



400 AD  
GUPTA EMPIRE

"May the gods herby bond you in matrimony, Congratulations" music and bells rang as the guy spoke in Sanskrit.

We all watched as they kiss. For that past few years I refrained from feeling others and focussed on my telepathic powers. We caught deviants and I was growing in strength and power. Druig and I have gotten closer as our teasing continued. Casual tripping, food stealing and locking in bathrooms happens.

"Beautiful beautiful Cora what brings you out here alone?" I heard druig walk up behind me. I continue looking at the stars as the celebration continues. I look down the porch we both stand on and see sprite showing another story with her powers.

"Hello druig. Isn't it beautiful?" I ask. I turn to see druig looking at me.

"Very." He said not breaking eye contact. I turn back at the people and smile.

"You know protecting these humans for hundreds of years it never gets old. What's your favorite part of all of this?" I ask and he turned to look at the village.

"The peace." He said and I smiled. Druig has a heart. I like that.

"Me too." He smiled once again pulling two pears out of his robe. I took one and we started eating together.

You know for someone so different from me, I like having him around. I like feeling his presence as he stands near me and I like feeling him when he touches me. Even if it's by accident I like it. I like it when he looks at me and has to look down. I like it when he makes sure I eat. I like it when he protects me even though I'm undoubtedly an more powerful than him... yeah I am. But it's just something about him. Him.

"Let's go down I want to dance." I smiled and grabbed his hand. Leading him down the stairs and into the party. I let go of his hand but he held on. I looked up at him and he was watching the crowd. I tightened my grip back up and smiled. I pulled him to everyone else and we let go so I can hug everyone as usual.

"Hi Gil! How are you?" I hug Gil and he hugs me back so tightly. I lost my breath and we let go.

"I'm great Cora!" He said and I go to hug Thena.

"Hey Thena! How's the party so far?" I ask and hug her. She looks at druig then me. I see he's still waiting for me. She throws a sly smile to me.

"Good." She said. Simple and sweet.

"Hey phastos, glad you finally came down!" I give him a big hug and he hugged back. A er we let go he spoke.

"It's pretty fun. I like it. If only I could go up just for a bit to work on the steam engine I want to give them in a few hundred years but someone said I can't." Phastos looked at Ajak next which I gave her a hug.

"Hi Cora. Druig may I have a word with you?" Ajaks let's go and I walk over to the food area where sprite was.

"Hey sprite pass me a piece of bread please!" She tosses me a small one which I finish in two bites. This young guy comes up to me and asks to dance.

"Will you come dance with me?" He smiled and I thought it was so adorable. I nodded my head and he pulled me to the music and we both started laughing and dancing.

A er the song nearly ended I saw druig as the guy spun me around. His talk with Ajak must have been upsetting because he looked mad.

"Mind if I have this dance." I said and his eyes glowed gold not allowing the young boy to speak. The young boy le and druigs eyes caught mine.

"Hey you can't just control whoever you want whenever you want." I said but he grabbed my waist and my hand and started dancing to the music.

I rolled my eyes and placed both hands on his shoulders pulling us closer.

"Whatever you guys talked about must have gotten you upset what's going on?" I asked druig. He looked at me and chuckled.

"What we talked about didn't upset me Cora." He said and we continued to dance slower as the song changed. I tilted my head.

"Then what did get you upset?" I asked. I know what it was. I want to hear him say it.

"Seeing you with another man Cora." He li ed my chin with his finger and looked at me. I smiled.

"Do you think this is funny?" He asked. I nodded my head and he smiled.

"I think it's cute." I smile as we continue to dance.

"I think you're beautiful." He said and I laid my hand on his chest. His heart beat. The only way I know what he feels.

"You know your heart races when I'm this close to you druig." I tell him and he holds me closer.

"Cora." He said my name and his heart raced even faster.

The music ended and I pulled away. We both smiled and looked at each other. I walked away smiling because I couldn't control my nervousness. I was nervous. I don't want to mess this up. What if I mess up my feelings again and something happens. What if my powers control my emotions too much I can't a ord anything like that to happen.

I walk back up to my room and change into normal clothes. I undo my hair that was in a braid leaving my hair down to get a quick snack and head back but someone entered.

"Why does it seem every time we get to that point we get pushed away." Druig walked in. I know what he's talking about. I can't risk losing him. I've grown to like like so much. I. Like Him. That's the problem I can't even feel anything on my own but when I'm with him I get nervous. I feel when I'm with him.

"I don't know what your talking about druig." I turn back around getting my snacks to head to my room.

He walked to me quickly cutting o my entrance.

"Oh my beautiful beautiful Cora. You know exactly what I'm talking about. You know that feeling you feel when I get this close to you." He walked as I backed up until I hit the wall. I dropped my snacks and looked at him. My heart beat racing again. My breath getting faster.

