



Als Hauptfigur in meinen Roman-Zyklus habe ich mir die hübsche und sexy Schauspielerin Reneé O Connor aus der beliebten Fernseh-Serie XENA ausgesucht. Wer mehr über diese fantastische Schauspielerin erfahren möchte, sollte eine der Webseiten über Reneé besuchen. Dank an Mike´s Images und an Ralf Fieg, dem Webmaster von ROCweb, der mich auch zu meinen Roman mit Reneé als Heldin ermuntert hat.

Die Ebene Niihama ist eine Insel, die in einer Energieblase im Universum schwebt. Sie ist ca. 1500 km breit, etwa 12.500 km lang und etwa 100 km dick. Sie wurde von dem Gott Svanson erschaffen.

Svanson gehört zu einer Rasse von Außerirdischen, die für menschliche Begriffe unsterblich ist. Zu Ihrem Zeitvertreib haben sie verschiedene Ebenen und Lebensformen geschaffen. Unter anderem brachten sie auch Bewohner und Tiere aus unserer "realen" Welt auf die Ebenen. Sie werden von den Bewohnern der Ebenen als Götter verehrt.

Durch viele Kriege und gegenseitiges Töten haben sie sich fast selber ausgelöscht. Während dieser Kriege verloren sie das Wissen über ihre Errungenschaften und können nur noch die übrig gebliebene Technik benutzen.

Die Ebenen können nur durch die so genannten Gargoyls, den Torwächtern betreten werden. Von diesen Artefakten sind durch die Kriege nur vier Gargoyls der Vernichtung entgangen. Das Artefakt von Niihama gehört Gott Svanson. Das Artefakt von Sekigahara gehört Gott Judro. Das Artefakt von Shimabara gehört Gott Robarth und das Artefakt von Kyushu gehört Gott Kraagen.

Das Erste Artefakt, das Uigōru und die Liste mit den gesamten Öffnungspunkten, das Sōseiki, ist verschollen.

Die Artefakte bestehen aus einem silberfarbenen metallähnlichen Stoff. Auf der Oberfläche befinden sich feine Silberdrähte, die zu einer Linienfrequenz geordnet werden müssen. Durch einen verborgenen Knopf entsteht dann eine Linse, die das Tor öffnet. Das Artefakt ist Oval wie ein Football, ca. 22 cm lang und in der Mitte etwa 12 cm dick. Auf der Ebene wird ein Portal zur Ankunft geöffnet und nur an einem dafür bestimmten Ort kann man durch das Portal die Ebene wieder verlassen. Entweder um zum Ausgangspunkt zurückzukehren, oder auf eine andere Ebene zu wechseln. Der Hinweis zur Gegenstation befindet sich am Ankunftsort. Für jede Ebene muss das Artefakt auf eine andere Linienfolge eingestellt werden.

Auf der Ebene Niihama existieren verschiedene Kulturen mit den unterschiedlichsten Rassen. Indianer, Ritter, Samurai, Schotten, Chinesische Mönche, Massai und andere. Lebensformen wie Zentauren, Harpyien,

Riesenschlangen, oder unbekannte Lebensformen, alte ausgestorbene Tiere wie das Mammut, der Säbelzahn tiger, große gelbe Wölfe usw. und eine vielfältige Fauna. Die Umgebung besteht aus Steppen- und Graslandschaften, Gebirgsebenen mit Schluchten und Seen.

Auf Niihama haben die von Gott Svanson angesiedelten Menschen alle ein vergleichbares Niveau, was den Wissensstand, Technik usw. betrifft. So soll eine Versklavung der Rassen

durch die "Eine" vermieden werden. Gott Svanson hat dafür gesorgt das eine chemische Verbindung zur Herstellung von Schießpulver nicht vorkommt.

Man altert auf diesen Ebenen nur sehr langsam. Ein Jahr auf der Ebene entspricht ca. 7 Jahre auf unserer Erde. Es liegt daran, dass Gott Svanson eine chemische Substanz der Luft zugefügt hat, die ein langsames Altern bewirkt. Diese Substanz steuert bzw. beschränkt die Geburtenrate stark, damit keine Überbevölkerung stattfindet. Es werden sehr wenige Kinder geboren, bis zum 18. Lebensjahr wachsen und altern sie normal, danach beginnt die Verlangsamung des Alterns.

