

TLOA Lycan 861

Chapter 862 - I WILL MAKE THEM COME TO US

"Why should I go with you?" Lidya asked irritably, her hair fluttered in the wind and the cold expression on her face was in sync with this frozen river in the cold weather.

"Because we don't trust him," Hope said simply. She shrugged her shoulders and walked toward the river bank. The spot she possibly thought where she heard something from beneath, the last time she was here with Serefina and Lilac.

On the other side, Raine looked around her, she didn't really get it that why they had to come to this place again. The last time she was here, she met with the shadow warrior that she thought dead. Dorian. That was not a pleasant memory to remember, since his warning managed to occupy her mind for a few days.

"You don't trust me, but you agreed to come to this place," the dwarf scoffed disdainfully, which was completely ignored by Hope as she questioned back.

"Why should we come to this place?" Hope folded her arms in front of her chest and looked around her suspiciously as if the devils would jump out of nowhere, if she let her guard down for a few moments.

"Because you heard something from beneath this frozen river, didn't you?" the dwarf tapped the iced over surface to make sure that it was safe for him to walk on it. "Come here."

"No," Hope rejected his idea immediately.

"This is safe," he said in a demanding tone. Nutdrouk jumped on it to prove his words that he was right about walking safely on the river. "Come here!" he said, seemingly upset.

Hope frowned, she looked at Lidya, asking for her advice. But, the witch also frowned. "What will you do once she walked over? First of all, make your intention clear and tell what you are going to do instead of giving out orders as if you are the boss here!" Lidya shouted at the dwarf, who was already three meters away from the river bank.

"D*mn you witch!" Nutdrouk cursed, he heard a fair share of scolding from Serefina, thus he didn't need another witch to tell him what he had to do.

"What did you say?!" Lidya roared. "Say it again and I will drown you right now!" Lidya raised her hand wanting to blast the frozen river, so the dwarf would disappear from their sight.

However, Hope tugged her cloak stealthily to remind her that they still needed the dwarf.

Hope asked Lidya to come with them to this place with the dwarf, without alarming their mates. Because they would outrightly reject the idea of coming here. With a hundred percent guarantee!

Actually, Raine also had her own doubts. She did not agree to follow the dwarf without Torak's consent. Meanwhile, because Raphael and Calleb were busy with the training, instead of making the Gamma to follow them around, her mate replaced him with ten lycan warriors, who now were waiting outside of the dwarf's cabin, without any idea that the four people inside were already gone.

Thankfully, though Raine didn't agree with Hope, she didn't spoil her plan either, she kept silent but just like Hope, she looked around worriedly now.

The reason why Hope wanted Lidya to come along with them was of course for their own safety and if the dwarf turned out to be a traitor and planning to stab their backs, the witch could teleport them back to the castle at any given moment.

Yet another reason for Hope to trust Lidya, was because they were still on an agreement that Hope had to fulfill. Lidya needed her alive. action

"So, are you coming or not?!" Nutdrouk ignored Lidya's angry words and talked to Hope directly. "Or, you just wanted to hear that from where you are standing now?!"

"Hear what?!" Lidya lashed out.

Nutdrouk clicked his tongue, he was upset because Lidya kept cutting the conversation between him and Hope. "The sound of the voice that you are hearing now. Don't you hear anything?" Nutdrouk tilted his head questioningly.

"What sound?" Lidya's eyebrows creased and she turned around to look at Hope, who was standing beside her, seemingly in a daze.

Meanwhile, Raine came closer to their little quarrel and listened to what they said. She stopped herself from saying anything when she was not sure with the situation and chose to observe first.

"...the voice," Hope said finally. It was the same voice that she heard when she was here for the first time. Like a whisper. A murmuring sound that she couldn't quite discern what it was saying.

"Voice?" Lidya asked. "What voice?" she turned her attention toward the dwarf.

"Come here if you want to know," the dwarf said with a smirk on his lips.

Raine looked at Hope, she couldn't help but feel worry about her, knowing Hope for a few months now, she knew exactly what she would choose.

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"The barrier," said Sybil, the witch that came with Jedrek's entourage. The witch with long white hair that reached her h.i.p.s, stopped the entourage when she felt there was something wrong.

"Barrier? For what???" Jedrek asked, he couldn't see it, but he could feel there was something off in the air which also carried a faint scent of citrus.

"The shifters can't go through. Only humans," she said. Sybil walked forward and raised her hands, as if she was touching an invisible wall before her. "This is a strong magic, your majesty," she said contemplating.

From this hill, they could see the city of the eastern region below them, with a few buildings and the wall that surrounded it, just like what they had back around the castle.

"Put it down," Jedrek ordered, he glared at the city which stood far from him and could feel his anger starting to boil his blood. How dare they put this kind of thing to prevent him to enter the region?

"A barrier?" Lilac got off from the carriage and walked gracefully to stand beside Jedrek. "We just need to talk to them, right? I have another idea to make them come to us."

Chapter 863 - SOMETIMES HE FORGOT

Jedrek looked at his mate, with interest to hear what she was saying. What would his unpredictable mate want to do this time?

"What will you do?" Jedrek looked at Lilac expectantly. He was more than willing to listen to his queen.

Lilac smiled secretively at Jedrek and walked ahead, but then the lycan's eyes widened in surprise and out of instinct, he grabbed her hand and yanked her back.

"What you will do?!" Jedrek yelled at Lilac, his soft gaze now turned hard.

