

A. Nocturne's 41

Chapter 41 See Something You Want, Princess

"Yeah, she's drained though. I couldn't get much sense out other... but she was adamant that she didn't push to take over. She said... it was like she was forced forward."

Adam scowled. That didn't sound right... it sounded like something more was going on here.

Ann yawned loudly and she smiled sheepishly at him. "Sorry, I don't know why I'm so tired." She murmured as she fought to keep her eyes open and stretched languidly.

The sensuous curves of her body stretched out into those positions had a devastating effect on Adam.

His eyes darkened and his c*oc*k strained at his trousers. HE clenched his jaw as he turned toward the bathroom,

"Let me run you a bath. At least then you'll be fully relaxed and hopefully able to sleep well. It's been a hell of a day for you."

Ann chuckled.

"You know, my life seemed to be exceedingly simple before I met you, Adam." She shouted after his disappearing back.

of answer as the sound of running

to stand and make her way through. Adam confused

cold and unrelenting Alpha, yet here he was, protecting her fiercely when she was at her weakest and now, running her

like a contract marriage

picked up a babydoll-style nightdress out of the drawers that held some of her clothes and made

to change into more comfortable clothes before she

eyes raked over his body dragging along the sculpted lines of his chest, and down to the defined V-Line that disappeared into the waistband of his

at the bulge in his boxers. She knew exactly what lay in there, and how good it had felt inside

seemed to erupt in b*ttterflies as her mind replayed their steamy sessions and

k*il*I to have him inside of her again. A light growl forced her eyes upwards and she met the darkened eyes of Adam,

you want, princess?" He asked huskily as he watched her

moment before she nodded and

"Yes... yes, I do."

of the lines of her body, but now, with this s*e*xual confidence she

chest slowly, lightly dragging her nails across his skin and sending delicious shivers

waistband of his trousers and she wrapped her little hand around his c*oc*k, stroking it gently at first but at the sound of Adams's

as he brought one

as she bit his chest

“Then I suppose you’ll have to f*uc*k me... my Alpha...” She purred into his ear as her dress fell away and dropped to the floor.

Adam attacked her lips fiercely as he kneaded her. He forced his tongue into her mouth as he rolled her nipples between his fingers and she moaned into him. His c*oc*k pulsed wildly in her hands as she stroked him and all he could think about was burying himself inside that sweet cave in between her legs.

Ann pulled away suddenly and looked up at him with a heated gaze from under her lashes. That look could drive a man wild. It was all he could do not to bend her over and bury his c*oc*k inside her.

Before he registered what was happening she was on her knees before him and with a sultry look, she opened her mouth and wrapped her lips around his c*oc*k.

He hissed in as she moved up and down the , wrapping her tongue around it and using her hands to massage the base of his and cupping his balls.

“Ah, fuuuck..”

He felt her lips tighten as she smiled around him and as she bobbed backward and forwards as if her life depended on it.

Adam couldn’t help himself and fisted her hair in his hands as he took hold of her head and controlled the motion, f*uc*king her mouth with as much restraint as he could muster.

She moaned as he pushed his c*oc*k deeper and deeper into her mouth until he finally hit the back of her throat and before he lost control he pulled out of her mouth, panting slightly as he gazed down at her with dark eyes. Ann pouted up at him and he chuckled.

“Did you not like it?” She asked.

"I f*uc*king loved it, princess, but I don't want to hurt you. There's no way you're ready for me to slide down your throat just yet, but if that's what you want, then we'll work on it together, okay?"

Chapter 42 I'll Fill You Completely

Ann nodded as he lifted her suddenly and stepped over the side of the bath, lowering them both into the tub below.

She struggled to turn to face him and he f0rced her to remain still, her back pressed against his chest as his c*oc*k twitched at her entrance.

Adam reached his hands across her body and paid attention to her n*pples, squeezing and tweaking as she m*oa*ned loudly under his touch, squirming delightfully and arcing her body against his.

He kissed her neck as each time she squirmed she sank lower and his c*oc*k entered her torturously slowly. "Say the words, Ann, and I'll fill you completely." "Oh... Alpha... I... f*uc*k.."

Adam moved one hand down her body and began to circle her throbbing nub as she bucked wildly against his touch.

"Say it, princess..."

As she m*oa*ned and whined pitifully against him, spasming at the delightful shivers he sent through her body she suddenly reached back and grabbed a fistful of his hair.

"f*uc*k me, Adam... Fill me... all of me..."

