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THE **Lady** or
TIGER
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The Lady or the Tiger part I: the king

Long, long ago there lived a king. He lived far away, but not too far. His royal ideas were influenced by European neighbors who were more progressive in their ideas and behavior.



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Doar

para ajudar

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DOAR

CRÉDITO, DÉBITO,
BOLETO, DEPÓSITO



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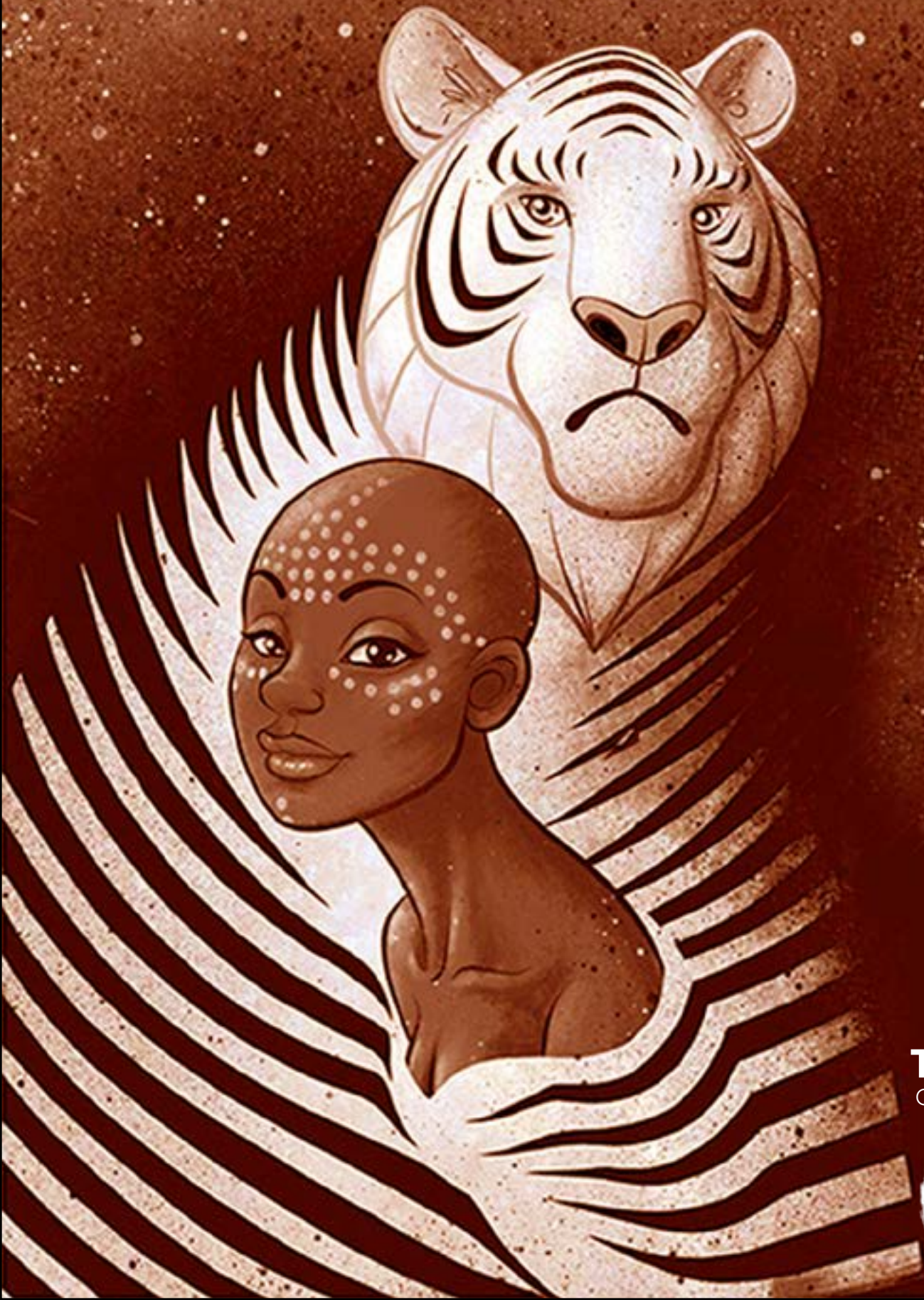
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Part I: The King



Part I:
The King
Online Reading



Long, long ago there lived a king. He lived far away, but not too far. His royal ideas were influenced by European neighbors who were more progressive in their ideas and behavior. So, compared to other kings of that time, the king in our story was only “semi-barbaric”.

Even so, he still had ideas that revealed his true barbaric side. He was an intelligent king, and he had a very active imagination. He was also a very decisive king, and as king he had the power to turn his imagination into reality. The moment the king decided something, he made that thing a law. When everyone around him acted correctly, he was a calm and agreeable king.

But if something went wrong, he became even calmer and more agreeable, because he was the happiest when he could use his authority to fix the problem. One of the ideas our semi-barbaric king took from his progressive neighbors was the idea of the public arena.

In other kingdoms, the public arena was a place where wild animals and gladiators fought to entertain the citizens. But our king did not build his arena for the people to watch courageous fighters or battles between man and beast. The king used his arena as a courtroom, a tribunal for citizens accused of crimes, where guilty criminals were punished and innocent citizens were rewarded by pure and impartial chance.

When a citizen was accused of a crime, the king made an announcement: on a day he decided, the accused citizen was brought to the tribunal in the king's arena in front of all the citizens of the city.

