

Chapter 19 : Send Away

"I would love to go with you Anaya, but I don't think it's the right time for me." Silvia said, "I still have some business in this pack."

Anaya was disappointed but didn't probe further. She never insisted on anything, stubbornness was never a part of her nature.

"Okay. I understand." Anaya whispered and waved at Silvia before turning around to leave. Silvia watched Anaya until she disappeared and then closed the door.

Anaya walked home alone. It was a little over nine pm and most of the pack were in their own homes with their family, so the streets were deserted. After reaching home Anaya finished the dishes left behind after dinner and cleaned up everything before going to bed.

The next morning Anaya woke up late. It was already past six am so she rushed to get ready for the day and start her work. However, when she came downstairs to start the chores, she felt like it was too quiet.

No one was at home.

Anaya frowned, wondering where they went early in the morning. But since she was already late,

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Anaya didn't bother with it. Today she had to deep clean the house and along with that try to see if she could find something in Charlotte's room.

After preparing breakfast Anaya waited for another half an hour for the family to return home but no one came back. Thinking it was a good chance, Anaya went upstairs.

Charlotte's room wasn't locked. She opened the door and peeped inside. She felt like a little thief.

Anaya closed the door behind her and released a deep breath. Charlotte's room was decorated to her taste and had open windows. The bed by the wall has the softest mattress, at least half a dozen pillows and a thick blanket.

Anaya would have felt envious if this was a few years ago. But the conditioning of these twelve years made Anaya numb to these things. She didn't want any of those now.

The study desk had a small shelf attached to it where Charlotte kept her books and study material. Anaya went there first and looked at the titles of the books.

All the books looked normal to her. They were typical subjects taught at the school. She opened the books and searched inside as well but found nothing. Anaya made sure not to mess anything up while she did that. Anaya was about to move

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on when she spotted a small book on the desk.

It was a black color book without a title, it looked thick and old with brown pages. The writing on it was messy, it appeared to be handwritten.

Anaya squinted her eyes to look closely and could only read the first few words before she heard the front door open.

Anaya quickly kept the book in its place and left Charlotte's room. She steadied her heart, mentally convincing herself she wasn't doing anything wrong and went downstairs.

Ginny just came in, followed by Charlotte. Anaya assumed her father must have gone to work. Ginny's expression didn't look good and Charlotte was worried. Anaya quietly went into the kitchen and poured water for the two.

"Thank you Anaya." Charlotte said and took the glass.

Ginny was immersed in her thoughts and failed to notice Anaya's existence but when she heard Charlotte's thanks, Ginny looked up at her.

Great.

Anaya thought she would once again become a medium for Ginny to vent out her bad mood. However, what she didn't expect was for Ginny to smile. It wasn't a motherly smile, not in the least. It

was a smile of relief that gave Anaya a bad feeling.

"Anaya, you are eighteen years old this year, am I right?" Ginny asked.

"Yes mother." Anaya answered in a low voice.

Ginny's calculating eyes chilled Anaya's heart. She lowered her eyes and pretended not to see them. She wasn't worth anything, what could Ginny do?

Anaya's only regret was not searching Charlotte's room sooner. She had found that book but could only read two words - The elementals. Anaya's lips pursed together, wondering what those words meant. What are Elementals?

As long as Ginny and Charlotte were at home, Anaya couldn't find it. In a sense, Anaya had already given up on it. This was her last try. Whether she succeeded or not, it didn't matter. She would leave.

Anaya had already decided to pack her bag tonight. A few clothes, a packet of bread and some water was all she needed. Her money was safe in the drawer as well. In the middle of the night, Anaya would be gone.

Her heart beat went up, thinking of the life where she wouldn't have to keep her head low and take the beatings. Where she wouldn't have to be a slave anymore.

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Anaya stopped herself from smiling and bowed her head lower. But she was a second late, Charlotte had already seen the twitch of her pale lips. The twelve year old girls' innocent eyes shined with malice.

She resembled her mother. The fire element inside

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her was of an aggressive nature. With the gasoline of words, which acted as fuel, Charlotte's intention towards Anaya were not the best. She didn't like her sister at all.

When Charlotte was a little girl and had started to understand words, her mother had told her to stay away from Anaya. Charlotte was a good girl, she

listened to everything her mother said. She didn't ask why, it didn't matter to Charlotte. She kept disliking her sister and eventually she didn't need a reason to hate Anaya. Just like siblings loved each other without a reason, Charlotte hated Anaya.

But Charlotte had to put on that lovely expression so others may continue to like her. When they found out that Charlotte was an elemental, she became the goddess of their blue stone pack. She was the only way they could get up on their feet.

The way everyone loved her, Charlotte came to believe that she was the most important in others eyes. She should be placed above everything else.

Seeing Anaya almost smile, she couldn't take it.

"Mom, why don't you let Anaya come with me? I won't be alone there and she can take care of me." Charlotte stuck to her mother and said. She knew her mother was already considering it. With Charlotte saying it out loud, Ginny's eyes confirmed it too.

"That sounds good. It's only a matter of time. Then we will find a way to get you back." Ginny caressed Charlotte's face.

Anaya, who didn't know what was going on, showed a shocked expression. Where were they sending her?!

