

010 not knowing kills



chapter ten not knowing kills

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Arden watched as Druig stared at the people causing utter destruction. She shook her head, disappointed they'd even fight at all, and leaned her head on his shoulder.

He pressed a small kiss to her forehead before walking away, leaving her on her own.

She frowned before her attention was brought to Makkari and Thena approaching them. Her face lit up, frantically waving at the two making them smile.

"Where are the others?" Ajak asked as Arden went and stood next to her. Ajak wrapped an arm around her and rubbed her shoulder comfortly.

"We had to split up," Makkari signed.

"There were more deviants than you said," Thena continued.

Arden found herself looking toward Druig again. She frowned, sure she was upset too about the whole situation but she knew it upset him more than her. When he was upset, she was upset.

"I'm sure that was fun for you," Phastos spoke making Arden whip her head around to smile at him.

"It was," Thena smiled.

"That's nice," Arden said. "It's nice to have fun."

Thena nodded in agreement and watched as Arden looked to the ground a few ways away and made her way toward that spot. The dark haired girl bent down, finding a rock that looked oddly heart shaped, and smiled so ly.

"Once the others kill these last deviants," she heard Phastos say. "We'll have eliminated them all from Earth."

"Guys look at this rock I found," Arden boasted. "It looks funny."

She made her way over to Phastos and placed it gently in his hand.

"Since you always give me things," she said before closing his hand.

"Thank you," Phastos whispered. "It's very nice."

Arden looked towards Druig again, watching as his eyes began to glow and his hand went up and the tips of her lips went up in a small, proud smile.

"Don't," Ajak spoke. "We don't interfere with their wars."

"They shouldn't be fighting anyway," Arden mumbled with a shrug. "It's all pointless, gets them no where."

Druig pointed to Arden as if to agree before looking away from Ajak. "This isn't war, this is genocide."

"Their weapons have gotten too deadly, maybe it wasn't such a good idea to help them advance, Phastos."

Arden frowned, looking at Phastos quickly knowing he was going to fight back.

"Technology is part of their evolutionary process, Druig," Phastos replied. "It's not exactly something I can stop."

Arden backed away from the group, growing tense as the gun shots and yelling seemed to be getting louder and louder with every passing second.

"No you can't but I can," Druig huffed.

Arden found herself next to Thena, her hands into blades, before looking down. She saw her hands turn back into well...hands but as she focused, she allowed her fingers to get sharper and sharper as if she had claws. She gasped in amazement, looking up to see if anyone had seen, and met eyes with Sersi.

Sersi grinned with nothing but a proud feeling toward the girl making Arden smile back.

"It's too late," Thena spoke making Arden's hands go back to normal.

"Thena?" Sersi asked.

"Everyone is going to die," Thena continued, making Arden take a step back.

She noticed Druig look to her in worry.

"Are you okay?" Sersi asked as a weapon formed in Thena's hand.

Arden watched as Thena aimed for Sersi and immediately reached out to pull her away. She felt as Thena grazed her hip and she sucked in a breath.

Now was not the time to cry like a baby over a little cut.

"Thena no!" Phastos exclaimed, drawing everyone's attention.

Arden felt as Makkari sped past her to stop Thena so she looked down to Sersi.

"You okay?" she asked, her eyes scanning for any possible injuries.

"Yes yes I'm fine," Sersi waved off. "Thank you."

Arden just nodded, looking up to see what was happening.

"Don't listen to your head Thena," she heard Ajak said as the prime eternal tried to calm the other down. "Listen to my voice."

Druig arrived at Arden's side, scanning her body to see if she was hurt, but it was too dark to see.

"You alright?" he asked, placing his hands on her shoulders.

"Yeah yeah," she mumbled, brushing him off. "Fine."

His eyes narrowed, trying to find a lie, but it was no use.

"You are safe. You are loved. You are Thena," Ajak whispered only for Thena's eyes to glow again and her weapon landed straight in Ajak's stomach.

Arden gasped so ly, scared for her health, as Gilgamesh arrived at the scene. He grabbed Thena from behind, a "Thena, no, no" leaving his lips.

"Don't be stupid, don't interfere, don't be stupid," Arden whispered to herself as she watched the two fight. Oh how badly she wanted to go in, but she knew she'd never be capable.

Druig held her hand tightly, the both of them squeezing once Gilgamesh's fist knocked Thena to the ground.

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"I thought Mahd Wy'ry was a myth," Sersi spoke as they all stood around waiting for Thena to wake.

Arden sat on the ground, staring at her clawed hands as she tried her hardest to change them into something else. She let out a grunt of frustration when they wouldn't stop alternating between the two things.

Kingo nudged her in her wounded side with his foot and she shot him a dirty look. His eyes widened before looking away quickly.

"There's no cure, so no one really talks about it," Phastos spoke.

Thena awoke at once, Sersi crouching down and pulling Arden away just a tad. She gasped when she noticed the blood on Arden's side making Arden look to her in question.

"What happened?" they heard Thena ask.

"What?" Arden whispered.

"You're bleeding," Sersi whispered, in panic.

"Oh," Arden said looking down. Her eyes widened when it was more than she expected, she figured it was just a small one. "It'll be fine."

"Ajak!" Sersi called out.

Ajak looked toward Sersi before her eyes found a guilty Arden on the ground. Arden stood up, the eternals gasping at the sight of the blood on her side, upset they've never noticed before.

She backed toward a wall as Ajak got closer.

"And you wounded Arden apparently," Ajak continued.

