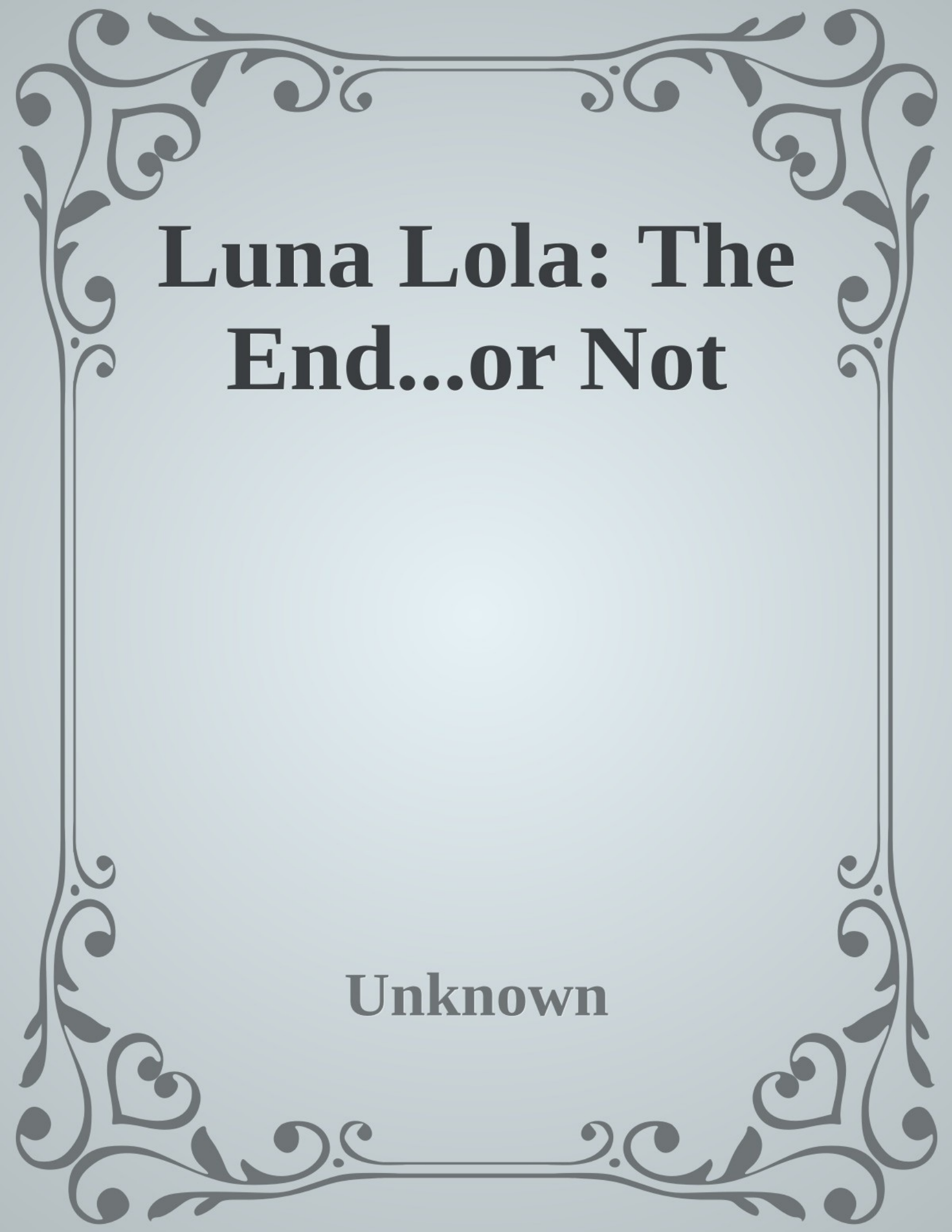


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Luna Lola: The End...or Not

Unknown

Luna Lola

The End...or Not

Second Chance Shifter Paranormal Romance Series Book 4

Park Kara

BLURB

"I, Grayson Dawson, Alpha of the Moonlit Pack, reject you, Lola Ashton, as my mate and Luna of this pack," I heard Grayson's voice reach my ear and a single tear ran down my left cheek as it felt like my heart was being ripped out of my chest.

"I, Lola Ashton, accept..." I did not finish my sentence before he held me up by my throat and snarled in my face. His eyes had already changed colors so I knew his wolf was in charge.

"You will not reject me, slut. I am your owner and I tell you what to do and when," he slapped me across the face and threw me on the ground.

After being rejected by her mate in the Moonlit pack, Lola escaped on a full moon only to enter the territory of the next Alpha King who also happened to be her second chance mate.

Adrian is the next Alpha King but he hasn't been able to assume his role because he needed a Luna by his side. A rogue that trespassed on his territory, whom he ordered be killed turned out to be his mate leaving him in a dilemma.

Will Adrian reject Lola because she came into his territory as a rogue? Will he overcome what happened to him in the past and give Lola a chance or reject her and go ahead with Fay as his chosen Luna?

What will happen when everyone finds out just how much power Lola wields and how she's supposed to protect her kind in an oncoming war? Find out in Lola- The Moon Wolf!

Chapter 137

Adrian's POV

"You like it?"

Fuck me if I don't love what I saw in front of me as I entered the closet to pick a shirt. I knew she was in there before I entered because her sweet smell was all over the place.

I saw that she was already dressed but I didn't pay attention to the details since I was so focused on getting my shirt and getting out. I didn't want to be distracted by her in any way.

That plan went down the drain when I saw that she was wearing my shirt and she looked so fucking good in it, sending all the blood in my body to my dick.

My words died on my tongue and my feet moved on their own accord towards her. I held her by her waist and pulled her to me, breathing her heavenly scent in.

Her hands went around my neck and she smiled brightly at me, melting my insides. "You still haven't answered my question," she looked into my eyes expectantly as she spoke.

"If my reaction isn't answer enough, I don't think my words will be enough," I said before kissing her nose. She scrunched her nose, adding to her cuteness.

"I still want to hear it," she grinned up at me, earning a soft chuckle from me. "I fucking love everything about you, my Queen. Even if you wore a potato sack,

you'll still look drop dead gorgeous," I said and she became red.

"You're just saying that because I'm your mate," she muttered and I shook my head in laughter. A woman will surely act like a woman, no matter the age. Luckily, I saw mom use that trick a lot on dad while he was still alive.

"You're the most beautiful woman alive, mate or not. I'm just glad the moon goddess paired me with the best mate," I told her and she blushed harder.

Thank goddess for the love between my parents, I was able to pick up one or two. Not that I was lying about any of the things I said.

"I thought you came in to pick a shirt," she reminded me and I face palmed. "I wonder who distracted me," I glared at her jokingly, making her giggle with one of her hands over her mouth.

"Would you like me to help you pick out something?" she asked and I shook my head, earning an eye roll from her. I pulled away from her, ignoring the way she almost panicked but controlled herself.

"Nah, I can do that myself. Mom wants to see you downstairs by the way," she nodded and seemed to hesitate before placing a soft kiss on my cheeks and going downstairs to see Mom.

"Why did you lie to her?" Daxon asked through our mindlink and I sighed. "First off, you saw how hot she looks. My patience was running thin and we might not go on our date if she stayed longer than that," I replied to him with a groan, trying to adjust my hardened dick in my pants.

"And secondly?" He asked. "Mom actually asked about her. She did not just CALL for her like I insinuated, so technically, I didn't lie," I replied to him and he tsked.

I picked a shirt and my keys before making my way downstairs. I heard Mom and Lola talking in a hushed tone but I couldn't make out what they were saying. They stopped conversing when I walked into the living room and Lola had a mischievous look in her eyes and Mom looked at me like she was onto something.

"Why do I feel like I walked into a trap?" I asked cautiously but they both burst out laughing, making me more wary than I was already.

Lola stood up and gave Mom a kiss on both of her cheeks. "I'll see you when we get back, Rose. You take care of yourself while I'm out and you can always call me if you need anything," she said before adding, "I'll appreciate it if you don't call me while I'm out today though," she said and mom laughed at her before shaking her head.

"Go out and have fun, my babies," Mom said. "Don't worry about me and make the most of today," she said before shooing us out of the house.

"Shall we?" I reached for her hand and she happily her hands in mine. I led her to my car and made her sit before going to my side of the car.

I entered and she grinned at me happily. That was the happiest I've seen her since she got back to the pack and I plan to keep that happiness permanent, no matter what.

"Why do I still feel like she's hiding something from us?" Daxon asked in my head I mentally shrugged. If I can't make her open up to me completely, I can manage to make her happy for as long as possible.

"So where are we going?" Her voice brought me out of my thoughts and I turned to her with a smile. "Wouldn't you like to know?" I tapped her nose with a smile

and she swatted my hands away, making me laugh. She's too cute for her own good.

"That's why I asked, durhhh," she rolled her eyes at me before crossing her hands over her chest with fake anger. "You just have to wait and see, baby. Now, use your seat belt and we'll be on our way."

As soon as her anger came, it vanished and she started chattering happily soon. The short car ride was a torture for me because my shirt kept riding up her thighs and her milky skin called out to me.

To be touched, to be marked, to make sure that no one else ever touches what is mine.

"Ouuuuuuu, we're going to our spot," she clapped excitedly when I stopped the car at the entrance of the pathway leading to our spot.

"You made it seem like a big deal though," she turned to me as she spoke, "I even dressed up for this," she motioned to her body with her hands.

"And I promised you that I will make this one a memorable one for you, didn't I?" I asked her and she tentatively nodded her head like she was trying to figure out what was going through my head.

"Fine, I believe you," she said and I gave her a soft smile. I got out of my car and went around the car to open hers.

Here goes nothing.

Chapter 138

Lola's POV

"Are we not there yet?" I whined for the fifth time and heard my mate sigh beside me. I know we'll get to where the lake is soon but something in me wants to stress him for no reason.

I wanted to behave like the couples I watched in the movies Lyla made us watch during girl's night out. Where the girls just annoy their partner for no reason and they still get pampered.

"I guess you're living your dream after all," Jasmine snickered in my head, making me roll her eyes at her. "Or you're just jealous that it's not you that's being showered with love and attention," I jabbed at her and she scoffed.

"Bitch please. I'm you, you're me. We're one, durhhhh. If you're being showered with love attention, I am too, dumbass," she retorted but I wasn't going to go down without a fight.

"Last time I checked, you're a wolf and I'm the pretty human that is always pampered," I stuck out my tongue at her and she just clicked hers.

The fact remains that I won.

"How much longer?" I asked again but he ignored me as usual. "If I had known we would be going into the woods, I would have worn something more suitable for walking," I started complaining but he moved on like he did not hear what I was saying.

"My legs hurt in these boots and I feel like something is going to crawl into my shirt," I was still talking but he cut me off. "You mean my shirt?" He asked with a raised eyebrow but I decided to be petty and ignore him like he's been ignoring me too.

"I feel like something is going to crawl under MY shirt. Twigs might get lodged into my hair. It took me almost an hour to get this look and you are almost ruining it..."

He must have been tired of listening to me complain because he swept me off my feet bridal style and carried me like I weigh nothing.

"You...you...what are you d...doi...doing? I...I can walk by myself perfectly fine," I managed to get out through my stutter.

"I believe you were complaining about your feet hurting from the moment we started on this pathway. Just relax and let me do this for you okay?" He said and continued walking.

I fixed my gaze on jaw and beautiful side profile, drinking in his gorgeousness. I'm one lucky girl, I thought to myself and snuggled into his chest. His chest vibrated with laughter, making me smile.

My breath caught in my throat when the lake came into view. He gently dropped me and my feet moved on their own accord towards the setting in front of me.

I heard a gasp and it took me a while to realize that the sound came from me. I was so mesmerized by what was in front of me that I did not know when Adrian reached my back and he wrapped his arms around me.

"You like what you see?" He asked me and I nodded my head in a daze. I was touched by all I saw and even wondered how he managed to get it all done.

"Since when did you plan this? You've been waiting for me to ask you on a date before?" I turned around in his arms and wrapped my arms around his neck.

"I would make anything happen for you, baby. All you have to do is say the word," he kissed my forehead gently but I pulled him in for a kiss after he pulled away.

I meant it to be a soft and quick kiss but it quickly escalated when he nibbled softly on my lips and my self control went with the wind. I plunged my tongue into his mouth and he returned the kiss with the same fervor.

Our tongues fought for dominance which I lost to him. It wasn't until I felt like I was going to die if I didn't breathe that I pulled back from the kiss. He squealed my ass cheeks softly, making me gasp softly.

"Thank you so much, Adrian," I whispered while he just nodded with so much love and admiration in his eyes.

I turned around to really take in the view. One side of the lake had a table set for two. The sweet smell of varieties of food was evident in the air and I smiled like an idiot.

The other side had an open tent set up. From where I stood, I could see the bed setup with flowers and candles, even though the candles were not lit yet.

"Candles? It's day time," I questioned him but he shrugged with a mischievous smile on his face. Good to know I'm not the only one that had a motive.

I shook my head at him and made my way to the table that was set up. On getting closer, I saw that flower petals were scattered around the table too.

He pulled out a chair for me and made me seat before disappearing into the tent. Before I could blink, our table was already filled with a lot of food, from appetizers to main dishes to a delicious looking chocolate cake that he refused to allow me take a bite from.

I told him that a little sugar never hurt anyone but he still refused. All my anger vanished when I took the first bite from the food laid before us.

"Oh my goddess, this is so goooooood," I sighed dreamily, making him laugh. A sound that I wanted to record so that I could listen to it forever.

The rest of the date was fun. We talked about random things and laughed at every and any silly thing we could think of.

It was everything I wanted and more. My mind was off the war that was looming ahead the whole time. I felt so happy and on top of the world inside the bubble we created for ourselves.

I only got one thing out of the whole date though. I'd never lose any of them to the enemy. Over my dead body.

Chapter 139

Lola's POV

The sun was setting nicely and I was still having the best time of my life just sitting in my mate's presence. I refrained from having any bad thoughts and we just relaxed.

We finished eating a while ago but he refused to bring out the dessert, claiming it was a surprise and I was going to love it so much.

While I might have thrown a tantrum on the outside, I was relieved on the inside because I was so full, I could burst if I had anything to eat.

"Are you not cold?" Adrian asked as he gently rubbed thumb across the skin of my palm. "Yeah, a little," I answered him and shivered again.

It was already getting chilly by the lakeside since the sun was setting. And my clothes were not suitable for that kind of weather, so I was cold but I thought I was hiding it well. He must have noticed.

"Come on then," he stood up and waited for me to stand before he held my hand in his and led me towards the tent. I was led towards the bed and I expected him to stay with me but he said he'd be right back.

I had the urge to follow him and make sure that he wasn't leaving me but I refrained from doing such. Get a grip, Lola, I told myself and gave him a tight smile as he left the tent again.

It was a little bit darker in the tent than it was outside and I resisted the urge to

bite my nail due to the anxiety growing in my chest.

I heard movements outside and stilled. It still seemed faraway so I tried to stop breathing and listened carefully. I breathed a sigh of relief when I smelled Adrian.

I went outside to meet him and saw that he was carrying a lot of things. I helped him to bring some inside and stood with my hands on my waist.

"I could have helped you with this when we were coming, you know?" I told him and he nodded with a smile. "Yes, I do," he replied.

"Then why did you not mention anything about it?" I asked, my hands still on my waist while glaring at him.

"First of all, it would have ruined the surprise," he stood up slowly and faced me with a mischievous glint in his eyes. "Sur...sur...surprise?" I stuttered, my former position long forgotten.

There was something in his eyes that screamed predator and I was evidently the prey. "andYes, surprise," he affirmed and took a step towards me, while I took two steps back.

"You were whining the whole way here, which I'm sure would have worsened if you had to carry anything. That is another reason," he said calmly but the tone underlying his words promised punishment I was strangely ready to be punished.

What is wrong with me???

I was so disoriented and turned on that I did not see that he was already in front of me. His arms snaked around my waist and he grinned like a Cheshire cat.

"If you had something in your hands, would you have been able to wrap your hands around my neck and do this?" He asked just before our lips met.

I wrapped my hands around his neck like I did when we first reached the lakeside and kissed him passionately. He returned my kiss with the same feverish energy.

"Jump," he said between kisses and I obeyed. I jumped and wrapped my legs around his waist, rubbing my barely clothed pussy over his engorged member.

"Fuckkkkkk," I moaned, at the same he groaned in pleasure. "How do I take this off?" He asked breathily and I was confused about what he was saying until I felt him tugging on my corset top.

"Allow me to help you," I giggled and he sighed in frustration, "put me down". He dropped me gently and I removed my top, leaving me in his shirt alone.

He gave me a once over and his eyes darkened even more that they already were. "You're so fucking beautiful. Beautifully mine and mine alone," he whispered as he dragged his fingertips across my jaw and neckline, his fingers leaving a trail of heat in their wake.

Without any warning, he ripped his shirt open, sending buttons flying in every direction and I gasped, both in pleasure and in shock.

He pulled the shirt off my body and discarded it somewhere in the room. I expected him to touch me in one way or the other but he just stepped back and looked at me with lust filled eyes.

I was left in my thong and knee boot and I felt so exposed. I tried to cover my

breast with my hands but he growled in warning and I dropped my hands.

"Uhm...may I ask what you're doing?" I asked in a small voice since he kept circling me like a predator without touching me.

"I don't remember asking you to speak," he said as he trailed his hands across my collarbone before choking me slightly. My nipples hardened painfully at that gesture, making him chuckle lightly. The sound went straight to my core and I clenched my thighs.

"Stay right here" he whispered in my ear before dropping her a quick kiss on my cheeks. I released a breath I did not know I was holding as he pulled back from me.

"So who's the horny bitch now?" Jasmine said in my head and I mentally gave her a death glare. To distract myself from the urge to touch myself at the sensation running through my body, I decided to engage in a conversation with her.

"Do I smell jealousy?" I teased her and she scoffed. "Puh-lease, why will I be jealous of being teased by an extremely sexy man that is currently lighting the candles and setting out strawberries dipped in chocolate?"

I looked towards Adrian and he was really setting all these things out. His muscles rippled beneath his shirt and the emotions I suppressed rushed to the surface. That man makes the simplest of things sexy, I swear to the moon goddess.

"I'm so fucking jealous," Jasmine whined in my head, "I'll do anything to be in your place, I'm not even kidding," she said and I burst out laughing.

"Is something funny, baby?" Adrian asked and I looked at him, only for my

breath to catch in my throat.

Fuck me.

Chapter 140

Lola's POV

He was stark naked. Adrian was stark naked and the blaze in his eyes had me rooted to a spot. It was supposed to be a romantic dinner, tell me why I felt like I unleashed a beast.

"This is so romantic. I love the candles and the atmosphere feels so good. We should go out for a walk," I rambled.

Adrian said "really" at the same time Jasmine said "that was a lame move". I became crimson red and wished the floor would swallow me.

Adrian laughed and I hid my face in my palms. "Why are you being so fidgety?" Adrian asked and I peeped at him from the hole between my fingers.

I have no idea why I was being fidgety to be honest. I wanted him but something about his aura right then felt like I was about to be preyed upon, which I like but something feels weird.

"He's always pampered you during sex. He was always doing what you wanted too. Seeing this side to him must be confusing," Jasmine analyzed in my head and I agreed with her.

"So, you don't like this side of me?" He asked while he pinned me with a piercing gaze.

"Uhm...uh...I...I...I...uhmmm," I took a deep breath before I spoke again. "You're frying my brain. Let's do this instead of punishing me this way. I can't even think

straight," I rushed out and breathed a sigh of relief once it was out of my lungs.

"Get on the bed, baby," he spoke after a long moment of silence and I heeded without questioning anything. I sat at the edge of the bed but he shook his head and clicked his tongue.

"Lay on your back and spread your legs," he commanded and I laid down. The heels of my boots were planted at the edge of the bed and I felt so exposed, save the flimsy panties I had on.

I was so turned on that my body felt feverish to touch. The temperature in the room was incredibly high despite the coolness of the night.

I heard things being shuffled around but they were all background noises. My heartbeat was so loud, it was the only thing I could hear. My blood pumped through my body at the speed of light.

I closed my eyes and tried to rub my thighs against each other to get a little relieve from the growing ache between my legs.

Thinking that Adrian was still busy to attend to me, I grabbed my breasts with both hands and lightly pinched my nipples, sending bouts of pleasure down to my aching pussy.

I almost let out a moan but I caught myself at the last moment and bit my lips to prevent the sound from escaping and drawing Adrian's attention to me.

I teased my nipples for a while before I slowly trailed my hand down my body while the other hand continued to fondle my breast.

I was almost at the place where I needed to be touched the most when my wrist

was held in warm, mighty palm. My eyes shot open and stared into his mismatched ones.

"You're being very naughty. I told you to lay down, not pleasure yourself ," he lightly growled and my breathing got faster.

"Please, Adrian. Just do something. Anything at all," I begged, my voice shaking. "Something?" He asked and I nodded eagerly. He cocked his head to the side like he was contemplating what I said and I waited with bated breath.

"Nah, you haven't earned it. You've been naughty all day and it doesn't sit well with me," he said before holding his engorged dick in his hands and stroking it gently.

That's so unfair. Why does he get to touch himself but I can't? I opened my mouth to say something about it but the smirk on his face discouraged me. It was like he was waiting for me to say something about it so that he could punish me more.

"Got nothing to say?" He taunted and I almost screamed from all the emotions running through my veins. "Adrian please," I begged.

"Fuck," he cursed before leaning in front of me. He pulled me by my ass to the edge of the bed and I automatically placed my legs on his shoulder.

I expected him to eat me up like he normally would but I felt something cold on my pussy instead. The contrast in the temperature of my body and the cold sticky substance currently stimulating my clit threw me into throes of pleasure.

