

# Siren

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*A story about a lost little vampire girl.*

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# 1. ch1

Siren

The life story of a lost vampire girl.

Do vampires have souls? Do they go to heaven when they die? Or are we already dead but unable to cross over and depend on human blood to keep us in this world? They don't have souls. At least not my race. When we die we are erased from existence except from the minds of the ones we cared about the most. Like Papa. My father, and the only one who cared about me. I can still remember his gentle touch as he held me protectively in his arms. I was still very young when he died, probably five in the years of a human. He was the most important person in my life, until "they" came and killed him. He was unable to survive after what they did to him.

It all started when I was a child of only two years of age. I wasn't born a vampire, oh no. I was a human girl and suffering the loss of my mother. I sat on the ground crying when he showed up. His red eyes shined in the night giving his shadowy form a demonic appearance. But his race was different from others. Gentle and caring and one of the only races with wings and able to go out into daylight. He looked down at me, "Dear child, what has brought these tears to your eyes." When I didn't respond he knelt down in front of me placed his hand under my chin and lifted my head so I was looking at him. I was scared at first when I saw his fangs. I realized he was a vampire and I started to shake and cry more. He smiled, "Don't be frightened little one. I have no intentions of harming you." I calmed down a bit and he put his arms around me, "Now tell me child, why are you crying?" I took a breath and muttered, "M-mama." He looked at the lifeless figure of a woman that I had been crying next to. He sighed, "Poor child. You can come with me."

That was when he became my adoptive father. He called me Siren. One day he gave me a choice, "Siren, I will let you choose. Do you want to continue your life as a mortal or would you like to join as one of us." I looked at him curiously, at this time I was three, "I..." He smiled, "Take your time, Siren. If you choose to continue a mortal life you can always change your mind but if you choose to become a vampire, you can't go back." I was too young to choose but I hardly even thought when I said, "I want to be a vampire." I know now I should have stayed a mortal. He walked over to me and picked me up. He held me close and wrapped his wings around the two of us.

I don't know what happened, but I remember waking up with my neck and back aching. I was still in his arms I looked up at him as he smiled and simply said, "Your choice has been made, you can't turn back now." I was reborn as a vampire, it hurt to try to move my wings, they were too delicate and at too early a stage to use. I felt cold many times. When we slept he held me in his arms and wrapped his wings up around us. It's how our race sleeps, we can die if we allow too much heat to leave our bodies. I loved the warmth I felt in his arms. I seemed to be the only one in the world that mattered to him. And he was all that mattered to me.

Of course, even with how friendly our race was with the humans, they still tried to destroy us for their own benefits. Using the bone in our wings to make tools and using the healing properties in

our blood to heal others on the edge of death. It was only a matter of time before Papa and I were targeted. In those times, our race was slowly dying out. Papa and I were able to stay hidden until one day, we were cornered. "Get them" They first pinned Papa to the ground and took out a knife. Papa struggled to get free but it was no use. He screamed in pain as they sliced off his wings. I watched horrified as his blood ran down his back from the spot where his wings had once been. I called to him, "Papa!" Then the humans came to me and grabbed my wrist, "Your turn little one." I tried to pull away, "No!" The human held onto my arms tightly, my wings were still at an early stage of development and it hurt to move them. Another human with the knife walked over and pulled one of my wings spreading it out to find where it met my back, I flinched from the pain. Papa had no choice and lashed out at all of them, killing every one of them. I ran over to him and hugged him tightly crying, he wrapped his arms around me, "It's okay Siren." When I felt my hands get wet I pulled away and look at my hands, the blood of our race is deep blue in color and now that blood was covering my hands and I looked up at my father, "Papa..." He smiled, "Worry not, I'll be fine."

We went back home and he found it hard to keep warm without his wings. I got him a blanket to keep warm, he wrapped it around the both of us and we went to sleep. I woke up the next morning and the sun shined brightly through a window just as it always did. But there was something different about today, I looked up at Papa, "Papa, are you awake?" He didn't say anything, and he didn't lift his head. I assumed he was still asleep so I tried to wake him up and when I finally saw his face his eyes were open. "Papa?" Still no answer. I grabbed his hand and tugged at his arm in an attempt to get a response from him. I dropped his hand noticing it was ice cold. That's when I knew, he was dead. I looked at the blanket that had covered us and half of it was covered in his blood, he had lost too much and wasn't able to stay alive. I wrapped my tiny arms around him crying, "Papa no. You can't die, please. I need you here, with me." Then his body collapsed into dust and it was like he was never there.

