

Their Warrior Luna Chapter 71

Harley:

“You are the best boy chomp!” I praised the massive creature while giving him belly scratches.

I still can't believe he brought me to them. If I can figure out how to communicate with them, they will be the biggest asset in our winning this war against Eros. Chomp's big purple eyes switched from happy and carefree to slits of combative rage. He rolled to his feet using his chin. He tucked me tightly between his front legs. I fought hard against his clutches to turn and see what he was so worried about. But I wish I hadn't. I wish I had stayed clueless, tucked tightly in the clutches of the dragon who likes me.

I thought Chomp was huge. He is huge... but the herd of dragons that had snuck up on us while I was loving on Chomp. They are a whole new size. Massive isn't an adequate description of these dragons. Black, purple, and other hues of blue, and eyes as black as night were locked on the two of us. Chomp's smoke circles started blowing around me. The same smoke and soot he released before taking me thousands of feet into the air. But we weren't going anywhere.

“Everything is okay, I will not hurt you,” I whispered to the larger one leading the rest. I thought maybe I could get him to listen to me and like me the way that Chomp does. His big black eyes were locked on me and the fact that he acted like Chomp was completely invisible scared me. Chomp is intimidating as hell, I mean... he is a dragon for goddess's sake. But this otherworldly beast is from the hell that the humans are so fearful of.

The low rumbling that rattled the ash beneath my feet sounded like a chorus around us. The steady legs I was shoved in between for my safety were now shaking like a leaf in the wind. Embers lit in their nostrils like waterfalls of flame were ready to pour from them and I knew, we weren't welcome here.

That familiar prickle stung my skin like tiny needles. I don't know if this is my fear, or if at this moment, being surrounded by an element that I also possess gave me some type of comfort... either way, I called to the fire. I welcomed it in and asked it to burn brightly using me as its vessel and it did as I asked.

My black hair whipped wildly around me. The tips of my hair lit, and that fire spread all the way down to the tips of my toes. I stepped away from Chomp, who had started purring the moment my fire started.

I stepped forward, facing the leader. This is the only chance that I have.

“I need you. There is nothing that you need to be fearful of. I would never hurt you and I know you are only trying to protect them... but that's why I am here. I have to protect you

and this place and every place and every being outside of the walls of fire you surround yourself with. I am their queen. I am your queen and I need you. Something is coming... someone is coming. When he does, he plans to demolish everything. My pack and my people want to stop him. But to stop him, we need you. All of you." I spoke to all of them, but I never took my flaming eyes from the one who intimidated me the most.

I stretched my arms wide, letting the flames burn brighter and higher. The flames were shooting over their heads, and they were all staring at the tendrils of flame seeping from me. The herd had gotten larger, they had all gathered closer to see the thing in the middle of them burning like a comet in the night sky. Just as fleeting as a comet, my fire burned brightly and then faded away to nothing.

"What do you say?" I asked the creature who had eyes as soft as black velvet.

The dragon spread his wings wide and bowed his head to me.

My steps were slow and calculated. I knew better than to rush up on something that could sneeze and obliterate a small town. I spread my fingers wide, reaching for the snout of the leader. If I had his acceptance, I would have theirs.

I looked into his eyes while my hand made its play to show him affection. His warm scaly nose pressed lightly into the palm of my hand and the breath that I had been holding onto so tightly whooshed from me in relief.

We have them. We have the dragons.

Alistair:

"Where in the f**k are they, Ferra? Where does that beast of burden go when it isn't hiding here? We need to go get her." I hated the gravel lodged in my voice and I hated even more that I hadn't jerked her away from the dragon. It was young, a child even, and I know how unpredictable they can be when they are young and yet I let her around the thing anyways.

Dragons are nesting creatures and even though they were always a part of my realm, their nests were never on my radar. I have no idea where it could have taken her. Hell, I'm not even sure it was taking her to their nest. It could have just been separating her from us to eat her.

"Snap out of it. Your mental breakdown is leaking through the bond. We will find her. She isn't hurt or dead. The bond is still in place thrumming just as before. Axel grabbed my shoulder, giving it a reassuring squeeze.

