

## A Place of Peace

7/18/23

The air made a soft sound as two figures filled the space on the peak. The place where they rifted into was a small outcropping, overlooking the valley that Bastion rested in. Lightning danced between the clouds as The Mistress of Storms, ancient lightning elemental, worked diligently to put out the fires across the valley as best she could.

Between the flashes, the two figures knelt. The larger of the two carefully laid the other down, folding their arms over their chest and propping them up a bit. The smaller body, known to many as Kymisha, could now look over the people she loved and the forest she had come to call home.

The lightning flashed again. The larger figure, who knelt next to the body of his friend, wiped his eyes- revealing the small silver scales now encircling them. A soft glow started to emanate from him, and he whispered a few words in an unknown tongue. Words to his friend. Then he turned slowly and looked back over the valley. His face was conflicted, and also wracked with grief. It slowly twisted into fury as his ears, now far more sensitive, picked up a scream that formerly filled him with fear.

He reached out for the blade, his secret tool- instead his hand became that of claws and death. He grimaced as he looked it over. Kymisha's death had been planned. It was an ambush, and an assassination. That weapon they used was the tail of a Queen. This meant the Vreech Queens still existed. They would be coming for him soon, and this is what he had feared. Even now, others may be paying for it. Viltis walked to the edge of the outlook and staggered, his energy waning. He could feel himself swelling with magic, he could feel himself changing. It was glorious- and frightening. Right now, however, he pressed it all down. Even then, his focus turned his eyes silver, black slits for pupils widening in the dark. His hair gained a silvery sheen in places. Then another scream- more Vreech. He flexed his new claws and took a few steps back. He then ran forward and leapt into the air, to bring some justice and deliver some payback.