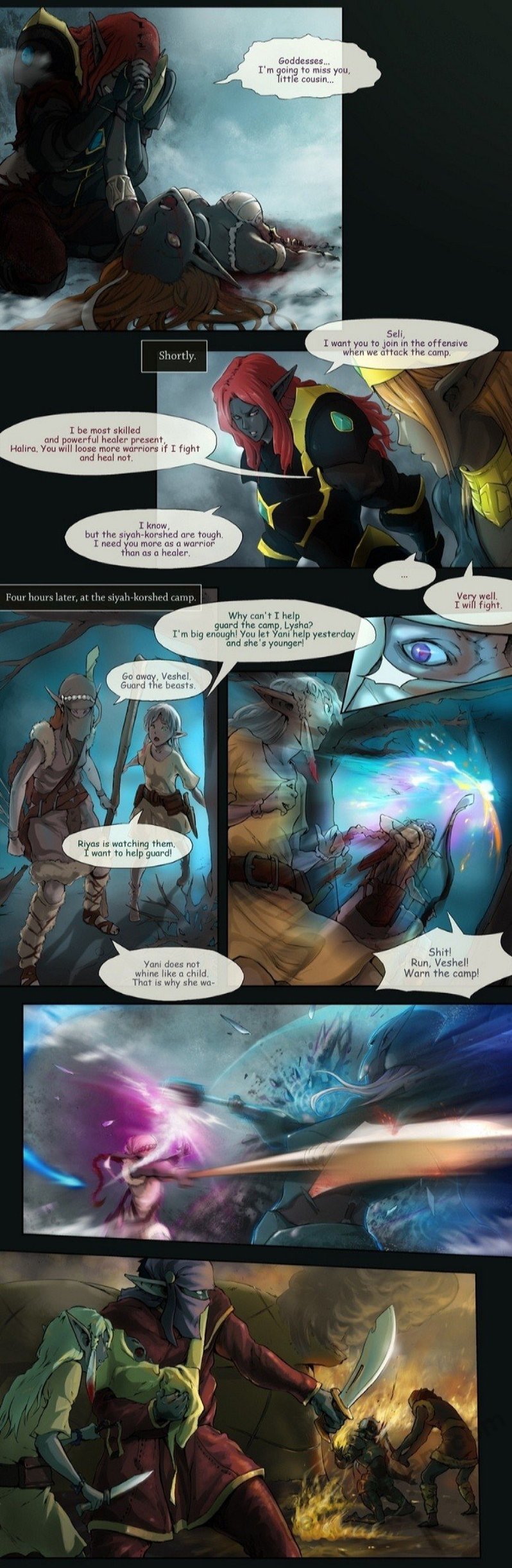
Goddesses damn their filthy
hides to the nether!
No captives?

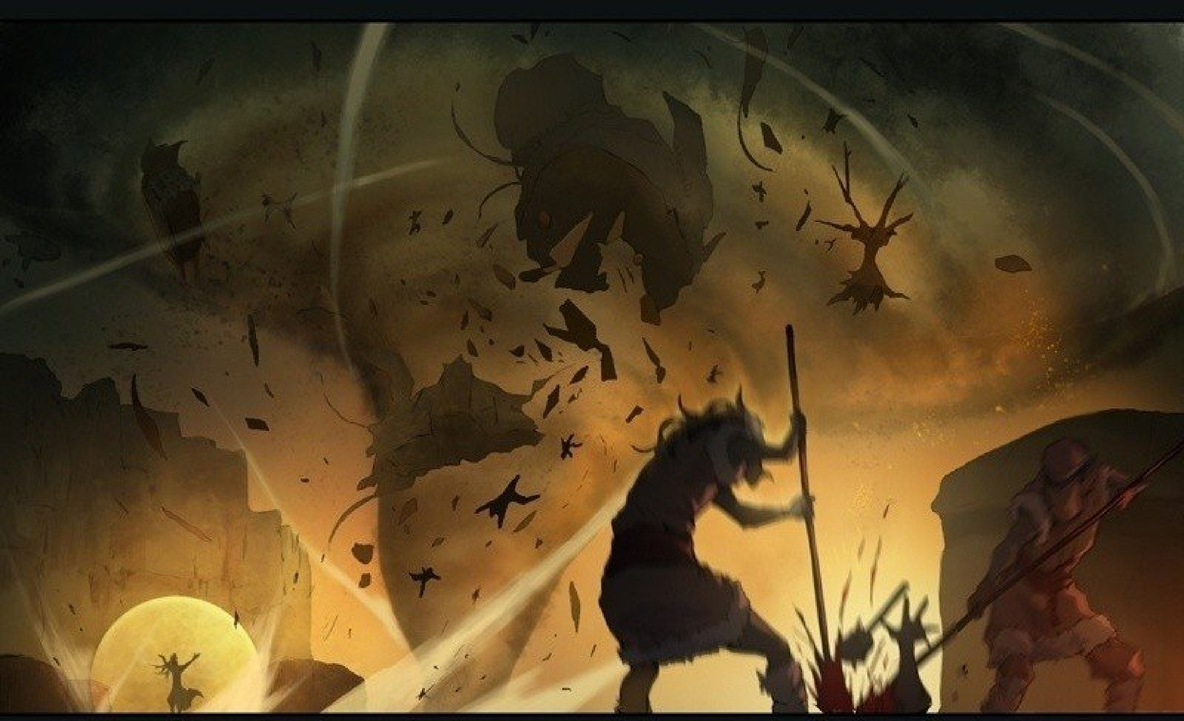
None, marshal.

