

Replacement Bride for the Alpha of the North

- Chapter 201 – 220

Chapter 201: A VICIOUS BATTLE

“Zander, we need to do something about that, right?” Dawn asked, she felt very nervous to know that there was a possibility that king Rowan could oppose them, in that case, Zenith would be in great danger.

“I know. I am working on that.”

Zaya narrowed her eyes. “Do you have other plans that we didn’t know?” She looked at Pyro when she didn’t get the answer that she wanted and the royal beta asked the king for permission with his eyes. “I am certain there is something else that you have been planning.”

“Andel Kingdom just replied to our message, princess. They agreed to help us to take down the Holy Kingdom.” Pyro finally explained in detail about the plan that Zander had.

It was a little bit complicated and risky, there was a huge possibility that Andel Kingdom didn’t want to cooperate with them, that was why Zander didn’t mention anything about this plan.

More so, the one, who had been handling this matter was Sebastian, so they wouldn’t be suspicious with Pyro, neither they would catch him handling different thing.

This was also the reason why Zander chose Sebastian as his future gamma, if he managed to return with victory in this battle with the west and dragon sect.

As it turned out, Zander had been having a negotiation with Andel Kingdom ever since he stopped selling magic stone. He also exposed what the Holy Kingdom had been doing and their involvement with black magic.

Of course, this latter information didn’t sit well for their king and it only added fuel to the fire because ever since decades ago, Andel Kingdom and Holy Kingdom were not in a good term.

It was not a secret that Andel Kingdom wanted to get rid of Holy Kingdom and now, Zander gave them a hard proof and undeniable reason for them to wipe them out, of course, with a bonus deal about magic stone.

It was a win win solution for all of them.

“As we are speaking right now, Andel Kingdom’s knights are on the move to attack the Holy Kingdom.”

“You did that? That will turn the table for us, Zan!” Zaya widened her eyes. She went to hug Zander. “And you always complain that you are not capable as a king!”

Zander chuckled. Of course, he would always feel that way, because whenever he thought about what he had done or he achieved, he would always compare himself with his father and it became a toxic circle for him that he couldn’t stop.

“Did Sebastian already leave?” Dawn asked. She was glad that Zander had planned ahead to destroy the Holy Kingdom, but while Andel Kingdom attacked the Holy Kingdom, it wouldn’t make any significant difference with the battle that Zenith was currently facing.

“The back up will leave within an hour from now.” Pyro informed her. “What are you going to do?”

“Help them.” Dawn then looked at Hecate. “Come with me, Hecate.”

“What she is going to do?” Zaya furrowed her brows.

Dawn couldn’t be at ease, because she feared that King Rowan would be an opposing party for them and helped their enemy, therefore, she took all the precaution and helped within her capability.

She met with Sebastian. He was a big and burly warrior, his posture was very intimidating, but Dawn had dealt with Zenith and Zander, thus it didn’t really affect her.

“I want to talk with you for a while.” Dawn led the way and Sebastian followed her out of instinct.

Before Dawn went to meet with Sebastian, she had asked Hecate to get her a few things. It was easy for her to make a lethal poison in a short amount of time.

“Here, take this.” Dawn gave him a bottle, which was the size of her palm with purple liquid inside of it. “This is poison.”

Sebastian took the bottle and frowned at Dawn. “I don’t understand this, luna. Do you want me to take this poison for what?”

“I want you to drink the poison. All of the warriors.”

“What?” Sebastian widened his eyes. “Are you serious.”

“Yes.”

But later on, Dawn explained to him that the poison wouldn't harm them, instead it would put the magic user into disadvantage.

Shifter wouldn't die with a simple wound, but obviously they would bleed and the moment their blood touched the magic user, they wouldn't be in pain.

“Their skin will burn.”

Sebastian widened his eyes. He had never heard such poison before. “Should we just bleed to defeat them?”

Dawn chuckled. “No. Please, I hope you can just defeat them without any injuries.” She pointed at the bottle that she gave to him. “All of you can take a sip, Hecate will give you more. It will only last for a day, so make the best out of it.”

Sebastian nodded. He was impressed with how this luna's knowledge of poison. This was simply... astounding.

Meanwhile, Dawn only hoped this was enough to help Zenith in the battle. She had done everything that she could do and now, she could only wait and see how everything unfolded.

After she met with Sebastian and made sure all the back up royal warriors had drank the concoction that she made, she went to find Yara and Zade.

The baby had been crying, because he wanted his mother.

“I am sorry, baby...” Dawn said, as she cuddled her son. “I am a little bit caught up.”

Zade hugged his mother tightly and stopped crying, he fell asleep almost immediately.

“Oh... I have been trying to put him to sleep, because he woke up too early, but he refused and kept asking for you, luna.” Yara explained.

“It's okay, Yara. You can leave now.” Dawn smiled and took her baby back to his nursery room, while her four personal warriors followed her.

She stared at the afternoon sun, it was a bright day, but she knew in the other part of this kingdom, there was a vicious battle that was going on.

Chapter 202: A VICIOUS BATTLE (2)

Venomous snake was not the only thing that Jared had prepared for Zenith, because he had more up his sleeves. A month was enough time for him to prepare everything, especially with the knowledge that he got from Aurel.

The poison that Dawn had put on her body and affected Jared, Archie and all the black magic users that marched with them to the palace, had long gone. Jared was familiar with the poison after all.

"This is it. This is the time." Jared smirked, while Archie stood by his side and looked as excited as him.

But then, a magic user entered the room and informed Jared about how their first attack had failed. Apparently, there was someone, who were very expert in poison and they managed to find the antidote of it just in time, therefore, the snake attack didn't really affect the shifters.

"What?" Archie looked surprised when he heard about this news, he turned to look at Jared, who just smirked, his eyes lit up. "Our plan failed," he stated the obvious. His happy face fell and now he was frowning to see Jared's expression.

"Hm. I know." Jared nodded. "Didn't change anything." He contemplated for a while. "I will go by myself. I think Dawn is out there to help them." Because if there was someone, who could create the antidote for the venomous snake, it must be her.

Jared thought, Dawn was still in camp, thus he was going to greet her.

"You know Blake took interest in her, right?" Archie reminded him.

"Do you really think I care? I can make his existence disappeared with a snap of my finger." Jared didn't look concern at all with the fact that he was going back on his own word. "That woman is Celia's daughter."

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"It's finally here... It takes so long... it takes so damn long..." Vemion rubbed his hands, he couldn't stop pacing back and forth in his bedroom, as he anxiously waited for the final result of the attack in the Moonlight pack.

It had been a day, since he learned that a battle finally broke loose and he couldn't wait to see the result of it.

"Our long wait is finally here, mother..." Vemion turned around and then faced his mother, who was sitting on a chair. She looked beautiful, just like usual, despite the fact that she was no longer young. One could say that she aged wonderfully.

Laluna smiled at him. She patted the spot next to her, indicating for him to take a seat.

“Oh, my dear precious son...” Laluna cooed. “You finally got your birthright. Your claim is finally here... We will only need to wait for a little bit longer, okay?”

“Okay, mother.” Vemion chuckled like a child when his mother kissed his cheek and then he rested his head on her lap. “It’s finally here, mother. I can feel it. When I sat on the throne for a while a month ago, I knew right away that the throne belonged to me. I can feel it in my blood.”

“Of course, baby... of course.” Laluna kissed his cheeks, his nose, his eyes, his forehead and her precious son giggled.

“I will make you a queen mother.”

Laluna beamed and pecked his lips. “Of course, baby.... Of course.”

Meanwhile, the warriors that Zenith led, managed to get through the protection shield of Moonlight pack, they killed so many black magic users and warriors from Moonlight pack and the warriors from the west.

Somehow, the dragon sect managed to manipulate them to give their loyalty to them. Zenith assumed, they must have used black magic on them and the truth couldn’t be further from that.

However, the more they killed them, the stronger the rest of the black magic users were, because their power came from sacrifice and with Zenith and his warriors killed those shifters and magic users alike, it fulfilled their need for the sacrifice, apparently, all of them had been marked as such.

Zenith realized that once he managed to breakthrough the shield and fighting the black magic users became even harder, as they became incredibly powerful.

Yet, there was one more trick that Jared and his people didn’t even realize.

[Open the portal!] Zenith ordered through mindlink.

A few warriors immediately went to the places that had been informed to them beforehand and by using magic stone that had been modified by Pyro and Zaya, they created a portal.

This kind of trick was very costly and used so much energy, but it was worth it in the long run. Zander was the one, who thought about this trick and of course, he exploited his royal beta’s magic ability to achieve this.

[It's open!]

[It's open!]

[It's open!]

[It's open!]

[It's open!]

The warriors informed the alpha once it was a succeed and five portals were opened, which vomited all the various monsters from the north.

This was not something that their enemy expected.

Zander heard the story about one of his father's battles and at that time, his father's enemy had used this trick too, therefore, he thought to relive it on their advantage.

And this could only be achieved because alpha Tony was willing to cooperate with them. In his last visit to the palace, where Zander called him for a meeting, he had explained about this and how it worked, just to take a precaution if their enemy managed to get control over Moonlight pack.

Zander's instinct was proven right and it worked.

Alpha Tony was the one, who put the other magic stones around his pack, so they could create a portal once those magic stones made a contact with their pairs.

In no time, there were hundred of monsters that ran rampant in this pack and killed their enemies, but they didn't attack the shifters, because alpha Tony had put a large amount of Asturi Stem, wiped it around the wall of the pack house to attract the monsters and there the monsters went.

Chapter 203: ANOTHER PIECE OF MEMORY

Jared's face turned very dark when he saw hundred if it was not thousand of monsters went toward the pack house and the shield almost broke because of it, he watched with grim eyes and gritted teeth.

He didn't realize the smell of Asturi Stem because he was not a shifter and the smell was not palpable for a magic user like him, while the other shifters didn't know that this was the smell of Asturi Stem, they only thought there was a funny smell around the pack house and didn't bother to talk about it, since they were not around the pack house often.

“Well play, Dawn. Well play.”

Archie looked at the monsters around the pack house, the shield was cracked and it was only a matter of time before the monsters managed to get through to them.

“We need to leave, Jared,” Archie said. He was scared to see this huge amount of monsters. They wouldn’t survive it if they were attacked. “Let’s retreat before more of our people died!”

Jared shook his head. “No. Our people are already here. They will dock soon and these imbeciles will be wiped out from the history.”

Jared had been informed that more of dragon sect members were already here, the ships were seen yesterday and today, they were supposed to arrive.

It was only a matter of time.

“I don’t think they will be here in time. For the meantime, why don’t we retreat?” Archie tried to persuade Jared.

However, he was no longer responding to his request, he simply stared down at him and Archie lowered his head solemnly, too afraid to utter a single word.

Jared closed his eyes, he could feel his power was fueled by the death of the people that he had marked as sacrifice.

“Good. Kill more... kill them and I will show you what black magic is,” Jared muttered to himself, as a smirk appeared on his lips.

Anger was apparent in Jared’s voice, but at the same time, there was satisfaction as well. They were not the only people, who had hidden plot.

Jared would meet their plot against plot.

“Focus on that black beast. I want him.”

Archie stared at the black beast in the distance that led the warriors. There was only one black beast there and it was the alpha from the north.