"The barrier makes the shifters unable to go through, but it won't have any effect on humans, right?" Lilac turned around to ask Sybil.

The witch with the hair as white as snow, nodded her head. "Yes, your majesty. It won't have any effect on humans."

"And I am human," Lilac said, winking an eye at Jedrek, yet the king was too stiff to get her joke. Nothing was funny, as long as it had something to do with Lilac's safety.

"No," Jedrek said sternly. He didn't let go of Lilac's arm and he wouldn't budge from his decision either.

"She said it is fine for me to go," Lilac said innocently as she pouted her lips. "Don't worry, I will not be going too far."

"No," Jedrek didn't accept her reasoning.

And upon hearing a second rejection, Lilac frowned, she looked around her and observed Jedrek's people who were now staring at them, curious to know whether their overbearing king would relent to his mate or not.

"You should listen, my queen, this is for your own safety and is not a play thing." Sebastian stepped forward to give an advice.

Though it was a nice advice on the surface, Lilac could still feel the way the general still couldn't get rid the idea that she was a guardian angel with all the rumors that was said about her kind. Sebastian was still looking down on her from the underlying meaning of his words 'play thing'.

"I am not playing," Lilac countered sternly. She then glanced at Jedrek's hand, which was still holding hers and then raised her head.

Lilac tiptoed to whisper something to him.

She didn't want to argue with Jedrek in front of his people or even worse deny him, it wouldn't be good for him as a king, whether in the end he would relent to her or not.

Those people should respect him and Lilac would gain her own respect by showing them that she was not as weak as what they thought about a guardian angel.

"Let me do it," Lilac whispered to Jedrek, her warm breath brushing against his skin deliciously. "They erected this barrier, it means they had known that we will come to them and they will not think that you can come across it."

"No, Lilac," Jedrek said sternly when she finished whispering to him, but the look of disappointment on her face made him to add. "Unless you go with Sybil." He offered a solution. "And not further than half way to the city."

The city behind the wall in the eastern region looked as large as the one in the southern region, where they were living now.

However, this place looked gloomy, as if this city had been abandoned.

"Okay," Lilac agreed and kissed Jedrek's cheek, to comfort him, lest he took back his words. "Let's go Sybil," she said.

"Yes, my queen," the witch replied solemnly.

"You go first," Jedrek said, he still held Lilac's hand as he asked for the witch to go first and cross the barrier.

The king's intention was very clear. If something did happen and Sybil's prediction was wrong about the safety of the barrier for other creatures except shifters, then the witch would bear the consequences first.

In the end, Jedrek didn't want his mate to get hurt.

Though, it was only Sybil who knew where exactly the barrier had started, but from the way she tried to feel it earlier, Jedrek could see that the barrier started where the hill became sloppy with many trunks beneath it.

Lilac should be careful if she wanted to go down there.

Sybil nodded and walked carefully down the hill, yet when she tried to jump the trunk in front of her, the trunk suddenly moved on its own making a way for her.

At first, Sybil was surprised because she didn't use any magic to move it, until she turned around and saw her queen who was smiling softly at her, Lilac's hand made a wave movement to get rid of the obstacles for her to take easy steps on this sloping land.

"Okay, now?" Lilac asked Jedrek. Her eyes brimming with elation.

"Hm," Jedrek hummed. Sometimes he would forget that his mate held such a power in her small body. Her angelic face also made it hard for people to categorize her as someone who was formidable.

It took a few more seconds longer for Jedrek to let go of her hand and watch her walk down the sloping hill with ease.

Lilac walked alongside with Sybil and stopped when they reached halfway to the city. The guardian angel turned around and saw her mate, who was staring at her intensely, while his people stood alongside the barrier.

The moment Lilac turned her attention back to the city, the sound of a thunder shook the earth, as if rejecting her presence, but a smirk appeared at the corner of the guardian angel's lips.

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Hope walked over to the dwarf, who was now standing ten meters away from the river bank, under the worried stare of Raine.

Meanwhile, Lidya still didn't agree with Hope's decision to go there.

"If she doesn't want to listen to my words, then what was the use of me being here?" Lidya was upset, she clenched her teeth when Hope almost slipped on the surface of the frozen river.

"I will be surprised if she listens to you," Raine replied and smiled softly when Lidya glared at her. "She asked you to come here, because she believes you will protect her if something went wrong," Raine said in reassuring tone.

Lidya glanced at the girl beside her and scoffed. "You know, you are really good with words, remembering that you are the quieter among the three."

Chapter 864 - THE SUN HAD GONE

Connor looked up at the sky and felt a little bit lose when he watched how the already blackened sky became even darker for the last two days.

It had been a full week that the light from the sun failed to penetrate the gloomy clouds that were hanging low in the sky.

People couldn't possibly guess whether it was day or night and this situation left all the people restless. They didn't know what happened and the government still had yet to release a statement regarding this phenomena.

The people, who liked conspiracy theories, would say this was the end of the world and they would never see the sun again, but some of them would refuse the idea, too afraid even to think about it.

A few months ago, if someone said that they would never see the sun for a long time and the day would turn into night, no one would have believed it and would ultimately laugh at it.

However now, even the theory of the end of the world sounded reliable.

Connor sighed and lowered his head. He didn't feel like he wanted to go to see Casey. They had been having an endless argumentation for a few days about something that they didn't even know about precisely and she had been acting strange recently.

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"Brother, are you sure, you will ignore the summons from the Alpha?" Stephan looked at the gloomy turned day worriedly. This was not something within his wildest imaginations. The war was truly coming...

