

## BENEATH HER DARKNESS The Alpha's Little Demon

### Chapter 96

096 – A Terrible Sin

BLADE.

I left Althea at the Fortuna coven. I knew

she would be safer there, but that didn't mean I left her on her own.

I was just nearby, checking their area from time to time to see if she would come out, just

to make sure she was okay. I knew the demon lord must still be looking for her, so I had to keep my guard up all the time. Stalking and prying were never an issue. That has been part of my lifestyle for half a decade now.

So I watched her like a fucking lovesick psycho, and because she was not a shifter, my scent was never that strong for her. She never saw me, and I intended to have it that Enter title...

way until we both could figure out what we wanted with our lives.

Tonight was a full moon, so I decided to come closer to where she was living. I

went around the open market, which was nearby the house where she was staying. I wanted to be around when the full moon hit so I could reassure myself that there were no wolves in this area, particularly the unmated ones.

My mate was so sure she would not be hit with heat when I told her this one time. But I doubt it. Better to be safe than sorry.

And then I saw Dalton outside her house.

Dalton was my Gamma. He was now Gamma to my brother.

But what the fuck was he doing here? This would have been easier if I had been able to mindlink him, but I denounced my pack and severed all ties with it. So I had no choice but to watch as Althea went inside the car with him.

Dalton was mated, so I was sure even if Althea went into heat, he would not smell her, and he would be able to resist her if my little witch even attempted to seduce him.

But they had a convoy comprised of four unmated males.

This one was making me worried. Females' heat was making unmated males turn into rabid animals. There were many cases of females being violated during the full moon. Even at a young age, we were all taught that fated mates were considered a sacred bond and that it should be honored by marking each other before the first full moon – to avoid the heat that would put unmated males into a haze. The heat was the Goddess' way of speeding up mating and claiming between fated mates.

But how would I explain that to someone

outside of my species? To someone who only saw me as an older guy preying on a younger female?

Even if she was not saying it upfront, I could feel that she was not into me, although I

knew she was attracted to me. It was just the bond, but if she had a choice, she would never fall for it. And that was exactly what she had been doing. She was moving on without me.

My forehead creased as the two cars I was following came into view. They were threading a forest road, and I put a great distance between us because the road in this area was just straight ahead, so when I reached them, my heart began thudding loudly. No one was around the cars.

Something was happening. I halted my car and jumped out of my seat, and as soon as I opened my car door, the noises came in full force. Growls were everywhere, but I failed to focus on them as my ears picked up the scream that even in my sleep I knew I would be able to identify.

I didn't waste any more time and sprang forward to where her scream was coming from. Her scent came in full force in a matter of seconds, but instead of the usual arousal, the rage was coursing through my body. Someone was on top of her, forcing her to submit to

him. My mind went blank, and the man on top of him ended up with a ripped head. I picked up Althea from the ground and prepared myself to rip more heads, but Dalton came and snapped me out of my trance.

Dalton was pleading with me not to kill anyone anymore, and it was only then that it hit me that I had just killed my own people.

But how do I fight them off? Their haze would last as long as Althea was in heat, and shoving them off was getting harder with her in my arms.

Her scent was intoxicating, putting me in a haze as well. And if this kept going for a long time, I might end up killing anyone around us.

I was still shoving and kicking the males who were trying to grab her when my gums itched and my fangs slowly erupted. My wolf, Buck, wanted me to mark her to stop the haze, and I knew it was the only thing to do.

Her scent and the possessiveness I felt toward her made me throw all the rationality away as my fangs sink into the soft spot of her neck, and the moment she screamed, I knew I had committed a terrible sin.

♡♡♡

"We'll be back," I told Dalton as I took Althea's clothes, which he handed me before I headed off in the opposite direction with Althea in my arms. The moment I began walking, and was out of Dalton's sight, she began rubbing her front into my erection as her arms snaked tightly around my neck.

"Althea... stop," I grunted. Not that I didn't want to, but if she continued doing this, I might

end up fucking the hell out of her.

“Shut it! You’re not my father! You gave me this heat, so fucking live with it!” She snapped at me.

My hand on her ass tightened its hold on her as my strides grew bigger. She was moaning wantonly, and it was snapping all the control I had. As soon as I was sure we were far from where Dalton was, I dropped her body on the ground, causing her to hiss and glare at me.

“What is wrong with you? I might be a witch, but I’m not just one of those things that you can toss away or drop without any care! My butt would be sore soon!” She was shrieking

at me, her eyes glowing dark purple, and it made her more alluring in my eyes.

I bent my body and leaned my face closer to hers. “You talk too much!”

“Fuck me...” She retorted, which caught me off guard. Her voice was suddenly needy. I found myself swallowing hard as my eyes darted to her parted mouth. Her lips were glistening under the full moon as if they wanted me to kiss them.

“No.”

“Yes.”

“I can’t...”

“Do you prefer males over females?”

“No.” I chuckled, this was amusing me now, and my body began to relax.

She was only 18. And I was never gentle in bed. I could break her in all possible ways.

“Fuck you!” She cursed me in a low but firm voice before she scuttled on her ass and moved backward until her back hit a tree.

She was almost naked. Her dress was ripped, but her panties were intact. I knew she was not assaulted down there. But if I were even a second late, I didn’t want to think about what could have happened.

It was the reason I killed the male on top of her without remorse and wanted to kill the rest of them if Dalton was not able to snap me back to my senses.

“Oh, spirits!” She whimpered, her eyes closed with her hand inside her panties.

