

The Alpha's Contract

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Chapter 0461

Neah

"You will figure it out." Mallory offers me a smile. "You have always figured shit out." She cradles Luca and rocks side to side as Luca makes little noises. She had settled into motherhood like it was where she was always supposed to be. Yet, a part of me was nervous to tell her I was pregnant again. How do you tell that to a woman who will never carry her own children?

Being here has given me some time to calm down, to come to my senses. And I felt more than stupid. For a brief moment, I could see why Kade had called everyone stupid.

"No one is perfect." Mallory mutters. "You can't keep beating yourself up over it. If Dane suspected anything, there is no way he would have let you wander off with Kade. No one would have expected a kid to do something like that. You did what most sane people would do. Think about it, by the time you could have ordered him to give you the watch, he still could have pressed it."

"It still shouldn't have happened."

*Eric said that if the house was the target, it still would have happened anyway."

I nod as I look over to my boys who are playing in the corner. Half wondering how they would react to another sibling. And half wondering whether this pregnancy was making me miss things. Last time it made me miss important things, I had been so tired with the twins.

"I'm sure they will find something." She smiles at me.

"Even if they do, what good is it? The house is gone. The only place I've ever truly known as home, has gone." "Dane will have it rebuilt."

I nod. Knowing Dane, he was already planning a rebuild as soon as possible.

"What are you going to do with Kade?" Mallory asks curiously as she sits down next to me.

*Truthfully, I want to kill him. But I know that is wrong. At the end of the day, he is a child that has ultimately been groomed. To kill him for that, would be wrong." I shake my head. "But he still needs a reasonable punishment for what he did."

*Cooper did it in the same way as Cassandra did with me." She murmurs.

I dip my chin in agreement. "I know they will find him. There is only so far he can run, even if Cooper is waiting for him."

*And Cooper? The asshole seems to be prepared."

I run my thumb over the tips of my fingers, I could feel the very tips of my claws hiding beneath the surface. "If he wants to play games, then let's play a game."

She cocks a brow at me.

"I need to work out the finer details before I share." I kneel on the floor next to my boys, kissing the top of their heads. "Could you watch the boys a little longer? I just need to do something."

*Sure. I will set up the spare room for you and Dane."

Leaving their house, I hurry over to the dungeons, keeping my eyes off the mess that was my home. The guard dips his head at me and tells me that Samara seems to be more frantic than normal.

*Frantic?"

"She's pacing alot. Muttering to herself." He shrugs his shoulders and rolls his eyes. "Lycans."

Talking to her Lycan.' Nyx mumbles.

'Maybe, but he doesn't know that.'

The guard opens the door for me. Immediately, I hear Samara arguing with no one. She stops when she sees me. What was that noise?"

*The packhouse."

"Cooper?" She asks quietly

"It seems that he had something to do with it, yes."

A frown appears on her face. It slowly softens. "I'm sorry."

"You're sorry? For what?"

"Dakota wants me to tell you that it is all my fault. That if I hadn't been stupid, we could have gone about this differently."

Her words throw me off, "Why would she want me to know that?"

*She says that we are supposed to be your Beta."

"What?" I scoff, trying to bury the laughter that is determined to break out of me. "You think that you of all people, are supposed to be my Beta?"

"Dakota thinks so." she mutters, dropping her gaze. "I've been telling her she is wrong. But she is one hundred percent certain and I can't change her mind. I told her you would probably kill us."

Nyx snorts. 'Never have I heard so much crap.'

Samara runs her hands over her head and drops to the floor. "I'm not expecting you to believe her or anything I say."

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I stand there, staring at her in some kind of disbelief. "We are cousins." I mutter

"Cousins?"

"That is how we are related. Your mother was my mother's sister. That's how you have Alpha genetics."

She creeps forwards, her fingers winding around the bars as she focuses on me. "Did you know her?"

"No."

"Oh."

*She wasn't spoken about, but my parents died when I was a kid, so maybe I just don't remember. Her name was Amelia."

*Thank you... hold on, you keep saying 'was'. She was your mother's sister. Her name was Amelia."

"She's dead."

