So...I pretty much did exactly what Zeus told me notto do. Just to make it

I was in that bedroom for hours! I was losing my mind and I heard everyone

laughing and having fun downstairs. Which meant that there wouldn't be any

I was wondering the halls to stretch my poor legs, admiring the architecture

clear...it was not my fault!

guests on the upper levels.

30

a

**CHAPTER 27** 

and paintings. Many of the rooms were occupied by the alphas and lunas of the world. I made sure none of them were around. I couldn't a ord to get caught and frankly, I wasn't in the mood to deal with Zeus yelling in my face. A painting caught my eye. It was from the floor to about a meter up from my head. It was a woman wrapped around in white cloth, tucking her hair inside. A wolf curled up beside her as beautiful pale flowers were positioned on random yet specific spots on the woman and wolf. I found it beautiful and capturing. My favourite painting so far for sure. a I gently touched the gold frame, feeling the raised designs when I felt something strange. There was a breeze on the tip of my fingers. Wait, was it coming from behind the painting? I pulled the painting slightly and it opened like a door. Oh my freaking gosh! I just found a secret passage way. I feel like I just had a serious movie moment. I giggled because I was excited, but then it died o because usually this part of the movie, something bad happens. a⁴ Inside was a long dark hall. I quickly looked around the area, making sure that there was no one around, especially Zeus. a I was nervous, but curiosity got the better of me, to be fair though, I didn't put up much of a fight, I was going in whether I liked it or not. a<sup>1</sup> I was consumed by darkness, I wasn't scared. I lived through the blur, through the dark for fi een years, it felt natural. I kept going down when it came to a stop to a rather small door. It was wooden and I grabbed the hoop-like-door turner and pushed it open. Inside smelt old. It was a big room built with old stones. There were no windows, just giant candles that sat dorment. I looked around and found some old matches. I lit some of the candles. Chests and shelves, closets and tables were everywhere, littered with papers and books. People haven't been here in years. å There were even dresses, beautiful royal dresses just hanging there, waiting for a person to finally come and wear it. a I picked up a paper and saw a sketch of a flower. Drawn in 1736 By Zeus. Wow so he's always been good at drawing. I opened the big closet and saw old shoes and clothes everywhere. They were women's clothes. I ran my hands over the beautiful materials of dierent colours. They smelt musty, but oddly familiar. Weird. An atmosphere of nostalgia was in the air. I almost missed it at first. I was about to close the closet when I saw something shining at the back. I pushed the clothes aside and bent down to grab it. I sat it on the table and took the rest of the cloth o it. I felt myself freeze. It was a beautiful white diamond encrusted silver box. It looked so extravagant I didn't want to touch it. But I did because...well why wouldn't I? Letters were inside. Old letters. I didn't know who's they were and a part of me felt like I was invading someone's privacy and I didn't want toa a<sup>5</sup> Oh screw it. I picked up a letter and unfolded it. To my Dearest Zeus... Oh great. Exactly what I needed to hear. One of Zeus's wives' writing a love letter to him. Great. That's just fantastic. đ I miss you, my darling. I wait for you here in our home. I have been feeling the morning sickness, but other than that there is nothing else wrong. Our little baby is growing more and more everyday. I know it's a girl. I'm sure of it. I feel her, Zeus. She is going to be amazing. I understand what you are doing with Nikolai is important, however I still feel the terrible pain of not having you near me, holding me at night. I love you, my darling Zeus. My pain eases knowing that we are under the same sky, the same stars. And when I go for walks on the beach, I know we are looking at the same waters. Be safe my love and come home to me. **STORY CONTINUES BELOW** Your Love Lillian and our Baby Girl I stood there. Frozen and confused. I re-read the letter a million times, reading word for word out loud, making sure I wasn't going crazy. 