It was evening when king Rowan and his knight managed to reach the harbor and he entered Zenith’s camp, where a few royal warriors were left behind, including the gamma, because of the snake. They were out of danger, but they were too weak to fight, therefore, they had to be left behind.

There were not many knights with king Rowan, since he came to this continent to do business not to join in a civil war, but there were five ships of knights out there, ready to dock and give him full strength of forces that he could use to change the situation.

King Rowan observed his surroundings and Addie came to his side. "Gamma Darius's tent is over there. He is still alive and conscious enough to talk."

"I don't want to talk. There is nothing to talk about." He narrowed his eyes. "What happened here?"

Addie then summarized the detail of what happened in this camp and how they managed to survive, while king Rowan listened silently.

His expression was unreadable, it would be heard to know what he was thinking at this moment, because he didn't show it on his face at all.

"The ships from the Holy Kingdom are closing in," Addie added to his report. "How do you want it?"

"Make a contact with them."

Addie was silent for a while, before he nodded and then excused himself to fulfill the task that was given to him, while king Rowan kept staring at this camp.

He knew Zaya was here, she must have come with Pyro and the other to help. That woman... her presence was very strong, it was apparent to everything that she touched.

Or probably, king Rowan could only see that because of how infatuated he was with her. He didn't even realize how deep he had fallen for that auburn girl. The taste of his lips still lingered...

King Rowan touched his lips, his eyes turned dark, as in the distance, the battle was still going in its full of vigor.

The sun was already set and the red hue color reflected on the surface of the sea in the distance, it reminded the king of that certain woman's hair. How soft it was to his touch...

Meanwhile, the certain woman was staring at the same sunset and the sky that ablaze as if it was on fire.

Zaya pulled her hair nervously, her habit whenever she couldn't calm herself down, no matter how much she tried.

They still didn't know which side king Rowan would take and the back up for Zenith already left the capital city hours ago. All they could do was to wait for the report about how everything finally unfolded, but this was the part that Zaya hated the most.

She was worried and she felt like she wanted to go to the battlefield and help her brother directly.

Zaya was not the only one, who felt that way, because right now, Dawn felt something gripped her heart tightly, her anxiety hit the roof, she was unable to breathe properly.

The only thing that she could do right now was holding on baby Zade closely, he was the only solace that she had, staring at his blue eyes gave her reassurance that Zenith would be alright.

More so, if something happened... If something really bad happened, she would be able to feel it through the mate bond that they shared.

Right at that time, another memories from her previous life hit her, the nightmare that she used to forget the moment she opened her eyes, now she remembered it as clear as day.

Chapter 204: AN URGENT INFORMATION AND PIECES OF MEMORIES

At first, what Dawn remembered was the time when she killed Zenith. She stared at his lifeless body and her bloody hand and someone entered her hut, it was Jared.

He offered her a deal that she couldn't refuse. Not because she wanted it, but because she was at lost... she felt this hollow in her heart, something that she had never felt before.

No matter what she did, by that time, she was still Zenith's mate, despite how long they had been separated.

The mate bond between them snapped and she knew that Zenith was dead. The pain racked through her body, as Dawn held Zade closely to give her a sense of reality. She was not living in that lifetime anymore and Zenith was still alive, but the pain was very real.

And then, she remembered Jared took Zenith's body. She didn't know what he did with him and at that time, she didn't want to know either. That was none of her business with what he did to Zenith.

As it turned out, Jared experimented Zenith's dead body.

'He was an anomaly.'

That was what Jared said.

'He held so much magic. Dark magic.'

Jared said again to explain Zenith's condition when she saw his dead body again for the first time after a few years.

'His constitution was unique, because he was conceived when the define power and a very strong black magic collided and somehow, he absorbed them both. He is very interesting. That's why his beast was always restless.'

After that, Jared used Zenith's power.

Somehow, after decades of experimenting on Zenith's dead body, he found a way to absorb the power from him, making him ridiculously strong.

With that power. He eradicated the shifters, he got rid all the wolf spirit of the shifters, since they are the abomination for the real. A creature that was not quite a human neither an animal.

Just like what Jared said, Zenith's power was unique. He inherited the magic power of both define power and black magic, but since he was born into a shifter body, thus the power couldn't be used.

Not to mention he inherited the power from his mother's bloodline, he had a strong spirit, which explained why he could see the wolf spirit when they were still in their mother's womb, though after the concoction that he had been consuming, the power toned down, but it didn't disappear.

Jared's target was Zenith all along. Whether he had remembered it or not, but obviously, he acted according to his intention from his previous life.

Probably, subconsciously, he remembered that. Just like the guilt that Zenith felt toward her even when he had not yet gotten all of his memories back, or how Dawn had always been fond of learning poison.

Zaya was right. All of these were related.

"Oh... no..." Dawn fell to her knees, Zade was still in her arms and the realization hit her so hard. If Jared got Zenith, it would be the end game for all of them.

If he remembered that Zenith held the key to achieve his goal to destroy all the shifter, then he must have remembered how to absorb his power.

Dawn felt very dizzy with all of the information that she just got. She tried to stand up, but her legs gave up on her.

“Burke! Denzel!”

the two personal warriors, who had been standing on guard outside immediately went into the room and found their luna on her knees, which set alarm off in their heads.

“What happened, luna?!” They looked startled when they approached Dawn, checking briefly for any injuries, which thankfully didn’t exist, after that the looked for the baby, but Dawn immediately fired a few orders to them.

“Take the baby to Yara and stay with her. Help me up and inform the king, Zaya and Pyro that I wanted an urgent meeting with them, there is a very important thing that I have to tell them.”

Despite their confusion, they did what they were told. Denzel helped Dawn got on her knees again, while Burke went with baby Zade to find Yara, so she could look after the baby.

Within ten minutes, Dawn had explained about the memories she jut got to the three of them and the more they listened to her explanation the more ashen their expressions were.

They couldn’t believe the situation would turn in a mess like this. The fact that the real target was Zenith was insane.

“Do you think Jared already got his memory?” Zander asked. If he was not aware, it would be great, it would only be a battle that was led by Zenith.

However, if he remembered, they only handed Zenith in a silver platter to their enemies, since the alpha would stand in the front line during the battle.

More so, it would be too far gone to reach him right now to explain about this piece of information.

“I am not sure, I don’t know.” Dawn shook her head, she was distracted. She couldn’t think straight because all she wanted was to see Zenith and made sure that he was alright. She felt like she was going to cry right now.

Yet, she held her tears back, this was not the right time to have a mental breakdown.

“The back up will be there.” Pyro reminded them, but Zaya also reminded the other fact.

“Yes, but it meant, king Rowan and his knights were already there too. The ships must have been docked by now.”

The dagger in her waist burned, she felt the heat of it. She wished king Rowan wouldn't betray them. If this was a marriage that he wanted, Zaya was willing to give in when their kingdom and especially her brother's life was on the line.

She intended to have that conversation with the other king, but unfortunately, he had gone before she could meet with him.

Right at that time, a guard entered the room and delivered an urgent information from the harbor.

Chapter 205: AN OBLIGATION

"Two ships of Holy Kingdom have docked in the harbor," the guard reported.

"Two? Are you sure it's only two ships?" Pyro asked, he narrowed his eyes at the guard, because as far as they knew, there were ten ships in total, including the ships from Marca El. "Are there other ships that could be seen?"

"No. For now, there are only two ships that have been docked."

In that case, they could draw a conclusion, it was either the rest of the ships would be there eventually, or there was something else that happened to those ships.

"We need to get Zenith back," Zander said. "Let Sebastian to lead the attack."

For now, that was the best option that they had, but currently, it was not feasible for them to do so because the battlefield was very chaotic, it was hard to tell what would happen there.

There were countless monsters that went through the portal from the north, as they attacked the pack house, but it was not enough. The shield apparently stronger than they thought and right now, Jared got the piece of memory that Dawn dreaded the most.

"Oh, I see... I see... so, that's how it played out..." Jared muttered to himself, while Archie looked at him with confusion. He was not sure what he was talking about. "Call Blake over. I want to make a great offer that he will not be able to refuse."

Archie didn't know what was inside Jared's mind, but he went away without making a fuss. Blake was staring at the shield at the front yard, glaring at the monsters that tried to break in.

He hated the fact that they were going to lose this battle again! How could Jared let something like this to happen?! Didn't he prepare everything neatly? But, why the royal still managed to beat them up.

When he was aggravated by their current situation, Archie approached him and told him that he was needed.

“What? Did he want to surrender? I thought he is good with whatever he is doing.” Blake couldn’t help, but sneer. “I thought the dragon sect is great enough to defeat the royal.”

Archie’s eyes hardened when he heard that. “Watch what you said, you will not be able to be here and even have a way to exact your revenge if it’s not for us.” Archie smirked. “It’s rich coming from you, who contributed nothing, but complains.”

Blake had this urge to kill this man, but he knew that he wouldn’t be able to achieve that, since he was not strong enough for that.

With that shitty knowledge, he walked away from Archie to meet with Jared, he wanted to know what that black magic user wanted to talk about.

Meanwhile, the black magic users got off from the two ships that managed to dock in the harbor and the first thing they did was to attack Zenith’s camp and destroy their food supply, they wanted to make the moral of the warriors down.

Especially after they knew there were a few warriors, who had fallen sick because of the snakes. They were still recuperating, even though they were no longer in critical condition.

Inside that camp, there was the gamma. Darius just regained his consciousness and he got the report from what had happened while he was unconscious, especially with the black magic users that marched from the harbor.

“It will take some time for alpha Zenith and the rest of the people to reach the camp, they were too far to the pack house to be able to be here in time.”

Darius gritted his teeth, he pushed himself up from the bed. “We need to protect the camp until the alpha is here.”

“Gamma Darius, there is one more thing that you need to know,” the warrior added. “King Rowan is here, he is here with his knights.”

Right on cue, king Rowan entered the tent. “Oh, it’s nice to see you alive and well.”

Darius made a face. “I thought my tent is not a public area.”

“My bad.” King Rowan didn’t feel bad at all. “So, what is your plan?”

“Why should I let you know my plan?” Darius didn’t like this king was being nosy like this. His appearance here didn’t give him a reassurance either. “What are you doing here?”

King Rowan grinned, as he walked into the tent and made the frown on Darius’s face deepened.

“Well, let’s say that you are too weak to defend the camp, why don’t you give me the authority to give an order to the rest of the shifters here?”

“Why should I do that?” Darius didn’t feel good about the suggestion.

King Rowan shrugged his shoulders nonchalantly. “What other option that you have?”

Meanwhile, inside the palace, after all of them heard about the two ships from the Holy Kingdom had docked at the harbor, Pyro and Zaya volunteered to bring around twenty warriors with them.

Pyro had used his power too much and he couldn’t bring more people than that.

“Don’t make that face,” Zaya chided her brother when Zander crossed his arms and didn’t say anything, as he watched her to make a quick preparation to go to the battlefield.

A day had passed and they didn’t even get enough sleep because of this.

“You didn’t even see my face, Za.” Zander was wearing his golden mask, there was no way she could tell what kind of expression he had currently.

“Oh, please. I know you.” Zaya approached Zander and took off his golden mask. “You need to stop hiding yourself, you know.”

“I am not hiding myself.”

“You run away from reality.”

Zander took the mask and put it on again. “I am not.”

Zaya sighed, she didn’t want to argue about this matter with him. Zander could be very stubborn. “I will go now. I will talk to king Rowan once I saw him.”

