Trouble in Vascany and the Tragedy of Ptolimas (Tales of Wolfthorn II)

The Summary of a tale:

This is the second lore-tale of Wolfthorn, that depicts the hardships of the Ardenian peoples prior to the Third age of the Midian, and their struggles against the Nilmish Empire and criminality of their soldiers in the fields, grazes, and vineyards of Vascany; the location being similar to what it was in ancient Roman history.

It takes place during the middle of the second age, when Nilmish-Ardenian war and famine peaked in tension and became much more prominent.

The goal of these writings is to provide the game's prominent intro story for use in the game's first linear quests, cinematics, and factions. It also is meant to evoke emotion from the player by

immediately diving into one of the game's most important periods of early history while also bringing loved ones of the player characters into peril with subtle foreshadowing that ultimately ends in tragedy.

The Demo Summary and Story:

You play as young Ardenian boy, Ptolimas, almost 500 years before the main game takes place in the lands of Arden in the world of the Midian.

Ptolimas is the son of one of the countryside region's most respected and well-known vineyard keepers, that took much pride and pure joy into his work out in the countryside of Vascany. Ptolimas is still a young boy and is ignorant of most of his father's true passions in consideration for his own as he scrapes near young adulthood. He finds love with his childhood sweetheart in the neighboring vineyard across the river from his father's be worked in with. Her name is Evony; they had been childhood sweethearts since they were both born and raised in these countrysides and known one another from the very start of their own lives.

However, when the Nilmish Empire finally found their way into the hearts of these country lands away from where the turmoil had quaked for decades prior in Ardenian mainlands, danger was amidst the doorstep of every man, woman, and child in the lands. And so, the story of Ptolimas began.

The Tale of Ptolimas and the Tragedy of Evony:

By the time the Nilmish Empire arrives, Ptolimas is not aware until they begin sending patrols out in the night, following the pathways outside him and his father's home; and then next out in the day and then both every fall of the sun and rise of the moon.

Ptolimas's father, Mightus begins to become increasingly worried by the day, trying his best to shun his son away from the danger that he knows is lingering, but soon to come in order to ensure his safety. This goes on for a few days, as troops and soldiers settle outposts along the borders of the lands and patrols become increasingly frequent in numbers. Then there was night when things turned dark.

On the night of, Ptolimas is still slightly worried by his father's behavior around the Nilmish presence arriving in their lands, ignorant and blinded by love, he is determined to leave the house during the night and secretively take Evony on a horse ride as meanwhile she stood in her own home, yearning for the heart of her lover. Ptolimas had promised her the night before he would take her again, and so he left his home to do just that, not knowing he would suffer the consequences the rest of his life.

SAMPLE

Ptolimas arrives at Ebony's home and there she stands waiting, but in the same way he had expected, a worried look crossed her face, that was not of the common worry of her father catching her leave with Ptolimas in the midst of the moonlight pale. Instead, she tells Ptolimas of her fears surrounding the troops to which he disregards as nothing of concern. He proceeds to jokingly convince her into riding with him knowing it would only take a sentence. Alas, it did, and Evony swiftly mounted on horseback, thereafter, Ptolimas proceeded to ride off into the distant woods.

Upon reaching the outskirts however, they stop suddenly after hearing distant cries and then to their looking, they see the terror from afar, smoke rises from distant embers of vineyard homes and the cries grow in audibility. Vascany is in grave danger, and so are their families.

Both Ptolimas and Evony stand silent for a moment in utter shock and disregard as they cannot believe their eyes from afar to what they once saw so close. With a look of absolute fear towards one another, Ptolimas rides off rapidly toward their homes, hoping and praying their family yet lives. However, when they arrive, there is little left behind beside burning ash, rubble, and fiery dust in the midst of what could only be described as chaos in a once peaceful land, unrecognizable by its very hostility. Ptolimas proceeds towards her home with Evony finding her father as he joined them wounded and then towards his, with Evony at his side. They expressed their love for one another as they ran towards the black smoke that surrounded his home in hopes of finding his father alive. In the middle of it all, Ptolimas has now lost sight of Evony and her father, and in desperate last hopes, he makes his way to her home across from his where he suspect they will be. He arrives and no trace of life is found, besides the distant cries and turmoil clinging on in the distant town from there. He hops upon his mount and rides towards it, ash in his eyes mixed with the tears of unknowing and deepest regrets.

Ptolimas arrives in town, and there in front of his eyes, all that stood were the piled cadavers of the peoples who once lived there, and among the very front of them, was Evony. Lifeless, without a beating heart any longer and with no color left to shine, or air present to breathe into the love he once shared with her. Beside her, was her father; Greylen, an axe stuck in his back and his neck broken as he hung alongside his daughter.

Nilmish patrols are the only remaining life in the wake of the town's desecration, and as Ptolimas approaches nearer they warn him to turn back and never return, but his anger was far too extent for the pain induced loss he had suffered that night. Rage pouring through his soul, he kills the two guards stood afront in blind rage and alerts the others around them, they attempt to chase him down but lose Ptolimas in the very woods he wished to escape in with Evony upon what seemed like just minutes before, when he had arrived.

SAMPLE

The next morning, he is awoken as he slept by a dead stump by another man by the name of Fardan, who claims he is a hunter in these lands and one of the rangers of the west. The two muster a plan to take the countryside back, and so they mark one location at a time, laying out the plot to kill the ruthless Captain Terjinn who led the raid the night before on Ptolimas's home town.

And so it was, he would work alongside this mysterious but sure ranger Fardan and take back what was his. With their ultimate plan of murdering Terjinn and destroying his forces, even if it meant sacrificing his own life to save the rest of his homelands from Terjinn's current grasp, so they could recoup and be ready for future attacks to come. This is the story of Ptolimas; a historic figure, and leader of the first Vascanic revolt against the invading Nilmish Empire in the Vascanic revolution. He who would help shape the alliance in the country lands from its beginning to its short but never forgotten end…

To be continued…