

A New Dawn

A Story Epic by,

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Part One: Situation

Captain Alexandra "Sasha" Jensen buried her hands in her short, blonde hair as she sat on the bridge looking over the star map on the Andromeda's view screen. A few months ago five separate encounters with newly discovered alien races had ended in shooting matches, with the Andromeda barely escaping. The last one had been with an empire that had actually bothered explaining why. Omnitron, the Andromeda's employer, had a long history of exploiting other species. It had recently come to light, and the rest of the local galaxy was calling for their blood. All of it, the Andromeda's crew as well. Hell, especially the Andromeda's crew.

The Andromeda was tasked with first contact with other species. It was crewed by five women who were practically Venus incarnate, right down to their behavior. If all went well on a mission, at least one woman was going to be almost naked with some lustful male taking her for himself. Then Omnitron would swoop in to deal with the locals. The crew had thought they were just making the usual trade contracts you're supposed to when you meet new people, but they found out otherwise.

Their last encounter led the team's doctor, Juli, to build a memory recall device, and the crew uncovered memories of pleasant encounters that Omnitron had covered up to hide their crimes. For the sake of her crew, Sasha had ordered them to abandon known space. And so they were here, sitting quietly in an almost lifeless star system, occasionally flitting between asteroids to avoid collisions. The map on the screen was political, their only way to tell if there was anywhere else safe for them to go. They didn't know why, but someone had set up a probe network here that was patched into the news nets of the worlds her crew had once called friends.

Sylvia Summers, Sasha's second in command, spoke up in her pleasant contralto. "We can't stay here forever, captain. Someone's bound to leave the home sectors and find us."

Sasha looked away from the screen as yet another sector turned red, signifying more people turning their backs on humanity. Her eyes fell on the blue-haired woman's innocent-seeming blue eyes. "Our allies are dwindling by the hour. It doesn't look like there is anywhere to go, unless we want to start endangering our personal friends."

Sylvia's adorable face screwed up in anguish as her fist slammed down on the console in front

of her. She didn't say a word, but she didn't have to. That same pain and anger had filled all of them after the memories had been uncovered. Omnitron took away friends, companions, possible lovers and deep connections. It was sickening to think about. So the crew focused on the environment around them. The intercom beeped.

“Captain, I've noticed some interesting energy readings coming from the other side of the asteroid belt. Do you think we could get closer to them and see?” Sasha hadn't been keeping an eye out during her brooding. It made her glad Cassidy was paying attention.

“Okay, Engineer McCallum. I need something to occupy my attention anyway.” The map cleared from the screen to be replaced with a view of the system around them. There was a dim flash of light in the distance, but it quickly dissipated.

“I just got another reading. Damn, this is big.” Cassidy always got energetic when she could stretch her engineering muscles. Or drool over someone else's shiny toys.

“Preliminary analysis, engineer?”

“I can't say for sure. I've never seen anything this strong inside an asteroid belt. If I had to guess . . . a mining beam of some kind. Judging by these readings, this thing could cut an asteroid through the middle and tear it apart.”

Sylvia gulped. “Or a ship.” Sasha looked over and flashed a grim smile at her.

“I don't think we'd rate that kind of firepower. How long have you noticed these readings, McCallum?”

“They've been intermittent since we got here a day ago. This thing has probably been here since before we were.”

“Have you been able to get any kind of reading on what's making it?”

“No, but if it's a ship, going by where these readings are, they would have seen us coming in.”

Cautious optimism began to edge its way into Sasha's mind. She could see it written on Sylvia's face too. Just a bit. “We'll get closer and look. Even if it's natural, at least it's something to study while the situation at home dies down.” If it dies down, she thought to herself.

They weaved through the asteroids, then made a break for the shadow of a planet. It took them

hours, but they did an admirable job of sneaking through the system until their scanners could clearly see the source of the readings. Cassidy's voice positively oozed with admiration. "That is one. Big. Ship."

Sasha couldn't help but laugh. "Try not to drool too much, McCallum." She cleared her throat and continued. "I think this is the one who left the probes around here. If it is, and it's connected to the news nets, we might be in trouble." Sylvia didn't respond. That wasn't unusual these days, but Sasha nudged her. She needed her second in command aware for this, not stuck in the past.

All Sylvia could do was breathe out and whisper, "my God. Twenty miles long." The ship in question was a cigar twenty miles long and three miles in diameter. And it was eating through an asteroid like it was a cookie. She visibly shook herself a little. "I think we should hail them. Even if this is an enemy, I'm tired of sitting still or running. And a friend with gear like that will never be in danger from anything we've run into before."

Sasha nodded fiercely. "Agreed. Things back home aren't going to die down. Omnitron's too strong to just give up without taking the human race with them. Better to face things on our own terms." She sat up straight and proud for the first time in a week. "Bring us in close and let them see us. No more skulking. We didn't get where we were before all this started by being cowards."

The captain's strength steadied Sylvia and she punched in a route right up close to the ship. It took mere minutes for the unfamiliar vessel to loom and fill the view screen completely. "Unknown vessel, this is Captain Alexandra Jensen of the starship Andromeda requesting communication. Please respond."

It took a few seconds, but a tinny, mechanical response came through over the speakers. "Greetings, and be in peace, Captain Alexandra Jensen of the star ship Andromeda. What did you wish to discuss?"

Sasha let out a sigh of relief. "Are you the one who set up the probes we've been tapping into?"

"I am. My master and I have been watching what's going on for a long time. Your people. Your company. The war. All of it."

The intercom was open so everyone could hear it. There were groans, gulps, and worried

mumbling from all five women on the crew. Sasha knew they weren't going to get anywhere by bluster, so she just decided to lay all the cards on the table. "Then you know we have no allies. There is nowhere else for us to go. If you tell us to leave, we'll leave without a fuss, but you'll be sending us on the run and to possible death."

"We hate Omnitron as much as everyone else. Including you, I am sure. You were their tools, not their board members. Stay and be safe. We will gladly hand over any intel we have on them to any enemy of yours we meet, but we do not consider you to be Omnitron."

Sasha slumped in her seat. All the tension was gone for the moment. An honest to God ally out here? The thought was hard to believe. She just listened to the cheers of the others for a few seconds as she gathered her thoughts. "Can we keep communications open?"

"Of course. We'll do you one better." A beam lashed out from the side of the cigar ship and caught the Andromeda. They were being pulled closer to the ship. Suddenly the beam cut off and they were merely a few hundred yards from the ship's hull. Close enough to see how smooth it was. An energy field enclosed both ships, and Sasha realized it was the strongest shield she'd ever seen.

Cassidy cooed over the intercom, "I can see inside the ship!" Sasha closed her eyes and let the engineers husky voice just bubble over her ears as she marveled at what she saw. "I don't think we could live inside there, though. The radiation would practically melt the skin from our bones if we went in unprotected."

Sasha opened her eyes and stared at the hull of her new friends. "Is your Master on board?"

"He is."

"I'm going to patch my intercom into the hailing antenna so the crew can talk with you and him."

"That is agreeable to us both. Proceed."

"Cassidy, they can now hear everything you say on the coms."

"Thank you captain." She almost sounded giddy. Okay, not almost. She was giddy now.

Though it wasn't Cassidy who spoke first. It was the doctor. Juli's soprano rang out. "We've never seen a race adapted to so many rads. How do you live in it?"

A new voice came over the antenna in a rolling purr. It almost sounded like someone from

Sasha's native Russia. "My body generates it. My people come from an entirely different Universe that's just saturated in the stuff."

Cassidy's voice quivered. "No wonder your ship's so strong. If only we could live through that. It'd be a pleasure to work with that much energy."

"Oh? Who says you couldn't? Everyone back home is adapted to either make the stuff, or metabolize it."

Sasha and Sylvia looked at each other wide eyed. Sylvia whispered, "did he just say they metabolize radiation?"

A laugh sounded through the intercom. "Whisper lower, dear girl. I did."

Sasha put a finger to her lips to quiet Sylvia. "As interesting as that idea is, why did you say we could survive it?"

The view screen changed, and data started showing on it. A human body. Or, more accurately, it looked human on the outside. Inside it was completely different. Juli's voice piped up over the intercom. "I've never seen organs remotely like some of these things. And the skin's linked to everything. Hell, even the digestive and reproductive tracts. That's . . ." She trailed off into mumbling to herself about the possibilities.

"I have med bays on my ship that can alter someone right down to the cellular level. You could live here, in safety and comfort."

Sasha bit her lip and breathed deep, shivering at the thoughts running through her mind. A long time ago she'd had a mate. A Drakmeer named Zeus. She'd had to give him up because his body couldn't stand the slowed down time of the Universe outside his homeworld. It had been rough, but she knew it was the right thing to do. Looking at this body being offered . . .

"Why are you offering us this?"

"I am intimately familiar with the species I'm showing you. We're symbiotic. And as you know, I've seen you in action. I know you love other species more than most of your people would."

"And what, exactly, are you offering us? A peaceful life as what?"

She could practically feel his eyes rolling, or whatever his people did when they thought

someone was being silly. "Not as slaves, if that's what you're thinking."

"And we'd be free to come and go as we pleased, once this was done?"

"You're free to come and go as you please now. I can drop you right off in some Universe that keeps the sexual freedoms you're used to, without all the social baggage you're feeling now. And if you never wanted to see me again, you'd never have to."

That offer was tempting. Run missions for a while for a benevolent government then drop off the grid, find another version of Zeus's home, and spend her days with her crew getting their bodies fucked senseless and raising doglike children who grew up in mere days. But then, Zeus really had been doglike. He was intelligent for a dog, but there wasn't any conversation or deep knowledge of one another. It was physical and emotional..She knew Zeus wouldn't want her pining away and running back to him if she could find something more suitable for herself.

"Tell me more about this symbiosis."

"For us, they take away the excess energy we produce. Without them, we have to burn it off violently. It feels good for a few seconds but then we wear out hard and need to sleep. Sometimes for days. So you can understand why I wouldn't want to keep needing that."

"And for them?"

"Their women utterly crave that energy. It helps their bodies run more efficiently. They don't need sleep. They don't need sugar in their system, so they eat much less. On a dose your engineer could spend a few days buried in datapads and engine parts and not feel exhausted at all. And you'd get me. I've watched and admired your own exploits in the past few years. I know what all of you have lost. I couldn't replace that, but I could give you more they could never take away from you."

"We will think about your offer. It's a strong one. It really is. It's just not what we were expecting."

"Take all the time you need. I'm alone here, with the automation. I don't need to be anywhere else."

"We'll get back to you if we need more information, or have an answer." Sasha turned off the antenna and looked over at Sylvia. "What do you all think?"

Sylvia closed her beautiful blue eyes and hung her head, shivering off the tension of the past few months. "Devil's Advocate? He could be lying. We need to be careful about all this. If we go for it, we go slow." A small smile played on her lips as she looked up. "I don't think he's lying. I could hear loneliness in his voice. I think he truly does just want some mates. And assuming he's telling the truth, we could be far better off with his gifts than we ever would be without."

Gwen, the ship's security officer, spoke up. "Did you see that reproductive system? I'm assuming those things attached to the uterus were ovaries. Six of them. Juli and I have been poring over the notes on that system practically since we got them." A hitch caught in her throat. "That's going to be fun."

One by one the crew threw in their assent. Cassidy practically screamed at the thought of bathing in all that energy. Juli wanted to learn more and run tests with the med bays there. Gwen was tired of fighting and just wanted a big family of her own. Sasha couldn't help but agree. She wanted a clan of her own she could raise. Sylvia tapped at her console and the screen was replaced by more notes, and a new body. One distinctly not human, though generally shaped like it. "That's what we're considering taking on."

Just going by color, it looked like an oddly distorted diagram of the human muscular system. The colors resolved themselves into large crimson scales separated by thick seams of pale, pink skin. His face from the eyes down was pink and glistening. His head was split into four scales, with a cross of seams that met in the center. They spent a few seconds admiring the rest of him, before turning it off. Sasha licked her lips. "I know we all want to do this, but I need some time to wrap my head around it. We've all been running low on steam, so let's take a break from work and take care of ourselves. We can meet back up tonight for final discussions."

One by one the others agreed and turned off their intercoms. "I could really use a bath right now." Sasha stood up, wished Sylvia a happy day, and made her way to her quarters. She went into the bathroom and stripped for a bath as the water ran. She was down to black silk panties and heeled boots before the door chime rang. The crew had seen each other in less, so she didn't hesitate to go see who it was. Gwen stood outside where the security camera could see her. She had her jet black

hair up in a ponytail. Otherwise she was exactly what you'd expect from the security officer of the Andromeda. Hard muscle bound in velvet soft skin, with two soft, large, natural breasts.

Sasha opened the door and beckoned her in. "How can I help you, Gwen?"

There were tears in the security officer's eyes as she entered the room. "I remember Zeus." Sasha had shared him with Gwen from time to time in the past. He was a big bonding point for them. Sasha took Gwen's hand and raised it to her lips, kissing it softly.

"If we do this, he will probably want all of us." Sasha pulled Gwen close and kissed her lips. "If we don't do this, we are still a crew together. We just lose all the bosses who would have kept me from being in a relationship with anyone under my command." Gwen melted completely against Sasha as her hand cupped her cheek. "Would you raise a family with me?"

Gwen kissed Sasha deeply in response and the two slipped off into the bathroom. It wasn't long before Sasha had Gwen down to her heels and nothing else. Sasha's panties hit the floor and the pair sat at the edge of the tub. Their heels soon clattered to the floor as they blissfully sank into the hot water and bathed together. Their hands went everywhere, soaping each other down and exploring every curve. They'd been here before, as friends. It was against the rules before, but as long as they hadn't made a commitment to it, they wouldn't be caught. Now, it didn't matter. Sasha hugged Gwen's shoulders with one hand and pulled her into a passionate kiss. The other sank below the water and started caressing between Gwen's legs. The security officer moaned into the kiss and rocked her hips needfully. Sasha's fingers circled her clitoris, before closing on it. She began stroking nice and slow.

Gwen whimpered into Sasha's warm, wet mouth and slid her own fingers between Sasha's legs. The two rested there in the water, fingering each other, until Gwen's hips bucked and left a sticky mess on Sasha's hand. Sasha purred and raised her fingers to her lips, licking off the mess and sharing it with Gwen in a kiss. She removed Gwen's fingers from her and purred, "I have an idea." Sasha sat on the edge of the tub and gathered her heels. Vixen tech had long ago rendered it difficult for a human woman to walk without them. The angles of their ankles were all wrong for it.

Sasha strapped on her heels, helped Gwen shakily into her own, and guided her to the bed. Gwen's eyes fell on the dildo, a double sided living dildo that telepathically linked two lovers together.

Sasha shook her head and settled on the bed. "Not tonight." She got a gleam in her eyes. "I'd rather feel you. Skin on skin." She patted the bed beside her and Gwen sat. Sasha pushed Gwen so she lied down with her head on the pillow. Sasha lied down with her head at the foot of the bed, slipped between Gwen's legs, and settled with her clitoris against Gwen's. She rocked slowly, just feeling Gwen's slippery body on hers. They were both already stimulated, so it wasn't long before their hips hunched and they both shuddered hard, covering each other's labia in a sticky, slippery white film.

Sasha sat up and bent Gwen's legs at the knees, pushing them closer to her body. Sasha crawled toward her and straddled her hips, with Gwen's legs resting over hers. Sasha locked her eyes onto Gwen's and watched her face as she ground down against her. Gwen's mouth opened wide, letting Sasha see her tongue trying to form words before just collapsing in a wordless moan of pure ecstasy. Sasha threw her head back as she came again, splattering more slippery mess onto Gwen's hips. It rolled down her stomach and behind, coating her in sticky white. Gwen's third added to the mess, squirting hard against Sasha's hips and dripping down onto her own breasts.

Sasha rolled off of Gwen and the panting couple cuddled up, with Sasha hugging Gwen from behind and grinding into her dripping wet butt. Gwen just lied there moaning for her captain until Sasha let out a scream and arched her back, marking Gwen one last time before kissing her neck and settling down.

"Thank you, my Captain."

"You can call me Sasha, sweetheart. Or Alexandra. Whichever suits you. And I needed that. I— thank you for coming to me."

Gwen smiled to herself and held Sasha's hand against her stomach. "Alexandra. I've never heard you use it outside of official channels. I like it." Sasha snuggled wordlessly against her and kissed the back of head. The couple took what they both knew was likely to be the last nap of their lives.

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Sylvia left the bridge shortly after Sasha had left. She had similar ideas in mind about a bath, but she didn't intend on taking it alone. She went down to the engineering bay, and looked up to thank her lucky stars when she found Cassidy still there. On a crew like this there were only two ways to go. Either you got catty, jealous, and fought over who got to be with the most attractive species, or you got together with your crewmates and became the best friends you knew how to be. Sylvia and the rest of the Andromeda crew had opted for friendship. More than friendship, when they could get away with it. They knew none of them would have to be alone, ever, and Sylvia didn't want to be alone now.

Cassidy flicked her short dark red hair out of her eyes and flashed Sylvia a dazzling smile. It made Sylvia's breath catch to see it, even with the strain of their time on the run evident on Cassidy's face. "I thought you could use some down time, so I came to see if you wanted to get cleaned up and just chill out for a while."

Cassidy licked her lips and nodded. "A bath would do me some good. And I'd like some down time. With you. Juli invited?"

"Of course." Juli and Sylvia had been best friends in school before ever knowing the Andromeda even existed. Sylvia wasn't about to exclude her from having fun.

The pair went hand in hand up to the medical bay to see Juli putting away instruments and looking over her lab. She didn't even notice them come in, and the two took a moment to just admire the little Native American woman. She was the youngest member of the team, and a few inches shorter than the rest. For all that, she was probably the most level headed of the bunch. All these changes going on so fast, and she was caught up in her work.

Sylvia cleared her throat. A normal person would have jumped at the sudden surprise. Juli just turned around with her hands crossed in front of her at hip height and smiled as brightly as she could. "Welcome to my lair, pretty, pretty flies."

Neither of the others could stifle a laugh. Juli took pride in her work, and her lab. Lots of new discoveries had come out of this place in the last five years. And lots of dangerous creatures had been subdued by less than conventional means, thanks to the unshakable Julia Mackey. Cassidy had always admired that work, and the little woman who made it happen. The two never got much time

together, since both their jobs were in opposite areas of the ship, and both had been busy most of the time.

“We were hoping you'd join us for some winding down time. Now that we're out of danger, and the big work hasn't started yet, we need all the relaxing and fond memories we can get.” Cassidy finished the pitch with another of her dazzlers. It was all Juli could do to bite her lip and nod.

With Juli under one arm, and Cassidy under the other, Sylvia led the way to her room, and the waiting tub that could just barely fit the three of them. The others took turns talking to her on the way down, and by the time they were there, they already knew how the night would go. Each one took a turn being stripped bare by the other two. They all three snuggled in the tub together, with two washing the third until each of the three of them had had the others' hands on her. When they left the tub, Sylvia slipped to the nightstand and pulled out a pair of dildos.