'We are under the same sky.' That's what I say? My mind was having a hard time to grasp this. I couldn't understand how this could be. What the hell is going? a I rummaged through the rest of the box, trying to find anything else. My hand grasps around something cold and heavy. I pulled it out finding a shiny silver locket. It was identical to the locket that Zeus always wears around his neck. I opened it and saw Zeus. His face was resting inside this circle locket, waiting to be looked upon once more. I ran my thumb over the picture, removing the built up dust and dirt. It was old. Really old. He was wearing a cheesecutter hat. His sharp features were prominent as well as his intense eyes, breathlessly handsome of course. I myself felt breathless. I didn't understand any of this. I raised the locket over my head and hid it under my shirt. I shut the box and hid it back into the closet just as I'v found it. I took out all of the candles and quickly le, making sure I le everything just as it were. å I shut the painting door and made it looked the same. I turned around and yelped as I saw a person standing there, a very little person. I held my hand over my chest as I caught my breath. I laughed as I said, "Leah! You gave me such a fright." a<sup>4</sup> Her eyes widen, "I'm sorry! I didn't mean to! I just wanted to-" I shook my head and bent down to her height, "That's okay. What're you doing here, Yellow Bird?" "I was trying to find the lounge place, but I got lost." "Where's your parents?" She sni s, "They're in the lounge place. I went to the bathroom, but I forgot how to get back." a I smiled at her and stood up. I opened my hand to Leah, "Come on, I'll take you back to your mother and father." Her smile brightened, "Thank you!" a<sup>5</sup> I took her down the stairs and down a hall. I was assuming they were in the formal drawing room. I opened the door to the giant room. Alphas, Lunas, some of their children were all mingling together. Leah pointed toward a couple at the other end of the room, "There they are!" I walked toward them and Leah let go of my hand, racing to her mother. "Yellow Bird! I was worried! Why did you take so long?" "I'm sorry! I got lost." Her voice mu led as she buries her head in the skirt of her mother. Her mother ran her fingers through her daughters hair and kissed her forehead, "That's alright, little one." I smiled politely, "Hello my name is Lily, Zeus's mate." a The womans eyes widened and she bowed her head, "Lily! It is an honour. Thank you so much for inviting us to such an extravagant event." I shook my head, "Please, I'm the one to feel honoured by your presence." "My name is Emily." Emily glances toward her mate who was staring at a painting, bored out of his mind. She subtly tried to elbow him in the side. He snaps out of his zoned out state and turns to me, "This is my mate. Chief Jacob of the Arkara Tribe." a<sup>3</sup> He grins politely and bows his head, "It is a pleasure to finally meet Zeus's mate. He has told me many wonderful things about you." I was taken back, "He has?" "Yes," Emily says smiling, "He's said nothing but good things about you." a I tried to cover up my shock quickly, "Well that's a relief!" I said jokingly. They both quietly chuckle to themselves. As I continued to make small talk with the lovely couple, I felt my skin tingle with electricity. One word came to my mind. Oh Shit. Or is that qualified as two words? ď Zeus comes in smoking a cigar while talking professionally to one of the Alphas when his eyes caught on my own. They harden significantly. I tried to smile and hesitantly waved. He just stood there giving me his evil eyes. Yup...I'm dead. He's going to kill me. a However our connection was soon broken when someone stepped into my line of vision. Blues and blonde hair. "Ryan?" I said confused, "What are you doing here? I thought you'd le?" He stood there sweating and looking slightly pale. I smirked when I saw his nose was bruised and broken, "Can you still breath out of your nose?" His blinked a couple times and said, "Ummm...yeah?" I leaned on my one leg, popping my hip and settling my hands on them, "Guess I didn't hit you hard enough." I mumbled to myself đ Guilt was obvious. He stood there with his shoulders slouched and his hands being wiped on his jeans from nervous sweat, "Lily, about last night, I can-" I put my hand up, stopping him from talking, "I don't care anymore. Last night, I o icially let you go, Ryan." His stupid weak eyes looked at me like a puppy, "Please, Lily! I'm sorry. I'm messed up, okay? I'm an asshole, I get it! Last night was a mistake, it meant nothing! I was just hurt and-" a "I'm not mad anymore, Ryan because I stopped caring. Do whatever the hell you want. I just want you to leave." He took a step forward and said, "No, Lil, listen!" I growled, "Leave. Now. Don't make me regret stopping Zeus from killing you." He gulped silently and sighed in defeat. Finally! "Won't you let me at least say good-bye? As closure?" I shook my head firmly, "No. Like I said, I want you to le-" a But before I could even finish my damn sentence, I became completely startled when Ryan grabs my face and slams his lips against mine. My eyes widen in shock. What the fudge! ā<sup>3</sup> But just as quickly, he was ripped o of me. Ryan was thrown across the giant room. Zeus stood there fuming, his shoulders moving up and down as he was taking quick and shallow breathes. I could practically see the steam coming out of his nostrils, "I recall telling you to leave." Ryan shakily stood up and scowled at Zeus, "I'm getting tired of you