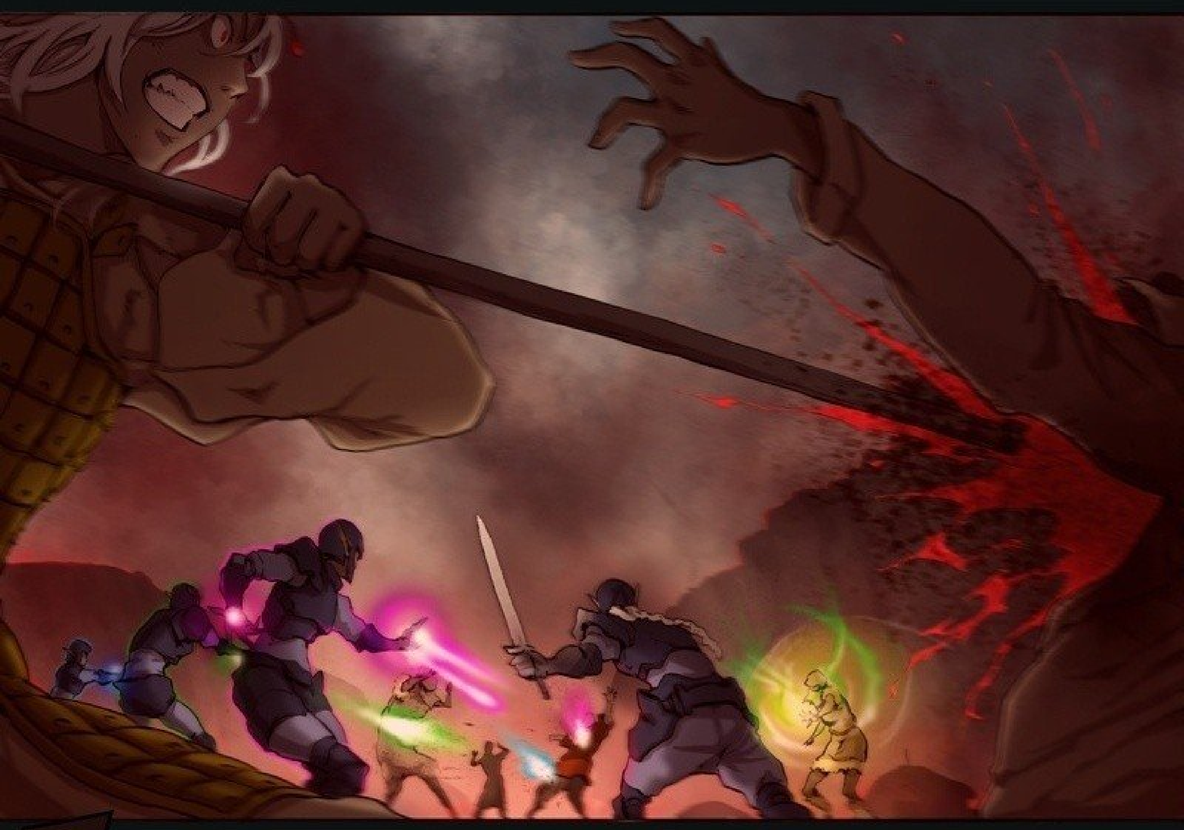
Marshal!
My forward scouts returned
when they heard the, the thunder weapons.
They have spotted the black sun camp!

Cowards,
hiding behind beast-men and stone lickers!
Gather your troops and we will go slay those honorless netherspawn,
every last one of them!

Halira says goodbye to Quin before marching to avenge her! : 163 votes
A crushing defeat : 62 votes
Halira has her victory but at a great cost. : 49 votes








Burn their dead
and what's left of the camp.
Recover the bodies of our fallen.
Seli, if you can,
help the wounded.
Yes marshal.
I will give
what aid I can.

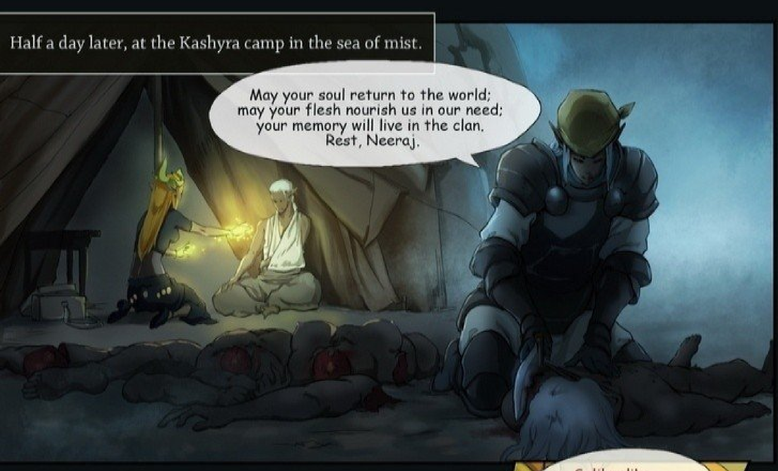
Ami receives word that her mother is returning victorious. : 116 votes
Ami goes to check on Asira, bad guys put plan into motion : 81 votes
Vendetta : 4 votes



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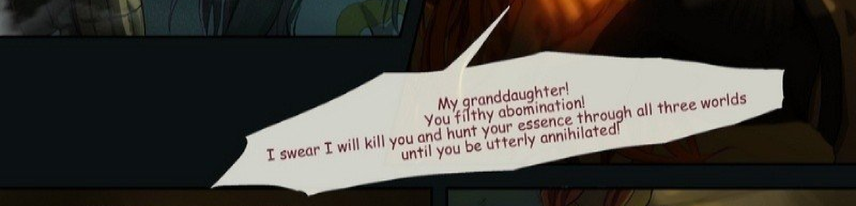

