



PAINTING BY ALLY MAHONEY

## AMENTI 'S COIN – SECRET PLACE PT. 2 – THE STORY

BY DENIS STRASSBURG

### A SECRET PLACE, PART ONE

WHAT HAS HAPPENED SO FAR? (REFERENCE 'A SECRET PLACE, PART ONE' FROM THE ALBUM "PARALYZED")  
OMAR LIVES WITH HIS FATHER IN THEBES DURING THE TIME OF THE PHARAOHS. HE IS A WELL RESPECTED CLOTH MERCHANT BY TRADE.

HE ALSO IS A FULL TIME CARER FOR HIS AGING, SICK FATHER.

SOMETIMES, WHEN THE PRESSURE AND RESPONSIBILITY GET TOO MUCH FOR HIM, OMAR LEAVES THE CITY AND GOES TO A DESERTED OASIS HE HAS FOUND, A PEACEFUL PLACE THAT HE LOVES VERY MUCH, HIS "SECRET PLACE".

ONE DAY AT THE MARKET HE MEETS BY CHANCE, SHERIN, A BEAUTIFUL HAND MAIDEN TO THE PHARAOH, A MEMBER OF THE ROYAL COURT. THEY MEET OFTEN AND HE QUICKLY FALLS IN LOVE WITH HER AND TAKES HER TO SHOW HER THIS "SECRET PLACE"

THEIR ROMANCE BLOSSOMS, BUT TRAGEDY STRIKES WHEN THE PHARAOH DIES. ACCORDING TO ANCIENT LAW, SHERIN HAS ACCOMPANY THE PHAROAH ON HIS JOURNEY INTO THE AFTERLIFE.

SHE IS TO BE EXECUTED AND BURIED IN A SACRED GRAVEYARD BESIDE THE GREAT PYRAMID

OMAR CAN'T ACCEPT THAT FATE BUT IS POWERLESS TO SAVE HER. SHE MEETS HER DEATH BRAVELY. HE MOURNS DEEPLY FOR HER AND VISITS THE OUTER EDGES OF THE GRAVEYARD EVERY DAY, CAREFULLY AVOIDING THE PALACE GUARDS

HE IS ALWAYS THINKING OF WAYS TO CHANGE DESTINY.

THE STORY CONTINUES...

## A SECRET PLACE, PART TWO

### 1. ON SACRED GROUND

ON THE SECOND DAY, AS HE SLOWLY WALKS HOME, OMAR WONDERS WHETHER IT IS POSSIBLE TO FREE SHERIN FROM HER GRAVE, SO HE GOES BACK TO THE GRAVEYARD AND HIDES NEAR THE TOMB AND WAITS FOR NIGHTFALL. WHEN NOT A SINGLE LIGHT IS LEFT ON IN THEBES, OMAR COMES OUT OF HIDING IN ORDER TO DIG AND CLIMB INTO THE GRAVE IN ORDER TO GET TO SHERIN. HOWEVER, THERE ARE MANY ROYAL GUARDS PATROLLING ON DUTY, WITH ORDERS FROM THE HIGH PRIESTS TO LET NO ONE ENTER THE GROUNDS. OMAR HAS TO SNEAK PAST THEM TO GET TO THE GRAVE AND FREE HIS LOVER. JUST AS HE IS ABOUT TO REACH HER GRAVE, HE IS CAUGHT BY THE GUARDS WHO ARREST HIM IMMEDIATELY. OMAR IS TAKEN TO THEBES PRISON, WHERE HE SPENDS THE NIGHT IN DESPAIR. THE NEXT DAY HE IS BROUGHT BEFORE THE HIGH PRIESTS, WHO CONDEMN HIM TO DEATH WITHOUT LISTENING TO HIM. HIS EXECUTION IS SET TO TAKE PLACE THE NEXT DAY.

