

## Chapter 91

### Whether I Need You or Not

#### FIRST LIFE

#### ZENITH'S POV

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After Zenith promised Dawn that he would take her back to her pack, he could feel his wolf was acting up again.

It was not even a month before the last time he met Aurel. From the looks of it, that darn healer had lowered the dosage of the concoction she gave him, so he would look for her more often.

Recently, she had been very aggressive with her advances, but every time, Zenith would put her in her place, which made her unhappy and this was her way of sulking.

Actually, there was a way to get the ingredients of the concoction she made for him, but he didn't want to resort to that extreme method... at least, not yet.

Zenith couldn't stay there for long. He needed to find Aurel. Therefore, before he could listen to Dawn's answer or before she could explain herself, he left to find Aurel.

However, that woman had the audacity to reject him. She refused to meet with him, just like how Zenith didn't want to see her.

"Should I drag her here?" Darius suggested. He was annoyed by the way Dawn was acting out, but even more with Aurel's childish behavior. She actively put the alpha in danger.

Meanwhile, Axel didn't say anything, he glanced at Zenith, who then stood up and went to get the healer himself.

"That healer is getting more and more bold." Darius clicked his tongue. "Just because she knew how to tame Zenith's beast, she thinks she is someone important. Really, if there is a way to go on without her help, Zenith should just do it."

"There is a way," Axel said, he gave Darius a meaningful look and the gamma understood.

"Well, that will be the last resort. If she kept going on like this, I am sure, once Zenith got fed up, he was going to resort to that way eventually."

"Yeah. That day will come sooner than expected if she keeps testing the alpha's patience." Axel agreed. His only worry was the aftermath of it, because it would be ugly.

Meanwhile, Zenith went to Aurel's bedroom. She refused to see Zenith and said if the alpha needed something from her, he would be the one who came to look for her, not the other way around.

Zenith entered her room. There was no knock on the door or anything, he simply opened the door and went inside to find Aurel lounging on the sofa, she was startled and immediately stood up.

No matter how cocky she was, it was still terrifying to see the look on Zenith's face right now.

"Are you going to do it this way?" Zenith asked. He slammed the door behind him so hard, it creaked in protest and made Aurel jump in fear.

"Z- Zenith..."

"Do you want me to write to Holy Kingdom?" Zenith leaned his back against the door. He didn't want to enter this room further. This room was thick with her scent and it was really disgusting. "If you refuse to do this when it's the only thing that you are useful for, then there is no need for you to stay here. I expect you to leave this pack as soon as possible. Don't let me see you in the morning."

It was not every day Zenith would talk to Aurel this long, but this time, he put a little bit effort just to make himself clear. Aurel was too stubborn to see what was right for her.

"Zenith..."

"I am an alpha, address me properly."

After saying that, he turned around. If Aurel thought her petty tricks could make Zenith beg her, there must be something completely wrong with her mind. Zenith would never lower himself to beg someone.

He was not only an alpha, he was part of the royal family, even among the alphas, he had the higher status and was only second to the king.

For Aurel to call him by his name alone, because she thought she was on the same level as his beta and gamma, had already crossed so many lines,

but then Zenith was not someone who liked to argue about such trivial things.

"I- I will do it! I will do it! I am sorry..."

Zenith glanced at her and then went away. He waited for her in the empty room next to her room, while Aurel prepared the concoction. He could feel his beast become very restless and he instructed all the warriors to leave the area.

It took some time for Aurel to prepare the concoction and when she was done, she came to the room.

"Take off your clothes," Aurel said. This was the same ritual that Zenith had grown sick of. His mind darted to kill this healer.

With his back to the door, and because of how restless he was whenever he was during his episodes, he didn't realize there was someone who was watching this....

The next few months, Aurel was well behaved, she no longer pulled such petty tricks, which usually upset Zenith. She was more likable than usual, at least Darius and Axel felt so.

