

5
YEARS

#2

\$4.99

Princess

5: MAKE YOURSELF




WHITLEY - MARTIN - GRUNIG



"UNDER MISTY MOUNTAINS"
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HERE IT IS... WHAT REMAINS OF MY MOTHER'S CARRIAGE.

HMMM...BURNED TOO? YOU'D THINK BANDITS WOULD JUST LOOT THE CARRIAGE. NOT TO MENTION, YOU START A FIRE IN THE WOODS, YOU RISK BLOCKING YOUR EXIT. COULD BE SOME ESPECIALLY BOLD BANDITS...



THERE AREN'T ANY BANDITS IN THESE WOODS.


HOW COULD YOU KNOW THAT FOR SURE?



BECAUSE THE LAST BANDITS HERE WERE CHASED THROUGH THE WOODS FOR DAYS BY A PACK OF HUNGRY WOLVES.



IT WAS ONE MAN, THE BLACK KNIGHT. HE TOOK THE QUEEN AND THEN HEADED TO THE EAST.



BUT...ISN'T THE BLACK KNIGHT AN ALLY TO YOUR FATHER? DIDN'T THEY FIGHT TOGETHER IN THE GREAT WAR?

WELL, IT SEEMS SOMETHING HAS CHANGED. WHY ELSE WOULD HE KIDNAP THE QUEEN?



I DON'T KNOW, BUT I MEAN TO FIND OUT.



CREEPY OLD FOREST. I NEVER WANTED TO COME BACK HERE.



WHAT ARE YOU MUTTERING UP THERE? I HAVE BETTER HEARING THAN YOU IMAGINE, ELF GIRL.

DOESN'T STOP YOU FROM TALKING SO LOUD, DOES IT?



WHY DON'T--



HMM. FIGURES.



YOU CALLED?



KIKI--I MEAN, COMMANDER! ARE YOU OKAY?

I'M FINE, NONI. IS THERE A PROBLEM WITH THE GUARD?



NO... I MEAN. MAYBE. THE TWINS DIDN'T CHECK IN ON THE EASTERN BORDER LAST NIGHT...

THOSE GIRLS ARE ALWAYS BEHIND. I'LL PASS BY THERE AND--



WHY ARE YOU TRAVELING WITH AN ELF? YOU CAN'T TRUST HER. THEY'RE BACK STABBING MURDERERS!

NONI, CALM DOWN.



LOOK. I DON'T LIKE IT EITHER, BUT RIGHT NOW IT'S PART OF THE MISSION.

WHAT IF IT'S A TRAP?



THEN THEY'D BETTER BRING A LOT OF ELVES IF THEY WANT TO STOP ME. AND, I'VE GOT YOU WATCHING MY BACK.

I KNOW. I'M JUST NERVOUS. I'M NOT READY TO DO YOUR JOB. AND I'M NOT USED TO NOT BEING ABLE TO TALK TO MY BEST FRIEND.



YOU CAN DO MY JOB IN YOUR SLEEP, WHICH IS WHY I PICKED YOU--

NOT JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE MY BEST FRIEND.



WHATEVER IT IS YOU THINK YOU SEE IN ME KIRA, I DON'T SEE IT. I DON'T THINK THE OTHERS DO.

NONSENSE. YOU'RE THE BEST HUNTER AND TRACKER IN THE PACK AFTER ME. WE CAN PASS BY THE TWINS' STATION LATER. I WILL STRAIGHTEN THEM OUT.



DON'T FRET, SISTER. I'LL BE BACK IN ONE PIECE. YOU KNOW ME.



I DO KNOW YOU.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D DO WITHOUT YOU.



ELF GIRL! WHERE'D YOU GO?



I COULD GET USED TO BEING A DWARF.

IT'S NOT LIKE THIS FOR ALL DWARVES, BUT WE VALUE OUR SOLDIERS. THOSE WHO PUT THEIR LIVES ON THE LINE ARE HELD WITH HONOR.

