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Aella's Pov 1

I rushed back to the temporary encampment, Eros and the others were already waiting and expecting me.

Aragon flew lower, I slipped off of him and landed with a thud, dust spreading around me.

"What's wrong, you said it was urgent? Are you alright? The witch didn't touch you did she? I'll bury her alive" Eros and Richard bombarded me all at once.

"Relax you two, I'm fine. Did you gather everyone like I asked?" I turned to Eros.

"Just the people you called out, every other person still needs to hold the plan." He replied.

"That's enough" I followed them to the temporary tent they had set up.

Celeste, Lilith, Kayden, Savannah, Drake, Asher, Gambian, and a few other unrecognised faces were all there. Good. This will do.

"We may have a little problem." I started.

"A problem?" That caught their attention.

"Something needs to be done about those flying things for the fight to balance or the ambush plan is dead on arrival" I said bluntly.

"You saw them." Richard said, a statement not a question.

"I did" I still affirmed. "And they covered the fucking sky above them like a bad cloud, they'll pick us off the ground if one by one and we'd not stand even a chance not to talk of fighting back"

"Well, that could be an issue." Richard nodded, face solemn.

"Shit. Don't tell me all this was for nothing" Drake snarled.

"I came back for contributions not pessimistic responses. If you have nothing meaningful to add, I will appreciate it if you shut the hell up." I snapped, he was starting to get on my nerves.

"We could use him as bait. Throw him to the demons" Ava suggested.

"Sounds like a good idea," Aragon concurred.

"Haha. Very funny guys," I shook my head

"Well, Celeste is a witch too is she not." Savannah spoke up.

"I don't have enough power to reverse the spell on such a large amount of demons" Celeste she spoke up instantly.

"You can channel me." Lilith added.

"Channel you how?" Asher asked, eyes brimming with curiosity as he looked between the two.

"It's not something I wish to explain, but witches can channel energy to boost their powers from other living beings,"

"And if Celeste Channels you she may be able to send those things to the ground." Gambian said quietly.

"Yes." Celeste cut in, "Except Lilith is meant to fight one of the sisters while Aella fights the other, it's too risky. I can't use Lilith, it'll drain her."

"The pack portal takes up part of your powers too, you could close it, and focus on just this one spell." Savannah suggested

"The pack defense?"

"Aellie, they sped up, I can sense them.

They're approaching, the decision needs to be made fast."

"Aragon just said he can sense them, they're closer now. So what's it gonna be? There's no time." I asked, we all faced Cels.

Her shoulders tensed, "Let's do it." she said with a resigned but resolute look.

"Mind link Xavier, have him know Celeste is retracting her powers, they'd have to protect the pack with everything they have. Eros turned to Kay.

"Yes Alpha" he nodded, his pupils glowed yellow instantly, passing the message across.

"I can't use Lilith, she needs her powers for the sister, but using the power from the portal and channeling at least one third of the energy of everyone here, I should be able to cast the spell" Celeste.

"Do it." We all chorused without hesitation.

"Alright." She nodded,

"Aella, you have twenty before they get here." Aragon's voice came through again.

"We have twenty minutes" I announced, then faced Cels, "I don't mean to pressure you

or anything but you need to understand that everything rests on you now, the failure or success of our plan lies on whether you can make those upgraded bloodsuckers fall from their high horses" my lips pressed thinly.

She exhaled, "I only need fifteen. Let's do this. I only need everyone to return to their posts, I'll channel from the center."

Feets shuffled wordlessly, there was no time, and everyone was lost in their own thoughts. Even the weakest person could feel the change in the atmosphere, so without further ado, they all rushed to where they had been before the meeting.

The makeshift tent was reduced to the ground in a matter of seconds.

Soon, everywhere was empty, if I didn't know about the plan I would never suspect an ambush, and thanks to Lilith we were able to conceal our presence.

"You're not going?" Cels asked, she stood directly before me, looking in the distance.

"No." I simply said,

"And you?" She asked Lilith who stood by me.

"I'm staying."

She nodded, "it's gonna be bumpy."

"Good, I thrive most in chaos." I chuckled, standing tall.

Aragon stood behind us, wings spread and ready.

Celeste began chanting, I locked eyes with Lilith, "Let's do this Zar" I called her by our original name.

"We have answered so many names over the years, I have lost count, but I believe this to be the last sister" she replied with a smile.

