

A Very Third Earth Christmas

By Shay Leona

Chapter 6: Reindeer Games

A few days had passed and there was less than two weeks until Shay's Christmas party and Christmas day. Things around Cat's Lair were hectic as usual. Lynxana had just finished her night watch and had made her way to her bedroom. She changed into her lounging clothes and crawled in her big comfortable bed. Just as her head was about to hit the pillow a familiar voice spoke.

"Hello Lynxana, getting ready for a cat nap?"

"Huh?" Lynxie shot up and saw a reflection of Sinistral in her mirror then gasped, "Sin! What are you doing here?"

Sin stepped out of the mirror and stood at the head of Lynxie's bed with his arms crossed.

"Do you have a feasible explanation as to why you weren't present at the evil conference?"

"Conference? What evil conference?"

Sin rolled his eyes, "Okay you know what, I don't have time for acted out ignorance Lynxana!"

"What the hell are you talking about Sin? I wasn't aware of some evil conference!"

Sin uncrossed his arms and his posture relaxed, "Cloutie didn't send you a telegram?"

“What a telegram? No, I mean what times are you living in Sin, the 1940’s?”

“Shut-up! I’m in no mood for sarcasm!” Sin stroked his beard and sighed heavily, “Oh well, I’ll just cast him in demon fire when I get back to the lair. Anyways, you are to come with me now so I can discuss some evil business with you.”

“Evil business? Now? Why? I need to get some sleep Sin!”

Sin’s eyes glowed a fiery red, “Your soul belongs to me and you will do what I say!!!!!!”

Frightened, Lynxie jumped out of the bed, “Okay, okay I’m coming!”

“That’s what I thought, now hurry up and change, what you have on is not proper traveling attire!” Sin ordered.

Lynxie glared at the dark lord then went into the bathroom. As soon as she finished changing clothes she walked next to Sin and he transported them in a forest near a small village with a few cottages. Lynxie realized that it was the same village that Emma and Shay lived in. She then spotted Emma’s at the edge of the forest where she, Jason-ra and Joshua were putting up lights. She then turned to Sin with a look of irritation.

“Sin, why are we here?”

“Well darling, at the evil meeting we came up with a plan to get rid of the Christmas spirit.”

“Get rid of the Christmas spirit?! No Sin, that’s just so wrong and horrifically evil!”

“Since when did you become all sunshine and rainbows?” Sin shot back.

“Sin, I am a Thundercat you know.”

“You and Leanna make me sick with this ‘I’m a Thundercat so that means I’m not evil’ malarkey. It’s meaningless and I’m tired of it!”

“Geez , someone woke up this morning with a trident up their arse!”

Sin shot an angry glare at the lynx then rolled his eyes looking back at the scene. “Anyways, this is the first part of my plan, to ruin Emma’s Christmas!”

“Ruin her Christmas, how?”

“Just watch.....” Sin pointed towards the cottage and Lynxie looked at the scene to observe.

“Okay Josh, I think you’ve got it so far. It looks really good from down here!” the wildcat/cheetah yelled towards the roof.

The male snow leopard was on the roof nailing down a synthetic Santa and reindeer sleigh. All he wore was his black tank and jeans and his usually knitted cap to protect him from the cold. He really didn’t need much to wear since he has the ability to stand the extremities of hot and cold weather.

Emma hung a wreath on her door and squealed with delight. “Ooooh what a perfect way to spread holiday cheer; DECORATIONS!”

“Ugh!” Sin muttered, rolling his eyes at her cheerfulness.

Shay strolled by and admired the decorations on her friend’s house. “Oh wow Em! Your house looks lovely!” Shay said pleased.

“Thank you Shay! I really think this will help us get ready for the holidays coming up.”

“It’s magnificent!” The leopard exclaimed looking up on the roof. She couldn’t help but admire the snow leopard’s wonderful physique. “Hey Josh! Those Reindeer are looking pretty good! It’s almost as if they are real!”

“Oh thanks Shay!” he called back. Shay smiled but it then soon faded and she became worried. She looked at the first reindeer that was next to Josh and she could’ve sworn that she saw it move.

“I hope I’m not being delusional or anything, but it really looks like that reindeer...oh great Jaga!” she looked up again and saw that the reindeer WAS moving! “Josh LOOK OUT!”

“Huh?” as soon as he turned around the reindeer came to life and knocked him down on the roof. He cried out tried to grab hold of the first thing he saw which was a string of lights while some of the reindeer started tearing up Emma’s roof and the others were destroying her Christmas decorations.

“Oh no! They’re alive! And why are they pulling off pieces of my roof and tearing up the lights?!?” Emma screamed.

Sinistral smirked as he watched the chaos, “Ohhhh this is just too great!” Lynxie looked on with surprise watching everything take place.

“Sin, are you the one who’s causing this!”

Sin looked at Lynxie surprised, “Who? Me? Why of course! MWAHAHAHA!”

