

“Eden! Don’t forget Akari will be here soon!” Svetla called out from inside the lighthouse.

The gravent simply received a grunt that was followed by silence in response.

*Huh? That’s odd. Usually she’ll reply.*

The Gravent turned her head, blue eyes fixating on the front door. “Eden? Everything okay out there?”

“Yeah! I just got focused on the..” Eden’s words trailed off.

*She’s probably still replanting the plants.*

With a smile Svetla stood up and moved towards the doorway. Her eyes softened as her suspicions were in fact true. She was met with the sight of Eden kneeling down beside some potted plants.

The Crook’s focus remained upon the pot in front of her. After a few moments of silent staring she shifted to stand. As she did so clumps of potting mix slid from her lap and onto the grass below.

She rubbed her hands together, removing the potting mix from them. Once she was satisfied with the amount dusted off her head turned towards the doorway, “when is-” her orange eyes widening; surprise present on her features. “Oh!”

Svetla waved, a grin upon her face. “Sorry to startle you. But Akari should be here soon.”

Eden nodded before pausing as she glanced down at the rest of the soil within her black and white fur. She hurriedly began to brush the rest of it from her fur.

Svetla turned her attention to the pathway and almost instantly her eyes caught the sight of a familiar figure. “I see her! Akari’s coming!”

Without hesitation the Gravent excitedly bound towards the CCCat while calling out her name, “Akari!”

Akari’s pace came to a halt as Svetla rapidly closed the distance between them. “Are you both ready?”

“Yeah! I think we’re ready!” She turned her head towards the approaching footsteps.

“I’m ready!” Eden called out, now standing beside the gravent.

With a nod Akari turned around, facing the direction she had come from, “alright then, come on now. We’ve got a little bit of walking ahead of us.”

And with that the trio began their adventure, following the CCCat and walking along the dirt path into town.

“And we’re here.” Akari gestured to the neon sign which read, *The Blushing Rose*.

“Oooh,” was the first reaction, the sound coming from Eden.

“The Blushing Rose?”

“They have quite a selection of meals. Let’s head in and get started.” Akari shot the duo a glance before pushing open the glass double doors.

The interior and general atmosphere seemed professional but cozy— the warm tones of the multiple shades of creams, browns and the hints of orange accents certainly helped the coziness.

But the most outstanding thing was the floral decorations, several walls were covered in a variety of plants. And each table was decorated with a different plant.

A gasp came from Svetla’s side, followed by an excited shriek, “plants!”

Svetla glanced at Eden who abruptly shoved past before looking back to Akari with a smile, “you remembered, huh?”

Akari’s expression remained neutral as she flatly responded, “remembered what?” And with that she turned away, “Eden! You can’t play with the plants! We’re here to eat!”

“But..”

Svetla chuckled, “so where are we sitting?”

“Well-” Akari started, only for Eden to pipe up and interrupt, “can I pick?!”

Akari sighed, “knock yourself out. There should also be some menus at the table, so make sure you look through it and decide what you’d like.”

And with that Eden made her way towards one of the window tables and began to inspect the plant that rested in the Center of the table. “Here! Let’s eat here!”

Svetla and Akari made their way over, with Akari briefly shaking her head. Once there they moved to take a seat, both grabbing a nearby menu.

“Ooh, spaghetti bolognese sounds good...”

“Oh that does sound good Eden, I think I like the mushroom bolognese lasagna myself.” Svetla glanced over to Akari, “what are you having?”

“I think I’ll get a chicken parmigiana this time. Are you both happy with the meals you’ve selected?”

“Yes!” Both Svetla and Eden responded in sync.

Akari nodded as she pushed her chair out, “I’ll go place our orders. Wait here.” And with that she stepped away.

Svetla turned her attention back to the Crook, “so what’d you think of this place so far?”

“It looks nice. There’s so many plants too!” Eden said with a grin.

“That it does! The plants are very nice, I’ve never seen a place that has walls of plants.” Svetla spared a glance at said floral wall. “What kind of plant is it? Do you know?”

“Ivy..? A book I found said that ivy is most used for that.”

“Alright you two, they’ll be here in a few minutes with our meals. Normally they come to take your order but,” Akari trailed off, “why are you both staring at the ivy?”

“So it is ivy! You were right Eden.” Svetla and Eden briefly exchange smiles before she rests her gaze on Akari who had settled back down into the chair. “Do you often come here?”

“I do.”

“Here you are ladies,” a CCCat spoke as they and Gravent carefully placed each meal they had ordered in front of the one who requested it.

“Enjoy!” They departed with as much speed as they arrived with.

“Well, let’s eat!” And with that the Gravent dug into her food, the others needing no further instructions as they all proceeded to consume their meals.

“Oh this is really good,” Svetla murmured between bites.

“-tremely.” Eden mumbled with a mouth full of food.

“Thank you for this, Akari.” Akari turned her head away from Svetla’s direction as she gave a nod in response.

For the rest of the meal not a word was exchanged between the trio, they simply enjoyed their respective meals.

Unsurprisingly Eden was the first to finish and was probably the messiest eater of the three. While Akari was the second to finish.

Akari’s voice cut through the growing silence. “Did you enjoy your meals?”

“It was nice.” Eden nodded with a smile.

“Yeah! Thank you so much.” Svetla grinned once more.

“We should do this again sometime.”