## 2. Chapter 2

### Chapter 2

I sat there for a long time not knowing what to do. He was gone. and now I had nobody. "Papa, what will I do without you?" I still cry when I think about it now. I got up and left the house and hiding my wings under a coat, I wandered the streets aimlessly. I wandered out into the street where I was almost hit. The man who almost hit me ran over to me, "What were you thinking, I almost hit you. Hey, are you okay?" My face was void of any feeling and I just said, "Papa." The man kneeled down so he was at my eye level, "Your father? Where is he?" I looked down, "He's not here anymore." The man knew what I meant and took me to the town orphanage, the lady who owned it asked me my name and then brought me to a room, "Here you are Siren. You try and get some rest." I layed in the bed with the blankets keeping me warm but I still felt cold. Not on the outside, inside I felt like ice. I felt so empty and the world around me was darkness.

It was weeks before I got out of the bed. I kept my wings hidden under a coat all the time. I never spoke a word to anyone. I pretty much became mute. I didn't want to be there, I had no place among humans. I would have left right away, but where would I go? I had no place to go. A child only 5 years of age would never make it on her own. The other children of the orphanage always made fun of me. Many of them were older and pushed me around. I never said anything and kept all my feelings inside, silent tears escaped my eyes during the night.

One day I over heard the woman speaking with someone, "Yes, all the children are adoptable. There is Siren, she seems to be the most eager to leave." I peeked around the corner to see her talking with a man who said, "My wife and I have been wanting a child for quite some time, and we could always use extra help in the feilds." I was going to be adopted to work in feilds. I didn't want to be adopted for that, I didn't want to be adopted at all. One of the other little girls at the orphanage was watching me, "What's the matter Siren? I thought you couldn't wait to leave." Her tone was teasing and bratty. I shot her a glare without saying anything, if looks could kill she'd be dead. I love that thought. She slowly walked over to me with her hands folded behind her back, "Aw poor little Siren. Why don't you ever say anything? You're 5 so you know how to talk right? Or did your mommy and daddy never teach you to talk?" I hissed at her loudly and she turned and walked away, "Like you think you can scare me." I said to myself, "I'll bite you if I have to."

I didn't get adopted, good. I would never work in the feilds for any human like I was a slave. They can do the work themselves, why adopt a child to do it? Humans are strange. I may never understand the way they think. The next day was routine, get up, get pushed around, and eventually go to bed. But today we got a new boy, I walked out of my room in the morning rubbing my eyes as he was being introduced. He was about my age, he wore a green shirt and had a coat on and black pants, his hair was black with blue tips with antennae poking out and he wore a pair of purple goggles on his head. What I found most interesting about him was his red eyes. The woman smiled at me, "Oh, Siren. Good, you're up. We have a new friend today, his name is Ronin." Ronin looked at me and smiled, I smiled back just to be nice, I didn't care about being his friend. I didn't care about him being my friend either. I turned around walked back into

my room, closed the door and changed out of the blue nightgown I wear into a pink little dress and put my coat on to hide my wings.

I was brushing my hair when I heard the door open. I turned around and saw Ronin, he smiled, "You're a vampire, aren't you?" My brush fell out of my hand, "H-how did you..." He cut me off, "Well, it's pretty obvious, your eyes should be a dead giveaway. I'm suprised nobody's noticed." I glared at him and turned around, "I suppose you're going to tell everyone now?" He laughed, "Why would I do that?" I turned around and he took off his coat to reveal a pair of black wings. He smiled, "Do you have wings or are you the kind without wings?" I sighed, "I have wings, they are bigger and a different color than yours." He put his coat back on, "You're not gonna show me?" I started to push him out of my room, "No, now go away." He smiled, "Okay, but one more thing." I paused before closing the door in his face, "What?" He scratched the back of his head, "I was actually hoping we could be friends." I started to close the door, "I don't need any friends." He stopped the door, "Siren, wait." I was getting annoyed, "Do I have to hurt you?" He smiled, "You might want to consider being my friend." I tried to close the door, "Why?" He whispered to me, "We could make a plan to get out of this orphanage." I looked at him, "I don't need help from anyone to do that." I slammed the door in his face.

