A Dark Day

By Leanna

Chapter 3

Lion-O thanked the Terrator for all his help even though there was nothing more that the alien could do, he had done more then enough for them. Mandora insured them that an all points bulletin was issues in every sector with the lioness name and picture, if anyone saw her they would know.

Once the interplanetary Control Force had taken possession of the slave ship and the slave catchers were taken into custody the Thundercats returned to third earth.

The group was greeted with happy hugs and warm smiles; even Myra who was a complete stranger to the other Thundercats was welcomed warmly by her fellow Thunderians.

Tygra had given the interplanetary Control Force a copy of the data he collected from the ship and took the copy he kept up to the control room.

"Can I be of any help," the Tigress asked shyly.

"Sure," Tygra smiled at Myra, "you can help me sift though all of this, hopefully we can find something". "Come on cat," Schwenk ordered, "I don't have all night, I have things to do places to go…. people to kill," he smirked and tossed the she-cat a dark red towel.

The lioness wrapped the towel around herself and reached for her clothes, when she leaned down she felt dizzy and had to grab the sink to steady herself, "so the thundrillium is kicking in I see," Schwenk said looking at her, "Good you'll be less trouble". Leanna raised her head and looked at him narrowing her eyes and growled.

"Look you cooperate and you can eat, I know you haven't eaten in while so you must be starving," Schwenk said standing aside so she could leave the tiny washroom.

The lioness nodded and went back to her cage clutching her clothes tightly; once she was inside he tossed her a package of space rations before shutting the door.

"Now let's see what those slave catchers took from you," he said walking over and picked up a box that held the lioness's few belongings.

Leanna quickly dressed and sat down and silently watched the human as she started to devour the space rations.

“Hey found your shoes,” Schwenk chuckled, “they took those because they think they can be used as a weapon…the only thing dangerous about them is the smell,” he laughed.
Leanna just rolled her eyes and snorted, “can I have them back then,” she asked.
“In due time my pet ..All in due time,” The human nodded and lifted a cloth his grin soon disappeared. “What the…,” He said picking up one of Leanna’s Kama’s, he had never seen a weapon like that before, “Who did you steal these from,” He asked holding it up for her to see.
“No one,” she answered,” they belong to me,” she said in between bites.
Schwenk looked down into the box and moved the other one out of the way, that’s when he seen it, his eyes widened “Oh Shit,” he said picking up the Thundercat insignia. Then he realized the same pattern was on the two blades,” shit, shit, shit,” the human cussed quickly shutting the box, “calm your self Gaston,” he said dropping the box on the floor.
“Is there a problem,” The lioness smirked as the humans face paled.
“No, everything is just fine and bloody dandy,” Schwenk snorted nervously realizing who was sitting only a few feet away.
“You got any more space rations,” the lioness asked innocently.
“Here,” he said half heartedly tossing another package through the bars while he tried to think of what he could do to get himself out of this situation that just went from being not to bad to one of the worst days of his life. He reached down under the control panel, took out his gun and walked back to the cage, “Maybe I should just kill you and let your body drift in space,” He said leveling the gun to the she-cat forehead.
“Then you wouldn’t get your money. You are a business man after all,” Leanna smiled.
“I’d rather be poor then get caught with you on board. Having you here just insured me a death warrant,” Schwenk replied pulling back the hammer.
“And killing me will insure a slow and very, very painful death,” she nodded.
“Yeah by a very pissed off lion no doubt,” Schwenk said lowering his gun.
“Umm no not exactly,” Leanna said.
“No,” Schewnk said looking at her.
“No. Much worse,” she smirked, “try an over protective and quite large panther with a very nasty temper”.
“This umm Panther he’s your,” Scwhenk started to say.
“I believe the word you’re looking for is mate,” the lioness nodded, “So it would be best if you

just drop me off at the nearest space port and I'll forget all about this".
"You've got to be kidding me…you think I'm that stupid," Schwenk snorted, "you're staying put until I can figure this out". Schwenk went over and laid his gun on the console and picked up the bottle of whisky and took a long drink, he knew he was in serious trouble, getting caught selling a thunderian was one thing, getting caught selling a thunderian that happened to be a thundercat was an entirely different story. His thoughts where interrupted by a beep on the console. "Just in time," he said to himself as he punched up the screen. "Well gentleman, I think you'll find she cleaned up nicely," Schwenk smiled trying not to show his nervousness.
"Good, Lets have a look then," Roland nodded.
Schwenk turned and walked over to the cage, "you keep your mouth shut and do as your told," he warned as he opened the door, "remember I still have the controller to the collar".
The lioness got to her feet and walked out and stood as the human went back to the control panel, "well there she is," Schwenk nodded, "So who will start the bidding".
"Well," Roland said, "she has good muscle tone…she looks kind of washed out though".
"That's from the thundrillium collar," Schwenk nodded, "It keeps them weak and more submissive".
"Ahh I see. We wouldn't want her to rip you to shreds now would we," Skat chuckled.
Scwhenk laughed knowing all to well the mutant was right on the money, given the chance this she-cat would shred him to pieces without a second thought.
"Okay Schwenk I'll give you your 6000 gold pieces," The mutant nodded.
"Well you see," Schwenk said scratching his chin, "the price just went up".
"Ha I knew you were going to rip us off," Skat snorted.
"No no," Schwenk said raising his hands, "see I've had other interested buyers," he lied, "and well they offered me a lot more money, but where I've had business dealing with you gentlemen before I thought it only right to give you the first chance".
"Really now," Roland said, "how much where they offering".
"Well," Schwenk said, "they offered me 10,000".
"10,000," Skat snorted," No female is worth that much".
"You have no idea my friend," Schwenk said under his breath.
"10…I'll give you 15,000," Roland nodded.
Schwenk's eyes lit, things just got a bit better for him, "you got yourself a deal".

