

Chapter 236

The Critical Situation 28

"You didn't trust me, did you?" Nadia asked, as they entered the swamp, Zander followed behind her and this was the first time, she broke the silence and talked to Zander.

The king didn't know where Nadia would take him, but he followed her regardless, he watched how the little wolf spirit around her followed her, being playful with one another, but it was only Zade's wolf spirit that was being carried by Nadia. Zade's wolf spirit looked sick and this worried Zander.

"You tried to kill me."

"But, I didn't. You are still alive, right now."

Zander scoffed and Nadia stopped walking, she actually glared at him, which made him took a step back.

"I told you not to scoff at me."

Zander was reminded of how pissed Nadia could be whenever he was scoffing at her. He didn't do it again when Nadia gave him an earful when he did that, but just now he did it again.

The old habit returned.

"What? Are you trying to complain now?"

Nadia narrowed her beautiful green eyes. "You are already so old to act bratty, you know."

"We are on the same age."

"No, we are not. My time stopped when I was eighteen." Nadia saw something in Zander's eyes and then turned around, she continued to walk.

Zander didn't want to be reminded of that. He didn't want to be reminded that the woman before him had actually died.

His mind must have made a fool of him to think that Nadia was actually coming back from wherever place she went all this time.

"Where will you take me?" Zander finally asked.

"Just follow me," Nadia replied curtly.

They walked for another five minutes in silence and none of them wanted to speak, though there were a lot of things that Zander wanted to ask to her.

They finally stopped walking when they reached a small lake there.

"I used to love the lake here." Nadia looked at the lake with sad face, the pup around her stopped walking too and started to fight playfully with one another, as they bit or nipped at each other legs or ears. They looked happy.

Zander didn't give any response for that comment. He knew how much Nadia liked this place and asked him to take a good care of it, but why would Zander listen to the person, who wanted to kill him?

"What do you want?" Zander stood two steps behind her, but she beckoned him to come closer to her.

"What? Are you afraid that I will bite you?"

And there, Nadia still had time to joke around with him. Zander approached her just because he wanted this to end quickly and he could hear what actually she wanted.

"Here. Hold him." Nadia actually handed over Zade's wolf spirit to him. Zander accepted it out of instinct, because she just shoved the little wolf into his arms.

"What the meaning of this, Nadia."

Nadia smiled at him. "You can save your siblings, you know." She watched how the questions started to build in Zander's mind and before he could ask, she already explained everything to Zander.

Started from the prophecy that she saw for Zenith and the whole thing that was going to happen in this kingdom.

"You have known everything since the beginning?" Zander couldn't believe that.

"I am a magic user, remember? But I am also a clairvoyant. I saw it's happening." She stretched out her hand to touch Zade's spirit wolf and caressed its ear. "Do you know that the dragon sect initially came from my tribe?"

She looked sad when she said that and gave Zander a little story about it, as the leader of the previous dragon sect was actually her father's brother. They went separate way because they had different view on how they saw magic.

"I know how to save your brother and sister." She smiled sheepishly at him. "I am sorry for the misunderstanding. It made me sad to see how you lived your life in the past decade. I really wished for your happiness, Zander."

"You took my happiness away with your betrayal."

Nadia shook her head. "I have never betrayed you. If I didn't do what I did that night, instead of living without being able to shift into your beast, you will die." She shook her head. "I did what I have to do in order to keep you alive and I am sorry if I hurt you."

"You should tell me."

"You would never agree."

Nadia was right, whatever the reason that she gave him if it ended up with her death, Zander would never agree to any of that.

"You left me."

"Yes, and I am sorry for that." Nadia took a step closer toward him and this must be crazy, but Zander could smell her sweet scent. "Let's end this chaos, okay?"

Nadia's green eyes fell on Zade. Her eyes softened.

"You need to hurry, I don't think he will be able to hold back longer than this. He is so brave to endure the pain this long." Nadia lifted her head and met with Zander's eyes. "The masked men that you have been seeing, are the people from the sacrifices, they are all needed to close the gate of hell. The children that Lucia brought with her still could be saved if you are quick enough, but them..."

Nadia waved to the little wolves around her, they were playing happily, as if they didn't have any care for the world, but then, they were no longer in this world.

"They had died for a long time; there is no way for them to go back to the living world again."

"How do you think I can help my siblings?" Zander gritted his teeth. He didn't need to elaborate his question, because Nadia understood.

"This will be the last time for you to be able to shift into your wolf." After saying that, Nadia pushed Zander down into the lake.