### 2. A LETTER HOME

DURING THE NIGHT, OMAR SITS AWAKE IN HIS CELL AND WRITES A LAST LETTER TO HIS FATHER. HE REQUESTS OF THE GUARDS, THAT HIS FRIEND ANWAR BE ALLOWED TO COME AND COLLECT IT AND THEN DELIVER IT TO HIS FATHER. ANWAR DOES SO, BUT STOPS TO READ THE LETTER. ON READING IT, ANWAR REALISES THAT HE HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO RETURN TO THE JAIL AND RESCUE HIS BEST FRIEND. OMAR HEARS A NOISE IN FRONT OF THE CELL. WHEN THE DOOR OPENS, HE LOOKS IN AMAZEMENT INTO THE FAMILIAR FACE OF HIS FRIEND DRESSED AS A GUARD. ANWAR HAS A RESCUE PLAN. THEY ESCAPE AND ANWAR ACCOMPANIES OMAR TO THE CITY LIMITS WHERE HE ADVISES OMAR TO FLEE AS FAR AS POSSIBLE AND NEVER TO RETURN. HOWEVER, OMAR STILL WANTS TO SEE HIS FATHER ONE LAST TIME IN ORDER TO SAY GOODBYE AND SO, UNDER COVER OF DARKNESS, HE THANKS ANWAR FOR HIS AID AND THEN SNEAKS BACK INTO TOWN.

### 3. MY FATHER'S ANSWER

OMAR'S FATHER HAS BEEN WORRIED SICK AND TERRIFIED SINCE LEARNING OF HIS ONLY SON'S DEATH PENALTY. WHEN OMAR BURSTS IN, HE IS OVERJOYED. OMAR TELLS HIS FATHER ALL ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM, ABOUT SHERIN AND ALSO EXPLAINS THAT HE DOESN'T WANT TO GIVE HER UP. HIS FATHER LISTENS CAREFULLY AND THEN GETS UP AND GOES INTO THE NEXT ROOM. WHEN HE RETURNS, HE HAS A ROLLED UP PARCHMENT MAP IN HIS HAND. HE GIVES THE MAP TO OMAR AND TELLS HIM THAT THIS WILL SHOW HIM THE WAY TO GET TO THE UNDERWORLD WHERE HE COULD FIND SHERIN. HIS FATHER DEMANDS THAT OMAR LEAVE IMMEDIATELY TO LOOK FOR HER. THEY SAY THEIR GOODBYES WITH ONE LAST SAD AND YET JOYFUL HUG BEFORE OMAR SETS OFF INTO THE NIGHT.

### 4. DESERT CROSSING

OMAR FOLLOWS THE PATH THAT THE MAP LAYS OUT FOR HIM AND AFTER A WEEK HE STANDS ON THE EDGE OF A HUGE DESERT. WITHOUT HESITATION, HE SETS OFF TO CROSS THE DESERT. AFTER MANY DAYS, STILL ATTEMPTING THE CROSSING, HIS SUPPLIES FINALLY RUN OUT AND THE THOUGHTS OF HIS SHERIN ARE THE ONLY THINGS THAT KEEPS HIM GOING. AFTER SIX MORE DAYS, HIS WATER IS USED UP AND HE CAN ONLY DRAG HIMSELF FORWARD OVER THE HOT BURNING SAND. WHEN NIGHT COMES, OMAR COLLAPSES EXHAUSTED AND LOSES CONSCIOUSNESS.

### 5. CARAVAN

THE NEXT TIME OMAR OPENS HIS EYES, HE FINDS HIMSELF IN A TENT, LYING ON COOL CUSHIONS. A STRANGER SITS ACROSS FROM HIM SMILING AND OFFERS OMAR A JUG OF WATER. THE STRANGER INTRODUCES HIMSELF AS HILAL, A CARAVAN LEADER AND TELLS OMAR THAT HE FOUND HIM NEAR TO DEATH ON HIS CARAVAN ROUTE. HILAL ASKS WHAT HE IS DOING OUT IN THE DESERT ALL ALONE AND WITHOUT ENOUGH SUPPLIES. OMAR TELLS HIS STORY AND WHEN HE HAS DONE, HE TAKES THE MAP OUT OF HIS POCKET AND SHOWS IT TO HILAL. THE CARAVAN LEADER LOOKS AT THE MAP FOR A LONG TIME AND THEN TELLS OMAR THAT THE MAP ALONE IS OF NO USE TO HIM. "THE GATE TO THE UNDERWORLD ONLY OPENS ON THE LAST DAY OF A MONTH WITH THE FIRST RAY OF SUNSHINE. AND THEN YOU STILL WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ENTER THE UNDERWORLD AS THE GATE IS WATCHED OVER BY A HUGE GATEKEEPER CALLED AMENTI." HILAL REACHES INTO HIS POCKET AND SAYS "YOU NEED THIS TOO". HE HANDS OMAR A SMALL GOLD COIN WITH STRANGE MARKINGS ON IT. OMAR LOOKS CURIOUSLY AT THE COIN. HE HAD NEVER SEEN ONE LIKE THIS BEFORE. HILAL SAYS "YOU NEED THIS TO PAY THE ENTRANCE FEE TO AMENTI".

