## 989 BONUS CHAPTER: FIRST STEP

The weather was nice, the sky was clear and the wind was not too harsh. It was a perfect time for a picnic and this little family planned to do so.

But, before that, they would use this time to visit an important place first.

They had visited this time a few months ago when the reconstruction on this site started, but they had not yet seen the result.

There were so many things that happened during the past few months and they were busy with a lot of things that piled up in order to preserve this new reign of theirs.

Therefore, today was an exceptional day

Cane, Iris and their babies rode a carriage to go to Goffa mountain, where they had done with the

where they could enjoy their time together.

construction of the burial place. At first, they placed flowers on Amee, Grace, Zephyr, Eron and many more graves there before they

went to the family burial place. Iris felt so sad to think these people, whom they lost in the battle, should have been here with her

Iris introduced them to her babies, especially to Amee and Grace, they were the people, who she felt so bad about when she thought her babies would grow up without knowing them.

and watched their coronation. These people, who had supported them without failed.

These were only tombstone, without actual bodies there, because they couldn't retrieve most of their bodies. The war was so cruel, it didn't spare them anything from those who fallen.

After that, they went to the burial place.

"Ready?" Cane placed his arm around Iris's shoulder, as Zander looked around him curiously. His bright blue eyes shone beautifully, while his twin in Iris's arms was sleeping.

The king could feel the sadness from his mate and he knew what the reason of it, because he felt the same way. This was so hard for both of them.

Not just anyone could go through with it and remain intact. They were not.

There was this big hole in their heart, the void that was created when they lost their babies. No

twin siblings, there are two little tombstones for their babies.

matter how many years had passed. They would never forget what happened, every de tail of it.

into this cave.

There was no expiration date for grieving parents, who lost their babies in such horrendous way. They still carried the guilt for not being able to protect them.

Their first babies didn't even manage to reach Zander and Zenith's age right now and it was so

heartbreaking to know how little their time together. "Yes..." Iris nodded. Tears welled up in hereyes, she hugged Zenith a little bit tighter, as they walked

This place was not the same like the last time they were here. Because of what happened, it took a great manpower to be able to dig into the main area.

And there, aside from Cane's families, the tombstone of his destined mate and his son, also his

Chrystal and Rora Nortern.

Iris was filled with this mixed of emotions to see how tiny their tombstones were. She remembered

the day she gave birth to them. The time when she held them for the first time in her arms. The first

time she heard Rora's cry.

Their time was even shorter with Chrystal. They didn't have a chance to see hear her cry. Her funeral was one of the most devastating nights she had to endure.

"This is Rora and Chrystal, your sister," Irissaid, introduced Zander and Zenith to their sisters. At this time, Zenith finally decided to wake up and stay awake for a little bit longer. His clear blue eyes

stared at Iris curiously, as if asking why she made that sad expression.

Iris touched his cheek and nuzzled him.

and talkative like his twin. They stayed there for an hour, there was no word that exchanged, but the quietness was peaceful.

They were reminiscing their hard time and how they were thriving to survive. Their hope to see a

The twins were ten months old now and they started to talk more, though Zenith was not as active

And then when they left Iris promised to visit them often. "Rest well my babies..."

Zander rested his head against Cane's shoulder, as he hugged his neck and stretched out his little

arms when they walked out of the cave, he kept staring behind them and then giggled.

"Bba...Bbye... Bbah... Bayy..." he wiggled hisarms excitedly.

better day, their wish to give a better place for their children...

Meanwhile, Lil Thing was waiting outside. On its back was a small box that he carried as they went

their fingers.  $\mathcal{W}$  ww.  $\mathbf{n}$   $\mathbb{O}$   $\mathbf{v}$  e l  $\mathbf{w}$   $\mathbb{O}$  r  $\mathbb{M}$  . c e m

here. It was their lunch box, they were going to have a picnic today. It would be the first picnic day for Zander and Zenith.

"Ah! Lil! Lil!" Zenith stretched out his armsto touch Lil Thing and the bear moved closer to him and let him to pull its ea r and caressed its head.

With that, they headed to the other side of the Goffa mountain.

immediately got used to it and started to crawl around.

frowning when Cane encouraged him.

Zenith immediately crawled back to Lil

let go of him.

bother the king and the queen's precious time with their little family.

Ever since the two of them were born, Lil Thing was used to be seen with them. The bear was very gentle with the babies and would be very protective if there was a stranger came closer to them.

"Li Ing!" Zander wanted to touch Lil Thingtoo and both babies were giggled when Lil Thing licked

Joel, Finn, Dean, Pax, Zephyr and Kian followed them, but they kept their distance so they wouldn't

not usual, as the waterfall looked majestic.w(w)**W**.n(ο)νε**L**wωr**m**.C**O**@ Zander and Zenith touched the grass and they grimaced because they didn't like it, but Zander

They headed to their favorite place, where the grass was white and the color of the flowers were

"Come on, it's not that bad," Cane said to hisbaby, who kept making a face, as if telling him to stop with his attempt and he was not interested."You really have an attitude,"Cane said helplessly and

Meanwhile, Zenith chose to stay with Lil Thing, the baby didn't want to touch the grass at all,

afternoon. This was a picture that Iris saw once upon a time when she was at the lowest point in her life and

of a big, lush tree, watching Zander crawled around happily and Zenith took his nth nap this

A picnic blanket was set and food was taken out from its container, as they stayed under the shadow

It was fine. They still had a lot of times to create more and more memories together.

often nowadays because

"I will do it tonight."

The only different was; the babies were a little bit older.

was thinking there was no hope anymore for them to survive.

"Indee. I hope everyday will be like this," Irisreplied, as she played with his hair. Feeling the softness of the strands of his hair."You need to cut your hair, it's getting long."

their boys were very demanding, but for a while, the king wanted to get his queen's attention.

"Hm." Cane caught her hand and nibbled onher fingers. "I have been busy."

"This is a peaceful day," Cane said, as herested his head on Iris's lap. He didn't get this chance very

Cane raised his brows."Tonight? And then what else you are going to do to me?" Iris chuckled with his insinuation, but then something caught her attention and her expression

However, what they watched right now was completely far from his worse imagination.

He took two steps and then fell, but he got up and then took four steps before he fell again.

cheer him up. Yet, Zander simply giggled, as if he enjoyed the look on his parent's face, as he walked closer

"He walked, he just walked, right?" Iris wasstill thrilled with the sight, she gave her baby a kiss too.

the joy in their laughter was something that you couldn't compare with anything in this

But then, Zenith crawled back to them. He wanted a kiss too. "You will also be able to walk, if you didn'ttake a nap every chance you got," Iris said, chided her

This was very amazing to see how a mundane thing like this could give you an abundance of

happiness. They watched Zander's first step, they heard their first word when they called them and

"Thank you for giving me this family, Iris,"Cane said, he leaned over and kissed her cheek. "Thank you for giving me this happiness. Thank you. I love you."

Zenith grumbled and pushed Cane's face away and Zander crawled to his mother.

changed into surprised, which made Cane followed her line of sight, as he was ready to jump into defense, thinking something horrendous might happen.

They watched how Zander stood up and took his first step!

toward them with his arms opened wide.

"Yes, he did."

it very often.

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"Da...da...Dada!" Zander walked toward Cane and when he was about to fall, he caught his son and gave him a kiss on the tip of his tiny nose. "Dadada...dadadada..."

second born playfully. You could tell that Zenith was a very chill baby. He reserved his energy, but the problem was; he did

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Meanwhile, Iris and Cane were too surprised to watch this milestone of their baby and forgot to