# FORGOTTEN

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## Beta read by Linda Maya

## Chapter 1 Walking in Iron

## Overall Feedback

The use of the character of Kia in this chapter was a good choice, since she is presented as a believable teenager who feels herself trapped by her parents and their demands about her being good at soccer. Then you throw her (and Jack) into a whole new world that is full of danger and mysteries. It is a nice idea to wake up in ancient armor and find yourself on the battlefield surrounded by prehistoric giants.
There is something romantic about your story it seems to be more than a simple fantasy adventure.

# Areas of Improvement

Here are the main things that need work:

**Writing Style and Clarity:** There are lots of little mistakes in the writing that take away from the flow of the story. This includes typos ("neck" written as "heck," "on queue" instead of "on cue," and "to heavy" instead of "too heavy"), awkward sentences, and repetition.

Several paragraphs are lengthy, telling instead of showing the reader. For example, the paragraph explaining soccer and her parents repeats the same frustration multiple times.

### Pacing

However, the first half (Kia in her bedroom) is slow paced, spending much of its time exploring her thoughts on soccer and her family life. The second part (new world arrival) is quicker and livelier, making the pace inconsistent. A more tightly structured opening will serve the story well.

### Character and Emotion

Although it is obvious that Kia is unhappy, I could not empathize enough with her. Incorporating additional details into the narrative will help make readers relate to her.

Her awakening wearing the armor is definitely dramatic, but the author could have made it more dramatic by including more details.

### Dialogue and Voice

The characters sound a bit stiff in places. Teenagers usually speak more casually. Jack's lines are good, but they could feel even more natural.

# Suggestions for Improvement

**Shorten the beginning:** Trim the information about soccer. Instead of explaining why Kia is frustrated in several paragraphs, show this through one powerful scene/memory.

**Strengthen the magic moment:** Make the move from her bedroom to the battle ground more mysterious and frightening. Use Kia's sensory experience (flickering lights, metal, racing heart).

**Show more, tell less:** Do not use the expression “she was tired of soccer” here; you may write that she flings her jersey away or gazes at her drawing with such longing.

Refine the action: When the boulder crushes down and Jack protec

**Polish the action:** Slow down during the scene when the boulder drops and Jack shields her.

**Consistency**: Watch small details like how her phone stays in her pocket under heavy armor.

## Pacing

The chapter begins slowly as it develops the usual life of Kia. The portal scene moves rapidly and unexpectedly; it's perfect for the scene. The battle scene creates the appropriate amount of suspense with the use of sound effects, smoke, and massive creatures. Overall, there seems to be too much content at the beginning of the chapter.

## Emotional Impact

It is a promising arrangement. The reader will be able to appreciate how Kia wants to get away from her situation. It seems that even this one protective act by Jack has generated a great deal of chemistry between the two.

## World-Building

You provide just enough about Chapter 1  smoke, mud, huge paws, roars, and an odd-looking piece of armor with a dragon emblem. The world is hinted at, but not overloaded. It’s hard not to say that the armor is the most interesting element so far.

## Plot Holes and Issues

There are no big plot holes, but some minor logic issues: how does the armor change her clothes? How does she manage to have a cell phone? They can easily be addressed or even brushed off with little explanation.

It's strange because the armor is depicted as perfectly fitting and yet too heavy.