

TLOA Lycan 1061

Chapter 1061: Important thing that the guardian angels should discuss

Kace was worn out because of the side effects of the battle with the humans, so it was almost impossible to wake him up at this moment.

Thus, Hope thought of seeing Calleb later when the sun hit the horizon.

However, as she almost slip into a deep slumber, the howling pain, slowly but eventually stopped. As if the beast had finally calmed down...

Or, maybe it was only Hope's illusion?

The same thing was noticed by Lilac, she was also awoken by the sound of the sorrowful howling that rang through the silent night.

She forced herself to stay awake as she wanted to check what actually was going on, though she knew where that sound was coming from.

Calleb's beast was still mourning over the loss of his mate and since nothing could be done to bring Rossie back, they didn't know until when this would continue.

Lilac put away the blanket from her body and got off the bed, but as soon as her feet touched the ground, she felt a wave of dizziness hit her and had to hold onto the edge of the bed to steady herself.

When Lilac felt that she was fine enough to walk, she headed for the door. Despite her utterly exhausted current self, she still wanted to make sure that Calleb was fine.

However, once she was outside, she was greeted with the sight of Jedrek, who was leaning his back against the wooden wall of the tent, sleeping soundly.

Almost instantly, Lilac stopped walking and stood there in complete silence. She didn't expect Jedrek would follow her and choose to stay near her, instead of in his own tent.

Lilac crouched down and stared at the king, who was in deep sleep. He must be very exhausted after the long battle, but he chose to crash down for a rest here.

If this was any other day, Lilac would be touched by his action. No. She was indeed touched by whatever he did for her, but there was this feeling that still couldn't let her feel it freely.

Something was disturbing the guardian angel which forced her to guard her heart and didn't let what Jedrek did now bother her again, though it was a hard thing to do.

But, Lilac didn't feel like she was ready to deal with it.

However, she couldn't help but stretch out her hand to touch Jedrek's hair and traced his jaw line with the tip of her fingers.

"What should I do with you?" she whispered and got no answer in return.

Lilac then got up and returned to her tent only to come back with a blanket in her arms, which she tucked around Jedrek to keep him warm.

Despite everything that was happening, she didn't wish for Jedrek to suffer even more than this. And this feeling was very tiring.

This love that Lilac had for Jedrek was exhausting...

Meanwhile, in a far away place of this fortress, finally the roars of the howling beast, lessened and the silence returned gradually.

The moment the sun hit the horizon, its warmth woke Jedrek up and he found the blanket that Lilac put around him. The blanket was very soft to his touch, just like Lilac's heart.

However, he crushed it with his own hands, but even so, the guardian angel still cared for him...

Jedrek stood up and entered the tent, yet he found no one inside. Lilac was gone.

And the room was empty, just like his heart. He didn't know what got into him, but he felt like crying to notice such emptiness.

The king clutched to the soft blanket in his arms and fell to his knees, knowing how much pain he had caused for his mate.

The beast inside him howled painfully, as it missed his other soul so badly.

If the mate bond was snapped, then the feeling would be as severe as losing one's mate and Jedrek felt like he was now going in that very direction with the recent developments between him and Lilac.

=====

They needed four days to rearrange everything and make sure that each and every single shifter, magician and the other supernatural creatures were in shape for what was coming to get them, since the battle had not ended yet.

Given how precious the time is, laxing for even a single moment would be considered one step closer to their failure. After all, there were still three devils out there that were out to wreck some havoc.

And for now, the only information that they got from their scout was; there was strange movement in the south east.

The humans were behaving rather weirdly. Just like crazed people. They became more aggressive and unleashed riots everywhere.

An army of forces were dispatched, but not to calm the situation, they headed toward their place along with the crazed humans.

This time, they were more prepared and ready to wipe them out. Destroy this place for good.

That would have happened if it was not for the magicians, who had dispelled more than a dozen of jet fighters, carrying some massive destructive ammo, before they could reach this place and nullified their attempts of turning them into nothing but dust.

However, that couldn't last for long either, because they almost reached their wits end. They should also conjure up a huge move to end all of this once and for all.

Because the shifters couldn't afford to fight yet another long battle that even included killing humans, and they were at least thrice in number compared to the last time the Donovan brothers had wiped out. action

And as for the guardian angels...

Because Hope had to restrain three devils for days now, she always looked exhausted and out of energy, until the third day, she couldn't even get out of the tent and could only stay in bed.

This worried Kace greatly and he didn't want to budge from his spot, if it was not for the talk with Torak and Jedrek which convinced him that Lilac and Raine needed to talk to her alone.

Torak didn't know what Raine wanted to tell Hope that she even had to keep it a secret from them, but he trusted her nonetheless.

There must be something very important that only the guardian angels could understand.

Chapter 1062: You will never lose me

Meanwhile, Jedrek didn't know how to talk to Lilac...

Since that morning he found that Lilac had put a blanket over him, they had not talked even once and Jedrek kept looking for a sign that indicated Lilac wanted to talk to him, but he couldn't find anything in the likes of it.

The guardian angel completely acted as if he didn't even exist when they were alone. But, she would be kind enough to barely acknowledge him when there were other people around them.

"We need to end this soon..." Hope said when there were only the three of them inside the tent. Her eyebrows scrunched together when she felt the devils in her realms struggled to get free again.

If this continued for long, then she wouldn't be able to restrain them when she lost all her energy and all of their efforts would go in vain.

"We need to close the craters," Lilac said, as she sat down on the edge of Hope's bed. She held her cold hands and knew that Hope was trying really hard to keep the devil's restrained right now.

"How will you do it?" Raine asked, she sat down on the wooden chair that Lilac had created for her, next to the bed.

"I know how to do it, I just need to go to the right place," Lilac said and then her voice turned into a whisper. "I think I have to take a long journey alone with Jedrek."

Lilac had seen how she could end this. She knew what she had to do.

"I will try to draw the devils toward you..." Raine said to Hope.

