

## **Scarfox February Prompt:**

### ***Admiring Lovers***

*Featuring Astra and Titus*

Astra wandered around the edge of the Hidden Garden wondering why in the world her partner had called her here. “Tituuuuus!” She called into the woods as she took a few tentative steps in, “Where are you?” She peered up through the trees at the midday sun shining through the hanging leaves of the willow trees. Despite the sweet and calming scent of the flowers blossoming deeper within the woods, being near this place unnerved Astra. She pulled her wings closer to her body, curled her tails close to her legs and did whatever she could not to get caught on any of the hanging leaves and deep brush.

“Come on Titus...” Astra muttered to herself, “Where are you?” They glanced around nervously, suddenly jumpy as birds whistled from deeper within the forest. As the Scarfox was about to call out for Titus once again, a small black and blue Scarfox suddenly appeared hanging down from the branch by his tail in front of Astra. “Hello~” The mini Scarfox said coyly.

“Eep!” Astra jumped back startled, “Titus! Don’t scare me like that!” She frowned at her partner and he giggled in response before swinging down and switching to his full size.

“Sorry about that, Astra,” he chuckled and brushed his arm against hers, “At least you made it!” Titus grinned happily. Astra sighed, unable to remain irritated for long, before hugging the male. “Yes I did,” she grumbled a little, “Now are you going to tell me why you had me meet you here?” She looked up at Titus as he hugged her back. “Your message just said ‘*Meet me at the Hidden Garden, I want to show you something.*’ But why are we here now?” She asked as she pulled away from Titus and began to scan the trees again.

Titus grinned at Astra before taking a couple steps away from her, “Follow me, it’s this way,” he said and motioned with his hand for the other Scarfox to follow. Astra sighed but followed behind him as he happily walked through the forest, far more familiar with this area than she was. After a moment of her struggling to keep up, he held out his hand to Astra, and she took it shyly but gratefully.

Titus led his partner through the woods for a short distance, humming softly to himself as he walked. After a few minutes, his ears perked up before he said, “It should beee... right here!” He grinned after investigating a small curtain of willow leaves hanging in front of them and pulled some of them aside to reveal a small clearing behind. Astra gave a small gasp as she beheld the scene in front of her.

A blanket laid on the ground in the middle of a densely covered clearing with a single opening to see the sky above. Around the blanket were small candles that burned

softly and left a gentle glow on the sweetly smelling flowers around them. In the middle of the blanket was a small arrangement of plates and utensils sitting next to a basket full of Astra's favorite foods. In the center of it was an ornate crystal vase which held the largest and most beautiful flowers Astra had ever seen.

"Is this... For me?" She asked tentatively looking at Titus who was smiling gently at her.

"Yes, my dear. I set this up for you..." He said almost shyly, but Astra beamed wide before jumping into Titus for a hug laughing happily.

"Thank you Titus! This is so sweet." She smiled and nuzzled her face against his.

"Happy Valentine's Day, love..." He said with a genuine and gentle care that was uncharacteristic of the jokester Scarfox. A side of himself that he saved only for Astra, who blushed and giggled back shyly. The two hugged for a moment before Titus set her down on the ground, and broke the silence.

"So... How about we eat?" He asked, back to his usual self, "I don't know about you, but I am *starving*! And I'd hate for all this food to go to waste." He grinned at Astra who rolled her eyes and chuckled. "Yes I think we should," She said peacefully as she grasped her lover's hand to enjoy the gift he'd given her.