

## Chapter 60: Monster

### Penelope's P.O.V.

When the sun started to peak through the windows, I slowly started to untangle myself from Adam's hold.

I sat at the edge of the bed and stared at my arms. I unwrapped the bandages and still saw the marks I made.

"Ace?" I called out to my wolf. "Yeah?" She replied tiredly. "Are you okay?"

"... Just tired. I think it's the monster trying to take over me, I feel like I was hit by a train."

"I won't bother you anymore, get some rest. ~~3aid.~~

"Oh, Penny, you're not bothering me. But I would like some rest. You should get some too, you were awake the whole night."

"Something's keeping me awake, I can't."

"I'm pretty sure this is because of the injection they gave us, but make sure you tell Adam if you feel o or anything, alright? I won't be useful in this state."

"Okay," I replied. I felt my wolf retreat back into my mind.

I went into the bathroom to find new bandages, but I couldn't find any. I sighed and le the room to look for some.

As I walked down the hallways of the house, I realized that I didn't know where to find the bandages.

I aimlessly walked around the house, not wanting to go back to the room.

By sheer chance, I bumped into Cameron, who was also wandering around the house.

"Hey, what are you doing up?" He asked me. "I couldn't sleep," I replied, shrugging.

"I feel like the 'monster' is going to... surface."

I saw Cameron tense for a second, but relaxed, "well, if you do, we always have your back."

"I'm scaring everyone, right? No one wants me here anymore because I'm a threat," I said sadly.

"No! No, you're not. We're just... wary."

I raised an eyebrow, and Cameron sighed, "okay, yeah. Maybe you are scaring some of the pack members."

"And their opinion matter too. I should leave," I said, turning around.

Cameron, however, stopped me by putting a hand on my shoulder, "it's fine. Adam would want you to stay."

I shrugged o his hand, "well, yeah, because he's my mate. He needs me to stay," I countered.

"Look, we're trying to find another way to the antidote. Replicate it even."

"What if the antidote doesn't even work? What if that witch was lying to us? She seems like that type of person."

I walked back towards Adam's room, but before I opened the door, Cameron placed a hand on mine.

"If you leave now, catching you would just be a nuisance to us."

I paused in my tracks. So that's what they think of me now? An annoyance?

I took back my hand from the door knob, "if that's what you think of me as, I'll just stay locked up then," I said angrily, heading away from him.

"Wait! Penny, I didn't mean it like that!" I heard, I started Cameron calling out for me, but I didn't stop.

I was hurt by what he said. To think that Cameron, the first person I trusted in this pack, would say that.

Tears started flowing down my cheeks, and I couldn't do anything to stop it.

I reached the library of the pack house and pulled on the doors.

STORY CONTINUES BELOW

Surprisingly, it was unlocked, but when I peeked inside, I didn't see Val anywhere.

She wouldn't mind... Right?

I walked to my regular spot and looked over at the wall where I first met Klaus.

I knocked on the wall, hoping Klaus would hear. A few seconds later, the door appeared and opened.

"Oh, Luna, I didn't expect you to be here," he said. Klaus looked at me, surprised, "do you want to come in?"

I nodded my head.

"Am I a nuisance to the pack? Being half-rogue, that 'monster' trying to take over, and just being a weak werewolf?" I asked when we sat down.

Klaus handed me a blanket, and I gladly took it.

"Of course not, Luna."

"Just Penny," I said, cuddling up in the blanket.

"Of course not, Penny," he repeated, "I mean, I'm a half-rogue also."

"Yeah, but you stay hidden. I'm the to-be Luna. I'm not trying to brag, but the attention towards us is different."

"I should leave, right? That way the pack doesn't have to deal with me," I said, tearing up.

"If you leave it's going to be worse," Klaus said, sipping on the wine he poured himself.

"Even more of a nuisance," I mumbled.

"I didn't say that. I mean, you should be helping them find another way for the antidote," he said, placing down his glass.

"And hinder the work because everyone is scared of me? I'll just make it worse."

I mean, it's not like I haven't thought about this, but I know I will cause distractions.

"Why has my life become like this? I was fine with my brother and his mate. I was fine just living alone in solitude where no one really cared about me. I was doing just fine."

"And you self-harming yourself? You basically starved yourself when you were at that house," Klaus said.

My eyes widened, "how do you know that? You know what, it doesn't even matter, when I was alone, I wasn't hurting anyone but myself. Now I'm hurting an entire pack, my mate, my... friends."

I started to cry, "now because of me," my brother and his mate are dead.

