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sharpness of the blade. She felt it cut through her skin making her pull away. She showed no signs of being in pain, it was only a small cut anyway. Yet Druig took her hand, looking at the cut before so ly frowning.

He crouched down, making Ardens heart beat pick up, watching the

Druig, grabbing her hand, frowned at the feeling of his stomach feeling even more weird. Yet, he tried his best to brush it o . Arden tugged him slightly into the water making him stop before they could touch it completely. The thought of a deviant showing up lingered at the back of her mind, yet she didnt give much care to the

Arden could practically see the wheels turning in his head before he

equally hated the feeling.

let out a sigh and followed her.

excuse. Yet, he didn't catch it.

its way into her mouth. "And rude."

we could do this."

down with her.

sighed.

away.

※ ※ ※

at her.

eyes. "Youjust came along."

thought.

"Why are we going into water?" he asked.

let go of Druigs hand and looked towards the shore.

"To look for shiny rocks," she spoke, although it was an obvious

"Come on," she told him, tugging his hand yet again.

closer to shore. Arden looked down to find herself with the water up to her waist. She

"I suppose we could," she muttered, a small smile on her face. "Or. . .

"Can't we look at them over there?" he said motioning with his head

the water. He went all the way under making Arden erupt with laughs. He popped back up quickly to catch his breath. He rubbed his eyes

from the water and letting out small coughs from almost choking. His

eyes caught sight of her holding her side, doubled over in laughter,

Her hands found his shoulders and she quickly pushed him back into

before pushing her like she did him. Only di erence was she wasn't under for nearly as long.

"That was uncalled for," she spoke, spitting out the water that found

"You did the same to me!" Druig defended. "No I didnt," she smiled, reaching up and moving his hair out of his face. a "You're such a liar," he grumbled, splashing her with water.

She splashed him back making him choke. He wiped his face with his

He grabbed her waist making her laughter cease. He slowly pulled her

hands before looking at a genuinely happy Arden.

closer to him so they were only a few inches apart. Her breath hitched in her throat making him smirk down at her. "What are you doing Druig?" she whispered, looking into his eyes.

"Throwing you into the water," he said, before pushing her back.

With her reflexes being quick, she grabbed his collar making him go

"Oh hey Arden- why are you wet?" Kingo asked, his face torn between concern, happiness, and pure utter confusion. a³ "Can you make fire?" Arden asked him, her body lightly shivering from being cold.

Ardens eyes narrowed as a sign that she was confused. For some reason, she didnt see the man there in the first place, but she supposed it didn't matter toomuch.

"I can," Ikaris spoke from beside Kingo.

"We both can," Kingo said, giving her a smile.

"Why do you need fire Arden?" Ikaris asked.

was the most obvious thing in the world. "Now come on, I'd doubt you'd die." Kingo spoke, nudging her shoulder.

"Ill just go figure something out," she mumbled, turning and walking

"Wait! I'll make the fire for you," Ikaris called out.

Arden blinked at him before looking down at her wet suit and running

a hand through her wet hair. She looked back at the two men and

"Because I'm wet and probably going to die soon," she said, as if it

to this," Kingo spoke teasingly, looking at a shivering Druig and Arden sitting side by side. Druig held a small white flower in the palm of his le hand. Arden

"Now if I had known it was for the bothof you I wouldn't have agreed

found it on her way back to him and decided to give it to him. The

corners of his lips tilted upward at it before he turned his head to look

"Ikaris agreed to it," Arden spat as Ikaris lit the pile of sticks with his

"Why don't you guys go inside the ship?" Ikaris asked, sitting down next to Kingo. "Might be warmer in there." "It's nicer out here," Druig told them, his voice monotone. The group was silent, Druig and Arden looking into the fire as the other two watched them.

"Is this all you guys do when you're together?" Kingo asked.

the two across from them attempt to back up some.

standing up making Kingo do the same.

"Good day," Kingo nodded before the two le.

"And I like yours," he allowed him self to say.

like how she liked his company.

to keep his flower alive.

the dirt.

authors note!

show

But for some reason she didnt want to.

before looking at his flower. "A flower."

The two looked up to him in sync, their faces resting and never once

faltering. Their faces looked creepy due to the light of the fire, making

"We'll just take that as a yes and go," Ikaris grinned nervously before

The two laughed as they watched Ikaris and Kingo leave before being

met with silence once again. Arden fiddled with her fingers. They

"Thank you for just being here," she said. "I like your company."

The two sat there in silence yet again. Ardens mind filled with nothing

but how she actually didlike his company. The only problem was that

she didn't know why. Sure he wasn't like Gilgamesh or Kingo (even

they were both dierent from each other as well), Arden just didnt

She was sure she should've stabbed him by now to keep him away.

were both dry already, but the lingering cold from the water never once le since they first made contact. Arden leaned her head onto Druigs shoulder and closed her eyes. The boy tensed, looking at her in the corner of his eye. It was like he was afraid to move. å

She li ed her head o of his shoulder and quickly looked at him. He states intently at the flower in his hand making her smile. "Have you seen if you could. . . change your hands into something

else?" Druig asked her as he thought of ways to ask Phastos for a way

"What do you mean?" she asked, beginning to draw random lines in

"Since you could change your hand into a blade, what if you change it

into a-" he cut himself o, looking around at the space around them

could probably change into multiple di erent things."

I love writing boys being so er than portrayed in their movie or

"I don't know Druig," she so ly spoke. "I've only known how to do the one thing." "Well if you think about it, if your hand could change into one thing, it

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Continue reading next part \Box

" **S**o he gave you a katana," Druig noted. "Aren't your arms blades anyway?" "Yeah, but I don't get why he would give it to me," she shrugged making him hum in thought. The two sat outside the ship, in the rocks near the water. Her hands held the katana that she examined in the sunlight while he watched. Her right hand turned it over as her le hand dragged down the "You're bleeding." "Oh wow, how cool," she spoke with nothing but sarcasm laced through her words. "Its just a small cut." She set down her gi next to her before using her finger to wipe o the blood. She grinned at Druig before looking over to find the blood still trickling out slowly. "Its still bleeding," he noted. "I didnt even notice," she grumbled, standing up and walking over to the water. "Where you going?" Druig asked, watching her get further and further away. "To drown, " she spoke, bending down and putting her hand in the water. She watched as the red moved into the clear, cold water. She moved her hand slowly making small ripples im the water form around the movement of her hand. She smiled as she heard Druigs black boots step onto the small rocks littering the area near the water, before stopping beside her. red fade away in the water as her cut began to stop bleeding. "I don't think you should drown," Druig said, though he knew she was only joking. Hopefully. A cruel thought popped into her head making her smile so ly. She knew he was probably going to get reallymad, but at least it would be funny. She stood up, holding a hand out to the boy, making both of their stomachs feel as if they were turning into knots. They both