

## CHAPTER 6

I've been here three days. The only times I've seen Zeus was only at the dinner table which I am grateful for.

I was sitting in their library with Donny who the Hellhounds have assigned to babysit me. I was surprised when I found a braille book. I was actually surprised they even had a library. I didn't think that these monsters would have an interest in reading. I grabbed the braille book and found that it was the Wuthering Heights. So I just sat there reading while Donny was playing on his phone.

"What ya readin?" Donny asks.

"It's called Wuthering Heights." I answered

Donny hushes, "Sounds boring."

I roll my eyes, "You're just immature."

He laughs, "I am mature beyond my years, Darling."

I put the book down and asked curiously, "How old are you?"

"Well, I stopped ageing at around seventeen. But if I were to say how many years I've been alive, maybe around hundred and twelve years?"

My brows raised in shock, "How is that possible?"

"The Hellhounds ringed me into the curse."

I tilted my head, "How does that work?"

Donny sighed, "I've told this story so many times, but oh well. Long story short, they pretty much killed my whole pack. I wanted to live so I offered my service in return for them sparing me. So now I serve them until the curse is broken."

Whoa, that's heavy stuff. "You're so casual about it. How could you be happy here? In the home of such wicked creatures?" I asked wanting to understand.

"They're not wicked." Donny said slightly defensive.

I nod my head, "Yes they are Donny." I disagreed, "They have done wicked things. Disgusting things. How could you sympathise with them?"

I knew Donny was thinking. Thinking of a way to argue my point. I just couldn't wrap my head around the fact he was okay with them?

"They have done wicked things, yes. But do they enjoy it? No."

"But how could they not enjoy it when they do it so carelessly. They do not value life."

"No, you've got it all wrong Lily."

I growled in frustration, "Then explain it Donny!"

"Look, Lil. They do the things they have to in order to be free. They have been killing since they were boys. They have become desensitised to it, but that doesn't mean they don't suffer from their own evil doings."

I sighed, "I can't believe I am mated to Zeus."

Donny chuckles, "Don't worry, things will look up soon enough."

ZEUS

Me and my brothers were sitting down in the snowy woods, around a fire.

I breathed in my cigar and released it as I said, "You know what I miss the most?"

Ozai sat there with his own cigar, looking lost into the fire as he mumbles, "What is that, Zeus?"

"England."

Sozin nods his head, "Amen to that, brother."

"What year of England would you have missed the most?" Ozai asks.

I pondered on this one, when was the last time I was truly happy, "England in the 1920s. We ruled the place, did we not?"

Sozin chuckles, "I've gotta admit, there are some sweet memories in those times."

STORY CONTINUES BELOW

I shook my head, "We had it all. Power, women, armies, money, everything we could have ever want. We did not go hungry and we did not go wanting. It was a year of pure greatness."

"Is it not also the year where you met your beloved Lucy?"

I shook my head and chuckle, "No, I met her long before that, but it was the year that she would finally let me marry her."

Sozin laughs out his smoke, "Oh that's right. She rejected you, how many times Zeus?"

I roll my eyes, "Shut up."

Both of my brothers laughed, but I couldn't help but join in. It was my favourite year. It was the year we should have broken the curse, the year where my Lucy shouldn't have died.

"How's Lily?" Sozin asks.

I groan, "Don't even ask. She is finding out too much."

"What you mean?" Asked Ozai.

I inhaled the cigar and said, "She's been having dreams of Lillian."

Both of my brothers eyes widen, "That's bad, bruv. Time is catching up to ya, to all of us. You need to go find that loophole."

I nodded my head, "I'll leave in two day. I'll be back just in time for your birthday Sozin."

My brother nods his head.

I look up at the sky and see it's getting dark, "Full moon tonight, boys. Keep yourselves in check."

I then stood up and let them to their own thoughts.

LILY

I was sitting in the great hall in front of the fire. It was the full moon tonight, I could feel it. The energy it was transmitting to me. I closed my eyes and soaked it in.

I thought of my family. On full moons my family and I would go on runs. It always felt so freeing. And then Uncle Noah would sing to us. I remember him teaching me to sing so than my stuttering would go away. I smiled at the memory.

I loved to sing now and then, like when I cooked or cleaned. It just came naturally. The song from my dream came to mind. From what I remember, it sounded beautiful. I wonder if I could try sing it? Probably not. But I could make up my own song. I always sing random song I've made up in my head. One of which I actually like a lot.

"May it be..." I began to sing quietly to the fire as my audience, "An evening star, shines down upon you, may it be when darkness falls, your heart will be true. You walk a lonely road. Oh how far you are from home..."

