

Mungo

Leah

And his mother forgot Mungo was man thing and was glad he wanted a lion bride but afraid he had chosen Sasha, King Red Hide's daughter which meant trouble.

For there was a saying, "Don't go looking for trouble and trouble won't come knocking at your door."

"I have brought you a hare and a rose," Mungo at a water hole offering the white bitch Sasha both and she was pleasing in his eyes with gold cups and slit ruby satin kilt and flowers in her combed flowing blond mane and she played with a scent bottle, taken from a Fermanian unfortunate woman, unfortunate as she ended her life in a belly.

And Sasha had put blue powder on her eyes lashes.

And in her lair Fermanian chests of silks and gems, presents from Red Hide a dotting father.

"The meat I will eat but the flower what do I do with it?" Sasha accepting the hare while crumpling the small rose for she had gone the way of a lioness and been with four lions that day so was not in the mood for Mungo romantically.

And Sasha made fun of Moragana the ape woman thing "Mungo's girlfriend?"

"I am Mungo and don't need to fight over something I love but do you love me?" He asked, "I will go away and find my own kind for you toy with me always and that is cruel."

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Now carelessly Sasha responded, “Think I care?” And she felt fear in her heart in case he did leave for good.

“All you want is me to comb your fur,” and Mungo combed and she purred lying in a provocative fashion for she wanted attention for the female had awoken in her..

And she wanted Mungo to comb her body but he did something new, he massaged her instead and she wondered where a man thing got the wisdom to think up such delights?

But at that moment a young black lion roared a challenge and Sasha became annoyed that Mungo had stopped what he was doing and was roaring back.

Then two more lions appeared both wanting to go away with Sasha in the fashion of lion culture.

“Will you fight them all for me?”

“Yes,” Mungo and attacked and knew he was being foolhardy as too fight one lion was dangerous but three was looking for trouble.

Now what Mungo promised now he told The Elder later who then had great trouble carving a promise as hieroglyphic drawing?

Mungo’s promise: *“Too you, who have no name that makes me dance, make me strong and I will obey. As a sign between you and me I will not cut my hair.”*

So Mungo filled with strength from an inner glow and beside him a dinosaur bone and he picked it up.

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“Leave Mungo with me for he soothes me,” Sasha told the lions who were trying their best to maul Mungo and themselves; to the victor the spoils.

As she was ignored she left saying, “You bore me,” and the lions seeing her depart had nothing to fight over.

And Mungo took to the trees and followed Sasha leaving the others to quarrel over something new to see who was the mightiest amongst them.

And Mungo caught Sasha up and she pitied him seeing claw slashes dripping blood so licked them clean and Mungo lusted.

And something inside him had changed when the inner light had made him strong, “Way a ha, what am I doing, I am a man,” he cried and looked at her and no longer saw her desirable but as lion creature akin to a were creature, but worse for Sasha’s mind was well developed so as a hideous monster.

“Run Mungo run,” A mazarrat sang and pretty soon all these talkative creatures were singing this advice.

And Mungo ran away from Sasha knowing she was different and, “for her I would have killed those lions and that would have been wrong.”

“Mungo now knows different,” those arboreal scribes sang at once from rhododendron trees.

“Man thing if you ever want to be king of the lions you must prove yourself a great giver of cubs,” Sasha called out to Mungo for she was following, “and I know you must kill my father in battle and make a broth out of him and drink from it to get his

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strength. And since I will be your first wife you must provide me with lesser wives to be my servants.”

“She is right; I want to be king of the lions for I want things in life. I have I have,” but there was no word in lion talk for ambition, so said, “Good things,” which to lions was harem, cubs and good hunting.

And Mungo went back to Sasha and lay with her and gave her life through shuttle genes.

“Moragana was no competition, she was ape harlot and now Fermanian whore,” mazarrats sang.

“Flowers are for man thing women,” and Mungo wheeled recognising the voice of Red Hide and saw two companions circling him and Sasha.

So Mungo picked up his bronze spear and faced Red Hide who climbed a Rhododendron tree.

And then next Mungo knew was the brown companion of Red Hide had dropped on top of him.

But Mungo pushed up with spear through the flesh that joins leg to body and twisted.

