

((Note: The following sections take place during [Chapter 25](#).)

Spinx was outside of town when he saw the silver dragoness fly overhead about 20 minutes ago. He knew who it was, but how she got out of her cell and ended up all the way here, he did not know. As the fireworks lit the sky behind him, he said to himself, "Dracul, you are an idiot for letting her out of that cell." He drew his sword as three armed guards came from the back with their swords drawn.

The soldier said, "Halt, you are going to be placed under arrest for the three people you just killed in to-" Then a blue drake came from the shadows and bit down on the man's neck. The other two started to scream, but were drowned out by the sound of the fireworks. One man drowned in a water bubble and the other had his throat sliced open. Spinx and his two minions ran into the forest after the silver dragoness.

Azera smelled smoke and, without caring about trying to see what the kid bounty hunter's capability was, ran in a different direction. He could see the glow of the fire spreading through the forest, having just started.

Spinx laughed when he ordered Eve to light the forest aflame. "I had enough of these plants and had enough of searching. Let see them come to me." He laughed some more as he left and Eve attempted to spread the fire, but the flame expanded slowly. So Eve made more fires instead, almost making it look like a firework lit the forest aflame. As soon as the flames started, Spinx summoned a massive amount of birds and sent them into the air, most of them were crows. The man watched as other living birds though took to the air as he combined the birds together. *'If you come, I will know.'* Eve went back into the ground as Spinx mounted the blue-scaled drake as she ran across the ground away from the fire at full speed.

Overhead, the dragon guards started to fly out to the forest with waterhorses. An armored black spitfire dragon led the way. They immediately started to dowse to the flames. The spitfire helped along by eating some of the fire while the guards checked around for anyone caught in the arson. The waterhorses worked together to put out the flames until the fire smoldered into a calm smoke. Amidst the firefighting, Atlas landed in the clearing that was untouched by the surrounding fire. She got to work by casting her ice stream magic at the wildfire. The line of light blue frost snaked around through the air and doused out every fire it touched. Their efforts made the forest go dark again. The spitfire called, "Get the vine dragons out here to repair the damage." One of the guards nodded in response.

Spinx continued to ride his drake and made Eve light even more fires around the forest. He said a bit aloud, "Let's see how well they can put out fires when I can just keep starting them." The dragon lord lit

even more trees on fire and spread the flames around, until the fire could spread on its own. "To the next area."

The spitfire hovered over the area and called to the increasing crowd of dragons who had come to aid, "Fire Squad, to me." He told them, "Drench the place. Emergency procedure." Nine waterhorses and a gray dragon stood together and used their combined ability to create a powerful storm spell. The clear sky turned thick and gray before a heavy rain poured over the land, drenching out all the fires.

Spinx sat on the ground as Eve kept the man dry with his wings. "What some goody-two-shoes nature lovers," Spinx said to himself as he got up and went off in the woods. "Well, at least I had my fun." He simply shrugged as he left the scene. "Nothing good ever happens in a low city like this unless someone make it happens."

Azera ran north, south, east and west, just trying to find a way out until he ran out of the forest. He saw the dragons and the guards there. Azera's face was covered in black smudge from the smoke, almost like it was cream.

((**Note:** The following sections take place during [Chapter 26](#).)

Juna saw the lake as Eitri teleported everyone in the cave to the location. "Solomos, horde," she said to herself as quietly as she could. She did not like how Aeolus was asking questions and she trusted her gut feeling. Juna felt her muscle tense a bit as she walked over to Axle, and changed to her dragon form. She picked up Axle in her jaw and moved him over by Mekarth to set him against the black dragon's side. She sat down next to them and keep an eye on Aeolus. "Thank for your hospitality, but it is getting late and these two needed rest. I would not want to keep your horde members worrying about you now," the silver said biting down a snarl, trying to get the horde leader to leave so that she had time with Atlas to talk. It was clear as day she had a distaste for Aeolus and she was not trying to hide it.

Juna wandered around aimlessly until she heard the sound of a loud splash, but she just kept on wandering, but not aimless this time though. When she could not see the lake anymore, or Atlas for that fact, she took to the air, high above the clouds, and headed back towards the lake. She was quiet in the air as she flew overhead and almost started to circle around in the air above the horde. When she was in the perfect place, she changed her body to her halfling form and kept above the clouds, keeping a watchful eye on the dragons below. *'What are you up to? Why would you need the spell?'* Juna thought to herself as she started to lower herself quickly into the forest, hoping not to be seen by the others. She

wanted to hear what was going on and know what was going on. Stealth was her friend and ally at this point as she came within earshot of the dragons.

