

A Paladin's Regret

Cantheron, 35 Human Paladin of Mithaniel Marr

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1 Chapter One

1.1 Wandering

I was wandering around Lake Rathetear, swimming aimlessly to find a deepwater or net master goblin to obtain bracers required by my armor quest. I find a large opening of a cave on the first island West from the Rathe Mountain zone entrance.

1.2 Feeble skills

I make several attempts to go in, but am constrained by my feeble swimming skills and shortness of breath. I surface from the water onto the nearby island, and yell for someone to buff me with the underwater breathing spell so it can ease my search. Three hours go by, and no such luck in my hunt.

1.3 Frantic

I begin to swim around anxiously and frantically, as if I had been released from a cage into shark infested waters. Frustration elevates and boredom sets in, so I decide to swim to a abandoned tower located Northwest of the zone. There are two fellow humans guarding the entrance. I con the guards; they view me warmly. I explore the tower and climb to the top using the ladder. I cast my view over the shore, and notice the sun starting

to set over the horizon. Before I climb back down and exit the building to the shoreline, I notice in the corner of my eye, the shimmer of scales.

1.4 Pondering

I give myself several minutes to ponder what I had seen. With my Baton of Faith equipped and curiosity high, I exit the tower and enter the water to follow this mysterious creature. Questions begin flooding my brain. What did I witness? How long has this thing existed in this lake? Are there other sea life present? I start to approach it.

1.5 Reflection

A few moments pass and I depict the silhouette of a fish meandering through the murky water. It was less than a yard away before I gain focus. It's scales begin to illuminate from the reflection of the setting Antonican sun. I can identify the creature now - a royal fish.

2 Chapter Two

2.1 Excitement

I swim swiftly behind the fish to close our distance. Excitement fills my body, as I am about to collect this rare trophy. I initiate attack.

2.2 Speechless

The fish is slain within several seconds, and my body consequently goes numb and a sense of foreboding occurs. The sky darkens and thunder cracks in the air. A voice fills my head and says "You feel the Hatred of an entire Race upon your soul". My eyes roll back as I step into a deep trance and I begin to have a vision. The leaders of the three factions: King Tearis Thex, Clerics of Tunare, and Anti-Mage sit high up on a pedestals glaring down at me, as if I were being judged. I recognize immediately the elegant high elf stature of King Tearis Thex. He barks, "You have been excommunicated from our homeland. You have slain our Princess Lenya!" I try to speak but cannot.

2.3 Regret

I am abruptly awoken out of my state to one of the guards pulling me in from the shore. I can feel my heart begin to sink

low within my chest. I feel nauseated and vomit. The first emotion that floods my mind is regret.

2.4 Sorrow

The city of Felwithe is my home. It has been for ages. It's where I go for my combat and spell training. They took me in as a son when the corrupt guards of Freeport tried to assassinate me. The very thought of not being able to go back triggers a torrent of tears to flow down my face. There is nothing left to do but weep at my decision.

2.5 Consolation

The tower guard tries to console me, but I turn away. Something must be done. I have to win back the affection of the high elves, but what must I do?

– Sworn Protector of the Realm and Enemy of the High Elves