

Now Leah was bait, and her perfume wafted to the forest and she hoped Mungo would come before a flesh eater.

“What have I done to thee my Lord and Master that I should be eaten?” Her silent mouth.

“You were better than me,” Nannaha reading her lips and the House Berserka bodyguards gave their hearts to Leah, but Artebrates had commanded, “Guard Nannaha my new Number One Comforter.”

And these Berserka were Artebrates offspring from comforters, whores and slaves and they numbered a hundred under a centurion and all had been treated kindly by Leah.

And butterflies flew about Leah and the Berserkas witnessed saying, “God Telephassa knows she is good and Artebrates does wrong.”

“Fools do you think rabbit feet cures your pox?” And Nannaha swatted yellow butterflies killing two and a third she pulled its wings off.

“Nannaha has the dark god Arawan in her,” and distanced themselves for Nannaha was ignorant of what had happened at Executioner’s Bay but not of her darkness for she selfishly gloated in torturing insects, thinking she impressed the Berserkas by her darkness.

“She is a bully,” so impressed and Nahanna went to Leah and cut Leah’s arms so blood would bring Mungo the lion man thing and be killed.

Mungo

“What you do is wrong,” the centurion of her escort complained.

“I am Nannaha.”

“So?” And Nannaha slapped him and he led her away and saw the satisfaction in the soldier’s faces at her discomfiture.

And the Berserkas loved Leah, had she not stopped many a lashing ordered by Artebrates?

Had she not sold her gold trinkets for their children’s medicines?

Sent the hunchback to sew their wounds.

Found homes for their orphans.

Lady Leah they whispered behind Artebrates for he was a real Noble.

And the cheeky mazarrats saw and sang about kind hearted Leah.

“Say again favourite Nannaha what title Leah has given herself?” Artebrates amongst his poppy clouds.

“Lady,” wicked Nannaha and pored warm oils over his back to massage and, “You will make her legally your wife.”

“I love her dearly, why has she done this to me? Does she not know this is a capital crime?” Artebrates his mind sliding away where he saw Leah sitting on the Rose

Throne and all mighty men shouting, “Hail Mighty One Leah,”

And Nannaha knew it was a capital crime!

Mungo

“She must surely die to teach us comforters their place,” Nannaha crooned and “When Carman hears of it she will ask why you have not cut off her arms when Leah held them out to welcome you to her bosom.

“Gad Telephassa Carman will use my innards as fishing bait,” Artebrates groaned.

“Not if you send Leah out as bait for Mungo who fills your mind with nightmares. You must protect yourself Lord and Master.”

“You comfort me always Nannaha, why do I always overlook you for Leah?”

“The soldiers whisper she is a witch.”

“The mazarrats don’t sing of this?”

“She has cast spells on them but I have found one she has not harmed,” and Nannaha pulled a cloth off a bird cage and there sat a green mazarrat ready to sing.

“Leah boils newts for potions to seduce Artebrates and Berserkas,” the mazarrat sang as it did not want beaten by Nannaha any more the more.

It was a young mazarrat and inexperienced so did not realise Nannaha would eat it anyway to keep it silent....for ever.

And Artebrates was afraid of Leah and wanted her dead.

“You are lucky my Lord and Master Leah has not given you something from a Berserka, you know what ink pot they visit, Moragana!”

And Artebrates looked down at his groin and feared.

Mungo

“And she may carry Mungo’s brat within her and lie and say it is yours Lord and Master.”

Now it was too much for Artebrates; he escaped and was being carried on a shield to inspect his troops.

“Artebrates,” they chanted and he felt good and swelled with pride, he would lead them against the humans and let them loot and rape for humans were not Fermanians and outside the law.

Above floated jelly fish inflated with methane gas and controlled by kite handlers below.

And Artebrates smiled imagining their four hundred yard long trailers stinging and pulling into their mouths human warriors.

And Artebrates saw flying machines overhead with coloured smoke, and behind Pteranodons with brass armoured plates and their warriors holding lances high.

A wagon creaked, Artebrates looked, in it a six hundred yard long worm to go underneath the human walls so the earth would collapse entombing them.

“Death to the Red Plains,” he called.

“Artebrates, Artebrates,” the Berserkas thinking of gold, glory and drink, human wenches and food after fun and Carman smiled from her Royal Observatory and behind her cowed Vinki. Below French horns played Telephassa’s anthem and Berserkas saluted Carman. “Gold buys Vinki,” meaning the gold he stole from Artebrates which she stole from him.



Illustration 13: Pteranodons with brass armored plates and their warriors holding lances high.

And threw him a gold torc, she would be getting more soon.

Vinki brightened.

She also shared a tray of sweetmeats fresh from the slave pens.

Vinki was smiling as he ate, maybe Carman had forgiven him?

And Artebrates had no thoughts on Leah, she was part of his nightmare and his sweet Nannaha would make sure Mungo would not hunt him again.

And The Elder explains: “While Artebrates sucked his poppy seed he thought he dreamed the above but it was real, he was on his way to the Red Plains on poppy seed, unable to distinguish between reality and dream worlds.

Mungo

And Nannaha wanted Leah out of the way in case she was with Artebrates child and as she emphasised to her Lord, ‘it is common ten out of every hundred are not their father’s. Mungo’s perhaps?’”

“And easy because she is a comforter and whore Artebrates reasoned,” forgetting it was he who ordered her to comfort his friends. “If she is innocent god Telephassa will bring her back as number two comforter, if not she will be eaten by the wild beasts of the jungle,” also, “I will poison her flesh so when Mungo touches her he will die and this pleased Nannaha much.

And while Artebrates drifted into a dream world, Nannaha whispered to him, “Leah sells your secrets to your enemies in Hurreva City State and poisons your food, only eat what Nannaha gives you.”

So Artebrates still had his nightmares for his food was poisoned.

And Malachi showed Mungo where Leah was.

That Sasha had her.

“What about you beloved Sasha?” Mungo wondering about her feelings, would she eat Leah from jealousy?

