

The Blade of the Temple 2



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Chapter 7: The Monster Realm

Jasmine sighed and looked around the place they had landed in. It seemed to be a valley with two mountains either side of it. The ground was dark red, and it was hotter than on the surface of the Earth. They decided to walk up one of the mountains to have a look for any place they could get food or water. Jasmine already felt hungry, but she didn't let that stop her. As they climbed the mountain, they noticed that the ground was more grippy than on the surface. *Weird*. Jasmine thought. From the top of the mountain, they were disappointed to see only more mountains, and figured that they were low down for the Monster Realm. They walked down to the foot of one of the taller mountains and saw a small entrance in the mountain. Tom stopped Jasmine from going any further.

"Let's watch," he said. They lay down there to rest, while watching if anyone went into the mountain. Soon enough, a cross between a human and a fish strode in, wearing a suit, tie, and blazer. It was different from a mermaid because it was fish head, body human, rather than head human body fish. One step away from entering the mountain, something pounced on it, and then quickly retreated into the cave it was hiding in.

"I am going to investigate," said Tom, but this time it was Jasmine who stopped Tom.

"It is probably a scavenger. It will kill you if you go."

“That is a risk I will have to take,” said Tom, “If we want to get out of here, we need to take risks.”

“Not unnecessary ones though.”

“This risk is necessary,” said Tom, and, brushing her arm off him he crept down to the cave. It was dimly lit with torches on both sides. Red spikes hung from the ceiling, and they looked like they were about to fall down and impale anyone who wasn’t careful enough. As he crept forward, he heard voices. They sounded human, but Tom couldn’t tell for sure.

“WHERE IS THE HEART?” shouted someone.

“T...t...this is the e..e..east point. I..i..it is w..w..west of here.” and then it sounded like the speaker was thrown onto the floor. Tom peeked his head around, and, unfortunately, made eye contact with the prisoner after a few seconds. In these seconds he scanned the room. There was a back exit, and three swords hung up on the wall. The scavengers were human, as it sounded like and they were sitting around a circular table. Once the prisoner made eye contact, it was hard to look away. He tried to mouth something, but Tom didn’t understand what he was trying to say. He guessed he would say *get me out of here!* Tom wondered if these scavengers could help them. They probably shared a lot in common. As the prisoner mouthed, one of the scavengers looked down and saw him. They took a moment to follow the prisoner’s eye line, before spotting Tom.

“Hey you! Come here!” Tom scrambled away from the room.

“Hey! We’ve got an eavesdropper!” the scavenger said to the others and led out of the room.

As the group came, one of them turned around and pressed a button on the wall. Suddenly, the main exit shut, leaving Tom cornered! He turned around and heard from the room that the fish mutant grabbed a sword and killed the scavenger who stayed back. Then Tom heard him run out of the back exit.

“Wait, you’re a human as well,” said the scavenger, “I thought we were the only ones dumb enough to accept the challenge.”

“What challenge?” asked Tom.

“What did you do then? Fall in?” the scavengers laughed, but their laugh was interrupted by the news that the prisoner had escaped.

“You’re working with them, aren’t you!”

“What? The Monsters? No!”

“Well why did you act as a distraction” she said.

“I..I didn’t mean to!” protested the boy.

“Lock him up,” she said, and turned around and strolled off. The other scavengers came closer to him, and Tom didn’t think it was worth a fight now. He was forced down a corridor labelled “Cells” and got pushed in one of the cells.

“Traitor” the scavenger said, and walked away, locking the room.

Tom sat there unsure of what to do next. *Its OK.* He thought to himself. *I can explain this to them. I'll be fine.* But as he stayed in the grotty cell for longer, his hopes started diminishing...

Chapter 8: The Aquius Tribe

Jasmine was getting worried. She had been waiting for half an hour, and around ten more fish mutants had entered the mountain. There was no day or night here, as the Sun never rose. There was no weather here too, other than the temperature, and apparently the mistiness. Over the past half hour, the mistiness had risen dramatically. *Maybe Tom's left.* She thought. She crept up to the cave, but the entrance was blocked. As she came up to the blocked entrance, a fish mutant appeared from the mist. Jasmine drew her sword, and the fish mutant drew his two daggers. They had blood on them, but that didn't intimidate Jasmine. She ran forward and swiped with her sword. He blocked, forcing her to stumble backwards. He ran to her and stabbed down, but Jasmine rolled away and got up. She swiped again, this time at his back, but he dodged and looked back at her. He charged with his daggers and Jasmine blocked one of them, but the other caused her to step back again. The fish mutant threw one of his daggers at her and charged again. She stopped the flying dagger but let her guard down and felt the tip of the knife find a place in her leg. The pain stung for a second, and then she was knocked unconscious.

