

# **Dragons of Spring Dawning Study Guide**

## **Dragons of Spring Dawning by Margaret Weis**

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# Plot Summary

Dragons of Spring Dawning by Margaret Weis and Tracy Hickman is the third book of the Dragonlance series. It is a classic fantasy adventure story that is reminiscent of the Lord of the Ring Trilogy by JR Tolkien. A group of friends sets out to stop an evil dark queen from taking over the world.

Tanis, the hero of the book, is a half-elf in love with two women. As the book opens, it is revealed that Tanis has betrayed his friends to spend a few days making love to the enemy, High Lord Kitiara.

He eventually leaves her and rejoins his friends, unknowing that he is being followed by a spy. The friends, Riverwind, Goldmoon, Tika, Caramon and Raistlin, take a boat out of the city to escape the troops that are looking to capture them. The spy tells Kitiara of their boat trip and she follows them on her dragon steed.

The boat is driven by a man named Berem. He is the Everman or a man that cannot die that the Dark Queen is looking for to complete her power. Berem crashes the boat into a whirlpool to escape Kitiara. Raistlin uses his dragon orb to disappear and the friends are rescued by sea elves.

The sea elves take the friends to Kalamon, where they realize that the princess and general of the army, Laurana, has been captured by the dark queen because she was tricked into thinking that Tanis was dying at Kitiara's lair. The friends, now including Tas and Flint, set out to save Laurana. Flint dies of a heart attack along the way and is taken to the afterlife by a wizard named Fizban.

Everyone is taken captive except for Tanis. Kitiara still thinks that he is loyal to her. She makes a deal to spare Laurana's life Tanis pledges his undying loyalty to the Dark Queen and to herself. Tanis agrees, but during the ceremony of Kitiara's crowning as emperor, Tanis steals the crown.

As Tanis is stealing the crown, Berem, Caramon and the newly appeared, healthy, Raistlin reunite the jewel in Berem's chest with the column that he stole it from when he was a young man. The Dark Queen is sealed into a magical jail, where she cannot escape.

Raistlin helps Caramon, Tika and Tas escape from the Dark Queen's castle as it starts to crumble due to the queen being locked up. As the tower crumbles, Tanis and Laurana run from the ceremony room into the hallways. Tanis declares his love to Laurana just as Kitiara catches up with them. Kitiara offers to let Tanis rule the Dark Queen's former armies with her, but he declines. Kitiara lets the two go, telling him she is letting him go because she loves him.

Raistlin has decided that he wants to rule the world with his newly found power and leaves Caramon, telling him that they must live two separate lives now. Afterwards, all of

the remaining friends meet on top of a hill outside of the queen's city. They decide that the war is over and that they will all go their separate ways back to their own hometowns.



# Book 1, The Everman and Chapter 1, Flight from Darkness into Darkness

## Book 1, The Everman and Chapter 1, Flight from Darkness into Darkness Summary

The Everman is the prologue to Dragons of Spring Dawning. It focuses on Berem and his sister, Krynn.

Berem is dreaming and in his dream, it has been a long winter and they are having trouble hunting for food. Krynn leads her brother down what she thinks is a animal path and it turns out to be a very old human-made path.

The forest has been burned. Berem follows his sister and soon they come upon the site where the forest fire may have started. They find the ruins of an old building. One of the columns is still standing and it is encrusted with valuable jewels.

Berem proceeds to gather one of the large green jewels by prying it free with his knife. His sister protests, saying that he is desecrating what must be a temple to some evil god. Fearing the wrath of the god, Krynn tries to get her brother to stop, but he is set on gathering the jewel so that he can sell it for food.

Krynn persists and Berem becomes angry. He pushes his sister and she hits the column. She starts to bleed and dies. The fallen columns of the temple rise from the ashes and Berem feels a pain in his chest. Berem awakens from his dream and realizes that the captain of the ship he is sailing, Maquesta, is yelling at him to be ready for an oncoming storm. We learn that Berem does not speak in his real life and acts much like a child, although he is 50 years old.

The prologue ends with Berem's dream replaying as he falls asleep in his quarters.

Chapter One, Book One, opens at the Saltbreeze Inn in the city of Flotsam, on the cliffs of Bloody Bay . Tanis Half-Elven is introduced as a dragonarmy officer that is having an affair with the Highlord of the dragonarmy, Kitiara . Tanis leaves the comfort of the inn and battles through the freezing rain and wind to meet his friends at another inn, the Jetties.

At the Jetties we meet Caramon, a big, hefty warrior, his wizard brother Raistlin , husband and wife Riverwind and Goldmoon and Tika. The two brothers are twins, but magic has turned Raistlin into a frail man.

Tanis lies to his friends and tells them that his absence has been because he was captured by a Dragon Highlord and just escaped to find them. Raistlin instantly knows that he is lying but the others believe him without question.



During Tanis' story, we find out that the draconian army is looking for a man named Berem, a man that Caramon and Tanis had met before, but Caramon doesn't remember, to Tanis' relief. The friends agree to leave by boat the next morning.

The Highlord realizes that her lover has left her thanks to a spy that followed Tanis and the note he left for her on the nightstand. She becomes angry and begins breaking things in her room.

## **Book 1, The Everman and Chapter 1, Flight from Darkness into Darkness Analysis**

The Everman prologue revolves around Berem's feelings for his sister. He contemplates how close he is to her. The relative sexism of their culture surfaces as Berem contemplates, "She works too hard...Doing woman's work and men's as well." This concept comes up again later when Berem thinks to himself, "Ha! Stupid girlish notion."

The burned forest may symbolize the desolation of the sibling's livelihood. The forest has become barren, and their food source has dried up. The jewels represent hope for the two siblings, but one is hesitant and the other is greedy for this hope. In the end one kills the other for the treasure in a classic sibling rivalry.

In Chapter One, readers are introduced to the main characters, Tanis, Riverwind, Caramon and Raistlin. The twin brothers represent a sort of yin and yang aspect. The stronger brother fights well with a sword and complements the weaker brother's magic capability, becoming a force to be reckoned with.

Tanis struggles with the lie he has told his friends, but feels they trust him more than Raistlin, so he comforts himself with the fact that they will not find out about his treachery.



# Book 1, Chapter 2, Pursuit

## Book 1, Chapter 2, Pursuit Summary

Chapter Two opens with the friends, Tanis, Caramon, Raistlin, Tika, Goldmoon and Riverwind, all in the twins room in the inn. They are planning their boat trip away from Flotsam. Tanis insists that they must leave today, though the other friends are worried about the raging storm outside.

They board the *Perechon*, but Maquesta refuses to leave the harbor because she is afraid the storm will damage her boat. Tanis takes Maquesta aside and informs her that the draconian army is looking for her helmsman, Berem.

At first she does not believe him because she believes that Berem is a half-witted mute, but Tanis persists and she resolves to throw Berem off her ship to keep herself out of trouble. Tanis convinces her that the draconians will arrest her anyway, because Berem was linked with her ship and because villages are burned to the ground wherever Berem goes. The draconian army does not want him to spread the secret he has. Berem took the job on the *Perechon* to hide from the army and to protect people from his secret. Maquesta tells Tanis that she'd rather be out at open sea than trapped like a rat, so they go north, avoiding land.

As they sail, Tanis watches Berem as he steers the ship and thinks about how he saw the man months before with a green jewel embedded in his chest. Tanis believes that he can see a bit of green underneath Berem's shirt. He wonders what is so important about the jewel that Kitiara would waste valuable wartime to find it. He remembers how Berem was buried alive under a mountain of rocks during the battle of Pax Tharkas, but then Tanis saw him alive, later, at Goldmoon and Riverwind's wedding celebration. He realizes that Berem has superhuman powers, but he does not know why.

The next morning the crew and the friends awaken in the Blood Sea of Istar, a sea that is a dark and blood red. It is said that the sea was created by a flaming mountain crashing into the wealthy city of Istar. The ground was split in two, which created the sea. The color comes from the soil of the old city, which is constantly being churned by a maelstrom at the center of the sea.

This worries Tanis because he knows that they must get to their destination, Mithras, by sailing across the sea. Maquesta reassures him that they can sail around the storm and get to their destination with reasonable speed.

The sailor in the crow's nest yells to sail west and the captain and her first mate look out to the sea with their spyglasses. They spot something on the horizon and Tanis realizes it is the draconian army lead by Kitiara. The realization makes him so ill that Caramon has to hold him upright.





## Book 1, Chapter 2, Pursuit Analysis

Tanis is struggling with his dishonesty in Chapter Two. He wants so badly to tell his friends the truth. He almost hopes that Raistlin will out him so that he will be forced to tell them the truth. The fact that his friends trust him so much keeps him from confessing.

The storm in Chapter Two could easily stand for the raging emotions that Tanis is having over his dishonesty. It is also a classic example of the author accumulating more adversity for the heroes to add drama and tension to the story. They are already being chased by the Draconian army, but Weis and Hickman raise the stakes by making the storm fight against the friends, as well.

