

Final Distance Book 1: Revolution

By desertbreeze

Submitted: May 4, 2008
Updated: January 12, 2009

Phantompaw longs to see the world outside ThunderClan's camp but at what cost?

Book 1: Revolution

Book 2: Dust to Dust

Book 3: Broken

Book 4: Break Out

Provided by Fanart Central.

<http://www.fanart-central.net/stories/user/desertbreeze/52428/Final-Distance-Book-1-Revolution>

Chapter 1 - Mischief Managed	2
Chapter 2 - Introduction to Blood	4
Chapter 3 - Tainted Words	6
Chapter 4 - Interior and Exterior Scars	7
Chapter 5 - My name is Phantom	8
Chapter 6 - Abandoning StarClan	9
Chapter 7 - Another Casualty	11
Chapter 8 - Blood Against Blood	12
Chapter 9 - Rise Of A New Scourge	13
Chapter 10 - Give Them Blood	14
Chapter 11 - Our Rightful Place	15
Chapter 12 - Ready For Anything	16
Chapter 13 - Lights Out	17
Chapter 14 - Destiny Calls	18
Chapter 15 - Making The Ultimate Sacrifice	19
Chapter 16 - Soundtrack	21

1 - Mischief Managed

Phantompaw gazed blankly past the hollow in which ThunderClan made its camp. He often wondered what lay just beyond the borders of Clan territory that Firestar wouldn't want them to see. He flicked his green-banded tail impatiently as he waited to hear who Firestar would take to the gathering tonight. As the ginger leader called off the names Phantompaw's fur bristled, he heard: Brambleclaw, Graystripe, Spiderleg, Jayfeather, Lionblaze, Honeydew, Foxpaw, Icepaw, Longtail, Millie, Sandstorm, along with his parents Whitewing and Birchfall but his own name was never mentioned.

"Looks like your getting left behind..." said the shy voice of Cinderbrush, "That makes two of us anyway..."

Phantompaw laughed at Cinderbrush's awkward smile, she just looked so darn cute. Her tail swished oddly as she turned her gaze back to him.

"Yeah I guess," mumbled Phantompaw.

"You know you've really grown" she mewed shuffling her paws uneasily.

Phantompaw sighed he knew she liked him but he had always thought of her more like an older sister than a potential mate. He shook his head dismissively, "I'm sorry Cinderbrush I have to go um Squirrelflight wants me to go hunting with her tonight"

With his body low to the ground Phantompaw crawled out the camp exit nearest where the cats made dirt. The undergrowth was frosted which means leaf bare was coming. Phantompaw knew he must be careful because frost was not enough to hide his snow white coat. His jaws parted as he scented the air. He could pick up a stale scent of a dog and its twolegs which had passed by the day before but other than that there was no sign of any life on this side of the territory.

Suddenly something rustled in the bushes. The stench of rogue flooded Phantompaw's nose. But before he even had time to think Phantompaw found him self wrestling in the brush with a spiky ginger she-cat.

Despite her small size the attacker put up quite a fight. The claws on her front-left paw were reinforced with teeth, cat teeth! He noticed as she raked her claws across his flank that her collar was also covered in teeth. Was this cat completely savage?

But then just as quickly as the fight had begun the tiny she-cat seemed to become completely docile. The spines on her back lay flat and her red eyes faded to reveal a welcoming blue gaze. She smiled at Phantompaw with an approving dip of her head.

"Wow Forest, I never expected such a fight out of you!" her voice was surprisingly melodic.

"My name is Phantompaw!" he growled a small trickle of scarlet still dripping from the wound on his shoulder.

"Well Phantompaw, son of Whitewing and Birchfall, may I say that I Flare would like to extend you an invitation you have only dreamed of?"

"Wait how do you know my parents, and invitation to what?"

"Why do see outside your Clan's borders of course!"

Phantompaw's ears pricked with interest, "Flare you have my attention!"

Flare nodded and beckoned with her tail for him to follow. As he followed this strange little rogue he couldn't help but feel satisfied with himself. He would now be able to realize his most coveted dream and it was all thanks to this Flare who seemed to be more attractive with every moment that passed, could it be that he'd finally found someone he could love? Or was this just another case of Kitten-Crush as Jayfeather called it.

