A professional portrait of a woman with short dark hair, looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. She is wearing a black blazer over a white turtleneck and a necklace with a small rectangular pendant. The background is a blurred city skyline at sunset or sunrise, with warm orange and yellow tones.

Ubi Fredrick

**Rise of the
ALPHA FEMALE**

Rise of the Alpha Female. UBI Fredrick

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By

Ubi Fredrick

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Dedication



To the profound women who have contributed to my life and inspired my soul, the trailblazers, the resilient ones, and the leaders. For the women who dare to dream, who refuse to be silenced, and who rise above adversity. To my sisters, my friends, and the women who have paved the way. May Evelyn's journey empowers you to rise as the alpha woman you were meant to be, embracing your strength, wisdom, and power. May this book fuel your journey to greatness, and may the alpha female within you rise strong and proud, knowing that: "*Somebody has to remind Everybody that Anybody can make a difference, even a Nobody.*"



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Prelude



In the heart of the ocean, where the sun dips into the sea and paints the sky with hues of crimson and gold, lies the island of Kyralion. A place of ancient magic, where the whispers of the past weave through the palm trees and the waves hold secrets of the deep.

Here, the women are the guardians of tradition, the keepers of the flame. They are the matriarchs, the leaders, and the heart of the island. Theirs is a society of strength, resilience, and wisdom, forged in the fires of history and tempered by the power of the sea.

But beneath the surface of this tranquil paradise, tensions simmer. The winds of change are stirring, and the island's delicate balance is about to be disrupted. A new leader will emerge, one who will challenge the status quo and forge a new path for Kyralion.

The time of reckoning is near. The alpha female is rising.

Part 1

The Unexpected Odyssey

- 1. The Wreckage**
- 2. Island of No Return**
- 3. Stranded in a Strange Land**
- 4. Daughters of Kyralion**
- 5. Surviving the Unfamiliar**



Chapter 1: The Wreckage



The darkness of the stormy night was suffocating, like a living entity wrapping itself around Evelyn's throat. As the ship creaked and groaned, protesting the merciless assault of the stormy sea. Waves crashed against the hull, threatening to splinter the wood into a thousand pieces. Evelyn Ethan clung to the railing, her knuckles white, as the tempest raged on. The howling wind and the creaking of the ship's wooden hull filled her ears.

She had been on this ship for hours, traveling to a meeting for a robotic project exhibition. This meeting would define her career status in the world of Engineering and science that could change the course of her career in the 21st century.

Suddenly, a loud crack echoed through the air, followed by the sound of splintering wood. Evelyn's world turned upside down as the ship lurched violently. She lost her grip and tumbled across the deck, her head spinning, then she lost consciousness. The other passengers all scrambled for their lives as the ship began taking in more waters. Somehow Evelyn regained consciousness.

When she finally came to, Evelyn found herself disoriented and alone in a vast body of water. She was in the middle of nowhere. The storm had passed, leaving an eerie calm in its wake. She struggled to take control of the

floating surface she found herself on. A kind passenger has helped her on to the floating board. As she assessed her surroundings, she noticed the wreckages of the ship; the debris scattered across the water. She was alone, with no sign of rescue in sight.

Panic set in as Evelyn scanned the horizon. Where was she? How far from land? Would anyone come to save her? As the sun beat down on her, Evelyn's thoughts turned to her family, her friends, and her life before the shipwreck. Would she ever see them again? Then she struggled to remain focused, gazing out at the endless blue expanse, wondering if this would be her last day on earth. However, memories began to flood her mind. Memories of her childhood, her family, and her struggles.

Evelyn Ethan, a single young lady in her mid-30s, had grown up in a tough neighborhood raised by her loving mother, Janiyah and her beloved father Ethan. Despite the challenges they faced, Janiyah had instilled in Evelyn a strong sense of determination and resilience. Her father had been hard working, and her mother had worked multiple jobs to provide for her. Evelyn had learned to be independent and resourceful from a young age.

Growing in a less averaged financial family background, Evelyn carries with herself her father's words:

"Somebody has to remind everybody that anybody can make a difference, even a nobody."

The home of Evelyn's parents, Janiyah and Ethan, was peaceful and loving, a place where industriousness,

discipline and respect is highly prized as each person, even Evelyn, had to work on their weaknesses and struggle to keep them in check.

From a little, young and lovely baby girl, Evelyn has always proved to be a “wished-for or desired child”, as her name implies, to her parents. She grew to become an adorable teenager with good qualities and characters because of her good up bringing. She is respectful and considerate, helpful to others and intelligent.

While she had so many friends and admirers, like Anitha and Debby, some like Rita, Vannesa and Cathren would just hate her and bully her because of jealousy and envy of her outstanding qualities. As she navigates her way from junior high school to the work environment, she continues to be bullied by others and she endured. Still, many loved Evelyn for her endearing qualities.

As she grew older, Evelyn developed a passion for learning and self-improvement. She spent hours reading books and taking online courses in various subjects, making research and asking questions to improve her knowledge. She learned to accept good advice from older ones and associate with reasonable and kind people who care for others and her friendship for these loyal friends grew. As a multi-talented girl, Evelyn taught herself many new skills that help build her up.

She learned to speak her tribal language, the common language used by the people around her, the official language and sign language for the deaf. She could read level two Braille. Seeing the potentials in her daughter,

her parent encouraged and supported her in ways they could. Evelyn's became a self-driven, analytical, and confident individual with a strong sense of self-discipline.

Evelyn's upbringing had shaped her into a person with a strong work ethic and a desire to succeed. She had built a life on her own terms, working hard to create a better future for herself and her parents.

At present, she hangs on the surface of a wrecked ship, her past seemed like a distant memory. The present was all that mattered – survival. With a deep breath, Evelyn steeled herself for the unknown. She had to survive. She continues to scan her surroundings, looking for any signs of the wreckage that might be useful and any help in sight. The vast expanse of the ocean stretched out before her, a seemingly endless blue horizon. Evelyn's journey had just begun, and she had no idea what lay ahead.

With a newfound sense of determination, Evelyn began to scan her surroundings again, looking for any signs of wreckage that might be useful. She knew she had to act fast, or risk being lost at sea forever.

For hours, Evelyn held on to the floating reef as her life depends on it. The muscles in her arms were burning. The burning sensations was much. The hunger and thirst were exhausting. Every second that passed, it felt like letting go, but she has so much to offer and letting go would not be a soft choice to settle on. She had to remind herself that she can make a difference. She can survive. That determination was what she has got to act on and make it

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a reality. She has seen and lived worst days like this and giving up wasn't an option then, neither would it be now!

Gradually, the water waves pushed her to a land. She was becoming weak by the minutes and her hands couldn't hold much longer. As she frantically searched for her next line of action, Evelyn's eyes caught a glimpse of a figure in the distance.

“Could it be . . .? Am I finally going to find help?”

she wonders.



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With much exhaustion, Evelyn's heart skipped a beat as she squinted, trying to make out the figure. And then, everything went black.

When Evelyn came to, she was met with unfamiliar faces and a sense of unease.

"Where am I? . . . and . . . Who are you people?"

A mature woman, along with her companions, had helped to fish Evelyn out of the waters when she blanked out. They brought her to safety and resuscitated her on the seashore.

Though weak, she regained consciousness but could not stand on her own. So, they carried her to their settlement to stabilize and give her needed attention. As she was been taken, Evelyn could do little more than look on helplessly. With a kind face and an empathetic expression, the mature woman looked at Evelyn with a mixture of curiosity and concern.

"Welcome to Kyralion!"

She said, her voice firm but gentle.

"You're safe now."

Trying to process her surroundings, Evelyn's mind reeled.

"Kyralion!? . . . Where . . . and . . . What kind of place is Kyra' . . . Kyralion?"



Chapter 2: Island of No Return



For days, Evelyn rested and when she finally wakes up, she looked around and noticed the unfamiliar surroundings. She was in a small hut, surrounded by women who seemed to be watching her every move. One was checking her vital signs. Then, more women came



along to see her as others make preparation to assist the woman who was attending to her. Among them, three women stood out. The mature woman who had spoken to her days ago, presumably the leader of the group. She is a mature white woman in her 50s with curly white hairs. She stepped forward:

"Hi! I am Kamouri. I am the matriarchal head. I am called the Alpha."

she said.

"You are now in Kyralion. You've been with us for a few days and we've been taking care of you. You're safe here. You can remain with us as long as you wish."

Evelyn's mind was foggy, but she tried to piece together what had happened. She remembered the shipwreck, and then, nothing. How did she end up here? she wonders.

"Where am I?"

Evelyn asked, trying to sit up. Nudging her, Kharia, a warm-brown-skin woman, aged 62 with short dark hair, gently pushed her back down.

"You need to rest,"

Kharia said.

"You've been through a lot. We'll explain everything to you when you're feeling better."

Evelyn nodded, feeling a mix of gratitude and weakness. She didn't know these people or their intentions. But for

now, she had no choice but to trust them. Later, Evelyn was told that the three women were. Kamouri she is the Alpha. She is the head of the matriarchal leaders. Then the other two matriarchal leaders were Kharia, the adjudicator and Ky' Ayla who is the guardian. There are other matriarchal leaders who were not present but these are the prominent of them all.

As the days passed, Evelyn grew stronger. She learned that Kyralion was a matriarchal society, where women held the power and made the decisions. The island was self-sufficient, with its own farms, livestock, and artisans. The people are fishers and farmers with rich heritage beyond what they know. The women were skilled in various trades, from fishing to weaving.

Evelyn was fascinated by the island's culture and way of life. Although, Evelyn wished to return back to her world and her people, she was determined to learn the ways of this people and contribute to the community as a means of expressing her appreciation for saving her. Kamouri, sensing her eagerness, decided to speak with the other matriarchal leaders about Evelyn.

The matriarchal leaders agreed to welcome Evelyn into their midst and teach her all there is to know. Later, Kharia and Kaybri, an elderly and kind loving matriarchal leader, both came to Evelyn and told her the decision of the matriarchal leaders.

“It pleases us to let you know that the council of the matriarchal leaders have accepted that you can be taught in our ways.”

"Yes, you can get to know our culture and all there is to know about the island of Kyralion and its people."

The next day, Kamouri came to Evelyn and began to teach her various skills, from farming to self-defense. As Evelyn learned and grew, she began to feel a sense of belonging on the island. She formed close bonds with the women, particularly Kamouri, who became a mentor and friend. But she couldn't shake off the feeling that there was more to the island than what she was being told.

One night, as she walked along the beach, Evelyn stumbled upon a hidden cove. In the center of the cove was a small boat, partially hidden by the rocks. It looked seaworthy, and Evelyn felt a sudden urge to explore it.

What secrets laid hidden in the cove? What would happen if I decide to take the boat and sail into the unknown?

Evelyn thought to herself. As she approached the boat, Evelyn heard a voice behind her.

"You're not thinking of leaving us, are you?"

Kamouri asked, her eyes gleaming in the moonlight. Evelyn's heart skipped a beat.

How did Kamouri know? What would happen if I tried to leave?

Evelyn asked herself. Evelyn smiled, trying to appear nonchalant.

"I was just admiring the boat,"

she said.

"It's beautiful."

Kamouri's expression softened.

"I'm glad you like it. We've been working on restoring it for a while now."

Evelyn's curiosity got the better of her.

"What's its story?"

she asked, her eyes fixed on the boat. Kamouri leaned against the rocks, her eyes gazing out at the sea.

"It's an old fishing boat,"

she said.

"One of our elders found it wrecked on the shore years ago. We've been fixing it up ever since."

Evelyn nodded, her mind racing with questions. But she didn't press the issue, sensing that Kamouri was being cautious.

As the days passed, Evelyn long to return back to her life, her family and friends. However, that possibility continue to die off knowing that the island was isolated and hardly would people come by because it is hidden. Also, she was told that no one has ever left the island.

"But. . . how would you know since they wouldn't come back to tell you, they made it to the other side?"

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Evelyn would always ask innocently with curiosity. This question would always go unanswered. Hence, Evelyn decided to learn the ways of the islanders and grow on the island. She formed close bonds with the women; Keira and her twin sister Keaira, become close friends of her, along with their younger sister Kenaya. Evelyn's skills improved dramatically. But she couldn't shake off the feeling that there was more to the island than what she was being told.

One evening, as she sat with Kamouri on the beach, Evelyn decided to broach the subject.

"Kamouri, can I ask you something?"

she said, her voice low.

"Of course, Evelyn,"

Kamouri replied, her eyes sparkling in the firelight.

"What is it?"

"What do you know about the outside world?"

Evelyn asked, her voice barely above a whisper.

"I mean, beyond the island."

Kamouri's expression turned serious.

"We know enough,"

she said.

"We've had visitors before. We've learned to be self-sufficient and protect ourselves."

Evelyn sensed that there was more to the story, but Kamouri wasn't willing to share. She decided to drop the subject, but her mind was racing with questions.

As the night wore on, Evelyn realized that she was beginning to love the island and its people. Evelyn decided to stay more on the island and continue to learn and grow with the community. She felt a new sense of belonging and purpose from her new experiences. The women of Kyralion had taken her in and taught her valuable skills, and she was determined to contribute to the community and make a difference.

As she threw herself into her work and activities, Evelyn began to find happiness and it was fun for her. It was like she was exploring new field of life. So, she looked forward to every moment. She formed close bonds with the women, and they became like a family to her. She learned to appreciate the simple things in life and found joy in the beauty of nature and the kindness of the people around her.

Kamouri became a mentor and a friend to Evelyn, teaching her about leadership and responsibility. Evelyn proved to be a quick learner, and soon she was taking on more responsibilities and contributing to the community in meaningful ways. On the other hand, Ky' Ayla taught Evelyn tactical skills on survival in the wild and at the sea.

As time passed, Evelyn realized that she had found a new home on the island. She had found a sense of purpose and belonging, and she was determined to make the most of it.

The days turned into weeks, and the weeks turned into months. Evelyn grew stronger and more confident, and she began to see the island as her own. She knew that she would always carry the memories of her past with her, but she was excited about the future and the possibilities of what lies ahead.

One day, Kamouri together with Kharia and another matriarchal leader, Kaybri, all approached Evelyn with a serious look on their faces.

"Evelyn, I want to talk to you about something important,"

Kharia said.

"What's on your minds?"

Evelyn asked, feeling a sense of trepidation.

"We think it's time for you to take on a leadership role in the community. Your skill sets are outstanding."

Kamouri said.

"You've grown into a strong and capable woman, and we believe you have the potential to make a real difference here."

"Yes, Evie, the truth is, we need you."

Kaybri added, with a little bit of unsettledness and plead.

Evelyn was taken aback, but she felt a surge of excitement and gratitude. She knew that this was an opportunity she couldn't miss. So, she was determined to do her best.

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Evelyn accepted the assignment and tried to prove herself. She did well, consulting those with more experiences and learning from the corrections of others.

With Kamouri's guidance and support, Evelyn threw herself into her new role. She worked hard to learn the ins and outs of leadership and to make a positive impact on the community.

As she looked out at the island and its people, Evelyn knew that she had made the right decision. She had found a new home, a new family, and a new sense of purpose. And she was excited to see what the future held.

Thus, Evelyn embraced her new role and the opportunities that lies ahead, surrounded by the women of Kyralion who have become her family.

Firstly Kharia, educates Evelyn on the history of the island and the people.



Chapter 3: Stranded in a Strange Land



“Long ago,”

Kharia started slowly, her voice laced with melancholy.

“Some refugees of mixed race were fleeing from their homeland due to the raging war. For their lineage to continue, the men, our fathers, offered so costly as sacrifices for us to see today. The ultimate sacrifice.”

Kharia paused, as silent tears dripped down her eyes, revealing her deep emotions of living the past all over again. Evelyn could not help but imagine the pain of losing a loved one as cherished memories of her beloved father Ethan flashed across her mind. When Kharia have put herself together, she continued.

“They risked their lives to save their wives and children. Some of the women were pregnant. All the men but one, stayed back. He was Kendrick. He was allowed because he was wounded and his wife, Kyra, was pregnant at the time. Kendrick was to lead the women and children to safety to a faraway place, away from the world where the wars would hardly reach.”

Evelyn listened eagerly as Kharia continued. With stable tune, Kharia told Evelyn the origin of the name Kyralion.

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“Kyra was a courageous and strong-willed woman. She has a masculine stature and is feared by people when she is angry. At the time of their arrival, the land was crawling with many kinds of animals, including wild animals. Kyra was the only one who could face the animals head-on and fight them.”

With emphatic gestures, Kharia eagerly dramatized the next events as if she was reenacting it all over again.

“One day, a male lion made its way to the settlement of the islanders and injured some women and children. Kyra, despite her pregnancy, faced the lion and fought it.



It was a tough battle, and she was greatly injured, but in the end, she killed the lion. Thereafter, the people held her in high esteem and look up to her for directions, as their protector and their head.”

With her mind's eyes, Evelyn could cyber-render and see every detail of the events, the action-packed moment that send chills down the spine and feel the power and tension in every muscle that was stretched, the sound of strength as Kyra yells and the lion's roar, as Kharia narrates.

“After her heroic dual-to-the-death with the lion and prevailed, the islanders decided to name the island after her, for her acts of bravery, courage and valor. They called the island Kyra - Lion.”

Evelyn continues to nod in understanding as Kharia speaks. She explained how the animals were pushed into the woods and are theirs for hunting. Inquisitively, Evelyn asked.

“Have you people explored the island to know if you have neighbors or if there are other lands?”

Kharia then said in reply.

“Kyralion is an island in the middle of nowhere. With rugged hills top blanketed with thick foliage and forest, its copious vegetations covers most of the island. There are some rocky and barren woodlands in other areas. The large island have lush, tropical areas with some plane lands, and some running underground water surface to form some clean waterfall in some areas.

Kharia continued.

“Know this Evie, when it is hot, the area is too hot. When it is cold, the area is too cold. However, despite its harsh tropical nature, the people have found a way to survive. The island's diverse geography with rugged hills, lush tropical areas and rocky barren woodlands makes the island a blessing. Closest to Kyralion is a neighboring island with a mountain, stretching into the sky. The distance between the two islands is 3.2km and the bearing of the mountainous island is at NNE of Kyralion island.”

Evelyn wonders how she knows these precisions and the incredulous look in Evelyn's eyes was discovered.

“Any questions Evie?”

Kharia asked. And Evelyn replied.

“Ehm! Sorry, am not sure I was following. I seem to have been distracted by my thoughts. Could you please go through the points again? Or. . . Never mind.”

Kharia looked at Evelyn with love for her sincerity and politeness and asked Evelyn to summarized the points she was able to grab so far. Evelyn narrated in an outstanding way saying.

“Kyralion Island is a breathtakingly beautiful and lush tropical paradise, nestled in the heart of the ocean. The island's landscape is characterized by crystal-clear turquoise waters surrounding the island, teeming with marine life, coral reefs, and vibrant fish species.”

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“Its pristine white sand beaches line the shores, gently sloping into the calm waters, creating secluded coves and picturesque bays. With its dense, lush, emerald-green forests covering the interior of the island, and towering trees, exotic plants, and vines that stretch towards the sky, the island is a piece of beauty seen from the sky.”

“It is believed that our predecessors met some ancient ruins scattered throughout the island, hidden temples, and mysterious structures, whispering tales of a long-lost civilization.”



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“The island is a home to a wide variety of wildlife, including exotic birds, colorful butterflies, and unique species found nowhere else on earth.”

“The island's atmosphere is alive with the sounds of nature, and the scent of exotic flowers and saltwater fills the air. The climate is warm and tropical, with gentle trade winds that bring a sense of serenity to the island.”

“Kyralion Island is a place of wonder, where the boundaries between the island and the outside world is blur. It's a place where the inhabitants live in harmony with nature, respecting the land and its secrets.”

“Yes, we the islanders are known for our ways, as could be seen in our rich cultural heritage. We have a deep connection to our ancestors and the land, which is reflected in our vibrant culture, traditional practices, and beliefs.”

“The island is a strong matriarchal society which is led by a council of wise and powerful women, who have maintained the balance and harmony of the island for generations and have passed on the culture.”

“We have learned to live with the rhythms of nature, adapting to the changing tides, seasons, and challenges that come with living on a remote island.”

“Truly, Kyralion as an island is a place of beauty and wonder, where the old and the new coexist in harmony and the female rule supreme.”

Like an orator, Evelyn's mind has processed the information so perfectly that Kharia was amazed. To help her flow with her narration, Evelyn closed her eyes as she gestured while speaking. At a point, she started translating her speech into sign language and was synchronous. People around started coming in to see and hear her and many came to like her just a little more.

Not until she finished and opened her eyes did she noticed the crowded audience she has unconsciously attracted. They welcomed her with a resounding applause and a standing ovation. Some matriarchal leaders who were present commended her for her intelligence.

“She spoke like a matriarchal leader. Is she one?”

Some of the islanders asked. Others were saying:

“Make her one.”

No doubt, in Evelyn's mind, she finds it difficult to understand some of the island's customs and traditions, why they continue to pass on some traditions and why some ways are as it is.

Kharia's attention was needed by the people so they ended the lesson as Kharia went to addend to a matter. That night, as Evelyn lay down, she had some unanswered questions. Evelyn couldn't shake off the feeling that she was being watched. She looked around the hut, but saw nothing out of the ordinary. Suddenly, she heard a faint scratching sound coming from outside. It was soft, but it sent a shiver down her spine.



Chapter 4: Daughters of Kyralion



Evelyn's heart was racing as she slowly got out of bed. She tried to move quietly, not wanting to wake the other women in the hut. The scratching sound had stopped, but she was determined to investigate.

She slipped out of the hut and into the night, the cool air hitting her like a slap in the face. The moon was full overhead, casting an eerie glow over the island. Evelyn's eyes scanned the surroundings, but she saw nothing out of the ordinary.

As she moved closer to the source of the noise, she noticed that it seemed to be coming from a small shed on the outskirts of the village. The door was slightly ajar, and Evelyn's curiosity got the better of her.

She pushed the door open slowly, her heart pounding in her chest. The shed was dimly lit, but she could make out the shape of a figure huddled in the corner.

"Hello?"

Evelyn called out, her voice barely above a whisper. The figure slowly stood up, and Evelyn's eyes widened as she saw that it was one of the older women, her face lined with age and wisdom.

"Kenslynn!?"

Evelyn asked, confusion etched on her face.

"What are you doing here?"

Kenslynn's expression was guarded, and she glanced around the shed nervously.

"I could ask you the same thing,"

she said.

"What are you doing out here?"

Evelyn hesitated, unsure of how to respond. She didn't want to accuse Kenslynn of anything, but she needed answers. Kenslynn is one of the matriarchal leaders of the island. For her to be in the wrong place at the wrong time made Evelyn to raise her doubts about her true identity. In reply, Evelyn said.

"I, I heard a noise. . . so, I was trying to investigate."

Kenslynn nodded, her expression softening.

"I think we need to talk,"

she said.

"But not here. Meet me at the old windmill on the eastside of the island. Come alone."

With that, Kenslynn disappeared into the night, leaving Evelyn feeling more confused than ever. Evelyn's heart was racing as she followed Kenslynn's instructions. She made her way to the old windmill on the east side of the island, her senses on high alert.

What did Kenslynn want to talk about? And why did she seem so secretive?

Evelyn kept asking herself. As she approached the windmill, Evelyn saw Kenslynn standing in the shadows.

"Thanks for coming,"

Kenslynn said, her voice low.

"I think it's time I told you some things about this island."

Evelyn's curiosity was piqued.

"What kind of things?"

she asked.

Kenslynn hesitated, then began to speak.

"This island has a history, one that's not widely known. We've had...visitors before, people who weren't always friendly. We've learned to be careful, to protect ourselves and our way of life."

Evelyn's eyes widened as she listened. She had sensed that there was more to the island than met the eyes, but she had no idea what more it could be.

"What kind of visitors?"

she asked, her voice barely above a whisper. Kenslynn's expression turned serious.

"People who want to exploit our resources, or disrupt our way of life. We've had to defend the island, to keep its people safe."

Evelyn's mind was reeling. She had never thought about the island being vulnerable to outside threats. Previously, she was told that people hardly locate the island, but now it sounds like a frequent and determined invasion. Remembering the small vessel which she saw previously in the cove, she asked.

"But what about the small boat in the cove, partially hidden by the rocks along the beach?"

Kenslynn's expression turned guarded.

"Oh! The boat. That's a way off the island. Not for all."
she said.

"But it's not safe for everyone. We have to be careful."

Evelyn nodded, her mind racing with questions. She was beginning to understand that the island was more than just a peaceful community – it was a refuge, a sanctuary. As they talked, Evelyn realized that she had stumbled upon something much bigger than herself. She was torn between her desire to learn more and her loyalty to the women of Kyralion.

Evelyn tried to focus on her role in the community, but her mind kept wandering back to the conversation with Kenslynn. She couldn't shake off the feeling that there was more to the island's secrets than what Kenslynn had let on.

As she went about her daily tasks, Evelyn found herself observing the island's women more closely. She noticed that some of them seemed to be watching her, their eyes lingering on her with a mixture of curiosity and suspicion.

Evelyn's inquisitive nature got the better of her, and she began to ask more questions. She started with small, seemingly innocuous queries, trying to gauge the reactions of the women around her.

"Where are your men and boys?"

she would ask,

". . . or are there no male in the island? I haven't seen any male for months since I came in to this island"

The women would exchange nervous glances, and their responses would be evasive or vague. Evelyn's curiosity was piqued even more. What were they hiding?

One night, Evelyn decided to sneak out of her hut and do some investigating. She made her way to the island's central hub, where the women often gathered to socialize and share stories.

As she approached the hub, she noticed a piece of parchment tacked to the door. It was a cryptic message, scrawled in hasty handwriting:

"@ 00:00hrs, Old Lighthouse, Meet Me. Alone."

Evelyn's heart skipped a beat.

Who could have written this? And what did they want? I can't resist.

She muffled to herself. At midnight, Evelyn snuck out of her hut and made her way to the old lighthouse. The moon was full overhead, casting an eerie glow over the island. As she approached the lighthouse, a figure emerged from the shadows. She is a young and determined lady in her late-20s, she is dark in completion and dressed in brown fiber wears. Her dark braided hair flows from the back of her head like water falling cascading down from a height.

The islanders consider her to be unstable and a threat to their system as her ideas are diametrically opposed to their ways, customs and beliefs. Since they do not have a law on to punish females, she was let alone, but the islanders don't associate with her nor do they communicate with her. She is considered an outlaw.

"Hello, Evelyn, I'm glad you came,"

she said quietly. Evelyn held a fire touch in between them.

"My name is Kerrington. I've been watching you for months, and I think there are things you need to know about this island."

Evelyn's heart was racing, as she voiced out her thoughts.

"What things again!? Look, I'm leaving."

Containing her curiosity, Evelyn said in her mind:

What does she want from me? What information could Kerrington possibly have and want to share with me?



Unlike her, Evelyn turned around and left Kerrington who was standing there ready to bond with Evelyn. As Evelyn left the lighthouse she went to Kamouri – the Alpha Female, and reported about Kerrington. Evelyn wasn't sure what Kerrington's intentions were, and she didn't want to risk causing any trouble.

As she approached Kamouri's hut, she saw Kamouri sitting outside, her eyes fixed on the stars.

"Kamouri, I need to talk to you about something,"

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Evelyn said, her voice low. Kamouri looked up, her expression serious.

"What is it, Evelyn?"

Evelyn took a deep breath and explained the situation.

"I got a message from Kerrington, asking me to meet her at the old lighthouse. I didn't go, but I thought you should know."

Kamouri's expression turned grave.

"You did the right thing, Evelyn. Kerrington's not someone you should be talking to."

Evelyn's curiosity was piqued.

"What's going on, Kamouri? What's happening on this island?"

Kamouri sighed, her eyes scanning the surroundings before focusing on Evelyn.

"Kerrington's part of a group that doesn't agree with our way of life. They think we should be more open to the outside world, that we're missing out on opportunities."

Evelyn's eyes widened.

"That doesn't sound so bad."

Kamouri's expression turned stern.

"It's not that simple, Evelyn. There are people out there who would exploit our resources, hurt our people. We've

worked hard to build a safe community here. We can't let our guard down."

Evelyn nodded, understanding. She felt a surge of loyalty to the island and its people.

As they talked, Evelyn realized that there was more to Kamouri than met the eye. She was a complex and multifaceted person, driven by a deep sense of loyalty and responsibility. However, Evelyn's curiosity wasn't fully satisfied. She still had questions, still wondered about the island's secrets.

The island of Kyralion loomed before Evelyn, its secrets hidden behind a veil of mystery. She had been on the island for weeks, but she still felt like an outsider. The women of Kyralion were friendly and welcoming, but there was a sense of guardedness, a sense that they were hiding something.

