178 CHAPTER 178

Lilith 1

I felt my blood run cold, confessing something I had kept buried for years, ever since Zorya or rather Aella forgot about it.

"You couldn't do anything about it," Sage said plainly.

I shut my eyes, hands clenched, "Which is exactly why it hurts even more. The fact that I couldn't do anything about it, I couldn't stop him from hurting her, she was nearly dead when we found her"

Something flickered in his eyes, they softened but I didn't want this, I didn't want to be pitied, I didn't want pity, especially not from him, I continued what I started,

"She was never the same after the encounter, violence and killing became her second nature, like he had somehow rewired her way of thinking and way of life." I sighed

"How did she change?"

"Her memories were wiped after her last killings, she murdered some palace ladies, I took the punishment in exchange for her pain. I

wanted her to forget about him, his traumas, whatever it was he did to her, all of it." I mumbled.

Sage's hand found mind squeezing firmly, I looked at him in surprise, but didn't resist, instead I continued.

Something wet dripped on my cheeks, I touched them, tears, I scoffed, "I never knew I could still do this."

"Not always an icy queen after all." Sage teased

I shot him a glare, "shut up." The tears kept streaming down, it felt like a weight had been lifted off my chest, "so you see why." I mumbled.

"I don't."

"Don't be ridiculous, you have to know, I can never fall in love or one of those ridiculous happy ever after, Azrathul wanted me once he still wants me, whatever he wanted me for I have a feeling he did that to Zorya cause she wasn't who he wanted." I sniffed.

"I see." He mused, like he was lost in thought,

"I can't let him continue like this, I refuse

to be slaughtered by a man who claims to be my father like the rest of the immortals, or whatever twisted pleasure he seeks."

"He's locked away."

"The seal won't hold. I feel it, it weakens daily, his powers grow daily, although suppressed by the seal. If I'm not ready by the time he's out, he would destroy everything I've built and build his empire on my sister's ashes." My nails dug into my palms at the image.

"When did you find out?"

I chuckled, "I watched everything unfold, hiding in a corner, I saw it all, how he slayed them like they were nothing, cut them up like paper, they barely managed to seal him, but he remains a part of me. I can feel his powers returning daily, it wasn't until the fourth time that I finally understood, not fully but I knew."

"Your fourth incarnation?"

"Yes." I nodded, "the death pattern was too similar, dying on every 25th birthday, killed by a veiled shadow, I knew something was wrong. So I planted clues"

"So every time you recovered your memories you would remember him too." he smiled

My brows furrowed, "What's funny?"

"My incredibly smart princess" his voice was tender.

I rolled my eyes, "this just confirmed my theory, you really do have a loose screw, haven't you heard anything I said? I'm about to fight a war with a powerful god, a practitioner of dark arts and he would burn everything in his part to his goals."

"I believe I did, also heard about him being the best father of the century," he joked.

"You have to take this seriously, I can't die, not this time, we've already completed the cycle, I just have to locate the eye, strengthen the seal and ensure he never breaks out."

"That's the real reason she banished you here isn't it?" He asked.

"Yes." I hung my head, "I just found too, but descending without no just cause has become practically difficult if not impossible, they need someone to maintain the gap,"

"Only a mortal can roam freely enough to locate and seal the eye." He mumbled.

"Yes." I didn't deny it, this was my karma, back then, I knew that he didn't want me for

any noble reasons, yet I manipulated and coaxed Zorya into believing she actually wanted to go with him, that going with him would make any difference.

I wasn't going to repeat the same mistake again, I snatched my hands from sage, "This is why I refuse to get attached, I'm not going to give anyone the pain of dealing with me and all my troubles, I won't plunge anyone into the despair of facing Azrathul." I breathed out

"Only those who have faced him will understand, he wasn't normal, he wasn't just brutal, he is the pure definition of evil, an embodiment of it, he would derive pleasure in seeing me find love and rip to shreds whoever it was while I watched. I won't subject you to that."

I turned away from him, "You still have your life ahead of you, don't waste it on me, I still have to get stronger, I won't waste my time on you either, so going our separate ways will be for the best." I finished,

His breath was silent, just as he was. I could feel his gaze on me, but he made no attempt to talk or move.

The silence was unnerving, it gnawed on my nerves,

I turned to him, he was watching me intently, as if trying to figure out something, a piece of a puzzle.

Unable to stand it anymore I pressed on, "Did you hear anything I said?"

"Yes and no."

"Huh?"

His eyes darkened, voice turned husky, "Has anyone ever told you that you talk too much Lilith?"

I was taken aback, "You're a maniac"

His lips curled upwards, his tongue wetting them slowly, his hand wrapped around my neck dragging me closer to him.

"Wrong, princess." He paused, his breath now on me, fanning me and mixing with mine, "I'm your maniac"

He smashed his lips on mine before I could reply