“Not me craven man thing *but the killer of killers*,” she replied and Mungo knew she spoke of tyrannosaurus who was forty feet long, and called Mungo craven for he wanted Leah. “It came for your woman but if I had not allowed it to chase me this vat would be eaten by now. Why I saved her when I wish her destruction,” Sash sadly.

“Praise be to what I dance too Sasha spared Leah,” Mungo.

Mungo

“I don’t want to dance like you for your God scares me Mungo, and if you know what is wise, come back to me and your lion ancestor spirits,” Sasha looking at Leah who had skinny limbs compared to her.

Now Nannaha and the Berserkas had fled to a blockhouse when seeing the killer of killers approach.

“Kill them all even Malachi is Mungo’s friend,” Nannaha screamed from the blockhouse.

But the Berserkas did not throw their pillums at Malachi.

So Nannaha, “Give me a pillum,” and the Berserka refused for Malachi was a good man so she took his short sword and thrust it deep under his chest armour so his blood gushed out.

And she threw his pillum missing Malachi.

And the Decurion surgeon came and unstrapped the Berserkas armour and saw the wound was deep and the man would die.

“Your body will be preserved and you will be cloned when we take you back to Telephassa City,” the surgeon.

“No he will not, I have Artebrates attorney and I give death to all whom refuse my commands and she stood upon the Berserker's windpipe and the man’s face blued.

And not one Berserka stopped Nannaha for what she had said was true.

Mungo

But at that moment Mungo threw the pillum back so Nannaha had to duck and roll to save her life and the man could breathe again.

“Attack them attack them,” Nannaha called and the Berserkas fearing Executioner’s Bay formed a shield wall and advanced upon Mungo and his party.

“The world has gone crazy when I fight next to Mungo my enemy,” Malachi fingering his laser pistol and cutlass.

“Brother he is a good man thing, better to die by his side than under the feet of Nannaha’s orderlings,” Malachi’s brother Enkalla.

“Daddy,” Akkad howled but Mungo called out in ape tongue and picked the boy up and climbed up vines into a tree where primates took him.

“Hold Fermanian officer, Mungo saves your child,” Sasha growled stopping him climbing the vine too.

“Give me copper sword Malachi,” Leah and he gave and a flash grenade for stunning wild beasts which she threw at the shields and it exploded breaking the shield wall that would close again; but not before Enkalla and Malachi charged the gap.

And Malachi’s laser was reflected from the crystal shields for they were prisms and Enkalla swore, “Bloody hell fire Malachi throw the gun away and use sword before you blind us all.”

“A good idea,” and Malachi used a hammer he had swinging at his belt.

And shattered the crystal shields.

Mungo

Now at that moment there was a roar which froze all for the *killer of killers* attracted by the din had returned for supper.

“Run,” was the advice of a Berserka and they fled to the blockhouse but one was caught by the monster and shaken like a doll from side to side so he could be swallowed more easily by the dinosaur.

“Taste this tick hide,” Malachi shouted and shot it with laser but it was only a pistol so only opened wounds and the *killer of killers* stamped the ground in fury and some brave and fearless Berserkas as is the Fermanian way attacked the beast and chopped with their throwing axes, and one was crushed so his bile splashed open his fellows.

“Come Leah,” Enkalla to make Leah retreat for Malachi was able to care for himself.

And the roar of a mighty lion came from Mungo upon the tyrannosaur's neck and he cut the spine, tissue, nerve and bone and the beast ran off with Mungo.

And armed mazarrats appeared from nowhere following. To the Fermanian the world was ending for mazarrats were but singing birds in cages and now they had seen them armed as men like themselves?

Now those Berserkas who had not fought but hid reappeared ashamed from the blockhouse with Nannaha.

“Kill them kill them all,” Nannaha but was ignored for the Berserkas believed they owed Mungo life for many a blockhouse had crumpled under the assault of the *killer of killers*.

Mungo

As every soldier of Telephassa knows, Wonder Lord Vinki is Head of the Army Purchasing Department and buys cheap cement and pockets the difference.

It was also whispered Nannaha was Vinki's whore.

"Lady Leah are you alright?" Their centurion taking courage from Malachi who had defied Nannaha.

"What about me?" Nannaha complained and a soldier passing pushed her into a bush where thousands of midges found her and fed.

"Holly sparrows," Nannaha screamed forgetting Leah now.

"That bitch will have us all in glass cages in the arena full of bees for that," a Berserka voiced as Nahanna was Artebrates number one comforter and what was done to her was done back to the oppressors.

"Come with us," Mungo dropping from a tree with savage apes that looked man thing.

"Are you a forest nymph?" A Berserka asked and temptation to be something he wasn't entered Mungo and his mouth opened agreement but then his mind saw a silence and he, "I am learning to be man thing and am flesh like you. We are all of the same mould under the sun, let us not fight."

"Such wisdom from a forest dweller, where does he come from?" A Berserka asked.

"He comes from the latrine house," Nannaha shouted and a Berserka threw clumps of dung left by the *killer of killers* at her and others copied so Nannaha cried for she now stunk so hundreds of flies sought her for a snack.

Mungo

“Where are you going Mungo?” The centurion asked keeping his hands away from his swords.

“To Hurreva of course,” Mungo happily walking up to Leah and he said, “I am sorry.”

“Oh Mungo how can I hate a lion cub?” Leah’s mouth silently.

Now this confused Mungo for he was doing his utmost to be man thing, so in the end he smiled and shrugged his massive shoulders and Leah fell upon him sobbing.

“What about me? You cannot leave me here?” Nannaha hotly as a disturbed giant tarantula reared up to bite her but Mungo caught it.

“Roasted they are good to eat, have some Leah, no, Malachi?”

“Cub it is time I taught you something about women,” Malachi promised.

“What’s that?” Mungo suspiciously.

“About the finer things man things are.”

“What does finer mean?”

“Good things,” Malachi replied.

“Giant tarantulas are finer things.”

And Leah cried.