Die Schwerkraft ist etwas geringer wie auf der realen Welt. Das Wetter wird geregelt, tags über scheint die Sonne, ab und zu ein paar Wolken, nachts regnet es meistens. Ein- bis zweimal im Jahr ziehen schwere Unwetter über die Ebene.



Translation contents first book

Reneé is adopted as a foundling and lovingly raised by her foster parents, *Rosie* and *Harald Förster*. On her 21st birthday, her foster parents, Rosie and Harald Förster, die in a mysterious car accident.

They leave Reneé stocks and a large sum of money, making her financially independent and allowing her, in addition to her work for the Deutsches Museum in Munich, to follow her hobbies of horseback riding, fencing and kickboxing.

She also trained up to the 8th kata in the technique of fighting with two swords (*daisho*) in the classical *Niten ichi ryu* style.

10 years later she receives from the *Huber & Costner Notary Office* in New Zealand the message that she has inherited a store containing very valuable antique objects from her supposed biological father, *David Copeland*, who has died. She travels to Auckland for the reading of his will.

At the reading of the will Reneé meets *Marc Dacasyi* and notary *Hal Costner*. She then proceeds to have a hot affair with Hal Costner. Also runs into *Lucy Rowland*, an insurance detective investigating David Copeland and Marc Dacasyi under the suspicion of stolen antiquities, including two valuable samurai swords, the "*Aku Ryou Taisan maru*" katana and the "*Ryouko maru*" katana, which are supposedly in their possession.

Marc Dacasyi invites Reneé to a tea ceremony at his house. Reneé is deeply impressed by Marc. And even more so when Marc tells her about her father, whose closest confidant he was. When Reneé sees Marc practicing his swordsmanship at the dojo, she realizes that he is also trained in the *Niten ichi ryu* style, and that he far outmatches her with the sword. In parting, she calls him a dear friend.

Reneé and Lucy meet in a fitness studio, where Lucy inquires about her father. In doing so, Lucy becomes Reneé's friend. When Reneé is attacked after leaving the fitness studio, Lucy comes to her aid and together they manage to fight off the thugs, who flee. From one of these thugs, Lucy is able to get the name of the person who ordered the attack and the reason why the thugs attacked Reneé, before he is shot by his own people.

It's all because of an old silver artifact, the gargoyle of *Niihama*, with which you can supposedly travel through a gateway to various fictitious Levels/Worlds.

When, as arranged, she meets Marc Dacasyi in her father's store, the first thing they find are the two supposedly stolen samurai swords. When they want to question Marc about it, there is a confrontation with *Karl Urbansky* and his people, who suddenly appear. Hal Costner is among them. They also want the artifact of *Niihama*.

Hal Costner is shot by Lucy during a fight between him and Reneé. Marc helps the two women fight Urbansky and shows Reneé the silver artifact, contained in a wooden chest. In the chest are also instructions for the artifact and a letter from her father.

Marc Dacasyi activates the artifact. A gateway opens up and at the very last second Reneé, Marc and Lucy, who has been shot in the shoulder, are able to get away safely to the Level of *Niihama* with the two samurai swords and the artifact. The gateway closes before Urbansky and his men are able to follow them.

The arrival station is located on the mountain of *Zaltana*. Inside the arrival station, Marc explains everything to Reneé, including his role in the game. Reneé's father is the *god Svanson*; the Level of *Niihama* is his creation. He is immortal by our reckoning, and comes from an ancient race, which is over 10 thousand years old. Her father regrets his earlier deeds and has become a better god.

Marc presumes that her father / the god Svanson took the artifact from *Kyushu* in a fight with the *god Kraagen / notary Huber*, who was in possession of it. Doing so, he was apparently rescued to, or ended up by accident in, an unknown Level. From there he will either attempt to return to the real world or back to his Level of *Niihama* (Book Two).

