

The Lycan Princess and the Temptation of Sin by Moonlight Muse

Chapter 159



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75. The Pain Inside

ROYCE.

The only way to end this... is his death.

The moment is before me as he lays there bleeding out, and it hurts.

Despite everything he has done and I know he deserves what is coming, but... he is still my brother.

I look at her as I pass her the sword, hiding the pain in my chest.

For her, I need to stay strong.

You've hidden your emotions for years, Royce. What are a few more moments?

I look into her eyes, which are now green, but they remain cat-like.

"Let's do this." I say.

I look at Aleric as he lays there on the floor, trying to get up when he sees us approaching, but he is beyond the point of recovering, and it's clear Apophis is focusing on the barrier...

The darkness that is pushing against the barrier is spreading from Aleric.

"Break his tie from this world and it will weaken him." Skyla murmurs.

"For the Gods," I say quietly as I place my hand over hers.

We raise the sword as one and I look down at him. Our eyes meet and I remember the little boy who once played by my side. 5

The one I sparred against, the friendly competition, the pranks we'd pull... the way he always tried to protect me.

"Apophis!" He hisses. The darkness seems to spread, returning around him with vengeance and he begins laughing brokenly.

Too weak to do anything, but his confidence in the snake god remains.

"Kill me then, if you can," Aleric says, his eyes locked with mine. you took everything I wanted... you even nothing more than my mate... you are selfish... you always have been..."

"Royce." Skyla's voice brings me from my thoughts and I realise I've frozen. "We need to hurry."

The urgency in her voice makes me glance around and see that the entire area is now blacked out.

I let out a shaky exhale. I could talk big, say I will kill, but when the time is before me... it's fucking hard.

"Goodbye, brother," I say quietly, as I close my eyes and we raise the sword. My hand is over hers, and her power surges through the blade as we plunge it into his chest.

Tears sting my eyes as Apophis's chilling voice that makes me ill every time I hear it rings in the air.

'NO!'

I open my eyes and stare into Aleric's wide eyes.

Apophis's screams of rage as the sky begins to lighten around us are shrill and ear-splitting, but I'm unable to bask in the sight of victory...

Aleric is staring back at me as his life fades before my eyes. 13

He didn't think I'd do it. 4

When his life finally fades away, I let go of my grip on her hand and the sword as I fall to my knees, unable to hold back the tears. 3

She places the sword down, cupping my face, and I look into her gorgeous green eyes.

"I'm so sorry." She whispers.

I shake my head. This is not on her.

She moves closer, hugging me tightly from behind as I press my fists to my forehead, refusing to allow any sound to escape me.

There truly is no victory in war...

SKYLA.

It breaks my heart to see him so broken; he was acting strong when his heart was breaking.

I can't imagine having to take the life of my sibling, even if someone is bad... they are still our loved ones. 1

I know he'll feel that guilt every time he faces his mother...

We had no option, but that is something he will carry with him for life. 2

We remain there, even when the sun shows its face once more, even when everyone gathers. I hold my king close, wanting to take away his pain.

His tears have stopped, but his head remains bowed.

Mama approaches, but I shake my head. Even if he's injured, now isn't the time..

"We are sorry, your majesty..." one of the witches says...

"This has been... intense..." a man says quietly. "We should have seen the signs..."

I drown them out, kissing Royce's neck from behind as I keep my hold on him tight until I sense Catherine approaching. That is when I let go of him. No matter how hard it is, they need one another right now.

"Goddess...Why?" Catherine sobs as she falls to her knees beside Royce, and I force myself back. "You did what you had to." She says through her sobs as she cups Royce's face, pulling him into her embrace. 3

I stand up and turn my back on them, to give them space to mourn their loss, unable to stop my own tears from flowing down my face.

Goddesses... why must they suffer... at least make their healing easier...

Mama's arms wrap around me, and I hug her tightly, trying to control my own tears, but it hurts.

For the first time in my life... I killed someone...

It changes you... something inside of you...

I now understand what it means when they say, every life you take stays with you...

"So Alpha Royce, the Solaris King, was indeed innocent." 4

I scoff and pull away from Mama as I stare at the man who has spoken. I'm still in my armour, and I know they are all looking at me.

Are they that stupid?

"We were telling you that," I say through my tears.

The man looks guilty as he lowers his head and mumbles, "I know... I just... Well, he is not your mate, so it was hard."

"He is my light, he is my king, he is the one I want and above all, he is the one I love. We fell victim to the games of Apophis and now... I Skyla Silara Rossi, take back my rejection and-" I gasp when I feel a strong pair of arms wrap around me from behind. 1

His warmth and the way my heart thumps tells me who it is before I look into his eyes.

He's still in pain, but there is a small smile on his face despite the sadness in his eyes.

"Finally." He whispers.

I let out a weak laugh. "I promise I won't keep doing this."

"I should hope not." He says before I turn in his arms, and he claims my lips in a sizzling explosive kiss that sends tingles of pleasure through me.

I wrap my own arms around his neck as he pulls me flush against him, kissing me hard and deep.

I kiss him back, wanting to take his pain, wanting to comfort him and wanting to show him that it is going to be ok.

I will always be there for him, and although I know this will take time to overcome, we will do this together.

Everything but him fades away, and the pleasure that consumes me drowns me in eternal bliss. He's kissing me like it's the first and last time and I no longer know where I end, and he begins... T

Because we are one.

I truly won once I accepted who I am.

I am not perfect, not everyone likes me, and I know I have faults, but when I accept who I am myself, only then is it possible for me to be truly happy.

We break apart and he caresses my cheek, both of us breathing heavily.

"Wow..." He says, looking me over again,

"I don't know, should I try to get rid of it? I mean I'm probably naked underneath." I say with a smirk.

He shakes his head, "No... I like it... besides, I'd prefer you naked only for me."

I hear a grumpy growl and can't help but chuckle. 12

"I love you, Lil Lucifer, so damn much."

"I love you too." I whisper, the sheer relief that

it's all over suddenly hits me hard.

It's over... we did it.

We fucking did it.

And then, we're kissing again...