

PAULIINA TUULIVAARA

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Names and explanations:

Untamo Village

Untamo is a Finnish name. Unta means to get sleep

Usva *mist*

Urho is a boy´s name and means brave

Uljas *noble*

Ahti is a water spirit or god in the Finnish mythology

Norna is the Finnish word for Norn, holder of destinies

Kalervo Village

Kalervo is a name from the Finnish epic Kalevala

Kuura *frost*

Kaisla *reed*

Kanerva *heather (flower)*

Kielo *lily of the valley*

Sointu *chord*

Ilmari is a Finnish name. It is a variation of the name Ilmarinen, who hammered/made the magical object Sampo in Kalevala.

Sisu is a Finnish word that means ones determination. It can mean where there's a will there's a way

Hiisi is the Finnish word for goblin

Other names

Tuoni *death*

Soini is a Finnish name and it can mean a young man. Soini is also a municipality in Finland.

Perkules is a variation of the word perkele (Finnish curse word). Said to be the real name of Ukko, the god of thunder. *God damn, evil spirit*

Turilas can mean beetle

Tapio is a Finnish name and the name of the forest god in Finnish mythology, name of the woodland spirit

Mielikki is the forest mistress/goddess and wife of Tapio

Uni sleep, dream

This story is the result of the author's imagination. However it has taken inspiration from the Finnish epic Kalevala among other fantasy elements.

Forest of Mysteries

with ancient fate

Born from the war

of ancestral hate

Dark and gloomy

it may stay

no room there

for a single sun ray

Two villages

one each side

under the Queen's

watchful eye

Small dancing lights

with varying glow

Will-O'-the-Wisps

they come and go

Deep they lead you

no path in sight

further in the woods,

no home to find

No need

for aimless chase

to find the treasure of

hidden place

At Summer Solstice

night so bright

they show you a treasure pit

by green light

Silver, gold maybe something else

kept hidden for centuries

by old wise elves

Someone special you must be

treasure to open

under mighty tree

Everything about everything

Usva laughed from the bottom of her lungs. Her deep laughter seemed to bubble up as if from underground. Usva sat near a silver birch tree on the shore of a lake. Her two chambermaids had spread a large blue cloth on the grass and on top of it was a picnic lunch in a wicker basket. One of the chambermaids laughed freely along with Usva, but the newer one nervously touched the lace edge of the picnic cloth.

- Usva will just come and try herself! A booming voice thundered. The voice came from a farmer who had almost been carried away by a water-horse. On the nearby rocks, Nixie was waiting to see if someone would sink and she could take the victim to her watery kingdom. Nixie had taken the shape of a beautiful woman

perhaps to make the workers fall for her beauty. She was brushing her long hair with a comb made from a seashell. The quieter chambermaid was startled by the man's thunder-like voice.

- How dare he! She breathed quietly.
 - Dare what? The other one asked in amazement. Usva listened to them with half an ear.
 - Address the lady in such a vulgar way! The chambermaid exclaimed. Usva turned to look at her new chambermaid.
 - I know you're new, so I forgive your ignorance...
 - Oh, sorry miss...
 - Don't apologise! Usva got angry and stood up.
 - Oh, sor...
- Vulgarly? It doesn't matter to me how people talk to me or how I am addressed. I'm not called a lady just because I happen to be the

new Queen of Queendom. Relax! Usva shook her chambermaid and then there was a big splash. Usva and her chambermaids turned to see what had happened. In the middle of Lake Ahti, there was a water-horse. The horse was getting angry and pissed off. It was a breathtaking sight. Almost translucent, slightly bluish. The hind legs had blended into the ever-calm surface of Lake Ahti, and the horse's waving tail was like a waterfall. One of Usva's father's, Untamo's most trusted field workers, splashed on the beach. Yet another one who had not managed to tame the flowing nature of the water-horse. Usva looked at the workmen dripping wet on the white sand and counted in her mind.

- I don't think anyone got a hold of the reins today, the new chambermaid said out Usva's thoughts.

- Don't rush! A thunderous male voice roared

and the chambermaids fell to their knees in front of Untamo.

- Get up, silly girls. Your beautiful dresses will get dirty! Untamo commanded and turned to his daughter. Usva smiled her captivating, flawless smile. Pine tree red hair was even redder in the sunlight and the green eyes of moss shone. Usva was the complete opposite of her father and two brothers. They were all blonde and blue-eyed.

