

THE BONDS OF PEREKOND

Written by

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INT. STACY'S HOUSE.

The door opens, and two figures clad in funeral garb enter. STACY is a teenage girl, with long hair, normal stature, wearing a sad and tormented expression on her face. Her father, JERRY, is a middle aged man in his 50's. He has a tired look in his eyes.

The house seems cold and dark, with the two just standing in the entryway, seeming as if they're not quite sure what to do with themselves. Jerry slowly walks towards the kitchen and lets out a large, depressed sigh.

JERRY

Hey, listen... I think we should talk.

Stacy looks up at Jerry, pain wielded in her eyes.

STACY

I... I can't. I don't want to.
It... It's too soon, for me. I just want some time to myself.

INT. STACY'S ROOM.

Stacy rushes to her room and closes the door. She is breathing heavily. She looks at a framed picture of a women on her bedside table. She clutches the picture and tears up. She stands in her room and falls on her bed, weeping.

INT. STACY'S HOUSE.

Jerry leans on the counter, his left hand covers his face while his right grips the counter. He heads over to Stacey's door and is about to knock. He hesitates, and brings his hand back after hearing Stacey's sobs. He walks away, defeated.

INT. STACY'S ROOM.

Stacy stands up and sits at her desk. She wipes her eyes, and turns on her computer screen. She sniffs, still recovering from her weeping. The screen glow encapsulates her eyes, and she intently stares at the screen. The screen reveals the name Perekond.

GRAPHICAL
WORMWHOLE
TRANSPORTS US TO
PEREKOND.

EXT. GUILD AREA.

Two manly eyes open, transitioning Stacy into her avatar. A large man clad in armor, wielding a large sword wanders through a guild hall. In his hand he clutches a large scroll. He seems to be looking for something. Above his head is floating text that says COMMANDER PUNCHY. He sees a young woman is sitting on a bench amongst the bustle. She is wearing a robe, very religious-like. She holds a wand in one hand, while her other is tapping at the desk. Above her head, is floating text, showing her name, LILAC37.

COMMANDER PUNCHY
Hey, Hows it going?

LILAC37
Fine. What's that?

Lilac gestures to the scroll. Punchy unfurls the scroll. It emits a mystic glow.

COMMANDER PUNCHY
This, is the biggest, most important quest I've ever seen. I got it a few days ago, but... I've been busy.

LILAC37
So, we've done tons of Quests. What makes this one so special?

COMMANDER PUNCHY
In this one, we get to beat Zog the destroyer!

LILAC37
That's it? He's just a late game boss, we've done quests like these before.

COMMANDER PUNCHY
I wasn't finished. In this quest, if you get killed, your character gets erased!

LILAC37
Whoa, wait, WHAT? What do you mean erased?

COMMANDER PUNCHY
I don't know, it just said everything gets erased.

Lilac looks visibly worried.

COMMANDER PUNCHY (CONT'D)
Ok! You see the challenge now
right! So let's get going!

The paper glows in Punchy's hand, and a white light begins to envelop.

LILAC37
WAIT, WAIT!

The two are enveloped in a white light and vanish.

FADE TO: WHITE

EXT. FORREST

Punchy and Lilac are teleported to a dense forest. The air seems cold, and there is a tinge of mystery surrounding the area. Lilac looks around the forest and groans in frustration.

LILAC37
What have you done?

COMMANDER PUNCHY
What, scared of a challenge?

LILAC37
A Challenge? Do you know what this means? It means if one of us dies, we'll never meet again!

COMMANDER PUNCHY
What do you mean?

LILAC37
You do know about the Level interference right? You can only interact with players who have the same level!

Punchy looks around sheepishly, and Lilac lets out a loud sigh.

LILAC37 (CONT'D)
I mean, I can't believe you just did that without even talking to me!

COMMANDER PUNCHY
Uh... Well don't worry! We can do this! I mean, c'mon! We've done tons of quests. It'll be fine!

Although Punchy says these things, he seems to be distracted, his eyes drifting around.

The two begin to walk, and a floating checklist appears (1. Defeat Goblin King. 2. Destroy The Zombie Boxer. 3. Vanquish Zog.)

LILAC37
A boss rush, huh?

The two continue walking until they enter a clearing. In the middle of the clearing stands a short, green man wearing a crown. The man looks grotesque his body is covered with a ragged cloak.

INT. STACY'S ROOM.

