

TLOA Lycan 841

Chapter 841 - TERMS

Jedrek skipped visiting Carina and directly went to Zarrn's cell, this time Kace didn't come along and chose to go back to see Hope in the king's wing.

Therefore, it was only Torak and Jedrek, who went to visit Zarrn.

"We need the centaurs," Torak said when they were about to reach Zarrn's cell.

"There are only a hundred of them and only around eighty centaurs of them can actually fight, while the rest are women and children," Jedrek said, he was still trying to contain his anger. "Losing eighty soldiers meant nothing for the upcoming war," he said in a matter of fact tone.

"Right, but that is not all," Torak replied. "Killing them will only send a bad message to the other creatures. The centaurs and the hunters, also a few shifters from the village in the northern coven realm are very close. You can't deny that fact."

It didn't matter much to kill the centaurs, but the aftermath that followed killing them was what they should concern themselves with.

"We have a war ahead of us and the last thing we need is a bunch of creatures against us when we can use them for good," Torak said, trying to get his point crossed.

"We will see about that later," Jedrek said rigidly and hastened his steps.

It wasn't that he was not aware of it, but he was used to keep his next move to himself, thus he found it hard to tell Torak what was going on in his mind, therefore he opted to do this in his own way.

Yet, he didn't intend to keep this as a secret. Torak would realize what his decision was, sooner or later.

=====

Kace went to see the hall, where they were keeping all the centaurs. It was the hall that usually used to hold a small party between the higher ranks of the lycanthropes.

The last party that was held in this hall was still fresh in Kace's memory. At that point of time, his parents were still alive and well, yet he didn't even realize that his mother had been sick and his father had taken aid from the devil.

If that so, what was the point in fighting the devils in the war, when they were actually letting their true enemies reside under the same roof along with them.

They had wasted a lot of souls back then, more than one could imagine, but the result was nothing to be proud of, the devils were still active and kicking, and managed to pull their legs into a living hell for centuries, when they thought they had won the war.

What an irony...

However, would the devils be pulling the same trick again? As they loved to mock them by making the same move and push them into their traps while they laughed at how stupid they were to fall for their tricks again and again.

Yes, it was one of the devils' traits that most people had known very well.

Kace couldn't get rid of these thoughts about the certain possibilities from his head. He should talk about this to Torak and Jedrek. But, for now he wanted to check on Hope, to see whether she was okay.

After he made sure that those centaurs were not treated poorly and the hunters along with the shifters from the village didn't make any scene and were actually carrying out their tasks, which was helping the lycanthropes to guard the city and the castle, without complain, Kace left to the king's wing to find his mate.

=====

A guard opened the cell, where they kept Zarrn and then walked away from the room after Torak signaled for them to leave.

Unlike Chiron, Zarrn wasn't bound with chains. He could move freely inside this cell, which was actually not small to begin with, and enough to accommodate ten people inside at the same time.

Jedrek stepped into the cell, while Torak was standing at the doorstep of the cell.

Both of the Donovans didn't show any expression that could give away what they were thinking right at this moment.

Therefore, Zarrn needed to ask when Jedrek didn't threw any question at him even after five whole minutes of his appearance.

"Is it the time for my execution?" Zarrn asked straight to the point, since he was pretty sure that the king wouldn't let them alive after harming his mate.

"Unfortunately, no," Jedrek said lightly.

In spite of the fact that Jedrek was tall enough as a man, but Zarrn was taller than any of men with his half horse body, yet it didn't mean the Alpha King was intimidated by him, in truth, it was quite the opposite.

The lycanthropes were usually more dominant than any other creatures.

"Should I be glad for that?" Zarrn clamly asked again, but there was bitterness dripping from his words. It was only a matter of time before he got his turn. At least, that was what he thought. action

"It will depend on your answer," Jedrek said.

Zarrn narrowed his eyes, he was not sure that he could understand where Jedrek was coming from, even Torak didn't have any idea about what his brother was about to do.

"So, what is your question?" Zarrn asked, he looked at Torak behind the king but he couldn't find Kace, thus he assumed that the other Donovan didn't want to meddle with whatever his brother's decision.

In all honesty, Zarrn was glad that Kace decided not to visit him, he didn't know what he should do or what he had to say to him.

Jedrek folded his arms in front of his chest and started to tell Zarrn his original plan. "I was thinking to burn all of the centaurs alive and let the three of you watch their flesh and bones turn into ashes. Hear every single scream that come out from their lips as they bear the pain."

Torak slightly narrowed his eyes when he heard what Jedrek was going to do with those centaurs and Zarrn gritted his teeth when his mind, subconsciously, played what Jedrek said in his head.

"But?" Zarrn picked the last words of Jedrek and knew immediately that he was going to discuss a term with him.

"But, I have a condition," he said.

Chapter 842 - NAUGHTY MATE

"Where is Hope?" Kace opened the door and frowned when he sensed that Hope's scent was very faint inside of the room.

He could only see Raphael and Lana, who were sitting on the sofa and Lilac and Raine, who were sleeping on the bed, but Hope was nowhere to be found.

"Caleb took Hope to the Sterling's to meet his mate," Lana said. She rested her head on Raphael's shoulder and looked at Kace.

"What?" Kace growled deeply, but then Lana shushed him by putting her finger on her lips and glanced at Raine and Lilac on the bed. "You will wake them up," she said, frowning.

Since Lana had found Raphael, she was head over heels for her mate, forgetting everything that she felt about Kace back then, as if she never even had a hard crush on him.

However, everything became much easier this way, since they could interact with each other properly without being afraid of hurting each other feelings.

"And you let him take my mate away?" Kace asked in disbelief, but he tried to keep his voice as low as possible. "You should have stopped him."

"You meant stop 'her', right?" Lana corrected Kace.

And, this prompted Kace to realize what was actually happening. Maybe, Caleb had pleaded her to help him, but the Gamma couldn't do anything, or managed to bring her away if Hope didn't agree with him.

It should have been Hope, who wanted to go with him.

That busybody girl! She loves to involve in these kinds of matters! Kace thought in frustration. He should have known how his mate's brain usually worked.

Hope must have a thousands of silly ideas to get Caleb together with Rosie, but in the end, she would only land Kace in a hot soup to deal with that Sterling and Sophia.

