

## The Unwanted Bride Of Atticus Fawn Chapter 71 - Tips

0 6 minutes read

~ATTICUS~

Austin and his family met me outside their home. I asked for all of them to gather; I was hoping to request a huge favor, and I wasn't sure if they would be willing to help me.

"What's this about?" Austin asks me. He was already in a defensive stance. He knew that something had to be wrong for me to arrive here to speak to him. He would also be suspicious after I asked everyone to gather as well.

"The overlords have taken Autumn," I inform him.

There are surprised gasps all around me. Everyone is shocked that I've mentioned Autumn and the overlords in the same sentence. It's surprising to hear myself say those words, also.

The more I said it, the worse I felt inside. She was no longer by my side. Autumn was in danger, and for the second time, I could not get to her in time because of a fucking accident.

"The overlords?" Hunter asks, intrigued. "What do the overlords want with Autumn?" I didn't know how to break the news to them. This was supposed to be a secret from everyone, but it was no use keeping the truth from the people I needed help from.

"We recently discovered that the Riveras aren't Autumn's real parents." I begin explaining. They were already shocked by this news; I couldn't imagine their reactions when I told them the whole truth. "Her father is a sorcerer called Azai Reign. I'm not sure if any of you have ever heard that name before today."

"Azai Reign?" Hunter asks, his eyes wide. I'm surprised that he knows anything about him.

"How do you know him?" I ask. "According to the council, as well as the overlords, no one is supposed to speak about him. I knew nothing of him until I learned the truth."

Hunter doesn't look proud of his knowledge of Azai.

"There was a point in my life where I had a good relationship with the council. Once you're allied with them, you learn plenty." He tells me. "I know the crazy sh!t Azai did. He had the council and the overlords petrified. Not only them, but he also had many affluent, prominent families terrified of what he could do. He was a dangerous man. Are you positive that Autumn is his daughter?"

I nod, "it has already been confirmed. She has power very similar to his. His men also kidnapped her and referred to her as their queen. She is no doubt his daughter."

"This is fvcking insane." James mumbles.

"We're talking about the overlords!"

"I know that this may be too much to ask for. There are others that I'm also willing to ask for help, but I couldn't think of anyone better to join this fight with me than all of you. You have the experience and the power to help me free my wife. Please, help me save her before they take her from me."

Austin pats my shoulder, "we promised we would help you after you stood by our side when we needed you. We will help. There is no question about it."

"They're not easy opponents." Arthur points out. "If we're going up against them, we are in for a dangerous fight. They are trained to deal with fighters like us. Fvck, they enjoy it also. And the council will also be on their side. That's not one strong force but two."

"All of our battles have been crazy." Isabella reminds everyone.

"She's right," Gabriella adds. "Autumn needs us, and I'm not backing down."

"Neither am I," Maya adds. "She needs our help. We have to save her. She was there for all of us when we needed her. We can't let her down."

I was grateful to have them on my side. My family had money, but when it came to good fighters, we weren't as fortunate as the others. After today, it's something I would work on, forming a stronger pack. We never needed one until now. I never thought this would ever happen to me. I had a peaceful life; I never saw the need to join battles or put my family's life in danger. All of that has changed now that Autumn needed me.

"We have plenty to discuss," Austin says. "Let's go inside and draw up a plan. Everyone that knows the inside and out of the overlords' palace can be of great help to us."

I nod and follow him. Whatever we were planning, we needed to act fast. I was running out of time.

~CASSIUS~

I pop a grape into my mouth and grab a knife from the table. I focus on the board in front of me, aiming my knife at the target. Before I can do anything, my mother's voice distracts me.

“Ca.ssius!” She cries from the cell. “Let me out of here, son!”

“I’m busy,” I murmur back, knowing she won’t be able to hear me. I didn’t want to speak with her.

“CASSIUS!” She shouts once more. I pinch my forehead in frustration; why wouldn’t she stay fvcking quiet? This was the tenth time she’d said my name since I returned home.

I storm over to the cell | built for her and narrow my eyes, “what the fvck do you want from me?”

Her eyes widen, and the sadness in her gaze feeds the darkness inside me, “this is not you, Ca.ssius. This is not the son that I raised as a baby. You’re not your father. You are nothing like your father. Please don’t let the darkness consume you as it did him. You never looked at me like this before; you always smiled and treated me with love. I don’t understand why you’re acting this way. What caused this change? I’m telling you again; you are not like your father.”

“How do you know that?” I growl. “You didn’t allow me to find this out on my own when you k!!led him. You k!!led my father. That’s why I’m going to let you suffer.”

She closes her eyes and presses her forehead against the iron bars, “I did it to save you. I did it to protect you, son. I did it to protect you and your sisters. Your father never loved you. He wanted to use you.”

“You’re lying!” I hiss. “He loved me. He loved my sisters. You’re the reason why we were all separated at birth. You’re the reason we were never able to be a family. You’re to blame for everything.”

I watch as the tear rolls down her cheek, “I love you, Ca.ssius. You are my child. I will never purposefully hurt you. Everything I did for you and your sisters was to protect you. I’m sorry if you think I made a mistake by separating you. It had to be done.”

I laugh, “this is why the overlords just took Autumn. You sure did an excellent job at protecting her, mother.”

Her eyes are wide with horror, “the overlords? What are they doing with Autumn? They’re not supposed to even know of her whereabouts or who she was. I’ve been keeping an eye on her for years, and she’s had a good, normal life. What changed? How did they find my baby?”

“It turns out that Autumn has more than one enemy, mother. Everyone either wants her or wants to get rid of her now that they know who she is.” I inform her. “You did not do as good a job hiding her as you thought.”

"You must save her son; you can't let them have her!" I chuckle, "Relax, mother. Autumn can take care of herself. I've seen what she can do. Despite not having our father's dark symbol, she did inherit some of his power. Besides, there are people that care about her; she's made quite a life for herself. Her mate will find a way to get her out. I don't have to step in and reveal myself so soon to everyone. I prefer to stay in the dark until I master my power."

"Ca.ssius!" She scolds me. "She's your sister. Your bl00d. How can you not help her?"

I glare at her, "my father was my bl00d as well, and yet you k!lled him. I'm afraid we're both huge disappointments. One can't protect his sister, and the other, she k!lls the father of her children. I pity you couldn't see all of the action go down. You should know that they're looking for you, the overlords; they're also looking for me but you already know this, I'm sure. They'll never find me, not until I'm ready."

