

015 is all of this even real?



chapter fifteen
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"To be honest," Arden spoke as Jaws ate the food out of her hand. "This whole thing feels like some sort of dream you know."

"I mean, seeing my family again and Druig again you know," she sighed. "I guess it just feels weird cuz I spent all that time confused and sad on why he just le. Now we're back and all the anger I thought I would feel just vanished and I don't even know why."

Jaws gave one good last lick to her palm before sitting down in front of her and staring up at her eyes.

"I have no more," she sighed. "You ate it all."

Jaws let out a hu before getting up, turning, and laying by her feet. His head rested on her shin as Arden leaned back against the rock behind her and put her arm up on the fallen branch.

"I think this is some dream," she muttered. "Kinda like seeing a toilet because you need to pee in real life. Maybe I just want to see everybody in real life."

"Man I wish I brought some of Gil's pie," she sighed. "Its perfect for an-"

A breaking of a branch made Jaws bark and Arden tense up. They looked around for any potential danger.

The only 'danger' was a guilty looking Druig quickly putting his hands behind him. He walked closer wearily, hoping Jaws wouldn't attack him at any second.

"I like your backpack," Druig managed, standing with his hands behind his back still and looking down at her while she fiddled with the ring around her finger a er her guard went down... slightly "May I sit?"

"I thought you had to do some thinking," she muttered, staring up at him. "That's what Sersi said."

"Yeah but I wanted to talk to you while I had the chance," he replied. She scanned him up and down, her eyes staring at the flower hanging from around his neck a little toolong, and taking a deep breath.

"What's behind your back?" she sighed.

"What makes you think there's something behind my back?" he questioned, a smile tugging at his lips.

"Because you don't stand with your hands behind your back when you talk to me, they're always in the front," she pointed out. "Unless we are walking together."

"How did you-"

"I notice just like you notice," she shrugged, scooting over so he could sit. "Come sit."

"Are you not mad at me?" he asked wearily, sitting down.

"No I am," she assured. "Just don't know how I should express it yet."

"Oh," he muttered. "Well here's this as a little don't kill me yet gi ."

He handed her a flower and a small stick and her heart immediately picked up speed. She made note of the ring on his finger and that just seemed to make the feeling worse. She took them in her hands before opening her back pack and putting them in.

"You still wear the ring?" they asked in unison.

Arden let out a laugh and Druig nervously chuckled.

"And the necklace," Arden added on.

"Well, of course ldid," he replied. "It made me feel like you were always there. Why do you still wear yours?"

"Same with you," she shrugged. "Plus couldn't bring up the courage to throw them out."

The two fell into an awkward silence. Druig trapped in his mind with the thought of how to carry on the conversation and Arden trapped with the unsure feeling locked in her chest. She couldn't tell what emotion she was feeling and she sure wish she did. Perhaps pushing him away would help her figure it out.

"You know, I've always wanted to run away," Arden admitted, desperately wanting the silence to end. She scolded herself for not just telling him to leave and instead of doing so again she continued speaking. "Even though we kind of had that option already."

"I mean not now because we kind of have to like save the world and stu ," she continued. "But I just wanted to like... I don't know go on a long car ride for ever and ever."

"Why haven't you?" Druig asked, feeling nothing but comfort as she spoke. He didn't know he missed her voice that much, the feeling made his whole body fill with guilt.

"I feel like something is holding me back," she mumbled. "Like how I wasn't allowed to leave Thena and Gilgamesh and when I was on my own I couldn't be gone for more than a few hours."

"You weren't allowed to leave?" he asked, his voice filled with nothing but disbelief.

"No I was, but that's the point. It's like my mind was convinced I wasn't allowed to leave even though I was But I realized. I just didn't want to be alone because going so long without a person is terrifying."

"Is that why you got a dog?" Druig asked, wrapping his arms around his knees.

"I think so," she mumbled, mimicking his actions. "I also had a two pet squirrels but apparently they're not good pets cuz i accidentally stepped on one and it died and the other hid in the oven so that wasn't very good."

"I also had a cat and a hamster but that also didn't end well."

"Oh," he mumbled, blinking in slight disbelief. "That's rough."

"Yeah."

The two fell into an awkward silence, Arden trailing her eyes on his figure as he fiddled with something in his hand. She was sure it was a rock but she couldn't be sure.

"I'm sorry," he whispered.

"No," she frowned.

"No? What do you mean no?" he sco ed. "Your pets died!"

"Oh," she mumbled. "I thought you were apologizing for something else but whatever i guess."

