

Clan Cats

Chapter 1

The first thing I hear is the mewing of my litter mates. I feel soft fur rub up against my muzzle.

“Lilly! When will Mint open her eyes?” A small voice squeaked.

“Hush now Raven. She will open them when the time comes.”

“I want to play!”

“How about you go play with Raven, Snow?”

“Oh all right.”

The first thing was the blinding bright light. I had to squint against it.

“Oh, you’ve opened your eyes.” I look up to see a she-cat with bright blue eyes with a white furred chest and paws, the rest of her pelt is all light gray. “Look over there. The white she-cat is Snow and the black tom is Raven, they’re your litter mates.”

The kits looked over at Mint with joy. “Oh! Mint has opened her eyes!” Snow chipped happily. “I can play with her now!”

“Can we now go outside?” Raven asked eyeing Mint.

“Sure. I’ll go with you.” Lilly yawned while getting up and stretching. “Come, lets go.”

“Lilly? What’s outside?” I say as I start to stand.

“You’ll see. Now come on.” Lilly jumps out of the nest landing gracefully. She walks up to what I later learned was called a door. She started meowing so our owner would let us out.

I take a few steps towards the door until my nose was barely poking out. Snow, Raven, and Lilly walked all the way out.

Lilly turned back around towards me. “Are you coming Mint?”

“Oh, ok. It’s just so many different smells.” I took my first steps outside.

From that day forward I spent every day outside. I’m now almost 6 moons old. Every night I sit on the top of the fence looking out into the forest. Lilly has warned me and my litter mates to never go into the forest. I don’t know why though. Everytime I ask she ignores my question and talks about something else.

One day I heard a sound. A sound like no other. It was the mewling of small helpless kits. The sound was coming from the forest. “Hey, Lilly? Do you hear that?” I ask. I turn around to see a sleeping Lilly.

I guess I'll just go, then. I think to myself.

I leap into the woods. The kits mews leading me on.

Chapter 2

It’s been a day since Mint disappeared.

Lilly and Raven have been thrown into a panic. Although, I know she’ll be fine. They may not see it, but she is strong. I tracked her sent into the forest. She clearly entered. The smell of the trees pulling me forward. I pause. A strange feeling in my heart tugs me in a different direction. I follow this feeling, the closer I get, the stronger it gets.

It leads me to the far left, once I reach the car trail I stop to hesitate. I look both ways, the long black path passes through a wide expanse of marshes, hills, and forests. If I go across the smelly trail here, I would be in the marshes. The feeling tugs me in that direction. I look all the way down the trail to see if any were coming. I didn’t see any. I carefully place my paw at the edge of the hard surface feeling for any vibrations of any upcoming cars. None.

I quickly sprint across the trail with caution. Once I reach the other side a sent fills my nose. It’s the smell of a cat. I walk over to a tree

The tree tops sway with the wind, dancing. I trip over a root, landing face first into moss. I look up dizzily to find a squirrel in the branches making funny noises as if it were laughing.

Wow, even the prey is mocking me. I sigh to myself.

I hear it again, the kits mewling. All thoughts of the squirrel long gone. I went into the forest again. I leap over roots, logs, and bushes. The kits mewling stops. Another sound comes into my ears; other cats' voices.

“You have no right! It's against the clan code!” A strong voice comes in.

“I can do whatever I want. You and your stupid code can't stop me!” A rough harsh voice growls.

I slow down with my muzzle to the ground slowly inching forward. From the smell of them I can tell that there's only two toms. Checking that I'm up wind from the two cats, I slow to a stop under a bush so I can view what's going on without them knowing I'm there.

“Then I'll just have to make you stop!” The younger tom yells.

“HA! I'd like to see you try. You will help me find the other missing cats and bring them together, so then I will rule over all of you!”

For the first time I get a good view on the two toms. The younger tom has a grayish blueish pelt with yellow eyes like the sun. Probably around 6 moons old. The other tom has a ripped ear and many scars running down his muzzle. His pelt is a mix of brown and black including piercing red eyes.

It looks like they're about to jump at each other. Like as if something bad is going to happen. Both toms start growling. The older tom springs at the yellow eyed tom. The next thing I know is that my vision gets blurry and red.

Chapter 3

Mint opened her eyes to a rock wall. I'm curled up on a nest of moss and leaves which is a warm, fluffy, and comfortable lay out against the damp floor. I

take in the scene before me. To the right of me is a large crack in the wall with what looks like many types of leaves and roots of many kinds. From where I lay I can smell that some of the leaves and roots are sweet and sour. I slowly look to my left. A bright light streams from a tunnel that leads to the surface.

A swift breeze from outside swoops into the cave like formation. I open my mouth slightly to let the smells from outside wash over my tongue. The breeze brought the smells of many different cats from above outside. The cats outside smell more wild than what I'm used to. Cats back at home smell of their person. A sharp shard of pain goes through me at the thought of all the cats back at home like Lily and my litter mates. I squeezed my eyes shut against the pain.

A feeling of calm ripples through my fur. The feeling of being watched burns into the fur on my head. I carefully open my eyes to see the yellow eyed tom watching me. Eyeing him back, I question him, "Who are you?"

"The name's Stormpaw." he purrs. Stormpaw walks over me and gently sits down next to my nest. "You seem much better." he adds thoughtfully.

"Wha-" I pause thinking for a heartbeat, "What happened?"

Stormpaw looks at me curiously with a hint of confusion in his gaze. He looks down at his paws as if the ground is more interesting than my question. He raises his head till my eyes meet his. "You tell me." he says slowly. A small faint scent of fear drifts off of him.

Still holding Stormpaw's gaze, I answer, "I don't understand-". I say very slowly with confusion. "One heartbeat I'm under the bushes the next... I'm here..." I shift uncomfortably in my nest, quickly looking away from Stormpaw's gaze not wanting to meet his eyes thinking he might be able to read them. I was just hiding one fact from him, during that time I only saw in red.

Stormpaw seeming more distracted walked out of the cave calling behind his shoulder, "I'm going to go get Tallfire!"

"Oh-ok." I call after him. *Does he know? No, he couldn't. Right?* I think to myself in a haze of worry. I try to sigh of my worry and start thinking about Lilly and my littermates. *I wonder what they're doing right now. I don't want them to worry about me.*

A long light brown tom trots down the entrance tunnel with a quick pace. An excited expression painted across his face. “Well hello!” he says, almost too happy. “My name’s Tallfire! What’s yours?”