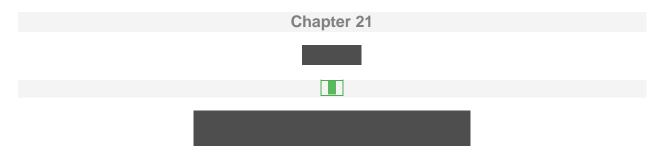
# AN ENEMY CALLED MATE



### XANDER

"Is everything okay?" the driver asked, glancing at Ziva in the rear-view mirror.

"Just keep driving," I said firmly, and the driver obeyed, turning his attention back to the road.

I leaned over and pressed the button that rolled down the passenger window, hoping that some fresh air would help Ziva feel better. Wind gushed into the car, and a sigh of relief let out from Ziva's lips just as I expected.

"Much better..." she uttered softly, her eyes closed and her head resting against the headrest.

Then, I could analyze her properly. Her dress was unbuttoned, almost exposing her skin, so I told her.

"Button up your dress," I spoke, keeping my eyes fixed on the trees outside the window.

"Done!" I heard her chuckle. I turned, facing her only to spot more buttons on her dress that were undone. With that, she chuckled like a baby.

"Suit yourself," I replied, narrowing my eyes.

Before my gaze could reach the window, my gaze fell on the driver who kept turning around.

As soon as his gaze made contact with Ziva's body again, I snarled, my anger almost snapping out of me.

"Didn't I tell you to not turn around?!"

He disobeyed me and was gazing at drunk Ziva's childish attitude or maybe her exposed skin. The driver faced the road immediately I yelled at him.

Good! I faced Ziva, watching how she wasn't bothered about her unbuttoned dress.

Even her cleavages will be exposed at this point. So, I reached out to help her button up, and I carefully fastened each button.

After I completed that, I was about to move away from her. Then, she slumped against me with her head resting on my shoulder.

Her warm breath fanned my neck, and her brown hair brushed against my cheek. Meanwhile, my mind rambled about the thought of her being unconscious since she fell to my side.

Does that mean that I will have to carry her in my arms again when we reach the mansion?

Ugh... I hate the way I'm treating her nicely. My mother was not treated this way!

Suddenly, the car screeched to a stop. I stepped out of it and carried Ziva in my arms. Surprisingly, while carrying her, her hands moved as they stayed around my neck while I walked.

Isn't she unconscious?

I took a peek at her face, and OMG!! She had a smug smile on her face! What is this? Was she trying to make me carry her? Thank goodness, I haven't reached her room. I paused and considered lowering her to the floor.

But there were so many Omegas around, and if they spotted me doing that, it might cause a rumor, which could attract Alpha Darwin's attention.

So, I decided to not drop her. Instead, I took her to her room, where bright lights were shining.

As soon as I entered her room, I turned off the bright lights. To be honest, I despise bright lights at night because it reminded me of my past.

Turning off the bright light, I turned on the night lamps and dropped Ziva softly on the bed.

I heard her mutter a word, but I could not hear what she said. As she lay on the bed, her legs rested on it, but her hands remained locked around my neck.

Suddenly, her hands, which were still wrapped around my neck, tugged me closer, causing our faces to just be a few inches away. For the first time since I met her, I noticed her hazel eyes, which revealed shades of brown and gold.

They were beautiful, but the brown shades reminded me of blood.

I raised my hand, trying to move her hands away from my neck, either gently or roughly, I didn't care. But, they didn't move. They clung stubbornly to me like they were glued. Then, I heard a soft chuckle from her.

I turned to her, shooting an intense glare at her. "Let go of me now!"

"I don't want to," she replied, chuckling again.

Slowly, I noticed that her fingers loosened. Seizing the opportunity, I pushed her hands away and moved away from the bed.

However, with each step I took, I felt a strange pull, like my clothes were stuck, resisting me from moving forward.

Puzzled, I turned around, only to find Ziva firmly holding my cloth.

"Thank you..." she mumbled softly, as her hazel eyes sparkled with a soft gaze. A gaze that could melt anyone's heart.

I blinked, refusing to be caught up with her gaze. I interrupted her with a cold tone. "I saved you for my gain, don't bother thanking me."

With that, the soft gaze in her eyes was replaced with a disheartened gaze. Afterward, I strode towards her and released my cloth from her grip.

Striding freely, I walked out of her room and slammed the door, the loud bang echoing throughout the mansion.

At that moment, I could hear my heart racing. It raced like crazy, and it hurt a lot!

My hands itched to touch my chest and try to stop the pain, but I couldn't. The Omegas were around, and showing a sign of pain would make me seem weak. I don't want that.

I strode into my room hastily, locking the door behind me. As soon as I realized that the room was empty, I sank into the plush sofa, clenching my chest which caused a lot of pain.

The pain felt just like the one I had on that bloody day. My wolf growled at a sudden shot of pain, and I'm certain that I blurted a growl out. Instantly, my wolf, Maz went mute. No words, sounds, or groans of pain.

"Don't leave again," I whimpered to my wolf, hoping that it could hear me out. But there was no response. Instead, I heard cries... the cries of my pack members who were in agony.

They were loud, and it made the pain more intense. At this rate, it's impossible for me to hold onto this.

I rushed toward my drawer, my right hand clenching my chest. I reached for the knob as soon as I neared the drawer.

Chapter 22

## **XANDER**

I opened the drawer with a smooth glide, revealing the contents inside. Without wasting time, I picked up the syringe, needle, and the small bottle that accompanied it.

Hastily, I inserted the needle into the bottle, and pulled back on the plunger, drawing the liquid in the bottle into the syringe.

I inserted the needle into the vein in my arm, and pushed the plunger.

As soon as I injected the liquid into my vein, my hands became weak. I dropped the syringe involuntarily, and slumped, with darkness creeping at the edges of my eyes.

"Finally taking a break from pack works, uh? I guess Mr. Workaholic decided to have some time for himself." Lance mind-linked.

"Shut it, it's too early for this," I replied, flickering my eyes open.

"Early? it's late afternoon." Lance mind-linked back.

"Afternoon?" His words echoed in my head.

I forced my eyes open immediately. I recall taking Ziva to her room, and it was nighttime. How did I sleep till this time?

I've never done that.

Scanning my surroundings, I spotted sunlight that reflected on the door, and my gaze fell on the syringe on the floor.

Gosh, last night was a mess again. I snapped away from my laying position, and my head throbbed with headache.

Touching my forehead, I managed to stand, then I tossed the empty syringe underneath my bed with my foot.