"Ugh!" Kace grunted and turned around to find his naughty mate.

"Don't be harsh on her, she just wanted to help him," Lana said behind his back, it was like a big sister that reminded her younger siblings not to fight with each other.

"Don't worry, I will just talk to her 'softly'," Kace emphasized his last word, in a way that made the listeners to actually doubt it.

=====

"But, I have a condition for you and I will let all the centaurs live, except for Chiron and Carina," Jedrek said to Zarrn.

From the look in the Alpha King's eyes, Zarrn could feel a chill run down his spine, thinking about the term that he was about to hear from him.

"What do you want me to do?" Zarrn's voice was very tight, as if he was trying to hold back his feelings which would burst out in any moment.

"It was not a hard task," Jedrek said. "Just like you, I don't want the innocents' blood spilled for something they didn't do."

"I highly doubt it, if it is coming from you," Zarrn said, yet he still wanted to know what was in Jedrek's mind. Moreover, if he could do something to save his people from bearing Chiron's mistake, he would do it.

However, his heart was still complicated with the fact that Jedrek wouldn't let go Chiron and Carina alive.

"You doubt me?" Jedrek asked incredulously. "You should have known it by now that I meant every word that I said."

Zarrn heaved a heavy breath, he balled his fists and looked Jedrek straight in the eyes when he spoke again. "Do you want me to kill Chiron and Carina myself?" he guessed.

Jedrek scoffed. "You know what? You always guess the wrong things and assume the worst." He moved closer and he had to crane his neck to keep their eyes at the same level, yet it didn't make Zarrn any less intimidated by Jedrek.

On the other hand, Torak kept listening. He didn't have any idea what Jedrek wanted from Zarrn, but was slightly relieved that Jedrek didn't give an order to kill those centaurs right then and there.

Torak assumed, Zarrn would agree to whatever the term Jedrek had in his mind for him. He seemed to love his people more than Chiron did.

"I like it when people start to think the worst, but your answer is wrong," Jedrek said slowly, he wanted his words to be understood completely by him. "It was a nice idea that you purpose to me, unfortunately, I have something better."

"What is it then?" Zarrn asked in suspicion.

"I will burn them alive," Jedrek said, enjoying every fearful and shocked expression that crept on Zarrn's face when he heard that. "In front of the public, so everyone will have to stop and think a thousand times before trying to stab behind my back and hurt what's dear to me."

As the situation had already reached this point, so there was no point to hide it anymore. Yes, Lilac was his mate and he cared for her, their enemies could think about hurting her to threaten him, but they must also know what the dreadful consequences would be awaiting them to even think about hurting what's his.

"If you want to kill him, you can behead him," Zarrn said, his voice slightly trembling. Dying from being burned alive was a complete humiliation, because one would scream in agony and expose their weakness as they bore the unbearable pain.

"If I want to kill him that simple, I will not be here talking to you," Jedrek said matter of factly.

Meanwhile, Torak narrowed his eyes, he seemed starting to get an idea what Jedrek wanted to do.

Zarrn's lips pursed tightly into a thin line, as he looked at the king harder. "What do you want me to do?"

If Jedrek didn't want him to kill Chiron and Carina himself, then what was the worse of a thing that he could possible want him to do?

However, Jedrek's answer made him tremble in bewilderment. It was way too far from his expectations.

"I want you to convince all the centaurs pledge their loyalty to me and if they dared to think about stabbing my back again, I will kill them all. And this time, there will be nothing that could stop me," Jedrek said.

"Convince all the centaurs pledge their loyalty to you? After you burn their damn chief right before their eyes?!" Zarrn screeched.

Chapter 843 - SHE IS EVEN CRAZIER THAN HIM

Was Jedrek being ignorant? How could he ask something like that? He wanted all the centaurs to pledge their loyalty to him even after he forced them to witness his punishment of burning Chiron and Carina alive? Was he daydreaming?

"I am really curious to hear, what you are going to do to make them feel loyal to you?" Zarrn shook his head, it sounded ridiculous even when saying it and didn't make any sense at all.

"Me?" Jedrek tilted his head, asking. "It's your job to convince them."

That's it. Torak averted his eyes from Jedrek and Zarrn, as he stared at the ceiling of the dungeon. He should have known that his brother was cunning enough to shove the problem on other's shoulders while doing nothing. He would use any resource to get what he wanted and Zarrn's condition was perfect for him to carry out with his plan.

Jedrek was something else entirely.

"I will release you and you can go to your people. The execution will be in three days and this amount of time should be enough for you to convince them, or else it will be their turn," Jedrek said in sharp tone, without leaving any room for negotiation.

Zarrn's laughed wryly when he heard that, from the way Jedrek said it, it sounded very easy, as easy as flipping your hand, yet the reality told otherwise.

"Tell me what I have to do to convince them to watch their chief being burned alive and then pledge their loyal to the very person who ordered that?!" Zarrn's voice was filled with frustration when he yelled at Jedrek.

This task was not only hard, but nearly impossible to do it.

"Do you even remember that it was Chiron, who had brought us out from your tyranny?! If it was not for him, we had been extinct centuries ago!" Zarrn shouted at Jedrek, his hooves tapped the ground furiously as he moved away from Jedrek, avoiding him like he was a plague. action

Jedrek didn't react to his strong rejection, he waited for Zarrn to say his piece. This time, his patience had been honed thanks to the times when he had to face Lilac's utter disobedience.

"Are you sure that it was Chiron who helped you all to escape from my clutches?" Jedrek moved closer. "A bunch of helpless centaurs against hundreds of hungry beasts like lycanthropes that could tear you limb by limb and outrun your kind in your pitiful state, do you really think if I really wanted to kill you all, you would be able to escape from my hands?"

They were able to escape from Jedrek's entourage, though it felt strange, but they always thought it was the moon goddess, who had taken a pity on them and didn't want their kind to go extinct.

In spite of the fact, it was almost impossible for them to survive in their helpless state then, but they managed to pull it through, even Jedrek thought they wouldn't make it.

However, when Zarrn heard what Jedrek said, he didn't know what he should believe anymore.

"You didn't need to do anything, you just need to tell them the truth,???" Jedrek said. "You know what exactly the truth was; Chiron kidnapped my mate, he forsaked his people for his personal grudge, he chose to side with the devils to go against what we all are trying to fight for..."

