

Alpha-less 161

Chapter 161 She Is a Monster

"What do you even want? Ysabel's fine! It was just a scrape! Are you seriously going to kill me over that?"

Winona still refused to believe that Tessa would actually kill someone.

"Tessa, I'm warning you, there are cameras in the hallway. Touch me and see what happens." Winona was actually scared, but in front of Tessa-the useless freak without a wolf-she refused to back down.

From the moment Winona was born, she believed that she was the pride of the Sinclair family, the hope of the Frostmoon Pack. Yet somehow, Tessa-a pathetic girl who couldn't even awaken her wolf-ended up with Grandpa's favor, shares in Sinclair Corp, and all those incredible men around her.

To Winona, Tessa was nothing but a defective failure! No matter how tough she acted, that would never change!

Tessa stepped closer, one step at a time.

She reached out and grabbed Winona's neck.

Winona couldn't breathe.

Murderous intent poured from Tessa's entire body, a rage that came from the depths of her soul. Her eyes glowed faintly red, her fingers hard as steel as they locked around Winona's throat.

"Kill you? Winona, do you think I've never killed anyone before? I told you, if you want to live peacefully, stay far away from me. But why can't you understand that? I haven't even made you pay for what happened five years ago, and now you keep jumping around in front of me. What is it? Are you really not afraid to die?"

Winona felt an overwhelming force holding her down. She couldn't fight back at all. The hand around her throat tightened slowly, and she could only watch as the air slipped further and further away from her.

The choking was unbearable. In that moment, she could feel how close death really was.

She was truly terrified. She never expected Tessa to go this far on school grounds.

She tried to summon her wolf to shift forms, but found the connection completely severed.

She couldn't access her wolf, couldn't shift. She was like prey with its throat in a predator's jaws, completely at Tessa's mercy.

She was really going to die.

Winona thrashed wildly, waving her hands, desperate to escape Tessa's grip.

Winona was too scared. The girl in front of her was terrifying.

Just when Winona thought it was over, Tessa finally let go.

"Remember this. Don't show up in front of me again. And stay away from Ysabel too. Next time, it won't be

this simple."

longer, she would've died.

The fear, the suffocation-it was still wrapped around her.

Tessa really had tried to kill her.

And she could've done it easily, without giving her a chance to fight back.

Even after Tessa had been gone for a long time, Winona still couldn't shake the terror.

She fumbled for her phone and called Connor.

When he saw her name, Connor hung up and went back to reading his documents.

But not a second later, the phone rang again.

In the end, Connor answered. No matter what, Winona had once saved his life, so he tried to help her whenever he could.

"Connor, help me... I'm dying," Winona sobbed as soon as the call connected.

Connor frowned. "What happened? Where are you? Don't panic, I'm coming now."

He drove straight to Navoris High. The security guard at the gate wouldn't let him in, so he got out and walked to the building.

When he saw Winona collapse at the bottom of the stairs, his eyes turned ice cold.

The moment she saw him, Winona burst into tears.

"Connor, I thought I'd never see you again. I really thought I was going to die." She was trembling from head to toe. Her fear was real.

So she called the one person she most wanted to rely on-Connor.

She wanted his sympathy. She wanted him to care. And she wanted him to finally

see Tessa for who she really was-a monster who didn't deserve his love.

Chapter 162 A Perfect Match

Connor saw the bruises on Winona's neck and frowned deeply.

"Winona, tell me what exactly happened?"

Winona, who had already awakened as a wolf, should've been able to heal from ordinary wounds by now.

But the marks on her neck were still so clear-it was obvious this wasn't a normal injury.

"Connor, I was so scared. I really thought I was going to die."

Seeing Winona shaking all over, Connor couldn't bear it. He picked her up in his arms.

"I'm taking you to the hospital first. We'll talk after you get checked out."

Winona wrapped her arms around Connor's neck as he carried her downstairs. "Connor, don't leave me... I'm really scared to be alone."

Connor didn't respond. Between him and Winona, he knew he couldn't give her everything she wanted.

The twelfth-grade students saw the tall, handsome Connor carrying Winona away and began whispering among themselves.

"Oh my goodness! That guy is so hot!"

"You don't know him? That's Connor Lawson, heir to the Thunder Pack's next

Alpha! He's a legend from Navoris High. People say he and Winona are a couple."

