Haanja Kool

8. klass

# Liisbet Rõõmusoks RAAMATU "HERA" KIRJUTAMINE

Loovtöö

Juhendaja: Evelin Meldre

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# Sisukord

Sissejuhatus	3
1. Loovkirjutamine ja idee otsimine	4
1.1 Kust leian inspiratsiooni?	5
2. Loova kirjutamise olulised elemendid	7
Kokkuvõte	10
Kasutatud kirjandus	11
Lisa 1 "HERA"	12

### Sissejuhatus

Minu loovtöö on omaloominguline ingliskeelne raamat. Tunnen, et inglise keel on just see keel, mida valdan vabalt ja osavalt ning milles suudan oma tundeid ja ideid kõige paremini väljendada. Minu raamat "Hera" sai nime peategelase järgi.

Valisin selle teema, sest mulle meeldib kirjutada ja lugeda. Tunnen suurt huvi selle vastu, kuidas tunneb ennast raamatu autor, kui ta kirjutab raamatut. Samuti tahtsin proovile panna oma võimed kirjutamise osas. Olen seadnud endale eesmärgiks kirjutada põnev ning kaasahaarav vähemalt 100-leheküljeline raamat.

Töö teoreetilises osas püüan leida vastused küsimustele, mis on loovkirjutamine, kuidas leida inspiratsiooni heaks ideeks, millised on loova kirjutamise olulised elemendid. Töö on jagatud kaheks peatükiks. Mõlemas peatükis toon kõigepealt välja loovtöö kirjutamise teoreetilised seisukohad ning seejärel kirjeldan, kuidas sündis minu raamat "Hera". Enamus teoreetiliste seisukohtade allikatest on inglise keeles, sest neid on lihtsam leida ning nende valik on väga suur.

#### 1. Loovkirjutamine ja idee otsimine

Ideede otsimine ja fantaseerimine on raamatu kirjutamise olulised etapid. Kuidas üldse leida ideed, et raamatut kirjutada? Selles peatükis annan ülevaate, mida nimetatakse loovkirjutamiseks, kuidas leitakse ideid, millest ammutatakse inspiratsiooni ning lisan näiteid tuntud kirjanikest, filmiloojatest ning iseendast.

Loovkirjutamine (*creative writing*) on igasugune kirjutamine, mis ulatub kaugemale professionaalsetest, ajakirjanduslikest, teaduslikest, akadeemilistest või traditsioonilistest kirjandusvormidest. Rõhk on loo jutustamisel, karakteri arengul. (Tänav, 2023)

Sama definitsiooni toetab Oxford Summer Courses (2023) ja lisab, et loovkirjutamine eeldab kirjutajalt kujutlusvõime ja loovuse kasutamist oma isiklike (subjektiivsete) ideede, mõtete, sõnumi ja/või emotsioonide väljendamiseks temale ainuomasel viisil. Loovkirjutamine hõlmab arvukalt nii ilukirjanduse kui kirjanduse erinevaid žanreid ja stiile: jutuvestmine, näitekirjandus, luule, proosa, dramaatika, lüürika eepika jmt. Loovkirjutamisele on iseloomulik narratiiv, mis keskendub tegelase, sündmuste ja süžee arengule. (Oxford Summer Courses, 2023)

Loo idee leidmiseks kasutatakse sageli erinevaid allikaid. Alustuseks võib ideed otsida oma kogemustest. See võib olla midagi, mida kõik on läbi teinud (nt hamba väljatõmbamine) või midagi sellist, mida on läbi elanud ainult kirjutaja ise (keeruline haigus, operatsioon). Otsida võib oma elust põnevaid momente ja lisada ideid, et luua kaasahaarav lugu. Võib kasutada ka mälestusi, millest rääkimisel muutuvad oluliseks detailid. (MasterClass, 2021b)

Kujutlusvõimel on oluline roll. Unistades võiks endalt küsida: "Mis siis kui?" Näiteks, mis siis kui mul oleks supervõimed või mis siis kui inimesed hakkaksid muutuma taimedeks? Kasuks tuleb ka vaatlusoskus ja kuulamisoskus, sest meie ümber sünnib palju huvitavat. Mida ütlevad lapsed oma vanematele tänaval, mida räägivad vanatädid pargis. Aja veetmine avalikes kohtades, inimeste vestluste kuulamine aitab kaasa mõttelennule. (MasterClass, 2021b)

Mõnikord on abiks ideede leidmisel ja arendamisel kirjutamisjuhiste kasutamine, s.t korrapärast etteantud juhiste järgi kirjutamist. Toredaks inspiratsiooniallikaks võivad olla ka teiste ideed, lemmikfilmid, telesaated, raamatud või reklaamid. Endalt võiks küsida: "Mis juhtuks kui?" Mis juhtuks kui Tuhkatriinule ei meeldiks prints? Mis juhtuks kui Sigatüügas oleks avalik kool? Nende ideede kasutamine on abiks oma süžeeliini kujundamisel. (MasterClass, 2021b)

Filmitegijad Joel ja Ethan Coen on öelnud (MasterClass, 2021), et nad tulid "The Big Lebowski" loo ideele tänu oma detektiivist sõbrale. Ideest sündis köitev detektiivipõnevik. Paljud autorid on suurepärase raamatuidee raames kasutanud parima sõbra, pereliikme või töökaaslase iseloomujooni. Mõistlik on tuttavate inimestega aega veetes olla ka valmis üles kirjutama mõned tähelepanekud nende käitumise kohta. Sellest võib sündida ideid uueks looks, kus kõrvaltegelaseks või peategelaseks on mõni inimene tutvusringkonnast. (MasterClass, 2021a)

Ameerika autor William S. Burrough'il kasutas "lõikumise" meetodit. Ta võttis teksti ning lõikus selle sõnadeks ja sõnadest moodustas ideed. Ameerika luuletaja Richard Siken ütleb, et vihatud teoste lugemine motiveerib teda kummalisel kombel kirjutama. Kuigi see võib alguses tunduda veider, võib selles peituda tõde. Kui loed midagi, mis sulle ei meeldi, võid püüda leida sellest midagi meeldivat. Lugedes püüa ette kujutada, kuidas saaksid oma tööd täiustada ja/või edasi arendada. (Ker, 2021)

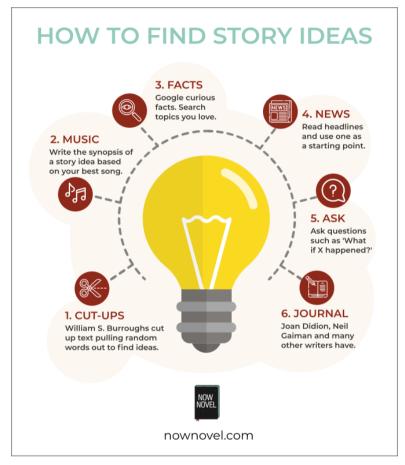
Madeline Milleri "Achilleuse laul" tulenes tema huvist Patroklose ja Achilleuse suhete vastu, nagu on näha raamatus "Illiad". Ja just see huvi ajendas teda täitma selle iidse kreeka kirjanduse lüngad ja leidma Achilleuse laulu – lugu, mis uuris Patroklose ja Achilleuse suhteid viisil, mida "Illiad" kunagi ei teinud. Seega, kui soovid kunagi rohkem kirjutamise inspiratsiooni, kaalu mõne iidse müüdi või loo lugemist! Võta Milleri raamatust lehekülg välja ja täida nende iidsete lugude lüngad või anna neile lugudele kasvõi omaette tähendus. (Ker, 2021)

#### 1.1 Kust leian inspiratsiooni?

Samuel Johnson on öelnud: "Kirjanik vaid alustab raamatut, lugeja on see, kes selle lõpetab." See lause on üks paljudest, mis innustas mind kirjutama. Oma loo idee võib leida fakte otsides, uudiseid kuulates, muusikat kuulates või päevikut kirjutades (Nownovel, 2015). Idee leidmiseks kasutan mitmeid teisi raamatuid ning üht skeemi (Joonis 1), kus on kirjas palju põnevaid ideid lugude kirjutamiseks. Muusika ja lugemine on alati olnud minu kaks lemmikhobi. Kuulan oma lemmiklaulu, keskendun selle sõnadele ning vahel tuleb geniaalne idee loo kirjutamiseks.

Raamatu "Hera" kirjutamiseks enamiku vajalikust inspiratsioonist saingi nii eesti- kui inglise keelseid lemmikraamatuid lugedes ning muusikat kuulates (vt Lisa 1). "Hera" jaoks idee

leidmine ei osutunud keeruliseks, kuigi algselt oli mul kolm ideed. Püüdsin võtta asja loogiliselt, jättes kõrvale idee, mis mulle kõige vähem meeldis. Edasine oli juba palju kergem - valisin idee, mis tundus kõige huvitavam ja parem.



Joonis 1. Kuidas leida loo ideed? (Nownovel, 2015)

Loo väljamõtlemine on üks põnevamaid etappe, sest see tähendab lõputut fantaseerimist. Mõtted saavad vabalt lennata, võib luua erinevaid lugusid, erinevate tegelaste ja teemaarendusega. Inspiratsiooniallikaid on lõputult, neid tuleb osata näha ja kuulda ning lõpuks luua oma lugu.

### 2. Loova kirjutamise olulised elemendid

Loovkirjutamine seob endas mitmeid elemente. Kirjanikul tuleb teadlikult nende kõigiga arvestada, et kutsuda lugejas esile reaktsiooni. Selles peatükis räägin planeerimisest, tegevusliinist, tegelastest, ajast, konfliktist, illustratsioonidest ja idee testimisest. Esmalt toon välja erinevate allikate seisukohad ning seejärel arutan, kuidas mina käitusin oma raamatut kirjutades.

Nii Piret Tänav (2023) kui ka Imagineforest (2020) soovitavad enne kirjutama hakkamist panna paika plaani, mitte hüpata lugu kirjutama, olgu selleks siis oma loo võtmestseenide loetlemine või süžeeskeemi malli kasutamine stseenide kaardistamiseks vmt. Piret Tänav (2023) soovitab läbi mõelda järgmised aspektid:

- aeg, koht, ümbrus;
- temperatuur, aastaaeg, ilm;
- valgus, helid, lõhnad;
- rekvisiidid/esemed/elusolendid, mida tegelased võiksid puudutada, näha, kasutada, kuulda jms;
- tegelaste omavahelised seosed ja suhted;
- vaatenurk, kelle silme läbi toimuvat kirjeldatakse;
- tegevus;
- dialoog;
- murdepunkt/pööre/kulminatsioon;
- stseeni lõpp, lõpplahendus, viimane pilt.

Plaani välja mõtlemine on üks põnevamaid etappe. Õigel rajal püsimiseks ja kõigi elementidega arvestamiseks lähtusin eeltoodud punktidest ja konsulteerisin ka Eesti lasteraamatute autori Triinu Laanega. Loo tegevusliini kujunemine on minu raamatu puhul päris põnev. Ma ei mõelnud välja tegevusliini täielikult, hakkasin kirjutama sellest, mis mul olemas oli ja nii tekkis loo luukere, mida vähehaaval täiendama hakkasin. Töö kirjutamise käigus uurisin juurde, kuidas kirjutamine käib, lähtusin oma tunnetest, mõtetest, seniloetust. Kooliõde Elo oli samuti suureks abiks luukere loomisel ja selle täiendamisel. Kui osa lugu oli kirjutatud, hakkasin vähehaaval aru saama, milline lugu olema peaks ehk siis kujunes välja algeline tegevusliin, kuhu hakkasin hiljem loo tükikesi juurde sobitama.

Loo kirjutamisel tuleb meeles pidada, et maalitakse oma lugejate silme ette võimalikult reaalset pilti luues võimsaid stseene, pinget, reegleid, aega jmt. Võimsate stseenide loomine kaasab endas enamat, kui lihtsalt ümbruse kirjeldamist. Mõelda tuleb näiteks lõhnadele, helidele, tunnete kirjeldamisele, maagia puhul reeglitele, pinge loomisele ja lahendustele. (Imagineforest, 2020)

Mina tõin pinge loosse kohe alguses, sest isiklikult eelistan kiire algusega lugusid ning püüdsin kirjeldustega luua usutava pildi loo sündmuskohast ja tegelastest. Võtsin aega ka reeglite väljamõtlemiseks, sest minu loos on need väga olulised. Maagia nõuab selgeid reegleid. Näiteks, kui oled otsustanud, et maagia toimib läbi sõnade või mõtete, siis peaksid seda ka nii hoidma, sest muidu võid tekitada lugejas suurt segadust. Samuti suhtusin tõsiselt aja paikapanemisse. Aja valikuid oli kolm: olevik, minevik, minevikust olevikuni. Kui oled otsustanud raamatu kirjutada olevikus siis pead seda ka nii hoidma, muidu võib tekkida segaseid lauseid. Mina valisin sündmuste tegevusajaks mineviku, mis on üks populaarsemaid ja parimaid aegu, mida kirjutamisel kasutada. Minu arvates on minevikust olevikuni kõige keerulisem, sest selles vormis peab väga-väga täpselt mõtlema, kus vahetad aja minevikust olevikuks.

Tegelased on loo jaoks ülitähtsad. Neisse tuleb suhtuda ettevaatlikult, anda neile ainult see, mida konkreetne kirjanik saab anda - ainulaadsed omadused ning muuta nad usutavaks, leides neile eesmärgi, motivatsiooni ning konfliktid, mida lahendada. (Green, 2023)

Raamatu tegelastega kohtumine on huvitav kogemus. Tegelasi välja mõeldes tundus tõesti, nagu oleks tekkinud uus inimene. Ma ei pidanud pingutama, et saada teada, milline ta tahab välja näha või mis talle meeldib, pidin vaid küsima tegelaselt. Tekkis tunne, justkui vestleks päris inimesega. Peategelane Hera sündis minu mõtteis ammu enne seda, kui hakkasin kirjutama. Tema parim sõber Mia sündis samuti minu peas, kuid tema tekkis minu tunnete põhjal. Mia sai üsna tundeline ning kergesti ärrituv.

Illustratsioon aitab inimestel mõista suuri ja väikeseid kontseptsioone. Illustraatorid tõlgivad kirjutatud sõnad visuaalideks, mida on lihtne mõista ja need loovad efekti. Suurepärased illustraatorid kasutavad oma oskust luua pilte, mis keskenduvad loo ülesehitamisele. (Hyatt, 2023)

Mina soovisin oma raamatule illustratsioone. Eelmisel suvel, kui alustasin oma loovtööga ehk raamatu kirjutamisega, otsisin mentorit. Pöördusin oma kooliõe Elo poole, sest teda huvitab raamatute maailm ja ta loeb väga palju. Elo oli nõus mind aitama mentorina ning ühtlasi lubas luua raamatule illustratsioonid. Koostöö Eloga läheb siiani hästi, ta loeb läbi kirjutatud peatükid, viib sisse parandusi ja annab tagasisidet. Samuti on ta olnud mulle suureks toeks ja julgustuseks motivatsiooni puudumise või allaandmise tunde korral. Koos vaatame üle loo arengu ning arutame võimalikke illustratsioone. Meil on ühine Pinterest'i kaust, kuhu oleme kogunud erinevaid ideid.

Oluliseks elemendiks loovkirjutamise puhul on ka idee testimine ja esimene tagasiside lugejatelt. Testimiseks on mitmeid variante, üheks nendest on "liftikõne".

"Liftikõne" tähendab pikema kokkuvõtte loomist (tavaliselt umbes 200 sõna), kus pole kirjas loo lõppu, kuid hõlmab peamist konflikti ja panuseid. See on kokkuvõte, mis mõnikord ilmub raamatu tagakaanel. Liftikõne koostades peab vastama järgmistele küsimustele: Kellest see lugu räägib? Mis olukord on? Kus lugu toimub? (Gilbo, 2019)

Mina testisin oma ideed teisiti. Kasutasin testgruppi, mis koosnes paarist minu enda sõbrast ning omakorda nende sõpradest, kelle ülesandeks oli lugeda läbi kirjutatu, anda esimene tagasiside ja parandada vead. Esimene konstruktiivne tagasiside, mis aitas mul oma tööd parandada, tuli Elolt. Ta kiitis üldist ideed, kuid juhtis tähelepanu ka teksti lünklikkusele. Olen saanud palju positiivset ning veidi negatiivset tagasisidet, mis pakkus ka häid nõuandeid. Meie ühine missioon Eloga on raamat lõpuni kirjutada ning, miks ka mitte, trükki anda.

### Kokkuvõte

Kirjutamine on minu kirg, armastan seda kogu südamest. Selle raamatu kirjutamine on kõige toredam asi, mida ette võtnud olen, eriti kuna mul on kõrval toetavad sõbrad. Tundub, et sihtisin seekord siiski liiga kõrgele ning raamat õigeks ajaks valmis ei saanud. Plaanin selle siiski ära lõpetada.

Raamatu "Hera" kirjutamine on pakkunud parasjagu väljakutset. Kõige raskem koht oli tõenäoliselt see, kui pidin välja mõtlema oma raamatu eesmärgi. Nuputasime Eloga mitu päeva ning lõpuks tuli ka hea idee. Kõige lihtsam oli raamatu üleskirjutamine ja täiustamine.