Later that day, as Zhenya, Asira and six other Jaal'indra healers rode out from Mimaneid.
Let me get this straight - you tried to make yourself into a dokkalfar, or at least make yourself looking like one, to make people take you seriously?!
All my life I've heard how powerful, wise and skilled my grandmother be. How much better and more powerful dokkalfar were before they had to flee to underworld.
And to a degree it is right. I know no-one more powerful and skilled than my grandmother.
Yet it mattered not. For all her power and wisdom, for all the splendor of city she had helped found in underworld - when nether demons came again it was all lost in a few days.
Solution is clear. We -must- find new ways of doing things, to change. If we do not, our species be doomed. I figured, if I looked like dokkalfar I could get grandmother to listen to me. Take me seriously, gain her help.
Oops
But, I failed. I wasn't good enough. And now I fear she will be even less likely to listen.
I always thought you were a weirdo, Asira'sima. You whole clan is weird. But I've changed my mind.
At least I am not a traitor.
You're not a weirdo, you're freakin' -insane-.
True enough. Our trap worked, but we have only caught seven people so far. No surprise about the two Metz'tilis and four Sativas. Damn greenie allies never was happy with the Kashyra takeover. Wouldn't be surprised if Chagai Sativa herself was involved for all that she pretends to be searching through her clan for other traitors. The bitch.
I admit Lian Rajada was a surprise. Still, those seven gives us a place to start.

Add on to Durlyn : 130 votes
A Grandmother's Broken Heart... : 86 votes
Enemies make their move coming out into open; Asira gets trashed by Seli : 25 votes





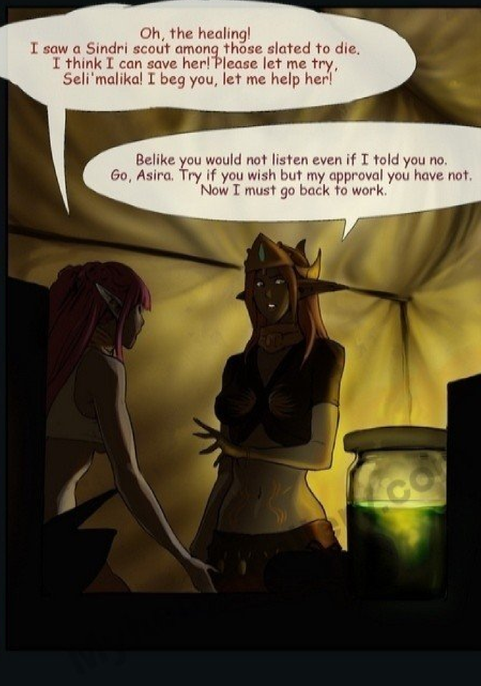












The siyah-korshed camp, a day after the Kashyra and Sindri forces left.



Seli explains the past to Asira and the true dangers of her research. : 148 votes
Bloody footprints, goodbye to old friends, & Zhen's report! : 46 votes
SUCCESS of a sort, but with a heavy Price... : 45 votes
The person behind bloody footprints; enemy make their move in Mimaneid : 30 votes
Dark magic, darker choices... : 7 votes

Late on the tenth day since they left, the Marshall and what was left of her forces returned to Mimaneid.




The next day, in the Jaal'indra manor.
You wanted to see me, Seli'malika?
Yes, enter. Sit.
Think I will recover now that I'm be back in city but might not be so fortunate another time. If campaign draws out for months I will be depleted to point of no return and begin to die. All my people and my daughter's sacrifice to get us here becoming as nothing.
So, I must speak to you about your experiments. There are things you must know.
I... will listen.
Tali'mal has spoken of Jorenn, has he not?
He has.
He does not know whole truth. Jorenn was strange vanir not. She, it, was nether being.
Truly?!
It was like devouring ver'aku not. It was vel'akar. Intelligent, capable of masking its soul, deceitful.
But... Tali said she taught us our healing arts.
It did.
But it be not whole story. It wanted to go further, much further. To change us and help us survive great war and devouring ver'aku that threatened us.
Be that so bad?
You did not see... Before I knew, I thought Jorenn odd but counted her a friend. But it was truly alien - great knowledge but little understanding. What it did was abominable. Utterly wrong. It twisted souls... horribly, smiled and called it new ways to survive and adapt. Proud to help and offer knowledge.
What happened?
We killed it. It may not have intended malice but it was dangerous and -wrong- to us even so. My three friends died in battle to destroy it that day. Jorenn was banished to nether.
You... you feared I were her returned. Or some remnant of her?
If you knew how much you look like her now, in some ways... And then you spoke its words about new ways in camp. Yes, I was afraid.
Thus I say -
my approval you have not. You may continue to experiment in limited fashion.
Cross a certain line, or seek knowledge from nether and I will kill you myself.
...
Yes, malika.

Asira heeds Seli's advice but begins to understand more and more : 131 votes
Asira talks with Tali, then goes to Vido for advice about new ways : 43 votes
Jorenn's work : 34 votes
Switch to Hal, Gav, & Ami as they address important matters : 25 votes
Asira's Slippery Slope... : 21 votes
the next step : 12 votes

Grandmother be right about nether but there are things I should be able to do with what I know on my own too! Perhaps...

Refine what you know, Asira. And, as I keep telling you, add more people to workings.

Teek teek!

I have an idea!

Four days later, in a basement room of the Kashyra fortress.

This be difficult task. Talebe and Falaki be with me last time I tried it and it ended up with person becoming goo. But, goo infused with mana. We will try to do same but more carefully, with more people to spread the burden.