"I mind-linked Nathan. He is gathering the army. If nothing, we can split them into groups. The perimeter seems to believe that since the merger the dragons have taken one of the taller mountains around us and only one of those is warm." Denny spoke.

“You and Nathan can take a group to the other one. The three of us will take another group and check the one that she will most likely be in. I feel like her powers amplify in our presence and if that is the case, she may need them.” Atlas’s hands shook when they took the map from Denny, examining it for a path or an answer to get her home.

We split the troops into groups of two and armed them all heavily. I had never, as the king had to fight a dragon and I have no idea what it takes to kill one, but I know if that purple-eyed beast took my mate as an offering, I would rip its heart out with my bare hands.

Denny and Atlas were giving the troops their assignments when the wind picked up heavily. The whistle against the trees broke my attention and I turned just in time to see the wings. I almost let myself get excited, but I realized the wings I had seen hadn’t been dragon wings at all.

“Axel, we have a problem.” His shirt was bunching in my shaking fist and the fury engulfing me was unbearable.

He stepped from the tree line grinning. I wanted to smack the smugness from his face. How dare he? The rustling in the trees gave me the urge to look behind him, but something I learned a long time ago is to never take your eyes off someone you don’t trust. So, I didn’t. I didn’t need to though. I could hear their groans plainly.

The hair on the back of my neck stood at attention to the familiar sounds rolling from behind him. He had built an army of dark ones and parked them right in our front yard. I guess Clearwater will be the first stop on his list of places to destroy, and if he is as powerful as what has been told, I can at least be thankful Harley isn’t here to see this if it goes south.

A glow in the distance flickered in the corner of my eye and I let my gaze shift to it quickly. On the mountain range that Denny had predicted she would be on was an orange glow. My gut twisted painfully when I felt nothing saying that my mate was being hurt and that could only mean one thing. She had awakened her fire and was using it for something or someone.

My eyes roamed back to the no longer smirking god to see that he too had taken notice of the warm glow on the mountain range. He turned to look to the army that he had created using the tortured souls of creatures who had been banned from their normal lives and convicted of one of the loneliest sufferings and handed us over to them. His words were light on his lips and, even with the distance between us, I heard him clearly.

“They are all yours.” He told them before blasting into the sky on the wings that I have the full intention of ripping off of his back the second that I’m given the chance.

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Harley:

“He’s close. You need to get home. Our mates are in trouble.” My wolf roared.

I looked at the beast in front of me who was still letting me rub his face.

“It’s time. Are you with me?” I pray he understands me.

His black eyes looked at me with the answers I so desperately needed. He understands. I know he does.

He stood craning his neck upward. Waves of fire hot enough to crumble bone to dust were spat into the air above us. The others roared and stomped, blowing their own fountains of flame. He laid flat on his stomach and my heart sank. I thought they were ready, I thought he understood and accepted me. Hot tears built in my eyes and fear settled in my stomach. If my mates are in trouble, how do I get back to them? I don’t even know where I am.

Chomp took the back of my sports bra in his teeth, lifting me from the ground just like before. At least maybe this means he is taking me home.

I covered my eyes and let my tears fall freely for a moment. This is too much. If I had been born into a normal existence, my mates would never have rejected me, and I could be pregnant by now. But then I wouldn’t have met Alistair and, just like with the other two, I couldn’t be complete without them all.

Chomp released me and I rolled my eyes at him. This is the second time he has let me fall to my death. But this time I did not fall, I landed.

I landed right on the back of the biggest beast here. He craned his neck, looking back at me mischievously while I wrapped my arms tightly around one of his tree-like spikes and I felt like I would have fared better if he had carried me in his mouth the way Chomp does because the moment he took flight it took every ounce of strength in me to hold on to the creature and fight against the raging winds.

I turned back to see if Chomp was following us and those same damn tears threatened to fall again. Hundreds of them were hot on the heels of the raging beast. Following us in to a battle none of us were prepared for.

“Please be with us, Selene.” I prayed before calling La Espada de la Muerte to my hand.

Though I couldn’t see through the clouds, I knew I was home, I knew this was it and the beast must have sensed the chaos below us as clearly as I could because the moment I sensed home, he went into a nosedive, slicing us through the air like a falling star.

