Adventure in Zantex By:Richie Church

In a land far, far away there lived a 15 year old boy named Jonathan. He liked to explore and would go far away from home to explore temples with loot or haunted houses. One day he was exploring a large forest when he found a temple. He slowly walked a few feet in the temple and stopped. Expecting the worst he slowly continued in, and stopped at a stairway. At the end of the stairway there was a small stone pillar with ancient writing around it and on top there was a wristband made of gold with a large red emerald decorating the middle. Intricate designs decorated the wristband, likely telling a story of some kind. Jonathan slowly walked towards the pillar watching for traps. He walked up to the pillar, reached up onto it, grabbed the wristband and put it on. He felt a little dizzy and a slight tingling in his arm as he stood there. Then he blacked out.

--=When he came to=--

Jonathan woke up in a dense forest. He looked around confused. As he stood up he checked to see if the wristband was still on his arm, it was. He looked around for something tall climb, and saw a tall tree, he climbed it to see where he was. When he got to the top he looked around and saw, trees, and a field with a hut in the middle. He climbed down and walked towards the hut, hoping to find someone who could help him. After walking for a while he found it, he knocked on the door but no answer came. He slowly opened the door, and found no one, so he walked in. He looked around and saw a small wood stove in a corner with some cupboards above it. There was a small bed in another corner. He looked in the cupboards and found some food and water. He ate a small meal and walked out side. As he watched the sun slowly sink behind the horizon, he heard a stick cracking! "Who's there!" he called out in a shaky voice. No answer. He called again. Still no answer. He walked around the hut and saw a long slender shadow slip out of sight! "I must be seeing and hearing things. I'd better go to bed," he said to himself as he walked back into the hut.

--=Going to the shadow=--

As the shadow walked through the woods it came to a camp site "That was close I'd better tell the General," it muttered to itself as walked into the camp.

--=The next morning=--

Jonathan woke up to the sound of laughing. He looked around and saw he was in the middle of a camp of shadows, tied to a post.

"That's what I saw last night!" he muttered to him self then cried "Let me go!"

One of the shadows walked up to him "We will bring you to the General and he will decide what to do with you." the shadow said as it untied him. The shadow walked him to a tall shadow and said "Here he is, General" the shadow general looked at Jonathan

"Who are you and were do you come from?"it asked

"I am Jonathan and I come from the city Artent." Jonathan replied"Who are you and where am I? "

Jonathan asked the shadow general.

The shadow said "I am Kahn! King HarenIII's General. And you are in Zantex."

I'd better get out of here Jonathan thought as he looked around for an open place to run. He found a small space in between some shadows and bolted out of the camp in to the forest dodging trees and boulders when he came to a cave, he jumped in hoping the shadows wouldn't look there.

--=A few minutes later=--

After the shadows had passed, Jonathan walked down into the cave until it ended in a large circular room. In the middle of the cave there was a indent shaped like the wristband, he took the wristband off and placed it in the indent to see if any thing would happen. A loud grinding sound started as a part of the wall started moving revealing a large passageway. He walked down the long stone passageway and soon found him self in a large open space. He looked around and saw houses and people. Every one was working on some thing making swords, bows, arrows, carts, ect. Jonathan walked up to a boy and asked what every one was doing and the boy said "We are preparing for war!" Then he looked at the wristband and gasped "You have the wristband of Stantce!"

"What's so important about the wristband? And what's Stantce?" Jonathan asked.

"Stantce was a great wizard who help fend off the shadows, but he was wounded in the final battle and after right before he died he said 'Who ever has my wristband shall save this world from the coming trouble' and then sent his wristband to another place and died." (He looked at the ground then up at Jonathan) "But now your here with his wristband, and that means that you will save us!" the boy answered

"Hopefully," Jonathan said in a soft voice.

--=Back at the shadow camp=--

"YOU LET HIM ESCAPE! HE HAD THE BAND OF STANTCE YOU HEAR ME THE BAND

OF STANTCE !" yelled Kahn.

One of the shadows stepped up and said "He hid somewhere and probably moved when we came to the area he was in and..."

"I already know that dummy!" Kahn interrupted. As the shadow moved back away from the general Kahn said "We need a plan does any one have one?" every one shook their head or stood still in till a young shadow stepped up and said "We could camp in between the Sar and Ari mountains and camp with a quarter of our force at the bottom and a quarter on each side of the mountain and a quarter hidden near the entrance so if he gathers any survivors together to make an army and if they attack we can box them in and the shadows on the mountains can shoot arrow at them."

" Shadow what is your name?" Kahn asked

"Nihth, General," the young shadow answered.

"You are now Commander Nihth! We will work with your plan and think of a way to attack him if he doesn't gather an army." Kahn said

"Thank you," Nihth answered

--=Back at the cave=--

Jonathan was welcomed gratefully and met lots of nice people but now they were preparing to fight the shadows. Jonathan was teaching them how to efficiently use a sword, while others practiced with bows and crossbows.

--=Days later=--

Jonathan had a army of 350 marching towards the sar and ari mountains. As they neared the mountains Jonathan reexplained the plan and gave an inspirational speech, and charged.

The battle was fought in between the Sar and Ari mountains as the shadows had prepared. But it was what they had not prepared for that made them lose. Jonathan had armed his army with crossbows and archers giving them the advantage.(if you are wondering how you can hurt shadows it's because if a shadow wants to hold solid objects it has to become a "living" being which makes them able to be touched) He and half his army charged into the shadow army in between the mountains! Jonathan had a solid plan: the heavy armored in front while the crossbowmen shielded by the heavy armor shot arrows into the shadows. His crossbowmen wreaked havoc and took out many shadows before they reached the shield of warriors. When the shadows reached Jonathan's army, the shadows on the hill and hidden at the back jumped out and rained arrows on Jonathan's army. After the first volley Jonathan yelled "NOW!" and part of his army came from behind and got rid of most of the shadows at the back, while the rest of his army that wasn't in the valley climbed up the mountain and attacked the shadows on top. And with that General Kahn resigned, and he and the few shadows that were left went and never came back! Jonathan and the army went and found a place to start building a town. They found the field Jonathan had found when he first arrived and started to build a small town. At one point they even had a feast! But eventually Jonathan had to go back home so he said his goodbyes and took the wristband off and gave it to one of the town leaders. Then blacked out again. When he woke up he was back in the temple his adventure started in. He went back home and told his friends of his adventure and life went back to normal... at least for a while.

THE END