

# Only the tough survive

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*One day when Blazestar is named leader of ShadeClan all goes wrong...*

*Mean while Riverclaw is fighting for the right decison. Will he try to kill Blazestar or will he let his clan build up into a super clan with killing and violence?*

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## 0 - PROLOGUE

### Prologue

“Did you here that Flamestar died?” Riverclaw whispered to his friend Clawpelt. “Yup he answered. And it’s probably the worst thing that’s happened to us. Clawpelt growled. Riverclaw nodded in agreement. With Blazeclaw as leader of ShadeClan all there would be is violence and death.

“How dare you come back here with no prey? Blazestar yowled at Clawpelt. There was no prey! He said shakily. Well go out again, and if you still can’t find anything get lost!” Blazestar yowled with rage.

“Riverclaw you go with him! Now get out of my sight!” Blazestar growled. With that the two cats sped out of camp.

“Riverclaw...I’m....i’m leaving.” Clawpelt spoke in a low voice. “WHAT?! Riverclaw yowled. Where would you go?!” Far away from Blazestar. He replied.

Riverclaw gazed in sorrow as his friend waved his tail in fair well. “Good bye my old friend, I will miss you and never forget you.” Riverclaw murmured to him.

I’ll miss you too, we will meet again one day my friend.....

# 1 - STEALING

Only the tuff survive Ch.1

The deputy Riverclaw took a deep breath and then padded into the cave. What do you want? Blazestar growled. Blazestar we are losing more cats, we can not go on like this. There was silence for a moment. Yes we can. Go steal apprentices and kits from the other clans. Blazestar muttered. But more of our cats could die! He exclaimed. So? He spat. Riverclaw was shocked. Blazestar spat again, NOW GO IF YOU VALUE YOUR LIFE! Yes Blazestar. He murmured.

Riverclaw yowled the names of the cats that were to come with him to steal cats. Furyeyes, Bristlepelt, and Thunderclaw, you are coming with me to steal some cats! Yes Riverclaw They muttered.

Riverclaw and his patrol raced through the trees at top speed to the MoonClan border. STOP! growled Riverclaw. They all skidded to a halt. What is it? Thunderclaw growled. Now we wait for the night to come. Riverclaw replied.

Darkness started creeping in the forest. Let's go. Riverclaw whispered. With that they ran silently across the border. Keep your ears pricked and your eyes open, we're nearing camp, and keep your mouths shut. Riverclaw muttered. The four cats creped silently into MoonClan camp. Thunderclaw and Furyeyes you go steal the kits, while Bristlepelt and I go steal some apprentices. Riverclaw whispered.

Thunderclaw and Furyeyes nodded, and then started lightly padding to the nursery.

Right, Bristlepelt lets go. He murmured. As Riverclaw and Bristlepelt crept in the apprentice den they each chose the apprentices to get. Riverclaw gently snatched Rockpaw, who he had met at a gathering, while Bristlepelt chose Glarepaw and gently grabbed his scruff. Then as they were creeping out of the apprentice den, they heard a yowl coming from the nursery. Damn! yowled Riverclaw.

Come on Bristlepelt, who cares if the apprentices wake up now! With that the two cats sped up and as fast as they could run. Behind them Thunderpelt and Furyeyes had kits in their jaws. Thunderpelt had a huge mouth so he had two. The four cats made it successfully back to camp, where Blazestar was waiting.

## 2 - NEW CLAN MATES

Only the tuff can survive. Ch.2

Riverclaw, Bristlepelt, Thunderclaw, and Furyeyes rushed into camp where Blazestar was waiting. Well, what have we here? Blazestar smiled with satisfaction. Riverclaw padded up to him and said, we got 3 kits and 2 apprentices! I can see that you idiot! He snarled. Riverclaws ears flattened to his head. Now go take the kits to the nursery and the apprentices to the Warriors den. Blazestar ordered. Warriors den for the apprentices? Riverclaw asked. Of course! We don't want them escaping. He growled. Yes Blazestar. Riverclaw replied. Riverclaw padded into the nursery. Silverheart and Dawnfoot can you take care of these kits? He asked. Of course they replied. Thanks. He muttered. He padded into the Warriors den. Hey guys watch these apprentices and no hurting them. There are new Clan mates. Riverclaw spoke loud so everyone could hear him. WHAT?! Yowled Bloodclaw. You heard me there are new clan mates! Spat Riverclaw. Bloodclaws eyes narrowed with discuss. As Riverclaw padded out of the den the leader beckoned him over. Did you need something? Asked Riverclaw. No, just go hunting then you can eat and go to sleep. Blazestar ordered. Yes Blazestar. He muttered unenthusiastically.

His hunt went very good he caught a rabbit two voles and three mice. And on his way back he caught a magpie. He grabbed two mice from the pile and wolfed them down. As he curled up in his cozy nest he remembered tomorrow was the gathering. Would MoonClan now who had stolen there kits? What would Blazestar do?

### 3 - The gathering

Only the Tuff survive Ch.3

Today was the day of the gathering and every cat in ShadeClan wanted to go.