"Yeah, I heard that too. I also heard Tessa has a thing for Connor."

"Tessa? Please. She's delusional. Why would someone like Connor ever look at a disgrace like her?"

"Seriously, Connor and Winona are such a perfect match!"

"He is carrying Winona! I'm so jealous. I wish he was carrying me!"

"Why do you think Winona got hurt? Could it be Tessa? She's always been jealous of her, right?"

"A loser with no wolf, who was already fooling around with Rogues at twelve? She's got no right to be jealous of Winona!"

"I think it was Tessa too. You didn't see how pale Winona looked. Tessa might not have a wolf, but they say she's got all kinds of strange tricks."

"Tessa is seriously nasty!"

"Shut

up, all of you! Say one more word and I'll rip your mouths off." Ysabel couldn't take it anymore.

Connor? What is so great about him? As if Tessie would ever like someone like that. Uncle Landon is way better than Connor in every way!

"Ysabel, you should stay away from that girl. She even attacked her own sister!"

Ysabel was born into the most powerful family-the Thornes-and raised with a proper education.

She didn't know how to curse, so she just told them to shut up.

+8 Pearls

Tessa walked over and glanced coldly at the group of girls.

"Connor? Like I'd ever be into him." Tessa said calmly, then helped Ysabel away.

"Tessie, don't let what they said get to you," Ysabel said with concern.

She knew Tessa was brave, but hearing those words still made her heart ache a little.

"I'm not bothered. And yeah, it was me who dealt with Winona."

She did it, and she wasn't afraid to admit it.

"Was it because of me?" Ysabel had a feeling Winona deserved it anyway.

"Nah, I just didn't like her. Come on, let's go back to class." Tessa helped Ysabel

back to the classroom- fourth period was about to begin.

After hearing that Winona got hurt, Yardley and Lila rushed over.

When they saw that Connor was also there, they finally relaxed a little.

Connor had been acting distant toward Winona lately, and they were worried the relationship had changed.

But seeing him here by her side meant he still cared.

"Thank you, Connor," Yardley said.

Connor only nodded and moved away from the bedside.

"Winnie, what happened? How did you get hurt like this?"

"Mom, it was Tessie. I don't even know why she did it." Winona sobbed.

"What? Tessa? That girl's completely out of control!" Yardley snapped. "What does she even want?"

"Dad, I really don't know..." Winona looked innocent.

She snuck a glance at Connor, trying to figure out where he stood in all of this.

Chapter 163 She Was Terrifying

Connor furrowed his brow deeply. "Winona, I think there must be some kind of misunderstanding here. Tessa isn't a bad kid."

"Connor, you don't believe me? Are you saying I'm falsely accusing her?" Winona's eyes filled with tears. How could he not believe me?

"I just feel like Tessa isn't a bad person. Besides, she hasn't even awakened her

wolf. How could she cause you this kind of injury that won't heal?"

"So you mean I'm framing her?" Winona's tears fell instantly, her expression delicate and pitiful.

"I really don't know how Tessa had the strength to hurt me like this, but the truth is, she's the one who did it!"

"Alright, I'll look into this myself. You should just stay home and rest for the next few days. Don't go back to school." Connor sounded frustrated. He clearly didn't want to keep talking about it.

"Connor..."

I'm already in the hospital, and he still won't stay with me?

"Winnie, Connor just got back to the country. He still has a lot of things to take care of. Don't bother him anymore."

After Yardley said that, she got up to walk Connor out.

Only Lila and Winona remained in the hospital room.

"Winnie, was it really Tessie?"

Winona looked at her mother with hurt in her eyes. "Mom, what do you mean? Do you think I'm making it up too?"

"I don't mean that. I just have the same doubt as Connor. Tessa hasn't awakened her wolf, how could she hurt you like this?" Lila, like Connor, didn't quite believe her.

"I just don't want you and your sister to fall out over a man."

"I'm not lying!" Winona was furious. Even her own mother didn't believe her.

"Alright, fine. If you're not lying, then just drop it. From now on, don't mess with Tessa anymore. Focus on staying with Connor and get him to propose as planned."

Lila still didn't believe her.

