

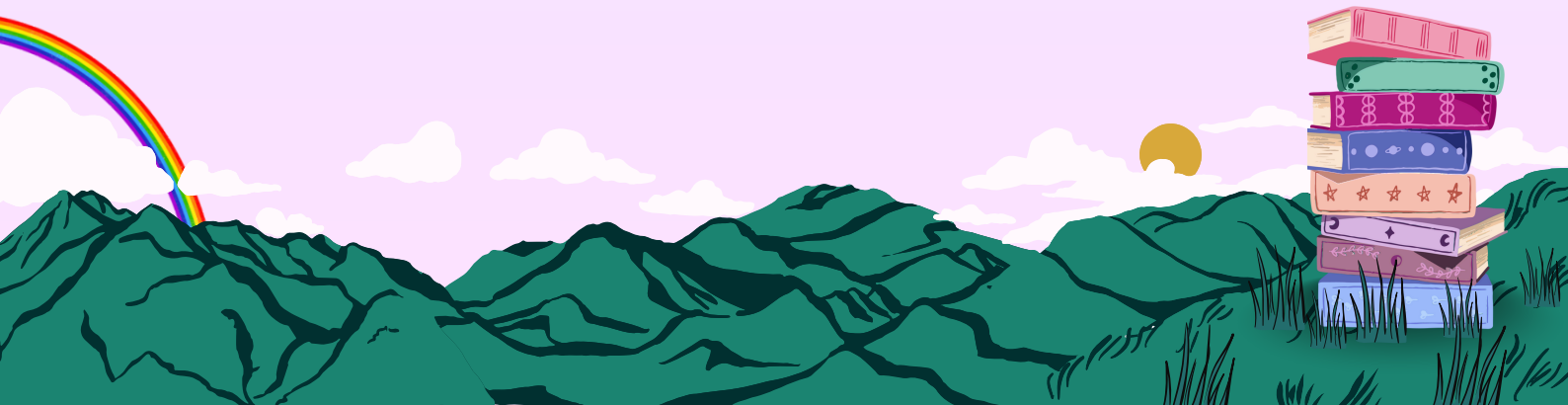
THE GIGANTOMACHY

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A small bang on the table, and its fiery glow came to light. There it was, before my very eyes. Glowing ever so vibrant and green as emerald flames, the phantasmal portal hovered over a rusty piece of metal, covered in dirt and dust. The clump of rubbish I picked up from my great-grandfathers shelves had unveiled to be far more of a mystery. Slowly, but not rather knowingly, I seeped into the celestial aura conjured by the rift.

My presence awakened, much similarly to that of the introductions in a movie; I blinked my eyes, astonished at the burning sensation of green. It felt warm, liquidy and warm. Silently tensing my legs, I readied to lift my body, swing it into the air, and pivot around. My plans were halted as my attention flew to my hearing, which had seemingly come to life. I could feel my hearing, existing so similarly to a body, as if it had a presence of its own. I came back to my senses, more so, my common senses, and realised that the similarity to a body was a body. The beat, forming a pattern of 1's and 2's, delayed in between, came to my attention. Rather than simply sitting on the floor, I hustled my body into a crouched position, and slowly with slight, seeped more and more tension into my legs. I pivoted around, and noticed that the cave, more like the vascular tube of a heart, turned and swivelled past where I could see from my current angle. I formulated an immediate conclusion: I was in the body of a living organism, and no object from my surroundings would take me out.

I reached deep into my pockets, hastily scavenging the depths of my pants, for the location of me was most probably deeper than a cave.



Nothing, a sigh nearly exhaled from my mouth, however I focused on keeping the air in my lungs for as long as possible; who knew what the air could do to an outsiders body, it could have the potential to disease a human, or worse, could be fatal. Nevertheless, my worried thoughts managed to calm down, and soon, my mind was in a state of nothingness. This ended nearly instantly, and rather extravagantly, in the form of paranoidness, I stooped over to a wall of the vascular vessel. I gently placed my hand, being aware of any dangers that might cause harm to me: The red pool of liquid on the floor, the black spots on the opposite wall. The wall gave off feelings of dark intent and felt warm, about the warmth of a morning shower. I stopped further towards the direction my body was facing in, and noticed an intersection. I immediately realised where I was.

One of the most vital tubes in the human body, the aorta. Leading into the central crux of the heart, and a 4-way-intersection, this was where I was. Immediately, I remembered the periods of extreme cramming, lack of sleep, revising notes, and one of my most joyous moments ever; Being accepted into the city's main medical school. During my period of academic excellence and brilliance, I had never once thought that this knowledge would come useful for subjects other than medical issues with the human body, and I could never have predicted that I would be inside the prominent necessary organ needed for a human body to correctly function. I slowly awakened back into the present moment. The flashback had felt like hours, yet my surroundings, senses, and body language remained unchanged. I could tell that it had only been mere seconds. Speedily and swiftly, making sure to avoid any unknown substances and dangerous-looking areas, I made my way up the windpipe, and came across another intersection. I faced no flashback here, as I further navigated my way to the opening of the nose.



This was it. The short, stifling moments of panic were over. I let out a deep gasp, similar to that of an exhale, and peeked out a nasal opening. I knew that the view my eyes had met would leave a deep psychological scar in the coming future. Thousands of giants marched through barren lands of firmly set sand. Beside me were two other beings. Lined on their faces were decals of what seemed like clans. My superior knowledge of historical myths struck my mind at the right moment. The year was 2000 BC, and the giants were warriors of the Gigantomachy, a battle between gods and giants.

