

## **My Alpha's Betrayal: Burning In The Flames Of His Vengeance Chapter 128**

His words echoed ominously in the dark chambers, as his tail hit the back of my head.

This time I raised my hand, creating a shard of ice, and slammed it into his tail.

He let go, but it was only for a second before he was coming for me once more.

I sent several shards flying at him, but he deflected them with ease.

We were a blur of attacks, but he had size and strength on his side, while I had my elemental power and speed.

Speed that I felt was somehow being suppressed.

"No siren or wolf is welcome here." He spat.

"Your dead body will be an example for all! "You're wrong." I said coldly, as his tail wrapped around me.

This time I was ready.

Placing my hands on his scales, I let ice spread from my palms.

He instantly realised what I was doing and dropped me, his claws ripping into my back as he sent me flying into one of the stone pillars.

"Fuck." I growled, sliding to the ground as pain jarred through my back.

"You bitch!" He hissed as his tail thrashed around, but it was futile.

The ice that I had managed to wrap around a small portion of his body was unmoving and weighed him down.

Perfect.

I frowned, kneeling down and touching the ground, channelling my all into it and letting ice spread from my hands across the stone floor.

His eyes flashed as he roared, coming for me, but the moment he touched the ice, I let it ensnare him, unmoving as I focused on freezing his body.

"YOU WILL PAY!" "I'm afraid not." I whispered, feeling the strain as he fought against the ice.

Deep down within this cave, pulling on nature to help me was difficult, and I knew earth would do no good.

I was strongest when it came to ice.

I gasped when his hand narrowly missed me, clawing into my arm before the ice that now wrapped around the lower half of his body stopped him from coming any closer.

“You are starting a war, I will never forget this insult!” He hissed.

I stood up slowly, gripping my bleeding arm.

My entire body was aching.

“I do not wish to kill you, if I wanted, I could have killed your grandson.” I looked

at the Naga before me, he didn’t look much older than his grandson, but they aged slowly and could live up to five hundred years.

They were the species with the second longest life span, after the Fae.

His eyes narrowed and I tried to calm my heart, not wanting him to know the extent of how exhausted I was.

“Lies.”

“I am not lying.

Don’t you think we knew of the risk by letting them live? They would alert the entire kingdom, and we knew that, yet we didn’t want to kill unnecessarily.

“I’m sure your grandson must have told you who we are, and why we’re here?”

His eyes narrowed and he looked at me sharply.

“I was told nothing.” He spat.

I frowned, looking at him sharply.

“You didn’t know I was coming?” That didn’t seem believable.

“No, if you didn’t realise, this place is encased with powers and seals.

I am kept in here.

How would I know what is going on up there?" Confusion flitted through me as his words sank in.

"You are the emperor." "By name.

I haven't come across any life source for nearly a century.

My eldest son rules, whilst I suffer in isolation in this tomb, as they wait for my death."

"Your grandson said you don't meet anyone."

"Of course, how can I down here?" He hissed.

I took a step back, wondering if he was telling the truth or not...

"I don't believe you." He simply raised an eyebrow.

"You are just a child, but did you not feel the power in the air, the spells that are keeping me down here?" Hooked into his eyes.

No I hadn't, or was the heaviness in the air what he meant? Perhaps they were spells meant for a Naga...

There was no hint that he was lying...

"Then how are you alive, if you have been down here for so long?" I asked.

His lips curled into a malicious smile.

"I hold something that keeps me alive, even when those traitors send poisoned food, I will not die.

If a Naga kills me, they would be cursed for life, and none of my sons is ready to face that.

They are all cowards, but it's clear they knew you held the power to destroy me, and so they let you come here." So he acknowledged I was strong? I didn't have time for my smug thoughts as I pondered on his words.

"I was wondering why there was no security outside..."

They let me in...

wanting you dead...

or me.

Either way, it's a win for them..." "Indeed." I had to try...