NOW, TELL ME ABOUT YOUR QUEST.



...AND THE TWINS ARE LOCKED UP HERE IN THE RIM, IN A PAIR OF TOWERS.

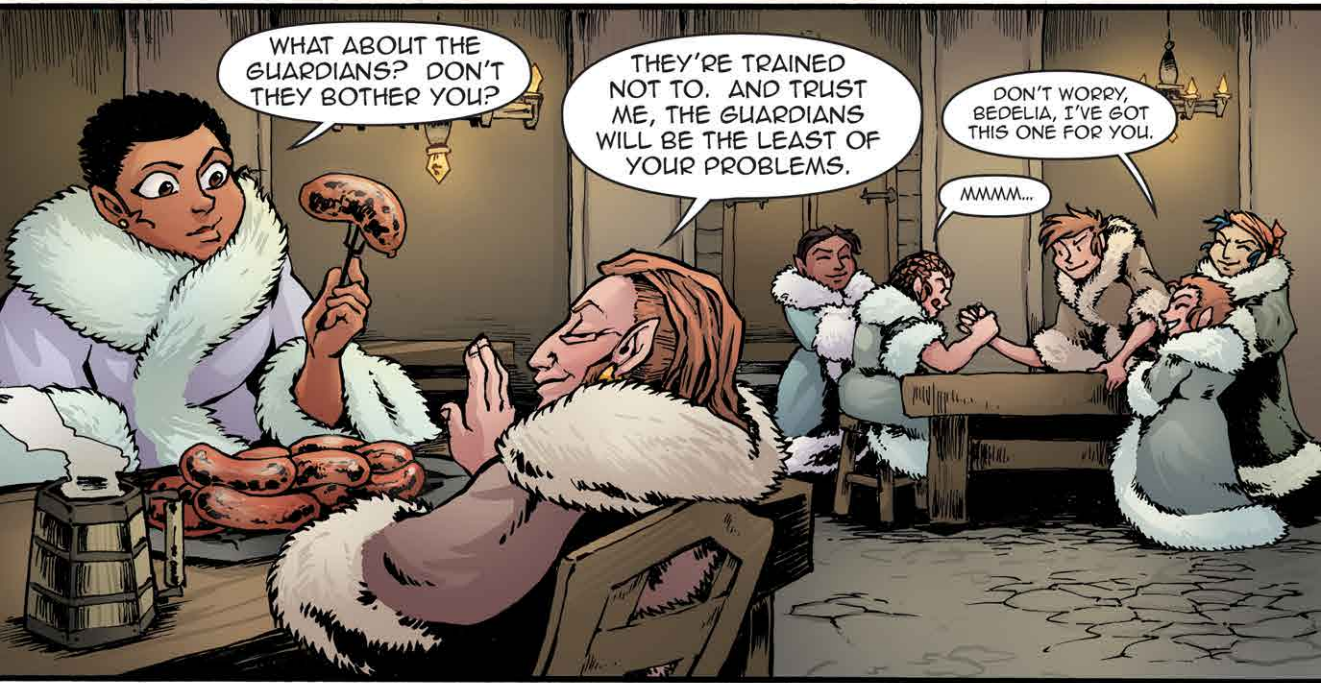
AYE, I KNOW THEM WELL. THE TOWERS ARE FURTHER UP IN THE MOUNTAINS. WE PROVIDE THEM HEAT AND FOOD.

IT'S SO WARM!

STAMP

LOOK HOW TALL BABY BEDELIA'S GOTTEN. HER LEGS GO UP TO MY HEAD!

SWAT
POKE



WHAT ABOUT THE GUARDIANS? DON'T THEY BOTHER YOU?

THEY'RE TRAINED NOT TO. AND TRUST ME, THE GUARDIANS WILL BE THE LEAST OF YOUR PROBLEMS.

DON'T WORRY, BEDELIA, I'VE GOT THIS ONE FOR YOU.

MMMM...