

Trilogy Title: The Canticles of Au-Royal
Book One Title: **Journey Into Darkness**

Chapter-by-Chapter Outline

Note: our main character has two names, and you'll see that in both worlds he is called by either name, depending on whether he is "on duty" at the time:
Gaelayniel— his civilian name— is used when he's off-duty, or just with his friends between his secret missions...
Gaelynt Glenn [or nickname **Gleynn**, pronounced *glayne*]— his military name— is used when he's on-duty with the WAHRoR on Eyrth, or sometimes in his various battles in Phylantagia

Part One — Journey Into Darkness

- Chapter 1 ilven-roD's Chase** 3 pages 9
While the darK masterR, ilven-roD, is putting his most powerful curse on Captain Gaelynt Glenn to utterly destroy him, something mysterious happens, and our hero is instead thrust into the darkness of a serene beach in the pleasant new world of Phylantagia.
- Chapter 2 Earlier Mornings** 6 pages 13
Gaelayniel awakens to the glories of the new world, reminiscing about his family's 200-year heritage in the WAHRoR, and his new best-friend and compatriot Djélôn. He suspects that the strange atmosphere of this new world will wipe out his memory. Looking at the image of his beautiful Eyrth-fiancee Al-Lloreya in the crystal of his golden locket, he startles to see its green crystal suddenly flashing a radiant darker emerald green, as if to warn him of something... but he has little time to worry about it, for a huge royal ship is now approaching his beach.
- Chapter 3 Al-Lloreya** 10 pages 19
Back on planet Eyrth, his beautiful Al-Lloreya is sitting alone beside a waterfall in her secluded, woodsy, prayer retreat. It has been many months since she has seen her lover Gaelayniel, who is gone for months at a time to undisclosed locations in his battles to restore peace to Eyrth. [Our setting is in 2017 A.D., in a post-nuclear-holocaust, post-technological society.] As she fingers the beautiful golden locket he crafted for her, she sees to her dismay that the white-on-emerald cameo of his likeness in it is flashing, as if portending some dangerous news. She goes to Grenlynt, the goldsmythe who taught Gaelayniel to craft the lockets, and learns of his two recent dreams about them.
- Chapter 4 Djélôn's Choice** 6 pages 29
Still on Eyrth, we see Captain Gaelynt Glenn's mysterious disappearance from his fellow warriors' point of view, and learn more about the character of our hero— and of his fiancee— as they puzzle about his mysterious departure.