## 7. A NEW SHANGRI-LA

OMAR IS RECOVERED AND READY TO LEAVE THE CARAVAN. HE THANKS HILAL AGAIN FOR HIS LIFE, THE COIN AND THE FRESH SUPPLIES.

HIS SPIRIT IS FULL, HE FEELS ENVIGORATED BY ALL HIS EXPERIENCES, HIS RESCUE AND THE WELL NEEDED REST.

HE SETS OFF FOLLOWING THE MAP THROUGH THE DESERT ONCE MORE. DAYS GO BY AND THEN THE DESERT GIVES WAY TO A MOUNTAIN RANGE.

THE CLIMB IS NOT EASY, BUT UPON FINDING A CARVED PATHWAY, HE SPOTS A NARROW PASSAGEWAY DISAPPEARING INTO THE ROCK.

HE SQUEEZES THROUGH AND COMES OUT LOOKING DOWN ON A LOST VALLEY, LUSH WITH VEGETATION AND CONTAINING A SMALL MIRROR LAKE.

BY THE LAKE SHORELINE IS A BEAUTIFULLY DECORATED HOUSE. HE SITS AND DRINKS FROM THE CLEAR COOL PURE WATER.

WHEN HE LOOKS UP AGAIN, A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN STANDS BEFORE HIM LOOKING AT HIM CAREFULLY.

SHE ASKS HIS NAME AND, REALISING THAT HE LOOKS VERY EXHAUSTED, SHE INVITES HIM TO COME INTO HER HOUSE AND TO EAT AND TO REST

OMAR GRATEFULLY ACCEPTS THE OFFER.

## 8. THE TEMPTRESS

WHILE EATING AND DRINKING, OMAR TELLS HER HIS STORY. SHE LISTENS CAREFULLY AND WITH EVERY GLASS OF WINE SHE POURS HIM, SHE MOVES A LITTLE CLOSER TO HIM.

SHE WHISPERS SOFTLY IN HIS EAR THAT HE SHOULD NOW STAY WITH HER. HE'S SUCH A HANDSOME, STRONG, YOUNG MAN AND SHE HAS BEEN WAITING FOR SO LONG.

SHE GENTLY CARESSES HIS NECK. SHE EXPLAINS THAT HE WOULD NEVER REGRET SUCH A DECISION AND WOULD LIVE VERY HAPPILY HERE WITH HER.

SOMEWHAT FOGGY FROM THE WINE AND STILL A LITTLE EXHAUSTED, OMAR SITS THERE AND LETS IT ALL HAPPEN TO HIM. HE ENJOYS THE CARESSES AND COMPLIMENTS THAT HE IS RECEIVING.

"FORGET THIS SHERIN. WITH ME YOU HAVE EVERYTHING YOU NEED!", SHE WHISPERS SEDUCTIVELY, SHE LEANS IN TO KISS HIM.

BUT WHEN OMAR HEARS THE NAME SHERIN ALOUD, HE WAKES UP FROM HIS TRANCE AND RUDELY PUSHES THE WOMAN AWAY. "SNEAKY SNAKE!" HE SHOUTS. "DO NOT DARE TO EVEN SPEAK HER NAME!"

OMAR GRABS HIS THINGS AND SEES TO IT THAT HE GETS AWAY QUICKLY, LEAVING THE HOUSE AND VALLEY BEHIND HIM.

## 9. ARRIVAL

ON THE LAST DAY OF THE MONTH, OMAR FINALLY REACHES THE CAVE ENTRANCE MARKED ON THE MAP, BUT IT STANDS CLOSED.

HE WAITS FOR THE SUNRISE FULL OF JOY AND EXCITEMENT, AND WITH THE FIRST RAY OF SUNSHINE HITTING THE LAND, THE ENTRANCE TO THE CAVE SLOWLY OPENS AND THE GATEKEEPER HUGE FIGURE OF AMENTI APPEARS ALONG WITH A SPLENDID GOLDEN DOOR.

OVERWHELMED BY THE SIZE OF AMENTI, OMAR SLOWLY APPROACHES HIM WITH TREMBLING LEGS AND BOWING, HANDS THE COIN TO HIM.

