

# **Juline Burrese**

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Submitted: July 27, 2006

Updated: July 27, 2006

*Just a fanfic with my characters. Juline Burrese, an orphan who's parents died when she was a baby, and her older brother, though she doesn't know it, Ainran, who has been looking for her since she ran away from the orphanage.*

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<b>Chapter 1 - Chapter 1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Chapter 2 - Chapter 2</b>	<b>6</b>

# 1 - Chapter 1

Ainran Burrese grew up in Gil ead. It was just he and his parents. He had never intended on having a younger sibling. Ainran thought nothing could ever go wrong. And nothing did until he was sixteen. His parents had a little girl they named Juline. At first Ainran was happy, until he started to disappear from his parents' world. After a few months, he couldn't take it. So, saying his good byes, Ainran left to join the Imperial army, something he had dreamed of doing since he was a little kid. Two months later, word was sent to him that his parents had been traveling and there had been an accident. They said no one survived, except a little baby girl. They had sent her to an orphanage on the outskirts of Gil ead. Ainran went to the orphanage and held his sister, Juline. He felt sorry for her. She had never got to meet the parents that had cared so deeply for her. He wanted to take Juline with him, but being in the army and taking care of a few months old baby was not possible for him. So he left with a promise that he would come back to get her when she was old enough to help him raise her. Five years later and little Juline had not been told of her brother or how she got to the orphanage. And that's where we'll begin our story.

Five-year-old Juline looked out the dirty window in the orphanage. She wondered, not for the first time, what her parents were like, did she have any siblings, and why she was even here. But that wouldn't

matter. She was going to run away tonight.

The dinner bell rang. Juline sighed and walked down stairs. She arrived at a crowded table. Finding her seat, Juline ate the slop on her plate. Sometimes she wondered if this is what they fed the pigs.

After dinner, every child got ready for bed. Juline pulled on a nightshirt and tucked herself in the covers. Sticking her foot out, she kicked the pack of stuff farther under the bed. With a scowl from the nurse, the lights went out. Children started whispering about things that had happened earlier that day, but eventually the noise died down to the soft chirping of the crickets. Juline got up and grabbed her pack. She sneaked down the hall, careful not to step on any loose boards. She had reached the door when she stepped and there was a loud *SQEEEEAAK!* Juline froze. There were footsteps and a man walked down the stairs. He looked at the frozen girl to the open door and frowned. He picked her up and said, Off to bed with yah now. There will be no running away here.

And that is how it all started. For the next six years, Juline tried several times to run away from the horrid orphanage. She was watched day and night. On Juline's eleventh birthday (of course they do nothing on their birthdays), she decided not to run. At least for that year. If she didn't run for a whole year they wouldn't expect it coming. And so she waited. She hated everyday of that year, but she restrained herself. Then, finally, she turned twelve. And she planned on running that very night.

Juline made sure to be extra slow that night getting ready. She was in her dress when she hid under the covers. She waited for an hour after the nurse checked on everyone with her lantern. This was the moment she had been waiting for. Juline got up, put a pack on her shoulders and snuck out. When she got to the door, she looked around. She stepped over the squeaky board she had stepped on seven years ago, and out into the darkness.

Juline ran to the stables. She quickly saddled a cream-colored gelding and rode out of the gates. She knew they would be after her shortly, but she couldn't help herself. Juline let out a quiet yell of joy. *I did it! I really did it!* She thought. And that was that last Juline saw of the orphanage for a long, long time.

## 2 - Chapter 2

Ainran packed a bag full of stuff to go on his trip to the orphanage. He had just returned to Gil ead, and this time he was staying for a few weeks. This time he would see his baby sister he had last heard of twelve years ago. Juline was twelve now. That was old enough to him. He had promised to get her when she was older and he couldn't think of a better time than now.

When Ainran finally reached the gates of the little orphanage, he felt disgusted. It was worse than he remembered. As he neared the door, Ainran suddenly felt worried. What if Juline didn't want to come with him? What if she got mad at him for leaving her? What if she liked it here (though he think of why)? What if&. *What if what if what if. You ll know when it happens.* He told himself.

Ainran knocked on the door. No one answered. He knocked again. This time a little nurse answered. Yes? she said in a crackly voice. Have you come to adopt?

The young man shook his head. No. I m here to keep a promise I made long ago, he said. I m looking for Juline Burrese. She s my sister you see and-

She s not here. The nurse almost closed the door on him, but Ainran, who was stronger than her held it open. What do you mean *not here*? he asked in a dangerously low voice. The little nurse was scared. S- she r- ran&. away, she stuttered.

Ainran calmed himself down. Why would she run away if she knew I was coming? He asked. The nurse didn t say anything, but guilt was all over her face. Ainran started getting mad. You stupid, stupid people! Did you not know I would be back? Did you not here me when I promised it? Ainran was fuming. The nurse started saying how they thought he had left her for good when he left, but he cut her off. I left her because I had no other choice! Do you really think a new recruit soldier could take care of a baby? Are you really that stupid?

Ainran didn't wait for an answer. If you do not help me, then I will find her myself. Do you have a picture of her? The nurse disappeared and reappeared with a photo of a young girl. This was when she was five, she said quietly. Ainran took it and said a thank you he barely meant. Then he was off. He would never let Juline go to another orphanage again, never.

After the orphanage, Ainran set off. He promised he would find her if it was the last thing he did. He soon found that it was too hard to be in the army and look for a sister at the same time. So he quit the army, telling himself he at least owed Juline this much. He had made a mistake then. He had left the only family he had. But he would not make that mistake again.

Traveling from town to town, Ainran asked if they had seen a girl. Every answer he got was no. Then one day he visited a tailor. Have you seen this girl? Ainran asked. He got ready for the same old answer. *Never seen that girl before?* Ainran was interrupted from his thoughts.



As a matter of fact, yes. She came in here two weeks or so ago to buy a boy's clothes. Said it was for her brother who was too sick to get it. Ainran looked at the man. For once in a long while, smiled. Now he had some information. Do you know what way she went? Ainran asked. The old tailor pointed in the direction of the sea. Ainran ran out yelling behind him, Thank you, sir! Thank you!