No, he was not. Pollo had woken up from a nightmare, fighting for his life. Tears were streaming down his face as he gasped, trying to catch his breath. The blood in his veins felt like it was boiling, so he had to touch his skin to make sure he hadn't raised his temperature by accident. Since Phastos had revealed to him that he could die if he went over the temperature limit of his body, he was always scared he might do it without noticing, which, obviously, was crazy, as he needed a lot of concentration to do such a thing. As he shot up in a sitting position, he scared o Dragon, who hissed as he jumped o the bed. At the same time, he seemed to have

a

woken up Druig, who was now sitting next to him, eyes half opened and a hand in his hair. Even if he wasn't quite awake yet, he seemed truly worried for his boyfriend. At first, Pollo thought of lying to him, hoping that Druig wouldn't see the truth in his mind, however he decided not to do it, mostly because he was unable to form a full sentence. "Was it a nightmare or a vision?" Then enquired Druig. He was the only one who didn't hesitate before talking about Pollo's new found abilities as a seer. Everybody else seemed unsure whether it would make him uncomfortable or if they would be the one uncomfortable. Druig knew that this hesitation wasn't helping Pollo at all.

"I..." he cleared his throat, shaking his head once more. "I don't know.

I don't really remember, so it probably wasn't that important. I'm sorry I woke you up." "No need to apologize, I was probably going to wake up in a few minutes anyway," he said, shrugging it o as he passed a hand on Pollo's back. "And, anyway, there are multiple ways you could be forgiven now that we're both awake." Normally, this would have made him laugh. Normally. Instead, he just passed a hand on his face, shaking his head once more. "I'm sorry Druig, not now. I'm not feeling that good." A frown appeared on the mind controller's face as Dragon jumped back on the bed. He'd seen Pollo a er a nightmare before, yet these

days it seemed to have gotten worst. He couldn't quite tell if it was because of his friends' death, yet he could've sworn that it had something to do with what Phastos had told him. Pollo claimed that all he'd done was say goodbye and give him glasses, still he could always tell when his boyfriend was lying. He could've easily found the truth in his head, while Pollo was sleeping, and he never would have noticed. He didn't. He knew that, if he needed to know, then he would be told.

"Hey," he breathed out. "It's okay. I was joking. You have nothing to apologize for. Do you want to talk about it?" Pollo patted Dragon's distractedly, glancing at Druig for a second. "There's not much to talk about. Like I said, I don't remember much.

He knew the question was stupid. Druig probably did as well. Still, he took the time to answer. "We're in space, Polly, we can't really invite

But... are we expecting someone, today?"

which had been le on the floor.

He shrugged. "She didn't. But she's going to."

anybody in."

He hummed, closing his eyes, holding back the tears from before. He hated nightmares. The ones he used to have about Druig had disappeared, mostly, being replaced by dreams of Ajak or Gilgamesh. Sometimes they were bittersweet, not quite nightmares, but sometimes what he saw were corpses rather than friends. A er a minutes, maybe more, he opened his eyes, looking at Druig, who'd placed his chin on the palm of his hand as he looked at his boyfriend, the both of them stroking Dragon. "We should go," stated Pollo. "Thena is going to want to tell us something." "Oh? When did she tell you that?" He asked, starting to take his shirt,

Just as he said it, somebody knocked on the door. Of course, it was Thena. A er all, there were only four people and one flerken leaving in the Domo now and nobody knocked on doors quite as hard as Thena. As they were in Druig's chamber, it's the mind controller in question who answered. "What is it?" He shouted, throwing a shirt at his boyfriend. "Makkari and I found something," she claimed. "We think the others are in danger." Even if Pollo agreed with that, he still whimpered, hiding his face in his hands. He hated it. He hated knowing yet still not knowing. He

couldn't tell if they were in pain, yet he knew his friends were in

distress. He could feel Druig looking at him, yet he didn't dare to look up. "Yeah, okay, we're coming," the smaller Eternal replied. There was a pause, which Pollo used to take a deep breath, looking at Druig who'd kneeled in front of him. Druig took his hands in his own, so ly putting them away from his face, stopping him from hiding. He smiled at him, not saying anything as he let go of his hands, placing his own on his cheeks. A er a second of silence, Pollo smiled back, making their forehead touch. They'd almost forgotten that Thena was on the other side of the door. Almost. "Wait, we" She repeated, making Pollo chuckle. Druig didn't seem quite as amused, growling as he shot an annoyed

look at the door. This seemed to bring back Pollo's smile as he continued to laugh, which managed to make Druig grin as well when

