

The Story of Tillyenna

By Tillyenna

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A story based on the Lord of the Rings:

In the fond, loving, and sometimes absolutley hilarious memory of Emily Webster, the real Arwen.

If you have any difficulty reading the quenya (elvish), please email me - teler@hotmail.co.uk or leave a commen

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Chapter 1 - Prologue	2
Chapter 2 - Chapter 1	3
Chapter 3 - Chapter 2	5
Chapter 4 - Chapter 3	7
Chapter 5 - Chapter 4	9
Chapter 6 - Chapter 5	11
Chapter 7 - Chapter 6	12
Chapter 8 - Chapter 7	15
Chapter 9 - Chapter 8	18
Chapter 10 - Chapter 9	19
Chapter 11 - Chapter 10	21
Chapter 12 - Chapter 11	24
Chapter 13 - Chapter 12	26
Chapter 14 - Chapter 13	28
Chapter 15 - Visit to Gondor	30
Chapter 16 - Memories	32

1 - Prologue

The Story of Tillyenna

By Tillyenna of Rivendell

Prologue

In the second age of Middle earth Celebrian daughter of Lord Celeborn and the Lady Galadriel the powerful sorceress of the Golden Wood, was wed to Elrond halfelf. Not many years after she bore him twin sons, the eldest Elrohir (Star-rider) and the younger Elladan (Man of the Stars,). Later a daughter was born, Arwen Undomiel, Evenstar, and so great was her loveliness, it was said the likeness of Luthien Tinuvuil had returned to middle earth. Arwen was sent to live with her grandparents in Laurelindórenan or the golden wood of Lothlorien.

Then Millennia later Celebrian gave birth to twin girls. Not long after Mordor Orcs attacked her on the mountain path, they captured her and tortured her and although due to a swift capture by her two sons, she remained mostly unharmed, she chose to leave middle earth and return to the elven home of the Undying lands.

The eldest of the two girls was called Nimrodel after the river Nimrodel that flows into Lothlorien. Nimrodel soon grew to follow her ancestors she was fair of face, pale with long golden locks. She was sweet and pleasant, or so she appeared to any adult, however, her sister was quite the opposite. The younger of the twin girls she was named Tillyenna. She was quite the opposite of Nimrodel. With dark brown hair and sallow skin, it appeared the only thing she had in common with her twin sister was a pair of brilliant blue eyes. This was not true. Tillyenna shared Nimrodel's looks. Until Tillyenna had been born, Arwen her older sister was famed as the most beautiful of all living things, yet as soon as she was born, it became evident that Tillyenna had also inherited her ancestors' fair looks, and much more besides. It soon became apparent that Tillyenna, or Tilly as she soon became known, was completely uncontrollable. She did as she pleased and none could make her do otherwise, none save one. A young elf no more than a few years older than Tilly. Orphaned at a young age Galandiel for that was his name, was sent to live in Rivendell so he could be trained as the elven warrior that he had always dreamt of being. On the other hand, when it was discovered, he could control Tillyenna he was made her Guardian to stop her falling into peril, to hold her life in his hands.

2 - Chapter 1

Chapter 1

One day Tilly and Galandiel were sitting on a grassy bank in Lothlorien making chains of flowers, Elanor flowers, when a wood elf passed them by,

“Hello” Tilly hailed him in the common tongue.

“I can speak elvish you know.” came the icy reply in the fair language.

“Where do you come from?” Tilly asked this time in her own language “your accent is strange,”

“I come from the forest of Mirkwood where my father is the King,” the stranger told,

“I have heard that Mirkwood is full of strange and dangerous creatures, some of which can shape shift, are you one of those,”

“In my country that is an insult, I shall forgive you one insult as you are but a young child,” the stranger explained.

“Did you say that your daddy is only king of Mirkwood? That means my daddy is more important than yours.”

“How dare you have the insolence to insult my father like that?”

Tilly replied with an air of innocence that only a child could have “but he is you see because...” but she got no further as the elvish long bow was whipped off the stranger’s back and faster than lightning the arrow flew past Tilly’s face and scarred her cheek for ever,

“You’re lucky I missed” snarled the wood elf and walked off leaving Tilly with a bleeding wound and an undying hate of wood elves.

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Tilly was four years old when Elrond held the secret council over the Lord Sauron’s one ring. She was at the council, uninvited of course. She entered as Lord Elrond was introducing the dwarves. She rushed in and tugged at her father’s robes; he bent to speak to her in their own language,

“What is it?”

“Daddy, Daddy there’s a wood elf in here!”

“And?” said Lord Elrond intrigued as to what his daughter would say

“We must get rid of it,” said Tilly with the utmost urgency “we must, quickly before it eats us all!”

“What is it?” asked Legolas Greenleaf the afore mentioned wood elf, at which Tilly screamed and turned to face the only other familiar face in the circle,

“Dain!” she cried (for that was what she called Aragorn son of Arathorn, who to all other elves was the Dunedân), “Dain it spoke at me!”

Aragorn idly half drew Anduril “uín rucin titta hína, inyë hlar” or in the common tongue “do not fear little one, I am here.” At that point Galandiel arrived at the council, breathless and red faced he looked around and then with an embarrassed expression on his face spoke in elvish “My deepest apologies Lord Elrond, she ran off.” He turned to Tilly “come on now Tilly, we have to go now.” Because she knew his true identity Tilly turned to Aragorn and curtsied, she then cheekily stuck her tongue out at him and ran off with the dwarves and Aragorn chuckling and Galandiel in hot pursuit.

* * * * *

When Frodo cast Lord Sauron's One Ring into the fiery depths of Mount Doom, Tilly had just turned five years of age. She was invited to be a bridesmaid at her older sister's wedding, along with Nimrodel (It was believed to be good luck to have twins as bridesmaids.) She was used to create a subtly magic effect, a tradition widely used in Elven Marriages. Her twin sister Nimrodel was wearing a sweet little pink dress as the bridesmaid, Tilly was wearing an identical white dress and perhaps by some strange elvish magic, although it looked natural, she emitted a faint whitelight, this made her look like some nature of outlandish angel.

The wedding past smoothly, thank goodness, for Tilly knew that if she did not behave she would be banned from the reception, so obviously she behaved beautifully. As the wedding ceremony was coming towards the end, Arwen was asked her final question,

"Do you the evenstar of your people wish to give up your elvish life moreover to become mortal?" to which Arwen daughter of Celebrian answered

"Yes" and the evenstar was shattered and great shards of it flew in all directions from her body, each and every one ducked to avoid them, save for Tilly who's heart was pierced by the greatest shard of all, and there it stays even now. This did not harm the child; in fact, it made her even high-spirited in addition to earning her the name 'Child of the Evenstar'.

The wedding reception was held in the great hall at Minas Tirith, in Gondor, which was adorned with coloured flags to make it look cheery. Aragorn cut the wedding cake with Anduril. Much merriment was had at the great table; half way through Galadriel tapped his glass to ask for silence. He lifted Tilly so she was standing on her chair, she said in her childish way, "I would like to pro... prop... make a toast to my Big Sis and the Dunedân, wass hail,"

"Queen Arwen and King Aragorn, Drink hail" all chorused and then those who knew Tilly clapped and cheered, as Tilly sat down King Aragorn rose,

"I would just like to explain to those present who don't know Tillyenna that she has never said the Dunedân in her entire life, she always calls me 'dain'" there were chuckles all around the table. Galadriel whispered something into Aragorn's ear and then went back to sit down once more in his place, King Aragorn continued, "furthermore her guardian has just informed me that she will never say it again, so shall we experiment, Tilly who am I?"

