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Aella's Pov 1

I crouched next to her, then pulled her to my arms, "It'll be alright" I comforted, holding her now trembling figure against my chest

She let out a heart wrenching sob followed by loud cries, I silently patted, holding her tightly.

She was also closer to Beta Andrew, so I understood why she'd take it even harder than anyone else. I won't be surprised if she was actually the only one that cared about him.

"How" she croaked out, "he was fine....he was ...I was going to save him...." She stuttered out.

I smacked my lips, "Andrea" the words tasted distasteful in my lips.

Her fists clenched, hurt swirled in her eyes, "he loved her" She spat, "he loved that venomous bitch" her eyes blazed with anger.

"Apparently not" I muttered to myself

"What?" She looked at me in confusion.

"Dang, forget you ever heard that" I smiled



sheepishly. She gave me a pointed look, her puffy eyes peering into mine questioningly.

"Fine, he risked his life for you." My voice lowered, my mood souring at the painful memory

"For me?"

"Yes" then I proceeded to explain how I had forcefully taken him away from the mansion and how he insisted on Celeste's spell just to be able to save Lilith.

Her face twisted the more I spoke, contorting into something mixed with pain and disbelief.

"He said to tell he loved you, before giving up ghost" I finished

Fresh tears dripped down her pupils, she sniffed back, "where's his body?"

"I'll take you to visit him when you get better"

We sat in a comfortable silence, huddled beside each other, only the sounds of our breathing and the humming of the hospital machine could be heard. Almost like neither of us knew what to say, but we knew a silent but new found truth.



Whether we accepted it or not, we were all each other had—nothing could dispute that fact.

"So, why were you labeled as a traitor's daughter?" I broke the silence.

She went silent for a while, her mouth opened and shut, pupils dilating, I could see the hairs on her arms standing, her eyes looked a little lost. Almost like she was reliving a nightmare.

"Lilith" I waved my hand in front of her face. "Earth to Lilith" I snapped my fingers

That seemed to do the trick, she blinked, then looked at me, "oh sorry," her lips curled to a smile, "I was lost for a while"

"That much was clear"

"Not long after you left, pack members began missing, some fell sick before they got lost," she began

Her words felt familiar, but I listened attentively instead, nodding, "at first we had overlooked it, but soon it became a pattern, pack members fell sick, came to the Beta's Mansion for permission or similar things as per the usual practice.



I nodded, remembering how unranked members had to seek permission from the ranked members even for the littlest things like getting required treatment or help with their health.

"What happened then?"

"They went missing" she muttered

"Missing? I don't get it?" I furrowed my brows trying to understand exactly what she was saying

"There were claims, rumors, that all who came to the Beta's house for permission went missing after a day."

"Weird"

"Exactly, it was so weird, especially since I was here. Nothing made sense, Papa only gave them permission and they'd leave. But somehow only those that left here ended up lost. No trace, not even a scent. Like they disappeared from the universe"

"Sounds familiar" I nodded, "same thing has been happening all over goth" I shrugged,

"Ursa" Ava muttered, "the witch is a real headache" she cursed.



"Apparently, why couldn't she find a ditch to die in?" I asked, I mean why live for centuries just to be a curse to others.

"Beats me" Ava said, "she needs to be put in a ground, she and her sister needs a reunion, and I don't mean resurrecting the dead one"

"That we agree on?" I replied

"But I still don't understand the traitor issue, how was that conclusion arrived at?" I wondered, puzzled.

Lilith let out a tired sigh, "it was still a rumor, a seemingly harmless one, until evidence was given to the Alpha"

"Evidence?"

"Someone seemingly dug up evidence of him handing them over to someone or so, it was really weird. Especially considering how papa couldn't even say a word in his defence"

"He couldn't?"

"Yeah, he just watched, accepting all accusations, he's only alive cause I pleaded with Crux. He was stripped of his position and locked in the mansion. But things haven't been the same since then,"



"Obviously, that much is noticeable" I simply thought, if the introduction of Xander as Beta wasn't any indication then surely the hushed whispers and the curses, calling out traitor's daughter

"That's how we got to this stage, moth—Andrea" her voice became gloomier, she was still having a hard time accepting the recent happenings "promised to keep an eye on him till we found out exactly what was wrong"

"More like till needed more time to totally ruin him" I sneered.

"I'm such an idiot" she cursed "the signs were there, it was so fucking obvious, how could I have been so blind"

"Don't be so hard on yourself" I consoled,

"Tell that to my dead father," she snapped,

My body went rigid, my retinas fixed on her,

Her eyes blinked with recognition, "sorry" she mumbled, "I didn't mean it that way, I just..."

I blinked twice, then nodded, still feeling a pang of hurt. I knew my parents didn't love me but her words only served as a reminder of



their father-daughter relationship.

"I'm sorry" she whispered

I hummed, "it's understandable, you just lost the most important people in your life. It's a tough transition," I squeezed her shoulders

She looked at me, her eyes filled with gratitude, "I'm truly sorry for all I did back then" tears slipped down her eyes.

I pulled her into a hug "It's fine. I forgive you" I smiled, and in the end, we shared one womb. That meant a lot, it is going to be a tough one, but I believe we can overcome our differences.

Just then the door to the ward opened, my eyes lit up, was Eros back? How come I didn't smell him?