

((Note: This section takes place during [Chapter 44](#).)

For a while, everything was silent with an occasional bird flying by with a chirp. While waiting, the dragoness pulled out a familiar cube and started fiddling with it. One look from Raven was enough for him to groan, "Really, Rina? You *still* carry this puzzle with you? You should just throw that thing away and be done with it if you can't solve it."

In response, Rina only glared at the black dragon before resuming her activity. The latter sighed in disbelief, why she was so fixated on this cube? He didn't even know where she found it, not even why she decided to hold onto it. Thankfully for him, she stopped her yet another attempt at solving the cube when a powerful and clear voice sounded off in her head. Rina knew that it was El-Naise, so she begrudgingly put the puzzle back in her bag and proceeded to listen. *'Greetings, Rina,'* said the chieftain. *'I would have liked to talk with you on a casual note, but we'll do this when we meet each other personally. For now, please tell me what happened since our village was destroyed.'* Rina breathed in and began her tale about everything that has happened to her, from avenging the destruction to her meeting Raven. She finished on the part where she threatened Aeolus about what would happen if he carries on with his plan. The chieftain went silent for a while and then said, *'While your decision was pretty hasty and I would've liked that you contacted us before making it, I'm glad you took the initiative as soon as you learned about this. Now, seeing as we all are heading towards the city, here is what I'd like you to do, Rina. Please find places for us to settle in. All of us need to live somewhere while we are preparing for what will come in the future. I'd suggest you find yourself and Raven a place to live too, if you haven't already. Don't worry about the jobs; we will find them ourselves when we arrive. After we will gather together, we will decide on what to do next.'*

Rina replied, *'Understood. I've also decided to find someone who could help us in spreading the warning.'*

'That would be helpful, too. Just make sure that the person is trustworthy and willing to help.'

'Will do. Safe travels, chieftain,' said the dragoness. She put a talon on her head to ease the dull headache left from all telepathic communications. She thought, *'I really hope we would adapt to this later on.'* As soon as the headache subsided, Rina immediately went on to contact her acquaintance. For a second, she stopped to remember the details. *'So I saw her back in the forest when I just recently arrived on this continent... A magi, orange color... What was her name... Atlas, if I'm not mistaken... Alright.'* She sighed. *'Here goes nothing.'* Rina closed her eyes and mentally reached out to Atlas. *'Atlas, are you there? It's me, Rina. The dark blue dragoness who helped you with that squirrel. Listen, I need to tell you something and you might not like what you hear, or probably even believe it. Still...'*

Atlas asked, *'So what do you want to tell me?'*

Rina continued, *'It's about the Vulture Horde. I'm sure you've heard about it at some point. The thing is, they have a plan they are going to set in action once they are finished with something.'* She paused to

think about her words.

The magi goaded her to speak some more, 'Yes, go on.'

Then the blue dragoness said, *'The plan is to wipe out every single human on this world. No prisoners, no slavery, no banishing. Only mass genocide. I have heard the news from my close friend and I know he is not the type to lie about information like this. Now, in case you believe me, I would like to ask you a question.'* Her tone suddenly darkened as she said the following, *'Do you agree with Vulture Horde?'*

Atlas answered surely, *'The mass genocide thing? Oh, don't worry. The Vulture Horde's not going to do that anymore. Aeolus said that he's only going to kill the bad humans from now on. And I'm glad he's differentiating the good from them. Don't need any innocent blood getting spilled on their claws.'*

'He said that?' Rina tilted her head in confusion, prompting Raven to look at her.

'Yes, he did,' Atlas confirmed.

'One moment.' Rina inquired of her clanmate, "Raven, what exactly did that dragoness told you?"

"What's with this question?" He huffed, but answered nonetheless, "She said that they are only pretending to be friends with humans, and I've got a good memory. Already forgot that, didn't you?"