My muscles felt heavy with the burden of last night's drama. Feeling the need to burn off some energy, I decided to head to the pack's training area.

I had my bath, changed, and rushed downstairs to have my lunch, then go to the pack's training area.

As soon as I descended the stairs, the aroma of roasted venison and steamed vegetables filled my nostrils. I walked into the dining hall and sat on my chair, meanwhile, the Omegas served the food.

Then, I spotted the Ziva girl.

I don't know what's so disastrous about her that made me feel that pain. But I'm starting to despise her more than before.

Luckily, the sorceress will be here soon and I will be able to question her about the reason for the pain I felt last night.

Silently, Ziva walked down the stairs, and upon glancing at me, our gaze met each other. I averted my gaze to my plate and ate, not wanting to see her.

The sound of her footsteps approached me, and it paused.

# Squeak!

I looked up and saw how she pulled out a chair. She settled on the chair, the chair next to me as a moment of silence hung between us.

To be honest, I wish I hadn't saved her. If I had just left her, or maybe sent someone else to save her instead, I wouldn't have been in pain.

The only reason why I decided to take her away from the Den myself was because the men there may not respect anyone I send. Just as I assumed, the bald man didn't respect me, talkless of someone lower than me.

"About last night," Ziva mumbled, her voice low and close to my ear. "I'm so sorry."

I raised my eyes to meet hers, and saw her gaze fixed on her plate. Her head was lowered, as if she was respecting me.

That was odd!

I was not expecting her to apologize, especially when she has a bad attitude, like Lance said before I agreed to this marriage.

Or was she putting on an act? Her eyes seemed sincere, but it was hard to tell what she was really thinking. Was she truly sorry, or was this all a performance?

"I was starving, and I-" I heard Ziva speak, but I was so hungry that I only half-listened. I needed food more than words, and I was uninterested in whatever she spat.

I cut her off before she could finish her sentence.

"Have your lunch, we have a guest by dusk," I replied, and shoveled another bite of food into my mouth. Dusk was approaching, and I could already smell the night air.

I should go to the pack's training area before dusk arrives.

I pushed away from the dining table, the empty plate in front of me indicating the end of my meal. Suddenly, Lance's voice crackled through my mind, "I have the list of the doctors named Eugene in this pack,"

I paused mid-stride, my mind swirling with the possibility that Rose was definitely hiding something from me.

"Alright, meet me in my office," I ordered, walking into my office hastily.

I leaned back in my chair, the leather creaking beneath me as I settled into the seat. My hands rested on the armrests, and I waited for Lance's arrival.

Within a few minutes, the door barged open, and Lance walked in.

He bent his head low, and I spoke quickly, "The list," since that was what I was interested in, not any greeting.

Lance placed a tablet on the table, as it turned on.

A list of names appeared immediately with pictures next to them. All the names had Eugene, and they were few.

Well, I and my pack members are stronger than normal werewolves, and healing is a quick thing here.

Having a pack doctor is also not a big deal, only a few are needed when the werewolves are extremely injured.

As I scrolled through the list of names and pictures, I realized that none of them were familiar to me. I'd never met any of these people before.

I looked up, asking Lance quickly, "Is any of them related to Rose?"

A look of disappointment crossed Lance's face. Instantly, I knew what he would say.

"I apologize, Alpha. But after my search, none of them are related to Lady Rose," Lance spoke just as I had expected him to. Closing my eyes, I rested my elbow on the mahogany table as I massaged my temples, trying to calm myself.

I wasted my time, thinking about something that didn't even exist. There was no "Dr. Eugene" in this pack who was related to Rose, my mate.

Speaking about Rose, Rose was a beautiful lady. She was curvy, an inch shorter than me, and we were like two pieces of a puzzle that fit perfectly together.

I can still recall her sweet voice that urged me to stay with her. But I didn't, I killed her, and almost ruined the pack.

"Is anything wrong? You look worried," Lance voiced out, jolting me away from my thoughts.

"Nothing is wrong," I replied firmly.

"Are you sure?" Lance questioned with a worried tone. Yes, he is a soft spot to lie on, and a good friend to depend on.

But as an Alpha, I shouldn't let anyone be aware of my weaknesses or worries, like my father said.

"Don't ever ask me such a question. I am fine, and will always be." I replied coldly.

"Alright, but should I still search for the Doctor named-"

"No need, it's a waste of time."

"Or check Rose's medical record?"

"You heard me!" I thundered, using my alpha aura. Then, Lance paused, he bowed his head, remaining silent.

"Just arrange the sorceress's arrival," I spoke in a commanding tone.

With that, Lance nodded briefly, his face grim. "Understood," he said.

# Chapter 23

## ZIVA

The Alpha is as cold as he has always been. But today was somewhat different. His eyes didn't speak anger this time, he seemed to be more worried than angry. I walked out of the dining hall, having eaten my food to my satisfaction.

I reached the staircase, attempting to go to my room, and prepare for the guest Alpha Xander spoke about.

As I took a step, about to ascend to my room, I heard a whisper from somewhere nearby. It was followed by a low chuckle, as if someone were trying to hold back their laughter.

"Lady Ziva looked so cute!" the voice squealed again, this time even louder.

"Shh!" another voice hissed with an annoyed tone. "Do you want everyone to hear you?"

I moved back, turning toward the direction of the voices. Then, I realized that the owners of the voices were in a room. I crept closer to listen. Pressing myself against the wall as I neared the door, I prayed that they wouldn't see me.

I peeked through the tiny gap between the door and the wall and saw two young women dressed in Omega uniforms, their eyes bright as they gossiped. But why were they talking about me?

"I was there last night. She turned the kitchen into a disaster, the Alpha threw her out of the mansion, but he returned with her. Such a sweet soul." the Omega spoke to the other Omega who seemed to be uninterested in what she was discussing.

As the first Omega spoke about me, the other Omega cleaned the room roughly like the room had offended her.

The Omega's statement made me recall that I woke up in the morning, on my bed.

I could not remember all that happened last night, but I recall stepping into a car and falling asleep. It must have been Alpha Xander's car.

The Omega who seemed to be uninterested in her speech stepped in at that moment.

"Enough of this blathering!" she snapped. "All you talk about is how cute and sweet she is, but did you see the mess she made in the kitchen? It was her first night, and she left the place in shambles. If she stayed here for two months, this pack would be reduced to nothing."

"Don't say that!" The chatty Omega protested, "It was just a mistake, she's new here, after all."

"A mistake? Yeah, right," The Omega who was antagonizing me sneered, rolling her eyes. "You know, if it was Lady Rose, the kitchen would never be destroyed. Lady Rose is very experienced with kitchen work." She voiced out.

