

TWOKINDS

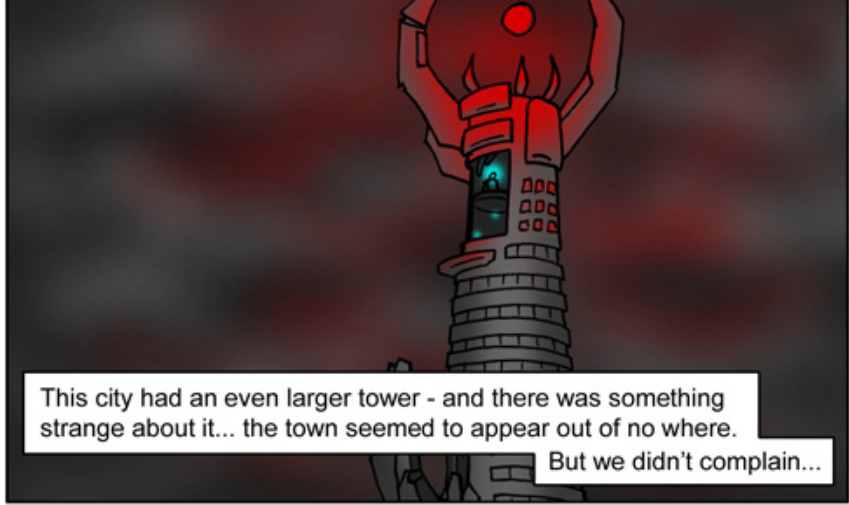
Chapter Six



We finally managed to find our way out of the forest.



This city had an even larger tower - and there was something strange about it... the town seemed to appear out of no where. But we didn't complain...



Keith was still a little unhappy, but he was coming around.



It seems Flora and him had made up and were getting along better now.



How are you holding up, Flora?

Unfortunately...



I'm fine!



Oookay, if you say so.

Flora was four days into her heat, and with no relief, she was a little on edge.



Well, of course, Mr. Templar. I can have a ship ready for you as soon as possible.



But it's going to be at least a day to gather the supplies and men. I hope that's alright?

Oh, uh, sure, sounds fine.

Good.



Later...

Eh, Trace, I don't know about this...

Yes, I agree with Flora. We shouldn't stay here very long.

There's something wrong with this place, anyway. I feel it.



What else are we going to do, though?

It's going to take time to get the boats ready, and we have nowhere to go.

Don't worry, as long as you guys stay with me, everything will be fine. Trust me.



One change of clothes later...

This is... humiliating.

I dunno... I like having Trace's shirt on... mmm... Trace's scent in on it.

Oh, no, not again...



Meanwhile...

There he is! It really is the Grand Templar!

I told you I saw him!

This is amazing! Should we go and meet him?

No! Trace isn't the kind of person you just walk up to! We should inform Saria first, anyway.



Oh, yeah, Saria! I'll go get here, you keep watch of Trace!



Well, sorry! It's not all that easy, I'm trying to control myself as best I can.

Flora, would you stop that?



Yeah, but this is really not the right time.

I have a reputation here, you know.



I'll... try harder, I guess. It's just frustrating.

I know we haven't been together very long, but... You know... I... I love you...



You... love....?



That's the first time I've told Trace that I loved him.

Maybe it was a mistake...



Grand Templar?

I hope I'm not interrupting. I just wanted to tell you that I'm a big fan of yours!

Um, I also hope you don't mind, but I went and brought your wife here. She's been worried sick about you.

Oh.. uh.. thanks.

I have.. fans?



Wait.... my what?!

Meanwhile...

So you're sure Trace is in this city?

Oh yes, he arrived a short while ago.

But he's a little busy right now, maybe you'd like to wait at the tavern, Mr... uh...

My name's not important, but we need to see him now.
Templar business.

...Alright, right this way, Sir.

...Mother...

Back at the Tavern...

Trace, come over here!

Flora?! Ack!

Wait, where are you going, Sir?

Don't you want to see Saria? She's really looking forward to seeing you!



Come on, Trace!

Where are we-
erg, Your claws!

I'm a Keidran,
remember? I can't talk
to you out there.



Grr... why didn't you tell
me you were married?
You knew, didn't you?



I had no idea!

I don't know anything about
my past, you know that! I don't even
know if it's true or not, really!



Oh, I know.
But if it's true.. I...
what about me?

Flora. Flora! Relax.
I'm sure it's just some
misunderstanding.