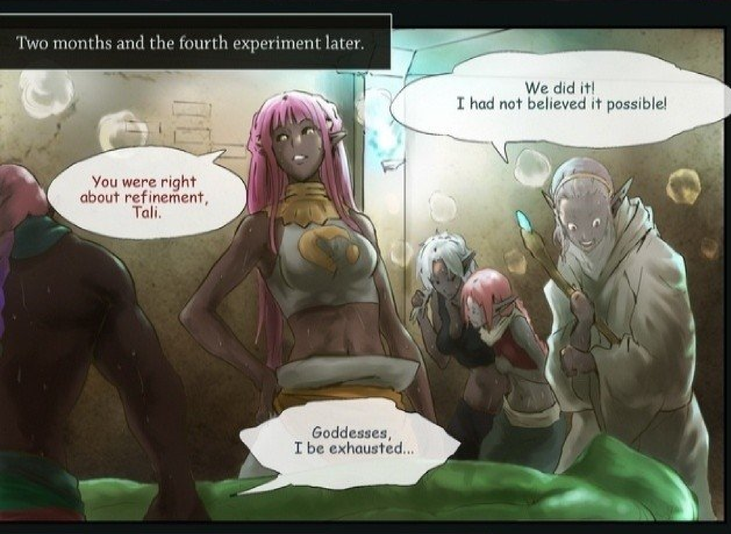
Asira, that's disgusting.

It might provide material for new leg or arm to your veterans, Ami.

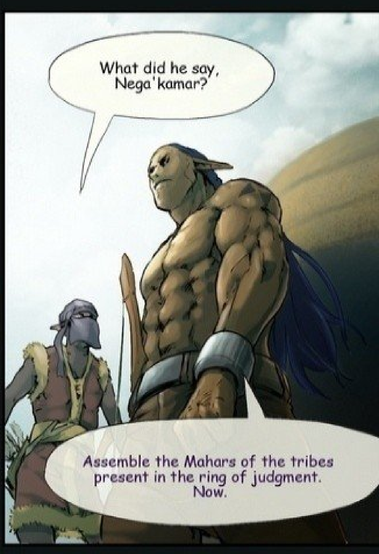
I know and I want to help, but it's still disgusting.

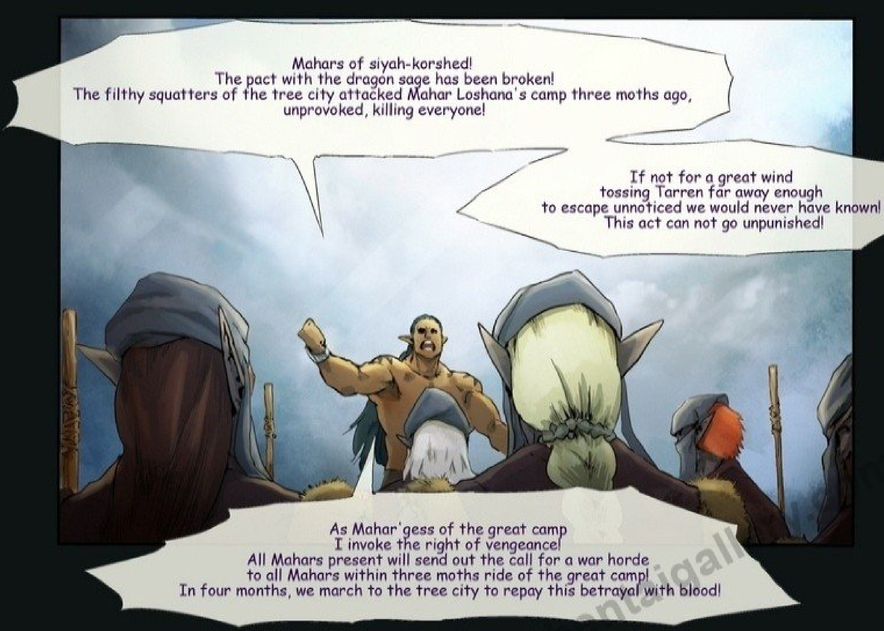
Mother would kill me if she knew I was here...



