ajak's betrayal

"What if I told you
I feel like I know
you? But we
never met."

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1953:

Druig nestles his head into the crook of my neck as I stare at the cloth tent above us. I run my hand through his hair as he sleeps contently beside me.

I hear footsteps approaching and the door of the tent opens. I raise my hand defensively and protectively in front of Druig. I see Ikaris and Ajak at the opening and my face drops.

I look down to Druig and Ajak motions for me to follow her.

How did she know?

I slowly and gently slide out from under Druig's grasp. I step out of the tent slowly and quietly. "I'll be right back, my love."

Ikaris kicks at the charred wood and says "Quite the damage that happened here. A forest fire, hm?"

I look down to the ground and Ajak says "It's quite alright, Gaia. Come back to South Dakota with us. Phastos is willing to help you with a real cure.."

I look up surprised saying "What? No that's possible. I've been in contact with Phastos and he is still struggling to find a cure in his busy schedule-"

Ikaris says "We can fix your issues. So you don't have to do all of **this** anymore."

I sigh and say "I realize you see this as a dangerous risk but Druig and I have this under control. I trust him and he.."

Ikaris says "What will you do when you eventually murder him with your bare hands and don't realize until you return from your episode with his blood on your hands. You can live with that?"

My heart wrenches in pain as fear settles in. Ajak says "You're becoming more dangerous daily. Let Phastos cure you..."

I look back to the tent and say "And then I'll return to my family?"

Ikaris says "Of course. Then you can return to your crazy ass boyfriend."

I clear my throat saying "Husband.. Druig is my husband."

Ikaris' eyes widen and he says "Wow you really le us out of the loop."

Ajak says "You'll promptly be returned to Druig as soon as the fix is made."

"Why can't we do it here? Can I at least speak with Druig and Makkari about it first?"

Ikaris says "It's too risky. Besides they won't even notice you gone."

"I need to say goodbye.."

They attempt to protest and I enter my tent ignoring them. I fall to my knees beside Druig. Sliding my ring o my finger and kissing his face in multiple places gently

"I'm sorry.. I will be back very soon to retrieve this and I'll no longer be a danger to you or others.."

I press my ring to his chest and close my eyes momentarily. I slide the hair out from his eyes and say "I love you and I'll be back before you even wake up. I promise."

I kiss his lips quickly and stand up promptly a er. I hear Druig hum in response to the kiss and my grin slips to my face but drops quickly as I quietly leave the tent.

I wipe the tears quickly and I look to Ajak and Ikaris who seem low on patience.

Doubts overwhelm me and I say "I'm sorry. I can't do that. I can't leave. This is my family. Druig will know as soon as I.."

Ajak says "He will be okay without you momentarily. You can return shortly a er. Think about all the humans and people you love dying at your hands and we can stop all of that with this simple action."

"Druig should know of this. He has control over my actions 99% of the time. He is learning from my mistakes every time. I don't need to find a cure! He is my cure! He's everything! This town and Makkari are everything! I can't leave! I can't and I won't."

Ikaris says "Gaia you will be back in a few hours! Nothing will happen here while you are gone. They are safer without you here!!"

My expression turns to guilt and I pull on my hands as I say "Druig won't react well if he can't sense me. As soon as I'm gone he will wake up and know. You don't understand. He will be so concerned. He can come with us right?"

Ajak says "Enough Gaia! Enough! No! Druig can't come with us. He will only interrupt the process! He will only get in the way. Know your place Gaia and listen to me!" frustrated with my arguing she nods to Ikaris

"I know my place and it is not at your command. I don't do that. Druig-!"

Ikaris hits me over the head and Ajak says "Took you long enough." As I collapse into Ikaris' arms

He says "Thanks for the distraction Aj."

She smiles to him and says "Just doing as arishem requested. As usual."

Two perfect soldiers for arishem. Disgusting honestly.

Quickly they migrate back to South Dakota, where Gaia's "cure" is. Phastos is nowhere in sight.

Phastos wasn't even called or located.

Not even surprising.

Arishem gave Ajak direct orders to erase Gaia's existence. He gave Ajak the choice of erasure or **elimination.**

Ikaris says "Why does Arishem wish for us to do this?"

"Know your place Ikaris." Ajak says harshly

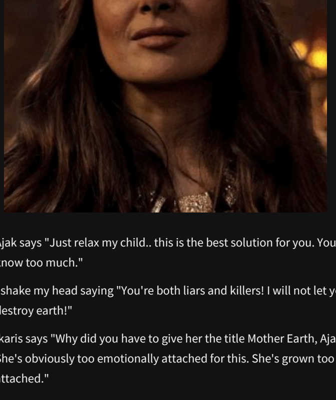
But in all honesty she isn't fully know why this must be done either.

