

Section 1:

#1 Strengths:

- Strong atmospheric setting with vivid sensory details in describing the underground environment
- Effective use of tension-building elements like the blue glow and mysterious sounds

Weaknesses: Issue: Overuse of advanced vocabulary → Words like 'lugubrious' and 'cacophony' feel forced and interrupt the flow. The phrase "forlorn cacophony resonated in his ears like a symphony at a ghostly Opera" contains too many complex words at once, making it hard to follow the story.

Exemplar: *The air grew heavy and thick, filling his ears with haunting whispers that echoed like distant music.*

#2 Strengths:

- Good portrayal of the character's physical and emotional state
- Clear description of the setting transition

Weaknesses: Issue: Disconnected scene transition → Your jump from the door scene to the new location feels abrupt. You mention "landed with a heavy thud" without explaining how Aiden got there or what happened after touching the doorknob.

Exemplar: *The world spun violently around him as he fell through darkness, finally crashing onto cold, hard ground in a strange new place.*

#3 Strengths:

- Creative description of the ogre king
- Strong world-building elements

Weaknesses: Issue: Underdeveloped character interaction → The dialogue between Aiden and the cloaked man lacks depth. The exchange feels rushed and doesn't reveal enough about either character or their motivations.

Exemplar: *"Welcome to our realm," the man's voice dripped with mockery, each word carefully chosen to make Aiden feel smaller. "Our king has been expecting you."*

■ Your story shows promise in creating an interesting fantasy world, but needs more development in its key scenes. Try expanding each moment to build more tension and reveal more about your characters. Add more details about how Aiden feels and thinks throughout his journey. Your ending feels rushed - consider spending more time describing Aiden's reaction to learning he's trapped forever.

**Actionable task:** Rewrite the scene where Aiden meets the ogre king, focusing on developing a deeper interaction between the characters and showing more of Aiden's emotional response to his situation.

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**Score: 42/50**

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Section 2:

#1 Deep beneath the city, where no light ever touched, Aiden discovered a hidden door that pulsed with an eerie blue glow. ~~The atmosphere around him turned all lugubrious and a forlorn cacophony resonated in his ears like a symphony at a ghostly Opera.~~ [The atmosphere grew heavy with dread as strange, mournful sounds echoed around him like ghostly music.] Crack! A twig snapped a few metres behind Aiden causing him to jerk his head backwards in shock. Peering intently, he squinted his eyes and caught a shadow silently retreating into the shadows. Something was watching him. Someone was stalking him.

#2 ~~Tectering on the precipice of anarchic trepidation,~~ [Balanced on the edge of panic,] Aiden stood there paralysed, shivering on what was about to happen. ~~He trudged forward his reluctance evident in every heavy step.~~ [He trudged forward, his reluctance evident in every heavy step.] Placing his hand on the doorknob, a radiant electric spark hit him hard as his last thoughts were about the ephemerality of life.

Aiden landed with a heavy thud, his feet numb from the impact. His face was ashen, and his body trembled uncontrollably, shivering in the biting cold. Pain shot through him, forcing a wince as he struggled to steady himself against the unforgiving ground. Where was he? ~~Observing his surroundings~~ [As he observed his surroundings,] a heavily cloaked man entered the room snarling deviously while curling his gnarled fingers.

#3 "Well look what the cat brought in," mocked the tall, beastly man[,] his vermilion eyes staring daggers at Aiden. Aiden stuttered and began to talk but soon realised he couldn't find his voice either. "Well[,] I guess the cat took your tongue as well," he sneered, laughing his heart out as if it was the funniest thing in the world. He grunted[,] staring at Aiden's face which was like a mask[,] and indicated Aiden to follow him.

Crossing through serpentine-like weaving paths[,] they finally came to a halt. A ten-foot-tall ogre sat grandly in a divine chair with a renowned crown placed snugly on his wrinkly, worm-like head. His fingers were as big as Aiden himself and could pulverise him into a pulp in the blink of an eye. His masculine strength was terrifying but did not even come close to the snakes squirming around on his head. Aiden gulped[,] and the wizard turned around[,] remembering Aiden was still in his presence. "This is Maximus Clay, king of the Underground," the cloaked man said with a grim tone. "If I were you, I'd keep your head down and do what he says. You're not leaving anytime soon." Without another word, he turned and left, his departure abrupt and final. Aiden's stomach twisted. For the first time, he understood the truth: there would be no escape. He was doomed.