I lost my hold on reality and felt my soul leaving my body when my orgasm hit me like a truck of bricks. I screamed loudly and came violently against thin air.

I had barely recovered when his tongue attacked my pussy again. I writhed and tried to escape from his oh so amazing attack but he held me firmly in place, leaving me with no options but to enjoy all what he was doing to my body.

"Yessssss...yessssss...please, Adrian...oh my goddesss...oh my fucking go...haaaaaaa...that feels so good," I moaned uncontrollably.

He sucked my clit into his mouth while his fingers plunged into me mercilessly. Every now and then, the cold sticky liquid which turned out to be melted chocolate was reapplied to my clit while he sucked it off like he was starved.

Just when I was about to orgasm, he pulled away from me making me whine in protest.

"Why did you stop?" I whined and he chuckled before applying the the melted chocolate to my nipples and navel. He licked his way up, paying extra attention to my aching nipples.

When he kissed me, I hungrily kissed him back like he was the oxygen I needed to breathe. Without giving any warning, he entered me in one long thrust.

He pulled back from the kiss and pounded me like it was the last time we'd be having sex. Very soon, my orgasm hit me and I surrendered myself to it.

Adrian's thrust got sloppy and he released inside me afterwards. He pulled out and laid beside me, holding me close to his chest while we tried to regain our breathing.

"You want to go again?" I asked him and he looked at me like I had grown another head. "Are you for real? I mean, I don't mind but will you be okay?" He asked with concern and I chuckled tiredly against him.

"That question should be for Jasmine," I said and he looked at me confused.
"We're going to mate in our wolf forms."

Chapter 141

Adrian's POV

"You want us to mate in our wolf forms?" I asked her to be sure she wasn't hallucinating because she was feeling tired and maybe high from our concluded session.

"Yes, I'm very sure. I'm sure Daxon wouldn't mind mating fully with his mate either," she said tiredly. "No, no, we can't do that," I gently removed myself from her and paced the length of the room.

She sat up with a look of hurt on her face and tears formed in her eyes. "Adrian," she said gently but I wasn't having any of it.

"No, no, Lola. We can't mate in our wolf form, I'll never allow that. You can't want that for us. Do you even know what the consequences are?" I asked her partly in fear and in anger.

"How can she try to do this to us?" Daxon growled lightly in my head, mirroring the way I felt too. Unable to think properly, I hurriedly put on my shorts and went out into the cold night, disregarding the bone freezing temperatures outside. The turmoil inside my heart right then weighed more than whatever nature decided to do.

I contemplated running off in my wolf form but I couldn't leave her all by herself and it might take a while for me to return back. I stood by the lakeside and looked up to the moon, silently questioning the moon goddess.

Why can't I have a normal relationship with my mate like every other wolf? Why does it always boil down to making decisions between life and death? I

screamed into the night and kicked the sand beneath my feet as I breathed heavily.

I smelled her before I heard her and took deep breaths to calm myself down. I already fucked up royally by running out on her, I can't afford to make more mistakes that will make her unhappy.

She wrapped her dainty hands around my stomach and I heard her sniffing which broke my heart. I didn't mean to make her cry.

I'm such a stupid idiot. I should have at least listened to her before acting like a psycho and running off on her. I placed my hands on hers and turned around to face her.

She refused to look up at me and wrapped her hands tightly around my midriff, sobbing quietly. We stood like that for a while, I rubbed her back while she silently cried, breaking my heart into a million pieces.

"Should we just give in to what she wants?" Daxon asked in my head and I sighed. "You know we can't, we can't do that bud," I replied to him.

"I'm so sorry, Adrian," she finally spoke after a while. "No, I should have listened to you. I overreacted, I'm sorry. I just don't like the idea of our wolves mating. It seals a lot of things, a lot of things that I can't put you through," I whispered but I knew that she heard me.

She shivered and that was when I saw that she was just my thin t-shirt. I carried her bridal style and went back to the tent. The walk back was awkward because I did not know what to say to diffuse the tension. I don't think she had anything to say either.

After we entered the tent, she was still shivering, so I got up to turn on the

heater. I was half expecting her to say something like she had been doing the whole night but she remained quiet. I sat down beside her and held her hands while the silence stretched on for miles between us.

"Why?" She asked softly and I sighed. "Because I can't put you in that type of situation," she raised her head, looking at me with questions in her eyes and my breath caught in my throat.

Her eyes were puffy and her nose a darker shade from her face, which meant it was red from all the crying she had done.

"You don't know the circumstances surrounding it, do you?" I asked her and she shook her head. "Why the fuck does she want to mate when she doesn't even know how it works?" Daxon growled in my head and I had to take deep breaths to calm myself down and not shout at her again.

"Why do you want Jasmine and Daxon to mate then?" I asked her with contained rage and what I hoped was a gentle voice and she shook her head.

"I want to know, Lola. Talk to me," I tried to make her look into my eyes but she refused. "Lola, I need to know who is putting this idea into your head," I said sternly but she still refused to look at me.

"For the moon's sake, who was it?" I was already raising my voice at this point but I couldn't care less. I needed to know who gave her that idea. The person could be another person trying to ruin both of us at once.

"Who was it, Lola? Mom?" She shook her head, "Lyla?" She shook her head. "Damon? Alysia?" She shook her head while her lower lip trembled slightly. "Fay?" I asked and she looked at me with anger in her eyes.

"How can you even ask if she's the one?" She spat at me. "Heck, she risked her

life to allow me to escape. She might be dead because she wanted me to come back to you and you dare to question her?" She screamed at me.

My anger flared up at her words and I just spoke without thinking. "Why won't I suspect her?? You've been fucking weird since you got back. I tried my best to know what is going on with you but you keep avoiding me."

"You're my mate for the moon's sake, you're supposed to share your problems with me. Now, you're asking for this ridiculous thing and you just expect me to agree to whatever you ask for? Without knowing what the consequences might be or if I might be okay with it?" I raised my voice at her.

"Why the fuck does that even matter? What is the stupid consequence that comes with our wolf mating? Why are you making a fucking big deal out of it?" She screamed at me also.

"Because if one of us dies, the other will follow soon after. That's why. I bet you didn't even know that," I said gently, rubbing the bridge of my nose and she became quiet.

Chapter 142

Lola's POV

I couldn't believe my ears and looked at Adrian in disbelief. Could it be that he mistook it for something else. "What do you mean by that? I'm sure you must be mistaken, there can't be such consequences " I said as I shook my head in disbelief.

"That's why I'm asking you who gave you such an idea, Lola," Adrian said angrily and I took a step back from him. "I want to go home," I whispered.

"Are you for real now?" He asked in disbelief and I nodded my head. "Yes, I want to go home now. Please ," I added the latter as a broken whisper and he did not say another word before going to a corner of the tent to bring out new set of clothes for us.

He gave me a sweatshirt and short that smelled like him with a simple "put this on". I reluctantly took them from him and slowly changed into the clothes he gave me.

I wasn't expecting such a twist," Jasmine said. "Why did Selene ask us to mate in our wolves form if it has such consequences?" She asked again but kept quiet when I had no answer for her.

"We're leaving now," Adrian announced and took the lead while I followed behind him. He was cold and obviously hurt but I just couldn't tell him that the moon goddesss told me to.

I needed to talk to Selene first.

"Wait," I called out and he stopped in his tracks. "Are we just going to leave all of these here?" I asked and watched his shoulder drop in disappointment.

"I'll take care of my own problems, Lola," he said my name with an icy tone and it felt like my heart was being crushed in my chest.

"But we used it together, I should help you clean it up a bit," I tried to argue. "The one thing I need help with, you refused me. Don't act like you care," and with that, he went out of the tent.

I clutched my chest and tried to breathe through my mouth. I was angry and hurt but my anger wasn't directed towards Adrian. It was mostly at Selene for telling me to do something that could potentially ruin my relationship and at me for being a fucking coward and not being able to tell the truth to my mate.

I left the tent with my shoulder hunched and saw Adrian waiting outside. My heart soared with hope and I moved towards him. I felt like I had been punched in the guts when he turned and started walking back the way we came.

"At least, he cares enough to wait for us," Jasmine said in a sad voice and I sighed. It was meant to be a perfect night and I ruined it.

I tried to reach him through our mindlink but he had it put up. I contemplated faking a fall but stopped at the last moment. That wouldn't be fair to him and I already did enough for tonight.

I wasn't expecting Rose to be awake by the time we got back to the house, but there she was, wide awake and excited when I walked in through the door.

Her smile vanished when she saw the look on my face and I almost burst into tears there and then. Adrian went upstairs without acknowledging anyone and Rose looked between the stairs and I before walking towards me.

"Pumpkin, how was your date? Why are you back so late? Adrian told me to have the door open for you, I just decided to stay awake till you get back but everything doesn't seem well between you. What happened, Lola?" She asked with concern evident in her voice.

"I fucked up, Rose. Royally," I said and hugged her before moving towards the stairs, unshed tears shining in my eyes. "We'll talk about it well in the morning."

She looked like she wanted to say something but decided against it before nodding and bading me goodnight.

I got to the room, thinking that he'll be there and probably less angry but the room was empty. So was the closet and bathroom.

I sniffed the air and it led me to my former room. I tried to open the door but it was locked and that was my undoing. Tears cascaded down my cheeks rapidly and I held my chest from the force of the pain.

I knocked but there was no reply, yet I could hear his uneven breathing which indicated that he was still awake.

"Ad...Adrian," I called out but I was met with total silence. "Adrian, please. Can you at least answer me? Just talk to me, please" I pleaded at the door but still nothing.

"You can lash out at me all you want but this silence is killing me," I managed to get out through my tears. "Please talk to me."

I heard ruffling on the other side of the door and heard his footsteps coming

towards the door. I was expecting him to open the door but he didn't.

"My silence is killing you but you refused to answer my own questions? How is that fair?" He said, his voice breaking which indicated that he's been crying making me cry harder.

"I can't, Adrian. I really can't. I just need you to trust me on this one," I said hoping to convince him but it had the opposite effect.

"Trust? Did you just say trust?" He asked angrily before he opened the door. I paused at the sight of him and my tears flowed again.

His hair was ruffled like he ran his hands through it multiple times, his cheeks were stained with tears and his eyes looked so hurt.

I caused that.

I tried to touch his face but he pulled back from me, making my hands drop to my side.

"You don't get to do that? I don't think I want to be touched by a woman that doesn't trust me enough to confide in me. You know I'll burn the earth to the ground if you asked, Lola. Why are you making me feel like I never do enough or I'm not good enough for you?" He asked, pain evident in his voice and I cried harder than I already was, yet I refused to utter a word.

"I see that you're not going to utter a word," he sniffled and his eyes hardened. "I'm not having any conversation unless it will bring answers ". And with that he shut the door in my face.

I didn't even bother to knock on the door anymore, it was obvious that only my

answers would bring peace to our bond.

I staggered and made my way to our room. Without bothering to undress, I searched my soul for the thin thread that tethered me to Selene and tugged on it.

I did not manage to reach the bed before I was thrown into darkness and lost consciousness.

Chapter 143

Lola's POV

I opened my eyes and sat up only to be met with Selene's eyes. Anger and hurt surge through me and I stood up abruptly, wobbling when I became dizzy and unsteady on my feet.

"Calm down. Take it easy," her angelic voice reached my ears and I saw red. "Take it easy?" Are you joking with me right now?" I asked her, channeling the anger I felt into my words.

"I never said it would be easy," she said softly and I laughed. I laughed maniacally because that was the only thing I could do at that moment.

"I never said it was going to be easy either," I spat. I didn't care if she was the goddess of the moon or anything, she was playing with my life too much and I wasn't going to stand for that.

What exactly do I plan to do? I have no idea.

"Have you not had enough fun with my life?" I asked softly, all fight draining from my body, slowly getting replaced by grief and hurt. "For 10 years, I was plunged into suffering for reasons unknown to me. The motherfucking bastard you paired me with at first made me run from my pack," I said, tears streaming down my cheeks.

"You gave me a second chance that almost cost me my life, Selene. We fought against all odds and finally began to love each other and now you want to take me away from him."

"I didn't really care that I'll be losing my life as long as everyone I love is saved but now, you're dragging Adrian into it?" I asked, clutching my chest to relieve me of the pain that was coursing through it.

"He wouldn't talk to me unless I gave him an answer," I cried and fell back to the grass. "He believed that the person that gave the idea was trying to kill both of us at once."

I sobbed and buried my face in my hands as I cried harder. The pain was unbearable for me and it seems like my heart was being torn apart from the inside.

I felt soft hands on my shoulder but I refused to look up at her. "None of it was your fault, Lola. He should have trusted you and allowed the mating process to be completed," she said softly and I scoffed.

"Trusted me??" I laughed. "I wouldn't have trusted me if I had been in his shoes. You basically asked him to sign his own death warrant, knowing fully well that I was going to lose my life during the war," I looked at her, hoping she could see the storm of anger raging in my eyes.

"Is there no other way to do this?" I asked after a while and she shook her head. "I'm afraid that this is the only way to move forward," she said.

"You should go back," she said and I felt myself being pulled into the darkness again. "But..." I tried to speak but she shook her head at me.

"Trust me child. Trust the process," and I lost consciousness.

I woke up to the door being banged furiously and there was lots of noise on the other side of the door too.

What the heck? I thought as I sat up groggily and tried to get my thinking together. "Aargh, why is it so fucking loud here," Jasmine said and I groaned in pain too.

"I swear to the moon that I'm going to break this door down if you don't open up, Lola," Adrian's voice came from the other side of the door and he seemed to be panicking.

Are we under attack or something? I hurriedly stood up from my place on the floor and opened the door just as he was about to break it down.

His body was already positioned to ram into the door when he saw me. His posture relaxed and he breathed a sigh of relief.

"A...Adrian?" I said weakly, not sure if he still wanted to talk to me after the argument we have. He came towards me and I took a step back, not knowing what to expect.

I was shocked when he reached out his hands to me and pulled me into a bone crushing hug. "Thank goddess, you're okay," he breathed into my hair and held me closer to his body than he already did.

"How did you know I passed out?" I asked and he pulled back to hold my face in his hands. "I heard a thud and thought you dropped something but everything went silent afterwards ," he started speaking but I cut him off.

"You were listening to all of my movements? I thought you were mad at me and did not want either have anything to do with me?" I questioned him and he took a deep breath before speaking again.

"I was livid for what happened, baby, I'm not going to lie," he said and Jasmine did a happy dance in my head.

"He called us baby again, that means he's no longer angry," she even howled happily in my head and it took all of my self control to not laugh out loud.

"I realized that I can't leave without you, bound by a bond or not. I really can't imagine a world without you in it. I'll follow you to the deepest pit in hell if it meant that I'll be able to stay by your side," he said softly and a rogue tear rolled down my left cheek.

I really don't deserve this man.

"It's not like I'll allow any evil before you but the advantages that come with mating in our wolf forms surpass the downside to it.

"What are you trying to say?" I asked with my mouth agape and he smiled.

"I want us to mate in our wolf forms, Lola" he said with a boyish grin that melted my heart. "We'll deal with the consequences later," I nodded eagerly and he laughed.

"When do we fully mate?" I asked and he gave me a Cheshire cat grin.

"Right now, baby. There's no point in wasting more of our time."

CHAPTER 144

Lola's POV

"Now?" I asked in disbelief and he nodded. "But we can't change into our wolf forms inside the house. You want to bring down the whole structure? Two horny wolves in this tiny space is a no no," I said.

"Horny?? Bitch, you got laid earlier today and I am the horny one?" Jasmine asked in an offended tone, making me sigh and facepalm mentally. "You are a very horny wolf and you know it," I said just to aggravate her.

"At least, I'm not begging to get fucked," she said and I gasped. "No, you did not just do that," I retorted but she rolled her eyes at me. "I did and our mindlink is down which means Daxon and Adrian are listening in on this conversation," she said and I became totally red, earning a chuckle from Adrian.

"She's right, baby. You were begging to be taken," he teased and I buried my face in his chest. "Oh, come on. Not you too ",I whined and he laughed out loud.

"But you're right. We can't mate in the house. Apart from them being big and horny, shut the fuck up, Daxon, they will wake Mom up. We can't have that now, can we?" He said and I shook my head.

"What do we do then? You suggested mating right away," I said and he nodded his head like he had a plan.

"We have to go back into the woods," he said and I just stared at him, expecting him to laugh but he seemed serious. "You're not kidding?" I asked and he nodded his head.

"It's late and it's going to take a while before we can get back there. That's coupled with the fact that we don't have food or clothes there is enough reason. Don't you think so?" I asked but he just pulled me closer and dropped a kiss on my forehead.

"I'm always one step ahead of you. I suggested the date so I made plans, baby, I did," he said softly and my resolve slowly weakened.

I opened my mouth to speak but he beat me to it. "We're going to change into our wolves outside the house. I promise you're not going to regret it," he said and I nodded.

We left the room hand in hand and almost reached the door when he went back to the kitchen. I was tempted to follow him to see what he went to do but I decided against it. He soon came back empty handed, which had me being more curious than I already was.

"Why did you come back empty handed?" I asked him as soon as he was within earshot. "Had to drop a letter for Mom so that she won't be confused or worried about our whereabouts when she wakes up," he said and I nodded.

I didn't even think about Rose. I was so focused on the matter at hand. Thank goddess that one of us thought about that.

We entered into the cold, still night and I shivered a bit. I looked at Adrian and he nodded his head at me before he started undressing. I looked at him undressing for a while before I cautioned myself and started undressing too.

I had just pulled his shirt that I had on over my head when I heard cracking of bone and a wet nose nudged my shoulder. I giggled softly and faced him.

Even though I've seen him before, Daxon's magnificence still took my breath

away. His low whine took me out of my reverie. I touched his fur slowly and he growled lowly in satisfaction, making me giggle again.

"I'm glad to see you too, Daxon. Jasmine will be out in a second, okay?" He whined softly and licked the side of my face affectionately.

I moved back and imagined I was in my wolf form, relegating control to Jasmine. My bone cracked and when I looked down again, I had paws for limbs.

Daxon howled happily to the moon and Jasmine did the same thing. Since they couldn't talk in their wolf forms, they had to use the mindlink.

"You look so gorgeous and beautiful," Daxon's voice came through the mindlink and Jasmine giggled. No one would have thought that she was a powerful wolf with the way she keeps giggling.

"You look very amazing yourself," she replied to him and I resisted the urge to tease her. She sounded like a love-sick puppy.

They kept nudging at each other and being all cute which tugged at my heart string but I managed to keep my sadness at bay.

Tonight is all about having fun. We'll deal with what tomorrow brings when tomorrow comes.

"Shall we?" Daxon asked and then dashed off towards the direction of the woods, howling at the moon. Jasmine followed behind him, howling at the moon also.

"This feels so nice, Lola. I don't ever want it to end," she said to me through our mindlink and I agreed. It sure does, Jasmine. It sure does.

Soon, they were at the clearing near the lake. Daxon sat on his haunches and howled at the moon. The howl was different, it was a happy howl and soon Jasmine joined him. They continued this loudly for a while, I was surprised the whole pack wasn't awake yet.

Jasmine sat on her haunches and raised her head with pride and poise of every bit of royalty she is. Daxon sniffed the air before gently circling Jasmine who sat as rigid and unaffected as possible.

"Oh my goddess, it's happening ," she squealed like a child through our mindlink making me giggle.

After circling her for what seemed like eternity but was just a few seconds, Daxon whined and nudged Jasmine's cheeks with his snout to which she responded with a nudge of her own.

The whole wolf mating process was like a breeze for me. They did a whole lot of wolfish things that I couldn't explain. Yes, I'm a werewolf but that doesn't mean I have to be a wolf, Jasmine is already one.

All I could say was Jasmine was super happy and with every passing moment, I felt like something was about to change forever. I just couldn't put a finger on it.

"You okay there?" Adrian's voice cut through my train of thoughts. "Am I the only one that feels like something big that will change our lives forever is about to happen?" I asked him the question that was bothering me.

"I don't think I get what you're saying, baby," he replied to me. Just when I was about to respond to him, I felt pain coursing through my body.

I knew I wasn't the one feeling pain, it was Jasmine's. "Jasmine! Jas! Can you hear me? What's going on?" I asked frantically.

The pain spread like lava through the whole of my body, almost paralyzing me. If I was going through that much pain, Jasmine's will be worse.

I heard groans of pain and it seemed like Adrian was in pain also. I tried to reach out to him but everything seemed painful and I grew weaker by the seconds.

"J... J...Jas..." then darkness surrounded me.

CHAPTER 145

Lola's POV

Argh! Why the fuck is everything so loud?

"Adrian, what the fuck are you doing? Try to tone it down a bit, I'm trying to sleep," I mumbled from sleep but all I got was a groan and the sounds became louder than it originally was.

"Adriannnnnnn," I whined and tried to grab him from his side of the bed but I touched the grass instead. Grass? My eyes shot open and I tried to sit up quickly but I got pushed down by a heavy tree on my midriff.

"Aw," I groaned and tried to remove the tree from my body only to be met with skin. Adrian's hand was draped over my stomach while he slept with his body facing away from me.

I laid down back for a while and tried to remember the events that happened the day before but I could barely focus. I could hear the ants crawling on the forest floor, the sound of their tiny appendages scraping against the surface of the earth was so loud, I could barely hear my own thoughts.

It didn't help that I could hear everything going around in nature, down to the sound of the wind moving. My senses were so heightened and I could feel a headache building.

Events of the day before came rushing to me. The date, the hot sex afterwards, my question that led to an argument, my conversation with the moon goddess and finally, Jasmine and Daxon mating under the moonlight. I remembered that I passed out from pain and tried to reach out to Jasmine.

