

It had been a few days since Cypher's postcard. Life went back to being monotonous. Grayson was still a little terror but he was starting, and i mean like 1%, starting to sleep better. That one percent made all the difference. I sighed and finished doing the last load of laundry, mainly Dev's doctor scrubs, and went to do the dishes. Dev was back for lunch and was eating in the other room. Grayson was napping which was a blessing. I walked out grab the first dishes from the other table when I heard a faint twinkling sound. Puzzled, I walked toward the source of the sound and found it came from the sink. I rainbow had appeared over the water and it seemed to be... ringing? I thought for a moment then it talked. would you like to answer this Iris message? A feminine voice said. Sure. I say and it dings. Hello? A familiar voice said. I looked at him shocked and smiled. DEVIN! I yell. WHAT?! He yells back. GET YOUR BUTT OVER HERE! ITS CYPHER! I yell excitedly. He runs over and trips on a chair and hits his head on the wall. I roll my eyes as he rubs his head and walks over. Cypher?! He asks. Hi! He says. He sounded like he was on a phone call but I could see him. Greek FaceTime. I grab a chair. What are you doing?! How are you?! I ask him. Im fine, we're in Kentucky. He says. Wait Kentucky? Florida to Kentucky? Dev says voicing my thoughts. He grabs a chair and sits down as well. A million questions raced back and forth through my head so fast I couldnt tell which one to ask first. Um yeah. Snuck into the fort, met Fear- I had only one question at that point. Im sorry, met Fear?! I ask him, worry running through me. Yeah, he sucks. I told him off then found everyone, and now we're here. Knole went bonkers and bombed a monster base. He explains as if it was no big deal. I looked over to Dev but he had this grin on his face and I wanted to smack him so bad. It was so tempting. Good thing your alive to say you lived past fear. Dev says. The urge to smack him was like a child having a piece of candy put in front of them and told to wait. Cypher shrugged. Boys. I thought and resisted rolling my eyes. I noticed something was missing. Or someone. Where's Evelyn and Knole? I ask. He hesitates. Talking... he says and it seems like he's hiding something. I wanted to ask him but I decided it would be best to barrage him with questions later. Uh huh... have you had any... black outs? I ask. Nope! He says with a big proud smile. I sigh in relief. At least he's not in pain. I think. Where's Grayson? He asks. I had forgotten about Grayson in the rush of things. I worried we had waken him up with our yelling but he didnt make any noise so I assumed he was still

Asleep. Sleeping. Took forever to get him to though, but he is now. Dev says and shakes his head. I smile and nudge him. Been boring without me? Cypher asks with a lazy grin. Yeah, but we've kept ourselves busy. Dev says. Well for you. I think. Aye yo. He says with a devious smile. Cypher shut up. You dont need to talk everytime we say something. Devon has been working and I've been taking care of Grayson. I tell him. That kid has some MAD ADHD. I think. I eye him. He smirks even more and Dev shakes his head. You need to stop being you. Dev says. How? He asks in a baby voice. I roll my eyes. I see his face grow hazier. It must not last forever. I think. Stop being a suspicious kid. I love you and Evelyn ok? I tell him. Same here. Dev chimes in. I know... I love you guys to. He says. Me and Dev smile. He smiled too. The water really started to disappear and something crossed his face. Mom, Dad; Evelyn and Knole-. It cut out. I started panicking. What if their hurt? Dev put a hand on my shoulder. I bet their fine. He says as if reading my mind. I guess. I mumble and he gets up and leaves. I think about the conversation for a second, trying to process everything. One detail struck me. I smiled. Dev was carrying his bag to go back to work and he stopped. Why the grin? He asks. I just realized that Cypher just called us Mom and Dad. I tell him and he smiles too. Well, its about time. He says and leaves. I laugh but it dies out. Wow. He had never called us that. The mom side of me felt all warm and fuzzy but a doubt lurked in my head. They weren't really mine, even though I had basically been a mom to them for the past 3 years. But somehow I felt like I was taking that form Astraea. My mood soured but I tried to linger on the warm and fuzzy. I was able to hang on and I sighed. At least their ok. I think. I hear the cry of Grayson waking up and groan. I walk to his room won't my head full of millions of things.