

Chapter 12 Words Unsaid

"You kissed him and left?!" Lenore laughed as she brushed her sister's damp hair.

"I didn't plan to. It just happened. How did he look when he walked in?" Elena looked in the mirror to see her sister's face.

"His face was so red it almost looked purple." Lenore giggled. "I'm thinking you shocked the hell out of him."

"That's a conversation I'm not looking forward to." She gave her sister a tiny smile. "I just can't explain how much he means to me. I want him so bad and need him in my life. I know this sounds bratty and selfish, but if he has someone else, I don't think I can keep him as my guardian. I love Beryl. She's great, and I know she'll be good to him." She tucked in her bottom lip as she shrugged. "It's killing me," she whispered.

"Lena, when you find your mate, you'll feel different. I'm sure you have an amazing man out there waiting for you. Don't make any rash decisions. You don't want to later regret losing your guardian."

Chapter 12 Words Unsaid

She couldn't even think about the possibility of finding a mate and having feelings stronger than this. It wasn't possible. If they could only feel what she did. If they only knew how much Aba meant to her. This was beyond a guardian relationship. It was more intense. She was certain of it. "They seem close, don't they." She turned away from the mirror so she could search her sister's eyes.

"They do."

The door creaked open and their mother stepped inside, shutting the door behind her.

"Mom!"

"Mom!"

Both girls raced to their mother's open embrace.

"Sorry about your trip." Elena buried her head in her mother's chest.

"Shh, we've already been gone for weeks. Besides, this is where we need to be." She snuggled both of her girls close.

"Where's dad?" Lenore asked lifting away from her mother.

"He's still talking with your grandfather. Your grandfather is very angry that you two went into the catacombs. He's taking you ignoring a direct

Chapter 12 Words Unsaid

order to a very personal level. Obviously he doesn't know much about my family. We don't exactly follow orders well." Lucy smiled as she grabbed both of her girls hands.

"So I hear you found your mate, Norie girl. A demon prince... that sounds like fun!"

"I have a lot to talk with you and dad about that." Lenore said as her mother nodded her head, a small frown forming on her lips.

"We were able to talk your grandfather in allowing Lenore to leave as long as your father accompanies her. Although the catacombs are still off limits. Unfortunately, he won't budge with you, Elena."

"That's because he hates me."

"Oh no no, Laney sweetie. That isn't true. It's because of the whole shadow plague incident. He's worried about you leaving the castle even with an escort. We heard that Aba almost eliminated a whole squad of guards. You and Aba are a package deal, and the best way to control you both is to keep you here. I wanted to take you to Elysium or to the Diamond Pack with my dad, but your grandfather thinks that if you leave, it'll be an admission of guilt. Your dad is still in there

Chapter 12 Words Unsaid

battling on your behalf." She closed her eyes as she prepared for the next thing she had to say.

"Your grandfather wants to betroth you to a prominent vampire. He thinks it will help the people accept you. Your father fought it, but with

Ad

Ads-free >

the agreement that you would at least meet the prospective vampires."

Elena scoffed and folded her arms across her chest. "I can feel how much he loves me."

"You know your father and I are an arranged marriage."

Chapter 12 Words Unsaid

"Who just so happen to be fated mates." Elena snorted as her mother gave her a weak smile.

"We won't force that on you. All you have to do is meet these men. The choice is still yours. Will you agree to that?"

"I don't have a choice, do I? Not unless I find my mate." Elena said sourly. "I'm surprised he isn't afraid that I'll make things worse. I'm capable of anything, you know?"

Lucy laughed and hugged Elena. "You're capable of wonderful things."

They watched as her mother sighed, her eyes glazing over slightly. She was mind linking with someone, but she didn't look happy.

"Lenore, I need to bring you back with me. They wish to speak with you about Taric." She grabbed Lenore's hand and then gave Elena a smile. "We won't be long."

Elena watched her mother and sister leave before she walked across the room. She knew how protective her parents were and that her father was fighting hard on her behalf. For him to even agree to her meeting these vampire men meant things were getting bad. It was a move out of protection, which made her wonder what her

Chapter 12 Words Unsaid

grandfather was trying to force before.

She felt the icy shadows slide inside of her, a darkness trying to twist her heart into something else. She could almost see the dark silhouette of Yin circling her as if she were ready to choose her. There was something cold and calculating about the shadow wolf, only it wasn't in her mind. It was actually there.

She reached toward the shadow, her fingers trailing through its inky depths. The cold seared her fingertips and sunk into her bones. Every muscle tightened as a malevolent energy pulsed through her body from the shadow's fury. Droplets of sweat turned to ice on her skin as her insides filled with terror and hatred. She could feel the tendrils of shadow curling around her, threatening to consume her completely. Was this her darkness? Was this how villains started out?

"Elena?" Aba pulled her back from the shadow that instantly vanished. He looked at her as she continued to stare where the creature was. He had opened the door to check on her and saw her standing there weaving her fingers through the shadows. She had an expressionless look in his eyes. Elena was always hard to read, but he knew she had to be hurting.

Chapter 12 Words Unsaid

"What if I'm not a good person?" Her voice trembled as she turned to look up at him. His eyes softened as he looked at her, as if he was trying to understand her feelings. She let out a shuddering breath as a single tear slid down her face.

"Elena." He shook his head with a smile on his face, reaching out to wipe the stray tear away. "What are you talking about?"

Her hands shook as she covered her face. "I don't think I was the one who should have been given a guardian. There's something dark inside of me, something unbecoming of a fairy princess."

"Now that's enough, Elena! Stop it. There's nothing dark about you except your exquisite black hair." He smiled at her as he reached out to pull her hand down. "El, you are perfect the way you are."

She shook her head. "There's a darkness that lives inside of me. What if it takes over?"