“Don’t be with him of obligation.”

“So, I can be with him out of love?”

Chapter 206: AN ILLUSION

Zaya bit her tongue the moment the words left her lips and she feigned innocent under her brother's sharp gaze.

"What did you say?" Zander narrowed his eyes dangerously, even though you barely saw his blue eyes behind his golden mask.

"No!" Zaya blushed. "I didn't mean it in that way, don't make a wrong idea."

"Explain to me what wrong idea that I should have about this whole thing?" Zander raised his brows at his sister. "Do you like him?"

"Of course not." Zaya shook her head vigorously. "But, we need him, right? We need his knights."

Zander didn't let her off easily. He took a step closer, while Zaya instinctively took a step back, which only made Zander became even more suspicious. "I know that you have been sneaking out and he came with you..." he talked cautiously. "Did something happen during that time?"

Yes, they shared a kiss.

"No. Of course not."

"Zaya."

"Zander."

"Did something happen?"

"No."

However, the blush that crept on her cheeks gave away and this made Zander took a step closer again, but Zaya created a shield around her.

"You are being ridiculous. I don't have time for this." Zaya then turned around and then left. She didn't want to talk about this matter anymore. She went to Pyro and tell him that they should go immediately.

All the preparation was ready and they only needed to leave.

"Okay," Pyro said, a little bit confused because Zaya looked so flustered.

"Be careful, okay." Dawn was there with baby Zade, who looked around him curiously, his big blue eyes found Zaya and giggled at her.

This sight melted Zaya's heart. "Oh, you cheeky little thing, I am going to see you soon, okay?" Zaya couldn't help it and kiss both of his cheeks. She hugged him and kissed him again. "Let's play after I returned, okay?"

"Say bye bye, Zade." Dawn waved her hand and Zade mimicked her.

"Byee... bye..." Zade was a happy child. He laughed when Zaya created a little fire that dance in the air for a few second before it popped.

"I feel like I want to put him in my pocket," Zaya said, feeling helpless with the baby.

But thankfully, Pyro managed to drag her back and they go to Moonlight pack again along with the twenty warriors.

After that, Dawn went back to her bedroom. She felt really exhausted, but how could she fall asleep when Zenith's situation was still unclear, especially with the new information that she just figured out.

His life was in danger.

Based on the plan, Zaya would talk to king Rowan, while Pyro would go to see Zenith. He needed to return immediately and let Sebastian to take the lead.

Knowing Zenith, Dawn knew it wouldn't be a smooth sailing conversation to persuade him to do so.

However, when she walked in the hallway, she felt there was something off. It was very quiet. She looked around and couldn't find her four personal warriors.

Usually, Burke and the other would follow her, they kept their distance, making their presence as less as possible, in order to give her privacy, but right now, she couldn't see any of them.

"Burke?" Dawn looked around her, she pressed Zade's head against her chest. She felt uneasy. This quietness was not usual.

"Ma... ma..." Zade babbled. He looked around him, as if he could feel the peculiarity of the situation and his mother's anxiety.

"It's okay, Zade. Let's go back to uncle Zander, okay." Dawn traced back, but no matter how far she went, there was no end for this hallway, as if she was walking on the spot and this only added more to her anxiety.

“Mama... want to see dada...”

“I want to see your father too, Zade.” Dawn kissed his cheek, she tried to calm herself down. She was not sure what happened with her, neither she knew what was going on, but something was not right. It was either a hallucination or a magic...

But then, she saw him. This must be the first time she saw him again. He walked from the other end of the hallway. His expression was devoid from any emotions, as he approached her.

“Dawn...” He called her name intimately, but when his eyes flickered toward the baby in her arms, there was murderous intention that permeated in the air, this alerted Dawn.

“How can you be here, Blake?” Dawn’s voice was frosty. She threw a dagger look at him.

“Don’t you happy to see me again? I am here to take you back to Moonlight pack. The place where you belonged.”

“I belong to wherever my mate is.”

Blake’s eyes became a few shades darker when he heard that. “You shouldn’t have provoked me, Dawn. The reign of king Zander is over.”

Zade pursed his lips at the man before his eyes, he didn’t like him and the way the little one looked at Blake only pissed him off even more.

“Come. Come with me and we will start a new life together.”

“You are delusional, Blake.” Dawn narrowed her eyes. “You are going through insanity.”

“Yes, and it happened because of you.”

“No. It’s not because of me.” Dawn looked at Blake in the eyes and she was no longer recognized him. He used to be the sweetest man that she had ever met.

The only person that she was comfortable with, they spent their childhood together. They talked with ease and there were days that filled with only laughter. She used to be looking forward to see him, but right now, all of those sweet and happy memories were fading away.

The person before her was not the same person in her memory.

“Come with me, Dawn. Leave that bastard child and come with me. We are mate for a reason. You are my destined mate for a reason.”

But, when Dawn didn't want to listen to him, Blake shifted into his beast and charged forward to attack Zade.

Chapter 207: KILLING INTENT

Those blue eyes. Those blue eyes were the same eyes like the alpha from the north, the common blue eyes that belonged to the royal family and when Blake saw that little boy looked at him, he felt like that kid mocked him, as if Zenith himself had mocked him because he managed to fuck his mate and get her pregnant.

And now, this little devil was staring at him. He lost his temper and all he wanted to do was to gouge those eyes out of his socket. He hated those blue eyes.

Insanity got the better of him.

Blake shifted into his beast form and charged forward, where he attempted to kill that baby, getting rid of him from this realm.

He didn't want to leave any trace of alpha Zenith in Dawn's life.

With that thought, charged forward with the intention to kill him. Of course, Dawn could feel his killing intention and he was so bold to think that Dawn wouldn't do anything about it.

"Stay here baby," Dawn said, kissing her little one and set him down, before she shifted into her beast and met Blake in midway.

Blake didn't expect Dawn would retaliate and put herself in danger by fighting him.

But then, it was expected as a mother. He must be underestimated a mother's instinct when it came to protect their little one. They could be very scary.

Dawn's beast was brown color, which looked smaller than Blake's grey beast, yet she didn't back down when she clawed his muzzle and growled dangerously to make him back down.

She would be dead if she allowed this bastard to even get closer to her son.

Now, she regretted that she didn't take her lesson with Zenith seriously. Her mate had to drag her out of the bed to practice, training her wolf of how to protect herself, but right now, it was not herself that she wanted to protect, but their son.

The brown beast managed to claw the grey beast's neck, which startled him, because in his memory, Dawn knew nothing of how to fight.

However, Dawn could harm him just because he put his guard down against her, because the moment Blake got serious, Dawn was forced to back down.

Blake managed to scratch her arm and push her away from him, as he rushed toward the baby that looked like he was going to cry to see his mother was struggling.

“Mama... mamama...”

Dawn felt this panic washed over her, the memory of her first life flashed before her eyes when she found her baby was dead, mauled by the monster, but right now, this beast was going to maul him.

Would the same fate repeated again?

Did everything that happen would be for naught?

Meanwhile, in the throne room, Zander could feel something was off. He knew that Pyro and Zaya had left the palace, but something didn't feel right.

He dismissed all of the people there, who tried to suggest him for backing down from the fight in the Moonlight pack and talked it over with the people from the Holy Kingdom.

They wanted the king to release the people from the Holy Kingdom as a good gesture, but Zander laughed derisively at that suggestion.

“I will send you all to Holy Kingdom and dragon sect as their next sacrifice if you didn't scam from my sight right away,” Zander said, his eyes filled with malice and he was serious with his threat.

All of them immediately left the throne room. Without the advisors and the elders, the king's order was absolute, they couldn't dispute that.

When the last person walked out of the throne room, Hecate entered and then went straight to the king, but his personal warriors stopped him.

“Let him come over,” Zander said, waving for the warriors to let Hecate to come closer to him. This man was very obtuse to the palace's rule, but then he was useful, thus Zander would often let it slide. “What is it, Hecate.”

“You need to come with me. You need to come with me. Come, follow me. Follow me.”

Hecate used to repeat what he said whenever he was nervous, as if he couldn't care about his surroundings and want to get it down to main point.

“What is it?” Zander followed him regardless, because if there was something that bothered him, it would be worth for him to be worried about.

Zander followed him to the east palace, where Zaya stayed, right there, Celine had been standing at the gates with two warriors fell unconscious on the ground.

“What happened here?” Zander asked, he was alarmed to see the warriors’ bodies.

“They are still alive, but it seemed, our enemy managed to breach into the palace and polluted the air with poison.”

Celine pointed her finger at the incense not too far from them. She walked over and stepped on it.

“Here, my king, put this under your tongue, so you will not be affected.” Celine gave him the same root that Dawn had given to them before.

Zander followed the instruction. His eyes squinted, as he stared at the east palace.

“Who do you think inside?”

Pyro and Zaya had left with twenty warriors, aside from the servants and some warriors, he didn’t think there was someone important there.

“I think Luna Dawn and baby Zade are inside,” Celine said, she was afraid that she was right, she prayed that she was wrong.

“Shit!” Zander immediately went ahead. “Gather all the warriors and meet me inside! Give that strange root to them too!”

“My king... wait!” Celine was terrified because she knew that Zander couldn’t shift into his beast, which left him in a vulnerable state and they didn’t know what was waiting for him inside. “You better wait for the warriors! My king!”

However, Zander was already rushing inside the east palace and tried to locate Dawn and baby Zade, he looked for a while, until he heard the sound of Zade’s cry.

Replacement Bride for the Alpha of the North - Chapter 208 - Chapter 208: LOST FOR WORDS -

Chapter 208: LOST FOR WORDS

When Zaya, Pyro and the twenty warriors stepped in the camp, they were thrown to a vicious battle between the knights against the magic users from the Holy Kingdom.

They didn't even have time to catch a breath when they were forced to fight for their lives.

The magic users from the Holy Kingdom outnumbered them greatly, but there was one shocking truth that Zaya learned from this battle it was the fact that the knights from Marca El were immune from an offensive magic, which was a great advantage for them, where they could kill them easily, if they didn't put up their shield and used another method to defeat them.

However, the magic users without their magic were nothing compared to a battle hardened warrior from Marca El.

This battle took longer because there were too many of them and the number of the knights with king Rowan was not a match for them.

"What are you doing here, princess?"

Rowan saw the portal and didn't care much about it, as he saw Pyro walked into the battle with a few warriors, but when he caught his sight on that auburn girl, he felt the rage consumed him.

What the hell that princess was doing here? Didn't her brothers were very protective of her? How could they send her over to this camp again?

"Why don't you wait in one of the tents and take a nap, while I finished this battle?" Rowan was still on his war horse, he looked so tall, big and intimidating, his dark eyes bore into hers and this made Zaya's heart skipped a beat.

This must be because she was relief. They had expected the worse from this king when they heard that his ships came at the same time with the ships from the Holy Kingdom.

They had to take all the precaution that he would turn their back against them and sided with the Holy Kingdom, but to see him fighting against them, was such a relief.

"What is it? You can't speak because you are very grateful to me for defending your kind?" King Rowan killed two magic users in one swing of his huge swords.

The dagger at Zaya's waist hummed, because his sword and her dagger came from the same magic stones.

"Should I be grateful for that? I thought it is a common sense because you are a guest in our continent," Zaya replied, she created a shield around them, so they could have this little chat amidst the chaos, so they couldn't bother them for a while.

