

Replacement Bride for the Alpha of the North

- Chapter 181 – 200

Chapter 181: GRANT ME ONE THING

The two shifters from the west screamed on the top of their lungs, fighting the itch feeling that crawled on their skin, but the more they scratched them, the more itchy it was to the point they felt their entire body felt the torture.

It was very unbearable. No amount of scratching and clawing their own skin could relieve the pain, if anything, it only got worse.

In this rate, they would claw themselves to death and this was one of the most painful deaths that someone could get, not to mention how embarrassing it was to scratch your entire body to death.

It would be a slow death indeed...

Meanwhile, Zaya frowned to see blood started to pool beneath them, but thanked to their healing ability, they would start to heal again before they scratched them again, rinse and repeat.

"They will scratch themselves for eternity." Zaya tilted her head.

"Let's see how long they could stand that," Dawn replied, she watched them without any amount of guilt at all.

Darius and Pyro, who were there shuddered with the sight, seeing them scratching themselves made their body felt itchy as well.

"Dawn, are you sure, you don't give any on me? Because I feel itchy now," Darius said, as he anxiously scratched his head, his habit whenever he was flustered.

"Do you want some?" Dawn grinned at him and the gamma cowered.

"Your mate is scary," Darius said, whispering to Zenith, but when he lifted his head and looked at the alpha, he could see how wrong he was to complain to him, because the gamma saw how proud Zenith was to Dawn's work, despite he was the one, who disagreed to get her involved in this matter.

"I should do the same thing to those people from the Holy Kingdom for even suggesting a marriage alliance to my baby." Dawn was furious the moment she heard how their solution to the problem with Aurel.

There must be something wrong with their head.

How could that be a solution?

Dawn was thinking of a various way to torture those imbecile people.

"Let's see how long they will last," Zander said and with that, they left the room and back to their routine, as if there was nothing happened.

These people wouldn't have an easy and quick death, but at the very least, with Dawn's method, they didn't need to waste their time and energy to torture them. Just let them be and they were already on the verge of dying.

Zander had to admit that Dawn was an asset and if only she was not Zenith's mate, he would love to keep her by his side, but his brother wouldn't agree for him to expose his mate's ability.

More so, he had Hecate. That man was eccentric enough to occupy his interest. He was fond of poison too, thus it was a compensation for not having Dawn in his disposal.

Thankfully, it didn't take long before the two men were ready to confess. They could bear the pain and torture, but this itchy feeling drove them insane.

"They are ready to confess," Zenith said, as he approached Dawn, who was breastfeeding Zade. The baby glanced at his father and made noises. "Can you give me the antidote?"

Dawn provided him with one, but before the alpha went away, he nudged his baby and spoke something that made Dawn screeched.

"That's mine."

"Zenith!" Dawn watched her mate gave her a mischievous grin and strode out of the room.

Zenith then gave the antidote to Zander and stay to listen to their confession about why they were there in that restaurant with the people from the Holy Kingdom. Their confession was not really surprising, since they had expected this to happen.

Holy Kingdom and the west had joined hand, but not only that, the Dragon Sect was behind it as well. The people, who had spread the poison that could leave the shifters vulnerable, unable to shift.

“Two ships docked at the harbor a few days ago,” Zander said furiously, as he walked in the hallway with his brother and the royal beta. They didn’t get the antidote to the two warriors, let them be in pain and died in agony.

“Is there any news from Moonlight pack about the ships?” Zenith asked Pyro, but the royal gamma shook his head.

“Alpha Tony didn’t say anything about it.”

“Or, maybe he didn’t know,” Zenith concluded. “If it was a few days ago, it must be when he visited Dawn.”

“Yes, and he impulsively gave the responsibility to Blake to overlook the pack, instead of his gamma.” Zander was frustrated. That man was resourceful, but his impulsiveness could ruin everything.

It had been proven of how he ruined his own life with the same impulsiveness.

“I will make a quick visit,” Zenith said. “Pyro, come with me.”

The three of them walked toward the strategy room, where Pyro scooped a few magic stones and then created a portal that led them to the Moonlight pack, right to alpha Tony’s study room. The place was empty, indicating the alpha was not there.

Meanwhile, Zander gathered his trusted knights and warned them to be ready.

Thankfully, the people from the Holy Kingdom were not able to be more active since they arrived because of what Dawn did to them. Zander was really grateful for her pettiness.

“Call Zaya to come here,” Zander said after he gave a few orders to his warriors, but then a guard informed him that king Rowan wanted to speak with him.

Zander let him in and the moment the other king entered the room, he didn’t beat around the bush, as he understood the current situation.

“You need my help in this battle, king Zander,” king Rowan said. He sat down in front of Zander, his intention was clear. “I can back you up in this battle against the outside force and the people inside your kingdom, you only need to grant me one thing.”

Chapter 182: THE DECISION IS IN YOUR HAND PRINCESS

"No." That was Zander only answer, he knew what this king wanted and he wouldn't trade his sister for anything.

"I have not yet stated my request."

"You can ask about anything, but princess Zaya is off limit." Zander met king Rowan's hard eyes.

"You will regret this decision." King Rowan clenched his jaw. He didn't like to be challenged. "There is no way you could win against them."

"Will you join them because I reject you?" Zander could feel anger licked his skin, he needed to stop and think about what he had to say thoroughly, but the thought of trading Zaya for king Rowan's help, enraged him.

Probably Zenith was right about this one thing, he shouldn't have gotten this king involved.

"You judged me too fast, king Zander," king Rowan said with his deep tone. "I am not that kind of person." He stood up and then approached the other king. Zander held his eyes, the two kings looked like they were going to rip each other's throat. "Let's focus on our business then. We are going to leave in two months with the steel."

"Good."

And that was the conversation between them. Zander indeed wanted king Rowan's knight, since it would help tremendously with his plan, but the price that he asked was something that he didn't even want to consider.

Yet, king Rowan found a way to get what he wanted when he went straight to Zaya and greet her like usual before leading the conversation to his main intention.

If Zander didn't even want to consider it, it was not the same for his sister. Spending time with her, letting him knew her a little bit better and he liked her even more.

"The decision is in your hand, princess because your king brother is too over protective to see a bigger picture." King Rowan's voice grazed her ears gently, but the weight on his words was very heavy.

He made it clear for Zaya what he wanted and this was up to her how she would respond it when she knew very well about the current situation.

"Why do you want me?" Zaya narrowed her eyes.

They were currently in the garden, where Zaya had a good time with Celine, but the healer had to make an excuse to leave when king Rowan came.

“Will you accept the excuse of ‘obsession at first sight’?”

Zaya didn't find that funny at all, she crossed her arms and her defiance was something that made king Rowan attracted to her more.

“Why do you find it weird when you people, the shifter, have what you called destined mate, where you will be attracted to each other at one glance. Couldn't I have the same? Probably I am a werewolf descendent too.”

Zaya looked like she was really going to turn him into a frog now and the look on her face actually pretty... adorable.

“I don't make a deal with your brother now, I make a deal with you.” King Rowan plucked one of the flowers that he didn't know the name of, but he thought it was beautiful and gave it to her. “Princess.”

After that, he walked away, leaving Zaya bewildered with the rose in her hand. She stared at his retreating back and then at the rose in her hand.

At the same time, Zenith waited in the alpha's study room with Pyro, thankfully it didn't take long for them because after ten minutes, the alpha showed up and he looked confused to see the two of them were there.

But then, he remembered that the royal beta was a magic user, who could create a portal.

“Is there something that I can help with?” alpha Tony asked eagerly, especially when he saw Zenith. He was worried for Dawn's safety the first moment Zenith took her away, but seeing her right now, he was convinced that she was at the right hand.

If there was something that he was grateful for because of Julia was the fact that she was the one, who pushed Dawn toward the alpha from the north. He couldn't imagine Dawn's life if she was with Blake right now, because Emily looked like she was dying inside.

“Yes. There is something I need you to check,” Zenith replied, he told the other alpha to sit down, while he took his seat, he treated this place like his own and alpha Tony couldn't even protest. He felt like he was only a mere omega in front of him, especially when he wore this serious expression on his face.

Zenith told him about the ships that docked in the harbor on the day that he visited the palace. It was confirmed that Blake was the one, who handled the matter in the pack, in his absence, thus it was no brainer that he was the one, who had received them.

But, because that night there was storm, probably there was not many people witnessed that and even if they did, there was little possibility they could confirm that the ships contain with those black magic users that came from dragon sect.

“I will look into it,” alpha Tony said, as he was deep in thought. He had told Dawn that he would do everything to make it up to her and she only said to help the king, thus he would do everything in his power to do so.

Zenith gave him a few pointers for him to handle the situation in this pack. “Is there something weird happened in this pack?”

Alpha Tony shook his head, but he furrowed his brows, contemplating for a while, before he said it. “There is a missing child in the pack.” He shook his head again. “I think the child must have run away somewhere and got lost, we have conducted a searching team to track him.”

“And who led this team?”

Alpha Tony flustered. “Blake.”

Pyro was speechless when he heard that. This man was... obtuse.

Chapter 183: THE DAGGER

“I am sure the missing child must have something to do with the black magic and the people in the dragon sect,” Pyro said.

They just returned from the Moonlight pack and let alpha Tony knew about this. Black magic was forbidden for a reason, because it needed sacrifice to do it, just like how magic user used magic stone, these black magic users needed sacrifice to use their power.

You couldn't find magic stone littered on the ground, but sure enough, you lived surrounded by people that you could use as the sacrifice to use your magic.

For now, alpha Tony had been warned about this, but Zenith was extremely displeased by how obtuse that man was. How could he be so naïve and impulsive? And yet, he had this beautiful and intelligent daughter, it was beyond him.

“Let Zander knew about all of this,” Zenith said, as he went back to the nursery room, where he found Celine was with Dawn, talking about trivial things, yet when she saw the alpha, the healer excused herself and went out of the bedroom.

At this moment, she felt sad, because of the death of Lance. She didn’t feel the connection with him anymore, but this was not how she wanted his life to end.

“You chased my friend away,” Dawn complained playfully, as she burped her baby. Zade looked sleepy after his stomach was full.

“Yeah, she knew when to leave.” Zenith took the baby from Dawn’s arms and rocked him to sleep, so his mate could stretch her body and get some rest. “Did he make trouble for you?”

Dawn giggled when she heard that. “Zade is a good boy, you are the one, who used to make trouble for me.” She leaned over and kissed his lips.

“Did I?” Zenith licked her lips, but before he could deepen the kiss Dawn had pulled away, unfortunately, Zenith was holding the baby, thus he couldn’t pull her back.

“How is it?” Dawn wanted to know how things went down because she knew their current situation didn’t look good.

With that, Zenith told her everything, including his brief visit to her former pack and how alpha Tony acted.

“I wonder how he could manage the pack all this time,” Zenith was still in disbelief on how naïve alpha Tony could be.

“No. Actually, if I thought about it again, it will be Jason, who would take the initiative on everything. My father will be the one, who had the last say, but it was the former beta Jason, who stirred him to the direction that he wanted.”

Zenith clamped his mouth, he wanted to say something ‘sweet’ about her father, but he held himself back, because no matter what he was still Dawn’s father.

“I know you wanted to curse at my father,” Dawn said teasingly when she saw the look on Zenith’s face. “It’s okay, I want to curse at him too.”

Dawn wouldn’t hold it against him if he did.

And then a few weeks passed.

