

## TLOA Lycan 971

### Chapter 971 - YOU ARE MY PROTECTORS

"I will tell Rossie if you said something like that again." Ethan was Rossie's brother, of course he would take offense on what Calleb said. He was an overprotective brother to begin with after all. action

Calleb rolled his eyes when he heard that. "You will not take my words seriously, right? Do you think Kace will let me go alive when I do something atrocious to his mate? I want to live, okay."

It was just a slip of his tongue. He was frustrated and wanted to do anything and everything just to be with his mate, thus his mind and what he spoke was not in a good sync.

"Okay, enough." Hope sat down again and then stared at Raine. She wanted to know what would Raine suggest about the situation that she was facing now. "Give me another ten minutes."

Hearing this, Calleb and Ethan groaned, but they didn't say anything for another two minutes before someone opened the door and Theseus walked in.

"What are you doing here?" Calleb narrowed his eyes and looked at the newly appointed dragon lord in alert. He didn't like him since his father came to take Raphael's son, as if the baby was akin to a missing bag.

"Nothing," Theseus said, smiling. "I heard the two guardian angels have woken up, so I want to know our current situation now, or whether if there is something that I can help with."

"But, why are all of your people outside the door?" Calleb glared at the dragon lord. Just because he lost his beast, it didn't mean his senses had decreased.

"They are guarding this room." Theseus walked closer and Calleb put Hope behind his back. "You don't have to be like this to me, we are in this together, right?"

"You shouldn't be here," Ethan said.

"Where should I be?" Theseus shifted his attention toward the young werewolf. "I am not allowed to shift into my beast and now I am given a task to stay in this place and do what? There is nothing I can do here."

"I want you to get out of this room, now. This place is not for public." Somehow Calleb knew that Theseus wouldn't do what he asked.

"Can't I visit? I just want to see that the guardian angels were fine." His eyes then looked around the room, as if he just realized something. "Where is the queen, Lilac? She is not here?"

"Get out now!" Calleb roared. He didn't know what happened out there. And, from the scent in the air, which was filled with those dragon shifters' scent, whatever it was, it wouldn't be good... where is the other lycan warriors and Stephan?

"I will," Theseus said politely.

Yet, what he said only contradicted what happened next, because at the same time, around ten people entered the room. All of them were dragon shifters.

"But, after I took the guardian angels with me." He smirked triumphantly. Knowing that neither Ethan nor Calleb could shift into their beasts, it was an easy task to take them down and take Hope and Raine away.

The two guardian angels were not Lilac, they were not of combatant type, especially when the guardian angel of time wouldn't be able to stop anything, even time at the moment.

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Raine opened her eyes and the darkness greeted her. She was still inside her room, but tomorrow she would go to a different city, because she would start a new life as a colleague student and she couldn't wait for that.

She would live in the dorm and return when she got day off or holidays. Her life was perfect. However, she knew one secret.

Aside from her ability to see what other people couldn't see, she knew there was someone, who was protecting her from the shadows and this very person was now sitting in her chair.

But, for some reason, Raine was not afraid of him, instead, she wanted him to stop hiding and talk to her.

Therefore, Raine let him sit there for quite some time, making him think that she was sleeping, where the truth was she was just pretending.

When Raine felt this was the right moment to speak and the shadow man seemed very comfortable with what he was doing now, Raine talked with her back facing him.

"Aeon, is that you?" Raine said. She was eighteen years old now and she thought it was enough for him to stop avoiding her.

Raine could hear a sharp breath intake which came from the man and the sound that he made when he hastily got up from his seat, wanting to run away again.

"Stop running away from me," Raine said, she got up and threw her blanket aside. "I know you."

This time, Aeon froze in his place, with his back facing the girl, he was indeed about to run away, but after realizing that Raine actually knew his name, held him back.

"How did you know my name?" he asked.

His husky and heavy voice was very familiar in her ears and she had forgotten when was the last time that she heard him. It seemed his voice came from her dream or another life.

"Of course I know you, you have been protecting me for years by now," Raine said smoothly. She stood up and walked slowly toward Aeon, she didn't want to make him run again. "Can you turn around and see me?"

Aeon didn't give any reaction, he just stood there in the same position, seemingly having an argumentation with himself, whether he should do what Raine asked him to do or not.

"Aeon?" Raine placed her hand against his broad back. The shadow warrior was wearing a black jacket and his hair was slightly messy. "Aeon, thank you for always being here for me."

At that time, the shadow warrior chose to stop being in the shadows and turned around to face the girl that he had been protecting for years by now.

"You are not afraid of me?" he asked with knitted brows.

"No, of course not." Raine smiled softly. "You are my protector, right?"

### **Chapter 972 - WE WILL FIX THIS TOGETHER**

Aeon watched the girl in front of him, who was smiling softly which made him feel a rush of warmth in his heart, and he stretched out his hand toward her.

He didn't immediately touch her, but halted his hand mid air, to give the girl an opportunity to avoid his touch if she wanted, but Raine didn't do it. She looked at him straight in his eyes, a soft smile was still on her lips when Aeon's hand inched toward her cheek.

"How long did you know me for?" He asked, feeling the soft skin of hers on his callous fingers. It was very soft, until he was afraid he would leave a scratch if he wasn't careful enough.

"Very long..." Raine said, leaned in to his touch and then wrapped her hand over his. "Since you gave me the cotton candy in the park and then chased away those creatures that wanted to hurt me."

Aeon narrowed his eyes at her. "You have known me for that long?"

"Yes," Raine said, nodded her head. "Thank you for protecting me."

And, only then could Aeon sigh in relief as a smile appeared on his lips, softening his rough features. Whatever he had done all this time had been paid off and his fear was proven wrong. His girl didn't fear him, because that was the reason why he always hid from her...

"It is my pleasure to keep you safe," Aeon said gratefully.

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Jedrek was in the middle of a heated argumentation with the other Alphas and his brothers when he heard that voice.

[Jedrek.]

Jedrek stopped whatever he was doing as he held his breath, stunned, afraid that it was only his imagination.

And because he was in the middle of his speech, and seeing how his expression changed suddenly, all his recipients immediately became silent, as they stared at him questioningly.

