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Aella 1

I planted my feet in place, Karen made feeble attempts to push me forward but I remained rooted, her strength obviously no match for mine.

"Move" she growled, irritation bubbling just beneath her voice.

"Beg me."

She snarled, increasing the pressure on my arms, "Don't blame me for my next action if you don't fucking move. Do not test me Aella."

My lips curve upwards, I let Ava flash through my eyes

Her face ashened, colour draining from it. Her fingers leave my arms instantly as though they were burned.

She stumbled back, "how...when.... Impossible...you can't..." she fumbled through words, unable to form a coherent sentence.

"Cat got your tongue?" I teased, a soft smile playing on my face, her eyes darted around, probably thinking of an escape route.

I advanced towards her slowly, "poor, sweet, Karen, should have thought twice before carrying out this plan of yours"

She took a shaky step back, "s..stay back... I'm not... scared of you.." she said with fake bravado.

I paused in my steps, the fear in her eyes barely hidden "Isn't that cute." I tutted.

Before she could take an extra step I had closed the gap between us, her pupils widened.

With a smirk, I grabbed her head, smashing it straight into the sand, her screams were instantly muffled.

"Let me" Ava's voice came up

"You'll kill her" I rolled my eyes

"I won't." She insisted.

"Promise?"

"Cross my heart."

Grabbing a fistful of Karen's hair I pulled her sand filled face up to face me, her face contorted in pain, a scream rippling through her.

"Keep screaming and I might just be tempted to stuff your mouth"

Beads of sweat formed on her forehead, but she muffled her screams, tears now rolling uncontrollably down her eyes,

"I'm sorry" she choked.

"Oh, you will be. Apologize to her, not me."

As if understanding what I was about to do, she began bawling her eyes out, looking at me pleadingly.

"Don't kill her" I retreated and gave way to Ava.

Immediately she took over, she shut me out. Guess she didn't want me seeing how she handles Karen, well anything is fine by me as long she doesn't end up dead.

I spend the time recuperating and gaining back my strength, soon I feel Ava pull down the mental wall, pushing me back out.

"Next time she'll think twice before coveting what isn't hers. Fucking weakling" she cursed before curling up with a yawn.

"Tired already?" I raised a brow

"You try dealing with all these stress" she yawned louder, "I'm going back to sleep"

"Lazy wolf" I teased

She ignored me, getting comfortable for her sleep.

I finally turned my attention back to Karen, "Damn, Ava got you real good" I muttered.

She was laid in a mash of her blood, her face barely recognizable, the only indication of her being alive was the shallow rise and fall of her breath.

I felt a pang of pity for her, I crouched down next to her, tugging a strand of her tangled mess of hair behind her ears.

"How can someone so weak covet my position" I wondered aloud, "you should have at least been strong, how can you be so pathetically weak to this extent,"

Her hands twitched, her eyelid opened weakly, her mouth opened but only short groanings came out, she spat a mouthful of blood.

I tugged at the collar and in a swift movement yanked it off, "freedom feels so good" I flexed my body.

Finally, I take in my current location, the air around suddenly felt off, it all felt a bit familiar, "where have I seen this sight before?" I wondered.

I walked ahead a bit, "should be around here" I stopped and looked up and into the far distance, aside from the crumpled up body laying flat everything else seemed a bit too familiar.

The air behind me distorted slightly, seemingly disturbed by something, even the entire space began changing.

"A mirage?" I wondered.

The space changed completely, my entire body froze, goosebumps washed over me, my legs wobbled, "what was going on?"

I looked up to what seemed like a border.

"SHADOW'S PEAK"

I read the words off what seemed like a plaque, a dark raven sitting above it, a forest sprouted out of nowhere — a dark one. The mirage cleared fully.

The entire sunny energy was suddenly replaced by something dark — sinister. I could smell the corrupt, twisted form of magic in the air.

This was what Lilith warned me about.

No doubt, she was here. And weirdly enough I could feel her coming.

Under a small corner of the plaque the words, "Home to the undead, You may enter but you may not leave" I nearly chuckled at the words. Who the hell thought of such cringe worthy words?

Snarls.

Guarding the borders were more of the same type of rogue I had fought back at the pack, the same kind that had attacked me.

But these ones looked at me differently, like they had intelligence or rather understanding. Four of them stood, gaze fixed intently on me.

The hairs at the back of my arm stood.

"Now would be a really good time to leave Aella" Ava's voice came up at the back of my head.

I quickly snapped out of trance, and with a leap I fully transformed into my wolf, letting Ava take the lead, we began running in the opposite direction.

"Grab her" I added, Karen was still collapsed right where we left her.

"She's dead weight and deserves whatever comes" Ava retorted, still obviously pissed from

the earlier incident.

"Ava," I called out, "take her with us." no matter how much she deserved it, I wasn't going to let the witch kill her, cause no doubt she would.

Snarls and growls came from behind us.

Shit. They were chasing, "Take her" I urged Ava once more.

"She's just going to slow us down" she grumbled, but slowed down immediately we got closer to her, using her fangs she flung her onto our back, and resumed running.

"Mmmm" Karen moaned weakly, I could only guess how not so gentle Ava must have handled her.

The snarls grew, followed by louder growls.

Shit.

"Aragon" I screamed through the link. "Now would be a good time for the save." I called out.