That was all he had been waiting for. He slammed her hips downwards as he thrust upwards and she let out a wail of as he continued to circle her mound and pumps her from below furiously.

over the side of the bathtub but neither of them cared. Ann lifted her legs up and over the side of the bathtub so that Adam

his c*oc*k, all of it, inside of her, deeper, harder and faster. Feeling him thrusting in and out of her was the best feeling in the world and she couldn't seem to get enough of it. Her

picked her up and bent her

pinched and tweaked her n*pples and ma*s*saged her sensitive bud as he

growled appreciatively and as Ann felt her climax build yet again the pace

her climax for the second time, he took hold of her hips and slammed her roughly

her as Ann tried to push herself up weakly from the side of the

okay there, Alpha?" She murmured as

for a little while, simply pulling her up against him, her back to his chest, and wrapping

I'll ever get enough of that tight little p*uss*y of

into a seated position in

his head gently and stared at her intently as he slipped a hand

his fingers slip inside of her as his thumb began

darkly as her head tipped

and... I think

next morning had gone wild with the drama from the ceremony last night. Ann sighed as she turned her notifications off and put the

house and it was a little irritating. As soon as Adam entered the room and sat down, sending a

smiled at him as he reached across and refilled her

you still going to work

away won't fix

Adam nodded slowly.

"You know, I've been looking at expanding seriously into real estate that caters to all species..." He said carefully, eyeing her shrewdly.

Ann grinned as she sipped her coffee.

"And what? What does that have to do with me?"

Adam sat back in his chair and a lazy smile spread across his face.

"I mean... we could always use a department head for the project."

Ann scoffed loudly.

"I think I'll stay where I am thanks. CEO of my own department. Our offices may be in my father's building, but that's only because it's under the family umbrella. If I wanted to, I could easily branch out and start my own company."

“Is that so? That would put you in direct competition with me though, wouldn’t it?”

“I’m already in direct competition with you in this department, Adam. If you’re wanting that to change, then I guess you’ll have to make it worth my while...” She smirked, raking her eyes over his body as she bit her lower lip.

Adam blinked in surprise for a moment before he snorted.

“I’m sure I can come up with something...” He grinned as his eyes filled with a lustful fire.

Chapter 43 The Lack Of A Mating Mark

Adam insisted on driving Ann to work and as she looked at his profile as he focused on the road, her heart seemed to leap a little bit.

She still hadn’t found the right moment to discuss with him Lexi’s offer and the way things were going, it would probably be better to tackle the issue sooner rather than later.

There was only so long that they could both wear high-collared or high-necked clothing, people would start to get suspicious.

“Adam... I may have found an option to consider regarding the lack of a mating mark.” Ann started hesitantly.

“Oh? You’ve had more luck than Allen and I at least. Wherever we looked we drew blanks.” He frowned. “I suppose there’s not really a good reason to fake a mating mark is there?” He grimaced.

Ann chuckled despite her nervousness.

“Well, we aren’t entirely sure that you’re going to like the option...”

“Who’s we?” Adam interrupted quickly, “This cannot go any further, Ann. If anyone finds out...”

“Relax, Adam. I only spoke with Lexi. She’s a hybrid with a unique parentage that might actually be able to help us out with this.”

Adam was quiet for a little while before he grunted. “Okay. What sort of hybrid?”

Ann said as she watched Adam grip the

don’t like where

fiercely at him and folded

She would never do anything to hurt me. So, by proxy, that includes you as well. At least hear me

explain the plan that

Adam looked like he wanted to punch a hole in the

a chance.” He snarled furiously as they screeched to a

her seat belt and faced him with a

this contracted marriage, I merely offered myself as an

your help, thank you, Luna.”

soon as the car door shut, he put his foot down

herself as she made her way up the company steps and

she done the right thing by talking

the right thing. He's just

see?' Ann smiled. 'Barely. I feel like I've been hit by a minotaur.'

even exist anymore?'

the universe. Who knows?'

better

was awake, she still wasn't fully with it. The

this lethargy, wasn't actually anything new. It was more extreme than what had happened before, but during her time living at the palace, Maeve had always slept or been unreachable when

Was this connected somehow??

She didn't get much further with that thought though, because as soon as she entered the lobby she was swarmed by reporters.

It took a moment to register what was going on in front of her before Ann managed to successfully school her face into a welcoming smile.

She stood and allowed them to take photo's as the guards that Adam had installed in her offices rushed down and forced their way through the crowd.

