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## Chapter 5

### Queen Mavis

MUSIC: (FADE IN) BLIZZARD OF OSBORN THEME

**NARRATOR** (V.O)

You're listening to The Blizzard of Osborn by Michael Sheen Cuddy.  
Chapter 5: Queen Mavis

**Scene One: Ext. Jungle – Day.**

SOUND: birds chirping

MUSIC: All Is Well (FADE IN).

*All is well, all is well  
we shall dwell where all is well  
in sweet heaven, seventh heaven  
that's where we shall dwell ...*

**CASSIE**

What's that sound Jet? It sounds like church.

**NARRATOR**

Indeed it did sound like church, like the choir in her Baptist church in Biloxi.

MUSIC: All Is Well

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**NARRATOR**

From out of the bushes a tall man in a flowing silver robe stepped forward, singing a deep baritone. Following him came a line of beautiful women, girls and boys, all dressed in matching silver robes, clapping and singing in joyous rapture.

MUSIC: All Is Well

**NARRATOR**

A circle of the youngest boys and girls came over and reached out to Cassie. She held the hands of the closest boy and girl as they sang.

MUSIC: All Is Well

SOUND: jungle morning

**NARRATOR**

They sang so happily Cassie couldn't help but smile though she had no idea why they were singing. Then a tall woman draped in a yellow and orange robe, different from the others, stepped forward. She carried a large staff that looked like Cassie's grandfather's walking stick but hers was gold and sparkled with rubies.

**QUEEN MAVIS**

Welcome! And thank you for freeing us from The Brother of the

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Crow.

**CASSIE**

But I didn't—

**BARITONE**

Hallelujah!

**QUEEN MAVIS**

There will be retribution, of course. There always is. But right now you have freed us from one of the most hated tyrants in the Empire.

**CASSIE**

Where?

**QUEEN MAVIS**

Oh my! You *are* from elsewhere aren't you? From which realm do you hail, child?

**CASSIE**

Osborn.

**QUEEN MAVIS**

Hmm, I know of no such place.

**CASSIE**

It's in North Dakota, but I grew up in Biloxi.

**REVELLERS** (giggling)

Biloxi? Where is that?

**CASSIE**

Mississippi.

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**REVELLERS**

Mississippi! Mississippi! Mississippi! Mississippi!

**QUEEN MAVIS**

Well then, my name is Queen Mavis. And these -- are the Revellers. As Queen of the Realm of Inthalassa I officially welcome you to the Empire.

**CASSIE**

The Empire?

**REVELLERS**

(more laughter)

**QUEEN MAVIS**

The Great Book foretells of a day when a Visitor from a realm far away shall come and slay the Crow. Perhaps you are this Visitor?

**CASSIE**

I didn't slay anyone!

**QUEEN MAVIS**

Well, if you didn't, then how was the deed done?

**CASSIE**

It was an accident.

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**QUEEN MAVIS**

And a very fortuitous accident for us!

**NARRATOR**

Queen Mavis glanced at the Hummer, then at Cassie and the Revellers.

**QUEEN MAVIS**

Everyone stay where you are for a moment.

**NARRATOR**

Queen Mavis went over to the wrecked Hummer. Cassie and the Revellers watched as the Queen removed a blanket from the back seat and draped it over the driver. Then she opened the glove compartment and checked the onboard computer.

Apparently satisfied, she left the Hummer and walked back to Cassie, holding a black box in one hand and a silver rhombus in the other. Then she stopped, turned around and pointed her golden staff at the Hummer. What looked like lightning flashed from the tip of the staff, arced over to the Hummer and exploded with a thundering boom. Thick dark smoke billowed from its blown out windows and swirled up from glaring orange flames.

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SOUNDS: rocket launcher, explosion

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**CASSIE**

Oh my god, why did you blow it up?

**QUEEN MAVIS**

To cover your tracks.

**CASSIE**

But I didn't do anything wrong. Why should I cover my tracks?

**QUEEN MAVIS**

You'll soon see.

**NARRATOR**

The Queen held up the silver rhombus.

**QUEEN MAVIS**

Do you know what this is?