[Jedrek.]

Lilac's soft voice echoed in his head, once again. She was trying?to talk to him through mind- link, which was quite impossible knowing how far they were and moreover, was she already awake? However, here Jedrek was; listening to her.

[Jedrek, can you hear me?] Lilac asked again.

[Lilac? Is that you?] Jedrek could feel his entire body getting effected just by hearing her voice, he felt his heart almost jumping to his throat.

If she could mind- link him, it meant she had regained her consciousness, right?

"Jedrek, what happened?" Kace, who was standing beside him, tugged his elbow to get his attention, but Jedrek swatted his hand away, he wanted to concentrate more on the voice that he had been longing to hear.

[Yes, it is me,] Lilac said lightly.

[You have woken up.] It was not a question, but a statement. Only when he heard Lilac say 'yes', could he heave a sigh of relief. He was not even aware that he had been holding his breath. [You scared me, my little flower.]

[I am sorry...] Lilac sounded troubled. [I didn't mean to.]

However, Jedrek didn't want to hear her sorry, he just wanted to hold her in his arms, yet the situation here, made it impossible for him to flee to her side instantly and Lilac completely understood that.

[I understand.] Lilac said, her voice was sad, but there was understanding and determination in it. [I will take care of the matters here until you can take care of the problems there.]

Jedrek hummed in reply.

[I just want you to know that I am fine and Hope too, but Raine...] Lilac slightly hesitated when she said this. action

[What happened to her?] Out of instinct, Jedrek glanced at Torak, who was staring at him. It seemed he knew that he was in the middle of a conversation through mind- link, but didn't have any idea that it was his mate, who he was talking to.

[Raine has not regained her consciousness, maybe she needs more time... I just want you to let them know about this and send them here.] Lilac paused, as if she was trying to find the right words to say. [It is a mess.]

Jedrek closed his eyes, as he realized what kind of a mess, their ego had created for them. if they hadn't been selfish to the point of neglecting everyone, the situation now would have been less dreadful.

[I know, I am sorry.]

It was so rare to hear Jedrek apologize and Lilac knew it took a lot more than effort for him to do so. After all, the king's pride was very high and Jedrek was not the type, who would admit his mistake easily.

Lilac could continue to get angry at him and show her point that she was right all along, but what was the meaning of all that? It wouldn't help them with anything and the situation wouldn't become better either, thus she chose not to.

[Let's fix this together.] she said softly. [We will go through this together.]

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Ethan pulled Hope behind his back and stood beside Calleb, who was growling at Theseus in front of them.

So now, Hope was hiding behind the two lycans, she peeked over their shoulders and could see that there were around twenty people behind Theseus who now crowded the room.

"What's all of this?" Calleb asked in a stern voice, he glanced at the door and knew immediately that more than twenty dragon shifters were out there. If he had his beast, he could definitely kill all of this trash in no time, but unfortunately, he was just like them, who couldn't shift into his beast and he was outnumbered.

"Let me take Hope and Raine, and the two of you can go peacefully. I don't want to shed blood here." Theseus opened his arms, while saying righteously.

"Your head must be damaged if you think that I will let you have your way," Calleb sneered.

Meanwhile, Hope, who was standing very close to the two of them, felt something. Something that stirred inside their beings. What was that? Their emotions? Because they were beyond livid now, thus was it easier for her to feel them?

Hope frowned and touched their backs again.

### **Chapter 973 - I WILL TAKE CARE THE THINGS HERE**

"What are we waiting for, Dimitri!?" Xerxes roared at his leader in anger. It had been two days and the victory was right before their eyes, yet they couldn't claim it because Dimitri wasn't agreeing. He was waiting, waiting for someone to come. "We can swipe them off right now! We don't need to wait!"

Yet, Dimitri didn't budge, his calm eyes glared at the other vampires, who were looking as though they were on the verge of losing their patience, just like Xerxes and what this certain vampire said only created a big ripple among the vampires.

They even dared enough to complain and demand for an order from Dimitri.

"ENOUGH!" Dimitri snarled back at them and his voice echoed throughout the night. Efficiently silencing them from their endless complains. "If you think our victory is only a step away from us and it is a solid fact that no one could deny it. So what's the fuss about waiting for one more day?! Giving them some hope that they could survive and then crush it again when we barge into their last defense?!"

Dimitri skimmed his eyes over the people in front of him and then stopped at Xerxes. action

"You," he said coldly, pointing his sharp finger at Xerxes's face. "I don't want to hear any rubbish coming from your mouth again!"

Xerxes's jaw tightened, his hands balled into fists beside his body and he spoke through gritted teeth. "If you don't want to attack them now, at least give us a reason why you think that we don't need to do that now itself?!"

Unsatisfied murmurs erupted among the crowd as they agreed with what Xerxes suggested.

The battle with the lycanthropes earlier was very easy. They could assume that them coming here, was out of their wildest predictions. Who would have expected this? That they would be ambushed when they were hiding in their sanctuary.

"Yes, what are you waiting for, Dimitri?" Another vampire, named Aaric asked him, he had an easy going personality, but at this time he was not at all pleased with Dimitri's decision to wait when they could snatch the victory and crush those dogs right away.

"Sorry for being late."

A soft voice could be heard from behind the horde followed by several sharp intakes of breath, from among the crowd when they realized that there was a little girl behind them.

But, the most shocking thing was; they didn't realize at all since when she was there and wait... the girl didn't have a scent!

Even though, they didn't know who this little girl was or what she was, the crowd still dispersed and made a way for her to walk.

The girl was around the age of thirteen or fourteen, but the way she carried herself was noteworthy, she looked more confident and composed than the rest of the vampires here.

"I have been waiting for you so long," Dimitri said, he held his hand out and the girl grabbed it. "What took you so long, Terra?"

The girl named Terra turned around to face the crowd, as her purple cloak fluttered around her small body.

"I brought an order from Beelzebub," she said calmly.

"What is it?" Dimitri's eyes glinted with excitement, especially when he watched the way Terra glanced at the castle behind him.

"Something interesting, of course," Terra replied with a vicious smirk.

