

Chapter 11.A destined woman

Though it took most of the morning driving with Ellis and Nadie taking turns they made it to Mexico City. It was mid afternoon when they found a hotel that didn't charge an arm and leg. They checked in without unpacking when they got to the room.

"We're not staying long Nadie?" Ellis asked.

"Just long enough to get what we need done. I don't know how long it would take Blueeyes to get here so we might be here awhile. Have you tried taking off the bracelet again?"

"I tried Nadie, but it won't budge and this voice tells me "Not yet Plentyn Y Blodau.""

"I still have no idea what that means and now that your wearing it, now what do you do with it?"

Ellis thought for a few seconds. "I don't know."

"Too bad we just can't ask it. It's not like we can go and say "Hey Magic Bracelet where do you want us to do with you?"" Nadie said half jokingly.

When Nadie asked the question Ellis felt pressure from the bracelet and then she froze and it began to glow. They could see visions of a far off land across the water, a huge tower in a big city and of a young woman with pigtails wearing some kind of necklace.

Then they heard a gentle voice echoing their minds.

"Go East. Go across the water. Go to Nafrece..."

"Nafrece? Where's that? I've never heard of it." Ellis asked the voice.

"East. Across the water. Hurry." The voice replied.

Then the visions as well as the glowing stopped. Both of them were a bit dumbfounded for a few seconds.

"What the hell?! Not this again." Nadie said with dismay in voice as it reminded her of the Inca Rose.

"Nadie where's Nafrece?" Ellis asked quizzically.

"It's a country far away from here across the ocean. We're both out of our league here maybe Blueeyes can figure something out. I have her number so I'll go make a call. You stay here and don't go anywhere, okay." Nadie said.

"Yes sir." Ellis replied as Nadie left to make the call. Ellis felt tired and decided to go to sleep or least try to but all she did was stared at the bracelet as she lay down.

Across town Jodie stared at the plate of tacos in front of her, having an internal war with herself about whether she should eat them or not. She was taking a break from monitoring her two friends. "*Just this once.*" She thought to herself. Just as Jodie was about to pick one up, her cell phone rang. Oh, thank goodness.

"Blue Eyes," she answered with confidence.

"Ah, Blue Eyes!" a concerned voice said.

"Nadie? What's wrong?" Blueeyes asked surprised that Nadie would call her.

"It's Ellis! Something's happened! Can you help us?"

"Alright, I'll be right there."

"But wait you don't know—" But Jodie hung up before Nadie could finish.

Fifteen minutes later, Jodie walked up to the hotel room where Nadie and Ellis were staying and knocked on the door. Nadie opened it and was surprised at how fast she arrived. "Oh good you're here. But... how did you know where we were?" Nadie asked, very confused.

Jodie paused for a moment and she dismissed the question with a shake of her head and said as she walked in. "What happened? Where's Ellis?" They walked over toward the bed, where Ellis was sitting.

Nadie and Ellis told Jodie what they had seen and heard. Jodie pondered their tale as they went on. *“Could this be the artifact that the Chairwoman wants? How much power does it have, and what are they going to do with it?”* Jodie thought to her self

“Let me see the bracelet please Ellis.” Jodie asked as Ellis held up her arm. Jodie looked at for a bit.

“It’s definitely Celtic from the artwork alone.”

Nadie shot Jodie a “no kidding” look. “So what does that have to with “The knowledge held by Math” and with it saying that we have to go Nafrece of all places?”

“What does Plentyn Y Blodau mean?” Ellis asked.

Jodie thought a bit and then answered. “It means “Child of Flowers”.”

Ellis smiled. “Pretty...”

Then a thought crossed Jodie’s mind and she took a look at the bracelet again and this time more carefully.

“What’s wrong Blueeyes?” Nadie asked noticing Jodie’s behavior.

As she looked closer the knots resembled a DNA chain and then it hit her with a horrible revelation.

“Hey Blueeyes stop jerking us around.” Nadie said starting to get annoyed.

“It all makes sense now...” Jodie said to herself.

“What makes sense?” Ellis asked.

“The art on the bracelet, the mentioning of the knowledge held by Math, this is no ordinary Celtic artwork... this...this... is a diagram of a DNA chain...a very complex chain.”

Nadie and Ellis looked very confused.

“Let me fill in the blanks here. Math Mathonwy was the “Sorcerer King” of Gwynedd and one of his greatest achievements was Blodeuwedd; a woman made from flowers. Now think of this for a second, what if the flowers used were just symbols.”

“Symbols?” Both Ellis and Nadie asked still confused.

“For coding DNA, Apparently mankind once had the knowledge but somewhere down the line it got lost and out of recorded history only to be passed down through the generations and Iron Age peoples aren’t going to know what a DNA chain is.”

“Somehow I get the feeling they did know...just not the way you would think.” Nadie mumbled to herself. “Just get to the point Blueeyes.” Nadie said louder.

Jodie pointed to the bracelet. “All right, just think of this for a moment...Math Mathonwy wasn’t a sorcerer king...he was a genetics engineer and Blodeuwedd was his *Project Leviathan*.” Jodie said letting the last two words sink in for a moment.

Nadie looked stunned horror as she connected the dots. Images of the day she found the slides and bodies at the abandoned genetics laboratory flashed across her mind as she the name *Project Leviathan* echoed in her head. “That’s...the knowledge of Math...Project Leviathan!?” Nadie said trying to keep herself together.