“I see I’ve much work,” Malachi allowing Leah to sob in his arms.

And a mazarrat from a tree did toilet on Nannaha as it copied its betters the Berserkas.

Mungo

And Nannaha said nothing she had poisoned Leah but waited patiently for Mungo to eat Leah.

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Now it was a long trek to Hurreva City for the empire of Carman would take a human three thousand days too walk from west to east, just the direction Mungo was going.

And it was upon this great trek that Mungo met his own kind, warriors intent on killing lizard men, women and children for lizard meat tasted real good roasted, broiled or barbecued as long as it was Fermanian.

It was also now that Nannaha did wrong, “This embalmed body stinks of the urinal,” she often sprinkling perfume on herself and the berserkas laughed, for she carried he whom she had killed with the sword, remember the Berserka who was promised to be cloned by the surgeon?

Then one day the embalmed vanished and they said, “Nannaha could not carry him, someone stole him who was to be cloned.”

“It was Mungo, I saw and followed and he cut the liver out and ate then climbed a tree to watch dinosaurs come to eat the rest,” Nannaha said lying.

“I am Bennathan Centurion and I know a man or lizard thing of honour so answer Mungo, did you do this?”

Mungo

And Mungo drew a picture in the dust of a man thing taking a rib from a lizard hunter and put the rib on his necklace, then saw the hunter dead and the man thing give the rib to a lizard doctor and next the hunter was obviously cloned.

“The rib is Malachi’s and about Mungo’s neck,” and the soldiers left alone and saw Nannaha as dirt and treated her as such.

And Malachi he said, “Blow me over my rib will be my insurance, better to trust Mungo than my own kind.”

“Malachi was his friend.” A mazarrat sang nearby.

“Now I understand and curse fate,” Malachi also.

But Mungo sent Sasha to find the dumped soldier’s body and they followed.

“Ashes, he can never be cloned again. I thought Nannaha said Mungo fed him to our cousins the dinosaurs?” Ben Nathan and his men suspected one of themselves of helping Nannaha for the reward of her body.

“Any who call me liar will answer to Artebrates in Hurreva City for extradition can be arranged,” Nannaha haughtily and was not harmed but a week later at camp.

“Nannaha you should change, be like Mungo who dances to something Unseen and powerful,” Leah with hand signs.

“Go eat dinosaur dung,” Nannaha and waited for the next berserka to drag her into his green army tent.

“Why don’t you ask Mungo for this too stop?” Leah.

“Ask that naked squirrel for a favour, are you mad?”

Mungo

“If you want this to stop I will tell Mungo.”

“Listen Lady Leah, I don’t care what happens to me these days. This way Artebrates will know I did not join you, that his Berserkas forced me to lie with them, besides there isn’t anything better than a good tumble to pass the time before I am back in Telephassa City and you lot crucified.”

“Even in Mungo’s eyes you are worth something, that thing he dances too knows that.”

“Maybe I just like men,” Nannaha.

“Mungo likes women,” it was a joke to lift the atmosphere.

“So the lion monkey is straight, well I like anything to do with a tumble, bosoms full of milk and babies in a tummy put their by strong Berserkas.

Yes I love men.”

“Maybe Nannaha you speak wisely, I knew an alcoholic who got implants to stop her ways, but always got them removed so she could drink.

Enjoyed drunkenness, no responsibilities, plenty of guilt free fun, always can blame the drink, don’t know what I am doing, it’s called the “Throw it syndrome,” yes Nannaha you like being wicked and having a tumble,” and Leah joined Mungo at the fire and Nannaha threw a clump of red grass at Leah’s back.

But Leah ignored.

And a watching mazarrat threw rotten fruit at Nannaha’s face and it soiled and flies already visiting sweaty Berserkas got a treat.

Mungo

And a Berserka offered his hand to Nannaha who accepted, threw back her black mane and went with him.

“I want all Berserkas,” she whispered to him and he gave her his scarf to clean her face and later that night the whole Decurion passed through the tent and promised her a garden house with fountain, slaves and gold income in Hurreva City, for they doubted Artebrates would want her back after what had happened.

“Not all of us are like her,” Malachi defended his race to Mungo.

“Not all lions are like me,” Mungo apologised putting Malachi at ease and all marvelled at Mungo’s words.

And a mazarrat sang, “The soldiers are whores, worse than Moragana the woman ape thing for they sleep with Nannaha.”

And the soldiers inwardly cursed themselves for being men but outwardly put on an act of bravado over their manly acts with Nannaha.

“Do you think you are better than us common soldiers?” A drunken Berserka and Enkalla, Ben Nathan and Malachi drew swords.

The situation became tense.

Officers against enlisted men.

“Not all are warriors,” Mungo seeing the soldier’s friends willing to fight for him, “before I found Leah I ran after Sasha and bitches and even swung the vines with Moragana for I didn’t know I was a man thing.

Mungo

As Fermanian House Berserkas I know you have honour and are men of valour so if Nannaha said no you would respect her.

“And if I don’t,” the drunken soldier wanting to fight.

“Then you are a thief,” Mungo and the Berserkas marvelled over his wisdom.

“So what, both these women are Artebrates' concubines, given to his friends,” the soldier for the drink had him and drew his sword.

He also held Nannaha by a lead so she went on all fours and she purred against Malachi’s legs and sickened he pushed her away.

“No,” Mungo halted his Fermanian new friends beating the drunk senseless even if they didn’t realise they were now friends.

And Leah fell to her knees, her secret life was revealed; Mungo would treat her as Lord Artebrates did, as the soldiers did Nannaha.

“For they were men,” Leah.

“What does she mean friend?” Mungo asked Malachi.

“She talks of the finer things men things can be,” Malachi sarcastically but Mungo was too innocent to understand except that she used to be Artebrates woman; Artebrates had thrown her away and Mungo didn’t mind, Leah was now his, Artebrates had made a bad mistake, Leah’s past was forgotten, the future lay ahead.

And a Night Skull Moth landed on Mungo’s hand and it was glorious to see.