Her hands drop from the cell bars. "Sounds about right. I assume you don't know how?"

*No. The book just had her birth and death date."

A small frown appears and her tongue glides along her bottom lip. "There is a reason you are telling me all of this, isn't there?"

"I want you to help me kill your brother."

"What?" she squeaks

"Do I need to repeat myself?" I mutter

"No...I just don't understand. Why do you need my help? You are the Alpha."

"So he doesn't see it coming."

*Are you seriously trusting this bitch? Nyx asks me

'No, but I want to see where she stands.'

Samara turns around in her cell, facing the back wall, likely talking to Dakota. Her hands come up to her temples, rubbing them. She slowly turns back to me, "If I do this...."

"I might give you a chance to live." I mutter

She mulls over my words, "Cooper is smart. He always has been. He just seems to be prepared for anything. Or maybe he designed it so that everything works in his favour. I don't know anymore. It seems like I was blind to everything."

*You say that he is prepared, but will he be prepared for his sister to set him up?"

Her grey eyes hover on mine. "I don't know. He has always been in charge. But that was before and now I don't hear him."

"How long?"

*Since Dakota made an appearance." She pauses. "She says she is blacking him."

"Good."

'At least she has some sense.' Nyx mutters

"Can I ask you something?" Samara whispers. "Do you ever get used to hearing the voice in your head? Like the random sarcastic comments? Or the huffs they make when they don't like something."

*No, never. Wait until Dakota starts humming, it's enough to drive anyone around the bend. I will be back later."

"Everything alright?" The guard asks me as he slams the door shut behind me.

"It will be."

"It's a shame about the packhouse." He mutters as I start walking away.

"At least no one was hurt." I smile at him and he just stares at me. Emerson was usually on guard duty at the gates, not here at the dungeons. "It's unusual to see you working here."

"I guess they felt like I needed a change." He shrugs his shoulders at me, but I could see flickers of annoyance. "I quite like keeping an eye on the bitch down there." He taps the dungeon door

'He gives me a bad feeling." Nyx mutters

This is the one who has issues with Lycans.' I reply

*Do you ever go down there?" I ask Emerson

"Why would I?"

I shrug my shoulders. "Curiosity?"

*I'm not curious about those assholes." His eyes widen as he realises what he has just said. "I didn't mean you... just, they... she is taking up space and resources."

'Digging his own grave, isn't he?' Nyx smirks as he stumbles over his words.

"Are we?" I ask. "Are we taking up your home? Are we letting you starve? Are we killing you off?"

"That's not what I was saying." He protests

*Then what is your problem?" I demand, stepping towards him. "Because this isn't the first time you have shared your dislike of my kind."

His hand moves to the blade in his belt, but I was quicker. My claws pierce his chest as a loud bang almost deafens me. A small hole appears to the side of Emerson's forehead followed by a trickle of blood. As he stumbles back, my claws retract from his chest and he falls to the ground.

I turn to see Klaus, his hand firmly gripped around Kades wrist. "Can't let the prick kill a pregnant woman, can !!"

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Just a little heads up. The previous chapter was supposed to end with Brax holding on to Kade. Not Klaus. My mistake and although I have corrected it. It will not reflect until my editor approves it.

Brax

Her blue eyes flicker from me to Kade and back.

"I saw the house." I gesture over my shoulder. "This little shit have something to do with it?"

She nods at me as Kade tries to peel my fingers from his boney wrist. "Let go!" He screeches at me, I just roll my eyes.

"You know I'm pregnant?" Neah asks with a frown.

I nod, "I can see your soul properly again." Kade tries to kick me in the balls. He had a nasty habit of doing that so I rip him off his feet. Letting him dangle in the air. His body swaying as he tries to escape. "That's why I left." I tell her. "I needed to find out what was happening to me. And now, the issue has been resolved."

She turns back to the dead Wolf. "I could have killed him."

*You could have, but that blade was a little too close to your belly for my liking."

She looks down at her top and frowns as she fingers the hole in the fabric.

"What do you want me to do with this one?" I purposely swing Kade through the air and he lets out a whimper instead of protesting.