"Then allow me to start over, your majesty." I said, bowing my head to Emperor Kshuryaron.

He tensed as I offered a small smile.

"I am Yileyna De'Lacor, from the Kingdom of Astalion, heir to the throne of the middle kingdom and the future Queen of the Aethirian Ocean.

The daughter of land and sea, and the heart of Kaeladia."

"The heart of Kaeladia..." His eyes seemed to deepen as they stared at me intensely.

"From the prophecy of old..." "Yes, and I wish to see a united world.

I have travelled your lands, seen and felt the lack of nourishment that the earth yearns for.

I have noticed the innocence of children playing, and witnessed the hatred in others.

Death after death, and hunger for power, are all everyone wants.

I have come here on a quest from the Imperial Emperor of the Seven Seas, Queseidon himself, for he wants the pearl that was taken from his trident." "He will never get it back! I need it!" He hissed.

"Is it the pearl that is granting you life and healing you?" He bristled, his eyes darkening.

"It may not do what it can in the trident, but it holds certain...

abilities..." "Do you know why I came for it?" I asked calmly.

I was feeling so exhausted...

"For power! Everyone wants power!" "For all species! We are all against one another, only caring for what we want for ourselves.

Emperor Queseidon said if the pearl is not bought back to him within two moons, then he will march the lands and start a war.

I am here trying to protect the people of the land." "Your people!"

"The people of Kaeladia! I tried to talk to your grandson, but it's clear they do not want peace.

I know that the werewolves and Naga are constantly at war.” “We are not... or a century ago we were not...” He said, his face darkening.

Oh? I know Hunter and Theon didn't think there was hope... but I wanted to believe there was.

“Then you need to return to the throne where you belong.”

“I am trapped here, little one.” “What if I can break you out?” He tilted his head, his eyes peering at me with such intensity that I could feel his power.

“Why?” “Because I want peace.” “As the prophecy proclaimed...” He hissed, more to himself than at me.

“I will make sure the land is given the water it needs...”

The rivers that have been barred will flow and this land will live.

Right now, I am in a position where I can kill you, and you know that.

You are the king this kingdom needs.” I said clearly, looking him square in the eye.

“But are you ready to make the first move?” He asked challengingly.

I knew it was a risk; I could free him, and he could kill me.

Or I could free him, and he could give me the pearl and accept my offer of peace.

There is nothing without risk.

“Of course I am, because I have faith in you.

I will free you first, then if the Emperor deems fit, you could lift me to the ceiling of this cave, and I will try to break through from there.” I stated without an ounce of hesitation in my voice.

“You will not succeed, I have tried for years and failed.”

“Until I have tried and succeeded, I will not stop.

If not, then I will leave this place and try from outside.”

He looked at me intently, before coming as close as he could with his lower half frozen in ice.

“And if after all of that, I don’t give you the pearl?” I smiled slightly.

“We are rulers, we make peace and treaties in the favour of our kingdoms, and in goodwill.

I have faith that the true ruler of Naran will not disappoint.”

“You are an interesting one.” He murmured.

“I just want the best for us all.” I knew if Hunter and Theon were here, they would not be happy with this decision, but I was an Alpha and Queen who needed to make my own decisions.

Bravely and risking it all, I stepped closer to him, knowing he could slice my head off if he wanted.

I stayed alert, placing my hand on his tale, I heard a low chuckle from him as the ice vanished, and instantly, he spun and grabbed me by the waist.

I was ready to encase my own body in ice if I needed to, but all he did was rise to the ceiling of the cave.

1 “I do not know if you are foolish or wise.” He hissed.

“I may be both, but I can see a true king when I see one.” I wasn’t sure if he was the most trustworthy, but deep down I felt he was better than those who I had previously seen.

1 He could have killed me by now, and I hoped my compliments at least won me some favour.

I took a deep breath, letting a layer of ice cover my body for protection as I placed my hands on the roof of the dome.

