## The Cursed Alpha's Mate Chapter 91

Celeste kept throwing up. We had to stop twice on our way for her to throw up. Her complexion had turned pasty with her face turning an ugly green colour.

I hadn't seen Jabari since we got home. He'd excused himself once we got into the house. I could sense him around the premises but he hadn't come close to the part of the house Celeste and I were in.

I shot Valens a quick text to tell him we'd gotten home but I still hadn't received a reply after more than an hour. By now, I expected he knew what happened but he still hadn't reached out to me.

"I'll make you a cup of mint tea," I said to Celeste, patting her clasped hands as I left the room. She didn't say anything in reply, rocking herself back and forth.

I met Jabari in the kitchen when I went in. He was running his head underneath the faucet.

He raised his head when I walked in and I was taken aback by the redness of his eyes.

"I killed her brother." His voice was a hoarse whisper when he spoke. He cleared his throat and shook his head, sending water flying around the kitchen.

"We don't know he is dead yet," I said, grabbing a cup.

The warriors who had come looking for Lucien took him away once Jabari got off him. While I knew the chances of them taking him to the hospital were slim, I still wanted to believe something else.

"He is. I smashed his head against a rock." He looked like he was about to throw up. "I hate that bastard so much but now – now whatever chance I had with her is gone."

"Don't think like that." I placed a hand on his left arm. His hands were shaking. He was shaking; literally vibrating from head to toe. "It was either her or him," I reminded.

I'd say there was no love lost between Lucien and Celeste but I would be a liar to talk like that. Celeste loved her brother. He had fallen so far from who he once was but he was still her brother. She always refused to see the worst in him because of that. He protected her and loved her. Would the way she saw him change now that he had almost killed her? It was yet to be known.

Jabari had insisted on bringing her here instead of taking her to the hospital after she fainted.

She woke halfway through the journey, almost flying out of the moving vehicle to throw up.

The cut on her throat was mostly healed when she woke up but her eyes had become vacant and she'd hugged herself while rocking. She was still rocking herself over an hour later. "I killed her brother. I am a monster." He pushed a hand into his wet hair, flicking some more water around the kitchen.

You are not a monster. Maybe follow up with what happened to him. I'd like to know if he if he is dead." I swallowed down bile as I uttered that sentence. My stomach churned and it felt as if my breakfast was about to come back up.

There is no chance he is still alive. I split his head open." He looked down at his hands and I found it hard to reconcile the Jabari I knew with the one standing before me.

Jabari was acting as if he'd never taken a life and while I understood his fear, my mind was scrambled, my thoughts scattered. My mate was out there, my childhood friend/enemy was likely dead and my best friend was in shock. I had no update on Skylar and the last thing I wanted was to be kept locked up at home.

"Call the hospital and tell Valens to reach me."

I took Celeste's tea and walked out of the kitchen. She was no longer rocking herself when I came in. She was staring straight at a wall and the sight was frightening

"Here." I stretched out the teacup to her but she didn't flinch, continuing to stare, unblinking. "I l just leave it here." I placed the cup on the table and took a seat beside her.

Rubbing my palms on my th!ghs. "How are you feeling?" l asked but as expected, I received no response.

I heard a knock on the door and scented Levana as she poked her head into the room.

"Can I speak with you for a second?" She looked worried so I nodded, patting Celeste's hand again as I left.

"What's up?" I asked once I closed the door behind me.

"I have to get home." She looked really worried and I feared something had happened to her mate.

"What happened?" I asked, heart in my throat.

"Our borders were breached at home. I am uncomfortable being far from my mate at this point. I gathered that the invaders are targeting three packs, including this one. Mine is the worst hit so far."

"They aren't targeting all the packs like first concluded?" I asked.

"No. I just spoke to my mate. They are targeting the top three. There's talk that they may be going for the Alpha Pack but it's still quiet there so we are not sure."

"Oh." I tried recalling the top three packs Valens had conquered. I didn't think Redville was one of them but apparently, I was wrong.

"At least your mate is speaking with you," I said. I hadn't meant to sound as bitter as I did then but I could not hide

that I was upset with the way Valens shut me out. He could argue that it was for my safety but it didn't feel like he was keeping me safe at this point. I just felt left out.