Olen äärmiselt rahul oma senise töö ja pingutustega ning olen õnnelik, et mind on innustatud ette võtma nii vahvat projekti. Hetkel on valmis 50 lehekülge, millest viis on korrastatud ja kontrollitud.

Olen siiralt tänulik Elole, kes oli minu kõige innukam lugeja ja kaasarääkija. Suur tänu õpetaja Kersti Leidile, kes juba neljandast klassist alates on julgustanud mind kirjutama. Olen tänulik ka oma juhendajale, õpetaja Evelinile, kes oli kohe nõus mind juhendama ning aitama.

Oli väga tore leida endas julgus oma kirjutamist jagada ning leida põnevaid viise kuidas järgmisi raamatu ideid katsetada. Loovkirjutamine on põnev ajaviide ning hea viis oma loovust arendada. Kirjutamise võlude mõistmiseks peaks seda aga ise proovima.

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# Lisa 1 "HERA"



Prologue	2
Hera	3
Request	8
Enemies to friends with one night	12
Chaos in the club	16
The blessed one	20
Very interesting family	22
Back to business	25
And studying continues	29
Natharya	33
Who? Where? And why?	36
Monsters in the woods	41
Reunion	45

# Prologue

Visha was floating there in the middle of the park, her eyes and her body glowing purple. Aryan, Soren and Dacian looked around.

The park they knew was destroyed. Trees were pulled out of the ground and the road was blown up. Only the great fountain was left untouched.

Aryan looked up to face Visha.

"You have done enough Visha! May the great fountain swallow you!"

"Arhel Racy Warhy!" yelled Nathaira-Lyra and a green flash hit the fountain.

They just stood there, Aryan, Soren, Nathaira-Lyra, Dacian and Yvonna, watching Visha getting slowly swallowed by the fountain.

A tear fell on Natharyas cheek, but she quickly wiped it off.

"I'm coming back and you know it!" screeched Visha before disappearing completely. After that all they could hear was silence.

"Well that's the last we're gonna hear from her," stated Soren. Dacian snickered.

Yvonna shot them a disapproving look, stepped forward and placed her hand on Lyras shoulder.

"You did the right thing," she whispered.

Then she turned around:"Soren and Dacian, go get some rest, my children."

Soren nodded, looked at Dacian and said: "Yes brother, let's get some rest."

"I'll come with you!" said Aryan, walking towards them.

When they had left Yvonna looked at Nathaira-Lyra.

"Lyra, dear. Visha has been locked up. What will you do now that you are free?" Lyra looked up and whispered sadly: "Yvonna look at all these stars, I wish I could be one of them. I don't know what I will do"

"Come with us, we will help you."

After a moment of silence Lyra shook her head gently and turned to Yvonna.

A sad smile on her face, she said "No, Yvonna, I know now what I'll do."

She looked up and pointed at the shiniest star.

"Arhel Zra Lilya!"

Yvonna let out a scream "No!" but it was too late.

A green light surrounded Lyra, she smiled and said: "Goodbye Yvonna. When the time is right I'll come back."

Lyra started to glow, she slowly floated away, straight into the star.

Yvonna stood there for a couple of moments, speechless.

She sighed and slowly walked away.

## Hera

*"Freedom is being you without anyone's permission,"* so thought Hera. Hera Rivera was only sixteen years old yet very smart. She got her name from the goddess of women and marriage. Heras hair was raven black, very long and always clean. Her eyes were ocean blue. Hera wasn't really tall but she wasn't really short either.

Hera sighed.

It was a math lesson but she was thinking of everything else but math.

Green fields filled with flowers were flowing through her mind, she thought of forests where giant trees towered and green carpets of moss covered the ground.

The bell woke her from her thoughts, Hera got up from the chair to leave the class. Hera smiled sleepily to her teacher and said: "Goodbye Mrs Green! Have a nice day!" Mrs Green smiled and answered: "You too Hera, and for god's sake get some rest!" Hera laughed, "I'll try!" and with that she walked out of the classroom.

She felt like she just took a long nap.

She looked around. The usually noisy and colorful halls of the school were awfully quiet, only a few people were walking around the halls and talking.

Hera sped up her walking to reach the locker quicker. When she finally got to the locker she took out some books and thought *"I can't wait to read them!"* 

She was about to shut her locker door when Sophie ran up to her.

"Hey Hera!" she said with her usual annoying voice.

Sophie Wood, the most annoying person Hera had ever met. Sophie was her ex bff, because Heras ex boyfriend cheated on her with Sophie. Sophie was shorter than Hera, she had brown hair and brown eyes. She was a girl who had never missed a party.

"What does SHE want?" thought Hera.

"What do you want, Sophie?" Hera asked, putting on a fake smile. "Oh relax," Sophie said, "I just wanted to tell you that you've got gum stuck in your hair."

She giggled, smiled, said "Have a nice day!" and walked away. Hera rolled her eyes, she knew it was Sophie who put the gum in her hair.

"She is soooo annoying!"

Hera slammed the locker door and walked out of the school.

### • • •

Hera was home, more specifically in the bathroom, trying to get the gum out of her hair. She tried coca-cola, water, everything.

Hera looked in the mirror. She tilted her head and smiled at herself.

Then she went to her room and got scissors.

Hera smiled, and thought "After all why not?" and snip, snip, snip, she cut her hair.

### • • •

After cutting her hair she decided that she is going to make herself a smoothie. She went downstairs to make herself a smoothie.

"Hey mum" she yelled, "can I take out the ice cream, I'm gonna make myself a smoothie. Do you want one too?"

"Yes! Take out the ice cream. Make me a smoothie as well!" Anyta answered.

Anyta Rivera was Hera's mother, she was tall, she had long, brown hair and blue eyes and she worked as a model. Anyta was quite known for her kindness.

Heras dad, William Rivera, was a very rich businessman, he was tall, he had brown eyes and black hair.

Hera loved her father, but what Hera didn't like was that Sophie's dad was his business partner and a good friend of his, which meant the girls saw each other quite often.

Anyta walked to the kitchen, she let out a sigh when she saw Heras hair.

"Was it Sophie again?" she asked, messing with Heras hair.

Hera rolled her eyes and said: "Yes, it was Sophie, that's her new idea to bully me but I don't care. I like my new look."

Anyta looked at Hera and said: "Okay, if you say so. Also Hera could you please take Mr Loki to your room tonight? Last night he ruined my beautiful curtain, it was from Rome."

Hera laughed: "Yes mom, Mr Loki will be in my room tonight."

Mr Loki was Hera's cat. He was all black except for his stomach that was white, he looked like he was wearing a suit and a tie, that's why he was Mr Loki.

Hera took out the ice cream and chopped up some fruits. She blended them together and poured it in the cup.

"I'll go to my room." said Hera and left the kitchen. Hera went up to her room and decided to go online shopping.

### • • •

Hera sat in her bed thinking of the day. She felt disgusted and humiliated because of Sophie, she layed down and closed her eyes.

Hera thought "What is that little rich rat doing in our school anyway? Didn't she have anywhere else to go?! Ughhh! I hate her! But... she looks kind of familiar, her eyes, her hair. I have seen that somewhere else too... Why am I thinking of her in the middle of a nice night? Don't need her to ruin my night too".

Hera took out a pair of headphones, her diary and a pen. She put on her favorite song and wrote about her day.

It was 01:00 in the morning but Hera couldn't sleep so she decided to do some yoga. After yoga she thought "*Ah never mind I still can't sleep, I'm going to call her.*"

By "her" she meant her new best friend.

Her name was Mia, she was taller than Sophie and Hera, she had green eyes and blonde hair and she was 16 years old.

A minute later Hera called Mia.

"Hello, hello, hello! How are you?" Hera said.

"Hey! I'm good! What about you?" asked Mia.

"I'm good! The math test today was so hard though!"

"Wooow what a surprise, maybe you should have learned then." said Mia.

"Oh shut up I don't have to study, I have my amazing best friend"

Hera laughed and Mia said: "Yeah, you better be thankful for me!"

Hera laughed and said: "I am very thankful for you."

Mia laughed and said: "History class was so interesting, a town of wizards on an abandoned island who would have guessed!"

Hera smiled and said: "I know right"

"Anyway, what else did you do today?" Mia asked.

Hera answered: "Girl literally I decided to go online shopping and oh boy. I found the coolest clothes from an online shop. Sophie is going to be soooooo jealous."

"Show me, show me!" Mia yelled. "Okay, okay I will!" Hera said laughing "So here are some of the outfits I got."

Hera sent Mia a picture of some outfits she had gotten.

Mia gasped "Oh my God! I haven't seen you in these but I already know you'll look amazing in those outfits!"

"Aww thank you! I'm looking forward to wearing them. I want to see Sophie's face." Hera said laughing.

"Wait. Did you say "some of the outfits?" "Yes I did but you'll see the other outfits in school."

"Alright I'll see you in school tomorrow, AND you will show me where you got those outfits. Also go to sleep. Byee!" Mia said

"Okay, okay I will go to sleep! Bye girlie!" said Hera.

She ended the call and started getting ready to sleep.

"Mia is right. I should sleep. Tomorrow is school after all." Hera thought and turned off the lamp.

"I hope that everyone will like the outfits." She laughed and drifted off to sleep.

Hera woke up at 7 o'clock in the morning.

"*Oh crapppp! I'm going to be late!*" Hera thought. She ran downstairs, straight to the kitchen to make herself some breakfast.

"Honey! You'll be late if you don't hurry!" Anyta yelled from the other room.

<sup>• • •</sup> 

"I know mum! I'm already running out of the door!" Hera yelled back.

She ran upstairs to get her bag and get dressed for school. After getting dressed she ran back downstairs and got her shoes.

"Bye mum, love you!" Hera yelled running out of the door.

Anyta smiled and said: "Love you too." but Hera was already out of the door

### • • •

Hera walked into the school and looked for her best friend.

Heras school was pretty big and beautiful considering other schools. It was quite colorful and it had a lot of windows.

Hera was standing in one of the big hallways.

The hallway was light yellow.

Mornings in that school were always fun and full of talking, walking, and giggling students.

Hera was standing by the blue lockers and thinking where Mia was.

When she couldn't find her, she decided to text her

"Where in the living hell are you?"

After a few minutes Mia came and scared Hera by saying

"Hi! Do you want to walk to class or what?"

"First of all, you just scared the living hell out of me! And second, where in the world have you been?" Hera asked

"Hahaha!" Mia laughed, "I slept in, silly, that's why I wasn't here."

Hera laughed, "Alright sleeping beauty, let's go to class before we're late!"

Hera and Mia went to class and sat down, but as soon as they sat down the bell rang scaring both of the girls. Mia and Hera looked at each other and they both started laughing.

### • • •

After a few classes Hera and Mia went to the cafeteria to have a nice lunch.

As they were walking, Hera said "Let's go to the lockers first, I need some books for chemistry class."

"Sounds good to me!" Mia said. "Also love your outfit girl!"

"Thanks! I like yours too! Where did you get the color tho?" Hera asked.

"Oh, you know me, just found it and bought it." Mia answered. "Oh boy here they come!" Mia said, rolling her eyes.

"Hey! You think you're cool now, just because you're dressing similar to us?" Sophie asked looking from one of her minions to another and her minions giggled.

"First of all. Mia what the hell are you wearing? It looks stupid, like what year are you from 1978? And secondly, Hera, your outfit looks like you are going to a funeral.

Lighten up after all we all know I look better. Also do you two know anything about makeup?"

"Obviously they don't know that makeup exists," one of Sophie's minions said "They look like zombies!"

Sophie laughed and high fived the girl.

"Seriously, leave us alone. And sense we don't look good you don't either. We are after all trying to look like you." Mia said and winked at Hera.

Hera smiled and added "Your shirt is a bit too colorful. Your outfit doesn't match and it looks funny. And lastly but not least your hair looks like a bird's nest"

Mia laughed and said "Come on Hera let's go."

"Yes, let's go." Hera answered.

They walked away leaving Sophie and her minions angrily gasping and whispering.

### • • •

After school Hera decided that it's time for a change. She went home and changed into some comfortable clothes.

Then Hera went to talk to her mom. Anyta smiled, looked up from her book and asked: "Hey! How was school?"

"Hey! It was alright. So I actually have a big question. Can I get tattoos?"

Anyta looked at her and said "I don't know, uhhh fine but max three tattoos, they can not cover large areas and my friend's daughter is going to draw the tattoos."

Hera widened her eyes and smiled, "Really mum? I can get a tattoo?"

"Yes, now go get ready, I'll drive you." Hera went to her room and changed into jeans. Then she went outside where Anyta was waiting.

"Are you ready to go?" She asked and Hera answered "Yes mom lets go."

At the tattoo shop door, Anyta gave Hera a paper with her permission for the tattoos. Hera walked inside the tattoo shop.

It was black and the walls were covered with tattoo designs.

The tattoo artist looked at her and said "Hey, welcome! Sit down, I'll be with you in a minute. Look at the designs and pick something!"

Hera sat and watched the tattoo artist get her tools ready, the tattoo artist was black haired and on her hands were covered in tattoos.

The tattoo artist said "Alright girl I'm ready!"

"Hey! Can you do me a favor and draw this and this and maybe this on me?" Hera asked, pointing at three beautiful designs

"Yea I can. Um can you give me your name and phone number so I can check how old you are? Also, do you want me to call you "ma'am" or can I call you by your name? the artist asked.

"Sure, my name is Hera, and here is my phone number, also do NOT call me ma'am!"

Hera said and handed the paper with her phone number to the artist, the artist laughed and went to her computer.

"What's your name, if I may ask?" Hera asked the artist

"My name is Zayla but you can call me Z" Zayla said.

"Alright Z let's get started or what" Hera said

"Sure." Zayla answered.

"So it looks like we have an issue, you're too young, so I kinda can't draw a tattoo on you unless you have parents permission."

Hera laughed and said "Sorry I forgot, here, my mom's permission."

Z smiled and replied "Now we're talking. We're almost the same age, two year difference. Okay, now are you sure you want the tattoos?"

"Yes." Hera answered

Zayla nodded and started drawing the tattoos.

### • • •

Hera left the tattoo shop two hours later.

She walked down the road and saw her aunt's hair salon

." *I'm gonna go and say hi*" Hera thought. The salon was beige and there was a table and a few chairs in the corner of the room. It was quite quiet, only a hair cutting machine was rattling.

As she walked in her aunt yelled "Hiiiii! Sweetie I'm super busy right now but I'll have a break soon!"

"Hi aunt Isabella! I'll wait, I actually have to ask for a favor." Hera said,

"Alright sit down and wait" Isabella yelled over the haircutting machine.

• • •

A little later Hera was sitting and talking to Isabella.

"So, you want me to cut your hair a little better and color it as well?" Isabella asked with surprise,

"Yes, I can pay for it if you want," Hera said.

"No, no, no you got me a little wrong!" Isabella said laughing. "There ain't no way you'll pay, I'll do it for free! It's a great idea, I'm just a bit surprised."

"Thank you aunt Bella!" Hera said and stood up.

"Okay, come and sit here and I'll cut and color your hair. Also what color do you want?" Isabella asked,

Hera looked up and said "Blue!"



After two hours Hera stood up and looked at her reflection in the mirror.

"So do you like it?" Isabella asked nervously,

"Yes! It's perfect!" Hera said, smiling and looked at her blue hair.

"Thank you Hera! Oh, and I want to talk a little, come, sit down" Isabella said calmly. "Okay? What is this about?" Hera said. She felt anxious and a little confused. "*Oh god. What is this about*?" she thought.

# Request

"Hera, I talked with your mom over the phone and we both agreed that your mom and dad need some alone time, so you'll be living with me and my husband for 2 months." said Isabella. "Is this okay with you?"

"Um. Yeah, sure it is." Hera said, "I'm cool with it. Can I get my own room tho?" "Haha! Of course you can!" Isabella said laughing.

### • • •

*"This is the best day of my life"* Hera thought, as excitement rushed through her. *"I'm gonna call Mia!"* Hera facetimed Mia and said with excitement "Heyyy girl! Guess what!"

"What is it?" Mia asked with a smile.

"I'm gonna live with my aunt for 2 months! 2 months! I'm so excited!" Hera said laughing.

"Yesss! Isn't your aunt's house just across the street from mine?" Mia said, "Yes it is, I think!" Hera replied, smiling. "Across the street we have a mansion and a small house with a garden. Which one is your aunt's house?" Mia asked

"Wellll, I don't know, I haven't been at her place for the last ten years! Guess we'll find out."

Mia suddenly widened her eyes "Wait, no way, you colored your hair?"

Hera laughed saying "Yes I did. Do you like it?"

Mia nodded"Yessss, blue suits you."

### • • •

The next day of school Hera was walking around in the big hallway when she pumped into someone and fell down.

She looked up and saw a beautiful boy looking down at her with concern "Sorry!" said the boy "Are you alright?"

"Yes, I'm totally fine!" Hera said, "What's your name?" she asked.

"Oh where are my manners?" the boy said as he slapped his forehead. "Hi I'm Daniel, Daniel Martinez. Nice to meet you!"

"I'm Hera, Hera Rivera. Nice to meet you as well!" Hera said, and looked at Daniel. Daniel was very tall and he had dark brown, almost black hair and ice blue eyes. He was wearing jeans and a t-shirt.

"Well someone is looking good." Hera thought, as she looked at him, a weird bubbling went up her spine and stayed in her chest. "Are you new here?" she asked, at the same time she thought "I looked at him waaaay too long!"