I closed my eyes, hoping I could do this and not black out...

Please let this act of kindness be the peace offering he needs.

“You were right...”

There is something in the walls of this place, but I think I can break through.”

“You were able to come in when none of my loyal servants were able to.” “The path was tight...”

maybe that's how." "Or you are immune to the magic that is weighing me down."  
Maybe...

especially if this was made to keep him in...

I frowned in concentration, but it didn't budge.

I frowned trying again, but once again I felt like I was hitting a barrier.

I moved back and frowned.

"So you can't do it." "Maybe not from in here, but I might be able to from outside." I said, looking at the narrow entrance I had crawled in to get here.

He nodded slowly, placing me down, watching me sharply before he smirked coldly.

"Then I guess I will await my freedom." He stated, placing me down.

I looked up at him and nodded.

From the slight glimmer in his eyes, I had a feeling he didn't think I would return.

"Here is the pearl you seek, perhaps one kingdom can walk free."

My heart skipped a beat when he removed the black chain that hung around his neck, with a small velvet pouch at the end.

"Thank you." I said, accepting it.

I felt a wave of coolness wash through me as the power of the pearl hummed in my grasp.

My eyes blazed brightly, and I slipped it on over my neck, sliding it into my cloak before I turned, rushing to the small entrance.

He didn't think I'd return or help him, but I planned to.

I don't know how, but I will break this barrier and free him, so help me.

1 It took a while to make my way back out of that tight tunnel, but soon the scurrying of rats and the movement of the spiders became prominent, and I knew I was close to the surface.

I reached the entrance to the cave and stepped out into the night, my heart skipping a beat, spotting Theon still fighting the Naga.

He was still holding up relentlessly, blood dripping down his torso as the flame like amber aura of his powers wrapped around him.

He attacked ceaselessly.

I wanted to help him, but something told me if I got the Emperor out I would have a better chance at helping hi manyway.

There were far too many...

and they were all currently being occupied by Theon.

Keeping my hood up and crouching low, I climbed up the side of the cave, breaking into a run.

I had no idea where the centre was but...

I had to roughly try to pinpoint the location.

I hurried along, stopping when I noticed the ground ahead was dead of any life.

Here.

It had to be here! I crouched down and placed my hands on the ground, closing my eyes.

I can do this...

I have to do this.

Frowning in concentration, I used all my power, pushing it into the ground.

It shook violently, and for a moment I feared it caving in on Kshuryaron, but it held.

I heard the sound of someone approaching and the hissing of the Nagas shouting in snaketongue, but they wouldn't be able to get close.

My power was surging, my cloak and hair floating around me violently, fuelling every emotion I

had into the ground.

Without anything weighing down on me as it did within the cave, I felt stronger.

My powers slammed into something, and then I felt something push against me.



The entire ground erupted beneath me, sending dirt and stone in every direction as a blinding green light erupted from the earth, a tidal wave ricocheted across the ground, knocking me back.

I tried to grab onto the earth, but it was futile as the sheer force of the power rolled out in waves.

“Got you.” I heard a low growl as a strong pair of arms wrapped around me.

Theon.

I closed my eyes, inhaling his scent that was tainted with the smell of blood.

It still calmed me, and for a moment I let it, before I looked at the violent storm in the middle.

“I need to get back there.” “What are you doing?” He asked.

I looked into his eyes, seeing the blood that dripped from his hairline.

“The right thing.” I whispered before I pulled free from his hold, and taking a deep breath, I walked into the violent wind.

It didn’t affect me at all.

Closing my eyes, I knelt down ready to try this again.

“I’m going to do this...” “Yileyna!” I turned as Theon reached my side, the wind cutting into his skin as he knelt beside me.

“Theon! It’s dangerous in here!” “I don’t care, let’s do this together.” I looked at him and gave a small nod.

He was right, we were stronger together.

“Let’s try.” I whispered.

“We need to break the barrier upon this cave...” “Understood, let’s do this with fire and ice.” He said in a husky whisper.

