

TLOA Lycan 761

Chapter 761 - THE SHADOW WARRIOR

The shadows were like a living creature, fluttering behind the man and when he revealed his face, Serefina's lime green eyes hardened in surprise.

She had seen him once, but she would never forget this man! There was no way she would forget the face of the shadow warrior, who had killed her!

"You!" That one word sounded like curse. "You should be dead!"

The shadow warrior smirked in derision. "So you do," he said with venom on the tip of his tongue. If by glaring at Serefina, he could kill her, then the witch would be dead by now.

Serefina averted her eyes and scoured her surrounding, looking for another creature inside this room.

"You don't need to look for someone else, it is only me in this room," the shadow warrior spoke mockingly.

Serefina didn't believe him right away, she tried to find something, but just like what the shadow warrior said, there was no one inside the room except the two of them.

Only then she shifted her attention back to the man in front of her. "What is it? Someone brought you back?"

Actually, Serefina was not sure, whether this shadow warrior was died or not, but they said the battle between the shadow warrior and the Lycanthropes that day had wiped out their entire kind. Well, Aeon was an exception...

"Brought me back?" The shadow warrior looked at the witch in front of him with disdain. "I never died to begin with." And then he added while tilting his head curiously. "But, I am sure that I had killed you on that day."

No one knew that she was killed that day and had been revived by the moon goddess except Raine, because she was there when it happened, while Kace... Selene chose to erase his memory about the incident back then.

"So?" Serefina's eyes became sharp as she glared at him. "What do you want? Kill me again?" she scoffed. "Don't be too proud of yourself, you managed to get to me because you sneaked up on me."

The shadow warrior jeered and shook his head. "I am not in rush to kill you. There are a few people on my list and you are not even my top priority."

Serefina knew, whom he was talking about, yet she needed to make sure that she guessed it right. "What about the guardian angel, who you claim to be your mate? Is she still alive too?"

Upon hearing that, the shadow warrior let out a low warning growl and this reaction answered Serefina's unspoken question. He was indeed after the Donovan. Jedrek to be precise, as he was the one who had given an order to destroy his village and eradicated two kinds of creature, almost at the same time.

"Why? Is she dead? Didn't you protect her?" Serefina provoked him. "Oh, I am sorry, I think you failed to do that, right?"

Right at the same time Serefina said those words, the shadow tendrils moved very fast, slid on the floor and spurred in the air, aimed at the witch.

Serefina didn't move an inch, but when the shadow engulfed her, swallowed her like a thick dark blanket that covered her entire being, in the next second, from within there was light as bright as the sun and blue flames that consumed the darkness.

The blue fire flared up around Serefina's body and when he was free from the shadows, the flames also faded away.

Yet, no one there. She was alone inside this chamber, facing an empty chair at the foot of the bed.

However, the witch didn't have time to think where the shadow warrior had gone, when she heard a sharp, vicious snarl from the direction where she left Theo and Warlock.

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"What are you doing here?" Kyle approached Warlock and Theo, beside him, it was Rowan, who seemed so bored to be there.

"We accompanied the witch to come here to break the spells that surround this place," Theo answered them lazily, he leaned his tall body against the wall behind him and looked at toward the direction where Serefina had left. If within five minutes she was still not showing up, then he would come to check on her.

"What both of you doing here?" Warlock asked them in returned. "Shouldn't you be in the town to keep things safe there after the attack?"

"Eaton and Sebastian are there," Kyle replied.

"Eaton told us to go back to the castle, they can handle the mess over there just fine." Kyle told them. "Go back to your post, we will look after the witch here."

Warlock shook his head. "It's fine, we will leave after the witch come back," he said.

"I think we should check on her. She took a long time already." Theo was about to walk away when Kyle grabbed his shoulder.

"No need," he said sternly. "The king's brother needs you in the main castle. The two of you should go there," he added.

"We don't get an order like that." Warlock felt there was something amiss.

Theo and Kyle indeed had known each other for a long time, but their relationship was limited to fellow generals and now he was suspicious of the way Kyle forced him to leave.

"We will take care of the problem here," Rowan chimed in, he grabbed Warlock's shoulder, but he dodged it swiftly and inched closer toward Theo.

"What is it? Who told you to come here?" Warlock narrowed his eyes dangerously. He felt there was something off from the two of them. "This is not the Alpha's order, right?"

"Watch out!!!" Theo shrieked and pushed Warlock until his body hit the wall behind him.

Warlock, who was not aware about what was happening, widened his eyes at Theo questioningly when he was shoved aside, but he didn't get a chance to ask when he felt something sharp pierced through his chest and pressed his body against the wall.

Chapter 762 - DEATH AND BETRAYAL

Warlock even didn't have time to fight back when his body was being ripped apart by the shadow tendrils.

What was happening before Theo's eyes was very fast. He was stunned when Warlock's blood sprayed on his face and cloak.

And the next second, after ripping apart Warlock's body, the shadow tendrils aimed toward Theo. However, this time he gained his bearing just in time and dodged it.

Theo threw back his body and bumped onto Kyle behind him. "What is that?!" he was taken aback, he thought the enemy was only what he saw before his eyes, little did he know, the true enemy was behind his back and he gave it to them.

Theo's focus was on the dark tendrils in front of him and the dead body of his fellow general, therefore, it was too late for him to realize when Kyle strangled his neck and Rowan slashed his throat.

Kyle let go of Theo's body as he fell on the floor with blood spurted out from his opened throat. He opened his mouth, but it was only gurgling sound that they could hear.

As a lycan, his healing ability was not fast enough to make him recover from the deep wounds. He lost so much blood when his skin started to stitch together.

Theo tried to press his wound with his own hand, but it didn't help. He would die from losing so much blood in this rate.

"Are you sure, we need to do this?" Rowan wiped the blood from the silver dagger that he used to slit Theo's throat.

