

## TLOA Lycan 751

### Chapter 751 - THIS IS THE TIME

The sky was gloomy when Jedrek woke Lilac up, the guards had told him that Torak and Kace were spotted outside of the city with a few people with them, they must be theirs' mate and Torak's Beta and Gamma.

Since they were already nearby, it would only take them no more than two hours to arrive at the castle's gates.

"We need to go now," Jedrek said when Lilac finally opened her eyes sleepily. She rubbed her eyes, but then grimaced, forgot that both of her hands were injured.

Jedrek immediately grabbed her wrist and put down her hands before he helped her to sit down.

"This is annoying," Lilac looked at her hands sullenly.

"You asked it yourself," Jedrek reprimanded her lightly.

Lilac was about to retort his words, but remembered that it would involve Serefina into the conversation, thus she didn't say anything afterwards.

Lilac and Jedrek needed time to adjust with their odd situation and it seemed, it wouldn't take any time soon for the three of them to get used around each other.

"I will ask Keira to help you with the dress," Jedrek said. He tucked strands of Lilac's hair behind her ears.

"I can do it myself," Lilac murmured, yet Jedrek didn't take a 'no'.

"She will be here soon." Jedrek stood up and walked toward the door, leaving Lilac, who was staring at him with a scowl on her face because the king, once again, did what he wanted without her consent.

Lilac didn't use to have someone to help her dressed.

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Keira helped Lilac to get dressed after she took a shower. Initially, the she werewolf wanted to help her to take a bath, but Lilac refused that kind gesture.

Lilac was dressed in a golden color, which made her look stunning and her hair cascaded down her back.

"You look so beautiful," Keira praised Lilac when she put a belt on her slender waist. The dress hugged her body perfectly.

At first Keira didn't think it was right to have a guardian angel as her queen, especially when people said Lilac was the king destined mate and not the chosen one. There must be a mistake somewhere.

Just as any other people had their perspective about the guardian angel, she shared the same thought until she followed Lilac for a few days, regarding of the mating ceremony, but the more Keira spent her time with her, the more she could see that the rumor was a rumor. The hearsay was not completely true.

After all, the guardian angel had been extinct for centuries and only a few people who lived in the same era. And even fewer people, who fortunate enough to see them in flesh.

Yes, Lilac was soft and kind- hearted and she didn't appear so fierce or dominant, but in some occasion she would show Keira that she had a temper too. The guardian angel would smile when she rejected her idea, even though she and the other women suggested otherwise.

Keira was convinced that her judgment was right after seeing how Lilac fought Serefina, the pure blood witch, this morning.

"The king will fall head over heels the moment he saw you." Keira was always good with her words until she spotted a small frown on Lilac's expression and she remembered about the Serefina.

The pure blood witch was the king's ex lover and somehow she was welcomed to stay here. People started to gossip about the three of them and the stories about how the king had gone feral when Serefina left him, started to circulate again, from lips to lips.

"I..." Keira tried to find the right words to say to redeem her mistake, but Lilac just shrugged it off.

"Do you know where Jedrek is?" Lilac turned around when Keira had done with her belt and watched as her eyes turned foggy. She mind- linked someone to answer Lilac's question.

"The king is with Beta Lyrus in the north wing," Keira informed Lilac.

"Oh." Lilac was always curious to know how it felt to be able to do mind- link. It was very useful.

But then, Lilac remembered, she would be able to do so once Jedrek marked her, which fortunately, would happen less than two weeks from now.

"Can you tell him that I will wait for him at the entrance gates?" Lilac saw Keira nodded her head. "I will go there now."

In the same way she knew Serefina had entered the realm, Lilac knew that the other two guardian angels were near. She could feel it in her heart and for a moment, she felt better even though she would meet with Serefina again later.

Lilac took light steps toward the gates with smile on her lips.

This was the time...

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"Stop frowning." Hope elbowed Kace beside her and looked at him worriedly. "We have agreed with this."

"I was forced to agree to this!" Kace glared at Hope, but then his eyes softened. "I am sorry, I shouldn't snap at you."

Kace had been in foul mood ever since they arrived in this realm. He even had a moment where he got really grumpy when the beast inside him forced his way to the surface when they were in the city central and witnessed how that place had turned into a nightmare.

For some reason, Kace's instinct was to take Hope far away from this d\*mn place or the upcoming war, yet he knew that was not the right thing to do.

Because once the devils won the war, no place was safe enough for him and Hope.

"This place is beautiful," Hope squalled beside him, but Kace only hummed as a reply. He was not in the mood to enjoy the scenery. He had been here more than he could remember and this place was not his favorite.

The entrance gate to the castle was wide open and from a distance Kace could see the older brother he hadn't seen in a long time.

## **Chapter 752 - THE WORST REUNION**

Shock was written all over the faces of the guards that stood at the gates when they saw Torak and Kace.

They had been informed beforehand that the other two Donovans would come today with their guardian angel mate, but even though they had never seen the other younger Donovans because they left this realm long time ago, in a single glance they would know that Torak and Kace were the brothers of the king.

The three of them shared the same dominance aura as the children of the Donovan. Not only that, Jedrek and Torak shared the same cold expression while the younger one had a grumpy face when they walked past the gates.

When Hope was looking around the majestic gates in awe, Raine's eyes fixed on the girl, who was standing next to a man that resembled Torak, but he looked even scarier than her mate, as if his expression wouldn't change no matter what the situation that he would face.

The girl next to Jedrek must be the guardian angel, Raine had seen her in her vision. The flower girl. She looked even more beautiful and graceful when she met her in person.

And when Jedrek's eyes shifted to Raine, out of instinct, she shied away behind Torak's back, looking for protection from his mate.

Torak was aware with Raine's apprehension and mind- linked her. [It's all right, you don't need to be afraid. He will not do anything to harm you.]

Raine raised her head and met Torak's gaze. [He ordered to catch Kace and kill Hope.] She had a few reason to be afraid of him and she got the point.