Chapter 237

The Critical Situation 29

Zander was truly upset when Nadia pushed him down to the lake, this woman really know how to push his button and piss him off.

Not only she tried to kill him before, but right now after he thought there was indeed a misunderstanding between them and tried to understand her point, she actually pushed him down.

How many times she would let him down.

However, when Zander fell on the lake, he felt so different. The water didn't soak into his body, he didn't feel wet at all, but there was this undiscernible sensation that he felt, as if he was being wrapped by something warm and Zade's wolf spirit disappeared from his arms.

That was the first thing that Zander noticed, he immediately tried to swim back to the surface, but he couldn't reach it, not even close. He didn't remember that the lake was this deep. There was no way the lake was this deep, right?

Zander tried again to swim to the surface, but he couldn't, it almost felt like he was swimming on the spot.

He could see from under the water how the sky was on fire, the red color was beautiful, yet terrifying, because it almost felt like the end of the world.

'Nadia...'

Zander wanted to call her name, but it would cause him to swallow the water and the more he tried, the more he couldn't go anywhere, to the point where he lost his breathe.

The lacked of air burned his lungs and he struggled.

'And she said that she doesn't want to kill me?'

Zander thought bitterly when the darkness swallowed him whole. This woman really knew how to lie and Zander felt stupid to actually believe her again.

He should know better not to trust her ever again.

And finally, he lost his consciousness, the water filled his lungs and the darkness followed after.

The last thing that he saw was a black beast that came toward him.

Zander thought that would be the end of him, but he was completely wrong when he opened his eyes and then looked at his surroundings. He was in a forest, somewhere between Moonlight pack and the capital city, you could say that he would be able to reach the pack for a few hours now if you were fast enough.

However, Zander had a moment to grasp what was going on. A moment ago, he was drowning inside a lake, but right now he was in the forest? He couldn't understand.

He looked around him for a while before he pushed himself into sitting position and the nausea feeling hit him hard, which caused him to bend his body over and empty his stomach. Obviously, this was not a great experience for him, but aside from that, he felt this sensation. The sensation that you would feel when you were connected with your beast, the natural feeling that you had when you were about to shift into your beast.

Zander tapped in that feeling and he was shocked when he found out that he could shift into his beast.

This feeling was surreal. After a decade he couldn't shift into his beast, right now he could feel it again and then he remembered what Nadia said.

This would be the last time he would be able to shift into his beast and his main goal was to save his siblings.

Zander would contemplate about that later because right now what was more important was to find Zenith and Zaya.

With the new feeling and excitement upon finding himself again in his beast, Zander moved so fast toward the battlefield. His heart pounded against his chest.

Occasionally, he would look around, as if he hoped to see those green eyes, but he knew she was not here.

Would he be able to see her again? There were a lot of things that he wanted to say to her. The first time they were separated, he didn't have a chance to say it, but the second time, the situation was too complicated for them to talk about what happened in the past.

The black beast shook its head and fastened the pace. He needed to focus at the matter at hand.

It took the black beast less than three hours to reach the battlefield and once he was there, he watched in horror what was going on there.

There were so many monsters, but from the look of it, those creatures were supposed to be dead with how mangled their bodies were, but what got his attention the most was the black wisp that created a cocoon and a black beast there, which was no other than his own twin brothers.

Inside the black cocoon, Zander could see Zaya.

From his understanding, Zenith was going to kill Zaya? The thought didn't settle well in his mind. He went to approach Pyro, who had created a shield around him and the rest of the shifters, who couldn't shift into their beast.

The royal beta was flabbergasted to see Zander.

"Zander!" Pyro was surprised. He watched him in his beast form, but the king shifted into his human skin. "How?! How could this possibly happen?"

"Long story," Zander replied quickly and then Pyro waved to the shield to let Zander entered. "What happened?" he checked on Dawn, who was still breathing raggedly.

They looked unharmed, but because their wolf spirits were actually assaulted at this moment and they couldn't shift, they were in an excruciating pain.

"Zenith lost it. He is going to kill Zaya and Zaya is trying to absorb the dark magic from Zenith." Pyro pointed at the crater and the knights, who were fighting off the dead creatures from the underworld.

Pyro explained everything briefly to Zander, who listened with grim expression.

"What are you going to do?" Pyro asked when Zander didn't say anything. Instead, he turned to Dawn and talked to her.

"Dawn, I need your help."

"No," Dawn immediately replied, as if she knew what he would ask.

