
This is just my imagination of a continuation of a story we're writing for Aloe, Bee and Teges. The things that happened before this point are: Aloe and Teges running away from Garlemald, meeting Bee and saving him. They travelled across the continent towards Gridania. Aloe and Bee's relationship becomes ever closer during the dance at the local fair, which was the ignition point for their feelings. Which they later gave in to and from which there is no return. Later Aloe (selfishly) decided it would be better for Bee if they forget about their feelings. Now in Gridania, a breaking point of their story unfolds.

I'm not native English speaker. I wrote it in my language and then translated it so there may be some mistakes ofc.

It's my second fic I wrote in my life so YEAH enjoy the angst i guess lol

The New Beginning

Chapter 1: Avoiding Gaze

Beneath the tall canopy of trees lies a city built from their wood, known for its spiritual connection to the surrounding nature. A three-man group of unknown adventurers walk toward its gates. While one of them, Miqu'te, may not be an unusual sight, two Vieras, and men at that, are quite the view around here. As they slowly approached the gates, one of them became nervous about the guards now standing before them and moved his hand to the side, ready to draw his hidden under the cloak gunblade.

"Have you lost your mind? Act naturally," Teges muttered to his brother. "They're looking at us, and you're making a fool of yourself."

Aloe, constantly worried about what might happen because of their origins, sometimes forgets how to "act naturally" and stiffens at the mere thought of what might happen if their identities were discovered.

"Yes, you're right... sorry."

And so Aloe moved forward.

"How is it possible you fell in love with that idiot?" This time the words were directed at the sad Bee at the back of their small group, who, as it had become clear in recent days, couldn't penetrate the cold, icy walls of Aloe's stubborn personality... and his heart.

"...Shut up," Bee grumbled and rolled his eyes.

The guards who had so severely undermined Aloe's vigilance simply watched them climb the hill of the Blue Badger Gate.

When the trio finally entered the capital, they went straight to the Adventurers' Guild and registered there, so they could finally get a break from checking papers at the borders, from the locals' distrust, and to officially earn money, of course. Mother Miounne, the guild's receptionist, seemed unconcerned and immediately confirmed the applications.

Finally, something good, and without any major problems.

"So she said we have to register our official jobs and tune into the Aetherite" Viera relayed the information. "Then we have to apply with the accepted papers and we can get our rooms."

"Can't we get them now??? How am I supposed to show this sweaty face in the city?" Teges was devastated. He slammed his head on the table they were sitting at.

Bee just nodded silently and stood up.

Aloe patted his brother on the back.

"The sooner we do this, the sooner you'll get your room."

"My own room? What did you do to the real Aloe? The real Aloe would never do that. He would just say," Teges's face turned serious and his voice lowered, "'no, we can't afford that, now leave, Teges, I need my passionate kissmgmhmgmh."

Bee couldn't bear another word from his foolish owner and covered them with his hands. His face was flushed, even the insides of his ears were burning. Aloe watched the scene, not fully comprehending what had just happened. He sighed deeply and began packing the things they'd left at the table, ignoring the other two.

"She also said we could leave our things at the inn's reception, so we wouldn't have to carry all this."

Finally, the three gathered their things to leave and headed to Aeterite Square. A large crowd was gathering nearby. Some were sitting, chatting, others waiting for a meeting or to be seen. The bards playing in the background gave the scene a rather peaceful feel.

So this is how people in Gridania live, unafraid of a war that could break out at any moment.

As the three of them began to adjust, Aloe's thoughts drifted to one of his recent exchanges with Gaius, where some of the aforementioned plans had intertwined with Eorzea.

I never thought I'd make it here...

When the energy swirling from the crystal subsided, Aloe shook himself from his thoughts and met Bee's piercing yet sad gaze. Viera had complicated feelings for his no-longer-new companion. At first, he'd thought these feelings were temporary, but over the course of their journey, they had developed into something terrifying and unfamiliar. He felt guilty about his heritage, seeing the damage the Garlean Empire had inflicted on the lands they traversed. He felt guilty about the lives he had once taken. Now, even though all three were safe, Aloe couldn't simply let his guard down. Especially since, because of him, Bee might get hurt, and worse, Aloe might abandon him on the battlefield. Aloe knew he could handle this alone, at least to some extent. But he was also afraid of leaving Bee alone again, after seeing him for the first time in Ala Mhigo. At the same time, however, these insecurities are sometimes overshadowed by a longing for the warmth of Bee's love, and, though he doesn't want to admit it, for his skin as well. Unfortunately, Viera's heart is a tightly closed chest, where these confusing feelings hide and sometimes leak out. He's on the brink of the abyss called love, and once he crosses that line, there's no turning back. It hurts that Bee tries so hard to get his attention, but it's for the best. At least in Aloe's mind.

This time, Bee decided to look away.

"I'll keep an eye out for the Bards' Guild. I saw signs leading there, so it can't be far," Miqu'te said, rather melancholy, but with a hint of excitement.