“Sorry Luna, we didn’t know...” They apologized as soon as they were close enough.

“It’s fine. It’s not your fault. I was expecting it after last night honestly...” She smiled tightly. This was insane.

“Miss Veritas! Tell us how you and Alpha Nocturne met!”

“Miss Veritas! What’s the truth behind your and Brad’s relationship?”

‘Princess! Do your business interest still align with those of your father!’

Ann smiled as she waited for the questions to die down and held her hand up in front of her to indicate for them to wait.

“Yes, it’s true about my step-sister and Brad. I made the decision to reject the mate bond based on the fact that if he couldn’t be loyal to his mate, then how could he be loyal to his duties as a future Alpha King?”

The excited chatter rose once again and again she waited for it to die down.

“My business interests are exactly that, business. What happens in my personal life, or within the family will not ever affect the day-to-day running of my business. Yes, I am still currently under the Veritas umbrella, but that may change in the future. Who knows? As it is though, I have work to attend to. If you wish to schedule a formal interview then please, contact the press office to make an appointment. Until then, please accept that this is a work environment and your presence here is interfering with people’s livelihoods.”

With that, Ann nodded to her guards and they escorted her up to her office.

She breathed a sigh of relief as Eva greeted her with her usual enthusiasm and handed her a coffee. She walked alongside her as they made their way to her office, with the guards following behind her at a respectful distance.

Chapter 44 The Witchcraft

She drew quite a few stares, more so than usual, but she shrugged it off. There wasn't much that she could do about it but hope that the furor died down.

She had spoken the truth and it remained to be seen how her father would deal with it.

As the office door closed behind her and she shrugged her jacket off, she noticed a neatly wrapped parcel on her desk, wrapped as if it were a gift.

There was no card or anything attached to the boxes so she had no idea where they had appeared from.

Ann sat slowly and stared at them for a long time before Maeve's taunting became too much and she leaned forward with a sigh and opened the first box.

She gasped as the light reflected brilliantly off the beautiful stones set among the designs and suddenly felt her eyes fill with tears.

The boxes held the jewelry that had been handed over to her step-sister last night, as well as the pieces that her mother had worn when she was Luna Queen.

Ann sobbed emotionally as she held the pieces in her hands and a wave of grief washed over her. This was all she had left of both her mother and grandmother.

Just then, her office phone rang and she quickly composed herself before answering.

"Ann?"

She froze as she recognized her father's heavy voice and her breath caught in her chest.

just wanted to let you know that I'm sorry. I should never have handed those over to Ada. It was wrong. Those are yours by right and just because my wife desires me to do something, it doesn't mean

silence passed between them as he

to forgive me, just... know that

coldly, before hanging up and staring blankly at the wall in front

time he stood up for us and did what's right.'?Maeve snarled as she nodded

that she had the heirlooms of her mother and grandmother meant more than she would ever

step in the

I was wondering... what does my father's wolf think about

Why are you asking me this now?'?Maeve

his wolf didn't agree with his actions at all. He was

Maeve snorted.

his wolf stopped talking. I tried for years, Ann, YEARS

her head. This couldn't just be a coincidence, could it? 'What are you thinking?'?Maeve asked

a second. When we lived with them, you were quiet. I barely heard from you

was tired...'?Maeve

but my father... you aid you couldn't reach his wolf at

but that's because he's an

remember that night at all

how it was,'? Maeve snapped. 'I think you're reading into this too much.' 'But, what if I'm not? What if, somehow, they're the cause

Maeve snorted.

a werewolf whisperer and possibly a werewolf seductress... don't be stupid, Ann.' 'It's not stupid, Maeve! If witchcraft and daemon magicks can fake a mate bond and mark, what else can it do? Perhaps...'?Ann chewed

She didn't care that Maeve thought she was reaching. In her mind, all of these coincidences were too similar and too close to home to not be related.

'Say you're right...' Maeve said hesitantly, 'What then?' 'What do you mean?'

'Regardless of the fact that your father will probably be removed from his position, it would also mean that Brad was indeed powerless to react to that b*tches advances. Men are weak. Wolves are not... and his wolf wanted no part of it... but he couldn't get through to him.'

Ann felt Maeve's guilt wash over her.

'Maeve, relax. If it wasn't the right decision, then the moon goddess would have punished us as well. There was no retribution. Perhaps this was fated...'

Maeve snarled angrily.

'If any of this is true, Ann, I intend to rip them apart.' 'I know, Maeve... I know.'