There was one more child that went missing from the Moonlight pack and the situation was rather tense there, because they didn't know the reason why the children kept missing. There was no trace of them.

Meanwhile, the people from the Holy Kingdom had become better, but it was only because Dawn wanted them to join the battle hunt.

"Probably I can put Asturi Stem on them to attract the monster, they can deal with those monsters." Dawn commented, as she walked with Darius in the hallway, Zade was with the gamma and he was mesmerized by the little baby.

"I am sure they can be a good friend with each other, since in a way they are alike."

Dawn laughed at that and life felt easy at this moment. She had started her training with Zenith and Darius volunteered to look after Zade, though there was no need for him to do that, since Yara was with them.

Yet, the gamma insisted.

And as Dawn's training continued, the day of the battle hunt was around the corner, it was a lively morning, the wind was a little bit cold, but it didn't deter the warriors and the knights to have this battle to kill as many monsters as they could find.

That day, Zaya received a gift from king Rowan, it was a small box with the color of black and purple, the color of this kingdom.

And when she opened the box, she found a black dagger with a letter. The handwriting looked very strong, as if the writer held the quill like he held the sword.

There was not much that was written there. It only explained that the dagger was made by the same steel and magic stone like the sword that he had.

Apparently, the sword that was made of magic stone had finished and king Rowan specifically asked the blacksmith to make this dagger from the same material for Zaya.

She was surprised to see this beautiful black dagger.

"It's a beautiful dagger, princess," Zaya's personal maid said in awe. She stared at the dangerous thing in her hand.

"Yes, indeed." Zaya liked this dagger too. She could feel the fire that hummed from it. She could feel the magic stone.

And with a flick of her finger, she created a fire alongside the blade and she chuckled to see it actually worked.

“Oh, this is very convenience,” Zaya said, but then she stopped herself from smiling and put back the dagger, frowning.

Today was the battle hunt, as they would go to Goffa mountain to hunt the monsters, there would be two group, the warriors and the shifters. Obviously, Zaya would go with her siblings, but not only that, Dawn would participate in this too.

She just gave birth a few months ago, but as a shifter, she healed pretty fast.

“Dawn!” Zaya went to Dawn and hug her, but her eyes wandered around.

“Zade is with Yara,” Dawn said.

Chapter 184: THE BATTLE HUNT

“The battle hunt is tomorrow...” Jared said one night. He came to visit Blake in his bedroom by using the portal to reach him.

Blake hated this when someone entered his room without permission, but there was something that would be better to be left unsaid.

“What do you want me to do?” Blake listened to him.

“The security of the palace will be less tight. I want you to move now.” Jared played with his fingers, he stared at the dark sky out there.

“Now?” Blake raised his brows. “So sudden? What should I suppose to do?”

Jared walked toward the window, he stared outside, his eyes glinted under the pale moonlight. “Just like how we have planned,” he said dreamily.

Blake followed him to see what was so intriguing outside of the window and found a few people in black cloak with their face covered under the hoodie, stood outside of his house. There were at least a hundred of them.

“We will not be able to take down this pack with that little people,” Blake said. Magic user was strong, but in actuality, a hundred people wouldn’t be able to take down a pack.

Jared snickered. “Not only a hundred...” he lamented. “I think Archie is wrecking havoc in the pack house now while we speak.”

It was close to morning, but some people were still sleeping.

"The warriors?" Blake watched the pack house from afar. The building was obscured under the dimly light of the moon.

"Safe to say that they couldn't shift right now."

Blake nodded. Ever since the two ships had docked in the harbor, the people from the dragon sect had been hovering around the pack and because the harbor was a vital point of this pack and there were so many people from different continent that come and go, thus new faces was not something unusual.

Because of that, the people from the sect had been tampering with the warriors' food and drink, which caused them unable to shift on the time the attack happened.

"Great." Blake turned around and left the house, he went downstairs and watched his mother was still sleeping inside the bedroom. She had been not stable ever since she learned about her mate's infidelity. She was a lost cause.

Blake walked toward the front door and he felt good when all of these people greeted him politely, bowed to him as they followed him toward the pack house.

This was the time to kill alpha Tony. He didn't deserve the title. He was the alpha of the pack because she was the firstborn of the previous alpha, but there was nothing he had accomplished.

However, by the time Blake reached the pack house, there were not many people there and some of them had been killed.

"Where is the alpha?" Blake asked to Archie.

"I think he has gone." Archie licked his fingers that coated with blood.

Blake stared at Archie, who was licking his fingers. The blood made him squinted his eyes and left him. Most of the people here had been killed even before they could send any report anywhere, more so, the magic user had made sure not to let any news left this place.

"Where are you going?" Archie asked when Blake walked away from him. "We will leave before sunrise."

They were going to march toward the capital city. Blake knew that plan, but there was someone, or two that he was looking for. He needed to know whether they were being killed or still alive...

Emily was not in the pack, so did their baby. From the look of it, alpha Tony took her with him.

And an hour later, more warriors from the west and black magic users from the dragon sect gathered there, as they marched toward the capital city, caught king Zander by surprise.

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"Where is my cute little nephew?" Zaya asked Dawn after she kissed and hugged her. She was always very affectionate and this was how she greeted her sister in law.

"Zade is with Yara," Dawn said helplessly against Zaya, as she pointed at Yara, who was waiting inside one of the tents that built in the Goffa mountain.

It was not every day that this mountain full of so many people. Probably, the monsters had gone once they started the hunt.

"Oakly, I will see my little munchkin!" And Zaya went to the tent. She was not really excited with the battle hunt, she was here because she had to.

In fact, she would love to let Yara to take her place and she would babysit Zade. Unfortunately, she couldn't do that.

She took the dagger with her, she could feel the cold steel pressed against her thigh, but at the same time, she felt this burning sensation from the fire magic stone.

"Princess, they called you, the hunt will start in five minutes," Yara said.

Zaya groaned, as she reluctantly handed over Zade to her and this made the young maid chuckled.

"Be good, okay. I will play with you again," Zaya said, as she kissed the tip of the baby's nose. "Take care, Yara."

"Thank you, my princess." Yara said.

And when Zaya left the tent, Yara took the baby and left the tent too, outside, the four luna's personal warriors had been waiting for her with a carriage that was ready to take her away.

Meanwhile, Dawn stood beside Zenith nervously, she bit her nails. Her habit whenever she was nervous and the alpha stopped her from biting it off.

"Don't worry," Zenith said. "Let's focus here."

“Okay.” Dawn stopped and breathed deeply, she stared at the knights that were led by king Rowan. They looked vicious with their swords unsheathed.

“Everything is ready?” Zenith asked and Dawn nodded.

From the corner of her eyes, Dawn could see Hecate was approaching them.

“Let’s go hunting monster.” Zenith grinned at his mate and both of them shifted into their beasts. The alpha stayed close with her.

Chapter 185: THERE WAS SOMETHING NOT RIGHT

Blake stared at the palace, that building looked so tiny when you looked at it from afar. His eyes dilated with malice. He was ready.

He couldn’t care less, who was sitting on the throne right now, just like how much he cared about his mate and son, which he had none.

It was confirmed that alpha Tony, Emily and Arren had fled from the pack before the attack. Yet, it didn’t matter, because right now Moonlight pack was under his control, or to be exact... the pack was under Jared’s control.

“We are going to attack once the battle hunter began,” Archie informed Blake.

From afar, they could see the moon faded, as the sky gradually turned bright. This was a beautiful sight to see, but then the bright day would turn into a nightmare once the black magic users invaded the capital city.

It was the intention of the west to take down king Zander from his throne. Vemion’s people had been killed and all of his spies had been discovered, thus there was no other option for him, but to attack head on like this, especially when he got the help from the dragon sect.

They had to move quickly, lest king Zander managed to get the support from King Rowan. This was the best opportunity.

“Let’s go,” Blake said.

And with that, they marched forward.

They arrived at the capital city just in time when they heard the horn blared from the distance away, indicating the battle hunt had begun.

But that was also the signal for them to attack.

Blake shifted into his beast and then attacked the royal warriors, who guarded the gates. Went through the entrance and let all the black magic users to enter the city.

“Inform the palace! We are under attack!” One of the warriors sent someone to rush toward the palace, they used the hawk to deliver the message, but all of their efforts were in vain when the black magic users easily tackled the messengers down.

It was a plaything for them.

That was it. The city would go down even before the king could realize it.

It didn't take long before they managed to penetrate the first layer of the security and then the second. By the time the blazing light of the sun illuminated the dark corner of the city, the black magic users had managed to obliterate all the warriors that hindered their way.

They reached the palace within less than two hours and dismantled the protection there too. Not only royal warriors, but also the protection magic that surrounded the palace.

This must be put by the royal beta, since he was a magic user.

Dawn.

That was the only name in Blake's head when he finally stepped foot inside the palace again. His first instinct was to find her. He would take her away from this mess, he would take her back to the pack, where they could finally be happy together.

They could start anew.

This time, Blake would make things right for her.

“Wait, something is off,” Archie said. He narrowed his eyes and looked around him. There was something not right.

They supposed to meet with the people from the Holy Kingdom.

“Where is elder Isaac?” Archie looked around. Those people from the Holy Kingdom should have met him here by now, but he couldn't see any of them.

“There is nothing to be worried.” Blake shifted into his human form. “That bastard of the king must have taken them to Goffa mountain for the stupid hunt.”

It was the irony of the situation. They went off to hunt the monster when in reality, it was them, who were being hunted.

Archie fell silent. He didn't think that was the case.

"Barricade the palace!" Archie ordered once they managed to take down the palace. The people here were under his mercy now.

And now by noon, they succeeded occupying the palace.

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King Rowan could feel it, there was something not right about this whole situation. The battle hunt was too quiet.

"There is something not right." King Rowan stopped his knights after they managed to kill Five monsters in the span of five hours.

"What is it?" Addie asked. He raised his hand to stop the knights from advancing.

"This is too quiet."

"What do you mean it is quiet?" Addie frowned. He looked around and this mountain was anything, but quiet.

In the background, boisterous laughter of the knights echoed in the air, startled the birds from the branches they perched, while vicious growl from the monsters added to the eeriness when they beheaded them.

"We have not yet encountered the shifters."

Addie tilted his head. He was thinking about it for a while. "Yeah. We have not yet encountered any of them." But, he had a reasonable reason for that. "They knew this place like the back of their hand, I am sure they are currently looking somewhere else, that's why we didn't cross path with them. This mountain is very vast, after all."

"No." King Rowan couldn't put his finger at this nagging feeling. He thought about it for a while and made the decision. "We will return."

"Are you sure?" Addie looked around him. "The knights are happy, you will dampen their mood if we have to return now."

However, one look from the king and Addie relented. He shouldn't have questioned the king's decision in the first place.

"Alright."

With that, they went back to the meeting point, where dozen of tents had spread around the vast area, but they couldn't see anyone there.

Not a single soul.

“What the hell is going on here!?” Addie was in disbelief to see the tents were empty, this place had been abandoned. “What the meaning of this?”

There should be royal warriors, who stood on guard around this meeting point, but the fact it was left unsupervised made the alarm went off in Rowan’s mind.

“Return to the palace!” he said grimly.

Chapter 186: THE TRUE INTENTION OF THE HOLY KINGDOM

“You will not be able to get away from this,” Elder Isaac said, beside him was sitting Elder Rio, who threw a dagger look at the alpha and the king. “You will feel the wrath of the Holy Kingdom. You don’t know what you are doing.”