However, Kyle snatched it away and stabbed Theo's heart with it. "We don't have a choice, do we?" He tilted his head at the shadow beside Rowan, which had solidified into human form. "Dorian, you are so bold to come here in this kind of situation."

Rowan glanced at the men beside him and gave him a disdain look. "Thanks to you, now we have another problem in our hands."

"Didn't Terra tell you to not interfere this time?" Kyle was slightly upset because he had to kill his fellow generals. Knowing Jedrek, he would get the bottom of this and it would strict his movement.

"You should leave." Dorian kicked Theo's body which was still convulsing. "The witch will be here."

"It is so nice of you to worry about us, but we can handle it just fine. It should be you, who is not here from the beginning," Kyle criticized the shadow warrior.

Dorian glanced at Kyle and Rowan with disdain. "Don't worry about me you wretch dog, I will not overstay your welcome."

Kyle and Rowan growled viciously when they heard Dorian's contemptuous words.

At the same time the shadow warrior stepped back and let his body fall from the window and then merged into the darkness, from the other end of the corridor, Serefina appeared; panting, with concern on her pale face.

"What happened here?!" Serefina shouted to Kyle and Rowan before her lime- green eyes spotted Warlock's dead body and Theo. "What happened to them!?" panic and dread laced in her voice when she crouched down.

From the closer look, Serefina could see Warlock's body that had split into two from the chest. The witch gritted her teeth, as she stood up hastily, and averted her eyes from the gruesome scene in front of her.

"I will escort you from here, my lady." Rowan offered his hand to help Serefina, who seemed very shaken, yet the witch shook her head and dropped to her knees again.

Serefina inspected Theo's body, though it was only a small movement, she was able to see his chest rose and fell from his shallow breathing.

"He is still alive," Serefina muttered and pulled out the knife stuck in his chest. She covered the wound on his chest and neck as her palms glowed with yellow light. This magic helped the wounds to close in faster, but it was not quick enough. "We need to bring him to the healer!"

The witch's focus was completely on Theo, her mind was thinking about how to save this lycan, until she didn't realize with the strange exchanging stare from Kyle and Rowan.

Rowan sneaked behind Serefina's back, but Kyle gave him a deathly glare, telling him not to do whatever he was about to do.

"What are you two doing?!" Serefina whipped her head and glowered because neither Kyle nor Rowan did what she told them. "CALL THE HEALER NOW!"

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After Jedrek took Lilac to her room and tucked her warmly under the quilt, he went back to his room and stationed another two more guards in front of her chamber.

However, before he could enter his room, Jedrek felt something from the bond that he shared with the generals. The bond was snapped. This was the same feeling like when he killed Maximus.

There must be something that happened to them.

Narrowing his eyes, he tried to reach all of his generals, who were still in the castle. It didn't take him too long before he knew what was happening.

With dark eyes, Jedrek stormed toward the third tower.

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"We should kill her," Rowan murmured under his breath while glaring at Serefina, who was standing across the room. Between them, there was a healer, who was trying to save Theo's life, he was lying on the bed, which its duvet was soaked by his blood. "This will not end up good with us."

Kyle, with face that devoid from any emotion, trying to reason with Rowan. "We can't do that. Our job here is not finished yet."

Rowan scoffed, but he didn't say anything.

"The king is here," Kyle said. He felt the raging storm that came to their way.

And just like they had predicted, the king appeared in the next second, was furious and enraged. He dashed toward the healer, as his dark eyes caught a sight of Serefina there.

"What happened here?!" He asked the two generals across the room.

Chapter 763 - I WILL KILL THE LYCAN

Lilac suddenly awoke to feel movement around her body.

At first, she thought it was Jedrek, but then she realized it was not him, who was inside the room. When that understanding dawn to her, her mind turned sharp. With her eyes closed, Lilac was waiting in alert about what this thing would do.

Hence, the moment, she felt something grabbed her ankle, Lilac opened her eyes and rolled her body to the other side of the bed and then crouched down with both of her palms flatted against the floor, readied to defend herself or attack, if needed.

Right before her eyes, Lilac could see black smoke, slowly solidified itself and reshaped into a human form.

"Who are you?" Lilac looked around her and found she was all alone with the strange man with dark cloak that covered his entire being.

The man raised his head and revealed his face, but Lilac had never seen him before.

They were staring at each other for a few moment. No one said anything or tried to make a sudden movement. They were assessing each other.

The two of them stayed like that for another minute before Lilac ran out her patient.

"What are you doing here?" Lilac felt the movement from the trees outside of her balcony. It wouldn't be fast enough to catch this man, but at least, she was not defenseless. "Answer me."

"You are guardian angel." He stated.

That statement confused Lilac. She tilted her head, didn't know what kind of conversation that this man wanted. "Yes, I am. And?"

"You are not supposed to be with the Lycanthropes." Dorian said again. "Come with me and I will help you."

Lilac blinked her eyes. This was not the conversation that she expected. "Why should I? Wait... it think I know you..." she remembered something. The shadow around that man rang a bell in her head as she narrowed her eyes at Dorian. "You are shadow warrior."

"Yes, I am." Dorian nodded solemnly.

"There shouldn't be any shadow warriors in this realm anymore." Lilac didn't believe it, she was facing a shadow warrior. Shouldn't they already be dead?

The shadow warrior scoffed. "Those were the words that the witch had said."

"Serefina," Lilac mumbled.

"Whatever her name is," Dorian spoke with hatred and hostility.

"You met her. Where is she now?" If the shadow warrior was here, didn't that mean something happened to Serefina? Yet, Lilac didn't hear any commotion. Everything was very quiet. Knowing Serefina, she wouldn't let him go without a proper fight, right?

Dorian didn't answer her.

The silence from Dorian made Lilac assumed the worse. She stood up, crossed the bed and walked toward the door under the hard gaze of the shadow warrior.

One might think that Lilac would run out of the room to find Serefina, but it was proved wrong when she suddenly turned around and made a slash movement with her hand.

