

Chapter 7

TRIGGER WARNING FOR VIOLENCE

I look around. There is a steak in the ground, surrounded by

some hay and rope.

"Grab her." The commander orders the guards.

"What are you doing?" I yell, but they ignore me, grabbing Avia.

No no no no!

There's around 20 guards crowding the steak. I get pushed to the back of the crowd.

"Let me through! Move! Out of my way!" I shout at them, but no one moves. The guards that grabbed Avia proceed to tie her to the steak. "LET HER GO!" I scream helplessly. The guards continue to ignore me, I punch the closest one to me. The rest turn around to face me and start at me. One grabs my arm, I elbow them in the face. I kick another that's trying to grab my leg. One pulls their sword out, and I break their wrist.

"IRIS! HELP! I'M SCARED! PLEASE HELP ME!" I hear Avia shouting. I look over, and the guards are collecting the hay around the steak. I push my way through the crowd. One guard tries to stab me, but I grab his blade with my hand. Blood drips to the ground, and I hiss in pain before kicking him in the groin.

"IRIS!" Avia screams, I look over, and someone tackles me. I go to punch them, but someone else grabs my arms. I can't even try to kick, because others grabbed my legs. I thrash and try to get free, but it's no use. I watch as one of the guards lights a match. He looks me in the eyes, and throws it into the hay. Fire dances around the hay, before licking up the steak. It crawls up Avia's legs and she screams. "IRIS, PLEASE! HELP ME! ANYBODY! PLEASE! IT HURTS!" Avia screams at the top of her lungs. She continues to scream as the fire spreads up her body, her clothes catching fire, and her hair. Her screams flood my ears. I'm petrified, horrified, her screams of agony pierce my soul. I watch as the fire takes my sister's life, no, as Milostakes my sisters life. His words echo through my head. His words of this being his idea. I watch as my sister li s her head, trying to avoid the fire getting into her face. Smoke causes her to cough between screams. A horrible smell pollutes the air. It's like burning food, but so much worse... Oh, it's so much worse. Tears force their way out of my eyes. Avia's screams still don't stop, even a er the fire has covered her whole body. I thrash and get one arm free, I punch a guard. It doesn't last long though, another one jumps in and pins me back down. I look back at the fire, and catch Avia's eyes. They are filled with an indescribable look, both fear and unimaginable pain flash through her eyes. Her eyes are completely dry, and her skin is a terrible purple, where there is skin le, at least. Most of her body is now either black and burnt, or red and fleshy. I can see her elbow bone jutting out of the muscle. Fire dances around her like a beautiful wave. I would find it pretty if it wasn't my sister in there. I catch Pierces eye. He's crying, but still not doing anything. Just standing there, beside Milos.

Avia's screams finally stop. The air is filled with silence and a horrible smell. Tears still pour from my eyes.

"Come on. It's guard rotation. Get to your room." Milos orders me. "HOW CAN YOU BE SO CASUAL AFTER WHAT YOU DID?! AND YOU EXPECT ME TO LISTEN TO YOU AFTER THAT?!" I scream in his face a er everyone lets me go. I run past him and to the pile of bones and ashes that is now my sister. I fall to my knees and pick some ashes up in my hands. I sob into them.

"I can be casual because I'm not weak. You are weak. You have to be strong, or this is what happens. Also, yes, I do expect you to listen. Unless you want to end up like that ugly son of a bitc-"

"WHAT THE FUCK DID YOU JUST CALL HER?!" I punch him in the face before he can finish his sentence. Pain explodes from the back of my

head. I turn around as my vision goes blurry. The last thing I see before everything goes black, is Pierce's face.

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