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English 270

The Adventures of Legolas & Gimli
A Screenplay

EXT. DAY. BEACH.

Legolas and Gimli are pulling their sailboat onto a pristine white beach. Legolas turns to view the land they have found, but cannot see over the dunes that separate the beach from the land. Gimli glances at Legolas, then hurries up to the top of the dune.

GIMLI

Legolas! Come! You must see this! What a strange place
we have found!

Legolas does not hurry, but cautiously surveys the beach on both sides of him as he approaches the dune.

PAN LEGOLAS AS HE REACHES TOP OF DUNE.

The land is vast and thoroughly covered with tall, purple grass that is gently swaying with the ocean breeze. In the distance, a grove of tall trees crowned with yellow and orange leaves can be seen. The call of a wild animal, possibly a bird, is heard far away. Gimli and Legolas are both shocked, and stunned by the unnatural sight.

LEGOLAS

Come Gimli. We must explore this new land!

As Legolas takes his first step into the tall grass, they both hear a voice coming from within it.

VOICE

Who goes there? Please state your business before I call for
Saba!

Legolas and Gimli both search the tall grass looking for the owner of the small voice. Just then, a somewhat small cat (small as far as cats go, for neither Legolas, nor Gimli had ever seen a cat before) jumps onto the dune with all the grace and quickness afforded an elf, and begins licking a paw! Legolas and Gimli stare at the animal in utter amazement, unable to speak. The orange cat realizes what he's doing, and stops licking his paw.

CAT

I'm sorry. That was terribly rude of me. We're not used to seeing visitors in these parts, and to be perfectly honest, I'm not even supposed to be this far outside of the valley. Saba would be very upset if she ever knew. But of course, I know you're human, right? I have much experience with humans, since I used to be a housecat.

GIMLI

(stuttering in amazement)
Hou-hou-housecat?

Legolas regains his posture, and becomes intrigued with the new animal.

LEGOLAS

We are not human. I am an elf, and my friend here is a dwarf. Now tell me, if you will, what exactly is a housecat?

CAT

I used to be a housecat. Now I'm just a cat. You have never seen a cat before? Well, bother! I have never even heard of an elf or a dwarf before. How interesting! You must certainly come to the valley where you can be properly greeted, and thanked! Before you two pulled your boat ashore, we were about to be invaded by the ant tribe known as the cretans before you scared them away.

They are small, but have a vast army. They overrun us every other year to get at the sap of our barn trees which cover the valley. They were not expecting to see you! My name is Archimedes and I've lived in the valley for about six years now.

If you come with me now, I will take you to meet
Saba, the wolf queen, and the rest of the
citizens of the Purple Valley.

Archimedes jumps off of the dune, and disappears into the grass. Gimli gives Legolas a wide-eyed look, then the two travelers follow the moving trail of tall grass towards a new, and altogether unexpected adventure.