2 - Introduction to Blood

Phantompaw padded along silently behind Flare whose pace seemed to be quickening with every pawstep. The trail they were following was damp and uneven which caused him to topple over every now and again. This time his hind paw snagged on a tree root and he fell face first into the mud. Flare snickered and her icy blue eyes gleamed with amusement.

All of a sudden a twig snapped and a swallow screeched an alarm call. Phantompaw fixed his gaze on the shadowy area from which the sound had come. The fur on his neck fluffed out defiantly as a patrol-like group of rogues walked from the bushes. There were three of them, a silver she-cat, a scruffy gray tom, and a white she-cat with a crooked tail.

Phantompaw glanced at Flare who sat calmly as the rogues investigated the wounds on her shoulders. The silver she-cat looked surprised at the fact that the wounds were dripping with scarlet blood.

"You... You actually managed to land a paw on Flare?!" asked the gray tom with shock.

Flare shot him a warning glare, "Oh don't worry Claw, I went easy on him, trust me."

Next the silver she-cat stalked over to Phantompaw. She had a dignified stride and kept her head high the entire time. Her neon green eyes seemed to pierce his pelt causing him to shiver.

"Easy now Phantompaw," mewed the white she-cat, "We're your friends, I promise Scarlet won't hurt you."

With a swish of his tail Phantompaw replied briskly, "The only reason I trust you is because I trust Flare..."

The she-cat's eyes dimmed and she had a hurt expression. Phantompaw began to wish he hadn't yelled at her but then she brightened again, "Come now Phantompaw our leader would like to see you."

Scarlet beckoned for the others to follow and Phantompaw fell into formation between Flare and the white she-cat with Claw following closely behind. As he walked on he noticed that all of these rogues were wearing collars similar to Flare's, the ones studded with dog teeth. He swallowed nervously as he thought of ways they may have obtained them.

Phantompaw was led to a large barn with a collapsed roof. As they neared it he could see dozens of cats laying in and around its shadowy outskirts. Once they entered the barn he felt as if all their eyes were gazing with hostility towards him.

"Fira!" called the white she-cat, "It is I, Fang, returning with Scarlet, Claw, Flare, and the chosen one."

Phantompaw followed her gaze to the highest rafter in the barn and watched as a slender ginger she-cat and a muscular tabby tom jump off and land gracefully in front of the makeshift patrol.

"Greetings Phantompaw, I am Fira," mewed the ginger she-cat then pointing with her tail to the tabby she added, "And that is Thorn."

"Pleased to meet you but could someone please tell me where I am?" pleaded Phantompaw his pelt pricking as he felt a cold draft blow through the barn.

Fira's eyes lit up with a strange emotion that Phantompaw had never seen, "Why my dear apprentice your on BloodClan territory!"

Yowls filled with excitement echoed throughout the barn as Phantompaw remembered the stories his grandfather Cloudtail had told him about Scourge and the BloodClan invasion that happened many seasons ago in the forest that the Clans once lived in. Could this possibly be the same BloodClan

3 - Tainted Words

"Please," mewed Phantompaw, "Tell me why you've brought me here."

Fira flicked her tail impatiently, "Well Phantompaw, I'm sure by now your clanmates have told you of BloodClan's recent attempt to become an official clan..."

Is that what she called it? That's now how Cloudbait tells the story... Either way Phantompaw wanted to know what he was important to this so-called "clan" for.

"Anyway your leader Firestar killed our leader Scourge. Without Scourge BloodClan had lost the will to remain in twolegplace due to the fact that warriors from the forest kept attacking us so we were forced to flee toward Sanctuary Lake which is the territory in which the forest clans now live. We are not safe here so long as Firestar is in control and we were hoping that perhaps you could help us by letting us now when patrols leave ThunderClan and which areas they'll be heading towards."

"Our warriors will be careful not to leave any trace of intrusion on your territory," added Thorn with a sincere tone of voice.

Phantompaw thought for a moment his entire pelt pricking with excitement. This could be his chance to live the adventurous life he'd wanted ever since he was a nursery kit. His voice didn't quaver at all as he yowled loud enough for all of Bloodclan to hear, "Fira I Phantompaw of ThunderClan accept your proposition!"

A chorus of approval rang out among the many BloodClan warriors as Phantompaw was approached by Flare, Fang, and 2 other cats who appeared to be younger than himself. One of them was a black and white tom with a strangely shiny leg and the other a she-cat who had extremely large, and weird whiskers.