"The Alpha must be very busy at this time. I am sure he will reach out to you as soon as possible." I nodded. "I really have to go. I could not reach the Alpha and I thought it best to tell you before I leave."

"That's alright, I will tell Jabari to get some men to travel with you," I said to which she shook her head.

"There's no need to go through that. I am not a target and we are not far off. I can

"Nonsense," I cut her off, "I will get you escorts.

I am risking nothing at this point." I went to find Jabari.

The Beta was still out of it but if there was one thing Jabari would never neglect, that would be his duty. Despite how he was feeling, he shouldered on and in thirty minutes, we had five warriors ready to travel with Levana.

I bade her farewell as she left with a backpack, arms, and her warriors. Then I went in to check on Celeste. She was lying on her back, her hands clasped on her stomach while she stared at the ceiling.

"Celeste?" I called when I walked in.

"I'd like to be alone," she answered, her voice impassive and eyes still fixated on the white ceiling. "Alright. If you need anything, you can call me.

I ll be in my room." I closed the door gently behind me and walked upstairs to the room Valens and I shared.

I was going crazy trying to get through to Valens. The only person in this house who could reach him was Jabari. Times like this, I hated how we put the Mating Ceremony away.

I hated how I had nothing more than a pack link with him. I hated how, at this time, I wasn't any different from other pack members eagerly awaiting a word from their Alpha while being unable to contact him.

I took a bath while I waited for word from Valens. I was drying my hair when I heard the door to our room open. I rushed out of the bathroom, thinking my mate had arrived but it was Celeste coming into my room looking lifeless.

"What will happen to my parents?" She asked as she took a seat. "What will happen to them if they are part of this – this madness?"

You mean if they are traitors?" I asked. She flinched but nodded. That's for Valens to decide.'"

"I – I'd rather not watch my parents die." She raised her head to look at me and I saw a flash off ear in her eyes. "Can you help me with that?"

She asked, fiddling with her fingers.

What are you asking me?"

"Don't-Don't kill my parents. I am begging you."

My phone lit up with a notification, distracting me. I grabbed it from the dresser, expecting a message from my mate but instead, I got one from an unknown number.

'Come out and play?" The message read.

Another followed it up before I finished reading it. Or shall I come in?

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'Come in if you dare,' I replied the unknown number and set my pocketed my phone.

"Celeste, I have to find Jabari," I said to my friend, standing. She rushed to her feet to block me.

"No, wait. You can't leave until you promise you'll spare my parents," she grasped my shoulders. "Please, Aysel."

"Your parents are traitors. As much as I would do anything for you, this is outside what I can do. Except they aren't part of this, there is no way I will let them walk free."

"I-I know they will be punished but maybe a sentence? I don't want to lose all my family, please."

"When the time comes for that, I'll see what I can do." I tried to sidestep her but she blocked me again.

"You promise?"

- "I promise." I was starting to get impatient but she was adamant about getting a promise.
- "Now, let me pass. Skylar is here." Her eyes widened and she looked around as if expecting Skylar to be sitting in the room with us.
- "Where is she?" She asked, still looking around.
- "She just texted me. That's why I have to find Jabari." She wrapped a hand around herself as I spoke, her expression falling.
- "He he killed my brother," she whispered, then hiccuped suddenly.
- "It was either you or him. At that point, Lucien already stopped being your brother." I tried to leave but she blocked me again. I had an insane urge to push her out of the way but I held myself.
- "What did Why do you hate him so much? He apologized countless times. I feel -I feel you –
- "Hold that statement, Celeste. I know you are hurt but I don't want to hear any of that nonsense. Lucien never meant any of his apologies. He assaulted me and connived with the people who took my child. I won't lie to protect your feelings. Your brother was a monster and I don't want to hear anything about him again." When I tried stepping out of the room after that, she didn't try to stop me.

I found Jabari working with his tablet at the dining table. He raised his head when I approached, setting aside his work.

"What is it?" He asked. I handed him my phone in response. He scanned through the texts exchanged between me and the unknown number.

"She wouldn't try to come here. She'd be stupid to do that. Her best bet is to lure you out which – My phone pinged and he stopped talking, looking at the screen. I took the phone from him and my stomach dropped.