“Good I’ll have the money ready when you arrive,” Roland nodded.
“Fine I’ll be there in six hours,” Schwenk nodded, “Gentlemen it’s been a pleasure doing business with you” he said and cut the connection, “thank god…. I’m going to get rid of you and make a few extra bucks,” Schwenk smirked. “How’s going,” Lion-O asked the two tigers as he entered the control room.
“Slow,” Tygra nodded, “they were not ones for keeping accurate records, everything is just slopped together and out of order”.
“This could take up to a few days, just to sort everything out,” Myra nodded rubbing her forehead.
“I can’t thank you enough Myra for your help,” Lion-O smiled.
“I don’t mind really,” she said, “I have nothing else to do and I’m not one to sit around and do nothing…. I like feeling useful”.
“Well since we don’t have a ship that can travel to New Thundera at the moment,” Lion-O grinned shyly, “ and unless you can find another way home, I’m afraid your sort of stuck with us for the time being”.
“I think what he’s trying to say, is your more then welcome to stay until we get another ship or you can arrange transport,” Tygra smirked.
“Well like is said before,” Myra grinned, “I have nothing else to do”.
“Good,” Lion-O smiled.
Myra smiled and turned back to the computer screen, “umm, I think I may have found something,” the tigress said, “there is an entry here you may find interesting…Species…. Thunderian female…clan Lion..Height..5’10…weight 135 pounds… Black mane. Green eyes”.
“That’s Leanna alright,” Lion-O nodded, “Is there any thing else and clue as to who has her”.
“No that’s all there is in this file, just stats,” Myra said, “but that don’t mean there isn’t more buried somewhere”.
“Thank-you that’s a start, good job Myra,” Lion-O nodded and patting the woman on the shoulder, “why don’t you two take a break you’ve been pouring over this for hours”.
“Lion-O is right, we should go get some food,” Tygra nodded.
“Real food,” The tigress smirked, “now there’s a treat”.
A few minutes after the two tigers left, the doors to the control room opened and the panther walked in, “So any thing,” he asked walking over and taking a seat.

“I’ll tell you only if you promise not to destroy anything,” Lion-O smirked.
Panthro just crossed his arms and glared at the lion.
“Okay,” Lion-O said, “just trying to make you feel better…well Myra did find something in this chaos of files”
“What did she fine,” Panthro asked sitting straight up in his seat.
“Well she only found Leanna’s stats,” Lion-O nodded.
“You sure it’s Leanna,” Panthro asked.
“Look for yourself,” Lion-O nodded calling up the information.
“Is that all there is,” the panther asked reading the short description.
“So far yes, that’s all that’s been found,” Lion-O nodded,” it’s going to take a while to go through all this mess”
“A while, it’s already been five days, she could be anywhere by now,” Panthro said shaking his head. “I swear that woman is going to be the death of me”.
“Ahhh, that my friend is a woman job…to drive us nuts,” Lion-O smirked, “there are times we want to just take them and give them to the mutants, then the other times we can’t imagine life without them”.
“Isn’t that the truth,” Panthro snorted.
“And that includes pulling crazy stunts in an effort to save their lives,” Lion-O chuckled. “Like diving off a cliff and trying to take on a whole ship load of beings who are a lot bigger then us just to gain some information,” Panthro said cocking a brow.
“Exactly,” Lion-O grinned, “you know as well as I do panther, that who ever has Leanna will have their hands full”.
“They’ll be lucky if she don’t tear them apart,” Panthro said smiling, “she’s got quite the temper”.
“Yep that she does,” Lion-O smirked, “why don’t you go get some rest, I’ll let you know as soon as we find anything”.
“Okay,” the exhausted panther nodded, “Call me if you find anything and I do mean anything no matter how small”.
“Don’t worry I will,” Lion-O nodded
“So,” Schwenk said sitting down quite satisfied with himself that he had gotten himself out of a very sticky situation, “ No one from your own clan would have you huh..You had to settle for a

dumb panther".
"My choice in a mate is none of your business," The lioness hissed.
"Oh, so I'll take that as a yes," Schwenk smirked, "you know I don't even know your name".
"Why should you care," she snorted.
"Oh just thought I'd drop a line to that panther of yours convey my deepest sympathy's for his loss," Schwenk grinned.
"Why don't you drop it off personally," Leanna smiled, "I'm sure he would just love to thank-you in person for your consideration, then you would find out first hand why he is called Panthro the deadly".
"Yeah yeah, empty threats," Schwenk snorted, "Just like his empty head".
"Can you remove this collar," Leanna nodded, "I give my word that I will not try to escape".
"Yeah right, do I look that dumb to you," Schwenk said.
"No," she shrugged, "It's just that this collar is too tight and it's making me quite ill, you wouldn't want to sell a sick cat now would you".
"Hmm, true Roland is fussy on things like that, and you do look like shit," Scwhenk said, "okay I have your word that if I remove that collar you won't try to escape".
"Thundercats honor," Leanna nodded," I won't try to escape and I'll stay right here…Please Gaston," She smiled sweetly.
Against his better judgment he got up and walked over to the cage and unlocked the door, maybe it was the booze that was affecting his thinking, he always was a sucker for a pretty face, especially one with dark hair. He looked down at her and reached out and touched her cheek which was a big mistake, the lioness looked up at him as soon as his fingers made contact with her flesh she growled and in a flash she grabbed his wrist with one hand, pulling him down and punched him hard in the chest with the other, sending him flying against the wall with a thud, he wasn't seriously injured just winded, but it gave her to opportunity to try to make it to the console to call for help.
"You bitch," Schwenk wheezed getting to his feet, he was surprised at her strength and quickness, the collar should have made her too weak to fight, "you'll pay for that," he grumbled launching himself at her knocking her face first to the deck before she could reach the console. He grabbed a handful of her long dark hair and looked around for the controller, he seen it had slid halfway across he deck, he couldn't reach it without moving, his body weight was the only

thing pining her to the floor. With his hand securely wound through her hair he pulled back her head and slammed it forcefully on the floor.