"Phantompaw! That was amazing!" squealed Flare accidentally tripping into him.

"Yeah! Totally awesome dude," mewed the black and white tom, his eyes sparkling, "My name's Bandit!"

Phantompaw dipped his head in greeting as the strange she-cat also introduced herself, her name is Hail. He jumped awkwardly as he realized that Flare had gone from standing next to him to leaning on him. The blood in his ears grew embarrassingly warm.

"I just knew you would help us," mewed Flare warmly, "and I'll never be able to thank you enough."

Phantompaw shuffled his paws not daring to look at her, fearing that he'd say something stupid. All he managed to do was swish his tail quickly. Bandit and Hail snickered. Could this really be love?

4 - Interior and Exterior Scars

Phantompaw crept silently back towards camp with Flare at his heels. She was to accompany him to the border and then return to the barn. The wind whistled eerily as the two young cats padded along. Leaves and branches crunched noisily as they neared the wooded area that was ThunderClan territory. When they finally reached the border Flare stopped and glanced at Phantompaw sadly. She rubbed her head up against his chest. Phantompaw gazed at her for a moment or two then turned away toward his own land.

Little did the mischievous apprentice know that Firestar had seen Flare's little display of affection. A growl rose in the ginger leader's throat. No kin of Whitewing's was going to fall in love with a cat from BloodClan.

As Phantompaw passed the bush that Firestar was crouched the little white tom was pounced on by his much larger leader. Firestar's normally gentle eyes had turned into glowing balls of green hatred that sent shiver down Phantompaw's spine.

"What in StarClan's name do you think your doing with BloodClan's heiress?" growled Firestar.

"I um... got lost... and Flare helped me get home... I'm sorry," cried Phantompaw desperately.

Suddenly Firestar raked his claws across the tiny apprentice's face. Phantompaw shrieked in pain as blood welled from the cut that completely covered one of his eyes. The pain was unbearable and he passed out at his cruel leader's paws.

When he awoke Phantompaw was greeted by Whitewing's worried face. She licked a paw quickly and rubbed it gingerly across his face causing him to draw away with a hiss.

"I'm sorry son..." she fretted, "Oh I can't believe BloodClan would do such a thing to you!"

Phantompaw's ears burned the moment she said 'BloodClan'. He shot up from his nest realizing every thing seemed out of place. Then he glanced in the medicine cat's stream only to see that one of his eyes was completely clouded over.

Every inch of Phantompaw's pelt bristled. Firestar would pay...

5 - My name is Phantom

Phantompaw wandered awkwardly from Jayfeather's medicine den. He couldn't tell exactly how far things were from his face now that one of his eye's was useless. Also he was still disgusted at the fact that Firestar had told his Clanmates that BloodClan had done this to him. He stumbled along toward the apprentices den until he bumped into Cinderbrush. Her blue eyes showed nothing other than worry much like Whitewing's eyes had shown.

"Oh Phantompaw... I can't believe those evil cats would do such a thing to you!" She cried attempting to rasp her tongue over his face only to be met by Phantompaw's tail.

"Leave me alone Cinderbrush!" he hissed taking out his frustration with Firestar on her.

The pretty she-cat's eyes turned dim and she bowed her head to him, "I... I just want to help you..."

Phantompaw kicked at the sand beneath his paws, glared at Cinderbrush, then stormed off. He was glad to get away from her, she sounded just like his mother! When he finally made it to the apprentices den he was relieved to see that Foxpaw and Icepaw weren't there. as he settled down in his nest he heard a slight rustling sound that was coming from the other side of the den. Phantompaw lifted his head to glance around until he noticed Brightheart had situated herself comfortably next to him.

"Listen Phantompaw..." she whispered, "I saw what happened to you, please be careful from now on. I couldn't stand to see my daughter's only kit harmed once again by the clan's leader, who is in fact your kin..."

"Thank you for your concern Brightheart but I've made up my mind to leave ThunderClan... I'm sorry."

"But Phantompaw your a ThunderClan cat, where will you go?"

"Brightheart I beg to differ I am a BloodClan cat who simply didn't know it at first, I am Phantom and I am Firestar's true enemy!"

6 - Abandoning StarClan

"I'm pleased to see that you've joined us Phantom. We are truly sorry that Firestar hurt you, I never thought he'd do such a thing. You know once a kittypet always a kittypet? I guess not... Anyway you will be trained as a BloodClan warrior but only on one condition... You denounce your beliefs in StarClan, We here in BloodClan do not believe in their power..." said Fira with a look of interest upon her scarred face.