She didn't like someone disturbed her conversation.

"We have been a great host, right?"

King Rowan looked amused. "I can't say the same thing for your other two brothers, but I am happy to have you to host me, maybe you can be more accepting after this."

"Do you think this action can charm me?"

"Is it a failure?"

Zaya shrugged her shoulders. "Not really."

King Rowan laughed, he extended his hand and then pulled her up to sit behind him on his big horse. "Do you want to slay magic user with me, princess?"

"It will be my pleasure."

Thankfully, after that, other ships docked at the harbor and this time, they were the ships from Marca El.

There were three, while the other two had sunk.

Apparently, the only reason why the two ships of the Holy Kingdom managed to dock in the harbor first was because the other three used to block the ships from Marca El and they had a battle, which made the other ships from Marca El to be late.

After that, everything was very obvious, who would be the winner of this battle. An hour later, Sebastian also arrived with the back up, as he stayed there for a while before they marched toward the Moonlight pack's pack house.

Zaya's assignment was to talk to king Rowan, to prevent the king from taking the enemy's side, but apparently, there was no need for that, therefore, she wanted to go with Pyro too.

"You can't go with me, princess," Pyro said. "It will be too dangerous for you." Zander wouldn't allow Zaya to enter the heart of the battlefield. The fight in the camp was something that they didn't predict.

"No. I want to go, I need to go." Zaya was insisted.

"Princess Zaya, I can't protect you. It will be very dangerous." Pyro knew that he would lose this argumentation, but he had to try to convince her to stay.

But, thing didn't go well with him when king Rowan decided to chime in.

"I will go with her," king Rowan said. He sheathed his sword and looked at the royal beta, challenged him to say otherwise, which turned Pyro speechless.

"See? Now, problem solved." Zaya was more than happy to accept the help and shut Pyro up.

The royal beta could only shake his head and then walked away. "If the king or alpha Zenith asked me about this, I will tell them the truth."

"Okay." Zaya knew that she could manage her two brothers, but she looked at king Rowan suspiciously. "Are you trying to impress me."

"Did it work?"

"I am touched, a little bit."

Zaya walked away from him toward his horse. The horse was higher than the horse that she used to ride, thus she had a hard time to climb it.

"Need help?"

"No, thanks, I will ask Pyro to... ah!" Zaya squealed when king Rowan suddenly lifted her body up and let her sit down comfortably on the horse back.

"You should choose wisely when you ask for help, princess. The royal beta is currently busy."

Zaya looked at him innocently. "My life choices are questionable lately."

King Rowan grinned. "You are so light. Like a feather."

Zaya blushed, but her words sounded nonchalantly. "I will put more weight, so you can't lift me up again easily."

"Don't worry, I will help to fattening you up."

There, Zaya lost for word.

Chapter 209: THE CRITICAL SITUATION

Zander was seeing red when he saw what happened. Baby Zade was crawling alone in the hallway, his face had turned very red because he was crying so hard, but when he saw Zander, he immediately raised both of his arms toward his uncle.

Zander immediately picked him up from the cold floor.

Obviously, something was not right, there was no way Dawn would leave her baby alone here unattended. The king's blue eyes were slightly darkened when he saw blood on his body, but to his relief, there was no wound on him, which meant, this blood didn't belong to him.

"Mammaa... mamam..." Zade kept sobbing, pointing his hand toward the direction behind him. Tears streamed down his chubby cheeks. "Bad man... bad wulf..."

"Where is your mommy little one?" Zander felt his heart clenched when he saw his niece cried like this. He should have taken more precaution.

"Bad wulf took mamma..." Zade sobbed, he pointed his finger toward the same direction again and Zander went ahead to check.

But, he immediately realized that he was not alone, there was someone else around this area with him, that was when he saw his shadow and before he fully understood what was going on, he moved to the side out of instinct and saw his attacker.

It was Archie, Jared's right hand man, he managed to breakthrough Pyro's shield and entered the palace with whoever bad wolf that Zade talked about, who apparently had taken Dawn away.

"Good day, my king." Archie bowed his body, his greeting sounded like a mocking.

Zander held the baby in his arms closely. He was cautious with this man before his eyes, because without his wolf, he was in vulnerable position to have a fight. All he could do now was to buy some time until Celine and Hecate came with the royal warriors.

"I am not your king, don't remember that you are my subject," Zander replied, he pressed Zade's head against the crook of his neck. The only thing that made him worry was the little one was in this crossfire.

Something could go so wrong and he could get hurt in the process.

"Oh, my bad," Archie said lightly, his eyes fell on Zade and this made Zander growled. "So, this is prince Zade? I am really glad to see him. Do you think he will make a good sacrifice?"

Zander didn't say anything with that remark. He glanced at his left sight. His option was limited and he needed to move fast.

"Nah, he is too cute for your stupid sacrifice. Whatever devil that you worshiped will die from his cuteness." Zander glanced again at his left side.

He knew this place like the back of his hand, he lived here for decades and as a child, he had explored every nook and cranny of the palace and that was his only strong advantage point right now.

“You are so funny, my king.”

“I know. You are not the first person, who told me that.” Zander smirked. “If you have nothing else to do, I will take my leave.”

Zander took a few steps back, he wouldn't give his back to his enemy and when Archie charged forward, ready to attack the king, Zander jumped to the left side.

He was glad the door was not locked and then slammed the door to Archie's face.

“Do you think a door could stop me? How naïve you are, how could you be a king of this kingdom when you are this immature?”

Archie then blew away the door by using his magic.

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The monsters that appeared in the Moonlight pack managed to break the shield that protected the pack house and now, hundred of them charged inside, ruined everything in the process.

The asturi stem scent was so strong and it made them crazy.

The dark magic users tried to fight these monsters back, but there was no amount of magic power that could hold them back, it seemed the more they fought, the angrier the monsters were.

From the look of it, the battle would end soon, but Zenith didn't feel right, there was something amiss with this whole situation, because there was no way it would go down this easily.

“Zen!” Zaya immediately jumped off the horse when she saw Zenith's black wolf. “Shift back, please.”

Zaya couldn't communicate with Zenith when he was in wolf form, since she couldn't use mindlink with her brothers.

Zenith shifted back into his human form and frowned at Zaya, who approached him. His glare then fixed on king Rowan, who followed behind his sister.

“What are you doing here?” Zenith asked, his voice was tight. He didn’t like to see Zaya was in this chaotic situation, something could go wrong and she could get hurt. “You need to leave, now.”

However, that was the least of Zaya’s concern right now, she looked at her brother and forced him to listen to her first.

Zaya then explained quickly about the piece of memories that Dawn just got. She explained of how Jared used his body for the final sacrifice and how Zenith couldn’t be here. Sebastian was already there to take over the lead of this attack, therefore, Zenith had to back down.

More so, this battle seemed to close to end, the monsters had done their job and the only thing left for them was to kill Jared.

“You can’t be here, Jared could use you, let’s go back with me.”

“No, I will wrap this up.” Zenith then looked at king Rowan. “I will trouble you, king Rowan, but can you please take my sister away?”

King Rowan tilted his head. “I am afraid I can’t do that, the princess said she will turn me into a frog if I do something that she doesn’t like.”

Zaya was speechless. This man was holding a grudge...

Right at that time, someone walked toward them and they knew immediately that it was Blake, he walked alone.

Chapter 210: THE CRITICAL SITUATION (2)

His nasty scent hit them first when he walked toward them and Zenith was ready to dig his claws into his flesh, but he looked so calm, which raising their suspicion.

“I am here to make an offer to you,” Blake said, despite there were dozen of beast that let out a dangerous snarl at him. “You don’t want to attack before you heard me first.”

Zenith raised his hand to stop his warriors from tearing this man apart, if there was someone, who would kill this imbecile, it would be him and no one else.

“Good,” Blake said, chuckled to himself to see that Zenith actually listened to him. “I want you to come with me, Jared wanted to speak to you. I am sure that you wanted to speak to him too, right?”

Zenith didn’t reply to his invitation and Blake clicked his tongue.

“You really don’t like to talk, huh?”

“You can crawl back to your master. I will see him soon.”

The battle was close to end and the next thing that Zenith would do was to hunt down Jared and all the member from dragon sect.

However, Blake simply chuckled. “Are you sure you don’t want to come with me?” He then took something from behind his pocket and threw it to the ground.

It was horrendous, it was a bunch of hair, a long, black hair. From the look of it, it seemed someone just cut that long hair and tied it together.

Yet, the moment the hair landed on the ground, Zenith saw red, because he knew whose hair it was, but he still tried to compose himself, holding into the last hope that it was not possible.

As much as he despised this imbecile of shifter, he knew that he was obsessed with Dawn, he loved her enough to not put her in harm way, but it seemed, he was very wrong about that front.

“No way...” Zaya breathed raggedly, she watched her brother walked toward the hair that laid on the ground and suddenly, she felt this dreadful feeling.

Zaya could only see Zenith’s back, but she was so scared to even approach her brother, even though she knew that Zenith wouldn’t hurt her, but there was something so strong about him, his wrath made the air very thick with tension.

The wrath that was emanated from Zenith made the rage of the monsters suddenly looked like fun.

Zenith bent his body and then picked up the hair. This was the same hair that he used to touch, the hair that he ran his fingers...

Blake must have felt the same dread, because he took two steps back, despite his confidence earlier to provoke the alpha from the north, he could feel that the strongest predator in the food chain had his full attention on him.

For a moment, time seemed to slow down, as Zenith straightened his back and his eyes turned red. His blue eyes turned into red in color and this startled Blake, because the sight of the alpha was simply mortifying.

Blake had never known the real fear before he saw Zenith controlled by his wrath.

“Zen... don’t, he tried to provoke you...” Despite her fear for her brother, she needed to stop Zenith, she knew that there must be something that Blake had plotted against Zenith to provoke him with the cut of Dawn’s hair.

Zaya forced herself to walk toward Zenith and stop him physically. He wouldn’t hurt her, he had never hurt her and he wouldn’t start it now.

That was the only thing that convince Zaya to approach Zenith, especially when she saw Zenith shifted into his beast and lurched toward Blake, who had shifted into his beast as well and rushed toward the direction of the pack house, where the monsters were still running rampant there.

But king Rowan immediately stopped her.

“No.” king Rowan held her elbow.

“Let me go!” Zaya growled at him, she tried to free herself from him and fight him, but before she could use her magic, Rowan caught both of her hand and held it with one hand, rendered her unable to move and cancel her magic.

Zaya couldn’t believe it, he could actually fight her like this. He was very strong, which was not even a surprised at all.

But, Zaya started screaming when Rowan wrapped his hand around her waist and carried her like a sack, while still keeping her hand together.

“What are you doing?!” Zaya was furious, she needed to get to Zenith. That was a trap and Zenith was too furious to even consider that.

“We need to make a plan, princess,” Rowan said calmly. “Moreover, the warriors have chased after their alpha, what else you could do?”

The warriors had indeed followed Zenith, as the black beast chased after Blake toward the pack house.

“Fine! Let me go! Put me down!” Zaya wriggled her body and when Rowan put her down, the moment her feet touched the ground and he loosened his grip on her wrist, she bolted out toward the direction where Zenith had gone.

“This woman...” Rowan was speechless. He whistled and called his horse.

The king then mounted the war house, he directed the horse toward Zaya and scooped Zaya’s body on the way.

