

The Alpha's Contract

Chapter 0536

Silas

Scratching through the stubble on my chin, I sigh, "He has several."

Other than the beating hearts in the room, you could have heard a pin drop. It was not the answer any one of them wanted to hear.

"Witches are rare." Dane mutters. "They don't come along too often."

I nod in agreement. I knew they were. It had been drummed into me when I had been full of questions as a kid. And White Cliffs are incredibly happy to have them, even the one that denies her heritage. Or maybe, people felt like they had to be happy with their presence. I wasn't sure anymore. There were just so many holes in the story and all it has taken is for me to meet my twin.

*And Witches rarely work with Wolves." Dane continues

"Depends what they are being offered, I guess. They have nice homes, a couple have family's. They have jobs, they are not looked down on by others." But when I think about it, they tend to stick together. They didn't really have other friends.

"How many?" Neah asks. Her bright blue eyes hover on mine. She was definitely not what I was expecting for the last female Alpha.

The moment I saw her in the restaurant, it was clear who she was. Her scent. The electrical charge that surrounded her. I was one hundred percent certain that she was stronger than Serkan. I had never sensed anything so powerful before and I had been around other Kitsons.

Yet, she was small and looked fragile. I'm surprised the sea didn't drag her out further than a few metres before managed to catch hold of her. What I had heard about her, just didn't fit the woman sitting across from me.

Her legs crossed up under her. A hand on her small bump, that is moving around in circles. She had a little bit of an attitude, but that could be the pregnancy hormones, if my mate was anything to go by.

She's also nothing like her grandfather. If anything, the cousin looked like she would cause more issues.

Samara hadn't said much more either and mostly just stared into space. Maybe talking to her Lycan. I couldn't be sure, it was impossible to tell with her grey eyes.

"Well?" Dane snaps

"Four." I confirm. "Well, three and a half."

*So Lycans, Wolves and Witches?" Damien mutters from his spot against the wall.

"Yes. But I guess they are not what you would consider as strong. Two call themselves 'healers'. They use herbs and other weird things to help kids and sometimes the adults, especially the pregnant ones that are suffering. Or they help to calm the minds of those that are grieving. Stuff like that. Nothing outrageous."

*And the other two?" Neah asks

"One refuses to acknowledge their abilities, she is also only a teen. Hence the half." I muse. "The other one is my mate."

There was that silence again. The shock settling in as the reality of my words hit. A Wolf and a Witch. It happens, but is as rare as the number of Witches in the world.

"You didn't tell me that!" Dane straightens his spine.

"You didn't ask."

*And what are her abilities?" Damien asks. He is watching me, poised but ready to kill me if needed. "Can she project herself? Does she take away others' abilities?"

*Hers is a little outside the standard field." I murmur. "Her main ability is that she can control fire."

*F...fire?" Samara scoffs

*Yes. But she hasn't used that ability in several years." I frown. It wasn't a story I wanted to talk about, but I knew if they asked, I would need to tell them. I would need to relive the worst night of my life.

"What..." Dane doesn't finish the question and I see Neah shaking her head at him. Instead, he clears his throat. "All of this generation's Blacks have been mated to Lycans." Dane tells me. "Were you fated mates, or did you choose her?"

Chapter 0537

*Fated. I may be a Black by birthright, but again, that wasn't what I inherited. It seems the Moon Goddess had other things in store for you."

Damien rolls his eyes at me "Let me guess, Serkan was more than happy that you have a Witch as your mate? I bet that has come in handy."

Neah's eyes shift back to me. She didn't trust me. I didn't blame her, but she will one day. I hope.

I was voluntarily giving them all the answers to their questions. But some people didn't like that. Sometimes they felt that it was easy. It made it look as though I was luring them into something. I wasn't. All I wanted now was to get my family out of White Cliffs.

*Funnily enough, Serkan has never mentioned it. He has never asked for anything from any of the Witches. The only one he ever had interest in was Cooper. As I said, no one knows what happened when Cooper came to visit. I just knew that when he left, Serkan was more agitated than usual. He would welcome him like an old friend and then something would happen and when Cooper left, Serkan would be pissed."

"You didn't question it?" Damien asks

"None of us did. It was routine. Serkan likes things a certain way. It wasn't affecting anyone else, so people kept their mouths shut and carried on as usual."

I feel like an idiot.' I mutter to my Wolf Lyall

You are not the only one." He grumbles as Neah and Dane give each other an odd look.

*How did you meet her?" Samara mutters as the others try to figure out what to say to me.

*I found her. I was on my way back after a run and she was just walking up the road. A small bag hung at her hip, a thin white dress hung over her frame. Leaves and twigs littered her hair. She looked a mess." I smile at the memory. She had panicked at the idea of being mated to a Wolf but she didn't run away and she didn't try to set me on fire. Though I hadn't known what she was capable of at the time.

The rain poured down on both of us. She was cold, I was fascinated by her. Then she started a fire with a simple click of her fingers. That should have been my cue. I should have ran. I knew what she was and yet I couldn't. "We have been together ever since."