Her legs were spread open, and I was fighting not just myself but my wolf from reaching out to her. Her heat smell alone was making my dick painful, and the sight of her was too much for me to take.

I closed my eyes for a few seconds, and when I opened them, I was already staring at the starless sky, pleading to the moon to give me full control of myself and my wolf tonight.

I walked around the tree where she was leaning and sat on the other side, pulling my knees up and resting my arms on them as I listened to her moan. Hearing her was both pleasurable and painful at the same time.

I could only hope I was the one touching her.

Soon the moans turned into soft sobs and it made my forehead crease.

“Althea...” My voice came out hoarsely.

“I can’t come... I want to come so bad.”

“Have you pleased yourself before?”

“Yes... But it feels like I don’t know how to do it now. I’m so close to grabbing this branch

in front of me and sticking it inside me...”

I growled even before she could finish her words as I pushed my body up from the ground. In seconds, I was already in front of her. I yanked her up and slumped my ass onto her previous spot before placing her on my lap, her back against my torso.

“You’re hurting me...” Her voice came out so soft as if she didn’t have any energy to argue with me, and I knew she must be tired and frustrated with her heat.

I pulled her back closer, letting it press against my chest, and she immediately threw her head back, resting it on the nook of my neck.

“I’m sorry. I’ll try to be gentle... I haven’t touched anyone for years. I don’t know how to be gentle anymore.”

She didn’t answer, but she began grinding her hips, rubbing her covered pussy against my shaft.

I grunted before pressing my lips on her hair. My dick was getting harder. It was now or never.

My hand clamped on her stomach, holding her in place as my other hand trailed along her exposed inner thigh, letting my fingers skim against her soft skin before I reached for

my main goal. I slipped the thin fabric covering her wetness to the side before I cupped her

throbbing core.

Her hands grasped my forearms, and I

could see veins popping out of her neck as she whimpered. “Blade... please.”

I pressed a kiss on her temple as two fingers slipped onto her wet folds, rubbing them gently. She was so fucking wet, and her juices were coating my fingers nicely.

“Yes... Oh, Blade! This feels good...”

“Has anyone touched you this way before?” I asked in the softest voice I could muster. It

didn’t matter to me if she had any previous experience, but I wanted to know how far I was allowed to touch her.

“No...” Her eyes were closed and her lips were slightly parted as she arched her body. She was indeed a sight for sore eyes.

“Althea, look at me...”

She tilted her head to the side, and the moment our gazes met, I slipped my fingers inside her and began driving them in and out of her in a slow, tortuous motion.

She bit her bottom lip but didn’t take her eyes off me. And soon I was stepping up my

speed, and my little witch spread her legs wider, welcoming me more into her warmth.  
“Tell me if I’m hurting you...”

“No, this feels good.” She moaned and began bucking her hips to meet my thrust.

“Harder please...”

I grunted before pressing my forehead against hers as I assaulted her pussy, finger fucking her faster and deeper while my thumb rubbed against her swollen clit.

“Yes! Yes!” Her hand clamped over mine on her stomach before she grabbed it away and placed it on her breast. She still had her bra on, but that didn’t stop me from feeling her breasts and running my fingers along her nipples against the lace fabric covering her.

She moaned wantonly as she pressed her face closer to mine, our mouths almost touching.

“Can I taste you?” I asked, letting my breath fan against her face

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097 – Let It Stay

BLADE.

“Can I taste you?” I asked, letting my breath fan against her face.

“I hope you mean my pussy, not my lips.” She answered without opening her eyes.

A smug grin curled on my lips before I captured her lips, and she whimpered in defiance,

but I didn’t let her go. My fingers were still stroking in and out of her as I let my mouth devour her sweet

and soft lips.

Enter title...

She moved her body and was about to turn around and straddle me when I let go of her and hoisted her up in the air and guided her to sit on the ground. In seconds, I was able to rip her underwear and yank her legs up as I kneeled in front of her. I positioned her arms to coil around the back of her knees and pressed her legs closer to her chest before I leaned forward and swiped my tongue on her leaking folds up to her clit.

Euphoria. I couldn’t explain how I was feeling, but Althea — she tasted so fucking good that if I died after this, I would die satisfied.

I sucked and nibbled on her clit for a while before returning my attention to her pussy while still holding her thighs up. I was eating her out loudly and sloppily. My face was covered with the mixture of her juices and saliva, but I didn’t mind.

“Shit! Shit!” She was holding on to her thighs tightly as she balanced herself so she wouldn’t tip over.

I tilted my head up to look her straight in the eyes as my tongue penetrated her and began tongue fucking her. Her face was tinted with red as her eyes glowed dark purple, and lust was swirling around them.

She looked innocent yet alluring, and I couldn’t take my eyes off her.

Her body stiffened. I wanted her to come in my mouth, so I slipped two fingers inside her

and let them continue where my tongue left off while I sucked her pussy lips hard; I was sure they would be swelling once I was done with them.

A wanton moan escaped her throat as her hands flew to my head, pressing it deeper

into

her core. Instead of slowing down to let her enjoy her orgasm, I fucked her even harder with my fingers while my mouth licked and lapped on her juices. 1

Althea squirmed around and tried to push me away, but I didn't let her go and continued with my assaults until her body shuddered one more time, and thin jets of liquid sprayed out of her.

"Shit! Shit!" Her eyes widened in shock while my mouth twitched into a smirk as I rubbed

my palm against her still- sensitive pussy, slapping it from time to time, making more liquid shoot out of her.

She eventually let her back drop on the ground as I began licking her up and down, cleaning the mess I made out of her until I realized she began breathing steadily.

