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"You didn't need to save me then, if it was such a bother to you, saving me was completely unnecessary." I snarled. I felt tired, exhausted even. 1

Sage broke into a grin, "Nice try princess" he chuckled, "but from how I see it you're stuck with me for a pretty long time."

"So I've been told." I sighed, "what do you want sage? If it's for the mate bond my wolf is gone, so soon it will be too. You don't have to keep up this charade"

I expected him to give a sharp come back, as he always seemed to have a dictionary of words ready to counter me whenever I speak.

But instead I find him quiet, watching me like I was a piece of puzzle he was trying hard to figure out.

"What?" I snapped, "is there something Interesting on my face?"

"Not particularly" he shook his head.

"Then stop looking at me like a puzzle you're trying to complete."

"Maybe, I just may be trying to complete a piece to a puzzle."

"Well do it with someone else, or elsewhere. Stop bothering me, I just told you, Lena is gone, so will the bond. You'll probably get a second mate to bug." I snapped

"Mmm....."

"What do you mean by that?" I glared at him.

"I merely agreed with you're saying, and also acknowledging that I heard you. Your wolf is gone, you believe our bond to be gone too and want me to let you be as Selene will possibly match me with someone else." His lips pressed into a thin line, like he was barely holding himself back.

"Yes. Which for some reason is funny to you." I scoffed, what was I expecting, of course he couldn't wait to find a new mate, bastard.

"Well you're simply amusing. Have you ever considered trying for the circus?"

"You're calling me a clown." I glared at him, frustration evident in my voice, was their a screw loose in his head or something?

"You called yourself that. I simply find your

naivety amusing and cute." He said plainly.

I felt at a loss, what was I supposed to do with this? I didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

"Well, when you find the truth in my words then you can move onto the next poor soul to torment, no wolf here."

"So smart yet so stupid" he shook his head.

"Your main essence, the core of who you are, if it dies how do you live?"

I blinked once then twice.

How didn't I think of that? If Lena was dead then how was I alive?

"Mercelyne." I groaned.

"I said she was gone, not dead. Don't blame me for your own assumptions." she pulled up the wall between us.

I stared at Sage in disbelief, "how do you know that?"

"Aside from the fact that I got rid of the witch's essence from your body. You're welcome" he eyed me then continued, "it's basic wolf knowledge really. Nothing special." He mumbled

"You know, you just won't admit it, fortunately we've got all the time in the world until you understand,

"You..." I pointed at him.

"Hands down princess." he rolled his eyes, "anyway, I'm with you because I want to be. I chose you and I haven't had a mate ever. So I do ask for pardon if I come out as strong."

He wasn't entirely wrong, I knew or atleast I was in a way aware of what he was, I just would rather not touch some murky waters.

"That's beside the point." I grumbled

He folded his arms underneath his chest, "and what pray tell is the point? Enlighten me."

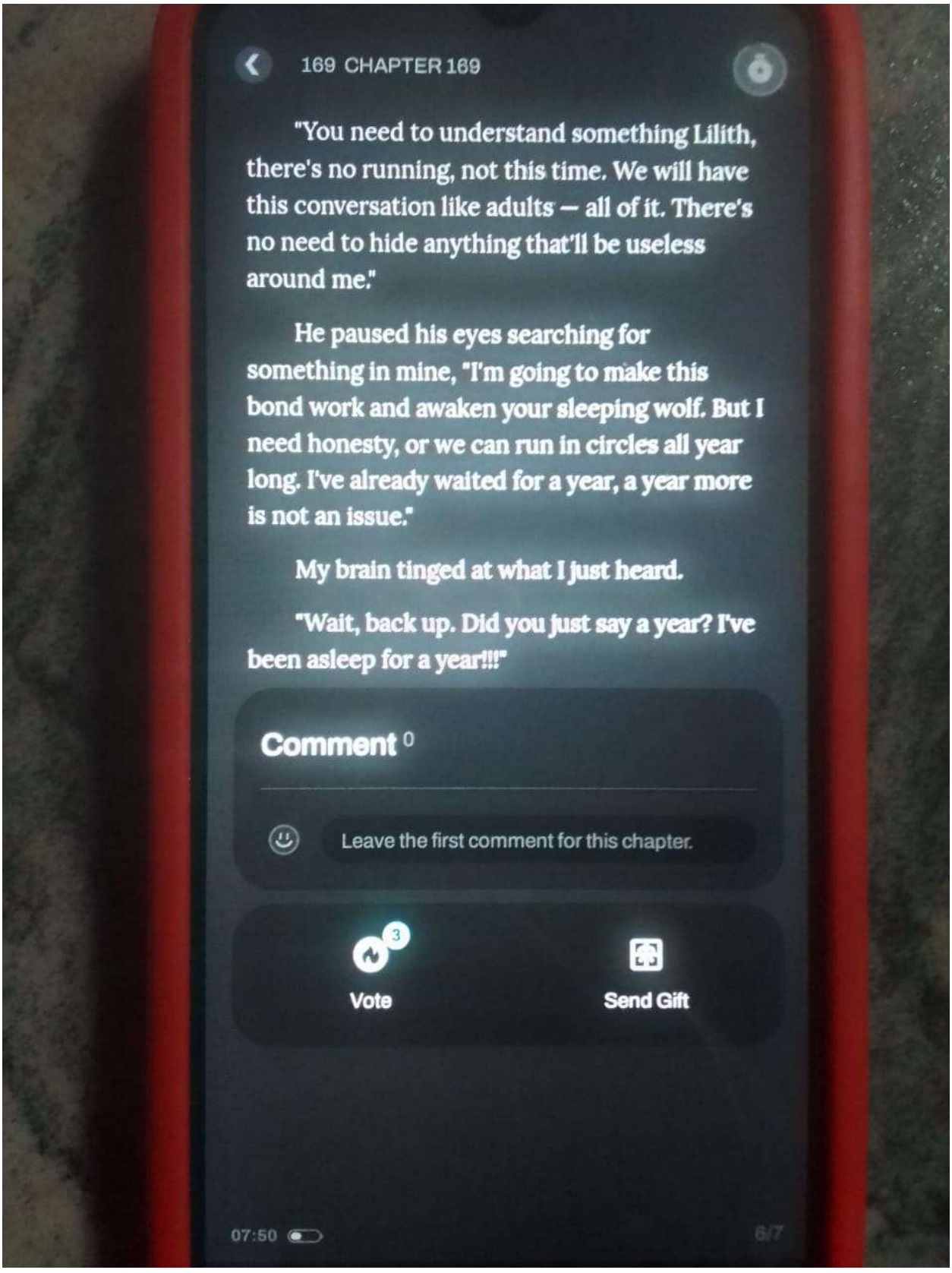
"Are you always this difficult?" I groaned.

"I'm particularly quite easy, especially with you."

I suddenly felt sorry for people around him, if this was what he considered as easy then I couldn't help wondering what was the hard version of him.

"This is easy?"

"Yes. If you look at it in a way." He pulled a chair and sat.


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"You need to understand something Lilith, there's no running, not this time. We will have this conversation like adults — all of it. There's no need to hide anything that'll be useless around me."
He paused his eyes searching for something in mine, "I'm going to make this bond work and awaken your sleeping wolf. But I need honesty, or we can run in circles all year long. I've already waited for a year, a year more is not an issue."
My brain tinged at what I just heard.
"Wait, back up. Did you just say a year? I've been asleep for a year!!!"
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