Ann had been in the middle of a conference call when Adam arrived at her office. He waited patiently outside of the office until she had finished.

Eva gestured towards her office with a grin and he stood up, nodding in acknowledgment towards her, and made his way in.

Ann smiled as he entered and stifled a chuckle at the sheepish expression on his face.

"Everything okay?" she asked with her head cocked and a quizzical expression on her face.

"I was kind of abrupt this morning. I wanted to apologize. You were trying to be helpful and I was angry with you for it. I didn't know Lexi was part Daemon." he said finally.

Ann sighed and clasped her hands together on the desk in front of her.

"Does it matter? Lexi is not her parents, and her parents are not what history has described of either race." Ann said tiredly.

Chapter 45 A Lot Of Odd Stuff

She hated this attitude. As welcoming as people were to hybrids in general, she wished the term would be abolished altogether. It led people to question their origins and when they did, they then judged them on their ancestry and not on them as an individual.

Adam nodded slowly.

"I know. I'm sorry. I've sought to change the lives of people within my pack and honestly, I've never had cause to question the lives of others outside my pack." "Well, Lexi is Lexi and she has our best interests at heart. Her mother died protecting her from hunters ironically enough. Her mother was the witch and her father the daemon if you were wondering. Not that it matters."

Adam took a seat in the chair opposite her.

“Her mother summoned him then?” He asked curiously. Ann snorted.

“God no. Her mother was a healer. Not all witches prance about n*ake*d and summon the chaos you know?” Ann sniggered.

“You’ll have to forgive me, I don’t have extensive knowledge of the other races as much as I would like to ...” Adam said, “It’s something I wanted to change actually... in the schools within the pack boundary. It’s difficult to find lectures of the races that are willing to attend a place filled with wolves.”

Ann nodded sadly. As much as the wolves were prejudiced against other races, the other races could also be horribly biased against the wolves too. Fae especially.

“Well, I’m sure Lexi wouldn’t mind discussing what she knows of her heritage with you. If you wanted more, then I guess I can ask her to reach out to some of her contacts.”

“There’s no rush. We have a good few years to refine the educational experience together.” Adam chuckled as Ann’s heart lurched at the thought of their time limit together.

“I wanted to take you to dinner though, by way of apology for my behavior this morning. You deserved better than that.”

gently

be good actually, but, do you mind if we go back and get changed first? I’d rather not mix business with and being in my work attire kinda spoils the

you in your work attire when he f*uc*ked

flushed furiously as she ignored her and

a problem. We can swing by and freshen up a little.” He grinned with

said firmly.

she didn’t know better she could have sworn that the barest trace of a pout sat on

him about your theory of the two b*tches... two witches... two WH*OREs... whatever you want

you think now is

that your father

reached for the boxes on her desk and placed her hands protectively on top

it was

his eyes suspiciously at the boxes. “Did somebody buy

look crossed his features. Suddenly Ann saw why people were terrified of him. At that moment, filled with anger, he looked as if he

jewelry. Unexpectedly, my father decided to return them to me and apologize for

his face dissipated, but a flicker of irritation remained

tried to regain his composure a little and forced a tight

be responsible for destroying something you hold dear just because of my wolf’s apparently

were contracted mates, not fated. There was no cause for him to be

he's enjoying finally getting his leg over.'

be jealous of anything, Adam. I have no interest in pursuing anything or

Adam's shoulders sagged a little and seemed to be appeased although his eyes were still sharp as he watched her intently.

Anne took a deep breath and exhaled slowly.

"Adam, I was chatting with Maeve earlier and I realized that there seems to be a lot of odd stuff happening around my stepmother and stepsister. In my mind, there's just too much for it to be simply a coincidence but she thinks I might be overreacting. So... I guess I just wanted to chat with you about it a bit before I decided what to do."

"Okay. Tell me what's bothering you." Adam said as he leaned back in the chair, his face suddenly serious.

Ann proceeded to explain her concerns and the more she spoke, the deeper Adam's frown became. He rubbed his chin thoughtfully as he mulled Ann's concerns over. "Ann, is there anything... ANYTHING at all that you remember when you changed at the banquet?" He asked seriously as his phone began to ring in his pocket.

Whilst Adam took the call, Ann racked her brains for any memories that remained of the night. It was as if every time she tried to grasp onto them, they slipped away from her, remaining out of reach.

Then suddenly she had it.