I tilted my head up and looked at her, and I couldn't help the smile from gracing my lips.

The little witch fell asleep. She passed out.

But my smile was wiped out the moment my gaze fell on her marked neck.

Sooner or later, I would face her wrath. I hoped I would be able to find a way to convince

her to let the mark stay, because there was no way I would give her a rejection. Not yet.

Not now.

♡♡♡

ALTHEA.

My eyes fluttered, but I hadn't opened them yet. Instead, I scooted onto the warmth that enveloped me. Despite sleeping in an upright position, I found myself so comfortable that

I wanted to sleep a little more.

Warm arms were holding me as my sides leaned on a hard body, and from the musky, earthy scent that reached my nose, I knew it was Blade I was leaning on.

I suppressed the smile from my lips because I decided I wanted to sleep more.

"Are you awake now?" His deep baritone voice echoed around the car.

I guess I couldn't hide this from him. I snapped my eyes open and bobbed my head before leaning away from his body.

My gaze fell on my clothes. I had new clothes now, and I assumed it was him who dressed me up. If this were another day, I would be embarrassed and demand an explanation, but since I just opened my legs and acted like a wanton in front of him earlier, I didn't think I had the right to be mad about it. Besides, this was better than the ripped clothing I had earlier. 1

Blade remained quiet as I let out a deep sigh, and my hand automatically went to my neck because I felt a tinge of pain there, only for me to rub the wounds that were still sensitive at the moment.

"Ouch..." I hissed lowly, and our eyes met. Only then did I remember that he had marked

me in the middle of the chaos earlier.

I saw regrets cross his eyes, and it pained me. Did he regret marking me? Of course.

Mate bonds are sacred to werewolves.

"You marked me."

"I had to. I have to stop them from attacking you. Every full moon, as long as you are

unmarked, your heat will attract unmated males. What happened earlier... that would be the scene every full moon if you don't have that mark?"

That was, of course, the only reason he would mark me.

I inched further away from him, my body almost touching the door on my side, as I crossed my arms against my chest and stared at the view outside my window.

"I was left with no choice. I killed my own people, Althea. I didn't want more blood. He was still trying to explain more, and

I just wanted him to stop.

"It's not my fault I went into heat. And I'm sorry he's dead. I could have knocked him off with my spell, but of course, you just need to come and save the day."

I knew I should be thankful, but everything he was saying now and the words he told me in the forest kept coming back into my head.

He stated that he had not touched a female in years, and I was sure the last one was his

mate. He was still not over her, and despite his claims that I was his Goddess' second chance mate for him, I would never be in comparison to her. So whatever happened between us was just because he felt guilty about bringing this up to me.

How can we take it off?" I finally dared to ask. I straightened up from my position and looked at him, trying to mask the real emotions inside me.

"Do you want the mark gone?"

"What will I do with it? Wear it as a medal and show off that I have a mate, but in reality, I

am still alone."

"Rejection. If we reject each other, the mark will fade soon, and then it will be gone. Forever."

"So what are you waiting for? Say the rejection so I can accept it." My heart clenched, but I kept a straight face.

"I can't. If I reject you, I might lose my wolf."

"What do you mean?"

"When my first mate died, I thought I would die too or I would lose Buck. Buck is my wolf's name." He leaned forward and rested his arm on his knees before he continued.

"But we survived. But I don't think we can if you reject us.

Of course. It had to be the only reason he didn't want this mark gone. Just for him and his wolf.

"So we're just going to force this relationship to save your wolf?"

"No. I would never force you. That forced mark would be the last sin I would commit against you. Just let me live a little longer with my wolf."

"I'm still confused. Can you tell me exactly what you plan to do?"

"Can you let the mark stay? It will protect you from every full moon."

"And then?" I asked, my brows hiking up.

"I will not bother you... I will go away.

I was hoping he would tell me he would stay with me, and maybe we could figure out what to do.

My lips quivered. But before I ended up bawling in tears, I snapped at him to save myself

from the embarrassment. "What am I supposed to do with your mark?"

How am I supposed to live with this? I'm a marked female now. I might not be a werewolf but I am sure shifters would see me as one. And what if I want to date someone or get to know someone else? You're trapping me into a life you're not willing to share with me! This is just unfair!"

"I will not trap you with me... If the day comes that you find a guy you like, we can do the rejection."

"So as long as I'm single, I will carry this mark?"

"Please, for my wolf."

"And what will happen if I fall in love with someone else?"

"I will remove the mark."

"And then I will be guilty if you end up dead?"

"Maybe by then, my wolf and I would be stronger. Either way, maybe death is better than..." He didn't continue, so I threw another question.

"And where will I find you when I have no idea where you are?"

"I will find you!" He said almost immediately.

My eyes squinted in annoyance. How on earth would he know I already wanted to settle down if we were apart from each other? I was about to open my mouth to ask him when he began talking again.

"I will feel it if you get intimate with someone... If it becomes constant, then I know it is time to take off the mark."

"You're impossible, you're talking in riddles, and I don't have time for that!"

"That mark on your neck. And the mate bond between us will let me know if you kiss or become intimate with someone. I will have marks appear here..." His fingers trailed on his wrist, which had a large healed gash on it before his hand went to clutch his heart.

"And I will feel a pain here."

"How about me? If you do the same, will I feel it too?"

"I can guarantee you that I will not touch anyone as long as you carry my mark. My only request is for you to let it stay there. Buck and I will be forever grateful. When the time comes that you're ready to settle down, I will wholeheartedly take it off."