"Jasmine! Jas, can you hear me?" I called through our mindlink and was greeted by silence. I got scared and was starting to panic, what if she was gone. The pain was severe yesterday night and if I could feel that much pain through our mindlink, it must have been 10 times worse for her.

What have I done? Why did I bring up this stupid suggestion in the first place? What is my fucking problem? I kept thinking while trying to keep my tears at bay without waking Adrian. I didn't want to startle nor worry him.

"You're so dumb, Lola," Jasmine said and I squealed with delight into our mindlink. "Jasssssss, you're still here," I screamed and she tsked.

"Of course, I'm still here. Your head won't hurt from hearing so many things at once if I wasn't with you," she said and I felt kind of stupid. She was right, our wolves are the reason we have heightened senses.

"You're such a meanie, Jasmine," I pouted. "I was just scared because you seemed to be in pain before I passed out. Are you okay? What happened?" I asked.

"I think it was the mating process that caused it. It was immediately Daxon and I marked each other that the pain started. I don't think we're the only affected ones though," she said, "Daxon seemed to be in pain also".

"I think you're right. Adrian seemed to be in pain and he hasn't woken up yet, despite the fact that I have been tossing around for a while. That's so unlike him," I replied to her and turned to where Adrian was laying down beside me just to find him staring at me.

I shrieked and placed my hand over my thumping chest. "Jeez, you scared me," I said before slapping his arm that was around me. And he laughed before sitting

up, groaning and holding his head in the process.

I sat up slowly after him. "Does your head hurt too?" I asked him and he nodded. "Why the fuck is that ant chewing so loudly?" He asked, his head still in his hands.

I giggled and covered my mouth with my hands, earning me a glare from him. "At least, I'm not the only one experiencing whatever this is," I said and shrugged my shoulders when he kept looking at me.

My gaze shifted from his face and roamed all over his body, making me gasp in surprise. Adrian has always been handsome and fit, he was a werewolf after all but his body became more....ethereal.

It was like there was a bubble around him projecting the aura of a god. I reached out and touched his shoulders, making tingles shoot from my fingertip to my toe. I shivered at the same time he did, meaning he must have felt it too.

"You feel it too?" I asked him and he nodded before cupping my face. "I've only seen the moon goddess once but I can swear that you're emanating the same aura that she did," he said.

"You're giving off an ethereal aura too. What do you think happened to us?" I asked, panic starting to set in. The consequence of what we just did dawned on me and I started getting scared.

"There's no reason to be scared, baby," Adrian said. "I am not sacred," I said with a smile that I hoped was convincing but he just shook his head.

"We're fully mated now, Lola. I can feel your emotions more than I did when our human sides mated. You're stressed and scared and I can feel it. I might not know what is stressing you but I assure you that I'll be with you every step of the

way. We can figure this out together," he said with a kiss to my forehead.

Calmness and love flooded my body system, calming me down. I gave him a smile before pulling him for a passionate kiss. Things were starting to get heated before he gently lifted me off him.

I pouted and he laughed. "Serena is at the house. We should go and meet her, we might know the next step to take from there," he said.

"Did you call for her?" I asked, trying to stop myself from getting anxious. "No, I didn't. She must have sensed something and decided to pay us a visit. Mom just mindlinked me that she was at the house ," Adrian said and my heart missed a beat.

The last time I saw her was after I escaped from Damon and learned about her psycho sister. Why do I have a feeling that meeting her again isn't a good idea?

Adrian stood up and held out his hand for me to hold. I took his hand and he led me towards the tent. He found some clothes for me and dressed up himself.

The air was thick with worry and anxiety and we barely spoke to each other. I guess Adrian thought exactly the same thing I did.

We left our spot after Adrian said he'd come back to clear everything and made our way to the house.

Here goes nothing.

CHAPTER 146

Lola's POV

"Are we not there yet?" I whined for the fifth time and heard my mate sigh beside me. I know we'll get to where the lake is soon but something in me wants to stress him for no reason.

I wanted to behave like the couples I watched in the movies Lyla made us watch during girl's night out. Where the girls just annoy their partner for no reason and they still get pampered.

"I guess you're living your dream after all, " Jasmine snickered in my head, making me roll her eyes at her. "Or you're just jealous that it's not you that's being showered with love and attention, " I jabbed at her and she scoffed.

"Bitch please. I'm you, you're me. We're one, durhhhh. If you're being showered with love attention, I am too, dumbass, " she retorted but I wasn't going to go down without a fight.

"Last time I checked, you're a wolf and I'm the pretty human that is always pampered, " I stuck out my tongue at her and she just clicked hers.

The fact remains that I won.

"How much longer?" I asked again but he ignored me as usual. "If I had known we would be going into the woods, I would have worn something more suitable for walking, " I started complaining but he moved on like he did not hear what I was saying.

"My legs hurt in these boots and I feel like something is going to crawl into my shirt, " I was still talking but he cut me off. "You mean my shirt?" He asked with a raised eyebrow but I decided to be petty and ignore him like he's been ignoring me too.

"I feel like something is going to crawl under MY shirt. Twigs might get lodged into my hair. It took me almost an hour to get this look and you are almost ruining it..."

He must have been tired of listening to me complain because he swept me off my feet bridal style and carried me like I weigh nothing.

"You...you...what are you d...doi...doing? I...I can walk by myself perfectly fine, " I managed to get out through my stutter.

"I believe you were complaining about your feet hurting from the moment we started on this pathway. Just relax and let me do this for you okay?" He said and continued walking.

I fixed my gaze on jaw and beautiful side profile, drinking in his gorgeousness. I'm one lucky girl, I thought to myself and snuggled into his chest. His chest vibrated with laughter, making me smile.

My breath caught in my throat when the lake came into view. He gently dropped me and my feet moved on their own accord towards the setting in front of me.

I heard a gasp and it took me a while to realize that the sound came from me. I was so mesmerized by what was in front of me that I did not know when Adrian reached my back and he wrapped his arms around me.

"You like what you see?" He asked me and I nodded my head in a daze. I was touched by all I saw and even wondered how he managed to get it all done.

"Since when did you plan this? You've been waiting for me to ask you on a date before?" I turned around in his arms and wrapped my arms around his neck.

"I would make anything happen for you, baby. All you have to do is say the word, " he kissed my forehead gently but I pulled him in for a kiss after he pulled away.

I meant it to be a soft and quick kiss but it quickly escalated when he nibbled softly on my lips and my self control went with the wind. I plunged my tongue into his mouth and he returned the kiss with the same fervor.

Our tongues fought for dominance which I lost to him. It wasn't until I felt like I was going to die if I didn't breathe that I pulled back from the kiss. He squealed my ass cheeks softly, making me gasp softly.

"Thank you so much, Adrian, " I whispered while he just nodded with so much love and admiration in his eyes.

I turned around to really take in the view. One side of the lake had a table set for two. The sweet smell of varieties of food was evident in the air and I smiled like an idiot.

The other side had an open tent set up. From where I stood, I could see the bed setup with flowers and candles, even though the candles were not lit yet.

"Candles? It's day time, " I questioned him but he shrugged with a mischievous smile on his face. Good to know I'm not the only one that had a motive.

I shook my head at him and made my way to the table that was set up. On getting closer, I saw that flower petals were scattered around the table too.

He pulled out a chair for me and made me seat before disappearing into the tent. Before I could blink, our table was already filled with a lot of food, from appetizers to main dishes to a delicious looking chocolate cake that he refused to allow me take a bite from.

I told him that a little sugar never hurt anyone but he still refused. All my anger vanished when I took the first bite from the food laid before us.

"Oh my goddess, this is so goooooood, " I sighed dreamily, making him laugh. A sound that I wanted to record so that I could listen to it forever.

The rest of the date was fun. We talked about random things and laughed at every and any silly thing we could think of.

It was everything I wanted and more. My mind was off the war that was looming ahead the whole time. I felt so happy and on top of the world inside the bubble we created for ourselves.

I only got one thing out of the whole date though. I'd never lose any of them to the enemy. Over my dead body.

CHAPTER 147

Lola's POV

The sun was setting nicely and I was still having the best time of my life just sitting in my mate's presence. I refrained from having any bad thoughts and we just relaxed.

We finished eating a while ago but he refused to bring out the dessert, claiming it was a surprise and I was going to love it so much.

While I might have thrown a tantrum on the outside, I was relieved on the inside because I was so full, I could burst if I had anything to eat.

"Are you not cold?" Adrian asked as he gently rubbed thumb across the skin of my palm. "Yeah, a little, " I answered him and shivered again.

It was already getting chilly by the lakeside since the sun was setting. And my clothes were not suitable for that kind of weather, so I was cold but I thought I was hiding it well. He must have noticed.

"Come on then, " he stood up and waited for me to stand before he held my hand in his and led me towards the tent. I was led towards the bed and I expected him to stay with me but he said he'd be right back.

I had the urge to follow him and make sure that he wasn't leaving me but I refrained from doing such. Get a grip, Lola, I told myself and gave him a tight smile as he left the tent again.

It was a little bit darker in the tent than it was outside and I resisted the urge to

bite my nail due to the anxiety growing in my chest.

I heard movements outside and stilled. It still seemed faraway so I tried to stop breathing and listened carefully. I breathed a sigh of relief when I smelled Adrian.

I went outside to meet him and saw that he was carrying a lot of things. I helped him to bring some inside and stood with my hands on my waist.

"I could have helped you with this when we were coming, you know?" I told him and he nodded with a smile. "Yes, I do, " he replied.

"Then why did you not mention anything about it?" I asked, my hands still on my waist while glaring at him.

"First of all, it would have ruined the surprise, " he stood up slowly and faced me with a mischievous glint in his eyes. "Sur...sur...surprise?" I stuttered, my former position long forgotten.

There was something in his eyes that screamed predator and I was evidently the prey. "And yes, surprise, " he affirmed and took a step towards me, while I took two steps back.

"You were whining the whole way here, which I'm sure would have worsened if you had to carry anything. That is another reason, " he said calmly but the tone underlying his words promised punishment I was strangely ready to be punished.

What is wrong with me???

I was so disoriented and turned on that I did not see that he was already in front of me. His arms snaked around my waist and he grinned like a Cheshire cat.

"If you had something in your hands, would you have been able to wrap your hands around my neck and do this?" He asked just before our lips met.

I wrapped my hands around his neck like I did when we first reached the lakeside and kissed him passionately. He returned my kiss with the same feverish energy.

"Jump, " he said between kisses and I obeyed. I jumped and wrapped my legs around his waist, rubbing my barely clothed pussy over his engorged member.

"Fuckkkkkk, " I moaned, at the same he groaned in pleasure. "How do I take this off?" He asked breathily and I was confused about what he was saying until I felt him tugging on my corset top.

"Allow me to help you, " I giggled and he sighed in frustration, "put me down". He dropped me gently and I removed my top, leaving me in his shirt alone.

He gave me a once over and his eyes darkened even more that they already were. "You're so fucking beautiful. Beautifully mine and mine alone, " he whispered as he dragged his fingertips across my jaw and neckline, his fingers leaving a trail of heat in their wake.

Without any warning, he ripped his shirt open, sending buttons flying in every direction and I gasped, both in pleasure and in shock.

He pulled the shirt off my body and discarded it somewhere in the room. I expected him to touch me in one way or the other but he just stepped back and looked at me with lust filled eyes.

I was left in my thong and knee boot and I felt so exposed. I tried to cover my

breast with my hands but he growled in warning and I dropped my hands.

"Uhm...may I ask what you're doing?" I asked in a small voice since he kept circling me like a predator without touching me.

"I don't remember asking you to speak, " he said as he trailed his hands across my collarbone before choking me slightly. My nipples hardened painfully at that gesture, making him chuckle lightly. The sound went straight to my core and I clenched my thighs.

"Stay right here" he whispered in my ear before dropping her a quick kiss on my cheeks. I released a breath I did not know I was holding as he pulled back from me.

"So who's the horny bitch now?" Jasmine said in my head and I mentally gave her a death glare. To distract myself from the urge to touch myself at the sensation running through my body, I decided to engage in a conversation with her.

"Do I smell jealousy?" I teased her and she scoffed. "Puh-lease, why will I be jealous of being teased by an extremely sexy man that is currently lighting the candles and setting out strawberries dipped in chocolate?"

I looked towards Adrian and he was really setting all these things out. His muscles rippled beneath his shirt and the emotions I suppressed rushed to the surface. That man makes the simplest of things sexy, I swear to the moon goddess.

"I'm so fucking jealous, " Jasmine whined in my head, "I'll do anything to be in your place, I'm not even kidding, " she said and I burst out laughing.

"Is something funny, baby?" Adrian asked and I looked at him, only for my

breath to catch in my throat.

Fuck me.

CHAPTER 148

Lola's POV

He was stark naked. Adrian was stark naked and the blaze in his eyes had me rooted to a spot. It was supposed to be a romantic dinner, tell me why I felt like I unleashed a beast.

"This is so romantic. I love the candles and the atmosphere feels so good. We should go out for a walk, " I rambled.

Adrian said "really" at the same time Jasmine said "that was a lame move". I became crimson red and wished the floor would swallow me.

Adrian laughed and I hid my face in my palms. "Why are you being so fidgety?" Adrian asked and I peeped at him from the hole between my fingers.

I have no idea why I was being fidgety to be honest. I wanted him but something about his aura right then felt like I was about to be preyed upon, which I like but something feels weird.

"He's always pampered you during sex. He was always doing what you wanted too. Seeing this side to him must be confusing, " Jasmine analyzed in my head and I agreed with her.

"So, you don't like this side of me?" He asked while he pinned me with a piercing gaze.

"Uhm...uh...I...I...I...uhmmm, " I took a deep breath before I spoke again. "You're frying my brain. Let's do this instead of punishing me this way. I can't even think

straight, " I rushed out and breathed a sigh of relief once it was out of my lungs.

"Get on the bed, baby, " he spoke after a long moment of silence and I heeded without questioning anything. I sat at the edge of the bed but he shook his head and clicked his tongue.

"Lay on your back and spread your legs, " he commanded and I laid down. The heels of my boots were planted at the edge of the bed and I felt so exposed, save the flimsy panties I had on.

I was so turned on that my body felt feverish to touch. The temperature in the room was incredibly high despite the coolness of the night.

I heard things being shuffled around but they were all background noises. My heartbeat was so loud, it was the only thing I could hear. My blood pumped through my body at the speed of light.

I closed my eyes and tried to rub my thighs against each other to get a little relieve from the growing ache between my legs.

Thinking that Adrian was still busy to attend to me, I grabbed my breasts with both hands and lightly pinched my nipples, sending bouts of pleasure down to my aching pussy.

I almost let out a moan but I caught myself at the last moment and bit my lips to prevent the sound from escaping and drawing Adrian's attention to me.

I teased my nipples for a while before I slowly trailed my hand down my body while the other hand continued to fondle my breast.

I was almost at the place where I needed to be touched the most when my wrist

was held in warm, mighty palm. My eyes shot open and stared into his mismatched ones.

"You're being very naughty. I told you to lay down, not pleasure yourself ", he lightly growled and my breathing got faster.

"Please, Adrian. Just do something. Anything at all, " I begged, my voice shaking. "Something?" He asked and I nodded eagerly. He cocked his head to the side like he was contemplating what I said and I waited with bated breath.

"Nah, you haven't earned it. You've been naughty all day and it doesn't sit well with me, " he said before holding his engorged dick in his hands and stroking it gently.

That's so unfair. Why does he get to touch himself but I can't? I opened my mouth to say something about it but the smirk on his face discouraged me. It was like he was waiting for me to say something about it so that he could punish me more.

"Got nothing to say?" He taunted and I almost screamed from all the emotions running through my veins. "Adrian please, " I begged.

"Fuck, " he cursed before leaning in front of me. He pulled me by my ass to the edge of the bed and I automatically placed my legs on his shoulder.

I expected him to eat me up like he normally would but I felt something cold on my pussy instead. The contrast in the temperature of my body and the cold sticky substance currently stimulating my clit threw me into throes of pleasure.

I lost my hold on reality and felt my soul leaving my body when my orgasm hit me like a truck of bricks. I screamed loudly and came violently against thin air.

I had barely recovered when his tongue attacked my pussy again. I writhed and tried to escape from his oh so amazing attack but he held me firmly in place, leaving me with no options but to enjoy all what he was doing to my body.

"Yessssss...yessssss...please, Adrian...oh my goddesss...oh my fucking go...haaaaaaa...that feels so good, " I moaned uncontrollably.

He sucked my clit into his mouth while his fingers plunged into me mercilessly. Every now and then, the cold sticky liquid which turned out to be melted chocolate was reapplied to my clit while he sucked it off like he was starved.

Just when I was about to orgasm, he pulled away from me making me whine in protest.

"Why did you stop?" I whined and he chuckled before applying the the melted chocolate to my nipples and navel. He licked his way up, paying extra attention to my aching nipples.

When he kissed me, I hungrily kissed him back like he was the oxygen I needed to breathe. Without giving any warning, he entered me in one long thrust.

He pulled back from the kiss and pounded me like it was the last time we'd be having sex. Very soon, my orgasm hit me and I surrendered myself to it.

Adrian's thrust got sloppy and he released inside me afterwards. He pulled out and laid beside me, holding me close to his chest while we tried to regain our breathing.

"You want to go again?" I asked him and he looked at me like I had grown another head. "Are you for real? I mean, I don't mind but will you be okay?" He asked with concern and I chuckled tiredly against him.

"That question should be for Jasmine, " I said and he looked at me confused.
"We're going to mate in our wolf forms."

CHAPTER 149

Adrian's POV

"You want us to mate in our wolf forms?" I asked her to be sure she wasn't hallucinating because she was feeling tired and maybe high from our concluded session.

"Yes, I'm very sure. I'm sure Daxon wouldn't mind mating fully with his mate either, " she said tiredly. "No, no, we can't do that, " I gently removed myself from her and paced the length of the room.

She sat up with a look of hurt on her face and tears formed in her eyes. "Adrian, " she said gently but I wasn't having any of it.

"No, no, Lola. We can't mate in our wolf form, I'll never allow that. You can't want that for us. Do you even know what the consequences are?" I asked her partly in fear and in anger.

"How can she try to do this to us?" Daxon growled lightly in my head, mirroring the way I felt too. Unable to think properly, I hurriedly put on my shorts and went out into the cold night, disregarding the bone freezing temperatures outside. The turmoil inside my heart right then weighed more than whatever nature decided to do.

I contemplated running off in my wolf form but I couldn't leave her all by herself and it might take a while for me to return back. I stood by the lakeside and looked up to the moon, silently questioning the moon goddess.

Why can't I have a normal relationship with my mate like every other wolf? Why does it always boil down to making decisions between life and death? I

screamed into the night and kicked the sand beneath my feet as I breathed heavily.

I smelled her before I heard her and took deep breaths to calm myself down. I already fucked up royally by running out on her, I can't afford to make more mistakes that will make her unhappy.

She wrapped her dainty hands around my stomach and I heard her sniffing which broke my heart. I didn't mean to make her cry.

I'm such a stupid idiot. I should have at least listened to her before acting like a psycho and running off on her. I placed my hands on hers and turned around to face her.

She refused to look up at me and wrapped her hands tightly around my midriff, sobbing quietly. We stood like that for a while, I rubbed her back while she silently cried, breaking my heart into a million pieces.

"Should we just give in to what she wants?" Daxon asked in my head and I sighed. "You know we can't, we can't do that bud, " I replied to him.

"I'm so sorry, Adrian, " she finally spoke after a while. "No, I should have listened to you. I overreacted, I'm sorry. I just don't like the idea of our wolves mating. It seals a lot of things, a lot of things that I can't put you through, " I whispered but I knew that she heard me.

She shivered and that was when I saw that she was just my thin t-shirt. I carried her bridal style and went back to the tent. The walk back was awkward because I did not know what to say to diffuse the tension. I don't think she had anything to say either.

After we entered the tent, she was still shivering, so I got up to turn on the

heater. I was half expecting her to say something like she had been doing the whole night but she remained quiet. I sat down beside her and held her hands while the silence stretched on for miles between us.

"Why?" She asked softly and I sighed. "Because I can't put you in that type of situation, " she raised her head, looking at me with questions in her eyes and my breath caught in my throat.

Her eyes were puffy and her nose a darker shade from her face, which meant it was red from all the crying she had done.

"You don't know the circumstances surrounding it, do you?" I asked her and she shook her head. "Why the fuck does she want to mate when she doesn't even know how it works?" Daxon growled in my head and I had to take deep breaths to calm myself down and not shout at her again.

"Why do you want Jasmine and Daxon to mate then?" I asked her with contained rage and what I hoped was a gentle voice and she shook her head.

"I want to know, Lola. Talk to me, " I tried to make her look into my eyes but she refused. "Lola, I need to know who is putting this idea into your head ", I said sternly but she still refused to look at me.

"For the moon's sake, who was it?" I was already raising my voice at this point but I couldn't care less. I needed to know who gave her that idea. The person could be another person trying to ruin both of us at once.

"Who was it, Lola? Mom?" She shook her head, "Lyla?" She shook her head. "Damon? Alysia? " She shook her head while her lower lip trembled slightly. "Fay?" I asked and she looked at me with anger in her eyes.

"How can you even ask if she's the one?" She spat at me. "Heck, she risked her

life to allow me to escape. She might be dead because she wanted me to come back to you and you dare to question her?" She screamed at me.

My anger flared up at her words and I just spoke without thinking. "Why won't I suspect her?? You've been fucking weird since you got back. I tried my best to know what is going on with you but you keep avoiding me."

"You're my mate for the moon's sake, you're supposed to share your problems with me. Now, you're asking for this ridiculous thing and you just expect me to agree to whatever you ask for? Without knowing what the consequences might be or if I might be okay with it?" I raised my voice at her.

