

Zaccheo flinched away from the light that slunk into the den. His eyes squinted open and he looked around, he was alone today as Patch had some family things to work on in Jioni. The young lion shambled onto his feet and made his way to the light outside. His slim form slunk from his den, yawning as he awoke from a long night of testing his musical instruments. A grin on his face, he shrugged his shoulders and shivered off the tired feeling. He would catch up with Patch later. Make plans to do something special if he could, often that involved playing music for her when ever he could.

“Zaccheo? A word if you will?”

The voice startled him a moment before he looked over. Was that... the queen?!

Queen Nasuba approached his den slowly. Her regal form the last thing he had expected to see outside. His heart jumped into his throat. Was he in trouble? No, no couldn't be, she seemed to have a very friendly and welcoming smile on her muzzle. The sight calmed his fears as he nodded.

“Y-Yes your majesty.” He quickly took to her side and the pair walked off into Shupavu.

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They walked slowly as Zaccheo took in the question that brought them out here.

“How are you adjusting to the pride?” Nasuba had asked and he had thought it over.

“I've adjusted well to your pride. I wish to make Shupavu a home.”

Zaccheo watched her smile before smiling back. She seemed to like this answer.

Honestly he himself liked the answer. He had never been social with most of the pride but it still felt welcoming to him. He enjoyed the safety they had given him.

After the fire he was even confident he would never have to travel again now that they settled in the south. It may have been cold, but he was kept warm as the fluff on his neck and shoulders grew a tad longer and thoughts of having a home made him happy to settle there. Finally life could begin.

“Have you thought about the path you wish to follow in Shupavu?”

This was it. Zacc bit his tongue as the question sunk into him. He knew the path he wanted, the one that suited a lion like him.

Zacc quickly bowed his head politely as he thought over his next words carefully. “Y-yes, I wish to take a role in entertaining the pride. I... I'm a musician at heart and this is the path I want to take.”

Zacc felt as if his future hung on her next words, a warm smile made him comfortable with the idea of an answer. “I see,” It went silent again, and Zacc looked up to meet her gaze somewhat nervous and shy.

“I think that can be arranged for you Zaccheo.”

Zacc beamed as he stood tall. That was all he needed to assure in his mind that this was it, Shupavu was his home. “Thank you your majesty, I will be happy to play for your pride. I promise I am a decent musician. Th-thank you!”

Zaccheo smiled as a paw rested on his shoulder, “Welcome to Shupavu Zaccheo.”