Fire and Ice.

1

That was exactly what we were...

I was unable to stop the small smile that graced my lips, or the flutter that settled into my stomach.

He didn't question me, he didn't ask me anything, he simply decided to help me...

"On three." I murmured.

"One...two...three!" With those words, we both gave it our all... Our eyes blazed as an immense amount of power wrapped around us, merging together rather than repelling one another, becoming far stronger.

Fire and Ice moulding together as if they were always meant to be.

6

Combined as one.

## **My Alpha's Betrayal: Burning In The Flames Of His Vengeance Chapter 129**

My Alpha's Betrayal: Burning In The Flames Of His Vengeance Chapter 129 Upon Dying Lands YILEYNA. Another powerful green wave of energy erupted from the earth, and the sound of something cracking filled the air.

"Stop!" I heard a distant roar of rage.

The sound of cracking became almost deafening, and I knew we had succeeded.

"We did it." I murmured in relief as I felt a surge of energy from below.

Then the Naga Emperor rose from within the ground, his power swirled around him as debris flew in all directions.

Theon tensed, his hand going to his sword, but I placed my hand on top of his as I stood up slowly.

"I did not expect this from you, since I had given you what you were seeking." Emperor Kshuryaron said in his deep, sinister voice, as his attention flickered to someone far behind us.

"Your majesty..." Someone murmured.

The emperor said something in snake tongue and I turned to see the Naga bow down to him.

“Queen Yileyna of Astalion...

your hand.” Theon frowned as I held out my hand to the Emperor.

He raised it to his mouth, but where I was expecting him to kiss it, he sank his fangs into my finger, making Theon growl as he jumped forward, but I grabbed hold of him.

Save the sharp sting it didn't hurt, and something told me it wasn't poisoned.

I looked at my small finger, that now bore the two pinpricks of blood, watching as black symbols spread from the blood, and then I was healed.

The Emperor took hold of my wrist, raising my hand.

1 “She bears the mark of the Emperor, an insignia of one from Naran...

From this day forth, she will pass freely within our empire.” His voice was loud, powerful, and commanding.

I wasn't the only one who looked shocked, as I saw Hunter coming into view.

He was shirtless, only in a pair of pants.

His bloody sword was in his hand, as he assessed the situation quickly.

1 “I do ask for forgiveness, but I may have killed one of your sons in self-defence.” He said quietly.

The Emperor simply smiled coldly.

“Death awaited them anyway.

You may leave Naran, and from this day forth, we will stay on our side of the borders.” Hunter looked surprised, as both he and Theon watched me intensely.

“And the Naga may hunt for food on the border, we will work towards a better future.” I added.

“By freeing me, you have already done your part, Queen of the Middle Kingdom.

Naran will always be behind you.” I bowed my head to Kshuryaron, who to my surprise bowed his back.

“Thank you, your majesty.

We will head out, however, I will be in touch.

Break the dams upon your rivers, and I will make sure the sirens do not attack.

You have my word, just give me a little time.”

“Very well, I do not understand your kindness, but a Naga never forgets a foe or friend.”

“Yeah trust me, I know.” Hunter muttered.

I smiled and thanked Emperor Kshuryaron, before I turned towards the two Alphas who were watching me with almost matching unreadable expressions.

I paused and looked back at the king.

“There is one more thing I need to do before I go.”

“What is it, you have the pearl?” The Emperor’s reply came, but I didn’t look at him, instead, I took a deep breath and closed my eyes...

A few moments later, the night skies were thick with clouds, as a heavy shower of rain poured down upon the dying lands of Naran...

I could feel it, the life that stirred from within the parched earth as I did my best to spread the rain as far as I could...

My vision darkened and I felt my legs give way, a strong pair of arms caught me, and I smiled softly, knowing I was safe in the arms of my love...