After all, it really went against everything they knew about how the werewolf world worked. In the end, Lila chose to believe what made sense to her. She thought this whole thing was something Winona staged herself. A way to get Connor's attention and make Tessa look bad.

Winona was even angrier. Her mother clearly still didn't believe her!

Even without awakening her wolf, her power had been overwhelming-so overwhelming that Winona hadn't been able to fight back at all.

She was sure that Tessa really would've killed her.

Connor returned to the Thunder Pack, hoping to help his uncle, the Alpha, with

official matters, but no matter what he did, he couldn't calm down.

So, he drove aimlessly around Navoris. By the time it hit five o'clock, he still couldn't stop himself from pulling up in front of Navoris High.

He stayed in the car, waiting. Last time, he hadn't had a chance to properly talk to Tessa. Today, he thought they needed to.

Finally, after finishing three major lab experiments, Kevin let Nico and Tessa go.

Nico and Tessa stepped out for dinner, only to spot Connor's car.

"What is it?" Nico asked when he saw Tessa suddenly stop walking.

As soon as he saw her come out, Connor pushed open the door, stepped out with his long legs, and walked toward her.

"Tessa, have dinner with me," he said. There were things he really needed to say to her face.

Nico gave the man a once-over.

This man clearly has a strong presence. Isn't he Winona's boyfriend? What is he doing here, looking for Tessa?

"You're here to ask why I hurt Winona, right? Forget dinner, I'll tell you right now." Tessa's tone was icy. "I hurt her because I couldn't stand her. I wanted to shut her up. So? Does that answer satisfy you? If it does, you can leave."

As she spoke, a faint chill seemed to radiate from her body, like a cold wind in winter, distant and sharp.

And hidden in that chill was a trace of pressure, subtle but unmistakable-strong enough to make even Connor, the heir of the Thunder Pack Alpha, pause for just a moment.

Chapter 164 Seeing You Ruins My Appetite

Connor came back to his senses, his tone a little humble. "Tessa, I really have something to say to you. Can. you not be like this? Can't we even just have a meal together?"

"Sorry, but seeing you ruins my appetite."

A sharp pain twisted in Connor's chest. Have things between us really gotten this bad?

"I know you can't let go of what happened five years ago. Don't worry, I'll make things right for you."

"Connor, I don't need you meddling in my business. Make things right? Who do you think you are, some legendary werewolf hunter from the western law enforcement division?"

"Tessa, let's go. We'll be late for evening class," Nico spoke up, reminding her that they still hadn't had dinner.

Tessa nodded and left with him.

Connor leaned against the car door, feeling completely defeated.

Tessa wasn't giving him a single chance. No matter what he said, she wouldn't listen.

A few girls who were close to Winona noticed Connor had come looking for Tessa, and they immediately texted Winona to report it.

Then they walked right up to Connor. "Mr. Connor, you're back! You have to stand up for Winnie! Tessa is awful. You don't even know how arrogant she is all the time."

"Yeah! She bullies Winnie every single day. She must be jealous of you and Winnie being together."

"Totally. Mr. Connor, Tessa's really terrible."

Hearing them all slander Tessa, Connor felt a tightness in his chest.

Over the years, she had endured so much on her own, carrying everything by herself.

And what was worse was that after everything that happened back then, he had just left, leaving her to face it all alone.

"Heh," Connor scoffed coldly. "I'd love to know how an unawakened werewolf like Tessa supposedly bullied Winona, who awakened ages ago."

His voice was full of sarcasm. A faint pressure of high-ranked werewolf energy leaked from him, and the air around them seemed to freeze slightly. The girls shivered without realizing it.

"Don't let me hear any more bad words about Tessa from your mouths. Also, I'm not in a relationship with

Winona."

"Mr. Connor..."

The girls stared in disbelief.

just going to leave her?"

They were all furious.

Connor didn't want to waste another second arguing with them. He turned and got into the car, his heart full of frustration.

At the hospital, Winona had just received the text. Her pheromones were in chaos, and she was so angry she threw her phone at the wall. It hit with a loud crack and fell to the floor, the screen shattered.

"Tessa!" Winona gritted her teeth.

Why does she always have to mess up my life? Why can't she just have died in Falindale?

Winona's pretty face twisted with rage.