I didn't answer, but I took my eyes off him and turned my body toward the window, resting my head on it as the car continued to drive in full silence.

Tears kept pooling in my eyes, and I was doing all I could to stop them from falling. There were so many things on this that were so unfair, and I felt like I had no say in them.

"We're almost at the cottage where Alpha Stone is staying." Dalton broke the silence in the car.

"Drop her off, and when everything is clear, drive me out of the territory."

"Are you not going to see your brother? He had been sending people to look for you." Brother. He had a brother, and it looked like he and Dalton knew each other. I wanted to ask, but I knew I didn't have any right to anything that had to do with his private life, so I just kept my mouth shut.

"I don't have any business here."

"Just give him thirty minutes of your time. He wants to talk with you badly, and if he finds

out I got you and let you go away without seeing him, I'm sure he won't be impressed." Dalton added, and Blade didn't even bother to reply.

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098 – One Team

PATREA.

I watched in awe as a young female stepped out of a car, and I knew right away that she

was my granddaughter. She was shorter than I expected given that both Adora and I were on the taller side. She must have gotten it from her father.

I listened as she conversed with Alpha Stone in full confidence, but it didn't slip my gaze that her eyes were sad. I wished she'd let me into her life because, after everything I'd been through and was about to do, meeting her was the only thing that seemed normal in my out-of-the-ordinary life right now. The normality that I was craving.

Enter title...

"Are you Patrea?" Her voice broke as our eyes met.

Everyone vanished around us as my heart warmed at the way she was looking at me.

"Althea? Yes, my name is Patrea... I'm sorry, I didn't know I had a granddaughter. If I knew, I would have done more so I could get out of there earlier..."

I wanted to say so many things, and I kept blabbing, but she didn't let me finish as she moved past Alpha Stone and went directly to me, flinging her arms and wrapping them around my body as she slammed her head on my shoulder.

"Mama..." Her whole body shook, and sobs escaped her throat as she hugged me tightly. "Mom told me you told her if she gave you a grandchild, you wanted us to call you

Mama. I hope the offer still stands."

"You can call me anything you want, and I won't complain. But yes, call me Mama if that's okay with you." Tears trickled down my face as I cupped her face and peppered her with kisses. 2

Her body was glowing with purple and silver sparkles, illuminating the space around us. She was happy. Usually, young witches, especially children, cannot control their happiness, which radiates out of their bodies through sparkles. But as we grew older, we

learned to control our emotions and our sparkles because, in the reality of life, there were times we tried to hide things that made us happy.

"You're so beautiful. And you look exactly just as how she had shown me from her memory." A smile curled on her lips as her eyes beamed with happiness, and for a moment I almost forgot the pain that I saw in there earlier.

"Are you disappointed that I am not like the usual grandmother? I think I will never age."

"No, not at all. You can be a pig, Mama, and I will still like you!" She answered in a highpitched voice, sounding too excited, and someone from behind me snickered. I knew

right away who it was without even looking.

My eyes rolled as confusion flashed on Althea's face before she shifted her attention to the demon behind me. Her eyes widened as she pulled me away, and we almost bumped into Alpha Stone before she stood in front of me in a protective stance.

“He’s not a shifter...” She said it in a hushed tone.

“I am not, thankfully.” Lucius chuckled, his eyes shifting between Althea and me.

“Is he an ally, Alpha Stone?”

“Yes,” the Alpha answered.

“Are you sure?”

Instead of responding, Alpha Stone cleared his throat, and the next thing I knew, a tall man moved his arm in front of Althea, blocking her from Lucius, before speaking in a deep but loud voice. “Who are you?”

“Lucius, Prince of the Underworld.”

“Where is Lucy?” Althea asked, and I didn’t miss the sharpness in her tone.

Brave like me and Adora, but the man beside her was still holding her up and keeping her from moving.

“In the underworld. Lucija, or Lucy, as you call her, trusts me, so I guess you better do the same, young witch.” Lucius winked at Althea before giving him a smug smirk.

“Stop looking at her that way!” The man growled.

“I can look at anyone the way I want to and in whatever way I want.” He answered sarcastically, and the next thing I saw was the man who was being possessive of my granddaughter launching forward to attack Lucius, but he was thrown backward when Lucius fired an airball at him.

“Blade!” Althea shrieked as she fired lightning toward Lucius, but the demon prince blocked it, which knocked Althea back, making me scream as well as I ran toward Lucius, holding his arms up.

“Don’t you dare hurt Althea!” I screamed at him before I tilted my head to look at Althea. She was conscious, and Kingston was helping her back to her feet while Alpha Stone was speaking with the man Althea called Blade.

“I didn’t!” Lucius yelled back, his palms facing up. “It was just a defensive instinct. They were the first to attack.”

“Then stop looking at her as if you want to eat her!”

“The fuck! I was simply amazed that she’s your granddaughter, but I never looked at her the way I looked at you! You know fairly well who I want to fucking eat!”

“Stop playing with your words! I will never forget you’re the prince of lust, Lucius! So please, spare my granddaughter, or, I swear to the spirits, I will be your worst enemy!”

“Let my hand go...” He hissed, his eyes blazing red, and I swear, I saw his fangs elongating.

I should be scared, but too many emotions were in my chest right now, and that fear had

no space in it. I let him go, but my eyes never left him.

Soon, Alpha Stone was standing between us. “Calm down. Let’s talk. But before that, let’s make things clear here. Althea is off-limits.”

