

Chapter 101

A Pervert

Zenith didn't understand a single thing about poison, but he still made it a point to taste the concoction first. At the very least, if there was something wrong with it, he would be able to detect something.

"Do you want me to teach you a thing or two about poison?" Dawn was not serious about it, it was the knowledge she learned from Lyra in her spare time, since she didn't have a lot of friends to talk to.

However, Zenith was serious when he replied. "Yes, please do." He leaned over and kissed her forehead. "But before that, you need to get better first."

Zenith helped her to drink the medicine and she lay down on the bed again. They chatted for a while until her meal arrived and she ate it. Only then did Dawn fall asleep again.

Zenith didn't go anywhere, and his gamma became frustrated because there were several matters related to the affairs in the north that needed his alpha's attention.

"What spell did you put on him? He doesn't leave your side at all," Darius said. He talked in a low voice when he came to their bedroom to hand over the reports Zenith needed to check.

While the alpha was sitting on the sofa to read the reports, Darius tiptoed to the bed and talked to Dawn. He was very frustrated with Zenith.

"Really?"

"You have no idea how intense the protection around your room was during the unrest." Darius shook his head and clicked his tongue. "He didn't even go out and help his brother during that time."

"I think he had helped the King enough all this time." Dawn shrugged her shoulders. She felt slightly better on the third day after she regained her consciousness, it was just that there were these weird memories that kept popping up in her mind.

Darius grimaced. "That was how Zenith answered too."

Dawn chuckled. "Great minds think alike." She chuckled to see the expression that the gamma made.

"Can you do me a favor and ask Zen to at least finish reading all the reports? He will not listen to me, but when you say it, obviously, it's a different case."

Darius learned this actually right in the beginning, but the way Zenith treated her after the royal ceremony cemented his assumptions over how deeply the alpha cared for her. Not just because Dawn was the collateral damage between Zenith and Alpha Tony, but also because he truly cared about her.

"Are you trying to pass your responsibilities to me?" Dawn could see through him.

"This is what you call 'asking for help'," Darius corrected her wisely.

Both of them were startled when Zenith suddenly noticed that his gamma had scooted over to talk to his mate. "What are you doing there?"

"Nothing." Darius immediately stood up and rushed out of the room, but before he shut the door behind him, he shouted to his alpha to finish reading the reports by evening and he would come to collect them.

"What were you talking about?" Zenith came over and kissed Dawn's forehead. He sat down next to her and checked the wound on her neck. The mark was healing really slowly.

"Nothing."

Zenith narrowed his eyes when Dawn chose to be playful, as she answered the same way as Darius did.

"He asked for my help to make sure you read those reports," Dawn said between her chuckles, she was in a good mood.

"I will change your bandage."

Just now Dawn told him not to be tardy with the reports or Darius would cry a river, but the next second the, alpha was ready to tend to his mate again.

"I can ask Celine to do it, the reports..."

Zenith pecked her lips to stop her from talking. "I will change your bandage," he stated, leaving no room for discussion.

Dawn blushed. He became very attentive ever since she woke up and she felt very spoiled by him. "Okay."

Dawn let him change the bandage on her neck, while she ate her food. Zenith was very careful and gentle with her; he would apologize if he touched her wound and made Dawn flinch.

But what actually overwhelmed her was the part where he put the ointment on her wound and blew on it before he bandaged it.

Dawn felt like her heart would leap to her throat when his warm breath caressed her skin and he was so close to her, which led her mind astray as she remembered the time they mated for the first time. Again. It was embarrassing, but somehow, Dawn relived the memory for more times than she could count.

[If someone knows what I am thinking, will they think I am a girl with loose morals?]

"Actually, people usually think I am the one with loose morals. But, just in case, you can act like a victim."

Dawn was mortified, not because of what Zenith said, but because he actually answered the question in her mind.

"Y- You can hear what I think?"