But how does the public arena represent the barbaric side of the king's nature, you ask? Well, on the day of the trial, after all the people arrive in the arena, and the king is sitting on his royal throne, he gives a signal. When the king gives his signal, a door below him on the floor of the arena opens, and the accused person walks out onto the sand of the amphitheater.

Directly opposite the accused person, on the other side of the arena, there are two doors, side-by-side. The doors are identical - in shape and design and color - you cannot tell the difference between one door and the other.

It is the responsibility of the person on trial to walk directly to these doors and open one of them. He can choose to open either door. No one guides him or influences him except impartial and incorruptible chance. Behind one of the identical doors is a tiger!

The strongest and cruelest tiger the king can find. When the accused person opens that door, the tiger jumps out and immediately catches him and rips him to pieces! This is the "punishment" for his guilt. The moment the case of the criminal is decided like this, melancholy bells ring in the city, and the large audience walks slowly home. The people are sad that a citizen so young and handsome, or so old and respected, is guilty and had to die.

But, if the accused person opens the other door, a beautiful woman comes out! The king chooses the most appropriate woman for the age and position of the person on trial. The man then immediately marries the woman, as a reward for his innocence. It does not matter if he already has a wife and family, or if he is already in love with a different person he chose himself.

The king does not care about that, and he does not allow any previous arrangements to interfere with his great idea of punishment and reward. This wedding takes place immediately in the center of the arena, in front of the king and all his citizens.

Another door opens below the king. A priest and many musicians and dancing girls come from the door. They approach the innocent man and the woman, and quickly and happily perform the wedding ceremony. Then bells of celebration ring in the city! The people shout with happiness, and the innocent man takes his new bride to his home.

This is how our semi-barbaric king administered justice. To him, it was perfectly fair. The criminal opened the door the criminal wanted. And he did not have any idea if he was going to be killed and eaten by a hungry tiger or married to a beautiful woman.

Sometimes the tiger came out of one door, and other times it came out of the other door. The decisions of these tribunals were not only fair, they were immediate and definite. The accused person was instantly punished if he found himself guilty, or he was rewarded on the spot if he found himself innocent, whether he liked it or not. The accused person could not escape the decisions of the king's arena.

The citizens liked these trials very much. When they came to the arena on trial days, they never knew if they were going to watch a horrible, bloody death or a wonderful, joyful wedding. This element of unpredictability made the occasion especially interesting. In this way, the king entertained his people and they were happy.

Even the citizens who had doubts about this kind of justice could not say that the trial was unfair - the accused person was able to make the decision for himself, wasn't he?

Part II: The Princess



Part II:
The Princess
Online Reading



Now, this semi-barbaric king had a daughter who was the most beautiful woman in the land. Just like her father, she was fierce and confident. The king was very proud of his daughter and loved her more than anyone else. She was the apple of his eye.

Among the citizens of the king there was a young man who was the most handsome in the land. But he was also very poor. The moment the princess noticed the young man, she fell madly and passionately in love with him. But it was an impossible romance - a poor common man could never marry the king's daughter! But the royal princess was satisfied with her lover, because he was braver than anyone else in all the kingdom.

She loved him with a passion that was so barbaric that their forbidden love was too strong to break. They continued their love affair for many months, until one day the king discovered them together.

He did not hesitate for one second: the king immediately threw the young man into prison! As was the custom of the king, he chose a day for the trial of his daughter's lover in the king's arena.

This, of course, was an especially important occasion, and his majesty the king, as well as all the people, was immensely interested in the development of this trial. There was never a case like this before. A common citizen of the king had never thought about loving the king's daughter. Many years later, this kind of situation became quite common, but at that time it was both new and surprising.

The king searched for the fiercest and most dangerous tiger to place in the arena. And the young unmarried women of the land were carefully examined for their beauty by competent judges so that the young man would have an appropriate bride.

Of course, everybody knew that the young man was guilty of the crime. He had loved the princess. He did not deny it. She did not deny it. The king knew it, and no one else thought about denying their love affair, either. But the king was not going to allow anything to interfere with the proper process of his court. It was the king's idea after all, and he was very proud and satisfied with his arena.

The final result did not matter. Either way, the young man's destiny would be decided - either he would be eaten or he would be married. His daughter's love affair would end and the man's innocence or guilt would be determined fairly.

The day of the trial finally arrived. From all over the kingdom the people came and filled the arena. There was not enough room for all the citizens, and many had to wait outside the arena in anticipation.

The king and his court were sitting in their places, looking at the two doors - so terrible in their similarity. Everything was ready. The king gave the signal. A door under the royal family opened, and the lover of the princess walked into the arena. The people in the crowded arena made noises of admiration and anxiety as the tall, handsome man appeared on the arena floor.

Many people in the audience thought that there was no other man more beautiful than this man. It was not a surprise that the princess loved him! What a terrible thing for him to be there!

Part III: The Arena



**Part III:
The Arena**
Online Reading





As the young man walked into the arena, he turned. He looked up towards the royal box and, following custom, bowed low. But he did not look at the king at all. His eyes were fixed on the princess, who sat to the right of her father.

She would not have been at the arena if she had not been half barbarian herself, but her intense and passionate soul obligated her to come and watch this terribly interesting trial. From the moment she knew her lover was going to be on trial in the arena, she could not think of anything else, day or night, except this great event and everything that was connected to it.

