# The Elementalists: Contemporary Fantasy

*In the* Choices *series* The Elementalists*, you play as a college student who finds out they secretly have magickal powers. Your first two years at Penderghast College of Elemental Magicks have you harnessing your abilities and saving the world alongside your twin sibling, Atlas. However, in your third year, the two of you are pitted against one another in a fight to the death.*

**INT. ARENA - DAY**

**Event:** The wind gradually picks up around you both as the aura around Atlas builds, and your own magick flares up in response!
**Eli [SURPRISED]:** Atlas, get ahold of yourself!
**Event:** Buffeted by both of your powers, chunks of rock and tree go flying through the air as light starts to fill the space.
**Atlas [ANGRY]:** This is what I was destined for!
**Event:** As {her} anger seems to grow, so does {her} power, and you rapidly feel your own control begin to unravel!
**Eli [ANGRY]:** You have to stop this!
**Atlas [ANGRY]:** Never!
**Event:** {She} springs forward, surrounded by rainbow-colored energy, and all you can do is leap to meet {her}.
**Event:** There's a deafening crack! Then everything goes white!

**INT. ARENA DESTROYED - DAY**

**Event:** You hit the ground hard, and as your vision returns, you find yourself in the Thief arena once more, only now it's been torn apart.
**Eli [SURPRISED]:** (Just like the vision I had.)
**Eli [SURPRISED]:** I'm... still standing.
**Atlas:** Not for long.
**Event:** You turn to see Atlas approaching, magick still glowing in {her} hands.
**Event:** But then {she} stumbles, wincing, and the magick in {her} hands flickers, unstable.
**Eli:** Looks like I did a number on you.
**Atlas [SAD]:** I'll give you that. You put up a hell of a fight.
**Atlas:** I promise, I'll make it quick.
**Event:** The magick in {her} hands begins to grow, and your heartbeat pounds in your ears, nearly deafening.

**CHOICE MENU:** Atlas….

| Please, don’t! | Just do it. |
| --- | --- |
| **Eli [SAD]:** Don't kill me, Atlas. I don't want to die, I don't...<br>**Event:** You choke on a sob, eyes pleading as you look to your {sister} just as {she} raises {her} hand to strike. | **Eli [ANGRY]:** If this is what you want, no more talking. End things, once and for all.<br>**Event:** You hold your head high while you stare down your {sister}, just as {she} raises {her} hand to strike. |

**Atlas:** Goodbye, {Eli}.
**Event:** You brace for the pain, for your vision to go black, for the end… But it doesn't come.
**Event:** The magick in Atlas's hands abruptly fades, and you see tears form in {her} eyes, quickly spilling over.
**Atlas [SAD]:** I... I can't do it.
**Atlas [SAD]:** I've spent my whole life doing everything I could to protect you, training relentlessly, hiding you from Raife...
**Eli [SURPRISED]:** Atlas...
**Atlas [SAD]:** I want to be High Attuned so badly. I want it so much it hurts. But none of that matters.
**Atlas [SAD]:** I could never kill you, {Eli}. There's... nothing more important to me than you.
**Event:** Behind {her}, you can see Contingency in the stands raise their hands.
**Cee:** If you will not do it, I will make the choice for you.
**Event:** As you feel Contingency's magick fill the air, you instinctively react, sweeping Atlas's legs out from under {her}.
**Atlas [SURPRISED]:** Urrrrff!
**Event:** Now it's your turn to stand over {her}, and as {she} lifts {her} head to look up at you, {her} eyes are wide with fear.
**Atlas [SAD]:** Please... don't do this, {Eli}.
**Atlas [SAD]:** It doesn't have to be like this.
**Eli:** You know it does.
**Event:** Magick builds in your hands, raw and overwhelming, and a single tear slides down Atlas's cheek as the light pouring out of you grows.

| | |
| --- | --- |
| If (**COMPETITION SCORE >= 5**) && (**MORALITY is PEACEFUL**) | **Go to branchWinPeace.** |
| If (**COMPETITION SCORE >= 5**) && (**MORALITY is POWER HUNGRY**) | **Go to branchWinPower.** |
| If (**COMPETITION SCORE < 5**) && (**MORALITY is PEACEFUL**) | **Go to branchLosePeace.** |
| If (**COMPETITION SCORE < 5**) && (**MORALITY is POWER HUNGRY**) | **Go to branchLosePower.** |