Her nails grew longer without her noticing, turning into sharp claws. The hostility

of a werewolf leaked from her body uncontrollably. She wanted nothing more than to tear Tessa to pieces.

The next day at lunch, Tessa didn't go eat with Ysabel. She made an excuse and left campus.

She was going to Thorne Corp to find Landon.

Just a moment ago, Lina had told her she finally found out who hired the werewolf mercenaries that attacked Landon in Falindale.

It wasn't the mysterious organization Tessa had suspected, but the person behind

it still wasn't simple. Lina had spent a lot of time tracing it back.

The moment she got the news, Tessa wanted to tell Landon so he could stay alert.

Chapter 165 You Were Worried About Me

Tessa had just arrived at Thorne Corp when she was stopped by the receptionist, who refused to let her in no matter what she said.

Left with no choice, Tessa called Landon.

At that moment, Landon and the others were already having lunch at Jade Pavilion.

When he got Tessa's call, Landon was pleasantly surprised and instantly in a good mood.

"Mr. Thorne, where are you? I'm in the lobby at Thorne Corp, are you

here?"

"You're at Thorne Corp? I'll be right there!"

Landon hung up, grabbed his suit jacket, and headed out.

"Alpha, we haven't even started eating. Where are you going?" Nathaniel stood up right away and followed him.

"You guys enjoy it. I've got something to handle. I'm heading back to Thorne Corp."

Cameron, Hudson, and Nathaniel all fell silent.

No need to guess, if Alpha was going back, it definitely had something to do with Tessa. He was prioritizing love over friends again.

"Miss, Thorne Corp isn't a place for you to mess around. Please leave, alright?"

"I get it-our Alpha, Mr. Thorne, is hard to resist. But he's really not interested in women. Just go already!"

The receptionist instinctively thought Tessa was like all the other female werewolves who had come with excuses to get close to Alpha.

But she didn't expect this boldness from a high school student who hadn't even graduated. Completely clueless about the real world.

Just as Landon walked in, he overheard what the receptionist was saying.

Hearing that kind of talk in front of the girl he liked, Landon's expression darkened.

"Alpha?"

The receptionist was startled. She hadn't expected Landon to return at that moment. Her voice caught in her throat.

"Alpha, this girl insisted she was here to see you. I was just about to escort her out," she finally said.

"No need. Let's go. 90th floor." Landon gave the order. "This is Ms. Sinclair. From now on, if she comes to see me, bring her directly to the 90th floor."

spaces were a big deal.

"Exactly! Even the madam from the Thorne family has to call Alpha before she can go up!"

"Don't tell me she's really Alpha's girlfriend? I've never heard anything about Alpha having a girlfriend. Don't freak me out!"

Tessa followed Landon into the executive elevator and went straight to 90th floor.

Landon brought her into his private suite and asked someone to bring in some food.

"Why did you come all of a sudden? You haven't eaten yet, right? Let's eat together." Landon personally set the table for her.

Tessa placed her hand over his and said seriously, "Do you know who sent those werewolf mercenaries to assassinate you in Falindale?"

Landon paused. "Yeah. I know."

"You've known all along?" Tessa was surprised.

Landon gave a cold laugh. "It's not like this was their first time trying to kill me."

Hearing that Landon already knew who was behind it, Tessa felt relieved.

"You came here just to tell me that?" he asked.

Tessa nodded.

Landon's mood brightened even more. "You were worried about me?"

"Yeah."

Landon couldn't help ruffling her hair with affection. "Now that that's out of the way, can we eat?"

Now that she had said what she needed to, Tessa sat down and started eating with him.

She'd helped Lina with a case the night before and barely slept. She'd felt drowsy all day.

Seeing how tired she was, Landon said, "Go take a nap. I'll wake you at two."

"I should just head back."

"Go lie down. I'll take you back later."

Tessa didn't argue. She walked into the bedroom like she'd been there a hundred times and lay down on Landon's big bed.

The room was decorated in cool tones. The sheets and comforter were black and made of the highest quality materials. It felt incredibly comfortable.

At some point, she actually fell asleep on his bed.

She slept deeply.

When Landon came in and saw her sound asleep on his bed, he felt a deep sense of satisfaction.

But when he saw the pained expression on her face, his heart clenched.