However, the alpha remained unfazed like usual. The only thing that he noticed was the fact that Dawn spent more time in the greenhouse. Fern said that she was doing idle things with the plants there and she still refused to see him.

Not only that, he also learned that she had been acting out lately from Fern. She slapped her two personal servants and tried to harm herself. Zenith didn't see it for himself because he was away when she tried to harm herself, but the news really pissed him off, especially when several servants vouched for Fern.

But then, one day she came to him with an accusation against Aurel that she had been poisoning her.

"The mushroom will make you have illusions, Zenith you need to believe me!"

Zenith could see the desperation in her eyes, but he was not sure how to believe her after all the things that she had done. She would be spacing out time and again and then act out, but then calm down again.

What now? Was she trying to frame someone now? Because acting out was not enough for her to get his attention?

"I didn't slander her name! She did give me Iluptic Mushroom! You need to ask someone to check on it!"

Darius and Axel looked so done with her. The two of them felt annoyed with the way Dawn behaved and how she didn't live up to her title as the Luna of the pack.

But, Zenith did exactly that, though he didn't let her know about it.

"So, her accusation is right?" Zenith asked coldly. He had his hand wrapped around Aurel's neck tightly. It only took a little bit of pressure and he would be able to snap her neck.

"Alpha... please... you need me... you can't kill me."

Zenith smirked, but Aurel could feel a shiver run down her spine when she saw that smirk. This was not something that you wanted to see after all.

"Let's see, whether I need you or not." Zenith put more pressure on her neck.

## Chapter 92

### Little Light

#### First Life

##### Zenith's first life

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"Zen! Stop it!" Darius immediately rushed to save Aurel from Zenith's clutch. The healer would have died had the gamma been even a tad late. "No! Zen! You can't kill her!"

Zenith had investigated what Dawn said and the truth came to light. As it turned out, she was saying the truth. Aurel had been giving her Illuptic Mushroom, just like what she said. The Luna didn't accuse the healer, but was telling the truth.

After learning it, Zenith's wrath reached the roof. He literally dragged Aurel to the dungeon and was going to kill her there after he tortured her. He couldn't care less about the reason why she was here. He didn't even think of the consequences for himself if he killed her.



The only thing that was in Zenith's mind was the fact that Aurel had poisoned Dawn.

"Stop it, Zen!" Axel joined Darius to push Zenith away and prevented him from crushing Aurel's neck, while the healer looked like she was going to faint at any moment. "Enough Zen!"

"Damn! Why he is so fucking strong?!" Darius groaned because he couldn't make Zenith take even a step back, despite him using all of his strength.

Thankfully, with the joint effort from Darius and Axel, Aurel's life was saved. But, probably it was because Darius mentioned Dawn and how Zenith had to focus on her and her health after she consumed the poison.

"Tell me now, what are the side effects of the poison?" Zenith growled. He still needed her to live to answer this question.

Aurel didn't answer immediately. She coughed so hard, she saw black dots in her vision, while her throat burned painfully. It was so hard to breathe at this point and she felt like she was going to die at any minute.

Aurel gulped in the air greedily. She looked very pathetic, yet Zenith didn't have a spec of pity for her.

"Nothing, there are no side effects. She will be a little bit confused, but that's all, and once she stops consuming it, she will be fine..."

"Zen, I believe Dawn has stopped consuming that now, she will be fine. So, there is no need for this." Darius stood between Zenith and Aurel, not because he was fond of the healer, but because what she had done was completely messed up.

However, if they harmed her more than this and Zenith really killed her, they would get more trouble than they could deal with, especially if the Holy Kingdom started to get their nose into their business.

Zander would be enraged too. Zenith had compromised with their plan a lot already.

For a moment, Darius thought the alpha wouldn't listen, while Axel immediately dragged Aurel out of Zenith's sight, just in case seeing her would cloud his mind.

"Stay away from me," Zenith growled and then stormed away.

Anger was an understatement because right now what Zenith felt made his blood boil and his beast was beyond enraged.

