



## A History pt. 2

**Location: Neath**

**Time: 250 years before the Emergence.**

The rectangular coliseum had walls that went three stories high and no roof. The tile was silver, much like the rest of the Neath Palace. Large emerald curtains covered the open windows between each column. Iris hit the hard tile and her face scrunched up with pain.

"Get up." A thin hand shot out in front of her. Thena stood with a golden weapon in hand and a small smile on her lips. "You hesitated." Iris wrapped her hand around Thena's. The tall blonde woman led her with ease. "You can never hesitate.

Artemis, Brigid and Makkari walked in. "We tested my theory." Artemis said and signed. "Makkari is faster than Brigid's light."

"You shouldn't be playing." Anu, who leaned against a column said with a scowl on her face. "We should be out looking for those beasts." 𐌿

"I like the way you think," Thena said. "Gil and I could accompany you on a scouting mission." She walked over to Anu who's scowl never left her lips.

"Thanks but, I'd rather work with my own." Anu pushed off the column and with a twirl of her hand, she disappeared. 𐌿

"Don't mind Anu." Artemis walked over to Thena. "She's a bit of an exclusionist." She grabbed her bow from a table.

"I won't," Thena said.

"Good because I'd like to take you up on that offer." She stretched out the bowstring and aimed it away from the others. "I'd like to see one of these beasts up close."

Makkari stepped up to Artemis, "I should go to." She signed. Artemis grinned, her so-hazel eyes meeting Makkari's.

"Nervous about me?" She signed and Makkari nudged her a smile growing on her lips. Artemis looked to Thena, "Ever thought of using a bow?" She asked and the three women walked toward one of the large openings.

Brigid stepped up to Iris, "Don't look now but, I believe someone has their eye on you." She whispered.

"What?" Iris's eyes widened and she turned around. In the far corner, the Eternal named Druig, sat with a book in one hand and a piece of fruit in the other. He glanced down at his book. 𐌿

"He always looks at you." Brigid said. Iris shook her head and looked back to her sister. "Sisters are not allowed to court or create soul bonds but, Esther has always treated you differently. You may be the only one that gets away with it."

"I would never go against the oath." Iris tucked her chin down. Brigid's head tilted to the side.

"I was told my whole life that the cave would bring bounty. That sisters have been born in the darkness and would continue for millions of years." Brigid said. "And yet Ethestia has told Esther you are the last. Perhaps now is the time to break oaths." 𐌿

Iris pondered on Brigid's words and her eyes lifted up to look at the man once more. He black suit, similar to his eternals, but also more unique than the others. In the last 50 years Esther had kept Iris to herself. They trained, and meditated, she passed her trials, she took the oath. But that spirit of curiosity could never be subdued out.

She moved across the room and stood an arms length from him. His eyes were trained on the book as she walked over but once she stood in front of him, he looked at her.

"Hello." He said

"I'm Iris." She said.

"I know," His lips curled up. "Why has Sister Esther kept you from the rest of the group for so long?"

"It's tradition." She said. "I had to pass my trial and take the oath." He stood up and glanced down at her.

"I'm glad that's done." His eyes scanned her face.

"Me too." She said. "Would you like to go on a walk?" She asked and felt her cheeks heat up. She didn't understand why.

"Yes, I would." He said.

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**240 years before the Emergence.**

The New Day, Samhain, was one of the few time that the sisters wore anything other than black. It came every 100 years. It was a time of renewal and revelry. Iris's favorite time of year. They took their veils off and went high into the mountains of Neath, where a stone hedge stood. What was different about this Samhain was the Eternals would be the first outsiders to take part in the tradition.

Iris's hair was long and wavy, flowers braided through out. Brigid placed gold paint on the sisters faces. There was ale and wine and lots of food. Lanterns hung from the trees around them. Eir, Hestia and Sol played instruments and sang.

"When do you dance?" Makkari signed to Artemis and Iris. She smiled up at Artemis who rolled her eyes.

"She's ready to make fun of me." Artemis said and signed.

"That's not true!" Makkari signed her grin growing bigger. "I heard that the sky changes color." 𐌿

"The sky changes color?" Kingo asked. "Can I request a color?" He took a sip from his copper gauntlet. 𐌿

"The sky doesn't change color." Artemis said. "The skies open up. So we can retain some cosmic energy for Neath."

"But if the sky changed color," Kingo's eyebrows raised, "It would definitely be purple, right?" He asked.

"If you want the sky to change color, just ask sprite." Makkari signed.

Kingo gasped, "You're so right." He said and signed. "Sprite!" He shouted and walked over to the young girl.

Iris laughed, "I think the ale is stronger than I remember." She glanced down at the glass in her hand.

"Is that such a bad thing?" A voice whispered in her ear. She jumped at the sound, goosebumps going down her neck. She spun around and Druig pressed a hand into her side.