Her eyes hover on the boy. She knew she had to punish him and yet, somehow, she felt sorry for him. Not something I was expecting to see.

"Dane is with Ryken." She murmurs. "Letting him know what his son did."

"Then we will go there." I point to the dead body. "I will deal with him after."

Dane answers the door to us. A deep growl rumbles through him as he locks eyes on Kade. "Bring him in."

"Where's my Dad?" Kade begs

"I'm right here." Ryken replies, as we move through the house to the kitchen. I spot Blair, peeping through a door that is barely open. It quietly closes the moment she spots me.

Dropping the little brat into a chair, his gaze immediately lowers as his eyes harden and he requests his mum.

*She isn't here right now, but she wants you to know that she is disgusted with your behaviour." Ryken tells him, though he refuses to look directly at his son. "You blew up the packhouse. You blew up the home of the pack that we were welcomed into. What the hell were you thinking?"

"He wasn't." Neah mutters. I glance over to her and she is rubbing dried blood off of her fingers.

"I'm sorry." Kade whispers. He wasn't, not a single ounce of him was sorry for what he had done.

"Are you, Kade?" Dane asks

"Yes," Kade whimpers

"You can't stop lying, can you?" I ask as I sit up on the kitchen counter. "When I look at you, I see no truth. Just a ball of lies, where does it end and where does it begin? Because it's almost impossible to tell."

There's a flash of anger in his brown eyes. He had his head lowered, but I still see it. "I suggest you start speaking the truth."

"Asshole." He mutters under his breath. His cockiness for his age was on another level

*KADE!" Ryken bellows at him

Kade folds his arms across his chest and huffs, slumping in the chair.

*What did Cooper want you to do?" I ask curiously.

He stares at me.

"Were you supposed to blow up the house with no one in it? Or was that a mistake that you made?"

He screws his face up, still refusing to look at me.

"Answer the question." Neah snaps. She was ordering him to talk

*He just said when the time was right, I would know."

"Was it the right time, or did you panic because you had been caught?" I press. My guess was he panicked. What would be the point of setting off a bomb or whatever it was if there was no one inside?

"I..." His eyes move to Neah. "I'm not meant to say."

Look around you, you little shit." I snarl. "Do you think you are leaving here without telling us?

*To teach you a lesson." He blurts out and shakes his head making his blonde ringlets bounce. "He said to teach you a lesson. To show you that you don't have all the power." He starts crying. Finally, the fear was kicking in and all it had taken was a tiny little threat. I should have done it the day he upset my baby girl.

"Where were you going?" Neah asks him

"He said he would wait for me." Kade mutters through sniffles. "He wasn't there."

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*You were going to run away from your family?" Ryken demands. "Did you even think about us? Did you even care what me and your mother would think?"

*You said I'm just like Blair!" Kade snaps. I heard you and mum."

"You are wrong. We said we didn't want you to end up like your sister."

Kade shakes his head as Dane moves over to a very pale Neah. She looks close to throwing up, but I keep my mouth shut.

*Dane, Neah," Ryken mutters. "How do you wish to punish my son?"

*I have one more question." Neah frowns, bringing her hand to her mouth as she pauses to breathe deeply. "How was Cooper talking to you?"

"He came to my room." Kade whispers

"He was in my house?!" Ryken snaps

*Likely projection." Dane replies. "Not physically here."

"Only here?" Neah asks and Kade nods

*How many other kids has he been talking to, without anyone knowing?" Dane mutters in frustration.

"None." Kade pipes up. "He told me they weren't good enough."

*Kade, that is what bastards like him say." Ryken tells his son.

*He promised."

"People like that, make promises that don't mean anything." Dane tells the little shit. "He only wants you to do his dirty work for him. He doesn't care that you get in trouble."

*No. No. He said I was strong. That I was good. That I could do this. I'm his favourite."

"He doesn't see it." I tell the adults. "He doesn't see what was being done to him as wrong. You are not going to get through to him."

*Then what do you suggest?" Dane asks

"A few nights in the dungeon might do him some good."

*You want to put my kid in the dungeons?" Ryken scoffs

"It worked for your other kid."