Chapter 166 You Are Too Irresistible

Is she having a nightmare? Why does her face look so full of pain?

Landon walked over and knelt on the bed, holding one of Tessa's hands. With his other hand, he gently patted her shoulder.

In her nightmare, Tessa suddenly felt a sense of peace. The pain on her stunning face faded, replaced by a sweet calm.

Landon stayed in that position for a long time.

Only after making sure she was sound asleep did he get off the bed. He stood at the edge, just watching her.

It turned out that simply standing there, looking at her, brought him a deep sense of satisfaction.

Tessa didn't expect to sleep so well.

When she woke up, it was already 3:30. As she stepped out of the room, she saw Landon working in the living room.

He was completely focused when he worked, and Tessa didn't want to bother him. She planned to quietly leave on her own. But just as she took two steps, he looked up.

"Come here."

She didn't even know why-Tessa was never someone who liked being ordered around.

But this time, she quietly walked over to him.

Landon held out his hand. Tessa didn't understand. Seeing how confused she looked, Landon chuckled with delight.

He pulled her to sit down beside him.

"Don't worry. I already asked for leave for you. You don't need to go to school this afternoon."

"Didn't we agree you'd wake me up when it was time? Why didn't you?" Tessa's voice was still lazy and drowsy from just waking up. It had a unique charm.

Landon couldn't help but pull her into his arms and kiss her on the cheek. "You're just too irresistible."

Tessa looked up at him. That look on her face stirred something even deeper in his heart.

He leaned in and kissed her lips.

Tessa froze, shocked, staring at him.

"Mr. Thorne..."

"Don't let other men touch you. If they do, I'll lose my mind."

And all of his self-control collapsed in front of her.

Tessa blushed from her cheeks to the tips of her ears.

Her shy expression pleased him. Landon felt like he was in a great mood.

Tessa glared at him, trying to climb off his lap.

If anyone came in and saw the two of them like this, they'd definitely start getting ideas!

"Let go of me."

Tessa was annoyed. Of course, she knew Landon had ulterior motives toward her.

+8 Pearls

But up until now, he had still been fairly polite. She had forgotten-at his core, this man was a fierce and powerful Alpha wolf.

Once he set his sights on something, he would use every bit of patience and strategy to pursue it until his "prey" was completely his.

Landon locked her in his arms.

"Did you hear me clearly? There are too many males around you. I don't want to wait anymore."

There were so many strong and talented male wolves trying to win her over. He couldn't help but worry she might be taken away.

"I didn't hear clearly. What gives you the right to ask that of me?"

Hearing her say that, Landon tightened his grip.

"Tessa..."

But seeing the stubbornness on her face, he could only let out a sigh.

In the end, he couldn't even bring himself to raise his voice at her. Landon personally walked her out.

It was work hours, and many people were coming and going. Seeing their Alpha personally escorting a girl in a school uniform downstairs-his protective attitude made every female employee at Thorne Corp envious.

Cameron had brought Charlotte to deliver a document to Landon. They didn't expect to run into him just as he was seeing Tessa off.

Chapter 167 You Do Not Deserve Him.

Landon only gave a slight nod in response to Charlotte's greeting.

"Let's go! Sign this document for me. Luckily, I got here in time. Otherwise, I

wouldn't even know where to find you," Cameron said.

"Wait for me here for a bit. I'll take you back myself," Landon reminded her again

and again, not wanting her to leave alone.

Only after seeing Tessa nod did Landon head upstairs with Cameron. His personal seal was still on the 90th floor.

In the lobby, only Charlotte and Tessa were left.

Tessa wasn't someone who talked much, and she didn't like Charlotte either, especially since Charlotte had once threatened her.

Naturally, she sat quietly and waited, with no intention of making conversation.

Charlotte felt annoyed.

This girl is way too arrogant's so special about her anyway? She's just temporarily staying by Landon's side.

"I heard Beauty Luxe has reached new heights under your leadership. Congratulations," Charlotte said carelessly, brushing her hair back.

Tessa just gave a quiet "mm" and didn't respond further.

"Tessa, you've seen it too. No matter how hard you try, you and Landon are not from the same world. People should know their place. Otherwise, they'll only make things hard for themselves."

Hearing that, Tessa couldn't help but chuckle coldly.