Once he was in the open area, he shifted into his beast and dashed toward the forest, where he went to the Untouched Land. This area was where the monsters lived.

Their pack guarded the north because the monsters from the Untouched Land often attacked this part of the kingdom, therefore, the northern pack was the stronghold against the monsters in the Untouched Land.

No one dared to enter this area without great preparation, not to mention, alone.

However, Zenith actually visited this area more often than people knew, because only in this place he could let his beast lose whenever he was having an episode. He could tire his beast out until he could feel himself again.

And that was what he was doing right now.

He fought countless monsters starting from when the first light of the moon shone on the ground, until the first rays of sunlight filtered through the branches.

When he finally returned to the pack, his body was covered in blood.

Zenith refused to meet with anyone for two days straight, which left Axel and Darius in distress because there were a few things that they needed their alpha's opinion on. Since they were not given a bigger picture of the plan and only got random assignments, they couldn't guess which direction they had to head for his plan.

Thankfully, on the third day, Zenith started to go out again, but the first thing he did was to go to Dawn's bedroom.

Axel and Darius couldn't even complain about that, since Zenith looked like he could only hold his composure when he was around that woman.

But actually, it was a good thing, because their relationship seemingly took a better turn. They finally started to act like the alpha and the luna of the pack, not just because of the title. They even seemed genuine to each other.

"I don't like eating alone, can you come early? At least, to have dinner with me?"

Zenith was surprised with Dawn's sudden request. He could feel a small smile tugging up the corners of his lips when he saw the way she blushed and acted awkwardly.

By this time, Aurel had left the pack for three months. After that night in the dungeon, Axel sent her away.

"Okay." Zenith kept his promise.

She didn't like to eat alone, thus no matter how busy Zenith was, he would drop everything he was doing and go to have lunch or dinner with her. At the very least, he would have one meal together with his mate if he was in the pack.

"You are spacing out again," Zenith stated, he stretched his hand and caressed her cheek. "Do you have something on your mind?"

Dawn shook her head and smiled at him. "No. I am happy."

Zenith was taken aback with that sudden confession, his hand stilled and right now, there was nothing more important to him than this woman.

"Can I kiss you?"

"You don't have to ask for permission."

"I will not ask for your permission next time."

Zenith leaned over and captured her lips. She was very sweet and addicting. She was everything that he needed and wanted.

"I am happy too," Zenith said against her lips.

He hoped their happiness would last forever. And when Zenith thought he couldn't be happier than this, one day he saw it.

He saw that little light.

He couldn't believe it.

The concoctions and the treatment from Aurel weren't supposed to allow him to see this kind of thing anymore. Those should calm his beast down, but somehow, he could see it.

Was it because it was his... child? His baby with her?

"You are pregnant," Zenith blurted it out when Dawn felt off with herself.

"What?"

Zenith could see the look of disbelief in her eyes, but somehow it only made her look adorable. He kissed the tip of her nose.

"How do you know that?"

"I just know." He kissed her again. "Believe me, I know." He watched the little light twirl above her head. He chuckled, but Dawn took it as though he was messing around with her.

Especially when she got the pack healer to check on herself and the woman said she was not with a baby yet.

However, what Zenith said was proven right a few days later.

## Chapter 93

### Regression

#### First Life

#### Zenith's POV

"Zen! I am pregnant!" Dawn said, as she rushed to Zenith. She hugged him so tightly, while the alpha chuckled.

"Be careful," Zenith said, holding her body close to him, she was being reckless. But, his heart melted when he saw her face flush red with happiness, she giggled like a teenager.

"How do you know?"

It would be hard to explain. "I just know. You are my mate after all."

In this moment, Dawn was the happiest Zenith had seen ever since she came to this pack. Her eyes shone brighter and she was full of laughter. People started to notice this change too and warmed up to her as well.



"You will be a father." Dawn blushed when she said that, which made the tips of her ears and her neck turn red too.