Zenith nodded. He couldn’t care less about what rubbish they were spouting.

“Sooner or later, they will notice there is something not right and it will be too late for you to do anything, since you have incurred their wrath.”

“Who is ‘them’ we are talking about now?” Zander asked. “Who is this people from dragon sect?”

They were currently in a hidden area not so far from the capital city, but not many people knew this place, therefore, they knew about the attack, but then it was expected. This was something within their plan.

“You don’t need us to tell you, who they were. You will learn about them sooner or later.”

“You know, it is very contradictory for you people to call yourself a Holy Kingdom and blabbered about punishing those people, who performed dark magic when you were the one, who performed it. Looking back to the history of your kingdom, I feel ashamed on your behalf.”

“This is more than that. Life is not black and white.” Elder Rio met Zander’s eyes. “Your kind is a sin. Shifter shouldn’t be existed in this world. Half human and half animal. You are the absolute abomination.”

Zander raised his brows. “So, that was all about? You have a grudge with the shifter?”

“Decades ago, you should have extincted from this realm. No shifter should be alive.”

Zenith scoffed when he heard that. "You feel the shifter should be gone from this realm or do you want our magic stones mine for yourself?"

"Shifter is abomination." Elder Isaac repeated the same thing. "You are the devil and we are here to make things right. We will fight against the darkness."

Zander and Zenith finally got the big picture of their intention now. Their main goal was simply to eradicate the existence of the shifter, hence the poison that caused a shifter not to be able to shift into their beast form, killing their wolf spirit and in the end, killed them.

It did make sense right now.

"Really? But then, you joined hand with Vemion. As far as I knew, he is a shifter, no?" Zander gave them a disgusting look.

"I think we agreed now that people from the Holy Kingdom always live up to their hypocrisy," Zenith sneered. "That's it."

Zenith walked away from the room, where the two elders were chained to the wall and the rest of the Holy Kingdom members were in the other room. Without magic stones, they were nothing and Dawn had made sure that they didn't even have the energy to even ran away.

Zenith was so proud of her mate.

"So?" Zander followed his brother outsider. "Something like this happened in your first life?"

"No." Everything from here on was so different from the first life. "From what Dawn and Zaya remembered, the dragon sect didn't even make a move until Dawn killed me."

Zander was silent for a while, as they walked in the hallway. "So, the prophecy is indeed true that Dawn will kill you."

"I don't want to talk about that."

"What if it happened again this time."

Zenith stopped walking and faced Zander, his eyes hardened. "Then let it be. If it's her, who killed me, I will be more than willing to accept my demise."

"You are insane."

"I am surprised you just noticed it now."

Zander shook his head. He didn't know what to say anymore, but after that they headed to the front yard of the house and there, thousand of warriors had been waiting for them.

"Everything is ready," Pyro said, as he reported everything to Zander. Zaya approached her brother too. She had a small pouch around her slim waist, where she put her magic stone.

Lucky for them, they didn't need to worry about magic stones, but unfortunately, they didn't have many magic users in their side.

Meanwhile, Zenith found his mate, Dawn was with Darius, beautiful as usual. She laughed to what the gamma said and Zenith hated Darius for that. It seemed so easy for the gamma to make his mate laughed.

"We are ready to go now," Zenith said, as he approached Dawn and kissed her lips and Darius found unique excuse to leave them be. "Are you sure you want to go?"

Zenith gave her an option to stay with their baby or to come with them.

"I am more useful if I came with you," Dawn said. Moreover, their baby was under the protection of her four personal warriors, in a hidden place. Yara and Celine were with him. "I need to put all of my hard work training into a good use, right?" She said cheekily.

Dawn blushed when Zenith looked at her very intently. "Stay close with me." He allowed her to come, because the situation was under their control, if he was not so sure about it, he wouldn't even let her have this choice.

"I will stick to you like a glue." Dawn grinned.

On the other hand, Zander talked to the warriors, having a brief run down about their plan and they were ready to leave.

"We will leave now." Zenith squeezed Dawn's hand and he shifted into his massive black wolf, so did the rest of the warriors.

This was not the first time for Dawn to see Zenith in his wolf form, but every time she saw this black beast, she was in awe. He was very beautiful. Was it right to call a beast as lethal as Zenith to be beautiful?

The black beast tilted his head, nudging her hand and Dawn lowered her eyes sheepishly, she shifted into her beast. It was obvious that her beast was smaller than her mate and she ran alongside him.

Chapter 187: THE POISON

Archie knew there was something off, but he couldn't put his finger on it. This was... to easy. They had infiltrated the capital city and took down the palace by noon and now they were heading toward the dungeon, where Zander kept Aurel's body.

From the information that they got from elder Isaac, king Zander kept Aurel's body and had not yet done anything to her, because there was still this dispute between the two kingdoms.

And there, Aurel's dead body was.

Pyro must have done something to preserve her body, so it was still not decaying even after a few weeks had passed.

"This is the woman that you wanted to retrieve?" Blake asked, he knew Aurel. She was the royal healer and the recent news about how she was a magic user was a quite shocking, since people knew her as a healer.

"Yes..."

Blake crossed his arms. He couldn't care less about this woman. He only wanted to get Dawn and return to their pack. He was the alpha now alpha Tony had fled, what a coward...

However, he couldn't find her. Understandably, because she must be in the hunting ground, but her baby was not here as well.

At the very least, if the baby was here, he could use the little one to lure her out. Blake knew Dawn, she wouldn't let anything happen to her baby...

That baby shouldn't have existed in the first place. It should be his baby that Dawn gave birth to. But, it was fine... they could fix everything now.

"What are you going to do with this body?" Blake glanced at the dead body and felt disgusting.

Archie didn't answer him, he simply took out the magic stone and create a portal, where Jared and Vemion entered.

"Great. Great..." Vemion sighed with feeling. "We are in the palace, aren't we?"

"Yes, my king," Archie replied solemnly, though Blake doubted that he thought of Vemion as his king, since Archie only followed what Jared said.

Jared walked toward the slab where Aurel's dead body laid down motionlessly. He stared at the woman and grinned.

Jared actually cut opened Aurel's chest. Blake thought blood would spurt from her opened chest, but it didn't happen, instead, there was no more blood there.

And then, the next thing that Blake had to witness made his stomach sick.

Jared ripped Aurel's heart and ate it. He ate that as if he ate a lamb meat.

Blake couldn't handle the sight and turned around to avoid the gruesome thing that occurred, but to his surprised, king Vemion didn't seem bother when he watched the whole thing, as if this was not something new for him.

The sound of it was very sickening when the head of the dragon sect munched on Aurel's heart.

"You handle her," Jared said, he pointed at Aurel.

Blake didn't know how long this madness occurred, but once it was done, Jared asked Archie to do something to Aurel's dead body and then left with King Vemion. He patted Blake's shoulder on his way out. Saying that he had done a great job.

"What the hell is that?!" Blake asked Archie, he glanced at Aurel.

"Don't worry. We only need to dispose the body now," Archie replied, he hummed when he approached Aurel's body, but then a frown was formed on his face. "What is this?"

"What now?" Blake asked. He didn't want to approach him and watch the dead body, but he was curious enough to know what made him bewildered like that.

"Why her body turned purple?"

"How should I know? Didn't your leader do something to her aside from eating her heart?" Blake looked upset because he was not warned.

"No... what is this?" Archie lowered his head to take a closer look on the purplish liquid inside Aurel's body.

He flicked the purple liquid with his finger and then licked it. Blake grimaced to see that.

"Nobody ever told you not to eat something that you didn't know?"

Archie tilted his head, but then he dropped to the ground. He was breathing heavily, clutching his chest while trying to breath.

Seeing this, Blake immediately came to approach him.

“What happened with you?!”

“P- Poison...”

Aurel’s dead body had been poisoned and now Blake could smell this rancid scent in the air. This made his stomach churned.

“Get out from here... it’s poison...” Archie gasped for air.

Because Archie couldn’t walk, Blake had to drag him out of there with this rancid smell was getting stronger, it filled the air inside the room, but it also followed them out.

The smell spread so fast.

Meanwhile, Jared started to feel it too. He ate part of Aurel’s body, after all. However, the affect was not as strong as Archie had. He felt this discomfort in his system.

“There is something wrong,” Jared said.

“What is it?” Vemion asked, they were walking toward the throne room, where he would indulge himself there, the position that should be his. That was his birthright. “Not now, Jared.”

Vemion hastened his pace and there, in the throne room, his eyes glimmered to see the throne.

“This is perfect.” He climbed the platform and sat there, as he looked down at the other magic users, who had been waiting inside the room.

The palace was done and now everything belonged to him.

However, Jared felt something was off. He tried to use his magic, but it flickered. His magic was still there, but it didn’t feel right, as if it faded from him.

Not long after, all the people inside the room could smell this rancid scent. Blake and Archie came not long after to inform them about what happened.

“Someone must have poisoned the dead body, knowing we will come.” Jared’s face turned very dark.

They tried to use the shield, but it was to no avail, because the poison was in the air right now and there was no way they could block the air and suffocate themselves.

Chapter 188: THEY ARE ALL MONSTERS

"Is this the smell?" Zander approached Dawn, as he scrunched his nose when he smelled this rancid smell from the direction of the palace.

They were right outside of the palace, hiding behind the building in the city, ready to charge forward once Dawn said it was clear for them to attack.

"Yes." Dawn smiled sweetly, but one shouldn't mistake her angelic face, since she was very wicked.

It was Dawn's idea to put the poison on Aurel's body. They were not sure whether she did that purely because she wanted to help, or it was the extent of her grudge toward the healer, either way, her idea was brilliant and it helped them tremendously.

After Zander figured out that Holy Kingdom and the dragon sect had joined hands, Zenith made a conclusion that they wanted Aurel's body for some reason, since elder Isaac and Elder Rio were very adamant for Zander to give the body back to them.

They tried to look for something important or valuable on Aurel's body, but they couldn't find it, even Pyro and Zaya had tried, but the result was nil.

Therefore, Dawn came with this idea to put the poison in Aurel's body. Scorned woman was the most terrifying one...

Basically, Dawn's poison had the same effect like the poison that they had given to the shifter, but Dawn's poison rendered the magic users were unable to use their magic, including black magic.

"Here, put this under your tongue," Dawn said, she approached Zaya and Pyro. "You will not be affected by the poison."

Dawn gave them a small wood to be put under their tongue.

Pyro took it and did what Dawn told him to do, while Zaya smiled at her. "I am glad that you are on our side in this lifetime, It's pretty scary to fight you though."

Dawn smiled at her. "I am glad that I have been given a second chance."

With that, the warriors shifted into their beast form again and charged toward the palace gates. Zenith led the warriors, while Dawn, Zaya and Pyro fell behind.

They watched as the royal warriors climbed the tall walls with ease, or how Zander and Zenith leaped over the tall gates as if it was nothing.

Meanwhile, Pyro and Zaya took down the shield that surrounded the palace with ease, because their enemy had been weakened by the poison.

It was Zander's idea to use the battle hunt as a way to lure their enemy to attack them and gather them in one place before they annihilated those black magic users.

With this, Zander didn't need to go out to look for them all. They would be the one, who looked for him. The throne was a bait that was tempting enough to make Vemion to come out.

Pyro then created a portal to bring Zander to enter the palace. Because of how outlandish the king could be, nobody questioned why he didn't shift into his beast.