The way Jedrek's eyes narrowed at him made Zarrn unable to avert his gaze from the king, he listened to him and realized that it was undeniably true what Jedrek was saying.

"You can add more, since you were there when Chiron said all of that crap about grudge and all, you heard it for yourself how he didn't even care about his own people." Jedrek shrugged. "It is not me, who's trying to kill Chiron, but his weak heart that allowed him to be used by the devils that sentenced him. He let the devils play with his mind and awaken his dark desires, and that was all they need to turn him into one of their minions."

Zarrn hardened his jaw when he listened to Jedrek, but deep in his heart, he knew that was the truth and was something that he couldn't deny.

Chiron bowed to the temptation of revenge that the devils furnished before him.

"They will not listen to someone, who was not their chief," Zarrn finally spoke tiredly. These waves of emotions were simply too exhausting.

"Then, why don't you be the leader for them?" Jedrek raised his brows defiantly.

=====

"We should go to the north wing to see Rosie, why are we here to pick a bunch of flowers?" Calleb was holding a basket of flowers that Hope plucked for him.

Since they arrived in this place, this castle had been surrounded with various kind of flowers, knowing what Lilac could do, it goes without saying who had done that, especially after the mating ceremony.

It was a perfect excuse for someone, who had an allergy reaction for a certain flower, like Serefina to stay far away from the castle.

But, it also saved time for Hope to arrange something special for Rosie, since they couldn't buy something cute in the gift shops. She didn't even know whether gift shops existed in this realm or not.

"Keep silent and just listen to me," Hope scolded Calleb and put another flower, afterward she tied it together, pulling the knot into a ribbon.

"Don't tell me, you want me to give this to Rosie," Calleb grimaced. He liked the idea of giving something romantic to his mate, since their first encounter didn't seem go very well, but shouldn't they had to think about how to take care of Rosie's parents first?

They were his first and foremost grinding obstacle, not to mention her twin brothers. Ugh!

Calleb felt like he just wanted to take her and elope somewhere far. Well, that was what his desperate mind told him to do.

"No, not for Rosie. These flowers are for her mother," Hope said cheerfully.

What?

She was even crazier than him!

Chapter 844 - THIS MUST BE YOUR IDEA

"Are you crazy?" Calleb shrieked. "Why should I give the flowers to her mother instead?!" he couldn't relate to her line of thought at all.

"Of course, you have to calm Sophia first before you make a move on your mate!" Hope slapped Calleb's arm, annoyed.

Calleb glared at Hope, but still followed her when she walked away from him, while holding a bunch of flowers in his arms.

"Why should I make a move on my mate? She is mine in the first place," Calleb retorted, but it only rewarded another slap from Hope. "Stop punching me," he growled, but Hope put her arms akimbo and looked at him arrogantly.

"You don't want my help anymore?" she asked as the corners of her lips upturned into a triumphant smirk, since she knew she would win this unnecessary argumentation.

Caleb heaved a deep breath and sighed deeply. This girl knew how to make other people go crazy. He started to wonder how Kace could bear her extreme personality.

Actually, when Torak met Raine for the first time, Caleb also had the same thought; how his Alpha could slow down to match up with his soft and easily scared mate.

However, compared to Hope now, Raine really looked like an angel. They were only together for less than two hours and Hope had ordered him around and already slapped him a couple of times too.

Caleb suspected that this girl wanted to take revenge for what he had done back then, when they first met. What a cunning girl...

Caleb missed the innocent Raine now...

"Moreover, in my opinion, you have to make some effort you idiot!" Hope crossed her arms, as her expression turned serious. "Just because she is your mate, she doesn't have an obligation to feel you are special. Mate or not, every girl like this kind of things. Remember that," she said.

"Alright..." Caleb said, scratching the back of his head as they walked in the direction toward Sterling's.

"Kace waited for me for nineteen years since I was only a baby and Torak has to make Raine trust him and start to speak again, and that required a tremendous patience. For Jedrek and Lilac, well their relationship was slightly rocky in the beginning too, but you can see now how much Jedrek changed. What isn't Jedrek willing to do for her now?" Hope talked very fast, just like a teacher, who was attentively teaching her first student. "You should make an effort like that too."

"So, what should I do? Give these flowers to Sophia? Why do you think it will help to cool her down?" Caleb asked, walking beside Hope and trying to ignore curious gazes from the guards that they met along the way. action

No matter what Hope said, the flowers in his arms made the Gamma feel like wanting to dig a hole and bury himself inside. Fortunately, his determination was stronger than anything else now.

"Yes, that's the plan!" Hope flicked her fingers and looked at Caleb with bright eyes, as if she had deduced the most brilliant idea. "Don't worry, I have experience to guide you in this matter."

"You can't call being with Kace is an experience," Caleb grunted and Hope slapped his arm again.

"Of course not, I have a boyfriend before I am with Kace," Hope said proudly, she was lucky Kace was not there to hear her saying that kind of thing.

"Really?" Caleb was surprised when he heard that. He wouldn't have thought that Hope had been with someone else before Kace.

"That's why, trust me, I know what I am doing," Hope said, smiling widely.

Unknown to her, Kace was looking for her, he had been asking every person that he met and tried to pick her scent among all the scent of those creatures that filled the air.

However, even when he found Sterling, he still couldn't find Hope or Calleb, since the two of them were busy plucking flowers first.

"What?" Sterling, who was talking to Delta frowned at Kace. "I don't see Hope or that brat." He didn't hold back his dislike when he talked about Calleb. "Why?"

Seeing this conversation didn't require his presence, Delta excused himself. "I will check on this matter. Talk to you later," he said to Kace.

After the head of the hunters left the two of them alone, Sterling started to question Kace. "Why? What happened?" he asked hastily. "He told you that he will come to see my sweet Rosie?"

Kace rolled his eyes, this man was really helpless. "He is her mate, you don't have right to separate them."

"Why don't I have a right?!" Sterling became tense when he heard that, he glared at Kace. "My Rosie is still young to live with a strange man."

"That strange man is her mate, she will live with him eventually," Kace said and added when he saw Sterling was about to retort. "You know that very well. You yourself met Sophia when she was younger than Rosie now," he reminded his best friend.