WITH A GRIM LOOK, AMENTI LOOKS DOWN AT OMAR, THE GATEWAY DOOR OPENS AND OMAR IS ALLOWED TO FINALLY PASS THROUGH THE GATE.

AS HE DOES SO, THE ENCHANTED MAP TURNS TO ASHES IN HIS HANDS. WITH VERY QUICK STEPS HE MOVES PASSED AMENTI.

HE CAN HARDLY WAIT TO FINALLY EMBRACE HIS BELOVED SHERIN AGAIN.

BUT, AFTER A FEW MINUTES, HIS WILD ANTICIPATION GIVES WAY TO A DEEP DESPAIR.

AS FAR AS HE CAN SEE, HE IS ALONE HERE AND NOTHING CAN BE SEEN ON THIS OTHER SIDE OF THE GATE, JUST A LARGE EMPTY CAVERN.

THE CAVERN IS LIT WITH BEAUTIFUL COLOURS AND LUSH GREEN SOFT MOSS COVERS THE FLOOR AND PARTS OF WALLS. SYMBOLS CAN BE SEEN RUNNING THE LENGTH OF THE ROCK FACES, BUT OMAR CANNOT TAKE ANY MEANING FROM THEM, HE FALLS TO GROUND SOBBING.

AS HE LISTENS, HE CAN ONLY HEAR HIS OWN BREATH. HE KEEPS CALLING OUT HER NAME, "SHERIN!", AS LOUD AS HE CAN, BUT NOTHING MOVES.

OMAR TURNS AROUND. HE HAS ALREADY WALKED SO FAR INSIDE THE CAVERN NOW THAT HE CAN NO LONGER EVEN SEE THE ENTRANCE.

HERE, IN THE CENTRE, THERE IS JUST SILENCE AND BRIGHT LIGHT. NOTHING MORE.

## CODA

SOME TALES HAVE A HAPPY FAIRYTALE ENDING...BUT NOT ALL OF THEM!

NOW WITH NO MAP, OMAR'S PATH HAD COME TO AN ABRUPT STOP.

THERE WERE NO CLUES THAT HE COULD UNDERSTAND, NO DIRECTION AS TO WHAT TO DO OR WHERE TO GO ON FURTHER.

OMAR STUDIED THE CAVERN WALL SYMBOLS FOR MANY YEARS, BUT HE WAS NEVER ABLE TO DECIPHER THEM AND SO RESTART HIS QUEST.

IN THE END, HE DECIDED TO LEAVE THE CAVE AREA BEHIND HIM FOREVER AND TO MAKE HIS WAY BACK TO THE HIDDEN VALLEY, WHERE HE SPENT HIS REMAINING YEARS PEACEFULLY

BUT ALL THINGS MUST HAVE AN ENDING AND SO PERHAPS ON HIS DEATH BED, HE FINALLY DID MEET WITH SHERIN AGAIN IN THE AFTERLIFE, REUNITED AT LAST...WHO KNOWS?

...BUT THAT MY FRIENDS, IS ANOTHER STORY!

## THE END

## AMENTI 'S COIN – SECRET PLACE PT. 2 – THE LYRICS

BY GUY MANNING

### ON SACRED GROUND

OMAR:  
WHY SHOULD I WONDER?  
WHY DO I STAND AFRAID  
SHE'S SIX FEET UNDER  
SO COLD WITHIN HER GRAVE

SACRED GROUND  
ON SACRED GROUND  
SACRED GROUND  
ON SACRED GROUND

SO DEATH AWAITS ME,  
THOUGH NOT FROM ANY GHOST  
BUT BY THE RELIGION  
OF HER UNWANTED HOSTS

SACRED GROUND  
ON SACRED GROUND  
SACRED GROUND  
ON SACRED GROUND

ANWAR:  
A CHANCE TO SAY HIS LAST GOODBYES,  
A CHANCE TO MOURN HIS LOVE  
FROM WHERE SHE LOOKED DOWN ON HIM, FROM HIGH ABOVE  
OR IS SHE LOCKED AWAY, LOST BENEATH THE SOIL  
WRAPPED IN TRUE FAITH ONLY FOUND ON SACRED GROUND

AS I WARNED HIM,  
THERE ARE DANGERS HERE  
AND THE GUARDS OVERCAME HIM  
AS HE WAS LED AWAY

CONDEMNED TO DIE ALONE  
THE DAWN TOMORROW WILL CARRY HIS SOUL

A CHANCE FOR GRIM REFLECTION  
THERE'S NO NEED FOR SOUND  
THE SOLITUDE SURROUNDS HIM  
AND HIS FLESH IS BOUND  
THE GATHERING WIND IS SCREAMING  
IT'S TIME TO FLY AWAY