"Am I wrong? With your reputation, even the Lawson family from the Thunder Pack wouldn't take you seriously, let alone the Thorne family of the Nightshade Pack. I'm telling you this for your own good. You're young. You don't understand these things yet."

"For my own good?" Tessa laughed.

"Ms. Charlotte, do you really think being young means I'm stupid? You're saying all this just to get me to stay away from Mr. Thorne, aren't you?"

Charlotte frowned, and even her delicate makeup couldn't hide the tension in her face.

But the next second, she forced a smile.

They were still inside Thorne Corp, she couldn't lose her image in public.

"No, I just want you to see things clearly, that's all."

"Mr. Thorne? Others might think I'm not good enough for him, but I think, as long as I want it, I'm more than good enough."

Ju, I may

Charlotte almost laughed out loud. "Ms. Sinclair, there are a lot of things in this world that can't be changed just because you want them to. Do you understand? Like your birth, your talent. The Thorne family is the Alpha bloodline of the Nightshade Pack. The Sinclair family could never reach that high, especially you, a disgraceful daughter that even the Sinclairs cast aside."

"Oh, is that so? I guess I really don't deserve Mr. Thorne then." Tessa nodded as if agreeing.

"But then again, do you have the guts to say all this to Mr. Thorne? Why don't you go tell him to stop bothering me? Honestly, I've been torn about whether or not to be with him. But hearing what you said, I think I need to seriously reconsider our future."

"Heh. Landon bothering you? Tessa, I didn't think you had such a big ego-you really dare to say things like that."

Tessa didn't want to waste more words.

"You know perfectly well, don't you? Whether or not you've ever been up to the 90th floor? Mr. Thorne personally took me up there. Do you even know what it looks like on that floor?"

She hadn't meant to argue, but since Charlotte kept trying to make her presence known, Tessa figured she might as well make her

Ven more uncomfortable.

"You!"

Charlotte was so angry her whole body trembled. The aura of a high-ranked werewolf leaked from her, carrying a crushing pressure, trying to teach Tessa-a girl with no sense of her limits-a good lesson.

But to her surprise, the unawakened Tessa wasn't affected at all. She only looked back at her mockingly.

That scornful expression made Charlotte even more furious.

Chapter 168 Time to Let Go

At that moment, Landon and Cameron stepped out of the elevator..

"I'll handle this matter. You don't need to worry about it," Cameron said as he walked alongside Landon, discussing work.

Noticing the lingering trace of Charlotte's pheromones in the air, Cameron frowned slightly. "Landon, Charlotte really does like you. I know you don't feel the same, but no matter what she does in the future, I just hope you'll let her off for my sake."

Seeing Charlotte standing beside Tessa, Cameron spoke with concern.

"Cameron, between us friends, there's no need to say all that. As long as she doesn't hurt Tessa, I'll turn a blind eye."

He and Cameron had grown up together. For something this small, he could agree. But the condition was that Charlotte couldn't hurt Tessa.

"Okay."

Even with that answer, Cameron still felt uneasy.

Charlotte wasn't someone who gave up easily. He had warned her again and again, but she never listened.

"Alright, let's go." Landon walked over to Tessa. When he spoke to her, his tone was noticeably different- softer and more tender than usual.

Charlotte saw it all, and her heart filled with bitter resentment.

"We should go too," Cameron said to Charlotte.

She had insisted on coming with him to Thorne Corp just to catch a glimpse of Landon. Now she should finally give up.

"Cameron, I..."

Charlotte felt deeply wronged. She had worked so hard just to keep up with Landon's pace, to stand by his side, to become a worthy Luna of the Nightshade Pack.

She only slept a few hours a day, trained relentlessly to grow stronger, studied hard to get into the best university, pushed herself to improve and become someone worthy of him. But he had never seen any of it.

His eyes were always on Tessa, someone with no family background, no personal strength, and a terrible reputation.

"Charlotte, feelings aren't something you can control. It's time to let go." Landon had never brought a woman to the ninetieth floor-his private domain. Tessa was the only exception, and that already said everything.

Charlotte was unwilling, truly unwilling to give up, but at this moment, there was nothing she could do.

Still, the elders of the Thorne family and the Nightshade Pack would never accept Tessa.