Stacy's staring directly at a picture of her mom. She grits her teeth, sighs, and stares back at the screen. Rage and Sadness clouds her eyes which become locked to the screen.

EXT. FORREST

Punchy lifts his sword and roars. He charges straight towards the Goblin King.

LILAC37
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?

Punchy disregards Lilac's plea and brings his sword straight down onto the Goblin King. The sword hits true and the goblin disappears with a flash. The crown drops to the ground. Punchy turns to Lilac with a grin.

COMMANDER PUNCHY
See! No biggy!

LILAC37
I mean... we usually come up with a plan...

As the two stare at each other, a goblin without a crown walks towards the fallen crown.

COMMANDER PUNCHY
Well... It doesn't matter now!
What's next!

Punchy checks his quest check box. The part to slay the Goblin King is still unchecked. A goblin hand reaches for the crown.

COMMANDER PUNCHY (CONT'D)

What the -

Punchy is smacked towards Lilac at a maximum speed. Punchy slams right next to Lilac. Punchy's health goes down by 1/3rd. The Goblin charges towards Lilac but she sends a blast of magic towards the Goblin, destroying it. The crown falls to the ground.

LILAC37

See what happens when we don't make a plan?

Lilac Punchy back up to full health. Another Goblin comes rushing out of the brush, puts the crown on, and squeals in defiance.

LILAC37 (CONT'D)

Be careful I can't-

Punchy rushes into battle before Lilac can finish her sentence.

LILAC37 (CONT'D)

-heal you forever.

Punchy runs back up to the Goblin and cleaves it down. This time, he's on alert. Another Goblin walks up to the crown. The second it puts it on, Punchy cleaves it into the ground.

COMMANDER PUNCHY (FRUSTRATED)

What the heck! Is this a glitch?

While Punchy's saying this, a goblin rushes out of the brush, grabs the crown and attempts to hit him, but is blasted by Lilac, who rushes over wielding her wand. Another Goblin appears.

LILAC37

It's not going to help us if you continue to rush in like that.

Punchy doesn't respond, continuing to swing. The goblin cries out in pain. Lilac looks at Punchy with concern.

LILAC37 (CONT'D)

You're never like this? What's up?

Punchy turns to face Lilac.

COMMANDER PUNCHY

Look, I'm fine. I just got a bit carried away.

Lilac looks at him sternly.

LILAC37
You could have died.

He turns to hit the next Goblin. Lilac looks at the carnage inquisitively. The next Goblin walks up and the text above its head changes from Goblin to Goblin King the second it puts the Crown on it's head. Punchy slices the goblin and the crown falls to the floor.

LILAC37 (CONT'D)
Wait a second... Hey, try breaking
that crown.

Punchy's eyes widen in realization. He grins, and brings his sword down onto the crown. The crown shatters, and the check list appears, checking off.

COMMANDER PUNCHY
You Genius! I never would of
thought of that!

Lilac grins.

LILAC37
Well, you did good in beating them
down until I figured it out.

The two are enveloped in a white light. But then it turns to black.

INT. STACY'S ROOM.

The screen of Stacy's computer goes black, and a red error pops up, notifying her that there is no internet.

STACY
What?! Really?? Right now?!

Stacy storms out of her room, heading straight to the router. Jerry is already at the router, attempting to restart it. He sees Stacy barging in and gives a reassuring smile.

JERRY
Don't worry, Stacy, I think I've
got it.

STACY
Oh, Ok.

The two stand there in awkward silence. Jerry looks back at the router, then back to Stacy.

JERRY
Stacy... uh, I really think we need
to talk about Mom...

Stacy looks away. Jerry sighs.

JERRY (CONT'D)
Look, I know it's hard. But I also
know that keeping it up inside...

Jerry trails off, thinking of the something to say. He looks
timid, and tries to find his voice.

JERRY (CONT'D)
I... You know... I think that...
talking would...

The router beeps, signaling that it is turned on again.

STACY
I have to go, I have something I'm
doing.

JERRY
Wait...

Jerry's voice trails off as Stacy rushes out of the room. He
looks around and clenches his fist. He seems like he's about
to follow her but doesn't, and he turns to sit down.

INT. STACY'S ROOM.

Stacy closes her door behind her and rushes to her computer.
She looks at it and begins furtively clicking on her
keyboard. The screen lights up, and she sighs with relief.