“The fuck! How many times do I have to explain that I don’t fucking fancy her and I will never, even look at her in that way!” His fangs retracted, but his eyes were still blazing red as he brushed his hand over his hair in frustration.

Alpha Stone tilted his head to look at me, a teasing smile was now on his lips, and I was left baffled for a few seconds until he spoke. “I guess, it’s all clear now. No need to be jealous, Patrea.”

“What?” My eyes widened. Why would he think it made me jealous? For spirit’s sake, of

all people – I mean, of all creatures – I would never, for the life of me, end up liking someone like him.

“Just kidding. I’m just trying to lighten up the atmosphere here.” He smiled awkwardly at me before he looked at where Althea was.

She was standing beside Kingston, while Blade was a few feet away from them.

I didn’t notice where the man who drove them here was, but the car was gone. He was probably sent away, leaving just us in this area.

“We’re supposed to be one team here. If you’re here, it means I need your help so I can bring home my Luna. We might be from different species, but I am begging everyone to set aside their differences. I need your help. Lucy needs our help.” Alpha Stone began, his gaze shifting between each of us.

I built an invisible shield to make sure his words would not be blown by the wind for others to hear. I could feel the sincerity in the Alpha’s words. All these times that he was in my presence, he had never truly shared or shown us what he felt. Except for tonight, when he tried to break everything in the kitchen.

“I’m not sure if I’m needed here. I just stepped in because of Althea…” Blade stated, but he didn’t finish his words.

“The only reason you were not summoned is that I have no idea where you are. But we need your help too. But I will not force you to take part if you don’t want to. I’m just thinking we need extra protection for Althea, especially while Patrea and I are in the Underworld.”

“What do you mean? You’re going there again?” Althea asked.

“Yes. With Patrea.”

“No. She’s not going back there!”

I rushed to her side and held her hands, smiling warmly at her, trying to convince her.

“I’m okay. I want to. No one is forcing me, I want to help Lucy. She doesn’t belong there, Althea.”

“But I just got you.” Her eyes were pleading.

“And you will always have me from now I promise you, I will come back.”

“What if you can’t?”

“I will. Lucius promised me that.”

“Do you believe him?”

Do I? I asked myself.

I swallowed hard before nodding my head. “Yes, I do.”

“He’s a demon, Mama…”

“I know.” I pulled her into a hug as I placed my lips beside her ear and mumbled my reply. “I have lived long enough with demons that I want to believe I know when a demon

can be trusted or not. I trust Lucija, and her trusting him assures me that I was right about him. He’s not like his father.”

“Can I go with you?”

“No. Not because I don’t think you’re weak or something, but we need a strong witch in this realm so we can work confidently down there.”

“What if I don’t know what I need to do?”

“I already know what you need to do; I can teach you. But I will never force you. If you don’t want to do it, just say so, and I will never judge you.”

She smiled at me and nodded her head. "If you're in. Then I'm in. We'll save Lucy." "Brave like her mother." I cupped her cheeks and rubbed them gently until my eyes fell on her neck. My heart thudded loudly. I might not have been acquainted with many wolves before I was brought to the underworld, but I was sure I knew what I was seeing. "Are you mated?" I asked, my voice slightly higher, that it made the males gathered near

Alpha Stone all turn their heads on us.

"I can explain. But not now. I will explain everything when it's just the two of us. So please, calm down." She rubbed her palms against the skin of my arms before she hugged me. "I'm okay, Mama. Don't worry about it."

I smoothed my hand over her hair as I hugged her back before my gaze darted to where the males were, and my eyes locked with the huge male with brown eyes.

Blade.

Could he be her mate? She would not jump to protect him against Lucius if he were not important to her. And if he was her mate, I just hope my granddaughter was also important to him.

AUTHOR'S NOTE: Few hours left before the entries for the giveaway raffle will be closed. Beneath Her Darkness merch is part of the giveaways so check it out. Ins t\*gr\*m – author.cassa.m

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099- The God of the Underworld

ADAN STONE.

After the commotion of Blade and Althea's arrival, everyone calmed down as I and Lucius laid out the plan we had agreed upon. Everyone, including Blade, would have a role to play, and the only one that was not present was my Beta, Collin.

But he had been informed as soon as we arrived back in the territory.

Only Kingston and I went back. Patrea and Althea remained in the Silver Crest territory, and Blade was left with no choice but to meet his brother and make his presence known.

Enter title...

Blade also brought the witches to the packhouse for added protection and gave them access to an isolated clearing so Althea could practice what she needed to do.

I, on the other hand, had to be cautious because Lucien was still checking the pack house from time to time and, according to him, was wondering when I would be returning

home. So the moment I came back, I had to continue pretending I still had no memory of

my mate, including in front of my parents.

Collin, Kingston, and their mates were allowed in on our secret since they would be needed to help us out.

We only had two full days left before the day of the cleansing, and I still hadn't made my move to try to summon Hades. I was not even sure if I could make it happen, and even if

he showed up, I had no guarantee he would give me what I wanted.

But I had to try.

After a day's work and a full day of pretending that I had no idea who the fuck Lucy was, I went out for a run. I still hadn't let Beast out. You could say I didn't trust him up to this point, only because I knew that he was suffering and that his outlet was always his anger.

And I couldn't risk him hurting anyone.

But I wasn't blaming him this time. I could fully understand what my wolf was going through.

We found our mate, and I was given a chance to be with her to hold her, mate with her, and tell her I love her – but Beast was not given that privilege. He saw Angel from a distance on the night that they shifted, but he was not able to touch her, lick her, or bow down to her. He was able to communicate with her before I was brought to the underworld, but it was only for a short period of time. 1

And the happiness that he felt when we found out that Lucy would visit us as a succubus

was also short-lived the moment we were informed that it was impossible for Angel to be

with Lucy in that form.