"Should we come inside too?" Zaya asked, she tilted her head when she witnessed the shifters went berserk. She was not worried about her brother, because she knew they would be fine.

Dawn shifted into her human form again, she had done her part here and was sure everything went as they had planned.

"I think there is something else that you need to do now, Zaya." Dawn grinned at her.

The two of them were standing in front of the palace gates. The people were hiding inside their houses because of the earlier attack and the streets were empty, but Dawn could smell these scents in the air.

"What?" Zaya was confused, but when she followed the direction that Dawn pointed out, she understood what she was talking about.

"That's your task to explain to them... I think."

Zaya raised her brows at Dawn, who smiled innocently at her, but instead of feeling guilty, Dawn waved her hand and then went ahead to enter the palace.

Meanwhile, Zaya had to face king Rowan. He got off from his war horse and walked toward her. His expression was unreadable.

"I thought we were having fun in Goffa mountain, princess." King Rowan tilted his head to glance at the state of the palace. "I don't have any idea that you guys hunted different monsters here. Do they count as monster?"

King Rowan flashed her his charming smile, but it didn't impress Zaya at all.

"Yes, king Rowan," Zaya replied sweetly. "They do count. Some monster looks different from the other, but they are monster all the same."

King Rowan looked at her intently, which made Zaya avoid his heated gaze on her face. She didn't like this man staring at her like that, but she couldn't help with the blush that crept on her cheeks and neck. She felt awkward.

"You bring the dagger that I gave to you, I see." King Rowan nodded at the dagger that strapped around her slim waist.

"Thank you for the gift, I like it." Zaya glanced at her and then walked away, but the king easily caught up with her.

"King Rowan, I think you should continue to have your fun in the mountain with the monsters. Let us handled the matter here. I will make sure that once you returned the place will be less messy."

"No. I think I want to hunt monster here too," king Rowan replied. He stared at the auburn girl with amusement. Zaya was literally running at this point to avoid him, but there was no way this little woman could outrun him. "You said it yourself, right? They are monsters all the same."

The sight of the two of them was actually rather funny, because it was obvious that Zaya didn't want to talk to the king.

"Do you think Zaya will give up?" Darius asked Dawn, who was standing next to him.

"Nah, the king needs to show more effort." Dawn then frowned at the gamma. "What are you doing here?"

Chapter 189: BACKLASH

Dawn frowned at the gamma, who was munching on his jerky. He should be with Zenith, right?

"There is nothing I can do in there, they handled everything and talked about a few difficult things. I went to the kitchen, but there was no food there. Forgot that the omegas had been evacuated before."

The gamma was not happy because there was nothing he could eat and Dawn could only shake his head, she then went to the throne room, where she expected to see Zenith and Zander.

Along the way, she watched how the royal warriors easily took down the people from dragon sect. She was sure that these people were black magic users.

As she walked, she burned incenses to neutralize the rancid smell in the air, so her poison that came from Aurel could be null.

However, before she could reach the throne room, she heard a low, dangerous growl and then there was this explosion came from the room.

A few warriors, who were there were taken off guard, as their bodies were thrown away because of the impact.

Dawn knelt down and some of the warriors surrounded her to protect her for the impending danger, as she covered her ears, which painfully ringing.

"Wh- what is going on?" Dawn stuttered, she groaned when one of the warriors asked whether she was alright. She nodded, trying to get her bearing. "What happened?"

"We don't know, luna, we will check. Please, stay here."

Dawn lifted her head and then saw the aftermath of the explosion, it almost like there was a backlash from a magic user. There was a huge hole on the wall and a few poles and walls were collapsed, the tiles were destroyed.

"Zenith...?" Dread flooded her veins when she realized something might happen to her mate. She immediately stood up and rushed toward the throne room, ignoring the warning from the warriors. "Zenith!"

The dust was still in the air, obscured her vision and this only added the dreadful though in her mind, her blood rushed in her veins, as her heart sped up.

"Zenith!" Dawn was trembling. She could feel her tears threatened to spill. "ZENITH WHERE ARE YOU?!" She looked for her mate frantically, as a few warriors came with her, telling her to stay behind and they would let her know about what happened, but Dawn didn't want to listen to them.

The throne room looked so bad, she could see there was a huge hole at the ceiling, which allowed her to see the red sky, as the sun was almost set.

The rubbles and ruins were on the floor and also a huge chunk of what looked like part of the ceiling.

Dawn was ready to turn all the rocks upside down when she felt someone hugged her from behind and his scent registered to her senses.

"What are you doing here?!" Zenith's face was so dark, he didn't let Dawn to speak before he took her out of the room, away from the dangerous area that looked like there were more things to collapse. "If you saw something like that, you have to run away not to come closer, do you understand me?!"

Zenith was too worry, he didn't even realize that he was shouting at her.

The place was not safe, but instead of staying away from that, Dawn was standing at the center of it and the sight of her there nearly gave Zenith a heart attack.

On the other hand, Dawn couldn't care less with his nagging, she threw herself to him and hug him tightly, as she cried. The fright left her speechless. She was scared that Zenith was under the rubbles.

"You scared me..." Dawn sobbed against his chest and this made Zenith realized he was not the only one, was scared for their mate's safety.

"Don't do that again," Zenith said as he hugged Dawn tightly, she was trembling, crying against his chest. "Don't put yourself in harm way, do you understand?"

Dawn didn't answer that, instead she hugged him a little bit tighter and relished with the fact that he comforting her, caressed her back and kissed her forehead.

It took a while before Dawn finally calmed down. "What happened?" She asked, she didn't realize that Zenith had taken her away from the throne room, he must have done that when she was crying, as she clung onto him like a monkey.

"We lost Vemion and two of the black magic users with him. it seemed, the poison is not strong enough to take them down, but it's enough to ruin their magic, hence the backlash." Zenith wiped her tears. Her nose and eyes had turned red. She looked like a rabbit and he wanted to eat her.

"If the two of them were strong enough to resist the poison, I think they could be someone important in the sect."

"They could be the leader."

Dawn agreed with that. "What about Zander? Is he alright?"

"He got a few scratches and a healer tended to him."

In the previous life, she used this same poison to fight against the people from the Holy Kingdom. Her memories slowly returned back to her, but she still couldn't remember about the sect, it was only a few glimpses of some gut wrenching events, where she was fighting or concocted poison.

"Blake was there." Zenith broke the silent.

"I expected that," Dawn said. They got the report about alpha Tony, Emily and her baby had reached the north. They were safe.

This was within their plan, since they had expected this attack and the last resort for alpha Tony to escape the annihilation, since he must be aware that Blake and whoever people that he supported would come to him and kill him in order to take the Moonlight pack.

"Let's get our baby," Dawn said, she was worried about Zade, though he was in a safe place.

With that, the two of them shifted into their beasts.

Chapter 190: THE KNOWLEDGE

Zade was crying when Dawn and Zenith reached the safe place, the baby was hungry and wanted the comfort of his mother and Yara couldn't console the baby.

"Oh, I am sorry, sweetie," Dawn said, she felt bad for her baby.

Burke, Yara and the other warriors immediately left the room, giving privacy for the luna, as she breastfed Zade, while Zenith stayed with her.

The little one pursed his lips and cried softly when Dawn hugged him. His blue eyes stared at Dawn and somehow, she felt guilty for leaving him behind, though it was only for four hours. That was ridiculous thought, she knew, but she couldn't help it.

"Spoiled," Zenith commented, as he caressed his baby's ruddy cheek when latched to his mother. The baby made a noisy sound and flailed his little arm, as if saying he didn't want to be touched when he had a bonding time with his mother.

"He is not spoiled, he is loved," Dawn corrected Zenith and swatted his hand, because he bothered their son, leaving the alpha was speechless.

However he was content enough to witness this moment, something that he didn't have privilege of in his first lifetime. He was absent in most of their son's life, especially in the first year before Dawn got their son back.

Dawn talked to her baby and Zade would babble in response, as if they were having a conversation and for Zenith this was adorable to see. He thought, he could watch this conversation for hours and never got tired of it.

His mate looked so happy, despite what just happened in the palace. She looked so serene and the sight of her alone gave some comfort for Zenith. He used this moment to close his eyes and take a nap. He had been sleep deprived for a few days.

After two hours or so, Zenith felt someone touched his face. It was small pat and giggled, even with his eyes closed, he knew who it was.

“Is this how you wake me up?” Zenith opened his eyes and gave a kiss on Zade’s little nose, taking him from Dawn’s arms.

“Well, I think you will be less annoyed when you saw his cuteness,” Dawn giggled. “I feel bad to wake you up, because you didn’t sleep well lately, but we needed to go back to the palace.”

Zenith leaned over and captured her lips. “I will not be annoyed if you woke me up with your cuteness too.”

Dawn blushed she chuckled and urged him to get up.

When they went out, a carriage had been waiting for them that would take them back to the palace, along the way Zade was very active, as he babbled and made baby noise. Zenith was mesmerized by every little thing that he did and Dawn enjoyed the sight.

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Vemion cursed and threw everything that he could get his hand on, wailing about the throne that was supposed to his.

He had been there and everything went well until the fucking poison ruined everything.

“Why would you want to get your hand on that dead woman, huh?!” Vemion didn’t see the point of Jared wanting anything to do with Aurel’s dead body.

Jared smiled. He looked so young, probably around the age of Vemion, if he was not a year or two younger, but he looked very dominant and intimidating. He was the mastermind behind everything.

Blake believed Vemion was only a puppet for Jared and he was the real deal here.

“Because of this,” Jared said, tapping his head. “The knowledge.”

Aurel was bind by an oath not to tell anything about Zander and Zenith’s condition, therefore, even in her report, she couldn’t let them know the detail of what happened

with the siblings, anything that related to their health and wellbeing were forbidden and she couldn't breach the oath that she made.

However, Jared found another solution. He knew about Zenith's ability from his past life and now he could duplicate it, though it was not exactly the same.

"Knowledge? What knowledge?" Vemion asked, he was not happy with the result. He thought by the end of the day, he could conquer the whole kingdom and tomorrow, he could hang those siblings on the palace's gates.

But, as it turned out, he had to retreat to this pack again.

"To learn more about the sibling." Jared tilted his head, malice in his eyes. "Do you know that Zander couldn't shift into his beast?"

Vemion's eyes flickered when he heard that. "He couldn't shift into his beast? How? Why?" This knowledge was a shock for him, but then elation crept in his eyes. Excitement.

Meanwhile, Blake had called for Lyra to come and check on Archie, because he got the backlash in their attempt to escape.

He got all the warriors in this pack under his control right now, since their alpha had gone missing and they could cause a riot, since there were so many magic users that kept them in check.

Retaliation was not possible, unless they wanted to die and with that, their families would go down with them as well.

"Do you know that Zenith has been inflicted with poison that cause turmoil with his beast?"

"What do you mean with turmoil?" Vemion forgot about his frustration earlier.

But, he was not the only one, once Zenith's name was mentioned Blake was on all ear. He wanted that man to suffer and die in the most horrendous way possible, so he could get Dawn for himself.

"There is a time when he would lose control over his beast, or if you aggravated him enough, he could lose it. The damage will be terrifying."

"How terrifying?"

"He could kill his own pack," Jared said in a matter of fact, which Zenith already did in his first life.

Vemion picked it up. "So, do you think he could kill his own brother too if we aggravated him enough?"

"You can say so," Jared chuckled darkly.