EXT. TUNNEL

Punchy's eyes open, and he sees Lilac checking out the
exterior of the tunnel. He looks around suddenly, as if just
waking up. Lilac does the same thing. She then looks quickly
at Punchy. The two sigh in relief.

LILAC37
Sorry about that, my game
disconnected me for a few minutes.

COMMANDER PUNCHY
Yeah me too... Internet troubles.

A small echo emits from the cave, catching the two's
attention. Punchy and Lilac look around cautiously.

A light thumping sound can be heard. A gurgling moaning echos from the cave. Lilac and Punchy peer in through the tunnel. A figure dripping blood is thumping two boxing gloves together. The two look at their checklist, it says ZOMBIE BOXER.

LILAC37

Ok. So we should go in slowly to
see what we're up against-

Punchy runs in screaming, leading with his sword. He charges directly at the Z.B. and swings, but it does nothing. Z.B. Punches him directly in the stomach, the Z.B then follows up with another stomach Punch sending Punchy flying back through the tunnel. Punchy lands right outside the entrance, his health at 1/8th.

COMMANDER PUNCHY (GRITTING TEETH)

Ow...

Lilac quickly heals Punchy, extremely flustered. His health bar begins to slowly rise.

LILAC37

Again, are you serious!? Punchy,
what's wrong with you!?

COMMANDER PUNCHY

Uh... I mean...

The Zombie appears at the entrance of the tunnel, but doesn't exit it. And taunts the two adventurers at the gateway, smacking its gloves. Lilac, frustrated, blasts the Z.B, but it does nothing. She then turns to Punchy.

LILAC37

Do you want to die?! You've been
acting way too recklessly this
whole quest!

COMMANDER PUNCHY

No... I just...

LILAC37

Do you just not want to play
anymore? What's going on?

COMMANDER PUNCHY

Sorry, I just though I could handle
it... I'm... I'm not done playing.
Seriously. Right now, this means
more than anything to me.

Lilac stares at Punchy, a wave of sadness rushing over her face.

LILAC37

Look, I just don't want to see my friend disappear.

Punchy locks eyes with Lilac and smiles.

COMMANDER PUNCHY

Thanks for that, I think I really needed that pep talk.

The Z.B groans. The two adventurers give it a look. Lilac waves her wand, and sends a blast of magic towards the Z.B. Once again, there is no indication that it has done any damage. Punchy runs towards it, but the Z.B dodges Punchy's sword swing. It attempts to rush at Punchy, but when Punchy backs out into the sun, it stops.

COMMANDER PUNCHY (CONT'D)

What the heck?! I don't think it's taking any damage. How are we supposed to beat this thing?!

The Zombie Boxer taunts the two adventurers, but doesn't take a step out of the tunnel. Lilac stares at it, then looks at the cave, then at the sun, then back at the boxer.

LILAC37

Hey, wait a minute. Punchy I think I know how to beat this Guy! Try getting it into sunlight!

Punchy nods, then rushes towards the boxer. Lilac sends out a blast, which stuns the boxer. Punchy then grabs the Z.B. The boxer growls, and throws a fist straight into Punchy's gut. Punchy's health drops by half. He grunts in pain, but then he pulls the Z.B into the light. The Z.B moans in pain and explodes, leaving only the gloves.

Punchy grins at Lilac, and the two fist bump. A white light begins to envelop them. The two are transported from the cave to an empty field.

EXT. FIELD.

The two adventurers land. The field seems to wide and never ending. Across from the two adventurers stands a man clad in simple clothes. Above his head reads simply, Zog. Unlike the Zombie, he has a health bar. Lilac looks around the arena, checking for any sort of trap or gimmick.

LILAC37

It seems like there aren't any tricks to this guy, but be careful.

COMMANDER PUNCHY
Okay, let's take it slow then.

LILAC37
I thought you'd never-

Zog rushes the two with blinding speed and goes immediately for Lilac. Punchy jumps in the way, but the two are sent flying back, Punchy's health dropping by a third. Lilac begins to heal as Zog charges the two again, this time with a Mongolian chop. This time, Punchy's ready, and counters with a strike, Zog's health drops a sixth, but Punchy is hit again, his health dropping back down to a 4th.

Lilac hurriedly heals, him, and looks desperately at Zog, then back to Punchy.

LILAC37 (CONT'D)
I'm almost out of magic! Try not to get hit again!

Zog rushes Punchy, but Punchy sidesteps him and brings his sword down, bringing Zog's health down to one half. Zog side kicks Punchy, knocking him back. Bringing his health down to a quarter again.

