

4 | Father Of The Year

ONYX

I tried not to panic, although my whole body stiffened.

If Onyx was an annoying, scheming character everyone loved to hate, Zion was the "Big Boss" at the end of the book. He was the one who almost succeeded in killing Ruhn, but Melody helped save him. It turned out she was a special wolf sent by the Moon Goddess and Zion couldn't withstand her power.

Ugh, my stories were so predictable back then... It was embarrassing now, especially considering I had to live in one.

However, it didn't remove the fact that I was now in the hands of this world's cruellest and most powerful evil guy. The head of a secret organisation of supernatural creatures, The Shadows, he wasn't called "The Scorpion" for nothing. If anything, his body count was way higher than Ruhn's. Was it too late to go back to the Lycan prince?

That being said, I still had to try and save myself.

"You are not Chad?" I blinked a few times, trying to sound as shocked as possible and squeeze some tears out of my eyes. I could use some now. Men were usually afraid of tears to death. Or annoyed. Both could work for me now. All I needed was for them to let me go in peace, but the damn liquid wouldn't leave my eyes.

"Way to go, Your Highness," Zion pronounced the last two words as disrespectfully as he could, knowing that Ruhn wasn't going to do anything about it. Zion was here as his father's special guest and business partner. And the Lycan king didn't like to be contradicted in any way. He had many sons to choose from for the role of his heir, and, in his eyes, Ruhn could have easily been replaced. "I tried to impress the woman I like without her knowing who I really am. I am sure you, of all the people, can relate to that."

"I really can't," Ruhn said with a smirk. "But congrats to you! It clearly worked."

I honestly thought he was about to say something about our night together. But the prince remained quiet, simply adding, "she was looking everywhere for you."

There was an awkward silence between the three of us, and I knew I had to take the matter into my own hands and push Zion away.

"You lied to me?" I covered my mouth because I was "so surprised" and all that, noticing how Zion tried to suppress a smile at my pathetic acting.

"Just let me explain myself... Onyx." He tasted my name on his tongue and took a step in my direction, but, of course, I was too "offended".

"No, no!" I motioned for him to stop. "Enough of all this, Chad... I mean... Zion. I need to be alone! Don't contact me again!"

With that, I turned on my heels, almost falling down and kissing the ground since I still couldn't walk in them. Both men were about to help me, but I managed to keep my balance and glared at them, demonstrating that no help was needed from the likes of the two of them.

God, I hope they don't kill me for that!

"I will not give up on our love, Onyx!" fake Chad chuckled, and a chill went down my spine. I really hoped that the infamous Scorpion was just kidding. He couldn't be serious, right? RIGHT?!

Never mind. I managed to walk out of the palace, and, yes, although it was a modern building, it was still a huge and magnificent palace. No other word seemed fitting.

It had been a while since I wrote the book, and I had forgotten how I described this place, but now all of it surfaced in my memory. A tall building with white marble pillars and walls stood before my eyes. Windows several floors in length were framed with modern glass and metal. The whole place looked surreal. And so long... It went on, and on, and on. I was afraid to even imagine how many people lived inside.

Yet I stopped thinking about all that almost immediately as I realised something. Although I knew this world, I didn't really KNOW it. I had no idea where I had to go now. I wasn't even sure where the exit was, not to mention how hard it would be for me to find Onyx's house.

Damn it. I was in trouble!

However, just standing here wasn't an option. What if Ruhn or Zion walked out right now? I couldn't face either of them anymore. In fact, it would be best not to face either of them ever again!

I tried walking in the garden and soon gave it up. I simply couldn't walk on the sparkling white stone pavement in these killer heels. What women were capable of this? Ninjas? I chuckled to myself nervously as I sat on a bench and took off the damn shoes. What was I going to do now?

I noticed someone watching me from the corner of my eye. Luckily, it was just some kid staring at my bare feet from a nearby bush, and I breathed out.

Not the psychopaths!

Just some kid... Wait! A kid was good! It was the best!

"Hi!" I waved at the boy, but he didn't react to me in any way. It seemed like my feet fascinated him more.

Yeah, he probably didn't see too many crazy ladies walking around without shoes in the palace. He had dark hair and wore simple jeans with a grey t-shirt, and I concluded that he was probably some lower-ranked wolf's son.

But, hey, he lived here and was supposed to know the surroundings. Good enough for me!

If he led me out of this royal trap, I could catch a taxi and tell them to take me to the Tynan house. Everyone was supposed to know where that was, right? It was a famous family, and everyone seemed to know each other in these werewolf/lycan worlds. Anyway, it was my best bet.

"Come here!" I waved at the boy again, smiling brightly, and he looked at me for the first time yet masterfully avoided meeting my gaze. "Don't be afraid! Come!"

I wriggled my toes, and he tilted his head, still watching as if he was enchanted. Then he snapped his fingers a few times and walked over to me.

"Hi!" I beamed at him. "My name is Bre... I mean, Onyx. My name is Onyx. What is your name?"

There was no response, and, after a while, I decided it wasn't important.

The kid was still staring at my feet, and it was getting awkward.

"Listen," I sighed desperately. "I am very lost and need to find a way out of here. Do you, by any chance, know where the exit is? Can you show me?"