"She is an adult. He is not."

"Let me guess, your idea is to bind him. Something that won't really affect him until he is actually old enough to gain his Lycan abilities? So by your thinking, we should punish him later for something he did now?"

Ryken stares at me, his brows slowly knitting together in anger. "You can't put him in the dungeon. He is eight." *Brax is right." Neah tells Ryken. "I know what it's like to be bound and honestly, I would rather have died. He will spend a few days in the dungeon and we will re-evaluate." She looks at Ryken. "No visitors."

He looks at his son, like properly looks at him for the first time since we walked in the house.

"Don't say it." Blair creeps out through the door that she had been peeking out of when we first arrived. "Don't say it Ryken, because he will never be the same."

"Go back to your room!" Ryken snaps.

"I'm just trying..."

"Room, this isn't your business." Blair retreats to her room as Ryken accepts Kade's punishment.

Dane pulls a protesting Kade to his feet and with a hand on his shoulder, directs him to the front door. Ryken doesn't say anything else, in fact he walks out of the room as Kade calls for him.

I follow Dane and Neah to the dungeons. The moment Samara catches sight of me, she takes a few steps back until she is pressed against the rear wall. Her eyes hover on me. Not out of fear, but anger. "Who is that?" She asks quietly.

"Cooper got to him." Neah tells her as Dane locks Kade in a cell

"He's a kid." She mutters in disgust

*Not his style?" I ask

She steps forwards, her fingers curling around the bars as she frowns and shakes her head. "He doesn't like children."

I was almost surprised at how forward she is with her answer, but I see that she is telling the truth.

"Is this what he is doing now? Screwing up children?' She asks

"He did it to you." Neah comes to a stop next to me as she looks in at Samara. "And just like him, you couldn't see what he was doing was wrong."

"A part of me did. And I...I just let it happen. Maybe," she drops to a whisper. "I can help. I can talk to him. Am I allowed to tell him who I am?"

She glances over to where Dane is talking to Kade.

"Within reason." Neah mutters

"I understand."

I didn't. There was clearly a secret I didn't know. I follow Neah up the steps. "Are you going to tell me what that was about? She is his sister, so what is it she isn't allowed to tell him?"

Neah stares back at me. "What is it that you are not telling me?"

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Neah

"You left with Maddie and all that you left was a note." I stare at him. "You come back and you say that you have figured out what was wrong with you, but you haven't said what that is. Are you fixed Brax? Or are you going to deny it like everything else?"

"Okay, I get it, you are pissed!"

'Understatement of the year!' Nyx rolls her eyes

"I went home. That's it. I went home hoping to find something and that brother of her's" He points at the dungeon door, "Projected himself into my home and held a fucking kitchen knife to Madison's throat. He somehow convinced her to inject something into me."

"Maddie injected you?"

"At some point, yes. She doesn't know when. She doesn't even remember doing it." He pulls a tiny black ball from his pocket and holds it up to the light for me to see, "Like I said, it has been dealt with."

"What is it?"

"That is something I haven't figured out yet. There's nothing to it. It doesn't do anything as I hold it. Yet when it hit the tray, it sounded like metal. But when it was inside of me, it was draining me. It was making me weaker and weaker."

"Has she been forced to do that to others? What about her? Is that how she lost her abilities?"

He shakes his head at me. "I scanned her, there was nothing. Cooper is methodical."

'There has to be something.' Nyx murmurs. 'No one is perfect. Everyone slips at some point.'

"Are you sure Maddie is clean?" I ask

He nods at me. "He scares her. He makes her fidgety, nervous. She couldn't even hold a conversation with me without her eyes scanning the room. It has unsettled her of how easily he has manipulated her."

He looks me up and down. "Now are you going to tell me what you are planning?"

"I haven't figured it all out yet."

"Right." I could hear the scepticism in his tone. "But it has something to do with Samara, doesn't it?"

I don't respond.

"I will take that as a clear sign that you don't want to say anymore." I watch him strut away just as Dane appears next to me.

He doesn't speak, but his hand slips into mine and he tugs me in the direction of the forest.