Since the princess had great power and influence, she had done what no other person had ever done - she discovered the secret of the doors. She knew which door was hiding the tiger and which door was hiding the lady.

Gold, and the power (or fear) of an influential woman, brought the secret to the princess. The princess not only discovered which door the lady was behind, but she also discovered who exactly the lady was! It was one of the most beautiful and most desirable ladies of her father's court; and the princess hated her.

The princess believed that she had seen, or imagined that she had seen, this beautiful lady looking with affection at her handsome lover. She was also convinced that she saw her lover return those looks of affection from the beautiful lady.

She had seen them talking together from time to time - only for a moment or two, but it is possible to say many things in a short period of time, thought the princess. They might have been talking about the most unimportant topics, but how could the princess know that?

The girl was lovely, but she had made the great mistake of looking at the love of the princess's life. And so, with all the intensity of the savage blood that she had in her from all of her distant barbaric ancestors, she hated the woman who waited behind that silent door.

When her lover turned and looked into her eyes, he knew instantly that she knew which door the hungry tiger was behind and which door concealed the beautiful lady. He was expecting her to know. He understood her nature and he knew that she would not be able to rest until she discovered this thing that no one knew, not even the king.

The young man's only hope was based on the success of the princess to discover the mystery. And the moment he looked at her, he knew that she was successful - in his soul he had always known that she would succeed.

In the exact instant when he looked in her eyes, his eyes asked the question: "Which?" His question was as clear to her as if he had shouted it from the floor of the arena where he was standing. The question was asked in a single moment - a blink of an eye, so the response must be answered as quickly. Her right arm was resting on the balcony wall in front of her.

She raised her hand and made a small, quick movement toward the right. No one but her lover saw her do this. Every eye was fixed on the man in the arena. He turned, and with a firm and rapid step, he walked across the empty space.

Every heart stopped beating, the people held their breath and every eye was fixed on that man without moving. Without any hesitation, he went to the door on the right, and opened it.

Now, the point of the story is this: Did the tiger come out of that door, or did the lady come out of that door? The more we reflect on this question, the harder it is to answer. It requires us to study the human heart, and in that study we must find our way out of the difficult labyrinth of passion.

Do not think of the question, dear reader, from your own perspective. Think of it from the perspective of that hot-blooded, semi-barbaric princess, her soul white with heat from the combined fires of despair and jealousy. She had lost him forever. That she knew. But who should have him?

How often do you think she woke up from her nightmares, covering her face with her hands thinking about her lover opening the door with the hungry tiger waiting behind it?

But then how often in her dreams did she see him at the other door? How do you think she screamed and pulled her hair out when she saw the happiness on his face when he opened the door that concealed the lady? Her soul was in torture when she imagined him running to meet that woman, with her red cheeks and shining eyes.

How do you think she felt when she imagined him holding the woman's hand, full of joy at his innocence? How do you think she felt when she heard the crowd yelling with happiness? How do you think she felt when she heard the ringing of the happy bells in the city; when she saw the priest, with his many dancing girls, walking towards the couple to make them man and wife right there in front of her?

How do you think she felt when she saw them walking away together to begin a new life of joy and contentment?

How do you think she felt when the many people in the arena shouted with joy and happiness, making her one cry of despair disappear in the sound of the crowd?

Would it be better for him to die quickly, and then wait for her in the comfort of some semi-barbaric heaven? But, wait, that awful tiger, his screams, all the blood! On that day in the arena, she signaled her decision to her lover in an instant, but it was made after many long days and nights without sleep. She knew she would be asked, she decided what she would answer, and, without any hesitation, she moved her hand to the right.

The question of her decision was obviously a very difficult one, and I am certainly not the person to tell you how to answer it. And so I leave it with you, dear reader: Which came out of the opened door - the lady, or the tiger?