Why don't you let me handle
this? They have running water here,
you can go take a bath.

You.. heh, could use one.

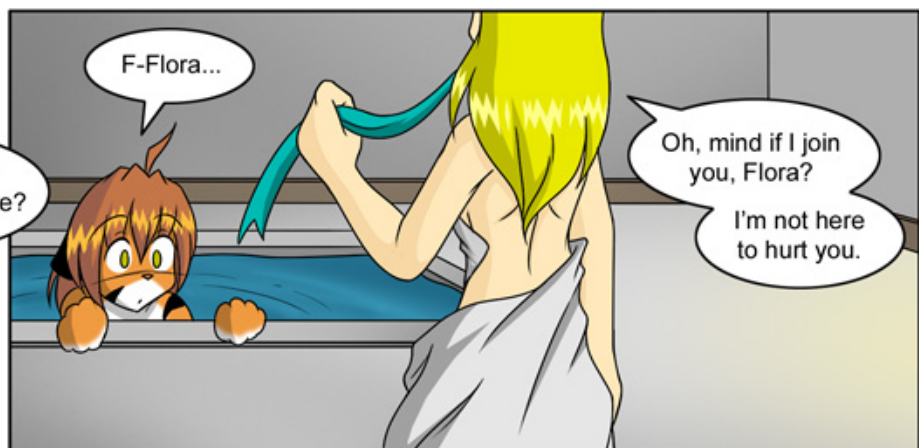
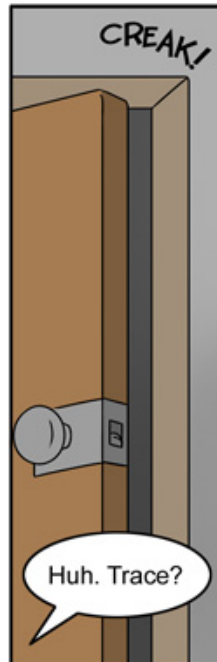
Oh, okay...

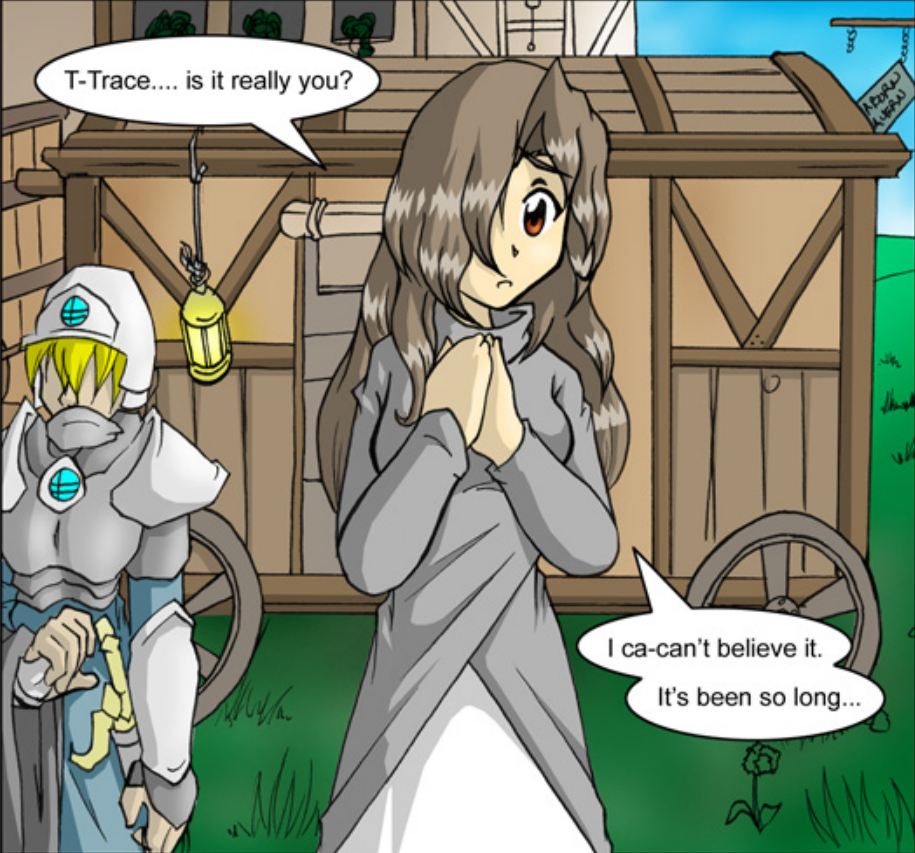


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Wait...
Did he just say
that I... smell?






