

After Event 4.6 Barotrauma

Beau Dawnstrider came up via the rift, with Annabelle closely behind. She did not hesitate to call out: "Al! AL! Help -- please." What more did she really need to say, with someone in her arms as they were?

Saori Obinata lies limp, unconscious. The enshroud that had consumed her faded partway up the hill to the aetherial flow - but her arm remained clearly warped, even as it returned to human shape... roughly.

Annabelle Ishi is following at Beau's side, Yellow-green aether flowing from her hands and into Saori. It doesn't appear to be helping any longer, simply stopping her state from getting worse. A bead of sweat drips down her forehead.

Viewin' Cutscene 's neck snaps up, he sees Saori, and begins clearing the way to one of the tent beds.

Zinaida Kirkegrim || Shrike nears the end of her watch, but is always want to linger a bell or so after, in case, maybe she can catch the others coming surface-ways--when the telltale sounds of the company's return sound, Shrike looks up from her seat with a smile, a cup of simple stew in hands. --Distress. Shrike all but drops it, with the look on Beau's face. "Hah?!"

Alduin -- She was already waiting, seemingly, still by the flow with her foot clamoring. Suddenly she had jolted by hearing Beau before she was hurriedly already making over- "I got you- I got you-" Eyes immediately looked before she was quick to grab Saori out of her arms. "Tent. Now- Both of you-" Directed at Annabelle and Beau both. "Run it down, what happened."
Lucille Starling rushes over to Beau and Alduin, and before her mouth opens to say anything, she takes one glance at Saori, then steps towards the tent instead.
"Lucille-" Oh thank FUCK. Alright let's go over.

Zinaida Kirkegrim || ...Her arm's bared, and... Shrike gives Saori a wider berth as the stronger healers of the company tend to the other.

Annabelle Ishi: "Voidsent- Two of the Andalisi and Saori got sick, vomited up- black, inky... worms. The two Andalisi expired, but Saori- it had only taken her arm, it appears, and then it burst from her and a burst of void energy closed the wound before she lost too much blood- I've been doing what I can but whatever healed her initially is still in there- I'm worried if we stop it'll keep-" Consuming her. "It'll get bad."

Viewin' Cutscene hollers: "Everybody, stop crowdin' around. Healers, Beau, and Saori only! Get over here!"

Ayre Oblitus: followed along the group keeping an eye out for more void worms as they made

their exit, lucky they did not encounter any. Simply lets out a tired sigh as they enter the camp and those with the skills for it began to see to the wounded

I'deryn Llyr: It's been nigh impossible for I'deryn to tear her eyes off of Saori. Though she was told explicitly to care for herself, there was still part of her that demanded she does something. Even as she fought to ignore it. As asked, she steps back silently, eyes wide open and breath shaking.

Lucille Starling doesn't emote. No reason for her to move, she's a healer too.
Ama Akhaba is about to give Beau a friendly greeting until she realizes that she's carrying Saori, whose arm looks a little like a Chrysomallon squamiferum and who appears to be injured.

Ama Akhaba: She stays back as requested, taking a few seconds to register what Annabelle had said.

Beau Dawnstrider promptly followed, and allowed Annabelle to speak. She had seen more than Beau had. "Valhyr and Suiryuu are still down there, looking for Mira, but everyone else should be accounted for. You know this well, I think. Annabelle has been channelling for a while, and will likely need a reprieve. I-- need to inform the others of what has happened. If... if you wouldn't mind..."

Zinaida Kirkegrim || Shrike takes her paces back, having gleaned enough of the frantic efforts by the overlapping voices.

Annabelle Ishi: "I'm going to run dry soon- Beau, can you- take over so I can get some ether-"

Alduin: "Do what you need to, Beau." A steady hand on her shoulder. "Lucille and I can handle this. Now go."

Saori Obinata 's arm lies bare, visible to the world. It's difficult to look at. From the shoulder down, it's warped, mottled by black keloids and shadowy purple skin. From the forearm down - where the worms ripped it apart - it's warped even further. The skin has started to harden into black scales, as if they're rising up from the mottled skin. What little remains of her white scales appear /infected/, black veins snaking through them.

// The wound that left her in this state has been healed, but it looks like a patch job. The gouge seems deep, and further examination would prove that the damage clearly spread deeper beneath the surface.

Alduin: "Annabelle- Steady off. Lucille take over." She was quick, words still processing.

Viewin' Cutscene grabs an ether from one of the crates and hands it to Annabelle. "You look like you're boutta pass out. Come rest."

Annabelle Ishi nods, ceasing her spell and shifting back to observe.

Viewin' Cutscene -- when he returns to the campfire -- sets a large pot over the fire and pours some water into it. "Let's all get settled. I'll make us some tea and we can get a headcount and get some rest and make sense of what happened. Which is to say: how are the rest of you faring?"

Annabelle Ishi 's worry seems to subside ever so slightly as she sees view. She moves to his side, taking the aether and sitting down.

Alduin: "Were any one of you able to at least capture any of the worms-?" Her voice carries over in question. As gross as it was and as panicky- It would be nice, /it would be too nice/. Her eyes flit back to Saori, kneeling down as she allowed Lucille to handle at least the aetheric means.

Viewin' Cutscene sets mugs and tea packets down and plods over to l'deryn.

Beau Dawnstrider nodded, and stepped aside. Enough to keep tabs on Saori, though. She seemed concerned. More than. "--I've... cocoa, I have cocoa View, if you want to have some of that. Pass it around..." A beat. "Far as I know, they escaped long before they could be caught."

Zinaida Kirkegrim || Shrike peels aside, into one of the tents to rummage for their supplies. Potions, ethers, her own mending toolkit-- ...worms. Voidsent. A troubled expression is under her mask.

Annabelle Ishi: "They slipped into the floorboards and the fountain drain-"

Lucille Starling steps closer, then sets herself down next to Saori. No reason to waste time with preamble, so she takes both of her gloves off- bone-white hands, with markings of stars. One reaches out towards Saori, in an attempt to continue where Annabelle started. She huffs,

Alduin's lucky that this isn't new to her. She wishes it was.

Beau Dawnstrider sat away, and as she sunk to the floor she lifted a hand to her ear.

Ayre Oblitus: sigs and sits by the fire/sit

Bunnygirl Mindset wanders towards the sound of barked orders and shuffling feet. Sounds like a crisis. She sidles up next to the most familiar form and whispers."What happened?"

Viewin' Cutscene: "Rest includes you. Come sit down too. Cocoa and tea to ease the mind a little before y'all tell us what you got from down there. Yeah?"

Ayre Oblitus: sits down next to Annabelle "You ok?"

Lucille Starling doesn't break eye contact with Obinata, but speaks to Alduin. "Two tents down, behind Dawnstrider. There's a bag, and a scholar's uniform right next to it. What little equipment I thought to bring lies there."

Annabelle Ishi turns her head to look over at Ayre. "...I should be asking you the same thing, hmm?"

Alduin: "...Right back out then.. But, means they are still in the village then." At least people were easy enough to not cause any issues giving a berth of space. Lower now her voice, just her and Lucille. "Her other seemed to have handled what can be done but the worms still caused further damage-" Suddenly, she shuffles a bit closer. A scalpel as she took a sample from Saori's forearm before it healed further, into the empty glass bottle it went into before capping closed.

I'deryn Llyr: "Hm?" Admittedly, I'deryn hadn't heard Vieu's initial call. Still trembling and eyes wide, she'd nod following him back over to the camp. "Very well." Her words quieter than last they spoke. Softer.

Naya Vihari is staring at Saori utterly bewildered. "No clue. I've been out of camp most of the day, only got back now."

Lucille Starling: "/Thankfully./" She exhales, with a twinge of frustration.

Alduin -- Wordlessly she got up and exited out the tent, shuffling over to where Lucille spoke. She just grabbed everything before returning back inside and placing it down next to the other.

Viewin' Cutscene: "C'mon, then. Sit down and get comfortable. I'll grab some cocoa as well." Viewin' Cutscene finds the cocoa. Before he leaves, he sets a hand on Beau's shoulder. "I'll bring you a cup too, Beau. Just rest, you've done enough."

Beau Dawnstrider nodded as Vieu rested a hand on their shoulder. Whether the words reached her was another matter, but she did hear them at least. Cocoa would help, she was sure.

Bunnygirl Mindset: "...Oh." She produces an expression somewhere between grimace and grin, before looking over her shoulder. "I'm gonna... go see if I can help somehow. Go get some ... blankets or something."

I'deryn Llyr just brings her hands to her face, monocule dropping onto the sandy stone. She'll be fine, she soothed herself. Just some have some cocoa. Let yourself decompress.

Saori Obinata // The healing does take as Lucille starts. But there's not just the injury. Further examination would reveal that Saori seemed /drained/ - as if whatever had overtaken her had emptied her aetherpool to do so. And, judging by its dormancy, its own.

Lucille Starling doesn't waste any time, fishing out her nouliths from there, then pausing for only a moment, halting that flow of aether. It'd be back shortly, this time through the nouliths that now hover above Obinata. "...a hasty inscription, but for now, it'll buy me some time to look deeper."

Annabelle Ishi allows herself to curl up slightly, sipping on the ether as she watches Ayre. She puts on a small smile for her.

Bunnygirl Mindset glances towards Saori and her caretakers on her way to the supplies. Grim. Naya Vihari is wearing the same conflicted expression, and not because she's mirroring them. "I'll ... I'll likely be right behind you, once I've checked in with Alduin. Good luck?"

Nerifyra Grimalkin totally hadn't been standing there like a weirdo while the writer was editing logs. In fact, she'd just arrived back after hearing what happened, looking round those gathered at camp.

Alduin: "A sample taken of the flesh, especially where the worms have exited from. I will look into seeing if I can discern their properties. Obviously given, voidsent, but rather everything else." Muttering as she watches closely before she sighs. Her aether levels need to be restored so.. She'll do this just one time. "Her aether needs to be restored and then work with purging out the corruption. I can focus at least with her aetherpool, can you start focusing the corruption out."

Naya Vihari steps up to Alduin while they're giving instructions. She keeps quiet until they're finished, and keeps a healthy distance from Saori and the healer on duty. "Is everything sorted here?"

Viewin' Cutscene looks particularly worried about I'deryn as he settles down near the fire. Water is ladled into the mugs he's set out, and those by the campfire are given their choice of tea or cocoa. "I heard the gist of it from Beau and Annabelle. If there's anything so important you gotta share it now, do so-- otherwise, just... sit down, and breathe. You've done enough today."

Ayre Oblitus: gives a little smile back "I am ... ok. I did not expect anything like that to happen. I just wish more could be done in the moment."

Alduin: "We have it handled here for the moment. Catch up with the others, figure out the whole story if you can, please?" She had shuffled to go to the other side of Obinata as her hands hovered. "Voidsent again, who would have thought." A wry smile.

Lucille Starling: "...that's how it goes, isn't it...?" One would wonder what Lucille would whisper that for, but Starling didn't allow that to stay in the air for long. "...drained. One look at her would be enough to tell, however, it's not *just* Obinata I'm talking about. Her... /other/, seems to have pushed oneself to the brink as well." She adjusts her glasses. If there were any time to have these on, it'd be now, as she leans in just far enough to examine the injury while racking her

brain on the next move.

Ama Akhaba: "I.. apologize if this is insensitive, but... Is there anything else you all remember? Anything at all? Small things that might not make future retellings? While the memories are still fresh.." Ama looks between I'deryn, Annabelle and Ayre.

Bunnygirl Mindset approaches the campfire, and its small, traumatized tenders with arms piled high with blankets scrounged from the tents and packs. "Blankets anyone? A little comfort to weight on your shoulders?"

Alduin: "I know- But once Saori gets enough in her, the other will start the process of regaining that aether." She wonders if she can...

Naya Vihari: "Will do. Shout if you need anything."

Lucille Starling catches herself, a groan turns to a sigh instead. "...at some point, we'll likely have to feed some aether into the other. I'd /hope/ Obinata isn't so far gone as to require the same."

Viewin' Cutscene nods, canting his head towards Ama-- (Go, talk to her) -- before making his way towards Beau with a mug of cocoa in hand.

Alduin: "I know.." The woman sighs. She pulls off her gloves, clawed hands hovering now. "I will.. Try something. Just focus on the corruption."

Annabelle Ishi 's voice is an exhausted murmur. her lips pouting at the unpleasant taste of the ether. "I fed her nearly my entire reserve and it didn't - it didn't help. Whatever is in her is ravenous..."

Nerifyra Grimalkin had started making her way towards the gathering round the fire. Medics seemed to be tending to Saori... but then another caught her eye. "...need some company?" Neri wasn't sure. Perhaps Beau needed space, and chose the distance purposefully. Though as Vieu arrived, she extended another question. "Need help distributing or...?"

Zinaida Kirkegrim || A smallish crate of restoratives, hauled out for ease. Potions, hi-ethers, a foot drags aside one of the left-out bedrolls to plunk the crate overtop it, for the healers to take their pick, not need to race back and forth between the tents if they're wanting to work a step aside, with the firelight to shine better. "... She's just makes a small sound, not a word, as she looks at the condition left on the other. "...I've surgeon's tools in a case. Tell me if you've need of them."

Viewin' Cutscene // It's set down besides Beau with a nudge to her shoulder, like a dog bumping its head against someone's leg. "...Help take care of them," he says, gesturing to the party that's

come back in.

Ayre Oblitus: hesitates a moment she'd recently learned how sensitive a topic this really was around her. "She appeared to have enshrouded... its a very powerful technique and likely saved her but exhausted as well it would seem"

I'deryn Llyr "Right." I'deryn would get out from behind her hands in response to Vieu, voice muffled & a touch strained. Her hands would peel off of her face just far enough to reveal her eyes, gaze now falling upon Ama. "Not the best person to ask. Everything was going fine. Panic broke out. Think some of the Andalisi..." Nothing but a dry swallow. "Saori dropped."

Lucille Starling: "In that case, while we figure out what to do about that, I trust you'll patch her arm up when the time comes. My expertise lies in Aetherial healing, and yours Practical." She spoke a bit more matter-of-factly. One would hope it doesn't offend. Back to Saori, a hand hesitantly reaches out to hers, and stops. Instead, she reaches up towards one of the nouliths, as it emits a beam of aether, unlike the other three and the flow they provided. Saori's arm would lift- /carefully/, off of the bed.

Lucille Starling > just enough for her to get a closer look.

Annabelle Ishi looks up at Ama. "It- I don't know if I mentioned but- The two andalisi that died, they- their aether dissipated like it was a voidsent's death. And what was left over was-" She shakes her head and buries her face in her knees.

Suiryuu Roda approaches camp with the others in tow. "We found Mira though we hardly had a moment of rest to inform her of the situation in full."

Valeriana Alecia Came absolutely tumbling through the aetherflow tried to catch herself and the then reached out to the nearest body to stop herself from falling over. "It's getting worse down there. One of those things chased us... came for us ..."

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...Is... Is everyone accounted for...?" He had been slowly running out of breath. They hadn't stopped until just after coming through the flow.

Alduin: "Thank you, Shrike." Then a pause. "Not yet- We are focusing on getting the corruption out and restoring her aetherpool levels. Afterwards, I will ensure to repair her arm to the best of my ability but.. She will be out of commission for some time."

Beau Dawnstrider was speaking quietly into an ear piece-- ah, a linkpearl, upon a closer inspection. She'd not say no to the company, though forgive her if she did not speak.

Ayre Oblitus: looks up to Ama adding on to I'deryns telling but speaking low not wanting to upset anyone "It was like the voidsent had found their way inside their bodies without anyone noticing. Then they just burst out. A few say that at least one of them was acting strange prior and the

elder did seem a bit off but I haven't the knowledge of them to confirm that"

I'deryn Llyr: "... Could do with a blanket."

Annabelle Ishi: "They were.. they were hollowed out entirely, they couldn't have been /alive/ even /before/ they fell-"

Mira Cephei hadn't exactly known what to expect except for 'bad' given there'd been a search party for her, but once they'd reached base camp, she certainly had not expected just how somber the situation was. She looked to Valhyr with knitted brows, understanding the weighted panic behind his grasp-- one she'd not flinch from. But they were out. She could only listen to ensure they /all/ were.

Ama Akhaba: Enshroud? That's... Not a term she heard often. She remembered something about allowing a contracted voidsent to fuse with you, but it's not like she knew specifics. "I have... heard of Spoken becoming Voidsent but... that's unusual. They were like parasites..?"

Nerifyra Grimalkin nodded to Vieu, already starting to move though pausing long enough to spare a glance back to Beau before setting off.

Bunnygirl Mindset finds a bare spot of earth around the fire. She sets the pile down and peels a blanket off the top. She flaps it out to its full spread, and hugs it about I'deryn's shoulders. "Hold it close as you need. Cover yer head if y'gotta. Warm's good for shock. Safe."

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...I've no use for my own aether. I cast nothing. It loses nothing of my capability. Inform me if it should be needed." As needed, if needed, she sounds droning and knows it. "...Be careful." The phrasing is open, and she takes a step back now, with a few more tools left close at their hands.

Viewin' Cutscene mumbles something into his own linkpearl and sits down besides Beau. Annabelle Ishi shakes her head and makes an 'i don't know' noise. She doesn't look up. I'deryn Llyr: And that was I'deryn's queue. "Will be back." She'd manage to get out, snatching her monocule off the floor and stepping away from the camp.

Bunnygirl Mindset blinks.

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...Neri!" He breathed out a sigh of relief, looking over, counting different faces. "...It's good to see you. It's total chaos down there right now."

Alduin -- It was a blanket. She doesn't know how the other feeds but she hopes this is enough or is a way. A direct pulse, concentrated as her own aether transfers into the other, slowly. Not too much, not too fast. Meanwhile..

Ayre Oblitus: simply nods up to Ama "They must have gotten in during the party, we don't know for sure how"

Valhyr Wyldervyk has neglected to loosen his grip, still. It seemed he wasn't even aware of it. Nerifyra Grimalkin held up a hand to make a gesture, indicating for Valhyr to take a breath. "I think you all are the last to arrive." She offered a grim chuckle, "I can imagine, after hearing what happened. Are you all okay? Injured? Need anything?" She peered between the last group to arrive, looking them over.

Naya Vihari shakes her head. "It's busy. Maybe she needs space."

>> Saori Obinata: // Another presence, reaching through. A question spurred in the darkness before- Her Other would know, feel it. It was a transfer of aether from one predator to another. The same darkness that was hoping to tear through instead seeks to amend.

Ama Akhaba: "/During/ the party..? If they're anything like more mundane parasites I would have to assume they incubated for a while and /then/ came out..." Ama taps her fist against her chin.

Beau Dawnstrider - seemingly without a reason, lest any were able to hear the conversation - raised her hand and slapped Vieu as he sat beside her. "--do NOT joke about that while she's not awake to defend herself!" A momentary flash of... anger? Upset? She collected herself. "...I--sorry... she's just... she's my friend. I know others don't like her much, but I like her."