The End



Contribua para ajudar

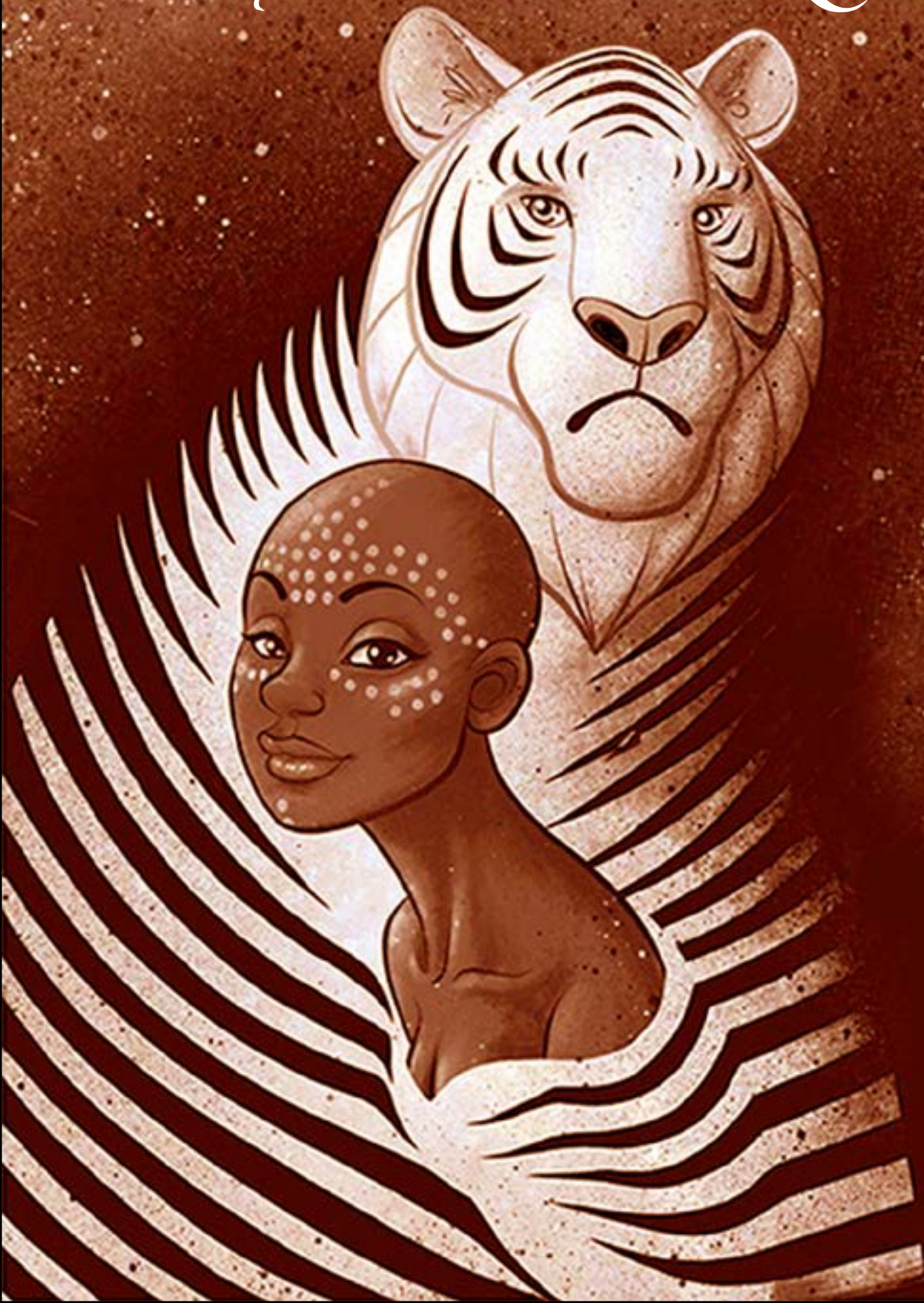
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CRÉDITO, DÉBITO,
BOLETO, DEPÓSITO

Part I: The King

Parte I: O Rei



Long, long ago there lived a king. He lived far away, but not too far.

Há muito, muito tempo atrás vivia um rei. Ele morava longe, mas não muito longe.

His royal ideas were influenced by European neighbors who were more progressive in their ideas and behavior.

Suas ideias reais foram influenciadas por vizinhos europeus que eram mais progressistas em suas ideias e comportamento.

So, compared to other kings of that time, the king in our story was only "semi-barbaric".

Então, comparado a outros reis da época, o rei da nossa história era apenas "semi-bárbaro".

Even so, he still had ideas that revealed his true barbaric side.

Mesmo assim, ele ainda tinha ideias que revelavam seu lado bárbaro verdadeiro.

He was an intelligent king, and he had a very active imagination.

Ele era um rei inteligente e tinha uma imaginação muito ativa.

He was also a very decisive king, and as king he had the power to turn his imagination into reality.

Ele também era um rei muito decisivo e, como rei, tinha o poder de transformar sua imaginação em realidade.

The moment the king decided something, he made that thing a law.

No momento em que o rei decidia algo, ele fazia daquela coisa uma lei.

When everyone around him acted correctly, he was a calm and agreeable king.

Quando todos ao seu redor agiam corretamente, ele era um rei calmo e agradável.

But if something went wrong, he became even calmer and more agreeable, because he was the happiest when he could use his authority to fix the problem.

Mas se algo desse errado, ele ficava ainda mais calmo e agradável, porque ficava mais feliz quando podia usar sua autoridade para resolver o problema.

One of the ideas our semi-barbaric king took from his progressive neighbors was the idea of the public arena.

Uma das ideias que nosso rei semi-bárbaro tirou de seus vizinhos progressistas foi a ideia da arena pública.

In other kingdoms, the public arena was a place where wild animals and gladiators fought to entertain the citizens.

Em outros reinos, a arena pública era um lugar onde animais selvagens e gladiadores lutavam para entreter os cidadãos.

But our king did not build his arena for the people to watch courageous fighters or battles between man and beast.

Mas nosso rei não construiu sua arena para o povo assistir a lutadores corajosos ou batalhas entre homem e animal.

The king used his arena as a courtroom, a tribunal for citizens accused of crimes, where guilty criminals were punished and innocent citizens were rewarded by pure and impartial chance.

O rei usava sua arena como um tribunal, um tribunal para cidadãos acusados de crimes, onde criminosos culpados eram punidos e cidadãos inocentes eram recompensados pelo puro e imparcial acaso.

When a citizen was accused of a crime, the king made an announcement:

Quando um cidadão foi acusado de um crime, o rei fez um anúncio:

on a day he decided, the accused citizen was brought to the tribunal in the king's arena in front of all the citizens of the city.

em um dia que ele decidiu, o cidadão acusado foi levado ao tribunal na arena do rei na frente de todos os cidadãos da cidade.

But how does the public arena represent the barbaric side of the king's nature, you ask?