"Why the fuck does that even matter? What is the stupid consequence that comes with our wolf mating? Why are you making a fucking big deal out of it?" She screamed at me also.

"Because if one of us dies, the other will follow soon after. That's why. I bet you didn't even know that ", I said gently, rubbing the bridge of my nose and she became quiet.

CHAPTER 150

Lola's POV

I couldn't believe my ears and looked at Adrian in disbelief. Could it be that he mistook it for something else. "What do you mean by that? I'm sure you must be mistaken, there can't be such consequences " I said as I shook my head in disbelief.

"That's why I'm asking you who gave you such an idea, Lola, " Adrian said angrily and I took a step back from him. "I want to go home, " I whispered.

"Are you for real now?" He asked in disbelief and I nodded my head. "Yes, I want to go home now. Please ", I added the latter as a broken whisper and he did not say another word before going to a corner of the tent to bring out new set of clothes for us.

He gave me a sweatshirt and short that smelled like him with a simple "put this on". I reluctantly took them from him and slowly changed into the clothes he gave me.

I wasn't expecting such a twist, " Jasmine said. "Why did Selene ask us to mate in our wolves form if it has such consequences?" She asked again but kept quiet when I had no answer for her.

"We're leaving now, " Adrian announced and took the lead while I followed behind him. He was cold and obviously hurt but I just couldn't tell him that the moon goddesss told me to.

I needed to talk to Selene first.

"Wait, " I called out and he stopped in his tracks. "Are we just going to leave all of these here?" I asked and watched his shoulder drop in disappointment.

"I'll take care of my own problems, Lola, " he said my name with an icy tone and it felt like my heart was being crushed in my chest.

"But we used it together, I should help you clean it up a bit, " I tried to argue. "The one thing I need help with, you refused me. Don't act like you care, " and with that, he went out of the tent.

I clutched my chest and tried to breathe through my mouth. I was angry and hurt but my anger wasn't directed towards Adrian. It was mostly at Selene for telling me to do something that could potentially ruin my relationship and at me for being a fucking coward and not being able to tell the truth to my mate.

I left the tent with my shoulder hunched and saw Adrian waiting outside. My heart soared with hope and I moved towards him. I felt like I had been punched in the guts when he turned and started walking back the way we came.

"At least, he cares enough to wait for us, " Jasmine said in a sad voice and I sighed. It was meant to be a perfect night and I ruined it.

I tried to reach him through our mindlink but he had it put up. I contemplated faking a fall but stopped at the last moment. That wouldn't be fair to him and I already did enough for tonight.

I wasn't expecting Rose to be awake by the time we got back to the house, but there she was, wide awake and excited when I walked in through the door.

Her smile vanished when she saw the look on my face and I almost burst into tears there and then. Adrian went upstairs without acknowledging anyone and Rose looked between the stairs and I before walking towards me.

"Pumpkin, how was your date? Why are you back so late? Adrian told me to have the door open for you, I just decided to stay awake till you get back but everything doesn't seem well between you. What happened, Lola?" She asked with concern evident in her voice.

"I fucked up, Rose. Royally, " I said and hugged her before moving towards the stairs, unshed tears shining in my eyes. "We'll talk about it well in the morning ".

She looked like she wanted to say something but decided against it before nodding and bading me goodnight.

I got to the room, thinking that he'll be there and probably less angry but the room was empty. So was the closet and bathroom.

I sniffed the air and it led me to my former room. I tried to open the door but it was locked and that was my undoing. Tears cascaded down my cheeks rapidly and I held my chest from the force of the pain.

I knocked but there was no reply, yet I could hear his uneven breathing which indicated that he was still awake.

"Ad...Adrian, " I called out but I was met with total silence. "Adrian, please. Can you at least answer me? Just talk to me, please" I pleaded at the door but still nothing.

"You can lash out at me all you want but this silence is killing me, " I managed to get out through my tears. "Please talk to me."

I heard ruffling on the other side of the door and heard his footsteps coming towards the door. I was expecting him to open the door but he didn't.

"My silence is killing you but you refused to answer my own questions? How is that fair?" He said, his voice breaking which indicated that he's been crying making me cry harder.

"I can't, Adrian. I really can't. I just need you to trust me on this one, " I said hoping to convince him but it had the opposite effect.

"Trust? Did you just say trust?" He asked angrily before he opened the door. I paused at the sight of him and my tears flowed again.

His hair was ruffled like he ran his hands through it multiple times, his cheeks were stained with tears and his eyes looked so hurt.

I caused that.

I tried to touch his face but he pulled back from me, making my hands drop to my side.

CHAPTER 151

Lola's POV

"You don't get to do that? I don't think I want to be touched by a woman that doesn't trust me enough to confide in me. You know I'll burn the earth to the ground if you asked, Lola. Why are you making me feel like I never do enough or I'm not good enough for you?" He asked, pain evident in his voice and I cried harder than I already was, yet I refused to utter a word.

"I see that you're not going to utter a word, " he sniffled and his eyes hardened. "I'm not having any conversation unless it will bring answers ". And with that he shut the door in my face.

I didn't even bother to knock on the door anymore, it was obvious that only my answers would bring peace to our bond.

I staggered and made my way to our room. Without bothering to undress, I searched my soul for the thin thread that tethered me to Selene and tugged on it.

I did not manage to reach the bed before I was thrown into darkness and lost consciousness.

I opened my eyes and sat up only to be met with Selene's eyes. Anger and hurt surge through me and I stood up abruptly, wobbling when I became dizzy and unsteady on my feet.

"Calm down. Take it easy, " her angelic voice reached my ears and I saw red. "Take it easy?" Are you joking with me right now?" I asked her, channeling the anger I felt into my words.

"I never said it would be easy, " she said softly and I laughed. I laughed maniacally because that was the only thing I could do at that moment.

"I never said it was going to be easy either, " I spat. I didn't care if she was the goddess of the moon or anything, she was playing with my life too much and I wasn't going to stand for that.

What exactly do I plan to do? I have no idea.

"Have you not had enough fun with my life?" I asked softly, all fight draining from my body, slowly getting replaced by grief and hurt. "For 10 years, I was plunged into suffering for reasons unknown to me. The motherfucking bastard you paired me with at first made me run from my pack, " I said, tears streaming down my cheeks.

"You gave me a second chance that almost cost me my life, Selene. We fought against all odds and finally began to love each other and now you want to take me away from him."

"I didn't really care that I'll be losing my life as long as everyone I love is saved but now, you're dragging Adrian into it?" I asked, clutching my chest to relieve me of the pain that was coursing through it.

"He wouldn't talk to me unless I gave him an answer, " I cried and fell back to the grass. "He believed that the person that gave the idea was trying to kill both of us at once."

I sobbed and buried my face in my hands as I cried harder. The pain was unbearable for me and it seems like my heart was being torn apart from the inside.

I felt soft hands on my shoulder but I refused to look up at her. "None of it was

your fault, Lola. He should have trusted you and allowed the mating process to be completed, " she said softly and I scoffed.

"Trusted me??, " I laughed. "I wouldn't have trusted me if I had been in his shoes. You basically asked him to sign his own death warrant, knowing fully well that I was going to lose my life during the war, " I looked at her, hoping she could see the storm of anger raging in my eyes.

"Is there no other way to do this?" I asked after a while and she shook her head. "I'm afraid that this is the only way to move forward ", she said.

"You should go back, " she said and I felt myself being pulled into the darkness again. "But...",I tried to speak but she shook her head at me.

"Trust me child. Trust the process, " and I lost consciousness.

I woke up to the door being banged furiously and there was lots of noise on the other side of the door too.

What the heck? I thought as I sat up groggily and tried to get my thinking together. "Aargh, why is it so fucking loud here, " Jasmine said and I groaned in pain too.

"I swear to the moon that I'm going to break this door down if you don't open up, Lola, " Adrian's voice came from the other side of the door and he seemed to be panicking.

Are we under attack or something? I hurriedly stood up from my place on the floor and opened the door just as he was about to break it down.

His body was already positioned to ram into the door when he saw me. His

posture relaxed and he breathed a sigh of relief.

"A...Adrian?" I said weakly, not sure if he still wanted to talk to me after the argument we have. He came towards me and I took a step back, not knowing what to expect.

I was shocked when he reached out his hands to me and pulled me into a bone crushing hug. "Thank goddess, you're okay, " he breathed into my hair and held me closer to his body than he already did.

"How did you know I passed out?" I asked and he pulled back to hold my face in his hands. "I heard a thud and thought you dropped something but everything went silent afterwards ", he started speaking but I cut him off.

"You were listening to all of my movements? I thought you were mad at me and did not want either have anything to do with me?" I questioned him and he took a deep breath before speaking again.

CHAPTER 152

Lola's POV

"I was livid for what happened, baby, I'm not going to lie, " he said and Jasmine did a happy dance in my head.

"He called us baby again, that means he's no longer angry ", she even howled happily in my head and it took all of my self control to not laugh our loud.

"I realized that I can't leave without you, bound by a bond or not. I really can't imagine a world without you in it. I'll follow you to the deepest pit in hell of it meant that I'll be able to stay by your side, " he said softly and a rogue tear rolled my left cheek.

I really don't deserve this man.

"It's not like I'll allow any evil before you but the advantages that come with mating in our wolf forms surpass the downside to it.

"What are you trying to say?" I asked with my mouth agape and he smiled.

"I want us to mate in our wolf forms, Lola" he said with a boyish grin that melted my heart. "We'll deal with the consequences later, " I nodded eagerly and he laughed.

"When do we fully mate?" I asked and he gave me a Cheshire cat grin.

"Right now, baby. There's no point in wasting more of our time."

"Now?" I asked in disbelief and he nodded. "But we can't change into our wolf forms inside the house. You want to bring down the whole structure? Two horny wolves in this tiny space is a no no, " I said.

"Horny?? Bitch, you got laid earlier today and I am the horny one?" Jasmine asked in an offended tone, making me sigh and facepalm mentally. "You are a very horny wolf and you know it, " I said just to aggravate her.

"At least, I'm not begging to get fucked, " she said and I gasped. "No, you did not just do that, " I retorted but she rolled her eyes at me. "I did and our mindlink is down which means Daxon and Adrian are listening in on this conversation, " she said and I became totally red, earning a chuckle from Adrian.

"She's right, baby. You were begging to be taken, " he teased and I buried my face in his chest. "Oh, come on. Not you too ",I whined and he laughed out loud.

"But you're right. We can't go mate in the house. Apart from them being big and horny, shut the fuck up, Daxon, they will wake Mom up. We can't have that now, can we?" He said and I shook my head.

"What do we do then? You suggested mating right away, " I said and he nodded his head like he had a plan.

"We have to go back into the woods, " he said and I just stared at him, expecting him to laugh but he seemed serious. "You're not kidding?" I asked and he nodded his head.

"It's late and it's going to take a while before we can get back there. That's coupled with the fact that we don't have food or clothes there is enough reason. Don't you think so?" I asked but he just pulled me closer and dropped a kiss on my forehead.

"I'm always one step ahead of you. I suggested the date so I made plans, baby, I did, " he said softly and my resolve slowly weakened.

I opened my mouth to speak but he beat me to it. "We're going to change into our wolves outside the house. I promise you're not going to regret it, " he said and I nodded.

We left the room hand in hand and almost reached the door when he went back to the kitchen. I was tempted to follow him to see what he went to do but I decided against it. He soon came back empty handed, which had me being more curious than I already was.

"Why did you come back empty handed?" I asked him as soon as he was within earshot. "Had to drop a letter for Mom so that she won't be confused or worried about our whereabouts when wakes up, " he said and I nodded.

I didn't even think about Rose. I was so focused on the matter at hand. Thank goddess that one of us thought about that.

We entered into the cold, still night and I shivered a bit. I looked at Adrian and he nodded his head at me before he started undressing. I looked at him undressing for a while before I cautioned myself and started undressing too.

I had just pulled his shirt that I had on over my head when I heard cracking of bone and a wet nose nudged my shoulder. I giggled softly and faced him.

Even though I've seen him before, Daxon's magnificence still took my breath away. His low whine took me out of my reverie. I touched his fur slowly and he growled lowly in satisfaction, making me giggle again.

"I'm glad to see you too, Daxon. Jasmine will be out in a second, okay?" He whined softly and licked the side of my face affectionately.

I moved back and imagined I was in my wolf form, relegating control to Jasmine. My bone cracked and when I looked down again, I had paws for limbs.

Daxon howled happily to the moon and Jasmine did the same thing. Since they couldn't talk in their wolf forms, they had to use the mindlink.

"You look so gorgeous and beautiful, " Daxon's voice came through the mindlink and Jasmine giggled. One would have thought that she is a powerful wolf with the way she keeps giggling.

"You look very amazing yourself, " she replied to him and I resisted the urge to tease her. She sounded like a love-sick puppy.

They kept nudging at each other and being all cute which tugged at my heart string but I managed to keep my sadness at bay.

Tonight is all about having fun. We'll deal with what tomorrow brings when tomorrow comes.

"Shall we?" Daxon asked and then dashed off towards the direction of the woods, howling at the moon. Jasmine followed behind him, howling at the moon also.

CHAPTER 153

Lola's POV

"This feels so nice, Lola. I don't ever want it to end, " she said to me through our mindlink and I agreed. It sure does, Jasmine. It sure does.

Soon, they were at the clearing near the lake. Daxon sat on his haunches and howled at the moon. The howl was different, it was a happy howl and soon Jasmine joined him. They continued this loudly for a while, I was surprised the whole pack wasn't awake yet.

Jasmine sat on her haunches and raised her head with pride and poise of every bit of royalty she is. Daxon sniffed the air before gently circling Jasmine who sat as rigid and unaffected as possible.

"Oh my goddess, it's happening ", she squealed like a child through our mindlink making me giggle.

After circling her for what seemed like eternity but was just a few seconds, Daxon whined and nudged Jasmine's cheeks with his snout to which she responded with a nudge of her own.

The whole wolf mating process was like a breeze for me. They did a whole lot of wolfish things that I couldn't explain. Yes, I'm a werewolf but that doesn't mean I have to be a wolf, Jasmine is already one.

All I could say was Jasmine was super happy and with every passing moment, I felt like something was about to change forever. I just couldn't put a finger on it.

"You okay there?" Adrian's voice cut through my train of thoughts. "Am I the only one that feels like something big that will change our lives forever is about to happen?" I asked him the question that was bothering me.

"I don't think I get what you're saying, baby, " he replied to me. Just when I was about to respond to him, I felt pain coursing through my body.

I knew I wasn't the one feeling pain, it was Jasmine's. "Jasmine! Jas! Can you hear me? What's going on?" I asked frantically.

The pain spread like lava through the whole of my body, almost paralyzing me. If I was going through that much pain, Jasmine's will be worse.

I heard groans of pain and it seemed like Adrian was in pain also. I tried to reach out to him but everything seemed painful and I grew weaker by the seconds.

"J... J...Jas..." then darkness surrounded me.

Argh! Why the fuck is everything so loud?

"Adrian, what the fuck are you doing? Try to tone it down a bit, I'm trying to sleep, " I mumbled from sleep but all I got was a groan and the sounds became louder than it originally was.

"Adriannnnnnnn, " I whined and tried to grab him from his side of the bed but I touched the grass instead. Grass? My eyes shot open and I tried to sit up quickly but I got pushed down by a heavy tree on my midriff.

"Aw, " I groaned and tried to remove the tree from my body only to be met with skin. Adrian's hand was draped over my stomach while he slept with his body facing away from me.

I laid down back for a while and tried to remember the events that happened the day before but I could barely focus. I could hear the ants crawling on the forest floor, the sound of their tiny appendages scraping against the surface of the earth was so loud, I could barely hear my own thoughts.

It didn't help that I could hear everything going around in nature, down to the sound of the wind moving. My senses were so heightened and I could feel a headache building.

Events of the day before came rushing to me. The date, the hot sex afterwards, my question that led to an argument, my conversation with the moon goddess and finally, Jasmine and Daxon mating under the moonlight. I remembered that I passed out from pain and tried to reach out to Jasmine.

"Jasmine! Jas, can you hear me?" I called through our mindlink and was greeted by silence. I got scared and was starting to panic, what if she was gone. The pain was severe yesterday night and if I could feel that much pain through our mindlink, it must have been 10 times worse for her.

What have I done? Why did I bring up this stupid suggestion in the first place? What is my fucking problem? I kept thinking while trying to keep my tears at bay without waking Adrian. I didn't want to startle nor worry him.

"You're so dumb, Lola, " Jasmine said and I squealed with delight into our mindlink. "Jasssssss, you're still here, " I screamed and she tsked.

"Of course, I'm still here. Your head won't hurt from hearing so many things at once if I wasn't with you, " she said and I felt kind of stupid. She was right, our wolves are the reason we have heightened senses.

"You're such a meanie, Jasmine, " I pouted. "I was just scared because you

seemed to be in pain before I passed out. Are you okay? What happened?" I asked .

"I think it was the mating process that caused it. It was immediately Daxon and I marked each other that the pain started. I don't think we're the only affected ones though ", she said, "Daxon seemed to be in pain also."

"I think you're right. Adrian seemed to be in pain and he hasn't woken up yet, despite the fact that I have been tossing around for a while. That's so unlike him, " I replied to her and turned to where Adrian was laying down beside me just to find him staring at me.

I shrieked and placed my hand over my thumping chest. "Jeez, you scared me, " I said before slapping his arm that was around me. And he laughed before sitting up, groaning and holding his head in the process.

I sat up slowly after him. "Does your head hurt too?" I asked him and he nodded. "Why the fuck is that ant chewing so loudly?" He asked, his head still in his hands.

CHAPTER 154

Lola's POV

I giggled and covered my mouth with my hands, earning me a glare from him. "At least, I'm not the only one experiencing whatever this is, " I said and shrugged my shoulders when he kept looking at me.

My gaze shifted from his face and roamed all over his body, making me gasp in surprise. Adrian has always been handsome and fit, he was a werewolf after all but his body became more...ethereal.

It was like there was a bubble around him projecting the aura of a god. I reached out and touched his shoulders, making tingles shoot from my fingertip to my toe. I shivered at the same time he did, meaning he must have felt it too.

"You feel it too?" I asked him and he nodded before cupping my face. "I've only seen the moon goddess once but I can swear that you're emanating the same aura that she did, " he said.

"You're giving off an ethereal aura too. What do you think happened to us?" I asked, panic starting to set in. The consequence of what we just did dawned on me and I started getting scared.

"There's no reason to be scared, baby, " Adrian said. "I am not scared, " I said with a smile that I hoped was convincing but he just shook his head.

"We're fully mated now, Lola. I can feel your emotions more than I did when our human sides mated. You're stressed and scared and I can feel it. I might not know what is stressing you but I assure you that I'll be with you every step of the way. We can figure this out together, " he said with a kiss to my forehead.

Calmness and love flooded my body system, calming me down. I gave him a smile before pulling him for a passionate kiss. Things were starting to get heated before he gently lifted me off him.

I pouted and he laughed. "Serena is at the house. We should go and meet her, we might know the next step to take from there, " he said.

"Did you call for her?" I asked, trying to stop myself from getting anxious. "No, I didn't. She must have sensed something and decided to pay us a visit. Mom just mindlinked me that she was at the house ", Adrian said and my heart missed a beat.

The last time I saw her was after I escaped from Damon and learned about her psycho sister. Why do I have a feeling that meeting her again isn't a good idea?

Adrian stood up and held out his hand for me to hold. I took his hand and he led me towards the tent. He found some clothes for me and dressed up himself.

The air was thick with worry and anxiety and we barely spoke to each other. I guess Adrian thought exactly the same thing I did.

We left our spot after Adrian said he'd come back to clear everything and made our way to the house.

Here goes nothing.

My heart was beating erratically as the house came into view. I tried to stall Adrian a bit before we went inside but he managed to make me move towards the house.

"I sincerely still feel like we should have cleared up that lakeside. I feel bad that you would have to go back to clear it by yourself ", I said after a while, just to stall and not go into the house.

"I think I might just leave everything there. You seemed to like it there and it can be our personal getaway after everything is peaceful again, " Adrian said and I gritted my teeth.

Calmness washed over me through our mindlink and I breathed in deeply. "It's okay, baby. We'll be together every step of the way. I'll be with you no matter, " he said through our mindlink while squeezing my hand lovingly.

I took a deep breath as he held the door open for me to enter. I sent him a small smile and walked in, Adrian following behind me almost immediately.

Rose was the first to attack me when I walked into view. "Oh my goddess, I almost had a panic attack when I woke up and you were not in your room, " she rushed out while gently patting my face.

"I was about to alert the whole pack until I saw Adrian's note in the kitchen stating that you were out in the woods for the rest of the night. Why were you out in the middle of the night?" She asked and I turned crimson red while Adrian cleared his throat behind me.

"Their wolves had to mate, " Serena said from where she was seated. I gasped and looked at her with an agape mouth. "Serena!!" I called but she just shrugged her shoulders like she did not just drop a bomb.

"Their wolves did what?????" Rose turned to us with a shocked face and I slowly backed into Adrian who held a protective arm around me.

Rose's face slowly went from shocked to pained. "Do you not know the

consequences of what you've done?" She asked, her voice rising with every passing second.

"Mom, we know and we both consented to it, " Adrian spoke up from behind me but I could feel how his body went rigid and tensed up.

"Why? Why would you do that to me?" She asked and I bowed my head in shame. Maybe I shouldn't have agreed with Adrian. I knew I was going to be losing my life which would definitely cause Rose pain. The pain is only going to compound when she loses her son shortly afterwards.

I was about to open my mouth to speak but Serena beat me to it.

"Now, now, calm down, will you?" She spoke, speaking to no one in particular. Rose looked like she wanted to say something but decided against it and went back to where she was sitting, pain and betrayal evident in her eyes.

