



A special message

“ The scent trackers are back. There is no trace of them leaving the area through the woods or over the mountains. They even searched up and down the river, but nothing.”

The old man, Cellrik from the council, cleared his throat before he continued.

“ I have gotten word back from our truth-teller; she assures me neither The blood claws nor The werebears have seen her. They are not in the Fay territory; in other words, Tew, they are not here.”

I scoffed and watched several of them jump in their seats as I got up and slammed my fists on the table. Cellric and Mallakai’s faces stiffened, clearly seeing this as an act of disrespect. I couldn’t care less. They failed their job!

“Of course not! They crossed the sea! How hard is that to understand? ”

I growled at them.

My patience was wearing thin. It’s already been over a week, and I have a bad feeling about all of this, especially since I found these disgusting pack files.

Alpha Birger could say whatever he liked, trying to convince me that she was safe with Toke. That his son only did what

he did to keep her safe. It didn't mean shit to me! I knew what they were doing!

"We can't just enter Nomade land, Tew; you know this! If that's where they are, you just need to cut your losses. They are not coming back."

"No, YOU might be powerless across the sea, but I am not!"

"Watch your mouth, boy! Besides, if that is the case, you will fail your job! You watched the ocean line! If they managed to escape that way, that is on you!"

Cellrik lost his composure and stood up, matching my stare.

Brave old man!

A wicked smile grew on my lips as I leaned back in my chair; well, technically, I had ripped Toke's throne from the front and carried it here. I snickered when I thought back to the mortified looks from his old pack mates. Without shame, I looked him up and down, let my beast push his Alpha aura out, just because I liked to see him tremble.

He held his ground, but a couple of warriors further back buckled or emptied their stomachs on the spot. I wrinkled my nose in disgust; what had happened to this pack? This? Are these people the pack that once was on our level?

It is hard to believe. Now, they are weak, falling under the pressure of their own flaws and lies. They are slowly breaking themselves, and the worst part is that they are too

stupid to admit it. So, they continue.

"Oh, really, now tell my Cellrik. How did Toke get his hands on Hybernation powder? Isn't that a controlled substance? Oh, and isn't your son the one who distributes it? Hmm... It could just be a coincidence, right? But then again, such a rare powder is tracked to the last place she was. Your boat, out of nowhere, drifted away with the stream on a night without even a single breath of wind."

"How dare you! I am a council member! One of the oldest, and I demand to be respected as one!"

The old man roared, and I could feel his aura filling the room. It was heavy and thick, but it didn't work on me. It was more of an annoyance than anything else. But my beast roared; he had had enough of these old men and their claim of power and status. He staggered back as my eyes flickered, and I let the beast rush forward, glaring at him through my eyes.

"Sit down! You disgust me! You are not worthy of my respect!"

The room shook while his carnal voice demanded space and vibrated through the air in this vast room that now felt too small.

With an amused look, I let the coldness stay lingering on my skin, looking down on him while I claimed my place back from my beast,

“Do not forget, old man; we found the deal you made! I know what you want. I know what your son did and what he asked for. I suggest you disappear from the face of this earth. Quickly! I will release these papers and make sure this corrupted collection of antique men is tossed aside!”

His face paled a little, but he still had the guts and confidence to scoff at my words and cross his arms over his chest. He leaned back in his chair, acting like he was comfortable under my stare.

“What do you think Bjorn will say about this? Oh, and what about that sweet old guy? You know, the one by the mountains. What was his name again? Ah, I know! Hades?”

“Hades disappeared years ago! He is dead. Do not play with me, boy! You know nothing about what you are talking about!”

“My old man, no. Here is where you are, the clueless one. Hades, my older stepbrother, is far from dead. He is far from the drunken spirit walker you all thought him to be. Ah, did I forget to tell you that part? That we share the same father? How silly of me.”

I taunted him. I wanted to do this for years and years. Dreamed about breaking this man, dreamed about breaking his sorry excuse of a son. But as long as the old Alpha ruled, he forbade us to get involved. It was a reason why we never accepted the council and why we never involved ourselves

with the social society that did. Now, it was my turn, my time to rule. And I say, it is time to make things right!

I had no reason to hide my contempt for him or hatred. Even if most around this table had no idea what I talked about, he sure did! And Alpha Birger did, but I would pick a bone with him later. Right now, Cellric was all that I could see. He was useless to me now, and it had been clear he didn't want this to be solved.

"I suggest you run now! I will release the documents to the wild cats and the werebears first thing tomorrow morning. And the only reason I will let you go now is I know how much, especially the cats like the chaise! I will not ask again, Cellric. Run, NOW!"

He scrambled to his feet and was out the door before I could even draw my breath again. A burst of dark laughter echoed around us as I watched him; damned, I didn't even know that old body had it in him anymore!

Choosing to ignore Birger's questioning gaze, I averted my interest to the young girl I had met earlier. She was pale, leaning back and trying to disappear in the shadows. From what I understand, she was Eir's friend. She had shown me around the little house they had made their own. I know she is reluctant to leave this place with us, but after I show her the papers I found on her, I'm sure she will join us.

She was a safety card, something that would make it easier for Eir to come with us. Because I would find her,

"Tew! Hades sent a message!"

I sighed, speaking of the devil. Pinching the bridge of my nose, I asked the question I was dreading,

"How did he send it this time?"

By the silence that followed, I knew he had been creative again, and damned that boy and his morbid sense of humor! With a new sigh, I got up and walked past him and out. First, I didn't see anything out of the ordinary. That was until he nudged me and pointed up, and I groaned.

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