

Chapter 12

I don't remember who started it, but once we got back to the Pole it was a screaming match. Everyone was yelling and shouting at each other, between the "You bloody idiots!" and "You screwed up!" and constant Russian cursing from North and Akilina, I slammed my sta into the floor, spreading ice everywhere causing everyone to fall onto their butts and backs.

Eshe stood first, she was fuming. She began cursing at me.

"WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT FOR FROST BOY?!" She demanded. It took everything in me not to blast her back. I was not going to hear the end of this...

Tooth looked more hurt than angry, her wings drooped and she couldn't look at me in the eye. North and Bunny were fuming as well, yelling at each other. Heath just sat on the floor staring at his reflection in the ice, his auburn hair falling in his eyes.

When it finally quieted down, everyone turned to look at me.

"What did you call Catori...?" Tooth asked. I saw the sadness and disappointment in her eyes, and it hurt me as well.

"It was in the heat of the moment..." I mumbled in reply.

"But did you mean it?" Akilina asked, placing a pale hand on Tooth's shoulder. I frowned and stared at the floor, almost ashamed of myself.

"I-I..." I sighed, "I don't know..." I rubbed my face and stalked away from them, needing time to think. When I hid away in a room given to me by North, I promptly threw my sta at the wall, it landing with a clatter.

What was wrong with me? Why was I always screwing things up?

I heard a so knock on the door, "come in..." I replied. Tooth walked in. I looked down in embarrassment, not wanting to make eye contact.

"Jack..."

"I'm sorry Tooth..." She shook her head.

"No, don't apologize. I've seen how you act around her, you hold something special in your heart for her, and all I want is to see you grow and be happy." I looked up at her in surprise.

"W-really?" She smiled and nodded.

"Absolutely." I brought her in for a hug.

"Thank you, Tooth." She smiled again.

"Of course. Now, tell me, what do you want to do?" I frowned and thought hard on it, what did I want to do? Naturally, save Catori, get her out of danger, but I needed a plan and backup.

"I need a plan and backup."

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