T-Trace.... is it really you?


I ca-can't believe it.
It's been so long...




This is
my... wife?



You never wrote
to me like you said.
And none of my letters...



I... I'm really
sorry... Saria.



Oh, you don't.. don't
have to apologize, dear.
It... wasn't your fault...
I must have done somethi-

That's not what I meant.



Hm..?



nyaa!!!

What I meant was... I'm
sorry, but I don't.. know you.

I can't remember anything... at all.
It happened about a month ago.

You don't... remember me?



Are you okay?

COUGH!
COUGH!



Y-yes.. I'm fine.

Please, continue.



Well, like I said, I do remember some things. But only bits and pieces.

Something happens, and I remember an event from my past. It's how I knew your na-



TRACE!!!

Help me! I'm being chased by a Templar person!



Flora!



What the hell do you think you're doing? Didn't I tell you to wait for me?



You were supposed to.. supposed to wa.. wait...

Oh no...

Stop it!

It's not going to work this time..

Cut it out!

Don't even try!



Flora, wait!

Waaaaaa!



Looks like Trace still has the same impression on Keidran.



Flora, come on!
Arg...



...oh well..
It's not like she can go anywhere.
I'll deal with her later.



Aren't you going to go after her?
Huh?



I thi- think you should.
I don't know who this Keidran is.. but..
I saw that look on your face as she left.
I can tell you're going to regret it if you don't.



Ah...
Yeah, you're right.
What's wrong with me? How could I do that to her?



I need to go talk to her.
I'll be back in a few minutes.



I've... waited so long.. to see you again, my love.
This body of mine... can hold on... just a little longer.



Get out of there!

You crazy Keidran!

Ya can't just run in and take a room like it was yours!

You flea-bitten animal! I'm telling you, get out!



Um... excuse me, have you seen an orange Keidran with stripes around here?



Ah!

Grand Templar! I-I didn't know she was your Keidran, me Lord. Keep the room, it's fine!



uh...

Okay, whatever. Flora, it's me, Trace. Let me in.



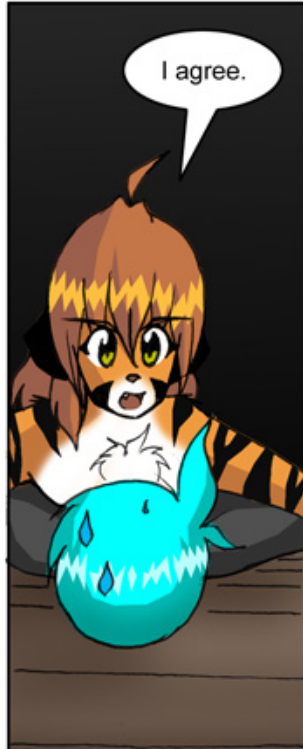
Woah, it's dark in here!

Flora? Where are you?
I think we need to talk... Flora?



RAAAWR!

GAH!



I agree.



Ever since we've been here it seems like you've been acting... different.

Giving me orders and ignoring what I say. I hate it. It's almost as if you really think of me as your slave.

Flora, that's not true...

I know... or.. I think I know. But it hurts. I don't want to be treated like I used to be, as a slave.



Flora, I'm really, really sorry.



I don't know why I've been acting like this recently.

It's just that.. you're a Keidran, we have to pretend at least.

Yeah, I know.

But I'll be easier on you from now on, I promise.

Mhm...

Flora?



Heehee...

Flora, what...?



Oh, crap! You-you're still...

That's right...

Flora, no! You don't know what your doing, stop!



And for no reason...

Sigh...

I think everyone forgot about me...



Flora, cut it out!
Come on, don't let your instincts control you like this.

But why not?

You know why. I'm not ready for this. Neither of us are. This just isn't the time for it!



That's better.
Flora, I care about you.
I don't want to take advantage of what you're going through.

Yes, I know... er.. sorry...



Heh, that's okay. I have to get back to Saria now. No hard feelings, right?



...no...



Trace doesn't want to do it now because he cares about me...

I know it's true, but... I can't help feeling rejected.



Later...

Flora? Hey, Flora! Wake up, will ya?



Mrrrr.....



Huh? Wha-? Wake up?
I must have fallen asleep.. how long have I been out?