"No," Reynolds said, he was still adamant to stay in his castle. He wouldn't move an inch if he didn't get what he wanted.

There was no point of them to go through the war, their kind would go extinct anyway if they didn't get their female back and alive.

It sounded weird, but it was important for Reynold to keep the earth dragon shifter lineage from not stopping with his generation.

But neither Torak nor Lucifer, seemed to give what he wanted.

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Lilac smirked when she watched the city from afar.

From where she was standing now, she could feel the life beyond the wall.

The guardian angel saw the east castle, which was the highest building among the others with sky rised towers and that was her aim.

Lilac closed her eyes and took a deep breath. She had never done a massive destruction before, but she knew that she had been suppressing her power all this time and she would be able to achieve more if she was given an opportunity.

Sadly, in the past, she wouldn't be able to do what she was about to do now.

Therefore, Lilac was thrilled to unleash her power. She wondered whether this would work or not, but whatever the result was, at the very least, she knew that she tried her best.

"My queen, what are you going to do?" Sybil asked her in confusion. She didn't have any idea what Lilac would do from here.

"What is your element?" Lilac asked. Normally, every witch had a different element, which they would advance in controlling and it would affect their magic as well.

Like Serefina, she was attributed with fire.

"Water, my queen," she answered respectfully.

"Good," Lilac said. "I want you to create rain above the city now."

Sybil looked hesitant. "The city is too far and my spells would be blocked by their barrier." But then she added. "But I will try."

Afterward, the witch looked heavenward and concentrated for a little bit longer until a layer of perspiration appeared on her forehead.

After that, they could see the sky turning even murkier and the dark clouds gathered above the city, creating ripple after ripple of lightning.

"It will only last for three minutes or less, my queen," Sybil said and the water lashed out on the city along with thunders, creating a storm over the city.

"That's enough," Lilac said, satisfied when she felt the people in the city running around, looking for shelter.

Afterward, Lilac knelt and placed her palms on the surface of the ground, she looked straight at the arrogant wall that protected the witches in the eastern region.

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Hope was a little bit worried when she managed to walk on the surface of this frozen river and stood right in front of the dwarf.

Nutdrouk's height only reached her waist, thus she had to lower her head to look at him. "Now what should I do?" Hope asked anxiously she didn't want to stay in this place longer. What if the layer of the ice cracked all of a sudden and something bad happened?

"I want you to concentrate and listen to what the voice that you could hear trying to tell you," the dwarf said in a strict tone, as if he was a teacher who was telling his student to study hard.

Hope followed what he said and closed her eyes in order to concentrate more, but after a full ten minutes, she opened her eyes and looked at Nutdrouk disastrously. "I can't..." she said softly.

"Concentrate more," Nutdrouk said, demanding. "You will be able to catch what it was saying if you can connect to it."

Hope frowned. "What should I connect with? What is this voice from? You know what it is?" action

"You will know once you hear the voice clearly," Nutdrouk said, shaking his head like a rattle drum, as he demanded for Hope to concentrate more. "Don't think too much and just let all of your senses guide you."

"You don't make any sense," Hope grumbled, but she gave another try.

This time, she tried to listen to the wind, feeling the coldness in the air that bit her bare skin and, of course, the murmuring voice.

She tried to let herself sink into this flurry voice.

It came from beneath, from under this frozen river and echoed through the stream of the water beneath it.

Therefore, Hope knelt down carefully and put her palms on the icy surface to support her body when she bent over to place her ears closer to the source of the sound.

Chapter 865 - THEIR POWER

Aside from the thunder from the rain which was pouring down heavily in the city, some other thunderous sounds came from the ground.

It shook the city wall like an earthquake and sent all the citizens running in to the open streets, while covering their heads, afraid that the nearby buildings would fall onto their heads when the dirt crumbled.

The screams and cries of people along with children filled the entire city. The quiet and peaceful day had turned into a nightmare.

But, that was not all, because beneath the ground, they could see something moving very fast toward the castle. There were around ten such things burrowing their way toward one direction, the east castle.

All the citizens tried to go out of the city wall, because those creepy things scared them and the surrounding buildings threatened to collapse at any moment from now.

Far away from the city, on top of the hill, the king watched as the citizens of the eastern region started to go out from the protection of their wall, and a smirk appeared at the corner of his lips.

Jedrek shifted his attention back to his mate, who was still crouching in the same position like before. She was squatting down with her palms pressed flat onto the ground, her eyes concentrating hard.

Meanwhile, beside the king, Sebastian and Theo's jaws dropped when they witnessed the destruction that their new queen unleashed just in the blink of any eye.

By now, the rain stopped pouring down, but the dark clouds were still hanging low on top of the tower.

Yet, it didn't stop there.

They could see something very big gliding like an enormous creeper, which coiled the highest tower of the castle and crushed it down, even they could hear the sound of the stones crumbling from a afar, and the tower tumbled down to the ground within a few seconds.

That enormous creeper coiled the tower like a snake to crush its prey.

They were not sure what was that, but knowing Lilac, it must be her power that created that. A natural force!

Witnessing all the happenings up to this point, Sebastian and Theo remembered all the mean things that they spat at Lilac, about being a weak guardian angel and they suddenly shuddered. action

A single guardian angel could ruin a city without a trace!

What would happen if the other two guardian angels were also here to join this?

Even Jedrek looked at his mate indulgently.