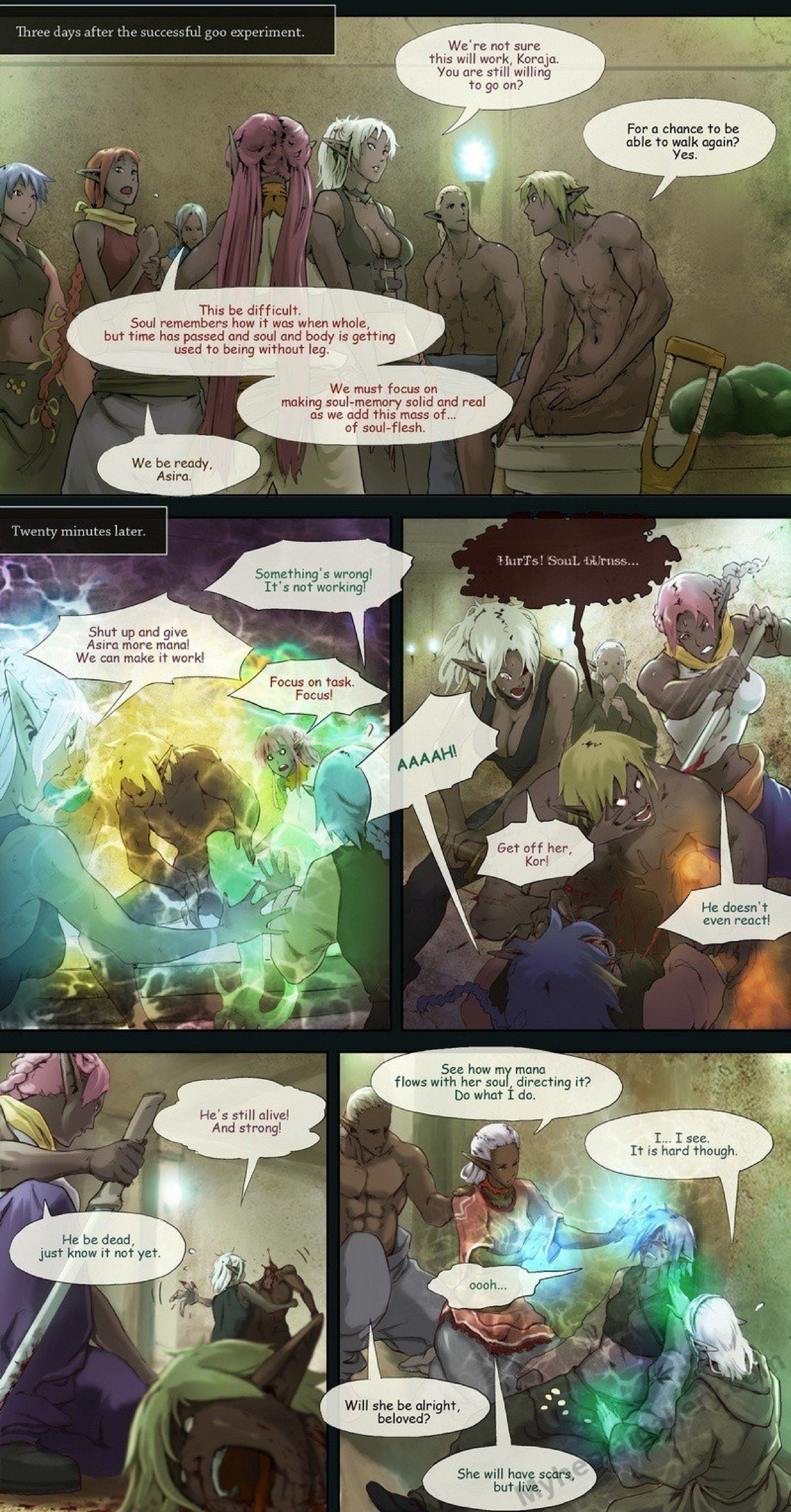

Two months and the fourth experiment later.
We did it!
I had not believed it possible!
You were right about refinement, Tali.
Goddesses, I be exhausted...


The siyah-korshed great camp, three months after Halira's attack
I am here, Tarren.
Tell me what happened.
Attack camp... pact broken... dragon of tree... squatters.
Tell me as much as you can, young one.


What did he say, Nega'kamar?
Assemble the Mahars of the tribes present in the ring of judgment. Now.


Mahars of siyah-korshed!
The pact with the dragon sage has been broken!
The filthy squatters of the tree city attacked Mahar Loshana's camp three moths ago, unprovoked, killing everyone!
If not for a great wind tossing Tarren far away enough to escape unnoticed we would never have known!
This act can not go unpunished!
As Mahar'gess of the great camp
I invoke the right of vengeance!
All Mahars present will send out the call for a war horde
to all Mahars within three moths ride of the great camp!
In four months, we march to the tree city to repay this betrayal with blood!

The experiments continues, and finally they use the green goo. : 126 votes
Asira's success leads to further study while shadows fall on Mimaneid. : 71 votes
Add-on : 15 votes
There's a wild card in the mix : 6 votes
The Marshal feels concerned for Mimaneid : 5 votes



A month after the incident with Koraja.

...vitality similar to what Vidopnir spoke of with changing. Know what went wrong, know what to do different.

We have to do this. If we stop now, Koraja died for nothing.

Besides, Eria be expendable. Better her than another warrior.

...

Two hours of intense, focused work later.

You be good at delicate work, Falaki. Keep link up, work with me.

Finally, after three hours of work.

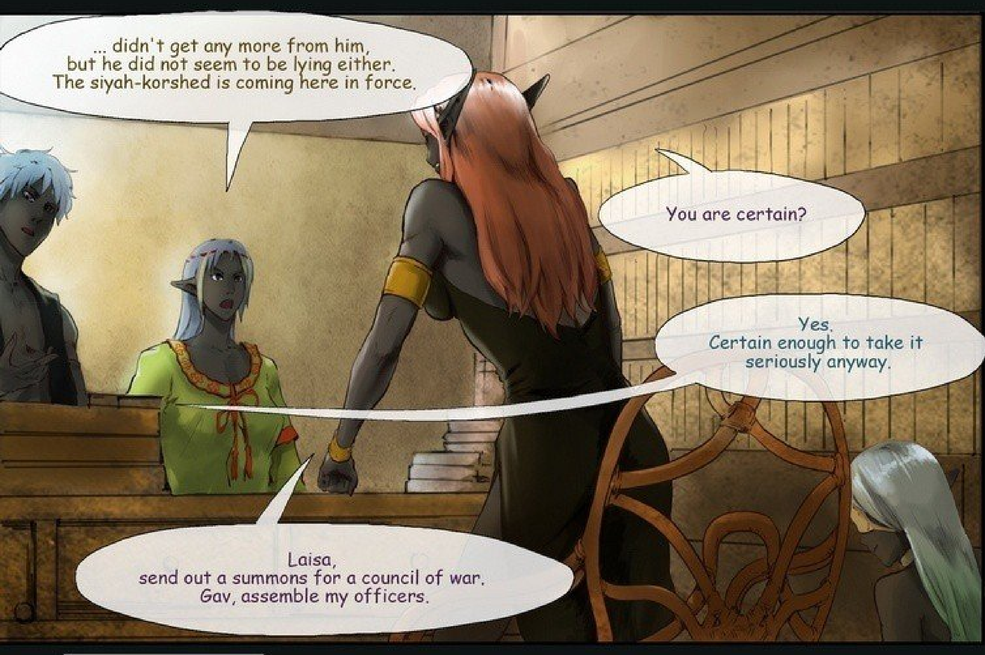
It is whole! Thank you Mistresses! Thank you!

I knew we could do it!

