

# The Quest Blasters #1

## A Light Strikers Short Story

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“Oy! Oy! Guys I see them! There’s like, a whole family of butter-birds in that nest right over there!” Jevlisi was increasingly excited as he pointed at the blueish-red nest. “Look, look!”

Clutching a tree with his left arm, pointing with the other, he was a smidgen over forty feet in the air, flailing side to side like a flag flapping in the wind. Since they were on a serious quest, Jevlisi was wearing his maize shaded bodysuit made from special synthetic fibers. He looked like a uniformed hero. Over his chest, he had on a black vest with a maize monogram pattern of different shaped designs. The belt around his waist was bright green, and so was the lightweight armor that spread out from his chest onto his shoulders, and up his neck, into his mask. His mask wrapped around his forehead, temples, and back of his head. But the top part of his mask was cut open and exposed his medium brown and blue hair that looked like a bunch of wild plants. Around his green eyes was a pair of red tinted goggles. His mask continued down to the bottom of his jaw and chin, but you could easily see his magenta tinged skin and expressive mouth, which was usually smirking right at you. Being only thirteen years old, he liked to use his youth to get away with being smug. Everyone else in the group was thirteen years old, but the rest of them tried to act more mature.

“Oh my! Do you think he’s going to fall . . . like . . . that one time in Clovecloawnee forest?” Flarahneen shut her blue eyes tightly behind her large rectangular glasses, which had black and white striped rims. She refused to peek. Even with her lovely dark brown complexion, you could easily see the rosy red in her cheeks. Her hair was white, with aquamarine gradient frosted tips, and she liked to clump large sections of her hair together, to keep it stylishly poofy. She had on a sable dress, and it had sparkly opal glitter on it. The choker around her neck was white and glittery as well. Flarahneen had a smart, yet edgy style. Even though she kept her eyes closed, she didn’t have to worry, since she was holding tightly onto her sky dragon companion, Jalka’vana, as the two of them flew up above the rest of the group.

Jalka’vana was a female sky dragon that could transform between its normal small size and it’s larger rider size, which was just big enough to carry Flarahneen. Jalka’vana was a super cute and pretty sky dragon, with scales that were dark green when she was small, that would become a gradient of pastel pink to lavender when she grew into her larger size.

“Be careful! Yeesh!” Nalkeesa yelled at Jevlisi, as she dashed over. Her body was floating three feet off the ground as she flew towards

him. An aura of dark red and pink Spiritus energy streaked from the outline of her body. It matched the color of her long curly hair, and the glint of her eyes, perfectly. As she flew by, it looked like her aura temporarily painted the air around her with streaks of light, before it slowly faded away. Her pinkish skin was naturally tanned a shade darker by the trisuns, since she enjoyed being at beach shores as much as she could. Nalkeesa wore brown tights, with platformed heel boots, an ivory blouse that was shaped like a dress shirt, and a hot pink sports jacket. The name, "Quest Blasters" was embroidered on the back of her jacket. Her brown tights had a hot pink stripe, and outlined letters in hot pink that read, 'Braver' on the side of her left leg. She was sporty, and expressive.

Focused on looking around and observing the area for any signs of danger, Kladamaine followed behind the group. He was riding on his deckabot hovercycle. His yellowish-brown hair blew in the wind, as his yellowish-brown eyes stayed focused ahead. As he peddled, the wheels crackled with Spiritus energy that surged from the crystal orb that was between his pedals, powering his mystical wheels. His hovercycle had some nice decals and colorful designs that stood out on its gray and white exterior. Sections of his hovercycle were also dark purple and turquoise. Kladamaine was suited in a gentlemanly fashion. He had a dark gray round hat with a small brim, that was decorated with medals, pins, and chains. His shirt was a button down, but it was made of engineered metal fibers. It was white, with silver laced trim, and metal links around his wrists. The vest he was wearing had a metallic texture and looked it was patchworked together from various robotic parts that were dark gray, dark purple, and bright orange. His trousers had a black sheen, and were also made of metal fibers. The last part of his outfit consisted of small, mechanical shoulder pads that looked like air vents. It was a very clean, techy style.

It was a pleasant afternoon in the world of Adamah, amidst the Chalprisk forest. The team had decided to adventure north of the Light Striker Academy to do a little quest they agreed upon. They had to travel quite a ways, but it was the beginning of the new season, and they wanted to see the butter-birds that would be migrating, and nesting in the Chalprisk forest. So it was all totally worth it.