"We all have a darkness that lives in us. For some, it's worse than others. That doesn't mean anything. It just means you have to find the right balance. You have to know your limits and what is and isn't good for you."

Elena squeezed her hands together as she took in a steadying breath. "My grandfather is insisting

that I meet prominent vampires. He wants me to take one as my mate because it will help my image." She stared at his expressionless face. She wanted him to have an outburst. Yell that no one else can have her but him, but he just stood there quietly.

A tense silence hung in the air as she waited for his response, but he remained unreadable. Elena felt her heart sink as the reality of the situation hit her like a ton of bricks. She wasn't sure if Aba's lack of reaction meant he didn't care or if he was just too controlled to show it.

Before she could dwell too much on it, Aba spoke up in a voice that was soft but firm. "You don't have to do anything you don't want to, Lena. Your grandfather can't force you to take a mate. I know that you're upset over everything that was said. I know your grandfather well. He does love you, and he cares for his family. But he doesn't rule the same way your other family does. He puts the species first. He's just trying to be a good leader."

"He would rather be a good leader and a shitty grandfather."

"Exactly." Aba looked into her sad brown eyes. "He's a king first. Duty before family. That's his way."

"I think Lenore is going to choose to stay with Taric." Elena looked down at her hands. "I know she'll be close, but it won't be the same. I think I've stayed here because of her. This place isn't my home, Aba."

"We can always visit your sister anytime you want. We can move to Elysium."

Elena shook her head. "No." She looked up at his creased forehead, his eyes drilling into hers. "I want to stop the one controlling the shadows." Instantly, she felt his anger rise. His lips formed a tight line as his nostrils flared.

"That is exactly what she wants! She wants you to come to her."

"Then she's a fool because she's asking for her death. I'm the one who controls the shadows! And I'm going to show her how it's done."

"Nycrops are dangerous. Their dark magic is deadly! You're not going anywhere near her."

"I wasn't asking."

"Neither am I." He growled, his eyes piercing into hers.

"I'll have to keep it a secret from my parents and Lenore. If she finds out, she will want to come too."

Chapter 12 Words Unsaid

+5 Points

"

"El..."

"Of course, I'm going to wait until after Lenore

Ad

Ads-tree >

makes her decision, but I know my sister. That writing is already on the wall. I think she'll be happy with him. I just hope she doesn't have to be separated from him."

Aba's eyes traveled over Elena and his anger vanished. He could see she was upset. The two sisters were inseparable. It would be a big change. Even if they knew this day would come, they still

Chapter 12 Words Unsaid

weren't prepared for it. "You both are going to be okay."

Elena could see that the darkness had vanished from his eyes. The brown was much warmer and calmer. He hadn't said a word about her kissing him. Was he avoiding the topic? It might be the smart thing to do, given everything that was going on. But it was killing her not knowing. Was he dating Beryl? If he wasn't, could he look at her as more than just a charge?

"If I ask you something, will you tell me the truth?"

Elena watched as a guarded expression rested on his face. "Mmm, never mind." She decided she didn't want to force him to tell her anything. Maybe that was telling enough.

"El, you can ask me anything. I just can't promise it's something I can answer right now."

"You know, I really don't get what you're worried about. If I go hunting for the nycrops, won't you be with me? Are you afraid she can take you?" She decided to change the topic completely. She watched as he tilted his head at her as his lips twitched up confidently.

"I'll destroy her, without mercy. What am I worried about? I'm worried about something happening to

Chapter 12 Words Unsaid

you”

“Then you aren't confident in yourself, right? How could I be injured if my big bad guardian is there to protect me?” A sly smile spread over her lips as she spoke to him coquettishly. She was rewarded with his rich, dark chuckle.

“You really enjoy provoking me lately, don't you?” His eyes danced in amusement as he smiled at her.

“Oh? I didn't realize you were so easily provoked. It's like you're saying you have a bad temper or something.” She smiled, biting her bottom lip. A soft air of laughter coming from her nose.

Being with Aba was easy. Just being around him lifted her sour mood. He made her feel better about everything that was going on. She could get through anything, even being separated from everyone, as long as she had him by her side. She had always thought he would be there until recently. Now, she wasn't sure what the future would hold. How could she do life without her sister and Aba?

Suddenly his arms came around her. He held her head against his chest, his other hand rubbing her back softly. “I wish I knew what you were thinking,”

Chapter 12 Words Unsaid

+5 Points

he murmured, the softness of his breath tickled her. "Don't pull a stunt like you did today. I mean it, don't you ever leave like that, not without me."

"So, we are going nycrops hunting?" She felt his fingers dig into her slightly as a lethal growl reverberated in his chest.

"Elena," he drew out her name between his teeth. "I already told you... it's too dangerous."

"And I already told you that I don't take orders from you." She lifted her head, challenging him with her eyes.

"So, you plan to attack me with your shadows again?" He growled.

A sly smile spread over her lips. "Only if you plan to throw me over your shoulder again."

His lips parted in shock and he stood there not saying anything. Though Elena could see how his ears turned red. His dark eyes took on a predatory stare. "Careful, Elena." His husky tone seemed strained as his hands remained around her.

"I'm not afraid of you." She tilted her head up to him in a seductive invitation.


"Don't play games with me, Elena." His hot breath reached her lips, making an excited shiver race

Chapter 12 Words Unsaid


through her.

"Who's playing?" She whispered up to him, feeling his fingers grip into her firmly. The atmosphere crackled with tension, as if the air itself was holding its breath in anticipation.

With much restraint, he stepped away from her. His eyes held hers and softened, seeing the hurt. "Elena, we need to talk. There's something I need to tell you."

 66
Comments

 33
Vote

 Watch videos get points (0/20) >