"And we can end this..." Hope ended Raine's sentence.

For a moment, they fell into silence, as they plunged deep in their own thoughts, until Hope spoke what the things that they didn't want to speak.

A solid fact that they needed to confront eventually.

Not only would it change their lives, but also their mates'.

"Will we survive this?" Hope asked.

They were aware of the prophecy about the guardian angels, and that their deaths were necessary in order to win the war.

But, would they be able to come back to their own mates?

Would the moon goddess be generous enough to give them another chance to be with their soulmates?

Raine and Hope would love the idea of a second chance to be able to come back to Torak and Kace, but Lilac...

Would she take the chance to be with Jedrek if such choices were given to her?

She didn't know the answer to it.

But, that was not the main point for now, all Lilac had to do now was to finish the task that was given to them as the guardian angels.

Only after they succeeded, could Lilac think about that significant matter...

They needed two more days for the plan to take the motion, because the Donovans were still recuperating from the after effects of the previous battle.

The three guardian angels had briefed this plan to their mates and after some discussion, they agreed to go along with this.

Raine and Hope along with Torak and Kace would stay in this place, while Lilac and Jedrek would go to the place, where they knew that the devils would be possibly hiding.

Raine had been there before, the place that was called as the devils' den, Lucifer's place.

Aeon had taken Raine, Serefina and the other lycanthropes to save Torak at that time, it was just that the place couldn't be entered by everyone, they would need someone who was marked by the devils themselves.

That place was surrounded by dark magic. However, Lilac could handle that. So, it was set now.

Hope's task would be to cage the devils in her realm and Raine, along with the other survivors, would deal with the humans or whoever would come to destroy them until Lilac and Hope could complete their tasks.

This is it.

It was either they could win it or they would die trying to fight back the devils' influence. There was no way back now.

Torak kissed Raine's forehead and the tip of her nose. "If this will be the last day of my life, I will not ask for more except to spend every second with you..." Torak whispered in to Raine's ear and kissed her neck tenderly.

"Spend the time with me in the battlefield, you mean?" Raine giggled when she felt the ticklish feeling when Torak peppered her with kisses.

"Wherever it would be, I just want to be with you," Torak said. His voice was very deep and solemn. He was voicing out whatever deep feelings he had for Raine and her only.

Raine then stretched out her arms and hugged her mate's neck, as she looked deep into those blue eyes. The colour that she loved the most ever since he walked into her life two years ago.

The time really flew very fast and here she was already; standing at the end of the world with the love of her life, leading hundreds of supernatural creatures to the battle, creatures that she used to fear many years before.

But everything changed just in the span of two years time.

However, she felt no regrets whatsoever. Raine cherished each and every moment that she had been through and was ready to embrace what they would face after this. action

"Will you still feel the same even without the mate bond between us?" Raine asked him. The same question that she really wanted to know an answer to, but also the same question that Torak couldn't give her a satisfying one.

Because Torak would say 'yes' without any hesitation, as the mate bond was still present.

=====

Hope stretched out her hand to smooth the wrinkle on Kace's forehead. She didn't like how worried Kace was looking now. Nope, not in the slightest!

"Everything will be all right..." Hope smiled softly, as she spoke with such difficulty because she knew her time has almost come.

"How could you say that?" Kace asked, he took Hope's hand tenderly and brought it to his lips. "I don't want to lose you."

"I am here. You will never lose me..." Hope placed her hand on Kace's chest, right above his heart.

Chapter 1063: I will count to ten

The guardian angel was lying on the bed, while the lycan was crouching down beside her, looking all down and in foul mood. He didn't even care about the preparations that those people were fussing over, just outside of this tent.

Because his whole life was here and he just wanted to be with the best part of his life right now, with Hope.

With Torak and Raine handling all the people and taking the lead for all of them, Kace could spend more time with Hope, as the guardian angel looked very weak now.

Kace didn't even know how Hope would fight the devils in her current condition, but all he wanted now was to keep her as safe as he could.

He didn't want any harm to come her way at this moment, or at least the harm that could hurt her psychologically.

"I am afraid Hope... what if I lost you, after all of this was over?" Kace lowered his head, and buried his face in Hope's palm, hiding his tears.

"I will come back to you and I promise that..." Hope ran her fingers in his hair and then caressed the side of his face. "I will do everything to come back to you. So, wait for me, okay?"

Kace didn't answer back, he just nodded lightly.

He remembered how he felt the first time he met Hope as a baby. She was very fragile and weak, but he loved her right away.

Maybe it was the mate bond.

However, seeing her growing up into a beautiful girl and experiencing all the things that he had been through with her was an amazing feeling that he didn't ever want to end.

Kace didn't want lose his mate...

He didn't want to lose Hope...

Not even for a minute.

=====

Jedrek was standing in front of Lilac's tent.

He had been standing there for almost half an hour now, but Lilac hadn't yet came out from inside.

But, she couldn't be blamed, according to her words forty five minutes ago, she said that would be ready in an hour. It meant, Jedrek had to wait for another fifteen minutes before he could see her.

Jedrek didn't need to be very impatient, because they would spend the whole journey only with the two of them, alone.

This, somehow, made him feel nervous. He didn't know how to act in front of his own mate.

And even until now, they had not got a chance to have a proper conversation, no one was willing to start one. And when it sounded more easier to think it was the easiest way to deal with their complicated situation, but it was definitely not what they wanted.

It made them awkward and feel uncomfortable whenever they were alone. And this journey could be more uncomfortable if they left things this way.

Jedrek was hesitant when he took a step closer to the door of the tent. He wanted to talk to Lilac, but at the same time, he didn't know how to start it or what he wanted to say to her.

That hesitation kept toying around his mind for another twenty minutes until Lilac came out of her tent, looking as beautiful as always.

Her big eyes widened in surprise when she found Jedrek right outside, waiting for her.

"Sorry to keep you waiting," Lilac murmured and walked past Jedrek.

