## The Tulip and the Tongue Anna Knutson

There once was a land in which the Spitlinks—creatures most resembling a camel with a large tongue, big ears, and bad temper—lived. It was rather a vast land for the Spitlinks. An extremely long valley is the best way to describe it, blue mountains with purple grass surrounding it. Down in the valley, there was the Spitlink village, which was governed by two chancellors, Frederick Von Glad and Yeppy Gon Sad. The former was slow at speech, but always careful in thought, and brought joy to everyone he met, while the latter did nothing but yap without much thought and was always frowning. It is quite clear which chancellor was preferred by the commoners and as time went by, Yeppy Gon Sad became jealous of Frederick and quite angry at him.

Now, when Spitlinks get mad, they show their anger by spitting at whomever they are angry with. Their faces also become purple. Therefore, when Yeppy Gon Sad arrived at court the next day, everyone was shocked that he was spitting at Frederick Von Glad, as no one ever thought it possible to be angry with Frederick. They thought it quite offending and terrible. The court thought it so awful that they sentenced Yeppy Gon Sad to twenty-two years of exile! This was the final straw. Yeppy gon Sad would have revenge now, without a doubt, and the village would see his rage, literally.

The next day, outside of town, Yeppy Gon Sad came upon a field of Spitlink tulips. He plucked one. This tulip he took to a certain friend of his, a former exiled thug, who was called The Wizard of Exile. This wizard transformed the tulip into a poisonous flower that would kill any Spitlink looking at it. The tulip was placed in a box and quickly sent to the village. Two days later, the tulip was received by Frederick's door servant and killed the one who laid eyes upon it. The box was found addressed from Chancellor Yeppy and Frederick Von Glad was nowhere to be found. Everyone assumed that Frederick had been killed and the council declared this when Yeppy Gon Sad appeared and told of his plot.

War broke out between the Villagers headed by the council and Yeppy's band. For twelve days the war raged before Chancellor Yeppy was finally fighting his way up the steps of the council to claim his victory. All of a sudden, a Spitlink riding upon a stead galloped toward him and killed him. This

Spitlink was none other than Chancellor Frederick Von Glad!! He had never even seen the tulip because his door servant was curious and had opened the box. As for Chancellor Von Glad's whereabouts, it was told that he had only been away visiting his tulip farm the past twelve days. Von Glad was made king of the Spitlinks and lived happily ever after.