

Love and Death at the Times of Second Life

BACKGROUND

By Punky Pugilist

Basic Plot

Two hundred years before our story, the evil and blood thirsty Druid religion and the incompetent dynasty of the Monforte Kings are overthrown in the Yellow Revolution which eventually establishes Linden government within Second Life.

The Druids, driven under ground, assume the mantle of a conventional religion based on something resembling Catholicism, and operate out of a convent and school for wayward girls in SL. The Druids are determined to return the Monforte's to power and to resume their evil ways. The Druids are a female paramilitary organization, greatly feared by everyone.

The Monforte's still live as retired monarchs and the current heir to the throne, Monforte IV, knows that his family is incompetent to rule and that only disaster will result if his family resumes the throne. His motivation to prevent the restoration of both the Druids and his family to the throne is unclear until the final scenes.

In order to restore the monarchy, a coronation ceremony must be held on the top of Sodom Mountain, a semi active volcano, in the sacred grove of the Druids, where all coronations took place in ancient times. In addition the long missing crown jewels of the Monforte's are required, and they have only recently been discovered in a ship wreck deep under the sea. The jewels and crown have been seized by the Lindens and are put on display at the Museo of Secundo Vita.

To complete the coronation ceremony a critical person is required. The 'chosen one' who carries the birth mark of the Ben clan and who knows the secret incantations needed to complete the investiture. The only living member of the Ben clan, known at the beginning of the story is, Little Ben. Little Ben has been drafted into the military of the sim of Sonogno (a happy land but with a dark side) and sent to the front during a time of crisis with another sim – Clissa (a sim that acts like North Korea).

The army of Sonogno is full of generals and officers. There is only one private – Little Ben. Little Ben meets some refugees from Clissa and falls in love with one. They kiss. Little Ben is arrested for KIA (Kissing in Action, but the exact nature of the crime is never explained - it's not important to the blood thirsty mobs)

A treason trial ensues. Sonogno erupts into mob behavior and the avatars, always in need of greater and greater thrills call for Little Ben's execution. The judges and prosecutors are only too happy to play to the mobs. The trial is a show trial with no real justice intended.

Little Ben tries to plead guilty, but the judge refuses and the trial ensues because the judicial system wants higher ratings on you tube which televises the proceedings.

Little Ben is convicted and sentenced to death. To maximize ticket sales to the event, little Ben's execution is move to the center of government in SL – Capital City.

The Druids are always present in the background and they offer to provide security in transporting Little Ben to the capital. However their intent is to snatch Little Ben and take her to Mount Sodom to perform the coronation. There are female Druid agents everywhere hiding in second life awaiting their chance at a return to power. All except in the sim of Clissa, where the despotic rulers do not allow any religion except worship of themselves.

Various factions within SL learn of the plot and set out to stop the return of blood sacrifice and incompetent rule.

These include a reporter from the Times, Sindy Blazer; a blimp captain, Punky Pugilist; the head of the Reserve Bank of Second Life and member of the ancient order of the Yellow Knights, Chris Llanfair; and his daughter Witney, a recent reform school graduate.

When the crown jewels are stolen from the Museo during the spectacular opening of the exhibition, the plot becomes clear and the protagonists each set out via different routes to Mount Sodom and the Druid Grove determined to stop the coronation.

The climactic scene is one in which the Druids reveal their true colors of blood and evil as our intrepid heroes battle to defeat them. However the druids are too strong and too well organized as a military order and the heroes are defeated and captured. As the coronation is about to be completed, a dirigible which had been damaged and abandoned in the skies, crashes into the grove igniting 2 million cubic feet of hydrogen. All escape but one and the plot is foiled. Second life is saved.

Essential Characters

Punky Pugilist, Senior Blimp captain for the Blimp Cartel. Female 4'2", plucky, skilled, naive and determined to risk life and limb to save SL. She is an optimist to a fault and she loves to smoke Testosa Grande Cigars.

Sindy Blazer, Society Page Editor of the Times, female, beautiful, vain, smart, and a graduate of the Druid convent. She has been raised in the convent by the Druids, and fearful of the religion. However at the end Sindy manages to overcome her fears and confront them in the final scenes.