Cassidy and Juli looked at each other, and each one took a dildo gently in hand. They let the creatures' legs grip them by the waist, while their own ends penetrated and filled them completely. Their minds and the creatures' became one as Sylvia settled nude into bed between them. Juli grabbed Sylvia's hips and took her gently from behind, just pushing firmly until Sylvia was impaled completely. A slow, shuddering moan escaped Sylvia's lips, letting Cassidy get hers firmly planted between the blue haired woman's lips.

The two started nice and slow, getting into rhythm. Cassidy pushed in as Juli pulled out, and vice versa. When they had it, they sped up. The three women were completely linked by the creatures inside them, and the rush of arousal reverberated through them stronger than any one woman would have had. All three came as one, drenching Sylvia in a slippery tide of lust that kept her coated and sweaty. They pulled out and let her catch her breath, before switching sides and fucking her again, more slowly than before.

Sylvia looked up from underneath her eyelids at Juli and batted her lashes. Juli grabbed Sylvia's hair to keep her steady and smirked down at her as she fucked her friend's mouth deeply. Cassidy kept up with Juli, but didn't push. She wanted it to last a while. Her hands caressed Sylvia's hips as she just enjoyed the sight of her metallic blue hair.

After the second orgasm, Cassidy stripped off her dildo and gave it to Sylvia. The creature's legs reversed and Sylvia slipped the end that had been fucking her right back up inside. Juli stripped hers off and sucked Sylvia's cum off of it before wiping it down and putting it back on for Cassidy's turn. Cassidy slipped forward and kissed Juli's lips. She whispered, "don't take my mouth. Just settle back and enjoy what I do to you."

Juli nodded wide eyed and watched as the red haired goddess in front of her went to all fours and took the dildo into her mouth. Juli spread her legs wide and began breathing hard again as the engineer sucked on her. Cassidy's behind was in the air, and Sylvia quickly took her and began riding. It was a fast, hard ride that had Cassidy's lips buzzing in a moan around the dildo. Juli could feel her tongue all over the creature, stroking and squeezing it from base to tip until Juli couldn't help herself and came heavily on it. The dildo filled Cassidy's mouth with thick cream, and she swallowed every drop. Sylvia followed suit and the two of them came together, leaving Cassidy's vagina creamy and slicker than before.

Cassidy turned around, repeating the kissing and whispering with Sylvia. Sylvia's wink at Juli quickly became an open mouthed pant as Juli leaned down and licked every drop from Cassidy before taking her. The three stayed locked together, thrusting and grunting until Juli came hard, filling Cassidy's womb this time. The three pulled apart and collapsed into a panting heap. Juli stripped off her dildo and offered it to Cassidy. Without a word Cassidy strapped it safely on, and rolled Juli over so she was between Sylvia and her.

Cassidy took Juli's behind as Sylvia coupled gently with her from the front, and the three just writhed on the bed. Sylvia kissed Juli deeply, savoring the taste and fucking her with her tongue. Juli lost herself in the sensation of being triple penetrated, and clenched hard around Sylvia as she came. She was completely out of it with lust, and the others easily turned her around to switch places, impaling her once more so she could kiss and cuddle with Cassidy. They kept her there for a while, turning her around whenever she came on one of them. They lost count after her fourth one and exhausted themselves sharing her. When it was over, the trio lied together, cuddling and licking the mix of cum and sweat from one another's bodies. It was intense, and every touch left them tingling

and wanting more.

The ship's alarm rang some time after they'd fallen asleep in a pile. "Everyone report to the bridge in twenty minutes." They groggily woke up, wiped each other down, and wiped the sleep from their eyes as they dressed. By twenty minutes, everyone was bright eyed and bushy tailed on the bridge. Sasha and Gwen were standing close to each other and throwing glances like lovers just waiting to get home, and Sylvia couldn't help smiling at the thought.

Before Sasha could call the meeting to order, Cassidy stepped forward. "May I have a few words first, Captain?" Sasha nodded and stepped back, letting Cassidy have the floor. Cassidy stood a moment, working to maintain composure. "I think it's safe to say we're all family now. Not crew. Not coworkers. Family. We've been through Heaven and we've been through Hell. We've earned this. I'll stand by any and all of you, and I think you'd all stand by me." A chorus of amens filled the room. "Whatever happens, we go through it together."

Sasha took her place again, waving Cassidy back to her spot. "That's right. Whatever happens, we're all together. What do we want to happen? We could get dropped off in a more peaceful place, work for a while to raise money, and just settle down out of sight and out of mind. We could share strange creatures and enjoy our lives. Find a man, or men, or something with an ovipositor, and settle down to raise broods of our own on our terms. Or we could accept his full offer. Settle on that ship, enjoy all it has to offer and raise a clan of our own on someone else's ship. A family. Together with him. We've had time to think on it and clear our heads. Where are we going to go from here? Your thought, please."

Gwen spoke up first. "These new bodies he offers would let us enjoy more out of life." She stepped up to a console and flicked images onto the screen. Notes and diagrams of their potential new forms. "Increased senses. Including telepathy if I'm reading this right. Increased physical capabilities. As you all know, I was created in a lab and I don't think even I'm capable of some of this stuff. We'd be beyond superhuman. Even if we decide not to settle on the ship, we might be able to barter for that at least."

Juli inclined her head, looking up at the strong bodied security officer. "Don't forget that there's

a price to those abilities. We'd have to go into that radiation field to survive. Or at least to maintain them. There's no telling what kind of side effects there would be. I don't suggest risking all of us at once. If we go in and it's irreversible and harmful, we'd have no one who could work around it and look for a cure. Start slow and go deeper when we know more.”

“Sylvia? Cassidy?” Sasha looked expectantly at them.

Sylvia grinned and stuck her hands on her hips. “He said we wouldn't be slaves. Why can't we have it all? Take his offer and be his mates. Build a small ship that outclasses this one, and go on group vacations where we can do as we please. If he's true to his word, I, for one, would still spend most of my time with him even if we do have that kind of freedom. And I don't think Juli or Cassidy would want to ditch his ship, considering the toys he apparently has. If I have room for my bike and no one forcing me to stay put, I'd happily stay anyway.”

Cassidy stood beside Sylvia, arm linked in arm. Sylvia looked at her and kissed her cheek.”I'm with Sylvia on this one. He said he had nowhere to go. Well, we do. We should short out the war and give our enemies Omnitron on a silver platter. And then ditch them. God knows we don't need assholes who turn on us in an instant. Long as he treats us as people and not slaves, I'd share his bed with him and you all every night of the week.”

Sasha nodded. “So no one in favor of just cutting and running?”

“We didn't get where we are by being cowards. The worst case is that he kills us straight off. We wouldn't be in any worse straits than we would have been without him, it's just faster than what was coming.” Sylvia licked her lips as she continued. “Second worst case? He enslaves us.” She flicked some keys on the console and highlighted a portion of the screen. “Aging is nonexistent on these things. Given time, we could probably free ourselves and find one another, should he sell us off separately. That alone is attractive. Never aging. We age more slowly than old humans, sure, but it's not gone for us. This could give us centuries or millennia at least. That alone is attractive to me.” She practically purred now. “Best case? A loving husband who dotes on us and our children and uplifts us to a whole new life. That's worth the risk to me. Hell, it's worth it to all of us, isn't it?”

Everyone nodded fervently. “I guess it's settled that we will do this, then. Just not the how.”

Sasha looked around at the other four faces in the room.

Gwen raised her hand. "I volunteer." Sasha raised an eyebrow at her. "None of us are cowards, but I'm the toughest, strongest of us all. If anyone can withstand it, it would be me."

Sasha leaned in and whispered, "neither of us does anything alone." She looked over at the others. "Unless one of you has a better idea of who should go, Gwen and I will both go. If this is a bad situation, numbers might mean something for getting off the ship. You three are capable of running Andromeda without us. Anyone have anything better?"

The three of them glanced at each other before looking back at Sasha and shaking their heads. "Then it's settled. Gwen and I will go over and undergo the transformation. You'll watch and see how it goes. If anything goes wrong and he's not trying to fix it, pull us and go if you can. If you can't save us, just get out. Any last words before we commit to this?"

Sylvia looked at each woman in turn then shook her head. "All that needs said has been said. We're in."

Sasha went over and sat in her command chair. She flicked open hailing frequencies. "Here's to our new friend. If you'll have us, two of us will come over and change. If the rest are satisfied with the results, they'll go through with it too. Please respond."

An amused purr sounded over the comlink. "Messaged received. My teleporter works better than yours, so the two who are interested should walk out of the bridge. Leave the door open so the others can see you, and message when you're ready."

Sasha gave her seat to Sylvia and slipped over to Gwen's side. She hugged her hip and the couple went together out of the bridge, leaving the door open. They turned around and watched the bridge. Sylvia opened the comlink again. "Your package is waiting for you in the hallway. Proceed with delivery." She winked up at the two as their forms winked out in a flash of light and disappeared. Several seconds went by before the com answered again. Sasha's voice came out loud and clear. "Package delivered. He seems to have set up a suite of clean rooms that aren't dangerous to us." She sounded relieved.

They had no idea what they were in for.

Part Two: Close Encounter

“Of course I cleaned some rooms for you. Such lovely company should be safe and happy, not melted into piles of useless flesh. You can keep the coms open if you wish. I won't initiate conversation until our beloved friends are safely altered to suit this place.”

Sylvia started to say something but before she could get a word out, the screen changed to show a dark room with beds, refrigerators, and a couple large metal boxes that could only be the medical bays spoken of earlier. Sasha and Gwen were standing there looking around. A few minutes later, a door opened in the background and a new form arrived. It was in a suit of metal armor painted bright red, and looked just the right shape to hold their new benefactor. He stood as tall as Sasha did in her bare feet. They knew from the notes that he could kill them with just a breath, but physically he wasn't imposing in the least without the armor.

“I wanted to be here in person.” He stood close to the two without obstructing the view through the screen.

Sasha and Gwen breathed in deep, and relaxed. “We don't even know your name.” Sasha reached out and touched the armor, feeling it cold to the touch despite so much heat being inside.

“My people have little use for them. We can share thoughts, so we always have a sense of who we're talking to or about. If you wish me to have one, you can pick it yourself.”

Sasha tilted her head and regarded him with some curiosity. “If you share thoughts, why do you talk?”

“We don't share them with strangers. And you can't share them. Yet.” His voice sounded a little fast and excited. He seemed to be thoroughly enjoying the conversation. Or the company.

Gwen turned and went to one of the med bays. She looked down at a panel at the side and fiddled with it. It showed the sort of form she could take, and after a little while she asked, “Any particular spots on a woman you enjoy touching more than others?”

“I'm partial to the arms and legs. Hands and feet. We love having our hips and foreheads touched, too.”

Gwen touched a few more buttons. "Does that suit you?" The view moved a little, letting the women still on the Andromeda see. Gwen had sent pleasure nerves flowing through the arms, legs, hips, bust, and forehead of her proposed body. He didn't even say a word, just nodding fast about it. Gwen tsked. "Don't start without us." Her voice became throaty. "We want to have fun with you when this is done."

Sasha rolled her eyes and held back a chuckle. Of all the group, Gwen had always been the most lustful. It was literally built into her. To emphasize the point, Gwen shucked off her jumpsuit, baring her nubile flesh to the cool air of the room. She slowly ran her hands down her body, before sitting on the edge of the bay and slowly, teasingly stripping off her boots. They hit the floor and gave him a good view of her feet. And the sharp angle they took. Unlike a normal human foot that rests perpendicular to the ankle, hers, and presumably the rest of them, rested almost completely parallel. Right where they always would be in a high set of heels.

He hadn't hidden his interest. "Is there something wrong with them?"

"Not a thing, Hatch. And don't knock it til you've tried it. I'm vulnerable without heels on. Makes me rely on you more, does it not?" She winked. "And it makes it easy for me to rest my soles on your back when you have me under you or in your lap."

He whispered, "Hatch? I think I like it. How'd you get it?"

Sasha raised an eyebrow at Gwen too. "I read that your people are egg layers. We call our loved ones baby all the time. Baby. Hatchling. Same thing. Makes sense doesn't it?"

There was pride in his voice. "Yes it does. Smart and sexy." He practically shivered. "I lucked out being found by you."

Gwen grinned and blew him a kiss. "Don't ever forget that." She winked at Sasha then rolled into the med bay and let it close around her.

Sasha looked at Hatch. "It's my turn. I'll set mine the same way as hers, unless there's something else you'd like from me."

Hatch shook his head. "No. I very much like how she set it."

Sasha smiled at him. "You really do seem lost and lonely." She leaned in and kissed the cheek

of his armor before whispering, "you're not alone anymore." She stood up and walked over to Gwen's bay. She looked through the top and saw Gwen asleep already. A timer counted down. "Four hours for this? Fast work. Juli will love it."

She walked back to hers and set it up before climbing in. She made sure to give Hatch a good view of her feet too, and gave him a wink before falling into bed and letting the bay do its work.

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Sleep was the wrong word for it. Sasha could feel everything going on, in a detached clinical sort of way. Her consciousness was part of the med bay's computer right now. She could watch what was going on right down to her cells if she wished. Though the external sensors and communications equipment held more of her attention. She could talk to Gwen, and see what was going on outside. There was a lot going on. As soon as they had locked up the bays, Hatch had had the room flooded with radiation again. Which meant he could take off his suit without hurting anybody. The pictures hadn't done justice to what was a glistening, iridescent mass of silky skin and flexible scales that was completely nude and only a metal wall away from her.

The girls had never shut off the Andromeda's view screen, and they were enjoying the view. Which now included a nude Cassidy with hooded eyes and two fingers inside herself. He sat side-on to both the communications screen and the med bays so the Andromeda crew and both patients could see him. The masturbation scene had started only a few minutes into the procedure. The procedure was almost over. While the other girls had switched off arousing him and each other, he'd been steadily stroking himself the entire time without showing a sign of stopping.

The others had cum several times already. He hadn't cum once. The explanation alone had Sasha hoping everything was upfront. He couldn't even begin to cum until a woman had cum on him first. Sasha and Gwen had watched the entire time. At first Gwen had tsked at him for starting anyway, but she'd been appreciative of the show nonetheless. And then distracted. "My surgery's going to take longer than expected. This thing's offered to upgrade my body from pheromone weaponry to full blown

empathic powers. I think I'm going to like this new body very much.”

The two of them watched Cassidy finish herself off with hunched hips and a mess splattering the floor between her legs as they talked. “Take all the time you need, Gwen. My machine is almost done with me. I'll go first.” Almost as soon as she said the words, the med bay began unwinding Sasha from its computer. Her eyes remained closed for a bit, just taking in the sensations of her new body. Her skin felt tight, and ached like a full body stomach ache. It made it hard to focus or even really think. Her thoughts remained slow, which troubled her. Then she heard a pop.

The top of the med bay unsealed itself as she opened her eyes. The air that came rushing into the small chamber was hot and humid, like a sauna. All of a sudden she was able to think clearly again, and her skin tingled as the energetic, humid air washed over her. She almost gasped at the sudden relief. She stared at the ceiling for a bit, reveling in the good feelings roaming through her mind and body. Slowly, she sat up and looked around with her own eyes again. No enhanced eyesight. Everything looked exactly as it had with her old ones. Her mind, however, had changed. She couldn't see better, but she could take in every detail. From the dimly lit dark gray walls of the room, to the glint of that light on Hatch's slippery, scaly body. It wasn't the enhanced senses she thought she'd read about, but she was certainly better off than she had been.

She focused on Hatch. On the contrast between hard, crimson scale and soft, pale skin. On the hawk-like beak of a nose in the center of his almost-human face. On the hard, six inch long penis sliding back into a thick two inch long sheath right in front of her. That caught her eye and held it for the couple of seconds it took to slip out of sight. The head was rounded. The shaft looked like the body of a screw, and pulsed regularly with the beat of his heart. And the whole thing had been glistening wet and promised to go in easy.

Sasha licked her lips and took a deep, steadying breath as all the sensations hit her. Her eyes stayed on Hatch even as he stood up and glided smoothly across the floor to her. His proximity was overwhelming as his body positively radiated energy. It made her lightheaded to be around him right now. Wordlessly the two of them locked eyes for a few seconds. He leaned in and wrapped his arms tightly about her, pulling her out of the med bay and re-positioning her in his arms until he was carrying

her nude body bridal style to a soft pad she hadn't noticed before.

Hatch laid Sasha down gently and looked her over. "Three hours is my limit my sweet, but I will recover in an hour or so." He smiled and caressed her stomach. "In the meantime, I can take care of you."

Sasha looked down at herself as he touched her. All the water in the air was beading up and rolling off her like a windshield, but the trail left behind by his hand stuck to her skin and warmed her. She closed her eyes and let his hands do their work. She felt his heat trail over her, starting at her stomach. He moved them slowly, teasingly up and down her abdomen, leaving everything between her breasts and clit slippery and hot. It almost made her gasp again.

His fingers caressed up her sides, not touching her nipples, but cupping the sides of her breasts. She whimpered a little and felt his hands move over her collar bone and up to her neck. When they reached her lips, she took a thumb in her mouth and sucked gently. There was barely any taste to it, but it felt like a French kiss that left her tongue tingling. Her whimpers intensified and as he slipped his finger from her tongue a moan escaped her lips. She felt his own lips press against her forehead, and she couldn't help wrapping her arms around him to pull him close.

As she hugged him, he lowered himself onto her and pressed the entrance to his sheath against her thighs. His soft, wet stomach slid along hers, leaving a thicker trail along her abdomen. The two hard plates of scale at his chest rested against her breasts, feeling like smooth stone warmed by the sun. The sensation had Sasha sighing before the action started.

Hatch began rocking gently and she didn't hesitate to wrap her legs around his waist and pull him against her. He kept himself pressed against her and steadily rolled his hips, sending surges of pleasure through Sasha that had her positively dripping in anticipation. The thick ring of muscle composing his sheath was big enough to press against her entire mound and thighs, keeping her fully stimulated as he rubbed her.

His hands traveled up and down her back, getting more of her body warmed up for him. He brought her to the edge of orgasm, and Sasha's back arched, pushing her breasts into his chest. Hatch kissed her lips softly, and pulled back. He unwrapped her legs from him and slid away, being

sure to drag that sheath of his along one of her thighs, and completely down her leg right to her foot. Sasha opened her eyes and looked up at him. She husked out the word “tease” even as he grinned and put a hand to her side.

Hatch rolled her onto her stomach and she immediately got her knees under her and rose to all four. She hiked her ass into the air just like a bitch in heat and gasped as he just as quickly pressed himself back against her. His hands stroked everywhere, stimulating every inch of skin he could. They trailed down her legs, and he thrust his hips hard into her. His hands grasped her soft, sensitive feet, and some dim part of her that could still think realized he must have been arching his own back for her.