[He will not do such a thing now.] Torak reassured Raine. [I will give him a good lesson if he did silly thing to you.]

Raine chuckled when she heard that, though it sounded very nice and like a casual word, but Torak meant everything that he said.

Meanwhile, Hope seemed to have no trouble at all when she faced her mate older brother. She knew that Jedrek had been a trouble for Kace for years. However, it was not wise to provoke him when he was about to team up to beat the devils.

Seeing the way Kace resented Jedrek, was enough for Hope to vent out her agitation too, moreover, the castle was very beautiful, the charm of this place distracted her completely. She felt like she entered a dream world.

"Jedrek," Torak called his name in formal tone and Jedrek only nodded his head.

On the other hand, Kace gave his brother deadly stare while keeping his mate beside him firmly, despite Hope's attempt to free herself, the girl was ecstatic to see the other guardian angel, who was smiling at her and Raine.

"You must be Hope and Raine!" she shouted cheerfully, but when she was about to approach her fellow guardian angel, Jedrek grabbed her wrist in time and pulled her back.

"I only want to know if we gather here with the same purpose," Jedrek paused and reciprocated Kace's glare. "Fully knowing why you are here?"

"Why? Do you want to make sure I don't do the same nasty things you had done to me all those years???" Kace glowered. He didn't appreciate the way Jedrek talked to him.

"I want to make sure we don't have internal problems when we fight the same enemies in the same war." Jedrek held Lilac beside him. He wouldn't let her close enough to Kace, just in case his little brother lost his temper.

The three brothers were not in good terms for so long, especially when Jedrek had an order to hunt Kace and his mate down, therefore, he didn't want his mate, who would suffer the consequences.

"Internal problems?!" Kace roared in anger and it caused a few guards came closer to them, ready to receive an order from their king if Kace went overboard. "Hunting me down was only a problem for you?!"

"Kace." Torak called his name sternly, as he grabbed Kace's shoulder. He pushed Raine back and Calleb held her protectively while Lana pulled Hope beside her.

"So? What do you want? Revenge?" Jedrek's grip on Lilac's wrist was very tight, he wouldn't let her near Kace.

"Tell your guards to stand down!" Torak roared when he sent a dagger look toward the guards around them. It was enough to make them hesitated to come closer, yet was not enough to make them stop.

Jedrek waved his hand and all the guards stayed in their position.

"I told you I don't want to come here!" Kace glared at Torak.

How could Jedrek spoke so lightly when Kace had to endure what he had done and thought it was nothing just because they had the same goal now?

It would be hypocritical if Kace said he would forget everything and submit to Jedrek. Maybe he was a king here, but Kace wouldn't let his own brother trample him like that.

"Can you three stop arguing!?" Serefina walked toward them.

The witch was not there when they entered the gates, because she still didn't want to meet with Jedrek or Lilac, but she heard a loud commotion, it was a signal for her to intercede, or else there would be another commotion that was out of anyone control.

???Can we talk inside?" Serefina glared at the three brothers. In the past, she had faced situations like this two or three times, therefore, seeing them baring their teeth was not a surprise for the witch. This was expected.

"Control your temper." Jedrek said sternly at Kace and turned around with Lilac closed to him. He ignored the way Serefina avoided to see him and Lilac, as the king took his mate and led the way to enter the castle.

"He is a jerk!" Kace growled.

"Yes, he is." Serefina agreed and this received questioning look from all of them. "What?"

"You like a jerk." Kace pointed out and Serefina just shrugged her shoulder.

"Why? Am I not allowed to like that jerk?"

### **Chapter 753 - THE WORST REUNION (2)**

"Why? I am not allowed to like that jerk?" Serefina asked casually, pretending that she was fine after witnessing how Jedrek cared for Lilac. "Come on, don't sulk there."

"I am not sulking! I am furious!" Kace grunted exasperatedly. He didn't feel like he could stay any longer than a day in this place, knowing that he would live under the same roof with a man like his older brother.

"Let's go." Torak let go of Jedrek and took Raine's hand. His mate's little face looked worried. "It's all right," he said in soft tone, the exact opposite with the way he talked to Kace and Jedrek before.

"Torak, are you sure we can stay here? Your brother doesn't seem to welcome us," Raine whispered softly at him. The hostility between Jedrek and Kace was very palpable.

In spite of the fact, Kace and Torak were not really in a good term, but they wouldn't tear the other person body apart, just because they were not on the same page, yet when it came to Jedrek, Kace seemed didn't want have anything to do with his older brother.

"He is the king, but this place belongs to me." The southern castle belonged to Torak and was a gift for him from their father on his named day while Kace was given the eastern castle and, of course as the firstborn, Jedrek got the main castle in the city center, which now had ruined into shambles.

Raine didn't really grasp the importance of that, her concern was on the hostility that Jedrek showed to them, but she nodded anyway. As long as Torak there, everything would be fine.

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"I don't think it was wise to say those things to your brothers," Lilac tried to talk to Jedrek when he helped her to change her bandages and put some ointment on her scalded skin.

"It was just a warning for him to not make silly decision." Jedrek focused his attention on Lilac's hands and became even gloomier when he watched how her skin turned red and blister.

"It was normal for him to act that way. You are aware that what you have done to him was wrong, right?" Lilac slightly grimaced when Jedrek wrapped her hands with bandages.

"I have my own reason to do that," Jedrek spoke curtly and helped Lilac to stand up.

"But, they didn't know your reason or what happened with your parents. They didn't know that your choices were limited. Either you let them know about all of that, or you become less stubborn and hostile with them." Lilac tried to advise the king.

Jedrek had been too hard to himself and too afraid to show his true emotions. He seemed to think that they only thing he could use to control other people and protected what important to him, was by fear.

Lilac couldn't blame him, Jedrek had gotten used with that method for as long as he could remember. However, Torak and Kace were his brothers, the two of them wouldn't bend their knees like the other people or followed his words without going through meticulous discussion.