"King Dain" said Tilly not understanding why everyone was laughing.

3 - Chapter 2

Chapter 2

Elrond, with his family stayed in Gondor for nigh three months of men, then it was time for him to depart, Aragorn rode out with them as far as Fangorn Forest, then each in turn he bade them farewell, and departed. It was the time of sunset and after a while the remaining company turned and looked back, they saw the King of the West sitting upon his horse with his Knights about him; and the falling sun shone upon them and made all their harnesses to gleam red gold, and the white mantle of Aragorn was turned to a flame. Then Aragorn took the greenstone and held it up, and there came a green fire from his hand.

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After Aragorn had left them Legolas and Gimli spoke of their wish to go and visit Fangorn, at this Nimrodel looked at her father and spoke in a demanding tone "let us come to, we want to go and visit Treebeard."

"Oh, I want to go too!" said Tilly thinking she may be left out on this adventure. Luckily, Lord Elrond was in a good mood,

"Alright," he agreed "but only if you take Galandiel," and the four Elves and one dwarf wandered into the Fangorn forest.

"Alright you three better behave yourselves or your going straight home." Snarled Gimli,

"Nowe're not, we're going to see Treebeard" corrected Tilly,

"Yes, Silly" settled Nimrodel

Gimliraised his hand to strike the audacious elf child, "No!" yelled Legolas "she is but a child, do not harm her" causing Gimli to turn red and stand back looking ashamed.

They had gone deep into the darkest leafy green part of Fangorn when Tilly sat down, "Tired," she announced.

"Alright then," sighed Galandiel, himself tired as well, "I'll carry you," and he lifted her onto his back and the truded deep into the strange, dark forest.

They had gone many miles through Fangorn forest into the garden of Orthanc. Tillyenna climbed off Galandiel's back, "I love it here, it's so beautiful." she said her eyes shining with glee,

"I don't like it at all," said Nimrodel "It's all dark and gloomy, and all the trees are dead,"

"Yes," agreed Tilly "but look at the tower, it's the most beautiful tower I've ever seen!"

"I agree with Nimrodel," said Legolas.

Tillyenna turned to him, "That is because you are a wood elf and they are known only for two things, their stupidity and that they eat people!"

"Bar-rum" came a voice from behind them. they all spun around. "Treebeard" they yelled as if with one voice.

"Goodday." he said thoughtfully and, being an Ent, very slowly.

They stayed with Treebeard for three weeks and then, Galandiel, Nimrodel and Tilly, bid Legolas and Gimli, Farewell subsequently Treebeard carried the three elven children to the boarder of Fangorn where a horse was waiting for them, Wingfoot, brother of Shadowfax. Galandiel mounted this magnificent steed, with Nimrodel behind him. Then Tilly let out a long piercing whistle, far too high for any mortal man

to hear, and then, as if out of nowhere a great golden eagle appeared, furthermore slowly circled the party and flew down to land by Wingfoot.

“Namari Gwaihir,” Tilly greeted him in elvish, “please will you take me home.”

“Of course Tillyenna,” the Gwaihir the Windlord King of the Eagles replied, so Tilly said goodbye to Treebeard and climbed onto the giant eagle’s back and with Gwaihir flying just above Wingfoot they headed home.

“Bar-rum” said Treebeard slowly and thoughtfully, “Bar-rum. I always did like them.” After a long thoughtful pause, he turned and he trudged back towards his home, the garden of Orthanc where the Ent-wives were awaiting his return.

4 - Chapter 3

Chapter 3

The first time Tillyenna ran away was when she was seven years old. It was just as any child of her age would, except that she went further. She had had an argument with Lord Elrond; he had said that she could not have the pretty, new dress that she wanted. At which she threw herself on the floor and with limbs flailing everywhere proceeded to yell the building down. To which Lord Elrond said that she was too old for tantrums and that no amount of kicking and screaming would allow her to have the dress, so being Tillyenna she ran away. She ran out of Rivendell and did not stop.

Tillyenna ran for something in the region of a mile, when she stopped and sat down on a grassy bank, to catch her breath. She sat and rested for a few minutes, when she stood up she had an idea, and once more, she let out that high-pitched whistle, to call the king of eagles. He appeared almost as soon as she called, circling in the air high above, when he landed she whispered quietly in his ear,

“Please take me to Fangorn,”

“Alright, but I don’t approve of your running away,” established Gwaihir, and he crouched so she could climb onto his back. Gwaihir flew Tillyenna over the misty mountains, past Dimrill stair and Dimrill gate, and past Nandurhirion, or Dimrill Dale in the common tongue. They flew across the river Silverlode or Celebrant and the river Nimrodel, which bears the notes of the fair maiden Nimrodel who was lost in the Misty Mountains in the second millennium of the third age, breaking the heart of her lover Amroth. Both rivers flow together into Lothlorien. The eagle and the child flew for three hundred miles, as the eagle flies, before circling and landing on the edge of Fangorn Forest. “I cannot take you any further” Gwaihir apologised “the trees are too dense” he turned away and flapped his massive wings, and with one powerful beat he was in the air.

“Vanya sulie” she called as he circled above her before flying back to his kingdom. Tillyenna turned and walked into the forest.

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Tillyenna had been walking for three days when she came to Orthanc, she stepped through the backgate, into the garden that Treebeard and the Entwives had created, it was full of trees and flowers, and a beautiful sunny contrast to the depths of Fangorn. Tillyenna laughed and spun around, she skipped through the trees when she bumped into something, and she looked up,

“Treebeard!” she said, “It’s so pretty here, even more than last time I came, I like the flowers,”

“That was the Entwives,” said Treebeard slowly, “I shall pass your compliments on to them, but first there is someone looking for you,” and with his long slow strides he led Tillyenna across the gardens of Isengard until she came across a man she recognised, she ran towards him.

“Dain!” she cried “Isn’t it beautiful here”

“Yes, it is,” agreed Aragorn “but it’s time for you to go home,”

“Do I have to?”

“Yes, you do,”

“Can I get my dress then?” she asked eagerly,

“No!” said Aragorn firmly “you have behaved appallingly and you think you’re going to get

areward?"

"Yes!" said Tillyenna "I've walked for days and days so I can have my dress, I'm going to get it!"

Aragorn sighed, "You really are hopeless," he said and picking Tilly up he walked out of Orthanc to where Brego was waiting for them, he mounted and held Tillyenna in front of him, and took her back to Rivendell to receive the punishment she deserved, and the dress she wanted.

5 - Chapter 4

Chapter 4

Shortly before Tillyenna and Nimrodel's twelfth birthday, customary to elven tradition they were invited to their first ball, at Lothlorien. As soon as they knew about it, they wanted to go. Nevertheless, at first Lord Elrond forbid it.

