

Chapter 477

Violet

I looked at Kylan, waiting for my sight to return to normal as everything was still a blur. My eyes were wet, my body was shaking, but at least it happened while I was in his arms.

This dream...this nightmare, was way more intense than the others. Then a thought suddenly hit me, and my breath hitched.

"Breathe," Kylan instructed.

I shook my head, trembling harder. "I didn't save them...I didn't save them!"

My eyes squeezed shut again. I needed to go back. I couldn't believe I ran. I actually ran and left them there when I could've saved them. My parents were right there, and I turned around and ran like a coward.

When nothing happened, my eyes flew open.

"No, no. You don't understand!" I tried to explain. "I have to go back and save them."

"Who?" Kylan asked, his hands gripping my arms.

"My mom and dad." I rubbed my face with my palm, trying to ground myself. "And Kian? He was there, Kylan. Kian was there!"

"It was just a nightmare—"

"You don't understand!" I shook my head frantically. "It wasn't. I was really there, and it wasn't a nightmare!"

Kylan nodded slowly. "Okay," he said. "Then it wasn't a nightmare. I believe you."

His hand moved to my back, rubbing slow circles while I was still shaking. Curious, my eyes darted to the clock on his nightstand.

2 AM.

We had barely slept.

"Tell me about it," Kylan said, squeezing my back. How could I tell him what happened when I barely understood it myself?

I took small breaths, trying to piece together what I had just experienced. "My eyes didn't work," I whispered. "I tried to use them, but it was like something blocked them...like they were useless."

Kylan chuckled softly. "From the start, please, Pup."

I took a deep breath. Then I told him everything. About the new part added to my nightmares. The underground caves, and Kian appearing. How I ran away like a failure when I should've fought.

Kylan listened, but he didn't interrupt. He just held me as I let it all out until there was nothing left to say. And when I finished, silence filled the room.

"Anyway, it's late," I said softly. "You should get some sleep. I'm sorry for waking you."

Kylan pulled back, looking at me like I had lost my mind. "I do not care about sleep when you're like this," he stated. He brushed my hair back from my face. It was damp now, clinging to my skin.

I felt sorry for him. That I had to be like this, especially tonight. Our first

night back together. First I couldn't find it in me to go all the way with him, and now this? He must've been exhausted.

He exhaled and gave me a small smile. "Do you need something?" he asked. "The lights on? A bath? Some tea?"

A laugh escaped me, each option sounding better than the last. "I think I need all of those."

"I got you. Always." He kissed my cheek and got up from the bed. "Don't worry."

I watched him move around the room, and my heart fluttered. This frustrating, stubborn, complicated man, who carried the same darkness inside him that had me so shaken, made me feel safer than anyone else ever had. He didn't have to do all of this, and yet here we were...

As promised, he turned on the lights, made me tea, and prepared a warm bath for me. Even as I took the bath, he leaned against the wall, not letting me out of his sight, even though his eyes were exhausted but worried enough to stay open.

By the time we were back in bed, it was already 4 AM, but neither of us slept again. He knew I couldn't sleep, so there was no way he was going to. It was the same as it had been in Lyperia.

The unfortunate effect of his affection was that when we got up to get ready for the day, we both looked like we had been through a war.

Kylan and I held hands as we walked through the halls, barely keeping ourselves awake. Every few steps, my eyes would threaten to close on their own, and his grip would tighten to keep me steady. Or maybe himself. Anything was possible at this point.

We glanced at each other at the same time, and I burst out laughing. Then he did too. At least we didn't have Elite training today. That would've been a disaster.

"I'm sorry," I said again. "I'm so sorry."

"I can go two days without sleep for you," he said, shrugging. "It's alright."

He cleared his throat. "That sorcerer probably wouldn't survive one."

I let out a sigh. "Are you seriously still going on about that?"

He squeezed my hand. "How can I not?"

We had somehow found the strength to drag ourselves across the courtyard, and for the first time since making up, we walked into the cafeteria together.

Everyone was already sitting at our usual table. Dylan and Trinity, with Nate, of course, squeezed in between them. He threw his arm around Dylan and ruffled his hair while Dylan tried to free himself. That was just the dynamic between the two.

"Those two...as if today isn't exhausting enough," Kylan mumbled.

Trinity spotted us first and waved her hand, though it froze mid-air. Always well-rested, she was quick to notice our tired eyes.

"What happened to the two of you?"

Nate focused on us immediately and failed to hold back his laughter.

"Is it that bad?" I asked, finally reaching the table.

Kylan chuckled beside me.

"The two of you look like you just crawled out of a grave," Trinity said. "So yes, it is that bad."

Kylan and I sat down, and I was opposite Dylan. He was quiet today and watched me with that look, as if he were investigating me.

"Your eyes are almost falling out of your head," he said flatly. "You should rest after classes today. I don't want you to faint, Violet."

"I can't."

I looked at Kylan, and he gave me a small nod. Then I looked at the others to give them the news.

Trinity had been there yesterday, so she already knew, of course. Though it had become clear she hadn't told Dylan.

She sat back in her chair with her arms folded, playing innocent.

"We're all going to Bloodstone Haven tonight," I announced. "Aelius requested to see all of us."

Nate sat up straight immediately. "Wait, like a trip? To those creepy caves?" He grinned. "That sounds fun. Do they have food there? I've always wondered what Soothsayers eat!"

Well, at least one person was excited. I had already expected this reaction from him. Nate was basically in for anything.

But Dylan...

Trinity glanced at Dylan, who didn't seem all too impressed. Impressed enough to play the overprotective big brother? Sure. But to head to

Bloodstone Haven? Not so much.

"That's your grandfather, so I get why you are going," Dylan squinted, his eyes on me. "But why does that old man want to see us?"

My stomach tightened. How much could I say? How much should I say? The cafeteria didn't seem like the right spot to discuss such details.

I turned to Kylan for support and caught him rubbing his eyes. "Look. You're asking too many questions," he said, his tone slightly annoyed. "When a Soothsayer summons you, it's just better to show up. You know that."

Dylan's gaze moved to Trinity, who gave him a shrug. Then he looked at us again.

"But that's the thing. Why would he summon us?"

All eyes but Kylan's landed on me, and I raised my brows. How come I had to answer the hard questions when he had the devil inside of him?

The weight of everything pressed down on my chest. The nightmares, Baelor, Jason showing up out of nowhere to teach us how to heal shadow wounds. Aelius reaching out after months of silence...and I suddenly didn't feel like holding back anymore.

"If you do not want to come, you shouldn't, but we don't have long," I said.

"W-What do you mean?" Nate asked, his tone much more serious now.

I took a deep breath. "I'm pretty sure the Veil has cracked...and Kian will come back for revenge. Possibly any time."

That nickname...Lettie.

Kian?

Carefully, I stepped back. First one step, then another, until the red eyes flew toward me. That's when I turned and ran for my life, my heart pounding against my chest.

But it didn't matter how fast I ran, I would never be able to outrun that. The darkness chased me, swallowing everything behind me, and I could feel it getting closer and closer.

I let the energy flow through my eyes, waiting for the glow to happen, but it never came.

Why?

~

I woke up gasping for air. My skin was drenched in sweat, which seemed to be a regular thing by now, and the room spun around me. Terrified, I looked beside me and already felt two strong arms around my body.

Kylan was holding and shaking me.

"Violet! Violet, look at me!"

big sale: 100 bonus free fou you

 [get it](#)