Mira Cephei shook her head at Neri's approach. "Fine here. We saw one of the, uh... things, but got away." She thought now wasn't the time to give a debrief on her findings--or lack thereof. Suiryuu Roda takes a seat by one of the barrels. Thankfully he is not too out of breath. Not as bad as the other day anyway. But he does ease into whatever nook comfort may be found in. He's... tired. And staying away from that campfire. Nothing normal about voidsent unfortunately, Ama. Who knows what the incubation period is like if there even is one."

Saori Obinata >> // A presence stirs in return. It is weak, and seems confused at first. A predator, that does not seek easy prey? But it accepts it. It still lives, and now owes this other presence a debt.

Bunnygirl Mindset shrugs. "Maybe. I'm not used to the luxury." She hesitates to interrupt the conversation between the others about the campfire. The sound of a slap behind her turns an ear, but there aren't shouts to follow so she files it under stress-relief.

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...I am well. We're fine. We're..." One deep breath. "...But Kaede... She..."

Nerifyra Grimalkin let out some tension in a breath herself. "Glad you all made it back at least." Or at least most of them had. A glance spared back towards Saori, before Valhyr's words drew her back. The man seemed... shaken. At the very least, in the few times she'd spoken with him,

he didn't seem the type to shake easily. How bad was it...? "Theres hot cocoa. At least— I think theres more of it. I can grab some for you both, if you'd like?"

Ama Akhaba: "I thought Voidsent had their own internal logic, at least... Either way, this is just speculation on my part."

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "Valeriana!" Shrike sees the other follow through--a moment delayed from the rest of the group, perhaps? She rushes through to find the other, dropping her body to catch the falling just as she had before. "The--chased?" She sends a wide-eyed, but not quite fearful look to the flow at her back. There's bared teeth under her mask. "...What chased--? Is it still?" Worms-- is it kelpie too again? She's trying to piece together the scene, what happened at that banquet--

Lucille Starling lies in silent contemplation, as she urges the nouliths towards the edges of the creeping corruption, an attempt to keep it at bay. The Raen's brain flickers through possibilities at a malm a minute. A way to reverse the corruption? Unlikely, appealing as it may be. A way to slow the spread? Possible. Removal of the corrupted aspects littering her arm? Difficult, as they include her own scales. Removal of- no, *focus*, the flow was nearly interrupted again.

Valeriana Alecia now that they were here again, Valeriana was standing with her arms her middle, kind of just looking around somewhat distant look as she somewhat waited for the adrenaline crash to come. As Shrike approached her she was caught and sort of let Shrike support her for a moment. "No... this was..." She choked up a moment, and forced her eyes shut and took a breath before she went on. "They crawled out of them... the worms... from inside their bodies..."

Valhyr Wyldervyk nodded slowly. He looked down at his hand, still like iron around Mira's wrist. It loosens. "I'd appreciate that. That'd... be nice."

I'deryn Llyr | Eyes visibly red, I'deryn would return ot the campfire, her breathing slow and measured. She'd reach over to her mug of cocoa and take a sip. The sweetness was a balm for her soul. "Apologies."

Alduin: "Draw it out-" Alduin spoke through gritted teeth. Mainly from concentration rather than the other, seemingly understanding the contemplation. "-- I mean that in a literal sense. You want to- draw it out. Cleanse it-" A bead of sweat and a breath exhaled.

Mira Cephei was doing her best to piece together what the hells was going on through the snips of conversation happening around them. Eventually, she resigned herself to getting a full account once things had... settled, perhaps. She'd look to Valhyr again before looking back to Neri, mild expression of concern at her face. He'd mentioned... Kaede. An... elder? Had he seen-- "Thanks, Neri," she seconded, "Good idea." The grip loosens, but she stays put.

Viewin' Cutscene blinks at Beau DawnstriderDiabolos, wide-eyed, and rubs his cheek. His ears redden in shame. "...Sorry for joking around." He hangs his head. "I'm worried about her too. She drank my shitty cocktails, we're bonded." A breath. "It's scary seeing her like that. I'm glad you have her back."

Ama Akhaba looks to I'deryn "Hey, no apologies. It doesn't sound like there's anything you could've done.."

Naya Vihari: "Makes sense. Few places to find privacy around a ship."

I'deryn Llyr: "I know, was apologising for... Nevermind." She'd shrug. Another sip. A soft sigh. "Appreciated nonetheless. Was /told/ to do nothing when. Well."

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "I overheard in part--from Annabelle." A look back, scanning the group for where the other sits, blonde ears pointed straight up--they're beside the other resident blonde migo'te. Voidsent worms--the method of how they... Shrike has a firm stomach, but it's unsettling, still. The sight for the supposedly unviolent.... Her expression wrinkles. She casts her attention over to Saori at their mutual side, and asks without asking.

Nerifyra Grimalkin seemed to relax just a bit, seeing Valhyr finally releasing the grip. From the looks of it, Mira had some concerns herself. She thumbed back towards the fires. "Find somewhere to sit, rest. I'll grab you both a mug." She tried forcing a smile, something to offer some reassurance, but it came out slightly odd. At least Neri was aware of it, promptly turning round and briskly walking to fetch the hot cocoa.

Bunnygirl Mindset is the second hrothgar to look at I'deryn in seconds, but she doesn't say anything, except in aside to Naya. "Yeah. Have to... ask for it, more or less. Or make it for yourself." She scuffles around the far side of I'deryn and, with a great groaning, sits an inch or so away. Just a warm, friendly presence.

Valhyr Wyldervyk casts a mournful look to the side at where Saori had been settled. A deep sigh escapes him, as he pulls his knees to his chest by the fire.

Beau Dawnstrider muttered much louder into the linkpearl, as if venting her frustrations... and calming... and rising again... it wasn't really like her. "It's-- I'm... it's okay, I just... I-- one moment I was speaking with them, and she was right beside me, and it was fine. Tense, perhaps, but *fine*, and then... Gods..."

Valhyr Wyldervyk would pause just before sitting down, looking behind him. Just in case, -right-?

Valeriana Alecia kept her eyes closed one moore moment before moving to steady herself up from a stand and then smoothed out her sleeve. "Thank you... and I'm sorry. But yeah, while we were looking for Mira there was one that was crawling after us. Thankfully it was slow. "

Ama Akhaba: (To Annabelle) "... I'm hesitant to say anything definitively, but in regular parasites such a thing happens as well. They leave enough of the host alive to allow it to function, hollowing out the insides, until..." She trails off, not wanting to go into the gory details after what presumably just happened to them. "... Mmn. I'm glad you all are back safe, at least."

>> Saori Obinata: // A debt that is earned and will be paid in due time. Otherwise, for now, it'll live and it'll strengthen once more. Slowly but surely.

I'deryn Llyr pulls the blanked on her shoulders tight around her, the two corners passing each other in the middle. She'd try to offer Solomeya a smile, though it comes off more than a little strained.

Annabelle Ishi nods. "I- I know, It's why I was- channelling healing into Saori even when the wound wasn't closing. I wanted to feed whatever is- inside of her so it didn't-"

Lucille Starling knows that already, it's just a question of /how/. Esuna's the tried-and-true, but it doesn't do anything about Saori's /aetheric imbalance/. She charges up the spell through a series of inscriptions, written in the air with a wave of her fingers. Pull the water out, or pool the rest back in, there's fire, there's earth, there's air, there surely were worse conditions to have to do either in. As for the water, where would that aether go afterwards? It has to go somewhere, just not Saori.

Bunnygirl Mindset turns to I'deryn only long enough to smile back. She contents herself with watching the fire and being an anchor. Occasionally she'll look between the other sitters at the fire, Ama and Naya too. She tries to surreptitiously beckon the latter over, a little jerk of the head.

Mira Cephei steps to peer at what's going on. Saori, Lucy, Alduin. That.... can't be good. She sighed, using one hand to rub at the opposite wrist. She glanced to Valhyr once more. She couldn't decide if joining him would help or hurt... But in the end, she'd take a seat nearby, if nothing else but to make Neri's job easier.

Viewin' Cutscene murmurs something into his own linkpearl. "...Gods," they echo. "It just went wrong in an instant?"

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...I-" A beat. "...I'm sure you have questions."

Lucille Starling: "...we're risking misalignment- /aspected/, for every second that we don't manage her imbalance. To try patching her up /now/ would give the rest too much room to settle." She says this, and yet the Esuna's already casted. It seems she's weighed that as the better option, in spite of everything. In moments like this, swift action counts.

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "... Shrike's face remains tense and dour. "It was slow but... how big was it?" Shrike thinks back to her vials and bottles, anti-coagulant coated for blood samples when minding her own [conditions]--but trapping fragments of voidsent is not... impossible. Nerifyra caught a damn thing in her teeth--but the *means* by which these came up make that method significantly less appealing... Shrike shakes her head. "They dissipate to miasma when they're killed. They congregate, and hunger--"

|| A step aside, looking out to the flow.

|| ...But, they're also quarantined, down *there*, too, no vial necessary.

Mira Cephei: "It doesn't have to be now," she grunts as her legs stretch in front of her. "Are you..." okay was obviously not it. "How are you feeling?"

Alduin || Like Alduin has said, her whole focus was set on restoring Saori's aetherpool, as well as her Other, somehow. She has her secrets. The blanket of aether still envelopes the other, nothing constricting and for once, the petrichor of her own aether permeating the air. Earth, at it's finest. Voice muttering, low so no other can hear. "The extra. The corruption in her body is only going to run deeper now given her Other had to spend what aether it had all but left to stitch those wounds."

A pause, breathing out. "Inaction will be the cause of death here. Imbalance will rebalance in due time. Right now she needs to be stabilized enough for me to work on repairing her arm." And thankfully, Lucille went for the swifter action. "We can get her as stabilized as we can and then send her off to Radz-at-Han to the alchemists there to rebalance her aether."

Saori Obinata // The Esuna pulls at the imbalance of aether inside her. It doesn't want to go - it's stagnant, it's weighing down her very /soul/ - but it draws out the corruption and - as it does, Saori stirs. She grabs at her head, letting out a muted cry of pain.

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...Regardless, the situation is more and more dire. How... Could it have gotten in..."

Beau Dawnstrider: "In an instant." She echoed back. "And... I know, I *know* there... I could have done nothing, I know, and I-- I have seen this time and again. But, I promised. I said I would watch her, and look out for her, and..." She didn't understand why her body shook, and her face tensed, and... tears? Really? How long had it been since she had cried? "...sh-- she would say it is so silly to cry for her. She's right there, don't be stupid. But... what good is what I do if I cannot protect my friends?"

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...Grateful." He offers immediately. "...Just... Grateful. It'll all catch up soon, I know. But for now I'm... That's all I can feel. It all happened so /fast/. It was just like... It was..." He doesn't finish the rest.

Ama Akhaba: "It sounds like she's alive, at least in part, thanks to you. You did what you could, and that's all anyone can ask from you. " Ama tries to smile reassuringly at Annabelle.

Nerifyra Grimalkin had to sneak away to tend to kitties, or maybe the hot cocoa just took a long time to make or something. Either way, she returned with a pair of mugs and offered one to each of Mira and Valhyr, listening in.

Naya Vihari steps towards the fire and sits opposite to Ayre. "From the sound of things, they attacked Saori and two of the Andalisi." She pauses while someone cries out in the background. "Could it have been the food?"

Valeriana Alecia opened her mouth to speak, thought and then closed it again, shoulders slumping. "I I'm sorry I didn't get a good look at it. Valhyr might have... or suiryuu but crawling out of Ert-" she paused again and took a breath, pushing the impulse back down. and then went on. "They they crawled out of them... it was forearm sized? maybe? longer but not thick... that I recall. I'm sorry. "

Annabelle Ishi shakes her head at Ama, but she doesn't elaborate. Her ears perk up at the sound of Saori groaning.

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "Thank you, I..." He swallowed, reaching up for it gingerly. "I'm all over the place. I can't think straight..."

I'deryn Llyr: A pang of horror strikes I'deryn at the mere idea. "Implications would be... Concerning."

Ayre Oblitus: nods "It could have but its hard to say, so many ate but only three were attacked. Of our group not everyone did though and those who did had not much... it's hard to say for sure but I think it likely"

Mira Cephei nodded once, then twice, slow and quiet. "It sounded..." she trailed off to accept the cocoa from Neri with a weary smile. "It was so quiet. And then it suddenly wasn't," she looked back to Valhyr, head tilting just slightly. "Feel the warmth of the fire for a while. Let the feelings play out. In either case... thanks for coming to find me."

Ama Akhaba: "If it were the food, it would've been everyone wouldn't it? More than three people had to have been eating ..."

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...I will ask, if they seem amenable. I don't know if... without knowing how it so latched onto them," her finger points out to the flow. "...They only took one of ours when they were neath the flow. The village is quarantined." Her hand lowers. "...I do not know if the benefit outweighs the risk of catching it for a surface-bound examination."

Nerifyra Grimalkin forced a smile again, doing a bit better this time. She nodded along with Mira's words. "Steady breaths. You don't have to have it all figured out right now."

Bunnygirl Mindset 's stomach groans and a particularly inopportune time. She shifts, and looks guilty.

I'deryn Llyr: "Would be dependant on who ate what, potentially." Though I'deryn's voice had always lacked emotion, it was always rife with tone. For once, it lacked neither, fatigue settling in. "Had crab and salad. Was fine."

Lucille Starling attempts to only /lightly/ slow the drain of water aspecting from Saori. Not by much, but enough for the numbing properties to work in the duo's favor, as opposed to having a pained patient in the middle of a cave. A fist encloses, and aether- twinkling as if pulled from the heavens itself, is guided towards the corruption, as opposed to the aether that fought against it before. Compared to what little she knows of Somanoutics, Astromancy- her specialty is rooted in predictions, in preventative measures to ensure a future doesn't come to pass. In a sense, that's not unlike her actions in this very moment, with the loftier ideals shaved off. If nothing else, that celestial cloud can remain as a 'wall' of sorts between the able body, and that which seeks to disrupt it.

Viewin' Cutscene: "Hey, hey. C'mere." He pulls Beau into a hug, resting their chin on her head. "You've looked out for her, haven't you? Brought her back. Made sure she went to the healers straight away and now she's here with people to take care of her. But it still hurts, because she's hurt. Not so silly when you think of it that way."

Naya Vihari: "That's what I'm wondering," she nods towards Ayre. I'deryn is shown a reassuring smile for good measure. "Crab and salad. And you two?" She inclines her head towards Ayre and Annabelle.

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "You don't need to comfort me, I..." He swallows. "...I'm ok. What matters now is that everyone is accounted for." He glanced to Mira. "...Why... Why were you down there, by yourself? Did you have a hunch about something related to Isse...?"

Ayre Oblitus: shakes her head "Given we were looking for a murderer I did not eat or drink anything, poison would have been easy to use in that setting I thought and wished not to test it."

Valeriana Alecia She looked down through the aetherwell that they traveled through. "Quarentine implies that they can't just come up here if they wanted to..." She sighed and had a moment of thinking 'I'm a fucking actress, what am I doing here?' that she again squashed , looking up at Shrike. "We will probably want an additional watch person dedicated to watching it at all times. "

Viewin' Cutscene: "She can tell you it's silly later all mad-like but I think she'll be happy that you did, deep down. You're friends."

I'deryn Llyr: "Only affected individuals were /raen/..."

Annabelle Ishi looks at Naya for a few moments, thinking about what she had eaten before covering her mouth and walking away from camp. She had just had wine. It was just nerves. Zinaida Kirkegrim || Shrike looks back aside, at Valeriana, with a firm look in her eyes, asking her to ask how she might feel about the 'if they wanted to'. She huffs out a sound through her nose.

I'deryn Llyr would glance at Annabelle, though would merely offer her a nod. She understood.

Mira Cephei gives a dry huff, bereft of its usual amusement, sucked away by the atmosphere of the camp. Perhaps she didn't /need/ to comfort him, but... well, never mind that. "It was an opportunity. I was given two targets, and the banquet would ensure they wouldn't be home." Simply put, she'd been asked to use her skillset. While not an altruist at heart, it was hard to say no to that. "There was a... lamplighter with me, but they went to investigate the commotion."

Nerifyra Grimalkin 's head slipped forward, a stare leveled back in Valhyr's direction. "We might not need to, but your our comrade, so we'll do it anyways." She'd some idea as to what Mira was doing— she'd suggested it after all. Though better to come from Mira, especially after that grip he'd had on her wrist.

I'deryn Llyr: "Best to give her privacy."

Beau Dawnstrider: "I... I know, I-- I just... it feels bad, to... she's done so much alone, and-- I really thought... hah, she probably does not care about me this much, but it doesn't matter. It's that I promised, and she was hurt..." The warrior didn't resist the embrace, and was... largely frustrated that she was crying at all. "--hah, look at me..."

Valeriana Alecia Val didn't have to ask that question they both knew what the thoughts about that were doing to be. "Or perhaps a gate of somekind?"

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...We can put an additional watch. I would not mind an additional hand if someone needs wresting away. This threatens everyone."

Ayre Oblitus: ears perk up slightly "A fair point-" she starts to say before Anabelle walks off about to check on her before hearing I'deryn "Perhaps you're right"

Naya Vihari nods along, "Probably for the better." She watches Annabelle walk off, then returns her attention to the campfire. "Did you happen to see what Saori was having?"

Bunnygirl Mindset: "Mmh. Gonna go find some water for when she gets back." And she's up, with another creak and a scuffle of boots.

Zinaida Kirkegrim || "I don't believe constructing a padlock will serve any better than capable arms." Shrike shakes her head, a hand to her face mushing and scratching her chin under the mask.

Ayre Oblitus: shakes her head again "I did not, at any given point we were on opposite sides of the room."

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...Given by who?" He is making an effort to keep his expression from drawing any tighter. "...They Andalisi are /looking/ for someone to pin what's happening on. If... If they found you sneaking around..."

Valhyr Wyldervyk: Given targets*))

Valeriana Alecia she let her mind go down that path. "What if the worms can travel through it?" She asked again after a moment of staring hard at the potential bomb that could explode in their base camp. "Maybe move camp a little further back from it? I know a Viera who specializes in wards. We can ask them to come and help protect the camp that way?"

Bunnygirl Mindset returns, a camp held carefully in both hands. She kneels down and sets it near Annabelle's previous spot. She steps towards Naya and peels another blanket off the pile, leaving it folded next to the mug.

Alduin -- With her gaze shut closed in an act of keeping her concentration, she muttered. "Saori, give us something more. Even if it is a louder noise-" Her hands stay steady over, cramping from the expulsion. She hasn't done this in a long while.. Coat the being, enter through the pores, go through the veins, further below and find the soul. Envelope, uplift. You are stability. You are Earth.. But.. No you aren't. You are the same darkness that eats away at her but, given the nature of /this/ one it seeks to bolster. To strengthen.

Bunnygirl Mindset gives l'deryn more space this time when she sits. It does require some grimacing, yet.

Saori Obinata // Saori's pained groans subsided as she focused the spell. The corruption, walled off, while the water aether continued to drain from her. There's a throbbing in her skull, a feeling of /pressure/ against the top of it - but the numbing of astral water let the pain subside, and the celestial cloud keeps the corruption from, in this instance, chasing it. A perhaps worse future prevented through astromancy. And as Lucille's spell completes, augmented by Alduin... she stirs a little. "Ugh..."