Chapter 5 The Council	12 pages	35
<p><i>[Back again with our hero in Phylantagia, where most of the rest of the action in this book will take place.]</i> Gaelayniel is taken aboard the impressive Royal Ship, and is soon called before King Ardureus and his Council of Nine to answer their grave questions—for a dream has sent them to pick him up. When a 4900-years-old prophecy riddle is read to him, he trembles, realizing he was drawn to this world to fulfill some of its ancient prophecies. He learns about the great Sorrow that must happen to some member of royalty in the first days of every new Century to help sanctify the hearts of royalty to humble servant leadership—and a <i>female</i> member of it during every Seventh Century.</p>		
Chapter 6 The Princess Aureaelle	14 pages	47
<p>At a Second Council in the ship’s ballroom, Gaelayniel testifies about his character, and learns that the Council is now sure that the person appointed to the Sorrow is King Ardureus’ only daughter—and the favorite of all the kingdom—the Princess Aureaelle. He is approved to escort her, alone, to her Seventh Sorrow, and agrees to do so. He learns that her Sorrow must be accomplished in the northeastern corner of their kingdom on a dark island called Malavalea, where—contrary to all the rest of this totally innocent and sinless kingdom—there are strong demonic spirits, creatures, and strongholds, and some great Sorrow or death awaiting the Princess. When he first sees Princess Aureaelle, he finds it uncanny that she looks <i>exactly like</i> his Eyrth-fiancee Al-Lloreya—except that she appears older, and even more beautiful. He learns they must leave to begin their journey within one week.</p>		
Chapter 7 Au-Royalial	16 pages	61
<p>When the Royal Ship docks, Gaelayniel walks into Au-Royalial—the City of Splendor—for the first time. As he and the Princess Aureaelle leave the City to visit her best friend Aravelle for two days, he learns of the tremendous love that all citizens in their kingdom have for the Princess, and for each other. He takes part in one of their prayer-rings, learns about their <i>prayer waves</i>, and meets Aravelle and her family in their charming country cottage. Because the ancient decree requires him to escort the Princess alone for several months into evil Malavalea, he must speak to Aravelle’s reservations about the impropriety of it, referring to the story in the holy book of Eyrth, about Joseph and the virgin Mary.</p>		
Chapter 8 The Prophecy Song	2 pages	77
<p>As they return to the Royal City, the Princess Aureaelle sings to Gaelayniel the “<i>Song of Sevens</i>” which prophesies about all the various difficult trials (and some honors and gifts) that will come to him as he gives himself to the Sorrow.</p>		
Chapter 9 Journey into Darkness	18 pages	79
<p>After a royal farewell, they journey toward Malavalea, on a common ship loaded with sheep and fruit, where they begin opening a few gifts given them at departure. Gaelayniel is fascinated by his gift of an invisible ‘flute’ crafted by the magic of the holy <i>wyrmyn</i> in the Royal Crypt of Au-Royalial, and practices using it to put people to sleep, and awaken them.</p>		
Chapter 10 Siren Songs of Sereneya	10 pages	97
<p>After finally finding a captain brave enough to sail them into the evil regions, they suffer a horrible storm at sea that breaks their mast and shreds their sails,</p>		

and experience intense spiritual attacks on the little island of Sereneya, where Gaelayniel begins learning how to stand in simple *faythe* in the father against various demonic dreams and attacks. After six days there, they find a new mast and some muslin for their ship, and journey on toward their dark destiny.

Chapter 11 The Golden Locket 6 pages 107

As they sail on toward the evil Isle Malavalea, Gaelayniel is lightly injured while helping to fight off some pirates. As Aurealle applies some *oyntmynt* to his wound, she discovers his golden locket, and startles in a strange way when she sees her own likeness within it.

Chapter 12 The Interpreter's Cave 26 pages 113

They finally land on Malavalea, 'welcomed' by an evil storm and demonic laughter in which they can distinguish their names. They begin hiking the trail toward *Moonstone* where the Princess's Sorrow must be accomplished. They stop at the Cave of the Interpreter, who encourages and teaches them in various ways. He takes them into his Cavern of the Past to explain some things of their journey, and teach about beauty... then into the Cavern of the Present, where he allows them to actually *see* the horrible evil of the demon spirits and creatures on the evil island around them, followed by another vision of the prayer-rings of their fayth-filled friends all over Phylantagia who are praying for them. The Interpreter also presents to Gaelayniel the Golden Mirror, which will appear from time to time to give them the father's warning or guidance.

Chapter 13 Storm Clouds Raging 12 pages 139

As they journey on toward *Moonstone*, they are assailed by a horrible demonic creature that changes before their eyes from a bear to a lion, with a serpent tail. They visit the small cave of Livana, who warns them of the evil daemuks—small rodent-like creatures who attack in hordes, and leave poisonous triangular fang-welts. Later an evil storm tries to destroy them with trees crashing around them, and they are attacked by some daemuks, but delivered by the invisible flute.

Chapter 14 The Constellation Encryphia 4 pages 151

The beautiful heart-shaped constellation *Encryphia*—which has been upside-down for 4900 years—changes dramatically, even as our heros on Malavalea and many of their friends of Phylantagia are watching it, for the Sorrow approaches.

Chapter 15 Prophecy Fulfilled 10 pages 155

We get glimpses of the prayers and intense sorrows back in the Royal City, as the Princess's terrible Sorrow looms ever closer. She weeps at the forboding sudden death of a regalius lunarius flyower, and they see in the Golden Mirror the weeping eyes of the *father*, his tears dropping onto the dusty trail.