She slapped the table with her hands and stood up abruptly, her sudden movement startling Adam slightly. She looked at him with an expression of triumph as he quickly hung the call-up and she snorted loudly in disbelief at the fragment she had remembered.

“Oh my goddess, Adam. It was them! Narcissa and Ada! They forced my change!” she exclaimed indignantly. “Are you sure?” Adam growled as he stood warily as if she might attack him at any second.

“I’m positive, Adam! I’m having a hard time remembering anything from that night if I’m honest, but, right after I changed and when Narcissa grabbed hold of Ada, she asked her what she had done.”

Ann paced angrily around the side of her desk as Adam rushed over to her and took hold of her shoulders firmly. “Ann, are you absolutely sure?”

“Yes! The f*uc*king b*tch... Narcissa asked what she had done and Ada said she didn’t mean to. Narcissa was furious with her... I know that look, I’ve been on the receiving end of it many times.” Ann said, her voice shaking in disbelief.

“If that’s the case then I think you might well be right in your a*s*s*sumptions that they had something to do with the inactivity of your wolf... and perhaps that of your fathers too.” Adam frowned.

“I’ll f*uc*king k*il*I them,” Ann growled as Maeve surged

Chapter 46 They forced My Change!

forward to sit at her side, the two of them staring out furiously of Ann’s eyes.

“No. Ann... wait... we can’t just go rushing headlong in there...”

“Why? Why can’t we? What if my father is in danger?” Ann protested loudly, pushing Adam away and grabbing her coat.

“Ann, be rational about this for a second. If they wanted your father dead, they could have done so a long time ago. I think he’s safe, for now.”

Ann snarled furiously.

“For now? Then I should stand by idly and do nothing while they carry on as normal and work towards whatever nefarious goal they have?!” She snapped. “What if you try to talk to your father?” Adam tried to reason with her. “Surely your father will listen...”

Ann scoffed loudly.

every other time I’ve tried. He didn’t even give a sh*t when my mother was

she gripped Adam for support. She swore loudly and her legs seemed to sag

have done it! Oh... I’m so stupid! I should have stopped them! I

perplexed by the whole situation. Seeing her so distraught and grief- stricken almost tore his heart in two and his wolf

to soothe the beast within whilst he supported her to sit

so stupid...” she whispered over and

not true. I promise you. There’s no way that you could

then but then suddenly it stopped... and

paused, staring blankly ahead as she

I would have seen it. At first, her wolf refused to be beaten and then... it went quiet... we lost our mother and our father the day that those bloods*ckers moved in.”

wasn’t often that Adam was lost for words, but he was angry... angrier than he had ever

human counterpart, it slowly went insane and if the human was lost inside the

that Ann bore witness to this as a child and somehow held herself

challenged him made him question the way the noble

How can an Alpha King govern effectively and oversee pack relations if he can't even keep his home affairs in order??

Regardless of whether or not he l*sted after this woman, he was mated and marked, a leader of his people, and he should have been stronger. He was morally weak and that was not acceptable.

"Your father must take his share of the blame too Ann. The responsibility does not lie with you alone." Adam growled as she lifted her tear-streaked face to stare up at him. <1

"And if he too, is cursed? Bewitched and vulnerable? You said it yourself, we wolves are not familiar with the ways of witches anymore... not since the Daemon wars, so there is no one for us to turn to for help. How would he have known?" Ann said softly.

Adam knew she was right. After all, it was the same reason that he could not find the origins of this curse. No one knew where to start looking anymore because the witches had secluded themselves away after hundreds of years of persecution.

Then it hit him.

"What about Lexi?" Adam asked flatly.

"What about her?" Ann asked her face a mask of confusion.

"She has both witch and daemon heritage doesn't she? Perhaps she will be able to answer the questions that we have."

Chapter 47 The Video

Ann pushed away from him and looked at him seriously. "I thought you didn't want to explore that side of her..." Adam sighed.

"I'm not saying I'll consent to the fake marking Ann... but I think it might be worth talking to her to see what she might know. Besides, if she can't help perhaps she knows someone who can."

Ann nodded sadly.

"Okay. I can message her to see when she's available." She said as she pulled her phone out to send her a message.

"Until then, Ann, we should stay quiet about this. At least until we know more." Adam said cautiously, watching for her reaction.

She scowled at him silently for a long time before she sighed heavily.

"Fine. I won't murder them in their beds just yet. I'll wait and see what we can find out. I know you're right Adam, it's just... they've taken so much from me, and I want justice for my mother."

Adam nodded grimly.

