

## Chapter 98

Just as they approached the cell, Asha burst into laughter.

"I knew you would come, Alpha. I knew you would come back to me."

Liam's eyes blazed with a mixture of fury and anguish as he gazed upon Asha's smug expression. It was as if she reveled in the pain she had caused.

The fire within him threatened to consume him wholly, and only the strong grip of Garrett and James prevented him from unleashing his wrath upon her.

"She has left, hasn't she?" Asha's voice dripped with arrogance as she taunted him. Her lack of remorse only fueled the raging fire within Liam, his wolf straining against his control. Every fibre of his being yearned to tear her apart, to make her pay for the anguish she had inflicted upon him and Nicole.

"Your precious mate is long gone, and you'll never find her." Asha sneered, her voice laced with malicious satisfaction.

Liam's hands balled into fists, his entire body trembling with rage. His wolf clawed at him. It wanted revenge. It wanted bloody revenge.

But Garrett's voice cut through the haze of Liam's rage, his words calm but commanding. "Liam, control yourself. She's trying to provoke you. We need words from her, no matter how much we despise her."

James, too, lent his voice to the plea for restraint. "Liam, stay focused. Our priority is finding Nicole. Asha may have crucial information that could lead us to her."

To Asha, he growled, "Speak now."

Asha, however, refused to cooperate, her defiant expression mirroring her stubborn resolve. "I won't say a word until you release me," she declared, her voice filled with venom.

"Asha," James warned.

Asha laughed out loud, "He knew. I told him. She told him. Nicole was leaving. You knew too, didn't you, Garrett? You wanted her for yourself too. Stop pretending."

Garrett growled, banging the cage. "I only know what happened before Lola died. Fuck you! Yes, she was supposed to leave after paying Liam back and earning her freedom, but all that canceled out when she became the witch bane and his mate."

Asha cackled, "If you say so. But Liam knew. Liam always knew that she was leaving. You knew it Alpha. Don't pretend now."

Liam's conscience snapped at him.

"And she has gone. That poor girl never wanted to be with you. That poor girl never had what it takes to be Luna. You kept on shoving more responsibilities than she could take on." Asha continued to rant.

Liam scoffed, his anger threatening to take over. "She was the Luna of Crimson."

Asha's eyes widened, "the same pack where she was a slave and tortured?"

Liam grunted, he didn't believe a word from the lips of Asha.

"Oh, Garrett knows all about it," Asha taunted.

"Shut up," Garrett hissed, "Nicole was never happy at Crimson."

Asha burst into laughter and at that moment, Liam's patience wore thin, his wolf struggling to break free from its restraints. He let out a ferocious growl. The tension in the room thickened, the air heavy with the brewing storm of Liam's wrath.

In a sudden surge of fury, Liam lost control, his instincts taking over. He lunged towards Asha, his grip tightening around her neck, his eyes glowing with an unmistakable ferocity.

Everyone in the room trembled in fear as they witnessed the sheer power of his wolf. His dominance mixed with his anger and grief surged through the airwaves.

"Goddamn, you!" Liam snarled, his voice a chilling growl. "You are nothing! You mean nothing to me! I don't want to hear what you have to say. All I want is to tear you apart for what you've done!"

Asha's smug expression vanished, replaced by a mix of terror and desperation. Tears streamed down her face as she begged for Liam's forgiveness, her voice tinged with madness. "Please, Alpha! I love you! I was supposed to be your Luna! I'm go crazy without you!"

Liam's grip on Asha tightened, his voice laced with lethal intensity. "Speak, Asha. Speak now, or I will unleash the full force of my wrath upon you. I've said it before. Your life means nothing to me. I only want to find Nicole and bring her back."

Asha's confidence wavered, replaced with fear as Liam's wolf roared within him, radiating an aura of primal power. Tears streamed down her face, mingling with the remnants of her smugness.

She began to tremble, her voice choked with desperation. "Please, Liam... I-I beg you to love me again. I was meant to be your Luna. I-I'm going crazy without you."

Liam's grip loosened slightly, his anger still radiating in the air, "Love, Asha? Love is not something you can demand or force. It is earned through loyalty and sacrifice. You betrayed me and Nicole, and you will face the consequences of your actions."

Asha's tears flowed freely now as she reached out toward Liam, her voice filled with desperation. "I... I was weak, Liam. But I still love you. Please, forgive me. Let me make it right."

Liam's gaze hardened, and then he released his grip on Asha. She crumpled to the floor, sobbing uncontrollably.

"Tell me what I need to know," Liam growled, "Where's Nicole? And why didn't she return? What did you guys do to her?"

"Why would you think I should know? Isn't she the witch bane?"

"Asha!" James growled, yanking her up by her hair.

"Fine." Asha cried, "Lilian lied to her. She must have made her choose between Liam's life and hers. Lilian must have cast a spell."

She planned to use Nicole as the sacrifice to kill Liam, but it would only work if Nicole willingly sacrificed herself. And that would only work when Nicole thinks she's saving Liam."

"What are you saying," Liam gasped, his eyes widened.

"For her to be missing means Lilian started the spell, but you're still alive Alpha which means the spell wasn't complete. And so it went halfway and would have another effect on Nicole. She's probably raving mad halfway across the world or mindless or walking about with no memory."

"But... she's the witch bane. It's not supposed to..." Garrett trailed off.

"She must have willingly sacrificed herself. Knowing Lilian, she must have lied that she would be free."

"Fuck!" Liam growled, "How do we find her now?"

"You cannot." Asha said. "That spell is powerful. It is going to keep you apart forever. She doesn't know you anymore or what she is and was. It's going to cloak her scent forever."