

After Rayu⁽¹⁾ was abandoned, he felt alone and desperate. Betrayed and without understanding why he had been cast out of his dragon tribe. He saw what had happened there, but with no memory of being responsible for what had happened. It seems that Rayu has no memory about the time he was controlled by the energy of the moon....

At one evening, Rayu was alone. Fully dejected, he decided to sit down on a cliff and started to look at the crescent moon. Lost in thoughts, he realized what all was lost for him. Not only does he miss his beloved dragons, who had raised him because of his special nature, but at the same time, his safety and place to live were gone as well. Rayu was sure that he would probably be on his own forever from now on. He felt like crying. He could not understand why such a fate had to befall him.

Despaired, he began to think about how this situation has escalated like this and remembered how often he was chased and running away from threats. He recalled how he was chased by werewolves at first and got cursed because he was bitten by one. Thereupon, due to the curse and depending on the phases of the moon, he turned more and more into a werewolf at night. As a result, he was now also hunted by humans who wanted to kill him. Then, when his actions were completely controlled by the energy of the full moon, he also involuntarily attacked his entire dragon tribe.

The reaction of his tribe was a targeted attack on him. Since that day, he had his dragon-head-shaped seal on his right chest, which has accompanied him ever since. The effects of this seal on him were unknown at that time. His attack on his tribe members was deemed truly unforgivable, which led to the decision to cast him out.

He was now completely on his own and had no idea what to do next.

His head flew into his own two paws. His eyes were filled with tears. Rayu was on the verge of sharing his sense of pain with the outside world. Exhausted by all the running and on the verge of crying out his pain, a rustling sound made itself heard behind him. Rayu turned around his head and saw two other creatures walking toward the cliff. He could hear the two of them talking to each other, seemingly discussing a successful hunt. They were not humans, dragons, or werewolves, so Rayu did not sense much danger and continued to linger on the cliff. Although he was quite tense and didn't know what they were doing here, he didn't feel the urge to flee. The two had talked about a *successful* hunt after all, which is why the werewolf-like creature stayed calm. Nevertheless, it tried to stay alert as best as the situation allowed it to.

The two creatures Rayu has heard were Guilboma⁽²⁾ and Laasko. Both had something, because of the distance unrecognizable, in their hands. However, the smell, could be identified as something edible. Almost at the same time, a loud grumble made itself felt in the pit of the half-werewolf's⁽³⁾ stomach. Rayu could hardly move anymore due to his hunger caused by all the running away...

With fading eyesight, he noticed the two, for him unknown, creatures approaching closer. The two caught sight of the half-werewolf on the cliff and realized that something could not be right. Guilboma, a dinosaur-like⁽⁴⁾ creature, ran forward with his hunted good. He did not know Rayu's species and was curious. As he has reached the half-werewolf being, he looked a little puzzled. Before the first words were spoken, the dinosaur-like creature tried to make himself a picture of the foreign species, sniffing it carefully. Rayu, as well as it was doable for him, backed away a little. He didn't know what this other creature was up to. Laasko walked behind at a normal pace and approached the cliff soon after.

In the meantime, Rayu's stomach had reminded him that he was close to starve. A loud growling sound was audible. The half-werewolf looked fixed at Guilboma's hands and slowly approached the

1 = Context: Rayu ("Ra-you") is a wolf creature who has the blood of a dragon in him. Therefore, he was raised by dragons.

2 = Pronunciation: "Guil" as in "guilty".

3 = Each phase of the moon has a different effect on him, hence "half-werewolf". The phases before the full moon can be thought of as intermediate stages.

4 = (If necessary) Reference image of Guilboma on my cloud: https://1drv.ms/u/s!Ageom4zAn5myk4VheGtbT_msscDoUw

dinosaur-like creature. His view stayed focused on the piece of meat. It was noticeable that the werewolf creature seemed to have some kind of pain in the pit of his stomach, as he gently pressed against it with one of his paws. Each step seemed to cause it pain, indicated by a soft "Ugh!" with each small step forward. "It seems to be quite wounded," Guilboma thought.