"What would I be apologizing for?" he asked, though he knew what she was talking about. He just wanted to do it in a far better way than a simple 'im sorry'.

"Are you joking right now? You're telling me that-"

"What?" Druig asked once Arden had stopped speaking.

She said nothing as screams and crashes from afar made the pair perk up. Jaws began to stand up, growling as he took his stance.

"You hear that?" Druig asked.

They looked up to see Ikaris fly across the sky, fighting a deviant in the process.

"Oh fuck we gotta go!" Arden shouted, grabbing his hand and running toward the village.

Jaws ran beside them and once she noticed, she stopped.

"Stay," she ordered. "I can't a ord you to get hurt."

As soon as they ran o again, they found the village. Druig reluctantly let go of her hand before picking up a shotgun and dodging the tail of the deviant. He jumped and dodged and shot and Arden couldn't help but stare in that split moment.

"Since when could he fight?" she whispered to herself, looking at his arms before shaking her head.

She looked around, running to the nearest deviant to help eliminate them.

She saw kingo attempt to make a ball and she rolled her eyes as Sprite distracted it. She ran forward mimicking the look of the deviant in front of her and a loud roar was heard coming from her throat. It charged at her and she stood her ground, jumping and digging her claws into its back flipping it around. She grew sharper teeth and dug it into its throat. It let out a yell and she pulled, it's blood leaving it's body immediately.

"What the hell Arden!" Kingo shouted, as she turned back. "I totally had that."

"That tasted so gross," she winced, gagging not far a er. "I need way more than bleach."

"Why did you bite it!" Sprite exclaimed. "We had it under control!"

"Because Kingo took forever and I do notwant to see you die!" Arden spat before she felt herself being pushed into the ground and dragged along. She was glad she had put her jacket back on otherwise her back would be cut up even more than it was.

With the help of Ikaris, the deviant had gotten o of her and became his problem. She sat up, feeling a trickling on her back and frowned.

Her prior injuries must have been reopened.

She brushed herself o , preparing to help Ikaris as they fought. They went through buildings and around the jungle before Ikaris got the lower hand.

As she watched Ikaris struggle as he was getting pinned down, she stood up

"Cool tree," Arden whispered as they all conversed. They had spoken before walking away, Ikaris flying ahead.

"Im just gonna lay here for a second," Arden mumbled as she watched the group get further and further away, though she knew they could care less.

Her back hit the ground and she let out a small wince before closing her eyes. She laid there for who knows how long, just keeping an ear out for any potential dangers.

Thenas cries caught Arden's attention. How she could hear thafar she didn't know, perhaps it was the form she was previously in that allowed herself to do so. She had only intended to hear her nearby area.

She picked herself up o the ground, immediately running to where she believed the sound was. Branches scraped her arms and cheeks for she was in a hurry and wanted nothing more to go toward the distress which made her run a little wobbly. Her back hurt like hell.

As soon as she found the rest of the eternals, they turned to her with sad looks on their faces.

"What happened," she hu ed out, looking around frantically.

"Arden," Ikaris spoke getting closer.

Her eyes met the body on the floor and her heart immediately leapt into her throat. She walked closer, pushing past Ikaris who tried to comfort her and she let out a cough when she saw Gilgamesh's limp body.

It felt di erent than when she was told the news about Ajak. Perhaps it was the fact she had yet to wrap her head around the fact the woman was dead or maybe it was just the lack of sight of her body made Arden not believe it.

But she saw Gilgamesh's body, it was rightin front of her.

The air felt tense around her as she stood there. The sound of Jaws behind her was all that she heard besides the sound of Thenas crying.

She took a step closer, avoiding Ikaris behind her who tried to get her attention, and crouched down.

"Gil?" she mumbled, a tear rolling down her cheek. "Wake up."

"Arden he's not gonna-"

"Wake up," she spoke sternly, as though she was speaking more to herself than Gilgamesh. "Please pleasewake up!"

To her it was all a dream. A sick dream that she just wanted to wake up from and face her sort of sad reality.

But this washer reality, and once she had come to accept it. .it could make her feel worse. Or better, one may never know. Her emotions didnt make sense at all.

Druig stared at her with a deep frown on his face. He wanted to go and comfort her, though he didnt know how. He knew how to before but for all he knew...things were completely di erent.

So he did what he thought would be best...he stayed away.

authors note!_____

I think got the fighting scenes mixed up but that doesnt matter I was STRUGGLING this chapter

when should i post my barry fic guys ☺

ALSO LOOK AT THIS PICTURE I FOUND OF HIM IM SO

Continue reading next part