The problem was; Jedrek was not used to discussion. He used to give an order.

"I don't want you to go near them." Jedrek ignored Lilac's words completely. All this time, he had taken all the problems into his hand and solved them with his own way. He barely took other people's advice because he didn't trust them, therefore, this was what he did now.

"Because you are afraid that your brothers will get revenge on you through me?" Lilac raised her eyebrows questioningly at him and smiled helplessly.

"They will never get the chance," Jedrek said firmly. He took Lilac wrist and led them out of his chamber.

It seemed the first task that the guardian angel had to do was to help their own mate to get along with each other. They wouldn't go anywhere with the way they treated each other right now.

Yet, Lilac ignored his foul mood. "So sweet," she cooed, teasingly. "But, don't you think that you always underestimate me? I have proven to you countless time that I can protect myself."

"Like this?" Jedrek raised Lilac's bandages hand.

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"Kace..." Hope started, but Kace had sent her a deadly glare that rendered her speechless.

"I don't want to hear that!" Kace growled, annoyed.

Hope was exasperated. She huffed and plopped down on her bed. Kace still remembered the way around this castle, thus he brought them here, which was his chamber, without any help.

Serefina suggested for them to take a rest before they started to talk with each other again. Their reunion earlier didn't end up well. Perhaps, after some rest, the three Donovan could act more decent and came up with a truce for the resentment they had for each other so far.

"So, what do you want? Go back to our realm?" Hope patted the space beside her, implored at Kace to sit next to her with her eyes.

The peevish Lycan paced back and forth, but then he sat down beside his mate.

"You have made a promise that you will help if your brother allowed the centaurs get their land again. And Serefina said, Jedrek had agreed to your term. You will not back out from your words, right?" Hope put her hand on the back of Kace's neck to his shoulders and massaged his tense muscles. "You will disappoint the centaurs, the hunter, the shifters and the people from the village."

Kace covered his face with both of his hands and rubbed it roughly until Hope took his hands in hers.

"I don't trust Jedrek," Kace said it frankly. "I don't want you to go near him."

Hope sighed. She could understand Kace's worry. Honestly, she didn't trust Jedrek too. "But, I still need to meet with Lilac."

Kace groaned, annoyed. He looked very restless than he had been these past few days.

"Come here," hope stretched her hand and hugged him. Somehow, it helped Kace to be more relax.

#### **Chapter 754 - THE DISCUSSION**

Raine looked around her. They were inside a room that was as big as the dining hall in Torak's pack house.

There were seven of them and they were sitting around a round table with Raine sat beside Hope and their mate sat next to them, while Jedrek sat on the right side of Torak, Lilac sat next to him with Serefina on her right side.

The tension was palpable and the atmosphere was so thick until one could cut it with knife.

From the gloomy aura that surrounded them, it seemed no one wanted to sit there for another second longer, yet there they were, trying to tolerating each other temper to discuss more important matter.

Raine glanced at Lilac, who was smiling sweetly at her and Hope during the meeting, but the three of them still didn't have a chance to get to know each other yet. It was a pity.

Moreover, Raine had spotted the bandages on Lilac's hands. She wondered what caused her to be injured so severely? It couldn't be Jedrek had hurt her, right?

Raine shifted her attention on Jedrek, but she immediately averted her gaze when the overbearing king caught her eyes. He was very scary.

Within two hours, they had been discussing about a few important things and exchanging all the information that they knew.

During that time, only Torak, Jedrek and Serefina would talk, while Kace would chime in every now and then.

On the other hand, the three guardian angels seemed bored with the ongoing discussion and were more interested in each other. They seem impatient to have time for themselves.

Just like the lycans, they also wanted to exchange information with one another.

"When your people will arrive?" Jedrek asked his brothers in his Alpha's tone, but it didn't have any effect to the people inside the room.

"They will be here next week at the latest." Torak answered Jedrek and glanced at Kace. "The centaurs and a few people will come with them as well."

"Some of the shifters will join us, but I think it will take time before Sterling can gather them all. I don't know exactly when they will arrive," Kace said. He was trying really hard to ignore Jedrek and suppressed his anger. He never imagined that would be a time when he sat down with his two brothers again.

Jedrek gave some thought about it. "The southern city will not be enough to accommodate them," he said thoughtfully and this made Serefin and the other brothers realize that would be a massive people.

"We can use the nearby town for them to reside," Torak spoke.

"I don't think one town is enough," Kace murmured.

"The other town will be too far from here and it will be better if the forces are not scattered in different places." Jedrek voiced out his thought.

"The centaurs want their land," Kace reminded him. The land of the centaur was a little bit too far from here, therefore, if Jedrek wanted to concentrate his force in one place, they should exclude the centaur.

Jedrek stared at Kace. His youngest brother had been avoiding to look at him since the beginning of the meeting.

"We need one of them to coordinate with us." Torak suggested. "We will need one of them as a representative of their kind, since it is impossible for us to face them one by one."

"One of my general will arrange that." Jedrek nodded, agreed.

"How many people we have in the first war?" Kace frowned, trying to remember. "One hundred thousand? Two?"

"Three hundred thousand our people," Torak said.

"And two hundred thousand of another shifters and supernatural creatures." Jedrek chimed in.

"We have dragon shifters, a few witches and fairies at that time." Kace remembered the dragon people and their betrayal.

"I think we have a problem with the witches." Jedrek squirmed his shoulder and informed them. "I killed Maximus."

"What!?" Kace was taken aback, even Torak was surprised.

As long as they could remember, Maximus had been a friend to Jedrek since they were little and that was one of the reasons why Jedrek saved him when he executed all the Gregory family because of treason, aside from the fact it was Maximus, who handed them over.



"Did you realize that he had a pretty strong influence in the east when you killed him?" Kace glared at Jedrek, this was the first time since he entered the chamber that he looked at Jedrek in the eyes.