Riverclaw padded up to Blazestar and helped him decide who should go. Riverclaw you will be going to the gathering. Who all do you think we should take? Blazestar asked. Rushfur lightningclaw Bloodfur Sunpaw Shadepaw and Rage paw. Riverclaw listed. Blazestar nodded. We don't want to take any other warriors that went on the raid to steal some of MoonClans cats. They could recognize the scent. Blazestar said thoughtfully. Now you can go send the message to who's coming. He muttered. Blazestar what will you say at the gathering? Riverclaw asked. I don't know but it couldn't be that bad. He replied. This was one of Blazestars better days thought Riverclaw. He normally would have clawed his ears off if he asked.

We are leaving to go to the gathering now! Blazestar yowled. All the cats gathered around him. And Blazestar shot off with the others right behind him. Blazestar let out a sigh of relief only Rockstar the MountainClan leader was there. Riverclaw padded over to the MountainClan deputy Fangtooth. Hows the prey running? Riverclaw asked. Good thank you. He replied. How's everything going in your clan? He asked curiously. Not good, you know why. Riverclaw answered. Yup, so he is still evil. Fangtooth muttered half to himself. Suddenly Riverclaw scented Moon Clan and saw them come racing in. As soon as Crescentstars paws touched the rock Blazestar let out a yowl. Who will speak first? He asked. I will Rockstar replied. Every thing in MountainClan is going well. The prey is plentiful. There was a fox found in our territory we chased it out and it ran across the MoonClan border. That is all. He beckoned Crescentstar forward. We have plenty of prey and every thing is fine. He mewed curtly. But we think some clan stole three kits and two apprentices from us. But now I think it might have been that fox and we know there is a badger in our territory. So now I think a fox stole the kits and the badger probably killed the apprentices when the were hunting or something. Blazestar you may speak now. Crescentstar muttered. All is well in ShadeClan too. The prey is plentiful we have rain and we did chase a big dog fox out of our territory. And that's about it. The gathering is over. Riverclaw let out a sigh of relief. What is it? Asked Fangtooth. I can't tell you, Im sorry. Fangtooth nodded. Okay but if you need to tell me something you can. Thanks for understanding. Riverclaw meowed. Well my clan is leaving so I better be going. Fangtooth murmured. Same here. Muttered Riverclaw. Till next gathering. Fangtooth waved his tail in fare well. Till next gathering. Riverclaw murmured.

## 4 - THE PLAN

Only the tuff survive Ch.4

The cats raced through the trees back to ShadeClan camp. Riverclaw I need to speak with you! Blazestar called. Oh no, what did I do this time? Thought Riverclaw. He met Blazestar in the leaders den. Did you need anything? He asked nervously. No. I just need to talk with you. I want more. He growled. Uhh more what? Riverclaw asked.

I want bigger territory more cats. I want to be the strongest clan in the forest. You know the story of the great Tigerstar that goes back thousands of years ago. Blazestar mewed. I know the story. He urged. Well in the story they say he tried to rule all the clans but he failed. Well if he failed then I'll fail ruling all the clans. So I have made a plan. Blazestar went on. The plan is that we will collect as many cats as we can and train them to be strong. Then we stretch out our territory farther back, not in the other clan's territories. Then we will be the biggest, strongest clan. Then we make friends of the other clans. We won't attack or do anything. We will just act really nice. And we tell them to feel free to join. We won't force them, because I know sometime they will join. Riverclaw stared in horror at his leader, he knew the leader was evil but this? Then Blazestar went on we will send cats that have rolled in fox dung to kill cats from there clan. So they'll think foxes are invading there territories. And when they ask why there's none in our territory I'll say there is safety in numbers. So to keep safe they'll have to join our clan. Yuck thought Riverclaw, I hope I don't have to roll in fox dung. Now do you think that plan is a good one? Blazestar asked. Riverclaw had to admit that, that was a very good plan. Yes Blazestar I think it's a very good plan. Riverclaw answered.

## 5 - THE NEW TERRITORY

Only the Tuff Survive Ch. 5

Riverclaw shivered. Today was the day that the clan would get more territory. Riverclaw was to choose who would go with him.

I want Thunderclaw, Rushfur, and Bloodclaw to help me find more territory for the clan. Yes sir! The mewed in a confused way. Of course they were wondering why we needed more territory. I'll explain once we are on our way.

As they started going about looking for more territory Riverclaw explained everything that Blazestar said. Well that is a good idea. They all agreed thoughtfully. Hmm, well this is where the border ends; no one has claimed this territory, just as Blazestar told me. Okay lets go.

Riverclaw mewed, Wow, I wonder why ShadeClan didn't take this territory before. Look at all the trees and everything, just what ShadeClan likes! And I can hear and scent all the prey! Now Blazestar said since we are going to have lots of territory there is going to be a second camp, in the new territory we have. Riverclaw exclaimed. That's a good idea to! They all agreed.

The sun was starting to go down by the time they got to the place to mark there new borders. Okay we'll mark the borders then find somewhere to rest. Okay the borders are set, lets find a place to rest and hunt in the morning.

~the following morning~

Okay once we are done hunting we will meet back here. Okay? Yes sir! They meowed and sped off. Almost right away Riverclaw scented a mouse, and instantly dropped into a hunters crouch. He creped up silently, then he pounced on it. Yes! Riverclaw exclaimed. He headed back to there meeting place to find them all back. Riverclaw sat next to Thunderclaw and got comfier. Then he croched down and ate.

Well we better get going we have to find a good place for camp. Riverclaw muttered. As they trotted around Riverclaw saw something moving around in the bracken. His companions also took notice, there claws slid out.