"Autumn-"

"Ah, yes. Autumn. She's the real reason you k!lled our father. You were scared that she wouldn't be able to live up to his expectations. But look at her now, doing the same as he did. We're all the same as our father, mother. Does that mean you'll k!ll us as you did him?"

She looks distraught by my question. I return to eating my gr.apes and playing with my knife as she cries in the cell.

I'd seen what Autumn could do. If I thought she needed my help, I would have done something to aid her. It was my mother I had a problem with, not my sisters. Besides, if I wanted to continue in my father's footsteps, I would need the help of my sisters as well.

But there was time for all of that. I wouldn't rush any of it.

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19 minutes read

~AUTUMN~

Reading my mother's diary has become my new favorite thing to do. it made me feel closer to her. It was my only memory of her; I could read anything she wrote for hours. Surprisingly, it was my comfort during the time I spent locked in this room.

I didn't understand how she got the strength to k!ll my dad when she loved him so much. It must have broken her heart in two. What was he like? What did he look like? Was he scary to look at? Did his eyes look cold and soulless?

I was probably better off never knowing any of these things.

I'm still unsure what the overlords plan to do with me, but I was okay with them never coming to get me.

That thought quickly gets thrown out. My eyes are glued to the door when I hear footsteps coming my way. They were finally here for me. It's been a day since I've been locked in this room, and there has been no sign of Atticus or my family.

I was worried that the overlords had lied to me. Did they harm Atticus yesterday? Was that why I'd heard an explosion? Did they also punish his family as well as mine?

There were so many questions that I wish I had the answers to.

The door flies open, and I try to act unbothered by their presence. I didn't want to show them what they did to me.

"Come with us," Jagger says as he grabs my arm. Dash is also here, and I make another mental note to keep him out of my thoughts as much as possible.

Even if he could hear my thoughts, it didn't matter, I wasn't planning anything crazy, and it's also possible that Atticus wasn't coming for me.

I was alone. No one was coming for me. Not Atticus. Not my family. Not my friends. I had to sit back and watch them harm me.

"Where are you taking me?" I ask.

"We want to determine just how powerful you are," Owen answers me. I didn't expect him to give me a straightforward answer.

"And how do you plan on determining that?" I inquire, genuinely curious. I also wanted to know just how strong I was and what I could do. I wasn't sure if their method would be the right way.

"By inflicting pain on you." He answered me, and I immediately stopped walking.

"What?" I demand.

He quirks a brow at me, "did you think no pain would be involved? This has to be done for us to determine what to do with you. If you're not as dangerous as your father, we can keep you alive while locked in one of our cells designed for someone like you. However, if you're just as powerful as your father, we will have no choice but to get rid of you."

How could they possibly kill me? From what I've heard, there had to be a specific weapon to kill my father; I assume it would be the same for me.

But my father wasn't a hybrid; I am one; maybe I can be killed like any other werewolf.

Dash looks at me, and he smirks. Once again, he was reading my mind, invading my privacy.

"Aren't you supposed to be the good guys?" I demand. "You're supposed to protect the people. I haven't once harmed anyone innocent. I don't hurt others for my pleasure. Are you so scared of a girl that's done nothing to you or anyone around you because of who her father is?"

Alistair narrows his eyes, "we are the good guys. You may think we're being too harsh, but sometimes we need to make the hard decisions that no one else is willing to make. If you were any average person, none of this would have happened to you. You can't change who your father was, Autumn. He's the reason you are in this position."

Yet another reason to hate Azai Reign. It's official; he will haunt me for the rest of my life. He didn't want me as a baby, and even as a grown woman, he was still causing trouble for me.

Instead of moving me to a torture room, I'm surprised when they carry me to the balcony. Are they planning on hurting me out in the open? They tied my hands behind my back with a piece of string; it had to be something that would prevent me from using my power; they weren't stupid enough to tie my hands with any regular string and expect me not to get free.

"I'm sorry." Dash whispered as he finished tying my hands. I don't have time to ask him why when the first wave of pain hits me.

My eyes widen just as a cry rocks the atmosphere. It takes me a few minutes to realize the screams are coming from my mouth.

I didn't know what was happening; all I knew was that my body was on fire. It felt like someone had thrown me into a fire pit.

I wanted to beg them to stop; I wanted to let them know that it was too much, but I didn't want to seem weak. I didn't want to give the overlords the satisfaction of knowing how badly I was in pain.

I close my eyes and swallow my pain. To help, I let myself think of all the good times I had with Atticus. I imagined that he was here, next to me, holding my hands, promising me that he was near. I imagined that he was kissing me, giving me the strength that I needed to keep on fighting.

They were waiting for me to snap; they wanted to see if I could break free from their hold on me. If I showed too much power, they would never free me.

But I was weak. I didn't have enough power to break free. No matter how hard I tried, I couldn't let go. I couldn't escape. I was not my father. I didn't have his strength. Soon enough, they would realize that I was harmless; I wouldn't cause the same problems that my father did.

I wince when the pain increases suddenly. Stay strong, Autumn. Stay strong.

~ATTICUS~

"Is everything ready for the ambush?" Hunter asks his men.

My hands were shaking; I couldn't control my anger and anxiety as I waited for the signal. It was taking too long; everything was taking too long to get to Autumn.

I fucking missed her so much. I wanted to have her in my arms. I wanted to tell her I remembered her; I wanted her to know I had remembered every second of falling in love with her the first time. I wanted her to know how much she's always meant to me.

Damon squeezes my shoulder, "don't worry, brother. She's going to be okay. We're going to bring her back home safely."

My jaw clenched; I wasn't sure if she was okay. I wasn't sure what condition they had her in. All I knew was that Autumn had sacrificed herself for my family. I've never met another woman like her.

No one compared to her, absolutely no one.

"We know where all their guards are; with this information, we can easily enter their palace," Austin says. "That's where it will get a little tricky. They have many traps throughout that building to prevent enemies from getting to them. Prepare for the worst the moment that you step inside."

I'm trying to pay attention to all of the last-minute warnings. We didn't have much time to prepare. The Blackners helped leak information to us, but we weren't sure how accurate any of it was. Only when we got inside would we be able to confirm what was true and what was a lie.

I'm about to say something when suddenly, I can't move. My heart and body hurt like never before. This pain was unlike anything I'd ever experienced. Suddenly, I understand what's happening; I know why I feel this horrible.

They're hurting her. They're hurting my mate.

I blink once, then twice, and let out an angry roar. All eyes are on me.

