

While the world was constantly changing, no one had expected it to go in this direction.

A famous song once quoted "war, what is it good for?"

They finally had an answer. Destruction.

For many years, the elven race and human race had warred relentlessly. The human race hated elves for their natural magical abilities and the elven race couldn't stand the ever-growing source of human knowledge. Knowledge led to technology and technology led to an overruling of magic. Yet that magic was ruthless as well. Together, they both ruined the world.

School was a battlefield in Eva's eyes.

It had been many years since Eva had felt comfortable at school. As a high class mage in training, Eva had been taken in by the state to learn to control her powers and put them to better use. No one wanted a repeat of the elven wars as most called them. Many elves had died during the wars, mankind's weapons had advanced quickly enough to leave their race dwindling. And yet that didn't mean that they were killed. No, most were subjugated to poverty.

It was in the slums where Eva was raised, raised on nothing more than breadcrumbs and a meager diet of what working day and night could get her parents. It was why when Eva was old enough they had eagerly sent her to schooling where she would receive a diet and stipend for her duty to the state. Yet it wasn't easy at school. Despite being a top achiever in many of her classes, Eva was well aware of being disliked. She was one of very few elves and her skills seemed to frustrate other students. Many of which had grown rather petty.

Stepping into the dorm, Eva let out a soft sigh. This year was sure to be as stressful as the last. Living together with other peers had often proved a struggle, especially as they forced new roommates every year. Three raps on the door. She turned the handle and pushed it open with a loud creak. "Heello?" She said softly, poking her head inside curiously. "I'm your roommate this year." She would note as she stepped

inside, not wanting to scare whomever may have been inside.

@Uepa

Constance Grunpart

BOT

— 30/08/2022 05:36

No one was sure how or why it happened but it was taught as a fact in school. "It was the king of the elves who ordered it, the destruction of our world. The archmages under his command only followed

his orders and caused the end of everything". Constance herself was one of those humans who still believed it to be true.

Her family came from one of the many human kingdoms who sit out the war and called out for peace. There were even rumours that she was descendant of nobility. It was all the same, no matter what position they used to hold, only old royalty and new money were able to live in luxury. She grew up in the slums, alongside the worst of what survived. That's what forged her into a formidable force of nature with unbreakable will and a knack of receiving punches. Her magic, however, the one saving grace someone like her could get, was lacking.

In her district and neighborhood there were many elven families. Mostly peasants or descendants of war prisoners that were allowed inside the protective walls of the city. She was taught to pity them and not see the errors of their ancestors in them. The thing is, there was one she could never forgive. An elven girl of around her age, as smart (or even more) than her and whose elven blood held more potential. They competed in everything when they were kids, and even more so as teens. She eventually lost the competition.

The elf was offered a seat in the prestigious State School of Magic and she was left in the slums they grew up. Despite being told she held magical potential by state wizards, she had failed to awaken it by the time she was of age. Still, she continued to push herself, with her elven rival as an objective to surpass.

The following year, she was in. It was the proudest moment of her life. And so, her journey began. She was thinking of what she was going to do after becoming a magic user for the state, where would she take her parents, when someone knocked on the door of her new room. The door opened and someone walked in, speaking in a soft voice she could recognize anywhere. She stood up, smiled as she pointed at Eva and deeply said, \* - There you are, pointy. I finally caught up to you.

@ shae 𐄂 𐄂+°.

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 30/08/2022 12:06

Growing up as an elf in a society in which had decided that elves were the root of all of their problems meant discrimination. It was like all of the cards had always been set against her. No one wanted an elf to succeed. They allowed them to participate in schooling and to get an education, yet at every step in their lifetime, every obstacle was prepared to be against them. Yet for Eva, it meant she had learned to be resilient at a very young age. Born in the slums, discriminated at from birth, considered an enemy to even her peers, Eva hoped that one day she would be able to live in peace or at the very least she could make an impact on the world around her.

Eva never understood why Constance hated her the way she did.

She understood the general discontent of many students regarding her "kind". Most considered elves undesirable and avoided interacting with them. After all, it was the king of the elves who had ordered the destruction of their world. It wasn't true. Yet after many years in a fallen world, the story had somehow been twisted to best fit their agenda.

Unlike Constance who had been claimed to be from a fallen nobility, Eva was considered to be the ancestor of war prisoners that had blood on her hands. She assumed that was why Constance had always sneered at her, why she despised her. Constance wouldn't have been alone in that. Yet hatred wasn't enough to make Eva wish to stop. She wanted to become a healer strong enough to show the world that elven magic could change the world. With elven magic, illness would drop and fatal wounds would no longer be fatal. It was a faroff dream but she worked towards it eagerly every day.

As she stepped into the room, Eva was well aware and prepared to meet a roommate who was unhappy with their situation. Last year her roommate had ended up moving out due to fear of living with a murderer. She had lived on her own in the room for over the greater half of the year. Yet as she stepped in, she certainly didn't believe

it would be Constance. She paused and looked at her, offering a weak smile. "Good to see you as well, Constance. Congratulations on your acceptance to the State School of Magic." She politely smiled and put her bag down onto the bed, a soft sigh escaping her lips. "You must be excited for the year. It'll be difficult but you're capable, I'm sure you'll do well." She noted, her voice kind and sweet despite the fact that she was well aware of Constance's feelings for her.

@Uepa

Constance Grunpart

BOT

— 30/08/2022 20:39

Constance was left speechless at the lack of ferocity coming from Eva's response. It was a big moment, at least for herself. Their rivalry could continue again, even stronger than before. Why did she seem to not care about that? Was her edge that big? She couldn't help but think she was being ridiculed, made fun of. That even if she had made it where few could, even after failing just a year before, even after working her butt off both physically, mentally and spiritually; she wasn't enough or worthy to be her rival.

She closed the finger she pointed at her with, holding her fist tightly while lowering her shoulders with a deep sigh. To her ears, the soft and sweet voice of the elven girl sounded like vitriol. What most would consider kindness she could only see as mockery. That had always made her angry and that time it was ten fold. But she calmed down and sat down on her bed, laying back on her arms and staring at the ceiling.

- It may be difficult for you, but I won't have any issues. You will see, the one to be on top will be me after this semester is over -, she declared, still holding her spiteful and deep tone of voice. It was a lie and she knew it. She had a lot of mana and had an advanced hold on transmutating it, but she was unable to use even the most basic spells besides "Lock" and "Unlock". She still felt what she said, believing that she could surpass Eva or just get close enough to feel like she recognized her strenght.

@shae 3 3+°.

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 31/08/2022 01:13

One may say the worst rivalry is that which is one sided.

Eva was well aware of the fact that Constance did not like her. She was even more aware of the fact that she didn't like that Eva did well in her studies. She wasn't sure when the human had begun to see her as a rival, yet Eva saw it as a danger to herself. Outside of her studies, Eva desperately tried to keep her head low. She didn't like conflict and where Constance was, conflict always had seemed to follow. It was why Eva did her best to reject any semblance of rivalry that the young peer tried to create.

It wasn't that Eva didn't believe Constance. She was well aware that Constance's will to become talented alone would drive her to heights unbelievably high. Truly, Eva believed that Constance could be a wonderfully skilled student if she focused on what mattered. She needed to stop focusing on a rivalry and truly dive into a learning style that would help her succeed. It had taken Eva a while to grow to find her own learning style, and prior to that, her magic had suffered greatly.

She took a soft sigh and looked down, "I hope not." She smiled, rubbing the back of her neck as she placed her bag on her bed and began to unpack. "I look forward to that day then. I wish you the best of luck." Eva wouldn't allow Constance to get a rise out of her. Despite the urge to grow angry due to her spiteful comments, it wasn't worth it. She would avoid conflict if possible, and the first step was staying out of Constance's hair if possible.

@Uepa

Constance Grunpart

BOT

— 31/08/2022 04:58

- I don't need luck -, was the last Constance said at that time. Eva knew how to get on her nerves or rather, Constance allowed it to. The poor elven girl was unable to understand her reasoning process, staying out of her hair was impossible. No matter what she did, Constance always had a rebuttal or got the wrong idea and it would be hard to change it.

And so, with a clear goal on her mind, she started her new life at the school. She knew she was probably the weakest there and thought Eva was the strongest or at least, the best. She didn't try making friends or even meeting her classmates. After all, most of them came from the inner districts and walls. From nobles and royals of all the lost kingdoms to the elves that still kept their titles and even a dwarven prince. She had nothing in common with them and they showed no interest in her either. The only one she could see as her true equal was Eva, the only one she really talked to. Of course that their conversations were just a reflection of their so called "rivalry", which meant a lot of boasting from Constance and kind words from Eva. She truly hated their interactions, or at least she hated how they usually went.

