

## A. Nocturne's 231

### Chapter 231 You Need to Know These Things

The morning seemed to arrive too soon for Ann's liking.

She had been awake for hours already before the beautiful canvas of colors that indicated the sun was about to peek over the horizon began to appear, and had busied herself with working through the various piles of paperwork that Eva had sent her over whilst she was incapacitated with her heat, until she ran out of work that she had needed to catch up on.

She could feel her stomach tie itself in knots as she paced backward and forwards nervously, going over the looming trial for Linus in her mind and everything that might go wrong, the fact that she would have to say goodbye to Adam in a few short hours... it was all too much.

Really, she supposed that she should be curled up in bed, enjoying his scent and the last physical contact with him before he left for goddess knew how long, but a small part of her refuse

### Chapter 232 It's Not Your Fault

"I mean, I would have preferred that you told me before I was Queen. Would you not have explained if I was just your Luna?" Ann frowned.

"I didn't mean it like that," Adam said shaking his head, "I just meant that the chances of us having to engage with the Dubois again were slim to none and I doubt that it would have cropped up in conversation."

"You don't think Allen would have mentioned he had a dead sister? Ever?" Ann snorted, "Seriously Adam..."

"He may have talked about her, but in a calmer fashion is what I meant. Without the tension of being in close proximity to one of the Dubois family." Adam explained. "At least if we were just the plain old

Alpha and Luna of the Dark Moon Pack... there wouldn't be as much at stake if something went wrong." He sighed bitterly.

Ann saw the look of regret that crossed his face and felt a pang of pain in her heart at seeing him so

### Chapter 233 An Understanding Wife

Ann and Adam met Allen and Lexi in the corridor as they left their room, and made their way down to the entrance hall together.

Greyson was already there when they arrived and he eyed Allen furiously as Lexi avoided looking anywhere but at him. Ann frowned slightly at Lexi's reaction. Had she missed something? Ann smiled warmly at him as he tore his eyes from where Lexi and Allen stood and greeted Ann properly.

"Good morning, my Queen. Preparations are almost complete and we are scheduled to leave shortly." He announced stiffly.

"Thank you, Greyson. I'd appreciate it if you could report back as soon as you're close to arriving, and give us an update as soon as you know what's going on. If you think you need more

men, then let us know and we'll send reinforcements from the packs that needed a little longer to gather their response teams."

"Understood," Greyson a

### Chapter 234 Won't Share

Allen could feel Lexi's anxiety begin to rise the closer Greyson got to them and he rubbed her back reassuringly.

It was fairly obvious to him that Greyson was most definitely not on the same page as he was regarding Lexi having more than one mate, but he was sure that he would come around eventually to the idea.

“Commander Greyson.” Allen nodded stiffly, his wolf pacing inside of him restlessly.

Greyson nodded curtly in response as his eyes seemed to bore into Lexi’s face. This was the first time that he had seen Lexi speechless, or at the very least, lost for words, and under any other circumstances he probably would have teased her mercilessly for it, but he couldn’t help but feel bad for her.

“You’ve made your choice then?” Greyson asked harshly as Lexi did all she could to avoid meeting his eyes.

“I can’t choose, Greyson... you don’t understand...”

“Oh, I understa

## Chapter 235 Familiar

Ann cleared her throat loudly as she and Aoife made their way across to where Allen stood with his arms wrapped around Lexi protectively.

Lexi moved away from Allen quickly and plastered an overly bright smile on her face as soon as she noticed Aoife at Ann’s side.

“Hey! I’m Lexi,” She grinned broadly, much to Ann’s surprise.

She had been fully expecting a frosty reception from both Allen and Lexi but had planned on chalking it up to the current circumstances if Aoife had asked about it.

“Yes! I know, Felix had introduced me to your father and he mentioned that we were around the same age, and wondered if we had met through school or something before.”

“Oh he did, did he?” Lexi asked with a raised eyebrow, “What else did my dear old papa tell you about me then?”