His thumbs ran in circles over the soles of her feet, caressing her from toes to heels. His hips were thrusting in a steady rhythm, rocking her entire body. She'd never had a foot massage during sex before, and the nerves of her new body were practically screaming in pleasure. She had to bite her lip to keep her own moaning from turning into a scream as well. She couldn't tell how long it was before Hatch's hands moved up her legs. He'd grab a spot and squeeze, massaging his way up her legs. When he reached her hips, she could feel him drape the front of his body over her ass. He must have been pulling himself back up with those massages.

Hatch rubbed himself against Sasha gently and her back arched. Between the massages and the gentle grinding, she'd been brought easily back to the brink. This time he didn't back off entirely. She could feel his sheath leave the velvet soft lips of her vagina, and the thought “not again” crossed her mind. It came as a surprise when he gave her labia a single hard slam from the tip of his sheath. She couldn't hold it in anymore, and she screamed as a wave of feminine cum gushed from her. It squirted out and splashed all over him.

His hands settled on the floor at her sides and he used his arms and hips to guide her. The couple turned around and Sasha remembered the screen to Andromeda was still on. She'd been facing away from it, but Hatch had turned her around to face it so she could see the others. They were watching her intently, and she couldn't help licking her lips in enjoyment at an audience. Hatch let out a liquidly flowing string of syllables, and the side of the screen changed. It showed him and her as they

were, cuddled up and about ready to go again. Suddenly the screen changed, just slightly, and she could see his sheath inside and out.

It was beautiful. A two inch long, two inch thick rod with a half-inch thick ring of muscle. His penis was safely tucked away for the moment, filling the inch-thick tunnel in the center. He thrust his hips against her, and his penis shot out, impaling her lips. Sasha's hips bucked and she almost closed her eyes with the intensity of it. Almost. She panted as he began fucking her for real now, riding her from behind. The sight on the screen was pure eroticism for her. As he'd impaled her, she got an X-ray view of herself from the entrance of her vagina all the way up to her womb.

She watched as Hatch fucked her, and she did her best to match his movements. She'd rock back against him as he went in, and pull away as he backed out. Her eyes never left the screen. With every thrust she felt four separate waves of pleasure wash over her, each one stronger than the last. With every pull out, it worked in reverse. Four waves, each weaker. She had no idea how her body could stand it, but she knew what was causing the intense pleasure coursing through her. Four rings of muscle lined her tunnel of love, and every time he hit one she'd feel it.

It only took a few minutes for her to reach orgasm again, and as she did, Hatch thrust in fully. He filled her completely as the strongest orgasm she'd ever had floored her. Her ass was up in the air only because Hatch still held it there. She almost blacked out, but she steadily fought her way back to full consciousness to avoid missing a second of this. She felt a rippling sensation from her stomach down her clit, and looked up at the screen. Things were going on up there.

Her vaginal walls were tightening around Hatch, forcing him to stay in. His penis was changing. Before, there had been grooves in its surface. As she watched, those grooves inflated, pressing hard against her walls. They were strongest where her muscular G-spots had been and she could feel them pulsing against her, keeping her in heat. Her cervix was contracting, and the head of his penis slid into her womb, A steady stream of thick, viscous cum was pouring from him, slowly filling her womb. And what a womb. Instead of two tubes leading to ovaries, it had six ovaries pressed right against the wall. Three arranged in a triangle at the top, and three at the bottom.

One of those ovaries glowed like magma in a volcano, and the wall beside it started to as well.

A clingy glob of jelly formed along the wall there. Hatch hugged Sasha tight, with his arms crossed over her belly and his hands squeezing her breasts. Her nipples were hard and added their own screams to the chorus of nerves going off in Sasha's body. She stayed locked to Hatch as his semen completely filled her. Her body took every drop from him, and as she watched, it mixed with the jelly inside her. Then the whole mass seemed to just burn off.

Her entire body felt like a smooth drink of Grey Goose going down her throat, and she shuddered at the intensity of it before it died down. Sasha looked at the clock in the corner. Only a half hour had passed since he'd started. One ovary had glowed, and now one embryo cuddled against her. He could go for three straight hours, and even though he was pulling out, she was still in heat. She did the math and reached back to touch him. "Don't go far. We have five more babies to make."

Hatch just smiled, stroked her hand, and shoved her sideways. She went onto her back and pulled her legs up hard, presenting her still swollen labia for him to take. Hatch backed up, and leaned down to give her a searing hot kiss between the legs. Sasha hissed and closed her eyes, giving in and just moaning as a tongue almost as long as his penis invaded her and began licking at her G-rings.

Her body was shaking by the time he crawled up her, kissing and licking the entire way until his lips reached hers and his penis slid back inside her. Sasha wrapped her arms around Hatch's neck and held him in the kiss as he made slow, sweet love to her this time. Their hips moved in unison, and within minutes she was tightened back around him and giving herself completely to him. She crossed her ankles above his ass and planted her feet on him just to feel the pulsing in his slippery body in every way she could.

They lay there, cuddling and cumming and making eye contact with each other, Sasha knew the others were watching, playing, and commenting to each other, but right now all she could think of was the way his eyes reminded her of forests. The more strongly her body reacted to him, the more lost in his eyes she became. She barely noticed as he pulled out again, signifying another baby made, and rolled her onto her side. She smiled up at him as he kept one of her legs on the ground between his thighs, and lifted the other one. He laid it right against his chest and shoulder, with her foot by his

face. He took her again, and stroked her leg massaging it.

He kissed her foot, letting his tongue trail over every inch. It was clean. It was always clean. She'd kept herself very clean every chance she got, and the med bay had taken care of what she couldn't. She let him enjoy every inch of her as she watched. Her orgasm came quicker this time. He watched her face. Her eyes. Her lips. Everything. She blew him a kiss and let out a loud purr. Her body had already worn itself to soreness for now, and purring was about all she could manage now that the moans and screams had died down.

She locked her eyes to his, and could almost sense him inside her mind. Well, maybe not him, but something. A feeling settled over her that seemed to say, "you are my mate. And I am yours. Stand by me and that will never change." She kept her eyes on his and matched the feeling with her own. "I am your mate, and you are mine. Always care for me, and I'll never walk away." That seemed to satisfy him, as another orgasm finished, and their third child was formed.

Hatch pulled out. This time he stood up. Sasha looked up at him and hissed out, "Unfair." She knew she couldn't stand, even if she was wearing heels. He smirked, before bending down and picking her back up, bridal style once more. Sasha clung onto him and was surprised as Hatch walked over to a wall, placed Sasha down so she was face to face with him, and proceeded to pin her against the wall with his hips. Sasha raised an eyebrow before Hatch grabbed both her wrists in his hands and held them above her head. She wrapped her legs around him for support and gasped as he took her again.

Her breathing became ragged as he fucked her slowly against the wall. "So that's. The game. Get me used. To one position. Then change things up?" She didn't even wait for an answer before taking his lips in a heated, passionate kiss and using her thighs to roll her hips against him for a change. Almost immediately she was locked around him again and he was freely cumming into her womb once more. He kept her arms above her head, using one arm to lock both her wrists to the wall. The other hand swept down them and wrapped around her breast, kneading it.

Sasha's tongue was winning the wrestling match inside Hatch's mouth, until he shoved the full length of his tongue into hers. She moaned but kept fighting. She would gladly submit completely, but

she wanted him to finish earning it first. His tongue was practically serpentine, and easily wrapped around hers. He squeezed her tongue, tying it up, and Sasha surrendered the match. Sasha stayed wrapped tightly around him, and didn't try to resist again. Hatch seemed to love this position. The next hour and a half and three impregnations stayed right there, with him holding her, caressing and pinning her against the wall.

When he was finished, Hatch let Sasha off the wall and carried her back to the pad. He laid down with her and rubbed every muscle. Fully satisfied, Sasha's body didn't scream out in heat. She just relaxed in his arms and let him rub her down. She draped a leg over his and ran her foot softly up and down his calf. He closed his eyes and sighed in pleasure. "Can I take care of you now, my sweet, loving hatchling?"

Hatch just nodded and stroked Sasha's face as her hands started moving over his body. She watched him for reactions, noting that he didn't seem to feel anything at all when she touched a scale. She kept her fingers in the glistening pink seams between them, and massaged him as expertly as he had her. When her hands reached his abdomen, she slid down his body and planted a hard kiss on his sheath. It tasted of her. She proceeded to clean him off, licking and sucking every drop from his sheath, and the skin around it. His hips had given little shudders as she'd cleaned him, so she stayed down there and licked the rim of muscle.

Sasha looked over at the med bay holding Gwen and saw the countdown timer. She would be ready to go about the time Hatch recovered from breeding Sasha. "I'll get you ready to take care of her, Hatch." Sasha spent the next hour stroking and kissing every sweet spot she could find on Hatch's body.

Part Three: Head Games

Gwen's mind was suddenly, unceremoniously severed from the med bay's computer. A feminine metallic voice sounded in her ear. "Modifications tentatively complete. Testing phase initiated." She opened her eyes and all she could see was the window screen of the med bay, the ceiling of the room, and a countdown timer proudly proclaiming her "testing phase" would last an hour

and a half. At least, that's all she could see with her eyes. The back of her head felt full, somehow, and as she focused on the sensation, she could sense everything in the entire room. If she wanted to. She was too focused on one thing to even try.

Sasha and Hatch were still going at it on the wall. She couldn't help but breathe out a sigh tinged with lust. "Damn but that man has got stamina." It was still a half hour away from his three hour mark of taking Sasha. Gwen had thoroughly enjoyed the show so far. If she'd been in her body at that time it would have made her absolutely wet just watching. As her thoughts wandered over the pair, she suddenly felt like she was right next to them, watching from mere inches away. It was . . . enthralling.

Gwen's eyes were still just looking out the glass at the ceiling, counting the seconds away, but inside her own head, she could see the sweat dripping off of Sasha and running down Hatch's legs. She could hear the blonde's beautiful, throaty voice moaning wordlessly and running the full register of tones every time Hatch rocked with her. She'd swear she could smell the mingling scents of passionate sex and a pleasantly spicy odor that hung cloyingly over the pair. She let her mind drift a little as she enjoyed the two of them locked in heat.

As she maintained proximity to the two, her initial impressions of the situation deepened and broadened. She could see and feel more than just the external pleasure of the moment. Focusing on Sasha, she found herself looking over the woman inside and out. The same X-rays that had been on the view screen came to her sight. They abruptly changed. She was no longer looking at just the physical connection between the two. What she saw was positively energetic. The orgasm slowly pulsing from Hatch into Sasha was burning and seething almost like something alive. In fact, Hatch himself seemed to be on fire with it. It only took a second or two for Gwen to put it together.

Hatch was literally giving his life to Sasha. Or, at least, a part of it. No wonder the guy hadn't come at them casually. He was risking his own life for this. At that, Gwen followed the life stream back to Sasha and watched her. Her body seemed to be taking strength from it. Beautiful, strong, seemingly unyielding Sasha had been wearing down from the stress of her job, and its catastrophic collapse. Now all of that was just ebbing away. The life shared between her and Hatch was literally filling in the empty places and washing away the pain. Sasha didn't even seem to consciously know it, but an

unconscious thought bubbled near the surface. *Thank you. I'll make this count my love.*

Gwen reached out to touch Sasha in her thoughts. As the illusion of her own hand made contact with the blonde's skin, an electric tingle ran through her body. In that instant, her viewpoint jumped, and she could feel herself pinned to the wall with Hatch's body rubbing steadily against hers. The sudden shock and the powerful feelings running over her overwhelmed Gwen's senses. She found her arms rising above her head to touch the head of the med bay, and her legs drew themselves up almost of their own accord. Gwen let go and screamed "YES" before a keening wail of desire burst forth from her lips. She rode out the feelings for several minutes, quickly reaching orgasm every time she felt Hatch throbbing against her.

Thick streams of feminine cum jetted from her, blasting the foot of the med bay and everything before it in a torrent of juice. She whimpered after the third time, and she almost thought she saw Hatch wink at her. Only he hadn't. It was as if a ghostly eyelid had come down over his eye and then suddenly her legs dropped back to the floor and her arms moved toward the lid of the med bay. As if they were wrapped around someone's body. Her viewpoint shifted, and she was suddenly looking at Sasha's wide open mouth and closed eyes. Her body felt strange and incredible. Large chunks of skin could feel nothing at all, but there were thick spaces where the nerve endings were clustered so tightly that the very feel of Sasha against her felt intense. If she had been a normal human, she would have been in sensory overload and screaming to get away now.

Instead, Gwen embraced it, letting the feel of Sasha's stomach brushing against hers drive her wild. Gwen's hips rocked in time to Hatch's, mimicking him perfectly. Her throbbing clit felt like it was buried deep inside Sasha's slippery body, and Gwen just let everything happen. The entirety of her vagina, from her clit back to her cervix, throbbed and burned in a slow fire that she knew would last a while. The rhythm of it all sent a constant, steady drip of cum flowing down her ass and onto the floor of the med bay between her legs.

Gwen felt herself merging fully with Hatch, feeling what he felt inside and out. His thoughts came to her, washing over her mind like the clean, protective antibiotic sweat of his body was doing to Sasha. It only lasted for a few moments, but within that brief time, she learned everything she needed

to plot out exactly how her night was going to go.

Their merge stopped as Hatch's orgasm ended, and Gwen quietly fell back into herself. She ran her hands up and down the front of her body, feeling the goosebumps forming on her skin. She brought her legs closed together, and rubbed her thighs against one another as she dragged her soft, delicate feet through the mess she made, getting them wonderfully hot and slippery. She had to go slow, because the nerves there were incredibly sensitive, and she wanted Hatch to be the one to use them to take her there.

She spent the next hour idly stroking her body and bringing her senses back up. The intensity of it all had temporarily taxed them, but as Hatch was recharging, so was she. The window above her started showing vital signs, and the voice rang out again. "Vitals normal. Mental pathways holding. Modifications successful." Without a hiss, the med bay door slid open. The air quality didn't change, and Gwen realized she must have been so lost in her new mental capacities that she didn't notice vents in the med bay bring the air inside into line with the rest of the room. She looked down and realized the large droplets of water on her skin were more humidity than sweat.

Gwen sat up and crooked a finger at Hatch, beckoning him to her. He gave Sasha one last caress, before slinking forward on hands and knees. He didn't stand up until he was right next to Gwen. His nostrils immediately flared and Gwen whispered, "I would have tried getting down and coming to you, but I didn't want to leave footprints." She smiled and flexed her toes, letting him see the glistening coat on them and the floor of the med bay. "I was hoping you could help me clean them off."

In response, Hatch merely gripped the side of the med bay, leaned the upper half of his body into the bay, and drew his long, thick tongue through the creamy mess at its bottom. He managed to cut a single swath across it from the foot of the bay all the way to Gwen's sensitive clit. She bit her lip and bucked slightly as he barely touched her with his tongue. Gwen practically purred down to him. "I was hoping we might try that foot thing. Even in the videos I've never seen the others do it. It would be wonderful to show them something new for a change."

Hatch's eyes met Gwen's and the two shared a thought. Hatch had fallen so deep into lust that all he could do at this point was match what his mates wanted from him, and give them all that he had.

Gwen hugged his shoulders and whispered, "All that you are is mine to hold. All that I am is yours to keep." She'd already become him for a few moments. There wasn't much deeper she could go besides spending more time there.

Hatch wrapped an arm under Gwen's legs and the other under her arms. He picked her up and carried her as he had Sasha, placing her gently down beside her girlfriend. The two embraced and shared a heated kiss before Sasha backed away. "There's plenty of time for that later. I want to watch you two." Gwen blew her a kiss before locking eyes with Hatch again. He nodded and ran his fingers down Gwen's legs to cup and caress her slender, slippery feet.

Gwen struggled to keep her breathing even, but she managed. His hands on her left her skin tingling like an electrical current, and all she knew was that she wanted it every second of every day. Hatch's fingers stroked the tops of her toes and slid along to her ankles. He grabbed onto them and lifted each foot one at a time to plant loving kisses on her arches. That drew a whispered "aww" from Sasha as a small shiver ran up Gwen's legs and hit her clit, making it throb. She winked at him and wiggled her toes before slipping free of Hatch's grasp. He stayed perfectly still, wondering what she had in mind, when Gwen slid both feet down to his sheath and wrapped her arches around it. She began working him gently, moving one foot up as the other moved down.

She had Hatch panting a little and rocking his hips in an even rhythm for her. Within moments, his erection slid out and stuck up like a six inch spike. Gwen didn't miss a beat, running her feet up and down the shaft as it protruded and lengthened for her. His kisses had only left shivers, but the feel of his throbbing, runneled length dripping and coating her feet with lubricant had Gwen lying back on the pad and moaning in arousal. Her eyes clouded up and Gwen's back arched, producing another orgasm that sent a flood of cum coating her creamy white ass and dripping onto the mattress.

Hatch dragged his erection through the mess, mingling his precum and Gwen's orgasm together as he slid between her legs and took her with a smooth, gentle stroke of his penis. She tensed up as he hit her first G-ring and she bucked up against him. She got her arms up around him and dug her fingers into his skin as he kept going. He didn't stop until he was fully buried inside her. He stayed there, keeping Gwen full as he kissed all over her face. The tenderness in each kiss had

Gwen's heart racing almost as much as the orgasmic sensations running through her.

Hatch rocked his hips slowly, dragging the head of his penis over her deepest ring. He focused on it, keeping it stimulated as tension built within Gwen. Gwen locked her arms tightly around Hatch and whimpered steadily until the tension broke. Her back arched hard, pushing Gwen up against Hatch's chest. Her nipples were throbbing intensely as they brushed against his skin, and a shudder rippled through her that ended in a blast of cum engulfing Hatch's penis. Before it had time to escape and flood down between the two, Hatch's penis swelled, and Gwen's pussy tightened, locking the slippery fire inside them.

It burned and rippled around Hatch as he pulsed inside her. Gwen warmed up from the inside out and let out a slow, heated moan as her smoky eyes stayed glued to Hatch's. Her mouth was wide open in an O of pleasure, and Hatch took it, kissing her lips hard and thrusting his tongue into her. He slipped his tongue down her throat for a brief moment, just to show her that he could, and Gwen made no move to resist him. He pulled it back, and timed more thrusts of his tongue to hit with each rippling pulse of his penis inside her belly.

In between overwhelming waves of pleasure, Gwen slid her feet up and down Hatch's thighs and calves. Her toes dug in with each wave. They weren't orgasms. She was in a practically constant state of orgasm right now. They were just stronger sensations that took control away from her. On one such wave, she focused as deeply on the pleasure as she could, and suddenly felt it from the other side. In the back of her mind she could feel her own lips kissing her mouth. Her moaning stopped as the full experience hit her. Her clit felt like it was in a hot tub with the massage jets set right up against it and turned to a rhythmic pulse setting.