Dorian was caught off guard when he felt branches of the tree from the balcony whipped his body and sent him flew across the room before his body hit the solid wall.

Yet, Lilac didn't stop there, she rushed forward and let the branches coiled around Dorian's body, locked him tightly until there was no way he could escape, the same way Lilac did when she immobilized the beasts when they attacked her long time ago.

"What is your purpose in coming here?" Lilac looked down at the shadow warrior, her eyes turned sharp when Dorian used his shadow tendrils to rip apart the bough that prevented his movement.

"To kill the lycans," he said calmly as he stood up, dusted the dirt from his cloak. "You are not supposed to be here."

If Lilac was surprised about how Dorian could escape from her grasp, it didn't appear on her facial expression. She mimicked the calmness that the shadow warrior showed to her, while thinking what the best way to get out of this situation.

It was weird enough, after the commotion that she had created, there was no guard that rushed into the room to check on her. Jedrek wouldn't leave her unguarded, right? More so, Jedrek's chamber was only across from her room. It didn't make sense if he didn't hear anything.

Unless, he was not in his room. Lilac clicked her tongue, annoyed.

"You are on the devil's side," she stated in sharp tone.

"I will be on the side of whoever will destroy the lycan," he said solemnly. It almost sounded like a vow.

"Why?" Lilac couldn't understand his motive.

"Is that even a question?" Dorian regarded Lilac with a disdain look when he walked closer to her and Lilac took a cautious step back.

"It was the devils who ordered Jedrek to destroy your village and eliminate the shadow warriors and guardian angels. The devils used Janus to do it all. You should have understood all this." Lilac tried to explain about what was happening, yet it seemed Dorian didn't want to hear her at all.

"All I know is; the lycanthropes attacked my village and killed all the people that I know, including my mate." Dorian's body became blurry, as his flesh turned into dark smoke. "And I will see they suffer the same fate like I did."

"The guardian angels never meant to be the shadow warrior's mate," Lilac said in matter of fact tone. "That was the fate that you forced onto them."

Dorian didn't seem to like it when he heard Lilac's honesty. The shadow warrior glowered at her viciously. However, Lilac didn't budge when he disappeared into thin air, after saying his last warning.

"Don't worry, I will not hurt you. My target is the lycan and I will destroy them. You should know which side you are on."

Afterward, everything became still and all Lilac could hear was her deep sigh.

In the next second, Lilac had rushed out of the room, but when she opened the door, four guards lay on the floor covered in blood. Died.

Chapter 764 - SEREFINA'S BOLD STATEMENT

"Who did this?" Jedrek squinted his eyes at Warlock's motionless body. His sixth in command was died. Someone had killed him and the fact that Theo's life was still in danger now, didn't make Jedrek felt any better.

The king's dark eyes found Kyle and Rowan, who were standing on the side, grief was palpable on their faces. After all, they had known each other for a long period of time. Or, perhaps that was what they wanted to show to their king.

"The shadow warrior," Rowan answered his Alpha.

"Shadow warrior?" Jedrek's voice turned even gloomier. "They are dead," he said grimly.

"No, your majesty," Rowan replied, shaking his head in denial. "We saw him." And then he nodded his head to Serefina. "She saw him."

Serefina gave Rowan a deathly stare, but she didn't say anything.

"No." Serefina denied. "When I came, I saw Rowan was dead and Theo was badly injured," she said truthfully, yet her eyes never left Rowan and Kyle. "I just saw the two of them there. Why were you two in the old tower?"

Jedrek shifted his attention to Kyle and Rowan.

"Lord Eaton told us to leave the town. He and Sebastian will handle the things there," Kyle answered him.

"You told Rowan and Theo about that?" Serefina asked, her facial expression didn't let them know what was inside her mind.

Rowan glanced at Kyle before he replied. "Yes, they asked."

Jedrek looked at Serefina and then asked the healer. "How is he now?"

"If he can make it this night, I think he will be fine tomorrow," the healer said. The wounds had closed, but Theo lost a lot of blood. "We should thank Serefina for being there in time and helped him."

"Right." Jedrek nodded. "I will walk you back to your room," he said while gesturing for Serefina to walk ahead.

Serefina was about to reject him and say she could walk back to her room alone, but there was something in the way Jedrek looked at her that made the witch didn't say anything and walked toward the door.

"I expect you two in my study room," Jedrek spoke to Kyle and Rowan before he followed Serefina out of the room.

"Yes, your majesty," Both of them answered him at the same time.

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Lilac watched in horror when she saw the four dead guards at her door. However, it didn't take a long time before another guards appeared from the other end of the corridor. They must be guards on duty to patrol this tower.

Perhaps, they felt something wrong with their fellow guards, therefore they came to check on them.

Once the three guards' eyes landed on the dead body on the floor, they hurried over and asked Lilac.

"My lady, are you all right?!" One of them tried to find any injuries on Lilac by staring at her, since they wouldn't be so bold to touch her.

Lilac shook her head to gain her bearing again, she looked at the guard, who asked her while the other two checked on the dead body of the guards, "I am all right." Though her voice was slightly trembling, but she looked fine. "What caused their death?"

"Their hearts were being crushed," one of the guards answered her solemnly, while the other guard grimaced. "I will call someone to come and..."

Lilac didn't hear the rest of what that guard said when he asked. "Where is the king?"

"The king is in the old tower," he answered.

"What is he doing there?" Lilac asked again and watched the raindrops began to fall from the dark night sky.

"Apologize, but I don't know exactly." He paused and then added. "I heard general Theo and Warlock were injured and the king went there to see them."

"Oh, okay." If that was the case, it should be fine if Lilac went to see him, right? "I will go to the old tower."

"But, my lady..." The guard tried to stop her. "I think you should stay inside your room, I will call more people to guard here."

"No," Lilac rejected his idea. "If whoever killed them could get away without being noticed, no matter how many people you put there, it wouldn't stop them." she pointed out the obvious.

"But..." the guard tried to reason with Lilac, but she cut him short.

