## 1032 SIDE STORY (ROSE): HER CHILD

woman more than they did him.

Rose could feel it. She didn't need a healer to tell her what happened, because she already knew it beforehand. Her body was shaking, as she cleaned herself up and stood up. She looked like she was going to cry, but she had to hold herself back, because she couldn't let herself to succumb in this fear. Andreas had been away for three months now. The marriage between them was a sham to keep the two kingdoms together, but actually, for the Holy Kingdom, it was more for digging their influence more to the royal family. After the battle with the monsters a few years ago, which caused the salamander went extinct in order to protect Andel continent, people became even more respectful to those from Holy Kingdom than the royal family. The power that the Holy Kingdom held surpassed the Andel Kingdom and this became the main contention between the two kingdoms, even with the marriage between Rose and Andreas, it didn't help. The prince, whose one day would sit on the throne was not happy because he felt his dignity had been trampled, since people didn't care about him, but they would love Rose. She was the heroine during the battle against the monster after all, thus people always thought she was way better than the prince. Rose had tried to deescalate the situation, but to no avail. Because of that, the marriage between them suffered greatly. They didn't really like each other to begin with, but because of what people was thinking about them and how it affected Andreas, it made their living situation became more unbearable and now, it had been three months since prince Andreas left Holy Kingdom and stayed in Andel kingdom, leaving Rose and two years old Gabriel behind. His dignity was hurt. He was the future king, the next ruler on the throne, but people more excited to see Rose than him. People praised his

- " Mama? What happened?" Gabriel approached her mother, she looked at her mother with this blue eyes. Her red, curly hair looked so cute, she took after her father. The royal family in Andelus continent had these traits. Blue eyes with red hair.
- "I am fine, Gabriel," Rose said, she hugged her daughter and kissed her cheek, though she disliked Andreas and considered this marriage was fake, but she loved her daughter so much.
- "But, why are you crying?" Gabriel asked, she looked at her mother with her clear blue eyes, she looked so sweet and innocent. The concern in her eyes were very genuine, not like the people around Rose, who tried to get to her good grace only.
- no way she was going to tell her about what happened. Her little girl didn't need to care herself about this kind of problem. She didn't have to carry the responsibility to comfort her.

  "Don't be sad, mama..." Gabriel wiped Rose's tears with her little hand and kissed her. This was the

"I am not. There is dust in my eyes, so I tear up a little bit." Rose reassured her little one. There was

- only comfort that Rose had in this cold kingdom that people always praised so much. Later that night, Rose met with Ari. Ari was one of her personal protectors, he was not only a knight, but he was also a magic user, a strong one. They had known each other for long, fought the monsters side by side during the critical moment in Andelus Continent because of the monster attack, thus it was not a surprise when the two of them developed feeling that shouldn't be there in the first place. However, there was no way for them to be together, as their duty came first and they held their title for a reason.  $\mathbf{w}\mathbf{w}(\mathbf{w}).(\mathbf{n})\mathbf{O}\mathbf{v}\mathbf{e}\ell\mathbf{W}\mathbf{\hat{o}}\mathbf{R}\mathbf{m}.\mathbf{CO}(\mathbf{m})$
- "I am pregnant," Rose said without beating around the bush. She was alone with Ari in his bedroom. He had told her not to see him here, but she didn't want to listen to that right now, her mind was a mess. Ari looked at Rose with mortified look in his eyes, but then he immediately approached her to comfort her.
- "We can't pass the baby as Andreas', because people knew that he has not been here for three months. The time will be odd and people will be suspicious." Rose said everything in emotionless way, because she couldn't feel anything anymore at this point.
- "It's okay. We will figure a way out of this," Ari said. He hugged her tightly." We will find away out of this. It's okay." However, like usual, life didn't treat them well. Their only option was to get rid of the baby, or came clean to Andreas. The last option didn't look like it would draw a good result, but Rose couldn't bring herself to choose the first option. She couldn't kill this child. She didn't want to get rid of this baby and even more because she really wanted this baby, since this was hers and Ari's. She wanted a piece of him. She knew it was self ish of her to put them into a danger, but she had been selfless in her entire life, this was the only thing that she really wanted. She wouldn't ask for more after this.
- "Drink this. You will feel the pain, but I will help to alleviate it," Ari said, he handed her a glass of medicine to help with the abortion. Rose was already three months and sooner or later, she would start showing and people would notice that.
- " It will only hurt a little. I can assure you that." Ari looked calm, but there was this turmoil within him. He was going to kill his own f lesh and blood after all.  $w\mathbf{W}\mathbf{w}.n_{\mathbb{D}}(\mathbf{v})\mathbf{e}(\mathbf{1})\mathcal{W}\mathbf{o}_{\mathbb{T}}m.\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{o})\mathbf{m}$
- "Okay..." Rose said, her expression didn't show any emotion, as she brought the glass to her lips, but Ari stopped her. For a moment, they only stayed like that. They didn't say anything, but both of them knew they didn't want it. They didn't wish to harm the baby. They wanted to see this little one. www.nôveuworm.com
- He intertwined his hands together, as if to prevent himself from stopping Rose again. But this time, Rose didn't continue. She put down the glass and stood up.