Sterling pretended as if he didn't hear something contradicting, and walked away grumbling to find his family with Kace following closely behind him.

"Where are Shopia and Rosie?" Kace asked when they walked passed Rosie's room.

"Both of them were helping in the kitchen, but I think they would take a break around this hour and will be in the dining room," Sterling said as he headed toward the south wing.

At this time, it was only Sophia, Calleb and Hope inside the dining room, but they couldn't see Rosie. However, that was not the thing that made Sterling let out a thunderous growl.

The fact that Calleb was giving Sophia a bunch of flowers was the reason Sterling charged toward him and stood in front of his mate snarling.

At the same time, Kace rushed forward as well and pulled Hope away, afraid the girl would accidentally knocked off by the jealous lycan.

"What are you doing giving flowers to my mate?!" Sterling snarled viciously at Calleb.

Meanwhile, Kace glanced at his mate surprised expression. "This must be your idea, right?" He asked and flicked her forehead lightly.

Chapter 845 - I THINK, I AM FALLING IN LOVE

"What?" Hope rubbed her forehead grumpily, which was not really hurting. "I just wanted to help," she said.

Kace rubbed his forehead upon hearing Hope's reply. This girl was really clueless about what she was doing, wasn't she? "Did you forget that Sterling is a very jealous creature?"

In front of them, the lycan was now growling at Calleb menacingly, he lowered his body, ready to attack the poor Gamma, while Calleb was standing stunned silly as he didn't know what went wrong. He was just following Hope's order, All right!

"Stay here!" Kace said sternly to his little mate, who flashed him an innocent smile. "Hey, hey, calm down," Kace finally stepped in and put himself between Calleb and Sterling, and as for Sophia, she was still holding the bouquet of flowers and giggling merrily behind Sterling, seems like it was too amusing to see the terrified look on her daughter's mate, who was in trouble now. Like really really big trouble!

"How can I calm down?!" Sterling then pointed his finger at Calleb accusingly. "Don't you dare try and seduce my mate!"

"No, of course not!" Calleb raised both of his hands, as a surrender gesture. "That's not what I mean!" he waved his hands frantically and glanced at Hope, who gave him an apologetic smile. Ugh! This girl was not reliable!

However, not even a moment later, the most sweet and intoxicating scent hit Calleb's senses, making him forget about everything as he turned his head toward the source of this fragrance. He knew immediately that it belonged to his mate, as his beast yelped with excitement in his head, urging him to go near her.

If Calleb was in his beast form, his tail would be wagging happily when he strolled across the room to approach Rosie.

Unfortunately, everything didn't go as he wished, because before the Gamma could even take three full steps toward his mate, Sterling beat him to it and pushed Rosie behind his back.

"Dad..." Rossie was about to protest, but Sterling shook his head.

"You are too young to be with him now," he said and then he looked at Calleb. "Comeback ten years later and I will consider your relationship."

"What?!" Calleb felt like he was about to get a heart attack. "Why should I comeback ten years later!? I want my mate now!"

And there it was proved once again.....Calleb really couldn't choose his words wisely.

Kace could only facepalm himself, while Sophia laughed cheekily, when she heard that.

She knew Sterling very well and Rosie was the apple of his eye, having sons as their firstborns was a blessing, but watching them grew up and make a scene here and there was something else entirely and Rosie was always been a sweet girl to ease her father's tensed mind upon facing Ethan and Ian.

"No!" Sterling shouted at Calleb. He looked like an overgrown child, whose favorite thing was about to be snatched away by Calleb.

Rosie peeked her head from behind Sterling and looked at Calleb with curiosity brimming in her eyes and this only added to his urge to pinch those lovable cheeks.

Meanwhile, there was someone came rushing toward Kace, squealing in delight right at this moment.

"Kace! Hope!" Bree ran from behind Rosie and immediately stood in front of Kace, raising her arms to be carried.

"You are already big enough, you know," Kace grumbled, but he still bent down and picked the little girl up.

"What happened?" Bree asked Hope, her orbs dancing to and fro between a tensed pair of Calleb and Sterling.

Since Brianna picked her up and brought her to stay inside the castle during the dark rain on the other day, she had been staying with the Sterling family and played with Rosie, because the other people were too busy and the only daughter of Sterling needed a friend.

"Love problem," Sophia said while pinching Bree's cheeks and walked toward her mate. "Okay, enough all of you."

Sophia stood between the two men, who were trying to hurt each other by shooting daggers from their eyes, but she was a hundred percent sure, they wouldn't start the actual fight, since Sterling wouldn't hurt his daughter's mate, no matter how bad he treated Calleb and it same goes for the Gamma, who wouldn't even dare raise his voice against his mate's father. These two are akin to two stubborn kids!

"Let them talk for five minutes," Sophia said to Sterling. "They need to know each other." action

"Why five minutes?!" both, Sterling and Calleb protested simultaneously, but each with a different intention.

"Wow, both of you get along pretty well for someone who wanted to claw each other faces," Sophia said teasingly.

"Two minutes," Sterling said and stepped away to reveal Rosie behind him, who looked nervous, but also curious when she got a better look of Calleb.

Meanwhile, the Gamma wanted to protest for the minimal amount of time that Sterling gave to him, but he was tongue tied when he saw his beautiful and adorable mate, standing before his eyes and stared at him innocently.

Calleb scratched his head and turned speechless, not only because he finally got a chance to talk to Rosie, but because Sterling and Sophia were looking at him intensely.

Ugh!

Can't they look somewhere else?! Calleb grumbled internally.

"I am Calleb, your mate," Calleb said and as soon as the words left his mouth, he wanted to dig a hole and bury himself underneath the ground. Why did it sound so stupid and pathetic???

"I know," Rosie giggled, when she saw Calleb's beet red face and how awkward he was with her parents standing not too far from them.

"Oh, so you know, great!" Calleb really wanted to facepalm himself.

On the other hand, Kace and Bree laughed at him while Hope giggled lightheartedly.

"Okay, two minutes is up," Sterling said and pulled his daughter to him. "Next time boy, I will give you another two minutes."

And with that, two minutes just wasted like that.

However, his disappointment was relieved a little when Rosie waved her hand and smiled shyly at him. "See you later, Calleb," she said timidly.

