

Kaelara looked at Quentin “why does all the old Krath legends have to do with power, where is the romance” she said with a sigh. Quentin raised his eyes from the scroll he was looking at “ Have I never told you the story of the star crossed lovers?” he asked her as he smiled “Sit back and relax and let me tell you the story of Elara and Nathaniel”.

Long ago a dark prophecy foretold an impending apocalypse that threatened to engulf the entire world in darkness, in this world there was a circus called Cirque de l'Espoir which roughly translates to circus of hope. Many who worked the circus found sanctuary under tattered canvas of a traveling circus for those seeking shelter from the impending apocalypse, a place where laughter and love still held sway amidst the encroaching darkness. It was here that a talented aerialist named Elara met a Krath Magician named Nathaniel, they were destined to fall in love their days filled with laughter and joy, a love so deep that all were envious specially Malachi Darkthorn the ringmaster. As the days turned to years the world grew darker and darker with despair everywhere the circus traveled. One day Nathaniel pulled Elara to the side telling her of a vision he had, and about the artifact causing the darkness and despair, it was close in the circus he believed it was held by the ringmaster. Elara was the one to come up with the idea to distract the ringmaster so Nathaniel could sneakily look for the artifact. Elara used the ringmaster's desire for her to get his attention in the main tent while Nathaniel slipped out heading to the ringmaster's private quarters, using his Krath magics he gets the lock on the door to release and looks around before ducking into the room to find the artifact. Entering the room he found the artifact sitting on a pedestal with a dark aura around it, what he hadn't known he set off a silent spell that alerted the ringmaster. While Nathaniel examined the artifact the ringmaster came into the room with Elara holding in front of him a knife to her neck,” Step away from that or she will die” Malachi says maliciously. “How could you bring this darkness about?” Nathaniel says as he holds the small artifact in his hand, shaking it at Malachi. “This is your last warning “ Malachi screams as he tightens the blade to Elara's neck.”Destroy it, how can we live in love and let others suffer” Elara screams before Malachi silences her by cutting her throat. “Nooooo” Nathaniel screams in rage as he uses the force to destroy the artifact unleashing a dark energy that encompasses him, before Elara's body could hit the floor he was already across the room unleashed lightning from his fingertips killing the ringmaster and swept down catching Elara before she could hit the floor. He

pulls her close screaming as if it would save her when she had already passed. Tears stream like rivers from his eyes as he weeps over her.

“No one really knows what happened to Nathaniel after that, some say he buried Elara then began to track down other artifacts, some say joined Elara soon after no one really knows I guess.” Quentin tells Kaelara looking up to see her crying herself. “That's not romance thats a tragedy” Kaelara says angrily, “most romances are Kaelara, most are” Quentin says before he rises gives Kaelara a gentle hug and kisses her gently on the head to console her while she was still crying, before leaving.

The end