Ayre Oblitus: "There is just a lot we don't know and there is the fact they are voidsent the way they came to be could be more complex then we realize"

Mira Cephei: "It's... the fact that I was an unfamiliar face to the Andalisi was supposed to be a bonus, I think." Perhaps if she had gotten caught, the company could have simply labeled her a rogue agent. If only she'd found something, it'd be less difficult to speak about. "It was a... sound

plan, in theory. Saori and I spoke about it. But I... didn't have enough time before the chaos started."

Zinaida Kirkegrim || "A few fulms back is more effort than what good it will do." She paces her thoughts and its trail along. "...Outside the Prytaneion? The host are already there. It has ever been an option." A sound, humming, thinking along. "...Losing eyes on the point of egress removes the whole point of the camp. ...The best method is as it is. I don't have faith in staying a night under the tides--I trust it no further than I can throw a chocobo, to stay undefended. There is **nothing** to gain--"
"And all to lose, by now."

Viewin' Cutscene: "You remember that talk about feelings and stuff we had at the hot springs? Yeah, look at you. Feeling like this ain't a bad thing, yeah? It's a sign we're still... mmm." He sighs into the top of Beau's head. Tears prick at the corners of his eyes. "If it's hurts, cry it out and take a nap. Things will be alright during these next few hours."

Zinaida Kirkegrim || "Enough of the company has been gently aspected if short of tempered, now we play the risk of..." Parasites.

Naya Vihari nods along. "Which is why we rule out what we can. If nothing else, we can ask Saori herself once she wakes."

I'deryn Llyr: "Perhaps. Deductive reasoning."

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...I see." He offered flatly. It's not a particularly satisfying response. He takes a small sip of the hot chocolate. "...It's alright. Nobody could have predicted what would happen. At least, I hope..."

Alduin: "Try to focus on the water now- Given that the two have their polarities-" She doesn't need to explain to the other. An eye for aetherology, just like she does. "It is keeping her from completely coming to. Just enough to where we can bring her back. Then, it is immediately the next trip out to Radz-at-Han. Fares be damn, Vieu can airship her."

Ayre Oblitus: "It very well could be the drinks as well... the voidsent are in greater number and strength beyond the dome right? What if if they got in with the water?" sighs "All speculation though, we'll need to find clearer answers once all of our heads are clear as well. Tis turned into a very taxing eve"

Viewin' Cutscene: ("...I'll even cry with you too so you're not the only one," Vieu adds.)
Ama Akhaba: "... Yes, maybe we should save the speculating for later." Ama sighs.

Naya Vihari: "... They did say they were having trouble with the water mechanism yesterday. But again, only three victims."

Mira Cephei: "We've tried to predict a lot of things, I don't think this was... any of them," she sighed, expression troubled as she took her own turn to take a comforting drink of chocolate. "I don't know what to think anymore. This has gotten out of my realm of even speculation, I think." She wants to inquire about the Andalisi, but holds her tongue for the moment. "What matters is we're all accounted for."

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...Request your viera, if you can." Shrike adds, a little after the fact, after all her righteous anger is out.

Bunnygirl Mindset looks worriedly at the camp mug full of water she's set over by where Annabelle has returned to. She grimaces silently.

I'deryn Llyr: "Would like to sleep at home, assuming there are no objections."

Ama Akhaba: "I doubt there'd be any."

I'deryn Llyr pulls the blanket ever tighter around her.

Valeriana Alecia nodded in understanding, it made sense "So additional guards then..." She agreed with a nod, and then added. "Additional guards who can handle restraining someone if they need to and be able to deal with... anything else that might come with or inside of them... Two additional?" She asked again finally loosening her arms around her middle and stretching a little bit. and ran fingers through her hair with a sigh. I'll see if I can reach out to them. and if they're willing. "

Nerifyra Grimalkin: "I don't think it could have been. Not exactly in the realm of... normal possibilities."

Ayre Oblitus: nods to them "If anything it may do some good I think" looks to Annabelle as she returns "Welcome back"

Annabelle Ishi gives Ayre a nod as she returns.

Mira Cephei is glad Neri says so because honestly Mira doesn't even know what counts as normal anymore.

I'deryn Llyr would offer Annabelle a meek wave, a single hand poking out of her blanket. "Pray you feel somewhat better."

Beau Dawnstrider laughed a little, or maybe it was more crying... hard to say when a face was buried in a shirt. She squeezed him tight, though. Not too tight, but enough to show she heard. She knew. It was just... sudden, and so much. Where, and why? It hurt her chest, and her

stomach, and her eyes. Gods, it hurt to cry. How long, really, had it been...? "I-- sorry for... I didn't mean to, you know..."

Annabelle Ishi nods to I'deryn. There's a flush to her cheeks and a puffy redness to her eyes, evidence of what had just happened behind the rock. "...I just needed to clear my stomach. The anxiety would have eaten me alive if I didn't."

I'deryn Llyr: "Understandable. I... Plan to visit my local surgeon on the way home. Does emergency visits. Pray all is well. For everyone."

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...How can we hope to convince them of anything, now? They're -terrified.- They're *exhausted.* It feels like the more we push to try and.." A break. "The more people die. Should we even have...?" the top of his fists rest against his forehead. "Someone has to know /something/."

Lucille Starling > Water's opposing force is Earth. Alduin's handling the application of Earth, which leaves Lucille with extracting more of the Water aspecting from her. The Raen's focus lies within the nouliths once again, half of the applying aether is slowed even more than before, and the other half of her nouliths work to pull, having set Saori's arm back down not that long ago.

Zinaida Kirkegrim || It's easy to say what's needed and what's wanted, but the budget for these things tends to be lacking. Those willing, even--somehow, Shrike doesn't doubt the company will still return under the tides, if not even more frequently, to get to the bottom of this--it needs to be *safer*. Would that she could keep them still until there was a guarantee the parasites won't find purchase on her companions. "Ask their fee if it comes to it. I don't see how this wouldn't motivate them."

Viewin' Cutscene chuckles; it can be felt in his chest. "...Pfft. Receivin' the honor of being slapped by the Beau Dawnstrider herself? I don't quite mind."

Naya Vihari: "Do that, yea. But here's hoping they find nothing."

Ayre Oblitus: "I would like to think all here are ok, given the events that transpired I find it hard to think anyone else affected would know by now... but caution is prudent"

Bunnygirl Mindset clears her throat. "Yea. Better to be as sure as you can." She looks across the fire to Annabelle, and gestures to the camp mug near the miqo'te. "Got you some water, if you want it. Figured... y'know. Might help."

Beau Dawnstrider: "Stop! --why are you and Yora like that?" She asked, but was... that was a laugh, for sure.

Annabelle Ishi gives Solomeya a tired smile, grabbing the mug and nursing it.

Nerifyra Grimalkin: "All we can do is offer help, Valhyr. We can't force them to accept it." Neri glanced around, briefly looking over those by the fire, those tending to Saori, then back to Valhyr and Mira. Her fang started to poke its way out again. "But... offering that aid isn't the cause of... whatever this is." At least, not that she could tell... she hoped it wasn't, at least.

Valeriana Alecia "Yeah... I will..." She said with a nod and took a moment to think of other problems. "Oh... and several of us ate the food and drank the wine... There is a mild cause for concern that we 're all gestating. " She spoke quietly and then sighed, shaking her head and then she shook her head. "That's the last thing I think there is to worry about..." She seemed rather uncharacteristically despondent as she slipped away from the viera and moved to sit down next to the fire

Viewin' Cutscene just snickers in response. "I see we're of the same mind."

Mira Cephei returned an earlier gesture, albeit much gently as she reached for Valhyr's wrist, a gentle pull away from his face, if he'd yield. "If anyone can figure out how to convince someone of anything, it's this lot," she'd nod vaguely to the camp, solemn but alive. "We have to focus on saving the rest, now, right? Even if it's just from here, using what we've learned."

Zinaida Kirkegrim || A mild cause for con-- and she jsut walks away >.? Shrike is dumbfounded for a moment. "HEY!"

|| "A *mild* cause for concern?!" She's raised her voice.

Valeriana Alecia She sighed, her face still down against her knees as she spoke up. "Yeah... compared to all of the other major causes for concern we have... It's highly unlikely we're gestating those things too... we'd have probably had them crawl out of us..."

Alduin -- Further she strained, further she pushed. Another breath leaving her as if remembering to breath before she gives it one more good push of the aether. Shift it to Earth, crush down the water and reduce the stasis. Stop the opposing forces. Her fingers are numb at this point. Slowly the aether dims and she lets Lucille finish it off as she swaps to sit by her, even as there seems to be yelling. Still have the energy, these people..

Ama Akhaba: "Huh? What's wrong, Shrike?"

Valhyr Wyldervyk wouldn't fight against the gesture. He sighed. "There's so much we have to offer-- but... The thought of any of us down there now that we know those... *Things* are lurking about... How am I supposed to be ok with that?"

Saori Obinata stirs further, groaning. Her eyelids flutter a little. Almost there... "...who's...?" Someone was yelling...

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...Galin and the children... Everyone is in danger while those things roam free. What happened to Kaede could... Happen to all of them."

Lucille Starling 's eyes dart to the source of the noise with muted aggravation.

Zinaida Kirkegrim || Shrike looks up at Ama, caught between the words she wants to say to the one in front of her and the voice aside.

I'deryn Llyr would gaze over at Naya, her brows raising for a moment. "... Knew I recognised you."

Alduin ...She stood back up, head popping out of the tent flap. "Keep your voices down if you want to be yelling!" She didn't yell but, she did make it firm.

"Gods sake if you have the energy to be yell-" The voice disappeared back into the tent and back to Saori's side.

Zinaida Kirkegrim || Shrike's brief lapse of emotion is shot towards Alduin as well, tense shoulders and all.

Bunnygirl Mindset 's ears perk up, in spite of the yelling behind her. She looks at I'deryn, then Naya. Inquisitively.

Naya Vihari 's attention snaps to I'deryn. "Hmm? Where from?"

Beau Dawnstrider gave another huff of a laughter as she pushed him, gently, away. Right on cue to hear Shrike's concerns aloud... and, was that Saori moving? Good... "I... suppose it is a good job we brought plenty of supply..."

I'deryn Llyr: "Arcanist's Guild. Use their library from time to time. Good for anything aether related."

"Haven't seen you in four years."

Lucille Starling doesn't let her attention leave Saori for too long, now simply seeking to inspect her condition once more, for good measure.

Annabelle Ishi pushes up from where she's sat. She meanders over to view, lingering behind him for a moment, holding the mug of water in both hands. Choosing her words. Eventually, she just lands on- "...can we talk?"

Beau Dawnstrider: "Do... you want privacy, or us both?"

Mira Cephei felt a swell in her chest that she'd have to punch down as she drew his hand down. Focus. "There's no being okay with anything. This situation..." A beat as she sighed. Why did it

always come to this? "Choices need to be made. Our safety, their survival. At least... we have some people here who are capable to the point of being a little annoying, honestly. And... we don't need to make these choices alone."

Viewin' Cutscene: "Seems so," he replies to Beau-- and then nods at Annabelle. "What's up?"

Annabelle Ishi: "...both is okay. If you're not busy. It can wait."

Zinaida Kirkegrim || Inhale, exhale. Fine. Gentler. Shrike lowers her voice to that quiet, whisper-yell kind of tone that isn't really a whisper. "--Valeriana. Either there's reason for concern, or there isn't. What was *highly unlikely* was a fucking *banquet* nearly tearing off Saori's arm." Shrike looks aside, head shaking--quit being tense. Wrong target, even if its a lot to think of. ...Shrike thinks of the kelpies, the infection. "How are your wounds from the last. Suffered like Alduin's, no?"

Viewin' Cutscene: "Not busy enough for your concerns. Hit us with it."

Annabelle Ishi: "...er. Sorry. Both of you are okay, but- I'd like for it to be private."

Viewin' Cutscene nods, then. "Wanna stretch our legs a little?"

Beau Dawnstrider seemed to have gotten it out of her system enough for a walk. A nod, then, as she rose to her feet. "Mm, of course..."

Saori Obinata // Examining Saori now would find she was, at the very least... stable. Her injuries remained. The water aether's influence on her was significantly lessened. The arm... remained visible. Come to think of it, didn't Saori usually bear glamour prisms on her? Saori herself seemed to be waking, albeit... disoriented. She tipped her head toward Al, and then Lucy. "...Oh... I... fucked up, huh...?"

Naya Vihari slowly nods her head. "Sounds about right. Haven't been back for around that long. Wish I could say I recognized you to, but..." She puts on a wry grin. "I'd usually only walk around with my face in a book, back then."

Alduin: "Good morning. Fucked up is one way.. Take it slow.. I need to repair your arm still but otherwise..." Did what we could. She's hoping her and her combined other was able to funnel in enough aether to Saori and Nemain both.

Annabelle Ishi just nods as they both stand. "...Anywhere is fine. Or I can- just walk for a bit."

Viewin' Cutscene: "Lead the way, Annabelle."

Beau Dawnstrider: "Up to you. I will follow along in... just a moment."

Saori Obinata: "I feel... really bad..." It all hurts. Her right arm feels fine. The left... is currently being held up by a noulith. "Tired..."

Nerifyra Grimalkin glanced off to her left, watching the departing trio a moment before returning to the pair before her. "Mira's right. This is all... fresh, too. Barely a bell or two after the fact. We'll do what we can, as best we can, and we'll help each other through it, right? It's up to the Andalisi how much they're willing to accept that help."

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...You're right. Today proves that if nothing else... We have capable hands. It's just a matter of trying to figure out how to use them. It's like trying to fit a damn brick into a keyhole-- no lack of potency, but..."

Alduin: "Water was clashing, made a big fucked up soup combined with what happened.. Think you can stomach medicine?"

Nerifyra Grimalkin: "A very touchy, distrusting keyhole..."

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...Complicated. /too/ complicated. I never thought I'd live to be /thinking/ this hard." He finally manages a dry chuckle.

Beau Dawnstrider was careful not to disturb Al if she was working, but equally... "...I am headed out for a moment, to speak with Annabelle. I won't be far, if you need to rest. Come and get me." A flash of a smile offered to Saori, though she did not mind if she was still acclimating to the waking world. Off the warrior went.

Alduin: "Oh- Already gone.." Her brows furrow in thought. What does that other need to..

Valeriana Alecia winced away from Shrike at that tone and pulled her legs in tighter. "Its... a possible cause for concern... I don't know if it's serious. I don't know if it's minor. I know that the thought terrifies me... and I know that two bells ago I watched worms eat their way out of my friend's torso!" She had a more powerful stage whisper than shrike did, it was her profession afterall and she lifted her head as she said it her doing her best to hold together the tatters of her social mask

Saori Obinata: "Oopsie..." She rolled her head to the side. "I... don't think I can stomach much of..." Her eyelids fluttered open. Her vision felt... why did everything look so... sharp?

I'deryn Llyr: "Understandable. Know arcanists to be very busy." A slow, shaky nod was offered, I'deryn looking exhausted. "Still, recall you being pleasant. Pleasure to see you're doing..." Well, not 'well', considering everything. "... Fine enough."

Valeriana Alecia but it was not her best and her best and the feelings she was struggling to hold

back were probably rather clear. "My wounds are healing well... Alduin checks on me daily. " Valeriana Alecia though her words were far more terse with shrike than she usually was. Mira Cephei "I know what you mean," she breathed the words in a heavy huff, though she'd manage a wry smile at his chuckle, her good eye flicking to Neri for a moment with a nod. "I think once we get everyone calm, we can all compare notes. Get a plan together. Make the hard choices from there, hm?"

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...The cocoa is good, by the by. I think it may have been exactly what I needed." He glances down at the fire, blinking in realization of something. He turns his sword arm over, giving it a look. Still as silence, it was. He blinks.

Alduin: "I will have to poke you then, stick an IV." Oopsie indeed. She's saving a lot of words right now. "Just to at least flush out more of the gunk-" Small bite words, just so the other can better understand. "...We will be having to send you to Radz-at-Han though, for a time. Can only do so much here.." Right... There was a long pause. "Do you.. Have extra glamour prisms?"

Saori Obinata: "I-In my bag, why, what..." She looked over toward the arm and - froze. What - Why was her hand so...?

Saori Obinata // It was all rushing back now.

Saori Obinata moved without thinking. She tried to wrench the hand out of the noulith's flow, to hide it against her body futilely, even as every muscle in both it and her stomach protested and screamed and bit at her.

Nerifyra Grimalkin smiled, finally more genuine. "I'm glad. I didn't make it, just snagged the mugs. Think it was Vieu?" She looked to where he'd been until a short while ago, though her head cocked to the side when she returned to Valhyr. "...your arm alright?" She really hoped it wasn't about to sprout a Saori reprise.

Alduin: "...." She sighs out, moving around again. "Everyone already saw, Saori."

Alduin -- She's not blocking her exit but rather, blocking from anyone from /entering/.

Mira Cephei did much the same as Neri, following his gaze to his arm. Curious, glad that Neri was quick to ask the question.

Lucille Starling > an exercise in futility, but Starling couldn't begin to fathom what would drive someone to defend such a secret to such lengths. Words took longer to say, as she had to sift through the snippy comments and frustrated exasperations she /wanted to/. "Should get you bandaged up, at the very least. Isn't much it would accomplish, but a little peace of mind if tied with a glamour."

Valhyr Wyldervyk nodded. "There's certainly going to be one hell of a report to document. I think we'll likely have plenty of time to do it, though..." He loooked up to Neri. "Oh, I just... Honestly, It's better than alright. I'm starting to get used to it feeling all... Like it used to. It just dawns on me sometimes. It had been deteriorating for a while, that's all. Something out of my hands that

medicine mostly just staves off."

Naya Vihari: "Gods, if that isn't the truth. Hope the me of today's living up to the memory." Naya doesn't say anything, but she shuffles closer to Solomeya and holds out a hand, palm facing up. "Perhaps we can catch up later, once we've both rested up, and you can tell me how things have been there the past few years."

Saori Obinata: "What?" Her voice cracks. "N-No, I-- Come on... I-- I've been..." She can't stop looking at her hand. There's so many more scales now. The claws are - thick, and heavy. Almost talon-like, compared to how they were before. And her skin /itches/ where the scales are half-formed, and around small black points, blood still pooled into them. They were sensitive to the touch, making her hiss when her fingers skated past them.

Lucille Starling: "Save it." Uncharacteristically harsh, coming from her. "At least, until you're a bit more stable than just coming to, after an emergency procedure in a cave. Recovery's paramount, now."

Bunnygirl Mindset drags another blanket off the pile near the fire and drags it around herself with yet another groan. Her sodding back. She's just getting comfortable, or at least what passes for it right now, when- a hand? She looks at it, then at Naya's face. Her own tentatively peeks out of the blanket to cover it.

Alduin: "Can you let us finish at least?" Surprisingly... Calm. "I will need to help fix your arm and patch it up. I will fetch you a glamour prism right after, alright?"
"Nobody is- As far as I can hear, nobody is putting any blame on you or shaming you. Everyone is worried actually."