"That's so sweet." She beams at me. "Some of us find our people in the unlikeliest of places." She flashes her grey eyes in Damien's direction, but I see no mark on her neck. I couldn't be sure if they were together or not.

*You were not concerned that you had just walked into a Witch?" Dane asks

"Why would I be? I could smell her exotic scent, she could smell me. And sitting here talking to you isn't giving me time to plan how to get Thalia and Quinn out!"

*Quinn is your child?" Neah asks

"Yes, he's three and I have no idea what is happening to him." I stare back at her. I really didn't want to kidnap her, but every second here is a second that I could save my family.

"Can you link him?" She asks

"Quinn?" I ask wondering why she would want me to link my son.

*Serkan." She frowns at me. 'Tell him I will meet him, but not in White Cliffs. Tell him that if he wants to meet me, he can come to me and give me the invitation himself. He wants me. I don't want him. I'm not making the effort. The moment Serkan leaves White Cliffs, your family can get out.'

*You want him to come to your pack? Because he won't come alone. I can guarantee that much." I warn her.

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*Somewhere neutral." Dane mutters. "The city."

"You think he won't do anything because there are Humans?" I shake my head

*He will cause more problems for himself." Dane smirks at me.

'It's a good option. Thalia will be able to get out unseen and even if she is seen, it will be too late for Serkan to do anything. He will be after his number one priority.' Lyall tells me

"Your choice." Neah mutters

"Okay." I agree. "When?"

"A few more questions first." Neah states, "If that's okay."

I nod in agreement. I will answer everything and anything she throws at me if it means I can save my family.

*So you rescued Cooper's prisoners and many of them joined White Cliffs." She confirms

*For rehabilitation."

"Is that the first time?" She presses.

"No."

*But Serkan was meeting with him?"

*Fucking asshole was providing Serkan with people to grow the pack." Damien sneers at me "And you didn't see it. He was just doing it in a better way than how Cassandra did it."

*Cassandra?" I mutter. I didn't know anyone by that name.

"You don't need to concern yourself with that." Dane tells me. "She's dead. Damien is just making a point."

I slouch back in the seat, staring at him. He couldn't be right, could he? How could I have missed something so blatantly obvious?

"He's right." Dane tells me. "What better way to make people feel secure. Offer them a home within the pack that supposedly saved them."

"No, because the others that I saved had no abilities. They had been stripped, they were practically...." I trail off. Every single one of them had eventually been killed for one reason or another. But the lot I saved this time, had been welcomed with open arms. They had gained their abilities back and were ready to start over. To believe in something better.

I already knew that better is currently staring at me in a much smaller than normal size.

"He's got it." Damien chirps

*Cooper was punishing them and then Serkan would invite them into his home with open arms. Making him look like a saviour. It's a good plan. But not good enough." Dane mutters as he moves behind Neah, placing his hands on her shoulders. She seems to melt under his touch as she leans her head against his hand.

"Did you know about this?" Damien mutters to Cooper's half sibling.

She shakes her head at him. "I swear. I knew he had been taking abilities from people for a long time, but I never knew what happened to them. Coop used to move me around a lot. I was at the farm for a while but before that, we never stayed in the same place for long. And after the age of sixteen, I was never allowed to stay in the same location as him. I think it was because he didn't want me to know. He knew if I figured it all out when I was younger, I would have become a much bigger problem."

"I can confirm that all the people rescued were not rescued from the same place." I mutter

She gives me a small smile. She looked so much like her mother. Serkan would have known who she was the moment he saw her.

*It's nothing to smile about." I murmur. "Serkan always knew where I needed to go. Always told me there had been reports of sightings, or stories of Wolves and Lycans that were confused. And like the idiot I am, I believed it. I don't know what is worse. Feeling like this, or having to convince my mate that the man we believed in has been using us like puppets. He offered us a superior life, but it's come at a price."

Chapter 0539

Dane

Damien returned Silas back to the beach, but not before Silas gave us his contact number. He agreed that if Serkan was to reach out to him, he would let us know and we would let him know when we are ready to go ahead with the plan.

"Do you believe him?" Samara asks

"Unfortunately, yes." I tell her, though I knew Neah wasn't so sure.

"His mate is a Witch." Samara frowns

"Yes. He could have lied about that. He could have said it was another Wolf, even a Lycan considering he has already told us that Lycans and Wolves have been getting together for a long time in White Cliffs. Yet he chose to tell us what she is."

*And what about the fire?" Samara's eyes are wide. "She can control fire. Even Coop would have been impressed with that."

*Maybe a fire is why he only has one child." Neah murmurs. "You heard him, she hasn't used her fire power in years. His pup is three."

*I could have asked more, but you didn't want me too." I remind her.

"You didn't see the way he tensed up when he mentioned it. It was barely visible but it was there. His spine straightened a little. His jaw clenched a little tighter." She sighs. "He shows the same signs of irritation as you."

