

Thread of Bonds

Ghill

“Hey, get ready for the next round,” Someone pressed the button to open the cage, loud gears turning and then stopping, “You know the drill by now.” The voice got smaller as they walked away to a bright-end tunnel.

Ghill stood up and sighed, walking toward the end of the bright metal tunnel. Seriously? Couldn't they install more lights or turn it up more? After all, they make quite a large amount of money from him just being in the match. Ghill finally makes it to the rings. The opponent's name might be Arachni?

“Hoo... It looks like you're my opponent for today's fight, huh? You're a spider as well,” said Arachni appearing from above, “Oh! Aren't you little?” teased Arachni, grinning like the Cheshire Cat.

Ghill suddenly felt the need to abruptly punch her face in, but he couldn't because his senses told him she is dangerous.

“Ladies and gentlemen! You all have been waiting for this fight for a long time now, but today is the day! Arachni vs Ghill!” Loud cheering could be heard as the announcer finished their statement, that was their cue to start fighting.

Arachni

He looks malnourished, have they been feeding him at all? Arachni thought while checking out Ghill and suddenly she felt the temperature drop and her hair started to stand up on her back but quickly calmed down soon after, never mind then.

This little—, as Ghill smirked at Arachni, sweat started to trickle down their forehead and both were still standing until the announcement turned on and they jerked their heads so fast that they might get whiplash.

“Another announcement here, we will be adding more to this fight with a special weapon! This is to test them one last time since it’s going to be their ‘graduation’ soon!” The announcement made everyone cheer louder.

“What? This wasn’t—” A loud bang erupted. Arachni covered her ears, and they both step back from the entrance

Both waited in anticipation for what was going to happen, sweat continued to trickle down and everyone was silent, so silent that Arachni could hear my heartbeat. A huge barrel came at them, Arachni gathered her web and jumped out of its way, making her web catch the barrel before hitting Ghill.

“You alright there bud?” Arachni said with a hint of worry in her voice and smirked a little but once the dust settled Ghill was nowhere to be found until a voice came from above, and there in his presence was Ghill sitting on his cobweb, looking down at her.

Ghill

“You need help there, Arachni?” Ghill said smiling while looking down.

The attack came unexpectedly but what shocked Ghill was that Arachni was going to protect me since the dust did hinder his sight... Why did she try to protect him?

Ghill was also surprised by the announcement, the “graduation” is too early. It wasn’t his time, yet it was moved forward .. Ghill frowned, they’re throwing him away! Rage bursts within Ghill wanting to kill everything in his path but he still couldn’t as the lingering attachment

to this place stops him, “Graduation” is just a way to release them to the wild and let them be eaten.

Everyone was whispering about how soon the “graduation” is for them, then Arachni attacked first and launched herself in the air, she grabbed the strings of webs and it sliced through the robot’s leg like butter. *Huh... that’s cool! He might just borrow the skill a bit, but why does she seem to be a bit hesitant?*

Ghill jumped down and did the same thing. The thread easily cut through the robot, but it was a bit more crooked than Arachnid’s skills. *How did Arachnid do that so well?*

Arachni

So.. it’s acting up again. *She just needs to endure this until it’s over.* *Arachni shivers a bit*, the illness that she has is killing her slowly, no one knows of this, yet. Suddenly, Ghill came down and tried to do the same move Arachni did to the junk.

“You idiot! If you just copy it like that, you will fail!” Arachni screamed

Arachni then quickly pulls Ghill to her arm and instantly destroys the junk, the people then cheer loudly, *Arachni wincing at the sudden loudness bombarding her ears.*

“Hey, are you alright? Jeez, don’t scare me like that!” Arachni huffed.

“Why do you care so much about me anyway?” Ghill inquired Arachni.

When Arachni caught Ghill during the fall, she saw the scars that lay across his arms that she had until someone showed her how to treat them. She just couldn’t let him go because of her similar past that Arachni saw in him.

Ignoring Ghill's question for now and starting to walk over to the dimly lit tunnel again, *“The match is over, let's get you patched up first– augh..”* realizing her hand had fresh new cuts,

“Can you walk? You’re heavy–” suddenly dropping Ghill on the ground, both looking at each other then a loud burst of laughter rang in the tunnel.

“Pfft– Hahaha!” Arachni laughed loudly enough that you could still hear it in the tunnel once it stops

“Hmph..” Ghill pouted like a child that didn’t get what it wanted but smile a bit but soon quickly disguise it with a frown

Over time their bond deepened more and more. Just like a thousand woven strings...

“Hey, eat more, you’re so short! Pfft hah– woa–” Arachni laughs while dodging punches from Ghill

“Shut up, this is the reason why you’re annoying, and stop stealing my food!” Ghill said while trying to punch Arachni

Sometimes it doesn’t work out. Just like how strings are still easily cut and fall apart so quickly...

“Hey, are you... Alright?” Ghill said sounding concerned and trying to comfort Arachni

“You’re getting on my nerve Ghill, you’re pulling on my last thread of patience right now, this is none of your business. So, leave me alone!” Arachni said coldly and roughly while moving away from the comfort.

But it can be woven back together...

“Arachni, I’m going to come back later once you’re cool down alright?” Ghill calmly left Arachni after getting a confirmation, later Ghill came back with food and put it outside for Arachni. Once he came back, a note was attached to it, ‘Thank you’, Ghill was satisfied to see that at least she had eaten.

Arachni

If only she didn't have this illness of hers, every day she would grow weaker and weaker, this is the first time she felt fear and loss until that person came. The "graduation" day is tomorrow for both of them. Arachni needs to decide this. If they were to escape today... She needs to push herself a lot and this could risk her life... But if it's tomorrow they have a lower chance of escaping... Arachni quickly rushes to find Ghill in his cell.

"Ghill... Let's escape together from this place." Arachni said roughly, not letting the iron taste in her mouth escape.

"What... um... Ok. Alright. Sure, let's escape together," Ghill said somewhat shocked but also somewhat expecting it.

"When should we escape? Tomorrow?" Ghill asked more.

"No, let's do it right now," Arachni said.

Both of them quickly left the handmade version of them on the bed to fool the guards. As they slipped into the shadows and finally escaped and then reached the end of the Red Web border, sirens blared in the background, Arachni pushed herself more and more, swallowing blood. Until Ghill and Arachni have almost reached the City of the Golden Web, where Arachni's little sister is at. A bang could be heard, someone was screaming at Arachni. Arachni reaches toward Ghill slowly.

Ghill

Ghill stared ahead, adrenaline filling me and excitement of finally escaping until something passed through Arachni's head.

"ARACHNI!" Ghill hollers and the ground shakes a bit.

Ghill then catches Arachni before she hits the ground, she's shot in the head, beckoning Ghill to come closer.

“Ghill... Please take care of my Lily... And I'm sorry for not telling you about my illness” Arachni said, gasping and wheezing between words. “I love you very much...”

He's thankful for Arachni, thankful for being his thread that holds him together in that dark life of his. But now that thread was gone, instead, there was a new one... it was Lily, Ghill needed to fulfill her last will.

“Thank you, big sister... I love you, too” Ghill said with sadness in his voice, Arachni always wanted him to call her big sister since they have grown close together, she said that he was like her little brother, and finally he called her.

Ghill ran and ran until he reached the Golden Web, exhaustion soon catch up and dropped to the ground.

“I need...to go... run... Lily.” Ghill said tiredly, finally slumbering on the soil.