"He is no longer useful to me," Jedrek said. He didn't explain it and when Lilac was about to tell them the truth behind it, Jedrek held her hand firmly and this gesture didn't except Serefina's lime- green eyes.

"Why? Because he didn't manage to kill me?" Kace narrowed his eyes dangerously, he could feel the anger rose, as he let out a low growl.

If Jedrek had done this earlier, Kace would have thanked him for doing so, but the problem was; their situation was quite complicated now and the witches in the east region were very useful if they had to face the devils in the battle.

"Don't flatter yourself. I will not kill him for that cheap reason." It was half a lie. Jedrek cared for his brothers, he just didn't want to show it.

Upon hearing that, Kace scoffed disdainfully. "You don't even spare me the pleasure to kill him myself."

"Why did you kill him?" As long as Torak could remember, Jedrek was not the one who would make a decision out of impulse. There must be a strong reason behind it.

"Maximus challenged him for the Alpha title," Serefina answered that, but when she looked at Jedrek, her face turned rigid and she spoke that led them into another conclusion. "Or, at least that was what I heard."

Though Serefina arrived in this place earlier, but she couldn't find the truth behind Jedrek's reckless decision by killing Maximus. He should know that his action would cost them.

## **Chapter 755 - THE DISCUSSION (2)**

Maximus was Jedrek's first Beta, but because of the treachery that his family had committed that caused them to be executed, Maximus was demoted to be the first general, but Jedrek trusted him and listened to him more than his own Beta, Lyrus.

"He challenged you for the Alpha title?" Kace asked for confirmation, he was surprised that Maximus would be so reckless to think that he could make Jedrek knelt before him when he was not able to beat Kace.

Yes, Kace was hurt because of him that made the younger Donovan had to travel to the northern coven realm to heal himself. However, he did give Maximus such a good fight that he almost died.

"Yes," Jedrek answered.

"After everything that he had done for you, finally he showed you his true color. You should execute him together with the rest of his family," Kace scoffed.

"How about the dragon people?" Jedrek asked different thing to Torak, because he didn't want to linger in that topic. "I heard the earth dragon is looking for their last female."

Torak didn't even surprise when Jedrek knew about the dragon people in his territory. "The devils kidnapped their last female."

"I don't trust them," Kace voiced out his opinion. "They betrayed us even without having their last female being kidnapped, so why now they will be on our side when their last hope to keep their existence is in the hand of the devil?"

Kace got the point. The dragon people barely could be trusted or reliable enough to be a part of their strategy.

"The vow will prevent them to do such a thing again." Serefina reminded them about the vow that the dragon people had made.

As the consequences of their treachery, all the dragons people were forbade to shift into their beast, except for two occasions.

"That is not enough." Torak shook his head.

"Not only earth dragon, but also water dragon, air dragon and fire dragon, which the three of them are in your territory. Have you ever visited them?" Kace asked Jedrek.

"No," Jedrek said. "They live at the end of my territory. As long as nothing significant happens, I don't need to meet them."

"I think this is the time for you to pay them a visit," Kace suggested.

The more they talked and put their thought about the important issue at hand, the more enmity between them was almost forgotten, as they placed their focus elsewhere.

This was a good start and the discussion was not as worse as they predicted. They just needed time to adjust with each other again, after all, they had won the first battle together and they would do it again together.

"How about the guardian angel?" Hope, who kept quiet just like Lilac and Raine, finally opened her mouth and voiced out her question. "You have the guardian angel to win the battle in the first war, so what exactly did you do to them to win the war?"

The discussion died down when they heard Hope's question.

Raine raised her head and looked at the three Donovan and Serefina with interest. She had been asking this question to Torak, but he always said that was not the right time for Raine to know about that, thus she had to wait.

"What?" Hope stared at everyone in the room intensely. She was always curious about everything, more so when Kace refused to answer the very same question.

"I think this is the time for them to know, don't you think so too?" Serefina leaned forward to see the Donovans' hard faces.

"No, they will know about this later." Jedrek didn't agree to Serefina.

However, it was Lilac, who answered Hope's question without asking permission. She agreed with Serefina. It was the time for Raine and Hope knew about this. Just like what she had expected, their mate didn't let them know the detail of the reason why the guardian angels were extinct.

"They sapped the guardian angel's power and drew their blood in order to win the battle," Lilac said and Hope widened her eyes in surprised, yet when she looked at Raine, her expression didn't change, as if she had known this. "You know about this?" Lilac asked her.

"Yes," Raine replied softly. "I went to the past when they destroyed the village of angel."

And now all the eyes were on Raine and this made her slightly uncomfortable. Torak could feel that and squeezed her hand to let her knew she was there and there was nothing to be afraid of.

"The shadow warrior used to use guardian angel's blood when they fought their enemies. They would coat their weapon with it." Raine finished it with dejected sound as she relived the memory of Aeon. She still blamed herself for not strong enough to protect the one who cared for her.

Torak looked at Lilac disapprovingly when she mentioned that, but she simply ignored him completely and put her focus on Raine.

"The shadow guard's way to use the guardian angel for their own benefit and how they forced to mate with them, was one thing that the moon goddess didn't approve." Jedrek replied to Raine, but she frowned at him.

"But, the shadow warrior protected them." Raine didn't agree with Jedrek. It was right that the shadow warrior took benefit from the guardian angel, but they gave their protection in return.

"That was not how it should be." Serefina chimed in. "The reason why Selene gave an order to the lycanthropes to take the guardian angel away from the shadow warrior."

"But, if you drew the guardian angel's blood like what the shadow warrior did, it wouldn't kill them, right?" Raine looked at Lilac for approval.

"I don't remember that we sapped the guardian angel's power. But, when they came into the battlefield, they looked barely alive," Torak narrowed his eyes at Jedrek suspiciously. "What happened?"

"Right," Kace seemed to have just remembered it too. "You didn't sap their power, did you?"

## **Chapter 756 - ROGUE**

They didn't put their attention into this detail before, because for them whether the guardian angels were alive or not, was not the problem at all since they had won the battle.

