

Chapter 43

Love you.
God bless all of you and have a wonderful day ahead.

Prince Phoenix's POV

"Wh...what?" I was too shocked to speak.

How can anyone just say something like this so soon?

"If I forgive you," she said again, clearer.

"How...w...why?"

"You are so sorry."

"I truly am but what I did was..."

"You are sorry Your Highness and you feel...remorse. You...you also...saved me," she whispered to herself and to me.

"How can you be so forgiving?" I asked in wonder and tilted her head to the side trying to figure out what I meant. That only showed me that it was in her very nature, she was pure, innocent and forgiving. Even in all that's happened to her, none of those qualities were lost.

"You really forgive me. You really do. Wholeheartedly," I mumbled.

"Yes."

I couldn't hold it in anymore. I pulled her to me and caged her in my arms. She immediately flinched the second I moved forwards and her entire body stiffled as I hugged her. She just stood against me with her hands frozen at her sides.

"Thank you. I have no other words for you Little Flower. I can only say this, thank you. You never fail to blow me away," I whispered. Only then did she relax in my arms. I didn't let go for some time. The situation was just too perfect. In that moment, with her in my arms, it was the only thing that mattered. I didn't care about anything else. It was as if the rest of the world faded away and she was the only thing that was crystal clear.

"Papa will be angry. I have to go," she said timidly while pulling back.

"I'll come with you."

When we entered the hall, I immediately locked eyes with the King as he sat at the head of the table. The Queen was seated on his right while Alexander on his left. And Queen Aurora was having a light conversation while the King only glared at me. He wasn't listening to anyone else talking. His eyes were hard as he drummed his knuckles on the heavy wooden table.

My Little Flower greeted her mother and brother before walking towards the King. She kissed him on the cheek and whispered some stu in his ear.

His stone cold eyes gradually lost their roughness. He slowly diverted his eyes away from me to look at his daughter. A few new painfully slow moment, he nodded at my girl. Alexander let out a heavy breath and signaled for me to sit beside him while my little one sat beside the queen.

"So...," the King started. "I heard you're leaving soon?" King Sindrian looked expectantly at me.

"So eager to get rid of me? I hope you act differently when the trolls come back," I back.

"Boys! Enough!!" Queen Aurora exploded. Her eyes glowed brightly making her daughter nervous. The dress she wore made a slight movement which only means her wanted to be let free. That's what happens when fae creatures become anxious or angry or basically two emotional.

I couldn't care less about any of that. King Sindrian was missing me.

I couldn't eat the fact that he was a king and I was just a Prince.

"Boy!" I gritted out.

"I am much older Prince Phoenix, don't forget that and both of you will stop this bickering. Now!"

I snorted and looked away while the King glared at his wife.

"O dear God, he likes her alright!" Alex blurted pointing towards me then to my Little Flower. He's been into her for a long time now and yes he was a awful, horrible, heartless and an ass plus a jerk but Prince Phoenix has proven himself to her at least from what I can see, he's trying to do something. I think we should all just leave it for Eve to decide. Let this matter be between the both of them, please," he looked to King Sindrian hopefully.

I just wanted to hit him and strangle him for calling me those names but held myself back only because he was actually speaking to my advantage.

"Aveal is not even eighteen yet."

"She's old enough to understand what she wants and what she does not want dear." Queen Aurora said so ly as she placed her hand on his arm.

"We will not talk about any of this until a er the war," he m- in room for any other words. He abruptly stood up and le the hall.

"She's his princess. He lost her when he was seven and he just got her back. We just told him, I'm sure he doesn't come as a shock to you, young prince." The queen turned towards me. Alex had taken his sister out of the hall a few moments ear the King le.

I let out a defeated sigh. "No, I guess it couldn't come as a shock to me, just don't have the strength to stay away from her. I don't know how to explain this feeling to you."

"You don't have to," she looked at me blankly. Up to this point I don't even know if Queen Aurora wholeheartedly approved of me wanting her daughter.

"As my husband said earlier, we'll wait until a er the war, you will need to earn his blessing Prince Phoenix, and mine too. Though his will be much harder to achieve."

"I understand. Just to let you know, I will be leaving tomorrow at dawn."

"So soon?"

"What did you expect Your Grace? I have a war to plan. We still have to defeat them."

"Yes, of course. I hope we win. For good this time."

"We will."

"I must help my daughter with the gis she possesses within herself. She must unravel all of them."

"Hmm, perhaps when I see her again she'll be a changed flower."

"Oh yes, definitely young prince." Queen Aurora smiled brightly, I could tell she was excited to bring out the fae in my Little Flower.

"Don't let her change too much," I said sti ly. I like her like this. Adorable and sweet. I don't want to come back to a savage warrior.

The queen must have read my reaction because I heard a hearty laugh.

