

Nárië 17th

My dearest Faramir,

I hope this letter finds you well and in a dry, warm place. Teherin has grown increasingly concerned about your condition as you relate it to us, and I doubt I need to tell you how I feel about it. We are both worried that you may be on your way to contracting pneumonia, and you know how serious that is. I know it must be difficult to hide from the hunters and hound, but you must improve your health. It is good that you have found a place thanks to Emru (he sounds like an interesting person). I hope that you were able to stay there a day or two and regain some of your strength, without receiving any unwanted visitors.

In fact, you may have some welcome visitors soon. I received a reply from the King on the 13th. He said that he was preparing to send ships to the sea as soon as provisions were ready. From what I understand, he is using merchant vessels (not the fastest ships, sadly, but less suspicious) crewed by his best sea-men. They hoped to sail today, but we had another furious storm yesterday, and I do not know how that affected preparations. I do not know how they will hail themselves when they get to the island, so be alert if you see any ships coming from the north.

Turning to matters at home, you will be pleased to learn that Berúthiel has rediscovered how much your shoelaces delight her. I believe she has even managed to hide one of your shoes, for this morning I noticed that one was missing and there seemed to be a few dusty paw prints nearby. I would not be surprised if she was using it to console herself, since much of the attention bestowed upon her recently has now shifted to Pharzi, and we both know how much our cat likes being noticed. Speaking of the lion, she has a larger pen now where she can roam. It's built into one of the corners of the garden with two stone walls. I am not sure what the other part of the fences are made of, but Turin has assured me that Pharzi will not be able to climb out. He went on to say that someone found a small, hollow log and brought it over for her to play with. Apparently, she enjoys pouncing on it and hiding in it.

As for Azrahil, well, you need not worry about me spending too much time with him. He is not nearly as handsome as you are. Actually, you should probably be more worried about him stealing your best friend. It seems like wherever one is the other is nearby. I did warn them about not losing the pieces to your game, and they assured me that they would be careful. Believe that as you will. Túrin is talking about traveling south again, but Visilya soon reminds him that his son is still too small for such a long journey and that there will be trouble if he considers going without child and wife.

Your sons are doing well. Elboron and I went on a horse ride this morning while the twins took their nap. He helped me with the reins for a while, but I think all we did was succeed in confusing the poor horse. Elboron enjoyed the ride, though, and I enjoyed spending some time with just him. He is growing so quickly nowadays. My little boy isn't staying little anymore. I know it is inevitable, and yet I wish it wouldn't happen. You should see it when he and Vorondil get together. He will get out his wooden blocks and build a tower and Vorondil will knock it down with one swipe. And now that Vorondil is starting to walk, well, it won't be long before the two of them are getting into trouble together. I'm sure the situation sounds familiar. I hope you and Túrin won't encourage them too much or tell them too many stories about what sorts of trouble you got yourselves into. I have a feeling that they will be clever enough on their own.

The twins enjoy going out to the gardens. I have been taking them out in the mornings before the sun gets too warm and showing them the flowers and the gold-fish in the ponds. Túrin caught the rabbit again for them to see. They thought it was wonderful. Meriadoc cooed and smiled the entire time. Peregrin liked it when I took him over to one of the fountains and let him splash his feet in the water.

But I shall close for now. Please take care of yourself, you do not need to be getting sicker than you already are. Find time to rest and regain your strength, but remain safe as well. We miss you and love you.

*Love always,
Éowyn*