As Tanis studies Berem, he realizes that the man seems not to have a care in the world, then he realizes that Berem is simply resigned to his fate, whatever that may be. The book alludes to the fact that Berem knows that he is hunted and that he has blood on his hands, but still must carry on with living.



# Book 1, Chapter 3, Gathering Darkness

## Book 1, Chapter 3, Gathering Darkness Summary

Chapter Three opens with Raistlin announcing the approach of dragons. Maquesta quickly puts her crew to work on taking evasive action. She is terribly worried about the damage the draconians may cause to her ship.

Berem is ordered to take the ship around the edge of the storm. The Draconians are gaining quickly and Raistlin points out that they cannot outrun the dragons. He proceeds to point out that Tanis was followed, or that Tanis led the army to them. Tanis denies this, swearing that he would never turn over his friends to the army. He realizes that Kitiara must have had him followed.

They realize that one of the dragons is being ridden by the Dragon Highlord. Tanis knows that the Highlord is Kitiara. Caramon demands to know why the Highlord would follow Tanis, since he escaped dressed as a draconian soldier. Tanis is interrupted by the loud roaring of the dragons.

Berem quickly sails the boat into the maelstrom at the center of the sea. He thinks that the dragons will not follow the boat into the storm, but he is wrong. The Highlord is so bent on capturing him, she rides into the storm after them.

Berem's shirt flies open, revealing the gem in his chest. It is glowing brightly, so Kit knows exactly who she needs to capture as she rides over them.

The twins realize that the Highlord is their half-sister and she realizes that the men on the deck of the boat are her half-brothers she raised from birth. For a moment, she is conflicted. To capture Berem, she would have to kill her brothers and the man she once loved, Tanis. She hardened her heart, then swooped in for attack, not noticing how bad the storm had become. The dragon and rider disappear into the storm.

The friends take shelter in the captain's cabin as the crew try to sail out of the storm. All of the friends have realized that Tanis was lying, that he had spent the last few days with Kitiara, and they confront him.

Tanis admits that he had dressed in draconian armor and was attacked. Kitiara had saved him, realized who he was, and believed that he had joined the draconian army. They went to the inn and made love for the next four days. She offered him the ability to rule if he would help her find Berem. As soon as she left for an errand, he left.

He swears to his friends that it was all an act of passion and that he never betrayed anyone, that is why Kit was so shocked to see her brothers on board the ship.

The friends say little, but their actions show that though they are disappointed, they understand what it means to love someone and they understand his actions.



They are called up on deck and the captain announces that they are doomed. They are stuck inside the maelstrom.

## **Book 1, Chapter 3, Gathering Darkness Analysis**

Berem has no emotion during the ship's flight from the draconian army. He simply does his job. This is a further insight into the life Berem has created since he found the green jewel. He has turned from being an emotional and outspoken man, to a mute, emotionless man.

When the dragons arrive, Berem finally shows an emotion. It is fear. Although scared, he skillfully sails the ship. This shows that Berem has control over his emotions and is a quick thinker under pressure.

When Tanis realizes that Kitiara had him followed, he realizes that he has been a fool to trust her. He realizes that she never loved him and only used him, that she is incapable of loving anyone. He feels sick about sleeping with the enemy and begs his friend's forgiveness. He points out that most of them know what it is like to be in love, so they must understand why he did what he did. This is the author's way of justifying the hero's actions to the reader, as much as to the companions.



# Book 1, Chapter 4, My Brother

## Book 1, Chapter 4, My Brother Summary

Chapter 4 opens with the Perechon hurtling towards the center of the whirlpool in the middle of the maelstrom. Tanis has resigned to the fact that he will soon die. He feels numb, without any fear as he clings to the rail of the boat. He decides that death will be welcome when it comes. Berem seems to feel the same way. He stops trying to steer the ship and stands calmly.

Caramon shakes Tanis and reminds him that Raistlin may can change their fate with his magic. They find Raistlin in the captain's cabin already conjuring a spell. He is using the dragon's orb , which has grown to the size of a child's ball. The spell isn't to save the ship and passengers, though. Raistlin is conjuring a spell to combine the energy of his body and soul so that he can turn into pure light. As light he will be able to travel anywhere and anytime.

Tanis asks if the spell can be done for everyone on the ship and Raistlin responds that there may be the possibility, but he won't chance it. He is saving only himself, and won't even consider saving his brother. Tanis decides to stop the spell so that he can reason with the mage, but Raistlin pulls out a small dagger and threatens Caramon and Tanis.

Tanis urges Caramon to stop Raistlin because surely the mage wouldn't harm his own brother. Raistlin assures him that he could, and tells Tanis about his mage test in the Tower of High Sorcery. During the test Raistlin was given the choice to kill Caramon and he did. It turned out that it was an allusion to test how wicked his heart was. Caramon had been forced to watch the test so that he would know the depths of evil in his brother's soul.

Tanis tries to jump forward and steal the dragon's orb, but he is frozen as Raistlin finishes the spell. In a flash of light, Raistlin disappears. The blast hurts Caramon and Tanis carries him to the deck. Goldmoon goes to work trying to heal him.

It seems that her work is in vain, because the ship starts to dip into the whirlpool.

Tanis goes over to the deck and tells Riverwind of his lack of will to live. As he talks, he realizes that Goldenmoon is pregnant. Riverwind confirms this and Tanis feels even worse, because not only has he lead his friends to ruin, but also an unborn baby. Riverwind tries to reassure Tanis that he is still a good person as the ship tilts forward into the whirlpool. Just as it does, Kit and her dragon, Skie, fly over and make one last attempt at grabbing Berem. Tanis runs forward and knocks Berem out of the way. In anger, the dragon swipes at Tanis, knocking him out.

The Perechon then dove into the void of the whirlpool as Caramon chants, "My brother, my brother."



## Book 1, Chapter 4, My Brother Analysis

Throughout Chapter 4, Tanis struggles with guilt and shame. He realizes that there is no hope for escape from the whirlpool and that he has led his friends to their death by sleeping with Kit and inadvertently leading her to his friends. He compares his selfishness to that of Raistlin as he confesses his sins to Riverwind on the deck of the boat.

Unable to stand his guilt any longer, he denies the existence of gods and wills the sea to swallow him up. Even though elves do not believe in destroying living things through suicide, Tanis longs to end it all.

With all of this all-consuming emotion, Tanis shows true character and heroism by throwing aside his feelings to save Berem from Skie the dragon. Though his bravery is admirable, it seems that he will die anyway, injecting dark emotion into the plot of the book.



# Book 1, Chapter 5, The Chronicler and the Mage

## Book 1, Chapter 5, The Chronicler and the Mage Summary

At the opening of Chapter Five, Raistlin lays dying on the doorstep of the revered historian Astinus of Palanthas. Astinus orders a servant to give Raistlin a room, even though the library of the Order of Aesthetics doesn't ever have guests.

As Raistlin lay in his bed he realizes that he is dying and cursed his frail body and the mage tests that made it frail. Raistlin's last hope was the secret spells that lay in the books of the Order of Aesthetic's library. He believes this because the dragon orb has told him.

Astinus comes to visit Raistlin and he realizes that the man is immortal. Raistlin is told by a monk that Astinus was placed on Krynn to document the life of the first person born and the last person born. In desperation, Raistlin tells Astinus that he will not live forever, that he will only live hours and that he wants to spend his last hours studying in the great library.

Astinus agrees to allow him to use the library, though, once there, all of the books say exactly the same thing. They all seem to say the same thing, "Thus with the Key, You unlock our Mysteries." There is no mention of what the key is or where you can find the key. Raistlin becomes furious and uses the rage to summon the magic he was too weak to summon moments before. He trashes the library, expending all of his energy.

Astinus comes in to find Raistlin dying on the floor. The dying mage asks who Raistlin is and Astinus tells him that it no longer matters while turning to leave. The mage becomes angry and demands that the cold-hearted historian not turn his back on Raistlin as he has the world. This makes the very placid historian angry.

He lashes out, yelling that he has lived every life, experienced everything that has ever happened on their planet. He lives a cold life so that he can express the lives, the emotions of the people of Krynn on paper. He does this, he says, using the Sphere of Time that Raistlin, his old friend, made for him.

He proceeds to speak of the end of time, when the gods will gather with their great keys, The Keys of Knowledge. At that time, his writings will be placed on an altar with the keys and the world will be complete.

Raistlin doesn't seem to be listening and exclaims that he knows what the key is. He pulls out the dragon's orb from his pocket and murmurs that he knows who Astinus is. He is the man who saved Raistlin during his mage tests. He says that they struck a



bargain and Astinus must save Raistlin to save his own life. Tries to hand it to Astinus. The historian does nothing and the mage dies.

Astinus returns to his study and stares into the darkness.

## **Book 1, Chapter 5, The Chronicler and the Mage Analysis**

During this chapter, Raistlin fights death even as the thought of his twin accompanying him to the afterlife comes to his mind. Even though he believes that his twin is already dead, the mage still thinks of him coldly and without love. All he can think about is how unfair life is and how he should not die.