The creature had noticed them too. It was creeping around them it was very hard to see. It must be using the forest to hide. So it can strike at any moment. Form a circle! Yowled Riverclaw. Riverclaw heard a twig go CRACK! Show yourself! He yowled. Then a long legged, beautiful light brown she-cat with black paws stepped out. Who are you? Riverclaw asked. She looked very scared, but she bravely stepped up till she stood right in front of him. I think you should be telling me who you are, this is my place! She growled. I'm Riverclaw. The big dark brown cat is Thunderclaw. The red and black tabby is Bloodfur. And the dark gray tabby with the light gray stripes is Rushfur. Now can you tell us your name, please? He asked gently. Yes, my name is Flower. Well Flower lets find a place to sit down, I'll tell you why we are all here. Okay, follow me she murmured. She led them to a mini cliff and went right under some bushes. They followed her witch soon led to the bottom of the little cliff. Wow thought Riverclaw this would be an awesome place to set second camp. They all laid down and Riverclaw begun. We are here because our clan wants more territory and more cats. It's actually a very long story. Do you know any cats that might want to join our clan? Riverclaw asked. Hmm, tell me about clan life. Flower murmured. Well a clan takes care of each other. Warriors hunt for the clan. Once the others have eaten



the Warriors eat. Hmm, I'll join your clan! Flower murmured.

## 6 - A NEW FRIEND AND MORE

Only the tuff Survive Ch.6

Are you sure?! Riverclaw asked. We haven't told you the rest. Thunderclaw growled. Thunderclaw continued you have to fight for your clan sometimes and you don't get your own personal den to sleep in. Thunderclaw growled. I want to join still! Flower mewed. Nothing will stop me from being the best Warrior! Flower growled. Is that good enough for you? She challenged. I can also help you get even more cats, and I was thinking you could put your camp here. She went on. Huh? How do you know that we were also looking for another camp? Rushfur growled. I was following you the whole time, right when you stepped over your border. Flower mewed. Bloodclaw rolled his eyes. Well Flower mewed if you want to find some cats follow me.

As the cats stalked around Flower suddenly stopped at an old badger set. Dust! Dust! She called. Dust? Bloodclaw asked looking puzzled. Then a big light brown cat stalked up to them. What is it Flower, who are they? Dust asked. This is Bloodfur, Riverclaw, and Thunderclaw my brother. Flower replied. Umm, I was going to join there 'Clan'. Really?! He asked. Well if you're going I'm going sis. Dust mewed. Yay, brother this will be great! Flower mewed excitedly. Dust let out an amused purr. Okay, lets go find some more cats! Flower murmured. What about Rip? Dust asked. Rip?! No way, he is the meanest cat ever! Flower exclaimed. Then Bloodclaw interrupted take us to this 'Rip' you speak of. Riverclaw spotted a glimmer of fear and doubt in Flowers eyes. O-Okay. She murmured uneasily. Follow me. Dust meowed. They soon came to a twoleg nest. Rip is a kittypet?! Bloodclaw moaned rolling his eyes. He is not any ordinary house cat. Dust mewed. Well Clawpelt beat him, which sent him wailing to his twolegs! That shut him up! Mewed Flower excitedly. Aye! Agreed Dust. Riverclaw stopped dead and thought, Clawpelt he had gone this way? How much he missed his friend! The other cats looked at each other. So he was never to far away from his clan. Thunderclaw murmured. Bloodclaw looked very sad, after all Clawpelt had been his mentor. Clawpelt has been this way?! Riverclaw asked. Yea, you know him. Well I'm sorry but that was moons ago when we last saw him. Many moons ago. Dust murmured. He just all of a sudden left, without a word.

## 7 - MORE FRIENDS

Only the tuff Survive Ch. 7

He's not like that! Riverclaw argued. He must have left some sign that he was leaving, of where he went! Riverclaw murmured. Well that's what he did. Dust mewed. Well he did mention something about going to the Mountains or something. Flower put in. He's not that crazy or stupid! Dust growled. Well what if he didn't know about them. Flower defended herself. What is 'them'? Riverclaw cut in. See if they don't know, he didn't! Flower mewed to her brother. Dust just rolled his eyes. Then Flower began, 'they' are evil cats in the mountains! Dust continued on we've been there and heard the stories! Then Flower piped in, Ever since the evil cats killed the whole tribe of Rushing water, and they also killed the cats that the tribe called the invaders. All the cats gasped. We've got to go rescue Clawpelt. No! Thunderclaw growled. Clawpelt would be in even more danger, you know why. Growled Thunderclaw. Riverclaw looked away. Lets go to Rip now. Riverclaw muttered. Of course. Dust mewed. Lets go. Dust finally came to one of the twoleg fences. He jumped up and called, Rip! Rip, come out! Then they saw a huge Solid black tom with a rip of white on his flank. So that's how he got his name, huh? Thought Riverclaw. Then Bloodclaw stepped forward, will you join our clan? Hell no, I don't even know what a clan is! And anyway this is my territory! Rip spat. In a clan you have to guard your territory other cats. And fight for it! Mewed Thunderclaw. Fight? Rip meowed. Hmm. I like fighting, I'll join! Rip murmured thoughtfully. Good, come with us. Riverclaw meowed. Where to now? Rushfur asked. Maku and Rose! Flower exclaimed. Lets find Rose first she lives near here! They soon came up to another twoleg garden. They came up to a she-cat who was sitting on her fence, washing. Flower! Rose mewed excitedly. Who are these cats I know that that's Dust and Rip, but who are they? Rose asked. I'm going to join the forest cats! Please come with me! Well I certainly can't leave my friend to go alone! Rose mewed. Yay! Flower exclaimed. Why aren't any of these cats saying no? Riverclaw asked. Because I'm only going to the cats that talk about the forest and gaze in there and the ones I think will join! Flower replied. Now lets go find Maku! He's a rogue! Flower meowed. Rip groaned why can't we just go to the forest already? Rip asked. We still need more cats! Riverclaw explained. The seven cats padded along until they stopped at a bush. Flower poked her head into the bush and whispered, Maku! Maku! MAKU!! What? A voice murmured drowsily. Come out Maku! The Maku stepped out of the bushes. What?! Maku growled. Will you join the forest cats? Flower asked. Maku's eyes grew wide. That's always been my dream to join them! Yes! Yes I will join! Well that's it for today we better get some rest. Then we will go back to camp. Mewed Riverclaw.

