

## Chapter 156

### A Rough Night

"Zander...?" Lance was shocked to see Zander, Zenith and Pyro here. How they knew that he would be here with Aurel? He had planned everything for the last two months.

"I told you that I knew about your little visit to the dungeon. You should be smarter and take the hint." Zander didn't wear his golden mask and beside him were Zenith and Pyro.

For the first time after a long time, Lance trembled with the sight of him. Zander couldn't shift into his beast, but it didn't mean, it made him less than a king.

His strong aura and the way the air shifted with his presence, showed his strong intimidation.

"Zan, I can explain this..." Lance couldn't find a reason for what he had done, but he needed Zander to understand the situation.

"This is a treason to go against what your king ordered you to do."

Lance widened his eyes for the accusation. It was a heavy accusation, he knew that Zander would be livid, but a treason was a heavy word.

"I will never betray you!" Lance knelt down. He lowered his head. "I know what I am doing is wrong, but if you kept going on like this, you will create more trouble with Holy Kingdom. You put the strain in two kingdom's relationship by stop the selling of the magic stone and you even have a plan to kill Aurel."

This was one of the reasons why Zander insisted for them to welcome people from Marca El in the Moonlight pack, right from the moment they stepped in this continent. Because he wanted to test Lance.

This was the final straw.

Zander couldn't believe this. Not only he had to smoke out his enemy, but he also needed to smoke out the people close to him.

He was the one, who created this opportunity for Lance. He warned him, but he went straight to turn his back on him in the first chance given.

"Are you the king?" Zander asked coldly, Aurel trembled, her legs buckled and she knelt down beside Lance. "Are you the one, who made the decision? Should I follow your order now?"

"Zan, Zen, please remember what I have done for the two of you. I have taken care of you and keep your secret. I have been helping you for years!" Aurel was crying now.

The two of them were begging for forgiveness and Pyro felt bad that Lance had to end like this. They had worked together and shared the responsibility shoulder to shoulder, but the royal gamma's mistake this time was unforgivable.

"I don't have time," Zenith said. It was a little bit over midnight. His baby usually would be awake within a few hours and that was all he cared about.

Zander clenched his jaw, his blue eyes were slightly darker and when he spoke, you could feel this chill ran down your spines. "Kill them."

"Wh...?" Lance couldn't even finish his word when Zenith cut his throat and clawed his heart.

Everything happened so fast, like a flash of lightening in the night sky, Lance's dead body dropped to the ground before their eyes.

Aurel didn't even have time to scream when she watched how cruel and crude the way Zenith killed Lance, even though they had known each other for years. There was no hesitation.

And when Zenith moved toward Aurel, she tried to fight back, by using dark magic, but to no avail. She was not a magic user to begin with; thus, her attempt was very weak.

However, it was enough...

Aurel used the black magic.

The Holy Kingdom had been notified about this, but they wouldn't take any action. Therefore, Zander wouldn't be polite anymore.

Zenith managed to dodge the attack, but this time, he didn't immediately kill her, instead, he strangled her. He broke her neck and killed her that way. Didn't even scratch her skin.

After that, Zenith was standing still for a while, as all the memories rushed in his mind. The memories that belonged to the two of them.

"Lance under the influence, but it's not that strong. The magic only enhanced his feeling toward her." Hence, it clouded Lance's feeling for his destined mate.

The reason why he always stood up for Aurel, but he couldn't let go of Celine completely.

"She used the same magic on the three of us, but because we don't have any feeling for her, it didn't work." Zenith opened his eyes. "Let's talk in detail later."

They couldn't have the conversation right there and then, since the time and the circumstance were not favorable for them.

"I will go first." Zenith then shifted into his beast and disappeared into the night; his black fur blended with the dark.

"Take care of this, Pyro. We will proceed to the next plan," Zander said coldly, he gave one look to Lance and then lifted his head, staring at the night studded sky.

This was not the best outcome, but this was a possibility that he expected. He wished, it wouldn't end like this...

Zenith reached the pack house and sneaked into his bedroom to find Dawn was still sleeping, with that, he cleaned himself, getting rid of all the smell of the blood.

However, Dawn opened the bathroom door.

"Do you need help?" Dawn asked.

"You need to take some rest."

"I slept." She had a restless sleep, thus when Zenith returned, she knew right away. She took off her dress and then joined Zenith to dip herself in the bath up. "How was it?"

Zenith let Dawn to rub his chest with soap, to get rid of the smell of blood. From the smell of it alone, Dawn could tell how the night went.

"A little bit rough."

Not many people noticed this, because Zenith hid his feeling really well, but Dawn knew that killing Lance was not easy for Zenith too. After all, they grew up together.