Butter-birds were a species that could be seen one season per a year and were utterly adorable. They were usually two feet tall when standing on their two little legs. Butter-birds had plump oval bodies,

and it looked like they had no necks, so they appeared to be little feathered balls. On the sides of their bodies were two symmetrical wings, and they also had a third wing in the middle of their back, like a fin, that flapped left to right. Their feathers were perfectly smooth and colored in solid pastel hues. Butter-birds got their name from the fact that they always looked like they were melting and dripping a buttery liquid. Their bodies and feathers constantly released a slimy oil that dripped off their entire bodies, and even splattered around as they flew. This buttery oil was thick, and was the same color as them, however, it dissolved after a minute or two. This made it enjoyable to watch butter-birds, and if you were gentle with them after they trusted you, it was fun to pet them.

This is why these four friends wanted to find some butter-birds this day. They had never seen, nor petted a butter-bird before. Kladamaine, Flarahneen, Jalka'vana, and Nalkeesa had all caught up to Jevlisi by this time. All four members of the group had backpacks, and an assortment of pouches, items, weapons, and adventuring gear. Each of them also wore a necklace with an engraved metal piece that had the name of their cadre, (or team name). Their cadre name was, "The Quest Blasters." It was perfect for them, because whenever they weren't studying or training at the Light Striker Academy, they were hanging out together, having a good time, going on their own quests and adventures.

And today was one of those days. But little did they know, they were being spied on by a few Kwazbins, a race of small, mystical floating people that had no legs. They were always wrapped in colorful robes, had on mittens, and wore funky helmets to match their randomly odd shaped heads. On average, they were all less than 6 inches tall. And for the most part, they resembled humans, but with tiny eyes, noses, and mouths. Kwazbins were a very reclusive race, and they preferred to keep it that way.

The butter-birds had flown down to meet with the teens, and decided to be friendly with them. The family of butter-birds had taken a liking to the Quest Blasters. There was one dad, one mom, and seven siblings. Nalkeesa, Kladamaine, Jevlisi, and Flarahneen were all sitting in a circle on the ground, surrounded by the hoozby trees in this area. Jalka'vana was snacking under a nearby hoozby tree. Hoozby trees had black trunks, and grew large bushels of colorful puffy fibers. The butter-birds fluttered about, splattering on everyone. But the members of the Quest Blasters laughed, and enjoyed being able to see and pet

the butter-birds up close.

One of the Kwazbins wore dark brown robes, and had yellow polka dots on his helmet. He cautiously floated over to the Quest Blasters and butter-birds. Jevlisi instantly noticed the little guy.

"Whoa! Hey guys, it's a Kwazbin." Jevlisi alerted the others. "I'm on a roll today, seeing all these new discoveries!" He said smugly. One of the butter-bird babies fluttered by his cheek, getting oil all over Jevlisi's spectacles. He sighed, and wiped it off as everyone laughed at him.

Flarahneen pushed up her glasses and looked closer.

The Kwazbin cleared his throat. "Hello.... Um.... Sorry to interrupt..."

Nalkeesa interrupted him, "Hey, don't be sorry. You guys barely ever talk to us humans, so it must be important. Speak up." She crossed her arms and waited.

"Be nice." Kladamaine nudged her. "Hi. I apologize for my friend. How are you?"

"H-hi. My name is Kwee-Baloo. And . . . Well . . . you see . . . me and my people need your help. There's a . . . there's a biiiiiiig skremlikhan wandering near our homes. And we're worried it's gonna take some of us down into the underlands with it."

Kladamaine sat up tall. "Yikes. That doesn't sound good, Kwee-Baloo. Maybe we can help, right guys?" He looked to the others.

Flarahneen grabbed another book out of her backpack and started skimming through it. "I'm gonna look up these skremlikhans in our textbook. It's been a while since we've studied them."

Nalkeesa stood up. "Sure. No prob. Where is this monster?"

Jevlisi put out his hands. "Hold on guys." He looked at Kwee-Baloo. "Just how big are we talking? I'm pretty sure everything is big to you guys."

Kwee-Baloo replied, "Three, no, maybe four times as big as you little humans. Wait. Actually . . . as big as all four of you put together. Standing on each other's heads. One by-"

Jevlisi interrupted, "Yeah, yeah, we get it already. It's big."

Flarahneen shut her book closed. "Sounds like a young teenager skremlikhan, equivalent to our ages. But still very dangerous. They have a varying degree of assorted abilities. No telling what it might have or do."

"Thanks Flarah, that's good to know. But I believe we can defeat it, if we have to." Kladamaine looked over to his deckabot. "Yo

Nebeltron, it's weapontech time."