## A LETTER HOME

ANWAR: (READS ALOUD OMARS LETTER TO HIS FATHER)

PUTTING PEN TO PAPER, I NEED TO TELL OF MY FATE  
I SHOULD HAVE SPOKEN SOONER NOW ITS LATE  
NO TIME FOR A WHAT COULD HAVE BEEN  
BECAUSE IT IS WHAT IT IS  
SEE YOU AGAIN IN A TRANQUIL SWEETER PLACE

REMEMBER ME AS I AM  
REMEMBER ALL MY LOVE

I WAS THE CHILD IN THE SUN, RUNNING IN THE DUSTY STREET  
SO CAREFREE, LAUGHING, PLAYING WITH MY FRIENDS  
ITS SO FUNNY TO THINK BACK ON THOSE EARLY DAYS WITH YOU  
SO CLEARLY I CAN SEE YOU WAVING BACK

I CLIMB ON YOUR SHOULDERS  
AND HOLD ON TO YOU TIGHT  
WE RUN SO FAST TOGETHER  
A FATHER WITH HIS SON

AND THE DAYS THEY WENT SO FAST  
AND WE GREW APART IN PAIN  
WITH NO RECONCILIATIONS  
THAT TIME WOULD NEVER COME AGAIN

ANWAR:  
SO HERE I AM FOR YOU  
YOU WILL NOT DIE TODAY  
PUT ON THESE CLOTHES QUICKLY  
AND THEN LET US BE AWAY

RUN AS FAST AS YOU CAN FOR YOUR LIFE  
RUN TO THE DISTANT SANDS  
RUN WITH THE BREEZE AT YOUR BACK  
RUN FROM THIS HATEFUL LAND

OMAR & ANWAR:  
RUNNING FAST FOR A NEW LIFE  
RUNNING FAST THROUGH ALL THE SAND  
RUNNING LIKE THE WIND GLIDES ONWARDS  
GOODBYE FAMILIAR LANDS

### MY FATHER'S ANSWER

FATHER:

OH MY CHILD, YOUR WORDS SO MOVED ME  
IT'S CLEAR, THAT WE WASTED TIME  
IF YOU WERE HERE I WOULD HOLD ON TIGHTLY  
I PRAY THAT YOU WILL FIND PEACE AT LAST

OMAR:

I AM NOW DELIVERED WHOLE  
AND I RAN HOME TO YOU  
OH FATHER, PLEASE FORGIVE ME  
TELL ME NOW WHAT I MUST DO

FATHER:

IF YOU STILL LOVE HER, YOU WILL NOT FAIL TO FIND HER  
TAKE THIS PARCHMENT, IT SHOWS ALL THE WAYS TO GO

OMAR:

SIGNS APPEAR BEFORE MY EYES  
A MAP TO THE UNDERWORLD  
MOUNTAIN PASSAGEWAYS, RIVERS TO CROSS  
REACHED BY THE LAST FULL MOON DAY

OMAR:

DANGERS SURROUND ME IF I TAKE TO THIS PATH  
TRAVELLING UNDER WHERE NO MAN SHOULD EVER PASS  
I SWEAR BY LOVE THAT I WILL GET TO THE CAVE AND INSIDE  
FORTUNE FAVOURS THE BRAVE AND FOOLISH TO SURVIVE

FATHER:

NO TIME FOR GOODBYES, THE DAYS ARE NOW SHORTER  
YOU MUST RETURN OR YOU WILL PERISH ALONE  
SO TAKE THE TASK AND FOLLOW YOUR HEART  
PACK UP, BE READY ... TO MAKE A FRESH START

OMAR:

SEE HER FACE IT APPEARS BEFORE ME  
I AM THE HOPE AND THE DREAM  
JOURNEYING ONWARDS TO DEATH  
ENACTING THIS DESPERATE SCHEME

## DESERT CROSSING

OMAR:  
WHAT AM I A JESTER OR HERO?  
CAUGHT IN MOMENTS OF PITY, DOUBT AND FEAR  
LOST IN THOUGHTS AS MY LIFE IS FADING

I AM WRITING A BRAND NEW STORY  
WHILST YOU SLEPT THERE COLD AND UNDERGROUND  
I HAVE CHASED UP THE ROADS TOWARDS SALVATION

