

The Legendary Warrior

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Edited by Winter & Rilbur

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Author's Note: The rank's used in this article are from the Canadian military, except for the Commander rank on which I made a mistake, so it represents the rank of Lt Col.

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Chapter Twelve

*In this fatherland,
The Queen defends our faith.
He watches over all of us,
He prays for the fatherland.*

*Hear our voices high above,
As we sing our song.
In this fatherland of ours,
We sing for him today.*

- Queen's salute

Mankato had been abused as a child. One of the the members on the tribe which Mankato had been belong to had found him. He had been abandoned by his mother. He was adopted into the leading family of the tribe for a short period. They knew they couldn't keep him, but had wanted to find a good home for him.

Because of the abuse, Mankato had been a little under developed. Jason didn't care. He loved Mankato. He carried him as they walked down Queen Street in Toronto. His mother had wanted to meet her grandson, and before they went over, he wanted to do a little bit of shopping. Of course his personal security detail was a four member team. They were also on Earth to meet the new planetary government, it made better sense.

"How's my little man, huh? How are you Mankato?" Jason smiled as he spoke to his 3 year old son.

Mankato just smiled and clapped his hands, a sign that he was quite happy and content. The royal physicians all said that within a few years Mankato would catch up, and become a normal child.

Jason looked a little tired after the shopping they had done. They didn't buy anything, but it was still a fun trip. "What do you say we go and see grandma before we go to see Daddy?"

Mantako just smiled, Jason walked to the waiting limo, getting in. They made the 40 minute trip to his parents house, arriving shortly before dinner.

Jason arrived at his parents house, getting out of the limo. He walked up to the front door, knowing it was unlocked, and went in. "Hi Mom!" he called.

His sister Heidi came over and smiled, "Hi Jason. Who's this little fellow?" Her eyes settled on Mankato as Doris came out of the kitchen.

Jason handed Mankato over to his Aunt Heidi while he hugged his Mom, but Mankato started to cry, almost to the point of screaming. Jason took him back, and he settled down. "It's ok, little man." He soothed the toddler, rubbing his back. "I've got you. Don't worry."

They sat down and all ate dinner. Jason and Mankato would join Keith later, he was meeting with the American President over their refusal of the grant for Harvard.

"So how old is your son?" Doris asked casually.

"He's 3." Jason ate a few beans, feeding one to his son.

"And when will he be baptized?" Doris asked a little. While she was gay-positive, she was still Catholic.

"Mankato's Trial of Zeus will take place next month. We've decided to name him Mankato Alexander Bezner. And I have a favour to ask of you, Mom." Jason said.

Doris smiled. "Anything for my son and grandson. What do yo need?"

Jason looked at his son for a few moments. "Next year he's going to be old enough to be in kindergarten. Keith and I were wondering if Mankato could come to live with you. We want him to have a normal childhood, and he can't do that on Rigel Prime. Both Keith and myself will come to see him for a week each month, though it may not be the same week for both of us."

Doris went silent for a few moments as she considered the request. "Your father and I aren't getting any younger, Jason. But I suppose it would keep us active. We'll do it on a trial basis, is that okay?"

Jason hugged his Mom, careful of where his son was. "Thanks Mom! That will really help us out!"

“His Imperial Highness, Prince Mankato, and His Imperial Majesty, the Queen” The man in the yellow hat announced.

Jason sat down at the conference table with his son in his lap. “We apologize for the absence of His Majesty the Pharaoh. He was called away at the last minute.”

There were a few people around the table, all of whom Jason did not know. “Let us go around and you can introduce yourselves to us.”

The first lady started, “Governor General Adrienne King, your majesty.”

A man beside her said, “Executive Minister Enrich Fox, your majesty.”

Another man said, “Chief Justice Ben Rooger, your majesty.”

The introductions went on with Minister of State Ethan next, followed by anyone else who had a need to be at this meeting, including Chief Archon kal'Us Rhodes.

Jason nodded to Adrienne and Enrich. “Your Excellency and Your Grace, thank you for attending this meeting with us.”

Mankato played quietly in Jason's lap as he spoke. “When do you intend to convene the Supreme Republic Council and deliver the State Speech to the Council?”

Adrienne looked to Jason and replied, “Next week, your majesty. His Grace and I want to ensure everything is in place before we convene.”

Enrich also spoke up, “We also have a few minor logistical issues to cover as well. But the cabinet has all been appointed, and we expect it to go without issue, your majesty.”