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"Jedrek, tell me what happened?" Kace looked at his brother with his brows creasing deeply. "Who were you talking to?" he immediately asked him when he saw the conversation between Jedrek and whoever had mind-linked him was over.

However, Jedrek didn't answer him immediately, instead, he observed the other faces inside this tent, which belonged to the eleven Alphas aside from his two brothers.

"Leave us alone," he said in a stern voice, leaving no space for questions or objections.

Though they were in the middle of a heated discussion, but from the look of Jedrek's face, they knew that they shouldn't gamble with their luck.

After hearing that direct order, all the eleven Alphas left the tent, one by one, leaving only the Donovans inside.

"What now?" Kace folded his arms, a defensive stature. He prepared himself for the worse.

Meanwhile, even though Torak didn't show it on his face and his expression had remained calm, but the look in his eyes told them otherwise. He was anticipating what Jedrek would tell them until he had to chase away the other Alphas.

"Lilac mind- linked me, she said Hope has woken up," Jedrek said, he looked at Kace, whose expression changed almost instantly.

"Are you sure?" he asked in disbelief, his jaw dropped and the moment Jedrek nodded, he didn't wait for his permission, neither would he stop if Jedrek didn't allow him to leave. "I will go to see her."

And, Jedrek didn't make any attempt to stop him either, he let Kace leave, since he knew how it felt for wanting to see his mate badly. After all, Lilac asked him to send the two Donovans over.

Jedrek would do the same thing too, if he was not very ashamed at his own decisions all this while which caused so many casualties on their side.

Jedrek was more than thankful that Lilac was level- headed enough to understand the situation and knew what was more important, because if Lilac said that she wanted him to go to her, Jedrek would throw everything here aside and run to her, because he want nothing but to have her in his arms now.

However, he couldn't do this now. He was the king and he needed to lead his people, just like what his queen was doing now.

"What about Raine?" Torak finally spoke, he had been very silent throughout the entire discussion.

Jedrek took a deep breath and shifted his attention toward his brother. "Lilac said she didn't wake up yet."

"Hm." Torak had this feeling that something was not going well with his mate, since the other two guardian angels seemed fine from Jedrek words.

"But, I want you to go back," Jedrek added.

"What about here?" Torak stared at Jedrek impassively, his mind was elsewhere.

"I will take care of the things here."

#### **Chapter 974 - A NAME**

"I will take care of the things here." Jedrek waved his hand, as a gesture for Torak to just leave. "Lilac needs you there, she has a plan."

"What plan?" Torak narrowed his eyes, as a trace of hope flashed in them. At least, he hoped that this was not yet another massacre plan that Jedrek came across like the previous one, which left them feeling uneasy, but he followed him nonetheless, for the same selfish reason just like his other brother.

"Lilac will explain it to you once you meet her." Jedrek didn't say much, but when Torak nodded and was about to leave, he called him again. "Let's go through this again, together."

Torak didn't answer to that for a few seconds, but then he replied with a slight smile on his lips as his eyes glinted darkly. "We have won this before, we will win this again."

"Right." Jedrek nodded. "We will win this."

Once Hope's palm touched Calleb and Ethan's back, she felt the world around her spin. She was not sure what was happening or what was the essence of the conversation that was going on between the three of them.

Because all she could see was the grey and the brown wolves right before her eyes. Yes, she was back to that realm again. The realm that Nutdrouk said belonged to her.

Everything was white. Boundless color of white and then, she saw them, the two wolves, sprawled on the ground, with their eyes closed shut, breathing evenly.

She couldn't believe it. How could she believe it? Everything was surreal.

Hope approached the two beasts and sat down between them. She stared at the brown wolf and touched his soft fur, running her fingers through it. It was very soft that she had a sudden urge to rub her face against it.

Yet, she wouldn't do that now, since he had to think of a way to wake them up.

Only then did she see it... the same dark aura which surrounded the two beasts... the same thing what she saw on Raine, but theirs was less darker than hers.

Hope frowned.

The dark aura she was seeing now was coiled around the beast's neck and it seemed like that thing was suffocating them, because when Hope touched it, the brown beast whimpered softly with its eyes still closed.

The same thing happened when she touched the grey beast's.

"What actually is this thing?" Hope murmured to herself.

But, then in the midst of her confusion, someone appeared before her eyes out of thin air. She shrieked and backed away, yet the beautiful woman only chuckled lightly.

"Hi, Hope... finally we meet," she said softly, her voice was just like a soft breeze of wind; calm and composed.

"Who are you?" she asked, but she couldn't take her eyes off the beauty before her. This woman was too appealing yet charming to be real. "How can you be here?"

No one should be able to come here if it was not for her, who invited them.

The woman took a step closer and then knelt down before the two beasts.

"Don't touch them!" Hope yelled, she moved forward to prevent her from touching those beasts, in fear she would hurt them.

But, her next words left her stunned.



"How can I be here?" she asked, her eyes fixed on the grey wolf, while her hands rubbed the brown one. "Of course because I am the one who created this realm for you. I am very pleased that Kace gave you this name 'Hope'." Her eyes gleamed brightly, as if there were stars in them.

It took about five seconds before some understanding dawned upon her and Hope covered her mouth to prevent her from saying any curse words out of shock. "Impossible..." she muttered.

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Raine just finished her days in the college and today was the last day of this semester. She made plans to return home on the day after tomorrow, so she had prepared everything.

However, when she entered her apartment, it was very dark and the light wouldn't turn on. Maybe the bulb was busted.

And, as she lived in this flat alone, she needed to ask the maintenance people to change it, for she didn't know how to do it herself.

Raine was about to go out of her room again, when she felt someone grabbing her arms before pulling her back into the room that was still devoid of any light.

That strange person hugged her from behind and wrapped a pair of strong arms around her waist.

"Aeon! You scared me!" Raine hissed when she realized it was the shadow warrior, who was hugging her.

Aeon would often come to her place, if she couldn't say always. He would come with the excuse to protect her, but Raine knew he just wanted to be close to her and she didn't mind it at all.

She was flattered with the persistence that he showed with her over the years since the first time she knew his existence.