Tillyenna walked up to Lord Elrond and batted her long dark eyelashes at him "Please daddy, we'll be very good and Galandiel can look after us,"

Eventually, after much annoyance from his two daughters, Lord Elrond gave in. "you may go, but only if Galandiel is willing to go with you."

"It would be an honour sir." Replied Galandiel, Tillyenna and Nimrodel jumped for joy and ran upstairs to their rooms to pack

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Nimrodel and Tillyenna went to the stables to saddle up horses for themselves and Galandiel. Tillyenna rode Wingfoot the brother of Shadowfax. Nimrodel rode Shadowfax himself. And for Galandiel they saddled up Horta, a fine mare who was given to the house of Elrond by the Rohirrim as thanks for their aid in the war of the ring.

Galandiel walked into the stables to find Tillyenna doing up Horta's girth for him.

"Diola lle" he said gruffly, and then without another word of thanks he mounted and rode out of the stable,

"My pleasure!" Tillyenna called angrily to his back,

"Argh!" exclaimed Nimrodel "Boys are so annoying."

"You can say that again"

"Boys are so annoying."

"You can say that again"

"Boys are so annoying."

"OK shut-up now," said Tillyenna and both girls giggled, mounted and rode after Galandiel.

** * * * *

As the three young elves rode into Lothlorien the conversation dwindled as they silently admired in awe the tall malorn trees and delicate yellow Elanor flowers.

"I haven't been here for ages," Tillyenna quietly whispered to Nimrodel

"I have." Said Nimrodel quite simply and very loudly. A wood elf jumped out and landed in front of them, immediately Tillyenna drew her dagger.

Conversely Nimrodel laughed, "Gilthoniel, I wandered when we'd see you." She said

"I've been following you since you entered the forest."

Tillyenna looked at Nimrodel "Hello, Nims, in case you hadn't noticed it's a wood elf, hadn't we better kill it before it eats us alive or takes us as hostages"

"Sorry about my sister, she doesn't like wood elves,"

"Don't worry," said Gilthoniel "not a lot of people do,"

"Hello if you're not going to kill it, can you at least tell me what it is," said Tillyenna keeping a distance between herself and Gilthoniel.

"Tilly!" said Nimrodel jabbing Tillyenna with her elbow. "Be polite! She is called Gilthoniel; she's my friend, OK"

"Sorry"

"That's OK," said Gilthoniel "I hate wood elves too they're so irrational and two faced,"

"But I thought you were a wood elf?" said Tillyenna "So how come..."

"Ah you see I'm only a wood elf by name," said Gilthoniel. "Originally my ancestors were from the east, nevertheless really I was brought up as a high elf in the house of the Lady Galadriel, it was her who sent me to find you. Follow me and I'll show you a short cut,"

Sheran ahead with Nimrodel following behind her, Tilly turned to Galandiel "Gandiel" she said using her childish nickname for him, "Will there be lots of wood elves?"

The older elf looked on her with pitying eyes, then smiled "If any of them try to hurt you, I won't let them, OK?"

"Thanks" said Tilly and they set off to follow the others.

6 - Chapter 5

Chapter 5

Tillyennasat on the bed in her room in Lothlorien, sobbing as if the world had ended. She was sulking in a way, but also just being extremely unhappy. It wasn't fair that the Lady Galadriel, supposedly her grandmother, was so nice to Nimrodel and Gilthoniel yet treated her like dirt.

There came a knock on her door "Can I come in?" a voice said,

"Yes," Tillyenna said feebly, as the figure walked in she looked up, and although she could hardly see through the tears in her eyes, she recognised it as the Lord Celeborn.

He sat down beside her and put his arm around her shoulders, "now then Chick-a-bee, what on middle-earth is the matter,"

"Oh grandpa, I just don't understand, first she invites me here and then she treats me like dirt, and I don't know why."

"Oh Tilly you mustn't let that bother you, your grandmother is a very suspicious type, it's in her nature. She has looked into her mirror and seen what you will become; you must remember you have very powerful blood running in your veins."

"Then why does she not distrust Nimrodel," she wailed,

"Nimrodel lacks the capacity to be a threat to your Grandmother, she may have the blood but she has neither the brains nor the imagination, I love your sister but she is talented in a completely different way to you, she will end up like Arwen, she'll fall in love and get married,"

"What about me, shan't I ever fall in love?"

"You may do but first you will become powerful and beautiful, more so than your Grandmother that is why she distrusts you,"

** * * * *

Tillyenna, Nimrodel, and Gilthoniel were getting ready for the ball. Nimrodel was wearing an elegant pale pink dress, Gilthoniel a similar pale blue. They were the ones who looked like twins. Tillyenna wore a silver dress that shimmered in the moonlight, the other two girls had pinned their hair up, Tillyenna left hers down,

"Why do you do that?" asked Gilthoniel "only babies wear their hair down,"

Tillyenna looked at her with a look that could kill, "Babies and those who want to hide their scars," she said bitterly,

Gilthoniel fell silent, there was not much you could say to that kind of remark, they got dressed and walked down to the ballroom in silence.

"Nimrodel the fair, and Tillyenna Child of the Evenstar," the announcer read out as the twins walked down the steps,

"Keep your eyes down," hissed Nimrodel to Tillyenna "It's polite."

Tillyenna lowered her eyes, and they stood together at the edge of the dance hall, a figure walked up to them, he turned to Tillyenna

"May I have this dance" asked the familiar voice of Galandiel,

"Certainly," said Tillyenna, and looked up so her eyes met his, she looked into his dark brown eyes, and fell in love.

7 - Chapter 6

Chapter 6

Over the next three years of the short measure of men, Tillyenna grew, along with her beauty; although so did her passion for mischief. Her long dark hair would fly out behind her, as, much to the disapproval of Lord Elrond, she slid down the banister of the grand staircase into Galandiel's arms. Galandiel had grown too. He had become a very handsome young elf. He had also begun to see Tillyenna for what she really was, a beautiful young elf with a bright and sunny personality. Tilly only ever stopped smiling to ask a question, or if a wood elf entered the room.

Galandiel was chatting to a group of young elves around his own age, with Tilly just out of earshot muttering to herself and plucking the petals from an Elanor one by one.

"She's not bad." Said Lirulin

"Not bad!" protested Galandiel "she's gorgeous!"

"Well go and tell her that," commanded Lirulin, "if you don't, I will."

"Oh alright," agreed Galandiel and he got up and started to walk towards Tilly. As he approached he saw there was just one petal left on the Elanor. Which Tilly removed and faintly he heard her mutter, "he loves me." Then she picked up the little pile of Elanor flowers in front of her and started to make them into a delicate chain. Galandiel knelt in front of her,

"Tils," he began

"Yes"

"Can I tell you something?"

"Yes"

"No there, they'll hear." He said indicating to the group of elves chatting amongst themselves, yet at the same time intently watching him,

"But Gandhi, I'm busy. They won't hear you. I promise."

"Oh alright, here goes. It's just well..."

"Yes"

"Isort of..."

"Yes"

"I love you."

"Yes"

"Tilly have you been listening to a word I've said?"

"No"

Galandiel put his hand underneath Tillyenna's chin and gently lifted her delicate head so she was looking at him as an alternative to her lap. Then he tried again,

"Tilly, Amin mela lle."