“I’m coming,” I whispered through the mind link, praying we were close enough that they heard me.

Axel:

A small thrill washed through me and it wasn't because my beast was slashing the heads off of these nasty bastards left and right. No, it was her. I sensed her before I heard her mind link and I looked at my brother and the man who is growing to feel like another brother with a grin. Our girl is coming home.

Eros was soaring through the air watching the chaos from the sky. The sorry bastard was too much of a b***h to fight his own battles and, honestly, I am thankful he chose Clearwater first because we have something other pack lands don't. We have her. I looked at the darkened sky that was lit with an orange glow. I know it is her. I feel her all around me, I feel her power thrumming as if it were strengthening me too.

A waterfall of fire and screeches from the heavens soaked down in the center of the chaos. When the fire burned out, she stood there in flames wielding the sword of death like a goddess from hell. She made her way through the masses, cutting a hole in the fabric of Clearwater. The dark ones had stopped their assault and marched towards her like she was their commander and chief. They marched through the rip while she stood in a fiery rage with her eyes locked on the winged bastard in the sky.

The three of us made our way to her and in her rage, she seemed too far off to reach. But even in the flames and darkness in her once icy blue eyes she smiled at us with the love of trillions of suns, burning away the darkness in my heart caused by her absence.

Screeching sounded from the black clouds above. Hundreds of winged beasts of different sizes and colors landed on the ground, shaking the earth with their size.

"Eros. You will not use tortured souls to fight your battles anymore. I have moved them to a place where your sticky f*****g hands can no longer manipulate them. The Nothing was created by the gods for you and only you, and from now on that is what it will be. The cage that suffocates you for your wrongs." Her voice was full of gravel and hatred as she spat the words in her heart for him.

"If I had been a god in this day and age, the moment my d**k slipped into a married woman I would have been patted on the back,

My crime was infidelity, but I have loved the little w***e with every fiber of my being since." He landed on the ground and a growl ripped through me at the way he looked at her. I don't know what happened to her shirt, but it hadn't bothered me that little bird was standing there in a bra and jeans until he looked at her like that.

She extended her hand the moment he stepped close to her, but her power didn't affect him.

He waved his hand and Atlas, Alistair, and I went flying away from her. My head hit a rock in the dirt so hard that stars and darkness clouded my vision. Right before the

darkness swallowed me, I watched him grab her by her hips and take flight into the cloudy sky.

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Alistair:

I grabbed Axel and set him up. His limp body fell against my chest and blood poured from a gash in his head like a fountain. He may want to kill me when he wakes up and finds out what I have done, but now isn't the time for fighting each other. His wolf is healing him rapidly, but it isn't fast enough, and we don't have the time to go to a hospital.

I slit my wrist with my fangs, capping the gapping wound over his mouth, letting the power of my blood aid in his healing. I knew the moment the gash had been sealed because he latched onto my wrist drinking hungrily from me. Because he is bonded to me, my blood will heal and strengthen him. It may also make him feel good in the same way foreplay would and that thought almost made me laugh as he continued his drinking from me.

"Enough Axel, that should do it." I patted his back when he released my wrist. I licked the wound on my wrist, sealing it closed. His face scrunched up when he rubbed the still-tender area on the back of his head.

"Don't ever do that s**t again." He growled.

"Harley would be angry with me if I had let you die. Don't act like a baby about it." I smirked, pushing him further by using my thumb to rub the blood from his bottom lip. He smacked me away, making me laugh.

Atlas ran over with the swords they got in the holy realm and a sword for me as well.

"How do we get to her? What do we do?" he asked his brother.

An earthquake shot through the ground, cracking the foundation of Clearwater. Rock fell from the mountains and the lakes rippled from the interruption.

From the gapping crack in the foundation rose a creature from story books. Something I never expected to see in my existence but something I had once read about in the library that still frames my office walls.

"Chimera," I said in awe as the creature of miscellaneous parts clawed its way from the earth.

It shook out its thick fur, frothing from its maw. It is a hungry beast of destructive death and this pack, our people, and ourselves would be just an appetizer to fill the hollow tooth of the creature.