Then she heard something about a raid on a human camp from Aeolus, "Sargoth, is it? We are going to destroy a huge army camp tonight. After Pyro kills off the halfling mages, I will need you to place stone walls around the camp to prevent the humans from escaping. Our magi dragons can help you with that as well if it seems too much of a work for you."

Juna questioned suspiciously, *'What are you after, lizard?'*

Then the horde leader continued speaking, "Once we have the camp trapped, I need you to join in and help us annihilate every soldier you see so that they won't kill any more dragons again. Do you understand all that?"

Sargoth smiled and replied, "Aye sir! With a magi, I could bring a wall up as tall as their buildings in five minutes or less."

"That's good," Aeolus replied. "Now come, it's time we get our assault started now." The group went over back to the horde. The disaster dragon announced to everyone, "Vulture Horde, it's time we finally go out and put an end to the army once and for all. Magis, teleport us now!" As all the horde members roared enthusiastic battle cries before Eitri and the magis teleported them to the human camp.

Juna heard what she dreaded to hear. She heard everything that Aeolus said safely from the forest edge; and if she had to guess, a human army as well. *'Vulture horde. Now I'm really going to know what's going on,'* she thought to herself as she knows exactly who to ask. *'Let's see how well you really know your "friend", Miss Atlas. You may have just given your "friend" a way to invade a whole city in a matter of days without being known.'* The halfling got up from her spot and took to the air, heading back to the lake. She was very much going to get to the bottom of this horde and what they are up to, even if she has to rip it from someone's body, dragon or not, if she thought that it would be useful in the future for the protection of Shadow Wind. Juna came down at the lake still in front on her brothers in halfling form and looked up at Atlas. Biting down a snarl, she said, "We need to talk in private, away from the hatchlings and my brothers."

Juna nodded her head in respond before walking away from Atlas. She thought about something else, but she kept quiet about it. The halfling stopped halfway between the group of sleeping dragons and Atlas before she stared up at the stars. She always wondered why Axle likes sleeping under them, even out in the open. Her right hand went to the side of her left arm where it reminded her of her elder brother and father. They too like sleeping under the stars at night, even in the bitter of winter. Juna shook the feeling away from her mind as fast as she could and went to her brothers. She sat down next to Axle and pulled her knees up to her chest. There was something that bothered her and she could not

figure out what.

((**Note:** The following sections take place during [Chapter 27.](#)))

Dracul woke to a bright amount of light shining through his sleeping chamber window. Arch had entered his room and stood there as the red dragon lord got up and yawned. As Dracul smacked his own lips, the gold dragon said, "Dracul, at 10 AM the entertainment time starts. Today's match is between a human and a halfling that were caught yesterday in the forbidden area; the dragon though escaped."

As he walked next to Arch and through the halls, the red said, "So, a mini-match with no real fun; a disappointment."

Arch replied, "Yes it is, if they did not carry something of Axle's on them, like his guard armor and weapons."

Dracul grinned, "So two of Axle's pets are fighting; now I want to see which one will take the other's life."

Azera slept under a tree, and he had no idea how he ended up there. All he remembered were the fire and black smoke, and that was it. The light that came through the leaves of the tree blinded him for a bit as he got up and coughed a bit because he still had ash stuck to his face. When he started to move around and stand up, a growl was heard behind him. He turned around and saw a wolf there that had the most ungodly death smell there was, a rotting corpse. "A dead wolf, odd thing to find-" Azera started to say out loud as more started to appear. He thought he could hear a bit of a small laugh from the tree as if someone was watching the wolves. The mercenary pulled his sword out from his sheath as one of the wolves started to advance into an attack.

Axle's blue eyes slightly opened to the sight of glimmering water. Its bright reflection of the sunlight caused him to blink at the sight. He felt someone leaning against him; he turned and saw the silver wings on a human female body. He knew from the scent who it was, and was a bit surprised that she was here with him. When he looked around, he saw that he did not know where he was. He turned his body a bit as Juna stirred a little by Axle's movement.

