CHAPTER 4

ZEUS a We were walking in the woods back to where we came from. Lily was behind us following. "Psssst...oi Zeus..." ä I groan and roll my eyes. "PSSSST! ZEUS!" I heard him say in a very loud whisper. I snapped, "What Sozin!" ₫⁵ He raises his one brow and cautiously asks me, "You alright? You not worried?" I turn back to face the front and said, "Drop it." "But this is important. Every time you-" a⁵ "I know what happens every time!" I said coarsely, "Now drop it!" ď Sozin actually listened for once and kept silent. LILY I could hear their deep voices whispering to each other ahead as we walked. Zeus had not said a word to me since I've le . He didn't even ask if I was okay, considering I was BLIND! I didn't have time to grab my stick guide. So I was completely relying on my senses. a It was okay. But a little bit di icult. I kept tripping a little here and there. Or I smack into a tree branch. Not once did Zeus check to see if I was alright. But I guess that is expected. I wasn't surprised, yet for some reason I hoped that he would have proven my doubt wrong. In my head I had pretended that he would care. He would sweep me o my feet, telling me he would take care of him. That he would love me. a⁵ A er tripping over the one millionth log, I knew I couldn't go on like this. I cleared my throat, "Ummm, excuse me?" I said politely...I didn't want to anger any of them. Who knew what they could do to me. "Yes?" Responded Zeus. His voice had given me chills. I hesitantly asked, "I'm sorry, but you see, it's a little di icult for me to keep up without my stick. Would it be okay if you could please help me? Perhaps guide me?" Zeus responded quickly with a very formal and robotic manner, "Sozin will guide you." I gulped, "Th-thank you." Even though we had not been mates for long, there was a pang in my chest at how cold he was. He did not seem e ected by the news of us being mates. a The one I presume is Sozin fell back to walk at my side. He placed my hands on his arm. "Thank you very much, Sozin." I said quietly, "I'm sorry you have to do this. If I just had my-" "You're very welcome, Lily." He replied formally. But he seemed polite and at least more gentle with me than Zeus. a I coughed awkwardly before I asked, "If you don't mind me asking, where exactly are we going? Do you have a pack? Or..." No one answered. I don't think they are the talking type, I guess. So we kept walking and walking for about half an hour. And then we finally came to a stop. Sozin took my hand and guided me forward. He placed it on someone else's arm. Sparks shot up my arm. I knew exactly who I was with. "What is going on? Are we here?" I asked anxiously. "Brace yourself, Lily." I heard Zeus warn. "Why?" He places his hand over my own tightly and said, "We are about to enter a portal. I suggest you hang on tight, or else we might lose ya." ã⁷ With that said, I instantly clung to his arm. Through my blind eyes, I saw a light that grew brighter and brighter. Then a strange sensation tingles over my skin. I felt like every molecule and every cell was getting pulled into something. Like my body was getting sucked into it. I held Zeus's arm tighter and closed my eyes in fear of what is to come. a **STORY CONTINUES BELOW** There was a flash of light then at a very sudden moment, it stopped. My body felt weak from the portal. The temperature had dropped. It was an icy cold. I shivered as the cold air glazed over my skin. "Where are we?" I asked shakily. "We are at the castle." Zeus replied. My eyes widen in shock, "Castle? W-what? I don't understand, where are we as in geographically?" "I can't tell you that." He said bluntly. å "Why not?" I questioned. "Because," Zeus says in a low and harsh voice that made me flinch, "This place is not supposed to exist." ä Suddenly I felt a sharp and piercing pain in my eyes. I abruptly put my hand at the back of head. I gasped and exhaled a groan of pain. I li ed my hands to my eyes, covering them. I felt like I was being blinded all over again. And then everything went black. a **ZEUS** I was sitting in my chair, whiskey in hand while I stare into the roaring fire, thinking about the events of today. "She is in her chambers. She is still out cold." I did not respond to Sozin. I knew he was getting fed up with me, but I didn't care. I heard him grunt in frustration, "Why do you not go to her? She is your mate. This time could be dierent. You don't know what could happen if-" a⁷ "I know exactly what is to happen, Sozin. I have lived it." My hard stare targeted his, "So do not lecture about my mate," I looked to my other brother, Ozai, "And what about you brother, would you like a say?" **a**⁷ He stood next to our giant fire place, looking at his locket when he said in a very toneless voice, "I do not want a say. You will not listen until you want to listen." I chuckle deeply, "That is why you are the wise brother of us three. And the one I like the most." a Sozin shakes his head and walks away. Another pair of quick footsteps entered the room. I groan and rubbed my eyes. I am in no mood to put up with this. "You guys are here? When did you even get here? How could you not let me know!" He exclaims Ozai answered without, looking his way, "Because Donny, we don't care." a He walks in and plops himself in the other chair and crosses his arms grumpily, "Still! It would be nice to know!" I rub my temples with my eyes closed as I said impatiently, "Would you shut up. I am in no mood to tolerate you right now, Donny." He looks down at the fire and stays quiet. a I sighed. I was exhausted. The witch was becoming very demanding, and quite frankly, was becoming a total bitch. She keeps wanting us to do more, kill more, take more packs, take these alphas, do this, do