He still didn't look at me but took my hand and immediately started pulling me away. I decided not to test my luck and just followed him into the depths of the royal garden. Turn after turn, the little guy seemed to know what he was doing, while I realised I'd never be able to get back to that bench even if I wanted to.

Did they have to structure the garden as a maze? Did they? Really?

The kid, however, seemed content, even though he was still fascinated mainly by my lack of shoes.

Never mind. I could live with that.

I looked around our surroundings - this couldn't have been a way to the central exit from the palace.

"Erm, excuse me," I tried to bring the boy's attention back to me. "I am looking for a way out of here. Like an exit. Where are you taking me?"

He did not respond and just continued dragging me after him. Oh well... I may as well have explored the garden. There was no harm in that.

However, to my surprise, my not-too-talkative companion stopped and let go of my hand.

"Are you-" I wanted to ask if he was okay, but then I noticed we were standing in front of a gate covered with wild roses. A way out of here! "Thank you so much!" I wanted to hug my little saviour, but something told me he wouldn't appreciate it. He was still looking at my feet.

"You know what," I bent down to him, but he avoided my gaze. "You should try it sometime. It's fun, I promise."

He nodded and snapped his fingers a few times. I wondered what that was about.

There were no guards at the gate, and, surprisingly, it was unlocked. Who knew it was this easy to get in and out of the palace?

I looked back and found the boy still standing there, watching me curiously.

"Go back!" I waved for him to return to his parents, and he simply turned away and ed. Phew.

Now, I was nally back to my own problems. And there were plenty of those!

I was alone in the world I created but did not know.

On a street.

With my shoes in my hands and wearing an evening gown during the day.

Damn, that looked bad!

I wasn't sure how long I would have to walk to reach the city to be able to get a taxi. Even this plan had flaws, but I had to think positive to not go insane! And I absolutely couldn't think about what was happening in general.

Baby steps.

One problem at a time.

I could do this!

I was walking along the palace wall when a shiny sports car stopped in front of me, wheels screeching over the road as the driver hit the brakes. The window lowered, and I saw a handsome guy with curly black hair and sunglasses. He took them off and looked me up and down with a mischievous grin.

"That bad, huh?"

The car door on the other side lifted up, and I looked at the guy questioning me.

"Sis, I don't have all day!" He rolled his eyes. "Get into the car. Father made me wait for you here the whole night, and I am exhausted."

I swallowed. Was this Onyx's brother? What was his name? I didn't remember writing anything about him... Now that I was thinking about it, I mentioned him just once when he attended a ball with his sister.

"I am serious, Nyx!" He looked annoyed now. "He wants to hear about everything from you, and he is already angry that it's taking so long."

Gosh, I didn't like this. What kind of family was this? The father drugged his daughter so that she slept with a drunk man who had a tendency to murder people he disliked, and then he wanted a report about the event. This wasn't healthy! Disturbing was the word for it!

However, I had no better options. I got into the car and relaxed into the soft leather seat. I had to think fast. All this still seemed so unreal!

The drive took us just a few minutes. To my disappointment, the Tynans lived close to the palace.

My newfound brother got out first and didn't even bother to help me. It was obvious that I was just an irritating task to him.

I decided to follow him while I could. Hopefully, we would be done with everything quickly, and I could barricade myself in Onyx's room and contemplate everything that happened to me.

I had to admit that the Tynan family lived almost as well as the royal one. However, while the palace was made out of sparkling white marble, here the whole estate looked dark. Not gloomy, though. Just dark and stylish.

We stepped inside, and I gasped at the tasteful interior with black and golden elements.

There was a grand marble staircase right in front of us, but my brother turned left instead.

I hesitated just for a moment and heard, "What are you waiting for?"

"Nothing," I said, and I did not lie.

We walked into a spacious room with glass walls. For some reason, different expensive items were displayed behind them on shelves, reminding me of a museum. A massive wooden desk stood next to a French window, and I gulped when I saw the man sitting behind that desk.

"It took you two a while!" A vague smile appeared on his handsome face. He was in his forties but looked undeniably good. There was some devilish charm about the dark-haired man with amethyst eyes. There was no denying we were his children. The features were too much alike.

I remembered his character well. He was the mastermind behind most of Onyx's schemes, the one who pushed her into being evil, her own father, Conrad Tynan.

"Cesare, I thought I asked you to take care of your sister!" Our father furrowed his brows. "If anything, she could already be pregnant with the future king! This baby is precious!"

"Apologies, Father," my brother bowed respectfully.

"That's very unlikely." I decided to inform my parent at once to avoid any kind of problem in the future.

"Why?" Conrad stood up and walked to the front of the desk, leaning over it with his hands crossed over his chest. "Did you not manage to sleep with him?"

Gosh, this was... embarrassing. How could a father be talking to his daughter about such things?

"Yes, I managed to do just that." I nodded, getting the embarrassment. I couldn't give myself away.

"Was he able to... control himself?" Another uncomfortable question.

"No," I said and saw a satisfied smirk.

"What is the problem then?" the head of the Tynan family asked me.

"The problem is, Father, that he made me drink the morning after tea." No babies would be able to grow inside my womb after that.

I wanted to tell him a few more things about my experience but didn't get to.

A heavy hand landed on my face, causing stinging pain to spread over my cheek as I fell to the ground...