## branchWinPeace

**Event:** As the refractionary energy around you grows, you can feel your own power echoed in Atlas, two sides of the same coin.
**Eli:** (Maybe there's another way to solve this...)
**Event:** You reach out, and golden energy slowly begins to flow out from Atlas and into you!
**Event:** At the same time, a strand of silver breaks out from your aura and drifts toward Atlas, swirling around {her}.
**Atlas [SURPRISED]:** {Eli}, what are you doing?
**Eli [SURPRISED]:** I think I'm taking the Sun magick out of you.
**Event:** You help Atlas back to {her} feet just as green and brown strands branch out from {her}, joining the golden one that's connected to you.
**Eli [SURPRISED]:** If I focus, maybe I can make it so you're just Attuned to Moon, Metal, and Water, like you used to be.
**Atlas [SURPRISED]:** Then you'll be the only one with refractionary energy.
**Eli:** And no one has to die.
**Event:** But your gaze is drawn back to the line of silver that still flows out from you toward Atlas.
**Eli:** (That's not the only option though. If I divided all the refractionary magick between us, we'd both be restored to our previous Attunements.)
**Eli:** (And then *both* of us could share the role of High Attuned.)

**CHOICE MENU:** I'll…

| Be High Attuned alone | Share the High Attuned role with Atlas. |
|---|---|
| **Event:** You stop the silver magick leaking out of you, drawing it back into your skin, then run your hand through the gold, green, and brown strands.<br>**Event:** As they sink into you, Atlas sways unsteadily, and you grab {her} shoulder, bracing {her} as you feel your own energy grow.<br>**Eli:** That's three of them. Still need the other three.<br>**Atlas:** I'm all right. Do what you need to.<br>**Event:** With a deep breath, you focus on the remaining elements, Blood, Air, and Fire and three more strands of magick come out to connect you.<br>**Event:** Power surges through you as you draw in the last of the magick, but all you can focus on is Atlas, a smile on {her} face.<br>**Atlas [HAPPY]:** I can't believe you did it... | **Event:** You let the silver strand of magick connect with Atlas, and with a deep breath, other colors begin to pour out from you.<br>**Event:** Soon, you're both surrounded in a kaleidoscope of magick, some traveling from you to Atlas, while the rest move from Atlas to you.<br>**Atlas [SURPRISED]:** {Eli}, you're...<br>**Eli [HAPPY]:** Sharing.<br>**Event:** As the elements divide, you feel your refractionary powers slip away, leaving your old Attunements behind, plus a little extra.<br>**Atlas [SURPRISED]:** But wait, if neither of us is Attuned to all the elements, neither of us can be High Attuned!<br>**Eli [HAPPY]:** We are Attuned to all the elements, Atlas. The two of us. Together.<br>**Event:** Understanding dawns in Atlas's eyes, and after a moment, {she} smiles. |

| | |
|---|---|
| | **Atlas [HAPPY]:** Together. |

**Event:** Slowly, the light fades from around you and leaves you and Atlas standing side by side, both of you still breathing.
**Eli [HAPPY]:** It's over, Atlas. It's finally over.

## branchWinPower

**Event:** As the refractionary energy around you grows, you can feel your own power echoed in Atlas, and it calls to you.
**Eli:** (I need it.)
**Event:** You reach out unconsciously, and rainbow-colored magick begins to pour out of Atlas and flow into you!
**Atlas [SURPRISED]:** {Eli}, what are you doing?
**Event:** Atlas struggles, trying to stand, only to slump down as you continue to siphon {her} strength into yourself.
**Atlas [SAD]:** My magick... you're taking it all...
**Event:** But you hardly even hear {her} words as you're flooded with more and more power, the aura around you flaring wildly.
**Eli:** It's not enough...
**Eli [HAPPY]:** Give me more!