"What happened with Emerson?" He asks when we are far enough in the trees that no one could see us. "I know you would have had a good reason. "Where is the body?"

"Damien dealt with it. I saw the blood on your fingers and asked him to find out who it was and to clear it up before anyone notices."

"Emerson didn't want me here or any of the Lycans. He made it very clear."

"The hole in the tee is from him, right?" Dane queries

I glance down at my top. "His blade. Brax shot him."

"Okay." He sits on a fallen tree and reaches out for my hand. His brows dip as a small frown appears.

"Why did you bring me into the forest?"

"You need a moment. A moment you are not going to get while surrounded by other people."

"I'm fine...."

"I didn't say you're not. Sometimes, the peace and quiet is exactly what is needed for everything to make sense."

I sit on the tree next to him and feel

my body relax. The last couple of days had just been filled with

constant news and before there was really time to process one thing, something else was happening. I hadn't really had time to think about the new pregnancy either,

"I need him dead." I mutter quietly. "I can't keep living like this."

"We will find a way." Dane replies. "There is always a way to take someone down."

"I want to try something," He waits

for me to expand. "He has lost Samara. I see it when I look at her. She was slow to see it, but now she does. She was disgusted that Cooper went after Kade."

"You truly believe her?"

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"Frustratingly, yes." I sigh, I wasn't sure how he was going to take it. want Klaus to take Samara to him. I think both of them are the key to helping me kill him."

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He studies me, "And what are you going to do?"

"Shred him." I hold my claws up to him

'And gut him' Nyx adds gleefully

"Not if I beat you to it." He smiles at me. "The asshole is slowly destroying my pack, right in front of me. No one has ever done that. The pack had always been strong, united. But gradually....." He shakes his head in frustration. "I'm not letting it continue."

'Cooper will be dead by the end of the week.' Nyx murmurs. 'Dane didn't disagree with our plan.'

The twins lay between us on the bed in Mallory and Eric's spare room. They slept soundly and both in Human form. I had only been away for a short time but I missed them so much. Even watching them made my heart ache.

"When the house is rebuilt, I think we are going to need a bigger bed. Especially when the new pups come along."

"Excuse me!" I whisper, trying to not wake the boys up. "Pup, not pups!"

He smiles at me, "One, two or even three. I don't care, as long as you and they are healthy." He leans over the boys and kisses my cheek Why does he keep saying they? I ask Nyx if there is something she needs to tell me.

'Too early.' she mutters quietly. 'Let's focus on the main problem.'

Multiple times I wake with a foot in my face or a finger up my nose. For two small boys, they certainly moved around alot in their sleep.

In the end I get up and sit in the rocking chair that Mallory had left for me. The boys wiggle their way on to Dane's chest and though I enjoyed watching them. Though, I couldn't help but think of the way I was going to kill Cooper. I didn't want him ruining anymore lives and I certainly didn't want him anywhere near my children.

Quietly, I change into a pair of jeans and a hoodie, pulling on my boots, I sneak out of the house and head to Klaus's place. The lights are still on and when I look through the window, I see him sitting at the table where I had spent so many hours learning to read.

I tap on the window and his deep green eyes pop up to me. "Neah?" He checks his watch. "Has something happened?"

"Cooper needs to be killed."

"If this is about the Witch Hunter

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stuff again, I think Brax might have been on to something." He waves me forward and quietly closes the door behind me.

"So we have all been a bit unsure of Brax lately, right?" He continues

I nod. "But apparently it has been sorted. It's a long story, but..."

"He told me."

"He told you?" I mutter in surprise, I had to ask him to tell me.

"Yes, He brought that little ball thing to show me. Told me about Maddie."

"Do you know what it was?"

"No, but without Brax telling me, I knew who it belonged to. I don't know how or why, but I could smell him when Brax handed it to me."

"Like a mate scent?"

"Not quite."

"I don't follow." I say with a frown.

"I don't understand it either." He tells me. "That's why all these books are open. I'm trying to find something that will guide me. Something that will help me understand if this is really what I am. But even without reading, a lot of it makes sense."