Constance progressed inside the institution, gaining more power than she could get on her own. Her combat style slowly evolved over the course of a month until she eventually adopted the use of a catalyst to aid her magic. In her case, the one that chose her, was a rusty and old knife. Armed with that, she could use her inherent abilities of transforming mana, the two spells she could use and a new skill she had developed on her own: using mana to strengthen her body. That way she could use her opponents attacks to fuel her strength, an invincible technique. She truly believed it to be that, but truth quickly gave her a waking slap.

During a spar with one of her classmates, she showed her developments to them all (paying especial attention to her "rival's" reaction). At first, it did seem like she had the upper hand but it didn't last for long. All of her bravado and boasting to Eva felt stupid after she woke up one foot under. Her defeat was crushing, in all senses. @ shae ☹️.

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 31/08/2022 12:55

Living with Constance was never once easy.

Despite endless attempts to get along, Eva continued to hit wall after wall. Perhaps there was no making this girl happy. It felt like Constance grew meaner and meaner to her with each day. Whether Eva had done something to deserve it or not, Constance would retort harshly and make passive-aggressive comments on the daily. It was tiring to live with her, it wore Eva out and made her feel like she was walking on constant eggshells.

She wasn't sure when she had started avoiding the dorm. It wasn't necessarily a conscious decision but after a while, Eva began to only show up to classes, only interacting with Constance should she absolutely need to. She would come back to the dorm so late in the night that she didn't have to interact with her.

Eva's skills seemed to bloom with each day. She grew by leaps and bounds, yet rarely ever received praise from the Professors or trainers. Even though she was very much one of the most skilled students, she had never been named at the top of the class. Instead, a young noble boy named

Lysander had been considered for the role. It was clear that she would not be receiving the role not because she was weaker than him but because she was an elf.

As she watched the spar, Eva could see that Constance was growing each and every day. Her skills were improving to the point that she was growing and that while she may be not be winning that she was growing. She couldn't just expect to transfer in and expect to be the strongest immediately. It would take a lot of work. Yet Constance's opponent had gone too far. Eva watched in horror as the young opponent crushed Constance, overwhelming her power with each and every movement. It looked painful, after all, no spar was without wound. Several open wounds and bruises that were sure to heal should she not get proper healing. Eva bit her lip and stood as Constance's opponent continued despite the fact that the fight was clearly over.

"It's over and yo

u're well aware of it." Eva yelled out, stepping in between her two peers, her eyes focused. She muttered a spell under her breath and held up her hand, deflecting the attacks of the opponent. "Stand down." Unlike most of mankind, elves didn't need physical items to draw mana. Mankind was unable to draw mana in the ways that Elves could, their magical ability nearly always meant to be stronger than mens. "I said.... stand down." Eva was not one for offensive combat. She excelled most defensively and as a healer. She was a bard talented enough to impress many and a cleric that had skills so high that she could heal wounds a mortal could never. She paused and watched as the opponent rolled their eyes and walked off.

She turned to face Constance and stepped up to her, grabbing her hand softly. "Let me heal you. You'll be in a world of pain in the morning without it." She said softly. It wasn't done with malicious intent. The trainer should have already called the fight but his attention seemed elsewhere, having a discussion with a student who was practicing throughout the spar. So Eva had done what she could to stop it so that Constance didn't get injured even further. Perhaps, this once, Constance would allow her to help.

@Uepa

Constance Grunpart

BOT

— 03/09/2022 09:35

She was just embarrassed in front of all their classmates and nobody seemed to care about it. Non but Eva, for what she could get. It was the cherry on top. Even though she could admit to herself that she didn't have any way of turning that action into something bad from her part, Constance did. She didn't need her help and she was going to make sure her pity wasn't welcomed, - No thanks. I can take care of myself, I don't want to be your test subject.

She knew how good she was with healing magic, probably even better than the school's nurse. She was well aware that after being cured by her she would be in top notch condition. Was she trying to impress? Who? Just herself?

She stood up afterwards with a loud grunt, pulling her hand away from Eva's. Before she could fully leave, Constance turned her head around to look at Eva and tried discharging all her rage with the elven girl, saying, - Don't think this counts as you saving me or anything, alright? I don't owe you anything and never will.

@ shae ʘ ʘ°. //Sorry for it being shorter, it is 5 34 am and I didn't want to lwave you hanging for longer

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 03/09/2022 14:15

Eva paused, frustration welling up from the pit of her belly.

It had only been a month. Yet frustration had been boiling in Eva for a while now, since day one. For the majority of Eva's life, she had found that Constance was a poor thorn in her side. She tried to befriend her many times, to be kind and to get along with the human, yet Constance's obvious racism was overwhelming to a point that Eva couldn't even redeem. She used to try to ignore it. She couldn't blame them for the misinformation they were taught in schools. Only few knew the truth, or at least, the truth of the elves.

She hesitated for a second before grabbing Constance's wrist. "Get over yourself. You're hurt. If you walk all the way to the nurses office you're going to make it worse." She frowned her hair slipping in her eyes as she took a deep breath, a glowing light seem to expand from Eva's hands. It would send a warm feeling over the girl, that is, if she remained still.

"God... you are absolutely miserable." She muttered, rolling her eyes as Constance stood up and pulled away from her. "Did I ever do anything to you?" She stood up, her eyes filled with anger and frustration. "Or... perhaps you're just jealous?" It was all letting loose. Eva couldn't help it as it unravelled, pent up anger and frustration from years ago. "You're exhausting, Constance. Did you know that you have the magical potential to be the top of the class, yet you never once have applied yourself in a proper way. Perhaps if you weren't so focused on what I'm doing, you'd be stronger."

Eva had always known that Constance had an overwhelming natural energy, mana so strong that if she learned to apply it that she would be the mage of the century, not just the class. "But no, not you, not fucking Constance Grunpart. She's too focused on being a fucking racist to actually apply herself to the one thing that she wants." She pulled her bag over her shoulder, noticing the attention of the class now turning towards her. "Yo

u really ought to get over yourself. I know you think I'm your rival. Well get over that. I want nothing to do with you and I most certainly am not intimidated by you."

@Uepa

Constance Grunpart

BOT

— 06/09/2022 04:48

Constance was too shocked to speak. Wasn't that what she always wanted? For Eva to lower herself from her all mighty position and acknowledge her in a proper manner? Why did she feel so empty and sad? Even though Eva had finally replied to her verbal challenges in kind, Constance was lost in her words, - Of course you don't get it. What did I expect? Ever since we were kids you were everyone's pride. Even my own parents thought better of you than me. And getting your race into this- that was low. I expected a challenge, not a pity party.

She tried her best to sound as her usual defying, aggressive and (lets face it) annoying self, but Eva most than anyone would notice it; her words had cut deeper than she may have imagined. Constance felt the same kind of anger Eva always made her felt but this time she had a clear picture as to why. It was indeed jealousy, of the worst kind. Or, atleast, that's what she thought at first. In that moment, she actually hated Eva and herself as a result.

She continued to ramble nonsense, actual nonsense. Petty things that happened years ago, discussions and fights from when they were 5; all sorts of things to help her win her case: Eva had always looked down on her. None of their classmates, even the worst ones, would actually believe any of it. Even with their biases and racism openly displayed. Even those kind of people could see she was reaching.

She was left talking by herself, and then in silence as their classmates turned to their own things (which included talking about what had just happened). Constance then left the gymnasium to be alone, the professor never even attempting to stop her. In their eyes, it was a stupid fight between worthless low class girls.

As soon as she calmed down and had a second to think about things, the first thing she went to was the usual: "Fucking Eva, she always needs to be on top, ridicule me in front of everyone". But, little by little, she began to notice her mistake. Only the most recent one at first. She spent the whole afternoon by herself, sitting under one of the giant trees in the campus and slowly piecing together all other moments she could recall when she made Eva responsible for her fuck ups. All the times Eva tried to help, be kind, and she thought she was being mocked. Basically, all the olive branches that were sent her way and she spit on, - Gods, I am such an asshole.

@ shae 3 3+°.



Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 07/09/2022 01:40

You must have nerves of steel

That was what Eva's mother had once told her. Having attempted the same path as Eva, her mother had always been one of the few people who understood the difficulties of going to school with mostly human mages. She had tried it herself until she was about 14 before she had quit. The bullying had heightened to a level that she had grown so depressed that she didn't know how to climb out. That was when she had met Eva's father. A young elven man who was aspiring to become a crafter. He taught Lia, Eva's mother, that perhaps she could live a simple life without the difficulties. It was only 6 months after meeting him that Lia had dropped out of school and refused to go back.