However, something caught his scent and he turned around abruptly to check his surroundings, yet he couldn't find it.

"What happened, your majesty?" asked Sebastian upon sensing Jedrek's puzzlement.

"Nothing," Jedrek spat curt and cold before he looked at the city once again. That must be his imagination.

For a second, Jedrek felt like he smelled the citrus scent that he had known very well. This citrus scent was different from the one that he smelled earlier and that scent belonged to her.

From here, Jedrek could see Lilac overthrew another tower of the castle in the city.

Lilac was right after all, if they couldn't get inside, it would be the best to draw them out from their safety.

All of the devastation lasted for another five minutes, until seemingly all of the citizens from the eastern region had gone out of the city wall and gathered in front of it, like a flock of frightened animals.

Only then did Lilac stopped what she was doing and stood up gracefully.

She noticed that a few towers had disappeared, which were crumbled down and the dirt was now heaped behind the high wall, not within her sight.

"The witches came over," Sybil said.

"We will return," Lilac replied and turned around to walk back to the hill with Sybil in tow, who was chanting a few spells, in case those witches would attack them from behind.

Despite them having to climb up the hill, it was not at all difficult for Lilac, as she cleared her path and made the sloppy surface turn into stairs for her.

Up the hill, Jedrek waited for her with eyes filled with affection.

He took Lilac's hand when she was close enough to him and wiped the dirt from her palms, while saying, "you did a great job."

Lilac's smile was akin to the bright sun when she heard his compliment.

Jedrek was so rare to express his feelings, therefore, the moment he did that, Lilac felt appreciated and elated.

When she turned around to see the five witches coming over to where they were standing with angry steps, Lilac glanced at Sebastian and Theo, who kept staring at her since she climbed the hill and gave them both a look, as if saying; what? Do you still think I am weak?

With that look, Sebastian and Theo averted their gazes and looked somewhere else.

Jedrek saw that, but didn't say anything, since his woman could handle the whole city, two generals would be nothing in her eyes.

He loved how Lilac let him saw her weakness and raw emotions when it was only the two of them, it helped Jedrek to show her his, but she would appear strong and unperturbed when they were in the public.

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Hope bent down her body and placed her ear as close as she could to the icy surface.

She could now hear the voice clearly from its bottom, but couldn't understand a word from it. What was that? The sound was like someone was crying, or screaming...? She was unsure.

"Raine!" the dwarf shouted to her, to get the other guardian angel's attention.

Raine, who was looking at Hope current state worriedly, shifted her attention to Nutdrouk, who was wearing a blue shabby robe.

"What?" Raine shouted back at him, the sound of thunders made everything around here more nerve-wrecking and she didn't want anything else except go back to the castle and melt in Torak warm embrace.

"Concentrate!" Nutdrouk shouted again.

"Concentrate on what?!" Raine asked in confusion.

"Time!" Nutdrouk waved his hand and the blue lizard glided down from his hoodie on to his hand.

"What?" Raine became even more confused with his words.

At the same time, something horrifying happened. It happened very fast that even Lidya couldn't see it coming.

Chapter 866 - THEIR POWER (2)

The lizard glided down from Nutdrouk's hoodie and landed on the ice-covered river, but when the dwarf was talking to Raine about using her power to control the time, the blue lizard strated breathing fire onto the surface of the river, causing the icy surface beneath Hope to melt.

Hope was surprised and tried to move away from the lizard out of instinct, yet it was too late and the icy layer under her feet started thinning and it wouldn't be able to hold her weight longer. Sure enough, soon an eerie crackling sound could be heard along with the rumbling of thunder from the sky.

Hope's heart skipped a beat when she saw how the ice cracked beneath her and she could feel the water burst from the gaps, wetting her cloak as the coldness bit her skin.

All of this happened so fast and no one saw this coming. Not even Lidya.

Three seconds was all it needed for Hope to fell into the river and to be trapped under the ice-covered surface, because the thin layer of the ice was cracked by the fire breathed by the blue lizard.

"No!" Raine started screaming frantically and rushed forward to help Hope, but the dwarf stopped her immediately. With magic he pushed Raine away until she fell onto her back.

"Use your power to stop the time or she will die," Nutdrouk said. His voice was very loud and demanding. He glanced at Hope, who was trying to swim against the current to reach the spot where she fell.

However, it was hard to do since she used several layers of warm clothes and the current was quite strong down there. She tried to break the ice with her bare hands, yet she herself knew it was a futile attempt to break the ice by doing so.

Hope watched through the murky layer of ice, she expected someone might do something to help her, but all she could see was Nutdrouk, standing without moving a single muscle, staring back at her.

"Lidya! Do something!" Raine stood up and yelled at the witch.

However, when she raised her head and turned around to see where the witch was standing a moment ago, she couldn't see anyone. The witch disappeared.

"Lidya?!" Raine was in panic. She was the only one on the ground now. "Lidya!?"

And when Raine looked at the place where Nutdrouk supposed to be standing, the dwarf was not there as well!

"What is this!?" Raine was upset beyond words. She was alone at this river bank, all she could see was the vast river, which stretched out for as long as her eyes could see and the clearing behind her with some vegetation and a few trees, while the dark gloomy clouds were hanging low above her head.

Raine gritted her teeth and balled her fists.

Was the dwarf trying to make a fool out of them?! Where was he now?!

Raine had never felt this angry before as she felt now knowing that the dwarf used this method on them. She was very familiar with this, since Serefina always used the same trick on her.