“Very well. Keep us updated as to your progress. Mr. Rooger, when does the Supreme Court intend to convene?” Jason looked to Ben, as did Rhodes.

“We intend to wait six months until after the first convening of the Council before we convene the court for our first cases. So for now, we will leave the last court of appeal with their respective nations.” Ben explained.

Jason sat and thought about this for a few moments, “Very well, thank you for your hard work. Rhodes, when will we be training the new justices on Imperial law?”

“Next week, your majesty. We already have a week-long conference booked to cover all the basics. We're also inviting the Attorney General's for each of the nations on Earth.” Rhodes replied.

“Very good, that exceeds my expectations.” Jason said, taking a pause. He looked over to Enrich, “Your Grace, His Majesty the Pharaoh will be sending a few bills to you for consideration.”

Erich looked surprised at that. “Really? Why? Can't you simply impose them?”

“Yes, we can, but we wish them to be passed here if possible. To show good will and so forth.” Jason explained.

Jason was holding Keith in bed that night. They were both naked, having just made love. “They failed to pass the bill, again.”

“Huh?” Keith queried for a moment, having no idea what Jason was talking about.

“The Supreme Republic Council. They again failed to pass the same-sex marriage bill.” Jason griped.

“So what do you want to do about it, love?”

Jason mulled over the question. “I know as defender of the faith I can overrule any religious objections, but I'd rather not have a lynching if I can avoid it.”

“I know you've tried to avoid imposing it on them. You've gone out of your way to try to talk some reason into the Council, but they seem obstinate.”

“Imposing it on them could get backlash against us.” Jason said.

“Love, have you seen the new mothership? The RSS Hydra's Revenge?”

“I have this feeling, you're about to remind me that we give them more than they do for us.” Jason sighed.

“Exactly. Unless they want the 5th Dynasty of the Lesothian People to invade.” Keith grinned a little, “They keep demanding we hand over Earth so they can colonize it and turned all the humans into something like your [gumby](#).”

Jason snickered a little. “Perhaps I should have a power point presentation done on that, showing what an invasion would be like for the meeting where I do have my degree declared.”

“Our decree, my love. I'll happily sign it, since I'd probably get more sex out of it.” Keith had the biggest shit-eating grin possible.

“For Iraq, and the area in and around Vactican City today Governor General Adrienne King declared martial law. This followed yesterday's decree by Pharaoh Keith I and Queen Jason I that same-sex marriage is legal all over Earth. Rioting and violence erupted following the announcement. Those who refuse to abide by the law are to be arrested, tried for treason, and executed. When talking to BBC World News, His Majesty the Queen had this to say.

'If you don't like it, you can leave the Empire. We refuse to protect a society that does not treat all its citizens as equals. The 5th Dynasty of the Lesothian People have been demanding that we let them invade Earth for some time now. The decision is yours. We didn't create a new law, we're enforcing existing Imperial equality laws. I refuse to tolerate the idea that everyone cannot be equals on Earth.'

Jason, Keith and Mankato headed home about a month after they had arrived on Earth. It had been a long visit, and Jason had commented that there were simply way too many meetings.

Keith smiled at Jason. "That's part of the job you know, lots of meetings."

Jason glowered at Keith. "You were raised to do your job. The only training I've had has been in bed with you."

Keith gave a big grin. "You've never complained before."

Jason picked up Mankato who had been sitting on the floor with a colouring book, colouring outside the lines of course. "Time for bed, little man. Tomorrow you get to see your other grandmother. She said something about spoiling you, I do believe." Jason had a huge grin.

Mankato gave Jason a big smile. He loved Jason. The two of them seemed to quickly bond, and while Keith certainly did spend time with his son, Mankato always preferred Jason.

Jason quickly got Mankato ready for bed. The 3 year old gave both Jason and Keith a kiss goodnight, and Jason put him down for a long night's sleep.

Once Mankato was in bed, Jason went back to the sofa, and cuddled with Keith.

"I think when we return to Rigel Prime, I'm going to visit the Temple of the Yellow Rose." Jason commented.

Keith paused for a moment, and looked at Jason. "Are you sure that's wise?"

Keith was worried for Jason. The monks at the Order of the Yellow Rose tended to be a little on the fanatical side. Think of People Benedict, and then add in a bit of Saddam Hussein, with a dash of George W. Bush, multiply it by 100, and that's the monks of the Order of the Yellow Rose. It was the most respected Temple in the Empire. They could do no wrong. Until they got a new Defender of the Faith.

Jason had called them to task.