And Red Hide made the mistake of jumping at Mungo instead of just biting and Mungo stabbed his pink nose and Red Hide howled away to the water. Then a claw raked Mungo’s bottom and he turned to stab a brown companion in its right eye.

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“Ya ya help,” Red Hide called from the water as he fought a crocodile and the last companion went to his aid.

Of Mungo the brown companion ran with his spear till exhaustion claimed. As for Sasha the three other lions who had fought Mungo gave her gold amulets taken from Fermanian women they had eaten and Sasha who thought of Mungo wished him back with lots of gold for her, to fight off these three lions and then comb and massage her limbs.

And Red Hide, “I will never call her daughter for she has brought the Wild One to me and death.”

But he was a dotting father?

“Mungo has blinded and killed for a woman,” a mazarrat sang shrilly and The Elder said, “What do I do with that cub?”

And at once logic entered him, “He is man,” and The Elder knew man never obeyed nature’s laws. You could get apes like Moragana obeying as the songs said she danced in frilly pinks on tables for if she wouldn’t she was prodded with lizards’ swords: and would dance without the prodding for she had been born that way and had her own path to follow.

“She has little choice,” The Elder rubbing his greying beard, and that is the difference between man and beast, choice.”

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Illustration 3: A singing mazarrat, the gossips of the planet.

And a wind blew and the mazarrat shivered and saw, sniffed, felt and was touched by unseen hands and knew that all are born with many doors to open, all predetermined, all different choices so we do indeed have choice through a door..

Now as Mungo slept exhausted he dreamed blackness and himself speaking, “I want a female to call my own, not Sasha for she is lion, a female like me, man thing but woman thing with bosoms to touch and the other bit to give me real man thing cubs.

Playing with that ape Moragana taught me something as she looks like me a lot, that it was wrong at this time in the Oneness to play with others that are not like me.

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Sasha I love dearly but will push that love behind me for Sasha flirts with any powerful lion who lets his mane out like a kite in the wind.

Especially if the lion has lizard meat and gold for her.

And how will I know the cubs are mine? Am I too stay there all day combing her spying on her?"

Then light entered darkness as a still voice, "I will give you what you want."

And Mungo awoke not to find his mother helping him but a girl with a hunchback covered in scales.

"Lie still slave," the lizard commanded but Mungo didn't understand as he was too interested at looking at the girl.

Can I own him please, I don't have a slave, please?" The girl pleaded and she was flattered Mungo stared for it made her conscious of her beauty.

And Mungo found he was tied by reed ropes and his left sole hurt as it burned.

"Your name is already on his foot," the hunch back answered and the girl smiled and offered Mungo a grub which he refused but instead sniffed her lion fashion filling himself with her scent and she laughed.

"Humans don't know what's good for them," the hunchback sitting back admiring his work eating the offered grub after taking the fancy wrapping paper off.

"You better get used to it, full of protein and fresh from a grub farm," and he reached into a pouch and stuck one in Mungo's mouth and laughed when Mungo spat it out.

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After brushing dust off the wrappers the hunchback ate them all up.

As for Mungo he looked at the black stitches in his fight wounds and grunted satisfaction for the lizard man was a good sewer.

But at that moment Ono came and the hunchback holding the girl's left hand jumped into a machine hovering over Mungo.

"I must have one and fly also," Mungo promised and himself the girl.

"Always man things dream," a whisper.

Anyway: "The black lion has taken the man thing into the trees," the girl using hand signs prodding the hunchback lizard for attention.

"I will ask your master and Lord Artebrates for a slave for you. I am sure he will agree, he likes you and treats you as a daughter and not tissue numbers," the lizard man replied and flew the shiny yellow machine away.

And the speechless girl looked into the jungle feeling sorry for the slave that no doubt was being eaten, nothing deserved that and he was a handsome man thing wasted.

This was the first time Leah met Mungo and her fears for his fate were false as she learned later while watching the hunchback speak to Malachi his friend in Telephassa City.

"That was Mungo and you had him tied?" Malachi agitated and the girl when left sought the privacy of her chambers and read all her papyrus pulp fiction books written

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by scribes on Mungo and dreamed strange fantasies such as Mungo capturing her and flirting with her.