"Thank you for making me a father." Originally, Zenith was not thrilled at the idea of becoming a father. That was a huge responsibility, but then he thought having a little child that resembled both of them was not a bad idea either.

Both of them thought this new happiness of having a new member in their little family would last forever, alas, there was nothing such as forever.

Because in the next few months, Dawn's condition declined again. She started spacing out more often and refused to eat. This was the same sign as before.

But at the same time, Zenith also felt regression in control of his beast. Aurel would still send the concoction from the capital city for him, but it didn't help much because he needed Aurel to use her healing power in order to maximize the effect of the concoction.

However, because Zenith refused to see that healer again, his control over his beast regressed badly.

"You really need to get Aurel here. You are going to lose it." Axel was concerned about him, so was Darius.

"You are barely able to control your beast even after you slaughtered the monsters in the Untouched Land. The warriors are happy because we didn't need to go out there for any 'clean up'. Well, that's nice actually, but that's not our main focus here," Darius chimed in.

"More so, I can see that she has been acting out again. If the poison came from Aurel, she should be the one who knows what happens to her, right?"

Because Aurel had been out of the picture for so long, there was no way Dawn was still having those episodes. It was either the remnants of the poison acting up again, or maybe she only wanted extra attention.

"If you keep up like this, you are going to end up hurting her and your baby," Darius added.

With the gamma's last words, Zenith finally called Aurel back when Dawn was seven months pregnant. He had told her about this, but when they had this conversation, she seemed not to be listening to what he said. She was spacing out again...

And it started going downhill from there. Dawn refused to eat and no matter what he did or said, she wouldn't listen.

At the same time, Zenith couldn't be as patient as he wanted with her, because his beast was out of control and every little thing upset him. His intrusive thoughts became more and more wild. His violent nature and his instinct as a beast overruled his common sense.

Dawn's situation didn't help at all. She kept screaming and throwing tantrums at Zenith and demanded him to listen to her.

"SHE TRIED TO POISON ME!" Dawn hollered. Despite the fact she was heavily pregnant, she refused to eat and spiraled in her negative emotions.

"DAWN, ENOUGH!" Zenith finally snapped, which he regretted almost immediately. "You are unbearable!"

The pain in her eyes haunted him when she staggered back. Zenith wanted to reach out to her and apologize, but his emotions were in turmoil as well. His beast went berserk in his mind and he felt like he was going to explode.

Therefore, instead of reaching out to her, he kept his distance from her.

The rest of the pregnancy, Zenith kept tabs on what Dawn was doing, but at the same time, he tried to investigate the poison that Dawn was suspicious of, but he found nothing. There was nothing. Aurel didn't even

stay in the same place as Dawn. They lived in the pack house, but had never encountered one another.

Later, from Fern, he learned that Dawn insisted on preparing her own meals.

"Let her do what she wants," Zenith said to Fern. If preparing her own food gave her comfort, it was not a big deal.

Zenith had been gathering a few healers to help with Dawn's condition and for her labor, because he still didn't want Aurel around Dawn, since he knew how upset she could be at the sight of her.

However, the situation only got worse when Dawn finally refused to eat anything. She didn't want to prepare her own meals, nor did she want to eat anything other people prepared for her. She was spiraling down so fast.

One day, they had another fight and Zenith lashed out at her, because he was getting very frustrated.

If she kept doing this, not only would she harm herself, but also the baby. Zenith could see how the wolf spirit of their baby got weaker and weaker. The sight of that little wolf spirit curling itself and barely moving almost sent Zenith over the edge.

"If you don't believe me, I don't want to see you again... leave. Leave me alone..."

The little wolf spirit laid there, around Dawn's ankles and Zenith thought he was going to lose his baby. Dawn would be very devastated if she lost their baby because she had been very happy for the little one.

"Fern! Force her to eat!" Zenith said sternly, he stood up and left the room, he couldn't bear to see his mate and his future child anymore in this condition.