Jodie paused as well. *“Is that why they want the artifact? Is this just the record of some ancient version of Project Leviathan? I know it’s a bad idea to betray the Coven...but I have no choice, I can’t let them have this...I can only imagine what they’ll do to Ellis...”* Jodie thought to herself. She couldn’t let the Coven get her or the bracelet and her concern and love of for Ellis overrode any loyalty she had to the Coven. It was a given that she would help them.

“We have no choice...we have to go to Nafrece.”

“How are we going to get to Nafrece? We just can’t drive there you know.” Nadie asked with a bit of sarcasm trying to push the revelation to the back of her mind.

“We can’t?” Ellis chimed in.

“No Ellis we can’t.” Nadie replied.

“Why not? Isn’t there a bridge or something?” Ellis asked innocently.

"There's not a bridge big enough that can cross the Atlantic." Nadie said trying to get the point across to Ellis that a ocean was a very big thing.

"So are we ready to leave now?" Jodie asked.

"Well, yeah I guess..." Nadie was a little unsure about getting involved in something huge again, but she stared at the bracelet on Ellis's wrist. The only clue about how to get it off was in Nafrece. She had no choice.

"Alright, let's go," Nadie said, her mind set.

Jodie nodded and whipped out her phone, dialing a number very quickly.

"It's me. Yes, it has been a while. I'm sorry about this, but I need a favor..."

Two minutes later...

"Any particular reason why we're on the roof now?" Nadie asked, confused.

Ellis just shrugged when Nadie looked at her.

"We're going to the airport. But it's kind of far from here, you know. So we're taking a helicopter there." Jodie told her. "Oh. There's our ride now." Pointing to a approaching helicopter.

The helicopter landed and out came Jodie's old assistants. They smiled widely; glad to see their former boss alive and well. She walked up to them and put a hand on each of their shoulders, also happy to see them again. She hadn't spoken to them since she was ordered to kill Nadie. But now wasn't the time for catching up. "I promise to make it up to you after this whole thing is done. Thanks again." They nodded enthusiastically.

After everyone was strapped in, Jodie's assistants took them to the airport.

The magic of the bracelet allowed them to avoid the metal detectors and any other security hassles.

It was nighttime when they finally landed in Nafrece. After finding a hotel to stay in, Jodie sat down on one of the two beds while Nadie and Ellis occupied the other.

"So now what Blueeyes?" Nadie asked barely concealing a yawn.

"I'm tired and I'm sure you two are as well. Let's get some sleep and we'll go from there in the morning." Jodie replied.

"Sounds like a plan to me. What about you Ellis?"

"Ellis...?" Nadie asked as she turned to Ellis

Ellis was all ready fast asleep.

Nadie laid next Ellis and was asleep faster than she realized.

Ellis found her in a large marble dining hall with a lit fire pit in the middle. She saw the woman with the pigtails sitting across from her on the other side of the pit. She heard herself speak but not quite in her voice...

"Greetings Rhiannon. It's been awhile."

"And the same to you Brigid. I see you found a bearer."

"Aye, so did you. So when are you coming?"

"I have all ready crossed the ocean to get to you. The mortal's security was a tad ridiculous."

"Well, when aircraft get deliberately smashed into buildings people do get understandably paranoid."

Brigid nodded. "Oh any word on Morrigan?"

"No but I know she's nearby. She'll make her presence known when finds a bearer knowing her."

"I see. I'll get there as fast I can."

"Brigid, could you hold off coming for one day please."

"Why is that?"

"My bearer and her sister created a crisis and it's being sorted out at the moment."

"I understand but there are forces after my bearer."

"I wouldn't worry unduly; the forces here are trying to cancel each other out."

"Very well, I'm sure my bearer will want to explore the city anyways. So I can hold off coming for a day..."

"I'm terribly sorry for the inconvenience."

"Apology accepted."

"Then I'll be waiting for you in a day's time."

"Oh, one last thing before I go."

"What is it?"

"Just have taco's ready when I come."

"Tacos?!"

"Yes, Tacos..."

"Taco Taco Tacosu...." Ellis sang before she drifted into deep slumber.

Across town Douglas was working at his desk when the phone rang. He picked it up.

"Rosenberg here."

"Good Evening Douglas." A familiar voice answered.

"Good Evening Sir, I was about to call you."

"I take it she's in the country..."

"Yes Sir and I'll proceed as planned."

"Very good..."

"You might find this interesting Sir...it seems that Carrossea Doone is back among the living." Douglas said smiling cleverly thinking he knew something that Friday didn't.

"I was aware of his presence the moment when Vanessa Rene had resurfaced in Nafrece." Friday said nonchalantly.

"I bet you did." Douglas thought to himself.

"What shall we do about Doone?"

"The Soldats are busy chasing him around providing us a perfect distraction. But have him followed in any case."

"Of course Sir."

"One last thing Douglas." Friday said in a neutral tone laced with potential of a veiled threat.

"Yes Sir?" Douglas asked wondering what else Friday meant to reveal.

"Just because I cannot see you it does not mean I don't know what you are thinking..." Friday said and then the line went dead.

Douglas stared at receiver with mixed emotions for a few seconds and then hung up.

Then he picked up the photo of Jodie Hayward and smiled...