Mas como a arena pública representa o lado bárbaro da natureza do rei, você pergunta?

Well, on the day of the trial, after all the people arrive in the arena, and the king is sitting on his royal throne, he gives a signal.

Bem, no dia do julgamento, depois que todas as pessoas chegam na arena, e o rei está sentado em seu trono real, ele dá um sinal.

When the king gives his signal, a door below him on the floor of the arena opens, and the accused person walks out onto the sand of the amphitheater.

Quando o rei dá seu sinal, uma porta abaixo dele no chão da arena se abre e o acusado sai para a areia do anfiteatro.

Directly opposite the accused person, on the other side of the arena, there are two doors, side-by-side.

Em frente ao acusado, do outro lado da arena, há duas portas, lado a lado.

The doors are identical - in shape and design and color - you cannot tell the difference between one door and the other.

As portas são idênticas - em forma, design e cor - você não pode dizer a diferença entre uma porta e outra.

It is the responsibility of the person on trial to walk directly to these doors and open one of them.

É responsabilidade da pessoa em julgamento caminhar diretamente para essas portas e abrir uma delas.

He can choose to open either door.

Ele pode escolher abrir qualquer uma das portas.

No one guides him or influences him except impartial and incorruptible chance.

Ninguém o guia ou influencia, exceto o acaso imparcial e incorruptível.

Behind one of the identical doors is a tiger! The strongest and cruelest tiger the king can find.

Atrás de uma das portas idênticas está um tigre! O tigre mais forte e cruel que o rei pode encontrar.

When the accused person opens that door, the tiger jumps out and immediately catches him and rips him to pieces!

Quando o acusado abre aquela porta, o tigre salta e imediatamente o pega e o rasga em pedaços!

This is the "punishment" for his guilt.

Este é o "castigo" por sua culpa.

The moment the case of the criminal is decided like this, melancholy bells ring in the city, and the large audience walks slowly home.

No momento em que o caso do criminoso é decidido assim, os sinos melancólicos tocam na cidade, e a grande platéia caminha lentamente para casa.

The people are sad that a citizen so young and handsome, or so old and respected, is guilty and had to die.

As pessoas estão tristes que um cidadão tão jovem e bonito, ou tão velho e respeitado, seja culpado e tenha que morrer.

But, if the accused person opens the other door, a beautiful woman comes out!

Mas, se o acusado abrir a outra porta, sai uma linda mulher!

The king chooses the most appropriate woman for the age and position of the person on trial.

O rei escolhe a mulher mais apropriada para a idade e posição da pessoa em julgamento.

The man then immediately marries the woman, as a reward for his innocence.

O homem então se casa imediatamente com a mulher, como recompensa por sua inocência.

It does not matter if he already has a wife and family, or if he is already in love with a different person he chose himself.

Não importa se ele já tem esposa e família, ou se já está apaixonado por outra pessoa que ele mesmo escolheu.

The king does not care about that, and he does not allow any previous arrangements to interfere with his great idea of punishment and reward.

O rei não se importa com isso e não permite que nenhum arranjo anterior interfira em sua grande ideia de punição e recompensa.

This wedding takes place immediately in the center of the arena, in front of the king and all his citizens.

Este casamento ocorre imediatamente no centro da arena, na frente do rei e de todos os seus cidadãos.

Another door opens below the king.

Outra porta se abre abaixo do rei.

A priest and many musicians and dancing girls come from the door.

Um sacerdote e muitos músicos e dançarinas vêm da porta.

They approach the innocent man and the woman, and quickly and happily perform the wedding ceremony.

Eles se aproximam do homem inocente e da mulher e realizam a cerimônia de casamento rápida e alegremente.

Then bells of celebration ring in the city!

Então os sinos de celebração tocam na cidade!

The people shout with happiness, and the innocent man takes his new bride to his home.

O povo grita de felicidade, e o inocente leva sua nova noiva para sua casa.

This is how our semi-barbaric king administered justice.

É assim que nosso rei semi-bárbaro administrava a justiça.

To him, it was perfectly fair.

Para ele, era perfeitamente justo.

The criminal opened the door the criminal wanted.

O criminoso abriu a porta que o criminoso queria.

And he did not have any idea if he was going to be killed and eaten by a hungry tiger or married to a beautiful woman.

E ele não fazia ideia se seria morto e comido por um tigre faminto ou casado com uma bela mulher.

Sometimes the tiger came out of one door, and other times it came out of the other door.

Às vezes o tigre saía por uma porta, e outras vezes saía pela outra porta.

The decisions of these tribunals were not only fair, they were immediate and definite.

As decisões desses tribunais não eram apenas justas, eram imediatas e definitivas.

The accused person was instantly punished if he found himself guilty, or he was rewarded on the spot if he found himself innocent, whether he liked it or not.

O acusado era punido instantaneamente se ele se considerasse culpado, ou era recompensado na hora se ele se considerasse inocente, gostasse ou não.

The accused person could not escape the decisions of the king's arena.

O acusado não poderia escapar das decisões da arena do rei.

The citizens liked these trials very much.

Os cidadãos gostaram muito desses testes.

When they came to the arena on trial days, they never knew if they were going to watch a horrible, bloody death or a wonderful, joyful wedding.

Quando eles vinham para a arena nos dias de julgamento, eles nunca sabiam se iriam assistir a uma morte horrível e sangrenta ou a um casamento maravilhoso e alegre.