'I am sorry for hurting you'

Jedrek replied in his mind, but in reality, he didn't say anything as he followed Lilac and kept his eyes on her figure, staring at her back. Half wishing the guardian angel would look back, just to check whether he was following or not.

But, Lilac had not done that. She kept walking forward. Not even once she looked back.

And for some odd reason, this hurt Jedrek. He felt like he was Lilac's past that the guardian angel didn't want to dwell on.

=====

"Can I come in?" Raine stood in front of a small tent, which was occupied by Calleb.

After that scary night when Raine successfully brought Calleb back and calmed his beast down, it didn't make the Beta feel any better.

He was still succumbing himself into the deep hole of sorrow and rejected to see anyone, except Raine. Even Torak couldn't make him step out of his tent.

Calleb took sanctuary in this small space, he needed some alone time, but no one knew how long it would take for him to be his care free self again.

Meanwhile, Raine still stood outside of the tent for another few minutes because she couldn't hear any response from inside.

"Hey, I will count to ten, if you still refuse to answer me, I will go inside," Raine said, pouting her lips because she felt being ignored by him. "Ten, coming in."

Missing the count of one to nine, Raine went straight to ten and entered the tent.

But, once she was inside and her eyes fell on Calleb's figure, she shrieked and turned her body around while shutting her eyes tightly.

"Calleb!" Raine exclaimed loudly. "If you are changing, say it so, at least I wouldn't have to contaminate my eyes by seeing your naked body!"

Calleb was not really naked, he just wore his boxers and was about to put on a shirt and a pair of pants when Raine entered the tent.

"I thought you will count to ten," Calleb replied offhandedly. He didn't look uncomfortable to make Raine uncomfortable. "Where did you learn to count like that?"

Raine huffed, she crossed her arms in front of her chest and opened her eyes, only to stare at the innocent wooden wall before her eyes deadily.

"I thought you were sleeping." No one would sleep at this hour and Raine knew that Calleb wouldn't either. "Are you done?"

Calleb scoffed. "This is not the first time you have seen a man naked, don't be shy."

Upon hearing that, Raine turned around and glared at Calleb, who fortunately had put on his pants and was about to wear his shirt.

Chapter 1064: What are we looking for?

"I don't want to see any other man naked aside from my mate," she said viciously, but then her face fell when she realized what she just had said. "Oh, Calleb... I didn't mean to..."

Raine grimaced. She knew the word 'mate' was a sensitive issue for Calleb now and she just messed his cool again. Calleb knew this too, but it seemed this was not the right time to bring that topic up again.

Calleb gave Raine a reassuring smile and opened his arms. "Come here."

Raine didn't even need to ponder for a second before she ran toward him and snuggled into his embrace. "I am sorry."

"Don't be..." Calleb hugged the guardian angel and felt safe. "I should thank you for reaching out to me."

If it was not for Raine, Calleb would have gone feral by now and there was no going back again.

"I will be fine..." Calleb said and he felt Raine nodding against his chest.

However, their moment together was disturbed when Torak entered the tent all of a sudden, without announcing his presence or counting to ten.

The Alpha's brows immediately knitted together upon seeing the sight that greeted him straight up as soon as he put a step inside.

"Hands off of her," Torak said grimly, he looked daggers at his Beta.

Calleb didn't need to be told twice, as he threw his arms up, in a surrender gesture. Meanwhile, Raine glanced at Torak and smiled cheekily at her jealous mate.

"Raine, come here." Torak shifted his focus onto his mate.

But, before Raine went to Torak, she tiptoed and kissed Calleb's cheek and this action made the Beta widen his eyes in horror.

"Raine, you just saved me from the dark, but your actions will only get me killed by your mate," Calleb grumbled exaggeratedly.

Yet, the guardian angel didn't heed that statement and immediately ran toward Torak, who kissed her deeply, as if he was claiming what belonged to him.

"Everything is ready?" Raine asked breathlessly after Torak finally pulled away from her.

"Yes," He said.

"Let's end this." Calleb remarked.

=====

Raine and Lilac visited Hope inside the tent and the three of them hugged each other before Lilac and Jedrek could be teleported to a different place by Belinda and Sybil.

But, when they just came outside, Lilac caught sight of Bree, who was staring at them from afar, too afraid to come closer. Or maybe she was just too timid.

"Bree, come here..." Lilac waved her hand to the little girl and she ran toward them.

The guardian angel then knelt in front of her and kissed her cheek softly, as Bree hugged her tightly.

"I am going to miss you..." The little girl said softly, but her words sounded like a farewell, it was like she knew that she would never see her again.

"I am going to miss you too," Lilac kissed her hair and released her.

Post that, Bree raised both of her arms toward Jedrek, who scooped her up and hugged her. "Please return safely, me and the other people will fight here."

Jedrek didn't know that he was this close to the little girl before, until she worried about him openly, but what she said warmed his heart.

"I will." Jedrek nodded. "You too, be safe little warrior."

Bree smiled widely. She liked how Jedrek addressed her.

And after a few more minutes of saying goodbyes to each other, Sybil and Belinda were ready to do their job.

"Stand closer," Belinda instructed the two of them, as they stood, at least, a meter away.

At first, Lilac didn't make any movement, she just mumbled 'just do it', but Jedrek closed the distance between them and pulled her closer, resting his arm on her hips.

Only then, did blue fire engulf their figures and swallowed Lilac's surprised expression from the people present, as the two of them disappeared into thin air, along with the blue fire.

The sun above them shone brightly in the clear sky, it looked like a perfect day that would be filled with smiles, but that was not the case as everyone under it knew what they would face soon.

Torak grabbed Raine's hand and looked at her.

No words were needed to be exchanged between them, but there was a tacit understanding, even louder than the actual words.

And not long after the disappearance of Jedrek and Lilac, one of the lycans came to them to report that they had seen the humans creeping closer this place.

Once again, the devils were using the humans to fight them as they knew it would be a great disadvantage for their kind to kill them off.