He himself was brought to the Level of *Niihama* at the age of 25 by the god Svanson in the year 1638 from the *Shimosuwa* region of *Lake Suwa* in Japan, together with other people. Marc is actually called *Yagyu Menenori* and was a student of *Miamoto Mushashi*. The god Svanson saved his life in a conflict with the *Obata Sword School*.

Afterwards, Marc became first a servant and then a friend to Svanson, who granted him immortality. Later Marc also became the protector of the god Svanson's daughter Reneé. He used the artifact to continually jump back and forth between the real world and the Level of *Niihama*.

The arrival station is guarded by *Choctaws* under the orders of the god Svanson. When they arrive, Marc comes to the realization that *Akatsuki* have also arrived at the Level, because all the guards are dead, but it seems the *Akatsukis* weren't able to force their way inside the station.

Marc confesses that Reneé's biological mother, *Alexandra Copeland*, is also being hidden on the Level of *Niihama*. She is still living with the *Choctaws*, where she is worshipped as the "wife of the god". The *god Annas*, her father's sister, is also there.

Both are protected by *Nadowessiu*, daughter of Nita, the Choctaw sachem. She is the god Annas' right hand as well as their bodyguard. She has been granted immortality and is in love with the god Annas. The tribe lives at the *Odahingum* River below the mountain of *Zaltana*.

When Lucy is well again, Marc explains the Level to both of them and that they have to get to Svanson's homestead in order to return to their own world. Maybe they will even meet Reneé's father there. They arm themselves with the weapons they find in the arrival station. Reneé and Lucy also get a translator, a device which lets them understand the languages spoken on the Level.

Lucy arms herself with a longbow, called *Yumi*. Japanese archery, or *Kyudo*, is one of her hobbies. Reneé arms herself with two sai and takes the "*Aku Ryou Taisan maru*" katana, whose name means Yield, Evil Ghost.

Marc takes the second katana, "*Ryouko maru*", which means "Demon Caller", as well as the wakizashi, a short sword named "*hikeshi yaku*" or peacemaker.

Thus equipped, Reneé, Lucy and Marc make their way towards the counter-station/the god Svanson's homestead, which is the mountain of *Chochokpi*.

While descending the mountain, a giant snake attacks Reneé, which she just barely succeeds in killing.

Then they run into a delegation of Choctaws, who are on their way to relieve the guards at the arrival station.

They know Marc as their brother *Napayshni*, which means strong, courageous. Marc introduces Reneé to them as the warrior *Ri-Ken*, or Sharp Sword, and Lucy as the warrior *Poloma*, or Bow. When they hear that everyone is dead, the two chieftains join them to accompany them back to the village. On the mountain, they are forced to flee into a cave when a surprise storm rises.

After the storm, they encounter Antiope, the harpy queen, while making their descent down the mountain. Lucy is able to drive the harpy off with her arrows. On the way, they see fantastical flora and fauna, and encounter a number of prehistoric animals, brought there by her father. They also meet three knights coming from the village, bearing the message that the village has been attacked by the Cherokees and the sister of the god Svanson, Andrea Parker/the god Annas, and Reneé's mother/Mrs. Alexandra Copeland, have been kidnapped.

It's up to Reneé, Marc and Lucy to free Annas and Alexandra from the hands of the Cherokees, as well as the chief's daughter, Nadowessiu, who has also been carried off. Marc explains that he is engaged to Annas. On the way to liberating the captives, they are attacked by a troop of centaurs, who kill many of their Indian companions. They are not able to escape until Lucy kills the leader of the centaurs, *Demoleon*, with an arrow.

They then arrive in the Cherokee village where their friends are being held. They manage to free them at the last minute, just as the Akatsukis burn down the Indian village. Once again, they had Lucy's archery skills to thank as she shot down the Akatsukis' air boat.

After their escape, another storm forces them once again to take shelter in a cave. After this, they all journey to the counter-station/homestead. They must overcome several adventures on this voyage as well. They battle giant snakes, centaurs, harpies, Indians, etc. They also have to survive many fights with the "Akatsuki". They encounter sabertoothed tigers and also withstand encounters with the yellow wolves.

Mother (Alexandra) is killed in a fight with harpies and Reneé is severely injured. After her recovery, they reach the Castle of the German Order of Knights.