ZEUS

I walk inside the castle, wanting to go and have a bath when I heard it. Her singing. Flashes of her, my wife, singing in the bar, singing for me. My heart clenched in pain.

I followed that voice to the great hall. Lily was sitting there in front of the fire, just singing for her own. I stood there listening. Her voice was lovely. She sounded just like her. It melted me. Her voice could bring me to my knees in an instant. Oh how I miss her...my Lucy. My sweet sweet Lucy. She could sing like no other. Angriest of men would become so teddy bears as hearing her.

I sagged to the floor, unto my knees and closed my eyes. I have not seen my love for over a hundred and ten years. The pain in my chest hurt so bad. It was unbearable. She was so close to me and in an instant, taken away by the damn curse.

LILY

I loved this song so much. I always sang it when I was by myself just thinking.

However, I sensed something else, I felt a presence enter the room. I knew who it was. There is only one person with that kind of presence...Zeus. I heard his footsteps come nearer and nearer until I heard him stop in front of me.

He was breathing heavily as he said, "How do you know that song?"

I was taken back with his question, "Ummm, I just made it up."

I heard him moving around and then I felt him warmth in front of my face. I assume he was kneeling in front of me.

I felt him put his hands around my waist. My breath hitched and my heart lurched out of my chest. We were in this position without saying a word. I was anticipating what he was going to do.

"Can you sing again?" He asks. I was surprised by his request. I thought he would ask me to shut up.

"I'm not sure you want that, I might possibly break your heart." I joked nervously.

"It's already broken...please...sing again, for me." He says in an almost desperate tone. I never heard this kind of voice, a broken human. The little part of me that cared for Zeus didn't want to deny this very human request.

I nodded my head and sang a different song, The song from my dream, "I saw the light, fade from the sky..." I heard his breath hitch slightly, almost like he knew the song. I continued to sing so ly, "On the wind, I heard a sigh, As the snowflakes cover, my fallen brothers, I will say this last good bye..."

I was shocked when I felt him rest his forehead on my own and whispers to himself, "Why do you sound just like her?"

I should have pushed him away, but he seemed so vulnerable. I think Zeus the Hellhound has accidentally let his high walls crack, letting the slightest bit of light of his humanity shine through.

I closed my eyes and continued to sing, "Night is now falling, So ends this day, The road is now calling, And I must away, Over his hand, And under tree, Through lands where never light has shone, By Silver streams that run down to the sea, under cloud beneath the stars, over snow and winter's morn, I turn at last, to the path that will lead me home..."

I grip one bit. I felt it was pure silence. We just sat still. Zeus did not loosen his hand from my hand. I felt him shake slightly. And then, very slowly, I felt him raise his hand to so ly tuck my hair behind my ear. Zeus was capable of a lot of bad things, but he is also capable of being good. Anyone who is capable of being good deserves to have a chance in life.

We pull back from each other. And we open our eyes. His bright green eyes looked at me and I stared right back.

I analysed his green eyes and noticed that on his left eye on the top right hand corner, there was a pale blue. Interesting. His left green eye has a splash of pale blue, similar to my colour. Strange mutation I suppose.

But then suddenly I realised! My breath hitched. My heart stopped. I raised my hands and shakily ran it so ly over his cheeks, "I can see you." I said breathlessly.

His eyes widen in shock, "You can see me?" He looks up at the Moon from the big glass window up high. It was shining down on us.

"It must be the power of the moon," He turns back to me and says so ly, "You've seen me."

My hands were still placed so ly on his face as I breathlessly say, "And you've seen me."

And on Zeus's stone cold face, appeared a gentle grin. He wasn't a Hellhound at this moment...he was just Zeus.

"I will go back to being blind once the moon has gone, I suppose." I guessed.

"Most likely." He responds without the breaking eye contact.

"Will I be able to see every full moon?"

Zeus leans in slightly, looking at my lips in a daze, "We will see."

I gulped and whispered, "If that's so, will you please show me something beautiful before it ends?"

He stands up and extends his hand towards me. I place my small hand in his and stand up. I wrap myself around his arm as he leads me somewhere. But it was strange. I felt the sparks and my heart was beating even faster, if that's physically possible! But it also felt so familiar. It felt like home.

He takes me to the door, but he takes o his big black coat and puts it around my shoulders. And then he opens the door. It was so still. There was no wind, nor was there snow falling. Everything was still and covered in a sheet of white.

"Come." He says. We walk down the steps and into the gardens. I was looking at everything. Every single detail. And then I find myself in the middle of a courtyard full of roses. I gasped at how beautiful it was. All of the white roses where frozen in a state of such beauty. It sparkled in the moonlight. I looked up and saw the stars. Tears stung my eyes. I had not seen the stars for so long. I looked at Zeus and saw he was already looking at me. As I really stared at him, I was shocked at how gorgeous he was. His looks were so unearthly, so divine. His eyes seem to always glow green, a pale green that strikes down to my heart.