It almost felt like Dawn was ready to die with their baby. Zenith was not going to let that happen.

And what made matters worse was the fact that Zenith was having his own episode at the same time Dawn had gone into labor.

Aurel only returned for two months and the brunt of a year without her power made Zenith's body have to adjust with it again, thus he couldn't recover like he usually did even when Aurel was here again.

Hence, he missed the birth of his first son and when he learned that Dawn had gone into a deep coma, he didn't know what to do.

He asked a wet nurse to take care of his son. Fern, Pyllo and Kynes were overjoyed with the arrival of the baby, especially when he inherited the golden eyes, the symbol of the royal family.

Zenith missed what they were insinuating when they said they were glad that the baby was the alpha's because right now, Zenith's mind only focused on Dawn.

He spent countless nights in her room, holding her hand and saying the apology that he should have said earlier.

He didn't hold their baby, because he was afraid he would hurt him.

## Chapter 94

### Regression 2

#### First Life

#### Zenith's POV

Two months. Dawn had been unconscious for two months and there was nothing Zenith could do during all that time.

He didn't even hold his baby because he didn't feel safe to do so. His beast was still restless, but also because every time he saw the baby, he felt this extreme guilt that kept gnawing at his heart.

Instead, it was the wet nurse and all the servants that took care of Rex, his son. He had provided the baby with everything that he needed, aside from the warmth of his mother and father.

The situation in the capital city escalated, because Zander was reaching the end of his plan, where he would start to get rid of all of those pests, who had been giving them a headache. An unrest would ensue in the capital city soon enough.

Zenith readily drowned himself in all this, to help him cope up with the current situation in the pack.

He was a failure. Not only as a mate, but also as a father. He couldn't even see his son.

"She is awake?!" Zenith immediately stood up when he heard the news from Fern, but her next words stopped him from rushing to Dawn.

"She doesn't want to see you, Alpha. She doesn't even want to see Rex." Fern was crying, she knelt down and looked very pitiful. "Please, don't go see her right now. I am afraid she will lose it again and it will only do her more harm."

Everyone knew how it looked like when Dawn flipped, no one wanted to see that side of her.

"Zen," Axel said, he blocked Zenith when he didn't heed Fern's words and tried to go to Dawn anyway. "She just woke up, why not give her some time? Let her calm down first."

Darius didn't say anything, he only frowned, while Fern begged the alpha to reconsider it again.



"This is for the Luna's wellbeing as well." The old woman said, which made Zenith relent.

The unrest in the capital city finally happened and it was pure chaos there. Much to his chagrin, Zenith had to play a double role in this mess, where he had to be careful not to alert the people that supported him, but at the same time, not to let Zander have a reason to behead him.

The atmosphere in the capital is very tense at the moment, until all the traitors were caught and finally Zenith and Zander managed to take them down. People started to learn how deliberately and meticulously both the royal brothers schemed against their enemies.

It was quite shocking, because they all used to think how the king and the alpha from the north were at each other's throats all the time.

Even though the capital city was in chaos, it didn't reach the north, since this place was far too away from the chaotic events that happened there.

And once Zenith finally returned to the north, the first thing that he noticed was the fact that his son had grown up. He was walking. That little baby grew up and now, he could see Dawn's resemblance whenever he was smiling.

He missed so much time. He missed all of his son's milestones. He didn't know where everything went so wrong. He used to have everything under his control, but not with Dawn.

When it came to her, everything was out of order.

And on the third day of his return, Dawn came to him. She looked haggard, but her eyes were ablaze with anger.

"I want to see my baby!" She demanded. She looked very livid.

The way Dawn came to him and made this demand made Zenith frown and he told Axel to back off when his beta wanted to take Dawn away.

"Let her be."

There was something wrong. The way Dawn wanted to see her baby was not what Zenith expected, because all this time, he was told that Dawn didn't want to see their baby.

Zenith never forbade her from seeing their child. This didn't make sense at all.