Reneé falls in love with one of the German knights, named Albrecht von Brandenburg, while they spend nearly three weeks at his castle. He proposes marriage to Reneé, which she declines because she wishes to find her father first.

There they meet Kristanna, named *Göndül*, daughter of the god Lookken, who joins their party. During their stay at the castle, while attending a tournament which takes place there, Reneé is challenged to a duel to the death by a German-Swedish captain. Reneé wins the duel. Nadowessiu is sent back to her village by Annas.

Albrecht and Reneé end up in a clash with Akatsukis while out on a horseback ride, which they survive because Albrecht pretends to join them.

Lucy and Reneé rescue a caravan from a troop of centaurs while they are on a reconnaissance ride. They depart from Albrecht's castle and only manage with great pains to win a fight with a *Tohopka* on the grounds of a temple. The *Tohopka* belong to an Ancient Race which has always been in conflict with the gods. They are similar to the aliens of Roswell and, with four sword arms, are outstanding swordsmen.

On their further journey they are stopped by a troop of foot soldiers under the leadership of Knight Master Ahrens and taken to the camp of the German-Swedish foot soldiers.

There Reneé is taken prisoner as a supposed spy by Captain Grothusen, a vassal to the Akatsuki, and tortured. Knight Master Wolf von Ahrens frees Reneé, upon which she kills her torturer in a fight. They are able to escape with the help of Annas, Lucy and Marc. The knight master joins them and accompanies them as far as Lake Suwa, where their paths part.

Reneé is able to heal her wounds at the house of Marc's aunt and uncle on Lake Suwa.

There at Lake Suwa they meet Karen Mokyue, a ninja who falls in love with Reneé and decides to stay with them. While on a visit to the city of *Kumamoto* they go to the house of *Hatamoto Kami Kiminobu* and Marc learns from Karen that he is allied with the Akatsuki.

They survive two attacks by assassins, after which Karen kills Hatamoto, who had ordered the attacks.

They go on. Before they are able to seek refuge from a third storm, they have to fight two Tohopkas, during which Marc becomes severely injured. With her last reserves of strength, Karen succeeds in killing one Tohopka with the help of Master Knight Ahrens and Nadowessiu, who come to their aid just in this moment. The second Tohopka flees. While they are tending Marc's wounds in the cave, Göndül appears, accompanied by three Chinese monks.

Göndül comes bearing the message that Albrecht von Brandenburg has been murdered. Reneé is devastated, yet withstands the tragedy just as Marc withstands his injuries with the help of the monks. The monks teach Reneé *Tàijíquán*, the ancient form of today's Tai Chi; this puts Reneé's *yin and yang* back in harmony.

Before journeying on, they encounter Antiope, Queen of the Harpies. After heavy fighting, Reneé manages to call a truce with her. After 16 months, and many battles and adventures, they reach the *Shinshū* mountains, Land of the Gods. On the way up to the mountain of *Chochokpi* they must overcome the "supernatural" protection which the god Svanson has created.

These are two Stone Warriors, the *Cherubs* (guardians) of the holy mountains *Bingshù* and *Bīngjiā* holy mountains. Then there's the *Faun*, a *Chimera* and the *Manticore*.

Afterwards, they have to fight their way into the entryway to the homestead against the Akatsuki. They are aided by *Cyborgs*, synthetic people made of biomass on a steel skeleton who can be activated by Marc, as well as the four great ravens, *Hugin*, *Munin*, *Frigga* and *Gritha*, the god Svanson's lookouts.

During the night as they celebrate their victory at the homestead, they are attacked by the god Kraagen, who has found the code list containing the frequencies of all artefacts, enabling him to open a gateway directly to their homestead. He steals the artefact of Niihama. Reneé is seriously wounded in the fight against Kraagen, whose henchmen then drag her off. She manages to escape over the ground, though she tumbles down the side of the mountain in doing so and is knocked unconscious.

Reneé wakes up in a hospital and has lost her memory. - *Beginning of Book Two, Return to Niihama!*

The arrival stations are equipped with clothes and weapons for that particular Level, which correspond to the inhabitants' stage of development. There is also a medical room for emergencies and a room for keeping prisoners.

