

Elias: A Man Divided

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SC1

EXT. BATTLEFIELD - DAY

A battle is raging. Animals and humanoid animals in coloured robes are fighting tall silver humanoids in silver attire. They're fighting with various weapons, and also with Magence (magic). The silver people possess stronger magic. One among them is unstoppable. He approaches a white mouse wearing a golden robe. He raises his staff over his head and brings it down, crushing her.

SC2

INT. ELIAS' CHAMBERS - SUNRISE

Elias opens his blue eyes and sits up with a start. Sweat glistens on his curly brown hair and lean yet muscular frame. A knock on his door startles him.

ELIAS  
Enter (SHAKILY)

The door opens and a blue-robed hare hops into the room. He regards Elias.

BENNA  
The nightmare again?

Elias nods wearily.

BENNA (CONT'D)  
Try not to worry; it will not come to pass.

Elias nods again. Then he turns his head towards the window, hearing sounds of battle.

BENNA (CONT'D)  
You are to remain here (FIRMLY)

ELIAS  
But I can help.

BENNA  
We can handle it; we always do. I must go to lend my aid.

Benna leaves.

At the foot of the bed, a greyish-brown rabbit stretches and yawns.

DANBO  
Was that Master Benna?

ELIAS  
Yes. He told me to stay here.  
Again.

DANBO  
The High Council can manage,  
Master.

ELIAS  
I know, but sometimes it feels as  
though I can do more than what I'm  
taught.

DANBO  
Why would they hold you back?

ELIAS  
I don't know.

In unison, their stomachs rumble. Elias sighs and gestures,  
and food appears. Elias and Danbo eat.

DANBO  
Why do you think they're attacking  
so close to daylight, Master?

ELIAS  
I don't know, but there must be a  
reason.

DANBO  
You're going out there, aren't you?

ELIAS  
I must; it's my duty. You stay  
here.

Elias rises from the bed, and a green robe, brown leggings,  
and brown boots appear from seemingly nowhere to clothe him.  
Then he leaves.

SC3

EXT. TOWER AREA - SUNRISE

Elias regards the battle between his fellow Maginists and the  
silver-toned Sar Ala. He scans the area, then double-takes.  
By a stand of trees is a frightened young woman.

Elias takes in her white hair, green eyes, white horse ears, black-jewelled forehead, white wings, white horse tail, and blue dress. A red-robed Maginist with a black leopard tail and legs, clawed hands, black hair, and black leopard ears is striding confidently towards her. She notices him, and her jewel becomes grey. He attempts to lead her into the trees, but she resists. He forcibly moves her, but the trees move too, thwarting his attempt. Then Elias nervously approaches. The other Maginist sniffs the air, then turns with a sneer. The young woman notices Elias, and her jewel becomes yellow, then pale pink, and she smiles shyly.

RENSA

Stay out of my way Eli. It's my duty to ensure this pretty little pony reaches safety.

The jewel turns red, and a look of annoyance crosses the woman's face.

GALEA

My name is Galea!

RENSA

Such a pretty name for such a pretty pony! I am Rensa.

Rensa bows.

RENSA (CONT'D)

Now allow me to escort you to safety.

Rensa reaches for Galea, who dodges and stands by Elias. Rensa smiles nastily.

RENSA (CONT'D)

Eli can't help you; he can barely help himself.

A purple-robed hare approaches them then.

RAN

You shouldn't be here Elias. Didn't father tell you to stay where you were?

RENSA

Listen to your big brother Eli. Return to your chambers.

Galea moves closer to Elias, taking his arm. He briefly flinches, then settles.

RAN  
That's a good idea; take the young  
lady with you.

Elias appears frightened at the prospect.

RENSA  
I think she'd be better off with  
me. Stand aside old man.

Elias is becoming agitated. Ran notices.

RAN  
I'll go for help.

With Ran gone, Rensa draws twin swords from thin air. Elias  
flinches again.

RENSA  
You know I'm happy to use these on  
you, don't you Eli?

Galea looks up at Elias, who appears to be struggling to  
reach a decision; try to flee, or try to fight.

RENSA (CONT'D)  
Coward!

Elias suddenly stands straight. He reaches out, and a staff  
appears in his hand.

GALEA  
Elias.

Elias acknowledges Galea.