When the school had asked if Eva would be willing to attend, Lia had been very unsure. Perhaps things had changed, yet she knew people didn't change that easily. It was Eva who ultimately decided that she adamantly wanted to be a healer. Growing in the slums meant that she saw many wounded and ill people. She hoped that one day she could the slums less scary, less filled with pain and illness.

Yet that didn't make it easier for her to handle this kind of thing. She had bit her tongue for long, offered so many olive branches, symbols of peace. She had tried her best to prove that elves were not all that they were said to be. She had tried and tried and tried but she felt as if she was starting to be broken down. Every step of her path was filled with as much pain and struggle as Constance, yet the spoiled fallen noble would never accept that. Yet she snapped, "I... was everyone's pride?" A sharp laughter escaped her mouth, mocking and cynical.

"That's hilarious.. do you know that when I first joined the school my teacher would pull me aside daily to remind me I was worthless?" She looked at Constance with a hard glare. "I was 8. And I had a grown adult spitting at my feet every single day of class. I tried to make friends yet everyone sneered at me. The girls u

sed to put notes in my desk and tell me to die. I was 9. A child, being told that her existence isn't good enough." Something seemed to be welling up in her, her voice cracking as she finally let loose. "Yet I was their pride? When I was ten the principle reminded me that my starting line was 5 miles behind every single peer of mine. Bring my race into this, Constance? Do you know anything about me as a being? Or do you know about what they say of elves? Because you have never once had a singular conversation with me in which you weren't snubbing your nose up."

Eva didn't care how this made the girl feel. Perhaps she needed a dose of hard core reality. "Did you know that most elves aren't literate any longer. Most quit schooling by the age of 10 and that's if they are willing to put their children into a school where they will never truly be considered as equals. She sighed, anger simmering as she turned and walked off. "I don't want anything to do with you. If I never saw your face again, it would be too soon. But I won't give you that. If you hate me, I hope that I can make your existence a bloody hell. Good luck, I wish the best to you, Constance. I'll

work ten times harder so that you'll never catch up. Though... I hardly consider you much a threat." She looked down and rolled her eyes before turning and walking off.

Her words had been rough, harsh. It was almost surprising that the sweet young girl could even said such a thing. Most had assumed she didn't have it in her. She was always kind and quiet despite their judgements. No matter how rude they were to her, she never said even a word against it. Yet perhaps it had all been bottling up in her, Constance had been the final one to anchor it. She had put pressure so deep onto her that it had all welled up, pushing far past the dam and cracking it. It swelled forth in such harsh words that slapped Constance in the face. Perhaps it was time for them to do a little bit better.

@Uepa

Constance Grunpart

BOT

— 09/09/2022 05:07

Constance knew all of that was true. But she couldn't ignore how she herself felt. It was horrible how elves were treated by most humans but inside of their circle, of their misery filled home, it was true. Down there, there was no difference that mattered. They all were forgotten and undesirable people with no place to go. She had it easier to blend it, that was true, but she didn't care about blending in or being accepted by society. She cared about being accepted and respected by the ones she considered her own.

She had time to think back about their relationship, how it progressed. They used to be great friends but that was long ago, when their age could be counted in one hand. Things had changed a lot since then, one such thing was her falling behind. Constance always was more rebellious and unruly than Eva. She liked running jokes and messing with people, mostly out of a desire to be noticed rather than falling into obscurity. That's how she developed her one sided rivalry with Eva. She saw her as a rival for the affection of her own two parents and closest thing she had to family. Even with all the discrimination she suffered, Constance would have done anything to swap places with her.

Night had already fallen when Constance finally noticed how chilly it was. Eva's words cut deeper than a knife ever could. They tore apart her worldview and even made her question if the slums were as perfect as she had always imagined. Why had she done all those things? Went such a lenght? For a headpat from her dad? For a "well done"? Or a "Im proud of you"? She had never been good enough for those, she never even wanted those. Then it clicked. She wanted to be proud of herself by surpassing the most perfect being she had ever know.

Even after the humbling experience, she would never tell Eva she thought that about her. It would be too embarrassing and, given her words, Eva would probably distrust her. She couldn't blame the elven girl, of course. When midnight was approaching, after many hours of self depreciation an many more of reflexion, she came to a conclusion. She wouldn't stop her training. She wouldn't stop reaching for the stars. What she would stop doing is using Eva as her scale. And she would stop being

so abnoxious to her. She didn't even know how to do that. Should she be nice? Should she be neutral? Or just ignore the girl? Eva was probably hoping for the later, so she decided to do that. Give her some space.

@ shae 3 3+°.

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 09/09/2022 16:44

Eva wasn't sure when the last time she had let this kind of thing out was.

She used to cry to her mom and vent for hours until she suddenly was starting to feel better. Her mother always had a way about making it all feel like it was worth it. She'd remind her how proud she was of her, praise her for her efforts and remind her of the pay off that would one day come. It was those words that had always pushed her forwards despite the fact that it grew harder and harder each day.

Yet at a point, Eva didn't have that any longer. She let out a sigh and pushed into her room. It was like a cage that the school had set so that she didn't even have a singular place to be herself. She looked around and realized that she were alone. Perhaps she had scared Constance off for a while. She plopped down onto her bed and closed her eyes. It should have felt good to let it all out. Yet she was left feeling numb. Nothing at all. She swallowed and opened her eyes, lifting them to the ceiling above her.

When Constance returned, Eva was asleep already, facing the wall so that her back was turned on Constance's side of the room. It wasn't just Constance that was hoping to give space. Eva hadn't been kidding. By the time that Constance awoke, Eva was gone already. She wanted nothing to do with her any longer and seemed willing to wake up as early as possible to make sure that she didn't have to interact with her outside of class.

If Constance wanted to make up for her years of trauma forced upon Eva, she would have to make some decent effort. It seemed like Eva was getting good at dodging her, not even looking in her direction as she focused all of her attention to classes. She wouldn't let Constance bother her, she wouldn't allow her to be a distraction to reach her goal. No. She had worked far too hard to let her be a proper distraction.

@Uepa

Constance Grunpart

BOT

— 09/09/2022 18:04

It wasn't hard to avoid Constance as she herself didn't want to be in her room too much. She spent more time than anyone in the training grounds, the library and in the gym. One of the things Eva said was wrong, she didn't have magical potential, she just had mana. No matter how much she tried, how long she practiced, most spells seemed to fizzle out when she tried to cast them. She could give it her all but her mana wouldn't budge. During the following three months, filled with tension as she avoided Eva as much as she avoided her, she continued to develop her techniques and improving what she had.

Slowly, she climbed up the class' ladder, even by having only two usable spells. If she couldn't cast anything, she would just beat her classmates to the ground and it seemed to be working. She learnt how to use her mana to increase her body's capabilities and perfected her use of Lock and Unlock in combat. It was a weird style, not suited for the pretentious brats in class and only suited for someone like her. It filled her with pride, seeing many of her classmates turn either bitter or respectful towards her. She even got people talking with her, which helped to ease the pain she felt.

One day she was walking down the corridor towards the training grounds. She had thought out of something and needed to try it as soon as she could. But she overheard something that made her stop on her tracks, a classmates of Eva and her who was saying less than flattering things about the elf.

- I'm telling you, that elf is bad news. The only explanation for her at all is that she made a deal with some weird monster. Have you seen how much magic she can handle? That's not normal, not even I can do that -, the elven touched (descendant of elven and human nobility) guy said to someone else, noticing Constance at the edge of his sight after he finished. Then he added, - Ask that commoner, she knows the witch the best. Right, Constance?

- I'm surprised you even know my name, your "highness". Why don't you stop talking out of your ass and instead focus on yourself? You know nothing about Eva and about me, but I do know about you. Your limits and your strenght. Spewing bullshit and spreading lies won't make you stronger or better with magic. She is already leagues above you and I am getting closer. So I wonder, which rumours are you going to start once I surpass you? - the student was in a rage and more bullshit started spewing from his mouth. He insulted her, Eva, their families and the slums they came from. It all came apart once he said that she was the weak one as that elven witch had proved in front of the class. Constance approached calmly and with a fast and unpredictable punch, broke his nose.

- Well, it seems you were wrong -, then, before anything else could go down, she started walking away.

@ shae 3+°.

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 11/09/2022 22:00

The next three months were tense. With the two of them both avoiding the room, it seemed that they were each doing nearly all they could in their power to avoid one another. Eva had personally dedicated all of her power to training and had been somehow even growing stronger. Her healing power was particularly evident as she had become one of the strongest healers that the school had ever seen. Eva seemed to grow in leaps and bounds incomparable to most. She was a scholar first and a mage second, yet she was talented at both and seemed to put careful attention into her studies that set her up for success.

