5

1510

Tenochtitlan

"Good you guys are here, we have 2 deviants here and here." Phastos points at a map. We are currently in the domo and I rest my head on druigs shoulder.

"Okay me and kingo can go." Ikaris said outloud.

"Excuse you." I look at him. Things haven't been the same between us. I was still very much upset and he held onto his fragile ego.

"Ajak makes the calls ikaris unless you have forgotten you place." I felt a hand on my back. I look up and see druig. Ajak stood next to me which angered ikaris even more. I'm not like this, I'm not one to be

Rude

Its just every time we interact now I get that same feeling I did before. Cold.

"Ikaris, cora is right. I think you, cora, Thena, kingo, Gilgamesh, and makkari should go down. As a team. As family." She smiled to all of us. Family. I return the smile and head to get my suit on. Druig follows me.

"I was waiting to give you this until we got to this new city, but seeing as you are heading down and could use it." Druig brought his hands in front of me holding a hair clip. It was white and had pink dots of ink. I looked at him and smiled.

"It reminded me of you, I got it from the other village." He gently pushed back a few hairs that were dangling in my face and clipped them back. He held my head in his hand and kissed my forehead.

"Thank you druig." I smiled and kingo came from around the corner.

"Come on cora we gotta go. Any day now." He gestured to head out. I gave druig one last smile before going o with kingo.

"So cora I kind of slept wrong last night and my back is killing me. Mind taking it o for this battle?" Kingo gave me his hands before we got o the domo. I nodded my head

"Of course kingo!" I closed my eyes and took the pain. The cool feeling rushed through me. Not too cold. I smiled as he cracked his neck and got down. I turn to see druig leaning against the wall watching us. I wink and jump down.

"About time cora go help ikaris." Gilgamesh told me as I look to my right. Ha loser.

"Need some help?" I walk to him with the deviant on top of him. The deviant looked at me and charged. I brought my hands up and it instantly stopped in its tracks.

I tilted my head and smiled at it. Ikaris got up dusting his suit and walked to my right side.

"Well cora. Need me to do this for you too?" He said. I turned to look at him and stared. Not breaking eye contact I slowly spread my hands apart ripping its flesh and bones in half. Holding my stare I drop the body on the dirt.

"I don't know you tell me." I turn my body to see him. He just stares and turned to look behind me. He froze and looked back at me.

Something was coming close

I turn my body quickly around to see the deviant fly towards me and ikaris, it felt as if it was in slow motion but I felt so powerless. Everything happened so fast he hit us but the weight of the deviant

and how fast it was going threw us to the ground.

"Ikaris! Cora!" I heard kingo yell. I see ikaris fly up with no issue pushing the deviant o of him.

"I push with my hands but my right hand snapped.

"Ah it got my hand help me!" I scream and shut my eyes closed. I see Thena run to me pushing back my hair and Gilgamesh and ikaris push the deviant o my my body.

"Take them to Ajak hurry!" Kingo signs to makkari. Within the second I was on the table in the domo, the next second ikaris is by my side. I don't even want to see him. He saw the deviant. He knew it was going to hit me yet he did nothing.

"Help her first." Ikaris didn't even look up as Ajak walked in.

"It's just my leg and my wrist ajak. I'm fine." I said and hu ed out air. Ajak started healing me and druig bursted in.

"Cora how are you feeling." He asked me and grabbed my face. I nodded my head showing I'm fine.

"Hey cora! I got a huge headache mind helping?" Sprite bursted in. As Ajak barely finished healing me. Druig turned to her quickly.

"Are you serious sprite. Look at her. She's barely okay herself!" He started to yell. I honestly don't have the energy to even say anything. I hop o the table and walk over to sprite. My hand swi ly touches her head and my hands get cold. I force a smile and without a word I head to me room.

"Cora. Wait up. Are you okay? You know you didn't have to do that." Druig stopped me before I could get in. I just looked at him. I get he's protecting me and look out for me but I just don't have it in me right now.

"Druig I love you and everything but I'm tired and cold. I'm tired okay. I'm tired of the fact that the guy who is supposed to be family and the guy I used to be so close to with nearly got me killed just because of this whole thing with the humans. I'm tired of feeling that cold rush in me. I don't like it and I want to shower and sleep." I said all in one breath and cross my arms.