A sexy bath time for girls; later some of BS tribes make their first move : 99 votes
after this success research takes off : 63 votes
The Marshal Fears for Mimaneid, Gav's & Ami's Mission : 41 votes
Time to celebrate!...or is it? : 32 votes

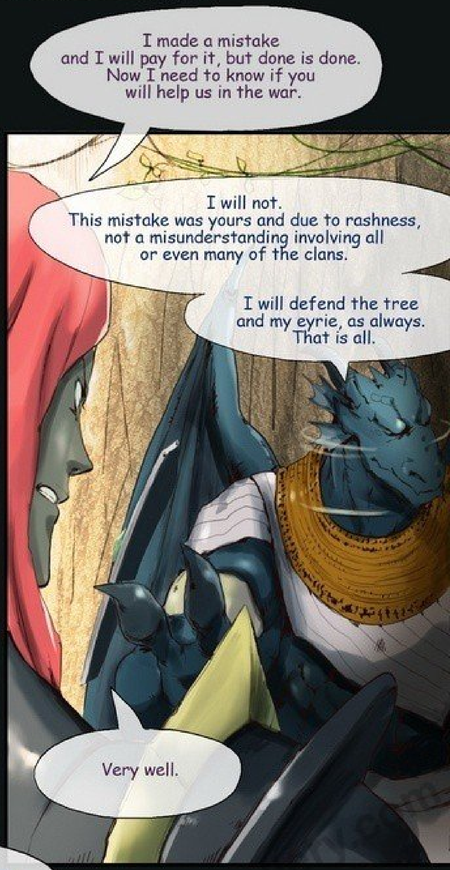


Gav & Laisa report to Halira, the Marshal prepares to defend her domain : 177 votes
BS tribes are ready to war, show their perspective : 64 votes









Midday the next day. War council at the Kashyra fortress.

...and that is the situation.
I want each of you to provide every warrior you have to help us defend the city.

And Vidopnir?

Will not help.

Ill news.
Still, you will have my scouts and warriors.

Warriors of my tribe also.

We do not have many warriors,
but my clan can provide food for those of the other clans.

If the food isn't poisoned.
I do not understand why you invited the Sativa and Metz'tili clans, Halira'maa.
We don't know if there are any traitors among them still.

I invited them because
the black sun consider us all city people, all pact breakers.
And they are usually not open to reason when they are on the warpath.

Lei'ishi,
what aid can the Metz'tili offer?

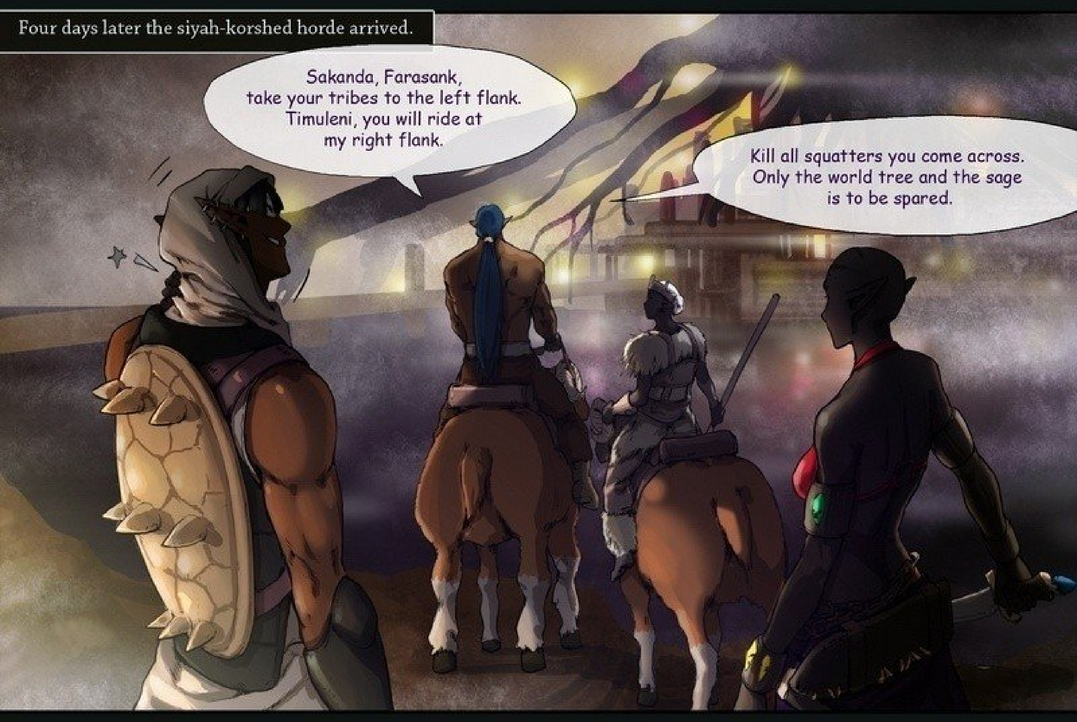
I swore an oath to be loyal
and serve the Val'Kashyra in exchange
for the life of myself and my clan after the... purge,

Morel'ghan Liwar'aje.
I do not intend betrayal to be my first act as the new clan leader.

Little I'm afraid.
What few warriors we have are yours to command, marshal.
And perhaps our fuzzy little friends can run messages.

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Asira's finds a way to use her experiments for war : 143 votes
Asira's Contributions are a surprise... : 60 votes
Time runs out - black sun vanguard arrives. : 53 votes








Adiba, Semira - NOW!


Release the shield just before impact!
I -know-!


Ghhk... Khaaa!
Hass....
Lungs... burnnnkkhh...


Almost a whole day of fighting later.
This is wrong... The sprayer mushrooms were easy, just use a shield with a soul-flesh membrane so you could handle them safely. This... soul-twisting and flesh shaping on healthy people...
A bit late for second thoughts now, Rani. And with almost half the city fallen already we have little choice.
rrrr...