"Alright..." meowed Phantom, "I hereby give up my trust in StarClan now... blood is all that matters, it means everything!"

"You have the same acceptance that Scourge once had, I like that in a warrior. Please feel free to make your nest anywhere in the barn, your training begins at dawn."

Phantom nodded brushing past several BloodClan warriors, each of which uttered friendly greetings as he walked by. These cats obviously had great trust in anyone who promised to help them. He glanced around looking for Flare but she was nowhere in sight so he wandered over to Bandit.

"Hey Phantom!" mewed the young tom enthusiastically.

"Hello Bandit... Say do you maybe know where Flare is?"

"No sorry buddy, all I know is she went off by herself shortly after Fira informed us what happened to you."

Discouraged Phantom left the barn and set off in search of his friend. When he finally found her she was laying with her paws in a tiny creek. He layed his tail on her shoulder and accidentally made her jump.

"Flare? ... Are you okay?" he asked worriedly.

"I should've turned back to make sure you were fine! Then maybe I could've helped you! Oh Phantom I'm so sorry!" She screeched burrying her head in his downy white fur.

"Trust me Flare, there is no way even if you'd seen Firestar snap that you would've been able to help me... But the fact that you care about me that makes me feel much better. So I lost an eye... its no big deal, my grandmother Brightheart manages just fine. Flare I would die if Firestar harmed you for protecting me."

The sadness in her icy blue eyes turned to joy and she perked up immediatly, "You worry about me? Oh Phantom thank you!"

"Of course I do, Flare I... I..."

"What Phantom?"

"Erm... Nevermind lets get back to the barn."

7 - Another Casualty

As Phantom and Flare entered the barn a silver blur whizzed past them causing Phantom to topple over.

"Fira! Fira!" yowled Scarlet as she skidded to a halt before Fira's nest.

"What now Scarlet?" hissed Fira as she practically slithered out of her nest.

"Two-bit was just murdered by a ThunderClan patrol!"

Phantom's ears pricked at the mention of his birth clan. They'd never killed anyone while he had lived there...

"What!!! This is an outrage!" yowled Fira.

"And her son Maize was killed also..."

Fira's pelt bristled and a growl rose deep in her throat, "First Scourge, Now Two-Bit and Maize! How many cats does Firestar wish to take away from me! My mate, my sister, my nephew... all gone!"

Phantom never realized before what kind of damage ThunderClan had presented Fira and the others with. Now he knew what he had to do, he had to unite BloodClan against Firestar and reclaim the precious lives that have been lost. An innocent queen and her adventurous kit lost their lives today but not in vain. Phantom swore that Firestar would lose and Fira would win. This was how it should be... As he stepped up from the shadows he meowed for all the cats of BloodClan to hear, "I vow they will be avenged! I promise you that I will do anything I can to destroy Firestar! When I was a clancat I never realized how cruel he could be but now I see. Now I see..."

"Phantom has spoken wisely, rather than wasting time in training him in our ways tomorrow we shall attack ThunderClan so that those who gave their lives may be remembered. I say these words before Scourge! Its time for us to have our moment of shining glory! StarClan will fail!"

Suddenly the ceremony was interrupted, "Fira! Its Joel! His patrol was captured by Firestar! We must help them."

"Oh course Kioni... We'll save you mate! Phantom, Flare, you go with Volcali and Twister. Fang you and Kitsune will head around from the oppisite direction! I will not be remembered as the cat who lost this clan to that so-called great cat Firestar!"

8 - Blood Against Blood

Phantom could feel his tiny heart racing as he pelted through the trees behind Volcali and Twister with Flare at his heels. He couldn't wait to sink his teeth into Firestar but Fira had told him he was not allowed to kill Firestar for the moment. However she had not said anything about leaving some of the other ThunderClan warriors with a few marks to remember him by.

Suddenly Volcali halted. Her fur standing on end as she growled at a ThunderClan patrol that had stopped to meet them at the border. Phantom was shocked to see that Cinderbrush and Birchfall were among the warriors chosen to intercept them as well as Berrynose, Dustpelt, and Icepaw. He pricked his ears now aware that Fang and Kitsune were now in their position that was downwind of the ThunderClan cats. Every inch of his pelt pricked to race off back to the barn. How could he face Birchfall? He had never once expected to meet his father on this raid.

