

# eight

"Druiq, wake up! I wanna show you something."

"Darling Vena, you do know that it's the middle of the night, right? People are trying to sleep. And by people, I mean me." Druiq groaned hiding his face under the pillow.

"This is payback for Egypt. You **have** to see this." I whined shaking him awake. "Please?"

"Can it wait 'til morning?"

"No, because it won't be there in the morning." I huddled sitting on his back and Druiq groaned removing the pillow from his head. "Hi!"

"What are you up to now, beautiful Vena?" Druiq smiled opening his eyes and I jumped on him.

"I want to show you something." I smiled pulling at his hand making him sit up. "You're going to like it."

"If I'm waking up at ungodly hours, that's debatable." He mumbled but followed me out of the Domo. "What is it that you want to show me, darling Vena?"

"Look." I pointed at the sky and laid down on the grass. "It's so pretty."

"A meteor shower? Is this what you wanted to show me?"

"Well... yeah. But you can go inside if you want to. I just thought you might like it." I shrugged looking at the shooting stars. "The humans say that if you see a shooting star and make a wish, it'll come true."

"Let's test that theory, shall we?" Druiq smiled laying down next to me and pointed at another shooting star. "Do you like this place, Vena?"

"I think it's my favorite so far. I think if I had a choice, I'd stay here instead of going back to Olympia." I shrugged.

"Do you ever miss Olympia?"

"I don't remember Olympia. I just remember coming to Earth to protect them from Deviants." I sighed closing my eyes and felt his gaze on me. "But I would like to live in a forest, maybe close to a waterfall. Away from it all, I guess."

"Away from the humans?"

"Depends. Considering we don't age, I think it'll be nice to have some peace after fighting Deviants for so long. Away from everyone else. A place where I could be myself, y'know? Just Vena. Not the Eternal or the goddess Hathor or Aphrodite. Just me." I spoke so softly and turned to face him smiling sofly.

"Maybe one day you can get that. Maybe you can get a moment of peace before we're needed back in Olympia." He shrugged holding my hand and gave it a small squeeze. "But you don't have to hide who you are, at least not from me."

"I get overly excited about stupid things. I'm sorry." I chuckled and Druiq rolled his eyes.

"That's who you are and you should never apologize for it. Besides, I enjoy it when you show me things like these."

"Promise?"

"I promise, beautiful Vena."

"For the last time, Ikaris! I don't need your stupid protection!" "You're being careless and someone could've died!"

"But they didn't! I lost control for a second! Now get on my ass and hop onto Sersi's before I drive a stick of fire up yours." I spat and pushed him back before storming to Phastos' lab.

"Nuh-uh. If you two are going to continue arguing, take it outside and away from me. I still haven't gotten around to fixing that wall over Vena drove Ikaris right through it." Phastos protested pushing us out of the lab.

"Look, I've had a good day so far. Saw a meteor shower last night, got new sandals, helped the humans with their crops. I do not need mother's favorite bossing me around telling me when I can and can't use my powers when all he does is shoot lasers out of his eyes." I smirked watching his eyes glow for a few seconds before turning back to normal. "Ooh, scary."

"When will you stop obsessing over these humans and focus on the mission, Vena? Do you want to go back to Olympia or not?" Ikaris yelled.

"Why don't you tell that to Sersi then?" I asked and pointed behind him. "Hi, Sersi! What do you have there?"

"Some stu... for Phastos and your bag that you left in the village... What's going on?" Sersi asked and I clapped my hands together.

"Oh, well you see. Dear Ikaris here was just telling me about..."

"Nothing. I was telling her nothing." Ikaris huddled and glared at me. "I was asking her about the meteor shower last night."

"Sure, whatever." I rolled my eyes and looked at the broken wall. "I'll help you fix it, Phastos."

"At least someone helps me." Phastos grumbled handing me another notebook. "You're welcome."

"And this is why you're one of my favorites." I smiled and sat on a corner. "And Ikaris is my least favorite."

"You just have to keep fueling that fire, huh Vena?" Sersi smirked and I shrugged.

"I've done it for two thousand years. Doubt it'll change now."

"Ajak, this won't work. My head hurts too much."

"Because you aren't concentrating enough."

"Why is Druiq here? I thought you and I were the only ones who know about this?"

"Pretend I'm not even here." Druiq smirked not looking up from one of my old notebooks. "And someone has to keep you sane if you lose control."

"Vena, just focus on the water solely on the blood and make me move two steps. That's it." Ajak instructed and I hesitated before my eyes glowed and I moved my hand lightly making her walk two steps towards me. "See? You did it!"

"My head still hurts." I groaned rubbing my temples as Druiq stepped in front of me. "No way, Ajaki! I'm not doing it!"

"He's erred, it'll be fine, Vena. As long as you solely focus on the water in the blood." Ajak said and I shook my head stepping away from Druiq.

"I could hurt him!"

"I'll be fine, beautiful Vena." Druiq tried to reason but I shook my head again. "You won't hurt me."