Asira's monsters & Epic Showdown Begins! O_O : 166 votes
Final Battle and Victory...at great cost : 48 votes
Option 1 plus Vido is made to enter the fighting too : 21 votes













Shortly, the Kashyra attack began.

There!
Kill them!

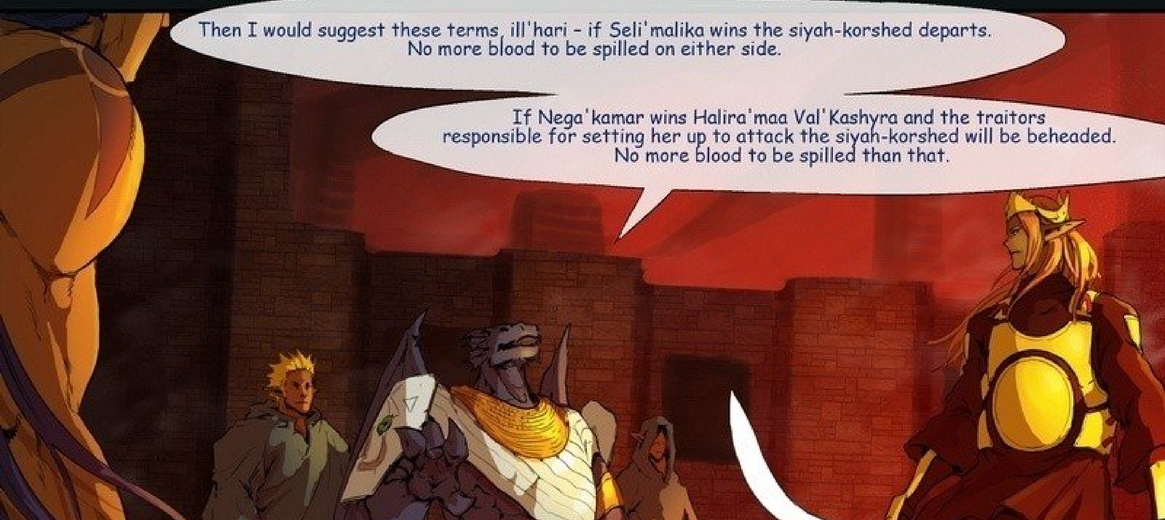
Meet your judgment,
pact-breakers.

Dokkalfar ill'hari of siyah-korshed!
Under daystar and nine moons I, dokkalfar ill'hari of Samordeh
challenge you to duel!

Let us settle this in old ways of honor,
if you dare!

Epic battle between Mahar'gess Nega'kamar and Seli'malika : 103 votes
1 + if she loose she will... : 62 votes
The terms of the Duel : 47 votes
I gladly accept, what how the terms of this duel little girl? : 26 votes









Damn, she's fast.

Damn, he be strong.

!

Fall and die!

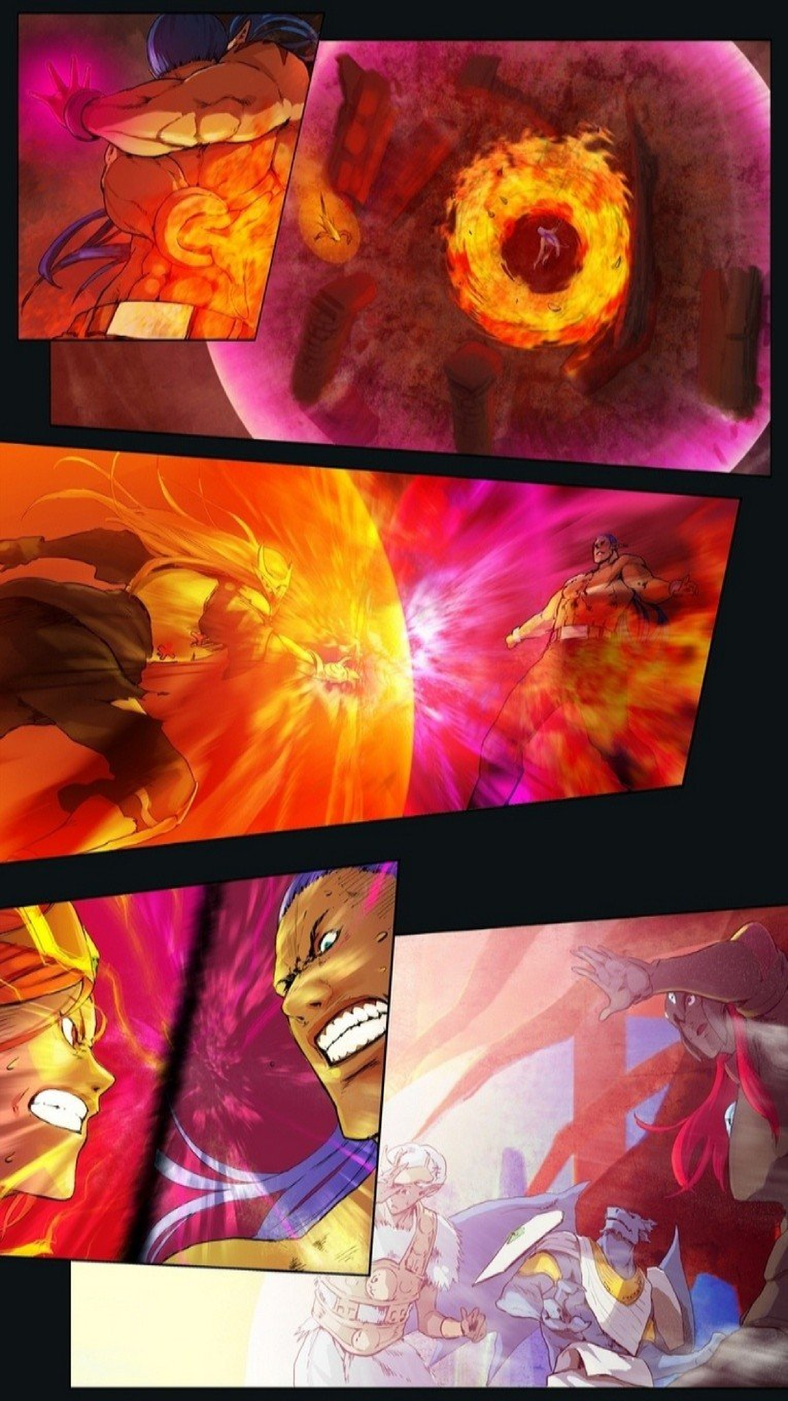
The epic duel, continued... : 124 votes
The spectators thoughts & the Marshal's faith : 75 votes
Epic double KO! Who won then? : 60 votes