Mungo

And at this moment The Elder walked amongst them and the Berserkas wondered, none had seen a mazarrat use a staff before and besides, his eyes shone as if a god was upon him.

And the drunk's friends became ashamed for the shameful things they did.

"Where are you from Mungo?" A Berserka meaning not from this world.

"A nut house," Nannaha called from a green tent.

"Here stands a chosen one," The Elder and the superstitious Berserkas were silent as an abandoned fast reactor switched on by a timer switch hummed and a volcano erupted.

And Mungo eyed the drunk with sorrow and he a mighty giant of man said to Mungo, "I kept a woman and her brats from another and she took me for every coin I owned to furniture her house for her man's return. I was taken for a ride Mungo.

Woman are cheats," the drunk shouted.

"Shame not Fermanian women and men in front of the man thing Aralwan Giant," Ben Nathan the Decurion.

"A woman's a port of call for a soldier," Lug another soldier with drink added.

"Tell me," and Mungo left out 'brave soldier', "is this moth not beautiful and naturally made?"

"An insect come to make holes in my winter underwear," Aralwan Giant.

"And if I put it in cage it will lose all its right things," for Mungo was ignorant of the word behaviour.

Mungo

“So?”

But others understood except the other one Lug who was mischief by nature and many had drunk for encouragement to go with Nannaha in the green tent.

And Nannaha moaned and wailed like a Fermanian unclean spirit to distract them from Mungo.

“Should I let this moth go that took time to make or kill it so it will not eat your hidden silks?” And the soldier stood still, and then understood the insult.

“What? Woman suspenders on me?” And he lifted his sword but Mungo took it easily and pushed the lizard man onto his back and the fall made wind come from his bottom and all laughed except him of course.

And all lizard men saw Mungo was within his rights to slaughter but had not.

“This fallen man is drunk and does not know what comes out of his mouth, take him away,” the centurion and it was done so Nannaha was left alone till she screamed for attention.

“I come,” Aralwan Giant answered from a bush where he had been thrown and Lug also came out of the shadows, and Ben Nathan then realised who had helped Nannaha dispose of the soldier who had been promised cloning.

And while these three drunks did things reserved for comforters and their masters, Mungo danced naked under the moon and his eyes shone.

“Who is this man thing, a witch?” A soldier asked afraid of Mungo.

“He has shinning eyes,” another said.

Mungo

“He dances naked for he has no shame,” Malachi looking at the stars.

“When he gets up from sleeping on the ground, a hole is left for so heavy is the demon inside him,” another Berserka.

“They say he floats when he sleeps,” another.

“He has wisdom,” the last and all had read papyrus books on The Wild One.

And the books said he would betray his maker and the Berserkas knew his maker was not their god Telephassa but something greater and Unseen.

“He is The Wild One that is who he is,” The Elder and the Berserkas trembled for they had read the scribes papyrus pulp books.

And one seeing Mungo as human emptied his rations out of his bully tin he wanted to eat from for they had slave sweetmeat amongst them and to eat them in the presence of Mungo seemed wrong.

And salted human meat fell out, crackling fingers a delicacy, and eye balls in brine and pickled vegetables.

He feared Mungo and what Mungo danced too.

And others copied him.

“What shall we eat?” A Berserka.

“Berries and tubers,” The Elder and that night they did until the fear for Mungo waned; then went about while others slept picking up their thrown away food.

Mungo

And Leah felt much love in her for Mungo for she had read the papyrus books too and read one such as her would be his woman; and she wondered if that woman was her? And she knew it was true deep down and also she had influence over Mungo.

“And the woman from the vats will bear Mungo Mighty Children,” and ignored the fact the scribe wrote it drinking at an inn’s table.

“One child shall be a mighty man and another rulers shall kneel at his feet to hear wisdom,” for Malachi also had read.

“His God is a man thing maker, not a maker of lizard men,” Leah quoted and the Berserkas shivered for the papyrus books only spewed forth doom for the Fermanian race.

“I should kill him now,” Malachi putting a hand on his sword hilt, but Leah stopped him; “If he is fated to be your master then nothing you can do will stop it happening.”

“My god Telephassa is cruel and fated to be forgotten under grass where her statues will fall hidden,” and Malachi went to relief himself for he was nervous.

And that night Nannaha screamed for an insect had bitten her some nights past and given her River Blindness.

And her screams hid the advance of man things that ran through their camp slaying five Berserkas and Malachi held off their attack for he was not sleeping but gone to watch the stars, in the hope of seeing the God of Mungo amongst them.

And armed mazarrats dropped out of the night to shield Mungo, not the lizard men.

Mungo

“Rally to me,” Mungo shouted near the camp fire waving Ben Nathan’s Decurion’s standard.

And none argued except for Nannaha and Aralwan Giant and Lug of course who hurried back into the green tent, where moths flew about the oil lamp and bed bugs crawled up hammock ropes.

Here they hoped Mungo would be slain.