She similarly recognized that Constance was growing. Perhaps she had taken her own advice to heart and was finding ways that she could fight without her mana controls being wonderful. Despite that, Eva not once would say a word to her. She had opinions on the girl's mana flow. Actually, she was quite interested in it, the difference between mana connections seemingly very different between human beings and elves. Elves had a natural mana source that was generated from within them. Whereas, humans on the other hand weren't able to often draw much magic from within themselves. It was something that Eva had currently been studying and wanted to learn more about.

Humming to herself, Eva paused in her steps as she heard her own name invoked. She hesitated and looked down, pressing up against the wall as she listened to a very surprising situation. Had Constance just stood up for her? It didn't even fully make sense to her. She had never heard Constance say such things, moreover, she had never imagined that Constance would give her credit for her powers. Eva didn't even have a moment to respond as Constance's hand went slamming into the student's nose. She gasped, her eyes widening as she stared, not even having a moment to run as Constance came storming down the hall towards her. She stumbled backwards, looking at Constance with a sheepish expression. "I--H-Hi--" She lo

oked down, rubbing her neck a little.

@Uepa

Constance Grunpart

BOT

— 11/09/2022 22:20

Constance didn't expect to cross paths with Eva there. Her face went bright red when she heard that voice, one she couldn't mistake. Her feet slid on the floor for a second as she tried to suddenly stop, turning to face her "rival". She didn't know what to say, how to react. Eva still probably hated her, she was still insecure about what her feelings towards her were and she had just assaulted a noble. Nothing in that situation gave her peace, - Y-yeah... uhm, hi.

It had been years since she last spoke softly to Eva. It was just weird to think about. She thought she still needed to act tough and as if she didn't care about her but- she had probably heard everything. It wouldn't be possible and she was struggling to think of another way to make herself seem tougher. In the end, she just decided to be true to herself for once, - Look Eva, I- I am sorry. For everything. I could stand here and pretend it wasn't my fault, give you many excuses and try to- divert the blame. I

won't. I accept I was- probabl still am- a huge asshole. I am not asking you to be my friend or anything. You certainly don't deserve a friend like me but- ah, I am just rambling. Point is, please stop ruining your sleep schedule just to avoid me. If you still don't want to see me, I will ruin mine. Already am but-

@shae ʘ ʘ. //Sorry for the shorter post but being a conversation I didn't want to just rush Constance out like I did before

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 11/09/2022 23:30

Eva furrowed her eyebrows and looked at Constance with a bit of a flustered expression. She didn't know how to feel about this. Constance standing up for her was something that she would never hear. Yet she had just watched as her rival both acknowledge her skills as well as stand up to people who were discrediting her. She had never expected such an occurrence and honestly she had no clue how to acknowledge it. She paused, "I uhm... thank you." She said softly, her cheeks lightly dusted red. "For standing up for me. I appreciate it."

What followed caught her even further off guard, her gaze falling as Constance finally apologized. She had been waiting for it since that day and had never thought she would receive such. She paused, "I..." She hesitated, her voice cracking slightly. "Constance?" She looked at her, tilting her head, "Perhaps... we could, I don't know... just start over or something?" She asked, the look in her eyes and soft and kind. "I know it might be asking a lot... but I would like it... if we could just start over. Ignore the past an all... we don't need to be friends or anything if you don't want. But... maybe we could leave the past in the past?"

@Uepa

Constance Grunpart

BOT

— 12/09/2022 04:23

- I don't think I can accept that offer. I just- I don't want to leave all of that unresolved. It may be selfish of me, I admit, but I just can't. Of course that the past is in the past -, she took a second to pause and to compose her thoughts. Eva's reaction wasn't the one she expected, a sign that she didn't know her at all. With how she had reacted all those months ago she thought her apology would come a second too late and that she wouldn't accept it. It took her for a loop. A side of her didn't want to trust her, the side that still hold a grudge. It screamed that it was a trap, that she had been set up just so Eva would come on top like always. That was her biggest fear, to try and move on while her subconscious constantly bombarded her with those negative thoughts.

She sighed, shyly looking away as she tried to come up with something. Anything. She couldn't say why she needed to resolve that. Not yet atleast. She feared it would make Eva distrust her again.

Eventually she gave up and simply said, - I can try. I don't want things to go sour between us again and- I don't want to keep ignoring your good faith.

@ shae 𐄂 𐄂.

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 12/09/2022 12:43

I don't think I can accept offer.

Eva smiled weakly and nodded. She should have known she was being silly. Had she truly fallen for such a silly idea like being friends? She looked down and paused, slightly caught off guard as Constance noted it was because she didn't want to leave it unresolved. She smiled and nodded, "I... guess that makes sense..." Turning on her foot, Eva was about to walk away. She couldn't keep getting her hopes up. It was silly, yet the young girl still desperately hoped for a world where she could have even one friend at school.

I can try.

Eva turned and looked at Constance with a confused expression. "Try what...?" She asked, unsure of herself. "Try to... start over? Or... to... be friends? Maybe." Eva had tried to be friends with Constance so many times. It almost felt like she was being tricked. Was there truly a world in which Constance would ever accept her olive branch? Would Constance truly attempt to get along with her for the first time in their lives?

@Uepa

Constance Grunpart

BOT

— 13/09/2022 02:39

- B-both, I suppose. I just punched the only asshole who tried to be my friend here- and he was worse than I ever thought you were- she was basically rambling, letting her words slip out her mouth instead of thinking what she was saying. It was an awkward situation, made more awkward because she had truly underestimated Eva's kindness. She felt her heart racing, like a child who had done something wrong and was about to get caught. But she hadn't done anything wrong that Eva didn't know about. What was that feeling?

- Disregard that last part. I am- not thinking my words. I know you are a good person, better than I ever will be. So yeah- I would like to be friends. Just- if I ever do something stupid- don't be afraid to slap me. Please -, she sounded sincere, more than ever in her life. Her gaze avoided looking at the elven girl for long periods of time and her shoulders sat the lowest she would have ever seen. Her demeanour resembled a dog who had eaten their owner's shoes and was getting reprimanded. Shame and embarrassment were the main things in her mind.

@shae ʔ ʔ.°.

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 13/09/2022 14:03

A soft laugh pushed through her lips. "Worse than you thought I was... how bad did you think I was?" She giggled, a soft expression on her face as she teased Constance. "I must've truly been some sort of boogeyman in your eyes then..." She smiled, her gaze softening to reveal just a bit of sadness. Perhaps she was hurt still and hadn't fully recovered from it. She swallowed and looked down, rubbing the back of her neck. "Thanks for punching him though... I... appreciated it." She admitted, her eyes soft and focused on Constance.

"I'm not good..." She admitted, "I want to be good... but I have plenty of issues... more than I let off." She laughed and motions for them to walk. "Come on... we should probably get out of here before those two drag some professors over here for assault." Eva began to walk, gently taking Constance's wrist and pulling her forwards. "Don't want my new friend getting caught for standing up for me... right?" She asked, looking over her shoulder with a smirk.

@Uepa

Constance Grunpart

BOT

— 13/09/2022 20:37

She wanted to insist in her kindness being real, that she was indeed a good person; but that pesky voice in her head came up again and told her to keep quiet. It said that it was all just a ruse to get her to lower her guard. She knew it wasn't true but the fact she thought that made her feel uneasy, undeserving of telling her that. So instead, she just began to flee with Eva, - Not a boogeyman, no. I just- sorry, please forget about that. I'm dumb.

She was surprised at how having her wrist taken made her feel. A sudden rush of excitement filled her body and she could feel her chest and stomach get all stormy. That look from over her shoulder and the smirk, did they made her face feel hot all of the sudden? Whatever it may be, Constance smiled, probably the first time she smiled at Eva, and went with it, - I suppose not. I will probably have a lecture about it later but- eh, not the first one I got here.

@shae ʔ ʔ.°.

Eva Virtoris

BOT



— 15/09/2022 02:06

While Eva was trying her best to be kind, that didn't mean it was easy.

As a young child, Eva's mother had taught her daughter a special lesson.

Sometimes, you must turn the other cheek.

In this case, while Eva wanted a friend, she also wanted to make a point. She wanted to prove to Constance and all the others who had made things so hard for her as a youth that she wasn't evil. Even someone like her could make a friend if they gave her a chance. Furthermore, it proved that she was not the problem and that it was they who were at cause for the entirety of this issue regarding her friendship potential.

Eva didn't want revenge.

No, this was deeper than that. It wasn't evil nor did she want to cause harm to anyone.