Chapter 238

The Critical Situation 30

Dawn didn't want to listen to what Zander said, because she knew what he would ask from her. She knew what she needed to do, but she didn't want to do it.

She was selfish to watch them died and lose their beasts, but to ask her to kill Zenith, it was too much, that was something she couldn't bear.

Dawn shook her head desperately, at this point, her fear eclipsed her pain. She didn't mind to be in this pain, but she was not going to kill Zenith's life with her own hands.

She had done that once in their first lifetime, she was not going to do it again.

In this case, the story only repeated itself.

She was going to kill him. She didn't want that. The pain was too much, she couldn't breathe through the pain and Zander could see that. He knew what kind of pain that you must to endure when you have to kill your own mate, before they could kill you.

And he understood why Nadia didn't tell him about her plan, because there was nothing, she could do to convince him to kill her.

Zander hugged Dawn closely, he patted her back and she trembled in his arms.

"Dawn..." Zander gritted his teeth. "You need to do it." He could feel how she shook her head vigorously against his chest, but it didn't deter him from telling her the harsh truth. "If you didn't do it, Zade would die too."

With the mention of her son, Dawn stopped crying abruptly, she lifted her head and looked at Zander with incredulous eyes, as if Zander just told her the most horrendous thing, as if the king just punched her face.

"Don't bring my son in this," Dawn said through her gritted teeth. "You couldn't blackmail me by using my son."

Dawn was angry because now Zade was brought into the equation. He shouldn't have brought up her son lightly in this matter.

However, Zander explained to her about what happened to Zade. She needed to understand the severity in this situation.

Dawn could ignore the pain in herself and the fact that she let down all the shifter kind by refusing the task to kill Zenith... but, she couldn't ignore her child. Her baby son.

"He is dying now, Dawn." Zander looked the pain in Dawn's eyes when he told her about that, but she kept shaking her head, still in denial.

"You lied to me, Zan." It was hard for Dawn to see Zander's face, because he looked exactly the same like Zenith, though at the same time, they were so different. He didn't have Zenith's callousness, he didn't have her mate's love in his eyes, the love that could make her go through everything.

"I don't lie to you, Dawn. If I could, I will give up my life for Zade. I will do it in a heartbeat."

Dawn knew that Zander didn't lie to her, but it didn't make her felt any better, if anything, she felt even worse.

"No way... there is no way..." Dawn cried, she balled her fists tightly. Pyro and Darius looked at her, they didn't know what to say and choose not to utter a single opinion.

"Dawn, please... Zenith will want you to do this."

Dawn hated it, but she knew that Zenith would say the same thing. He didn't mind to die in her hand and he had proved it once. He would do it all over again if it meant to save their son's life.

"I couldn't... I can't..." Dawn tried to swallow the bile that rose in her throat. "If you wanted to kill him, you need to do it yourself. I don't want to do it."

"There must be a reason why the prophecy said it must be his mate." Zander didn't really answer whether he would do it or not, but he then he stood up and shifted into his beast.

Right now, Zenith had managed to breakthrough Zaya's shield and try to kill her. Zander dashed toward the two of them and managed to push him away from their sister.

The fight was inevitable and this time, it was not like their other fight, because right now, they really fought for their lives. They didn't hold back at all. Every strike was an attempt to kill the other people.

Zaya was shocked to see Zander was able to shift into his beast form. She wanted to ask how he could do that, but it was not the right time and moment to do so. She scrambled to her feet and looked around her. It was disaster to say the least.

The knights were exhausted. They wouldn't last for long in this fight. Soon enough, they would be killed by the dead people if they didn't find a way to close the crater.

Meanwhile, some of the shifters, who were able to endure the excruciating pain, fought alongside the knights, their pain tolerance must be top notch to be able to fight with such pain.

Zaya made a shockwave that sent all of the dead people and the dead monsters back to the craters, this gave them time to breath, but of course, it wouldn't save them. It only gave them time for a few minutes to gather their strength again.

Zaya then rushed toward Dawn, she handed her the dagger in her waist, as she looked at her pleadingly.

"Dawn, I don't want to force you to do this, but please, look around us and make the right decision." Zaya didn't know about Zade, but it didn't make thing easier for her to ask someone to kill her own brother.

If she were in Dawn's position, she wouldn't be able to bring herself to do it, therefore, she could understand why Dawn was adamant to refuse this cruel request.

"Please, think about this carefully." Zaya put the dagger in Dawn's hand, curled her hand around its hilt and then went away to help them fight.