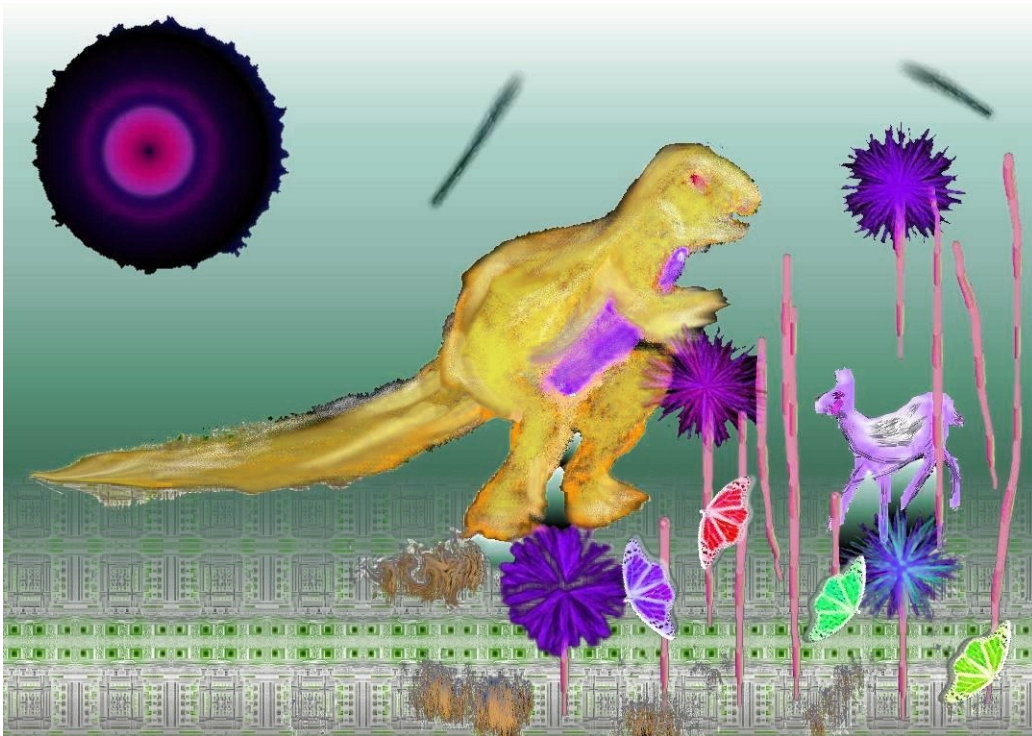


Illustration 14: killer of killers, tyrannosaurus

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“Peelock, that is a man thing who has killed ten of us,” a young human said to Peelock. “Why does he fight with lizards?”

Mungo

“**Mungo**,” Peelock and at once the young man left the older and walked to Mungo throwing his weapons down and fell on his face.

“Master,” he and Mungo helped him up and bade him stand next to him.

“Amazing,” many on both sides so stopped fighting. **Even The Elder climbed Ben Nathan’s standard just as a comet burned New Uranus’s atmosphere and the sky went orange and yellow.**

“Mount Tullos has opened its glory upon Mungo,” the Berserkas and hid under their shields.

Now many humans did likewise but not all, some hacked the superstitious lizard warriors chopping off tails at the chance to try and maim and kill their enemy.

And many Berserkas were slain so even Mungo threw pillum and drove these human attackers away.

And the humans decided they had had enough of this Mungo and to kill him.

And thunder clapped and green lighting hit the ground so many humans flew into the air and some where burned.

“He is chosen, he is The Wild One,” The Elder shouted appearing green as the comet crashed and the ground quaked and peat opened below Mungo and bituminous tar gurgled out.

Rising with it dinosaur bones and their gaping skulls grinned so the humans said, “Hell has opened and eaten those who oppose the gods chosen,” for he who had fallen at Mungo’s feet was sinking in the open ground.

Mungo

“Our ancestors rise to defend Mungo,” the Fermanian lizard warriors.

And many swore the thunder was the voice of gods and fell down and the lightning struck rhododendron trees instead.

But some ran and the lightning found them and all saw green lightning strike Ben Nathan’s standard and both Mungo and The Elder were unhurt for the standard had earthed igniting the pitch about them.

“They live,” many amazed.

“Just,” Mungo whispered to The Elder.

Who said nothing, he was shaking and none smelt his burnt fur apart from Mungo.

And Peelock the human leader crushed the tarot cards in his robe pocket and cursed the day he read the stars concerning a Wild One.

Now Peelock believed he created The Wild One tales to frighten Fermanians and keep his humans under control; with a future hope in a savourer, but was wrong, the tales existed before Peelock kicked within his mother for mazarrats sang in human towns.

And the armed mazarrats melted away.

And before the night was out five more fell on their faces before Mungo and one woman who was totally woman thing in gold kilt.

And Mungo’s loins stirred for she was attractive and had skin not soft scales like Leah; and was saved any more lust because he wanted to dance to the Oneness of the universe.

Mungo

“Leah,” he called and she came red eyed from sleep.

“Here is my first choice,” and Mungo felt good and forgot he had said the same to Sasha for truly he was a man thing.

And Leah sobbing fell into his broad chest, “My Lord and Master I come to you willingly,” and thought I am only his first choice like Artebrates women are cattle to him.

“The stars say Mungo is a demon from hell,” Peelock as he lied to his men.

And Mungo shamed when he held Leah and looked at the human woman at his feet.

And wished Leah would go back to bed with his guilt.

And mazarrats sang, “Mungo’s shame is Leah.”

“It is written The Wild One must marry a virgin, that thing who clings to you is a comforter of Artebrates and his legions,” Nannaha to make trouble.

And Mungo hurt for he wanted Leah all to himself and had wondered into the domain of possessiveness.

And he forget he was not perfect and what made him dance was for all, perfect and imperfect.

“Whether given or rented out by Artebrates it was not my wish. What difference between them and you that you all see me as harlot? I too want to dance to the Unseen One that you dance too for it calls me and does not see me as harlot,” Leah and her words cut into Mungo.

Mungo

“The fool, the woman loves him,” Peelock meaning Leah and that Mungo lusted for the human woman at his feet. Now he Peelock did not like Mungo, but if he was truly the Wild One, lizards would die and his people saved.

Mungo to Peelock was the sacrifice to save the human race.

“Kill Mungo,” Peelock for if he was the Wild One he would survive so three men with guns ran towards Mungo to shoot him dead.

Now Mungo pushed aside his friends to face them and static from green electricity stored in him came forth.

And the bullets missed; perhaps his sudden green appearance startled the aim of his attackers.

Their mistake.

“And Mungo leapt upon them like the lion thing he knew how to be, and hurt them all.

But one stabbed Mungo in the chest.

And Mungo killed him and threw his parts hither.

“I will grant you mercy,” he said to the other two and killed them quickly with his teeth that were sharp like a lions for he had that milk in him.

And then he calmed down.

“I have killed out of anger not necessity, I have done wrong, my mercy was death when mercy is life,” and Mungo saddened over his behaviour.