1 When I awoke, we were no longer in Naran, I could hear the men talking and I could feel the warmth of a fire crackling nearby.

east from here.” “I don’t know, there was meant to be a mark left for us but there’s nothing.” That was Hunter.

“Do you think they were ambushed?” Theon’s voice was closer, and his scent filled my nose.

“I hope not. They can’t be... If Charlene was in pain, I would have felt it.” Hunter’s voice was strained.

I forced my eyelids open and stared at the star-studded sky.

It was night and the weather was cool.

Where were we? “Yileyna.” Theon’s voice was filled with relief.

Before I could even reply, his face came into view, as he cupped my chin and caressed my cheek.

"You're fucking awake. You pushed yourself too fucking far." He growled, reaching for something behind him, before he was holding a water bottle to my lips as he lifted my head up.

"Yeah, Theon's been fucking stressed. I had to practically drag you from his clutches half the fucking time so he could get a break." Hunter growled as he came over, looking down at me like I was something intriguing.

"How-" I croaked before I wrapped my hand over Theon's and gulped some water down.

Allowing him to help me sit up, his fingers grazed the side of my breast, making my heart flutter as I leaned against his arm.

"How long have I been out?" "Four days." Hunter replied, frowning slightly.

"You made it rain for two days straight. Although the Emperor was grateful and made sure we got out of Naran safely, the rain was pretty wild." Theon explained, his eyes meeting mine.

"A bit of an understatement, but it works." Hunter added with a smirk.

Something the emperor said came to my mind, and I looked down, gripping onto the chain of the pearl.

He said it kept him alive despite everything.

What if Theon wore it and it somewhat healed him? "Wear this." I said, ignoring them both.

"Is she alright? Maybe she hit her head." Hunter murmured as I took the pearl off and forced it over Theon's lush copper head.

His hair had grown, he had a stubble, and goddess... did the rugged look suit him.

"She's fine, typical behaviour from this blonde beauty." Theon responded, smirking slightly as he allowed me to adjust the chain.

Blonde beauty.

My cheeks flushed as Hunter smirked.

"Ah, want me to give you two some privacy?" He mocked.

o "How about you do just that without asking." Theon raised an eyebrow pointedly.

Hunter chuckled and walked off, leaving us both alone.

The sexual tension between us suddenly settled around us, and I wasn't sure what to do with myself.

His fingers were still pressing against the side of my breast, my heart was still thumping, and my core was throbbing.

"You are the craziest woman I have ever come across, but it only makes you way more fucking incredible." He said quietly, his gaze flicking down to my lips for a second.

"I didn't think I'd ever see the day we'd walk out of Naran without any issues." He added with a small sexy smirk that made my heart pound.

"Well, the world is full of surprises.

"What were you and Hunter talking about?" I croaked out. He frowned.

"We were meant to meet the others, but so far they've left none of the markings that they should have.

"Nothing to tell us where they have gone." My heart plummeted with worry.

"Do you think something happened to them?" I asked worriedly.

"Hopefully not, Hunter didn't feel Charlene in pain." "Thank the goddess..." I murmured.

"There's more... We've come across many dead animals in the forest and there's a darkness approaching." "Arabella? or something else?" I asked.

"I'm not sure, it's not potent enough for me to pin-point if it's her, but it feels darker. We need to carry on moving fast." He said quietly.

"And I'm slowing you all down." "No, you aren't.

"We will head to Alpha Romeo's pack and see from there what's happening, you just woke up.

"Relax a little, we have this covered." "I'm not stressing." I pouted, trying not to focus on how close he was.

My core clenched when he took hold of my hand with his free hand and looked at my littlefinger, frowning deeply at the black snake symbol that now wrapped around it, hints of gold shimmering in it.

"He marked you." His voice was dangerous and low, and although a part of me wanted to comfort him and tell him it was a symbol of loyalty and friendship, I decided to push his buttons instead.

“And? It’s not like you were ever going to mark me.” I said airily, tugging my hand free from his hold, almost smiling when I saw his eyes flash gold.