“Your legs are too short to catch up with the beasts, don’t you think so?” Rowan raised his brows, as he secured Zaya’s body between his arms when he got a dagger look from this auburn hair.

Zaya’s jaw dropped by the insult. “My legs are not short, it’s you who have ridiculous long legs!”

King Rowan said nothing, he only smirked to see how annoyed this princess was, as he rode the horses toward the pack house and Zaya created a shield around them, so they wouldn’t be crushed under the raged of the monsters there.

It was rather hard to find where Blake had baited Zenith, because she was not familiar with this place.

Chapter 211: THE CRITICAL SITUATION (3)

Dawn was seething, she couldn’t believe with what Blake had done to her. He cut her hair! That fucking bastard cut her long hair!

The hair that she took care of for years, the hair that Zenith liked! Her long hair!

‘I am going to cut your dick!’

That was what she promised him when she realized he cut her hair for real. At first, Dawn thought Blake was not serious when he went behind her back and wanted to cut her hair.

She couldn’t do anything, since her wrists and ankles were tied up with silver chains. This fucking bastard actually used silver on her!

Blake managed to get her because he deceived her in their fight. She thought, he was going to attack her baby and she used her body to protect Zade, but as it turned out, he pulled her into this portal that landed her in her own room, back in the pack house.

‘Do you remember this room? We used to play here when we were little. I used to be a shy boy back then and you were a very adventurous and brave girl that I have ever met.’

Blake had said that with a touch of nostalgic, but Dawn felt annoyed as if there was a mosquito that kept flying in her ears.

‘Yeah, that shy little boy has turned to be a moron and a cheater.’

That was all Dawn could mutter, since she tried to focus on her surroundings, the monsters apparently had managed to break the shield around the pack house and the fight broke loose in the distance.

Dawn was worried, but Blake informed her that this room had been protected by shield, so she only needed to rest assure that everything would be alright.

After reminiscing about their past that Dawn didn't even want to hear, Blake then proceeded to cut her hair off, he cut her hair only slightly below her shoulders, but it was enough to make Dawn freaking out.

She had never had this short hair ever since she was little and to see how Blake held her hair in his hand and smelled it, made her stomach churned.

She would have shifted into her beast and attacked him again if it was not for the fact that she couldn't do anything with the silver chain that tied her wrists. This silver chain was attached to the wall. It seemed, Blake was fully prepared about every single thing.

'Zenith would love to see this. Can you imagine how his reaction will be?'

Dawn knew that Blake would provoke Zenith by her hair, he would lose it and it would be easy for them to bait him to their trap.

"Fuck!" Dawn cursed under her breath. She tried to pull her hand from the tied rope, but to no avail, she hated her current condition and felt like she was going to snap at any moment now.

This didn't help her to think of how to escape her predicament because her mind was racing with her heartbeat.

She closed her eyes and listened to the vicious growls and snarls in the distance, where the monsters fought against the black magic users. She wondered if the people in the pack house had been evacuated or the black magic users had used them all as the sacrifice.

The thought of that made Dawn's stomach churned, she had the thought that people from her pack had been killed.

What about Lyra? Ava?

Dawn gritted her teeth. Would Blake bring Zenith here? And when she opened her eyes again, she saw her short hair and became extremely annoyed.

But, to answer to her question whether Blake would bring Zenith there to see her, the answer was no. Blake actually took the alpha to different side of the pack house, where Jared had been waiting for him.

He was sitting in the strategy room, the area that was not ruined by the rampage of the monster, there were so many black magic users there that had been waiting for the alpha.

the moment he stepped inside the room, the black magic users circled him and created a shield around his body, so he couldn't attack them, trapped them in their magic.

"Good job, Blake," Jared said, as Blake shifted into his human form and stood next to him. "Shift."

Jared used his magic, so did the eleven black magic users in the room, all of them were using their black magic on Zenith and forced him to shift into his human form, which the alpha resisted, but when Jared increased his power, the black beast was subdued, but his eyes turned crazed.

"What a beautiful thing..." Jared sighed, mesmerized by the black magic that rolled off the black beast.

Gradually, Zenith shifted back into his human form and he was forced to kneel down in front of Jared, but it was so hard to make him kiss the ground or even lowered his head.

"What a stubborn being..." Jared tilted his head, scrutinized Zenith for a while and smirked triumphantly. "You are so adorable, alpha."

And when Jared couldn't get what he wanted, he let it go with a shrug and continued with the next process. It was to extract all the black magic from him.

Apparently, black magic that resided within Zenith was the purest form of the black magic and the only reason why it had not yet exploded was because there was a trace of divine power within it as well, which allowed the balance between the light and the dark.

But, still every month, the clash between two contradicting powers would happen, where Zenith would have the weakest control over his beast.

"We can start now..." Jared drawled, he had been wanting this power for long and whether it was the first lifetime or right now, he was going to have it over and over again, no matter how many lifetimes that had to be repeated.

The story would end up the same.

Chapter 212: THE CRITICAL SITUATION (4)

Archie chuckled when he saw the closed door and blasted it. No way a door would stop him, but when he entered the room, he was completely wrong when he saw his surroundings, apparently, he entered a weird room with a lot of jars and boxes on the shelves.

This was as store room for medicine. The place that Hecate used to bury himself in it, spending his time here and if he could, he would spend his entire time without stepping out of this room.

“What the hell is this place?”

Not like how it looked like, this room was actually massive, this was a big room with high ceiling. There were these high stairs in the middle of the room that reached the ceiling next to shelves with the same height.

“Where are you, my king?” Archie cooed, as he looked around him. “I know that you can’t shift into your beast, so you decided to play hide and seek with me?” He chuckled and spilled a few important information about the condition of the king that not many people supposed to know, especially not their enemy. “Little one, don’t you want to play with uncle? What is your name again? Zane, Zack? Your name is so hard to remember, why don’t I call you silly?”

He sauntered into the room, he wished he could have a great sense like those shifters, so he could find a way to get those two creatures without any problem, since he could sniff them out.

Unfortunately, he was not a shifter.

More so, just like the magic user, who lost their magic ability, the shifters, who lost their wolf spirit and was unable to shift into their beast was deemed useless, they didn’t have any power to defend themselves.

“Where are you little silly thing? Come here to uncle, do you want candy? I will give you candy.”

Archie looked around the area for another five minutes when suddenly, a weird smell caught him and he immediately knew what kind of smell was this, because he had smelled the same thing before.

This was the same smell that came from Aurel’s dead body, where the smell could prevent you from using your magic. He was caught out off guard by that, but before he could react, someone had crept from behind and when he turned around to use his magic, understandably, his magic failed and the person managed to cut off both of his hands.

Archie screamed in pain, as he knelt down, watching his hands were chopped off.

“His name is Zade, you dumbass and you are not his uncle,” Zander said, he unsheathed the sword into its scabbard. Just because he couldn’t shift into his beast, it didn’t mean he was completely defenseless. He could find another way to fight.

Zander learned a bit about poison, since he almost died a few times because of that, thus when Dawn created the poison for Aurel, he knew what ingredient that she had used.

It was not really hard when he could find all the items here.

Though he was not as proficient as Dawn in poison, at the very least, he could make a good use for what little he knew.

Zander then went to pick up Zade, who was pursing his lips. He had told the little boy not to cry and make any sound and he did exactly that.

Fat tears still rolled down his chubby cheeks, but he didn’t make a noise.

“Don’t worry, uncle Zan is here!” Zander said cheerfully, he took off his golden mask and then flashed him a smile. “Let’s go.”

“Dada...” Zade pointed his little finger at Zander’s face, but he chuckled.

“Not dada. Uncle Zan. I am more handsome than your father.” Zander hugged the little one and walked out of the room, Hecate would have a heart attack when he saw this mess.

Zander’s happy expression suddenly changed the moment Zade couldn’t see him, his blue eyes turned malice.

He needed to find Dawn, but he thought, he knew where they had taken Dawn. He needed to let them knew about this immediately.

But, Zenith already knew about it and now, he was fighting for his life, as Jared and the other eleven black magic users were trying to take his wolf spirit from him.

“Damn it...” Jared drawled. His brows furrowed.

“What is it? What happened?” Blake asked when he saw the struggle look on their faces, it only meant there was something wrong, something was not going right with the plan.

Jared, of course, didn't answer that, because he deemed his question was not important, but what actually happened was; Zenith fought back.

In the past, when he extracted the black magic from his body, he was already dead, Dawn had killed him, but right now, he was still alive, very much alive and fighting.

Jared didn't miscalculate this, that was why he had eleven other magic users with him to fight against Zenith, but what he didn't expect was the fact that Zenith was this strong.

"What happened here?" Blake frowned, he didn't like when he was being kept in the dark, but Jared was too annoyed with his presence to even accommodate him with answer.

"SCRAM!" He glared at Blake.

Blake was taken aback when he saw his rage, not because he was startled that he was being yelled off, but he felt this ominous feeling that came from him, as if he was going to kill him or something.

This black magic user would definitely kill him if he stayed there longer.

"Fuck you!" Blake cursed under his breath, this was his last attempt to keep his dignity from being yelled at and then walked out of the room.

Fine. He was going to check on Dawn. He had her and now they could be together.

Meanwhile, the monsters were still running rampant inside the pack house, ruining everything and killing any living being.

But, Dawn had gone when he arrived.

Chapter 213: THE CRITICAL SITUATION (5)

Ava's wolf was redish in color and that was the wolf that came to the room, apparently, the shield that protected her room was only for the monsters, while the other could still enter. That was why Blake could come and go from this room as he pleased.

"Ava?" Dawn furrowed her brows. Her wrists were hurt because the silver ate her skin and every time she tried to pull her hands from the chain, she felt this excruciating pain, as if this silver could literally cut her hands. "Ava, is that you?"

The redish color wolf stared at her from the door, her eyes fixed on her, but she didn't do anything.

“Ava, please. Help me.” Dawn tried to talk to her, she didn’t know what happened to her after she learned about her mate’s infidelity, but from the look of it, Blake was not the only one, who was going through an insanity. “Ava, please shift and talk to me.”

Thankfully, for her relief, Ava listened to her plea this time and shifted into her human form. She looked... defeated.

Ava always took pride on her appearance, she would always dress prettily in every occasion, not even once, Dawn could remember that Ava was being this disheveled...

“Blake loves you, Dawn,” Ava said, her eyes were hollow, she was staring at Dawn, but at the same time, she didn’t look at her at all. “He truly loves you. He did all of this because he loves you.”

Dawn gritted her teeth, she wanted to snap at Ava and slapped her with reality, but of course, in her current condition that was something that she couldn’t do. She sighed deeply and then looked at Ava closely.

“If he loved me as much as what you told me, he wouldn’t have slept with my sister. He knew better not to engage in that way with Emily.”

“He loves you. It was only a mistake. A one time mistake.”

Dawn felt bad for Ava, it seemed, she was still in denial, just like how she denied the fact that her mate had been with someone else over her, for years...

“You were destined mate for a reason, it’s a sacred bond between two shifters, something that you must cherish. A mistake shouldn’t ruin it.”

Dawn was not angry when she heard that. She pitied her instead. “Is that what you said to yourself when you learned that beta Jason slept with Julia?”

Ava’s eyes dilated, she didn’t like to hear that, because it shattered whatever excuse that she built for herself in order to protect herself from the reality.

