

# IvyClan's Destiny

## Part 10

"Dapplepaw, wake up!" Dapplepaw opened one eye and groaned. She was up late last night meeting all the cats of BloodClan. Scourge stood over her, a smile on his face. "Good morning, Sunshine!" he snorted sarcastically. Dapplepaw rolled over on her side. "Go away..." she groaned.

Scourge prodded her side with his paw. "Come on, Dapplepaw. It's time to start training." He mewed. Dapplepaw's eyes shot open. She had forgotten she was to start training this morning. How would she meet Pantherpaw today if she was training with Scourge? "Actually, Scourge, I was hoping we could start tomorrow. It's... just all too much for me. I haven't exactly gotten the hang of BloodClan..." she mewed sleepily. This wasn't a complete lie. It really was all too much for her. She'd rather learn more about BloodClan before she began her training. It was all too unfamiliar.

"Oh, um... yeah, good idea, Dapplepaw..." Scourge said, but he sounded hurt. Dapplepaw felt bad, but she shook it off. "Sorry..." she said. "No, really, it's fine." Scourge padded from the den she was sleeping in.

Dapplepaw guessed it was the Apprentice's Den, she hadn't actually asked. It probably was now that there was an apprentice living there. She'd gotten used to the fact that she was the only apprentice in BloodClan... and just about the only She-cat, even if it was a bit awkward at times. But there *were* other She-cats. Like... Bloodrose, she was nice, and Adderspot, too. And Sammy showed her where the den was.

Sammy used to be a Kittypet, but she acted like a true forest-cat. She had been so nice, whispering soothing thoughts to Dapplepaw as she fell asleep. She could still remember her warm breath on her ear, her raspy yet soothing voice, and her light ginger pelt, telling her she'd be happy in BloodClan and everything would be alright.

"Good morning, Dad..." Dapplepaw whispered to herself as she got to her paws. *'Morning, Flamepaw.* She padded out of the dim den into the bright,

morning sunlight. She yawned as she blinked, trying to adjust to the light. "Good morning, sleepy-head." Sammy called from the Elder's Den. Dapplepaw beamed at her. "Good morning, Sammy!" she called back. She padded to the Fresh Kill Pile, pulling a rabbit from it. She brought it to Sammy, who purred loudly. "Thank you, Dear." She mewed, taking a bite from it.

Sammy didn't exactly strike Dapplepaw as a BloodClan cat. Dapplepaw knew Sammy used to be a Kittypet, but for how long?

Dapplepaw was already happy in BloodClan, as timid as she seemed. Besides, she'd live up to her respect that was ordered by Scourge. Speaking of Scourge; he was padding up to her now. He looked wistful as he mewed, "There's someone I'd like you to meet."

Dapplepaw got to her paws and followed Scourge as he led her to the camp entrance. "He's waiting just beyond that tree, there." He said, pointing his tail toward a large oak.

She couldn't see anyone near the tree, but Dapplepaw trusted Scourge. She padded timidly toward the tree when suddenly a large tom bounded from the branches and landed in front Dapplepaw with a large thud. "Hello..." he grunted. Dapplepaw, frightened, took a step back, the fur on her back standing on end. "Hi, t-there, I'm Dapplepaw..." Dapplepaw said, her fur beginning to lie flat. "I know who you are. I'm Infernostar, leader of FlameClan." The tom said dully. "I am the father of your father, Firestorm."

Dapplepaw's eyes widened. "R-really?" she asked. Infernostar rolled his eyes. "No, not really." he snarled sarcastically. "Sorry..." Dapplepaw murmured sheepishly. "Anyway, I hear you've been training with Scourge. He's a good friend of mine." Infernostar mewed. "Well, not exactly. We haven't even begun training yet." Dapplepaw confessed.

A small part of her wanted to ask Infernostar if he knew anything about Pantherpaw. She was still planning on visiting him the first chance she got. But she decided better not to. She couldn't let her curiosity towards the purple-eyed tom get the best of her.

"Listen, I'll, uh, be around... if you, uh, need some family to talk to. I'm the next clan over. Come and... visit anytime you, uh, want to..." Infernostar said awkwardly and probably unwillingly, but Dapplepaw knew he meant

well. "Thanks, Infernotstar... really, thank you so much. That means a lot to me." Dapplepaw mewed, dipping her head in respect. "I'd better get going." He grunted before racing off into the forest.

"Yeah... me, too." Dapplepaw murmured to herself. She watched as Infernotstar raced back to FlameClan. What a nice Tom.