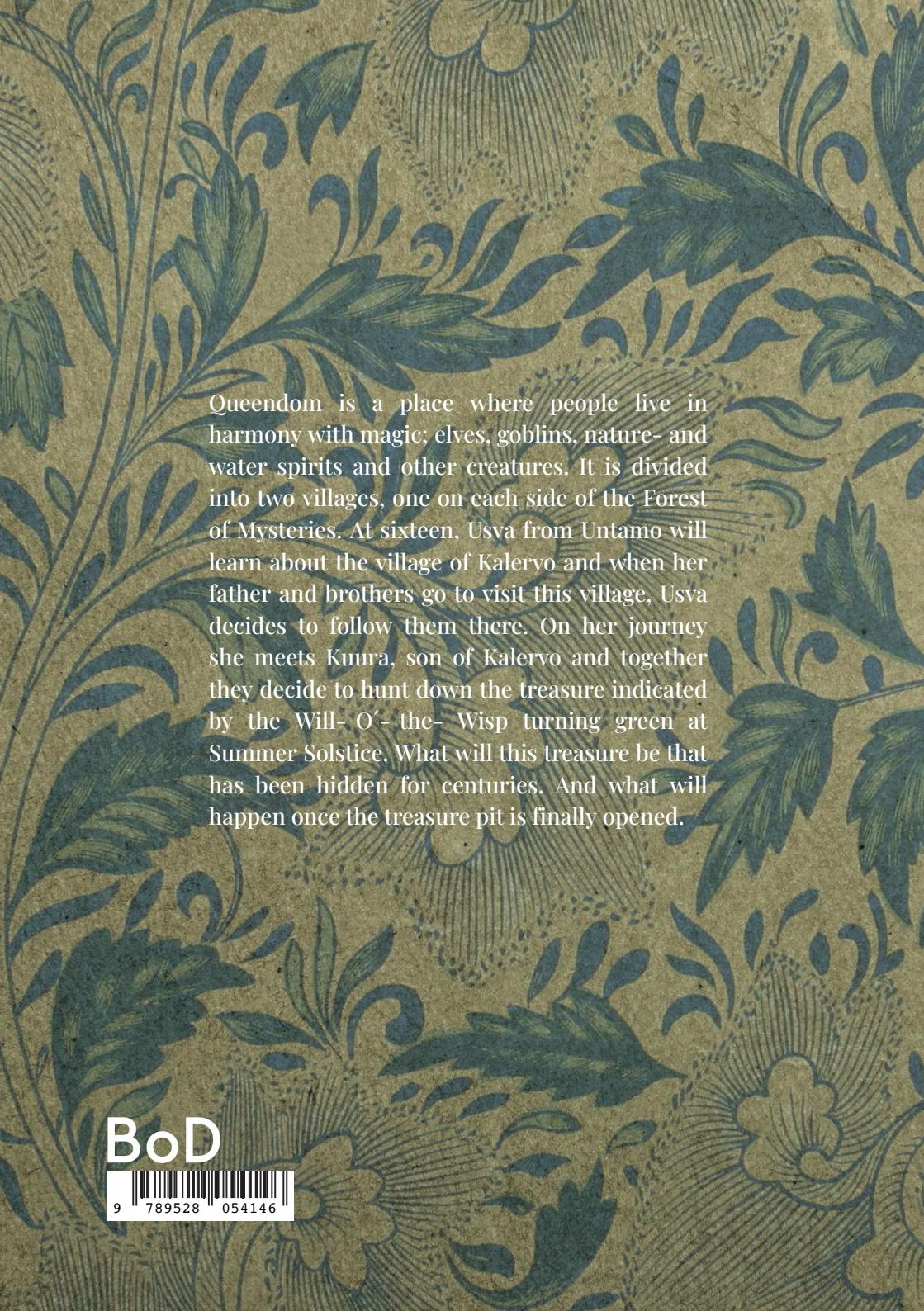
- My dear daughter Usva. Have you enjoyed yourself? Untamo asked his adored daughter.

- I have father. I've enjoyed my time and laughed a lot, Usva replied and kissed her father on both cheeks.

- Yes, yes. My workmen have failed at the reins of the water-horse. But I'll go and show those wretches how to do it, Untamo buffed out his chest.

- You won't survive dry, Usva said.

- Are you betting? Untamo turned to his daughter.
- I don't want you to lose the bet, Usva said and sat back down with her chambermaids.
- I would bet on Mr. Untamo. After all, he has tamed the water-horse so often, the chambermaid said.
- Don't flatter him. We all know that today we wet little more than our toes. Uljas, a brother of Usva, laughed. Uljas' twin brother Urho leaned against a tree trunk.
- Water-horse could just take him under, Urho grumbled.
- How can you say that! Usva squealed.
- Or Nixie, Uljas continued.
- We're almost fifteen. Like you almost sixteen. It would be time for us to take responsibility for things. But what do we do? Stick our noses to books every day. It's a bit different to experience in reality..., Urho's account ended



Queendom is a place where people live in harmony with magic; elves, goblins, nature- and water spirits and other creatures. It is divided into two villages, one on each side of the Forest of Mysteries. At sixteen, Usva from Untamo will learn about the village of Kalervo and when her father and brothers go to visit this village, Usva decides to follow them there. On her journey she meets Kuura, son of Kalervo and together they decide to hunt down the treasure indicated by the Will- O'- the- Wisp turning green at Summer Solstice. What will this treasure be that has been hidden for centuries. And what will happen once the treasure pit is finally opened.

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