

Qura opened the door slowly and looked up at the ding of the door's bell echoing in the dark, dusty entranceway.

She sidled into the shop and peered at the collection of random items

"Why hello there!" came a voice from the opposite side of the shop

Qura turned and saw a gnome pull himself up onto a stool behind the counter

"Hi there!" Qura smiled

"What brings you to my store, young Havlin?" the gnome took a breath to continue but was interrupted by a bout of chest-shaking coughs

As Qura moved forward drawing her water bottle the gnome pulled out a handkerchief to splutter into "Fahking fairies" he wiped his mouth "they're good for finding goods, but don't breathe in that damn dust"

He waved away the offered bottle and righted his glasses "What brings you into my shop young lady?"

Qura smiled "I was passing and knew there was magical stuff so thought I'd have a look!"

The gnome returned the smile and spread his arms "I'm Yomin and I have here a collection of magical and mundane items, all for sale for bargain prices!"

He hopped off the chair and joined Qura, passing her a stool "you'll need this, let's have a look!" he grabbed himself a stool and led Qura in between the shelves

"Why do you need a stool? Shouldn't you use shorter shelves?" she asked him as she struggled alongside

"Here's a secret to retail" he leaned in close "make it easy for the big'uns to shop and they'll spend!"

Qura thought about the logic and nodded

"Here's some of the choice items!" Yomin grinned and reached up to the shelves.

He reached up and carefully lifted down a brass housing, centred around a molten stone

"The Amulet of Gort, containing an ever burning flame. No doubt good for those in the wilderness."

He replaced the amulet and reached higher to lift down an ornate compass.

"This one is called Knock. Tapping the housing shows any locks what are nearby, good for finding those hidden secrets"

The pair climbed down and Yomin grabbed a fancy case, opening it slowly in front of Qura, revealing a plain looking cutlery knife.

"The Butter Knife. While unimpressive, anything it is run over gains a thin coating of an edible oily substance. There was one that heated anything it was run over, but sold that a while back."

At Qura's interested look he snapped the case shut and replaced it on the shelf.

"We have some interesting weapons for those more action-orientated." He helped Qura over to a display case filled with weaponry

"How about The Devil's Heart String?" he pointed at a coil "whatever element is whispered to it, it fires that kinda effect. Apparently with plenty of practise it's possible to use without telling the string what to fire"

Alongside was a normal sized fork with intricate engravings "ah, the Vorpal Fork." he followed Qura's view "able to pierce anything, useful for those tough rations!" he laughed, causing another set of coughs into his handkerchief

As the pair moved their stools to the next set of shelves the gnome continued his patter

"On the subject of rations, how about The Bottle Of Swill?" he raised an eye-brow at her look of disgust "no, no no! This is a magic sheepskin that can not only hold ten whole litres but keeps anything poured into it separate!"

Alongside was a set of plain goggles the gnome picked up gingerly "Christophet's Multispectrum, another useful item for finding magical or hidden items." he frowned "just, don't wear 'em too long"

"whysat?" Qura stopped reaching for them

"a long story!" He turned and pointed out a spoon of damascus steel "how about Stability?" he pointed "when full, you will never spill that spoon unwillingly!"

Qura nodded "that would be useful!"

Yomin smiled "You have some taste young lady!" he reached past her and lifted a mug that appeared to be made form wood with a metallic interior

"how about The Mug Of The Forgotten?" he blew into the mug "made by a wizard who was fed up of drinking cold tea, it keeps anything put in it at the same temperature for a long time!" he looked sidelong at the Havlin "of course, if you prefer your drinks cold that works too!"

"There's so much awesome stuff here!" Qura beamed "i can't wait till I make lots of gold and can get all the things!"

Yomin helped her down and moved both stools back behind the counter "of course, stock is always moving and changing but am always happy to see a young lady!"