Nebeltron quickly transformed into Kladamaine's hovercycle, then transformed back into it's humanoid deckabot counterpart. "Sorry Klad. My circuits are a tad bit tired." Nebeltron said in a high-pitched voice. Then he jumped into the air and transformed into a laser gun. Kladamaine grabbed him. "It's okay bud."

Kwee-Baloguee was so happy, he clapped and looked back at the other Kwazbins who were waiting for him. They cheered. Kwee-Baloguee started to lead the Quest Blasters deeper into the forest. "Great! The skremlikhan isn't too far from here. Follow us!"

About ten minutes later, they saw the skremlikhan. It was a scary looking monster that had rough and ridged skin shaped like tiny mountains. It's entire body was a reddish, dark gray color, covered in dirt and trash. It had two large bulbous eyes with small red pupils, a large flat nose, and a bunch of rotten teeth. It had very skinny arms and legs, with large shriveled fingers. It also smelled really, really bad. It was wandering back and forth, looking around the hoozby trees, under carjee rocks, and on the ground.

Kladamaine and Nalkeesa stood side by side, and said the exact same thing at the exact same time, "Hey! What're you looking for?" They looked at each other, surprised.

The skremlikhan slowly twisted its neck around, with a bone crunching sound. It smiled a smile that was eerie and uncomfortable. "Me wanty something," it uttered in a bone-screeching voice.

Nalkeesa balled up her hand into a fist and stepped forward, ready to fight.

Kladamaine put his arm on her shoulder, "Please Nal, let me try something first."

Nalkeesa scowled at him, "Hmph. Fine."

Jevlisi climbed up a nearby tree and watched intently. Flarahneen walked behind Nalkeesa, and peeked over Nalkeesa's shoulder.

Kladamaine bolstered his voice to be louder and deeper. "What is it that you want, skremlikhan?"

"Me wanty lots of things. Heh. Heh. Heh." It started to walk over, with a scary hop.

Jevlisi shouted from the branches where he sat. "I have a vial of dewberries and a tungletook sandwich. How about I give them both to ya, and you go back to whatever gross and stinky place you came from?"

"No! Me wanty something that talks. Talks and moves. Like a . . .

like a . . .”

The group leaned in, baited with anticipation.

“Me wanty a Kwazbin! And me will stay here until I find me one!”

Jevlisi smacked his hand onto his forehead. “Oh geez.”

Flarahneen sighed. “Tsk, ts, ts. That’s not good. Not one bitty bit.”

The skremlikhan started to get angry. “And if you try to stop me, me will fight you! Me will hurt you! Hurt you bad.” It started to approach Kladamaine and Nalkeesa.

Kladamaine shook his head. “Hmmm. Looks like we have no other choice team. Nebeltron, activate sword mode.” With a unique sound, Nebeltron transformed into a robotic sword that was three feet long. It had a futuristic techy look.

“I’m already ahead of you guys.” Nalkeesa jumped up, and released explosions of red and yellow Spiritus energy that surrounded her in an aura. She dashed forward, flying slightly off the ground, straight at the skremlikhan. As she neared the monster, she let out a loud, “Kee-yah!”

The skremlikhan let out a skin-crawling laugh, then a hazy gas erupted from its body. Nalkeesa flew right up to the skremlikhan and started rapidly punching it with enhanced speed and strength. Her fists glowed bright red, and made streaks of light with each attack. The skremlikhan tried blocking all her attacks, but still got hit several times, and got knocked backwards.

But then, Nalkeesa couldn’t help herself, and had to stop attacking. “Gaahhhh! It smells soooo baddddd! It’s making everything feel all weird, and it hurts.” She had no choice but to turn around, kneel down on the ground, and cover her nose and mouth.

“This one’s a stinker! Everyone, use ranged attacks and get behind me. Keep the monster away from Nalkeesa.” Kladamaine advanced towards the monster, braced himself in position, and used his Spiritus powers to project a thin veil of Spiritus energy ten feet ahead of himself and Nalkeesa. It appeared to be a ten foot wide wall, but instead of being solid, it was made up of falling strings from a rainbow.

From behind Kladamaine, Flarahneen whispered some mystical words, and unleashed a Spircast. A burst of white light shot out of her eyes, and she raised her hand straight up, like she had just lifted something. She channeled her Spiritus, and from underneath the skremlikhan, small pillars of rippling clear energy slowly shot upward. The monster started to get pulled down to its knees, and couldn’t move.



"I'm increasing the gravity underneath it, shoot it guys!" Flarahneen continued her focus and concentration. "I can only hold it for so long. . ."

