

Bird man

Hated Foes

Mingo Drum Vercingetorix turned his back on the War Lord and walked away; Strath Tzu felt the insult,

“You are my prisoner Mingo,” wishing he had walked away first so was been reduced to say what he had.

“Crazy old man,” the reply spat back from a crazy outdated chicken outfit.

War Lord Tzu Strath was not amused and strode after him grabbing Mingo’s left elbow firmly. Why Mingo jumped around to face his hated enemy, *the scar coming to life*.

Now Tzu Strath wondered what Boudicca saw him, he knew prisoners could come to love their captors who fed them.

“You ruined my daughter’s life,” Tzu for he didn’t really know what else to say. It was hard for both men to break the mold of trying to kill each other, what else would they do?

Love each other!

And Boudicca had told him much about the hidden advanced Bird man culture and Tzu was smart enough to know that was a real threat to the imperial colonies on Tara 6; Bird men must become an endangered species.

Mingo was a dinosaur, so also his birds.

1. But looking into the contorted angry face of Mingo he saw a savage beast and preferred to believe that as such had no culture.

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2 Mingo had filled his daughter with wine and a rape drug to mate her.

Bird men were not even considered aliens who could hold imperial citizenship.

He knew all about Hart Woo and had questioned Hamon Ma about sexual contact with Mingo.

The boy had denied all, but Tzu Strath had his suspicions; Bird men were perverts, he knew all about them. Mingo was not a man, a beast that it was said lay with the ape Little Drum.

Mingo had soiled Boudicca.

So Mingo saw in Tzu Strath's eye the same treachery that had been bred into Boudicca, the human woman who had reached his soul?

His heart and broken it.

Mingo twisted free from the War Lord's hand.

He who now waved his escort forward to kill the beast king.

The fragile peace between Bird people and humans was about to be broken.

Anyway Mingo drew his sword and Tzu copied drawing his laser blade Bright Light, the same one that gave Mingo his scar.

The air hissed and smelt of burning iron.

Mingo saw the escort come and he did two things, attacked Tzu vigorously, cutting deep into the humans left wrist as Tzu's gamy leg failed, and then dropped spreading his wings to escape in flight.

And so dropped his beloved sword, Law.

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To be fair he could have killed Tzu in the man's moment of weakness but hadn't, Mingo had come to kill others.

And Tzu Strath knew it as he looked into those yellow eagle like eyes and hated Mingo for the pity.

Mingo had counted coup.

"For Verica's sake," he shouted at Tzu meaning he did not want his son hating him for killing his grand father.

It bit deep into Tzu's soul, he felt he owed his enemy his life, he did, but he wasn't admitting that.

And as Mingo flew he was silhouetted against the sky and became an easy target for the escort's human laser below.

"I don't want him dead, find him," Tzu ordered as most of his men went in pursuit of a now wobbling figure in the sky, and was obvious Mingo had been hit.

"For Arthur's sake," and knew Mingo hadn't heard him.