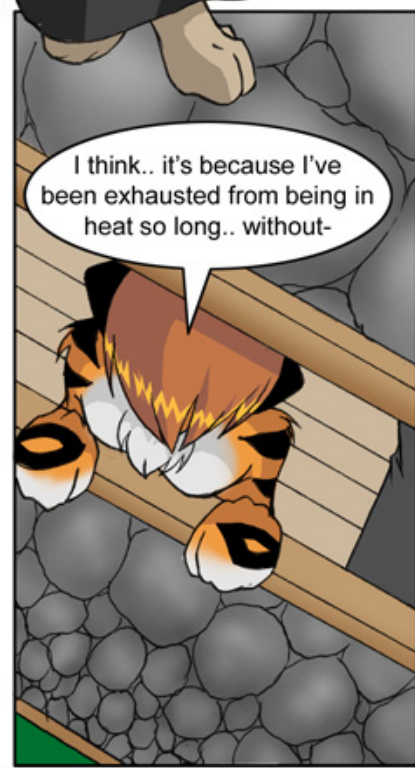
You've been asleep for more than a full day.
Here, I thought you could use something to eat.



A whole day?



Yeah, I was- er.. Trace was getting worried.



I think.. it's because I've been exhausted from being in heat so long.. without-



Mer...!



Get out of here! Quick!



Oops...

Sigh...

Flora... you don't have... that problem anymore...

What? Oh... you're right... I was afraid I might jump you... how'd you know that?



Because I'm not..eh... affected by it anymore.

OH! Hehe, I'm sorry!



I need to go wash up.... you can get more food downstairs.



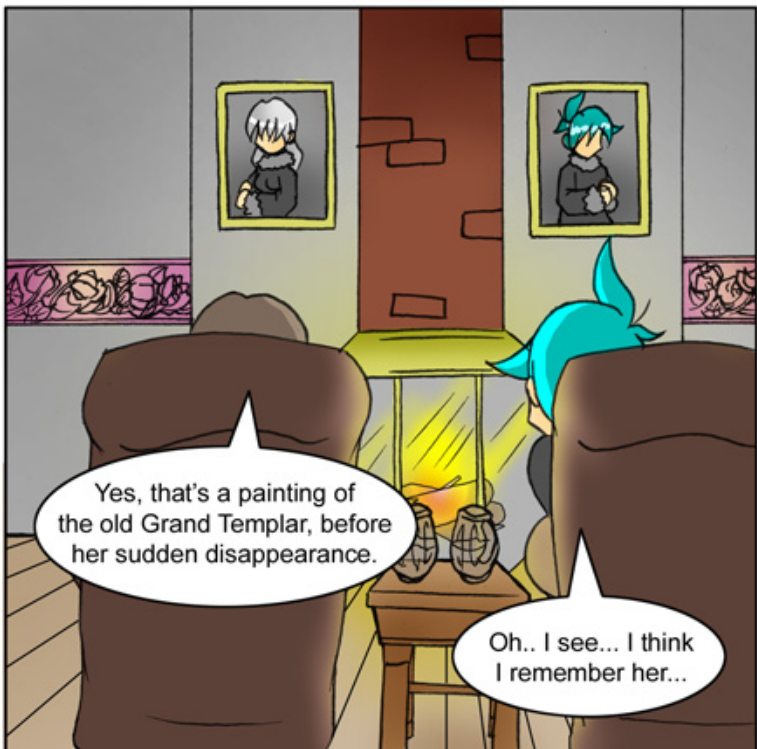
Hmmm... did Keith say the food was this way...?

I can't remember...



?

Mew?




Yes, that's a painting of the old Grand Templar, before her sudden disappearance.

Oh.. I see... I think I remember her...




Merrr...



So... what about that Keidran of yours?

Hm...? Oh, you mean Flora? Why do you ask?

Oh, no reason. I'm just curious as to how you managed to come across her.




It seems to me like you two aren't exactly slave and owner, am I right?



Yes... that's right.

I found Flora in the woods, shortly after waking up without any memories.

I have to admit.. we are friends. I know it's not right, but she is. She has been the only person who I think has honestly wanted to help me.




But... there isn't anything more between you two?