"I see we've found ourselves some murderers..." growled Twister flexing his claws.

"We're not the murderers," retorted Dustpelt, "You are!"

"Since when? We haven't laid paw on a single ThunderClan cat since that battle so many moons ago..."

"Either way BloodClan must be vanquished!" hissed Birchfall, "For stealing my only son!"

"Father... BloodClan did not 'steal' me, they simply showed me kindness and I chose to join them. Now please release Joel, Blitz, and Dingo," meowed Phantom attempting to hold the peace of this meeting.

"Never! You are no longer my son if you embrace this tyranny that calls itself a clan!"

With those words Birchfall had flung himself at Phantom and the battle had begun. Never again would the thought of 'kin' slow him down. He only wanted to spill the blood of Firestar and any cat that stood in the way of that would have to pay the price.

9 - Rise Of A New Scourge

Birchfall had launched himself into a full-blown attack claws unsheathed and reaching for Phantom's soft underbelly. But the small white cat had forseen his father's move and dodged it swiftly. He used Birchfall's down time to land a blow across the brown tabby's flank leaving behind a huge wound.

All of a sudden Phantom found himself pinned beneath his father's far superior weight. The brown tabby had nothing but pure hatred showing in his once loving green eyes. Phantom braced himself for claws to come raking down his side but they never came. Instead Flare had bowled Birchfall over. The much larger tom spat angrily and turned his sights on little Flare who was already panting and covered in blood. She would never stand a chance unless Phantom stepped in to help her.

Phantom yowled as he pounced on his own father raking his claws savagely down the tabby's stomach. A strange gurgling sound arose from Birchfall's throat as he outstretched his claws in one last attempt to reach Phantom but he couldn't and so he simple fell over landing with a loud thud in the dirt. A pool of scarlet blood ran from his wound and soaked Phantom's paws.

With the sight of their fallen warrior the ThunderClan cats fled leaving Joel's patrol unharmed. Only Cinderbrush had remained in the clearing her eyes filled with horror and disbelief. She quickly focused her gaze on Phantom and snarled before running off to follow the other warriors.

Phantom gazed at the motionless body of Birchfall with pride as Volcali uttered an almost ceremonial speach, "I say these words before the spirit of Scourge so that he may approve of my awarding Phantom with his first tooth to place in his collar!"

The blood-stained tom stared silently as Flare walked over to Birchfall's corpse, uttered something he couldn't hear, then approached him while carrying a tooth.

"Please take this tooth as a symbol of your official acceptance into BloodClan," mewed Flare her eyes shining.

"Phantom..." said Volcali, "You may be what this clan needs to restore itself to greatness. You are our new Scourge!"

10 - Give Them Blood

"What do you mean new Scourge?" asked Phantom licking his blood soaked paws.

"Well Scourge had always said that if anything ever happened to him that another cat just like him would come along eventually well it has been a while since his death but his words are true, you can lead us Phantom!" mewed Flare.

Phantom looked up from grooming himself and looked at the cats that were laying around him. They looked so weak compared to the ThunderClan warriors yet with his help they had gotten rid of a well-fed, hostile, ThunderClan patrol. Perhaps he was truly meant to take Scourge's place...

When they entered the barn Fira jumped down from her nest and greeted Phantom with a nod. She didn't say a word but the thankful look on her face said it all. Bandit seperated himself from the ranks of the other cats and stalked over to the bloodsoaked white tom. His eyes grew wide when he saw the tooth on Phantom's collar.

"Who did you kill? Was it Firestar? Or better yet... one of his daughters?" asked a small tortie-tom.

Fira looked intrigued and listened intently. Her blood-red eyes were gleaming with some emotion Phantom couldn't distinguish.

"My father..." sighed Phantom, "He got what he deserved if you ask me..."

Thorn smiled and whispered something into Fira's ear. The ginger she-cat smiled and spoke with a serious tone, "Today Phantom has proved he will stand by us against even his closest kin... now we must make it up to Phantom by following through with our plan to attack ThunderClan!"

Chills ran through Phantom's spine as he spoke, "Yes, cats of BloodClan, let us give them blood but not ours... the blood of their own clanmates!"

11 - Our Rightful Place

Phantom sat glaring coldly towards the border that led into ThunderClan territory. He hadn't even noticed Flare sitting beside him.