“What’s going on?” Hunter asks as he joins my side.

“They’re hurting her,” I tell him. “I can feel her pain.”

My knuckles tightened, and I tried breathing because fvck me, I forgot how to do it. I can’t think or focus on anything around me. All I can think about is her and what they’re doing to her.

“It’s time to move!” Hunter roars.

“We will get to her in time,” Clarissa assured me.

Griffin and Dante are also here, and so is Autumn’s family. They’re all panicking, just like I am.

I tried to clear my head despite the constant tension in my heart.

I was coming, Autumn. Just wait a little longer for me, I’m coming for you, and nothing and no one can fvcking stop me.

~ANYA~

“Austin, Hunter, James, Lucas, Arthur, and so many others are helping them.” Our spy informs my mother. “I’ve never seen an army of so many powerful people come together to fight against the overlords. They’re going to war to free Autumn.”

I watch as my mother’s face turns red with anger. It may surprise her, but I knew how many people cared about the Fawns; I knew how many people also adored Autumn. I didn’t understand why they did, but it didn’t change the fact that it was true.

“What the hell are so many people doing helping them?” My mother screams. “They’re ruining my fvcking plans!”

Out of all the times I’ve seen my mother angry, this was the worst. Her plan was working until powerful packs decided to help the Fawns.

“You should have been prepared, mother.” I taunt her as she loves doing to me. “The Fawns have many allies; it was expected they would have help from so many people. With the kind of money that they have, they can also pay anyone to help them.”

“This is not good.” She hissed. “If Autumn gets freed from the overlords, we won’t get another chance to get rid of Atticus’s parents. They will be too powerful. No one will be able to stop them.”



“Do you think the overlords may win the battle?” I ask the spy.

He shrugs his shoulders, “I only share information, miss. I cannot see the future. But the Fawns have an almost unbeatable team on their side. The overlords possess plenty of power, and the council is there to help them, but there’s no telling who will win the fight.”

“Knowing how the council works, they will ask the overlords to let her go.” My mother says with worry in her voice. “They’re brutal fighters, but they don’t enter battles if they know there’s a high possibility they will lose.

“Then what do you propose that we do?” I ask her. My mother wasn’t one to give up because of a slight inconvenience. Her plan was working perfectly until now. If Autumn were freed, we would need another plan. Her plans weren’t the only ones that were getting messed up by the sudden turn of events. My chances of being with Atticus had also decreased now that he was so close to getting her back. I was willing to do whatever it took to make my mother’s plan work.

“I have to attack now.” She says as her eyes light up. “it isn’t what I initially planned to do, but I’ll have to make it a surprise attack. I’ll hold them hostage until their children return. One by one, I would hurt every person close to their hearts while they watched. It isn’t my original plan, but it’s better than letting them live happily.”

She was planning on kidnapping Atticus’s parents. This is insane. This was not how the plan was supposed to go. If she kidnapped them, wouldn’t that mean they would know who I am? I wasn’t ready to reveal the truth.

“Does this mean you’ll tell them the truth about me?” I ask. “Are you going to tell them I’m your daughter? I’m not sure if that’s the right thing to do, mother.”

I had to convince her that this wasn’t the right plan.

She shook her head, “not yet.” She answers me.

“I’ll wait for the last few minutes of their lives to inform them about you.” I breathe a sigh of relief.

I was terrified of Atticus’s reaction when he finally learned the truth about me. I didn’t want him to hate me. Autumn had already turned him against me; I couldn’t imagine what would happen when he found out that my mother hated his parents. I can’t imagine what he would do when he realized that I helped my mother with many of her plans to destroy his relationship with Autumn.

We’re also the reason there will be a fight between the overlords and his family.

There’s so much that he still didn’t know, and I didn’t ever want Atticus to know any of this.

If it were up to me, he would never find out the truth.

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0 6 minutes read

~AUTUMN~

I cry out as they continue to increase the intensity of my t\*\*\*\*e. In the middle of my screams, I hear a piercing howl. My heart skips a beat. Surely that wasn't what I thought it was.

There's another and another. My heart rate doubles as my hope intensifies. The howls continue to increase, telling me there are more wolves than I can count heading our way. They were coming for me. My mate, my family, my friends, they were all coming to save me. Everything moves in slow motion after the sudden realization. I wasn't the only one to notice, the overlords did as well but how could they not?

The pain stops, and I drop to the ground without warning. I'd managed to stay upright the entire time, fighting back as much as I could.

"What the hell is that?" Jagger demands.

"It's an ambush" Dash says with his eyes glowing.

"They're coming our way. Prepare for a battle!"

There's shouting all around me. I didn't think the overlords had ever looked this worried. I knew what they were capable of doing. I knew that I could lose the people I loved and cared about today if I didn't find a way to stop all of this from happening. I wish there were another way to resolve this. I wanted the overlords to believe me when I told them I was nothing like my father.

"How dare they step foot in our territory?" Alistair growls. "No one has ever been stupid or b.rave enough to question our choices.!"

"It's because of her," Owen says with dark eyes.

"They love her. She's even more dangerous because she's loved. There are people in this world that would give their lives to protect her."

My eyes widen at his words. I didn't realize how loved I was until now. Despite not having my biological family by my side since a child, I still managed to find people that loved me like I was their own. My heart swelled with love and appreciation for each of them.

I was even more desperate to save them now.

It was up to me to do everything in my power to protect them. They were here for me, and I wouldn't be able to live with myself if anyone lost their life today because of me. Somehow or the other, I would find a way to keep everyone I cared about away from danger.

"All of this can be stopped!" I try to reason with them. "There's no need for a battle today. If you listen to me, if you open your mind to what I have to say, this can all end."

I was hoping that I could find a way to get them to act rationally. They knew just as much as I did that both sides would be in danger due to this upcoming battle.

"How do you propose that?" Jagger asks.

"You need to let me go," I answer him. "They're here for me. They won't leave until you give me up. If this battle begins, we are going to lose plenty. I'm not the only one who will lose people I care about; you will also lose those closest to you. Please stop this before it's too late. If I remember correctly if one of you dies before you can give your power to another, that power ends with you. I don't think you want that to happen today. Everything you've worked for will be destroyed in one day if you choose pride over your safety."

It was the truth. I wasn't just saying it to scare them. This had to be stopped before anyone got hurt.