"Cora. Let me ask you something no one has ever asked you in the thousands of years we have been on this planet. How do YOU feel?" He looked at me and I touched his chest. Leaving a gap between us. I looked and him. No one has ever asked how I feel. Ever. And he knew. He's the only one.

I slowly pulled down my hand from his chest. Not breaking eye contact.

He brought his right hand up to my cheek and held me.

"Cora." druig spoke but someone walked in.

"Hello?" Phastos walked in. I pushed us from the wall to the opposite side hiding us in my room and closing my bedroom door. Druig pushed me against the door and held my mouth closed so I wouldn't make a sound.

I looked into his blue eyes and listen to what's going on our side. MY SNACKS.

"Oh snacks!" Phastos not I scrunched my eyebrows and druig quietly laughed at me.

We heard phastos pick up the snacks from the floor and head to his room. Druig slowly let go of my mouth and held me against the door.

"Druig those where my snacks for tonight." I said but druig rolled his eyes. Sassy.

"Oh please Cora don't act like you don't have a stash of snack in here." He laughed backing away. I nervously laugh.

"Ha ha ha you're so funny. Okay maybe I do what's it to ya?" I waved my hand and the entire mattress li ed to show snacks and drinks. He smirked at me and grabbed us something. I moved the mattress down and he sat down leaving room for me right next to him. I sat down and dug my body into his shoulder and relaxed. He handed me food and I ate and so did he.

We didn't even need to talk. Each other's presence was more than enough. Him being with me I mean near me .... Was enough. I liked this.

"Hey druig." I looked at him.

"Yes my Cora?" He said and I smiled. My cheeks heated up and I looked back down at my food.

"I like this." I said.

"I like this too." He tilted my head up to look at him.

"You're very very beautiful Cora." I can get used to this feeling. I touched his hand and I felt it. I

felt warm.

My hands connected and intertwined with his and I felt the energy the warm feeling. My cheeks got warmer noticing how close we were. I want him.

I looked at him and he was looking already at me switching his eye contact to my eyes and lips. I didn't need to use my powers to know what he felt. Neither did he. We both want each other.

"Cora?" He asked me.

"What." I said getting impatient. I want him.

"Can I kiss you?" Druig asked. I need him.

I pushed our lips together and he pulled me closer on top of him as he grabbed my waist.

I broke the kiss for air and he pushed us back together. A er hundreds of years taunting each other playing these games, I never would have thought.

We continued to kiss and his hands wrapped around me feeling my waist and back.

"Cora... I've wanted this for so long... I've wanted you..." he said in between kisses.

"I want you druig." I said

"I'm yours cora." He looked at me

A er than night we became inseparable and 400 years later we still are.

"Druig have you seen my brush?" I asked opening every drawer I had with my hand and closing then back up by dropping my hand. I walk a few doors down to druigs room and see my brush on the table. I grab it but something catches my eye.

A note.

"Druig? Are you around? No okay?" I whisper so I can read it.

Cora I I-

"What are you doing cora." Druig came in and quickly got in front of me pushing the stacks of papers covering the one paper I wanted to read.

"I was looking for my brush and found it right here." I smiled

"Right next to a paper that said my name! I wanna read it!" I giggled and tried to grab it from behind him. He smiled and li ed me up by my waist and laid me on the bed. We laughed as she spoke.

"No Cora that's for later. How about we go get something to eat?" He hid the paper and laid down right next to me. I scooted over and rested my head on his chest, listening to the steady beat and feeling his hand on my head.

"Why can't I read it? Is it something bad?" I ask and he stopped caressing my hair.

"No cora it's not. How about we go get you bread and forget this ever happened okay my love?" He picked me up and held out his hand to grab. I took it and we walked the halls.

"Hey lovers want to see this?" Phastos shows us his inventions that Ajak told him to make. Weapons.

"That's a lot of weapons phastos. I'm really proud of you but is all of this necessary?" I ask letting go of druigs hand to walk around and observe his creations.

"Ajak brought up the point that they need something to protect themselves with! Besides armor to fight back!" Phastos looked proud. I don't want to take that from him but why so much if we are here to protect them from the main predator?

"Protect themselves from what?" I asked.

"Each other." Druig said upset.

"The humans can protect themselves from other animals don't be ridiculous Druig." Phastos said. I looked at Druig. The humans have been turning more angry at each other. Creating sides, territories, and war. It's taking a toll on Druig. I know I can't feel him but we have spent hours talking about the development of humans. Druig wants peace. Humans want war.

"Let's go Druig." I pull him from the main room and hold his hand.

"Does it worry you Phastos is giving them so many weapons. Weapons we know they will use to murder each other?" He said very upset. I look at him and bring him to the window and sit us both down. Looking down at the town.