"Be ready," Raine said.

=====

Jedrek and Lilac appeared right in front of the house, no, it looked like a bar.

It was a building, painted in light brown color with high roof and a welcome sign on the front door, though it was still afternoon when they set off, the sky in this place was dark and they could see nothing else around them, except for this building.

"It seems like this is the building that Raine had mentioned," Lilac murmured to herself and walked forward, but Jedrek grabbed her hand and walked ahead, keeping her slightly behind him.

Lilac raised her head to see the king right after he made that gesture, but he didn't even look at her, as he led her inside.

This was a two- storey building with a dark aura surrounding it. Not to mention it was so quiet for a place like a bar and it went without saying that the more quiet a place was, the more dangerous it was.

Both of them climbed stairs to the roof and opened the door. During that time, though the dark magic was quite powerful, still Lilac managed to redeem it, making their journey inside easier.

Once the door was opened, the foul smell of alcohol assaulted their noses and Jedrek grunted, disgusted by the scent, since he had a strong sense of smell. action

"What are we looking for?" Jedrek broke the silence between them for the first time.

Chapter 1065: Nostalgic

"A book?" Jedrek knitted his brows tightly, he couldn't understand why they have to come this far just to get a book.

And moreover, what this book got to do with their goal to take care of the rest of the three devils.

For the other two guardian angels, Hope and Raine, they must have discussed the details of their plan with their mates, but it was not the case for Jedrek, because one could say that he barely spoke with Lilac about anything, not even the sudden change in the weather could make them converse with each other.

Therefore, it could be understood if jedrek was a little bit lost and was not well informed about what was happening or what they have to do later.

"Yes," Lilac replied curtly, seemingly, she wanted to keep their interaction as minimum as possible, since they both were in an awkward situation, or... relationship.

'Let's end this and don't meet with each other again', more or less, that was the message that was written all over Lilac's face and Jedrek could see it clearly as well.

Just focus on the mission. That was it.

"Can you tell me why you need this book?" Jedrek tried his best to make their journey inside this smelly building a little bit more comfortable, yet it seemed like his attempt couldn't make any difference.

Instead of answering Jedrek's question, Lilac stretched out her hand and grabbed Jedrek's wrist to pull him closer to her.

"Follow my steps, or you will turn into dust," Lilac murmured. This place was filled with dark magic and the guardian angel couldn't cover the whole place for them to roam around carelessly.

It could be said that Lilac was following the steps that Aeon had followed before when he entered this place with Raine and the others in order to save Torak.

About how she could do it... it was a privilege of being the guardian angel and after they discovered their true powers, one could say, there were a lot of things that they could do.

One of those was what Lilac doing now.

Both of them gritted their teeth when they felt the spark that erupted on the surface of their skins when Lilac touched her mate.

It was incredible and... irritating.

They shouldn't be in this state and yearning for each other, because it would only make the situation hard for both of them.

D*mn this mate bond!

Lilac really wanted to curse out loud at Selene, for making things difficult for her. If she was sent to Jedrek as his mate with the intentions to teach him a lesson, the moon goddess should place her in a upper position.

Yet, why did Lilac feel like she was the one being punished?

The things that should happen were; Jedrek would be in so much pain after Lilac disappeared because her duty was over. The mate bond that snapped between them would make him go insane because he was in great pain, right?

But, why did Selene make things difficult for her as well?

Lilac couldn't understand what the moon goddess' intentions were. If what Jedrek felt for her was because of the mate bond between them, then what Lilac felt for him was because of her pure feelings...

And that was unfair...

"So, why do we need to find this book?" Jedrek tried to engage Lilac in a conversation again. Hoping they could have a normal conversation, since they didn't have time to go into a deeper one.

"We need the book to summon the devils and Hope will take care of the rest." Lilac briefly explained their plan, which she had not got a chance to discuss with Jedrek yet.

She felt a little guilty to leave Jedrek in dark about what he should in this situation, but the king had never tried to ask about it either, he just followed her.

"Okay," Jedrek murmured. His voice was right behind Lilac and his warm breath caressed her nape since Lilac tied her long hair into a bun. It made her shiver involuntarily and curse under her breath again. "So, I assume you know where this book is."

Lilac didn't answer him but from the way she walked in a certain direction, Jedrek already got his answer.

Both of them walked in silence in this empty building.

Where were the devils? Did they create another den and huddled there to brew some evil plan? Because now there were around thousands of human out of their minds that headed toward their fortress and was about to wipe them off from this realm.

Lilac walked toward a bookshelf and picked a book from it. At first, Jedrek thought it was the book that Lilac had mentioned earlier, but his assumption was proven wrong when the bookshelf in front of them moved, splitting into two, and revealed a secret passage behind it.

"A secret passageway," Jedrek raised his eyebrows, seemingly not very ecstatic to see this. "Nostalgic."

Sarcasm dripped in his last few words and both of them knew why it sounded that way when it came from Jedrek.

One could say that he had spent centuries after centuries dealing with a secret passageway in the first castle that buried dark memories about the soul of his crazy father that was still obsessed to bring their mother alive even though all their mother did was only lying on the bed, not even opening her eyes once for centuries. action

"Brought back old memories, huh?" Lilac couldn't help but throw a snarky remark at Jedrek. She didn't really have any interest to pity this man for what he had gone through.

Yet, that was a lie.

A part of Lilac's heart felt like it was being grabbed and squeezed tightly, reprimanding her for making that kind of comment.

However, Lilac felt the urge to snap at him.

At least, this was what she could do to protect herself and hide her true feelings.

"Kind of," Jedrek said in a gloomy tone. He stared at Lilac's back, crossing his arms in front of his chest and squinted his eyes, as he didn't say anything more when they walked along the path which looked like a corridor.

Chapter 1066: Nostalgic (2)

This place was so dark and humid, and was very long. It took them a few minutes to reach the end of it.