Chapter 16 Impending Sorrow 8 pages 165

Gaelayniel remembers the holy book of Eyrth given to him for the journey by the keeper of the Royal Crypt, who had discovered it just before they sailed away. He reads some of its passages—new to him—to Princess Aurealle, to strengthen her for her suffering.

Chapter 17 Innocence Invaded 12 pages 173

The Golden Mirror appears to Gaelayniel, showing him that the hour of their

Sorrow is come, and that he must strive to overcome all his warrior instincts, for the prophecy must be fulfilled, and he must *not* resist it. Hundreds of the vile daemuks appear from the darkness, aided by a few of the larger *pyggeruts*, to capture them. Gaelayniel is bound to an irynwood tree by magic ropes with blue electrical fire on them that flares up if he strains against them. He is forced to watch them tie the beautiful Princess to another tree, and to watch their demonic ring dancing around her. For the next five or six hours he must listen to the lustful sounds of the daemuks and her occasional moans of pain as they attack the brave Princess. As the dark scudding clouds of Malavalea mottle the moon's lurid light he sees that the ordeal is finally over, and uses a charm in his pocket to loosen his fire-ropes and the Princess. He carries her an hour along the trail toward *Moonstone*, and checks her for a pulse.

Chapter 18 The Sacrifice 6 pages 185

Seeing that the Princess is just barely alive, and with a raging fever, he wrestles through dark questions about himself, the father, and the value of life... fearing if he loses his faythe he will go utterly mad. He uses the *oyntmynt* on her, giving her just enough recovery to speak some words of gratitude to him for his purity and bravery. She is now lying on the cold hard bed of *Moonstone*, where, with his ear on her heart, he hears her pulse slow to its end. Loud demonic shriekings of malicious triumph send him sprawling back in the darkness, even as a 'fence' of blue electric fire dances above the perimeter of *Moonstone*, around the Princess.

Chapter 19 Inconsolation 12 pages 191

He reaches into his pack for the jewelled bottles of oils and spices, and the winding sheets, as he reviews the meticulous commands given him by the royal ladies of Au-Royalialia on just how to prepare and arrange the princess for the two moonWatches and the sunWatches of her Sorrow, and for her burial. But as he prepares her for her washings, he finds, to his increasing horror, the golden locket that should be still back on planet Eyrth, for it is his Al-Lloreya's, and has her name that he had carved upon it. As he opens it, a small parchment falls out onto the Princess's hair, with a short message signed by Al-Lloreya herself—and he realizes he has lost *both* of his Princesses. Somehow, in spite of his utter devastation and exhaustion, he prepares the Princess, dresses and arranges her, covers her with the glistening *moonveil* for the first moonWatch. The Interpreter joins him until midnight, weeping for Gaelayniel and the Princess.

Chapter 20 Awakening Love 8 pages 203

We now observe the greatest battle of the warrior Gaelayniel's life, as he fights in extreme discouragement and weariness against the badgering demon-thoughts of Malavalia. Struggling to overcome his two-centuries heritage of his strong moral goodness, in submitting himself to the will of the father in this tragic death of his two Princesses, he finally begins focusing too much on his own failures, allows doubtings and anger to replace his faythe, and decides to lie down on *Moonstone* beside the Princess to die with her. When the Golden Mirror blocks the way, he plunges his dagger into it, shattering the crystal... climbs up onto *Moonstone*, plunges his dagger into his heart, and *awakes from the horrible nightmare*. He falls to his knees and weeps in repentance, but still hesitates to offer the full faythe of thankfulness, and *repeats* his entire act of folly, except the Mirror doesn't break. But just as he raises his dagger high

toward the moon for its downward thrust, in despair and lust for control, he is prevented from destroying himself by the hand and voice of Antaylius, an arch-angel sent to anoint him and restore him to peace and assured forgiveness.