“We can’t be, remember?” “Yileyna, don’t push me.” He growled, tangling his hand in my hair.

“Maybe I want to see you lose control.” I whispered, looking into those gorgeous eyes of his.

A rustle in the bushes and footsteps made us both turn sharply, my eyes widened as Hunter fell to his knees the moment he burst from the bushes.

“Hunter!” I exclaimed as we both turned.

The smell of blood filled the air as his eyes flashed.

My eyes widened in horror as I saw the blade buried in his hip.

“Run.” He growled as the fire was suddenly snuffed out, and I felt a thick layer of darkness fall over us.

“Yileyna. Run.” Theon breathed, his eyes fixed on the direction Hunter had just come from.

I couldn’t think, something was numbing my body, and even when I opened my mouth to speak I couldn’t.

Just then, before my very eyes, the trees and bushes began to die as a vast darkness enveloped us.

Deep down in my hazy state, as Theon dragged me to my feet, I knew I needed to protect them.

I pulled free from Theon’s hold, seeing the blood trickle from his nose as his heart raced, whatever this was...

it was killing all it touched.

I needed to get away... lead it away from them...

“Yileyna, don’t.” His eyes were full of fear, an emotion I never saw in Theon.

Fear for my life...

“Don’t be the hero...run.”

I love you.

I couldn't speak as I dragged my feet towards the dying forest, pushing through the bushes Hunter had appeared out of.

I needed to meet the enemy before it got to Theon and Hunter.

The moment I stepped onto the blackened earth, it felt like a part of me was mortally injured.

I gasped as I stumbled, running blindly towards the darkness.

"Found you." The voice was familiar, and when a hand reached out to grab me by the neck, I found myself staring into Arabella's hung eyes.

"You are mine." I

I'm...no..."

I couldn't breathe...

How was she so strong? I closed my eyes, focusing on whatever power I could muster.

I needed to create something around Theon and Hunter...

I know Theon can break my ice...

"You will not succeed; we poisoned the air." She whispered.

"Yeah?" I whispered, closing my eyes.

Even when I felt the shackles of silver touch me, I poured every ounce of my power into the earth beneath my bare feet.

"Find the others that were with her." Arabella commanded.

You wish.

A strangled scream left my lips as a wave of power erupted from within me, and I saw a huge wall of ice tear through the trees reaching the sky.

"Stop it!" Arabella shrieked.

I crumbled, all strength leaving me as I hit the ground, my eyes on the huge wall that split the forest.



Arabella and I on one side, and Theon and Hunter on the other.

They would be safe.

“We will return to Westerfell before she awakens.” Arabella’s command was chilling  
Was this...

This wasn’t what was meant to happen...

What happened to Raiden, Zarian, and the others? I hadn’t felt any bond snap, or did it happen in my sleep? These questions swarmed my mind, before I succumbed to the darkness...

## **My Alpha’s Betrayal: Burning In The Flames Of His Vengeance Chapter 130**

4U. In His Grasp YILtYNA. “Well, well, well... We meet again.” I tried to control my anger as I stared at the man before me.

I was chained to the wall, the taste of blood in my mouth almost making me sick.

T Once again, I was in the cells of the castle of Westerfell.

“Inevitably we were going to.” I spat, looking at none other than the monster Theoden himself.

I had been dragged back here several days ago, and every day they tried to break me or demand to know who was with me out there.

Arabella was no werewolf, and she had not smelt Theon from me, but even when I had been beaten, I refused to speak.

They could whip me and beat me, but nothing could break me, or so I thought.

That was until they stooped lower and threatened to kill children from the Silver Storm.

I knew they would follow through on their threat, so I said it was Hunter and one of his men, because I had a feeling Arabella had seen Hunter, since he had been stabbed.

It was safer to give them a partial truth than a complete lie.

They had bought it and I was relieved.