## 8 - DANGER

Only the tuff Survive Ch.8

River awoke early in the morning. I guess I'll go hunt for everyone he thought. He padded along scenting the air. He soon spotted a mouse scuffling in the leaves. He dropped into a hunters crouch and silently creped up to it, he jumped and bit it behind the neck. Then he buried his catch. His hunt was very successful, he caught enough for everyone! He caught three mice, two voles, two magpies, and a rabbit! He returned to see that the cats were starting to wake up. He set down his catch and mewed; there's plenty of prey around here, lets eat! Riverclaw chose the rabbit and wolfed it down. Thunderclaw and Bloodfur grabbed a mouse. Flower snatched the magpie and her brother picked a vole. Rip got the last mouse, and Maku got the vole. Once they had all finished, Thunderclaw growled, well lets be on our way. Riverclaw nodded then led the way. Rushfur stepped up to Riverclaw and whispered I smell fox. Riverclaw sniffed the air, fox huh? Just my luck! Riverclaw thought with a smile. He instantly caught the scent again but this time closer. Good, Good. Riverclaw thought. Riverclaw started following its scent. Rushfur instantly sped up to him. Why are you following the scent, idiot?! Rushfur growled quietly. Lets see if these cats already have any fighting skills, if they do Blazestar will like that. Riverclaw replied calmly. Rushfur nodded, then took up the rear of the group. The cats stepped out of the bushes and there it was! The fox! Yes! Riverclaw hissed under his breath. Riverclaw acted surprised. Bloodclaw instantly hurtled himself at the fox. Die you piece of shoot! This is our territory now, get lost! Bloodclaw spat. Flower, Dust, Rip, Rose, and Maku attacked without hesitation. All Riverclaw could see in there eyes was determination. Flower spat at the fox this is for our new clan and our new home! As Riverclaw watched them he knew they were born to live in the forest, for StarClan them selves had destined it. These cats future would be a future of Clan life. Soon the fox struggled free and fled. Riverclaw looked at the other cats and meowed you did a great job! They looked embarrassed by being praised by a warrior.

The sun was going down by the time they reached camp. We've been expecting you. Furyeyes growled. Once Riverclaw got closer to Furyeyes he realized that he had fresh scratches on him. What happened? Asked Rushfur. Furyeyes looked away; I brought the leader a vole instead of a mouse. Furyeyes mumbled. Flower looked horrified. You'd better go see the leader Riverclaw. Furyeyes mewed. Of course. Riverclaw replied. As they stepped into the leaders den Riverclaw spotted Blazestar pacing back and forth. Blazestar we are back with more cats and we found new territory and the perfect camp.

## 9 - REMEMBER THE PLAN AND THE PROMISE

Only the tuff Survive Ch. 9

Really? Blazestar asked. Yup, we found the perfect place. We came across a fox on our way here, these new cats fought like fully trained Warriors. Riverclaw mewed. Good. Blazestar growled. In the morning you and your new cats will go back to the second camp and build it so it will suit you, you will be leader of the second camp. Oh and these cats will be second camp, the ones you just got and Thunderclaw better go with you too. Blazestar growled. Okay Blazestar, as you wish. Riverclaw replied. Riverclaw padded out of the den and into the Warriors den. Okay Flower and Dust you sleep here. Rip you'll sleep in the back of the den he beckoned with his tail. Maku you go to the nest next to mine and Rose you go behind Flower and Dust. Then Riverclaw sunk down into his nest and instantly fell asleep into a dream. He was back in the nursery when he was a kit. He was cuddled up against his mother with his brother Blazekit next to him. He looked at Blazekit what a monster my brother turned into he thought. Then Blazekits eyes flew open, staring strait into his. The next thing Riverclaw new he was in the forest with Blazepaw next to him. Then Blazepaw was mewling. Remember our plan brother and our promise. Riverclaw froze the plan and the promise. He would always remember the plan to kill the when they became warriors they were to kill the deputy so one of them would become deputy then they would kill the leader and then one of them would become leader and the other deputy. The plan had worked perfectly. The promise was to never harm each other. Riverclaw remembered. Then he with a jolt he found himself in camp, he had Flamestar the old ShadeClan leader pinned to the ground. Then his brother Blazeclaw ripped out Flamestars throat. No! Riverclaw screeched. Then Blazeclaw looked at him remember brother, this is what we've always wanted, remember the plan and remember the promise. Blazeclaw growled.

