

Postlude

Dudley's Cave and The Circle of Fire

I watched as Elijah walked out of the cave. He had taught “The I am” Tribe a great deal about the dark and light battle that was going on in the life of each tribe member. Dudley, my dog, was very glad to see the light of the afternoon sun as it made its way across the desert land. He had stayed close to my side through our time spent in the cave following Nimbah, the “Keeper of the Cave of Wisdom”. But now he sat at the exit to the cave and stared off into the distant rolling land. From first sight, the land appeared like the area we were walking in New Mexico that morning when Dudley uncovered the entrance to the cave and fell through to begin our journey.

Something felt strange about the land we were watching. I turned around and saw the tribe was still with me. “So, the journey has not ended yet”, I said to Dudley. He looked up at me, whined, and gave me that pitiful look that could mean either feed me or hold me. I gave him a treat from my pouch to ease his anxiety and he lay quietly on the ground. I turned and looked for Nimbah questioningly, but she had not come into this cavern. “Now what” I said to the Tribe? “Why are you still here and where is here?” The rest of the tribe seemed just as confused as I was. We thought we had made it through all of the caverns in the cave and were now ready to go home.

As if reading our thoughts, Dudley growled and drew our attention to a scroll lying on the cavern floor. I walked over, picked it up, and unrolled it carefully. “It’s a note from Nimbah” I said and began to

read: "Home? Yes, you would like to go home, I suppose. But there is more to your journey. The last cavern brought you to an exit to the cave, not the entrance to the cave you first encountered. Home, no, this is not your home. Far from it, this is not your time in history either. You have entered the world and time of Elijah, King Ahab, and the wicked Queen Jezebel. This is a dangerous place for someone who worships Jehovah. Many priests of Jehovah have already been killed by Queen Jezebel.

Elijah has gone to face the Dream God has for his life. You must do the same. Follow Elijah to learn the way back home. And remember the learning's from the Caverns."

"But where has Elijah gone?" I asked the Tribe. He had disappeared into the bright sunlight as we were talking. This was all very strange. I didn't know this land or time. What if we were mistaken as priests and killed? Would we ever see our homes again? Dudley sensed my fear and began to pace. Suddenly he bolted into the sunlight and disappeared behind a pile of rocks.

One of the Tribe spoke up, "We must go to the palace of King Ahab in Samaria. That is where we will find Elijah." I called for Dudley to come, but he was already out of sight and gone. I had no choice. If I was to find Dudley and the way home, I would have to trust Nimbah and leave the cavern.