I couldn’t let them know that Theon was out there, and that he knew the truth.

“Ah well, what a shame that fool was unable to protect you.

I’m sure this wasn’t the way you thought it would be.” Theoden sneered as he stepped closer.

I smirked bitterly, “Well, I outsmarted your son, I will outsmart you too.” I spat.

He looked at me sharply, I kept a look of pure hatred and contempt on my face, praying he bought it.

“Theon found you?” “Almost, but he wasn’t fast enough now, was he?” Theoden slapped me across the face hard, and I clenched my jaw.

I hadn’t been given anything to eat or drink since I came here, and I was greatly weakened.

“What’s wrong Theoden, angry that you and your son have nothing on me?” “I have the kingdom and your people before me.

You are the one with nothing.

So I have a proposal for you: Marry me and be my Luna, or the consequences will be great.” a His words made my stomach twist sickeningly and my heart plummet.

No.

Goddess, no.

“Never.” I hissed, my eyes flashing despite the silver and poison running through my veins.

“Oh? I will give you one day.

One day for you to change your mind, or the streets of Westerfell will run with the blood of the children of the Silver Storm Pack.” “No king treats his subjects like this! Those children are yours to protect! You are already king, Theoden, aren’t you enough without me? Why do you need me by your side?” His fist met my face, and I felt something crack, excruciating pain rushing through me.

I wish I had been able to contact the sirens...

We were right on the coast...

I had seen what Theoden had done to his own pack, not to mention his wife and daughters.

No one was safe from his barbaric ways.

“Do not speak back to me! If you hadn’t been the heart, I would have killed you the first time you started to seduce my son.” He hissed, grabbing my face.

I gritted my teeth, refusing to give him any satisfaction that he was hurting me, and glared coldly at the man before me.

“Killing everyone who may impose a threat to your plan is your go to option, is it not, Theoden?” I asked icily.

“Not you…”

You will be by my side, whether you want to or not.” He growled harshly.

For a moment his gaze raked over me, lingering on my breasts, making my skin crawl.

“I cannot blame Theon for being tempted.” “Fuck off.” I spat.

His eyes blazed and his grip on my face tightened.

Painfully tight.

“Heed my words, you have until dawn to change your mind…”

Oh, and if you don’t obey, I assure you I have other methods.

Did I mention that I found a rather pretty orange rose…

One that I’m sure you won’t want me to kill.” With those words, he slammed my head back against the wall and my vision darkened.

Orange rose…

Charlene…

Did he have her? My heart squeezed with anger and helplessness.

The fear for my people’s lives hung in my answer…

What do I do…

If I agreed, what did it mean? What would he try to use my powers for?

Darkness enveloped me, and I fell unconscious once more…

The sound of crying reached my ears, and a bucket of scalding hot water was thrown over me, making me scream as my eyes flew open.

The sound of my voice rang in the cell as I looked around, the boiling water burning my skin.

The pain enveloped me like a blanket I could not get away from.

My heart thundered as I looked at the two young children that stood there holding hands, as Theoden and three of his men watched with eyes that were emotionless and hard.

I smiled gently at the kids, trying to ease their fear.

"Your time is up.

Now, do you agree? Or shall these two mutts be the first of many?"

Theoden was not a man who cared for anyone but himself, I couldn't risk the life of anyone else.

"I agree." I said emotionlessly.

My heart was hurting, but more than my own wellbeing, I wanted these kids far away from Theoden.

It's going to be ok.

I said the words silently, knowing they couldn't hear me as they stood there trembling, their large blue eyes staring at me, almost begging me to save them.

Theoden let out a raucous laugh as he came towards me, grabbing hold of my hair and yanking my head back.

"I have a queen!" He roared as his men smirked.

Men he had purchased...

These men were trained monsters, not beings with compassion.

I will destroy you all...

for the crimes you have committed.

I vowed this to myself.

I looked at Theoden, but I didn't speak.

For now, I would submit, because the lives of those children were far more important.

