

Chapter 237

Rue

Taking another step forward, Mericel forces herself to rise to her feet. She holds her bleeding side and stumbles back. "Stay back." She hisses, putting her palms up as though it would stop me from inflicting pain onto her.

The wooden chair she sat on prior, falls because of her useless stumbling. She jumps at the mere sound and I smirk knowing I had her exactly where I wanted her. She feared me.

Her palms swiftly face the floor as she grunts out a chant. Black liquid that resembles tar, materializes through the cracks of the wood and shoots up like spears. One nearly penetrates through my foot. I quickly move out of the way, chanting as I froze the liquid. It shatters into pieces. Using that distraction to her advantage, Mericel starts to speak in tongues.

I am launched backward into the shelf. I groan as my back hits the wood in the process breaking the shelves off the wall. I fall on my side with a grunt. "For blasted sake she plays dirty." Ayla grumbles with displeasure. I could not agree more but it is not all that surprising knowing Mericel's reputation for being cheap with her attacks.

I place my hand flat on the floor as I get ready to right myself when I halt. I gasp when something sharp penetrates through my hand, wounding my flesh with its force. My eyes fall to my pained hand and noticed one of the dark liquid spears had penetrated it.

I snap my head up and snarl. Mericel smirked as she continued to chant, materializing more of the tar-like liquid that came full force towards my body. Working quick, I flicked my hand and push her body to the opposite wall.

She gasp, dropping the smirk as her hands wrap around her neck. The dark tar-like liquid stop as I directed my spell around Mericel's neck, choking her. "You dare harm my beautiful self!" I hissed, not caring as I pulled my hand off the spear-like tar. There is a dull pain as blood dripped down my palm to my fingertips then fell on the floor.

"How?" She gasped clawing at her throat more intensely.

I rise to my feet, shaking my injured hand as I hissed. "How what? How are you so bloody useless or how even going to the depths of retrieving the book of spells you are still weak?" I asked with a taunt, irritated that I had let my guard down that led to her inflicting pain on my hand.

"Stop whining, we heal quickly." Ayla snorts.

"Heal quickly or not, she has scarred my beautiful flesh, I have every right to be irritated." I grumble as I lifted my hands ever so slightly, dragging Mericel up until her legs are not touching the floor anymore.

"It will not leave a scar Rue." Ayla laughs and blocks me out when she senses my growing anger.

I drop my hand when the window shatters. Sharp cries of the crows rang through the four walls of the room, growing my irritation and anger as they flew towards me. Now focused on the deadly crows, my spell around Mericel breaks as she falls on the floor.

My palms come in front of me as I snarl out a spell. The black crows cry as they are engulfed by the burning fire of my rage. "No!" Mericel screams as the crows perished before her very eyes.

I snap my gaze to her, seeing the pain wretched on her face. Her dark eyes pinned to the ashes of the crows scattered around the room in pure sorrow.

Sensing my eyes on her, she snaps her head up, dark eyes pinning me with a look of hatred. "I hate you!" She shouts, eyes darkening an impossible black that would have made someone else scared. But not me, I only grew bored.

"I am not very fond of you either, hag." I spat.

The dark in her irises took over the entire white of her eyes until she resembles someone possessed. She slapped her palm on the floor, muttering something under her breath.

The floor trembles as it gives way. Shock and not expecting it, we both fell onto the floor below. I fall on my fours, nearly injuring myself on a splintered wood. I coughed as dust from the rubble enters my airways, nearly choking me.

I look up at the room we were previously in, its entire floor was missing and now under us in rubble. A piece of wood flew towards my face, nearly plunging into my beautiful self if I had not teleported out of its harmful way.

I draw in a breath as I lean against the opposite wall of where Mericel stood. She could barely stand on her feet, swaying as she held her side. But the pure hatred in her eyes was strong enough to will her to do what she wanted. Which was fight me at every possible point.

I coughed. Seeing that the dust from the rubble was irritating my airways, Mericel spoke in tongues and directed a cloud of dust around me. My throat burned as I flicked my finger, sending it away from me. It is enough to distract me and have her launching me to the right.

My back protested as it hits the stone. I hissed letting out a low cry as I felt one of my ribs break by the awkward way I landed on the rubble.