"Ajak, don't make me do this, please." I begged.

"You need to learn how to control these powers, Vena."

"This is a power I didn't want to have! I don't want it!" I exclaimed with tears in my eyes.

"Vena, look at me." Druiq whispered holding my face in his hands. "You won't hurt me. I trusted you to do this. You'll be okay and so will I."

"Damn you, Druiq." I chuckled wiping my tears and nodded at Ajak who was smiling at us.

"Make him walk until he is right in front of you. Druiq, could you please step on the other side of the room?" Ajak asked and Druiq nodded walking away from me. "Vena, whenever you're ready."

I let out a shaky breath as my eyes glowed again and Druiq started walking towards me slowly but surely. A few steps, he winced in pain and I immediately let go of my hold on him.

"No way. That's enough." I told Ajak rushing out of the room but Druiq had me in a mind hold stopping my movements. "You bitch!"

"Try again." Druiq spoke so softly letting me go and walked back to his original spot. "You can do it, darling Vena."

I nodded and I waved my hand as my eyes glowed and Druiq walked towards me faster this time. I waited until he was completely in front of me before I let him go and collapsed to the ground on my knees.

"I'm okay, we're okay." Druiq whispered placing his forehead on mine and rubbed my temples lightly. "You're okay."

"Never again, please. Don't make me do that to you again." I pleaded and pulled him into a hug.

"I think that's enough for today, Vena. You did so good." Ajak praised and I nodded. "Does your head still hurt?"

"Mhm." I mumbled on Druiq's shoulder and she rubbed my head lightly ceasing the headache before leaving. "Never make me do that to you again, please."

"He never make me mind control you, then. I hated doing that to you." He chuckled and broke away. "But you did so good, Vena."

"I hate it."

"But it's a part of you."

"If it gets too much, will you make me stop?" I asked and Druiq pursed his lips looking down. "Promise me that you'll make me stop if it gets too much, Druiq. I don't want to hurt anyone."

I heard the door open and Druiq and I immediately stepped away from each other to come face to face with Ikaris.

"Oh for the love of the Celestials, Ikaris! You've been on my ass the entire day! What could you possibly want now?!"

"I need your help!"

"I'm busy!" I yelled back and stood up rubbing my head. "And my headache's back, great!"

"Vena, please." Ikaris begged and I groaned handing him a flower I found earlier.

"You give her that and ask her what she did today or some shit. I don't know, I'm not a mind reader, that's Druiq. And please, let me know who embarrassing the moment was for you. Sprite, Makkari, Kingo and I have a bet going around."

"Not everyone has it so easy as you, Vena." Ikaris grumbled and I scooed.

"Who says I have it easy? Run along now. The sexual frustration is waiting for you." I smirked pushing him out of the room with a ball of air.

"Stop meddling in my thoughts, Vena!"

"It's not my fault they're so loud and disturbing! Like damn, have some pride once in a while." I shuddered and looked at Druiq who had an amused look on his face. "Whatever you do, don't read his mind. It's a dark and disturbing place."

"So I'm not the only one?" I shook my head and he sighed in relief. "Good, because his thoughts are way too loud."

"And disturbing." We said in unison and laughed.

"Still haven't heard you promise?" I smirked and he groaned. "Just promise me, please."

"I promise I'll stop you if you ever lose control, beautiful Vena."

"Now was that so hard?"

"Shut up."

"What in the name of the Prime Celestial Arnhem are you three doing?"

"I'm showing Vena the stu... I found today. Druiq joined a few moments ago, Makkari shrugged and showed us another small statue." That's Adonis. It's about time."

"Let me see that! Druiq took the statue from me and scooed." They got the face wrong. I look way better than that."

"And he admits it!" Kingo yelled rushing to the hallway. "Druiq admitted he's Adonis!"

"That's just narcissism on your part, Druiq." I chuckled handing the statue back to Makkari and looked at the rest of the Eternals who gathered in the lab around us. "May we help you?"

"This is new, I don't like it." Phastos said looking at me and Druiq. "Nope, go back to your mutual pining. I don't like this shit."

"I don't get it. I signed to Makkari who laughed.

"You're sitting on his lap. It's cute. Like his story about Aphrodite and Adonis. She smirked.

"I don't like this, nope. I don't like it. Someone do something because I hate it." Phastos said with a smirk on his face.

"Kingo is traumatized!" Thena teased.

"It's just scandalous! Aphrodite and Adonis together! It's a scandal!" Kingo exclaimed and shielded Sprite's eyes. "A scandal, I say! There are children present!"

"Yeah, you! Makkari smirked and handed us another artifact. "That's one of the interpretations of Aphrodite's story. Maybe one night Vena could continue it."

"If Vena continues Aphrodite's story, can we all sit in the front with the children? That should be a good one." Thena asked and I rolled my eyes.

"If you guys are gonna do this, can you at least fix my lab?" Phastos whined.