"Yes I'm new. Could you help me find my class?" Daniel asked,

"Yes of course! What class are you looking for?"

"Math," Daniel replied.

"Oh, come with me, I have math too!" Hera said.

"Okay nice but you have to help me find my other classes too."

"It would be my pleasure!" Hera said jokingly,

"Hahaha! Nice!" Daniel said smirking,

"Alright! What's your next class anyway?" Hera asked, gazing into Daniel's smiling eyes.

"Oh, my next one is art class!"

"Nice mine is art too." Hera said, then she asked "Show me your lesson plan please!" "Let me guess, we have the same lesson plan." she thought

"Okay, here, go on, have a look!" Daniel said, giving Hera his lesson plan.

"Thanks! And as I thought we have the same lessons and year." Here said and playfully slapped Daniels shoulder.

"Why did I do that?" Hera yelled in her thoughts

"You won't get rid of me this year!" Hera said smiling.

"Don't worry I'm not looking forward to the day I'll get rid of you." said Daniel.

### • • •

Over the week Daniel and Hera were inseparable, they grew quite close to each other.

The next week when Hera reached school the first person she saw was Sophie.

She walked up to Hera and said "So the new guy huh?"

"DON'T. YOU. DARE. TALK TO HIM." Hera said threateningly.

Sophie chuckled, and walked up to Daniel who was standing in front of the school door. She smiled, played with her hair and said "Hiiii Daniel!"

Daniel smiled sleepily and said "Hi Sophie! I'm waiting for a friend, I'll see you in class"

"Why wait, come with me. I'm sure your friend won't mind." Sophie said and shot an evil gaze towards Hera who was standing behind them and gritting her teeth.

Daniel smiled and said "No thank you, I'll wait for my friend."

Sophie shrugged and said "Suit yourself." Then she walked off, sending Hera another evil gaze and to Daniel she sent a little wink.

When Sophie was finally gone Hera walked to Daniel.

"Hey!" said Daniel as soon as Hera reached him,

"Hey!" Hera said back, still gritting her teeth.

"Oookay! Someone woke up on the wrong side of the bed. Are you alright tho, you look like you're about to explode." Daniel asked with concern glittering in his eyes, "Yes, everything is perfectly fine, sorry." Hera answered,

Daniel shook his head and grabbed Hera by her shoulders, and gently pushed her against the door, "Something is wrong and you're going to tell me what's bothering you." Hera took a deep breath and said "it's not your fault I'm in a bad mood. It's just that the girl, Sophie, you were talking to is the school bully and well I'm one of her "victims"." "Hey, It 's okay. Soy tu amiga y no voy a hablar con ella(I'm your friend and I'm not going to talk to her)." Daniel declared "Muchas gracias! Por cierto confundiste amigo y amiga (Thank you very much! By the way you confused friend (female) and friend(Male))" Hera answered. Daniel looked at her with wide eyes, "You speak spanish?" he asked. "Yes I do." Hera said laughing. "You are so cool, I hope you know it! By the way, thank you for correcting me because I always confuse amiga and amigo." Daniel said. Hera smiled and asked "Are you going to let me go now?" Daniel stepped back and mumbled "Do I have to?" Just then Mia walked up to them "Well hello you two! Let's get to class or what?" Hera hugged Mia and Daniel gave Mia a fist pump "Also, Hera, when are you moving in with your aunt?" Mia asked and Daniel added "Yeah, when?" "Ohhh I forgot to tell you! I'm moving in... TONIGHT!" Hera said with very much excitement. "Yaaaaay finally! We're gonna know which house is it " Mia said, being even more excited than Hera. "Alsooo I'm going on a date with Noah tonight so I'm not home." Mia said with guilt in her eyes. "Oh don't worry it's alright" Hera said. Noah was a tall guy with blonde hair and green eyes, he had been dating Mia for a while and he seemed like a good guy. "Yo we're gonna be late if we don't hurry!" Daniel said, Hera looked at the clock and said "He's right let's get going Mia!"

### • • •

"So this is my home!" Isabella said when Hera and her pulled up at a big mansion. Isabella had picked Hera up after school from Hera's house. "Are you joking?!"Hera asked with wide eyes, "This is where you live?-" "You don't like it?" Isabella asked, flicking Hera worried gazes, "Are you kidding me!? I love it!" Hera said and hugged Isabella. As they stepped inside, a beautiful tall girl ran up to Isabella and said, "Mom! You're home!" Then she looked at Hera and Hera looked at the girl. The girl had beautiful blond hair and light blue eyes. She was wearing a dark red dress which looked very good on her. Isabella smiled and said "Why don't you introduce yourself to Hera honey?" The girl smiled and said "Hi! I'm Coco and I'm 17. I'm Isabella's adopted daughter. Nice to meet you!" She hugged Hera. Hera looked at Coco and said "Hey sis! I'm Hera and I'm 16. And I'm your mom's sister's daughter. Nice to meet you too!" Coco laughed and said "Okay, let me show you around." "Okay, bet." Hera said, "By the way, are you okay with me calling you sis or sissy?" Hera asked. "Yeah of course I'll be your big sis from now on." Coco said smiling. "Now come! I'll show you around!"

#### • • •

"So, here is the kitchen." Coco said as they stepped in the biggest kitchen Hera had ever seen. There were loads of pots, pans, tin bowls, knives, ladles and other cooking stuff hanging on the walls, there were huge cabinets and two fridges. There also was a microwave, an oven and other needed things. The cook said hi to them and they had a little small talk but then moved on. The next room they went to was the living room. As soon as they stepped in, a big white husky came up to them. Hera quickly asked Coco "Can I pet the dog?" Coco answered "Of course you can, her name is Stella by the way." Hera bowed down and for the next five minutes Coco was standing and laughing while Hera played with Stella. The living room was quite beautiful. It was quite big. There were three different paintings on the wall, a huge fireplace and two green couches matching the rest of the room. "I love it here." Hera thought as they walked into the next room. The next room was the bathroom. There was a huge bath and a sink, there were 2 mirrors and a cabinet. As they were walking around, Hera thought "This is amazing, I'm so happy I can live here FOR THE NEXT TWO MONTHS!" "So, sis, let's go to the next floor." Coco said. "There is a second floor?" Hera asked with so much excitement that Coco burst out laughing, "Of course there is a second floor. But first let me show you my parents bedroom." "Okay let's go then" Hera said and dragged Coco out of the bathroom. They walked to the bedroom and Hera saw a huge bed, a mirror and two tables and of course two wardrobes. "Sooo that's it?" Hera asked, a little confused, "Oh, no, no, no, you still haven't seen the best part of this room." Coco said with a mysterious smile Hera gave Coco a surprised gaze and asked, "There is more?" "Of course there is! Now come with me!" To Heras surprise Coco went and opened one of the wardrobes and said "Come here sissy!" "Oookay." Hera said suspiciously and walked to Coco. When Hera reached Coco she gasped because when she looked inside the wardrobe, it was huge! Outside it looked like a normal wardrobe but inside there were two rooms, full of makeup, shoes and clothes. "What kind of sorcery is this?" Hera asked laughing, Coco laughed and answered "In this family we all have this kind of wardrobe. You have one as well but I picked out the clothes so I don't know if you like them, my mom asked for your size from your mom. I also chose the furniture for your room. You can change it if you don't like it " With that they closed the wardrobe and walked out of the bedroom. "I want to see my room!" Hera said jumping up and down, "Okay, okay we'll go to your room next." Coco said laughing. They walked up the stairs

and Hera saw a huge corridor and a lot of doors. As they walked in the corridor, Hera saw a large wooden door with intricate patterns and a large "Hera" written on it. "Let me guess, this is my room." Hera wondered, being very excited, "Yes, it is your room indeed. Mom got this door last week so you know which room is yours. My room is right next to it." Coco said and pointed at the wooden door across the hall that had "Coco" written on it. They went into the room and Hera saw a big wooden table with a huge mirror next to it. There was a wardrobe on the left side of the table. In the middle of the room was a wooden four poster bed, the curtains were dark blue and had silver roses on them. The bed had a very fine pattern depicting different trees, flowers and ocean. On top of the bed was a dark blue blanket and a whole bunch of pillows that were placed in the head of the bed. Hera even had her own balcony, on the balcony she could see the whole garden and the pool. "Wowwww this is sooooo beautiful room. I wish I could stay here for the rest of my life!" Hera thought. "Earth to Hera! Can you hear me?" Coco asked, smiling, while she waved her hand in front of Heras face. "I can hear you, I can hear you!" Hera laughed, "So will you show me my wardrobe now? Please, pretty pretty please!" Hera begged Coco. Coco burst out laughing again, "Okay, okay you little mushroom!" " Little mushroom, really?" Hera asked, while laughing her heart out. "Yes, little mushroom, now come on I'll show you your wardrobe." Coco said laughing. As they stepped in Hera saw two huge rooms full of the best and prettiest clothes, shoes and makeup Hera could ever ask for. Hera looked at Coco and then hugged her really tight. "Thank you, thank you, thank you! I love my new room and wardrobe! You should consider becoming an interior designer or just designer! " "Awww thank you. I'm glad you like your new room and clothes. I'll go to my room now, also if you're wondering where that door-" She pointed at the door next to the wardrobe, "will take you, then there is your own bathroom. Now go wander around and explore a bit by yourself or something. Also don't get lost in the garden maze" "YOU HAVE A GARDEN MAZE." Hera asked, Coco smiled and said "Go find out if I told you the truth." Then she winked and closed the door after stepping out, but a second later she opened it again, "Oh I forgot to tell you that the room next to you is an art room. Me and my mom made it just because we know you like to paint, draw and make sculptures and dishes. We can paint together sometime if you want to. But, you'll find everything you need in the room. I'll see you at the dinner table!" Coco closed the door. Hera smiled and sat on the bed and thought "Omg it's sooo good here! I wonder what's for dinner." Hera went to explore her wardrobe and found a pretty dark blue dress with a fierce cut. She loved it so much that she put it on. Suddenly Hera heard her phone ringing, she took it and looked at it, it was Mia. "Hey! What's up g-" Hera couldn't finish her sentence because Mia said with a shaking voice "He, he broke up with me! He said that he likes another girl!" Then she burst out crying, Hera gasped and yelled "Ohh hell to the nah, he did what?! I'm coming to kill him with a baseball bat! Where

are you? I'll come get you." "I'm at Wendy's." Mia said, crying. "Hold tight. I'm on my way!" Hera said and hung up and without changing clothes she ran downstairs

### Enemies to friends with one night

Hera rushed down the stairs and said "I'm gonna need a car, right now! I have to hurry!" "Okay, here are the keys to my lamborghini, go, just don't get pulled over or if you do tell them you're old enough!" Isabella said, passing Hera the keys "Also you can tell them that Lyam is a police officer." Hera smiled and said "Thank you aunt! Also can I bring my best friend here? She really needs someone right now." Isabella smiled and said, "Of course you can, I'll set up a bed for her." Hera nodded and ran out of there.

#### • • •

Hera pulled up next to Wendy's, it was raining pretty hard. She texted Mia, "Where are you, I'm next to the cafe!" Mia quickly answered, "I'll come out now! Wave from the car so I know which one is yours." "As you wish girl" Hera texted. Minute later a familiar figure came out of the cafe, Hera smiled and waved. Mia looked around and saw Hera waving, she looked really surprised but went back to being sad very quickly. "Hey girly." Hera said as Mia stepped into the fancy lamborghini, Mia smiled sadly and hugged Hera crying. "Hey, hey don't cry over him, it's okay. He is NOT worth your tears. You'll find someone better, I promise." Mia smiled sadly and said "Thank you for picking me up, I don't know what I'd do without you. Also I guess your aunt has the mansion" Hera just smiled. They were driving past a store when Hera suddenly slowed the car down and said, "Look! Isn't that Sophie walking in the rain?" Mia looked out of the window with wide eyes and said "Yes, yes it is. Well that snake is getting what she deserves." Suddenly Hera stopped the car and said "Wait here!" "Where are you going?" Mia asked, confused but Hera was already out of the car and didn't hear Mia. Hera ran up to Sophie and asked "Hey do you need a ride?" "What? Uhh umm maybe but how can I be sure you won't kidnap and kill me or something? After all, I'm the school bully." Sophie said and looked at Hera. All of a sudden Hera felt sorry for Sophie. Sophie's eyes were bright red from crying and her mascara was running down her face and she was soaking wet. "Hey it's alright we'll give you a ride!" Hera said, smiling her kindest smile. Sophie agreed and they walked to the car. Before getting in, Hera texted Mia every thing that had happened. Hera got in the car and they drove away. "So where do you wanna go? Home or to a friend's house or where?" Hera asked Sophie, Sophie gave Hera a strange look and then closed her eyes and looked up, then after a minute of silence she calmly said "No, I don't want to go home. I can't actually. I don't know where I want to go, or where I can go." Now it was Heras turn to give Sophie a strange

look, "What do you mean you can't go home?" Hera asked, Sophie looked down and said with a shaking voice "I-I can't go home, because my parents are fighting and I ran away." Suddenly, Mia started sobbing again, "What happened?" Sophie asked, " Noah's already with the new girl he found!" Mia said and started to cry again, "How do you know that?" Hera asked, "Look at his Instagram story!" Mia cried and gave Hera the phone. In the story there were pictures of Noah and a pretty pink haired chick kissing and hugging, all of a sudden Sophie grabbed the phone from Hera and yelled "No, no, no I told that witch to stay away from you!" Heras and Mias eyes widened and Hera stopped the car in the middle of the road and asked, "What do you mean, you told her to stay away? Do you know her?" Sophie started laughing through her anger, "Do I know her?! Do I know HER?!" she continued laughing, "I know everything about her. Her first name is Nataly, she is 16 and she has two siblings, older sister Valerye and older brother Daniel, shortly Familya Martinez. Valerye is 18 and Daniel is 17. She was my "bestfriend" after, well you know." Hera looked at Sophie and said, "Hold on Soph, did you just say that Natalys brother is Daniel Martinez?" "Uhhh yea, so what?" Sophie asked, looking really confused. "Okay, first of all YOU" Hera pointed at Sophie "are coming with us, we're gonna have a sleepover. Second of all Daniel Martinez is my second bestie. Third of all, Mia" Hera made a pause "don't worry, WE, the three of us, are going to burn that witch Nataly down." "Now listen up" Hera said, "I'm gonna call Z and then there are no longer only three of us, there will be four of us instead." Hera started the car again and called Zayla. "Hey Mia! Who is Z?" Sophie asked, Mia gazed at her and said "Z aka Zayla is Hera's tattoo artist and also her third bestie, Z also happens to be a world class hacker. Soo yeah" "Oh damn you got some really cool friends, don't you" Sophie said with a hint of envy, "Oh don't worry Soph, you're gonna meet my "cool friend" tonight." Hera said and added, "We're here, so let's get out of the car. Also Daniel is gonna come too so there will be five of us" Hera said, smiled and added. "Alright let's do it, this is gonna be hell of a good sleepover"

#### • • •

Mia, Sophie and Hera stepped in, Hera ran straight to Isabella, hugged her and said "Hi mom I brought Sophie here too, Zayla and Daniel are joining us soon." "Uhhh Hera? You called your aunt mom." Mia said and looked at Hera, Hera looked back and said "So what? Will the world end because of it?" Isabella laughed and said, "Hera don't be rude. I'll go to a shop, we need some things from there. Do you want anything?" Hera thought for a second and then said "Well you can bring some popcorn and icecream." Isabella smiled kindly and told Hera "Okay, I will but if you go out let me know!" and she grabbed her car keys from Hera and walked out of the door. Just then Coco walked in and Mia looked stunned, she pulled Hera aside and asked her "Who is that beautiful creature?" Hera laughed and suggested "Why don't you find out yourself?" as she said that Coco spoke to Mia, "Hi I'm Coco. What's your name?" Mia looked at Coco and

then spoke, "H-hi I'm Mia, nice to meet you. You are really pretty, just so you know." Coco smiled, "Aww thank you! You're really pretty too Mia. How old are you?" "Uh I'm 16. And you, how old are you?" "I'm 17." said Coco and smiled, "Hey Mia, me and Soph are gonna go upstairs to my room cause that girl needs some new clothes, you two can be here and talk." Hera said smiling and added "Soph, come, I'll show you my room and give you new clothes. You are the same size as me right?" Sophie smiled and said "Yes."

#### • • •

After an hour Isabella came back home and Hera, Coco, Mia and Sophie ate icecream and watched a movie. After another two hours Hera and Sophie decided to go upstairs while Coco and Mia preferred to stay downstairs. Mia and Coco were getting along quite well and Mia quickly forgot about the whole Noah and Natalys thing. She enjoyed Coco's company. "So Mia, do you like to paint?" Coco asked "Yes as a matter of fact I do!What about you, do you like to paint?" Mia asked. Coco smiled and said, "Come, I'll show you something." Coco took Mia's hand and they went to Coco's room. When Coco opened the door Mia saw that when other rooms of the mansion were one or two colored then this room was covered in thousands of pictures Coco had painted on her walls. "So do you like it?" Coco asked nervously "Oh my god yessss! I love it!" Mia said. Then Mia spotted a white spot in the middle of the pictures and asked "Why is there a white spot on the wall?" "Well, I haven't had time to finish my walls yet." Coco answered, then smirked and offered "If you want we can finish the wall." "Yes! I'd really love that!" Mia said excitedly. Coco went to her table and opened a drawer, then she took out paint, a mug and a bunch of brushes, then she went to the bathroom and took some water. She sat down next to Mia and gave her a palette for paint. Mia smiled softly and asked "So what are we going to paint?" Coco looked at her and said " Paint whatever you want." "Alright!" After a small pause Mia started painting. She painted the sea and a cliff, on the cliff there was a woman with a sword and around the sword's handle there was a Bi flag. "So you're Bi?" Coco asked and Mia nodded.