Zenith pressed his smile to see the panic in her eyes. "We are mates now, you accepted the bond between us, so it is only natural that we can mind link each other, no?"

Dawn froze. "How long have you been listening to my thoughts?" She didn't think she wanted to hear the answer.

"Well, you can say that I have been reliving that mating moment alongside you." Zenith chuckled. "What do you think is the reason why I have been staying around? It's so nice to see it from your perspective."

Dawn felt like she wanted to faint. She wished the ground would crack open and swallow her whole.

She shrieked and pulled the blanket to cover her body and face.

"Come out, you will strain your neck."

"You are a pervert!"

Zenith laughed at the accusation. "As far as I know, you are the one, who has been thinking about that moment, shouldn't I be the one to call you a pervert?"

"Zenith!"

It's not fair! Why couldn't Dawn hear what he was thinking?

Chapter 102

Memories of the Past

"How do you block your mind?" Dawn asked. She was afraid that Darius might be able to hear what she was thinking, but Zenith reassured her that the gamma couldn't do that because the two of them were not that close just yet.

"Have you never used mind link in your pack?" This came as a surprise to Zenith. Now he noticed how they had never had a mind link between the two of them in his first life.

"I remembered that I used to be able to mind link my father a few years after I shifted for the first time, but after that, I couldn't do it anymore."

"Don't you feel a little bit odd about not being able to do it?"

Dawn thought about that for a while, but she shook her head. "No. I didn't talk to him very often. I don't think losing my ability to mind link with him bothered me, so I have never noticed if it's something important."

Zenith then explained to her the reason why she couldn't use the mind link anymore; it was because the bond between them had faded away. They were emotionally detached from each other.

"Well, that makes sense." Dawn was still hiding under the blanket, only her eyes could be seen, as she sang a lullaby in her mind to distract herself from thinking something that would make her embarrassed. "How to block my mind now?"

Zenith laid next to her. "Why should I teach you when I enjoy listening to what you are thinking?"

"Zenith, you can't do that to me!" Dawn was so upset; she came out from under the blanket and bit his arm. "I will not let go until you tell me how."

"You can bite me as long as you like, Dawn, I don't mind it," Zenith said, as he caressed her head. "But, don't strain your neck, your wound still has not properly healed yet."

Dawn gave up. She was not serious when she bit him and he knew that, but in the end, Zenith told her how to do it.

It was a pretty simple technique, you only needed to concentrate, but if you did it often, you would be able to do it naturally without even thinking about it, just like breathing.

It took Dawn a whole two weeks to be able to come out again and she felt better. The wound on her neck had healed by this time too and she would often stare at the mirror, admiring the mark on her neck.

"Do you like it so much?" Zenith asked, he hugged her from behind, while Dawn was still wrapped in the towel after taking a bath. He nuzzled her neck and it made Dawn moan when he kissed the mark on her neck.

"It looks good on me," Dawn answered sheepishly and Zenith liked it.

"Have you cleaned your body thoroughly?" He asked slyly.

"Of course."

"Hm. I doubt that..." Zenith turned her body around and took off her towel smoothly, Dawn didn't have time to defend herself. "I need to check."

Dawn gasped when her naked body was exposed before her mate's eyes. Zenith had always been playful and teasing her mercilessly recently, it almost felt like he had been in a very good mood lately.

Usually, Dawn would cower away, but not this time. She lifted her head and looked him in the eyes.

Well, two people could play this game, right?

"What? Do you like what you see?" Dawn wanted to kick herself for using that cheesy line, but since she couldn't take back what she said, she would just go with it.

Lust flickered across Zenith's eyes and the alpha was not shy about it, which left Dawn flustered. A fiery flush crept across her face, down to her neck and her chest.

"Hm. I am not sure. Let me inspect closely." Zenith took a step closer and pinned her to the wall, as he caressed her body. Dawn could feel his hardness against her stomach. "Your neck is fine," Zenith said, as he kissed her neck and then down to her breasts. "Your breasts were fine too... Your armpits too."