His meeting with the historian hints on the fact that Raistlin and the oldest man in the world have been friends for a very long time. This connection could be spiritual or it could mean that Raistlin has been reincarnated.

The historian could be a parallel to the Christian God. The historian's books are much like the Biblical Book of Life and he is an all-knowing being. Raistlin could very-well symbolize the sinner in Christianity who cannot grasp the key to everlasting life because he refuses to hear the truth, even as it is told to him.



# Book 1, Chapter 6, Palanthas

## Book 1, Chapter 6, Palanthas Summary

Chapter Six opens with the introduction of Tanis' old friends, Tasslehoff, a kinder, and Flint, a dwarf. The kinder is telling the dwarf about sighting Raistlin on the steps of the great library of Palanthas. Flint doesn't believe him and cautions Tasslehoff, Tas for short, not to tell Laurana, their friend, elf princess and Tanis' first love, about it, since she has enough to worry about.

As the two friends walk down the streets of the city, they become lost. They come upon a strange and dark road and the kinder decides to investigate out of curiosity. They realize that all of the buildings on the street, even the mansions, are empty. They both become frightened by the eeriness and bone-chilling coldness of the area. Flint wants to go back, but, ever curious, the kinder wants to keep exploring.

The dwarf finally concedes and the two friends come upon a grove of oak trees at the end of the street. As they approached the edge, they became numb with cold, even though the rest of the city was warm. The dwarf, frozen to his spot huddled against the cold as the kinder marches into the center of the grove. Kinders are naturally curious creatures that are usually unafraid of anything, but Tas felt terrified for no explainable reason. Then, he saw what was at the center of the grove and run as fast as he can from that part of the city with Flint in tow.

Once they were back in the warm, populated area of the city again, Flint asks what Tas saw. Tas explains that he saw a tower, just a tower, but that it was the most terrifying thing he had ever saw in his life.

Later on, Laurana asks the Lord of Palanthas what the kinder could have possibly seen in the grove of trees. He shows her the tower from a window and explains that it is the Tower of High Sorcery. The lord explains that the tower was cursed. Astinus, enters the room and the lord encourages him to tell the story of the tower.

Astinus asks the princess what she knows of the tower and she tells him that she once knew someone who had tested there. Astinus guesses that she is talking about Raistlin and she is shocked that he guessed correctly. He comments that he knows all history and that he will tell her the story of the tower because it is tied to her destiny.

During the time of the Age of Might, people became distrustful of magic users and rose up against them. There were five towers in different cities throughout Krynn. The magic users destroyed two of the towers. The Kingpriest of Istar came to the mages of two of the remaining towers and made a deal with them. If they left the tower without destroying it, he would allow them to take their scrolls and books in peace. The mages of one of the towers agreed and the Kingpriest soon moved into the tower. To protect the tower of Palanthas from being inhabited by the Lord of Palanthas, a black robed





mage cast a curse on the tower. The curse repels all mortals with fear and the curse can only be broken when "the master of past and present returns."

## **Book 1, Chapter 6, Palanthas Analysis**

During Astinus' story about the cursed Tower of High Sorcery, he describes the orders of the wizards. There are mages that dress in white, which are good wizards, mages that dress in red robes, which are neutral wizards, and black mages, which are evil wizards. All of these wizards are allowed to exist, even the evil ones, because nature needs a balance of each.

Raistlin wore a red robe as neutral mage. This seems to go against all of the evil that he has committed up to this point in the book and in the book series.

Another telling point of Astinus' story was about the balance of mage power. The gods determined that magic folk must tire easily to keep them from becoming god-like in their power. This explains why Raistlin was always drained of energy after using even simple spells.



# Book 1, Chapter 7, Commander of the Knights of Solamnia

## Book 1, Chapter 7, Commander of the Knights of Solamnia Summary

Chapter 7 opens with Laurana, the historian Astinus and the lord reading a scroll sent from Lord Gunthar. It is a reply to a message that Laurana had sent him a few days before. She had requested to know who was in charge of the armies since all of their older knights have perished. He replies that she is the new general of the army. This is unheard of, since women do not have roles in the military, generally. Laurana is the only woman warrior and most of the men have thought that she is just playing army. Now, she is their general because she is the most experienced soldier still alive.

Knight Sir Patrick protests because she is a woman. Astinus stands up to him and tells him of a valiant female warrior that became a knight and died with honors in the Third Dragonwar.

Laurana realizes that she is now the commander of a ragtag group of soldiers left over from battle. She becomes frantic and begs Astinus to help her. He allows her to ask two questions. First, she asks if there is another dragon orb still in existence. He states that there is, but it is beyond her grasp. She becomes more frantic because she knows that Tanis used to have it.

She asks Astinus if he has lost the dragon orb and where he is. The historian tells her to put it out of her mind. She asks what that means and he states that he see the present, not the future. He has seen love lost and that the world is worse for the love lost because a man or the woman didn't know her own heart. Laurana doesn't understand. Astinus says, "Concentrate on your duty," and leaves, without hearing her second question. She took Astinus' words to mean that Tanis was lost to her and resolves to lead the armies.

Laurana meets up with Tas and Flint later that night and tell them that the griffins have reported dragons heading towards the city. Soon, they see ten dragons in the sky, flying over the walls of the city. Tas and Flint stare at the dragons, and realize that the riders aren't draconians, they are friends that can help them with the war. The two become excited and yell at the soldiers to lay down their swords.

## Book 1, Chapter 7, Commander of the Knights of Solamnia Analysis

After Laurana asks her first question, Astinus tells her a "riddle" about lost love. Laurana decides that the answer is that since he talked of lost love, which meant that Tanis is



lost to her, never to be recovered. She draws this conclusion because in a previous book she had met up with Kit and Kit had told her that Tanis was with her now.

Though this may be a good answer to the riddle, the author may also be referring to the fact that Tanis is currently thought to be dead. If he is dead, then he is truly lost to Laurana. Though this is not true, it makes the reader worry that the main character is dead, adding drama to the book.

The author also adds drama by having Astinus lie to Laurana. Astinus knows where the last dragoon orb is, since Raistlin had it in his hand when he died in front of the historian, but he tells Laurana it is out of her reach. Why does he do this if he could just tell her where it is or give her the dragon orb? This sets up a scene for later in the book.



# Book 1, Chapter 8, The Oath of the Dragons

## Book 1, Chapter 8, The Oath of the Dragons Summary

The opening of Chapter Eight is a continuation of Chapter Seven. The dragons and their friendly riders have just landed in the city of Palanthas. The people have been reassured that the riders are friendly, but the people are still wary of their presents until Astinus comes from the library and tells them everything is fine.

The dragons are silver dragons, good dragons, ridden by Laurana's brother, Gilthanas and Silvara, and a silver dragon that has been transformed into a human because she is in love with Gilthanas. Astinus is narrating this part of the chapter and he notes that all he sees between the fallen dragon and her lover is anger, not love.

Silvara tells Astinus the story of the good dragons. After the bad dragons and the Dark Queen were banished, the good dragons left as well to maintain the balance of good and evil in the world. They went to rest in a sleep that was supposed to last forever, but the Dark Queen rallied the evil dragons and convinced them to steal the eggs of the good dragons. The eggs were hidden. Theros Paladine, a knight that was a main character in previous books, awoke the sleeping good dragons and told them of the egg theft.

To avoid the killing of the eggs, the good dragons took an oath not to involve themselves in the coming war of the Dark Queen and the Draconians. The elves and Theros convinced Silvara that this oath was wrong, and that the dragon babies can be saved with a rescue mission.

During the mission, Silvara and Gilthanas were captured by Lord Verinaard and were tortured. The two escaped and traveled to the Dark Queen's tower. All they found were shells. They heard a sound coming from a chamber nearby and peaked in to see what was going on. They saw a golden egg being placed on an altar. Mages in black robes cast a spell on the egg and it birthed a draconian instead of a dragon.

Silvara and Gilthanas reported their findings to the dragons and they realized that their oath was no longer binding since the Dark Queen was turning their babies into draconians. This is how the good dragons have come to aid in the war. They also bring with them lances that can be strapped to their sides. The lances can be used to battle the evil dragons in mid-air battle.

Later, Gilthanas visits his sister in her room. He tells her that during his escape from the Dark Queen's town, he overheard Kit talking to a lord about promoting Tanis to general in the draconian army in exchange for information about the Green Gemstone Man.



Laurana becomes distraught and tells her brother to leave her. After a few minutes, she calmly goes back to planning her battle for the next day.

## **Book 1, Chapter 8, The Oath of the Dragons Analysis**

Though there is a lot of information about the dragons during this chapter, there is also an abundance of information about the character's relationships.

For example, during the telling of the dragon story, Gilthanas continually glares at Silvara and pulls away from her when she tries to comfort him. Silvara, on the other hand, is constantly searching for some bit of kindness from her lover. Gilthanas believes that she has betrayed him in some way, though how she betrayed him is not revealed.

