

TLOA Lycan 811

Chapter 811 - THE MISSING GUARDIAN ANGEL

"Nothing," Belphegor said innocently, as he picked up Raine's body and placed her on the bed. "Just a goodbye kiss."

"You should just kill her," Asmodeus said grumpily, she didn't care about the fact, that the Sloth had just kissed the guardian angel. "Lucifer will be happy."

"I am not here to make him happy. Moreover, we need them alive." Belphegor shrugged his shoulders and approached the witch, who was standing near the door. "I don't believe it that you are willing to come with us." He gave Serefina a suspicious glance.

"You don't have to believe it, you just need to accept it," Serefina replied nonchalantly and walked out of the room. She took another brief glance at Raine before she left.

"Cold-hearted witch," Belphegor muttered under his breath. "Why did you have to bring her with us?" he asked Asmodeus.

"I like the deep love she has for the king of lycanthropes. Her feelings are interesting," Asmodeus replied with a smile on her red lips as her golden eyes shone brightly.

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Hope stopped to catch her breath. She could feel her lungs almost exploding from lack of oxygen, yet her eyes continued to scan the empty corridor.

Why couldn't she see anyone in this castle? This was as if the whole place was deserted. Not even a single soul could be found visible in this enormous castle while Hope chased after Chiron relentlessly.

And now, she lost him!

Why must Chiron bring Lilac away and betray them? This question kept flashing in her head. However, Hope had a hunch that it must have something to do with what happened in the past between Jedrek and the centaurs.

Chiron hadn't gotten over it yet? He didn't do any harm to Kace in the past, when he got several chances at that too.

Yet, just like Chiron always said to Kace whenever her mate felt guilty for his crime; it wasn't him that had killed his mate. Right. It was Jedrek!

So, what was Chiron about to do now? Kill Lilac, just like how Jedrek killed his mate?

"No," Hope mumbled, she shook her head to clear that idea, but once that thought flashed in her mind, this theory got engraved in her head refusing to leave her thoughts and it scared her even further.

Hope had a mixed feeling for what Chiron did, yet no matter what was the reason, she couldn't justify his action if he did it for what she thought he would do about. This was insane!

Hope's eyes crazily tried to find Chiron, or at least which way he took Lilac. However, she totally lost him.

She couldn't find the centaur anywhere, not even the sound of his hooves.

Gritting her teeth, Hope rushed toward one of the corridors, which she blindly chose, she just hoped that she would be lucky enough to choose the right path.

Yet, it didn't seem like it.

Hope went to the part of the castle that she had never been to before.

"CHIRON!" Hope shouted, her voice laced with anger and fear. "CHIRON WHERE ARE YOU!?" The guardian angel was desperate to find the centaur.

Right at that time, when she was about to give up, Hope heard two rushing footsteps approaching her from a different corridor, therefore, she walked back toward the source of the sound and found Raphael and Lana.

"Lana! Raphael!" Hope felt a sudden relief washed over her frame as she ran toward Lana and hugged her tightly.

However, she could feel Lana's stiffened body as Raphael pulled her back slightly. "What happened?" he asked in concern. "Where are Raine and Lilac?"

Raphael came toward this direction because he smelled her scent and was wondering what Hope had been doing here, since this place was a little bit far from the king's wing.

Moreover, she was alone, when she should be with Raine and Lilac.

"Chiron," Hope said, trying to catch her breath. "Chiron took Lilac!" she was panicking.

"The centaur?" Raphael frowned. "But, why would he take her?" Wasn't the centaur was among the people that came here for Kace?

Hope bit her lips, she looked hesitant to tell him, but in the end, this was not something that she should be hiding.

"Chiron apparently crossed sides. He is with the devil," Hope muttered and when the words left her mouth she felt even worse to know that was the truth.

"No way!" Lana was in denial, but she didn't completely distrust Hope. It was because she also knew Chiron for quite some time and during that time, the chief of the centaurs did nothing, but treated them nicely, therefore to actually hear that he had chose to betray them was something that was hard to believe.

"I know it sounds odd, I can't believe it either." Hope bit her lips and fidgeted.

When Hope and Lana were still trying to discern the decision made by Chiron, Raphael urged them to focus on their current predicament. "Which direction did Chiron took?"

"I don't know, I lost them," Hope looked around her frantically. "Can't you smell their scent?"

Raphael sniffed the air and shook his head, frowning. "Except your scent, I don't smell any other scent here." It was almost impossible. Did Chiron take different route and Hope wandered too far from them until he couldn't pick up their scent at all?

Beside the Beta, Lana did the same. "I can't smell anything too. Except your scent, of course."

"Why can't you smell them?" Hope was confused as well, but she remembered something immediately. "The cloak!"

"What cloak?" Raphael shifted his attention to Hope.

"The purple cloak that Lidya gave to me," Hope said in hurry, she turned to look at Lana and her confused expression made Hope realize that Lana couldn't pick up what she meant by the purple cloak, thus she had to remind her again. "The purple cloak that Lidya gave to me before we entered the northern coven realm, to cover my scent, so no creatures could smell me. Chiron used the same cloak to cover their scent."

Lana narrowed her eyes, she remembered that stupid cloak.

"Where is Raine?" Raphael asked.

Only then did Hope realize that Raine was not with her, in fact she didn't even remember Raine following her. "I thought she was behind me when I ran out of the room chasing after Chiron." Her expression became dreadful.

Chapter 812 - THE CLOSED CITY

"ARE YOU CRAZY!?" Kace shouted at Carina, he lost his temper when he heard her saying, "YOU SHOULD STOP HIM!"

Carina jerked away slightly when Kace lashed out at her, but her worry for Chiron made her stood rooted to the ground. "I have told him to stop. But he didn't even want to listen!" Carina whispered at Kace as she said this.

"Then, why didn't you tell me earlier!?" Kace seethed. If he knew this before, maybe he could prevent Chiron from doing what he was about to do.

"I know! I know!" Carina almost screamed at him. "I was wrong! But, we can't dwell on this now! We have to find him!"

Kace glared at her viciously through his black eyes. "I don't believe it that he fell to the devil's temptation." He shook his head in disbelief.

Carina just told him that a devil came to them when they crossed a bridge inside the forest after they passed a ruin city.

No one knew about the visit of the devil except her because only Carina was with Chiron, while the other people were sleeping, so they could continue their journey the next morning.

