

H'Ilgraith

Sister of the House of H'Aleth

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Chapter 7

A Narrow Escape

Excerpt

H'Ilgraith [as a great horned owl] had been so focused on the fortress and the wagon, she was unaware that she had been spotted. A harpyacalgryph [*hār-pē-ă-cāl-grīf*] (illus.), a hybrid aerial predator that had been released by the Cassius Foundation, had flown into the forest and settled in the canopy before H'Ilgraith arrived. Silent and motionless, it watched the arrival of the owl and noted where the bird had landed. As long as the harpyacalgryph remained still, the sharp-eyed owl would not see it. So, it also watched and waited. An unwary owl would provide a fine snack for a hungry raptor. With the owl's attention focused on the wagon, the harpyacalgryph lifted off and dived toward the owl.



Harpyacalgryph