

A distant rumble of an incoming storm shook through the air, like a beast snarling at their opponent. Her lips pursed slightly as she tapped the bottom of the cigarette box in her leather gloved hand, ignoring her partner's disapproving look. She leaned back against the SUV, her tongue sliding over her lips slightly before she placed the drug in her mouth, lighting it. She had to calm her nerves, tonight was too important to mess up, that's what she reminded herself of. If she wanted to see the start of the end of her grueling eleven-year long journey, tonight had to go without a hitch. She felt her muscles uncoiling as she exhaled the smoke.

"You know Morrigan, that doesn't help you as much as you think," a male voice spoke up to her, his Scottish accent making his words roll off his tongue. He was commenting at her smoking habit as he warily eyed the sky. He checked his own holsters, doing a final check on his sword. When he finally glanced over, he saw her hazel eyes lazily check the weather for herself.

Her attention returned to the brown-haired man as her thin red brow arched inquisitively. "When I want your opinion, I'll give it to you," was her answer as she released another cloud of smoke. That answer was typical of Morrigan, meaning she had no wish to talk about Neil's opposition to her nicotine addiction. She soon finished off her cigarette and put it out on the heel on one of her leather, steel-toed combat boots. Worn but well maintained, they were ideal for their lifestyle.

Morrigan pulled the hood of her moss green duster over her wild crimson hair. The fabric was heavy, but it was protective with a long hem that reached her boots. The runes that were stitched into the material enchanted the jacket helped to repel the rain from getting her and her equipment soaked. She withdrew a sawed-off shotgun, checking the ammo, then proceeded to check her tactical leg bag. There was only so much they can carry with them without slowing

them down, but still she took out a sheathed machete and slung it over her back. “Let’s move out.”