The lioness groaned and fought to stay conscious, “that was a stupid move on your part cat,” Schwenk hissed in her ear. Leanna reached up and dug her sharp claws into his hand. Schwenk yelped and slammed her head into the floor again and rolled off her, he reached the controller as soon as she moved he pressed the button, the lioness screamed in pain as the electricity surged through her body until she was rendered unconscious.

Schwenk got up clutching his bleeding hand and kicked the lioness in the ribs. He took out the medical kit and bandaged his hand before picking the unconscious she-cat up and locking her back up in the cage. Panthro was in his bedchambers getting some much need rest when a sudden chill went through his body, his eyes snapped open “Lea,” he shouted sitting straight up. He bound off the bed and bolted to the control room.

“Panthro,” The lion said surprised at seeing the panther.

“Lion-O there’s something wrong,” he said as another chill traveled down his spine.

“What is it,” Lion-O asked seeing the look on the panther’s face.

“We have to find her…. now,” Panthro said half panicked, “she’s hurt”

Lion-O wasn’t going to debate what the panther obviously had felt, “Panthro were doing all we can,” Lion-O said feeling helpless.

“We need a ship,” Panthro said, “Call Thundera and have them bring the feliner II”.

“I already did that last night,” Lion-O nodded, “they said it would be three days before she was space worthy”.

“Damn amateurs,” the panther grumbled, “I would have that ship ready in a day”.

“I know you would,” Lion-O said, “but they are going as fast as they can”.

“By thundera I swear who ever has hurt her will pay dearly,” Panthro stated.

Schwenk looked at his bandaged hand and grumbled, “Probably gona need a rabies shot or something after that…damn cat”. If it wasn’t for the fact he was about to get a lot of money for the female he would have shot her on the spot, it wouldn’t have been the first thunderian he had killed and it probably wouldn’t be the last either. He got up and walked over to the cage and looked at the lioness, he noticed her breathing was ragged and shallow.

He knew instantly she was injured, “shit…see what you made me do,” He grumbled and opened the cage door and cautiously stepped inside.

He gingerly touched her wrist and found her pulse slow but steady; he knew she was still unconscious for which he was grateful, he didn't trust that she wouldn't attack again. He bent down and slowly but carefully lifted her top revealing a nasty bruise where he had kicked her. He carefully touched the spot to see if any ribs had been broken, thankfully they just seemed to be very badly bruised or perhaps cracked he couldn't be sure. All he knew was that she was going to be in a lot of pain when she woke up.

"Maybe that will teach you not to mess with Gaston Schwenk," he said as he stood and walked out of the cage and back over to the pilots seat, "Let's see who you are kitty," he said calling up the computer screen and looking for any new news bulletins.

It wasn't long before he found what he was looking for, "They are anxious to get you back.. Seems they have the whole interplanetary Control Force out looking for you," he said to himself then he seen something that caught his interest, a very hefty reward for any information leading to her whereabouts.

"Hmm two hundred and fifty thousand gold pieces, well kitty I might just change my mind about Roland's offer…but is it worth the trouble," he thought to himself, he could always claim he found her and that much money would keep him going for quite along time.

As he sat and pondered the situation he called up information on the Thundercats, especially the one who was suppose to be this she-cats mate, the human cringed when a picture of the panther came up on the screen, "good god, she wasn't lying when she said he was large, umm no wouldn't want to meet him in a dark alley, hell I don't want to meet him at all," Schwenk said knowing that this panther looked more then capable of crushing every bone in his body. "Don't know what she sees in that big eared freak," he snorted and closed the screen. He knew if he did decide to take her back, the only way he could get the money was one, if she kept her mouth shut about him and two if she arrived uninjured, cause that panther didn't look like a very understanding fellow. He seemed the type to tear something or someone apart and ask questions later. Lion-O was down in the kitchen with Tygra and Myra when the panther came in with a mysterious smirk on his face, "Well someone is in a good mood," Lion-O said cocking a brow, "you been drinking".

"No," Panthro snorted, "I just got through talking to Thanos on New Thundera".

"Thanos," Lion-O said trying to recall the name.

"He's the one I put in charge in my place at the lair on New Thundera while I'm here," Panthro

said.
“Oh ok,” Lion-O nodded, “So he’s the reason your in a good mood”
“We’ll let’s just say the Feliner II will be here by morning,” Panthro smirked.
“But I was told it would be three days,” Lion-O said confused.
“Umm well, it still needs work,” Panthro shrugged.
“You know what he’s done,” Tygra chuckled, “He either called in a favor or threatened him”.
“Nah..He owed me a favor and when I told him what happened he was more the willing to help.” Panthro shrugged.
“Must have been some favor,” Tygra chuckled.
“I stood up with him when he got married last year,” Panthro nodded, “That man was a nervous wreck, I was the one who made sure he didn’t bolt”.
“So they’re sending a half built ship,” Lion-O said.
“Well she’s more then half built, just needs a few things like stabilizers, the port engine needs fine tuning,” Panthro said naming off a list of things that still needed to be done.
“If it will make you happy and keep you busy Panthro, then have at it,” Lion-O chuckled shaking his head.
“Busy yes, happy no,” the panther nodded, “I have to do something or I’ll go crazy”.
“I’m sorry Panthro, happy was the wrong choice of words,” Lion-O sighed, “I know your very worried about Leanna”
“It’s okay I know what you meant,” Panthro nodded patting the lion’s shoulder; “I just need to do something to keep my mind occupied with something other then what I’m feeling now”.

