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"Ewww, what's this" I scrunched my face, at the weird looking concoction Celeste had given me to drink. 1

"Something to help keep you alive my dearest Luna, now drink up" she replied.

"It's green" I pointed out

"I'm a witch darling, what were you expecting? Chocolates and sweets?"

"Maybe, not this green, slimy, stuff. Why do I feel that you're just doing this to get revenge?"

"Don't know what you're talking about. Drink up"

I sighed, Celeste was like a double edged sword, annoy her and she would definitely find a way to get her revenge, I probably shouldn't have forced her into this.

Lifting the liquid to my lips, I gagged at the smell—like that of a rotten egg, holding my breath I gulped it down before I began having second thoughts from just looking at it.

I grimaced, "I'm done, let's proceed" I handed the cup over to her, she dropped it beside her and went ahead with arranging her tools without a word.

Finally done "come" she turned to me, "take" she handed me a leaf, "put this between your lips"

"Why?"

"It protects your body from unwanted visitors, it should be able to deceive roaming spirits at the very least"

"Ohh," I nodded.

"Wait, before you put it, I need you to hear everything am going to say now carefully"

"I'm all ears"

She brought out two candles, a long red one and a shorter white one, "you have until the candle dies to return which is approximately 12hours"

"I won't even need that much time"

"Time runs differently over there, haven't you noticed"

"Oh. That's true,"

She rolled her eyes, "back to what I was saying, you're to go and return in the next twelve hours, you'll be going with this white candle, under no circumstances should it go off."

"Duly noted," I nodded, "anything else?"



"Not really, just be careful and now for my favourite part." Her eyes gleamed with a mischievous glint

"Your favourite part?"

"Yeah, just stand in the circle and here's your candle, and remember make sure it doesn't go off"

"Understood, I—You" my eyes widened, the words I wanted to say stuck to my mouth, the last thing I saw was Celeste waving at me with a grin on her face.

Opening my eyes, I groaned, my neck ached, nothing could have prepared me for the fact that she literally knocked me out, I massaged my aching neck,

"Did it work?" I wondered.

Taking my surroundings in, I looked around, I wasn't in the same void as last time, instead the surroundings here were clearer and brighter, I could feel the heat of the sun. Is that supposed to happen? How the hell do I have a sun inside me?

I felt something in my pocket, bringing it out I noticed it was the white candle from earlier, "I guess we're in this together then?" I pocketed the candle and began my search for Ava,. already reminded of my lack of time.



Good thing fire had no effect on me "perks of being a dragon rider"

The environment this time looked nothing like my subconscious, did anything happen? I wondered. I began looking for Ava's settlement, I sighted smoke from a cave afar, "she might be there" I muttered. Best to go check.

I quickened my pace, the earlier I found Ava, the better for us.

Why the hell are rogues loitering around inside me? I wondered, hoping they didn't see me, a fight was the last thing I need now.

What if they were holding Ava captive? That would explain a lot, but how? They shouldn't be able to infiltrate my body, not after all the safety measures I took.

They all went in pairs, seemingly avoiding the particular cave, maybe that was where I would find Ava, to think that my wolf was held hostage right inside my body and I had no idea.

I stayed hidden, waiting for an opportunity to sneak into the cave. I had no idea if they could see me but I wasn't taking chances.

Two rogues started heading towards me, did they notice me? But how? I held my breath, hoping I didn't get noticed.



The rogue was dangerously close now, my breath was still hitched, I wiggled my body in between rocks

"Where did you hear the noise again?" One of them asked

I gasped, "they talk?" That's weird, logically rogues shouldn't be able to talk especially in their wolf form what has she done to them.

Somehow it seemed like they couldn't hear me, they passed right by me, "there's nothing here" one of them said

"Thought I heard something, let's go back"

"Whatever, let's get back before the witch finds out we left our posts"

Luckily while they were distracted I snuck in, but not before noting that somehow it didn't seem like they could see me.

Good, that works in my favour.

The cave was dark, it led straight to a dimly lit room, with red and white candles lying around, slightly similar to the one I had with me.

At the center of the room lay something that looked like human skeleton, "weird," I muttered, there were strange drawings, ancient even on the wall. The one that stood out most was that of a woman carrying twins.



I heard tiny wolf-like whimpers from an end in the cave, "Ava" I gasped, she could be here, I followed the sound to where it came from.

My jaw dropped at the sight before me, wolf carcasses were littered on the floor, while a huge cage stood before me, inside lay different wolves, they were innumerable.

My heart broke at the sight, they looked malnourished, eyes hollow and empty, like ones who had given up on life, like the wolves from earlier they couldn't seem to see me.

While I felt for them, I needed to find Ava and get her out, she could be in danger for all I know, I'll tell Eros about the others later on, we would find a way to save them.

"Braz" I gasped, sighting an uncharacteristically familiar Braz sitting absent mindedly in the cage, alongside the others, if Braz was locked here, who then is the braz at the pack.

He seemed to sense something, his eyes lifted and locked on mine, they looked tired, lifeless, but I could still see it, a spark of fire and hope, his spirit wasn't broken, I smiled, this Braz is sharp and sensitive as compared to the other.

His eyes left mine, searching around for something or rather someone, when he didn't



see, he returned to how he was, cross-legged, eyes closed, like he was meditating

Footsteps sounded, my breathing hitched as the steps got closer, my eyes widened once I saw who it was, everything made sense now.

"Ursa"

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