

Souls Unite

By Leanna

Chapter 16

As promised Gaston Schwenk appeared in the panther's bed chamber an hour before first light, he went over to the side of the bed and looked down at the sleeping couple and just shook his head, "you're too good for that big eared freak," he snorted then leaned down and brushed the thin black strap of her satin black nightgown over the lioness's shoulder.

Feeling the icy touch Leanna opened her eyes, "time to get moving kitty," Schwenk said.

The lioness just nodded pushed the covers back and gingerly removed the panther's arm from around her waist and quietly got out of the bed.

"Nice," Schwenk smirked commenting on her short gown, "Did you wear that just for me".

Leanna just glared at him and walked into the bathroom, Schwenk turned his attention back to the sleeping panther, "not so brave now are we gimpy," Schwenk smirked, "hope it hurts like hell....I just wish I could see the look on your face when you realize that she's up and left your sorry blue arse....and if things go according to what I have planned for her...you won't be seeing her for a good long time...if ever".

"What are you doing....get away from him," The lioness growled as she came out of the bathroom.

Schwenk straightened up, "I wasn't doing anything," he said innocently. "You didn't say a word to him about leaving did you".

"If I did do you think he'd still be asleep," Leanna said quietly and slid open the drawer in the nightstand and took out an envelope and went to lay it on her pillow.

"What's that," Schwenk asked.

"I just can't disappear without a word, he'll come searching for me," Leanna nodded.

"Let me read it," Schwenk said.

"No...Now let's go".

"I said let me read it," Schwenk insisted, "I want to make sure you didn't tell him what's going on".

"Don't worry I didn't," Leanna sighed.

“Well then you have nothing to hide,” Schwenk smirked as the lioness opened it and held it up for him to read.

“Aww how touching....its so heart felt and sad it makes me want to puke,” The human snorted.

Leanna just shook her head and placed the letter on her pillow, she refused to let the human see the tears that threatened to fall as she quietly snuck out of the room. It was very late and there were very few guards posted. In a few minutes there would be a changing of guards, the ones currently on duty were more concerned with waiting for their relief to show up then they were the Lioness’s movements. Leanna quickly and quietly made her way down to the hanger, no one was around, she boarded one of the stealth ships, she had chosen it for two reasons, its speed and its ability to go undetected.

She started the engines and over rode the hanger door, she said a silent prayer as the ship rose up through the open doors and sped off into the darkness. After clearing the planet the ship headed out into deep space. Leanna set the ship on auto-pilot and sat back in the seat and closed her eyes.

“So how long before we get to third earth,” Schwenk asked suddenly appearing in the co-pilot’s seat.

The lioness jumped, “you really have to stop that,” she grumbled

“Just keeping you on your toes sweet cheeks,” Schwenk smirked, “so how long”.

“At top speed....three hours,” Leanna said.

“So what are we going to do for three hours,” Schwenk winked.

“You can go to hell for all I care,” she barked.

“Ooooh cranky,” Schwenk smirked.

“Look just leave me alone for the next three hours ok,” the lioness said.

“Well you know being dead...I do get kind of bored,” Schwenk shrugged.

“Then read a damn book, or better yet....go haunt someone else,” Leanna growled.

“You’re such a grumpy bitch...you’ve been hanging around that panther too long”

“You shut up about him,” She spat.

Schwenk just smirked, “alright I’ll leave you alone,” he nodded, “besides I like your dark side better...she’s more fun then you are,” he winked and vanished.

Leanna's eyes turned jet black, "oh I'm so going to enjoy kicking your ass when you come back to life," she scowled.

An hour later the panther slowly woke, the medication Tygra had give him knocked him out like a light, but at least he slept soundly, he reached over to his mate only to find a cold empty spot where she should have been. He turned his head and seen the envelope lying on her pillow. A sinking feeling came to the pit of his stomach as he reached for it and opened it. His eyes tried to focus on the words.

My sweet panther.

I write this with a heavy heart, but it's the way it has to be...I've caused so much trouble for you and the others with what I've done and become. I can no longer trust myself. I fear I may hurt you or someone else I care about, so I decided it would be safer for everyone if I left...I know you well enough to know what your thinking , but please don't worry about me.....your a wonderful man and you deserve so much more that what I can give you. I know you've never asked anything of me that you weren't willing to give in return. I will always be "l'amore della sua vita" and you will always be mine. I will contact you when your son is born

And don't worry about the ship I will set it on auto-pilot when I reach my destination and send it safely back.

Forever and always

Lea

Panthro folded the note, he laid there for a moment stunned. He reopened the note and read it again. He threw back the covers and got up and dressed then headed to Lion-O's bedchamber with the letter clutched tightly in his hand. Cheetara had just finished getting dressed when a knock came to the door; she looked over at the time, "early for visitors," She thought to herself and went to the door.

"Where's Lion-O," Panthro asked.

"He's in the shower....what's wrong," The cheetah asked seeing the pained look on the panther's face.

Panthro looked at her and held up the crumpled letter he held tightly clenched in his fist, "she's gone Tara".

"WHAT.....What do you mean gone," She said taking the panther by the arm and helping him in the room, she led him over to one of the over stuffed chairs.

After sitting he gave her the letter, Cheetara smoothed out the paper and read it "I...I don't understand it," the cheetah said confused.

“You’re not the only one,” Panthro snorted running his hands over his face, “she was fine once we got her home last night”.