"I don't remember," Thena spoke in a shaky breath as she watched Ajak heal Arden.

"How do you know I didn't just fall or anything," Arden tried, in hopes it'd make Thena feel less guilty. "I always get hurt anyway."

"You have Mahd Wy'ry" Ajak continued, ignoring Arden's words making Arden sigh. "Your mind is fracturing under the weight of all your memories. All I can do is erase it so you can start over. I will have to inform Arishem and take you back to the ship, where we have the technology to help."

Arden shook her head, upset of the whole situation. To be honest, no one would really be happy if a person you love and look up too had to get their memories erased.

"But then she won't be Thena," Makkari signed making Arden nod in agreement.

Makkari sent her a smile and she sent one back.

"What if it happens again?" Kingo butt in. "She almost killed Makkari, she could've killed all of us."

"Yeah could've," Arden spoke up. "Could've is the key word is it not? Sure we could've died but she's our Thena. None of us died."

"Yeah but..."

"But, you're gonna say how we might have not had it under control yes? Well we did, and we are fine. We can't just have her erase her memories, that's what..."

"Please," Thena begged, cutting Arden off her rant as she began to get angrier and angrier. "Please, I want to remember, I want to remember my life."

"Thena, I love you. But listen to me," Ajak spoke. "It's not important if you remember or not. Your spirit will always remain, you will always be Thena deep inside, trust me."

Arden shook her head in disbelief. She knew that memories make up a person sometimes, whether that be big or small. Yet, to erase that, how much of Thena will truly be left?

"Why should she trust you?" Druig spoke, Arden not used to hearing it so loud. "You're asking her to let you erase who she is."

"Druig I know your upset," Ajak tried, only to be cut off.

"Upset!" he shouted. "We've trusted you for seven thousand years and look where that's got us. I've watched humans destroy each other when I could stop it all in a heartbeat."

Arden took note of the tears in his eyes, her heart breaking at the sight making her sniffle so ly as her eyes became watery.

"Do you know what that does to someone over the centuries?" Druig continued, doing his best to avoid Arden's sad eyes. In her defense, she was only sad because he was. "Could our mission have been a mistake? Are we really helping these people build a better world?"

"We are just like the soldiers down there," he spoke as he looked down at the war happening before them. "Pawns to their leader, blinded by loyalty...it ends now."

They all watched as he stood there, Arden could practically feel his eyes glow, before Ikaris pushed Arden and made his way towards Druig.

"Hey!" Arden weakly grumbled. She rubbed her shoulder and leaned against the nearest wall. "So unnecessary."

"Let them go," Ikaris said, shoving Druig against the wall.

"You're gonna have to make me," Druig spoke, lifting his head up in confidence.

Arden looked down, her head becoming scrambled as she tried to make sense of the situation.

Everything was going way too fast, hopping from one thing to another and for a girl who always did that, it was hard to keep up.

"If you want to stop it," she heard him say making her head snap up. "You're going to have to kill me."

She gulped as they made eye contact. Watery eyes meeting watery eyes. She watched as he sent her a nod and walked down the stairs.

She looked around at her friends, no no her family, and her heart broke even more. Yet, she found herself following a her him with not an ounce of hesitation.

"What are we doing now," Arden weakly smiled.

"What are you doing," Druig grumbled, stopping in his steps and turning to Arden.

"So you can follow me around but I can't follow you?" she asked. "That's kind of mean."

"Go back Arden," he told her.

"Why?" she mumbled. "You can't tell me what to do."

"I know," he sighed.

"So let me go with you," she urged. "You're my best friend I can't go on without you."

His eyes softened and he licked his lips as he thought, before shaking his head.

"I'm sorry I can't let you come."

"Why not Druig," she asked. "I don't mind if you don't want me just at least tell me why. Tell me why you don't want me anymore?"

He shook his head, a small "I'm sorry" leaving his lips.

Arden felt her emotions wash over her, she was too buried deep for her to push them away. She felt her hand change before turning Druig to look at her as he began walking away from her.

"I'll stab you," she threatened, not liking how he was avoiding her words, while planting her free hand on the base of his neck and putting her sharp arm against his side, though it wasn't really a threat. Druig knew she was capable of doing so, yet in his opinion he wouldn't mind.

She just wanted to know why, that was it.

"Stab me then," Druig said honestly. He subconsciously leaned into her touch, his body leaning closer to her hand on his neck.

She hesitated, her stomach feeling a little weird in that moment. It was a terrible moment for her stomach to feel that way. Closing her eyes as her mind began to race with thoughts, her face scrunched up as if she was in pain.

"You know I'd never hurt you Arden," Druig said, making her open her eyes too look at him.

Arden blinked, slowly bringing her arm down from against his neck and by his side. She couldn't tell if it was a question or a statement, yet she felt as if they'd technically be the same no matter which way it was spoken.

She gulped as she scanned his face, looking for any sign of a lie, she couldn't tell. She couldn't tell anything in that moment. Why wouldn't he let her go with? Why was he acting so... weird all of a sudden?

Not knowing made her heart speed up and her head hurt so bad it felt as if was pounding against her skull. It was infuriating, yet she knew she only backed away because she loved him.

She knew that she would do anything to make him happy and if this was what he wanted, so be it.

Another thing she did know though, was that no one tells you they're not going to hurt you unless they're about to.

And that's exactly what he did as he walked away, leaving her on the steps not knowing why he left.

authors note:_____

kinda long, kinda bad but it's okay ☹️

i have a plan so im sorry if these chapters have been confusing haha lol-

Continue reading next part ☐