When she woke up, she was in a big room, with many other humans in it. On the floor a grid had been marked so that

each person had a square. The door was locked and bolted, but from behind it you could hear footsteps of fish mutants walking around. It sounded like they were marching, and soon Jasmine heard,

“We are going into battle for the future generations of the Aquius people. We are going into battle for all monsters. We are going into battle to wipe out the human horrors. We are going into battle because we are forced to. We have no other choice. To battle we go!” and the army of fish mutants marched out of the mountain. As the sound of the footsteps died down, there was a thud against the door and a fish mutant guard cried out in pain. After a few seconds, the door gave way to four armed humans burst in.

“Everyone, you are freed!” the cried. And as they said it, around a dozen more guards rushed in to stop anyone from escaping. They looked like they had already done it before, because the were battered but still obeyed the commander, who was behind the group. The scavengers quickly passed around a few weapons that they had, but Jasmine was not near the front, so she didn’t get passed a weapon.

“We filled our pockets up with weapons, but only a fraction of you can we supply. The rest must fight with no weapon. You may think that we have got you killed, but you would rather die in glorious battle than being sacrificed to the Aquius Gods! With that knowledge, stand with us!”

Some people tried to run, but most were slaughtered. Some people tried to fight, but the 30 people who fought only killed 2 fish guards. Most people stayed with the scavengers, the people with weapons at the front. Both forces kept their

defence for a bit, before the guards saw a weak spot in their line and attacked it. Unfortunately, Jasmine was behind that weak spot, so she had to fight with no weapon. As the humans fought, reinforcements arrived, around 25 more fish. One of the mutants swiped at Jasmine. She dodged and kicked the guard in the face. He staggered backwards but was only angered by her. He swiped again but this time let his guard down. Like a tiger pouncing on its prey, she seized this opportunity and kicked the guard in the face again, and then tripped him up by kicking him hard on the ankles. As he fell, he revealed behind him another guard, this one stronger and more fit than the other. His face was grim and look as if he had killed many like this, and he snarled before strolling up to Jasmine. She realized that this species was only men, before she saw him draw a silver sword. He swiped and Jasmine seized this opportunity to thrust her hands out and it tore apart her ropes. She was surprised by this reckless move and thought that the guard wanted a fair fight. The fish drew another silver sword and focused his eyes on Jasmine.

“You will pay for what you have done!” and he crossed his two swords and started charging. Jasmine blocked with her iron sword, but it didn’t stop him. He kept charging, pushing her back, his momentum too much for Jasmine. She let go and dodged out of the way which sent the fish flying off. He stopped and turned around, obviously surprised by Jasmine’s quick feet, but he tried not to show this.

“You...” and with that he came back up to her and swiped at her head. She crouched but the mutant’s other blade came down. She tried to leap away but it caught her foot, and the pain came to her foot immediately. The guard raised its two

swords, smiling for the first time Jasmine had seen. Down came the swords and... Clang! They met with what looked like a metal pole. Jasmine could hear more swipes and grunts before a shriek came from the human that had saved her with the pole, and he flopped to the floor.

The fish turned back around towards Jasmine. He raised his swords again. As he came down, it felt like time went in slow motion. *I can't die here, someone just sacrificed themselves for me!* And, with all the strength she had left, rolled away and got up. She swiped clumsily at the mutant, and he backed away. Then he made a cross with his swords again and charged. *The same trick never works twice.* Jasmine thought. She fell backwards deliberately just as he was about to run her over and raised her sword and sliced one of his legs clean off. The fish fell forwards, groaned, and died. Jasmine picked up one of his silver swords, examined it, and then put it in its sheath. Soon, the fight died down and the prisoners had won the battle. For many, this was the first time they had fought, so there was a brief moment of cheering, before more guards rushed out of the doors.