She simply hoped that through her friendship that Constance would potentially prove herself wrong. Perhaps it was punishment enough that she were to be humbled by someone like Eva herself. She could properly reflect and regret her past decisions and harm.

Eva smiled softly at Constance, her eyes widening as she watched the student with the bloodied nose turn the corner. "Hurry up!" She exclaimed before starting to run, pulling Constance forwards with her. They didn't want to get caught after all. It was time to get out of there properly before anything else could be done. Eva didn't even have a moment to notice that the girl was flushed or embarrassed. No, she was already pulling her forwards full steam ahead.

@Uepa

Constance Grunpart

BOT

— 16/09/2022 19:54

- Woah! - Constance was surprised that Eva could pull her with such strenght. Or maybe she was just allowing her to do so subconsciously. It didn't matter, the result was the same. She smiled back at her as they ran away, looking over her shoulder to see if anyone was following them. It was a little escape but quite an exciting one as it was the first time she had done something like that for someone else's sake. All the times she had gotten in trouble for fighting, it had been for herself. Even if her family was named, in the end she was always defending her honor. She still didn't know if she had done it to defend Eva or because she felt like she owed her atleast that, but she would have time to figure it later.

- I know a place. Barely anyone goes there, follow me -, she said now taking the lead, although she didn't get her wrist freed nor did she try to grab hers. The path they took inside the building was

really specific, going through many stairs, corridors (some that were barely used) and finally getting inside a big unoccupied room.

- I have no clue what this is supposed to be, but I like to come here to practice by myself. Sometimes the training grounds are too clustered -, she said, looking at her. She still haven't tried to free her wrist (if Eva was still holding her), scared as to what she would think if she did so. After so many years being so antagonizing towards her, she was trying her hardest not to be.

@shae 3 3+°.

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 17/09/2022 16:14

Was anyone going to catch them? Most likely no. It was highly unlikely that they were going to chase them and catch them to hand them into the Professors. Of course, Eva wasn't actually in any danger at all, but it was kind of fun as she pulled her new friend along to escape the punishment that she would inevitably have to face at some point. Constance had earned it anyway. Constance earned a brief bit of respect from Eva and Eva wanted to show and extend that offer once more.

"Where are we going?!" She giggled as Constance turned the tables and pushed forwards to lead her along through the building. Eva rarely went to different rooms in the building without a purpose so she didn't tend to take these kinds of routes and was finding it quite new and enlightening to her.

As they pushed into the room, Eva paused and looked around, breathing heavily from running. While Eva was adept in magic, she wasn't athletic at all and this seemed to reign true as she struggled to catch her breath. She let go of Constance's hand and collapsed to the ground, laughing softly as she struggled to catch her breath. "That was... invigorating."

@Uepa

Constance Grunpart

BOT

— 18/09/2022 16:02

Constance was agitated as well but less so than Eva. Instead of dropping down to breathe, she stayed on her feet to stretch. It was a good run after all, - It has been a while since I had a run like this. Well, not physically but- you know, fun.

After everything she could do standing was done, she sat down next to Eva and continued to stretch. She was unsure as to what came next. What could they talk about? Did they even have anything in

common? She felt a weird pressure on her chest and a sudden awkwardness. Of course that uncomfortable silences were the worst case scenario and she wanted to avoid them, but awkward small talk seemed to be equally bad. So she just tried to start a conversation, - Ehm. Are you- going back home for the summer break?

She felt stupid for asking such a question. Constance was hoping that waa the case just so she could have her parent's help in befriending Eva. The problem was that they were 3 months away from it (I think, I dont remember the timeline), and her social skills were lacking at best.

@Uepa shae ʘ ʘ+°.

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 19/09/2022 20:52

"Home?" She looked over at Constance, still laying on the ground and breathing heavily. Eva was certainly not an athlete, it was actually her biggest drawback. She was weak physically and got ill often. She didn't have the strongest constitution in the slightest so there were many days she often had to stay home from lecture because she was struck with fever. And while healing could mend wounds easily, it didn't do all that much for illness.

"I'm not sure..." She admitted, shrugging slightly. Last summer, Eva hadn't returned home for the summer. It wasn't that she didn't want to be with her family, it's just that living in the slums meant that she was a burden to her parents. Their home was small and they didn't have much space so she didn't want to step on anyone's toes. "I guess... I might this summer... I don't want to be a bother to my parents... but I think it'd be nice to see them. Why? Are you?"

She missed them after all, she hadn't seen them for a while, not since last Christmas holiday. Yet time away from the campus meant less time to study and grow. It was a difficult choice but she was sure that she could bring out some new books to work on over the summer break.

@Uepa

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 23/09/2022 14:22

@Uepa hope you're okay friend!

Constance Grunpart

BOT

— 25/09/2022 15:53

Constance continued her stretch, sitting down in front of Eva to fully stretch her legs. After Eva replied, she didn't know what to say. Saying "because I want my papa and mama helping me be less of an asshole and become your friend" would have been pathetic. So she awkwardly acted as if her stretching was taking all of her concentration and thought for an answer for a ridiculous long time.

- Well, I am still- thinking about it. I think there's a bigger possibility that I will be going. And- I just wanted to do some small talk -, nothing that she said sounded convincing at all. It was true that she was more likely to go than to stay, but she was just so bad at acting and she had tried too hard to hide her true intentions. Hopefully Eva didn't misinterpret her.

@shae 3 3+°.

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 26/09/2022 12:06

"Ah... right. Small talk." She laughed softly and fell backwards to lay on the ground. She chuckled and shrugged. "I guess it's hard to be natural around me." She admitted, her lips tugging into a sheepish smile. "I'm sure its a little out of our depth to be friends... but.. we can work on that, right?" She hoped aloud, not wanting to ruin this with pleasantries.

"I guess I'll probably be going home for the break.... It's time. My mother and father have been sending me letters asking me to come home for a while... I just don't want to step on their toes." She smiled weakly, never having really enjoyed the slums. She didn't consider it to be her home in the slightest. It was just a place that she returned home to. It was her parents that were her home, not the physical place. "I'm sure your parents miss you too, huh? What's your family like?"

@Uepa

Constance Grunpart

BOT

— 29/09/2022 11:50

- Ah. No, I didn't mean it like that. I am not sure why I even said it that way. I'm just -, she stopped and dropped to the floor right next to Eva. After a second or silence and in a softer tone, she then finished, - awkward.

- You are the first friend I had when we were like four or five and- I don't think I ever had another friend. So- it isn't you who is the problem. It is me -, she confessed, rubbing her cheek and looking away from Eva. It was weird to think that only hours ago she couldn't even imagine admitting things like those to the elf. She just felt like she owed it to her after so many years of being a bitch to her and Eva showing such kindness as to basically "forget" about it.

- I always feel the same but I know I will never be a weight to my parents. They are too stubborn to think about me like that. Gods bless them.

@ shae 3 3+°.

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 03/10/2022 15:41

I'm just... awkward.

It wasn't exactly something that Eva had expected to hear the headstrong girl say. She paused and let her gaze shift to the side to look at Constance, her eyes softening. "Oh." She said softly, hair slipping in her eyes as she looked at her. "I mean... same." She laughed softly, letting her gaze shift back to the ceiling with a sigh. While different, the girls had at least that in common. Neither of them were accustomed to having many friends. They both had grown rather comfortable on their own whether they admit or not.

Eva knew that was true. She didn't like it as she very much longed for friendship and yet she was well aware that she had grown used to being on her own. "I don't think I have either." She laughed, "There was a girl name Lia who used to read in the library next to me... I thought she was my friend for a while... but it turned out that she was just hiding near me so no one would bully her... I guess I was a good shield." She laughed softly, hoping it wasn't too silly of a story to tell. "So... maybe we both have some growing to do in terms of... awkwardness."

"Do you have siblings or anything?" She asked, "I suppose not. seeing as you kind of have the vibe of an only child." She laughed softly, having a younger brother herself who was still very young.

@Uepa

Constance Grunpart

BOT

— 09/10/2022 19:01

- Huh. That's- quite... ehm. Lia you said? I have seen that girl around. She is nice, when she talks. If you like we can go try and hang with her. It would expand both our lists of- people we can talk with -, she was still unable to say the word friends. Not that they were friends yet. The word acquaintance was closer to what they were at that point but it sounded so formal and limiting. She didn't want to encapsule their potential friendship in something like that.

Something that helped her ease up while they laid next to eachother was Eva's laughter. She had heard it before, of course, but never paid attention to it. Only after she moved on from her unfounded anger did she notice how beautiful her laughter was and that it made her smile and laugh herself. So, eachtime Eva laughed, Constance would follow with a soft chuckle of her own. She

turned to her side and laid her head on her fist, looking at her as they talked, - We now atleast have eachother to practice awkward things with. That- could have been worded better.