'Atlas, let me fill you in on details. I learned about this plan just a couple of hours ago. My friend learned about it yesterday, not long before he was teleported to me. When exactly did Aeolus say that he is no longer hunting down innocents?' she asked. And added after a short pause, *'Not only that, but I contacted him immediately after I've learned about this, just to confirm what my friend has said. And I'm afraid what he said is different from what you were told.'*

The magi became confused as she asked, *'What? What did he say? Aeolus told me that these two nights ago.'*

'I asked him if he was planning to wipe out every single human in the entire world. He said yes; however, they have other things to attend to before they will decide to start. Then I asked him why he wants to do that. In response...' Rina trailed off, unsure on how to phrase this one. *'He listed everything bad that humans have done to him.'*

Atlas replied, *'What? You got to be kidding me. Aeolus would never lie; he's always been honest with me. Always!'* Rina, frowning slightly, deciding not to reply, giving Atlas time to process what she heard. While waiting, she briefly wondered if she can telepathically show memories to others, but dropped the thought soon enough. She got the hang of telepathy only recently and she didn't know whether this would be easy or difficult.

Raven, meanwhile, was impatiently tapping his claw on the ground, waiting for the dragoness. *'What's taking her so long?!'* he thought angrily. To pass the time, he picked up the puzzle cube while the dragoness was busy and began twirling its sections around, careful not to break it.

Rina, having her telepathy link with Atlas cut off, shrugged and turned to Raven, only to see him fiddling with the cube. Before she could say anything, however, another familiar voice sounded off in her head, *'Rina? Do you get this? It's Succino, I survived the village attack! Are you alright?'*

"Put it back where it was," she just flatly said to the black dragon. She opened her mind yet again to reply to...Succino? Didn't she try to contact him minutes ago and he never replied?

((**Note:** This section takes place during [Chapter 45](#).)

A while later after Rina talked to Succino, she was glad to see that they were nearing Windfall's gates. So much happened in a short period of time and she barely managed to process it all while she and Raven were walking back. Walking, because Raven insisted that they should not spend their energy flying. But while she normally would have objected against that, the dragoness agreed nonetheless; she was still in awe of the environment the forest presented. She suspected that Raven's argument was just an excuse so he could enjoy the scenery too. "So Rina..." the dragon interrupted her train of thoughts. "I understand that we may get hungry and all, but still *why* exactly we are carrying those dead...animals there?" he gestured towards deer on their backs. A short while ago the dragoness insisted that they hunt for some animals and they got two deer as a result.

"Raven, didn't I mention that I work at the butchery?" Rina sighed in exasperation. Sometimes Raven can be insufferable. "Windfall isn't like our clan; people and dragons there, no doubt, have jobs that differ from our usual patrolling, fishing and securing the village from hazards and humans."

"Yeah, yeah, you've already told me that before. And the fact that they use something called 'money'. What is this, we are embracing human laws now?"

"Shut up, Raven. And don't misquote something that has been said by someone else." hissed Rina. The black dragon just huffed and muttered something that sounded like 'like you aren't prone to making stupid decisions'. She decided to ignore that, and changed the topic, "Anyway, we still need to heed El-Naise's request. If we are to provide her and the rest of the Eternal Wind with places where they would live, we might need to ask around for a person who could manage it."

"Right. Any guesses on who could be that person?"

"Not a clue."

"Me neither." Both continued to walk in silence, not being bothered at all by the weight of the bodies on their back. "So, that 'Song Bird'," began Raven, "Is he still hope--"

"Hold on." Rina suddenly stopped and looked around.

"What?" the dragon looked at her in confusion before noticing that she was looking at someone and traced her gaze. She was looking directly at a long-haired brunette human in a strange-looking grayish-blue outfit with another unknown-to-him animal, which was bigger than the animals they were carrying. Rina quietly observed the stranger, while checking if he is going to draw any sort of weaponry. She also felt that he and the animal weren't the only ones here, but right now only those two were in her attention. "Hey, how long are you going to have a staring contest with that human?" said Raven, shaking the dragoness's shoulder in annoyance.