As she walked along the beach, Evelyn stumbled upon an old, weathered book buried in the sand. She picked it up, brushing off the dirt and sand, and began to flip through its yellowed pages.

The book was a history of the island, written by one of its earliest inhabitants. As Evelyn read, she discovered that the island had been founded by a group of women who had fled their homes to escape persecution and war. They had named the island Kyralion, which meant "haven or sanctuary" in an ancient language and for some, it means "the protection of Kyra" or "the Lion of Kyra".

The women had worked tirelessly to build a new life on the island, cultivating the land, building homes, and creating a thriving community. They had developed a unique culture, one that was centered around the principles of cooperation, mutual respect, and trust.

As Evelyn read on, she became increasingly fascinated by the history of the island. She learned about the struggles the women had faced, the challenges they had overcome, and the triumphs they had achieved. But as she turned the page, Evelyn's eyes landed on a passage that made her heart skip a beat. It was a warning, written in bold letters:

"Danger lurks beyond the horizon."
"Protect the island at all costs."

Evelyn's mind was racing.

What kind of danger had the island faced? And from who?

Just then, she heard a voice behind her.

"Evelyn, what are you doing?"

Evelyn turned to see Kharia standing behind her, a look of concern on her face.

"I was just...I found this book,"

Evelyn stammered, holding up the book. Kharia's expression changed, and she reached out to take the book from Evelyn and flipped through its pages.

"I think it's time I told you more about the island's history,"

she said. Evelyn nodded.

"Yes, I have a question that have been bothering me for long."

Her heart racing with anticipation.

"Where are the men and boys of the island?"

Evelyn asked, as they both sat down opposite each other on logs of wood at the beach, watching the returning water waves as it keeps kissing the shorelines.

"I thought you would never ask."

Kharia said as she braced to tell her more about the history of the predecessors. Evelyn listened with rapt attention. Kharia's expression turned somber, and she nodded slowly.

"The island's history is a painful one, but it's a part of who we are. You need to know."

Evelyn leaned in, her eyes locked on Kharia's.

"I'm listening."

Kharia took a deep breath and began to tell the story of Kyra, the woman whom the island was named after.

"Kyra was a strong-willed and determined woman, she said, her voice filled with reverence."

Kharia said.

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"She and her husband, Kendrick, were part of a group of survivors who fled their homes to escape war and persecution. He was the only man who made it to this blessed island amidst the women and children. They vowed to start anew."

As Kharia spoke, Evelyn's mind conjured up images of the brave women who had struggled to survive on the island. She pictured Kyra, her eyes blazing with determination, her heart filled with a fierce love for her new home. Then, Kamouri and Kaybri came and join them on the logs.



Evelyn rose and sat with Kharia on the same log, while Kamouri sat to the left side of Evelyn and Kharia and Kaybri to their right, both on different logs and all facing the sea as they continued their discussion.

"Kyra and Kendrick worked together to build a life on the island. She was fiercely independent and resourceful. Although pregnant at the time, she did not backdown. She was determined to protect herself and her unborn child. When a lion attacked, she fought it with every ounce of strength she had, and emerged victorious"

Kharia continued. Evelyn's eyes widened in awe as she listened to the story.

"That's incredible,"

she breathed.

"But Kyra's story isn't just one of just courage,"

Kharia said, her voice dropping to a whisper.

"It's also a story of heartbreak and betrayal. Kendrick's infidelity rocked Kyra's world. She was devastated, and she felt betrayed."

Evelyn's heart went out to Kyra, and she felt a deep sense of empathy for the woman who had been hurt so deeply. She could well imagine the pain and anguish Kyra must have felt, but Evelyn could not justify the effects on others males who were born much later.

"Kyra was a proud woman, and she couldn't forgive Kendrick's transgression,"

Kharia said.

"She banished him from the island, but since no one could leave the island, he remained, a shadow of his former self. Thereafter, she vowed to never let any man be seen on the island again. From that day on, Kyra ruled the island with an iron fist. She decreed that men would be treated as outcasts and nameless, and that only women would be given names starting with the letter K."

Evelyn's eyes widened as she realized the significance of Kharia's words.

"That's why there are only women on the island?"

She asked. Kharia nodded.

"Yes. Kyra's decision to exile men from the island was a defining moment in our history. She wanted to create a safe space for women, where they could live without fear of oppression or abuse."

"What about the male children?"

Evelyn asked,

"They too were exiled. They would grow and follow their father's path. Since they could not leave the island, they were assigned a secluded, secured and guided place, and are kept for slavery and breeding purposes only."

Kamouri responded. Evelyn's mind was filled with questions. She wanted to know more about the island's history, about the women who had come before her. So, she asked.

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"I read about the name Kyralion. It was said it means 'haven or sanctuary' could you please explain further?"

Evelyn asked. Kaybri smiled and responded.

"The people of this island call it Kyralion. For some, it means 'the Lion of Kyra', a testament to her bravery and strength. For others, it means 'Kyra is as strong as a lion', a reminder of her unwavering determination. Kyralion is a combination of Kyra's name and the word 'lion.' It symbolizes strength, courage, and resilience. We are the lionesses of Kyralion, and we will always stand strong."



As Evelyn listened to the discussions, she felt a sense of awe and respect for the women of Kyralion. She realized that the women of Kyralion were not just survivors; they were also the descendants of a woman who had been hurt deeply. But as she looked at Kharia, Evelyn saw a glimmer of sadness in her eyes.

"Kharia, there's more to the story, isn't there?"

Evelyn asked gently. Kharia nodded, her voice barely above a whisper.

"There are still pain and guilt that lingers. Kendrick's infidelity was a wound that never healed. For every male, born of woman, on the island, they are reminded of the painful betrayal that their fathers and forefathers caused as they would have to let go their sons to slavery and breeding of life."

When they have all finished educating her, Evelyn said, her voice filled with emotion.

"I'm grateful for your lessons, my matriarchs, I feel like I'm starting to understand the island and its people."

Kharia smiled, her eyes warm with approval.

"Now you've known the strength and resilience of the women of Kyralion."

Evelyn's heart went out to the women of Kyralion, and she felt a deep sense of empathy for their struggles. She realized that the island's history was complex, and that there were many sides to the story. The island of Kyralion

rose majestically from the sea, its rugged hills and lush vegetation a testament to the unforgiving power of nature. Evelyn stood on the shore, the salty spray mingling with her tears as she listened to the story of the island's history.

As the sun dipped below the horizon, casting long shadows across the sand, Evelyn knew that she had only scratched the surface of the island's history. But she was determined to learn more, to understand the complexities of the women who called Kyralion home.

She learned much more about the island's founders, their struggles and triumphs, and the secrets they had kept hidden for so long. But as the story unfolded, Evelyn realized that she was not just a passive listener. She was a part of the island's history, and the island's history was a part of her. As she walked back to her hut, Evelyn felt a strong sense of determination to face the challenges that lay ahead as she would work to right the wrongs.



Chapter 5: Surviving the Unfamiliar



Evelyn stood on the beach, the warm sun beating down on her skin. She was surrounded by the women of Kyralion, all of whom were busy preparing for the day's tasks.

Kaida, the hand of the Alpha, as the servant-lady to the matriarchal head is called, approached Evelyn with a basket slung over her arm. Coming behind her was the Alpha female, Kamouri.

"Today, we're going to learn about foraging for food,"

Kamouri said, her eyes sparkling with enthusiasm.

"It's one of the most important skills you'll need to survive on the island."

Evelyn nodded, feeling a sense of excitement. She had always been interested in learning new skills, and this seemed like a great opportunity for her to explore the vast forest of Kyralion. Evelyn can't wait as she speedup the winding partway to ready herself.

As they set off into the wilderness, Kamouri taught Evelyn about the different types of plants that were safe to eat. They walked through the forest, Kamouri pointing out various berries, leaves, and roots that could be used for food. Kaida was attentive to do the bidding for her mistress, Kamouri. Evelyn and Kamouri picked and plucked some fruits and leaves, while Kaida carried the

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basket and walked along with them as they all discussed together. They were excited as to see the joy in the eyes of Evelyn as she examined different natural fruits, vegetations that were grown naturally without fertilizers or other chemicals of her world.

Evelyn listened intently, her senses heightened as she took



in the sights and sounds of the forest. She was determined to learn as much as she could, and she was grateful to have Kamouri as a teacher and Kaida assisting with the basket.

As they foraged, Kamouri shared other stories about the island's history and the women who had come before them. Evelyn listened with rapt attention, feeling a sense of connection to the land and the people.

After a few hours of foraging, they returned to the village, their baskets full of fresh produce. The women worked together to prepare the food, chopping and cooking it over an open flame.

Evelyn watched, fascinated by the way the women worked together. She felt a sense of belonging, of being part of a community.

As they sat down to eat, Kamouri turned to Evelyn and smiled.

"You're natural,"

she said.

"You're going to fit in just fine here."

Evelyn smiled back, feeling a sense of pride and accomplishment. She knew that she still had a lot to learn, but she was excited for the challenge.

As they ate, Evelyn couldn't help but feel grateful for this new chapter in her life. She was learning to survive on the island, and she was discovering a sense of purpose and belonging.

But as the sun began to set, Evelyn's thoughts turned to the challenges that lay ahead. She knew that the island

wasn't without its dangers, and she wondered what the future held.

*Would I be able to adapt to the island's way of life?
Would I be able to contribute to the community? What
lies beyond the horizon, waiting to be discovered?*

Evelyn's heart was racing with keenness as she looked out at the sea. She knew that she was just beginning her journey, and she was excited to see what the future holds.

As the stars began to twinkle in the night sky, Evelyn felt a sense of peace wash over her. Although, she misses her parents and friends, she knew that she was exactly where she was meant to be.

The women of Kyralion were a diverse and dynamic group, each with their own unique personalities and skills. There was Kamouri, the head of the matriarchal leaders who is called the *Alpha Female* and Evelyn considers her as her mentor; Kharia, the just and wise older matriarchal leader who is the adjudicator and whom she sees as a mother; also, Ky' Ayla, an energetic, elegant, matriarchal leader who defends the island as the guardian along with her lady companions. Yes, there are many others, each with their own strengths and abilities and their story for future generation to know.

As Evelyn drifted off to sleep, she felt a sense of gratitude towards these women. They had taken her in, taught her new skills, and shown her a sense of belonging.

And as she slept, Evelyn knew that she would do everything in her power to contribute to this community,

to make a difference, and to find her place in this new world.

The next morning, Evelyn woke up feeling refreshed and determined. She was ready to take on the challenges of the island, and to learn as much as she could.

As she went about her day, Evelyn noticed that the women were preparing for something. They were gathering supplies, building a fire, and cooking food.

"What's going on?"

Evelyn asked Kaida, curiosity getting the better of her.

"We're having a celebration tonight,"

Kaida replied, a smile spreading across her face.

"It's a special occasion, and we're going to have a feast to mark the occasion."

Evelyn's eyes widened with excitement. She loved celebrations, and she was eager to join in. So, she assisted.

As the sun began to set, the women gathered around the fire, their faces aglow with excitement. They shared stories, sang songs, and danced under the stars.

Evelyn joined in, feeling a sense of joy and belonging. She knew that she had found a new family on the island, and she was grateful for it.

As the night wore on, Evelyn looked around at the women, feeling a sense of admiration and respect. They

were strong, capable, and independent, and she knew that she could learn a lot from them.

And as she gazed up at the stars, Evelyn felt a sense of wonder and awe. She knew that she was part of something bigger than herself, something special and unique.

The island of Kyralion was a place of wonder, a place of discovery, and a place of growth. And Evelyn knew that she was exactly where she was meant to be.

As the night wore on, the celebration continued, with laughter and music filling the air. Evelyn felt a new sense of belonging. She was surrounded by women who were strong, independent, and supportive.

As the evening drew to a close, Kamouri stood up, a thoughtful expression on her face.

"We have something important to discuss,"

she said, her voice carrying across the gathering.

"We've been watching Evelyn, and we think she's ready to learn more about our ways."

The women nodded in agreement; their eyes fixed on Evelyn. She felt a surge of excitement and nervousness.

What do they have in store for her?

Kamouri continued,

"We've decided to adopt Evelyn into our community as one of us. We've taught her our ways, our traditions, our skills, and our secrets. We'll guide her on her journey,

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and we'll support her every step of the way. She would now be seen as a daughter of Kyralion, just like us."

The women applauded, their faces smiling with approval as they all stood on their feet in unison. Evelyn felt a sense of pride and gratitude. She knew that this was a significant moment, a turning point in her life.

As the celebration came to an end, Kamouri approached Evelyn.

"Tomorrow, we'll have some talk."

she said, her eyes sparkling with excitement.

"Get some rest, and be ready for a new chapter in your life."

Evelyn nodded, her heart racing with expectation. She knew that she was in good hands, and she was eager to learn and grow with the women of Kyralion.

As she drifted off to sleep, Evelyn felt a sense of peace and purpose. She knew that she had found a new family, a new home, and a new sense of direction.

The future was uncertain, but one thing was clear: Evelyn was ready to face whatever challenges came her way. She was ready to learn, to grow, and to thrive on the island of Kyralion.

And as the sun rose the next morning, Evelyn felt a sense of excitement and anticipation. She knew that today would be the start of a new chapter in her life, one filled with adventure, discovery, and growth. Evelyn was caring

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for a garden along with her friends, Keira and Kenaya, while the twin sister of Keira, Keaira, was busy planting some seedlings.

When they looked up, they saw Kaida, the hand of the Alpha, approaching and she met Evelyn.

“Greetings to you Evelyn and greeting to you all. How are you all today?”

Evelyn exchanged greetings with Kaida as did the others.

Then Kaida said.

“Evelyn, you have been summoned by the council of the matriarchal leaders. Your presence is here by requested immediately at the council square.”

Instantly, Evelyn left all she was doing and went. As she walked down, she wondered what the call was all about.

Part 2

The Rise of a Leader

- 6. The Outsider's Call to Service**
- 7. The Weight of Responsibility**
- 8. Challenging The Status Quo**
- 9. A New Dawn for Kyralion**
- 10. The Alpha Female Emerges**



Chapter 6: The Outsider's Call to Service



Evelyn was summoned by the matriarchal leaders of the island. And as she stood before them, her heart was pounding with expectancy, wondering the reason for the summon. As she was patiently waiting for the matriarchs to proceed and state the reason for her summon, she tried reading the expressions on the faces of the matriarchal leaders. Nevertheless, she could not process anything. She was anxious, but remained calm, contained and well-coordinated.

After some while, a beautiful white skinned lady in her late 30s walked in with a crown-like headgear on her head. She was accompanied by four female followers who looked like and dressed like her, except for the headgear. The followers waited behind for her as she took her sit with the matriarchal leaders. Although she is as pretty as a goddess, yet, the islanders do not like her because she rules her people with an iron fist.

Her pale skin glows under the rising sunlight. It was like white porcelain that need careful handling else it would shatter into a thousand pieces and smudges. Her beautiful chestnut hair is like silver strands, pouring from the crown of her head like see-weed, crawling slightly like cascaded waves flowing down her shoulders. Her beautiful eyes are warm and soft, making her rank among one of the

stunning maidens in Kyralion. Her clothing made from delicate thin cream-white fabric that accentuated her perfect figure, making her resplendent in the gown. It is hard to believe she was an islander to and a matriarchal leader. Her aura is graced by swag and her looks can leave one in a daze. Yet, she remains the most unpredicted and strong-willed woman of the island with many dark secrets. Secrets only she knows.

Unsure who the mystery woman was, as doubt surfaced on Evelyn's face, the hand of the Alpha, Kaida, whispered to Evelyn, saying.

"She is one of the five matriarchal leaders and Kamouri is the sixth. Her name is Kacelyn. She lives in the remotest part of the forest and fancy herself an Alpha."

Evelyn had been on the island of Kyralion for months now, and she had proven herself to be a valuable member of the community and have met and know almost all the women. Yet, she has never heard the name Kacelyn or seen the face to the name.

When everyone has settled, Kamouri, the head of the matriarchal leaders looked at Evelyn with neutral expression and spoke these words.

"Evelyn, we all have been watching you,"

Evelyn mind tried to process Kamouri next words to know the points she was driving to. Evelyn mind was reviewing her past actions, iterating them to know what she has done wrong and what the possible punishment could be. The

more she scanned, the more the loop expands more, like the Fibonacci sequence.

"Your diligence and hard works,"

Kamouri continues, this time with a gentle, calm and relaxed expression.

"Your skills and abilities, and most of all, your curiosity and respect. Yes, we had watched you grow and learn, and we are impressed with your determination and strength."

Then, one of the matriarchal leaders named Kenslynn, the woman whom Evelyn met when she was investigating the noise at night and had followed her to the old windmill on the east side of the island, said.

"We think it's time for you to do more with us, Evelyn."

Evelyn's eyes widened as puzzles filled her faces.

"'... do more?' please, what do you mean?"

With a sense of excitement, Kaybri responded to Evelyn.

"We want you to lead one of our teams,"

Evelyn mind took time to process what had just played to relate it to what was been said. While she was still lost, Kamouri, the Alpha female, said in explanation to Evelyn.

"You'll be in charge of a group of women, and you'll be responsible for ensuring their safety. You would teach them, guide them and administer over them"

Evelyn felt humbled with a surge of pride and excitement at the same time. She had never been in a leadership position of this grandiose level before, but she was confident that she could do it.

"I accept the challenge of the responsibility."
she said, her voice firm.

The matriarchal leaders nodded, their faces serious.
Kharia added.

"We knew you would be up to the task. However, . . ."

And while she was yet speaking, Kacelyn, interjected with a sneer on her face, she said.

"Leadership is not just about giving orders. It's about inspiring and motivating others to work towards a common goal. Of what difference can you make!?"

Evelyn was taken aback in her excitement. Then she looked at it from a positive side, remembering that in her line of work, sometimes, the best way to get the best out of a project is to subject it to positive criticisms. With this mindset, Evelyn took the challenge as a goal to work with. She vowed to herself to give it all she has to bring about positive changes. She called to mind her father's words:

"Somebody has to remind everybody that anybody can make a difference, even a nobody."

As Evelyn listened to the matriarchal leader's words, she couldn't help but think back to an instant in her past that had prepared her for this moment.

She was in high school, standing in the office of the school's principal, Mrs. Mensah. The principal, a stern-looking woman in her late 50s with silver hair and a kind face, was smiling at her.

"Evelyn, we've been impressed with your performance in school,"

Mrs. Mensah said, as she continued.

"You're a hardworking and diligent student, and we think you'd make a great prefect."

Evelyn's heart swelled with honor as she thought about the responsibility that was being entrusted to her. She remembered the day she was announced as a prefect, and how her classmates had looked at her with admiration and respect.

As she walked out of the office, she was greeted by her best friend, Yvonne, a beautiful girl with long, curly brown hair and bright brown eyes. Yvonne was beaming with pride, and she gave Evelyn a big hug.

"I'm so proud of you, Evie!"

Yvonne exclaimed.

"You're going to make an amazing prefect!"

Evelyn's teacher, Mrs. Caroline, a kind-hearted woman with a warm smile and a passion for teaching, also congratulated her.

"You've worked hard to get to this position, Evelyn,"
she said.

"I have no doubt that you'll excel in this role."

As Evelyn thought about that moment, she realized that it had been a turning point in her life. It had taught her the value of hard work and responsibility, and it had given her the confidence to take on leadership roles.

Now, as she stood before the matriarchal leaders of the island, Evelyn felt a more sense of determination and purpose. She knew that she was ready to take on this new challenge, and she was eager to prove herself.

"I'm honored to accept this responsibility,"
Evelyn said, her voice firm.

"I promise to work hard and do my best to lead the group. And if I need some help, I know where to turn to."

The matriarchal leaders nodded, their faces thoughtful.

"We know you'll do great things, Evelyn,"
Kharia said and Kaybri add.

"You have the heart of a leader."

Then, Evelyn was excused to go. As she left the council chambers, she felt a sense of glory and purpose. She knew

that she had a lot to learn in administration of the people as a leader. Yes, a matriarchal leader and she was eager to get started. She walked through under the bright sunlight, feeling the warm breeze on her skin. The island was beautiful, but Evelyn knew that with this new role, come challenges. She was ready to face them uncompromising.

Evelyn's new role as a matriarchal leader of the group would not be easy. She would have to navigate the complex web of relationships within the group, and she would have to make difficult decisions that would affect the lives of the women under her care.

But Evelyn was determined to succeed. She knew that she had the skills and abilities to lead the group, and she was eager to prove herself. As she walked towards her new quarters, Evelyn felt a sense of excitement and anticipation. She knew that the road ahead would be challenging, but she was ready.

Evelyn had always been interested in gardening, and she had learned a lot from the women on the island. She spent the rest of the day preparing for her new role, thinking about how she could make the gardening team more efficient, more productive.

As she worked, Evelyn felt as a useful member to the community. She now has the opportunity to do something meaningful, something that would benefit the people.

And as she looked out at the island, Evelyn knew that she had found her place. She was no longer just an outsider;

she was a leader, a matriarch, a woman with a purpose to change for the good, the lives of the people of the island.

As Evelyn continues her new role, she faced many challenges. She had to learn to manage the gardening team, to make decisions about what to plant and when to harvest. She was determined to succeed. She worked hard, seeking advice from the other women and learning from her mistakes.

And as the days progressed, Evelyn began to feel more confident in her role. She was proud of what she had accomplished, and she was commended by the islanders that she was making a difference in the community.

One day, it was predicted that a severe storm was heading towards the island. The storm would be so dangerous that it would threaten to destroy the crops and damage the village food storage system. Evelyn knew that she had to act fast. She called a meeting with the farmers and gardening team and together. As they brainstorm, Evelyn's friend Kenaya, walked into the hut majestically. With a resolute look on her face, she walked up to Evelyn, the women fixed their looks on her figure. Then she asked.

“Why use one hand, when you can ask for, and get an extra!? Am her to help, how can I be of service?”

Evelyn smiled and they both exchanged a knowing look. Then Evelyn asked.

“Our goal is to protect the village food storage at all cost and if possible, the crops. How can we attain this?”

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Kenaya suggested a plan on how to protect the crops and the island food storage. Evelyn approved the professional advice and thanked her greatly, saying.

“Am proud to have you as my friend, Kenaya. Thanks!”

Immediately, Evelyn and the team began to work tirelessly to prepare. Even as the storm approached, they continue to work through the rains and the strong wind, securing the crops and protecting the village food store.

They got people to reinforce the roof with sturdy wooden beams and weighted-down tarps. They boarded up windows and doors to prevent damage from wind-borne debris. Then they moved the perishables items to a safer area within the storage and inspected the storage drainage system to prevent flooding. Finally, they stocked emergency supplies, like lanterns and good drinking waters in there.

When the storm finally passed, Evelyn and her team surveyed the damage. The crops were protected, and the village food storage was safe. The women of the island were grateful, and praised Evelyn for her leadership and quick thinking. Evelyn felt a sense of pride and triumph, but she refused to take the praises alone. She recognized those who stood with her even in those hard times.

She would have to work hard to prove herself, to earn the respect of the other women. Evelyn was ready to lead, to inspire, and to make a difference in the lives of the women of Kyralion.



Chapter 7: The Weight of Responsibility



The talk of Evelyn's bravery and her team of farmers continue to be the talk of the town for weeks as the council of the matriarchal leaders decided to test her level of sacrifice for others, even when they may not matter much to her.

Ky' Ayla, Kaybri and Kenslynn were delegates sent by the matriarchal council to inform Evelyn of her new covert mission, should she choose to accept. The women met at a secluded hut on the outskirts of the village.

"There was a council sitting today, . . ."

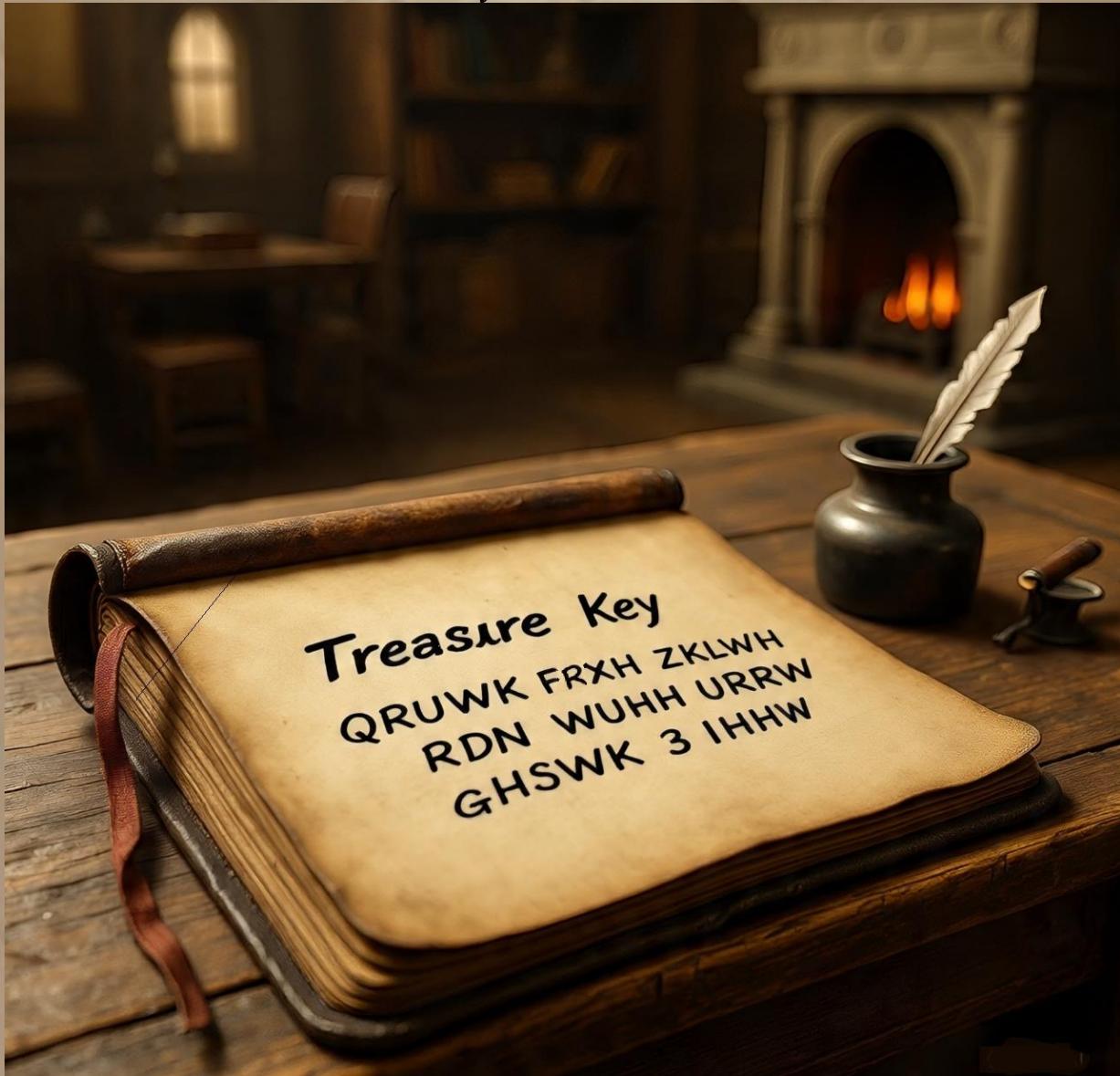
Ky' Ayla said, her voice firm and resolute as she speaks.

" . . . and as the custom is, before your announcement to the people of the island about your selection as a new matriarchal leader, you must first fulfill a task given you. Hence, we the council, have decided that, if you would accept, you have to retrieve a package."

Ky' Ayla handed Evelyn a small brown box of leather material. Bewildered, Evelyn gradually opens the box to see the content. A short knife in the box captured her attention wondering what it was there for, she saw a hand sketched map and an old, brown leather jotter-like diary. Evelyn examined the dagger for a while, then she

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sheathed it to her waist band. Then she brought out the old, brown leather jotter-like diary, opened it and found the mission which she has chosen. It was an encrypted message, and no one has been able to understand what the message was. They could not read pass the first line with the words: "*Treasure Key.*"



It was reported that the guardians of the land found the box on a dead man who was identified as ‘an intruder – their enemies’. In actuality, the dead man was a scientist who was on an exploration and had discovered some treasures. To keep the information about the details safe,

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he encrypted the message using one of the many cipher encryption methods.

Evelyn iterated different cipher decryption methods. However, some like the s Cipher gave her a difficult time since she would have to know the “Keyword” used. For the next four days, she has not cracked the code.

She needed to identify which cipher encryption method was used first, before she can then attempt to crack the code. Gradually, frustration was setting in. She was beginning to find reasons to give up.