"This isn't about pride, girl!" Alistair hissed. "This is about the safety of our world and its people. You are still not to be trusted. You've heard what your father did to others, but you weren't here to witness it. You never saw it with your own eyes; that's why you don't understand how dangerous you can become the second that you lose control of your body. That darkness could consume you the moment that it gets a chance to do so and there would be nothing that you or I could do to stop it."

I try not to be affected by his words. It was true that I was never able to witness the destruction my father caused in the past. That didn't mean I would become my father. Why couldn't they understand this?

My father wanted to rule the world; I do not. I want to live a peaceful life surrounded by the people I love.

That's the difference between us. He didn't know how to love but I do.

"How am I not to be trusted?" I demand. "Who have I ever hurt that didn't deserve it? I'm not a monster. Didn't you just put me through a test? Did I fail or pass? I didn't attack anyone even though I was in so much pain. You were able to keep me under your control. Does that not tell you anything at all?"

They are all quiet, but I can tell that they still do not trust me. They are already convinced that I will be just as dangerous as Azai. I didn't know what I could do to convince them I would be nothing like him.

"She's right," Dash says. All eyes are now on him.

I'm surprised he agrees with me. His brothers look angry that he's the only one that seems to be on my side. They aren't blood brothers, but that's what they refer to each other as. "We can save many lives today if we let her go. I've been reading her mind; she's not as dangerous as we thought. Autumn Reign is not her father. She's kind and gentle; she has a heart; he didn't have one. She cares about the people around her, while he never did"

I flinched at my name. I was not a Reign! I didn't want to be one.

"We can't just let them get away with this," Owen growls. "If they get out of here without a scratch, everyone will think it's okay to break all the rules. If everyone begins to think that way, then our world will never be able to have peace again. That can't happen."

"You're being stubborn for no reason!" I growl.

"You're willing to put your brothers in danger so that you can prove a point?"

Why couldn't they listen to me? Why weren't they listening to Dash? He seemed to be the only one thinking rationally out of all the overlords.

"It may seem stupid to someone like you, but they understand why we must fight today." He tells me as he points to the others. "They know what we have to do. When we swore to accept our roles as overlords, we knew that it wouldn't be easy, we knew that there would be times where we had to make difficult decisions. We are not backing down from this battle."

My lips tremble with frustration. Nothing I said was convincing them.

"Get into contact with the council. Tell them that we need them right this second. Tell them to bring their strongest men.!" He shouts to the others. "With them by our side; we will be invincible.!"

My heart drops at his words. This was actually happening. I could barely catch my breath as the news hit me harder than before.

I don't get a chance to say anything else. They're all running throughout the palace; Jagger grabs my arms and runs with me to a cell, where he throws me into.

I watch with horror as he presses something on the screen in front of him. Whatever it was, it must have been to keep me locked inside of here.

“Listen to me,” I beg. “You need to convince them to stop this. You will lose your family. I know they’re your family. You will lose them, Jagger. I’ve seen these men fight; I’m sure you’ve heard everything about them. They’re popular for the battles they’ve won when joined together. Save yourself the trouble, and just let me go. I promise that I’m not just saying this to mess with your head. I’m saying this to save people that we both care about.”

He glares at me, obviously not happy that I was hinting they weren’t strong enough to win this battle. I was not trying to insult him or the others. Why couldn’t they see that? What else could I do to get them to listen to me? I was running out of options. Jagger was the last person that could help me stop this. The others were already preparing for impact.

“if we go down, the people you love and care about are surely going down as well.” He growls.

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I gasped, his words were like a punch to my stomach. I watch as he storms away from me join the others.

They weren’t going to play nice. None of them were. And the council would be here any minute now.

I drop myself onto the ground as I pray for a miracle to save everyone involved.

Images of Atticus flashed before my mind. I’ve loved him for too long to let this be the end for us.

Since we’ve married, we haven’t gotten a single day without someone or something trying to separate us.

I couldn’t just sit here and watch everything happen. The overlords didn’t know that I was hiding my power, pretending that I was weak earlier so that they didn’t think of me as a threat anymore.

While it may have worked to convince Dash, the rest of the overlords hadn’t been convinced.

If I tried hard enough, I could break free from the cell. I had faith that I could do it. I could always fight the hardest when the people I cared about were involved. This time they were all here, every single one of them, I could feel their strong presence. My love for them will help me break free.

I grab the iron bars and my eyes widen when it burns me. An involuntary cry leaves my mouth as the pain travels throughout my body. I'm fvckingd to let go and stare at it in horror. It wasn't any average cell; it was most likely designed just for my father or recently built just for me. Was this the cell they planned on locking me in once they decided to keep me alive? It had to be. They would have used all their resources to ensure it was strong enough to trap me for as long as they desired.

I listen closely as the howls get louder. This only means that they'd reached the palace. A chill runs down my spine. They were moving quickly.

I was running out of time to stop this mess.

"DASH!" I scream. "Jagger! Someone! Anyone! Stop this madness!"

I knew it was useless calling out to them, but I was desperate to try anything.

The thought of anything horrible happening to Atticus was klling me inside. I was supposed to keep him safe; letting the overlords take me from his home was a decision that I made to protect both him and his family.

My plan was backfiring. I thought I was doing the right thing by letting them take me, but I only realized that I'd put more people's lives in danger by my actions.

My eyes widen when I hear a roar followed by a collision. It was happening.

The fight had started between them, yet I was still locked inside this damn cell! I was going to miss the entire battle if I didn't find a way to get out of this blasted thing!

My hands are trembling with fear for the lives of the people I love the most. I close my eyes as I try to find the inner strength I need to break free. I didn't know how powerful I was, but I knew that nothing would stop me today from saving those that I loved.

I continued to think of Atticus, Clarissa, my parents, my siblings, Griffin and his brothers, Gabriella, Maya, and their families.

Say it.

Say it.

Say it.

I covered my ears as the words kept repeating in my head.

'Bound by this cell, break me free with this spell.'

'Bound by this cell, break me free with this spell.'

My eyes flash open, and I can feel the darkness within me rise, "BOUND BY THIS CELL. BREAK ME FREE WITH THIS SPELL!"

I'm shouting, screaming the words. I don't even blink when the iron bars break in half in front of me and go flying into the walls.

My lips part as I watch the entire thing break apart. The sound it makes forces me to cover my ear. It was crazy to think that the overlords must have been convinced this cell would be able to hold me but somehow, I was able to break the entire thing into multiple pieces right before my eyes.

Luckily, no one was guarding me. Everyone was too busy in the battle to realize that I'd just broken free from the cell. This was my opportunity to get the hell out of here.