This element of unpredictability made the occasion especially interesting.

Esse elemento de imprevisibilidade tornou a ocasião especialmente interessante.

In this way, the king entertained his people and they were happy.

Desta forma, o rei entreteve seu povo e eles ficaram felizes.

Even the citizens who had doubts about this kind of justice could not say that the trial was unfair - the accused person was able to make the decision for himself, wasn't he?

Mesmo os cidadãos que tinham dúvidas sobre esse tipo de justiça não podiam dizer que o julgamento foi injusto - o acusado foi capaz de tomar a decisão por si mesmo, não foi?

Part II: The Princess
Parte II: A Princesa



Now, this semi-barbaric king had a daughter who was the most beautiful woman in the land. Just like her father, she was fierce and confident.

Agora, este rei semi-bárbaro tinha uma filha que era a mulher mais bonita da terra. Assim como seu pai, ela era feroz e confiante.

The king was very proud of his daughter and loved her more than anyone else. She was the apple of his eye.

O rei estava muito orgulhoso de sua filha e a amava mais do que qualquer outra pessoa. Ela era a menina dos olhos dele.

Among the citizens of the king there was a young man who was the most handsome in the land.

Entre os cidadãos do rei havia um jovem que era o mais bonito da terra.

But he was also very poor.

Mas ele também era muito pobre.

The moment the princess noticed the young man, she fell madly and passionately in love with him.

No momento em que a princesa notou o jovem, ela se apaixonou loucamente e apaixonadamente por ele.

But it was an impossible romance - a poor common man could never marry the king's daughter!

Mas era um romance impossível - um pobre homem comum nunca poderia se casar com a filha do rei!

But the royal princess was satisfied with her lover, because he was braver than anyone else in all the kingdom.

Mas a princesa real estava satisfeita com seu amante, porque ele era mais corajoso do que qualquer outra pessoa em todo o reino.

She loved him with a passion that was so barbaric that their forbidden love was too strong to break.

Ela o amava com uma paixão tão bárbara que seu amor proibido era forte demais para quebrar.

They continued their love affair for many months, until one day the king discovered them together.

Eles continuaram seu caso de amor por muitos meses, até que um dia o rei os descobriu juntos.

He did not hesitate for one second: the king immediately threw the young man into prison!

Ele não hesitou um segundo: o rei imediatamente jogou o jovem na prisão!

As was the custom of the king, he chose a day for the trial of his daughter's lover in the king's arena.

Como era costume do rei, ele escolheu um dia para o julgamento do amante de sua filha na arena do rei.

This, of course, was an especially important occasion, and his majesty the king, as well as all the people, was immensely interested in the development of this trial.

Esta, é claro, foi uma ocasião especialmente importante, e sua majestade o rei, assim como todo o povo, estava imensamente interessado no desenvolvimento deste julgamento.

There was never a case like this before.

Nunca houve um caso como este antes.

A common citizen of the king had never thought about loving the king's daughter.

Um cidadão comum do rei nunca pensou em amar a filha do rei.

Many years later, this kind of situation became quite common, but at that time it was both new and surprising.

Muitos anos depois, esse tipo de situação se tornou bastante comum, mas naquela época era novo e surpreendente.

The king searched for the fiercest and most dangerous tiger to place in the arena.

O rei procurou o tigre mais feroz e perigoso para colocar na arena.

And the young unmarried women of the land were carefully examined for their beauty by competent judges so that the young man would have an appropriate bride.

E as jovens solteiras da terra foram cuidadosamente examinadas por sua beleza por juízes competentes para que o jovem tivesse uma noiva apropriada.

Of course, everybody knew that the young man was guilty of the crime. He had loved the princess.

Claro, todos sabiam que o jovem era culpado do crime. Ele tinha amado a princesa.

He did not deny it. She did not deny it. The king knew it, and no one else thought about denying their love affair, either.

Ele não negou. Ela não negou. O rei sabia disso, e ninguém mais pensou em negar seu caso de amor também.

But the king was not going to allow anything to interfere with the proper process of his court.

Mas o rei não permitiria que nada interferisse no processo adequado de sua corte.

It was the king's idea after all, and he was very proud and satisfied with his arena.

Afinal, foi ideia do rei, e ele estava muito orgulhoso e satisfeito com sua arena.

The final result did not matter.

O resultado final não importava.

Either way, the young man's destiny would be decided - either he would be eaten or he would be married.

De qualquer forma, o destino do jovem seria decidido - ou ele seria comido ou ele se casaria.

His daughter's love affair would end and the man's innocence or guilt would be determined fairly.

O caso de amor de sua filha terminaria e a inocência ou culpa do homem seria determinada de forma justa.

The day of the trial finally arrived.

O dia do julgamento finalmente chegou.

From all over the kingdom the people came and filled the arena.

De todo o reino as pessoas vieram e encheram a arena.

There was not enough room for all the citizens, and many had to wait outside the arena in anticipation.

Não havia espaço suficiente para todos os cidadãos, e muitos tiveram que esperar do lado de fora da arena em antecipação.

The king and his court were sitting in their places, looking at the two doors - so terrible in their similarity.

O rei e sua corte estavam sentados em seus lugares, olhando para as duas portas - tão terríveis em sua semelhança.

Everything was ready. The king gave the signal.

Tudo estava pronto. O rei deu o sinal.

A door under the royal family opened, and the lover of the princess walked into the arena.