The witch would push her limits until she didn't have any other choice, except to fight back. Making her situation very miserable to bring out the power from within her.

It was also the same just like when Serefina forced her to speak or when she would push her to face her nightmares.

It was indeed effective, but Raine despised it a lot.

And now the dwarf tried to use the same method!?

Raine clicked her tongue and looked around her once again, only then did she realize that she was a few meters away from where she was standing earlier as she could see the pile of empty barrels, where she met Dorian when she came here the last time, on her right side.

Therefore, she had to run toward that direction...

If she was here and Lidya was not with Hope, then what would happen to her?

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Jedrek stood tall above the hill with Lilac beside him. When the five spell casters finally appeared beneath the sloppy ground, they looked up to him with eyes full of malice.

"My king," one of the oldest spell casters, stepped forward and greeted Jedrek, but the smirk at the corner of his lips and the way he stared at Jedrek, showed nothing but resentment.

"I wish your words are true," Jedrek said in a low voice, but it was audible enough for them to hear.

"May I know what occasion that brought you here? And made us, your humble servants to be graced with your presence?" he spoke with such sweet words, but everyone could see that he wasn't feeling grateful upon seeing Jedrek.

"Drop your pretense, Swan," Jedrek said calmly. The wind fluttered his cloak and despite his calm demeanor, they knew that a storm was raging within him.

The older wizard named Swan chortled and took another step forward, he craned his neck to look at Jedrek.

"What do you want Jedrek?" he asked, brazenly addressing the king with his first name. And, this disrespectful action was immediately rewarded with loud growls from the lycans behind Jedrek and Lilac. "No need to be hostile, I used to visit you when your father was still responsible for the throne. We were family until you decided to kill all the members of Gregory family and Maximus. I have warned you back then and I will warn you again now," Swan said without wavering under the hard gazes of the Lycanthropes. "If you don't get out of my sight right now, I will..."

"You will what?" Lilac cut his long monologue, she was standing beside Jedrek, thus her small body was oblivious compared to the king of the lycanthropes beside her, yet it didn't make her presence any scarce, there was something about her that made her look no less dominant than Jedrek.

"So, you are the guardian angel?" Swan raised his eyebrows and smiled viciously at Lilac. "It is a pleasure to meet you, my queen." action

"I don't think you are feeling any pleasure to meet me from the way you greeted us with this barrier," Lilac snapped.

"Yes, but you returned the favor by destroying our city," Swan replied.

Chapter 867 - THEIR POWER (3)

"Oops," Lilac covered her mouth with her hand dramatically and she could see from the corner of her eyes that Jedrek was smiling softly, as he rested his hand on her h.i.p.s. "I just want to make you come and see us, actually."

Swan glared at Lilac, but upon hearing a vicious growl from the king, he averted his eyes and talked to Jedrek instead. He didn't think he want to deal with this woman now.

Why was the king always got involved with a woman, whose tongue was even more sharper than a knife? In the past, it was Serefina and now this guardian angel!

And then a smirk appeared on his wrinkly face when he spoke. "Why do you want to see me so badly my king? This barrier actually is nothing. Don't take it personal." He waved his hands, as if what he was saying was just a joke.

However, Jedrek didn't want to beat around the bush and talk nonsense with this old wizard, thus he got to the point immediately. "Where are my general and the mind reader?" he asked in a low and threatening tone.

Swan feigned a surprise, he widened his eyes and gasped. "How would I know, my king? Aren't they your people? Did you lost them?"

Jedrek watched his expression in silence and didn't answer that stupid question, instead, he posted his own question. "You know the war is coming, which side are you?" he asked without missing a beat and witnessed the viciousness flashed in his opponent's eyes.

"Of course your side my king," he said with such ease and that left the people who heard him unable to believe his sugar-coated words.

Swan was playing with Jedrek and this kind of mocking was not acceptable in the eyes of the king, he squinted his eyes. "Swan, you know I don't want to play this stupid game of yours anymore," Jedrek said. "Give me back my people and I will decide which side you are." action

"My king, your people are not with me," Swan said calmly and then he turned around to ask the four spell casters behind him. "Have anyone of you seen the general and the mind reader?"

The four of them shook their heads in denial simultaneously.

"See? No one saw your people, your majesty," Swan said. He touched his neck with a painful expression. "I am already old and can't stand much longer. Why don't you come to the castle, I believe there are one or two towers left." He looked at Lilac and his expression turned serious. "I heard the rumor about you, my queen. You can control nature, but only now I got to witness that you held such great power in you... Selene must favor your resurrection this time to gift you such powerful magic."

"If you dare to turn around I will assume you are my enemy," Jedrek said, ignoring what Swan was blabbering about the guardian angel. "I will wait here until tomorrow and if you don't give me what I want, you can imagine what will happen."

"Jedrek, you don't need to threaten me," Swan said, this time he changed the way he talked to Jedrek again. "If you ask for your people, I want to ask for the last Gregory, where is he?"

Swan was talking about Maximus and everyone knew that the traitor had joined the dead in Tartarus.

"He broke a rule and I killed him," Jedrek said emotionlessly and the eyes of the old wizard hardened.

"You broke the promise as well by killing him," Swan spoke through gritted teeth. His eyes were bloodshot as his temper flared up.

He was quite fickle as a person, yet the spell casters behind him did nothing but stared anywhere and everywhere except at Jedrek and his people.

While Jedrek and Swan exchanged deadly glares trying to dominate one another, Lilac sensed something was wrong with those people. They looked uncomfortable with where they were standing in this dispute.