The picture was blurry and dark as night had fallen but there was no mistaking who was in the picture. Her white hair was recognizable even without her face showing. A text followed the picture.

I'm giving you an hour.' I looked at Jabari who was already barking commands into his phone.

"I am going," I said.

"That's the stupid move she wants you to make," he hissed at me, aggressively clicking the end button on the call. You are not going anywhere. We will handle everything."

"If anything happens to Levana He cut me off.

"There's nothing you can do to help her. Give me a second." He held up a finger and clicked away on his phone. He pressed the phone to his ear and I heard it ring. Someone picked up in less than a second.

- "Help me remind Aysel that she isn't allowed to leave the house," Jabari said into the phone.
- "Where is she trying to go?" I heard Valens' voice from the other end of the call. My eyes widened. He'd ignored all my calls and texts throughout the day but he picked up in a second once Jabari calls.
- "Skylar has Levana. She's making a bargain."
- "Mike's Luna? Who is retrieving her?" Valens didn't sound bothered in any way, as if he didn't just hear someone was being held hostage, a Luna at that!
- "I called a squad already I yanked Jabari's hand down and pulled the phone out of his grip.
- "So you can talk to him but not me?" I shouted into the phone, gnashing my teeth.
- "Aysel, put Jabari back on the phone." He sounded beat. My wolf whined at the quiet way he spoke.
- "Are you alright? What happened? What's happening? Talk to me." I took a seat opposite the Beta while I waited for my mate to say something.
- "I am trying to make sure you are safe. Do not go anywhere, little moon. Please."
- "Valens, you're scaring me. Why do you sound like this?"
- "I am scared." My spine straightened. My heart slammed as I sat upright. "I am fvcking terrified right now, Aysel."

What – What is happening? Come on, I am not as defenseless as you think. Are we losing?

Tell me what's going on," I said, my voice rising towards the end of my sentence.

"It's you they want. I – I am afraid because I know what I stand to lose from a single wrong move." He let out a breath. "I have never had anything to lose before but now – now I stand to lose everything."

You are not losing me," I assured him. "I am I safe. I am fine. You don't have to worry about me.

The rational part of me wants to believe that.

I have never lost and I may never lose. Skylar is too small a threat to me but my heart hurts when I think of what is at stake. She wants you.

I cannot find her fast enough, Sagira.

"If you could see me, you'd know that I'm fine," I said. Silence greeted my words so I continued,

"And if I could see you, I'd know you are fine."

The silence continued. "We should be together at this time, Valens. It's killing me not knowing what's happening with you and by the sound of it, it's affecting you too.

"I'll come home tomorrow. I love you." I heard the call end. I pulled the phone away from my ear and leaned into the seat, my head falling back.

"I'll send you an update when we get Levana.

You can go to bed now," Jabari said. I raised my head and glared at him but I didn't argue. I took myself up to my room and lay in bed, fighting back tears.

I didn't want to disobey Valens but I didn't want to be here while he was out there. Maybe I wasn't needed there but I wanted to be there.

What use was a Luna who hid out in times of battle? I could not tell how things were progressing. Everyone said they would keep me updated but they were all too busy to play catch-up with me. I was the only useless one.

I closed my eyes, imagining what Levana would be going through at this point. I hoped nothing bad would happen to her. Maybe I should have gone to get her myself but I wasn't stupid.

Sending warriors was more sensible than me going out all alone to confront Skylar and whoever else she had out there.

It took hours but my mind started to shut down, my body relaxing in sleep. I went in and out of sleep for a while but then my phone beeped with a message. My phone screen lit up and I sluggishly pulled it from the dresser beside my bed to check who the text was from.

Too scared?" A message from the unknown number came but another text came in at the same time and it was from Valens. I clicked on the message with speed.

Whatever you do, do not leave home. I am on my way. I love you.' He didn't type the message in all caps but I felt the urgency in his words. I sat upright in bed. Then I called him but he didn't pick up.

I went to reply to the unknown number but paused. Skylar was obviously tempting me. She knew that I wouldn't come out to meet her. In fact, I didn't think she was in Redville. She had traitors doing her bidding but she would be stopped before getting into Redville. She was just messing with me and I was better off not playing her games because I knew her. I knew she was a psycho. I had firsthand experience of how crazy she was and how far she would go to get what she wanted without caring who she stepped on along the way.