"Oh," She said, "That's good."

"Why?"

"Because, I love you."

"Well that's even better then isn't it?"

"No," now Tilly looked down so Galandiel could not see the tears welling up in her eyes "that's bad." This puzzled Galandiel,

"It's bad, why?"

"Because my stupid big sis went and fell in love with a mortal me and Nims..."

"Nims and I," Galandiel corrected,

"Nims and I can't fall in love unless 'daddy' likes the elf we happen to fall for."

"And does he like me?"

"How am I meant to know that? I can't read minds."

"Can't you?"

"No"

"Oh it's just Lord Elrond can; I thought you might have inherited it or something,"

"Maybe I have and I haven't discovered it yet. I'll ask his opinion tonight before dinner, and I'll tell you at dinner."

"Why do you have to ask him about reading minds?"

"No silly, about us,"

"Oh"

"Now off you go and play with your friends."

"Can't I stay with you?"

"No!"

"Why not?"

"Because I'm not staying anywhere. Now off you go."

"But..."

"No buts, just go!" as Galandiel got up a single solitary tear rolled down her cheek; she hoped Lord Elrond would say yes. She hoped it with all her heart.

** * * * *

Tillyenna silently approached her father, "Daddy?" she said making Lord Elrond jump,

"Yes," said Lord Elrond not quite giving Tilly her full attention, "what is it?"

"Daddy, what do you think of Galandiel?" this made Elrond turn his full attention to his daughter.

"Nothing bad, why?"

"Ah, good it's just; well I sort of love him,"

"Ahh that's it is it? Does he sort of love you?"

"Yes, or at least that's what he says,"

"He's usually true to his word. I think you are the perfect couple,"

"Then..."

"Yes in other words I think he is very suitable." At that, Tillyenna sighed with relief, thanked her father and started to skip upstairs when she got to the bottom of the stairs; she turned to her father

"Daddy why didn't you know I was coming,"

"I was concentrating on something else," said Lord Elrond simply

"Oh," said Tilly and carried on to her room to change for dinner.

Tillyenna dressed in her favourite dress. It was midnight blue with a silver trim. She unbraided her long dark hair, brushed it then placed over it her favourite circlet of silver with a six-pointed star with the lowest point going down past the bridge of her nose. She ran blissfully down to dinner. She walked calmly across to Galandiel and tapped him on the shoulder; he turned his head towards her. She kissed him softly and sat in her place beside him looking straight ahead with her hands folded demurely in her lap, but Galandiel would not leave it at that,

"So it's a yes?"

Tilly just sat there,

"It's a yes right? Please say it's a yes. It's a no isn't it, just tell me!"

Tilly simply nodded,

"That doesn't tell me anything." Galandiel complained.

"Oh for the sake of Elbereth," Tilly exasperated, "if it had been no I wouldn't have just kissed you would I?"

"I guess not,"

"Precisely."

"So it's a yes?"

"Yes, it's a yes," at that Galandiel grinned his sheepish grin,

"I'm glad"

"So am I." she said and hugged him. And at that moment, Lord Elrond entered and took his place at the head of the table. He looked at Tilly who was resting her head on Galandiel's shoulder and smiled. He was glad; it wouldn't have to be an arranged marriage after all.

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After dinner, Galandiel turned to Tillyenna, "hey Tils, do you want to go for a walk?"

"Ok," she said and they walked out into the gardens together, they didn't say a word to each other until they arrived at a small gazebo,

"Are you glad?" he asked

Tillyenna turned to face him, looking in to those dark brown eyes that so long ago she fell in love with, "Yes."

8 - Chapter 7

Chapter 7

Tillyenna turned sixteen next spring. The day after her sixteenth birthday Tilly had to go and see her father to greet an old friend of his. She expected to see an old, fragile, half mad hobbit or something, but no. She met up with Nimrodel and they walked in together. Elrond introduced his friend,

"Tillyenna, Nimrodel I would like you to meet Legolas Greenleaf of the woodland realm. He has come to stay in Rivendell to wait for his family to return from the undying lands. Treat him well, he is used to royalty, he is the prince of Mirkwood." That was the final straw Tilly dropped the cup she was holding and ran out of the room. Nimrodel stood in Tillyenna's defence,

"Daddy how could you be so thoughtless?" she scolded

"Thoughtless?" Elrond inquired,

"He is a wood elf, poor Tilly it really is unfair on her, prince of Mirkwood as well. Daddy you must learn to think about these things. However is she meant to bear the company of a wood elf all day? Oh I suppose I had better go and find her and sort out everything, as usual," following that Nimrodel ran out as well.

She found Tilly lying in the garden with her head in Galandiel's lap, crying her poor heart out. Nimrodel turned to Galandiel,

"Thank Elbereth you've found her. It's simply a disaster."

"What in middle earth has happened, every time I try and find out she just starts crying again,"

"Well you know dad's friend that's come to stay," explained Nimrodel "he's only prince of Mirkwood!"

"Ed' i'ear ar' elenea! Whatever is your dad thinking?"

"I don't know it's like he's just gone and forgotten that huge great scar on her cheek!"

Tilly sat up, and with tears still running down her cheeks she made a plan, "all I know of that we can do is just annoy his majesty prince Greenleaf until he gets sick of us and moves out!"

"An excellent plan," agreed Nimrodel "I don't think the three of us would mind taking the liberty, do you?"

"Not at all." confirmed Galandiel "not at all."

"Not straight away," said Tilly "first we have to find out where his room is, and then we can make his life Mordor!"

"Brilliant" approved Nimrodel "My mind's bursting with tricks,"

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However before they had the chance to play even the smallest trick on Legolas, Galandiel and Tillyenna decided to go on holiday. First to Lothlorien then to Fangorn and Orthanc, to Rohan then to Gondor and then back again.

Tilly and Galandiel packed the few things they needed, for they were to travel light. They went to the stables to collect Wingfoot and Shadowfax – Gandalf was an old wizard now and he rarely had use for Shadowfax so he had given him as a gift to Tillyenna – Galandiel mounted Shadowfax and Tilly mounted Wingfoot.

They entered the borders of Lothlorien just before nightfall. They had not gone very far when an elf with jet black hair, (except for the streaks of pink),

“Gilthoniel!” exclaimed Tilly “I was wondering when you’d show up.”

“Oh it’s you” came a rather disheartened reply “I was hoping it would be someone I could shoot, or at least threaten.”

“You really are very violent aren’t you?” asked Galandiel “but I will forgive you as you didn’t shoot us, would you like to escort us to the White City?”

“It would be my pleasure.”

Gilthoniel led them to the white city where two guards stood by the entrance, they stood to attention as Tilly, Galandiel and Gilthoniel walked through,

“Evenin’ Miss Tillyenna” one greeted Tilly,

“Off to see yer Granny?” the other asked,

“Yes we are, good-bye now” said Tilly and trying to stifle a giggle she walked off. When they were safely out of earshot she burst into hysterics.”

“What in middle earth is so funny?” asked Gilthoniel,

“Well you see the Lady Galadriel isn’t exactly what I would call a granny!” she managed to splutter,

“Not exactly,” agreed Galandiel and the three of them walked off spluttering and laughing.