Mira Cephei: "I have my report to give as well," she mused, though her voice was more of a grumble, given she'd not found anything conclusive. But as Valhyr spoke about his arm, her brow furrowed. "Deteriorating?" she found herself asking, though unsure if he'd want to speak on it with such a crowd. She'd stay somewhat vague, "Is this related to how... calm it makes you feel down in Andalis?"

Lucille Starling: "You can have whatever objections you see fit /after/ we've finished what we set out to do."

Nerifyra Grimalkin 's brow furrowed. "Feeling like it used to?" Another one with scars, she imagined. Would it be okay to pry? He had mentioned it... "Sorry, I don't think I'm familiar with what happened to it... but I'm glad it's better at least."

Zinaida Kirkegrim || She does not shy from the other rising to match her tone back. "I would rather we treat this with greater concern than it needs than not *enough*." Her words have bite--specifically, she ends her sentence with an uneasy, strong shut of her teeth, clacking in her

mouth, mask hiding her lips and harder-to-control expressions. Hopefully, it makes sense why she wears the thing at least partially.

|| She tries to pull some of the intensity that's found its way to her brow. The blow is dealt. The gravitas is there. As if she needed to drive it home, but she rather it be there than... well, she said this.

|| "...I understand she takes the measure of your aether, then, as she does." With most she has the chance to pull aside, with that sight of hers. Of the few that can. Shrike thinks, then winces, at the idea of the company procuring aetherometers again, as she's Shrike. But the other option is leaving it all at one person's feet-- a tired doctor slips up their diagnoses...

|| ...She looks back at the tent she'd scowled at, all act, without pause. Back down to Valeriana. "...I'll see if--your aether, corporeal--can be given a proper cycling through. Saori demands the foremost triage. But you--anyone who *ate*, if this was... exacerbated, by the flesh of the hadal sealife..."

|| Shrike at least redirects her tense face aside. "...Your companion with wards. Ask if they exist for spoken to wear with them." Still giving orders.

Saori Obinata wants to retort, but it comes out as a pained wheeze instead. Everything still hurts. It digs into her stomach and it's hard for her to move her arm and even just - being upright is making it worse. And everything looks so sharp, it's making her head hurt. She whimpers a little and lies back down.

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...That'd probably be Alduin's theory." He offered with a quiet admittance. "It doesn't really matter -why- for now, in my mind."

I'deryn Llyr: "Would love to." I'deryn would nod, before going silent for a minute or so. Immediately after, she'd cast off her blanket, handing it back over. "Going to head to the surgeon." She'd state, still looking notably - but significantly less - on edge. Recovery would be a multiple day long project. "My thanks for the support. Ask you all take care for yourselves."

Bunnygirl Mindset collects the blanket from I'deryn with the hand still available to her. Softly, "Be safe. Be well."

Alduin -- Thank the Gods. Everything in her compelled her not to sigh and she shuffled for a moment. Her medical pack was pulled up and she settles back down. "IV like I said, get pain relief in you as soon as possible and then I will fix up your arm. Lucille- Is there anything else to note?"

Naya Vihari wraps her hand around theirs and squeezes. Deep breath in, slow breath out. "Take care, I'deryn. Wishing you safe travels back home."

Valeriana Alecia Man Shrike was using a whole lot of words that might be more useful on anyone who had any experience at all with Aetherology. It was literally the subject she knew the absolute least about though she could be good. as shrike spoke, it gave her time to pull more of her mask in place, distance from the emotional flare up letting her hide once again "I'll submit to

any testing you require of me. I'm sorry "She offered yet again before she turned and focused her eyes on the fire though the rest of her face was hidden by a combination of arms knees and hair that was pulling free of her now messy pony tail. looking like the saddest wettest cat on the rainiest day of the year. "I'll ask them about it when I contact them... I promise..." She didn't look up at her again, thinking that might have been the end of it for now... damn, she really wanted a hug and not to get yelled at right now.

Mira Cephei shook her head gently. She hoped... she'd get the opportunity to ask properly sometime. "Feeling normal. I know what it's like to yearn for it," her response was quiet, turning her eye from Neri back to Valhvr. "So I know what you mean. Hard to... replace the feeling." She... wished she knew how to help beyond understanding.

Lucille Starling: "...the corruption /attempted/ to spread, as we saw-" she sounds exasperated. Nearly robotic. "-but my concern lies with further spreading. It's... her choice, if she's to let that worsen, but our concern is to stop the... /invasive/ presence, in spite of other signs of-." As if realizing she spoke in a circle, she continues. "...it's a bit of a ways, from here to Radz-at-Han. Putting her to sleep or otherwise finding a way to dull her pain for the travel time would be... preferable."

Bunnygirl Mindset has a big ol' mitt, good for squeezing. Even with the glove still on. She squeezes back, albeit very gently. "You okay?"

Lucille Starling: "...apologies." She knows it's rude to talk about someone who's listening, in such a way.

Valhvr Wyldervyk shook his head, trying his best to be reassuring. It's clear by his expression he mildly regrets acknowledging it at all. "It's of no concern, now. That was a lifetime ago, really. I didn't mean to distract from..." He tilted his head with a sigh. "I'm- I'm sure we can talk more of it later, if you still like. But perhaps not out here."

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...Thank you." Shrike cedes, relenting her terrible bedside manner. "This is for everyone's safety." As the young woman pulls her eyes away with such intent to keep them on the low fire over forgotten stew, Shrike steps away. She doesn't need for her close, or for her haphazardly cobbled words of comfort. She wants to **fix** this, not imply it is **fine**. Her boots lead her away.

Alduin would give a crooked smile, even without humor there. "Indeed. It attempted to spread but was stopped. The forces collided and we were left with this mess. Thanks to the water as well, it was not helping the healing process, which is why it took you longer to wake up, outside of your low aetherpool." And Nemain's own. "I wanted to give relievers, which is why I started the line. Get Vieu and Beau to get her to Radz-at-Han, given Vieu has his ship."

Valhvr Wyldervyk: "...I really ought to... Get out of these nice clothes. They're Vaedrin's. He

insisted... And now they're all covered in dirt." He looked down guiltily at his outfit.

Saori Obinata: "...I..." It was all over, wasn't it? She'd - Nemain had /forced/ the enshroud into her in front of everyone. Her corruption had gotten worse, and now everyone knew what it was. But at least she - she had her prisms, at least. No one else had to know. Just... the company. And they - they wouldn't chase her out, would they? Not after all of... She bit back a sob. Come on. Not now. Keep your dignity.

Alduin: "If there is nothing else-" She gave Saori the dignity as she looked away. "You are free to leave. Thank you for your assistance... See if you can find Beau and Vieu (hah) and at least let Beau know she is awake.. I will work on the rest."

Nerifyra Grimalkin caught the expression, and is glad she didn't actually ask about it. She'd let it drop into the background. "I'm sure he'll understand... though if you'd like, maybe we can take it to get cleaned up a little before you return it? ...or maybe not. Not sure if he'd appreciate that..." Might be best to leave cleaning to the Andalisi himself.

Alduin -- A wry smile. Nothing can be done with the longer-standing condition for the moment.. That's.. More difficult, more tangled.

Mira Cephei smiled a touch. Her concern was... a little more vague. Confounding to even her own mind, so she did her best to ease the expression on her face. "I'd like that. When we get some time, if you'd tell me about it." She... had things to share as well, if they were in a coming clean kind of mood. The kindness he offered to wait for. Perhaps it was time to... cash a little in, as it were. "Oh. Right." she sat up at his final sentiment.

"They /are/ nice. I'm sure he'll appreciate them returned and clean." Firm, a rare insistence on optimism. "Even if it's just a dusting off of the excess dirt."

Naya Vihari nods a few times. "I will be. Just, since there's not much to do, I started thinking instead. It was a mistake. How's your back been doing since yesterday?"

Lucille Starling stands, and leaves, without another word, leaving her noulith to lower Saori's arm, then join the rest, hovering above the woman, ready to act at the first sign of complication.

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "I-I'll clean it. By rights it should be my work, nobody elses. If he can't accept it back, then... I'll..." He doesn't find a followup in time. Mira steers him back towards the positive. "...He will. I know he will."

Valeriana Alecia let her mask slip away as Shrike walked off, taking a measured breath and then a second, and well, every breath was measured hiding her face in her knees and arms. just sitting there trying to control her breathing with slow counting breaths. a technique she'd picked up from her first girlfriend when dealing with these sorts of feelings.

Lucille Starling starts towards the first individual she'd spot that wasn't already occupied.
"Dawnstrider and Greystone were here as well, weren't they? Do you know where they went?"

Ayre Oblitus: after sitting quietly for awhile trying to just recollect thoughts notices Val sitting alone and approaches taking a seat next to her "Hey, you ok?"

Bunnygirl Mindset snickers, hiding her face with the blanket. "Hurts like hells, but I'm not about to go bother someone for help with it. Not.. now, with all this. We've got bigger problems than an old lady's bad back."

Alduin would get up, pulling the tent flap a bit tighter closed. Around now to Saori's arm before settling down. "...I am not going to tell you to let it out, especially given you are with me but-"
There was a long pause. "-Not a single person as far as I can tell seems to think else of you. They are all worried- Hells, I heard Beau sniffing sniveling about you." A quiet tease before she was shuffling, working on Saori further.

Valeriana Alecia: "Annabelle dragged them off... over there" Val said, pointing in the direction they'd all gone. She doesn't seem surprised Ayre sat down. She glanced over, surprised at the rather sedate greeting from the miqo'te. "No... are you?"

Mira Cephei nodded gently. "He'll appreciate the gesture, I'm sure. After everything." She suddenly wishes she'd stopped by to see the garden on her sneaking adventure. "And // will take the very fun job of punching everyone in on the punch card board thing. At least this time there should be no wondering where anyone is. Nice change."

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...Lucille." Before she can make an ill-advised biting remark, Shrike blinks, and shakes off that reflex. "...They left with Annabelle, the miqo'te, some time ago. On a walk, or... I'm unsure." She shakes her head. "Mouth of the Prytaneion is a safe assumption, if you're quick you could tail them. I would recommend a pearl first, if they are busy."

Saori Obinata: "They should. I did it to live. I had to live. I can't--" She choked back another sob. She couldn't. Not like this. Not to Al - not to /her/ of all people.

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...It's probably for the best we leave them space for at least a sun. But surely /someone/ should check on them...? I doubt we'll be getting any visitors from the flow anytime soon."

"...Someone who isn't me." He offered quietly. He could at least promise to not inspire anymore worry that way.

Lucille Starling: "We simply need their assistance, with Saori-" she stutters off. That's obvious.
"In the event that they're preoccupied, and I'm /somehow/ not nearby to send the word, can you do it for me?"

Alduin As she said earlier, it seemed at one point after Saori settled back down, Alduin poked the iv into her and kept it down with medical tape. The pain reliever directly to the system as well as another means of flushing out the gunk as she said. It'll help at least get her to get a clearer head as more supplies were pulled out. A sheet layered under Saori's arm and carefully positioned while the rest of her supplies laid open beside her.

Ayre Oblitus: sighs "Yes... mostly at least. Things did not go so well, and I wish I could have done more. But we are all here so that is good"

Alduin "We do shit when it comes to wanting to live. Trust me... Why I did it as well." She sat for a moment, waiting until there was a significant amount of pain relief in her system. "I.. Did my best. To you and her. Gave as much aether as I could."

Ama Akhaba 's ears flick as she hears snatches of conversation behind her. She turns, walks towards the two- "What do you need assistance with?"

Nerifyra Grimalkin snickered a little at Mira. At least spirits seemed to gradually be rising. "Likely. Or at the very least, only sending a small group to check if they need assistance with anything immediately, or if they'd prefer we kept out until they've gotten things under control."

Naya Vihari laughs along with her. "Aww, you're being so, so brave. Proud old pirate can't let it show how much your bones ache, can you?"

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...I will keep them availed of what I can, while I am often here. Is she staying put, then, I am assuming?"

Naya Vihari: "... Once Saori's settled, maybe Al can take a look. Or Annabelle would welcome the distraction, I'm sure."

Lucille Starling fights the urge to sigh. Wrong recipient. "If you see Beau and Vieu, let them know that Al and I have done what we could, and that we're going to need them to hoist Obinata over to Radz-at-Han for further treatment."

"Al's making sure of that, for now, at least."

Mira Cephei "Maybe Einat will pay us a visit to get out of her smelly house," she offered, smile weary but present. "Though I wouldn't blame you for volunteering." Her worry for him was more... vague than what many seemed to cast upon him. For his happiness more than his aether. "But... I think you're right that leaving them for a sun or two wouldn't hurt unless we get word otherwise." She'd cast a glance to Neri, nodding as if to confirm.

Valeriana Alecia: "You... have an admirable resilience Ayre. I'm glad to see that you're well... " her words were quiet, perhaps muffled a fair bit. "I'm certain there will come a time when you can do more. "

Saori Obinata felt... dizzy. Exhausted. She could hear Al's words but they weren't fully settling in. She too? And she'd... "She kept telling me that this place was going to eat me. Even when she already was. She wanted me to herself..." It hurt to laugh. "I really did get..." A sharp wheeze came out instead.

Bunnygirl Mindset: "Not when there's people hurt worse. Hurting worse. All I did was try to show off." She gestures behind her with a fistful of blanket. The motion gets another grimace out of her- it tweaks the strained muscles just right. "Everyone who was down there has it worse. I can wait."

Zinaida Kirkegrim || Shrike manages not to offer the easy solution of simply carry the woman out herself with Alduin. Especially if it's better for the condition to stay still-- and especially following a memory of another woman freezing up in fear the moment she so much as touches her, nevermind offers to take her somewhere safer. Funny how these things work. Shrike sighs, eyes shut for a second, before reopening. "I will, that is the least of things I can offer her."

Nerifyra Grimalkin: "...smelly house...?" Her mouth slowly opened to speak, head rolling to the side as she squinted. "...I'm almost afraid to ask what you found while you were down there... It couldn't have been that bad, could it?"

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...Please, tell me if there is aught more I may. I would... not have her languish."

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "What else is there to do...?" He breathed out a bit of an exasperated sigh. The pressure that seemed to linger on his had waned, at least. "...Smelly? I haven't been to Einat's house before tonight, so... She never asks for patches or repairs. I watched her and Uzahn go back and forth about it, one day. He seems to be sure that there's something that needs his attention, but she wouldn't have it."

Ayre Oblitus: gives a soft chuckle flashing a slightly more forced grin than usual "Well the hero has to keep spirits up best they can." glances around the camp "And let people have their peace when they need rest. Besides I've had many trials to help me build resilience." looks back to Val "I'd like to see YOU well though, get you blanket? Some of that cocoa maybe?" opens up her arms "A hug?"

Ama Akhaba: "... Ah, understood." Ama immediately feels awkward for butting in. Why did she...? "... Is Saori somewhat stable, at least?" The thought is verbalized before Ama can think on it more. "Not to doubt you and Al's medical prowess, or anything.."

Bunnygirl Mindset hears the magic word behind her. She tosses a blanket back there, flumphing against the HERO OF DARKNESS'S shoulder.

Lucille Starling: "If she /wasn't/, I wouldn't be out here talking." Sorry, Ama. What did you expect?

Mira Cephei huffed sharply, "I wish it was worse, honestly. Would be more notable. Einat seems to be something of a hoarder who doesn't take care of her house." She looked to Valhyr with a raised brow, then Neri, and back again. "Yeah, I think she's got a pipe problem. She has collected a lot of... valuables she doesn't want seen, maybe. Jewelry from shipwrecks, that sort of thing."

Alduin "Oi oi.. Settle on the laughing at least for a bit." There was a pull of her lips. "She said that..? Here I thought it would be her wanting to consume further.. Maybe it was a warning in disguise.." It did quite literally happen to her and she gives a small cringe. "...Well.. She got some more of you. Price we fucking pay.." Sufficient enough time for the pain reliever to settle so Alduin started to work on the arm.

The writer is not going into the lengthy and gory detail of it because it's late as well. But, Alduin was diligent, fingers trained. Where the worms had burst cleaned and stitched up. Where tendons were damaged given the same treatment. Keloids cared for.. But the infection is something she is unable to do much. That is something between her and her Other to work through..

Lucille Starling: "...forgive me,"

Zinaida Kirkegrim || The Starling has bite too. Shrike feels a little less alone.

Ama Akhaba: "No, I understand. It can't have been a relaxing experience to have to treat those injuries..." Ama smiles in a conciliatory manner. "Sorry."

Saori Obinata can do nothing but lie there as Alduin treats her. She knows better than to fight a healer, especially after before. But it never feels comfortable to be touched so closely, even like this. As much as she wants to babble more... She's tired. Her aether is so low, and so is her energy, and now that she's had painkillers given, everything just feels numb and limp. She doesn't think she could move if she tried. She just... wants to sleep.

Nerifyra Grimalkin: "Huh... I'm kind of... surprised?" She tried to recall what she'd seen of other houses while she was down there. A house in poor keeping? Didn't seem to fit. "Guessing there wasn't much else of note other than the smell and the hoarding then?"

Lucille Starling: "...less the treatment, and more so knowing... Forget it. It's not proper practice for me to.. air out the business of someone hurting just shy of where we are now." She rests a hand on her head, something of a facepalm. A bone-white hand, not unlike her scales and tail, glowing with little star-like specks of aether among where her scales are.

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...Hmm. I suppose we all have our vices, eh? No wonder she didn't want us

working in there." He nodded to Neri. "...It is kind of unusual. Most of the homes there *are* old, but they're repaired about as soon as someone capable has a hand free. I've seen a fair few of them, by now."

Lucille Starling: "It annoys me /deeply/ to say, but anything we can provide far eclipses what peace of mind would do for her. We... shouldn't react overmuch to her... condition."

Valeriana Alecia she watched the fire for another, longer moment. and then she would lean into that offered hug because yeah she absolutely needed one of those. she'd settle as close as she could so it wouldn't have been awkward for the miko'te to hug the markedly taller actress. "I have as well... Just uh... Just uh... not... worms eating their way of people's bodies... sort of trials..."

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "Of course, with the mechanism struggling, we didn't have as much time as of late... I patch what I can, but I'm certainly no Uzahn."

Zinaida Kirkegrim || Those are some delicate patterns on her gloves, Shrike thinks.

Mira Cephei: "Well, seems weird for her to be keeping stuff that could be traded like jewelry, but other than being a collector and being oddly tolerant of poor smelling water, I didn't find anything incriminating related to what we were looking for, no."

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "... " Shrike exhales, through her nostrils. She's already had one firm instruction, Valeriana hopefully not like to forget while she's the ambulatory capability to do more--but, Saori, her arm, the void's infectious touch... "...I understand. You will hear nothing from me."

Alduin: "Do not sleep yet." Came the voice. "Until I am done. After that, I will get your bag. Necklace at least, until the arm is completely healed." All the immediate wounds were taken care of, given with one last snip of her suture. A healthy spread of her own medication, the salve she always carries upon her with it's properties, and then clean bandages. The IV was kept in, ensuring to clean out her system further and help give relief. "Feeling at least well enough for me to fetch Beau?"