“Yes...she calmed down quite a bit when she was with you,” The cheetah nodded then turned, “I’ll let Lion-O know your here,” she said and went to get the lion.

The big panther sat back in the chair, emotions were threatening to over take him, millions of questions raced through his mind, most of them started with why..why would she just up and leave, why didn’t she say and thing, why. The panther’s thoughts were interrupted by the sound Lion-O’s voice, “Panthro,” He said, “you alright”.

“No,” he said his voice cracking a bit, “Why....Why would she do this..... After everything we’ve been though....why would she leave me”?

Lion-O looked at his friend, he had never seen the panther this upset before and it worried him. “I’m sure there must have been a reason...But not one you might think,” Lion-O nodded.

“That’s not good enough,” the panther scowled, “I want to know why”.

“We will track her down and find out,” the lion nodded.

An alarm beeped quietly waking the lioness from her light slumber; she opened her eyes and frowned as Third Earth came into view.

“Shouldn’t frown it will give you wrinkles,” Schwenk said as he appeared in the seat beside her.

Leanna just rolled her eyes but didn’t say anything as she manoeuvred the ship through the planets outer atmosphere.

“So how are you going to get my body without being seen or getting caught,” Schwenk asked?

“Just leave that to me,” she said flying towards cat’s lair, once she was within range she flipped a switch putting the ship in stealth mode, she hovered the ship over the mighty cat’s head and got up and walked the short distance to the back, she reached inside one of the small cupboards and took out a tracker and went back up front...with the flick of a few more switches she vanished.

When she appeared she was in the basement of the lair, she went to the make shift morgue and found the humans body and placed the tracker on his corpse and pressed the button on her wrist comms and was transported back to the stealth ship.

“Alright..It’s on board...now where,” she asked taking her seat in the pilots chair once again.

“Just head northeast...I’ll let you know when we get close,” Schwenk nodded and sat back.

The lioness shrugged and set off in the direction she was told. Leanna wasn't quite sure where they were going, she had never been this far north before, she was trying to recall the map that the ThunderCats had made of this planet, by with out land markers it was hard to tell, she looked down and only seen miles and miles of ocean, "What ocean is that," She asked.

"A big salty one," Schwenk smirked.

"You know it would help if you stopped being such a smartass and actually answered a question without a snide remark," the lioness grumbled.

"How the hell do I know...you think just because I'm human I would know everything about this planet," he huffed, "for your information I wasn't born and raised here so I have no idea....I just know of a place we need to go and that it's in this direction".

"Alright...don't get your panties in a twist," the lioness snorted then looked up, "land...finally".

"We're close," Schwenk nodded, "Just a few more miles".

"Thank the gods," she sighed.

"There," Schwenk said pointing ahead, "That circle of large stone ...land there".

Leanna nodded and landed the ship a few feet away from the large stone circle, she shut down the engines and stood, "Meet you outside," Schwenk said and vanished.

"Oh joy," The lioness snorted and went to the back and grabbed an anti-grav unit, the ramp lowered and the lioness pushed Schwenk's body out in front of her with help from the anti-grav unit.

Schwenk stood under a large stone archway. "Over here," He called.

Leanna followed him, the two took a short path that lead under the arch way into the inner circle of stones, the place looked to be hundred of thousands of years old, the large erected stone formed a perfect circle...even over time the large monument stood, a few of the stone had fallen on their sides, but still formed a circle, in the middle sat a pool in the center of the pool sat a large stone alter. "Over there...set my body over there," Schwenk said pointing to the stone.

Leanna hesitated; she had a very bad feeling about this place," NOW," Schwenk bellowed.

As she drew closer to the alter a chill ran down her spine, the site was used for many rituals. Some for good...some evil. She could almost feel the presents of sprits moving around. Once she put Schwenk's body on the alter she took the anti-grav and stepped back and wonder what would happen next, "I did my part...can I go now," she asked.

Schwenk looked at her, "not staying for the show," he smiled evilly.

“I fulfilled my part,” she said backing away, she looked up as the skies over head darkened, lightening lit the sky, thunder rolled in the distance, she knew what ever was about to happen she wanted no part of it, she turned on her heels and ran back towards the ship as fast as she could.

“Not so fast sweet cheeks,” Schwenk smirked as one of the large stone came tumbling down blocking her path.

The lioness stopped dead in her tracks and turned just as the alter began to move sinking slowly down in the pool, her eyes were fixed on the sight as Schwenk’s body was submerged in the dark cold water, a strong wind came from nowhere , whipping her hair around her face, she reached up to move it from her eyes. Lightening cracked, a bolt hit the pool, the alter that Schwenk’s body laid on exploded into million of tiny chunks flying in every direction, the lioness dropped to the ground covering her head. As fast as it began it was over, things calmed down, the lightening stopped along with the thunder. Leanna raised her head and seen nothing, she looked around for Schwenk’s ghost but that had also vanished. She slowly got to her feet and brushed herself off.

Everything was quiet...too quiet, she took a step towards the pool. Suddenly the pool started to bubble as if it was boiling; the lioness froze as a form started to emerge from the pool. “No...It can’t be,” She gasped as a head emerged.

She stood and stared as the body of Schwenk now standing slowly rose from the pool, she jumped as his eyes snapped open, he gazed fixed on her. He stepped from the pool to solid ground; an evil smirk crossed his lips as he looked at the frightened woman standing in front of him, “hello pet”.