"Don't worry, my Luna. You'll get your justice, and when you do, I'll be right there with you."

Both Adam and Ann had agreed that dinner was probably not a good option for either of them tonight after the recent revelations.

in the back of the car with Adam's arm around Ann protectively as she leaned into him with her head on

to ask questions about

they arrived home they were greeted in the hallway by a small group of his

noticed the suspicious looks that they were giving Ann and he held her closer

We've been waiting for you." Tomas, the chief Elder said silkily as he stepped forward with

meeting that I had missed." Adam answered

his wolf was antsy and the behavior of the elders was distinctly out of character. The smiles they wore may be friendly on the surface, but the atmosphere was

quite place and Allen had picked up on it too, moving closer to the other side

we wanted to talk to you about." Tomas grinned again but

and turned to Allen, a momentary glance between them was all they

mind escorting Ann

at him with a look of confusion in her

took hold of her arm and began to walk past them, but Tomas was quicker and

would really like to speak with the Luna as well as the Alpha. I hope you understand."

fixed his intense gaze on Tomas, who shrank back slightly at

that my mate retires for the night and gets the rest that she needs." He said firmly as he nodded to Allen to continue

step in front of them again and Adam growled warningly as he reached out and took

overstepping, Tomas. What

the wolf barely contained beneath. He froze and a look of disdain flashed across his eyes briefly before he

that we should ask you the same thing, Alpha. Is it true

Adam blinked stupidly, momentarily shocked at the accusation.

“What?” he snorted in disbelief.

“Show him!” Tomas commanded imperiously with a smug smile.

Roland, another of the elders hurried over with his phone and held the screen so that Adam could watch the resulting video.

Adam watched silently as the video played.

It was an interview with Ada, framed as an apology video but really, if you read between the lines it was nothing but an excuse to throw baseless accusations toward both Ann and Adam.

After her apologizing for her conduct and blaming a night of drinking, she insisted that the family had come to an amicable agreement despite the circumstances and that Ann was happy with the arrangement.

She then went on to question whether or not Ann and Adam were mates as she hadn't seen a mating mark at the engagement ceremony and that it was a little unfair for her to receive such backlash for taking a chosen mate when her elder sister, the heir to the throne was also doing the same.

Adam was seething. Despite their flawless acting, it had taken that conniving little b*tch just a few words to put everything at risk.

Despite the emotions that whirled inside him, on the surface his face was impassive and his aura calm. If he gave the barest hint of anything other than offense and anger, they would know something was wrong.

When the video had finished Tomas shook himself free of Adam's grasp and seemed to glare triumphantly at him.

"Well, Alpha Nocturne? What do you have to say for yourself?" He questioned arrogantly.

Adam chuckled darkly.

Chapter 48 The Elders

"To start with I'm wondering why my council of Elders has time to sit around listening to idle gossip and the bullsh*t that the tabloids spew." He sneered as a look of uncertainty crossed Tomas's face.

"Secondly, I'm wondering who the f*uc*k has the audacity to question my mate bond with the woman that they bound to me and bound to the pack as their Luna. Just who the f*uc*k do you think you are Tomas?" Adam growled menacingly as he advanced toward him.

Adam allowed his wolf to surge forwards and sit side by side in his vision and the color drained from Tomas's face as the rest of the Elders backed away hurriedly.

Without wasting a second Adam snarled furiously and his arm snapped out in front of him, his fingers taking hold of Tomas's neck and propelling him backward until his back connected with the wall.

"Have I not always done things by the book, Tomas?" "Yes, Alpha!" He squeaked.

“Did I not wait for the appearance of my Luna before I took a woman to bed?” Adam snarled furiously.
“Yes, Alpha!”

“Then why the f*uc*k would I lie about this?” He questioned dangerously as Tomas struggled against his vicelike grip.

With a snarl of rage, he picked Tomas up and threw him back towards the group of Elders huddled together in fear.

“If you ever Luna again, I’ll do more than threaten you, do you understand?”

The majority of the Elders nodded furiously and apologized profusely whilst throwing furious glares toward Tomas who was struggling to get up from the position that he had landed in.