Druig had sat down, eating, while Pollo had joined the two women as they looked at a map of Earth, looking for signs of their friends on it, to whom they'd le tracking device. Yet, those seemed to have ran out of power or something, as it was impossible to see them

" It's been weeks" signed Makkari. "We haven't heard from any of

Both Pollo and Thena shared a knowing look. The man even looked at his boyfriend, however he seemed too focused on what he was to

them. It's like... they've disappeared

" I feel it, too", confirmed the speedster.

his glasses. "And I can see it..."

happening. "What?"

wanted to protect himself.

for you," chuckled the troll.

seem to work.

he saw it.

anywhere.

really pay attention to the situation. Still, Pollo knew that this was his way to try and relax when he was stressed out. "Arishem," declared the blonde woman. "We have to go back." "Can we, though? There must be a reason as to why Arishem hasn't come for us. If we go back to Earth, we might just fall into some kind of trap, which isn't going to help them," explained Pollo. Thena seemed to consider it for a second, a harsh look on her face. As she opened her mouth, on the verge of arguing about how they had to take the risk for their friends, she tensed up, snapping her head at a precise point in the corridor. She made her shield and spear appear, slowly walking towards the invisible energy, followed by Makkari.

Pollo frowned as colours and form started appearing on the lenses of

"No, my glasses." As he saw the confused looks they gave him, he felt the need to elaborate. "They can discern energy change and there's a

"Your..." Thena hesitated before continuing. "Your powers?"

big one happening right now. I think... I think it's a portal."

Druig who was still eating, looked like he'd just noticed what was

That's when some sort of lights started to appear in the corridor. Some kind of far away screaming was hard, making Pollo turn towards Thena to make sure she was hearing it as well. Then, a strange creature Pollo had never seen before, though it could've easily been a goblin, fell out of the portal. It stood up, laughing, all while holding some kind of glass that still seemed half full. Pollo gagged at the strong smell of alcohol, taking a step back like he

Druig still hadn't stand up, though he did seem to look up as he saw his boyfriend's disgusted expression. The two other women seemed equally as confused by the situation, still they didn't let their guard

"Wow. Aah! My ears. My eyes are numb. No more drunk teleporting

"Um..." hummed Thena, trying to get its attention, though it didn't

"Hang on, hang on," it slurred before clearing its throat. Then, it started imitating a fanfare as the light appeared on more. Pollo put himself in a fighting stance as well, yet not making the ropes appear. He didn't want to risk overheating himself. Inside the lights, a silhouette started appearing, walking towards them. "Behold," started the little thing, "the royal prince of Titan, brother of Thanos, the Knave of Hearts, defeater..." "Thanos' brother? Enquired Makkari, looking at the other Eternals. Thena shrugged, while Pollo looked the man up and down. He was

wearing a bright red suit, which was far from discret, though it did seem a bit similar to an Eternal's suit. He was, without a doubt, handsome, yet it was strange. He could've sworn he'd seen him before, maybe on the alien black market or a boys band of some sort. Aliens loved going to Earth for concerts, as no human ever really took the time to question why their music got weirder and weirder every

year that alien tourism got more popular.

adventurer, Starfox of Mystery Planet."

the only one le in a fighting stance.

them.

greeted Starfox.

"...of Black Robert..." continued to enumerate the goblin.

"Roger," corrected the unknown alien with strange ginger hair.

"Oh. Defeater of Black Roger," repeated the thing. "The great

Pollo looked at the other Eternals, frowning as he whispered. "Isn't that the cartoon with the talking dog that eats and cowers?"

" No, that's Scooby-Doø' answered Makkari, which earned them a raised eyebrow from the Starfox guy, still he didn't stop smiling at

"What a pleasure to make your acquaintance, my fellow Eternals,"

Thena's shield and spear disappeared, making it so Pollo would be

"You know, you really don't have to do the whole thing every time,"

said the strange to the troll. "Everything you do is impressive," it —he?— stated. "What am I gonna leave o the list?" The man was quick to reply in a not so humble way. "No, I know it's Pollo looked at the others, wondering if they were going to say something. He tried to make eye contact with Druig, but he was still focusing on his food. He tapped Thena's shoulder, gaining her attention. "Say something," he whisper-shouted. She shot him an annoyed look, yet still listened to him. "Who are you?"

The redhead looked between the two of them, raising an eyebrow at Pollo before he spoke with a smile. "I'm Eros. This is Pip." The goblins in question gave them a thumbs up as a greeting, all while drinking.