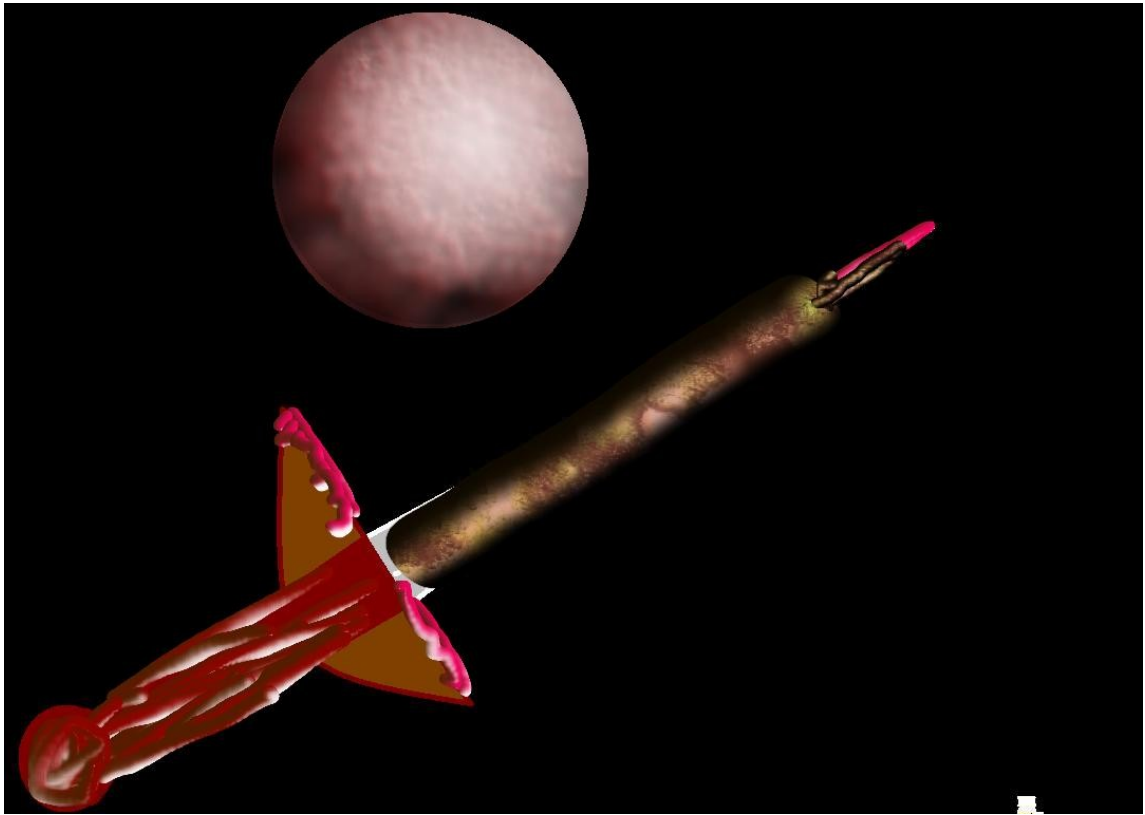
Then picked up Law and counted coup.

And Mingo drifted down a wet wadi for the rains had come. The sudden increase in height from the wadi saved him hitting the ground, gave him more speed and he was away airborne.

His brain roared with pain from the laser wound, his vision blurred, and flight erratic, the torn membranes in his wings began to rip.

Below him a torrent of water waiting to engulf him.

Bird man

*Illustration 64: Law*

Forty, sixty, seventy, a hundred, a hundred and thirty miles per hour the Bird man king raced.

It took him all his last will to avoid crashing into the sides of the widening cliffs. At times his exposed lower parts raked the top of bushes so he shrieked..

He lost his perception of time.

He lost his bird skill at navigating.

He was following the River of Skulls.

“I will hand Law back to you personally; with your own sword I will kill you Mingo Drum Vercingetorix. I will drive it deep into the soft flesh of your belly,” Tzu swore as medics attended his wrist that really hurt.

Bird man

And some of the soldiers were happy, Law made up for Mingo's coup. Now they could have their honour returned to them for failing to protect their beloved War Lord.

For what Tzu just said they had expected their leader to say, Mingo after all was only a dirty Bird man, a king fit to be nailed to a tree.

And some were not happy for Boudicca had done much to dispel the myths of IGNORANT SAVAGE surrounding the Bird men. They saw Mingo as part of another culture facing extinction and wished for a better understanding between the races.

BIRD LOVERS.

And Tzu Strath knew peace and understanding couldn't be achieved between the races. Perhaps he didn't want it to change, what is a War Lord when there is peace?

He and Mingo knew their worlds were ending, whoever went first would be blessed so as not to sit about doing nothing but living in memories and playing chess.

Knew his grandson was Arthur, not the other Verica his name from his bird father. Arthur was not a Bird man, he must be a human. Arthur must be to humanize the Bird people.

And thanks to the writings of Vern Lukas the boy was already a legend, bringer of a golden age; men had something to look forward too.

Arthur would be an emperor one day of the largest empire known. Verica had too die; a Bird man would never be accepted as emperor.

Therefore Mingo Drum Vercingetorix had too die.

Bird man

And when little Arthur was ready to take the reins of leadership,
Tzu Strath would fade away and join the dust of Mingo Drum
Vercingetorix.”

I created the legend of Little
Arthur and the golden age.
Vern Lukas, (Lorn Lukas)