“You need to see clearly Ava.” Dawn then quoted what she said in the past. “Both of them were the same, like father like son.”

Ava staggered back, she looked angry, she opened her mouth, as if she was going to lash out to Dawn, but there was no word that came out of her mouth.

“That’s not true.”

That was the only that she could utter.

"I think of you as my daughter, Dawn. I always like for you to be Blake's mate and have your future together. I like you more than I like Emily. I want Blake to be with you. I don't want Blake to be with Emily. She is a vicious bitch."

If this was different situation, Dawn would listen to her grumbling, she could imagine how life was like when Blake was with Emily and Ava had to face that woman.

After all, that was their punishment, living with each other was the best punishment for those two nasty people.

But, this was not the right time to laugh about that.

"She took away my Arren, my grandson. She kept my grandson away from me and now, I can't see my grandson."

Dawn's eyes flickered. "Ava. Do you want to see your grandson?"

"That bitch took away my grandson!" Ava screamed at Dawn, her eyes looked crazy. "He is the only joy in my life and that bitch took him away from me!"

Dawn looked at Ava closely. "Ava, why don't we go and get your grandson? I know where Emily took your grandson."

Dawn was not sure that she would buy this, but she needed to try, right?

For a moment, Ava didn't reply to her, she only stared at her, which made Dawn nervous, but when she thought her persuasion failed, Ava agreed.

"You don't lie to me, right?"

"Why would I? You are like a second mother to me. Remember when I was little and you would be there for me and cooked something nice? You are the second mother for me, Ava. I felt hurt for what you have gone through. I have gone through the same thing too."

Ava took her time and then walked over to Dawn.

She had the key.

Dawn didn't even want to think where she got the key from, all she could see was her freedom and once Ava released her.

She contemplated what she was going to do with her. Dawn's option was to knock her down, but she didn't have a heart to do that.

"Come, Ava. Let's go!"

Dawn knew to avoid the monsters, because she knew where the asturi stem's scent was stronger, since her father followed the instruction from Zander about where he needed to put it. Obviously, Zander got the suggestion from Dawn, since she knew this place like the back of her hand, thus she avoided the areas.

Not so long after Dawn left, Blake arrived and was furious to know that his mother had released Dawn. He still could smell her scent that lingered in this room.

"Damn it!" He was seething. "I am going to kill her!"

It was not easy to take Dawn back to this house, but his mother had freed her without any scrupulous. That fucking woman had ruined his plan.

Without a second thought, he followed their scent and found the two of them in Lyra's study room.

Chapter 214: THE CRITICAL SITUATION (6)

"I believe if I were a shifter, you will be my destined mate," king Rowan said, as he swung his huge swords to kill the monsters that blocked their way, while Zaya protected them.

What a romantic word to say in such gruesome situation. Zaya didn't respond to that, but he didn't stop.

"What do you think about that, princess?" king Rowan nudged her head with his chin, which annoyed him.

"If anything, I think the purpose of your existence is only to annoy me." Zaya didn't have time with this, she was busy to ward off the monsters from killing them, but this king seemed to have a free time in his hand to tease her. What a weird man...

"That will be my honor."

"That's not a compliment."

"That sounds like one."

Zaya couldn't believe she had this conversation in the midst of the battle, but she ignored him and thankfully, he was wise enough to stop teasing her and focus on looking for Zenith.

"Over there! We need to go over there!" Zaya said, she could feel the strong magic came from the other part of the pack house.

This magic was strong enough, which made her shivering. What they were doing to her brother?

“Addie, grabbed that magic user!” Rowan knew what Zaya was going to do and it would give them more chance to have an upper hand if they had more magic user on their side.

“What? The royal beta?!” Addie was struggling to fight the monsters, he almost killed one of the warriors because of that and murmured ‘sorry’ to him.

“Yes, him!”

“Ugh!” Addie immediately went to grab Pyro and put him on his back. The people from Marca El might not be a shifter, but their strength could match one, as it was so easy to pick Pyro up and put him on his horse. “Can you do the same thing like she did?!” he asked Pyro, indicating for him to create the shield to protect him like Zaya did to Rowan.

And then the shield was created around them, which let him the knight to relax a bit.

“What a convenient... I should have one like you,” Addie commented, while Pyro scowled, he was not a thing that he could get one.

Meanwhile, in the palace, thing didn’t seem to look well, even after they managed to capture Archie. The magic user couldn’t use his magic because Zander had cut off his hands and his legs.

Celine was almost throwing up to see his condition, but Hecate didn’t seem to bother, he looked interested even, as if he was fascinated to see a man without arms and legs.

“Keep him alive, Hecate,” Zander said, he handed over Zade to Yara and Celine, telling the healer to check on the baby, but Zade struggled against Yara’s arms, he kept stretching his little arms toward Zander.

“Dada... dada...”

“I am not your dada, baby boy.” Zander kissed his cheek and put on his golden mask again. “Stay in the next room,” he said.

He wanted the baby to close to him, but he didn’t want him to witness this cruelty.

“He is alive. Do you want me to carve out his heart and see if I can still make him alive?” Hecate asked, his face was innocent and he looked at Zander as if this was a normal question.

Zander didn't know how Dawn could find someone like him, but he liked this man and his cruel traits.

"No, there is something I need to ask of him." Zander walked closer and then waved his hand. "You can leave now, Hecate."

Hecate looked a little bit disappointed, but before he could leave the room, Zander told him about his medicine room.

"Damn it!" Hecate cursed and then rushed away to see the damage that the king had done to his nest, which made Zander laughed.

"Now, it's only you and me, you better answer my question and I will give you a quick and painless death."

"Do you really think you can get anything from me? You must be dreaming," Archie spat and chuckled maniacally. "Go on, you already tortured me, do you think you can carve out the answer from me?"

Zander tilted his head and stabbed his shoulder with the quill in his hand. "You really test my patient."

Meanwhile, out there, the sky had turned red, as if it was on fire and Archie was the first person, who noticed that, he started to laugh hysterically, as if he just saw something that completely funny.

But, because Zander had his back against the window, he didn't understand what this moron was laughing about.

"What is it?" He narrowed his eyes.

"Turn around, you idiot!" Archie kept laughing. "Turn around and you can see that it's started!"

He looked crazy, he sounded crazy, but when Zander turned around to see what make this man became like that, he knew that it was something horrendous.

There were flames in the sky, the clouds were very thick, but behind it, as if there was fire. It almost like the sky before the sun set, but the color of red was true flames.

"What is going on..." Zander breathed nervously, he stood up and approached the window, ignoring the crazy laugh from Archie. "Zenith?" he narrowed his eyes.

Did they get Zenith? He was not sure what was going on right now.

One of the warriors entered the room and reported to them that Andel kingdom managed to subdue Holy kingdom, the latter surrendered.

That was a great news, but then they had more problem here.

“Write a letter and tell lady Abby about what happened here,” Zander said.

“Yes, my king.”

Abby was the princess from Andel Kingdom and had a long story with his parents, thus he had been in contact with her for this attack and she was very cooperated to take down the Holy Kingdom, especially when she learned they tried with black magic again.

Chapter 215: THE CRITICAL SITUATION (7)

Blake managed to track down Dawn and his mother's scents that led him to Lyra's study room, the place that held so much memories for both of them, because they used to be here.

Blake would come to find Dawn with Lyra after his training when they were teenager, because Dawn was so close to Lyra and learn a lot of things about medicine and apparently, poison as well, from her.

“Dawn, do you remember this place?”

“Oh, please stop with that. You look so pathetic when you reminisced the past.” Dawn knew what Blake wanted to say and she felt throwing up if he kept talking about the memories that they shared together.

Blake's face turned red, he was embarrassed with Dawn's respond. Good. At the very least, he was not as shameless as Dawn thought he was.

“Mother, take her to me,” Blake ordered Ava, he shifted his attention toward his mother, who was standing next to Dawn. “Take her to me and we can go together now.”

Ava frowned. “She said she will take me to my grandson.”

“I will give you a grandson, we will give you another grandson.”

Dawn gave him a disgusted look, because she would rather die than to give birth to his evil spawn of a child.

“No.” Ava shook her head. “I want Arren. I don't want another grandson.” Ava stomped her feet, she looked very angry, as if she was ready to fight her own son, which was great for Dawn, because she took her side.

“Shut up!” Blake finally lost it. “Take her to me! Now!”

Ava was startled because Blake snapped at her, but she didn’t budge, she didn’t want to take Dawn to him, because Dawn promised her to take her to see her grandson.

She missed Arren so bad. Emily was a vindictive bitch, who took her grandson away from her, she was going to kill her once she saw her.

Emily was like her mother, Ava regretted that she didn’t do more to humiliate Julia when she saw her pleasuring her mate.

“Are you really going to make things difficult, mother?” Blake gritted his teeth. He marched toward Ava and Dawn, he would knock her off if that was what needed. “Get away from her. I am going to have my mate back.”

Ava growled at him. “You are no son of mine! You are the same like your father!” she roared angrily. “You hurt Arren! You screamed at Arren and you wanted to kill him!”

However, Ava did something that none of them would expect, she shifted into her beast and attacked her own son!

Dawn was dumbfounded because she knew how much Ava loved Blake, he was always her precious son. She babied him so much to the point she was still trying to make Dawn stayed even after she knew that Blake had betrayed her with Emily.

Ava in Dawn’s mind was a mother, who would turn the world upside down just to protect her son, to make him happy, but right now, she was going to attack him.

Blake was caught out of guard as well, as he watched this reddish color beast charged toward him with the intention of killing him.

Never in million years that he saw the killing intent in his mother’s eyes that directed to him. His mother was always gentle and kind, that was why he kept her alive, even though he didn’t have any scrupulous when he killed his father.

He didn’t have any feeling of remorse when his father’s body fell to the ground and he died before his eyes.

However, to see his mother... it was a whole different thing.

“Mother...” Blake was startled, but he regained his composure quick enough to shift into his beast and dodge his mother’s attack.

Ava was not a warrior, she had never gone through training or something like that, but right now, she was controlled by her rage, her disappointment toward her son and also her instinct to protect her grandson.

In her mind, if Blake managed to take Dawn away, there was no way for her to be able to see Arren again, because it was very clear since the beginning that Blake didn't want the little boy and Emily was not a good mother either to him.

Blake growled and roared, warned his mother to back down, because he didn't want to hurt her, but Ava didn't budge, she used her beast's instinct to attack her own precious son in order to protect Dawn, so she could have a chance to meet with Arren again.

Dawn finally snapped out of it and shifted into her beast as well, she stood next to Ava, ready to take down Blake in order to survive this.

Their chance was... not really promising, since Blake one of the best warriors in the pack.

Ava and Dawn fought Blake to the best of their ability, but Blake managed to tackle them down easily the moment he got serious with this fight and he didn't even hold back when he clawed his own mother.

However, Dawn had this one advantage. She came to Lyra's study room for a reason, because she knew that she would get what she wanted here.

She wouldn't be able to fight Blake off in her beast's form, since Blake was obviously stronger than her and Ava, but he wouldn't be immune to poison. This was her strong trait.

Dawn then shifted into her human form after Blake actually slammed her body to the wall and she felt like he had broken her spine. What a lovely thing to do from someone, who claimed that he loved her so much.

Once Ava shifted back into her human form, Blake shifted back too. His eyes fixed on Dawn, he came closer toward her.