My heart was pounding as I ran throughout the palace, following the sounds. There are so many growls and deafening screams that I am scared I'm already too late.

"Atticus!" I screamed as I ran through the halls.

"ATTICUS!"

I was terrified that they'd already gotten to him. I know he can't hear me, and I should keep my mouth shut before the overlords realize I'd gotten free, but I can't stop myself. I need to find him. I need to confirm that he's safe.

I rushed out into the balcony; I knew I could get a good view of everything from there. I spot Austin's and Hunter's wolves; they're doing insane damage to their opponents. It was hard to find who I was looking for with the number of wolves all attacking at the same time.

A loud horn pierces the sky, and my heart sinks when I see members from the black council only a short distance away. They'd finally reached. It will get only worse from here.

There was still no sign of Atticus. I was beginning to panic. I had no idea where to find him. He was supposed to be with the others. Where was he? Where was my mate? I was crying out inside for him. If anything happens to him, I will never be able to forgive myself.

My heart stops beating when someone grabs me from behind. I gasp when his lips crash to my neck, "thank God I've found you."

And just like that, my heart begins to beat again.

Atticus.



I couldn't believe he was holding me. Was it possible that I was hallucinating?

I slowly turn around in his arm, and my eyes widen as I stare at him. It was indeed my mate, my husband. I slowly reach up and drag my hand down his face. Blood was all over his body, and I had no idea how much he'd fought to get to me.

I hate seeing so many bruises on his body. I wanted to kiss away his pain. I wished that my lips could heal each wound.

He leaned into my touch, and I couldn't hold back my tears as I kissed his forehead. He kisses me back, on my hair, my temples, my cheek, my nose, my chin, and finally, he crashes his lips to mine.

I held onto him tightly and let my body drown in his kisses.

He slowly pulled away from me to hold my cheeks in his hands. "There's something I want to ask." He whispers.

Something he wanted to ask? Now? In the middle of a battle?

I couldn't say no, not when he looked at me like this was our last time together.

"Ask me."

I wanted to care about everything else, but if these were our last moments together, I wanted to spend them in his arms. I wanted to treasure this moment with him. I wanted him to know just how much I loved him. It would have been perfect if he had all memories of the past, all memories of our times together.

"I'm asking for a chance to let me prove to you that I'm different now. I'm asking for a chance to prove that you're the most important woman in my life-no one else. I know I can't just say words and expect you to believe them, but please, give me this one chance. I can't function knowing you've given up on me, Autumn. I need to know that there is still time to fix things between us. After everything you've been through, this may be asking too much of you, but please, give me this chance." He finally says.

I gasp. I can't speak. Those words. He's said them to me in the past; this was before he'd lost his memories of us, before the accident.

Did this mean what I thought it meant? My lips parted as I stared at him; I was shocked. It was hard for me to think clearly. There's so much racing in my mind and my heart.

"W-what did you just say?" I stammer.

He smiles, and my heart melts, "I love you, Autumn Rivera Fawn. I loved you even before my body understood what love was. I'm sorry that it took me this long to tell you.



I'm sorry that it took me this long to remember you. I'm sorry for forgetting our memories to begin with. I could never understand how anything could make me forget the greatest thing that ever happened to me."

"You remember?" I gasp, unable to keep the joy in my heart from showing in my expression.

He picked me up into his arms, and I grabbed shoulders to steady myself. "No words could make up for all the wrong I've done to you, Autumn.

I wish I knew how much you've loved me since the beginning. I know in my heart that I would have chosen you. I'm ashamed of myself for not realizing my feelings sooner. Please say that you'll forgive me for everything."

The tears are flowing now, and he leans forward and kisses them, "how can I not forgive you, Atticus? Even without your memory, you've been nothing but good to me. If anything, I've grown to love you more than I did initially. I love you so much, Atticus Fawn. No one will ever compare to you. I knew I wanted you since the beginning, and that never changed, even after our marriage. It's always been only you, and it will always be.

He smiles, and it's a smile that lights up his face.

"Now, let's find a way to get out of here alive, so I can spend the rest of my life loving you," Atticus whispers against my ear.

I shivered at his words, and I was even more determined to get us out of this place alive.

"The council is here," I say as I look down in horror.

He stiffens, "Austin expected this. The others are waiting for the right moment to attack."

"Was this your plan to have the upper hand?" I ask him, terrified.

He nods, "they're waiting for our signal."

"No, no, no." I gasp. "Dash can read minds, Atticus. He will know where the others are hidden. Wherever they are, tell them to get out of there immediately"

Just as those words left my mouth, a loud explosion rocked our surroundings.

Atticus covered my body with his, and a deadly silence followed.

"DAMONNN!!" Clarissa's piercing scream sends us all into a state of panic.

I grab Atticus's shoulders, "who was there?" I demand. Who was there during the explosion? Who did we lose?

Clarissa's screams do not stop. Atticus picks me up into his arms and jumps off the balcony with me. We fall onto Austin's wolf. He's racing through the crowd with us on his back; he's heading back to the others where the explosion happened.

I'm surprised when there is nothing except burnt trees. There was no sign of any bodies anywhere. With such a dangerous explosion, I think we all expected worse than this. Where was everyone?

We step down from Austin's wolf and take a look around us. Clarissa is right behind me with tears all over her face. She runs into my arms and I hug her tightly.

"I'm sure Damon is going to be okay." I try to soothe her. But where could they be? They couldn't have known about the explosion, so then where were they?

"They were supposed to be here." She tells me.

"They were all supposed to be waiting for when the council arrived. While we dealt with the overlords, the other half was supposed to take care of the council. That was our plan since the beginning. I left Damon here. He should be here with the others."

I rub her back gently, "it's a good sign that he isn't here. It means there is a chance that they all escaped. Let's stay strong and keep on looking."

"DAMON!" She screams at the top of her lungs.

"DAMONN!"

"I'm right here," he responds. "There's no need for all of the screaming, Clarissa."

We both froze and turned towards his voice.

She gasped as soon as she saw him. I watch as she ran straight into his waiting arms.

"I must say, Clarissa, I'm a bit hurt that you were more worried about Damon than me." Griffin complains, pretending to be in emotional pain. Her face turns red with embarrassment at his words as she slowly lets go of Damon.

"You know I was also scared for you." She says.

Dante sighs, "it's not like we don't already know that Damon is her favorite by now."

"Just because I screamed Damon's name doesn't mean I wasn't worried for the rest of you!" She says.