CHAPTER 155

Lola's POV

I wanted to go to her but Adrian held me back and pressed me closer to him. "She's hurt right now. Nothing you say will change her mind, " he said through our mindlink and I tried to blink back my tears.

"Are you just going to stand there? We need to talk, " Serena said. Adrian and I moved to the only available chair, he sat down before setting me onto his laps, the physical contact calming me down a bit.

"So, what's going on?" Adrian asked Serena whose face and body was rigid. I took a good look at Serena and noticed that she was different from the Serena I knew.

Her face was sunken and she looked to have lost weight. Her hair looked dull and her skin seemed to have lost some of its shine. She must have been stressed over what happened with her twin sister since we last saw each other.

"The war is upon us, I can feel it in the air. The fact that your wolves already mated means it's already here. You need to be prepared. You need to work hand-in-hand to defeat what is coming, " she said in her robotic voice with unfocused eyes.

"Can you tell us what we need to do? Guidance? Things to put in place?" I asked, hoping that she would give us a direction at least.

"It's up to you to figure out, " she said. "Teamwork is important. You have to work with yourself and learn to trust others around you, " she added, making me further confused.

"I should leave, my work here is done, " she said and stood up. I stood up after her and held her hands in mine. I pulled her into a hug and whispered into her ears, "how are you holding up?"

"I want to be the one to handle her this time around. I need to finish what I started, " she replied to me with a cold voice that sent shivers down my spine and pulled from me.

She bowed slightly at Adrian before moving towards the door, followed by a quiet Rose. The door opened and closed after a while and I waited with a bated breath. Rose came into view but she ignored us and walked up the stairs.

"Adrian, " I turned to him with tears in my eyes and he stood up to hug me. "She will come around. Give her time to process it. It took me a while to process it too, didn't it?" He asked while cradling my head and wiping the tears that managed to escape.

"Let's get you cleaned up and well rested, shall we?" I nodded and made to walk but he scooped me into his arms, making me squeal.

I nestled into his chest and wrapped my hands around his neck, allowing myself to be lost in the warmth of his embrace. It will only be a matter of time before everything comes to an end so I plan to make the most of it.

Washing up happened like I was in a trance, I really couldn't remember what happened. The last thing I remembered was drifting off into a peaceful slumber, cocooned in the warmth of my mate's embrace.

"Wake up, beautiful, " a voice said and I swatted in the direction I heard it from. "Wake up, Lola, " the voice said again, deepening than it initially was. I wanted to swat in the direction it came from again but I couldn't quite pinpoint it. The

sound was everywhere in my head and my eyes shot open in panic.

I took in my environment and saw that I was in our room. I turned to where Adrian was sleeping and he was already grinning at me mischievously.

"I should have known that you're the one. I don't know why I was panicking, " I huffed and faced towards the ceiling with a roll of my eyes.

"I'm hurt you still don't know my voice in your head after all these while, " he said and I turned to glare at him. "I was sleeping, " I snapped.

I didn't mean to snap but I was on edge. The look on Rose's face after we told her what happened still breaks my heart and I felt bad that I was the cause of her heartbreak.

"Are you still worked up over what happened with mom in the morning?" Adrian asked beside me and I sighed deeply. "We were responsible for her pain. How are you not bothered about that, " I said before sitting up and turning my back to him so that he won't see the tears in my eyes.

Fuck, I'm not supposed to be so weak, I thought to myself.

"You're not weak at all, baby. You're one of the strongest people I know, " Adrian's voice rang in my head and I smiled a little.

If only he knows.

"I should go and see her, " I made a move to stand up from the bed when my stomach decided to growl in hunger. "And I should get you fed, " Adrian said from beside me. I turned crimson red to which he chuckled.

"You should go and freshen up, I'll whip up something for you to eat real quick," he said as he stood from the bed and started to pull on a shirt. My eyes did not miss the way his muscles contracted and Jasmine purred in my head.

"Down, girl," I teased her and felt her rolling her eyes. Adrian gave me a kiss on my forehead before he stepped out of the room.

I went into the bathroom to clean up. While doing so, I tried to see what Adrian was going through our mindlink but I couldn't see anything.

At some point, I felt agitation, pain and sadness that wasn't mine. I hurriedly finished up with what I was doing and threw on the closest piece of clothing that my eyes landed on.

CHAPTER 156

Lola's POV

The nearest clothes happened to be one of Adrian's T-shirts. I grabbed one of my shorts and threw it on, rubbed my hair with a towel and left it down to dry.

I quietly left the room and tried to eavesdrop on their conversation but it stopped almost immediately. I moved slowly and hoped to get anything from what was being said but I couldn't hear anything. I wanted to know what triggered Adrian but I couldn't hear anything.

"You know it is rude to eavesdrop, don't you?, " Adrian's voice came through our mindlink and I froze where I was. Of course he caught me, that's why everything suddenly became silent.

"I was just wondering what make you agitated and sad",

I said, revealing just a part of my reason. Truth was that I wanted to know what he was discussing with Rosa so that I could know how to approach her also.

I stopped at the entrance to the kitchen and I could almost cut through the tension in the air with a knife. Adrian's body was rigid and Rose had puffy eyes and looked like she didn't sleep a wink all night.

"Hi, baby, " Adrian said and I waved at him shyly. "Hi, Rose, " I said and almost bit my tongue with how lame that sounded. She nodded her head at me in acknowledgement and I sighed deeply.

"I want to go and take a shower. I'll be back in a minute , " Adrian said to

nobody in particular and left the room before I could say a word.

I cleared my throat and moved closer to where Rose was stirring something on the fire. "Do you need help with anything?" I asked but she shook her head.

It felt like I had been slapped across the face and I tried not to cry again. I can't keep crying at every little inconvenience.

"I think I like it better when you lash out at me, " I started, "this silent treatment is killing me, Rose. I'm sorry that we did what we did but we had to do it, " I finished.

She turned to me so fast with a fire blazing in her eyes that I took a step back.

"You had to do that? There was no other thing to do apart from that? You guys knew the consequence and still went ahead with it, " she said and tears rolled down her eyes.

Looking at her swollen eyes, knowing that she's going to lose both of us after a while, my tears cascaded down my cheeks and I went to pull her in for a hug.

"I'm sorry. I'm so sorry. It was something I had to do, that we had to do. I'm so sorry, Rose. You wouldn't have agreed if we told you but it is a necessary evil, " I whispered in her ears as I kept hugging her over and over.

"We could have found a way. I'm sure there would have been another way if we had searched deeper, " she said defeatedly.

She knew we had to do it too. She just didn't want to admit that. She hugged me tightly and sobbed into my shirt as I rubbed her back and tried to keep my own tears in.

"The food on fire is going to burn, " I said after a while and she hurriedly put off the fire. I looked around properly and realized that she was cooking up a feast.

"Are we expecting visitors? Let me guess, the gang wants to come over?" I asked and she nodded with a smile.

"Lyla has been constantly claiming that her baby wants to see her godmother and you also refused to pick her calls. She threatened to bring down the house if she doesn't get fed when she comes visiting, " she said and we both laughed.

"You should have called me to help you then, " I said, "this is a lot to prepare by yourself". "I was angry at you and besides, this is therapeutic for me, " she replied to me.

I was about to counter her when the doorbell rang. "I'll get it, " I told her and skipped to the door. I was expecting to see a grumpy Lyla, smiling Avianca and laid-back Nathan but I was met with a completely different person.

"Serena?"

I looked at the woman in front of me with surprise. She looked radiant unlike what she looked like this morning when I saw her.

"What a surprise! Did you forget something when you came around in the morning?" I asked her and she just smiled at me. "I've decided that I'm going to punish Alysia myself and since the war will be upon us soon, I'll like to stay back in the pack and help you with whatever I can, " she said with a straight face.

I felt something was wrong with her but I just couldn't place my fingers on it.

She almost seemed fake. The radiance, the way she asked to stay to help with the war ahead, everything seemed fake but I didn't want to doubt it.

Alysia would never dare to set her foot into Crescent moon pack, she seemed smart enough to not take that kind of risk and besides, the person in front of me smelled exactly like Serena. I remembered Alysia having this kind of scent that made my nose burn but Serena's scent was soothing to the nose.

"Lola, pumpkin ", Rose shouted from the kitchen, "I need your help setting the table, " she called out. "I'll be right there, " I shouted back and ushered Serena into the house.

"Please, make yourself comfortable. You're just in time for dinner, " I gave her a tight smile and went into the kitchen where Rose was already setting up the table.

"I don't hear Lyla's voice, " she said as she looked towards the door like she was expecting her to burst through them at any moment.

CHAPTER 157

Lola's POV

"It wasn't Lyla and the gang, Rose, " I told her and she looked at me questioningly. "It's Serena."

"Serena?" She asked and I nodded my head. "She told me she would be out of town for the whole weekend. What is she doing here again?" She asked, confusion clearly written all over her face.

"Finish up here, will you?" She said before going to the living room. "Serena. It's so nice to see you again, " she greeted her warmly but I could hear the underlying question and confusion in her voice.

"I thought you were leaving for a couple of days. Why are you here again?" She asked. "I figured that I might as well stay back in the pack and help with whatever I can help with, " she said but it seemed fake.

"You're welcome to stay then. I'll arrange a room to be set up for you in the pack house, " Rose said. "Actually, I'd prefer if I could stay here. I'll like a little bit of privacy, you know how fickle magic can be and I wouldn't want to get distracted easily by noise, " she said and I had the urge to go out and tell her to leave.

My intuition is never wrong and I just knew something was totally wrong with the situation. Just when I was about to damn the consequences and call her Bellshill, Adrian walked into the kitchen.

"I don't think that is a good idea, " he said. "But it's so obvious that something weird is going on here, " I whisper-yelled at him.

"It's either Selene is in danger or she's cooking up something. I don't have a good feeling about this, Adrian, " I said through our mindlink.

He pulled me to his chest and rubbed my back. "I don't want you on edge, baby. If something is really going on, I'll get to the bottom of it, " he kissed my forehead afterwards.

The doorbell rang and I pulled away from Adrian to go and get the door. I passed Rose and Serena talking in the living room and I could swear that she smirked at me. I ignored her and went to open the door.

The door had barely opened when I was squished between two bodies. "Guys, I can barely breathe, " I wheezed out.

"I'll leave you ladies to it, " Nathan said and gently squeezed his large body through the little space that was left. "He's in the kitchen ", I called after him and he gave me a thumbs up in response.

I felt a sharp pain on my shoulder and bit my lips to stop sounds from escaping. "Gosh, Avia. What is wrong with you?" I asked as I held my shoulder and she glared at me.

"You barely reached out to us. It was almost like you were avoiding us or hiding something from us and it got me mad, " she sulked. "Hey, I'm sorry guys, I was just caught up in a lot. I didn't mean to go MIA like that, " I apologized and pulled them into a hug again.

"It's so nice to see you, bestie, " Lyla hugged me with her very protruding belly. "Very nice to see you too, boo bear, " I replied to her and hugged her again, to which Avianca pouted.

"Did you guys change personality overnight?" I asked, to which everyone

laughed. "I'm sincerely curious, guys. Serena is also acting weird and giving off a very weird vibe, " I told them.

"Serena?" Lyla asked and I nodded in affirmation. "She barely comes to the pack unless it's necessary ", Avianca added and that was what further solidified my thought that Serena was just being weird.

"She even asked to sleep in our house till the war is over. I have a bad feeling about this, guys, " I told them but Lyla just waved me off.

"I'm sure the war has everybody on edge and you'll get to see sides of people that you've not seen before. I'm sure you're just being paranoid, " Lyla said as she pushed me in the direction of the kitchen.

I hope Lyla is actually right. I pray my intuition is wrong for once.

Damon's POV

My phone dinged once and a satisfied smile crossed my face as I read the message.

"They don't suspect a thing and I've been able to settle in their home. Everything is going according to plan, Damon."

Love, Al.

I gave Alysia's lookalike in front me a kick to the stomach but she held her moans of pain in like she's been doing since that morning that I captured her.

"Deep down in your heart, you know you're fighting a losing game, Damon.

Truth and goodness will always prevail and there's nothing you'll do about it, " she said to me with a mocking smile on her face.

"It's not too late to give up. I'm sure Adrian and Lola will forgive you and understand ", she said, making me land a slap across her face.

"Never!" I spat in her face before I turned around and left the room.

I'll never allow them to win. I'm going to wipe all of them out and rule over all of them. That is my calling and I'll fulfill it.

CHAPTER 158

Lola's POV

The next few days were really awkward and tension hung heavily in the air. Serena made it her life mission to be in everyone's business. The only times she wasn't trying to be in everyone's business was when we were asleep.

"I beg to differ. I swear I've heard her outside our room on more occasions than one and it was not creepy at all, " Jasmine said sarcastically. I sighed and turned in my mate's arm.

His arms tightened around me and he gave me a forehead kiss moments later. The feel of his lips against my skin was heavenly and I almost forgot all my worries.

Keyword being 'almost'.

"Good morning, my Queen. What's going on in that pretty head of yours?" He asked. "It's Serena, isn't it?" He spoke again before I could answer him and I nodded.

"She's being really creepy, Adrian. First, she insisted on staying in OUR house, now she hovers around like she has an ulterior motive, " I pulled away from him and sat up, forcing him to be in the same position.

"I seriously want to know what her deal is. Jasmine just said she's caught her breathing and footsteps at our door a few times. I don't like this, Adrian, I don't, " I said frustratedly.

Adrian rubbed my shoulder gently and I allowed my body to give in and sag against him. "How about we go and visit Nathan and Lyla in their place?" He asked and my eyes lit up like a child that was offered her favorite candy.

"Yes, yes, please, " I squealed before jumping off the bed towards the bathroom. I was so eager to leave the house. Anything was better than being cooped up in the same space as Serena.

At first, I thought it was just me being paranoid but everyone saw it also. Serena was the laid back, cool aunty, kind of person but that suddenly changed. She started asking questions that she wouldn't ask normally and it wasn't weird at all.

"You're being sarcastic, right?" Jasmine's voice cut through my thoughts, making me roll my eyes. "Of course, I'm being sarcastic, girl. You think I want to be stuck in the same space as her?" I retorted.

"Why can't we just tell her to leave?" Jasmine asked and I sighed in frustration.

I brought Rose's attention to it and she also concluded that she was acting weird and promised to talk to her about it. Rose spoke to her and her words were, "I'm doing all of these to ensure the safety of everyone and make sure that we're prepared for whatever the war will throw our way. I need to be here to protect everyone against Alysia and Damon."

Even though Rose wasn't completely okay with it, she had to let her be because it was for the betterment of the pack wolves.

"I have an idea, Adrian, " I said through our mi drink as I got into the shower. "What's that?" He responded almost immediately.

"Have Nathan invite people that can be trusted to relay messages to neighboring

packs. I can't rely on my powers alone. We should have backup, should anything happen, " I told him and he hummed in agreement.

"On second thoughts, I think it should be made known through the pack that we're getting help from neighboring packs. I want Serena to show her motive, " I told him. He agreed and said he was going to my former room to get ready too.

I hurried up and threw on random clothes from my closet. Once I was satisfied with what I saw, I stepped out of the room. I could hear water running from my former room so I went downstairs ahead of him.

I had just reached the base of the staircase when I saw Serena sitting on one of the couches. I contemplated turning back but decided against it. This might be the only chance I have to talk to her alone.

"Hi, Serena. Good morning, " I greeted cheerfully as I took a seat beside her. She turned from the book she held in her hands and smiled at me. "Hi, Lola. You're awake, " she said with a smile but it was so cold.

Call it paranoia or something, I just know something was wrong with her. Since I got crowned as the Queen of wolves, Serena referred to me as Luna, not Lola.

"Yeah, I am and you're awake early too. What of Rose?" I asked looking around but there was no sign of her. "I guess she's still sleeping. You look like you're going somewhere, are you going alone?" She asked.

"Why do you ask?" I asked. Even though I seemed calm, I was resisting the urge to snap her neck at the mention of my man. No, I wasn't being unnecessarily possessive. She's been acting weird around Adrian since she got here and it's been getting on my nerves.

"Do you hear me?" Her voice brought me out of my thoughts and I plastered a

smile on my face. "I'm sorry, I was out of it for a while. What did you say?"

"I said you guys are always together and you seem to be alone and ready to go out, " she repeated and I bit my tongue to stop myself from lashing out at her.

"He's getting ready, we're leaving together, " I said and watched her face harden for a fleeting second before it went back to how it was.

It's her. It's Alysia. I swear that I've seen that look on someone's face before.

I resisted the urge to claw at my chest to stop the way it was constructing with panic. She tried to get closer to me but I stopped her with a raise of my hand.

"What's wrong? Are you okay? Should I get you water?" She asked concerned but I kept shaking my head at her and stopped her from getting closer to me. I closed my eyes and willed the memories from when I was kidnapped by Damon to go away but I was finding it difficult.

"Lola, you seem..." her words were cut short when Adrian rushed into the loving room and held me in his arms. "Baby, you're fine. Look at me, focus on me, " he said as he hugged me closely to him while rubbing my back and sending images of comfort through our mindlink.

Serena offered to go and get me water while I buried my face in Adrian's chest. I fistfisted his shirt in my hands and listened to the rhythm of his heart to calm myself.

You're no longer there. You're safe with Adrian. I repeated to myself until I calmed down.

"It's her. It's Alysia. The person in our home is Alysia, not Serena, " I told

Adrian.

CHAPTER 159

Adrian's POV

"It's her. It's Alysia. The person in our home is Alysia, not Serena."

I knew something was wrong with the Serena in our home but I just couldn't put my hands on it. How could she set her foot into my home after what she did to my mate?

Daxon tried to come to the surface but I suppressed him. "Not now, buddy, " I told him through our mindlink but he growled in response. "Not now?? This bitch hurt our mate and she's in my territory, acting like she hasn't done anything wrong. And all you tell me is to calm down? You must be fucking kidding, " he growled angrily as the battle for control continued.

"She must be here for a reason. We have to find out and find out the location of those bastards too. We can't act rashly, Daxon. The fact that she's here means that Serena is in danger and anything that can cause them to harm her must be avoided. We need Serena , " I tried to reason with him. "Fuck!" He swore before receding to the back of my mind.

The devil in question soon came into view with a glass of water and tried to touch Lola but I stopped her from doing so.

"Thank you for the water, Serena, but she won't be needing it. She's already fine, " I gave her a tight smile which she returned with a very weird one.

"Babe, let's go. I'll see the pack doctor on the way. I must have had one of my panic attacks, " Lola said as she pulled back from me but her eyes were concentrated on Alysia.

"Do you have panic attacks?" Alysia asked from beside me and Lola subtly fisted my clothes in her hand. "Yeah, I get them once in a while. I forgot about my medications for a while and that's why this happened. I'll get another prescription from the pack doctor, " Lola replied without batting an eye.

"I'm so sorry to hear that. Can I come along with you guys? I'd like to be kept in the loop of everything that is happening. The war ahead is not a small one and I wouldn't want to make any mistake to jeopardize all we've worked for so far, " Alysia said and I clenched my jaw so hard, I was surprised my teeth didn't fall out.

"Why would you want to follow us? We'll keep you duly informed about everything that you need to know, " I replied through clenched teeth.

"I'm always bored inside here and it will only get worse if I don't have anyone to talk to today, " she said and sighed. If Lola hadn't pointed out that she was Alysia, I'd have fallen for her tricks.

"You chose to stay here and besides, Rose will be around and you can have all the women talk that you guys have, " Alysia said, her eyes still on Alysia like she was expecting her to break and let the cat out of the bag.

"Oh yeah. Yeah, Rose. I'll stay here with her. She needs someone to be with her at all times, " she said with an underlying tone of mockery but I allowed it to slide incase I was just being paranoid.

"We'll see you later then. Have a nice day, " Lola said as she stood up and held my hand in hers. Without sparing her another glance, she walked out of the door and kept walking towards the car without stopping.

It wasn't until we were seated in the car that she allowed herself to breathe. She

clawed at her chest and her tears fell freely.

"She's definitely the one. Serena would have called my bullshit when I mentioned the panic attack. She was so clueless about everything going on, she was so focused on herself. That was how Alysia acted, " she cried.

"I hope Serena is okay. They must have gotten her, " she lamented and I also sighed. "Serena is not the type to allow herself to be overpowered easily. If she's really being held captive by them, she has her own reasons, " I hugged her to my chest as I spoke.

"What if there was no reason and she was really captured and helpless?" She asked, tugging at my heartstrings. "We're fucked if that's the case, Adrian, " she started crying again.

"That's why we're on our way to make sure that we're prepared for whatever might be thrown our way, " I gently kissed the top of her head while she sniffled.

"I want to start training again, " she said after she had calmed down. "It's so close, I can feel it. I can't afford to allow my mistake to cost anyone their life again. I have to conquer, " she said with fierce determination.

After I made sure that she wasn't going to start crying again, I started driving towards Nathan's home where he, Lyla and Avianca were waiting for us.

Lyla and Avianca were the first to meet us. Lyla took one look at my mate and became concerned. "Hey, bestie. What's wrong with you? Have you been crying? Did Adrian hurt you? I swear if he had anything to do with why you look so sad and gloomy, I'll make him..." she said as she turned to me, rage evident in her eyes.

She was cut short by Lola who broke into laughter. "I promise you that he's not the one that made me cry, " she replied softly. "So you admit that you were crying. Why were you crying and why did Adrian make it happen?" Avianca was the one who spoke next.

Daxon growled lowly at their disrespect but I wasn't bothered. I was grateful that she had people who will take her side without thinking twice about it.

"Guys, the Serena in our home is actually her evil twin, Alysia, " Lola said and the room became dead silent. The girls looked at each other with open mouths.