She lay there awestruck and in a bliss so pure it cut through everything else. In that moment there was only Hatch and her. As she merged with him, she could feel him doing the same with her, and the two lay intertwined both physically and mentally. The full completeness of every sensation hit them both, and they writhed in a silent oneness that did not end until Hatch's semen engulfed Gwen's jelly and their mutual orgasm subsided.

Gwen cuddled up to Hatch for a few moments, catching her breath and stammering. "I . . .

oh . . . wow.” She had no words, so she stopped trying to find any and just gazed deeply into Hatch's eyes. Her extra senses had been spent, and she needed time to recover them, so she just kissed him on the lips and held on. As her breathing steadied and she could find herself again, she whispered, “The rest aren't going to be like that, are they?”

Hatch smiled and struggled to speak. “Maybe one or two. Not most of them.”

“But they'll be with you.”

He nodded silently and Gwen kissed his lips again. She broke the kiss and arched her body under him to entice him. “Then that's all I need.” Gwen turned and beckoned Sasha over to her. Sasha closed the distance quickly on hands and knees and leaned down to kiss Gwen. The two lingered for a little while. Gwen took Sasha's hand and kissed it, before whispering, “I am ever yours, my love.” Sasha smiled.

“And I am yours.” The two embraced and Hatch slid back to see what they were doing. Gwen rolled Sasha onto her back, getting everything from the small of her back to her upper thighs slickened with cum, and went to all fours. She lowered herself and rested her weight on Sasha. Their breasts squished together, with their hard nipples touching. Gwen spread her legs and reached back to slap her ass, encouraging Hatch to take her again. He didn't need any more than that. He was quickly back inside her and pumping steadily in and out.

Gwen just lay there, resting and taking it as Sasha pressed kisses everywhere, On Gwen's temples. On her cheeks. Her forehead. Each eyelid. A trail of kisses down her nose led to a passionate kiss on the lips as Hatch drove Gwen to another climax. Unlike the first, her body didn't clamp down until after the cum had sprayed out and a flood gushed down over Sasha's pussy. Sasha let out a deep, sensual moan and her throbbing clit met Gwen's. Hatch rocked his hips, and the two girls tribbed together under his control.

Sasha mewled as Hatch slowly rocked the trio, and her cum flowed out to join the others. A clear stream of orgasmic cream flowed over the entire mattress between them, and the family just reveled in the bliss they brought each other. Hatch draped himself over Gwen and looked down at Sasha, He leaned down, pressing Gwen hard between them, and locked lips with Sasha. Sasha

brought her legs up and barely managed to lock her ankles together behind Hatch's back. Gwen panted and gritted her teeth as the steady orgasm flooded through her. She raggedly let slip an "I love you two" as Hatch impregnated her again.

Instead of pulling out or resting, Hatch sped up the second his erection narrowed. He slammed into Gwen and rocked her hard into Sasha. The two girls' clits were already hypersensitive, and the fast motion drove them both to gush at the same time. The sticky flood washed over Hatch's sheath, and he kept up a steady pace. He jackhammered the two together until Gwen had recovered enough for another deep orgasm, and their bodies locked together once more.

Sasha was quaking under them, but she felt nowhere near exhausted. It was more like a bowstring being pulled taut and waiting for release. As Gwen locked herself back around Hatch, the flowing cream from her rushed over Sasha's labia and triggered several minutes of shuddering orgasm that left Sasha barely able to breathe. When it was over she whimpered and kissed Gwen until their third orgasm subsided and Hatch untangled himself from them. The two lay together panting and cuddling. They shared a tender kiss and Gwen let her partially recovered sixth sense wrap around Sasha.

Sasha didn't know what was happening, but she accepted it and opened herself to Gwen. *I wouldn't want to share this with anyone but our crew, dear Captain.* Sasha smiled and sent back *Likewise.* The two nestled together as feelings of love and contentment passed between them. They looked up to find the third of their party, and saw he'd walked off somewhere for a second. As soon as he was back in bed with them, the floor around them split and they found their bed floating on a steel island surrounded by a pond of water.

Hatch leaned down close to the edge and began lapping it up like an animal. He looked up at them and winked, before going back to drinking. The two of them shared a look that said "why not" and began drinking themselves. Sasha considered running the water down her body to clean it off, but as she thought it she realized she didn't feel the least bit unclean to begin with. Hatch's touch had left her feeling cleaner than she'd been in a long time, somehow. She looked up at him to question but the answer was already on the tip of his tongue.

“We don't bathe. Our sweat carries organisms that do it for us.” As if that was the end of the matter, he went back to drinking. Sasha kept in direct contact with Gwen. Their sides touched from their hips to their shoulders and they swayed side by side, letting their breasts swing gently against each other. The skin to skin contact felt wonderful, and they couldn't help wanting more. They drank until the floor closed back up, then settled back down on the bed for a little while.

The two of them locked lips and cuddled as Hatch watched them. Gwen could feel his eyes burning into her, and the adoration flowing through him at the fact that Gwen and Sasha were so close. She could tell he wanted that feeling too. She gave him another come hither signal and wrapped an arm around his shoulders as he came close. “We have three more rounds to go, right?”

Hatch leaned in and whispered, “What'd you have in mind?”

Gwen's lips spread in a grin. “I know, from you, that the genders of our children are based on who is in control during conception, not random chance like in humans. We do three boys and three girls this time?” Hatch smiled wide and kissed her cheek, nodding against her skin so she could feel it. Gwen's hand went to the seam over Hatch's sternum and she pushed him down onto the bed. “On your back lover boy.”

Hatch laid back without resistance and Gwen straddled his hips, gently lowering herself onto his erection. Under her loving guidance, Sasha straddled his face facing Gwen, and the two began to ride their mate. Hatch grabbed ahold of Sasha's hips and held her close as his tongue circled her labia. The two women were already sticky messes, and they added to the juices covering Hatch. He began rocking his body, pushing his face up into Sasha to breathe in her scent one moment, then rolling his hips against Gwen to help her ride. She bounced a little with every thrust, and came down hard on him. She never let him go past her third ring, so every hit was a strong one.

Hatch flicked his tongue around Sasha's clit a few times before driving it into her. Sasha's eyes almost rolled back in her head, but Gwen distracted her by grabbing her hair and pulling her in for a deep, passionate kiss as all three lovers rocked their hips. Sasha's legs clamped hard on Hatch's face as she came, covering him from nose to chin in cum. Gwen thrust herself down against Hatch's sheath and felt her lips spread a little wider, starting to take the sheath itself in.

Gwen's eyes opened wide at that. She was nervous about it, but wanted to see what it would feel like. She pushed herself harder against him. A strong moan escaped her lips into Sasha's mouth as Hatch's sheath penetrated her and worked an inch in. It hit her first G-ring and that was as far as it got this time. The pressure against her triggered a rippling orgasm that shoved Hatch's sheath out before she clamped back down on his erection and held him there. Hatch kept his hips still, allowing Gwen all the control she wanted. His mouth, however, kept up a steady, gentle invasion of Sasha's pussy that had her panting and breaking her kiss with Gwen.

Gwen held tightly to Sasha and kept watching the blonde's gorgeous face as she orgasmed several times on Hatch's face. Gwen's hips rocked. Sometimes in circles, sometimes forward and backward. She never tried up and down. She didn't want to risk pulling him out even though she knew he was in there tight. Hatch reached down and caressed Gwen's foot, and she could practically feel him smirking between Sasha's legs. The girls were being driven wild, and he still had enough control of himself to move around and play with them. He wrapped his hand around her foot and massaged it, causing Gwen to speed up her rocking and practically belly dance on top of him in ecstasy.

Hatch slipped his hand from her as suddenly as he'd put it on her. The pleasure from the dance fed itself and she couldn't help keeping it up. Both of Hatch's hands found Sasha's feet and he rested them flatly against her delicate soles, twining his fingers with her toes and squeezing gently. Sasha let out a rapid panting series of "ah"s and rode Hatch's face like a horse. By the time Gwen and Hatch had disconnected, Sasha had cum seven times on his mouth.

Gwen relaxed and stayed where she was as she caught her breath. She didn't want Hatch out of her quite yet. When she'd recovered some, she dismounted and stood on her toes. It was uncomfortable without shoes on, but she knew she could manage for a bit. "Stand up, my sweet hatchling." Sasha shuddered softly and slid off of Hatch's mouth as he licked his lips.

"He . . . that was the most tender kiss I've ever gotten on that part of my body." Sasha watched as Hatch stood up. Her eyes smoldered with a mix of lust and affection as they followed him. He looked down at her and she licked her lips in a circle and blew him a kiss. Gwen saw a tear at the corner of Hatch's eye and she leaned forward to lick it away.

He looked at her in surprise but before he could say or do anything, Gwen jumped him. She grabbed his shoulders and leapt lightly with her toes, landing herself perfectly against his hips again. He staggered back but held her weight without buckling. Gwen planted her feet directly on Hatch's strong calves and pressed herself against him until he was engulfed in her right up to the lip of his sheath.

"Now let's try this again." Gwen pushed her slippery, steamy labia down against Hatch's sheath and felt him enter her deeper. She moved her hips in tiny up and down motions, working him in deeper until she could feel him pressed back up against her first ring. She sighed and rode out the tremors he caused in her until they subsided. Slowly, ever so slowly, she began working him in more. The feeling was exquisite. Every movement dragged his sheath against her and kept her close to orgasm. She had to take her time to avoid forcing him out again.

She was just lucky this was going to be her fifth time. Her womb was already wide open and waiting for him. It took her several minutes of stop and go movement to get him completely into her, and when his sheath hit her second ring she released herself on him and sprayed burning hot cum all over his erection and sheath. When she clamped down, it was slightly painful for both of them, but when she got used to it the feeling was wonderful.

His thick, hot semen was bubbling out of him and splashing directly onto the walls of her womb. Before the stuff had just flowed in from her entrance and gradually filled her. This time it was a torrent that didn't have far to travel once it left him. She quickly found herself filled, and as his orgasm continued her stomach started to bulge, just a little. It looked like her baby bump had already formed.

As he finished, Hatch hugged Gwen tightly and just held her there, pressing her belly against his. Gwen was lost in the feeling, and didn't want to be found. Hatch stayed buried in her while his erection shrank back down to normal, and Gwen's back arched as his semen burned itself off. Part of it, the part that actually made the baby, joined with her jelly as always to form an embryo. The rest burned up through Gwen's nerves, leaving her feeling as high as a kite. Usually large amounts of energy flowed out with the woman's orgasm, but with Hatch blocking up Gwen's entrance, it all flowed through her instead.

Gwen laughed, giddy, as Hatch gently worked his way out of her and placed her back in bed. She kissed him gently and genuinely purred for him. He kissed her forehead and whispered, "okay, I think we'll save that for rare occasions." Gwen continued giggling, slowly getting back under control as the excess energy found safe places to store itself. She was positively glowing in his arms right then, like a lightning bug.

Sasha slipped up behind Gwen and hugged her tight with both arms around her now-flat belly. She started feeling like she was getting a contact high and giggled slightly. "I like this feeling." The two women snuggled on the mattress pad and looked up at Hatch, gazing into his eyes. Gwen was calm now and wore a serious expression. "I agree. Feels great, but I won't overdo it."

Gwen slowly went to her knees and took Hatch's erection into her mouth, licking and sucking herself off of him. Hatch's knees almost went out from under him in surprise, and Gwen gently guided him down into bed. She kept sucking for a while even when he was down, and Sasha buried her face between Gwen's legs to lick at her too. Gwen let Sasha bring her to a shallow orgasm, glistening trails of beautiful cum flowing down over Sasha's chin until Gwen couldn't take it anymore.

Gwen let up on Hatch and turned around to kiss Sasha. As the two kissed, Gwen backed up and reached down, guiding Hatch's quivering cock back inside her. She bounced for a few seconds before clenching back up to finish herself off for the night. Gwen kissed and licked Sasha from neck to forehead, focusing on her lovely throat, and her soft pink lips. Hatch just lay there enjoying his lovers taking him like this, and barely moved. He'd been bluffing a lot of strength since Gwen had become a light bulb. He wasn't ready for sleep, but he sure as Hell needed to rest.

The two women rubbed the fronts of their bodies together as they kissed. Their rocky little nipples and clits rubbed together, exciting them both, and Sasha quivered in Gwen's arms as the beautiful dark haired woman brought her to orgasm every few minutes. They kept it up the entire time until Hatch slid free of Gwen, his job done. Gwen reached down and stroked his stomach. "Take it easy, my sweet. I have a present for you."

Hatch stayed close to the two as Gwen pushed Sasha down onto the bed. Her back rested in the thick puddle of cum rapidly spreading everywhere. Gwen leaned in and whispered, "Wanna be

licked all over?" A wide smile split Sasha's lips and Gwen dropped down beside her, getting her body covered. The two hugged and kissed, rolling through the mess until their bodies were completely covered.

"Hatch, my beloved? Remember how I said I wanted you to clean me off?" Hatch looked up at Gwen's words, and quickly crawled over to plant a searing hot kiss on her heel. The two women laid back and enjoyed the hottest bath they'd ever had together, as Hatch licked every drop of cum from their wonderfully gorgeous bodies.

Part Four: Resolve

A few hours had passed, and Gwen and Sasha were lying together just holding each other. Hatch had slipped off, disappearing in a teleporter beam elsewhere. The couple could still feel him. They could feel his presence near them, even though he could be anywhere on the ship. They could feel his emotions running through their heads, right alongside their own. Things had moved fast, and a bond had been created. Frankly, it scared the two women witless. So they retreated into each other, and the view screen.

The three still on Andromeda had been hot and heavy throughout the entire show, but they'd calmed down in the intervening hours. No one was dressed, but they were coherent and talking. "I think I'm in love." Sasha couldn't help make the declaration. Sylvia looked long and hard at Sasha.

"I'd say that's a side effect." The blue haired woman sat up straight in the Andromeda's command chair, sweat still plastering her hair from hours of ravishing Juli and Cassidy as they'd watched the threesome on the massive ship. "For the duration of our observations and negotiations, I'm relieving you of command, Sasha. Just sort yourself out, and I'll look out for the rest of us. You too, Gwen."

The black haired security officer nodded. "That would be for the best. I don't think I'm in love with him. I know it." Gwen shivered. "It scares me how deep this got." She closed her eyes and took a deep breath. "What's worse is, he knows it, too. That's why he left."

"Indeed." Hatch's rolling purr sounded out to all of them. "Want me to turn off my intercom and

let you all talk among yourselves, or keep in touch?”

Sylvia's pleasant contralto responded. “Be a sweetheart, dear benefactor, and close the link for a little while? It won't be long, and we'll call you when we're ready.”

“Signing off.” With a click, the com was silent.

Sylvia leaned forward, resting her chin on her clasped hands. “How do we want to play this?” She raised an eyebrow at the screen. “Do either of you feel threatened?”

Both Sasha and Gwen shook their heads. Sasha spoke up “No. Just confused and working out what's real and what's just physical. I don't mind breeding assignments, but when feelings like that get involved . . .” She trailed off, unsure of what to say. Those particular feelings were rare. The closest she'd ever come with a male was Zeus, and that had never gotten quite this deep. Her feelings for Gwen were just as strong, but they'd been shipmates for years by now. Plenty of time to work and live together.

Gwen pitched in, getting a relieved glance from Sasha for taking the attention away from her. “I don't feel any harmful intent from him. I think he knew it could happen, maybe, but I don't think he wants us hurt.” She grimaced. “I think he's hurt and afraid himself right now.”

Cassidy lay on the floor, looking up Sylvia's body to her face. “Nothing's happened to scare me off yet. It could be nice being with someone who can hit our hearts as well as our bodies.”

“There's a lot for me to study over there. I—I think my curiosity's getting the better of me, but I agree with Cassidy. We shouldn't dismiss this.” The ship's medic, Juli, slumped in the navigational chair near the viewscreen, still replaying the show from earlier in her mind.

Sylvia shrugged. “I'm game if you all are. We just need a good deal out of this. Make sure he's honest and nothing bad will come to us, okay?” The others nodded in unison, and Sylvia called Hatch.

His voice almost immediately rolled across their ears. “You weren't kidding when you said this wouldn't be long.”

Sylvia smiled softly. “Of course not, lover. I'm always very honest when making a deal.”

To the crew's surprise, rolling text appeared on the screens. “I've been working on that. I thought it might set your minds at ease to have some control over things, and something in writing.”

The text appeared to be a contract. The top stated unequivocally that their employment would be directly transferred to the Imperial Dream, owned by one Hatch, as soon as their contracts were signed. Same ranks and positions, equivalent pay in whatever luxuries were deemed appropriate. It was very formal, and all business.

It was the only business thing on the contract. The rest was personal and split into levels. They all read through it, with Sylvia reading out loud for Hatch's benefit. It was all options for how they dealt with him. Lowest level? Just employees. A safe place to stay, work to do, no unwanted personal contact of any kind between them. The highest? The most strongly bonded Dominance and submission relationship Sylvia had ever heard of. Comfortable collars, constant affection, and the ability to know and feel exactly where the others were and how they were feeling at any time.

They'd already gotten a taste of it, either in act or in sight. Sasha curled up against Gwen and thought about what she wanted. "I need time to adjust."

"Take all the time you need for this. Though can I suggest teleporting your ship inside mine for safety? I have a read on where the enemy is at any time, but you never can tell when someone's going to make a lucky jump here and find you."

Sylvia gave the screen a level look. "I have to protect my crew." She closed her eyes and nodded, knowing he'd see it. "Gwen trusts you. Do NOT abuse that trust. Or I will devote the rest of my life, no matter how short, to finding you and making you pay."

Sylvia was not the biggest or most imposing woman ever, but she'd stood up to others before. Mostly they'd scoffed and made her back up her words. Against Hatch and his ship, the very statement seemed ridiculous to her. She knew he could atomize her ship and be done with it if he wanted to. Anyone else in his position probably would have pointed that out. Not Hatch. "Heard and understood." In an instant the view outside was of the biggest hangar bay Sylvia had ever seen. From the inside. The Andromeda's lights struggled to see the walls, but they were clearly there.

Sylvia, Cassidy, and Juli gulped. "As I said, take all the time you need. If you wish, you can stay inside your ship in safety. If not, I can clear out a suite for you. All choices are yours now." With that, the com in the Andromeda went silent and left the women with their thoughts.

Hatch's voice sounded for Sasha and Gwen alone. "If you want a taste of the luxury and comfort you can have, I'll send you to bed. Without me, if you'd prefer."

Sasha and Gwen locked eyes. Sasha was speechless. She was in shock from how fast everything was moving. Gwen leaned in and kissed her lips before saying, "Send us there, please, but I'd like some alone time with my dear captain before you come in." Gwen blinked as a bright light engulfed them and when her eyes snapped open, the two were lying together in a bed of dark gold velvet.

Gwen wrapped her arms around Sasha and the two snuggled together, looking around them. The walls were obsidian black, reflecting the light of the room rather than absorbing it. They could see themselves in bed almost as clearly as a mirror. The floor looked like crimson shag carpeting, and Gwen draped a leg over the side of the bed to test it. It felt soft as fur between her toes. She lifted her leg and wrapped herself around Sasha, holding her tightly. The beautiful blonde captain just lay there, curled up in Gwen's grasp.