"My lamps are busted," Raine whined and tried to free herself from him, yet just like her so many other attempts from before, she just couldn't release herself from his tight grip.

"No, they are not," Aeon said, he waved his hand toward the lamps and the blinding light greeted Raine's eyes. Apparently, the shadow warrior had used his ability to tease her. "But, I prefer darkness," he said and the lights were turned off again.

"Aeon!" Raine chuckled, as she swatted his arms away that wrapped around her waist like an octopus's appendages. "Let me go, I want to take a bath, I am smelly and sweaty."

"No, I like your smell," he refused, but when Raine struggled relentlessly, he gave up and let the girl go. action

"Lights please," Raine said lightly, while taking off her shoes. She laughed when Aeon turned on the light again with a sullen expression. "Have you eaten? I will cook something."

"Not yet," Aeon said and then walked into the room with her.

"What do you want?" Raine took off her coat and headed to the kitchen, but before that, she stopped in the living room and turned on the television so it wouldn't be very quiet.

However, Raine couldn't hear what Aeon said when the news anchor said a particular name...

Torak Donovan.

### **Chapter 975 - SEREFINA! YOU ARE INSANE!**

Raine couldn't hear what Aeon said when the news anchor said a particular name...

Torak Donovan.

The news anchor was reporting that the tycoon from Donovan's company would open their new branch in the red river city.

"... Raine..."

"Huh?" Raine was slightly dumbfounded when she heard someone call her name and turned around to see that Aeon was standing behind her with knitted brows.

"Did you hear what I said?" Aeon asked, staring at the confused girl in front of him. "Why are you dozing off?"

"Oh, no..." Raine shook her head. "Sorry, what did you say?"

Aeon stretched out his hands and cupped her face. "Are you okay? Tired?" he touched her forehead, but thankfully her temperature was normal, so he thought the girl was only tired, after all she just returned from her school. "Just sit down, I will cook something for you."

Aeon pushed Raine to sit down on the sofa, despite her rejection and reluctance.

"I am okay Aeon, I will make dinner," Raine complained, but the shadow warrior didn't want to hear that. "I don't want to eat the food that you cook."

"Why? That is an insult." Aeon feigned anger when he heard that, with scrunched nose and defensively folded arms.

However, that gesture only made Raine laugh. "You and I know that neither of us will eat whatever you cook."

Upon hearing that, Aeon laughed along with Raine. This was one of the reasons why he loved to spend his time with her. She had never failed to make him laugh and enjoy the sense of happiness.

"I know," Aeon finally said, relenting. "You stay here, I will buy something from the nearby restaurant. What do you want?"

Raine shrugged her shoulders. "I don't have anything particular that I want to eat, just buy two different sets of dinner, so we can exchange." She was not a picky eater, thus she was fine with whatever Aeon would buy.

"All right." Aeon walked toward the door. "Is there anything else that you want?"

"Nope." Raine shook her head, smiling softly at the shadow warrior's figure that disappeared behind the closing door.

However, the moment she was alone, she turned around to stare at the television that stopped showing any news about Torak Donovan.

Yet, that name wouldn't stop echoing in Raine's head very loudly, while giving her a little bit longing feeling in her heart.

She felt like she had heard that name somewhere. His name sounded familiar... as if she knew that person... but, it was impossible, right?

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"Selene...?" that name came out from Hope's lips in a whisper. She herself didn't know if she could believe what she said, but at the same time she knew that she had called her name correctly.

Her confusion was cleared when the moon goddess nodded. "It is me, my child," she said softly. Her voice soothed Hope's anxiety just like a breeze of warm air.

"But, how..." Hope shook her head, knowing how stupid her question seemed since the goddess had already told her that she was the one who had given her this power, of course she could be here, in this realm. "But, why did you meet me now?"

"You don't like to see me?" Selene raised her charming brows teasingly. She knew that was not Hope's intention.

"No, no, no," Hope said immediately, waving her hand frantically to let the goddess know that was not what she meant. "I mean... did you come here to help me? To let me know how..." Hope swiped her gaze over the two beasts that were still laying down on the ground. "... how to help them?"

"Yes," Selene said. "But, first of all, I want you to come closer to me..." She stretched out her hand toward her. "Come, my child..."

"Serefina! Are you crazy!?" Lidya shrieked. She didn't know what she had to do other than that, but now she was more than upset to know about the deal between Serefina and Nutdrouk.

Meanwhile, Serefina didn't say anything when she watched her old friend, one of the very few people that she could call as her best friends, shaking her head vigorously.

"You are insane, Serefina!" Lidya felt her chest caving in. "I don't want to know about this. You shouldn't tell me this," she said, repeating her words a few times, as if by doing so, she could get rid of the memory of her acknowledgment about whatever Serefina had told her earlier.

"Get yourself together." Serefina turned around, didn't even sympathizing with her, after she delivered a blow to her. "If you are done, go out and take Nutdrouk with you to collect Hope's blood."

"Serefina," Lidya called her name before she could go out of this room.

Her hand hung mid-air when she was about to open the door, but she didn't move and waited for her to say whatever she wanted to say.

"Don't you want to say something to Hope?" Lidya knitted her brows. "You raised that girl. Don't you feel the slightest compassion toward her? Or the need to explain this matter?"

"No," Serefina answered curtly and then opened the door without any hesitation.

All of this mess would come to an end, she didn't need some feelings to get in her way and drag her down.

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"Can you reach the king?" Sebastian asked carefully when he watched what Lilac had done.

It was almost impossible to reach Jedrek over such distance between them through mind- link, therefore the general doubted it when Lilac said she could connect to him.

Yet, it seemed she did manage to do the impossible.

"Yes," Lilac said curtly. She turned around and faced Sebastian and Belinda. "Sebastian, tell the other Alphas, who are still here to meet me in the meeting room." She then shifted her attention toward Belinda. "Tell Hope and Ethan to meet me there too, but let Calleb stay with Raine if she is still not awake."

"Yes, my queen," Sebastian automatically addressed her that way without even realizing it. He even lowered his head, a gesture that he wouldn't show her a year ago when he met her.