"What???? How dare her set her foot into this pack after being a bitch to you and to Serena. I'm going to kill her, " Lyla said in a rage and tried to leave the room but I blocked her with my body.

"Serena is being held somewhere, I'm very sure of it. We can't act rashly or we'll be putting her in danger, " my mate said and Lyla deflated.

She walked dejectedly into the living room while we followed behind her. Nathan came out of the kitchen with a cute apron and napkin.

He must have been cooking for his wife. "You're here. Welcome guys". He waved at Lola and pulled me into a bro hug.

"I'll go straight to business since we don't have time to waste, " I spoke for the first time since we got there.

"We're not longer asking for help from the other packs secretly. We're going to openly ask and see what happens next."

Desperate times call for desperate measures and for my mate, I'll burn down the

earth.

CHAPTER 160

Lola's POV

It's been 2 weeks since we found out that Alysia was the one in our home, not Serena. Two weeks since we sent out messages to other packs to solicit for help. Two weeks since I started training back, physically and also with my powers.

A week since we got response from most of the packs and had troops sent to us to be trained in preparation for the coming War. Moonlit pack was the first to oblige us and Grayson even sent his heartfelt apology for all he did to me when I was in Moonlit pack.

The war was so close, everyone was on edge, even Alysia. Something was definitely wrong with their plan and that brought me some sort of relief.

I haven't spoken with Selene since the last time I did, I wanted to spend all of my time with Adrian. I couldn't afford to waste time in the garden, I already had limited time with him.

During the day, we train and plan the war. At night, we make love till we get spent and sleep off in each other's arms.

Rose was still unaware of the fact that it wasn't Serena in her home and we kept it that way. There was no need for us to bother her without a solution in sight.

"Do you hear me, Luna?" Nathan's voice brought me out of my deep thinking and I blinked twice to bring myself to reality.

"You can call me Lola, Nathan. Also, what are we talking about?" I asked and 10

pairs of eyes stared at me across the room. "I'm sorry guys, I kind of zoned out, " I said sheepishly.

"It's fine, baby. We were just discussing the formation we'll be using and how the training is going. It's not really a big deal, right guys?" Adrian directed to the rest of the room.

"Of course, Alpha, " "It's not a problem at all, " "You're all good, Luna, " were said around the room and I smiled at them. "Since we've sorted out all the issues at hand, I'd like to leave with my mate. This has been taking a toll on her and she needs to rest, " he said and the whole room nodded in agreement.

I didn't get any bad vibe from the room and that made me happy. It's a miracle how I went from a nobody, to someone that men of power sit around to listen to.

"Gentlemen, thank you for your time, " I said as I looked around the room, making sure to maintain eye contact with anyone that met my eyes. "We'll get going now. Any updates will be passed through the Beta, " I pointed at Nathan and they all nodded.

Adrian stood up before me and all the men stood up with their heads bowed. He held out his hands to me and I gingerly took it in mine. All of them had their heads bowed till I stepped out of the room.

"You were amazing, Luna, " Adrian said beside me, sending me into a giggle fit. "Oh, please. You're just teasing me, right?" I asked but he shook his head.

"I'm not kidding. I'm so proud of you and how far you've come. You're one of a kind and I'm glad I didn't lose you before it became too late, " he said.

I was about to speak when I felt a pang of pain in my chest. I looked at Adrian and he had pain and shock written all over him.

"Rose!" I said at the same time he said "Mom!" We sprinted out of the pack house, which made us get a lot of looks on our way out.

We didn't stop until we reached our home and Adrian was the first to burst through the door. Immediately I entered, I was hit with the strong smell of metal.

Blood. Rose is hurt.

We followed the smell and it led to Rose's room. Please, please, don't let it be what I'm thinking, I prayed to the moon goddess before I opened her door with shaky hands.

It took a moment for me to process what I was seeing in front of me. When I did, I slid to the floor unable to speak or even breathe.

Adrian entered the room and went towards Rose's mutilated body. His hands shook as he touched her, or should I say, what was left of her.

Her eyes were wide open and they looked to be begging for help even when life left her. If she had been killed, it would have been better. She was severed into three- head, upper body and her lower body.

Her insides were spilled all around her and some type of markings were all over the floor around her. I crawled towards her. My brain almost exploding when I saw the occultic markings all over the floor.

Alysia. It was her doings, she was the only one on the house with her. Also the only witch that practices black magic.

I screamed out in pain as tears streamed down my face. Adrian howled in pain, followed by mine. Soon, the whole pack was howling in pain at the realisation of losing a very amazing soul.

I saw a note beside her and picked it up. It was already covered in blood but I managed to read it. The contents were.

CHAPTER 161

Lola's POV

"I can't believe that you people are so stupid to not realize the difference between Serena and I. I've had enough of the games and by the time you get this, your beloved mother would have been gone."

"I thought I could gather information by pretending to be my sister but you're obviously as useless as you were when you were captured. Don't relax, the war is about to begin. So long, fuckers."

I squeezed the note in my hand and saw red. All of them, I'll kill all of them without mercy. I promise you this, Rose. I closed her eyes and said a prayer for her soul.

I looked at Adrian and he seem shaken up. I went closer to him and held him against me. "You don't have to hold it in, baby. It's okay to grief ", I whispered to him gently.

Like he was waiting for permission, he broke down in tears. I held him close to me and rubbed his back as he mourned his mother.

I cried like a baby but I was still his support. In less than 4 months, he lost both of his parents and I could feel everything he was feeling through our mindlink.

The pain, the guilt, the anger and need for revenge all coursed through him at the speed of light.

I felt Nathan poking at my mindlink and let down my wall. "Yes, Nathan?"

"We're under attack, Luna. And they definitely are not normal werewolves, " he said, fear evident in his voice.

Really? Oh, come on.

"What?" I exclaimed. "I said we're under attack and..." Nathan tried to repeat but I cut him off. "I heard what you said the first time, Nathan, " I snapped.

"How much time do we have till they get to the middle of the pack?" I asked him, still holding Adrian to my body. Those fuckers did this on purpose. They knew that he'd be weakened by the death of his mother.

Well, surprise, surprise, they're in for a treat.

"Our border just got breached, it's only a matter of time before they get to the centre of the pack, Luna, " he said, his voice steady as a rock.

"Get all the children, elderly and pregnant women into the safe room. Tell Lyla and Avianca to watch over them while we take care of these monsters. Inform the troops to be in their position, we'll be with you shortly, " I ordered.

"And Adrian, is he okay?" He asked in concern. I took a deep breath before I answered him, "we'll be out shortly, Nathan. The pack comes first to an Alpha and she wouldn't have wanted it any other way."

The mindlink shut off and I assumed he was already carrying out the orders I gave him. I knelt down beside Adrian, whose eyes were still fixated on his mother and cupped his face.

"Adrian, " I called out slowly. His eyes finally found mine and my heart broke for him. He was lost, like his whole world has crumbled before his eyes.

"Mom, she's gone, " he said in a voice devoid of any emotions. I sniffled before I talked again. "She's in a better place, Adrian, but our pack members are not, " I said slowly, not wanting to upset him.

"She wouldn't have wanted this, she would have wanted you to go out there and put those bastards in their place. We're under attack, our people need us. We didn't come this far to allow them win at the end of the day, " I told, slowly gauging his reaction.

"You're right, " he said and got to his feet, pulling me along with him. "I'm going to make sure it all ends today, everything ends today, " he said in a voice that sent shivers down my spine.

Yes, Adrian, it all ends today. I'm sorry.

I hugged him tightly, not caring about the blood covering both of our body. "I'm sorry, Adrian. I'm really sorry for everything, " I told him. "None of this was your fault, how could we have known that she would resort to such measures?" He told me before placing a kiss on my forehead.

He held my hands in his and we ran out of the house together. When we got to the pack house, all formations were in place already.

We made our way to the front of the line, where Nathan was already waiting for us. He bowed and looked at Adrian before his eyes glazed over, indicating that they were communicating through the mind link.

"The children and elderly? Are they safe?" I asked him after they finished their discussion and he nodded. "Lyla and Avianca are trying their best to calm them

down, " he said and I acknowledged it with a small nod of my head.

I could hear footsteps coming from the pack border and my eyes watered from the smell of rotten flesh that was in the air.

Adrian held my hand in his and squeezed gently. "Stay by my side, no matter what. I can't afford to lose you too, " he begged but I didn't say a word. I smiled at him and tried to keep my tears at bay.

It's too late, Adrian, too late.

The intruders soon came into view with Damon in the front row and Alysia by her side but that wasn't what caught my attention. Serena and Fay were in chains and were being dragged by some creatures that I couldn't explain.

CHAPTER 162

Lola's POV

They looked like they were stuck halfway into morphing into their wolves. Their lower body was like that of wolves, their backs were bent at a very weird angle with hair lightly covering the expanse of their back.

Their faces were morphed into something between a wolf and a human. Fuck, was this what the bastard needed my blood for. My breathing came out in puffs and I felt like the earth was shaking beneath me.

"Holy crap, " Nathan said from beside me and I couldn't agree more with him. Nothing we trained for would have prepared me for what I saw in front of me.

"Alpha, " someone said from behind us. "We wait for them to make the first move, they're under someone's command, " he said. "I just can't figure out who exactly, " he said through our mindlink while squeezing my hands in his.

I was impressed that he figured it out already. "Alysia. She's the one that can have them under the control of her black magic, " I told him through our mindlink.

At the mention of her name, Jasmine and Daxon growled in anger. "She's mine and mine alone to kill, " he growled.

"Well, well, well, I see you're still covered in the blood of your mother, " Damon said from where he stood with his entourage. "I had so much fun killing her, " Alysia added with her cackle.

"Poor thing begged me to spare her life. She looked so ethereal as her life slipped from her, " she said and Adrian growled loudly beside me.

"Baby, you need to calm down, " I said gently but he kept on growling, Daxon almost taking control. "Snap out of it, Adrian, " I screamed at him through our mindlink, "fucking snap out of it. You're falling into their trap, they're obviously doing this to rile you up. So, for the sake of everyone, get your shit together, " I snapped at him.

He closed his eyes and took deep breaths, making me breathe a sigh of relief. "What the fuck do you want, Damon?" I snapped at him.

"You, your mate's head on a platter and authority over every pack wolf, " he said with a grin to which I scoffed. "Like hell you're going to have it. Leave while you still have your head on your neck, " I told him but he just laughed.

"I should have known it wouldn't go the easy way with you. Fine, we'll do this my way, " he said and all hell broke loose.

His creatures charged towards us and our men started shooting them down too. Guns barely had any effect on them and that was when I knew that we were in trouble

"Wolf forms, now!" Adrian commanded and we all changed into our wolf form. We had been training for any possible scenario and I couldn't thank the moon goddess more.

My thoughts were on how to rescue Fay and Serena. Even if I decided to fight Alysia with my powers, Serena was the only one that knew how to subdue her finally. I made eye contact with her and that was all I needed to know that I needed to free her for this to end.

"I need to get to Serena. She's the only one that can stop Alysia. We need her to stop Alysia, " I screamed at Adrian through our mindlink. "What?" He replied as he threw off the creature that tried to get me from the right.

I threw a lightning at a creature that was trying to attack from the back while he tackled the one at his side. I screamed in frustration and released a stream of lightning to where a group of creatures were coming from.

"We need to get to Serena now!!, " I shouted through our mindlink and nodded towards the direction where Serena was being held. He nodded in understanding and we both ran towards her, clearing any and every creature that was on our path.

The creatures kept moving away from the war towards a clearing but we kept following. Something in me knew it was a trap and we should stop following but I had to save both Serena and Fay.

"This is fishy, Lola. We should stop following them, " Adrian said, but I ignored him. After running for a while, the creatures left them and ran back towards the war zone. Adrian was torn between following them back and staying with me, his dilemma so obvious through our mindlink. He finally decided to stay with me and we got to untying them.

When I freed Fay and ripped the covering on her mouth off, she burst into tears. "You shouldn't have followed us, they were going to..." her words were cut off when a familiar voice spoke from behind us.

"Allow me to break the news to them myself, " Damon's stupid voice said from behind us and I hid Fay behind my body.

"Awwwww, trying to play the hero, are we?" Alysia said as she appeared from nowhere and I felt Adrian go rigid besides me with anger. I interlaced our fingers

to try and calm down.

"You're playing a losing game, Damon, " I said and watched his jaw tick with anger. Seeing that small things rile him up, I stood up, gently pulling Adrian with me so that he could see our interwoven fingers.

CHAPTER 163

Lola's POV

"First of all, you're just a loser who doesn't have proper love from his parents growing up. So you decide to take out your misfortune on others?" I laughed and heard a slight change in his breathing.

It's working.

"This, " I held up mine and Adrian's intertwined fingers, "is something that you'll never experience. Not if you forcefully take me from my mate, not from the worthless power hungry bitch beside you, not from your mate that you treated like trash, " I told him calmly.

"You can never be enough, not for yourself, not for anyone, " I smiled as I gently walked towards him. His face was in a permanent scowl and he looked like he wanted to skin me and wear me around his neck.

"You made a mistake bitch!" He spat angrily. "You're all going to die here and I'll take over your stupid packs. Guess who will not be enough then, " he laughed maniacally but I kept my cool.

"You're getting riled up by a bitch, Damon. If you're half the man you claim to be, why don't we go at it, one on one?" I looked him dead in the eyes. Fear crossed his eyes for a second before he masked it and smirked.

"Why would I battle with a weakling like you? Your man should be able to stand in for you. Right?" He looked at Adrian who gave him a smile and nodded without hesitation.

"Oh, and Alysia?" I called out and she looked at me like I was beneath her, "why don't you face me too?" I asked and she scoffed.

"Unless you're scared I'll beat your ass down?" I smirked at her. She rolled her eyes before kissing her teeth. "I dunno. Big man over there is going to cry like a baby if anything happens to his mate, " she said, hoping to get a reaction from us but we didn't react.

I saw their group of monsters coming towards us and put up a protective shield wide enough to enable everyone to move but still gives limited movements.

I knew something everybody else didn't, not even Adrian. The protective shield weakens other people except me. Also, you can't communicate with those outside the bubble, which means Alysia's control over the monsters was null and we couldn't communicate with our warriors too.

I prayed to the moon goddess for everyone to be okay and that was when it all started.

Alysia sent a black ball towards me but I dodged it in time and sent lightning towards her, sending her against the shield. She stood up almost immediately and sent another ball my way. Our game of throwing and dodging continued for a while until one of her balls hit me in the chest, making me fall close to where Serena and Fay were supporting each other.

"Lola!!" Fay screamed and tried to come towards me but I held up a hand to her to quiet her down. Serena held her back and nodded at me, she must have understood what I was trying to do, she had full knowledge of how capable I was after all.

"Is that all you've got, bitch?" Alysia asked with a smirk but I just laughed at her. "The real question should be "is that all you can do?" I mocked. She got enraged

and looked like she wanted to rip my head off.

She threw balls after balls of her magic towards me but I managed to dodge all of them until the last one hit me, making me fall again. She ran towards me and tried to choke me.

She laughed maniacally as she cut off my oxygen supply. "Can't do anything now, can you?" She screamed in my face. I looked her dead in the eyes till she dropped her hands from my neck and stood up abruptly.

The space became dead silent as everyone wondered what was going to happen next. She looked towards Damon and slowly walked towards him. Serena must have gotten triggered because the next event happened before anyone could say a word.

Serena stood up and moved towards Alysia with tears running down her cheeks, anger and anguish evident in her eyes.

"For every good thing you took from me, " she said before putting her hand through her chest and pulling out her heart that was still beating. She kept murmuring under her breathe till the heart caught fire and Alysia's body started spasming on the floor till she caught on fire and vanished into thin air.

Serena fell down to the ground, her hands shaking as she sobbed uncontrollably. I crawled towards her and held her to me, completely forgetting that we were in the middle of a war.

"It's okay, Serena. It's okay, " I whispered into her ears till she calmed down.

"Lola, watch out, " Adrian shouted. I turned just in time for a bleeding Fay to fall into my laps.

I turned and caught a bleeding Fay in my lap. She was struggling to breath and held her shaky fingers to my face. "Yo...you m...made it out alive and w...welll. We're fi...fi...nally go...go...ing t...t...to win this war. I...I'm...I'm s...s...so ha...hap...py". She said while tears streamed down her face and I shook my head.

"Why did you do that, Fay?" I said with a shaky voice. We could have won without you losing your life. That was supposed to be my sacrifice, I thought to myself while sobbing.

CHAPTER 164

Lola's POV

I looked up when I heard a gasp and Damon stood there with a livid look in his eyes, but there was also fear and panic in them.

He dropped the knife in his hands noisily on the floor and started raking his hands through his hair. "Stupid bitch, I shouldn't have brought her. I should have left her back as planned. Fuck!!" He kept cursing and pacing while everyone looked at him like he had lost his mind.

He suddenly rushed towards us and held me by the collar of my clothes. "You're the cause of all these, " he spat angrily in my face. "If you hadn't been a stuck up bitch that thinks she's better than me, we wouldn't be in this dilemma. This bitch would have died and all ties would have been cut. You ruined everything, " he shouted and started going crazy.

I dropped the shield to see all the creatures on the floor, it was only what was left of the war troop that was standing. Adrian pulled a frantic Damon off me and they started fighting again.

I stood up and two warriors came over to me to help carry Serena and Fay. "To the pack clinic. Now!" I ordered with tears running down my cheeks and they were lifted off the ground and carried towards the pack clinic.

"Adrian, " I called and he gave me a sad smile, "I'll be with you shortly, " he replied and I knew what that meant. Damon wasn't getting out of it alive. Too bad I couldn't stick around to watch him get pulled apart for all he has done.

We got to the pack clinic and the pack doctor was already waiting for us. Serena

and Fay were rushed into different rooms but I followed them into the one Fay was rushed into.

Her breathing had slowed down drastically and it was obvious she was barely holding onto life. "Stay with me, Fay. Please, " I pleaded as tears ran down my face.

She was placed on the bed and reached out her hands to me. "There's no point in saving me, Lola, " she whispered but I shook my head.

"Shut your mouth and allow the doctors to do their work. You're the reason I was able to get out of there alive, you had no business giving up your life for me the second time, " I sobbed. "I was meant to die, it was me. Why would you do that?" I asked her.

"There's no hope for me anyway, " she breathed out and coughed violently afterwards. "I can't find another mate after him. No one will want me, Lola. Leaving a life of loneliness and isolation isn't something I wish for, " she struggled to get out as tears streamed down her face.

I hugged her and sobbed on her chest. She just wanted to have her own person but went about it the wrong way. She didn't deserve all she went through.

An idea popped up in my head but Jasmine had other ideas.

"No, no, you can't do that, Lola. It is very dangerous and we might lose our life in the process. We're not sure if you can even do it. What if we both lose our lives in the process? We already won the war without dying, let's just be careful, " she pleaded.

"We can't just allow someone else to die in our stead, Jas. She saved us, " I argued. "She also betrayed us, " she snapped. "And came through for us when

we least expected it. Be fucking for real, Jasmine, " I shouted through our mindlink.

I held Fay's hands and closed my eyes after taking a deep breath. I imagined I was in a field that had different flowers. I passed different shades of flowers, which represent different areas of her being and looked around for the one that signifies being joined to another soul.

I found a garden of lotus flowers. There were white lotus flowers but they were being tainted by withered lotus flowers and it was only a matter of time before the remaining lotus flowers wilted away.

I plucked out the wilted flowers and watched them dissipate into thin air. I placed my hands over the lotus flower and watched it become prettier and healthier.

I suddenly felt like my chest was being pricked by a thousand needles and got pulled back into the real world. I took a deep breath and my legs gave out under me, making me fall to floor.

Fay sobbed and tried to reach me but she was held by the doctor. "You are still healing, Fay, " he said but she kept struggling.

I held her hands and managed to stand up. "What did you do, Lola?" She asked. I gave her a weak smile and she shook her head.

"You deserve a second chance, Fay, " I told her while I tried to wipe her tears but she kept on crying. "No, no, I..." she tried to speak but I shook my head at her.

I felt my energy depleting and left the room on wobbly legs. I slowly made my way through the clinic hallways with the sole aim of locating Serena.

I smelled them before I could see them. Just when my legs couldn't carry me forward anymore, Adrian caught me before I could fall. Lyla,Avianca and Nathan were also there.

"Lola, baby, what's wrong?" Adrian asked me, concern written all over his face. I cupped his face and tried to smoothen his wrinkle.

"You're going to age fast if you keep frowning like this, " I told him. "What did you do, Lola?" Lyla was the one who asked.

"Come on, not you too, Lyl. It's not good for the baby, " I reached out my hand to her and she knelt beside me, tears already gathering in her eyes.

"I did what I had to do, guys, " I said weakly, slowly feeling myself slipping away. "Adrian, I..." and that was when the darkness took over.

CHAPTER 165

Adrian's POV

She didn't finish her sentence before she fainted. I carried her without missing a beat and ran into one of the wards.

"I don't care what you guys do, bring her back to consciousness, " I barked out using my Alpha tone and all the doctors scurried to work. I held her hands the whole time and could slowly feel her heartbeat slowing down with every passing moment.

Please stay with me, Lola. Please save her, Selene, I prayed to the moon goddess as she was being attended to. I couldn't bear the thought of losing her also. It was already heavy for me to have lost my mom because of my carelessness, I wouldn't be able to handle the thought of also losing her because of my negligence.

After she left the war zone, I had this persistent feeling to follow her and make sure she was okay but I ignored and focused on the bastard in front of me.

"I'm going to kill you, I'm going to kill all of you, " he shouted with a crazed look in his eyes even when it was so obvious that he was overpowered and outnumbered.

Some warriors rushed forward to capture him, but I raised my hands up to stop them. "He's mine, " I said in a tone that seemed strange to my ears.