#### • • •

Hera and Sophie were sitting on Heras bed and catching up when suddenly they heard voices outside because the door of the balcony was open. Hera ran out to the balcony and saw Z and Daniel talking. Then Daniel looked up and saw Hera on the balcony. He started laughing and shouted "Rapunzel, Rapunzel let your hair down so I can climb up!" Hera laughed and took a rope ladder from the drawer, attached one end to the balcony and threw the other end down. "Climb up my brave prince!" Hera shouted back, laughing. Sophie went on the balcony as well and they all laughed as they watched Daniel climb up the ladder. When Daniel was finally standing on the balcony and

laughing he asked Hera "Can your brave prince get a kiss for climbing up?" Hera laughed and gave him a kiss on the cheek. After Daniel it was Zaylas turn and after she got up to the balcony they were all sitting there and laughing. Then Hera said "Hey let's see what our love birds are doing, shall we?" Z turned to look at Hera and asked "What love birds?" "Ohhhh yes you don't know. I'm talking about Mia and Coco. They're alone downstairs." Hera said, smirking. "Alright let's go!" Sophie said, smiling. They reached the stairs and went down very, very silently only to find Coco and Mia kissing on the couch. "Wooowww this was quick!" Hera said, teasing them, Mia and Coco jumped off the couch and said at the same time "Uhh have y'all ever heard of privacy?!" Then they started laughing and Hera, Sophie, Z and Daniel joined them. Suddenly Mia and Coco stopped laughing and Coco asked "How did Zayla and your boyfriend get here Hera? We haven't opened the door." Hera looked at Coco and said, "First of all what the hell, Daniel isn't my boyfriend-" "Yet" Daniel said laughing before Hera could finish her sentence, all the others looked at him also laughing and Coco asked him " Was that a promise or an offer?" "I don't know?" Daniel answered, still laughing. "Okay but Z and Daniel got here from my balcony, they had a little climbing competition!" Hera said laughing and everyone joined her. "Okay but why are we all here anyway?" Z asked, Hera looked at her and said, "Okay so to the business. Daniel, your little sister is a total rat." "I know !" Daniel said and asked, " Why does that matter?" Hera looked at him and said, "Because she IS the matter!"

#### • • •

After Hera explained the situation they all started to think of a solution and revenge. "I might have a plan." Zayla said after a long pause, "And we get to have fun when we use my plan." Explain your plan please." Hera said, giving Zayla a bit of a confused gaze. "Sooo my plan is to go to a club and have fun and YOU Mia have to have fun and we'll get some pictures of YOU having fun and you can post it to YOUR insta story Mia so Noah can see that you are not sad, in your room and crying." Z spoke, smiling. "I mean why not." Mia said, Daniel agreed to Mia, saying "Let's do it!" Coco laughed and said "I'll drive!" Hera laughed and told her, "No you won't, because while y'all were talking then Isabella ordered us a limo. Also we might have VIP tickets for the club!" Everyone gasped and Sophie told Mia to pinch her so she could be sure she's not sleeping, Mia did pinch her. "Dress up folks because we're going out! Sophie, Zayla, come with me! Mia, Daniel, go with Coco! Move, move, move!" Hera said and took Z and Sophie with her to her room to change outfits.

### Chaos in the club

After an hour they all were ready and they all went out of the door. Z was wearing a beautiful, short V neck, black dress with strings on the back forming three x's. Sophie was wearing a red dress that had glitter all over it. Mia was wearing a hot black dress with a cool cut on both sides and Coco matched her wearing the same dress but her dress was poison green. Hera decided to wear a navy blue, short dress with a V neck and to match Z strings forming three x's on the back. Daniel was wearing a white shirt and jeans, he left two shirt buttons open saving "I look better like this!" They stepped into the car and Hera asked the driver to put on some music, after that she took her phone, pointed at the right club and said "Carlos, take us to this club". During the car ride they decided to play Truth or Dare and as the result in the end of the ride Hera was sitting on Daniels lap laughing over a joke Daniel told them and Mia was sitting next to Coco and hugging her, and ofcourse Z and Sophie were recording and taking pictures of them. "Alright kids we're here!" Carlos said. They all got out of the limo and Hera gave Carlos a huge tip and told him that they are going to call him if they need a ride. The club was a huge building with a nice rooftop and terrace. The music was loud and the lights were colorful.

#### • • •

They stepped in and saw that the manager was waiting for them. "Hello Ms Rivera, I'm the manager of the club. Your table is up there in the VIP area, enjoy your night." the manager said and gestured towards the VIP area. Hera quickly replied "Thank you Mr-" "Wall" "Wait, haven't I met you before? At a business meeting with my father perhaps?" Hera then asked Mr Wall nodded and said "Yes I do remember that meeting with Mr Rivera very well!" "Well then, thank you Mr Wall, have a good night." Mia looked at Hera and asked "Well shall we get to our table?" "Yes we should!" Hera answered. They quickly found their table and sat down. The VIP section was very luxurious, it was on the second floor and there were red sofas and armchairs everywhere. Hera whispered to Daniel "We have a nice view up here." "Yes!" Daniel answered. "Let's order something to drink, maybe it'll help us decide what to do next!" Coco offered, everyone agreed with her. They called a waiter and ordered some non-alcoholic drinks. After drinking, talking and laughing for 15 minutes Hera excused herself and went out on the club's rooftop to watch stars. Suddenly she heard a familiar voice, "Watching stars?" Hera turned around and saw Noah, "What the hell do you want? Go away!" She stepped back and almost fell, then she got her balance back. "I'm just having a good night in a random club's VIP section." "Don't lie! You're here trying to ruin our night aren't you?" "No, as a matter of fact, I'm not here to ruin your night." Hera was confused and asked "Then why are you here?" "Because of you." At that moment Hera felt dizzy and before passing out she screamed "Help me! What did you do to me, you psycho?!" and then everything went black."Just added a little something in your drink." Noah said, then he picked her up and walked down the stairs

#### • • •

When Hera woke up she was in a nice room. She was laying in a nice big bed, a friendly dog was sleeping next to her and in the corner of the room was a table with paper and pens. She sat up and spotted a bowl of food and a glass of water. Hera was petting the dog when she heard someone behind the door. A second later the door opened and Hera saw Noah with another bowl of food and glass of water. "Hey I see you met Lucy." Noah said, "Yes I did meet your dog indeed. What do you want from me?" Hera asked. "I want you to meet someone." Hera banged her head against the wall. "And for that you first break up with your girlfriend for a different girl, also your girlfriend happens to be my friend and then the girl you leave her for happens to be my friend's sister and after that you happen to be in the same club as me and for hell's sake you drugged and kidnapped me. God, how dumb can you be?" Noah shrugged "Very dumb apparently." "Okay so who will I meet and when will I meet them? Also can I call my friends and tell them I'm fine?" Hera asked. " Answer to the first two questions, you will meet an old friend of mine. And the answer to your last question is no." Noah answered, "WHAT! WHAT DO YOU MEAN I CAN'T CALL MY FRIENDS?!" Noah laughed and said "Relax, I'm kidding, of course you can call them." "Okay good, because I almost took this chair, and smashed it into your tiny little head." Hera said, laughing evilly. Noah just smiled and then spoke, "Now back to the business. Call your friends if you have to, then come to my office so we could talk about who you're meeting tomorrow. My servant is going to lead you there. " "Okay I'll be in your office in ten minutes. Also, for how long was I out?" Hera asked Noah shrugged, looked at his watch "About 2 hours or so." he said and left. When Noah was gone Hera took the phone he had left her and called Daniel.

#### • • •

At the same time Hera had been kidnaped her friends were in the club laughing and dancing. "So who do you want to be when you grow up?" Sophie asked Mia, "I'm thinking that maybe a doctor." Mia answered smiling, "Omg same!" Sophie said "What, that's so cool!" Mia said and added "Why do you want to be a doctor?" "I want to help people!" Sophie answered. "*Where is Hera?*" Mia thought "*She has been gone for half an hour!*" "Hey guys! Should we look for Hera?" Coco asked, "She has been gone for half an hour." "I'll text her." Daniel offered. He texted Hera and then went back to talking with Sophie. After five minutes Daniel checked his phone, "So has she answered?" Sophie asked, "No she hasn't." Daniel responded and called Hera. "Guys this is kinda freaking me out already, she usually texts back quickly." Mia said, when she saw that Daniel had put his phone down she asked, "Daniel, did she answer?" "No." Daniel said. "Okay that's it we are going to look for her." Mia said. "Okay! I'll go check

the bar!" Sophie said, "I'm going to check the roof!" Daniel said, "And we are going to check the dance floor!" Coco said and Mia added, "Also before I forget lets meet here after fifteen minutes. Go! What are you waiting for?

• • •

After a while everyone was back at the table and very worried. "We checked the whole club TWICE and there is still no sign of her!" Mia said and Coco hugged her, "Don't worry we ARE going to find her and she IS okay, it'll be okay. Let's ask Mr Wall, maybe this place has cameras and we can check them." Mia called over a waitress, "Good evening! What can I do for you?" "Could you get us the manager of the club please?" Mia asked, "Of course ma'am! What seems to be the problem, if I may ask." "Our friend is missing and we want to check security cameras. Would it be possible?" The waitress nodded and replied, "Let me ask the manager."

#### • • •

After a while the waitress was back with Mr Wall, "You can go." Mr Wall said to the waitress. The waitress nodded and mumbled a quick "Of course Mr Wall, as you wish sir." and walked away. "So what seems to be the problem?" "Could we check your security cameras?" Sophie shooted. "Oh, uh may I ask why?" Mr Wall asked with a confused look. "Sorry about my friend here." Mia apologized and gave Sophie a warning gaze, which Sophie answered with a silent "Sorry!" "Our friend is missing and we can't find her." Daniel explained, "Of course, come with me." Mr Wall said. They all followed Mr Wall to his office. The office was very big and well decorated. It was matte black and in the corners of the room were purple lights. In the middle of the office was a black desk, on the desk was a computer, the computer was showing security cameras. "When did your friend leave your desk?" Mr Wall asked, "Uhhh about an hour ago." Daniel replied, "Okay so let's see. Mhmm, is this her?" Mr Wall asked, showing them a picture of a girl. "Yes, that is Hera!" Sophie said, "Okay looks like she went to the rooftop and then... Wait what!" Sophie gasped, "She disappeared!" Zayla laughed sarcastically and said "She didn't, look at the time." she pointed at the corner of the computer, "Someone hacked the system. There are 20 minutes where we can't see anything!" Mia hit the wall angrily, what she didn't expect was that her hand went straight through the wall. She gasped and immediately apologized "Oh my god, I'm so sorry." Even though there was a serious problem everyone burst into laughter, even Mr Wall laughed. Mr Wall laughed and said, "Don't worry I'll get my wall fixed." Zayla then said "Okay back to Hera, before the camera went out there, in the corner you can see a guy. Does anyone know who he is?" Everyone went closer to the screen to see better and suddenly Mia yelled, startling everyone "That bastard! I know who he is!" Z quickly turned to her "Tell us quickly that might be extremely important!" "That little

piece of crap is my ex boyfriend, Noah!" Now it was Sophie's turn to hit the wall. Her hand didn't go through the wall but it did leave a deep mark on the wall. Mr Wall looked at all of them and said "Guys I know we have a serious problem but that doesn't mean you can destroy my wall. So the next one that hits the wall and leaves a mark there is going to pay for all the damage." Everyone started laughing and Daniel said "Okay now lets tell Mia something that will piss her off and she'll pay!" Mia laughed and then said "Say something that'll make me mad and I'll punch your face. Now get back to our missing friend shall we?"

#### • • •

After a long search Daniel said "Look we can see a black car speeding away, I think that's how Noah kidnapped Hera" "Yeah I agree because...Wait a damn minute! Guys, we're really dumb. Look at the shop there." Z said and pointed at the screen "The shop has security cameras, we can easily see the number plate and the driver." "Okay so let's go!"

#### • • •

When they reached the shop, the manager of the shop was just leaving when Daniel ran forward and yelled "Hey, sir, sir, wait, please wait!" The manager turned around to face Daniel and all the others "Hello, I'm Enzo Raven! How may I help you?" Daniel looked at the manager. He was a tall, black haired, muscular, friendly looking guy. "Hello Mr Raven, I am Daniel Martinez. I know you just closed the shop but we have a huge problem. We need to look at your security cameras." Mr Raven looked at them with a confused face, "Why would you need to do that?" Mia gazed at the manager and said "Our friend is missing and we think she might be kidnaped." Mr Raven nodded and turned around to open the door when all of a sudden Daniel said "Wait, wait, guys! I'm getting a call!" "Answer it! It might be important!" Mia said. Daniel answered the phone and said "Hello? This is Daniel Martinez."

### The blessed one

"Hello Daniel!" Hera said "Listen to me. Noah kidnaped me but I'm alright. You have to save me. Noah said that he wants me to meet someone. I will ask him where I will meet that someone and notify you. I will have to go now. DO NOT CALL THE POLICE YET. Also tell my mother and my aunt that I'm fine." Daniel blinked a few times to understand the information and then asked with a worried voice "But Hera where are-" "We don't have time for questions, I'll call you later. I have to go"

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When Daniel ended the call he looked shocked and worried. "Who was that? Was it Hera?" Sophie asked. "It was Hera, she is alright but we were right Noah kidnaped her. Noah wants Hera to meet someone." Mia looked horrified "Oh my God. We have to call the police NOW!" Daniel looked down at the floor and said, "We can't, Hera said that we can't call the police." "Now what?" Zayla asked. "We wait! Hera promised to call us later."

#### • • •

Hera put down the phone and went out the doors where the servant was waiting. "Shall I lead you to Mr Caddels office?" Hera nodded and said "Yes please." The servant beckoned her to follow him. They walked down a long corridor and reached a large door. The servant knocked, Hera heard a powerful male voice yelling "Yes?" The servant opened the door and Hera saw a beautiful young man, with light brown curly hair, sitting at a dark oak table. "Hi, I am Benjamin Caddels. How may I help you?" "To be honest I don't know. I think I should be in your brother's office." Hera replied and began walking back to the door. Benjamin laughed silently and then mumbled something. Hera turned around and gave him a death stare, then she asked "What did you say?" Benjamin laughed once again. "I said that you look stunning!" Hera smiled sweetly and replied "Thank you! Now excuse me please, I have to meet your brother." Benjamin smiled and said, "Bye, I hope we meet again." Hera winked at Benjamin and then spoke "If you want to meet again, then give me a paper and a pen, please." Benjamin smirked and then gave Hera what she asked for. She then quickly wrote down her number, handed it to Benjamin, then she smiled and left. Outside the servant was waiting. "You brought me to the wrong brother." Hera announced the servants eyes widened and he apologized "I am very deeply sorry ma'am. Please don't tell anyone about this." Hera smiled, calming the servant with a kind gaze, "It's fine. Don't worry I won't tell your boss." The servant bowed and mumbled a quick "Thank you ma'am!" and then beckoned her to follow him.

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Few minutes later the servant knocked on another large wooden door. "Yes?" Noah's voice said and a second later Noah opened the door. "Alfred, thank you, you may go!" he said to the servant, then he turned to Hera and told her to come in. As Alfred closed the door and left, Noah said "I hope your friends know now that you are fine." "They

know I'm fine." Hera answered. "Well then, back to business. I want you to meet an old friend of mine, or rather he wants to meet you." "Ookay but why?" Hera asked with a confused look. Noah laughed and replied "You really want to know don't you? Fine I'll tell you. My friend, Thale, found an old family tree and YOU-" He pointed at Hera, "seem to be related to an old wizard family but we're not sure. Also we know you are interested in history so we decided that you could help us quite a lot. We will meet him here tomorrow." Hera looked at Noah and said "I will help you, I guess but I want to talk to my friends again." Noah tilted his head a bit and mumbled "I have a feeling you are trying to escape." Hera smiled sweetly and although she heard exactly what Noah said she played dumb and asked, "Sorry I didn't quite catch what you said. Do you mind repeating that?" Noah looked at her for a bit and then said "It wasn't that important." Hera nodded and asked "So can I talk to my friends?" Noah nodded and then spoke, "I'll ask my servants to bring you some appropriate clothes as well." "Yes, that would be amazing." Hera stepped out the door and began walking towards some random man to ask for directions to her room. She reached the man and tapped his shoulder, "Hello sir could you please-. Oh, hi Benjamin." Benjamin smiled and said "Hello, what can I do for you?" "I need to get to my room but I have no idea where it is." Benjamin laughed and replied "I would but I have no idea where it is because my dear brother hasn't told me anything." Hera gave him a confused gaze "Really?" "Yes." "Well then we have an amazing opportunity to ask your brother some questions." Benjamin nodded and agreed "We sure do have an amazing opportunity for that." They walked back to the wooden door and Benjamin knocked. "Yes?" Noah yelled, Benjamin opened the door and stepped in saying "Hello brother dearest!". Noah stood up and said "Well hello brother how may I-" Noah didn't finish the sentence because Hera stepped in and said "Hello again!" Benjamin smiled and sat down on one of the comfortable red chairs. "So I was wondering if you want to explain, why do we have a beautiful young lady in our house wandering around and why don't I know anything about it? I mean I'm not complaining, she is very good company." Noah began walking back and forth in the room. "Brother. It's about the fountain." "The fountain?" Benjamin asked and his gaze immediately turned serious "What about the fountain?" Noah looked at Benjamin and said "The pieces of it are falling, the top of it is gone already." Benjamin glanced at Hera. He whispered to Noah "Noah this is a serious problem. We can't have strangers interrupting right now." Noah mumbled something and then yelled "Alfreeed! Take Hera to her room!" When Alfred finally came and walked Hera out of the door, Noah said "Listen well brother, I'm telling you she's one of the blessed ones." Benjamin gave him a look of doubt and then spoke "I'm not sure but I guess we'll see. Do you know where other "blessed ones" are?" Noah rolled his eyes "I might have a clue but I'm not sure." Benjamin suddenly looked at Noah and asked "Noah how did you get Hera here anyways?" Noah looked at Benjamin and said "I may have kidnapped her." Benjamin slapped his forehead and asked "Are you stupid mate? Literally, are you stupid?" "She asked me the same thing. Yes apparently I'm very dumb" Then he opened the door for Benjamin and Benjamin said "Think well before you do something brother, because if you take one wrong step right now then this whole place is going to be hell." Noah looked at Benjamin and then replied "Maybe you're the one that needs to think a bit."

