

Book II: The battle to the Depths of Death

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After putting down the first book, you study the second; a leather bound book, stating on the inside:

*THE HISTORY OF GAIACARIUS
BOOK II*

It's a bigger book than the last one, you enjoy reading, so you turn the cover over and begin to read

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1 - The battle at Ihilio-Tar, the passing of a hero

BOOK II

The Battle to the Depths of Death

Chapter I: the battle at Ihilio-Tar, the passing of a hero

There were many skirmishes between the two forces, many of which hold no significant turning point. But the battle at Ihilio-Tar, a rocky desert valley is of some importance, as it showed the defeat of Ormus, the greatest general of heaven.

Ihilio-Tar is a dried river, which in this day and age has many Orc settlements nestled in it, one of which is the region's capital: Aish-Talan. Ihilio-Tar is in the south-eastern desert region of Acaron Gyorgious had the valley rigged, as he had planned with Min, who relished the thought of a trap against the army of Ormus. Looking north of the hill that Gyorgious had set up camp on, he saw the Seraphim charging down towards them, riding on the backs of white stallions. They got no further than 40 feet away when Gyorgious dropped his right arm sharply, signalling to spring the trap; Thousands of large rocks and boulders cascaded down into the valley, crushing the majority of the charging Seraphim.

Ormus, seeing his men's spirits lowered by falling into a trap, prepared to give the signal to fall back and regroup. It was at that point that Min gave out a piercing, high pitched scream, and instantly, to Ormus' horror, skeletal arms ruptured through the dry earth, clutching the legs of the horses and foot soldiers. More arms broke through; these had greyed flesh, some with large portions of flesh missing. Screams came from the Seraphim as Skeletons tore through them with rusted, serrated blades, and Zombies gnawing chunks of flesh from the angels' necks.

Ormus knew that the battle could've been turned against Gyorgious if action was taken now, so he drew his sabre and rushed out to face the horde of creatures. He would fight bravely, even managing to climb the rocks and come face to face with the demon king himself, in which he would have clash with him. Ormus, however, had forgotten that the demon was in part a snake, which gave him a major advantage in speed and reflexes. Gyorgious moved around the Seraphim captain with sickening speed, before dealing a heavy blow to Ormus with his axe, 'Haasan'. The blow cleaved through Ormus as if he was made of paper, it tore him in two.

According to the tomes inside the library of the Seraphim; there virtually no survivors that returned from this battle. The few who did return were not fit to serve again in the army, they were missing limbs, horribly disfigured, or they were so frightened by what they had seen or experienced, that they became completely withdrawn, and refused to say anything to anyone.

Gyorgious observed what remained of the Seraphim army; dismembered bodies and a scattered assortment of armour and weapons. Supposedly, He gave Min a nod; telling her to dispel the creatures she'd summoned. She did so, the zombies disappeared in a sandstorm, and the skeletons turned to dust, before being scattered in the winds.

Gyorgious had gained his first major victory against the armies of heaven, and used this momentum to continually crush the Seraphim one battle after another.

2 - Ormus' Disciple

BOOK II

The Battle to the Depths of Death

Chapter II: Ormus' Disciple

As Gyorgious won one battle after another, the Seraphim became increasingly desperate; after losing Ormus, they needed someone else to replace their fallen general. They went through several decisions before they made their decision final; Daisuke Toyama, Ormus' own disciple, whom Ormus had taught everything he knew, a perfect choice. Daisuke was a talented individual; both skilled in concoction of elixirs and fighting, he had a strong mind, and excelled in strategic planning.

Daisuke decided that fighting the demons in places like forest and valleys was just giving them a free advantage; so he concluded that they needed to be fought out in the open. Many of the elders disagreed with Daisuke's proposal to fight at Drakendale; a large, sparse field, perfect open territory. Gyorgious could not launch any real ambushes using materials around him,. And if Min were present, her powers would prove useless, as Drakendale was considered a sacred ground by the locals, no one was to be buried there, this reason of sanctity was why the elders dismissed his proposal to fight there from the start . Daisuke was not happy with this for two reasons:

I: Drakendale was the main, if not the most inconspicuous route to the monastery of Icecove Hill, what could be described as the main vein into heaven.

II: He was certain that Gyorgious would choose this route; there was practically no defence on the part of the humans in this region, which was now called 'The Empire of the Seven Moons'. Maybe a few local brigands, thieves and cut-throats, but they would bend their knees before this demonic army, and join their cause, only to be slaughtered later on.

Daisuke then protested that it was the right thing to do for another reason; not far from Drakendale was a small village known as Florentina. Although it was a small village no more than 200 villagers, at the least, its inhabitants were very devoted to the religion of the Seraphim. This, Daisuke had disputed as politely as he could, was hazardous, as Gyorgious would certainly not hesitate to teach those who do not worship him 'discipline'. The elders then thought on this point, and after much deliberation, they reluctantly agreed to let Daisuke train new recruits and prepare for the inevitable battle against the seemingly unstoppable forces of Gyorgious.

Daisuke trained a legion of 5000 men, each company consisted of 100 men led by a Seraphim 'Blood Hunter'; a warrior skilled in all forms of combat. These units turned out to be just what Daisuke had hoped for. He also enlisted the aid of the inhabitants of Gaiacarius; there is a forest, not far from Drakendale, to the north called 'Khorad- Kur'. Here live the Dryads (or wood elves) Daisuke approached the Dryads with an arrangement: If they could help him in the coming battle with Gyorgious, he would persuade the locals to stop the felling of the trees of Khorad-Kur, this appealed to the Dryads, as the continual logging was destroying their home.

Daisuke even enlisted the help of the Seraphim's secret weapon: Ssilith; the Ancient Dragon that was the guardian of Icecove Hill monastery. She had agreed to aid Daisuke with no doubts, as she'd regarded his mentor highly and was more than happy to see an end to Gyorgious. And so, Daisuke was ready to confront the demon king at Drakendale...