*As me?"

She bobs her head. "It's scary how similar the pair of you are. Even Jenson and Raven were not that similar."

*You don't need to worry about that." I lean down to kiss her but she unexpectedly pulls back. I try to read her mind but Nyx has sealed that off from me.

"What's wrong?" I press.

Her eyes search mine but she doesn't speak. Suddenly lowering her gaze, she shakes her head at me. "It's nothing.

Why is she acting this way?' Aero mutters. 'I don't understand."

The only thing I can think of is that she sees the same thing that happened between Jensen and Raven happening to Silas and myself. She killed Raven because no one else could do it.'

I study my mate but she keeps her eyes low.

It would never happen. I'm much stronger than my twin, that much was clear. He was busy taking orders from a mad man.

*If his wife and pup escape. Are they going to stay in Black Shadow?" Samara asks trying to break the tension

It was a difficult choice. I couldn't have a Witch in my pack, not if I wanted Klaus to return and not after what the last Witch put everyone through. She may not be like that, but at the same time, it wasn't worth the risk.

"We will see." I mutter. It would need to be a conversation with the pack.

When Damien returns, he informs us that Silas has asked if we are sure we want to go ahead with this plan.

Neah nods her head. "Serkan needs to know that he doesn't control me. And it's like I said. If he wants me, he can come to me."

"Exactly what I told him." Damien winks at her. He turns to Samara, "Come on, time to let the Alphas be alone together."

I turn to Neah and easily lift her out of the chair. Taking her place while pulling her on my lap.

"You're trying to distance yourself. Why?"

"I'm not." She whispers

"Then tell Nyx not block me out."

'I...'

"It won't happen. My mind isn't as weak as my sisters. The only people that are allowed in my head are my pack and that is purely to speak to me. I can see that you are frustrated."

Her eyes lock on mine and she drags her bottom lip in between her teeth, but lets go when I use my thumb to pull it out. A habit that was slowly seeping back in. "Talk to me."

*If something happens..."

"It won't."

"Dane, if something happens to..."

*Stop."

Chapter 0540

*You want me to talk but you won't let me get my words out." She frowns at me.

*Nothing will happen to me." I tell her confidently."

*Not you, me." Her eyes are wide as the words tumble from her lips.

"You are underestimating yourself. Damien thinks you haven't reached your full potential and Silas, the one man here that knows of Serkan, is certain you are more powerful than him."

"I know what I'm capable of. I've done things that I never thought I would ever do." She lowers her gaze, "I just need you to promise me that if something happens, you will always be there for the boys. And the girls, if they are here. I just need to know that."

My hand cups her face. Her chin sits in the crook between my thumb and my finger, forcing her to look at me. "I am not going anywhere. You are not going anywhere. Do you understand?"

A small crinkle appears on her brow as she nods. She takes in a deeper breath. "I'm still surprised that I have lasted this long."

"I know you are. But you are not the frail, broken girl that I first met. You are not the same person that threw herself back against the door to hide from me. You are my mate and an amazing mother of our pups and I will not let anything happen to you.

*You have survived every fucker that has come after you. You have battled demons that nearly destroyed you and you have thrived. You may not underestimate what you are capable of, but you underestimate your ability to survive."

She wraps her fingers around my wrist, pulling my hand from her face. "I'm not giving up." She whispers as her frown deepens. "But I'm not stupid. We are going up against another powerful Kitson. It would be stupid to go in with an expectation that we will

succeed. Of course it's what I want. But that's how people lose. They get cocky. they make mistakes. Cassandra, Trey, Kyle, Devon, Cooper even Jenson and they are just some of the ones that have died, but they all have the same thing in common. I'm just preparing for the possibility."

'As if she thinks we will let her die.' Aero mutters in anger. But the anger isn't aimed at Neah, it's the situation.

She leans into me, looping her arms around my shoulders and pressing her nose into my neck. Her bump presses against my stomach as she sighs and I feel a few half hearted kicks.

*The thing I am worried about." Her warm breath fans across my skin as she sighs. "What if he becomes aware of the boys, especially Evrin?"

*The boys will be nowhere near. Just like before, the kids and the vulnerable will be moved to another location. Just in case, they will be moved further south. Mallory will likely be with them because she has Luca. And several other new parents plus guards. They will be more than protected."

She doesn't answer me.

"I will always protect them with my life." I tell her exactly what she wants to hear. Though I will do more than that. If it ever came to her or me. I would sacrifice myself so that she could live.

Most of the way home, she is quiet. Nyx had let her guard down and I was able to search her mind again. She was thinking about how many times she had come close to death. And as much as I hated it, she was trying to be realistic about the situation.

I smile at her and reach over to rest my hand on her thigh. At least this time she doesn't pull away. Hearing me confirm that I will keep the boys safe, seems to have reassured her on one level.

"Can we stop?" She mutters a few miles away from home. "I need the bathroom."

Pulling into the local fuel station. She practically jumps out the car before it comes to a complete stop and charges towards the building.