The rest of the day was routine, I expected Ronin to join in the others and push me around but instead he tried to make them stop. Of course he failed in doing so. One of them started singing, "Siren's got a boyfriend!" I wanted to kill every one of them. While I was in bed that night I was facing away from the door and didn't even hear it open. Then I heard someone behind me, "Do you cry like that everynight?" I turned to see Ronin looking at me, "Is it because everyone pushes you around?" I sat up, "That's hardly even half the reason." He sat next to me, "Maybe we can talk about it? It might make you feel better." I sigh and told him what happened, losing my birth mother, and then how I lost Papa. He looked down for a minute, "At least you knew your parents." I looked at him and tilted my head, "You never knew your parents?" He shook his head, "Not really, I can't remember a lot of things from my past, all I remember is arriving in this town and being brought here. Like you, I don't want anything to do with the others, but you and I have a few things in common. That's why I thought we could be friends." I thought for a few minutes, maybe we could be friends. I still wasn't entirely sure about it but I smiled, "You're right. I guess we can be friends." He smiled brightly, "Really? That really means a lot to me, you'll be the first friend I ever had." I sighed, "Yeah, smae goes for me." Then I yawned, "Well, I'mgoing back to sleep." Ronin went to the door, "I should get to bed too. G'night." I smiled, "G'night" He left and I went to sleep.

### 3. Chapter 3

#### Chapter 3

So Ronin became my first friend. I guess I needed one.

"Siren, wake up. Come on, wake up." I woke up to see Ronin looking panicked. I sat up rubbing my eyes, "What's wrong?" He took a deep breath, "I'll explain later but we gotta leave." I looked at him with a confused expression on my face, "Why?" He closed my door and explained, "Okay, listen. One of the others was up last night and heard us talking. Then she went and told the lady and now people are gonna be here and we'll be in big trouble if we don't leave." My face went from curiosity to panic, "W-what?" He grabbed my wrist and pulled me out of bed, "We have to leave now." I nodded, "Okay." I grabbed my coat and put it on. Ronin grabbed my wrist again pulled his goggles down, and raced through the orphanage until we were outside, we went so fast I almost couldn't breath.

He lifted his goggles and looked at me, "You okay?" I caught my breath, "What, just happened." Ronin smiled, "I got us outside without anyone noticing. I can go short distances very fast." I looked at him, "That's a demon trait. Papa told me about demons all the time, but he said there weren't any around anymore." Ronin cut me off, "Slow down, Siren. I'm not a demon a small part of me might be demon but I'm not a demon." I sighed, "Oh." We started to walk down the road and I asked, "So, where are we gonna go?" Ronin looked at me dumbstruck, "Uh, I don't know." I smacked my forehead, "You didn't think this through?" He sighed, "I didn't have time, this was kinda short notice."

I let it go and we continued down the road, I saw local children playing and watched them as we passed by. Ronin looked at me, "Something wrong?" I looked down, "I used to be one of them." He raised an eyebrow, "What do you mean?" I looked up at him, he was a little taller than me, "Human, I used to be a human." He sighed, "Oh. Why did you choose to become a vampire?" I thought for a minute then simply replied, "I don't know. I guess I wasn't even thinking when I was given the decision." Ronin sighed, "Too young to make the decision." I hung my head, "Yeah." Then Ronin smiled, "You hungry?" I looked up at him, "Sorta." He looked around and said, "Wait right here." He left and in a flash was back with his arms full of food. He held out an apple to me and I took it, staring at it for a second before taking a bite. Ronin started eating a loaf of bread and I looked at him, "You stole food from the market?" He smirked, "I didn't want to let my only friend go hungry."

After a few hours it was starting to get dark, "Ronin we need to find a place to stay." Ronin looked around, "Well all of these people would probably send us back to the orphanage. It looks like it's going to rain too. So finding a place to stay won't be very easy." We heard a sound behind us and turned around to see what happened. I saw a man being attacked, he had black neck length hair with silver streaks. He was medium build and looked like he was about 24. He was also wearing a black trench coat. I wondered why the humans would attack one of their own. While the man tried his best to fight off the others one of them took out a knife and lashed at him giving him a large scar from above his left eye down to his chin. Then he became very violent and was able to throw all the men off him at once. He glanced at me and Ronin and then

his trenchcoat seemed to transform into wings and my eyes went wide. "He's a vampire too."

