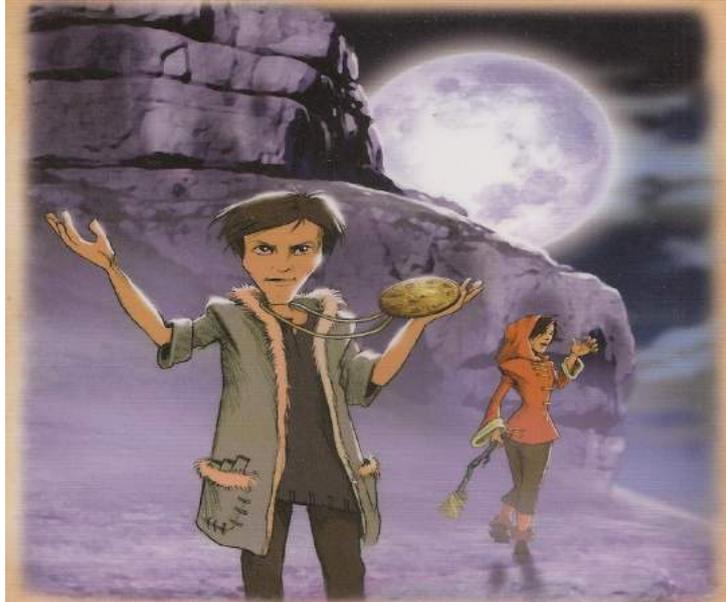


Talisman Series

3

The Return of The Dark Master



Written and illustrated by Adam Sheedy

Chapter One

When Mim and Zak hurled the talismans into the deep blue sea something dangerous found them. A great white shark swallowed the talisman. A part of the dark master's soul had merged with the dark master's talisman. Now it turned the great white shark into the Great Dark Shark.



Now the Great Dark Shark wanted revenge on Zak and Mim.

Back in Zak and Mim's village Zak was having a dream. An old woman was warning Zak that again his Grandfather was in danger. He would disappear. There would be a new challenge and a new adventure.



Chapter Two

Zak woke up and he went to find Grandpa. He looked everywhere but he could not find him. Zak knew that Grandpa had a special place he liked to go fishing. There was a chance he could be there.



Zak was right Grandpa had been fishing in his boat when out from nowhere the Great Dark Shark had swooped up and grabbed Grandpa. Zak went to get Mim and Samson and set off to find him. When they got to the gate of the village they find a young girl there who wants to travel with them.

Chapter Three

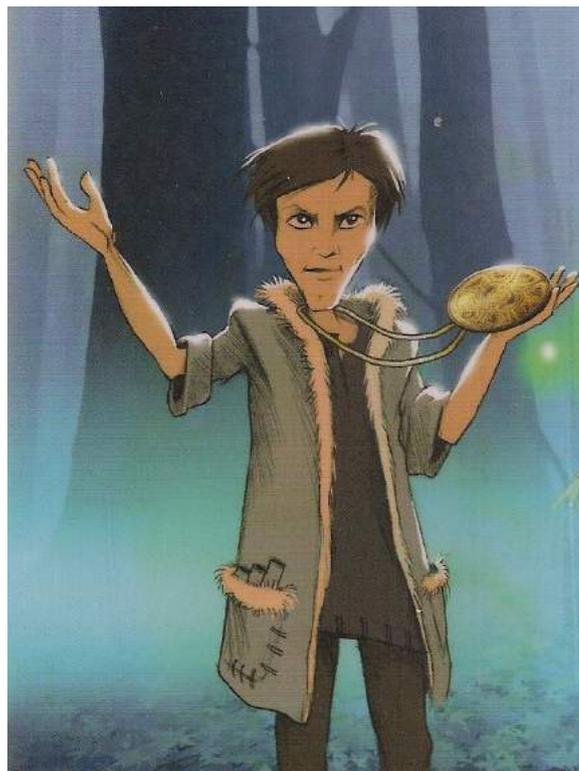
Zak, Mim, Samson and the young girl are walking towards the mountain looking for some clue where Grandpa had gone. They were walking past a copse of very old deciduous trees when suddenly a Cyclops pops out of his hiding place and thunders "You are not getting past me because I'm going to eat you all". The Cyclops attacks the group with his club but they dodge him.