However now, it was different. They wouldn't put their mate into possible danger again, therefore, Torak and Kace needed to know what had happened to those guardian angels before Jedrek brought them to the battlefield.

Lilac looked at her mate next to her, but Jedrek didn't show any emotions on the surface of his cold facade.

Yet, she didn't think it was a right decision for her to speak about it, though she knew what Jedrek had done to her kind that brought them to the extinction.

She was also aware about why Jedrek was very reluctant to speak about it. Because it was related to their parents, thus if he talked about this, there would be a lot of more explanation that Jedrek had to do.

Hence, Lilac kept silence and let Jedrek to make his own decision.

"I didn't sap their power," Jedrek answered. It was half true, since it was Janus who did that.

"But, in the end, what you did, killed them both. The shadow warrior and the guardian angel." Hope pointed out the obvious. "Was that really the moon goddess's order?" she mumbled to herself. Didn't think it was possible for the goddess to give such an order.

Yet, Jedrek changed their topic again and talked about what they had to do with a lot of people that would come.

The discussion lasted for another hours before Jedrek called it a day and they went back to their own chamber.

There was a silence agreement that they wouldn't have dinner together. Hours of discussion was very tiring and they were not in the mood to see each other for another few hours to share another conversation just yet.

Torak stood up and followed by Kace, while Serefina had rushed out of the room once Jedrek said the meeting was enough for today.

"I think we need to know each other," Hope said when Kace pulled her toward the door. She looked at him expectantly.

Kace frowned. He didn't like the idea of leaving Hope with Lilac.

"I do think the same," Lilac said cheerfully and walked toward Hope and Raine, dodging Jedrek's hand that was about to pull her back swiftly. "If you think that I will hurt them, that is totally wrong."

"Oh, I don't think you will hurt my mate, but your mate will." Kace stood in front of Hope, blocked her behind his broad back. "What happened to your hands?" he nodded at Lilac's hands, which were wrapped with tight bandages. "He did it to you?"

"Oh, this..." Lilac raised both of her hands in front of Kace as she could feel Jedrek walked closer to her and stood right behind her, just in case Kace wanted to do something stupid. "I fought Serefina," she said truthfully.

"You fought Serefina?" Kace was surprised. He had never thought a guardian angel would be able to fight the witch. "What do you meant you fought her? By squabbling?"

The smile on Lilac's lips faded when she heard that. "You look down on me."

"No," Kace replied. He just didn't get it. "But, by what you fought her? She is called a witch for a reason."

"Doesn't Hope also have a power?" Lilac looked at Hope and felt Jedrek's hand wrapped her waist protectively.

"Yes. Seeing ghosts." Kace was rewarded by a slap from Hope because he said it as if he mocked her. "I don't see it is useful to fight Serefina," he said grumpily while rubbing his upper arm, which was being hit by Hope.

However, before their conversation went any further, someone knocked on the door and by the sound of it, whoever there, was having an urgency with the king.

Kace opened the door, annoyed, because he stood closer to it.

"Your majesty," a guard rushed inside the room and nodded toward Torak and Kace when he walked past them before he knelt in front of the king. "Rogues attack the nearby town."

"Rogue?" Kace frowned. The last time he was here, he never heard there was a rogue that attacked a town in this realm. Just how many of them until they were bold enough to do that?

"Call Eaton and Lyrus to take care of it," Jedrek said. He frowned. This guard shouldn't come to him directly for this kind of problem. One of his generals would take care of it.

"They are there, your grace, but they are outnumbered." The guard seemed anxious when he said it.

"Outnumbered? How many of them?" Jedrek furrowed his brows.

The guard shook his head. "A thousand, or two..." He raised his head to see his furious king. "The report came from mind-link thirty minutes ago, but when we tried to contact them again, we can't reach them, therefore Beta Lyrus and Lord Eaton went there, but they have not yet returned."

"Lilac, stay here I mean it!" He said sternly and glared at his mate. Jedrek didn't waste his time any longer as he rushed out while giving an order to the guard.

"Rogue?" Kace looked at Torak, confused.

Torak watched as his brother's back disappeared in the corner of the corridor and then turned to Raine. "Look for Calleb and Raphael, and stay with them."

"Where are you going? Will you go to the town?" Raine grabbed Torak's hand tightly. She knew the answer even before Torak said it.

"Find them and don't roam around alone. I will come back." Torak kissed her forehead and smacked Kace's shoulder. "Let's go."

"Why should I go?" Kace grumbled while rubbing his shoulder. It was hurt. However, the younger brother still followed his siblings to go to the town. "Stay with them, if I found you roam around this place alone, I would scold you until daybreak." He threatened Hope before he ran to catch up with Torak and Jedrek.

## **Chapter 757 - ROGUE (2)**

The light struck the sky and illuminated the gruesome scene for a few seconds, giving out the details of the bloody battle, which just ended a few minutes ago.

Blood dripped from the three Donovan's hands as their wounds started to close in and their scratches had disappeared.

They had never seen this many rogue at the same time and attacked a town.

Dead bodies piled up in one spot, some of them were still in their beast form and many had turned into their human skin.

"How it is possible there were a lot of rogues here?" Torak wiped his bloody hands on the shirt of the last rogue that he had killed.

Rogue, usually would attack individual, not populated place like this town. Moreover, as long as Torak could remember, there never was a massive amount of rogue like this. They could create their own pack in this number.

"This is the first time," Jedrek replied. He crouched down and pulled a dead body by its collar and looked at closely, it was a young werewolf in the early age. "Find out about this," Jedrek talked to Lyrus, who was standing next to him.

"Yes, your majesty." Lyrus walked away from Jedrek's side while giving an order to the other guards.

"They are not from this realm." Kace sniffed his bloody hands. "I think their scent is familiar... I have smelled it somewhere..." he contemplated for a while.

"What do you mean they are not from this realm?" Jedrek asked, as he shifted his attention toward Torak.

