

The Curse of the Third Eye by Lionora
Chapter 28: The Exorcism

Cossack was sitting with his eyes closed, repeating a chant that Zondra had taught him previously. Zondra was in front of the mirror of Taressam, making her spell while she had a crystal in her hands. The crystal soon started to glow incessantly. Suddenly, the inside of the hut got eerily dark. The only illumination was coming from the candles that were lighted by Zondra. But, Cossack kept saying his chant following Zondra's instructions that no matter what he heard or felt, he should continue without stopping.

Lotor Masserath was reaching to Haggar's lab, but stopped on his tracks in front of the door. Looking at the closed entrance, he couldn't feel the mirror's presence. He knew something was wrong. Then he heard Lotor's voice teasing from inside his mind:

"What's wrong Masserath? Are you sure everything is going according to your plans? I can hear your thoughts, you know."

"Shut up nuisance! I just have to find the witch..."

Then Lotor/Masserath opened the door and entered the witch's lab and called out to her. But, he couldn't feel her presence either inside those chambers. But the worst thing was that the mirror was missing. Now he was sure that something was dead wrong.

He would have to question princess Allura if he wanted immediate answers about what was going on. So he stormed out of the witch's lair directly to the hangars.

Haggar had been walking for a while using the stone as her guide to lead her directly unto the mirror of Taressam. The stone had pinpointed the mirror's location outside of the castle unto the city. She was almost running when the stone started to signal ahead to a hut in a remote part of the city. Then she stood up in front of the simple hut and knew that it was a witch's lair. But who's lair could this be? Carefully she walked to one of the windows, but the curtains didn't let her see what was going on inside. So she carefully went to the front door of the hut to see if she could have access to the interior. But the door was locked. She would have to use her magic to enter. She hit the floor with her staff, but a protective spell put by Zondra impeded her to enter the hut. Haggar kept trying to break that spell, but soon she was running out of ideas...

Cossack started to hear different noises, from furniture moving to books opening and closing, he kept his eyes closed just imagining that it was Zondra making a racket in whatever ritual she was performing.

But the noises got disturbingly eerie when he heard murmurs surrounding him. He felt that there was a multitude of people inside the little hut when he knew that only Zondra and him were currently present. He kept making his chant as told, even when he heard voices calling his name. The voices were increasing in volume and frequency. And soon they were rather disturbing and distracting. There was also a very strange wind blowing as if the windows and doors were open. He knew that Zondra had locked the hut, but he kept making the chant even if his fears had started to grow inside of him.

But things got worse when he felt like he was being slightly poked first on his back and then his arms and legs. He almost opened his eyes thinking it was Zondra, but he heard Zondra's voice way at the other side of the hut making her spell with the indecipherable words that she had started saying a while ago.

The glowing crystal had flown from her hands to the top of the mirror, while dark clouds were emanating from the mirror unto the ceiling of the hut.

Lotor/Masserath had been walking to the room where Princess Allura was tied to the chair waiting for the inevitable torture and probable abuse from the demonic prince. She heard the door opening but didn't want to see if it was him. But she heard the steady pace approaching her and she knew...

He turned her seat to where he was standing and told her:

"Well princess...I think there are some things that you need to tell me..." Then he knelt before her and took her chin moving her head with his hand so she could look at him in the eye.

Princess Allura looked at him defying his gaze with a frown on her face. She pressed her lips in a way that her front teeth gently bit her lips so that nothing could enter or get out of her mouth.

Prince Lotor/Masserath smirked and lifted his hand to slap the girl for her defiance, but when he lifted his hand, he heard innumerable voices. Then he looked to the ceiling of the room on top of him and there he saw how a dense dark cloud in the shape of a tunnel started to form. Slowly he let go of Allura and started to walk back but felt how his body was rapidly failing to obey his thoughts.

Inside his mind, Prince Lotor saw how the crystal in front of him started to glow in the same way when he was entering Allura's mind in her dreams.

Masserath's expression started to change from preoccupation to panic. He had seen this happen before when the gods had punished him for defying them. He started to pant and curse in the ancient demonic language of the spiritual realm.

Allura had her head looking up watching as the dark cloud was circling the ceiling of the room. She couldn't believe what her eyes were witnessing. Soon her mouth was opening in awe. Then she saw Prince Lotor's body being surrounded by the dark cloud, his movements were erratic as

if trying to walk and wave the fog from him but his arms couldn't move well enough.

She heard him speaking in another language while dark shadows were overwhelming his figure. After what seemed like an insufferable time of shadows and clouds, Lotor's body tumbled down to the floor while the dark cloud disappeared in the same way it had appeared.

At that precise moment inside Zondra's hut the dark cloud that was on the ceiling of the hut got absorbed by the crystal that was glowing and floating on top of the mirror. Then, in a matter of minutes, the crystal was absorbed by the mirror and the dark haze that once had disappeared from the mirror's reflection appeared again.

Cossack still had his eyes closed and kept saying the chant until he noticed that there was a sudden silence in the hut. Then an utter peace overwhelmed Zondra's hut and Cossack just knew that he could open his eyes because the worst had been done. There he saw Zondra, her body was laying on the floor face down as if her strength had been drained almost completely. Slowly he stood up to where she was and knelt before her so he could pick her up and lay her on her bed. She was unconscious but she was alive and seemed unharmed. It seemed that the process of using her spell had left her very weak...she could hardly talk.

Then Cossack heard a scream coming from the front door of the hut. He left Zondra on her bed and took out his lagoon sword while he walked cautiously to the front door of the hut. When he opened the door, there he saw witch Haggar all torn and wrinkly, all of her previous beauty had melted away showing her true self, ugly and old, dark skin with yellow pupiless eyes, she had her mouth opened showing her fangs while she cursed and whined lamenting her lost beauty.

She turned to look at Cossack while he stood at the entrance of the hut watching her and she pointed a bony finger at him:

"You...how dare you? You did this...and you will pay...even if it's the last thing I do!"

Then Haggar pointed her staff at him, and even if he used his sword to block her aim, the protective spell didn't allow the ray that emerged from the staff to hit him. Haggar was obviously frustrated and then she said:

"Some day you will have to get out of that place, and no one will protect you...you meddling commander. You have mixed with forces beyond your understanding and I will be waiting to get my revenge from you..."

"Get out of here you damned witch...! Go make threats for someone who cares!" and then Cossack closed the door again. He entered the hut and went beside Zondra who still laid sleeping peacefully on the bed. Then he sat beside her on the floor, thinking that if Haggar had returned to her former self then maybe the ceremony had worked and Prince Lotor had control of his body once more. He could only know if and when he could get out of that hut.

Chapter End Notes:
To be continued