"Phantom... are you okay?" asked the ginger tabby with concern.

"He's was wrong..." mumbled Phantom.

"Who was?"

"Firestar... when I was a little nursery kit he told me that I was destined to be just like him and lead the clan. Well he wrong... I'm not like him. I'm the cat who is destined to destroy him!"

Flare's blue eyes glittered as she spoke, "I'm glad your not like him. If you were you may have been BloodClan's greatest foe... but I like you as you are, as Phantom."

"Thank you Flare."

Suddenly Scarlet padded up to Flare and whispered something in her ear which caused Flare to look embaressed. The silver she-cat cast Phantom a funny look before heading back the way she had come.

Flare turned toward Phantom her ears seemed a bright red as she spoke, " Scarlet says my mother says today is when I should take my rightful place as leader. But... she says that I have to choose the cat I want to rule alongside me now or I can't fill the position. Phantom... would you do it for me? Be the one cat that I'll be able to turn to in any situation?"

"Flare..," Phantom paused realizing that his pelt felt as though it had been scorched by fire, "I care more about you than anything else in this world... I will always remain right beside you, I would be honored."

The little white tom was caught off guard as Flare ran straight into him, "Phantom... Thank you."

12 - Ready For Anything

Now that Flare and Phantom were in charge of BloodClan it was their job to assign missions to the other clan members. They started by organizing the groups that would lead the attack on ThunderClan. Volcali and Twister were leading Bandit, Hail, and Dingo while Joel and Kioni were leading 10-Volt and Fang. Other patrols were being led by Fira, Thorn, Claw, and Scarlet as well.

Flare looked at her clanmates with pride... this time blood would prevail, she was absolutely sure of it. She wanted only the best for her family. Phantom's white coat stood out among the pelts of the others as she caught sight of him. Her paws itched to just run to him and hide. The responsibilities of leader were already becoming overwhelming.

Phantom padded over to Flare with a smile on his face, "I've checked over everything and all our warriors are ready for this... whatever may happen."

Flare realized he was gazing at her as though she were a weird color. She shifted uneasily was he angry? Had he found out already? No... it couldn't be...

Suddenly the Volcali's voice shattered the trance that Flare and Phantom had fallen into, "Flare, when are we expected to head out?"

"Very soon I assure you," meowed the ginger she-cat still feeling out of it then turning back to her mate she mewed, "Phantom... please be careful today."

Phantom batted her ear with his paw, "Have I ever been anything else?"

13 - Lights Out

Phantom and Flare walked side by side leading their warriors into the clearing where ThunderClan would fall. Firestar had already been waiting for them with his entire clan other than kits and elders waiting for them.

The small white tom stepped forward making sure every cat could hear him he yowled, "Cats of ThunderClan, BloodClan's battle this evening is not with you but merely with Firestar so those of you who do not wish to fight us may join us!"

The clearing lay silent until Brightheart padded over and sat beside Phantom. The look on Clodtail's face was a mixture of shock and dread. Phantom smiled as he looked over his former clanmates until his gaze rest on his mother, Whitewing.

"Mother... will you not join us? Blood will make your pain go away," he chose his words carefully knowing how easy to manipulate his mother was.

Whitewing's eyes grew dim as she started to speak, "I cannot join you my son for you have killed your own father... I loved Birchfall more than any other cat besides you and you betrayed that love. You are nothing but a nightmare to me..."

Phantom couldn't find the courage to say anything, his mother was one of the few cats he still loved from ThunderClan and now he knew she hated him. Before he could do or say anything else Phantom was caught off guard as Firestar struck him down. The ginger tom pressed his paws down as hard as he could on the much smaller cat's neck.

The last thing Phantom heard was Flare's mournful cry as he heard the sickening sound of his own bones breaking... No more could this little tom strike fear into the hearts of so many ThunderClan cats, no more could he spend entire nights watching his beautiful mate Flare as she slept, and no more could he know the pain that is the price of living...

14 - Destiny Calls

Flare snarled as she realized what just happened. Her eyes seemed to change from their original lovely blue color to a blood red as she unsheathed her claws. The little ginger she-cat leapt at Firestar who still stood proudly over her dead mate's body. The much larger tom was caught off guard as she sank her teeth into his throat and raked her claws along his side.