Dawn kissed his chest. "Are you, okay?"

"I am fine."

## Chapter 157

### It's not for Your Entertainment

The next day, they were ready to go back to the palace, this time, the entourage was triple the size of the king entourage the previous day, because people from Marca El would go with them too.

They would leave after breakfast.

For this occasion, the knights from Marca El filled the dining hall, while the royal warriors and the warrior of the Moonlight pack ate somewhere else as a form of courtesy, since the dining room wouldn't be able to accommodate all of them.

Alpha Tony tried to find an opportunity to talk with his daughter, but he couldn't find the right time or the right opportunity to do so, because the alpha would always be there and he knew he was not welcome to get close to Dawn.

However, if it was not now, he wouldn't have another chance in the future.

Therefore, he bit his tongue and approached Dawn when he saw she had done eating. She was heavily pregnant. He remembered how his mate was

when she was pregnant with her. Dawn really looked like her mother and this made his guilt become stronger.

"Dawn, can we talk for a while?" Alpha Tony approached Dawn, his heart beat so hard, because alpha Zenith kept glaring dagger when he saw he walked toward them, but he kept his legs moving, it almost felt like you walked straight to a vicious predator.

Dawn looked at her father, she had seen him trying to ignore Zenith's death glare and she appreciated that.

"I will not take long," Dawn said, she touched Zenith's arm, to tell him that she would be fine. She mind link him too that she wanted this conversation with her father.

[Don't take long, being upset is not good for our baby.]

Dawn chuckled to that mind link and stood up, but Zenith had stood up first and helped her. He did this in front of Blake and Emily, who were there too.

Emily balled her fists. This was the man that should be hers. This was the man that she deserved, but her bitch of mother had shoved her to the man beside her, who knew nothing but to beat his mate up.



Her wounds had healed, there was no trace of it, but the pain that Emily felt was something that not even a shifter ability could heal.

Emily glanced at Blake; he gave the alpha a dagger look. He did a poor job to hide his emotions and Emily knew he had been wanting to have a conversation with Dawn too, but he couldn't do the same thing like alpha Tony did.

Meanwhile, King Rowan was having a conversation with Zander, but his eyes kept wandering to Zaya, who was sitting beside her brother.

"I heard she is not a shifter?" The question was very blunt and straight to the point. People could see this straightforwardness as a rude thing, but Zander didn't seem to see it that way.

"Yes, our mother is not a shifter, she is a powerful magic user, so it is obvious that my sister took after her so much." Zander glanced at Zaya, he was still wearing his golden mask, which made king Rowan wondered, but he held his tongue.

It was different when you were being blunt about the king's sister and to question the king in front of so many people.

"Can I see her magic?" king Rowan suggested. "Magic user is not common in my continent."

"If my sister is not mind, I don't have any objection."

However, Zaya minded it. "Pardon me, king Rowan, but I used my magic for defense and to heal someone, I don't use it for entertainment."

Zander smiled at that answer. "You have the answer, king Rowan."

The king from Marca El nodded, as if he understood, but his eyes still lingered on Zaya. He seemed to be curious with this auburn girl.

"I am going to kill you, Zan, if you entertained whatever thought this king has in his mind," Zaya talked in a very low voice, before she drank her drink, so people wouldn't be able to see that she was talking to her brother, but as a shifter, Zander could hear her clearly, since she was right beside him.

Meanwhile, Dawn stepped out of the dining hall with alpha Tony and they walked in the garden. This would help with her indigestion to walk after eating, thus she didn't mind, more so, it had been so long, since she didn't come to this garden.

"I can see how well his treatment toward you, Dawn and I am glad that he treated you well," alpha Tony said, he tried to break the ice between them.

"Yes, I am glad too. He is more than I expected."

After that, there was silent between them. Dawn then found a bench to sit because it was a little bit hard to walk for long when she was this heavily pregnant.

"If you planned to say something, you can say it now, because we are ready to go back to the palace after breakfast."

Tony stood up in front of her, while she was sitting down, he lowered his head, didn't dare to see her eyes.

"I know that you must be sick to hear this and probably you will not believe and it is too little too late for me to ask for your forgiveness, but Dawn, believe me... I regret everything that I have done to you... to your mother and the way I treated you afterward."

"As you should." Dawn didn't have any plan to comfort him. It was him, who messed up, why would she be the one, who picked up the pieces and made him comfortable?

Alpha Tony nodded. "I know my mistake, Dawn. I know how much I have hurt you."

"No. You don't." Dawn shook her head. "You only feel sorry because your little happy family fell apart. This is not what you expected, that's why you feel sorry."

