Finally Found You

By Rangerkitty

Chapter 13

Panthro looked up from his breakfast as Tygra entered the kitchen the next morning. “Well, hello there. Missed watch this morning, I see? I had to cover for you.”

“Sorry about that, Panthro.” Tygra felt bad, he had never missed his shift before.

“Up all night in the lab?” Panthro asked

“No, why do you ask?” Tygra replied

“Well, when you didn’t show up this morning to relieve me, I checked your room and found it empty. Figured you might be up working on something.”

“Sorry again.” Tygra said, pouring himself a glass of juice. “Any unusual activity out there?” he inquired, trying to change the subject.

“Nothing unusual. The storm caused a lot of debris from the woods, so the Thundercats will have to do some yard cleanup today.” Panthro said, and returned to eating his breakfast as Wilykit and Wilykat ran into the kitchen.

“Did you guys hear all that thunder from the storm last night?!” Wilykit asked excitedly

“Yeah” Wilykat stammered “I hardly got any sleep, it was so loud.”

“Well, I was awake all night in the control room.” Panthro said.

“”How about you, Tygra? Did you sleep well?” Wilykat asked him. The question caught Tygra off guard as he was taking a drink from his glass. He choked and cleared his throat. “Um, fine, yes.” They looked at each other, wondering why he suddenly seemed nervous. “Excuse me” Tygra said, and left the three others in the kitchen. He met Liono in the next room and greeted the Thundercat lord.

“Good morning, Tygra. Sleep well?” Liono asked

“Yes, very well.” Tygra replied as Cheetara joined them. Liono went into the kitchen and Cheetara started to follow when Tygra grabbed her arm. “Wait, Cheetara, I need to talk to you.” He whispered.

“What is it Tygra?” she inquired, interested.

“Follow me” he said, letting her arm go and walking into the council room. One he was sure they were alone, he turned to Cheetara. “I’m sorry, but I had to talk to someone. I feel like I’m going to explode if I don’t get this out.”

She remained silent and waited for him to continue.

“I think I’m in love.” He grinned.

“You are? With Melonia?” She smiled. Tygra looked very happy and Cheetara was bemused to see the tiger grinning so broadly. There was a light in his eyes that she had never seen before. “I’m happy for you.”

“Thanks, Cheetara. And thank you whatever you said to her yesterday when she was running away. She opened up to me after you and Liono left and shared that she was leaving because she thought she’d embarrassed me.” He stated. “She told me how she felt, and I really think I love her.”

“Did you tell her that?” Cheetara asked him.

“Not yet, but I will. I want to say it just right.” he smiled.

“I’m sure you will.” Cheetara told her friend.

“Thanks Cheetara, I feel a lot better.” Tygra smiled.

Cheetara headed towards the kitchen as Tygra went upstairs to wake Melonia. He had only just left her chambers an hour before, but knew she would still be sleeping. He thought back to watching her sleep, breathing softly and looking so beautiful in the morning light. He hurried to her room, and entered quietly, seeing her still lying in the bed. He walked over to her and sat beside her as she began to stir. He leaned over and kissed her softly as her eyes fluttered open. “Good morning.” He smiled. She smiled back and drew the sheets close to her chest.

“Hi. Did I oversleep?” she asked.

“Not at all. I didn’t want to disturb you. Did you sleep all right?” he inquired.

“Yes, thank you. And thank you for last night. It was incredible.” Melonia added, blushing slightly. She pulled the bed sheet around her and stood,
walking to go draw a bath. Tygra watched her walking and noticed that most of her bruises had faded away. “Your back looks much better. I guess the lotion and warm baths did the trick.” He beamed.

She turned halfway at the doorframe to the shower room and turned her head to smile at him. He felt his heart skip a beat as he admired the sudden cascade of golden blond hair that fell over her shoulders onto her back. Her graceful neck supported the silhouette of her face’s lovely features. Her cheeks had a faint blush to them, and her lips were full and pink, slightly puffy from the

night filled with love's kissing. She was a vision before him, and he felt at a loss of words.

Her eyelashes fluttered and she smiled. "I have you to thank for so many things, my dear Tygra." She looked down as he stood from the bed and joined her where she stood. He touched her chin with his hand and raised her face so she was looking at him. "How can I ever thank you enough?" she asked softly.

He leaned down, painstakingly slowly, so that his lips were just almost touching hers. With a warm breath, he answered, "By living each day like you mean it, and being the beautiful, strong and wonderful Melonia we all love." She smiled at him, and in that instant, they fell into an embrace and kissed one another as only soul-mates can kiss.

He released her and bowed slightly; kissing her hand and silently leaving her chambers so she could draw her bath. Her heart fluttered as she sat on the side of the tub, watching the water fill the basin and she touched a finger to her lips, still feeling the sensation of his kiss when she realized what he'd just said. In this moment, for the first time, she felt completely happy.

In another part of the Cat's Lair, the Thundercats had finished most of the cleanup of the debris left by the storm. Lion-O and Tygra remained in the control room, finishing surveillance on the grid. No unusual activity in the area.

"Well," Lion-O said, pushing a button. "Looks pretty good. I guess we can head out whenever she is ready."

Tygra looked up from his own panel, unsure of what Lion-O meant. "What do you mean? When who is ready?"

Lion-O looked at his friend. "Well, Melonia, of course. It's been a week since she was last home in her village, and she had said she was anxious to return home. Besides, you haven't seen what's been happening with the construction since then either." He explained.

Tygra looked back to his screen. "Right." he said, a little softly.

"Tygra? Everything okay?" Lion-O asked, sensing the abrupt change in Tygra's mood.

"Fine, Lion-O." Tygra smiled a false smile and stood rather quickly. "I'll let her know we are heading back this morning." He exited the control room quickly as Cheetara entered.

She moved out of his way as he moved past her so they would not bump into each other. She approached Lion-O and put her hands on his shoulders as he stared at the blank monitor before him. He closed his eyes as he felt her touch which made the tension in his muscles suddenly fade away. He reached up with one hand and touched hers as she moved in front of him. "What's going on?" she asked.

"Tygra seemed surprised that I suggested we return to the Maldesian village today. I thought

he'd want to see the status of the rebuilding, especially after that violent storm last night." Lion-O explained.

Cheetara looked up to the door that Tygra has exited though just a moment before. "Oh, okay. THAT explains it."

"Explains what?" Lion-O inquired. "Did I miss something?"