

BURN WITH YOU

by Sena Tekcan

Setting: A dark street

Characters:

NYX: 18 years old, long wavy black hair with blue eyes. Daughter of the Ariyal King. She is passionate, cheerful, cat lover, generally calm and has perfect music talent.

VLAD: 18 years old, short blond straight hair with green eyes. he is the main rebel of the Dracul Empire. he is tall and has a snake tattoo on his neck and spider tattoo on his tummy. His face is always serious, has mostly aggressive behavior and suffers from anger issues. he is very stubborn and maverick.

ASTERIN: 19 years old and in love with Vlad. They became serial killer then. Ambitious, feral and bold.

TYRAN: 20 years old, brown skin, short straight dark hair with scar in his lips and eyebrows. He has a huge wound half of his face

SCENE 1:

On a rainy day, Nyx waits for Vlad at their meeting place.

NYX: *(looks at Vlad)* Is that all? After everything we went through, you were going to leave me one night?

VLAD: *(bows his head slightly)* You always knew this would happen but you just fooled yourself.

NYX: Fooled myself? You made me believe everything would be okay and you ruined it all. You made me feel like the luckiest woman in the world and made me sink to the bottom in an instant. Now you are thinking of running away instead of staying with me.

VLAD: *(sighs angrily)* I am wanted. Do you want to see me get caught? Do you have any idea about what will happen to me after I am caught? They will burn me in front of everyone.

NYX: Despite this, you still don't give up. Even though you know you will die in the end, you still don't give up on these thoughts you defend.

VLAD: *(grins slightly)* Isn't it ironic that while my people are suffering, while no one speaks about all this, while everyone is playing three monkeys and turning a blind eye to massacre, it is seen as treason for me and those like me to try to restore things like we used to?

NYX: You never get me involved. If you had told me the plans you had in your mind, none of this might have happened.

(Vlad purses lips)

VLAD: *if I* involved you nothing would change. Your father's kingdom would also be involved and you would be one to suffer. Tell me Nyx, would you choose your country or the man you loved?

(Nyx freezes and says nothing)

VLAD: *(shakes his head with a slight smile, as if he learns something he knew before again)* The ending of this story is always the same. There is always a problem. And this generally ends with death.

NYX: Saying that doesn't make me feel any better. You are not the only one struggling for this world and this society, now you have taken the whole burden on yourself and put the highest ranking people behind you.

NYX: *(shoutes at Vlad angrily)* In all the years we have been together, I have never once asked for a wish from you.

(The sounds of crying were suddenly accompanied by a loud noise coming from behind)

TYRAN: *(stands there with a grinned face, blade shines on his hands)* Look at you traitor, Not only are you not a traitor to the empire, you are also having an affair with your enemy's daughter. Our great emperor should have issued your execution order earlier.

NYX: Leave him alone Tyran. I'm so sick of you and all your ridiculous stuff.
(Tyran raised his finger and waved it negatively.)

TYRAN: Oh our poor princess! It must be really hard to choose between going against your father and his kingdom and the traitor you love!

TYRAN : But don't worry. I will send you both to your rightful place soon.
Cleansing our enemies and getting rid of the traitors among us will return our empire to its former glorious days.

NYX: I understand that you want to be a loyal soldier to your empire, but we all know that what you really want is to bring his head to the emperor, gain his sincerity and get that reward.

TYRAN: *(raises one of his eyebrows with a vague facial expression)* All you did in your 18 years old life was take advantage of the position that your father gave you and live your life. Even when your father was going to declare war on our empire, you never thought for a second what would happen to all those people, your only goal was to stand in front of the mirror and be told how beautiful you were.

NYX : *(laughs in disbelief)* Start a war? The only person who started a war and wanted these miseries was the man you worship and call him as your supreme emperor. I can't say that my father is a pure white spoon either, but when will you realize that the man you worship is not really a god? In fact, why this worship of someone who is no different from the devil?

TYRAN: *(waves his hand in threatening tone)* Who do you think you are that you have the right to criticize our great holy emperor?

TYRAN: *You and your treacherous lover will be hanged, burned, or at best exiled. You both consider yourself lucky to be alive until now, but that era is over now.*

VLAD: *(shows his teeth)* Try to touch her and see how your hand is displaced.

TYRAN: *(takes out his sword)* With pleasure my dear. But before you see the blood flowing from my sword, there are things I must confess to you.

TYRAN: *(looks at Nyx with a wicked low grin)* The girl for whom you betrayed the empire and all of us was actually worse than you.

VLAD: *(surprises and turns towards Nyx)* What is that supposed to mean?

NYX: *(raises her eyes in regret)* Just listen.. I have always thinking about it to explain to you but-

TYRAN: *(interrupts her with laughter)* Look at you, princess. You have become so pathetic that you can't even say that you have been cheating on the man you claim to love all this time. Disgusting.

VLAD: *(shakes with shock, tries to refuse what he heard)* What? Cheating? What is he talking about love, just say all of this is his imagination?

TYRAN: *(begins to enjoy the escalation of conflict in the event more)* Tell him! Tell him! HAHAAHAH! Just tell him how you cheated on him not just with a partner but in all lies!