## Chapter 158

### It was Too Little, Too Late

"Will you feel this way if you I didn't cut you out of my life? Will you feel guilty if I kept in contact with you even when I moved to the north?" Dawn looked sad. She was not angry now, she was disappointed. "You treat me as an afterthought because you assumed that I will always be around. You can drop and pick me whenever you pleased and now when your happy family fall apart and you can't have me anymore, you feel this guilt."

Alpha Tony didn't say anything. He looked ashamed of himself. What Dawn said hit him so hard, but he was still in denial. He didn't want to admit that was how he was thinking and Dawn saw right through him.

"What should I do to make you forgive me, Dawn?" Alpha Tony finally lifted his head and looked at her in the eyes.

"I don't know." Dawn shook her head. "This is not something that you can solve by only doing a certain thing and everything will go to normal."

Dawn stood up. She tried to gauge her feeling. She felt sad for her father, but aside from that, she didn't mind for this moment to be the last time they talked with each other.

Probably her disappointment was too deep and now her feeling was numb. She didn't have the time and energy to bring the past too, because there was no point of that, her father knew each moment, where he messed things up with her.

"I only want to say that you should be careful with Blake." Dawn looked at her father and she could see the sadness, guilt and embarrassment in his eyes. "I am not saying this because of what happened in the past, but because you shouldn't trust him. Giving him a position as the beta of the pack is a mistake."

"What do you mean?" Alpha Tony furrowed his brows.

Here Dawn was, she was contradicting herself again. She said that she didn't care, but she still warned her father in the end.

"All I can say is, he is someone that you couldn't fully trust." Dawn had seen how Jason wanted the position as the alpha and it wouldn't be different for his son. Zenith told her that something was off about Blake, because he had his man checked the activity in the harbor and his name came up.

"I understood." Alpha Tony nodded. "I will take your concern into consideration."

Dawn nodded and then walked away, but alpha Tony called her name.  
"Can I... visit you some time to see the baby?"

"I will think about that, but don't hold your breath."

With that, Dawn walked away, but then she chuckled when she saw Zenith had been waiting for her. She hastened her step to hug him, but he frowned and approached her instead.

"You shouldn't run like that. You are being reckless," he scolded her lightly, but Dawn giggled at that.

"Why are you here? Did you miss me? Were you worried about me that he will hurt me?"

"I will always miss and worried about you." Zenith kissed her lips, he kissed her deeper and a little bit longer, he put his hand behind her head, while he pulled her closer, but her stomach prevented him to press their body against each other.

Dawn closed her eyes, enjoying the way Zenith nibbled on her lip and sucked on her tongue lightly, but the alpha actually opened his eyes, his gaze was cold, as he looked at a certain someone, who had been staring at them from the distance.

This was the reason why he came to get Dawn. This bastard would end up dead in his hand one day if he kept this up.

Dawn and Zenith only stopped when both of them could feel the kicked from inside her stomach. Their baby seemed not happy to be pressed between them.

"Well, we need to go now, right?" Dawn chuckled, as she caressed her bump. Even from under the thick dress that she was wearing, you could see the spot where the baby was kicking, her stomach looked funny.

Zenith caressed the bump too and they walked away, as it wouldn't be appropriate for letting the two kings waited for them.

Meanwhile, behind the shadow, the direction that Zenith had his eyes on while kissing Dawn, was Blake. He left the dining hall with the intention to talk with Dawn when she was out with his father, but he stopped himself when he saw the alpha was there.

Not like alpha Tony, he couldn't approach Dawn under alpha Zenith's deadly glare. Despite his desire to see her and talk to her, he couldn't bring himself to go through the alpha from the north.

He was scared. The look on his eyes was frightening. Blake felt like a prey that hid from its predator, which was very humiliating



And now, he hated and was angry to himself for being such a coward! With that, he stormed away from there.

But what was more upsetting was the fact that he had to be there to see the king's entourage left the pack.

Blake watched Dawn smiling and talking very intimately with Zenith. The alpha would occasionally kiss her head and he always had his hand behind her back, making a circle motion, as if he was massaging him. He did that out of instinct, very natural, as if he didn't even think about that.

Emily watched everything too and her anger bubbled up in her chest. Blake had never done anything close to that when she was pregnant with Arren.

"Thank you for the courtesy," king Rowan thanked alpha Tony and they exchanged a few pleasantries before all of them left.

The people from Marca El rode big horses, these horses were very different from the one that they had in this continent and later, Zenith explained to her that those were war horses.

Suddenly the carriages stopped.