Naya Vihari: "Then you will have it looked at after they've been settled. Make sure you do. Wouldn't do for you to be left in less than peak barrel-lifting form." She lets out a small sigh. "It was a surprise seeing you at the bottom of the sea. Did you come out of retirement for the company?"

Ayre Oblitus: wraps her arms around Val leaning into her as they stare into the fire getting comfortable and enjoying soaking up some warmth after the deep sea venture. "Yes of my many trials I believe that is a new one and I should hope that was new for all present."

Ama Akhaba tilts her head slightly, not sure what Lucy means by that. ... Until a few dots connect in her mind about the things she'd learned today. Enshroud. Void corruption. A condition people Lucy was hesitant to talk about. "... Ah. Likewise, you will hear nothing from me."

Saori Obinata groaned lightly. It was hard to stay awake, though. The exhaustion was pulling her down even as she struggled to stay awake. "...Beau... yeah..."

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...I haven't taken note of much of anything worth mentioning in my own time in and around their homes, personally. It helps to keep my eyes on my work-- They're mostly uncomfortable with the whole ordeal if I'm repairing something without Uzahn attending me."

Lucille Starling: "You'll have an easier time than I, surely." She grumbles softly. "...perhaps I should rest. Even if it feels as if I only accomplished the bare minimum of treatment."

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...Perhaps we need to consider the first logical problem. *how* did those things get in, and from where? How did they end up..." He shudders. "Inside the Andalisi?"
Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...And how was it all unnoticed by everyone?"

Alduin would press her fingers to the base of her horn, the pearl ringing for the warrior in question. One short enough sentence before she stood. "Let me get you your bag. Want me to keep everyone out except her?"

Saori Obinata: "Y-Yeah."

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...Inside of... Saori." He swallowed, looking over to her.

Alduin: "Sit tight."

Nerifyra Grimalkin thought back at the mention of Uzahn and the mechanism. Valhyr certainly did seem to have earned himself some good will down there, even if still at arms length. She finally started to settle in after standing there for what, a bell? Just sit down you freak. "Well, she hasn't exactly given an impression of following every rule to the letter." She hummed as she thought over Valhyr's questions. "I did think it strange that they came in with salvage. I don't see how it would've gone unnoticed"

Nerifyra Grimalkin: "but I don't think that answers what happened tonight."

Zinaida Kirkegrim || Shrike raises her eyebrows. "...Rounds of treatment for infection is not unheard of. Thank you for it."

Alduin -- The tent flap pulls open before shutting closed. The palm of her hand pressed into her eye momentarily before she shuffled away to where Saori's own bag laid. A bit more shuffling as she looks for it..

Mira Cephei: "It was a good opportunity for me to see the house without any staging or expectation of visitors but... ran out of time before I could check any others." She could only sigh, frowning at the questions. "Things have certainly been... escalating rapidly," she'd glance Saori's way curiously. "I have to just hope when we put everything together, we can find something." It's the same hope she'd had for weeks, but... the point still stood.

Lucille Starling gives a silent nod back.

Mira Cephei: "There's still the murder, as well. Or is that just... likely voidsent that took Isse now?"

Ama Akhaba: "Bouts of intense focus can also be surprisingly draining. There have been times during battle where I felt my focus intensifying, and I only realized later that it was over a very short span of time and took nearly all of my energy."

Alduin -- There it is. Easy grab and a shuffling of her steps on over. The flap is closed behind her again before she settles it down on the good arm Saori Side.

Valeriana Alecia the act of the hug forced Val to unwind herself ,stretching her legs out towards the fire, hands in her own lap as she rubbed her thumb and forefinger together, eyes on the fire in front of her. " Yeah... I um... I think that's the worst thing I've ever seen.... And I... "She closed her mouth with a click of her teeth. shutting up and simply enjoying the hug for a nice long moment of quiet moment. >

Valeriana Alecia until after a nice long moment she made a move to maybe shift up and pull away. She wouldn't want to crowd Ayre too much and be denied a hug in the future.

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...The wounds that were described to me would indicate that she may have been taken the same way, just less... Forcefully. The avulsions described to me make more sense if you consider the trauma came from the inside rather than having been created by a weapon from the outside." His voice had lowered.

Saori Obinata reaches numbly for the bag as Al places it next to her. She digs through it without looking, eventually finding purchase on a loop of prisms - one of her backups. She pulls it close to herself, breathing quietly, and... drifts again before she can loop it onto her wrist.

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...Salvage? You mean you've seen it happen?" He tilted his head to Neri.

Mira Cephei didn't know whether that was better or worse. Better to not have to consider malicious, intentional murder, but worse to have had it under their noses. "Isse did travel far outside of the dome, right? As a forager, or something?" It was her turn to rap at her head with her knuckles. "Still need to answer if they were /summoned/ or if there's just that much rot."

Lucille Starling shrugs. "In that case, rest might be best." Ignoring the rhyme scheme, Starling sets off to a nearby tent to retire for now.

Mira Cephei also looked to Neri curious at the salvage statement. There'd been a lot of (admittedly decorative) salvage in Einat's place.

Alduin -- The Xaela seats herself, watching the other before she helps finishes it for her once the other had drifted. "Beau is on her way.." She'd mutter before settling quietly.

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...I'm afraid I'm not learned enough to have even the foggiest Idea of their original creation or intention... Narrowing that down may best be left in the hands of our experts..."

Nerifyra Grimalkin 's face contorted at the thought. She hadn't seen either the murder or tonights events, but from what was described... it made sense. In a way, she was glad she wasn't down there to eat or drink anything. "A small group of us were down just the other day. Had heard Azena had more salvage coming in, so we thought to go help them picking through it, but... there was a barrel with a bunch of voidmonks inside of it."

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...It could be as simple as... Well, what happened to Dayas."

Ayre Oblitus: would give a final squeeze before Val pulled away "It'll be ok we are safe here now and safe in camp by a warm fire. We can take all the time we need and worry about all else later." offers a warm smile "For what it is worth, having you there and here was greatly reassuring"

Bunnygirl Mindset winces as she turns back to Naya. "I will, I will. ...Though I'll be more careful next time. Wasn't worth the sodden tongue-lashing I got." She scoots an ilm closer and disentangles her hand to peel off her gloves. Her worn, scarred mitt is returned to Naya's custody. She stares into the fire. "I guess so. Not like it was much of a retirement anyway. Would've squandered the _rest_ of my life, too."

Saori Obinata // The glimmers flicker as Alduin slides the loop onto Saori's hand. They slide up like an oil slick, but -- unlike the many, many other times she's worn it before, the slick can't quite coalesce around her arm. It sparks and sputters and manages to find purchase around her upper arm, but even then, there's a feeling of /wrongness./ And the scales and claws all remain visible.

Marcel Abbott finally decides to join everyone, peeking out of the tent, then awkwardly shuffling off to the distance, where... is that Ama? looks like her.

Alduin || She was quietly speaking into her pearl but she watches the other regardless. A musing hum as she watches what occurred. Something she'll have to know when she's lucid

again.. Is there even a chance for a stronger prism..?

Mira Cephei nodded to Valhyr, slowly and regretfully, also not learned enough for much speculation beyond what she'd stated already. "Dayas, all the shipwrecks, whale carcasses... I guess there is just a decent amount of ambient rot down there. Still doesn't answer the annoying why /now/ question, though." She'd spare Valhyr another glance, recalling their hushed conversation on the subject. Convenient timing. Back to Neri, Mira is suddenly annoyed that she didn't pick Azena's house first. Damn.

Zinaida Kirkegrim || ...Well, of she goes, before she makes a slip of a decision due to exhaustion. "...Ama." Numberswise, people are starting to dwindle. "...Ama, you're capable with a weapon, yes?"

Ama Akhaba: "I'd like to think I am?"

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...Marcel."

Ama Akhaba: "Oh, hello Marcel."

Marcel Abbott: "Not interrupting something, am I? I can leave, if I am-"

Ama Akhaba: "I don't think you are?"

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...No, you aren't." Shrike lifts a hand to the bridge of her nose, pinching the ridge. "...I said as much to Valeriana. But the voidsent..." If they're infectious like the miasma that causes men to fall ill to their bed, to do... this, "...Are you confident without? Would you--- from within, their side of the flow... I worry the *parasites* may try to cross."

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...I see. So there /is/ a precedent of some sort, at least. If something like that could slip through with the rest of the salvage, then... There's no telling what else has. Were all of them accounted for, when all was said and done...?" He spared a knowing look to Mira. "...The single most major change to Andalis since we opened the aetherial flow is..." He lowered his voice. "...Ceylon's return."

Nerifyra Grimalkin: "...I... have a thought about that, actually. I think Saori mentioned it before as well. If you recall what Ceylon mentioned when we were first heading down into Andalis? ...the timing from when the Andalisi said the voidsent first started popping up also lined up with when I first bumped into this group which was... when Ceylon was trying to help in those springs in Coerthas."

Valeriana Alecia "Thanks Ayre... that was nice, and helpful. It's appreciated. " She offered with a little smile offered over at the miquo'te, her breath a bit steadier and her makeup hadn't run down her face, even if it was a bit smudged. She considered for a moment and then after a sigh

she added. "Can I um... ask that you maybe not... point my mother in my direction... if you see her again?"

Beau Dawnstrider: "...right, then. Radz-at-Han?"

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...What happened, that day, exactly? I... My mind was closed to him the moment I realized what he was capable of. I avoided him for so long, I've... Missed many crucial details."

Ama Akhaba: ".. I'm not as confident without, no. I have some footwork skills and I know how to throw a punch, but I wouldn't say I'm /as/ effective. Is there no sort of barrier we can erect...? Something that allows us through but not voidsent?"

Marcel Abbott: "... He sighs. Knew she'd have to get dragged along eventually. "I'll be fine, but if I end up kicked outta town, my /reason/ for that is why. Can't bring technology, so magic's the next best thing." Right, 'magic' Good ole Mage Hands herself, that's her name.

Alduin would jolt aware- "Shit-!" Seemingly lost in her thoughts it seems. She gives a wide eyed blink.. A series of them before calming. "Ideally. With Vieu around, we can just easily load her up on his ship and send it. Get her seen immediately.." She looked down at the arm, even when given the glamour prism. "The glamour does not work well no longer. I fixed what I could to ensure she would not lose the limb entirely.."

Ayre Oblitus: ears flatten "I... didn't mean to cause you trouble. The situation was not what I thought" looks down "I certainly will not make that mistake again. She is a terrible woman, did you know her department cancelled my favorite program?"

Mira Cephei looked back to the fire for a moment in thought. Right. "I was still mostly confined to the infirmary when that happened," she grumbled before glancing to Valhyr again. "Ceylon is a... convenient answer. I'm still annoyed that the first voidsent was found in these caves was just a few days before we went down to Andalis for the first time, but... maybe it took time for the voidsent to get that close. This is still assuming no one is... assisting them in navigating the village."

Annabelle Ishi returns to camp, settling down beside Suiryuu without a word.

Beau Dawnstrider: "Whatever works. I-- have contacts, that I am certain would see me if I asked nicely enough." Her gaze kept flicking between Saori, AI, and the arm. That was *with* glammers... was it? "...mm... and how costly was it to you, the work?"

Alduin: "The physical work was.. Uncostly. Just the.. Aether." She'd murmur. "I gave her some of mine and.. Reached further and gave some to her other. Then was the part of suppressing the water while Lucille continued to work through the humors.. All that." She eases up to her feet,

albeit with a small stagger. "I.. Plan on trying to at least talk to people before they disperse.. Before I get the chance again."

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...I was given to understand you'd been down there, Marcel." Shrike inhales, piecing together her... piecemeal understanding of the Andalis Venture thus far. "...I don't know. I see less and less reason they should seek to keep *ill-equipped to defend them-*company members from..." She tsks, shaking her head. "If they don't want for help at all because it isn't *packaged* harmlessly and gently enough..." ..That's what got them here, a little, hm? At least in Shrike's mind.

Nerifyra Grimalkin 's head tilted side to side while trying to recall. "I don't know the full story, to be honest. Ceylon was the first person I met from everyone around this group, actually... but he wanted to help with finding the missing people from whatever happened at Burning Hyur, I think." She paused a beat, brow furrowing while some connections were made. "It makes a little more sense now, actually, after having been down there and seeing Andalis."

Valeriana Alecia gave an amused little snort "You don't think I know she's awful? The woman haunts my nightmares. Especially because she cancelled your favorite program... You should mention it if she comes back to the broken collar club."

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...Maybe the reason it's so hard to discern a motive of intentional wrongdoing is because whatever force is guiding the voidsent isn't doing it consciously...? Is that crazy...?" He pauses. "But... How would that work...?"

Alduin: "Valhyr is tilting closer to water now.. And I need to see if I can at least see something in everyone that was at the banquet - especially those that ate and drank.."

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...Maybe where we're looking for intention... There's consequence, instead." He seems to be mulling it over.

Nerifyra Grimalkin: "I remember him saying he could use it to see... something? Find them? I mean— he did figure out some details, but then he was down there too long and sort of went..." Neri held her hands up around her head, fingers poking out and made a scary face for a moment. "...kind of crazy? I don't know. I hit him in the head with a tree branch. Others dragged him out of the water and he calmed down."

Marcel Abbott: "No, no, I get what you're sayin'." He shrugs. "I'm... concerned with how they expect to keep themselves safe too, with the fact that there's bigass voidsent outside, and littler ones trying to whittle everyone down inside." He grumbles. "With our usual equipment and procedure, it'd be... maybe not a /cinch/, but something better than /this/."

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...That would be more often the barrier between the void and our world." It's not even a joke. Is it? Shrike says it dry as thanalan's sagolii. "...Valeriana told me of a friend

who knows of ward-making. At the least, we could sever the immediate steps from within reaching too far without alert,"--or harm. She'd prefer a ward that harms those who pass it without care, but the hound won't always get the intense measures she wants, even if they'll work.

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...I see. Forgive my train of thought for interrupting."

Ayre Oblitus: "Oh I did! She all but ignored me or disregarded me far as i could tell" mutters "Didn't want to listen to the /savage/ I'm sure" turns back to Val "I doubt she will return, she was not there for any sort of help all but told us she thought her job was amazing and perfection! I think she was just hoping to find you based on her parting words it sounded like she had no intention to return"

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...Come into the water..." He mumbled. "...Something like that..."

Mira Cephei: "I wish I could say, but I'm with you-- pretty useless on voidsent knowledge, but I'm not sure how much 'will' they have or if they are like a... rabid creature. Following an urge it can't control." She snorted slightly to learn that Neri's solution to the Ceylon problem was to bonk him with a tree branch. "Kajaya had a moment like that too, just less... dramatic."

Nerifyra Grimalkin shook her head, waving off the apology. "You're fine. My point is— whatever he did had an affect on him. And he's tied to Dayas. And if that timing is right around when the voidsent started popping up..." She trailed off a moment, though called back to something Mira said. "...thats right, there was one in the caves..." She looked off towards where the flow was. "...we may want to keep a close eye from now on. If one got through, theres no guarantee some of those... worm things, won't."

Zinaida Kirkegrim || ...Noting the return of a certain Dawnstrider, Shrike takes a little moment if only to poke her head into the tent Lucille's dropped herself into, just to inform that the raen will be taken care of. For her own mental continuity, before she wake up bells later disoriented and out of the loop...

Beau Dawnstrider: "...I'll be certain to... come back. Not soon, though, so you may need to come and find me in Radz-at-Han. But so you remember: I had something to eat, nothing to drink save for the broth. Do not over-exert yourself, *please*. Too many are doing it; I can't keep up." She looked down, again, to Saori. Offered her usual smile, despite... well, she had not really cleaned herself up after her cry. Red eyes, mostly. They could share in new appearances, when she was awake again. "...i'll take her."

Mira Cephei is both glad and regrets pointing out that a voidsent had made it into the cave. "I hope that with Hestia gone, there won't be the allure of... rot for them to follow. But... good thing we have constant vigil of the aetherflow, now." Meaning it'd be harder to pull her from her post, now.

Naya Vihari puts on an awkward grin. "I owe you an apology for that, for playing along. They were needlessly cruel like they always are and I should've been standing up for you." While she stares off into the campfire, Naya looks at the scars on the back of her hand. "... If it makes you feel any better, we're both stuck trying to figure out what to do with ourselves."

Marcel Abbott takes the moment of silence between him and Ama to speak up. "To be honest, I didn't even know you were /here/- at Andalis, I mean."

Alduin: "Trying not to but.. Hard to /avoid that/ with this group. Hm?" A tired smile. "Mm.." A scrutinizing look before giving a small nod of her head. "Alright... And the same goes to you, as always." She looked down briefly before back up. "Sooner you get her someplace more private, the better for her. Stay by her.. Least until Onyx makes it. I doubt the other already sniffed out a route given she was already talking about coming to Thavnair few Suns ago."

"Ah, Beau- I think.. Is there a way to get more warding scales, for more people?"

Ama Akhaba: "... I've been more in and out than some of the others. I need to do my part of raising the kids and all. It's.. kept me a little out of the loop, but I suppose this time it let me avoid this.."

"I am inclined to shove it into peoples pockets at this point, especially the more stubborn individuals that keep going down regardless of warnings..."

Valeriana Alecia: "Oh she uh.. She can definitely be very good at ignoring people and... talking about how important and good she is..." She sighed and looked over at the other group at the fireplace. " She was flashing an old picture around when Mira ran into her. "

Marcel Abbott: "Could say that last part again. Was lucky enough in keeping my head down that I didn't /have/ to go to the banquet." Half-lie.

Beau Dawnstrider: "She's coming. If she comes here first, for some reason, then point her to Radz-at-Han. I'll be sure to tell her, but... you know, pressure; upsets and... it gets in your head a bit." Twice today, Beau had lifted Saori. She was careful, still. "We have a handful... how many more do you think? Ideally I'd want one for everybody, but... maybe with the ongoing, it will be an easier acquisition..."

Ayre Oblitus: looked a bit curious "An old picture? I might be interested to see that" flashes a toothy grin "Ah but I guess she has it not you, well I prefer to have you here then a picture anyways... my interest has been peaked though"

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...Aye, we'll likely have to redouble our efforts on monitoring the flow's passers-through. If... If someone infected makes it to a crowded place like Radz-at-han or Yedilhmadr..."

Alduin: "Mm.." She helped to ensure the iv was a bit more taped down and.. With a little bit of

wind (she found a crystal in her satchel) - she kept it hovering. Long enough until the other gets to the place in question. "...At this point, I am inclined to make it to where less people go under but.. One for everyone would be ideal." Her gaze pulls behind her. "I want people to go home if they are already feeling overwhelmed, despaired. To know their limit and accept that and /leave/.. Even if it means lesser hands here."

Ama Akhaba: "... I doubt they had such strict requirements for our attendance anyway. They don't seem the type to.. be upset if a few outsiders are absent."