Part Two — Love Awakening

Chapter 21 Love Awakening 4 pages 215

After sleeping beside the Princess on *Moonstone*—and as peacefully as a baby, in his newly-restored faythe—Gaelayniel is compelled in a new awakening of Love to take the cold stiff fingers of Princess Aureaelle into his own. With a tune he has never learned, he sings to her a prophetic song... and, as the color of restoring life returns to her lips, she helps sing the last line... sits up... casts aside her *moonveil*... and they leave Death behind them.

Chapter 22 Return to Au-Royalialia 24 pages 219

As Gaelayniel and Aureaelle—who is alive, and fully a Princess again—walk the dark trails of Malavalea back toward the Interpreter’s Cave, they see that the constellation Encryphia has flipped, and is right-side-up forever. They meet a huge golden arch-eagyl Skyfeathyr, who tells them that Malavalea is awakening and will soon be battling to its death. They visit the Interpreter again, meet the holy doves, and see in the Cavern of the Future their fleet of seven ships sailing toward battle against Malavalea. They leave Malavalea, sail toward the Royal City, and are both saved—by a vision in the Golden Mirror—from being assassinated on ship. Horror fills all passengers on board, for no crime like this has ever occurred in their kingdom, and they grapple with their future.

Chapter 23 Seven Ships to Malavalea 14 pages 243

Back at Au-Royalialia—the City of Splendor—the populace is kept uninformed about the great treachery against them, until the wicked Drelleus and his two henchmen escape. The Royal Ship and six smaller ones are converted for battle, and a thousand warriors are trained to sword and bow. The holy doves find Drelleus—who has returned to Malavalea to gather evil forces and creatures together for the battle—and bring intelligence to the seven ships.

Chapter 24 The Three Battles 24 pages 257

As the fleet approaches the small evil island Sereneya, they battle a huge sea dragon, nearly two hundred feet long, and its mate. A few days before reaching Malavalea, they are suddenly surrounded at early dawn by almost 100 fishing boats of Drelleus and his evil fishermyn, who try to board the ships by stealth, then shoot flaming arrows onto them to set them afire. When that fails, Drelleus challenges them to a staged combat of twenty small boats from each force, but betrays the terms, and kills many warriors by the aid of deceived Sea-Maern—underwater warriors riding golden sea-stallions. The third ‘battle’ takes place on Malavalea, at Dragonhear Bay, where a demonic storm of absolute darkness with huge burning hailstones and thunder louder than a drum around each warrior’s head makes the situation absolutely hopeless, except for the power of the prayer-rings across the land, the prayer-warriors in the lower decks of the seven ships, and the prayers of Djélôn and five others back on planet Eyrth, as they see a vision of Captain Gaelynt in a hopeless combat. But, as the evil begins thinning above them, *The Albatross*—their warship especially outfitted by the majic of the holy wyrkmyn in Au-Royalialia’s Royal Crypt—suddenly seems to

be fully ablaze, and all seems lost—for the King, the Princess Aureaelle, and other royalty are on board. But they see that the ship is *not being consumed*, and a strange cloud-column of golden myst rises from the ship—covering all the island—and all the evil creatures hiding in the great White Castle by the bay come storming out to escape the holy myst, destroying each other and casting themselves into the sea.

Chapter 25 Between Two Worlds 16 pages 281

The golden myst has cleansed all Malavalea of evil. In exploring the magnificent White Castle, Gaelayniel, Princess Aureaelle, and her friend Aravelle discover an ancient chapel under the main floor, hear a voice calling for help, and finally find the long-kidnapped Prince Brettik and Queen Vadorea in dungeons nearby. The rejoicing King sits just inside the main entrance of the castle, as a thousand warriors from the seven ships file past to rejoice with him. Gaelayniel bids the Princess and her father adieu, walks the trail past *Moonstone* to the Interpreter's Cave—where he learns that he will use its Caverns as a sort of [time machine] to visit Al-Lloreya on Eyrth again... will inherit the White Castle, by gratitude of the King... and will receive the Interpreter's Cave, for the 200-year-old Interpreter is being called by the father for a time to another world.