If those shifters were not from this realm, the other possibility was; they were coming from the other realm, which Torak ruled.

"There were a few cases of rogue, but they never reached this many." Torak narrowed his eyes at the sudden light from the lightning on the sky. It seemed rain would pour this area, the fire from the torches created a long shadow that outlined how many rogues and their people that had been killed during an hour of battle.

This was not a common event.

"They are not from Torak's territory as well." Kace was trying to remember where he had ever smelled this scent.

"Northern coven realm?" Someone chimed in and when Kace and Torak turned around they found their father's Beta, Eaton, while Jedrek was aware that he was here since a few moment ago. He had been listening to them.

"Eaton? How can you be here?" Kace frowned. Rumor said it that Beta Eaton suddenly disappeared when his mate died because of rogue attack not long after Jedrek ascended the throne and was crowned as the king for all the lycanthrope, replacing their father.

When they heard the guard mentioned someone named Eaton, Kace and Torak didn't think he was the same Eaton, the man that they had known during their younger age.

"Hai, Torak." Eaton flashed Torak a smile and messed up Kace's hair like he used to do many decades ago. "So, is it northern coven realm? I heard the witches and vampires there have joined force."

Kace was surprised to see this man, but then he focused in the matter at hand. "No, it was not northern coven realm. This place is not Torak's territory."

"There are only a few places that are not his territory." Eaton nodded at Torak. He missed to see the two boys that had grown up to be someone respectable just like their father, when Janus was still in his right mind.

"Rieka." Kace frowned. "I think I had smelled this scent from Rieka country."

"Rieka?" Jedrek also knitted his brows. "It was the area where the first war took place."

Torak also knew that place, not long ago, he took Raine there to see the stone that could tell you everything, where Raine was so frightened by what she saw at that time.

Rieka was not in Torak's territory, but it was not any other creatures' territory as well. Hence, that place could be said as a free land.

"What were you doing there?" Torak asked Kace. That place was far from where he found Kace or where he lived with his mate, Serefina and Lana.

"I was avoiding his people," Kace grunted at Jedrek with distaste in every word that he spoke. "Thanks to him, I have a chance to visit many places that you would never imagine."

Though the sarcasm in the way Kace spoke to him was very thick, but Jedrek responded to it coldly. "No need to thank me."

"Alright!" Eaton clapped his hands to cut off Kace's angry words and eased the unpleasant atmosphere between the two of them. "So, how you know they are the same people that you met in Rieka?"

"I experienced an event that left a deep impression there." Kace watched as the dead body in front of him was being lifted by Jedrek's guards. "I met two rogues eight years ago in Rieka. But, they looked strange for me."

"What do you meant?" Torak tried to mind- link Raphael or Calleb, but he couldn't reach them, while Raine had always blocked her mind ever since she knew how to do it.

"They didn't talk, they didn't respond anything when I asked them, and didn't seem aware about their surroundings." Kace remembered that clearly. "They only said; 'the darkness will spread this place', and repeat that words again and again."

"The devils," Torak concluded. He stared at the wall, where the castle was located behind it. "We need to go back to the castle. I can't mind link my Beta and Gamma from here."

"I think they put some magic here, so we can't mind- link the other shifter," Eaton said.

"I will ask Serefina to take care of it." Kace walked ahead, he didn't like to know that he also couldn't hear Hope's thought from here. "I will go back to the castle."

Eaton looked at Jedrek and watched how he scrunched his brows. "Go. I will take care of this."

## **Chapter 758 - A STRONG PRESAGE**

Raine was staring at the fire in the fireplace. It had been three hours since Torak had gone to the nearby town that was attacked by the rogue.

When Calleb heard the words of rogue, he scrunched his nose in despise and a deep frown appeared on his face, but thankfully, he didn't say any foul word in front of Hope and Lana.

Raine tightened the blanket around her body and rested her chin on her knees while listening to Lilac and Hope's conversation.

Both of them were talking about a lot of things and Raine would listen to them, occasionally she would chime in and added a few words here and there, yet her mind was still thinking about Torak. She couldn't mind- link him, so did Raphael and Calleb.

Serefina said it was because of the spell that a few witches had chanted around this area, therefore they were not able to use it.

And for now, Serefina was trying to fix the situation, for this reason she was not in this room.

"How about you Raine?" Hope suddenly asked Raine, who had been staring at the fireplace, brooding.

"Huh?" Raine was surprised by the sudden question. She cleared her throat when she caught Hope and Lilac's expectant gazes. "I am sorry, I didn't listen to the question. What did you ask earlier?"

"See? I told you, she was not listening." Hope looked at Lilac triumphantly. "She is worrying about her mate." That was true, any creature who had eyes would agree with her.

"You don't have to worry Raine, there will be nothing happen to them. Need more than rogues to knock the three of them down." Lilac chuckled lightly.

Both Lilac and Hope seemed didn't take this matter seriously. However, Raine couldn't feel at ease before she watched Torak with her own eyes that he was not hurt.

After all, Raine had felt what it was like to lose Torak, when she thought the devil had beheaded him, thus she was slightly restless now.

"What did you ask?" Raine tried to brush off Lilac and Hope's words, who were trying to appease her worry, because no matter what they said, she wouldn't be relieved until she saw Torak again.

"I asked you; how about we start training tomorrow?" Hope repeated her question. "Lilac is very advance with her power while you and I still can't grasp what our power means." She slightly pouted her lips, very dissatisfied with the progress she had.

"Sounds good." Raine also grimaced when she remembered how she would be thrown to strange places and different time without knowing how to control it.

Lilac had told Hope and Raine that she was raised by the moon goddess herself and was taught a few things for her to share with the other guardian angels. Hope was very excited, her big eyes widened in anticipation when she heard that and Raine smiled brightly, if Serefina couldn't find out why she still was not able to control her power, perhaps Lilac could help her with that.