They're dead because of me!" I sobbed.

"I understand your sadness," Klaus said, cautiously, "I, too, lost someone dear to me."

When I didn't respond, Klaus continued, "it was my mate," he said quietly, "when I first met her it was when I didn't have complete control over my monster."

"Fate had a way of showing its love to me," Klaus chuckled darkly.

"My monster took control of me when I first met her. Hell, I didn't even get to know her name before I killed her."

I gasped and my crying slowed down.

"I remembered seeing it so vividly like I was in control, but I wasn't." Klaus continued, pouring more wine into his finished glass.

"I remembered seeing her eyes widen in fear and screaming out. She tried to run, but my monster was faster."

Not knowing what to say, I stayed silent.

"It didn't even end there, my monster knew it was my mate and it slowly tortured her."

"When it was all over, the monster clawed through her chest, ending her life."

"When I finally regained control over my wolf again, it was like time went into slow motion, I shied back into my human form and saw my mate's mouth move."

Klaus sighed, "to this day I still don't know what she said, it was either 'I hate you' or 'I love you'. But why would my mate say 'I love you' when I just killed her?"

"I thought about it for a long time and just decided that she said 'I hate you,'" Klaus stared at me, "I still think about her. I would've just killed myself right next to her, but my monster wouldn't let me. It wanted me to suffer its consequences, and I did."

"At least the people you know love you. They care about you. The person I was destined to be with was slaughtered by my own hands; she couldn't have loved me."

A few minutes in silence, Klaus cleared his throat, "I apologize for making you uncomfortable, Luna."

I looked at him and gave him a weak smile, "it's fine, I'm glad you could finally say it aloud."

Now it was Klaus' turn to give me a smile, "it feels nice to have someone else know my secret."

When I fell silent, I was sucked into a vision.

People were screaming, wolves were howling and there were lots of movement.

A white wolf with black markings appeared through the mist of the chaos, running towards the people.

Someone, however, went in front of the wolf; the wolf stopped, but it was cautious.

"It's okay. Everything is going to be okay," the man said.

The wolf growled at him; he took a step back, but regained his posture and held out a bottle.

"I'm going to save you, it's going to be alright," the man said again.

The wolf wasn't backing down, though. It growled at the man, and stood on its hind legs, getting ready to attack.

The man held up his hands in surrender, "I'm not going to hurt you; this potion is going to make you feel better,"

Slowly, the wolf lowered itself to the ground, but still growled when the man stepped closer.

"Okay, okay, I'll leave it here,"

The man placed down the bottle and pulled out a bowl from a bag he was carrying.

He poured some of the liquid from the bottle into the bowl and le it there.

When the man backed away, the wolf growled and started to run— Klaus was waving a hand in front of me, "are you okay? You've been spacing out for a while now."

I blinked a few times before I could answer him, "sorry, I'm fine. I was just remembering something," I lied.

"How did you learn to control the monster?" I decided to ask him.

My head started to hurt, but I ignored it.

Klaus scratched the back of his neck, "I did a lot of meditating and learning how to cope with it. Not any normal meditating though, I would encounter my monster and fight it."

"So, you dominated it?"

"In a way, yes."

"Now it doesn't bother you anymore? Does it try to fight for control?" I questioned.

"Sometimes it would, but it only feels like a tug in my mind. It's like switching with your wolf, letting them take control," Klaus explained.

I nodded my head, "I think I know what you're talking about."

"How did you meditate? Like, get in touch with the monster?"

"It would come visit me every now and then. I just had to be patient."

I looked at him surprised, "did it haunt you or something?"

Klaus nodded his head, "yes it did. It gave me a lot of nightmares and would taunt me when I was out."

All of a sudden, pain started to spread around my body.

I screamed in agony and wrapped my arms around my torso.

"Luna!" I heard Klaus shout.

I curled up into a ball; tears started to fall down my cheeks.

"Penny!" I heard a voice shout.

"We need to get her outside, ASAP."

"What's happening to her?"

"Her monster is trying to take over."

"What?!"

"There's no time, Alpha. The Luna could harm."

"I don't give a damn! Let's just bring her outside."

I felt arms go under my knees and behind my back, carrying me bridal style.

I screamed as another wave of pain rippled through my body. I stayed close to the creature that was holding me and shivered when I felt the cold wind outside.

I was put down gently on the cold forest floor. The coldness helped for a while, but when my body got used to the temperature, it was just pain again.

"What's happening? I heard a scream."