### Very interesting family

Alfred led Hera to her room and left. Hera took the phone and called Daniel. "Hi! I can talk now so ask what you want to ask." Daniel sighed "Are you alright? Where are you? Did Noah do anything to you?" Hera laughed and said "First of all, I'm fine, second of all I'm at Noah's house, unfortunately I have no clue where it is. Also Noah didn't do anything to me." For a second Daniel was silent, then he asked, "What does Noah want from you?" "I think he wants me to help them find out if I'm related to a wizard." Hera replied. Hera heard how Daniel explained to the others what was going on and how Sophie asked something, "What did Sophie ask?" "Oh, well she wanted to know if we should call the police." Hera replied quickly "No, don't I kinda want to help them. What you can do is that you can find out where the hell I am." Suddenly Hera heard someone coming "Okay I have to go. Someone is coming, I think it might be Benjamin. Bye!" "Don't worry, we'll find out where you are. Wait, Hera, who the hell is Benjamin?" Daniel asked, "Ask Mia she should know." Hera quickly replied before hanging up. As soon as Hera put the phone down a beautiful woman stepped in. Her hair was light brown, long and curly, just like Benjamins she looked like she was about 30 years old. "Hi! My name is Yvonna, I'm Noah's and Benjamin's mother. Nice to meet you." Hera stepped a bit closer, "Hi, I'm Hera. nice to meet you as well. I was kidnapped by Noah." Yvonna rolled her eyes and said "Yes, kidnapping someone we need sounds just like my son. I'm sorry he did that. I'm here to help you choose your new clothes. Follow me please." Hera nodded and went out the door with Yvonna. After a few minutes of walking and talking Yvonna opened one of the doors, "Now you can choose your new outfit, we have almost every size." Hera looked really surprised and asked "But why?" Yvonna shrugged and replied "I just wanted a big wardrobe. Now go and choose anything you want." "I can choose anything I like?" Yvonna laughed at Hera's surprise and said "Yes dear anything you want."

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After some time Hera had chosen a nice pair of black jeans and a green top. Yvonna smiled approvingly and said, "Now it's time for shoes." with that she opened another door and began searching for shoes "Hmm, I think these would fit you." Yvonna said, handing Hera a pair of black boots. Hera tried them on and it was a perfect fit. "Thank you! Yvonna, would it be possible for me to meet my friends?" Hera asked, Yvonna

thought for a moment and said "Yes but only if you meet them here." Hera smiled, "Thank you!"

### • • •

Daniel put down the phone and said "We won't call the police, because Hera said that she wants to help Noah. Also Mia, do you know who the hell Benjamin is?" Mia raised an eyebrow "Yeah, I do know who he is. Why?" "Nothing, Hera mentioned him." Daniel replied. Then he asked "What do you know about him?" Mia tilted her head and answered "Well he is Noah's younger brother, he is about 16 years old." "Oh okay." "So now what?" Sophie asked. Daniel thought for a second "Uh we could try to find out where Hera is." At that moment Zayla's phone rang. "Hi Zayla! It's me Hera. You can meet me if you want to. Just come to Marianne street and search for the biggest house." Zayla was stunned "Really?" she asked, Hera laughed and said "Yeah, come I will introduce you to Yvonne. She's Noah's and Benjamin's mom." Z quickly replied "Alright Hera, we'll be there at 6:30." Hera then said "Alright, see you in 15 minutes then!" and hung up. Zayla was silent for two minutes "So, what did she say? Where will we be in 15 minutes?" Mia asked. Zayla looked like she just woke up from a nap, she blinked a few times and then spoke "Hera wants to meet with us, Yvonna said that she can meet up at Marianne street." Daniel shrugged and said "Well let's go then."

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Hera hung up and opened up a window. "Now what do I do?" she sat down on the bed, when she suddenly heard a silent knock on the door. "Yes?" Hera yelled, the doors opened and she saw that it was Benjamin "Hi! How can I help you?" she asked, Benjamin smiled and said "Hi! I just wanted to check up on you." Hera smiled and replied "Oh I'm fine." "So what are you gonna do now?" Benjamin asked, Hera just shrugged "I'll meet up with my friends soon but after that, I don't know." Benjamin looked really puzzled. "What do you mean you're gonna meet up with your friends?" he asked, Hera laughed "You have a very interesting family! Yvonna, your mother said that I can meet them!" "What?! She said WHAT?" Benjamin sighed and sat down next to Hera. Hera patted his shoulder and said "Like I told you, you have a very interesting family where you don't tell each other anything." Benjamin nodded "I guess you're right." Hera smiled, "So Benjamin. What do you like to do?" Benjamin sighed "Please call me Ben. Also the answer to your question depends. Sometimes I like to go riding with my motorcycle." Hera looked really surprised. "You have a motorcycle?" Benjamin nodded, Hera looked at him and said "Show it to me!" Benjamin looked at Hera with a weird expression. "He might be right about you." He mumbled, Hera tilted her head, she knew exactly who Ben was talking about."What do you mean he might be right about me?" Ben looked at Hera and frowned, "We are going to find Yvonne

quickly." Now it was Hera's turn to frown, "Why?" Ben looked relieved "Let's go see the bike first then."

### • • •

They stepped outside, it was warm sunny weather. Ben stretched and yawned like a cat. Hera laughed, Benjamin turned around and looked at her questioningly. "What?" Hera asked, still laughing a little, "Why are you laughing?" Ben asked, "Ohhh, you just reminded me of my cat." Hera answered. Benjamin laughed as well now. Hera turned around and looked at the house. It was a big beige stone house, vines were hanging from the roof and from two beautiful balconies. It was the oldest house in town, it didn't look like it would be over 300 years old. "Looks are deceiving" Hera thought. They stepped into the huge garage and Ben beckoned and said "Well here it is." Hera looked where Ben had beckoned and saw a beautiful matte black motorcycle. "Wow. That's all I have to say. Just wow" Ben laughed "Yeah that was my first impression too." Suddenly Ben got a notification and he checked his phone, then he showed Hera a picture of a car. "Are these your friends?" "Yeah." "Alright I'll open the gate." Ben nodded and gently led Hera to the gate.

### • • •

Mia looked out the window as they were driving "Why didn't Hera call me? Why did she call Daniel and Zayla but not to me? Maybe she hates me." "Mia, stop over thinking. Hera loves you like her own sister" Coco said, "How did you know I was over thinking? How do you know Hera doesn't hate me?" Mia asked. Coco took Mias hands "Honey, you look really stressed so I just guessed why and I know that she loves you because you call really often and she just cares about you. She especially told me that when you look stressed you might be over thinking and if I don't do something about it she is going to kill me." Mia burst into laughter "She really did that?" "Oh yes." "Oh hell nah I have to get my best friend back." Mia said and asked "Are we there yet?" Carlos said something in Spanish and Coco translated "He said that we're almost there, he knows very well what house we're looking for. Oh we're here."

# **Back to business**

Mia, Sophie, Coco and Zayla got out of the car first, they saw Hera and some random dude walking towards them. As Daniel slowly got out of the car, Hera introduced Benjamin to Coco, Mia, Sophie and Zayla. Daniel crossed his arms and looked at Benjamin, he was tall, muscular and had curly, light brown hair. "*I could fight him and we could get back in the car and drive away but it looks like I'm the only one thinking* 

about going away. I mean look at them talking like he wasn't part of kidnapping Hera." Daniel thought. Hera was talking to Ben and the girls when she felt someone's eyes on her, she slowly turned around and saw Daniel looking at her. She turned to Ben and whispered "Hey, let's go, I want you to meet my boy bestfriend!" Sophie turned to look at Daniel and saw him flinch when Hera grabbed Benjamin's hand and led him towards Daniel. Hera smiled at Daniel and said "Hi Daniel! This is Benjamin and he is Noah's younger brother. Also he wasn't part of kidnapping me, if that's why you are looking at him so angrily." Benjamin and Daniel shook hands, Mia, Coco, Zayla and Sophie were watching it and Zayla said "Well if we let them be in one room for 24 hours one of them is going to kill the other." Mia agreed, "Yeah, so let's keep them separate." Hera said something to the boys and they all walked back to the others. "Well Hera sure looks like a boss like that. Boys walking after her like that and that outfit. Ahh gorgeous. If I didn't know any better I'd say she's a mafia boss." Mia said and others agreed with a nod. " So what now?" Zayla asked, Hera tilted her head and saw Noah coming, "Well you'll have your answer in a few seconds." Hera said and Ben rolled his eyes smiling and said "Hera that's a terrible way of saying that my brother is coming and he's probably angry." Everyone laughed but Noah who had joined them said "I see that everyone is here? Great, come in and we can begin." Hera laughed and furrowed her eyebrows "Science when do you poetize?" Noah turned to her and answered "I see that you got better clothes and I don't "poetize" it just came out like that." Ben looked at his brother then teased him "Maybe you should try writing poetry, maybe you're good at it because you are bad at everything else." Noah rolled his eyes and answered "Yea, right Mr I'm the best" It was so funny to see two brothers arguing that Hera started laughing "You are hopeless. Ben, it's not nice to make fun of your brother." Benjamin looked at Hera and said "You did it first!" "Did I? Oops my bad." They laughed, Noah shook his head laughing and mumbled "Like two year olds." "Ayo, who was the dumbass who kidnapped me just because someone wanted to meet me?" Benjamin and Noah laughed. Daniel and the girls were standing a little further away, Mia smiled and laughed silently then whispered to the others "Look at them playing like puppies." Coco laughed as well. "Yeah, and Daniel is standing here like a jealous puppy whose owner won't let him play." Sophie went closer and did a little dance move, "Do I smell drama?" Zayla furrowed her brows "Someone should go and talk to Daniel, he looks like he's about to explode." all the girls looked at her. "What?" Zayla asked, Mia chuckled "You should go and talk to him! You're the one who knows him the best!" Zayla nodded and walked to Daniel. "Look at them, I don't like this Z, no I really don't like this!" Daniel said when Z came and stood next to him. "It's going to be alright. The main question is, why is that-" she gestured at Hera and the two brothers laughing "bothering you?" Daniel shook his head and brushed his hand through his hair. "I wish I knew why it's bothering me." he said. Hera turned to Noah and Ben and said "We should invite everyone inside

and you," she pointed at Noah "are going to tell us what are we going to do." Benjamin nodded and smiled at Hera.

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"So, there is a reason why Yvonna told you that you can meet your friends." Noah said as they were sitting in the living room conversation pit. "We don't need to find out if you're related to a wizard or not, we already know you are, as a matter of fact you all are. We were searching for "the blessed ones". The blessed ones are children of wizards. For example, me and my brother, we are sons of two of the most powerful wizards." Coco opened her mouth to ask something but Noah raised his hand to silence her, "Yes that means that me and Benjamin are wizards and we can do magic. Now before anyone can ask any questions, please let my mother tell you everything you need to know." As Noah said that Yvonna stepped in but not through a door, through a portal! "Hello everyone, I am Yvonna and I'm here to tell you about your powers. First of all, are you hungry? My son's aren't the brightest when it comes to guests""Mother, please." Noah frowned. Everyone around giggled. Hera turned to look at her friends, they were all shocked but nodded and Mia who was sitting next to Hera whispered "Can you tell her that we are, like, really hungry?" Hera hugged her and nodded. "Yvonna, we all would like something to eat please." Yvonna nodded "Alright, Alfred! Give these poor children something to eat. Now as Alfred will bring you some food I'll talk, if you have a question raise your hand. Yes Mia?" Mia looked surprised but asked "First of all ma'am how do you know my name? Secondly, how do you know we are "the blessed ones"?" Yvonna laughed "I know all of you. You, young man, you are Daniel right? You have grown so much. You, younglady," she pointed at Coco. "You are Coco, and next to her is Zayla, tell your mom I said hi. Sophie dear, you have grown so beautiful. Everyone please call me Yvonna. I'm your friend not your boss. I know you are "the blessed ones" oh God what a ridiculous name, I know you are wizard and enchantresses because your parent or at least one parent is a wizard or enchantress." Yvonna made a pause as Alfred came in with one tray of food and one tray of drinks, he put them on the table and left. "So, there are different kinds of magic. Green, control over nature. Red, mind control. Orange, control over fire. Blue, control over water. Black, only exists because of fairies, powers are mind control and control over water but they can only control ice, the fairies can also control nature with songs. Now each of you will come here and, - yes Ben?" Benjamin had walked up to his mother and started nervously whispering with Yvonna, Hera heard some louder words "Mother this is important... You didn't tell me... No, it's impossible... Yes mother." Yvonna turned to them, "Looks like I'm going to tell you about the most dangerous but also the most awesome kind of magic as well. Purple, it is dangerous and beautiful at the same time, the wizard must be very careful when they know they have it. Purple powers are all of the possible magic, we have control over nature, water, fire, mind control. Now each of you will come here and I will tell

you your power, after that we'll lead you to your rooms so you can get some rest. Mia, come here." Mia quickly gazed at Hera, Mia looked scared. Then she went to Yvonna, Yvonna smiled to her kindly and said "Relax your mind and body." then Yvonna put two of her fingers on Mias forehead "Green, you can control nature, dear, just like your mother." Yvonna announced. "Coco! Relax your mind and body." Yvonne said and repeated the process. "Blue, you control water." Yvonna invited Sophie to her "Orange, you control fire." next was Zayla, "Red, you have mind control. Daniel, come!" Daniel stood up and went to Yvonna "You have the black power, in case you didn't know your father is the fairy king." Daniel looked dumbfounded but nodded and sat down. "Hera be a dear and come here." Yvonna said, Hera went to Yvonna, Yvonna smiled her kindest smile and like she did to everyone else, put her two fingers on Heras forehead she focused and then said really slowly and quietly "Purple... you have purple magic just like my zeyri, I mean my son said." Hera looked at Yvonna in confusion, "What did you say?" Yvonna smiled and nodded "You have purple magic. Ahh but that's amazing! Congratulations, I'm so happy for you." Hera shook her head in confusion, "Didn't you say that purple is dangerous?" Yvonna smiled, shook her head and answered "Yeah I also said that it's the most amazing power. Now let's all rest, you have a crazy night behind you."

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Hera was in her room, sitting on the bed, when she heard a knock she sighed and yelled "Yes?" the door opened silently and Mia stepped in. Hera smiled and Mia smiled back. "Come on, sit down." Hera said and patted the bed. Mia was just about to sit when they heard someone behind the door, it was Zayla and a second after Zayla, Sophie and Coco came. They were all sitting on Hera's bed when suddenly they heard Lucy bark behind the door. They all laughed and Hera went and opened the door for Lucy. When Lucy and Hera had found a good spot on the bed Mia said "Can you believe it? We are enchantresses!" "Yeah it's super crazy right?" Sophie answered, Mia frowned "I have never seen my mother using her powers. Have you seen your parents using magic?" Zayla frowned as she tried to think "I have always wondered how my mom gets everything from high places so quickly but now it makes sense." "Same but I have always wondered how all the plants grow so quickly in our house but now I know." Mia said and Coco added "When I ask my mom to bring me some water then she sometimes takes an empty glass and then covers it and then there is water, didn't make sense until now." Hera laughed and said "We have all been so blind! Our parents have used their powers all the time!" "Guys, we're stupid!" Sophie said and they all laughed, Hera looked at them and said "You have to tell me what happened when I was kidnapped." Zayla, Coco, Sophie and Mia looked at eachother then everyone turned to look at Coco, Coco looked puzzled "What?" Mia smiled and explained "You tell her what happened, we'll help if you have any trouble." Coco sighed "It's going to be a long story so yeah.

Anyways as you know you left to watch stars and then Mia noticed that you have been gone a little too long and then..."