"It could be." Iris said and took a step closer, "with you around." He pushed her hair over her shoulder. He leaned forward, his nose brushed against hers and his lips hovered over hers. She pressed a hand to his chest, "We shouldn't flaunt it." She whispered and her eyes trailed around at her sisters.

Artemis and Makkari had moved over to Thena and Gil, they were inseparable and yet Artemis never touched Makkari. "But why should we hide it?" He asked.

"Because others have to hide it too." She glanced back to Artemis and Makkari. She watched as Druig glanced over and his eyebrows raised. 𐌿

"I hadn't realized." He said and his hand slipped from around her. "It'll stay our little secret." He swiped his thumb across her cheek. He stepped away from her and moved over to Makkari and the others.

"In over 1,000 years," Anu appeared next to Iris, "no sister has been allowed to give themselves away. Here you stand at our most sacred ceremony, with a man you barely know, has he fucked you yet?" She asked. 𐌿

"Excuse me?" Iris asked.

"Is it everything and more?" Anu took a step closer. "One day when Ethestia judges you, will you have no regrets?"

"I asked for Esthers permission." Iris straightened her back and lifted her chin, "She got Ethestia's blessing and in turn so did I."

Anu's big brown eyes shined in the warm light of the night, "Trust me, Iris. I know that." She looked away from Iris, "But why you?" She asked to herself. 𐌿

"Sisters, guests," Esther stood in the center of the circle, "It is time." Her dark brown hair was woven in and out of antlers that she wore like a crown. "Every 100 years we are given the chance to recharge our energy, Ethestia's, and in turn Neath's. My sisters and I will perform an ancient spell and then the real festivities will begin.

The eternals stepped out of the circle, each stood in-between one of the stone hedges. Iris stood in the center with the rest of her sisters. Esther lit a torch by whispering an incantation. She knelt down and lifted the torch. Each sister took a torch and did the same, the spell was an incantation of a language long forgotten.

The sisters danced in different patterns, grabbing each others hands, raising the torch to the sky, spinning and jumping. The clouds in the sky parted, as the spell built and the sisters danced faster. They stopped, all in a circle, and raised their torch to the sky. The fires blew out all at once and the cosmos opened up. The universe was clear, stars didn't seem so far away, the colors of the universe were vast and unnamable.

Ajak clapped and the rest of the Eternals followed in suit. "That is magnificent." She said. "I've never seen anything like it." They moved back into the circle. Makkari ran over to Artemis.

Sersei glanced up to the sky, "I've never seen the cosmos quite like this." She grinned and turned to Ikaris. "It's beautiful isn't it?" She asked.

He smiled, not looking up to the sky once, "It is." He watched her in awe. Phastos and Ajak walked toward Esther and Morrigan.

"How is that possible?" Phastos asked.

"Magic." Morrigan answered. "Not everything is based in science." She crossed her arms a satisfied grin on her lips.

"And this fuels your magic?" Ajak asked Esther.

"Our magic, the harvest, our people's health." She said. "Without the Samhain we would Neath would be uninhabitable."

"This is way better than just purple." Kingo pointed up to the sky. "Sprite take notes. This is next level." 𐌿

"I can make illusions not open the atmosphere up." Sprite rolled her eyes. She glanced over to Ikaris and Sersei.

"It was incredible." Makkari signed. "You were," she paused and looked up to Artemis. Her eyes wide and lips parted.

"Are you okay?" Artemis asked.

"You were beautiful." Makkari finished her statement. Artemis rubbed her lips together and grabbed Makkari's hand. 𐌿

A hand wrapped around Iris's wrist and tugged her out of the circle. She knew just by the feel, it was Druig. He stepped behind a rock with her and pulled her close. Her back pressed against the stone hedge. The open sky gave a new kind of light, one that made his eyes look like they were made from millions of little constellations. He put his right hand on her cheek. 𐌿

"Your eyes are like emeralds right now." He said.

"Your eyes are like stars." She glanced down at his lips and brushed her thumb across them. Her left hand pressed against his chest.

"My sweet, Iris." He leaned closer, his weight pressed against her. He closed his eyes and brought his lips down against hers. She closed her eyes. His lips were so soft, her hand slipped into his hair. He kissed her gently, slowly, like if he pressed too hard she'd turn to dust.

He pulled back and pressed his forehead against hers. She kept her eyes closed revealing in the feeling on her lips. "Why have you never done that before?" She asked.

Druig's lips curled up in a smile and he laughed. "I promise I'll never stop." He kissed her once more and Iris felt as if she could melt away.

A/N

**5,000 reads.** 📖 📖 📖

**Thank you so much for your comments, continued favoriting and reads. I hope you've enjoyed this chapter.**

**I have question, would y'all like for me to get to the plot of the movie sooner or later? I have a very basic outline created, but, I'd like to take your suggestions into mind.**

**I will update again soon! I hope these longer chapters are fun. Let me know if you have any questions.** 𐌿

**Much love,  
Savannah**

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