"Like Brax, I am different. I'm not driven by the need to belong. I'm not a true pack Wolf, though I love this pack. I will do what is asked of me sure, and understand now why never fitted in, long before I was welcomed here. I was never supposed to be a pack member. And this may come as a surprise, but

when Cooper is dead, I will be

leaving to find my own path."

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Klaus

*You are going to leave?" She asks quietly

I nod. "I need to find out more about who I am. And I know you understand that, probably better than anyone."

"Have you told anyone else?"

*I only decided a little while ago."

She looks past me at my books. "Where will you go?"

"Wherever the road takes me." I smile at her. "I'm not saying goodbye just yet and when I do, it won't be forever. Since this news about me has come to light, I can't stop wondering. I mean, I have done research on you, other Lycan's, even Brax, but I've never fully looked into myself. I've never felt the need."

*Until now?"

"Until now." I confirm, "And I know nothing apart from what my first pack told me. Which was extremely limited." I gesture for her to take a seat.

"It will be weird without you here. Who will be the pack doctor?"

*Some of the nurses that have helped me are more than qualified. They will be around to help you deliver the new pup or pups."

"You knew?"

"Doesn't take a genius. Especially when you have been rubbing your stomach since you have been here. How far along are you?"

"It's early," she mutters, "Why is everyone so sure it's more than one?"

*Twins run in the Black family."

"Dane isn't a twin." she replies and I press my lips together. He hadn't told her. "Klaus?"

*Dane was a twin when his mother carried him."

"What?"

"I'm sorry, I honestly thought you knew." I mutter, half cursing myself for telling her. "His twin was stillborn." She stares at me with her jaw dropped.

"It's not something he talks about." I try to cover up my mistake. Dane might actually murder me. "I really thought you knew, Neah."

"No...no, I did not." She looks down at her stomach. "And all I came here to do was ask you to help me set Cooper up. Now I understand why Dane keeps saying it's more than one,"

I figure it's best not to respond

"Can I have some water?" she asks quietly

"Sure." I head to the kitchen and when I return, Neah is thumbing through the current book I was reading.

"Neah. I'm sure he has his reasons for not..."

"Will you help me with Cooper?" She interrupts.

"You know I will, but I'm not sure how I can help."

"I need you to take Samara to him."

*You want to let her out of the dungeons?"

*She has her Lycan now. I'm certain her Lycan won't allow her to betray me. Her Lycan, Dakota, believes she is supposed to be my Beta."

"You're Beta?" That was different, a Beta is chosen, it's not something that is inherited. Most of the time.

She dips her chin.

"So you want me to take her to him, and then what?"

*Make him vulnerable. Make him think all his christmases have come at once, so that I can get into his head." *When?"

"There is no time like the present."

"It's the middle of the night."

*Precisely. I can't wait any longer."

We move quickly across the grounds, stopping in front of the dungeon where Damien is waiting.

"What are you doing here?" Neah whispers.

*I saw you creeping across the grounds to Klaus's, figured you might need a hand with something and this would be where you end up." He offers her a smile of reassurance. A smile that said he was on board with anything.

*Klaus is going to take Samara to Cooper." Neah tells him. "I need to be far enough away that he can't scent me, but ready for the moment his guard drops."

"I mean no offence, but why would you think Klaus is the answer? After what happened when Cooper projected himself here, I'm pretty sure he is going to be expecting it."

"Yes, he will." I confirm. "The time I spent with him was short, but I learned a few things. He is quick to recognise his mistakes. He won't fall for it again, but if Samara is with me, he might just think that I have switched sides."

*And he still thinks Klaus is his mate." Neah adds. "He won't give up on Klaus so easily."

Damien pauses for a brief moment and finally nods his head. "Okay. Someone has got to make sure you don't get harmed." His dark eyes move to me. "Though I'm going to make a suggestion."

"What's that?"

*If he believes you are mated to him, lead him down that path, but keep him at a distance. It will drive him up the wall."

Both Kade and Samara are fast asleep in their cells. I felt bad for the kid, but I understood why Dane and Neah were doing it. If he had been an adult, he would have already been burned alive or ripped apart for his actions.