She averted her gaze and thought in confusion, *'What am I doing? I'm not in the clan's village, humans here aren't that much of a threat here as they were back there and then...'* Then she said, "Right. Sorry. Let's--"

"Okay, wait a second there," the black dragon suddenly said. "I don't know what just went through your head to make you that intense, but maybe this...guy knows about how we can get in touch with who we need?"

"I highly doubt it," Rina slowly shook her head. "Windfall was formed a day after the Spell, as I've heard, and I doubt anyone knows already in the span of a couple of days who is where."

"Can't deny the possibility though."

"Since when did you suddenly started to wish to talk with humans?" Rina turned towards Raven with amused expression.

He just snorted, "Hey, for your information, missus, I too care about our clanmates, and I want to help them as much as I do! What's the problem with that? And besides, we don't have to ask humans about it. There are dragons in Windfall, no? We can always ask them."

The dragoness chuckled, "Then why did you stop me here, then? Or do I sense a change of heart plus denial?"

"Oh, shut up!"

Then they heard an unknown dragoness snorting, "Hello? I can hear you and I may be as tall as a human, but I am by no means one."

Another person, most likely another human male, called, "We mean you no harm. You do not need to approach us if you do not wish to. We will not chase you and we will not attack if you do come to us."

The long-haired man smirked at the two dragons, "A pair of much older and wiser dragons, but not elder dragons. I've met elder dragons, I can tell the difference by the look in a dragon's eye."

Rina said to her clanmate, "There. That answers your question, Raven." Then she calmly walked with Raven behind her around the human on the hooved animal, who bowed his head in respect of the two, which mildly surprised her. She didn't actually expect a human of all things to pay respect towards dragons, but that was a pleasant turn of events and it made her almost completely relax.

((**Note:** This section takes place during [Chapter 46](#).)

Shortly after their conversation with Eric, the long-haired man and the wyvern, Rina and Raven soon entered the city. Rina asked, "By the way, Raven, why did you wait back there to talk with them? I thought you weren't the one for talking."

"Giving them an advice on hunting, obviously," huffed Raven, doing his best to hide his lie from his clanmate.

"Hunting?" the dragoness inquired incredulously.

"You saw that wyvern and her reaction, right? I figured I would give her an advice on how to hunt those things so she wouldn't pester us in the future about it."

"Right." Rina shrugged, deciding to leave the topic and instead said, "Anyway, I thought of something regarding where the remnants of our clan would live."

"Eh? And what's that?"

She said, "Do we have to settle ourselves right in the outskirts of this city? That's the question I was asking myself."

Raven raised his eyebrows. "Eh? Why you suddenly think of that now? It's not because of humans...?"

"Not just that." Rina sighed, "I'm wondering if we would bring more trouble than it's worth, and--"

"Wait, are you talking about us being enemies to those guys back on Solomos?" the black dragon rolled his eyes. "Really Rina, I thought you would be more wiser than that. Look at those dragons!" He

gestured towards two guard dragons, chatting with each other while keeping their eyes open in case of trouble. "I'm pretty sure dragons and humans living together will more than irk the Horde. And since you already found the job, I don't think it would be a problem for us." Raven paused for a while, but then quickly added, "Not to mention I am tired of living in a cave."

The dark blue dragoness inquired, "Don't tell me that you don't miss your home?"

"I never said that!" snapped Raven.

Deciding not to continue the topic, Rina simply shrugged. And then said, "We're here." The duo was standing in front of a fairly large stone house with a sign at the doors that said *Marcus's Butchery*, and right next to it was another sign that listed whatever was on sale. It also had a backyard, where various cattle from cows to pigs were. The house actually had three entrances: one for humans and smaller dragons, one for large dragons and the back door for employees. Rina's destination was the employee entrance. Gesturing to Raven, she headed towards that door. As soon as she opened it...