"Zen!" Dawn laughed because it was ticklish.

"Be good, I am not done yet." And now Zenith was kneeling down in front of her. "Let me check down here..."

"Zen!" Dawn's laugh died in her throat, as she looked mortified when Zenith kissed her down there. How could he do that! Was it even appropriate to do that?!

She could feel his warm breath between her legs as his warm tongue pressed against her opening. This left her breathless. There was this tension that knotted in her stomach.

"This is... this is not right..."

Was this right? Were people used to doing it this way? Dawn didn't know, she had no idea, nor did she have any experience about it.

But... It felt good.

Dawn slipped and now Zenith could read her mind and was no longer hesitant to please her. She grabbed his shoulders to steady herself, but her claws accidentally elongated and stabbed him, yet Zenith didn't seem to care, as he knew she almost reached her climax.

And when she came undone, there was this vivid memory that rushed back as well.

The memory of pain. Her pain of losing her son. This was the forgotten dream that she kept having every night since she woke up.

But now, it became clearer, as if it was not only a dream, but something that she just experienced. For a moment, Dawn was caught between the pleasure and the pain, the agony and grief.

She saw with her own eyes the bloody cloak, with which Zenith brought back the remains of her son. She remembered how people scowled at her. The people in the north, the people in the Moonlight pack.

"Dawn! Dawn!"

Zenith shook her body, he was already standing and looking at her face. Tears streamed down her cheeks and through the mate bond, he could see how the memories of their past life flooded her mind.

Chapter 103

A Wretched Life

"Feeling better?" Zenith asked, thick concern laced his voice when he handed her a glass of water to calm her nerves.

"Thank you," Dawn mumbled, she took the glass and gulped down the water to moisten her throat. She had been crying for two hours straight for no reason at all, but at the same time, she felt justified to feel extremely sad for the memories that flashed across her mind.

What was that? It felt like she had gone through a lifetime of misery.

"How are you feeling?" Zenith reached out to caress her head, but Dawn flinched away from his touch out of instinct. Zenith's hand stilled and then he dropped it.

"I- I am fine, but can you leave me alone for a while?" Dawn asked, as she fiddled with her fingers. She didn't want to look at Zenith. She felt this deep, intense anger rising within her.

Meanwhile, Zenith could feel the mate bond between them straining and it was hard to hear what she was thinking. She was pulling away from him...

Zenith knew it was only a matter of time before she remembered everything that had happened in their first life. There was no avoiding it.

Dawn was still confused, but once she put all the pieces together, he would face her hatred. He knew what was waiting for him, but still... he wished things would turn out differently.

"Where are the reports I have to check?" Zenith went to Darius, which made the gamma so happy.

"Here! Here!" The gamma beamed, as he bounced toward the table, where there were piles after piles of reports that Zenith had to go through. "I know asking Dawn will be a great solution!"

Darius' happiness didn't last long, as he immediately noticed Zenith's weird behavior. He didn't talk much and focused on his task. Actually, he always acted this way, but after Darius witnessed how relaxed the alpha was whenever he was with Dawn, it felt strange to see him fall back into his old habits again.

"Is everything alright?" Darius finally asked when the silence was too overwhelming. He felt the air was too heavy and the tension was palpable. "Did... Dawn kick you out of your bedroom to accomplish this task?"

Zenith didn't answer him.

"Hey, I didn't mean to cause trouble for the two of you..." There was still no response. Darius couldn't help but frown at this. "Well, how about I sort out all the important ones, so you can return to her quickly?"

"Give me those reports," Zenith said, pointing at the reports that Darius currently handled.

"You don't have to..."

"Give me those reports," Zenith repeated himself, ignoring Darius' rambling.

Now Darius felt guilty. He felt like he had destroyed the beautiful relationship between the alpha and the luna.

Because he couldn't deny the direct order, he handed over all the reports and left the alpha alone. After that, he headed toward their bedroom to talk to the luna, but she didn't even answer the door. He knocked a few times, but there was no response.