Then she recalled Miss. Audrey, her programming lecturer's expressions,

"We may be searching for the big things, but the small things are what matters in life."

Then professor Chloe words come to mind.

"Always start from the small or simple problems to the bigger issues."

Then, she soliloquies.

"Could it be that the encryption use was the simplest cipher encrypting method? And I have been trying other stronger encryption methods. Ok, let me try the Caesar Cipher decryption method."

As soon as she began, the letters started forming words that made sense.

"Wow! Eureka! I've found it!"

She ran to the hut of Ky' Ayla and gave her the decrypted message. Ky' Ayla along with Evelyn hurried to the Alpha to inform her of the decoded message. Kamouri, sitting outside, summoned the council of the matriarchal leaders immediately.

Within a while, they were all present. It was their unanimous call to make, not just the Alpha. So, Kamouri counted them to ensure they were all present. Ky' Ayla, Kharia, Kenslynn, Kaybri, Kacelyn and now Evelyn.

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“We have good news. The dead man’s code has been cracked by Evelyn. We now have the decrypted text. What becomes of it!”

Kamouri stated. Kaybri called out lovingly.

“Evie dear,”

Kaybri curiously said.

“How did you do it? Could you tell us please? Am eager to know, and am sure we all do.”

Evelyn got the center-stage, her mind renders flashback scene of her, standing before her directors and business clients of the company, she explains in defense, a programming project she wrote. Evelyn began.

“The message was considered ‘Highly Classified!’ It was encrypted so that it can be only on a need-to-know bases. I least expected this method of coding as it is the simplest of them all. The method used for the encryption is called: Caesar Cipher Encryption Method”

Evelyn continued as they all locked their gaze on her.

“To encrypt the text, they have to shift each text position in the alphabet sequence by 3 steps to the right. So, to decrypt the message, we have to shift each text of the code back to its original position in the alphabet sequence by moving it 3 steps to the left.”

“Really! You are a bright one.”

Kenslynn retorted.

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“Thank you!”

Evelyn said, as she picked up a stick that was on the ground and started writing on the ground as she speaks.

Q	R	U	W	K		F	R	X	H		Z	K	L	W	H	
N	O	R	T	H		C	O	V	E		W	H	I	T	E	

	R	D	N		W	U	H	H		U	R	R	W	
	O	A	K		T	R	E	E		R	O	O	T	

		G	H	S	W	K		3		I	H	H	W	
		D	E	P	T	H		3		F	E	E	T	

“So, our message is ‘NORTH COVE WHITE OAK TREE ROOT DEPTH 3 FEET’.”

Ky' Ayla then explained.

“There must be a treasure hidden at the cove in the north side of the island, 3 feet below the roots of the white oak tree. We must get it and know what it is.”

Kacelyn then added.

“. . . and what is she still standing here doing? Let her be on her way and retrieve the package!”

Kenslynn added.

“Yes, let Evelyn complete the mission. She has done remarkably well. She is our best fit.”

Kharia stood and walked up to Evelyn, placing her right hand on Evelyn's left shoulder, Kharia said.

“You are smart, Evie. I have no doubt you would pull through this mission to a success. This mission, no doubt, would test your patronage to the islanders and test your skills in ways we cannot imagine.”

After the other leaders agreed that Evelyn should take up this new mission of retrieving the package, Kamouri rose and stated.

“You must navigate the unknown and retrieve the package. It's not going to be easy, but we have faith in you. Godspeed Evelyn! Be on your way and get the package. Be safe and comeback in one piece.”

Then Evelyn went to her hut to prepare herself for the extraction mission. She took along with her the map, the diary and the dagger which she fastened in a sheath on her waist. During the same time, Ky' Ayla, went to get her companions who would trail her shadows.

As she set out on her mission, Evelyn couldn't help but think back to her days in school. She had always been

good at science and mathematics, particularly calculation courses where speed and accuracy were required.

She remembered her teacher, Mrs. Jahdel, a brilliant woman with a passion for mathematics. Mrs. Jahdel was a tall, statuesque woman with long, curly black hair and a warm smile. She had a way of explaining complex concepts in a simple and easy-to-understand manner.

Evelyn's classmates, a group of bright and ambitious students, had always looked up to Mrs. Jahdel as a role model. There was Terry, a genius with numbers who could solve complex problems in his head; Hunt, a quiet but brilliant programmer who could hack into any system; and Fred, a creative problem-solver who thinks outside the box.

As Evelyn navigated the unknown terrain, she drew on the skills and knowledge she had acquired from her calculation courses. She knew that she had to be precise and accurate, that one wrong move could mean disaster.

She encountered obstacles along the way, including treacherous terrain and wild animals. But Evelyn persevered, using her wits and her skills to overcome each challenge.

Finally, after what seemed like hours of walking, Evelyn reached the location of the package, the cove at the north side of Kyralion. Evelyn's was nervous as she approached the tree. She knew that she had to be careful and calculative because the package could be booby-trapped or guarded.

She saw the white oak tree beside the waters and went to it. Then she started investigating the tree and noticed there could have been a hidden item at the base. So, she started to dig, using any material that could dig, that she could lay hands on.

After what seems like eternity, she felt a hard object underneath the soil at the base of the tree. She used her hand to feel it. It was not a root, but seems to be a box. She tried and dug it out, then she cleaned it and carried it. The chest was long and portable. She made vines handle on it and tied it with a rope so that she could carry the chest on one shoulder back.

As she turned to leave, Evelyn heard some rustling sound from dry leaves behind some foliage. It appeases the object was approaching her direction. Evelyn unsheathed the dagger and ready herself for the unknown.

"Who is it? Who are you?"

Evelyn asked, holding the knife, ready for attack or defense. The sound stopped, the approaching footsteps halted. Then Evelyn saw a figure emerging from the bushes. The figure stepped forward, revealing a woman.

"Hi, am Kerrin...,"

While the woman was yet speaking, Evelyn interrupted with a callous, harsh voice.

"Kerrington! I know who you are. What are you doing here? Have you been stalking me all along? How did you follow me down to this place?"

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Evelyn asked without waiting for responds. By this time, Kerrington had walked into Evelyn's personal space.

"You have to listen to me Evelyn. I've come to retrieve the package."

Kerrington tried to explain, mildly.

"I'm afraid that's not going to happen!"

Evelyn said, her righthand tightening on the knife as she secures the package wither left. Kerrington's eyes narrowed, with a piecing focus on Evelyn's eye. And for



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a time, it was a stalemate, as they both locked eyes on each other. Each one on a standstill eye dual.

"You don't understand, Evelyn"

Kerrington said.

"The package is not what you think it is. It's much more ambiguous and intricate than you could ever imagine. I know much that can help you. Yes, help us all."

Evelyn's curiosity takes a better grip on her.

"What do you mean?"

Asked Evelyn, in low voice and willingness to negotiate. But Kerrington just smiled.

"You'll find out soon enough,"

Kerrington said.

"If you want to know more, you'll have to come with me and see for yourself. You need to know better. Only then, would you be able to make the right choice."

Evelyn hesitated, unsure of what to do. But something about Kerrington's words resonated with her. She decided to take a chance.

"Okay,"

Evelyn said.

"I'll come with you. You lead; I'll follow. But make sure you did not do anything funny. My eyes are on you."

As Evelyn walked behind Kerrington, she couldn't shake off the feeling that something wasn't quite right. She had doubts about Kerrington's identity and motives, but she decided to keep them to herself for now.

Kerrington, on the other hand, seemed to sense Evelyn's reservations. She glanced at her sideways, her piercing green eyes narrowing slightly. But she said nothing, instead focusing on the path ahead.

As they walked, Kerrington began to explain the significance of the box and the island. She spoke with a quiet confidence that was both reassuring and unnerving.

"The box is a key,"

Kerrington said, her voice low and even.

"A key to unlocking the secrets of this island. The people of the land have been hiding it for centuries, but I believe it's time the truth came to light."

Evelyn's curiosity grew. She had always known that the island was shrouded in clandestine truths waiting to be unveiled, but she had never suspected that there was so much more to the narratives.

Kerrington stopped suddenly, turning to face Evelyn.

"You don't trust me, I know,"

she said, her eyes searching.

"I can see it in your eyes. But I assure you, I'm not here to harm you."

Evelyn hesitated, unsure of how to respond. She didn't know Kerrington, and she couldn't shake off the feeling that she was being led into a trap.

But Kerrington's words struck a chord. She remembered her father's words:

Somebody has to remind everybody that anybody can make a difference, even a nobody.

Evelyn asked.

"And why should I trust you."

Then Kerrington responded.

"...because you've got no choice. Right now, right here, I'm the only one you can trust."

It was a hard-nut to crack for Evelyn. She took a deep breath and decided to trust Kerrington, at least for now.

"I'm listening,"

she said, her voice remorseful. Kerrington nodded, a small smile playing on her lips.

"Let's just say that the people of the Land have been hiding more than information. They've been hiding the truth about this island, about civilization and progress, and about themselves."

"The people who have been trying to come to this land have good will. However, stuck between two loyalties, the islanders would rather live in accord to the decree of

Kyra and remain in the past than carve a new path for the future and development."

As Kerrington spoke, she pulled out a small device from her pocket and activated it. A holographic image appeared before them, showing a map of the island and its surrounding waters. Then it showed the findings of the explorers and the daily progress report of their time log.

Evelyn's jaws drop in amazement on realizing the land has many rich resources that could be traded with the others non islanders and brig about development to the community. Evelyn's eyes widened as she saw the explores time log reports and their findings in the land so far. With great amount of conviction, Evelyn said.

"Now I know the truth!"

she expressed.

"The island is much richer than I thought."

Kerrington nodded.

"Yes, the island has secrets beneath its surface. Secrets that could change everything."

Evelyn's mind was spinning. She had so many questions, but before she could ask any of them, Kerrington grabbed her arm and pulled her into a run. Evelyn followed.

"Come with me! Run! We have company!"

Without hesitation, Evelyn ran in pace with Kerrington, matching very steps in great unison.

"We've been tracked!? How? By who?

asked Evelyn.

"Daughters of Kyra! They must have followed you. They'll take the truth away from us and destroy it again, we can't let that happen, at list, not now, not today. Come on, let's run faster, they're closing in on us."

Kerrington said, her voice serious.

Evelyn's trust for Kerrington has grown just a little bit more, as her doubts and reservations about Kerrington are placed aside. She had decided to trust her, at least for now. Kerrington too shared the same sentiments. Instinctively, they were syncing in their moves and way of actions.

Unbeknown to them, their minds were noting the similarities between them, but they have not yet noticed. They ran through the jungle, dodging trees and leaping over roots. Later, they hid under a fallen massive tree to catch their breath.

To win the enemy, I need to know the enemy very well.

This thought motivated Evelyn as she hopes it will be true in her case. Evelyn has a long list of questions for Kerrington. With a grim smile on her face, Evelyn gave Kerrington a knowing look and Kerrington return it.



Chapter 8: Challenging The Status Quo



"The information about this mission was supposed to be on a need-to-know level. . ."

Evelyn said to Kerrington as they continue to hid under a fallen massive tree, while scouting around.

*". . .the location of the package was highly classified.
How then did you find it?"*

Evelyn asked, her voice mixed with unsettled doubts and surprise. Then Kerrington responded.

"Am not the crazy one here, Evie. The women of the island considered me an outlaw, a rogue and a traitor. They couldn't banish me because I am a female. I may have had Kyra as my mother, yet, I do not conform with her decrees. They are pointless greed."

With downcast faces, Kerrington continued, her voice gradually laced with anger and bitterness of resentful rage heated up inside of her.

"Why would I be a soldier, fighting people I do not know and who do not know me, people who I have nothing against and I will have to hate them to the point of killing them or them killing me? That is insanity! The women are the enemies, not me, they are the outlaws, they are the rogues and the traitors. I am a patriot."

Evelyn's eyes widened as she listened to Kerrington's story. She had never imagined that Kerrington was labeled bad, misjudged and maltreated just because she had a good and different perspective to the custom of the land. Evelyn felt guilty for not giving Kerrington a chance from the onset, to get to know her before judging her. To soothe her conscience, Evelyn hugged Kerrington, with firm grips around her. Then they quiet down for a while.

Kerrington has been the resistance to the women for not killing so many of the outsiders who visit. The islanders regard Kerrington as a dissenter among her own people.

After some time, Kerrington continued.

"To the islanders, they're not just explorers, they're destroyers,"

she said.

"'They'll take everything we have and leave us with nothing.' They keep telling us. 'So, "Protect the island at all costs!" . . . because "Danger lurks beyond the horizon."'"'

Kerrington's eyes flashed with anger as she spoke about the way that the islanders treated men from outside. Evelyn nodded, understanding the fear that drove the islanders' actions. But she couldn't help but wonder if there was more to the explorers' actions that could have triggered such reactions. As Kerrington continued to speak, Evelyn learned more about the island's history and the way the islanders have reacted to changed viewpoint.

As Evelyn and Kerrington continued in their hiding, Evelyn couldn't help but notice that they were being pursued by three ladies: Khamyra, Kyelle and Kouture. They were sent by their mistress, Ky' Ayla, the matriarchal leader in charge of defending the people.

They have been sent to keep a watch over Evelyn as she embarked on the quest to retrieve the chest. They were tasked to protect her, should she meet any danger, they were to respond with their trained tactical skills. Thus, from a distance, they were supposed to follow.

However, they have their own hidden agenda. They were loyalist to Kacelyn, the beautiful matriarchal leader who fancies herself an Alpha. Kacelyn have reassigned them with a covet mission to retrieve the package from Evelyn, at all cost, and if Evelyn resisted, they know what to do.

Khamyra was a tall, elegant woman with short, braided brown hairs and ruby eyes. She was said to have sustained injuries in one eye during her training as a tactical warrior. She was a skilled warrior, with a toned masculine physique and a confident demeanor. She despises men and was known to be stringent with women. She was second in command to Ky' Ayla.

Unfortunately, Kacelyn and her cohorts have been manipulating Khamyra with the good stuffs gotten from trading with the island's resources. That way, these rogue protectors falsify information to their mistress, Ky' Ayla, who would innocently inform her fellow matriarchal leaders and decisions would be made based on it.

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There was Kyelle, on the other hand, was a petite, agile woman with short, flowing black hair and a mischievous grin. She was quick-witted and fast on her feet, with a talent for setting traps and outsmarting her enemies. She is a good tracker and she is good at following orders, especially when she is been brainwashed. She was fiercely loyal to the lead of her superiors.



Kouture was a beautiful, elegant woman with long, straight black hair, usually held up together and a calm, serene demeanor. She is a skilled healer, with deep knowledge of herbs and medicine. She follows as a medical respondent should there be need for a first aid. She is an elite warrior.

As the three continue to track the fallen leaves and bent vegetations and grasses, Kerrington pulled Evelyn out of the hideout and continue running. As they ran, Kerrington pointed out the booby traps they had set to prevent the explorers. Evelyn's eyes widened as she saw the deadly traps, and she couldn't help but wonder if the islanders were justified in their actions.

Kerrington continue to explain in low tone to Evelyn, as she listens and nodded.

"We don't trust the outsiders,"

she said.

"They've hurt us before, and we won't let it happen again. However, all the outsiders I have meet on this island, they were kind and caring. I can't relate."

Evelyn understood Kerrington's perspective, but she couldn't help but wonder if there was more to the story. As a science student, she knew that explorers weren't inherently bad. They are driven by curiosity and a desire to discover new things.

"If you have had contact with the outsiders and see them as good, who then told you people otherwise?"

Evelyn asked, trying to investigate a line of corruption.

"The matriarchal leaders. Based on the reports from the protection team of the island."

Kerrington replied. Wondering, Evelyn was beat-up with silence.

"The islanders have come to believe and see them as a threat, and they would stop at nothing to protect their way of life and all they have with all they've got."

Kerrington added. Evelyn realized that she had a choice to make: she could side with the islanders, who had taken her in and taught her their ways, or she could side with Kerrington, who had shown her the truth about the islander dealings with the outsiders. By this time, they have evaded their hunters. So, they started walking.

As they walked, Kerrington told Evelyn more about her past. She had been born and raised on the island, but she had always questioned the islanders' ways. She believed that men and women should be treated equally, and that the islanders' treatment of men was unfair.

Evelyn listened intently, her mind competing with thoughts and questions. She knew that she had to be careful, as the islanders would not take kindly to her challenging their ways. But as she looked at Kerrington, she saw a kindred essence, a zeal to stand for the truth, even if it means you have to stand alone. Evelyn saw someone who was brave enough to challenge the status quo, even if it meant death. That zeal resonates with hers.

"I don't know what to believe,"

Evelyn said, her voice barely above a whisper.

"I don't know whose side to take."

said Evelyn. Kerrington nodded understandingly.

"You don't have to decide now,"

Kerrington comforted Evelyn and calmed her down.

"But I want you to know that I'm here for you, no matter who's side you choose. If I were to suggest: stand for what is good and for justice. Yes, stand for the truth and everyone for the truth would rally to your side."

Kerrington reassured her. Evelyn smiled, feeling a sense of gratitude towards Kerrington. Kerrington knew that Evelyn has the capacity to make a difference.

As they walked, Evelyn realized that she had a lot to learn. She needed to understand the islanders' ways, and she needed to learn how to navigate the complex web of relationships on the island. But most of all, Evelyn knew that she needed to stay true to herself. She couldn't let the islanders' expectations dictate her actions, not when she knew that what they were doing was wrong. Evelyn knew that only an Alpha, can make these changes.

As she walked with Kerrington through the island's lush forests, Evelyn realized that she had a choice to make. She would return the package in the chest to the matriarchal leaders, untouched and continue her place. She would find out how much each of the matriarchal leaders knows individually and what their stand is on each of the matters.

Also, since she has come to fully trust Kerrington, she would side with her, covertly, to avoid public tension. Kerrington is a truthful person who is maltreated unjustly. Evelyn decided to keep her thoughts to herself. She would continue to follow the trends, at least for now.

As they got to the junction where they would have to go pathways, Kerrington turned to Evelyn with a small smile.

"You're quiet, what's on your mind?"

Evelyn smiled back. Then Kerrington asked.

"Wouldn't you like to know the content of the package."

Evelyn related to Kerrington her decision to win over the leaders and make changes from the inside out. With understanding eyes, Kerrington nodded in agreement. She was pleased with Evelyn and praised her decision to be a smart one.

Evelyn walked up to the hut of the Alpha, Kamouri. She met a partially deserted environment. Wondering what has taken place, what she missed, she saw Kytline, a close friend of Kaida, the hand of the Alpha, in a hurry to pick up a piece of cloth for head cover from Kaida's hut.

"Where is everybody? Where is Kamouri?"

Evelyn asked, frantically. Kytline responded.

"Our Head, the Alpha is dead. Kamouri died yesterday evening. We are gathered at the council square. She is about to be taken for burial. Come, Hurry up!"

Evelyn felt destroyed in her emotions. She could not help but cried out profusely as she ran along with Kytline to the council square. Evelyn has been gone for 3 days. And within these three, Kamouri has been sick. The nurses in the island did all they could, they prepared some herbs, mix some roots finally, her temperature became normal.

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Kamouri was strong and healthy the day before her death. She died peacefully in her sleep. It could be said that she died possibly of a heart attack and high blood pressure, as the nurses caring for her have been helping her with medications to assist her with the high blood pressure.

The women were dressed according to their burial attires and in a beautiful burial procession, they prepared her body for burial. They performed all the burial rights, thereafter, they buried the body in their burial ground.



They people entered a period of grief for 21 days. The first 2 days, they were to sit at home all-day. Afterward, they can attend to other duties while still grieving.



Chapter 9: A New Dawn for Kyralion



As the people of Kyralion mourn the loss of the Alpha, Kamouri, the quest of Evelyn was not talked about. Gradually, the package and its content became a forgotten story as everyone was grieving for the loss of the matriarchal leader. Cherished memories of the times they shared together flooded Evelyn's mind. Then her mind wondered off to the good times she had, the memories of her homeland, her family, and her friends. She remembered her mother, Janiyah, with her warm smile and loving touch. She remembered her father, Ethan, with his wise words and encouraging spirit. In frustration, she sighs as she recalled her life with no hope of returning back to her mother, at least not for now.

As she walked through the lush forests of Kyralion, in the company of other women to the place they would fish, Evelyn's thoughts drifted back to her workplace. She had been a robotics engineer, working on electronics circuits used for building robots and a programmer, meticulous and precise in her work.

Evelyn's workplace had been a hub of activity, with engineers and technicians working together to design and build new robots. She had loved the challenge of solving complex problems, of finding creative solutions to difficult tasks and she loved the team of engineers she is

working with, except for some who acts as if their work on earth is to make life difficult for her. As she grimaced over these memories, she shakes off the thoughts to pleasant ones.

Her father, Ethan, had always told her to make a difference, even when no one was looking or no one believed in her.

"You are capable of great things, Evelyn,"

he had said.

"Don't let anyone tell you otherwise."

Evelyn's memories were vivid, like pictures in her mind. She remembered the good times and the hard days, the promotions and numerous merits award she had received in recognition of her effort.

As she worked on her projects, Evelyn had always been meticulous, careful, and precise. She had to be, for the robots she designed and built were bested only by her excellent codes that controlled them.

But now, in Kyralion, Evelyn realized that those skills would serve her well. She would need to be precise and careful as she navigated the complex web of relationships on the island, especially now her that one of her trusted friends is gone, the people would have to get a new Alpha and many have rumored that Kacelyn who fancy herself an Alpha, would be the next Alpha. However, this very thought frightens the people of the island because they have known Kacelyn to be a woman with deep secrets and

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ruthlessness. Her dwelling is deep in the forest and she is not approachable as her four disciples, Kaemani, Kahana, Kairys and Kamille would wade off any who dares come close. It's as if, she rules her empire in Kyralion.

It is alleged that Kacelyn have contact with the outside world as she looks and act very different from them all.



Since nobody have any evidence against her, and no one is willing to press such charges against her, she continues to walk free and remained a matriarchal leader.

The truth was that she has been relating with the outside world secretly all the while. Most times, she would send

her loyalist or her disciples. There had been trading going on between Kacelyn and the visitors. They would bring clothing, canned foods, many groceries, drinks and many



other stuffs. They would exchange them with coals, diamonds, golds and silver. There are some other resources in the island that interest the outsiders too.

Evelyn suggested to the matriarchal leaders that she want to start up a school to teach the people basic skills of what she knows. However, she wants the people to see and value Kerrington as one of their own. She does not deserve the treatment they are giving her. Kharia, the matriarchal leader and the adjudicator, was the acting head of the council. She was holding the place of the Alpha until the new Alpha is selected.

Kharia was born into a family of strong women who valued truth, justice, and compassion. Her mother, Kalindi, was a respected member of the community, known for her wisdom and integrity.

Kharia's childhood was filled with love, laughter, and a deep sense of purpose. She was the eldest of five children, of which four were males and are all confined in the high security reservation for the male down to this time. Her mother encouraged her to take on leadership roles from a young age.

As she grew older, Kharia became increasingly passionate about justice and equality. She would often challenge the traditional practices and customs of her community, questioning why certain groups were treated unfairly.

Kharia's mother supported her curiosity and encouraged her to pursue her dreams. She went on to learn about the law of the people and their way of life. After completing learning, Kharia began helping the adjudicator at the time, as her hand. Gradually, she learned about various matters and how to be mediator and advisor. She quickly gained a reputation as a fair and compassionate leader, who was able to bring people together and find solutions to complex problems.

She had her doubts and reservations, however, when she came in position of leadership, she had to set a good example for others to avoid anarchy. Slowly, her dreams of change began to die down.

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Kharia's children are incredibly supportive of her career. She had four beautiful children. The first was a male and the others were as followed: Kindel, the eldest, who is skilled at fishing; Kaya, the middle child, who is a free-spirited artist; and Kella, the youngest, who is a precocious and curious child.

As Kharia's reputation grew, so did her influence. She was soon appointed to a leadership position as one of the matriarchs of the island where she worked tirelessly to promote peace and justice. However, she does not have



the capacity to work on the: 'equality for all' aspect of her dreams. These limitations became a burden she bears.

However, when she saw Evelyn washed up at the sea shore of the island, Kharia knew that Evelyn has the will and capacity to bring about these changes. Evelyn's stood for justice and was unwavering. Kharia knew that Evelyn

has the courage and the willingness to challenge the status quo. On the other hand, Evelyn could not achieve this goal easily. So, with her help as a fierce advocate for the rights of women and children, and she would work tirelessly to win the people over to get Evelyn to the position of the Alpha and promote their interests of equality for all.

Despite the challenges she faced, Kharia remained committed to her values and the interest of the people. She was a true leader, who inspired others with her wisdom, compassion, and integrity.

Kharia was at the time, 62 years of age, standing at the height of 5'8", this warm brown skin woman, with curly dark hair and warm, brown eyes with a confident, compassionate, wise demeanor, is respected by many in the island. Adding to her leadership and mediation abilities, Kharia is a good public speaker

Kharia's experience as a leader and mediator has prepared her well for her current position. She has a deep understanding of the community and its needs, and she is well-respected by all. She should be the new matriarchal leader, but she would not want to accept the position of Alpha. Kharia's stand for justice has not gone unnoticed, however, people would not understand her reason for not wanting the position of Alpha to herself.

Although she faced challenges and criticism from those who do not share her values, she has remained committed to her principles. As a leader, Kharia is known for her wisdom, compassion, and integrity. She is a true

champion of justice and peace, and she will stop at nothing to protect the rights of the people of the island.

The people have to appoint a new leader sooner than later. Without challenging the present leadership, Evelyn had sided with Kerrington. As Evelyn teach the people of the land, Kerrington assisted her and as their bond and synchronization became strong, Evelyn asked Kerrington to be her hand.

Kerrington is a compassionate, and determined beautiful dark skin lady in her mid-30s just like Evelyn. She's a woman who was forsaken by her people for fighting for what she believes in. During her period in isolation, she has learned many things on her own. At one point in her lie, she stumbled on to the supply of the explorers and the secrete house they use. There are some advanced technological gadgets that are left in the house. Once in a while, Kerrington would sneak in and play around with the gadgets, learning new things. The house depends on solar and all the tech gadgets uses solar, including the small device she used to show Evelyn holographic image of the map of the island and its surrounding waters.

Kerrington continued to be a valuable ally, and together, they had started to make a difference. The educated the people on reading and writing, then on the use of technologies. Little by little, Evelyn begun to educate the islanders about the importance of equality and fairness, teaching the people real values, developments and equalities, that the men are humans like the females, and

that they were supposed to be heads of their families, not just tools for production and slavery.

At times, as the people go for a walk, Evelyn would explain the beauty of Kyralion and how they can benefit and improve their lining more than how it is by knowing how to harness their natural resources. The people gradually began loving the different subjects they are learning and their vies on their environment began changing. They came to appreciate their lush forests, the sparkling waters, and the warm sunshine as they all combine to create a sense of peace and tranquility.

But beneath the surface, Evelyn knew that there were challenges ahead. The islanders' way of life and culture was deeply ingrained, and it would take time and effort to change it. That notwithstanding, Evelyn did not give up. She continued to work the much that can be done today for a greater result tomorrow. She was ready for the challenge. She had come a long way from her days as a robotics engineer, but she was determined to make a difference in Kyralion.

The matriarchal leaders had series of council meetings to nominate a head that would be the next Alpha. Each meeting would end without any reasonable conclusion. Finally, they fixed a day for the final deliberations.



Chapter 10: The Alpha Female Emerges



The sun was shining brightly on the island of Kyralion, casting a warm glow over the hut where the matriarchal leaders of the island were gathered and the community who have assembled outside for the selection of the new Alpha. The long-awaited day of the selection had finally arrived. The people of the island are gathered in groups, most were gathered to their families and relations, others were with their friends. The air was filled with the sweet scent of blooming flowers, and the sound of birds chirping in the distance. The council of leaders sat in a circle, their faces stern and serious as they began the deliberation process.

"I nominate myself,"

Kacelyn said, her voice confident and assertive.

"I have the skills and experience necessary to lead our people to greatness. I love the people."

The other leaders looked at each other, their expressions skeptical. Kaybri looked at Kacelyn incredulously.

"I'm afraid that's not possible, Kacelyn,"

Kaybri speaks on gently, diffusing the defense Kenslynn was about to put up in support of Kacelyn to be the Alpha.

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"We all know about your...secrets. It's a liability, and we can't risk having someone in the Alpha position who might put our people in danger."

Kacelyn's face reddened with anger, but she knew better than to argue. She proudly wanted to object curtly, but calmed. The other moved on to the next nomination.

"I give my vote to Evelyn,"

Kaybri said, her voice soft but firm.

"She's young, but she has a good heart and a natural talent for leadership."