'Are you too scared to come in? If you miss me so much, darling, come in.' I sent the text without stopping to think. Two could play her stupid game. I put my phone back on my dresser and closed my eyes, prepared to go back to sleep.

I was half asleep when a gust of wind hit my skin. I turned, wondering when I'd opened my window. I realized I hadn't. I opened my eyes to see someone climbing into my room through my window while another tiptoed over.

"Pleased to meet you," I said, sitting upright.

The two men were part of Bane, a special unit within a squad. They both pulled guns on me.

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You are coming with us," the taller of the two men said. He was right beside my bed. There were guns pointed at me from two different angles. One wrong move and it would be adieu.

"I've been instructed to stay home." I shrugged.

There would be no wrong move. I felt a deep calmness inside me and it had nothing to do with the short sleep I just woke from. There would be no wrong move. I could almost see how everything would play out.

Magic whispered in my veins, secreting through my system. It helped me stay calm, giving me a sense of control. My wolf stirred and she too felt the calmness. She did not pace, did not ready herself for an attack. She was relaxed as if we didn't have guns pointed at us.

One of the men cocked his gun. I smiled at him.

"You have a lot of nerve coming in here. Did Skylar tell you how dangerous it would get?" I stretched in bed.

"Get out of that bed!" One of them hissed when I continued to grin at them.

"Or what? You shoot and miss, and I promise, you will miss. My Beta would come kicking this door down at the sound of any disturbance. Or maybe you'll be unlucky to have my mate walk in." I paused when the taller one moved. "You shoot and you don't miss, I'd be dead but so will you 'cuz then this whole place would be on lockdown and you wouldn't leave alive."

You talk too much." The taller approached me with all intent of dragging me with him. "You are coming with us. You have no place in this pack anymore.

"Or I could scream." I looked at the smaller man. He looked like he was reconsidering his decisions, weighing his options. He knew I was -right. There was no way I would go willingly ,with them and there was no way no one would notice if I started a ruckus.

"Or I could kill you," I said in a falsely cheerful voice. The taller man snorted. Familiar sparks warmed my blood. I flexed my fingers and as expected, they glowed.

The taller man reached for me with one hand holding on to his weapon. I rolled away from his reach.

"We shouldn't be playing games with guns in our faces,' my wolf reminded me.

I had no chance bringing down a Bane warrior.

They were trained with weapons and were the slickest and fastest warriors as they were the slimmest. I could not outrun them and I could not hope to throw even the smaller man. They me. They had the had guns trained on advantage but I'd be the first person they ever encountered with magic.

I wouldn't win while sitting in bed. I kicked the tall man in the groin when he tucked his weapon away and reached for me with both hands. My foot connected with his groin when he grabbed my shoulder. I heard a loud, deafening sound, felt air whoosh past me when I stood, the taller man on the floor. My mouth fell open and my heart – dropped to my stomach. The calmness I felt earlier vanished without a trace as reality slammed into me. The weight of the situation smacked me in the face.

The men were armed. They had guns loaded with silver bullets which they planned to use on me if I didn't cooperate. He'd fired and missed like I said he would but it didn't change the fact that he could and would fire more.

"You weren't supposed to do that, idiot," the taller man cursed, standing. He grabbed me again but I grabbed his wrists. He hissed, the smell of burning flesh permeating the room as I grabbed him. He tried shaking me off but I held on for a second before shoving him away from me with all my might, turning frantically to the other man that still had a weapon trained on me.

"I'll shoot. I promise " I raised my hand and shoved. He was at least ten feet away from me but he moved alright, flying into the air the minute my door burst open.

Valens, Jabari, and at least five other men rushed into the room the second the smaller of the two invaders crashed into my mirror. I kicked the other man at my feet when he reached for a weapon.

The men that came in with Valens and Jabari rushed at the two men on the ground. Jabari barked instructions at them while Valens looked perplexed from me to the man at my feet.

"What the hell happened?" He demanded when they dragged the men out.

"You could hug me, you know?" I huffed. "I almost got shot in the face."