Ikaris sighs saying "What do we do now? Find the ship or will you be erasing her here?"

Ajak says "I've spoken to Arishem, everything is sorted out. We just need to wait for her to wake. Gaia... wake."

I regain consciousness as I limply lay on the rug. I gasp for air as I shoot up to my feet holding my hands extended to them, ready to kill even though exhaustion is weighing heavily upon me.

I grit my teeth saying "You lied! You two always lie! First about our real mission and now you lied about having a cure! You can't do this."



Ajak says "Just relax my child.. this is the best solution for you. You know too much."

I shake my head saying "You're both liars and killers! I will not let you destroy earth!"

Ikaris says "Why did you have to give her the title Mother Earth, Ajak? She's obviously too emotionally attached for this. She's grown too attached."

"I have it handled Ikaris." Ajak snaps

I shake my head wildly as I back myself up into a wall and say "Druig will know. He will know what you did. He will find me."

Ikaris says "It's alright. We have that all covered. He won't be able to find you regardless of your condition. No true love or soulmate crap could bring you back together."

"Stay away from me!" I scream

Ajak says "Go ahead. Let your anger out Gaia. I don't wish to hurt you. This is for your own good. I promise. I could never hurt you."

I shake my head as tears roll down my face. My bottom lip quivers and I say "I want the truth and I want to know what you're going to do to me! Now! And I want to know why you betrayed me!"

Energy swirls in my hand as it scorches up Ikaris' arms. He winces and Ajak worries quickly as the walls around me... and the house around me begins to burn rapidly and dangerously

She says "Fine! We will tell you! Release Ikaris and the house this minute!"

I glare at her and say "You seem to be forgetting you're not the mind controller. You have no control over me. You made me leave him at **home**."

Ikaris sco s saying "Always one for jokes even in moments like this, Gaia!"

I sco saying "Always one for being a little bitch boy, Ikaris. Do you really have your head lodged up Arishems ass so high that you can't see what they're doing is wrong?!"

Ajak says "I've known all along what we are, Gaia! We are machines! Not real bodies. Listen to me okay? Our sole purpose of life is to develop humans so a celestial can be born at the destruction of the planet.. we've done it for centuries. Every planet is a new start."

My powers dissipate as I listen to her words. More worry and sadness creeping in as my anger begins to subside.

I release Ikaris and he sighs heavily as Ajak says "Arishem is our leader. He is our primary celestial we follow, for orders. We know our place and listen to it. You are nothing but a warrior. You belong to Arishem above all."

I stare at her bewildered "Who are you? You aren't my Ajak. Ikaris.. what happened to you both? I- I don't get it. Why am I such a threat that you pull me away from my family?"

Ikaris says "You lose control o en Gaia and Arishem can't allow for you to keep going on like this. You're conscious can't take the pain of murdering innocent people. You must be stopped and fixed."

I shake my head saying "This isn't because of that. Druig has me under control. I'm his responsibility. I had and should have a choice. I don't want to forget. I deserve the right to keep-"

Ajak says "Your broken and fragmented memories you see when you slip into mahd wr'ry is the life you previously had. In your case lives. You don't need to worry about the emergence. Unlike Sersi and Ikaris you and Druig are true cosmic soulmates. You reunite and find love within each other every single time."

Rage engulfs me and I scream "Don't you dare throw that in my face now! I deserve to remember everything I've had with him! You told us we were cosmic soulmates and now you're using it as manipulation to destroy me!"

Ajak says spitefully "And look at you... it's working."

I glare at her with an angry but shocked expression.

Ikaris speaks up and says "When Tiamut emergence happens this planet will be destroyed. Along with everyone on it. We will be reset and you will be corrected once again. Just as always. You will find Druig again and begin your endless cycle of romantic life with one another. Just the same as the other planets."

My scowl deepens as I keep at least 20 feet between Ajak, Ikaris, and I as I stand across the house from them. "I don't want another life. I want this one. I haven't finished this life. I didn't abandon him and he should never think that. I have to return to him and I can't return to Druig without my memories. You can't do that!"

Ajak says "He won't ever know. You won't ever have to tell him. You don't even have to return to him."

"No! You can't do that! He is my family. He's my husband and we've been together since the beginning. I can't just abandon him and Makkari. Makkari has been by my side since the beginning too. They never le my side. You can't do this! I won't let you do this! You can't overpower me."

I feel my anger spike as she spills every last detail and secret about the eternals.

My eyes widen and Ajak says "Gaia.. please just.. trust me. Please, my dear." Her eyes bare into me and I don't feel one bit of guilt or trust towards her

"I don't trust a single word out of your mouth. You never had our best interest at heart. You've always lied. The others may be stupid enough to blindly believe you but Makkari and Druig aren't. If you hurt me or erase me, they'll know. In time they'll know."