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Daniel was standing in his room when suddenly he heard a knock on the door "Maybe it's Hera." he thought "Come in!" he said. The door opened and Daniel saw that it was Noah. Noah came in, shut the door and said leaning on the door "Hey I think we started off a little wrong so I thought that maybe we can start over." Daniel gave him a strange gaze. Then he said "Nah I'm good." Then he turned away, Noah nodded and then offered "What if I tell you all about my brother and Hera, I mean about everything they do together." Daniel rolled his eyes and then agreed "Fine, I guess I need a friend right now." Noah took a step closer and asked "So what do you like to do?" "Oh you know boxing is my favorite, I like to run too tho." Noah nodded and said "So a sports guy, like my brother. Interesting." Daniel brushed his hand through his hair "Yeah I guess. What about you, what do you do with your free time? Also god damn man, come sit down" Noah laughed and went to the chairs under the window and sat down. "Well I like to read but kinda like you, sports is my favorite." "Well, I'd say you're a nerd but not really." Noah threw his head back and laughed "What's that even supposed to mean? Ah doesn't matter. Anyway, you want to go grab a drink or something?" Daniel smirked and shrugged, "I'm not old enough." Noah shook his head smiling and bit his lower lip "I don't drink alcohol when it's day, by drinks I meant non-alcoholic wine or something." Daniel shrugged, smiled and then noted "So you're the fancy guy." Noah nodded laughing, "Yeah you can say that." "Well let's go." Daniel said and gestured towards the door, Noah agreed, "Yeah let's go."

# And studying continues

The next morning Yvonna, Benjamin and Noah started early, they were up at 6:30. The first one who got up after them was Hera, she went downstairs and saw Yvonna and the boys in the kitchen talking. She went to the kitchen and said with an extremely sleepy voice "Good morning everyone. Benjamin, can I talk to you for a second?" Ben shrugged and said "Sure!" He followed Hera, they went out the door and Hera said "First of all, good morning. Now can I get some workout clothes? I really need to do my morning workout." Ben smiled and answered "Yea sure, I'll tell Yvonna to get you the clothes and I'll show you where the gym is." Hera crossed her arms and nodded "Thank you." Benjamin went back to the kitchen and a minute later Yvonna came out and said "Come I'll give you some workout clothes." "Thank you Yvonna."

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After some time Hera and Yvonna came back downstairs, Hera was wearing black leggings, black workout top and black sneakers. "So, where is the gym?" Hera asked Benjamin. Benjamin looked like he woke up from a nap and shook his head "Uh yeah, the gym, follow me!" he said and Hera laughed, they went outside and Hera saw that in the backyard they had a full outside gym. Running tracks, boxing bags, weights and many more things."Thanks!" Hera said, Ben chuckled and replied "You're welcome." He was just about to leave when Hera shouted "Yo, Ben, why don't you join me?" Benjamin turned around and shrugged "Yeah sure why not, I'll go change and then I'll join you." Hera smiled. Ben went back to the house to change and Hera thought "*I'll start with running and then I'll move to boxing*"

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When Ben came out of the house he saw Hera boxing "Damn she really good at that." he thought. Hera was hitting the boxing bag like a professional. She threw punches so hard that Ben thought that the bag was going to break. "Who you mad at?" Ben asked and quickly dodged Heras punch as she almost hit him "Oh my god, sorry! You scared me." Hera said and slapped her hand over her mouth. "Eh it's fine. Some adrenaline is always welcome." "Come join me." Hera said.

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After an hour of working out Hera and Benjamin went back inside, they had a great workout and Hera told Benjamin about her childhood and parents. Benjamin told her about how he had grown up, they became best friends within an hour. Everyone was already up and eating breakfast when Ben and Hera stepped in, Mia winked at Hera smirking and asked "And where have you two been?" Hera rolled her eyes and replied "We were training." Yvonna smiled and said "Very good. Go take a quick shower and then come eat breakfast." Benjamin nodded "Yes mother we will do exactly like you said. Come Hera I'll show you where the bathroom is." "Yeah, thank you." They left the kitchen and Ben said "We should workout together more. Also, damn you can lift a ton of weight. How?" Hera laughed and answered with "I mean I got to stay in shape somehow." Ben furrowed his brow "Yeah but don't go to fight clubs, tough places." Hera looked down, smiled and bit her lower lip "Bit late for that." Benjamin flinched and looked at her "You-" he pointed at Hera "went to fight club?" Hera shrugged "Yeah, it was quite a mess, never lost a fight tho." Benjamin blinked his eyes, smiled and shook his head, then he opened a door "So here is the bathroom, towels are in the left top shelf." "Okay, thank you." Hera said and closed the door. The bathroom was big and white, there was a huge mirror with led lights in the corners, the huge shower was in another room, she stepped in and locked the second door.

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After a great shower Hera un-locked the door and saw that someone had brought her her clothes. Hera quickly got dressed and went downstairs for breakfast. She was still drying her hair when she stepped into the kitchen. Benjamin was already there and raised his head to look at her when she stepped in. Yvonna smiled when she stepped in "Come sit down and eat, the others are in the living room. I'll dry your hair." Hera smiled "Thank you Yvonna, you are so sweet." When they were done eating they joined the others. "So, now that you're here I'll teach you some things you need to know about magic." Yvonna said and before anyone said anything she continued, "If you have any questions raise your hand. So controlling your magic can be hard, especially for Hera and Daniel. Their magic is stronger than yours Zayla, Sophie, Mia and Coco, because as I explained yesterday they have control of multiple things. That doesn't mean that you are much weaker than them. Yes Mia?" Mia tilted her head and asked "When are we going to actually use our magic?" Yvonna laughed "Just like your mother, always so impatient. It is a legitimate question. You won't use your magic before you know the theoretical part, because otherwise you might hurt yourself or someone else, so you're forbidden to use it. Now there are things every wizard can do no matter what power they have, for example teleporting. Then again you have fairies, who have power of manipulation and that is extremely dangerous because they will control you and you can't do anything about it. Another thing every wizard can do is heal. You can heal broken bones, scratches and wounds but if the wound is a death wound, you can only save someone from death once, but there is of course an exception that proves the rule, purples like me and Hera, we can save two living creatures from dving. Yes Daniel?" Daniel looked up and furrowed his brow, "Why can we save only one person?" "Not only people count Daniel, all animals and living creatures too. So the point is that wizards are something like cats." Zayla cracked her knuckles and stated "I was right all along! Cat's really have nine lives!" Yvonna laughed and continued "Yes indeed, but you, fairies and basic wizards have only two lives, you can give away your one life to someone dying. If you don't save anybody from dying in your first life and someone kills you then you will survive once. Purples have three lives, because purples are the chosen ones, in fairy forest they have a very special place. Only few know where it is, there live *alae ignis*, firewings like we call them. They are fire butterflies, they are smarter than us and everyone respects them. There have been cases of wizards giving up one of their lives to save the life of one *alae ignis*. Firewings are very beautiful, but very arrogant and when they want to, they can help you with something, but for that they want respect. When a baby is born there will be a huge firewing gathering and they will decide whether to give that child purple powers or not. Purple power means that one *alae ignis*, usually the oldest one, will fly to the child, then the butterfly will land on the child's chest and perform a beautiful dance, when the dance is done the butterfly will leave.

After that ritual the firewing will return to the special place." Yvonna paused and then asked "Do you have any questions?" Hera raised her hand and Yvonna nodded "What happens to the *alae ignis* after the ritual and when firewing lands on the child how come you were surprised that I had the purple power?" Yvonna nodded again and then replied "Firewing will die soon after the ritual, because when the firewing does the dance it will give its lives to the child they chose. All wizards are born with two lives but firewing can give them one more, firewings have fifty lives and turing the ritual it will give away ten, one goes to the wizard as a gift and the others will give the wizard all the powers. Now, I was waiting for the second question. You see, *alae ignis* like to show their beauty so they usually fly at night. The parents might be asleep or in the other room while the firewing does the dance. Now I'll tell you about greeting another wizard so it's not hard I'll show you" Yvonna put her right hands two fingers on top of her right brow and said "Dzuwa likuwa nthawi ilianga, nadi mwezi ileuad njira du mumdima. This means: may the sun always shine upon you, may the moon always show you the way in the dark. To this the other wizard will say, Nyenyezi ziwale kwambiri kwa inu, alae ignis aku thandizeni nthawi that means may the stars always shine to you and may alae ignis always help you." Daniels eyes widened and he said stammering "Not that hard? That's like the longest greeting ever." his misery was so funny that even Yvonna laughed. After some laughing Yvonna continued with the lesson. "Oh before I forget, being a wizard has some benefits, your hearing will get noticeably better. I know that Hera has already experienced it, am I correct?" Hera nodded and mumbled a quick "Yes." Yvonna smiled and then said "Lesson dismissed, you may leave. Later today you will have another lesson. Now go and do something else." Yvonna smiled and left the living room. Mia looked at the others and asked "Sooo what now?" Hera shrugged and said "I don't know. I'll go find Benjamin." At the very same moment she said that Benjamin stepped in through a portal and asked "Did I hear right, did m'lady call for me?" Mia laughed and turned to Hera "Yeah this one is definitely a keeper. If you don't date him, Zayla will!" Zayla raised her hands in defense "Ay! Don't make promises for me, I have my eyes on someone else!" Hera turned to look at her quicker than a tornado "WHAT? You have a crush and I don't know about it?" "Well I guess so." Hera smiled and then whispered "Emergency girls meeting in my room, right now!" all the girls looked at each other and laughed and Noah who had appeared on the door leaned against the door frame looked at Benjamin and Daniel, then he said "Women and i mean only women, I'll never understand them!" Daniel and Benjamin started laughing "Oh brother, no man can understand women." Benjamin said. The girls went to Heras room and sat down on her bed, "Sooo who is the guy?" Hera asked, Zayla scratched her neck and replied "Well as you know when we were searching for you we went to the shop. Well the shop manager Enzo is only 19 years old and we have met at a couple of parties and sometimes we go to cafes together and yeah." Sophie then interrupted asking "Our "lessons" are so interesting. So what do you think, who has the best powers?" Mia furrowed her brows

"I think that Hera has the best powers." Coco agreed "Yea I agree. Daniel's powers are fine too." Zayla on the other hand said "I can't choose, all of us have cool powers." Hera looked down and smiled, then she said "I don't want to be rude but I think I do have the best powers." Sophie gave her a disapproving look, stood up and hissed "I mean that is just your opinion." Hera slapped her forehead "Are you actually going to be offended because we think you didn't get the best power?" "Well maybe you shouldn't think so highly of yourself. I bet your arrogance will kill you." Mia rolled her eyes, stood up and said "Girl now you're the arrogant one." Sophie rolled her eyes and shrugged "Well at least I'm not a pet who does everything my owner wants!" When Hera heard that, she exploded, she stood up and went closer to Sophie while pointing her finger at Sophie "NO ONE and I mean NO ONE talks about my friend like that!" Her hand started to glow purple, the glow slowly got to her eyes and then stayed put, Mia stepped back and Coco went to stand next to her. Mia slowly took Coco's hand and lightly squeezed it. Sophie was scared to death but Hera continued "How dare you Sophie we helped you when you had nowhere to go and you're going to assault us? GET OUT, GET OUT OF MY ROOM NOW!" Zaya jumped up and got between Sophie and Hera, she forced Hera to look into her eyes and said as calmly as she could "Calm down Hera, sit down and breathe in and breathe out and repeat." Hera shook her head and asked "Why is your voice shaking?" Zayla looked down and then whispered, nervously gazing into Hera's eyes "Hera, you could've killed or hurt Sophie really badly. You almost used your magic, you know we're forbidden to use it." Zayla looked Hera in the eyes. Hera looked like she was about to cry, Zayla hugged her and looked down, then she muttered "I think it's better if we all go to our rooms. No one can tell Yvonne anything" with that she stepped away and walked out of the room, Coco looked down and gently tugged Mia by hand to follow her, then she gestured to Sophie to follow them.

## Natharya

Hera threw herself on the bed and cried, suddenly she heard a light knock on the door. She didn't even bother to ask who it was, she just shouted "Go away, leave me alone!" "I could but I don't want to. I know you're crying." Daniel answered, he sighed and then added "If you really want to I can leave you alone." Hera smiled through the tears and responded, hesitantly, "Come in, quickly, before I change my mind." Daniel stepped in and closed the door, then he leaned against the door and looked Hera in the eyes. Hera's eyes were sad and tired, Hera sat up and gestured to Daniel to sit too. Daniel went and sat beside Hera he gently hugged her, Hera smiled sadly and asked "So what now?" Daniel smiled, then suddenly grabbed Hera by the waist and pulled her on his lap. Then he hugged her tightly, Hera smiled again and laid her head on his shoulder. Daniel smiled sweetly and then asked "Do you want to tell me what happened?" Heras eyes turned back to serious and she raised her head, she hesitated but then began "I almost hurt Sophie," Daniel looked at her questioningly, Hera looked down and finished her sentence "I almost hurt her with my powers." Daniel nodded understandingly and whispered in her ear "It's fine, it's alright, you didn't do anything and everyone is alright." Suddenly Hera stood up and took Daniel's hand, then she asked "Do you want to dance?" Daniel nodded and also stood up, Hera went to a drawer and pulled out a small speaker, Hera took out her phone and put on a song. It was slow and beautiful, Daniel felt every sound flow through him as he slowly danced with Hera. Hera smiled at Daniel and threw her hands around Daniels neck while resting her head on his shoulder.

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Benjamin watched grimly as Hera and Benjamin danced. Suddenly he heard someone come, he flinched and threw a piece of cloth over the purple glowing bowl. "Brother, what are you looking at so grimly?" Noah asked and stepped next to Benjamin, he saw the bowl and before Ben could cancel his spell Noah pulled off the piece of cloth covering it and saw what he had been looking at. At first he seemed confused but then he closed his eyes, put his hands in his pocket and acknowledged "You like her, don't you?" "Bro look it was never supposed to happen but ahh..." Noah took a deep breath and said "They aren't dating." Ben furrowed his brow and asked "Who?" Noah laughed and his laugh echoed in the room "Don't act dumb! Daniel and Hera aren't dating you dumbass." Benjamin rubbed his neck "That's good to know. Why did you come here anyway?" Noah shook his head and said "Oh yeah, mother wants to do another lesson for them." Ben smiled and opened a portal to the hallway "Then we shall hurry."