Even when he knew he wasn't getting out of it alive, he had the look of determination in his eyes. That bastard, Daxon snarled in my head, I'll scoop his eyes and feed them to him.

"I'll make sure that I burn all of you and your stupid packs to the ground, " he screamed as he ran towards me with the knife he stabbed Fay with.

Just when he was going to stab me, I maneuvered my body to the side and gave him a fatal punch to his throat. He choked on his saliva and waved the knife in all directions. He came at me again but I stabbed him.

He fell to the ground but I kept stabbing him even when he choked on his own blood. I kept stabbing him even when I could no longer hear nor feel him breathing.

For mom. Stab. For my little sis. Stab. For Dad. Stab. For Lola's parents. Stab. For her little brother. Stab. For everything he has ever done to cause pain to the packs I rule over. Stab. Stab. Stab. Stab.

"Hey, hey man. He's dead now. It's over, " Nathan said as he pulled me off him. I looked at his battered body but I wasn't sated.

"I shouldn't have allowed him to die easily, " I said as I pulled at the root of my hair. "He deserves a worse and slower death. He deserves to beg to die."

"It's over now and your people need you. Rose does too, " he said calmly. That was when I remembered that mom hasn't been buried yet.

I stood up and cleaned my hands on my clothes, not that it hadn't been stained initially. "What do we do with the bodies, Alpha?" One of the warriors asked.

"Burn them. Every single one of them, " I ordered. "Where is Lola?" I asked Nathan and he nodded towards the pack clinic.

I was slowly making my way over when I felt her heart rate spike through our mindlink, her energy slowly draining from her.

"Where's Lyla and Avianca?" I asked as I picked up the pace at which I was walking. "On their way to the clinic. They went there right after Luna left with Serena and Fay.

I nodded my head at him and started running towards the clinic, with him on my heels.

Please, be okay, baby. Please. I pleaded to whatever god was listening. I couldn't lose another one today, I don't think I'll be able to pull through it.

When I got to the clinic, her scent was barely noticeable and that made me even more agitated. Just when I thought I was going to go crazy, I saw Avianca and Lyla coming out of a room.

"Lyla, Avianca, " I called out in my Alpha voice and they turned to look at me. "Have you seen her?" She asked the same time I asked "where is Lola?"

"She went with Fay, she's probably still with her. We just came out of Serena's room, " Avianca said Lyla nodded. "A nurse told us what room she went and we were heading there before you came, " she continued.

"Lead the way ladies, " I said, "And Serena? How's she?" I asked no one in particular. "She's stable right now but still unconscious, " Lyla replied.

I couldn't help but notice the way Nathan has moved in front of me and protectively pulled his mate into his side. My heart constricted and I hoped my mate was fine and I was just being paranoid.

Just as we rounded a corner, I saw a headfull of white hair and ran to her. I caught her just in time or she would have fallen to the floor.

Her skin was very pale and her heartbeat seemed to be slowing with every passing second which scared me to hell. She was about to say something else to me when she blacked out.

Two hours after I was thrown out of that room, I still haven't gotten any feedback from the doctors and nurses carrying everything in and out of her room.

Our bond was hanging on by just a strand and that strand was growing weak by the moment.

Please, save her. Please, save her. I can't lose her too, I can't lose her again. I can't.

I placed my hands on my head as I paced up and down. The doctor soon came out and I got my answer as I looked at his face.

"You better get back in there and bring her back to life. She's your Luna and you won't save her? Don't make me repeat myself, " I said calmly, which shocked even me.

"She didn't make it, Alpha, " he shook his head as tears gathered in his eyes too. I ignored him and walked into the room to find her as still as a log of wood.

I fell to my knees and howled painfully. How am I supposed to continue living life?

CHAPTER 166

Adrian's POV

"What the fuck are you kneeling and howling on the floor for?" Lyla questioned as she walked past me and went to where Lola was lying still.

"Lola, these people are calling you dead but I know you're not. So what, if your skin has lost all colors? It doesn't matter, right? You're Lola Ashton, the moon wolf. Girl, you survived worse and they dare to think this will unalive you. Stupid people, right?" Lyla continued conversing with her like she was still very much alive.

"Lyla, she's no more, " Avianca sniffled as she spoke from somewhere in the room. "No, Avianca, no!" She screamed.

"You are all getting in the way of having a very peaceful discussion with my bestie. I'll really appreciate it if you can all keep quiet and not disturb her peace. She's sleeping, she's sleeping, okay? She'll wake up in a minute and we'll all go back to being a very happy pack, " she said with a tight smile.

"She promised me. She said she was going to come back safe and sound, she said she will be my baby's godmother. Avianca, she promised to give my child a friend too, she can't die, " she said dejectedly, realization already setting in for her.

"She can't be dead. That's not fair, it's totally not okay for her to lose her life like that, " she started crying at that point while holding onto Lola's hands.

"Nathan, can you get the ladies out of the room please? I need time alone, " I said slowly. "I...I want to be by her side, please. Please, don't throw me out, "

Lola cried but her mate led her out.

After the door had closed behind me, I allowed my tears to fall freely. I crawled towards her bed and held her hands in mine, silently praying that she'll at least wake and hold my hands again.

"I shouldn't have allowed you to come to the clinic alone, especially with Fay injured. Your heart is too pure but you could have been selfish for us. For me, Lola. You're supposed to be my support through losing mom but now I've lost you too. None of this is fair, none of it, " I cried into her chest and placed my head right where her heart was.

It was faint but I swear that I heard her heart beating at the same time our mindlink started thrumming slightly with life. I held her hands tighter, expecting color to start returning to her skin or at least, the temperature of her body should change but it was still the same thing.

I was about to check again when the door opened and a scent I haven't smelled in a while hit me. "Adrian, " Fay said softly and I had to take a deep breath before I faced her.

"Fay, " I greeted back. "I didn't know what she wanted to do, I swear. I was willing to give my life for her and just leave this world in peace. Most of this wouldn't have happened if I hadn't been a bitch and I'm sincerely sorry, Adrian, I am, " she cried.

"I was almost sure that I was going to die. It wasn't until a few days ago that I knew the part I had to play to stop Damon. I was lost on why he didn't kill me immediately even when he caught me when I helped Lola escape. He kept me alive and would constantly said he needed me or he would have killed me. He never allowed me anywhere alone, made Alysia do a magic that kept me from my wolf, barely gave me enough to eat. I was losing it and the only place I found solace was in the library."

She took a moment to gather herself before she continued narrating her story. "It wasn't until I stumbled upon the prophecy again that I realized. In their own library, pack members were the villain and they glorified all the horrible things they did."

The reason Damon couldn't kill me was that our souls were bonded from the moment we met and the only way he could break it without dying was by mating with the one he wants to spend the rest of his life with, that is Lola, " she sobbed.

"If I died, he'd die too. That was why I got in the way when he wanted to stab her. It would have been a success if she hadn't done whatever she did when we got to the clinic. I'm sorry, Adrian, I'm so sorry, " she fell onto the floor and started weeping uncontrollably.

I stood up and went to where she was. I held out a hand to her which she took and stood up, tears streaming down her cheeks. I surprised her and myself when I hugged her, making her cry harder.

"I'm glad you're alive, Fay. Thank you for saving her. Twice, " I told her and she stepped back and shook her head. "I didn't save her. I couldn't save her. I'm sorry that I couldn't save her, " she sniffled.

"You did. Because of you, I was able to spend her last days together with her, doing what we loved. You saved her when you helped her escape and you also saved her when you took the knife for her. She gave herself up, you didn't make her do it. You know by now that you can't make her do whatever she doesn't want to do, " I smiled at her and she nodded with a watery smile.

"I'll be leaving the pack, " she suddenly said. "Why? You're always welcome here, Fay. This is your home, why are you leaving?" I asked her, genuinely concerned for her.

"I don't have my wolf anymore, Adrian. I will fit in with the humans. She gave me a fresh start and I owe it to her to love right this time around, " she said and I nodded.

"If you ever need to come back home, Crescent moon is always open to you, " I told her and we hugged one more time before she walked out of the room.

I walked back to Lola's side and she looked like she was almost smiling. Our mindlink was still thrumming slightly and that made me make a decision right there.

I went to the doctor and did every necessary thing I had to do. I just know that she's alive. She has to be.

CHAPTER 167

Lola's POV

Jasmine! Jasmine, can you hear me? Please, say something. Anything?
Jasmine!!!

I shouted into the black void around me but I got nothing in response. I had been in this void for God knows how long. At first, I thought Jas was drained from whatever drained our magic and would be back to me in no time but I was wrong.

She's been silent for an awfully long period of time and I was starting to get paranoid. I thought I was going to wake up in the garden but imagine my panic when I woke up in a void. I had trekked until my body could no longer carry me and had fallen.

I had slept and woke up in the void and there was still no Jasmine nor sign of life. I slept on the floor feeling tired and curled into myself.

Adrian. My chest hurt when I thought of him. How was he holding up? I didn't even say a proper goodbye to Rose. How would Lyla and Avianca be feeling? I really wished I had met her baby at least. I had lost everything, even my wolf.

If only I had let bygone be bygone and left Fay when she told me to.

"Yes, yes, you should have. There was no point in saving her. She almost killed your mate once and had always been against you in the crescent moon pack. What if she's with Adrian now? She was his chosen mate, after all, " a voice rasped in my head, jolting me into a sitting position.

"Jasmine? Is that you?" I asked cautiously. "Tch, as if, " the voice replied before cackling and moving farther away from me. I scrambled on my feet and went after the sound.

"Who the fuck is playing with me?" I shouted, scared and frustrated. Can anyone hurt the dead? Am I even dead? "Show yourself if you dare, " I said into the void, looking around to see if anyone would come out from the darkness.

Even if they did, would I be able to see them? I laughed at this question and sat on the floor. My laughter soon turned into tears and I just sat there, sobbing uncontrollably.

"But you did the right thing, " a softer voice sang this time around and I sat up, looking around for where it came from. "You knew she wasn't supposed to die and you saved her. You didn't allow your heart desires to win, you didn't allow your selfishness to get in the way and your pure heart is what is going to save you, " the soft voice said.

"While I know what you're talking about, why can't I see you? Who am I even talking to?" I asked but got no answer. I sighed and was about to give up when I was suddenly blinded by a bright light.

I shielded my eyes and blinked a few time to adjust to the light. When I finally opened my eyes, I was in a throne room made of gold, everything in the room shone and looked magnificent.

My attention was grabbed by the three mythical being that sat on the thrones in front of the room. I've heard about the Moirai, also known as the Fates but I never thought I'd meet them so soon.

Above Clothos throne on the right was a spinner which represents what she does. Lachesis has a measuring tape above hers and Atropos has a sword above hers.

There were different shelves of clocks, probably depicting the life span of everybody. I was amazed and afraid at the same time. Why was I here and not just sent back to the garden?

"Why am I here?" I asked when the silence was getting unbearable for me, the sisters seemed to be perfectly comfortable sitting in the silence.

"Lola, welcome to the in-between, " Clothos said to me and smiled but I didn't feel at ease one bit. The in-between? That means I'm neither dead nor alive. I didn't know if that was also bad news or good news.

Well, it might be. If my time isn't up and I'm sent back, I get to be with my pack and my mate. If I cross over, I get to be with my parents and brother. Either way, it was looking to be good news for me.

"We're confused on whether to allow you to cross over or send you back to your mate, " Clothos said. "I say we make her cross over, " Atropos said, "she gave up her life when she could have stayed alive. Why not help her finally and help her move on to the other side?" She asked with a huff and crossed her arms over her chest.

"Atropos, we already discussed this, " Lachesis reprimanded her. "I'm so sorry about my sister, Lola. You're here because you've been selfless and deserve a chance to pick which direction you want to go, " she concluded her sentence.

"It might be a very hard decision to make but your heart will guide you, " Clothos spoke up.

Some sort of screen surrounded by flames opened up in front of me and I saw my mate, Lyla, Avianca and Nathan. They seemed fine to me. Lyla was carrying a bundle in her hands and everyone flocked her.

"She...she gave birth already?" My breath caught in my throat as I took in the baby who looked like the splitting image of her mother with her fiery red hair. My eyes watered and I sniffled severally to keep my tears in.

"Just how much time has gone since I left them?" I asked no one in particular as I fixated my eyes on the screen. "She's beautiful. My beautiful goddaughter ", I whispered and tried to touch the screen but my hand went through it.

The scene soon changed and it was Adrian checking a picture of us together and crying, but that wasn't what made me shocked. Beside him on the bed was me laying lifeless and dressed. He held my hand like I was still with him and continued to cry which broke my heart into pieces.

Why was I selfish? How could I cause him so much pain? How is my body still so fresh?

"Why is he holding onto me?" I asked in a broken voice. "Why won't he let go? He should stop punishing himself like this and move through life while he can, " I fell onto the floor and started sobbing uncontrollably without taking my eyes off the screen.

He doesn't deserve to go through so much.

CHAPTER 168

Lola's POV

"I'll go back, " I said without hesitation. "You choose to go back?" Clothos asked and I nodded my head. "You don't want to talk to your parents at all? Rose and Jayden are at the other side too. We know you've been dying to say some things to your parents and also meet your brother. Are you sure that is your last decision?" She asked again and I nodded.

"You're right, " I said and noticed a big smile on Atropos face, "I've been dying to see them and even speak to them". "But?" Lachesis asked, "I can feel a but coming, " she said and I nodded slowly.

"But I might be able to meet them later, when my time is finally up. I also doubt that they would want me to pick them when I can be very happy with my mate. As much as I'd love to talk to them and see them, my mate comes first."

" I know that his life will be cut short due to the fact that our wolves mated and are bound together and I don't want that to happen, " I looked back at the screen and my heart broke watching him break down like that over my lifeless body.

"I'd love to go back, please, " I gave them a watery smile and saw Atropos huffed while the other two smiled back at me.

"You made the right choice, Lola. I knew that your good heart will always lead you in the right direction, " Lachesis said. "You guys should have just allowed me to cut the length of her life. Hades is gonna be pissed that we sent one of his newcomers back, " she said with a roll of her eyes.

"I was going to HELL???" I asked with wide eyes. Clothos rolled her eyes,

Lachesis pinched the bridge of her nose while Atropos just looked smug.

That bitch!

"She was the one toying with me when I was in the dark void too?" I asked and her smile got wider. "It was fun getting you startled and frustrated, " she smiled and I rolled my eyes.

"Can I leave now?" I asked, completely ignoring Atropos. "Yes, you can but you earned one more thing, " Clothos smiled at me.

I was about to ask when I got dizzy and nearly lost my footing. I closed my eyes briefly and when I opened them, I was in Selene's garden.

"You were supposed to take me back to my mate, " I shouted into the garden but the response I got almost made me kneel.

"Pumpkin, " a soft voice that I'll recognise anywhere said. "Rose?" I turned around slowly, worried that I might be hallucinating.

She was...complete. She stood there like the Rose I know, not what I saw that remained of her before the war happened.

"Rose. You...you are okay, " I ran towards her to hug her but I just passed through her. "Pumpkin, " she said softly, "you can't touch me. You're still living". I broke down in tears at the realization of what was happening.

"But but, I just want to hug you one last time, " I sniffled as I spoke. "Listen Rose, we should have told you that it wasn't Serena that was in the house. I shouldn't have endangered you by leaving you all alone with that psycho. I shouldn't have left the house, I had no business at the pack house that day, I just

didn't want to be in the house with her. I didn't know she had such intentions, " I cried.

"If only I hadn't been a coward and faced her head on. If only I had realized what we had to do sooner. If only..." I couldn't finish my sentence and cried harder.

"Child, none of these was your fault. I'm very glad you put them in their place and saved all our people. You did well, Lola, and I am so proud, " she smiled and I returned the gesture with one of my watery ones.

"There are some people you should meet also. You'll be very glad to see them, " she said as she clapped happily. I looked around eagerly since I know the people she will be introducing to me.

Three people suddenly emerged in front of me and I didn't need to touch my face to know that tears were running down my face. They were tears of joy and my heart felt like it was going to burst from joy.

I didn't need to be told that they were my parents and brother, the joy I felt from staring at them was enough for me.

"Mom, Dad, " I whispered, afraid to blink or breathe too loudly so that I won't chase them away. "Lola, " my mom called out, her voice sounding like music to my ears.

"I'm so glad that you turned out well, my special wolf. I'm so sorry you had to go through all that you did in your former pack. We had no idea that they were going to turn on you like that. You're a very strong and smart girl, we couldn't have brought you up better, " she said, tears shining brightly in her eyes.

"I can't believe I get to meet you after all these years. How has it been up here for you? Are you guys okay? And my brother, my brother, is he fine?" I said in

one breath, overwhelmed by the emotions running through me.

"You're amazing, my daughter, " Dad said and I sat down on the grass, weeping profusely from joy, wishing that I could hold them just once.

A beautiful baby giggled in my mom's heart, pulling at my heartstrings. I guess you get stuck in the form in which you die, which is a relief because he wouldn't face any grown up problems. He can live with his innocence forever.

"It's time you go back, my special wolf, " Mom smiled as she spoke, "you've kept your mate waiting enough."

"Make sure that you spend a very long time on earth with Adrian. I hope you build a very happy family and happy life with him, " Rose said from where she's been standing, silently watching my interactions with parents.

Jayden was standing beside her too. "Alpha, " I called out and he smiled at me. "Now, now, don't keep him waiting, " he said.

The scenery changed and I was back in the Fate sisters throne room. Clothos and Lachesis gave me pitiful smiles while Atropos remained neutral.

"Thank you for allowing me to meet them, " I thanked them with a smile and they all nodded at me.

"We wish you a happy life with your mate and your pack, " they said in unison. A portal opened at the right side of their throne room and they gestured towards it.

Just when I was about to enter the portal, Atropos said something that left me baffled. "Oh, and one more thing, congratulations, " then the portal pulled me in.

I took a deep breath like I had just been underwater and when I opened my eyes,
I was back in our room.

Well, hello Earth.

CHAPTER 169

Adrian's POV

"Is everything ready?" I asked Avianca who nodded before giving orders to her mate that was standing nearby. "For moon's sake, Lucy, I told you not to put that there, " she shouted at her mate who looked confused.

I shook my head at their antics and went to the pack garden where things were being set up. Everything looked ready for tonight's ceremony and nothing could make me happier.

"Time flies, " Daxon said and I nodded. "It sure does, buddy, it sure does, " I agreed before sighing and putting my hands in the pocket of my trousers.

"Hey man, " Nathan said as he came up behind me and gently patted my shoulder, "you okay there?" He asked and I nodded with a small smile.

"I've never been better, " I replied before turning to the little bundle of joy in his arms, a sharp pain stinging my heart at the thought of what could have been.

"Our mindlink still vibrates with life, remember? And her body hasn't decayed either. We still have a chance, Adrian. I'm sure she'll come back to us, " Daxon tried to soothe me.

"You're right, buddy. We still have our forever to wait for her, " I said, hoping to convince myself.

"Hi, Lola, " I smiled at the beautiful child who looked exactly like her mother. She smiled at me and I blinked severally to keep the tears away. She would have

been thrilled to have a mini version of Lyla named after her.

"You're still not going to hold her? It's been 3 months, bro, " Nathan said but I shook my head. "I love your daughter, no doubt but I can't bring myself to pick her up, " I told him and he nodded in understanding.

Lyla went into labor after I told them to leave the room and when I was busy putting things into place to transfer Lola's body to our room, she gave birth to her daughter.

When I went to see her, she named her Lola which made me feel like I'd be accepting that she's no more if I ever held the baby. The only Lola I want to hold is my mate and I wouldn't go against what I stand for.

I explained to Nathan and he understood why I wouldn't pick up his child. I wouldn't have gotten through those 3 months without him and I was definitely grateful to him.

"What are you boys doing standing around? The ceremony is in 4 hours and you're not getting ready yet?" Lyla said as she came into view, her hand on her waist.

"We're guys, we don't need 4 hours to get ready, " Nathan replied to her as he placed a quick kiss on her lips to which she smiled.

"Adrian here needs to sleep. He has been in the pack house since yesterday and I'm sure he didn't sleep a wink. We don't want you falling asleep on us when we start the ceremony, " she said and I rolled my eyes.

"Oh please, Lyla. I've been through worse and I'm still standing". It was her turn to roll her eyes at me. "Just because you've been through worse doesn't mean you have to go through this too, " she said.

"You can go home now to rest while we finish up here. You should also check up on her, it's her 19th birthday after all, " she said, her voice breaking towards the end and I nodded.

"Yeah, yeah, I should, " I said as I patted Nathan on his shoulder, "I'll be back before you know it". With that I left the pack house.

I had almost gotten home when Daxon started getting restless and our bond began to vibrate with more life than it did before.

"Are you thinking what I'm thinking?" I asked him and he hummed in agreement. I picked up pace and ran the rest of the way to our home.

I took a deep breath before I opened the door to the house. It has never been the same since I lost her and mom. I barely stayed in the house during the day and at night, I stay up watching her for any sign of life.

The air in the house felt different when I opened the door, but I couldn't quite place my fingers on what was different.

I made my way to our room and gently pried the door open. My heart almost stopped when I couldn't find her body. I opened the door fully and burst into the room frantically searching for her.

I opened the bathroom door, almost tearing it off its hinge but it was empty. My heart started beating erratically, the sound of my heartbeat tuning out everything else.

Where could she have gone? Damon is dead, who could have taken her while I was away? What if I lost her forever? What if...?

"Adrian. Are you okay?" The angelic voice that I had waited to hear for three months reached my ears. "Lo... Lola?" I stuttered and blinked severally to be sure that I wasn't in a dream and she was really in front of me.

"I haven't been transported into an alternate universe, right?" I asked and she laughed, the soft sound bringing a smile to my face.