"In any case, don't hurt Tessa. Otherwise, even I won't be able to protect you"

Though the Quest family was one of the four great families of Navoris, it was nowhere near the level of the Thorne family-the Alpha family of the Nightshade Pack.

Especially now, under Landon's leadership, the Thorne family had grown even stronger, leaving the other three families far behind.

At present, Landon stood as the most powerful Alpha in Montedra. No one dared provoke him.

"Alright, I understand. I won't hurt her."

Charlotte answered, but in her heart she thought, As long as I don't do it myself, what can anyone say? I'm not stupid.

Landon opened the car door for Tessa and helped her in.

"Are we heading to Wisteria Apartment?" It was already too late to go to school

now.

"Yeah."

Just after they got in the car, Tessa's phone rang. It was Nico. She glanced at it and picked up the call.

"Why didn't you come to school today? Are you feeling okay?" Nico asked with concern. Without realizing it, he had gotten used to paying attention to Tessa's every move.

"No, I just had something to take care of, so I took the day off. What's up?"

"Nothing much. I just wanted to ask if you're coming to the lab after school?" It had only been an afternoon, but he already found himself missing her.

"I'm not going to the lab today." Tessa thought about going to Lightwing Order later, and figured she probably wouldn't have time.

It had been years since she last visited Lightwing Order. She wondered how it had changed. The thought brought a little flutter of anticipation.

Chapter 169 She Is Absolutely Ruthless

"Do you need anything else?" Tessa asked.

"No," Nico replied blandly.

When he heard the beeping tone from the phone, Nico felt a twinge of disappointment.

Still, he turned and headed to the lab. Only in the lab could he stop thinking about her.

"Who was that?"

Tessa's phone voice was loud. As an Alpha, Landon had already restrained his extremely sensitive hearing to avoid eavesdropping on her privacy, but he still recognized that it was a boy's voice.

"A classmate."

"A boy?" Landon's grip on the steering wheel tightened. She really was good at attracting people.

"Yeah. Our physics teacher asked us to work together for the physics competition. We've been doing a lot of experiments recently." Tessa spoke casually, not thinking much of Nico's call at all.

"He likes you, doesn't he?" Landon didn't even notice. the sour edge in his voice.

Tessa raised an eyebrow. "I don't know." When it came to people who didn't matter, Tessa never wasted energy on them.

Landon was speechless. He really did have a lot of rivals.

When the car reached Wisteria Apartment, Landon had business to take care of and didn't walk her up. He turned around and went back to Thorne Corp.

Back home, Tessa changed out of her school uniform and into a black hoodie and light blue jeans. Then she grabbed a cab to Lightwing Order.

Lightwing Order was located on the busiest street in Navoris, where every inch of land was worth a fortune. Despite that, it occupied an eight-story standalone building. The outside looked rundown, but inside was a completely different world.

Tessa hadn't been here for a while. The old man at the door didn't recognize her and wouldn't let her in.

"Miss, you must be at the wrong place! Only staff are allowed inside. You should head back!"

"I'm here to see Lina Stone." When Lightwing Order was first established, there weren't many staff members. Later, after Lina took over, she hired a bunch of support staff. That woman never shortchanged herself.

But the people she hired were mostly old men and women, so from the outside, it looked like a senior

center.

But these seniors were anything but ordinary.

"You're here to see Ms. Stone? Wait a sec, I'll make a call." The old man picked up the phone and dialed Lina.

Lina came down to greet her personally. The other members had been busy these past few days, so Lina had been the only one holding down the fort.

"Finally! Didn't you say you'd come earlier? What took you so long?" Lina couldn't help complaining. "Come on, let's go up."

Lina really knew how to enjoy life. The building originally had just one elevator. She installed two more.

One went straight to the eighth floor. The other two were for the rest of the members and stopped below the eighth.

Lina led Tessa to the eighth floor, which was even more impressive.

"I've kept your office just the way it was. Come see if you like it," Lina said, taking her to the innermost room.

Tessa raised an eyebrow. Since handing Lightwing Order over to Lina, she hadn't paid it much attention. She didn't expect Lina to renovate a whole office just for her.

Lina opened the door and brought her in.

The office was elegantly designed. Lina looked at her with anticipation.