When they reached the door of the palace, Tilly and Galandiel bid their good-byes to Gilthoniel, straightened themselves out, dusted off, attempted to stop laughing, and entered with the grace and posture that they should. It was Lord Celeborn they saw first, Tilly ran to greet him,

“Grandpa!” she yelled as he swept her up in an enormous hug, “It’s so good to see you,”

“Hello Chick-a-bee, it’s good to see you too! How’s my favourite little granddaughter then. Not so little anymore though, but come your grandmother is in the great hall, this way, oh and try to be nice.” “I always am!” replied Tillyenna indignantly. And with that, Lord Celeborn led them to the great hall. Tilly entered like a princess, she curtsied respectfully,

“Lady Galadriel”

“Ah, Tillyenna, Galandiel. I’m glad you have arrived safely, however you must be tired after your journey, your rooms are upstairs Arelli will show you, Good-night.”

A tall elf showed Galandiel and Tillyenna upstairs, when they were stood outside the doors of their rooms he left them.

“Chick-a-bee?” asked Galandiel in a subtly incredulous tone, that Tilly new well enough to recognise,

“Look he’s my Grandpa? OK. Besides where did ‘Tils’ come from?”

Galandiel turned bright red, “Dina,” he muttered,

“Nighty-nighty,” said Tillyenna, as she turned to go back to her room,

“Autamiqula orqu” he yelled after her,

“Love you too!” came the shout from her room.

Arelli woke them in the morning with the information that the Lady Galadriel had a surprise for them. Tillyenna dressed in her best sky blue dress and Galandiel wore his best tunic, they both did their hair in the traditional way of Lothlorien, they walked down to the Lady Galadriel’s mirror together on the

way Tilly whispered to Galandiel "hey, your skirt is even shorter than mine" she laughed, "shut up" came the annoyed reply, Galandiel did not like wearing a tunic.

They arrived at the Lady Galadriel's mirror and there stood Galadriel herself, and a small girl at her side. Galadriel pushed the girl gently towards Tilly and said

"Tilly, this is your cousin Lillia" the small child muttered something inaudible "she is unfortunately an orphan and as the White City is no longer any place for a small child your father and I agreed she is to live in Rivendell, I'm terribly sorry to spoil your holiday but would you mind desperately taking her straight back to Rivendell?"

"We'd love to" said Tilly before Galandiel even had a chance to draw breath, "we could even leave today if you want"

"Thank you so much, why don't you take Lillia to pack her belongings" again Lillia muttered something inaudible,

"Why doesn't she show us the way," suggested Tilly and she Galandiel and Lillia walked towards the dwellings,

"Right so you are Lillia" assumed Tilly,

"My name is Lilly"

"Oh so that's what you said, well you can call me Tilly, ok now let's go and pack"

9 - Chapter 8

Chapter 8

Lilly, Tilly and Galandiel walked to the edge of the forest where Shadowfax and Wingfoot stood patiently waiting,

“Well what are we meant to do now” asked Galandiel “there’s three of us and only two horses? Surprising really your father usually organises everything down to the last detail,”

“Don’t worry” said Tillyenna “I’ve got the whole situation under control.” Then she let out a long piercing whistle, far too high for men to hear, and then, as if out of nowhere a great golden eagle appeared, furthermore flew down to land by Wingfoot, she spoke to it in elvish, “Namari, thank you Gwaihir.”

“What do you want?” the eagle asked,

“Could you please take Lilly here to Rivendell and we will follow on Shadowfax and Wingfoot,”

“No problem” the huge eagle turned to Lilly “hop on then”

They passed over the river Umlight, and went around the edge of Fangorn Forest and crossed the River Entwash, and going through the gap of Rohan over the river Isen, they past Isengard and appeared on the other side of the mountains.

They passed through the Dunland and crossed the river Glanduin, then riding along the shores of the River Bruinen they arrived at Rivendell after a journey of nearly one thousand miles.

** * * * *

The three weary travellers did not reach Rivendell until months after they left the house of Celeborn and Galadriel. Galandiel carried the sleeping Lilly into the house, Tilly stayed to thank Gwaihir, she spoke softly and quietly in elvish,

“I do not know how much longer it would have taken on foot but I am sure it would have been a lot longer, thank you so much.”

“No problem” replied Gwaihir “any time, just call.” The huge golden eagle spread his wings and majestically flew into the distance.”

Tilly walked indoors where her father was waiting,

“You did not take as long as the fellowship,” he observed,

“Gwaihir is not as old as you say he is, also they went the long way around, we took the further but quicker route, and we do not need to rest as much as they did.”

“You must be tired. Goodnight”, Tilly went upstairs and within minutes was in a deep exhausted sleep.

10 - Chapter 9

Chapter 9

Tillyennawoke to a maid running into her room,

“MissTillyenna” she cried, “They’re coming back”

“Whoare coming back? Where are they coming back from?”

“They’recoming back, from across the sea!”

Tillyennajumped up “Mummy!” she yelled and ran down stairs, where she quite literallyran into Lord Elrond,

“Tillyenna,”he said, “What are you doing wandering around in your night gown,”

“Isit true?”

“Iswhat true?” asked a bewildered Elrond,

“Thatthey are coming back?”

“It’strue, indeed”

“Doesthat mean mummy is coming back?”

“Shesays she will return, but not for many years, now I suggest you go and bid yourfarewells to your brothers, Aragorn and Galandiel,”

“Whereare they going?”

“Tothe western front, the grey havens to meet all those who return on the firstships,”

“Can’tl go?”

“No,very few are going, you are not strong enough, now go and dress so you can saygoodbye,”

Tillyennafeared so much she would not be able to say goodbye to Galandiel she forgot toinsult her father and ran upstairs to dress. She grabbed a blue dress out ofthe wardrobe ran a brush through her hair, she ran out of the door then sheturned ran back into her room, she grabbed a necklace off the bedside table.

Shegot to the stables as they were about to mount,

“Whatthe...?” said Elladan,

“Whatare you doing here?” asked Elrohir,

“Icame to say goodbye,” Tilly icily informed her brothers, then she turned toAragorn, “Why are you going?”

“Becausesomebody mortal has to,”

“They’re~~mortal~~,” said Tilly pointing at her brothers,

“Notreally,” said Aragorn smiling,

Tillyennasmiled as well “Goodbye dain, I’ll miss you,” she turned to her brothers “Can’tsay I’ll miss either of you much, but daddy said I had to say goodbye” sheturned to Galandiel, “do you have a few minutes?” she asked him

“Certainly,let’s walk shall we?”

“Justwhat I was going to say,”

Tillyennaand Galandiel walked out of the stables to quiet spot in a gazebo made from theintertwining branches of young saplings, she took his hands in hers,

“You,I really will miss,” she said, “But there’s a way to stay together, here, Arwengave her necklace to Aragorn, I’m giving mine to you.” She handed him thenecklace, “If ever you feel really sad,

just think of what this necklace represents, and you might be surprised,”

“Diolalle” he said, and kissed her before turning and silently walking away,

“Cormaminniuve tenna' ta elea lle au”

“Tenna' tul're”

Galandiel walked back into the stables and mounted. Aragorn took one look at the necklace around Galandiel's neck and smiled,

“It scares me how much she's like her sister,” he said

“Tilly like Arwen?” Galandiel asked,

“I was actually thinking Arwen like Tillyenna?” said Aragorn and rode out leaving a bewildered Galandiel to catch up with him.