VLAD : *(feels like gonna lose his mind)* Nyx! Just tell me what the hell is going on or just tell me if I am getting paranoid!

NYX: *(starts to change her face, suddenly becomes a different person)* Ah Tyran you idiot! I really wanted to play this game longer. Now all of my enthusiasm is gone!

VLAD: *(his face distorts with fear and shock)* ASTERIN?!

SCENE 2

(Vlad is shaken with shock and fear that when he sees this face he has not seen for a long time. Asterin is a cruel being who is not loyal to anyone and only cares about the money they get and will get. Vlad was supposed to have killed them years ago , but now none of these things can explain why they stood before him disguised themselves as Nyx and suddenly revealed their true identity.)

VLAD: Asterin!? You were supposed to die.

ASTERIN: *(grins evilly)* Sometimes life gives us unexpected surprises, doesn't it Vlad?

VLAD: *(his chest starts pounding and he puts his hand on it to calm himself down)* You will tell me what's going on here!

VLAD: *(turns and looks at the Tyran with ambition)* Where is Nyx? What the hell did you devils do to her?

TYRAN:*(sneers contemptuously)* Unfortunately,she is not with us dear Vlad.

VLAD:(*can't believe, his body begins to shake vigorously*) What!? I said what did you do to her! TELL ME! WHERE IS MY LOVE!?

TYRAN:(*turns to Asterin with a grimace*) Do you see how pitiful he is? What a pathetic situation. Such a weak being is one of our emperor's people, I even skipped this, this man was once the emperor's right-handed man.

TYRAN: (*swings his sword towards Vlad*) You are traitor and you had an affair with your enemy's daughter. Now she has been gone from this world for a long time ,but it's your turn.

ASTERIN:(*Snaps their hands and small daggers appear around them*) Even though I don't want to agree, I think he is right this time.

VLAD:(*sighs nervously and runs his hand through his hair*) Enough is enough! I can't even imagine whether what I am experiencing right now is real or not.

ASTERIN:(*throws one of the daggers around them to Vlad*) Die with dignity. My mission was always to kill you, but I couldn't do it because of my stupidity. And I let you kill me once!

VLAD:(*one of the thrown daggers grazes his cheek and cut him*) What do you mean i killed you before? If you are dead then..

ASTERIN:(*smiles painfully*) How quickly you forgot everything. How quickly you erased me and the memories about me. Maybe now it's the time to remember something.

VLAD:(*suddenly goes back in time*) Dark magic...

SCENE 3

(Vlad begins to remember his past with Asterin. Hundreds of memories fill his mind and he tries to fill in the gaps in his memory. He thinks about how Asterin, who was the most caring person in the world, suddenly turned into a bloody serial killer who does everyone's dirty business. Remembers how they tried to kill him thousand times and eventually how they died with a dagger stuck in the heart . One scene from the past comes his mind)

ASTERIN:*(comes near Vlad with excitement.)* Have you heard about the new fair that will open? It promises to be a lot of fun. Shall we go?

VLAD:*(acts very uninterested)* I have to meet with Nyx today, we can go another time

ASTERIN:*(their face becomes sullen even though they try not to show it)* Nyx? Isn't it that the red haired girl who is the daughter of Ariyal King? Why did you start seeing her so often?

VLAD:*(tries to rebuff them)* So what if she is the daughter of King?

ASTERIN:*(blinks their eyes in surprise)* But Vlad.. Our countries have the potential to go to war at any moment. You were raised since childhood to be the right-hand man of our great emperor. Even if nothing happens between you, which it won't, even being heard talking to her is a problem for you.

VLAD:*(starts to get angry)* Something has already started happening between us and who exactly are you to try to judge our relationship?

VLAD:*(suddenly starts to yell)* Since I will be the right-hand man of the empire, I am so involved in everything and I know things that no one does not know. I

have no trust, respect or love for this system anymore. As I get more and more involved in everything, I start to feel disgusted and alienated from everything. I will destroy this order and break everyone's biases and prejudices!

ASTERIN:(*her voice trembles*) What does this mean? Will you join the band of rebels? Don't you see what's happening to them? You will be burned Vlad! They will crucify you and burn you in front of everyone! That girl put all these thoughts in your mind, didn't it? She made you hate the empire and made you hate it.

VLAD:(*slams his hand hard*) That's enough, ASTERIN! You are blind and stupid that you cannot understand the man and the order that you and hundreds of thousands of other people worship and even die for is actually a disgrace, has already rotted from the inside, but is still barely standing. The man you are defending massacres his own people, steals money, and leaves his people corrupt and hungry! He is doing business with a lot of illegal men behind your back. He doesn't spare a second with the people you see as enemies, but he tells lies to his people. When he sees someone making bad comments about him, he resorts to direct violence instead of solving what the problem is.

ASTERIN:(*lowers his voice in fear*) Vlad, what are you saying? How can you say such things? Are you aware of whom you are accusing of which crimes?

VLAD: Soon, all this will be over.