Chapter 239

The Critical Situation 31

This was crazy. The heavy burden in her shoulder for the responsibility to be the one, who took her own mate's life was insane.

Dawn felt the dagger was so heavy in her hand when she curled the hilt. She was trembling. The pain of losing her beast was nothing compared to the pain of the thought of losing Zenith.

How could she lose her? When the last time they talked to each other? She remembered it was when she returned to the palace after she took care the venomous snake in the tent.

Who would have thought, that would be the last time they talked to each other? She felt like it happened a few lifetimes ago. She missed him dearly.

How could they end up like this? There was not even a goodbye for them?

"Arrghh!!!"

Dawn let out a shrill scream, she felt her heart and head would explode at any minute. Darius and Pyro immediately came to her side, but they didn't know what to say to make Dawn felt a little bit better about this situation, they didn't even want to be in her shoes right now to make this crucial decision.

The two of them could only hold her closer, preventing her from falling apart even more.

Dawn then looked at her surroundings. All the people that she saw right now would die. They couldn't fight forever and more importantly, her baby... her baby was not going to survive this pain.

Zander had told her that he saw Zade's wolf spirit and he didn't look good at all and she was going to lose him too.

She shouldn't care about that, if Zade died, it meant the three of them would be together again, right? The crazy part of her mind told her to let go, not to care, but her mother's instinct and a shred of humanity that left in her couldn't take that route.

She didn't want all the people to die because of her choice. She looked at Darius and Pyro. She didn't want them to die, so did Zander and Zaya, also the rest of the shifter kind to go extinct.

With that, Dawn made the most difficult decision in her life, she stood up. The dagger in her hand was so heavy, but probably, it was only her heart that pressed her down.

"What are you going to do, Dawn? You couldn't go out there and approach Zenith without any plan!" Pyro immediately stood up when he realized what Dawn had decided, while Darius was in so much pain to even stand up on his feet.

"I know."

"You need to make a plan first."

Dawn didn't immediately answer that suggestion, her eyes fell on the two black beasts that fought fiercely against each other, though they looked the same, somehow, Dawn could differentiate the two twins.

"There must be a reason why the prophecy said that it should be his mate, who killed him."

After saying that, Dawn stepped out of the shield and went toward the two beasts. There was no hesitation in her steps, but the closer she got, the more she wanted to stab the dagger in her hand to her own heart.

Just like what Zander said and she said earlier, there must be a reason why it should be her and she found out the reason of it.

When Dawn came closer to the two beasts, who were fighting, Zenith's beast turned rigid. He didn't want to get closer to her, because he could accidentally hurt her.

"Even when you lost your mind, you still want to protect me..." Dawn muttered under her breathe. "You only make this harder for me, you know? You should have just attacked me. You should have just come to me and attack me."

Zaya came to her and put her hand on her shoulder, this was an encouraging gesture, as she watched her two older brothers fought against each other.

Usually, she was not even worried about the two of them were fighting, but this time, it was different. Because right now, they fought for their lives, they fought with the intention to kill each other.

"The first time I met Zander, he wanted to kill me because of the prophecy. He made me swear that I will never hurt Zenith. He was going to kill me, if I did something that could harm his twin, but right now, he asked me to kill him..."

Zaya bit her lip. She knew about that. "The situation is different now."

"I wish he would threaten me again to not harm his twin. I wish he would just kill me at that time..." Tear fell on Dawn's cheek, she stared at the dagger in her hand.

Zaya hugged her, she let Dawn to cry on her shoulder, because she felt like crying too. She didn't want to lose Zenith.

"I wish I didn't need to do this..."

"I know. I know and I am sorry." Zaya herself wouldn't be able to bring herself to kill Zenith. This task was too much.

And after a few moments, Dawn straightened her back, she looked like she already accepted her fate. She curled her fingers around the hilt of the dagger.

"Zander and I will distract Zenith. Attack when you saw the opportunity." Zaya glanced at the dagger in Dawn's hand and then went away to help Zander to corner Zenith.

Dawn's vision was blurry because of her tears, she needed to wipe her face again and again to get rid of this haziness.

She pressed her lips and saw the opening, where she could stab Zenith. Zaya restrained his movement at the same time, but it was not enough.

Dawn managed to stab the side of Zenith's neck and the black beast roared angrily, he turned around and was ready to claw his attacker until he saw it was Dawn and he held back the assault.

He still didn't want to hurt her even when he lost himself.

