

IvyClan's Destiny

Part 6

"I never thought the day would come... that I'd be taken away by my childhood nightmare's son... and then taken back home." Dapplepaw groaned. She and Scourge had begun their journey back to ThunderClan. Scourge still insisted that it was too dangerous for Dapplepaw, and he was only doing this because he cared. "

"You're going to practically kill me because you *care?!'*" Dapplepaw had snarled. "What do you mean 'practically kill you'?" he demanded. "You heard Sandstar! I'm not welcome back in ThunderClan anymore! You're going to toss me into the forest where I'm not welcome *anywhere!* I can't go on any of the territories! They'll all rip me to shreds!" Dapplepaw spat, un-sheathing her claws in frustration.

At this, Scourge actually thought about what might happen if he sent Dapplepaw back to ThunderClan. She'd have to live with the rouges... and he knew from experience that they'd probably rip her to shreds, too. It took a long time, but at last Scourge came to his senses. "Alright, Dapplepaw... you can stay. But it's my fault... I ruined your life. You were happy in ThunderClan... with your family! And I took that from you!" he yowled. He slashed his claws at a nearby soy plant in anger.

"Dapplepaw, what have I done?!" he snarled. Dapplepaw backed away slowly, her eyes wide. "No, Scourge... I wasn't happy... you saved me. I wasn't wanted there. The only person who treated me with even the slightest bit of love and respect was my own father!" she cried. "I'm happy here, with you!" she insisted. Scourge opened his mouth to protest, but then froze.

"You really are happy?" he asked. Dapplepaw nodded. "Of course, Scourge." She mewed, and nuzzled him in the side. She then jumped back in surprise. She hadn't done that to anyone besides her father. *Well, I guess Scourge is like my father, now. He sure does act like one.*

"Scourge... do you have a family?" Dapplepaw asked quietly. Scourge turned to her in surprise. "Sort of... we're kind of split up. My sister lives in ThunderClan now..." he said. "What's her name?" asked Dapplepaw. Scourge only

shook his head and changed direction. "Come on... my clan's waiting for me." He mewed quietly.

Dapplepaw continued to wonder who his sister is. She went through every cat in the clan, but none of them looked like Scourge, but that didn't mean anything. They didn't act like him either. She didn't think she'd ever know. There was no way she was going to go back to ThunderClan territory ever again.

She tried not to think about her mother and father... the pain was too unbearable. Her father's sad eyes seemed to hide in every shadow. The only thing that made her feel better was the fact that soon her father would forget all about her... when Lillystream had her newest litter. That way he wouldn't be hurting anymore... only Dapplepaw would. She'd take double the pain in her heart to know that her father was going to be alright.

"You seem sad... what's wrong?" Scourge grunted. Dapplepaw looked up at him and let out a mew of surprise. "Huh? Oh, nothing... I'm fine." she muttered. Scourge paused and held out his tail in front of Dapplepaw so she'd stop, too. "Dapplepaw... you know, if anything's ever wrong... you can talk to me. I'll always be here for you." Scourge mewed in a fatherly manner. "Okay..." Dapplepaw whimpered.

When they got to BloodClan... would Scourge still treat her this way? Would he still be there for her? He'd have to... he was her mentor. "Will we begin training right away?" asked Dapplepaw. Scourge shrugged. "It really depends on the state of the Clan and camp when we get back." He muttered. "...State of the clan and camp?" Dapplepaw wondered. "Well, when I leave there isn't anyone to really keep the cats in order. They'll fight each other to death if I'm not there to set 'em straight." Scourge explained. Dapplepaw nodded like she understood, but truth be told, she didn't. What kind of clan would fight so much they'd kill each other?

BloodClan didn't sound like a clan Dapplepaw would be safe at. Scourge looked at Dapplepaw expectantly as if he were waiting for a smart retort. Dapplepaw looked back at him, trying to keep her face expressionless. She couldn't let Scourge see that she was afraid. He'd try to take her back to the forest.

"BloodClan sounds nice." she mewed. Scourge snorted. "Yeah, right." He mewed sarcastically. "Like it or not, it's where you're staying." He mewed, flicking

his tail.

Things have been rather calm lately... this is about the time when something bad happens... Dapplepaw thought amusingly, but she didn't mean it. Just then did Flamepaw frantically scream, "*RUN, DAPPLEPAW!*"