"AHA! Gotcha, you...uh..." said the booming voice of a stout human echoing through the room as he ran to the door with a triumphant look on his face. But then it changed into that of confusion, and then the mix of disappointment and apologetic regret. "Oh. Ahem, sorry. Thought you were someone else," he added sheepishly. "Welcome back, Rina and...your friend, I suppose?"

"Name's Raven," said the dragon.

The man said, "Ah, good. Nice to meet you. Now, come in! I need to ask you both something very important and I mean VERY important!" The duo exchanged glances with each other, confused as to what happened, before following the butcher inside.

A minute later the deer were hanged on hooks for later dressing and cutting. Rina and Raven were sitting in front of Marcus as he spoke, "So here is my question, have you seen a wyvern with a burning mane?"

Rina and Raven exchanged glances, both knowing who the human meant. '*Does he mean...*' the dark-blue said telepathically to the black dragon.

He replied, '*Yes, he does.*'

Both looked at the butcher and Rina decided to ask, "Why are you looking for that particular wyvern, anyway?"

Marcus answered, "Oh, I'll tell you why. That sneaky thief took one of them prized pigs, that's that he did! ...She, uh whatever!" The butcher went on to rant about his pigs, while the duo exchanged glances again. "Spent so much time taking care of them, would be some amazing meat that city folks can enjoy,

but of COURSE someone swoops in and BAM!" He slammed his hands together for emphasis. "One less to count! Now, back to my question, have you seen that wyvern?" Marcus asked, expectingly looking either at Rina or Raven.

They both looked at each other before the dragoness finally said, trying her best to make the lie sound like the truth, "Uh, no. We haven't seen a wyvern. Not with the burning mane, at least."

Marcus sighed in visible disappointment, the lie being unnoticed. "Blast it... Well, at least you brought them fine deer here... Alright, that's it for today, Rina. I'll deal with the rest. And do me a favor, if you find the wyvern I was talking about, please tell me, aight?"

"Sure," said Rina.

"Great! I knew I could count on you. Now, one moment please..." Marcus stood up and walked towards his chest that sat in the corner. Fumbling with the locks for a while, he finally opened it and began searching for something. "Where was that thing... Ah, here!" He pulled out a small purse, which he then handed to the dragoness. "Here is your payment for today. Again, those are some fine deer you brought. Thank you...both for help! Now off you go, please? I have a job to do." Rina nodded and both dragons left the butchery, while the human, still muttering about the thief, went to get the meat cleaver.

Both dragons walked away from the butchery in silence. Then, after they reached sufficient enough distance, Raven began, "So, should we go and look for that wyvern?"

"No. Not yet at least," responded Rina, opening the bag and proceeding to count the money. "For now, we should focus on our original goal."

"You do realize that it might take forever for us to find someone who can set us up with places to live?" the black dragon grumbled. "Might as well go find a large cave and settle there..." Suddenly Raven turned and looked around for some unknown reason.

"What's wrong?" inquired Rina, confused.

"Nothing. Just got a weird feeling," he replied after a short pause. "Let's go, we're already wasting time just by standing here." Rina looked at the black dragon as he continued walking. She hummed and followed him, deciding to take a note of this.

((**Note:** The rest of this story is not canon to the RP, unless UberCatSR wants it to be.))

Daisuke watched the two dragons leave the butchery. Like he did with the neotropical a few days ago and the same dark blue dragoness after that, he was just testing his skills in hiding. Not only that, but for some unknown reason he can't fathom, he sensed something interesting about the two dragons. When he overheard them talking, he hid in the forage of leaves on one of the trees and listened in on their conversation. They seemed to be looking for a place or two to live. The ninja would go up to them and suggest taking residence in the dragon neighborhood he lives at. But the problem is that all of the houses on his street and the others nearby were full. They would have to look for another neighborhood similar to his new home or else they'll be homeless. Daisuke watched the two dragons go and secretly followed them to see if they would eventually find some place to settle.