So I had to run on my own, like I'd been doing for the last two years, but I knew one day,

once we had our Luna back, Beast would be free again.

The first step to achieving that was to summon the god of hell.

I stopped at the farthest point of my territory. I was almost in a ravine with a deep creek below it. It was now or never.

I knelt on the ground and raised my head to the moon. Before anything, I wanted my Goddess to bless me.

"Selene, I know you can hear me. I'm not a perfect son of yours, and I doubt if I deserve your attention or your guidance. But I'm seeking it. Bless me so I may be able to take my

Luna back. And I promise you, I will work hard every single day of my life to be a better Alpha, a better mate, and a better son of yours. And a better father, if you will bless me with a family." I prayed to the moon, even though I knew I didn't need loud words for her to hear me. But I felt better after saying that out loud.

The clouds that overshadowed the moon began to clear away until only the moon was left in the starless sky as if telling me the

Moon Goddess was giving me all her attention.

"Thank you, Selene." A smile tugged on my mouth as hope arose from my chest. I stood up from kneeling and prepared myself for my next move.

Lucius volunteered to come with me, but I refused. I had no idea what the deal or discussion would be between me and Hades if he ever showed up, but I wanted it to just

be between us.

"Hades!" I shouted at the top of my lungs, knowing no human or shifter would be able to hear me from here. "I know you can hear me, Hades! I might be nothing in your eyes, but

my mate, my fated mate is Lucija! She's one of your princesses! She's fated to be with me for a reason, and I want her back!

Help me!"

I raised my hands to my head and slipped my fingers through my hair before tugging them. I held onto that position while looking around, hoping he would appear out of nowhere.

Lucien had never seen Hades. So I had no idea what he looked like or in what form he would face me. But it was the least of my worries, I just wanted a chance to plead with him.

After an agonizing 20 seconds of silence, I began again.

"Hades! Just give me a few minutes! They said Lucija is the rightful heir to the throne of Kalmerus, which makes me, by default, the future king of one of your kingdoms..." I took

a deep breath and entwined my hands on the top of my head as I swiveled around slowly, hoping he was just somewhere. ". but I don't know how to rule the underworld. Do

you think growling will make the demons follow me?" 2

I chuckled in disappointment and shook my head. This was going nowhere. He would never check on me.

I knew I was wasting my time, but I couldn't give up now that Lucy's cleansing was approaching. Lucius could always take me, but I needed a power greater than a contract. with a demon prince.

I wet my lips. My throat suddenly felt dry, and the mark that Lucy placed on my neck throbbed as if a fire were igniting from within. My hand flew to my mark spot, and despite

the heat coming off of it, I didn't find myself bothered by it as I rubbed my palms against my marked skin.

Then the surrounding area darkened. I looked up at the sky and saw the clouds hovering

over the moon so that it turned moonless, and before I knew it, the whole place heated up as the air stayed still.

Sweat formed on my forehead as my heart began thudding loudly.

"You called for me..." A deep voice came behind me, making goosebumps rise from my skin.

I slowly swiveled my body around and came face to face with someone who I had no fucking idea how I would categorize.

He looked ethereal – something I never thought I would ever see in my whole life. I had seen different demons in the underworld, but the one in front of me left me speechless. The skin of his body looked burned and sticky. Big horns and tails sprouted just about everywhere, and the shape of his head was akin to a snake. I couldn't see any feet but he was towering over me.

I mentioned earlier that I could take it in whatever form it would be. But seeing him right now was overwhelming my senses. I had no idea if I was scared or amused.

"King Hades..." I stuttered.

Instead of acknowledging my greeting, the God of the Underworld laughed, and it echoed around us. It was only now that I realized we were no longer on the ravine in my territory. I had no idea if he had built an illusion that we were in a dark, cave-like place or

if he had brought me to the underworld.

“You called me Hades earlier. Why are you addressing me as King now? Does my god form scare you, Alpha Stone?”

“I’m... I don’t know how to answer that.” I was being honest. His aura was so strong that if he wanted to, he could make me bend because, at this fucking moment, my knees felt like they would buckle soon. I wondered if this was also what I would feel if I saw Selene.

In seconds, he transformed his form into another one. It wasn’t his human form like what

Lucien and Lucius used when they faced me, but this was more acceptable in my eyes. He had straight, white hair, eyes, and a nose, but the burned skin extended now to his face. But there was nothing scary or bothersome about his form right now. “Is this better now?”

“Yes. Thank you.”

“What makes you think you’re a capable ruler of Kalmerus?” He chuckled as he sat on a big, murky boulder.

“I never said I was worthy to be one, but Princess Lucija is my fated mate.”

“She is, in your realm but not in my realm.”

“She marked me. With her demon blood.”

“I know. That mark means she chose you in this realm. And she risked killing you as well.

“What do you mean?”

“It is very rare for a demon to fall in love. It was our curse. I had lived a thousand years and had not found the perfect female to carry my mark. You love Lucija.”

“I do. But I don’t understand what you mean.

“Love is a word not used in this realm. Love is a myth. That is what my demons were taught. But in reality, even a myth comes from a distant truth. Only love can make the victims of a demon’s mark survive, and in return for the love, the victim would be granted

the lifespan and the power of the one who bit him.”

“Are you saying if I didn’t love Lucy, I would be dead now?”