"You love me?" Druig looked at me.

"Oh my I didn't mean for it to come out. I'm sorry the first I love you had to be when I'm complaining." I cover my face with my hands. I do, I do love him but I wanted to wait for him to say it first. It's not like we have been dating for nearly 500 years.

"I love you cora. I love you." He brought down my hands and kissed me.

I love him

1515 Tenochtitlan

A er 5 years in this town, nearly all the deviants were found and killed.

"Hey cora I burnt my hand baking some dinner." Gilgamesh came up to me as I was reading a book. I got up leaving the book in the air were it was. I held his hand and the cold feeling came back, I force the smile and sit back down finding my place.

"Thanks cora!" He went back to cooking and druig came around the corner with a box. I smile at him and he sits near me.

"Look what makkari just traded." He opened the box to see a chain. It was a good beautiful chain.

"Druig it's so beautiful." I smile at him and take it out of the box.

"It was just metal but I got sersi to turn it to gold for you." He took it from my hands and put it on me.

"You look beautiful cora." He looked at me and smiled.

I brought my hand up and in a second a pear came into my hand quickly. I slowly took a bite of it and watched druig try to take it. I pushed his whole body a foot away from me and he rolled his eyes.

"Oh cora the games are already over. I won. You're mine." He smirked and went to the kitchen to get his own pear. He took a big bite of it and le . I roll my eyes. He's so cocky. I love it!

"So cora want to come down to the village with me?" Sprite asked and I nodded my head and got up. I headed to druigs room and see him writing. I knock and he stopped to look at me.

"I'm heading down to the village with sprite I'll see you soon love." I smiled and went to give him a kiss on the cheek.

"Okay my love." He held my hand for a second. That second he looked me in the eyes and smiled. I pull away and head down with sprite.

"So what's the deal with you and druig? Are you guys actually in love?" Sprite sounded upset.

"Yeah. We are. Why?" I ask as we walk through a street full of small tables of hair coverings, jewelry, inks, shoes etc.

She stopped to look at a heart shaped necklace. She looked down and sighed.

"It just sucks seeing everyone you know fall in love." She said and continued to walk. I follow closely behind her but she's a bit quicker than me.

"Oh sprite. Love is tricky but, maybe one day you will find someone. Who hopefully won't like you for your size and 'age' because that would be a little... gross." I looked at her and she laughed.

"Borderline wrong." She added but stoped laughing.

"Cora can you? You know. Make it stop hurting?" She asked and looked at me. I can't say no. Im so tired but I can't say. No.

"Sure sprite. Give me your hand." I take her hand and smile at her. The cold and draining feeling came back. The cold spreading in my blood, rushing to my heart. I close my eyes. I don't want her to see me like this.

"Thanks cora I feel much better." She smiled and continued to walk. I grab onto the wall and lean on it catching me breath. Maybe I'm just out of shape.

I walk up catching up to sprite as we get to a stand of an old lady selling bracelets. I look at a black and red one and smile.

"How much?" I ask in her language and she picks it up and hands it to me.

"2!" She smiled and I look around the table.

1..2..3..4.. oh that's prettt! ..5..6..7... maybe not that color oh that one she would love!.. 8...9.. aaand would you look at that oh well none for Ikaris! ... fine 10. I dislike leaving people out.

I pick up 10 brackets all of di erent colors. I pay the lady and hand sprite a baby blue bracelet. She smiled so wide and instantly put it on. It matched her suit and she radiated

Нарру

Excited

Loved

"Let's head back." We both go back to the domo but stop to see sersi with some kids.

"Hey sersi I got you something!" I call outloud. Sersi walked over to us and I handed her a green bracelet matching her suit. She smiled and hugged me.

"It's beautiful cora thank you! I will wear it always."

Нарру

"Okay let's go I'm a bit hungry." Sprite lead us back to the domo.

We walk in and see phastos working on his new invention. I walk up to him and tap his shoulder scaring him. Sprite went o to her room leaving us alone.