Damien quietly opens Samara's cell. Silently creeping in, she starts to stir and Damien is quick to cover her mouth and stop her from screaming and waking Kade.

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Her grey eyes are wide as he pulls her to her feet and Damien removes his hand. "Now?" she whispers

"Yes." Neah replies

We keep Samara sandwiched between Damien and I as we move up the steps and back out into the night. She doesn't try to get away or to challenge us. But the moment she steps out onto the grass, she sucks in oxygen like it was her last chance.

Damien watches Samara with interest as Neah tells her what is about to happen.

"What do you want me to say to him?" Samara asks

"That's down to you." Neah replies.

"I don't understand."

*You came here for help, even though you went about it the wrong way. Now it's your turn to prove yourself." "You want me to kill him?"

"No." Damien tells her. "You just need to make him believe that we don't know you are there. That Klaus broke you out."

*He knows when I'm lying."

*Then you better figure out how to cover it up." Neah tells her.

*Okay...okay. I can do this." Samara mutters to herself. Her grey eyes settle on me. "You are the one he believes is his mate."

"Yes."

"One other thing." Neah tells us. "Do not mention Kade."

"We will come down to the gate with you." Damien tells me. "But you need to go on ahead. If anything changes, link me." He commands

"You can link Wolves?" Samara whispers to him

"I can."

She cocks her head but doesn't speak

Eric is on guard at the gate. He doesn't question anything. I'm assuming Damien linked him because he doesn't ever work the gate.

Samara makes a little squeak as we move through the gates. I'm guessing from the length of time she had been in our dungeons, she never expected to have any form of freedom. Though she still doesn't have it now.

"How far?" She whispers to me after we break away from Neah and Damien.

"He is hiding out in Blair's house."

*Still?"

"Well I guess we will find out."

She doesn't ask any other questions. If anything, I was a little surprised. She had been tossed into a plan with no real details but she took it in her stride.

The house eventually comes into view. "I screwed it up with Blair, didn't I?" she whispers. "She was a good friend and I just couldn't tell her everything."

"That happens sometimes." I mutter, watching the house. There was a single light on like always. Once night fell we stayed in the main room. One, so he could block the main door. Two, so he could keep an extra close eye on me. Was he watching me now?

The front door swings open and I see a boot before him. Purposely moving slow as he steps out. "I know you are there." He calls out. "I can smell you."

I step out of the shadows, my hands hold Samara's behind her back. I couldn't do what Damien had suggested when all I felt was anger. The fucker had stabbed me.

He takes one more step in our direction. I watch him sniff the air. Neah had been right about that, he wanted to make sure we were alone.

"I didn't think you would come back to me."

*They had me in....." Samara starts.

"I'm not talking to you Sam. We will discuss you soon enough." I feel her tense up. The promises he had made her had never been followed through.

*I brought you your sister." I mutter

*Then you should bring her inside." He grins at me

I push Samara forward and she lets out a growl that I'm hoping is just for him. "Is it really you or are you projecting?"

"It's me."

I plaster on a smile.

*I was certain I had upset you. But I realise now you were probably confused and disorientated. I shouldn't have drugged you and I have been looking for a way to make it up to you." He tells me

"What about me?" Samara asks.

His tone changes as his eyes narrow. "I told you, I would get to you."

*No Coop! You promised me. You said you would come for me. I have been stuck in that shitty little dungeon and not once did you try and get me!"

I was almost impressed, considering she told Neah she couldn't lie.

"Sam. You weren't in danger."

*The risk of being killed wasn't danger?" She snaps at him.

Cooper slaps her face hard, knocking her to the ground. "I said we will discuss it."

Her grey eyes are ablaze, as his handprint is left behind but she stays on the floor. Possibly trying to contain her Lycan. I knew how hard it had been for Neah in the early days.

"You don't need to hit her." I speak calmly. "She has been locked up. Limited food. Had her head shaved."

He looks at me. "She is supposed to be strong, bloodthirsty. Now look at her, she has become useless."

