

As soon as the power went out, Radice's eyes adjusted to the light--though the color slightly faded from his perceivable vision. Lino also found the darkness no issue, while Valoroso jumped and looked at the lights with fury as if they had turned off of their own volition. "Settle down, Valoroso. It's just a power outage."

"I am settled. And I'm getting along with the sneaky baby! Aren't you proud?"

"Of course, of course, *lagartijo*." While any of his other dragons would take *lagartijo* as an insult, Valoroso wore it proudly. It meant he was still Radice's most important little hatchling!

Radice shuffled through the near-darkness, easily navigating over to a bureau and rummaging around for a lighter and candle. He hadn't purchased too many candles yet, but those that they did have were all scented like the natural world. Pine scent, lavender, and a mysterious 'Refreshing Spring' scent completed the line-up. He put one on the top banister of the stairs, one on the dining table, and another next to the oven with food. With this, even the dragons with poor night vision would be able to navigate. "I could probably make some floating fireballs," he mused aloud.

"Absolutely not," replied Lino, creating a few flickers of flame of her own and distributing them into places the candles didn't reach. They were all hovering above their heads--just high enough that they wouldn't touch Rozaliya's branch antlers.

Valoroso's feathers fluffed up. "I can do fire, too!" He showed off another thing he had been practicing. Even though he was born with black fire, he could make red fire if he really wanted. He made a tiny little kindle of flame and had it hover next to one of Lino's. It was noticeably smaller and dimmer, but Lino clapped for him all the same, and Valor's plated chest puffed out in pride.

Radice leaned down and petted the dragon. "An excellent job," he said. He would be careful to give the dragon some extra praise when he did good things without a tantrum. He got up and turned towards Roza. "Are we done cooking? If not, Lino could--I mean, Lino and Valor could help finish the searing."

Roza's eyes took no time to adjust, the colored work losing its color but she was able to see everyone even without the candle light. It was a slight pain, as her dragons were slightly distressed, but as Radice walked around and started setting up lights the pair of beans were calm again. Hanana hopped onto the table to be nearest the biggest amount of light, and the baby was making curious noises at one of the fire lights that was tossed out, wanting to touch it, despite it being too far out of reach.

Valoroso saw the hatchling try to grab a light and smirked. "Oh? You want to touch fire, do you? I can help with that." He didn't want to stay indebted to the baby after she used her wings outside. He made a second fiery light--even smaller than the first, but cold to the touch--and blew it towards the albino like a bubble on the wind.

"Such a good job, you two. Let's just have dinner then we can figure it out from there. Maybe we can camp out in the living room together like a big sleepover," she suggested.

"A sleepover? Like old times, then." Radice said happily.

She started making plates of food for the dragons. Lino and Hanana got the regular plates, with a small amount of rice under the pile of meat, while Valoroso and the baby got just pure meat plates. They had learned over time what the dragons could eat, and the two youngest were apparently better suited for an all meat diet. The pair of riders had the full dish but in larger quantities, Roza letting Radice set up candles and lights as she set up the table.

Once ready, everyone had their food—it was an early lunch, and they could only hope that the power outage wouldn't last until dinner time. If the power outage did last, it was fine as they could have some salad and the baby dragons could have some raw ground meat, but it felt less like a dinner and more like just a need to feed everyone.

"It's been awhile since a storm this big has come through, do they usually hit the town area this hard? The trees protected me from heavier rainfall, so I stayed dry and safe." It was a statement, but she was curious if this was a common occurrence.

"Every few months we get storms like this. It happens most from Fall to Spring, though. We're probably going to get a few like this." He checked the weather on his phone as well. He hadn't quite figured out apps, but he did know he could check the weather on a site directly. His old phone could barely browse through a text version of websites; it was phenomenal enough that he hadn't bothered seeing if there was an easier way to view the info. "It's colder than usual, compared to last year at least. Maybe we'll even get a flurry in winter. It doesn't normally snow, but we can hope. I'm sure Valoroso, Hanana, and the little one would enjoy playing in it." Something about the darkness in the home felt more comfortable than usual. Roza didn't seem bothered, even if her dragons were a little spooked. They all sat closer together, crowding around the candle at the dining table, and it let Radice brush against Roza more than usual as they talked and ate.

"Well, knowing that, we can better prepare for the next one at least. We got them every so often and we would light up the fireplace and sit around it, reading books and roasting things in the flames while the rain went on. Sometimes we'd go dancing in the rain, but I know that wouldn't be good for one small one." Giving Valoroso a gentle stroke, he was being so helpful and well behaved so it would be nice for him to get some wanted attention. "Maybe we can get Valor some boots so the melted snow doesn't put out his leg fires, I think that would be nice."

Hanana was softly croaking, his tongue licking around his mouth to get the small pieces of rice off his face, his eyes slowly closing as he was bunkering down after his plate was cleaned. Darkness to him meant sleep time, and though the area was lit it was clearly a sleep time for him. Though, he did wake as Roza poked at him and waddled over to sit at the edge of the table to watch the babies.

Valoroso's flame started to wander. As the blue flame floated closer and closer to the baby, she flailed her 4 sets of arms out, even ignoring the food set before her as her hands touched the flames. Roza was worried, but resting her head on Radice as she watched, all was safe and a happy baby noise was had. Holding the flame, the youngling was pleased with being able to touch. "Pretty!" She told Valor, showing him his flame that was now in her grasp.

Valoroso puffed out his chest happily and purred with the pets. "Only my fire is this pretty and good for touching." He had practiced the safe flame specifically after burning Radice on accident one or two times. He still couldn't figure it out for his regular flame, but for magic fire? He was now a master at making these flickering candle lights. Lino was even more of a master, but he was catching up in no time. He was better than even Radice, who was surely a great mage--Radice had said as much! "By the time it starts snowing, my magic will be so strong that I don't need boots to go out in the snow. I'll be invincible."

Lino smiled at the two hatchlings. For a fire dragon, Valoroso was far more prideful than usual. Perhaps there was something specific to the albino hatchling that drew that trait out of him. She knew precisely what might do that, but she just grinned and kept that to herself. Between Roza and Radice, and now Valoroso and this hatchling, she would have quite a good time watching their stories unfold.