The description for the artefact says that the Level, which was created by the gods, always has only one location at a time where the portal can be opened for arrival and another location where the portal can be opened to depart the Level. Either to return to the point of departure or to reach another Level. The directions to this counter-station can be found at the place where you arrive at the Level.

The artefact (gargoyle) consists of a silver-colored metal-like material. The surface has fine silver threads which must be aligned with a certain frequency. By activating a concealed button, a lens appears which opens the gateway.

The artefact is oblong like a football, approx. 9 inches long and about 5 inches thick in the middle. To return to the point of departure (the real world), you must produce the same frequency at the counter-station which was used to bring you to the Level in the first place. Every other frequency opens another Level/World. In the real world (Earth) there are several points or stations where you can transport throughout the Level by aligning the artefact with a certain frequency. The letter from her father says that there are still three other artefacts. Reneé must watch out for their owners, the so-called gods. They will attempt to kill any other owner to come into possession of all three artefacts.

Every artefact has different channels and is the main artefact for a certain Level. There is also a list which contains the frequencies of all the artefacts for the various Levels. This list has disappeared.

The gods are an ancient race of extraterrestrials. For the inhabitants/creatures of the different Levels they are the so-called gods. They have created these Levels and their creatures for their own amusement. They have also partly populated these Levels with animals and inhabitants brought from our own "real" world. Due to long-lasting wars, the gods have lost the knowledge of their accomplishments; they are now only able to use the remnants of previous technologies.

Also, the race of the gods has almost entirely died out due to their own internal conflicts. Many gods were killed in a conflict with slaves which the god Lookken had created. Lookken wanted to establish an advantage over the other gods by doing brain experiments on slaves. He was killed in an accident during the experiment and the slaves escaped with the knowledge and technology of the gods, also becoming immortal.

The gods later named these slaves "*Akatsuki*" (bell ringing). For their own safety and as a warning, they developed a device to be worn as an armband which emits the sound of a bell in the wearer's head when an "Akatsuki" is in the vicinity. The device can pick up the slaves' brainwaves.

It can also be used as a translator in order to understand the various languages on the different Levels as well as the language of the gods. Besides the armband, a chip is also implanted under the skin behind the ear. In the arrival station the appearance of a slave is indicated with the word "*Akatsuki*" by way of alarm.

There are still approximately 46 slaves. These slaves hunt after the gods, their purpose being to eliminate the gods and take over all Levels. Two Levels have already been taken over by the slaves. They stand against the last gods and their helpers.

Because of the wars, only 4 artefacts have escaped destruction. The 1st artefact = the artefact of *Niihama* (the god Svanson) / 2nd artefact = artefact of *Sekigahara* (the god Judro) / 3rd artefact = the artefact of *Shimabara* (the god Robarth) / 4th artefact = the artefact of *Kyushu* (god Kraagen).

The Level is an island floating in an energy bubble out in the universe. It is approximately 930 miles wide, about 7,770 miles long and around 62 miles thick.

Various cultures and environments exist on the Level; for instance, there are steppes, grasslands and mountainous regions, all with diverse inhabitants. Indians, knights, samurai, Scots, Chinese monks, Massai and others. Creatures such as centaurs, harpies and giant snakes; or unknown creatures, ancient and extinct animals such as mammoths, sabertoothed tigers, great yellow wolves, etc.

The people whom the god Svanson has settled on the Level of *Niihama* exist at the same stage of development as regards knowledge, technology, etc. This is meant to prevent enslavement of the races by the "One".

Anyone who violates the laws/guidelines established by the god in control of that Level, including anyone who modifies weapons technology (firearms), is punished by death.

From the very beginning the god Svanson has ensured that one of the components necessary for the manufacture of gunpowder (saltpeter, used to produce potassium nitrate) does not exist on the Level of *Niihama*.

This is overseen, among other things, by four great ravens, roughly the size of golden eagles on Earth; they are named *Hugin*, *Munin*, *Frigga* and *Gritha*.

The people on this Level age very slowly. This is due to a chemical bond (substance) that the god Svanson has added to the air which slows down the ageing process. This chemical