“Come on, lets get out of here!” shouted a scavenger, and lead the way out. Ignoring the pain in her foot, Jasmine ran past all the dead bodies and followed the stream of people out of the mountain and back into the open air. She was a quick runner and made it to the front of the group. As the group flowed out, the doors closed, trapping half of the prisoners inside. Then more fighting broke out in the mountain and it was very one-sided to the Aquius tribe. Jasmine looked around. There used to be around 100 prisoners, and now there were less than 20.

“We can’t leave them!” shouted Jasmine.

“Well how do we free them?” her nearest rescuer replied.

“There is no way now. They are trapped. If you want to survive, you have to leave them.”

“But...” but it was no use. The group didn’t wait to hear her out.

Jasmine sighed and followed the group, now starting to dislike the scavengers. They had left the back exit and walked around the mountain in an uneventful hour. Jasmine would have liked a bit of fresh air, but the air even outside of the monster realm was not exactly *fresh*. Jasmine plodded onwards and followed the group into a curious hole in a hill.

Inside the hole were three corridors. The one on the left was labelled Cells, the one on the right was labelled Watch, and the one in the centre was labelled Rooms. The scavenger turned right, though the “Watch” corridor. They came into a big room lit better than all the others.

“We have saved you from the horrible Aquius tribe,” said a scavenger who was standing up on her chair, “and so you owe us your lives. You will fight to destroy the Monsters, and we will help you. We need an army, and you are now part of it. We will strike at the centre point and will share the prize money. Does anyone object?” Silence spread across the room. No one disagreed, but Jasmine was confused. She decided not to speak up about it. Maybe ask someone some other time.

“Then we are ready.” she continued, “in a weeks’ time we will attack. For now, rest. And good luck.” She signalled to the scavenger who brought them there and he led them back and through the “Rooms” corridor.

“I forgot to introduce myself.” The scavenger said as they walked, “I am Sinn, the second in command. These are the rooms that you will be sleeping in. Each room has 10 beds.” A few minutes later, Jasmine was assigned to room 2 bed 4.

“For now, these beds are randomly allocated, but after the first day, there will be 3 squads: squad 1 will be room 1 beds 1-4. Squad 2 will be beds 5-1, overlapping with room 2, and squad 3 will be the others.”

Jasmine got into her bed and leaned back on the wall. The room was stuffy, and squashed, but it was better than being in that massive mountain. She was very confused by everything because it had all happened so quickly. What prize money? What is the centre point? Now she had found people who shared a common goal with, and so the only problem she had, which was finding Tom. How was she ever going to find him if she is *here*? Stuck in a training camp with some monster killers who want lots of money? She didn’t know that Tom was actually leaning back on the wall on the other side, and wanting to know exactly the same things...

Chapter 9: Round 1 of the Test

When Jasmine got up the next day, she looked up to see the sun rising, but then she remembered that they were stuck in the monster realm and the sun never rose.

“Right, everyone! Today we put you in squads, tomorrow to six days’ time we train you, and on the final day you will go into battle. To find out who is the best and who is the worst” he did not stop to think about who he might be offending in the future, “we will be doing a test. There are three rounds, first place gets 5 points, seconds gets 3, third gets 2, fourth gets 1 and last gets nothing. You have been split in into groups of 4.

“Round one- get me a prisoner. Go!” Jasmine looked around. There was a Aquian walking to the mountain. Many other people saw them too, so that would have to be plan B. Plan A is to find a different Aquian. Jasmine discussed her ideas with her team, team blue, and 2 other people liked her plan. But the other was already pouncing on the Aquian in sight. He was struggling and looked like he needed help.

“I will help him.” Jasmine said, “you go and find another Aquian.”

Jasmine ran out of the cave and did a mid-air kick on the Aquian’s head. He fell over but got up again before Jasmine or her team member could react.

“What are you doing? I got this!”

“No, what are *you* doing?” asked Jasmine, “you left the team!”

Jasmine’s team member pushed her back into the cave, but Jasmine grabbed hold of him, bringing him back as well. He got a dagger out of his belt and threw it at the Aquian, who didn’t expect it.

“He saw the cave.” Jasmine’s team member said, “and I am called Samuel.”

They came back with the Aquian, surprised that they had no competition, and saw one of their team members in a net trying to get out. The other member was trying to cut the net, but she was being held off by two people of a different team.