And with the tension in the air, it felt like it was longer than it should be...

Lilac walked in front of Jedrek without fear and it amazed him how the girl with such small frame held so much guts to walk alone on her own, not to forget that she could just turn around and ask Jedrek to walk in front of her, for she could very well hide behind him.

Alright, that was the most ridiculous thought that had ever crossed Jedrek's mind.

The guardian angel that destroyed half of his aula when he met her for the first time and fought seven of his generals in a single battle, would never do that.

A woman, who was brave enough to fight alongside with him during the war and strong enough to see her mate holding another woman and cried for her, would never do that...

Lilac was so strong... body and mind.

And it made the hollow in Jedrek's heart grow bigger with every little detail that he missed.

How deep was the cut that Jedrek had inflicted on her? Or, how far had his actions wounded her? Lilac had never showed it in front of him.

Hence, Jedrek didn't know how ruthlessly he crushed her feelings...

After some time, they walked down the stairs and came another door, but before Lilac could open it, Jedrek stretched out his hand and reached to it first. action

"Let me," he said.

At first, Lilac didn't budge, she just stood there and stared at Jedrek with a questioning look.

"At least, let me do this," Jedrek tried to ignore her sharp gaze, as he couldn't help but sigh. "If there is something dangerous behind this door, at least you will be alive to finish this mission."

What was that? Did they just go back to the way they interacted with each other when they met for the first time?

Because this was the way they used to talk, neglecting the concern in Jedrek's voice now.

Lilac shrugged her shoulders when she heard that. "Whatever you see behind the closed door or whoever you meet later, don't ever show your emotion or stray away from me."

Jedrek scrunched his brows and looked at his mate, who didn't even want to look back at him, as she kept? her eyes fixed on the door.

"What are you waiting for? Christmas?" Lilac grumbled because Jedrek didn't make any move even after a full minute.

Alright, angry was better... At least, Lilac showed some emotion toward him and with this thought, Jedrek felt very pathetic.

The king then pushed the door open and entered the room.

As soon as they went inside, their bodies shivered involuntarily as cold wind blew past their faces.

This room was so cold as if they just entered a refrigerator. Why was the temperature very low?

Over his shoulder, Jedrek could see Lilac hugging herself as the cold wind wouldn't stop gushing past them and out of instinct, he unbuttoned his jacket and gave it to Lilac, in order to keep her warm.

"You can keep it for yourself," Lilac murmured and was about to walk past Jedrek, but the king draped the jacket over her shoulders.

"Lycanthropes, fortunately, are hot blooded creatures, thus this is still bearable," Jedrek said lightly, buttoning up the jacket, so Lilac couldn't throw it away.

He smiled when he watched how Lilac scrunched her nose in displeasure, she was annoyed.

After that small fuss, they continued to walk further inside, but aside from the coldness of the temperature, this tunnel passageway was not as dark as the one that they walked along earlier.

There was still a glimmer of illumination along the way, though they couldn't find any light source inside.

Lilac now walked beside Jedrek, her eyes stared at the path before their eyes and not even once did she glance at the king beside her, who was stealing a glance or two at her every now and then.

Jedrek was in deep thoughts about what Lilac was thinking right now, since she had been blocking her mind, not allowing him to hear what was inside her head.

But, Jedrek didn't try to push her, because it would only aggravate the guardian angel further and that was the last thing Jedrek wanted now.

When Jedrek was lost in his own thoughts, he saw something or someone move on his left side and out of instinct he turned his head to take a look.

And everything became different all of a sudden.

Jedrek was no longer inside the cold room with Lilac, but now he was inside a warm room that was filled with rich light, very bright until Jedrek had to squint his eyes.

However, despite of the warm atmosphere, he could feel something bad was happening around here. People were crying, as if they were mourning for something or someone who had died.

Jedrek watched as a woman cried beside a white baby crib and another man was holding her shoulders, whispering something in to her ears, so he could calm her down, yet it took little to none affect on her.

Meanwhile, three other men, who appeared to be doctors, said their condolences and stood aside with grieving expressions etched on their faces.

Jedrek didn't know what was happening, but somehow, he felt his heart was in turmoil having to watch all of this.

His legs trembled and his whole body was shaking uncontrollably, just like someone, who was awaiting his final verdict.

Why was he feeling this way? And why was he here? What were those people doing?

However, in spite of the dozens of questions that were roaming around in his mind, Jedrek felt the urge to walk closer toward the baby crib.

He felt like the time slowed down when he was finally showed the figure inside it.

Jedrek's brows pinched tightly when he finally stood beside the crib and looked down at the small creature, as beautiful and pure as the morning dew.

The beautiful baby puckered her pink lips and her small fingers were curled. She was very beautiful. The most beautiful baby that Jedrek had ever seen.

Chapter 1067: I am sorry...

But, realization soon gripped his heart in a bone crushing agonizing pain.

Something told him to run away from that place right now, but a part of him, just wanted to stare at the baby for eternity.

Yet, when he reached his hand out to touch the baby's black soft hair, he realized that she was no longer breathing.

The baby was dead.

And the worst nightmare that struck him dumbfounded was the fact that the baby was none other than Lilac.

Jedrek could smell her faint scent.

Lilac, as a baby had died and all of this happened because of an order that he gave to Maximus.

His general managed to kill her and here Jedrek was; standing right in front of the biggest mistake that he had ever made in his life.

The very first mistake that managed to led him to do several other.

But, what is this? What was he seeing now? They shouldn't be here. He shouldn't be here. Lilac wouldn't die, she was alive, because the moon goddess saved her.

Jedrek was with Lilac to find the book, but why was he here, alone? Where was Lilac?

The king looked around him and found nothing, but the people who were grieving in deep sorrow upon losing the baby.

And the sadness that hit Jedrek was a hundred times worse than those of the people here. He had to grab the edge of the baby crib, so he wouldn't lose his footing.

This was not true.

No, it was true in some way, but this was something that had happened in the past and what they were here to search now has nothing to with this.