"I-He choked. Don't say that," he said but he did walk over to wrap a hand around my shoulders, sitting beside me. "I may have aged twenty years in the past ten minutes," he said, letting out a loud breathe.

"Okay, old man," I shrugged him off, standing.

He gave me a weird look. "You left me all alone to protect me and what do I get?"

'Don't b!tch now,' my wolf scolded while I glared at Valens. 'Seriously, we have more important things at hand. Bane is filled with traitors at this point. Remember Strauss created that unit?' Artemis probed me.

"Fine," I said out loud. "I am going to attach myself to you like a leech at this point," I told him. He scrubbed his palms against his face.

Tell me what happened, Sagira." I was surprised at his drab tone. He was right. He did look like he had aged. I recognized the signs of fatigue as I'd dealt with it a lot before meeting him.

"Nothing happened, really." I returned to my spot at his side. They broke in thinking I was asleep but I woke up before they were fully in- the room. Kicked and roasted the

first guy that got too close to me and magic dealt with the other. No big deal."

"No big deal," he muttered under his breath.

"Right, no big deal. Except, I heard a gunshot and I can see the bullet." He pointed at the silver bullet meant for me.

"They had guns. One shot at me, he missed."

"Goddess" he scrubbed his hands across his face again. "It's dangerous to be with me at this point. Redville is riddled with traitors. I'm constantly among warriors that can pull a gun on you at any second, " he mused.

"They can pull a gun on you too," I reminded him. "If there are traitors around you, they will certainly target you. Don't forget you are no longer invincible, Valens. One bullet and it's over."

"Worry about yourself, love. I have dealt with traitors, guns, swords, and whatnot for decades. You haven't," he reminded me.

You are annoying. Stop acting like I am the only one in danger here. You are too. You aren't the Cursed Prince anymore! You can be hurt-e

"I can be hurt but not as easily as you. Not as fatally. You are vulnerable. Too vulnerable. I'm moving you to the packhouse – The cut him off the way he cut me off.

"Enough of this nonsense." I stood and walked around to the other side of the room. I flung my wardrobe door open, careful of the mirror shards on the ground. You are not dealing with this alone." I grabbed shorts and a shirt.

"I'll be dammed if I let you do this alone. You are clearly tired but you are too proud to admit it." I grabbed my boots and a coat.

"It's three a.m. Where do you think you are going?" He asked. I felt him approach.

"Wherever you are going, I'm coming along," I declared, shrugging off my nightclothes.

"What if I'm not going anywhere?" He almost sounded amused.

"You can take a nap if you want but I have an investigation to carry out. Bane isn't to be trusted."

"I'm ahead of you on that. I have officially dissolved Bane. Some traitors among them connived with Skylar and I have them in the dungeons."

"The same dungeons that Lucien and Zavier broke out of? I don't trust the guards there."

I have my people there now. They are not breaking out any time soon," he informed me.

There is nothing for you to do. Please, rest." I got dressed and pulled my hair into a ponytail as he spoke.

"There's never too many men when one is at war. The office?"

"Closed. The pack is on lockdown. Warriors from six other packs are on their way here to retire the warriors of Redville. I have everything under control."

"Why did you return them? Your text sounded urgent."

"Jabari informed me of Lucien's demise. I – " He shook his head. "I felt you were in danger.

Anyway, we are relaxing border security for a few days to lure in Skylar. I thought –

"What!? I exclaimed, my eyes bulging out of their sockets.

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"What do you mean you let down the security?

We are just going to let her walk in?" I almost pulled at my hair. I didn't because he hugged me, cutting me short midrant.

"Stay still a while. I have to be out of here soon.

He pressed his cheek into my hair. "I've missed you today."

"Valens, is this a good plan?" I asked, my hands going up to wrap around him. "Are we certain it'll work?"

"It will. I know who she is working with." He pulled me closer to himself, squeezing me for a second before he let go.

"Who?" I asked.

"Some guy I thought I ended last year. Alpha Callan. He is Skylar's mate." My mouth rounded in surprise.

She'd found her mate? Of course, he would be someone that had a bone to pick with Valens.

The world always seemed to align for Skylar when the time came for her to do evil. She didn't even have to try hard, there were always people to do her evil work while she lurked in the shadows, dishing out commands.