When the night turned darker and only a little of light from the crescent moon was able to shone on their path, the devil emerged from the shadows of the trees and played smart, being highly cunning by offering something that Chiron always wanted.

"No, Kace..." Carina lowered her head. She had never been have to feel so dejected and down like this before. "Chiron never took your side."

"What do you mean?" Kace narrowed his eyes and took a step closer toward her, his gut feeling told him that he didn't want to hear it, yet he pushed that feeling to the back of his head and said, "If only he wanted revenge, he could have taken it out on me a long time ago."

Chiron shouldn't treat him the way he treated him before, if he still held a grudge for what the Donovans did to his kind and, especially, to his mate and unborn child.

But, Carina's next words made him realize how stupid he was to forget the most important issue that led to their current predicament.

"Kace... his target has never been you." Carina looked at him deeply in the eyes. "Like he always said; it was not you who killed his mate."

"D*mn!" Kace cursed loudly under his breath when he just realized the meaning behind Carina's words. "So, all of you fooled me to allow all of your kind to come into this realm again?!"

"No, no!" Carina shook her head. "The other centaurs didn't know about this. Chiron did this on his own and he is doing it alone."

"Then, you expect Jedrek to allow all of you to go back to your land right after your leader kidnapped his mate? They just mated!" Kace lashed out at Carina, he was overwhelmed with pent up frustration. "Do you know what it means for us?!"

"I know," Carina answered, she tried to stop her shaking hands by hugging herself, but she couldn't. The more she thought about it and the way Kace pointed out the mistake that Chiron had made, the more afraid she was of what might happen.

After a lycan marked and mated, it was the time when their bond with their mate would grow stronger. The male Lycan would become more possessive over their mate, as they knew the mark would leave their mate in a vulnerable state as their body was trying to adjust to the new changes...

This was one of the reasons why Jedrek couldn't leave Lilac's side for a few days, despite the responsibilities that weighed down on his shoulders.

"Not to mention about getting your land back! I will not be surprised if Jedrek wanted to kill all of you again for hurting his mate!" Kace snarled at her, but he also felt bad, because this was not totally Carina's fault. "Didn't he think about his own people?"

"Chiron said Jedrek will not kill us because he needed more force for fighting the devil." Carina lowered her head and looked at her hooves, while the thunder and rain poured down on them.

Even the strange oddity of rain couldn't make Kace or Carina turn their attention toward it.

"That is a ridiculous thought," Kace said grimly. How could Chiron could be that stupid to think that Jedrek would let them loose unscathed?

"Chiron will not hurt Lilac. He just wanted to get back at Jedrek, but he will not hurt the guardian angel," Carina added.

"Really?" Kace raised his brows, his words laced with skepticism. "So, why are you telling me this when you believe that Chiron would only kidnap Lilac just to get on Jedrek's nerves?"

Another deafening thunder rumbled as the lightning struck the dark sky.

"I trust Chiron, but I don't trust the devil," Carina said matter of factly. "There was a saying that you don't make a deal with the devil. It must hold some meaning."

Kace closed his eyes to calm his anger. He could feel the beast inside him was about to take control again and this was not the right time for him to resurface. "So, do you know where he is?!"

"I think I know where he is heading to," Carina said.

However at that time, Sterling ran toward them with his hands over his head to protect him from the black liquid drizzle.

"Kace! You have to go back to the castle!" Sterling said in a hurry, there must be something important that have happened.

"What happened?" Kace approached him and looked behind him where Ian and Ethan followed behind his father.

"The devil had just appeared in front of the gates of the city!" Sterling said. "It was Lucifer and now the gates are closed, we are trying to break it down!"

"What?" Kace immediately ran toward the gates. Behind him, he could hear Sterling's words to his sons.

"Go back to your mother and sister, and stay with them!" Sterling growled at them.

Kace even forgot about Carina, but fortunately, like the other centaurs, who had rushed toward the gates to help the other creatures to break it down, she also ran behind Kace.

"Where are my brothers?!" Kace shouted at Sterling.

Chapter 813 - HOW DARE YOU JEDREK!

"Where are my brothers?!" Kace shouted at Sterling as soon as he reached the entrance of the city and stood in front of the tightly closed gates.

Before his eyes, there were almost every single creature, trying to break down the majestic iron gates, by shoving them with a big tree trunk that they had toppled down.

However, the gates wouldn't even budge and Kace could only grit his teeth in annoyance when he remembered that the gates, usually, never been closed before, as it needed twenty people to open it.

But now, it seemed as if there was something that held the gates together from the other side.

Sterling rushed beside Kace. "Both of them shifted and climbed the walls," he informed him.

Kace raised his head and looked at the tall wall, from where he was standing, it looked like the tip of the wall could touch the sky. There were a few shifters who had shifted into their beast forms, but they could only manage to reach half way through it.

And then Kace leapt forward and landed in his beast form, the white beast raced toward the gigantic wall and dug his claws deeper into the steel as he climbed it.

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The two white beasts managed to climb over the high gates of the castle and landed softly on the ground in a matter of few minutes.

However, both of them roared menacingly upon seeing what greeted them.

[Tell your people to back down!] Torak mind-linked Jedrek beside him. [Or else, I will not hesitate to claw their souls out of their bodies!]

In front of them, there were around three hundred guards, who were supposed to guard the castle, yet they gathered here and shifted into their beasts, almost at the same time, as soon as they heard the two white beasts landing inside the castle from climbing the high walls.

[I don't think they have any souls left in them.] Jedrek spoke grimly, as he watched those beasts' eyes shone with golden light, which was not their usual color. Golden color was meant for the devils.

[Then I assume you will not mind to find different guards.] After he said that to Jedrek, Torak's white beast dashed forward and his vicious roars shook the ground.

His claws pierced their flesh and continued to draw a lot of blood from whoever stood in front of him as an opponent. The white beast was exceptionally larger than the smaller beasts of the guards, yet his movements were very swift and nimble enough to dodge those smaller beasts' claws and talons.

His body spun around and among the dark colors of the beasts around him, Torak's white beast was just like a flash of light, a white dot in the dark.

However, there was another white creature that leapt higher and landed himself in the middle of the beasts, who were once his own people, yet instead of fighting them, he avoided those beasts that wanted to taste flesh and blood from the very king they served previously.

[I will leave them to you.] Jedrek said casually to his brother before he bent his hind legs and took another leap, higher than before, that took him across the yard and freed himself from the siege of those beasts.