“Yes. It didn’t matter if Lucija loved you. What matters is you.” He chuckled painfully. “I had lived more than a thousand years and loved thousands of females, but despite their claims that they loved me, no one had survived my bite until I just stopped trying.”

“Why do you need to mark anyone? You’re a God. You can just have anyone you want.

“Even the gods had walked and lived among their species. But Gods have immortal life, and living this life alone is something I wish on no one. As much as I had many females, males, and subordinates around me, I am alone.”

I swallowed hard. I had many questions for him, but I didn’t think I had time.

“I know what is happening in Kalmerus.” He added as if he could read my mind, and my head snapped up to meet his gaze.

“And you’re just turning a blind eye?” I couldn’t help the sarcasm in my voice.

“In the same way that Selene turns a blind eye to every chaos, uprising, war, and death perpetrated by her wolves, year after year, decade after decade. We might be the gods of our species, but we are not your babysitters.

You reap what you sow.”

“But Lucien... he’s violating all the laws of...”

“The same way, rogues, lycans, and werewolves are violating the rules set by Selene.”

“So you cannot do anything to stop him...” I asked, but I couldn’t help the disappointment in my voice.

“I can. But I refused to interfere unless I needed to. When Lucien’s time in my realm is over, he will be judged.”

“He’s a demon...”

“Did you think the demon’s sole purpose was to cause chaos in the world? We are here to take the souls of the unwanted and the unworthy, but sometimes my demons turned out to be the unworthy ones. Demons are the guardians of the afterlife as well, like the angels, only we take bad sides.”

I could stay here and let him discuss what it was like to be a demon, but I didn’t have the

luxury of time.

“Can you help me?” I blurted it out. I needed to get straight to the point.

“I know what you want. The question is, what are you willing to give in return, Alpha Stone?”

BENEATH HER DARKNESS: The Alpha’s Little Demon Chapter 100

100 – She’s My Luna

LUCY.

I just came back from letting Angel out, and so far it has been amazing. Angel was stronger than I expected. She had killed five gullaps that were running around near the hot spring where we were staying, and she did it in an instant. These little creatures could emit poison from their bodies, but Angel had quick reflexes and was able to corner

them and pounce them to death. Five was her highest number since we began staying at the hot spring three cycles ago.

She was just as fierce as my demon side, and I was happy that despite being trapped in this realm, she was growing stronger and braver. My only hope was that the cleansing

Enter title... would take place in a neutral cove with no enchantments that would prevent my wolf from surfacing. I wanted to have a connection with her on that day.

Aside from that, Lucius would find time to fight with me while I was in my wolf form.

Angel and Lucius had built such a connection between them that it made me more confident that Lucius, my brother, was different from Lucien and Guillermo. He would sometimes take time to tell me the things he knew about Kalmerus and how he would change things around here.

Every interaction with Lucius made me trust him more and more. I was hoping that after all this, all of us would be able to get out alive because I was one hundred percent sure that Lucius would make a great ruler of Kalmerus.

I entered the tower and was on my way to Lucien’s chamber. I wanted a word with him, and I was notified he was in his room. I didn’t want to send him a message as he might invite Guillermo again if he knew I would be visiting him, so I wanted to take him on a surprise visit.

I rounded a corner when all of a sudden someone grabbed me from behind, but before I

could even find out who was holding me, my body was sucked into limbo and was thrown on a bed the moment I was out of it.

“What the!” I hissed, and my eyes blazed red as my demon claws erupted from my nails.

I pushed my body up from the bed and glared at the demon in front of me. “What were you thinking, taking me by surprise?”

Guillermo stepped forward until he was exactly in front of me, and instead of backing away, I remained in my spot and squinted my eyes as I looked at him.

I kept reminding myself to play my part well.

Lucius told me not to show Guillermo that I despise him. I could be mad or pissed off at him, but I had to pretend there was an attraction on my end. I was not in agreement, but I trust Lucius. If we wanted

Guillermo out of our way, I had to do this.

His knuckles brushed against my cheek, and it took all of me not to push him away.

“Calm down, little spitfire. I just want to talk.

“What happened with ‘can we talk?’ Or is this how you treat females?” I asked, trying to keep my voice calm as I willed my eyes to return to normal.

“Last time I went that direction, you disappeared on me, so I had no choice but to do it the other way.”

“I don’t like being grabbed and transported somewhere without my consent. Besides, I haven’t forgiven you for stealing a kiss. !!

“If you give it willingly, then it won’t be stolen.”

I placed my hands on my hips as I smiled cockily at him, even if I wanted to throw him a punch. “You’re too old to be stealing kisses and forcing yourself. If you become my King,

you will have unlimited access to those.

“And why can’t I get it in advance? We both know I will end up as your King.”

“Nope. I haven’t decided yet. I can’t go around kissing you and Lucius. I’m not that type of she-demon.”

I was still talking when his arm wrapped around my waist as he pulled me closer. I stopped myself from arching my body away from him, but I raised my hands to his chest to put some distance between us.

“There’s nothing wrong with experimenting to see which lips make your knees weak.”

“Please... a few more cycles, and it will all be decided. You will get a taste of what you wanted at the cleansing, so just let me be?” I smiled at him as I tried to push away from his hold, but the shithead leaned closer, captured my lips, and began kissing me.

I knew I should pull away, but Lucius had warned me about this. Demons are sexual beings, and my father was probably sending Guillermo to test if I was still reserving myself for Adan. So as much as I didn’t want this, I kissed him back and relied on the idea that the presence of the enchantment in the tower would prohibit Adan from feeling this kiss.

