

As she was shuffled along the corridor, Qura regretted wandering over the small crowd of Havlin-sized figures – turns out this was a group of children being taken into a library. Qura managed to separate from the class before they were herded into a brightly coloured room.

She found herself amongst the shelves, in awe of the massive amount of books as far as she could see.

As she wandered idly along browsing the exotic titles she was stopped by a voice behind her "hello dearie, are you lost?"

Qura turned and saw an older lady stood peering down at her

"I'm sorry!" the lady gasped "I thought you were one of the children. Did you need any help?"

Qura smiled warmly "this place is amazing! I've never seen so many books!"

The librarian smiled in return "we have almost five thousand books! It's 5 copper gnuts and a gold piece as deposit to borrow any book and take it home to read"

Qura's smile faded "Take it home to read? Oh. Home is so far away."

The librarian's smile faltered and returned in understanding "You can read here, what were you looking for?"

"d'you got anything on magic?!" Qura replied "i'm learning!"

The librarian frowned "we don't have any actual magical books, but Desdemona Boddice's "the World Is Magic" is quite popular at the moment, it has a lot on magical theory?"

"Could I read that one please?!" Qura's smile returned

"Of course! It's this way" The librarian led the halfling throughout the maze-like shelves and eventually passed her a large leather-bound book

Leaning down, the lady whispered semi-conspiratorially "There are sofas at the end of the next aisle" with a wink

"Thank you very much!" Qura held the book close to her chest and wandered off along the shelves.

Finding the sofas, she carefully placed the book on one and pulled herself up onto the cushions. Seeing how her legs barely reached the edge, she kicked off her shoes and snuggled into the corner, tucking her legs underneath herself.

Wiggling until she was comfy, she ran her fingers over the embossed cover.

Putting her glasses on, Qura took a deep breath and opened the large book before she started to read...