Gwen kissed her forehead, and Sasha shivered. "I got a deeper hit of the man, and I'm not even half as introverted as you now. Please, captain. Let me in?"

Sasha closed her eyes and rested her head on Gwen's shoulder. She whispered, and Gwen would have struggled to hear if her hearing hadn't been augmented by the scientists who built her. "All my life I've been on my own, or in control. First the orphanage, then school. And then came you all, and I was in charge." Despite the ever present humidity pressing in all around her, Gwen could have sworn she felt tears on her shoulder. The hitch in Sasha's breathing confirmed it. "And in one swoop, all that was gone." Sasha's hands clenched on Gwen's arms.

Anger kept me going against the Templars. I had you all, and it was us against the Universe. I was okay with that, for a while. It ate me up inside, but I had you all. It would all be okay no matter what. If we died, it would be together. If we lived, it would be together."

Gwen ignored the slight pain Sasha was causing, and just hugged her tighter. "And we're still together. No matter what you decide, I will stand by you. Always. As will the others."

Sasha's hands eased up, but only a little. "The control's gone, and here I am showing

weakness. To a subordinate no less.”

Gwen hissed a lightly in offense. After all this, a subordinate? She could feel a little fear roll off of Sasha, and immediately realized Sasha had felt that stab of anger. “I didn't mean it that way, I promise. This is--” Sasha broke off and shook in tears for a few seconds. “It's the captain in me coming out. I'm not in control anymore. Not really in charge, even if Hatch says I can be.”

Gwen settled down, a little ashamed of taking anything Sasha said personally while she was still confused. “Well, forget the captain. She's only a part of the wondrous picture that is Sasha. What does the rest of you want?”

Sasha lifted her head and locked her glistening eyes on Gwen's. “You. And when I saw that contract, I couldn't help thinking a collar and loss of control are exactly what I need.”

Gwen raised an eyebrow in slight surprise, but quickly recovered by reaching up to wrap her hand around Sasha's neck. She was gentle and firm with the lovely woman, running her thumb in gentle strokes over the front of her throat. Sasha gasped for a moment, then settled down and closed her eyes with a low moan. Gwen let out a breathy whisper, “Like that?”

Sasha groaned, “just like that.” Gwen kissed Sasha deeply, stealing her breath away as their tongues intertwined. The two lay there, holding each other. After a few minutes, Gwen let go of Sasha's throat.

“Take the collar. I want it too. We'll make sure we're clear on what we want, and if he accepts that, we'll serve on this ship.” Sasha just nodded silently, letting Gwen say exactly what was on both their minds. Gwen looked at the ceiling, noting it was as black and shiny as the walls, but dotted with glowing crystals. Something about it nagged at her, but she shoved that aside for now. “Sylvia, can you hear me?”

“Loud and clear Gwen.”

“You three decide what you want, but Sasha and me are going for collars. It's . . . hard to explain, but it feels right for us.”

“The rest of us have always taken orders, and always followed them. We were thinking the same thing. Omnitron gave us orders, and they constantly lied to us. We were used, but we let

ourselves be used because it was in our nature.” There was a pause. “He’s been nothing but good to us. You say there’s no threat, and you accept his collar. You’ve proven your judgment sound more than once. Hell, you’ve been in control of just about every situation you’ve been in outside of Omnitron. I don’t think even Hatch could break you.”

“I’ve never felt broken. And nothing he’s done has weakened me in any way. Hell, I feel stronger than I was, somehow.” Gwen looked at Sasha and kissed the tip of her nose. Sasha wrapped herself around Gwen and just relaxed. She looked as though a great weight had lifted from her shoulders. “I think he’s done wonders for getting our captain in touch with herself, too.”

* * *

Accepting the deal had simply been a matter of signing names to the proper portions of the contract, same as any other deal. Sasha only hesitated a second before putting her life in Hatch’s hands, and she hadn’t looked back in the hours since. Now here she was, standing beside Gwen in the med bay as the others chose their new bodies. They all chose to look exactly the same as they always had, which Sasha thought was perfect. One should never mess with something that couldn’t be made better.

She reached out one armored hand and grasped Gwen’s. They couldn’t be nude around the others until after the med bay had done its work. Their bodily fluids were infused with the unique radiation of the place, and even stray exhalations could harm or kill them right now. Sasha marveled at the comfortable design. An inner layer was form fitted to her body, and had pores that matched themselves to her own pores. If she sweated inside the suit, it would come out on the outside and drip down as if the material was her skin. There were wires embedded in it that meshed with her nerves, augmenting them and allowing her to feel everything that touched them. The under layer really was like a second skin for her.

The containment suit over it was constructed of form fitting interlocking plates that allowed for full range of motion while still keeping her body heat and fluids within the suit. And it was all topped off by the six inch stiletto heels Hatch had graciously built right in. He’d even lovingly slipped the whole thing onto her by hand himself. The neckline of her under suit came right up to the bottom of her

turquoise silk, diamond studded collar. It was a snug, reassuring weight to her, made all the better by the identically designed black one around Gwen's neck.

As the final adjustments were made and the others quickly shucked off their clothes to hop in the med bays, Hatch glided around to stand behind and between them both. Sasha pulled Gwen to her side and Hatch hugged them both, resting his face between theirs.

“How are you two adjusting?” Hatch pressed his cheeks to theirs, even though he knew they wouldn't feel it through metal.

“It's taking some getting used to.” Sasha turned to look at him, the smooth metal of her face plate sliding against his without a scratch. “Sir. Thank you for the collar. I won't let you down.”

When the last med bay slid shut, the air ventilators hissed to life and pumped sauna quality air back into the room. The trio stripped off their metal armor and stood facing each other. “There is something I'd like to try while we wait for them.” Gwen and Sasha waited while Hatch spoke. Neither one was really fully recovered from their earlier session, and they could use a rest from sex for the moment.

Hatch sensed it and grinned. “It's not sex but it can be used in it if you like it.” Their relief would have been almost palpable to a non-telepath. It washed over Hatch like a wave. He reached into his discarded armor and pulled out a long, delicate looking chain with extra rings attached to it at intervals. The two women looked at each other, then at Hatch. “Consider it a trust exercise?”

“I'm game if you are, Captain.”

“I said I wanted to give up control.” Sasha steadied herself and turned to Hatch. “Do as you wish with me, Master. If it's too much, I promise to tell you.”

Hatch quirked his head to the side, then gave a short nod full of pride. “Say the word and I unchain you.” He took them both by the wrist and a teleporter beam took them to a small, intimate room with poles reaching from the floor to the ceiling. The two women remained silent, only responding to Hatch's touches as he guided them to the floor.

Sasha sat with her legs spread wide and her arms behind her back. There was a pole a little distance behind her. If she were lying down it would have been right at her head. Hatch positioned

Gwen in Sasha's lap, with her legs wrapped around Sasha's waist. There was a pole on either side, lined right up with Gwen's heels. Gwen's arms were pulled straight out over Sasha's shoulders, and Sasha's arms quickly came up right under them, going straight past Gwen's breasts.

Hatch placed the manacles at the end of the chain on Sasha's wrists, closing them snugly. Sasha's arms were locked in place as Hatch pulled the chain out to a pole close to Gwen's back. He tightened one of the rings coming off the chain to it. Sasha pulled against the chain, testing the seal on the manacles. They held, and she relaxed against Gwen.

The two women looked around them and whistled as they saw how long that chain was. Hatched doubled back, leaving the chain as a taught line next to the women as he secured it to the pole behind Sasha and locked Gwen's arms in an identical set of manacles. With each woman's arms secured by the chain, Hatch pulled a new one out and started again.

This one had four single manacles spread out over its length, and Hatch started at Sasha's right ankle. He secured Sasha's ankle to the pole, and ran the chain from there straight behind her back. Manacles snicked shut around both of Gwen's ankles, holding her legs tightly closed around Sasha, before the last manacle closed around Sasha's left ankle. The chain wasn't bound to the poles, so Sasha tested it out. She tried to close her legs, but they wouldn't budge..

The two women were pressed so tightly together their bodies rubbed everywhere. In their skin tight suits, they could feel everything. Hatch circled them, enjoying his handiwork as the two got comfortable with this. Sasha nuzzled Gwen's cheek. "It's not bad. The company's great. I could get used to this, Master."

Gwen closed her eyes and kissed Sasha's cheek. "Master, you're showing us all these wonderful things. Thank you." She focused on the stretching of her arms and pulled against the chain just to feel the pressure.

Hatch dropped down to sit cross legged near Gwen's right foot, and began stroking it idly. Gwen shivered in delight at the sensation. "I'm glad you two are appreciating this." He trailed his fingers up her leg like a spider, sending a tickling sensation across her skin. Gwen squirmed a little, but made no noise to stop him. Suddenly he gripped her calf and squeezed it tight, sending a jolt of

energy right through her. The tickling sensation stopped and Gwen could feel pressure like every muscle in her leg was being massaged at once.

Gwen gasped and relaxed completely against Sasha as Hatch's hands moved everywhere. She couldn't help groaning as Hatch's touch completely relieved tension in places she hadn't even realized she'd tightened. Sasha closed her own eyes and just enjoyed feeling Gwen relax against her. She lost herself so much in it that it was a surprise when she felt Hatch start stroking her back and the same relaxing feelings overtook her. The couple just nestled together, locked in chains, as their new master relieved the last worries and cares they'd held bottled up from weeks on the run.

They went so deep into it that they'd have been asleep if not for all the energy Hatch had orgasmed right into them. They sank into a trance together and could feel the entire room around them. The steaming hot air leaving thick droplets all over their skin-tight suits. The strong pull of the chains binding them together. The solid walls around them, and the poles holding the chains in place. Even the sudden static in the air as the intercom came on and the ship's deep, melodic voice rang out loud and clear. . .

“Master, a Templar scout ship has entered the system.” Hatch's movements stopped and the two could feel him close by, swearing to himself.

“Sorry my loves, we have to take care of this.” The two women opened their eyes as Hatch snapped his fingers. The pressure from the chains eased on their wrists and ankles before disappearing entirely. The two of them were completely aware of what was going on and easily disentangled themselves from each other. Hatch nodded in approval. “I'll leave this one up to you. Watch and wait, bluffing them that you were never here, or take it on headfirst? I've been collecting data everywhere. We might be able to trade for your freedom.”

Sasha and Gwen shared a glance, and traded thoughts. Sasha rested her forehead on Gwen's and held her close. “We need to do this ourselves, from the Bridge. It's the only way to do this right.”

Gwen closed her eyes and sighed. “If we don't free ourselves, we go from submissives to slaves, don't we?”

Sasha smiled and kissed Gwen's forehead. “Exactly.” She looked over to Hatch and said out

loud. "We take them head on. From the bridge. Me in the Captain's chair making contract. I need to free my people from constant fear." She shivered. "After that, outside the bridge, I am your willing servant. Any time, any place but the bridge, take what you want. I'll give it freely."

"Consider it done." Hatch let out a string of flowing words and in a flash of light the room around them was replaced by a command center dimly lit by lights coming off the console buttons. A big, comfortable chair dominated the center of the room, with a smaller one to its right and left. In the front of the room was a massive viewing screen, with consoles close to it. The back of the room was a raised walkway with even more consoles.

"Sasha, take the big seat." Hatch slid into the small one just to its left. "Gwen, up on the platform, console farthest to the left. Weapons control." The two women took their posts. "The bridge is yours, my dear captain. I'll just be arm candy unless they start talking to me directly. You run the show."

"Templar scout, this is captain Alexandra Jenson of the Imperial Dream. Please respond." the only response they got was the scout winking back out of existence. Sasha took a deep breath. She knew what was about to come was going to be one of the hardest things she'd ever had to do. Scouts always lead back to fleets. From experience, she knew Templar fleets were massive.

Hatch stroked her side. He leaned in and whispered, "relax. As I said, I've been collecting data everywhere. I knew which fleet was tasked with this sector. It's the only reason I suggested trading for your freedom. This admiral's a noble one. He's made deals like ours in the past." Sasha looked gratefully at him but moved his hand from her body.

"What do I need to know?"

"Don't let weakness or fear show. It makes the information you trade look suspect. I've seen this information, scouted territories with drones to double check it. Everything we will send to them is absolutely true, verifiable, and will lead right to Omnitron's demise. It's worth letting you go over. Just sell it and know I never, ever want to do you wrong."

Sasha ran her hands over her arms, calming herself. "Just project calm and cool and let the enemy do our work for us. Got it." She smiled. "You almost make it sound easy."

“It won't be, but you're not alone.” As he said it, more warp signatures appeared in the distance. “Here they come. Don't lose faith.”

Part Five: Red and Blue Tango

Sasha took Hatch's hand for comfort, but only for a second. She breathed in deep and calmed herself, easily slipping into a projection of strength and surety. As she did she felt satisfaction. Hatch slipped into her mind and she found herself laden with all the knowledge she'd need to form a strategy for getting through this. “Hail the flagship, computer. Let's get this over with.”

The Templar commander appeared on the screen, looming over them all. His body was massive. Two arms and two legs like a human but his face was very different, with a bulbous head mounting a triple jaw that split like a peace sign. He immediately spoke before Sasha could get a word out, and they could tell with that mouth he had to be using a translator. The voice came out big, booming, and deep like a trained theater actor trying to reach the back of the room.

His eyes locked onto Hatch as he said, “What do you want for them?” Hatch immediately gasped in shock and offense, as if he hadn't expected this.

“Why are you asking me?” He turned to look at Sasha, “I promise, Captain, I'll never mutiny.” He turned back to the screen. “How dare you!”

“Save the poor innocent act, fool. There was never anything in their records to show they were more than the incredibly lucky party girls they seemed.” The expression in his eyes, which could almost seem human, took on disdain. “And I doubt such a simpering fool as you could own a vessel like this. So I doubt you're being serious. Name your price.”

Hatch shrugged. “Saw right through me. I own the vessel.” He grinned, “But she's the captain. You deal with her.”

“Name your pr--”

Hatch rolled his eyes. “I want for nothing. The only thing you could possibly give me to replace them would break your laws and my morals. Besides, I spent hours getting these ones accustomed to

me. I'm not going to restart that process. So, I repeat, you deal with her.”

With that, he dismissively returned to being arm candy, watching Sasha adoringly and acting like the Admiral wasn't even there. Sasha took this as her chance to speak. “Admiral Vehru. I have information you would find very valuable. Maybe a trade could be made.”

Vehru heavily sighed and narrowed his eyes at her. “Full surrender. If your information is valuable enough, your survival might be on the table. If it isn't, the manner of your death will be open to negotiation. You might enjoy being fucked to death by some beast.”

Sasha kept the sickening feeling from crossing her face. “No, that's a male thing. No surrender, you let us walk. We give you all of Omnitron, even their outland holdings that sit beyond officially known space.”

Vehru raised an eyebrow at that one. Sasha took that as a cue. “I guess you didn't know or suspect they had those.”

“As tempting an offer as that is, I think my fleet could take out your ship. I can't accept less than your full surrender. For information like that, I could arrange a prison escape made to look like your deaths.”

“I would have nowhere to escape to without this ship. So not worth doing. And what would happen to my crewman here? Besides, you can't kill us before we hyper jump somewhere else. We made sure of that before we ever contacted you. No deal.”

“I have no choice but to try.” Vehru was about to cut the connection when Sasha interrupted him.

“Is the Purity faction so strong that they can overcome all of known space?”

Vehru was taken aback at that. “Excuse me? How do you know so much about Templar politics?”

“We know a lot of things. Including about Templar space. What we know about, say, the disposition of Admiral Lovack's fleet could see their power crippled with one good sneak attack. We know some people. Could make some calls. Have a small fleet ready to hit them fast before they expect it.”

“You would do that?”

“Let us go, take the information. It would show the rest of the Galaxy that you're willing to put their well being ahead of the personal hangups of a powerful minority of your own nobles. Prove something like that and you'd have support from a lot of people.”

“And all it costs us is--”

“--Our freedom. We never meant to harm anybody, we were being used and erased by a mutual enemy between you and I. So what do you say? Willing to at least talk instead of firing on us?”

“We'd need a good will gesture. One base.. Just one. For us to verify and hit, to prove to High Command that you're serious and not just playing for time.”

“Consider it done. The coordinates for the closest one are being sent to you right away.”

Vehru sent a scout to the location. Several hours later the scout came back with confirmation both that there was a base and that they were undetected. Total surprise in their favor. Vehru sent a strong portion of his fleet to secure the base. “After this, we'll talk peace terms.”

Sasha smiled softly. “All we want is for you to call off the hunt for us, and focus on our enemies.” Sasha looked over and shared a glance with Hatch. “We have everything else we need already.”

Vehru nodded. “Consider it done. One more thing. It'll be easier for High Command to sell this without disciplining me if you stayed where you are until talks are over. Can I trust you'll abide by that?”

Sasha nodded. “With pleasure.” Vehru sighed in relief and the guns trained on the Imperial Dream went down. Sasha leaned in and whispered to Hatch, “I need to stay up here and watch over things. The others should be awake soon, so go to them. I'll send them the log of what's happening here so they know and can relax with you.” She bit her lip. “Do me a favor and take them to bed? That med chamber was a wonderful place for us to fuck but when this is over I want to crawl into bed with all of you and just lose myself in your touch.”

Hatch smiled and kissed Sasha's lips. “I would be happy to take the others to bed, my captain.” He took her hand and squeezed it gently before standing up and flashing out.

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Hatch reappeared in the med chamber and looked into the bays. He saw that Juli still had a few hours to go. She'd chosen an extensive set of procedures that put her physical strength and speed on par with Gwen, while boosting her physical senses to the highest of any of them. Her entire sense of touch was linked to sex. "Computer, start fabricating a set of sensory dampening armor in Juli's size." If she didn't have it, the slightest gust of wind would have a small moan escaping her lips. That would get annoying when the air circulation system needed to go at full blast and everyone else was at work.

He leaned over Sylvia's bay and admired her nude body. She looked almost the same. Her and Cassidy's bays both read their status as Nutrient Fill. They were being fed intravenously. He just stood and gazed as her already magnificent breasts slowly expanded one more cup size. She and Cassidy had both used the Mother template for a base. Their breasts would always fill with milk any time they ate more than they needed. Pregnancy would be no different for them than for the others. He'd copied that part of the template into his base model of the race's women period.

They'd taken the model and rolled with it, adding in a sense of absolute purpose that would make submission perfect for them. Give it to Sylvia, the woman didn't do things by half. The contract they'd signed spelled out exactly what Hatch's purpose here was, and what he truly wanted from them. He was the junior member of an alliance. A status he'd earned as a warrior, and then agent, of an Empire locked in a war that made this region's struggles look like two ants fighting for food.