"It's over Dawn," Blake said.

However, Ava threw herself toward her son. "Don't touch her!"

Blake had enough, he slit his mother's throat. Blood spurted out and splashed on Dawn's face.

Chapter 216: THE CRITICAL SITUATION (8)

Dawn had a small bottle of poison in her hand that she was ready to throw it to Blake's face the moment he was getting close to her.

She needed him to get as close as possible with her, because she only had one chance and she couldn't screw it up.

However, Ava jumped between her and Blake in order to save Dawn from her evil son, but Blake had enough and finally saw his mother as nothing, but a nuisance.

He saw his mother in the eyes when he slit her throat and her blood splashed his face. There was nothing in his eyes, there was no sadness, remorse, or even guilt. He looked... indifferent.

"I told you not to interfere and live your life quietly, but you didn't listen..." Blake said coldly, he watched Ava's body fell to the floor and stepped on her, as he continued to walk toward Dawn.

Meanwhile, Dawn was petrified. She didn't see this coming at all. She saw Ava was choked on her own blood, as her eyes stared at Dawn, she didn't know what she wanted to say, but her mouth formed a name.

Arren.

The poor woman only wanted to see her grandchild. She was worried about her grandson and now, she was not going to see him ever again.

Ava was still alive, she was still struggling, but there was no chance for her to survive in this rate with how much she was losing blood, more so, the wound was too deep and her healing ability couldn't catch up with it in time.

Dawn was mortified, she watched how life slowly left Ava's body, while she kept saying one name only. Arren.

"H- how could you do that to your own mother?" Dawn lifted her eyes and met with Blake's, he was already crouching down in front of Dawn, he didn't even give a single glance when his mother breathed her last. "How could you do that to her?"

"I have warned her not to stand on my way..." Blake replied, his voice and expression were devoid from any emotions, as if he blamed Ava for her own demise. "Now, let's go. We need to go now before the real chaos happened here."

Dawn was still shocked, she was hyperventilating. This was not the first time she saw someone died, or even was killed, but Ava... she didn't do anything wrong. Compared to what her father and the other had done to her, Ava was an angel.

“How could you kill her? She is your own mother. She only wanted to see her own grandson...” Dawn didn’t know why she was rambling like this, but she couldn’t bring herself to look Blake in the eyes.

“It’s okay, Dawn. We will give her the grandson that she wanted.”

That was the nastiest words that Dawn kept hearing, coming from his stupid mouth and this snapped her from whatever shock or grievances that she was in. Her grip on the bottle that she was holding, tightened. She gritted her teeth, when she endured his touch, as he helped her to stand up.

She lifted her head and finally met him in the eyes and this made Blake happy, because he thought Dawn finally deigned to see him again.

But, Dawn unscrewed the small bottle and then then splashed the liquid inside to Blake’s face. Her eyes were ablaze with rage, as he watched him blinked a few times.

“What is it? Are you trying to pour water on me?” Blake raised his brows, curious why Dawn splashed him with water.

But, his question was soon answered when he felt the itchiness on his face, as if his skin was being burned and melted.

“What the fuck, Dawn?!”

At first, he didn’t feel it, but soon, the feeling of being burned started to creep from the area where his face was being splashed by the liquid. The burning sensation was getting worse and when he tried to wipe it off, he could see blood on his palm, as his skin peeled off.

“Fuck you, Dawn!”

Blake hollered, he was trying to get to Dawn, but she already dodged him and grabbed a knife from the table, she stabbed his shoulder and pulled the knife mercilessly, which only exacerbated the wound. Blood oozed out.

Meanwhile, Dawn looked at him with pure disgust.

“Go to hell, Blake.”

This time, Dawn slashed his fingers, as he tried to reach to her. Three of his fingers fell to the floor, its skin had been peeled off and the sight of it was simply nauseating, but Dawn managed to watch it.

She saw how Blake was struggling to speak, because the liquid must have entered his mouth and it melted his inner mouth and tongue.

Dawn raised her knife again and stabbed his eyes. "That's for threatening my son." She then stabbed his head. "That's for putting my son and my mate in danger." She stabbed the side of his head until he fell to his knees, but pretty much alive. "That's for coming after me." This time, Dawn stabbed his throat and let the knife stuck there. "And that for being an ungrateful son and killed your own mother."

Blake was still fighting, he was struggling, his good eye fixed on Dawn, it was hard to discern how he felt about it, but Dawn couldn't care less about that little detail.

She felt a little bit of sadness when she watched how Blake was struggling in his last breath. He couldn't blame anyone, but himself because he was the one, who was willingly succumbed into his insanity after the rejection.

He should have carried on with his life with Emily and their son, with that he wouldn't need to have a tragic end like this.

After all, once upon a time, Blake was a sweet boy, he was the only friend that Dawn had.

Once upon a time, he was her sweet destined mate, who would go extra length for her.

Chapter 217: THE CRITICAL CONDITION (9)

Dawn stared at Blake's dead body for a little while, she then walked toward Ava's and then looked for something to cover her body.

She knelt down and brushed off her hair. "I will take care of your grandson, Ava. Thank you."

After that, Dawn shifted into her brown beast and left the room. She was in hurry to get out of this place, because she needed to find Zenith.

Right now, he was the one, who was in a great danger.

But, it was hard when a lot of monsters swarmed the pack house and it became even more harder for Dawn to get through them, because they were literally everywhere.

Thankfully, she saw the knights and warriors fought their way inside the pack house and to see them here brought some sense of relief, because Dawn thought Zenith would be around.

[Where is Zenith?] Dawn mindlinked one of the warriors when she was close enough.

Realizing that their luna was there, all of them immediately created a barrier around her to protect her from the monsters.

James, one of the warriors explained to her about what happened and how they lost the alpha because he chased after Blake when he provoked him with her hair.

Dawn should have noticed this.

[Where did he go?!]

James was not sure, but he said that princess Zaya and king Rowan, also some of the knight and the royal beta had chased after them and pointed at the direction that they left.

[I am not sure, luna, but I think they went to that direction.]

Without a second thought, Dawn went toward that direction with a few warriors, but when they were in the open area and saw the sky, all of them stopped for a moment and was dumbstruck.

What the hell?!

The sky was so red, as if there were flames behind the clouds, as if there was actually fire in the sky. The sky was on fire.

Dawn staggered back, she whimpered in her wolf form when a rush of memories intruded her mind and she was barely able to steady herself because of the impact.

At that time, two monsters came toward her and attacked her. Thankfully, the warriors around her immediately took the protection stand and the rest killed them.

Meanwhile, Dawn was still reeling in the new memories that she got. She subconsciously shifted back into her human form and knelt down, tears streamed down her cheeks, but she couldn't utter a single word, her heart ached so bad, as she tried to comprehend this new information.

"Luna, are you, okay?" James approached Dawn, he had shifted back into his human form as well. "Let's get you out of here. This situation doesn't look good."

"No." Dawn shook her head, it was so hard for her to speak right now, but she was adamant to continue. "We need to find Zenith."

Dawn closed her eyes and composed herself before she shifted back into her beast form and immediately rushed away to look for Zenith.

The warrior was a better hunter than her, thus they managed to catch Zaya and king Rowan's scent, which led them to where Zenith was.

Above them the sky looked like it was burned, but this sight was not only happening in the Ogregon continent, but all of the other continents could see it too.

They were scared, many people hid inside their houses and prayed whatever was going on right now, it would end in a good note.

And for Zander, he had been trying to figure out what he should do. Archie was in his control, but this man was not much of a help.

Hecate had tried to make him spoke, but he was not as good as Dawn in a matter of poison.

"You are all going to die. You are all going to lose your demonic wolf spirit. This world shouldn't have any shifters. Your kind is the epitome of evil."

Zander glowered at him and when he thought there was nothing he could get from Archie anymore, he allowed Hecate to do whatever with him.

"He is yours," Zander said to Hecate. Whose eyes lit up with excitement.

"I can do whatever?"

"You can do whatever."

Hecate then hummed, as he dragged Archie by his hair.

What he was going to do to Archie was the least of Zander's concern right now, because he was wondering what was going to happen now.

And this was even more frustrating when there was nothing he could do. From the next room, he could hear Zade was crying, the baby was not usually cranky like this and he immediately went to look for him.

Celine and Yara looked trouble, they didn't know what to do with the baby, because Zade was very restless.

"What happened, sweet boy?" Zander asked, picked Zade up and carried him in his arms, as he kept crying and buried his face against the crook of his neck.

His little hand pointed at the window, where he could see the red sky.

"Are you afraid?"

Zander then told them to close all the window and instructed them all to go to the safe place, just in case something even worser than this happened.

And that was all he could do right now, while waiting for the reply from the Andelus Kingdom, which he was not certain he would get any reply soon.

The last report that he got was about them managed to secure the Holy Kingdom. Right now, there was no more Holy Kingdom.

But then, if whatever shit that dragon sect was doing succeeded, they didn't need Holy Kingdom, they would build a new kingdom in this continent, which was suck.

At the same time, Zaya managed to locate where Zenith was and what she was seeing was something that she couldn't believe was happening.

Zenith was being forced to shift into his beast's form, but there was something ominous about his black beast and she couldn't say what.

Chapter 218: THE CRITICAL SITUATION (10)

There were eleven. Twelve people including Jared, who surrounded Zenith, they were using their black magic on him, trying to extract the black magic that came from the alpha.

The unique black magic that Zenith carried was the purest form of black magic that Jared had been looking for.

Something this strong would allow him to eradicate all the shifters, it would kill all of their wolf spirit, which left them with nothing, but hollow.

For a shifter, who lost their wolf spirit, it was akin to lose yourself and one could die because of it. In short, not only Jared tried to exterminate the whole shifter, but in a long run, he was going to kill them all.

"No... we need to stop that," Zaya said, she gritted her teeth and tried to get closer to their barrier, but even before she got too close, she was suffocated, as if all air inside her lungs was being sucked out of her body.

Pyro caught her hand and pulled her back.

"We can't. We can't get too close to them," Pyro said, the two of them wouldn't be able to fight against twelve strong black magic users.

This was a suck situation.

“There must be something that we can do, right?” Zaya stared at her hand, her palms were burned when she tried to break the protection shield.

Rowan tore his clothes and then wrapped it around her scalded hands. “Do you have any idea? I am not familiar with this magic thing.”

No. Zaya didn’t. She looked around her and the flames sky, she felt this ominous feeling, but of course, they couldn’t just stand there and watch how they tortured Zenith and do whatever they wanted with her big brother.

“Zaya!” Dawn called her the moment she saw her. She approached them and watched what Jared was doing to Zenith.

“Dawn, are you, okay?”

“I am fine.”

Zaya immediately filled her in about what happened and from what she told Dawn, the latter realized that she didn’t get the last piece of information from their previous life.

“There is a way, Zaya,” Dawn said, she was hesitated, but Zaya prodded her.

“This is not the time to hesitate, Dawn. Tell me what you have seen. How did you stop this madness in the previous life?”

Dawn pressed her lips, it was so hard to say it, but from the look in her eyes, Zaya knew almost immediately, as if she could read her well.

“It has something to do with me, right?” Zaya narrowed her eyes. “You don’t want to tell me because this will put me in danger?”

Dawn didn’t need to answer that, because her silent was already an answer for Zaya.