“Team Red are the Winners, they have brought a member of the Blue team, Team Yellow are second, Team Blue are third, Team Green are fourth, and Team Orange are fifth.” Sinn wrote the scores on the wall. They looked like this:

Team Colour	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Total
Red	5			
Orange	0			
Yellow	3			
Green	1			
Blue	2			

“You can’t bring a member from a different team and call them a prisoner!”

“Well, you can because Team Red just did, and that’s why they are in the lead. From behind him, a member from the Red Team smirked at her. She thought about going back up to Sinn, but it was no use, he had made his decision. Jasmine disliked these monster-murderers even more now. She sighed and went back to the rooms.

“Cheaters” Jasmine muttered.

Chapter 10: Round 2 of the Test

“Round two- everyone put on a helmet. Last team standing. A team is out if there is only one person who has a helmet in the team. You will also be using Iron poles. No killing each other, but other than that there are no rules. Fight!” immediately, half of the people lost their helmets, which meant that team Green was Fifth.

“Team Green: Zero points!”

After that, Teams Orange and Red teamed up to defeat Team Yellow, whilst Jasmine and the Blue Team snuck away from the cave. They soon heard Sinn say:

“Team Yellow: One point!”

As Sinn said it, a sneaky Orange Team member tried to get Jasmine’s helmet off. She tilted her head one way, but a Red Team member jumped down and caught it. Jasmine stomped her foot and joined the group of people who lost the helmet too. She saw the Blue Team running further away from the cave, standing no chance again 8 people, when they only had 3. The Blue Team didn’t have good chances, but they were quick. They got past the two teams and stole one of the Orange teams helmets. 3 v 7. They ran away, but soon got cornered in the cave. Watching her team fail wasn’t a great experience, but them she realised something. The two teams were now bunched up, guarding the entrance to the cave. Jasmine snuck behind them and took a Red Team Member’s helmet. She snuck away before they saw her. *The rules didn’t*

say that people with no helmet couldn't fight! she thought to herself.

“Hey! Betrayal!” said the Red Team Member, who thought that the Orange Team had turned against them, and suddenly civil war broke out. For a few seconds, there was a swarm of angry Red and Orange people raging at each other, before it died down with two Red members and the Orange team had been defeated.

“Team Orange: 2 points!” said Sinn, now enjoying the fight.

Jasmine was back with the now massive group of people who lost their helmets. She saw one of the Red Team members chuck their pole at Samuel. His helmet flew off and he sat down next to Jasmine. Jasmine explained her idea. This time, Samuel understood and they both waited patiently until the Red Team were close enough.

It was 2 v 2 but the Blue Team were still edging back, not knowing what to do next. They were still trapped in the cave.

Jasmine shouted “NOW!” and she and Samuel leaped up and snatched the Red Member’s helmets off their heads.

“Hey, that’s not fair!” shouted the Red Team.

“Yeah, they haven’t got their helmets!”

“It didn’t say in the rules that a person without a helmet couldn’t fight!” said Sinn.

“So we could have been fighting for this whole time?” said a member of the Yellow Team.

"No, because once your Team is out you can't play. Team Red: 3 points. Team Blue: 5 points!"

Sinn wrote updated the table on the wall. It now looked like this:

Team Colour	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Total
Red	5	3		
Orange	0	2		
Yellow	3	0		
Green	1	1		
Blue	2	5		

This meant that they were 1 point behind the Red team.

"The Final Round, Round three- there are 4 paths ahead. You can go far right, right, left or far left. Far left you will get the gold gem. Bring it back and you will get 5 points. Left you will get the Silver gem. Bring it back and you will get 3 points.

Right there is the Bronze gem. Bring it back and you will get 2 points. On the far right there is the Copper gem. Bring it back and you will get 1 point. You have over Lunch to decide which path you will take.

They ate at their bed, and each team had two people on each room. Jasmine was with Samuel.

"We should go big. If we don't, the Red Team will win. If we do, then at least we have a chance of winning."

"I thought I was the reckless one!" Samuel smiled took a bite out of his sandwich.

"So, you agree?"

“Of course I agree! We just have to get that point across to the other two though.”

“What? Risk it all?” said the other team members, “no way! I am happy with second.”

“They caught me in a net like I was some kind of animal said the other, “We have to beat them.”

“He is right, we have to risk it.”