Schwenk walked over to the medical kit and took out the smelling salts, “Time to wake sleeping beauty,” He said walking over to the lioness’s cage. “Now let’s do something about those claws of yours, you maybe weak now but I still don’t trust you,” he said grabbing a small length of cord and tying her wrist securely together. Once her hands were secure he put the smelling salts under her nose, the lioness’s eyes flew open with a start and she started to struggle.
“Stop you’re injured and if you keep struggling you’ll injury yourself further,” Schwenk said pinning her shoulders down.
“Get your hands off me,” she growled weakly.
“Look cat…do you want to go home,” Schwenk asked.

“What,” Leanna said her eyes widened with disbelief.
“Do you want to go home, you deaf or just dumb,” Schwenk snorted.
“Why should I believe you,” She said trying to ignore her painful ribs.
“Well we’ll just say I’ve gotten a better offer for you, so do you or not” he smirked releasing her shoulders.
“Of course I want to go home, what kind of a dumb question is that,” The lioness snorted, “did you expect me to say no I want to stay with you”.
“Why I’m not so bad,” Schwenk shrugged, “I’d have to teach you to be more civilized though…. too much animal in you”.
”You have no idea of how much of an animal I can be,” she growled showing a set of white short but very sharp fangs.
“See told you that your nothing but a savage,” He snorted.
“Well excuse me if I’m not my chipper friendly self,” Leanna said,”Being kidnapped and held against my will tends to bring out the worse in me”.
“Hey I was trying to be nice to you…. you gave me your word you wouldn’t attack,” Schwenk said.
“No I gave my word that I wouldn’t try to escape. I didn’t say anything about not attacking, beside I wouldn’t have if you hadn’t touched me,” she said.
“Why is that… Because I’m human,” Schwenk said, “Typical bloody cat’s”.
“No, it has nothing to do with you being human, it has to do with the fact you have no right to touch what don’t belong to you,” she nodded.
“Ahh see that’s where you’re wrong, I bought you from the slave catchers fairly cheep actually, so that makes you my property,” He said, “so you see my pet, you are in no position to threaten, barter or make demands…. You just sit nice a quite like a good kitty okay and we’ll get along just fine”.
Leanna looked at him and muttered every Thunderian curse word under her breath.
“Don’t you think for one second I don’t understand exactly what your sitting there calling me,” Schwenk smirked, “Such language…really it’s quite undignified coming from such a pretty mouth and no I can assure you both my parents were human, so I’ll ignore the comment about my mother and a mutant”.
The lioness just huffed and didn’t say another word.

“Much better,” Schwenk smiled, “Now we have to find a place to hide out for awhile until your ribs heal..then we’ll talk about you going home”

“Hide out, but I thought you meant you were taking me home now,” Leanna said slowly sitting up.

“Well I can’t very well take you home like that now can I,” Schwenk said.

“Umm yeah you can,” Leanna nodded.

“Yeah sure I show up with you injured and I’m a dead man…..no it’s better that you go back well and fit for duty, “Schwenk said.

“Please take me home now,” the lioness said.

“Well there will have to be some conditions to that,” Schwenk was running his hand through his dark hair.

“Like,” the lioness said curiously.

“Like if I were to take you back, you can’t tell them anything about me and how I came across you, that I’ll handle,” Schwenk nodded,” We’ll go with the story that I found you on some remote planet and you begged me for help and I was nice enough to bring you home”.

“You want me to lie to save your hide,” Leanne snorted.

“Do you want to go home…look, all I’m saying is keep your mouth shut, they will be so happy to see you they won’t ask you any questions, and if they do I’ll be there to answer them…other wise I can always take you to Roland, we’ll be there in a few hours,” Schwenk said, “Makes no difference to me…it’s your choice”.

“Okay…I’ll keep quiet,” Leanna sighed, “but can I at least call them to let them know I’m alright”.

“Hmm…. I don’t know about that,” Schwenk said rubbing his chin.

“Please…I’ll do anything,” Leanna said half begging.

“Really…. anything,” Schwenk smirked evilly.

“Yes, you name it and it’s yours, just let me make the call…. please,” she replied looking up at him.

“Hmm, what if I wanted your weapons, bet I could get a pretty good price for them,” Schwenk said testing her.

“My Kama’s, but,” she said biting her bottom lip.

“But…. what’s the but, is there something special about them,” Schwenk asked gauging her

reaction, “Because who ever crafted them, put a lot of work into them, the detail is amazing, not factory made are they”

“They’re hand made,” she said lowering her gaze, “they were a gift,” the lioness said quietly.

“By someone who means a lot to you I take it,” The human smirked. Leanna just nodded, “well then,” Schwenk said, “Are they worth a call on the comms”

“That is so mean,” she said raising her head.

“I am an assassin… so yeah I’m mean… Go figure huh,” he snorted, “so my pet, your weapons for a call home,” he said leaning against the bars crossing his arms over his chest with a satisfied grin.

“Yes,” She said reluctantly.

“Now see that wasn’t so hard,” he smiled, “Now let’s go give New Thundera a call”.

“New Thundera…no I need to call third earth,” Leanna said.

“Hmm, don’t know if you can,” Schwenk said thinking, “we’re quite far from there, we maybe out of radio range”.

“How far away are we, “she asked.

“It would take at least two weeks to get there, New Thundera is closer that’s only six days travel,” Schwenk said.

“Alright then call New Thundera, they can patch me through to third earth,” Leanna nodded, “you can untie my hands, I don’t have the strength to fight you”.

