

The last of us

Melody, Kaiko, and Heziri all sat silently behind me as I had instructed them.

“There may be danger in every corner, but I will protect you at any cost.” I had told them. I knew that I was more cautious than most mothers should be, but at this point, it didn’t really matter as long as my babies weren’t hurt. “Once your father gets back, we can go get some food, Melody.” Melody stood to attention, puffing out her chest excitedly. “I will do my best mama!”

Melody was nearly of age, but she was also very childish, so I worried for her most. Kaiko and Heziri were a lot like their father, obedient, tactful, and quiet.

Which proved very helpful several months ago when the shortage of food started and the others went hunting after my children.

I heard a noise close by, so I told Melody to get back down and be quiet, but it was just Marlon (Their father). I stood up to nuzzle him admiringly, glad everything had gone well with uncle Tyson and Zo. During the shortage there had been an argument among us about protecting our families. Tyson and Zo had wanted us to all stay together, the last of all the Florida panthers to stay together, that is, because they had lost 2 of their children to the evil ones across the river. However, Marlon and I had argued that we should stay efficiently scattered because we’ll be easier to find if we’re all together. In the end, we were obviously right and we won our case.

I called for everyone to come out of their protection places to say hi to their father. They all seemed relieved to see him, especially Melody because she wanted to hunt. So off we went to go find prey, leaving Marlon with Kaiko and Heziri. Melody took the lead as I had taught her to when she was young, crouching down low to wait in silence for our food to come. We didn't find anything more than a few racoons, but we took what we could. Melody was slightly disappointed, but I was worried. I wished for this to not be the start of a long famine, because if it was, we were gonna be in lots of trouble. Winter would begin in less than a month. "We have to get ready." I murmured to myself.