And Malachi's agitation passed to the hunchback who, returned to his laboratories deep in Lord Artebrates castle.

"I have much work to do, The Wild One exists, judgement is coming," and he with latex gloves with scalpel slit open a conscious human female and removed things.

A man thing slave looked at him fearfully as the hunchback pushed what was taken deep into his body via an abdominal cut.

"Slaves don't feel pain, they are like lobsters, just drop them into a pot of boiling hot water to get the perfect taste," the hunchback and did not finish sewing the wound closed but sat down. Since the speechless girl had been made successfully he was coming to the conclusion humans did actually feel pain and Fermanians did not want to accept this so could still whip human slaves unrestrained to make them work harder.

Also many dishes demanded the human flesh be thrown into a cauldron of boiling water to keep the porky taste fresh and succulent..

"I must hurry," he and closed the wound, next he would induce self fertilisation.

TIME WAS RUNNING OUT, the first to transfer such knowledge into Fermanians would be a hero, one sexed, a saviour of a dying race poisoned by radioactivity.

More babies born, more warriors for Telephassa to extend its borders.

Somehow the hunchback knew with The Wild One here, it didn't matter, TIME HAD RUN OUT.

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“All pulp trash made by scribes seeking gold coins,” he spat.

AND TIME DOESN'T STOP on New Uranus as a crocodile crept up a beach and gobbled up a monkey stupid enough to drink there and not from a pool in a Y trunk in a tree.

And Mungo six months later saw the flying machine hover land on the jungle.

“Malachi can you get that rare monkey out of the trap?” The hunchback asked pointing up a rhododendron tree.

“Watch me,” and Malachi gave the hunchback his laser rifle and climbed.

Now Mungo was coming on the back of an ape for the primate could swing faster on vines for these beasts were his friends and he came upon Malachi who bitten by the monkey, was cursing and doing his best to lower the trap down.

And Mungo put a finger to his lips for the ape to be silent as he hurriedly made noose out of a vine and after he did this went above Malachi.

And the girl next to the hunchback saw him but was unable to utter any warning for she was dumb.

“What have I caught?” Mungo in lion tongue.

“Gayarrh,” Malachi answered as Mungo pulled the vine lasso and secured it about a branch and dropped as the hunchback below let loose white laser that felled violet flowers and sent feeding bees angrily into the air that returned to sting the cause of their discomfort.

Oh bloody hell,” the hunchback getting stung heaps.

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And Mungo hid behind Malachi and the hunchback stopped firing in case he killed Malachi for his aim was bad as he had come out in hives from the stings.

And Mungo fascinated by the girl moved close to the choking Malachi and edged him off the branch so his feet hit the hunchback's face and his body stopped there jerking.

Now the girl drew a little dagger with intention to cut Malachi down and in her efforts made the lasso tighter and Malachi went blue.

And Mungo watched as his primate friends freed the monkey Malachi had trapped.

"Is he your friend?" Mungo asked the girl who ignored and she sensing Malachi was doomed went for the laser rifle to cut the vine above his head.

"No," Mungo dropping and snatching the rifle and with it butted the rising hunchback in the back.

"Oh bloody hell," the hunchback gasped.

So after coughing and grunting the hunchback asked, "Why me Why me?" And Mungo stood on the little man's chest with his left foot as he had seen Vinki and Artebrates do for photographs.

And the girl, "Bully," but the words were silent and she could kick so in the end Mungo lifted her up so she could touch the lasso and then handed her his knife.

She could have killed Mungo but cut the lasso so Malachi dropped heavily dragging all down upon the hunchback who pleaded "Please," which was an atonement to get off him as he was asphyxiating from the crush.

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And did not know about Mungo's dream and Mungo believed the girl had been given him by the Oneness he danced to.

And Mungo laughed for he was not mature since he did not socialise with humans, and laughed as he tripped the girl up and laughed when he brought his clenched fist down upon Malachi's rising head so Malachi seeing stars fell back on the hunchback, whose limbs could only be seen now.

"Please," the hunch back under Malachi.

Then the girl managed to stand and Mungo stopped laughing for she was indeed beautiful. Indeed she was the female after his own kind that he longed for as well as that yellow flying machine.

