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Aella's Pov 1

"Hey, it's me again, and I came with news," I said sitting next to an immobile Eros. Grabbing a wet towel by the side I began to wipe him down,

"Sage still hasn't been found. Do you think things would be different if he were?" I asked.

"Probably not, the pack doctor says you can hear me. I don't doubt that, it's just difficult to have faith you know" I continued, unbothered that the figure she was speaking to didn't move.

I held back her tears, there was no use crying now. "By the way, I honored your agreement with Richard. I've helped settle him and his people down. I gave them my former pack, you think it's wise too, don't you" I asked, but he didn't move a muscle, just lying there without a care in the world.

I wiped down his face, it was pale, giving off a faint energy, I giggled stiffly, "You look like something that just came out of a fantasy book. Any way back to my story, I know you must be dying to hear what has been going on these

past few days." I intertwined my hands with his, letting some of my warmth transfer to him.

"Elysia and Ragnar are fine, at least for now. So there's nothing to be worried about, turns out our old folks are actually wonderful baby sitters. I haven't been able to bring myself to go see them you know" I felt a dull ache in my heart at the thought of my babies, I needed to see them.

But for some reason I couldn't face them, pushing the thoughts away. I continued my story, "The refugees you took in, the ones that have lost their Alphas, they decided to stay, become part of us. We lost so many but they are part of us now, just to do their ceremony and bind them to us," A hollow laugh escaped my lips

"Everything you fought for, slowly coming together and yet you're nowhere to be seen," A tear rolled down my cheeks, I wiped it off, I wasn't going to cry.

I had to be strong. Ava has been silent ever since the incident. I could still feel her, but she had just gone quiet, not talking or doing anything at all. "I feel so lonely" I acknowledged

"When will you get better?" I wondered,

they had told me that there was no saving Eros, i just had to wait for the time when death finally claims him, but i refuse to believe that there's no way to save my mate

"I'm going to save you. I promise" I wiped the tears off my face, swearing solemnly, I wasn't going to let the heaviness I feel now stop or prevent me from saving him.

"Liith is gone too" I said slowly, my voice almost a whisper, maybe afraid that he could actually hear.

"I can't feel the bond, her body is not among the ones that was found. I don't know if she's dead or alive. What a sister I am" I mocked, my head banging from all the emotions

"You need to rest Kiddo" Aragon's voice came from within,

I ignored him and continued, "I forgot to tell you Antares is gone too" I could barely recognize my own voice the more i spoke, the tears were getting more difficult to keep back.

Sigh.

"It was my choice, it had nothing to do with you" he consoled.

"He did it to save me" I pressed my lips on the back of his cold hands, "Cause i was too weak, too useless to fight against Ursa"

"Again, not your fault kiddo. Give it a rest, if you keep this up you may find yourself lying next to your mate faster than you can blink"

I directly shut him out, ignoring his displeasure, "This was my time with Eros. Nothing was going to interrupt that"

One look at him, gone was the vibrancy, the warm smile, playful smirk, all of it now a figment of my imagination, I nearly choked on the saliva I tried to force down, "With lilith gone, and you in this position, I don't even know what i'm doing" I let out a hollow chuckle

"I can't feel our bond, I'm too weak to find out whether my twin is dead or alive, quite the irony, considering she's always the first to find me if needed and now when she actually needs me, when i should actually be there for her, helping her heal and protect her, i can't find her.

Pathetic" I spat

"The pack is trying hard to rebuild, especially with the help from the others but there's endless chaos, endless complaints,

struggles and headache," I sniffed,

"But it's fine, I'll hold everything together till you're back" I lay my head on his shoulder, his heartbeat slow but steady.

"I promise to protect all of it. Everything will be kept intact till you wake" I mumbled.

"The pack doctor said the spell hit a vital spot and it was latched onto him like leech, he was going to die, if care wasn't taken. But a tiny bout of hope that shone brighter than any lantern rose in my heart.

I wasn't going to let any negative words distract or sway me.