"An alpha mated to an alpha? Nice," I said, trying to focus on anything asides from the news that Skylar was mated now. She was the only one I could think of who would choose to pursue such an elaborate plan of vengeance right after she mated.

"Is there truly nothing I can do to help? You look bonetired," I said to my mate. He shook his head and I sighed.

The only thing I need from you now is to remain safe. Can you do that for me?" I shrugged. I guess I had more hours of sitting idle now. "I rushed here because one of the -men thrown into the dungeons bragged about stealing you from right underneath my nose. I became paranoid but now that I think of it, it may have been my sixth sense, huh?"

"Right. So off you trot." I shrugged off my coat.

"I'll go back to sleep then. All the best." I rose to my tiptoes and planted a kiss on his cheek.

"Don't sound so down," he said, after which he pulled me against himself and k!ssed me properly.

"I'm sorry if I'm being a brat. I just feel I am more useful to you than you think. It feels like I am hiding from my duties in this room, sleeping while everyone works. The Luna asleep while her pack is under attack? Crazy right?" I shrugged again.

You understand the reason for this," he sounded exasperated and I felt maybe – maybe I was pushing things too far. If he wanted me to go to bed, I should.

"I can work from here too. I've done it before.

I feel useless. Surely I would go down in history as the worst Luna if I continue to sleep while my pack prepares for a siege."

"It's not a siege." He stuffed his hands into his pockets.

"Since you're hellbent on coming, let's go. You are my Luna after all." He took my hand with that and we were out of the room.

"Am I free to leave now?" Jabari asked when he saw us coming down the stairs. He was back to looking like his pet died, eyes full and posture defeated. "I have duties to attend to," he added.

"She's coming with me. Check on the southern borders. That's their most likely entrance," Valens answered, then he dragged me along with him. In the car, he handed me his tablet. I scanned through reports, reading up on what had been happening. There were several reports I had to skim through as fast as possible.

Three packs had been attacked so far. Six had sent their warriors and I could see how soon they'll arrive. Skylar found her mate and he was the one to register as the bounty hunter to bring her. The weaker squads were on rotation now so we were expecting a full attack in forty -five minutes to an hour.

"If they were last spotted at Belgave Pack, shouldn't they be coming in from the West?" I asked, swiping.

"They haven't been spotted yet. She is clever enough to still be in hiding while she sends her minions to cause confusion in strategic places," he sounded put off. "We have monitoring social media and so far, we've had three people from three locations mention ,sighting her. They have all been wrong. We haven't found her yet."

The car suddenly skidded to a halt as he spoke,: almost throwing me forward. I'd formed the habit of riding with a seatbelt and I feared it would kill me before Skylar got her hands on me.

"Why are we stopping?" I asked Valens who was taking off his seatbelt and getting out of the car.

"Stay here." He closed the door behind him and then I saw what caused us to stop. Three people had run right into the road as we drove and as I watched, more people followed

behind them and they all charged my mate at the same time.

Hell no,' Artemis hissed.

I looked at the driver who had remained seated throughout this commotion. He was looking at me through the rearview mirror. The car was still on.

I flew out of it as he tried to reverse, my shoulder hitting the pavement as I fell. The driver backed up with speed and didn't stop, the car door hanging open as he turned into the nearest street.

"I told you to stay in the car!" Valens shouted, disarming a man who rushed at him with a knife.

Two men came at me and I cleared one off his feet as I stood. I ducked the other one's fist, concentrating to channel my magic. I felt it as the second man grabbed my shoulder. When I raised my hand, he went flying fifty feet away from me. The other man stumbled in his approach.

Something in my head clicked that minute. I may not have learnt a quarter of the spells in my books but I'd taken kickboxing class before my miscarriage, and I'd trained three times a week for the last month. I could do this, alright.

The second man charged. I mimicked a punch in the air and watched in satisfaction as a whirling force brought him to his knees. I broke into a un, going at him, but someone else

got to him before I did. My heart dropped to my feet when I saw who it was. Then red clouded my vision.

The newcomer slashed the man's throat, pushing him to the ground. Blood spurted out of his neck while she winked at me. She turned and joined my mate in combating the last two men who were battling him.