Uma porta sob a família real se abriu e o amante da princesa entrou na arena.

The people in the crowded arena made noises of admiration and anxiety as the tall, handsome man appeared on the arena floor.

As pessoas na arena lotada fizeram barulhos de admiração e ansiedade quando o homem alto e bonito apareceu no chão da arena.

Many people in the audience thought that there was no other man more beautiful than this man.

Muitas pessoas na platéia pensavam que não havia outro homem mais bonito do que este homem.

**It was not a surprise that the princess loved him!
What a terrible thing for him to be there!**

Não foi surpresa que a princesa o amasse! Que coisa terrível para ele estar lá!

Part III: The Arena

Parte III: A Arena



As the young man walked into the arena, he turned. He looked up towards the royal box and, following custom, bowed low.

Quando o jovem entrou na arena, ele se virou. Ele olhou para o camarote real e, seguindo o costume, se encurvou.

But he did not look at the king at all.

Mas ele nem olhou para o rei.

His eyes were fixed on the princess, who sat to the right of her father.

Seus olhos estavam fixos na princesa, que estava sentada à direita de seu pai.

She would not have been at the arena if she had not been half barbarian herself, but her intense and passionate soul obligated her to come and watch this terribly interesting trial.

Ela não estaria na arena se não fosse meio bárbara, mas sua alma intensa e apaixonada a obrigou a vir assistir a este julgamento terrivelmente interessante.

From the moment she knew her lover was going to be on trial in the arena, she could not think of anything else, day or night, except this great event and everything that was connected to it.

A partir do momento em que soube que seu amante seria julgado na arena, ela não conseguia pensar em mais nada, dia ou noite, exceto este grande evento e tudo o que estava relacionado a ele.

Since the princess had great power and influence, she had done what no other person had ever done - she discovered the secret of the doors.

Como a princesa tinha grande poder e influência, ela havia feito o que nenhuma outra pessoa jamais havia feito - ela descobriu o segredo das portas.

She knew which door was hiding the tiger and which door was hiding the lady.

Ela sabia qual porta estava escondendo o tigre e qual porta estava escondendo a dama.

Gold, and the power (or fear) of an influential woman, brought the secret to the princess.

O ouro, e o poder (ou medo) de uma mulher influente trouxeram o segredo à princesa.

The princess not only discovered which door the lady was behind, but she also discovered who exactly the lady was!

A princesa não apenas descobriu em qual porta a dama estava, mas também descobriu quem exatamente era a dama!

It was one of the most beautiful and most desirable ladies of her father's court; and the princess hated her.

Era uma das damas mais belas e desejadas da corte do seu pai; e a princesa a odiava.

The princess believed that she had seen, or imagined that she had seen, this beautiful lady looking with affection at her handsome lover.

A princesa acreditou ter visto, ou imaginado ter visto, esta bela dama olhando com carinho para seu belo amante.

She was also convinced that she saw her lover return those looks of affection from the beautiful lady.

Ela também estava convencida de que viu seu amante retribuir aqueles olhares de carinho da bela dama.

She had seen them talking together from time to time - only for a moment or two, but it is possible to say many things in a short period of time, thought the princess.

Ela os tinha visto conversando de vez em quando - apenas por um momento ou dois, mas é possível dizer muitas coisas em um curto período de tempo, pensou a princesa.

They might have been talking about the most unimportant topics, but how could the princess know that?

Eles podiam estar falando sobre os assuntos mais sem importância, mas como a princesa poderia saber disso?

The girl was lovely, but she had made the great mistake of looking at the love of the princess's life.

A menina era adorável, mas ela tinha cometido o grande erro de olhar para o amor da vida da princesa.

And so, with all the intensity of the savage blood that she had in her from all of her distant barbaric ancestors, she hated the woman who waited behind that silent door.

E assim, com toda a intensidade do sangue selvagem que ela tinha de todos os seus ancestrais bárbaros distantes, ela odiava a mulher que esperava atrás daquela porta silenciosa.

When her lover turned and looked into her eyes, he knew instantly that she knew which door the hungry tiger was behind and which door concealed the beautiful lady.

Quando seu amante se virou e olhou em seus olhos, ele soube imediatamente que ela sabia de qual porta o tigre faminto estava atrás e qual porta escondia a bela dama.

He was expecting her to know.

Ele esperava que ela soubesse.

He understood her nature and he knew that she would not be able to rest until she discovered this thing that no one knew, not even the king.

Ele compreendia sua natureza e sabia que ela não poderia descansar até que descobrisse essa coisa que ninguém sabia, nem mesmo o rei.

The young man's only hope was based on the success of the princess to discover the mystery.

A única esperança do jovem estava baseada no sucesso da princesa em descobrir o mistério.

And the moment he looked at her, he knew that she was successful - in his soul he had always known that she would succeed.

E no momento em que ele olhou para ela, ele soube que ela era bem sucedida - em sua alma ele sempre soube que ela seria bem sucedida.

In the exact instant when he looked in her eyes, his eyes asked the question: "Which?"

No exato instante em que ele olhou nos olhos dela, seus olhos fizeram a pergunta: "Qual?"

His question was as clear to her as if he had shouted it from the floor of the arena where he was standing.

A pergunta dele foi tão clara para ela como se ele a tivesse gritado do chão da arena onde estava.

The question was asked in a single moment - a blink of an eye, so the response must be answered as quickly.

