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"What are you going to do?" Amelia looks up at Erin, lips palmed into a thin line. She pauses stroking the pup's hair.

Erin sighs, running her hands through her hair, she looks at the sleeping figure of Ana and then looks at Amelia.

"I don't know. I- I feel stuck. Melissa already told him Ana is his child and now... I have no idea what he plans to do. I'm scared." She replied.

Amelia places her hand over Erin's in a bid to show her support.

"Don't be. I'm here. Derrick is here. Nothing will happen to Ana or you." She says, determination filling her voice.

Erin nods, sniffling, she takes a step back, "It's funny, Amelia. It's funny to see Melissa like that being thrashed by the man she loves. I've been through that, I know how horrible it is. It's just funny to see those who inflicted that pain on me going through the same thing."

Amelia nods "Karma is a bitch."

Erin chuckled "I know." She looks at Ana and sighs.

"I should speak to Derrick." She mutters. Amelia nods, just as she settled into the bed. She's going to sleep with Ana tonight. She and Erin had made plans to sleep beside the pup, especially after the horrible experience she must've had. Immediately Erin and Derrick got back from the pack, they made sure to call the doctor who ran a full scan on Ana. He says they have nothing to worry about but the test results would be out tomorrow.

"Go, I'll stay and watch over her. I won't take my eyes off her for even a second." She says, holding Erin's hand tightly, trying to reassure her.

Erin walks into the room, looking around till her eyes fall on Derrick standing outside the room, he stood by the balcony, his hands on the railings. She walks towards him and wraps her arms around his torso, letting herself inhale his scent.

He didn't need to look up when he heard the door open, he knew who it





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was from the scent. Derrick caressed her hands, he turns to look at her, caging her with his arms.

"How is she?" He asks.

"Asleep. The doctor says she's okay so I'll believe him." She replied.

Derrick nods, looking away for a second. His gaze seemed far away and near at the same time.

"What are you thinking about?"

"You." He replied immediately, not missing a beat. Erin's face warms up at the revelation.

"What about me?" She asks.

"Liam knows. Do you feel anyhow about it?" He asks. Erin closes her eyes, trying to get a feel of his emotions. As his mate, she can feel him but right now... he turned off the mind link, tuning out his emotions so she cannot feel it.

She opens her eyes, looking at him deeply, their eyes stuck on each other without wavering. Erin swallows. "I'm afraid. I'm afraid he would do something rash and crazy with the information he has with him." She replied.

He nods, lifting his hand to caress her cheeks. "I know but you do know I'll do anything for you and Ana. I'd never allow anything to happen to either of you. You and Ana are the most important people in my life. You, Ana, and Amelia." He says, determined to make her understand.

"I know. I don't doubt you for even a second but.." she trails off. Thinking back on the things that have happened the past few days.

"But what?" He asks, tilting his head sideways as he waited for her reply.

"But, Aunt Agatha." She replied.

"Aunt Agatha?"

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"I'm sorry, I know she's your aunt and all but I don't feel safe with her here with Ana. I can take anything, I can take everything but targeting Ana, I can't. I'm scared she'd do something to Ana at Liam's request. I don't know what it is I did to her exactly but she harbors a great hatred



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towards me. She knew Melissa took Ana. She knew and still wouldn't say a word. She wanted me to lose my pup. She hoped and prayed that I lose Ana." She paused for a second, swallowing.

"How can I stay in the same place as someone who wishes me and my pup harm? She clearly despises me. I'm afraid she'd do something else."

Derrick nods, pulling her into a tight hug. "That's valid. You're right. I'll announce my decision to everyone tomorrow morning. Don't worry about it. I will personally clear and weed out everyone who makes you feel unsafe. I will do everything so you don't have to lift a finger." He smiles, caressing her face gently like she was made of glass.

"No harm will come to you or Ana. I will never allow it."

That night, Erin goes to bed holding onto Ana extra tight, Derrick's words ringing in her ears till she slowly falls asleep.

The next day

Everyone gathered in the living room just the way Derrick had planned. Erin stood beside her, carrying Ana.

"The past few days have been rough on all of us. I'm glad we got Ana back but some things need to be said and cleared." He says, not a single word was heard.

"Aunt Agatha." He calls out her name. She looks up at him, her mate Mikhail just as equally concerned.

"During the few days of Ana's disappearance. You've shown a different side of you that I never thought existed but that's okay. It's better late than never."

Agatha scoffs. "You can no longer stay in the dark moon pack," Derrick announces, a series of gasps rocking the room.

"What do you mean?" Mikhail asks, standing up in shock.

Derrick looks at him. "Aunt Agatha knew who took Ana and yet she kept mute. She derived a certain joy from seeing us panic and suffer over our pup. She saw everything that happened and knew who took the pup but



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still, she kept mute. A person that can go to such lengths cannot stay in the pack. I am not banishing you because you're my aunt. My mother's sister but you will leave the pack today." He announced.

Agatha begins to laugh, she stands up, gaze flickering from Derrick to Erin.

"Did she put you up for this? Did she ask that you order me to leave the pack? Is that it? Is this Erin speaking?" She asks condescendingly.

Erin sighs, "Tell Me, is this you speaking?" Agatha grits out, hands folded into a tight fists, her face turning red.

"This is my order as the alpha king of the dark moon kingdom. There is no in-between. After what you've done. You don't deserve to be in the same pack as us. I will do you a last honor and not banish you as I did your daughter. I'll let you leave honorably. Go back to your birth pack. I'll have the guards escort you and even stay with you. Your every move will be scrutinized."

"Is this it? This! You'll chase me away from that pack all for her? A whore from the blue moon pack? Will you ruin our prestigious pack all for some tramp?" She screams, pushing her mate off her when he tries to hold her down.

"That tramp is my mate! The Luna of this pack! Have some respect." Derrick growls.

"She's going to ruin our pack. Mark my words. She will ruin the dark moon pack and it will be your fault." Agatha yells, chest heaving heavily. She turns and storms out of the place, her rotten and bitter scent leaving a distasteful taste.