doing that!" Zeus chuckles darkly as he takes takes a couple steps forward slowly, "You have not only made my mate cry, but you also broke her heart, you le this woman because you couldn't handle that fact that she could be blind for the rest of her life...and you're saying you're tired of me kickin you around?" å Zeus stopped right in front of Ryan, he was definitely taller and definitely bigger, "You don't want to anger me," Ryan tries to threaten, "I have trained to be one of the best warriors in my pack." a<sup>9</sup> "Really? Is that so?" Zeus says as if he was talking to a little child, I could see it was getting to Ryan. "You may be a Hellhound, but I could take you." a<sup>4</sup> Zeus smirks, "You wanna take on an eight hundred year old Wolf...go ahead, a<sup>8</sup> I'm waiting." Ryan stood there clenching his jaw. I took a step forward, "Zeus-" "Not now, Lily." He snarls lowly. "Zeus I-" He whips his head around and said, "I said not now! Sozin! Donny! Get her outta here, now!" a Donny came over and was about to grab but I put my finger up and growled, "If you touch me, I will make you regret it Donny!" His eyes widen and raises his hand in surrender. å Zeus swings his fist back and punches him in the face, not too hard that Ryan would fall over. He stumbled back holding his nose, Zeus came walking and growled, "Do it, show o your great warrior skills." a Ryan laughs and said sarcastically, "Wow, you're scary. The great and oh powerful Zeus of the Hellhound." a Zeus takes another drag of his cigar and said, "Damn right you're scared," He takes a step forward, "I can see it in your eyes." Zeus leans in and growls, "Now hit me, if you're gonna hit me." a Ryan stood there still staring intensely at Zeus. He wasn't going to do anything. I shook my head. Of course he would do nothing. Zeus punches him in the face again and shouts, "Do it, boy! Be a man and show all the Alphas and Lunas here what you're made of." Ryan looked at the audience wide eyed as his mouth began to be dripping in blood. Zeus smiles darkly, "Are you gonna do something? Or you gonna just stand there and bleed?" å Ryan gulped. His eyes looked at me then back at Zeus. My mate looks down at my ex and said, "No? You're not?" Ryan didn't even say a word. He just bowed his head while clenching his jaw. Zeus leans in toward him and blows smoke in his face as he growls lowly, "I didn't think so." a Zeus looks around the people staring wide eyed at the commotion, "You see this, people? He can talk the talk, but he can't walk the walk." a<sup>6</sup> Ryan stood there angry at himself for not doing anything, I presume. He looks at me with his callous eyes and shook his head, "You're not worth this." 31 I know I wasn't supposed to care, but something in me still hurt from his words. Zeus turned around and slams his fist across Ryan's face. Ryan fell a<sup>7</sup> against the wall, out cold. Zeus nods his head toward Sozin and Ozai, they both came and dragged an unconscious Ryan away. My eyes widen and my nerves tingled with a slight anxiety when I saw Zeus storm over to me. He grabs my hands and growls lowly, "We need to talk." He drags me through the halls, up the stairs until he throws me into the bedroom. đ I stumble inside and turn around. He stands there in front of the door and yells, "What the fuck was that? What happened to staying out of the halls?" a I wasn't going to let him bully me into being scared. I sat on the bed and crossed my arms, "I came to the conclusion that having a little walk around would be okay." He looked at me incredulously, "Oh so you came to that conclusion all by yourself? Why were you in the fucking lounge then?" "I was just helping Leah!" "Who the fuck is Leah!?" å I shook my head and stood up, "That doesn't matter! I am not your little toy that you can just order around!" He walks in long strides towards me and I back up until I felt the wall behind me. a "You infuriating girl! Why can't you just do as you're told!" I stood up toe to toe with him and shouted back, "I will not cower to Nikolai just because he threatened me! I'm not going to be this weakling that's hiding away from all of this And you can't stop me from getting involved! I can fight my own battles! I'll fight right in the middle of this war if I have to! I am not going to-" a<sup>6</sup> Zeus grips on my shoulder tight and jerks me roughly as he shouted, "I don't want to lose you!" ď Zeus was panting as his glowing green eyes targeted my very own. So much was storming behind those eyes, "I can't lost you." He said in a more defeated tone. d<sup>2</sup> He closes his eyes and calmed his breathing. His hands ran down my arms and grips on my waist, "I am doing everything I can to make sure that you come out of this war...and come out of this curse clean and untouched." And the last of the thick painted lines were erased. As I looked at Zeus's defeated face, all I wanted to do was touch him, comfort him and hold him. I didn't know what