Chapter 191: WIN THIS BATTLE

Ever since in the beginning, Aurel didn't intend to survive this whole fiasco, though the healer didn't know about that. She was intended to be the sacrifice for this very reason.

"Now we have this knowledge, everything will be easy for us," Jared said darkly. He didn't look upset because their mission failed to get a hold of the whole kingdom, but it was not a big deal, since he had felt this was way too easy.

Zander must have come up with something and it was his mistake to walk straight into their traps.

But right now, it would be them, who would walk straight into his trap.

"Do you have plan in mind?" Vemion asked excitedly.

Meanwhile, Blake listened to the entire conversation, so did Lyra, as she tended to Archie, who was now unconscious.

"Of course." Jared watched how Vemion looked at him expectantly, like a child, who was waiting to be given a candy. "Let them to kill each other."

Lyra gulped down with difficulty when she heard about that, she looked at Blake, but his expression was unreadable, she couldn't figure out what was in his mind, but she confronted him directly when he was alone.

After she healed Archie, she was sent out of the room, but she didn't go back to her room and wait for Blake in the hallway, the moment he stepped out, she immediately approached him.

"Do you know what you have done?" Lyra asked him, she felt this pain in her heart that Blake turned out like this. She watched him and Dawn grew up and he used to be a sweet boy, who wouldn't harm even to an insect. "You said you love Dawn, but you put her life in danger!"

Blake gave her a dagger look for her comment. "I know how to protect her. She will not be implicated."

"You don't know what you are doing, Blake. You have gone down the path of insanity now. You need to stop this. You will kill yourself if you kept going on with this."

"I know what I am doing. Fuck off." Blake pushed her away.

He was so mad. He felt like he was going to kill Lyra right there and then if she said another word about Dawn that he didn't want to hear.

He was not going to let anyone to dictate what he was going to do. He knew he had walked down the right path.

After the hellish day, he returned back to his house to find his mother was staring at the window. He was not sure whether she was aware of the current situation, but he didn't have time to figure that out.

"Where have you been?" Ava asked, she looked at her precious son with her dull eyes. "Where is Emily and Arren? Why they didn't visit me again?" She wanted to see her grandchild, though she was in bad condition, she always cared about her grandson.

Blake didn't answer that, he didn't have the energy to engage in a conversation and explain, or even came up with a lie about Emily and Arren's whereabouts, thus he went to his bedroom and close the door.

He thought, tonight he would have Dawn in his arms again, but from the look of it, he needed to wait for a little bit longer.

He hoped, it wouldn't be long if Jared's plan worked.

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"You couldn't attend the meeting, people will know that your wounds are still not healing yet," Zaya said begrudgingly toward Zander, who wanted to hold an emergency meeting.

"Can't wait, sister." Zander leaned over and kissed Zaya's cheek, in which she made a face of.

Zaya wiped the kiss from her cheek. "Can't you knock some sense to his head?" She went to Zenith to get a support, but her other brother kissed her other cheek.

"He will be fine."

Zaya huffed because even Zenith didn't agree with her.

"Oh, it's so rare for you to take my side, I will give a kiss!" Zander said childishly, but Zenith pinned him with an angry look.

"Touch me and I will make sure you will not get out of that bed." Zenith's expression hardened when Zander actually approached him, ready to kiss him.

The king halted in his step and looked at his royal gamma. "Did he just threaten a king?"

"Sometimes, I feel like I want to make a threat on you too, Zan. Let's go."

And with that, they went to the strategy room. The throne room was ruined and there were a lot of people, who worked on that.

Meanwhile, on their way to the throne room, they met with king Rowan. "I think you owed me an explanation here, king Zander."

Zander's expression was hidden behind his golden mask, but he gestured for the other to walk ahead. He would catch up with them later.

"My sincere apology for what happened today, king Rowan. We didn't expect to be attacked like this, but you don't need to worry, we have tripled the security around the palace and the city, you can sleep well tonight."

"I don't think I can sleep well when my dignity is wounded."

It would be too naïve for Zander if he believed Rowan would buy his excuse, both of them knew about that, but to argue about it, it would only waste everyone's time.

More so, ditching them in the battle hunt was rather rude.

"Are you trying to prove your point here that you didn't need my help to deal with the people from the Holy Kingdom and the dragon sect because of my proposal to your sister?"

"You read too much into it," Zander replied lightly. "You are still my guest in this continent. I feel bad because your experience in this continent is ruined because of this, but I will not put a guest into a crossfire within the internal affair."

"What if I took their side? It didn't seem you are going to win this battle."

Chapter 192: A REMINDER

King Rowan looked at Zander in the eyes, he looked so calm when he delivered the heavy words, yet the other king was unfazed.

"You are too fast to judge the outcome of it." Zander took a step closer toward king Rowan. "A fight in a battlefield is easier than the one behind the closed door, because you didn't know what kind of surprise that would be waiting for you. In the battlefield,

your option is only two; whether you lived, or you died, but in this kind of battle, the options are vast and vary.”

Zander made this conversation very light and easy, as if they were talking about the weather or the alcohol that they preferred for a party.

“I am not an easy target king Rowan.” Zander smiled behind his golden mask, but the other king could see that from his eyes. “When you played with your sword, I have become the king of this continent.” He reminded him that he was the youngest king in the history.

Well, it was not something that Zander enjoyed, but obviously, something that he would brag about.

“When you ruled your group of knights, I ruled the entire kingdom.” Zander’s voice was like a breeze of wind. “Make your choice carefully, king Rowan.”

After saying that, Zander walked away and he met with Addie, Rowan’s right hand. The knight nodded at him politely and then approached his king.

“What you got?”

They watched Zander’s retreating back, before he disappeared at the corner, only then Addie told him everything that he had learned after he gathered the information with so much difficulty.

He told him about the poison on Aurel’s body and how king Zander lured their enemy in, ‘invited’ them to his palace only to be annihilated in the end. Some of the magic users died and some managed to get away.

“Who had made the poison?”

“Apparently princess Dawn, prince Zenith’s mate, is very skill with poison.”

King Rowan touched his chin, he nodded, as he was deep in thought. “Women in this continent are very interesting.”

Back in his continent, their women tended to very docile, they were there to tend to their men. They would do whatever their men said.

Therefore, it intrigued Rowan when he saw the fire in Zaya’s eyes and the way she rejected his request. Because you wouldn’t get any rejection from the women from his continent the moment you owed them.

She was interesting. The more she rejected him, the more he wanted her.

“What are you going to do now?” Addie asked, as he jogged beside the king. “Where are you going?”

“I will write to Marca El continent.”

“What for?”

Rowan didn’t explain about that.

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After the meeting with Zander and the other warrior, Zenith returned to his bedroom with Dawn very late. His mate had fallen asleep, seemingly exhausted after a long day. He cleaned himself up and then kissed her forehead before he headed toward the nursery room and found his son was playing alone.

He stuffed his little fist into his mouth and babbled.

Zade usually would wake up around this hour and Zenith wouldn’t miss a moment to accompany his son, until he fell asleep again, as much as he could.

“Hm, it’s a tiring day.” Zenith pulled his little hand from his mouth and Zade made noise. “Yeah, bad people out there. A lot of them. Hm. I think so...” Zade would reply on his own.

And the conversation kept going on for an hour or so, until the baby was tired of listening to his father’s vent and fell asleep.

Only when Zade had fallen asleep, Zenith returned to his bedroom and cuddle his mate. He kissed her forehead and closed his eyes.

The next day, the mess of what happened yesterday could be seen clearly under the bright light of the sun.

And for the next three months everything went uneventful, as they prepared for the real battle against the west.

Right now, Moonlight pack was under Vemion’s grasp and the people from the dragon sect. The Holy Kingdoms were in uproar because their elders were held as captive, people there didn’t believe that Elder Rio and Elder Isaac were involved in black magic, even when it had been proven. They demanded for the people from the Holy Kingdom to be returned.

But the problem was; the Moonlight pack's harbor was not accessible, they couldn't go out or in. All the trades were shutting down and the people trapped inside the Ogregon continent.

Even though they could go out, there was a high price that was demanded on them to be able to cross the territory of the Moonlight pack.

The situation was put in halt, but obviously it wouldn't be for long, since Zander and Zenith had been concocting their next step.

The bad news was; the magic users from the dragon sect didn't really need magic stone, because they used black magic, all they needed was a sacrifice, every now and then. Therefore, the situation in Moonlight pack was rather frightening.

Emily heard about all of the news from the warriors or the pack member, or from the gossip that she got from the omegas. She acclimated quickly with the people in the pack, she was a social butterfly to begin with.

Meanwhile, her father had been discussing something important with beta Axel. She didn't know what they were talking about.

And like before, alpha Tony ignored her all the time. He saved her and Arren's lives by taking them away from Moonlight pack, fled to the north, but he was still not warming up to her or his grandson.

"Oh, Arren is so cute!" One of the omegas cooed on the little boy. He started walking now and he would follow his mother everywhere. "I think he will be a good friend to luna's child."

Emily smiled softly. "I am sure the two of them will be a good friend, they are cousin after all."

Chapter 193: OVERSTAY HIS WELCOME

"Mamama.... Mmama..." Zade babbled and then giggled when he saw his mother, he stretched out his arms toward her, wriggling his small body from Yara's embrace. The little one was seven months now and he had recognized most of the people around him, especially his mother.

"Miss me, baby?" Dawn cooed her baby, she carried him in her arms and kissed the tip of his little nose. He smelled so good. Dawn felt like she wanted to kiss him all the time. "Are you being good?"

Zade giggled and Yara reported everything that he had done the whole day. Because Dawn was busy with a few things related to poison with Hecate, she had to leave her baby and it didn't feel good for her actually, but then it was necessary.

Zenith had given her an option to return to the north with Zade and she could stay out of it, but Dawn wouldn't be able to sit down and do nothing when she knew there was something she could do to help with this upcoming battle.

Her knowledge on poison art was a crucial point for them and it could turn the table against the black magic users.

People from the Holy Kingdom still gave them a hard time.

But not only that, Dawn didn't want to return because she didn't want to stuck with her father and Emily. The thought of having them around didn't make her feel good.

They needed to snatch Moonlight pack back, so the two of them could return, which meant, Dawn didn't need to see them again.

"I will take a walk with Zade," Dawn said. "You can leave, Yara. Thank you."

"You are very much welcome, luna." Yara then left.

Dawn used to walk in the garden with Zade in her arms, while her four warriors followed her. They gave her space and most of the time, she forgot that they were around, because they made their presence unnoticed as much as possible.

As Dawn walked, she met with Celine and Zaya, who immediately approached her, happy to see Zade more than her, actually.

"Owh, look at my cute little nephew!" Zaya cooed and snatched him from Dawn's arms, which left her speechless, she only got a few moment with her baby before he was being snatched away. There was time when Zander 'kidnapped' Zade too.

"You need to make a baby on your own, you know," Dawn said with amusement in her voice, as she watched how Zaya made a face.

"I can't get pregnant on my own."

Dawn raised her brows. "I saw you had a date two days ago with the king."

Zaya whipped her head at her. "I didn't." Her answer was too short and quick for it to be believable.

“Sneaking out at night...” Dawn drawled and Celine giggled beside her.

“I need to look out the city, okay...” Zaya looked a little bit panic when she asked Dawn to stop before anyone could hear her. “You didn’t tell anyone, right? My brothers didn’t know, right?”

Dawn laughed. “Don’t worry. If your brother knew, you would know that.”

