

## Chapter 85

"Hang in there: Athena heard the voice in her head again, and she bit her lips.

Hang in there. That's what Celine and someone else wanted, but will she be able to handle it if they keep whipping her, resulting in her losing all this blood? At

this rate, she will die before thinking about strategies to get back to Cyrus.

"Now. the second last part of the ritual," Liliith announced before she nodded at L.arry, who brought out a hearth-like container for the fire.

As soon as the fire spark, smoldering inside the fireplace, touched Athena's skin, her eyes flew open at the familiar pain.

"What the -"Athena paused.

No. She can't let fear cloud her emotions and let Cyrus know fire is her weakness, or they might use it against her when she tries to run away. Athena shook her

head.

"Sir, slice her palm with your free hand using this sacred dagger and do the same with the back of your hand before placing your hands over this fire. Let,the blood mix and burn," Liliith paused before she looked at Cyrus.

"This will be the first step to sealing the bond of the powers inside you. It will act like a vessel inside you. Since these powers are not yours, your body might show a reaction to them, and your wolf might have a hard time with them. These powers can sometimes kill the wolf of the person receiving the powers. That's why it's

necessary," Liliith explained, and to be sure that nothing like that happens, Cyrus made a large cut on Athena's hand.

Athena looked at Cyrus in disbelief as more tears welled in her eyes because of the pain.

"I am sorry, my love. We have to be sure, no?" Cyrus smiled innocently, and

Athena felt even more disgusted by him as she shut her eyes as tightly as possible to bear the pain caused by her hand right above the fire.

"Is it over? Her hand will start burning at this rate," Cyrus said, and anyone

would've thought he was worried about her until he added further.

"I don't want a scarred wife. Her beauty is what is most appealing to me. Her

powers were too, but they will be mine soon, no?"Cyrus chuckled, and Athena whimpered, not being able to control it anymore.

"You can remove the hand. The next and last step is drinking her blood. You will have to do it in three sessions. We have used most of the blood that we drew

earlier. So our chance to -"lilith couldn't even complete her sentence when Cyrus jerked Athena up.

"I am sorry. It might hurt a little," Cyrus cupped Athena's cheeks, loving the horror in her eyes, before he tilted her head and licked the right side of the neck since her mark was on the left that would repulse him.

"Allow me, Cyrus took a whiff of her bloody scent, and without waiting for her reply, he bit into her neck.

"Aaaaaa!" Athena threw her head back in pain as he sunk his teeth further into her neck.

Sir, she has lost a lot of blood, and we will do three sessions. So please drink only a little," Liliith reminded Cyrus, but Cyrus, who felt the sudden surge of her

energy shifting to him, widened his eyes.

"How can I?" Cyrus murmured, drinking even faster than before, and Colton, who

had come to report to him the current situation, widened his eyes after seeing what was happening.

"Sir Colton, please stop, sir Cyrus. le will kill her at this rate, and the ceremony won't be completed either. He is under the compulsion of the energy just that he is feeling." Liliith groaned, and Athena, who also heard this groaned before she clenched her fists.

"Get off me, you bas\*ard!" Athena kicked Cyrus as hard as she could in such a

beaten shape, and Cyrus landed in the hearth.

"The hell! Aaaaaaaa!" Cyrus shouted in agony when his entire backside started burning.

If he was using Athena's energy, it meant he would start getting affected by fire just like her, and heal slowly, right? Athena thought before smiling.

No. She can't just stand here like this. She should be making the most use of this opportunity and hurting him so that she can lessen his energy too.

Athena picked up the whip that Liliith was using before she raised her hand and brought it down with a jerk, slapping it straight across his face, making everyone widen their eyes as they looked at the horror in front of them.

"Aaaaaa! You b\*tch!" Cyrus growled, and the whole base reverberated with the vibrations of his energy.

Jake, who was praying for Athena, also shook, and he gulped, fearing something was about to happen to Athena.

"I am b\*tch. What are you? I got ready for the ceremony, didn't I? You said you loved me. What kind of love is this where you want to kill me? You are just like them!"Athena cried, pretending she got betrayed again, and she didn't expect this from Cyrus before she removed the whip.

One of the thorns of the whip had hit Cyrus's left eye, rupturing it slightly, and blood oozed out of it, making Liliith back down in horror.

It was a bad omen for the person, who was gaining energy to bleed from any other part than the one they used for the ritual. Since they were using Cyrus's hand for the blood and ritual, the rupturing of his eye, the burning of his body from behind, and its blood going into the hearth

meant only one thing. Liliith gulped and immediately went to read her book.

This action didn't go unnoticed by Colton, who didn't say anything as it was more important to control Athena.

"Athena, that's not what I wanted to happen. I don't know what took over me.

Please forgive me," Cyrus said as he stood with difficulty, frowning his brows

when he looked at the burn marks on his hand.

While checking his burns on the skin, as he turned his hand to see the extent of damage, Cyrus's gaze landed on Athena's hand that had the fire wound.

Almost all her wounds were healing despite the pace. Why was the burn wound as it is? Does that mean- Cyrus's eyes widened?

He took one of the wooden sticks they had collected to keep the fire lit before he placed the fire stick on Athena's hand.ⓂⓌ.novℓℳ.com

"Aaaaa! What the hell are you doing?!" Athena kicked him away, but this time he had good control over himself, and he only stumbled back a little.

"Fire is your weakness," Cyrus stated before he smiled.

"Hahahahah, this is good," Cyrus walked close to her before he grabbed Athena's jaws in a steel grip.ⓂⓌ.novℓℳ.com

"Did you think I would apologize to you? Have you still not realized the situation you are in? I can drink as much blood as I can," Cyrus grabbed a fistful of her hair before tilting her head.