The other members from Austin's pack show up behind us. They were all here, everyone that was supposed to be dead by the deadly explosion.

"I don't understand," Austin says. "How did you survive?" He asks as he hugs his pack members

The Blackners join us next. Were they also a part of this? Did they come to save me as well?

They shrug their shoulders, "to be honest, we aren't sure what happened. Everything turned black, and before we knew it, we were all transported out from where we were standing to a safer location. We were confused by it for a few seconds but that was when the explosion hit."

"That doesn't make any sense," Austin says.

"What the hell could have caused that? And how did they know where you were?"

"Dash can read minds. He must have read all of yours to determine your strategy. You have to think opposite thoughts if you want to win against them." I inform everyone.

"I knew they had a secret fvcking weapon."

Austin mumbles. "But why did they disclose that information to you?"

I sigh, "I don't think they ever expected to let me go. They wanted to either k!!! me or lock me in a cell forever. They didn't expect that I had the most amazing friends and family behind me."

Atticus smiles and k!sses my cheek. "How can anyone not come for you?"

"We need to get back to the others." I remind them. "They're facing both the overlords and the council at the same time. We have an advantage now that they think they've k!!!ed some of us."

Hopefully, this will be enough for us to win.

"Stay behind me at all times," Atticus tells me.

I know he wants to protect me, but this was my fight. They almost k!!!ed people who meant a lot to me.

All this time, I've been holding back, showing my true potential because I thought that it would have caused more harm than good. Now I knew that to escape from these people, I had no choice but to allow my dark side to lead. I had to show them what I was capable of doing to anyone that messed with my family and friends.

They'd made up their minds to dislike me.

Whether I behaved well or badly would not make difference. If they wanted to treat me like a monster, I could act like one.

Austin shifts back into his wolf form, and so do the others. Atticus stays in front of me, protecting me from anyone that tries to hurt me. He didn't have to do it, but yet he did.

I enjoy seeing the look of surprise on the council's faces when they realized that we were all still alive despite the explosion that was planned.

They couldn't get rid of us that easily.

Arthur grabs one of the council's men by the neck and sends them to the ground. Lucy tackles one that tries to hurt Austin.

I looked around me; everyone that I loved was here and fighting. My parents rushed forward and hugged me the first chance they got; my siblings were next.

Gabriella and Maya were not on the battlefield, but they were still close in case anything awful happened to their mates.

I felt sorry for Lucy; she was fighting against her family. Her father and brothers were all tied to the council; they had no choice but to fight alongside them. They avoided each other during battle, but I wasn't sure how long they could keep that up.

Cassandra, the council's representative for witches, was leading them with the prosecutor by her side. Draven, Sir Vincent's son, was killing mercilessly. I'd already seen someone from James's pack die, and I saw others from the pack feel the pain of his loss.

How much more would we lose in battle? It had only just begun, and no one seemed like they were going to stop anytime soon.

"LUTHAIS!" Lucy's horrified scream cut through my thoughts.

I follow her gaze and instantly realize that Luthais was one of her brothers. He was working for the council and others when one of the members from Hunter's pack attacked him.

There's a silver sword sticking out of his chest, and I watch in horror as blood comes out of his mouth. His eyes are almost entirely white, and his skin is changing color.

I can hear the cry of Eden and Isabella's wolves from a distance. They were also not part of the battle, but they must have heard Lucy's gut-wrenching cry, or maybe they felt it in their hearts that their brother was seriously hurt.

The overlords saw this as an opportunity to attack the rest of us now that we were all shocked over Luthais dying.

I watch with horror as Atticus is lifted into the air suddenly.

“ATTICUS!” I scream. They’re repeating what they did to him in the past. His body shook as they tortured him mid-air.

He’s not the only one. They have Hunter next.

One by one, they’re torturing the people that I cared about. They’d caught us by surprise and used our shock to their advantage.

This couldn’t be happening. My eyes moved from left to right, watching as they continuously took people I cared about. Sir Vincent had my mother’s throat in his hands and was squeezing tightly. It was like I was having the worst nightmare possible.

Griffin is the next person that they take to the. They try to grab Clarissa, but Damon saves her just in time.

Atticus cries out as they increase his the.

“STOP HURTING THEM!” I scream. “Please stop it!”

No matter how much I begged, they weren’t listening to me.

I couldn’t take it anymore. I couldn’t lose these people. I couldn’t let them take them from me. I wouldn’t allow it.

“I’m warning you!” I scream. “Stop it, or you’ll regret it!”

Rain comes down from nowhere next, soaking all of us. There’s red everywhere from all of the blood. I can still hear the groans and roars of my loved ones above the sound of rain pounding onto my body.

“Oh no, we’re so scared.” Sir Vincent proceeds to taunt me. “Why don’t you come to say goodbye to your mother before I end her life in front of you? When you’re done, you can also say goodbye to Atticus.”

I lift my head towards the sky and let out a piercing scream.

I watch as the water droplets join together into what seems to be a chain made only from water. It grabs onto the necks of all council members, choking each of them. It doesn’t stop there; it moves onto the overlords next. A knife is ripped from inside the palace; they’re all watching it in horror as it goes straight for Owen. My eyes narrowed as they pierced his heart. He shouts a piercing roar as he drops to the ground in front of

his brothers. The link is broken between them, and Atticus falls back to the ground. I run to him and wrap my arms around his neck. He holds my waist to steady me before pulling me on top of him. We're both on the ground holding onto each other, but I don't care. I'm just happy to have him in my arms again.

Isabella and Eden joined us next as we all ran to Lucy, who was holding Luthais in her arms.

Hunter and James hold onto their mates as they scream for their brother.

Owen points at Luthais. They're both dying. Not just one. He doesn't say anything, but Dash seems to understand him as he drags his body to Luthais.

"What are you doing?" Lucy screams. "Do not touch my brother, or I will kill you!"

"He's trying to save him!" Dash growls. "If he transfers all of his power to Luthais, he will be saved."

"It's true!" Lucy's father confirms. "Let him do it. Let him save my son."

I watch in amazement as Owen touches his forehead to Luthais, unconscious and barely breathing. A red light surrounds them for a few seconds before disappearing. Owen drops to the ground, completely lifeless, leaving his brothers mourn his loss.

Lucy holds Luthais against her as her brothers surround them. They're all looking down at him with pale faces.

"Why is nothing happening?" Isabella cries.

"Why is my brother not waking up?"