[D*MN YOU JEDREK!] Torak snarled and growled, fury shook his body. How dare Jedrek did this to him, that too at a time like this!

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Raphael rushed back to the king's wing when they couldn't find any clue about where Chiron took Lilac. The Beta was worried about Raine.

Yet, before they could reach the king's wing, a loud commotion accompanied with several outcries started coming from the front yard. It startled him to realize that sounds could be from guards.

"What was that?" Hope halted when Raphael stopped running and tilted his head toward the direction of the loud noises. "It sounds like a battle."

Raphael gritted his teeth. If all the guards left their post to fight, then it must be something important and powerful.

Thus, Raphael decided to take a closer look what was it, at least he had to know what was coming toward them.

"Stay close with me," Raphael glanced over his shoulder to make sure Lana and Hope were close enough in case something should happen and he had to react fast.

Yet, what Raphael saw in the front yard was something that he couldn't have imagined even in his wildest dreams.

There, Torak's beast was fighting hundreds of other beasts, alone.

In spite of the fact that the white beast didn't seem to lose the battle and seemingly could handle them single-handedly, but the most important thing that Raphael couldn't comprehend was; why would Torak fight the guards? And why did those guards attacked him? Didn't they know it was Torak?

Raphael tried to mind-link Torak, yet he couldn't reach him despite their close proximity.

"Stay here," Raphael said grimly to the two women behind him before he stepped into the black rain that still poured down from the dark sky and joined the battle.

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Chiron walked with Lilac in his arms, he slowed down once he was out of the castle through the west gates. To escape from Hope was not a feat for him, since he knew the girl wouldn't be able to catch up to him.

The centaur looked down and watched Lilac's brows crease in discomfort. She looked weak, just like how Hope was when Kace brought her for the first time.

"I don't hold a grudge toward you," Chiron said in soft voice. "But, I can't let go my hatred toward your mate. It will be an insult for my deceased mate."

He walked in the empty street, under the black rain that drizzled on them.

Black color stained Lilac's face and the white clothes that she was wearing. She looked pitiful and had a hard time to catch her breath because of the ever pouring black rain.

Hence, Chiron slightly leaned over and pressed her head against his chest to cover her face as he walked further toward the place where he would meet with the devils.

If there was one thing that he regretted, it was the fact that he disappointed his own people for doing this and also Kace and Hope. One year that they spent together had made them so closer that he could ever imagine.

Meanwhile, once Chiron reached a certain building, he was greeted by Lucifer.

Chapter 814 - IT IS NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS

"Congratulations! You managed to bring her!" Lucifer clapped his hands exaggeratedly and smiled broadly at the centaur, carrying the guardian angel in his arms.

"You can stop your facade, I am sure you already know," Chiron said. "And what is with this Rain?"

"The rain will not harm you," Lucifer shrugged his shoulders and glanced at Lilac. "This is just an ordinary rain, an additional highlight for my grand meeting with the king."

"Said the devil," Chiron quipped and Lucifer laughed out loud.

Behind him, there were a few other devils that Chiron couldn't recognize one by one, yet no matter how many were present, the only devil that he had to deal with, was the one in front of him.

"You are so funny," Lucifer said at the end of his maniacal laugh.

"I am not here to be funny," Chiron replied as he adjusted Lilac in his arms. "We have a deal and let's end this faster."

"Why are you in such a hurry?" Lucifer raised his eyebrows. "No one can find you here, for the time being, as they are too occupied at the moment." He completed his sentence with a meaningful smile on his lips.

Chiron reached the purple cloak that he was wearing and took it off and covered Lilac's body with it. The girl in his arms was shaking a little bit.

"You are such a softy, you know?" Lucifer commented when he watched what Chiron was doing.

"Unfortunately, softy creatures wouldn't last for a long time. Like you.... " His gaze turned toward the now unconscious Lilac, as he continued his words, "and this pitiful guardian angel..." he ended his speech with a sigh.

This time, Chiron didn't respond to his words, he just stared at the devil until his point crossed. He didn't want to waste his time here anymore, talking nonsense with Lucifer.

"Alright!" Lucifer raised his hands and walked toward Chiron to inspect the sleeping guardian angel.

"Why don't you give her to us? It will make things more interesting if you include me in your little deal with the king," he suggested.

"Do it now, or you will never get a second chance to do this," Chiron said firmly.

Lucifer chuckled and then he clicked his tongue. "You are not in a position to threaten me, my dear friend, or do you?"

"I am not your friend," Chiron said calmly.

"Whatever you say," Lucifer replied politely and looked at to his fellow devils. "Why don't you do it for us, since none of us can touch her blood."

Chiron didn't realize it at first, who the devil was referring to because his focus was completely on Lucifer, but when he saw a familiar face, stepping out of the group of devils, the crease between his eyebrows deepened.

"Serefina?" Chiron muttered her name, as he watched the witch stroll across the empty street and stopped right in front of him. "You are with them?"

Serefina didn't answer Chiron's question, as she stretched out her hand and grabbed Lilac's. The witch conjured a small crystal bottle from empty air and then made an incision right away with her sharp nail on Lilac's skin.

Even though she was unconscious, Lilac grimaced when she felt the pain because of the cut.

Serefina collected Lilac's blood that was flowing out, until it filled the small bottle to its brim, only then did she step away and throw the crystal bottle to Lucifer.

"Here, what you wanted," she said nonchalantly.

"I can't believe that you could betray them," Chiron stated in disbelief. As far as he was aware, the witch loved the king. Was it because the king had finally found his mate? That served as a trigger for her betrayal?

"Don't be a hypocrite," Serefina snapped, she glanced at Chiron in disdain. "A traitor shouldn't speak like a righteous soul to the other person, who is in the same boat as him."

Lucifer guffawed when he heard this, including the five devils there, it was only Belphegor, who yawned, felt boring with this conversation.

"Whatever your reason maybe, it is none of my business," Chiron said firmly. The shock in his expression upon seeing Serefina among the devils disappeared in a matter of few seconds when he decided to mind his own problem. The chief of the centaur shifted his attention toward Lucifer again. "We are done here."

"What are you going to do with her?" Serefina asked casually, folding her arms in front of her chest. "Do you want to kill her?"

Chiron looked down at Lilac's face and then stared at the witch. "You don't need to know."