Remember the plan remember the promise~

## 10 - MORE DREAMS AND NEW CAMP!

Only the tuff Survive Ch.10

Then Riverclaw found himself back as an apprentice again. There were other apprentices around them, scratching them and calling them names. Then Blazepaw launched himself on the biggest apprentice pinning him to the ground. Then Blazepaw spoke if any of you ever make fun of us again this is what's going to happen. Blazepaw snapped his jaws tight on the other cat's throat. Riverclaw couldn't bear to watch it, so he turned around and lay down with his paws over his ears. No cat noticed because they were all watching horrified as there friend was killed. Then Riverclaw sat up and heard his brother saying, and if I catch you talking to the leader or near the leader you'll end up just like that flea bag. Blazepaw snarled. Once all the apprentices were gone Riverclaw asked; what are you going to do with the body? We'll through it in the River, as you can see I didn't spill any blood on the ground come help me with this. Blazepaw growled. OK. Riverclaw replied. Then Riverclaw awoke, Flower was prodding his ribs. What? Riverclaw mumbled. Its time to go and you were yowling in your sleep. Flower replied. Oh, I had a bad dream that's all. Riverclaw looked embarrassed. Flower looked softly at him, well we should head to out new camp. She murmured. Oh, yes, right! Riverclaw mewed. Then Flower rushed out of the den to her brother Dust. Dust; there is something wrong with Riverclaw today. Flower meowed to her brother. We all have our bad days. Dust replied. Come on Flower, Dust, Rip, Rose, Maku, and Thunderclaw! Riverclaw yowled.

As the cats padded through the trees Flower murmured to her brother; see look at Riverclaw, there's something troubling him! Flower whispered. He is probably having a bad day. Dust replied. Then what's making his day bad? Maku put in. Dust glared at Maku. How should I know, why don't you go asked him your self? Dust whispered. After that all the cats were quiet. They finally reached the second camp, but the sun was going down. Okay everyone find somewhere to sleep. Riverclaw muttered. What about you? Flower asked. I'm going to stay watch. Riverclaw didn't want to have those dreams again so he would stay up all night. Flower padded up to him, no, I'll stay watch. Flower its okay, I've got it. Riverclaw replied. Riverclaw you either get some sleep or you tell me what's bothering you. Riverclaw glared at her, fine. He growled. Riverclaw stalked off and curled up and soon fell asleep. But no dreams disturbed him that night. The next morning, he found Flower curled up next to him. He felt something for her he really did, he loved her. He wondered if she loved him too. He got to his paws and started working; he didn't want to wake anyone. They could come help when ever they wanted to. Riverclaw thought this is my camp and I'm not going to be like Blazestar he declared. A while after he started working Flower came up and helped him. What are you working on right now? Flower asked. Embarrassment flooded through Riverclaw's body. Umm, the nursery. He replied quietly. Flower gazed very softly at him, and stood next to him, to help him build the nursery. Flower loved him so much, from the first moment she had seen him. Now she new that he loved her back. That made Flower very happy, this is a good day she thought.

## 11 - BUILDING CAMP

Only the Tuff Survive Ch. 11

As Flower and Riverclaw worked together on camp, the other cats started to awake. Dust and Rose padded out and when they saw Flower and Riverclaw side by side they started snickering quietly. Flower saw them and her face turned red, she stalked up to them and growled get to work. When Flower was out of earshot Dust and Rose laughed even more, Rose fell over from laughing. Okay, Okay! I'm done Rose snickered. Maku padded out of the den and went over to help Flower and Riverclaw with the nursery. Rose muttered; Rip, that lazy lump, I'll go get him! Rose charged into the cave and crashed right into Rip. Rip! Rip!! RIP!! She yowled. WAKE UP!!! You can't sit there and be a lazy lump all day! She yowled playfully. I'll show you a lazy lump! Rip muttered playfully. And he heaved himself to his paws and pounced on her. Okay, okay, you win, you've killed me. Rose growled. Rip padded off and Rose leaped to her paws and jumped on Rip and then out of the cave. Hey! Rip growled. As Rip padded out of the den he went to help out Rose and Dust. Where's Thunderclaw? Flower asked. He went hunting. Riverclaw replied. They soon finished the nursery and the three cats went to help with the Warriors den. (Which was the cave they slept in.) We can handle this Rip growled we are just trying to find moss. Fine. Muttered Riverclaw. We'll go try to find a den for the Medicine cat. He mumbled. What about this? Flower asked. Riverclaw looked doubtful. He squeezed himself in and it was awesome! There were rock ledges and a little pool of water inside. It was hard to get in but there's plenty of room inside! Riverclaw thought excitedly. Riverclaw squeezed out and muttered to Flower it was perfect. Okay we'll go look for a leaders den, what about that? Riverclaw suggested. It's like a ledge the leader could stand on for clan meetings, and look below it is another cave! That would be perfect for the leaders den! Riverclaw exclaimed. Right lets got build a place for the apprentices. Maku mewed.

The cats had worked all day and all night it was the next morning and the cats had finished. All of them were exhausted. As Riverclaw stumbled over to his nest he felt someone next to him. He looked but no one was there.