#### **Chapter 976 - THEY ARE UNDER MY MERCY**

Calleb and Ethan yelled loudly, throwing all the profanities that they knew into the nothingness. However, no matter what they said, no one would come to save them in this d\*mned place!

"Sh\*t!F\*ck that dragon shifter!" Ethan was beyond frustrated when he kicked the steel bar, while Calleb was trying to tear that metal apart, but with no avail. "What happened to Hope? Why did she fall unconscious again all of a sudden?!"

Even in the midst of his anger and frustration, Ethan was still worried about his friend.

Hope was unconscious out of the blue, it was fortunate enough that they moved fast and held her head before she could hit the hard floor.

However, without their beast and since their strength had been reduced because of the after effects of the spell that was casted during the battle in the castle before, they didn't have enough power to fight those dragon shifters and keep Raine and Hope safe!

The situation was already very bad, but they didn't think it would become even worse than it already might be.

"We shouldn't trust those dragon people! F\*ck them all!" Ethan kicked the metal bars again, but it only hurt his feet. He laughed sarcastically. This body without their beast was nothing but a useless shell.

Ethan didn't know when was the last time he felt this feeling of hurt, because their healing ability would heighten their endurance, yet he felt hurt when he was kicking those metal bars.

Ethan kept cursing when he took off his shoes and watched his feet which now started bleeding. "What is this? This just sucks!" He hurled the shoes against the wall and shouted.

If Ian was there, he would be freaked out by his twin's behavior right now, since Ethan would be the calmest person between the two of them and him cursing or losing his temper were always out of question, but seeing him now, even their mother wouldn't recognize him.

However, it was understandable.

Who wouldn't lose their mind if they had to face a situation similar to what they were in now? They would probably act even more impulsive than Ethan now.

"Stop shouting," Calleb said tiredly, he leaned against the wall and slid down to the dirty ground. "No one will come to this part of the place."

Twenty against two. Those dragon people didn't even had to put much effort when they fought Calleb and Ethan, before throwing them into the deeper parts of the dungeon in this place.

Even Calleb didn't know that this place existed before this.

Those dragon people must have thought this thoroughly until they could come with this idea and find this place.

"So, what should we do now?" Ethan glared at Calleb, despite knowing what he said was right. "Wait for someone to look for us? Who knows what those sh\*tty dragons have done by now out there?!"

Calleb didn't answer that immediately. He narrowed his eyes and looked at the dim room, but he couldn't find much here. "Let's hope for Lilac to realize it before they can do something even worse."

That was the only hope that they had, but Calleb didn't elaborate the doubt that was gnawing at the back of his mind. Since Theseus had thought about it carefully, they must have planned out all the possibilities.

Calleb closed his eyes and took a deep sigh. He didn't want to think, but his head kept throbbing painfully, while his heart started beating really fast.

He didn't want anything else, he just wanted to be with his mate now...

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"Where is the phoenix?" Purple looked at Theseus coldly.

The fae was now being dragged into a room, when she realized the phoenix that supposed to be with her had gone for hours. It was not something normal to happen.

She was about to go to Hope's room, as the mythical bird was often there, since the guardian angel fell unconscious. However, no one was inside the room.

Thus, she thought of going to Raine's room.

Hope and Lilac had just woken up and only a few guards had saw them, but those lycan warriors had been taken care of by the dragon people.

Therefore, Purple didn't feel anything suspicious when she saw Theseus's people hovering around Raine's room, because she thought they were just replacing the lycan warrior posts, yet right after she

was dragged inside she saw Raine and Hope on the bed, seemingly unconscious without their protector in their near sights, only then did she understand that something fishy was going on here. action

Theseus's behavior only amplified her doubts.

"The phoenix is with you." That was not a question, but a statement. Purple knew that she was right by the way Theseus looked, mockingly, at her.

"I know who you are," Theseus said in a low and eerie voice. "You are the rare kind of fae that we have been looking for..."

Purple narrowed her eyes, she knew that before this, those fire dragon shifters had been demanding for baby Eddard to be handed over to them, since they knew Lana was one of the descendent of the said fae.

However, baby Eddard couldn't be compared to Purple, since she was a pure fae of that rare race. It was akin to hitting a jackpot for Theseus when he learnt about Purple's origin.

"...And it happened that you can resuscitate our beasts, because you are the same fae who sealed the vow with us, dragon people." Theseus raised his brows and stood up from his seat to approach the fae. "Right?"

"Do you think you can scare me?" Purple glanced at the two guardian angels on the bed and then at the twenty dragon people inside the room. "I can burn all of you to the ground right here, right now."

However, that threat didn't bother Theseus at all, he even chuckled merrily. "Then, my people will kill the phoenix. How will you fight that monster under the frozen river without that mythical bird? Or, how will you win the war when those lycanthropes can already smell the defeat just after a few days of battle?" he glanced at Raine and Hope. "Even the two guardian angels are under my mercy now."

Meanwhile, knowing her position, Purple didn't show much expression on her face when she finally said, "What do you want now?"

### **Chapter 977 - YOU SHOULDN'T MESS WITH HER**

"Isn't this very obvious?" Theseus towered over the fae. "I want you to dissolve the vow." As if he was afraid that his sentence was too short and Purple might not get the point, he elaborated it. "I want my beast back. Also my people."

Purple smirked when she heard that and she glared at the dragon lord bravely. "Do you think I will do it? What you will do after I dissolved the vow?" Purple took a step forward, reducing the distance between them and smiled derisively at him. "Will you run to the devil's side? You people are exactly like your predecessors. Full of schemes and shortsighted. But, I think you are the worst."

Theseus back-handed the fae harshly, until she fell to the floor. However, Theseus didn't stop there, he kicked the fae until her body rolled halfway on the floor of the room.

"What did you say just now? Say it again," Theseus spat. He had been holding back his bad temper ever since he arrived here, but it was hard to see those lycanthropes flaunting their strength whenever he saw them. At least, that was what he thought. Find authorized novels in , faster updates, better experience, Please click #t-mess-with-her\_51398959821803207 for visiting.