Laurana obviously still has feelings for Tanis by her reaction to the news her brother told her, but she regroups quickly. This may be a sign that she is getting over him.

At the end of the chapter a parallel is drawn between the two relationships when her brother says, "I understand what it is like to have love betrayed..."



# Book 1, Chapter 9, Victory

## Book 1, Chapter 9, Victory Summary

In the opening of Chapter Nine, the good dragon army, lead by Laurana "The Golden General," are readying for battle. Flint and Tas have their own good dragon to ride upon, but Flint is having a hard time convincing himself to mount it, since dwarves have a natural aversion to horses, boats, and other things that move.

The dragon, Khirsah, also known as Fireflash, becomes impatient and decides to help the dwarf mount him. He grabs the kinder by the vest and plops him onto the riding saddle and extends a wing for Flint to use as a staircase to the saddle. Before Flint can grab the reigns, the dragon takes off. This is a clever ploy to keep the dwarf from controlling his flight patterns.

The army of dragons, riders and foot soldiers leave the city and travel across the Solamnic Plains. Soon, Tas spots a battle below as the troops meet up with the dragonarmy.

Suddenly, all of the good dragons started disobeying their riders and paired off in twos and threes. The dragons were air fighters, so they decided they would do the directing while the riders used the dragonlances they had brought.

Tas, Flint and Khirsah go after two blue dragons, taking them by surprise. The first dragon is clawed by Fireflash. The second dragon is stabbed by the dragonlance after some maneuvering and Fireflash and the blue dragon become stuck together. The rider of the blue dragon jumps onto Fireflash with the intension of cutting the dragon's harness, which will free the lance, but will also free the saddle that the kinder and dwarf are sitting on. Tas jumps on the back of the rider and blinds him while the dwarf unstraps the dragonlance. The dragonlance becomes free and Fireflash lands so that Tas can turn in his prisoner.

The other bad dragons have fallen and it looks like the battle has been won. Flint looks sick and Tas asks him what is wrong. The dwarf states that the dragonlance bruised his shoulder when he used it, but the kinder realizes that the dwarf is holding his left side, not the side that the dragonlance was held on.

## Book 1, Chapter 9, Victory Analysis

This chapter was centered solidly around Tas and Flint's experience of the battle. Tas, being a kinder, was incredibly interested in the whole dragon battle process and flying for the first time. In fact, mid-flight Tas tries to draw a map of the ground below. On the other hand, Flint, being a dwarf, is terrified during the entire battle. He is rigid and slow moving while arming the dragonlance and periodically shakes with fear.



These two character's personalities are a contrast to each other and create an interesting dynamic that adds texture to the story. The reader doesn't get two similar experience, they get two very different points of view.

Another interesting point in this chapter is that the reader learns that good dragons are metallic colors, while bad dragons are blue and red. This may be a reference to the facts that metallics are thought of as rare or precious. Good in the world is also rare and precious. This may be why the author chose these colors for the different factions of dragons.



# Book 2, Chapter 1, Spring Dawning and Chapter 2, The Penalty of Failure

## Book 2, Chapter 1, Spring Dawning and Chapter 2, The Penalty of Failure Summary

Chapter One opens in the city of Kalamán in the springtime. The Soliders of Solamnia, led by Laurana, have won their battle and are coming to the city to rest. They are regarded as heroes and a parade and many other festivities await them. While Laurana addresses the crowds, Tas wanders off to get into mischief. As he picks the lock of a cartographer's shop, he is approached by a draconian dressed as a cleric.

The draconian gives him a small scroll and orders Tas to give it to Laurana when she is alone. So, Tas waits until Laurana has gone up to her room for the night and takes Flint with him. Laurana and Flint read the note on the scroll and become very upset. The scroll is from Kitiara. She says that Tanis is with her at Dargaard Keep, but is badly injured in the battle of Vingaard Keep and dying. She says that Tanis requests to have Laurana by his side as he dies. Kit agrees, as long as one of her captured soldiers, one of her lovers, is returned to her. Laurana believes the note and decides to go to Tanis. Flint and Tas convince her to let them go, as well.

Chapter Two begins in Dargaard Keep. Lord Ariakas has come to Kitiara's tower to punish her for losing her battle. He makes her kneel in the floor so that he can cut her head off, but a death knight or a soldier that is a ghost with magical powers grabs him by the wrist and stops his blow.

Lord Ariakas wants to know how Kitiara got to be in league with a death knight. She explains that she lives in the knight's castle. The knight is Lord Soth. The lord had fallen in love with a beautiful elf maiden and broke his marriage vows and knightly vows to be with her. Thanks to the prayers of the elf, Soth was given the power to end the Cataclysm, a great event that divided the world. Instead of using the power, he went into a violent rage because he was told that the maiden had cheated on him. The Cataclysm struck, making a large chandelier fall from the ceiling and land on the elf and her child. While she died, she cursed the knight and his followers. Soth must live on and listen to the mournful song of his followers every night.

Ariakas agrees to let Kitiara live. While he is at her castle, she explains to him her plan for luring Laurana using Tanis and he agrees that it may turn the tides of the war for them.





## **Book 2, Chapter 1, Spring Dawning and Chapter 2, The Penalty of Failure Analysis**

In Chapter One, after Laurana arrives in the city she is proclaimed a hero of the war. She becomes very upset because she feels that her appointment to general was just a political move and that the others should get all of the credit. She is very bitter about her lot in life and wants no part in being a general. When she is told of Tanis, she immediately decides to steal the captured soldier and take him to Kit in exchange for seeing Tanis. She rationalizes that taking the soldier can be her payment for being forced to be a general.

In Chapter Two, the story of Lord Soth is a parallel to Tanis' own story. He fell in love with a beautiful dragon lord, betraying his friends and Laurana, much like the knight betrayed his wife and knightly vows. Now Tanis' mistake could be the downfall of the war just like Lord Soth's mistake allowed the Cataclysm to happen.



# Book 2, Chapter 3, The Trap and Chapter 4, A Peaceful Interlude

## Book 2, Chapter 3, The Trap and Chapter 4, A Peaceful Interlude Summary

Chapter Three opens in Bakaris' cell, in his point of view. He has been tormented by dreams of Kitiara and his impending death by his captures. Laurana, Flint and Tas come to take him out of the cell to trade him for Tanis. Flint lets it slip that they are trading Bakaris for Tanis and Bakaris is pleased. He has wanted revenge on Laurana for shooting him in the arm with an arrow long ago, and now he has his chance. He goes with them.

A draconian meets them at the city wall and tells them that they will have to go with Bakaris to Dragaard Keep. Once Bakaris is sure that the three do not have any weapons, he makes up a story to hurt Laurana. He says that Tanis was never hurt and that he is off to meet the Dark Queen. Bakaris takes the three prisoner and makes them ride wyvern toward Dragaard Keep.

Bakaris lands the wyvern at a cave in the mountains near Dragaard Keep. He intends on raping Laurana before he turns her in to Kitiara. Before he gets a chance, Tas stabs him with a dagger and the man falls on his own dagger and dies. Laurana, Flint and Tas think they are safe.

The death knight, Lord Soth, comes, puts Laurana asleep and tells Tas and Flint to go back to the city and tell them that Kitiara will come to the next day, at noon, to discuss the terms of their surrender. The ghost then takes Laurana away. Tas and Flint run into the forest, toward the city, to get help.

In Chapter Four the book comes back to Tanis. He is in an ancient looking room with Berem, Riverwind and Goldmoon. They do not know where they are, but the room seems to be magic because all of the hallways in the building lead to this room and there is no way out.

Berem tells them that the Dark Queen has been chasing him for years, that he is 322 years old and that he has died many times, but always comes back to life. He suspects the cause of his old age and inability to die permanently comes from the jewel in his chest. He says he doesn't know how it got there or why the Queen is chasing him.

A man in a red robe comes into the room welcomes them, and leaves. They follow him and come to a group of rooms. They split up to search the rooms and Tanis and Berem find a map of a city under a glass globe. They realize that they are in the lost city of Istar, which must be at the bottom of the sea.



## **Book 2, Chapter 3, The Trap and Chapter 4, A Peaceful Interlude Analysis**

Hidden within the third chapter is a moral. Bakaris, sure that a small kinder would be no match for him, refused to search Tas for weapons. In the end, Tas was his downfall. After killing Bakaris, Tas says, "You know, Laurana, everyone always underestimates us kinder. Bakaris really should have searched my pouches." The moral of the story is to never underestimate a smaller opponent.

In the fourth chapter, the lost city of Istar is described. The city sounds almost exactly like the stories of Atlantis. The city sunk to the bottom of the sea and is covered with a glass dome to protect it from drowning, just like Atlantis. This seems to be a borrowed idea that is combining the fantasy world of dwarves, elves, and kinders with the world of gods and sunken cities.