**CASSIE**

A USB stick?

**QUEEN MAVIS**

Hmm. That's not what we call it here. Will you do me a favor?

**CASSIE**

Mmm ... I'll try.

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**QUEEN MAVIS**

Good. Squeeze this with your thumb and first finger while you put your other hand on top of this box.

**NARRATOR**

Cassie did as Queen Mavis asked and felt the black box vibrate under her left palm while a pale blue light pulsed in the silver rhombus.

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SOUND: sci-fi gizmo bleep

**QUEEN MAVIS**

The device has now been reset to you. From now on you're the only one who will be able to open it.

**CASSIE**

I don't understand. What am I supposed to do with this?

**QUEEN MAVIS**

You're supposed to bring it to the Emperor and show him what's inside.

**CASSIE**

Who's the Emperor? And where do I find him?

**QUEEN MAVIS**

The Emperor is very very far away, but now everyone in

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Inthalassa is counting on you to deliver this to him.

**CASSIE**

Why me?

**QUEEN MAVIS**

Because you're the only one without a tracker embedded in you.

**CASSIE** (troubled)

I'm sorry but why can't you just bring this to the Emperor?

**QUEEN MAVIS** (laughs)

You really *are* from another realm, aren't you?

**CASSIE**

Well, if North Dakota is another realm, I guess so.

**QUEEN MAVIS**

Very much so indeed.

**NARRATOR**

Cassie was staring at the rhombus, unsure of what to say.

**QUEEN MAVIS**

What is it child? Now you look sad.



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**CASSIE**

I just thought of my parents. They must be worried about me. I'd like to help you, honest I would, but I really just want to go home.

**QUEEN MAVIS**

There, there, child. Listen. If you take this to the Emperor the Emperor will see to it that you get home.

**CASSIE (unsure)**

How will the Emperor be able to get me back home?

**QUEEN MAVIS**

The Emperor can do everything. Just promise me you'll do your best and I promise you that you will get back home.

**CASSIE**

OK, I promise to do my best.

**QUEEN MAVIS**

Excellent! Now, the Icemen will be here soon. You must take the rhombus and flee into the jungle.

**CASSIE**

Who are the Icemen?

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**QUEEN MAVIS**

Who are the Icemen? My goodness! The Icemen are the Crow's security guards. They're called Icemen because their helmets and armor are made of *adamantine impermeum*, shiny and white. When they suit up in their armor they look like icemen. They're very dangerous. They'll hurt you if they catch you so *never* let them catch you!

**CASSIE**

I don't like the sound of this.

**QUEEN MAVIS**

I know, sweetie. But just do your best to deliver this to the Emperor. Once you do the Icemen will never be able to hurt you.

**CASSIE**

How do I find the Emperor?

**QUEEN MAVIS**

He lives in the Pinnacle of Aspire.

**CASSIE**

Where is that?

**QUEEN MAVIS**

Follow the cell towers.

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**CASSIE**

I don't see any cell towers.

**QUEEN MAVIS**

They're all around you.

**CASSIE**

The trees?

**QUEEN MAVIS**

Yes, though not all of them. Always look for the tallest tree. When you examine its bark, you'll find it's really a cell tower. Just keep following the cell towers and you'll end up in Aspire.

SOUND: engine revving

**NARRATOR**

A squad of white Rovers came roaring through the bushes.

**QUEEN MAVIS**

Go! Go! Go!

**CASSIE**

What about you? Aren't you in danger?

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**QUEEN MAVIS**

Yes, but Queen Mavis is not afraid. Queen Mavis is smarter than the Crow. You see, for all his weapons and rage the Crow is very ignorant. I know how to deal with him. Now run girl—run!

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SOUND: engine revving

**NARRATOR**

Cassie swept up Jet and dashed into the jungle.

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MUSIC: (BOZ-C5OM-IcemenHo2edd56b7.1)

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SOUNDS: engines revving

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MUSIC: Blizzard Theme (FADE OUT)

**NARRATOR**

Next, Cassie flees into the jungle when the murderous Icemen invade Inthalassa.

[ end Chapter 5 ]