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Torak and Raphael shifted back into their human form when the battle with the hundreds of the guard ended.

For now, there were a lot of carcasses on the ground along with their blood, splattered everywhere.

However, Torak didn't wait for another second or even to catch a breath when he dashed toward the king's wing, where he left Raine the last time he got to see her.

Meanwhile, Raphael approached Lana and Hope, who were standing at the side. "Let's go," he said in a hurry.

Lana nodded and immediately followed her mate, but when she took a few steps ahead, she halted and turned around only to find that Hope was actually staring at the bloody battle ground before her eyes.

"Hope, what are you doing? Come here!" Lana frowned and her loud voice broke the girl's reverie as she was slightly startled.

"...coming," she muttered, but even after she ran to catch up with Lana and Raphael, she would turn around every few steps to glance back at the scene.

However, it was not because she liked to see limbs after limbs lying on the ground torn apart, but it was because she could see hundreds of fireflies fleeing out of those carcasses.

This scene reminded her a distant memory when she lived in the cave, where thousands of fireflies appeared, which were the souls of the innocent children that had been killed by the devils.

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Jedrek ran faster to his bedroom as he left the guards who somehow lost their minds and attacked their own king, for Torak and he could deal with them alone.

A few beasts that chased after him were not a big deal and they couldn't slow him down, yet when he reached his bedroom, he couldn't find Lilac, but he saw Raine, lying unconscious on his bed.

Chapter 815 - JEDREK'S WRATH

Jedrek approached her and put his finger under her nose to feel her warm breath and watched closely as her chest rose and fell slowly.

She was alive.

But, where was his mate?

Jedrek stood up and looked around the room, but aside from Raine's scent and faint scents of Lilac, Serefina and Hope, he couldn't smell anything.

Jedrek rushed toward the door, wishing he could pick up some scent of Lilac, but her scent only lingered inside this room, as if she had vanished into thin air.

The king growled loudly and crushed a table until it broke into pieces with his bare fist. He couldn't believe it, he lost his mate this way. He was very reckless to think that he could leave Lilac all on her own in her current condition.

He stood there seemingly trying to calm the pent up anger that rose in his heart, as rage spread across his entire being and his body shook violently, in order to keep his beast from lashing out.

This was not the time to go feral. However, it was hard to control his raging emotions.

Jedrek had been through this once in the past when he lost Serefina, but the feeling was quite different from what he felt now. This was more intense.

He punched the wall near him to vent out his fury a couple of times until his fist bled, creating a big hollow in it's awake.

Fortunately, not long after that, Torak came running into the room.

The white lycan shifted into his human skin once he reached the door and rushed toward his mate, since her scent was intensely strong in the room.

"WHAT DID YOU DO TO HER?!" Torak hollered toward Jedrek when he saw Raine was unconscious and the animosity in Jedrek's red eyes.

It was easy to misunderstand the situation now, especially when the other lycan, appeared seemingly, out of sorts as he couldn't think straight.

"I DID NOTHING!" Jedrek hollered back, unable to digest the way Torak talked to him. "SHE IS ALREADY LIKE THAT WHEN I COME!"

However, Torak didn't want to argue with him any further, as he shook Raine's shoulder lightly to wake her up. "Raine... wake up my love..." Torak's voice broke as if voicing out a lot of mixed emotions all at once.

The Alpha cradled his unconscious mate carefully while repeating the same words, wishing it was enough to bring her back to him.

Not long after that, Raphael came panting slightly, with Lana and Hope right behind him, and entered the room.

However, Jedrek moved very fast to grab Hope's arm and pinned her against the wall while shouting angrily.

"WHERE IS MY MATE?!" He lost his sanity and was not in a condition where he could treat anyone with respect or solicitously.

"JEDREK!" Lana reacted very fast, as she tried to pull back the king from Hope. But, she was pushed away when the king swatted his hand.

"Lana!" Raphael, who was about to approach Torak, rushed back to his mate and held her body. "You don't have to do that!" the Beta growled.

However, that act only aggravated the lycan further as he glowered at Raphael before he shifted back his focus on Hope.

"WHERE IS MY MATE!?" Jedrek shouted again.

"SHE WAS TAKEN BY THE CENTAUR AND THE DEVIL!" Hope almost lost her breath because of the tightness of Jedrek's hand, which wrapped around her neck. "LET ME GO FIRST!"

At the same time, Raphael tried to separate the king from Hope.

"You will kill her if you keep doing this!" Raphael grabbed Jedrek's shoulder and tried to make some space between him and Hope. "YOU WILL GET NOTHING IF YOU KILL HER!" The Beta glowered loudly.

For a few intense seconds, both of them glared at each other, as if they could kill one another by only looking at the other's eyes.

However, in the next second, Jedrek gained his bearing and relented. He let go of Hope's neck and took a step back before he watched how Raphael tried to help Hope to stand up and took her to Lana.

Jedrek took a deep breath and asked Hope stiffly. "Which centaur do you mean?"

Hope rubbed her neck and caught a few much needed breaths while Lana tried to soothe her by caressing her back.

"Answer me. Which centaur took my mate?" Jedrek enunciated every word clearly. He looked even scarier this way.

"The chief of the centaurs. Chiron." It was Raphael, who told Jedrek, since Hope and Lana looked hesitating to mention his name.

Hope and Lana knew the chief of the centaur personally and a big part of them was in denial that Chiron could do such a thing like that, however that was the fact and they couldn't do anything about it since it was Lilac's life in danger.

Raphael could understand the anger of Jedrek, if something happened to Lana, he wouldn't be so calm to think about this matter thoroughly.

"Chiron!" Jedrek said the chief's name with venom on the tip of his tongue. "I had told Kace that he couldn't trust that damn creature!"

After saying that, the king stormed out of the room. His footsteps reverberating through the corridor and no one knew where he wanted to go.

"I will go after him," Raphael said, he was looking at Torak, but his Alpha's concern was only on his mate.

"Be careful," Lana said with a worried expression. She knew Raphael wouldn't allow her to go with him.

"I will," Raphael replied and leaned over to kiss Lana's temple.

Afterward, he dashed toward the direction Jedrek had gone. It was easy to know, since his stomping feet were making louder noise as if he was trying to crush the marble under them in his rage.

Inside the bedroom, Hope immediately rushed toward Torak and Raine with deeply creased brows. She didn't have time to think about what Jedrek was going to do with Chiron when she noticed how pale Raine was.