“First we kill that f****g thing, then we get our girl back from Eros and, so help me, I will rip his teeth out one by one when I get my hands on him.” Axel roared, standing on shaky legs. He used the blade of his sword to dig deeply into the earth to stabilize himself.

“Harley, I don’t know if you can hear me. But you need to fight him. We are coming for you, kitten.” I prayed that she heard me. I don’t have the mind link capability, but I pray she knows we love her and that, no matter what, we are coming for her.

Harley:

His wings packed us high into the air much faster than the dragons had packed me. My heart was beating wildly in my chest with his fingers digging in to my hips. He squeezed me tightly against his naked torso and my mind fogged over with lust. At that moment, I knew the woman he had slept with couldn’t think clearly for proper consent and that is why he was damned to live out his days in The Nothing.

“All hell is breaking loose down there. I have unleashed three creatures. One for each of your mates and a group of very hungry spider demons for the people you have vowed to protect.” I gripped my sword tightly. I can’t lose perspective. I can’t let myself be fooled by his physical charm.

“I will end it all now if you will agree to rule at my side. My power and your power could be devastating. I have a mate now, but she is not nearly as powerful as you. If you agree, I will send the creatures back to where they came from and leave your people unharmed.” His sultry voice vibrated through me, shocking me to my core.

His voice alone was like having all three of my mates deep inside of me, taking me roughly and without mercy.

“Harley, I don’t know if you can hear me. But you need to fight him. We are coming for you, kitten.” Alistair’s voice penetrated the fog clouding my senses.

My fingers loosened on the sword. It would be so easy to give over to Eros and his charm, but there is something he doesn’t realize.

I let the fire warm me, I concealed us in one of my energy bubbles, letting the fire surround us. My telekinesis may not work on him, but no one can run from fire. His white wings were singed black, and his muscled chest was breaking out in sweat and blisters and his screams were bouncing off the walls of my energy still surrounding us.

“I am loved by three men who would lay their lives down for me without a single thought. You could never compare to them, Eros. Your charm, your looks, it is all an illusion, and

underneath that mirage of perfection is a hideous and scared little boy who is worried he will never find love.” I ran my blade upward, cutting through the abdomen of the god like he was made of hot butter. The end of my blade pierced his heart and at that moment I knew I had made the right decision. I knew I had ended him for good. He dropped me.

I fell to the earth with a zip of adrenaline. The wind was chapping my face and my heart ran wild knowing that there was no dragon to catch me this time. With one last-ditch effort, I sliced the air beneath me, creating a portal to my own realm. I barreled through the fracture as quickly as I had created it, rolling to the ground right in the middle of the great war.

I jumped to my feet just in time to slice through the body of a half-spider thing that was dead set on having me for lunch. I turned as the one behind me grabbed me by the throat, trying to wrap me up tightly in its webbing to save me for later.

The creature dropped to its death at the blade of my badass sister-in-law who was helping me tear the webbing from my throat and shoulders with a pearly smile on her face.

“Come on, we have to keep moving.” She took me by the hand, pulling me along.

“Where is Eros?” Her voice was barely audible over the sounds of all hell breaking loose.

“I killed him,” I yelled back, still shocked that I had killed a God.

“Are you sure?” She asked me with her wide-eyed and hopeful stare.

“I’m sure.” I nodded.

I am positive he is gone. My blade is sizzling with the energy it soaked up from the blood of the winged god. Without a doubt, Eros is no longer.

Now, we fight, we clean up his mess, and we move on.

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Axel:

The snake head that formed the tail of the Chimera moved swiftly, it snapped at me when I was thrown to the back of the damn thing after the lion latched onto my shoulder and tossed me.

I sliced at the snake, cutting one of its heads from the angry beast. I used its confusion and anger as an opportunity, to look at Atlas, who was fighting a giant cyclops, and Alistair, who was fighting a Hydra.

I need to get the other two heads off this thing before Goddess only knows what else comes out of that hole in the earth. I need to help them.

They both seem to be holding their own, but the acid that the Hydra spits had started marring the ground, and if it continues I'm worried one of them may fall through the earth.

I gripped the sword tighter, digging my feet into the ground, I was ready to run the damn thing down when the blood-curdling screeches of a dragon zipped by me, almost bursting my ear drums.