"Of course not, dummy, " she tapped the bridge of my nose with her index finger and electricity zapped through me at the contact.

"Yup, definitely our mate, " Daxon said happily in my head. I pulled her into a hug and sobbed into her shoulder, startling both of us.

"I thought I lost you forever. I thought I was being delusional and you were not going to come back to me. I'm so sorry I wasn't able to protect you from everything. I... I'm... I really..." my rambling was cut short when she placed a chaste kiss on my lips.

"None of what happened was your fault, Adrian. No matter the outcome, I already knew how it was going to end, " she said and I looked at her in confusion.

"What does that even mean, baby? I should have protected you, I promised to, " I tried to argue but she shook her head.

"No, Adrian."

"Selene had already told me that I have to give my life to save all of the pack wolves."

CHAPTER 170

Lola's POV

The look on his face when he took in what I said broke me but I had to clear the air, to make him stop blaming himself and make me free from the guilt of keeping such away from him.

"You purposely have your life up because it was all part of the big plan?" He asked and I nodded, hoping that he would understand why I had to do that.

"So when you asked me to allow our wolves to mate, you already knew what you were doing?" He asked and I nodded my head.

"When you went away with Fay and Serena to the clinic, you already knew what you were going to do?" I nodded my head again.

"Why?" That one sentence carried so much pain that I could feel my heart breaking again.

"It was to save all of us, Adrian. I was chosen for that purpose. I couldn't bear losing all of you just to save myself, I wouldn't be able to live with myself. I'm so sorry, Adrian, I'm so sorry, " I cried as I spoke.

He pulled back from me and stood up, tears streaming down his face. "You could have told me, Lola, " he said with evident hurt on his face and in his voice.

"But..." I tried to speak but he held up his finger in the universal "not a word" signal, so I kept quiet.

"We were supposed to share everything with each other. I thought you were just worried because of the responsibility on you. I tried everything to make you feel better, I did everything to show you that I was on your side, I made sure you knew you could trust me and what? You kept such a huge amount of information from me?" Tears streamed down my face as he spoke because all he said was correct.

"We're making him cry, " Jasmine whimpered sadly in my head. Yes, Jasmine came back. Apparently, she was sleeping while I was in the void. What we did with Fay was very powerful since only the moon goddess was supposed to interfere with the affairs of mates and their bonds. I was lucky I survived it at all.

"It was so hard to live with myself. It was so hard to wait, hoping and praying that you'll come back to me. All I had was that faint vibration in our bond, Lola, " he screamed and moved away from me.

"How could you think that was okay?" He said before turning his back to me.

"But I'm back, Adrian. We can just forget any of these happened and live with each other peacefully, " I tried to reason with him.

"Forget it? We should just forget it? Being here doesn't automatically erase the pain I felt when you were not here. I thought I failed you, not knowing that you already knew the outcome, " he raised his voice at me.

"You chose the day Mom left me to leave too. Did you think of how hard it must have been for me?" He kept talking.

"For 3 months, I refused to carry Nathan's child. I thought holding her and acknowledging another one with your name would seal the fact that you're gone and you're never coming back."

"I was supposed to be her godfather and I had barely bonded with her. You know why? I was a fucking coward who didn't want to admit that you were no more. And I'm supposed to just forget?" He shouted, panting heavily before sitting on the bed.

I stood up from where I was still sitting on the floor and moved to sit beside him on the bed. I slowly wrapped my arms around him and held him close to my chest, thanking the moon goddess when he gave in and didn't flinch from me.

"You know what? You're right, " I sniffled before I continued speaking. "I was selfish and inconsiderate. I thought I was doing everyone a favour by not staying alive. I thought that everyone will be automatically saved once I lost my life."

"I should have trusted you. I should have been with you after you lost Rose. I didn't want to leave you, I swear to the moon, I thought I might be able to beg the Fates to untie our destiny so that you won't have to leave the world so soon."

"I'm so sorry. I'm really sorry, " I cried as I held him. We stayed like that for a while just crying and breathing in the smell of each other.

"No more secrets between us, okay? I want to share all of my life problems and joy with you with nothing standing between us, " he looked up and cupped my cheeks to which I nodded.

"No more secrets, " I nodded and brought his lips to mine, electricity crackling through me at being in close contact with him.

"This feels so good, Adrian. I never want to have to stay away from you again, " I murmured into our kiss and he hummed in agreement.

He pulled back, making me whimper needily. "Why did you stop?" I whined and he chuckled lightly. "Let me etch every part of you into my memory. I never want to have to let go of any part of you, " he whispered as he gently stroked my cheeks.

"You're so beautiful, " he whispered. Before I could say anything else, he covered my mouth with his and lifted me onto his laps.

Our making out was interrupted by a shrill sound and Adrian groaned in anger. He stomped over to where his phone was lying on the floor, probably from when he was sitting down there, and picked it up.

"I swear to God, you better have a good reason for calling me now or I will..." he started speaking but was cut off by the other voice on the line.

"Thank God you're okay, " Nathan said, sounding relieved. "I was not able to reach you through the mindlink and I felt you getting stressed for a while before it got cut off. Are you fine? Is everything alright with Lola? I mean not okay okay but you get what I mean, " he took a deep breath before he continued speaking.

"Do you want me to come over?" He asked after a while but Nathan shook his head. "No, man, I'll be over in a few."

"Are you sure?"

"Without a doubt, man, " he said. He was about to hang up when he spoke again. "And Nathan?"

"Yeah?" Nathan replied. "I have a surprise for the whole pack". With that, he hung up the phone and eagerly came to hold my hand.

"I got distracted for a while but I have something to show you, " he said excitedly like a kid that was taken into a candy store.

He led me into the walk-in closet and my jaw dropped when I saw what he pointed at.

"Happy 19th birthday, my Queen."

CHAPTER 171

Lola's POV

"Oh my goddess, " I whispered but he heard it anyway. "Do you like it?" He asked and I nodded.

"Like is an understatement, I love it so much, " I hugged him and buried my face into his chest. I never want to be away from this man again.

I turned away from him and gazed at the dress again. It was a very gorgeous blood red dress. What really got my attention was the intricate patterns used to design the upper part of the dress.

It was long sleeved but transparent which will allow my milky skin to be seen when I wear it. The bust was designed to not show my boobs while my stomach skin could also be seen through the dress. The lower part of the dress was mermaid style with a very long tail.

I could feel my confidence rise just looking at the dress. Hands wrapped me, pulling me impossibly close to him. He kissed the top of my head while I relaxed into his touch.

"Did you pick this out?" I asked him and he hummed his response. "How are you so perfect, young man?" I asked him with a giggle.

"The same way you're the most amazing being on the planet, " he said and turned my body to face him. I cupped and brought his lips to meet mine.

It was supposed to be a very quick kiss to the lips but it escalated pretty fast. He

wrapped one of his hands around my waist and gently parted my lips with his tongue.

I couldn't resist his touch and wrapped my hands around his neck as I deepened the kiss. I moaned into his lips, eliciting a groan of pleasure from him.

"I almost forgot how perfect your body is against mine, " he pulled back from our kiss and said to me with a smile that sent my heart into an overdrive.

"How soon do we have to be at the pack house?" I asked him and he smirked. "In 2-3 hours, why do you ask?"

"Yup. Definitely have enough time, " I pulled him back to me and kissed him. My kiss held every of my emotions and desires and I could feel his too.

"Fuck, " he swore and pulled back again. Thinking I had done something wrong, I took a step back from him but he shook his head and pulled me closer.

"Don't you pull away from me, " he growled slightly, his voice deepened an octave and I knew Daxon was trying to take control.

"You seem to be stressed about something, " I asked him when he finally gained control of his body back. "Do you need space?" I asked timidly and he growled in anger.

"Space? Why would I need space from you, baby?" He took a deep breath to calm himself before he spoke again. "I don't ever want you to leave my presence again. I love you, Lola."

I looked at him as I awaited the but, there was definitely something bugging him. "But I don't think we have enough time for me to do all that I have in my head to

you, " he whispered and put his forehead against mine.

"You're so silly, " I laughed lightly and gently hit his chest. "There's more than enough time and besides, the ceremony won't start without us, " I tried to cajole him but he shook his head.

"You don't want to know all the ways of disrespecting you I have conjured in my head, " he said before sending very graphic images of what he'd like to do to me.

I blushed crimson and hid my face in his chest. "Well, now I do, " I muttered and he laughed softly. "Now, we can both be tortured till the ceremony is over."

"Let's get dressed. You have me to yourself for a lifetime, our people shouldn't be kept waiting, " he kissed my forehead before leaving the closet.

"I'll use another room to get ready, " he shouted and I heard the door close after him. I walked over to my clothes and felt the fabric between my fingers and sighed dreamily.

I'll just take a quick shower, I thought. "You literally showered like an hour ago," Jasmine teased me. "That was to rid me of any smell before Adrian came back, " I huffed and she laughed.

"I'm glad we're back, " she sighed dreamily after a while. "Me too, Jas, me too."

I took a quick shower, if showering for 30 minutes can be called quick. I thoroughly scrubbed my body with my favorite scented soap and made sure I washed my hair till I was satisfied.

Humming happily, I twirled into the room. I did a happy dance as I dried my

hair, styled it and applied a little make up. I giggled as I went to the closet to put on my dress. I was struggling with the zipper when Adrian came inside and helped me with it.

"You look so beautiful, Lola, " he placed a kiss on my mark as he spoke, sending shivers down my spine. "I love the dress so much. It's perfect, " I turned to him with a grin.

"Not as perfect as you are, " he said. "Are you ready to go?" He asked and I nodded. With our fingers intertwined, he led us out of the house and into his car.

While he went around the car, I noticed that some things had changed in front of the house. The flowers I planted a while back with Rose had grown and made the house look more alive.

"Do you think everything can go back to the way it was?" I asked him when he came into the car. "Nothing was normal when you were not here, " he cupped my cheek with one hand, "this is normal, baby."

I nodded my head and took a deep breath as he started the car. Here goes nothing.

My heart started running at miles per hour as we got closer to the pack house. Rose, Avianca, Nathan, all of their faces popped into my memory and I got nervous.

How is it going to be when I see them again? Is Lyla going to be mad at me? Will the whole pack just take me back?

"Stop thinking about it too much, " Adrian's voice reached my ears. I looked up from my hands and realized we've gotten to the pack house.

"I'm here now. Is everybody in the garden already?" Adrian said from beside me. "You'll see me in a minute, " he hung up the call. He must have been talking to Nathan.

"Everyone is waiting, " he said as he got out of the car and came over to my side to open the door for me. "Let's get this show on the road, " he said with his boyish smile that melted my heart.

I nodded and took his hand before stepping out of the car. Be still my heart, I said to myself as we walked towards the door leading to the garden.

The doors opened, all eyes turned to us and we were greeted by pin drop silence.

Oh, well. That sure went well.

CHAPTER 172

Lola's POV

The whole room turned to look at us and everywhere was silent, you could hear it if a pin dropped. I scanned everyone's faces and saw quite the number of emotions.

Happiness, shock, amazement and the one that broke my heart, anger. Amidst everyone's frozen state, her small body walked to me, anger radiating from every pore in her body.

"Lyla, " I said her name as I plastered a smile on my face. "Is the surprise you have for the whole pack?" She totally ignored me and faced Adrian who looked angry also.

"Yes, it is. Do you have a problem with that, Beta?" He said with his Alpha voice which made Lyla bow her head in submission. "Not at all, Alpha, " she said with spite and gave me a glare before she walked away from the garden towards the house.

"You shouldn't have done that. Everybody deals with grief and emotions differently, " I chastised him through our mindlink but he just shrugged his shoulders. "I couldn't stand the way she was trying to be rude to you, " he said and I rolled my eyes.

"I'll be back". With that, I walked in the direction I saw her go, not looking back to see what other pack members thought. I followed her scent and found her in her former room, no surprise there.

"Lyla, " I called out gently as I entered the room but she refused to answer me.

"Are you mad at me for leaving abruptly?" I asked and she sniffled.

"You left without even saying proper goodbye, " she voiced out in a very small voice. "You know things like death do not come with a notice, right? I couldn't have known, " I told her before going to sit beside her.

Before I could say another word, the door opened to reveal an upset Avianca. Oh goddess, I was so distracted by seeing Lyla upset that I forgot that Avianca must be upset too. What kind of friend am I?

"Avianca, " I made to stand up but she held her hand out to silence me. "I'll just pretend like I'm not here, you can have your reunion without me, " she crossed her hands over her chest and leaned against the door.

"I had no say in if I was going to die or not. I wouldn't have left you guys alone if I had the choice, you have to believe me, " I told them, my voice breaking towards the end as I tried not to cry.

"You had a choice, Lola, " Lyla said with a voice so calm, it scared me. A very loud and angry Lyla, I could take but I can't stand her being so calm about things that hurt her. It is usually a bad sign.

"Yeah, Serena told us that you knew you were going to die. She told us that you could have lived if you hadn't gone ahead to play hero and save Fay, " Avianca spoke up from where she was leaning by the door and I sighed.

I guess there's no point in keeping it a secret, they already know everything.

"I couldn't bring myself to tell anyone, I'm so sorry, guys, " I said in a small voice and Lyla scoffed. "You had different opportunities to tell me, to tell us, but you kept mute, " Lyla said, her voice rising with every word.

"You promised to be my daughter's godmother, guess who wasn't around when I gave birth to her. Because Adrian blamed himself for what happened to you everyday, he refused to touch my daughter for 3 months, " she was basically screaming at this point.

"He is her godfather. Do you know how much Nathan is hurt that his best friend avoids his daughter? Do you know how much your selfishness has cost us?" Tears were streaming down her cheeks as she screamed in my face.

I cried as I realised just how hurt everyone that matters to me was because of my selfishness. "I'm sorry, I'm so sorry, " I kept on repeating while crying.

"I can't even stay mad at you for long, " Avianca said before coming to wrap her hands around me. "I missed you so much. Every day that you were not here was a torture. Don't ever do that again, " she cried into my neck and I hugged her back.

"Never, never again, " I smiled through my tears and we pulled back from each other. Lyla was still sitting away from us crying but I could see that her eyes had softened.

"Are you going to be mad at me forever? Even when I'm your daughter's godmother?" I asked as I held my arms open for her. She rolled her eyes before she hugged me.

"I missed you so much, " she said in a small voice. "I want a hug too, " Avianca said before hugging us, making it a group hug.

"Oh goddess, the ceremony. Everyone must be waiting for us, " Avianca exclaimed but Lyla just waved her off. "The star of the show is here, the ceremony isn't going anywhere without her."

"The ceremony is for me?" I asked in confusion and they both nodded. "It's your 19th birthday, of course, Adrian threw a party for you. Even though no one knew you were going to come back to us today, " Lyla said and my heart swelled.

"We got the best man in the universe, " Jasmine said happily through our mindlink. We sure did.

"Let's not keep the whole pack waiting then and I also have to see my goddaughter. She looks exactly like you, I can't wait to hold her in my arms, " I said exactly.

"Did Adrian already tell you all about her? I knew he adored her even though he refused to carry her, " she clapped her hands together like she just discovered the biggest secret of the century.

"Not Adrian, the Fates showed me, " I laughed. "That's not to be discussed now, " let's get this show on the road, shall we?" I asked while fist pumping the air and we all cheered.

"Thank the moon that I left some make up around here, we all look like casts for a horror movie, " Lyla said and we all laughed about it.

We fixed our faces and stepped out of the room chattering amongst ourselves while they tried to catch me up on all that I missed.

I'm so glad I chose to come back.

CHAPTER 173

Adrian's POV

"What???" Nathan whisper-yelled at me once Lola left to go after Lyla. "What?" I asked him.

"Are you being serious right now? When you said you had a surprise for the pack, that was it?" He asked and I nodded. His eyes bulged out of their socket in astonishment and I know that he would have scratched his head if he wasn't holding Lola.

"When did she wake up?" He asked as he gently rocked Lola that was starting to wake up in his arms. "She was already awake by the time I got back to the house, " I replied happily.

Lola started crying but Nathan was trying to talk to me and rock her at the time which was just not working since she started kicking harder.

"I think she needs to be fed" he muttered as he started pacing around lightly to pacify her. He gently placed her to his chest but she kept kicking. Her head rolled to my side and my heart hurt watching her cry.

I reached out a finger to her and she suddenly stopped crying and held onto my finger tightly like a lifeline. "Hi, cutie, " I cooed and she smiled, making my heart feel funny and fuzzy.

"Well, it's high time you paid her attention. My angel can finally get her godfather's care, " Nathan said. I looked up from her face and realized that he had stopped pacing.

"She's perfect, " I told him before turning my attention back to her. My heart fluttered at the thought of having small versions of her running around in our house.

"Do you think I'll be a great dad?" I blurted out before I could think too much about it. "Think? I know you're going to be an awesome dad, Adrian, " he gently shifted Lola to one hand and gave me a pat on the back.

With those little fingers still wrapped around my large one, I motioned to Nathan that we should move towards the stage. As soon as we stepped on stage, the whole pack went silent and all attention was on me.

"Good evening, everyone, " I greeted and cleared my throat before I continued. "Tonight was supposed to be used to celebrate your Luna that gave her life to save one of us but it's now a celebration to welcome her back into our midst."

"It was hard to rule without her by my side, it was so damn hard". "Language, man, " Nathan said and everyone laughed, including me.

"What I'm trying to say is that after those 3 months of navigating through life without her, she's finally back and I hope you'll all treat her with the same respect and loyalty that you accord me as your Alpha."

"Tonight, we celebrate not just our Luna's 19th birthday but also her return to us from the brink of death. Let's party away, people, " I bellowed with unbridled happiness and cheers of heartfelt happiness erupted from the crowd.

I looked towards the fingers still holding onto mine and my smile widened. "You need to get your mind out of the gutter, mate, " Daxon teased and I chuckled. "Don't act like you don't want it too, " I said and we both laughed.

The doors to the garden opened and my Queen walked in, flanked by Lyla and

Avianca. She was smiling brightly as she walked up to me, happiness radiating from every pore of her body.

Her eyes caught my fingers that was in little Lola's own and her eyes glistened slightly. "You finally touched her, " she said through our mindlink. "She clearly isn't ready to let go, " I joked and we both laughed.

She walked on the stage, gave Nathan a side hug before she came to stand beside me. She cleared her throat and that single sound brought the pack to a standstill. Everybody held their breath as they waited for her to speak.

"The last 3 months must not have been easy for everyone, it definitely wasn't all roses and chocolates before that either, but I thank everyone who participated in tackling the rogues and keeping all our packs safe. It is coming later than it should but you're all amazing and nothing would have been possible without all of your help, " she said with a air of authority and charisma.

Whistles, cheers and claps erupted from the crowd. A few "It's so good to see you back, Luna," were heard also.

"And to my favorite person in the world that never gave up on me despite everything, " she turned to me and cupped my cheek slightly, "I love you so much and thank you for never giving up on me."

I pulled her close to me and kissed her which earned whistles and cheers from the pack members. "Let's cheers to continue to be a pack that will work together to overcome all obstacles. And to leaders that will continue to lead its people with impartiality and love."

The crowd clapped and we walked off the stage while everyone got the party going. Lola stood beside me and peered at the mini Lyla that was still in her father's hands.

"Can I hold her?" She asked Nathan who nodded, a little too quick might I add. "Hi, Lola, " she cooed as she cushioned her head and held her to her chest.

"My name is Lola too and I'm your godmother, " she sniffled and smiled at her while baby Lola smiled back. "I'm sorry I missed your birth, we're going to have so much fun together going forward, " she kept talking to her and the little one smiled wider like she understood what was happening.

"Thank goddess she's back, " Nathan said beside me and I raised my eye brow at him in question. "You've been a shell of yourself for the past 3 months and not to mock a man that was mourning but you suck and was no fun at all, " he said and exhaled deeply.

"It feels good to let that all out, " he smiled at me before focusing his attention on the ladies in front of us. Lyla and Avianca soon joined us and the atmosphere was very nice.

I hope nothing disrupts this peace forever.

CHAPTER 174

Lola's POV

"I'm just going to get some fresh air, " I said to the group before moving out of the garden to the entrance of the pack house.

"It's so nice to be back, " I said to him and he came to stand beside me. The air was chilly but I felt okay with him by my side.

He interlaced our fingers and kissed the back of my palm before putting our interlaced hands in his pants pocket. "This is my normal, I don't want anything to change this, " he said after a while and I nodded.

The moon was high in the sky and everything was so peaceful save the noise that escaped from the garden. We just stood there in the moonlight, basking in each other's presence.

"Why is your breathing pattern different? Are you fine?" He said out of the blues. "What?" I laughed and gently touched his shoulder, "I'm perfectly fine, I promise."

He didn't look convinced and shushed me. "Listen to your breathing pattern and tell me nothing is wrong with it, " he said. I went silent and listened attentively and that was when I noticed another faint stirring of heartbeat coming from me.

I was about to panic when Atropos words came to mind. I gasped and Adrian looked at me wide-eyed, panic evident in his eyes.

"I'm fine, I really am but I think you're going to be a dad, " I told him and

watched him go from being afraid to being ecstatic.

"You're being serious right now?" He asked in disbelief and I nodded while laughing. "I'd never play with you like that, " I assured him.

He lifted me off the ground and spun me around before hugging me tightly to him. "I love you, Lola, " he placed a chaste kiss on my lips before kneeling down and placing his ear on my belly.

"You're going to be the luckiest kid in the world. I'll bring the world down for you and mommy if I have to, I promise, " he talked to my belly.

"Do you know that your mom is the most amazing person in the world? She...." he kept talking while I smiled and reminisced about how far I've come.

I'll readily go through everything again of it means I get to experience this moment again.

I sighed and smiled as I stare up to the moon.

THE END.....or not.

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