* * * * *

Galandiel was riding through the forest, a few metres behind the rest of the company; he took one hand off the reins and held the delicate charm around his neck.

“I love you Tils, I miss you,” he whispered. He looked deep into the forest beside him, when he saw a figure with long dark brown hair and sallow skin, wearing a dark blue dress, but the thing that made him recognise it was the brilliant blue eyes.

“Tilly” he said, and then the figure disappeared, he smiled and thought of their conversation in the gazebo. If everyone feels really sad, just think of what this necklace represents, and you might be surprised.

He grinned and spurred his horse onto catch up with the others.

11 - Chapter 10

Chapter 10

The next day Tilly, Galandiel and Nims held a council of war. It was held in Elrond's stone council chamber, where many years before the Elrond Council to discuss the matter of the one ring was held. Lilly was playing quietly in a corner. It was Nimrodel, who spoke first,

"I'm so glad you're back. It's been awful with just me and that stupid wood elf "she spat, "he keeps looking and me then telling dad what a beautiful daughter he's got and telling me how lovely I look."

"He loves you," Tilly teased

"Shortskirt and nimmy up a tree," jeered Galandiel,

"Oh shut up both of you for the sake of Elbereth you two sound about as young as her," Nims exasperated gesturing loosely to Lilly.

"I'm grown up though," said Lilly indignantly. The idea struck Tilly like a ten-foot iron bar, but less painful, "Lilly can you pretend to cry?" she asked,

"of course I can" said Lilly proudly and briefly demonstrated.

"Do you know who Legolas is?"

"Yes I do," said Lilly with disgust, "he's the one who called me a Midge,"

"A midge?" asked a confused Tillyenna

"I think she means a midget." suggested Galandiel, "Yes Lil?"

"Yeaha midge," affirmed Lilly,

"Anyhow," continued Tilly "if we put you somewhere and then make Legolas go there two can you start crying,"

"OK" said Lilly with a gleam in her eye,

"And then," said Nimrodel fast developing Tillyenna's plan "if someone who isn't Legolas asks you why you are crying you tell them that Legolas hit you,"

"OK" agreed Lilly placidly.

"Excellent" grinned Galandiel,

"Legsiewill hate this," said Nimrodel evilly,

"Legsie, Legsie," Tilly spat out then collapsed in a fit of giggles,

"Where did that come from," asked Galandiel cracking up.

"It's what everyone calls him, bad habit I guess." Said Nimrodel blushing

"Ain't Elbereth Nims, you're so funny" giggled Tilly "come on let's go and get 'Legsie' into trouble" she ran off with Nimrodel chasing her, Galandiel held out his hand Lilly,

"So childish aren't they? Come on we better go and find them hadn't we."

"I think we better had" agreed Lilly taking his hand and together they followed the twins.

** * * * *

Everyone was in his or her place. Lilly was sitting on the bottom step of the grand staircase and the other three were hiding just out of sight. Unknowing Legolas walked innocently into the room, immediately Lilly started cry. It was so loud that Galandiel had to put his fingers in his ears, but Tilly just grinned at him, shook her head and whispered, "I'm louder."

Right on cue Legolas started to panic. Here was this small child crying, for no apparent reason. What was he supposed to do? He was useless with kids. At that exact moment Lord Elrond entered and saw Lilly crying, he walked over to her,

“Now, now Lillia what’s the matter?” he asked in a gentle voice.

“He, he” spluttered Lilly pointing at Legolas “he hit me!”

“What” said Lord Elrond rising up? Fury boiling in him like a volcano on the verge of exploding. He turned to Legolas,

“Is this true Greenleaf?” he whispered as quiet as the eye of a storm

“Lord Elrond I assure you I did no such thing” Legolas promised. By this point Tilly had entered and was running over to Lillia “Lilly, Lilly! What’s the matter” she said as she ran, when she got to Lilly she bent down by Lilly and whispered very quietly into her ear “Well done, that was brilliant.” She was just about to pick Lilly up when Aragorn entered, “Lilly!” he yelled and swooped her up, “come on now, come with me and tell me what the matter is” he said and carried Lilly off leaving Tilly alone at the bottom of the stairs, she was astounded.

“I didn’t even know they knew each other” she said aloud to herself then shrugged her shoulders and thinking nothing of it walked off.

** * * * *

“Now then” said Aragorn putting Lilly down, “Whatever is the matter? Why are you crying? You’re such a clever, grown-up girl.” That made Lilly stop crying,

“Really?” she asked beaming at Aragorn,

“Yes really, now tell me why you were crying” he tried again,

“Wasn’t,” Lilly said proudly “You believed me too”

“What do you mean?” asked Aragorn confused,

“I was pretending. So nasty wood elf,” she spat, “would get into trouble”

“You mustn’t spit Lilly” chided Aragorn, “who told you to cry”

“Tilly”

“Tillyenna told you to?”

“Yes and Nimrodel,”

“I have to go now,” said Aragorn very quickly and ran inside to find Lord Elrond.

He found Lord Elrond trying to get any information out of a stunned Legolas,

“Stop” yelled Aragorn “Legolas has done nothing to wrong any of us!”

“What do you mean?”

“He did not hit the child”

“But she was crying.”

“She was pretending to cry. It was all an elaborate plot, set up by Tillyenna and Nimrodel.”

“Many thanks for telling me Aragorn” he turned to Legolas “My deepest apologies Legolas I should have listened to you”

“I accept your apology Lord Elrond, you were right to take the side of the child.”

** * * * *

Tillyenna and Nimrodel stood ashamed in front of their father. Lord Elrond stood with Aragorn on his right and Legolas on his left. They stood the solemn judges all in a row.

“I cannot think of a punishment for you two girls. What you did was wrong, you should know better by now.” Said Lord Elrond, this made both girls angry,

"It's your fault," said Nimrod "you shouldn't have brought a wood elf here in the first place, I'd of thought you, with all your special powers, would know your own daughter well enough"

"Nimrod!" yelled Lord Elrond,

"You can't punish Nimrod," said Tillyenna suddenly "It was me!"

"That does not change my decision; you will still both have to go with Legolas to meet his Family"

"If Nimrod did not do anything" said Legolas "I ask she is not punished"

"Very well" agreed Lord Elrond then he turned to Tillyenna "You however still have to go to the Grey Havens, with Legolas"

"But that means I have to go through the shire" complained Tilly "And I hate hobbits."

"Well you shouldn't have acted so mortal then! Go and make ready, you leave at dawn" condemned Lord Elrond,

"A mindelotha lle" yelled Tillyenna and started to run upstairs, she got halfway up and turned to Legolas, "You're from Mirkwood aren't you?" she accused,

"Yes," replied the wood elf "and what of it?"

Tillyenna pointed to the scar running down her cheek, "That was a Mirkwood elf," she said and ran up the stairs. Leaving Legolas shouting after her, "I am not responsible for my brother's deeds."