Darius knew Dawn was inside, because her scent lingered around. But, after half an hour, he got the clue and left.

"Have I destroyed their relationship?" Darius pulled his hair in frustration, as he talked to Lance. The poor gamma was under so much stress, since it had been two days and his alpha had not yet moved from his position, tending to all the pack's affairs and the luna didn't allow anyone to enter the room except for the servants who brought her food.

"I think so," Lance replied casually, he buried his nose in his own report. Due to the recent unrest, he was inundated with a lot of tasks. He didn't have time to listen to Darius' complaints about his workaholic alpha.

"Lance! Can you sympathize with me a little bit?" Darius groaned.

"Look!" Lance slammed the parchment on the table and growled at the gamma. "I have a lot of things to do here, so can you go complain somewhere else?! If you have nothing better to do than complaining, come here and help me with these!"

Darius hurried away when Lance finally had enough of his wailing.

And the situation between Dawn and Zenith stayed the same for a whole week. It was Zenith who finally decided to address the situation between them.

Emily was due in two months and she hated every second of it. She hated being pregnant with Blake's child when that man harbored nothing but resentment toward her and their child.

Emily could see in his eyes how he blamed her for his misery. He thought she was the reason Dawn hated him and refused to be with him.

"You should get rid of that thing inside your womb," Blake said one day, after they were forced to have a family lunch together.

The alpha and the beta hoped the relationship between them would improve. After all, they had been together behind Dawn's back, why did they need to be separated when they could be together openly?

More so, there was a child that they had to think about.

"How could you say something so cruel to me?" Emily held back her tears and anger. "If it was Dawn who was pregnant, you would never say something like that."

"Of course, she is my mate. She is way better than you!" Blake gritted his teeth; he balled his fists as if he was curbing down the urge to slap Emily. "You are nothing but a wench!"

This time, it was Emily who slapped him first for what he said. Her claws came out when she did that, thus it left a deep gash on his face.

"How dare you call me that when I am pregnant with your fucking child!?"

At this point, if they had to be together, they would end up killing each other.

"What's going on here!?" Ava approached the two of them and saw the wound on her precious son's face. "How dare you harm him!?"

Chapter 104

His Beast was Out of Control

Ava was furious that Emily hurt Blake. Her mate was already crazy enough to feed Blake with Rottingbane so he couldn't shift into his beast to prevent him from running to the capital city and causing trouble again.

There was a lot of trouble recently, starting from the trial to the unrest and Jason had been on edge lately. Ava felt her mate was going to burst from all the tension. She didn't understand why he reacted so strongly when he heard about the unrest, but she thought it was because he was worrying too much about their son.

Afraid he would go back to the capital city and get caught up in the middle of the unstable situation because he wanted to see Dawn.

"Don't you dare to abuse him!" Ava was hysterical, which drew attention from all the pack members, who gathered around slowly but surely.

Currently, they were having this fight in the corridor, where people could see what was going on.

Some people immediately called the alpha and the beta because they knew things would only escalate.

"Abuse him?" Emily narrowed her eyes, she felt so hurt and angry. "What? Do you want to slap me too? Do it." Emily saw how Ava had raised her hand. Now, she could see where Blake got that habit from. "Do it and if something happens to the baby, you will have yourself to blame."

Meanwhile, Blake didn't say anything when Ava wanted to slap Emily, but now he had something to say.

"You are being disrespectful to my mother!" Blake raised his voice. He pulled his mother behind his back, as if a heavily pregnant Emily could attack her or something.

Thankfully, Jason and Julia came soon. It seemed they came from the same direction and happened to be together when they heard about this commotion.

"What's going on here?!"

"Jason! She slapped our son!" Ava immediately told her mate about what had happened. She looked furious.

Ava rambled on, reiterating everything that happened, while Julia took her daughter's side, she also looked furious.