# Book 2, Chapter 5, I Killed Him Once and Chapter 6, Apoletta

## Book 2, Chapter 5, I Killed Him Once and Chapter 6, Apoletta Summary

Chapter Five opens with Caramon lying in bed, having nightmares about Raistlin. In all of the dreams, Raistlin is betraying him, killing him. Tika is desperately trying to get him to wake up, but he tells her he needs to rest and goes back to sleep.

Caramon and Tika are in an Istar room with a magic user named Zebulah. He tells Tika that they were saved from the whirlpool by sea elves that can change into fish when air breathers are around. The air breathers know sea elves as dolphins.

The magic user explains that there are many air breathers living in the parts of the city that have air pockets. Many of the people kill themselves trying to get back to the surface. Zebulah believes that these air breathers are stupid and should just be happy with the city. He believes that there is nothing but betrayal on land. He severely dislikes air breathers and talk of land above. He leaves her in a huff.

Caramon awakes and Tika tells him all that she has learned. She asks Caramon to live with her, if only for a little while, happily and together for once. He tells her that he loves her and that he will give her what little he can of himself since he is still joined to his twin.

In Chapter Six the reader is taken back to Tanis, Riverwind, and Goldmoon. They are still following the man in the red robes. They follow him down a long staircase that ends in the sea. He meets a sea elf and starts talking to her.

Tanis listens to their conversation and realizes that the man, Zebulah, knows where Caramon and Tika are. He confronts them. They admit that they know where Caramon and Tika are and allow Riverwind and Goldmoon to go with Zebulah to bring the two to the sea elf.

Tanis tells the sea elf of the war being fought above. She is very worried and fears that finally the wars will be brought down to her world.

Caramon is still thinking of his brother as Tika sleeps in his arms. He wonders what his brother will do without him and what he will do without his brother.



## Book 2, Chapter 5, I Killed Him Once and Chapter 6, Apoletta Analysis

There are three contrasting emotions in Chapter Five. There is the hate of Raistlin that leads to betrayal in Caramon's dreams, the undying love and fidelity of Tika, and the disgust of Zebulah. Caramon is at a crossroad where he needs to choose the love of Tika or his devotion to his twin. He is trying to do both, which hasn't worked very well thus far for him or Tika. Tika is frustrated because she wants to start a life with Caramon, but he keeps part of himself from her and will not commit to her.

As Zebulah walks with Goldmoon and Riverwind in Chapter Six, he asks Goldmoon, since she is a priestess, if the gods have told her why the innocent was punished along with the wicked when the gods threw a flaming mountain at Istar. She says she has questioned that herself and that she uses her anger as fuel to change the world around her. Zebulah ponders this and wonders if he has been wrong about hiding from the world above instead of working to change it. This moral is the hermit versus hero struggle where the character is forced to choose between hiding away from his troubles or facing his adversity head-on.



# **Chapter 7, Berem. Unexpected Help, Chapter 8, Dark Tidings and Chapter 9, A Single Canole**

## **Chapter 7, Berem. Unexpected Help, Chapter 8, Dark Tidings and Chapter 9, A Single Canole Summary**

The beginning of Chapter Seven continues the previous two chapters. Tanis is still telling the sea elf of their journeys and the group joins together to talk about their next step. The sea elf agrees to help them get back to land by having her husband cast a spell on them that lets them breath air. All she needs to know is where they want to go.

Of course, all of them look to Tanis to tell them what to do next. At first he is angry that they show such faith even after he betrayed them, but after a pep talk from Goldmoon, he decides that they should travel to Kalamán, the city they were traveling too before the shipwreck.

In Chapter Eight, the friends find themselves on the beaches of Kalamán. They don't know how they got there and only remember vague bits and pieces of the last few days. They travel to Kalamán and reunite with Tas and Flint. The two tell them all about the war and how Laurana was captured.

Soon after, Kitiara arrives at the city to announce what the Dark Queen will require for Laurana's release. She states that the knights, dragons, elves and dwarves must lay down their weapons and Berem must be found and given to the Dark Queen within three weeks or Laurana will be beheaded. After Kitiara is finished, a flying tower appears in the sky and is surrounded by dragons. This citadel is to watch over the city to make sure that they do not rise up against the Dark Queen.

The friends decide that they are going to the Dark Queen's castle to save Laurana along with Berem's help.

In Chapter Nine, the last chapter of the second book, Laurana's brother, Gilthanas, is made leader of the troops and the city is put on lockdown. Tanis, Flint, Tas Caramon, Tika, and Berem leave the city to start their quest. They leave behind Riverwind and Goldmoon so that the baby that Goldmoon is carrying will be safe.

## **Chapter 7, Berem. Unexpected Help, Chapter 8, Dark Tidings and Chapter 9, A Single Canole Analysis**

In the seventh chapter, the reader sees Caramon through Tanis' eyes. He no longer looks like the jovial man he once was. Now he look worn. He feels dark and moody,



except when he looks at Tika. In this "love concurs all" moral, Caramon finds that Tika's love is enough to save him from the deep depression that comes with losing his twin.

The eighth chapter focuses on the fear of the city when their beloved general is captured. In just a few short days the city has gone from thinking they have won the war to sure that they have lost it, all because of one person, Laurana. They seemingly have no faith in anyone else and put all of their hope in Laurana's hands.

In the ninth chapter, Tanis worries about what will happen if they are captured with Berem. All in one stroke the war will be over and the Dark Queen will win. This theme goes well with the theme of the previous chapters. In book two, the war all hinged on Laurana, at least in the people's eyes. At the end of the second book, the war hangs on the destiny of the group of friends.



# **Book 3, Chapter 1, An Old Man and a Golden Dragon, Chapter 2, The Golden Span, and Chapter 3, Godshome**

## **Book 3, Chapter 1, An Old Man and a Golden Dragon, Chapter 2, The Golden Span, and Chapter 3, Godshome Summary**

The beginning of Chapter 1 of Book 3 opens with an old golden dragon and an old man chasing after Tanis and the group of friends as they ride to save Laurana on brass dragons. The old man and his dragon think that they are Draconians with prisoners, since Tanis and Caramon are both dressed as draconian soldiers.

He forces them to land right in the middle of an area that Draconians patrol. Berem immediately, and literally, runs for the hills, while Tanis and Tas realize that the old man is Fizban, their old friend. Fizban recognizes them, too, but not before sending all of their dragons away. After a little argument, the group runs into the hills, with Fizban in tow, to avoid the approaching draconian army.

Chapter Two continues with the group fleeing into the hills. They go across a small bridge to cross a deep gulch and it promptly falls apart. The Draconians are right behind them, so they are tossed into the river, below. Fizban creates a new, golden bridge to span the broken part of the bridge and, using some rope to swing to the other side, the friends make it to safety. They decide to head for an old abandoned city named Godshome.

In Chapter Three, Berem runs away from the group. Before anyone can stop him, Flint takes off after him. The group follows the two's footprints until they come to Godshome. Across the bowl of rock that forms Godshome, the friends see Berem struggling with Flint and Flint going to the ground. Thinking that Berem has killed Flint, Tanis goes into a rage and stabs Berem. Then, he goes over to where Flint lay. Flint explains that his heart has given out and the Berem had caught him and gently lowered him to the ground, not hurt him.

After a farewell to his friends, Flint tells Fizban, "I know you, now. You'll come with me, won't you? At least at the beginning of the journey...so I won't be alone? I've walked with friends for so long, I feel...kind of funny...going off like this...by myself."

Fizban agrees, and after Flint dies, he carries him to the dark circle of rock at the center of Godshome and disappears with him.





## **Book 3, Chapter 1, An Old Man and a Golden Dragon, Chapter 2, The Golden Span, and Chapter 3, Godshome Analysis**

Fizban and his golden dragon are presented as a stereotype of the elderly. The dragon can't hear and has no teeth and both of them are senile and somewhat dopey. The appearance of the two work to add more drama to the plot. Instead of the group flying into the Dark Queen's town, they now must walk thanks to the bumbling dragon and Fitzban.

During Chapter Two, Flint is having a lot of trouble keeping up with the others. His left arm hurts and his lips are blue. It is clear that he has a condition, but he refuses to admit to it and soldiers on, in true dwarf style. There are undercurrents suggesting that Flint has a life threatening condition, adding another layer of drama to the narrative.

In Chapter Three, Tanis is frustrated by being lost and worrying about Laurana. When he thinks he sees Berem killing Flint, he snaps and stabs Berem. Though in most cases this would murder, Berem is the Everman and comes to life every time he dies. So did Tanis murder Berem or was he just injuring him? Since Tanis is the hero, the reader must believe that he is somewhat good, so stabbing the Everman is made to seem like almost not important.