Ajak says "Perhaps they'll be next."

"No!"

I swipe my hand up firing towards them as I take o through the back porch. As soon as I escape the house a strong power comes from the sky containing me. Pulling my powers away from me.

Not allowing me to use my powers

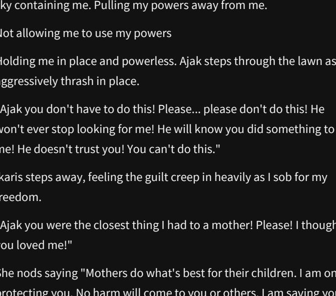
Holding me in place and powerless. Ajak steps through the lawn as I aggressively thrash in place.

"Ajak you don't have to do this! Please... please don't do this! He won't ever stop looking for me! He will know you did something to me! He doesn't trust you! You can't do this."

Ikaris steps away, feeling the guilt creep in heavily as I sob for my freedom.

"Ajak you were the closest thing I had to a mother! Please! I thought you loved me!"

She nods saying "Mothers do what's best for their children. I am only protecting you. No harm will come to you or others. I am saving your life Gaia."



I scream "I don't want to live in a world without the man I love! You can't do this to me!! Ajak! Ikaris! Please help me! You can't take away my family! You can't leave me powerless!"

Ikaris says "Ajak. Release her."

Ajak's attention slips to Ikaris and she says "Unless you wish to join her, respect and know your place."

"The others will know I didn't choose this! Phastos and Makkari will help Druig look! You're going to crush Sprite and make her think I abandoned her! Please! I have to be there for them."

Ikaris glares at the ground as Ajak says "It is time Gaia. There is nothing you can say that would change my decision."

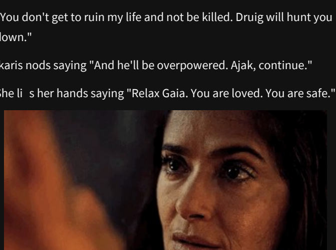
"I'll kill both of you the minute I remember my life."

Ajak freezes and Ikaris looks up abruptly. "Gaia.."

"You don't get to ruin my life and not be killed. Druig will hunt you down."

Ikaris nods saying "And he'll be overpowered. Ajak, continue."

She li s her hands saying "Relax Gaia. You are loved. You are safe."



"I'm not fucking safe! You're a liar!"

I push her o me roughly as I fight the control over me. "I hate you! Stay away from me!"

Her expression drops and she says "I'm sorry. But this has to be done. We love you.."

She extends her hands out towards me as I scream and wreathe in pain. Everything is being removed from me and it feels like I'm dying.

But maybe I'm flying.

I can't place the feelings but it hurts so badly.

The process finishes and I collapse onto the grass. My hands collapsing beside me as the pain dissipates.

Ajak says cautiously "Hello?"

"Hello." I look to Ajak blankly and Ikaris says "Hello, do you recognize us?"

I stand up and look around and then to them.

I narrow my eyes at them. It's on the tip of my tongue but I can't for the life of me process the names.

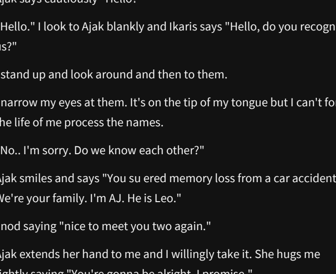
"No.. I'm sorry. Do we know each other?"

Ajak smiles and says "You su ered memory loss from a car accident. We're your family. I'm AJ. He is Leo."

I nod saying "nice to meet you two again."

Ajak extends her hand to me and I willingly take it. She hugs me tightly saying "You're gonna be alright. I promise."

I feel nothing currently. No emotions. No anger. No sadness. Numbness and emptiness.



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haley speaks!

hi guys. I was so depressed with a lot and this chapter was actually really hard to get out. I haven't even touched my other stories in awhile and the guilt is eating me alive but I feel so bad it's hard to explain. The song in the beginning is punisher by phoebe bridgers it's definitely one song that relates to Druig and Gaia's story

Anyway, I wanted to know if you liked this explanation and detail I added. I liked the depth it provided. I wanted to know if you guys wanted anything in specific in means of moments you'd like to be looked back on. Like previous lives or dates between Gaia and Druig. Or when Gaia met Eros. Gaia's reaction to Loki's death? Sprite and Gaia's connection?Makkari and Gaia adventures? What would you guys like to see? The books coming to a close but I'd like to add some bonus chapters.

Q&A: you guys gonna miss this story?

Continue reading next part