"I will find the king," she said and walked away toward the old tower.

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Serefina watched the gloomy sky and frowned. She never liked the weather in this region; too much rain and gloomy sky. It just intensified the anxiousness in this castle.

However, she was not surprised when Jedrek suddenly grabbed her hand and pushed her into a room beside him and then closed the door behind them.

Serefina's back was against the wall, while in front of her, there was another wall that currently was glaring at her.

"You shouldn't trust the two general of yours," Serefina started, she knew exactly why Jedrek trapped both of them inside this empty room. Knowing him for so long, the witch could foresee their conversation now.

"Do you think they have something to do with this?" Jedrek asked, he stared at the woman before his eyes intensely. If it was someone else, they would have averted their eyes from him.

However, Serefina wouldn't do that. She looked at him right in his eyes.

"I think they killed Warlock and Theo," Serefina went to the extreme assumption, though that was not completely wrong. "Unfortunately, I came before they could finish him off."

Of course Jedrek didn't trust them too, but the king didn't say anything. He crossed his arms, his focus was on her. He missed the way Serefina's bold statement. "Why do you think that way?"

"I asked them if they spoke to Theo and Warlock before they were attacked, and Rowan replied that they had spoken to them, but when I arrived they both didn't look like someone who had just fought a shadow warrior."

Chapter 765 - TRUST ISSUES

"I asked them if they spoke to Theo and Warlock before they were attacked and Rowan replied that they had spoken to them, but when I arrived they both didn't look like someone who had just fought a shadow warrior," Serefina said. She remembered the expression on their face when she arrived there,

the two of them looked too calm for someone, who had just witnessed their fellow generals were being butchered and half- died.

Perhaps because of panic, Serefina didn't realize it at that time, but now when she thought about it again, Kyle and Rowan looked very suspicious.

And that was what the witch told the king. She told him about her suspicion and what she thought, despite the generals were Jedrek's people. She didn't hold back at all, because deep down Serefina knew, Jedrek wouldn't blame her for telling him about his general this way.

"So, did you see this shadow warrior?" Jedrek asked her. They were so close, but their proximity didn't make them felt awkward.

"I saw him inside the old tower." Serefina nodded, but she didn't elaborate further about the fact that she hid from him. "This one also the fact that someone betrayed you. If everything I said is right, you can't trust Kyle and Rowan."

Jedrek didn't give any response when he heard the word of betrayal, he was used to it now.

"I have shielded this place. The shadow warrior shouldn't be able to enter easily." Serefina knitted her brows. "Except..."

"Someone from inside has been helping him." Jedrek finished Serefina's sentence. He knew one or two things about the shadow warrior.

Just like how Aeon got to Raine even when Serefina had put up shield around Torak's house that caused the witch had to burn the girl mother's diary, the same thing happened here.

"You can't leave Theo alone with them, if my suspicion was right, they will come to finish him off to silence him," Serefina was contemplating about this, the only person who could confirm it would be Theo.

The witch raised her head to find Jedrek's eyes were staring at her. It felt so natural to talk to Jedrek this way, despite the situation that they faced.

"No, he is not alone. Someone had moved him to another place," Jedrek said solemnly. His habit to not trust anyone, including his own people, led him to take any precaution the moment he felt there was something amiss.

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"Why we should do this in the middle of the night when rain is pouring down, under the gloomy sky..." Calleb didn't stop complaining when he had to carry Theo, while following Raphael and Kace.

The Gamma would look at him every now and then, worried if his head would fall and roll on the ground, after all Raphael told him that there was someone who had slit Theo's neck, fortunately he managed to keep his head intact.

"To keep him alive," Kace replied it simply. He had been hearing Calleb complained along the way from the old tower to the king tower.

Half an hour ago, all of sudden, Torak mind- linked Kace to help Raphael and Calleb to move Theo from the old tower.

Apparently, his second brother got an important information from Jedrek, which he would explain it later and now it was essential to keep Theo alive, since there was someone who was eager to see him die.

In spite of the fact, Kace didn't like the order at all, but here he was, doing the thing that he detested; following an order from his brother.

He cursed silently with the way how Torak always got what he wanted and how easy he convinced Kace to do his bidding. D*mn that brother of his!

And now, he had to leave Hope with Lana while he mingled with the two annoying men and one half dead general.

"You can throw him inside now," Kace opened the door and held it for Calleb, so he could walk into the room first.

Thanked to Kace, they were able to avoid the guards on their way here, thus no one knew that they had moved Theo to this secluded place in the king tower.

Fortunately, Kace's memories were still very sharp about this place and knew the best chamber, which rarely visited by the other people.

This was a small room without window and smelled like fungus, wasn't the best place for a sick person to reside, but they would think about that later. Moreover, even in his current condition, Theo was not human that would get infected easily. Just like what the healer said; if he could make it tonight, then his condition would be fine. There was nothing to worry about, but if he was not... then they would think about another plan.

"Throw him'?" Calleb walked past him and grimaced. "How could someone who doesn't have a heart like him and Raphael have a mate? While the very kind me is still alone? This is so unfair."

And Calleb got a smack on his back from Raphael and Kace for his comment.

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Lilac asked two or three more guards to find where Jedrek was, but all of them told her that the king was in old tower, yet no one knew his exact location.

Lilac just nodded and walked ahead when the guards offered to accompany her looking for Jedrek, but she turned down their offer and strode away.

She would find him sooner or later, all Lilac had to do was concentrated to find his familiar movement. Just like when someone knew someone else, which they had known for a long time just by hearing their footsteps, that's how Lilac looked for Jedrek.

And her intuition led her to one door. Jedrek had a habit that she just realized it recently, which was; he tended to tap his foot against floor when he was thinking.

However, as Lilac walked over, it seemed that Jedrek wasn't the only one in the room.

Chapter 766 - THE TRUTH

"They are your people, but apparently you don't trust them." Serefina narrowed her eyes and Jedrek knew that the witch was assessing him, deciding whether he was talking the truth or not.

