

Jaxx Entry Eight

I tried my best to comfort her, but her sadness was far more than my words. Nao noticed her tears and leaned against my belly.

"It's alright, Ginger. I bet Jaxx would fulfill your wish...right?" she said, glancing at me.

I took a deep breath and nodded in agreement. Ginger's crying gradually subsided, and she tapped my stomach.

"Yes, Ginger?" I asked.

"Could we go now?" she questioned.

Glancing at Nao, I found her gaze meeting mine. The sun was beginning its descent, and traveling at night seemed inevitable. After a moment of thought, I turned back to Ginger.

"By the time we reach Amavalia, it'll be dark. Let's travel at night so we can arrive by morning, alright?" I proposed.

She hesitated.

"I also need to prepare some things. Like food, water, shelter, and light," she added.

"Fine. But please, hurry!"

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As the moon ascended, we set off. I carried my bag containing food, drinks, a dagger, and a tent slung over my shoulder. Nao rested comfortably on my shoulders while I held my lantern. The path to Amavalia was paved until the cursed plains, where it gradually faded. The tall grass brushed against me, swaying gently in the moonlight. Taking a deep breath, I pressed forward, parting the strands of grass as we went.

The plains were shrouded in darkness, illuminated only by the faint light of my lantern. We moved quietly yet swiftly, aware of the potential dangers lurking in this desolate place.

"Hey there, little bunny," a voice interrupted us.

Both Nao and I jumped in surprise, bracing ourselves for the worst.

"What's happening!?" Ginger exclaimed.

"Not now, Ginger," I responded, gripping my dagger tightly.

"Ginger, huh? I think I know her," the voice continued, his silhouette against the night sky. "She escaped from me before, that smart girl."

Ginger recognized the voice from long ago. "Auddie..."

He smiled at her response, then bent down to my level and placed his hands on my stomach. Applying pressure, Ginger grunted in pain. Acting quickly, I seized my dagger and thrust it through his hand. He withdrew it swiftly, glaring at me with anger.

"I think I've had enough with ya," he growled, grabbing my waist.

I attempted to struggle out of his grasp, but it proved futile. Nao clung tightly, refusing to abandon me. He hoisted me up toward his open maw, preparing to force me in. I used my hands to resist, but the slippery saliva coating the walls made it impossible to maintain a grip.

"I-I can't hold on!" Nao yelled.

"Just hold on a little longer!" I urged, still attempting to escape

Knowing I'm struggling, Auddie lifted up my legs and exerted even more force. Unable to withstand the pressure, Nao lost her grip and tumbled down his throat. Without hesitation, I leaped in after her.

As I slid down his constricting throat, regret flooded my mind. The acidic environment burned ferociously as I descended, Nao waiting for me in terror.

The acid's potency intensified, causing heavy pain. Nao scrambled to my shoulders, clinging tightly and trembling.

"Jaxx, I've been trying to ask what's happening, and all you've done is ignore me! So you better tell me what is happening before I punch you," she demanded.

"Your 'friend' Auddie ate us," I replied coldly. "I will be dead soon. And I didn't even get to experience anything..."

She fell silent, her anger simmering. Then, suddenly, she erupted in rage. "What about me!? What do you think I feel!? You act like this is foreign to you, but it's not! You shouldn't even give me a solemn response, knowing that you ate me—"

"I was forced to by—"

"I DON'T CARE JAXX! I don't care how I got here, but all I know is that you are now feeling my pain! And, honestly, I don't think you care about it! ... No," she paused. "I don't think you care about me."

I was left speechless.

"You're right," I admitted. "I don't know what you feel. But unless you are able to escape from me, there is nothing I can do."

She punched me hard, and I held my gut in pain, trying not to lean into the acid. Her blows kept coming, relentless, as I attempted to stop her punches.

"STOP!" I yelled, struggling to defend myself.

"I. Won't. Stop. Until. I. Am. Out!" she yelled, her determination unwavering.

The stomach tightened, growing hotter by the moment. Despite the pain, she continued her assault, driving me to the point where I couldn't stand up. Desperately, I turned until my back leaned against the acidic walls, my head the only part remaining dry. The agony in my stomach was unbearable. Sensing her opportunity, Ginger launched herself upward, striving to escape my stomach. But something inside me resisted, refusing to let her go. I swallowed sharply, attempting to push her back in. Yet, she persisted, climbing relentlessly. I fought to push her down, but my efforts proved futile. She reached the point where my maw was open, her head sticking out behind it, a smile of anticipation on her face.