However, a moment later, Ava realized that Jason didn't give any response. He simply stared at her, which made Julia smirk a little. No one noticed that except for Emily, who was standing right beside her mother.

"Are you not going to do anything?"

"What do you want me to do to a pregnant woman, who is carrying our grandchild?" Jason asked coldly and then looked at his son. "And you? Aren't you going to say something? Don't you feel embarrassed for hiding behind your mother's back?"

Yet, Blake said nothing and left. There was nothing for him to say to his father, who had forced him to drink the Rottingbane, just so he couldn't shift into his beast.

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"She is not in her bedroom, in fact, she is nowhere to be found," Darius reported.

Today Zenith decided to see Dawn, feeling a week was enough time for her to calm down and feel ready to talk about what actually happened between them.

However, when Zenith entered the room, Dawn was not there. Her last meal was still sitting on the table, untouched.

Zenith could understand if she was mad at him, he was ready to answer all of her questions and clear her confusions, but the last thing that he expected was for Dawn to run away from him.

If she really wanted to leave, he would accept it, but at the very least, he had to be sure that she was safe and he knew her whereabouts, just in case someone would harm her knowing she was his mate.

Her current status and the recently held royal ceremony were a double-edged sword for her.

"Zenith, where are you going?!" Darius hastened his pace when he saw the alpha shift into his beast and rush toward the king's bedroom.

Zenith knew this place like the back of his hand, after all, he grew up in this palace, thus it was easy for him to find an opening to enter Zander's bedroom.

"You know that it's a crime to enter the King's bedroom without permission, right?" Zander looked annoyed, he knew why his brother was here, but he had just taken a bath, and only a towel was draped around his hips to preserve his modesty.

Yet, Zenith couldn't care less about the king's dignity right now.

"I am going to take your royal warriors." That was not even a request, but a statement.

"Are you giving me a heads up instead of asking for permission?"

"I will take ten thousand royal warriors with me."

"Ten thousand? Are you heading to war?" Zander crossed his arms, unhappy. "I won't approve of it."

However, Zenith didn't need his permission. Indeed, he came here only to give his brother a heads up, because after that, he reminded him of the golden stamp in his possession.

Holding the golden stamp meant one's authority was above everyone else's. One could even move the royal warriors under his command, no questions asked.

This power was only second to the King's.

"Did you forget that I am still the King?"

Yet, Zenith didn't come to argue with him and just left like that. Even Zander knew that he shouldn't mess with Zenith when he showed that scary expression.

"Are you going to let him leave just like that?" Pyro asked. He showed up after Zenith left.

"Can't you see how scary his expression is? Just in case you have forgotten, he has a bad temper."

"Both of you have bad tempers."

An hour later, an order was issued, where ten thousand royal warriors were deployed in search of the alpha's mate.

Rumors said that Luna Dawn was kidnapped by the people, who were still opposed to the royal family's reign and Zander used this reason to justify his decision to kill those traitors and search for more 'rats' within his court.

But, when Zenith still couldn't get a clue about Dawn's whereabouts even after two days, he started to go insane. His beast was out of control, craving his mate.

Chapter 105

The Rage

As more days passed, Dawn's mind became clearer, and so did her memories about her past life. Just like with Zenith, the memories didn't come to her all at once either.

On the seventh day, Dawn refused to see anyone, as she couldn't help it anymore. She couldn't stay inside this room, wallowing in self-pity while her heart was consumed with rage.

She had been staying in this palace for some time now and she was familiar with some parts of the area, especially the secret tunnels. Zenith mentioned about them casually in their conversation, thus it was not hard for her to slip away one night without anyone knowing it, though it was still hard to avoid the guards.

After all, in her past life, Dawn used to sneak around to see Zenith. Her previous lifetime merged with the current one now.

Once Dawn was away from the palace, she shifted into her brown beast and dashed toward the Moonlight pack. There was only one person she wanted to see. As rage fueled her heart, the beast hastened its speed.