  "I can't do it." Her voice was shaking, tears streamed down her face. She was very young to carry

" Drink it." It was so hard to let go of Rose's hand, but he loosened his grip and dropped his hands.

this responsibility and to make this horrendous decision.

" Why can't I have this baby? We both love the baby. Why can't we have the baby?" Rose rushed

- out of the room and for the next few weeks, she didn't come out of her bedroom, people said that she was sick and they were worried about her. People sent so many flowers to her bedroom, but the beauty of them couldn't soothe the Serafim's pain. And on the fourth week of Rose meeting with Ari, he finally came to her bedroom, since she had been avoiding him. This was his last resort.

  "Rose," Ari called her. She was sleeping, but he could see the tears on her cheeks and how swollen
- her eyes were. If you looked closely you would be able to see her bump. Rose woke up groggily, but she immediately sat straight when she saw Ari."I don't want to give up on this baby."

  "I know." Ari nodded. He didn't want to give up on their child either. "I have talked to Andreas."
- " What?!" Rose was shocked. She thought Ari didn't care about her and their baby, just like how
- Andreas chose to live separately from her and their daughter, Gabriel. "Wh- what have you done?" she was mortified. ww.(n)ovenumber(m).com"He agreed to let you give birth to the baby," Ari said again, he smiled, as if he had found the
- solution, but his eyes couldn't lie.

  " How? What did you promise him?"
- " He wanted you to go to the south and relief the plague there. The problem in the southern kingdom
- has increased and now it's getting out of hands." Rose could do that, but it felt like it was a small price that she had to pay." About the child?" Rose asked worriedly.

  "He will say that the child is his." Rose was happy, but she couldn't shake this weird feeling inside of
- her, because Andreas was not so forgiving. He wouldn't just accept it just like that. Thus, with a heavy heart, Rose went to the southern kingdom to relief the disaster there. She should find this suspicious when Ari said that he would come later because there was something that he needed to take care of. However, Rose trusted him so much, she thought Ari wouldn't hide anything from her. And it was proven wrong when four days later she heard that Ari had been executed for treason. He was hanged a day ago. His body would be left in the forest, so the monsters would take care of it.

  "Wh- what did you say?" Rose fell to her knees, she felt this cramp on her stomach. This sharp pain
- Kingdom? The royal family has no say to punish people from the Holy Kingdom." Xarex helped her to get up. He didn't say much, only reminded her that Ari was part of the royal family too.

  " They punished him for the crime to Andel Kingdom."

told her that she was not dreaming. "H- How they could do that when he is part of the Holy

- " And you did nothing to stop it?!"