

BROTHER BEWITCHED

CHAPTER 16




THE SEIGE IS ENDED. LET US PURSUE THE REMAINING TIGERS BACK TO ANSEY COMPOUND. I WOULD HAVE LADY ANSEY'S HEAD.

WE MUST MAKE AN EXAMPLE OF--

DROP YOUR WEAPONS OR SERREN DIES!



A woman with long blonde hair, wearing a white lace dress, is being held from behind by a man in a dark hooded cloak. The man has a knife pressed against her chest. The scene is set in a dark, arched doorway. The woman has a look of fear and urgency. There are three speech bubbles: one from the man in the top left, one from the woman in the top right, and a text box in the bottom right.

I WILL
EXCHANGE THIS
"GIRL" FOR YOU,
USURPER.
SURRENDER TO ME
IF YOU VALUE
HER LIFE!

DEVIN!

MORE TERRIFIED THAN HE HAS EVER
BEEN IN HIS LIFE, WHEN PRINCE
SERREN SEES DEVIN, HIS HEART
LEAPS, AND HE KNOWS HOPE.

FOR DEVIN, THE ENCOUNTER HAS THE OPPOSITE EFFECT. HE FEELS FEAR FOR SERREN'S SAFETY SUCH AS HE HAS NEVER KNOWN.

SERREN!



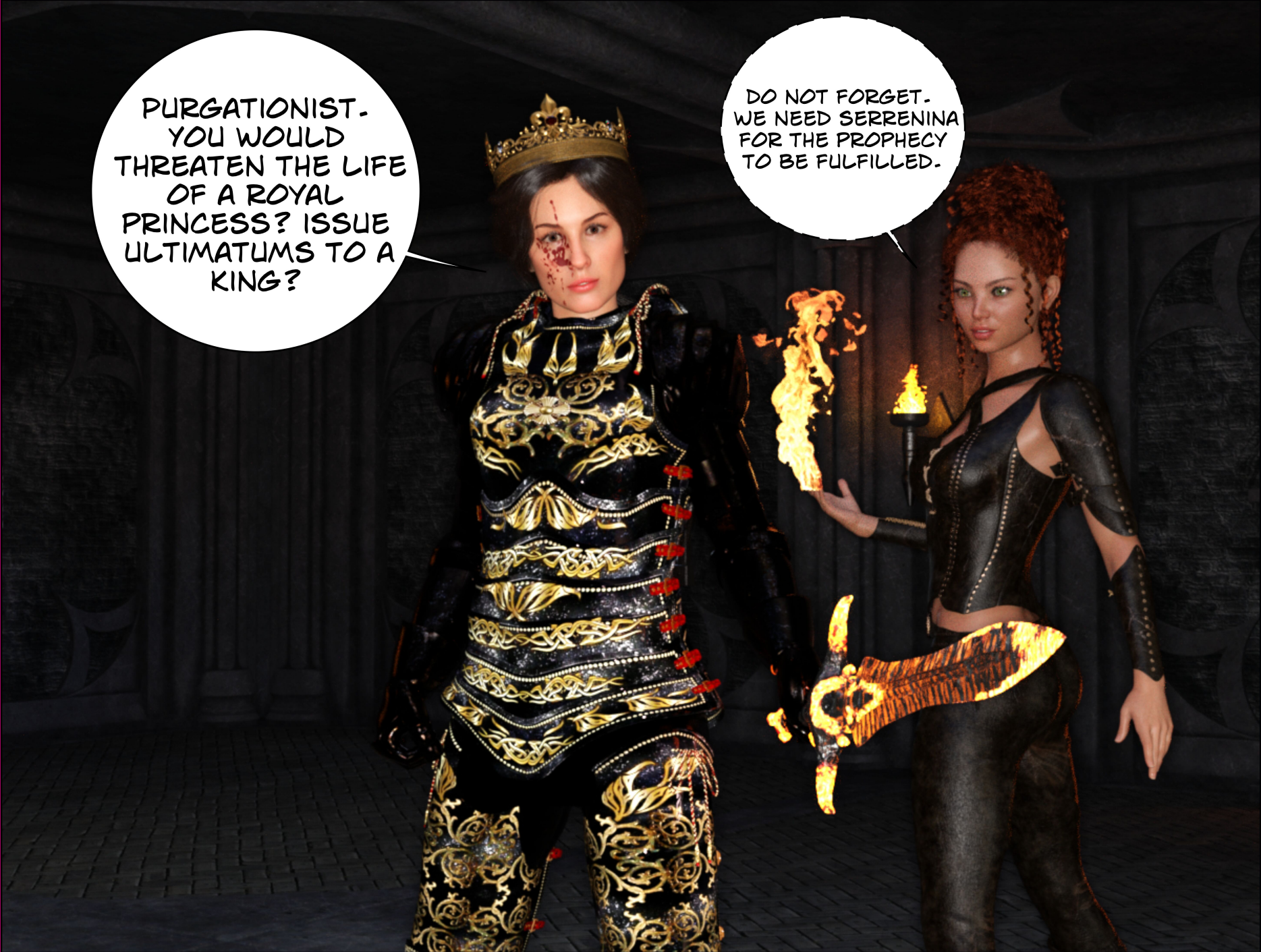
MY
LIFE FOR THE
LIFE OF MY
LITTLE
SISTER?

