



43 CHAPTER 43

Just before we crashed, I felt a familiar warmth, then I was in between Aragon's Talons. 1

"I'm alive, shit, how could you let me fall" I grumbled

"How is it my fault that you let go?"

"Doesn't matter, you should have reminded me"

He ignored me, flapping his wings while holding me in his talons, "you sound like a kid who was denied of her candy" Ava chuckled.

"Oh please" I rolled my eyes.

We flew the rest of the journey in silence, finally the pack was in sight, he dropped me, before landing.

"Not bad for your first time kiddo" he rumbled in approval.

"I did better than you expected then?"

"Well, considering that I half expected you to crash halfway, I'll say you did pretty well"

"Okay ouch, and next time try not to kill me" I rolled my eyes.



His body shrunk till all that was left was Antares, his human figure. "I saw your encounter with Ursa. How do you plan to find your sister?"

"What do you mean by you saw my encounter?"

"I'm your dragon, we're more connected than you think"

"I thought we'd have to hold a bonding ritual and things like that"

"No. I am just like your wolf. The only difference is that we don't share one body, the only hindrance you have now is fully learning how to ride without falling to your death."

"I see. What do you think was all that back there?" I sat on the shrubs.

He sat beside me, "the skeleton gave off an eerily familiar energy, it felt like that of...."

"Vega" I completed.

"Exactly. And if she's the one, then Ursa is getting closer to her goal than we think, you and your sister might be the last piece she needs."

"All this feels too fast," I sighed.



"I know kiddo, I know. Having the very world you know turned upside down isn't easy, especially when the fate of Goth is stuck in your hands"

"Why me?"

"You're more special than you believe yourself to be, and did I forget to mention, powerful too"

I sighed, watching as the trees swayed to the rhythm of the breeze, "I have a feeling Zarael is in moonlight pack, not a feeling, more like I know she's there. But..."

"You're scared"

"Not scared. I just..."

"Don't let your fear stop you from fulfilling your destiny Aella, you were chosen for a reason. I believe you will deliver, and as for everyone from your past. They don't matter"

"Do you think he ever loved me?"

"Who?"

"Beta Andrew. I spent days trying to understand why he mistreated me, it wasn't my fault that I was illegitimate, I thought maybe that was why he hated me. But now he might not even be my father"



"Andrew never hated you." Antares sighed, "he had a reason for everything he did back then. Believe me, he protected you the way he knew how"

I scoffed, "well excuse me for finding that hard to believe"

"I've known your father for 25 years Aella, believe me when I say, he did it for your sake. One day you will understand"

"Whatever" I rolled my eyes, "so far as I was concerned, the only person that gave two shits about me was Abuela"

"Language, young lady,"

"Sorry old man. You said you had a mate and family, what does it feel like without them?"

"Ever experienced hell on earth?"

"Everyday I was in the Beta's Mansion" I shrugged

"That was merely a tip, but then again it is a story for another day"

"Awww. Come on, tell me" I gave him my best puppy eyes.

"Don't use those on me" he flicked my



forehead

"Oww" I frowned.

"A battle is fast approaching, you'll need to be ready before it comes. I feel so sorry about the weight placed on such young shoulders, but the goddess knows her plans"

"I'm up to the task old man, remember how I beat your ass"

"Indeed. I do remember"

"What do you say we spar to get my mind off things a bit?"

"Ready when you are kiddo," he jumped to his feet, dusting himself off.

I jumped to my feet, but suddenly I was alone, "Aragon?"

I called but no response, "Aragon?"

"Aragon?" I turned around, but it seemed like I was in an annoyingly familiar setting.

"Aragon?" Looking around at my surroundings, I felt my heart dip, "how did I get here, it's impossible" I stuttered.

My feet began moving on their own, "what the hell is going on?" I wondered, it felt like I was a passenger in my own body. I thought I



was done with the visions.

The big placard at its spot confirmed my suspicions, written on it were words to a place I never thought I'd return to so soon, "Welcome to the Moonlight Pack"

"No, no, no, no, turn back, fucking turn back" I screamed at my body which just ignored and kept walking in deeper.

The pack was deserted, nothing like the once bubbling space I once knew, it was too quiet, the houses looked long abandoned, the trees were withered, no sign of any life force.

"What happened here?" I wondered, quietly watching as my body moved into the depths of the pack, passing by the Beta's house which had once been my prison.

Soon, the Alpha's house came into sight. Why are you going to the Alpha's house, I wondered, but my feet just moved like it was possessed by something. Seemingly unfazed by the deserted and abandoned surroundings. Like it had a goal to reach.

Finally I saw a silhouette, a woman, with silver hair, as white as mine, as long as it too. From her back side she looked just like me, could that be Zareal? I wondered.



"Hey" I tried to speak, but as expected my mouth didn't open, instead my feet moved to stand beside the silhouette, who just stood outside the Alpha's house staring inside.

If this was Zareal, all she needed to do was turn, seeing her face would make it easier to find her. But alas she didn't so much as acknowledge that someone was beside her.

My body just stood beside her quietly, refusing to move a muscle no matter how much I tried, I finally gave up, letting it play out while I watched. We stood in silence for what felt like ages.

Finally the figure turned to face me, I gasped, "you're me," I said, but no sound came out. Either I was an identical twin or somehow I was separated from my own body.

The figure pointed beneath her, my eyes followed her movements.

And I wished I never did.