"Shortsighted and stupid." Purple gladly repeated her words again and this only aggravated the dragon lord.

Theseus marched toward the fae and was about to kick her again, when Purple caught his feet and he found himself unable to move.

In her sitting position, Purple raised her head to meet Theseus's eyes, but there was a malice in those fae's eyes.

"Do you think you can treat me this way? Threatening me with my phoenix's life?" Purple scoffed. "You know that the vow has sealed your souls? Your inner beast?"

No matter how hard Theseus tried to retract his leg from Purple's firm hold, he couldn't do that, but to ask for help was a little bit too much.

The fae didn't look like a creature, who had accumulated strength in her, thus it would be a shame for the well-built dragon lord to ask for help from his people, just to get rid of her hold.

Therefore, Theseus pretended that he let the fae hold his leg and didn't make any attempt again, while listening to Purple's gibberish.

"Don't you know what does that mean? To offer your soul to me?" Purple squinted her eyes, staring coldly at Theseus, that could make anyone who saw her now, feel chills running down their spine. "I can control you as I wish."

Purple had never used this hold of hers on the dragon shifters because she didn't have a good reason to do so, but seeing how these scum tried to backstab them once again, just like what their predecessors did, left the fae aggravated.

And it was not a good thing to incur the wrath of a fae.

=====

Lilac was sitting at the head position of the table while she watched as the Alphas that had been called by Sebastian, enter the room one by one.

Their shocked expressions indicated that they didn't know that Lilac had regained her consciousness.

Therefore, they spoke a few good words to their queen. Some of them were Torak's people, thus they didn't regard her as their leader, but they were still polite enough to ask her well-being.

"Let's keep the pleasantries for later," Lilac said solemnly, while waving her hand toward the seats in front of her, a polite gesture to ask them to sit down.

Aside from Stephan, the lord of earth dragon shifters, a total of eight Alphas came in for the meeting. The six Alphas and two hundred lycan warriors who originally planned to go to the sanctuary, which was now under the siege of the vampires and the northern witches also stayed back in the castle, because they couldn't enter that place, and since the land was covered with magic that rendered them unable to teleport, they stayed here, waiting for the next order.

"What is it my queen?" one of the lord from Jedrek's people asked Lilac. He was polite enough to not judge her by her origin, since he had witnessed with his own eyes, what this guardian angel was capable of doing.

Lilac glanced at the door, she was waiting for Belinda to bring Hope, it didn't supposed to take so long for her to get to her room, but it was weird that even now, she was still not here.

Lilac then leaned over to talk to Sebastian, who was standing behind her. "Check on Belinda, she is late," she said in a low voice.

Sebastian nodded and immediately left the room. His leaving figure distracted the people on the table, but their attention traced back to Lilac when she started speaking.

"I have a few things to discuss with all of you." Her voice was very firm, just like the queen she was.

=====

Belinda walked toward Raine's bedroom to call for Hope and Ethan, but after she arrived in this floor, she could sense that something strange had happened here.

The lycanthropes who were supposed to be guarding the corridor, were not in their posts, instead she saw the dragon people in their place.

The frown on her brows deepened when she watched there were many dragon people in front of Raine's room.

Something was wrong here...

"Where are you going?" one of the dragon people blocked her way and the other five people there looked in her direction with hostility.

"Shouldn't I be the one to ask what you people are doing here?" Belinda narrowed her eyes at them. The witch might appear as a middle aged woman, but one should know not to mess around with her. "Are you here because of an order from Lilac?"

"And, why should we take an order from that woman?" he said derisively.

"That woman?" Belinda raised her brows at them. Now she was a hundred percent sure that something was definitely wrong here. "Move. I want to see Raine."

"You are not allowed to go inside," he said firmly. "Go back now."

"Not allowed?" Belinda scoffed. She was, after all, a half sister of Serefina, therefore it was not strange that their tempers were similar to each other's.

## **Chapter 978 - SHE SAW RED**

"I can control you as I like." Purple grabbed Theseus neck firmly, but the dragon lord looked very calm and collected, yet if one looked closely, they could see a tiny flicker of fear that flashed in his eyes. "You shouldn't mess with someone who held your soul, didn't your parents ever taught you this?"



The fae, who always looked very cheerful and would be on a different page from being hostile, looked like she was ready to swipe the entire earth dragon shifter kind off the face of this realm now. action

"Tell me where is the phoenix?" Purple asked again, she then glanced at Hope and Raine. "What happened to them?"

"I don't know. They fell unconscious just like that. I did nothing... yet," Theseus said with a smirk on his lips, despite his life was only a crush away from Purple's strong grab, he refused to show any kind of weakness before his people.

"The phoenix," Purple reminded the dragon lord again.

Theseus had been dodging the first question deliberately, trying to buy some time.

"Go ahead. Kill me. And my people will kill your sweet phoenix." Theseus held Purple's wrist and determination swiped his fear, as he realized the value of that mythical bird. "You need that creature to defeat the monster deep in the river, right?" he smirked triumphantly.

When the realization hit those dragon people, a round of jeers echoed in the room.

"You will lose your precious chance to win the war," one of the dragon people inside the room said. He clapped his hands mockingly and pointed his stubby finger at Purple.

"You better put our lord down and beg for us to not chop your bird into pieces," said another in the same mocking tone.

"Right, put me down and dissolve the vow, only then will we release your bird." Theseus laughed along with them, though he could still feel the hand around his neck that was tightening with every second that passed.

However, when Purple heard that, she didn't even budge in the slightest, instead she jeered at them derisively. "You think lightly about what I can do, don't you?"

And right after her words fell, all the dragon people fell to their knees, clutching their chest and wailing in pain, including Theseus, but he could only writhe under Purple's strong hold.

"Didn't I tell you that your soul belong to me?" The fae tilted her head and watched the fear return in to the eyes of the dragon lord in front of her.

Theseus felt the air from his lungs being sucked out painfully before leaving him breathless. He felt like a thousand needles were piercing through his skin.

"What are... you doing?" Theseus gagged on his own words and tried to pry Purple's fingers from his neck with no avail.

It was ridiculous! For a creature that looked as weak as her, she was able to put the dragon people at her mercy.