12 - Chapter 11

Chapter 11

Tilly woke two hours before dawn, just as she had planned. She got up and put on her short brown riding dress, fancy clothes would be no use where she was going, and would only be a hindrance whilst riding. She did however pack her favourite circlet and a silver bracelet that her mother had given her as a small child, other than that she packed only food. She crept silently downstairs with her small bundle on her back. There sitting quietly and solemnly was Aragorn, Tilly turned to him,

"I'm sorry dain" Aragorn just sat there stony faced "I love you dain" whispered Tillyenna and threw a note into his lap, a tear rolled down Aragorn's king face. Tillyenna turned and ran to the stables.

Tilly mounted Wingfoot fastest horse in the land; it was only he could bear her with the swiftness that she needed. She set Shadowfax free as he was the only horse to match Wingfoot for speed, so no one could follow her, and then she galloped out of the stables and out of Rivendell, at the gate, she stopped and thought, and then she turned left.

Inside Aragorn opened Tillyenna's letter, he read it and wept for it was he who had caused her to take such a rushed decision in the first place. He folded the letter up and left it on the table, then grabbing Anduril he walked out to the stables. Aragorn mounted Brego his horse and together they rode the many miles back to Gondor, for even him, King Aragorn II, King of Gondor and Arnor, could not bear the weight of what he had just done.

** * * * *

In Rivendell, the household was beginning to wake and slowly they began to realise that Tillyenna was not there. Panic broke out, which is most unusual among elves, but they did panic. It was Nimrod who found the letter, she read it silently and then ran out of the room crying, and thinking over the meaning of the words

To whoever finds this,

I have gone away. I do not expect to be coming back. I am sorry I had to leave like this, but I could not travel with my adversary. Tell Daddy I still love him; tell dain I love him, too. Tell Gandi I love him with all my heart, no more than that for I cannot love more than that. Tell big sis I love her and miss her. Tell Lilly (Lillia) it's alright, it's not her fault. Tell Nims I love her more than all the rest, oh and when mummy comes home, if mummy ever comes home, tell her I love her too.

Tillyenna,

P.S. I do not expect anyone to come looking for me, in fact I wish that they do not. I would like some peace and quiet.

P.P.S. Remember to call Lillia, Lilly.

** * * * *

Most of the elves rushed out to look for Tillyenna or rushed to get back to work, to avoid being scolded. Therefore, Elrond and Galandiel were left alone in the room. Neither of them dared to say a word to each other, Galandiel turned away and once more reached for Tillyenna's necklace, which still hung around his neck. Holding on to it he whispered softly, too softly for Lord Elrond to hear, "Tilly, where are you, what have you done?" and like so many times before, a vision of Tillyenna appeared, but this time not the usual happy smiling one, Tilly stood with a tear rolling down her cheek. "No not this time, I'm sorry," she said and shaking her head, she turned away and without looking back walked out of sight.

13 - Chapter 12

Chapter 12

Faraway in a room at the top of Orthanc Tillyenna sat alone. Metal was being forged in Isengard for the first time since the fall of Saruman. This time however, it was not steel, it was mithril.

Tilly worked night and day, she was making her companion her sword, it was to be made of solid mithril. That would make it lighter than a feather to wield. Days past, weeks, and everyday of every week Tillyenna worked harder than an orc, trying to finish her sword. It took her many weeks toiling over a hot furnace and the anvil, but finally she finished it. It was the length of her arm, and so light you hardly feel it. She had made it in the typical elven style, being made of true silver it would glow blue if any orc was around. Decorated with only a small blue stone in the hilt, and an elvish phrase carved into the blade saying 'Aminkhiluva lle a' gurtha ar' thar,' (meaning I will follow you to death and beyond,) It was perfect. She cut the palm of her hand to christen it. She called it Tash.

She looked into the Palantir, not into future but far away, and what she saw pleased her. She saw Legolas the wood elf travelling alone through the shire, stopping to talk to the hobbit members of the fellowship of the ring, Merry, Pippin and Sam, this made her laugh, for she recognised the look on his face to mean that he really wished they hadn't recognised him. She looked into the future and saw Nimrodel and Galandiel climbing up the tower of Orthanc to look for her, she tried to look closer and she thought she saw them climbing a chain to get to her. Therefore, she began to forge it.

* * * * *

Nimrodel looked at the letter, she gave it back to Aragorn "It doesn't make sense," she said, "What doesn't?" he asked,

"The last part, it says IF mummy ever comes home, and well Tilly once told me that that was the only thing she never doubted and that it had all her hope, just so mummy would come home, and if she doesn't hope for that, then she has no hope left."

* * * * *

Weeks past, months Tilly finished the chain, she hung it by her window, but still no one came for her. She knew they would, but she did not know when, but she hoped it was soon.

Hermind drifted back to her grandfather's words you will become powerful and beautiful, more so than your Grandmother, she smiled; this was her chance to become the powerful sorceress it had been predicted she would be. Orthanc still had the library from when it had belonged to the wizards. She read night and day learning spells and charms, she would practice them, and as the days passed, her power grew stronger and more exquisite. She began to practice at night using a spell to create an orb of light. She would look into the future without using the Palantir she constructed a pool as the Lady Galadriel's but then discovered she did not need to use it, so it was true she was more powerful, which also made her more dangerous.

She used her powers to watch what the ones she loved were doing, she found Lord Celeborn talking to the Lady Galadriel about how she should be doing something about the disappearance of their granddaughter. A comment that The Lady Galadriel dismissed with a wave of her hand, saying, "She is old enough to make her own foolish mistakes, let her rescue herself". Lord Elrond appeared just to sit among his old maps all day with his head in his hands. Galadriel and Nimrod were arguing about which way to go and where to look for her, but what pleased her most was when she saw Aragorn riding Brego searching for her with a host of Gondorian knights.

14 - Chapter 13

Chapter 13

"Where is she," Galandiel fretted, "She has not left us one little clue, not a sausage,"

"Oh don't say that," moaned Nimrodel "I'm starving!"

"Yeah well so am I." snapped Galandiel, "But you don't see me complaining do you?"

"You were complaining just the other week,"

"I was complaining that you were complaining too much!"

"Yeah, right. I'll believe you." said Nimrodel sarcastically.

"Look, if we argue like this we'll never find Tilly,"

"alright." Agreed Nimrodel and sulking she sat down, "we've looked everywhere though, now what do we do?"

"We meet up with Aragorn, find out where he's looked and work out where to look next."

Moreover, as Galandiel said this Aragorn appeared over the hill. Nimrodel looked up and saw not a King and an army riding towards her, but her friend and foster brother coming to help her look for her twin sister, and for that she was grateful. She stood and called Aragorn to a halt,

"Any news?" she asked

"Not the whisper of a butterfly." Came Aragorn's downhearted reply. And as the three of them stood there, they felt as if their last shreds of hope had been ripped apart.

** * * * *

Tillyenna broke away,

"You haven't looked in Orthanc yet!" she yelled exasperatedly wishing they could hear her. She walked to the window and looked east in the direction of her friends out looking for her, she could go and look for them, but no, she had her pride to think of.

"Why are they taking so long? Why haven't they found me?" she whispered quietly to no one in particular, "Why not?" a tear rolled down her cheek and fell to the ground from her high position. From where she stood, Tillyenna could see that where it fell a tree grew, a silver tree outside her window. It grew until its uppermost branches reached her feet; she looked at it and smiled.