"Oh, dear,"

I didn't know who was speaking, but I needed them to be quiet, my head's hurting.

"What should we do now?"

"I don't know! Clover said that she would be here when she was singing!" I heard murmurs that sounded like the pack members, and I gripped my head trying to ease the pain.

"Is that the Luna?"

"What's wrong with her?"

"Is she dying?"

"Why is she on the floor?"

"Is the Luna okay?"

The pain exploded in my head, and I growled aloud, "SHUT UP!"

Everything went quiet a er that, but the pain didn't subside.

I felt my bones start to shift into a wolf. I screamed when my arm cracked and dislocated itself.

Following suit, my other arm cracked and placed itself where it should be when I shied into a wolf.

Lost in the pain, I felt myself slowly fall unconscious.

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### Adam's P.O.V.

"Get back!" I warned my pack members.

I stood there helplessly as I watched my mate turn into a monster.

Penelope's scream echoed through the forest, and wolves howled for their Luna.

"Adam, it hurts," Penelope said in agony, eyes glazed over, "p-please help me..."

I crumbled to the floor, tearing the grass near my feet. What can I do?

"Watch, Alpha." I felt cold hands touch my chin, I nging my face up. I clenched my fists together and threw a punch at the witch.

But she effortlessly dodged it and smiled wickedly at me. "Would you like the potion in bubblegum or blueberry flavor?"

I growled at her, but she backed away laughing.

"You won't be able to change her back without it," Clover taunted me, "better make up your mind fast."

A feral growl now replaced Penelope's scream. I turned around, and instead of a brown wolf that my mate had, it was a white wolf with black markings.

I stared in horror; its eyes resembled blood, teeth elongated and dripping with a substance.

The wolf took a step forward, wobbling as if it was a first-time shier. My pack members hurried and stood in front of me.

All of them were shaking, scared of the monster that stood in front of them, but they wanted to protect their Alpha.

The wolf growled again and started running— towards us.

"RUN!" I yelled at my pack members but consumed by their fear, none of them moved.

The wolf attacked one of my pack members, ripping him apart within seconds.

We all stayed still, horrified at the scene we just witnessed. "GO!" I ordered this time, and my pack members all ran towards the pack house.

The wolf's head turned its head to where the members were running towards and started making its way.

But before the wolf started to chase them, I stood in the way.

The wolf growled at me, almost like it was telling me to move aside. The air rippled next to the wolf, and surprisingly, the wolf didn't react.

"Look at my creation!" The witch laughed, wrapping her arms around the white wolf's neck.

"It's the most beautiful thing I've created."

"Don't worry, although. The deal is still on the table, I can always get a new test subject," Clover said, stroking its fur.

I growled at her, "if you can get another wolf to do this, terrorize them, not my mate."

"She's the only one who survived my potion, out of two hundred wolves, I recall correctly."

I stood there silently, listening to her compliments towards her 'creation' she made.

"Now, what do you say? Accept the deal?" Clover asked me, setting its head.

"I got an idea; it may not work but this is my last chance," I said to myself. "What? What are you go-blocked him o before he finished."

I fell to my knees and lowered my head.

"Please, save Penelope. In exchange for my life, I want the potion."

"Ohohoho?" Clover sounded.

"Anything to save Penelope," I begged.

"Okay," Clover said, "stay," she commanded the wolf.

The white wolf looked at her for a second before resting itself on the forest floor.

"Good wolf," she cooed, "follow me, Alpha."

Clover opened a portal and went through it. I gulped, and I followed suit.

The bright light of being teleported temporarily blinded me, but when I opened my eyes, I looked around; it looks like Clover teleported us to some kind of laboratory.

"Where's the potion?" I asked her, touching flasks and observing notes she's written down.

Clover appeared right next to me and slapped away my hand from her book, "don't touch anything. It's here."

She held up a flask with a blue liquid in it, "this is it."

I looked around again, and I found that the portal was still open. I grinned.

"Well, it's not. Who's a witch and knows about potion? Oh right, that's me." Clover retorted.

I glared at her, annoyed, "okay, fine. Let's just go back,"

I made my way towards the portal, but Clover's hand caught my wrist.

"No, you're staying here,"

My other hand gripped the hidden dagger; I quickly took it out of its cover and stabbed Clover in the heart.

I felt her grip weakened around my wrist, and I grabbed the potion before she fell to the ground.

"You mutt," she said weakly, "You messed with the wrong Alpha," I said. Turning around, I sprinted towards the closing portal.

"I'll fucking come back for you," Clover wheezed, "I'll make you watch the fall of your pack."

