

# Lantathae's Story

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*Lantathae's original story that happened during the Fellowship.*

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# 1 - Chapter 1

## Chapter 1

I looked down from the talan and into nothing. The shadow in my mind grew even bigger as I was sitting there, something was getting closer, it could even be the object that started the fellowship's quest. I had heard very little of them save they were made up of many different beings. I could not imagine elves and dwarfs together without killing each other.

Something moved in the corner of my eye. I watched the band of Uruk-Hai scouts through the trees, surprised that they had come into the forest without being killed. I nudged the elf next to me. Tinuviel was an old friend of mine and was visiting Lothlorien on her travels. She nodded and pointed to me another object coming towards us.

I jumped down to a low branch and hung off it from my legs. Upside-down I put my hand over her mouth, muffling the shout of surprise. I removed my hand. "Are you all right?" I asked her as she was upset about something but then signalled her to be silent.

Leaving her wolf, Elendil, at the base of the tree, I lead Gilthoniel up the talan and we watched the uruks. She took her bow and placed an arrow in the stretched string. "Aim for the head, don't let anything distract you." I guided her quietly. I took a twig and just as she was about to shoot I snapped it so it made a noise, shocked by this her aiming went off but the arrow hit the uruk next to the one she was aiming at in the neck. "That was just lucky." I muttered as Tinuviel's shoulders quivered in silent laughter as I took my bow and started to shoot.

"Are you all right?" I asked again when the Uruk-Hai were all dead.

"I don't know. Galadriel showed me in the mirror..."

"What did she show you?" I loved my mother mostly but I did not trust her, she had a way of bending people to do her will.

"My... death."

"Really! How could she do something like that?" I felt disgusted. "I'll talk to her she really should not have done that."

Gilthoniel nodded weakly.

We went down to the body to retrieve our arrows. The stench of them almost made me want to turn back but the arrows were too good to be wasted. Tinuviel and I started to pile the bodies before I burnt them.

"You don't have to help." I said sarcastically as Gilthoniel stared at what we were doing.

Tinuviel laughed. "Do you really want to be going around, walking your wolf, and find dead uruk bodies everywhere?"

The young elf shook her head slowly and the fire started. I didn't know that such a stench could exist.

We walked back to the road and found Haldir and a group of guard stopping travellers. I hid but he saw Gilthoniel. "What are you doing here?" he demanded.

"My fault." I said coming out of where I was hiding. "We were shooting some Uruk-Hai."

I saw the travellers, it was the Fellowship. I walked slowly up to Aragorn and bowed low in front of him to his surprise. "Welcome, Elesar." I said in the common tongue even though I knew that he spoke elven languages.

"I am no king here." He replied bowing back slightly.

Tinuviel greeted her younger brother Legolas by hitting him so hard he fell to the floor.

"What was that for?" He asked confused at what had happened.

I looked down at the four that had looked like children from afar. The Halflings were just as books had described, short and shoeless but I was surprised how human they looked. I looked at one of them and saw in his eyes was a responsibility that no other member had. "Frodo, is it?" I asked, already knowing the answer.

He nodded and did not speak.

I turned to Haldir. "Let them pass, you know what they must achieve." I tried to persuade him to let them pass.

"They carry an evil that could destroy all, I know that they must destroy it but I will not let it into the White City." He replied.

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The fellowship stayed on a high talan and all slept as Aragorn tried his hand at letting them through. I listened from afar; disappointed that he had better debating skills than me once Haldir gave in.

The next day we both took them to Caras Gladhon, walking through amber trees in this autumn of time growing to winter.

"Do you want to be the next guardian?" Haldir asked as he saw my sadness of the changing season.

"Yes, but I would understand if I was not chosen." I said. I would like nothing better than to be the new appointed Guardian as my life was the woods. Haldir's time of being it had come to an end, but my

mother would probably appoint someone other than me as she would not want me to have a reason for staying while they went.

I waved for Legolas to come walk with us; I had met him a number of times before and was glad that he was chosen into the Fellowship, he was a good warrior. It was obvious when we were talking that it was a relief to him to be with elves again.

## 2 - Chapter 2

### Chapter 2

It was sunset by the time Galadhrim came into our sites and it was deeply into night when we arrived and walked up the stairs to my mother and father's great talan. Tinuviel and I stayed to the side out of site as my parents gracefully walked down to the guests.

I marvelled at how my mother could be so beautiful and weightless when I was none of that, I was a warrior always with a sword or spear, the elegant dresses did not show their beauty on me and my hair was always dirty from sleeping outside. But I liked being me. I had left my past behind me years ago, but I still had dreams of the shadow that is the evil in every person's heart.

“Eight there are here yet nine there were set out from Riverndel.” My father announced. “Tell me where is Gandalf for I much desire to speak with him.”

The thought hit me to the heart, I was angry at myself for not noticing that the wizard was not there.

“Gandalf the Grey did not pass the borders of this land.” My mother announced and there was silence for a long time.