"I guess we can split up. Meet me at the inn later," the elder Viera replied.

"Sure," Bee replied sluggishly, waving to the others.

And with that, the three of them went their separate ways.

Aloe looked around for a moment. As he headed toward one of the area's exits, he stopped when he noticed a sign advertising the formation of own Free Company.

It would be nice to start one of our own... someday...

Without hesitation, he continued toward the Conjurers' Guild.

"What the hell are you talking about, that nothing suits you???" Aloe exploded with anger at his indifferent brother.

The atmosphere in the inn was so thick you could cut it with a knife. And once again, the young Viera boys were having a fight.

"Like I said. Nothing here excites me that much, you know. I don't want to do stupid things for stupid guilds I don't care about."

"Aha, of course, I can congratulate you on sleeping with the chocobos tonight, sweet dreams." Aloe, frustrated by the turn of events, growled and went with the prepared papers to finish the adventurers' guild registry.

"You know you could just leave the guild later, right?" A visibly irritated Bee took a sip of his beer to calm himself. He had too many stressful moments for one day.

"Yeah, but this way I don't even have to abandon them, right? One less problem. I'll just sleep in Aloe's room. He talks a lot, but ultimately, he cares too much to leave me." Teges smirked and took a sip of his drink. "Besides, it'll be easier for you to invite him to your room," Viera said, as if he had absolutely no intention of taking the entire room to himself.

Bee turned bright red.

"As if he were to even do that now..."

"Who would do what?" Suddenly, a tall figure appeared behind Bee, who blushed even deeper.

"brhrhbbHH NOTHING," Miko immediately blurted out, flustered.

Aloe looked at him suspiciously but decided to ignore whatever his two drunken companions might be talking about, which was probably nothing important.

"Here." He gave Bee the room keys. "I was told the rooms are a bit far apart."

"Oh. Thank you."

"Well, drink up and let's put our things away in our rooms. You too, Teges." Aloe began gathering his things.

As Miko finished his beer, a whisper escaped Teges's lips: "I told you so, haha." He winked at Bee, who rolled his eyes again.

The three of them went upstairs. Aloe's room was near the stairs, and Bee's was closer to the end of the hall. Divided by three rooms in between, Aloe was a little nervous that Bee was so far away. If something were to happen, he might not be able to help him. Both Vieras stopped at the door. Teges took the key from his brother, who was watching his "not-a-lovers" back as he walked down the hall. Finally, seeing Bee open the door, he decided to enter his room as well. At that moment, Miko glanced his way, but only saw Viera averting his gaze from Bee.

Without hesitation, Teges had already collapsed onto the bed when his brother entered the room. Everything simply fell to the floor. Just as he'd entered and thrown himself off.

Sigh... you can't blame him. It had been a long journey.

Aloe removed his boots and armor, then headed to the corner where a washcloth and warm water were already waiting. Slowly, he began to clean himself of the sweat and dust.

"Ooooooh, should I call Bee?"

Aloe almost spilled all the water on the ground. "Leave me alone, okay?"

After the boys freshened up, they decided it was time for a proper meal. Aloe had the big task of telling his other companion about the plans. He was nervous, but someone had to do it. When he entered the hallway, Bee was already outside, talking to someone Aloe didn't know.

"Oh, thank you for the offer, and thanks again for the help!" Miko said with a smile that made Viera's heart ache.

"Oh, don't worry! I'm just helping lost sprouts find their courage. When I saw such an adorable little sprout, and a Miko, I had to help. Hehe." The person next to Bee, who was another Miko'te, had a cheerful personality. "Anyway, I'll be down at the tavern if you want to ask more questions. Have a nice evening." He winked and headed off.

"Yeah, thanks! And you too!"

Bee waved, but when he noticed Aloe, the wave became more timid. As Bee's new friend headed for the stairs, his eyes met Aloe's, waiting by the door. One look made Viera doubt his sincerity. Aloe finally moved closer to Bee and saw his cheerful face turn grim.

The pain in Aloe's heart grew. He was destroying what he valued most, but he couldn't admit it. He saw how Bee reacted to his new friend's words, and it made the pain in Viera's heart burn. It burned with rage and desire. He didn't want Bee to look at others like that. Aloe wanted Miko's happy eyes to be focused solely on him. It was so selfish that Aloe felt embarrassed by his own emotions. He had to get himself under control. Or at least he thought so.

"Do you need anything?" Bee began, and Aloe jumped out of his train of thought.

"Um, yeah... well... We wanted to go get something to eat and wanted to tell you so you could get ready."

"Oh, sure! I'll just grab a few things." Bee went inside and left the door open.

"Who was that?" Aloe couldn't contain his curiosity. He followed Bee in slowly.

"Oh, I met him at the Archers' Guild, or rather, he led me there. I got lost along the way." A faint smile appeared on Miko's face.

"How did you get lost there? It's a straight path." The question seemed to anger Bee a little.