Zinaida Kirkegrim || Satisfied (a thumbs up really takes that long), Shrike pulls the raen's tent flap back down to let the Starling rest. A tug of her hook and she shakes her head, ears now properly out, if a little flattened-looking. She looks more tired than she actually is--alert. Alert enough to offer Valeriana a wide berth as she passes by again.

Marcel Abbott shrugs again. "Probably a good thing, to them. Not like it's... in good taste to talk about 'em like that, but still. Hard to wish 'em well when they're so dead set on making it hard for us t- Oh, hey, you're back, Shrike."

Mira Cephei stared at Valhyr for a long moment. Oh. Right. It wasn't just watching for voidsent anymore, it was... "Hopefully we can discern a way to recognize if someone is infected... quickly, then." Maybe one of their aether-sensitive people? She resisted the urge to look for Alduin, the woman was already one blood pressure spike away from grey hair. "I doubt people will want to... quarantine, or something."

Zinaida Kirkegrim || Another upward-facing thumb of acknowledgement. "...For what it's worth, I agree." What she thinks she heard, with her head stuck in the tent flap for a minute or two.

Valeriana Alecia: "yeah... you're right, it's not of me... That boy she's looking for was a real dour brat who would not have been very good company to you Ayre... " She sighed and brought her arms up to rub at either bicep. tugging at the fancy fabric there for a moment. "Unlike the me now who is not so much a dour brat anymore, and hopefully good company. "

Ama Akhaba: "Right... I wouldn't speak ill of them but..." She trails off, remembering how gaunt Ceylon had been. "... End of sentence. From their perspective it surely feels strange."

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...It isn't likely that one amongst the Andalisi will be leaving any time soon. We'll have to ask that any of the company coming and going be screened, somehow. Before it's too late."

Nerifyra Grimalkin 's anxious fang had popped out to gnaw. "Isse, an elder, Ertugrul, and Saori... I mean— there's got to be something tying them all together, right? Someplace they'd gone or done or eaten or drank that could point to how they got in them? Even if we can narrow it down, we might have an idea if anyone else is at risk..."

Marcel Abbott stuffs his hands back in his pockets. His gaze hits the floor for a bit. He's been doing good so far at ignoring a certain... variable. (unless his conversation with Einat pans a certain way). "...all this to feed one guy to a wood chipper."

Saori Obinata stirs with an uncomfortable groan.

Ama Akhaba: "Mm... Was his fate.. for certain? We /absolutely/ know they would have tried to kill him..?"

Bunnygirl Mindset adjusts her grip, rough fingerpads grazing Naya's knuckles. "Mmh. These days I'm more surprised to meet someone who does know what their purpose is." Another squeeze. She stops herself from leaning in, with her back in the state it is. She looks over at her companion. "And you don't have to stand up for me. 'specially down there. I won't be popular, no matter what I do. At least you have a better shot at getting along." Back to staring at the fire.

Zinaida Kirkegrim || Shrike's lip is free to scowl as much as it wants under her mask. "Have you seen him, since? ...Is he safe?" He's alive. That doesn't answer the question, though.

Marcel Abbott: "Don't ask me, how the f-" A breath. "How would I know?"
Marcel Abbott says this to both Ama /and/ Shrike's questions.

Bunnygirl Mindset adds, a few seconds later and at a significantly lower volume. "It's still good to hear y'feel that way." The corner of her mouth rises, showing a sliver of teeth.

Beau Dawnstrider: "I'll see what I can do. Even my good graces can only stretch so far, I expect, before a debt is accrued, and payment owed. For now, I will try, but if it means we have to take less people then... so be it. Especially with the stakes now raised as they are. Warding scales are not easy to create. Later, though." Saori groaning clearly was a sign that this warrior had to get MOVING.

Mira Cephei hummed, nodding idly to herself as she considered both Neri and Valhyr's words. More things her brain couldn't quite handle. "Maybe one of our fellows saw signs before it started happening." Rocking slightly on her dirt seat, she peered around at the various levels of shellshock and exhaustion the company had. "But perhaps... tomorrow."

Suiryuu Roda slowly blinks. Ah... they had about... fallen asleep. Annabelle is right next to them. It really felt like a blur, it really did. But reality comes knocking its truth. It all happened. Eyes finally focus in on those all around. Too long of a day it has been.

Zinaida Kirkegrim || I'll know better than to even assume you might have something come to mind, then, Fury. She does not say this, notably, but she expresses a bit of irritation intentionally again. "Apologies."

Alduin: "Shoo shoo.. We can talk more over the pearl or when you return." But her heads nod in agreement nevertheless. "I plan on at least just.. Checking in. But, I want to try to gather again - after rest-" She tacks on immediately, knowingly. "-But I know people also want answers.."
Ama Akhaba: "Apologies, I.. Shouldn't speak about him that way. You were close with him, right? I just thought you might know more than me."
"Do not let me hold you.. Maybe when you are in Radz-at-Han you can put the order in."

Beau Dawnstrider: "We'll find them. One way or another. Answers." Rest for now, though. Off she'd go with Saori in her arms. They'd get themselves to Radz-at-Han somehow... and she'd be better off for it.

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...Aye. I really am... Getting ahead of myself with all this. Still, there's... Ugh. It won't do any good being pulled in every which direction-- But at least the Andalisi must see now that there is more to this than this disease they believe we carry."

Alduin would waggle her fingers before pulling her attention around. She'll tackle the trio over first..

Annabelle Ishi 's eyes had closed. Her neck was craned to the side closest Suiryuu, her own shoulder raised so that she could rest upon it.

Ayre Oblitus: from what she's saying it sound like had they met in the past they wouldn't have been friends. Though given both their situations it hardly would have been either of their choice. Flashes her a toothy grin "Some of the finest of company there is! Though 'not so much' sounds like there may still be some bits in there" gives her a teasing wink "I'm very glad to have you around, I don't have many that stick around outside my duties if I am to be frank." sighs "The journey of a hero of DAR-" lowers her voice people are resting "hero of darkness~ can sometimes be a lonely one, but with good company it certainly isn't so"

Alduin -- As in talking. Before Beau can come back and scruff her.

Marcel Abbott: "All I know, is all you guys know now, just a /bit/ earlier. That Ceylon was holding onto the blessing, what Dayas is, how Andalis acts, how they saw him and Kadjaya, what was expected to happen- there's no more secrets there." He sounds aggravated, but he's holding it down to the best of his ability.

Nerifyra Grimalkin followed after Mira's gaze a moment. She'd made some internal notes herself regarding the state of the team at camp already, but... "Tomorrow. Think everyone can do with a good bit of rest and sleep... speaking of." She looked to Mira in particular. "I'll take watch over the flow for tonight. You should get some rest as well."

Marcel Abbott: "Ceylon's smart, chose the /one/ son of a bitch that couldn't do anything about it."

Alduin: "You three." A passing greeting. "Faring well?"

Beau Dawnstrider is not here, and neither is Saori now, but it doesn't mean they can't lamp. hee heeeeeeee

Saori Obinata: heeheeheoo

Valhyr Wyldervyk meekly raised a mug of cocoa. "...As well as we can be, I think. How is... how are you? Saori?"

Suiryuu Roda for once did not shy away from it. He would refrain from putting his arm around her as a sign of comfort. No telling if she was okay with it. But... he was okay with their shoulder being used as a rest. As if perhaps on cue a light rumbling resonated from deep within their chest cavity. It was timed to be relaxing.

Nerifyra Grimalkin held a thumbs up. Her eyes briefly flicked over to Valhyr in particular before returning to the Xaela. She'd not had to deal with nearly as much as the other two this evening... nor Alduin herself for that matter. She echoed Valhyr's question. "Need a hand with anything for the moment?"

Mira Cephei understands's Valhyr's frustration, her own mind having chased itself in circles. Time was of the essence, but doing anything /now/ was only going to end in more disaster. With a brow raised, she'd look to Neri. "Thanks. I... well, it's not like I'm going to randomly sleep, but... maybe a break is a good idea. I'll check on you halfway through, though, see how you're doing...oh hello Alduin." She'd simply nod to Valhyr, tacking on to his answer.

Alduin: "As well as we can be." She repeats back. "Saori is stable now. Beau is taking her over to Radz-at-Han so she can have the alchemists there handle balancing her aether back and such." She looked to Neri, pausing a moment, "Hello Mira." A quick greeting before back to Nerifyra. "Actually, I want to regroup after people get rest. Look at the people who were there at the banquet and.." A flick of her gaze to Valhyr. "..Talk shop. Talk ideas. I have my theories."

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...". Shrike remembers to retreat her verifiably daggerlike words, after that. "...Alright."

Valeriana Alecia: "I can imagine the ... intensity of your.... grand status . Might make it hard for a lot of people to feel close to you." She offered carefully after a moment. "I can see how someone might fear you were being disingenuine."

Mira Cephei: "We settled on much the same. Hoping that... with enough recollections we can learn something." She'd not miss Alduin's glance to Valhyr. Ignore it, for now. "I was off... causing my own trouble, but I'll need to give someone a report of what I found, or.. lack thereof, but it's

still information."

Marcel Abbott shoots a glance at Shrike. Unintentionally. Expecting more than what was already said. He inhales. "If there was anything I had to contribute to this whole mess, I'd have done it already. I'm- only here, to make matters easier for the rest of y'all, by being one of the /good ones/ that can just sit down, shut up, and do a job, as everyone else investigates or does whatever else they can. Haven't even /seen/ Ceylon down there, and the way he was talking, I'd prefer it stays that way."

"...long as it /has to/, anyway."

Valhyr Wyldervyk tilted his head in agreement. "...I understand. Had your attention not been needed so sorely, I had intended to beg your guidance anyhow-- The matter of the voidsent presence remains as our most forthcoming topic of debate, though we lack the expertise to really do much beyond speculate."

Annabelle Ishi shifts to rest against Suiryuu's shoulder as she feels him offer. Still, she says nothing, but the rumbling in his chest is met with a purring too quiet to be heard but enough for the Raen to feel.

Alduin: "Of course." There was a nod of her head. "Why I try to be as available as I can be.. There is only so much reading you can do compared to having lived experience.. Trained experience." She pushes back the strands of her hair, out of her face for the moment. Forehead alert. "If you want to give an actual report.. Beau is your best shot in terms of leads. Otherwise.. Just tell it to someone instead of withholding it. Maybe when we group together like I wish to plan for."

Naya Vihari laughs. "If that isn't the truth. It's annoying, how difficult a question it is to answer." If Meya's back won't let them lean in, then she will. She shuffles in till they're brushing against each other and bumps a horn to the big cat's shoulder. "I don't know if being popular down there's any more pleasant than not. Makes it hard to think straight sometimes."

Valhyr Wyldervyk idly flexes and unflexes his sword arm. The trembling refuses to return, even now... "I'll try to have it written down via dictation-- I'll seek the aid of anyone with a free moment once I'm awake tomorrow."

Alduin: "Either tomorrow or a Sun after... I wish to give time for them to try and get a footing down below.. Funeral rites.. And such.."

Mira Cephei nodded to Alduin, determined to give a proper report herself on the state of Einat's house, even if it was less helpful than she'd liked, given the risk she'd taken to go. But she'd be distracted by Valhyr's inspection of his own arm again. She hoped she got that opportunity to inquire. But. Back to Alduin. "I'd tell you not to spread yourself too thin, Alduin, but," she'd simply trail off, gesturing vaguely to everything around them.

Ayre Oblitus: sighs "I... struggle with that I'll admit." her ear twitches a sudden bit of discomfort. "In truth I feel I strive to be very genuine in my thoughts and words. Even if to others it may come off as strange perhaps. But given my past, profession, and ... skill set, to be the hero I wish to be I have to take care not to be something to be feared or hated. As many have seem to have reason to"

Naya Vihari answers, equally quiet, "But it was nice seeing you down there. Made the work feel easier."

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...Oh, I... Won't be going back for a while, I think." He said quietly. "...I meant someone up here, at camp. I need to return Vaedrin's clothes, but... It can wait a while."

Zinaida Kirkegrim || "I'm running out of reasons to heed the Andalisi blindly. Ceylon included. Save your reputation then and find someone else to ask. Why must we *dance around* mention of the person we *delivered*." That was so all-important, Kadjaya, their wretched exile, was sicced like a dog? Where is the woman? Should she be let known of the state of-- Shrike snorts. How do they know parasites aren't going to touch their guardian lamb? All the more reason to...

Alduin: "Oh no- I mean- I want to host-" Her hand waves. "I wish to keep people up here a couple suns but in the meantime I wish to regather and reaffirm information, theorize even. Maybe not here at camp.. Perhaps the Meyhane just for a change in scenary for people." Then back to Mira. "Hah.. I welcome it as much as I am.. Abhorring it. But, I would rather individuals speak instead of withholding information, be it important or not.. Given as well I am the only current aether magnet in the camp-"

-- A bark of a laugh before she ruffles her hair again.

Bunnygirl Mindset snickers again, her laughter dissolving quickly into a thrumming purr, loud enough to be audible to close, attentive ears (and horns, as it may be.) The sound clips off when she inhales to speak again. "I'm trying to be... lenient with how I feel about them but-" her eyes go wide at Naya's follow-up. "Er-can't really say you made the work feel easier. ...I was still happy to see you. Even if I made a fool of myself."

Marcel Abbott: "I'm /still/ tryna figure out where Kadjaya is!" He blurts out, semi-quietly. "Dunno about the rest of y'all, but I'm not mentioning Ceylon for /his/ safety. His ass would be grass if anyone else knew the type of... nevermind, not the point, point /is/, I really don't see how they expect him to be delivered if they plan to keep him weakened and unable to defend himself. That's like, /asking/ for a voidsent to pull Dayas' soul right out of him, or worse."

Valeriana Alecia: "Oh, what a shockingly relatable situation. " She said, unable to control her silly little chuckle. It takes practice... and you don't always success.

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...All theses half-measures for the symptom and no cure..." And not even...

the certainty, the one that kills someone they all--Shrike doesn't have long to think, interrupted by Marcel's thoughts.

Nerifyra Grimalkin fang had continued its tugging, eyes flicking back and forth to track the conversation. Aether magnet? She wasn't quite sure what that meant. "...if theres anything I can do to take something off your plate, or ease for you, do let me know, yeah?" She wasn't sure what she could offer in that regard, but she'd try at least. "If you're busy looking after everyone else, I'd like to make sure you're taken care of as well."

Mira Cephei wrinkled her nose in response to Alduin's words. Ugh. She wished she could help but... time and place. "I'll be sure to let Beau know everything I saw. Or if we host another gathering like with Artie after.... Isse, I'll say what I saw." Another heaving breath would punctuate the thought. "We can only hope things don't progress down below while we figure it out. It's... a lot of pressure."

Valeriana Alecia "Oh, what a shockingly relatable situation. " She said, unable to control her silly little chuckle. It takes practice... and you don't always success... Though so long as you remain true and stand by your own authentic self those that should stick around, will stick around.

Mira Cephei is glad Neri is offering Alduin help directly. Mira would continue her night watch, it was... perhaps the best she could do, for now.

Valhyr Wyldervyk cleared his throat, seemingly shaking something away from his thoughts. He's finished his cocoa, and the exhaustion in his body seems to be setting in more by the moment... "...Ah, my apologies. My mind racing as it has been, It's getting harder for me to follow..." He felt at his temple, fingers laying over his eyes. A moment of confusion. "I'll be ready to offer what I know. I think I need to... Lie down for a spell."

Alduin: "Aye yea..." She rubbed the back of her neck. Sore.. "Information gathering would do nice. Writing down what you're hearing... Just another hand helping keep the track of the flow of information really." She mused aloud.

Ayre Oblitus: chuckles "I suppose it is isn't it?" rest her head on a knee "Maybe I should have gone into acting instead, it is a passion as well... though considering we'll both here I suppose it wouldn't have been any safer a line of work" gives a toothy grin "I'm glad that you stick around"

Alduin: "Go.. Rest, Valhyr. Lay down." An easy enough smile. "Hopefully it will help and even then, just a modicum of rest would do. If you need any relief, for pain and such, the medical tent has supplies."

Mira Cephei turned to Valhyr, head tilting just slightly. "Do you need a... quieter place to rest, or will camp do just fine?"

Alduin -- A nod of her head towards Mira. "Whatever works." A simple statement before her attention draws to Neri.

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "Hmm...? Oh... I will. Let me just... Vaedrin's things..." He mumbled. "...Heh. I don't think anything could keep me from sleep, at this point. When did I get so tired...?"

Nerifyra Grimalkin raised a hand her own to give a poor salute to the Xaela, mimicking the motion from someone she'd seen long ago. "I can do that. ...I should see if..." She panned around the camp a moment, searching for something, someone. They found Shrike, settling in a few moments before returning to Alduin.

Zinaida Kirkegrim || "Reckless endangerment of their beloved ward," Shrike does not taste, but there is a faint memory of something wretched on her tongue. "And he's their protector? Their guardian?" She says with a venom to her question. "Already incapable, overwhelmed by their voidsent, unwilling to permit our own to work efficiently..." Their guard is more than likely on edge for voidsent. With they have less hands for the forage? A fortified town can starve and never lose a brick off its walls."Or worse."

Ama Akhaba: "... That couldn't be the goal, could it?" Ama's brow wrinkles. "All of this pretense just to do... something to Ceylon? " She shakes her head. "... No, that doesn't.. Must be a little out of it from Teleporting earlier.."

Valhyr Wyldervyk: "...Till morning, then..." He offered. "...Thanks, you three."

Alduin would cant her head. She seemingly was going to go that direction herself, judging by what she's hearing as well. "...Just let me know. Thanks for the help.. In advanced." She looked towards Valhyr. "Rest well, Valhyr."

Annabelle Ishi 's purring deepens. The awkward angle of her neck means that when she passes into sleep leaning on Suiryuu, she starts to softly snore.

Nerifyra Grimalkin nodded, "Don't mention it. You've helped me out plenty. It's nice to return the favor for once." She waved to Valhyr then, "Get some rest. If you need anything, I'll be up through the night."

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...So inseparate from their beloved dragon and his blessings, rotting as he does. One might ask if *He* knows vengeance as the coerthan kind supposedly did."

Mira Cephei sighed gently, but nodded. "It's been a... trying day. Rest well." She'd resist the urge to reach out for a final time, feeling... a bit silly about it. "Until dawn, then."

Alduin: "Hah.. I will rest once I.. Well- Make another round.. I need to stay on my feet just a bit longer." She gave a waggle of her fingers before making her way to the other trio.

Marcel Abbott: "Let them tell it, the plan's to clear the path, then sacrifice him to Dayas, to put that soul back in the dragon's body. ...everything else so far has been a 'distraction', if we wanna call /people's lives being lost/ such. Dunno how that corpse is gonna save them from the voidsent lurking outside, but it sure as hell is gonna keep the rest of them from drowning, if the bubble pops-" He stops, at the sight of Alduin, simmering back down.