"What happened to her?" Torak asked in a low and cold tone that halted Hope in her tracks, making it difficult for her to take one more step forward.

"I don't know..." Hope answered truthfully and then told Torak everything that happened when the devils came.

"She was left alone with Belphegor?" Torak narrowed his eyes dangerously.

Chapter 816 - HE WAS INSANE!

"I thought she was behind me," Hope retorted, trying to justify her actions from earlier. Why did Jedrek or Torak even blame her? "I was running after Chiron, who was brining away Lilac with him."

Torak closed his eyes to control his temper. It was easy to snap at someone when he couldn't find anyone to blame on for what happened to his mate.

However, actually Torak knew this was not Hope's fault, it was already good enough that something bad didn't happen to her when she chased after Chiron and the devil didn't take her or Raine when there was no one there to protect them.

Yet, to see Raine in this condition again, he was very angry, angry at himself. Angry for not being able to be there when all she needed was his protection.

"What are you doing?"Torak didn't mean to snarl at Hope, but it was his beast's instinct, that he didn't like it when Hope moved closer and sat on the edge of the bed and was about to touch Raine.

"Can I touch her???" Hope stopped, leaving her hand hanging mid air. She looked at Torak, silently asking for the Alpha's permission to touch his mate.

Torak didn't immediately agree, but at the thought that those guardian angels could heal each other when they were close enough, just like how they accelerated Lilac's healing, he finally nodded.

Finally with his permission, Hope took a deep breath and stretched out her hand to touch Raine's.

Actually, Hope wondered, why was there a strange black aura, surrounding Raine's body? And she was pretty sure, both Torak and Lana could see it too.

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Kace climbed the castle gates when the black rain finally stopped pouring down. There was no one who could follow him, since neither Carina nor Sterling could climb the wall.

However, Kace made sure to tell Sterling to keep his eyes on Carina. He emphasized his words, so that he could understand the weight of his words.

Now, Kace dug his claws deeply onto the solid stone of the high wall that secured the whole castle. The white beast snarled and growled whenever his claws didn't stick too deep that caused him to fall a few times before he could reach the top of it. Not to mention this strange rain, which made things more difficult for him, as the stone of the wall was getting increasingly slippery from all the wetting.

And, the beast's eyes widened in disbelief upon seeing the situation below.

On the ground, there were a few carcasses, scattered around the front yard, missing a limb or two with blood covered almost the entire ground and splattered everywhere.

The beast let out a deep and low growl before he plunged into air and landed on his fours. He leapt higher and landed on a dead body, which tainted his already dirty fur by spluttering blood all over him.

The beast leapt again until he reached the safety ground, which was clean from any dead bodies and proceeded toward the king's wing.

He could smell his mate's scent even though it was faint. Hope was here before, not only that, she was with Raphael and Lana too.

The fact that she was not alone, calmed his nerves as he picked up his speed.

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Raphael was about to follow Jedrek when he heard someone grunting from a direction opposite to which Jedrek stormed off.

If it was not for the familiar scent that he already knew like the back of his hand, Raphael wouldn't walk back to check on him.

All in all, he knew this scent very well.

"Calleb!" Raphael skidded to a halt when he saw the Gamma lying on the cold floor, gasping for air. "Hei! Wake up!"

Raphael shook his body, but Calleb still didn't open his eyes, and when he saw how Calleb was suffocated by something that he couldn't understand, the Beta slapped his face really hard.

"Arrghh!" Calleb opened his eyes all of sudden and glared at Raphael in confusion. "Why did you slap me!?" he shouted angrily.

On the other hand, Raphael slapped his other cheek again, but this time not as hard as the first one. "If you are already awake, follow me. We need to find Jedrek."

Calleb shook his head and rubbed both of his cheeks. This Beta was crazy, but he couldn't remember what was happening to him until Raphael helped him to stand up and he saw the blood on the floor. Only then he remembered.

"Raph!" he shouted in shock. "The centaur betrayed us! He will do something to the guardian angels, we have to find them first before we look for Torak's brother!"

"No!" Raphael immediately grabbed Calleb's hand to stop him and then he dragged the Gamma with him. "Raine and Hope are with Torak and Lana now, they are safe. However, Lilac is missing, the centaur took her with him. And now, we have to stop Jedrek before he lashes out and the situation goes out of hand," he explained their current situation briefly.

=====

Kace shifted into his human skin when he smelled Jedrek's scent which got closer as he kept walking toward the king's wing, before he could finally see him at the end of this hallway.

"Jedrek!" Kace ran toward the Alpha. He was slightly relieved that Jedrek had reached this place first before he did, even though he felt something was off with the way his brother glared at him. "What happe..."

Yet, before Kace could finish his question, Jedrek had grabbed his throat and pushed him against the wall until it dented because of the force.

Kace widened his eyes in surprise. He didn't know the reason why Jedrek attacked him all of sudden. Fortunately, he got his answer right away.

"I TOLD YOU THAT THOSE CREATURES COULDN'T BE TRUSTED!" He roared angrily at Kace, even he himself, who had the blood of Donovans running through his veins, had to grit his teeth at Jedrek's domination. He was going all 'Alpha' on him.

Kace regained his composure immediately and twisted Jedrek's hand as he kicked him to break the grip. He even clawed his face and left ugly scars, yet Jedrek didn't care about the pain anymore, as he glared at Kace viciously.

He was insane!

Chapter 817 - PROVOCATION

"WHAT IS GOING ON!?? EXPLAIN IT TO ME FIRST!" Kace roared at his brother as he tried to twist Jedrek's hand away from him again while kicking his abdomen, only then did Jedrek released him.

As he finally managed to break free from Jedrek's vice like deathly grip, Kace rolled his body away on the ground, trying to avoid him. In case this lunatic of a brother of his would pounce on him again.

However, Jedrek didn't chase him and stood still, with his whole body trembling violently to contain his anger. His red eyes viciously glared at his brother.

"What's the matter with you!?" Kace rubbed his neck and watched as the wounds on Jedrek's face healed, leaving traces of blood that smeared across his devilish face.

"The centaur kidnapped my mate! That's what happened!" Jedrek emphasized every word that he spitted. He looked like someone, who would attack in any moment, thus Kace had to stay away from him. Out of his reach.

"Alright." Kace raised his arms. "I know that."