Pollo growled, placing himself in front of the woman when he saw Eros approaching her. He wouldn't let that stranger bother her just a er Gilgamesh's death. She didn't need that kind of trouble. He was still in a fighting stance, so tensed up that he was thinking some of his bones might snap in half. Eros seemed mildly surprised by Pollo's reaction, though he did take the time to look him up and down. A

"What the fuck are you guys doing here?" Asked Pollo, poison on his

Eros smirked, taking one of Pollo's fists in his hand. "All I need are the words of the poets to know that you must be the enchanting Pollo."

a

a

å

a

"And youare as beautiful as legends say, Thena."

little bit too much time for the seer's liking.

tongue.

find them."

He kissed his fist, which had relaxed slightly, and seemed to be amused by the look of pure disgust on Pollo's face. Pollo took back his hand, taking a step back and almost falling onto Thena, had it not been for Makkari warning him first with a hand on his back. "Answer the question, lads," ordered Druig, shooting a murderous Pollo looked at his boyfriend, giving him a reassuring nod. They smiled at each other, yet the both of them still seemed tense. Eros li ed his hands in the air, in fake surrender, as he eyed the two men, frowning at the exchange between them. "Pip and I are here to help, aren't we?" The only answer he got from Pip was a burp. A more serious look on his face, he made a small shower of light appear in the palm of his hand. Pollo looked at the others, who all seemed equally as surprised by that. "Your friends are in big trouble," stated Eros. "And we know where to

**POLLO WILL RETURN** 

The last chapter is here!!! Also, this is a lot shorter than usual and there's too much dialogue for my liking, but whatever. I'll just go with it. Anyway, this is now o icially over, but there will be a Q&A! The way it works will all be explained in the next "chapter". I hoped you liked this story, personally I loved reading all your comments, even if I don't always reply! Thank you all, I'm truly flattered by the fact that you read this until the end! And I'm ending this was A LOT of incorrect quotes!

Pollo: Are you an 'arr' pirate or a 'yo ho ho' pirate? Druig: I'm a 'I'm not paying \$600 for photoshop' pirate.

> Pollo: Are you busy? Druig: Yes. Pollo: Cool, listen to this.

Pollo: Is it just me or is instant ramen even better uncooked? Sprite: It's just you.

Pollo: Look, last night was a mistake. Druig: A sexy mistake. Pollo: No, just a regular mistake. Computer: Please enter a password. Druig: \*types in Pollo\* Computer: Your password is too weak. Druig: How fucking DARE YOU-Druig: Something's o. Pollo: Maybe you've finally developed human emotions and feel bad for mind controlling people. Druig: No, but that's funny.

Druig: Valentine's day is just a consumerist holiday that holds no real value other than drive people insane buying heart shaped chocolates for their significant others and pos-Pollo: I wrote you a poem. Druig, already crying: You did?

Pollo: I've met a lot of pricks in my time, but you, Druig, are a fucking cactus.

> Pollo: I think I'm falling for you. Druig: Then get up.

Pollo: Druig is not a morning person. Or a night person. There's really only about seven minutes a day you are fun to be around. Druig: The best part is you never know when they're coming.

Druig: So... what would you do if you were in bed with me? Pollo: Depends. Is your bed comfortable? Druig: Yes. Pollo: I'd sleep.

> Druig: Love makes people do stupid things. Pollo: I love everything! Druig: That explains a lot.

Pollo: Think you can answer some questions without the usual level of sarcasm?

Druig: If you can ask the questions without the usual level of stupid. Druig: Sorry I'm late, I was doing things. Pollo: Hi, I'm 'things'. Pollo: If I didn't know any better, I'd say you're impressed. Druig: But you do know better. Ajak: If you got arrested what would be the charges? Makkari: The. **Sprite: Disturbing the peace.** Druig: Aggravated assault. Pollo: Arson. Thena: All of the above. In that order, probably.

> Makkari: How do you want your co ee? Pollo: Black, like my soul. Makkari: Makkari: Pollo, your soul is a latte.

Sersi: Do you ever want to talk about your emotions, Druig? Druig: No. Pollo: I do! Sersi: I know, Pollo. Pollo: I'm sad. Sersi: I know, Pollo.

Druig: We might have gotten into a bar room brawl back in the city. Ajak: Well, that was entirely predictable. Druig: One of them punched a gang member. Ajak: Thena? Druig: Pollo, actually. Ajak: Oh, that was going to be my second guess.

