



"LET ME TELL YOU A STORY, GRIER, ABOUT WHEN I WAS A GIRL. WHEN OUR LAND WAS A BEAUTIFUL PLACE AND THE KHATZ ROAMED FREELY.

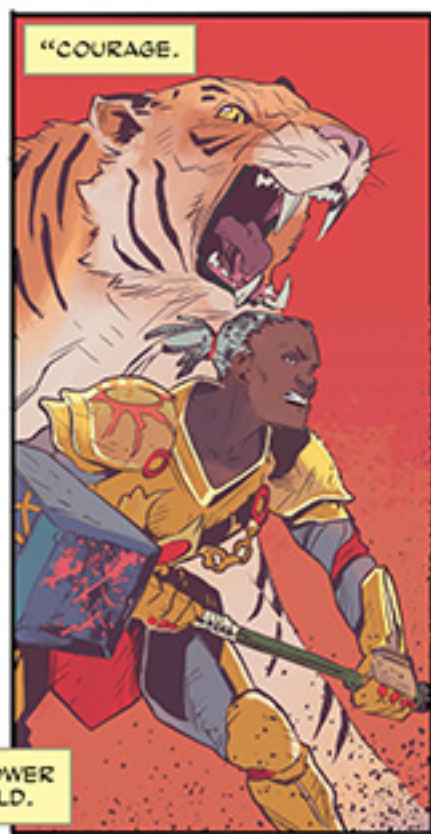
"MAGICAL CREATURES, THE KHATZ WERE LINKED TO A GUARDIAN WHO EXEMPLIFIED VIRTUE.



"TEMPERANCE.



"JUSTICE.



"COURAGE.

"TOGETHER THEY HARNESSSED THEIR GREAT POWER TO BRING PEACE AND BALANCE TO OUR WORLD.



"BUT THEN, THE KHATZ BEGAN TO DISAPPEAR AND THE MAGICS THAT HAD PROTECTED US ALL THOSE YEARS BEGAN TO FAIL.



"A GREAT EVIL ROSE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR WEAKNESS."



"OUR KING AND WHAT WAS LEFT OF HIS FORCES FOUGHT VALIANTLY..."



"BUT WITHOUT THE POWER OF THE GUARDIANS, IN THE END, DARKNESS PREVAILED."



"IN TIME, ALL KNOWLEDGE OF THE KHATZ WAS LOST AND ANY MAN, WOMAN OR CHILD WHO SHOWED SIGNS OF BEING A GUARDIAN WAS HUNTED AND DESTROYED."



"HUSH NOW, GRIER. YOUR POWER IS MANIFESTING AND WE'VE GOT TO HIDE IT."



"I JUST HOPE WE'RE NOT TOO LATE..."



"OUR LAND
AND ITS PEOPLE
ARE DYING."



"THERE IS NO
ONE LEFT TO
SAVE US..."



"THERE IS
NO ONE LEFT
TO CARE."



PLEASE M' LORD, IF YOU
BURN THE VILLAGE, HOW
WILL WE SURVIVE
THE WINTER?



FOOL.

WHUD



YOU'RE NOT GOING
TO SURVIVE THE
DAY.

10 YEARS LATER.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ROSE.



OH MOTHER, YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE.

WHAT IS IT?



IT'S A ROSE. YOUR FATHER GAVE ME THAT VERY FLOWER ON THE DAY YOU WERE BORN. I SAVED IT FOR YOU ALL THESE YEARS.



AND A NECKLACE TOO?

YOU'RE TOO YOUNG TO REMEMBER THE CLEANSINGS, BUT EVEN A LITTLE MAGIC CAN BE DANGEROUS, AND THE BRACELET I MADE YOU IS FALLING APART.



THIS PENDANT WILL SHIELD YOUR POWER AND HELP YOU TO AVOID DETECTION.



BUT PROMISE ME NO MAGIC TODAY, ROSE. THERE ARE RUMOURS THE QUEEN'S MEN ARE LOOKING FOR REBELS IN THE AREA.



FOCUS...



ALMOST
GOT IT...



DARN IT!



COME ON, ROSE,
YOU CAN DO THIS. BE
ONE WITH THE LEAF...



...DON'T FIGHT THE
WIND, LET IT CARRY
YOU...CLOSER...