

DIARY OF A FAITHFUL

by Odrin Steenson



- Ellys, 9th day of the Haranë Moon -

Still nothing. I've been climbing for 72 days now, despite the blood-curdling wind and frost. I'm sure I'm heading in the right direction, but these mountains seem endless. Have they no summit? I can still hear animal growls, and I still have my pistol but little ammunition. I don't know what to do, it's too late to turn back, my supplies are almost gone. Whatever happens, I won't stop until I've found the Valley - I'm sure it exists! Maybe I'll even catch a glimpse of one of them... a goddess! I feel them in my heart. I dream of them every night.

- Ellys, 12th day of the Haranë Moon -

This morning, I slipped on a piece of ice and fell several meters. I fell into a crevasse, breaking my right leg and several ribs. I killed a Frost Fang and now only have one bullet left. I'm in great pain, but I think I saw a human shadow pass over the walls around me... Am I losing my mind? Am I already dead? I need to sleep for a few hours, but I'm afraid I'll never wake up again.

- Ellys, 17th day of the Haranë Moon -

I'm still alive. I've found spring water, I think that's a good sign. I'm having a hard time moving forward, making little progress, but I'm thinking about that shadow again. I can't help thinking it was one of them. If only I could see one before I die.

- Ellys, 18th day of the Haranë Moon -

I've managed to reach a more advanced area under the mountain, I've seen grass several times and I feel it's less cold. Is it possible that I'm nearing my goal? Have I reached the sacred valley? I've got nothing left to eat, but if I manage to get out on the other side of the mountain, I'll soon know... if I'm still alive by then.

- Celestria Valley, 20th day of the Haranë Moon -

My eyes cannot believe what they have seen. As I admired the beauty of the landscape front of me, I heard footsteps on the grass in the distance. Turning my head, I only had a second to catch sight of her before she disappeared around a thicket. Her beauty was indescribable, her grace unreal. I'd never seen such perfection, such perfect skin, such piercing eyes, such hypnotic charm. My heart is beating so fast! I've got to find her as soon as possible.

- Celestria Valley, 23rd day of the Haranë Moon -

I'm devastated, I've been wandering around for 3 days, desperately trying to see her again. My ribs and legs ache, but it doesn't matter anymore. I can't sleep, I'm not hungry. I've abandoned my belongings to move faster. I've only kept my pistol, you never know, but I know I'm safe here, I just want to see her again. I can't stop thinking about her. I must find her or my life will be meaningless.

- Celestria Valley, 24th day of the Haranë Moon -

My hands are shaking and my breathing is ragged, I'm terrified I'll never see her again. The memory of her is a loss and a pain I can no longer bear. Her beauty is so perfect, her radiance so intense, I can't go on living with her image in my head. I think I'd rather die here and now.

- Celestria Valley, 25th day of the Haranë Moon -

My thoughts are strange. I feel like I'm in physical pain at the mere mention of her memory... or rather, the emotions I have left from that encounter, for her shape itself is beginning to leave my memory, slowly fading. I don't understand. Without the memory of her face and body, what's the point of continuing to live?

- Celestria Valley, 26th day of the Haranë Moon -

Today is the last day of Haranë and I'm curled up inside myself. I can't stop crying. I've torn my clothes, I've scratched my face so hard that my nails have torn my skin. Yet I feel no pain, my mind is pure suffering and infinite sadness. I can't erase from my thoughts the image of her body, her hair cascading down her loins. I've cut my tongue and several fingers with my teeth, but I can no longer feel any pain. What's happening to me? Is this the end? I've lost my soul forever. It's a little late, but I think I've finally understood why they live apart from men. Now I'm going to do the last thing I'm capable of before I go mad. My last bullet... Good thing I kept it with me.