Jedrek was too familiar with her gesture. Sometime, when he was with her, he didn't need to explain himself and Serefina could read him easily.

"The wise man said; keep the enemy close to you," Jedrek said simply and Serefina chuckled mockingly.

"Be careful, or else they will cut your throat in your sleep," Serefina replied casually, but her eyes hardened when Jedrek touched the tip of her hair lightly.

"You worry about me," his voice sounded very hoarse in this empty dimly lit room.

Always.

That was one word that Serefina wouldn't let it slipped from her lips for Jedrek to hear. Therefore, instead of responding to his statement, Serefina swatted his hand away from her red hair.

"We have the same goal, just focus on that," Serefina said coldly and pushed him away, yet Jedrek didn't budge an inch. He held her hand tightly.

"What happened when you left?" His blue eyes turned slightly darker.

Serefina rolled her eyes. "Have not we discussed this already? And we have agreed there is nothing between us now. So, whatever reason that I have for leaving you, it is none of your business."

Accepting that they couldn't be together anymore was one thing, but knowing the reason behind it, was another.

"Yes, this is over between us." Jedrek let go of Serefina's hand and even though it was a minor feeling, but Serefina felt something uncomfortable in her heart. "But, whether you will tell me or not, I will find the answer sooner or later."

Jedrek wanted to know the answer and that was exactly what he was going to do.

"Good luck with that," Serefina hissed.

Meanwhile, the two of them were too busy with their own feeling and thought, until no one realized that someone was approaching toward their direction.

The rapped on the door was surprised the two of them along with Lilac's voice that traveled inside the room. "Jedrek, are you in there?" she asked.

However, before Jedrek could answer her, Lilac had twisted the knob on the door and entered the room.

Her black obsidian eyes immediately found Jedrek and Serefina, and as soon as she saw them together inside the room, the disappointment washed over her facial expression.

The three of them stayed silence for a moment longer, didn't know what to say or what to do, even Lilac didn't know where she had to look at, until Serefina broke this awkward situation.

"What are you doing here?" she asked coldly without any sign of guilty. In her opinion, Jedrek and her didn't do anything to make them feel guilty.

"Can't I be here?" Lilac threw a dagger look at Serefina. This witch really didn't know what the right thing to say.

"Of course." Serefina shrugged her shoulder nonchalantly and was about to walk past Lilac when her wrist was being grabbed by the guardian angel. "You can stay here."

Lilac gritted her teeth when the injuries in her hands stretched out. She could feel the blood started gushing out from the bandages, yet she didn't care. She was too upset to care about it.

"What the two of you were talking about?" Lilac's voice was deep and serene, but it was almost like the calm before storm.

Serefina glared at Lilac, but the guardian angel didn't even blink when she reciprocated the hostility that the witch gave to her.

It was Jedrek, who spoke and grabbed Lilac's wrist so she could let Serefina go, as he could see and smell the blood from her hand.

"Warlock is dead and Theo is severely injured," Jedrek said truthfully. "Someone wants to kill them. They did well with Warlock but not with Theo."

Lilac let go of Serefina's hand, but Jedrek didn't do the same to her, instead, he pulled her closer to him.

"I was talking with Serefina about the possibility that my other two generals are committing treason behind my back. But, to confirm that we need Theo to gain his consciousness." Jedrek looked at Lilac right in her eyes when he told her all of that, so she knew that he didn't lie to her.

"What are you doing here? Shouldn't you be in your room? Don't you know that it will be very dangerous for you to roam around in a situation like this?" though Serefina talked to her harshly and she actually didn't care whether Lilac was hurt or not, but the witch was responsible for the three guardian angel's safety, including Lilac.

It was a suck obligation.

In spite of the fact that Lilac had not yet known Serefina for a long time, but she could vouch that there was nothing happening between Jedrek and her inside this room. The two of them were too obvious with what they were thinking about what they liked and disliked.

Heaved a deep breath, Lilac tried to believe her intuition and hoped she was right about the two of them.

"The four guard that you put outside of my room were died." Lilac started her explanation with the same way Jedrek did. Brought up the bad news before she delivered the worse one. "And a shadow warrior came into my room to tell me that he is going to kill all the lycan who had destroyed his village."

"He hurt you?" Jedrek asked. Observing her body, looking for other injuries except her hands and to his relieved there was no additional.

"No, I am fine, he didn't do anything to me," Lilac said softly, slightly pleased because Jedrek showed his concern for her.

"Did he touch you?" Serefina looked at Lilac's slightly bleeding hands. "Did he get your blood?"

Lilac frowned, but she shook her head. "No."

Upon hearing that, Jedrek and Serefina were exchanging look. There was an understanding in their eyes, which Lilac couldn't understand.

Chapter 767 - TRYING TO UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER

"Is this what you call karma?" Kace crossed his arms defensively, while looking down at Jedrek, who was sitting on the edge of Theo's bed. "Having someone stabbed behind your back after what you did to your little brother all this time?" Kace sneered, but he didn't look so happy like he intended to, when he heard someone betrayed his brother.

Kace, Torak and Jedrek were inside the room, which was used as Theo's nursing room. It had been three days since the attack of the town nearby by the rogue and even though Theo's critical condition had passed, he was still unconscious.

Jedrek scoffed upon hearing Kace's words, he gave him a side-look before he spoke. "Don't worry, I have predicted this even before you ran away to find your little mate."

"So, you keep a traitor next to you?" Kace narrowed his eyes.

"Not a traitor, but traitors. And yes, I keep them close to me," Jedrek answered in matter of fact tone.

Kace was surprised when he heard Jedrek admitted easily. He opened his mouth, wanted to say something, but there was no right words that he could think of. In the end, he just shook his head. "I don't understand you. Really."

"You don't need to. Just do what I told you," Jedrek said firmly.

Kace glared at Jedrek scornfully. "You know what? I do what I want to do. So, keep your order for yourself."