"Do you expect me to keep him by my side after what he had done?" Jedrek sneered. "Go ahead, do what you want to do, but you know that I hold grudges dearly for all my enemies and they will meet their end soon. Do you think this barrier can hold me forever?"

"You want to do the same thing by ruining my city?" Swan glared at Jedrek now.

"That is my city Swan, remember that!" Jedrek spoke harshly and turned around with Lilac beside him, leaving the fuming wizard behind him.

Jedrek's people sneered at the old wizard and turned around as well. They knew that their king would do exactly what he said.

"You better have a good reason to turn your back against us, Swan, except revenging Maximus. He is dead and what you will do, will put your life to end as well. Decide carefully." Sebastian said before he followed the other lycanthropes.

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Raine was trying to run toward the direction of the pile of empty barrels where she met Dorian before, but no matter how fast she ran, it seemed she couldn't reach it.

That place was like fatamorgana for her, it got farther and farther.

She stopped and panted lightly. Above her, the sky was still as dark as before with thundering sounds that continued to ring like a bell.

This wouldn't do. There was something wrong with this place and she didn't have any clue what she had to do with her current situation.

What did the dwarf meant by using her power?

How could she use her power in this kind of magic that didn't even include the change of time? Or was it?

=====

Hope felt her breath almost leaving her lungs empty and she started to choke on the water, it felt like it was forever since she fell into this icy water and her skin shriveled in no time because of the coldness.

However, before her consciousness could fade away completely sending her mind astray, she heard that voice again, this time it was clearer than before.

The voice came from the depths of the river, calling out for her.

What was that?

Hope forced herself to hang onto her remaining consciousness and tried to turn her body around, facing the darkness of the deep river.

Chapter 868 - THEIR POWER (4)

Hope struggled to keep her eyes open and moved her limbs, yet due to this biting cold water, her body had already turned numb and her consciousness was almost slipping away. But against all these hurdles, she fought back to keep her remaining consciousness and she caught a glimpse of the voice source that she had been hearing whenever she was near this river.

All this while she could only hear something like a crying sound, but when she pushed herself to her limits, Hope felt something warm brushing past her skin all of a sudden, and she saw a pair of beautiful red eyes staring back at her in the depths of the darkness.

Hope couldn't take her eyes from whatever that thing was nor was she able to move her body when those eyes spurred toward her.

What was that?

=====

Raine walked along the river bank, while thinking what she should do now, but she didn't run like she did earlier, instead, she looked around her, trying to grasp this situation.

What should she do now? The dwarf told her that she should use her power. However, if her power was related to time, what exactly she had to do when she was stuck in her current time and wasn't going anywhere? Or, was she?

Raine looked around her one more time and she was sure that she was still in the apricity river and it was still frozen like it had always been, except the time when the lycanthropes attacked the village of angel. The water in the river turned red during that particular time.

Raine sighed heavily, she looked up to the murky sky, which was still dyed in the color of night. She stood in daze until she sensed something approaching in her direction.

"What is that?" Raine frowned and looked around her, but couldn't see anything, yet the sound was getting louder and louder.

Then, everything happened in the blink of an eye and Raine fell on her back when she realized what creature had flew from the night sky.

It was a bird.

A bird fanned out its bright red wings and threw back its beautiful head feathers, which burned up into the night like real flames.

It's body as big as a regular human, plummeted from the high sky.

The creature was huge and when it's figure closed in with its feathered wings opened wide, it blocked the night sky from Raine's vision.

The guardian angel couldn't look away nor could she close her eyes. She was baffled and was in disbelief at what she was seeing now.

However, before that bird could touch the ground, its wings flapped violently while letting out a deafening screeching sound.

Raine closed her ears with both her palms, yet she couldn't close her eyes. The bird was breathtaking yet same time dangerously mesmerizing.

The massive creature flew into the sky and screeched. It flew around Raine's head.

"What... is that...? A phoenix?" Raine managed to utter that word in her perplexity. She was unsure whether it was a phoenix or not, since she had never seen one in her entire life.

Phoenix was a myth and a creature from bed time story in her life, yet when lycans, devils and centaurs could exist, Raine didn't think that having a phoenix in that list, was impossible.

However, before Raine could get over her bafflement, she caught sight of something more terrifying than the breathtaking phoenix.

Coming from the frozen river were nine massive snakes, breaking through the surface of the ice while letting out angry cries.

=====

Jedrek held Lilac closer to him, feeling her warm and steady breath against his neck and the spark that spread through their n.a.k.e.d bodies.

They were inside the tent on the hill where they would wait until the sun rose tomorrow, or it could be a few hours from now, the sky was still the color of the murky dark and the sun still refused to shine.

Jedrek ran his fingers along Lilac's black hair and her bare shoulder to her back. She was fast asleep, looked very tired after mustering all the power she could earlier and their intense love making moments ago.

He loved to have her in his arms and feel her body curled up against him, as she purred softly in her sleep.

Surprisingly, after the tension of meeting Swan this afternoon, this night was exceptionally quiet and peaceful.

Jedrek could hear the cracking woods, which were used to make bonfire, outside his tent.

The king leaned over to kiss his queen's temple and pulled her even closer. action

However, at that time, a certain scent hit his senses. This was the same scent that he smelled when he saw Lilac destroying the tower in the city.

Yet, this time it was stronger, as if that person was nearby. Was she?