He was about to fly away when a knife tore through one of his wings. I wasn't going to let another one of my kind get hurt or killed by the humans. Without thinking I started to run over and almost didn't hear Ronin call after me, "Siren, wait!" I ran over yelling, "Leave him alone!" The humans turned to me and they weren't looking too friendly, they knew I was a vampire as soon as they saw my eyes. I could tell from the way they were dressed that they hunted us, one of them tried to grab me when I took off my coat and use my wings to help me jump above him and landed on his head jumping off of him knocking him to the ground. I landed on the ground and wasn't able to move fast enough as another one of the humans grabbed my arms, I struggled to get free and I saw Ronin run over to help me even with how fast he could move he was still caught.

We were both being held by our arms and trying to make the humans let go of us when one came up to us with a knife, he was going to kill us. We both screamed as he raised the knife, but in a flash he was a lifeless heap on the ground as well as the men who were holding us. Ronin and I looked at each other confused and looked at the man who was attacked and saw someone else standing next to him. I was guessing he was the one who attacked the three men, he had black spikey hair, his eyes appeared to be multi-colored. He had a torn up cape and goat-toed boots.(author: in other words, he's wearing JTHM boots) He didn't look much older than me as he looked at his friend and said, "So Arlin. You weren't able to get away this time." Arlin looked at him, "Don't start Zeke. I would have been dead if it weren't for those kids." Arlin walked over to us and looked at me, "I should thank you but what I want to know is what you were thinking." I looked at him, "I just wanted to-" He cut me off, "Nevermind. But you should know not to get involved in other people's business." I muttered under my breath sarcastically, "Your welcome."

Ronin looked at me, "He has a point you know." I shrugged and put my coat back on, "Whatever. The reason I tried to help him most was because he looks like Papa did." Arlin turned and started to walk away when Zeke walked over, "Don't mind Arlin, he's like that all the time. So, what are your names." I looked at him and there was something about him that I almost wasn't able to speak and I felt my cheeks turn red, "Uhh, I'm Siren." Ronin looked at the look on my face curiously and then he turned to Zeke, "I'm Ronin." Zeke smiled, "Well my name's Zeke." He looked at me, "Since you have wings and red eyes, I'm guessing you're a vampire." I nodded, "Yeah." Then Zeke looked at Ronin, "You look like a mix of vampire and demon, a rare find. So, do you two live around here?" I looked at him, "We don't live anywhere." Zeke smiled, "Maybe you could stay with us." I heard Arlin mutter, "Once again he just invites anyone we met to stay with us."

It's not that Arlin didn't like the fact that we would stay with them, besides, we DID need a place to stay. It didn't take long for him to get used to the idea. I even eventually got a new outfit. It was a shirt with a sleeveless robe over it, long leather gloves a spy belt tight pants and boots. The entire outfit was white and I liked it. I especially like the head piece, a brace circlet. I either wore I white cape to cover my wings or folded my wings around my shoulders like a cloak. I seemed to like Zeke more and more everyday. Sometimes he made me laugh. When Ronin and I turned 10, Arlin said he wanted to talk to me.

## 4. Chapter 4

### Chapter 4

Arlin brought me to an abandoned clock tower. At first, neither one of us said anything. Why did he bring me here? What did he want to talk to me about? I felt a little uneasy and I was pulled out of my thoughts when Arlin finally spoke. "I think it's time you learned how to defend yourself." I looked up at him, "I already know how to defend myself." Arlin handed me a weapon that looked almost like a small scythe. As I looked at it it broke apart into a chain with the blade at the end. I looked back at Arlin and he smirked, "It's called a sickle, and today you will learn how to use it." He took out a Zweiliander. I panicked and thought to myself, 'What the heck am I supposed to do?'

He lifted his weapon and started to attack bringing it down and I blocked with my own weapon, and the force from his attack sent me flying. I hit the wall behind me and landed hard on the floor. I pushed myself onto my back to see Arlin's weapon coming at me and I rolled to the side, got up and jumped to the other end of the room. I swung the Sickle hoping it would do something and it broke into the chain and extended across the room towards Arlin. He easily dodged the attack and the Sickle retracted. I like this weapon. I then noticed Arlin charging at me again, the attack was fast and he left a slice on my arm, I yelled and he said, "The first rule of combat is to never let your guard down, focus on defeating your enemy. Block when you can and attack when there is an opening in your enemy's defense." He came at me with an attack again and I jumped out of the way swinging my Sickle again and the blade dug into his back. He only flinched at the pain and I quickly pulled on the Sickle pulling him along with it causing him to be thrown to the ground behind me. I turned around as the Sickle retracted and got ready to attack again.

