

The Alpha & Beta's Regret Chapter 121

Luci POV

She was hugged by Diana and Florence, even Richard and Jonathan said that they were very happy that she was really okay, and she could see they were all smiles about the twins. Thought that they were not only adorable but that their wolves were so very unique, that had made her eyes move to the boys, questioningly.

They just grinned up at her, she jumped and shrieked as did nearly all in the house, as a massive c***k of thunder ripped through the sky, scared damned near all of them to death. "Do you mind if we stay till it passes?" Diana asked her as lighting streaked through the sky above and rain fell in a massive deluge outside.

Luci shook her head 'no' it was really crashing about out there, a severe thunderstorm had blown in during the evening it seemed. "I'll make coffee for everyone." She offered.

Knew it was getting late and that tomorrow was the first day of school for the boys here inside the pack. She really did need to have them bathed and put them to bed, but she also knew it was unlikely they would sleep alone with a storm like that outside.

Just sat and talked with Rafe and Jacks' parents for the hour that it took for the storm to pass over them and calm down to just rain. Heard all about their travels all over the world for the past several years, surprised her a bit that they had not been here inside the pack. Though they had ended up in Spain for the past three months. Liked it there and were planning on going back for annual trips and were thinking of buying a nice house out there to stay in even. Had already decided that they would likely spend the winters over there.

Diana and Florence insisted on helping bath the boys and then putting them to bed, read them a story even. Told Luci that they would love to come and walk them to school in the morning as well. Luci didn't object,

she liked their company, they'd always been nice to her. Nothing, it seemed, had changed on that front at all.

She saw them out and headed upstairs herself. The boys were in her bed already, she'd closed the front door and heard them giggling as they tried to sneak from their room to hers, cheeky little boys they were, though not very stealthy it seemed. Both Kali and Alari chortled with amusement at the two of them, as she did, while heading up stairs herself.

She looked at them under the duvet in her room, they were completely covered under it and trying to hide themselves from her. "Jeez, I wonder where my boys are?" she asked, walking into her bedroom, and heard them both giggle and shush each other. Could see them moving under that duvet trying, she thought, to stop each other from being heard by her.

It was very amusing to her, "Hmm, so very good at hiding...not in their beds...where could they be? I don't know where to find them." Luci walked to the foot of the bed and slipped under the duvet herself, crawled up the bed towards them, until she had them, grabbed each of them by the ankle and pulled them down the bed, kicking and laughing at being caught by her. "What is this in my bed?" she growled all teasingly at them, then let go and stood up, tossed the duvet all the way off the bed and saw them crawling up the bed hurriedly away from her laughing even more.

She crawled up the bed after them growling just a little and heard them squeal, watched them grab a pillow each and turn to hit her with them. Ducked and rolled out of the way, grabbed a pillow of her own and then they were all hitting and tossing pillows at each other, all of them laughing.

She played with them for 10 minutes before calling a halt to it and settling them down in the bed, pulling the duvet back onto the bed and asking them about their day. They were wide awake right this minute and too riled up to just settle down and go to sleep, and she knew it; part of that was actually her fault.

They were happy to lay there and talk about crawling all over that helicopter, and then playing with lots of other kids in the play zone, which they absolutely loved; so much to do, they didn't think they'd ever get to try all of the things in there. Luci just smiled. It only seemed a lot to them because it was new to them.

They told her about meeting their new grandma's and grandpa's, that they had a yummy dinner with their daddies and grandparents as well. That Nadia had given them pancake stacks with fresh berries for dessert and that they had seen their daddies kissing.

That they saw their daddy get all angry and he snarled really loudly when grandpa's had taken them into their office to talk to them, that's where they'd seen them kissing.

That got her undivided attention, "Kissing who?" she had to ask, it almost sounded with all their giggling over it, that they meant Rafe and Jack had been kissing each other. She knew both their Mates were on the shaming post, or she'd not have let the boys go on their own to the packhouse.

She knew how a shaming post worked. Once, on it, no one was to pay attention or visit those to be shamed, not even their Mates. There certainly wasn't to be any loving on that post. The boys had stated in their office, and she didn't think those two were off the shaming post and in the Alpha's office, where her boys were.

No, that would put them, regardless of them being her Alpha and Beta, under her direct anger and she would rip into them, and take her boys from them if they did that without her knowledge. Didn't think they were that stupid.

"Daddy." They both answered her question.

She stared at them for a moment only and then just chuckled to herself, "Rafe kissed Jack?" she clarified.

"Yes, and daddy growled really loudly, when grandpa let him know, we were there." Little Rafe giggled.

“He didn’t look happy mamma.” Little Jack chuckled.