She was right, there was no way Zander and Zenith would be this calm if they knew that their only sister sneaked out of the palace in the middle of the night with king Rowan.

It was not that they disliked the king, but king Rowan’s demand to have Zaya’s hand in marriage in order for him to help them in this battle, rubbed them in the wrong way.

However, seeing this progress, it seemed, Zander had made the wrong choice not to give up Zaya, since the latter had fallen for the other king, though she didn’t want to admit it yet.

“So, tell me what were you doing sneaking around like that?” Dawn nudged Zade’s cheek, the baby was happy to see Zaya, because she would entertain him with magic.

“Gather an information,” Zaya replied. She had been gathering information from people in the city, especially from the merchant.

“And you need the king to be what? A bodyguard?” Celine didn’t miss the opportunity to tease her too.

In the end, Dawn and Celine teamed up to make Zaya admitted that she liked the king and stopped pretending that she didn’t.

“I don’t like him.” Zaya huffed, she was annoyed with them, but she was also blushing at the same time, thus it was not hard to tell that she was only being stubborn right now.

“I don’t know that you don’t like me.”

Suddenly there was this hoarse voice that they could hear from behind them and Zaya didn’t need to turn around to know that was the king.

“Okay, I think it’s time for us to leave,” Dawn chuckled.

“You know that he is here, right?” Zaya looked at the two of them in disbelief.

“I didn’t know.” Celine feigned innocent face. She was a healer, she might not know that king Rowan was around, but Zaya couldn’t say the same to Dawn, since she was a shifter and with her keen senses, she would have known that king Rowan was nearby.

"Bye, Za..." Dawn said, she kissed her cheek, she then got Zade back from Zaya's arms and together with Celine they walked away.

"So?" king Rowan approached her.

"What?" Zaya shrieked. "I was saying the truth. I don't like you."

"Hm." King Rowan nodded his head, he crossed his arms in front of his chest. "You didn't say that when we shared a kiss."

Zaya's eyes widened, she created a shield around her so the king wouldn't be able to get to her. "That's a mistake, okay. I told you that's a mistake!"

After saying that, she ran away, gritting her teeth with her face was as red as her auburn hair, while the king was smiling at her retreating back.

He had overstayed his welcome in this continent, but in his defense, he couldn't get out of here due to the harbor was being under the control of the enemy.

Chapter 194: TAKE CARE OF HIM AND DON'T GET HURT

"Oh, he is walking!" Dawn called Zenith immediately when she saw their son took the first step when he was nine months old. "Look! Look!"

Zenith was inside the bathroom and just took off his top when Dawn burst in and dragged him out to see their baby was walking.

He just returned from the training. A month ago, they engaged in a battle at the harbor of the Moonlight pack and they managed to take over the harbor, even though they had not fully in control for the pack, it was already a great thing, since the harbor was a vital spot.

They planned to make their way to the pack house by the end of the month and everything had been prepared, Zenith would lead the warriors two days from now and Dawn had been anxious about that, she didn't like the idea of him being in the middle of a battle.

However, Zander couldn't possibly lead his warrior, since no one could know that he was not able to shift into his beast.

"Come baby, come!" Dawn coaxed her baby to walk toward him, while Zenith crouched down next to her.

Zade tilted his head and looked at his father, he widened his eyes because this was the first time he saw his father was half naked. His toned body distracted his attention.

"Come baby, come here." Dawn called Zade again and the baby finally stood up and walked toward them. He pointed his finger at Zenith, babbling something incoherently.

On the other hand, Zenith watched his son taking his first step and there was this feeling that was hard to be explained that he felt.

He was astonished to be able to witness this milestone of his son and even more when he called him for the first time.

"Dadada... Dada..." Zade pointed his finger at Zenith, nudged his chest with his little finger, babbling again and pursed his lips.

"What? Do you want to have a body like your father?" Dawn laughed.

Zenith took his son into his arms and kissed his cheek. "Good job, son." But Zade kept nudging his chest. His blue eyes widened and this made Dawn laugh even more.

"I think he adored you now, Zen," Dawn said. She loved this family. She loved her family and she hoped everything would go well with the threat to this kingdom.

Zenith kissed his little nose when he didn't stop babbling.

"You are adorable too, son."

A few days later when Zenith led the royal warriors to the moonlight pack, Dawn was there with their son, watching him from afar. There was a tear in her eyes that she tried to hold back. She didn't want to cry, but it was so hard when your heart was riddled with anxiety and fear.

"I will be back," Zenith said, his voice was soft and gentle, as he kissed his mate and their son. "Take care of yourself and Zade until I returned, okay?"

Dawn bit her lip. She wanted to go too, but she couldn't possibly do that because it would be put their baby without his father and mother.

"Please, come back. Whatever happened, please, come back." Dawn rested her head against his chest, as Zenith hugged the two of them. This was not a goodbye, but Dawn felt very restless.

"Zen, we are ready." Darius approached them, the gamma wanted to give them more time and space, but unfortunately he couldn't do that, because they had to go now.

Zenith let go of them and it felt like the hardest thing he had to do. He kissed them again and wiped her tears, while Zade was confused because his mother was crying.

"You don't need to cry, this separation is only for a while," Zenith said.

Somehow, Dawn remembered those moments when Zenith was away for so long in their first life and this made her wonder how long he would go this time? She hated the thought of being separated from him and the feeling was mutual.

"This will not be long," Zenith said as if he could read what was in Dawn's mind. "You helped a lot with the poison, they will not expect this."

That was right, Dawn's poison would be the element of surprise for them, though they were not sure how much the other party had gained his memories back from the first life and how much he knew Dawn's capability with poison art.

"I hoped I can do more." Dawn felt like she could do better with her poison, if her mate's life was on the line, there was nothing she had done would be enough.

"You have done enough, love." Zenith reassured him and then he gave them one last kiss before he turned around and headed toward his warriors.

There were around twenty thousand people that would go with them and this number should be more than enough to take over Moonlight pack from the black magic users, but Zander had this nagging feeling because it had been very quiet at the other end.

There was no significant movement from their enemy when they took over the harbor and most of them shared the same feeling, therefore, Dawn was being very restless.

"Darius, please, take care of him." Dawn held Darius hand. "Please, don't let him do stupid thing."

"The alpha is anything, but reckless, Dawn, you should know that."

Dawn knew, but she couldn't think straight when the anxiety hit her, seeing her expression Darius grinned, the gamma patted her shoulder.

"Don't worry, everything will be alright, I will keep my eyes on him, not even an insect could bite him, okay?"

Dawn smiled when she heard that. "Thank you so much, Darius. You too, please take care of yourself. Don't get hurt."

Darius chuckled. "I am the best warrior you know."

"It doesn't mean you couldn't die."

Darius grinned and nudged Zade's cheek. "I will bring you lamb meat when I return, okay? So, you need to grow your teeth."

Chapter 195: NAGGING FEELING

"I can't understand this, Hecate," Dawn said. Since, Zenith left for Moonlight pack a week ago, she had been spending her time with Hecate and Celine to breakdown the concoction for Zenith.

They trusted Hecate enough to tell him about Zenith and Zander's condition, no, actually it was Dawn, who trusted him because they were a good friend in their past life, though Hecate didn't seem to remember any of that, not like the man named Jared.

Yes, they finally got the confirmation of the leader's name of the dragon sect and what they were up to.

Their main goal was to eradicate shifters from this realm, as they saw the shifter as an abomination, since they were not quite human, but not an animal. Their existence alone was a mistake, a sin and people from dragon sect believed it was their duty to kill them all and purify this realm from that sin.

"How could they use poison to control Zenith's beast... this kind of poison should have killed him."

On the other hand, Dawn couldn't let go with the fact that the concoction Aurel gave to Zenith all these years was a slow acting poison. Zenith should have felt the side effect of it years ago, but it seemed, his body had grown accustomed to that.

Still, Dawn thought there was more into it.

"I am not sure..." Hecate replied, as he cleaned up an antler carefully, he treated all the medicinal herbs as his babies, he didn't even let Celine to touch them, even though she should be his supervisor. "But, if it didn't give him a side effect, you shouldn't be bothered with it, right?"

Dawn fell silent. She should feel that way, but she didn't. There was this nagging feeling in her heart that said there was something more into it, but she couldn't place her finger on it.

Celine reassured Dawn that Zenith would be fine. "It has been years he consumed that and there is no side effect at all, maybe his body built differently. Sometimes, there are a few things that you couldn't explain with logic. An anomaly."

Dawn didn't want Zenith to drink the concoction, but she couldn't stop him, because it helped him and she didn't have any base for Zenith to not drink it anymore, aside from this nagging feeling.

"I am going with you the next time you have to see him." Dawn felt unease.

"You need to talk about that to the king, Dawn. I couldn't say whether you can come or not." Celine understood Dawn's feeling. She had been very restless ever since Zenith left.

Her emotions were all over the places and she became more and more obsessed with this concoction that Aurel had been giving to Zenith all these years.

"Sure."

And without waiting for long, that evening, Dawn went to see Zander, but she was not alone, she came with Zade too.

Of course, the king was happy to see his nephew and that was a good point for Dawn.

"Are you going to bribe me with my nephew's cuteness?" Zander asked, he put Zade on his lap, as he let him played with his golden mask.

Dawn had told him about her intention to come here, she wanted to go with Celine to the Moonlight pack, so she could see Zenith.

"Why? I miss him. Why can't I see my mate?" Dawn said innocently.

"That area is dangerous, Dawn. Zenith will kill me if I allowed you to come."

"I will not be long, Pyro will create a portal and I will stay with him for a while before I returned with Celine, what is so hard about that?" Dawn looked at Pyro. "It doesn't a bother for you if you have to take one more people through the portal, right?"

Pyro frowned at her, he gave her a look, as if saying that he didn't want to get involved in this.

"Dawn, Zenith will not be happy to see you there."

"Let him say it to my face that he is not happy to see me."

Zander and Pyro grimaced, obviously, Zenith wouldn't say anything like that, but his letter would be so harsh to read later on.

But in the end, Zander relented after a long argumentation. "Fine. But, you will not stay there for long. You will return with Celine."

"Got it!" Dawn said cheerfully. She went over and hugged Zander. "Thank you."

Sometimes, it was hard to see Zander, because he looked like Zenith a lot and she missed him so much. Zade also looked confused whenever he saw Zander and called him Dada.

“Fine. But, you need to protect me from my brother’s wrath, okay? If he is going to kill me, you need to jump in and save my ass.”

Dawn laughed when she heard that. “I think we have gotten over that stupid prophecy, no?”

Zander didn’t say anything about that, just like how Dawn couldn’t let go with the fact that the concoction that Zenith had been drinking was actually a slow acting poison, Zander couldn’t let go with the prophecy, it was always on the back of his mind.

And despite his easy going nature and how much he appreciated everything Dawn had done for Zenith, he always kept his eyes on her. Just a precaution...

And three weeks later, Dawn went to Moonlight pack with Pyro and Celine. The royal beta created a portal to get straight to Zenith’s tent.

Their camp was near the harbor and for the first time in her life, Dawn saw the harbor was almost empty, there was no activity there, only a few ships that were docked.

“Why did you bring my mate here?” Zenith immediately approached Dawn and hugged her, despite his protest that they brought her here, he hugged and kissed her without holding back.

“Should we come back later?” Celine blushed to see how Zenith kissed Dawn, while Pyro had turned his head, avoiding the sight.