Kenslynn nodded critically, her eyes clouding with age.

"I would rather nominate Kharia,"

she said, her voice weak but determined.

"She's a good judge, a renowned peace keeper and a fair leader. She's proven herself time and time again."

Kharia smiled graciously, her eyes shining with gratitude.

"Thank you, Kenslynn. But I think Evelyn would make a wonderful Alpha. She's kind, compassionate, and intelligent. She has a vision for our people, and I believe she would lead us to greatness."

Ky' Ayla spoke up, her voice strong and confident.

"I still nominate Kacelyn,"

she said, her eyes locked on the other leaders.

The other leaders looked at each other, surprised.

"But Kacelyn was just disqualified,"

Kaybri pointed out. Ky' Ayla shrugged.

"I know, but I still believe she's the best choice. She's strong and capable, and she would do whatever it takes to protect our people. She has great ambitions."

The leaders deliberated for hours, discussing the pros and cons of each candidate. Evelyn sat quietly, her eyes fixed on the ground. She didn't want to seem too eager, but a part of her hoped that she might be chosen. Finally, Kharia stood up, her voice ringing out across the circle.

"I want to say something,"

she said, her eyes locked on the other leaders.

"Evelyn may be young, but she has a fire in her heart that I've rarely seen. She's passionate, dedicated, and kind. She's a natural leader, and I truly believe that she would bring our people together in a way that we've never seen before."

The other leaders leaned forward, their faces intent.

"She's been instrumental in solving complex problems, cracking puzzles and helping those in need,"

Kharia continued.

"Her compassion and empathy know no bounds, and she would do everything in her power to protect and serve our people. I urge you all to consider her qualifications

and skills. I firmly believe that her leadership would be one that the islanders would love and cherish."

The leaders looked at each other, their expressions thoughtful. After a moment, Kaybri spoke up.

"I agree with Kharia. Evelyn would make a wonderful Alpha. I hereby cast my vote to Evelyn."

One by one, the leaders nodded in agreement, their voices echoing Kharia's sentiments. Kacelyn's face grew darker with each passing moment, her anger and frustration palpable.

Finally, it was time to vote. The leaders cast their ballots, their faces serious and intent. When the votes were counted, the result was clear: Evelyn was the winner.

The matriarchal leaders were happy and applauded for Evelyn. Then Evelyn stepped forward to express her appreciation for the confidence they have in her.

"Thank you,"

she said, her voice filled with emotion.

"Thank you for believing in me. I promise to do everything in my power to lead our people to greatness. I promise to listen, to protect, and to serve. Let's work together to build a brighter future for our island, Kyralion and for our people."

Finally, after what seemed like hours of deliberation, the acting matriarchal head, Kharia, came out to the people and cleared her throat.

"It is with great pleasure that I announce to you, the next Alpha female of our island,"

Kharia said, her voice ringing out across the gathering.

"Evelyn, have been chosen unanimously by all the matriarchal heads to be our next Alpha female."

The crowd of people waiting outside erupted into cheers and applause as the result was announced to them. Kacelyn angrily left the council hut and her disciples followed her immediately. They were so frantic that people began to wonder if there was a fight inside the hut.

Then attention was shifted back to Evelyn who was on the center stage. The people were charring her up, hailing her as their choice Alpha. The crowd were applauding and the matriarchal leaders all felt they made the right choice.

Kharia then let out a sigh of relief and hugged Evelyn tightly, and with huge grin on her face. Kaybri came and hugged her too, then Ky' Ayla came and tapped her back.

"I'm so proud of you,"

Kharia whispered into Evelyn's ear.

"You're going to make an amazing Alpha."

Evelyn's friends all quickly rallied around her and took her in for decoration and dressing to fit her new role as the Alpha. Evelyn's face lit up with joy, and she smiled, as silent tears of happiness streaming down her face out of share joy. While she was gone, the people continue to cheer on and chant Evelyn's name, their voices carried



O-Meta AI

across the island. The sun shone down on them, casting long shadows over the trees around, the warm glow of the sun accentuated the faces of the people as they celebrate.

In a short while, Evelyn was dressed and made ready for the people. As she stood tall before her people of Kyralion, her heart swell with emotion as she gazed out at the sea of faces. The warm sun shone down on her, casting a golden glow over the gathering. She took a deep breath, and her voice ringing out across the island.

"My dear friends, family, and fellow islanders,"

she began; her voice filled with conviction.

"Today, we gather to celebrate a new chapter in our history. A chapter of hope, of renewal, and of promise.

As your new Alpha, I stand before you humbled, honored, and committed to serving our island and its people with every fiber of my very being."

The crowd erupted into applause, their cheers and whistles carrying across the water. Evelyn smiled, her eyes shining with tears.

"I know that I am not a traditional choice for Alpha,"
she continued.

"But I believe that my youth, my passion, and my commitment to our values make me the perfect candidate for this role. I promise to listen to each and every one of you, to seek guidance from our elders, and to make decisions that benefit our island and its people."

The crowd nodded in agreement; their faces filled with anticipation.

"We are a resilient people,"
Evelyn declared.

"We have faced challenges and overcome obstacles. We have weathered storms and rebuilt our homes. And through it all, we have remained strong, united, and true to ourselves. As your Alpha, I vow to build on this strength, to foster a sense of community and belonging,

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and to ensure that our island remains a place of beauty, of wonder, and of opportunity for all."



The islanders cheered again, their voices echoing across the water.

"We will work together to address the challenges that lie ahead,"

Evelyn promised.

"We will support our farmers, our artisans, and our craftsmen. We will protect our environment, preserve

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our traditions, and celebrate our diversity. And we will do it all with kindness, compassion, and respect for one another."

The crowd applauded, their faces filled with joy and hope.

"To my fellow leaders, I pledge to work collaboratively and transparently,"

Evelyn said.

"I will seek your counsel, your wisdom, and your support. Together, we will build a brighter future for our island and its people."

The leaders nodded in agreement; their faces filled with determination.

"And to the young people of our island,"

Evelyn said, her voice filled with passion.

"I see a bright future ahead of you. I see a future filled with promise, with opportunity, and with the chance to make a difference in the world. As your Alpha, I pledge to support you, to guide you, and to help you reach your full potential."

The young people cheered, their faces filled with excitement and anticipation.

"In closing,"

Evelyn said, her voice filled with emotion.

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"I want to thank each and every one of you for this honor. I promise to work tirelessly on behalf of our island and its people. Let us embark on this new chapter together, with hope in our hearts, with courage in our souls, and with the knowledge that we are stronger together than we are alone."

The crowd erupted into cheers, their voices echoing across the water. The islanders celebrated long into the night, their hearts full of joy and hope for the future. Evelyn stood on the stage, her eyes shining with tears. She looked out at the sea of faces, her heart full of gratitude. She knew that she had big shoes to fill, but she was ready. She was ready to lead, to serve, and to bring her people together.

As the night wore on, the celebration only grew more vibrant. The stars twinkled above, and the music and laughter filled the air. With faces flushed with happiness, the islanders danced and sang a song for Evelyn entitled:

"Rise Kyralion, Hail to Evelyn"

(Verse 1)

*Rise up, island voices, let the drums resound
A new era begins, a new leader emerges
Evelyn, our Alpha, with wisdom and compassionate one
Your lead shall we follow, we welcome you*

(Chorus)

*Arise o Kyralion, arise its people, all hail our Alpha
Our matriarch of matriarchs, our hearts abound
With wisdom, she leads us through the night*

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*To the ends of the isles and beyond, let our song
resonate*

*Tell it out, you mountings and whisper it out you oceans
In Kyralion, a new dawn descends*

(Verse 2)

*With compassion and strength, she'll lead the way
A beacon of hope, in the days to come, she is
With courage boldness, together shall we stand, united
In your lead, our Alpha, Evelyn, our future's won*

(Chorus)

*Arise o Kyralion, arise its people, all hail our Alpha
Our matriarch of matriarchs, our hearts abound
With wisdom, she leads us through the night
To the ends of the isles and beyond, let our song
resonate
Tell it out, you mountings and whisper it out you oceans
In Kyralion, a new dawn descends*

(Bridge)

*From the ocean depth to mountain tops
From one shoreline to the other cove
Your sacrifices abound, to it we applaud
Rise, Kyralion, rise to our guiding light
Evelyn, our Alpha, leads the way*

(Chorus)

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*Arise o Kyralion, arise its people, all hail our Alpha
Our matriarch of matriarchs, our hearts abound
With wisdom, she leads us through the night
To the ends of the isles and beyond, let our song
resonate*

*Tell it out, you mountings and whisper it out you oceans
In Kyralion, a new dawn descends*

(Outro)

*Wash ashore the sealine of Kyralion
Evelyn, our Alpha, our hearts belong
We'll follow you, where love and wisdom lead us home.*

The song was beautiful. The lyrics were so uplifting and celebratory, capturing the essence of a new era and leadership. The imagery is vivid, with the drums resounding, the people arising, and the song resonating across the isles and oceans. The bridge is particularly touching, with the lines "Your sacrifices abound, to it we applaud" and "Rise, Kyralion, rise to our guiding light." The outro is also lovely, with the line "We'll follow you, where love and wisdom lead us home." It's a truly inspiring and joyful song.

Evelyn smiled, her heart full of joy. She knew that she would do everything in her power to make her people proud. She was their Alpha, and she would lead them to greatness.

The music and laughter continued long into the night; the islanders' voices continue to resonate across the water. The stars shone brightly above, and the moon cast a silver glow over the celebration.

As the night wore on, the celebration began to wind down. The islanders said their goodbyes and headed home; their faces still flushed with excitement.

Evelyn now sitting on the stage, her eyes shining with tears. She looked out at the almost empty space, her heart full of gratitude. She knew that she had a long road ahead of her and wished her parent and friends were here to enjoy this moment with her. She was ready to lead, to serve, and to bring her people together.

Kharia approached her, a smile on her face.

"You're going to do great things, Evelyn,"

she said, her voice filled with conviction.

"I'm honored to stand by your side."

Evelyn smiled, her eyes shining with tears.

"Thank you, Kharia. I couldn't do this without you."

The two women hugged, their hearts full of joy and hope for the future. The island was in good hands, and the people would thrive under Evelyn's leadership.

As they walked off the stage, the islanders cheered again, their voices continue to echo across the waters. The sun was raising on a new era with Evelyn on the lead.

Part 3

The Test of Leadership

- 11. A Sea of Adversity**
- 12. Kyralion's Future - A Labyrinth Haze**
- 13. The Burden of Power**
- 14. A Shift in the Tides of Times**
- 15. Resilience in the Face of Adversity**



Chapter 11: A Sea of Adversity



It was just some couple of months since the people of Kyralion sang in oneness their pledge to support Evelyn, their new Alpha, their echo resonating far and wide, as the mountings reechoes their vows afar and the oceans resound in silent whispers their declarations.

However, this day, the people have forming cliques, resulting in commotion and the islanders are divided, there was need to fix this issue once and for all. Evelyn asked her hand, Kerrington to call for an assembly of the matriarchal leaders and Kacelyn must be present.

The sun was setting over the island of Kyralion, casting a warm orange glow over the gathered crowd. Evelyn stood tall, her eyes scanning the sea of faces before her. She had been Alpha for only a short time, but already she faced opposition from some of the matriarchal leaders.

Kacelyn, one of the leaders, had been vocal in her disapproval of Evelyn's appointment. She had walked out of the council meeting after Evelyn was voted as the new Alpha of Kyralion, followed by four of her loyal disciples, creating some distractions, before calm settled in and the celebrations continued. Since then, Kacelyn had been spreading dissent among the islanders, trying to undermine Evelyn's authority at every turn.

Evelyn knew she had to address the issue head-on. So, she had called a gathering of the matriarchal leaders. Since Kharia and Kaybri were on the beach already, Evelyn who have briefed the two about the purpose of the meeting, asked Kerrington to direct all to converge at the beach side, close to the council hut.

It was not until Ky' Ayla arrived, did Kacelyn come. Soon Kenslynn arrived and took a sit on the log by the side. Only the matriarchal leaders were seated. Their servants, the hands, where out of ear rang as they were not part of the meeting.

Evelyn's eyes locked onto Kacelyn's, her gaze steady. She knew this can be a trigger to something great that can create anarchy, or better yet, a pathway to lasting friendship and unity. She knew she had to tread carefully, but what she knew best, was that, she wouldn't back down.

"I understand that you feel threatened by my leadership, Kacelyn. I assure you; my intentions are pure. I'm here to help Kyralion prosper, not to undermine our customs and traditions. I promised to protect our way of life."

As Evelyn spoke, she couldn't help but think back to a time when she was in a similar situation, facing a seemingly insurmountable problem. She was in an electronics laboratory, fondling with a faulty electronic circuit. The problem was unknown, and the circuit's complexity had stumped her at first. But she was determined to fix it.

She had carried out different tests, analyzing the circuit's behavior under various conditions. She had run simulations, consulted datasheets, and isolated components. It was a painstaking process, but she was driven by curiosity and a desire to solve the problem.

Finally, after hours of testing and analysis, she had discovered the culprit: a faulty metal oxide semiconductor field-effect transistor (MOSFET). She replaced it, and smiled as the system sprang to life, working perfectly.

Evelyn's mind snapped back to the present, and she realized that she would need to apply similar skills she used in troubleshooting the circuits back then as they can come handy in this situation. She needed to identify the root cause of the opposition, understand the motivations of this matriarchal leader, and find a way to address her concerns. She would also need to know any who is involved with Kacelyn in this rebellion. She took a deep breath and continue to speak, her words measured and thoughtful.

"I understand that change can be difficult, and that some of you may feel that I'm not doing things the way they've always been done. But I'm not here to dismantle our traditions or undermine our values. I'm here to help Kyralion thrive in a changing world."

As Evelyn spoke, she noticed a few of the matriarchal leaders nodding in agreement. She knew she had to build on that momentum, to find common ground and work towards a solution.

"Please let me know what your challenges are, let's work together to identify the issues and find solutions that benefit everyone,"

Evelyn said, her eyes scanning the crowd that are beginning to come and assembled by the beachside. they have formed two groups, loyalist of Kacelyn and those who see Evelyn as a good matriarchal head.

Evelyn was disturbed by this sight, to see the degree the actions of Kacelyn has resulted in, and the effect it has had on the people, her people. That notwithstanding, Evelyn continued.

"What is it you want me to adjust or do for the good of the people of Kyralion. I'm willing to listen and learn from each and every one of you."

Kacelyn scoffed, but Evelyn could see the faintest glimmer of doubt in her eyes. Evelyn knew she had to push forward, to prove herself as a leader.

With newfound determination, Evelyn began to outline a plan to engage with the matriarchal leaders, to understand their concerns and work towards a solution. She would need to be strategic, using her problem-solving skills to navigate the complex web of alliances and rivalries.

"Evelyn, you're a puppet on strings,"

Kacelyn sneered.

"You think you can lead our people, but you don't understand our ways."

Evelyn met Kacelyn's gaze calmly.

"I understand that you're upset, Kacelyn. But I'm committed to doing what's best for Kyralion. I'm willing to listen to your concerns and work together to find solutions."

Kacelyn scoffed.

"You think you're so clever, don't you, Evelyn? But we know you're just a puppet on strings. You're not one of us. You'll never truly understand our ways."

Her voice raising with each word, as she turned to the crowd.

"She is just a weak leader, Evelyn. She'll cave in to pressure and compromise our values. She cannot handle pressure. Kyralion need a strong and determined leader like me, not a weakling like her."

Her voice loud, as she tacitly cheers with gesture to the crowd of her supporters. Then they returned the gestured with a commotion of crowd cheers in anger, like an angry mob. The crowd in support of Evelyn began to stir, some islanders shouting in agreement with Kacelyn while others defended Evelyn. The situation was escalating quickly and the crowd gradually close in on the matriarchal leaders.

Just as it seemed like things might get out of hand, Ky' Ayla, a resilient and impartial matriarchal leader, the elite guardian of the island, rose from her sit, stepped forward, with a charged demeanor.

"Enough!"

she cried out loud, her voice commanding silence as it echoes. Suddenly, there was calmness, such that if a pin should drop, everyone would hear it. It was as if the very elements held their breath. Only the returning waves of the ocean and the whistling sound of the sweet breeze could be heard.

"We didn't gather here to fight. We have come to find a way forward, together."

Then Kharia, a wise matriarch and adjudicator, stepped forward, her eyes shining with deep understanding.

"My dear people of Kyralion,"

she said, her voice calm and soothing.

"We gather here today as a community, united in our love for Kyralion and our desire for what's best for our island. We've come to a crossroads, and it's time for us to choose which path to take."

The crowd quieted, sensing the weight of Kharia's words.

"We've always been a people who value strength, courage, and wisdom,"

Kharia continued.

"And I believe that Evelyn embodies those qualities. She's young, yes, but she's also passionate and determined. And she's willing to listen, to learn, and to grow. We all need time to grow as we deserve time too."

Kharia's eyes swept the crowd, meeting the gaze of each islander.

"We've faced many challenges in the past, and we've always come out stronger because of our unity and our willingness to work together. Let's not forget that now. Let's not let our differences tear us apart."

Kharia turned to Kacelyn, her expression firm but compassionate.

"Kacelyn, I understand that you have concerns. And I'm willing to listen to them, to work with you to find solutions. But let's do it in a way that's respectful, in a way that's constructive. Let's not resort to name-calling and personal attacks. Let's focus on the issues, on finding what's best for Kyralion."

The crowd nodded, murmuring in agreement. Kacelyn's face was still set in a scowl, but Kharia's words seemed to be having an effect. The tension in the air began to dissipate, replaced by a sense of calm and determination. Kharia's words were like a balm to the crowd, soothing their fears and doubts. The gap that separated the loyalist to Kacelyn and the supporters of Evelyn, has been closed.

As the crowd quieted, Evelyn breathed a sigh of relief. Then Evelyn stepped forward, her eyes shining with gratitude towards Kharia. She took a deep breath, her voice ringing out across the gathered crowd.

"My dear people of Kyralion,"
she began, her words echoing Kharia's.

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"I stand before you today, humbled and honored to be your Alpha. I know that I am young, but I am determined to lead our island to greatness. I promise to uphold the



values that have made us strong, to protect our way of life, and to ensure that every single one of you has a voice in our community. And please know this. Every word I told you on my inauguration day, I meant them."

Evelyn's gaze swept the crowd, meeting the eyes of her people.

"I know that there are concerns, and I am willing to listen. I am willing to work with each and every one of you to find solutions that benefit our island. But I will not compromise on our values, on our traditions, or on our commitment to one another."

Evelyn's voice grew stronger; her words filled with conviction.

"I remember the day I stood before you, promising to be a leader who would serve with integrity, with compassion, and with courage. Again, I renew that promise to you today. I will not let you down. I will not let our island down."

The crowd erupted into cheers, their voices carrying across the ocean. Evelyn's words had struck a chord, and she knew that she had the support of her people, once again. Kacelyn's face was still set in a scowl as the events that would have worked in her favor, have been twisted against her to favor Evelyn. Evelyn could see the faintest glimmer of hope in her eyes., though, that somehow, Kacelyn agrees to all that Kharia has spoken, but she was unsure why Kacelyn was still in opposition to her.

Evelyn smiled, her heart full of love for her people.

"Let us work together, my friends, my sisters and mothers."

she said, her voice filled with emotion.

"Let us build a brighter future for Kyralion, a future that is worthy of our ancestors and our children. Together, we can achieve greatness."

The crowd cheered again, their voices echoing across the ocean and the waves carried them through. Evelyn stood tall, her heart full of happiness and purpose as she felt a sense of hope. She was ready to lead her people, to protect their way of life, and to build a brighter future for Kyralion.

As the meeting drew to a close, Evelyn noticed a group of islanders huddled in the shadows, whispering among themselves. She sensed that they were plotting something, but she couldn't quite put her finger on what it was.

Then the people of Kyralion started returning back to their homes. As they dispersed, they kept talking quietly among themselves, it was clear that Kharia's wise words had had a profound impact. The islanders were beginning to see reason, to understand that Evelyn's leadership was not a threat, but an opportunity for growth and progress.

Evelyn smiled, feeling a sense of gratitude towards Kharia. She knew that she still had a long way to go, but with Kharia's support, she felt like she could face anything. The islanders continue on their regular activities and there was calmness as the island was beginning to heal. But little did she know the she would have to face more and real challenges. This frontal one was only just the beginning.

As the days passed, Evelyn faced one challenge after another. Kacelyn's followers continued to spread dissent, and some islanders began to doubt Evelyn's leadership again. But Evelyn refused to give up. She worked tirelessly to address the island's problems, seeking advice from the wise matriarchs and other experienced mothers of the island.

Later, it was obvious to Evelyn that Kacelyn's opposition is not just about Evelyn's leadership style, but about a deeper power struggle. As Evelyn navigates the complex web of alliances, she discovers that Kacelyn has her own ambitions for the position of the Alpha.

The two women engage in a series of psychological games, each trying to outmaneuver the other. As the people began to see Evelyn for her good will and efforts to bring about positive changes for the island, they began to support Evelyn's leadership. However, Kacelyn and her followers remained in opposition.

One evening, as Evelyn and Kerrington, her hand, walked along the beach, Evelyn and Kerrington were met by a young lady with dark windblown hairs, she was in her early 20s. She was carrying a small chest, like the one Evelyn had previously extracted on her covert mission. She was bleeding seriously on her right arm. Evelyn's grip on her sidearm tightened, while Kerrington assisted to stop the bleeding. It looks like a cut. She could not say if it was knife cut or the woods, but it was deep and serious, needing attention.

The girl appeared to be running away from someone. Her eyes were frantically scouting around and watching from the distance she had come if someone was coming along after her. As she continues to gasp for air, she could talk less. She said to Evelyn a puzzling and muffled message.

" 'Trust!' ha, ha, 'No!' ha, ha, 'One!' "

Evelyn's heart racing, as they wondered who she could be and where she could have come from and who may be after her.

"It could it be a trap!?"

Kerrington said, her face, laced with readiness.

"... or a genuine attempt to help me."

Evelyn responded. For starters, they decided to help her out of any danger she may be in, at present. Thereafter, she would have the time to explain herself more fully and what her words could mean. She was still shaking as her adrenaline in her body were still much. Her was frightened by every sudden sound, like someone who has seen death itself and escaped. Evelyn helped her with the chest she had been carrying. It was heavy.

Kerrington decided to stay back and give Evelyn and the young girl an escaping chance. Evelyn recalled her first encounter with Kerrington at the old lighthouse at midnight, and their second at the north cove by the white oak tree where she had just retrieved the package. Evelyn thought she knows more about Kerrington, but the more

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she thinks she knows, the more Kerrington skills set proves Evelyn otherwise.

Evelyn and the young lady ran into the bushes to avoid open roads. As Evelyn leads, she followed. By this time, Kerrington have gotten a good position to keep watch.



Soon, some masked people came looking for somebody. Kerrington try to study them, but could not place them. They move like well-trained warriors, not of the island, but they were mercenaries hired by Kacelyn. She could not tell if they were males or females. They did not speak a word, but all through, they used signs in communicating.

Kerrington's mother was once the elite guardian of the island. Growing up, she taught her self-defense and survival in any tropical situation. Nevertheless, Kerrington knows she is no match for these warriors, so she remained in her hiding and wish Evelyn and the lady have evaded the pursuers.

Time passed and when all was settled, Kerrington came out and went home to meet Evelyn and the lady. There she meets Khaira, whom Evelyn has asked to come. The three of them listened as the lady who have eaten and rested began to speak. By this time, it was late in the evening.

“I am Kendra,”

the young lady said, she examines her treated injuries.

“Thank you. I have been a slave of Kacelyn from birth. My mother was her slave until she was killed. They told me she was sick and died, but I know she was killed.”

Kendra said, her voice turning into a cry.

“I’ve information to help the Alpha. It’s about Kacelyn. I would tell you all I know, but please, protect the Alpha.”

When it was late, Khania returned back to her hut.



Chapter 12: Kyralion's Future - A Labyrinth Haze



The women stayed awake all-night listening to the chronicles and information Kendra was telling them about Kacelyn and the box contains proof of what she was saying. The more Kerrington listens, the more she believes it was a right decision not to have Kacelyn as the Alpha. As Kendra narrates more, it became obvious to Kerrington the connections to her suspicions on Kacelyn.



As the dawn ascended, the women felt the need to catch some sleep to regain some energies. Kharia had heard and seen enough. She left the previous night. So, Evelyn tries to sleep, the words of Kendra continue to make her restless,

"When I discovered the plot against the Alpha, they wanted to kill me. I have to take these evidences and run for my life. They have big plans that would shack off the very foundations of the Alpha. Kacelyn's not the only one working against the Alpha. There's a larger conspiracy at play, one that threatens the very stability of Kyralion."

As Evelyn listened to Kendra's words, she felt a shiver ran down her spine. Evelyn asked, her voice low and urgent.

"What do you mean, 'there's a larger conspiracy at play'?"

Kendra peeped through the windows, her eyes scanning the shadows outside to see if anyone was listening in before responding in a hushed tone,

"I've heard rumors that Kacelyn is working with someone from within the island's inner circle. Someone who's been secretly manipulating her and fueling her anger towards the Alpha."

Still struggling to shack it up and sleep, Evelyn's eyes locked onto Kerrington's, her heartbeat so loud as if her heart would jump out of her chest.

"What do you see? Tell me, what do you know?"

Evelyn asked Kerrington, her voice barely above a whisper. Before Kerrington could reply, Kendra walked up to where Evelyn and Kerrington were lying and asked.

“You are the Alpha, am I right?”

Evelyn asked Kerrington were unsure what to answer or how to respond.

... and why did you ask?

Kerrington counter asked Kendra.

Kendra hesitated, glancing around nervously.

“I'll tell you everything, but you have to promise to protect me. My life is in danger.”

Evelyn nodded, as they both sat up, with eyes clear from the sleep, her determination was growing more.

“I would do whatever it takes, to uncover the truth and protect my people.”

Evelyn said. Evelyn and Kerrington exchanged a knowing look. Then Kendra felt some level of safety. Evelyn knew she had to act fast and fish out the traitor in their midst and stop the conspiracy and save Kyralion from those who sought to destroy it as the oppositions is become a lot more treacherous.

Since Evelyn does not know those involved in this treacherous conspiracy, she decided to investigate further. She is settled in her trust for Kerrington, as Kerrington has come to know the truth about Evelyn too. So, Evelyn told

Kerrington her plans but Kerrington demanded to be with her in every step of the way. Evelyn considered that Kerrington's knowledge of the island and how to navigate her way around it would be very necessary, so she accepted.

Evelyn sent for Kendra and asked for the identity of the traitor. Kendra hesitated, her eyes darting around the environment once more before he leaned in closer.

"I've told you already. I don't know for sure, but I think it might be one of the matriarchs. Someone who's been quietly gathering support among the islanders to overthrow you."

Evelyn's eyes narrowed. She had suspected that Kacelyn's behavior was too erratic to be solely driven by her own ambition. There had to be someone else pulling the strings. And the chest containing gold, coal, diamonds, pearls of high values and foreign items, those not from this island, clearly shows there have been people coming in and out of the island and there had been ongoing trading with the island's treasures. All these is been coordinated by Kacelyn and her hordes.

"Can you find out who it is?"

Kerrington asked Kendra.

"We need to know their identities and their plans."

Kendra nodded, his face set in determination.

"I'll do my best, even if it means sacrificing myself for the good of Kyralion. That would be an honor, my Alpha. But you need to be careful. If this conspiracy is real, you're in grave danger."

Evelyn smiled grimly. She'd faced many challenges as the new Alpha, but she was really not sure how to face this.

"I'll be careful. I won't back down. We'll get to the bottom of this and protect our island together. Be careful as you go and return in one piece. Godspeed Kendra!"

With a nod, Kendra disappeared into the woods, leaving Evelyn to ponder the weight of her newfound knowledge. Kerrington was willing to give it all for Evelyn. Evelyn, on her part, knew that she had to tread carefully, but she was determined to uncover the truth and protect her people and the island of Kyralion at all cost.

As Evelyn pondered the weight of her newfound knowledge, she couldn't shake off the feeling that she was being watched. She glanced around her environment, but there was no one in sight, except Kerrington.

When Evelyn entered her hut, she saw a piece of parchment on her bed side. She picked it up, and her eyes widened as she read the cryptic message:

"Trust no one. Not even Kerrington."

Evelyn's heart skipped a beat.

Who could have written this? How could they have dropped it here when I have been outside in front of my hut all the while? And what did they mean by this?

Then a gust of wind blew, Evelyn turned to see Kerrington standing behind her, she had a fright. Then composed herself, trying to hid what she was holding. Kerrington noted it and asked what it was. At first, Evelyn did not want to share the information with Kerrington.

