


Bearoak was a Forestal in the service of the elven queen - charged with the care of the palace gardens. It was in his duty that he met and fell in love with Arianna - the princess and youngest daughter of the queen. She reciprocated his feelings. The queen, sensing her daughter's heart had been won by a stranger, forbid Arianna from seeing any male elf without her consort. Through the long years, Bearoak and Arianna made plans to flee the forest and make their way in the world of man - free from her mother's watchful gaze.

One night, under the darkness of the new moon, the lovers fled. They were met at the forest's edge by the queen wizard - who had followed them as a sparrow. There he cursed Bearoak and Arianna that one should always be in the form of a bear while the other was an elf.

Now cursed, Bearoak and Arianna traveled throughout the human lands looking for anyone who could help. It was in the furthest recesses of the southern kingdoms - in a pub that only the darkest wizards would dare to enter - that an old man in black robes and smelling of the sea promised them salvation in a far-off land. There was a magnificent silver oak with fruit that would break any curse. Against his better judgment, Bearoak accepted the invitation. His intuition proved right - as he remembers little of his long ocean voyage - waking up chained to a bed with no trace of Arianna in sight.