Mungo

“Mungo has killed wrongly, his mercy is death, we mazarrats know for we are the scribes of the law,” and the attackers and defenders, even Nannaha fell silent as all peered into the bush for the thousand mazarrats who chanted this thirty times.

Now Ben Nathan’s surgeons stopped sewing wounds, both lizard and human and ran to Mungo.

“The surgeon is a good man unlike Mungo,” a mazarrat sang and was copied by its kind, and then all fell silent.

And a cicada deciding the mazarrats dominating enough called a love song for a mate.

A green chameleon hearing stalked cicada.

The cicada mated and the chameleon ate them and was satisfied and went to seek a mate.

A green vine snake ate it and was eaten by a night eagle and next day did droppings on the land which benefited from the nutrients and grass seeds finding the soil rich germinated, so the cycle that was The Wild One continued.

“And his enemies are given him to die,” The Elder shouted and humans and Berserkas feared Mungo.

And a human and a lizard died while the surgeon worked.

A useless waste of the gift of life.

And many sought to see if Mungo would rise from the dead because he had a chest wound that had made him kneel looking pale and gravely ill.

Mungo

“Holy Fire, cannot a man have solitude for nature,” Malachi relieving himself in bushes as men went to see Mungo pushed past him.

And he was highly embarrassed.

And Mungo stood up and roared lion fashion and proved the tales about him true, he was a forest nymph and other wonderful spiritual things were true about him; all forgetting his physical strength and the skill of the surgeon and his wound was not life threatening.

“Kill them all,” Peelock to his remaining men and none did so.

And in the end Peelock threw his tarot cards away.

Later:

“This Mungo loves not our gods but something else and has women like they weren’t in production,” much later in Peelock’s Barracks by a man called Angus Ogg.

“Yes but the difference between Mungo and you Angus Ogg,” an answering mazarrat sang “Is that he has innocence and you have electricity taken from a solar plant while poor about you use candles.”

“Angus Ogg we saw you fall at Mungo’s feet so why the change of heart?” Another soldier asked in the barracks.

“Mungo wove a spell about me,” Angus replied truthfully for at the time he was spellbound.

“You are a small fish swallowed by a big fish,” the mazarrat sweetly.

“He said he is The Wild One,” Angus defending that he was bewitched.

Mungo

“And Malachi was his friend,” the mazarrat.

“Well he stopped us killing and getting killed and that takes all,” a soldier in the barrack room.

“He is Mungo,” Angus and thought of the other five who hadn’t come back and was glad he still breathed.

But Peelock was jealous Mungo had drawn away his best warriors with fancy words.

And Peelock went back to his Red Castle built by men out of devotion for him for he was a soothsayer and feared Mungo would destroy his standing in the community.

And Peelock was aided by a SOFIA stratospheric observatory for infra-red astronomy and he had no idea how this flying telescope saw 70000 kilometres away and travelled stars or how it got up there in the first place?

Nor that inside droids worked starting its twenty year life span anew so it was truly immortal.

But he could see a black hole and its mouth in Galaxy NGC 4261 and knew it was matter compressed as gas that was emitted from the back and propelling the hole at speed across space.

“And nowhere in the astronomy books does it say divine hole that you are an angel of death coming to give judgement to the lizards,” Peelock and wrote his words down for insertion into the seventh day prophetic announcements he made every seven days, to astonish the humans who knew about the Wild One and he had much to lose if the tales were true.

And near the black hole he saw the approaching star that winked red and green navigation lights and knew he would have to wait patiently for the star to reach his SOFIA before he could divine on that subject.

And about his castle tulip gardens tendered by young children and his women and he knew the wind of change was coming as the star was feeding his imagination, so read about star ships and went to the main Red Temple of god, took off his fur boots, went into a private steam bath rather than the public unisex and bathed many times to be clean and holy. **Then dressed in white smock with slits for eyes and entered the Temple Courtyard.**

Now beside him ordinary folk on their stomachs asking God and other god's favours but Peelock passed and many crawled to his shadow and one cripple grabbed his helm for healing but almost tripped him, so he turned and burst the cripple's mouth with a foot.

And the cripple was happy, Peelock had put a holy foot into him, he deserved it for almost tripped Peelock.

And worshippers trampled the cripple in an effort to touch Peelock.

And eventually Peelock managed to enter the inner courtyard where a young man was being circumcised and screamed out in pain.

For it was Peelock's law, anything entering the inner courtyard of God must be circumcised.

He had got this idea from reading the Bible.

Mungo

And being a holy man realised it meant the circumcision of the spirit that only God sees but those about him failed to see this so want it done physically.

And eventually got to the Virgin Corridor where virgins sent by their mothers to serve the priests and priestesses and the worshippers in the Outer Courtyard and so give their earnings to the priests.

Which idea Peelock had got from reading history books on the Temples of Rome.

And he saw an empty cubicle, where the girl Wendy should be waiting for someone to show them themselves from the Outer Courtyard for business.

And he knew all the girls by name especially Wendy.

And at last he entered the Holy Chamber of Knowledge where the Bible was kept and a computer that ran on solar power.

Just like the Fermanians these human folk had suffered much during the atomic wars.

And Peelock's hand print worked the machine so all its knowledge was his but not the understanding he needed to decipher it.

"Incorruptible."

Was printed over a female body in a glass cage in the centre of the computer and wires came from her head.

And this was the main reason why Peelock's followers thought him God's seer for the machine was God. And scattered about bones of The People who came to see their God for Peelock divined that they be sacrificed while praying to the computer, their

Mungo

God and Peelock with sword pierced their back, so his secret was safe, God was a machine and so spread fear about and people said, "Only Peelock can speak to God."

And Peelock pressed fax Intake.

And SOFIA saw star ships used by humans to colonise New Uranus.

And Peelock read while the Incorruptible One's eyes watched him.

"One day I will take your place," Peelock to the woman.

"The makers of this IBM LOGOS put me here so the computer could have a conscience and you by accident found OVER RIDE and me but still I wont give you the doomsday bomb for at least OVER RIDE stops there," the Incorruptible One.