He should have known that Jedrek had realized this from the reaction he gave earlier.

"You know!?" Jedrek strode toward Kace, gritted his teeth as his fists balled. "You knew and you let that happen?!" He snarled and was very angry when Kace tried to run away from him. Of course, he would do that, any sane creature would do the same when they saw the way Jedrek's look now. "I should have killed you a long time ago, so you wouldn't bring those filthy creatures into my territory!!!"

"Kill me now then!" Kace stopped walking away. He stood still and watched as Jedrek came closer to him and his eyes bored into his. The young Donovan didn't even budge when Jedrek tried to strangle him once again.

"I will kill you!" Jedrek hissed, yet the expression on Kace's face didn't change even in the slightest.

"You have been trying to kill me and my mate since as long as I can remember. Don't you think this is your Karma?!" Kace spat those words and glowered at Jedrek, trying to catch his breath. This was a dangerous bet that he made, trying to provoke the livid beast to his limit. "Now you know how it feels to have your mate in danger. Congratulations," Kace jeered.

That was not a wise move what Kace could have chosen at this moment, but he felt a sudden impulse to mock at his brother and this even surprised him that he liked the way Jedrek's face turned black and his canines elongated.

The fury in his expression made Kace to mock him even more with fervent.

"Why? You don't like it? You had killed her, remember? So, what is different now?" Kace gasped for air, but he managed to say that in between through his gritted teeth.

"YOU!" Jedrek was lost for words as anger consumed every inch of his being, boiled his beast's blood. And, there was nothing he wanted to do now except to wipe away that taunting smile from Kace's face.

Jedrek raised his hand and was about to knock Kace's head off his shoulders with his sharp- razor claws when someone held his arm.

"ENOUGH!" Raphael shouted. He used all of his strength to stop Jedrek, while Calleb tried to pull Kace away from the danger.

"Are you crazy!?" Calleb admonished Kace for his stupid act, at the same time, trying to save his life.

Even with the two of them, trying to intervene between the two brothers, it didn't seem enough to overpower Jedrek. Not to mention Kace did nothing except provoking Jedrek with his mocking, triumphant smile.

At first, Kace didn't want to do this to his brother, since he knew how it felt to have your mate's life being in danger. However, it was Jedrek, who provoked him first.

He didn't even feel sorry for what he had done all this time, regardless of the order not coming from him, but their father, yet he should show some basic decent emotions, at the very least.

"Hei! Can you stop smiling like that?" Calleb gritted his teeth, even he felt like he wanted to punch this lycan. "We are trying to save your a** dude! At least, cooperate!"

Only then, Kace glanced briefly at the Gamma and shifted back his attention toward his brother. "I know someone, who knows where is Lilac. If you kill me now, you will get nothing."

Kace had seen that Calleb and Raphael were coming in their way, it wasn't a reckless move to provoke his brother, but it was a good timing that they managed to intervene in time. He made a bet on them and that tiny-weeny, little soft spot that Jedrek still had for his brother.

The king would have crushed his neck easily if he wanted to, especially when Kace didn't fight back, but he didn't.

On the other hand, upon hearing Kace's words, Jedrek loosened his grip and pushed him away.

"Tell me now, who the hell is this person!?" Jedrek swatted Raphael's hand, which was still holding onto him and glared at Kace.

Once again, Kace escaped Jedrek's vicious attack. He couldn't answer his question immediately, as he was gasping to breathe.

Kace took his time to adjust his breathing before he answered Jedrek. Beside him, Calleb looked like he wanted to strangle him again for deliberately doing that.

However, when Kace spoke, he didn't talk about Carina at all. "I will tell you after I see my mate and felt sure that she is alright."

Jedrek growled, while Raphael and Calleb glared incredulously at him. Kace was truly something to toy with the king's patience like this. But then, he was the king's brother after all.

"She is fine," Raphael said. "Hope is with Torak and Lana now."

"I will decide whether she is okay or not, after I see her myself," Kace replied nonchalantly. "Only then, we will talk about your mate." He nodded at Jedrek casually.

After saying that, without waiting for permission, Kace turned around and walked toward the direction of the king's wing, where Hope's scent was strong.

Yet, to Raphael and Calleb surprise, Jedrek didn't stop him and just followed behind Kace. Yes, he looked livid, but didn't utter a single word.

Chapter 818 - WHERE IS MINE?

Hope watched as the dark aura around Raine subside slowly, and as of now, her breathing became even. She looked like someone, who was sleeping and not like a sick person anymore.

Yet, when Hope stared at Raine's chest, she tilted her head in confusion. She could see something was shimmering from there. A shard of glass?

Hope stretched out her hand to touch the faint glint on Raine's chest, but her hand was stopped by Torak.

"What are you doing?" He asked while loosening his grip when he saw Hope retract her hand.

Despite the fact, Torak was aware that Hope wouldn't hurt Raine, but he didn't want her to touch his mate casually, especially the vital part like her heart. It made him anxious for some reasons.

"Hha?" Hope raised her head and looked at Torak in confusion. It took her a few seconds longer to finally realize what Exactly Torak asked. "No... I just want to check something..." she replied in low tone, but when she saw the same spot again, where she had seen the shimmering light moments before, but it was vanished along with the dark aura that surrounded her.

How could that be possible? Hope tilted her head in bewilderment.

"What do you want to check? What happened with her?" Torak frowned when he saw that Raine had not opened her eyes yet. "Why wasn't she waking up?"

Hope raised both of her hands, as a surrender gesture. "I don't know." Torak's continuous questions only overwhelmed her. "Maybe she just needs sometime to recuperate," she murmured.

"Let her sleep for a while, maybe that is what she needs. If she still doesn't wake up tomorrow, we can find another solution," Lana suggested. "Her complexion looks better now."

Right, compared to her previous pale face, Torak could see a tinge of red blush on her cheeks and only when he realized this, he could breathe in relief.

"How do you do it?" Lana looked at Hope. She didn't remember that the girl has the ability to heal someone. How couldn't she know any of that?

"I don't know..." Hope shrugged her shoulders and then she told them the truth. "I just saw some dark aura around her. However, I am not sure if you can call that aura. It looks like a faint black smoke that surrounded her," she tried to explain what she had seen.

"Faint black smoke?" Torak narrowed his eyes dangerously. He disliked the fact that there was something threatening lurked around his mate.