## Chapter 159

### Are You being Sarcastic with Me, Princess?

"Is there any different between the war horses and the normal horses?" Dawn asked Zenith, she was fascinated with the horses that people from Marca El brought with them. Those horses were exceptionally big.

"Yes, there is..." Zenith explained to her about a few things and more detail about Marca El people and about the situation there.

The fact that king Rowan usurped his father to get the throne didn't sit well with her, but Zenith told her that the previous king, was not a good king to the people, so the people didn't really upset with this fact.

With that little information, Dawn changed her mind. "Maybe his father was really suck." She shrugged her shoulders. "Some time there are these people, who don't deserve to be a parent and a sovereign."

It seemed, her conversation with alpha Tony upset her more than she let it out.

But, amidst their light conversation inside the carriage, suddenly they stopped moving and a warning was sounded from the front entourage.

"Monster attack!"

People shouted at that warning to relay the message to the people behind. The royal warriors immediately shifted into their beast form, so did the warrior from the north. Zenith brought around twenty warriors on his own when they went to Moonlight pack.

"Stay here," Zenith said grimly. He kissed her forehead and then got off the carriage.

"Monster attack?" Dawn wondered how these monsters would reach this forest, because it was a very rare occasion for a monster to wander here. Let alone an attack that made this big entourage stopped.

If it was only one or two, the front warriors would deal with it without raising any ruckus, but right now, it didn't seem like it was the case.

Dawn opened the window and watched a bunch of trolls surrounded them. "Troll again?" she narrowed her eyes.

She was not worried that the royal warriors and the knights from Marca El couldn't handle them, but this was not the first weird attack in the forest that supposed to be not a habitant for monster.

All the warriors shifted into their beasts and the knights unsheathed their swords, they roared loudly and the sound of the hooves of their horses was thunderous.

This was the first time Dawn watched how the knights from Marca El fought and it was... brutal, to put it mildly.

Their swords were so big and looked heavy, but they carried it like a stick, they swung it with ease. Once they swung their swords, one head of the trolls rolled on the ground and this made the royal warriors felt like they were being challenged.

In the end, the monster attack turned into a competition of who had killed the monster the most.

"Poor monster," Dawn said, the corner of her lips twitched.

"Yeah, poor monster," Darius said and only then Dawn realized the gamma didn't join the fight and had been leaning his back against the carriage, watching everything unfolded.

"What are you doing there? Why don't you join them?"

"What do you think that happened?" Darius tilted his head; he looked a little bit annoyed for some reason.

"No idea." Dawn shook her head.

"Of course, it's because your mate told me to stay here and guard the carriage when those monsters couldn't even break the outer defense. I am doing nothing here, while they were having fun there," Darius complained.

How could he say they were having fun when they were fighting a monster?

Dawn poked her head out of the window and looked at him. "You should be out there and fight, while Zenith is here. How could you send the alpha out there while you are cozying up here?"

Darius turned his head. "We have the same thought! But Zenith wanted to fight those trolls."

Dawn clicked her tongue. "Hey, don't you think this is the same like before?" She reminded Darius of the attack that happened not so long ago and he agreed it felt familiar. "Why don't you check if you could find that same scent? If it was the same person, this must be the same method."

Dawn had not yet told Zenith about her conversation with Lyra, but she would do it later.

"Okay!" Darius was happy enough to do something. "Wait, but I can't leave you alone."

"Can't you see they are almost done."

Dawn was right, they were almost done and all the trolls' dead body littered on the ground, the smell made Dawn scrunched her nose.

"But, if Zen is angry with me, I will say that this is your order and I have to listen to my luna too." Darius conveniently threw her as the excuse and then walked away to look for the scent, he still remembered that scent.

However, when they thought it was over and all the trolls had been killed, there was a second attack, this time, it was a horde of Vermeyes.

Vermeyes was a monster with small red eyes, which didn't match with its monstrous body, in which could reach five meters tall, but they couldn't run fast enough. Their bite could be poisonous though and because of their size, they could be very destructive.

"The monsters in your continent are very interesting, I have heard about these monsters and now I got the honor to see them," King Rowan said. He was sitting on the horseback, close to the king carriage, while Zaya poked her head from inside. She didn't worry about her brothers, but this

attack didn't look good on them since they had people from Marca El as their guest. "Do they have name?"

Zaya wanted to close the window, but it would be rude, yet she didn't want to engage in a conversation with this king, since he had been trying to talk to her.

"Yes, that big one is Brian, behind Brian is Little Roland and on their left side is their cousin, Theo."

"Are you being sarcastic with me, princess?" King Rowan asked, he was smiling.

## Chapter 160

### Barbaric

Zaya gave him her sweetest smile, waving her hand nonchalantly. "I am just joking king Rowan."