The shock of her sudden appearance threw him off guard when she rushed to his side like it was natural for her to be there. I supposed it -was. He'd always fought alongside her and his Beta. I shouldn't be feeling like this if she was coming to our aide but I felt nauseous just from how well they synced. In two minutes, they had the last of the men on the ground, Clover having slashed one of the men's throat.

"Why would you slash his throat?" Valens demanded.
"There will be killing in avoidable situations!" He pushed his hand into his hair, turned, and saw me standing next to the other man who she'd also cut open. Fifty feet away, the man I'd thrown groaned. Some of the men around Valens twitched. Only two of them had been cut down.

"I heard you were under attack. It's good to see you too, Vee." She patted his biceps then hugged his arm.

"What are you doing here?" I asked, my voice low and drowned by the sirens approaching.

"What the fvck are you doing here?" Valens asked, louder than me.

"Oh, come on. You are still my Alpha, you know?

I know when you are in distress so I came over to help. Like it or not, you need me. I am one of your most skilled fighters and I know you have better sense than to keep me out because your mate is jealous of me." She shot me a smile, wiping her knife with a dark cloth. "And I arrived right in time too." She looked up with a wide grin at Valens.

"I don't want you here," I muttered.

"Tough luck. Skylar will be here any minute from now and he needs me."

"Clover, I specifically told you not to return to this pack but you defied me," Valens growled but he didn't look half as annoyed as I expected him to be.

"I am a warrior. You requested for warriors and I fit the box. I am still a member of this pack and you can't stop me from rendering my services in battle." She flung her braid across her shoulder in a show of defiance.

"We will address your disobedience once this nonsense is over," Valens said. He took my hand as the ambulance came to load up the men on the ground and together, we left the scene.

## The Cursed Alpha's Mate Chapter 95

"I'll go get it," I volunteered. Several pairs of eyes turned to me as I spoke.

Throughout the night into the day, I followed Valens around, rallying the warriors and trying to keep their

spirits high while Valens discussed strategies with their commanders.

Not unexpected but we hadn't seen Skylar when we expected her. I knew she would prefer to make a sneaky entrance than arrive when she was expected. I felt like I knew her schemes better than these strategists but they had won numerous wars while I had no experience.

We were at the southern borders where we expected would be the easiest part for Skylar to enter the pack. The elders had decided there was no point going out to find her. We could lure her in and have the upper hand that way since we would be battling on familiar grounds.

"Gavin will drive you." Jabari threw his keys to a burly warrior who I'd come to know was named Gavin. You are sure you know where it is?" He asked me.

Yes, it's in his office. I'll be back soon." I followed Gavin out of the small shed we were in.

Jabari had to rearrange the border control so he was pouring over documents when I left. I knew without a doubt that he would have thought twice before letting leave his sight without Valens accompanying me. My mate had to rush to the other end of the pack at the rise of another set of traitors championed by Zavier.

Clover decided she would go find somewhere to rest right as he left. I wasn't a fool; I knew she was following him but I left Valens to deal with her. Gavin drove through the empty roads and to the pack offices. There were barely any cars on the road, with a few people on the streets. I watched a group of teenagers vandalize pack property as we went by. Getting to the office, I found that ugly graffiti decorated the main building. It was horrifying image of a decapitated wolf.

These little sh!t,' Artemis hissed in a voice tightened with anger.

The decapitated wolf looked suspiciously like my mate.

"I'll find a place to park," Gavin said when he saw the look on my face at the sight of the drawing sprayed on the glass walls of the office.

"No need for that. I'll be down in ten minutes.

Just be ready so we get back as soon as possible."

I ignored the disgusting image as I walked into the office building and went to the elevators.

There was no one at the main office. Those who could work from home were mandated to do so due to the curfew while the rest had moved bases to avoid getting attacked by the tyrants and traitors that were the Redville members who refused to recognize Valens as their Alpha.

The elevator took me to the highest floor and as I got down, I felt a violent wave of disgust mixed with apprehension slam into me. I just had to grab Valens' seal so that Jabari

could make some decisions with the Alpha being too far away.