** * * * *

"There's nothing left to do," said Galandiel, as he sat down upon the grassy bank,

"Look, I'm sorry," said Aragorn, and sat down,

"It's not your fault,"

"Look at you two," cried Nimrodel "Moping like a pair of old hobbits, 'There is one thing we can do,'" do,"

"What?" chorused Aragorn and Galandiel at the same time,

"Tilly once said to me, that she devoted all her hope to one thing, just so it would happen, we need to devote all our hope to finding her, and we will!"

Galandiel stood up, "Come on!" he said, and ran off to mount his horse,

Aragorn turned to Nimrodel, "what was that one thing,"

Nimrodel turned away, "that mummy would come home,"

Aragorn walked off leaving Nimrodel saying to herself, "I know it didn't happen but she gave up,

and any way it's still going to happen.

** * * * *

Tillyennabegan to grow pale, from lack of sunlight. Her clothes grew tattered, so she made herself a dress. It was black, blacker than any mortal soul could imagine, it was so black it could hurt a man's eyes. It was embroidered with light, starlight, the light of the Evenstar, her light. She worked all day and most of the night on her dress, she stopped talking to Treebeard and the Entwives, she did nothing but sit and sew. She did not sleep much; she had to get the dress finished.

Months past, years. Tilly finished her dress, she put it on and then one night for the first time since her arrival at Orthanc she walked in the gardens at Isengard. She walked dressed in black, a dark sorceress of light walking through the trees.

15 - Visit to Gondor

As the years passed, Tillyenna grew older, and her pride faded. Eventually she gathered up enough courage to return to Rivendell to live with her family. Now more powerful than her grandmother, she avoided the Lady Galadriel, for fear of confrontation. Lillia had grown up, and had left, to become the first female ranger ever, although she frequently returned to Rivendell to see her friends.

Many winters passed, Tilly lost count, time does not matter to elves. She spent her time learning more magic and mucking around with her sister, playing practical jokes.

One month, Elrond announced that Tillyenna and Nimrodel would accompany him to Gondor, to see all of their friends. The two girls got very excited...packing dresses, deciding what to wear, by elven terms they were still very young, although many years had passed.

The journey to Gondor did not take long, they travelled fast, for winter was drawing in. When they arrived at the great white city, seeing it for the first time fully restored after the battle of Pelinor fields, Tilly was overcome with emotion, she would see all her friends again...they had told her that Eoara had got married, she was pleased, it had taken a long time, but she was glad her friend could finally hold a guy. (please don't hit me)

As soon as they arrived, they rode up to the great hall. Many heads turned, for it had been sometime since true fair folk had entered these walls, (the people of Gondor did not count Queen Arwen, as she was so much one of them). They entered the great hall, to see King Aragorn holding court, slipping quietly into a corner they waited until he had finished so they did not interrupt. As they waited, Tilly looked at her brother-in-law. He had not changed, he looked slightly weathered, but he always had done, he was now very old by the standards of men, but he did not look it, for the kings of Gondor were not short-lived.

As he finished, they stepped out of the shadows, Tilly running forward shouting, "DAIN!!!" stopping a respectful distance and nodding her head in his direction before running to hug him. Her sister and father both knelt at Aragorn's feet, a ritual unnecessary for Tillyenna, who being a socceress was now on an equal par with him.

"How are you" they all asked at once, and usual chatter ensued. Quickly the conversation turned to Arwen, she was resting Aragorn said, and wouldn't be up for another couple of hours, but he knew that Eoara would like to see them. Slowly they all began to walk to her house, Gondorians a little surprised to see their King just idly walking through the streets. Tilly very excited ran ahead and found the house, knocking she entered. As her eyes adjusted to the light she spotted a withered old lady sitting in the corner of the room, by the fire.

"Hello," said Tilly, "Is this where Eoara lives?"

The old lady laughed, "Yes it is," then she turned to Tilly, and it was obvious her eyes had been blinded by

age.

"Where's eoara?" tilly asked

"Is that tillyenna?" the woman asked in a cracked voice,

"Yes it is, now where's eoara?"

"It's me tilly! I'm eoara, don't you recognise me!"

Tilly stood for a moment, shocked, confused, unsure of what to do, unsure of what to think...

"No its not, you lie...Eoara does not have white hair, her skin is smooth...you are not she"

"I'm old now tilly"

"YOU'RE A DIFFERENT PERSON" screamed tillyenna and ran out of the house, slap bang into aragorn, "dain dain," she said breathlessly, "there's a stranger in there pretending to be eoara!"

Aragorn looked at her, and then led her inside, tilly silently pointed at the woman in the corner, nimrodel followed with her gaze,

"That IS eoara," confirmed aragorn

Tillyenna and Nimrodel, almost as one being, turned and fled silently out of the door.

16 - Memories

Im sorry, this chapter had to be written, it began with three people, and so, in a way it must end with those same people....I did not cry when writing this, I have cried so many tears, that maybe it is best, she wouldnt want us to cry.

Although this is the end of my story, it is not the end of anything else, somethings may seem as if they have ended, it may seem as if the rain will never stop, but even if it dose never stop, there will always be the memory of the sunshine...

They both ran, as fast as they could, different directions, but both to the same place.

Tillyenna fell under the white tree, silently sobbing, Nimrodel just knelt beside her, her face showing no emotions.

"Do you think.."tillyenna looked up at her sister, "Do you think this will have happened to sis?"

"I know it will,"

"but...." Tilly's gaze returned to the ground, her eyes once again filling with tears, "but she's meant to be beautiful, like you, like me, she's not meant to be one of them."

"That's what she chose, she chose mortality, she will always be beautiful in our memories."

"I want to go and see her"

The twins stood up, and slowley walked into the great hall, taking a side door they followed the passage to Arwen's chamber, where they met Elrond and Aragorn.

Silently Nimrodel opened the door, and led her sister in, Arwen lay on the bed, weak, dying.

Tillyenna and Nimrodel turned to elrond, "Is this why you brought us here?" asked tilly, "To see our sister die," nimrodel accused.

"I brought you to say goodbye," their father assured them

Tillyenna and Nimrodel turned and knelt, one either side or Arwen.

"Is this what you wanted?"

"To become, old, and die?"

"I wanted to be with my love, and so I am happy, I wanted you to be here to say goodye, and so I am happy, I wanted you two to be together, and so I am happy, I am happy, and so I can say goodbye." and with this Arwen smiled, and Tillyenna and Nimrodel realised that even people who are old can be beautiful, for Arwen's smile was the most beautiful ever.

"Goodbye big sis, we love you..."

Arwen looked at her younger sisters, smiled for a final time, and then, closed her eyes and slept, slpet for eternity.

Tillyenna and Nimrodel walked out into the courtyard, and fell once again beneath the tree, arms aroud each other, not crying, infinatly sad, and yet infinatly happy that their sister was happy. As they sat there, maybe for minutes, maybe hours, maybe longer, sometimes the tears flowed, sometimes they did not. Not a word did they exchange, just there together.

Tillyenna felt water flowing down her face, mixing with the tears, she looked up, "Oh," she said, "it's raining..."