Valeriana Alecia: "We are always hiring for new actors at the theatre. You can apply. Though you'll have to fight with Shrike for rolls. She's also applied to join as well. " She said with a playful grin. leaning in to give the miqo'te a bump to her shoulder straightening. "I do my very best. I'm glad we met Ayre, at the theatre as we did. "

Naya Vihari: "I've been bitching to Alduin from time to time, whenever she calls to look over something or the other. That's helped me, though I ... don't know if it'd work for you." -

Alduin: "Do not let me interrupt." She gives a blink. "...Heard you guys through the tent and such. If you want to know how Ceylon is doing, I have seen him. Albeit, it has been about a week." The bangs of her hair were all but shoved back so she can see more properly.

Marcel Abbott doesn't reply, but his shoulders lower as a breath he didn't realize he held was released.

Suiryuu Roda shifts his arm just a little bit to give Annabelle more comfort and to keep her from falling over. Will he be stiff afterwards? Most likely, but... It felt nice as well. Just being able to not worry about anything at the moment. There will be time for worrying later. Maybe... after this is over a vacation with the family is needed.

Nerifyra Grimalkin was glad that nerves seemed to be settling at least a little, between some going to bed, and listening to the conversations of those still around. Even if she'd not been at the banquet, there was still some small worry for Mira's wellbeing. "...I know I already asked earlier, but... you hanging in there?"

Bunnygirl Mindset glances apprehensively past Naya at Al. "No, I don't think it will. I already put myself on scant footing with her my first time down- Don't need to add to the burden by complaining at her, too."

Bunnygirl Mindset shifts, wincing again. "Think I'm gonna go find a bedroll and lie down for a while. Sitting is- ngh- not doing it."

Mira Cephei let her good eye linger on the resting figure, as if making sure before looking back to Neri. "Yeah, I'm... fine, really. I didn't see what went down at the banquet, so I don't have the same level of..." she trailed off, once more scanning the faces of their company, "horror that a lot of them seem to. I think I'm just in the same boat as most of us... frustrated that I don't know more. Angry that I took a big risk with very little payoff."

Ayre Oblitus: smiles and bumps right back "I shall consider it then, surely it will be a great challenge but us all on stage together would be rather fun I think!" grins and looks up at Val a thought seemingly stuck in her head "Say Val, perhaps the timing is strange but perhaps we could make some time to meet like this outside of work matters and ... group therapy?"

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...The voidsent who manifested, before the Andalisi returned to them, and who they no longer understand where they come from." Shrike makes... How the *fuck* do you make a note to check Ishgard's literature for worm voidse-- she does vaguely recall something about whisperworms, but that's something else entire, unfortunately. But maybe the same section on infestation. ...Probably not. "...Excellent. They're bait at the bottom of the sea, at this rate."

"Paltry gamble on dragon mercy and dying in ways they've never before as they go."

"...They do not know better." They don't know a thing. Does Shrike? She's getting her thoughts out while someone's here to recoil from it.

Annabelle Ishi is out like a light. Her tail rests entirely against the stone floor of the cave. She's probably okay to leave like this.

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...A very busy week." Snort.

Marcel Abbott: "I'd call their faith commendable, if it wasn't fuckin' stupid to assume /every last problem/ is gonna be solved if the boy's thrown into the dragon's mouth."

Alduin would simply.. Blink. Looking between the three before settling on Shrike for a moment. A wry smile. "Only will get busier." Then she'd pause, having watched Marcel's shoulders lower. She gave herself a moment, recollecting herself.

Marcel Abbott: "Hell, I'd say we've got a better shot tossing him in the water, and letting what happened back at Dragonspit happen again-" He stops. "-I don't really mean that."

Marcel Abbott: "...just."

Marcel Abbott: "...I dunno."

Ama Akhaba: "... You're worried about him. You're allowed to be upset." Ama mutters.

Nerifyra Grimalkin 's fang had ceased its gnawing for a time, popping back under her lip as she let out a heavy breath. "...it must have been something awful. A lot of the team seems to be... wearing thin. Or maybe I'm just not used to it?" It was a possibility, she thought. "It doesn't help that we have to constantly be walking on eggshells down there." Neri shrugged, trying to conjure up some small glimmer of hope,

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "It is fucking stupid," she says in mirror of his intonation, agreeing.

Nerifyra Grimalkin: "Who knows, maybe we've already learned what we need to, and just haven't figured out how to piece it all together yet."

Alduin: "If they wanted him dead they would have killed him now out of sheer panick given everything that has been happening."

"Want our Fatherly figure? Our Brother returned to return his blessing and safety? Kill him, bring him out to the corpse and sever the head." Then a flick of her gaze. "But, it would be dumb of them to do so."

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...Therein was my concern. When... Isse," Shrike loosely gestures with a hand, like she needs to grasp for the stranger's name. "...That that will be done in haste, next."

Mira Cephei nodded idly, ear flicking as conversations began to die down. Good. Calm. "That's what I'm hoping. The... putting pieces together part. But... I saw one of the weird void worms. Alone it didn't seem that bad, but if they're able to do what they did to Kaede and Ertu, then..." She'd sigh, resisting the urge to glance behind. "We need time to put things together, but for the first time I /really/ feel the pressure of time. We don't know how fast it might spread down there."

Marcel Abbott: "I'm wondering why that wasn't their /first move/. Guess punishment, /feeling good/ about /retribution/ or whatever was more worth ensuring the people's- hhhhhhhhhh.... it was bound to happen, eight years of a support system crumbling, I can't lecture them. But."

Alduin: "Mm.. Regardless, I have my theories.. Given well, everything. Everyone does, even Valhry. I was believing to regroup after people have rested and just talk, put our heads together like Arthur has done after the death of the other."

Naya Vihari nods her head but doesn't immediately let their hand go. "Doesn't have to be her. Could always find someone else to complain at, or shout at a wall maybe. There's plenty of those around here." She gives their hand one parting squeeze, then finally releases her. "Don't know if I should be saying this, but, um... sometimes it is fun watching you make a fool of yourself."

Alduin would muse.. A humming noise in thought.

Zinaida Kirkegrim || Shrike laughs bitterly. It's not really a laugh. It's a sound. Alduin recognizes it. Feeling good, right.

Valeriana Alecia she looked thoughtful and then she considered the request, turning her attention out to the fire for a moment. It was hard to fault the woman her confidence after a moment the actress nodded. "I like the curry in Radz-at-han... and red wine. when schedules permit... we can go. "

Alduin: "He is malnourished. Lost weight, so to speak. Adjustment to the scarcity of rations

down below but.. More than likely withheld." She folds her hands, lulling her head in thought. "Veiled. No sight for him to use. But, he is not alone entirely. Kihwa, he actually dragged us that he could find to go talk to him a week ago. Figured to see what he thought and as well as.. Just to see him again."

Ayre Oblitus: ears perk up "Y-yes! That sounds fun I would like that!" clears her throat and lowers her voice "When schedules permit of course." gives a toothy grin tail swaying happily behind her

Ama Akhaba: "They seem too... Against violence between themselves to want to execute him as anything other than a necessity. An execution would undoubtedly generate differing opinions... "

Alduin: "After that, I have not seen him since but, apparently he was there with Annabelle, I'deryn and the other two Andalisi in the Catacombs - up until they found the claw marks that are caused by Vodoriga."

Bunnygirl Mindset guffaws, a little too loud for the moment. "As long as you're charmed, I'll take it." Taken by a moment of boldness, the hrothgar puts both palms on the stone between them and bunts her forehead against Naya's. "Goodnight. I have to get off to Ishgard tomorrow, but I'll be back around here after." She whines to stand, itself a lengthier affair than she'd like. She dips her head a final time to Naya and turns.

Nerifyra Grimalkin hummed. "Part of why I'm..." She hesitated. "...we should give them space and time, yes. But with the way things are going... I feel some of us should be going back down to make contact in the morning, figuring out where they're at and what help they need." Then, her face scrunched for a moment, head rolling to the side. "Half of them don't want help. We can't force help on them, either. So then..." Her mouth opened, closed, then opened again and lingered before finally speaking the words.

Nerifyra Grimalkin: "Is it callous of me to think... we need to protect ourselves first? And Ceylon, he..." What would they even do about him? He went back willingly, no? After all that time? "...sorry, I might be getting ahead of myself."

Zinaida Kirkegrim || The look on Shrike's eyes for a second--a blink, flicking raise of both brows, blink and look down as she resettles the weight on her feet--oh, it would generate some terrible opinions up here, too. Luckily, she's the certainty Beau and the Wyld wouldn't allow that, back then. But Beau is weary and worn thin, and here we are now with three raen dead, she's a fool to not assume four, one way or another.

Bunnygirl Mindset taps the bottom of Neri's boot with her own. "Sorry to interrupt. I can take the watch after yours, just wake me up when you get tired. Gonna go sleep in one of the tents." Ope, and she's off, knuckling her lower back.

Marcel Abbott > Without his curse, it's... easier to hold it in. His fists only have to clench in his pockets. His heels dig into the stones. His expression dulls. "/That's.../ what that was, huh? Kihwa tried to drag me over too, basically had to shake him off of me."

Alduin: "They are not against violence is the thing." Her gaze flits. "They have the means of protecting themselves as well as causing harm to one another. We do not exactly know what happens behind closed doors but.. For a society so built with perfection, no disease, no crime.. There is definitely severe punishment for those that step out of line. The people that become the 'other'." There was a bitterness in her voice before she nods to Marcel.

Alduin: "Well.. All I can say is, is give Kihwa at least the benefit of the doubt. He is putting his neck on the line to ensure we have the opportunities that we do have down there. Was walking Azena around before he was unable to keep her away."

Mira Cephei doesn't know how to say 'I hope they get on with their funeral rites in a timely manner' without sounding insensitive, so... she just keeps it to herself. "We /do/ need to protect ourselves first." Says the 'survival above all else' Moon Keeper. Shocking. "I think we need to try and identify a means to... determine if someone is infected or not before we start sending people down, or accepting people up top." A woodland creature, she'd seen all manners of parasites. While void stuff played by their own rules, it was at least a frame of reference. "We don't know how they... spread, or how quickly. How long until... well, I think you know what I'm getting at."

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "Azena is..." A lot of names... Shrike usually ties people to a thing about them, like Proprietor, or the Red Raen, but there's no image here, it's harder to keep for the hare--"...The kelpie salvager, hmh?"

Valeriana Alecia "I should hope that you would. You did ask for it. I should only hope to meet your expectations. When schedules allow it of it. "She turned her eyes over to mira then and pressed her lips into a line. " I hope its a very long time... a fortnight at least... maybe the whole moon. "

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...With you, then the..." Her hands gesture, like she's striking out a record to clarify.

Naya Vihari gets up once she's mostly finished being flustered, and makes for her own tent.

Alduin: "Aye." Her gaze flicks. "One of the more hostile individuals.. Have not seen her since. Ceylon is wanting to investigate into her along with two others: Einat and Cansu. Einat is the petrelkeep, Cansu is someone I have yet to meet."

Annabelle Ishi 's posture sinks until she is lying on the cave floor, head resting on the soft of her

own upper arm. Suiryuu could probably safely escape the 'can't move, there's a cat on me' rule now.

Ama Akhaba: "... She'd seen Ceylon. Knew things weren't all perfect like the Andalisi liked to claim. "... I guess I just mean outright execution doesn't feel like their style. " A look at Marcel.

Marcel Abbott: "...yeah, that's why they kept wasting their fucking time on-" "...ignore me."

Alduin would drum her fingers in thought. "Maybe not outright, but there is the slow kind."

Marcel Abbott: "I don't want him to die, I really don't, but if they were- why would-" No, stop, breathe.

Alduin: "I do think he is.. Too valuable to kill outright but, they can wring him. Make him kneel again." Be that perfect dog for them again. "They already muzzled him essentially with the veil in place."

Nerifyra Grimalkin nodded, a grim expression taking root. "...I should start keeping a list of the things we want to cover when Alduin gets everyone together." The fang poked out to resume its work. "Might have to make a call back to Coerthas... one of the members of my expedition team is a void hunter. She... might be able to offer some insight."

Ayre Oblitus: smiles "That would be a long time indeed!" sighs happily feeling a bit lighter maybe "Alright we shall keep an eye for a good time then, for now it has gotten late and it's been a taxing day I shall rest for now I think. You should do the same soon I think"

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "Absolutely not." Shrike's eyes are tense again.

Marcel Abbott: "All that when he'd be better off defending them from the voidsent, if they wanted 'atonement' so damn bad."

"And if any of /us/ start coming in with weapons to defend /their/ asses, we're gonna get the same handwringing about 'violence' this, 'violence' that, the only difference between them and us is /opportunity/, and they sure seem to be just as ready to put someone to the sword."

"Fuck off."

Marcel Abbott is breathing harder. "...sorry. Sorry. I can- step back if-"

Ama Akhaba: "No, let it out here. While we're not presently at risk of anything."

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "Find your breath again. I understand."

Mira Cephei hummed pensively. She's pretty sure everyone she knows with void knowledge was already here. "Well, maybe later tonight you can... write down my report for me? I can dictate all the details, if you're still up for it. I'll take some time to... update the punch card board

and maybe talk a breath in one of the offshoots of the cave," she nodded in a direction away from the aetherflow. "If anyone else has been to Einat's house, we should get a description. See if anything has changed."

Valeriana Alecia: "I'll get there soon, don't you worry... i'm just waiting for my nerves to stop shaking so i can actually fall asleep. But um... sleep well Ayre. We'll see you again on the morrow. " Caleriana said with a smile over at the miqo'te. ,

Alduin would quieten, fingers still drumming. "I already said they do not have a.. Scare from violence. They allowed us to bring our own weapons to the salvaging trip out to the shipwreck." There was a shake of her head. "It is.. Hard to explain, put it into words. But essentially, if you do not do things their way, well you are just proving them right. Which is why any hasty decision and such is just another death warrant unto Ceylon." Then her lips pull down. "No it is fine." Then a pause.

Ayre Oblitus: smiles and nods heading off for the night mood notably improved from the everything that has happened today

Alduin: "As bad as it is, it is a good thing Saori also got injured tonight. It shows that we are not the force behind what plagues them currently."

Marcel Abbott: "...right.. it's just... she- she's also-" Ceylon needs her. Three words, at the tip of his tongue. Something stops them from coming out, much as he tries to force it. All that releases, is a sigh.

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "Their voidsent won't be dealt with by prayers. All their preparedness and all of their village in one place, in closeness working for this, did not stem their flow of devils. Rarely will any god answer so definitively to this. If one has, they are not here. Perhaps our own's suffering..." She looks to the tent she'd been treated in, now empty. Infected, if alive. "...They will know we have aught to lose. And it would be far, far easier, to let them die without our hands involved."

Nerifyra Grimalkin 's ears perked. "Sure, I'd be happy to. Could also do it in the morning, if you'd like to get some rest first. I know you weren't at the banquet, but still..." She trailed off a moment, thinking back to what Valhyr had mentioned. Her gaze drifted towards him conked out. "...I can't recall anyone else mentioning going there. ...what about the one that went with you?"

Alduin: "This is... Normal, expected - For me anyways." Drumming. "Step out of line and you are punished for it. Do a deed seen misguided, you are punished. Pray to a figure, be it fatherly or not for guidance and protection, receive no answer from it. Believe yourself blessed by it. Follow in the footsteps of your Elders... A neverending cycle." There was a pause. "They are happy and they are blind to it. Because, how else would they miss the stars in the night if they were blind to it to begin with."

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...They were fond of Saori, I believe." Shrike tries to think about if (and im pretty sure, the writer also) read it in handwritten notes about the state of Andalis.

Zinaida Kirkegrim || ...The company's raen, at least, in general...

Mira Cephei snorted. "Nocturnal, remember?" her head shook lightly, "I woke shortly before going down, so, I'm fine. I would appreciate a little quiet, so I'll still take you up on your offer for a few bells." Still, she'd sigh, looking back towards the fire. "The lamplighter that came with me? They didn't go into the house, just sorta... lurked nearby."

Alduin: "Saori bent easily." There was a drawl. "I have said my piece to her and I am.. Well, hopefully others have. She became blinded by their promises and wants." A small bit of a scowl before she shook her head. "It is any Auri in the company.. Quite easy to seek to keep them in your grasp when you are struggling with manpower and population already. More hands make for lighter work after all."

"I already told Beau to put in the order for warding scales so individuals can stop being whispered honey words and become tempered." Her eyes pull to the side, scowling. "Still people go down below regardless.."

Marcel Abbott: "...and now /she's/ benched. All because of something she didn't even *know* was gonna happen." He speaks at a whisper, unintentionally. "...population." His head hurts.

Zinaida Kirkegrim || "...Yes, but my point is, they will feel for her pain too, I assume." I would hope. "...Sympathy can be a tool as well." Thank the Gods Beau is not here to hear her so candidly say so, Shrike winces at her own behaviour. Hopefully, hopefully she is taken care of in the city proper...

Alduin: "Anyone from the banquet I intend to keep an eye on, see if it was something that was consumed during it. Beau already told me her piece but.. Obviously this will have to wait once everyone is rested." Her drumming returned upon her hand.

"It can be." She agreed. "I do not know what ocured and how the reaction was.. I was hoping to learn from someone at least, just to piece together better what happened and lead up to it and the aftermath."

Marcel Abbott: "...that's a good point."

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...Give them their sun to mourn. The aether-aspect to reset." Andd then.

Zinaida Kirkegrim: || ...Yeah, do that.

Nerifyra Grimalkin lightly chuckled, "I remember. Still wanted to make sure. But hey, sounds like you can take a little more time if Solomeya is willing to keep watch as well. ...might not be the worst idea to get rest while you can. I can't imagine things will calm down from here any time soon." She slouched back some, weight resting in palms against the rock behind her. "Galin,

right? ...maybe she might have some insight? We can't exactly just ask anyone given... you were down there in secret."

Valeriana Alecia finally pushed up and moved over to sit with the other miko'te, settling in between them just so she wouldn't have to sit alone for the moment. "There are ways to ask questions you're not supposed to know about. "

Alduin: "I intended to. Keep everyone up here a Sun or two. Use that time to rest, regather as well and get information." Her hand moves, idly pushing back the fallen strands again. "Mgh..." A thought on her tongue, eyes casting away momentarily as she mused whether to speak it. But.. Well, they'll be trying to get together again so she'll say it later.

Marcel Abbott: "...Isabel's gonna need to know what happened to Saori." he chokes the sentence out.

"...I'll... handle that."

Mira Cephei nodded thoughtfully. "I do think having more than one person available for each shift should be important going forward," she admitted with a weary sigh, craning her neck to where the in/out board would be in the distance. "Someone trying to get in OR out of Andalis now isn't just something to tattle about, it's dangerous for everyone." She'd huff. Galin? That... sounded right. Ass with names, this one. "Good idea, if she's willing. She's... gotta have confusing thoughts, too."

Alduin: "..Do what you must." There was a pause. "Beau informed me that Onyx is already on the way."

"So.." Vague motion.

Marcel Abbott: "She's not going *to Andalis*, right?"

Alduin: "No. From the way it sounded like it in Roommates, seems she is intending to at least just.. Be around."

Marcel Abbott: "...this doesn't leave this circle, but the last few times she's been involved in stuff, she's ended up tossing herself at the wall in *some* fashion, like I'm one to talk."