Suffering from its pain, the werewolf-like creature finally reached Guilboma. Weakened by the hunger, it could only smell the piece of meat, right before it collapsed in front of it. While fighting with his near starvation and covered up with pain, the werewolf creature was now completely dependent on the help of the unknown creature. Rayu could not stop to think about that now everything was over and saw his life passing by when suddenly the piece of meat was carefully pushed in front of his muzzle. Guilboma looked at the half-werewolf creature and carefully tried to signalize it that it could have his piece of meat. The dinosaur-like creature noticed that Rayu must be close to starvation and decided to give him his piece of hunted meat. Guilboma did know at this point that his actual dinner was now not for himself anymore. But at the same time, he knew that this rather foreign creature needed it much more than he did. Therefore, he decided to go hunting again later and look out for his dinner then.

Laasko watched the whole thing from a greater distance. He was aware that this had to be some kind of emergency. Although Guilboma does not really dislike giving other creatures some of his food, but he would only give it completely to other creatures in extreme emergencies. It was like a sign for him. He slowly drew nearer and gave the werewolf-like creature some of his hunted food as well.

Rayu tried to grab the food. However, he was now so weak that even the smallest movements seemed to be almost impossible. And if, they were extremely painful. In total fear of death combined with despair, he realized that he could no longer move properly and was dependent on the help of the two strangers. With a soft cry he drew the attention of Guilboma and Laasko and made them aware about this. With a lot of effort, Rayu was able to open his muzzle. This made it possible for the other two to put the meat into it. The werewolf-like creature, with its weak eyesight, tried to memorize the silhouettes of the two as best it could before closing its eyes with a warm feeling in its stomach from total exhaustion.

Guilboma was worried about the werewolf-like creature. He didn't know what was going to happen to the foreign species and just wished that the creature would wake up again so he could learn more about what had happened. Laasko had the same thought. However, it was more important for him that the two of them came to other thoughts and clear up their minds. Therefore, he suggested to look at the picture-perfect scenery with the crescent moon in the light breeze of the wind. That was the reason why the two had headed for the cliff after all.

An hour had passed. Although there was a slight wind breeze, a quiet grumbling could be heard. The werewolf-like creature had slowly opened its eyes and seemed to have regained some of its strength. It stood up and slowly headed toward the other two. Thinking about how he should thank the two, he listened to his instincts, slowly grabbed the two, and gently pressed the two against him.

Although he did not know the other creatures, he could somehow feel that he can trust them. He knew that he owed his life to them. Rayu began to cry in the arms of both, out of full joy to still be alive. He felt the urge to tell someone about his situation. The desire to be helped. It was a feeling of freedom for him, after all the pain he went through.

Guilboma was extremely happy to see the half-werewolf being awake again and enjoyed how he even was hold in one of the arms of the creature as well. Rayu tried, as best as it was emotionally

possible, to talk to both about what had happened. Though the half-werewolf was still distressed and could only look at the two with tears in his eyes, he was more than happy that Guilboma and Laasko had helped him and headed for the cliff in the first place. He just didn't know how he should thank them in a proper way.

He opened himself up and told both about his name, of being cursed, hunted and abandoned, to the fact that he was on his own. Although Guilboma was happy, he had tears in his eyes because he felt sympathy for the creature. He didn't know what it must feel like to be alone, but from what he just found out while listening, he imagined the whole thing to be painful.

Guilboma offered Rayu to come with him so he wouldn't be alone and had a safe place to live again. With inner joy, the half-werewolf creature couldn't help himself, and hugged Guilboma even tighter. A quiet sob could be heard, and it could be felt that the werewolf-like creature's eyes were filled with more water than before. Rayu had to be more than just happy to have a safe place and to be able to rest again. Several minutes have passed before everyone, now more calmed down than before, decided to head home.

Rayu was aware that he wouldn't have gotten back on his feet without the two of them. Therefore, he recognized Guilboma and Laasko as one of his most important beings in his life and, as a sign of his gratitude, he swore to himself that he would protect them by any means possible.