I kissed him back softly, but his kisses became deeper and harder as his hand gripped my hair, and I knew this was leading to something else already. My hand raised to his chin as I cupped it with force before inching my face away from him.

“Enough for now. You’re getting more than what you should take.” I flashed him a wicked

smile before swiping my tongue over my upper lip.

“You want it too...” His hand on my hair tightened as he crushed his lips against mine. This time he was assaulting my lips so brutally that if I were an ordinary human, my lips would be broken. I regretted swiping — my tongue against my lips — he had clearly taken

it as an invitation, but I just said no, didn't I?

I mustered all my strength and bit his bottom lip hard before I pushed him away. He let go of me and I moved backward, shaking my head while a wicked grin formed on his face as he stepped closer.

“Enough, Guillermo. I demand you respect my decision.”

“I don't let any female tell me what I can and cannot do.”

This was hopeless. How could I pretend more when this was already disgusting to me? I willed for my body to transport, but nothing was happening. I swallowed hard and tried again. Nothing!

“You can't get out of here, my queen.”

“What have you done?”

He shrugged his shoulders, still flashing me his evil smirk while he kept walking toward me and I kept inching backward.

My chest heaved while I let my eyes blaze red before throwing him a fire blast. Flames engulfed his body, but he just laughed it off as it slowly died down.

“It seemed we had the same kind of fire. It only caresses me, my queen. You need to try harder.”

My eyes squinted as I ordered my fire to emit something that he couldn't destroy, and before I knew it, ice blasts were spewing out of my hand and targeting him.

Guillermo's body was thrown to the other side of his chamber before ice spikes pinned him to the wall.

He hissed and glared at me, but I just gave him a satisfied smile before I dusted my palms against each other.

“Next time, never threaten a queen.” I winked at him before I walked out of his room with

my head held high.

I had no idea how he would get away from it probably by melting the ice with his fire but that was his problem, not mine.

I was sure Lucius would be disappointed that I was not able to maintain a good connection with Guillermo, but I was also sure he would be excited if he found out I could

summon ice as well.

I transported my body back to my chamber as soon as I was out of Guillermo's, and the moment I was in the comfort of my own room, I screamed and pointed all my fingers at where the candles were sitting nicely and ignited their wicks before stomping my way to my bathroom while wiping off my mouth with my hands.

I took my clothes off with just a flick of my hand and stood under the shower. I tried to scrub off his touch and kisses on me, which was really unnecessary because demons never bathed at all. But I felt better rubbing every part of my body that he touched.

I hope Adan didn't feel this, like the last time. Or if he did, I hope Lucius' message to him

the last time was clear enough to pacify him, that those kisses were not welcomed. I had to be more careful. One more cycle and all will be revealed. Lucius promised me that before the cleansing he would tell me how we could kill Lucien. And if I could, I would send Guillermo with him.

There were already too many demons in this realm. Killing two would not be a great loss.

♡♡♡

ADAN STONE

“The question is, what are you willing to give in return, Alpha Stone?” Hades’ question kept ringing in my head.

It took a while before I found my voice and asked him back. “What do you want from me?”

“The one you want to take away from my realm is someone precious.”

“She’s my Luna,” I told him, trying to control my urge to raise my voice.

“She was mine before she was yours. So tell me, why would I help you if it meant losing her?”

“You will not lose her. I will make sure she does not abandon her demon side. I will not let her.”

Hades laughed, and the hair on my body rose again. How would I convince him?

“Her demon side will always be with her. Even you can’t stop that. Tell me exactly what you wish for me to do?”

Great. I thought he knew what I wanted. But this was it – I wanted my intentions clear.

“I want a guarantee that no matter what happens, Lucija and I will come out alive from this,” I told him with a straight face.

“Hmmm... Invincibility? What you are asking is impossible. One strike to your heart or your wolf, and you’re dead.”

“I know. That’s why I want a contract with you and not with a simple demon. I hope that after all of this, I will still be able to enjoy life with her. Hades, I only had her for a few weeks. A few minutes after finding out she’s my mate. I will go anywhere for her, but I want to be able to spend the rest of my life with her.”

Hades entwined his fingers and began drumming them against each other as he looked at me, and I knew he wanted to hear more. But before I could continue, pain ripped through my chest as marks began to appear on my wrist. The pain was longer than the previous one.

I closed my eyes for a brief second, and when I opened them, I saw Hades’ gaze on my wrist before he shifted it to look me in the eyes. He was staring at me as if he were looking through my soul, wanting to know how I felt.

If Lucius had not come to me and explained more of what he wanted Lucy to do, I would be outraged again. But I knew I had to put my trust in someone to keep going -not with Lucius. I trust my mate. I trust Lucy. And I will keep trusting her until she tells me she no longer loves me. But as long as she did, she would be the only person I would believe in this world full of deceptions and lies.

I cleared my throat and began speaking again. “You never found a female that could love

you back, but I did. I don’t know how much time we have, but I want to extend it as long as I can. I will take her back to my realm with every ounce of my capability, but I am

nothing compared to the lord we will be facing. I can say I will save her until my last breath, but I don't want that. I don't want my last breath to be at this point in our lives. I want more time with her. Help me save her.

Save us. Spare us from death."

"You're asking too much."

"And I am willing to give as much. Just name your price."

"I want you." He said almost immediately.

"What do you mean by me? I don't want to be separated from Lucy."

"You can have her here, in this lifetime, as long as you both live. But after this lifetime, I want to have you... 5

The Novel will be updated daily. Come back and continue reading tomorrow, everyone!