“Good, we’ve learned our lesson,” Schwenk said untying her wrists and taking her arm as she stood on unsteady feet. He couldn’t help noticing how clammy her skin felt, “I think I’ll remove that collar for a bit when we get done,” he leading her over to the co-pilots seat.

“Good because I’m really not feeling well,” she said quietly sitting back in the seat.

Schwenk looked at her, he knew there was only a trace amount of the Thundrainum in the collar, just enough weaken her but it was clearly making her quite ill, not only was her skin clammy but her coloring was off too. He just shrugged as he placed the call to New Thundera.

Tygra and Myra were up in the control room going through the thousand of files when the light on the console lit indicating an incoming transmission from New Thundera.

“Now I know they didn’t get back home that quickly,” Myra chuckled looking at Tygra.

“Considering the ship that dropped off the Feliner II left only a few hours ago I doubt it,” Tygra said as he answered the call, “Cat’s Lair, Tygra here”.

“Tygra, it’s Torr,” The young man replied.
“Torr, this is a surprise,” Tygra nodded.
“Well be prepared for another one,” Torr said, “I’m relaying a transmission to you,” he said pushing a few buttons.
“Transmission…. from who,” Tygra asked.
“He didn’t give me his name but he insist that I put him through to third earth, he said he has some information about Leanna,” the young leopard said.
“What by all means put him through,” Tygra said then turned to the tigress and shrugged.
“I wish to speak to your leader, “A male voice said over the speaker.
“Would you mind telling me who you are,” Tygra asked.
“Doesn’t matter, I have some information about your missing Lioness. Is the reward accurate”.
Myra leaned over, “Here we go, the mention of a reward will bring out all kinds of crack pots looking for a quick buck,” she whispered to the tiger, “Remember the call we got last night”.
“Umm yeah,” Tygra nodded to the large dent I the console where the panther had slammed his fist in anger from the call from a con artist hoping to make quick money.
“Hello…you still there,” the males voice asked over the comms.
“Sorry,” Tygra said.
“I repeat I wish to speak to your leader,” The male said.
“Sorry but Lord Lion-O is not available at the moment,” Tygra said, “you can tell me what kind of information can you give us”.
“I can tell you exactly where she is”
“Oh and where would that be,” Tygra asked being skeptical.
“At the moment, about four feet away from me”.
“What…she’s there with you,” Tygra said sitting up in his seat, “Let me speak to her”.
“Before I do, you didn’t answer my question about the reward”
“Yes, its accurate…now let me speak to Leanna,” Tygra said then quickly glanced over at the tigress.
“Bossy tigers,” The voice on the other end grumbled before a familiar one replaced it.
“Tygra,” Leanna said.
“By Jaga,” Tygra exclaimed recognizing the lioness voice, “Myra, get Panthro quickly”.
The tigress nodded and quickly called down to the hanger.

Panthro was busy working on the new feliner when Myra's excited voice came over the intercom, "Panthro get up to the control room NOW".
"Now what," Panthro sighed throwing down a wrench, "This better be important Myra, I'm really busy".
"Oh I don't think you'll be too busy to speak to your mate," The tigress giggled.
"Say what," The panther replied in disbelief.
Myra flipped a switch and let him listen in on Tygra's and the lioness's conversation, "Leanna are you okay, where are you," Tygra asked, "we've been very worried about you, especially a certain panther that's been going nuts".
"Yes I'm okay, Tygra, Cheetara and Pumyra were captured too," Leanna replied.
"Don't worry their home safe and sound," Tygra smiled.
"Thank the gods for that I've been worried sick about them," Leanna said, "Tell Panthro I'm on my way home".
Myra smiled and laughed as the sound of the panther shouts of joy came over another speaker, "I think you just did," she giggled.
"Woman you keep that channel open, I'll be there in a few seconds," Panthro grinned and bolted out of the hanger towards the control room as fast as his powerful legs could carry him.
Schwenk muted the communication channel for a moment, "Remember what I said, if you want to go home," He nodded before restoring the comm channel.
The lioness slowly nodded wondering how she could avoid answering if she was asked again, Tygra didn't noticed that she avoided the other questions he had asked her.
She nearly burst into tears when the panther deep brass voice came over the comm, "Leanna".
She quickly cleared her throat and composed herself, "Yes, I'm here," she said.
"Thank Jaga," Panthro said with a sigh of relief, "I've been worried half to death…Where are you and who is that with you," he asked quickly.
"I'm not too sure where we are," she answered honestly, "but it will take awhile to reach home, this ship isn't as fast as the Feliner, it will take nearly a week to reach new Thundera or two weeks to reach third earth".
"Give me your exact location and I'll contact Mandora, I'm sure there is probably a patrol in the sector that can pick you up and bring you home a lot faster," Panthro said.
"And what about my damn money," Schwenk quickly piped up.

“Your money,” The panther growled, “Who the hell are you”.
“I just happen to be the one who found her and I want the reward for finding her,” Schwenk snorted
“Schwenk, stop it, if you irritate him you won’t get nothing but a fat lip,” The lioness whispered
“Yeah right,” the human snorted, “like he can reach me from there”.
“Look just give him our position so I can go home and you can get your money,” she said fighting the queasiness of her stomach.
“Leanna you alright…what’s going on,” Panthro asked hearing arguing in the background.
“Look I don’t really want to meet up with the interplanetary Control Force…..I am a wanted man,” Schwenk said to the lioness.
“You won’t have to worry about them if you don’t get me home, you’ll have him to deal with, “she said nodded to the panther’s half panicked voice coming over the speaker, “Leanna …answer me”.
Schwenk sat back and rubbed his hands over his face, things were not going as smooth as he hoped they would, then a idea hit him,” Sorry about, I’ve already checked this sector and there are no patrols around,” the human said, “So I guess we’ll have to meet on New Thundera or I can try to find a place a bit closer and meet you there”.
Panthro didn’t like this one bit, he knew something was amiss, why wouldn’t this man tell him where they were, “Okay give me your location so I can chart out the closet place,” Panthro said then nodded to Tygra, “Have Thundera trace where that transmission is coming from,” he whispered to the tiger.
“Were umm in the Gaspra sector,” Schwenk said.
Panthro quickly called up the star charts, “There is a spaceport in that sector. Go there I’ll meet you in three days”.
“Three days,” Tygra said, “But the Feliner isn’t finished”.
“It will be,” Panthro nodded “if it takes all night, she’ll be space worthy and ready to fly by tomorrow afternoon”.
“I’ll tell snarf to keep the coffee going, Panthro is pulling an all-nighter again,” Tygra smirked.
Panthro just looked at the tiger and grinned, “Let me speak to Leanna,” he said he sensed there was something not quite right with the lioness, he knew she was hurt but there was also something else going on.