When Arlin came at me again I swung my Sickle making it break into a chain again and it wrapped around his neck. I gave the Sickle a tug tossing him to the side and before he was able to get up again I had the sickle to his throat. He smiled, "Very good, Siren." We went on for hours and when we finally went back home I was exhausted and just wanted to go to bed. Ronin noticed the slice on my arm, "What happened?" I looked at him, "Long story." I then fell back onto my bed and stared at the ceiling. Ronin shrugged, "Okay." I fell asleep soon after.

I woke up a little while later and heard music coming from another room, it sounded like a violin. I got up and followed the music to find Ronin on the roof, he was playing a violin. The music he was playing on it sounded kind of sad. I walked over and stood behind him, "Ronin?" He jumped and sighed when he turned around, "Siren, don't scare me like that." I smiled, "Sorry, you never told me you could play an instrument." He shrugged, "I've always been able to play the violin." I looked up, "The stars are out tonight." Ronin sat down, "It's a full moon too." I sat next to him, "Why are you up here anyway?" He looked down and sighed, "I like to spend some time alone to think." I crossed my legs and sat like a small child during story time, "About what?" Ronin just shook his head, "It's not something I like to talk about very much." I sighed, "Oh, okay."

I stretched and layed back looking at the stars, "I love the night time. The stars in the sky make

it so beautiful." Ronin smiled, "Night was the only time I ever traveled. If I traveled around during the day they...." He stopped in mid sentence. I looked at him, "They....?" I wanted to him to continue and I wanted to know who "they" were. He shook his head, "Nevermind, it's nothing." I got up and yawned, "Okay, well, I'm going back to bed." He smiled, "Alright. Goodnight, Siren." On my way back to my room I heard someone behind me, "So he woke up up too?" I turned around and saw Zeke, "Not really." Zeke smiled, "He's good at playing that violin." We could hear Ronin start to play the violin again and I sighed, "But the music he plays seems so sad." Zeke walked over and stood next to me, "I'm surprised you and him got along so well." I looked up at him, "What's that supposed to mean?" Zeke looked back at me, "Don't get upset, Siren. It's just he's got a demon in him, demons and vampires never get along too well with each other." I sighed, "Well he's not completely demon. So that might be why we get along." Zeke thought for a minute, "Maybe, but there could be other reasons." I raised an eyebrow, "Like what?" He shook his head, "Nothing." I sighed and went to bed.

Ronin told Zeke something, something he doesn't want me to know.

## 5. Chapter 5

### Chapter 5

The next morning I was sitting outside staring up at the clouds, "I wonder...." I heard someone behind me, "Wonder what?" I turned around and saw Zeke. I sighed, "Are there any more.. like me." Zeke sat down next to me, "What do you mean?" I looked at him, "Are there any more vampires the same race as me?" Zeke smiled, "There's me and Arlin." I shook my head, "You're not the same race as me, you and Arlin aren't the same race as each other." I pulled my knees to my chest and seemed to get lost in thought, "My race has red eyes and our wings can be a variety of different colors, mine, for instance, are white. The first thing I noticed about Ronin, when I met him, was that he has red eyes too, but I don't know if that is a demon trait or not." I looked at Zeke again, "You said he could be a mix of vampire and demon right? If that's true then maybe the red eyes could be a vampire trait making his vampire half the same race as me." Zeke sighed, "Maybe, but now that you guys are getting older, Ronin doesn't seem to have any vampire traits, at least not any noticeable ones." I tilted my head in confusion, "What do you mean?" Zeke lowered his head in thought, "Well there is the way his wings are formed, if you notice his wings shape lean more towards a demon's wings than a vampire's. He has no fangs, and if he does they aren't noticeable. and every other trait, like the antennae and his speed, are all demon traits." I thought for a minute, "so his other half is human?" Zeke nodded, "Looks like it."