## **Book 3, Chapter 4, Everman's Story, Chapter 5, Neraka and Chapter 6, Tanis Bargains. Gakhan Investigates.**

### **Book 3, Chapter 4, Everman's Story, Chapter 5, Neraka and Chapter 6, Tanis Bargains. Gakhan Investigates. Summary**

In Chapter Four, Berem heals and finally tells the group his story. He tells them about finding the ruined temple and pushing his sister. He tells them how she fell, hit her head and died, her blood spilling on the jewels of the temple. Then, he tells them about how the ground opened up and a five headed dragon, the Dark Queen, rose from the crevasse. The queen told him how the warrior, Huma, had locked her underground and the jewels had been the key to unlocking her jail. As a reward, the queen gave Berem the jewel he had been trying to pry out of the stone and embedded it into his chest. He felt then, that the queen would kill him, but the ghost of his sister rose up and held back the dragon queen while he ran.

He blacked out for a long time and when he awoke he was middle-aged with grey hair. He didn't know how long it had been. Since then he has wandered from city to city, afraid of returning to his home city, afraid that the queen needs him and is waiting for his return there.

Tanis convinces him that he must return with them to end Berem's suffering. Berem agrees and they go ever closer to the city of Neraka.

In Chapter Five, the group reaches Neraka. Tanis and Caramon, still dressed in Draconian armor, try to enter the city as soldiers taking prisoners such as Tas, Berem and Tika to the dungeon. The gate guard doesn't believe them and orders them to be sent to the dungeon as deserters. At that moment, Tanis sees Kitiara ride by on her dragon. He yells to her and tells her that he has been taken captive over a mix-up of paperwork. She believes him and lets him ride her dragon with her into the city.

Before Tanis goes, he tells Tas that he has a plan and to tell Caramon to trust him. Caramon, Tas and Tika are taken away and Tas tells Caramon of the plan as they are taken away to the dungeon.

Chapter Six begins with Tanis in Kit's chambers. He offers to trade his services as a soldier for the life of Laurana. Kitaria says that she will consider it, and goes off to get dressed for the ceremony that will be held later that night. Lord Soth is there, and as she undresses, she explains that she will make Tanis completely hers by killing Laurana



in front of him. Lord Soth replies that Tanis will always be her master because she is in love with him, no matter how much she crushes him.

The story shifts to the draconian that spied on Tanis at the beginning of the book. He is questioning the front gate guard to see if anyone entered the city with Tanis. From the descriptions, the spy realizes that the older man is Berem Everman.

## **Book 3, Chapter 4, Everman's Story, Chapter 5, Neraka and Chapter 6, Tanis Bargains. Gakhan Investigates. Analysis**

As Tanis watches Berem heal in the fourth chapter, he feels like stabbing Berem cleansed him of his evil feelings. This train of thought is strange and contrary to what most readers would expect as moral or even believable. The fact that Berem instantly forgives Tanis is also contrary to the reader would probably expect as believable.

In Chapter Five, Tanis tests his friend's loyalty, once again, by going off with Kit. As before, his friends trust that he is executing a plan. They trust that he is not running away with his lover as he did before. There are signs that Caramon isn't totally secure in his trust of Tanis, though. He seems tense and his jaw tightens as Tas tells him that there is a plan.

Tanis realizes in Chapter Six that he no longer feels close to Kit. He sees the evil in her, but dedicates himself to her because he wants to save Laurana at all costs. He feels that he owes that to her. Tanis' selflessness is leading him to become the enemy, which may work against the good side as much as the capture of Laurana.



# **Book 3 Chapters 7, The Temple of the Queen of Darkness, Chapter 8, The Queen of Darkness, and Chapter 9, Horns of Doom**

## **Book 3 Chapters 7, The Temple of the Queen of Darkness, Chapter 8, The Queen of Darkness, and Chapter 9, Horns of Doom Summary**

In Chapter Seven, Tanis joins Kitiara at the ceremony. She tells him that she is going to offer Laurana to the Dark Queen so that she can get the crown of the emperor for herself. Then, the queen will order Laurana killed in the dungeon. She tells Tanis that he must get the favor of the queen so that he can accompany Laurana to the dungeon. From there, Kit will release her, and Tanis can set her free outside of the city. She insists that he must follow her instructions or he and Laurana will both die. Tanis agrees and takes his place to meet the Dark Queen.

Already in the dungeon, Berem goes crazy, saying that he hears his sister calling for him. When the spy enters the cell to take Berem to Kit, Berem grabs the spy and bashes him to death against a wall. He then takes off running.

Tika tells Caramon to follow Berem while she and Tas distract the guards. Before he can stop her, she kisses him and takes off with Tas close behind her.

In Chapter Eight, the ceremony of the Dark Queen continues. Laurana is summoned and Lord Soth brings her to Kitiara wrapped up in white cloth like a mummy. Kit presents her to the Dark Queen and she is very pleased. She states that Kitiara will be rewarded and that Laurana will be killed.

Next, Kit asks that the Dark Queen let Tanis replace the Lord that Tas killed when Laurana was captured. The Dark Queen decides to examine Tanis and tells him to come forward. As the dark shadow morphs from a knight to a five-headed dragon to a temptress, Tanis feels her search his mind. While she does this, he confirms his suspicion that she has not fully crossed over into their world and still partially resides in the spirit world.

In Chapter Nine, Caramon catches up with Berem in a room at the bottom of a long staircase. The only thing in the room is an arch leading into darkness. Berem and Caramon kill the draconians guarding the arch and then wander into the darkness to find Berem's sister.



On the other side of the dungeon, Tika and Tas are running from the draconians. They come to the end of a corridor that is blocked by two locked doors. Tas tries to unlock the doors while Tika fights off the Draconians. He is trembling because he remembers that this scenario is just like the dream he had in a previous book foretelling Tika's death and his own. He takes a second to look at Tika and realizes that she is dying. His fingers slip and he trips the trap on the lock. His finger is pricked with poison. The guards that are trying to capture him suddenly run away as an alarm sounds.

At the ceremony, Kitiara asks that Laurana's soul be given to her servant Lord Soth. The Dark Queen agrees and Tanis realizes that Kit has betrayed him yet again.

Tanis is told by the Dark Queen to present the emperor with his sword to become her servant. Tanis walks towards the emperor and comes up with a plan to kill him and take his crown so that he will be emperor. He believes this is the only way they can escape. He realizes that the emperor is a magic user and quickly gives up his plan until he hears a whisper from a robed person nearby. She tells him that she will help him and that he must kill the emperor. Tanis decides it is worth a shot. He kills the emperor and takes the crown. Just before he puts it on his head an alarm sounds.

## **Book 3 Chapters 7, The Temple of the Queen of Darkness, Chapter 8, The Queen of Darkness, and Chapter 9, Horns of Doom Analysis**

In Chapter Seven, for Tika to convince Caramon to follow Berem, she tells Caramon needs taken care of, protected. This triggers Caramon's instinctive mothering qualities that he used for so long with his twin brother. The prospect of having a new person to take care of sets the sullen Caramon into action.

When Laurana sees Tanis in the eighth chapter, she looks at him with love and he realizes that he loves her completely and that she is the love of his life. He also realizes that he is coming to this conclusion too late. She will leave the city and he will have to remain with Kit because he swore his allegiance to the Dark Queen to save Laurana. He has one moment of temptation to stand with her against the Dark Queen and die together, but he realizes this is selfish and that he must save her, even if he can't save himself in true selfless hero fashion.

During the Tas and Tika scene in Chapter Eight, Tas is slowed down by his memories of his dream of death. The scene poses this question, "If Tas had not been shaking because of the fear the dream created, would he have been able to unlock the door and get them to safety, contrary to the prophecy of the dream?"



# **Book 3, Chapter 10, Whoever Wears the Crown Rules, Chapter 11, Jasla Calls, and Chapter 12 The Debt Repaid**

## **Book 3, Chapter 10, Whoever Wears the Crown Rules, Chapter 11, Jasla Calls, and Chapter 12 The Debt Repaid Summary**

Chapter Ten continues at the ceremony. Tanis doesn't know what the sirens are for, but he makes a deal with Kit. She can have the crown once he and Laurana are safely out of the city. She agrees and Tanis goes to Laurana and takes her by the arm. Suddenly, she whips around and takes Kit's sword. She knocks Tanis off of the platform and jumps after him. The crown falls off of Tanis' head and is lost as all of the Lords send their soldiers to get the crown for them.

While this is going on, Berem and Caramon go through the arch and travel through a stream full of baby dragons as the Draconians, alerted by the arches alarm, chase them. Finally, Berem sees the jewels and the column where his sister died and the Dark Queen was released. He hurries towards the spot with Caramon in tow.

In the beginning of Chapter Eleven, Berem and Caramon's path is blocked by Raistlin. Caramon is shocked and asks how his brother could still be alive. Raistlin says that it is a long story, but Tanis has paved his way to becoming a powerful wizard. He wears black robes now and allows Berem to reunite with his sister so that he can be more powerful than the Dark Queen.

Berem asks his sisters forgiveness and as they hug, Berem's body is smashed into the column with the embrace. His blood washes over the stones and he dies, joining his sister in the other world.