"Druig these humans need to learn on their own. yes it's awful I try not to feel what this is for. It hurts. But it's all for a reason. I trust Ajak and if she says this is for the best I will follow her lead." I look down at the town. Kids running around playing, couples doing stu together. It's beautiful.

"Cora you're too good for yourself." He said and walked away

"What does that mean?" I ran to catch up with him.

"It means you think the best in everyone. That's not true. The humans want war. I can change that. If Ajak really wanted this world to grow peacefully then why hasn't she let me stop the wars, the fighting, the killings?" Druig got even more upset.

"Listen Druig I know it must hurt to know that you have this ability that you can't use for the greater good. But we have to trust Ajax and Arishem. We were sent here to protect the humans from deviants not from each other you don't think I feel pain as much as I try to block it out all the emotions but I know you can stop this and create a better world but is a world basically enslaved to you better than their freedom? To love who they want and to create life on their own terms." I look at druig and hold his face so he can look at me.

"I want a peaceful world just as much as you do, we have to be patient okay?" I smiled and he smiled as well. He grabbed my hand and we were o.

A er eating Ajak called us.

"I deviants south of this town get ready guys." She le the room. I looked at Kingo and Gil and nodded my head. I le druig in the room and kissed his cheek so ly goodbye.

"Okay guys are you all ready?" I asked and smiled to Thena and Ikaris and Kingo. They nodded and we were o.

"Guys I don't see anything." Makkari signed. I agreed.

We were walking for a while and Ikaris flew above us. I don't see anyone.

"I see three! Right in front guys go!" Ikaris told us and I got in fighting position.

I see one go for Gil and I help him out.

I ran to his side and threw a tree at the deviant only angering it more. I closed my eyes and pushed my powers within the deviant.

I started to yell as I felt the deviants inside being pulled, my hands separated pulling the deviant apart in two pieces. Gil just looked at me with wide eyes.

"Jeez cora that's new!" He high-fived me but still used all his strength so I flew back and tripped. I laughed and he came running apologizing. I continue to laugh and smile!

"It's okay Gil! Let's go help the others." I was completely fine and we ran o to help makkari as she was circling another deviant throwing as many punches as she could. I used my force to hold down the deviant as Gil punched him into the ground knocking him out.

I signaled to Makkari that she did a good job.

I look in the air and see Ikaris flying battling another deviant. It looks as if he has it under control so I look to see Gil already helping Thena and Kingo out.

"Hey cora! Mind bringing this one down?" Ikaris said as he was physically holding the other deviant back I brought my hands in the air and held it closely. Pulling the deviant o Ikaris and with all my force. I pulled him down. He instantly made the gown shake once he impacted the ground and dirt flew in the air. What we all didn't expect to see was how deep I pushed him.

"Damn cora remind me to now mess with you when you are upset with lover boy." Kingo came from behind and I slapped his shoulder.

"Ah it's starting she's turning on us!" He laughed and he headed back to the Domo.

I turned back to see the deviant in the ground.

"You did great my love." druig greeted me and lead me back to his room. I fell on the bed and druig at him lean against the wall.

"Did you see how far I push that deviant to the ground?" I asked and he nodded.

"I think you're getting stronger by not using your empathy cora." He said and sat down. I laid my head on his lap.

"Cool, now you know never to make me mad or steal my food." I smirk at him and laugh. I get up and head to the door.

"I'll be back I'm going to go talk to phastos." I smiled and he nodded. I kissed his right cheek so ly and walked out.

I walked to his area and greeted him.

"Hey phastos mind if I borrow your locator?" I asked and sat on some books. He tossed me the locator to find deviants.

"Where is this?" I asked pointing to our next location. He looked at it and spoke.

"Tenochtitlan" I nodded my head okay

"A er this how many? Are out there?" I asked. He was putting together some form of weapon.

"I'm not sure how much more red is on there?" He asked. I showed him.

"Only that." I smiled.

"Then that's it." He laughed and I looked at his weapon.

"More weapons phastos?" I asked walking up to the mechanism.

"Well these are for when we arrive to tenochtitlan. They need protection too." He smiled. I hope he's right.

"Okay phastos I'm proud of you so far." I smile and Pat his back. I head to ajaks room.

"Hey Ajak do you have a second?" I walk in and she greets me I look to see Ikaris is also here.

"I can come back if I'm interrupting." I say.

"Of course not my cora how can I help you?" She smiled.

"Are you sure phastos should be making all these weapons? I mean if we were sent down here to protect these humans there shouldn't be a need for so many weapons. I even check phastos locator there aren't many le I" I looked to her and Ikaris stood up.

"Oh cora there is a lot you don't understand about this world." Ajak said.

"Cora don't question arishems plan. This is what he wants." Ikaris chimmed in. Woah excuse me. I felt that.