Not too far from them, Raphael and Lana were having their conversation, and Calleb was sitting near a window petulantly, glaring at the cloudy night sky. The sky was very dark with c.u.mulous clouds producing thunder and lightning. It seemed the night would be very cold and rainy.

Seeing how boring Calleb because he didn't get a friend to talk to when he was the most chatter person that Raine had ever met, she excused herself from Hope and Lilac, she pointed her finger toward Calleb, gesturing that she would be with him for a while before she got up and walked over.

Lilac and Hope nodded, continued their chat when Raine had sat down next to Torak's Gamma.

"Lilac," Hope called her, she remembered one thing that kept bothering her. "I have dreamed several times about a river."

"A river?" Lilac asked. The two of them were sitting on a green warm rug while hugging a big pillow. "What kind of river? What did you do there?"

Lilac shrugged her shoulder. "I know it sounds absurd," she was hesitated to tell her. "But I kept dreaming about this since I met Raine," then she added. "If I am not mistaken."

The dream felt so real and if the first and second dreams made Hope think it was just a dream, the next few nights when she had the same dream over and over again, she thought otherwise.

"And what you did there?" Lilac leaned over so she wouldn't miss a single word from Hope.

"I am not sure, what I did there." Hope looked confused. "I was not really doing anything. I feel like my body was very small and I was flying on the surface of the river. The river was frozen."

"Frozen river?" Lilac seemed to recall something. "Apricity River."

"What is Apricity river?" This was the first time Lilac heard about this river.

And then, Lilac and Hope spent another hour to talk about the river and her dream. Lilac didn't really know what the meaning of Hope's dream, but the fact that Apricity river was frozen and Hope saw it in her dream, it must mean something.

Meanwhile, Raine nudged Calleb's cheek to get his attention, but the Gamma just glanced at her before he resumed staring out of the window.

"Why do you look so cranky?" Raine chuckled when Calleb ignored her. Despite his rejection, Raine still rested her head on his shoulder while looking at the dark sky. "It seems it will be rainy night..." she mumbled.

"There will be a storm," Calleb said. He didn't push Raine away, but he still didn't want to look at her direction too. "I have never been here, but I heard the storm in the southern region is awful."

Raine nuzzled on Calleb's neck and finally he gave up and wrapped his arm over her shoulder.

"Things are going to get really bad from here, don't they?" Somehow, Raine had a strong presage about their situation.

## **Chapter 759 - STRANGE NIGHT AT THE CASTLE**

Thunder and light split the darkness in the night sky, illuminated the old tower and along with that, rain started to pour down the earth, sending chill to their bones.

Caleb draped a blanket over Raine's shoulder to keep her warm, while the other two guardian angels had fallen asleep on the couch, huddled together with quilt around their bodies.

Here they were, since Torak had ordered for them to be together with each other. However, even so, in this kind of weather and situation, no one wanted to go back to their room.

Meanwhile, Raphael added more logs in the fireplace and arranged them until they burned just right and Lana was laying flat on the rug, reading some book.

Caleb couldn't be more happy for both of them, though the fact Lana was a rogue still bothered him, but her scent, eventually, merged with Raphael's and now he barely could smell it from her. This helped him too.

"Why don't you sleep?" Caleb touched Raine's head and handed her a cup of warm chocolate.

Raine was smiling when she received that and muttered a 'thank you'. "I will wait until Torak come back," she said.

"He will be fine, you don't need to worry too much about him." Caleb sat down beside Raine again and sipped the warm liquid from his cup.

"I know," she said softly. "I just want to wait for him." She held the cup with both of her hands and sighed in delight when the heat warmed up her freezing hands.

"You are very stubborn," Caleb grumbled. He didn't know there would be a day the girl, who was too afraid to look at other people right in their eyes, became very determined like this.

Raine grinned when she heard that.

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Serefina walked along the corridor with Theo and Warlock. She ran her fingers along the cold wall of the castle while chanting an ancient language.

She frowned as she concentrated to break the spell around the castle and confused, how could this area was surrounded by magic?

It didn't make any sense. This magic came from witches, unless they were nearby there was no way they could do this.

However, since Serefina arrived here, she didn't feel something strange. She only could sense the dark magic after the three Donovan went out of the castle because of the rogue attack, but before that there was nothing suspicious.

Unless, there was someone from inside the castle that helped those dark witches...

With that thought, Serefina glanced at Theo and Warlock, who were escorting her.

"Why don't you go with your king to the nearby town?" Serefina asked when they climbed the stairs to reach the second floor from the old tower.

"The king wanted us to stay in the castle because everyone went to the town," Theo replied to Serefina. He knew who Serefina was and her story with his king. Therefore, he had his own thought that the king was more suited to the witch than the guardian angel.

Serefina looked fiercer, reliable and the fact she was the last pure blood witch, was surprised the general. Theo thought, there was no more pure blood witch and the rumor about her was not completely correct.

"Have you seen something odd recently?" Serefina went to the balcony, where she could see the city from there and spotted red flames in the distance.

The fire must have come from a city that was attacked by rogue. The attacked must have been settled down by now and the three brothers would return soon.

"No, there is nothing strange around this castle." Warlock replied after a moment of contemplation.

"I don't think there is something strange," Theo chimed in. He stared at the distance too. "It was so quiet in the city when the nearby town was being attacked by the rogue."

Serefina didn't really listen to Theo and Warlock conversation, her mind was elsewhere.

"Can you mind- link someone in the town now?" she asked after she was sure everything was all right now.

Theo and Warlock's eyes became blurry for a few second when they tried to contact the other lycan warrior.

"Yes, everything is normal now," Theo said as his gaze started to focus on Serefina. "I think you've cast all the spells."

"The king returned." Warlock pointed his finger to the north gates and there, Jedrek entered the castle with his two other brothers, talking in deep conversation.

When the intensity of Serefina's gaze fell on him, out of instinct, the king looked up and met her eyes. They stared at each other for a few seconds that felt like a lifetime until Kace talked something that caught Jedrek's attention and he broke the spell between them.