"Yes, and also a white shard on her chest... I don't know what is that?" Hope's curious eyes kept staring at Raine's chest area. "But, it is gone now..."

"You made it gone?" Torak asked, finally understanding Hope's intention to touch Raine earlier. "You made it gone, right?" he asked again, emphasizing his words. He wanted to be sure that Raine was no longer in any dangerous situation.

"Uh, I am not sure, if it was me..." Hope's voice sounded troubled. She also wanted those strange things to be gone, but was not really sure if she managed to do it or not.

Subconsciously, Torak hugged Raine even tighter and rested her head in the crook of his shoulder.

"Where is Serefina?" He needed the witch to check on Raine's current condition.

"I don't know..." Hope shook her head. "I have not yet seen her since yesterday."

"So do I," Lana chimed in. Probably, this was one day in a month that the time she didn't want to be disturbed. "Maybe she is in her room. I will call her."

But, before Lana could leave, Torak stopped her. "No, call her later when Raphael is here to accompany you."

The situation right now was not wise to send Lana alone to find the witch. Torak was not concerned about Lana. He barely knew this girl, but the fact that she was Raphael's mate, was more than enough for him to wish something bad shouldn't happen to her.

Torak then took the blanket and wrapped it around Raine's body. He cradled her in his arms as if he didn't want to put her down.

=====

Lidya stood in front of the entrance gates of the castle, the rain had already stopped and the dark circular blotches on her clothes started to dry.

She tried to push it, but she was not able to do so, thus the only thing that she could do now was to bust it down since she couldn't teleport herself into the castle, because she had never been there before.

Lidya took a few steps back and looked at the majestic iron and steel. She took a deep breath and tried to create a whirl of wind in her open palm.

The wind started weak and faint, but then it got stronger and stronger until Lydia couldn't hold in in her palm.

Afterward, she took another step back and watched as the whirl of wind became a typhoon with each second that passed before it moved forward, slowly but surely, shook the entire gigantic gate with so much force. Until the sound of it rattling to the ground and created so much noise of the breaking steel and iron.

=====

"Hope! Hope! Hope!" Kace called his mate's name once he was close enough to Jedrek's chamber.

Inside the room, Hope frowned.

"Why does he keep shouting my name? He can just come inside this room and find me," Hope grumbled.

"You know him," Lana smiled softly. Kace could be childish sometimes.

"Ugh! He was just embarrassing me!" Yet despite of that, she stood up and approached her anxious mate.

Lana also walked together with her to the door since she smelled Raphael's scent which meant he was near too.

And once Kace spotted his mate, totally fine and a little bit upset because of his silly act, he hugged her body and buried his nose on the crook of her shoulder, relishing her scent, which was just like a hot chocolate.

"I am worried about you," Kace mumbled.

"Now you have seen her," Jedrek didn't hesitate to interrupt their moment. "Tell me where is mine?"

Chapter 819 - TORAK, SEREFINA...

Lidya was shocked by the dreadful scene that she was presented with as soon as the majestic gates of the castle busted down.

Many people were lying dead on the ground before her eyes, several severed limbs oozing with blood flooded the ground and swamped every spot that could be seen now.

The scent of those bodies, started to fill the air and the atmosphere became heavier. Not to mention about the sky, which was still dark. It only frightened her even further.

Lidya had seen her fair share of bloody scenes similar to something like this, but this was the most grueling and ghastly situation she had ever seen before.

She concocted a white fire in her hand and as she walked across the sea of dead bodies, she burned them all, behind her was, the entrance, which had lost its iron gates.

The gigantic iron was flown a few meters away and created so much damage to the buildings nearby, which were hit by the force when Lidya attacked the iron gates for her forced entrance into this castle by creating a typhoon.

After Lidya burned down those dead bodies, she put off the white fire in her hand, from which a white butterfly came into life, to lead her toward the location where the Donovans were.

=====

"Alpha, I am sorry," Calleb said in deep regret as he watched Raine's sleeping face. "What happened to her? Is she all right?"

Torak just gave him a brief glance before he replied curtly. "I am not sure."

Torak's answer made Calleb feel even worse. He failed, not only Torak, but also Raine. He was tasked to keep her safe, but then he was the one who brought the centaur, without even aware of his true intentions. He should have suspected Chiron when he met him all of sudden inside the castle.

However, he ignored his instincts and caused all of this to happen. Calleb felt like, he should have been able to prevent this catastrophe from happening. Not to mention that something very bad befell on Raine.

Torak watched the guilt that flashed in Calleb's eyes and let him hold onto Raine's hand, as he caressed it gently.

"Raph, get Serefina here. She must know something about Raine's condition," Torak talked to Raphael, who was still hugging Lana.

The Beta slowly released his mate and nodded at Torak. "I will."

"No. I will go," Calleb immediately stood up and ran toward the door, without waiting for Torak's reply. He wanted to do something for Raine.

On the other hand, Torak didn't stop him and shifted his focus to Raine, ignoring the quarrel between Jedrek and Kace not too far from him.

"Stop wasting my time!" Jedrek gritted his teeth, his eyes flickered back and forth between red and black. He was trying so hard not to lose to his beast. Because once he did lose, he wouldn't know what he would do and of course, whatever his beast would do, something that wouldn't benefit him, at this moment, when he was dying to find Lilac.

"You have to promise me first," Kace said, his tone became serious when he faced his angry brother, as he shielded Hope behind his back.

"Yes," Jedrek replied grimly without a second thought.

"I have not said anything," Kace spoke suspiciously. He narrowed his eyes, trying to decipher Jedrek's intentions, whether his consent was true or not.

"I will agree to everything that you want to ask now," Jedrek emphasized every word in his haste. He didn't want to waste another second. Those devils could do something to Lilac. That centaur could do something to Lilac!

This time, it was Kace, who looked hesitant. Those centaurs had been his friends for the last two years and, despite what Chiron had done, he still wished it would end different from what he thought. "Carina knew where Chiron is."

"Where is she?" Jedrek asked, he balled his fists tightly until his knuckles turned red.

"She is outside the city wall, with Sterling," Kace told him.

And right after Jedrek heard that, he rushed out of the room, leaving Kace, who was yelling at him.

Jedrek leapt over from the balcony on the second floor and landed in his white beast form, behind him, he could hear Kace's beast following after him closely, yet he didn't care. There was only one thing that he should do and he had to do it quickly.