Jedrek shut his eyes tightly and scrunched his brows, as he tried to remember the last place that he was together with Lilac. This must have something to do with the dark magic and the warning that his mate gave him before they entered this place.

This was not a real event in his current time, this was only a fragment of memory from the past. If Jedrek could focus and free himself from this fatamorgana, then he would be fine.

But, the feeling of losing his mate was very real, because he could feel his heart being shredded into million pieces and this successfully kept him from thinking straight.

The beautiful baby was dead and he was the main reason why she wasn't breathing now.

His mate was dead. He killed her with his own hands by giving that ruthless order to Maximus.

What kind of monster was he to kill a baby? His other half? His soulmate?

Someone like him should be six feet under the ground for what he had done.

The regret and sorrow that crushed him grew even worse along with the soft sobbing sounds of the mother of the baby. Lilac's mother.

If Lilac was not killed then, she would have grown up in a loving family that loved her and got whatever she deserved as a young girl. A warm family, lovely parents, or maybe adorable siblings...

But, with a single order, Jedrek took those things away from Lilac.

How could he do that to his own mate? action

Jedrek shook his head vigorously. He had to get out of this place, before his own feelings driven him to his death, but how should he escape this? How to run away from one's past?

Jedrek's grip on the crib tightened. He growled deeply when the pain was almost unbearable and he didn't know what to do to lessen this pain.

The more he breathed the more painful it became, as the sound of the people crying around him almost drove him crazy.

The mother lost her baby and the lycan lost his mate...

No.

This was only an illusion. Jedrek should be awake soon to finish his mission with Lilac. Lilac was not dead because the moon goddess would save her and everything would be fine. She would be alive again and would come to him.

However, he also couldn't shake these feelings of his; regret and shame.

The burden on his shoulders and the agony in his heart were too hard to not notice and this made the king drop to his knees, as his ragged breathing became the only sound that echoed in his ears.

Was the illusion finally over?

Jedrek questioned himself, but he needed more time to gather his courage to open his eyes, because he didn't want to see the motionless baby again. To see how the baby closed shut her eyes for the eternity.

That was a terrifying sight to see...

When everything went silent once again and Jedrek was sure that the sounds of people crying finally couldn't be heard, he opened his eyes and stared intensely at the floor under him.

However, He immediately realized that he was still kneeling beside the crib.

But, for some reason, the people around him had disappeared, leaving him all alone. Or maybe, he was not really alone, because from the corner of his eyes, he could see someone walking slowly toward him... or the baby...

Jedrek could see his shoes and somehow, he knew whose those shoes belonged to.

And when he raised his head, his gut feeling was proven right, because Jedrek could see Maximus, standing right beside the crib, staring at the baby with a devilish smirk etched on his lips.

"DON'T TOUCH HER!" Jedrek roared in agitation and sprung to his feet to rush toward him. "I WILL KILL YOU IF YOU TOUCH HER!"

However, no matter how hard he was screaming or trying to stop Maximus, seemingly, nothing could stop the lycan from stretching out his hands to strangle the baby to her death.

Jedrek forced himself forward, but couldn't as if there was an invisible wall that prevented him from taking a single step closer toward Maximus. He couldn't even touch him.

"NO!!!"

Jedrek roared in panic and agitation upon seeing how Maximus was preparing to kill his mate.

It was totally different when you actually witness it with your own eyes than when you just gave a reckless order to kill your other half.

Chapter 1068: I am sorry... (2)

It was hellish when you realized that the most precious thing and the essence of your life was being taken away right in front of you.

"STOP! STOP! STOP!"

Jedrek felt like his lungs would burst in pain as he saw how his little mate, baby Lilac, was not aware of the dangers that came to get her, as she stretched out her tiny arms, asking to be carried by the person in front of her.

The baby was too young to understand that this person had come to take her precious life away.

Meanwhile, Maximus stood ramrod straight with an aloof temperament, watching as baby Lilac gave him a smile as pretty as a freshly bloomed flower. Her tiny fingers curled into small fists when she raised her hands.

The newborn looked very delicate and smelled so divine.

Yet, all the pureness that Maximus witnessed couldn't waver his sinister intentions, as the order that his king had given was the only thing in his mind and he fulfilled it gladly.

A vicious smile appeared at the corner of his lips.

Maybe because the person in front of her didn't want to carry her or because the baby had finally felt something dark from him that made her uncomfortable, but gradually baby Lilac pursed her lips as if she was going to cry, craving for her mother's warmth.

Jedrek felt his heart being torn apart when he watched how baby Lilac started to cry as her eyes welled up with unshed tears. Her smile had long disappeared and was replaced by fear.

No...

Jedrek felt his entire body shaking in anger and helplessness. He wanted to reach the baby, carry her away and hug her so badly.

He wanted to protect her, cradle her in his arms...

Wipe away her tears and kill the monster that scared her so much.

But, he was the monster...

He was the reason why she was crying now... It was his order that made Maximus come to this place.

Jedrek couldn't believe it.

Compared to what he had done to Lilac, the devils looked like saints now.

No shifter would purposely hurt their mate and even worse, kill them for their own selfish reasons.

What had he done...?

Look at his father, he did all the craziest and unreasonable things just to keep his mate safe, alive, though all of those things that he had sacrificed still couldn't bring their mother alive.

But, he still did it. Just to hold onto a tiny hope that one day his mate would smile back at him.

He sold his soul and almost put his children in danger.

Crazy, but in some way, was more reasonable than what Jedrek had done to Lilac.

Only now Jedrek could see how big and wrong the mistake that he did upon deciding a completely insane decision.

It was very easy for Maximus to strangle the baby's soft neck, stifle her last cry before her breath left her.

There was no challenge, no blood, no unnecessary fight and there was no joy in killing this easy.

Maximus gave the baby a derisive smile when he snickered after completing the task that was given to him.