Chapter 0469

Hey everyone, I hope you are all well or at least better than I am. I have fallen victim to the sickness that is going around here.

There is no update today (11th) as I cannot concentrate on anything long enough to edit and make sure there are no mistakes.

As always, thank you to all those that are still reading and for the gems, reviews and comments.

Also for those asking when the book will end. There is a lot more to come (poor Damien is yet to meet his second chance mate and get his happy ending)

Hopefully I will be a bit more with it tomorrow.

Stay safe

Taylor West

Chapter 0470

Klaus

"Useless!" Samara scoffs from the ground. "I'm not useless!"

"I thought this was what you wanted." I keep my tone even. "I thought you wanted her back."

"I wanted you more." Cooper turns away and walks inside. Helping Samara to her feet, we follow him in.

"You weren't even going to bother, were you?" Samara demands, "You were just going to leave me there like some fucking rabid dog!"

*You served your purpose, I'm moving on to better things." He sits on the sofa, unphased by our presence

"What does that mean?" I ask before Samara says anything else.

"Time will tell."

*Just for once in your life, say exactly what you mean" I snap. "You know I don't like it when you use riddles and skirt the meaning."

He glares at his sister, "She is of no help to me anymore. So I replaced her with someone that is willing to do the job."

"Who?"

He smiles at me and his sage green eyes light up.

"If you are trying to say that it is me, you are wrong. I'm not ripping apart a pack for you." I tell him. "I'm not destroying the best thing I have ever known."

*Calm down. You Klaus, would never do something like that. That is why it isn't you."

*Then who?"

"He's already blown up the packhouse." He speaks with a smile, "Tell me, who was injured. Your beloved Alpha? His son's? Or the female Alpha? I've been waiting for news since I saw the smoke."

*You were nearby when it happened?" I ask

*One of many places that I have visited recently." He runs a hand through his blonde hair, brushing it back out of his face.

If he had been nearby, even projected himself, why hadn't he met Kade like he promised?

"Why are you doing this?" Samara asks

"Because little sister, there are so many people who think they know better."

I snort. It was the same conversation he had tried to push on me. He was utterly delusional.

*So who was killed or injured? Please tell me." He waits expectantly

*No one."

"What do you mean?"

*The house was empty Cooper. Not a single soul was inside. All you created was strength as the pack rallied around to put out the fire."

"He told me..."

*You mean a kid lied to you?" I knew Neah didn't want us discussing Kade but Cooper had already brought it up. *Fucking little brat. Just when I thought I could get through to another child."

"Another child?"

"Me." Samara whispers. "He is talking about me. After clad died, I was the first." Her head snaps up to him and I see pure rage. "You weakened me. You told me stories that made me believe that you were doing the right thing."

"And you were dumb enough to believe it!" He tells her

"What you have been doing is wrong! None of us deserved it. None of us. Do you even understand that? You made me believe the Moon Goddess put you here for a reason.

You said all those people were being punished by her. That you were just the messenger. Is that what you told the boy?"

He opens his mouth to retaliate. But Samara carries on ranting at him.

*You are worse than evil. You deserve to lose everything. You took away people's abilities. You took away mine, promising me that it was the best way to keep me safe" She shakes her head. "You made me believe I was doing the right thing. You shielded me from who I am. I lost my friend because of you. I lost everything because of you."

She lunges forward and grabs hold of him, ripping him out of the sofa. His eyes are wide at the unexpected move. He wrestles her and fights for dominance as she pins him to the floor. Locking her hands on the shoulders of his jacket, she repeatedly smashes his head against the carpet while screaming at him.

I catch sight of how black her eyes are. They are just like Neahs when her Lycan is pushing through. But I don't do anything. I stand there and let it happen. Because Samara is right, this is the least he deserves.

"Get off of me you stupid bitch." Cooper swings an arm, all it hits is air.

A growl rips from Samara and she starts shifting. Her weight easily holds him down as the ripped fabric of her clothes falls to the floor to reveal her overly large Lycan and still I don't do anything. Her attack grows more violent, slicing him with her claws. Biting into his skin as he fights back, but nothing is deep enough to kill him. Like she is purposely holding back.