Through My Eyes

By azmom2624

Chapter 5

As the two figures slowly crossed the land,fighting against the sand filled winds that blasted them from all directions, they cursed the gods for their luck. The two strangers had traveled for many hundreds of miles to find a group of people called Thundercats. They had heard that these "Thundercats" could help them with a strange sickness that had invaded their lands. Unfortunately, their journey had to take them across the Desert of Sinking sands.

One of the travelers fell and would have been buried under the sands if his companion had not looked back and seen his peril. He quickly helped his friend up and searched the blurry horizon for some sign of shelter. Before him he saw a dim shape that looked a bit triangular. He felt a sense of foreboding, but decided that any kind of protection from the deadly winds would be better then dying. With only hand gestures, he communicated to his friend of the shape and the need to get to it and so the travelers slowly made their way to the distant shape.

It felt like hours until they finally reached the protected side of the large object. Once there, the lead stranger looked up at the enormous edifice of the structure that now protected them. He had never seen such a building as this one. It was made entirely of black obsidian rock and formed in a triangle shape. The man suspect by the angle of the wall that the other walls were exactly the same. As he studied the side they were on, his companion noticed a gap in the rocky blocks and went to investigated. It was a door that had been left slightly ajar and he called to the first man, indicating that he had found a way inside.

His friend rushed forward and grabbed him by the arm, shaking his head vigorously, but he was shrugged off and watched as the man was engulfed in the darkness. Fearing for his friend, he slowly entered the doorway and removed his head covering, revealing a tall handsome man in his mid 20's. His skin was a dark brown like well tanned leather and his eyes were nearly black. But his most striking feature was his pure silver hair.

"Lomar!" he cried out, "Come back! This place does not feel right!"

From down the corridor he heard his friend respond. "Don't be such a coward Tamen! This place is just perfect for us to wait out the storm. I even found a room that we can sleep in if we have to stay the night."

Tamen took a hesitant step forward, but could not bring himself to move any further. He tried to call his friend back again. "Lomar, I'm serious. This place reeks of bad spirits. We will be just fine staying outside."

He waited for his friend to answer, but heard nothing. He was about to call out again when he heard a blood curdling scream. Despite his misgivings, Tamen ran towards the sound and was greeted with the most horrible nightmare ever imagined. Lomar was suspended over a large pool of murky water and four huge statues were circling him. From the pool, a dark mist enveloped Lomar and it appeared as if the mist was entering his friend's mouth and nose. As Tamen looked on, he saw his friend's eyes turn from black to stark white then to an eerie, blazing red.

Lomar seemed to gasp for each breath as the mist invaded his body until his head dropped in exhaustion.When he looked back up, he spied Tamen and laughed cruelly. From his lips, a malevolent voice crowed "Mumm-Ra Lives!!!

Tamen knew that his friend Lomar no longer existed. His body was now host to a great evil and Tamen ran as fast as he could out of the pyramid and into the storm, trying to put as much distance between him and the evil as he could.

I was on patrol in the Thunderstrike when I noticed a figure near the outskirts of the Desert of Sinking sands and decided to land. What I found was a human male who was greatly dehydrated and unconscious. I quickly ran back to the Thunderstrike and called Cats Lair for help, then grabbed my emergency bottle of water and returned to the downed man. He was burning up so I removed his shirt and doused him with water, then tried to give his small sips, knowing that too much could make him sick. For a few minutes, he regained consciousness.

"Lomar," he whispered.

"Don't worry friend, we are here to help you." I tried to tell him.

He repeated the name and I asked him if that was a friend of his. His eyes grew wide and he grabbed my wrist in a bone crunching grip.

"No! Lomar is no more, he is taken by evil spirits!"Then he said something that chilled me to the bone.

"Mumm-ra lives." Then he passed out.

"What do you mean by that?!" I yelled, but the stranger could not hear me. From behind me I heard the sound of the Thunder Tank arriving. Soon Pumyra, Tygra and I were loading the stranger into the Thunderstrike and taking him to Cats Lair. While Pumyra and Tygra worked on

the strange man, I thought about what he had said during his few lucid moments. It could just be the ramblings of a sick and injured man, but I wasn't so sure.

Finally, Tygra emerged from the medical lab and told me that the stranger would be fine, but needed to stay in the lab for a few days while they replaced his depleted fluids and electrolytes. I told him that I would go home, but that I would like to know when the stranger woke up. I was hoping that he could elaborate on his earlier comments.

I went home and the first thing I did was to check on Linda and found her where I had left her, safe in bed. In the past month, we had had a close moment when my mate started having contractions at 25 weeks, but with the doctor's help, we were able to stop them and Linda was placed on complete bed rest.

I was grateful to Snarf Bertie for her help. She had arrived two days after Linda's pregnancy was confirmed, and had just taken command. She made sure we all had delicious meals and fresh, clean clothing, and in Bertie's eyes, the war with dirt and dust was a never ending battle.