that, blah blah blah. She has also become extra cranky because she had some how misplaced her magic. The dumb witch. She said she put it away for safe keeping...but someone had taken it. Now she was away trying to find it. Which was nice because it would give us a break. a My thoughts have taken it's tole on my mind. I was drained. My eyes were becoming heavy. a a "I'm going in for the night, lads," I said to the boys. Both of them nodded their heads and went back to being lost in thought. I le and climbed up the giant and grand staircases. Most people would be amazed at this place. It's an ancient castle, of course they would be. But being bound to this place for hundreds of years...it gets old. I walk down the big, wide and high corridor that was illuminated by the lamps. I saw the big wooden double doors to my bedroom when I heard a voice like silk reach my ears. "Is someone there?" I turned around to see Lily standing there, holding onto the walls. It seems she was trying to find her way. I sighed. I did not want to handle my mate right now. I looked at my doors, contemplating just sneaking o, but instead, I turned around and walked towards her. a* LILY There was a beautiful woman with hair of gold and eyes that looked as if it were as blue as the ocean...a deep ocean filled with secrets. Mysteries. Magic. S he was the most beautiful at the ball. Every man wanted her attention, but gave them none. The doors to ballroom opened. Three broad figures appeared. Their presence held power and authority. One of the servants announced their names. "The Hound Brothers...Lord Zeus, Lord Sozin and Lord Ozai." **4**6 The man in the middle had caught the precious attention of the beautiful woman. He was very handsome. She had never seen such desirable appearance before. His eyes...a strong green. So strong it seemed as though they were glowing. This mysterious man had scanned the room and his eyes had locked on the beautiful woman. With an air of confidence and dominance him and his brothers walked directly towards the woman with the golden hair. She was talking to another lady when a man approached her. She turned and was disappointed to see that it was not one of the Hound Brothers. Instead it was a man fidgeting with his hands, yearning for her attention. However, a dark shadow appeared behind this man and tapped him on the shoulder before saying, "You're in my way, boy." Boy. The most emasculate term to call a man. The trembling man quickly and nervously apologised before scurrying o. The shadow man, Lord Zeus, stepped forward towards the beautiful golden woman. He takes the woman's hand and bows, "Hello madam, my name is Zeus." The woman's breath hitched. Her heart lurched forward into a pounding beat. She was in a trance. She was so incredibly drawn to his presence, it almost consumed her. She bowed back and said politely, "It's a pleasure to meet you, Lord Zeus. My names is Lillian." He flashes his pearly white teeth with his mischiveous smile, "Trust me madam, the pleasure is entirely mine." He looked deep into her eyes, capturing her heart and soul in an instant. Music slowly started to play louder and people began to dance. Zeus glanced at the action and turns back to Lillian, "Do you dance?" The woman looks at Zeus with a small smirk and said, "If I am asked properly." a⁵ Zeus extends his hand, looks at Lillian in the eyes and said, "Lady Lillian, would you care to dance with me?" Lillian answers with a smile and places her small hands in his. I wake from a very deep sleep, but I squint since my eyes were still a bit sore. I sat up and rubbed my eyes. What happened to me? I never had such a reaction before. That dream...it was so strange...so real. Oh well. It must be because of this place. This place is messing up my head. ď I climb out of the bed I was in, wanting to try find at least someone to help me. I was not familiar with this place at all. I don't know how to get my way around. I felt the place with my hands, feeling everything and walking slowly. I sighed in relief when I felt the doorknob. Yus! I'm not completely useless. a⁷ I opened it up and slowly walked out of the room. There was a dim light that illuminated, what I assume was a hallway...a very big hall. I laid my hand flat on the wall as I walked. However, my foot caught on something and I tripped. I fell flat on the floor. I grunted as I got back up. I laid my hand on the wall again and walked, but this time carefully. I heard footsteps echoing near me. I hoped it was someone that could help me. "Hello? Is someone there?" The footsteps stopped, but then continued on, except towards me. I decided to try and walk to, however I tripped again, but this time I never hit the ground. A pair of arms caught me, sparks electrified my body and my heart was on overdrive. The person helped me stand and said, "Do you need help?" a "Zeus," I said breathlessly in shock, a level of fear rose inside of me as I remember all of the stories surrounding the Hellhounds. They are such unfeeling creatures, I'm sure Zeus would not be fazed if he killed me himself. This has caused me to be very cautious around them. I bowed my head and tried to speak in a strong voice, but it had only came out shaky, "I-I-I'm sorry to bother you, it's just I don't exactly know where I'm going around here. I don't know this place." Zeus withdrew his arms from my body. As soon as his hold was gone, I missed it. "I will get Donny to help you. He has more free time than me. Go back to your room, and I'll fetch him for you." I heard his footsteps retreat. They went quieter and quieter as he got farther and farther. "Wait!" I shouted. What are you doing, Lily!? Why would you yell at a freaking Hellhound! My voice echoed loudly. His footsteps stopped, "We