I CAN TAKE
HIM, YOUR
HIGHNESS.

A character with short brown hair and a surprised expression stands in a dark, stone-walled room. They are wearing dark, quilted armor consisting of a long-sleeved tunic, a skirt, and leggings. They hold a long, dark sword in their right hand and a shorter, curved sword in their left. The room features two arched windows on the left, two wall sconces with flames, and a large arched doorway in the background. The floor is paved with dark, rectangular tiles.

SERREN'S
LIFE IS IN
DANGER.

WE MUST DO
AS THE
PURGATIONIST
SAYS.



PURGATIONIST.
YOU WOULD
THREATEN THE LIFE
OF A ROYAL
PRINCESS? ISSUE
ULTIMATUMS TO A
KING?

DO NOT FORGET.
WE NEED SERRENINA
FOR THE PROPHECY
TO BE FULFILLED.

DROP
YOUR
WEAPONS OR I
SLIT HER
THROAT!

I'M SO
SCARED.






I AGREE TO
THE TERMS: MY
LIFE FOR
SERRENINA'S.



MY KING!

I HAVE THE
STRENGTH OF TEN
MEN, ACTONIA. THE
FOOL CANNOT HOLD
ME.

WHOOSH!



I'M
DROPPING MY
WEAPONS! WE'RE ALL
DROPPING OUR
WEAPONS!

JUST DON'T
HURT HER-- HIM--
PRINCESS- NOT, I
MEAN-- SERREN!
DON'T HURT
SERREN!



LET HISTORY
SHOW THAT I,
PETTENIA, KING,
DID FREELY OFFER
MY LIFE TO SAVE
THAT OF MY
SISTER.

MOST
NOBLE, YOUR
HIGHNESS.



LORD WENSEA.
DROP YOUR
WEAPONS.


WITH BUT A
FLICK OF MY
WRIST I COULD
END HER.

PLEASE.



DEVIN!
DROP YOUR
SWORD.

DON'T TRY
ANYTHING FOOLISH!
HE'LL KILL
SERREN.



ASRYN
OFFERS WISE
COUNSEL, DEVIN.
DROP YOUR
WEAPONS, OR THE
GIRL DIES.

YOU MUST DO
AS HE SAYS.

YOU
WOULD
THREATEN A
HELPLESS GIRL?
YOU HAVE NO
HONOR,
PURGATIONIST
SCUM.

YOU OFFER TO
SPARE HER LIFE IF I
DROP MY WEAPONS.
I HAVE A
COUNTER-OFFER.





I USE MY WEAPONS, THE GIRL LIVES, AND YOU--



DIE!



ACK!

SCREAM!



OH!

IT'S SOMETHING DEEPLY PRIMAL
WITHIN THE RESHAPED PRINCE THAT
DRIVES HIM TO RUN TO DEVIN.


SERREN LONGS TO FEEL SAFE,
PROTECTED.



DID HE HURT YOU?

THERE IS NO LOGIC, NO THOUGHT, HE OPERATES ON EMOTION. HE IS SMALL, WEAK, SCARED, AND DEVIN IS BIG, STRONG AND BOLD.

DEVIN!



IS THIS
TRULY
SERREN?

YOU SAVED
ME!

A knight in shining armor with a beard and a princess in a white lace dress are embracing. The knight is on the left, and the princess is on the right. The scene is set in a dimly lit room with stone walls and a tiled floor.

OF COURSE,
PRINCESS.

HEARING DEVIN REFER TO HIM AS PRINCESS SNAPS SERREN BACK TO HIMSELF. HE HAS READ MANY ADVENTURE STORIES, WHERE BRAVE KNIGHTS RESCUED DAMSELS IN DISTRESS.

DEVIN, THE
KNIGHT IN
SHINING
ARMOR?



AND ME- I'M
-- I'M THE
PRINCESS.

TO BE CONTINUED

HOW SWEET.



BONUS PIC: DELETED SCENES. ACTONIA TURNS LORD CYN INTO A LITTLE GIRL INSTEAD OF A GROWN WOMAN (CHP 15).