## 12 - THE STORY

Only the Tuff Survive Ch. 12

As the sun started to come up again, Riverclaw remembered he had felt something next to him, but he found nothing there. Maybe it was because I was so tired. He thought. He awoke Flower and asked her to go hunting with him. Of course! Flower mewed. As they were hunting all Riverclaw could think about was that he had felt something next to him yesterday. He didn't know if it really was because he was tired. All he had caught so far was a mouse; he kept scaring all the prey. Flower stalked over to him. Don't tell me nothings wrong. She growled. Fine. Riverclaw mumbled. Yesterday, before we went to sleep, I thought I felt something beside me. But when I looked nothing was there. Her eyes widened. But she was looking behind him.

He whipped around, and saw nothing. What? Riverclaw asked. Some ones watching us. Flower growled. I know you're in there, so you might as well come out. Flower growled. Then a brown and orange tom, with stripes stepped out. Who are you? Riverclaw asked. I am Tiger. I know of what you speak. Tiger growled. I know everything, every tree here, every rock, and I know its past. Tiger growled with wisdom. Flower and Riverclaw looked in awe.

Many, many seasons ago there were six clans, ShadeClan, MoonClan, MountainClan, SeaClan, and DarkClan. I am a descendant from DarkClan. Tiger continued. See DarkClan lived in this very territory; they murdered, hated, and tortured cats from the other clans. They would do whatever they wanted and no one could stop them. Plus they had control over SeaClan. No cat could stop them. But then three kits were born. Their names were Icekit, Shadowkit, and Snowkit. The medicine cat had received a prophesy from StarClan, that three cats would save the clan from darkness. The kits were soon apprentices; they trained hard and fought like warriors. Every night Icepaw, Shadowpaw, and Snowpaw would sneak out of camp and practice moves and make their own attacks and death blows. The three of them heard about the prophesy, and Shadowpaw instantly said it meant them. She was very happy, when she overheard the medicine cat and the leader speaking about it. What Shadowpaw did not tell her sisters was that one would be swallowed in darkness.



## 13 - THE STORY part 2

Only the Tuff Survive

Ch.13

Shadowpaw had carried the burden that one would become evil. Her sisters Snowpaw and Icepaw knew there was something, wrong she was hiding something from them. After they trained on their own Shadowpaw ran straight to camp, she knew that her sisters were suspicious she didn't want them to know, what if they said she would turn evil? Tears rolled down her cheeks. They might already know! They think I'm going to turn evil! She thought. Don't they?! She started to panic. She rushed to her nest, and fell asleep.

Meanwhile Icepaw and Snowpaw were settling down to talk. Icepaw she is hiding something from us! Snowpaw exclaimed. I know it's not like her! Icepaw wailed. We promised to tell each other everything! Icepaw continued. Snowpaw nodded. Icepaw, I will see what it is if you really want to know and I will tell you how she feels. Icepaw knew there was something about Snowpaw, she could tell what her sisters were feeling or thinking. Snowpaw's eyes widened and she looked scared. What is it Snowpaw? Icepaw snuffled. One of us will turn evil and Shadowpaw thinks it's her. Snowpaw murmured. What do we do then?! Icepaw wailed. We need her to defeat DarkClan, Snowpaw mewed. After that she will choose what she feels is right. Snowpaw murmured. But, but she could kill us when we have our backs turned! Icepaw wailed again. No one said she would be the 'evil' cat! Snowpaw snapped. But who? Icepaw mewed quietly. That I don't know my sister. Snowpaw murmured. But Snowpaw also had a secret, a burden like Shadowpaw. Snowpaw did know who would become evil. Oh but you can't forget about Icepaw, she had a secret buried deep inside. She knew that one of them was going to die.

All cats have their secrets. Tiger growled. Now I'm going to skip ahead to when they became Warriors. Tiger mewed.

Yes! Thought Snowpaw. I can't wait to see what my Warrior name will be! She meowed. The three cats were named Snowfire, Shadowfang, and Icestorm.

In a moon they had no idea what they were going to face.

## 14 - THE STORY part 3

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The three cats sat watch and could not talk, it was a vigil, and they could not speak. Icestorm prodded Snowfire and pointed with her tail. Snowfire looked and saw nothing and just glared at Icestorm. Icestorm looked at her; in her eyes she could see fear. Shadowfang's eyes widened she nudged Icestorm and pointed to the leaders den. She nodded and rushed in. Icestorm prodded his ribs and beckoned him to follow the fear in her eyes made him follow. Icestorm pointed at the bush. Then she noticed her sisters weren't there. She raced over then heard yowling. She didn't care to be silent anymore. Snowfire, Shadowfang! Where are you! Icestorm yowled in fear. All the cats came rushing out of there dens. Icestorm quickly told the leader how she and Shadowfang saw something in that bush. Let's follow the scent! The leader ordered. They rushed around following the scent then they came to an open space. There was a mass of cats surrounding Snowfire and Shadowfang. Then the leader called; warriors ATTACK! There was whirling of teeth and claws. They soon chased off the other cats. Icestorm padded up to the leader. Who were those cats? She asked. They were from DarkClan, they barley had any cats with them though. The leader sounded confused. Why were they here? Shadowfang asked. As of now there's only explanation. They were after the three cats of the prophesy.