“I’m here,” she said weakly.
“Leanna…. Are you okay,” he asked not liking the sound of her voice.
At first she didn’t answer straight away and this worried him more, “Lea…come on talk to me,” he said more urgent.
“Yes, I’m okay,” she finally answered, “I’m just tired”.
Then there was nothing but static. “Sorry guys,” Torr’s voice came over the speaker, “I lost the transmission”.
“Get it back,” Panthro growled.
“Sorry Panthro, I tried,” Torr said.
“Damn it,” the panther grumbled then stood and took a deep breath.
“At least we know she’s alright,” Tygra nodded.
“No,” Panthro scowled, “I could hear it in her voice. She’s not alright, I’ll be down in the hanger if I’m needed,” He said as he turned to leave. “You cut the transmission didn’t you,” Leanna growled.
“No,” Schwenk lied, “I better get that collar off …you look like hell,” he said as he stood and walked around the back of her chair, the lioness moved her head to one side.
“I’ve never seen anyone have a severe reaction to the collar before,” He said removing the collar from around her neck, “there… you should be fine in a few hours, you should go sleep it off”.
Leanna nodded and got to her feet, she only took two steps before everything went black and she collapsed to the deck.
“What the devil is going on,” Schwenk said as he knelt down and picked up the unconscious woman and carried her to a small cot and carefully laid her down.
“I don’t know what’s wrong with you cat, but you better be well by the time we reach that spaceport”.
Schwenk stood and went back to his seat and contacted Roland, “Got some bad new I’m afraid”.
“Oh,” Roland said arching a brow, “you’re running late”.
“Umm, not exactly, I’m afraid I have to back out of our deal for the she-cat,” Schwenk said leaning back in his seat.
“Why,” Roland asked.
“Well it seems she’s quite ill,” Schwenk nodded.
“Ill… she looked fine to me yesterday,” Roland said eyeing Schwenk speciously.

“Roland… She really is quite sick, I’ve never seen a thunderian have such a severe reaction to the collar before, her skin is clammy, her coloring is extremely pale, hell she only made it two steps and passed out cold,” Schwenk said glancing back at the unconscious woman.
“Maybe you should still bring her here,” Roland said, “I can have a look at her”.
“What… you a doctor now,” Schwenk snorted.
“No but I can get one, unless you want to carry around a dead cat,” Roland smirked.
“And what stink up my ship…. I don’t think so,” Schwenk said, “Alright I’m only twenty minutes away anyhow”. “Panthro,” Lion-O shouted as he walked into the hanger.
The panther popped his head up, “over here Lion-O”.
The lion made his way around the many pieces and parts that lay strewn over the floor, “Tygra just told me the news,” He smiled.
“Yes, that’s why I’m down here working like a mad man to get this done,” Panthro said picking up another piece of equipment.
“You could have called me, I would have come down earlier to give you a hand,” Lion-O said looking at the mass of wires.
“Well with cheetara just getting back and all…I didn’t want to disturb you,” the panther smirked.
“Well for something like this, neither of us would have minded Panthro,” Lion-O chuckled,
“We’ve all been worried too you know”.
“I know,” Panthro nodded, “you can start with that wiring”.
Lion-o nodded and started working on the mass of wires, “so how did she sound…is she alright”.
“She said she is,” Panthro said, “but I know better, there is something going on that she wouldn’t or couldn’t tell me”.
“Perhaps,” Lion-O said, “we have no idea what she’s been through the past week… so this guy that contacted us…. he found her”.
“Apparently so, he was only concerned with the reward money and the strange thing is he wouldn’t tell us his name,” Panthro said scratching his head.
“Okay I don’t like the sound of that,” Lion-O frowned.
“Either do I,” Panthro said nodding in agreement, “that’s why I’m going to meet them, I want her away from him as soon as possible. There’s something about that guy that doesn’t sit right”.
Schwenk landed his ship just outside Roland’s home, “Still flying around in this flea trap huh,” Roland said coming out to greet Schwenk.