Lady Rose? Who is that?

"Keep deceiving yourself. I'm certain that you are only supporting Lady Rose because you were her favorite, and she gave you tips weekly. Don't give too much praise to a corpse."

"How dare you speak that way? If Alpha Xander heard you say that, you'd be in big trouble."

"Me or you? You are the one who broke the rule by speaking about Lady Rose. You know how deadly that is."

"Forget it, let's just clean this place." The Omega pouted, ending the discussion.

They began to clean, their voices fading as I left the room. Walking into my room, my mind rambled. It rambled about what they said.

That Lady Rose must have been someone of my age for that Omega to be comparing us. But I guess it's something I should not know about.

Sigh... since I vividly recall when the Omega said that mentioning Lady Rose was breaking a rule.

I wouldn't want to cause another mess by asking questions about Lady Rose.

"Hey, I've been waiting for you!" Anji exclaimed, her voice brimming with excitement. She placed her hands on my shoulders and gently ushered me into my room, with the sound of her heels clicking on the floor.

That reminds me. I wanted to discuss with Alpha Darwin about my mother's location before I was thrown out of the mansion. Since Anji is Alpha Darwin's minion, she can help!

As soon as we reached my room, Anji picked two dresses, and she narrated, "The Alpha is expecting a guest soon, so you should be prepared. What dress would you like, eh? Cocktail? Ball gown?" Anji's voice trailed off.

"Are you even listening to me?" She uttered, snapping her fingers at my face.

"I am," I replied.

"Then what's wrong? Are you nervous?"

I shook my head. "No, no... it's just..." I trailed off and walked towards her.

I gently took her hands in mine, and continued, "Can my mother be moved away from that cell? I'm helping Alpha Darwin already. I've made the pack united, so my mother should be given a more comfortable place."

"Lady Ziva, that's not my decision to make. Alpha Darwin is the one you should speak to, not me."

"I tried to reach out to him last night, but I couldn't."

Anji raised an eyebrow and she voiced out. "That's impossible. He might be having an Alphas meeting at that time, but if you reached out to him throughout the night, he would have responded."

"Oh, something came up at that moment."

"The kitchen incident?"

"You know already?"

"Everyone in this mansion knows about how Alpha Xander threw you out and carried you in his arms."

"Carried me?" I questioned, not recalling that anyone carried me in their arms, most especially Alpha Xander.

"When did that happen?" I asked, my brows furrowed.

"Oh, I thought you knew! It's been the talk of the pack since yesterday.

Pictures have been all over the internet." Anji replied, causing my jaw to drop in shock.

"What?!" I sputtered. "We're supposed to keep our identities a secret. If humans find out about our existence, they'll try to hunt us."

"Relax, it's just photos of a normal couple who seem to care deeply for each other. No one would suspect anything lycanthropic." Anji replied, and she held out her phone.



## ZIVA

I looked at Anji's phone screen, wanting to see the pictures she talked about. Some pictures appeared on the screen, causing my jaw to drop at that moment.

It was a picture of Alpha Xander carrying me in his arms. The picture swiped off and a new photo appeared on the screen, this time showing me lying on a bed, Alpha Xander's face hovering just above mine.

We were both gazing at each other, and there was no sign of anger or coldness in his eyes while he was staring at me. His face spelled more of peaceful.

I grabbed Anji's phone from Anji and gazed at the huge amount of reactions the pictures had.

The comment section alone was filled. It prompted my mind to read the comments and when I did, I only saw good comments. The comments were filled with admiration, but they also mentioned that they had never seen me among celebrities or billionaires.

Then, a comment drew my attention because of the numerous reactions it received.

[Mr. Xander looks handsome as always, but who is that lady?]

[Side chick? XD]

What?! I'm his wife, not some side chick...

"How do they know about Alpha Xander when werewolves identity is a secret?" I questioned Anji.

"He is an Alpha here, but in the human world, he is a businessman, a billionaire," Anji replied.

"Oh... And side chicks?"

"I do not know anything about that, but I've never heard of him with anyone."

"Alright," I replied, checking the comment section again, only to realize that someone replied to a comment under the same post.

[There is no chick, and if there is any woman with him, it would be me.]

What? Who is she?

Just then, a notification popped up on the screen. It was a message from an app, with the text; Sender – Alpha Darwin.

"Watch her-" I read the message, but the phone screen snapped out. Anji grabbed the phone from me, and uttered with a changed serious tone, "Focus on what you're going to wear."

Sadly, I was unable to read the full message. But the message seemed like a threat to me. 'Watch her', the 'her' should be referring to me.

"Can I possibly meet Alpha Darwin? I need to discuss with him about my mother," I voiced out, and Anji shook her head.

"He is busy, but when he Is free, he will contact you."

Busy? He is busy, yet he messaged Anji, and he didn't respond to my calls. Is he ignoring me?

No, he wouldn't dare. I'm helping him with whatever plan he connived.

Anji threw a cloth at me. Luckily, I caught it, and raised my eyebrow in question.

"That dress will match ankle boots. It is simple and a bit stylish." Anji uttered, and I narrowed my eyes inwardly. If only I could find out about everything at once, things would have been better.

"Alright, I will change into it," I replied, walking into my closet with Anji's suggested dress and boot.

I changed into the clothes Anji had given me, meanwhile, she left the room without a word. I suspect that she left to speak with Alpha Darwin secretly. But what can I do anyway, if not watch and backstab them?

Anji returned with a young Omega who quickly got to work, curling and styling my long, brown hair into loose, romantic waves.

"Done!" the Omega announced, smiling as she stepped back to admire her handiwork.

Anji gave her a curt nod and waved her away, causing the young Omega to leave the room with a quiet "Excuse me."

Then, a grin appeared on Anji's face. She touched my shoulders and turned me to face her, "The guest will be here in a minute or two, and you are looking great already."

With her statement, I scoffed inwardly. I couldn't tell if she was lying or telling the truth.

Even if I questioned her about her excitement for the guest's arrival, she would only ignore me. Then, she might suspect that I know that she and Alpha Darwin will be against me later on.

"I'm also excited! I can't wait to see the guest!" I squeaked, forcing a smile on my face. The grin on Anji's face vanished. I'm very unskilled at pretending, so I'm not certain that Anji bought my pretense. Tsk, if it were Tania, she would have been given a golden award for the best actress in the pack.

"Now, let's wait for the Alpha's order," Anji muttered.