"Let's talk inside." Instead, Zenith took her to his study room. "Only now you ask to see your baby? Did your mind get clouded again? Is the time still slipping through your mind?"

Zenith wanted to gauge her reaction and what actually had happened when he was not here.

And that was it, the answer that Zenith wanted to hear from her mouth. Dawn looked fed up. She was livid, because she thought he had kept her away from her baby. She wanted to see her son and the people around her stopped her from doing so.

"Bring Rex here."

Zenith tried to compose himself. He couldn't let his anger get the best of him. Everything made sense in his mind right now, as if the puzzle pieces finally fell into the right place.

His body was shaking because of the rage that he tried to hold back, it became more difficult because it was Aurel, who actually brought Rex here.

"Give Rex to her." The alpha's voice was eerily calm, none of them must have realized it. "She is his mother," he said again. His voice was even.

And there, before his eyes, Zenith watched how Dawn cried her heart out when she was finally able to hug their son for the first time.

And again, Zenith was racked with guilt.

"My son... my son..." Dawn cried so hard, as their little boy looked at his mother with confusion, but he didn't cry, as if he knew that she was his mother all this time.

"Thank you, Zenith."

Seeing Dawn being very grateful hit Zenith so hard. She shouldn't have to thank him for letting her see their son. What had he done?

After this, Zenith didn't let anyone take Rex from her.

Unfortunately, Zenith couldn't kill Aurel. He could only send her back to the capital city, which meant he had to endure exercising crazy control over his beast.

Everything went well. His relationship with Dawn couldn't be said to have warmed up, but it was fine. Still, Zenith held a huge resentment at himself for letting her down.

He couldn't bring himself to get close to her and even when they had to go to the Moonlight pack for the funeral of Alpha Tony, he couldn't offer his proper condolences and be a shoulder for her to lean on.

It was so weird how emotions worked, because instead of trying to get close to Dawn, Zenith's guilt made him distance himself from her.

And one day, that nightmare finally came.

Today was a busy day because someone from the Karam continent came to talk about important things. This was a very important meeting, since a few people from the capital city also came.

Knowing Dawn didn't like this kind of gathering, Zenith didn't involve her, but he let her know that he couldn't be disturbed, no matter what the reason.

Recently, Dawn had another episode, even though it was not as often, Zenith could notice her peculiarity. Not only that, he also noticed how she hallucinated on a few occasions.

## Chapter 95

### The Gut Wrenching Sight

#### First Life

#### Zenith's POV

Axel took the matter into his hands, thinking that this was one of her episodes, where she tried to get the attention of the alpha, despite having been told that Zenith couldn't be bothered at this moment.

The beta had observed Dawn all this time and he was a little bit irritated with the way she acted recently.

Therefore, instead of disturbing the meeting and telling Zenith what was going on, he went outside to meet with Dawn directly and told her that the alpha couldn't be bothered.

"He is in the middle of an important meeting. You need to leave now," Axel said.

"Have you told Zenith about this?" Dawn looked panicked and Axel almost fell for it.

"I have." No. He didn't say a word to Zenith. "You need to leave now. He will dispatch a few warriors to come with you."

Axel indeed sent a few warriors to help Dawn search for Rex, thinking the little boy was only playing hide and seek as usual, and Dawn was just making a big deal out of it when she couldn't find him.

That was what the beta thought until the second report came from the warriors that informed him that they couldn't find Rex anywhere and not long after, Dawn came again to ask for Zenith.

Only then, Axel realized the gravity of the situation and immediately informed Zenith about this.

Once Zenith learned about what was going on, he didn't even have time to be angry at his beta as he immediately issued orders to all the warriors, leaving the important meeting behind. Nothing was more important than this.

Zenith took the lead as he mobilized all the warriors in search of his son.

Later on, they found out that Rex had entered the forest, or to be specific, the untouched land, the nest of the monsters in the north.