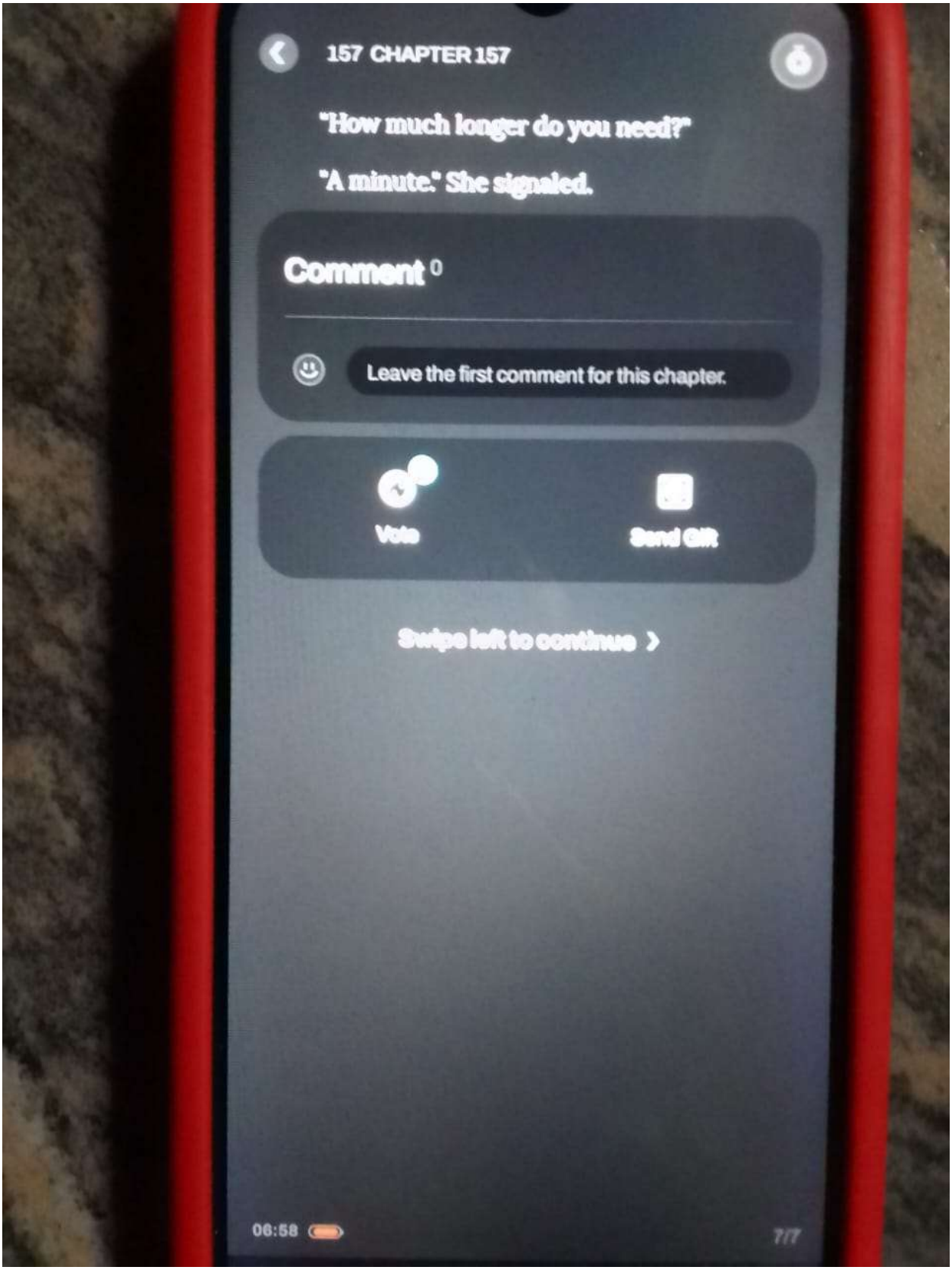
The air around us thickened, a storm of the demons came into view, wings spread, they were coming for us and in full speed.

Lilith readied her staff, I brought the one Eros had made for me, I had no plans of turning yet, Aragon stood tall behind us.

Three of us flanked Celeste on all sides, ready for whatever came next.

"Stop her" A voice suddenly boomed in the sky.

The demons dove for us, meanwhile Celeste's voice rose higher.


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"How much longer do you need?"
"A minute." She signaled.
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