As Tanis tries to find the crown and Laurana, the Queen's castle starts to crumble. It rearranges itself back to the way it was before evil overtook it. The Dark Queen is overtaken with light and disappears.

In Chapter Twelve, Tanis catches up with Laurana and she tells him that she owes him her life, but not her soul and disappears into the crowd.

Meanwhile, Raistlin takes Caramon to find Tika and Tas. He then saves their lives and helps get them out of the dungeon.



## **Book 3, Chapter 10, Whoever Wears the Crown Rules, Chapter 11, Jasla Calls, and Chapter 12 The Debt Repaid Analysis**

Chapter Ten is full of irony. Seeing Tanis take the crown by force, Kit falls more deeply in love with Tanis. With the crown, Tanis is finally able to save the woman he loves, Laurana, and break free of Kit. Unfortunately, Laurana believes that Tanis wants to be a part of Kit's world and is in love with her, so she breaks free, even if it means killing Tanis.

In Chapters Eleven and Twelve, there is a plot twist. Raistlin turns out to not be dead after all. He gets rid of the queen, becoming the new evil figure, yet helps his brother save his friends to repay them for taking care of him for so long. Raist is also the stronger twin now. Since Caramon is tired and injured from battles, Raist takes care of him like Caramon did for him so many times.



# **Book 3, Chapter 13, Kitiara, Chapter 14, The End for Good or for Evil and The Homecoming**

## **Book 3, Chapter 13, Kitiara, Chapter 14, The End for Good or for Evil and The Homecoming Summary**

The beginning of Chapter 13 Tanis is still trying to find Laurana. He finally finds her and declares his love. Just as he is speaking, Kitiara shows up. She tells Tanis that she has taken over in the Dark Queen's place and that he is welcome to join her in her reign. He tells her that his heart belongs to Laurana.

Lord Soth comes to Kit, but before he gets near them, Tanis tells Kit that he will die protecting Laurana and will pray to the god Paladine to give her protection with his dying breath. Kitiara lets them go, telling Tanis that it is only because she loves him.

Soth brings Kit the crown of power and questions why she let Tanis and Laurana go. Kit explains that she has tainted their love since he will always think of her parting words and Laurana will always know that he still loves Kit somewhere in his heart.

Outside, the lord and dragons are all fighting each other and Laurana and Tanis think that they will die on the way out. Tanis finds Tas' pouches strewn on the ground and finds Fizban's dragon, shrunk down into statue size. He decides to awaken the dragon to help them get out of the city.

In Chapter Fourteen, Raistlin takes his brother, Tika and Tas to safety. He tells them that on the kill Fizban is waiting for them and that he must go. Caramon offers to go with him, but Raistlin tells him that they are now two people with two paths to lead and he flies away on his dragon.

On the hill, Tas, Caramon, Tika, Laurana, Tanis, and Fizban meet again and make camp. Tas realizes who Fizban really is. He is the god, Paladine. Fizban then admits that he is the one who set the friends off on their journey in Book One of the Dragonlance series.

At dawn, all of the friends go back to their different home cities to start new lives now that they believe the wars are over. The last chapter isn't numbered and is named Homecoming. In this chapter Raistlin returns to Kalamandran to the cursed tower. He claims it as his own and raises the cures by declaring that he is the master of past and present.





## **Book 3, Chapter 13, Kitiara, Chapter 14, The End for Good or for Evil and The Homecoming Analysis**

In Chapter Thirteen Fourteen and Homecoming, the balance of power has shifted yet again. Since Kitiara has the crown, she can now rule over the dark armies. There is new tension building as Kitiara gains power and as Raistlin claims the tower that contains the world's greatest magical items. This foreshadowing is leading up to a showdown between Raistlin and Kitiara in the next book in the Dragonlance series.



# Characters

## Tanis

Tanis is half-elf and half-human, which gives him elfin features he tries to hide behind a human beard. This allows him to move around in human cities easily. His elfin blood makes him very thin and agile, which is ideal for the battles he finds himself in. He is the leader of the group of friends that met at the beginning of the book series and has traveled with each other throughout the series. The group's goal is to stop the Dark Queen and her armies from taking over their world. The group of friends consists of Raistlin, Caramon, Riverwind, Goldmoon, Tika, Tas and Flint. These friends trust and respect Tanis above all others and continually follow him to their potential deaths.

Tanis does not want the responsibility of being a leader and having the friends' lives in his hands. He continually tells them to look elsewhere for leadership, but inevitably, the decisions always land on his shoulders. This creates great stress for Tanis and makes him suicidal throughout the book. To add even more pressure, he is in love with two women, the Highlord of the Draconian army, Kitiara and Laurana, the elfin princess. The two choices represent the darkness and light in Tanis' own soul. In the end, he chooses to soldier on, choosing the light. In agreement with this choice, he rejects the evil woman, Kitiara, and chooses the good woman, Laurana.

## Berem

Berem, also known as the Green Gemstone Man, is on the run from the Queen of Darkness because he stole her green gem. By accidentally killing his sister, Krynn, and spilling her blood on the Queen's temple, the stone has become embedded in his chest and has given him super-human powers. He is unable to die and throughout the series of books, Tanis has seen him die and then come back to life.

The Queen needs the stone in his chest to come though, completely, to their realm from the spirit realm. So, she sends her troops to find him. He hides for years, living an unnaturally long life. He ends up working as a sailor on the Perechon under the command of Captain Maquesta where he finally meets Tanis and the group of friends. With their help, he makes it back to the Queen's temple, where he first found the green gem, and replaces it, killing himself in the process. This sacrifice sends the Dark Queen back to the spirit realm and locks her away.

## Kitiara

Kitiara, nicknamed Kit, is the tough and hot-tempered Highlord of the Draconian army. She is very promiscuous and has black, curly hair. She is the half-sister of the twins Raistlin and Caramon. She raised them from babies. Kit's only goal is to make the Dark Queen ruler of all the land. If this means killing everyone she loves, she is ready to do it,



though her character is very inconsistent throughout the book, as if her good side and evil side are battling, within.

For example, she makes it obvious that she is willing to kill her brothers to get what she wants. She leaves her brothers to die on The Perechon in the Blood Sea of Istar so that she can deliver Berem to the Dark Queen. On the other hand, at the end of the book she decides to spare Tanis and Laurana's life and helps them escape from the Dark Queen's castle. She says it is to bring Tanis the pain of remembering her and wanting her in the future, but the book clearly sends the message that she saves him because she loves him.

## **Raistlin**

Raistlin is a mage that has become disfigured from his use of magic. His eyes have become golden hour-glass shapes and his limbs are frail. He must be taken care of by his twin, Caramon, because after he casts a spell his energy is spent. Raistlin is drawn towards evil, but is kept from the dark side by the love of his brother. Some of his magical items are a dragon orb and the Staff of Magius. He has a persistent cough, which produces blood that splatters his lips throughout the first part of the book. Then, he goes through a transformation that makes him strong and healthy, so he no longer needs his brother's help. Due to his ambitions to rule the world and his newly found freedom, Raistlin leaves his brother at the end of the book.

## **Caramon**

Caramon is a warrior that fights with a sword. He is large and muscular, but has a very mothering attitude towards his friends and especially, for his twin, Raistlin. He is in love with Tika.

## **Riverwind and Goldmoon**

Riverwind is a gentle man that is part of the Plainsmen tribe. He and his wife, Goldmoon, speak Que-shu, the dialect of the Plains people. Goldmoon is the mother figure of the group of friends and her feelings are easily hurt as she is a very gentle person, like her husband. She is a cleric with healing powers.

## **Tika**

Tika is a spirited and buxom young lady who is in love with Caramon. She joined the friends after leaving her job as a barmaid.



## Tas and Flint

Tas and Flint are best friends. Tas is a spirited kinder with a distinctive top-knot on his head. Flint is a gruff and old dwarf that is afraid of riding on horses and dragons, but loves to carve objects out of wood.

## Laurana

Laurana is the elfin king's daughter who becomes the leader of the army that opposes the Dark Queen. She hates this role because she never asked to be a leader and feels that her appointment is a political move and not a serious strategy move. Her lack of self-esteem is evident throughout the book. Not only does she feel that she is not good enough to be leader of the army, she also feels that she is not worthy of Tanis' love. If Kit is the strong and overconfident woman in the book, than Laurana is her opposite. Despite her lack of confidence, Laurana ends up with Tanis in the end because she is the embodiment of good and honor that Tanis so desperately wants for himself.



# Objects/Places

## Dragon's Orb

This is a magical orb that the mage Raistlin keeps with him at all times. The orb contains good and evil and is bound together by neutrality. When the orb is being used it radiates with light and it grows to the size of a child's ball. When the orb is not in use, it shrinks to the size of a marble. This is the magical item that Raistlin uses to escape the maelstrom.

## The Perechon

The Perechon is a wooden ship with masts, owned by boat captain and pirate, Maquesta. The ship is supposed to be fast enough to outrun any other ship. It is the ship Tanis and his friends use to escape Flotsam and the ultimately sinks in the maelstrom of the Blood Sea of Istar.