The young girl holds up her hand and Zak and Mim see that she is wearing a ring. As she holds up the ring something in one of the old trees begins to glow. Zak puts his hand into the tree. It is a new talisman. Zak uses the new talisman to turn into a giant raven. The Cyclops is not afraid but the raven flies right at him. The Cyclops lifts his club to strike the raven but the raven has blinded the Cyclops by pecking at his eye. The Cyclops screams in pain and runs crashing into the trees.

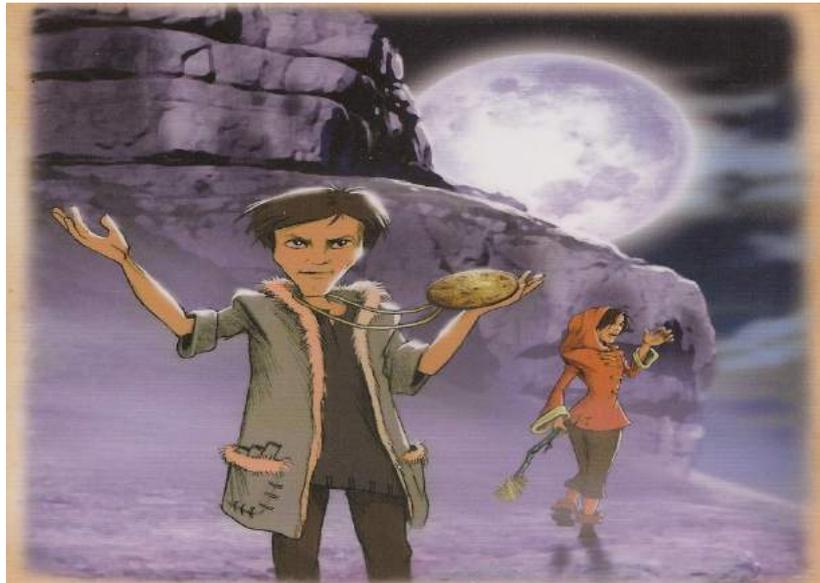


Zak turns back into himself. He sees the young girl transform into the old woman in his dream. She tells Zak that she had also had a dream warning her of a new dark power. She had made the talisman and brought it here. She had used her ring to give the talisman power. Now it was for Zak to continue on this adventure, to find his Grandpa and fight this new dark power.



Chapter Four

Zak, Mim and Samson flee the Cyclops. The old woman now leaves them on their own telling them that they will need to take the path to Bear Mountain to avoid another Cyclops. Mim agrees and leads the group up the mountain path.



They were busy keeping a look out for the bears that live on the mountain when suddenly a gryphon swoops down and grabs Samson. The gryphon flew straight at Zak and the others. Zak takes hold of the talisman and is transformed into a good gryphon. Wary the evil gryphon drops Samson, ready to fight. The two gryphons



battle in the air. The evil gryphon flies straight at Zak but Zak manages to dodge under the gryphon and biting into the evil gryphon's wing causing it to crash into the mountain side.

Chapter Five

The evil gryphon tumbles down the side of the mountain. Zak and Mim watch it fall and they notice that there is a cave further down the side of the mountain. It seems like a good place to rest after all that has happened. Strangely, there are stairs carved into the steep mountain and Mim is keen to get to the cave which seems safer than the mountain.

They enter the cave warily. As they walk through the cave Mim begins to feel nervous. Samson does not like the cave and doesn't want to walk into the centre of it. He stops and starts to go backwards. Zak tries to get him to walk forward but Mim looks carefully into the darkness. Something moves and it is big. A chimera!



Again as he attacks Zak grabs his talisman and turns into the amazing Stymphalion.



He uses his bronze beak to attack the Chimera and snaps off the Chimera's snake head. The metallic feathers of the Stymphalion shoot out to cut the horns of the chimera. As the chimera falls over the Stymphalion pushes it into a dark chasm in the cave.



The Stymphalion lifts Mim onto its back and carefully picks up Samson. Down the mountain side it glides to leave the mountain behind. Zak turns back into himself and is determined to walk on further to find Grandpa.