"Thank you," I said breathlessly, "I haven't been able to see since I was a little girl."

"Do you remember me from when you were a child?" He asks curiously.

As I was so ly touching the crystal roses I said, "I vaguely do. I remember your eyes more than anything. I remember talking to you before I fell into the ice."

I glanced at him and saw him clench his face. He looked guilty, but the expression soon passed.

"I also remember, never being afraid of you."

Surprised

He did not say anything. He just stood there, staring at me deeply. He raises his hand as he was about to touch my cheek, but then he suddenly retreated. He blinked as if breaking out of a trance.

I gulps when he says, "It's late, Lily. You should go get some sleep."

I shook my head and laugh without humor, "I have not been able to see for most of my life, and the one night I get to finally see, you're telling me that I should sleep?" I raised my voice incredulously.

He was not affected by my outburst. His face stayed straight as he said coldly, "I do not care whether you see or not. It makes no difference to me. If you don't want to go to bed then fine. Do what you wish until you're blind again." He turns and leaves without another word.

Tears well up in my eyes as I whisper to myself, "I hate you."

I saw his steps falter slightly before continuing on. Could he hear me?

I shook my head, trying to rid it of his negative words. I stood in the middle of the rose courtyard alone when a voice sounded near by.

"You should go inside, Lily, you may catch a cold."

I turned around and saw Ozai standing there. He looked different to what I imagined. He was very handsome. His long blonde hair was weaved in beautiful braids at the top of his head. The braids reached to around the middle of his shoulder blades. The sides of his hair were completely bare. He had high cheekbones with a slightly tanned skin. He may look handsome, but there was a darkness surrounding him. He had scars up and down his arms. Tattoos covering his skin. He looked terrifying.

I instantly step back, preparing myself for him to attack. But he just stands there staring.

I gulp said, "What do you want?" With a slightly trembling voice.

He doesn't say anything. His eye glow in the darkness, making him seem more monster like.

"You should go inside, Lily, you may catch a cold." He said again.

I surprisingly and confidently sco, "I am sure you would be happy if I was sick or if I froze to death out here."

He tilts his head, "Now why would I wish that upon someone like you?"

"Because you're a hellhound," I said as if it were obvious, "All you do is kill and destroy everything without question."

Ozai shook his head, "There is a lot you don't know about us, Lily. Yes, we have done bad things, unforgivable things. But you do not see that we are tormented souls, waiting for someone to put us out of our misery...maybe you should try talking to us before judging, we might surprise you."

I shook my head, "No. nothing would surprise me. I judge by your reputation, and by the looks of it...you don't have a good one. You are damned souls, Ozai. I can judge by the darkness your heart holds."

Ozai steps forward into the moonlight and sits on one of the garden chairs. He looks up at the stars and says, "You once believed that our hearts were good."

My brows had knitted together in "What? When was this?"

I saw a small smile dancing on his mouth slightly, "You saved your whole pack. We came to do what we do best, kill and destroy for sake of the curse, until one little girl stepped out of the crowd and begged us to not kill her family. She believed that even though we had lived long dark lives, there was a time we were once good. And she believed in that goodness."

A memory flashed in my head. The forest was on fire and the hellhounds had just arrived. I begged them to not hurt anyone, I pleaded, "Please Zues, Mia told me your s-s-story. Y-y-you may have been al-l-live for a long t-t-time...but th-th-there was a time w-w-when you were just a little boy. You were a g-g-good boy. Can you please find that little boy within yourself...and let us live our life."

"That was a long time ago." I said in a slight daze.

"It has been a long time. But do you still believe in it? Do you think there is still good in us? IN Zeus?"

I tilted my head back and looked up at the stars, "I don't know! I want to believe there is. He's my mate. Of course I want to believe in him. But he doesn't care for me. How can I believe in someone like that?"

"Everything will work out at the end, Lily. Just be patient with Zeus, he may act like he doesn't care, but there is always another side to a story."

I slowly walk and sit next to Ozai. Sitting next to him like this...it seems familiar and comfortable. He makes me feel like a little sister or something. But I didn't know why. "It doesn't feel like it."

"Don't believe his coldness. He is a very broken man, Lily."

I turn to him and ask, "Did you know, Lillian? His wife? If he has the ability to love her, why can't he learn to care for me?"

Ozai's gaze locks to mine, but they so en. He smirks tiredly, "I did know her. She was a lovely woman, she is in the past now. Don't worry about it."

I grunt, but don't ask anymore.