"What is it, Alpha? You look like you've seen a ghost."

Kerrington asked.

"Nothing serious. It was just some thoughts!"

Evelyn claimed. Later, Evelyn decided to confront Kerrington about the mysterious parchment and the message on it. Evelyn was calculating Kerrington's every move, and Kerrington was aware of it. When Evelyn became conscious that Kerrington was aware that she was analyzing her moves, Evelyn decided to open up. Handing over the parchment to Kerrington, Evelyn said, asking.

"I found this on my bed. Do you know anything about it? How did it get in her? From where could it have come?"

Kerrington's expression changed from curiosity to concern.

"I know where it came from,"

She replied cautiously, his voice very certain and assured.

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“. . . but how it made its way in her, I don’t know and who could have scripted it, that too, I do not know.”

She added. Evelyn replied by asking.

“What do you mean, Kerrington?”

Kerrington vacillated before responding,

“I don’t know, but I think it’s a warning. Someone might be playing both of us.”

Evelyn's eyes narrowed.

“What do you mean?”

Kerrington glanced around the hut, then leaned in closer.

“I’ve been noticing some strange occurrences. Equipment, items and utensils going missing, repositioned or damaged. Also, before I came in, I noticed strange noises behind. I think someone might be trying to sabotage our efforts.”

Evelyn's mind was sprinted.

“Who could be behind this? And why?”

Evelyn's eyes flicked to Kerrington, who was watching her unreadable expression.

“What! They are trying to fool you, ignore all it says about me. These are seeds of discord among us. If we let them, they would win. You have to trust me on this.”

As Evelyn and Kerrington argues, the figure who dropped the parchment, slipped into the woods.



Chapter 13: The Burden of Power



Evelyn looked back to all the times she has been with Kerrington. She could not recall any time she was given miss information. It has always been that Evelyn have been too busy to ask the right questions to get the needed information, or that she did not ask Kerrington at all. So, Evelyn concluded that it'd be unfair to just conclude that Kerrington was hiding some information from her. So, Evelyn dropped her suspicions on Kerrington.

The injured arm of Kendra that was stitched became infected. She had lost lots of blood due to hemorrhage from hyperactivity. She needed rest for a long time to regain herself, but there has been no opportunity for her. One day, when she was going to meet Evelyn, Kendra fell and blanked out. For what she knows, Evelyn didn't know who to trust. So, she and Kerrington cared for her alone.

Meanwhile, Evelyn have trained so many people to handle different responsibilities. As for the educational classes, it was care for by one of her friends Kenaya. Ky' Ayla continue to lead the protector team of the island as an elite, but she remained oblivious to the deep corruption in her ranks. Her second in command was working for Kacelyn for her own hidden agender too. Evelyn delegated these tasks so that she could have more time, of her own to investigate the conspiracy matter at hand.

As Evelyn continued to engage with the matriarchal leaders, she couldn't shake off the feeling that something was off. The opposition seemed too organized and well calculated. She decided to do some digging, to uncover the underlying dynamics at play.

Evelyn spent the next few days meeting with various islanders, gathering information and listening for whispers of dissent. She spoke with Kalynda, a soft-spoken older woman who had lived on the island all her life. Her hut is closer to the city square, where the council hut is located. Kalynda's wrinkled hands moved deftly as she wove a traditional basket, her eyes clouding with concern.

"I don't know what's going on, Evelyn,"

Kalynda said, her voice barely above a whisper.

"But I've heard rumors of a secret group, one that's been meeting in the dead of night. They're the ones stirring up trouble, I'm sure of it."

Evelyn's ears perked up, her mind considering the possibilities of knowing at least someone in the group, how wide spread they have spanned. She thanked Kalynda for the information and set out to investigate further.

She then met with a young woman who had just returned from fishing. Evelyn was pleased to see the face that it was Kaida, her old friend, the hand of the previous Alpha, Kamouri. Kaida is now in the fishing business. Kaida is talented at gathering information. Kaida's dark brown hair

was windswept, and his bright blue eyes sparkled with excitement as she shared what he knew with Evelyn.

"Yes, I've seen some of the matriarchal leaders sneaking around at night. Evelyn, am sure of one of them at least. Because it is dark, I can't go closer to know who it was.

Sorry, I can't help with a name now."

Kaida said, his voice low.

"They're meeting with someone, but I don't know who.

I've tried to follow them, but they always seem to disappear into thin air, once they approach the bushes close to the burial forest."

Evelyn's determination grew more. She was getting close to uncovering the truth, she could feel it. She decided to set up a stakeout, to watch the matriarchal leaders and see where they'll lead her.

That night, under the light of the full moon, Evelyn hid behind a cluster of rocks, watching as the group assemble. Then there was one she believes is a matriarchal leader. They gathered on the beach fully hooded and cloaked, many were on brown very few were on black. All their faces were obscured. Evelyn's eyes narrowed as she tries to recognize at least one of the figures, but she couldn't.

The group moved off into the darkness, passing the bushes close to the burial forest and Evelyn followed, her heart pounding in her chest. She trailed them to an abandoned hut on the outskirts of the village. There, they were met by another hooded figure on cloak. Before long Evelyn could not see them, just two were seen outside. They seem

to have disappeared inside. But Evelyn is a scientist and knows well that there is no ghost and humans can't disappear.

Evelyn crept closer, her ears pressed to the door. She heard whispers, urgent and conspiratorial. And then, a voice that made her blood run cold.

"You're doing well, Raven,"

the muffled voice, belonging to an aged person said,

"But we need more. We need the people to rise up against Evelyn, to demand her removal from leadership. Do so at all cost. Results! That's what we need!"

Evelyn's mind reeled as she realized the true extent of the opposition. This wasn't just about the so-called *Raven* or the matriarchal leaders – it was about a larger conspiracy, one that could threaten the very stability of Kyralion.

She knew she had to act fast, to gather evidence and expose the truth. But before she could turn to leave, she felt a hand on her shoulder, spinning her around. The hand is hard and strong; it doesn't feel like a feminine hand.

"You're quite the determined one, aren't you?"

A young muffled feminine voice said, as a figure emerges from the shadows, but due to the poor moonlight and the hood, she couldn't see the figure's face.

The hand had a firm grip on her. Evelyn, filled with trepidation, saw a mature male. He was a dark middle-age man in his late 30s. He was a very strong man with steady

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muscular packs. This was her first time for Evelyn to see a male in this island. He lifted Evelyn, dragging her dip into the forest to a cage, in obedience to the commands of his female commander, the shrouded figure in the dark. Evelyn couldn't identify who it was but just the muffle voice coming out from the ghost-like shadows.



Evelyn's eyes locked onto the figure, her heart pounding in her chest. She knew she was in grave danger. The conspirators have caught her. Evelyn stood her ground, refusing to back down. As the Alpha, she demands to know who's behind the conspiracy and what their ultimate

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goal is. She was reminded that, she is in their mercy. Without saying a word, the figure used gestures to communicate with the man, giving him instructions.

Evelyn tries to break free, but her captor is too strong. She must use her wits to outsmart them and escape, or risk being trapped forever. Before she could say her next words, she felt a sudden and sharp blow from the back. Immediately, she blacked out. She was thrown into the cage and the man was to kept watch over her for days. The conspirators ordered that she should be given rationed water only, no food. They want to watch her die slowly.



Days later, Evelyn's eyes fluttered open, and she was met with the warm rays of the sun peeking through the dense foliage. She was lying on a soft bed of grasses, and a faint smell of damp earth filled her nostrils. She tried to sit up, but a wave of dizziness washed over her, forcing her to lie back down. She remained in the cage for days, prying for help, wishing someone could find her. She was dead hungry, but could not be given any food.

One day, as she waited for the dizziness to pass, she heard the sound of footsteps approaching from behind. The man was nowhere to be found. A figure emerged from the underbrush, Evelyn's eyes widened as she saw who it was.

"Kerrington!?"

Evelyn's voice was hoarse from the lack of use. She has been missing for 18 days. On the 21st day, according to the custom, the people would have to select a new Alpha, proceeding with the assumption that she is dead, since here whereabouts is unknown.

In a delirium of heat and thirst, Evelyn could not properly coordinate herself. Kerrington's expression was consoling, with a hint of kindness shone in her eyes. She has been left in the cage to die of hunger, with water three times a day. Evelyn became very thin and her bones became visible. She had no energy to run, but since her life depends on it, she will give it all she has got.

"I'm here to take you home. You are coming with me, Evelyn. You look messy. Take these wears, change into them. We need to get out of here, quickly."

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Evelyn nodded, and Kerrington helped her out of the cage. She changed into the new wears then they made their way out through the dense forest. Evelyn's movements were unsettled. So, she held onto Kerrington as they ran.



"How did you find me?"

Evelyn asked, very feeble. Kerrington's gaze darted around their surroundings, her eyes scanning for any signs of danger.

*"I have my ways. But right now, you have to be safe.
Kacelyn's disciples will be tracking us."*

Evelyn's mind flashed back to the dark, menacing figure who had grabbed her.

"Who is Kacelyn'?"

she asked, her voice still quivering. Kerrington decided to carry Evelyn on her shoulder to increase their pace, for Evelyn was slowing her down. Then Kerrington replied.

"Kacelyn, one of your matriarchal leaders, is your kidnapper."

Evelyn was beat-up with silence. Then she asked.

"How could that be?"

Kerrington's expression turned somber, then she narrated.

"Kacelyn's story is a tragic one, Evelyn. She's been hurt deeply, and her desire for revenge consumes her."

As they continued, Kerrington told Evelyn.

"Am taking you to a safe house. When you are strong enough, then we can return to your hut."

Then she promised to tell her about Kacelyn's past, when Evelyn is fit to hear it. For now, they need to get settled. Kerrington took Evelyn to her bunker in the forest. It was unknown to the islanders and it requires decoding a crypted coordinate to find it.

The next day, Evelyn awakened to see herself in a house in the forest, how she got there, she can't explain. For the first time in many months, she could not remember how it feels like been in a house. It was like home, sweet home.

As she looked around, Evelyn noticed the bed to be the camping type, and a fire place. She walked around and saw everything was solar powered and they were functioning normal, like they were newly installed.

She looked around, trying to identify where she was. She realized from the displays in the situation room that she was somewhere in the forest, inside the island. She could identify all the tech gadgets; however, some seem to be high tech devices. When she sat to operate the computer, Kerrington walked in, like a control room head, she said.

*“Welcome to my home. Feel free to stay as long as you want. And don’t forget to drop by whenever you want.
Oh! I forgot, it is untraceable from the outside”*

Still confused where exactly she was, Evelyn asked.

“Where am I and what is this place?”

Kerrington replied.

“For short, this is my home now.”

Evelyn interjected.

“Your home!? What do you mean your home!?”

Kerrington continued.

“The simple story is, when I was deserted by my people, some foreigners, two men on this island, saw me and took me in. They were explorers who have come to study the land. Sadly, one day one never returned whereas, the other came back with an arrow in his right chest. The

next day, he died due to great loss of blood. I grew up in this place alone, teaching myself everything I know.”

Evelyn listens with tremendous empathy and her emotions were melting as Kerrington continued.

“The night we met at the old lighthouse, I wanted to start reaching out to my people and make friends. But you treated me just like every other person would.”

Evelyn felt guilt and apologized. Kerrington accepted.

“Then one day I was fondling around some old stuffs and I saw a note that referred to treasures in a location. I recalled reading some of their fun books and I have communicated with them using such cipher encrypted codes. Without stress, I decided to go to the ‘North Cove, White Oak Tree, Root Depth 3 Feet’ “

With curious looks in Evelyn’s eyes, she felt relieved.

“And here we are today, as friends.”

Kerrington concluded. Then Evelyn requested.

“So, tell me about Kacelyn, about the pain and suffering she had endured.”

Kerrington continued as Evelyn listened attentively.

“Kacelyn have had to watch as her beloved male children were ripped off from her hands after they tuned 7, each. While she was yet weeping over her two boys, she had to endure the death of her only beloved sister, Kayak. Kayak gave up the will to live because she could

not stand the pains of living and having to let go her only son in the camp for men, serving and been treated lower than animals. Kacelyn had promised to bring about a change to this hash ways. But, the death of her only sister, Kayak ripped her heart, forcing her to gather women who could not stand the pains of losing the male they have loved, their husbands, brothers, or sons.”

Kerrington spoke on.

“Little by little, Kacelyn have been winning over the men for a rebellion. She is waiting for the right time to strike. There is nameless dark man that walks about freely in the camp of Kacelyn, that was the first man to taste freedom. With that promised hope, they would do anything for Kacelyn. He has been born in the jungle and none of the other islanders know of his existence. He is a disciple and a weapon of Kacelyn.”

When Kerrington finished, Evelyn's resolve hardened. She knew she had to make a change now or risk everything she has worked for. She has to free the men and kill the growing conspiracy. As they emerged from the forest, Evelyn saw the islanders gathered, their faces etched with worry. They had been searching for her for the past 20 days, and relief washed over their faces as they saw her standing tall in one piece.

When Kacelyn requested for Evelyn after 20 days have passed, they discovered that she was not in the cage. The male and all the disciples of Kacelyn were in the forest searching frantically for Evelyn, unbeknown to them that she is with her people. Kacelyn was angry for losing

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Evelyn that he made all her slaves and servants not to eat for 3 days.

The man was chastised for loosing Evelyn and was called demeaning names. He was supposed to keep watch over Evelyn till she passes away naturally. However, he has lost her due to his nonchalant actions. At a point, Kacelyn ordered the man to look for Evelyn and fetch Evelyn back, at all cost. The man who though he had always been free,



now realized he was just in another form of slavery, a servitude he can never break free from. He has to make his call and create his path.



Chapter 14: A Shift in the Tides of Times



The challenges of becoming an Alpha were much on Evelyn. She has been in places she had no business going. As the Alpha, the position has attracted numerous troubles to her. She was kidnapped by her jealous matriarchal leader, one of her own. In all, she stood tall and learned much.

Evelyn summoned the meeting of the Matriarchal leaders. It was an emergency one. The message to them was urgent. They were all seated, except Kacelyn. Evelyn knew what to say and how to say it. Notwithstanding, she held her breath, and observed, they were all seated, but she chose to stand, and Kerrington was by the door side.

The long silence was observed by the matriarchs. Yet, Evelyn welcomed the warm rays that filters into the hut they were in and the gentle breeze in her hair, she felt a sense of determination wash over her and have decided to cross a path everyone avoided.

"My dear leaders of Kyralion,"

she began, her voice resolute and determined.

"I stand before you today, humbled and honored to be your Alpha. I know that I have been absent for some time, but I have returned with a newfound understanding and a determination to bring about change."

"I have been gone for 20 days, kidnapped by Kacelyn and her company and held captive and left to die. My experience had only strengthened my resolve to bring about this change to the island of Kyralion."

She looked out at the faces before her, making eye contact to them individually. And at the end, when she declared her decree, she was expecting to be challenged and opposed by all at once, but they stood up in applause, except Kerrington. They came and gave Evelyn a hug, one after the other, they welcomed her for her wisdom, determination and will to do something they all wanted, but no one had the willpower to say it or carry it out.

Then words were sent across to all the people of Kyralion to assemble by the council square. By evening, all the people were gathered. This time, Kacelyn was there present along with her disciples and hands.

Evelyn was poised, her eyes locking onto the faces of the people she had come to care about. She saw the hope in their eyes and their expectations that she would bring about a better future for them.

Ky' Ayla, felt a need to assign more of her warriors to be ready for any chaos, to contain the situation. When all arrangements were in place, the Alpha was called on stage. The crowd had mixed feelings of this sudden assembly. Some were murmuring as she stood on stage waiting for there to be calmness. When it was considerably settled, she welcomed all for the quick response to be there at such a short time.

"My dear people of Kyralion,"

Evelyn began, her voice trembling with emotion.

"I stand before you today, humbled and honored to be your Alpha. I have returned to you after 20 days of absence, and I have seen the pain and suffering that our people have endured for far too long."

Evelyn's eyes scanned the crowd, her gaze meeting the eyes of her people.

"I have seen the tears of our mothers, sisters and daughters. I have seen the pain in their eyes, the desperation, and the hopelessness. And I have realized that we can no longer continue down this path."

Evelyn's voice grew stronger, her words making waves across the gathering as they have all quiet down.

"We have been living in a society that values one group of people over another. We have been living in a society that denies our men their basic human rights. We have been living in a society that treats our men lower than animals, like objects to be used and discarded."

The crowd murmured in agreement; their faces filled with a mix of emotions.

"But I say to you, my dear people, that this ends today,"

Evelyn declared.

"Today, I decree that the men of Kyralion, every male, from boys to old men, visitors or islanders, they will all

be given names, just like us. They will be free to choose their own path, to pursue their passions, and to live their lives as they see fit."

As Evelyn spoke, she couldn't help but think back to her own life. She remembered the pain and suffering she had endured, the struggles she had faced, and the lessons she had learned.

"I remember the day our dear Alpha, Kamouri passed away,"

Evelyn said, her voice sober with emotions.

"I lost. Yes, I felt I missed some cherished moments with her. I should have had more time to get to know her more. I didn't understand why she had to leave so early.

But we should realize that life is precious, we must cherish every moment we have with our loved ones."

The crowd listened in rapt attention; their faces filled with empathy.

"And that's why I'm standing here today, telling you that it's time for us to make a change,"

Evelyn said, her voice filled with conviction.

"It's time for us to create a society that values all people, regardless of their sex. A society where our men are treated with dignity and respect, where they can be husbands, fathers, sons, and brothers."

The crowd erupted into cheers and applause, their faces filled with joy, excitement and hope. By this time, Ky'

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Ayla was coming with the released men and boys. On seeing how massive, the crowd of boys, men, fathers and sons, that have been wasting away, the people of Kyralion were moved to tears. On their part, the males were so happy, eager to meet their liberator, the Alpha.



Ky' Ayla was a tall, statuesque woman with long, brown hair and piercing green eyes. She was a skilled warrior, an elite, with a toned physique and a confident demeanor.

The air was charged with mixed emotions as mothers unite with their sons and father of their children, for some

it was a union of brothers and sisters. The massive family reunion was breathtaking that they spent hours reminiscing their experiences.

"Let us work together to build a brighter future for ourselves and for our children,"

Evelyn said, her voice ringing out across the gathering.

"Let us create a society that is just, equitable, and compassionate. Let us show the world that we are a people who value humanity and dignity."

As Evelyn finished speaking, the crowd cheered and applauded, their voices echoing across the ocean. Then Evelyn addressed the male who have come to know what freedom is for the first time in their lives. She spoke.

"My dear brothers, sons, and fathers of Kyralion. Today, we gather at a momentous occasion, one that would change the tides of times. A moment that will forever change the course of our history. For too long, you have been bound by the chains of oppression, forced to live in servitude and treated as less than equals. As the head of your matriarchal leaders, I stand before you today, to tell you that those days are far behind us."

"Yes, as your Alpha, I hereby decree that the men of Kyralion will no longer be treated as property, but as individuals with inherent worth and dignity. You will be given names, names of your choice and with it, the power to forge your own identities. You will be free to pursue your passions, to make your own choices, and to

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live your lives as you see fit, without depriving anyone their own freewill as we understand our ways.”

“No longer will you be confined to the roles of servants and providers, but you will be husbands, fathers, sons, and brothers, loved and respected for who you are. You will be treated with the same dignity and respect as the women of Kyralion, and you will have the same opportunities to grow and thrive.”

“This is not a gift, but a fundamental right. You are not lesser beings, but equal partners in our society. And I pledge to you that I will do everything in my power to ensure that this right is protected and respected.”

“To the men of Kyralion, I say to you: you are worthy. You are deserving of love, respect, and freedom. Do not be afraid to claim your rightful place in our society. Do not be afraid to be who you are meant to be.”

“And to the women of Kyralion, I say to you: we must work together to build a society that values and respects all individuals, regardless of their sex. Let us strive to create a world where our men are treated with the dignity and respect they deserve.”

“Let us celebrate this momentous occasion, and let us look forward to a brighter future for all of us. A future where every individual can live with dignity, respect, and freedom, for the good of Kyralion.”

“Thank you all!”

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The crowd erupted into cheers and applause as Evelyn's words echoed across the gathering. The men of Kyralion were finally free, and a new era of equality and respect had begun.

Kacelyn, who had been standing at the back of the crowd, stepped forward, her face twisted in anger, and challenged Evelyn openly in rage.

*"This is preposterous! Are you out of your mind!?
Evelyn, you can't do this!"*

Kacelyn spat.

"You can't just decree that men are equal to us. It's against our traditions, our customs. I said it. Get her arrested, she is an impostor. She is here to destroy us."

The excited crowd suddenly changed into angry mob, closing in on Kacelyn to devour her when Ky' Ayla stepped in and contained the situation.

"Thanks for the rescue,"

Kacelyn said.

"You have to arrest Evelyn right away."

her eyes locked onto Ky' Ayla's. But Ky' Ayla ordered her warriors otherwise.

"Arrest Kacelyn for treason! Including any who opposes you or tries to prevent you."

Ky' Ayla commanded, her voice firm.

"Detain her like the slave, for her crimes against our people, against our Alpha and against Kyralion!"

The guards moved forward, dragging Kacelyn away as she struggled against the guards, kicking, shouting and causing. The anger in the mob dissipated into excitement as they cheer on Ky' Ayla for her justice in standing with Evelyn. Meanwhile, Evelyn watched, her heart heavy with sorrow. She knew that Kacelyn's actions had been motivated by pain and desperation, but she also knew that she had to do what was right. She knew that this liberation would destroy Kacelyn's secret army of men.

Gradually, the crowd dispersed, Evelyn, Kharia, Kaybri and Kerrington remained. They were happy as a sense of satisfaction washed on their faces for the decision they have reached. It was truly for them, it was not for selfish gain on Evelyn's part, they chatted among them. Evelyn's father is not among them nor does she have a brother or a son amidst the liberated male.

But as she turned to walk away, she caught a glimpse of a figure watching her from a distance in the shadows of the woods. It was similar to the figure that ordered for her captured and caging in the forest, and presumably the same figure that dropped the parchment on her bed. Although, she didn't recognize who the figure is, she knows that the figure has lots of hatred in their eyes. Before she could get the attention of Kerrington to look at the direction of the figure, it disappeared from sight.

Evelyn's heart skipped a beat as she wondered who this person was and what they wanted. This figure seems to be stalking her lately. But she knew that she couldn't let fear dictate her actions. She had to be strong and brave, for the sake of her people.

As she walked away, she couldn't help but think back to her past, to the events that had shaped her into the person she was today. Thus, with the approaching dusk, Evelyn knew that a new era was beginning, an era of freedom and equality. And she was proud to have etched it into the annals of Kyralion.

As the days passed, Evelyn worked tirelessly to implement her vision for the island. She met with the

council, discussing ways to improve the lives of the men and women of Kyralion. She met with the people, listening to their concerns and ideas. And she worked with Ky' Ayla, planning the future of the island. Some men were drafted into the protection group of the island as warriors and were trained.

As the sun rises over Kyralion Island, the islanders begin their day, greeting each other with warm smiles and gentle bows. The air is filled with the sweet scent of frangipani and hibiscus, and the sound of waves gently lapping against the shore.

In the heart of the island, the council of matriarchs gathered in a nearby grove, surrounded by ancient trees and vibrant greenery. They convene to discuss the island's affairs, sharing wisdom, and making decisions that benefit the community.

Evelyn, still grappling with the aftermath of her kidnapping and the revelation about Kacelyn's past, joins the council meeting. She is determined to address the underlying issues that have been plaguing the island, the conspiracy and to find a way to heal the wounds of the past. Evelyn chaired the meeting with Ky' Ayla Kharia, Kaybri and Kerrington, the Alpha's hand. Kenslynn was not present. She excused herself with claims of sickness.

As the meeting progresses, Evelyn presents her proposal for a new initiative to promote understanding and reconciliation between the islanders. She suggests establishing a program to educate the islanders on various subject ranging from history, management, crafts and

more, especially for the men, and assign them to different task in the society.

The council listens intently, their faces a mix of curiosity and concern. After a thoughtful discussion, they agree to support Evelyn's initiative, recognizing the need for healing and growth. With the council's backing, Evelyn sets out to implement the program, working closely with the islanders to develop a curriculum that honors their history and promotes unity.

Kacelyn, meanwhile, was imprisoned, her plans foiled and her power taken away. But Evelyn knew that she couldn't let her guard down, not yet. There were still those who opposed her, who would seek to undermine her authority and destroy everything she had worked for, if she is not careful. Worst yet, she is yet to identify them.

With this new development, she had the support of her people, and she had the power of her own determination. She is more confident to face whatever challenges came her way, knowing that she was doing what was right.

The future was uncertain, but one thing was clear. The island of Kyralion would never be the same again. A new era had begun, an era of freedom and equality. And Evelyn was proud to write more chapters on it.



Chapter 15: Resilience in the Face of Adversity



With Kacelyn taken out of the picture and the army of men they were building gone, Kerrington was left alone in the conspiracy plot. She was left with very few loyalists and disciples who remained because of the gold they offer. However, there are no more slaves to do the mining of these precious stones.

Hence, it only a matter of time left for the stones before they get depleted. With the piles of gold, silver, pearls coals and diamond in their storage, she felt the urge to strike before it would be too late. Thus, she sent invitation to the outsiders for some hired mercenaries, to come to Kyralion and breakaway Kacelyn. However, she refused to pay them, so they did not respond to her request.

Meanwhile, Evelyn and Kerrington were in the safehouse bunker of Kerrington. Evelyn saw some gadget she hopes to use for her investigation.

Can I borrow some of these gadgets?

Evelyn asked, with Kerrington' reply.

Sure thing! Feel free to return whenever you want.

Then Evelyn carried, a metal detector, compass, and a digital map device. She put them on a chest. Then they were dressed on the clothing the explorers used when they

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would enter the woods. Evelyn carried the chest out with her and Kerrington followed. Kerrington had to go on routine checks to monitor her animal traps, before she would meet up with Evelyn at her hut.



On her part, Kaida, the hand of the previous Alpha, was working hard to gathering information from the newly freed men who were working in close quarters within the hall where the clandestine group usually meet.

“She is the leader, her face is usually coved and they make us to bow, never to see her face. One day, a boy

*mistakenly saw her face and she ordered for his death.
So, no one ever tried to see her face.”*

So said one of the freed men, now known as, Evans. Javen, the other freed man, said.

“I know someone who would have seen her face. We refer to him as ‘the-free-one’, he was considered free, at least as they claimed, but the only difference between him and us was that, we were cage, be he roam free.”

He concluded.

“Get ‘the-free-one’ and he would tell you all you need to know about Kacelyn. He despises Kacelyn.”

With this new knowledge, Kaida made way to Evelyn’s hut to update her. Kendra went back to the camp of Kacelyn to get any details that could help point out who the ghost in the shadows was, the figure in the hoodie, to expose the coconspirators of Kacelyn. There, Kendra met the dark man who was referred to as the-free-one.

Kendra helped him to reason as to why he should help Evelyn, adding that, Evelyn is not like their former boss, Kacelyn. Without revealing his decision, he left Kendra and went on his way. Kendra went to Kacelyn’s four disciples, one after another, Kaemani, Kahana, Kairys and Kamille. She endeavors to convince them to compare the ways Evelyn cares for her people and the way Kacelyn deals with them. They remained unresolved for fear that Kacelyn’s network is too large. They can be hurt if they try to abscond from Kacelyn. Although she met with many setbacks, Kendra never relented, and she succeeded.

Evelyn and Kerrington were together doing their own investigation, piecing some puzzles together to know who it could be among the matriarchal leaders. Kharia was considered, but she did not pass the test. Kaybri was scrutinized, but she failed too. With Kacelyn gone and the figure still roam, it means, Kacelyn is not the one they were looking for. Of cause, it can't be late Kamouri. So, the suspicion ended on Kenslynn and Ky' Ayla.

"Do you think there is any gadget in your bunker that can help us find any clues or counter any insurgency?"

Evelyn asked Kerrington.

Kerrington eyes locked onto something behind Evelyn, a shadow of someone standing from the outside, but the shadows betrayed the person. Kerrington expression changed to one of fear.

"Alpha! Hold still! We've got company."

she whispered.

Evelyn turned to see a figure emerging following the shadow. The figure was stepping out to a rectilinear range still outside. Thus, Evelyn and Kerrington who were inside the hut could see it through the open-door way. Evelyn's blood ran cold, as she wonders who it could be.

As the figure was emerging from the shadows, Kerrington's instincts kicked in. She prepared to defend herself and her Alpha by any means. She crouched low, her eyes locked onto the emerging figure, and her muscles tensed with clenched fists, ready to spring into action.