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A few moments later all of them were in the living room and waiting for Yvonna. Yvonna stepped in, she took one look at all of them and squinted her eyes. Then she began walking in circles and then suddenly she stopped, asking "Who used magic?" Hera looked at the others, Sophie avoided her gaze but Mia and Zayla looked at her and nodded. Daniel put his hand on Hera's arm and nodded. Benjamin flinched as he saw that and glared at Daniel, but Daniel didn't notice. Noah stepped forward and put his hand on his brother's shoulder giving him a warning look. After a moment of silence Hera stood up and said "It was me." Benjamin shot her a quick look but then quickly turned his gaze back to his mother. "Why?" that was all Yvonna asked, Hera looked her dead in the eye and replied "I got mad." Yvonna nodded and Noah leaned against the door frame and whispered to Ben "Badass girl you got there." Benjamin laughed silently and Hera, who heard that, shot Noah a quick smile. Yvonna gave her sons a warning look and continued "You need to learn how to control your anger. Otherwise you are a danger to yourself and others." "Yes Yvonna, ofcourse." Hera replied and sat down. Daniel smiled at her approvingly and when Hera looked at Benjamin she saw that he did the same. Yvonna smiled and said "Now I'll show you something. Come here." They all went to Yvonna and saw a bowl of water, they all looked quite surprised and Coco asked "Why is this bowl here?" Yvonna muttered something so silently that even with their improved hearing they heard nothing. A picture of a young woman appeared on the water, she turned around to face them, then she smiled and waved. Yvonna smiled back, then she said "This is Natharya-Lyra, she's the daughter of Visha and she was the one who imprisoned her. This simple spell lets you see the person you were thinking of. I'll teach you how to do that." Yvonna smiled as she watched all of them get excited. "So, the words you need to say are "Dze le tsia dzi. Those words mean "Appear on the water"" Yvonna explained, as she talked, the image of the woman disappeared. She took a deep breath and continued "It's your turn to try. So who wants to try first?" Yvonna looked around and smiled sweetly "No one wants to try?" Coco tilted her head and asked "I would try but why are we using magic when we don't know all the theoretical parts?" Yvonna looked at Benjamin, who looked at Noah, who looked at Yvonna who replied "Well, my sons here convinced me that I need to teach you the technical part too. We'll start with easier spells and slowly move to harder and more troubling spells. So who wants to go first?" Yvonna looked around, suddenly Hera slowly raised her hand and said "I'll try." Yvonna gaze was quite worried "Are you sure you are ready? I mean after today's incident and..." Hera looked Yvonna straight in the eye "I will try." Yvonna nodded and began giving her instructions "You have to bring a clear picture of someone in your mind, doesn't matter who doesn't matter where they are. Now acknowledge the magic in your body, feel it flow through you and let it rest in your heart. Now look at what I do and do the same." Yvonna stepped back, she placed her hands in the air on top of the bowl then she yelled "Dze le tsia dzi!" Hera laughed and said "Well that was dramatic. Anyway, I'll try." She placed her hand on top of the bowl and closed her eyes, then she whispered "Dze le tsia dzi." Then she watched calmly and proudly as the image of her aunt appeared. She stepped back, gestured towards the bowl and asked "Is that good enough?" Yvonna nodded and said "Next one is Coco." but suddenly Hera waved her purple glowing hand and whispered something. They heard how Hera's aunt said "I don't know, she went out with her friends and then they all just disappeared. My driver is with them." A male voice replied to her "Don't worry ma'am we will find them. Thank you for all the information." Hera looked down and the picture disappeared. Yvonna furrowed her brows and asked "How did you know how to do that?" Hera turned her gaze to Yvonna and said "I found an old spell book." "You found a what?" Yvonna asked her, eyes wide open, she looked quite scared "A spell book? What's so shocking about that?" Hera asked, Yvonna closed her eyes and explained "What you found is not a regular spell book or at least so I believe. Describe it to me please." Hera tilted her head and rubbed her neck "It looked quite old and more like a big notebook. It was purple I think." Yvonna nodded in recognition "That, my dear, is indeed a spell book but it's written by Visha. Ahh I guess it's time to tell you about Visha. Visha is an evil wizard, she's really powerful and she has purple powers. Because of her the big wizard library burned down and-""Yes she's evil but do you know the whole story? You can't say that she's truly evil, you are a bit quick with your opinion." someone said with a voice as powerful as a waterfall, although there was a deep strange accent, everyone's gaze turned in the direction of the voice. A beautiful young woman was leaning against the doorframe. She had raven black hair, green eyes with a little yellow reminded them of snake eyes. She had sharp facial features and when Hera caught a sight of her ears she gasped, the woman's ears were sharp. Her movements were inhumanly quick and smooth, there was a huge scar on the side of her face. She was wearing black tight fitting pants and a beautifully decorated tread, on her back was a green cape. On her back was a masterfully crafted bow, leather arrow bag and on her hand was a snake tattoo. Hera squinted her eyes and recognized her from Yvonnas spell. "Ahh finally, Natharya-Lyra." Yvonna greeted her. Natharya didn't even look at her, she walked to Benjamin, Raised her two fingers to her brow and said "Aya Dacian!" Hera was confused, "How do they know each other? She has some explaining to do." then she walked up to her and said "Dzuwa likuwala nthawi ilianga, ndi mwezi ileuad njira dy mumdima." Natharia- Lyra turned around, smiled and answered "Nyenyezi ziwale kwambiri kwa inu, alae ignis aku thandizeni nthawi." Hera gazed in Natharya's eyes then whispered to her "I'm Hera and we need to talk. I don't want to cause any trouble but I have to know some things." Natharya nodded and whispered back "I agree." but Benjamin furrowed his brow. Hera then mumbled "On count of tree! One, two-" Hera put her hands behind her back when her right hand started to glow purple, Natharya smirked. Everything happened very fast, Hera said "Three." Yvonna yelled "No!" Natharya yelled "Bye!" as Hera opened a portal and jumped in, Natharya-Lyra followed her, laughing and the portal closed. Yvonna covered her eyes with her hand in disappointment then she said "Class dismissed. go to your rooms." after that she walked out of the door.

#### • • •

Natharya- Lyra sat down on the edge of the cliff and asked "How did you find this place?" She looked at the mountains and fields filled with flowers, Hera sat down right beside her and said "I like to hike sometimes and well mountains are beautiful so yeah." Natharya turned her gaze away from the amazing view to Hera and assumed "You want to know about Visha, me and Dac?" Hera hesitated but then finally replied "Yes." Natharya smiled, leaned back and then continued assuming "Then you probably want to know about Soren, or Ren as we call him." Hera raised her brows, plinked a few times to clear her confusion. Natharya laughed "Your confusion is understandable but still quite funny. I assume Dacian and Soren are using different names, the last time I spoke

to them, they said *Ben'ya'minq* and *Noa'q*" Natharya said everything with a strange accent, she said Benjamin adding pressure to "ja" and ending the name with strange japanese accent. when she said Noah she emphasized Noa and ended the name with something between q and k. Hera nodded and corrected her "Yes Benjamin and Noah." Natharya- Lyra nodded "Mhm, *farshlingish* that's what they said." Hera asked "What does *farshlingish* mean?" "Ahh *Whaea* Yvonna hasn't told you yet. It basically means yes, but it's in *neráida* language. Also *Whaea* means mother and *neráida* means elf or elven, if you don't know yet elves don't like being called fairies."

# Who? Where? And why?

Natharya stretched and then said "Now let's begin with the story, it's long and full of things you don't understand. I'll try and make it easier for you but I don't know how it's going to come out. If you develop any questions, you probably will, then ask them right away, otherwise you'll forget, also call me Nat. Now make yourself comfortable because we are not going to move for a long while." Natharya smiled and her hand started to glow green.

#### • • •

"Where are we?" Hera asked, they were standing in a beautiful town, the houses were made out of wood and stones, Nat stepped forward and replied "In the past of course. We are standing in the Town of Wizards. No one can hear or see us. We will watch how everything happened as I tell you the story. It all began a long, long time ago when Visha was born, she was a beautiful bright child, Yvonna was her best friend and they were inseparable. Visha spent a lot of time with Yvonna's family because her mother and father are known as outcasts and dark, weird wizards, no one knows where they are." Nat stopped as Hera tilted her head and gasped, then she acknowledged "They are still alive?" Natharyas gaze turned serious. "Unfortunately, yes." Hera asked "What are their names?" Nat furrowed her brows as she tried to remember the names "Novhada is her mother and Darrae is her father, their last name is Zeldeth. Now let's continue. When it was time to learn to use magic they learned it together, step by step. However Visha began loving magic too much; she would use it every day, found and invented new spells. Their teacher, Yvonna's Whaea Idryl didn't like it, she said that there are spells that are meant to be secret. So for quite a long while Visha stopped using magic. Years passed and Visha grew up to be a beautiful young woman. She liked to hunt for food and she loved to sing. She had many pets but her favorite was one of the elf forest wolves, those wolves are huge and they have wings, her wolf was white. When she was hunting she used her wolf instead of a horse. One day she was playing with her wolf when suddenly a wizard hunter shot Visha's wolf with an arrow, thinking

the wolf was attacking her, the arrow killed her wolf. Blinded by grief she used her powers to kill the wizard. She mourned and cried holding the wolf's head between her arms. When suddenly a whole pack of wolves attacked her, she fainted. Luckily she was saved by an old wizard and brought back to the town, the wizard she killed was brought as well, everyone thought wolves killed him, as the wolves had scratched and bit the body. An elven prince, father of Daniel, was brought to heal Visha. After a few days Visha woke up as a completely different person, the pain of losing her wolf made her insane. When they asked her about the dead wizard she laughed and admitted with no remorse that she killed him. Everyone was shocked, Visha escaped from the town and ran to the forest where she gathered strength and the next day, 12th of June 1221 she attacked the town. I see that you have a question that can not wait." Hera looked quite shocked "She and Yvonna are that old?! How old are you, Dacian and Soren then?" Natharya laughed and said "Well Soren was born on the 17th of August of 1522, I was born on the 31 th of January of 1523 and well Dacian was born on the 1526 on 14th of July." Hera was too stunned to speak so Nat just continued. "No one knew why she did that. That day is still known as The great battle day. Lot's of wizards died and many were injured. Visha was defeated but she escaped. Four hundred years passed and no one heard from her, 12 th of June 1621 she attacked again. I helped her attack the town, in human years I was only 12 years old. Visha destroyed the town and killed millions. In the battle she destroyed the great library. Her army was made of elf wolves and monsters made out of wood, mud and dark magic. In the battle Yvonna convinced me to be on their side. Visha was defeated and I imprisoned her. Her prison is the old fountain in the middle of the park, however pieces are falling from it so soon she will be free again. After the battle all wizard children were put to deep sleep and their birth certificates were faked so when they would wake up they would be exactly five years old. I traveled to the star I liked and made a couple friends there. The picture Yvonna showed you was an illusion I made. Now you know the whole story." Natharya's hand glowed green and they closed their eyes.

• • •

Hera opened her eyes and saw Nat looking at her. She stretched and asked "Who is your father and how did you get that scar?" Natharya smiled and replied "I thought you were going to ask that. Well let me show you." Her hand started to glow again.

• • •

Hera found herself in a forest where she saw a little girl and a gorgeous woman standing. The woman showed the girl how to shoot with a bow. Natharya stepped next to Hera and whispered "That little girl is me and the woman is my mother Visha. I'll let you just watch what happened." As she said that the little Natharya asked "Mummy who is my dad?" Visha bowed down and took Natharya in her arms, "Your father is an elf, I met him a few years ago and one thing led to another and I had you." Little Natharya-Lyra smiled and asked "Can I meet daddy?" Visha smiled sadly then she said "Daddy is very far away and he doesn't want to see us." Visha looked around, she was worried, then she said "Come, we have to go." She started to glow purple, Visha took little Natharias hand and a second later they were gone. Hera looked at Natharia, she just stood there and gestured that Hera would do the same. They didn't have to wait long, a bunch of elf warriors with horses came out of the forest, their horses were black or white, they were strong and gorgeous. The elf leader jumped off her horse without stopping, then she knelt to the ground, second later she stood up and yelled "Mahrecta we're late they already left." Natharya pointed at the woman who was giving orders and said "That is the general of elves. She was always hunting us, my mother and I traveled a lot because of it." Natharya mumbled something and Hera closed her eyes.

### • • •

When she opened her eyes they were back at the cliff. Natharya stood up and said "Go back to Yvonna's house I have to meet some important people." Hera wanted to protest "But-" "No but's" Natharya said, cutting her off "Now go, go, go." "Ugh fine." Hera said and opened a portal to her room and stepped through it.

#### • • •

Hera stepped into her room and found "Benjamin" waiting for her on the bed "I was waiting for you to get back I-" Hera just cut him off "Why didn't you tell me?" "You're mad at me?" Dacian asked, Hera crossed her arms and stepped closer to him "No I'm not mad, I'm disappointed, sh\*thead. I trusted you, I told you everything about me, I told you some things even Mia doesn't know and you, you just ugrh I can't Mahrecta, arghathaly, stercore." she paused and watched as Dacian tried to say something but then closed his mouth "He's feeling guilty." Hera acknowledged in her thoughts. After a minute she continued "You know the worst part is that I heard the truth about you from basically a stranger." Hera stopped as Dacian stepped closer and grabbed her arm as if he wanted to emphasize his words with it "Hera I wanted to tell you but it would've put you and me and everyone else in great danger, at least that's what my mother said." Hera tilted her head in surrender and smiled sweetly "Ben or as I've heard Dac, I'm sorry I offended you, it's just I-" Dacian laughed and whispered in her ear "Don't worry I did almost the same thing to my mother when she told us we can't tell you." Hera laughed, "Well it's good to know you are way older than you look." Dacian smirked and said "You are too. If I remember right you were born 16th of August of 1666." Hera was shocked "I am that old?!" she thought, Dacian laughed at Hera's shocked face "Yeaaah you are 356 years old" "Well now I feel old." Hera replied and Dacian laughed. "Hey you two!" Mia said, she stepped in through the open door and Lucy came in with her. "Hi Mia!" Hera said, Mia smiled and asked "Can I come in or..." Hera laughed and said "Come, come." "Actually I wanted to ask something." Mia remembered, Hera shrugged "Go ahead!" Mia hesitated "Well, how did you learn to open a portal?" Hera furrowed her brows and replied "The spell book I found had everything in it so I kinda know lots of spells." Dacian laughed and said "I guess you found my notebook because Visha wrote only very difficult and forbidden spells." Hera flinched and leaned aside quickly as Natharya appeared from a portal and threw one of her knives at her. "Ayy you're good at avoiding my knives!" Nat noted, playing with another one, Hera laughed, went to the knife that was stuck in the wall and pulled it out, then she threw it in the air and kicked it back to Natharya, the knife spinned in the air and landed on the palm of Natharyas hand, Dacian and Mia watched the whole thing holding their breath. Natharya turned to Dacian "Why so scared Dac?" Dacian laughed, he was about to say something when someone's steps interrupted them. Natharya flashed Hera a quick worried look then she nodded to Hera, Hera nodded back. "You can't tell Yvonna we came back!" Hera said while Nat opened a portal and jumped in pulling Hera with her. The exact moment the portal closed, Yvonna stepped in. She looked surprised to see Mia and Dacian there "What are you doing here?" Yvonna asked, Dacian smiled widely "Waiting for Hera and Natharya, mother." Yvonna nodded and walked towards the door, on the door she stopped, turned around and said "When they get back please tell me." "Sure!" Dacian replied, Yvonna stepped out and Mia let out a relieved sigh "Well that went well."

## • • •

Hera found herself in a huge forest, she smiled recognizing the forest Natharya had been in with her mother and asked "What now?" Natharya shrugged and replied "Don't know." Hera laughed. "I'll practice some magic." "Okay I'll come check on you in a few hours."Natharya said, then her ear moved, she had heard something, she added furrowing her brow "I'd better go check something" "Alright, bye!" Hera said and ran off to the forest. She walked around until she found a beautiful field, Hera sat down, closed her eyes and focused on her breathing, she acknowledged each and every form of life around her. Hera slowly raised her hand from the grass and smiled. Her hand was glowing purple. She laughed, without knowing why she just laughed. Hera looked around as if she wanted to confirm she's alone, then she went over to the closest tree. She bowed and put her glowing hand against the tree when she raised her head she saw that the tree was turning into a bow. It was nicely carved and decorated. Hera waited until the bow was ready, then she took the bow and went to another tree and repeated the process, but this time the tree turned into a huge pile of arrows. As she picked up the arrows she slowly took one and put it on the bow then she turned around like a tornado and pointed it at a figure standing under the trees. The figure laughed and stepped out of the shadow. It was Dacian, Hera put down her bow and smiled, Dacian ran over to her and tried to push her on the ground. Hera only laughed and just a second before Dacian reached her she jumped high to the air letting out an echoing "Ayaeye!" she turned herself over in the air and landed behind Dacian. Just a moment before Dacian could turn around she pushed him to the ground laughing, but Dacian was quick and pulled Hera with him, she squealed and fell to the ground next to Dacian. Hera and Dacian laughed, then Hera sat up and whispered "Come I'll show you something." Hera smiled playfully and before Dacian could say anything she took off running, Dacian laughed and followed her, Hera ran to a huge tree and gestured to Dacian to stay quiet. Hera took a deep breath, her hand started to glow and then whispered "Tier abhair gus *mhargadh deanta!"* The tree and Hera were surrounded by purple glow, when the glow disappeared Dacian saw Hera sitting on one of the powerful branches of the tree but the tree was covered in beautiful glowing flowers. Dacian looked at Hera who smiled at him, Dacian took off and jumped next to Hera, Hera was looking at one of the flowers then she slowly raised her hand and gently patted it, whispering "Veluwe", Dacian smiled as the flower scattered its petals, suddenly he gasped an *alae ignis* climbed out of the flower, then another one and another one and so on until there were seven of them flying around them. One of them landed on Hera's palm, the butterfly was injured, her wings were torn, Hera placed her palm gently on her, then she started to hum, "The healing spell" Dacian thought. Hera began to sing the song her hands and eyes glowing purple

"Philisa ngokuthula philisa impilo ezandleni zami. Thatha inhliziyo yami Elaphe okulimele Shintsha dizayini ye-Fate Londoloza okulahlekile philisa maphumulo ezandleni zami susa ubuhlungu. ungalivumeli igazi zuluhlengu"

When Hera stopped singing and opened her eyes the first thing she saw was Dacian's ice blue eyes, Dacian looked deep into Hera's eyes and asked "Where did you learn that song?" Hera narrowed her eyes trying to remember "Daraxt Zravy so'zlarni aytdi." Hera answered "Hera how did you learn the Ede." Hera looked down "I uhh I read a book or rather a dictionary and yeah. There were a couple of spells as well, like the healing spell, teleportation spell, a spell for making objects swallow someone or something and more." The butterfly hera had healed stayed in her palm the whole conversation and then flew away. Dacian smiled, "The alae ignis likes you" Hera nodded "I think she does." Natharya appeared on the edge of the field running faster than a normal human ever could and interrupted them by yelling "Hera, where are you?

We have to go!" Hera jumped down and waved Nathary -Lyra over. Nat crossed the distance between them with an inhumane speed and said "We have to go! Now!" Hera blinked in confusion "What's wrong?" Natharya closed her eyes and said "My mother." as she said that Dacian fell off the branch he was sitting on.

## Monsters in the woods

"She's free and she will come for me." Nat said, Dacian stood up and crossed his arms, then he asked "How do you know?" Natharya gazed straight into his eyes and said "I saw them." Dacian stepped back and shook his head then he asked, dead serious "Are you sure or are you making some sort of a joke." Natharya laughed in distress "You think I would *joke* about something so serious? Fine *athinaayi ente hrdayam*" she swung her arm from her left shoulder to her right side of her hip. Hera watched it watchfully and attentively. "I don't know what you are talking about but something or someone is approaching us quickly and I'd rather not meet it." Natharya made a victorious face, then she handed Hera knives and a knife holder. Hera fastened it on her back. Dacian gave her an encouraging look. Then his eyes and hands started glowing purple, and he opened a portal to somewhere. They all stepped in. Just a second after the portal closed a huge mother wolf ran onto the field, she was white and had huge scars on her head. She hauled and then listened, a light sound was heard and it was humming. The wolf escaped quickly as huge monsters made out of wood, stones and mud appeared.

