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We worship them, beg for their salvation, cling to a belief that they hear us and care...for what else do we have? No matter what we do, no matter how heroically we live, we will die and be forgotten. It is madness! The terror overwhelms me even as I write this!
– an excerpt from
The Claw Unsheathed:
A Treatise on Secret Wars
by The Committee of the Thirty

ONE YEAR AGO.
"DAUGHTER...WE HAVE NEVER DISCUSSED YOUR BATTLE WITH MAIKA."
"IT WAS...A CHALLENGE. BUT YOU HAD PREPARED ME FOR GOING TO WAR WITH HER.
"I DETAILED EVERYTHING IN THE REPORT. WHAT ELSE IS THERE TO ADD?"
"PERHAPS... HOW YOU FELT.
"SHE IS, AFTER ALL, YOUR SISTER."

"AND, FOR THE FIRST TIME, YOU WERE IN THE COMPANY OF WOLVES.
"*YOUR* WOLVES. *YOUR* BLOOD.
"A FEARSOME GRANDMOTHER AND AUNT, WHO CAME TO YOUR AID AGAINST YOUR LOST TWIN.
"THERE ARE FEW MYSTERIES LEFT TO ME, BUT WHAT YOU FELT IN THOSE MOMENTS...IS ONE OF THEM."