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Eros Pov 1

We all troop out, Aella follows Savannah out probably to go check on how things were going on her head.

We settled for dividing ourselves and warriors into five groups, obviously all the Alpha's couldn't lead a particular troop but at least 3 or more packs with some other creatures formed a troop.

"How's it going?" I asked Kay immediately he walked up to me.

"Better than expected." He said with a chuckle.

I gave him an eye, "you expect me to believe that proud ass wolves, especially Alpha's are okay with being mixed up without prior notice?"

"Well, I'm not the one that decided to do that" he shrugged, "besides they've been training together for a while, they should have seen this coming. It was a very highly likely possibility. Not anyone's fault they overlooked it."

Sigh.

"First off the council decided on that. And I absolutely agree with the idea. It would help keep the segregation and discrimination at bay"

We began heading to the pack borders, "I didn't say it was a bad decision. Besides after fighting each other for a while they'd get a hand of it. They have no choice." He said matter of factly.

"Thanks mister obvious"

"You know" he began quietly, eyes roaming around, " although everything is changing quickly around here, you're the biggest change."

I rolled my eyes, "Shut up warlock."

"No. I'm serious, not that I'm complaining, I definitely prefer the current you to the past you."

I threw him a glare, "calling me evil to my face now are we?"

He gave me an amused grin, "you know I would never, I'm just saying. You've been warmer even since Luna came and now with the prince and princess there's a different light in your eyes."

I smacked the back of his head, "Stop saying crazy shits"

He threw his head back and laughed, "You won't cease to amaze me Alpha. You're actually blushing" he teased.

Heat rushed to the tip of my ears, "Fuck off,"

"Sure princess" he continued laughing, his laughter beginning to draw attention to us, they were probably what has got us so happy in the middle of an impending war.

The corner of my lips curled slightly, I increased my pace, leaving him behind.

"Wait up, I'll stop laughing" he screamed from behind me.

"Yeah, whatever," I scoffed, but slowed down.

He caught up to me, "I'm happy for you though. It's refreshing seeing you happy and warm, with the glow that died out ever since your mum died."

"Life happens." I muttered.

"Sometimes looking around everything feels so surreal, to think we'd have to fight

against rogues just to protect our home and all that, we probably won't come back and even if we do things will never be the same" his voice turned sad.

"We will return safely, with minimal losses. I'll make sure of it." I said my voice harder than I intended.

It would be naive of me to think that we could escape the witch without any casualties but I planned to make it as minimal as possible, nobody was going to die for nothing, not on my watch.

And the witch was going down, whether she liked it or not. "I will ensure my family reunites once more." I swore to myself.

"We will make sure the family returns together" Eden chirped.

"Sure buddy." I smiled.

"Promise to protect yourself and Luna, don't go charging into crazy situations?" Kay suddenly said, his voice tense.

"Depends on what your definition of crazy" I said with a light laugh.

His shoulders tensed, fists clenched, "You know what I mean, don't go trying to save

everyone and disregard your life, the pack can function without them, but without you it'd crumble."

I looked at him, his eyes were rimmed red, his body slightly shaky like he was trying to hold himself together,

"You know I can't promise that."

"Please," his voice cracked, "we can't lose you, I can't lose you, not now, the pack still needs their Alpha, Ragnar and Elysia still need their father, promise you'll prioritize your safety"

I sighed.

My heart clenched at his words,I know what it means to grow without both parents and I would never want to subject my kids to such, not if I can help it. "You know I can't Kay," I said quietly.

"Being Alpha is not just a role or an office, I have a duty to protect my pack and family, and I plan on fulfilling that duty at any cost." I let my words sink in.

"But—" he tried to protest.

"I can promise to try," I interjected.

His eyes widened, clearly not expecting me to concede so easily, "Really? That's better than nothing" he let out a huge sigh of relief.

I shrugged, "I only promise to try, but I will be protecting this pack and those under it, you inclusive. And I will make sure those witches understand why we wolves should not be tempted." I gritted out.

"Thank you." He breathed out, "I'll take that over nothing."

"Don't sweat it, I only agreed to save you from showcasing the pack how much of a cry baby their beta is" I taunted.

"Hey, I'm not a cry baby" he huffed, stomping his foot on the ground while glaring at me.

"Really? You're quite adorable with that face, I should snap you for Celeste. Still such a baby." I continued, paying deaf ears to his protests. Well karma is a bitch after all.

His cheeks flushed at the mention of Celeste, things have definitely progressed between them. And in a good way it seems.

"Stop talking," he mumbled.

"Sure, if you apologize to papa" I taunted,

"You look like an adorable little chick when you blush"

He scoffed, and walked ahead, "You're embarrassing me." He mumbled.

I followed behind me leisurely, taking my time while still taunting him, a smile on my face. After all, the pack needs their Alpha to stand tall and strong.

Just as we approached where the warriors all gathered, still in their human forms, a loud roar echoed through the air.

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