Mother Superior Adel Flossberg of the Order of the Bloody Stain of Saint Hymenos the Benighted - Mothers of Earth Druids (reformed) - pure evil and always in a black nuns outfit. She is the result of 200 years of plotting by the order to return to power. Nothing is allowed to stop the restoration. She is bloodthirsty and prone to elliptic seizures at moments of high drama.

Little Ben, female, small frame very short. Ben is a simple person and always a victim. She has no real will of her own, but in the critical show down on the mountain she knows that the coronation cannot be allowed and she refuses to cooperate.

Chris Llanfair, male, tall, handsome. Very smart, loyal to a fault to the Lindens and head of the Reserve Bank of SL. He is also a member of the ancient order of the Yellow Knights who are dedicated to repressing the Druids and ensuring that the monarchy is never restored. Unfortunately, the Yellow Knights have become an old and decrepit social club and when the call to arms occurs they can only find 9 old men to battle with the 600 female buff warrior Druids.

Witney Llanfair, female, punk rocker, independent, Reform School graduate and skilled in fighting and mechanical arts. Witney is about 18, somewhat naive, but very feisty and probably too quick to resort to violence.

Sister Letum, Adel's right hand warrior and aid. She is Adel's successor and is completely without guilt and determined to kill her way if needed to restore the Druids. She will even kill her own sisters, if needed, to gain power. When Adel fails to complete the coronation ceremony, Letum takes command and proceeds to assume leadership of the order.

Bradford Cananticle Monforte IV, Royal, Dauphan of Second Life, is short 4'2", lives a life of luxury in a palace in the capital. A real gentleman who rarely speaks and when he does he lisps as did his ancestors. His motives are unclear at the beginning but on Sodom Mountain during the showdown he refuses the crown because he knows that innocent blood will flow as a result of the return of the Druids and the restoration of his in-bred family to rule.

Important Scenes

Trial of Little Ben

Mobs and fear rule, as little Ben is tried and convicted. The trial is completely unfair and reflects the needs of avatars for greater and greater thrills. Think gladiatorial Rome as the model for the setting.

Ben Marched to Capital City for the Execution

The Capital City Stadium seats 100,000 and tickets are going for a high price. The Druids have provided a paramilitary escort for the long procession which is broadcast live on you tube to increase ticket sales. Thousands line the streets to hurl epithets and throw stuff at Little Ben. Just before the Druids reach their abduction point, at which they will crate a diversion and snatch Ben, Punky Pugilist descends from the sky in a new and experimental blimp and rescues her. The druids are furious and a mob who has paid a lot of money for seats burns down the stadium

Crown Jewels Stolen During the Grand Opening at the Museo

The crown jewels recently recovered from the sea are displayed in a grand ball at the Museo. Only SL blue bloods and politicians are invited to the exclusive society event. Sindy Blazer, determined to be the most beautiful, borrows a gown and jewels and makes a grand entrance. She meets Monforte and others at the ball and they become friends. Monforte takes Sindy on a personal tour of the jewels. The room goes dark and thhe Druids attack and steal the jewels. No one knows who did the crime since it was done in the dark, and this follows a confusing incident in which a jewel Sindy is wearing explodes into electric fire. The jewel is later discovered to be a missing crown jewel with a magical power. Sindy nearly dies. But she is marked by the incident with a special power. She cannot be sacrificed by the dagger of the Druids. The dagger will not penetrate her chest.

Blimp Escape and Abandon Ship

Punky Pugilist takes Little Ben in the Blimp to the only safe place in all of SL – the remote isolated Clissa where the Druids have no secret agents. But spies have cancelled Clissa's contract and the sim has disappeared. Punky opens secret orders which say to get Little Ben into the safe hands of the Yellow Knights on Mount Sodom. But the blimp is badly damaged in a storm and the crew must abandon ship over the druid grove. The ship, lightened of its crew jumping into the night, sails back into the night sky. It is a night dark and without a moon. Eventually all are the blimp crew are captured except for Punky.

Protagonists Set Out to Druid Grove

One by one the other protagonists set out for the Druid Grove determined to stop the evil Druids. The Yellow Knights with Chris Llanfair depart on their horses by land. Sindy Blazer and friend Witney leaves by flying carpet. Monforte and party go by train and then hike the last miles up the mountain.

