

Strange Bedfellows by hafedor
Chapter 9

“Lance, are you out of your freakin’ mind?”, asked Keith.

“Look Keith, I know what your thinking...”, began Lance.

“You know what I’m thinking!”, shouted Keith, “I’m thinking that while we were busting our asses, battling for our lives, you’re playing house with the enemy!”

“She’s not the enemy!”, said Lance out of anger, “ She’s the one who set red lion’s homing beacon, not me! You wouldn’t have found us! She’s been through a lot! We were wrong about her! You don’t know her the way I do!”

“Actually!”, replied Keith, “I think you now know her the way a lot of other men do!”

“Take that back Keith!”, yelled Lance.

“I will not!”, replied Keith, “She can control minds! Obviously she’s controlling your’s. I don’t know what’s controlling your other body part. I just have a feeling that it’s been where many have been before.”

“Shut the hell up!”, shouted lance. And with that he lunged at Keith. The two of then began fighting and trading blows.

“Stop it you two!”, shouted Hunk, “This isn’t going to get us anywhere!” He and Pidge grabbed them and separated them.

“Take it back!”, yelled Lance.

“Never!”, shouted Keith

“Enough!”, yelled Hunk, “Don’t forget Lance sent out the distress signal. It he hadn’t Galaxy Garrison never would have rescued us.”

“I didn’t send out distress signal.”, said Lance who was puzzled.

“Well if you didn’t, then who did?”, asked Keith.

“I did!”, replied Queen Merla, who was standing on top of red lion. She then jumped down, and joined them.

“I couldn’t help but over hear your conversation, gentlemen.”, replied Merla, “Drule ears hear better then human ones.”

“You?”, asked Keith, “How? When?”

“When I realized Lotor betrayed all of us.”, she responded, “Right after the castle blew up. I returned to my ship, and tried to get help. I saw that there was a convoy from Galaxy garrison nearby. I didn’t let them know it was from me. I was afraid they would think it was a trap.”

“Why did you just leave after that?”, asked Keith.

“Because I went back to help you.”, she told him, “That’s when Lotor knocked me unconscious.”

“You see Keith.”, said Lance, “I told you.”

“Oh I don’t know what to believe.”, said Keith, “This could still be a trap.”

“Let me at least try to prove that I am sincere.”, replied Merla, “I want to help rescue Allura.”

“Fine.”, said Keith, “I guess we don’t have much of a choice. Hunk, you and Pidge try and fix red lion. I have some questions for the queen.”

“Trust me Keith she has changed.”, said Lance.

“We’ll see.”, replied Keith, “Commander Hawkins fired a homing device onto one of Lotor’s ships. However, he must have found it because the signal stops. It ends in dead space, maybe you can figure out where they were heading.” He then handed her a small handheld computer device that traced the signal.

Merla looked at the small screen, and a feeling of horror came over her. She couldn’t believe it. She knew where they were.

“You mean, you don’t see the planet on this screen?”, she asked in fear.

“Planet, there’s no planet there.”, replied Keith, “What do you take me for?”

“Allura is in grave danger.”, replied Merla, “If you can’t see that planet, then it is the place where all Drule life began. It is guarded by magic, and can only be seen by Drule eyes. I didn’t believe it existed until now. But that is the area where it is believed that the Drule gods once reigned.”

“Why did Lotor take her there?” asked Keith.

“He has lost his future thrown, and he is now a disgraced warrior.”, she began to explain, “He will try and redeem himself by throwing himself into the sacred volcano of the Drule gods. Many believe that the Drule gods formed a Drule male and female, from the lava, of that volcano. He’s going to kill himself in the hopes of becoming one of them.”

“Well I say good riddance.”, said Lance.

“You don’t understand.”, said Merla, “He can take anyone with him.”

“My god!”, exclaimed Keith, “He’s going to kill Allura too!”

“If she’s lucky.”, replied Merla, “I never believed in the mythology. But if he’s right, he will become a god, and Allura will become immortal. She will be his for all eternity.”

“My guess is that they will both be dead.”, said Keith, “But either way we’ll have to rescue her.”

“I am a genius.”, announced Pidge as he and Hunk came over, “Red lion is fixed, and ready to go.” He then saw everyone was upset. “Hey, why the long faces?”, he asked.

“Lotor’s going to kill himself, and take Allura with him.”, replied Lance.

“That bastard!”, replied Hunk, “I’ll break his neck with my bare hands!”

“We have to form Voltron, and get to that planet.”, said Keith.

“But how?”, asked Lance, “We don’t have a pilot for blue lion.”

“Yes you do.”, replied Merla.

“Forget it!”, said Keith, “I’m still not totally convinced about where you stand.”

“Come on Keith.”, said Lance, “We don’t have much of a choice. Who else can fly it? We need blue lion to form Voltron. We can’t rescue Allura without it.”

“We don’t have time to train a new pilot.”, said Keith.

“I’m one of the best damn pilots in the Drule empire.”, stated Merla proudly.

“Besides Keith.”, began Lance, “Allura flew it, at first, with very little training. All Merla has to do is start it, and then we can form Voltron.”

“If she can start it.”, replied Keith.

“What’s that supposed to mean?”, asked Lance.

“It means that he thinks I’m still evil, and King Alfor spirit won’t let me.”, she replied, “If I haven’t changed, then I won’t be able to start it. You won’t have anything to worry about. However if I can start blue lion, then you will know that I have changed.”

“We don’t have a uniform for you.”, Keith told her, “There will be nothing to protect you.”

“That’s okay.”, replied Merla, “It will be worth it to get back at Lotor, and save Allura. I owe her more then I can ever pay her back.”

“The key is already in blue lion.”, said Keith, “We all left them in the lions before we went into the fake castle.” They then all headed towards the lions.

“Good luck!”, said Lance as he winked at her. She said nothing. She then grabbed him and gave him a passionate kiss.

“I now have all the luck I need.”, she replied leaving him speechless. Both of them got into the separate lions. Merla sat down in blue lion’s pilot seat.

“This isn’t too bad.”, she thought, “I guess. How will I ever fly this thing?” Merla then saw Cheddar.

“Oh, I see you’ve come to give me some pointers little one.”, she thought to the mouse. He just smiled and nodded at her.

“Well.”, she began, “I could probably use all of the help I can get.”

“Ready team!”, said Keith over the lions’ intercom, “Insert keys!”

“Keys set!”, said Lance, Hunk, and Pidge in unison. Black, red, green, and yellow lions started. Merla inserted her key as well, but the blue lion wouldn’t start. She kept pushing buttons, but nothing was working.

“Come on please let her start it.”, said Lance to himself.

“I knew it.’, thought Keith.

Merla was trying all she could, but nothing was working.

“Look, King Alfor is it?”, she began, “I don’t know who, or what you are. But your daughter is in trouble. If you don’t let me do this she might die, or face a fate worse then death. I know I’ve sinned in the past, but I really have changed for the better. Please, let me make up for it now.”

With that her eyes swelled, and tears ran down her cheeks. It had been years since she had truly cried. As the tears hit blue lions control panel, a strange light filled the cockpit. All of a sudden, blue lion came on to full power.

“I did it!”, she thought. Cheddar then began to cheer for her.

“Thanks little one.”, she replied

“All right!”, exclaimed Lance, “I knew she could do it!”

“We I have to admit, I hate it when I’m wrong.”, said Keith, “But this time, I’m glad I was. Welcome to the team your highness.”

“It’s my pleasure commander.”, replied Merla.

“Okay team.”, said Keith, “Let’s go save the princess.”