He simply smirked, letting his gaze fall to my neck.

He leaned in, and I clenched my jaw, trying not to recoil as I swallowed hard.

"I will look forward to marking you." He whispered menacingly, before he looked at his men and gave a nod.

One man stepped forward, unsheathing his sword.

Was he going to break my chains? If so, they would regret it, I could take them all But to my horror, I was so very wrong.

Without even a flicker of hesitation, the man swung his sword.

I screamed in agony, as I stared helplessly at the scene before me.

He cut off the heads of the two children in a blink of an eye.

I felt the snapping of the link that tied them to me break, as burning fury enveloped me.

"You will pay!" I hissed, my voice a siren's shriek as I glared at the man who had killed them.

"How dare you! I agreed, Theoden!" My powers fought against the bindings, but despite the ice that spread across the ground of the cell, it did nothing to affect the men.

Theoden grabbed me by the hair once again, smashing it into the stone behind me.

"You agreed now, but you disrespected me yesterday! Take this as a warning, never disobey me! Among the next victims, there will be Raiden Bolton and Charlene Aphelion." Theoden spat before he walked out of the cell, leaving me seething and heartbroken for the two children who lay on the ground.

Their heads lay far from their bodies, as blood seeped across the floor.

I'm sorry...

I'm so sorry...

Tears stung my eyes as I stared at their lifeless bodies, the pain and anguish I was feeling so intense.

Theoden deserved the worst kind of punishment, and I promised I would make sure it came to him.

Hours passed, yet no one came for the children, and their bodies no longer bled.

Their bodiless heads lay to the side, with expressions of shock frozen on their faces.

This was a memory that would always remain in my mind.

I was meant to protect them, yet right before my eyes, that bastard beheaded them.

He will pay.

The sound of heels echoing on the stone floor made my head whip towards the bars.

The rancid darkness that accompanied her told me who it was, and moments later when she came into view, our eyes met.

Arabella.

“The King sent a ring for his bride.” She said in her voice devoid of life.

Was it me, or did she seem even weirder lately...

“Oh, does he know? What is it? A slave’s collar, or a ring to suppress my powers?”  
“tasked coldly.

Our eyes met and she lifted her hand that had been hidden under her black cloak.

There it was, a black collar with symbols I did not understand marked along the entire band.

As I thought, a collar to suppress my powers.

But how good was it? Maybe they’d underestimate my abilities...

I could hope, and I was surely going to try.

She came over to me, and whispering a spell, I suddenly felt a sharp pain within me.

“I know how your mind works, Heart of Kaeladia.

This collar...

Do you see the blood?” I looked at her, trying to stay conscious as she removed the silver collar that had been coated in poison, and replaced it with the black one.

It was thicker, heavier and wider, restricting my movements, and I could feel the darkness embedded in it.

“What blood?” I growled, as searing pain spread through me from the collar.

I looked down, seeing symbols similar to those that covered the collar beginning to spread over my body, in what smelled like blood.

What was this? “Blood of your people bound to their Alpha.

Now let us have you washed and bathed for the King.” Arabella said as she unlocked the rest of the chains and I fell to the ground.

So, they had thought it all out.

I got up onto all fours, coming level to the headless bodies of the children.

“Can I...

Can I place their heads by their body?” I whispered, trying to hide the pain inside.

“No.” She said.

Raising her hand, a black flame enveloped the bodies.

“Stop it!” I shouted, about to summon my powers when Arabella snapped her fingers, and the bodies disintegrated.

My heart pounded as I let out a cry of frustration, she crouched beside me and caressed my hair.

“I wouldn’t use my abilities if I were you, those runes are tied to your people.

Remember, if you try to fight the seal, they pay.” “Meaning?” I asked, feeling my stomach twist with dread.

I looked at the charred floor where the bodies once lay, feeling devastated, but it was her next words that chilled me to the core.

A dark reminder that I truly was powerless.