"I told you to not mess with me," Purple said grimly. "You want to use me or Raphael's baby?" her voice became darker. The baby could be the last of their kind and it was simply maddening for Purple to think that these disgusting dragon people would lay their fingers on the baby.

Meanwhile, Theseus was very certain if he couldn't think of a way to escape this fae, he would die in the very next minute.

"I will... let you... know... about... the phoenix..." Theseus tried to talk, but it was hard when he didn't have much air to support him.

Now, his vision had turned blurry and it was hard for him to even lift his hand and free himself from Purple's stronghold.

However, when those dragon people thought they would die, all of a sudden the pain was gone completely and they breathed the air greedily.

At first they thought the fae finally showed some mercy on them and freed them from her wrath, but when they had regained their composure and felt slightly better, they just realized that was not the case.

Because, they could see the five devils from hell appearing before their eyes.

Belphegor, who was standing beside the bed, staring at Raine with a gleam in his golden eyes.

Mammon, who was holding the fae's hand behind her back while pushing her on to the wall.

Leviathan, who was standing not too far from Asmodeus, who clung onto him with l.u.s.t in her eyes, while staring at Hope, as if the girl was a delicious feast.

And then Lucifer, who was sitting on the sofa lazily. "Are you done here? I am waiting for you to wrap everything up here, but it seems you weren't even capable to do so..." he directed his words at Theseus.

"The fae..." Theseus choked, holding his sore neck.

"I know... I can see how a single fae can beat all of your kind." Lucifer tilted his head.

"If it is not because of the vow, I will have killed her in no time!" Theseus yelled angrily.

"Weak..." Asmodeus sneered.

=====

Even after seeing that she was at disadvantage because those dragon people had outnumbered her, it couldn't make Belinda falter in the slightest.

The witch walked straight, her eyes glued to the door with blue fire circling in her hands that left the dragon shifters hesitant to go after her.

However, it was their duty to stop anyone from entering the room, thus regardless what would happen to them and even knowing the result, they had to stop Belinda at all costs.

It went without saying, the moment the dragon shifters blocked Belinda's way in to the room, their bodies burned because of the blue fire that engulfed them.

A shrill scream rang out, echoing through the whole corridor, prompting several more dragon shifters to come which aggravated the witch even further.

"Block my way and I will burn you all down to nothing but ashes." Belinda's eyes turned red as the fire in her hands coiled around her whole body, like a giant snake.

And this time, all she could see was red.

### **Chapter 979 - WHAT SOUND WAS THAT?**

Torak Donovan.

That one name got stuck in Raine's head, from the first time she heard it in her apartment, even when she went back to her home and after having a dinner with her parents, all she could think was that name.

Who was that person?

No, of course she knew, she had done a little investigation on her own and knew that Torak Donovan was the owner of the Donovan Company, the most amazing billionaire, a man with countless achievements and ecetera...

However, that was not what Raine was looking for... what she wanted was not some public made information like that. There was something more... there was something strange every time she heard his name...

But, why?

What was this pain in her heart whenever she heard that name on the news or saw him on the morning newspaper that her father read?

The longing feeling that she couldn't understand... as if Raine had lost something precious... an important detail, or... memory...

"Raine?"

Her mother's soft voice brought Raine back to reality and forced her to smile at her. "Yes, mom?"

"Are you daydreaming? Help me with the fruits and give it to your father." Her mother laughed and handed her a knife and two apples. "Are you seeing someone now?"

"No," Raine denied it too fast and then she blushed, thinking of Aeon. Her parents didn't know about Aeon's existence even until now and she didn't have any plan to introduce him soon.

"Really?" Her mother wriggled her eyebrows suggestively and Raine laughed. "I don't mind if you are seeing someone..." she shrugged her shoulders nonchalantly. "I've started dating when I was younger than you..."

Raine laughed again, but didn't say anything, because when she looked at her reflection on the stainless knife, she caught a glimpse of her neck and that weird feeling come back...

=====

Belinda kicked the door open after she made sure it was burned and charred, just like the other dragon people who had blocked her way and tried to stop her.

However, she wouldn't have thought that what awaited her was something beyond her wildest imaginations.

"Hai, Belinda..." Asmodeus waved her hands cheerfully at the witch. "May I know, where your sister is?"

Of course the devils could hear the commotion from outside the door, but they were in the middle of something more important, thus no one went out to help those poor souls that had turned into ashes.

Belinda stood at the doorstep, with fire circling around her body and eyes red, blazing with anger. She glanced at Hope and Raine on the bed, but to reach them, she didn't stand a chance...

What should she do then?!

While the witch's mind was busy thinking of a solution as she ignored the mocking remarks from the devils, she failed to realize something...

Something far more important...

On the other side of the room, Theseus was writhing on the floor, holding back his screams, but when the pain was almost unbearable, he yelled at the top of his lungs that attracted attention from all the beings present, including Belinda.

The witch was confused at first when she noticed how Theseus's body bent at a strange angle, but then when the realization hit her hard, she knew what was happening and her eyes widened in disbelief.  
action

However it was too late. Belinda could already see the scales spreading on Theseus's human skin as his bones cracked before his back split and two pair of huge and strong wings appeared.

"Oh, no..." Belinda gasped loudly, covering her mouth when she watched the transformation of a Dragon shifter for the first time. "He is shifting... but, how..."

"Wow, it looks painful," Asmodeus grimaced, circling her arms around Belphegor's shoulders as she watched enthusiastically.

"It worked," Lucifer breathed in excitement, he could feel the glory of success in the palm of his hands as he watched the transformation ending on a successful note.

The dragon shifter was a magnificent creature and with those shiny and sharp scales on his body, which almost served as a shield, they were almost impenetrable.

With his huge being, the moment he spread his long pair of wings, it created a two holes on two opposite walls of the room. The beast shrieked and tried to move, but it only added more damage to the room.

"No, it can't be..." Belinda muttered to herself.

Even the other dragon people were flabbergasted to see the beast before their eyes, but a moment later they screamed with excitement and went out of control.