Snowfire, Shadowfang, and Icestorm sat the rest of the night in silence. As the sun came up the leader said they could speak and they could go rest.

The three of them awoke and Snowfire murmured; tonight is the gathering. Icestorm looked a little scared. I wonder what DarkClan will say? Shadowfang asked with interest. I don't know but this gathering will not be a good one. Snowfire replied. I have a feeling this won't end good.

## 15 - THE STORY part 4

Only the Tuff Survive Ch.15

The leader of ShadeClan (then) called who would go to the gathering; Snowfire, Shadowfang, and Icestorm you will come as well. The leader growled. Okay! They mewed.

The leader and the cats that were going to the gathering sped out of camp. I wonder what Darkstar will say. Icestorm thought aloud. Shadowfang mewed; if it were me I would say we can do whatever we want and you can't stop us! Snowfire and Icestorm looked at each other urgently. Then Snowfire spoke; uh, yeah that's what I would say too, heh? Snowfire stammered uneasily. Then they reached the gathering place. We were the last to arrive. Icestorm murmured. There leader Shadestar jumped on the high rock and let out a yowl. Who will speak first? He asked. I will. Mewed the pretty MoonClan leader. The prey has been plentiful, the begging of Newleaf is bringing the prey back. In Leafbare we lost a kit to Whitecough. She beckoned for Shadestar to speak. But then Darkstar shoved passed him. No, I will speak! Darkstar growled. Shadestar glared at him. Then Darkstar began; just after the last gathering we took over SeaClan. Will any of you leaders join us or make it hard like Seastar did? What did you do to him? Moonstar cried. Well he said he'd rather die than join me so, he died in my claws. Moonstar growled; I'd rather die than join you too. Shadestar and Mountainstar stepped up. I'd also die before I joined you! Spat Shadestar. Me too! Mountainstar growled. Darkstar glared at them and shrugged. I guess I'll have to do it the hard way. He growled. Just so you know I've already started an attack on ShadeClan, last night. Darkstar growled. ShadeClan will be the second clan to fall. He meowed happily. Then Darkstar jumped off the high rock and gathered his cats. As soon as he was gone the leaders were relieved. Maybe we should all stay together? Moonstar suggested. For safety. She added. Well we definitely can't stay at our camp. Shadestar murmured. We can all go to my camp. Mountainstar offered. Okay, we'll meet back here so you can lead us to your camp; we need to get our kits and the rest of the cats. Shadestar mewed. Okay. They agreed. Mountainstar sent one of his cats to tell the others about this and that they would need more room and more nests and fast. Shadestar came back with his clan to see both leaders waiting for him. Right, let's go! Mountainstar meowed.

When the cats finally reached Mountainclan camp, all the MountainClan cats were staring at them suspiciously. Snowfire, Shadowfang, and Icestorm were nervous. Well we have a new life now and we have to live with it. Shadowfang murmured. We will defeat Darkstar! Snowfire mewed. I'll do what ever it takes, even if it will cost me my life. Icestorm vowed.

## 16 - THE STORY part 5

Only the Tuff Survive Ch.16

The next day Shadestar was organizing the hunting party for his territory. He only sent the most strongest to hunt. One cat would watch for danger while the rest hunted. Icestorm, Shadowfang, and Snowfire were chosen to hunt. I'll keep lookout! Icestorm offered. Okay. Shadowfang mewed. As soon as they entered there territory all the cats were looking around and being jumpy. Would you stop it, I'm supposed to be the lookout! Icestorm hissed. Fine. Shadowfang muttered. Now concentrate on the prey! Icestorm spat. Shadowfang just glared at her.

So far the cats hunt was very succsesfull. There was no danger so far. Wait here for a moment will you? Icestorm growled. She padded to where camp was and when she looked inside she was horrified. There camp was flooding with DarkClan cats. She heard Darkstar saying; where did those flea bags go?! Darkstar glared around. Fine we will go destroy the other clans then we will hunt down ShadeClan! Darkstar growled. All the other cats cheered there approval. Icestorm eyes widened. She turned to leave but a tom cat was behind her. Who are you and what are you doing here? The tom cat asked. I'm Icestorm. She said nervously. From ShadeClan?! He asked. Yup. Icestorm replied. You'd better get out of here before he finds you; he knows the threat to his clan. The tom cat mewed. Icestorm raced away. He knows the threat to his clan? Icestorm thought. What is that supposed to mean?! She spat to herself. When she reached her sisters she was gasping for breath. Must go, DarkClan in camp, knows the threat to his clan. Icestorm gasped urgently. Help us carry back the prey! Shadow mewed.

When the cats reached camp they were all gasping for breath. There leader ran up to them. What happened?! He demanded. Snowfire pointed her tail at Icestorm. Come. Shadestar meowed to Icestorm. Once they settled down he let her catch her breath. So what happened? Shadestar asked. I went to camp because I thought I heard something over there. When I looked inside Darkstar was standing on where you call clan meetings and he said he would go to the other clans and kill them and then hunt down ShadeClan. I turned to leave but there was a big tom cat behind me. He asked who I was. I told him. Then he asked if I was from ShadeClan. When I said yes he said I should go; Darkstar knows his threat to him and his clan. Icestorm mewed puzzled. What did this tom cat look like? Asked Shadestar. He was light black with dark black stripes. Icestorm replied. Shadestars eyes were wide with surprise. It can't be! He murmured. What?! Asked Icestorm. My son, he got mad at me one day and he knew how much I hated DarkClan and there leader. So he joined them. Shadestar eyes were full of sorrow and pain. Go tell your sisters to put the food on the ShadeClan pile. He beckoned with his tail. Okay. Icestorm murmured.