"I'm sorry Ikaris I'm asking Ajak, are you really sure giving these weapons to the humans is going to be ok? What if they continue the wars, marking territories, the deaths. Wouldn't that be our fault for helping them advance?" I asked getting concerned.

"Cora you're to Naive to be getting into this conversation leave it to us. If arishem wanted this then that's what he'll get." I turn to face him. I look into his eyes

Anger

"Listen Ikaris I came to talk to Ajak who is our prime eternal so back down. Know your place." I look back to Ajak and continue.

Anger

I continue to feel him

"Ajak what if we let druig stop the hatred so they can live a peaceful."

Anger

"A peaceful world. Weren't we sent down here to kill the deviants."

Anger

"Ugh to kill the deviants and protect the world so it can grow? How will."

ANGER

"For fucks sake SHUT UP!" I turn to Ikaris.

"I didn't say anything!" He got into my face.

"Well I can feel it! Over and over and over again I get it your mad! Go cry about it else wear!" I yell back

"Oh so you can try to convince Ajak to let your little boyfriend control everyone and take over!" He said looking down at me.

"Leave him out of this! What is wrong with you, psychol Back o!" I pushed him back and he got even more mad.

"Enough!" Ajak yelled. But this didn't stop Ikaris from feeling upset. He continued to tower over me.

"She started it. Let's be real who's the next in line a er Ajak. I'd watch what you say." My eyes widen at his response.

"I think you're forgetting who can crush your bones within a blink of an eye. Don't test me Ikaris. Better yet I dare you. You want to act like a little bitch. Come on." I push into his chest.

Suddenly I'm pulled away by my waist as phastos and sersi come in between us and Ajak looked shocked. I turn to see druig holding my waist. He didn't even look at me he was staring at Ikaris.

"Get your little girlfriend in check druig." Ikaris sad and sersi let go of Ikaris to look at him. Never in hundreds of years have we seen this side of him. A er I just questioned our purpose.

Druig let go of me and went to charge at Ikaris and it was my turn to hold him back. I grabbed his wrist and pulled him.

"Watch your mouth Ikaris." Druig looked more than mad. Ajak came between us.

"Enough. Everyone to their rooms now." She yelled and sent us away.

"Are you feeling okay?" Druig held my hands as we got to my door. I nodded and looked at him.

"I never knew how much anger was inside of him druig." He hugged me and held me and I closed my eyes. I searched for the source of anger on the Domo trying to find where it came from. He's heading outside.

"Okay well I'm going to go to bed druig I'm tired." I say and smile to him.

Druig nodded.

"Goodnight my beautiful cora." He kissed my right cheek so ly and headed to his room.

I closed my eyes again searching for that feeling. He's no longer angry but he's hurt.

Sorrow

What no I don't want to feel bad about it now. Damn. I close my eyes again to try and feel where he is and my eyes shoot open. I look at my door and open it with my right hand and see Ikaris about to knock.

"Can I come in." Ikaris said looking down.

"Sure." I pulled out the chair and let him sit on it then I closed the door leaving it a bit open in case something happens.

"Here to apologize?" I look at him and he nods.

"I'm sorry cora but I just can't have you interfering with arishems plan. He sent us down here for a reason and we have to stick by it." He said getting mad again.

"Are you kidding me? You came here to apologize but are getting mad again? Grow the fuck up Ikaris." I stood up.

"No okay okay I'm sorry. Sersi is mad at me and made me come here. I'm not sorry about what happened cora. You're not powerful, you need to be careful and not interfere with something you know nothing about." He stood up.

Is he going to really try something. I wave my hand behind my back and open druigs door. I keep my eye contact with Ikaris.

"Listen Ikaris. I don't give a rats ass what you think. If you think you can come in here and threaten me you are so wrong. I'm sorry but I need to do this. I can't have you hurting anyone else." I grab his hands and he looks at me.

I suck the cold painful emotion out of him and he drops to his knees. It was so much anger. So much pain. I feel it coursing through my veins touching my heart, cold as ice. I see my door open up to druig looking at us on our knees and I get tired. Ikaris pushed me o on the floor where I looked at the ceiling. Still cold. I looked to see Ikaris still mad. Where was he getting all this anger from and why can't I absorb it all at once? I see druig take Ikaris by the collar and throw him on the floor. He kicked him in the chest and closed my door locking it and ran to my side.

I'm shivering. I'm so cold.

"My cora are you okay?" I heard druig ask. I nodded and my hands were cold.

Druig held me and brought me up to my bed. He pulled the blanket over us and held me. I warmed up but that feeling was not normal. Whatever he was feeling or hiding. Wasn't normal.

"Go to bed my love I'll stay right here I promise. I'll always be here cora." I fell asleep in his arms. His legs wrapped around me and his chest as my pillow. I felt him kiss the top of my head and fall asleep with me.

Next stop tenochtitlan

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