“I can’t believe I am doing this,” she said, “But fine. We will go gold.”

“Thanks!” said Jasmine. And so after lunch they had their path chosen.

Chapter 11: The Final Round of the Test

With their plan decided, the only thing they could do wrong now was not get the gem. They lined up and the start on the far left, all ready to run.

“Each path is around 500 metres. Make sure you stick to your plan. The race will begin in 3...2...1...GO!”

Jasmine pushed off. Samuel was slower than her, but she suspected that there would be multiple traps along the way, so she stayed with him and the group. The Red Team wanted to secure their lead, and so they also went for gold. The gold path lead them down, underground. The slowest Red Team member was far behind already. Underground there were holes on the floor everywhere. The group spotted them and stayed away. The Red Team lost its quickest runner, who was now far behind the Blue Team. As the second slowest runner of the Red Team slowed down, Jasmine sprinted up to him, jumped off the wall on the right, and kicked her in the side of the head. The Team went past her too. The path came back up to the surface (of the Monster Realm) but didn’t stop there. It continued upwards up a mountain. It was very tiring, and the group stopped once to catch their breath. Then the path curved back down again, and one of the members of the team sprinted up to it, happy that the climb upwards was over. Unfortunately, the other side was a drop to a river. They fell off the end and ended up in the river. The water in

the Monster realm wasn't exactly *fresh*. It was more purple than blue, and had black spots flouting around in it. From where Jasmine stood, you couldn't see any creatures in the river, probably because it was so murky, but there could be other monster lurking at the bottom.

"We can't touch the black bits," Samuel said, "they give you a horrible disease called Aquanotia. It heals Aquians but has a 90% death rate for humans."

"When did you find that out?"

"Well I was just reminding you. Anyone who accepts the challenge knows it."

Samuel saying this reminded Jasmine.

"Err... What is the challenge?"

Samuel looked around.

"You're not here for the prize?" he asked.

"What is the prize?"

"The prize is ruling the Surface Realm, or the overworld. Same thing. That leader, whoever she is, she promises us a high rank if we help."

The other Team Member interrupted their conversation, "Err... sorry to interrupt, but may I remind you that we are in a race? The finish line is over there. The only other Red Team member is running over the bridge, but it is a long way away. The only chance of winning is if we cross the river."

Immediately after hearing this, Samuel dived off the cliff.

"Err... I guess that leaves us with no choice then," said Jasmine and dived off the cliff with Samuel.

The final member sighed and followed along. *Does Samuel not remember what he said himself?* They thought to themselves as they jumped off the cliff with the group. As the team crossed the river, the number of black spots multiplied, and soon there was no way through.

"We're doomed. Look, the Red person has crossed the bridge, and now he just needs to get to the gem. Unless we can magic away these black spots, and we can swim faster than he can run, we've ..." said Samuel, but before he could finish what he was saying, Jasmine was underwater, swimming underneath the spots. Samuel sighed and followed. The other two followed, though unsure about what might happen if they ran out of air.

As Jasmine continued swimming, the spots started to fill the whole river. She would have to make it to the end of the river without breathing...

Far away, locked up in a cell, was Tom, worrying if he would ever get out, or if he would be killed. He was bored already, even though he had only been trapped here for a day. Now he understood Jasmine's warning, and regretted spying on these scavengers, or even just entering the cave they lived in. As he sat, motionless and hopeless, light seemed to shine in

his head. It got brighter and brighter, and suddenly he was no longer seeing through his eyes, but saw Jasmine struggling to cross a river. Tom wanted to help, but he was overwhelmed by his new sense that he took some time to stop himself trembling. He felt himself changing the landscape, making the river shorter. He knew what Jasmine's task was. He had heard it from the cell. In his head he stretched the path for the Red team and pushed them back. Once he had done this, the image faded in his head, and his sight returned to normal, through his own eyes, in the damp cell. He collapsed to the floor, out of energy.

Jasmine was going faster than she expected. The sand kept getting closer, until she slumped out of the water. Her team followed, and the Red person was just behind them. Jasmine stopped running and kicked the last member of the Red Team in the face. Samuel claimed the gem and held it high! But emerging from the water was the three other members of the Red Team. They were red-eyed and enraged.

"We are the only people who deserve to win." said a Red Team member, who was called Jacob.