Gaelayniel surprises his 'Eyrth-princess' Al-Lloreya at her woodland retreat, and marries her two weeks later, not telling her—but explaining to the reader, at the end of the chapter, that she will also be called into Phylantagia a few weeks later, to fulfill the Sorrow that must come to 'a daughter of Eve,' but will lose all memories of Eyrth. When she enters Phylantagia, she is 18-years-old, but unlike Gaelayniel, when *she* enters Phylantagia she arrives at a point six years earlier by Phylantagean time... is adopted by King Ardureus to comfort him in his sorrows at losing the Queen and the Prince, and doesn't even recognize Gaelayniel, except gradually, as her increasing sorrows as she approaches *Moonstone* restore her memory until finally she is sure she is his Eyrth-fiancee Al-Lloreya.

Chapter 26 Joy in the Morning 18 pages 297

After a short honeymoon on Eyrth, Gaelayniel promises her another one 'before he is a month older.' He takes Djélôn with him to Phylantagia, introducing him to the royal family, and to Aravelle. The Royal City prepares for two full weeks of celebration: a week followed by an Awards Ceremony to Honor the soldiers and the fallen, and another week culminating in the royal wedding of Gaelayniel and Princess Aureaelle. This chapter ends with Gaelayniel and others being honored in various ways, with a dramatic scene as the huge golden arch-eagyl Skyfeathyr drops from the sky, glides to the stage, and Andreas (a boy who has been seen several times in the book) climbs off to deliver a long Scroll honoring Gaelayniel, and the 'Scroll of the Fallen.'

Chapter 27 Trumpets of Triumph 22 pages 315

After another week of grand celebrations, the day of the wedding draws near. Maereanne, the sea-maerma rescued during the Second Battle, shows up with her new husband and two maerrubs, who entertain the crowd royally with their underwater tricks and poetic singing in the stream Merrystone below the Castle. The hour of the Royal Wedding arrives, and thousands are seated in the great cathedral in the center of the royal palace. Djélôn is best man—with eleven groomsmen beside him, and Aravelle is Maid of Honor, with

the eleven bridesmaids shining beside her. Partially screened by shrubbery on a wing of the stage is the sea-maern family watching from a large wooden wine vat. As the pair begin to walk the aisle after the ceremony, twenty of the glowing white holy doves soar in, announcing that the father has sent them, and are followed by thousands more who alight on the shoulders of all the guests, and soar in circles high overhead. Gaelayniel and Aureaelle soon sail to Gallavalea (the original name of Malavalea before the Rebellion 3000 years earlier) and find that the White Castle has been restored, and its gardens are being replanted. After exploring the six floors of the huge castle, they discover from behind an ancient wall-bed in the attic, a secret door leading to a locked tower, where, five-stories higher, they unlock a trapdoor to discover a gleaming observatory with a large telescope, probably imported from Eyrth before its nuclear holocaust caused all its technology and evidence of it to be buried.

— Epilogue —

3 pages

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The short Epilogue gives the Titles of Books Two and Three of the Trilogy, and the names of their five more Parts, with an invitation to journey on—from the three Caverns of the Interpreter’s Cave—to Eyrth, 200 years earlier, where Gaelayniel will meet his Great⁷ Grandfather, who started the WAHRoR, and to other eras in Phylantagia, and perhaps to other worlds yet unmentioned.

[Note: because of the six-year time-shift when Al-Lloreya entered Phylantagia, that means she was only eighteen when Gaelayniel married her back on Eyrth ‘after’ her Sorrow, but was six-years-more-beautiful (24-years-old) when he met her, journeyed with her to her Sorrow, and finally returned to marry her only four or five weeks later, *his time*, after the Eyrth wedding. This is explained in the book... a little complicated at first, but easily explainable, and making for some great buzz.

Unless more editing is needed, Book One—consisting of these two parts—is completed, at approx. **81,717 words**.

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