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Hera found herself in a beautiful village filled with human-like but still very unique creatures "*Elves*!" Hera acknowledged. The village was somewhat impressive; it was a village built by forest. The houses were built inside and on top of trees, there were bridges from one tree to another. A bunch of elf women were singing on one of the trees, covering the tree with green fog. Elf women were tall and had pointy ears. They were strong looking and their eyes were reminiscent of snake eyes. There were a few elf men talking near one of the trees. They were tall muscled men who radiated dignity. It was sensible that they were expecting war, women, men and even adolescents were wearing knives on their thigh, back or arm. Women and men were alert and careful. The sun was shining through the mighty crowns of leaves that covered the trees. Moss was covering most of the trees and forest floor. Some fireflies and *alae ignis* were flying around. The trees had stairs made out of mushrooms. Some elf children were playing under the trees and a few elf adolescents were talking on one of the bridges. An older elf walked up to

them and greeted them then she asked what they needed. Naharya whispered a few quick words to her and the woman's face turned serious. "Avia hiaraka Zra." the woman said and Dacian translated, "Avia hiaraka Zra means come with me." Natharya quickly turned to them and said "Not a word from either of you I will do the talking. You" she pointed at Dacian, "You will only translate everything to Hera." "Zra awakae nvuie" Hera said and added "We should get going." They followed the elf when suddenly an alarm was heard. Hera took the knives from her back with a deft movement, whispered a few words and the knives started to glow purple. One of the elf warriors handed her a tread decorated with silver leaves and vines. Then simultaneously with Natharya, Dacian and a few elf warriors she jumped up on the tree branch and looked around for danger. One of the elf warriors yelled "Avide!" everyone looked at the direction the warrior showed. A pack of wolves were flying towards them. Elves began targeting them but Hera yelled "Hlala!" all of them looked at her and Hera said in elven language "Look, they are not here to attack, they are running away from something." She narrowed her eyes trying to see better. She stepped back and covered her mouth then she yelled "Get ready to attack! Monsters, probably Visha's. Let wolves through!" A woman warrior yelled "Aynnainya!" Hera ordered everyone to step away from her, then she took a deep breath, Her hands and eyes started to glow purple, she smirked and flew up attacking the monsters with magic. She defeated one of the monsters and moved straight to another, she was ruthless. With a smirk she threw one of her knives between one monster's eyes, the monster howled and fell to the ground. Hera turned to the next one and hit it with her magic again and again. When it finally fell to the ground Hera slowly floated down. All elf warriors surrounded her, Hera went to their leader, placed her right fist against her left palm and bowed. The leader did the same and said "Thank you for your help." Hera stood up and answered "Happy to help." She walked over to Natharya "I'll go for a walk if it's okay." Natharya smiled, "Go but come back soon." "I will." Hera turned around and jogged towards the mountains.

#### • • •

Hera was walking around when she suddenly heard something, it sounded like a wounded animal. Hera became alert, she took a knife from her back and creeped towards the sound. When she finally found the source of the sound she saw a wounded elf wolf, it was black and had a scar on one side of its head. Hera took a step back, but then she gathered herself and slowly approached the wolf squatting. The wolf growled at her, Hera stopped, raised her hands and dropped her knife. Then she said in *Ede* "I mean no harm. I want to help you. Will you let me heal your wound?" The wolf fell silent, then Hera heard in her thoughts a beautiful voice saying "*Don't fear me Lúa, I won't harm you if all you want is to help me.*" Hera looked in the wolves eyes when she understood the wolf had said that. "Y-y-you can speak?" Hera asked, the wolf made a unique growling sound that was supposed to be laughter, then Hera heard the voice in her mind

again "Yes Lúa I can, but I am very weak, if you want to help me then you have to do it now!" Hera turned back to serious and began the healing song. After a few minutes the wound was gone, the wolf got up and said "Thank you Lúa! My name is Lúna, my friends call me Lú or Nawe. I got hurt while escaping the monsters." "Lúna is a gorgeous name, I'm Hera, I was the one who killed the monsters." Lúna's eyes went wide she growled and then spoke again "Then I must thank you, the monsters are extremely dangerous they can kill anyone if they have a mission. So you can call me Nawe." "Well Nawe. Really, they're hard to kill? I found it extremely easy to kill the monsters." Hera said surprised, Lúna laughed again "That's because you are a very, very powerful wizard." "Oh that makes sense." They began walking towards the mountains, Hera tilted her head and asked "Why are you calling me Lúa? What does it mean?" Nawe gave her a confused look "You don't know? I thought you were a Lúa- I mean elf. You remind me of an elf I once met." Hera nodded and repeated herself "That makes sense." Nawe laughed, "You humans are so interesting, you know everything yet you know nothing." Hera smiled "I have never heard something so accurate." For some time they walked in silence, "How interesting is that," Hera thought "I didn't ever think I would be walking next to an elf wolf!" Nawe laughed "Lúa I can still hear you!" now it was Hera's turn to laugh, "Sorry I didn't realize we're still sharing thoughts." "It's alright Lúa." Hera tilted her head in concern "Do vou hear that?" Nawe nodded "Yes Lúa I hear that. Come jump on my back, we'll be flying." "Alright let's go, I don't want to meet whatever is coming!" Hera climbed on the wolf's back and Nawe smiled and said "Agreed." With those words Nawe stepped back and then took off. Hera felt like lightning had struck through her, she cheered happily and Nawe howled loudly as they crashed through the clouds. Nawe kept the flight steady and wondered "Well how do you like flying?" "It's amazing!" Hera said "It's an indescribable feeling and this view above the clouds is amazing!" Nawe grumbled satisfied "I know right. Where do you want to go, Lúa ?" Hera layed down and buried her hands in Nawes fur. "Can we go into the city unnoticed?" Nawe laughed "Yes we can, but where?" "I'll lead the way. I have to talk to someone."

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After ten minutes they softly landed in Hera's garden. "Nawe, stay here please." Hera said, turning her gaze to the house, "Don't worry I'll stay here and alert you if I see anything dangerous." "Thank you Nawe!" Hera said and jogged towards the house. Before she reached the house Anyta stepped out, her raised hands and eyes glowing blue "Get away from me Visha or you'll be sorry!" Hera stepped back sincerely scared "Mom it's me, Hera!" Anyta stopped, her eyes widened and she took a step back, the glow slowly scattered. After a minute of silence she ran over to Hera and hugged her "Hera! How did you get here?" Anyta asked, "Hi mom. Nawe brought me." Anyta took a step back "Who is Nawe?" Hera smirked "Nawe show yourself!" Nawe grumbled

"Fine!" with that Nawe jumped out of the shadows. Anyta was stunned, "THAT is Nawe?" "You just had to scare her like that didn't you!" Hera scolded. Then Hera laughed "Yes, that is Nawe." "Sure wasn't expecting that!" Anyta said, Hera smiled. In a trice she turned serious Nawe squatted down and got ready to launch into the darkening sky, Hera took a step closer to Nawe and told Anyta "Mom, listen, Visha's free, you have to tell Isabella that we are fine. You both are in great danger, collect all witches and wizards and go to Yvonna. I have to go, bye, love you, be safe!" With that Nawe launched into the sky howling, Hera sprang into the air and seized her by the withers and pulled herself onto Nawe's back. Anyta looked after them shocked, then she shook off her fright and yelled "Zra athinaayi we have to go!" William came out of the house and asked "Are we going to Yvonna's?" "Yes!" Anyta said. William nodded "I'll pack our things!"

## • • •

"That was something I haven't done!" Hera said, lying on Nawe's back. Nawe growled happily "It was amazing!" Hera nodded and Nawe asked "Where are we going now?" "I have to go back to the village, are you going to come with me or are you staying in the forest?" Nawe grumbled but said "I'll come with you." "Then it's settled, to the village we go!"

## • • •

"Where the hell is she?" Natharya thought "It has been two hours, I told her to come back soon!" As an answer to her question she heard an alarm. "Oh dear god, what now?" with that thought Natharya pulled out her knives and made her way, jumping from one tree to another, to the warrior who blew the alarm flute "What happened?" she asked "A single elf wolf is approaching the village!" the warrior said, at that moment Dacian jumped next to them, Nathrya turned to him like a tornado "Strengthen defense! I'll deal with the wolf!" Natharya said in a worried tone, "If that is Visha I have no chance against her." she thought

## • • •

"Lúa, we have a problem." Nawe said after a long flight back to the village Hera sat up and asked "What prob- Oh hell nah!" she saw Natharya flying towards them. "Don't worry Nawe, I'll deal with her." with that she focused on one of the stars to activate her magic. First she created a shield around her and Nawe then she focused on Natharya and froze her in place. After that she mumbled to Nawe "Fly as fast as you can we need to explain the situation to them" "You got it Lúa!" Nawe said and sped up. Hera tightened her grab on Nawe's fur.

#### • • •

"Oh hell no she did not just do that!" Dacian thought as he watched what was happening. A second later he heard Hera's voice "I know, you are very confused but let me and Nawe land and I'll explain!" "Are you in my mind?!" Dacian asked when Hera answered he almost felt her smile. "Yes. And hi to you too!" "You can hear my thoughts?" Dacian asked horrified, Hera laughed and said "Yes."

## Reunion

After a few moments Hera and Nawe landed. Hera freed Natharya and after some time she was explaining what had happened. "So now you have a wolf?" Dacian asked in conclusion Hera gave him a little nod "Yes, indeed, also her name is Nawe." Natharya stood up and began walking in circles "That's good to know. It appears you have discovered how to talk without talking. That too is quite good of a discovery. Now the only thing left to do is to go to Yvonna's." Hera sighed, her hand started glowing and she opened a portal to Yvonna's hallway. "After you!" she said.

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Yvonna was talking to her students when they heard a knock on the door. "Yes, come in!" Yvonna said, expecting it to be their maid, her surprise was big when instead of a maid stepped in Anyta and all of the other wizards. "What the heck is going on?" Daniel asked, Anyta laughed. "Hi Daniel, my daughter wanted me to gather all of the wizards and enchantresses and come here." Yvonna clapped her hands two times and her maids came in carrying chairs. When everyone was seated Yvonna flicked her fingers and a huge round table appeared. Yvonna clapped a few times and the table filled with the best food. "You've been practicing." Anyta reproachfully whispered to Yvonna, Yvonna smirked "My whole family has been practicing since the first crack appeared on the fountain." Anyta shook her head disapprovingly "Why didn't you tell us?" "I didn't want to upset any of you." "Understandable." Yvonna coughed and then said with a loud happy voice "An evil enchantress has freed herself and even the slightest thought of it is darkening our minds. Let's not let the enchantress ruin our meal, go on, dig in, eat!" At that exact moment Natharya, Dacian and Hera stepped in "Hello everyone!" Hera said as Nawe squeezed past her and stretched. Hera focused on Anyta and let her thoughts flow in Anytas mind, then she said "Hi! I see you did everything I told you." Anyta looked at her with wide eyes "Hera!" "Yes mom?" "How are you- Why are youah nevermind. Be nice to Yvonna." Hera rolled her eyes and nodded. Yvonna and a

couple other wizards focused on Nawe and tried to attack her, Hera gave them a death glare "Don't even try," she said and gestured towards Nawe. "She is harmless unless I tell her to attack." Nawe stretched her head and went to lay down in the corner. Then Natharya asked "Where is Dalfon?" Yvonna furrowed brow and said "He said that he'll be late." Dacian Bowed a little just enough to whisper in Hera's ear "Dalfon is Daniel's father, he is the elf king." "Thank you for the information. I was about to ask." Hera whispered back. Dacian smiled and Yvonna said "Sit with us, eat." "As you wish." Hera answered, then she turned to Dacian. She nodded slightly and they walked to the two free chairs, Natharya smirked and went to sit between Anyta and William. "Hi Anyta," she whispered, "long time no see." Anyta smiled and answered "Yes, Zra zelaya, you have been away for quite a while." Yvonna stood up and said: "Now, let's eat, unless you want the food to go cold." Just as they were beginning to eat, Dalfon appeared from a portal, he was covered in mud and blood. "As you all are calmly sitting and eating, Visha has been attacking elf villages!" He yelled and pointed his accusing finger at Yvonna "You knew she's going to attack and you did nothing! We could've avoided all the mess, YOU COULD'VE SAVED SO MANY LIVES AND YOU DIDN'T!" Yvonna jumped up and a wave of magic flowed over the room "ENOUGH!" Yvonna yelled "I didn't know she would attack so soon. Ah Dalfon you're such a coward! All you ever did to help us catch Visha was that one time where you healed Natharyas wounds! So you have nothing to be proud of, my King!" Hera smirked at Dacian and said "You have a bad ass mom!" Dacian laughed, "I know!" Dalfon growled with anger "And you did so much right Yvonna. Let me remind you, that you were the one who injured her in the first place, my Lady." Everyone gasped but Yvonna said "Yes but if I remember right, you almost let her die because you didn't want to "waste" one of your lives on her. I had to threaten you with a death spell!" Dalfon stepped back, he mumbled something and pointed his hand at Yvonna. Some kind of a black glowing ball quickly flew towards Yvonna, Yvonna screamed in death fear. Just as it was about to hit her, Hera threw herself in front of her and caught the ball in her hand, she tilted her head, smiled and shattered the ball by squeezing it. Everyone was stunned, no one had been able to do that, then Hera raised her blue eyes and gave Dalfon a death glare then she whispered, "If you even think about hurting my friends or anyone close to me I WILL kill you without hesitation. So, watch, your, step, carefully." Dalfon gritted his teeth "Seems like I have nothing to say." "I do think that keeping your mouth shut, is the best for your health right now." Yvonna said. Hera nodded and turned to the others "Seems like dinner has to wait, we have to hide, NOW!" Nawe growled and gazed at Hera "Visha is on her way here, she is almost here, please tell me you can feel her magic too." Hera turned around and looked in her eyes "I can! And we have to leave!" Hera opened a portal to elf woods and said "Everyone, GET IN, NOW!" Yvonna looked at her and asked "Why dear?" "She's almost here!" Yvonna looked confused "Who?" Hera slapped her forehead "Visha! Who do you think, fucking Jesus? Ah, just get in the

portal!" Yvonna laughed "I'm sorry but that's impossible, she can't be here I've got a thousand spellson the house and..." Before she could finish Visha stepped in, she was a beautiful woman with black hair and green eyes, which were as evil as the smile on her face. She was wearing black leather pants and a tread decorated with purple glowing vines. "Knock, knock, why wasn't I invited to your little reunion?" Natharya tensed up and Yvonna stepped back in fear "Visha, how- how did you get past my spells?" Hera turned to her "Your spells are too weak to protect your house or us from her. Her magic is stronger than yours." Visha nodded, smiling evilly "Very good, very good." Hera's face turned grim. "I discovered it a few days ago, no matter what kind of magic you have, if your magic is stronger than the wizard you're fighting then your win is guaranteed. You can train your strength but it takes time." Visha laughed, "Indeed, you're much like me." Hera stepped back "No, no I'm not, because you're bringing chaos, fear and destruction, while I want to bring peace and happiness." "Feeling confident?" Visha asked smirking, Yvonna stepped forward, "Leave the child alone Visha, you have no right to speak to her." "Yvonna, why so angry? And I do have the right to speak to her," with an evil smirk she added "She is my child after all." Hera stepped back and asked "What does she mean by that?" Anyta flashed Yvonna a panicked gaze and said "Nothing, she means nothing by it!" Visha smiled evilly "You haven't told her, have you? Well you are my child and Natharya is Anyta's we accidentally switched you in one of our battles. Anyta tried to switch you back, oh she begged me, but I liked Natharya more, because she was older. As I later found out I made a mistake, you had purple magic, then it was my turn to try to switch you back, but Anyta refused, she saw how useful you could be. Now you at least know." Yvonna and Anyta looked horrified, Hera turned to them, "Is that true?" Yvonna looked down "Well it's complicated and you see..." "IS THAT TRUE?" Hera demanded, she felt so mad and confused, then a wave of peace came over her and it was that moment she realized her magic was ready to use. Her eyes, and hands glowed purple, as she turned to Visha. She smiled, pointed her hand at Visha and twisted it. Visha fell on one knee and held her head with her hands screaming "What did you do? Let me go!" She fell down to the floor and everyone cheered, then suddenly Hera heard a whisper in her head "Help me..." Hera felt like she got an electric shock, no one beside Nawe could connect with her like that. As Hera lost connection with magic the voice shut down and Visha jumped up from the floor. A purple glowing mist surrounded her and a second later she disappeared.

"What happened?"

"Why did you let her escape?"

"Are

"How did she escape?"

"Where did she go?"

you

okay?"

Hera was showered with tons of questions she couldn't answer. She was confused "How did she escape? Why did I let go of her? Who asked for my help?" "Hera, Hera!" Nawe shouted "They have lots of questions you might need to answer." "Nawe," Hera said as she rubbed her forehead, she felt really dizzy. "I don't feel so good." "'Hera!" Name shouted

*"Hera!" Nawe shouted.* Then everything went black.

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When Hera woke up, the first thing she saw was Dacian sleeping in a chair by her bead. She smiled and looked around for Nawe *"Hi! You got me scared for a minute"*