As secrets are reveled a great evil rises.

## 17 - NEW WARRIORS

Only he Tuff Survive Ch. 17

But of course we all know how it ends, the good guys win! Tiger suddenly snapped. But I want to know more! Riverclaw wailed. No, no more, some thing are better left unsaid young cat. With that Tiger turned and hurried away. Riverclaw and Flower watched him go, shocked. Well that was awkward. Flower mewed. We should head back to camp, Rose will worry about us.

When they reached camp they dropped they're prey on the pile and Riverclaw jumped on the high ledge. Let all cats old enough to catch there own prey gather around the high ledge for a clan meeting! Riverclaw yowled. All the cats padded over and sat down. I have some important ceremonies to do! He murmured. Flower, Maku, Rip, Rose, and Dust please step up. Riverclaw mewed. Do you promise to uphold the warrior code and protect your clan even with the cost of you life? Riverclaw's mew rang across the clearing. Yes. They answered. Then from this moment on Flower you shall be know as Flowershine, Maku you will be known as Grassfur, Rip you will be known as Bleedingsoul, Rose you will be known as Roseflower, and Dust, you will be known as Dustfire! Flowershine Grassfur Bleedingsoul Roseflower Dustfire! Riverclaw, Thunderclaw and Rushfur yowled loudly. But I have some more important news Riverclaw sad his gaze saddened. I'm going to the mountains to find Clawpelt.

## 18 - Begging the journey

Only the Tuff Survive Ch. 18

Gasps of horror filled the air. Mountains? Why? Mews asked anxiously. He is my friend and I must rescue him. I am going with you Flowershine instantly volunteered. No, I don't want you to get hurt you must stay with your clan. Riverclaw said stubbornly. But- Flowershine started. Thunderclaw and Rushfur you must look after the clan. Riverclaw commanded. Bleedingsoul, you'll come with me. Riverclaw ordered. We leave early in the morning tomorrow so be prepared, all of you. He finished as he jumped off the high rock. Roseflower looked very worried, for Bleedingsoul of course. While Grassfur calmly strolled into the warriors den. Flowershine was frustrated with Riverclaw. She stalked over to him and hissed angrily. Flowershine, its for the best, we need you here I don't want to lose you. Riverclaw sighed. Riverclaw, you must not worry about me, but I understand that I must stay. Flowershine huffed. Thanks Flower. Riverclaw smiled.

Riverclaw awoke at dawn and trotted out of his den. He found Bleedingsoul already up and tearing apart a mouse. Hey! Bleedingsoul greeted him. Riverclaw nodded and snatched a vole. Gulping it down he stood up and stretched. Okay. He mewed. Let's go. So they started toward the vast, unforgiving mountains. Then they both took one last, long look back at camp and knew some how they would regret this journey. They raced across the ground and jumped over logs and rocks. As Riverclaw sped through the trees entering ShadeClan territory he prayed that Blazestar would not see him out here. Bleedingsoul looked tense, this was the first time he had been near the main camp, after all he was of squad 2 the second camp. Hey! Where do you think your going?! A voice yowled.

## 19 - Squad 1 Patrol

Only the Tough survive ch 19

Riverclaw screeched to a stop. "What do you think your doing on Shadeclan territory?" A voice snapped. "What authority do you have to question me, SunGleam?" Riverclaw growled. Then Emeraldpaw and Ragepaw came rushing to the scene. "R-riverclaw? Oh, p-please forgive me!" SunGleam begged. "Riverclaw?!" Emeraldpaw and Duskkitt both questioned at the same time. "Yes, but shouldn't there be at least two warriors in this patrol?" Riverclaw questioned. "Oh! Yes, Emeraldeye is a warrior now and Duskpaw recently became an apprentice." SunGleam informed Riverclaw. "I get to go live with squad 2 now!" Duskpaw meowed happily. "Yes, Blazestar saw that you had no apprentice's and decided to give you one." Emeraldeye mewed. "Okay but we better get going, tell Blazestar that Bleedingsoul and I had some important business to attend to, and won't be back for, at the least a moon." Riverclaw meowed. "Yes sir." SunGleam yawned, trying to hide her curiosity.

Once the patrol of cats was out of sight Riverclaw and Bleedingsoul started racing off again. By the time the sun was sinking down the cats had the mountains in sight and were both exhausted. They curled up in some tall green grasses where they flowed off into sleep.

Riverclaw awoke to a crunch of a twig. His head snapped up and he prodded Bleedingsoul. "Ugg, what is it?" He moaned. "Shhh! RiverClaw growled quietly. I think we have a visitor." He added. Bleedingsoul jumped up with his hackles raised. They stayed tense for another minute. "False alarm." Bleedingsoul sighed. "I am telling you I did hear something." Riverclaw said urgently. "Probably just a mouse." Bleedingsoul yawned. "Lets get going." Riverclaw mewed.

"Ugg, my paws are so sore and we have not even started up the mountain!" Bleedingsoul complained. "Well, better get used to it, I'm no medicine cat, and we still have a very long, hard journey."