A pergunta foi feita em um único momento - um piscar de olhos, então a resposta deve ser respondida o mais rápido possível.

Her right arm was resting on the balcony wall in front of her. She raised her hand and made a small, quick movement toward the right.

Seu braço direito estava apoiado na parede da varanda à sua frente. Ela levantou a mão e fez um movimento pequeno e rápido para a direita.

No one but her lover saw her do this.

Ninguém além de seu amante a viu fazer isso.

Every eye was fixed on the man in the arena.

Todos os olhos estavam fixos no homem na arena.

He turned, and with a firm and rapid step, he walked across the empty space.

Ele se virou, e com passo firme e rápido, atravessou o espaço vazio.

Every heart stopped beating, the people held their breath and every eye was fixed on that man without moving.

Todos os corações pararam de bater, as pessoas prendiam a respiração e todos os olhos estavam fixos naquele homem sem se mover.

Without any hesitation, he went to the door on the right, and opened it.

Sem qualquer hesitação, ele foi até a porta da direita e a abriu.

Now, the point of the story is this: Did the tiger come out of that door, or did the lady come out of that door?

Agora, o ponto da história é este: o tigre saiu por aquela porta, ou a dama saiu por aquela porta?

The more we reflect on this question, the harder it is to answer.

Quanto mais refletimos sobre essa questão, mais difícil é responder.

It requires us to study the human heart, and in that study we must find our way out of the difficult labyrinth of passion.

Exige que estudemos o coração humano, e nesse estudo devemos encontrar o caminho para sair do difícil labirinto da paixão.

Do not think of the question, dear reader, from your own perspective.

Não pense na questão, caro leitor, de sua própria perspectiva.

Think of it from the perspective of that hot-blooded, semi-barbaric princess, her soul white with heat from the combined fires of despair and jealousy.

Pense nisso da perspectiva daquela princesa semi-bárbara e de sangue quente, sua alma branca com o calor dos fogos combinados de desespero e ciúme.

She had lost him forever. That she knew.

Ela o havia perdido para sempre. Isso ela sabia.

But who should have him?

Mas quem devia tê-lo?

How often do you think she woke up from her nightmares, covering her face with her hands thinking about her lover opening the door with the hungry tiger waiting behind it?

Quantas vezes você acha que ela acordou de seus pesadelos, cobrindo o rosto com as mãos pensando em seu amante abrindo a porta com o tigre faminto esperando atrás dela?

But then how often in her dreams did she see him at the other door?

Mas então quantas vezes em seus sonhos ela o via na outra porta?

How do you think she screamed and pulled her hair out when she saw the happiness on his face when he opened the door that concealed the lady?

Como você acha que ela gritava e puxava os cabelos quando viu a felicidade no rosto dele ao abrir a porta que escondia a dama?

Her soul was in torture when she imagined him running to meet that woman, with her red cheeks and shining eyes.

Sua alma estava em tortura quando ela o imaginou correndo ao encontro daquela mulher, com suas bochechas vermelhas e olhos brilhantes.

How do you think she felt when she imagined him holding the woman's hand, full of joy at his innocence?

Como você acha que ela se sentiu quando o imaginou segurando a mão da mulher, cheio de alegria por sua inocência?

How do you think she felt when she heard the crowd yelling with happiness?

Como você acha que ela se sentiu quando ouviu a multidão gritando de felicidade?

How do you think she felt when she heard the ringing of the happy bells in the city;

Como você acha que ela se sentiu quando ouviu o toque dos sinos felizes na cidade;

when she saw the priest, with his many dancing girls, walking towards the couple to make them man and wife right there in front of her?

quando ela viu o padre, com suas muitas dançarinas, caminhando em direção ao casal para torná-los marido e mulher bem ali na frente dela?

How do you think she felt when she saw them walking away together to begin a new life of joy and contentment?

Como você acha que ela se sentiu quando os viu indo embora juntos para começar uma nova vida de alegria e contentamento?

How do you think she felt when the many people in the arena shouted with joy and happiness, making her one cry of despair disappear in the sound of the crowd?

Como você acha que ela se sentiu quando as muitas pessoas na arena gritaram de alegria e felicidade, fazendo com que seu grito de desespero desaparecesse no som da multidão?

Would it be better for him to die quickly, and then wait for her in the comfort of some semi-barbaric heaven?

Seria melhor para ele morrer rapidamente, e depois esperar por ela no conforto de algum paraíso semi-bárbaro?

But, wait, that awful tiger, his screams, all the blood!

Mas, espere, aquele tigre horrível, seus gritos, quanto sangue!

On that day in the arena, she signaled her decision to her lover in an instant, but it was made after many long days and nights without sleep.

Naquele dia na arena, ela sinalizou sua decisão para seu amante em um instante, mas foi tomada depois de muitos longos dias e noites sem dormir.

She knew she would be asked, she decided what she would answer, and, without any hesitation, she moved her hand to the right.

Ela sabia que seria perguntada, decidiu o que responderia e, sem hesitar, moveu a mão para a direita.

The question of her decision was obviously a very difficult one, and I am certainly not the person to tell you how to answer it.

A questão de sua decisão foi obviamente muito difícil, e eu certamente não sou a pessoa certa para lhe dizer como responder.

And so I leave it with you, dear reader: Which came out of the opened door - the lady, or the tiger?

E então deixo com você, caro leitor: O que saiu pela porta aberta - a dama ou o tigre?



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para ajudar

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