Alpha's order? Can Alpha Xander order Anji through a mind link? But the packs had only been united a few hours ago. It's impossible for him to mind link her quickly.

"How will we get his order? Through mindlink?" I questioned, with curiosity tinged in my voice.

"No, no. When I left, I gave your phone number to the Alpha, so we could wait for his order. You know, it would have been rude to give him my phone number."

"This is not the first time you did this," I spoke, my voice rising in frustration. "I told you to inform me before doing something to any of my belongings."

"It's not like the Alpha won't find your phone number later?" She winked.

"My mother would have been released from Alpha Darwin's cell. So there is no need for him to have my phone number since I will not associate with him anymore."

"Alright, Lady Ziva. I will do as you say." Anji replied politely, and she walked out of the room.

Lies, she lied to me.

Obviously, she left the room earlier to speak with Alpha Darwin, now she covered up by lying about my phone number being given to Alpha Xander.

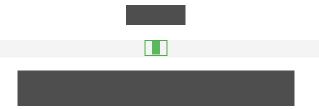
Even though Alpha Xander received such, he would have deleted it immediately.

# Beep!

# Beep!

Beeps echoed in the room. I turned towards the direction. The source of the sounds was from my phone which lay on the table. I reached for it, and a notification popped up on the phone screen, just like it did on Anji's phone.

## Chapter 25



## ZIVA

I gazed at the pop-up and spotted Sender – Unknown number.

Weird?

I looked down at the message and the first line was, [From Alpha Xander]

I almost screamed at the sight of his name. Was Anji right? Did she really give him my phone number?

Oh, goodness, should I check the message or simply ignore it for my mental peace's sake? I do not want to see anything that will put me down and make me feel like trash, as Alpha Xander makes me feel.

What can I do then? The message might contain a piece of important information.

I paced to and fro in the room, with my hand rubbing my chin as I thought. I thought, and checking Alpha Xander's message was the right decision.

Carefully clicking on the message box, a message application appeared, one I'd never seen before.

I guess that the messages at the bottom were from Alpha Xander.

My eyes gazed at the message, my mouth reading it aloud.

"Downstairs now. The guest is before the double doors."

Oh, it was about the guest.

I rushed out of my room, and upon reaching the stairs, I walked elegantly towards the double doors, recalling how Anji trained me to walk before I got married... Married, no. This is no marriage at all. I meant before I got involved in Alpha Darwin's plan.

When I was about to reach the double doors, I saw a man in a forest green henley shirt paired with dark jeans and brown leather ankle boots. The man's hair was dark tousled, short, and rugged with his clothes looking simple.

The same man suddenly looked at me, his blue eyes making him extremely handsome. My heart fluttered at that moment, and I couldn't help but stare with my eyes drawn to him like magnets.

He had this look of admiration in his eyes, one I'd never seen in any man's eyes. Is this real? Am I imagining things?

I pinched my finger, hoping it was fake. Then, I looked up at the man again. Surprisingly, he didn't vanish, which meant that he was not fake.

"My little Coniglio, can you walk faster please?" The handsome man spoke, though his voice was very familiar. His voice sounded similar to that cold man's voice... Alpha Xander.

Impossible, he can't be the one. He can't be the same man who made butterflies swirl inside me as my stomach did backflips.

As I moved closer, he came into view. It was none other than Alpha Xander. Sigh...

Suddenly, he pulled me closer to his body by dragging me by my waist. I don't know how or why, but with that sudden touch, I felt very excited and I felt like I was floating in the air.

"Meet my little goddess..." Alpha Xander spoke, bringing me out of my thoughts. I gazed at what he was staring at, then I noticed that he was looking at the woman before us.

But wait, was he just referring to me as his goddess? Wow, but why would he do that?

With his gestures, he was certainly introducing me to the woman in a black gown that flowed like a flood on the floor. Also, she had different black markings on her face.

Gosh, is she Alpha Xander's mother? The expression on her face spelled cold-hearted, just like her son's attitude. This is a mother and daughter-in-law introduction!

"Meet my little Coniglio," Alpha Xander spoke, his touch still making me feel giddy.

I'm frightened. I think if I don't stay away from him now, I might lose my mind, do something crazy, or maybe faint.

"Good! We can start the ceremony now," the woman spoke tartly, and she moved inside, leading the way.

As soon as she left our presence, the giddy feeling vanished! I looked at my waist, only to realize that Alpha Xander pulled his hand away.

Suddenly, the admiration on his face transformed into anger. He yelled. "What took you so long?!"

He paused, massaged his temples, and spoke in a lower tone, "You were here, yet you were walking like a snail. Are you planning to ruin this ceremony?"

"Sorry-"

"Don't tell me sorry. It annoys me when you say that. Just go straight to the point," he spoke in a commanding, low tone.

Meanwhile, I pouted, blurting out my thoughts. "I am not to blame. You were the one who looked so dazzling and hot... whatever it was. Don't blame me now and then – it annoys me too."

"What?" He asked, with a quizzical look on his face.

I gulped, glancing away from him, "We should be with your mother."

"My mother? That's a sorceress."

Oh, no wonder. But why have a sorceress in the pack? Alpha Darwin didn't have one.

I wanted to avoid Alpha Xander so I walked away, following the path the sorceress passed through.

"That is the wrong way," Alpha Xander's voice echoed, causing me to move to the other path.

Alpha Xander led me into a large room, and as soon as I raised my foot to step inside, a female voice shouted.

"Don't you dare!"

I turned to Alpha Xander, as I didn't understand what the voice meant.

"Pull off your boot," Alpha Xander responded, and I obeyed. He pulled off his boot too, and a woman approached us, carrying a tray that was filled with black glittering sand.

She used a feather to pick a little sand and she dashed it at our faces. I was about to get furious, but when I turned to Alpha Xander, he seemed calm. Maybe this is part of the ceremony he didn't want me to ruin.

After dashing whatever it was, she moved aside, and Alpha Xander walked inside.

In the middle of the room was a broken fragment of a crystal-like object placed highly. The sorceress danced around swaying more of the glittering sand as she danced crazily.

After the dance was over, she turned to me with a fierce look, a look that made my heart pound in my chest.

"You are welcome to Crescent Moon Pack," she uttered, making my jaw drop.

So all this was to welcome me into the pack?!

Chapter 26



## ZIVA

After the whole dancing and ceremony ended, I excused myself, feeling frustrated with the heaps of glittering sand that were dashed at my body.

Surprisingly, as soon as I left the place, my phone rang with Dad's name and a love emoji on the screen. It was a call from Alpha Darwin. Finally!