IF THEY FIND MY OLD WHITE BONES HERE  
BLEACHED BY THE SCORCHING DESERT SUN  
MARK MY NAME AS TODAY'S RECKLESS FOOL

OMAR, SHERIN:  
KEEP BREATHING IN AND OUT  
HEART BEATS WORKING TO RHYTHM  
LEGS DO NOT GIVE WAY AND FALL  
PULLING UP FROM THE SAND  
DEEP HEAT FIRES THE DAY LIGHT  
HORIZONS FIXED CALL ME TO "STAY!"

OMAR:  
WATER GONE, LANDMARKS GONE  
LOST IN AN ENDLESS DUSTY BOWL  
CALLING YOUR NAME WITH NO ONE LEFT TO HEAR ME

THE WIND HOWLS OUT MY EPITAPH  
SINGING SONGS OF LUCKLESS WANDERERS  
I HAVE CHASED UP THE ROADS WITH NOWHERE TO GO

OMAR, SHERIN:  
KEEP BREATHING IN AND OUT  
HEART BEATS WORKING TO RHYTHM  
LEGS DO NOT GIVE WAY AND FALL  
PULLING UP FROM THE GRAINS  
DEEP HEAT FIRES THE DAY LIGHT  
HORIZONS FIXED CALL ME TO "STAY!"

OMAR:  
SHERIN I AM COMING DARLING,  
HOPE HAS ALL BUT GONE

ALL MY PRAYERS HAVE FAILED ME  
GODS HAVE LEFT ME  
WITH THE BUZZARDS FLYING NEAR

SO WILL WE BE TOGETHER, I ONLY WISH I KNEW  
YOU'D THINK THE SACRIFICE WOULD ALWAYS SEE ME BACK WITH YOU

OMAR, SHERIN:  
DEEP BREATHING IN AND OUT  
HEART BEATS LOSING THEIR RHYTHM  
LEGS ALL BUT GIVE WAY, I FALL  
DOWN ON THE RESTING SAND  
DARK HEAT FIRES THE DAY LIGHT  
HORIZONS LOST CALL ME AWAY



## CARAVAN

OMAR:  
UPON MY WAKING I KNOW  
MY LIFE TO MY SAVIOUR OWED  
AND MY FEELINGS SHOW  
WHATEVER SAVED ME TONIGHT  
I NEED A WAY TO MAKE IT RIGHT  
SO I TELL HIM MY TALE

HILAL:  
KARMA FEEDS THE SOUL  
I WILL AID YOUR GOAL

OMAR:  
BLESS YOU MY FRIEND  
LOOK HERE AT THE MAP OF MY WAY TO GO

OMAR:  
THE GATE WILL ONLY APPEAR  
FOR THE KEEPER AT DAWNS LIGHT  
I MUST MEET HIM THERE

WHATEVER HAPPENS NEXT  
THAT IS HIDDEN STILL FROM ME  
BUT I KNOW I NEED TO SEE

HILAL:  
YOU WILL NEED THIS MORE  
A COIN TO PAY FOR GOING THROUGH THE DOOR

OMAR:  
THE MAP AND THE COIN  
NOW I FEEL I'M READY TO LEAVE

## A NEW SHANGRI-LA

OMAR:

ANOTHER WAY TO NOW GO  
WHILE THE SAND TURNS TO HIGH RISE PLATEAU  
I WORK HOLDING TO THE FACE  
OF THE ROCKS AND THE STONE OF THIS PLACE

FINGERS FIND HOME AS IF THEY KNOW  
THE PATH UP AHEAD MOVING SLOW  
AND THE WIND'S GOING TO BLOW  
UPWARD AND ONWARD I GO

HIGH OUT THERE IN THE BLUE,  
WHERE TIME STARTS TO MOVE SLOWLY  
BIRDS WILL CIRCLE THEIR PREY  
CAUGHT IN A MOMENT ALONE  
I WATCH AND I WISH  
THAT I COULD FLY UP THERE SO FREE  
SO I THINK OF MY GOAL  
LOST FROZEN GLIMPSES OF HOME

ANOTHER WAY TO NOW FLOW  
AS A PATH HAS A PASSAGE TO SHOW  
SQUEEZING IN THE ROCK FACE  
A ROUTE TO A DIFFERENT PLACE

HOLD ONTO HOPE IT EVER GROWS  
LOOK AT THE VALLEY BELOW  
AND I STILL, STILL WANT TO KNOW  
WHERE DO ALL MY DREAMS GO?