Thena: Why does Pollo always do the laundry so loudly? Druig: So everyone knows that no one helps him out in the house. Pollo, in the distance: \*slams the washing machine shut\*

Pollo: That was a joke. Say ha. Druig: Ha. Pollo: Now do it again. Druig: Ha. Pollo: Congratulations, you are o icially the life of the party.

Makkari: When do you usually go to sleep? Pollo: Whenever I collapse is entirely up to the gods.

> Pollo: Did you miss me while I was gone? Druig: You were gone?

> > Pollo: \*eating a cinnamon roll\* Druig: Cannibalism.

Pollo: \*confused chewing noises\* Makkari: \*about Druig and Pollo\* They make a cute couple, huh? Phastos: They certainly are standing next to each other. Pollo: Come on Druig, do it for our friendship. You can't put a price on that... Druig: Yes I can, dear. Fi y dollars.

Pollo, hungover: Please tell me I'm imagining that I claimed I was king of the ducks. Makkari: I would, but then I would be lying to the King of All Ducks.

> Pollo: Hey Druig, do you wanna help us? Druig: Oh, I would... but I don't want to.

Druig: What the fuck? People actually tell their crushes they like them?? Pollo: What the hell do you do? Druig: I die? What kinda question...

Pollo: I love saying 'fuck me' because it can either be sexual or self-loathing and those are two things that describe me perfectly.

Pollo: Wow, Druig, you want to hold my hand before marriage? How awfully lewd of you. Druig: We literally slept together yesterday. Pollo: That's NOTHING compared to the lewdness of holding hands.

Druig: Can you cut me some slack, Polly? I'm sort of in love. Pollo: I'm sorry, but that's really not my problem. Druig: I'm in love with you. Pollo: \*blushes\* Oh. That brings me in the loop a little.

Pollo: The stars are so beautiful... Druig: They're just giant balls of gas. Pollo: You know what, if you're just going to ruin this, then-Druig: And yet none of them are as huge as my love for you. Pollo: Oh...

> Pollo: Must be hard not being able to laugh Druig: I do have a sense of humour you know Pollo: I've never heard you laugh before Druig: I've never heard you say anything funny

Pollo, holding barbie: hey ken! I was thinking about going back to school and starting a career! Makkari, holding ken: nonsense, barbie. you're staying home and having my kids Druig: what the fuck are you guys doing? Pollo: playing systemic oppression

Pollo: Got called gay at the park earlier Thena: Tell us what happened Pollo: I got called gay at the park Phastos: Yeah but why? Pollo: I was making out with Druig. Makkari: At the park? Pollo: Yeah it was at the park Druig: Okay, I'm going to get the wedding cake. Pollo: Perfect, while you do that I'll check on the ring bear. **Druig:** 

> Druig: You mean ring bearER, right? Pollo:

Pollo: In my defence, I was le unsupervised. Ajak: Wasn't Makkari with you? Makkari: In my defence, I was also le unsupervised. Pollo: Druig and I don't use pet names. Thena: I see. Hey, what do bees make? Pollo: Honey? Druig: Yes, dear?

Druig: Look me in the eyes and tell me you are not going to bring a dangerous wild animal to our wedding. Ajak, tending to Pollo's wounds: How would you rate your pain? Pollo: Zero stars. Would NOT recommend. Druig: In light of what you did for me, you can hug me for four to five seconds. **Pollo: FORTY FIVE SECONDS?!?** Druig: No! Four to five seconds! Pollo: Too late!!! Druig: Polly and I have the kind of easy chemistry where we finish each other's-Pollo: Sentences. Druig: Don't interrupt me. Sersi: Please, I'm begging you, go to Ajak. Pollo: I'm sorry is this OUR stab wound? Stay out of it. Pollo: I turned out perfectly fine! Druig: Polly, this morning you thought a ghost made your toast

Pollo: I DIDN'T PUT THE BREAD IN! YOU DIDN'T PUT THE BREAD **IN!!!** 

Pollo: Thena: Don't ever lie to my face again. Pollo: Do you think I could fit 15 marshmallows in my mouth?

> Druig: You're a hazard to society. Makkari: And a coward. Do 20.

Pollo: Druig, it's your turn; truth or dare? **Druig: Truth.** Pollo: I dare you to kiss me. Phastos: He didn't even choose dare?

Makkari: I love the whole "good cop/bad cop" thing you two have going. Pollo: It's not really a thing. It's more like I'm nice and Druig is not.

Druig: And how do you think you're going to stop me? Sersi: I'll tell Pollo **Druig: Druig: You sick bastard**