"Well? Do you like it? If you do, come back whenever you have time, okay? It's so lonely here by myself!"

"It's alright." Clearly, Lina had spent a lot of money decorating the office. But Tessa preferred the sound of freedom. "Isn't Lightwing Order doing great now? I think you're perfect for managing it. Just settle in and take care of things." Lina was speechless.

Tessa sat in the swivel chair and powered up the computer.

"Come on, Phantom! Lightwing Order was your passion project. Don't you feel anything for it?"

"No." Tessa was completely heartless.

Fine. What am I even thinking, trying to talk feelings with Phantom? This girl is absolutely ruthless.

Tessa took a stick of gum from her pocket, unwrapped it, popped it in her mouth, and finally laid her fingers on the keyboard.

Her long, slender fingers danced across the keys, line after line of code appearing on the screen.

Even someone as fast as Lina couldn't help but sigh at the sight. The difference between people really was huge.

Some people crushed everyone else without even trying.

And Tessa was one of those people.

Yet she kept such a low profile, always pretending, making others think she was someone easy to push

around.

"The firewall's fine. Don't worry. No one can break through mine." Tessa said with absolute confidence.

By the time she left Lightwing Order, it was already past eight. Tessa decided to skip her night class.

Pulling up the hood of her black sweatshirt, she put in her earbuds and walked down the street. She hadn't gone far before she noticed someone following her.

A cold smile curled at the corner of her lips. These people really are everywhere...

Chapter 170 I can handle it

Just then, the phone rang. Tessa pressed the answer button.

"Where are you right now?" Landon's voice sounded urgent.

"I'm outside. What's wrong?"

"Send me your location. I'm coming to find you." The people who tried to assassinate him were now targeting Tessa. There was no way he could sit still.

"No need. I can handle it." Tessa was about to hang up. It had been a long time since she'd moved her muscles. Since it had come to this, she figured she might as well stretch them properly today.

"Tessa!" Landon's voice already carried anger.

"What?" This was something she could handle on her own, no need to trouble him.

Even though Landon had seen her take down more than ten werewolf

mercenaries in Falindale with his own eyes, this batch was on a higher level than the last.

Tessa was skilled, but after all, she hadn't awakened as a wolf yet and was still technically underage. There was no way he wouldn't worry.

He was so worried he couldn't control his temper anymore.

Still, when he heard her casual "what," he forced himself to calm down.

"Tessie, listen to me. Don't go anywhere secluded. I'm coming to you now." He had already tracked her location and was on his way.

Tessa was speechless.

"Mr. Thorne, I can handle this." His tone had softened, and she couldn't bring herself to be too harsh. anymore. He was only worried about her.

"Be good. Just stay there and don't move. Wait for me." For someone as proud as Landon, his voice actually had a trace of pleading in it.

Faced with a Landon like this, Tessa truly couldn't say no.

"Okay."

She didn't even know what was wrong with her. Whenever she faced Landon, she couldn't be as cold as she was with other men.

But when she saw that one of the people following her had a gun, Tessa realized she couldn't just keep waiting.

She recognized the weapon. It was specially designed to hold silver bullets.

This was the busiest area in Navoris. Right now, the streets were packed. If they used a gun here, the consequences would be unimaginable.

A dozen werewolf mercenaries disguised as normal wolves exchanged glances and followed her.

Tessa toyed with the white cord of her earphones as she strolled lazily toward an empty alley.

"Move."

She didn't stop until she reached the end of the alley. Then she turned around and looked at the group.

"Nowhere to run, huh?" the man in front said coldly, voice full of bloodthirsty menace. "Be good and surrender, you'll suffer less."

"Run?" Tessa's voice dripped with scorn. "You trash think I need to run?"

"Heh." The man gave a cold laugh. A girl who hadn't even awakened yet so full of herself. "Take her."

Several mercenaries stepped forward. Tessa was still playing with her earphones.

When they moved, she pulled a piece of gum from her pocket, unwrapped it, and popped it in her mouth.

Chewing slowly, she watched them.

Finally, a few of them got close. Just before they could attack, Tessa slipped past them with ease.

With one leap, she kicked one squarely between the legs.

Tessa never liked to drag fights out. These were professional werewolf

mercenaries, so she didn't hold back. Every move struck straight at their weak

spots.