And her voice melted the Gamma, as he watched with puppy eyes at Rosie who was being taken away by her parents and disappeared at the corner of the corridor.

Only then, Calleb turned around and looked at Kace, Hope and Bree with a silly grin. "I think I am falling in love."

Chapter 846 - HE IS COURTING DEATH

"Of course you are, she is your mate after all." Hope winked at Kace and moved closer to him. "Don't worry, I have a lot of ideas in my head which would help you impel Sterling and Shopia warm up to you."

However, Kace put down Bree and tweaked Hope's ear. "Stop with your stupid ideas, now come back with me and don't wander around as you please," Kace scolded her, while his mate screeched.

The two mates bickered with each other as they walked away, but this only made Calleb sad, he wanted to bicker with Rosie like that too or be lovey dovey just like Torak and Raine.

While Calleb was busy contemplating, he felt someone tugging his hand and when he looked down, he found the little girl named Bree staring at him.

They had met before when Calleb went to the northern coven realm to find Kace, but aside from that, they had never talked with each other.

"What do you want?" Calleb asked the little girl. His voice sounding tired.

"Are you really Rosie's mate?" Bree asked, this morning she heard Rosie talking about mate things the whole time and this made her curious as well.

"Yes, I am," Calleb said proudly.

Bree smiled until her teeth were visible clearly. "Rosie and I will go on a walk in the back yard this evening, we will take a few things from the kitchen." she said while walking away. "Only the two of us," she added and winked at Calleb, mimicking what Hope did earlier.

=====

When the sun was almost set and the day turned into a beautiful twilight in the sky, Raine felt someone touching her which prompted her to open her eyes.

She realized that Torak actually wanted to carry her, because she fell asleep in the King's chamber.

"Torak," she said sleepily, rubbing her eyes and got off of the bed, because she saw Jedrek had entered the room as well and was talking to Raphael now.

"Let's go back to our room, I will ask someone to bring our dinner," Torak said softly, he helped Raine to get down from the bed and walked toward the door.

Raine nodded and yawned. From the corner of her eyes, she saw that Lilac was still fast asleep. She indeed got better, but she was still recuperating from her mark and the last event, thus it was natural that her tendency to sleep for longer periods intensified.

"Let's go," Torak grabbed her wrist and pulled her close to him. Today was really exhausting and he needed his mate close to him.

They walked past Jedrek and Raphael, who were still busy talking about something, that seemed very important.

Raine nodded at Jedrek politely, since she felt Jedrek was a little bit hard to approach, not like Kace, who almost had the same personality as Hope.

Jedrek reciprocated her gesture and turned his attention back to Raphael. action

"How is your day?" Raine asked, clinging on to his arm, while Torak tousled her hair when they walked in the corridor with big windows lined up on their right side.

"Just like usual," Torak shrugged casually.

"What will you do with the centaur?" Raine asked more specifically, she knew the three of them went to deal with this matter and she hoped that nothing bad would happen again.

"Jedrek had other ideas for them," Torak said with a hint of sigh behind his sentence.

"Will he kill them?" Raine asked worriedly. She didn't want to see another dead body, but in a war, that was not something that she could avoid.

Though Raine looked calm most of the time, but she couldn't stop herself from over thinking about the upcoming war. She was afraid, afraid to death if she must be honest.

She was afraid to see people die, but most importantly, she didn't want to see the people that she knew get harmed, especially those people who were close to her.

"It depends on them," Torak replied, caressing Raine's head, he could feel his mate's anxiety and felt sorry because she had to face this.

However, the Alpha also couldn't wrap his head around the fact that Chiron had told them; the devils had the blood from the three guardian angels and now Serefina was on their side, those two things alone were a huge blow for them.

Not to mention with the possibility that they could lose the guardian angels during the war. It didn't help in the slightest with the plan that they were trying to draw.

"Jedrek offered something to Zarrn and whether the whole kind of centaur will receive the punishment or not, it will depend on how Zarrn would convince his fellow centaurs to really pledge their loyalty to Jedrek," Torak explained.

Raine turned gloomier when she heard that. "I feel like Jedrek was pushing them too hard, I meant, loyalty and respect are something that you should earn, aren't they? You can't force it," she murmured.

"That's right," Torak said softly and kissed her head. "But, different situations need different solutions and sometimes we have to resort to forcible means to keep everything in track."

Raine hugged Torak's arm tighter, she tried to understand everything that she got to hear from her mate.

At that time, Torak tilted his head toward the direction from where a certain someone would appear soon, and sure enough Calleb came running hastily toward Raine with a silly grin on his face.

"Raine!" Calleb called her name cheerfully and upon seeing the big smile on his face, Raine found herself smiling too.

"What is it?" Raine squealed when Calleb scooped her up and twirled, while hugging her happily. This scene produced a frown of anger on Torak's face.

"I talked to Rosie and later I will meet her in the backyard!" he said happily. He needed someone to share his happiness. "I think I need to freshen up myself and change my clothes!"

Raine giggled. "Good, tell me what happened, okay?"

"Sure!" Calleb said and put her down. The Gamma looked like a happy child, who received his Christmas gift early. "Talk to you later, Raine!" he kissed her cheek and ran.

Raine was surprised, but didn't mind it at all, yet when she turned around she came face to face with a grumpy Torak, who was watching Calleb's retreating figure with a dark face.

"He is courting death," Torak grumbled.

Chapter 847 - YOUR FATHER WILL NOT KILL ME?

"He is courting death," Torak grumbled.

Raine burst out laughing when she heard what Torak said, until her cheeks turned crimson and tears gathered at the corner of her eyes.

"Why are you laughing?" Torak crossed his arms in front of his chest and asked his mate sullenly.

"It is impossible that you are jealous of him, right?" Raine said when her laugh finally died down and she approached her grumpy mate. "You know him," she added and then tiptoed to peck his lips.

Torak pulled her closer by holding her nape and deepened their kiss, upon feeling the urgency of her mate, Raine giggled between his lips.

It took a while before Torak finally let her go and rested his forehead on hers. "I have patience beyond words for him, I guess." If it was someone else, Torak would have flipped and bloodshed was surely inevitable.

"I know, you love your Gamma too," Raine said.