Shay, Jason-ra and Emma looked on helplessly as the reindeer continued to destroy her roof and her decorations and Josh was hanging for dear life on the thin string of lights.

“Why is this happening?” asked Jason-ra who was bewildered by the situation.

Shay was about to answer him, but saw that one of the reindeer slowly walk up to Josh and stared at him with glowing red eyes. He picked up the string and bit off what was rest of it sending Josh falling off the roof.

“Noooooooo!” he yelled.

“Josh!” Shay ran up to where he was falling and held her hand out hoping to save him. She opened her eyes and saw that he was frozen in mid air right above her. Just when she realized that she stopped him with her telekinesis, her power ceased and he fell on top of her. The reindeer let out a horrid noise then turned back into their original synthetic, lifeless forms.

Emma and Jason-ra ran to Shay and Josh’s aid.

“Hey guys, are you okay?” the jester asked with concern.

Josh groaned from the pain and opened his eyes and saw that Shay seemed to be unconscious underneath him.

“Shay, Shay, are you okay?”

Shay answered with a groan and her eyes fluttered open, “Josh....”

“Oh she’s okay! Thank God!” Emma praised.

Shay and Josh were merely inches away from each other’s face and continued to have eye contact with each other. Josh came back to reality and got up quickly from their compromising position. Shay slowly sat up and winced with pain holding her back “Wow....” Was all she could say.

“Shay, you saved my life! I don’t know what to say....”

Shay held her hand up, “No, Josh you don’t have to say anything. I’m just happy that my powers came through, even if I couldn’t hold them for long.”

“And your house Emmie! Those random reindeer destroyed your decorations, your roof, everything!” Jason said picking up a part of the string of lights.

Emma sighed, “Yeah, they did, but you know what. That’s fine! I’m not gonna worry over it. Decorations aren’t really that big of a deal anyway, all that matters is that Shay and Josh are okay.”

Sin frowned at the comment, “NO! She’s not upset? How can that be! I thought that ruining her Christmas decors would get her down and depressed. And she’s NOT?!?” Lynxie tried her best to hold in her chuckles.

“That was all weird how that happened anyway. I mean number one, how they came alive, and two, how they purposely went after destroying your decorations. That’s just odd.” Josh pointed out.

“Yeah, I mean reindeer are gentle animals anyway so there’s no way they would want to do something like that unless they were evil, or possessed or something.” Shay inferred.

Emma crossed her arms and scowled, “Sin!”

Sin’s eyes widened, “Uh oh, the jig is up!” he said then ducked lower in the bush they were hiding behind.

Shay, Josh and Jason-ra looked at Emma who was shaking her head with amusement, “Sinistral?” they all said simultaneously.

“Yeah, it only makes sense. I mean look at the facts.....he’s basically the devil so he hates Christmas. He’s upset with me because of that card game incident, and also, you’ve noticed that he’s been M.I.A. for the past week? That’s more than enough time to think up something evil!” Emma said which made everything come together.

Shay shook her head and couldn’t help but laugh, “That sneaky little devil!”

“Whoa wait, I could’ve been killed! Was that a part of the plan?” Josh suddenly became worried.

Jason shook his head, “I don’t think so Josh. I mean why would he?”

“Because he’s evil, duh!” Emma answered, “But that’s okay though. I’m not gonna let him ruin my Christmas. If he wants to go there, I’m game!” She looked out into the forest and started yelling at the top of her lungs. “You hear that Sin, BRING IT ONNNNNNN!”

Sin sneered from behind the bushes, “That bible-thumper doesn’t know who she’s dealing with! Come on Lynxana! It’s time to re-group and move on to plan b! Lynxana....Lynxana...LYNXANA!!!!” He looked down and saw the tired lynx curled in a ball taking a nap.

“Lynxie damnit! Wake up!”

“Huh, oh yeah right, plan, gotcha!” she bumbled still half sleep.

Sin looked at the image ahead with pure hatred.

“Come on guys, let’s go in and watch A Miracle on 34th Street that ought to help get us back in the holiday mood!” Emma suggested.

“I would love to Homie, but um, I gotta.....go somewhere.....” Josh lied looking at the plastic reindeer that dangled from the roof. The real reason was because he was still a little shook up, but of course he couldn’t let THEM know that.

“Uh I’ll pass on that too Emma. I gotta go to Cat’s Lair and get some recipes from Linda and talk to Lion-o about something. But I’ll catch you guys later, and er um, be careful?” she tried to keep a straight face but let out a chuckle.

“Yes, we sure will! Bye Shay and you have a wonderful dayyyy!” she sang cheerfully! Then she and Jason skipped merrily inside of her now broken down cottage. Before she closed the door she took one good look out into the forest area and flashed a sneaky grin, then closed the door behind her.

“Yes Emma, you’re smiling now, but I have quite a few more tricks up my devilish sleeve. This was only the beginning, yes. Only the beginning.....” he said overdramatically then disappeared along with a sleeping she-lynx.