It took Dawn a whole day to reach her former pack and it was already night when she arrived there. Despite how exhausted she was from running here without stopping, she couldn't care less. She didn't want to wait.

First, Dawn went into the pack house, but this time, she didn't sneak around. Instead, she walked in openly, which startled the guards and the pack members who saw her and were still awake at this hour.

They wanted to approach Dawn to congratulate her on her ceremony, but there was something about her that stopped them from approaching her. Her body exuded dominance, the way she carried herself could make anyone lower their heads in fear, afraid that they would incur her wrath, because that was how she looked like right now.

People in this pack tended to overlook Dawn, forgetting the fact she was the alpha's child, since she didn't usually play an active role in this pack. Moreover, her presence was overshadowed by Emily.

The fact that Alpha Tony paid more attention to Emily and was often seen with his step daughter, didn't help with Dawn's situation either.

Dawn went straight to the alpha's quarters and, without hesitation, opened the door to the alpha's bedroom, where she found Julia instead. She was sleeping alone, but because of the sudden loud noise Dawn created, she was startled and woke up groggily.

The eyes of the Moonlight pack's luna widened when she saw who was standing at the door, her jaw dropped, not knowing what to say.

However, as much as Dawn wanted to settle scores with her, she needed to see her father first. He was the main reason she was here.

More so, Dawn had a different plan for this woman. Of course, she didn't have any plans to let her off easily either.

"D- Dawn? What are you doing?" Julia stuttered, the sleepiness in her eyes disappeared.

"Where is my father?" Dawn asked coldly.

"What are you doing here!?"

Knowing that she wouldn't get anything out of this woman's mouth without her waking up the entire pack, Dawn chose to leave and look for her father alone.

But, to her surprise, she found her father in an empty bedroom that used to be hers. This room was dull and barren, since Zenith had taken everything with him when he took her to the north.

Her father was sleeping on the bed and if Dawn remembered correctly, even the sheets were the same as those she used before she left for the north.

Tony was woken up by Julia's incessant screeching, because apparently, that crazy woman decided to stop Dawn from seeing her father and made unnecessary commotion.

"Dawn?" Alpha Tony rubbed his face and jumped to his feet when he realized it was indeed his daughter standing in front of him, while Julia kept trying to make her leave. "Shut up!" Alpha Tony roared to see Julia's attempt to chase his daughter away. "Leave this room!"

"Tony!" Julia grinded her morals, but she couldn't defy the alpha's direct order.

She stomped off from the room and slammed the door behind her, but her antics didn't bother Dawn and Tony. Instead, both of them stared at each other for a while before Alpha Tony finally broke the silence and approached his daughter to hug her.

He wanted to apologize for what he had done and the way he treated her.

"I am sorry, Dawn. I am truly sorry..."

Dawn took a step back, a clear sign that she didn't want to be hugged by him.

"What are you sorry for?" Dawn asked her father darkly. Her face didn't show any emotions and Tony could feel the hatred that emanated from her body. "Are you sorry for the way you have treated me all these years, because you blamed me for my mother's death when in fact, you had been messing around with Julia while she breathed her last?"

Tony was shocked and he couldn't conceal it. The answer was written all over his face and this only confirmed what Dawn accused him of.

Dawn was still holding onto a little bit of hope that her first life was nothing but a nonsensical bad dream, but she knew it was true deep down. After all, there were a lot of things in this world that couldn't be explained by logic alone. It had happened and she knew more than she could handle.

"Why did you do that father? You betrayed my mother and me."

Tony staggered back, it seemed Dawn's calm words had hit harder than having to face her actual rage. The disappointment in Dawn's eyes made him avoid looking at her directly. "That's a mistake..."

Tony really wanted to know who had told Dawn about this, but his suspicion narrowed down to Emily. She must be the one who had told Dawn this to spite him. How much had she told her?

"A mistake? Do you want to say Emily is a mistake too?" Dawn asked emotionlessly.