He'd been released from direct service, given what was, to his former masters, a fighter ship, and told to build an Empire of his own that could protect this area of the Omniverse. All in all, not a bad set up. His bosses were bound in their own area and couldn't get out. And the war progressed slowly. Hatch was hundreds of years old, he'd spent most of that in only a handful of battles. Decades were spent in just one fight.

What he wanted from the Andromeda crew was Queens in every sense of the word. They would be loving wives who could stand at his side and help him lead. They would bear offspring. Lots of offspring. The Empire he needed would be massive, and he needed people bred and raised by him

to lead it. In exchange for this, the Andromeda girls would never want for anything. And if they chose to go their own way for a while, he would focus on what they had given him, and go from there. It was all spelled out. He didn't want slaves. He wanted willing mates who just happened to give him what he wanted because it pleased them as well.

And in all of them, he'd found that. So he looked at Sylvia's face as her eyes opened. As she saw him, a beautiful, pleased smile crossed her angelic face, and she slowly sat up in time with the door popping open. She held out a hand to him, and Hatch took it, guiding her until she was on her knees, with her elbows propped up on the edge of the bay. She looked into his eyes and whispered softly, "does this please you, Master?" Her arms pressed against her breasts, pushing them up and into each other.

Hatch planted a loving kiss on her lips as his fingers wrapped around one firm, warm breast. He stroked her, before surrounding her nipple with a couple fingers and giving it a gentle pull. Sylvia gasped and let her mouth drop open in an O of pleasure as a droplet of milk beaded up on Hatch's hand. Without a second thought, he raised his fingers to his lips and sucked the milk off. "It's perfect." He smiled at her and pointed at the screen nearby. "Before I take you and Cassidy to bed, I need to show you something." Sylvia looked at him quizzically but nodded, letting Hatch focus on the screen for a bit.

The two of them heard Cassidy's bay pop open, and Hatch looked over to see her sit up with a wave and smile at him. Hatch blew her a kiss and the three sat looking at the screen as the highlights of the past day rolled on it. At first Sylvia stiffened against him, but she relaxed and was hugging Hatch tight by the end of it. Cassidy breathed out in shocked relief, "It's over. It's finally over." She looked over at Hatch and he could see the heat in her on her face. "And you let Sasha do the negotiating." Cassidy had to bite her lip to keep from drooling. Hatch stroked Sylvia's back once before walking over to Cassidy and getting a very hot, passionate kiss from her.

When the kiss broke, Hatch told them both, "I've been requested to take you both to bed instead of right here. Sasha and Gwen want to join us all when this is all over." Both women nodded fervently and shared a unison "Yes please!" just as the room winked out and was replaced by their

crimson and black love nest. Hatch winked in by the door, but both women were deposited right next to each other on the bed.

The two wrapped an arm around each other's shoulders and sank into the bed with a moan of pure bliss. "So soft." Sylvia kissed Cassidy's cheek before looking down her body at the foot of the bed. The door was across the room in that direction. "Now this is style." She winked at Hatch before turning her head to face Cassidy and getting a passionate kiss of her own. The two women's legs intertwined, with Cassidy's toes caressing Sylvia's heels and ankles. Hatch slinked over to the bed and got a good view of everything as he closed in.

Hatch licked his lips and whispered, "you two enjoy your kiss for a moment." He looked down at the underlayer of his suit. "I need to get this thing off." He slipped away and Sylvia kept one eye on him the whole time. The wall behind Cassidy slid aside a little to reveal a cylindrical cell with transparent walls and medical equipment. Hatch slipped in and raised his arms as they were surrounded by wires. Within moments the suit was sucked up into the machinery, letting Sylvia get her first in-person glimpse of her new husband.

He glided back across the room, going slow to give Sylvia time to take in the sight. She broke her kiss with Cassidy and turned the wonderful redhead around so they could both ogle him. Hatch smiled shyly and closed the distance with sinuous grace, until he was right next to the bed. Both women reached out and stroked his sheath, which had Hatch's head thrown back with a groan of pleasure. The pair caressed his hips, finding a small patch of soft skin nestled on each side between the scales on his legs and abdomen.

They guided him into bed until he was lying on his back between them. His head rested at chest height on them, right between their breasts, as they went back to kissing. His arms snaked around the smalls of their backs, and he held them close as he turned his head and wrapped his lips around one of Sylvia's nipples. A moan escaped from Sylvia's lips into Cassidy's as Hatch took a long, deep mouthful of milk from her. He swallowed, turned, and repeated it on Cassidy, listening to both his girls fall into pleasure with him.

They both had an arm under him, holding him to them. Their other hands quickly found

themselves back around his sheath, stroking him until his erection slid out and stuck up in the air. Cassidy slid her hand up to cup the thick round head of his penis as Sylvia stroked the shaft. She let her fingertips trail into the spiral track running along him from base to head. Her hand rotated, keeping her fingers inside the spiral as she stroked him. His hips rocked and he looked up to meet his mates' gazes.

Sylvia winked down at him and whispered low in Cassidy's ear. The redhead smiled wide and nodded silently, before the two of them shifted around. Sylvia pulled her legs up and rolled Hatch out from between them. She grabbed Cassidy and kissed her lips, before working her way down her body. Cassidy shivered with goosebumps as Sylvia slid down her body, sliding herself around until she and Cassidy were lying head to toes. Their legs were spread, with their beautiful pink slits lined up close together but not touching. There wasn't much space between them, but there was some.

The two lay on their backs and Sylvia beckoned Hatch to them. With one hand she held him tight, face to face. The other went to his hip and guided him until his erection was slipped into that space, pressed tightly to Sylvia's clit. Her hips bucked a little, rubbing against Hatch. He rested his head on her shoulder and breathed heavily as Cassidy closed the gap and both women's clits were pressed against him. They began rocking, scissoring against him, and their labia slowly opened like budding flowers.

Hatch's erection was always wet. Sylvia had felt it, which had given her the idea he could lubricate them both for this. It was working better than she expected. Hatch's erection ran down between her open lips, and over her anus. Neither woman could contain her pleasure for long, and with long, shuddering moans they both added to the quickly growing puddle between them.

As soon as he felt it, Hatch reached down and backed Cassidy up just enough to take Sylvia without breaking physical contact with Cass. He ran a hand lovingly up Cass's leg to let her know he wanted her there, then began rocking into Sylvia. On the pull out, he always drew his sheath against Cassidy's clit to keep her warmed up.

As soon as Sylvia felt Hatch enter her, the alterations to her mind took hold. All she could see was Hatch in front of her. All she could feel was him and Cassidy pressed against her. In that moment,

every bit of her being was devoted to the two of them and she would do everything she could to please them. She wrapped her arms around Hatch's shoulders, resting her soft, smooth hands on the back of his head to take in the texture of dry, hard scale mixed with slippery soft skin. She kissed his lips deeply to take in his softly spicy taste and scent.

She spasmed at the rolling hills of pleasure coursing through her as Hatch's erection rubbed against each ring of muscle inside her. It only took Hatch three thrusts to drive Sylvia to orgasm, and a tide of feminine cum bathed his penis as Sylvia's slit clamped down tight on him to milk him. A loud gasp tried to escape her lips but came out as a squeak as her body and mind closed in around him. The whole sensation gave Sylvia a sense of purpose. "Take pleasure in him. Milk him. Stay happy with him."

Sylvia wrapped a leg tightly around Hatch, as the other slid up and down Cassidy's side. She ran her foot gently along Cassidy's skin, until she lifted it a little and placed it right on Cassidy's breast. Sylvia quickly closed a couple toes around Cassidy's nipple and squeezed her gently, sending a surge of pleasure through Cassidy as she milked her, too. Cass ducked down and licked the milk off Sylvia's foot.

Cassidy felt herself being drawn into the couple's mental embrace, and all she could think about was helping their pleasure reach greater heights. She drew her legs up, teasingly running the sides of her feet along Sylvia's sides until her knees were as high as Hatch's back. She pressed them to the patches of skin along his hips and rubbed back and forth. She knew the rest of his skin was sensitive. If these things were so blatantly out there, maybe they were stronger?

Hatch groaned and rested himself against Sylvia as the two women played with him. He'd had enough rest on the bridge that the orgasm rolling through him was hitting him as strongly as that first one with Sasha. Coupled with the intense focus his two mates were experiencing and pulling him into, it was all he could do not to just keep pushing hard into Sylvia the whole time. He shuddered against her, before reaching back and taking one of Cassidy's feet in his hand and massaging it.

Cassidy's legs stopped rubbing and just stayed against Hatch as his thumb ran gentle circles around the skin of her sole. It made her clit twitch hard, and she scooted forward to press her soaking

wet lips against his sheath. His gentle and loving work was rewarded when she arched her back and came, drenching the bottom of his sheath in hot feminine juices.

The trio lay intertwined in periodic orgasms until Hatch had completely filled Sylvia's womb. When he finished, he kissed her deeply and pulled all the way out. Sylvia whimpered when he left her body, but she and Cassidy were quickly surprised when Hatch pulled the redhead up and dropped her on top of her blue haired companion. Sylvia wrapped her legs around her and shifted until their clits were touching. Without a word, Hatch took Cassidy from behind and began a slow pumping of his hips to push the two together.

The two women kissed, wrapping their tongues around each other and wrestling with them as Hatch's slow rocking rubbed their clits against each other. Their slippery bodies pressed together, sliding against one another. Hard nipples dug into skin, and the two lost themselves in their embrace. Only this moment mattered to them.

Cassidy's thighs, ass, and vagina were thoroughly soaked with cum, making Hatch's job incredibly easy. It took him a few thrusts to get her warmed up, but Cass soon clenched him inside her and wouldn't let go. He leaned forward and pressed himself to her back. He held her tightly in his arms and ran his hands over her stomach, rubbing Sylvia's with the scales on the backs of his hands at the same time. He wanted nothing more than to make his mates feel safe, loved, and desired at all times. And in this moment, he was succeeding.

When he'd filled Cassidy, he pulled out and just rolled the women over, taking Sylvia from behind and bringing them both to orgasm with a few good thrusts. Sylvia's hands were on the pillow, framing Cassidy's face as the couple kissed. Hatch placed his hands over them, caressing Sylvia's skin as she kept him bound to her.

When he'd finished this time, Hatch cuddled with his mates for a few minutes. He rolled them onto their sides and snuggled between them. The trio traded completely enraptured gazes, before Hatch licked the sweat from each woman's face. He planted a kiss on both their foreheads, and whispered, "do you trust me?"

Cassidy whispered, "With my life."

Sylvia joined in. "Completely."

Hatch slid out of bed and picked Cassidy up. He laid her on the floor and enjoyed how her red hair matched the carpeting perfectly and made her pale skin stand out. He leaned down and kissed her lips, drawing a small sigh of contentment from her. He winked and then went back to get Sylvia. She was soon laid down next to Cassidy. Hatch winked and slipped off to the wall for a second. They could hear a panel slide open and closed. When he came back, he held several pairs of handcuffs.

His two mates looked up at him with pleasure and offered their arms. Cassidy whispered breathily, "Master wants to chain us up?" She licked her lips with a seductive smile. "We're your dolls, Master. Do what you will with us." Sylvia wrapped an arm around Cassidy's waist and held her, showing full agreement.

Hatch dropped the cuffs beside them and placed a finger under Cassidy's chin, drawing her eyes to his. "I'm going to. And while you're tied, I am going to take you again."

Cassidy purred at that idea and offered her arms. She sat with her legs in front of her, knowing her master loved looking at her ankles and feet. Hatch smiled and moved Cassidy around until she was on her knees. He pushed her back until she was lying on her back with her calves under her thighs and her feet under her ass. Her arms were straight down at her sides. Slowly, gently, Hatch forced her to arch her back. She continued to breathe deep, staying calm as Hatch manipulated her body. When he was finished she was in a bow shape, with her hands by her knees and her elbows by her ankles.

Hatch gently closed four sets of cuffs around her, locking her arms to her legs. He pulled out a key. "All you have to do is ask for it."

Cassidy smiled. "Yes master. Thank you for showing me." She pulled against the cuffs, testing them. "They fit well. Snug, but I can still feel." Cassidy closed her eyes and just concentrated on how she felt. Her back and stomach were tense from the bending, but Vixen tech had seriously boosted human flexibility. She didn't feel in pain or danger from this. It felt nice, really, being put in a shape like this.

She opened her eyes and they went slightly wide in surprise. Hatch was on his knees by her

face, bent over to kiss her stomach as his erection was near her lips. Experimentally, she leaned up just a little and kissed it. Her lips came away dripping and she could taste the mix of Sylvia and her still on it. She licked her lips clean and went back for more. Hatch was busy planting kisses all along her belly button, but he seemed to notice her kisses since his hips rocked a little at them.

Cassidy sucked him gently into her mouth and cleaned him off with her tongue. A small moan escaped her as she felt full, soft lips press against her labia. Hatch was good, but he wasn't that good. She knew Sylvia had to have crawled over. What began as gentle kisses soon became a full make-out session as Sylvia ate her out. Cassidy's eyes closed as her body shook from all the pleasure. Sylvia's voice came out in an "ooooh" as Cassidy's orgasm ripped through her and splashed cum all over.

The pressure at Cassidy's entrance eased off and movement caught her eye as Sylvia came over. Her mouth and chin were dripping wet as she leaned down next to Cassidy. As Hatch pulled out of Cassidy's mouth, Sylvia ducked down for a taste of him. She moaned low and drops of Cassidy's cum dripped down onto the redhead's face. She licked them up and grew excited as Hatch stood up. She watched him go around her, and he disappeared from view as he lowered himself into position.

She felt his hips slide along her legs as he slid against her. His penis took her once more, filling her completely and making her wish she could arch her back more. All the tension in her body made him feel bigger inside her this time and she had to bite her lip to keep her deep moan from becoming a squeal of pure pleasure. She felt his hips rock back and forth against her, slipping along as he pulled out and thrust into her several times. It wasn't long before she was back where she belonged, clenched around him and holding him still.

He didn't make her wait the half hour to be unbound. It was a struggle for him, but Hatch managed to get each cuff undone ten minutes after he'd started with her. Cassidy lowered herself gently and made sure she hadn't hurt either of them. Hatch took her hand and pulled her up into his lap, just holding her there as she took another load of burning hot cum deep inside. Her hips rocked in little circles in his lap as she kissed every inch of skin she could find on his face. They were content to ride it out.

When Hatch finished, he gave Cassidy a soft, lingering kiss, before letting her off his lap. He

winked at her and slipped off to the wall he got the cuffs from. He came back with a beautiful pair of leather sandals with straps going to thigh height on her. They were heels, though thicker than stilettos so she wouldn't get caught up or hurt on the carpeting. With gentle caresses and easy movements, Hatch slid them onto her feet, cinching them up nice and tight. Cassidy admired the design of them.

"If they weren't heels, I'd call them Roman." She quirked an eyebrow at Hatch as he raised a brow. "Something I have to teach you?" She gasped in mock surprise. "It'll be a pleasure to, later." With a smile she offered him her hand and stood with him.

Sylvia looked at the pair with curiosity before Hatch bent down and picked her up. She wrapped an arm around his shoulder and just enjoyed the ride as she was brought to the wall. It was smooth and reflective black metal that almost looked like obsidian. There were some leather loops sticking out of the wall, and Hatch carefully slid her wrists and ankles into them. They tightened up on their own.

Parts of the wall started to slide, and Sylvia's arms and legs were spread wide apart so she was spread-eagled. Hatch wasted no time in running his hands over her sides, grabbing her hips, and taking her. Sylvia gasped and let out a squeal of delight as her ass was pounded hard into the wall and Hatch gave her a few deep thrusts until she bared down hard on him. He grabbed her hair and held her head close to his. With a whisper, he said, "It won't always be like this. When you're actually pregnant, you're not going to tighten up. I'll be completely free to just ride you til I'm done."

He trailed a hand up her side to stroke her breast, and continued whispering breathily. "I think I'll enjoy that. Pounding your sweet little body for a few hours. Our mixed cum squelching out with every thrust and dripping on the floor between us."

Sylvia let out a little moan. "Oh, yes. Please." She wanted her legs loose so she could wrap them around him and just hold on tight, but the restraints weren't hurting and she was enjoying him just talking to her.

He mmmmed to her and kissed her neck. "I think I'll tie you to a couple poles, just like this, and have two of the others play with each other between our legs. Just let it all go drip. Drip. Drip. Right on them." Sylvia took a long, shuddering breath and ran her tongue over his skin from the base of his jaw

up to his bald head.

She worked to control her breathing and ground out against a building orgasm, "Can you cover me in it, some time." She buried her head in his neck as her body spasmed. "I really want it."

Cassidy had been standing beside her, listening the whole time. With a sultry gaze she locked eyes with Sylvia before dropping to her knees. She slid between Hatch's legs and settled with her back to the wall, looking right up at Hatch's penis buried inside Sylvia. She planted kisses on Sylvia's and Hatch's thighs as she waited out what was happening. It came soon and as Hatch pulled out of Sylvia, her cum dripped down and ran over Cassidy's hair and down her breasts.

Sylvia drooped against her bindings, worn out for a few moments. Hatch undid them, and she slowly wrapped herself around him. Her lips found his and they held each other for a while. She whispered, "before you rest, I know you have one last round left in you. Can I watch you just make love to Cassidy?"

Hatch smiled and kissed Sylvia's nose. "Of course, my darling." He looked down at Cassidy. "Want it long and romantic this time?" Cassidy nodded fervently, but then ran her fingers down to her feet and looked questioningly at him.

Hatch grinned. "Leave them on this time. I like the dark straps against your skin." Cassidy stood up, giving Sylvia a good, long look at her own cum soaking Cassidy's skin and hair.

Sylvia reached out and stroked her, before licking the cum from her fingers. "Thank you." Sylvia wrapped an arm around Cassidy's shoulders and hugged her close.

"I will do that for you every day, my dear Sylvia." Cassidy kissed her on the lips, lingering there as she was held.

Hatch walked the two back to bed, and laid Sylvia to rest next to him. He took Cassidy's hand and pulled her in to lean on him as he set about cleaning her. He kissed her hair, getting his lips covered in Sylvia's orgasmic bliss. He'd lick and kiss until he had a mouthful then share it with Cassidy in a long, deep kiss for Sylvia to see. His hands trailed up and down Cassidy's spine until they came to rest in the small of her back, just above her perfectly round ass.

Cass moaned softly for him and just enjoyed all the nonsexual attention he was giving her. The

sex was wonderful, but since she'd woken up a part of her had craved this. Just to have his touch and be cuddled. Hatch could feel it, and he freely obliged her. His hands went everywhere except those three little spots that would set her off.

He cupped her full breasts and ran his fingers in circles, avoiding her areolas and just teasing her. His hands trailed down her stomach, stopping in the middle of the triangle between her legs and navel. He grinned and leaned down, dipping the tip of his tongue into her belly button. Cassidy giggled softly and quirked her head. "Enjoyed that, did you?"

"We're egg layers. No belly button."