As she smiled, on the brink of freedom, I felt a feeling inside me. My sole focus became keeping her trapped inside.

Why am I acting like this?

With one final gulp, she slid back down, struggling. Nao stared at me with terror, while I looked at her with fear. Ginger's return to my stomach prompted tears, shaking the walls with her sobs.

"Ginger, you can't escape. I can't control this... feeling. I tried to resist it, but it took over," I explained.

Ginger fell silent, and I braced myself for another onslaught of punches. Then, she spoke.

"I guess it is the end for me. There is no escape. There is no future for me," she said solemnly. "But I guess you are going down too. We'll all go down together."

As I closed my eyes, resigning to our fate, I felt myself rising slowly. Moments later, I glimpsed the outside world. Auddie loomed above me, looking down.

"Here we are! My trusty tent!" he exclaimed. Ginger noticed my escape and resumed struggling.

"Got a struggler, eh?" Auddie remarked. Before I could respond, he continued, "I see you got yourself a meal already, but do you want anything else?"

"Run," something whispered. "It's a trap."
I met his gaze, and he returned it. Breaking the silence, he spoke again.
"Alright... I'll just get your tent set up."

As he turned his back, I ran as fast as I could, the grass whipping against my face as blood trickled down. His heavy footsteps echoed behind me, a constant reminder of the danger and my life.

"Ginger? Why did you help me?" I gasped, struggling to catch my breath.
"Didn't you want me dead earlier?"

"That was earlier, but there is no time to think. Just keep running," she urged.

As I sprinted, the grass scraped my face, and exhaustion weighed heavy on my limbs. I pressed on until I glimpsed the end of the plains. Glancing back, I saw Auddie had given up the chase. Exiting the plains, I collapsed onto the ground, drained by the ordeal.

"Nao," I whispered, searching desperately for her. But she was nowhere in sight.

"NAO!" I cried out, hoping to catch her attention.
"Here," her faint voice reached me.

Reaching up to my head, I felt her soft fur. She leaped from my head to my stomach, curling up as I watched the moon sink and dawn approach. Though I wanted to rest, I knew I had to press on. Gathering Nao in my arms, I set out for Amavalia.

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The sun illuminated the small village, casting a warm glow over the wooden homes and the few markets.

"Ok Ginger, I'm here," I announced, scanning the houses. "Which one is it?"

"When you enter the village, it will be the first home on your right," she instructed.

"Thank you," I nodded, making my way toward her home.

The house stood slightly elevated, wooden stairs leading to the door. Tentatively, I ascended the steps, hoping I had found the right place. Standing at the door, I knocked.

"Coming!" a voice called from inside.

Seconds later, she swung the door open, her gaze darting from my stomach to me.

"What do you want?" she demanded, her tone sharp.

"Uh... I... uh..." I stammered nervously.

"Hi, Mom," Ginger interjected, nudging my stomach slightly.

With a startled scream, she darted into the house, leaving the door ajar. I followed cautiously, closing the door behind me.

"CLEM!" she yelled, rousing him from his slumber.

"What?" he grumbled, rising to attention.

"Ginger... she's in that rabbit's stomach..." Rose's voice quivered.

Clem's gaze fell downward, his expression shifting to one of alarm as he dashed toward me, gripping my throat tightly.

"Rabbit. You better let her out now before I-" his threat was interrupted by Nao's interjection.

"SHE CAN'T!" Nao shouted, her voice trembling with fear.

Clem released his hold on me, and I collapsed to the ground, the impact jarring my senses. Scrambling away from him, I felt his intense gaze bore into me, a mixture of anger and concern.

"Mom. Dad. It's my fault, not hers..." Ginger's voice wavered.

"Honey..." Rose murmured softly.

"Mom, it really is. I decided to take a bounty for an Aganonion Fox," Ginger confessed.

"WHAT?!" Rose's outburst filled the room.

Nao, sensing the escalating tension, sought refuge behind my shoulders. "I know.... I did kill him, but I got caught in the process. When Vex came to get me, I was still sleeping. He fed me to Jaxx here, which I later found out Jaxx didn't agree to," Ginger explained.