- I don't, yeah. Just me -, she replied in a less enthusiastic tone, with her smile dissapearing for a second. Then she heard that laugh and cane back to life, - Ehm. What do you prefer reading, historic novels, epics or romance?

@? shae ? ?+°.

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 10/10/2022 18:36

"Mmm... I don't know about that." She laughed softly and looked up at the ceiling a little sadness in her eyes. "It's just... I don't know if i want to be friends with someone like that. You shouldn't use people for your own convenience." Her laughter drew somber as she spoke, hating to lecture but also not loving the fact that she had been used as a shield without being aware of it. It had brought her more pain than it had happiness. Of course, after a while, Eva had decided that she was no longer pained by their decisions. Unfortunately, that isn't how emotions worked.

Yet her serious mood seemed to shift as she realized Constance was laughing as well. She paused and looked at her, surprised that she had allowed her to see such a side of her. "Mmmm I suppose. Practice makes perfect. You've been improving a lot lately. You must have been practicing a lot. You're doing quite well in your studies..." She said softly, admiring the fact that Constance had overcome the obstacles she had been facing.

"Oh uhm... I know it sounds silly... but romance usually." She blushed softly and looked down, "I can't help but hope that one day I'll meet someone who... I guess is like they show in the romances. Someone who is willing to accept me as I am." She smiled to herself at the thought, almost getting a little mushy as she spoke.

@Uepa

Constance Grunpart

BOT

— 11/10/2022 05:31

- That's true, but I am living proof that things are more complex than they seem. The way I see it is this. She is alone, nobody likes talking with her besides her bullies. She was most likely trying to survive -, Constance said looking past Eva. She could understand doing something like that although she had never reached that extreme herself. In fact, she had probaly moved to the other extreme of the spectrum. She believed that if she could change, anyone else could. There was no one as stubborn as herself and she would fight anyone who claimed otherwise.

- With that said, you are free to choose your friends. If you feel like it isn't worth it, then it isn't and I won't go against that -, she added holding her eyes on her, hoping it would be comforting.

Constance chuckled again, that time a little bit louder. Then she shook her head and began sliding her finger on the floor, - I guess I found the perfect motivation for someone like me. And that comes easier than socializing, honestly.

- You will, Eva. Anyone would be lucky to be with you. Sooner or later, life throws you a bone if you are good and that you are -, she remained silent for a second, looking away as she tried to find a sly way of moving on from that subject. Like Eva, she did want someone to share her life with but she didn't feel she deserved it, - Romances are good, but without some bad guy getting beaten up or some epic duels they can't retain my attention. I guess I like epic romances?

@ shae ʘ ʘ+°.

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 14/10/2022 22:31

More complex than they seem.

Eva believed that with most people. For the most part, everyone had ulterior motives for the things they did, whether they were conscious of those motives or not. It's like gravitating to the popular student on your first day of school. You want to fit in, thus you unconsciously find yourself gravitating towards the most popular student in the classroom. Similarly, if you see someone being bullied, you nearly instinctively pull away from them and avoid them in hopes that you won't receive the same treatment. It had been something she had been conscious of for many years and she had simply let her guard down when it came to Lia. She had hoped that maybe she was willing to fight her instincts and be friends with her. Wishful thinking had easily fallen through as per usual.

"I suppose that's true as well." She looked up at the ceiling, "I guess everyone is just trying to get by... no matter what it takes." Eva was well aware that Constance and Lia were opposites. Lia had used her as a shield, while Constance had used her as a sword. Both had chosen to protect themselves first and yet their tactics had been very much different.

"You think?" She looked at her and smiled, rolling onto her front so she now laid on her stomach. "I want to go on a journey like that... a long journey where I go through all kinds of trials but by the end I've pursued some sort of greatness alongside falling in love with some wonderfully captivating person. Doesn't it sound nice?" She giggled, letting out a bit of her girlish side. "Have you ever had a crush on anyone?" She asked, wondering if that was too personal of a question to ask when they were only just starting to become friends.

@Uepa [Sorry for the late post! I wanted to let you know that until the 24th I will be on vacation so I may have slower responses than normal but I will do my best to get a few out dependent on timing!]

Constance Grunpart

BOT

— 15/10/2022 17:27

- Yeah, yeah. I guess so. But there are people like you, who try their best to make things better around them and then there's people like- like me -. She tried to utter the rest of what she wanted to say afterwards but her words choked inside her throat. Maybe she just didn't want to belittle herself any longer, subconsciously believing she didn't deserve that anymore. The thought of that being reality angered her because consciously she did believe so. Humiliating herself in front of Eva was a way of atoning for her sins. Thankfully, Eva had moved on from the subject and she hoped no other comments were made about it.

- That's- quite an specific way of falling in love -, Constance replied with a chuckle and a smile of her own. She turned around and laid on her stomach as well, finding a new interest in that part of their conversation. Holding her head up with both arms, she took a second to think, - First of all, that does sound nice. Having a great adventure that would inspire stories for generations while finding a significant other is probably the best way to fall in love. And- yeah, I did. When I was younger I had a crush on another girl from school. What about you?

@ shae ☺ ☺. don't worry! Enjoy your vacation friend!

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 18/10/2022 17:24

"I..." Eva paused, hesitating slightly. "I think you have the wrong idea.... about both me and yourself." She said softly, her green eyes lifting over to Constance. "I'm not super great... I just... kinda do my own thing. I want to help heal people but aside from that, I don't think I'm all that wonderful of a person. No greater than anyone else... And that includes you." She explained, rubbing the back of her neck softly. "It's just... even though I resented you for... a really long time. I didn't think you were ever a bad person. Just.... insecure. And I could relate to that. You were trying to protect your self esteem and... I don't think that makes you a bad person at all."

Eva looked down at her fingers as she nodded. "I guess so. I mean I just think it's romantic I suppose." She smiled softly, "When you go through so much with someone, through so many difficult paths, it almost makes sense that it's easy to fall in love with them. That or you end up despising them." She laughed softly, wondering if she would ever go on such a quest. Many did after all. She paused and looked at him, "Really? I... don't know if I've ever had a crush." She admitted, her gaze shifting. "It's just... I've thought plenty of people were attractive, but I don't believe I've ever gotten close enough to someone to get past thinking they were handsome or pretty."



@Uepa

Constance Grunpart

BOT

— 22/10/2022 19:11

- You are too humble, Eva. Your dream is to help people. You could become the most powerful person in this city but your efforts go towards healing magic and other things that would help people like us. Look around at this place. Healing magic is almost trivial to all of them. I can't cast a single spell but if I could, I would most likely focus on elemental magic -, that's what she feared from continuing that conversation, that she would go on and ramble to her heart's content. It was a stupid fear as she now wanted to help Eva see that she was a force for positivity, - Look, I don't pretend to know you the best. But during this past few months, I realized some things about you. And about me. You changed me. Helped me see things more- positively. I'm still trying of course and I hope I can go further but no ordinary people can do that. I? Well, I made someone as sweet and patient as you snap in anger -, she finished, looking away from Eva with a chuckle. For some reason her heart was pounding against her chest. She knew what emotion could have caused it. Either fear or anxiety. What she couldn't pinpoint was what caused either of those two.

- Well, having a crush is just that, you know? I think, atleast. You don't have to know them much. And- yeah, I also never got close enough with my crush either. Some- girls made our paths differ. Gods, that sounded so stupid -, She would laugh again, turning her gaze towards Eva again. It was still weird to be so casual with anyone, specially with her, but she was getting used to it. She wondered hoe their lives in the same dorm would be afterwards and her chuckle finished into a smile. They could become friends, they had already proven that. And she was happy that was the case.

@ shae ʘ ʘ.°.

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 25/10/2022 20:52

"Not necessarily. All magic has a purpose. And none is more noble than the other if used in the correct way. Of course... it sounds a little less noble when you say that you're pursuing magic for the power that it provides, but I wouldn't say that it doesn't have a purpose or that it makes you any less of a good person. It's just that it's different. With power, you have the strength to protect. I... know that healing is important. I won't say it isn't. But... even elemental magic has a purpose and many many many ways to be useful and helpful to society." She smiled, gently putting her hand on Constance's shoulder.

She had changed Constance? Had what she had said that day been so impactful on Constance while she had assumed it meant nothing? She paused, her gaze shifting over to the girl, green eyes attempting to understand what Constance was feeling. "I... I'm glad what I said helped you... I uhm... didn't really mean for that at the time but I'm glad. I know it might not be all that important to you,

but since then I've seen how you've really grown." She noted softly, her cheeks growing hot and rosy as she admitted it. "I think it's clear that you're really working hard... and while we weren't friends... I was secretly a little proud that you were overcoming things because... You've always been really hard on yourself about your magic. But I'm sure one day the passion that you've put into it will be reflected in your ability."

