THE ANDBER WARS

BOOK 5:

THE PROPHETIC CAVE

Chapter 1: Two Weeks Later

The group still had not gotten over the death of Marty Woodworth. The Keeper and Coach still had minor gashes and wounds on the faces, and through their torn clothing were small cuts and scrapes.

Carlos had been exploring the enormous (as in several miles long enormous) cave looking for the prophecy that pertained to the Andber Knights and the three from Stratsford Island. There was still no sign of it.

Nicole had been slowly recovering, and using her magic to mend the Keeper and Coach. Nicole herself was badly bruised and injured.

"Thank God for you two," the Keeper's very weak voice would often say. "We thought we would die in there!"

"Marty died in there," Ally would say darkly. And lastly, Ally would not move from the edge of the cave, where she would inspect the brutally beaten body of Marty Woodworth.

The others kept strong, but would often become awkwardly silent when Marty was brought up. Ally cried more often, and sometimes Carlos would go into deep into the cave to sit alone. Nicole, would often sit by his corpse and just look at him, and fight tears.

As their short time in the cave proceeded, the Council of Magical Prophecies in the Magical Law Enforcement agreed that the group was in danger, and allowed them to stay in the cave.

The Keeper, when he wasn't sleeping or being mended would see some familiar faces drifting in and out of the cave.

Even once, a couple and their two children had to stay in hiding from the Knights. Magic traveled through generations, so it

would be natural that were many magic yielding people in this undercover world.

"The Knights are practically in control of our world and the mortal's," the man (whose name was Douglas) would say.

"More and more people on the run, in hiding. Occidio himself responsible for most murders."

"Where is he in Andber ranks exactly?" Ally asked.

"Sir Occidio is the supposed leader of the Knights since the last one moved onto the afterlife," Douglas would say. "He is known now by his feared name that he went by hundreds of years ago called 'Occidio' or 'Massacre' if translated from Latin. No one really knows his real name."

Some people from the Council would typically pop in for a prophecy that was easily found.

The couple kept moving on, from place to place, and eventually Magicapperated away from the cave, because they might have been tracked.

On a snowy mountain night, Carlos had skipped dinner, and on a good note.

"Guys!" he yelled, as he got closer to the other four.

"Guys! I found our prophecy!"

"How can you tell?" Coach asked.

"It has 'Apple Cider Island Trainees' scratched in above it. It's really old, and really weird."

"Let us go then," the Keeper said, trying hard to stand up.

Carlos grabbed the Keeper, Nicole and Coach's arms and said the spell.

"Veneficus Apperate!" he said silently, and swerved out of the cave, only to reappear a second later. He grabbed Ally's arm and held it tightly, then looked her in the eyes before Magicapperating away. Carlos returned once more, and that was to move the body of Marty Woodworth. Carlos didn't tell the others that he found a prophecy that referred to returning the spirit of one death to stop the death of thousands. There was one place to go to in order for this event to prevail: London, England.

"Resilio!" Carlos said, and sparks flew from his hand, and shrunk the body of Marty Woodworth into a doll, and Carlos put it into his bag.

"Veneficus Apperate!"

"Okay," Carlos said by the campfire. "So let's review the Andber Bases we've found and destroyed."

"We got the one in Riyadh," Ally said. "And the one in Tikal."

"Then before Marty disappeared, we got the one in Petra, and we tried to find him, and accidentally blew up the Turkmenistan base in the process," Carlos said.

"And then we," the Keeper said, "decided to help you and destroy the one in Fiji."

"Who would've thought a place as peaceful as Fiji would have and Andber base?" Carlos asked.

"Anyway, and then we all got the one on Stratsford Island," Nicole finished.

"And then we have to get the one in London," said Carlos.

"Well if what the couple said is true, and the Knights really are taking over the world, and recuperating in London, then we really don't stand a chance," the Keeper said.

"Keeper," Ally said, "is there something you're not telling us?"

There was silence, and Ally could tell, how the Keeper's voice had changed drastically, how he had more wrinkles than usual.

"Yes, children. See, when the Knights captured us after our victory in Fiji, they put a very bad spell onto us. We are turning into our actual age of 112."

"What!?" Ally yelled. "You guys, you're in trouble! We need to get you a potion or something to change you back!"

"No," Coach said. "No. We will be fine, as long as we do not get seriously harmed again."

"We have to get rid of these Knights, and fast at that,"

Nicole said. "Who knows what they'll do if they take control of
the entire world?"

"Well, I get that we only have so long," Ally began, "but can we at least do some kind of cleaning up before that?"

"She's right," Nicole said. "I don't think that any of us have showered in like four weeks!"

"I think there is one thing we need even more than showers though," Carlos said. "I think it would help a bit more if Ally and I fight fire with fire, meaning we have to use their kind of magic against them. It would be better if we get wands."

At that moment, the contents of Carlos's bag spilled out and revealed the figurine of Marty, who came to his actual size and gasped for air, sitting up.