After a few hours I was still outside, Zeke had gone back inside a little while ago, it's amazing how vampires can be living next door to a human and never be noticed. It was getting darker even though it was the middle of the day, "There must be a storm coming." I looked up but I didn't see clouds, it looked more like smoke. I stood up and looked in the direction the smoke was coming from, "Is it a fire?" I could hear people screaming, Ronin came outside, "Siren what's going on?" I shrugged, "I have no idea." I could see shadows heading straight for us, when Ronin noticed, his face flushed, "Oh no." I looked at him, "What?" Ronin was pulling on my arm, "Siren, we gotta get out of here." Arlin and Zeke came outside and Arlin asked, "What is going on?" Zeke saw the shadows, "Demons." I looked at him, "I thought that there weren't any demons. Didn't they all die out years ago?" Ronin sighed, "Not quite." Arlin cut in, "There's no time to talk. Zeke, get them out of here." Zeke grabbed our arms and as soon as we were out of the town I looked at Ronin and Zeke, "Can someone please tell me what just happened!?" Ronin hung his head, "There's something I should tell you. Remember last night when I told you I was travelling?" I nodded and he sighed, "I'm being hunted." I raised an eyebrow, "By who?" He leaned back against a tree, "My dad."

Well, turns out, Ronin was half demon half human. Because of that he wasn't accepted by either, he was an outcast and his father led a group of demons and was hunting him down. He said his father was ashamed of falling in love with a human and having a child. I didn't know what to say as Ronin told me all of this, "So mom told me to run and he killed mom and now he wants to kill me. I can't believe he found out where I am." I sighed, "Well, how long have you been running?" He let out a heavy sigh, "My whole life. I'm sorry I lied before about not remembering anything from my past. I thought that if you knew, you wouldn't be my friend. I thought I finally lost him, but I guess I was wrong. I was afraid to make any friends at first

because if dad found me I didn't want anyone to get hurt. I asked if you wanted to be my friend because I thought I finally got away from him."

I wasn't sure what to say or what to think for that matter, I was quickly searching for something to say when Arlin came back, "We should get moving." I looked at him, he was beaten up pretty badly, "What happened?" He wiped a blackish blood off his face, "Those demons are not easy to get rid of." I looked at him, "So now what?" He sighed, "We can't stay here, we have to find another place to stay." I looked at him, "The next town isn't too far away." He shook his head, "If we're going to avoid them, we'll have to go farther than just the next town." I thought for a moment, "Where can we go?" I shook his head, "I'm not sure." Ronin sighed, "They'll only find us again." I turned to him, "There's got to be a way to get rid of them, we just have to find out how." I turned around when I heard Arlin let out what sounded like a laugh and he looked at me, "You still have a lot to learn, Siren. The only way to get rid of most demons is to kill their leader, and none of us are anywhere near strong enough to do that." I sighed, "Then what are we gonna do?" Arlin crossed his arms in thought, "There's not much we can do unless we find out what they're after." Ronin looked at him, "They're after me." Arlin looked at him and raised an eyebrow, "How can you be sure?" Ronin took a deep breath, "Because the leader of all those demons is my Dad. He's been hunting me my whole life."

Zeke quickly spoke up, "We might want to go now." Ronin looked at him, "It would be better to travel at night, that's the only time that my Dad doesn't go anywhere, he's a demon but the one trait he doesn't have is good vision at night." I looked at him, "That sounds like a good idea." Zeke smiled, "Well, the sun is setting now, so we can start moving now." As we started to leave the area Ronin hung his head and stared at the ground, "One day I won't be able to run from Dad and I'll have to give myself up." I walked along side him, "Don't worry, Ronin. I promise that won't happen." He seemed a little happier and I knew that my life was going to be more of an adventure.

## 6. Chapter 6

### Chapter 6

"We've been walking for hours. Can't we stop and rest?" I whined and sat down on a rock. Ronin walked over to me, "I can carry you if you're tired." I smiled, "That would be great." Ronin started to carry me on his back and I looked up, "Judging from the position on the moon I'd say it's about midnight." Zeke, who had been flying most of the time landed behind us, "Thought I should let you guys know there's a forest up ahead, the trees are thick and we won't have the light of the moon to show us where we're going." I sighed, and Ronin shrugged, "It won't be much of a problem for me, I can see perfectly fine in the dark." I smiled, "So can I." Arlin looked at us, "Zeke and I can't see as easily. Going through the forest will slow us down quite a bit." Ronin looked up at him, "Can't we go around it?" Zeke cut in, "Not really. It's quicker to just go through it."