COMMANDER PUNCHY (COUGHING)
Easier said than done.

Punchy faces down Zog. Zog glares at him. Lilac waves her wand, healing Punchy again. Zog hits Punchy again, sending him backwards.

LILAC37
I'm so glad this guy doesn't have a healer.

Zog downs a Red liquid in a vial. His health bar goes back up.

BOTH
Seriously?!

INT. STACY'S ROOM.

Stacy's eyes are locked onto her computer screen. Her fingers are moving rapidly over her keyboard. Time passes and Stacy is still at her computer.

STACY
Come on! We can do this!

INT. LIVING ROOM.

Jerry looks up briefly from his computer, hearing the commotion from Stacy's room. His eyes quickly shift back towards his computer.

EXT. FIELD.

Punchy and Lilac are breathing heavily. Punchy's health bar is really low. He collapses on to one knee. Zog's health is also extremely low. Lilac looks extremely distressed and exhausted at Punchy. She flicks her wand attempting to blast Zog but nothing happens.

LILAC37

I'm out of magic. It's up to you now.

Punchy groans and looks at Lilac.

COMMANDER PUNCHY

That's gonna be hard, considering he's way faster than me. I think this is it.

Punchy sighs and stands up. He looks at Lilac. He grins. Zog begins to charge at Punchy

COMMANDER PUNCHY (CONT'D)

Thanks for playing Perekond with me. You really helped me out. Sorry for dragging us into this mess.

Zog runs right at Punchy, winding up for a Chop. Punchy lifts his sword, but it seems useless. Zog is right in front of Punchy about to swing. Lilac jumps in front of the chop and takes it. Punchy swings his sword down in rage and cleaves Zog! Zog steps backward, with his health dropping to 0. Lilac's health bar also drops down to 0. Zog looks at his wounds, then towards Punchy and Lilac, before collapsing. Punchy rushes over to Lilac.

COMMANDER PUNCHY (CONT'D)

No no no no.

Lilac smiles at Punchy. Punchy's face is wracked with grief/guilt.

COMMANDER PUNCHY (CONT'D)

No! Not you too! It's all my fault!

LILAC37

No it's not. I made the choice to
jump in front of Zog not you.

Lilac's voice is getting continually weaker, while Punchy's
is getting more desperate.

COMMANDER PUNCHY

But I started this quest, you
didn't even want to do it.

LILAC37

Punchy, sometimes you're gonna make
mistakes. If you let them affect
you like this, you're not going to
be happy.

Lilac's form flickers.

COMMANDER PUNCHY

No.... Don't leave me.

Lilac attempts to smile again, before disappearing in front of
Punchy.

INT. STACY'S ROOM.

Stacy grabs her screen and looks at it, tears beginning to
form in her eyes. She turns back to the picture of her
mother. She picks it up and embraces both the picture of her
mom and her laptop. She sits there motionless.

The door opens and Jerry walks in, with a sad look in his
face.

JERRY

Hey. We need to talk.

Stacy looks up at her dad. Tears welling in her eyes. She
begins to break down. Jerry walks over to Stacy, kneeling
down at her bed.

JERRY (CONT'D)

Oh god, are you okay?

STACY

I... It's all my fault. I should
have been there. They're both gone
and it's my fault.

JERRY

Stacy, it's not your fault. You need to understand that it was an accident. I--

Jerry's voice quivers a little, but he takes a deep breath and continues.

JERRY (CONT'D)

I miss her so much, but I know that she wouldn't want you to blame yourself.

Stacy looks up at her dad. She wipes her face.

JERRY (CONT'D)

Your mother's wish was for you to be happy. And you need to know, that if you blame yourself for this, you'll never be happy.

Stacy looks at Jerry with wide eyes, and gives him a hug. After they finish the hug. Jerry looks over at the computer and the photo. As he reaches for the photo, he notices Perekond on Stacy's computer.

JERRY (CONT'D)

Stacy, is this... Perekond?

Stacy turns towards her computer then looks back at Jerry.

STACY

Yes... Do... do you play?

Jerry's eyes are fixated on the screen. He smiles. He then turns and looks warmly at Stacy.

JERRY

I used to. But maybe it might be fun to try it out again.

STACY

Really, I think that would be great! First, you're going to need to make a character. Any ideas for a name.

JERRY

How about... Lilac38?

FADES TO BLACK.

FIN.