“Meh, she’s still got good mileage, and the price wasn’t bad either,” Schwenk replied.
“So who did you kill it get it,” Roland laughed.
“You know me too well old friend,” Schwenk chuckled.
“So where’s this sick cat you changed your mind about selling me,” Roland asked as he stepped inside the ship.
“This way,” Schwenk nodded and lead his friend over to the unconscious woman.
“Lioness right,” Roland said as he knelt down beside the cot, Schwenk nodded.
Roland looked the she-cat over, “umm, your right, she don’t look to good,” Roland nodded and looked at the lioness’s neck, “I see you had to shock her,” He said nodding to the red welt around her neck.
“Yeah she got a bit out of hand,” Schwenk shrugged.
“She attacked you even with wearing the collar,” Roland said surprised.
“I know it surprised me too,” Schwenk said, “So what do you think is wrong with her”.
“Well,” Roland said standing up, “Looks like it might be thundrianium poisoning”.
“But there isn’t that much in there, just enough to make her weak,” Schwenk said scratching his head.
“Perhaps she super sensitive to the stuff,” Roland said as he knelt down again,” you sure you don’t want to sell her to me,” he said touching the she-cat’s cheek, “I wouldn’t mind if she was ill, I can always make her better”.
“Look just give me the stuff that will make her better then I’ll be on my way, “Schwenk said folding his arms over his chest.
“Okay Gaston,” Roland said standing up, “what’s going on”.
“Going on…what to you mean there’s nothing going on,” Schwenk said defensive.
“You forget old friend I know you all to well,” Roland said eyeing him curiously.” Spill it”.
“Damn it Roland I got myself in over my head this time,” he said as he walked over and sat down in the pilot seat.
“When don’t you,” Roland chuckled.
“No seriously, everything was fine until I opened this,” Schwenk said kicking a box towards his friend.
Roland bent down and picked up the box and opened the lid, “Shit Gaston…. is this what I think it is”.

“Oh yes, trouble with a capital T as in Thundercat,” Schwenk groaned shaking his head, ”Of all the thunderians I’ve come across why did she have to be one of THEM”
.”Well Gaston ol buddy you have gotten yourself in quite a jam,” Roland nodded.
“Oh you want to hear the best part,” Schwenk snorted, “I’m suppose to meet up with them in a few days time so they can take her home”.
“Are you insane,” Roland said, “do you know what they’ll do if they find out who you are”.
“Yes, I know,” Schwenk sighed.
“So what was it that made you do something so stupid as to call them,” Roland asked.
“There is a very hefty rewards for her,” Schwenk answered.
“More then I was offering I bet.” Roland snorted.
“Umm yeah, try two hundred and fifty thousand gold pieces,” Schwenk said.
“Wow they must want her back badly,” Roland said shaking his head in disbelief.
“You have no idea how badly,” Schwenk said,” Hey if you help me out I’ll give you half the money”
“Help you out how,” Roland asked.
“By coming with me, you can get her better on the way, I’m on a deadline and if I miss it, I’m a dead man, course they find out who I am I’m a dead man,” Schwenk said.
“So you want me to go with you …so I can be the one to hand her over because no one knows me,” Roland said.
“Pretty much, if I’m seen I’m liable to be shot on sight,” Schwenk said.
“Okay,” Roland nodded, “I’ll go get the stuff we need,” he said, he hurried back to his house and grabbed a few things and ran back to the ship,” Ready when ever you are”. Schwenk nodded and lifted off, heading to the spaceport.
Cheetara woke the next morning not surprised to find herself alone, she knew when Lion-O heard the news about Leanna and she probably wouldn’t see him for the rest of the night, she knew he’d be helping out Panthro. The cheetah smirked and got up, dressed and headed down to the kitchen.
“Good morning,” The cheetah smiled to the tigress, “where is everyone,” she asked sitting down at the table.
“They’re down in the hanger helping get the Feliner ready,” Myra nodded, “Tygra said that Panthro wants to leave as soon as possible”.

“That I don’t doubt,” Cheetara smiled, “So what do you think of third earth so far”.
“It’s not too bad, wouldn’t mind staying for awhile,” Myra smiled shyly.
“Well I think you should,” the cheetah nodded, “I think Tygra would like that,” she winked popping a piece of toast in her mouth.
Myra almost choked on her coffee, “umm, you think so”.
“Oh I know so,” The cheetah smirked, “wait until I tell Lion-O that we get to play match maker again”.
“Again,” the tigress gulped.
“Well yeah, how do you think Panthro and Leanna got together. It took awhile but we pulled it off, I’ve never met two stubborn people as those two,” Cheetara laughed, “we even went so far as to break into Leanna’s room to find out what size dress she wore, so I could pick out the perfect gown that would knock that panther on his blue butt”
“Didn’t she get mad,” Myra chuckled.
“No, to this day she still doesn’t know,” Cheetara laughed.
“Gee I hope you don’t break into my room then,” Myra smirked.
“Nah, Tygra’s not stubborn just shy,” Cheetara winked,” see that’s the problem with these men, there scared half to death to open up”.
“So I take it the break in worked,” Myra smiled.
“Oh yeah, after he picked his jaw up off the floor,” Cheetara chuckled, “he turned and seen her, that was it he never left her side for the rest of the night”.
“I happy that she’s been found, I can’t wait to meet her,” Myra nodded.
“That probably won’t be for awhile once she gets home,” The cheetah smirked, “but I’ll make sure to drag her away from that panther long enough so you can”.
“Speaking of Panthro,” Myra said pointing towards the door.
Cheetara turned around as Panthro, Tygra and Lion-O entered the kitchen.
“Good morning ladies,” the lion smiled.
“How’s the Feliner coming along,” Cheetara asked as the men sat down at the table.
“I’m leaving as soon as I get done eating,” Panthro nodded.
“Well you not going alone,” Tygra spoke up, “I’m going with you”.
“Yes, take Tygra with you, we can handle things here,” Lion-O nodded, “if not you won’t get back for weeks,” he smirked.