"Izzy?" Luthais croaks.

We all gasp after hearing his voice. Everyone begins to celebrate when he opens his eyes and hugs Lucy back. They can't stop their tears from having their brother alive and safely tucked in their arms. Lucy's father leans down and pulls his son into his arms. My heart swells with joy to know that we have him back.

We're shocked when all of the overlords surround him.

"What are you doing?" Isabella growls.

"Luthais Cross, son of Richard Cross, you are now a member of the overlords, and as such, you must follow all of our rules or be killed" The overlords say in unison. "What will your choice be? Do you accept our offer, or do you decline?"

“What?” Lucy demands. “What the hell are they speaking about? He’s not an overlord!”

“He is one now. The moment Owen passed his power onto him, he became one. Let’s not forget that the only reason he’s alive today is that Owen chose him.” Jagger growls.

Luthais looks almost in a daze as he looks at everyone around him. I think he’s tired of the fighting, we all are, but we are willing to continue if it means it can set him free.

“I accept.”

His entire family is outraged by his response, but it doesn’t stop him from getting up and joining the overlords.

“But I have a condition; I want this stupid fight to stop immediately. We’ve lost too much already. As the overlords, you should be more concerned with protecting the people. Autumn is not a threat if you don’t try to hurt her first. Let her go; besides, Autumn cannot be as strong as her father without her brother and sister. The power was split amongst them. Since no one knows where her siblings are, I think it’s safe to say that she isn’t a threat.”

“Okay.” Dash cuts in. “You have a deal. Everyone has ten minutes to get the fvck out of our territory. Luthais, you’re one of us now, which means you stay here.”

~CASSIUS~

It was never my intention to save my sisters’ friends. But if the overlords killed them, their chances of getting out alive would have been slim. I didn’t want to risk it. I needed both of them alive.

The only way for that to happen was to keep the people trying to free Autumn alive.

They’re lucky that I decided to pass in for a few minutes just to see what everyone was like in the middle of battle. If I hadn’t been there, many would have died from that explosion meant for the werewolves.

I was the one that protected them from the explosion.

Everything happened so quickly that none of them were even aware that I was there.

I stayed long enough to ensure that they’d gotten out.

I wasn’t about to let my mother believe that they’d survived, however. I wanted her to grieve just like I suffered when I found out she’d killed my father. If she thought the overlords had both of my sisters locked in their dungeons and were waiting for the right moment to kill them, she would blame herself until she died.

“Ca.ssius!” My mother shouts my name. Today I would not let her voice annoy me.

I was getting better at ignoring her. I couldn’t deny that she was good at pissing me off, however.

“Are my daughters safe?” she cries. “Please tell me that you protected them.”

Why did she always choose when I was in the middle of a game to bother me?

“CASSIUS!” She shouts. “I know you can hear me son. Please tell me everything that happened. Did they free Autumn? Is she okay?”

This was my time to shine. I couldn’t wait to break her heart!

## **The Unwanted Bride Of Atticus Fawn Chapter 75 - Tips**

0 9 minutes read

~ATTICUS~

I can’t stop staring at Autumn. This was what love felt like when you finally accepted it. It was fvcking amazing.

I loved this woman more than I loved anything in this fvcking world. Others were terrified of her power, but I was amazed at her strength. She saved everyone today. I don’t even know if she acknowledges how amazing she is.

Isabella runs over to my mate and h.ugs her tightly. “Thank you for saving my mate. Thank you for also saving my brother. You’re the one that stopped the overlords and the council from taking so many of our loved ones from us.”

“What are you saying?” Autumn asks in shock.

“I should be thanking you and your family. They were only placed in danger because they were trying to save me. I’ll forever be indebted to all of you. Words cannot explain how much joy it brings me to know that I have such amazing friends. You’re like family to me.”

She isn’t the only one to thank Autumn for what she did today; almost everyone at the battle told her how amazing she was. She took my breath away and I’m sure she did the same for the others.

How could anyone ever think that she would be anything like her father? Autumn had a heart, something her father never did. She protected the people she cared about. I was so damn proud of her and I wished that she could see herself through my eyes. She would realize just how much I adored everything about her.



"Your eyes are glowing with love," Damon says with a chuckle. "Everyone can see it from a mile away."

I glance at him for a second before returning my attention to the love of my life. The woman I would give everything for. How did I ever get so lucky? I laugh, "what can I say, brother? Love has never felt this good."

Even with Anya, it never felt like this. Autumn was different and she proved that every single day.

"What do you think saved us from that explosion?" He asks me. "You should have been there Atticus, it's hard to explain in words what happened. I don't understand what caused us to move from one place to another and so quickly. Someone saved us and I wish I knew who it was so that I could thank them."

I didn't understand who would do something like that for us.

The man that saved me from the accident suddenly makes an appearance in my head. He said his name was Cassius. I still wasn't sure if it was him. But it matches the description of what happened to Damon and the others today. One minute I was in the vehicle and the next I was on the road, staring at the explosion.

If it was him, why is he saving us? We didn't know him but on that day it seemed like he knew me. It seemed like he knew I was trying to save Autumn.

Without much information on him, there wasn't anything I could really find out. But Cassius wasn't a name I've heard a lot around here, maybe I could do some digging up and see what I could find out.

"I never felt this happy to be going home finally," Dante says next to us. "It's been a long day. Too much has happened. I like to go home and see our parents. And then, I'll like to see Anya. She must be terribly worried about us."

This was just another way that Anya was different from Autumn. If I was in a dangerous battle like this, Autumn would be there by my side even if she knew her life would be in danger.

She turns to look at me and I can't help but smile.

I loved her so fucking much and I can't wait to tell her this every single day for the rest of our lives.

I couldn't wait to get home, either. To hold Autumn in my arms and shower her with all the love I had built inside me. I was waiting for the right opportunity to have her all to myself.

"I'm sorry about Luthais." I apologize to Lucy and her family. "I knew asking for your help would put your family in danger, but I was desperate to get Autumn back."

"Don't apologize." Lucy scolds me. "You and Autumn helped me save my son. Austin and I would gladly lay down our lives for both of you. Besides, this was the council's fault. My brothers have no choice but to work for them. My sisters were once tied to them as well. If Luthais were free to choose, none of this would have happened. My other brothers are also in danger every day they're forced to be with the council. I wish there was a way for us to free them. I've offered multiple times but they don't want to put my family in danger. I also have a son that I must protect no matter what. He comes first, I almost lost Roman once, Austin and I haven't been the same since that scare, we are a lot more cautious now. We don't start battles unless we have no other choice"

Being an overlord wasn't easy. His life had just taken a turn for the worse. I was grateful for Austin and Lucy. For everyone else besides them also. If they ever needed us for anything, we would gladly be there for them.