Serefina immediately averted her eyes and stared at the city again.

"You should be the queen for the king," Theo suddenly said when he stood next to the witch. "I think that role suited you better than the guardian angel."

Serefina chuckled, but the humor didn't reach her eyes. "You don't have opinion in this matter," she said sharply and made Theo shut his mouth.

At that moment, Serefina gasped and turned around in alert. Her lime- green eyes studied the empty corridor intensely.

"What happened?" Theo, who was standing beside her, felt the witch's restlessness and walked over to the spot where Serefina had been staring at, yet he found nothing.

"What?" Warlock shifted his attention from the king and his brothers toward Serefina and Theo.

"Everything is all right?"

"I felt someone was staring at me," Serefina muttered in low voice. She walked toward the corridor, but no one there, yet she could still feel the feeling of being watched even now.

"But, no one here." Theo made his point by waving his hand. "Maybe just your imagination."

Serefina squinted her eyes and walked toward her right side.

"Where are you going?" Warlock followed her, but the witch stopped him.

"Stay here," Serefina said firmly.

### **Chapter 760 - DO YOU KNOW ME?**

"What happened with your back?" Torak asked Jedrek when they were in the corridor, following the scent of their mate, which apparently were in the same place, just exactly what he had asked them.

Meanwhile Kace was walking ahead of Torak and Jedrek, he was in rush to be with Hope.

"Nothing." Jedrek didn't even glance at Torak when he answered that.

"Nothing?" Torak repeated his answer, raising his brows questioningly. "There must be something if your wounds didn't heal properly."

There was a long gash on Jedrek's neck that couldn't be covered by the cloak that he was wearing. Probably, there was another wound on him that Torak couldn't see.

"It will heal soon." Jedrek brushed off Torak's question and quickened his pace.

Torak didn't believe it. He caught up with Jedrek and stared at the wound again, but his older brother adjusted the collar around his neck and concealed it.

This time, Torak simply just walked beside him and didn't ask another question. If Jedrek determined to not let him know, then there was no amount of question that could make him to do otherwise.

Moreover, Jedrek looked fine.

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Because Kace walked ahead of them to reach the chamber, therefore when Jedrek and Torak entered the room, he watched Kace was trying to carry his sleeping mate, cradling her in his arms gently.

Meanwhile, Raine dashed toward Torak behind him and hugged her mate tightly.

Her voice, as she was complaining, sounded adorable in Jedrek's ears, which made him think that Lilac would never do it, she was too mature to make a noise like that, and Torak didn't seem to mind when he listen to her.

"Why have not you slept yet?" Torak caressed her back and held her close to him.

"I am waiting for you, of course." Raine raised her head and looked at Torak sullenly. "I couldn't reach you through the mind-link, neither Raphael and Calleb."

"Yes, me too. But, everything is all right now." Torak reassured Raine and kissed her temple.

Meanwhile, Jedrek walked over to the couch, where his mate was sleeping soundly. She curled her body into a ball and hugged the quilt while her black hair scattered on the pillow beneath her head.

Somehow, Jedrek felt that he could stare at Lilac like this all night. However, he wouldn't do it here.

Putting his arms under Lilac's head and behind her knees, Jedrek lifted her up and brought his mate out of the room.

Lilac stirred awake when Jedrek walked in the corridor, there were only a few guards were stationed in every few hundred meters.

"You have returned?" Lilac asked sleepily. She rubbed her eyes and yawned.

"Yes, go back to sleep," Jedrek said softly and the girl in his arms didn't need to be told twice. She nuzzled the side of his neck, looking for comfortable position, and fell asleep again.

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Serefina walked in the empty corridor with Theo and Warlock???'s eyes were on her back, also another eyes that kept staring at her, which she didn't know whose those eyes belonged to.

"Serefina, are you sure, you will go alone there?" Warlock shouted from behind her back and just like Theo, if he could choose between the witch and the guardian angel, he would vote for Serefina to be his king's mate, yet there would be no such a thing.

"She will," Theo muttered. "The women around our king are very hot-headed."

"Couldn't agree more with you," Warlock said. "So, what we should do now?"

Theo looked at Serefina's back, her figure disappeared when she turned on the other corridor. "She seems to know this place quite well, so I guess she will be fine." He contemplated. "We will wait for half an hour, if she didn't come back, we will go and check on her."

Warlock nodded.

On the other hand, Serefina walked along another empty corridor and lined up windows on her right side, which showed her the inner yard of the castle, and across from it, was the king's tower, where Jedrek's chamber and his study room were located.

Serefina glanced at the tower, but it was too far for her eyes to catch anything from where she was standing, therefore, she continued walking until she reached the end of the corridor, which ended with a closed brown door.

She walked over and waved her hand when she was close enough. As soon as she did that, the door swung opened for her and let her went through without so much difficulty.

Inside, she found an old four post bed in the middle of the chamber and a chair at the foot of the bed, which was not empty.

Serefina narrowed her eyes at the figure. This person was sitting on the chair and was wearing black cloak with hoodie that covered half of his face, leaving only his thin lips to be seen.

"So, is it you?" Serefina stood in front of the black figure. She was on alert, readied herself for the worse outcome.

At first, the black figure didn't even move, neither he would talk when Serefina took a step closer with fireballs on both of her hands, which the flames illuminated the dark room, revealing every cobweb on the ceiling and under the table and bed.

From the look of it, it seemed this room had been abandoned for very long time.

"You don't want to talk? Should I force the answer from your mouth?" Serefina flicked her hand and blue fire circled the black figure, so close to lick his cloak and set him on fire.

"Do you even know me?" He finally spoke with his hoarse voice. His lips curved into a mocking smile. "You better run, before something bad happened to you," he suggested.

Upon hearing that, Serefina laughed derisively, but her laugh died down, when the shadow tendrils extinguished the flames she had created.

"Do you know me?" the black figure raised his head to reveal his face.