@Uepa

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 11/11/2022 10:30

@Uepa hope school isn't getting too bad. If you ever need, we can move the rp onto hiatus)

Constance Grunpart

BOT

— 11/11/2022 19:42

- Yeah, yeah, I know. It's not the magic that counts, it is the wizard. That's why I said it. It's- comparing for example a soldier and a medic, one is more pure than the other. One desires to protect but can be lead stray by the power of his position. Most medics become medics because they have a calling to it. They desire to help people above all else. I think that's a more pure way of helping others, you know? - she saw her hand land on her shoulder which felt weird. Weird but not wrong. Awkwardly, she moved her own to rest it on top of hers, - It is just my opinion of course. I won't change yours.

- I know you didn't mean it that way, but still thank you. First, because you endured my stupidity, challenged it and came out on top. Without that I would still be excusing myself and blaming others. I still have leagues to go and I do care that you noticed my growth. Now I suppose I will have you closer to cheer me on -, her cheeks also took on a pink tint but she smiled through it. One thing she did though was take her hand from hers and glance away from the elven girl. It was embarrassing to admit such a thing specially for someone like Constance. She hoped Eva wouldn't think she was cheesy or something, - I am sure of that too. And- I am also proud of you. This people don't know you and how much effort you give to everything you do. I know of it. Hearing them think they are better in any way is funny because I know that out of everyone in this school, you are the best. Maybe not fighting, sure, but in everything else.

@ shae 𐌺𐌿𐌸𐌰.

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 13/11/2022 12:18

Eva believed magic in all ways wholly pure.

Magic was not at fault, yet it was the user who would choose how in which they wished to use it.

And magic could entirely be used in a way not befitting or not kind. As when used improperly, Eva entirely understood the pain and decimation that it could cause. She had been a victim of magic's abuse in the past. Perhaps that was why when it came to using her magic correctly, she had chosen to be a healer. To her, who had experienced the pain that magic had caused many elves, it felt important to use magic in a way she felt would have a strong benefit on others.

She paused as Constance apologized, or instead, thanked her for helping her get through that phase of her life. "I always noticed..." She said softly. "You were stunting your own growth... and I wanted to help but I knew you would hate me if I did..." She smiled softly, looking down. "So... I guess in that fit... it just came out." She laughed softly, looking at Constance with a bit of a surprised gaze as she said she was proud of her. "You think?" She laughed, shaking her head. "The best seems incorrect. I still have a ways to go." She rubbed the back of her neck. "And I'm an absolute mess when it comes to combat..." She added, winking at her playfully.

@Uepa

Constance Grunpart

BOT

— 23/11/2022 14:29

- Come on girl, learn to take a compliment. You have been saying nice things about me that I also don't agree with but I am taking them and trying to make them true for me. You are the best Eva, like or not. Believe it or not, rather -, Constance retorted after a short laugh. She never saw it that way, but it was adorable how Eva was always trying to dodge compliments, she had only noticed that during their talk. Part of why she was always jealous of her and chasing after the elven girl was because she saw her so above her that it bothered her. There were many things, of course, but she now couldn't believe how stupid she had been.

- I am glad I stepped up there. I just hope that idiot doesn't do a stupid thing like he is used to. No matter that, I am glad we can both fix our sleeping schedules now -, she joked, referencing them dodging each other on their dorm. It had gotten too tiring on the past few weeks. One day Constance found herself sleeping on the training grounds and one of her classmates trying to wake her up. It was embarrassing, but at least it wasn't one of the "bad" ones, just a timid little dude.

@ shae ʘ ʘ+.°. sorry for taking so long Shae! College is winding down so I should be able to reply quicker

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 23/11/2022 14:37

A laugh pushed through Eva's lips as Constance whined about her dodging compliments. Eva wasn't used to hearing people say such things about her, and if they did, it usually was meant as an insult.

Her cheeks reddened as Constance continued to layer on the compliments, overwhelming her. "I--" She looked down, her cheeks hot and red. She wasn't used to being flustered like this, her gaze tied to her hands as she hesitated. "Thank you...I'll try to believe it." She noted softly, biting her lip as she looked away, avoiding Constance's gaze.

"Are you worried?" She asked, knowing that it was highly likely that the other students would take some sort of action. Even though the faculty hardly gave two shits about bullying, they did seem to care when it was the rich kids. She paused and looked at her once she had mentioned their sleep schedules. "Yeah... I suppose that wasn't exactly the healthiest..." She chuckled, her gaze shifting up towards the ceiling. "I suppose we've hidden long enough. Should we head back to the dorm?"

@Uepa no problem at all! good luck with any finals or mid terms you may have!!)

Constance Grunpart

BOT

— 23/11/2022 15:30

- Good. That's more than enough -, she replied noticing Eva looking away. Was it really that embarrassing? A part of her wanted to press even further, make the elf get even more flustered, but it didn't seem to be an appropriate time. Instead she simply smiled and stood up after she was done speaking, offering her roommate her hand to help her up as well.

- Let's go. This place is nice and all, but my bed is more comfortable than the floor. And- well, you know how they tend to be. I expect to be cleaning bathrooms for a year -. Constance had laughed more on the past couple of minutes than in the entire year. That fact alone made her feel even worse about the treatment she gave her before. If only she knew how well they could mesh sooner and took the many opportunities Eva gave her to become friends. They still had a few years in front of them at campus, so she was going to make up for the missing time.

Eva felt flustered.

Even her parents didn't compliment her like this. If Constance were to continue, Eva had no clue how she would handle such. It made her chest feel tight in a way she just didn't entirely understand. Butterflies whirled in her stomach as she attempted to distract her with a different topic, hoping that she would give it up.

Seeing Constance's outstretched hand, Eva quickly understood that she had won. She smiled and took it, standing up with a soft breath. She rubbed at the back of her neck as she nodded, starting towards the door. "Cleaning the bathrooms huh..." She frowned, shaking her head. "The least they could do was give you something fun... bathrooms is too severe, don't you think? The teachers all know he's a prick... at least I'd assume." She grinned, walking towards the direction of the dorms.

@Uepa have a wonderful thanksgiving!)

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 07/12/2022 18:17

@Uepa hope you're okay!)

Constance Grunpart

BOT

— 12/12/2022 02:32

- I hope. Maybe they will take into consideration that he provoked me -, Constance mentioned leading the way to their dorm. Her school year was about to change now that she not only had a friend but a real roommate. It was going to change for both of them, honestly. And she was happy, weirdly so, knowing that despite their past she and Eva could be great friends. Whatever the rest of that year brought, it was going to be exciting, - Who knows? Maybe I will get a reward and all. Nobody likes that prick.

-

- Constance Grunpart, you are to join an operation outside of the walls to explore the dessert and bring any useful information or artifact back to the city. You will depart at the end of this year. Information about your objectives will be given at a later date. Is that clear? - Those words destroyed the blonde human alongside her hopes and dreams. She tried to protest her fate but was carried outside the office by two soldiers. Her punishment had been named and it was the worst outcome imaginable.

Going back a couple hours, it had been three days since she punched the noble student and her relationship with Eva suddenly improved. They had been enjoying their new found friendship and the relative peace since the usual bullies weren't around. Then she was called to the director's office, where the dude she punched and his father waited for her. The director was sweating and looked genuinely sorry for what he said. The noble mockingly smirked at her while his father stared her down with a serious and deadly demeanour. She recognized the uniform he wore, that of the highest ranking officials in the military. Such petty creatures that would send a girl to die because she had punched their asshole son.

Those operations were deadly and she knew that. They were used to keep non conforming citizens and criminals in check. A fate worse than prison or execution, to die in some forsaken sands where nobody knew what magical abominations may reside. She punched the door and screamed in anger, leaving a dent on the wood. Then she stormed off while other students murmured and talked to each other about what could have happened. She rambled to herself and threw every insult she knew his way, but eventually the anger subsided.

She found herself on the building's roof, a part of the school students usually went after class. It was storming, so she was the only one there. It was all a blur but in an instant she was inside, insulting his mother and family, the other she had crumbled next to the roof's door and was clinging to herself. She was pouring wet but still could differentiate her tears from the rain.

@shae 3:40.

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 12/12/2022 14:28

To Eva, this was the beginning of a new page. A new chapter even. A chapter in which she was no longer alone. She finally had a friend at the school where she had always wished for a friend. Little did she know that she would lose that friend faster than she knew. Or at least, most likely.