"I've erred, so has Gilgamesh, you're the one who hasn't called us and complains every single day about it." I shrugged leaning back on Druiq's chest. "Makkari, remind me to show you something tomorrow. I think you'll like it."

"Will do."

"That's because you drove Ikaris through a wall! And that's why Ajak said no more meetings in my lab!"

"And I'll gladly do it again! What's funny is that none of you bothered to ask why I drove Ikaris through a wall." I shrugged and Ikaris sent me a glare.

"Vena, don't you..."

"Hush! I wanna hear this." Sersi said sitting across from us. "Why did you do it?"

"Gilgamesh and Thena gave me a dare. Make Ikaris so mad that he loses his sanity." So I did. And he got so mad to the point where he tried to choke me again but I grabbed him, threw him towards the now missing wall."

"And!?" Phastos exclaimed.

"And I may or may not have used my powers to make sure he gets the message resulting in the wall breaking." I mumbled the last part and everyone bursted out laughing, except for Phastos and Ikaris. "In my defense, the prize for that dare was worth it."

"What was it?" Sprite asked between her fit of laughter. "And can you do that again someday?"

"The prize was Thena's eternal respect and I did her bidding for ten days." Gilgamesh shrugged. "I think Makkari was there that day."

"I play that moment in my mind every single time. Especially the look of fear Ikaris had."

"It wasn't fear!" Ikaris protested.

"It was. Vena can be quite terrifying when she wants to be." Druiq shrugged twirling a strand of my hair.

"That's what happens when you're part of a big family, Ikaris." Ajak chuckled and smiled at me and Druiq. "The little siblings can pick on the older ones. I consider it a miracle that Makkari, Sprite and our Aphrodite haven't joined in on teasing Kingo."

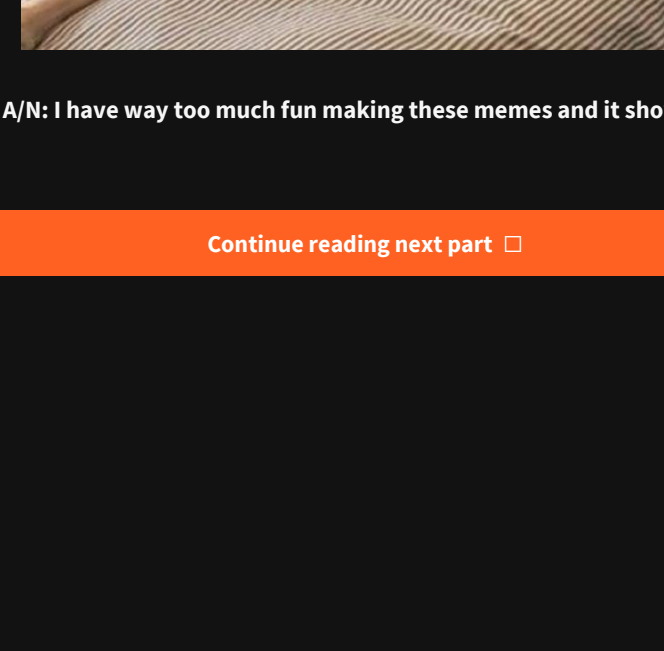
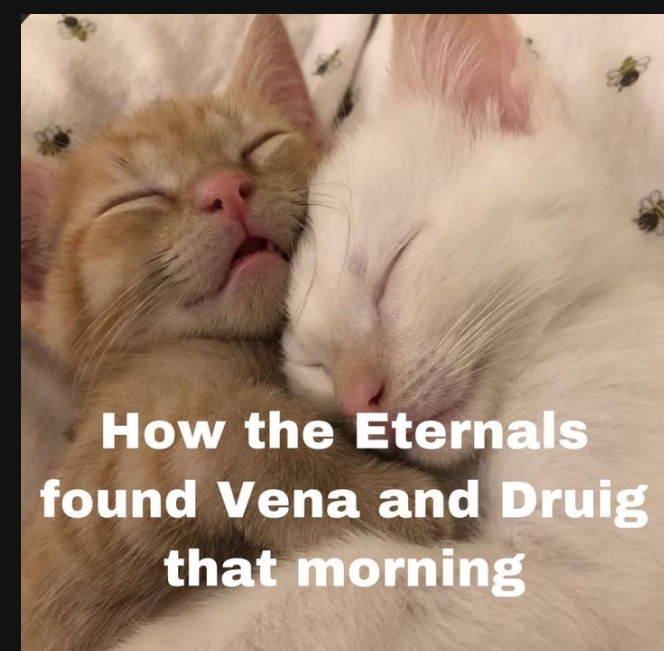
"They have. I live in a constant fear for my life, Ajak." I groaned

"He's not my sibling. More like an adopted rat that I'm forced to get along with." I smirked and watched as Ikaris' eyes glowed again.

"There's three other walls, Ikaris. And I'm positive that Phastos will be the one killing you if I break another wall."

"Damn right I will!"

## MEMES:



A/N: I have way too much fun making these memes and it shows!

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