And her hands spoke for her, "What are you staring at baboon?" And with Mungo's own knife slashed at him and if Mungo had not sucked in his belly, well, but he did and held her knife hand and kissed her so she bit him.

This wasn't in his dream and spat out some blood for his tongue was now sore.

"I really like your green eyes," he told her taking his knife back.

And she fool of pride arched back her head so Mungo could dispatch her quickly and cleanly and since she had seen Mungo before, she had been touched by his jungle beauty so knew by the way he stared at her, he was not going to harm her, *girls know these sort of things.*

She also expected Mungo to ravish her for she was a civilised person.

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And Mungo touched her soft skin and was amazed it was made of very soft scales but still was flesh like his.

And Leah still full of Fermanian imperialism stood in her arrogant pose, found his rough hands gentle and now felt really insulted Mungo was examining her as if she was a human slave. But under her mind a part of her tingled at his touch for this was The Wild One; *what would he do next?*

But Mungo only knew he was a lion man thing and wanted to know if this girl was made the same as Sasha.

And Mungo smirked and Leah wanted to hit him and did for she knew she would get away with it and was testing Mungo to see if he would hit her back and had judged him wrongly.

And being a lion man thing did what he knew male lions did, he scented so covered Malachi and the hunchback in hot pee.

And the girl was shocked, and because he did not look like a beast, well he did in a way, for he had long brown hair fashioned as a lion's mane and was dirty looking saw him first as some sort of pervert or idiot or a man without Fermanian manners or civilisation that was nearer the truth.

“Little dung head,” Mungo heard the hunchback who cocked the laser rifle so Mungo quickly cut the cups from Leah’s chest and fled into the bush with them as a souvenir and a laser light streaked fern leaves and cut a giant red and white toadstool in half and singed tree bark beside him.



Illustration 4: Such an idyllic setting but genes to change you lurked nearby.

Mungo also didn't see The Elder shake his head and say, "That is no way to treat the wife."

Cathbadh

"My grandfather once told me you had royal blood in you from King Sess?"
Artebrates.

"He was wrong," Cathbadh lied, "why should he have told you that?"

"Because he was fed up being ruled by a Mighty One which always has to be a woman," Artebrates investigating cautiously.

"I heard you hung the last of Prince Annunaki's males' cousins?" Cathbadh.

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“Yes, just leaves some female lineage alive, but we will get them. Carman doesn’t want a challenge to her son Hebat when it is time to become Emperor,” and Artebrates smirked at Cathbadh who did not show his shiver.

And Artebrates knew Sess had died during the Atomic War and since then there had been only female Mighty Ones.

“There is no female heir,” Artebrates.

Before that no one wanted a male on the Rose Throne of Telephassa as King Sess started the Atomic War with the humans, blamed him for failing to exterminate them and the war had cut off contact with their home planet.

“No one knows where we come from?” Cathbadh.

“I come from Telephassa,” Artebrates answered.

“Why don’t you make yourself emperor as people want a male Mighty One these days for the times are troubled?” Cathbadh asked.

“Vinki and his Modernists have got changes, the civil war is ending, I can now call Malachi friend and see myself as the equal of noble women of the court, why get hung for nothing? Besides that is why Carman keeps her son Hebat alive, an appeasement to defuse the situation for he is her puppet,” Artebrates but Cathbadh saw by his face Artebrates had thought about it and was doing so again.

“There will never be total change as long as Carman continues her reign and the human wars,” and Cathbadh stood up, “a ship is coming, it is not Fermanian, we must have peace with the humans now before that ship arrives and its weaponry

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exterminates us. Artebrates you as emperor could make that peace, you must Artebrates.”

And Artebrates got up too and just before he shut the door leaving said, “You have served me well Cathbadh making war engines and Leah from your vats and since there isn’t no mazarrats about we will pretend we never had this little talk, goodbye friend.”

Cathbadh showed no fear, Artebrates would never talk, and Cathbadh had made Leah and knew whose lineage she sprung from, it was their little secret.

“Ha ha ha what a jolly joke, human star ships,” Artebrates chuckled to shake of Cathbadh's prophecy of doom.

And behind a crack in a wall a mazarrat heard everything and soon told another mazarrat and eventually The Elder heard.