Jedrek tried to ignore this unpleasant feeling, but when he was sure that this must be her scent, he untangled himself from Lilac and got off from the bed.

Jedrek covered Lilac's body under the blanket securely and kissed her temple again, made sure she wouldn't wake up when he left her for a moment.

He picked up his clothes from the ground and put them on. After he was properly dressed and grabbing his cloak, Jedrek walked out of his tent and found a few lycan warriors were still awake as they rotated their shifts.

Those warriors greeted their king, but Jedrek simply raised his hand, gesturing them to be quiet and they conceded by nodding solemnly to him in respect.

Jedrek walked in to the dense trees, toward the source of the scent.

This citrus scent was the scent that they had smelled since they arrived in this northern region, but the citrus scent from her was a little bit different, thus no one could detect her presence, except Jedrek.

He knew her very well to tell that he was sure it was her.

Jedrek walked among the trees with the sounds of the crickets as the background, away from the camp that his people had set, until he saw her.

The witch's red hair fluttered in the wind, as her back faced him.

However, Jedrek knew that she was aware of his presence.

"What do you want, Serefina?" Jedrek asked.

Chapter 869 - THEIR POWER (5)

The red haired witch turned around and her lime green eyes looked at the king of the lycans impassively.

"What do you want, Serefina?" Jedrek asked.

The witch walked closer, but didn't break her eye contact with him. Her red cloak fluttered against the wind, as she moved gracefully.

Jedrek watched every step that she took and found himself in a daze.

When was the last time he met her?

Was it in the garden before his mating ceremony? When he refused her suggestion for a final hug? It seemed so, because after that, Jedrek had never seen her again and she remained as a blurry memory in his mind, especially when the bond between Lilac and him was strengthened and the events after that had Jedrek almost completely forget about her.

But, not the fact that Serefina had crossed the bridge and betrayed him.

Maybe because it was not the first time she had done so, therefore the damage of her action this time didn't feel really bad and with Lilac beside him, Jedrek could digest the fact faster and moved on to their next plan.

However, the sight of her right now, made Jedrek reminisce the moments they were together. There was something strange with this situation, he felt more sensitive and nostalgic.

"Jedrek," Serefina called his name softly and stretched out her hand to touch him. "I miss you, do you miss me?"

Jedrek squinted his eyes, unable to move and let her cold fingers brush against his cheeks, along his jaw line and his lips.

The king gasped slightly when his lips parted and Serefina rested her hand against his chest. She tiptoed and tried to kiss him.

This peaceful night was a perfect scene for the lovers to have their intimate moment, to be drawn in this strange atmosphere and became addicted to each other.

Jedrek watched as Serefina's face loomed in his sight, closing her lime green eyes when she was about to kiss him.

However, in one second, when she was about to kiss the man in front of her, but the next second she was screeching on the ground, fell on her back onto the dirt.

"Jedrek!" Serefina screeched and glared at the lycan, but before she could utter another word, Jedrek had moved forward and clawed her face.

His movement was swift and quick when he cut her throat, but instead of blood, it was black smoke that came out from the open wound.

The smoke covered the red haired witch entire body, until her whole being disappeared before Jedrek's eyes.

Yet, it didn't seem to leave the king in any surprise, if anything, he looked like he had expected this to happen.

"You are very cruel, even to your ex lover," a woman's voice rang from behind the tree, before she stepped out from the darkness and giggled.

"Asmodeus," Jedrek called her name.

He had guessed it was her, who had imitated Serefina's figure and created such atmosphere that could lead into something else. This devil was truly pain in the a**!

Jedrek had literally lived with the devils under the same roof, since he had to deal with the soul of his deceased father, back then when they were still in the main castle.

He knew this trick and had often experienced it. However, the devils seemed not to learn anything and kept using the same method again and again.

Moreover, Serefina wouldn't have done that and say such stupid things. That word had never left her lips, even when they were together, the witch would scarcely say something susceptible like that.

"You always knew it was me," Asmodeus said with a regretful sigh at the end of her sentence.

Jedrek didn't have time to deal with this devil, neither did he want to be with her any longer. If only he could kill the devil, he would have done that centuries ago, or on any chance that he was given.

Unfortunately, the devils couldn't die and it was pretty annoying to have sworn enemies he couldn't kill.

"Where are you going? We just met each other again after months!" Asmodeus yelled at Jedrek. "Hey, comeback! Don't you miss me?" the devil asked coquettishly, but she felt upset when Jedrek didn't even glance at her and walked back to his camp.

"Oh, so annoying like always," the devil grumbled.

However, when Jedrek finally disappeared from her sight and Asmodeus thought she was all alone now, she suddenly felt something flew past in her direction and out of instinct, she moved away to dodge whatever came her way.

When she turned around, she noticed what they were and couldn't care less to guess whose work it was.

They were fireballs, which burned the ground where she was standing earlier.

"Do you want to burn me?" Asmodeus turned her head and looked at the figure that leaned against the tree lazily, with another fireball, ready to be launched at the devil in any moment.

"Can I do that?" Serefina raised her eyebrows questioningly. "Since you can't die twice, what are you afraid of?" she asked in a mocking tone.

"Very funny," Asmodeus let out a wry laugh and scoffed. "Are you done with your task? What are you doing here?"

Serefina shrugged her shoulders and looked at the woman. "I am the one who had to ask you, what were you doing, pretending to be me?"

"No need to get mad, your man is very faithful, he even knew that it was not you," Asmodeus grinned. "It's okay, this is not the first time I got rejected. I have been living with him for centuries, so I got used to his behavior."