The king looked at her with amusement, she could joke around when they were literally surrounded by monsters, she didn't even look concern with the dead bodies and the blood that turned the ground into black color.

"The first monster that you fought was Troll and that huge monsters are Vermeyes," Zaya explained to him briefly about the monsters and King Rowan listened attentively.

"I think I need to learn more about all the monsters in this continent from you, princess," King Rowan said.

"If you wanted to learn, I will ask someone to tell you everything that you wanted to know," Zaya replied gently.

"What the fun of talking to someone else when I enjoy our conversation?" king Rowan replied, he didn't even shy with his intention and this could be a dangerous thing to get the king's attention.



However, before Zaya could reply, blood splash on king Rowan's face. That was the blood from the Vermeyes that they managed to kill and a black beast approached him.

"Sorry for that, king Rowan," Zander said lightly, as he approached him. "Can't control the blood. Prince Zenith too rough with his attack, because he was worried his pregnant mate will get bored inside the carriage."

King Rowan wiped his face from the blood and smiled tightly at him. "Don't worry, I used to see blood." There was certainly a double meaning behind it and Zander could hear that perfectly.

"I think we found something common between the two of us," Zander replied smoothly and in the same breath he talked to Zaya. "Close the window, my dear sister, I know this sight is too much for you. You don't need to worry about your brother. I will be right there."

The corner of Zaya's lips twitched. She shuddered when she heard the way Zander called her 'dear sister', but she smiled at him and played along.

"Please, be careful, my king brother." Zaya then closed the window.

It was obviously a lie; she saw it from the corner of her eyes that Zenith intentionally splashed the blood on King Rowan and it left Zander with the excuse to get Zaya away from the king.

Her two brothers were still the same, their overprotective nature was sometime overbearing, but Zaya was grateful for that this time.

However, Zaya was not the only one, who could see that lie, because king Rowan found it funny when Zander said that the sight of the dead monsters were too much for her, as the princess had been watching the whole thing since the very beginning.

"Interesting," king Rowan muttered under his breath, as he stared at the carriage, as if he could see the auburn princess inside.

[Don't do that again, Zen.] Zander mind link Zenith.

No matter what, they were still their guests and he had a reason to invite them here. They couldn't ruin the entire thing because of this.

[Should I throw Vermeyes's head this time?] Zenith asked.

[...] Zander didn't know what to say anymore.

Thankfully, Vermeyes was easier to kill, since they moved very slow and it was easy for a bunch of shifters and knights to kill them all.

However, because the knights were not experience with the monsters, there were four of them who got bitten and were poisoned.

Celine was called to check on the knights. There was nothing serious and Celine could heal them, but because of the two attacks, they were forced to stay the night in the forest.

Thankfully, they were well prepared.

"This is the first time I met with a healer." king Rowan was impressed by how Celine used her healing power and closed those wounds. "If we have a healer, all the knights could go on war without worrying of dying."

Celine looked calm and demure. "That's not how thing works, king Rowan. We have our limit too."

"Oh, really? This is interesting." King Rowan watched Celine healed the last knight, he touched his chin and was deep in thought.

After that, they built a few tents to stay the night and continue this journey to the palace early in the morning.

"Do you think monster's flesh can be eaten?" One of the knights asked Darius, he was curious.

The gamma gave a disgusting look. "We have never tried, but we have never thought to try it either."

"Hm? Why don't you try?" The knight insisted. "If we can eat these monsters, we don't need to hunt for dinner. These monsters are enough to fill our stomach."

"No. I will go hunt. I have a delicate palate; these monsters are not up to my standard." Darius shuddered, what kind of creature was the knight from Marca El to even consider to eat the monster?

They were more barbaric than what he heard.

"There are a lot of civil war back in our continent, so we used to eat anything that we can find. We are not picky with our food," king Rowan said, explaining his knights' antic. "I actually curios with the taste too."

Darius just nodded, but then he walked away with Thean when the king and the knight discussed how to grilled those monsters.

"They are not picky, they are barbaric." Darius shuddered.

"Actually, I wonder about the taste too," Thean said.

"Did you hit your head?" Darius shifted into his beast to hunt, followed by Thean.

Later that night, after all of them had their dinner and the knights enjoyed the monster's flesh, they had this small meeting inside Zander's tent.

"They really ate the monster..." Zaya looked like she wanted to vomit. She grabbed Dawn's arm and the two of them walked into Zander's tent. "How they can swallow that?"

"I wonder if they liked it and start to haunt the monster themselves."

"In that case, they should go to the north and haunt the monster there."

Dawn chuckled. "That's a good idea," she said.