Cassidy smiled and sighed contentedly. "You can play with mine all you want, master." She was calm and happy. In a romantic mood. Hatch figured this was as good a time as any, so he slipped away for a moment. Only for a moment. He came back with two small boxes, bigger than ring boxes but not by much. Cassidy looked at it with baited breath, wondering what hers would look like. The logs from earlier had shown the enemy Admiral, not Sasha.

Hatch opened the box to reveal a forest green leather choker studded with diamonds. Cassidy had known about the Dominance and submission scene for years, but it was one of the few things she'd never explored before. The idea had appealed to her, if she could find someone who would let her be herself and find her own way to serve. So far, Hatch had promised to be that and more. Cassidy had already signed the contract, but there was a difference between printed words on a screen or page and having an actual piece of jewelry to symbolize it. She took a deep breath as she heard Hatch talking.

"Cassidy McCallum, would you be my darling mate, to hold and cherish, and to guide in life so long as it feels right to do?"

She let her breath out slowly and whispered, "I would. Would you, Master Hatch, be my loving mate, who holds and cherishes me, as I hold and cherish Him, and who helps me reach the greatest heights of my life?"

Hatch smiled wide, letting out a breath of his own he hadn't realized he held. He whispered back to her loud enough for Sylvia to hear, "I would." With a deep kiss Hatch slid the choker around

Cassidy's neck and clasped it at the front with a symbol that looked suspiciously close to a Yin-Yang.. The newly bonded couple nestled together for a moment. Then almost as one they both looked up at Sylvia. They both crawled closer to Sylvia and Hatch held up the other box. He opened it to reveal a sapphire blue choker just like Cassidy's.

It was just Sylvia's style. She'd always loved chokers and before all the problems with the Templars, she'd worn them frequently. Sylvia pushed herself up onto her knees with her soles pressed firmly to her thighs, and bowed her head. She'd been so devoted to her captain these past several years that if Sasha had come to her room with a similar proposal, she never would have batted an eye.

Hatch had given her a very long life to live, and the fulfillment of her deepest desire: to spend her life with her crew. They'd bonded deeply over the years. They were as close as blood, without the limitations blood relations placed on them. So when Hatch requested the same oath from Sylvia as Cassidy had given, there was no hesitation to her yes, or her request he give her the same love and guidance he'd give any of the others.

All three lovers kissed each other deeply, one at a time, before Cassidy rolled onto her back with both legs drawn up so Hatch could take her. He kissed her ankles, then her calves, then her thighs. He trailed soft, loving kisses along her clit and up over her navel. He kissed the space between her breasts, before drawing a deep mouthful of milk from each nipple. Finally, he worked his way up her neck, kissing several times, before her chin.

He took her lips in a passionate kiss that had his tongue thrusting into her mouth at the same time he slid between her legs and took her. She pressed her bare heels against his ass so her shoes wouldn't hurt him, and broke the kiss to moan out a long, deep "Oh Master, YES!" as he brought her to orgasm and settled in against her.

His only response was to take her mouth again, and she submitted completely as his tongue darted in and out of her mouth to land playful strokes against her tongue. She hoped in another day or two, he'd do the same with his erection down lower. Sylvia cuddled up to them and stroked both their nude bodies the entire time. Her hand wrapped around one of Cassidy's heeled sandals and she

whispered, "when do I get a set of these?"

She laughed it off right then, but when the couple disentangled themselves, Cassidy whispered in her ear, "I have an idea while he's resting. Give me a few moments and I'll have some heels for you, and a little game we can play with Master."

Part Six: Horsing Around

Cassidy slipped into bed with Hatch and snuggled up with him. He wasn't asleep, just relaxing. "Dear Master, I've noticed floors and walls sliding apart around here. Do all the floors and walls slide, or just some?"

Hatch wrapped his arms around Cassidy and stroked her back. "They all can. These rooms are modular, changing to suit our needs as we command them."

"Can I learn the commands? I have a surprise for you and I need some hard floor and a little while with a workshop." Cassidy hugged Hatch, pressing her breasts against him enticingly.

Hatch smiled, pressed his lips to Cassidy's ear, and whispered the command sequences to her. She kissed his cheek and slid out of bed again. "We'll be back in a bit." She slipped over to Sylvia. "Cover your eyes please."

Sylvia did as she was asked and waited as Cassidy went about her work. She heard liquid words ring out in Cassidy's beautiful voice, and sliding tiles near her feet. Minutes later she felt Cassidy's soft hands slide all over her silky feet, and padded leather caressed her soles as straps wound over the tops of her feet and up her calves. "Open your eyes." Sylvia did and saw a pair of sandals almost matching Cassidy's gracing her feet.

The soles were much thicker, and covered in a hollow, hard shell of plastic. Cassidy helped her to her feet. "I know you like horses. Care to be a brood mare for our loving master?" The shells did look like horse hooves. Sylvia looked forward and saw dark tiles like the walls on the floor in front of her. It was a walkway leading right to a water fountain at waist height on the wall. She took an experimental step forward and heard her shoes clapping on the floor.

"Mmm, yes." She purred quietly as she walked ahead, sounding just like a horse with every

step. She reached close to the wall and bent down. She was perfectly bent over and Cassidy's breath caught as she saw Sylvia's glistening slit completely in view. She couldn't help herself, and her own heels soon clicked on the floor as she walked over. Sylvia winked at her, before turning on the fountain and drinking. She lapped at the flowing water, flicking her tongue in and out of her mouth for anyone who wanted to watch.

Hatch watched the whole thing as he relaxed, wanting to catch the show his girls were putting on for him. Cassidy ran a hand lovingly over Sylvia's thighs and hips, stroking and squeezing her gently as she did. Her hand soon covered Sylvia's hot, slick vagina and she began stroking it slowly. Sylvia let out a loud moan and Cassidy leaned in to whisper to her. Hatch couldn't hear it, but he just settled back and enjoyed watching them.

"There's a good girl. While you're a horse, say not a word, okay?" Sylvia looked up at her and nodded, the only noise coming out of her mouth was a continuous moan. Her pleading eyes met Cassidy's and the redhead slid a finger inside her. Cassidy swirled her finger in a slow circle, stroking all of Sylvia's entrance as the blue haired girl went back to drinking.

Sylvia's breath came out in ragged pants, and she had to work to balance drinking with breathing. She was thirsty from all the loving she'd gotten, and she needed to recover before letting Cassidy completely have her way with her. "Such a pretty girl you are." Cassidy's voice sounded louder, "Doesn't she make a pretty horse, master?"

Hatch's voice joined hers. "She's perfect. Should I be her stud and mount her right there? I bet she'd love a nice long ride."

Cassidy stroked Sylvia's hair and pulled her finger out of her slit. She leaned down and sucked her finger right where Sylvia could see. Out of the corner of her eye Sylvia could see Hatch go to the wall to her right. A bright flash occurred and he was holding a small medicine tube. "This should help the ride last longer." Sylvia's slit was smoking hot and it took everything she had not to rock her hips while waiting. Hatch slid up behind her, blocking the light, and she felt his fingers caress her. He had something on them, and she felt the edge taken off her heat.

"It won't hurt you. It'll let you stay at the brink of orgasm for a few minutes so I can ride you for

a bit before you lock down on me.” He stroked her back reassuringly and another trilling stream of untranslated words flowed from him. She saw the wall light up for a second and heard Cassidy gasp in surprise. “I was barely taller than her in bare feet. I need a little extra height to reach her now.” Sylvia heard a zipper and then some clopping steps just as Hatch mounted her in one smooth, easy stroke.

He started easy, just giving her slow pumps of his erection inside her. Sylvia gasped and finished drinking quickly. It was a smart move. As soon as she stopped and just held on to the fountain, Hatch began speeding up. Within a minute she was clenching the sides of the fountain as Hatch drove into her. She spread her legs to get lower and more stable on the fountain as Hatch jack hammered into her, leaving her ass bright red.

After ten minutes of passionate, driving thrusts, Sylvia let out a ragged cry and clenched down hard on Hatch, locking him tightly into her. He was still revved up for her, and replaced the fast rocking of his hips with fast movements of his hands. He ran them up and down her sides as fast as he'd been pounding her. It set fire to Sylvia's nerves and she thrust her hips back on him as much as she could. Hatch leaned forward and pinned Sylvia to the fountain. Her chest was pushed down into the basin, and Hatch held her there as he turned it on.

Cold water cascaded down her breasts and into the basin, washing over her and keeping her overwhelmed from the different sensations bombarding her. Not a word left hers or Hatch's lips as her master bred her like the prized mare she knew she was. She turned her head to the side and rested it on the back of the fountain as her master held her tight and pumped thick streams of red hot semen deep into her womb. She watched Cassidy enjoy the view and winked to her, mouthing the words “thank you.”

It felt like only a short while later when Hatch pulled out of her and leaned down to lick her vagina clean. He planted a soft kiss on it, before standing straight and rubbing the bulbous tip of his erection over her lips. Sylvia's back stiffened and she rocked herself back against him, hoping to take him back inside. He caught her drift and soon parted her lips with a hard thrust. He reached forward and took her hands in his, crossing both their arms over her chest and pulling her back from the fountain. Her breasts mushed against the metal as he dragged them over it,

Sylvia took the opportunity to look down. Her breasts hung low, but she could, just barely, see past them to the shiny black boots her master was wearing. They were platforms, with the same soles she was wearing. His steps clopped in unison with hers, and the mere sound of it excited her. She backed up with him and pressed herself hard to him as he stopped. Hatch held her, supporting her upper body as he rode her. He hadn't reapplied the ointment, so she quickly bared down and held him bound to her so he could go back to filling her.

Hatch's lips and tongue covered Sylvia's neck in kisses, and Cassidy soon knelt before her to give Sylvia kisses on the lips. Cassidy helped her balance as Hatch pressed into her, and she whispered, "you two look gorgeous together. I think we have a winning stable here." Sylvia blushed and kept her word, not saying anything but small whimpering moans as Hatch filled her burning tunnel with his throbbing, pulsing erection. Cassidy played kisses down along Sylvia's breasts and stomach, before planting one long, soft one on her clit. Sylvia's hips bucked a little and Hatch gasped in pleasure.

When Hatch finished, and burnoff signaled her fifth fertilization, Sylvia bent double and undid her sandals. She looked between her legs and admired her master's boots, and the thoughtfulness they represented. He could have dragged her back to bed or gotten a stool. He'd chosen to play horse with her instead. She looked up his body, admiring every inch of him as she undid and slipped off her sandals. She caught his curious look on the way up and winked. "Enjoying the view, master?"

Hatch smiled down at her. "It does give me ideas." He licked his lips. "Why are you undoing your shoes? Tired of being a horse already?"

Sylvia smiled and shook her head. "Hardly. I want to do it with you every chance I get. But right now, I want you in bed with me. Nothing on, nothing between us." She straightened herself up and stood on her toes next to him, looking a little shy. "I've only had sex with my own species a few times, and when I've been with other races, I've always held a little distance from them." She nodded toward her discarded shoes. "I've always worn at least that much. You're the first I've let take me completely bare. I want you to be the only man like that, and I'd like you to have me that way again."

In his boots, Hatch towered over Sylvia. He ran an arm under hers and supported her weight

as she walked on tip toe back to bed. He slipped in with her, and as her hands caressed his boots, he allowed her to undo the Velcro at the top of each boot covering the zipper. She slowly unzipped them, sighing happily at the sound, and then tossed them aside as she enjoyed the sight of his nude body once more.

Sylvia rubbed her legs together, before pushing her master onto his back with his head on the pillows at the head of the bed. She laid down herself, with her head at the foot of the bed. She spread her legs wide, before bending her knees and bringing her silky soft soles together around Hatch's erection. She ran her arches up and down his penis, giving a whimpering sigh at the jolt it sent from her soles to her clit. She spread her toes wide and ran them over the head of his penis, feeling his juices soak her skin as she stroked him.

Sylvia spent a few minutes giving Hatch a foot job. She was rewarded with soft gasps of pleasure from him as precum flowed from his tip. Her beautiful slit was steamy hot, glistening with cum as her efforts brought her to soft, rolling orgasms of her own. She quietly slid her feet from his penis and crawled up the bed. Hatch was so relaxed he didn't resist as Sylvia straddled his hips and slid gently down over his erection. She took him in and bounced a few times until his pulsing excited the rings of muscle inside her and she locked down on him one last time.

Sylvia gently rolled her hips, alternating between circles and forward and back motions the entire time Hatch impregnated her. She'd heard Gwen say doing it this way would ensure she had a girl. One of her hands rested on Hatch's chest as the other slid between her legs and circled her clit. She brought herself to repeated small climaxes alongside the big one Hatch was bringing her to.

Her steady efforts paid off as Hatch finished and his pull out caused a strong, squirting orgasm that had Sylvia's hips rolling and spraying him with liquid lust. She whimpered and fell forward, landing on her master's chest and getting her breasts and stomach slick with her own juices. Hatch held her close, just rubbing her back and gazing deeply into her eyes. No words needed said. The loving look completely expressed how they both felt.

The moment passed and Sylvia rested her head on Hatch's shoulder. She looked down at Cassidy and beckoned her with a finger. Cass climbed into bed and crawled up to them. Sylvia

whispered in Hatch's ear, "she loves dogs. Right here, in this bed, please put her on all fours and fuck her like the bitch in heat she really wants to be."

Cassidy heard and shivered with her mouth open in an O of sheer pleasure. The words "yes please" barely escaped her lips as Hatch slid his arms from around Sylvia's side and he slipped behind Cassidy to take her hard on hands and knees. He locked his arms over her legs just like a stud claiming his bitch, and pounded her for a few moments until she clenched down on him and he knotted her in his own special way.

Cassidy clenched her jaws so the only sound she made would be moans and whimpers. She'd requested no words from Sylvia during her playtime. She wasn't going to cheat Sylvia of getting to see her as an animal too. Hatch held Cassidy's hips tightly as he pumped a full load directly into her too. The entire time Cassidy's mouth was open wide and she whimpered gently.

Sylvia rolled over to Cassidy and slid under her to plant kisses along her breasts and stomach. She took one of the redhead's nipples in her mouth and sucked gently, drinking down the last of her milk. She released it and smiled softly as Cassidy's breast shrank back down to its normally large size. As Hatch's orgasm subsided, he ran a hand up her body from her hips up to her throat. His hand closed gently over Cassidy's throat and held her firmly as he pulled his erection out and rubbed it between her legs.

Hatch's erection bounced between her thighs, eliciting moans of surprise and arousal as he kept her excited. He backed his hips a little and ran part of his length against her clit, Cassidy's lips twinged as they leaked onto Hatch. She lowered her head and watched Sylvia ravishing her breasts with her tongue and lips, taking shallow sucks at her other nipple and coming away with droplets of milk visible in her mouth. Cassidy closed her eyes and a moan escaped her lips along with droplets of saliva as she let herself be overtaken by all the attention.

Cassidy was so overwhelmed that she barely noticed when Hatch mounted her again. He was quick about it and soon she was knotted to him once more. Cassidy completely relaxed in Hatch's arms as he pumped her full. Sylvia emptied the last of Cassidy's milk, then unexpectedly crawled upward and offered the redhead one of her breasts to play with. Cassidy was thirsty herself, and took

Sylvia's nipples into her mouth to empty them one at a time. A low, quiet moan escaped Sylvia's mouth as she was sucked dry and her breasts returned to their usual prodigious size.

When Cassidy finished, she planted loving kisses on Sylvia's breasts before Sylvia slid back down. Cassidy felt Sylvia's hands unstrap her sandals and slip them off. Her lips soon followed and Sylvia kissed and sucked on her toes until Hatch finished with Cassidy. Hatch held her tightly and kissed all over the back of her neck. He whispered, "do you want a girl too?" Cassidy nodded wordlessly, lost in how lucky they'd been to find him.

Hatch slipped aside and lay on his back next to Sylvia. Cassidy knelt and straddled him gently to ride him until they were bound together. She pulled her legs out from under her one at a time and rested them by his arms. She was delighted when Hatch picked up where Sylvia left off, pulling her feet to his lips one at a time and lavishing them with kisses and sucking. Cassidy closed her eyes and just focused on rolling her hips in pleasure, stimulating Hatch in total pleasure.

When she finished, Cassidy pulled Hatch out and went down on him, sucking what juices she could off of him in the short time before his erection shrank back down and retreated into its sheath. Sylvia was under one of his arms, cuddling up to him, and Cassidy soon joined her, snuggling under his other arm. "We still have an hour or two before Juli wakes up. And Sasha and Gwen want to be here for that."

Cassidy sighed happily and whispered, "good. We have that long for romance." The trio snuggled up and whispered sweet words between caresses for a couple hours.

Part Seven: Wildcat

Gwen and Sasha teleported into the bedroom to see Hatch, Sylvia, and Cassidy dressed and sitting at a table along one wall. The trio looked up. Cassidy rested her head on clasped hands and looked at the duo coming in with pleasantly hooded eyes. "We got hungry, but we were waiting for you before we started." The table itself was loaded down with plates of fruit, vegetables, and meat.

Sasha pointed at one plate heaped with steaks. "Is that--"

"Artificial. I know you all won't touch the natural thing for fear it came from something you'd

rather have in bed than on your plate.”

Sasha wiped her forehead and sighed playfully. “Good. That takes a load off my mind.” Her stomach rumbled. “Come to think of it, I could use a bite to eat.”

Sasha and Gwen settled down at the table and smiled around the room at everybody. Hatch was back in his under suit but Sylvia and Cassidy had completely changed clothes. Sylvia wore tight linen, similar to the clothes ancient Egyptians had worn. Cassidy was sporting a Roman-style toga. Sasha grinned and ducked under the table to see how low it went. It barely covered Cassidy's thighs, and her feet were sporting her dark Romanesque heels. Sylvia's skirt was the same length, and she wore gold sandals that otherwise matched Cassidy's. Sasha sat up and nodded approvingly at the couple, noting that she had to get her own outfit.

“We just have one more guest who'll arrive any moment now.” A view screen came down and showed the med bay where Juli rested. The countdown time was ticking off seconds now. When it reached zero, the seal popped open. It took a few moments for a hand to appear. Carefully, the occupant sat up.

Juli looked as she always had. Small and petite, but with a chest almost as big as the rest of the crew. What the rest of the crew didn't expect was that she'd lever herself out of the med bay without help. Or that she'd jump off the edge and land on her toes without the slightest sign of strain. She looked around and caught sight of the viewer in her room. She was looking right at them.

Juli waved. “Hello everybody!” She wobbled a bit and goosebumps appeared on her. “I feel strange. My body's stronger. It's taking me no effort at all to stand like this. I'm not even in pain!” At the angle her ankles held, she should be sore any moment. She shook her head. “I'm sensitive all over. Is the air really supposed to be circulating this fast?”

Hatch grinned and whispered to the others, “it's not any faster than in here.” The air was barely moving, like a weak ceiling fan was trying its best. “Juli, my sweet, there's nothing wrong with the air vent. You're just getting used to your new nerves. I'll fix that for you.” With a few words spoken aside to the computer, Juli disappeared from the screen. She wound up in the wall-mounted bay where Hatch had taken off his uniform earlier.