“What should I do? What should I do to stop this?” Zaya became even more frustrated because Dawn didn’t want to speak. “Damn it, Dawn! Speak now. Are you going to watch your mate being mauled like that?!”

With no other choice, Dawn started to tell her what she could do to stop this madness.

“Zenith was born with black magic, even though he is not a magic user, but you are a magic user, Zaya.” Dawn kept glancing toward Zenith’s direction, as she felt like her heart was gripped so tightly.

“Yes, but it’s not possible for me to fight twelve black magic users, Dawn. I would have done that, if I could.”

Dawn shook her head. “They tried to extract the black magic from Zenith, but what you had done was different.”

Zaya narrowed her eyes. “What had I done?” She understood that Dawn was telling her about the first life.

“You absorbed it.”

“You want me to absorb the black magic?” Zaya widened her eyes. “I absorbed it?” She shook her head. “It’s not possible, Dawn, no magic user could absorb black magic.”

They could extract it and claim it as theirs when it came to black magic, but absorbing the black magic straight off the source, was not something that a magic user was capable of doing it.

“A strong magic user happened to have done this in the past and I am sure you must know who magic user that I am talking about.”

Zaya didn’t need to think twice before she blurted out. “My mother.”

“Yes.” Dawn grabbed Zaya’s hand.

She explained how they carried a piece of their mother and because they were conceived in different situation, the power that they held were obviously different.

“How can I do that?” Zaya looked at her brother that was still fighting back. “I don’t know how.”

The wind was getting harsh and the heat from it made their skin was burning. Sweat trickled down from their forehead, as the temperature rose up.

They needed to leave this area quickly, or else, they were going to be burned into ashes.

“I don’t know, Zaya. That’s not something that I remembered.” Dawn shook her head. “I think that’s something that you need to remember on your own.”

Zaya felt defeated and from the look of it, she could see that Jared managed to extract some of the black magic out of Zenith’s body, it came as black wisp.

“How you saw me?” Zaya finally asked the crucial question. “How am I in your memory?”

Dawn didn't want to answer this, but then her answer came as a whisper, as she replied to her question. "Dying."

Zaya tried to laugh, as if it could ease the tension. "No wonder you are being very reluctant to tell me."

Dawn gritted her teeth. She felt like crying. She wanted to save Zenith, but to ask for Zaya to sacrifice herself... she couldn't even bring herself to mention it.

Fortunately, Zaya was smart enough to catch up to that.

"Well," Zaya drawled. "Let's try."

Rowan stopped her when she was about to approach the shield again. "No," he said sternly.

But, before a whole argumentation could ensue, all of sudden all the shifter was forced back to shift into their human form.

Chapter 219: THE CRITICAL SITUATION (11)

By the time the shifters were forced back to shift into their human form, they had killed more than half of the monsters around the pack house.

Right now, the building had turned into ruined and shambles, because of countless fight that happened there.

And without the protection of their beast, they were in their vulnerable state, in which the knights had to step in, fighting the monster and protecting the shifters at the same time.

The look from the result of this battle was not good at all. They could lose this battle anytime, even more with the black magic users had the upper hand in this situation.

"Pyro, come with me," Dawn said, she grabbed Pyro's hand even before the royal beta could comprehend what was she was doing.

"Where are you going?" Pyro asked. He followed Dawn, rushing away from Zenith and the twelve black magic users.

Dawn didn't reply to his question and kept running in her human form, she felt the pain, as if her heart was being gripped so tight.

This was the feeling when your wolf spirit was restless, as if it could feel the predicament. The black magic users were going to kill all the wolf spirit and that was why all of the shifters felt this way.

At this point, they couldn't shift into their beast and was essentially defenseless.

Pyro was running beside Dawn, he created a shield for them from the monsters. This was one of the reasons why Dawn took Pyro with her, because she couldn't defend herself right now.

"Where are we going?!" Pyro asked again after they dodged the attack of one of the monsters.

"To the safe place," Dawn replied.

Ava told her that everyone in the pack house had been evacuated to the safe place, she needed to find Lyra and figure out something.

"Kill them all, Pyro," Dawn said when she saw four black magic users that approached them. They were not the best magic users among their fellows, therefore it was pretty easy for Pyro to kill them all.

Once they managed to kill the four black magic users, Dawn opened the door to the safe place and saw there were less than a hundred people there.

Her heart lurched, she was sure that those magic users had used some of the pack member as their sacrifice, or they simply didn't really care enough to gather all of them to stay here.

"Lyra!" Dawn called her name, as she went inside to look for her. "Lyra! Where are you!?"

The safe place was a large space under the ground. You have to walk down the stairs to reach its door, in this place there was food supply and all the things that you needed to survive for a few days.

"Dawn?" Lyra was sitting at the corner, she immediately stood up and then approached her. "What are you doing here? How can you be here?"

"I have no time to explain this, come. Come with me," Dawn said, she grabbed her hand and then guided them out of the place.

Lyra was shocked when she saw the sky was burning. It was so red.

"What happened?"

"I am not sure," Dawn said, she then explained to her about all the thing that she knew and why she looked for her.

Meanwhile, Pyro followed behind them, protecting them, since that was the only thing that he could do.

“I don’t think potion like that existed Dawn. I have never heard something like that.”

“I know.”

At this time, no, but in their first lifetime, it was actually Lyra, who managed to create that said potion.

This knowledge came to her along with the memory of how to save Zenith. Dawn still couldn’t see the end of it, but the last thing she saw was; Zaya was dying because she absorbed Zenith’s black magic.

The alpha might hate her now because she put his sister’s life in danger in order to save his, but... Dawn couldn’t think of something else.

It was not about Zaya’s life only, but the rest of the shifter’s world as well.

If those black magic users managed to get him and succeed with their attempt, it would be the end for the shifters. All of them would lose their wolf spirit and shifter would only be a history.

That was not how Dawn wanted this battle to end.

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“My king, I am not sure what this, but...” Yara approached Zander, as he pulled down Zade’s pants and showed him a mark on his thigh.

Zade had been crying ever since he was saved from Archie, they thought he was crying because he wanted his mother, but then Yara noticed the little one kept patting his thigh and when she checked it, she saw this black mark, like a small tattoo on his skin.

Zander immediately inspected that and recognized that this was the mark that was left by the black magic users to the children for their sacrifice.

Apparently, Archie or Blake had managed to put the mark on baby Zade in their encounter earlier.

“Fuck.”

Zander was seeing red and Zade kept patting his thigh. They didn’t know what he felt, but it seemed, he was not comfortable with the mark.

“Dada...” Zade kept asking his father, as he cried in between.

Zander was at lost of what to do now.

And when his focus was on Zade, suddenly Yara knelt down and gasped, as if someone just knocked her. She clutched her chest and closed her eyes.

“What is it? What happened?”

Yara shook her head. “The beast... my wolf is very restless,” she said.

Zander couldn’t feel anything, because he didn’t have his wolf spirit, but when he looked around, all of the warriors had the same reaction like Yara. They were in pain and Zade cried even harder.

It was too much for his little body to endure the pain. He kept crying for Zenith and Dawn. His face turned red.

Chapter 220: THE CRITICAL SITUATION (12)

“This is not a good idea, Zaya.” Rowan didn’t let go of her wrist, as he tried to stop her from approaching the shield where the twelve black magic users had created.

The heat from the shield burned them. Rowan had already taken off his armor, because it was made of steel and he felt like he was being roasted, even the hilt of his sword was too hot for him to touch.

“Indeed.” Zaya nodded. She raised her hand and looked at Rowan’s hand that held her, she chuckled at him. “Maybe if we can survive this, you can ask my hand to my brother.”

“I have. He rejected and he said you like woman.”

Zaya rolled her eyes and then tiptoed to peck his lips. “Now, go.”

“A peck couldn’t make me leave you, princess.”

However, Zaya didn’t have time for that, she then created a shield around her, which forced Rowan to back off. He cursed under his breath and tried to break the shield, but he couldn’t. Zaya’s shield was too solid.

“Damn it, Zaya!”

Zaya tilted her head to see his attempt to break her shield, she smiled at him, which was not amusing for Rowan at all.

The hilt of his sword was so hot, he could feel the heat burned his palms, but he refused to let go and keep swinging it against the shield, so hard. Still, the shield didn't budge.

"You wanted to see my power, right?" Zaya said lightly. "Now, watch this."

Zaya looked like her happy go lucky self and when she turned around, her body was glowing. It was not a divine power that she had, but her power was actually unique enough for the Holy Kingdom people to want her to stay with them and nurtured her.

At that time, she despised them because she had to work so hard on her power, but right now, she was grateful because she had this power, though she was still holding a grudge toward those elders.

Zaya closed her eyes and there were flames around her feet that looked like tendrils, at first it was small, but then it grew like vines and then it expanded and looked like a huge wave of flames, which forced Rowan to step back.

And now, with the sky was on fire, the wave of flames from Zaya and the strong heat from the shield that was created by those black magic users, Rowan felt like all he could see was only fire.

As if the world would be burned down into ashes.

"We need to get out of here, my king!" Addie said quickly. He had never seen something like this before. he had gone through countless battle, but the battle against the magic users was completely in different level. "We shouldn't have involved ourselves in their matter..." he muttered under his breathe.

It would be an honor to die in a battlefield, but he didn't want to be roasted to die.

"We need to go!" Addie pulled Rowan's hand, but the king didn't budge. He kept his eyes fixed on the auburn hair woman, who was standing in the middle of the flames that she created and watched how strong her power was.

Zaya told him to watch and that was what he would do.

The flames engulfed the shield that was created by the black magic users, thus you could see how large their shield was, but at the same time, you also could see how strong Zaya's magic power was.

This was the reason those elders from the Holy Kingdom didn't want to let her go, because they saw a lot of potential in her.

She could be a role that would be able to lead the Holy Kingdom, knowing who was her mother, it was also an outstanding point for Zaya to have an influence in the Holy Kingdom.

However, she left the place the first chance she got, but even so, she was powerful enough right now.

Fire reflected in her blue eyes, as she figured out how to absorb Zenith's black magic, as they extracted it out of his body. She needed to do it quickly before Jared could claim it.

Yet, Zaya didn't have any idea of how to do it. She was at lost. That was the time when she felt someone hugged her from behind.

Guiding her of how to circulate her energy and the grasp the power from the black magic. The heat from the flames around her suddenly grew cold, she felt like the fire that she created turned into ice. She shuddered.

Out of instinct, she fought back this uncomfortable feeling, because this power was so foreign in her body, she didn't like the ominous feeling that surrounded her and when she opened her eyes, she realized what the cause of this coldness.

The black wisp that came from Zenith lingered around the fire that she created, essentially extinguished it.

From the look of it, the black wisp swallowed the fire from Zaya and eventually, it would swallow her as well. Put her in the darkness.

At this point, all of her instinct told her to fight back, though there was this soft, familiar voice that whispered to her to let it go, to give it in to the darkness.

It was so hard to fight your own instinct, but when Zaya closed her eyes again, she let it the black wisp to consume her.

"Mother..." she said softly and then stopped trying to fight back.

The last thing she saw Jared rushed toward her, as if he was going to do something, his face hardened with rage and so the other eleven black magic users, but their figures immediately blocked by the darkness that engulfed her.

Being in the darkness it felt like you were being plunged into a deep, dark, cold river during the winter night.

It was extremely cold and suffocating, as if thousand needles made holes on your skin.