GALEA (CONT'D)  
I don't want you to get hurt.

Her jewel is pale pink again.

RENSA  
He's not going to get hurt, he's  
going to die; then you'll be mine!

GALEA  
Never!

RENSA  
It's inevitable, little pony.

GALEA  
No, this is.

Galea reaches up to kiss Elias. Elias reaches down. Rensa takes Galea by the arm and shoves her away. Then pain explodes in his head. When he recovers, he sees Elias at the ready, and realises what happened.

RENSA

Finally decided to grow a pair?  
Well you're too late.

Without warning, Rensa launches himself at Elias, swords outstretched. Elias parries just in time. Rensa's attack is swift and fierce, and all Elias can do is dodge and parry, dodge and parry. Until he manages to sweep Rensa's feet out from under him. Rensa somersaults, landing on his feet.

RENSA (CONT'D)

You're finished Eli!

The swords disappear, and Rensa's hands glow red. Elias' staff disappears, and his hands glow green. Above Rensa's palms, fireballs form. He launches them at Elias, who dodges, and summons vines to ensnare Rensa. Who laughs.

RENSA (CONT'D)

Is that the best you can do?

Flames consume the vines. Then Rensa rises into the air. Elias follows. Rensa blinds him with smoke, and sends more fireballs after him. Elias summons moisture from the clouds to protect himself, and leaves from the trees to attack. Then, when Rensa almost sets his hair on fire, something inside him snaps. His entire form develops a silver tinge. Darkness descends, and the stars shine brightly.

RENSA (CONT'D)

What is this? Surely **you're** not responsible?

Elias smiles sinisterly, and the stars shine brighter. A silver glow surrounds Elias. He reaches towards Rensa, who also glows silver. The glow gradually becomes brighter, and Rensa struggles in fear and pain.

RENSA (CONT'D)

Stop Elias, please! You're killing me!

Elias just keeps smiling.

GALEA

Elias!

Elias pays no attention.

GALEA (CONT'D)

Elias, please!

Elias' concentration wavers, and he looks down. Galea's jewel is brown. Elias lowers himself to the ground, as Rensa comes crashing down.

Galea throws her arms around Elias, who regards her confusedly. Then her lips brush his. Elias responds in kind. The kiss deepens.

By the time their lips part, Elias is himself again, the sun has returned to the sky, and the Sar Ala have retreated. Galea smiles at Elias, her jewel pale pink. Elias smiles shyly back.

Benna and Ran approach, accompanied by a gold-robed white mouse. The mouse teleports to Elias' shoulder.

LEERA

Elias, do you realise what has occurred?

Elias is confused.

ELIAS

No, Leera.

LEERA

I thought not. Take Galea to your chambers; you have begun the Bonding process. Get to know each other. I must convene the High Council.

BENNA

Leera, this wasn't his fault.

LEERA

I am aware. Still, a decision must be made.

Elias appears frightened.

BENNA

Fear not my son; you have nothing to worry about. Now go and embrace your new life with Galea.

ELIAS

Yes father.

Elias shyly offers Galea his arm. She happily takes it, and they walk towards the Tower.

SC4

INT. ELIAS' CHAMBERS - MORNING

Elias enters his chambers with Galea, and immediately transforms his bed into a sofa, embarrassed. Danbo hops off it and runs to his Master. Elias picks him up for a cuddle.

DANBO  
Are you alright Master? That was scary.

ELIAS  
I'm fine, Danbo.

Danbo notices Galea. He sniffs the air, then his eyes light up.

DANBO  
It's you!

He leaps into Galea's arms and smiles up at her. Galea is confused. Danbo turns towards Elias.

DANBO (CONT'D)  
Do you remember when you were 13, and Master Benna took us far from home?

ELIAS  
That was a long time ago.

DANBO  
Eighteen years, Master.

Danbo turns back to Galea.

DANBO (CONT'D)  
How old are you?

GALEA  
18

DANBO  
You'd just been born, so you wouldn't remember us.

Danbo turns back to Elias.

DANBO (CONT'D)  
Do you recognise her now?

Elias is confused.

DANBO (CONT'D)  
Perhaps **this** will help.

Danbo hops to the floor and gives Galea a push from behind. She stumbles, and Elias catches her. He looks down at her looking up at him, and recognition crosses his face.