"I'm limited to 500 words, so I need to make this quick," he said. "Go to Dawn's wand shop, under Prophetic Cave Level three. Use code names; because the Knights want you five, they've taken over the government. You're the entire top wanted people in the magical world. Go through you're powers quickly and don't Magicapperate directly into to London, go somewhere you can make an excuse for being in. When you use a wand, think about what you want it to do, and it will do exactly that for you." He gasped for breath.

"The Grim Reaper is after me, but if you can find and destroy the Argenesshal Ghost Agreement, than you can let me out of the Underworld for more the my death reset time."

"How long's that?" Ally asked.

"One second," he said, raising his index finger. "I can be released, and then I'll be back for a few minutes, until the code is fixed, and, well from there, do any of you know a vampire?"

There was an awkward pause for ten seconds or so.

"I do," the Keeper said.

"Good Keeper," Marty continued. "Have him with you the second the Argenesshal Ghost Agreement Tablet is Broken, and then my spirit will come soaring out of it and he'll need to bite me."

"What?" Nicole asked.

"I'll tell you more when I'm back and the Agreement is broken. No one thinks it will ever happen, but if you go to Dawn himself, really old looking dude, and tell him that Norman sent you. Only one of you can go, and Carlos, I suggest it's you. The wand he'll give you will be fit for your personality and has been waiting for you for over 10,000 years."

He stopped for a moment, and looked down the cave.

"You're not too far from Dawn's, it's easy to go there, but Knights are everywhere. And yes, we are the three of the prophecy."

Marty lied on his back and looked at the ceiling for a few seconds, knowing it was time for him to go, but Nicole came over to him for a moment.

"It's good to see you Marty," she said.

"It's good to see you, too Nicole. After you take the wand, be careful, it won't be long now. Time is a lot slower in the underworld; it's been about a month since I've arrived. I miss you guys. We are the ones of destiny."

Marty lie there, staring at the cave ceiling once more, still as could be, just like last time.

"Okay," Carlos said. "Uh, what the heck was that??!!"

Carlos was in fact the one to purchase the wand.

He dressed in a long gown that covered his face, and he walked slowly down the ladder to a very dark alleyway, somewhere in the world. Carlos walked down, and saw the faded sign of 'Dawn's Wand Shop' and walked through the door, a bell sounding through the small shop.

"Hello," he said.

"Good day, sir," said the elderly man, who's voice resembled the Keeper's in a way. "How may I help you?" "Are you Dawn?" Carlos asked.

"Yes, I am, where do you think 'wand' comes from? They scrambled the letters in my name up on me!"

"Norman sent one of my friends, and he asked me to fetch his wand."

"Ah! Yes!" Dawn made a fist with his thumb sticking out, and the wand appeared in his left hand, clutched beneath his grasp.

The wand was about a foot and a half long, and was exceptionally long compared to the others Carlos had seen.

"This particular model is eighteen inches long, made from Burch, Oak and has pure graphite at the center. This wand comes with numerous copies. You look a bit un-kept. Been in hiding?"

"Haven't we all."

"Occidio has practically taken over the world, and is now at his strongest. I'm going to put a duplication spell onto this wand, just in case you need a spare. Just press the birch at the bottom."

"Thank you."

"Oh, and one more thing. He's after you. You best stay where you are Mr. Tettrazzini, if you're doing something, then do it fast."

Carlos stared at Dawn.

Dawn smiled, and Carlos left the shop.

The group had tested out the wand, made preparations, and disguised themselves convincingly enough to be posers.

The Keeper had invited his friend, Kaplar, the vampire to stay with them until the plan was underway.

The Prophetic Cave was like a second home for them, and they were leaving that day. They had found the entrance to the Department of Magical Dead Laws.

"This place is spooky," said Kaplar. "And I'm a vampire."

The building was a large marble and metal, and was in a square-like shape, that made it even scarier looking from the outside on this particularly rainy day.

"The Argenesshal Ghost Agreement is in the main hall, right when you walk in," Kaplar said.

Sure enough, the huge tablet was in the front hall, covered in a glass cubicle. Carlos pulled out his wand, and moved it up and down, making the glass disappear.

Some guards came over and watched curiously, thinking 'Surely they're not breaking the agreement or anything'.

Carlos flicked the wand and it broke the tablet down the core, unveiling a translucent Marty Woodworth who went over to Kaplar.

"Kaplar, bite me right now!" Marty said. The alarm sounded and guards came closer and closer.

"What?"

"Do it!"

Kaplar took a large bite of is teeth into Marty's wrist, and Marty cried out loudly.

"That will revert me to a normal soul, but I'll have more of the qualities of a vampire. Carlos through my figurine body." The second the body touched Marty, it grew to him, and it just looked like Marty had appeared in color, as his soul had looked the same as the regular him.

Marty put out his hand, and the guards stopped. The chandelier stopped swaying and everything in the world but the six had stopped moving.

"Good," Marty said. "We've got about ten minutes, so let me explain what happened, and how we get out of here."