Chapter 196: ZENITH WAS BEING A TEASE

“My lips...” Dawn pursed her lips after Zenith was done with her, his blue eyes filled with annoyance and he didn’t say anything, as he brushed his thumb against her bottom lip.

“You need to apologize.”

“I will not,” Zenith grunted. He lowered his body and licked her lip. “What are you doing here?”

“I missed you.” Dawn wrapped her arms around Zenith’s neck and then lifted her body up to kiss him again.

They were alone in the tent, out of respect Celine and Pyro went outside to give the two of them the time that they needed to relish some tension.

“Don’t you miss me?” Dawn grinded herself against him, which made his blue eyes became darker. “You don’t miss me?”

“Dawn.” His guttural voice sent shiver down her spine, but this made her became even more bold. “I miss you...” he nipped on her neck, as he carried her to the makeshift bed.

“Show me then if you missed me.”

Zenith laid her down on the bed, not so gently, as he pinned her body. Dawn moaned when she felt the weight of him against her and this made Zenith turned insane. This woman was too much...

“You are being bold.” He growled in her ear.

“Hm...” Dawn wrapped her legs around his waist and smiled coquettishly at him. “What are you going to do about it? Will you punish me?”

Zenith licked his lip. “Not today, love. People could hear your moan and I am not generous enough to let them hear how I pleased you.”

And after saying that, Zenith stood up. It was easy enough for him to get away from her beautiful legs that trapped him.

It was hard for him to reject this temptation, but just like he said, he was not feeling generous to let other people hear them.

More so, his beast had been restless. He could end up hurting her if they kept going.

Dawn looked at him in disbelief. She immediately got up and glared at him. If he didn’t want to do it, why would he bring her to the bed?

However, seeing the annoyance in his mate’s eyes, Zenith chuckled. He leaned over and compromised with a kiss on her nose.

“You can’t stay here for long, love.” Zenith helped her to get off the bed and call Celine to come inside, so they could start with the treatment.

Dawn sat on the chair and watched Celine treating Zenith. She blushed when she watched Zenith took off his clothes, leaving his top bare and showed his built body. Somehow, she was angry with the fact that Aurel had seen his body for years.

Annoying.

On the other hand, Celine could only grimace with the intent of Dawn's gaze. She didn't know whether she had to laugh or cry for this.

Thankfully, the treatment didn't last for long, or else, the healer was sure that the luna would dig a hole on the back of her head.

Once it was done, Dawn gave the concoction to Zenith for him to drink.

"I am still not like it when you drink that concoction." Dawn narrowed her eyes at the empty glass, the liquid had gone, Zenith drank it. "It's slow acting poison."

"I am fine." Zenith caressed her cheek and kissed her again. He felt like he couldn't get enough of her and he was getting sick to be away from her. This battle needed to be ended quickly, so he could go back to his mate and his son. "You need to go now."

"Are you kicking me out?" Dawn squinted her eyes, unhappy.

"I will put you in my pocket if I can have that choice, Dawn, but right now, that's not even an option." He caressed her cheek. "Be good."

Dawn huffed and then stood up.

"I will call Pyro." Celine then went outside of the tent, leaving the two of them again, so they could have a private moment alone before they left.

"At the very least, tell me what is going on here. From the report I heard, it's very quiet in the other end, are they planning on something?"

Zenith then told her that some people in Moonlight pack had been isolated and the merchants and the people from different continent had fled this continent the moment they got a chance, or they moved to different area in this continent to avoid the battle.

But yes, it had been very quiet at the other end.

"Obviously, they are planning something. I will figure that out." Zenith hugged her.

"Okay." Dawn hugged him back and in return, she told him about Zade and what words he could say now. "You need to go back immediately, or else, he will mistake you with Zander."

"There is no way my son will mistake me with my ugly brother."

Dawn laughed at that. "I am sorry to inform you, but you are twin, your face is identical with each other."

Zander was not happy with that, he placed his hand over her chest and squeezed it.

“Hey, watch where you put your hand!” Dawn swatted his hand from her. He was the one, who didn’t want to have happy moment with her and now he touched her. Huft.

When they were having this banter, someone called from outside and informed the alpha to come because there was something urgent that he needed to see.

Zenith’s expression hardened, he immediately went outside and told Dawn to stay inside the tent, though she wanted to go and check too.

But, Pyro entered the tent not long after, his expression made Dawn uneasy.

“What happened?” She immediately approached the magic user. “Where is Celine?”

“I don’t think Celine will go with us, she is needed here.” Pyro fished out his magic stone and was ready to create the portal to bring her back to the palace, but Dawn stopped him.

“Why Celine didn’t come with us? I am not going anywhere until you tell me.”

Chapter 197: RED VENOM SNAKE

Dawn could smell there was something not right and the way Pyro scrunched his nose, she knew that her instinct was right. Something had happened.

“We need to go now, Dawn.” Pyro grabbed her hand, but Dawn swatted his hand and then walked out of the tent.

This was ridiculous to keep her in the dark when she could help them. It would make things easier and faster to deal with the situation, instead of coddling her.

“What is it, Collin? Something happened?” Dawn asked one of the warriors that she knew.

“Oh, luna? You are here?” Collin immediately told her what happened and apparently, they were attacked by poisonous snake.

“Snake?” Dawn furrowed her brows.

“Yes.”

Apparently, not long after Dawn was here, the warriors found snake around the camp area and they were not talking about one or two, but dozens of them, as if they just been buried on the ground and now they decided to come out to the surface.

"Where is Celine?" If Celine was needed here, it meant there was a warrior that had been bitten by the snake, since it was poisonous.

"The healer is with the gamma."

"Darius?" Dawn's heart was beating fast.

"Yes, the gamma was bitten..." Collin said.

"Where are they? Show me the way to his tent!" Dawn felt her heart skipped a beat when she heard that. Darius was one of a few people that she cherished the most.

"Dawn, we need to go back," Pyro said, he grabbed her hand to stop her from going. If the snake was poisonous and there were so many of them, this place became even more dangerous for her to stay.

"Don't you hear him? There is poisonous snake here." Dawn glared at the royal beta, which made him took a step back because right now the luna was very scary, even Collin was taken aback with her outburst.

People always saw the luna as a kind and quiet woman, but to see her lost it like this was really surprising.

"Do you really think Celine knew poison more than me?" Dawn said in a matter of fact tone. She was a poison expert, she had years of memories, where she used to fight with her poison arts rather than to fight with her beast. "Step back, Pyro. If something happened to Darius I am going to make you pay for that."

Dawn could see that Pyro was going to use his magic to force her to go back to the palace, but she wouldn't let him.

And without waiting for Pyro's reaction, Dawn asked Collin to take her to Darius's tent. His tent was not so far, but in the distance, she could see the warriors were trying to ward off the snakes that kept coming.

"Let me see him!"

Dawn ignored Zenith's heated eyes, who disapproved that she was still here, but he didn't say anything, because his rational side knew if there was someone, who could save Darius, it would be her.

"Tell me what happened with him." Dawn immediately checked on Darius. He was unconscious, but he had blisters on his skin, the color was so red, as if you popped it, blood would ooze out from it.

Celine immediately gave Dawn a run down of Darius's condition. It was obvious that he was being bitten by the snake.

"I have tried to heal him, but he didn't respond to my healing power." Celine furrowed her brows.

Compared to Aurel, Celine's healing ability was mediocre, but she didn't think even Aurel could fix the situation either.

"Look where he had been bitten." Dawn grabbed a knife and tore Darius's clothes to look where he had been bitten.

"I think it's on his back." One of the warriors there told Dawn. "I saw one of the snakes slithered from his back when he was in his beast form."

"Get me one of the snakes!" Dawn said as she rolled Darius's body and saw his back. The warrior was right, there was a bit mark on his hip and the skin around it had turned into purple. "But don't kill it."

"I will get the snake!" Two of the warriors left the tent. It wouldn't be hard to get the snake, but the problem was to get it when it was still alive, since it was very dangerous and they could get bitten, more so, these snakes were very aggressive.

"Alpha, there are more casualties!" One of the warriors reported back to Zenith.

Zenith gritted his teeth and then went out of the tent to make an order. He gathered all the casualties in one place and called for Celine to look for them. He also made Pyro to create a shield around them.

It could ward off the snakes, but some of the snakes that had slithered inside would need to be killed.

While Zenith maintained the order in the camp, one of the warriors returned with the snake that they managed to catch. It was still alive and he put it in a clear jar.

Dawn's eyes darkened when she saw the snake. She remembered it. Another piece of her memories returned, as if she was seeing her nightmare appeared before her eyes. She felt like someone just squeezed her heart tightly.

"Red Venom snake," Dawn said. She was very certain of this. She knew this snake because she was the one, who had bred the species and used it against the people from the Holy Kingdom, to fight them off.

In her previous life, the people from the Holy Kingdom joined hand with Zander, while he worked with dragon sect. She still couldn't remember the detail of it, but that was what it was.

“Shit,” Dawn cursed under her breath. The other person had used her knowledge against her and now, she needed to fight against her own creation.

Think... think...

Dawn closed her eyes, trying to recall whatever memories she had about the red venom snake and the antidote of it.

Chapter 198: HIS BRILLIANT MATE

“What snake is that?” Blake stared at the slither thing in Jared’s hand.

This black magic user had been in this pack ever since they returned from their failed attempt to overthrow the king, while Vemion had returned to the west.

“Poisonous snake.”

This man had been nurturing these snakes since a month ago and now he used his black magic, creating a portal to send them somewhere.

“They are beautiful, aren’t they?” Jared was mesmerized by the snake in his hand, his eyes lit up and he looked like he was going to kiss each of them, which made Blake’s stomach churned.

Ever since he was with these black magic users, he had been having a hard time to hold himself back from vomiting.

They were simply disgusting in the worse possible way.

“So, you are waiting for a month to nurture that snake?” Blake guessed. He had this room full of snake. He didn’t want to step inside this room, unless he was being called, just like right now.

Jared gave him a disdain look, but there was this smile on his lips to cover his disgust on him. “You are very brilliant.”

It sounded like a mocking rather than a compliment.

“What are you going to do now?” Blake leaned his body against the doorframe, his brows would be forever furrowed when she saw the slithering snakes. He felt like they were crawling on his skin.

“You are going to attack at Dawn... Dawn...” Jared smirked. “Don’t you think that’s beautiful name? You have been waiting to meet with her, right? So, do I.”

Blake narrowed his eyes, he didn't like when this man talked about Dawn, as if he knew her. "She is mine," Blake growled. "You are not going to meet with her or even touch her without my permission."

Jared laughed at that. He liked this man passion for the mate that he had betrayed, he kept him by his side because his rage was very entertaining. His delusion was funny when he thought he could kill the alpha and get his mate back as long as the alpha was no longer in the picture.

But on top of that, he had more plan for him. He was still useful though...

"Alright." Jared nodded sagely. "She is yours. She is your mate, of course, you will be very mad if someone touched her and even make her pregnant."

Blake growled dangerously at him, but Jared simply reminded him of the task that he had to do once it was dawn.

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Dawn was biting her nails, while thinking of the antidote of the poisonous snake. The people who had been bitten would die within a few hours, that was all the information that she could get after she wrecking her brain.

What a useless detail... it only made her became even more nervous.

Hecate was called to come and also Zaya, together they worked on how to figure out the way out of this mess.