A pair of arm cuffs lowered from the ceiling to shoulder height on Juli. "Just relax and stick your arms in. Everything will be fine." Juli didn't even comment, she just did as she was told. There wasn't even a note of worry on her face. She was always fearless like that.

As the others watched, Juli's arms were gripped and held tightly in place. A thin purple film extruded from the edges of the cuffs, rolling out along her arms and flowing like water along the entirety of her body. Within moments everything from her neck down was covered in a translucent purple material the consistency of latex.

As they watched, wires worked their way throughout the material, and with an electric jolt all translucency went out of it. Juli was left coated in purple latex. An extra mass of purple flowed down her legs and hardened into a supportive pair of spiked heels. Her arms were released and the clear doors of the fitting chamber opened up. Juli stepped out into the room and sighed. "That does feel better!" She reached up and stroked her cheek with latex-covered fingers. "Though my face will have to get used to it."

Juli stopped where she was and smiled shyly at the group. "This is my first time seeing you all since we went into that chamber." She grinned at Sasha and Gwen. "Well, I did see you two. Beautiful show for us. I really loved it." Gwen and Sasha both blushed. Juli looked at Sylvia and Cassidy, taking in the sight of them. It made her breath catch. "You two are--" She trailed off for a moment. "Wow."

Hatch stood up and walked over to wrap an arm around Juli's waist. She leaned on him and whispered, "thank you, Sir." He kissed her cheek and guided her back to the wall where he'd gotten the collars for his other mates. There was one more box inside. He drew it out and wrapped a mahogany brown collar around Juli's throat. He clasped it in the front, and the pair walked back to the center of the room.

Hatch held Juli's gaze with his own as she looked up at him, and spoke just loud enough for everyone to hear. "Would you, Julia Mackey accept me as your loving master, who will guide you through life and always be there by your side to help?"

Juli nodded and whispered back. "I would. Would you, Hatch, accept me as your loving doll, to hold and to talk to, and to enjoy as he wishes every day?"

"I would." The two kissed and the silent room broke into applause as Juli joined the rest of her crew in becoming an honest to god clan. Hatch guided Juli to his seat at the table, and once he'd sat down he pulled her into his lap. Juli draped her legs over his and wrapped her arms around his shoulders to hold him.

"I know I'm starving. Let's eat." The crew loaded their plates and enjoyed each other's company, feeding one another more often than themselves. Hatch fed Juli fruit that looked like grapes but tasted closer to oranges as he asked Sasha, "how are things on the bridge?"

"Vehru's already launching further raids. He says it shouldn't be more than a few days before we get a pardon and can go our own way." Sasha raised an eyebrow at Hatch. "Can you tell me why the ship occasionally opens up microtears into another Universe? It was sending data through and when I thought to ask you up there the computer assured me it was perfectly normal."

Hatch finished feeding Juli an orangrape before answering, "there's a computer program on board that's in connection with an old friend on the other side of that. If we plan on helping the Templars in their Civil War--" He cut off for a moment. "I have an ace in the hole." That last was spoken in an accent halfway between Irish and French, combining both the Irish lilt and French nasal tone. And somehow managed to sound soft and attractive instead of like a honking goose.

They all giggled, and Sasha responded, "I hope we get to meet her."

Hatch nodded as he fed Juli another grape. "With luck, she'll be with you all. She's a natural born member of your new species."

Sasha smiled and filed that away for the future. Right now she wanted to relax and enjoy Juli's induction into the family. "Juli, what changes did you go for?"

Juli finished eating and ran one hand down her body. "Nerve augmentation. I've been thinking a lot faster since I got out of that chamber than I ever did before. And my sensory nerves . . . " She shivered with the memory and looked at Hatch. "Thank you for the suit, master. I don't think I could have stood being without it for too long."

Hatch kissed her lips softly, tasting the orangrape on her lips. She let out a tiny moan into his mouth and hugged him tight. "I will always take care of you, my darling doll."

The others murmured assent. "All stand together, or none do. Am I right?" Everyone else cheered Sasha's words.

With their plates only half touched, the family stood up together. With a few words, the food disappeared back to stasis storage. Hatch rested his hand in the small of Juli's back and the family gathered in the center of the room. Hatch stood snuggled up to Juli as the other four stood in a semi-circle around her. Cassidy curiously glanced over at Sasha. A moment later Sasha stepped in front of Juli, dropped to the floor with her legs spread, and slipped two fingers between her legs.

"The suits only bond with skin. They don't fill in any gaps. Not even your pores." She demonstrated it by spreading her fingers and holding her labia open so the others could see her deliciously pink slit. Hatch walked off to the fitting chamber and came back with a small device that looked like a taser with several buttons. He pressed it to Juli's back and touched a button. Her suit became most of the way translucent again, showing everything with only the barest tinge of purple.

He pressed another button and spoke a few words to the device. At first nothing happened, but when Hatch touched Juli's back with his hand she stiffened with a small moan. "I just keyed those nerve implants to our touch. She won't be affected by random breezes or touching consoles, but if any of us touches her it'll set her off. He leaned in and whispered the release code to Juli. "Just press this button and say those words, and not even we will affect you again." Juli gave him a silent glance of thanks and waited for what was to come. "I think it's time this family welcomed its newest member."

The others closed in, and Sasha wrapped an arm around Juli's shoulders to pull her in for a deep kiss. It left Juli breathless. The others took their turns, passing her around and kissing her lips with varying levels of pressure as they saw fit. Even Hatch enjoyed her kisses. Her lips were hypersensitive by the time they were done with her.

They circled around her and guided her to the bed. With a word, Hatch sent Juli's heels melting back into her suit to keep them from hurting anybody. A couple more words sent Gwen and Sasha's away before Hatch dropped to the floor and slipped Cassidy's and Sylvia's off personally. Juli slipped into bed on all fours and was soon surrounded by the others. Sasha settled in front of her with her legs spread wide, and Juli slunk forward to bury her face between them. She soon had Sasha gasping and

clenching the bed as she ate her out.

Sylvia and Cassidy lay down side by side. Each of them had their legs wrapped around one of Juli's and began grinding as they stroked and kissed her breasts. All the pressure on her was intense, but it paled to the finisher. Gwen went onto all fours right behind her, with her ass high in the air, and began licking and sucking on Juli's labia. Juli hugged Sasha's hips and stifled a moan in her as the surprise took her. Gwen was soon moaning into Juli as Hatch's mouth worked on her. There wasn't a vagina in the room that wasn't being taken care of.

Juli had three orgasms before Gwen lifted her soaking wet face from her. From her own moans she'd had at least two herself. Juli almost had time to relax before Hatch's lips pressed a soft, sensual kiss to her and he climbed her body. Mere moments after, he took his latest mate and began riding. Her body was tight, and she already squeezed him hard before he reached her innermost ring. Hatch went slow, working his way in over multiple thrusts. He'd go in as deep as he could without stretching her out, then pull back. He'd wait a bit before pushing in again. She slowly got used to him, and he didn't seem to mind the extra time she was taking.

When he got his head past her last G-ring, Juli's body clamped down like a vise and twitched hard on him, bathing his erection in cum and causing him to swell. This time he did stretch her. She loved it. Instead of pain, it brought intense pleasure that forced her to sprawl on top of Sylvia and Cassidy. The two took her sudden weight with grace, easily cushioning her fall with their slowly swelling breasts. They hugged her against the fabric of their clothes as her body twitched with every pulse of Hatch's penis inside her.

Juli's body was small. Easily the smallest of the group. The others had had no problem taking a full load from him and barely showing it. Juli had to get her limbs under her for comfort, because her stomach swelled as Hatch filled her. After a half hour of twitching, shuddering, and inflating, Juli settled down. She lay there a few seconds, panting and looking down at her seemingly pregnant belly. She loved the look of herself during pregnancy. It didn't last long this time. Within seconds Juli felt feverish and her stomach dropped from a pregnancy belly to absolutely flat in an instant. None of Hatch's cum was expelled as he worked his way out. It was simply gone, evaporated into pure energy coursing

through her veins.

Juli felt wired, like she did after downing an espresso. And then chasing it down with another. She looked around her, before crawling up Sasha's body and planting a hot kiss on her. All Sasha could do was return the kiss as Juli's hands traveled over her suit. They soon slipped between her legs and started stroking her to another orgasm. Juli broke the kiss and Sasha gave her a heated look, before submitting completely with a moan and cumming for Juli's fingers. Juli lifted them to her mouth, licking them clean before whispering, "I want more."

Sasha nodded and Sylvia and Cassidy barely got out of bed before Sasha slipped down past them so she could lay on her back. Juli slid down with her and positioned herself with her labia pressed right against Sasha. Sasha closed her legs around Juli but let the smaller woman guide the show. Juli started off slow but her hips quickly sped up. She squeezed one of Sasha's legs between her own and rubbed her dripping wet lips against Sasha's. Her breath came out in ragged pants as she came and coated both their suits. It set Sasha off and she quickly came too.

Gwen leaned down and took Juli's lips with a kiss as she scissored the captain. Their tongues tangled in each other's mouths and they wrestled for control. Gwen had the upper hand with her surprise attack of Juli's lips, but the young doctor quickly turned the tables and had Gwen submitting to her too. Juli kept her hips rocking, driving Sasha wild and bringing her to a long, exhausting orgasm as she had Gwen panting into her mouth.

When the two broke their kiss, Gwen whispered between breaths, "It's intoxicating, isn't it?" Juli smiled and licked her lips. "All that power running through you. I felt like that when he shoved his sheath in me." A jealous look crossed Gwen's face but it vanished behind a genuine smile almost as fast. "I guess you don't need that to get there."

Juli closed her eyes and shook her head. All the energy coursing through her was uplifting, but mostly it made her feel lustful. All she really wanted right now was to wrestle her dear security officer to the floor, shove her onto her back with one leg up, and ride her where she lay. So when Sasha's hips stopped moving and she whimpered, Juli broke contact, slipped up to kiss Sasha gently on the lips, and pushed Gwen onto the floor with one strong sweep of her leg.

Gwen saw it coming and rolled with it, hitting the floor with a somersault that left her crouched and ready for more. Juli bent over to place her hands on the ground and rolled off the bed to land near Gwen. Sylvia and Cassidy quickly went around them and slipped into bed between Sasha and Hatch to enjoy the show.

Gwen whispered, "want me in the suit, or bare for you?" Juli replied by tilting her head in the direction of the fitting chamber, and Gwen quickly slunk on all fours into it. The chamber soon reabsorbed her suit and Gwen dropped nude onto hands and knees for Juli. The humid air left droplets on their skin, so the grappling match was more about endurance than anything else. Gwen would get a hold on Juli's suit, and the slick surface would just slip out of her grip. Juli would wrap her arms around Gwen, and her nude body would escape just as easily.

The match went more easily for Juli than it otherwise would have. Gwen might have still had the advantage, if Juli hadn't just woken up and taken a wake up shot from Hatch. She was barely worn down at all when she finally managed to bull rush Gwen and roll her onto her back. Gwen was breathing heavily as Juli looked her over. Juli wanted to experience everything she could with her new senses, so she started out enjoying the view. She ran her hands over Gwen's body, taking in the slippery wet texture of her silky soft skin.

Juli smiled and brought her face close to Gwen. She kissed her lips once, then went for more. She breathed in the mingling of Hatch's spicy scent with Gwen's clean one, and tasted everywhere she could by kissing and licking Gwen's bare body. She wasn't satisfied with that. She pulled one of Gwen's legs out straight and straddled it. The other she slowly lifted until Gwen's ankle was resting on her shoulder. She scooted forward until Gwen's leg was perfectly straight up and their labia met, and Juli began riding her. She rocked her hips, loving Gwen as she had Sasha.

Gwen's back arched as Juli had her way with her. Juli closed her eyes and reached climax as Gwen's clit spasmed and a wave of cum washed over them both. Juli smiled to herself and rested her head on Gwen's foot. All of Gwen smelled clean, and Juli knew their basic template had included heightened pleasure senses on all their feet. So she began making love to Gwen's foot with her tongue in rhythm with her rocking hips. Her tongue would dart between Gwen's toes as she rocked

forward, and she'd land a soft lick to her arch as she rocked back. There wasn't an inch of Gwen's foot that wasn't ravished by Juli by the time Gwen was spent and asking for release.

Juli gave one last kiss to Gwen's arch before letting her go. Juli was feeling a little worn herself and wanted someone to cuddle. Hatch slipped out of bed and scooped her up. Juli gave him a grateful look as he took her to the fountain and held her up as she drank. He let her stay there until she was done, and cuddled her. When she was relaxed against him, he laid her gently on the floor and began taking her again.

Hatch kissed Juli's forehead, then trailed small kisses down to her lips. With each kiss, he thrust gently into her. It wasn't long before he was locked to her hips again. He cuddled her on her back at first, and slowly leaned back as her stomach inflated. When he was done, he smiled down at her belly and ran his hands over it right as it shrank.

With a wild look in her eyes, Juli kissed Hatch hard on the lips. She bit and nibbled at him gently, and moaned as he wrapped his arms tightly around her without breaking the kiss. She lay there for a little bit before breaking the kiss and slipping out of his grip. Hatch grinned and chased Juli down. She continued to escape him whenever he wrapped his arms around her, and she leaped into bed to tackle Sylvia.

Sylvia fell back into bed with an oof as her best friend in the world crashed into her. The two laughed, and Juli soon had Sylvia moaning like the others as she tribbed her. Juli was kneeling, straddled over Sylvia's hips as Sylvia's legs were spread and draped over top of hers. Juli kept female contact to a minimum this time, only rubbing clits together. It was enough, as Juli's orgasm sprayed over Sylvia's lips and triggered one in Sylvia. The resulting mess hit the skirt of her linen-like dress and rolled off. All the clothing on the ship seemed to be waterproof.

Hatch snuck up on them but all he did was place a hand in the small of Juli's back and feel her movements as she rubbed against Sylvia. He leaned in close to them, and breathed deep. He'd been taking in the heavy scent of feminine cum all day. It completed the whole experience for him. Breathing them in as they gave themselves to him body, heart, and mind. He kissed his way down Juli's back and planted one on each of her cheeks. He wrapped a hand around each of Sylvia's ankles

and just gave her a little squeeze. It elicited an extra moan from her as Juli rubbed her.

When Sylvia's eyes pleadingly locked onto Juli's, she settled down and slipped away to Cassidy's waiting arms. Cass had laid beside Sylvia, watching her lover's face as her clit was rubbed. Cassidy wanted badly to be taken and enjoyed by Juli, so when Juli kissed her, Cass didn't resist having her legs moved around. Juli quickly had her legs up and began rubbing against her clit.

Hatch stayed close, choosing to listen to Cassidy's moaning voice as he licked Sylvia's slit clean. The girls' mingling cum left an interplay of two different sweetnesses on his tongue. He bathed her gently as Cassidy's voice rang out high and clear. Hatch looked over at the couple and saw Cassidy look a challenge at Juli. Apparently Juli accepted, because she threw her head back and rocked herself hard against Cass. The two came on the spot, and Juli kept going. She reached down and grabbed Cassidy's feet in her hands. Lifting them halfway up her body and just running her thumbs along the redhead's soles.

It drove Cassidy wild, and her moans became higher, almost keening. It only took minutes for a squirting orgasm to rock Cassidy's body and spray juices up into Juli's waiting slit. They came back down again as Juli had one of her own. The two wound down after that, and with a wink at Sylvia, Hatch took Juli right where she was.

Cassidy must have been more durable than the rest, because she never whimpered as she was rubbed the entire time Hatch came inside Juli. She just kept up a keening moan of lust that modulated itself based on how close to orgasm she was at any given time. Hatch held Juli and looked down over her shoulder to watch Cassidy's face, Her eyes were closed most of the time, but they sometimes half opened and locked onto his.

When Hatch finished, he pulled out. Juli pulled him tightly to her and whispered, "I won't leave you again." Hatch held her and they looked over to see Sasha beckoning them with a finger. It seemed she was ready for round two. So the two went there, and took her together. Hatch took her mouth as Juli played with her.

By the time Hatch was done with Juli, they'd double teamed all four of the others and wound down for the night. Hatch needed to sleep off the best day of his life, so he could have another one the

next day. The Andromeda crew didn't need sleep, but they snuggled up together around Hatch anyway, and spent the night kissing, cuddling, and stroking each other until ship's morning broke. It was the beginning of a wonderful new life.

Epilogue: Twenty Years Later

Sophie Jenson stepped into the bridge of the Imperial Dream. "Captain Jenson reporting for the midafternoon shift." She threw a salute to Captain Alexandra Jenson, captain of the morning shift.

Sasha turned and threw her a quick salute back. "I stand relieved. Have a good shift Captain." The morning shift filed out as Sophie and her brothers and sisters took their places. Sophie was only twenty years old, but promotion was quick among the Imperial Family. Officially, they were all part of the Jenson clan. Since Father Hatch didn't have a last name before meeting the Andromeda crew, they had all adopted Sasha's name.

Sophie's hair, pure black except for a red stripe courtesy of her father, pointed to Gwen as her mother instead of Sasha. Sophie and the rest of the midshift were the offspring of that very first joining of their parents. There were thirty six in her litter alone. It only took five months for gestation, and another two for recovery. The clan had grown at a rapid pace. They were now up to 1,080 children. More boys than girls, as they were living proof of reincarnation and could often help take care of their sisters.

The steady, measured drumbeat of a thick pair of military boots broke into Sophie's reverie and heralded the presence of the last member of her shift. Sophie mentally corrected herself. There was one member of midshift who was one of the Mothers of the clan, not one of its offspring. Sophie looked up to the tacticians' post, where the last member of the original clan stood. Her name was Emery, and she was easily the tallest member of the whole clan.

Emery Jenson stood at attention, her coppery red hair glinting in the light of the bridge as her fox-like face stared ahead at the screen. Her five foot ten height and sleek muscles that belonged on a fitness model made her the most dangerous member of the clan to tangle with. Luckily she was much more accustomed to smiling and laughing off the clock than maintaining the permanently dead look

she took on when at her post.

Her slanted green eyes dipped down past her long, straight nose to meet Sophie's gaze and she threw a salute. Her booming on-duty voice sounded throughout the large confines of the bridge. "Lieutenant Jenson reporting for duty, Ma'am." Sophie gave her a salute back.

"As you were, Lieutenant." Next to Father Hatch, who'd spent years working independently behind enemy lines, Emery was the only one who'd seen any sort of regular combat. Sophie looked up to her. It was no secret that just about all the children looked up to Mother Emery when danger lurked. She'd protected them with mind and body more than once. Even the rest of the Mothers looked up to her. Or down to her, depending on who was on top at the time.

And with that thought, Sophie reached for the brain bleach that was responsibility and ordered, "let's have another good shift everybody. Boredom beats being shot at, every time."