

CHAPTER IX

The Centaurs

“We send greetings to all Humankind. I am called Amera Trueheart. I am here with my beloved one, Lugh Strongarm. We are of the Centaur tribe. I would assume many Humans are familiar with us from the Greek myths and from the image of Sagittarius if you have come in contact with astrology. Though it may be hard to believe in our existence, we are more real than you are. In fact, many different tribes of beings are part Human or part Elf and part animal. We are also known by the name of Pookas, beings who change from an Elven form to that of a Horse. If you have read your Greek and Roman legends, you will find stories of us there. A very famous Centaur often featured in your legends is Epona, the horse goddess. Many Centaurs are healers, such as our female cousin, Glee, and her husband, Sherlaw. Lugh and I are not healers, *per se*, though we can be when needed. Instead, we are warriors, clad in full body armor from our Elven torsos to our equine bodies. We are quite proud of our appearance and feel quite blessed to be one part Elf and the other part horse.”

We would like to add here a description of Amera and Lugh, so that you will be able to visualize them more clearly. Amera’s upper body is that of a beautiful, young Elven woman with long, black flowing hair, slanted eyes the color of a blue sky, pale skin with blushing red cheeks, and full red lips that often form into a mischievous smile. Her equine portion is that of a beautiful, sleek, black horse with a full, thick, black tail. When she walks, her silver hooves sometimes strike sparks from the stones upon the ground. When on soldier duty, her entire Centaur body, Elven and horse, is clad in protective, heavy body armor. When she is off-duty, she may clothe her Elven torso in the type of clothing worn by a young woman of the Renaissance period. Often, however, she prefers to go unclad and bare-breasted, so that when she runs free, she can feel the wind upon her entire body. Her mate, Lugh Strongarm, is taller in stature than Amera, with long, beautiful, golden hair flowing below his shoulders and a close-cropped golden beard upon his face. His Elven eyes are steel-grey in color, and his Elven torso is quite muscular. Like his mate, Amera, he can be found wearing body armor,