With a final furious glare, Adam turned to make his way to his room, where Ann waited for him, but a trembling voice from behind him stopped him in his tracks.

as much as you like Alpha, but if Princess Ann is not your mate, then I will not recognize

and sneered down at

to have to bare your mark for all to see, just to prove something to a withered old man?”

show the mark in the next few days then I will

in horror at Tomas’s arrogance. “And when she consents to this... degrading

away. His anger

a lie and lose the pack he had worked so hard to build or accept the help of a Daemon and a hybrid

an appealing option but he was caught between

sacrifices had to be made for the

in this state once before and it had resulted in a very messy cleanup. This time, he would prefer to avoid casualties

watched as Adam's fury rolled off him in waves and listened as Maeve snorted inside of

don't think

you be sure though?'?Ann

Maeve snorted again.

flex my fighting muscles? Believe me, if the alpha wants to throw a temper tantrum with me, I'll soon put him in his

her trepidation she stood and pushed

Adam whirled around and glared at them both with his

"Leave, Allen. Now."

to be safe with you, Adam?"

him angrily but

you give me

Allen's arm and smiled reassuringly at

met Maeve?"

After a moment's hesitation, Allen snorted and returned her smile.

"Fine. It's your funeral, Luna. Just shout if you need me, I'll be down the corridor in my own room."

She grinned at him as he left and shut the door behind him securely.

As she turned back to face Adam she could feel the wolf in him desperate to leave and run. Maeve whined in commiseration with him. She felt it too.

"Adam. What was that about?"

"I handled it, don't worry." he snapped.

Ann folded her arms in front of her and snorted.

"I didn't ask if you handled it, Adam, I asked what it was about." She answered confidently.

Adam growled in reply and Ann narrowed her eyes at him dangerously.

"Look, you can be as pissed as you like, Adam, I don't give a f*uc*k, to be honest, but I need to know what it was about so I can figure out what, if anything, I need to be doing to not exacerbate the matter. Do you understand?" She snapped.

Adam whirled towards her furiously.

"I said... I handled it." He forced out through gritted teeth as he advanced towards her.

Ann held her ground and met his gaze head-on, tilting her chin arrogantly toward him as he approached.

"Good for you. It might have escaped your notice but that still doesn't answer my f*uc*king question. What did the Elders want and why were they so insistent on speaking with me?"

Chapter 49 I'm Your Family Too

Adam came to a stop in front of her, so close that their noses almost touched. She could feel his heavy exhalations as he battled with his fury and she sighed, bringing her hands up to rest on his arms.

"Listen. We were supposed to be a team... that's what we contracted for. I can't help if I don't know what's going on."

The tension in the air was palpable for a few moments, the pressure that hung ominously above them was almost crushing, but with a sigh, it gradually began to dissipate.

He turned away abruptly and ran his fingers through his hair angrily.

"Your f*uc*king step-sister..." He growled, his tone still furious.

Ann laughed darkly, throwing her hands in the air in frustration.

"Of course, it is... why didn't I guess? What happened?"

Adam sank down on the sofa on the far wall and leaned heavily on the armrest, resting his forehead in the palm of his hand and not speaking for a while.

The silence extended between the two of them and when the deadly aura that rippled from him had dissipated completely, Ann made the decision to approach him, and sit next to him.

He had comforted her when she was distraught, the least she could do was return the favor. Adam was distraught in his own way, and now, she had to figure out how to comfort him as effectively as he had her.

the side of her. He didn't move it away and she began to run

she wasn't ready for the look of sadness that met

happened down there?" She asked almost breathlessly, feeling her breath catch in

sigh, he explained, and by the time he had finished, Ann didn't know whether or not she

a lucky guess? Or did they have someone

full details of their contract and they both trusted each one of them implicitly. There was

that... enthusiastic about

head his gaze

off. That's why I swore you to secrecy Ann. There's

she mulled his words over. "Then what do we do? Do you

Adam snorted.

years to get it to this point. These people depend on me."

as he stared into the distance and suddenly he turned to face her, his expression

say it, we have less than 2 days

action at all. She thought maybe he would come clean and try to talk his way around things, but instead..he had opted

She smiled softly.

she can to make it happen, Adam, don't worry. She's practical all the family I have left,

in his eyes

I'm

Ann chuckled softly.

"Yes, for the next few years at least, Adam. Let's not say more than that. I don't want to get my hopes up only to have them dashed again." She answered lightly.

Although her tone was light, her heart was racing. She was fully aware of the spark of longing that had started in her heart for this rugged man before her.

A terrifying figure to the outside world, yet soft, warm, and caring towards her. It was the stuff that dreams were made of and if she let herself fall for him, she was terrified that she would be cast aside yet again.

Adam said nothing, but his sullen expression remained. He looked as though he wanted to say something, but Ann spoke before he had the chance to.