I pressed the answer button instantly. Then I spoke clearly, my voice tinged with annoyance. "Weren't you ignoring my calls, Alpha Darwin?"

"Why would I ignore my daughter's call? I was busy," Alpha Darwin replied, causing me to scoff.

"I need to speak with you," I uttered, trying to keep my frustration and anger in check.

"Right now?" Alpha Darwin asked.

"Yes, now. Face to face," I insisted.

"Alright, but you're new to the pack. Will you know the way around?" Alpha Darwin inquired, concern evident in his voice. He must be pretending to care about me, because of the fear of being overheard. Ugh... He is just like Tania, perfect family!

Rolling my eyes, I snapped, "Anji will come with me."

"Did the Alpha permit you to leave the mansion?" Alpha Darwin asked, irking me further.

"I know you're asking these questions to waste time, but I'm not interested. And who cares if the Alpha permits me or not?" I yelled, my anger flaring.

"Fine, fine, I wanted to speak with you since you seem to have lost your manners. How dare you speak to me that way?" Alpha Darwin retorted.

Uff. I knew he was only acting loving, just in case someone was nearby, but his pretense vanished quickly.

"I-" I uttered, about to reply to his statement.

"Who are you speaking to?" A cold voice interrupted before I could speak. I turned around, with a forced smile on my lips.

Then, I spotted Alpha Xander who stood tall before me, as his icy blue eyes bore into mine, captivating and dangerous, like an untamed tempest. The sorceress stood by his side too.

"My father," I stuttered, replying to Alpha Xander as my voice betrayed my anxiety.

"He called me to check on my well-being, and we were having a father-daughter conversation," I said with a wide smile, even though Alpha Xander's stern gaze bore into me with suspicion.

"I will take my leave now," the sorceress interrupted, bowing to Alpha Xander. She left with her assistant, their footsteps echoing as they left I and Alpha Xander on the landing... Alone!

I could feel the temperature rising with him around, as he gazed at me. He moved, and relief washed over my heart.

I assumed that the Alpha wanted to leave, but surprisingly, he didn't leave. Instead, He approached me, his gaze sending chills down my spine, as he took a step forward. "Did I ever tell you that I detest lies?"

"No," I replied, gulping my response. My heart raced at the sudden closeness. I took a step back, feeling the warmth of his presence even as I retreated.

"Well, now you know, little rabbit," he said, closing the distance between us. The scent of his cologne, a blend of smoky cedarwood and dark amber, wafted toward me. It was a fragrance that spoke of power, dominance, and something forbidden.

"Keep lies away and don't sneak around to cause a disaster, understood?" he uttered.

I nodded politely, while he walked away. Then he walked down the stairs.

"Alpha, can I meet my father?" I asked, hoping that he would accept.

He turned his broad shoulders and looked back at me, this time his gaze seemed to be darker, "Sure, why should I disrupt a father and daughter's conversation?"

"Great!" I thought as I returned to my room to have a private conversation with Alpha Darwin.

The call was not disconnected earlier, so I voiced out, "The Alpha permitted me."

"Alright, I will send the meeting location to Anji," Alpha Darwin responded, ending the call afterward.

As expected, Anji walked into my room. Certainly, Alpha Darwin had ordered her to come. Without wasting time, we stepped into a car that zoomed off, leaving the mansion's surroundings behind. The colored roofs were visible from afar.

The car suddenly stopped in front of a small shop with the sign 'Caffe Luna.'

I glanced at Anji. "Is this the right location?"

"Yes, Lady Ziva, it is," Anji replied. I stepped out of the car and walked toward the Caffe Luna shop.

The front of the shop was decorated with flowers, and when I opened the door...

# Ching!

I heard the soft murmur of conversation from inside the shop while the smell of freshly brewed coffee wafted into my nostrils.

Is this Caffe Luna a coffee shop?

"Alpha Darwin is over there," Anji whispered beside me. I averted my gaze from the counter and turned my gaze to the table Anji was staring at.

Then, I saw Alpha Darwin, sitting comfortably in a simple outfit with a scarf wrapped around his neck. He looked so gentle and nice in his appearance, but I'm certain that he is still what he is. It's just a facade anyway.

I walked over to his table and sat quietly.

"Firstly, I did my task. My mother deserves a comfortable place," I whispered, and Alpha Darwin on the other hand seemed relaxed.

"I will increase her daily feed..." Alpha Darwin stated, sipping from his cup.

I cut in, "No, no. I want her to be in a comfortable place, not a cell. Don't you have any compassion? She is your wife."

"Was," Alpha Darwin replied, correcting my statement. Of course, that is in the past since he has been a coward.

I rolled my eyes and crossed my arms. "I completed the task of being Alpha Xander's wife already."

"What about the other task? Did you find anything special or supernatural?" Alpha Darwin questioned, catching me off guard.

"Wow, I didn't realize you made me your spy," I uttered, blinking quickly at the outburst of his statement.

"I did, and that's why I gave you the phone."

"Why can't Anji do it instead?" I protested. "Also, if you just let my mother go, we would leave in peace. We won't bother you anymore."

"Well, as the Alpha's wife, you can cross some boundaries and complete some tasks Anji can't."

"Like what? This doesn't even make any sense..." I uttered, rising to my feet as I intended to walk away.

"Like steal the Crystal Moon and hand it over to me," Alpha Darwin spoke, his menacing voice coming in as a whisper.

Chapter 27



## ZIVA

# Crystal Moon?

"What are you talking about?" I questioned, with curiosity tinged in my voice.

I was a bit confused with what the Crystal Moon meant when he spoke that way, and he mentioned that I would be stealing it.

"For some months now, Xander has been triumphant during some wars with other packs, and I've been curious. I'm certain that he deals with magic, and the Crystal Moon is with him." Alpha Darwin narrated in a low tone.

"What's this Crystal Moon you are chanting about?" I questioned, feeling annoyed. Suddenly, he stood and clasped his hand on my mouth.

"Shush, people can hear you." Alpha Darwin uttered, causing a quizzical look to appear on my face.

Is the Crystal Moon so powerful that I can't say it out loud?

"Sit," Alpha Darwin ordered, as he gestured to the other chair. I sat and he sat on the opposite chair.

"Many years ago..." Alpha Darwin uttered. I sighed inwardly. This was what happened whenever he wanted to tell a bedtime story. At that time, I was younger, and I had not reached the age of eighteen.

"The Moon Goddess chose a few packs, because of their effort towards helping their miserable pack members. She gave the chosen packs a ball, popularly known as the Crystal Moon. It was a very powerful ball, one that could execute an entire pack."