Eva hadn't known what to say when she had heard what happened, when she heard that Constance was going to be sent on a mission outside of the walls, outside the walls where nothing but danger awaited all who went. Death missions that people never returned from. Missions that you were only sent on if you were expected not to come back from. It was too cruel of a fate for something as silly as a singular punch. Her stomach sank as she ran out of the dorms in an attempt to find Constance.

Yet none seemed to know exactly where she had gone. Eva checked the room in which they had become friends, she checked the dorm and the cafeteria and even the emptiest of classrooms as she anxiously searched for the girl. She was sure that she was a mess, angry and upset as she had been condemned to a fate far too cruel for her actions. Eva didn't want her to be alone to mourn her own losses, finding that to be even worse. It was on the roof that she found her, her eyes widening as she stared down at the crumpled girl.

"Constance! No no no..." She muttered, shaking her head as she pulled her into a hug, her body warm in comparison to Constance's soaking wet and shivering body. "No no... it's going to be okay. I promise." She begged her, heart pounding as she wondered if there was any way that she could make this okay. "I won't let this happen... and if we can't change it... I'll go with you. I'm the most powerful person you know, right?" She felt her voice crack anxiously. "So I'll be by your side... I'll heal you if you're in danger."

@Uepa

Constance Grunpart

BOT

— 12/12/2022 14:47

It was ironic, wasn't it? Maybe it was karma punching her back. The person she had been chasing after for all her life, the one she envied for so long and the one she ultimately was going to die for

was the only one that could console her. The usually tough and strong Constance let go and stop trying to hold herself back when Eva hugged her, clinging onto the poor elf. Her sobbing got louder and her tears became more numerous. Knowing her, Eva would probably feel responsible about her fate and would do something crazy trying to mend it. And that crazy thing was said by her.

She wanted to argue against it, tell her to stay safe at school but she couldn't speak. She could just cry into her shoulder and gasp for air trying to stop her sobs. Eva couldn't go, she just couldn't. As powerful as she was there would be dangers not even a mage like her could confront. Specially because her speciality was to heal, not to fight. With a broken tone and a soft and low voice, one that sounded almost unnatural coming from the usually loud and bombastic girl, Constance with her face still hiding on her shoulder said, - Please, Eva- D-don't. I-

Her arms held her even tighter and she pressed herself more against Eva, trying to calm herself down. After a couple seconds she let go, sitting up straight again, acting as if everything was okay. Her eyes didn't lie and Eva had seen her, but she still felt like she needed to act strong so she wouldn't worry, - I will be fine. Nothing will stop me. Not even this. So don't worry about me, it just means that- that it will take a little longer for me to get to the top. That's all. Besides, you will do more good healing people in the slums than following an idiot around.

@ shae 3+.

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 14/12/2022 11:31

It was her fault.

It had been gnawing at her, the sharp feeling in the pit of her stomach that knew that if Constance had not stood up for her that she would not be in this situation. Part of her wished that she had never done such a thing and the other part of her desperately wished that she had been the one to hear it and not Constance. She would have bore it with a smile and at least no one would have been hurt.

Eva clung to her in a way she had never imagined possible. Though they were now friends, she had never imagined a world in which Eva would rely on her emotionally, her gaze softening as Constance's tears fell down her face. Eva's hand gently settled on the soft of her back, her gaze falling as she attempted to comfort the impossible. She knew there was not a way to truly make her friend feel better, yet she had to try her best.

"I have to." She said softly, smiling softly as she smoothed Constance's hair soothingly. "You may be fine... but...I won't." She confirmed, her green eyes connecting with Constance's as she gently put one hand on her cheek. "I'm coming with you whether you like it or not. We're partners now." She smiled, her eyes seeming to twinkle. "You stood up for me... and that's not something that deserves punishment in my eyes... so I'm going to reward it. You're my partner. And that means that I will

remain by your side through thick and thin." She grinned, "Even if things are hard, I will never leave your side. So please don't reject my reward."

@Uepa

Constance Grunpart

BOT

— 17/12/2022 20:07

Her little act came crumbling down as soon as Eva's hand laid on her face. All the confidence with which she spoke, all of her strenght, it was thrown out and replaced with the same anguish and despair Eva found her in. She hid her face on her friend's shoulder, hugging her again while she finished speaking, - Y-you don't deserve to-to die out there, Eva. Only I do. I- I will keep you safe. I promise. I will- I will give my life for yours if necessary.

Constance would continue to cry for a long while, not only for her but for Eva too. Blast her pure and compassionate heart. She wished her elven friend would be selfish for once, that she would stay safe inside the walls. But it was also motivation. She now had something worth protecting out there. Something worth dying for. Constance had to train harder than ever to be ready, to keep her new and only friend safe. To return her home as quick as possible. She stopped crying and lifted her head up, cupping her cheek and presenting her a smile after she had calmed herself, - I promise Eva, no matter what, you will be back here. I will get stronger, nothing out there will be a danger to you. I promise.

@ shae ʘ ʘ.°.

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 21/12/2022 15:05

A weak smile curled on Eva's lips as Constance dug her face into her shoulder, her gaze softening slightly. "I won't." She noted softly. "I won't die out there. You can't get rid of me that easily." She repeated, comforting her friend softly, her arms wrapping around her and fingers gently running through her hair. "I won't go down easily... and neither will you." She whispered, her voice soothing as Eva cried into her shoulder. "So don't you worry about it. Together we'll show the outside that we're to be reckoned with, won't we?" She laughed softly, smoothing Constance's hair. "We'll make our families proud."

She bit her lip as she felt Constance shift to look up at her, her gaze connecting with her friend's as her hands softly cupped at her cheek. "I believe you." She nodded, offering a sweet smile. While worried, Eva never wanted Constance to know that, hiding it all in a smile that hid it well. "We're a good team after all." She chuckled, blonde hair slipping in her eyes. "Together we're unstoppable. Those nobles won't even know what hit them."



@Uepa

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 28/12/2022 20:27

@Uepa hope you had a lovely holiday)

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 13/01/2023 13:24

@Uepa hope uni doesn't have you struggling too much! ))

Constance Grunpart

BOT

— 17/01/2023 18:34

- We will have to be even better- no, the best. So we better go train, the sooner we start, the better we will be prepared -, Constance had remained silent for a few seconds, simply staring into Eva's face. Slightly blushing, she turned around and took one of the elf's hands, quickly making her way inside of the building. She preferred that to being alone with her under the rain and with so many unbottled feelings. Constance feared she would do something stupid that would break the relationship they had both suffered so much to forge. Seeing that comforting and soft side of Eva had put her in a tight spot and she couldn't get her cute face out of her mind.

//Sorry for taking so long Shae! And also, do you wanna do the smaller scenes that set their growing relationship up before they are sent out?

@ shae ٭•°.

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 19/01/2023 00:40

The best.

Eva paused and looked down, her gaze only lifted when she felt Constance reach for her hand, her fingers interlocking with hers without hesitation. "I--" She started, slightly caught off guard as she was pulled out of her thoughts and promptly pulled into the building. Despite being wet, Eva could feel the unsuspecting warmth that radiated from Constance's hand, not all that different from the warmth that Eva was starting to learn that Constance radiated with. The more time the two spent together, the more Eva was beginning to learn that all of her previously held beliefs about the girl were incorrect.

Time moved swiftly.

Swifter than either of the girls would have thought as they grew enamored in their training and began to wholly dedicate themselves to a regiment much harsher than they had planned. Eva dedicated herself to expanding her knowledge of healing magic, including apprenticing under a Professor who was willing to take her in despite the beliefs about her. Outside of healing, she had found herself working hands on with helping Constance. Where Eva lacked, Constance was strong and where Constance lacked, Eva was beyond the best of the best. The two had eagerly begun to teach one another what they could and their bond was continuing to grow at a pace much faster than they had suspected.

"No no... not like that." She frowned, gently putting her hand on the small of Constance's back. "Posture has a lot to do magic." She noted, pushing her back straight and running her hands towards her shoulders. "When casting spells, you need to be entirely upright." She explained, wrapping her arm around Constance to guide her through the proper stance. "Magic comes not only from the world around us, but from within. Yet in order to hone it from both, you have to create a proper flow." Her voice came soft and diligent, her words easy to understand. "The best way to increase your flow is meditation... close your eyes, take a deep breath and visualize it. A deep ocean that streams into a bustling and bubbling river inside of your body, then flows from your core up until your fingertips. Now... try to cast a spell."

@Uepa I think that's a great idea, I'll start with a training scene! Let me know what you think))

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 30/01/2023 13:13

@Uepa hope you're doing well! ))

Eva Virtoris

BOT

— 10/02/2023 13:12

@Uepa am hope you're still doing well!))