to do anymore or how I should act. He leans his forehead closer and rests it upon mine. His closeness has made my spirit vivacious. My every nerve, every cell, every emotion was spiralling out of control. I shakily, but gently cupped his face and whispered, "Is my life precious to you?" a He pulls me closer and said, "Yes. It is." His eyes flicker down to my lips. He leans in closer, just about brushing his lips against my own. I really shouldn't be doing this right now. I shouldn't even let him be this close! But everything inside of me was calling to him. a I felt his lips touch me for only a second before a giant wave of dizziness encases around my mind. I moan and I feel my legs give out. I could see Zeus was startled. ď He reacted quick and caught me. My moans become louder when I began to feel as though my body was becoming cold. I knew exactly what was going on. Our time was up. å "Z-Zeus the bite." I tried to get out. å His eyes widened, "Shit!" He frantically rushes out of the room carrying me in his arms. I groan in pain as my bite began to burn, "Sssshhh, I know, I know." Zeus tried to comfort. My skin felt like I had a fever, but my insides felt like every nerve was slowly beginning to freeze. a The sensation of a thousand knives cutting into my skin hit me all at once. I arch my back and shout in pain. It felt like I was back at that frozen river. I felt like the cold was so extreme I only felt pain. My frame began to shake as if I was shivering. The Anxiety of not being able to breath came back. Zeus kicks the door to Ozai's room. His head raises from his computer and they widen in fright. He stood and said, "What's wrong with her?" "It's the bite. She's transitioning!" a Ozai runs out of the room and shouts, "Follow me!" Zeus carries me out of the room and follows Ozai into this infirmary kind of room. He lays me on the bed as Ozai rushes around getting tubes and hooking me up to a machine. "It's hurting!" I groans. Zeus comes and takes a hold of my hand tightly. He stands there anxiously. His eyes watching everything Ozai does and his shoulders rising and falling quickly as he took short and shallow breathes. ď "How're you going to help her?" "This is probably a really bad idea, but she's a werewolf so it should be alright." a "What are you doing?" Zeus growls. Ozai puts a needle inside my arm and connects it to a tube, "I don't have the ability to separate the venom and blood, but you could try to make her body reject it." "Me?" Zeus says confused, "How can I do that?" Ozai stops everything he's doing and says, "Your blood is the most potent out of the three of us. For some reason your blood is the most organic of the werewolf gene. å I groan in pain as my nerves began to hurt, literally! I felt the panic sink into my heart. I didn't know what was going to happen. If I were going to become a vampire or not?! I was scared out of my mind at the fact that I didn't know what was going to happen to me. Does this mean Nikolai has won? What happens if I fully transition? Tears fell from my face, "I feel so c-c-cold." I said breathlessly. Zeus clenches his jaw and says to Ozai, "Give her my blood. Start draining her blood out and give her mine." Ozai nods, "It will free the body form the venom faster." Ozai sprints away and comes rushing back with a chair. Zeus sits down, still clutching my hand. I feel the cold creeping up toward my chest. If it gets to my heart, the very source of my life...I'm done for. And I could feel it. It's too late. I squeeze Zeus's hand, but my grip immediately weakens and I felt this blackness slowly come over my vision. ď **ZEUS** đ Her grip weakened and I heard the flat lining beep across the screen. I stood up instantly as panic settled inside of me. I grab onto Lily's shoulder and yell, "Lily? Lily! Wake up! Ozai!" He comes back with another needle and tube with another needle at the end. He comes to me and quickly shoves the needle into my arm and then shoves the other end into Lily's "What the fuck is going on!" I raised my voice. I looked at my mate and see the colour of her skin slowly turning gray. Oh hell no! This can't be happening. She is not becoming a vampire. a Out of instinct I began pumping her chest. Her heart needs to pump the blood in order for it to attain mine. I was taking shallow breathes as I yell, "Come on, Lil! Wake up!" a Her body jerks from how hard I press on her chest. I grunt and growl in anger. This is not how she is going to end! I refuse to believe that she will become one of them. a<sup>6</sup> The sweet sound of the machine began to beep and she took a breath. I felt the weight li from my chest as I saw her breathing. I saw my blood being transferred into her body. I tucked her hair behind her ears and kissed her forehead, "Keep fighting, flower, keep fighting. I'm here." a I sat down and gripped onto her hand tightly, hoping that it would some how keep her from dri ing away from me, at least more than she already has. å