And Peelock did what he always did and took a red fire axe and hit the glass that did not shatter.

"Give me the weapon to exterminate the lizard people," he demanded rubbing his sore wrists.

And the Incorruptible One laughed and to Peelock seemed went back to sleep.

"Holy bitch," he screamed and closed down the computer and never heard a cripple beg for mercy under a tree as the infuriated crowd shouted, "Fool," we know Peelock gets God's offenders to punish," and ground their boots into him.

"Peelock will praise you, give him that eye when you see him and he will accept you into warrior school," a proud father to his nine year daughter who had an eye on the end of a stick.

Mungo

And Peelock saw on leaving the Temple the cripple hanging from a tree, his face blue, and one eye gone and tongue swollen from his mouth and Peelock averted his eyes for the cripple was a sinner.

“Look holy leader?” The nine year old and Peelock remembered his teachings and rewarded the child with a blessing, “here is a faithful and shall become a warrior of mine and reach Heaven for serving me.”

Peelock was incredible.

And he went to his castle as the nine year old threw the stick at a stray dog that ate the eye.

“I will be like Angus Ogg and slay lizard men and roast their babes and crack their crackling with my teeth,” and saluted Peelock and stopped playing with her toys.

From that day on her father bought her a bronze chest plate and copper sword for practice.

Her new toys and went about shouting, “Kill kill,” and hit lesser children pretending they were Fermanians..

Anyway: Peelock went to his castle and had his drummers bang skin drums and summon The People.

He also ripped the soiled hem from his silken white robe and threw it out a window; for that beggar had dirty fingers.

And a young girl took it from her head and ran home and her mother not knowing its holy origins made silken lingerie from it and praised God and her gods for it.

Mungo

“Who amongst you is the fairest girl?” Peelock asked the assembled and the ugly made way till at last a fair young woman stood alone and she was called Wendy.

“Sacrifice her to God this very moment for his judgement is coming upon us,” and the people pulled the clothes of Wendy and beat her body till it bruised.

“Take the blasphemous parents that bred this whore and drown them,” and Peelock watched the girl beg for mercy as her plough people were fed to the yellow river Yathan.

Now none protested for Peelock to enforce his spontaneous dominant whim let loose a stream of laser from a finger.

“God’s power flows from Peelock,” one ignorant lad that Peelock had been given this assassins finger nail laser by the Wonder Lord Vinki as a birthday present?

And Peelock had his bearers carry him in a chair to the river Yathan and other parents were thankful it was not them to be drowned.

“I will do anything to save them;” the beaten girl and Peelock “Take her to my chambers for further questioning.”

Now the silly ogled for they knew Peelock’s reputation and spat at the girl as she was taken to his castle from jealousy.

“God always demands the fairest,” they whispered amongst themselves.

“We must always give God’s seer Peelock our fairest to save us from the Fermanian onslaught,” others.

“Water courses are gateways to hell so the damned wont hunt us,” another at Wendy.

Mungo

“Didn’t Abraham want to cut his son’s throat to God?” Another rearranging her blue cap with Peelock’s feathers in its rim then a drew sword to stab Wendy forgetting herself.

“Better she die for us than us for her who thought she was better than us,” this woman and stabbed and wiped her stained hands on her multicoloured robe.

And the truth was Wendy never thought she was there better but actually was.

“I hope God tells Peelock to take me,” a pretty young stupid girl in the crowd.

“I hope Peelock dead,” another who did not want to end up like Wendy for Wendy had said NO to Peelock earlier and why she had been chosen this day.

No one said No to Peelock.

And many in the crowd hoped The Wild One would deliver them.

And inside Peelock’s dark castle the girl was chained to a table leg so her whelps cooled with the air conditioning.

And droids came and worked on Wendy so life returned to her eyes for her conscious was now on the internet.

Another wonder of Peelock’s God.

The stab wound had been fatal but the Incorruptible One had drained her mind into the computer to live.

Surely a wonder for mind and brain are separate.

And Peelock came to Wendy later and when he saw her bruises was wrath with the druids for not healing them and beat her more for her ugliness hurt his eyes.

Mungo

“Even in death there is no escape from me,” Peelock boasted.

And her screams were heard through the computers internal speakers.

“A demon is trying to get out of her, beat her harder Peelock,” a woman in the crowd below the castle.

Then the screaming stopped and the crowd watched warriors throw Wendy’s parents into the Yathan and one by one the crowd began to clear as people sought the now empty household of Wendy to loot.

“Peelock is wrong,” one of the warriors who had been at the meeting with Mungo.

“What can we do? The priests of the Holy Books give him their backing, I don’t won’t burned as a witch,” his friend fearing.

“We take some of this to chew,” and both chewed on green leaves that made them numb to their surroundings.

“When he is finished with her think we might get her?” The friend.

“No, not even her clones, it’s all fixed a racket between Peelock and those damned priests.”

And in Red Castle Peelock “No one cares about you, hundreds of us are taken by the Fermanian yearly, tribute to the lizard men and in return they give me technology; and what I care about is that you have made me dirty,” and he pulled a cord and two females entered and they took Wendy out onto the balcony and put her onto the cup of a catapult.

And the cord had sets of bells that drew the townsfolk back into the square.

Mungo

And the two girls were robotics and showed no emotion as they drenched Wendy in inflammable liquid and pulled a lever, so Wendy alight shot towards the stars.

“And her consciousness is inside the internet and her DNA on file that the computer operates so is not dead, only the shell that was her body.

I am clean now,” Peelock and “the Incorruptible One must tell me how to clone each Wendy with a different consciousness so each clone looks the same but has a different personality, like twins, one for a different day of the week?.”

But the Incorruptible One would not tell Peelock many secrets for she knew him to be wicked.

“She is an offering to our gods for Mungo who human, sleeps with Fermanians,” and he spoke into the computer so his voice was heard below and then realised the computer's sound was already on, the Incorruptible One had switched it on.