“Oh ha ha…. smartass,” Panthro snorted and got up to fill his plate with food, then he stood stock still, the plate slid from his fingers hitting the floor, pieces of ceramic scattered everywhere.
“Panthro,” Lion-O said jumping to his feet, “what’s wrong”.
“The hell with the food, I got to leave now,” he said quickly turning and bolting from the kitchen.
“What’s going on,” Myra asked as she and the others quickly followed the panther.
“My guess, trouble,” Tygra said as they entered the hanger.
”Panthro,” Lion-O said, “Wait a second…Slow down…. what’s going on”.
“Something is seriously wrong with Leanna,” he said as he started hurriedly moving things out of the way, “We have to go.. now,” he said tossing the unused equipment and tools aside.
The lion turned to the two women, “Cheetara you and Myra go up and ready the launch ramp,” he said as he and Tygra began to unhook the cables from under the Feliner’s hull.
“Come on Myra we better hurry,” Cheetara said grabbing the tigress’s hand and ran to the control room.
As the two women hurried up to the control room, Tygra and Lion-O had unhooked all the cable’s and finished moving everything out of the way, while the panther was up in the cockpit checking things over and getting ready for take off. What normally would have taken at least an hour was finished in only a few minutes.
“Everything’s clear down here,” Lion-O waved and shouted over the roar of the Feliner’s powerful engines. Tygra nodded and leapt up in the cockpit with Panthro, Lion-O turned and headed up to the control room.
“Okay guys ramp extended, your clear to launch,” Cheetara said as Lion-O came through the door.
“You guys be careful and bring that woman home safely, “Lion-O said over the comms as the feliner took off.
“Don’t worry we will,” Panthro answered.
“You know we’ll be there a day ahead of them,” Tygra said as they cleared the atmosphere.
“Exactly,” Panthro nodded, “I want to be there ready and waiting to go when they arrive”.
Tygra nodded he understood how the panther felt; he would do the same thing if he ever was in that situation, he was actually surprised at the restraint Panthro had been showing for the past

week. Although he couldn't guarantee that wouldn't fail once they reached the spaceport. He glanced over at the panther and smirked at the determined look on his face, this was a panther with a plan and anyone who dared interfere with that would pay dearly.

"How's she doing," Schwenk asked from the pilot set.
"Well, I gave her something for the poisoning," Roland said scratching his chin;" if that's the problem she should soon be awake".
"Umm you may want to tie her down or keep well away from her when she wakes up," Schwenk smirked, "I've had a run in with her when she was weak, I don't want to know how strong she is healthy".
"Nah, I'm not worried about it, I've dealt with all kinds of she-cats before," Roland shrugged.
"Have any of them been trained Thundercats," Schwenk asked arching a brow, "and did you get a good look at her weapons…. this is no ordinary cat".
"Well no," Roland said, "but that shouldn't make much of a difference".
"Okay, but don't say I didn't warn you," Schwenk shrugged turning back to the controls.
Roland snorted and turned as the she-cat groaned, "she's waking up".
"Hey there," Roland said as the Leanna's eyes fluttered open, "your going to be okay now," he said as he knelt down beside the cot.
The lioness's emerald eyes locked onto the human, she bolted upright, "who are you," she asked backing away from him.
"The name is Roland…. I'm a friend of Schwenk's," he nodded, "there's no need to be afraid of me".
"What happened," she asked looking around.
"You passed out," Schwenk spoke up.
"How are you feeling," Roland asked as he reached out his hand to feel her forehead.
The lioness looked at him, bared her teeth and growled, "Okay I take it much better," He said dropping his hand.
"I don't think she's scared of you Roland," Schwenk smirked.
"I'm only trying to be nice," Roland shrugged and patted the lioness on the knee.
Schwenk just shook his head, "That was dumb," he said as his friend went flying across the small space of the cockpit, "I warned you…. you alright Roland," he asked as his friend slowly

picked himself up off the deck.
“She’s just a bit cranky,” Roland said picking himself up and going over to the copilots seat and sat down.
“If you say so,” Schwenk snorted, “well my friend we’re stuck with her for the next 26 hours, try not to get yourself killed before then”. Then he seen the lioness get to her feet, “hey where you going”.
“The bathroom, “she said.
“Oh here I thought you used a litter box,” Schwenk snickered.
“Perhaps when I come back I’ll use you as a scratching post,” she hissed as she turned to leave.
“You got your gun handy,” Roland whispered.
“Of course I do,” Schwenk winked.
“You may need it,” Roland said looking in the direction the lioness has disappeared to.
“Just leave her alone and she’ll leave us alone,” Schwenk nodded.
When the lioness returned a few minutes later she sat back down on the cot, drew up her legs wrapping her arms around them and rested her forehead on her knees. Schwenk just look at Roland and shrugged. An hour went by and the lioness never moved or spoke, Roland noticed she was trembling slightly. He tapped Schwenk on the shoulder and nodded to the she-cat.
“Hey cat,” Schwenk said, “you alright”. She just sat there and didn’t move or answer.
Schwenk looked at Roland and shrugged, “just leave her be”. “Won’t be long now,” Tygra said, “we’re just about at the spaceport”.
“Good,” Panthro said running his hands over his face.
“You should try and get some rest,” Tygra nodded.
“I don’t need rest,” Panthro snapped suddenly.
“It was only a suggestion,” Tygra said, “You haven’t had much sleep”.
“That’s not your concern tiger, now back off,” The panther growled
Tygra turned his head and arched a brow at Panthro’s outburst. He turned back to the controls and didn’t say any more as the spaceport came into view. Once they landed, the two men jumped out and headed to the center complex. Tygra noticed as they walked there wasn’t something quite right with Panthro; he noticed every little noise drew the panther’s attention to which he would normally ignore. He seen the panther’s eyes narrow and his nostrils flare a bit when they came upon a group of people.

“Hey Panthro relax,” Tygra said as they made their way though the crowd.

“I am relaxed,” Panthro scowled.

“Okay then,” Tygra said, “well go get some food then a couple of rooms for the night. I’ll contact Cat’s lair and let them know we arrived”.

“Fine,” the panther said and stomped off towards a food court to eat.

Tygra shrugged and chalked up the panther’s mood change to him being anxious and exhausted.