"The packs used the Crystal Moon wisely, they used it to defeat other packs as they reigned, but no sooner did the Crystal Moon become an object. Each

pack wanted it for themselves. Then, a great war began, and during the war, the Crystal Moon broke before it was stolen by another pack's Alpha," Alpha Darwin narrated.

"I don't believe that Xander's triumphant is natural. I believe that he is with that Crystal Moon."

"The ball we are speaking about is of great value, yet you want me to steal it? I can be killed if I get caught," I replied quickly.

"And your mother?" I heard Alpha Darwin utter. He leaned in, and continued, "Think about her before concluding."

"You ass\*ole!" I yelled, "How dare you threaten me with my mother! Even if you don't have a conscience, you should think about what you two have been through together, the memories..."

"I erased those awful memories the moment I found out about you!" He retorted, his tone rising in anger.

Then, he glanced sideways and turned to me with a fake smile plastered on his face.

"Now, all you have to do is to find the Crystal Moon and hand it over." He whispered.

"Alright, but can I be assured that my mother is alright? Can I see the cell's footage?" I questioned, exhausted from the conversation.

"Sure," Alpha Darwon replied. He snapped his fingers, and all of a sudden, a man in a black suit approached us. He placed a large device on the table and I took it. Instantly, my gaze scanned the cell for my mother.

This time, I spotted her on the floor, with her body curled into a ball. I could still notice her trembling body as it was still cold in there.

"Can't you lower the temperature? She will fall ill." I asked, turning to Alpha Darwin.

"The cold temperature has a good purpose. It will lessen her stability, and disable her from escaping." Alpha Darwin replied briefly, without any hint of concern in his tone.

"Then, can I speak with her?" I inquired, glancing at the cell which had bright reflections shining at the camera's view. It felt like I had seen that place, but where had I seen it?

"No!" Alpha Darwin snapped, grabbing the device from me in an instant.

He rose to his feet, and uttered, "Have a great day!"

With that, he walked out of the coffee shop and didn't turn around.

I tried to recall what I saw earlier in the video since the cell location seemed familiar. But I could not think of where I had seen it.

Ah! How can this day get any worse?

How!!!

I heard outside. Not knowing the meaning, I settled back in my seat, but then came another loud growl.

Am I the only one hearing it?

I glanced around, and I spotted the chairs in the shop that had been emptied of people. Footsteps echoed behind me. I turned and saw a man who was the server since he was in a black shirt with the same logo I saw outside.

He approached me, and spoke silently and politely, "Please can you leave this shop?"

"What? Why?" I replied, then a hand tapped my shoulder, and Anji stepped in.

"We need to leave immediately!" Anji exclaimed. With the urgency in her tone, I knew that something was wrong at that moment. Hastily, I followed her out of the shop, meanwhile, the server locked the shop.

Upon reaching the outside of the coffee shop, I realized that something was wrong. There were no passersby like I had seen earlier. Everyone had disappeared and all the shops were locked.

"What is going on?" I asked.

"Don't ask any questions. Just get into the car!" Anji exclaimed, rushing towards where the car had been parked earlier. But there was no car there, the car had also vanished.

"No, no... The driver left!" Anji yelled, panic rising in her tone for the first time. But what makes her feel so frustrated and why-

"This is not the time you should be lost in thoughts! The Alpha's mansion is far away from here. If we decide to walk, we might be attacked!" Anji uttered quickly. I managed to hear what she said and I replied, with my brows furrowed.

"What will want to attack?" I asked, and for a minute, the panic on Anji's face flushed and was replaced with fear.

"Ro-ro-ro" she stammered, staring blankly at what was behind me with her eyes popped out.

At that moment, I turned around, wanting to see what she could not pronounce.

Chapter 28



## ZIVA

As soon as I turned around, the appearance of what I saw took me aback. Four large wolves were approaching us like a predator would to his prey.

One of the wolves, who seemed to be walking with the other wolves moved before them. It let a low, rumbling growl and instantly, I heard Anji scream, "Run!"

Then, I heard her footsteps rushing away. Instead of running, I stayed glued to the floor, staring at the large, dark wolves that were hopping towards me. Their faces were contorted with anger and their appearance alone was terrifying. I yelled to myself inwardly to run, but foolishly I didn't.

Suddenly, a wave pushed past me, and I was not glued to the floor anymore. I raised my gaze, realizing that the modern landscape I had seen earlier was transformed into a local one, one with tall trees and trees alone.

I was moving quickly too, and my body was above something soft... Fur.

I was on a wolf.

Oh my! Am I being kidnapped by a wolf?!

"Help!!!" I screamed at the top of my lungs, intending to draw attention to myself. But no one came for me. Not even footsteps broke the silence in the forest.

I guess no one will save me because they don't care about me. Hmph, I will save myself then.

Hastily, I scanned the floor the wolf hopped past.

If I try to jump down from it, I might break my leg or even my arm. Also, I don't have a wolf, the injury will be bad... Very bad, and it won't heal quickly.

I took in a deep breath, trying to calm myself down and think of a better alternative than getting a broken limb.

Alright! I won't jump down. Instead, I will try to get down from this wolf carefully, without getting an injury.

I moved to a side and shifted my body. Lying on my stomach on the wolf's back, I held the wolf's fur. I accomplished that swiftly, and then I moved to the next step, sliding down from the wolf. It looked frightening since the wolf was hopping, but I managed to do it.

I was about to slide down in a minute. Suddenly, the wolf increased its speed, as the breeze hit my body, almost pushing me off the wolf's body.

Then, I was scared, so scared that tears spilled out of my eyes uncontrollably. I'm scared of heights and this wolf right here is very tall.

"Help!!" I screamed, as my hands almost slipped away from the wolf's fur. All of a sudden, the wolf stopped.

It let out a low growl, and I took my chance since it stopped moving!

I bent my knees, trying to slide faster. Finally, I was close to the ground, then, I curled my body into a ball.

I hit the ground, feeling a sharp pain in my shoulder. I could feel my skin stinging, and I knew a bruise was forming. I rolled and my body scraped against the rough earth.

I sat up quickly. Looking over my shoulders, the wolf was still around. It had a dark fur and dark eyes. It looked at me sternly, and for a moment, I caught a glimpse of blue. Also, the wolf had large paws and a muscular build.

Upon seeing me, it took a step.

"Stay away from me!" I yelled, sitting up, as I tried to create some distance between us. Meanwhile, the wolf didn't even listen to me. It approached, and then I yelled, "Help!"

Even if I tried to stand and run at this moment, the wolf would definitely catch up to me.

