In all my travels, I have never seen a place as peaceful as the forests of Dragon Shire.

They hold so many mysteries...

...and I still struggle to understand them.

They're catching up!

Not good.

She vanished!

You there!
WHERE IS SHE?!

I BEG YOUR PARDON?

GIVE US THE GIRL!

I'M ORPHEA.

WHERE IS SHE?!

I BEG YOUR PARDON?

GIVE US THE GIRL!

THIS MUST BE SOME MISTAKE. I HAVEN'T SEEN A GIRL HERE.

LET ME CLEAR THIS UP...

A-AND I AM DECKARD CAIN! THESE MEN ARE SEARCHING FOR YOU?

YOU MIGHT SAY I BURNED SOME BRIDGES.

ALLOW ME TO HELP.
The Raven Lord will not tolerate any more of your insolence!

Is that right? He ought to be used to it by now.

You vile little traitor!

That was the last of them. For the moment, we should get moving.

Ah, a singularity shell...

Every realm has one, claiming it will make you the real lord. But this singularity died with its land long ago...

What is it?
How can a realm die?

There are many ways: chaos, destruction, war...

Let me show you something...

The raven lord has summoned the dark nexus over there--across the border.

Such evil... Someone must stop them!

No. This is just the beginning. We should run.

If we do not fight for the dawn, it can never come.

Is there no one who will help us?

Well, maybe...
WHO ELSE HAS REQUESTED AN AUDIENCE?

I COME WITH DRE TIDINGS.

THE RAVEN LORD HAS UNLEASHED A TERRIBLE THREAT!

THE DARK NEXUS HAS ALREADY SCARRRED THE LAND, LEAVING A PATH OF DESTRUCTION.

THAT IS ENOUGH!

GUARDS, COURTIERES--LEAVE US.
YOU HAVE CAUSED QUITE THE COMMOTION, MASTER CAIN.

I MEANT ONLY TO WARN YOU OF THE COMING DANGER!

I KNOW IT WELL, BUT MY CONTROL OF THE COURT HANGS BY A THREAD. THEY ARE LOYAL ONLY TO MY HUSBAND.

HE WAS A FINE KING UNTIL THE CURSE CLAIMED HIM...

...TURNING HIS BODY TO STONE.

I AM SORRY. IT SEEMS I AM TO BE NEXT...

NOTHING I HAVE DONE HAS CURED MY OWN CURSE.

IF I CANNOT EVEN SAVE MYSELF OR MY HUSBAND, HOW AM I TO HELP YOU? IT IS IMPOSSIBLE. MY PEOPLE NEED ME MORE THAN ANY OTHERS.
Your people are the ones under threat!
The Raven Lord's knights have already attacked travelers within your borders.

It's worse than that.
There's another realm, the Raven Lord wants even more--one that has just formed.

If he takes it, his power will far exceed yours.

I will not see another land fall into his hands! King's crest would be in too much peril...

And you, Master Cain... you must come with me.

I would be honored, my lady.

Good.

As for your "ward," she may stay as long as she wishes.

I shall do what I can.

Trust me, that won't be long.
Days later

Raena, the Lady of Thorns, called on her greatest allies from across the lands—and they answered.

All who heard her warning felt its weight upon their hearts.

The Raven Lord sends his armies to seize a new realm—but we will not let him succeed!

This is the day his tyranny will come to an end!

Together, they marched forward to battle!

But that is for another chapter in my Book of the Realms...

To Be Continued