

## IAALDO ENGINEER COMPOUND MAIN GATE

“...Extensive minefield to the my side *fervon*.” Dorian spoke as his keen eyes swept across the ground all around them.

“I have the same here as well.” Laren spoke.

*We appear to have landed on the main access road Andro. Lucky for us.* Elynth spoke now. *We are also detecting mines all around us.*

Andro lifted his head slightly and stared at the Command Center on top of the wall to his left. “They are watching us.” He said calmly.

“Andro... Armen reports that a transport ship landed just before we moved into location.” Sadi’s voice echoed in his COM implant as it did in everyone else’s too. “A single intercepted transmission from the ship to the station indicates that it is carrying Fomir Arhtai. Nystai was able to pull it off the military grid before your mother shut the station down. He is the oldest son of Nyser and Yelma Arhtai and according to Nystai, he is the enforcer and...”

“I understand Sadi.” Andro spoke not letting her finish. “I can sense his resonance now *KertaGai*. He was coming here to hurt the Onab and whoever got in his way. Orders of some kind from his father.”

“Then make sure he fails *duan enyla*.” Sadi answered him matter-of-factly.  
(Our Love)

“Brendi... can you tap into their local COM channel?” Andro asked.

“Andro... please!” Brendi’s voice responded as if she was insulted. Since it was an open COM channel, everyone heard Eliani and Jomann chuckle softly on the channel. A few more seconds passed and then Brendi spoke again. “Done!”

Andro lifted his eyes once more, focusing on the Command Center windows which were tinted and he could not see inside them. It didn’t matter as far as he was concerned.

“My name is Androcles Mahanlo-Leonidas.” He began speaking into his helmet COM. “I am the sixth generation, direct descendant of Daniho and Ashten Mahanlo. I am the First of Three Heralds of my father, the True King of our people. Behind these walls you hold Revia Mahanlo-Arhtai, youngest daughter to my *Tenna* Kelia Mahanlo and my *Tenne* Lylor Kirek. You hold pure Mahanlo blood against their will, and this is something I will not allow. Behind these walls you hold what remains of the Onab people as slaves and this is also something I will not allow. As *Orwara Indalfrid* of our people and *Fera Tarivu* to my father, I will give you one chance to end this now with no bloodshed. I do not wish to kill my own people, but the oppression of the Arhtai Pack will not be allowed to persist. This will be your only warning. If you fight me, you will die. Respond to this transmission at once.”

Andro tilted his head slightly and looked at Dorian beside him. “Nice speech *fervon*.” Dorian said. “You know it won’t matter.”

“I know...” Androcles said in reply. “I had to try though.”

“**ABOVE US!**” Laren’s voice screamed out even as she commanded the Herald armor to fully deploy, the cowl wrapping around her head.

Andro looked up just as the wall mounted missile launcher twisted around and swung in their direction. His azure eyes watched as two missiles left the

launcher and he could almost imagine where they were both pointed. In that split second Andro pulsed his father within the Etheric realm and instantly felt his response.

***Hold nothing back keto! Nothing.***

Andro dropped to one knee as his *Onkmeti Naami* armor finished deploying and his wings engulfed his body. He heard Sadi and other voices screaming over the COM before the missiles struck and then there was no more sound.