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...Close, to those who have." Gods know what her thoughts on it are now.

Alduin: "Well yeah, saw it happen face first not too long ago." The woman mutters.

Marcel Abbott: "I dunno, half concerned, half-" He doesn't even know what the other half is.

Zinaida Kirkegrim || Shrike lifts a shoulder up, the polite way to say 'you know'.

Valeriana Alecia: "It's a conversation I'd be willing to help facilitate" She offered again, glancing between the pair curiously, they'd rather ignored her comments twice. Perhaps this was meant

to be a private conversation, though she'd try again.

Zinaida Kirkegrim || ...Both of them fall down, hands slack at her sides. "...Ama, will you be staying here?"

Mira Cephei: "I know so little, it feels like I don't even know what to ask," she'd look to Valeriana with a weary sigh. She wasn't sleepy, just... mentally spent. "You... talking about Galin?"

Ama Akhaba: ".. Mm. Maybe for a bit. I need to rest before I can teleport again anyway."

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...I know my own answer, and..." Marcel has Isabel, to return to. "Alduin?" A short look over. It's obvious Shrike herself isn't... in a mood to leave the camp be. The forgotten stew needs attending, the-- flow needs two sets of eyes, in case of voidsent flooding the Prytaneion again...

Alduin would drift her gaze along, hair popping back into place after it had defied gravity for some time just so she can see. Though, her name was called and she pulled it back over. "Hm?"

Zinaida Kirkegrim || "...I'll prepare a chai pot, until you're inclined to leave." It's getting quiet around the camp.

Nerifyra Grimalkin leveled her gaze at Valeriana. "If you've ideas, I'm all for it. Though, I'm in a similar boat to Mira I think..." After the initial response, she looked Valeriana over. She was getting close with one of the Andalisi that... She seemed alright enough for the moment. Maybe... ask later.

Valeriana Alecia: "Anyone you need me to... I'm pretty good at talking to them. I've got some ... um... I had, some good contacts down there but... No one can say I'm not good at being polite. I um, I want to help

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...Staying put?" She asks, a little more clearly. "...Valeriana is right to be wary of the distance, from camp to flow, with the parasites... unknown to us."

Mira Cephei took a moment to think. "I suppose if you could ask Galin about Einat's house and why she was on board with Einat being a target." She trusted Valeriana with the 'making it sound subtle and polite' part. "And if there's anything of note about how Einat treats her own house. Valhyr mentioned that she often refuses offers of maintenance."

Marcel Abbott: "I.... should go, and rest." He mutters out, unable to take his eyes off the ground.

Alduin: "Ah? I am.. Not planning on leaving?" She cants her head, tired eyes questioning. "Oh..." There was a gaze over. "I do.. Not believe they will make their way up to the camp." Her lips

pursed. "I saw the trail they left. Viscera. Black. But I did not see them myself." Then back over. "But.. Given by the size of Saori's wounds.. They are not big. So.. The flow would kill them to hop through."

"Should.. Anyway.. Lest they grow in size when outside the dome.." She rubbed the bridge of her nose.

"Go rest, Marcel. Try to anyway."

Ama Akhaba: "... I'll take that rest I mentioned, as well."

Zinaida Kirkegrim || "Go. It will serve you better stand standing here."

Alduin: "Rest well."

Marcel Abbott walks away without a word.

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...I hope Isabel's presence does him some measure of comfort."

Valeriana Alecia the comment about the parasites made her squirm outright. She'd eaten the food, she'd had some of the wine. Those things could be inside of her now. which is to say nothing about whether or not they could just slither into her tent. "I'll work it into the next conversation I have with her... I um... what was the elder who was there Zanzu? I think there's something there. Ertugrul was afraid of her, flinched away said she had a krakens temper. "

Alduin's horns had pulled to the conversation at her side, thinking again. The mention of Galin seemed to have gotten her attention before back over. "... " A small breath, hard to say if it was humorous or not. "I hope.."

Zinaida Kirkegrim || Shrike sighs. "...Valeriana says she saw one, with Valhynr." Her nose wrinkles. "You do not *believe*, but we do not know for certain. ...Forgive me, I'm... I will be on alert for some time, anyways, in the chance they do. The same slim chance a light-of-heart banquet leaves two corpses behind."

"...Even if they cannot come alone, were they in someone, Andalisi or our own... Can you say for certain, then..."

|| The way she speaks it, implies she already expects, and intends, a 'no'.

Alduin was drumming her fingers again against her arm. Worm voidsents with a gestration period- Supposed gestration period.. She'll have to figure out how they would work though.. Given the state of the outside and her own theories... She was scrunching her nose in thought before breaking from the stupor again.

Mira Cephei looked to Neri and back to Valeriana. A shame /neither/ black cat was present for the banquet to answer. "Did you... hear that Alduin will host a gathering, similar to the one with Artie after Isse? We can all give what we know. Maybe put everything together and find a

common link." Something. Anything.

Alduin: "You are not the only one on watch duty." Was all she offered. Her lips tugged a moment but her dull eyes were still tired and out of focus. Aether.. Erh.. "Not me offering.. Would not. But, there are others." She looked behind her and then back. "Mm.. Need to figure out a means of fortifying the flow so in the case there is escapees.."

Nerifyra Grimalkin had shrugged to Valeriana. She'd no idea either, though grateful for Mira mentioning the get together. "I was going to see if I could start gathering information ahead of time to try and organize it. Wondering if we should use that section on the message board that I'deryn's put together." She gently hummed, trying to recall. "Zanzu... I don't think i've encountered them yet. Not that I can recall at least..., but- you think they might've had something to do with tonight?"

Alduin: "Well, given I was not there- Thankfully, at the banquet that is - I can not say /for the moment/.. Until I have looked upon those that were there. Voidsents do not appear all of a sudden, especially if they are bursting from flesh and skin... There would be aetheric signs." Alduin -- A long.. Pause.

Valeriana Alecia: "I didn't but I was also kind of lost there for a little while. " She glanced off over in the direction of Ayre's tent and then she returned her attention to the pair of black cats "I think it'd be good to get out of the cave for a bit so that's probably a good idea. Though... I um. I probably shouldn't leave. I was stupid enough to think it was a party and indulged in the refreshments. "

Alduin -- But she kept the comment to herself.

Nerifyra Grimalkin: "Maybe tomorrow, swing by the medical tent? I imagine they're a bit exhausted tending to Saori but... they might be able to check you over and see if theres similarities?" She thought back to the page Alduin had given her... should she go over the questions now?

Mira Cephei: "I guess you don't like my snacks enough," it's a light attempt at a joke. "Or else you wouldn't have needed that silly food down there, hm?" Even so, she'd spare a glance to Neri with a raised brow. Maybe.... maybe they /should/ be marking those who partook somehow. That felt so... inhuman, though. Above her pay grade, she'd conclude quietly.

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "Watch duty is how I worry for the Wyld, if I'm given less reason to worry, I'll cede it to someone else, gladly." But most want to work hands-on. Hells, she does. She'll not allow a slip up or incursion on the resting or a sole-watcher if the threat is mounting. "...The... Wyld's wards, themselves, to contain... I wonder if..." ...It's an idle thought.

|| ...Shrike furrows her eyebrows, as Alduin goes quiet. Her eyes pull aside, had those remaining awake said something..? She hasn't caught it. She looks back at Alduin again.

"...I apologize. Your sight is... going to be needed. Scrutinizing closer if those worms..." And then tending to, if they are--and mending, even those that aren't... "...A great deal to always ask of you."

Mira Cephei related to Shrike's sentiment of watch duty. Especially now, it would be difficult to pull the Moon Keeper from the Night Watch.

Valeriana Alecia: "I like your snacks just fine. I'll wager I've eaten more of your jerky and had more of your whiskey than most anyone else. " She said with a grin. Glancing over from Mira and back to Neri. "I will, after some sleep... Tonight it was more important to get Saori back up to speed. she pulled a knee up to her chest and turned her eyes to Mira, gauging the woman for a moment before spoke "Can I... ask you for a favor?

Alduin: "Mm.. That is something to bring up. Given the nature and familiarity of those wards already... Something to be pitched, especially if there is worry for the worms coming through." Then another thought. "Expand the ward so it can be some sort of contamination area. People get checked, decontaminated, free to go.." Her head pangs again and she only lulls her neck. "...Maybe.. Something to think on."

Mira Cephei nodded to Valeriana. "Yeah, sure, what do you need?"

Alduin -- A wry smile. "Maybe it would be a good thing in a sense. Keeps me topside longer.. Hah.." But she shook her head, somewhat. "...That is my contract but.. I am also given authority to tell people to go back home if it comes to it.. No fancy title there though." A snort to herself before she flexes her fingers.

"..Wearing me thin, it has been.. But.." A flick of her gaze. "People are helping, at the very least. Trying to, at the best of their abilities."

Zinaida Kirkegrim || "Greater and greater containments..." ...But, the flow is more of a pressure valve, at this point.Tourniquet, even, to a possibly diseased... That's a harrowing thought, given what she's seen. But, again, again, you need not like what the doctor's best practice is.... "...Is your head fine?" Shrike's like to disengage her own glances, if it'll spare the other even slightly, drawing her hood back up, seeing the other's movements.

Valeriana Alecia "would you... be willing to just keep an ear on my tent and um. "She set her jaw again, pushing back an emotional wave before going on. " If I start vommiting.... Maybe... make sure no one else gets hurt?" It sounded silly in her own mind. She was queasy and has been nauseated for bells now. She had no idea what might happen to her. "At least until we find out that I'm not going to get eaten from the inside out?

Zinaida Kirkegrim || "...Trying to. That's... something." Shrike sighs. She can only judge that part so much, trying to be part of that.

Mira Cephei wasn't sure what Valeriana was going to ask, but that... wasn't it. Even so, she'd nod, firm and sure. "Yeah. Of course. I promise." With that, though, she'd rise to her feet. "I need to tend to a few things, but I'll be back within the bell, alright?" She offered Neri a nod as well. "You won't make your watch alone, I'll be back."

Alduin -- She does well to hold the dirty joke that nearly flew out her mouth from the question asked. No.. Now's not the time. It's mostly them at this point, saved for the other three and- Okay.. Maybe she'll check Valeriana before bed. "Mm.. Sight is not the issue here.. Just.. Used a lot of aether."

Nerifyra Grimalkin | The thought was enough to almost make Neri cringe. She hoped Valeriana, and the rest that had been down at the banquet were safe at least. As Mira took her leave, she nodded, returning back to Valeriana. Now that it was just them, perhaps it was a good time to ask. "...are you alright? Just... wanted to check on you."

Alduin: "Better than nothing. Most people know they do not have the skills to be in the tent but, it is not like I can have them gather information for me. Be it from people or keeping track of the flow of it." She shuffled closer for a moment before gently placing her head against the shoulder of the other.

-- Though.. There was pause before she muttered. "...Maybe I should at least check on Valeriana if she is going to speak like that.."

Valeriana Alecia: "Thank you Mira... It's appreciated. "She said rising as well and taking a short breath before moving to stand, watching Mira go with something of a wistful look of admiration on her face. blue eyes lowered to Neri. a hand offered out to help the woman stand. "Decidedly not... One of them was someone I'd have said was a friend....And then, after Isse who I also knew... tonight was hard Neri." Which might be noted as the first time Val actually didn't use her full name. "tonight was a lot...

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...Like..." She's not sure she can say much more than that, aloud. Like back *then*? When Alduin-broke-her-nose then? The other's head touches her shoulder, and Shrike turns her other inwards, arm close, a request to touch. "...Too many hands, then, with you and Lucille, but my knowledge is... maybe meagre, but... serves." She offers, vaguely as she had the last time. "My personal equipment for... removal of the *foreign*, is in the tent. I'm intimately familiar." Hopefully it... isn't needed.

|| "...Please, if you could." She hasn't caught the other, in the distance, but, "...She partook of their banquet, and... The kelpie injuries, besides." She hums, thinks. "...Aught I can do, spare no moment to say so."

Valeriana Alecia on top of a lot. on top of... family shit... "She closed her eyes, and again was able to push back the tears though it was a struggle and it showed. "I'll be better tomorrow... " Or she'll be dead.

Nerifyra Grimalkin 's lips pressed tightly together a beat. "From what's been told, it..." What would she even say that could offer comfort? What wouldn't feel hollow and fall flat? Neri wasn't so sure at this point, yet still resolved to try at least. "...it sounds like a lot. I know that favor was for Mira but, if there's anything you need... I'd like to check in on you later as well, if you'd be alright with it." She pressed another smile out. "A night's rest does tend to make things a bit easier."

Alduin -- There was a pause before a nod of her head.. Though more like a rubbing of it given her position. "Like that." She mutters. The request was accepted and a huff was heard. "Better than most.. I do not want to run you ragged as well, given you do long hours of watch duty... Just me, Lucille, Annabelle as healers - Beau when she is able to. Naya is my scribe.. Nerifyra will be helping with at least asking people questions when the tent is empty.. Given your experience, perhaps you can help there then when no one else is available?"

-- She slowly pulled away, giving a tired smile. "Alright.. Just so she does not go to sleep with such anxious thoughts." There was a pause and she only nodded again. "...Hah.. I will.. Try to.. Can you at least join me at the tent for some time before you square yourself away at guarding?"

Valeriana Alecia: "I won't turn down an extra pair of eyes... I imagine Mira has a lot going on. " She placed a hand over her stomach and rubbed at it absently. "Just... consider the whole request if I take a turn while I'm unconscious..." She glanced at the other two in the near distance and turned her attention to her tent. "I'm that one there. " She said pointing.

Zinaida Kirkegrim || The little huff, she's learned to read--Shrike gently embracing Alduin with one arm, leaning her head a little closer to the other where she rests. "...In an emergency, I will." Her head tilts the other way, offering Alduin the room to lift herself back up--Shrike smiles beneath her mask, the material scrunching. "We will both appreciate it." Nothing to be said that Shrike's firm words are the reason for it... They're reasonable ones, alright? "...I'll put Chai. For Ama--some for you."

"...Of course. I will see you then, hmh? A breather." Shrike nods her head, gently pulling away. "Go, go. I am-- right here, you know this."

Alduin would only nod her head. "Chai would be nice.. Lest I pass out." Hah.. She's joking right? Alduin -- She leans over, giving a small bump with the side of her head to the other. "I will see you." Shooed off now, she approaches the other two.

Zinaida Kirkegrim: "...Please do not." Bump, with her temple back to the other's horns. "Love you." She's gone before she can say it closer...

Nerifyra Grimalkin 's mouth opened in a reflexive manner, about to offer some retort only to cut short. She drew a deep breath, the words simmering a moment before she nodded. "I shall consider the whole request, though that wasn't quite what I meant. We'll... figure out something, even if you were..." She cut off again, not wanting to give it life in words. "...you'll be alright. And

if you're not, we'll find a way to fix it." And then Alduin arrived, and she found herself equally relieved and uneasy.

Alduin -- It seemed the Xaela heard her, judging by the quick trip of her feet before she was able to naturally walk to the pair. Her tail lashes behind her but, Shrike knows it's not in anger.

Valeriana Alecia "If I'm not....then you're right you will fix it. " And in the way Val already asked for it to be fixed. She turns towards Alduin "Good night alduin. " She said , clearly already on negative spoons and not wanting to gain the ire of the healer yet again.

Zinaida Kirkegrim || Her lips hurt, for a little. Shrike rubs her face, and with her own heart settled at least a little, starts the rummaging for a small, clean pot, fresh water-crystal for untainted water, tea leaves, cinnamon... Exact measurements, because if it tastes like Shite, she can't tell.

Alduin: "Hey, you two. Valeriana." Since she had greeted Nerifyra earlier. "Noope. Stay put. You are saying some concerning words and rather go to bed riddled with anxiety and believing yourself to be killed, just let me look over you."

Nerifyra Grimalkin frowned just a little. She wasn't getting across right, but how did she— its fine, Al would check her over, and everything would be fine, right? Though, that in itself did give Neri some further concern as she watched the Xaela.

Valeriana Alecia outright frowned at Alduin, but the woman's power was such that Valeriana was held fast. "I didn't believe myself to be killed... I just ... You didn't see it Alduin , you didn't watch them.... " She shook her whole body then and looked down. "I took a precaution. But please, do take a look. "

Alduin: "I have seen my fair sight of shit bursting out of the sinews out of individuals, let alone just from Saori's wounds." She'd tsk before giving Valeriana pause as she took a couple steps back. Her eyes moved, slowly. From head to neck to arms, to the chest and to the abdomen.. The whole length of the body.

Valeriana Alecia was stock still, as Alduin looked at her. watching the Xaela's face with exhaustion clearly writ on her face. she hadn't been able to stop thinking about it since the realization hit her as she was talking to shrike earlier.

Nerifyra Grimalkin remained silent through the inspection. She wasn't sure if she should give them space, or...? She looked elsewhere. Over there, what was Shrike doing? Putting some things in a pot, it seemed? Wow, fascinating. Such precise measurements. Much more interesting than gawking at Valeriana getting checked over. Mhmm. Very polite of her.

Alduin: "...You are fine." There was a blink. "Well.. Actually- I will ask later for when we gather again-" Pause. Stop. Consider. "No.. Just tell me right now what you did eat or drink at the party

if anything." From way she heard it... Two dead: An elder and another Andalisi. One injured: Saori.. Was it specifically an attack from drinks or food? Targeted especially to those that have been showing signs of- No.. Then everyone would've been dead down there.

"--Aetheric wise, there is no signs of anything under your skin if that is your worry. Look further to your balance as a whole..." She leans her head, still scrutinizing in thought. "Very... Very... /Very/ minor umbral."

"Very." She pinches her fingers. "As in. Very minor that it would be of no concern but maybe it is a sign of too much time spent under, etcetera.. I intend on looking at the other banquet goers."

Valeriana Alecia: "Several mushrooms, stuffed with crab... I think. An Isopod because that old bitch said i should try it... And a cup of the rice wine... oh! and the seaweed salad... ertugrul recommended it. "

Nerifyra Grimalkin | Oh. That was something she should pay attention to, actually. She looked back, eyes flicking between the two. Very minor umbral... she wondered if Kihwa or some other Andalisi had an idea what the elder and Ertugrul ate and drank at the banquet... mushrooms, crabs, isopod? Rice wine, seaweed salad...

Alduin -- A lot of food.. That doesn't help narrow it down.. Rice wine.. Baran the brewer but.. Who made the food- Was it Baru? The haughty little thing.. Then there is the fact of still needing to figure out Azena and Einat.. Mira surely would have found something?

Valeriana Alecia Baru was very proud of her role to prepare the food and would take grave offense to anyone implying otherwise. She watched Alduin for a moment, then glanced to Neri. "So I'm fine... of not a little dark right now?" She asked for clarification purposes before eyeing her tent. " I can... go?"

Alduin: "You are fine. Physically and aetherically. Like I told everyone else, stay some time up in the surface.. And such." She gave a little shoo. "So.. Rest, as you are able to."

-- Her gaze pulled to Neri, questioning before she had to rub her eyes a bit more. "I need.. To sit.."

- Fin