As soon as we entered the forest, my red eyes glowed as well as Ronin's. I looked around, "I don't like this forest..." Ronin smiled, "There's nothing to worry about, it just looks creepy because it's dark." I just sighed, "That's not the reason." Ronin stopped walking for a minute, "Then what is the reason?" I cringed and closed my eyes, "Look in the trees." Ronin looked up in the trees and what might have been mistaken for blinking fireflies were hundreds of pairs of eyes watching us. Ronin ran ahead to catch up with Arlin, "Arlin, the trees..." Arlin cut him off, "I know. Just ignore them and keep walking." I whined, "They creep me out, what are they?" Arlin looked at me, "Tree Shadows. Spirits of the forest. They are making sure we don't cause any harm to their home." I sighed, "They're still creeping me out." Ronin smiled, "Well, at least we know they won't hurt us."

I saw something move somewhere behind the trees, "I think something is following us." Zeke looked around, "Are you sure?" I nodded, "I saw something behind the trees." There was a sound in the bushes by us and something jumps out pouncing on Ronin and I got thrown off his back as he was pinned to the ground. The person who had him pinned was a young girl probably no older than 13 or 14 with green hair and her outfit seemed to be made out of the plants in the woods and she smirked as she kept Ronin pinned, "Hey, cutie. What do you say we play for a little while?" I got to my feet and yelled, "Hey, get off of him and leave him alone!" She turned and shot a glare at me and I got my Sickle out. She growled, "Make me." My eyes narrowed, "Gladly." I charged at her but just as I was about to attack, I almost didn't see her move and she charged and punched me hard in the gut and I slammed hard into a tree. Ronin's eyes widened, "Siren!" When he was about to run to me, the girl grabbed his shoulders pinning him to a tree, "You're a demon aren't you? I haven't taken a demon's power in a while." Her hands started to glow and Ronin started to yell and struggle.

Suddenly the girl went flying into a tree and she growled and looked at Arlin. He stared at her and calmly said, "Who are you and what do you want?" The girl growled, "I'm Zepth, I guess you could call me a leech, and I want his power." She pointed to Ronin. I growled, "Find someone else to take power from because you're not taking it from Ronin." I charged at her and she smirked, "If you insist." She also charged at top speed and ended up pushing me back against another tree hard, any harder and the tree would have snapped in half. I flinched at a

pain in my left wing and looked at it to find a low branch from the tree had gone through. I struggled to try and get out of Zepth's grip but she held on tight and smirked, "I never had to fight a vampire before, I wonder what kind of power they can give me." Her hands started to glow and my eyes widened as a pain shot through my body and I screamed as it felt like my insides were being torn apart.

Two blades came out of Zeke's sleeves and he rushed over to try and attack Zepth and when she noticed him she kicked him hard and he stayed on his feet and skid back about five feet and he smirked, "A tough girl, I like that." Zepth just laughed, "Sorry, but you're not quite my type." Zeke shrugged, "Too bad." I had stopped screaming and it felt like all my energy was leaving my body as I started to go limp. Then Ronin tackled Zepth and sent her flying back a few feet and I fell to the ground causing the branch in my wing to break off of the tree. Ronin held me as I felt like my head was spinning out of control, "Siren, are you okay?" I tried to shake the dizziness away but it did no good and Zepth left me so weak that I started to lose consciousness. Ronin held onto my shoulders and at me up, "Siren, listen, you have to stay awake." I lifted my head and looked at him, "I don't know if I can."

Ronin stayed by my side while Arlin and Zeke tried to fight off Zepth. They just seemed to be exchanging blows and it didn't look like anyone was winning. Everyone was pretty beaten up when Arlin finally took his Zweiliander and stabbed it right through Zepth's chest piercing her heart as the blade went through and came out of her back. Her eyes were wide as her body went limp and Arlin pulled the blade back and let her body drop to the ground. He had a few rips and tears in his clothes but other than that no other damage, Zeke was pretty much on the same condition except for a slice on one of his shoulders. Arlin started to walk over to me and Ronin. Zeke looked at Zepth and gave her body a kick, "I liked her, aw well." He then turned and also walked over, and Arlin was looking at my wing, "The hole in it might heal up after we take the branch out, but it's not a sure thing." Zeke shrugged, "Only one way to find out."

Arlin nodded and started to pull the branch out and my eyes widened at the pain and I clenched my teeth trying not to yell from the pain. I turned to Ronin and buried my face in his chest and whined. I let out a gasp as the last of the branch came out. Ronin looked at the hole in my wing, "Shouldn't we cover that up some how?" Arlin sighed, "We'll have to find something at the next town." We continued to walk through the forest, I hung my head and whined and I flinched as a breeze blew and caused the hole in my wing to sting. Looked like I wasn't going to be flying for a while.