

Smoldering Ashes

PounceWind's Backstory

(PounceWind's POV)

Hey, I'm the one and only lynx outlaw of the SkyHaven kingdom. Here, I write down my life story here and hopefully find someone who understands me. You see, it all started 17 years ago, when I was born.....

I was born in a lynx tribe known as the Cattawalki. We lived in a birch forest with a meadow and a stream. My father was Chief EagleSlash. He is a warrior lynx who is fearless and is very strong. My mother was a lynx called PondLily. She and my aunt DaffodilShine were the tribe's healers and advisors. My mother and my father fell in love, having nights alone. Years later, a bonding ceremony happened, which is a custom of my tribe. When two cats bond together, they are bound to each other's souls so they may never be apart. Of course, months later, my mother became pregnant. My parents were excited to have kits together. My father's chest swelled with pride, a smile on his muzzle. It's very rare for him to show any sort of affection, but he does that only around my mother. My aunt was really brave as my mom started giving birth, her breathing labored. My aunt murmured comforting words as my mother kept trying to push. My father paced at the entrance of the tent, worried for his mate since there have been incidents. Soon, high-pitched mewling cries filled the tent. My aunt told my father the news. "Congrats, Chief. PondLily has given birth to a little she-lynx and a tom!"

My father beamed and rushed into the tent, nuzzling my mother's cheek, his deep voice rumbling in his throat. "Look at them, they're really cute....." he said softly as my mother hummed in agreement, gazing down at the kits lovingly. That day, my brother and I came into the world. Our markings on the cheeks earned our names, PounceWind and HawkWing. My parents were filled with pride and joy.

A couple months later, HawkWing and I opened our eyes. My mother found out first, my brother's eyes revealed to be a grayish dark green. I opened my eyes and my mother's breath hitched as she gasped, eyes wide with fear, worry, and surprise. One of my eyes was an olive color, but my other eye..... Was a fiery orange, the sign that I inherited fire magic. Her muscles were tense as kitten me looked up at her innocently as I mewled cutely. But there was no mistake that the eternal flame was burning in me. She bit her lip, glancing outside of her den at the other tribe lynx milling around. She sneaked out of the den and went to the healing den where my aunt resided, currently cataloguing her medicine supply. My mother quickly explains to my aunt about the situation about me, and her expression turns grim and worried. "We can't let the chief find out..... Every cat in the tribe knows how he isn't comfortable with magic, especially fire since his young years." DaffodilShine mumbles solemnly. My mother nods in agreement as they go together to go back to the den, only to find my father towering over me, his claws unsheathed and his stormy gray eyes glowering down at me, as if I was a bothersome spider biting at his paw. My mother quickly rushed forward and faced him as she tried to calm him down from his anger. He yowls at her angrily as my aunt quickly picks my brother and I up by the scruff and carries us away a safe distance, but kitten me flinches

and my ears and tail droop as the frustrated yowling flare up into a full-blown argument. My parents hiss and yowl at each other angrily as my father says that I am a demon spawn of magic and I could burn down the whole forest. My mother retorts by reminding him that I am one of his kittens and that he shouldn't be a heartless fox. It ended with my father storming out of the den, a deadly glare on his face as he disappeared into the forest. 9 years passed by after that day and my father still hated me and kept distance between us, only speaking to me in a snarl to remind me to watch where I put my paws. My mother and my aunt adore me and they helped teach me what they knew about magic and magic users. They taught me how to control my powers by imagining rain diffusing the fire inside me so I was calm. HawkWing grew more distant from me and stayed by my father's side most of the time. One day.....

I was tricked. A group of young cats were picking on me and my brother watched only from the sidelines with an expressionless facade. The bullies mocked and poked at me, until I snapped. Fire and smoke was everywhere. Cats yowled with fear as they ran and some worked to stop the raging blaze that licked at the ground and the trees hungrily. The fire was soon burned out, leaving the destruction in plain sight. I was brought forward to the council and my father, my mother and aunt fought against the guards to try and come to my defense. EagleSlash declared with his claws scratching against the ground that I was hereby banished and I was to never show my muzzle in the area ever again. At that moment, all my hopes and dreams seemed to vanish. I glanced at the assembly of lynx, but there were no sympathetic looks except my aunt and mother. The rest was fear and anger. That day, I was heartbroken as my ears and tail

drooped and I looked at the ground as I slowly got to my paws, turned around, and walked into the depths of the forest, only to end my previous life, and begin my life as an outlaw in the SkyHaven Kingdom.