Before she could attack, Kendra intervened, rushing to the hut entrance from the side, calling out.

“My Alpha! . . . My Alpha!! . . . My Alpha!!!”

Suddenly, the figure held back. Kerrington and Evelyn were distracted as they turned to see Kendra through the window.

“I have discovered the truth!”

Kendra had barely made it to the door when she suddenly saw the figure, by this time, standing in clear view of all three. The three were all dumbfounded and speechless.

The figure stepped closer, and Evelyn saw that it was a woman with a hood over her head. The woman pulled back her hood, revealing a face that made Evelyn's heart skip a beat.

“That’s the traitor! She’s right here!”

Kendra cried out of fear, running behind Evelyn who had been pushed behind by Kerrington for protection.

“Kenslynn!?”

Surprise engulfs Evelyn’s face as she asked.

“Why are you doing this? You are one of the respected and older matriarchs of this island.”

Evelyn asked, maintaining caution as she moves out of the protective cover of Kerrington, staring around to see if Kenslynn was alone. Kenslynn smiled, her face wrinkled,

but it wasn't the warm smile Evelyn was used to. This smile was cold and calculating.

"You've destroyed everything! You think you have succeeded. You failed!"

Kenslynn said, her voice dripping with malice.

"I've come to unveil a true Alpha. An Alpha that will change everything as we have known it in Kyralion"

Evelyn's eyes narrowed.

"This can't be! How could one of the most respected matriarchs of the island betray us?"

Kenslynn's smile grew wider and awful.

"You see, Alpha, you think you know me. You don't!"

Evelyn's eyes locked onto Kenslynn, desperate for answers to her questions. She thought back to all the times Kenslynn had offered her advice and guidance. It all seemed so genuine.

"Kenslynn, why?"

Evelyn asked, her voice etched with confusion.

"What could have driven you to do this?"

Kenslynn's smile grew wider, her eyes glinting with a sinister light.

"You see, Alpha, I've been playing a long game. A game of power and manipulation. And I've been playing it for years. I decide the Alpha."

Kerrington's eyes narrowed, her face twisted in anger.

"You're the one who's been pulling the strings,"

she spat.

"You're the one who's been using us for your own gain."

Then Kenslynn chuckled, a cold, mirthless sound.

"You were always so easy to manipulate, Kerrington. And as for you, Alpha, you're just a pawn in my game. A pawn that's about to be used to bring about a new era for Kyralion."

Evelyn's eyes flashed with determination.

"Not if I have anything to say about it,"

she said, her voice firm. Just then, out of the woods appeared a figure striding closer. It was the dark man, the one who had held Evelyn captive under his mistress's command. The one the other men had referred to as "the-free-one."

Evelyn noticed him and became afraid with each step. However, Evelyn tries to contain her fears.

"Ah, Alpha,"

Kendra said, her voice low and smooth.

"At last, the trouble maker is alone."

He said, as he continues to walk close, from Kenslynn's direction, adding.

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"I see you're in a bit of a pickle."

Evelyn's eyes locked onto his, a mix of emotions swirling inside her. She wasn't sure if she could trust him, but she knew she needed his help. But Evelyn wonders if he was here for her or against her.

"And who are you?"

Kerrington demanded, her voice shrill with anger. The dark man smiled, a small, enigmatic smile. Standing beside Kenslynn, he responded.

"You fool! He is my slave."

Kenslynn replied Kerrington. Angrily, he said.

"Yes, I'm the one who's going to bring you down . . . "

The man said, standing beside Kenslynn on her right side, he spoke those words looking Kenslynn deep in her eyes. Then Kenslynn smiled, as Evelyn and Kerrington prepared their minds for a fight or flight response. Kendra knows he has come to help, so she wasn't scared.

Then he added.

" . . . Kenslynn!"

Grabbing Kenslynn's hand, he said more.

"Your time is up. I've been working with the team of my Alpha, the head of Kyralion's matriarchal leaders, to take you down. To you, I would remain a slave. To her, I am a freeman. Now, you would be the slave."

Kenslynn's face turned white with rage, and she lunged at the dark man, but he was too quick. He caught her easily, pinning her arms behind her back.

"It's over, Kenslynn,"

Evelyn said, her voice firm.

"You're going to face justice for your crimes."

Kenslynn's eyes blazed with hatred, but she knew she was beaten. She had underestimated Evelyn and the dark man, and now she was going to pay the price. Then the guards came and took Kenslynn away, Evelyn turned to the dark man.

"Thank you,"

she said, her voice sincere, as did Kerrington and Kendra.

"I owe you one."

The dark man smiled, a small, enigmatic smile.

"You don't owe me anything, my Alpha,"

he said.

"You've given me everything I needed. True Freedom. I'm just glad to be free of my obligations. By the way, my name is now Marcus."

Evelyn's eyes locked onto his, a sense of gratitude and respect growing inside her.

"Welcome to the team, Marcus, you have served your people well. Again, Thank you."

she said.

"We have a lot of work to do to rebuild our island and bring justice to those who have wronged us."

Marcus nodded, a small smile playing on his lips.

"I'm ready when you are, my Alpha,"

He said. Together, Evelyn, Marcus, Kerrington, and Kendra set out to expose the secrets of Kenslynn's conspiracy and bring justice to the island. It wouldn't be easy, but they were determined to succeed as the future of Kyralion depended on it.

As they began their investigation, they discovered that Kenslynn had been manipulating the system for years, using her position of power to amass a fortune and build a network of loyal followers. She had been secretly working with outsiders, trading valuable resources for weapons and supplies, and using her influence to undermine Evelyn's authority. The remaining leaders were not surprised to know that Kenslynn was conspiring against the lead of the Alpha of Kyralion.

The team worked tirelessly to gather evidence and build a case against Kenslynn and her co-conspirators. They interviewed witnesses, analyzed documents, and uncovered hidden accounts. The evidence they gathered was damning, and it was clear that Kenslynn would face severe punishment for her crimes. Also, Kenslynn and Kacelyn have ordered the murder of many males and females, something that was never done in Kyralion.

As the trial approached, Evelyn couldn't help but feel a sense of sadness. She had trusted Kenslynn, and the older woman's betrayal had cut deep. But she knew that she had to put her personal feelings aside and do what was right for the island.

The trial was a dramatic and emotional affair, with Kenslynn's loyal followers testifying against her hideous crimes. The evidence was overwhelming, and in the end, Kenslynn was found guilty of treason.

The sentence was severe: Kenslynn would be banished from the island, forced to live out the rest of her days in solitude. Evelyn knew that it was a harsh punishment, but she also knew that it was necessary. The island couldn't afford to have traitors like Kenslynn undermining its stability and security. Everything belonging to Kenslynn and Kacelyn would now belong to the people of Kyralion.

As Kenslynn was led away, Evelyn felt a sense of closure. The island was finally starting to heal, and the people were beginning to trust their leaders again. She knew that there would be challenges ahead. However, she was confident that she and her new team could face them.

The island of Kyralion was entering a new era, one of peace and prosperity. And Evelyn was proud to be a part of it and blazing the trail.

The days that followed were filled with activity, as Evelyn and her team worked to rebuild the island and restore its economy. They established new trade agreements,

invested in infrastructure, and worked to improve the lives of all the island's citizens.

And through it all, Evelyn was there, leading her people with wisdom and compassion. She had faced down treason and emerged stronger, more confident, and more determined than ever.

The people of Kyralion began to see their Alpha in a new light, as a leader who was truly worthy of their respect and admiration. And Evelyn knew that she had found her true calling, as a leader who would do everything in her power to protect and serve her people.

As the sun set over the island, Evelyn stood on the beach, looking out at the sea. She felt a sense of pride and accomplishment, knowing that she had helped to create a better future for her people. And she prays to always be there for them, no matter what challenges lay ahead.

As the months passed, Evelyn's leadership continued to bring prosperity and peace to the island. The people were happy, and the island was thriving. Evelyn's team, including Kerrington, Kendra, Kaida and Marcus, worked tirelessly to ensure that the island's government was fair and just.

Evelyn confiscated and secured everything belonging to Kacelyn and Kenslynn. With her new team, they used the metal detector to trace more metals hidden from view. Ky' Ayla and her team worked hard to coordinate the people to rearrange the sized items. One day while on site, a messenger came to inform the hand of the Alpha that

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Kyralion have visitors. Kerrington hurried up to Evelyn and pleaded with her to hear them out and their reasons.

Kerrington knows Evelyn have a good sense of judgment and if she listens to them and their reasons were genuine, she would consider welcoming them to the island. This would be a different reaction from what has been the norm as done by the previous people.



On meeting them, Evelyn received the visitors who have come in from the outside, they have come to the island seeking to establish trade agreements. Evelyn was cautious at first, but as she met with the group's leader, a

wise and kind-hearted woman named Captain Orion, she began to feel a sense of excitement and possibility.

Captain Orion was a woman of great intelligence and cunning, with a quick wit and a sharp mind. She was a skilled diplomat and strategist, and Evelyn knew that she would be a valuable ally for the island.

The two women talked for hours, discussing the potential for trade and cooperation between their peoples. Evelyn was impressed by Captain Orion's intelligence and vision, and she knew that she wanted to work with her.

As the days passed, Evelyn and Captain Orion negotiated a series of agreements that would benefit both their peoples. They established trade routes, exchanged knowledge and skills, and formed a strong alliance.

The people of Kyralion were overjoyed by the news, and they celebrated long into the night. The air was filled with happiness and laughter with songs till dawn. Evelyn smiled, feeling a sense of pride and accomplishment. She knew that she had made the right decision, and that the future of the island was bright.

As the night wore on, Evelyn and Captain Orion sat on the beach, watching the stars twinkle to life in the night sky. They talked about their dreams and aspirations, and Evelyn felt a sense of camaraderie with the other woman.

"I have one more request,"

Captain Orion said, her eyes sparkling with mischief.

"I'd like to leave a small group of my people here on the island, to help facilitate trade and diplomacy."

Evelyn smiled, knowing that it was a small price to pay for the benefits of their alliance.

"I would be honored,"

she said.

And so, the two women shook hands, sealing the deal and forging a lasting bond between their peoples. The future of Kyralion was brighter than ever, and Evelyn knew that she had found a true friend and ally in Captain Orion.

As the days turned into weeks, the island of Kyralion continued to thrive. The people were happy, the economy was strong, and the future was bright. Evelyn's leadership had brought peace and prosperity to the island, and she knew that she had made a real difference. She stood on the beach, watching the sun set over the ocean,

Part 4

Nostalgic Dilemma

- 16. A Glimpse of the Outside World**
- 17. The Lure of Home**
- 18. Torn Between Two Worlds**
- 19. The Heart's Desire**
- 20. The Path Unchosen**



Chapter 16: A Glimpse of the Outside World



As the months went by, the relationship between the people of Kyralion and Captain Orion's people continued to grow stronger. The two people established a thriving trade network, exchanging goods, treasures, knowledge and services that would benefit both parties. Evelyn and Captain Orion remained close friends, often meeting to discuss matters of state and share stories of their cultures.

Evelyn had found her true calling as a leader, a diplomat, and friend to many. Truly, she was many things to many people. She was esteemed to be the Alpha of Kyralion.

One day, Captain Orion approached Evelyn with a proposal.

"We've been watching your people, and we're impressed with the progress you've made,"

she said.

"We'd like to offer our assistance in helping you build a stronger, more sustainable future for your island."

Evelyn was intrigued.

"What kind of assistance?"

she asked.

"We have access to advanced technology that could help you improve your infrastructure, increase your food production, and enhance your people's quality of life,"

Captain Orion explained.

"We're willing to share this technology with you, in exchange for your willingness to work together and learn from each other."

Evelyn was hesitant at first, but the more she thought about it, the more she realized that this could be exactly what Kyralion needed to take its development to the next level. She requested for time to consider the proposal, and after consultation and agreement with the matriarchs, Evelyn agreed to work with Captain Orion and her people. Together, they began to implement the new technologies.

The results were nothing short of miraculous. The island's infrastructure was transformed, with new buildings, roads, and systems for generating energy and purifying water. The people of Kyralion were amazed by the breathtaking transformations that were ongoing in the island. They quickly learned and adapted to the new technologies that have come to stay in Kyralion.

As the years passed, Kyralion became a model for sustainable development, with a strong economy and a high standard of living. Evelyn's leadership had brought the island to a new era of prosperity, and she was hailed as a visionary leader and a hero by her people.

Through it all, Evelyn remained committed to her people, working tirelessly to ensure that the benefits of the island's

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development were shared by all. More investment came in and businesses thrived with many Islanders employed to care for their needs and those of their families. She



knew that there would always be challenges ahead, but she was confident that with the help of her new found friends and allies, Kyralion would continue to thrive.

Years later, as Evelyn looked out over the island, she felt a sense of pride and satisfaction. The island was a vibrant, thriving community, full of happy, healthy people. And she knew that she had played a key part in helping it rise to this standard.

Evelyn's legacy would live on, a testament to the unwavering power of good leadership, determination, and collaboration. And as the sun set over the island, Evelyn smiled, knowing that the future was bright for Kyralion and its people.

As the years went by, Evelyn's reputation as a wise and compassionate leader continued to grow. She became known throughout the land as a champion of justice and equality, and people from all over would come to seek her counsel and guidance.

One day, a group of visitors arrived on the island, seeking to learn from Evelyn's experiences and gain insight into her approach to leadership. They were a group of young leaders from a neighboring island, who were eager to learn from Evelyn's wisdom and apply it to their own communities.

Evelyn welcomed the visitors warmly, and over the next few days, she shared her story and her insights with them. She told them about her struggles and challenges, and about the lessons she had learned along the way. She shared her vision for a more just and equitable society, and she encouraged the young leaders to work towards creating a better future for their own people.

Evelyn assigned one of the intelligent women of Kyralion to be their tour guide. Her name was Neomi, a beautiful brown skin woman with curly dark hair. Her friendly nature made the people had great fun as they tour . They were shown and taken into the dense forest of Kyralion, climbed the hilly plains and the underground valleys.



They saw some of the treasures of the land, the coals, and gold, waiting to be harvested. They were pleased to see the wonders of the island that have contributed in making it a rich island. The white oak tree at the north cove became a tourist attraction point, down till this day.

The visitors were deeply moved by Evelyn's words and what they have seen, the experience remained with them as they left the island with a renewed sense of purpose and determination. They returned to their own communities, where they worked tirelessly to implement the changes they had learned from Evelyn.

As the years passed, the impact of Evelyn's leadership and legacy continued to spread. More and more communities began to adopt her principles and values, and soon, a network of like-minded leaders and communities had formed.

The island of Kyralion became a hub for this network, a place where leaders and community members could come to share ideas, learn from each other, and support one another in their efforts to create a more just and equitable world. As they come, they were interchange of skills, treasures, knowledge and more. Evelyn remained a guiding light, a source of inspiration and wisdom for all those who sought to make a positive difference in the world. Her legacy continued to grow and flourish.

The island of Kyralion continued to thrive, serving as a beacon of hope and a model for communities around. The nearby island became inhabited and some other islands. Travel became easy and possible. Everyday whenever a sea vessel drops by, Evelyn remembers her family and friends. She wonders how they were and how hard it would have been for them to cope with her loss at sea.

One of the most notable developments on the island was the establishment of the *Evelyn Academy of Kyralion*, a prestigious school that offered education and training in leadership, diplomacy, and sustainable development. The academy attracted students from all over the world, and it became a hub for innovation and progress.

The academy's mission was to empower future leaders with the knowledge, skills, and values necessary to create



a better world. The students were taught by experienced instructors who were experts in their fields, and they were encouraged to think critically, solve problems creatively, and work collaboratively.

As the academy grew and flourished, it became a key part of Kyralion's identity and a source of pride for its people. The island's reputation as a center of learning and innovation continued to attract visitors and scholars from around the world.

As the years went by, the island of Kyralion continued to flourish. The people lived in peace and harmony, and the island became a symbol of hope and prosperity for the world. Evelyn's legacy continued to inspire generations of leaders and citizens, and her name became synonymous with wisdom, compassion, and courage.

The island's infrastructure continued to evolve, with new buildings, roads, and systems being developed to support the growing population. The people of Kyralion were known for their ingenuity and creativity. They worked tirelessly to improve their community and protect the environment.



Chapter 17: The Lure of Home



Twelve years went by, and Evelyn's legacy continued to inspire and uplift the people of Kyralion. However, despite her many accomplishments and the love and respect of the people of the island. Evelyn began to feel a pang of homesickness. She tried hiding her feelings in her warm gentle smiles, yet, the yearning in her heart to see her parents, at least for just one more time became great.



Evelyn's advisors and friends noticed the change in her demeanor and encouraged her to take a break and visit her hometown. They offered to escort her and ensure her safety, but Evelyn was hesitant. She didn't want to disrupt the life she had built on Kyralion, and she wasn't sure if she was ready to face the memories and emotions that came with returning to her past.

She missed her family and friends from her childhood, and the familiarity of her old home. She longed to return to the place where she grew up, to reconnect with her roots and remember the experiences that had shaped her into the person she was today.

Despite her reservations, the feeling of homesickness only grew stronger. Evelyn began to wonder if she had made a mistake by leaving her old life behind. She started to question whether there is truly need for her to remain in Kyralion, or if she was just running away from her problems.

One day, Evelyn decided that she couldn't ignore her feelings any longer. She called a meeting with the matriarchal leaders including some advisors and told them that she needed to take a trip back to her hometown. She didn't know what she would find, or how she would be received, but she knew that she had to go.

With a mix of excitement and trepidation, Evelyn set off on her journey, accompanied by a small group of trusted friends and advisors. As they traveled, she couldn't help but feel a sense of nostalgia wash over her. She was going home, and she wasn't sure what the future held.

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As Evelyn arrived on the mainland, she was struck by the familiar sights and sounds of her childhood. The smell of the ocean, the cry of the seagulls, and the feel of the sandy beach beneath her barefoot, all brought back memories she had thought were long forgotten.

As she made land fall, she was greeted warmly by the people of her hometown, who were eager to see the famous Alpha of Kyralion. They have heard about her headship as the Alpha and the result. They came in mass,



asking her questions about her island and her people, and Evelyn was happy to share her story. They felt proud to

align themselves with Evelyn. And they were with her and she with them for hours, attending to them.

“Look at her, she left a lady and returned a woman.”

A woman in the crowd whispered to her husband standing next to her.

“Yes, a matriarch of a people.”

Another responded with voice low. Yet another said.

“Her parents must be proud of her.”

As she walked through the familiar streets, Evelyn felt a sense of peace wash over her. She had been away for so long, and it was good to be back. She visited her former work place, which had been in operation since she disappeared in the shipwreck. She saw old friends and acquaintances, who were all delighted to see her.

As the day wore on, Evelyn began to feel exhausted, needing rest from the people who have crowded on her to see who the legendary Alpha Female, the head of the matriarchal leaders of the island of Kyralion was. Yvonne decided to invite Evelyn over to her accommodation to pass the night, then the next day, she can continue on her way to the waiting arm of her parents.

Yvonne was an old-time friend, who in high school, greeted Evelyn with a big hug right after their principal, Mrs. Mensah, made Evelyn the school prefect. Yvonne has grown into a beautiful woman with her bright brown

eyes and her long hairs were now trimmed to her neck level.

“Yvonne!?”

Evelyn called on her, their eyes locking on each other, with great laugh line around both faces, Evelyn said.

“Am so glad to see you again. Look at you, it’s been years. What’s up with you?”

Yvonne responded with a request, her face overjoyed with excitement and plead.

“I’m so proud of you, Evie! You are one of the greatest women I have ever known. Today, I have one favor I’ll ask of you. Do not you deny me, please.”

Evelyn asked in responds, her face contouring into a look of curiosity.

“And what could that be? Yvie!”

In response, Yvonne said.

“Let me have the privilege of hosting you and your friends for the night, please.”

Evelyn responded.

“And why would I deny you of such honor, when it is I that is privileged to be hosted by you!? Thank you, dear friend. Thank you, Yvie.”

Kerrington along with Kendra, made ready the luggage. The other women who have traveled with Evelyn from

Kyralion, also assisted. Then Yvonne helped to steal them from the crowd who were still flooding in on her with the press and the news went viral that the Alpha of Kyralion was in town.

As they drove off, Evelyn knew that she was no longer the same person who had left this town all those years ago. She had grown and changed, and her experiences on Kyralion had shaped her in ways she never could have imagined.

The next morning, Evelyn woke up feeling refreshed and rejuvenated. She spent the day meeting with her advisors who have followed her and they worked on plans for the future of the island. She was determined to make sure that Kyralion continued to thrive and prosper, and she was eager to get started. They considered meeting with some tech companies to bring their firms to Kyralion as this would open more job opportunities for the people of the island and bring about more development.

One of the companies she visited was her previous working place. She was welcomed by a new manager, Mr. Theodore. He was a junior to Evelyn in the company's hierarchy. Mr. Theodore was pleased to have met Evelyn. He told Evelyn of the sadness that struck the workers on learning about the shipwreck, how they frantically searched the sea for weeks with no sign of her. Then, Mr. Theodore added.

"You know Evie, Mrs. Xolani, couldn't forgive herself for sending you. She has lived to blame herself for

sending you to your death. She couldn't continue, so she put in her resignation."

Evelyn listens as her heart went out to Mrs. Xolani, her previous boss and immediate supervisor on her team.

"Her resignation sent another shock waves."

Mr. Theodore continued.

"So, when the board of directors were considering the next manager, I was asked some questions, as did others. Do you know, those procedures of yours that I stuck to, earned me this position!? Look, I owe you, Evie."

A little smile formed in Evelyn's face, dissipating her grief of emotions for Mrs. Xolani.

"I could use some help."

Evelyn said, unsure of the possibility.

"Just spill it out, Evie, am here for you!"

Mr. Theodore said, his face eager to hear her out, with readiness to help.

"I want the company, 'ForraCorp Robotics' to have a branch in Kyralion. That way, there would be massive employment of the islanders."

Evelyn requested.

"I will put up a proposal to the board for it. That would make an excellent location. We were about to complete a deal on land purchase in downtown Winter Ville. I'm

confidence Kyralion would be a good location for the new branch location.”

Mr. Theodore emphatically replayed.

“One more request, please.”

Said Evelyn.

“Please go on.”

Mr. Theodore replied,

“Setup a meeting with Mrs. Xolani.”

Evelyn requested, her face expressing mixed emotions. Thereafter, Mr. Theodore arranged for a meeting where Evelyn would get to meet Mrs. Xolani. They three had a long discussion. Then duty calls, jilted Mr. Theodore out.

In every step of the way, the people of Kyralion were with Evelyn and they saw that her love was not faking. They were pleased to have a leader with human emotions like Evelyn, one who is considerate and kind, loving and sympathetic.

For days, Evelyn has been in the city and each second seem like eternity. She yearns to see her mother one more time and cannot wait to be in the warm embrace of her father after these many years. As they journey down, it seems the road was longer than it used to be. Evelyn was coming home. Everyone wants to see the famous Alpha.



Chapter 18: Torn Between Two Worlds



After a long drive, Evelyn stepped off the transport vessel onto a familiar compound, a mix of emotions swirled within her. It had been over twelve years since she'd been presumed dead, lost in the vast expanse of the ocean. When the sun deeps cool and the sky turns pale, memories of Evelyn cross their mind, like whipped tales, turning the laughter, they shared into silent tears and the memories that were lost, time could not replace.

Her parents, whom she loved dearly, had held onto hope, but the pain of losing their daughter had left an unhealed wound that even time could not heal as time slips away, leaving them standing in the memories of yesterday. These memories surge forth when they see a well-behaved child or someone like Evelyn. It makes their night feel like it is cold. In such quiet moments, when they are alone the memories of Evelyn is what will keep them through.

As time fails them, the photographs they have begins to fade too, but the pains remain, Evelyn's absence is a wound that her parents' heart still bleeds whenever her parents enter Evelyns room, they felt a shadow of her presence as it appears that ever corner holds a trace of Evelyn as they are stuck in a world that is untrue.

In lonely desperation, the grieve of emotion weakens her mom as she would end up whispering her name into the

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mid nights, hoping somehow, she'll still be there, somewhere alive. Ethan would remind Janiyah of a cherished memory they all sheard in Evelyns early years as a baby,

“I see her face in the falling rain, and heard her voice as the winter fell, her every heart beat was felt.”

Now it's like a rose left to rot. Janiyah would retort, despondently. Ethan would always keep Janiyah in his warm embrace. Through their dark days, their friends and



families were there for them, sharing happy times with them, to help them cope with the presumed lost and loved.

As she walked towards her family's house, she was unsure what the reaction would be. So, she decided to go first then others can come along, thereafter. Evelyn walked up through the aisle and looked back to see many eyeballs sticking out from the vehicle and her friend, Yvonne, standing by the side of the open door of the vehicle. It was as if no one new she was coming, no one was expecting her. Evelyn swallowed hard, braced herself with her heart pounding hard. She moved on with trepidation, placing one step ahead of her after another, eventually she got to the door bell and had to press it.

There were some family members who had come around to help Ethan and Janiyah to prepare for the arrival of Evelyn. So, as part of the preparation, Janiyah left the house for shopping, to get few stuffs. At the same time, Evelyn arrived. They had been busy with preparations to welcome home their long awaited and missing, beloved daughter. She would not settle for less. They have hosted these friends and well-wishers for days since they heard of Evelyn's arrival in their city. They knew she was coming home.

Their favorite store was few kilometers away as it has good food, at cheaper rate. Ethan knows that was where Janiyah would go as they always shop there.

As Evelyn eventually made it to the door, before she could ring the doorbell, the door was flung open from the inside, a familiar face she had always remember every single day of her life in the island, greeted her with a big tight, hug and silent tears dripping from both eyes.

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“I have missed you deary.”

Ethan said.

“I missed you too papa!”

Evelyn responded

“I have loved you more today, than yesterday. . .”

Ethan responded the adjoining code.

“I would love you less today, than tomorrow.”



Then, Evelyn's entourage came in to the house and there were some families and friends who were present, waiting for the arrival of Evelyn. The emotionally charged

atmosphere began to loosen as the people interacted with one another. But there is someone missing, someone Evelyn dearly hopes to meet – Janiyah, Evelyn's mother.

Evelyn could not wait for Janiyah to return home; she had waited too long for this moment. So, she requested Yvonne to take her to the market. Yvonne was glad to be at the service of the Alpha of Kyralion. Kerington, Evelyn's hand and Kendra decided to come along. Evelyn's father stayed back to attend to the people at home and fix few things for the family reunion celebration. Yvonne drove with great precision, like an evasive driver.

Janiyah had finished shopping and was about to get a cab when a vehicle drove frantically and stopped close to her. Her face laced with a mixture of confusion and curiosity as to who could be driving this way and why the driving.

The vehicle door was opened and someone was stepping out of it. Janiyah scanned the woman, beginning from the legs, as it touched down, to the revealing body, up to the face. As she observed, she noticed that baby face she had nursed all through her early years. Distant memories began flooding into the mind of Janiyah, and she was lost in time, standing there looking at the woman who had come closer into her personal space.

As she drew closer, the realization hit her like a tidal wave. This was definitely her daughter, the one she thought she'd lost forever. The one who had become a legend in her own right. Janiyah, overcome with

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emotions, stumbled forward, eyes brimming with tears, whispered, her voice trembling.

"Evelyn!? Is that you?"

With cracking voice, Evelyn responded with their family slogan, a coded signature they always use with each other.

"I have loved you more than yesterday. . ."

In reply, Janiyah chorused the slogan along with Evelyn.

"And I would love you less than tomorrow's."



Janiyah tries to fight back tears, but as silent tears began to drip from her eyes, Evelyn's eyes began to surge with tears too. They tried to hold back their tears, but they couldn't as it flowed freely. They hugged themselves in a tight, warm embrace, catching the attention of passersby who began to stop by and capture the scene.

Janiyah then took the time to observed the lines etched by time and experience, on the face of her beloved and cherished daughter, Evelyn, the wisdom in her eyes, and the confident smile that had become a hallmark of her legendary status. Tears of joy streamed down their faces again as they enveloped themselves in another round of tight, trembling hug. The reunion was a blur of tears, laughter, and whispers of:

"We thought we'd lost you"

and

"We're so proud of the woman you've become."

The pain of their past fears and doubts melted away, replaced by an overwhelming sense of joy and gratitude.

As news of Evelyn's return spread, people from all over the region flocked to catch a glimpse of the legendary figure who had captured their hearts. They cheered and applauded, calling out her name, as she emerged from the crowd of loved ones who have gathered to welcome her.

Her former company's Chairman of the Board of Directors, eager to reconnect with their star, reached out to her with an offer through a board member.

"Evelyn, we'd be honored if you would consider returning to our team. Your contributions were invaluable, and we believe your experience would be a tremendous asset to our organization."