"Gotcha! Since there's more of us, let's overwhelm it from a distance." Jevlisi loaded a shiny metallic arrow into his trick bow, and fired it at the skremlikhan. The arrow's aim was true as it pierced into the skremlikhan's chest, causing it to yell in pain. Jevlisi was fast enough to load up and release a second arrow that hit the skremlikhan on its shoulder, doing more damage. And finally, Jevlisi shot a third arrow that unfortunately veered too high above the monster. "Gyeahhhh! I'm on my way, Nal." Next, he pointed his finger and quickly drew a small glowing door. Jevlisi opened it, stepped inside, and disappeared.

With Flarahneen having to cease her Spiricast power, the skremlikhan jumped towards Nalkeesa. As the monster passed through the veil of rainbow strings, it was instantly warped back to where it was standing earlier. Momentarily confused, the skremlikhan ripped off a chunk decaying flesh from its skin in the shape of a boomerang blade, tossed it over Kladamaine, and it arced down at Flarahneen. She instinctively covered herself with her arm, and Spiriforged an energy shield to block the monster's fleshblade boomerang. The fleshblade boomerang deflected off her shield, and flew back onto the skremlikhan's body.

Flarahneen cringed. "Ewwwwwww! That is soooo grosssss. Absolutely dis. Gus. Ting."

Recovered from the toxic stink, Nalkeesa jumped back beside Kladamaine, and channeled her Spiritus into both of her hands. A circular mass of Spiritus energy manifested between her palms. She shouted, "Supra snap beam!" Then she shot a wide a beam of energy at the monster from both of her hands. Her aura intensified as the beam hit the skremlikhan in the chest with a loud burning impact, sending sparks flying everywhere. After the beam stopped, the skremlikhan was badly hurt, and yelled in anger.

Kladamaine raised his deckabot laser rifle. "Had enough? If you promise to leave the Kwazbins alone, we'll let you go!"

The skremlikhan sneered at everyone. It spat on the ground, and ran away.

"We did great! Go Quest Blasters!" Kladamain cheered. "Another successful quest is complete."

Flarahneen was bashful. "I bet professors Laskadindle and

Stragabon are going to be super impressed by our teamwork.”

“You bet!” Jevlisi reappeared after stepping out of his alterzone dimensional door. “I was about to surprise attack that skremlikhan just in case it got to any of you guys.”

“I’m glad I was able to finish it off with my Spiribeam.” Nalkeesa bragged. “But . . . I couldn’t have done it without your guys’ help. Go team!”

High-fives were given all around.

Kladamine directed the cadre, “Alright everyone, we should be heading back to the academy now. Remember, tomorrow is the festival. And the day after, we have an assignment in the visek shreds. We’re going to have to fight some krixters, most likely.”

“That’s correcto mundo.” Flarahneen replied. “But what about them?” She pointed at Kwee-Baloguee and the Kwazbins.

Kwee-Baloguee and the rest of the Kwazbins were patiently smiling and waving, hiding behind some carjee rocks. Before the Quest Blasters could leave, Kwee-Baloguee invited them to a quick celebration with special food and desserts. Everyone enjoyed each other’s good company, and the Quest Blasters had a joyous time in the village of Kwazbins. The Kwazbins even donated a rare treasure to Kladamine, Nalkeesa, Jevlisi, and Flarahneen. It was a satisfying conclusion to their unexpected side quest. And years from now, they would look back upon this day, and remember their good times.

*Thank you for reading!*

## **Gateway Ruleset**

This short story ties into the “Gateway ruleset” for Light Strikers, and in the full version, this section will have additional pages filled with special rules and notes for the gateway ruleset. It’s perfect for kids and new players, because it’s easy to understand and learn, without sacrificing any of the fun. These rules focus on teaching a fundamental, and basic Clash system. The gateway ruleset utilizes a character sheet, dice rolling, and roleplaying. And the Light Striker classes are streamlined into a limited, pregenerated, but balanced kit, that’s easy and enjoyable to play. Players are encouraged to create younger teenage heroes, which is great for families and kids, or for anyone who wants to play in this subgenre.

The Academy pack contains the complete core-rulebook with the Light Strikers “Gateway” ruleset, and everything from the full Light Strikers game is compatible with the gateway ruleset.

There will also be a stretch goal that unlocks an early preview version of the Light Strikers gateway ruleset along with a special adventure module. Continuing from this Quest Blasters story, the stretch goal kickstarter scenario will take place at the Light Striker Academy during one of its festivals, and include an encounter where the heroes will go up against an upstart group of criminals. And finally, the heroes will be able to go up against some krixters in the visesk shreds. As soon as it’s released, you’ll be able to start playing with the gateway ruleset right away! We hope you enjoy it all, and support us!

*See you in Adamah, and may your light shine bright!*