Coronation at the Druid Grove (Big Finale)

Adel assumes the guise of Circe, the last Druid Priestess, and has 600 of her finest female warriors lined up to support the coronation. Little Ben is captured, as are most of Punky's Crew. Punky herself manages to avoid detection and hides in a tree watching the ceremony. The Yellow Knights appear and a brief fight occurs. They are quickly

defeated and captured. Monforte is already there and his determination to stop the coronation becomes evident. Little Ben refuses to speak the magic oaths.

In the background the volcano, knowing that the coronation is taking place begins to provide pyrotechnics.

Circe is too smart, and she has found Little Bens lost father, and forces Ben to give the oath by threatening the father with death. When Monforte refuses, Circe brings forth a bastard child of Monfortes and presents her as the heir and substitutes her for Monforte. As the coronation resumes, Sindy blazer and Witney, as well as Punky dropping from the tree, rushes forward and another fight ensues, but alas the Druids are too strong. Circe, infuriated that Sindy Blazer, her ward of many years in the convent would stand up to the Druids, delays the coronation in order to kill her with a sacred dagger. Circe stabs Sindy in the heart, but the dagger will not penetrate he bosom. Sindy is protected by an ancient spell. Circe is debilitated by epilepsy, Sindy passes out, and Sister Letum takes over.

As the coronation is about be completed Punky looks up and sees the dirigible about to crash into the grove. She shouts for everyone to look and panic ensues. Everyone runs from the Druid Grove of ancient trees except Sister Letum who holding the dagger above her head curses the gods. The ship crashes and releases 2 million feet of hydrogen which explodes in an inferno. All escape except Sister Letum.

Final Scene

The protagonists climb down the mountain and bond with one another.

Secondary Scenes (Optional)

Punky Pugilist Volunteers to Save Little Ben

Punky Pugilist is ordered to report to her boss, the Chairman of the Blimp Cartel. Punky is worried that she will be disciplined for loosing Governor Lindens Luggage on a recent flight. Instead, the Chairman reveals the restoration plot and tells Punky to volunteer to save Little Ben. The scene takes place in a darkened board room and in secret. She is told the odds are hopeless, but she volunteers any way. In this scene we finally understand the importance of Little Ben and the existence of the Druid Plot.

Mother Superior Adel Flossberg Addresses Army of Circe

The full plot is finally revealed to the Left Hand and Right Hand of Circe, the female shock troops of the Druids by Adel. The scene unfolds in the secret chapel of the Druids beneath the public chapel above. A mass is being performed above in public and the music fills the secret chapel. Adel gives a speech and criticizes the commandos for a sloppy robbery of the crown jewels. Another senior sister joins in the criticism, and Adel motions to Sister Letum to cut off the head of the senior sister as the music of the mass

above hits its crescendo. Here we learn that Adel is a megalomaniac and Sister Letum will do anything to restore the order to power.

The Protagonists Ascent Up Mt. Sodom

Mount Sodom is home to 14 religions in SL. The Druids have called upon their followers to make a pilgrimage to the Druid Grove on the moonless night of the coronation. Thousands arrive at the bottom of the mountain dressed in white robes and they ascend the mountain at the same time as the protagonists, Blazer, Llanfair, and Monforte climb the slopes. The pilgrims are slowly drawn away from the climb by the severity of the climb and the temptations of other religions. A hedonist shrine takes most, but the shrine of sloth, and another shrine of vanity prevent any druid supporters from making it to the grove. This scene provides humor as each sect competes for new converts with dancing girls and boys, free beer and pizza, and other attractions.

Mother Superior Orders Sindy Blazer to Support Plot

Adel reveals the plot to Sindy Blazer her former ward at the School for Wayward Girls. Sindy is terrified by the religion in which she grew up, and is afraid for her soul, and for the souls of her long dead parents whom Adel can order into Hell. Sindy will be appointed Acting Executive Editor of the Times when the Druids kidnap the editor, and she is ordered to control the press and not allow any news of the plot to reach the people. Sindy obeys the order but is deeply disturbed. This scene establishes the plot, reveals Sindy's deep fear of the Druids, and lays the foundation for her ultimate rejection of the religion she fears and hates.