

999 BONUS CHAPTER: YOU WILL BE FINE

Zaya was sad after she lost Lil Thing, she refused to go out of her room and would often ask Zale to take her to Lil Thing's grave, which happened near their family burial. She would talk to her sisters to take care of Lil Thing.

Sometimes, it would be Zenith or Zander who accompanied her there and her father or mother, but Zaya still felt very sad. Lucia tried to cheer her up, but despite everyone's effort, there was no improvement.

People missed her cheekiness and the sound of her laughter and Cane reduced his working time to spend it with his little one, yet most of the time, Zaya would be sleeping, she would hug him and sleep away her sadness. This trait reminded Cane of his mate.

Understandably because this was the first time for Zaya to face death. Her first experience of the mortality, her first understanding that everything had its own time.

"Do you want to go with me to the eastcity?" Cane asked Zaya one day. It was the second month since they lost Lil Thing and no matter what they tried to cheer her up, it didn't work.

Iris would check on her daughter from time to time, but Zaya would be sleeping if she didn't go to the burial ground and put new flowers for their family and Lil Thing.

"I don't want to go," Zaya said, she rested her head on Cane's lap, as she went to find her father in his strategy room.

"I will go for a month, don't you want to accompany me?" Cane caressed Zaya's head. He was one among a few people that she allowed to touch her hair.

When she was little, Cane would style her hair often. Her father still did it now, but not as often as before.

"Zander will go with you..." Zaya said sleepily.

"Okay." Cane didn't insist. "But, I would love for you to come. I remembered you sneaked around to follow Lou when you were little to go to east city. Don't you want to see it now?"

The construction of the city has been completed now and Cane would go there to inspect the area. He would go with Zander because his son had to see with his own eyes the kingdom that they built, while Zenith would stay in the palace and learn how to take care of the state fair.

"I want to see it," Zaya said suddenly with her eyes still close.

"Okay." Cane kissed his daughter's cheek and soon after, Zaya fell asleep and not so long, Iris came to bring him his lunch.

Cane had been very busy, because he put on hold all the non urgent matter to stay with Zaya and now it caught up to him.

Zenith and Zander would give his father a look whenever Cane added more task.

'You are not going to retire soon, father,' Zander complained one day. 'I feel like I am running the kingdom now.' That was only their firstborn remarked whenever he was frustrated.

But thankfully they understood that their little sister needed their father more at time like this.

On the other hand, Zander didn't seem to like his new responsibility and the fact he was going to be the new sovereign in the future.

He still wanted to be free of responsibility and duty, which he couldn't do it. It was fortunate enough that Zenith was there to keep his twin in check whenever he was going to astray and had this mischievous plan like they used to when they were little.

"How is she?" Iris asked, as she approached her daughter and caressed her head. Zaya was sleeping soundly.

"She agreed to go with me to the east city," Cane said, he leaned over to kiss Iris's cheeks. His gaze laced with so much love.

Some people, mostly the eldest, suggested for him to take a mistress or two, since it was normal for the king to have more than one woman, but the thought of it alone disgusted Cane. He was not going to start the tradition that he was very against with.

And when their noisy sound became louder, Cane shut them up with a new decree: A shift er should wait for their destined mate or they could choose one, a mistress was not acceptable, since a shift er should be a monogamy being, that was why they had their destined mate, someone that was blessed by the moon goddess to spend forever with you.

The decree was proven to be very effective to stop them from running their mouth wildly.

How could Cane be thinking of being with another woman aside from the mother of

his children, the woman that he chose to be by his side, someone, who gave him an honor to share her time together.

The old tradition didn't fit with Cane's vision for the future kingdom.

"I am going to miss you all," Iris said in small voice. "I will ask Lou to bring you back as often as he could." It would only take the merchant a minute to cut the distance between the capital city and the east city.

Cane smirked when he heard that. "Lou will throw a tantrum."

Iris chuckled. "Well, you like it when you gave him a hard time."

"It's the other way around."

Cane and Iris spent their afternoon talked with each other, while Zaya was sleeping soundly, she was only woken up for a while to eat her meal and then fall asleep again.

Iris couldn't come because she had to be by Zenith's side, as he took care the state matter and stayed in the palace.

This would be Zander's first time to go out with his father and it also remarked as the king to introduce his heir to the public.

When they were in the middle of the conversation, Zander knocked on the door and entered the room after Cane gave him permission.

"Don't be too loud, your sister is sleeping." Cane pointed Zaya, who was curling herself on the sofa.

Zander approached his sister and kissed her forehead lightly before he went to his father and gave him the report that he needed.

"I can't believe this, you forgot about this again," Zander said in light tone, but Iris caught it and her expression changed. Cane brushed it off.

"There are a lot of things that I have to take care of." Cane added. "I am getting old too."

"Nonsense." Zander sat down on the sofa and put Zaya's head on his lap, as he caressed her long hair. Her curls looked so cute. "You will rule at least until I gave you two grandchildren."

Iris chuckled at that, but it didn't get rid the concern look in her eyes.

"I am not going to hand over the kingdom after I was too old to even walk," Cane said. He was going to spend his days with Iris, walked around the continent, not spending it on his death bed and chained there because he was too old for a journey.

Zander pursed his lips. The idea of taking the throne still bothered him. "Zenith suits more to be the king," he mumbled under his breath. Unlike his brother, he didn't know what he was doing and used to lost his track.

Yet, Iris and Cane were sitting too far to hear that.

A few days later, they went to east city. Lou created the portal for them and he took them to the same place he brought them a few years back, but this time, all the construction was done and everything looked new and amazing.

Lou was satisfied with his work and Cane agreed the merchant had done a great job.

"Here. For you." Lou handed a white rabbit to Zaya, once they arrived at their inn. "Don't cry anymore."

Zaya's eyes lit up and she hugged her rabbit. "Thank you, uncle Lou." She pulled Lou's cloak, so he would bend his body, because she wanted to kiss him, but the merchant refused.

Seeing that, Cane grabbed his nape and made him bent down, so his daughter could give him a kiss.

"Canel" Lou growled.

They spent the day by inspecting a few things and met with a few merchants. Cane made Zander aware of the situation here and how the business worked.

The next few days, they were busy to talk more with people.

"What happened?" Cane approached Zander after he put Zaya to sleep. He felt something off from his firstborn. He knew because this was not how Zander used to behave. He had been anxious the whole time, fidgeting and uncomfortable.

"Nothing."

Cane stood next to him in the balcony and it didn't take long for him to make his son to open up about the matter that bothered him.

"I don't think I cut to be a king." He then added. "Zenith is more king material than me."

The more he learned about the state affair, the more he could see his father's accomplishment and he didn't think he was going to reach such level of achievement.

"Why do you think so?"

"I am a mess."

It stemmed from his belief that he was not going to be as good as his father, since he learned about how remarkable what his father had done to this kingdom. This east city was the proof of that.

"You are my greatest mess then." Cane ruffled his hair like when he was a child. "You will be fine. I know you will be fine."