“Let me message her. She’s probably sat in front of her computer drinking her body weight in alcohol right about now.”

Sure enough, Lexi had responded almost immediately and said she would arrange things with her dad and let them know in the next few hours.

Adam refused to leave the bedroom with Ann, in case they were accosted by the Elders or someone else that Tomas may have put up to it, and forced to reveal their secret.

They ended up ordering takeaway and staring blankly at the screen as a random selection from Netflix played while they ate.

They had just finished eating when Ann’s phone rang and Lexi’s name flashed up on the caller ID.

“Hey, trouble. I have a question for you...” Lexi greeted as Ann answered the phone.

“Sure, shoot. Ask me anything.” Ann replied with a grin. She had a feeling that she knew exactly where this was going and she smiled reassuringly at Adam as he sat forward eagerly, waiting to hear what she had to say. “Who has the best friend in the whole entire world?”

Ann snorted as Adam rolled his eyes and sagged back on the sofa.

Chapter 50 Any Side Effects

“Me, of course. You’re the most incredible person I’ve ever met and I’m truly honored to count you as my friend and chosen sister.”

“N’aaww. You’re way too kind, Ann, however, everything you just said is completely true.”

‘Tell her she’s insufferably arrogant too sometimes...’ Maeve offered helpfully as Ann sniggered

“Whatever you just said, Maeve... I love you too. Okay, enough chit-chat. It’s going to make me soft and we can’t have that. I spoke to pappa and he’s free to help but there’s one tiny problem.”

Ann's stomach sank.

"Lexi, can I put you on speakerphone? It would help if Adam could hear this too."

"Sure thing, I don't mind the big bad wolf listening in. It's mostly him that's probably going to have an issue with this anyway."

"What am I going to have an issue with exactly?" Adam asked warily.

phone." Lexi simpered excitedly, "Maeve... please tell me they've..." "Lexi! Please!"

cheeks blushed a furious shade of red as Lexi cackled on the

father can't actually leave his realm at the minute. So if you're needing it done quickly, we're going to have

an unreadable

been to the realm in question but from what Lexi

you won't have to leave the safety of Dad's residence. We might have to dodge the odd succubus or incubus or two, but they're

to be there for?"

sticking point is that you two are gonna have to do the nasty while we're down there ... not

shifted awkwardly in her seat as

Ann. Don't worry, it's simple. Get laid, bite each other, we can come into you immediately after and do what needs to be done, or you can come to us but immediately after you've bitten each other, we're going to have

if he were discussing a business deal and

too long though, Dad's a pro, he's been at it for millennia, soooo..." Lexi

there be any side effects

aren't sure. It's not like this is something that's done regularly you know? But we can return you to your residence immediately afterward. Dad's had a portalmancer for the past couple of centuries, they're pretty close as I understand it. So he can drop you straight off in your room if you want. That way, if anything

on Adam's face. She was positive that he'd never had anyone speak to him like Lexi did and it was most likely an

nodded his head slowly. "Okay. I

is it? I can't promise but

if is that something that you would be willing to share your knowledge on at some point. Or even if your father is open to discussing things at a later date. I don't know

Lexi was silent for a while before she answered, her voice a little less exuberant than before.

"I appreciate the offer, wolf-boy. Let me think about it though, okay? I grew up in an orphanage and I don't know how much help I can be. I just share the blood, I haven't manifested any abilities yet."

“Your experience in life is more than enough, Lexi. I want to learn about everyone and how their lives can be improved in our society as well as outside of it. I think it would be helpful for future generations, but please, take all the time you need to think about it.”

“Well... alright then,” Lexi said, clearly flustered.

It was rare for her to be spoken to as an equal and Ann knew full well that she had indeed manifested her abilities, but she chose not to use them.

“Thank you, Lexi. If there’s anything that we can do for you...” Ann offered warmly.

“Ha! I’ll hold you to that! Okay, I’ll get you both scheduled for collection tomorrow afternoon, okay? You can let yourself in at mine Ann, it’ll be less conspicuous for you both I think.”

Ann and Adam agreed and after a little more small talk, they ended the call.

Adam sat back heavily on the sofa and rested his head back on the cushions.

“Are you okay?” Ann asked tentatively.

“Yeah. Just trying to process that this time tomorrow I’ll most likely be f*uc*king you in the underworld while your best friend’s daemon daddy waits for me to shoot my load inside of you so that he can swoop in and cast his magick on us.”