"You wanted to play with fire, no? Let me do this favor for you," Cyrus grinned

and took the burning stick before he looked at Colton.

"Go and bring him here," Cyrus smiled, and Athena immediately understood who he was talking about.

She didn't want to bring Jake into this. She planned to hurt Cyrus to distract him, make a run, free Jake, and run out of there.

As much as unrealistic the plan sounded, this was the only way to do it.

If the three sessions Liliith is talking about, become successful, Cyrus will become beyond beatable, and there is no way they would be able to run away from him. Athena gritted her teeth when Cyrus looked at her with those menacing-evil eyes. "This look of rebellion isn't looking good on you, my love. Let me correct it for

you,Cyrus said before he placed the burning stick on her neck.

"Aaaaaat Aaaaaahhh!" Athena struggled in his grip, trying to push him away to

break free from his hold as this pain was worst than anything she suffered till .

now. Colton, who was bringing Jake, looked at the scene in front of him and thinned

his lips.

Well, what Athena did wasn't right either.

Jake looked at Athena getting tortured like this, and he felt anger rising in his chest.

"What kind of coward is your boss? Treating a helpless woman like this? The

moon goddess has a special place for people like these in hell," Jake muttered, his body weak from all the beating and loss of blood, and Colton smiled.

"Yeah? How do you know that? Have you visited it before?" Colton scoffed before he threw Jake on Athena's foot, making them wince in pain.

"Jake," Athena looked down, and Jake held her hand before opening her fists that were drawing blood from her palm because of her clenched fingers..

"Stop hurting yourself," Jake said to Athena, and Cyrus felt jealous of how Athena was looking at Jake only even when he was hurting her.

"Sir, you are hurting Athena uselessly," Colton's words made Cyrus look at himⓂⓌ.novℓℳ.com

with anger.

"What did you say?"Cyrus took out his handkerchief and wrapped it around his

ruptured eye before wiping the blood from his face, his glare settling back onⓂⓌ.novℓℳ.com

Athena, who had a satisfied smile. Though she couldn't do much damage, she was proud of her work.

"You said you love me, and I said I will be with you, but every time you cross your line, you will see my wrath. If you had the idea of some kind of docile wife, you

have the wrong person," Athena said, wanting to establish that she was still with

him, but at her condition and Cyrus pinched the bridge of his nose.

Her words confused Jake, but he didn't say anything and just kept looking at her. His wolf started to heal him a little since the only silver on his body was the

cutlinks apart from the wolfsbane they fed him:

Since Athena was a wolfsbane lover, he had started to take the wolfsbane in drops daily just to be one as strong as Athena since his sole purpose before meeting

Olivia was taking care of and protecting Athena.

"I am sorry, okay. I will try to be gentle in the next two sessions and try to drink as little as possible," Cyrus cupped Athena's cheeks lovingly and pretended to believe her, and both smiled at each other even when they knew there was no trust

between them.

He turned to Liliith with a scowl before sighing.

"What are you doing reading that book? How much time does she need to

recuperate for the second session? Perform some spells or whatever you can do to help her make more blood. I want to complete the ceremony soon so I can teach some people a good lesson."Cyrus smiled at Athena, who nodded back as if she was waiting for him to do that.

"I will get to it, sir," Liliith asked Athena to lie on the bed.

"Colton, have you come to Athena something?"Cyrus asked, and Colton nodded

his head.

"Yes, sir. I got some Intel from the men on the north side of the forest. The

Council and his team already went far from us in the north direction because

they couldn't sense us. However, I don't know how, but - Colton paused as he

looked at Jake and Aththena, who were listening to him.

"You should see this yourself," Cyrus immediately understood what Colton meant with this statement, and he nodded as they walked at some distance from the

ritual place.

"One of the rogues on the north side said he saw Vampires,," Colton thinned his

lips.

"So what? This isn't the first time we have seen those leeches. Why create a ruckus for that? You worried me just now," Cyrus was about to turn when Colton spoke

again.

"The vampire lord himself is here. He is with the council and Simon. Do you

understand what is happening, sir?"Colton tried to convey the message,and

Cyrus clenched his fists.

"Stop worrying. Colton. There is no way those leeches would help those wolves.

What does Simon have to offer to the vampires in return? Do we not know how

these species work?"Cyrus said, and Colton looked at his boss before sighing.

"Maybe you are right. I am thinking too much about it. I hope this ritual

completes as soon as possible so we can get moving already, Colton's words made Cyrus sigh.

"I hope so too. That f\*cking b\*tch is getting strong despite the loss of blood, and it's not good for us. If Athena went out of control, things would become messy. I have to take her powers before anything like that happens. Tie her to the bed with silver chains again. I will see the security in the meantime. And beat that other

bas\*ard a little. It will break her more. The more broken she stays, the more we

will benefit, Cyrus ordered before walking away, and Colton hummed, walking

towards where Athena was sitting on the bed with her head bowed.

-Larry had already cuffed her hand behind her, which meant she must've tried

something again.

Colton sighed before he walked to Jake and kicked his abdomen, making the

latter wince in pain.

"Colton!" Athena shouted in anger.

"What? This is exactly what I felt when you pushed Cyrus in that hearth, Colton sighed, and Athena gritted her teeth. "So you are justifying what your boss is doing to me? Even though all of you are

rogues, I still felt you had some humanity inside you," Athena looked at him pitifully, and Colton, who was stomping his foot on Jake's hand to hurt him, paused before he gritted his teeth.

"You guys better not try anything, or I swear I won't be lenient the next time," Colton walked away, not before tying Jake to the pillar.