Or else, he would regret all the stupid things that he had done to Lilac, without having a chance to mend his mistakes, in his entire existence.

=====

"Serefina is not in her room," Calleb reported back to Torak when he was done searching for her for almost two hours and couldn't find her. Her scent led him to the north wing, but then it disappeared. She must have teleported herself from there. However, the question was; to where?

"Not in her room?" Torak frowned and looked at Raine again, there was nothing he wanted now except to see her staring back at him again.

Torak even let Hope and Lana to stay beside Raine, since Kace and Raphael went to chase after Jedrek.

"She is not in her room?" Lana frowned. She was totally sure that yesterday was the 'day'. Serefina usually would stay inside her room for a whole day.

"No, her scent disappeared in the north wing. I think, she teleported to somewhere." Calleb crossed his arms. "Where did she go at a time like this?"

This was not the first time that Serefina was absent in a critical moment.

Meanwhile, Hope, who was sitting beside Raine was trying to see the white shard that she had seen earlier, yet she couldn't.

She was still curious about that thing and was upset too, because Serefina was not here to explain it to her.

It would be fine if that white shard wouldn't harm Raine, but what if that strange thing would do otherwise?

However, what made Hope to sigh a little bit in relief was the fact that the dark aura around Raine had gone.

"Raine?" Hope called her name when she felt a slight movement from her fingers, which she was holding for the last few hours.

It took a little bit longer for Raine to open her eyes, and once they caught Torak's worried eyes, she tried to speak.

"Torak, Serefina..."

Chapter 820 - I WILL KILL ALL OF YOU!

"Torak, Serefina..." Raine tried to speak even if her voice was cracked.

Torak immediately took a glass of water and helped Raine to drink by supporting her body, so that she wouldn't choke.

"Drink this first..." Torak said it very softly, he brought the glass to her lips, while Hope swiped away the few strands of her hair from her face. "Be careful, slowly..." he reminded Raine, who was drinking the water greedily.

On the other hand, Calleb sighed in relief when he saw that Raine was already awake. He wouldn't feel at ease if she was still unconscious.

The shadow warrior indeed didn't do any harm on him, but it caused him to lost consciousness and let her be in danger. The Gamma wouldn't even mind if Torak punished him now. He deserved to receive it. Fortunately, Torak was busy in taking care of Raine and didn't even have time to lash out at him.

"Torak, Serefina..." Raine tried to speak again, while Torak wiped the remaining water that escaped her lips.

"She is not here," Torak said. He thought, Raine was in pain and needed to see the witch. "Do you feel any pain anywhere?" There was no healer in this castle, Torak didn't know where she was and Kace had tried to find her as well when he looked for Serefina, but he couldn't find anyone. It seemed the only living beings in this entire place was them.

"No, Torak. You will not be able to find her here." Raine said faintly, if Torak didn't have a remarkable hearing ability, he wouldn't have been able to hear her, even Hope had to move closer.

"Why?" Torak asked, while caressing her cheeks, his heart ached to see his mate in pain, again. "Do you know where she is?"

"Torak, she is with the devils..." Raine finally said it, her expression cracked, as tears streamed down her cheeks. She was feeling nothing less than devastated.

Serefina had not always been good to her, especially when the first time they met, but to have the witch betrayed them, that thought, had never crossed her mind at all.

No matter how snappy she was and how she lost her temper almost every time they met, or how Serefina fought with Torak, she wouldn't betray them, right?

"What do you mean?" Hope asked, her voice barely a whisper. She must have heard it wrong, right?

"Impossible," Lana spoke absentmindedly, she shook her head and held on to the edge of the table to support her.

Lana and Hope were still yet to get over the fact that Chiron betrayed them, but to know that Serefina had crossed to the other side was another thing. That was simply impossible.

However, Raine wouldn't tell them a lie.

Even Calleb was flabbergasted, his mouth opened wide, yet not a single word could leave his mouth.

=====

Jedrek walked toward the city gates, which had busted down by the people from outside of the city, they were marching toward the castle, when the king met them.

Actually, there was another disturbing fact that he had seen before he left the castle; someone had blasted the castle gates and all the dead bodies of the guards, who turned out to be in control of the devil when they attacked him, had disappeared without any trace.

Who had done that?

From what he had seen, it seemed someone had tried to enter the castle by force.

However, right at this moment, Jedrek's mind was too occupied with the thought of his missing mate, thus he didn't have time to think about that.

"Where is the centaur named Carina?" the king's voice neither loud nor low, but one could say from his gloomy expression and his dark eyes, that the lycan was livid beyond words.

Behind the lycanthropes from Torak's pack and the hunters that Kace invited, was the centaurs. They looked taller than anyone else present, thanks to their half- horse body.

"Me," a soft voice replied from the back of the crowd as her soft hooves tapped on the ground when she walked forward.

The people dispersed and gave a way to the female centaur, but the other centaurs murmured to each other, trying to find out what was happening and why Jedrek wanted to see Carina all of a sudden.

They had a very long, not so good history with this king and they were quite tensed when he pointed at one of them.

Meanwhile, behind Jedrek, Kace and Raphael shifted back into their human form when they were close enough to Jedrek, finally catching up to him.

"Jedrek, you promised me..." Kace held Jedrek's shoulder, but before he could finish his sentence, his brother had swatted his hand away from him, very harshly, until Kace tumbled on his feet and this raised the murmuring voices around them.

"Tell me where is Chiron?" Jedrek asked Carina when she stood in front of the crowd, just a few meters away from the king.

If the female centaur was afraid or anxious, she didn't show it on her face, as her expression now was devoid of any emotions.

"What do you want with our chief?" it was Zarrn, who asked Jedrek, as he walked forward and stood beside Carina. "We will not give you any information about him if you want to do something bad to him."

From the looks of it, how Jedrek was behaving now, no one would believe that the king wanted to have a civilized discussion with Chiron. Jedrek now looked like someone, who wanted to crush their hearts with his bare hands.

"Bad?" Jedrek jeered. "Don't underestimate my intentions."

Zarrn didn't understand what Jedrek meant by that. He looked at Carina, but his fellow centaur only lowered her head and then, he knew something must be totally off.

"What do you mean?" Zarrn asked carefully, but he didn't think he wanted to hear that answer.

"Not only your chief or this female centaur. I will make you all go through painful deaths if you don't tell me where is Chiron now!" Jedrek hissed through his gritted teeth as his eyes turned red.