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Aella's Pov 1

"No." I replied, Ice cold.

Was it just me or has Aragon become even more talkative ever since he sacrificed his body?

"Promise me you'll be okay." Brianne's eyes were filled with worry.

I let out a half smile, "don't I look okay?"

"No." She said bluntly, "you look like your whole life has crumbled and knowing Alpha he'll definitely not be okay with that. Not if he's the reason for it." She said sternly.

"He's not even awake. He should tell me himself," I grumbled, feeling tears prick my eyes.

"Okay. That's it. I can't stand this anymore" Brianne suddenly exploded,

I eyed her, "what?"

"I understand your plight, but you seem to have forgotten you have two children, that haven't seen their mother in a while, two barely two months old,"

"I'll see them when I'm ready."

"No."

I looked at her in surprise, "what do you mean by no?"

"You will see them now."

I scoffed, "yeah right."

She gave me a creepy grin, the kind that sends chills down a person, "you do not want to test me Aellie." She said calmly.

"Your children need you, they don't have their father, don't steal their mother too. You have till the end of today to see them. Then I'll be left to my devices" she said cheekily.

"Whatever." I rolled my eyes.

"Bye Luna, I need to go help out back at the site,"

"I'll be there soon, any problem with the renovations?"

"No." She shook her head, "it's going quite smoothly."

"And Braz?"

"Adapting well. A bit quieter, but not generally bad."

"That's a relief, he'll be happy to know." I gestured towards Eros.

"He'll also be happy to know that his mate is not on a self destruction streak" she patted my shoulders, "Stand strong Aels, you're the strongest person I know. Don't let this break you, at least for your children."

With that she turned and left, her heels scraping against the tiles, I turned my attention back to my now comatose mate.

"Did you hear that love?" I sat beside him

"Our babies need us." I stifled a cry, "I'm not sure of what seeing them will be like. But I have to, don't I?"

I pressed my lips on his hands, "Wish me luck." Then with that I stood and walked away, not looking back.

"Now can we talk?" Aragon asked, frustration evident in his voice.

"You chose to go inside me, suck it up old man" I scoffed, pretty much frustrated from his actions.

"We can't dodge this conversation forever, Aella. You're going to have to hear me out at some point." He sighed.

"I have." I shrugged, "you decided to sacrifice Antares despite my repeated refusal and yet again now you wish to sacrifice yourself to save my mate. And my answer is no, I've had enough of losing my friends."

"You're miserable. Ava hasn't spoken in days, you've barely slept, Ragnar and Elysia expect both their parents, I've lived for centuries it's time I go join the rest of my kind."

"No. Don't make me shut you out old man, you're stuck inside my body from how I see it, we're in for a long ride, now let me be." I grumbled.

He sighed, but didn't respond.

Good.

No one was sacrificing themselves for anyone, I will find a way to heal my mate without having to sacrifice Aragon.

I raised my hands, then paused, unsure of whether I should press forward,

"It's best if I come back later," I mumbled and turned to leave.

The door swung open, "Look who decided to show up and yet she's trying to sneak away." A voice said sarcastically.

I let out a nervous laugh, but headed in, "I'm sorry." I said quietly.

"Don't sweat it kid." Old Marko walked out, holding a cane, "how are you holding up?" He looked at me with pity.

"Good." I shook my head with a smile, "And you?"

"Not bad." He looked at me disapprovingly, "You don't look so good to me."

"I...." I was suddenly at a loss of words. How does one explain the feeling of one's soul being torn apart slowly and not being able to do anything about it?

"Stop pressuring her, she's been through a lot." Angela walked out rocking one of the twins in her arms. "How are you doing?"

I gave her a tight smile, "better."

"Really? You look like you could use a mental home." Jessy's strong voice boomed, Old Solis followed behind her.

"Ouch." I muttered, "Sorry about that." My head hung low, I suddenly felt lost.

"Except abandoning these little angels you have nothing to be sorry about." Old Solis consoled.

"Give the child a break, take a seat dear." Angela helped me sit, then pushed Ragnar into my arms, "they need their mother too." She said quietly.

Ragnar watched me without a sound, his pupils wide and curious, looking at this miniature version of I and Eros, I felt the tears once more, I sniffed them back, "Hey, little man" my voice came out shaky.

Jessy sighed from behind, squeezing my shoulders, "If there's one thing I know about that rascal it's that he loves you and he would want you to take care of yourself. To be strong for him and your little family. He'll be fine. Believe"

She handed me Elysia, "we'll give you some time with them" I barely noticed when they walked out.

A light smile tugged at my lips, "Did you miss me?"

Elysia popped a hand into her mouth, her eyes wandering curiously, probably wondering where her father was,

"Of course you want to see Eros" I chuckled, they looked bigger now, "to think you were just newborns some months ago"

"Guess that's what I get for giving birth to strong wolves huh." I chuckled to myself.

As if sensing my distress, Ragnar wrapped his hands around my finger, a cool energy flowed from him to me, I watched him in surprise, "Seems someone has been busy."

"Da da?" Elysia's mouth moved,

I gasped, "Did she just speak her first word or did I miss the first? Guess we do have a lot of catching up to do.

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