"Now!" Little birds voice echoed off the trees like an angel blowing a horn.

The dragon that took her to their nest had taken her by her sports bra, lifting her high into the air.

As soon as she was above the Chimera, the dragon lowered her just enough that she took the goat's head from the back of the creature in one swing. Now all that was left for me is the lion's head.

The dragon kept flying with her in his clutches in the direction of the Cyclops. She shifted midair, tearing the eye of the cyclops out in her fall.

I drove the blade into the head of the lion right when it dug its claws into my chest gashing me deeply. I wrapped what was left of my shirt around my injuries and ran to help the others.

Pride swelled in me seeing my pack members spread out all over the battlefield fighting for the freedom of Clearwater. Now we just have to ensure that we are victorious.

I made it to Atlas the minute he got the Cyclops down. Harley had torn the face of the beast pretty damn badly and he went into a fit of rage out of fear and mangled Atlas up.

Alister and Harley were still fighting the Hydra. The first head swung around, latching its massive jaws down on Harley's side panic consumed me seeing her injured but she paid no mind to it. She burst into a ferocious flame, melting the heads away from the beast while Alister, Atlas, and I cut into it the best we could around her fire.

The three beasts from hell were down but the spider demons were still overrunning us.

Harley was still in a blaze in her wolf form. Her howls ripped through the chaotic sounds of war and the dragons that flew in with her as their leader took to the sky raining hellfire down on the demons while the wolves and other creatures from the kingdom's realm fled the red zone.

Harley morphed back into her human form. By some miracle, the hydra bite she sustained was almost healed completely.

“Have someone put the fire out. We needed to run the perimeter and ensure that the threat is cleared.” She shifted back into her wolf form and outran us entirely.

Harley:

I ran as fast as I could. Eros said three beasts would rise, one for each of my men and the three of them have already been taken down, so why is my gut telling me this was just the first wave of destruction?

I knew my men were behind me, but something was screaming for me to hurry. I turned back just for a second to see if the boys were coming up behind me and a gush of air knocked me off my feet. I tumbled rolling head over foot until I stopped shifting back into my human form. I clutched my chest, begging my lungs to inflate.

I climbed to my feet, staggering. My vision was swaying from hitting my head on something, but I didn't miss the white wings as they passed by me, knocking me on my back once more. I killed him. I killed Eros.

Yet here he is beating my a*s into the dirt.

A hard punch knocked into my mouth and the taste of my blood cleared the fog in my mind. I got back up letting my eyes track his movements. Now that he's on the ground, it will be easier. I called the sword to me again, and just like before, the cool metal thrummed to life under my touch.

His laughter bubbled around me, stinging my aching head.

“You refuse my offer, kill my beasts, all of my demons and you honestly think a pathetic little w***e like you could kill a powerful god like me?” he laughed again, making the pain in my mind thud against my skull like a jackhammer.

I took my stance, spitting the blood gathering into my mouth on the blade of my sword. It sizzled on the blade like an egg in a hot pan and I ran like my life depended on it. I jumped him, digging my blade into his unsuspecting torso.

He grasped at the wound, looking at me in shock.

“f**k you,” I growled, letting the blood from my nose and mouth run down my chest, soaking against my breasts.

“Harley!” Alistair's voice soothed the ache in my mind, granting me more clarity.

“Stay back. I have to do this.” I circled Eros, who followed my moves, smirking at me with a bitchy look on his face.

This is it, this is what I was born for.

He ran at me this time with a sword in his hand that looked like it was pulled from the moon itself and slashed it through the air, cutting into my left eye. The minute that my vision blurred before leaving me completely, I knew that there was a possibility that I wouldn't be getting the sight back in that eye.

I ran my sword back through the gapping wound I had already created, making him drop with a scream. My blade sliced and marred his angelic skin, causing deep gashes across his abdomen and face, and still, he got up grinning.

He sliced at me again and, with the blood pouring into my eye, I was too slow in the defensive stance and the blade dug deep into my rib cage. I could feel the chip in the bone where he swung the damn thing so hard and I backed away, unwilling to let myself scream, but in desperate need of a minute to collect myself and make a better plan.