"Morning Juna," the white whispered to his sister as she turned her head to him. He saw Atlas sleeping and did not want to wake her unless he needed to.

"Morning Axle, how do you feel?" Juna yawned as she asked. She arranged her body so that she was not leaning against her brother anymore as she rubbed her eyes. It was clear that she stayed up most of the night, but Axle already knows not to ask.

"Well, I'm not dead that for sure," Axle said as he got up and yawned a bit and he placed the cloak around Juna. "I'm going to go find us some food. Tell Mekarth and Atlas that I will be back soon," Axle quietly said as he started to walk away from her.

Juna wanted to say something, but she did not want to hurt Axle in any way, so she kept quiet as he took to the air and headed towards the forest. She pulled the cloak around herself as she kept on trying to shake a feeling that something bad was going to happen. Whenever she had that feeling, it always happened and it could be anything. She gripped the cloak harder as she worried it would be Axle's safety that was at stake. Mekarth started to stir around as the other dragons started to wake up. The first person he saw was a halfling girl in a silver dress with a pair of silver wings. She stood there, almost as if watching and waiting like a hawk. She heard Mekarth yawned a bit as she turned and looked at him. "Morning Mekarth, I see you're well as always," Juna said as the black knew who he saw then.

"Juna, how did you?" Mekarth said lost in words. After a bit, he started not caring for the answer anymore as he purred up against Juna like a cat, which he ended getting hit in the head with the woman's claw fist. "What was that for?" Mekarth asked as his head throbbed in pain.

She did not reply to his question as Axle came back with two very large deer and a mid-size pig. He dropped one of the deer next to Juna and Mekarth as they both waited for their brother. Axle then took the mid-size pig and deer to Atlas and the hatchlings. "Here Atlas," Axle said as he placed the prey down next to her. He sounded a bit sorry about something, almost as if he was upset about something.

"Uh thanks," the magi replied. The white went back to his family as all three of them ate the deer without a word between themselves, almost as if they were separating themselves from the group. When they were done, Axle and Juna both walked away from the group, almost far enough away from the group but still could be seen. Mekarth sat down still in the same place, watching now, as both siblings exchanged words for a few seconds. At one point, Juna seemed to have got pissed off at something the white said and had no problem in punching him straight in his chest as he staggered back. Juna said something harsh that seems to have angered Axle, because he returned the favor right back. This soon scaled into a whole big fight among one another.

Mekarth said as he got up, "Great, they are at it again, and they just got to see one another for only a few minutes after three months." He stood among the worried dragons and the fighting siblings. Mekarth seem like he did not worry about what will happen. Both the brother and the sister seem to want to beat one another to the ground, because both of them have drawn blood from the other. Both were still in halfling and human form, but yet their skin tone and their eyes have matched their dragon form scales and eyes color and shape. The fight was soon over, just minutes after it started, and with a

loud snap of a bone snapping. Juna had pinned Axle's arm behind his back and pushed hard until it broke the bone. Axle bit back his scream of pain and held his tongue as once again his sister had beaten him. The man wept in pain as he fell to the ground on his knees and look up at Juna. She said something to Axle before taking off. Mekarth look at Axle and shook his head before taking to the air after his sister, leaving Axle on the ground as the man looked down.

((**Note:** The following sections take place during [Chapter 28](#).)

Axle just sat there for a few moments before he spoke to the magi with a bit of shyness, "Atlas, about Juna, she may seem hostile to almost everyone she comes across, but that's because she is a protector spirit. She hates seeing people risk other lives for their own goals. Give it some time to know her, you might like her." Something was bothering him about what happened between the fight.

Only one line kept on running through his head, *'Family sticks together, no matter what.'* That was one of Juna's lines that she told him after the fight.

Azera was starting to get exhausted from all the wolves and they just kept on coming. The man started to breathe heavily as his sword started to weight like a ton. He could not keep up with the wolves and the person sending them at him, until he saw a black cloak in the shadows appear.

As the wolves started to slowly close in around Azera, the man in black cloak said, "Well, what an interesting swordsman. I want to know the name of my victims before I kill them so you do the honors, good sir."

Azera said as he gripped the hilt of his sword with both hands, "Hm, a coward hiding behind wolves? What a joke. My name is Azera Talya and I'm from Shadow Wind." The man simply laughed at the mercenary.