"We'll be prepared," I said, stopping right in front of the portal.

"Oh yeah, one more thing," I took out another hidden dagger and threw it at Clover.

The witch screamed in agony, "it's a little something from the pack doctor," I said sweetly before walking through the portal.

Before the portal closed completely, I heard Clover's anguished scream, "ALPHA ADAMI!"

I sighed, but I knew it was far from over.

I looked around the forest and found the bag I asked for.

Walking towards it, I heard a feral growl. I stopped in my tracks and looked at the white wolf.

The wolf wasn't looking at me, but the people running around the pack house.

I cursed in my head, they should be inside by now! I quickly grabbed the bag and ran in front of the wolf.

"Hey," I tried, but it growled at me, "it's okay. Everything is going to be okay."

The wolf growled at me, and out of fear, I took a step back.

Damnit, I'm an Alpha for moon's sake! I shouldn't be scared of this.

I straightened up and held out the bottle. "I'm going to save you, okay? It's going to be alright."

I mentally cursed when I saw the wolf getting onto its hind legs; a position for attacking.

I carefully placed down my items and put my hands up in surrender, "I'm not trying to hurt you," I said so ly, "this potion is going to make you feel better."

I almost slapped myself right then and there. Make you feel better? What is this? Am I trying to get a three-year-old to take his medicine?

But it worked, the wolf started lowering its hind legs.

When I saw that the wolf's guard was down, I took a step forward; but it was in vain because the wolf growled at me.

Fine, if it doesn't want me close, then I'll leave it here.

"Okay, okay, calm, calm," I said.

I slowly took out the bowl that was in the bag and poured some of the potion into it.

"I'll leave it here, okay?"

When I started to back away, the wolf growled at me and started running.

I squeaked in fear, but the wolf stopped short in front of the potion.

The wolf snied at it before circling around it.

It stopped circling the bowl and snied at it again.

Come on, come on, come on. I chanted in my head.

When I saw the wolf's tongue coming out of its... mouth, I almost yelled aloud.

The wolf took the first lick, and when it realized it wasn't going to harm itself, it kept licking from the bowl.

I waited in anticipation for anything to happen, but nothing did. The wolf's fur remained white and littered with the black markings.

I felt my shoulders sag in defeat. Did Clover know that I was going to take the potion?

However, my wolf felt something pulling towards him, so I kept looking at the wolf.

I saw the wolf shie slightly, and it looked up to me. It wasn't the red-eyes that I saw earlier, but instead the blue-green eyes I've learned to love.

Without thinking, I ran towards Penelope with a smile and hugged her tightly.

Penelope whined, and I let go, "what's wrong?"

She nudged at me, "clothes?" I asked.

Penelope hugged me, but she nodded her head anyway.

I jogged towards a tree and found a basket of clothes that we usually keep around.

I came back with a black shirt and sweatpants. I handed the clothes to Penelope, and she took them in her mouth.

She trotted behind a tree and I heard the cracking of bones before my beautiful mate stepped out.

Penelope smiled brightly before I ran towards her and picked her up. I spun her around and kissed her everywhere.

Penelope laughed and I put her down before hugging her again.

"I'm never leaving you alone ever again," I vowed. "Except for the bathroom?" Her beautiful voice sounded.

"Especially in the bathroom," I murmured.

"Well, nice to see you two love-birds," I heard Cameron say.

I turned around so my back was facing them and Penelope was shielded from their sight.

"Go away," I said, making 'shooing' movements with my hand.

"D-Did I hurt anyone?" I heard Penelope ask.

I looked down at her, my eyes opening. "I did, didn't I?" Penelope clung to my shirt.

"He died heroically," I tried. "It wasn't your fault, it was mine. If I ordered them to leave earlier, they wouldn't have died."

"Please don't put this blame on yourself," I said, wiping away her tears. "Heard her sni le before she looked up."

"It's still my fault," her voice cracked, sounding so broken. "No, it's not. Penelope,"

I took a breath before I continued, "it wasn't your fault that you got captured, got injected to bring out your monster, and the fact that you were born like this."

I stared right into her eyes, "this monster is a part of you now, this is the reality. Now, that member who stood in front of me, protecting his Alpha, is an honor. I'm not saying that we should be glad he's dead, but he died protecting me nonetheless."

"I gave them the order to run but none of them did. It was their choice to stay and protect their Alpha."

Penelope stayed quiet, and a er a few minutes I heard her quietly say, "okay, I won't take the blame then... this was out of my control."