“Stay back,” I told my men again, who were circling in on us. I could feel their auras threatening to choke me out and I knew they were all three about to lose it.

I looked at the smug god, trying to figure out what it is that I should do. How do you kill a god?

“I don't think we do. I think our answer is in The Nothing, Harley.” my wolf said.

Like a ton of bricks, the answer hit me.

I slashed the blade of the sword fiercely. Laughter bubbled from Eros when he thought I had missed my mark, but I didn't let it get to me. He has no idea what is about to bite him in the a*s.

I shifted back into my beast, letting the fire I had grown so fond of using consume me.

“Harley Grace, don't you dare!” Atlas growled, using his alpha command. My eyes watered when the three of them started coming closer.

“I love the three of you so much!” I said to them through the mind link before letting the massive paws of my wolf dig into the ground plunging me forward.

I was picking up a good speed thanks to the distance between us, but I felt like I wasn't getting there fast enough.

Do you know that feeling you get whenever you fight someone in your dreams and, no matter how hard you swing, it never feels like you're hitting hard enough? Yeah, well... it

was kind of like that. I felt like no matter how hard I ran I would never get there quickly enough.

I took a deep breath and was fully aware that what I was about to do was probably it for me, but my mind and my body were getting tired and I was out of ideas

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My massive beast leaped through the air, her jaws clamped down around his head, unwilling to move, and between the fear coursing his veins and his smug unawareness, he tumbled the exact way that I had wanted and both of us went tumbling into The Nothing. One more time his blade dug deep into my side but my good girl refused to let his head go.

“Do you have any idea what you have done?” He yelled angrily.

Deeper and deeper into the darkness we fell.

I don't know how a girl like me was ever meant to be a savior. I don't know what those holy ones were thinking when they created me. But falling through The Nothing while my beast gnawed on a god who was now jabbing us with his fist because his blade was lodged into my side gave me perspective. I learned something amid the chaos.

“It is okay to go against destiny when you are saving the people who matter the most to you. You showed me your weakness, and I will make that weakness eat you alive, even if it means I get eaten too.” I yelled at him with my mind link because I was still unwilling to let my bite go, as both of us kept tumbling into the pits of darkness.

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Harley:

My wolf had accepted our fate. She kept her jaw locked on the head of Eros, crunching and chomping in any way she could, knowing that when we do finally land in the abyss, we will have to try to kill him for good.

“Do you trust me?” I asked her.

“You know I do, crazy.” I could hear the sadness in her voice over the loss of the life we were supposed to have had.

My thought is that if I can travel into The Nothing with my blood pumping through me... so can my sword.

“When I say so, I want you to let go of Eros and use your hind feet to push away from him, jumping as far upward as you can. If we get lucky, it will put enough distance between us

and if my plan works... well don't get your hopes up, but if it works we will be freed from this hell hole." I told her, wishing I could run my fingers through her fur and comfort the storms that are raging in both of us.

I wasn't resigned to this fate yet, and I wouldn't accept it without a fight and I don't want her to either. We fight until we die, that is how it has always been.

"Now!" I roared at her, pleased with her quick action.

She did as I asked beautifully, pushing away from Eros with every ounce of strength in her hind legs and the moment he was far enough away, I shifted into my human form, calling to the sword. Her howls busted through the darkness that was clouding my brain the moment the blade manifested in my hand, vibrating with as much enthusiasm as I had. I quickly swung the blade, fracturing the realm under my feet.

"Be with us, Selene." I prayed as we were flung into a new space in time, leaving that bastard bird of a God locked away inside of The nothing where the gods had intended for him to be.

Alistair:

"Selene, get your f*****g a*s down here or so help me god I will rip the realms apart until I find you!" I yelled.

Harley had sacrificed herself for her people and here we all stood either in tears or ready to go to war again to get our queen back and Selene couldn't be bothered to speak with us about something that she probably knew was going to happen from the beginning.

"Why would she do that?" Atlas looked to his twin for the answers that none of us had.

I knew he was talking about Harley's decision to tackle Eros into The Nothing, and as simple as the answer is, it is too painful to even say out loud.