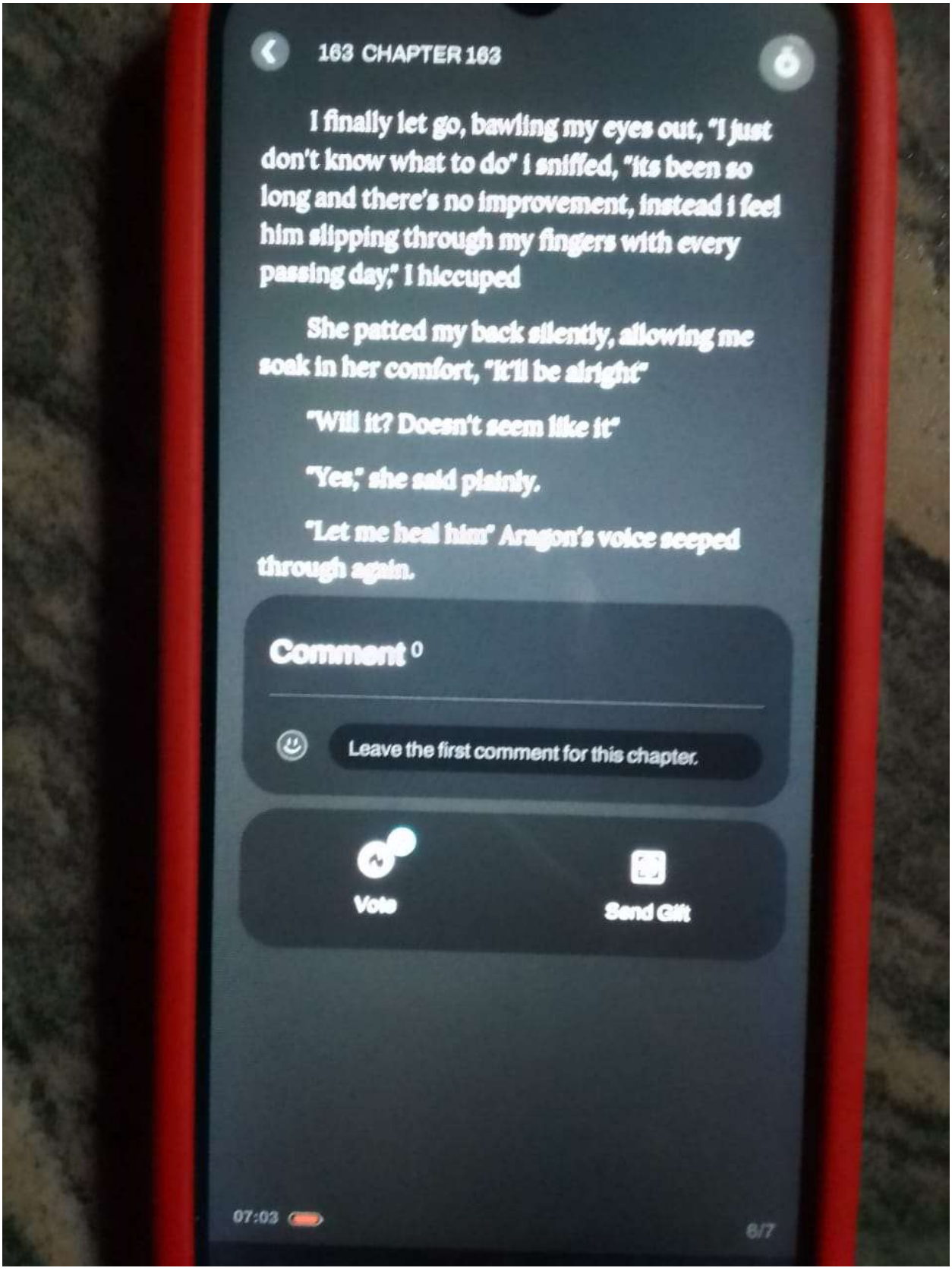
Knock. Knock. "Luna, it's me"

I sat up, shuffling my disheveled self, "Come in," I said quickly

"Oh darling. How are you?" Brianne rushed in

"Alive and well obviously" I gave a nervous laugh

"As i can see" she snorted, then moving about i found myself locked in an impossibly tight embrace, "Stop pretending to be strong, it's okay to let go" she muttered, patting my back softly.


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I finally let go, bawling my eyes out, "I just don't know what to do" i sniffed, "its been so long and there's no improvement, instead i feel him slipping through my fingers with every passing day," I hiccuped
She patted my back silently, allowing me soak in her comfort, "it'll be alright"
"Will it? Doesn't seem like it"
"Yes," she said plainly.
"Let me heal him" Aragon's voice seeped through again.
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