Chapter Six

Again ahead they see another forest. It is the Dark Forest and Mim is filled with dread. They walk through the dark, dank forest.



Zak tells Mim that he feels they are being watched until a Drakon appears from his hiding spot.



As they stand terrified of the Drakon they notice something shining behind it. It was a sword stuck in a tree trunk.



Mim, feeling brave, has a plan. Mim and Samson move to attack the Drakon, dodging the fire breathing monster. Zak sneaks around to pull out the sword. The

sword is magnificent and has the sign of Heracles on it. Zak feels the strength of Heracles and battles the Drakon defeating it.

Mim notices that there is another sign on the tree. It is a picture of a large monster – the Kraken. Zak feels sure that it must be this monster that has his Grandpa.

Chapter Seven

They come to a large river. Grandpa is nowhere to be seen. Everything is quiet. Suddenly the Great Dark Shark appears in the river. He brings Grandpa from the water in something that looks like a giant bubble. As the Great Dark Shark nears the river bank it transforms into the Kraken just like the symbol on the tree trunk.



Zak took the sword and with the bravery of Heracles, charges straight at the Kraken. He hacks at the monster's tentacles. Injured the Kraken turns back into the Great Dark Shark and grows into a gigantic monster. It towers over the group and moves to attack them.

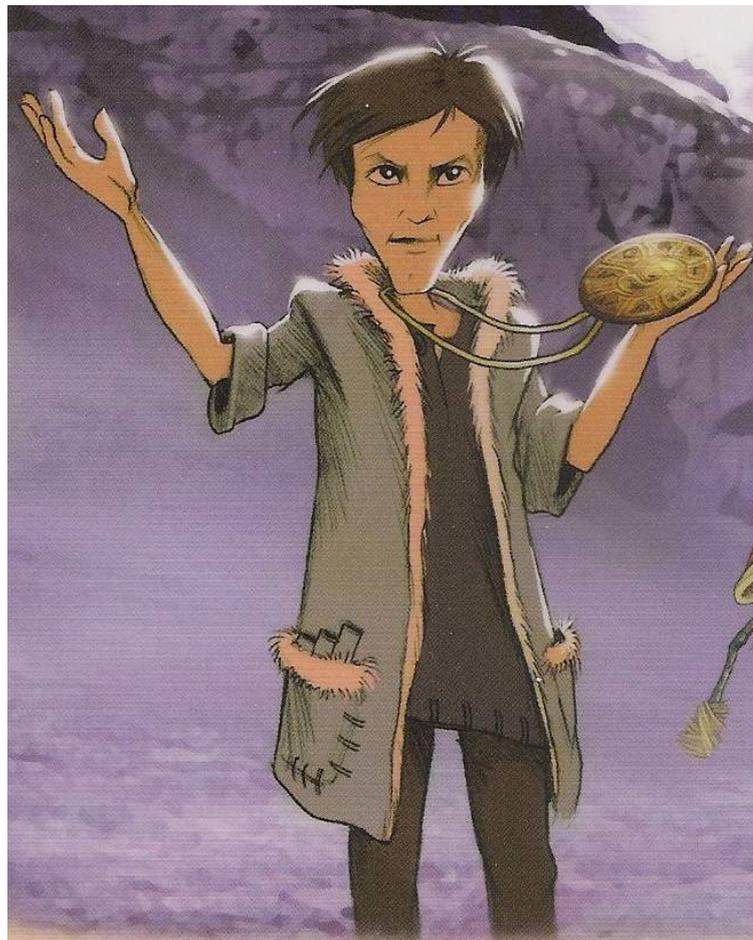


Zak charges but the Great Dark Shark breaks the blade and knocks Zak back through the air. Zak feels he is falling to his death until he puts his hand on the talisman. The talisman turns him into a phoenix.

The phoenix attacks the Great Dark Shark. It hits the monster so hard that the Great Dark Shark is destroyed.



Zak frees Grandpa from the water. When he turns back into himself he destroys the talismans that had made the Great Dark Shark. Wisely, he keeps the new talisman. As they return home Zak wonders will there be another adventure.



The End