(*memories keep coming*)

(*This time, Vlad remembers the memories when his relationship with Asterin began to deteriorate. He suddenly thinks of the times when they left him and went away and he didn't hear them for a long time. When two of them meet again, he remembers that there was nothing left from them.*)

VLAD: Be quick Hunter! We need to make those bombs as soon as possible, and have you finished drawing that graffiti?

HUNTER:(*exhales loudly*) Do you think? We do everything at the last minute again. Besides, are we seriously trying to blow up the building the emperor is in instead of killing him in other ways?

VLAD: (*raises one eyebrow*) If you can think of another way, tell me Hunter? Are you thinking of getting past the Emperor's guard and going right up to him and poisoning his food?

HUNTER: (*nods quickly*) No of course! But this plan doesn't seem solid to me, Vlad, for some reason it feels like something could go wrong at any time.

VLAD: (*sighs nervously*) If you think wrong, it will go wrong

. HUNTER: It has nothing to do with thinking, you are literally planning to kill the emperor and take over, do you think we can get away with this?

VLAD: (*starts laughing*) Coward! When you first got into this business, you should have realized that one day we would get to this point.

HUNTER:I hope we don't pay the penalty for this with our lives

VLAD:(*spits out the cable in his mouth and starts placing the bomb materials*)
Just be quick

(*At that moment a voice comes from behind him*)

ASTERIN: *(their voice raspy)* After a long time, it is not surprising to see you as such a despicable character, Vlad, so much so that you are making plans to destroy the man who took care of you and the country he founded, when you had no one else around.

ASTERIN: *(wags their finger negatively)* How despicable.

Vlad *(surprised)* Asterin?

Asterin: *(slowly takes out the small knife they keeps on his wrist)* Hi Vlad, haven't seen you for a while.

Vlad: I think you mean since you left us and went somewhere unknown.

Asterin: *(starts to twirl the knife hidden in their hand)* Wherever I go, Why do you seem so interested?

VLAD: *(Raises his voice)* What nonsense are you talking about?

ASTERIN: *(reveals the knife for him to see)* Time hasn't changed you at all, but rest assured, it has changed me enough, Vlad.

VLAD : *(He gets confused when he sees the knife in Asterin's hand)* What are you doing!?

ASTERIN: *(their face turns red and their chin begins to tremble)* I could never tell you this and I didn't really want to because you were too blind to understand it anyway, but at least it won't stay inside me

HUNTER: *(makes an uncomprehending expression and turns towards Vlad)* I'm so French about it, please don't someone tell me I'm stupid.

ASTERIN: I was in love with you, I always loved you, but what did you do? Apart from being the biggest rebel of the empire, you went and had an affair with that woman and sold state secrets to her! But all this doesn't matter anymore because today you will have breathed your last!

HUNTER: *(shivering with fear)* Vla-Vlad, what is this crazy woman saying? Say something and silence her.

ASTERIN: It's too late, one of you has to die tonight and it has to be Vlad.

(Asterin suddenly throws the knife towards Vlad, but Hunter , suddenly jumps forward, gets in front of Vlad)

VLAD: *(Says Hunter's name out loud)* HUNTERRR!!!

! HUNTER:*(Tries to speak in a low voice, but cannot speak because of the blood flowing from his mouth)* Wha- blame yourself-

ASTERIN: *(shouting angrily)* You fool! Why did you put yourself forward?! You ruined everything!

VLAD:*(He takes Hunter's face in his hands. When he sees his blue hair turning pale and gray, he realizes that he is starting to die and a tear runs down his cheek.)* NO..NO...

(everything that happens next happens at once. Vlad angrily takes the dagger out of the bag behind him and stabs Asterin into their heart)

VLAD: *(Whispers as he drives the dagger deeper into Aster's heart)* I'm sorry everyone for not being able to do this sooner

SCENE 4

(While they are still in the same secluded place where they are standing, the memories suddenly end and Vlad continues to see his Asterin and Tyran in front of him. His head is spinning and his mind is still on Nyx, but as he begins to remember the past, the gaps in his mind are replaced by meanings)

VLAD: The person you received the order to kill me from was the emperor, wasn't it? Actually, he was trying to kill me from the very beginning. How strange, I was trying to kill him too.

ASTERIN: It looks like your feelings are mutual.

TYRAN: That's enough, Erin! Kill him!

VLAD: First you will tell me where Nyx is!

ASTERIN: *(slowly raises their hand)* You may not like what you will see, but maybe it is time to cut some things short. The person who brought me back to life was the wizard Kazuma. He was also involved in our plans. I paid him to harm Nyx.

VLAD: VIOLENT! WHAT DID YOU DO TO HER?! Tell me her location!

(Vlad runs and goes to the said place and seeing the crowd there makes him nervous. He pushes the crowd with quick steps and when he comes to where they are looking, a lump forms in his throat when he sees the ash puddle in front of him. His heart starts to beat when he sees Nyxin's buckle on the edge of the ashes.)

VLAD: *(voice shaking)* No no... this can't be real.

KAZUMA: Unfortunately, it's true. It's too late to change or fix things now.

VLAD: *(suddenly holds the fire around him in the crowd.)* No, it's never too late.

(And sets himself on fire.)

THE END