"Hey phastos I got something for you!" I hand him a purple bracelet. He looked at it observing how it was made and smiled.

"Thank you cora.. I really really like it." He put it on and continued working. I head the the hallway and see Thena sparing with her sword. I knock on the door and she stopped.

"Hello cora." She smiled at me and I walked in fumbling the le over bracelets.

"I got this for you Thena. It matches your white and gold suit." I hand it over and she looks at me and back at the bracelet. She put it on and looked at me.

"Cora thank you." She said and I le to find kingo.

"Kingo?!" I call out but see Gilgamesh in the kitchen again.

"Oh hey gil I got you something!" I pull out the light green nearly yellow bracelet. He put it on and continued to cook.

"Oh okay enjoy." I smiled and went to see kingo in the main room arguing with phastos.

"Listen I'm not saying your logic is wrong. I'm saying it's stupid!" Phastos tells kingo.

"Oh but you can create large weapons and engines but you can't create something as simple as a DVD player yet?" Kingo said dramatically.

"It's called priorities. And that is not one of them. But feel free to wait a few THOUSAND years." Oh the sass.

"Okay I don't know what I'm interrupting but I got you this kingo" I smiled and gave him his dark purple bracelet. He smiled.

"Aww are we o icially besties! Great cause I have a list of bare minimum necessities I need you to do as my o icial bestie." He pulled out a paper. Oh god he wasn't kidding. I force a smile.

"Right I got to go talk to ikaris I'll be back to do that though. I swear. Just don't wait up." I laugh and head out.

I find Ajak and ikaris talking. I think Ajak was upset with ikaris still because of the whole deviant thing.

"Hey guys. I'm sorry for interrupting but I wanted to give you guys these. I got them for us matching our color suit. Since we are a family I just thought it would be nice. I even got one for you ikaris." I held them out and looked at him. I don't forgive him but I know id be hearing his emotions all day everyday if I got everyone a bracelet but him. So I saved me the time and energy.

"Oh cora I think that's so sweet of you. Don't you think ikaris?" She looked at him as he held it in his hand. He put it in his pocket and nodded. He headed out the door leaving me and Ajak alone.

"Hes sorry you know." Ajak started talking. I know what she was referring too.

"I don't think he's sorry because he feels guilty but rather because he got caught." I sat on her window seal.

"I don't know what's going on with ikaris but we have to give him some time. For now go enjoy your time, you look tired go sleep." Ajak said and I got up but as I held on to the last bracelet I had and the main reason I even got them I got stopped before I can even get to his room.

"Hey sersi you okay?" I asked and see she's wearing her bracelet. That instantly made me smile.

"Yeah I was just wondering, a few of the kids are having nightmares because of the last deviant attack. I was wondering if you can help them." She looked at me worried. I put the bracelet back in my pocket and nodded. Looking at the closed door I wanted to enter I go the opposite direction following sersi.

"Hey guys, I'm cora. Do you guys want to hold my hand?" I slowly bring my hands up for the three little baby boys to hold on. I look at their traumatized faces and shaking hands. What have the deviants done.

"They took my mommy." The little boy in the middle started to tear up.

"Oh hunny a er this. You will be okay I promise you." I close my eyes and the bright white energy flowed through my hands sucking the

Worry

Fear

Pain

Out of the three kids. The freezing emotions seeping into my hands and surrounding my heart. The cold path from my hand up my arms get colder. I close my eyes as I finish.

"Thank you!" They hug me and i weakly hug back. I look at sersi and she just looks past me to the kids. I'm fine. I'm just tired.

"So I'm going to go back to the domo I'll be there if you need me. Oh if you see makkari give this too her please. I think she's running around town looking for stu to trade." I got up and le . My knees feel week and I'm so cold.

Up at the domo take out the bracelet and open druigs door to see him asleep.

It must be nice...

"Well I'm sorry I took long my love but the kids needed me. I wanted to tell you I love you and thank you." I whisper and slowly put on his bracelet for when he wakes up. I kiss his forehead and bring the blanket to his chest.

"My turn for a nap." I head to my room and knock out on the bed. Not changing. Not closing the door. Just pure. Exhaustion.

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