

I was in and out of consciousness though everything. I saw lights and faces that were blurry and tents. I couldn't think. It felt like years before I was finally able to stay conscious. I groaned and looked around. I tried to sit up but my vision plunged into darkness. I lay back down and wait for it to clear. Ok, can't sit up. Where am I? I think and recognize the white tent and quiet calm. The healers tent. Everything comes rushing back, the flight, the crash, the wind. Wait. I realize in horror what it meant. The child has been taken. What child though? I wanted to pace and think but staying conscious was a battle alone. I looked and saw Devin in the cot next to me. He was awake and reading a book, but his eyes were closed. I winced when I saw his leg in a cast and on his wrist. He was asleep. I wanted to wake him up but when I tried to talk, nothing came out. My throat was so dry. I couldn't do anything but lay there. I hear Devin snore and sit up. He looks around and his eyes meet mine. He smiled and then looked concerned. He groans and shifts so he sits facing me. Hey, you ok? That was a nasty fall you took. He said. I try to talk but another raspy whisper comes out. He helps me drink some nectar but it looks painful for him. The cool thick liquid runs down my throat and I breathe a Sigh of relief. Thanks. I tell him, a little less raspy and more clear. No problem he says and sits back down painfully. So? He asks. Well, I feel like someone has taken a sledgehammer to my head and I can't even sit up. I tell him. He looks concerned and I try to smile to comfort him. It must have been more of a grimace. I notice my arm's in a sling and my foot in a boot and another bandage on my chest. How are you? I ask him. He gestures to his arm and leg. Well, I didn't get a concussion and a broken rib but I sprained my wrist and broke my leg. Though The healers said that I'll be able to walk later today if the nectar and ambrosia do their job. He says. I sigh in relief that it's not too serious. What was that wind? It came out of nowhere. He asks me. I look at him. That was the thing the prophecy was warning about. The child has been lost and the wind and water will battle me till I save it. I tell him slowly. His eyes shoot up. So, that means the quest has started? Didn't your mom say that once it started it couldn't be stopped? He asks. Yeah. I sigh. What are we going to do Dev? Both of us are injured and I can't even sit up for crying out loud. I tell him. He shifts and takes his hand in mine. It's going to ok. we just have to take it one thing at time. He says. I squeeze his hand and smile, wondering how I got so lucky. Then I heard a BOOM and the ground shook. I

Heard campers screaming and a yell of rage. I start to panic, I couldn't move. Devin looked scared but grabbed some crutches and tried to walk to the tent flap. He struggled, his leg heavy and wrist struggling to hold the crutch. He reached the flap when wind hurled it open and he was pushed back. I gasped. Standing at the flap, sword in hand and eyes glowing blood red, was Cole. And he looked MAD. He ignores Devin and walks straight over to me. WHERE IS SHE?! He demands. Not only did my tongue not work, but I had no idea what he was talking about. I just laid there, helpless. Devin tries to get up but slumps to the ground. WHERE. IS. SHE?! Cole yells at me, not inches from my head. Who? I ask him when my tongue finally works. My daughter, she went missing last night and I found a note in your handwriting saying you took her. Where is she? He asks me again. I stared at him speechless. You think I took her? Me, of all people. I ask him. He seems to pause at this. You were set up. The real one who took her is after me too. As you can tell, there's a reason I'm in the healers tent and can't move. I tell him. His glow fades a little and I see tears in his eyes. Then... where is she? he asks me, tears running down his face. We don't know. A voice wheezes and I see Devin who is trying to stand up with the help of his crutch. But, Lura is the one who is going to find her. She just got a prophecy yesterday. He explains. I realize it now. The lost child was Cole's daughter. And I had to find her. Cole looked at me with a look that said 'really? You?' And 'maybe I'll get to see her again'. I knew I couldn't let him down. The minute I can walk, me, Devin, and Nika will find her. I tell him. I see a spark of hope in his eyes. He nods. Well, then I should probably get back to Astraea and tell Chiron I'm sorry for barging in uninvited. He says, returning back to normal Cole. Cole helped Devin back to his cot and Devin let out a sigh of relief. Sorry about that. Cole says. No worries. Devin says. I watch as Cole leaves. I'll have Hermes send you a note in the morning. Thanks Lura. I know Astraea will be relieved that you three are helping. He says and leaves. I breathe out a breath I didn't know I was holding. Well, that was interesting. Devin says and I smile. Yeah, hopefully she's ok. I say. Meanwhile, somewhere in the mountains: A dark figure knelt over the tiny child and smiled a sinister smile. When they come for the child, they won't know what hit them. The figure says in a rough voice. It laughs and the awful sound reverberates throughout the mountain.