After saying that, Kace left the room without even spared Jedrek a glance.

"What?" Jedrek glared at Torak, who kept silence since they came into this room and checked on Theo's condition. "You are free to leave."

Torak didn't say anything or avert his eyes from Jedrek, only when his older brother stood up and was about to leave this room, Torak opened his mouth.

"Are you sure about having a mating ceremony in this kind of situation?" Torak pulled a chair for him to sit down. "When the traitors are aiming your back, you want to claim Lilac in front of your people and exposed her to the enemy?"

Jedrek stopped walking and turned around to face Torak. His expression devoid from any emotion when he spoke.

"She is not that weak, she can handle herself," he stated. "Moreover, what the benefit that we will get to have her behind my back all the time? She knows very well about her role and the consequences. The people have to know who she is and, in the other hand, she has to gain their respect, which will not happen if I keep protecting her every time we face difficulties."

Jedrek and Torak glared at each other for a moment longer. There was a lot of unexplainable feeling that was hard to convey.

After all, there was many things happened after the great war with the devils and the relationship between the brother only got worse over the time.

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Lilac couldn't understand why she ended up with Keira again, choosing the decoration for her upcoming grand event. The mating ceremony.

"I shouldn't do this." Lilac slammed a booklet against the table in frustration when finally Keira left her alone with the other guardian angel. "We don't have time for this."

Lilac thought after the death of Warlock, the shadow warrior and the traitors within Jedrek's people, Jedrek would postpone this mating ceremony, but to her surprise he didn't even budge when Lilac tried to reason with him.

Hope was playing with various flowers in front of her, which would be used for the ceremony. She loved party and was eager to see what it would like attending a ceremony in a castle.

"Maybe you need this," Raine said softly, she reached the booklet and opened it casually. "Jedrek will not do something without thinking about it thoroughly."

"So, what do you think he thought to focus on this ceremony instead to find out how the shadow warrior was able to sneak into the castle?" Lilac leaned her back against the backrest, missing how Raine grimaced when she mentioned a shadow warrior.

Hope pouted her lips when she was thinking. "We will face a war, maybe having a little bit celebration to cheer up our gloomy mood is a good idea?" she looked at Raine and Lilac, waiting for them to approve her suggestion. "Or, maybe not?" she grinned.

"So?" Lilac looked at Raine expectantly, she wished she could tell her a reasonable reason since Jedrek was determined to keep his words very short.

Raine thought about it a little bit longer. "You know, I thought even when Torak, Kace and Jedrek have different perception, but the three of them have one thing in common; they are very protective to their mate."

"Hm." Hope nodded. "It's really cute sometimes, but when Kace goes overboard, it's pretty annoying."

Lilac chuckled when she heard that. "I don't think Jedrek has cute side, but I agree with the part that you said they can be really annoying."

Lilac didn't tell them about the fact that Jedrek had tried to kill her when she was a babe, she thought there was nothing good for them to know that, moreover a lot of things had happened since then.

"Torak used to be overprotective and annoying too sometime. Even there is a time when I thought he would never let me out of his sight or meet other people in order to keep me safe." At that time, Raine didn't mind it at all, because she wasn't in the mental state she was in now.

"But, over time and many events that occur, we learn; that is not the best way to protect me." Raine put down the booklet in her hand and looked at Lilac with a soft smile on her lips. "Against all odds, he introduced me to his pack as his Luna and helped me to gain his people's respects, that way, not only he would protect me, but the rest of the pack too and likewise."

Chapter 768 - THE LILAC

"I envy the relationship between you and Torak or Hope with Kace," Lilac sighed and fiddled with her fingers. "Jedrek and I..." she pouted her lips and didn't continue.

"There is nothing to be envied about... the three of them have their own difficulties, they are beasts after all." Hope shrugged her shoulder. "But, I love his beast and definitely you do yours too. It is just that there are a lot of things that have come our way and we are not ready to face them all, making things complicated."

Silence fell, as they were deep in their thought and reminisced about all the things that they had been through to come to this point.

Raine had been through a lot of dreadful things before she met Torak. He showed her unconditional love and cherished her in every decision that she made. Not even once Torak would raise his voice even though he was mad at her or Raine disappointed him.

Raine wouldn't be here and be the person she was now without going through all of that.

While Hope, she was quite lucky to have people, who loved and cared for her ever since she was only little. Sereфина with her fickle mood and Lana, who was like a sister for her.

Hope ever felt a little bit worried about Lana and her relationship when she was aware about Lana's crush on Kace, but she could sigh in relieve when Lana found Raphael. Their relationship seemed very happy. They were like a newly married couple.

Sometime, Hope wondered whether Lana's crush on Kace was only her imagination? A mate bond was so strong...

On the other hand, Lilac didn't know since when she cared for Jedrek... she came here with hatred for what that king had done to her, but over time when she learned about the dark secret that he hid from everyone else, including his own brothers, Lilac learned that he was not the person that she thought she knew.

Despite it didn't change the fact that Jedrek had killed her and put her into a deep sleep for a year, Lilac couldn't find herself to hate him the way she wanted.

Apparently, this was the trait, which made the guardian angel looked so weak in the other creatures' eyes; they lacked of animosity was something that counted as weakness.

However, the true question was; whether their relationship would be okay without a mate bond?

The mate bond seemed like a blessing to tighten the affection between them, but it was something that was out of their control.

Even Raine, occasionally, would question this too and Hope would always wonder if the mate- bond disappeared, would Kace treated her the same?

But, for Lilac it was indisputable that Jedrek would choose Serefina over her the moment the mate bond was gone...

It was ironic...

"Tell me," Lilac broke the silence between them and the solemn mood in the air. "How did your mate marked you?"

Lilac wanted to hear something cheerful, since she would face her mating ceremony within a week, she wanted to know what she would expect.

"Ugh... the mark..." Hope grimaced and looked Raine, who seemed pretending to not hear Lilac's question.