Firestar yowled in pain as he hit the ground right beside Phantom. He looked horrified as Flare stepped closer to him. The pleading look in his eyes forced her to make a demand, "I will spare ThunderClan's crowfood leader! Only... if he gives my beloved mate a proper warrior name because I know that of all the things BloodClan could give him a true warrior name was not among those..."

Flare smiled as Firestar commended "Phantomflight" to Starclan as a full warrior. Somehow she knew despite her lack of faith in the stars that Phantom had never truly given up his love for his ancestors. She watched with a satisfied yet aching heart as the ThunderClan warriors filed out of the clearing leaving only a single cat's body in their wake, Phantomflight.

The bloodstained, motionless, white, body made Flare want to curl up and die herself. She lay her head on Phantomflight's stomach as she spoke to him, "Phantomflight... I'm sorry I couldn't kill him... But I promise you this," she mewed glancing toward her own stomach, "Our kits will be BloodClan's future, I'll make sure of it!"

After a few moments of silence Flare padded towards her clanmates who all looked horrified. Scarlet approached Flare coaxing her along the trail that lead toward the barn but every step along the way the spiky, ginger, tabby kept turning back expecting Phantomflight to be bounding alongside her with a goofy look on his face. When that didn't happen she sighed sadly and continued forward with her sister and other clanmates close by her side.

15 - Making The Ultimate Sacrifice

Flare gazed warmly at the two beautiful kits that lay beside her. One was a tomcat with ginger fur like hers and the other a white she-kit with black paws and ginger underbelly. She had decided to call the tom Dusty and the she-kit Robin. Scarlet had taken on the role of leader for the time being while Flare cared for her newborn kits. It had been a moon now since Phantomflight's death and she missed him more and more each day. But his spirit already seemed present in her two young kits. Though their eyes were not open yet she found herself hoping that atleast one of the kits would have their father's lovely green eyes.

"Flare?" mewed Hail poking her head into the crevice where the cautious ginger she-cat had made her nest.

"Yes? What is it Hail?" hissed Flare impatiently.

"Um... you see... Fira wanted me to tell you that she thinks it would be best to give the kits to ThunderClan after all Firestar has made demands for them..."

Flare was outraged at these words. How could her own mother think giving the cat who murdered Phantomflight could be a good thing? She shielded the two mewling newborns with her tail as she hissed, "I'd rather give them to Meena than to that low-down may as well be on Fire-star!"

Meena was a kittypet who lived on the outskirts of BloodClan's territory who had recently had a litter herself. Flare was beginning to think that perhaps it would be best to give her kittens to someone who could keep them safe... Meena... she was the only choice!

Flare gathered up the two helpless bundles of fur and proceeded to run towards Meena's twoleg nest. When she arrived she was greeted by Meena's oldest son a tomcat named Tarnish. The bronze colored tom looked curiously at Robin and Dusty.

"Hello Tarnish," mewed Flare, "Is Meena around?"

"Yes I'm here," said the friendly voice of Meena who was coming up from behind Tarnish. She was followed by a young kit who looked as though his eyes had just opened.

"Meena... I have a huge favor to ask of you..."

"What is it?"

"I... I need you to take care of my kits... They're not safe with me but I have a feeling they would be with you."

Meena's shocked expression turned to a warm smile as she put her tail around Robin and Dusty, "Of course! Tomy here is my only young one right now and he could use some playmates. What are their

names?"

Flare looked at her thankfully, "Dusty and Robin..."

Flare felt as though her heart had completely disintegrated as she watched her friend carry her only remains of Phantomflight away. But part of her also felt relieved, she wouldn't have to worry about the kits getting into trouble here. As she turned to leave she couldn't help but catch a glimpse of a white tom's figure walking beside her pawstep for pawstep. A voice seemed to whisper into her ears, "I will wait for you here among the stars. But be in no rush, there are those who still need you..."

THE END

16 - Soundtrack

This is a list of songs I think fit the story of the characters:

Revolution by The Beatles
Just Like You by 3 Days Grace
Animal I Have Become by 3 Days Grace
Dead by My Chemical Romance
Pain by 3 Days Grace
Billy In Despair by Maximum The Hormone
Me Against The World by Simple Plan
Blood by My Chemical Romance
When Angels Fly Away by Cold
Evil Angel by Breaking Benjamin
What Have You Done by Within Temptation
The World by Nightmare
Bodies by DrowningPool

May find more later...