Spinx said as his red eyes look up at him, "Ah, yes; Dracul sent you to find me. Well seeing how you lost Juna, you have no use except to feed my wolves. You see, they are quite hunger this morning and all you would do is provide a small snack for them."

Azera knew who this was now and snarled, "Well, well, well. If isn't Spinx the necromancer and human servant to Dracul." Spinx ignored it as his wolves continue their assault, causing the mercenary to stagger to keep up until he fell off the edge of a cliff into a river below.

Axle laid down on Juna's back as he looked at the clouds. He simply watched the clouds above them as he made out what shapes that the clouds look like. Through human eyes, the world looks so much bigger, but also so much more peaceful. Axle asked as he looked at the blue sky, "Juna, have you ever spent your time just watching the clouds and trying to tell what their cotton shapes are?"

Juna snarled back at the question, "No, I have not. If you have not forgotten, I been locked in a cell for the past two months chained to a wall until recently." She stated harshly, "And before that, I never really cared to look up at the clouds. They are just water. Nothing but water." It almost made Axle feel sorry for her.

The man calmly said as he now sat on her back, "You need to take a few hours and just watch them as they dance on their blue sky canopy. It's peaceful and it might make you calm down." Then he questioned her, "Also, what are you so angry about? You were fine earlier today until you went over to the horde leader." He almost got the feeling like the dragon is on the wrong side of Juna.

"It's nothing; just leave it at that." The dragoness tried to be calm about it, but it still came out harsher than she wanted it to.

Axle said calmly, "Okay, I won't ask again. I will just wait until you are ready." He waited for Mekarth to reach them, so that Atlas can begin her training in fighting in human form.

((**Note:** The following sections take place during [Chapter 29](#).)

Azera pulled himself from the water of the running river. He was soaked to the core of his body as he tries to walk from the water, which then turned into a crawl. Blood flowed from an open wound he got from falling over the edge of the cliff and into the sharp rocks below. He pulled out his sword and used it as a walking stick, heading all the way back to town. He made it about half way before collapsing against a tree, but was soon exhausted beyond his ability of moving. Azera soon passed out as blood still flowed from his wound in a slow manner.

After leaving Atlas with Axle to continue her training, Juna and Mekarth walked through the woods and soon arrived at the clearing where the lake is located. Though they were still a bit away from the lake itself as they simply wandered to the lake.

((**Note:** The following sections take place during [Chapter 30](#).)

Dracul went to the dark dungeon where they kept the next 'volunteers' at. It was hard to see even with his dragon vision, until he found the new arrivals and looked at both of them, who were sitting against the wall. A female human and a male halfling. The halfling saw him as he looked dead at Dracul.

The halfling said, "Well if it isn't the killer dragon. What do I own the 'honor' for your hideous ass showing up?"

Dracul smirked and said darkly, "Just to tell you to put on a good show today for the us. And try not to die so fast, it would not be fun to see." The halfling dashed off the wall and reached for the dragon lord, but came short.

The halfling growled, "If these bars were not in between us, I would rip you to shreds." Dracul simply laughed and he walked away.

Dracul and Arch waited in the dark of the town hall's shadow. The air was thick and the streets were empty except for a few small rats running around the street. Arch asked, "So any idea when this person's supposed to show up at?" They waited for the meeting to happen between Dracul and someone who was in charge of Axle's home while he was gone. Both lords have been waiting for a few minutes now until they heard the beating sound of dragon wings, almost like three dragons were coming. Three dragons landed in front of them, with two of them having humans on their backs, each having a large sword with them. All three dragons were armored, but only one had a collar on her neck. It was a young female dragon that was green with an orange taint to her scales, with red eyes ringed with blue, as she stood behind the two other dragons.

Arch laughed, "So they sent a slave dragon to the meeting, what a disgrace." Dracul though seemed like he knew the dragoness with the collar and saw the runes marks on them.

The red said, "Akil, so you're the one who sent that message of this meeting." Arch was surprised that his fellow lord knew the dragoness.

Akil said calmly, but with a tone that states she means it, "I'll cut to the point, Dracul. We want the two you captured back."

Dracul simply snorted, "And if I refuse to?"

She replied with a very firm tone, "Then I'll take them back by force."

Dracul replied back with a firm tone as well, meaning what he said, "Well, you better be prepared to attack the games at three then. I will be waiting to see your downfall. Arch, time to go; this meeting is over."