"I heard it was something romantic," Lilac looked at Hope and Raine expectantly. "Share your story with me..."

And now Hope and Raine gave their fellow guardian angel a wry smile...

"They almost died when their mate marked them." Serefina's figure came into their view when no one noticed when she entered the room.

The witch sat on a chair at the end of the table nonchalantly and looked at the various flowers on the table in despise.

"There was nothing romantic about being marked for them." Serefina crossed her legs and looked at Lilac defiantly.

Lilac glared at Serefina when she spoke to Hope. "I don't know how you can live with someone like her for many years. I am just glad that you are nothing like her."

"Oh, don't worry honey, she doesn't have that blessing." Serefina waved her hand.

Lilac clicked her tongue in annoyance. "Is it her hobby to ruin other people's happy moments?"

"Yes, it is," Raine said with smile on her lips, she didn't know, but she found this whole situation was amusing.

Serefina had been very irritated with the relationship that she shared with Torak and would always pick some prickly words to complain about how Torak had spoiled her too much, but when Raine learned the reason behind the witch's hateful behavior, she was more or less, could understand that.

After all, who would be able to stand and see the man that you loved, be with someone and nothing you could do to stop it.

And now, since Serefina finally met with Lilac, she wouldn't miss any opportunities to piss her off.

"Well, you can call me lucky to survive all those years," Hope chuckled and then grinned at Serefina.

"I don't lie, you can ask the two of them. I was there, when their mate marked them and that was awful." Serefina raised her eyebrows provocatively.

"I don't know whether you are so talented or you just naturally suck the happiness out of every soul in the room you entered," Lilac grumbled. "What do you want?"

"There is something I want to talk to the three of you," Serefina said calmly, ignoring the snarky comment that Lilac gave to her.

"What is it about?" Hope asked, she straightened her back.

"About your training." Serefina glanced at the flower again. "I expect we will start after this stupid ceremony."

Lilac couldn't agree more with Serefina for her last comment. She still disagreed with Jedrek's decision.

"Before I go to the detail, I want you to do me a favor," Serefina spoke to Lilac and she looked surprised.

"What is it?" Lilac asked suspiciously.

"Choose the lilac for your decoration," she nodded to the flower.

Hope frowned. "But you hate that flower."

"Exactly." It would give her an excuse to not attend to the ceremony.

Chapter 769 - I AM TALKING ABOUT HIM

Lilac was dressing the wounds on Jedrek's back, which appeared getting worse by the day. She couldn't help, but frowned when her eyes saw them.

"You don't have to do it if you can't handle it." Jedrek stared at Lilac's reflection through the mirror in front of them, which Lilac didn't realize it was there and showed her expression.

"So, who will do it for you? Serefina?" her voice laced with more hatred than she intended too.

However, after saying that, Lilac realized how childish she became and lowered her head, put all of her attention on the wounds.

Jedrek didn't tease her, there was no way he would do that, but he pretended like he didn't hear what Lilac just said.

"The ointment doesn't help with the wounds." Jedrek pointed out the obvious. He didn't feel any better even from the first time Lilac put the medicine on him. It just wasted of time, yet Lilac insisted and Jedrek couldn't say anything to make her stop.

"I will ask the healer to make another," Lilac murmured. She dabbed the liquid with cotton and swabbed it on his gashes.

Jedrek turned around and caught Lilac's hand. He was sitting on a round chair and when he turned out to face Lilac, who was standing, he just needed to slightly raise his head to catch her gaze.

"This is already the third time and nothing is working," Jedrek said. "Stop it."

"And what? Do nothing?" Lilac glared at Jedrek defiantly.

"These are just gashes." Jedrek stood up and his tall body towered over his little mate, but he could see from her eyes that she didn't slightly feel intimidated by him.

"You are injured," Lilac insisted.

"Yes, and these just wounds." Jedrek let go of her hand, so she could express her irk.

"These are not only wounds! It is already not normal that they are not healing even after two weeks!" Lilac was almost screaming when she said that. "You can't just brush it off because it doesn't show any effect on you yet. You can't take it lightly!"

This wounds were Maximus's last gift to Jedrek and there was no way it wouldn't harm him. However, Jedrek had not been feel anything since he got this, except a few time he felt like his back was being burned, yet it only last for a few minute before the pain subsided and it was something that he still could handle.

Jedrek kept silence while listening to Lilac's rambles until she stop talking and he hugged her tightly, whispering. "Thank you for worrying about me."

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"Can I enter the room?" Lana knocked the door when she already opened it.

"No," Serefina answered curtly. She didn't even raise her head from the book that she had been reading.

In spite of Serefina's reply, Lana entered the room anyway. "How do you feel now?" she asked when she visited the witch in Theo's nursing room. The closer the ceremony day was, the more Serefina would spend her time in this place too.

She would say that this castle was covered with the flowers that she hated, thus she couldn't go anywhere without being tempted to burn the whole decoration.

Later that Lana knew, the flowers were chose by Serefina herself and Lilac agreed with that. It was almost like an understanding between the two of them.

Serefina wanted an excuse and Lilac gave it to her.

Meanwhile, the mating ceremony would be held the day after tomorrow, therefore all the preparation was almost done now.

"Can the two of you stop asking me the same annoying questions?" Serefina put down the book in her hand and glared at Lana, who was strolling into the room despite Serefina's rejection and took a seat on the edge of Theo's bed since there was no more chair inside this small room.

"The two of us?" Lana knitted her brows, but then understood, who did Serefina mean. "Hope is worry about you too."

Serefina scoffed. "I doubt that, she seems getting along with the other guardian angel really well."

"You know her, she is a happy child. She gets along with almost everyone here, even the servants." Lana shrugged her shoulder. "Of course, she will worry about you, she thinks of you as her mother."

Serefina cringed when she heard that. "Just because I raised her, doesn't mean she can think of me like that!" the thought of that gave goosebumps to her.