“He fell into shadow.” I did not know who said it but the words echoed in my head. I could not stay to hear more. I pushed past Tinuviel and half ran down the stairs making sure that no one saw me. When I reached the base of the great tree I fell to the floor and felt a dizziness fall upon me. I had trained myself so that when a vision came to me I did not feel the pain that used to take over my body but I could not ignore it. I knew that it was going to be Gandalf's death and I did not want to see it.

I tried to walk on but the dizziness made it hard and it turned to pain. I still walked trying to ignore it. I sat under a tree, in a cage of roots for I don't know how long. My vision went and I could not stand it any longer, I fumbled for my hands to reach it and as I did so I already felt the pain go.

I stood on the bridge of Khazad-dûm, the mines had not changed since all those years ago except I saw a mighty beast of flame fighting Gandalf. I felt the flame on my face but I still felt so cold. The Balrog stepped forwards and the bridge broke, the creature fell, crying. Gandalf sighed in relief but the whip that the beast carried slashed once more and wrapped itself around the old wizard's ankle. The last words he said imprinted themselves in my mind “Fly you fools.”

I opened my eyes. “Are you trying to kill yourself?” My father was standing next to my bed. I sat up and saw my mother, I was in my old bedroom from when I was a child, I didn't remember the last time I came in here.

"We must talk, Lantathae." Announced my mother.

I just remembered my talk with Gilthoniel. "No I need to talk with you, mother." I said aggressively. "Why did you show Gilthoniel her death! How could you do something like that?"

"My daughter." She said softly. "She must learn that if she wants to control the mirror at all she must see that she has no power over her fate."

"That's no excuse showing her her death is wrong."

My father put a hand on my shoulder "We have decided that you should be the next Guardian of Lothlorien as of all the elves you love this land the best."

"But what about when you leave." I said almost as a whisper.

"What?" My father asked.

"When you leave, am I to stay here or go?" Neither of my parents said anything. "Tell me. Now that I am finally going to be it how long will I be the Guardian before we go? A year, a month? Do you even know?" I wanted to take everything I had said back but I couldn't.

"It will be some time, there is something else that we want to ask you..." My father looked down at me with saddens in his eyes.

## 3 - Chapter 3

### Chapter 3

I could not get out of that room faster and the fresh evening air was welcomed in my lungs. I walked into the stable and took the fastest horse. My own horse, Thinarien, had died of age years ago which had been a great loss to me but I knew that all the time he was mine he had been happy.

I rode as fast as I could to the borders of the land and then up to the stone walls that was the entrance to Moria. I did not know how the fellowship got through and I knew that it would be dangerous for me to be there as their passing stirred the goblins that lived in the dark and could only go out at night. I never wanted to go near the gate again but now I had to, to see an old friend.

I walked to the pile of rocks that marked the grave, and looked up at the sky. The stars had never been so bright but had never withheld my destiny so much.

"Tirndur," I spoke. "It's been a long time since I've visited you." I sat on a rock. "Today my parents said that they want me to be the next Guardian. Isn't that great? I really want to be it but we are leaving." I looked back up at the stars.

"I don't want to go, my sister lost her love for this world for a reason but for all the elves in every forest to go is something else. I know that this is where I belong but I don't want to be the last elf when all the rest have gone."

I started to cry. "And now they want me to spend the last time I probably have in this world with the Fellowship, but I don't know how we can succeed without Gandalf's guidance. He fell in Moria, same as you. I don't know if you ever met him but he did not deserve to die in there, no one does. We both know that."

"But I loved this land so much, I don't want it to fall into shadow so I want to join them. Oh, I'm so confused I don't know what I want and you're not here to help me."

The tears burst from my eyes and I sat there sobbing on a rock outside Moria taking to Tirndur who died because of me.

"Well I know there is only one thing I can do. I will go with the Fellowship, not because my mother wants me to but because I want in my final months here to help it as much as I can, and this in the only way I can." I wiped my eyes and got up. I breathed in again and sighed hard. "I will visit you again when this is all over, Tirndur, I promise."

## 4 - Chapter 4

### Chapter 4

I woke up to something wet on my face. I opened my eyes to see it being licked by Elendil. "Gilthaniel call her off!" I shouted at the laughing elves. "It's not funny, I thought I was drowning or something." I looked around me, I was just outside the stable, so I must have fallen asleep just after I had put the horse back there. I put out my hand for Tinuviel who pulled me up.

"Did you talk to Galadriel?" Gilthaniel asked.

"Yes but she does not regret it like she should. I'm sorry you had to go through that." I said sincerely.

"I don't even remember it now..."

"That's probably for the best."

"Yeah, it should be."

"Hey, did I miss anything last night?" I asked eager to change the subject.

"Yes you did." I heard the voice come from behind me.

"Good morning, Elesar." I laughed as I bowed. "Have my parents discussed their plan with you yet?" I tried to sound serious but I couldn't, I liked waking up in a good mood.

"Yes, I have yet to present the suggestion to the rest of the company." He answered but I could not tell from his face if he thought it a good idea.

"I will never be any substitute to Gandalf but I shall give all I can."

"Well then I'll go now." He said and walked through the trees and out of site.

"What was all that about?" Tinuviel asked.

"I'll explain later. What happened last night?"