DOWN THERE INTO THE GREEN,  
WHERE TIME STILL MOVES SO SLOWLY  
BEES AND BUTTERFLIES FLOAT  
DANCING AROUND THROUGH THE TREES  
I MOVE TO THE SHORE  
OF THE MIRROR, THE LAKE SO SERENE  
AND I TAKE A COOL DRINK  
WATERS SO CRYSTAL AND CLEAN

SO WHO IS THE GIRL  
I SEE, SMILING SO GRATEFUL  
WHEN SHE WELCOMES ME HOME  
REST HERE BRING PEACE TO YOUR SOUL

## THE TEMPTRESS

OMAR:

"OH PLEASE HEAR MY STORY  
A TALE OF LOVE AND LOSS  
NO HEROES OR GLORY  
AND THE PATHWAYS STILL TO CROSS  
I CAN ONLY STAY TILL MORNING AS I MUST BE ON MY WAY"

TEMPTRESS:

"SO REST AWHILE HERE WITH ME  
FOR I HAVE BEEN ALL ON MY OWN  
AND PATIENT I HAVE STAYED LONELY  
FOR SOMEONE TO COME IN  
FOR SOMEONE TO COME  
INTO THIS HERMIT HOUSE  
HERMIT'S HOUSE  
PLEASE BE WITH ME NOW"

OMAR:

AS THE WINE BEGINS TO DULL MY MIND  
I CAN FEEL HER MOVING IN, BEHIND ME  
SHE STROKES MY NECK AND WHISPERS HER PROMISES  
"FORGET HER, YOU WILL NOT KNOW SHERIN SOON"

OMAR:

GET BACK FROM ME WOMAN, SPARE ME YOUR LIES  
YOU ARE BEAUTIFUL BUT A SERPENT IN DISGUISE  
SHERIN IS MY LIFE, MY HEART AND MY SOUL  
I GO NOW AND LEAVE YOU AGAIN ALONE

## ARRIVAL

OMAR:  
THE SUN IS RISING HIGH  
ON A NEW DAY  
DARKNESS IS YEARNING FOR THE MORNING  
AND THE CAVE IS FOUND  
WAITING FOR ME  
WITH COIN IN HAND I STAND

AMENTI:  
I AM THE KEEPER OF THE SOUL GATE

OMAR:  
PLEASE TAKE MY FEE AND MAKE IT OPEN

AMENTI:  
THE PRICE IS PAID SO ENTER AT WILL

OMAR:  
WITH FEAR I WILL STEP THROUGH

AMENTI:  
SEE THE DOOR NOW STARTS TO CLOSE...

OMAR:  
NO TIME TO WASTE I CROSS THE VOID

AMENTI:  
... ON THE FATE YOU RASHLY CHOSE

OMAR:  
THERE WERE NO CHOICES LEFT FOR ME

AMENTI:  
DESTINY LEADS YOU, FOLLOW BLIND

OMAR:  
ONTO WHAT CALLS ME IN THE DARK

OMAR:  
ON THE OTHER SIDE  
CAVERNS MADE OF LIGHT  
SYMBOLS ADORN THE COLOURED SIDEWALLS  
THE MOSS EIDERDOWN  
FLOORS DAMP YET SWEET  
I SEARCH FOR MEANINGS HERE

AMENTI:  
AS YOU NOW ENTER REALMS OF THE DEAD...

OMAR:  
YOU CAN NO LONGER HIDE MY FORTUNE

AMENTI:  
...YOU WILL ENCOUNTER MORE OF MY KIND

OMAR:  
YOUR WARNINGS WELCOME DOUBT

AMENTI:  
IF YOUR QUEST IS TRUE AND PURE...

OMAR:  
I'LL SWEAR UPON MY LIFE FOR YOU

AMENTI:  
...THEN I HOPE YOU CAN ENDURE

OMAR:  
BUT THERE IS NOTHING HERE TO FIND  
AND THE TRAIL GROWN COLD IS LOST  
SO I SEEK A GUIDING SIGN

I'LL FIND YOU  
WAIT FOR ME  
I'M COMING HOME

DEATH WON'T STOP ME  
AND LOVE WILL LEAD ME  
I'M COMING  
TO BRING YOU HOME