are mates," I nervously stated. a "We are." He agreed in a flat voice as if he was bored of this conversation. "Well?" I pushed "Well what?" He replied carelessly. a³ Anger had sparked in my chest, surging a confidence within me, "Does that mean anything to you?" I said in a tight voice, echoing throughout the hall. Zeus releases a tiresome sigh, "Lily, I have been with many women o all shapes and sizes, of all colour, all of them were beautiful. What would make you any di erent?" His voice dead of emotion. He didn't care. And then his footsteps continued to go on until I couldn't hear them. I turned around and went back from where I came from. I sat on the bed until I felt my heart start to hurt. Is this going to be my life? My own Soul mate doesn't seem the slightest bit interested in me. What am I to him? What am I to his plans? å I don't know what will happen. If only I could see, I would run away. But I can't. And I won't even be able to try find my family since I'm in this magical land. I felt anger and resentment stir. Screw sitting here until Zeus's servant comes. I got up o my bed and felt my way around the place until I found the door. I made sure I walked carefully and slowly with my hand on the wall. This time I didn't trip at all! I just walked around aimlessly for a while, until I found a door. A big wooden door, and from the feel of it, it had detailed designs carved into it. I pulled it open, and it was very very cold inside. I brows narrowed in curiosity. I stepped inside. It smelt a little musty. It was obvious it had not been open for a long time. I reached my hand out to try and touch something. Everything I touched, a thick layer of dust upon it. a I wonder why no one had been here for so long? Strangely, it smelt familiar. My foot touched something, I laid my hands down and felt something wooden. A chest. I laid my hands on top of it to brush o the dust when I felt something carved into it. Words. No...a name. "Lillian." My breath hitched. It cannot be. It was from my dream. I opened the chest and it did so easily. a Inside, I felt a whole bunch of dierent things, letters, feathers, jewellery, some clothes. My hand touched something cold. I picked it up. It was an oval shape. It had designs around. While I was playing around with it, it opened. My breath hitched and my heart raced in excitement as well as curiosity. a I felt inside, it was a picture. I grunted in frustration, I could not see it. A sharp pain struck my eyes again, this time...it was more severe, "No!" The pain got too much that I felt myself weaken and dri away into a peaceful and painless darkness. It was England in the 1920s. There was a barmaid named Lucy. She was ď wiping the bar while all the men were drinking and laughing. "Oi Lucy! Can we have another round?" a⁷ She shook her head, "Sorry, boys. I'm afraid I have to cut you o ." "Awww, come on sweetheart. Just one more?" Lucy giggled, "If I give you boys one more round, you won't be leaving since you'd all be passed out." "Ugh fine then! At least give us a song to end the night, just one? Please?" 😝 Lucy sighed, but she knew she couldn't refuse. She loved to sing, and it is actually a apart of her job anyways. She would sing whenever the men requested, but she didn't mind at all. Lucy grabbed a chair and stood on it. All the men in the bar cheered, "Go on Lu! Give us a good one!" a She began to sing and all the men began to sing along as well, "I saw the light, Fade from the sky, On the wind I heard a sigh, As the snowflakes cover, my fallen brothers, I will say this last good bye..." a All the men were cheerful as was Lucy. They all sang loudly with pride. That is until the doors to the bar opened and in came the very famous Zeus Helly, the leader of a top notch gang here in London, and his followers of hooligans, all wearing their flat newsboy hats and expensive suits. All the men stopped singing and parted the way for Zeus and his boys like Moses parting the red \mathbf{a}^3 sea. But Lucy did not stop singing, she kept going on with her beautiful and silk like voice. Any hard man would so en by the sound of it. a Hard knocking Zeus leaned against the wall and listened. He had not seen this woman in the bar before, she must've been knew. She was beautiful she was. Long and wavy blond hair, swirled into a low bun, beautiful crystal blue eyes that see into your very Soul. å Once Lucy stopped singing, she went back to the bar to ready drinks. Zeus walked up to the bar and leaned over, "Hello." a Lucy was drying a cup and glanced up, "Hello." "I'm-" "I know very well who you are, Mr Helly." She interrupted. a Zeus did not tolerate people interrupting him while he spoke. He hardly spoke at all, but when he did, every word was genuine and real. "Is that right?" She nods her head, "That's right. London is a big place Mr Helly, but word gets around easy, especially when it's you and your brothers." a⁶ Zeus chuckles deeply, but without humor, "You better be careful, love, I'm going to own this bar very soon...so you best treat me with respect." "Why?" She debated "Because, love, I am a very dangerous man. I am a successful man. I do what I want and get what I want. People fear and respect me because of what I do: Lucy nods her head understandingly, "Well for a little advice Mr Helly...you earn respect by being a fair man. You will gain far more by being fair than being only feared." Zeus was intrigued by this alluring woman, "What's your name?" "Lucy." She's with her shoulders back and head up high. Zeus nods his head, "I know." Lucy frowns, "You know?" Zeus said with a smirk, "Yes...Because you're my girl." "I am?" She says with a cheeky brow raised. Zeus nods his head with a small grin, "Yeah, you are Lucy, you're my girl." 🙎