Zaya added more protection on the shield that Pyro had created, she grimaced to see the snake that slithered on the shield, she could feel them crawling on her skin.

"The bleeding doesn't stop." Celine pressed her lips, she tried to stop the bleeding when the blisters popped, but his healing power was useless and the shifter's healing ability didn't work.

"Here, use this. It can stop the bleeding." Hecate took out something from his box that he carried with him. It was a white bottle with black powder in it. He handed it over to Celine. "Be careful with my baby, it's expensive."

Celine would have rolled her eyes if this was in different situation, but she immediately took the bottle and poured it on the bleeding spot. The bleeding was ceasing down, but it didn't stop.

"The poisonous snake... the poisonous snake... Red Venom." Dawn chanted it like a pray. She then grabbed the jar and pulled out the snake from there, which made Zaya startled.

"What are you doing? Put it down!" Zaya approached Dawn, but she shook her head. Thankfully, Zenith was not inside the tent. He was out there, talking with Pyro about something.

It was only three hours before dawn.

"The antidote of the snake is... the snake itself." Dawn finally remembered that last piece of her memory. "That's right..."

"Do you remember?" Zaya could see the relief on Dawn's expression when the realization came to her.

"Yes, I remembered." Dawn looked at the snake, she then took a bowl and used it to extract the venom from the snake.

The reason why she named the snake as red venom was because the venom of this snake was the color of red.

And just like Zenith's poison, it was also the case where poison against poison...

"Hecate! I need something from your medicinal herbs!" Dawn then listed ten medicinal herbs that he needed to get from the palace.

"Those babies are expensive!" He screeched, but the look on Dawn's eyes made him running away from the tent and looked for Pyro to take him back to the palace, because he needed to get a few things. "Your mate is scary," he said before he stepped into the portal.

Zenith then went to the tent and saw Dawn was giving an order to a few warriors there in front of Darius's tent.

Her little expression looked very serious and she talked rapidly, while his warriors listened to her closely, as if they got an order from their alpha.

It might be crazy for Zenith to think this way, but he liked to see when Dawn took charge on his people. She looked... radiant.

She could handle the warriors and the situation really well. This version of her was something that he didn't see in their first life.

Dawn looked so alive. She looked like she could go through everything that was hurled toward her direction.

A smile made its way on Zenith's lips, as he stared at his mate proudly.

Chapter 199: AT DAWN

Dawn remembered the antidote of the poison of the red venom at the critical moment, along with a few memories that came rushing back to her mind. She remembered about Jared, the leader of the dragon sect.

She remembered one particular moment when he preached about what kind of abomination a shifter was, though he was talking to one, since Dawn was also a shifter.

But, it was only a glimpse of that memories, while the rest of it was still a blur.

However right now, she needed to focus on the matter at hand. She remembered the important detail about the antidote, thus she needed to put her attention on that.

Dawn gave a few orders and then checked all the condition of the warriors that had been bitten. She saw the snakes that managed to be killed and then went to the shield that Zaya and Pyro had put to protect them. The shield looked like a transparent wall and Dawn had to hold herself back from shuddering to see how the snakes slithered against the shield.

"We need more of them to make an antidote," Dawn said. She frowned. She had a goosebumps to see this many snakes.

Yes, she was the one, who had nurtured the snake in her previous life, but not to this amount. She used the snakes to fight against Zander, sneaking one or two to their camps, just like what happened here.

As far as she remembered, nurturing these snakes were not an easy task...

"Ugh. I don't like this..." Zaya grimaced. She patted Pyro's shoulder. "Good luck, Pyro."

"What?"

"I am too delicate to handle a snake," Zaya said innocently, in other word, she didn't want to deal with the snake, because the sight of them alone made her wanted to vomit and the royal beta didn't have other choice.

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"They are here, my king," Addie informed king Rowan about the ships.

It was not an easy task to deploy so many knights from Marca El to here, because their people were not used to cross the sea, but they were finally here.

“Good.” King Rowan stared at the sky that started to turn bright. “How is the status in the Moonlight pack.”

Addie then reported the latest information about the snake and how Zenith and his warriors were trapped there, apparently, Luna Dawn was also there to help with the poison.

By this time, King Rowan already learned that the Luna was an expert in poison and her presence there was expected, but when Addie told him Zaya was also there, he furrowed his brows.

“Why she is there?” He asked the question to no one in particular, but Addie answered him nonetheless.

“I am not sure, but I think she helped to put up the shield around the camp, since she is a magic user too,” he voiced out his opinion. “What are you going to do now?”

King Rowan’s eyes turned slightly darker. He pressed his lips. “We are moving now.”

“Now?” Addie raised his brows. “I thought you want to watch how everything unfolded.”

Yet, King Rowan said nothing and went out of the room, while Addie scrambled to prepare the knights so they could depart as soon as possible.

This news about the knights left the palace ground was reported back to Zander. His expression under the golden mask was unreadable, because he was not sure what King Rowan was up to.

“Let Zenith know about this,” Zander said. “The other king is coming to him.”

He didn’t know what King Rowan’s intention, but he knew where he would go, there was no other place that he would visit at this moment aside from the harbor in the Moonlight pack.

“Our people also spotted five ships near the harbor, ready to dock.” The royal warrior added. “There is no banner, but from the look of it, the ship came from Marca El continent.”

Zander’s blue eyes darker when he heard that. He stood up and waved his hand, gesturing for the royal warrior to leave him alone, there were a few things that he had to consider.

He couldn’t leave the palace for a few reasons.

The obvious one would be because the palace shouldn't be empty and the second one was because of his condition...

After a few minutes, Zander called for Sebastian. He should have had appointed a gamma long time ago, but the position was still vacant.

"Yes, my king," Sebastian greeted him. He bowed to him solemnly.

"Bring ten thousand more royal warriors with you to support prince Zenith," Zander said, his voice was hard and heavy. "Once you returned with victory, I will appoint you as my royal gamma."

Sebastian lifted his head, he didn't believe with what he heard. Sebastian was a big warrior with brown hair, he looked like he could kill a Vermeyes on his own. The look on him was so savage that people would think he was a killer.

Therefore, a position as a gamma didn't really suit him, since he was not a flexible person.

There was a power balance between the relationship of the beta and the gamma. While Lance in the past was an easy going person and could go along just fine with Pyro, who took the lead, Sebastian didn't seem like he was someone that could be led in that way.

Nevertheless, it was an honor for him.

"I will do my best," Sebastian replied and then left the room to prepare ten thousand more warriors for Zenith's back up.

Ten thousand was a great number, thus the preparation would take at least half a day.

Meanwhile, at the harbor of the Moonlight pack, once dawn came, there was a surprise attack that was led by Blake. He led Moonlight pack's warrior and the warrior from the west to attack Zenith's camp, while the warriors that had been bitten by the snake just recovered.

"SHIFT!" Zenith roared, as he shifted into his black wolf and met with their enemies.

Chapter 200: THE SIDE THAT HE WOULD CHOOSE

"Once you are done here, I want you to go with Pyro, Celine, Hecate and Zaya. Get out of this place and go back to the palace, okay?" Zenith was dead serious when he asked Dawn to leave the harbor.

He was grateful for her to be here, since they wouldn't make it the snack attack without her and more so, she saved more warriors than she could imagine.

She knew how to make the snake became less aggressive so they could catch them without risking themselves of getting bitten, which would only add to more casualties.

If it were not for her, dealing with the poisonous snake and the sudden attack would be too much, but right now, Zenith only wanted her to be in a safe place.

“Do us a favor, okay? Let me fight with an easy mind to know that you are safe, don’t argue with me about this.” Zenith kissed her forehead and Dawn nodded.

“Please, be careful.” Dawn hugged him.

And after that, the alpha led his warriors to fight against the enemy, while Dawn cleaned up a few things and made sure the warriors were taken care of.

For the warriors, who had been poisoned, they couldn’t join the fight, but it didn’t really matter, since their number was not really significant.

“Are you ready to leave now?” Celine asked. “Is Hecate here?”

“No.” Dawn shook her head. “I have not seen him since an hour ago.”

Celine frowned. “I have been looking for him, but I couldn’t find him. The last time a warrior saw him was an hour ago, he went to one of the ships.”

“We need to get him.”

“I will tell Pyro and princess Zaya about this.”

Dawn then went to look for Hecate, there were three ships that were docked there and she saw him went out from one of them.

“Hecate, we need to go now!” Dawn shouted.

“I have been wanting to see a ship!” Hecate said happily, like a little child. “I have never seen a ship before or seeing the inside of a ship!”

“Okay, okay, but we need to leave now.”

Just like she remembered... this man was a little bit... unique on his own way...

“I also saw ten ships out there!”

“Ten ships?” Dawn furrowed her brows.

"Five ships over there." Hecate pointed his finger at his left side. "And five ships there." He directed his finger at the other side."

"Are you sure, Hecate?"

"I have a good pair of eyes, you know."

Dawn didn't doubt that and actually, she believed him, which set off alarm in her mind because she didn't think it was a good sign.

"Show me, Hecate." Dawn rushed toward the ship where Hecate just came in and he followed her, showing her what he had seen.

"Look! There and there!"

Dawn gritted her teeth. She knew both model of the ships. The other ships from Marca El and the other one obviously Holy Kingdom. Dawn was familiar with it.

"Shit," she cursed under her breathe.

"Are we going to see more ships?" Hecate asked eagerly.

"We need to go now, Hecate." Dawn grabbed his hand and then rushed back to the camp, where in the distance, you could hear the battle had begun, howling and vicious roars filled the air, followed by the sickening smell of blood.

Dawn met with Pyro, Celine and Zaya and the royal beta took them back to the palace, where Dawn immediately told Zander about what she had discovered.

"I have sent more back up for Zenith," Zander replied, but it didn't ease his mind.

It would be a hard battle with Marca El against and Holy Kingdom were against them.

"Where are you going?" Zander asked Zaya when she was about to leave in hurry, though he could already expect what she was going to do.

"I am going to talk with king Rowan."

King Rowan must have had a contact with his kingdom to send so many people, but the worse part was; they didn't know whether he was on their side of their enemies.

Not only they had to fight against the people within their kingdom, but they had to fight against the Holy Kingdom too and if Marca El joined their ships, it would put them in a hard spot.

“What are you going to do? Convincing him to be on our side?” Zander read through her perfectly and since it came to this, there was no other way for Zaya to deny it.

“Yes,” she admitted it readily. “I am going to talk to him.”

“You can’t.”

“Zan, this is not time for this.” Zaya flicked her hair, she was royally annoyed with her brother. “I am not a child anymore, this is also my duty to protect our kingdom.”

Zander was not happy with this. She wanted to throw herself to that king to gain his support? This felt like a slap on the face for Zander, it only made him thinking that he was indeed incapable to be a ruler.

Not only he couldn’t shift into his beast, but he also unable to protect his little sister. It brought back the feeling when he was crowned as the king when he was only sixteen and had to go against those old wolves, who wanted to take him down and he was so helpless, or when he lost his mate... because of his incompetence.

“You jumped into a conclusion too fast, Zaya. Don’t you trust me that I can handle this?” Zander narrowed his eyes.

“I trust your judgment, Zan, but we need to see the reality of the situation.”

“You can’t talk to him.”

“You don’t know until you try.”

Zander shook his head. “He had gone with all of his knights to Moonlight pack. He left a few hours ago.”

All of them were surprised when they heard that. Wasn’t it obvious? He headed for the battle, but which side that he would choose?