"So, you're saying that the King fed you to this... Bunny...?" Clem's voice was incredulous.

"Yes, Dad. Yes..." Ginger's voice carried a weight of regret.

Both Rose and Clem stood in awkward silence, their gazes shifting between Ginger's stomach and her tear-streaked face.

"How long does she have left...?" Rose's voice was barely above a whisper as she approached Ginger.

"I can't say," I answered solemnly. "She wasted her energy struggling. For all I know, it could be soon."

A heavy silence settled over the room, broken only by Ginger's soft sobs. "Jaxx... It feels tight. Too tight," Ginger choked out, her voice trembling with emotion. "I was trying to hide this from you, but I can't anymore... Jaxx, I don't have much time."

"Ginger, I'm sorry," I murmured, reaching out to comfort her.

"Mom, Dad, can you hear me?" Ginger's voice was filled with desperation.

"Yes, hun, we can hear you," Rose's voice quivered with emotion as she wiped away a tear.

"Thanks for everything. I know this is not how you expected for my life to end. I got too greedy, and..." Ginger's words dissolved into tears. "I-I'm sorry."

Rose, unable to bear the weight of the situation, silently exited the room, leaving behind an atmosphere heavy with grief and remorse.

"Ginger, thanks for bringing me and your mother together," Clem's voice trembled with emotion as he stood there, his gaze fixed on my stomach.

"Jaxx, I have one favor to ask of you," Ginger's voice was soft but resolute, her hand resting on the inside of my stomach.

"Yes, Ginger?" I responded, my heart heavy with anticipation. "I want you to beat Vex's ass."

Gone...

That's how it ends...

AniTheFox

Gone...

Clem noticed her absence, his eyes filled with rage.
“I want you out!” he bellowed at me, his anger sharply increasing
Not wanting to escalate the situation, I scurried out of the place and ran to a small hill, Nao following closely behind. Once we reached the peak, I sat down beneath a small tree where a target board hung from a nail. As I examined the board, tears started to form in my eyes, the words “To Ginger. From Dad. Happy 18th Birthday” burned into the wood. Tears welled from my eyes as I read the same words over and over, each time making me cry more.
Nao’s voice brought me back to the present. “Jaxx, we need to go home.”
“You’re right... let’s go,” I agreed, taking the target board with me as we headed back to Aganon.

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“Jaxx, are you doing okay?” Vex’s voice cut through the silence as he entered the room. He sighed and sat down next to me, giving my belly a few pats.
“So, did she die?” he inquired, his tone indifferent.
“What do you think, you glutton,” I retorted, disgust evident in my voice.
“Jaxx, you have to learn that this is what happens. You can’t be getting all miserable just because you killed her,” he lectured, his words devoid of empathy.
“Why me?” I questioned, frustration simmering beneath the surface.
“What am I to you? A guinea pig? A garbage disposal?”
Enraged, Vex lifted the covers, meeting my gaze with intensity. “You remember our little promise, remember? You get to stay here and I train you,” he reminded me, his grip tightening on my stomach. “So, we are going to keep on training you until you are ready.”
“For what?!” I cried out. “You keep on telling me to be ready, but what am I supposed to be ready for? If you won’t tell me the answer?!”
His eyes flashed with anger. “Say one more thing and I’ll force you to eat another animal. Do you understand!?” he threatened, his voice booming.
I recoiled in terror. “I... I just want to know, Vex...”
With a final command, Vex instructed me to be in his throne room in one hour. As he left, Nao offered to accompany me, but I refused.
“Don’t,” I replied.
Walking into Vex’s room, I braced myself for what was to come. When he arrived, he noted my early arrival with a hint of surprise.

"I need time," he stated, his voice commanding authority. He steps down from his throne.

"And you need time too," he continued, his hands resting on my belly. "What are you going to do to me?" I asked, my voice trembling with fear.

"I'm making this harder for you. As a punishment," he declared, his tone unwavering.

"How?" I pleaded desperately for answers.

"You are going to eat two animals. You are going to learn how to balance with more prey," he declared with finality.

At that moment, I broke under the weight of his words.

"I'M DONE LEARNING!" I screamed, my resolve crumbling.

His response was swift and merciless. He pounced on me, overpowering my struggles, and forced me into his stomach.

"You are going to stay there for a while," he declared.