"I wish I knew where your thoughts carried you o to. What do you imagine Aveal will become?"

"I don't know..."

"And that worries you?" I remained silent. She rolled her eyes at me.

"She will not change in the way you think Prince Phoenix. She will become stronger of course and she'll just learn how to use her gis and control it's great power. I don't really know the extent of it but I know she's strong and powerful so we'll see."

"Would you tell her I said farewell? I will not be good at goodbyes when it comes to her."

The queen looked at me like she was trying to solve a puzzle. Even I was surprised in the way I acted. "Of course."

"If she has any letters for her family in Red Kingdom, pass them to me later." I said and rushed out of the hall in a blur.

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What a day I thought to myself. Half of it was filled with peace and joy and the other half was a bloody battle.

I wasn't a fool, I knew I had to earn the Fa King's blessings. It won't be an easy task and he won't make it easy. On the other hand, the war was getting closer. I have to win. Losing will reflect the belief of the Red Kingdom. I am the future King. With all these heavy thoughts in my mind, I dropped myself on the bed and massaged my temples with my eyes shut.

Not even a minute later there were so knocks on the door.

Give me a break!

I stood up and walked toward the doors, already annoyed at the person on the other side, I opened the door, my previous emotions vanished and was taken over by delight.

"It's late, you should be sleeping," I said so ly, opening the door wider for her to walk in.

"I...wanted to um..." she stretched out her hand and gave me four letters.

I held up her chin to make her to look at me. "Train yourself to speak full sentences, no matter how hard it may be." She looked down and nodded in understanding.

"Is this everything or do you have five more?" I teased.

"That's all."

"Alright then," I stopped not knowing how to prolong the conversation anymore. I wanted to but what else was there to say?

She turned around to leave but before she could reach the door I gently held her wrist and pulled her back. She turned around and our chests nearly connected. She was suddenly breathing hard the room was getting warmer. We were so close that our breaths mingled together. She freed her wrist on impulse but held her by the waist and brought my lips down to forehead. It was gentle and fast. I didn't want to do anything stupid like scare her before I le.

Once I had kissed her, she brought up her trembling fingers to touch the spot weren't lips touched her delicate skin. She frowned but said nothing.

"I don't know how I'm going to survive without you," I confessed.

Neither of us knew how long I'd gone to train and plan for the war. Neither of us knew how long I'd gone to train and plan for the war.

She just looked at me then she looked down.

"I suppose I have to, but I will always be thinking about you," I said while caressing her cheek.

God I'm going to miss this girl.

"Goodbye Your Highness," she said so ly.

"Don't say that. Please." I muttered feeling empty. She tilted her head and blinked at me. Then a sudden realisation filled her eyes. As if she knew how I felt.

"Okay, I will...see you again." She tried. I looked down at her lovingly. "That sounded much better, Little Flower." I kissed the crown of her head before she walked out the door. She still had a slight limp in her walk but it was getting better each day. She took a le out the door.

"Your room is here?" I asked surprised.

"No, I want to see Mr and Mrs Salvador."

I had completely forgotten about bringing them along.

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Princess Aveal Florentine's POV

The next morning when I woke up I knew he was gone. I spent so much time with him that my body could tell whether he was in the same place as me or not.

Speaking about the Dark Prince, he's somehow the one chasing them away from my mind. When Lady Esther and Henri did what they did, the Dark Prince became this whole other being. He had stopped chasing me a short time before that but a er what happened I got see a drastic change.

Gone was the monster side of him.

A whole di erent personality fought it's way through a er that. He became this gentle, caring creature. Not at all how I would have described him months ago. He made sure I was bathed, he fed me, took care of me, made sure I slept even when I couldn't, he protected me and most importantly he saved my life. I don't want to live a er that horrific experience but he didn't let fade away. He even freed me knowing full well that he had the power to do anything else but instead he chose to send me back to my family.

I could never understand the mysterious Dark Prince. His actions from now and before were so contrast to each other. I couldn't understand anything until he professed his feelings yesterday.

That made me think about his actions but I won't be able to fully understand everything about him.

Mr and Mrs Salvador told me that he was going to be craving for me when he's there but I personally think that craving is a very big word.

I walked towards the dining table and saw that my twin was already there. There were tears in her eyes. I smiled at him.

Only Alex still calls me Eve or Evie.

"You d...don't eat anything?"

"Haven't eaten anything."

"haven't eaten anything?" I corrected myself. I hated the fact that I couldn't talk properly so I was trying very hard.

"Stop beating yourself up, I'll get it soon."

"Thank you," he chuckled and ru led my hair. Just then a young castle servant walked in and served our breakfast.

"Thank you very much," we said it together, the servant blushed at us for moment then he went red and shyly walked away giving us a bow.

"We will start our training by the end of this week." She looked at me all excited. I just gaped at her with my eyes wide.

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