"She was always a warrior first, brother. Us, her people, her kingdom always came before anything else. She saw a way out. It was an easy way to save everyone all at once and she didn't care that it meant risking herself because everything that she loved would be safe because of her sacrifice." Axel's words broke me and swelled my heart with pride at the same time. Everyone here has the same mindset. Fight to the end. Harley's mindset was different. She spent the whole time knowing that if the opportunity was given she would be sure to take it if it meant ending it with as few deaths as possible.

"What do you boys need? I need to get back." Selene said unamused.

"What the f**k do you mean? Harley just flung herself into The Nothing to save everyone's asses including yours!" I roared.

Her lips pulled back, revealing a smile you would expect of a goddess, and it made my blood boil. How dare she be amused that we have lost the one person we love the most and the one person she relies on to continue our existence? She f*****g smiled.

“Are you smiling right now?” Axel growled, fueled by the same fury and grief that I was feeling.

“I am. Harley is fine.” Her arms folded over her chest like we were the most boring people in the world to her, but I couldn’t focus on her smug a*s attitude because she just said... our Harley is alive.

“Where is she?” Axel’s patience was as thin as mine and I was ready to choke the moon goddess out to get to her.

“She is safe. But she is in bad shape. The best place for her and her healing will be with me right now. She will be blind in her left eye. Unfortunately, I can’t fix that because of the blade that Eros used. I couldn’t heal it. She has some major injuries and the longer she is in the holy realm, the better chances she will have of making a full recovery.” What is with this b***h’s smug tone? We are Harley’s mates. We can help her heal fine here.

“Bring her back, now,” I thundered.

“That isn’t an option right now, I am afraid. What I can tell you is, that I will bring her back in three days. That should be all the time she needs to heal entirely, and I also need to speak with the four of you when I bring her back to you.” I didn’t hear anything after her telling me no and my blood ran hot.

“Enough, Alistair. We want her back as badly as you do and, while I think there is a whole lot of bull s**t that the goddess isn’t telling us, I do know one thing for sure. She could strip us of our bond entirely if she were to choose to. We need to be careful.” Atlas said, taking my shoulder into a firm grasp.

“Harley will be in heat in three days’ time. If I don’t keep her in the holy realm to heal, she will not be physically able to get pregnant or carry a child.” There it is. She wants to keep her away from us for three days so she can ensure that their damn never-ending battery pack is created.

“Who says any of us are ready for a child?” I asked her.

“It isn’t up to you. Things have been written long before now.” She waved her hand, disappearing, but she let her voice be carried on the wind to us.

“Have this place cleaned up by the time I return to you, with your mate.” Was the last thing she left us with.

We stood there dumbfounded and mad as hell. Every obstacle imaginable has gotten in the way of us being with her and I have had enough.

Harley:

With a violent fall face first, I got a mouth full of dirt, landing into a field of wildflowers. Everything hurt so badly that I just lay there. Eros's sword was still stuck in my side, and I could feel it digging into the bones of my rib cage. With my adrenaline slowing and the comfort of knowing my loved ones were safe, I almost cried out in pain. I settled for letting the tears I was holding fall from my tired eyes, too fearful that if I took too deep of a breath, I would puncture a lung.

I stood trying to reach back and pull the blade from my side. Finally getting it out, I tossed it and myself back to the ground. The world spun violently, and I don't know if it was the swaying of the earth or if it was the wet sucking sound that could be heard from all around me as I pulled the blade from me but one or both were threatening to make me puke.

"You were incredible, child." I turned upward as blood filled my mouth to see my goddess before me.

I had prayed for her to be with us, but I didn't know she had listened. I reached my hand out to her, hoping that if this were it for me, and she was there to take me home, her touch would comfort the ache that was consuming my entire body.

Her warm hand took my cold and bloodied one and that warmth spread all throughout my existence. I closed my eyes, feeling every ache, wound, and drop of exhaustion leaving my mind and body. She was healing me. Overwhelmed by no longer fighting for my life, sleep took me away. I was falling in and out with a swaying motion. I was leaning against something hard and solid and whoever it was smelled like fresh-cut grass with a mix of masculinity. Something about the stone wall packing me made me feel safe and with that thought, I was once again taken by sleep.