**TIMED CHOICE MENU:** I have to take…

| Control. | Even more. |
|---|---|
| **Event:** You grit your teeth and clench your fists, desperately trying to rein in your out-of-control magick.<br>**Eli [ANGRY]:** (This has to stop!)<br>**Event:** Focusing, you draw the energy back into yourself, bending it to your will, and Atlas collapses with a groan.<br>**Atlas [SAD]:** Hnnnnghh...<br>**Event:** When the light finally fades from around you, you stand strong while Atlas lies on the ground, all traces of magick from {her} gone.<br>**Eli:** It's over. It's finally over. | **Event:** Out of control, your refractionary magick surges out from you in wave after wave as you drain everything Atlas has to offer!<br>**Eli [HAPPY]:** I want everything!<br>**Event:** The first blast rips Atlas's face open like jagged claws, tearing across both of {her} eyes and leaving them a bloody mess.<br>**Event:** The next one is even stronger, and {she} screams as it slices clean through one of {her} arms!<br>**Atlas [SURPRISED]:** AAAAAAHHHHH!<br>**Event:** *That* finally gets through to you, and you reel your magick back in. But the damage is already done. |

| | |
|---|---|
| | **Event:** When the blinding light finally fades, you stand strong while Atlas lies on the ground, bleeding and maimed.<br>**Eli:** It's... over. Finally. |

## branchLosePeace

**Event:** But after a moment, you let the magick building around you fade, shaking your head.
**Eli [SAD]:** I can't do it either.
**Eli [SAD]:** But if we don't decide who gets to live, then Contingency is going to decide for us.
**Atlas:** Not necessarily.
**Event:** Atlas's refractionary powers flare up suddenly, surrounding you both in a blinding light as {she} gets back to {her} feet.
**Eli [SURPRISED]:** What are you talking about?
**Atlas:** I can feel the refractionary energy in you, like it's my own.
**Atlas:** I think I can draw out your Attunement to some of the elements. It'd still leave you with your original Attunements...
**Eli [SURPRISED]:** And you'd still be Attuned to all the elements?
**Atlas:** Yes. I'd be able to become the High Attuned, but *you* wouldn't have to die.

**CHOICE MENU:** Sounds like…

| A good solution. | We don't have much of a choice. |
|---|---|
| **Eli:** You get what you wanted from the beginning, and I get to go back to school like none of this ever happened.<br>**Eli [HAPPY]:** Let's do it. | **Eli:** Not if we both want to live through this.<br>**Atlas [SAD]:** I know it's not ideal, but--<br>**Eli:** If you think you can do it, then do it. We don't have time to talk about it. |

**Atlas:** Hold onto me.
**Event:** You place a hand on Atlas's shoulder to steady yourself as strands of magickal energy suddenly begin to pour out of you.
**Event:** You feel your refractionary energy slip away as {she} drains your power out of you, and your knees buckle.
**Atlas:** Almost there...
**Event:** The last of your magick sinks into Atlas's skin, and as you step back, you're surprised by how normal you feel.
**Event:** Slowly, the light fades from around Atlas and leaves the two of you standing side by side, both still breathing.
**Eli [SURPRISED]:** It... worked. Then that means...

**Atlas:** It's over, {Eli}. We're finally done.

## branchLosePower

**Event:** But then the aura around you flares wildly, out of control, and the jolt of power nearly knocks you over.
**Eli [SURPRISED]:** What the hell?
**Atlas:** Your magick... is hungry. Far too hungry.
**Atlas [ANGRY]:** I can't let you become High Attuned with that much hunger.
**Event:** Atlas's own refractionary energy rises up around {her} as {she} gets back to {her} feet.
**Atlas [SAD]:** But I know that won't be enough... you're always going to want more power.
**Event:** {She} reaches out, and your knees buckle as the magick around you begins to pour into Atlas, leaving you weak.
**Eli [SURPRISED]:** What are you doing to me?
**Atlas [ANGRY]:** I'm taking your magick.
**Atlas [ANGRY]:** All of it.

**CHOICE MENU:** No!

| I'll be better! I promise! | I won't let you! |
| --- | --- |
| **Atlas [SAD]:** I wish I could believe that. But I've seen who you are.<br>**Atlas:** This is the only way.<br>**Event:** Your legs give out as more of your magick is pulled from you, flowing into Atlas. | **Event:** You spring at Atlas, only for your legs to fully give out as more of your magick is pulled from you.<br>**Eli [ANGRY]:** Stop this! Now!<br>**Atlas [SAD]:** You left me no other choice. |

**Event:** You try to draw on your magick to cast a spell, to do something to stop {her}, but it slips through your fingers like sand, out of reach.
**Eli [SAD]:** No... No, no, no.
**Event:** You can do nothing as your body grows weaker and weaker, while the aura around Atlas grows larger and larger.
**Event:** When the light finally fades from around {her}, {she} stands strong while you lie on the ground, all traces of magick in you gone.
**Atlas:** It's over, {Eli}.