Luckily, there was a tree branch nearby. I reached for it, grabbed it, and threw it at the wolf.

With that, the tree branch hit the wolf and it flinched. Meanwhile, I used that opportunity to rise to my feet and shout for help once more, in case someone might hear and help me.

Growl!

I heard.

The growl sounded like it was from multiple sources and it was approaching us. Then, everywhere fell into silence. Even the wolf next to me seemed to be attentive more than I was as he glanced sideways and paused like he was determined to hear the sound of a pin falling to the rough earth.

# Bang!

A heavy thud echoed, and within seconds, I and the dark-furred wolf were surrounded by those angry-looking wolves I had seen earlier. They growled at the wolf next to me and the wolf growled back at them.

Without wasting time, I crept beneath one of the wolves and ran for my life! I ran as far as my legs could go, even though I could hear the heavy pounding of paws behind me.

Goodness! The wolves are chasing me! I can even hear my heart pounding in my chest!

I took a turn, hoping that the angry-looking wolves would lose contact with me, but they didn't. They kept chasing me, maybe because of my scent. But my scent cannot be easily detected because I don't have a wolf. How are they so fast and strong at perceiving it?

I took another turn and GBAM! A wolf fell to the floor as it stayed on all fours. Then, it snarled, baring its teeth at me.

As it faced me, I could see the glint of its razor-sharp teeth and the glint of malice in its amber eyes. The cold air bit at my skin, and I could feel my heart pounding a thousandth time.

At that moment, I was certain that my soul had jumped out of my body, but it returned when I realized that I would be eaten to pieces.

## Worst day ever!

The angry-looking wolf paused all of a sudden. Its body was pushed aside as the dark-furred wolf blocked my path, obstructing me from the angry-looking wolf.

I decided to retreat and move to the other side, and there, another angrylooking wolf pounced on the floor as it approached me confidently.

Then, I squeezed my body into the dark-furred wolf's back, as I was frightened to death.

## Growl!

The dark-furred growled menacingly, but the angry-looking wolves didn't back off. So, I threw a tree branch at the angry wolf by my side. It didn't flinch one bit (; ©

The dark-furred wolf growled again, and this time, it pounced on the wolf by my side. With a large force, his paw pushed me, throwing me into the tall bushes.

Meanwhile, it fought the two wolves bravely. It threw them around, and punched them, while I stayed hidden in the bushes as I waited for the fight to end.

The dark-furred wolf seemed like a good one, and moving away from this hiding place can cause trouble.

Chapter 29

## ZIVA

I stayed in the bushes, hiding from any angry-looking wolves that might attack me.From

Strangely, I wanted to survive. Perhaps that should be because I wished for my mother's release from that cold cell. I don't know how long I hid in the bushes, but I'm certain it took a long time.

Crunch!

### Crunch!

The crunching of footsteps echoed in my ear, and my ear rang at the sound of different voices.

Voices... People!

If people are here, I'll be able to reach the Alpha's mansion safely. There are no growling sounds either, so this place should be safe.

Cautiously, I reached out my hand and moved a branch aside, peering through the gap to see what was happening.

Luckily, there were no wolves in sight. Everyone was human, and they all seemed to be normal. I decided to come out of the bushes!

As I tried to come out, I found myself caught in the branches. I pushed and shoved, but the leaves and sticks kept hitting my face, blocking my path.

For a minute, it felt like the bushes were conspiring to keep me trapped, stopping me from moving forward.

Then, I gathered all my strength and jumped forward, breaking free from the clutching vines and leaves. I moved out of the bushes, panting heavily.

Almost stumbling, I regained my stamina and stood upright, only to spot a man with golden hair standing next to Alpha Xander who was... NAKED!

"AH!" I blurt out a continuous scream, as I continued to stare at him. I could not take my eyes off him.

Lol, who in their right mind would avert their gaze away from that well-built body?

He had a broad back, and his muscles were visible. I could feel the urge to approach him and squeeze his muscles like a softball.

With my loud, uncontrollable, continuous scream, the man with golden hair and Alpha Xander turned around, facing me.

"Ah!" I screamed again since he was facing me this time. Now, I could analyze his dark hair properly. But this time, his hair was not slicked back or tousled. Instead, it fell just above his shoulders, with the front hanging in his face and the back being messy.

Then, my gaze slid down, but thankfully, he wrapped a black blanket around himself before I could see anything.

"Lady Ziva, you're here!" The man with golden hair exclaimed, his eyes widening in surprise.

I felt a bit taken aback that he knew my name. "Hi," I replied, mustering a nervous smile.

"Incrociaami nella mia ufficio." I heard Alpha Xander say as he walked away without turning around, just like Alpha Darwin did.

"What is wrong with him?" I muttered under my breath, not daring to say it out loud.

"Alright, Alpha!" The man with golden hair replied, and I approached him quickly.

He seemed to be close to the Alpha with the way they spoke and he might know the way back to the Alpha mansion.

"Hi, you are..." I uttered, breaking the silence between us.

"I'm Lance, Alpha Xander's Beta," he replied in a soft tone.

No wonder he sounded so close to Alpha Xander.

"Great, I guess you are walking back to the mansion," I spoke quickly.

"Yes, I am. But are you alright? I mean... After you hid in the bushes," Lance asked, with concern filled in his tone. No one has ever spoken to me that way, with true concern.

"Yes, I'm perfectly fine, especially after I was miraculously saved by a darkfurred wolf," I replied, walking as he walked by my side.

A chuckle echoed instantly. I turned to my side and Lance was chuckling.

"Why are you laughing?" I asked, with curiosity tinged in my voice.

"Haha, didn't you realize that Alpha Xander was the dark-furred wolf?" Lance replied, causing my eyes to widen in shock.

Does that mean that ruthless Alpha Xander was trying to protect me from those angry-looking wolves?!

Gasp!

XANDER

[I am not to blame. You were the one who looked so dazzling and hot, whatever it was. Don't blame me now and then – it annoys me too.]

I find it a bit funny... I mean annoying with whatever Ziva said. How dare she call me hot and dazzling after walking slowly!

Fortunately, the welcoming ceremony ended well without Ziva doing anything disastrous.

"I wish you a happy married life together," the sorceress spoke, sprinkling some glittering sand on me and Ziva.

However, Ziva seemed to be frustrated and annoyed whenever it hit her. It's just a welcoming ceremony anyway.

Then, the sorceress assistant ushered Ziva out of the room, while I was alone with the sorceress.

The sorceress turned to me after Ziva left, "You seem disturbed. Is there anything wrong?"