"Rue! Love are you alright?!" It was Ares's voice penetrating through the mind-link. He had perhaps felt the pain through our bond. I grit my teeth, rising to my feet.

"I am perfectly fine." I answered through the mind-link as I hold my side where I could already feel the broken bone healing.

"You fucking bitch!" I snarled, balancing myself on the broken wood. My palms face her as I chant. Her hands claw at her neck but her eyes. They were still so dark with murder, an emotion that made her not give up so easily as she works a quick spell of her own.

"I will not let you defeat me!" She hissed through her closing throat. "I have worked too hard to get where I am today. I will not have a mere girl take that away from me!" She says with short puffs of air. "I am Queen. Your Queen!"

She falls to her knees, still clawing at her neck as she touches the rubble beneath her. The dark tar-like substance materializes through all the rubble but this time they were not like spears but an imagery of snakes.

Not seeing any other option, I remove my hand to my aching side and directed the palm towards the fats moving snakes. I chant, not able to fully freeze them but able to hold them off as my attention is still on Mericel.

It is then my eyes fall on the pendant around her neck and Corlette's words emerge through my mind. My eyes flick up to Mericel's and I pinned her with my gaze of vengeance.

"The difference between us Mericel. Is that I was born to be Queen, while you were not." I spat, and using her dumbfounded moment I flicked my finger speaking a spell quickly as I tore the pendant away from its owner.

It flew across the room and ends up in my grasp. I did not waste any more time and destroyed it in my palm, letting the blood and glass drop to the floor. The dark in her eyes disappear as they widen with shock.

"What have you done!" She screamed as her trembling fingers reach in her hair. She brought the strands to her face and she cries of shock as they quickly turned grey. The lovely dark locks are no more but thin grey hairs that struggled to stay on her head.

Her once beautiful skin wrinkles to show her true age and her once straightened back is slouched. Ugly warts marred her once pretty face. The once beautiful woman was now an old hag who could barely stand. The tar-like snakes turn to liquid before clearing completely.

Mericel head snaps to the mirror on the opposite wall and she screams. "No! No! What have you done!" She cries tugging her hair only to remove thin clamps of hair. She stared at the hair in her palms and trembles with a cry.

I let her stare at her ugly self in the mirror until I grew bored toward her cries. Speaking a quick chant, the mirror shattered into pieces before I send them towards her. Mericel gasp, launching to the wall as many pieces of the mirror penetrates through her flesh.

"Why?" She gasp out, coughing out blood. It was turning black.

"Because I simply want you dead. You are not fit enough to walk the same earth as me." I walked towards her, groaning as I held my side.

Her body slumps into a sitting position, back pressed to the wall as a piece of mirror protrudes from her forehead. She gasp, trembling fingers trying and failing to remove the pieces that were plunged in her body.

"You were never fit to be Queen Mericel. Your reign has ended." I murmur as I crouched before her. I lift my palm to her face and chant. The pieces of mirror slowly starts to plunge more into her flesh until they were lodged right in.

Mericel gasp at the pure pain, shaking violently as a scream tore through her throat. Seeing that it was not enough, I chant. Her blood boils inside her body, until it comes out like acid through her mouth. "No more Queen Mericel." I smirked flicking my finger and have pieces of wood lodge in her opened mouth.

She gave out one last scream as the wood forces its way down her throat. Her dark eyes stared into my own before the light in them dims. I could still hear the choking sound her body made as the wood continues to go down her body.

I sighed and rise to my feet. It was done. I had finally ended her. A huge weight lifts off my shoulders. I pressed my palm to my still aching side and worked a quick chant.

I teleported outside where the quietness in the air would have been shocking. But to me it was not, for I knew the wolves had won the fight. The once dark sky was cleared of Mericel's animosity and the snakes and dead were no more.

But what held my attention was the black beast standing over a dead Zefer. I smiled, walking over to them slowly. The wolves howled at the sky as they celebrated their new King and win.

Sensing me, Ares beast turns to me. He leaves the wolves and bounds over to me in all his glory. I grin happily, pressing my palm on my side. "I love you." I murmur as the weight in my eyes overpowers me.

I felt my body go numb before darkness welcomed me. The last thing I saw was Ares shifting into his human form and catching me just in time.