But Torak released her and frowned. "That doesn't sound right," he said. "But, if kissing you became his habit, he can see how much I 'love' him."

Caleb didn't even greet him when he told Raine about his happy news. That guy became even more clueless and muddleheaded since he met his mate...

=====

Jedrek lied down beside Lilac and pulled her body closer to feel her warmth. If there was one thing that he anticipated to end his hectic day, it was to lay down with her and cuddle his beautiful mate.

In his arms, Lilac snuggled closer to him and nuzzled against his neck as he wrapped his arms around her body.

Lilac felt safe and loved every time Jedrek hugged her and peppered her with small kisses whenever he thought she had fallen asleep. That was the most sweetest moment that Lilac couldn't help but feel gleeful every single time.

"How is it going with the centaur?" Lilac asked, she opened the conversation with her eyes still closed. She wanted Jedrek to tell her everything, since he had always kept everything for himself for a really long time.

She wanted Jedrek to know that she was there for him and would listen to every word that he would say.

"You don't have to worry about that," Jedrek kissed her temple again and caressed her back, to lull her to sleep.

It felt nice and Lilac started to yawn, but she wanted to know what his plan with the centaur, thus she forced herself to ask again.

"You will not kill innocent people, right? It was Chiron's mistake and it wouldn't be fair if you punish them all the same," Lilac spoke in soft voice, fighting the temptation to fall into a deep slumber.

"I won't, I gave them a choice," Jedrek replied. What he said was not entirely wrong, he just didn't break down the details about what choice he offered to those centaurs.

However, after knowing that Jedrek didn't make a decision impulsively, Lilac could relax a little bit and it only took a few seconds longer before her breathing became even, as she fell asleep again.

Jedrek didn't know whether Lilac would agree with what he had decided or not, but at the very least, in her current condition, she wouldn't be present on the day of execution to witness it all.

=====

Caleb was pacing back and forth in the backyard, he looked exceptionally fresh and neat for someone, who only wanted to stroll around before sleep.

It was true when people say that when you are happy, it will radiate from within and make you look much different. Some people who met him in this beautiful evening, even had to turn their heads to give him a second glance.

Raphael and Lana were speechless when Calleb knocked on their door all of a sudden and decided to bother them with a few questions, since he was afraid that Torak would kill him if he dared to bother Raine at this hour.

It didn't last longer though, because Raphael kicked him out for disturbing his pregnant mate's resting time.

Yet, it couldn't even dampen his mood in the slightest.

Calleb paced back and forth in the yard, waiting for Rosie to come, sniffing the air, hoping he would catch her sweet scent, but it had been an hour, yet the girl for whom he had been waiting was still nowhere in his sight.

Did Bree lie to him? Or, did something happened to his mate? Calleb shook his head to clear his mind, his imagination running wild.

However, even after another thirty minutes passed but Rosie and Bree were nowhere to be seen, Calleb became anxious. He craned his neck and walked from side to side of the yard.

Only then, he caught a scent, but it didn't belong to Rosie, instead it was one of her twin brother. Calleb was not sure, whether it was Ian or Ethan.

Ian or Ethan came with Bree.

"Calleb!" Bree greeted Calleb happily and approached him. "Are you waiting for Rosie?" she asked.

The girl's question put him in a tight spot, since Ian or Ethan also came near him, while holding a big plate in his hand, seemingly it was the food that he got from the kitchen for their dinner.

"Well, you said, you will come with Rosie to get something from the kitchen," Calleb replied awkwardly.

"Yes, but that thing is too heavy, thus uncle Sterling told him to come and get it instead," Bree said innocently. She did nothing wrong, the girl just wanted to help Calleb. It was the Gamma, who was not lucky enough.

In an instant, Calleb's heart dropped. His expression turned slightly dark as disappointment emanated from his body.

"Bree, let's go back, or we will be late for dinner," Rosie's twin said to the little girl and tapped her small shoulder.

"Okay," Bree said happily, jumping up and down upon hearing the word dinner. "Bye Calleb." She waved her hand at him.

"Bye," Calleb said in a dull voice.

But then, Rosie's brother turned around and spoke, "If you haven't had your dinner yet, you can come and join us."

"Really?" Calleb raised his head and looked at him in anticipation. "Your father will not kill me?"

Chapter 848 - I WILL COME WITH YOU

"Well, I don't know about that," he said, shrugging his shoulders nonchalantly. "Whether he will kill you later or not, but at least you can take a glimpse of my little sister."

Betting his life just for a glimpse of a girl, it sounded too much. However, it was not the case for Calleb.

"I will help you bring that plate then," Calleb said. He was full of high spirits after the invitation again and immediately approached him to get the plate from his hand. "Thank you for the invitation, Ian!"

"I am Ethan, not Ian," Ethan said and held Bree's hand, so the little girl wouldn't wander around. "Try to find the difference between us."

"Alright, alright," Calleb said lightly.

=====

"I am back," Ethan said when he entered the small dining room, where his whole family was sitting together.

"Bree is back," Bree echoed behind Ethan and ran into the room, jumping here and there making others worried at the thought that she might trip herself.

But, the cheerful atmosphere became heavy, when they caught another familiar scent in the air along with Ethan's and Bree's.

"Why did you bring that brat with you?!" Sterling growled.

On the other hand, Rosie suddenly became self conscious, she combed her long hair with her fingers and this made Ian upset. He tousled her hair and messed it up.

"Ian!" Rossie swatted his hand away from her hair.

"He said he had not eaten anything since this afternoon because of what you said to him, and he really missed Rosie," Ethan said.

In actual fact, Calleb had never said that.

"And because Bree said Rosie will come to pick our food from the kitchen, he had been waiting for her there for hours," Ethan took the plate from Calleb and put it down at the center of the table. "I have told him that you will probably kill him if he shows up, but he came along anyway."

At least, Ethan put some good words for the Gamma.

Though Sterling kept grumbling and glaring at him for a few good minutes, but in the end he relented. "Sit there and leave after you finished eating."

Calleb didn't need to be told twice as he immediately walked over, intending to sit down next to Rosie, but Sterling spoke again.

"No, sit next to me."

=====

Three days passed uneventfully and today was the day of the execution of Chiron and Carina. Everybody knew about this except Lilac.