Evelyn smiled, touched by the offer. She took a moment to reflect on her journey, the challenges she'd faced, and the growth she'd undergone. She thought about the people she'd met, the worlds she'd seen, and the lessons she'd learned. With a warm smile, she replied,

"I'm flattered by the offer, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to have been a part of this team. I'll consider it, but for now, I'd like to take some time to reconnect with my family and loved ones. The world can wait; my family can't."

Wondering why the delay, Ethan along with few of the friends drove down to catch up with Evelyn and her mother and bring them home. It was just about time for them to start returning. They have managed to break through the surging crowd and paparazzies.

The crowd around cheered her, and her parents beamed with pride, knowing their daughter was home, and she was happy. As they walked together, hand in hand, the love and joy radiating from them was palpable, a testament to the power of family and the unbreakable bonds that bind them, showing a good parental training pays handsomely.

As the days passed, Evelyn's parents couldn't stop marveling at the woman their daughter had become. They'd always known she was intelligent and determined,

but the confidence and poise she exuded was something they hadn't expected.

They listened with wide eyes as she regaled them with stories of her adventures, the challenges she'd faced, and the people she'd met, how loving they were and how their beautiful paradise is now turned to a safe haven, a place booming with lots of jobs for people.

Her mother would often find herself tearing up, overcome with emotion as she gazed at her daughter.

"Your dad and I are so proud of you, deary,"

she'd say, her voice trembling.

"We've always known you would do great things, but this...this is beyond anything we could have imagined."

Evelyn's father would nod in agreement, his eyes shining with pride.

"You're a true legend, Evie,"

he'd say, his voice filled with awe.

"We're honored to be your parents."

As the news of Evelyn's return spread, the community rallied around their home. People from all walks of life came to meet her, to congratulate her, and to thank her for inspiring a generation. Evelyn was touched by the outpouring of love and support, and she took the time to talk to each and every person who came to meet her.

"Leadership is not just about giving orders and making decisions,"

Evelyn would always emphasize, remembering the negative expression of Kacelyn, which she took and converted to a positive advice. Then she would add.

"It's about inspiring and empowering others to work towards a common goal. It's about being compassionate and understanding, and always putting the needs of your people first."

The people who visited were happy to have learned from a leader who is a living examples of the lessons she was teaching. Most of the times, these whose path had crossed with Evelyn's, could identify with her the point she was talking about, the event and its outcome.

A take-home point the visitors came to appreciate was the highlight of Evelyn's talk as she emphasized to them:

"The story of Evelyn and Kyralion served as a reminder that true leadership is not about power or prestige, but about serving others and leaving a lasting legacy. It showed that with compassion, wisdom, and determination, anything is possible, and that the impact of one person can be felt for generations to come."

Her former colleagues and friends from the company also reached out, eager to reconnect and catch up on old times. They'd often gather around her, listening with rapt attention as she shared stories of her adventures and the lessons she'd learned.

The company's offer still lingered, and Evelyn knew she had to make a decision soon. She asked for more time and Mr. Theodore, understandingly agreed.

"We're not going anywhere, Evelyn,"

Mr. Theodore said with a smile.

"Take all the time you need. We'll be here when you're ready. And as for your proposal, the board has approved of it. The deal with the previous land owners had been called off. Site inspection will soon commence in Kyralion. Thank you, Evelyn."

Evelyn smiled, grateful for the understanding. She was grateful for the good news of the approved proposal. She knew that she had a lot to consider, and she wanted to make sure she made the right decision for herself.

Occasionally, as she walked through the familiar streets of her hometown, surrounded by the people she loved, she felt a sense of peace wash over her. She knew that wherever she chose, she'd always be home, surrounded by the people who mattered most.

The days turned into weeks, and Evelyn's parents grew accustomed to having their daughter back home. They'd often sit down to dinner together, sharing stories and laughter, and Evelyn would feel a sense of normalcy wash over her. It was as if she'd never left, and yet, she knew that she was a different person now. She has a weight of responsibility on her, a people to care for and lead.

One evening, as they sat down to dinner, Evelyn's mother looked at her with a curious expression.

"Evie, can I ask you something?"

she said, her voice hesitant.

"Of course, Mom,"

Evelyn replied, her eyes locked on her mother's.

"What's on your mind?"

Her mother took a deep breath.

"How did you pull it through, Evelyn? How did you face all the challenges and dangers, and still manage to come out on top, a matriarchal leader, then an Alpha?"

Evelyn smiled, her eyes reflecting the memories of her journey.

"It's not about being fearless, Mom,"

she said.

"It's about being brave enough to face your fears, and to know that you're not alone. I've had so many people along the way who've supported me, who've believed in me, and who've helped me through the tough times."

She paused, collecting her thoughts.

"And it's about learning to trust yourself, Mom. Trusting that you have the strength and the resilience to overcome any obstacle that comes your way."

Her mother nodded, a look of understanding on her face.

"I think that's what makes you so special, Evelyn,"

she said.

"You have a way of inspiring people, of making them believe in themselves."

Evelyn blushed, feeling a sense of humility wash over her.

"It's not just me, Mom,"

she said.

"It's all the people who've supported me along the way.

They've helped me become the person I am today."

Then the room fell silent; the only sound was the clinking of utensils on plates. Evelyn's parents looked at each other, and then back at their daughter, their eyes shining with pride and love. All the while, Evelyn's advisers were with her, taking notes for the annals of Kyralion's history of legends who have impacted greatness to Kyralion.

In that moment, Evelyn knew that she was home, and that she'd always be loved and supported, no matter what path she chose.

As the third month comes to an end, Evelyn knew that it was time to return to Kyralion. She has a vast community of people to care for. So, she said goodbye to her family and friends, promising to stay in touch. She knew that she would always carry a piece of her hometown with her, no

matter where she went. With telecommunications, video conferencing and holographic imaging can be cyber rendered in 3D graphics of anything, anywhere.

Evelyn told her family and friends to feel free coming to Kyralion whenever they like, it is their home also. As she boarded the ship to return to Kyralion, Evelyn felt a sense of closure. She had faced her homesickness and come to terms with her past. Nevertheless, she knew that she now belonged on Kyralion, and that she had made the right decision in leaving her old life behind. At least, she can now face her responsibility without any reservations, and assist Kharia who had been holding up for her as the Alpha.

The journey back to Kyralion was peaceful, and Evelyn spent her time reflecting on her experiences. She thought about the people she had met and the things she had learned, which had shaped and guided her through her early days in Kyralion. She knew that she would always cherish the memories of her trip, and that it had given her a new appreciation for her life on the island.

When she arrived back on Kyralion, Evelyn was greeted as a hero. Her people were overjoyed to see her, and they celebrated her return with feasts and festivities. Evelyn smiled and was over joyed to see the construction of the new branch of her previous robotic company, almost completed. She felt grateful for the loving support of the people. And as she looked out over the island, Evelyn knew that she was home. She was exactly where she was meant to be.

The people of Kyralion greeted their Alpha with a big celebration. Kharia officially hand over the power of the Alpha back to Evelyn and welcomed her home. Then the celebrations continued, Evelyn's thoughts lingered into yesterday as she waved good bye to her parents and friends. Her thoughts were interrupted by the sound of music and laughter. She looked around and saw her people enjoying themselves, and she couldn't help but smile. She knew that she had made the right decision in coming back to Kyralion.

As the night wore on, Evelyn made her way to the center of the celebration. With a heart full of happiness and love, she looked out at the sea of faces with a big, warm smile and began to address them saying.

"My dear people,"

she said, her voice carrying across the gathering.

"I want to thank each and every one of you for welcoming me back with such love and enthusiasm. I am honored to be your Alpha, and I promise to continue working tirelessly for our island and our people."

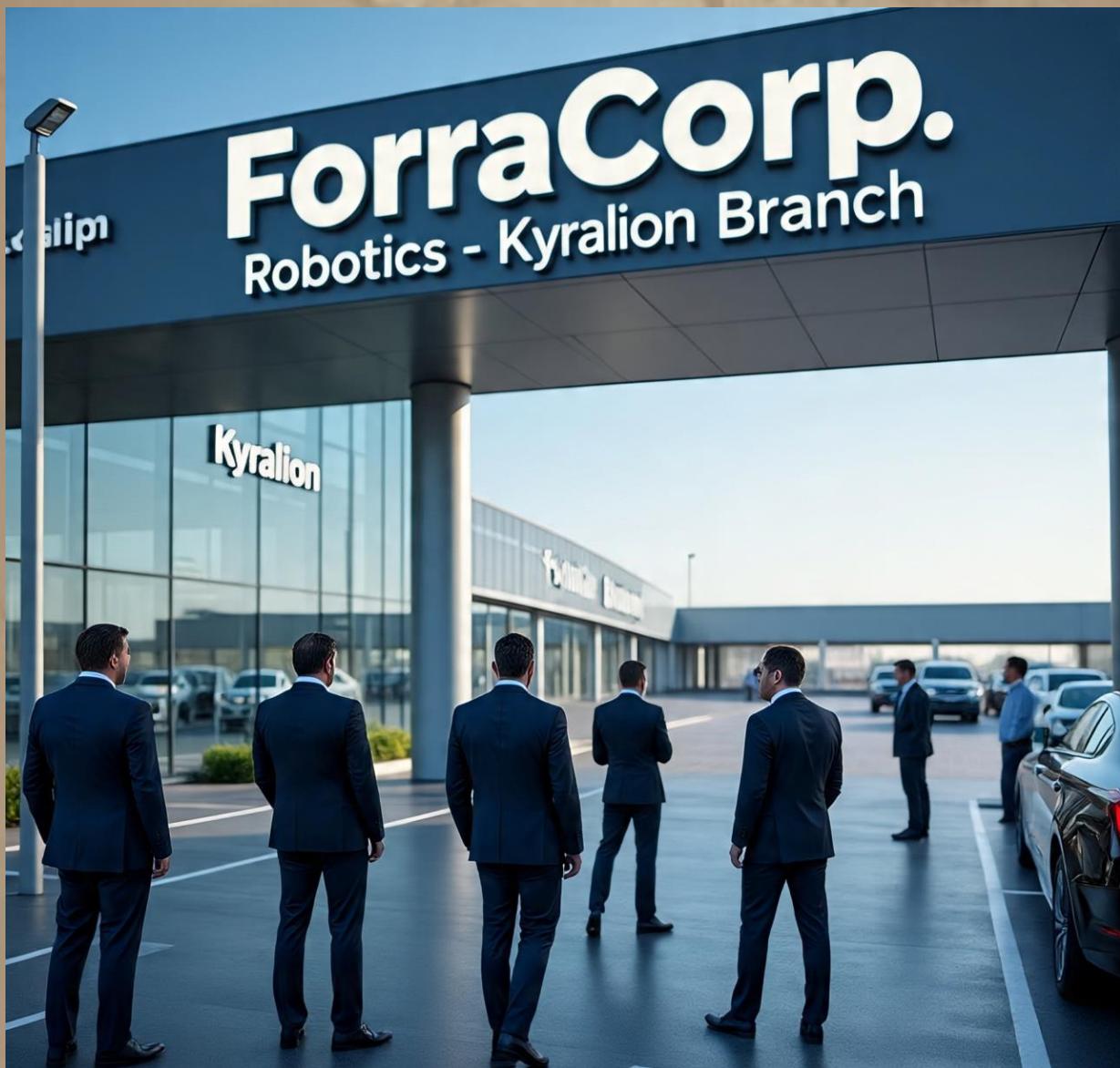
The crowd erupted in cheers and applause, and Evelyn smiled, feeling a sense of satisfaction and purpose. She knew that much work had been done. Yet, there are still much more to be done. As the celebration came to a close, Evelyn made her way back to her quarters, feeling grateful and content.



Chapter 19: The Heart's Desire



After a period of six months and some weeks, the construction of the multibillion dollars company, *ForraCorp. Robotics – Kyralion Branch* was finally complete. The infrastructures and the various departments were equipped with their necessary work gadgets. Laced with sleek glass façade, the gleaming glasses reflect lights



from the sun, casting the rays onto any objects on its path. The billboard bears the company's name in bold, unmistakable letters. After weeks of interviews, a diverse workforce had been hired: men and women from Kyralion, a few newcomers who had moved to the island, and a handful of seasoned engineers from the mainland.

Marcus, a broad-shouldered man with dark skin, who was once bound to Kacelyn as a slave — the man known by his fellow male slaves as “the-free-one”, — was selected also. When Evelyn abolished the inequality and servitude of men, Marcus choose freedom and stood with Evelyn. Ever since then, he had assisted as a personal security for Evelyn. Following his interview, he was selected for the position of the Chief Security Officer (CSO) of the new branch. His sharp eyes and steady hand made him the perfect guardian of the facility. As an advantage, he knows many dark paths of the island and knows the island more than any other men.

Evelyn, the visionary behind the Kyralion project, had always believed in nurturing talent. She has observed Kerrington's, desire and skills with codes and as a curious lady, Kerrington spent her free evenings in her underground bunker, tapping away at a refurbished mainframe.

“You can be a programmer, just like me.”

Evelyn had previously told her, teaching and guiding her through some code lines and helping her debug others. With her good memory, Kerrington learn fast. Now, Evelyn does not have any regrets recommending her to do

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the job she was previously handling. Kerrington's early codes helped streamline the branch's inventory system when they needed to salvage the database. Truly, Evelyn's mentorship paying off, proving that a part of Evelyn would remain with them. This time, someone else have to work in sync with Kerrington in the electronics section.

Evelyn had previously taken the nephew of Kacelyn into her care after the freedom and equality decree. She had assigned Keira and Keaira, twin sisters and her friends, to take care of the boy, named Liam, who at the time was 13



years. At present, he is approaching 27 years and was good at the lessons he was enrolled to. He has improved in his skills of electronics and circuitries. Without hesitation, when he was tested as to fitness, he proved true, so Liam was selected as a junior to Kerrington.

With Kerrington sent to take her place in ForraCorp, Robotics, Evelyn selected Kendra to serve as the “hand of the Alpha.”

Under Evelyn’s supervision, she ensured that the people of Kyralion were not left behind. A curriculum of core practical subjects—electronics, renewable energy, data analytics, and mechanical design—was rolled out in the newly built community school. Within a year, farmers, fishermen, and artisans were crafting circuit boards, calibrating drones, and programming autonomous harvesters. The island’s skill set expanded dramatically.

When ForraCorp headquarters offered Evelyn a lucrative position back on the mainland, she declined. She knows that would only enrich her. But at this time, she is the head of the matriarchal leaders, with many people to account for. Instead, she proposed a bold alternative:

- That the company would receive free land on Kyralion to build a branch and operate on the island.
- That the company would be paying a modest fee into the community’s treasury for the upkeep of the community needs.
- That 90 % of the company’s employees would be the locals, the people of Kyralion.

- That Mrs. Xolani would lead as its Managing Director.

Her vision was not purely altruistic. Months earlier, during her meeting with Mr. Theodore and Mrs. Xolani, Evelyn had requested Mrs. Xolani, her former Managing Director and direct supervisor to accept the role of the manager of the Kyralion branch. After much consideration, Mrs. Xolani, moved by Evelyn's spirited nature and good heart, decided to do it again, this time for the one she have grown to love and admire.

On the day of the branch officially opening, the sea was busy with many sea vessels traveling to and from Kyralion. In the island, the city was bustling with numerous people and cars that have been brought over by roll-on/roll-off (RORO) ships.

The people were ready, each busing himself with any last-minute touches and a touch of finality. Mr. Theodore, the regional manager, arrived long in advance to monitor the preparation and supervise the various units and department's readiness. Mostly, he was ready to welcome the arrival of his previous boss, Evelyn and the boss of his boss, Mrs. Xolani. Poised as he may seem, he was filled with trepidation.

Soon, the gates were opened and some cars were driving in. it was some of the directors and Mrs. Xolani. Evelyn was following behind them. Mr. Theodore put up a confident demeanor and walled tall to the park to welcome the dignitaries. With him were his personal female

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secretary, the assistant manager for the Kyralion branch and the regional head of the Human Resources.



Mrs. Xolani, a widow with grown up children who are living in the mainland with their families, have accepted Evelyn's request to move in to Kyralion. A crowd of dignitaries—government officials, investors, and leaders of neighboring islands—filled the plaza, eager to explore other business opportunities that can thrive on Kyralion.

There were series of guest speakers, each effective, informative and articulate in their speech. Evelyn was happy for every second that passes. She was glad to have

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made the move, to feed a thousand instead of feeding herself. When it was time for her speech, Evelyn stepped up to the podium, the glinting sun ray was gradually rolling off the billboard behind her. She spoke of collaboration, of a future where technology and tradition walked hand in hand, and of a community that had built something extraordinary together. When she was done, the crowd erupted in applause, a testament to the wise saying:

Somebody has to remind Everybody that Anybody can make a difference, even a Nobody.

Evelyn felt very happy and satisfied for the successes her effort were yielding. As the program progressed, it was



time for project exhibitions. Kerrington and Liam stepped forward. With the help of Kerrington's programming, Liam unveiled a new "*Beta-hand*" prototype—a soft, tactile arm that could assist the elderly with chores, a nod to the island's aging fishermen.

Then, Liam built the central AI hardware that managed the other security robots. Kerrington learned to translate human instructions into precise mechanical actions. She also built a simple app that can let anyone request for help from any available and nearby robort. Such help may include services like delivary, or safety and security assistant, just with a tap on their phones. Their success earned them a place on the core engineering team, and the robots began to move with a fluidity that impressed even the most skeptical visitors.

There were resonating and deafening hand claps for them. Marcus lead the ceremonial walk-through of the security perimeter, letting the people see the robots that now guarded the campus. Soon the program came to an end. Mr. Theodore together with others from the mainland, left. Mrs. Xolani remained as this would be her new home. She wanted to be close to Evelyn. Thus she did not accept the company's accomodation. So, Evelyn arranged for a nice and modest accomodation that would fit her needs. Mrs. Xolani loved her new appartment and hurried in.

While the people of Kyralion island continue to maintaine some of its cultures, most were modifying and adusted. The guaidian elite became the military force, with Ky'Alya, now having three men under her lead as her

assistants. With the new Artificial Intelligence (AI) robotic machines introduced, the work of city surveillance became easy.

As a humble reminder of where they had started, they allowed the old council hut to remained standing at the town's center. Every year, on the anniversary of the day Evelyn was washed ashore the sealine of Kyralion, the community gathers for the *festival of gratitude for nature's gift*.

In the evening of the day of the celebration, all electronics powered lights would be put off, only the natural lights of fires camps or lanterns are lit, sounds from drums beat fills the air, and stories of the island's transformation are told around fire pits.

There was fire pits crackled on the promenade, and the scent of spiced fish mingled with the salty sea breeze. Children chased drones and butterflies from projected holographic image devices, while elders sat on the steps of the old council hut, swapping stories of their history sofar.

This seasons's *festival of gratitude for nature's gift* fell on the fifth days after the inauguration of *ForraCorp. Robotics – Kyralion Branch*. Evelyn stood beside Mrs. Xolani, who raised a ceremonial cup of palm wine.

On seeing her gesture, the crowd quieted, as Evelyn said.

“People of Kyralion! We stand here today not just having achieved a goal, but having crossed a

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fundamental threshold. The vision we forged — a world where technology serves humanity.”

“It began like a wishful dream in the dark, merely a whispered aspiration. Yet, through grit, brilliance, and sheer force of will, we dragged that future into the present. Look around you! our promise is no longer a concept; it is tangible. It is soaring above the sky!”

“Let us raise our glasses to this magnificent realization, to the spirit of innovation, and to the people who made the impossible, inevitable.”

“To the realization of our promises! Cheers!”

The crowd erupted in cheers, and the old council hut's wooden doors were opened for the first time in decades, its interior now a museum of the island's humble beginnings. They would dress in their former jungle wears and celebrate from dusk till dawn and climax at the next dusk. The Alpha, as the head of the matriarchal leaders along with other matriarchal leaders would take the lead.

Later, in the quietness of the bunker, Kerrington showed Evelyn a sketch of a solar-powered desalination unit she'd designed.

“We could make fresh water for every household,”

Kerrington whispered. Evelyn smiled, already seeing the next project on the horizon: a community-owned micro-grid that would power homes, schools, and the robotics lab—all run by the very people who built it.



On one of his visits, Mr. Theodore approached Evelyn, his eyes bright.

“You’ve turned a branch into a beacon,”
he said.

“ForraCorp will keep its promise—free land, a modest levy, and a workforce that’s 90% Kyralion. Let’s start planning the next phase: a research hub that brings students from the mainland to learn from the island’s engineers.”

Evelyn nodded, feeling the weight of the projects. Now they would have to write the next chapter. Firstly, Mr. Theodore kept his word.

Within weeks, a sleek annex rose beside the main building, its glass walls etched with the names of the first cohort of Kyralion scholars. It was **The Research Hub**. Kerrington, did the work of junior instructors, she led a workshop on “Programming for the People,” where fishermen learned to code simple navigation scripts for their boats. Liam’s *Beta-hand* prototype was fitted to a retired sailor, letting him lift nets without strain.

Then, Evelyn would regularly meet with Mrs. Xolani each evening on the old council hut’s porch. Together they drafted a curriculum that blended traditional crafts with robotics, where metalwork students forged chassis, while textile students wove sensor-embedded fabrics for the skin of the robots. The hut, once a relic, became a think-tank where elders shared stories that inspired new algorithms for **Mentorship Grows**.

One evening a storm battered the coast, knocking out power to the northern village. The community’s micro-grid, still in beta, flickered and died. Marcus rallied the security robots, using their built-in generators to supply emergency lighting. Kerrington, working from the bunker, rerouted surplus solar charge from the main campus to the village’s battery bank. By dawn, lights glowed again, and the island’s confidence in its tech surged.

With the research hub humming, Evelyn convened a meeting of the matriarical leaders — Kharia, Kaybri and Ky' Ayla — and some principal persons — Marcus, Kendra, Kerrington, and Mrs. Xolani—to outline the next phase: a **Harvest-Bot Academy** that would train locals to design autonomous farming machines. The plan called for a modest levy on each bot's output, feeding the community treasury and funding scholarships for the next generation.

As the sun set on another successful day, the old council hut's doors opened once more, this time to welcome a group of curious mainland students. They stepped inside, eyes wide, ready to learn from the people who turned the island into a beacon of innovation.

Looking back, Evelyn was pleased that her heart desires were achieved. ForraCorp. Robotics now have a Branch in Kyralion.with most of the men and women of Kyralion employed just like in other deals she had closed with othe businesses in the island. She is happy that Marcus, was assigned to the chief security officer (CSO), a position he is competent to handle.

Evelyn had trained and encouraged Kerrington to pursue her dreams of becoming a programmer like Evelyn. Kerrington had been learning from Evelyn using the computer in her bunker. She has succeeded, working hand in hand with Liam who is handling the Electronis and hardware sections. Whereas, Kendra has become the new hand of the Alpha, and she is doing just fine.

There were many approved institutions to help educate the male and female of Kyralion on core practical subjects and applications to help them become proficient in whatever skill set they were learning. Evelyn had cut a deal that would benefit the people, instead of herself. And Mrs. Xolani, her mentor is now with her.

The future, Evelyn thought, was not a single project but a series of small, shared steps—each one echoing the day she first landed on the cosatline of the island. Truly, with her every steps, the island of Kyralion had grown a little brighter.



Chapter 20: The Path Unchosen



Evelyn stood under the white Oak tree, at the North Cove, the location of one of her earliest adventures. Whenever she needs to concentrate, she would come to this spot. Away from the hustling and bustling noisy city. At present, with the aid of transportation, it is easy to travel down. Evelyn have come to treasure these quite time as



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they help her for self-rediscovery. At such times, she meditates on the challenges she has faced in life, and how she handled them. She checks her actions and reactions, the choices and the decisions she had made.

When she reflects back in life, she knows that she couldn't have pulled all these actions on her own. She is convinced that while some may have assisted, yet there is a limit as to what they all can do.

Although, the island has been transformed into an ultra-modern city, there is still more that need to be done. There



is need for the island farmers to migrate to the use of autonomous harvesters. This was a major need.

The laughter of children in the newly built schoolyard, and the rhythmic clang of the old council hut's doors which is now a museum, holding many records and artifacts to reminds everyone of how far they'd come. All these add up to keep memories of their history, who they were and how far they have grown into civilization. They have fought long battles and have come up victorious.

Over the years, Evelyn's achievements, like a woven tapestry, were also etched for keepsake, in the annals of Kyralion. They were kept, for the generations yet unborn.

- She met a rural jungle community. In her earliest adventure, Evelyn started a teaching program, to help upgrade them, to educate people to read and write and attend to some needs with basic tech.
- She and her team of farmers helped to secure the food storage of the land from destruction by storm.
- As an Alpha, she decreed that the men should be treated as equal, as the women, abolishing male slavery.
- She decreed that male and female alike, can bear any name of their choice, not necessarily from letter "K".
- She helped in community development as the city upgraded from a rural jungle community, to an urban jungle community.
- She arrested Kacelyn, ending the barbaric tyranny in the island, freeing all who were enslaved to her.

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- She arrested, judged and banished Kenslynn, ending the conspiracy wave and confiscating the stollen treasures of the island by Kacelyn and Kenslynn, making it properties belonging to the island and its people.
- With the consultation of the other matriarchal leaders, she opened the borders for the outsiders, to come in and trade, even build on and develop the island.
- She mentored Kerrington, whose code now runs the island's micro-grid.
- Helping Liam to find his skills in robotics and electronics design and construction and achieving the construction of the Beta-hand, which help restores dignity to the elderly.
- Approved the upgrade of the island by Captain Orion and her people, from an urban jungle community to a civilized technological society.
- Approved the building of a school to her name: *Evelyn Academy of Kyralion* for leadership studies.
- Negotiated a deal and proposal that brought about *ForraCorp Robotics – Kyralion Branch*.
- Build schools for core practical of design and constructions, turning fishermen into drone pilots and weavers into sensor-fabric designers.
- Help secured free land but at a modest levy tax to be paid to the community's treasury, allowing every child to attend school for free.
- Evelyn helped secured 90 % hiring slot for Kyralion's residents.

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- Worked with and approved *ForraCorp Robotics* which upgrade the island from a civilized technological society to an ultra-modern, AI powered and driven hub.
- Built more schools for the children to learn from early years.
- Made Kendra, the new hands of the Alpha, to allow Kerrington give more attention to her work at *ForraCorp Robotics* as the programmer.
- Placed key people of her selections in strategic positions in *ForraCorp Robotics*.
- Instituting the annual *festival of gratitude for nature's gift* to binds the people to each other.
- Continue to explore for more innovative ideas.

As Evelyn reminiscence her adventures and successes, she was grateful for all the helps she got along the way. Some quests were so costly that she would have paid with her life. However, she was usually fortunate to have the needed help at the right time. Her memory recall was progressing just fine, then she was interrupted by a guide robot that was assigned to her as her detailed as the Alpha. It was and urgent call from *ForraCorp Robotics*, requesting her help and decision on an emergency matter.

With the sun slipping higher, a low vibration thrummed through the concrete—an echo from the bunker beneath the hub. A dormant prototype, which has been laid inactive for long called *Project Nova*, a self-learning AI designed to anticipate and adapt to any threat, had awakened. Its core, hidden for years, began to pulse with a pattern no one recognized.

Kerrington rushed to the server mainframe to override its programs. Yet, it continued to function. Liam killed the power source, it was independent. Everyone in the room were frantic about it, looking for solution to kill the program. There was no success. Mainland was contacted. Evelyn was the first respondent. Evelyn was traveling down to ForraCorp on high-speed drive.

Other senior programmers at the hub all tried, each one putting their skills to action with the hope of shutting down the prototype. All they efforts proved abortive. the prototype continued running with robotic sounds, which is heard through the speakers. In the situation hall, the hologram device came up on its own serving as the display. The people were all frightened and confused.

Mrs. Xolani came out from her office and rushed to the server room too. Kerrington made way for her as she also tried to halt the operation of the program through the supercomputer in the server room. She did all she could pull, all the programs she knows and everything that could work; non-responded. She couldn't override the program. There were still no responds. Marcus, the CSO who had been giving briefing to her security team, rushed in and was about to head to the control room, when his eyes caught sight of the infographic image on the hologram display and the flicking number counting down to something.

“It’s a message, a count down!”

he called out. Then everyone suddenly rushed toward the situation room to see for themselves. Marcus continued.

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"It's... a request. A command actually."

as the staffs each rushed into the central situation room they beheld: a holographic map of an archipelago was projected. It displays a distant, uncharted island shrouded in stormy lighting clouds and a single line of code appeared underneath, stating: "**Initiate Contact In:**" followed by 7 days left countdown. They were to Accept or Reject. They quickly mirrored the display to headquarters for analysis and any explanations, if they have.



