

Shard of Divinity

written by

Janelle Bawayan

[janellecbawayan@gmail.com](mailto:janellecbawayan@gmail.com)

Written for ELVTR's Game Writing Competition August 2024

1 INT. REFUGE - NIGHT

A voice is drowned out by a mournful dragon's roar. It fades, along with everything seen as a dream gives way to darkness.

A blinding white-blue light flashes, then dwindles into a bright cobalt blue hue. The magical aura of the nineteen year-old artificer, MILO RHEVAS, fades as he presents an intricately forged LONGSWORD with a socket in the crossguard. He's out of breath, his eyes are wide, and his hands are shaking as he offers up his creation.

AURORA

Breathe, Milo. It feels strong.

Still clad in battle-worn armor, the cleric, AURORA KAIROS, takes the enchanted blade before reaching a gloved hand into a pouch at her side, producing a SHARD OF DIVINITY- a CRYSTAL that looks alive. Wisps of white flame dance on its surface and an orange arcane core of swirling magic pulses like a steady heartbeat. Milo stares with wide eyes, fascinated.

MILO

Remind me, which god does this-?

AURORA

Goddess. The Spark of fire and inspiration herself.  
(distant)  
And she always did love the blade

MILO

Brygga. You fight alongside her?

AURORA

Yes. (hums) It was an honor.

Aurora focuses, holding the longsword steady. As she brings both crystal and blade together, the sword begins to glow. Nearer still and it trembles in her hand.

MILO

Wait... was? What do you-?

The blade shakes violently. The crystal burns brighter. The core of fire pulses faster and faster, and then, stills completely... right before it rings.

AURORA

Oh gods! Milo, step back!

The pulse of fire and wisps of white surge from the crystal, and Milo is instantly lost in streams of blinding white and orange light. Aurora struggles to maintain her grip as both blade and crystal not only fiercely glow but repel the other.

MILO (O.S.)  
Aurora! Stop! (pause)  
Aurora!?

GALE (ENTER)  
Aurora!

A distance but sudden roar of fire- no, that wasn't fire...

GALE KHYLOM (Player) rushes to Aurora's side, his paladin's aura of white-blue light cutting through the chaotic magic.

GALE (CONT'D)  
(to Aurora in Celestial)  
I'm with you now. Let me help.

As he speaks, the roaring swells, sounding... like a dragon.

Gale holds onto the base of the blade with his bare hand, his grip steady, unaffected by the warring arcane energies as Aurora uses both hands to press the crystal into place.

A wave of magic ripples through the room as the divine crystal finally meets the arcane sword, and the whirling light dies down in a near instant.

GALE (CONT'D)  
(in English, calm)  
Well, I see you two have been busy.

Both Aurora and Milo, rush to hug Gale.

MILO  
Two weeks! Two whole weeks and we  
didn't know when you'd recover!

The SPARK OF BRYGGA clatters onto the table as Gale wraps an arm around Aurora and then the other around Milo.

GALE  
I'm sorry for worrying you two.  
(Celestial, quietly)  
I should have fought harder.

Milo breaks from them and gestures to the blade with a bright smile, but Aurora looks up at her lover.

AURORA  
(Celestial, worried)  
Fought?! Love, what happened?

MILO  
Well, we don't need to worry  
about it again because I  
figured it out!

MILO (CONT'D)

With my enchantments on an arcane  
blade, anyone can now use this!

Gale and Aurora exchange a message with a glance before Gale steps forward to take hold of the sword. Glowing white runes come to life on the blade, responding to him, leaving Milo in awe. Gale studies it, his expression sobering.

GALE

No, not just anyone can wield this.  
(looks to Milo, smiles)  
But it does take someone incredible  
to contain such divine power.

Milo's eyes shift color, from dark hazel to a brilliant gold.

GALE (CONT'D)

Did you work out how to destroy it?

The bright golden gaze dims, returning to a dark hazel.

MILO

(hesitant) The crystal? But why?

AURORA

(cuts in) Gale, the Void beasts  
crossed the plains yesterday. Those  
that aren't Blessed like us are  
barely breathing. We *need* this!

GALE

*This?* No. This is a call to greed,  
much less to the jealousy of the  
elves and the eastern mages.  
(to Aurora, Celestial)  
We *cannot* need this nor use it.

AURORA

We can't fight the Void on our own!  
Everyone that has found haven here-  
they will die. And *when* we fall,  
who then will stop the Void?

GALE

(in Common/English)  
Aurora, please. If we- (hesitates)  
We can't make this decision.

MILO

(voice low, hesitant)  
Then don't. Let the gods- well, let  
the shards decide. Like yours did.