

Michael Perrin

The central character in our opera story is Michael Perrin, an aspiring young poet who has grown up in suburban LA without ever really venturing out and experiencing anything on his own. Encouraged by an elderly acquaintance – a once successful film composer named Arno Waltiri – to take a journey he himself was unable to do, Michael unwittingly enters Sidhedark, the Realm of the immortal Sidhe. Only after arriving there does he discover that he has no means of returning home.

Not the athletic type, Michael is in for a rude awakening for what will be required just to survive in Sidhedark. And while he does not yet know it, he will ultimately come to play a much bigger role in the affairs of the Realm and the other humans trapped there.

For now, Michael has his hands full. Arduous, life-threatening training, isolation from his fellow humans, an ever-silent poetry muse, and the contempt of a mounted Sidhe warrior all trouble him. Amid all of this, he must come to terms with his guilt over not reciprocating the love freely offered him by one young woman (Eleuth, a Breed) versus his own desperate desire for another young woman (Helena Davies, a human).

Along the way Michael is befriended by Savarin, a human who has survived in Sidhedark for decades. A scholar by nature, Savarin studies the ways of the Sidhe and in so doing has become the only such authority among the human community of Euterpe. Although Michael is not permitted to stay in Euterpe, he is glad to have someone there he can trust and who will be a sympathetic mentor.

From the very beginning it strikes Michael as a bit odd that the human community has not raised itself up against the Sidhe oppressors, but all is not as it appears. Only after Savarin and Helena are convinced that Michael can be trusted (and not a mole planted by the Sidhe to root out resistance) is he made aware of a planned human rebellion. Michael is then recruited to help the rebellion by providing crucial information and maybe...stealing something to help guarantee their success!

Voiced by a CLARINET in the sound files.