"Well, at least someone was kind enough to think of me when I was alone. We parted ways as you ordered. You should be glad it went so smoothly. Otherwise, I'd still be wandering around somewhere in Gridania. ALONE."

An awkward silence fell in the room. Aloe again didn't think before speaking. He was already on edge, making the situation even worse.

A drop of water fell from his hair, still damp from his bath, onto the back of his neck, which now glistened in the evening light outside the window. It might not seem like a big deal, but for Aloe, so conflicted, it was something that awakened within him a longing for intimacy.

Fuck.

Viera felt another “bad” feeling inside him, intensified by the anger from an unexpected encounter in the hall.

It's no longer mating season. Get your act together. Especially now that he's angry.

Aloe practically prayed to the gods to give him strength. He leaned against the wall, closed his eyes, raised his head toward the ceiling, and fought against his own blood.

"Okay. We can go." Bee started walking toward the door.

Without opening his eyes yet, Aloe reached for the doorknob and was surprised when his hand met the warmth of another body. At that moment, all his efforts were in ruins and his blood was governed by its own rules. He grabbed Miko's wrist and pulled him aggressively toward him. Bee, clearly in shock, only stuttered before hitting Viera's chest. In an instant, all his anger transformed into shock. But then nothing happened that they both so secretly desired. In an attempt to fight, Aloe simply hugged Bee tightly. He pressed his cheek against the top of the much smaller Miko's still-wet head and inhaled air and his scent.

"Sorry about me. I think I'm tired," Aloe said quietly.

"Of course, calm down." A blushing Bee patted his back.

The hug ended as quickly as it had begun, as Aloe pulled away from the object of his affection.

"I'm going to get Teges, and I'll see you downstairs, okay?"

"Okay."

Bee hadn't fully processed the situation yet, and a door slammed behind Aloe.

When everyone sat down at the table in the already busy tavern, the dark silhouette of the forest was visible outside the windows. Candlelight and magic created an atmospheric interior, and in the background the music of the bards, who were in the main square during the day, echoed.

"This is for you guys," the tall Elezen lady brought their order to the table.

"Yeheehehaah! I've been dreaming of this for a long time." Teges immediately reached for a beer.

"So, like about two hours?" Bee also didn't waste time on snacks and quickly took a sip of his own.

They were both very pleased with their orders, while Aloe, lost in thought, didn't even notice when their food arrived.

"You're not eating?" Bee asked, a little worried.

"What? Oh... yes, of course."

When he turned his gaze toward the table, a giant roasted dodo sat in the center.

"Oh wow. Now I know why the price was so high."

"Do you think their, um, chocobos make their food like that too?" Teges asked with a full mouth.

Aloe and Bee looked at him with resignation.

"What? I'm serious."

"Just take it and stuff yourself. I don't want to know, honestly," the brother replied.

Time passed, and the number of mugs grew. Even Aloe allowed himself one that night, at the urging of his companions, of course. The party in the tavern was gaining momentum, and Bee eagerly jumped onto the dance floor, while Aloe watched from afar. A smile spread across his face at the sight of this energetic, alcohol-red Miqu'te. Out of the corner of his eye, however, he noticed the second Miqu, whom he'd met earlier in the hall, approaching. The sight of him made Aloe's blood boil, and uncertainty crept into his heart.

"Go get him, or someone will steal him." Teges wanted to reassure his brother, but he seemed to have forgotten his nature.

"No, I don't want to bother him. Besides, I don't know how to have fun like that."

"I saw something else not long ago, but maybe I need to get you more drunk."

"No, thank you, I don't want this incident to happen again."

"Well, then watch Bee Gos disappear right under your nose." His brother nodded toward the dance floor, where Bee was dancing next to his new friend.

Aloe's insecurity was beginning to rise to its peak.

"You're so jealous, man. It's written all over your face."

"Shut your mouth," Aloe replied aggressively. He then stood up and reached into his pocket for the money. "Here's the money, pay when you're done. Dinner's already paid for, just in case. I'm going upstairs."

Viera didn't even wait for a reply and walked briskly toward the stairs.

When he reached the room, he closed the door behind him and leaned against it, slumping heavily to the floor.

Am I really jealous? About something like that? So Bee can't have other friends anymore?

Aloe clutched his head as if he wanted to tear his hair out. Thoughts raced through his mind. He wanted Bee to be with him, but he couldn't guarantee his safety. In that case, he shouldn't act like this. He shouldn't be jealous. He shouldn't want to have him all to himself. And yet, he felt these very feelings within him that he couldn't cope with. However, what he had decided couldn't be changed, in his head at least. He had to persevere with this until the end, and the wounds would heal one day, right? Tears streamed down his cheeks. He felt like the worst person in the world. He didn't deserve the warmth and love Bee gave him when he was so awful to him. He wiped his eyes, but they wouldn't stop blurring. He slowly decided to move to his travel bed, as he had given the inn's bed to his brother. As his mind drifted through the maze of thoughts, the distant sounds of the tavern and the crickets outside the window lulled his body to sleep.