Because she was still recuperating and she spent most of the time sleeping, she was not really aware of the dreadful things that would happen in a few hours time.

Jedrek kissed her forehead and started walking outside leaving her with Eaton inside the room, yet Lilac opened her eyes and spoke in soft voice.

"I want to go and see," she said.

Jedrek frowned when he heard that. "You need to rest," he tried to reason with her.

Actually, Lilac's complexion had greatly improved during the last three days and her cheeks had showed a tinge of red, but Jedrek was still worried about her, moreover, he was not sure if it was fine to bring Lilac to watch the execution.

They had talked about this, yet Jedrek would always avoid giving more details about the execution. He deduced that Lilac wouldn't agree with his decision and having an argumentation with her was the last thing he wanted at this moment.

"I have been resting enough," Lilac said stubbornly. She used Jedrek arm to support her body, so she could sit down and face her mate. "I am fine and I want to see it."

On the other hand, every time Jedrek refused to tell her about what he would do to Chiron and Carina, Lilac felt something was not right, yet she didn't want to push him.

However, when Jedrek still didn't want to open up about it last night, she decided to go and see it herself.

It wasn't that she would go against Jedrek's decision, she just didn't want him to decide something out of impulse.

"You don't have to," Jedrek was still trying to reject the idea. "It will not take a long time, I will be back as soon as it was done and we will have lunch together."

Yet, Lilac shook her head and looked at Jedrek right in the eyes.

"This will be my first appearance as your mate after the mating bond. If you have decided to punish those for the citizens to see, I want to be there. I want to face your people," Lilac then corrected. "Our people," she emphasized her words. "If you want to go hard on your punishment, then go ahead, but I will not gain anything by hiding behind your back. The whole population would be attending and I want to be there with you when you deliver the punishment on the people, who tried to harm me," she said with determination in her eyes.

Lilac got the point, this punishment was made for the public to see and this was related to her. Her appearance could also deliver the message that she was fine and the royal couple was still strong even after what had happened.

It could also be seen that they could rule together just fine.

"Is there anything that I can do to make you change your mind?" Jedrek asked in a helpless tone, yet he already knew the answer.

"No," Lilac smiled sweetly and kissed his cheeks. "Help me change, will you?" she asked in a teasing tone.

"Wait for me outside," Jedrek said to Eaton in a stern voice.

"Okay, okay..." Eaton rolled his eyes at him and glanced at Lilac who was smiling.

He was glad that Jedrek found his mate. After what he had been through, at least he deserved this kind of happiness, and Eaton was sure that Lilac would keep the hot-headed king on the most reasonable track.

The guardian angel could calm the beast's violent nature and embrace his wounded soul after all the never ending betrayals and heartache that he had to endure.

Chapter 849 - THE DAY OF THE EXECUTION

Lilac saw a platform right in front of the entrance gates, where Chiron and Carina were being held. Their bodies were tied with many chains to the poles, and were positioned just a few meters apart from each other.

Above the castle gates and along the tall wall, were the red flags with white wolf which were fluttering in the air, while the atmosphere below was dead silent.

The chief of the centaurs glared at Lilac and Jedrek with a cold look in his eyes, when the two of them sat on their throne.

Kace and Torak along with their mates didn't come to see this execution. The two guardian angels were not ready to witness such a cruel punishment and their mates could understand that, moreover, there wouldn't be any difference whether they were present or not, because Jedrek wouldn't change his decision anyway.

Especially for Kace and Hope. The two of them visited Chiron and Carina yesterday, but both of them refused to talk to them.

However, when Kace and Hope were about to leave, Chiron had only one favor; he didn't want Kace and Hope to watch him being burned alive, screaming pathetically.

"I hope you remember the way you know me when we were in the northern coven realm," Chiron said and that was the first time he looked at Kace and Hope in the eyes, as a soft smile appeared on his lips. He looked like the Chiron that they knew all this time.

"I don't regret what I did, but I am sorry that I have disappointed you. I don't know whether I'm regretting for choosing to come back to this realm or not, but the moment I saw Jedrek, I can't hold back my grudge, especially when I watched his blissful expression when he had his mate." He said with trembling voice.

And Hope had cried a river hearing his tone, hugging Kace tightly.

"The days we spent in the northern coven realm, are happy days for me," Chiron said and those were the last things they heard from him before they left the dungeon.

However, now... the chief of the centaurs would meet his end, along with Carina, since she helped him and didn't even try to save herself. It seemed like she chose to die along with Chiron, rather than see him suffer alone.

Jedrek helped Lilac to sit down on their throne. In front of them, the roads were fully packed with citizens as they solemnly waited for the execution to materialize.

However, soft whispers and sobs could be heard beneath the platform, where the centaurs clustered to the left side near Chiron's pole, apparently the children and the female centaurs couldn't bear to witness such cruelty.

The wind relentlessly brushed past the people assembled and atop of the platform, aside from Chiron and Carina, was Zarrn.

Zarrn closed his eyes slowly, before he opened them and turned around to face Chiron and Carina.

He had done his best to make the centaurs understand this situation, but it was still hard for them to accept that their chief had turned his back against Jedrek solely for his grudge, which they had promised to forget and start anew when they got their land back.

Not only that, Chiron didn't even think twice for their well being if Jedrek decided to kill them all for his crimes.

If they wanted to look back now, they wouldn't want to be here and help Jedrek with the war that they were not involved in, but there was another important thing to consider, and that was to see their children growing in a better environment. action

As if acquiescent with their heavy hearts, the sunny sky suddenly turned gloomy as wind started to blow ferociously and dark clouds began to loom over them.

Jedrek stood up and said. "Name their crimes!"

Eaton stepped forward on the platform and faced Chiron and Carina, who were looking at him coldly. There was no fear but only determination in their eyes.

The violent winds were blowing the red flags on display, giving the illusion that the white wolf pattern on the flags came to life. However, Eaton's strong voice managed to be heard atop of all this tumultuous.

Eaton named their crimes for siding with the devils to kidnap Lilac, who had been crowned as the queen of the lycanthropes currently. The crime involving their queen was enough to send them to their death beds, not to mention siding with the devils, when they fully knew they were preparing for a war with them.

After done with listing out the charges, Eaton turned around to see Zarrn. "You witnessed all of that, didn't you?"

