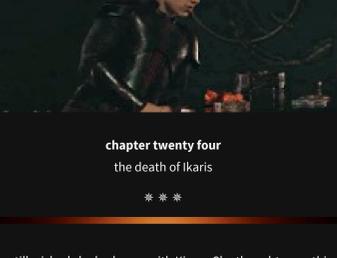


## 024 the death of Ikaris



### chapter twenty four the death of Ikaris

\* \* \*

Arden still wished she had gone with Kingo. She thought everything was out of control and that this hypothetical dream she was having ( yes she still thought it was a dream ) was her brains way of torturing her for her stupid mistakes. She shouldn't have le her friends .no no her family. She should have stayed, or at least triedto make them all stay together, because they always worked better together and never apart.

She also wished she had remembered what her suit felt like because in all honesty, she does not remember it feeling like this

I hate this I hate this I hate this so muchshe thought to herself clenching and unclenching her fists as she walked side by side with Makkari , Sersi, and Druig.

"Are you okay?" Makkari signed a er tapping her on the shoulder.

"Yes," she breathed, her shoulders relaxing just a tiny bit.

"It's time to put a god to sleep," Sersi said, Arden immediately tensed up again.

Arden watched as Druig touched the bracelet around his wrist and her gut felt like it was being ripped out of her body. He looked at her, worry on his face before he placed a hand on her shoulder and rubbed gently.

"We are going to be okay," he told her. "Youare going to be okay."

She pulped and nodded, his hand moved up to cup her cheek and she wasted no time in putting her hand over his and leaning into his touch.

Sersi sent her a smile and she smiled back.

"We'll be okay," she whispered to herself with a sigh and Druig twisted the bracelet.

They began to follow suit, a gold lining around their bodies which captivated Arden's interest. Their bodies had li ed up o the ground and a small ounce of Arden had missed the feeling of being in her suit and out doing cool things.

The volcanos violence soon came to a slow before Druig was thrown to the ground.

"I should have done this centuries ago," Ikaris spoke through clenched teeth before grabbing Druig by the neck and flying up.

Arden grabbed Makkaris arm in shocked and gasped quietly as she watched. Had her mind not been plagued by the fear and worry and shock she would have been following right a er them, trying what she could to save him, but her mind had been filled up with too much emotion to think clearly.

Her heart stopped when Ikaris had thrown him to the ground with his lasers.

Arden heard Makkari make a noise and her lungs began to ache. She watched as Ikaris turned around and flew to the domo, destroying it, and sadness and anger bubbled up inside her until she was sure she felt as though she was drowning.

Too real to be a dreamshe thought to herself yet again. Too sad to be real. He cannot be gone, I just **had** him.

She felt o when Makkari had grabbed her and Sersi as the domo had begun to crash. Thena and Phastos were soon on the beach with them all thanks to the magnificent Makkari yet unfortunately, the asshole was there too.

"Druigs gone," he said, the anger filling her up and she could feel herself changing. Into what she didn't know or realize just yet but she had took deep breaths as her vision turned red. "It's over."

With those last words she charged, claws digging into the sand to make her faster, into Ikaris and tried to bite his head o . She pierced her claws into his flesh and snapped at him, taking a nip of his ear which made him groan and try to get her o . A big and very deep scratch was in his face and chest before he managed to get her o by shooting her with his lasers. Yet within seconds, Makkari had taken her place.

They were o as Arden struggled to breathe. The earth began to rumble and she looked up, breathing deeply with her anger still lingering, a piece from the eruption was coming toward her until Thena had stepped in.

The woman took care of it and held out a hand to a normal Arden. Her anger at Ikaris still lingering yet she let Makkari have her turn unless she needed the help. Thena pulled a teary eyed Arden into a quick side hug.

"I think he killed my best friend," she whispered.

"Phastos," Sersi said, the man came forward and put a hand on her shoulder. "I have to try and stop this. I need to get closer to Tiamut. Keep Ikaris busy."

"We've got you," he said.

"You got this Sersi!" Arden managed to encourage to ignore her feelings for two moments, giving her a thumbs up and a smile though she was already o before she could see.

She pulled away from Thena to crack her neck and roll her shoulders before making her way to where she assumed Ikaris and Makkari were located. They caught sight of Makkari making contact with the floor the same as Arden had previously done and ran just a little faster.

As Phastos had attempted to go a er Ikaris, Arden beelined it to Makkari to help her up.

"Are you okay?" she asked.

Makkari nodded and signed thank you before she had gone a er Ikaris. Arden felt out of place as she watched them all go a er Ikaris and she didn't know what to do.

Helpless, pointlessshe repeated to herself in her head thinking of something, anythingthat she could do. Thankfully ( but not really ) Kro, from wherever he came from, had appeared and had Makkari in his hold.