"I will find him," Zenith said grimly when he saw how devastated Dawn was. She wasn't crying, but she was having a hard time breathing. "Stay here..."

Zenith held her for a while, but he couldn't stay for long because his son needed him. He had never been a proper father to him, nor was he a good mate to Dawn, but at the very least, he should have been able to give them protection. Yet, he failed at that too...

"No, I will go with you," Dawn insisted.

"You can't come with me, Dawn."

"No. I will go with you."

Zenith didn't have time for this, he needed to leave soon, so in his frustration that Dawn was persistent, he raised his voice, which was not a solution at all.

"Enough! Stay here!"



Dawn stopped crying and looked at him, mortified, but Zenith had to leave. He would make it up to her later, after he made sure their son was safe.

More so, Dawn was barely able to hold her beast form, it would be the same as suicide if she followed him.

Therefore, after Zenith snapped at Dawn, he left her to head toward the untouched land.

However, it was not as easy to track down Rex, because it had been hours and the air was filled with so many scents. It was so hard to get any clues about his whereabouts.

And the more time that passed without them knowing his whereabouts, the more slim the chances seemed to find him alive.

Zenith was agitated, he could feel his beast getting aggravated with the pressure of the situation and on the third day, the alpha couldn't hold it anymore.

Zenith shifted into his black beast and ran rampant around the untouched land. Not only did he kill all the monsters that he could find, but he also killed the warriors that followed him there. He went crazy and didn't know how to control this rage within him, until he felt it.

No. He saw it with his own eyes.

There was his son.

He was crouching down near a big tree, staring at Zenith with his blue eyes, hugging himself tightly. He looked so small.

However, there was something wrong with him. There was something not right. It felt different. His son felt different.

And the shock came a little late as the reality of the situation finally hit him so hard. His beast immediately retreated to the back of his mind because the pain was unbearable. The agony he felt was enough to suppress his beast's rage...

His son was dead, he was seeing his spirit.

It crushed him, words couldn't describe what he was feeling.

Zenith approached his son's spirit, staggering. He had never been this scared in his entire life, but this new feeling gripped his heart so tightly.

"Rex...?" His voice was exceptionally small, shaking, as if it was not him, who was talking. He walked to his son and Rex lifted his head. He looked at his father with tearful eyes.

'Where is mommy? I want mommy.'

Zenith balled his fists, until his claws dug into his palms and blood dripped from his hands, but there was no pain that could be more agonizing than losing your own child.

"I will take you to mommy, okay?" Zenith knelt down in front of him, and reached out his hand to touch his son. It was very ironic when one thought about it.

When he could touch him, hold him and hug him, he never did, but now when he couldn't even feel the heat from his little body, he was so desperate to reach him.

What a failure he was. He let them down time and again.

"Can you tell me where you are?" Zenith asked again with a voice that didn't sound like him. He couldn't touch his son. His spirit was there, but all he could feel was empty air.

Rex wiped his tears and then nodded. He stood up.

'I was in so much pain daddy,' Rex said. 'But now, I am not in pain anymore...'

Zenith couldn't hold it back, he bent his body and hollered. His whole body started shaking, he wanted the ground to split open and swallow him whole. This pain was too much and he couldn't bear it any longer.

His claws dug the ground and this anguished feeling racked his whole body. He felt his soul being crushed.

His son was in so much pain and he failed to protect him. His son might have cried in so much pain and begged someone to help him, but he as a father couldn't do anything.

He saved this kingdom from those filthy people, who wanted to take it down, but he couldn't even save his own son.

How many times did Rex cry for help? How much pain was he in when death came? And he was alone facing it.

Zenith failed. He was a failure...

Once he found his son's body, there was nothing much left of him. He had seen more gruesome scenes than this and even been part of the reason the other person met their mortifying demise, but there was nothing more gut wrenching than the sight before his eyes.

It took more than a few hours for Zenith to get his bearings and wrap whatever was left of his son in his cloak and take him back to the pack.

Back to his mother...