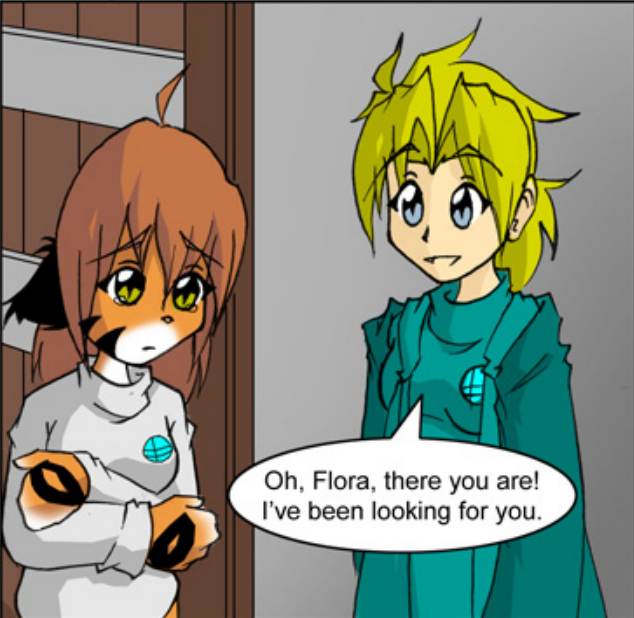
More? Uh... what do you mean?

Flora and I are good friends... but she's still a Keidran. How could there be anything between us?

Hm, I guess you're right.



She is, after all, just a Keidran.



Oh, Flora, there you are!
I've been looking for you.



I hope you've considered
my offer. I'm sure you want to get
back to your *Keidran* family.
After all, you are a *Keidran*.
And I know a *Keidran* like
yourself must want to be around
other *Keidran*, am I right?
You'll be free to do
Keidran things, all the
Keidran time!



Hey wait, where
are you going?

Nyaaaaaaaaaaaaaa!

Was it something I said?



Hey watch it- Flora?
Flora, what's wrong?
Nyeh.... sob....



Why am I a Keidran?



Er... Hey, Flora.
Come on, get up.
Everything will.. uh.. turn
out okay, I guess.

Sniff... sob!



Aw, crap.
I was never good
at being sensitive.



Flora, enough, please.
Get up. Even I can't stand
to see you like this.



Sniff... I'm sorry.
I can't help it.

Now, tell me, what's wrong
with being a Keidran?

Well, it's just that trace said...
he said that since I was a Keidran
we could only be friends...

He seems so happy with
that "wife" of his... why not, she's
a normal human being.

I just wish.. wish I was normal too.



Flora, listen
to me carefully.

You are who you are.
You can't change that.

We're both covered in fur.
We look different then humans.
But inside, we're still people.



And if Trace can't see
that, maybe... maybe he doesn't
deserve someone like you.



.....
Maybe you're right, Keith.



Oh, hey Keith.
What's up?

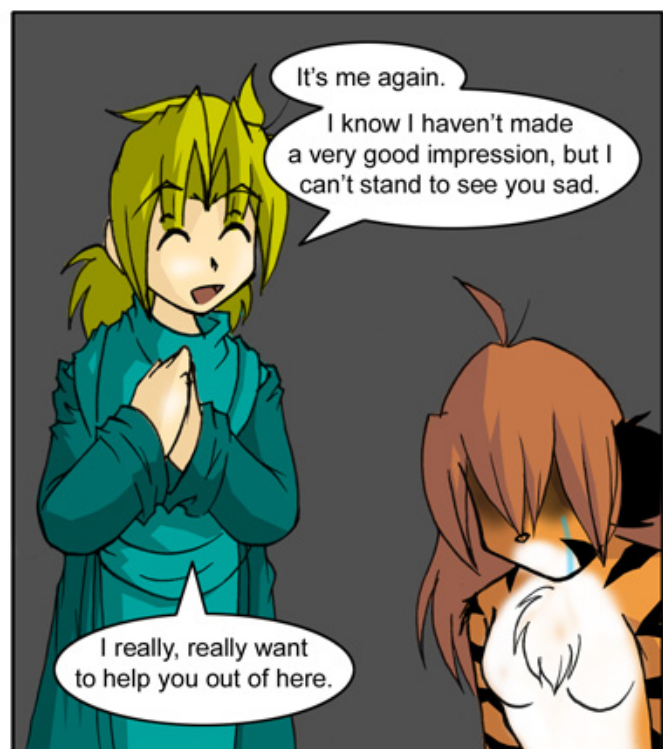


Keith, what are you talking about?



I couldn't tell Saria how I felt about Flora! I don't even know...

Oh, I see..



I really, really want to help you out of here.



End