Chapter 240

The Critical Situation 32

There was no word could describe when the black beast turned around and then saw Dawn. The sharp razor claw was only an inch away from Dawn's face, as she fell on her back.

Dawn had never seen a beast as feral as Zenith right now, but more importantly, she had never been in the last end of his killing intent, whether it was in this life or the previous one.

But even so, Zenith still refused to hurt her. The black beast roared viciously, but that was all. The dagger was on the side of his neck and Dawn quickly reached it to pull it away and stab his heart this time.

Everything went so fast, Dawn didn't even have time to think twice, or probably, it was because she didn't even want to think at all. She didn't even want to reconsider it at all.

She wanted this to end quickly.

Zade.

Her baby was in critical situation and she knew Zenith wouldn't be happy if she put their son in danger. She would have time to mourn this moment and cry her heart out, but right now, she needed to finish this task.

"Arrghh!" Dawn screamed as she stabbed Zenith for the third time on the chest and from inside his body, the black wisp exploded, engulfed him completely.

Thankfully, Zaya came in time to prevent Dawn from being swallowed by the dark magic. She pulled her body back and create the shield around the two of them and Zander, as black wisp exuded from Zenith's wound.

"It's a backlash." Zaya knew what was going to happen next. Her eyes filled with horror and before Dawn could say something, she already stood up and walked out of her own shield to approach her brother.

Zaya herself had absorbed most of Zenith's black magic, thus it was time to seal it forever. Destroyed all the black magic in this realm, but in the process, they would lose their wolf spirit as well.

"Ah!" Zander growled in pain, as his beast left him, he was forced to shift back into his human form and he growled because the pain was too much. He was panting when he finally returned to his human skin.

Both of them then watched how Zaya and Zenith fought, while being surrounded by black magic that was ready to explode.

In this rate, Zaya would die along with Zenith and Zander immediately stood up again, ignoring the pain, as he took Zaya with him and he fought Zenith's beast. The beast was wounded deeply, somehow the wound didn't heal and it weakened him.

With that fact, Zander cornered Zenith toward the crater and then pushed him down, where all the dead creatures were trying to crawl their way back from the underworld.

Dawn watched everything unfolded. She was petrified, her body was going through a great shock, she couldn't even move a finger.

She was sitting there, on the ground, while Zenith fell down the crater. At first, she thought he would crawl back like those dead creatures, but after some time, the realization finally sank in.

He would never come back.

"No..." Dawn immediately stood up. She stumbled toward the edge of the craters. "No, no."

She could only repeat the same thing over and over again. She couldn't believe this happened to her. She didn't even get to say goodbye to him, but she also had to accept that she couldn't even touch him ever again? There would be no body to be buried?

"No, please... no..."

"Dawn!" Zaya rushed toward her and prevented her from going closer toward the crater, Zander approached them as well.

By this time, Dawn was having a mental breakdown, as she the harsh reality came to her sense. That would be the last time she saw Zenith.

Not Zenith that she remembered, but Zenith in his beast form, where he was controlled by the black magic. It was not him at all!

How unfair life was to separate them again after everything that they had gone through. After everything that they had to endure and what they had to do to be together!

Why would the history repeat itself?! Why would she need to lose him again and she had to be the one, who killed him?!

Dawn couldn't understand where everything went so wrong?! Why they couldn't escape from this ill fate between them?

How you called this as the second chance when there was no chance for them to be together?!

"No... please, bring him back..." Dawn whimpered between her cries and for her to see Zander, it was so hard, because he looked exactly like Zenith.

She kept shaking her head, as Zander hugged her. Her emotions were all over the places, her heart shattered and her world crumbled on her feet.

She wanted to push Zander away, because it was not him that she wanted to see, but at the same time, she wanted to see Zenith through him. It was so hard...

"It's okay, Dawn. It's okay, Dawn," Zander chanted the same thing, he patted her back to calm her down, but there was nothing could make her felt better, he knew that. He had gone through the same thing too.

They still couldn't believe that they had lost Zenith. It was too much for them.

"Dawn?" Zander could feel her body limped in his arms and he knew that the shocked took toll on her and took her consciousness as well. Probably it was better this way.

Meanwhile, Zaya stood up and went toward the craters.

"What are you doing?"

"There is still remaining of black magic within me." Zaya then looked up the sky and then closed her eyes, when she opened them again, she looked down and released all of the black magic that she had absorbed toward the gate of hell.

She unleashed everything. The ground was shaking the wind was so harsh, but the fire in the sky slowly dissipated.

It almost like they watched a hurricane.