Lana sighed and then stood up. "I think I am done here. Actually, Hope had been bothering me by asking to check on you since the last time she was here and you threw her out. Now, I see you are still having energy to get angry, I guess it is a good thing."

The last time Hope was here, she hugged Serefina tightly without saying anything, as a form of expressing her sadness for Serefina. However, the witch didn't appreciate that and threw her out of the room, then locked the door.

"Tell her if she keeps bothering me, I will burn down all the decoration of her best friend's ceremony," Serefina grumbled and watched Lana chuckled while walking out of the room.

Lana looked happier and less grumpy since she met her mate.

"I am happy for you," Serefina said all of sudden that made Lana turned around, didn't believe with what she heard. This would be the first time the witch was saying something nice.

"I didn't hear it wrong, right?" Lana looked amused.

"No," Serefina said and continued it lightly. "At the very least, you will not end up like me."

"Serefina..." Lana looked at the witch with complicated emotions.

"Take care of yourself and him."

Lana grinned, "I think Raphael more than capable to take care of himself."

"I was not talking about that mate of yours, I am talking about 'him'." Serefina nodded to Lana's stomach.

"What?" Lana widened her eyes. Didn't believe with what she heard.

"Close the door," Serefina said and turned around only to find Theo had opened his eyes.

Chapter 770 - WHY AM I BEING FOLLOWED?

The pain on his throat was the first thing that Theo felt, it was like his throat was burned and no matter how hard he tried to speak there was no words that could come out from his mouth.

He was not able to move his hands, his entire body was exhausting. Even breathing was a hard thing to do for him.

After the pain on his throat, the memories of the last thing that happened to him came back, flooding like a broken dam and it shook him to the core.

Startling, Theo opened his eyes abruptly and found someone was sitting beside his bed.

The sudden light hurt his eyes and he grimaced because he couldn't see it clearly, who was this woman, but then he heard her voice and realized it was the witch.

"Close the door," she said to someone that Theo couldn't see, afterward Serefina turned around and met his gaze. "You are awake," she claimed.

"What?" Lana walked back to find Theo had opened his eyes and gasped loudly. "He is finally awake!" She walked to the table beside the bed and poured water into a goblet and helped Theo to drink it.

Theo was grateful when the cold liquid eased the burning sensation on his throat.

"How are you feeling?" Serefina asked, seeing the confusion in Theo's eyes. "Don't worry, you are safe here."

However, Serefina interpreted the way Theo looked at her wrongly. The general was not confused about where he was now or perhaps he forgot about what had happened to him.

He was anxious because he couldn't utter a single word to tell her about what was happening to him that night.

There was a traitor! And it was Kyle and Rowan!

Yet, there was nothing that he could say.

"Take it easy, you just woke up, I will call the healer for you." A woman that Theo recognized as Raphael's mate, spoke in reassuring tone. But, Theo needed to see the king, not a healer now.

At the same time, that scent hit him hard. Theo realized he was nearby even before he could see his figure.

"Here you are..."

The heavy voice made Serefina and Lana turned around to see who was coming into the room and found Rowan was there, staring straight to Theo.

Seeing Rowan, Theo became more anxious. He wanted to tell the two women there to be careful with him, but he couldn't say anything. Not to mention utter a single word, he even was not able to move his fingers.

"I am worried where you have moved him because I can't find him since the night of the assault." Rowan ran his fingers through his copper color hair and walked closer.

"Lana," Serefina called her. "You said you want to call a healer. Call her now."

"Oh, right. I will call her now." Lana immediately stood up and walked toward the door, followed by Rowan's hard gaze.

When it was only the three of them, Serefina could see how unsettling Theo was and the way he glared at Rowan told her that her prediction was right.

It didn't need a genius to read their situation now.

"I think no one knows about this place," Serefina said. She watched Theo closed the door and approached them again while the witch was standing beside Theo's bed.

"I found it by following Lana," Rowan replied casually. He stood three steps away from Serefina. "So, he just woke up? Did he say something?"

Serefina tilted her head and with expressionless face, she answered. "Yes. He said he remembered the person who slit his throat."

Rowan was never really good at hiding his true emotions, thus the moment he heard that, his eyes turned dark and a low growl vibrated on his chest.

"So, you know already?" He asked in dark tone.

"Know what?" Serefina narrowed her eyes and smiled softly, but out of instinct, she took a defensive stance.

"That I slit his throat," He spoke through his gritted teeth.

"Oh." Serefina feigned a surprise. "Now I know. Actually, he didn't say anything." she shrugged her shoulder and glanced at Theo, whose expression was no less startled than Rowan's. "He just woke up. You are lucky to be here in time."

"You!" Rowan roared and shifted into his beast when he pounced onto Serefina.

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Lana was still in disbelief when she heard what Serefina told her earlier, she touched her flat stomach and tried to feel something, but there was nothing.

Perhaps, Serefina was wrong or she just teased her, but as soon as that thought crossed her mind, Lana shook her head. Knowing the witch for such a long time, teasing someone this way was not her style at all.

Or, maybe Serefina made a mistake?

Or, maybe she knew something that Lana did not? What if what she said was right? Lana bit her lips to stop a silly grin from appearing on her lips.

It was so fast, but also predicted since they marked and mated on the same day they met.

But, she had not yet felt the change...

Lana walked with light steps toward the old tower, where the healer was residing and suddenly stopped walking before she crossed the yard, when she felt there was someone following her.

There was not many guards stationed in this king tower, except the part where Jedrek and Lilac resided.

"What are you doing following me?" Lana turned around and glared at the empty corridor. "Kyle?"

At first, there was no answer, only the sound of the wind that could be heard, before a man walked out from the corner of the corridor.

"I thought you will not realize that I am here." Kyle strolled toward Lana.

"I didn't realize it before." Just like Lana didn't realize that she was being followed by Rowan. It seemed like her five senses weren't working properly. "But, the wind brought your scent. May I know why am I being followed?"