Arch simply nodded his head as they both teleported back to the castle in the center of the town, leaving Akil and her group standing there.

As the human on his back kept an eye out, one of the dragons said, "What do you want to do, General Akil?"

The human on the other dragon's back suggested angrily, "If you ask me, we should just attack the prison and take them from there."

"That's why Axle did not leave you in charge, Vi," the dragon that Vi was on said.

Akil decided, "Really, that does not sound like a bad idea. A quick operation, but we can't help you inside there. So Vi, I will leave you in charge of getting in and getting out as quick as you can. We will wait for you outside."

Both Vi and the other human got off and pulled their hoods up over their head. Vi said, "Meet us at Rock Sea in about a few hours and be ready for fighting if it's not clear." Both him and the other one vanished into the city cover.

Akil and the other two dragons took back to the air and flew back to Axle's castle that sat outside the city in the water. The dragon on her left, that carried Vi on his back, said, "So you're just going to let Vi do this?"

The general said, "Yes, he is more than capable of doing so. Let's just get them as fast as possible, okay? We will just have to trust that he knows what needs to be done." All three of the dragons flew back the rest of the way to Axle's castle in silence until the time came when they needed to pick up Vi and the group.

((**Note:** The following sections take place during [Chapter 31](#).)

Axle headed towards Ohimia now. He listened to the dragoness's story all the way through, and then she described the hybrids that was responsible for the attack. When Atlas wanted to punish the lumina's attacker, Axle tried to stop her, but she teleported away to carry out her vengeance. Axle looked like he was pissed. *'She will never truly learn,'* he thought to himself and then turned his attention to the two,

Garin and Ohimia, that were currently training. Axle turned into his human form and went to sit against the wall close to him. He put his hands together and it seemed like he was now meditating. His breathing started to slow down as the beating of his heart came to a small thud every 5 seconds.

After a minute, Axle's meditation was broken when he started to hear someone starting to panic. He got up and simply looked around. He just quietly walked to the cave entrance and looked out over it. There was nothing he could see, no undead minions, no Spinx, no Atlas. He simply shook his head before he sat on the edge of the cave and let his feet hang over.

Akil waited by the shore's edge that she told Vi the three dragons were going to be at. She could hear the crashing of the waves against the rough rocks on the cliff face that was a couple of meters away from the beach. It was close to time for them to be coming and she would have to be ready for anything.

Dracul was sitting around doing nothing but waiting for the news he already knew that was coming. He did not have to wait long as an armored soldier came over the hill that he was behind. "Lord Dracul, two male figures have entered the prison with the two captives like you said and we are awaiting your order."

The lord looked at the soldier, "Good, let them take the two prisoners and then we will spring our trap on those traitors."

((**Note:** The following sections take place during [Chapter 32](#).)

Juna changed into her halfling form as she leaned against the wall of the cave on the inside of the cave's mouth. She waited for Aeolus and his 'friends' to get here.

Atlas had gotten back from fighting the hybrids. Now Axle laid down on the ground and looked up at the clouds. *'At least she's not trying to kill right now,'* he thought to himself as he watched the sky. It was peaceful to him.

Akil watched over the terrain she waited in. She was only there for about 30 minutes before she saw the

small group running towards them. She stood up and got the other two dragons with her up. "Akil!" one of the men with Vi yelled before a dragon came from the ground and tore that person in half. All that was left was a bloody mess as the other three kept on running. The vine dragon turned his attention to the other three that were running as he wiped his vines at them. Both the males dodged the attack, but the woman was not lucky. A vine ran right through her chest, causing her to cough up blood.

"Shit, it's a damn vine dragon," one of the dragons said as Akil's mouth dropped open in shock.

"Valinora," the halfling yelled when he saw her get pierced by the vine. Right as soon as it happened, the woman grabbed the vine and her eyes seem to change colors before both the vine and her disappeared. The halfling fell to his knees as the three dragons went up to Vi and the halfling.

"Valor, we have to go, now," Akil told the halfling, who was now in shock. She looked over the hill and saw a huge group of men, halflings, and dragons. Standing in front of the group was a man dressed in red who lifted a green-trimmed purple sword. Akil's eyes opened with fear as she saw the sword come down. She only thought of one thing, '*Axle!*'