And another fireball came in her way, but this time Asmodeus caught it with her bare hand and extinguished it with a blow.

"Stop throwing these things at me, I will not touch your man again. It's not like he would ever let me do that." she said irritably. "Are you done with your task?"

"Hm," Serefina hummed and turned around to walk away.

"Great!" Asmodeus said cheerfully. "So, it meant even if the guardian angel stops the time, it won't affect us, right? The last time it happened, it was very annoying."

"Yes," Serefina said.

Chapter 870 - A SNEAKY KISS

"What do you want?" Sterling opened the door, standing tall with his arms akimbo, blocking the door, so that Calleb couldn't pass nor could he see his mate clearly.

This overbearing father had smelled Calleb scent even before he could reach this place.

The sterling family resided inside a house in the north wing of the castle and now Calleb wanted to take Rosie for a leisure walk before dinner. It would be the best if Sterling let him join the dinner as well, but if he didn't, maybe Calleb had to try it in another time.

"Can I see Rosie," Calleb said and then added. "Please."

"What do you want with my girl?" Sterling folded his arms, showing his muscles and glared at him.

This afternoon they had trained together and from Calleb's point of view, he enjoyed the time when he could show the other lycan warrior his moves by tackling him down again and again. action

This lycan used more strength than necessary and Calleb couldn't attack him back!

Well, it was unlikely he would try to attack Sterling since it would only throw him a hundred steps back from being with Rosie. The Gamma had to think this through, whether it could benefit him in a long run.

Sigh.

Why should he be the one to experience something ridiculous like this when Raphael could claim his mate easily and now they were already expecting a baby, meanwhile, he was having a hard time even to grab hold of his mate's hand.....

"Taking a walk with her before dinner," Calleb said.

Fortunately, Sophia came to his rescue and elbowed her mate to push him aside while bringing Rosie along with her.

The girl looked at Calleb sheepishly and was wearing a beautiful blue dress and her long hair was tied into a simple bun on top of her head.

However, when Calleb thought this night would be perfect, Raphael came out of nowhere to ruin it.

"Date later, Torak issue!" He said in hurry.

"What?!" Calleb shouted in frustration. "Not now!"

??No. Now!" Raphael urged him and Calleb could see a triumphant smirk on Sterling face and disappointment in Rosie's eyes.

However, before Raphael could drag him away, Calleb moved quickly to kiss Rosie's cheeks and whispered. "See you later." And then ran away even faster than Raphael.

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"KILL THEM ALL!" Torak flared. He was livid beyond words when he heard their report saying Raine was not inside the cabin, where she should be.

Apparently, the dwarf or the witch had teleported the two guardian angels without the lycan warriors knowledge.

And now when Torak finally came to know about this, he couldn't contain his anger. It was just like the last time or some other times in the past when Raine was missing and travelled back to the past. He didn't know where she was nor did he trust her with Nutdrouk or Lidya.

"WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?!" Torak's eyes turned bloodshot and his beast started clawing inside wanting to emerge to the surface of his consciousness, demanding to see blood as they couldn't find their mate.

At this point, as Raine was still unable to control her power, anything could happen and Torak didn't even want to think about the slightest mishap that could happen to her, though his mind flashed a few gruesome images and he started to assume the worse.

The seven lycan warriors fell to their knees upon hearing their death sentence. Their bodies shivered out of fear. They really didn't know that the four people inside the cabin had gone, since they didn't see anyone coming out from the room while they were guarding right outside all this while.

"Torak," Kace called his name. "We will not get the girls back even if you kill them," Kace said grimly.

Of course, he was on the same level of frustration as Torak, but he didn't let the anger nor his beast got the best of him.

Perhaps, this was the only thing that he should be thankful for suppressing his beast all this time; for being able to face this kind of situation and think more level headed.

"No, it doesn't," Torak said through gritted teeth, his bloodshot eyes were directed at Kace now. "I just want to see their blood for failing the task to keep my mate safe."

"My mate is also gone!" Kace emphasized that they were in the same situation.

"Then you can kill them," Torak said simply.

Kace really wanted to knock some sense into Torak's head. Where was his even-tempered brother???

Well, Kace had never seen Torak's temper when he couldn't find his mate, but he didn't think he could be this irrational.

"THAT'S NOT THE POINT!" Kace roared and this only messed up the situation even more, when the two brothers faced each other head on head.

It was not without reason why Torak was acting like this, he just witnessed how Raine was in a dangerous condition after the devil caused damage in this place the last time they infiltrated the castle not too long ago.

Torak just loosened up a little bit because he thought Raine would be safe now and the devils wouldn't penetrate this place like before.

However, he was wrong, it was the people from inside that messed up with his mate safety.

"YOU! STOP IT!" Kace shifted his dagger look toward the lycan warrior, who moved forward to assassinate the seven lycans that failed their task.

If Kace was any ordinary lycan, the lycan warrior wouldn't listen to him, but the domineering aura and the Alpha tone that he used were enough to stop him in his tracks.

Apparently, the time that Kace spent with those lycans to practice and finally take the leadership upon them were able to bring out this side of him, which he had tried to bury deeply in his head... maybe this was also one of the reasons, how he managed to keep his beast under his control.

Despite of this fact, that Kace and his inner beast were still not in sync, but at the very least he could say there was a truce between them.

"You're just wasting your energy to kill them," Kace softened his tone. "Let's figure out what exactly happened inside the cabin first."