## Palanthas

The grandest city in Krynn, Palanthas is built like a wheel. The hub of the wheel, or the center, contains all of the government buildings. The roads, made of fitted stone and placed by dwarves, spoke off in eight directions, matching the major compass points.

Palanthas is the home to the great library, which is run by the Order of the Aesthetics. The Order is a group of monks that diligently record the history of Krynn.

It is also home to the Tower of High Sorcery, which is a cursed building at the center of the city in a grove of trees. It is said to be the most important of all of the mage's five towers and contains large amounts of magical items.

## Wyvern

Related to dragons, these winged creatures are used by the Highlords to relay messages. They can also be ridden. Their tails are much like scorpion tails and can sting and kill attackers. Wyverns are considered unintelligent and take orders very well.

## Dragaard Keep

Dragaard Keep is where the draconian army are based. The place used to be a beautiful mountain range that looked like a rose because of its red rocks, but now looks like it has been scorched with fire. It was the home of the Knights of the Rose before the Cataclysm.



## **Blood Sea of Istar**

This is a sea that seems to be blood red. The friends attempt to cross this sea in the The Perechon, but get sucked down into the whirlpool at its center. Underneath it is the fallen City of Istar.

## **City of Istar**

The City of Istar once was a fantastic city of riches. The gods split the mountain in an act of judgment and the city ended up at the bottom of the Blood Sea. The city is now inhabited by sailors saved by sea elves.

## **Sea Elves**

Sea elves are elfin cousins that live under water. They can take the form of human or dolphin and save people from drowning in the sea.

## **Staff of Magius**

The Staff of Magius is a magical staff carried by Raistlin. He found the staff in a previous book in the series.

## **Draconian**

A draconian is the child of the wyvern. They are soldiers created from the magical transformation of dragon eggs. They are scaly and lizard-like beasts that walk on two legs like humans and hiss when they talk.



# Themes

## Love

One of the main themes of this book is the concept of love. Tanis' love for Kitiara lead him to betray his friends, but his love for his friends made him abandon Kitiara. His love for Kitiara make Tanis incredibly guilt-ridden because she fights for the opposing army and he feels that simply feeling love for her makes him somewhat evil.

Tanis is also in love with Laurana, the general of the "good" army. He feels like Laurana is the right choice for his heart because she is loyal and good.

Tanis often looks to the love of Riverwind and Goldmoon as inspiration. They work together to create good in the world and Tanis wonders what it would be like to be them.

Ultimately, the world is saved by love, as well. Berem's sister's love made it possible for him to save the world and lock up the Dark Queen back into her prison. Without the love of Tanis for Laurana to bring the group of friends to the Queen's city, Berem would never have reunited with his sister and the world wouldn't have been saved.

## Loyalty to Friends and Family

Loyalty is a major element in this book. The group of friends is unquestioningly loyal to Tanis, even though he lied to them and betrayed them. Tanis is guilt-ridden over the fact that they so blindly follow him. He wishes that they would find a new leader, but his loyalty to his friends keeps him from leaving them to go back to Kitiara.

Caramon's undying loyalty to his twin brother is also a recurring theme in the book. No matter how vile or selfish Raistlin is, Caramon never leaves his side. Even after Raistlin leaves Caramon to die in the whirlpool, Caramon is still happy to see Raistlin later. He even offers to go with Raistlin at the end of the book, which would mean leaving his girlfriend, Tika, behind. No matter how much it would hurt him or Tika, Caramon is more than willing to continue taking care of his brother because of his brotherly loyalty.

## Power Struggles

Throughout this book, power is constantly shifting. At the beginning of the book, the Dark Queen was winning the war. Then, Laurana was promoted to general and the war shifted in their favor. When the Dark Queen is defeated, the power does not shift to Laurana, it shifts to the two new evil powers of the world, Kitiara and Raistlin.

These power struggles are used to create tension and drama in the narrative. The reader is watching the evolution of the war, cheering for the good guys and booing as evil takes the upper hand.



# Style

## Point of View

The author uses a third-person and omniscient perspective in the narrative, switching from main characters to minor characters, depending on who the paragraph is focusing on at the moment. There is no reliable way of predicting who the voice will be, since the book covers a wide range of characters and the plot does not focus on any character for too long. Tanis is the only character that is focused on consistently throughout the book.

## Setting

The setting is the world of Krynn. Krynn is a typical fantasy world that has two moons, dragons, elves, kinders, humans, dwarves, hobgoblins, wizards, sea elves, gods, goddesses, and priests. Topographically, Krynn is much like Earth. It has mountains, plains, rivers, and seas.

During a large portion of the book the characters are in the city of Palanthas, also called Kalamon. This is the greatest city in Krynn. This city is the location where Raistlin comes to die and where the friends learn of Laurana's capture. It also is home to the Tower of High Sorcery, which is a cursed building at the center of the city that Raistlin claims at the end of the book as his own.

Another major location is the city of Neraka. This is where Berem unleashed the Dark Queen and the city that becomes the base for her troops. This is also where she is defeated.

## Language and Meaning

The language of this book is spirited and full of advanced vocabulary. The creatures throughout the book tend to talk the same way. Many of them seem to be very formal and do not tend to use slang of any sort. Typically, a lot of time or a very short amount of time can pass in the chapters. Often, on chapter will be a detailed account of one event.

## Structure

This book is divided into three sub-books, which are then divided into chapters. Each chapter varies from a few pages to a dozen. Some chapters tend to end at the end of a scene, while others end at a spot of drama and continue into the next chapter, hooking the reader.

The book has one main plot which is the friends trying to save the world from the Dark Queen, and many sub-plots. The sub-plots include Laurana and Tanis' love affair, Kitiara





and Tanis' love affair, Caramon and Raistlin's battle as twins, Tika and Caramon's love affair, Goldmoon's pregnancy, Flint's death, Raistlin's supposed death, Kitiara's affairs, Lord Soth's life and servitude and Fizban's identity as a god.

The pace of the book seems rushed because of the number of sub-plots and characters. The authors seem to be in a hurry to fit all of the information in before they run out of pages.



## Quotes

"She works too hard...Doing woman's work and men's as well" (The Everman, pg. 2.)

"The Highlord had a great many things to worry about, the draconian thought with amusement. Why concern herself over one man? She had lovers aplenty, most much more charming, much more eager to please than the moody half-elf" (Book 1, Chapter 1, Flight from Darkness into Darkness, pg. 17-18.)

"Maquesta had lost money on her last two voyages, one reason why she had deigned to carry passengers- something she would never do under normal circumstances" (Book 1, Chapter 2, Pursuit, pg. 23.)

"Anyone this man comes in contact with is doomed. They fear whatever deadly secret he carries will be passed on, and they can't allow that." Book 1, Chapter 2, Pursuit, p. 24

"Why you decrepit old mage! You couldn't turn water into ice in the dead of winter!" (Book 1, Chapter 9, Victory.)

"I understand what it is like to have love betrayed" (Book 1, Chapter 8, The Oath of the Dragons pg. 103.)

"You know, Laurana, everyone always underestimates us kinder. Bakaris really should have searched my pouches" (Book 2, Chapter 3, The Trap, pg. 159-160.)

"I know you, now. You'll come with me, won't you? At least at the beginning of the journey...so I won't be alone? I've walked with friends for so long, I feel...kind of funny...going off like this...by myself." (Book 3, Chapter 3, Godshome, pg. 248.)

"The energetic kender had already grabbed hold of the dwarf's boot and heaved, propelling Flint head first right into the hard-muscled body of the young bronze dragon" (Book 1, Chapter 9, Victory.)

"Get up yourself then," Tas said, hurt, backing up. Puffing and red-faced, the dwarf dropped to the ground. "I'll get on in my own good time!" he said, glaring at the kende." (Book 1, Chapter 9, Victory.)

"For the Trials are arduous, and worse, hazardous. Indeed, failure means one thing: Death!" (Book 1, Chapter 6, Palanthas, pg. 77.)

"Though vastly older than the dwarf in years, Khirsah saw in Flint one who had led a long, full, rich life; one worthy of respect" (Book 1, Chapter 9, Victory.)



## Topics for Discussion

Discuss love. Without the love that the characters show for each other, how do you think the story would have ended? Do you think evil would have won?

Do you think Caramon's loyalty was reasonable? Do you think Tika should have been so forgiving of Caramon's loyalty? Why or why not?

Why do you think Raistlin is the key to the past and present? Support your theories using passages from the book.

Tanis felt great guilt for being in love with Kitiara. Do you believe that being in love with someone who is evil is wrong? Why or why not?

Do you believe that an isolated city under the sea would be a better place to live than on land? Why?

If you had magic powers, but new that you must take a test that may kill you to use those powers, would you take the test? Why or why not?

Raistlin left his brother to die in the sea, but then saved him in the queen's castle. Does this make up for his selfishness? Why or why not?