"Well we have won," replied Samuel.

"No you haven't. You still have to bring it back. And to bring it back, you will have to go through us. This is no silly game now; you can't cheat reality." and with that Jacob jumped up

and mid-air kicked Samuel in the face. He fell backwards, unconscious. Jasmine took the gem from him and said, “If I give you it will you stop bothering us?”

“Oh, sure!” replied the smiling Jacob. Jasmine threw Jacob the gem, and he caught it and grinned the same grin again.

“What are you doing?” whispered her teammates. She ignored them and turned back to Jacob.

“Now leave us al...” but Jasmine was interrupted by a loud bong on her head...

Chapter 12: Around the Fireplace

Tom had regained his strength.

“I have to get out of here,” he muttered to himself, “let’s see if I can change things around me.”

So he put his mind in the same state as he did for Jasmine, and, using his mind, he shifted the bars slightly to the left, unnoticeable to the guard that just walked by, but just big enough for Tom to squeeze out of. He had little training at the temple for sneaking out of prison, but he was a quick learner and soon enough he was at the exit.

“Hey! Who are you?”

Tom looked around. He saw a boy in wet clothes and long hair. He remembered him to be Jacob, who was part of the Red Team. Knowing that in a few seconds he would alarm the guards, Tom kept Jacob distracted.

“I’m, err... from the Green Team.” he blurted out.

“What’s your name?”

“Err... Tim” said Tom.

“Tell me if you see Jasmine come back. I’ve got a little surprise for her!”

“Jasmine?” he said, but instantly regretted saying it.

“Yeah. You know that cheat from the Blue Team.”

“Yeah. She’s a total cheat. Bye!” and Tom turned around and walked off quickly. Jacob frowned, but went into the cave. The mountains flattened out, and trees grew to make a forest. The trees in the Monster Realm were not green. Some were red, some were purple, and some were a mix of both. Running through the forest was a river, and Samuel guessed that it was the same one that he saved Jasmine from. It was half as wide and there was a bridge across it. *I just need to follow the river, and Jasmine should be there* he thought to himself. Walking by the river was not as nice as it would be in the Human Realm, but it was still more pleasant than the cells in the cave. As he continued, the river widened, and he could see in the distance another bridge, the one the Red Team crossed. A few steps after that he saw a fireplace. *I must be close.* As he scanned the area for Jasmine, three people jumped out of a hedge and thrusted spears at his neckjjhjjuhg

“Who are you?” said a boy.

Tom stepped back and said, “I am looking for Jasmine.”

The boy lowered his spear.

“We can’t get her to wake up, and she is too heavy to carry back to the cave. Which team are you in?”

“Oh, I am not in a team.”

The boy raised his spear again.

“If you aren’t with us, then you are our enemy.” and the boy jabbed. Tom avoided the jab and kicked his spear out of his hands. The other two circled around him menacingly. Tom

tried to kick their spears too, but they saw it coming and jabbed at his foot. Tom fell over backwards and failed to get up.

“Stop!” said a voice that came from the bush.

“Jasmine?” Tom wondered.

Jasmine stood up and walked over.

“Tom?”

Jasmine smiled and greeted him. In no time they were gathered around a fire.

“This is Tom. We fell in this horrible place together and found the cave. Tom, what happened?”

“I went into the cave, and I heard the group of you scavengers talk. They were interrogating a prisoner and when they saw me, I ran. They were distracted, and the prisoner escaped. They accused me of being a distraction when actually I just didn’t understand. They threw me in prison, and I managed to escape the next day. Then I found you. What happened to you?”

Jasmine explained what she had been through in the best detail she could.

“I would like to stay here and listen to people’s life stories, but me and the others need to get back to the cave.”

“OK. See you at centre point.”

The others raised an eyebrow.

“The place where you will attack in a few days.”

Once the three had left, Tom asked, “so you are leaving them.”

“Well yeah duh! So the plan is to help them kill the monsters by meeting them at this ‘centre point’?”

“Yes. But there is something else I have to tell you.”

“What it?”

Tom sighed.

“I’ll tell you in the morning. It’s getting dark”

So that evening the pair slept around the fireplace.



The Blade of the Temple 3 will be out soon!

Tom and Jasmine has fallen into the Realm of Monsters, and both end up separated and captured. Can they reunite or will they be stuck forever?

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