"Makkari!" Phastos exclaimed.

Arden wasted no time running toward the two and scratching his back. She would have been lucky enough to pierce through his chest but she had never been that fortunate. As she ducked away from his hands Phastos shot him into a nearby cave and Arden shook herself o .

Weird weird and surely a dream, she thought as Thena walked toward the cave.

"Where's Sersi?" Ikaris asked, Arden felt great pride at the marks on his face.

"You always did underestimate her," Phastos replied.

They could see the realization hit Ikaris like a truck before he began to take o .

"Oh no," Phastos muttered, trying to stop him from leaving. "Not so fast. .boss."

Arden stepped swi ly out of the way of the rock that fell o as Phastos brought Ikaris to the ground.

"I don't know about you but this is really satisfying, right?" Phastos exclaimed.

As much as Arden liked the show she felt as though she should be with Sersi. She didn't feel like much help giving her state of mind but maybe the emotional support would be enough?

"Let me go, Phastos! I can't let her do this!"

"I'm going with Sersi," Arden whispered to Makkari, who nodded.

Turning into a tiger, she made her way up as fast as she possibly could.

"I've been wanting to clip your wings for a long time Ikaris!" she heard.

\* \* \*

She hissed when the lava touched her paw yet she continued on, determined. She caught sight of Sersi and happiness soared through her until she saw the back of Ajak. Now that couldn't be possible, she died They said she was gone

"Are you really willing to let everyone on this planet die?" she heard Sersi speak before she gasped.

Arden watched as Sprite had appeared and Sersi fell to the floor. Ajak was gone. Once the shock had le , she stalked forward quietly.

Hoping to catch the girl by surprise before she could prepare to fight back as she made her speech that Arden could care less about.

When the timing was right, she leaped, scratching Sprite while she had hit her to hit the floor. But before she could put her whole e ort into knocking the girl out, something had made contact with her nose.

Tackling, but more like falling on top of her, Sprite to the ground, she knocked herself out from the impact her head made when she touched it. Arden sneezed immediately.

Backing up and growling at what could've hit her she stopped in her tracks.

"Druig," she whispered, rubbing her nose and being back to normal. "What the fuckDruig!"

"I am so so sorry," he apologized, a chuckle in his tone as he stepped forward.

"You dickwad," she grumbled, relief in her chest that he wasn't in fact dead or gone, he was here. "Are you okay Sersi?"

She helped her up and looked at her wound, it didn't seem nice.

"Druig," she whispered in disbelief, standing up.

He stepped closer to talk to her and Arden stepped back. Now was not the time for arguing or jokes.

"I can't do this," he told her. "This is your fight now."

They watched as she turned and began to run, Arden seemed happy but she didn't know what about. Maybe she was happy for Sersi or maybe she was happy Druig was not in fact dead. At least she was happy.

"I'm glad you're not dead," she told him, nudging her shoulder into his.

"Did you cry?" he chuckled.

"No," she admitted, which she was not lying, the tears never fell. "I didn't care much if I'm being honest."

"Mhmm," he hummed unsure.

She sco ed and rolled her eyes before laughing.

"I should have gone to check on you," she muttered.

"What did you do?" he asked.

"Not enough."

\* \* \*

Nerves filled everywhere inside of Arden's body. The sight of Tiamut being born made her feel as though she was going to throw up and she looked at Druig. Sprite looked at the both of them.

"I missed you," she admitted, before the floor began to rumble and they were moving.

Druig reached out for her hand and gripped it tightly so she would not leave him from the motions. But soon the rumbling came to a slow and relief filled their souls.

The gold lining covered their bodies once again and soon Tiamut was dying. She couldn't ever describe the feeling.

\* \* \*

Makkari's immediate reaction was to hug Druig once she saw him. Arden smiled at the sight before Makkari brought her into the hug too and kissed her cheek. Arden felt so happy to find her friends, well the rest of them, were safe. They felt okay.

She parted from the hug and ran to Thena, hugging her with tears in her eyes from the odd experience. The woman rocked her side by side.

"I still have energy from the uni-mind," she heard Sersi speak. "I think I can make you human."

Thena and Arden pulled away from each other at the words, smiling so ly at each other as they did so. Their eyes watery yet they both refused to let them fall.

"All the things you said you wanted, you can have them. But your time will be fleeting and you'll die one day. Are you ready for that?"

"I am," Sprite spoke.

authors note:\_\_\_\_\_

i apologize for this terrible chapter oh my goodness but they make me so sad sometimes ,, it's the little things

also people keep unfollowing and it's so saddening sometimes

and if any of you hate on arden i will personally fight you and i am NOT

a violent person



Continue reading next part