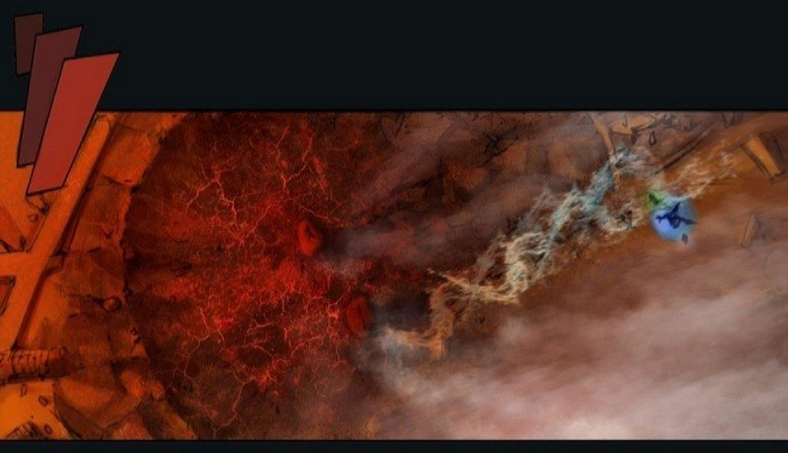













Mahar'gess!
Lie still, don't move.
Uhn...
Seli...
She is alive. Barely.
I will bring them both to my Eyrie.
There will be no more fighting.

Fallen Heroes : 111 votes
Seli's teary farewell, Vido as arbiter sets the new pact in motion : 47 votes
Asira tries her methods, with Mixed Results. : 29 votes
The leaders of Mimaneid and the black sun are summoned to Vidopnir. : 9 votes

During the following two days, all but two tribes of the siyah-korshed departed.



Vidopnir's eyrie.

The mahar'gess?

He used enough of his own soul to cause mana deprivation.

He will probably survive but only if he remains here in Mimaneid's mana pool for a few years.

May, may I see him?

Yes, go ahead.

Grandmother?

She used more of her soul. I am sorry Asira, she is dying.

How long?

I do not know. Five years perhaps, maybe a decade. Possibly two.

I want to see her. Is she awake?

Yes.

Grandmother?

Come. We must speak.

Here. I know that I will age and die. You must be malika for our people now.

We argued so much lately. I wanted this. Wanted the crown and to lead our people.

But, did not want it this way...

Said almost same thing when I became malika.

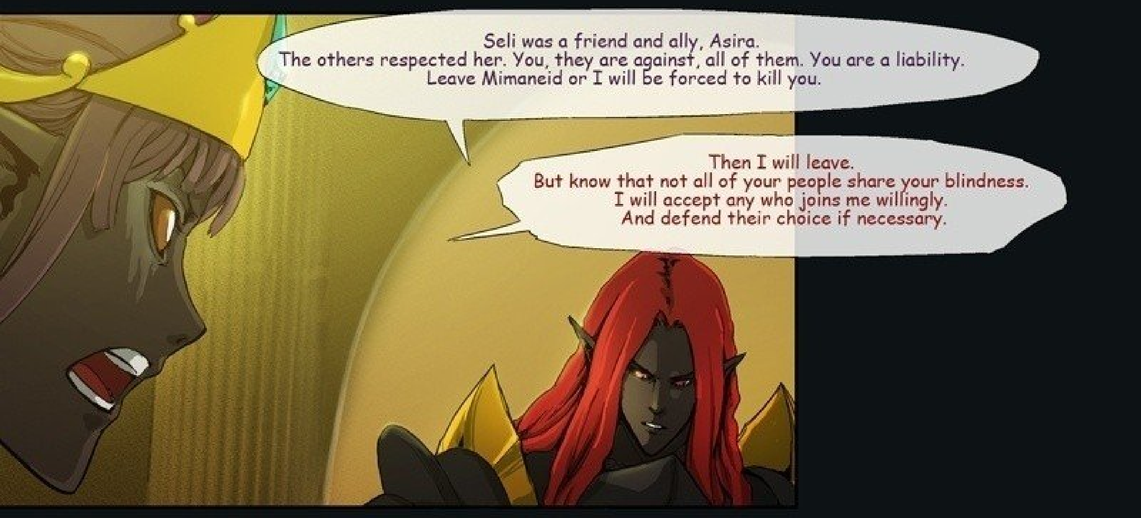
I will miss you...

And I you, little one. I still approve not of your ways, but I wish you luck.

And I will remain here. You can come visit.

Skip years showing how Mimaneid and Asira changed by her leading Jaal clan : 176 votes
Asira meet Halira and angry clan leaders : 64 votes
Any option plus Trade Caravan Vanguard : 18 votes

















End of Arc 1.

You can choose to continue the story in "Rise of the Jaal'darya" or choose a new story.