At first, my wife had misgivings about Snarf Bertie, but was soon becoming good friends with the confident and caring creature. Bertie had taken to Linda after only a few minutes and had decided that she would do anything my wife asked of her. Their working relationship was amazing; even though Linda couldn't take care of the Tower while under her restrictions, Bertie made sure that everything having to do with the housekeeping and meals was first ok'ed by the Lady of the House. And Linda was kept up to date on everything that happened so that she didn't feel left out.

Quietly I left our bed chamber and went to the kitchen to see if I could get a small snack before dinner. The aromas of basting meat fruit and Berbil Fruit pie assaulted my nose before I even reached the kitchen.

"Mmmm, it smells good in here, Bertie. Mind if I have a small taste?" I grinned at her.

"And ruin your dinner, snarf, snarf?" she said, trying to look stern, but I could see the hint of a smile.

I laughed as I snatched up an apple. "Didn't my mate tell you that I'm a 'Bottomless Pit'?"

"Well, snarf, she did mention that you had a huge appetite, but I thought she was speaking about something else." Bertie said, raising an eyebrow at me.

I nearly choked on my apple when she said this and it took me a minute or two to regain my composure. I then looked at her, a bit surprised and comically appalled.

"Bertie, you have a very dirty mind!"

She laughed and shooed me out of the kitchen. "Get out of here you young Devil, or I'll never get my work done."

Several days later, the human, who called himself Tamen, had re cooperated enough to explain what had happened to him. WilyKit and I were called to the Lair so that we could hear what he had to say. Dr. Vorien and Snarf Bertie were left behind to take care of Jonalia and Linda.

At the Lair, Tamen was brought to the council chamber where the Third Earth Thundercats had gathered. We wanted to hear what he had to say before we called Lion-o and the other Cats back on New Thundera. As Tamen sat in the seat that he was offered, I noticed Kit staring at him. I didn't think any thing about it until I saw her eyes moving up and down the stranger's frame.

I had to stop myself from laughing. I couldn't believe it! WilyKit was checking Tamen out, and from the small smile on her face, I guessed that she liked what she saw.She quickly dropped her eyes when Tamen looked her way during the introductions and I saw that his eyes lingered on my young friend before he turned his attention to me.

After the introductions, Tamen told his story.

"I am Tamen, a warrior of the Iniuto clan. We are a proud and strong people and our roots go back to the beginning of this world. Throughout history, our people have suffered from sickness and disease brought by strangers or persecution, but we have always prevailed.

My clan was one of the few to survive when the great fire of the gods destroyed this world many millenia ago. The ancestors hid in caves that they had prepared when they saw that the gods had turned away from the people because of the wickedness of the demon leaders of the great lands. They stayed in those caves for 2 generations. After the death cloud had passed, my people emerged from the caves to find a land completely different from what they had known, but the world was now fresh and new.

Mother Earth had rid herself of the blight that had threatened to destroy her and had already adorned herself in greenery and veils of beautiful, but strange flowers. My people had to relearn how to gather the great bounty provided and to live in harmony with the spirits of the land. Over time, the people grew in population, but we never forgot the lessons that the Great Fire had taught us.

But now, a great sickness has invaded our lands and our people are dying by the handfuls. Two of the greatest warriors were chosen to find a clan of people who it was said could help us, a race of cat people far to the east. So it was that I and my brother Lomar set on our quest to find these cat people known as Thundercats."

I remembered that he had said that name when I had found him so I asked him about his brother.

"When I found you," I said to Tamen, "You had been muttering the name of your brother. But there was no sign of him. Could he have been close by?"

Tamen closed his eyes for a minute, then looked at me. "No, my brother is gone. His spirit was taken by a great evil." He then proceeded to tell us what had happened to his brother Lomar. We were all shocked by his revelations, and my heart grew heavy as I realized what it meant personally to me. After he finished his story, Tygra glanced at me.

"Bengali, do you think this might have anything to do with what that old man said?"

I nodded and took a deep breath. "I'm afraid so. It's too much of a coincidence and if what he said is right, Mumm-Ra is now in the body of a young and strong man and has a power older then time itself!"

From the corner of my eye, I saw a confused look on Tamen's face. Kit had also seen this and went to explain what it was that we were talking about. When she had finished the explanation, Tamen's head snapped towards me with astonishment.

"Tell me friend," he said to me, "this old man, was he about this tall?" He had stood up and placed his hand above his chest bone. I nodded and let him continue.

"The old man is dirty and appears hungry and sick." I nodded again, wondering how he could have known this.

"I wish to ask you one more thing; what color were his eyes?" That was an odd question, but as I tried to remember, I realized that I couldn't think of what color the old man's eyes were.

As if reading my mind, Tamen asked, "You can't remember, can you?"

Reluctantly, I shook my head.

"Do not worry, no one has ever remembered. His name is Kapuno, a messenger of the gods, and he only shows himself when a great event is about to happen."

He looked into my eyes, which was a bit eerie as I could see no pupils.

"You must have a great part to play in this event."

I shivered and turned from his gaze. As my wife would say "This guy gives me the creeps!" We returned to Tamen's problem with his people and decided to contact Lion-o and let him know what was going on. After this, I decided to leave and waited for Kit, but she informed me that she would get a ride later. Seeing her blush as she glanced at the human, I smiled and agreed. I guess I wasn't the only one who found humans tempting.