GALEA  
My mother told me of the nervous teenage Maginist and his rabbit acolyte. That was you two?!

Elias nods. Galea smiles. Then she wraps her arms around Elias, leaning into him. Elias looks to Danbo, panicked. Danbo smiles, and Elias relaxes.

A knock on the door startles Elias.

ELIAS  
Enter

Benna and Leera enter.

BENNA  
It's nice to see you again Galea. You're all grown up I see.

GALEA  
Danbo mentioned that you've all met me before.

LEERA  
I haven't. It's nice to meet you young lady.

GALEA  
It's nice to meet you.

LEERA  
My acolyte is waiting to escort you to guest chambers, where you may bathe and change your clothes. I know you're concerned for Elias, but there is nothing to worry about. Lucy!

Leera's acolyte enters.

LEERA (CONT'D)  
Galea is ready to go to the guest chambers.

LUCY  
Yes, Grand Mistress.

Galea hugs Elias tightly, and reluctantly separates from him. She turns to look at him as she leaves.

BENNA

Son, Leera is here to help you.

Benna tells Elias what happened.

BENNA (CONT'D)

Rensa will be alright, but his parents are furious.

Elias is terrified.

BENNA (CONT'D)

That is why Leera is here. She can protect you. Also...

ELIAS

What, father?

Benna sighs.

BENNA

It's time I told you the truth. Sit down son.

Elias sits. Danbo sits beside him.

BENNA (CONT'D)

I told you I'd found you in a tree after your parents had been killed, when you were just a baby. That is true, but there is more to the story. The Sar Ala had attacked, and after the battle, when the survivors had retreated, I heard a noise coming from the trees. I went to investigate and discovered, in a hole in the trunk of one, a silver-toned baby, just a couple of days old. The baby was playing with a dead squirrel, that he had apparently killed himself. I knew what I should do, but then the baby noticed me, and I hesitated. He dropped the squirrel and reached out to me. I picked him up and cradled him as best I could, and he yawned and fell asleep. I looked down at him for a time, then reached a decision.

(MORE)

BENNA (CONT'D)

I took him before Leera, telling her I wished to keep him, and raise him as my own. I asked for her help in this. Somehow, she was able to suppress his true nature, even altering his physical appearance. I raised him as a human, but there were occasional glimpses of the darkness within, which Leera quelled each time. I told you that you had an illness, and required treatment. You accepted that. I'm sorry I didn't tell you the truth, but right now you need another...treatment.

Leera teleports to Elias' lap, while he is still processing what he'd been told, and begins the suppression.

A gentle golden glow surrounds Elias, and pulsates.

Without warning, there's a silver flash, and Leera is thrown across the room. She slams into the wall and falls to the floor. Elias and Danbo rise, and Benna hurries to Leera's side.

BENNA (CONT'D)

Leera?

Leera doesn't move.

Then Lucy bursts in, picks Leera up, and hurries away with her.

ELIAS

Will she be alright?

BENNA

She'll be fine; Lucy will take her to Parnax.

ELIAS

What happened?

BENNA

I'm not sure. How do you feel?

ELIAS

Normal, I guess.

BENNA

Good. I'd better go and check on Leera; don't worry about her.

Benna leaves, and Elias and Danbo sit.

The door opens, startling Elias. Galea walks in, followed by a doe Maginist carrying a bundle of new clothes. The bundle is placed on the end of the sofa, and the doe turns to Galea.

MELINA

I wish you well in your new life.

GALEA

Thank you.

The doe leaves.

Galea smiles at Elias and sits beside him, displacing Danbo. She takes Elias' arm.

GALEA (CONT'D)

That's Melina. She was telling me she tried everything she could to gain your affection, even becoming female, but nothing worked.

ELIAS

That's why she did that?

Galea nods.

GALEA

She said she's happy for us; all she wants is for you to be happy.

GALEA (CONT'D)

What happened here? Are you going to be alright?

ELIAS

I think so.

Danbo tells Galea what Benna told them, and what happened afterwards.

GALEA

Is she alright?

DANBO

She will be; Parnax is our best healer.

GALEA

Are **you** alright Elias?

ELIAS

I think so.

Galea leans into him, comforted. Elias looks frightened.

DANBO

Why don't we show Galea around the  
Tower, Master?

Galea smiles.

GALEA

I'd like that.