"Yes, I witnessed their betrayal," Zarrn said in a stern voice with unconcealed emotions dripping in every word he spoke.

"And you, as the representative of the centaurs, will you declare that your people would pledge their loyalty to our king?" Eaton asked again.

Zarrn turned around and glanced at the other centaurs, whose faces were a mix of several emotions.

"Yes, we will," he said. If there was one thing that Zarrn could feel grateful for was the fact that he managed to convince the other centaurs.

After hearing his consent, Eaton turned toward Chiron and Carina. He looked at the two of them and asked, "Do you want to deny the crimes that you two had committed?"

There was no answer from the two of them. They raised their head to the gloomy sky and kept their lips tight. This was a gesture from them that they had resigned to their fate, but also an approval that they had really done all the things that they had been charged with.

"Do you have any last words to say?" Eaton asked again.

Meanwhile, people under the platform had started the preparation to burn the two traitors to their death.

Burning to death was the most painful and humiliating punishment, especially when it was executed before the public eye, but this would also serve as a warning for those who had any wrong ideas like them.

"I wish to see your mate in Tartarus soon," Chiron said, which culminated in an uproar among the crowd.

Chapter 850 - THE DAY OF THE EXECUTION (2)

"I wish to see your mate in Tartarus soon," Chiron said, which culminated an uproar among the crowd.

A loud collective gasp escaped from the crowd upon hearing Chiron's provocative statement and the centaurs shook their head in disagreement. Contrary to what people believe, the centaurs were peace-seeking creatures, which always strive for balance in their life and would avoid conflicts as much as possible.

Therefore, to hear such vexing words from Chiron, it was hard for them to believe that they were coming from their respectful chief.

"Kill them!" the crowd hollered in one accord with a voice full of fury and hatred.

"Burn them to death!" echoed one voice after another and soon it became a wave of demands from the citizens as they growled and snarled at the two centaurs, who were bound to the adjacent poles with dry haystack around their feet.

Their angry voices were like the wildfire in a forest, spreading very fast as ripples of emotion overflowed through the amassed group until the very last person on the far end.

"SILENCE!" Eaton roared to calm down the commotion, if this continued any further, then the angered lycanthropes would attack the rest of the centaurs for the sins that Chiron and Carina had committed.

The deafening roar managed to silence the uproar and the citizens were coerced to wait for what would happen next or more precisely what would their king do to those centaurs.

"As a sign of the centaurs pledging their loyalty to the king of lycanthropes, we will do a blood binding pact to prove their loyalty in the future," Eaton said, he turned around and faced all the centaurs.

They had been informed of this and knew their choices were limited, it was either agreeing for the pact or they could join Chiron and Carina to be burned to death right after them.

"If you don't want to agree with this pact, you can step up on to the platform!" Eaton final sentence boomed among the people and this left them shuddering at the thought of the very consequences that they would have to face once they chose to reject the pact.

Of course, the first offer was more tempting than the other, yet there were three centaurs, who stepped forward to reject the offer. It was evident from their stance that they actually chose to follow Chiron to the after life.

"We reject the pact. We don't want to live under the tyranny of him any more. Chiron and Carina don't deserve to die, it was the devils, who whispered to them and made them do their bidding," one of the three centaurs spoke loud and clear, while the other two agreed with what he chose.

This statement created another wave of whispers among the crowd and some of the centaurs appeared faltering with their decision.

And after saying that, the centaur, who spoke earlier looked at Zarrn, long and hard, before he talked again. "Don't you feel ashamed to stand here and present yourself as a representative for us, when the truth states that you betrayed your own chief?"

Zarrn looked at him and then his fellow centaurs below the platform. He heaved a heavy breath before he answered. action

"I don't feel ashamed to stand against Chiron and Carina, and declare the truth to vouch for the wrongdoings they have committed," Zarrn said. His voice echoing among the crowd. "But, I will feel ashamed for blaming the devils for having a weak heart." He looked at Chiron and Carina.

The ex-chief of the centaurs had his eyes fixed on Zarrn, yet no one knew what he was thinking at the moment.

"The devils can do everything they want to, but it was still Chiron who decided to follow the temptation," Zarrn said while keeping his eyes fixed on Chiron.

Zarrn didn't hate Chiron for the wrong decision he made, but he just felt disappointed toward his chief for his surrender to the devils' provocation.

In fact, in some occasions, Zarrn too felt the resentment along with Chiron for their past, but he didn't know that it was strong enough to stir something inside of him just from a whisper by the devils.

He should have chosen a different way.

"You are right, but I don't regret it," Chiron finally chose to cut in and then he looked at the three centaurs, who came up to the platform, his eyes filled with unfathomable emotions. "Go back to your people."

However, the three of them were close to Chiron and they didn't have any family or a mate to tie them down to the people, thus they stood firm on their decision.

"Carry out the execution!!!" Eaton said out loud when the other three centaurs also were tied up to the punishment poles to be burned along with Chiron and Carina.

Suddenly a loud sound boomed out as the citizens cheered out in unison spectacularly, giving off an intimidating aura.

Not to mention the five perpetrators, even the other centaurs shivered when they heard that.

Alongside with the crowds cheers, was the thundering sounds from the drums which were being hit rhythmically as five people stepped up to the platform while carrying torches in their hands.

The dark sky only added to the gloominess of this afternoon, as if it was too waiting to witness the pathetic deaths of these five souls who would meet their end in less than a few hours, as those poor souls wouldn't be able to see tomorrow.

Meanwhile, Lilac watched all of this without blinking. At first she didn't have any idea about what Jedrek had decided.

She knew Jedrek would punish them severely, but to kill them in this torturous way, was something that have never crossed her mind.

Though, Lilac's expression didn't show her true feelings, from the way she held Jedrek's hand tightly, let him knew that she didn't agree with this.

However, Jedrek appreciated her for not raising an objection at this moment. Because, if Lilac had done that, Jedrek would be in a difficult position.

On one hand, it was his order and he didn't want to back off from his words, but on the other hand, Lilac's opinion mattered to him a great deal.

Fortunately, she kept silent until the five people stepped forward and all the commotion along with the sounds of drums died down as everything became eerily silent.

Lilac bravely watched when the first torch lit up the haystack beneath Chiron's feet which was followed by one after another.