After all, years of waiting had ended and they could finally return to their original selves. Finally, they could see their beast and live up to their name as the dragon shifters.

And then without any hesitation, they willingly bear the pain of shifting for the first time. Their bodies bent at strange angles as they shrieked heart wrenchingly, but didn't stop.

With no time, the room could no longer accommodate those shifters, who started to shift into their beasts.

Therefore, with the flap of Theseus's wings, he tore down the wall beside him and created a huge hole on the wall.

"Beautiful isn't it?" Lucifer tilted his head at the witch.

=====

Sebastian could smell something burning when he reached the wing where the guardian angels' room was located, and he got a bad feeling even when he crossed the yards of the side of this place.

Guards couldn't be seen anywhere, even at places which were supposed to be stationed with high security.

The general quickened his steps when he reached the stairs and the burning smell became more prominent, but before he could reach the top of the stairs, he heard a sound of the wall being broken, as if there was an explosion and the walls shook along with a shrieking sound.

Sebastian stopped for a while, to await if something or some other creature that would attack him, while his eyes fixed on the vast space on the top of the stairs.

However, nothing happened for quite sometime and when he was sure nothing would come to attack him, he climbed the stairs again hastily and the shrieking sound became more intense.

If he thought it was only one creature before, now there were at least four or five and the number of sounds grew more and more.

What was sound that?!

## **Chapter 980 - A HORDE OF DRAGON BEASTS**

Two white beasts shifted into their human skins when they walked through the gates, a few guards greeted them, but their minds were too occupied with others things inside their heads.

Kace, who knew that his mate had already woken up, couldn't even wait a single second to see her.

Meanwhile, Torak needed to see Lilac, to discuss about Calleb. Maybe she had a way to bring some back up to protect the people in the earth dragon castle.

They had to do something about it and Torak didn't even want to start imagining what would happen to Calleb if he lost his mate. He wouldn't be able stand such a blow.

His mind and judgment had been clouded from the first day he arrived here. Staring at the gloomy sky alone managed to dampen his mood considerably. It almost felt like they were surrounded in despair...

However, before that, he needed to see Raine first. If Hope and Lilac had already woken up, so why didn't Raine?

Maybe she had regained her consciousness now. She just came back late probably...

Torak hoped he was right and when he reached their room, Raine would greet him like usual.

"Alpha Torak, Alpha Kace..." one of the guards approached them.

When Kace heard the Alpha title, he didn't say anything, he was not in the mood to correct him. He could address him as he wished, though on a normal day, he would glare at this shifter.

"The queen asks for your presence in the meeting room once you got here," the young man said, half-running to follow the brothers' steps.

"Later," Torak said curtly and quickened his steps, but the young shifter followed them regardless.

However, they stopped walking when they heard a loud explosion that came from the direction of the place to where they were heading.

Without a second thought, Kace and Torak shifted into their beasts again and rushed over hurriedly.

=====

Sebastian couldn't believe what he saw when a total of seven dragons flapped their wings in the air, shrieking relentlessly while breathing fire with the dark sky as the background.

"Impossible..." Sebastian muttered to himself.

But, even more impossible things happened... from the huge hole formed on the wall of one of the rooms, which seemed to be Raine's room, one more dragon came out... and another... followed by one more...

The general shook his head when he witnessed all of this and jumped in surprise when he heard menacing growls coming from behind his back.

But, to his relieve, he saw two white beasts rushing toward him, he didn't think he could take one more surprise after seeing more than a dozen dragons all at once.

The two white beasts then shifted into the two younger brothers of his king.

"What happened here?!" Torak roared at Sebastian, but he didn't stop walking toward the room. His red eyes became even more murderous when he witnessed the half-burned dragon people's bodies, while the rest had been blazed into ashes.

"I don't know... I just arrived here too..." Sebastian said. "There... how could the dragon shifter..." he pointed to the sky.

Yet, Kace and Torak just spared the scene a glance. They had seen that on their way here and it only made them more anxious.

Especially when they entered the room and watched as the last dragon shifter shifted into his beast and flapped his wings to join the other dragons.

But the most terrifying sight for Torak was when he noticed that Raine was not on her bed, though he knew it was most likely that their enemies would target their mates first.

"What happened here?" Torak tried to keep his voice as calm as he could, but it still couldn't hide the fact that the Alpha was on the brink of becoming a feral. action

Behind Torak, Kace growled and snarled. He could smell his mate's scent in this room which indicated that Hope was here just a few moments ago.

But, just like Raine, Hope also disappeared and aside from Belinda, who was cradling someone in her arms, no one was inside the room.

Sebastian, who was standing in front of the broken door, immediately took the initiative. "I will let Lilac know about this."

And then he ran toward the meeting place and when he glanced at the sky, he could see a horde of dragons flying in the north direction, the place where the battle was happening, where Jedrek was in charge along with some Lycanthropes that were left.

=====

Lilac was in the middle of a conversation with one of the eight Alphas inside this meeting room, after rejecting Stephan's idea when all the Lycanthropes stood up and directed their attention toward the door.

At first, Lilac didn't understand, she thought they were being attacked, but maybe that was true, because from the loud explosion and rumbling sounds they heard from afar.

"What is that?" Lilac looked at them one by one and as if there was a tacit understanding between them, they started to run out of the room to check upon the situation.

Now, all of the people gathered inside the meeting room were standing in the open area, but due to their location, where a tall and huge tower covered most of their view, they failed to see the dragon beasts that were flying amok in the sky.

"I think the sound was from the direction of Raine's room," Stephan muttered, he glanced at Lilac, who was standing beside him and one of Alphas started to mind- link to gather more people.

"I will check what's going on." Alpha Ralph along with the other three Alphas volunteered to check the situation.

And when they were all gone, from the opposite direction, they saw someone running hastily toward them. It was Sybil.

"My queen," she said and her fearful eyes looked at Lilac. "The spell is broken. Something..." She shook her head, correcting herself. "Someone had managed to break into this place by magic."

Lilac narrowed her eyes when she heard that, but before she could think further about this new information, the Alphas gasped loudly as their hands pointed at something in the sky.

And that was when Lilac saw a horde of dragon beasts...