Meanwhile, seeing that the baby could no longer breathe or make a noise, Jedrek felt his entire being turn numb, as if he had lost all the reason to continue living. He started to question his existence and forgot that the scene before his eyes was something that had already happened years ago.

Jedrek wanted to kill Maximus, but the lycan had already died in his own hands...

So, what was left for him?

The king dropped to his knees once again, with both of his hands supporting his body as he roared at the top of his lungs upon losing his mate.

Oh, he had never felt this kind of agony that could gnaw every inch of one's skin...

There was no sound that Jedrek could hear aside from the agony in his meaningless scream. A sound that tore his throat and would never be able to fix the thing that was long done.

Lilac would be resurrected, but the fact that Jedrek once killed her would never be erased from the journey of both of their souls.

How amazing was it? How they started their relationship...

Jedrek balled his fists and hit his head as hard as he could, until the satisfying sound of cracking bones could be heard.

One time.

Crack...

Two times.

Crack...

Five times.

Crack...

But, no matter how many times Jedrek hurt himself in order to lessen the pain in his heart, that would never be enough, because every time he would heal even before the wound could actually start to hurt...

Jedrek didn't want to be healed, he wanted to see his face painted in his own blood, so he could let everyone know that he was regretting his decision...

He was regretting that he had killed his own mate...

How could he make up for this mistake?

Was this how Lilac felt when she knew the person that supposed to love her was the main reason of her unhappiness?

Jedrek couldn't even imagine if Lilac killed him, then he had to face her again and was not allowed to do the same to her...

Not only that, Lilac even stood by his side, while he was hurting her ruthlessly when he chose to accompany Serefina.

Kissing another woman right before her eyes...

Saying he couldn't let Serefina go...

But Lilac didn't even make any fuss. Even if she wanted to wrench his heart in her grasp, her actions would be justified.

Jedrek gritted his teeth, as he felt wave after wave of pain washing over his body.

This was so wrong...

Jedrek didn't know how long he had closed his eyes, but the next thing that he heard was Lilac's voice.

The guardian angel was screaming in panic.

"STOP IT!"

Lilac's voice and her intoxicating scent told him that his mate was nearby. The first thought that crossed Jedrek's mind was; he finally escaped the nightmare of the dark magic that made him relive his shameful past.

However, this was far from over...

Chapter 1069: Shameful past

However, when his eyes caught sight of his mate not too far from him as Lilac was trying to talk sense into him, Jedrek knew it was far from over...

"You are going to kill her!" Lilac cried when Jedrek was strangling Violet's neck, hell bent on killing the witch.

Yet, that was not the worst part, because Jedrek remembered what he had done to his mate next...

The ruckus happened just like how Jedrek remembered, until he watched himself holding Lilac's hand forcefully as his grip became deadly.

Even from his position now, Jedrek could hear the sound of the cracking bones under his pressure and Lilac screaming in agony.

His mate's face became pale when she writhed in an almost unbearable pain when Jedrek broke her left arm.

The bastard king finally let the guardian angel go, but he did nothing to console his mate, who was suffering in pain because of him.

"Throw her in the dungeon," Jedrek said when a guard approached him.

Jedrek had never felt this bad like he wanted to kill someone... but, that someone was himself.

He caused Lilac so much pain and that was not the end to his madness. This was only the beginning...

Jedrek was on the verge of questioning himself, moreover the decisions that he made throughout his existence, when the scene before his eyes changed once again...

Now, he was inside a dungeon.

The foul smell of this place hit Jedrek's senses when he watched Lilac crying silently, as her tears flowed from her eyes nonstop...

The guardian angel cradled her left hand gingerly, biting her lips in order to endure the pain that she was feeling right now, but it didn't seem to work at all...

Lilac was no different from normal humans, such pain wouldn't go away easily like the case of those shifters. She didn't have their healing ability to reduce the pain.

And now there was nothing Jedrek could do aside from approaching her and fall to his knees beside his mate.

"Lilac... what... should I do?" Jedrek stammered, his trembling hand stretched out as he wanted to touch her, but he couldn't. That invisible wall prevented him from doing so... "I am sorry, forgive me..."

Lilac couldn't hear him, but another tear fell on her cheeks again when she shut her eyes and scrunched her brows.

"What should I do? I am sorry... I am sorry..." Jedrek had never felt so helpless like this, even when he watched Serefina die in his arms and he told her how much he loved her, that feeling couldn't be compared to this...

With Serefina, it was love. His first love, a tough love that he had to bid farewell... But, with Lilac, it was different...

His feelings were complicated, Jedrek felt all the feelings that he could imagine; sadness, love, self-abnegation, kindness, fear, hate, happiness, peace... all those feelings came to him during the short time he spent together with her.

"Lilac... I am sorry..." Jedrek dropped his head on to the ground, beside Lilac, as tears streamed down his eyes like a broken dam. "I am sorry... I am sorry... I am sorry..."

Jedrek couldn't bear to watch what other wrong things that he had done to her after this, making her life more miserable than this...

He killed her, broke her arm, trapped her in a realm from where she couldn't escape for a year and betrayed her...

He was the worst creature of all lycanthropes...

And what did Lilac give to him in return? Her endless faith, kindness, love and patience... Everything that Jedrek didn't deserve to ever experience...

Just how could he hurt his mate to this extent? How could he hurt such a beautiful soul like her?

Lilac gave Jedrek the happiness that he had long lost when she agreed to be his queen and many nights that they spent together...

She softened his heart and tamed his anger. She became the perfect queen and handled all the hurdles that came to her way, alone, as her mate was a piece of trash that wouldn't stand by her side to protect her like how a mate should...

Lilac fought alone and she still had that tender spot in her heart to give Jedrek the love that he needed, strengthening the mate bond between them. action

Yet, Jedrek ruined it by doing the thing that he wasn't most proud of...

He clearly saw the pain in Lilac's eyes as her heart was being torn apart at the very moment she chose to walk away to give Jedrek and Serefina time to be together during the latter's last breath.