"I think it's time for us to leave now," I tell the others. "I'm sure everyone is exhausted after the fight."

They all agreed with me. Austin's family invited us to their place but we had to decline. I just wanted to get home with my mate and my siblings.

I take Autumn's hand and guide her to the waiting jeep. Damon would be driving. I wanted to spend every second holding her in my arms from now on.

She snuggled into my arms and placed one hand on my chest. I kiss her hair and inhale her scent. She always smells so fucking good.

A few minutes into the drive and Autumn falls asleep in my arms. I smiled at how adorable she was.

I close my eyes and enjoy the rest of the ride with her still locked in my arms, away from danger. I could see myself spending the rest of my life this way. I couldn't imagine anyone else but her next to me. It was insane that a few weeks ago I wasn't sure who to choose between her and Anya. I was stupid back then.

How could I not see what I could clearly see now? How was I never able to see that the answer was always Autumn, no one else?

At least that was all behind us now. This was a mistake I would never make again. I tightened my hold on her and she m0ans in her sleep.

“What the fvck?” Damon shouts. The tension in his voice fvcked me to open my eyes, Autumn was also awakened because of it.

I follow his gaze, and my body runs cold at the sight in front of me.

Our home.

It was on fire.

“What’s going on?” Clarissa asks in horror.

“Why is our home on fire? What the hell is happening?”

It wasn’t a simple fire either. The flames were roaring and there were multiple explosions that could be heard from inside the vehicle.

~AUTUMN~

I was still sleepy when Damon’s voice woke me up. The last thing I expected to see was our home on fire.

What had caused this?

Was it an accident or was someone responsible for this disaster?

Damon brings the jeep to an abrupt stop, and we all rush out. I’m right behind Atticus as he runs into the house; all of the guards are dead. Every single one of them. It was clear that this wasn’t an accident. Someone was definitely responsible.

It wasn’t looking good for us. Where could his parents be? Were they even alive?

“Mom?” Atticus calls. My heart drops at the panic in his voice.

“Dad?” Griffin shouts.

Still, there are no responses. Half of the mansion was on fire, and the other half was trashed. They’d broken all the glasses and appliances all over the house. Who had done such a horrible thing?

His parents were still nowhere to be found. We searched the entire house, at least the parts that the fire wasn’t stopping us from entering.

“What the fvck happened here?” Dante asks as he scans his surroundings.

The smoke was burning my eyes and scratching my throat.

“Do you think the council is behind this?” Damon asks. “They always play dirty. Maybe they lied to us; this could have been their way to get back at us.”

“I don’t think this is their work.” Atticus disagrees. “They are many things, but I don’t think they would risk another battle to get even with us.”

This is the work of someone else, an unknown enemy. Whoever it is was waiting for the right opportunity, and they took it while we were preoccupied in battle.”

Clarissa looks distraught as she looks around her adoptive parents’ room, “they’re not here. They should be here. Where are they?”

“I hate to say this,” Damon whispers. “But judging by this mess and destruction, whoever did this, must have taken mom and dad as well.”

“They’re not finished with us,” Atticus says.

“Why the fvck is this happening to us? It’s only been a few hours since our last battle. Now, our parents are missing.

Dante throws a chair onto the floor in his frustration.

“There has to be something we can do to find out who’s done this,” I say.

“We don’t have to.” Clarissa gasps. “They left a note for us.”

I followed her gaze; she was right; it was a note stuck to the front door. How did we miss this?

Atticus runs a hand down his face, “we were right. They have our parents.”

“What the fvck does anyone want with mom and dad?” Griffin demands. “They haven’t done a single thing to anyone.”

“They’re asking that we come alone,” Atticus says. “Ali of us except Autumn.”

“What?” I demand. “If your parents are in danger, I want to be there to help them.”

Atticus takes a step toward me and gently grabs my shoulders, “I know you think that it will be better if you’re there, but after everything, after almost losing you, I want you to be safe. I don’t want to put your life in danger again, Autumn. Please, for my sake, stay here. Your parents will stay with you. Just until I return for you.”

I closed my eyes; this was his parents, and he was already in so much pain. I didn’t want to add to it. If he wanted me to stay back, then I would. But the moment I felt like he needed me, I would be there in a heartbeat.

I kissed his lips and held onto him until it was time for him to leave with his siblings. Whoever kidnapped his parents must have a grudge against his family if they asked for everyone except me.

"You have my full support," I promise him. "Let me know the moment that you need me. I'll be there in a second."

Watching Atticus leave was the hardest thing I had to do today, despite how horrible it's been. I've always done the opposite of what he asked me to do. This time I felt like it was the right thing to let him do this alone.

My mate wasn't weak, and his family wasn't either. They could handle themselves, and if they needed me, I would be there.

I turned back to look at the house. It would take some time for everything to be back to normal. Whoever did this must hate the Fawns. Atticus didn't have the chance to call anyone to clean up this mess, but maybe I could get some help to stop the fire.

We are lucky that we got here before the entire thing burnt to the ground.

"We will call some of our friends." My mother tells me. "They will know just the right people to save your new home."

Atticus made sure my family was by my side before he left. He always cared for me, even when he had other things to worry about.

I nod and thank her.

"Who do you think would do something like this?" I ask her.

She sighs, "I wish I knew, darling. The list of our enemies has only multiplied over the past few years, and it's been the same way for the Fawns. It can be anyone at this point.

"Mom," I whisper. "Do you think Skyler will try to harm my family? I almost lost many of them today, multiple times. I'm terrified of what will happen when Skyler returns for me."

She touched my cheek lightly and kissed my forehead, "I know you're terrified, darling; we all are.

I believe that you're safe for now, however. What Luthais said is true. Without knowing who your siblings are, Azai's men cannot get the power that they need to rule. They need all of you. As long as your siblings stay hidden, everyone will be safe "

I never thought I would wish never to see my siblings in this life, but if that were the only way to keep my family safe, I would take it. My mother knew what she was doing when she separated us.

She knew what had to be done to keep us safe from Skyler and everyone else that wanted to harm us.

Now I just had to hope that whoever had taken Atticus's parents didn't already harm them. I had to hope that Atticus would get to them in time.