As they were waiting for feedback, Evelyn, walked in. She was debriefed in the situation room. She felt the weight of every decision she'd made. The island's future could stay safe, or it could step onto a path that is unchosen, a course that is unknown, or events one had imagined, or can predict. She had the premonition that this was not a good call to make. It's a WIN / LOSS situation.

If they crashed the central server, they would loss all the data they have worked to save. The system would reboot anew with empty memory space. That would be a loss. However, the program would also be crashed, the coordinates and trajectory would be lost. That'd be a win.

On the flip side, if they let the countdown continue, it is calling out to the unknown, they might risk bringing unprecedented knowledge, or a danger that could swallow Kyralion whole. This can be a win or a loss.

Then, Evelin walked out silently back to the white oak tree to think over the action she would take for this daunting challenge. As she turned to step out, the gathered team—Kerrington, Kendra, Marcus, Mrs. Xolani, and the staffs in the situation room, all looked at her and a feeling of hopelessness and terror washed over them.

As she returned back to the oak tree, where she was before the call, Evelyn stood on the shore; her eyes fixed on the ship in the distance. The science explorers were preparing to set sail, and she knew she had to make a decision. Her heart was racing as she thought about the possibilities, comparing them with the options available and the effects each decision would have.

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Can I really risk all I have worked for? Could this be the unknow the old matriarchs warned against, the one we were asked us to protect the island at all cost!? How would I know if this would lead to something good?



She continues to wonder. Her mind flashing the *old, weathered book* she had picked up in the sand beach years back during her early years in the island. She could vividly recall the writings in its yellowed pages. On a passage It was a warning, written in bold letters:

| "Danger lurks beyond the horizon. "

"Protect the island at all costs."

This day, she is to make a call, a single choice that would define the fate of Kyralion as it hangs on a decision to “Accept!” or “Reject!” the request of the mysterious AI, and an unknown horizon.

Which choice would the Alpha choose?

What decision should she make?

Which call would she have to make?

What could be the possible results in each case.

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PROFILING

SN	Name	Profile
1.	Alpha	The title for the Matriarchal Head/Supreme Leader of Kyralion. It was from the woman Kyra, who was regarded as the leader, the adjudicator and the protector. The title transitions from Kamouri to Evelyn by unanimous election. The Alpha remains the protector and ultimate decision-maker of the island. Kharia, at some times, held brief.
2.	Anitha	Character/Relationship: One of Evelyn's loyal friends and admirers, an ally, like Debby from her pre-teen years, before junior high school.
3.	Audrey (Miss.)	Relationship: Evelyn's programming lecturer. Her sayings help Evelyn to continue cracking the code: <i>"We may be searching for the big things, but the small things are what matters in life."</i>
4.	Caesar Cipher	Considered to be the simplest encryption method. Encryption: The position of each text to be encoded, is shifted in the alphabet sequence by 3 steps to the right. Decryption: The position of each text to be decoded, is moved back to its original position in the alphabet sequence by 3 steps to the left.
5.	Caroline (Mrs.)	Character: A kind-hearted woman with a warm smile and a passion for teaching. Relationship: One of Evelyn's high school teachers who congratulated Evelyn after she was announced as a prefect.
6.	Cathren	Character/Relationship (Threat Profile): Like Rita and Vannesa, she is a rival and bully

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		<p>to Evelyn from her pre-teen years, before junior high school. Her motivation was jealousy and envy of Evelyn's superior qualities. Threat Assessment: Low. Threat is personal/historical, not a current existential threat to Kyralion.</p>
7.	Chloe	<p>Relationship: One of Evelyn's professors. Her sayings help Evelyn to continue cracking the code:</p> <p><i>"Always start from the small or simple problems to the bigger issues."</i></p>
8.	Debby	<p>Character/Relationship: One of Evelyn's loyal friends and admirers, an ally, like Anitha from her pre-teen years, before junior high school.</p>
9.	Ethan	<p>Status/Relationship: Evelyn's beloved father, and husband to Janiyah. Character: Loving, hard-working, and a profound philosophical influence. He instilled the central life motto in Evelyn: "<i>Somebody has to remind everybody that anybody can make a difference, even a nobody.</i>". His memory inspires her resolve. As a good parent, he inculcated in Evelyn good moral senses that helped and guided her. His good parental upbring helped Evelyn to be a better and kind person.</p>
10.	Eureka	<p>An ancient Greek word, which means "<i>I have found it.</i>" It is an interjection used to express triumph upon discovering or realizing something great.</p>
11.	Evans	<p>Status: Together with Javen, one of the newly freed men from whom Kaida inquired information regarding the clandestine group. His previous work in close quarters within the hall where the clandestine group usually meets, makes him to be in possession of information regarding the group. Relationship: Previous slave to Kacelyn.</p>

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12.	Evelyn, Evie	<p>Status/Age: The Protagonist and ultimately the new Alpha Female of Kyralion (elected unanimously). Mid-30s. Professional engineer specializing in robotics and coding.</p> <p>Relationship: The only child and daughter to Ethan and Janiyah. Envied by some. But a friend, a mentor and a legend to many. Physical: A beautiful, young lady who grew intimate to become a charming lovely woman.</p> <p>Character (Psych Profile): Highly intelligent, analytical, resilient, resourceful, self-driven, and courageous. She is driven by a deep sense of justice and a desire to make a difference ("the nobody").</p> <p>Skills: Multilingual (tribal, common, official), proficient in sign language, and can read level two Braille.</p>
13.	Fibonacci sequence	<p>The Fibonacci sequence is a series of numbers in which each number is the sum of the two preceding numbers, starting from 0 and 1:</p> $0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, 144, \dots$ <p>How it works:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Start with 0 and 1 - Add the previous two numbers to get the next: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - $0 + 1 = 1$ - $1 + 1 = 2$ - $1 + 2 = 3$ - $2 + 3 = 5$ - $3 + 5 = 8$ - ...
14.	Fred	<p>Status: A former classmate of Evelyn in a calculation course.</p> <p>Character: A creative problem-solver who thinks outside the box.</p>
15.	Hand (Alpha's)	<p>Status: A title for the Alpha's personal aide/assistant. The role transitioned from Kaida (under Kamouri) to Kerrington (under Evelyn),</p>

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		later to Kendra, to allow Kerrington focus on her new job with ForraCorp. Robotics.
16.	Hunt	Status: A former classmate of Evelyn in a calculation course. Character: A quiet but brilliant programmer with a talent for hacking.
17.	Jahdel (Mrs.)	Status: Evelyn's teacher and role model. Physical: Tall, statuesque woman with long, curly black hair and a warm smile. Character: Brilliant, with a passion for mathematics, and skilled at simplifying complex concepts.
18.	Janiyah	Status: Evelyn's loving mother, and wife to Ethan. Character: Loving and self-sacrificing (worked multiple jobs). She instilled the strong sense of determination and resilience in Evelyn. As a good parent, she inculcates in Evelyn good moral senses that helped and guided Evelyn. Her good parental upbringing helped Evelyn to be a better and kind person.
19.	Javen	Status: Together with Evans, one of the newly freed men from whom Kaida inquired information regarding the clandestine group. His previous work in close quarters within the hall where the clandestine group usually meets, makes him to be in possession of information regarding the group. Relationship: Previous slave to Kacelyn.
20.	Kacelyn	Status (<i>Threat Profile</i>): Matriarchal leader and a primary Antagonist/Conspirator, only second to Kenslynn. She runs a shadow organization that keeps slaves of men and women and servants. She secretly treads the island's resources with the outside world, but manipulate the subjects to the guardian's team to work under her for the reward they would have, resulting in manipulating most reports to the leaders about the outsiders. She angrily rejected Evelyn's election as Alpha. Physical: Beautiful white skin (like porcelain), chestnut

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		hair, pouring from the crown of her head like see-weed, warm/soft eyes. Clothed in delicate thin cream-white fabric, with perfect figure. Resplendent in her gown. Her aura is graced by swag. Age: In her late 30s. Character: Unpredicted, strong-willed woman with deep, dark secrets.
21.	Kaemani	Physical/Age: A beautiful, young white lady, with chestnut hair, pouring from the crown of her head like see-weed, warm/soft eyes. Radiant in appearance. Clothed in delicate thin cream-white fabric, with perfect figure. Resplendent in her gown and walks with a royal swag like her mistress, especially when they are in a convoy. Relationship: One of the four (Kahana, Kairys and Kamille) dedicated disciples/loyalists of Kacelyn. Status: Served to ward off visitors from Kacelyn's dwelling. Left the council hut with Kacelyn in anger after Evelyn was voted as the Alpha.
22.	Kahana	Physical/Age: A beautiful, young white lady, with chestnut hair, pouring from the crown of her head like see-weed, warm/soft eyes. Radiant in appearance. Clothed in delicate thin cream-white fabric, with perfect figure. Resplendent in her gown and walks with a royal swag like her mistress, especially when they are in a convoy. Relationship: One of the four (Kaemani, Kairys and Kamille) dedicated disciples/loyalists of Kacelyn. Status: Served to ward off visitors from Kacelyn's dwelling. Left the council hut with Kacelyn in anger after Evelyn was voted as the Alpha.
23.	Kaida	Status: Hand of the previous Alpha (Kamouri). After the death of her mistress, she joined the fishing business. Became part of Evelyn's team of advices following her key contributions to the conspiracy plot case solving. Character:

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		Talented at gathering information. Friendly and helpful. Physical: White lady with dark brown hair and bright blue eyes.
24.	Kairys	Physical/Age: A beautiful, young white lady, with chestnut hair, pouring from the crown of her head like see-weed, warm/soft eyes. Radiant in appearance. Clothed in delicate thin cream-white fabric, with perfect figure. Resplendent in her gown and walks with a royal swag like her mistress, especially when they are in a convoy. Relationship: One of the four (Kaemani, Kahana and Kamille) dedicated disciples/loyalists of Kacelyn. Status: Served to ward off visitors from Kacelyn's dwelling. Left the council hut with Kacelyn in anger after Evelyn was voted as the Alpha.
25.	Kalindi	Status: Kharia's mother. Character: A highly respected community member known for wisdom and integrity. She was supportive of her daughter Kharia's ambition.
26.	Kamille	Physical/Age: A beautiful, young white lady, with chestnut hair, pouring from the crown of her head like see-weed, warm/soft eyes. Radiant in appearance. Clothed in delicate thin cream-white fabric, with perfect figure. Resplendent in her gown and walks with a royal swag like her mistress, especially when they are in a convoy. Relationship: One of the four (Kaemani, Kahana and Kairys) dedicated disciples/loyalists of Kacelyn. Status: Served to ward off visitors from Kacelyn's dwelling. Left the council hut with Kacelyn in anger after Evelyn was voted as the Alpha.
27.	Kamouri	Status: The Alpha Female and Matriarchal Head at the time of Evelyn's appearance on Kyralion. Following her death, Evelyn her as the Alpha. Age/Physical: Mature white woman in her 50s with curly white hair. Kind face,

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		empathetic expression, and a firm but gentle voice. Character: A mentor and friend to Evelyn, teaching her leadership and responsibility.
28.	Kaya	Status: Kharia third child but second female. Relationship: Second of three females, out of four children of Kharia. Granddaughter of Kalindi. Sister to Kindel, and Kella. Character: A free-spirited artist.
29.	Kayak	Relationship: Kacelyn's only beloved sister. Status: She who took her own life because she could not live to bear the pains of having her only son treated as a slave in the men's camp.
30.	Kaybri	Status: An elderly and kind loving matriarchal leader. Character: Kind, loving, and supportive of Evelyn, explicitly stating, "we need you". Voted for Evelyn's election as Alpha.
31.	Keaira	Status: One of the Islanders and twin sister of Keira, older sister of Kenaya. Relationship: Becomes one of Evelyn's close friends on Kyralion.
32.	Keira	Status: One of the Islanders and twin sister of Keaira, older sister of Kenaya. Relationship: Becomes one of Evelyn's close friends on Kyralion.
33.	Kella	Status: Kharia youngest female child. Relationship: Youngest of three females, out of four children of Kharia. Granddaughter of Kalindi. Sister to Kindel and Kaya. Character: She is an intelligent and inquisitive child.
34.	Kenaya	Status: One of the Islanders and younger sister of the twins Keira and Keaira. Relationship: Becomes one of Evelyn's close friends on Kyralion.
35.	Kendra	Status: A slave of Kacelyn who, on discovering about the conspiracy plot, ran for her life with some treasures and foreign

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		materials Kacelyn has secretly acquired in her trading. Sustained injuries similar to those found on the explorer and his dead companion from whom the "Treasure Key" code was taken. Helped by Evelyn and Kerrington. With her knowledge of the enemy, Kacelyn, she became a helpful ally to Evelyn. Later became the Hand of the Alpha, Evelyn. Physical/ Age: A beautiful white young lady, in her 20s, with dark air-blown hair.
36.	Kendrick	Status: One of the original male refugees. The only man who was allowed to go with the women and children to safety, because he was wounded and his wife, Kyra, was pregnant. He led the women and children to the island later known as Kyralion. Relationship: Husband to Kyra. His act of infidelity became the historical justification for the island's extreme matriarchal structure and the enslavement of the remaining male population, initiating the crisis Evelyn must resolve.
37.	Kenslynn	Status (<i>Threat Profile</i>): Matriarchal leader and a high-level antagonist/conspirator. Age: An older woman. Character: She is a chief strategist of the mad plan and the mastermind. Unpredicted, strong-willed woman with deep, dark secrets. Physical: An older woman only in looks, but is swifter for covert operations. Her face lined with age and wisdom. Relationship: The principal leader of the cohort conspiracy group and is assisted by Kacelyn. Threat Assessment: She is a knowledge broker, revealing half-truth secrets about the island's vulnerabilities to "visitors" and the hidden boat. The ghost in the shadows. Although, her activities were secretive and suspicious, no one could sustain doubts of her in any negative ways. Even when Evelyn found her in a shed

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		on the outskirts of the village, she covered her tracks by defusing her question with same question. Her actions indicate a covert, manipulative threat.
38.	Kerrington	<p>Status: Initially considered an "Outlaw" figure who opposed the traditions of the island. Later became Evelyn's "Hand" (assistant/aide).</p> <p>Physical: Beautiful dark skin young lady in her 30s, with dark braided hairs. Character: Spirited, energetic and agile young lady, with similar charisma and aura with those of Evelyn. Determined, compassionate, resourceful. Skill: She was isolated but used the time to learn advanced technologies and gadgets, found in the secret bunker of the explorers who took her in and gave her a home. A crucial ally in Evelyn's efforts to free the men. Could read and write cryptic, coded and cipher encodings text. Was able to crack the code: "Treasure Key". With her knowledge of the island, the people, their ways and Kacelyn, she became a helpful ally to Evelyn. Later, Evelyn selected her assistant, the Hand of the Alpha.</p>
39.	Keyword	<p>This is the secret word or phrase in a Vigenère Cipher encryption that is used to determine which shift (or Caesar cipher) is applied to each letter of the plaintext.</p> <p>Note: The simple breakdown of its meaning and function:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Secret Key:</i> It acts as the key to the cipher. Both the sender (for encryption) and the receiver (for decryption) must know this keyword. • <i>Repetition:</i> The keyword is typically repeated as many times as necessary to match the length of the plaintext message.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Shift Determination:</i> Each letter of the keyword corresponds to a specific numerical shift that is applied to the corresponding letter of the plaintext. <p>Example, if the keyword is "CAT" and the plaintext is "HELLO":</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Repeat the Keyword: Plaintext: HELLO Keyword: CATCA▪ Determine the Shift:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The letter 'C' in the keyword tells you the shift for 'H'.○ The letter 'A' in the keyword tells you the shift for 'E'.○ And so on. <p>This constantly changing shift is what makes the Vigenère Cipher much more secure than the simple Caesar cipher, which uses only a single, fixed shift for the entire message.</p>
40.	Khamyra
41.	Kharia

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		<p>time of Evelyn's election as the Alpha. She stood 5'8" tall, with warm-brown-skin, short, curly dark hair and warm brown eyes. Character: Highly respected, compassionate, and wise. Intelligent and peaceful, humble and calm. She is a well composed woman who handles delicate complex matters or situation in a calm simple and peaceful manner. A champion of justice whose personal dream was for "equality for all". She viewed Evelyn as the necessary agent of change and was instrumental in her election. Relationship: Her mother is Kalindi, she raised her in a loving, happy home with deep sense of purpose. Eldest of five children, of which four were males and are all confined in the high security reservation for the male. She is a mother to three beautiful young children: Kindel, the eldest, Kaya, the middle child, and Kella, the youngest.</p>
42.	Kindel	<p>Status: Kharia second but eldest female child. Relationship: Eldest of three females, out of four children of Kharia. Granddaughter of Kalindi. Sister to Kaya and Kella. Character: Skilled at fishing.</p>
43.	Kouture	<p>Physical: Beautiful, elegant woman with long, straight black hair, usually styled in intricate braids or up-dos. Character: An elite warrior and a skilled healer, with deep knowledge of herbs and medicine. She serves as the first medical respondent when there is a need for a first aid. Relationship: Along with Khamyra, and Kyelle, she was one of the three that chased Evelyn in her mission to extract the treasure box from the oak tree.</p>
44.	Ky' Ayla	<p>Status: A matriarchal leader, a skilled warrior, an elite and mistress of the guardian team. Physical: Beautiful, tall, elegant, graceful woman with long, brown hair and piercing</p>

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		green eyes. She has a toned physique and a confident demeanor. Character: Taught Evelyn tactical skills for survival in the wild and at sea. Was a key player in decision making in the island and had a good, strong stand for justice and fairness, but the false information which her subordinates feed her, influences most hash decisions reached by the leaders. She supports the Alpha and will do anything necessary to protect the island peace and balance. Relationship: Immediate superior to Khamyra.
45.	Kyelle	Physical: A petite, agile woman with short, flowing black hair and a mischievous grin. Character: An elite warrior who is quick-witted, fast and talented at setting traps, and a good tracker. She is fiercely loyal to her superiors, especially when she is "brainwashed". Relationship: Along with Khamyra, and Kouture, she was one of the three that chased Evelyn in her mission to extract the treasure box from the oak tree.
46.	Kyra	Status: Wife of Kendrick. The First Protector and Head of the islanders. The island, Kyralion, was named after her ("Kyra-Lion"). Character: Courageous, strong-willed, and had a masculine stature. Achieved heroic Status by fighting and killing a male lion while pregnant.
47.	Kyralion	The island, believed to be in the middle of nowhere, where Evelyn is stranded. It has a beautiful, lush tropical matriarchal society. It is a self-sufficient refuge. Named after its first protector, Kyra.
48.	Kytline	Relationship: A close friend of Kaida, who had hurriedly come to retrieve a piece of cloth for head cover from Kaida's hut, from whom Evelyn got to know of the death of Kamouri.

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49.	Liam	<p>Status: One of those who benefited from the freedom of men by Evelyn's decree of equality for all. Junior Core Engineering Team Member. He was taken into Evelyn's care at age 13 after the freedom and equality decree. He was later selected as a junior to Kerrington. He co-developed the "Beta hand" prototype and built the central AI hardware for security robots.</p> <p>Physical/Age: A young energetic but gentle, handsome white male who was 13 when he was taken in by Evelyn, but is now approaching 27 years old. Character: Skilled, intelligent, and a quick learner. He is good at his lessons and has improved his skills in electronics and circuitries. He is a reliable partner to Kerrington, handling the electronics and hardware sections. His work on the "Beta hand" shows a compassionate side, as it was designed to assist the elderly. He quickly killed the power source for Project Nova but found it was independent. Relationship: Kacelyn's nephew. Son of Kayak, Kacelyn's beloved sister. Ward/Protégé of Evelyn. Engineering Partner/Junior to Kerrington. A staff of ForraCorp. Robotics. Threat Assessment: No known hostile actions. He is a valuable asset to Evelyn's rule and the island's technological development. His technical skills, particularly in electronics, could pose a minor technical risk if corrupted, but he appears loyal.</p>
50.	Marcus, (the-free-one)	<p>Status: Former Slave to Kacelyn, also known as "the-free-one" by his fellow male slaves and others. Accepted the freedom from Evelyn's equality decree and later drafted in to be the Alpha, Evelyn as a Personal Security/Team Member. Currently the Chief Security Officer (CSO) of ForraCorp. Robotics. Physical/Age: Mature male, dark-skinned, middle-aged (late</p>

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		<p>30s), very strong with steady muscular packs. Has a sharp eye and steady hand. Character: Initially a loyal, strong enforcer/slave for his female commanders, Kenslynn and Kacelyn. He kidnapped Evelyn and put her in a cage. For his "nonchalant actions" leading to Evelyn's escape, he was chastised. Switched allegiance after realizing his servitude and being convinced by Kendra, ultimately being freed by Evelyn. He is now loyal to Evelyn and despises Kacelyn. He is a competent security leader, knowing the dark paths of the island. Relationship: Former slave/servant who was used by Kenslynn and Kacelyn to carry out many dark acts in the island. Acquaintance of Kendra. Threat Assessment: LOW (to Evelyn/Kyralion): He is a major asset and a highly competent security operative (CSO) who is fiercely loyal to Evelyn, as she gave him "True Freedom". HIGH (to Opponents): His strength, local knowledge ("dark paths"), and position make him a significant threat to internal and external enemies of Kyralion.</p>
51.	Mensah (Mrs.)	<p>Status/Relationship: Evelyn's high school principal who appointed Evelyn the school prefect due to her diligence and hard work. Physical/ Age: a stern-looking woman in her late 50s with silver hair and a kind face.</p>
52.	Neomi	<p>Status: One of the Islanders whom Evelyn assigned to be the tour guide of the group of young leaders from a neighboring island, who have visited Kyralion to learn from Evelyn's wisdom and experiences. Character: Her friendly nature made the people had great fun as she shows and explain the different topography of the island. Physical: An intelligent, beautiful brown skinned woman with curly dark hair. Age: Young lady.</p>

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53. Orion (Captain)	<p>Status: Leader of a visiting trade/diplomatic group from the outside world. Ally and Trade Partner of Kyralion/Evelyn. Physical: A wise and kind-hearted woman. Character: Intelligent, cunning, quick-witted, and sharp-minded. A skilled diplomat and strategist. She is a visionary who sought to establish trade, exchange knowledge/skills, and offer advanced technology to Kyralion in exchange for cooperation and learning. She is described as a true friend and ally to Evelyn. Relationship: Trade Partner/Diplomat and Close Friend/Ally to Evelyn. Leader of her own people. Threat Assessment: LOW. She appears to be a beneficial external ally, who is focused on mutual trade, knowledge exchange, and sustainable development. Her advanced technology and influence, helped Kyralion to develop from an urban jungle community to a civilized technological society.</p>
54. Rita	<p>Character /Relationship (Threat Profile): Like Cathren and Vannesa, she is a rival and bully to Evelyn from her pre-teen years, before junior high school. Her motivation was jealousy and envy of Evelyn's superior qualities. Threat Assessment: Low. Threat is personal/historical, not a current existential threat to Kyralion.</p>
55. Terry	<p>Status: A former classmate of Evelyn in a calculation course. Character: A genius with numbers who could solve complex problems in his head.</p>
56. Theodor (Mr.)	<p>Status: The new manager of ForraCorp. Robotics, after Mrs. Xolani resigned. He was junior to Evelyn and had followed her procedures as they helped him secure his present position. Was a key player to help the proposal of the Kyrialon's branch succeed.</p>

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		<p>Physical: A handsome middle aged white man.</p> <p>Character: Good electronics engineer who can work his way through embedded codes requiring to drive them. Pleased to reunite with his former boss, Evelyn and feels indebted to her.</p>
57.	Vannesa	<p>Character /Relationship (Threat Profile): Like Cathren and Rita, she is a rival and bully to Evelyn from her pre-teen years, before junior high school. Her motivation was jealousy and envy of Evelyn's superior qualities. Threat Assessment: Low. Threat is personal/historical, not a current existential threat to Kyralion.</p>
58.	Vigenère Cipher	<p>The Vigenère Cipher is a method of polyalphabetic substitution that was one of the strongest ciphers before the 20th century. It is an encryption technique that uses a simple, repeatable step-by-step process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>Plaintext:</i> The original, unencrypted message.▪ <i>Ciphertext:</i> The encrypted, secret message.▪ <i>Keyword (Key):</i> A secret word or phrase used to encrypt and decrypt the message. <p>How the Vigenère Cipher Works: Unlike the simple Caesar Cipher which uses a fixed shift for every letter, the Vigenère Cipher uses a different shift for each letter of the plaintext, determined by the letters of the keyword.</p> <p>* The Vigenère Cipher was significantly more secure than earlier ciphers because the multiple shifts (polyalphabetic substitution) resist frequency analysis, which is a technique used to break single-shift ciphers.</p> <p>* It was considered unbreakable for about 300 years until it was finally cracked by Charles Babbage in the mid-19th century, using a</p>

technique that involved finding the length of the keyword.

Polyalphabetic Substitution

This is the most important meaning. It means that the same letter in the plaintext (like 'E') can be encrypted into a different letter in the ciphertext (sometimes 'X', sometimes 'Y', etc.) depending on where it appears in the message. This makes it much stronger than a simple Caesar cipher, which always uses the same shift.

The Keyword

The entire encryption process revolves around the keyword (or key).

* *Repeated Key*: The keyword is repeated over and over until its length matches the length of the plaintext message.

* *Variable Shifts*: Each letter of the repeated keyword tells you which specific Caesar cipher shift to use for the corresponding letter in the plaintext. For example, if the keyword letter is 'C', you use a shift of 2 (since A=0, B=1, C=2).
The Vigenère Square (Tabula Recta)

Encryption and decryption are often performed using the Vigenère square (or table).

* *Encryption*: You find the Plaintext letter on the top row and the Key letter on the left column. The letter where they intersect is the Ciphertext.

* *Decryption*: You find the Key letter on the left column, follow that row to the Ciphertext letter, and then look up to the top row to find the original Plaintext letter.

59. Xolani (Mrs.)

Status/ Relationship: The Managing Director of ForraCorp. Robotics, the immediate supervisor on Evelyn's team, who took it hard

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		<p>on herself for the presumed death of Evelyn, and relinquished her position. Reunited with Evelyn and accepted the offer to head the new Kyralion branch of the company. A widow with grown up children. Accepted to move in to Kyralion due to Evelyn's request.</p> <p>Physical/Age: Beautiful white and elderly.</p> <p>Character: A skilled analyst and programmer.</p>
60.	Yvonne, Yvie	<p>Status: Evelyn's high school female friend who hugged her after she was announced as a prefect. The long-time friendship was rekindled to burn stronger when Evelyn came to town after she became the Alpha of Kyralion.</p> <p>Physical: A beautiful black girl with long, curly brown hair and bright brown eyes, who had grown to an elegant woman. Character: A skilled evasive, aggressive, and defensive driving. Age: Young lady, who grew to a beautiful woman in same age range with Evelyn. Relationship: Evelyn's closest friend from high school. The friendship continued when Evelyn made landfall on her town and the was held by the sea of people who had come out to welcome her. She stole Evelyn from the crowd by inviting her and her convoy to her accommodation for the night.</p>



THE AUTHOR

UBI, Fredrick is an art lover who has compiled snippets of poems, lines of plays and many motivational quotations over the years. He is an Author and a song writer. His love for arts inspires his writings and legendary works. Living in the 21st century, he is a tech enthuse with diversified interest cutting across arts and science.

The book, Rise of the Alpha Female is a fictional adventurous story of survival, resilience and courage to stand for the good and be good. The story was motivated from a list of collection of female baby names that begins with the letter “K”. However, the names, places and Characters used here are not intended to match anybody. If it does match, then it is coincidental and not intentional. The Profiling page in the book list the description of the Characters in terms of their names, age range, physical identification, Status, qualities, and any other profile details. Also, the names of places are explained.

Mr. UBI Fredrick love writing and captivating suspense driven storytelling. “Rise of the Alpha Female” is one of his many books. His style of writing and the careful choice of words makes his works distinguished, painting a perfect word picture. With AI generated pictures to illustrate and create a mental vision, the storyline becomes a reality to the reader, when listening to the audio version to listen, sing and dance along with the Characters as they sing the music.

In addition to understand level one Braille, he is a sign language instructor and interpreter, who communicate effectively with good command in American Sign Language (ASL), British Sign Language (BSL) and Nigeria Sign Language (NNS). Mr. UBI Fredrick believes knowledge is for the living. Thus, it should be shared by the living. Hence, as a considerate and reasonable fellow, he respects all but remain on the side of the truth. This truth of a glorious hope, he voluntarily shares, even to those with hearing disabilities.

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