"Get the seal and go," I muttered to myself but still, I took a deep breath before I opened the office door. I swiped the card, grabbed the door handle, and stilled. Entering the room, I was met with darkness. I turned on the lights and smiled.

When I got out of the elevator and felt such disgust, I should have known to expect you," I said to the chair backing the entrance. Skylar turned in the chair, her face blank and eyes sunken.

"What are you doing in my office?" Her voice was unlike what I remembered. She sounded quiet, looked innocent and demure but her eyes – her eyes told a different story. Her eyes held so much hatred that they almost glowed. The hatred warmed something inside me.

"I think you have things wrong. This is Alpha Valens' office and you, a wanted criminal, are in his seat." I rubbed my palms together before folding my arms.

"This seat is mine. My father is old enough to retire and with my brother gone, I am his successor," she sounded as if she was speaking facts, looking at me as if I was the one who didn't know the process of inheritance when in reality she was the one who chose to forget her father lost.

Zavier and all his supporters lost. It was a fair fight and they lost. Redville was officially under Valens now. The war we avoided by what was supposed to be gallantry on the part of our Alpha was upon us again.

"I hate to be the one to break you out of your delusion, but that seat is not yours. It is Valens'.

Your father is being a sore loser as are you and I swear to the goddess, this will not end well for you."

"Remember when you had better sense than to talk back at me?" She pushed the seat back and stood, her eyes trained on me as she moved.

"Remember when you still had a l!ck of sense in you?"

"Skylar, months have passed. You do not know who I am or what I am capable of." I looked at the clock on the wall. I had to deliver the seal soon. "I am not someone you should try to bully at this point. Your gang is finished. Shouldn't you be more worried about them? Broke Lucien out of the dungeons and for what? For him to get killed?" I snorted, ignoring the slight pang in my ch3st as I casually leaned against a wall.

"The bastard was supposed to be by my side but he wanted to run off on his own," she said, her voice devoid of emotions.

You ruined his life. You ruined Bethel's life and you ruined yours too."

"Keep my brother's name out of your mouth!"

She snapped, slamming her fist into the desk.

"Or what? What are you going to do if I don't?

Come off it, Skylar. It is over for you." I pushed away from the wall, pulling myself up. I'd waited to see her moves but it looked like she had none.

She must not have expected intrusion while she basked in an office that would never be hers, no doubt daydreaming I would admit to being a bit surprised when she pulled a gun at me and cocked it immediately, aiming at my head. How many guns would I have pointed at my head before someone finally shot me?

### I dove

"If you are going to shoot me underneath the table when her fingers moved as if to shoot. I heard her laugh after a few seconds without hearing a gunshot. I crawled to the other side of the table before I stood. As I rose to my feet, I heard a loud gunshot that made me dive back down. I heard a yelp from the door.

"What the fvck did you do that for?" I heard an unfamiliar masculine voice groan in pain.

"Oh goddess, I am so sorry! You frightened me!"

I peeked around the table to see a man clutching his bicep with blood seeping out. "I thought it was this b!tch's mate!" She pointed at me when I finally stood.

"Is this his mate?" The man on the floor asked, giving me a weird look. "Hell, Sky. I can't believe you shot me." He staggered to his feet.

"I meant to shoot her," she was saying to the man, looking visibly distressed. She kept her gun trained on me while she watched the man who I assumed to be her mate.

I wasn't going to wait around listening to their chit-chat before I did something. The man hunched over as he stood, still holding his bicep while I crept towards Skylar. Her hands shook around her weapon.

She turned to me and I only hand a second to duck and then fly at her, knocking the weapon off her hands and slamning her to the ground.

She struggled against me to reach for her weapon but I was faster, kicking it away.

Her mate came to her aide, yanking me off her by my hair. I saw stars and I was sure he r!pped out some of my hair. He flung me away from her and staggered, the silver bullet in his bicep weakening him with its fast-spreading poison.

'Shift. Let me handle this,' Artemis whispered but it was not a wise choice considering she was an omega who would be fighting off an alpha.

'Shift. Trust me. The magic is stronger when we shift,' she pressed.

I had no choice but to trust my wolf, primarily because I could see Skylar start to shift, fur covering her skin and her eyes changing while her mate staggered to the ground, collapsing.

We met midair; my wolf and hers.