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"Step back... I'll cover for you two, run immediately you get the chance" Rafael, gritted out, his eyes fixed on the men ahead. 1

"Awwwnnn, poor little defect playing hero" The one called sev mocked.

"This is between us, they have nothing to do with this, let them go,"

"Look at Ray, someone suddenly thinks he can bargain with us. Your little witch is nowhere to be seen bastard, I'm so going to enjoy beating the life out of you" the other one sneered, cracking his neck and fingers.

Zorya chuckled, "and what makes you think you can touch him on my watch"

"Stupid, have you forgotten that mortals can't see us using our powers, do you want to break a sacred law for a crush you barely know, or are just being plain foolish" Zareal whispered, somehow I was able to hear everything they said perfectly.

Zorya's face paled, "Shit, I forgot."

Ray grinned widely, "an aggressive beauty, this one's mine," he exposed a row of yellow

teeths,

Zorya recoiled in disgust, Rafael standing in front of her "over my dead body will you touch them" he grip tightened on the saber.

"This is so going to be fun" Sev chuckled, "last chance beauties, switch over to this side, satisfy us bodies for a few months and we might let you leave in one piece, it'd be such a pity to ruin such pretty face"

Zareal's face darkened, "brutes," she spat her fingers digging into her palm like she was trying to restrain herself.

"Pay no heed to them" Rafael said over his shoulders, "I'll clear a path, run immediately you get the chance, don't look back" he said, his voice heavy, getting ready to fight.

"We have to help him," Zorya muttered.

"I didn't think you've lost your mind to this extent, we can't interfere directly with mortals," Zareal replied

"I'll bear the consequences," she insisted.

"And what of your little crush? After helping him, do you think he can bear the consequences of receiving an unauthorised help from a goddess making her reveal her

powers?" She raised her brows.

Zorya's face froze, she fell into deep thoughts,"

Zareal exhaled, "I know you want to help, even if you can bear the consequences, he can't bear his own share of it, the best thing we can do now is get out of his way"

"What are you waiting for, Run...." Rafael yelled, he was singlehandedly keeping the other four occupied.

"Now's our chance, come on" Zareal gripped Zorya's hand and without waiting for a response ran off with her.

I followed behind them, "bitches, come back here" Zareal's grip tightened, the insult clearly pissing her off but she continued running, not bothering to look back.

After running to a far distance, she finally stopped, letting go of Zorya, "You just can't resist getting us into trouble" she scolded.

"Not like I forced you to stay, I clearly asked you to leave." Zorya scoffed.

"And let you run wild here, fat chance" she looked around, "this place seems secluded enough" she nodded, waving her hand, a portal

opened, "let's go before we make even more grievous mistakes,"

She advanced towards the portal but stopped, turning to look at a motionless Zorya, with a determined expression on her gaze.

"No.no.no. Not that look, we have to go before mother finds about the abomination we nearly committed"

"I'm not leaving Zareal. Not until I'm sure he's fine" she shook her head.

"Zorya," Zareal sounded exasperated, "let the mortal handle whatever issue he has, that's the course of their life, we have ours to live too"

Without a world, the sky above them darkened, thunder booming, Zorya's silver hair turned fiery, her pupils dilated, balls of fire forming in her hands,

"Draw your staff sister," she replied.

Zareal closed the portal, "you're willing to take it this far? A fight between two goddesses will ruin the balance of this world,"

"I'll make it up to you," Zorya floated to the air, a circle of fire forming above her head, it began to rain, the ground trembled.

"Reign in your power sister, let's go check how the mortal is doing" Zareal gave in, not bothering to hide her annoyance.

"Thank you. I'm sorry for the trouble" she retreated, landing softly, the dark cloud dissipating, even the trembling stopped, I just stared, speechless.

Was that the power of a goddess? Even though transparent, I had no doubt if she had attacked I would have been a casualty.

They went back to the fighting scene, all that was left was ruined ground, chunks of blood, a severed arm, bile rose at the back of my throat but I forced it down.

"His body is not here, he likely escaped with his life" Zareal pointed out.

Zorya continued walking ahead, with a sigh Zareal followed behind, they arrived at a cave, on entering I saw a one armed figure lying motionless, a sabre beside him.

"Rafael" Zorya rushed to him, her voice breaking as she picked his bloodied figure, laying his head on her laps, "how dare they do this" her body trembled, the cave began shaking,

Zareal scoffed, "keep this up and you'll bury him alive before he even gets the chance to die properly"

She took deep breaths, her trembling stopped, followed by that of the cave,

"Her anger is quite scary" I wiped off a sweat, despite not being physically present, her actions resonated deeply in my soul.

"I'm so sorry," she sobbed, "please don't die"

"Li.. little beauty" Rafael coughed weakly, raising his blood coated towards her face but froze halfway, Zorya held it, placing it directly on her face, tears began pooling at the corner of her eyes.

"Don't cry," Zareal warned, watching her sister from where she stood "remember where you are, he cant handle it"

"Right," Zorya muttered, sniffing back the tears. "I'm so sorry" her voice cracked.

"Don'y cry little beauty, it's my fault, I should have confessed to you the first time I spotted you watching me behind the bushes, guess I got greedy and just wanted to enjoy the attention a little bit more" he smiled wryly, exposing his bloodied teeth

"You knew" her voice turned hoarse

"You're not particularly easy to miss," he grinned, "who would have thought that I'll die a happy death in the arms of the mysterious little beauty I feel in love with" he coughed violently, spitting out mouthfuls of blood.

Something wet touched my arms, I wiped it off, why was I crying?

Damn, something about the scene tugged at my heart, I could feel my heart breaking for their sakes, imagine Eros dying before our love even had the chance to develop.

"I won't let you die" Zorya's voice came out in short rasps, "Not on my watch" she brought out a tiny white bottle, popping open the cork, the bottle emitted a soft glow, an edible scent wafting through the air.

Zarael's face changed, "You can't"