"I wanted to speak with you," I replied, "Is it possible for someone else to make me feel pain? Like the person was inflicting pain on me."

A puzzled look crossed the sorceress's face.

"That is not possible, except the person is a master in sorcery."

"Can Ziva be a master in sorcery?" I asked inwardly. My wolf who seemed to be active after I had eaten replied, "Possibly."

"Perhaps you feel pain because there's something about that person that reminds you of past pain," the sorceress suggested. "The pain seems to be triggered by this person, even if they're not causing the pain directly."

Just then, I recalled how Ziva tugged me closer while she was lying on the bed. I was gazing at her hazel eyes, maybe that reminded me of past pain.

"I should get going now." the sorceress spoke, and I nodded in response. "Sure."

After the conversation I had with the sorceress, I realized that the Ziva girl wasn't the one who caused the pain I felt. She was just what made me recall the pain.

Just then, I perceived a rogue scent from my office. Without wasting time, I mind-linked Lance and rushed to the source of the rogue's scent.

Surprisingly, they were around that little Ziva girl and they tried to attack her. I transformed into my wolf self quickly, letting Maz take control as I saved Ziva.

Also, the rogues were a piece of cake. I handled them swiftly, and my men locked them up in the cell.



### XANDER

Later, what caught my attention was Ziva's continuous scream. I gazed at her and noticed how she stared at me with her eyes wide open.

Also, I shouldn't forget how she screamed, and looked messy, with leaves in her hair and scratches on her face.

It is disgusting to recall that I saved her, but what other option did I have?

If I hadn't saved her, she would have been added to the list of my mates or women who died. I hated rumors, so I saved her, just like I would have done to my pack members.

I took the blanket Lance held and covered my bare skin with it.

Since I had taken care of the rogues and the pack was no longer in havoc, I decided to leave. Also, I was uninterested in whatever the Ziva girl wanted to say.

"Incrociami nella mia ufficio," I said to Lance, as I walked away from their presence.

(Meet me in my office)

Screech!

A screech echoed, as a car parked by my side. It must have been the car Lance boarded for me. I stepped inside and it sped off to the mansion.

I reached my office, almost changing into a jacket, but the sound of a knock disrupted my actions.

Sniff! Sniff!

"It's Lance," Maz uttered, upon perceiving Lance's scent.

"Come in," I replied, and the door opened slowly, revealing Lance.

"Have a look at the goods stolen and the shops the rogues destroyed," I uttered in an authoritative tone, "And fix the destroyed goods, return the stolen ones too."

"Sure," Lance nodded.

"I would also like to visit the rogues in the cell. They seem to be more determined this time, even though they failed woefully."

"Alright, Alpha."

I snapped my fingers as I recalled that Ziva wanted to meet her father earlier, and I had perceived his scent around her while saving her.

"Did Alpha Darwin leave before the rogues attacked?" I questioned.

"Yes,"

"What's the duration between the time he left and the rogue's arrival?"

"From the pack members perspective... about two minutes."

"Seems like that was his plan."

"Huh?"

"Never mind, just prepare the rogues for questioning. I will be with them in a minute." I commanded.

"Alright, Alpha," Lance nodded. He left the room while I changed into a leather jacket and dark trousers.

After I had changed, I moved to the roque's cell.

The rogue's cell was nestled deep within the heart of my pack's territory. Constructed with thick, weathered stone and reinforced with silver-lined bars, it stands as a formidable structure. The entrance is guarded by guards, each armed with silver weaponry to ensure that the rogues don't escape.

I walked forward, and a hush fell over the guards. The massive door, reinforced with silver runes, swings open with a creak. I strode into the cell area. Meanwhile, Lance was there already.

He gestured toward another direction and I followed. Then, the rogues came into view. Sadly, the other rogues escaped, while only two of them were caught.

The rogues were confined and upon reaching the silvery bar, I paused, glaring at them. Shortly, one of them glanced up, like he had perceived my scent.

The bars moved, revealing the rogue who gazed at me. Without wasting time, the guards walked in.

They dragged the rogue to the table, forcing him to sit, even though he groaned and struggled. He didn't have much strength and the guards seemed stronger than him because they had injected wolfsbane into him.

After he was forced to sit, the guards cuffed his wrists with silver cuffs. I sat on the opposite chair and snapped my fingers. Instantly, the guards brought the Lunar Agony Collar.

They clasped it around his neck, and it was sealed there.

"What was that?" the rogue questioned with a husky voice as he tried to take a peek at the collar.

"It's an Agony Collar, a specially crafted collar infused with silver and lunar magic for ignorant rogues like you," I uttered, with a wide smile appearing on my face.

I continued, "When triggered, it sends waves of excruciating pain through the werewolf wearing it."

The rogue's eyebrows jumped in fear at that moment. Suddenly, his brows relaxed into a thin line, and an evil chuckle escaped from his lips.

Gasps echoed from the guards at his bravery, and I was surprised that he could laugh at me. No rogue in their right mind would do that.

"Do you think I will believe you? Keep dreaming, Xander," he said, sarcasm tinted at the end of his statement.

My hands clenched into fists instantly, as my claws pierced my palm. Right at that moment, I could kill the rogue swiftly. But I needed answers, not dead bodies.

I released my fists, calming myself before I glanced back at the rogue who had started chuckling. With another snap of my finger, the guard handed me a remote.

"You will believe me in no time," I replied, with a smirk. The rogue stopped laughing as he analyzed the serious expression on my face.

Without hesitating, I pressed the button on the remote that increased the intensity of the pain that would be inflicted on the rogue.

In a snap, the rogue let out a growl, a growl that was mixed with his wolf's groan in pain. The sound was satisfying and I was excited about Lance's decision to get the Agony Collar. It was superb!

I pressed the other button, deactivating the remote.

"It seems like you believe me now, don't you?" I asked sarcastically.

The rogue on the other hand leaned back into his chair as he let out a sigh.

"What do you want from me?"

"Hahaha!" I broke the silence around us with my laughter which was far louder than his.

"I love it when you behave like a good little wolf. About the question you asked, I should be directing that question to you. Of all large packs with strong Alphas, you and your filthy group chose my pack!" I laughed again. Inwardly, I laughed at the roque's foolishness or maybe ignorance.

"Was your brain malfunctioning at that time or were you just ignorant?!" I spoke with a commanding tone. However, the rogue seemed to be a bit relaxed.

"None," The rogue replied quickly, catching me off guard.

"What the hell!" Maz growled. No rogue has ever been this confident. Even my scent alone makes them shiver but this rogue here... is very different.