So attacked her glass cage again and still it would not break and the Incorruptible One looked at him and smiled.

A smile of pity.

“What is the internet?” A big woman who had born sixteen children hearing below.

“What tribute do we give the Fermanians,” her friend wondering what had happened too many of her fourteen children?

And the two warriors laughed leaning on their spears for they knew the secret but feared Peelock so said nothing.

Mungo

And Peelock knew the people below were asking questions, they could ask all they wanted, he was too strong for them. His men wore Fermanian lasers and it was the approaching ship he worried about. His world of gods and technology was threatened by the unknown. The known to him was familiar, dinosaurs who liked to eat them and Fermanians whose delicacy was their sweetmeats.

And a bell was heard, prayer time for Peelock and the devotees of the gods.

And Peelock went to pray, secure in the knowledge that he was going to paradise.

Wendy however was already in paradise.

And about Red Town people read the Bible and other religious books and took from them sentences to justify their cruel ways.

And in cages boys sang, mazarrats those wicked gossipers weren't wanted here.

And the two robotics returned with a silver tray with refreshment for Peelock for when his prayer was finished.

And a spider dropped onto one of the robotics and Peelock had a fear of these insects.

And he hit the robotic till she fell.

"Go and bath five times then return to me clean," Peelock.

Then Peelock on his knees took drugs to enter purple dream world and speak to the spirit folk that lived there.

"Now I have given all that is red in New Uranus to humans and all that is not red to the lizard folk. Now I make a new covenant with Peelock my servant, I give to you the

Mungo

Fermanians who eat your sweetmeats and insert remotes into your spines so you cook yourselves at their banquets.

I give you their lands so have my people multiple so they number the grains of sand in the sea.

And give you The Wild One for war and afterwards when he has slain all the lizard folk, give him back to me,” god who was red told Peelock in dream land.

Now the robotic girl returned clean and she wore muslin and Peelock stirred and wondered why he did not send the ugly people on the fire rainbow as Wendy had gone?”

“I demand the pure and fair but hurt when I see the ugly for they are a blight upon the land,” god who is red told Peelock. “I wanted Wendy as I possess you and she said NO. That is why you sent her to me, as an example to the others; control must be kept through fear.”

And Peelock saw in a vision that no more Wendy’s were to be put on the fire rainbow, but those who did not fit into society, the cripples and loonies, the ugly ones.

And Peelock smiled for he could hear them screaming louder than Wendy.

“The fatted ones are fatted cattle and their fat will burn as incense longer in my god’s heavenly house,” Peelock believed then lay with the two robotics.

And the Incorruptible One knew if it was not for the prophecy of The Wild One she did set the Doomsday Bomb upon these humans who had become monsters.

At that moment a servant arrived, “Master, Lord Vinki has arrived seeking tribute.”

Mungo

“He is a month early,” Peelock.

“We are late Divine One,” the servant and bowed and Peelock checked the lunar calendar and knew the tribute was late. “Dam Mungo for he and the star ship occupy my mind always. Go and arrange the tribute then, then bring Vinki here for talk, also fatted calves for his liking,” so Peelock instructed meaning fat people reared on milk.

And Vinki came surrounded by Berserkas armed with lasers for he was Head of Army Purchasing.

“Nice and tender ready for the pot?” Vinki enquired.

And silver trays were given Vinki and his Berserkas to eat from

And the trays had the remains of the slaughtered cattle that had gone into the Inner Courtyard and never returned.

Vinki needed gold and Peelock needed weapons; didn’t matter what happened elsewhere.

“Come girl,” Vinki to one of the robotics and pawed her and was done to show Peelock he was not needed to ask such favours.

“In return,” Peelock eyeing a laser pistol.

“Yours friend,” and the word friend was used in the neutral which was not lost upon Peelock who took the gun any way.

And the girl was passed around and the Berserkas joked and pawed her much.

In the end Vinki made her sit next to him and then he trepanned her and dug out the fresh sweetmeat for she was just an animal for slaughter; in reality a cyborg.

Mungo

And Peelock did not tell Vinki he was eating robotic bionic flesh and summoned servants to remove the sitting corpse

She was defiled as soon as Vinki pawed her any way.

So later that night a mazarrat was seen crawling down the castles wall.

“Peelock hates Mungo,

Peelock feeds the Fermanians well.

Vinki is Peelock’s friend,” it sang.

Also a beggar saw the Fermanians leave but escaped attention because he slept under cardboard boxes.

“Thank the real God who isn’t red and isn’t inside Peelock that I am still alive,” the beggar prayed.

A fat woman returning with loot from Wendy’s house saw them too but made the mistake of shouting, “Fermanians,” so was beaten and gagged then thrown over a saddle, the journey back to Telephassa was long.

As for Vinki he took flight back to Telephassa in a new flying machine happy he had gold and cattle again after his granaries had been emptied on Carman’s orders.

And one last also saw the lizard men, Cadfael a warrior from the outer tribes who lived on the Red Grass. And he saw all and realised Peelock was darkness fled into the plains to tell his people what he had seen.

*

And Angus Ogg knew why they followed Mungo, they were ill of Peelock.

Mungo

“When I joined warrior school, it was to be a slayer of lizard men but instead I am a robber of my people so Peelock has power. If I desert, Peelock will send his pet killer of killers after me.

I am close to Peelock and he listens to me, this new Wild One Mungo will never listen to me, for to him I am just another warrior. He listens to a lizard called Malachi, a jumped up skink that has crawled out of a decaying tree stump. And thinks to order us about, well in that case I stay with the devil I know who rewards me with what I want.

If I want this woman I take, if I want to sleep in that house I do. If there is food laid out I will eat it and if not order some for all know I am close to Peelock and all fear me suggesting they become an offering to the gods on the flaming rainbow.

And always the River Yathan that is haunted. Many say they see the spirits of the sacrificed here demanding justice against Peelock in the name of God they demand, but what God, Peelock already speaks to our red god so I know what side the butter is spread on?