Jedrek felt the darkness draw him in further and further...

It was like a black hole that was sucking his soul, leaving him with nothingness...

And the only sound that Jedrek could hear was his own voice that kept mumbling the word; forgive me... but, no one answered him back.

If only he could start all of this again...

But, what kind of expectations did he have?

'Jedrek...'

Someone from afar was calling his name, along with the spark on his right shoulder. His mate was touching him.

Jedrek couldn't be mistaken. No one else could give him these tingly feelings.

However, was he still inside the illusion of his shameful past? Or, had he finally escaped that? And was it really Lilac, who was touching him right now?

"Jedrek?"

Her voice was laced in worry and anxiety, the sound caressed Jedrek's ears like a morning breeze after a night of storm.

Jedrek didn't know that his body was trembling right now, but the moment his eyes fell on his mate's figure, and when their eyes met, Jedrek was shaken with the fact that his mate was still staring at him with tenderness... and love.

What had he done to deserve such a beautiful soul like her? When all he did was hurting her over and over again...

"Are you all right?" Lilac was now crouching down in front of Jedrek.

Chapter 1070: This will be over soon

"Are you all right?" Lilac asked while crouching down in front of Jedrek, she had been trying to wake Jedrek up from whatever illusion that he was trapped in since a few minutes ago.

Lilac didn't know what he was seeing, but the way he screamed the words 'forgive me' with so much repentance, made Lilac feel like crying...

Who was Jedrek asking forgiveness from?

Was he sorry for Serefina? For not being able to save the witch? That could be the case... since Lilac had witnessed how much he yearned for her...

"Jedrek..." Lilac was about to ask him again, whether he had regained his conscious or not, but the king grabbed her body and pulled her closer to him, and in a split second, she was being hugged fiercely.

"Jedrek, what happened? What did you see?"

Lilac was flabbergasted when she noticed that Jedrek was actually crying. He was crying on her shoulder while hugging her very tightly, almost crushing her with his beastly strength.

But, from his trembling body, Lilac could tell that he was feeling despaired beyond words... he was scared. But, what made him feel so scared like this?

Jedrek literally crushed Lilac's body by the way he held his mate, as if she was the last thread that could keep him sane and Lilac had never seen Jedrek being so scared to this extent...

Not even when he lost Serefina.

The king looked like he lost his control and forgot about his surroundings completely, and Lilac didn't know what to do to calm the turmoil inside his heart.

"I am sorry..." Jedrek grinded the words out of his lips, yet no matter how many times he asked for forgiveness, it couldn't reduce the regret in his heart and shake off the image of the dead baby or Lilac's expression when he broke her arm from his thoughts...

Her tears, the way her brows scrunched painfully and how she hugged herself on the cold ground of the dungeon cell...

How could he send her to a place like that? How could he make her life so miserable when all she gave him in return was love and faith? To a monster like him...

The memory lane didn't stop there...

Even though Jedrek was sure that he had returned to the current time and felt the spark that erupted between them when he touched Lilac, and knew that he had her in his arms, but the images from his shameful past, kept repeating behind his closed eyes.

When Lilac looked at him with sadness, the way she turned her back, or how she told him to reject her that she was ready to let him go, for choosing Serefina over herself.

However, what Jedrek did was refuse all of that and was very stubborn to have her with the thought that he would be able to go on with his destined mate while completely ignoring his past love with Serefina.

Yet, the reality told him otherwise...

The twist in the decision that he made was way too complicated...

He hurt everyone involved...

Could he be forgiven?

Was there anything or something that he could do to make up for his mistakes? His wrongdoings?

"Jedrek... what happened?" Lilac asked, she could feel her tears almost falling on her cheeks, upon seeing how Jedrek was breaking down now.

"I am sorry... I am sorry Lilac..." Jedrek buried his face against Lilac's stomach, as he knelt down in front of her and hugged her slender waist, while Lilac caressed his back gently, in order to soothe the pain away.

"What are you sorry for?" Lilac was confused... her brows pinched together tightly, she bit her lip, as she stared at the man who bent his knees before her...

The proud king seemed to no longer care about his pride, as he was too shameful to raise his head at the moment, as all the memories of what he had done to Lilac flashed before him.

"Everything..." Jedrek breathed out that single word, trembling as if he was in so much pain...

Meanwhile, Lilac still couldn't understand, why Jedrek was acting like this all of a sudden. What was he seeing earlier that made him this vulnerable?

Lilac didn't know how to respond to his apology either, thus she kept silent and listened to him.

They stayed in the same position for a few more minutes, because Jedrek didn't look like he could continue their journey for the meantime and Lilac could only keep holding him, so he wouldn't break down even further.

Her mate was in deep sorrow and despite not knowing what he had seen, still Lilac knew in her tender heart that seeing Jedrek like this was hurting her as well...

=====

"They are coming..." Raine said as she noticed the black smoke that marred the perfect blue sky above them spread rather quickly.

The humans and their armed vehicles rushed toward them, very eager to wipe them off of this world, as they saw the supernatural creatures existence as a danger to their own, without even considering that they had been living side by side for centuries.

Beside Raine, Torak shifted into his white beast, his red eyes glared at the fortress wall that Lilac had created to keep them safe, but because the guardian angel was no longer around, the fortress wouldn't stand for very long, it would collapse within a few minutes from now, giving how much the force that it had been receiving so far...

Raine shifted her attention toward the white beast and climbed on its body, and secured herself in a sitting position, while on her right side was the brown beast, Calleb's beast. He too was ready to fight off those humans, the creatures that had killed his mate.

Raine stretched out her hand and caressed the brown beast gently.

Calleb's beast tilted its big head and nudged Raine's hand, assuring that he was fine and she didn't need to worry.

[Let's end this...] Raine said through the mind link to Torak and Calleb.

Right after that, the walls of the fortress collapsed as they could see countless armed vehicles zooming forward and infiltrating their safe place.