“Nothing incriminating, I promise.” Aoife giggled.

“I find that hard to believe.” Lexi scoffed, “With

## Chapter 236 The Extra Visitors

After meeting with Bartholomew in his office and discussing the many ways that Linus may try to spin his defense, they set off together toward the Court of the Elders.

The irony wasn't lost on Ann that only a short time ago, she had been the one standing in front of them all at the bottom of that intimidating amphitheater as the accused party, and now, she would be presiding over the fate of others.

The trials had pretty much come to a halt during the coronation proceedings and after the daring yet deadly escape of the convicts during their transport, the rest of the prisoners held within the Enclave were being kept in the holding cells until it was deemed safe for transport once more.

But now that the celebratory period had ended, Ann knew damn well that her workload was only set to increase as new trials were added to her schedule. She made a mental note to check up on the

## Chapter 237 Breeding

Linus was brought in under armed escort with the sort of sleazy smirk that made Ann's skin crawl. Although his appearance gave the impression that he was slightly unhinged, Ann knew that underneath it all, his vile little mind was as sharp and depraved as ever.

He shrugged the guards away angrily as they positioned him at the podium and sneered at them. "When this farce is all over, I'll take your heads., mark my words." He hissed viciously as they walked away without a backward glance to their former positions.

Linus's gaze ran around the circle above before dropping and settling on Ann's face as a smirk spread across his thin lips.

"Your grace," He greeted in a tone that was clearly mocking as he inclined his head and quite openly allowed his eyes to roam up and down her body as he licked his lips.

"Dirty Bastard..."

"Shhh!"

"You shhh!"

The voices of Lexi and Al

Chapter 238 The Law Has Passed

The murmurs that came from above her meant that she had been right in thinking the majority of Elders had no idea what she was talking about.

"Your grace, there has been no such law..."

Ann turned to look up at the circle triumphantly.

"No? Every single person's signature is on it, so that means that either you have forgotten you have signed it, or... the alternative is that you yourself, have not actually bothered to read the stacks of paperwork that come your way and have instead entrusted the signing of those documents to another person... which I should remind you is a dereliction of duty and also fraud... which I believe also carries a

sentence.” Ann said as she tapped her chin thoughtfully, “Now, what was it... ah! Yes! The stripping of titles, and holdings, and either imprisonment or exile... purely at the current monarch’s discretion of course.” She smiled sweetly.

The pers

## Chapter 239 True Power

As soon as Linus was led away, the upper circle began to clear and Ann made her way to the exit. As she reached for the handle of the door, she was unable to get a grip on it as it was pushed forward with a furious force and she stepped back just in time to avoid the doors smashing into her face.

The furious figure of Cornelius stood before her, his face red with outrage as he opened and closed his mouth soundlessly. He held a shaking finger before him as he pointed at Ann, trembling with rage. “You... you...” He spluttered as Ann quickly overcame her shock and smiled innocently up at him.

“Careful now Cornelius, you should really be a little more careful with your blood pressure at your age,” She said with fake concern, pushing his outstretched arm down and looking up at him with wide, innocent eyes.

“This won’t stand you know...” He hissed, “You’ll get your comeuppance...”

“Yes, I’m

## Chapter 240 Girl’s Night

Ann had gotten herself changed quickly and was waiting for Lexi to come and let her know when she had changed so they could both go and collect Aoife for the girl’s night.

They had decided to hit one of the quieter bars in the Enclave the Omega's that took care of it had already excitedly announced that they would take care of the food and drink for the evening. Ann had tried to insist that they would pay for everything, but the Omega's were uncharacteristically stubborn.

They had even arranged for the bar to be closed to all males for the evening so that the women could let their hair down and relax without fear of being judged.

Not that any of them really cared what the elders thought, but it would be a nice change not to have to worry about any rumors originating from men that really should know better at their age.

The female elders tended to be much more open-minded and