So those two did get along as she thought they always should do. Though that made her think about their Mates, neither Rafe nor Jack had a double mark, or triple for that matter. Wondered if those two out there would have felt that as a pain of betrayal, or did they do it all the time.

‘Not all the time, weaker now.’ Kali piped up.

‘Would make them stronger.’ Alari told her. Luci could feel Alari was really listening to the twins as they talked about their fathers kissing each other. Sirens were s****l creatures by nature, and most didn’t really care if it was of the same s*x or not. If they were attracted and the other wanted to, they just would. s*x in all its forms was a go. Alari had seen men kissing in the human world and always made her look, seemed to like watching it.

She’d not gone and seen those two she-wolves on the shaming post, but didn’t think Rafe would lie to her about it, would only risk her or Alari’s wrath. Knew if she wanted to she could pull on that tether she had as a pack member to them. Had never once connected herself to either of them, didn’t want to.

Could in fact disconnect herself from this pack at will, as well as anyone inside it. She knew who those two were, but those two had no idea who she was. So, without actually laying eyes on her and knowing who she was, they couldn’t connect to her either and she didn’t want them to, wouldn’t be allowing it, ever.

Luci settled the boys and reminded them they had school tomorrow, so they needed to go to sleep. She was just laying there herself staring out the window, it appeared the storm was once again amping up, they’d only had a short reprieve.

Those two she-wolves were out there in that storm, not even a storm would stop them from being on that shaming post. Just lay there and wondered if the Alpha and Beta would remove them from the shaming post due to the storm going on.

It pricked her curiosity more than a little and, in the end, tried to connect to the Luna of the pack, knew where she should be, felt for any pack tethers that were just outside the front of the packhouse. Nothing, there was no one out there, she sighed to herself. They had been removed because of the storm, she supposed, not even a full day of punishment had been dealt out to that woman for trying to burn the house she and the boys were in.

This more than annoyed her, but what could she do about it? Nothing was what. Unless, of course, she stalked over there and banged on the Alpha's door and demanded an explanation from him. Knew it was not something she was going to do, could well see him try and punish her for disrespecting and questioning him and his choices, as the Alpha. It was his choice to dish out and rescind punishment as he saw fit.

Luci had to remind herself that she was nothing to them, just a pack member, nothing more. Looked over at her boys and wondered if she'd not been pregnant with them would she have left and just dealt with the pain inside her chest from being so far away from them.

She had no idea, though right this very minute, knowing that those two's punishment was over, she wanted out and away from this pack. Perhaps she should have convinced her mother to let her go with her to that lake. Taken the boys with her too. There were only two weeks of the school year left, it didn't matter if they missed that.

She got up out of bed and picked up her phone, walked from her bedroom and called her mother. It rang out. She left a message "Hi mum, just calling to see how you're doing? Call me back when you can." She had no idea if there was service up there in the mountains or at the lake itself, and hoped that her mother was alright up there. It must be hard for her to go back to the lake, a place lost to her for so very long a time. She would have so many memories to deal with, both good and bad, she knew.

Had been told she'd likely stay for two or three days, so not to worry about her, she wasn't worried so much right this minute, just wanted to talk to her mother. She hadn't even gotten a text message, to say she'd arrived safely.

Knew it had been Alpha Terence that had taken her there and she didn't think he would have left her there if he saw anything out of the ordinary or that could be seen as a threat to her mother. He'd come back without issue. Had even let the twins climb all through his helicopter, so everything had to be alright, he'd not gone back with reinforcements.

She sighed to herself, realised she was concerned about her own mother's wellbeing. Took a breath in and closed her eyes, focused on their family bond, it was still there and intact. It felt just as it always had, like she was just far away from her was all. Her mother was likely sleeping or had no service in the area.

Though Luci herself was too annoyed to go to sleep, she ignored the ache that welled inside of her for the lack of Rafe sticking to punishing that woman and her sister. Stepped outside with a cup of tea, under the covered back patio, and stood watching the storm.

Storms didn't bother her, she actually quite enjoyed watching the light show that they put on, it was pretty at times, she thought absently, trying to keep her mind off of them and their Mates. Just stood and focused on the storm.

The Alpha & Beta's Regret Chapter 122

Rafe POV

He watched as Terence headed off for the Black Haven Pack with Allen. It was 2 in the morning and the storm had finally turned to just a light rain. He was up, as was Luna Jo-anne. She'd come downstairs with Terence, and looked at him a little surprised.

Rafe had nodded to her "Luna."

"Alpha."

They'd both walked Terence and Allen to the training grounds, he'd provided umbrellas for all of them. He'd not asked after West. The man was likely sleeping at this hour, likely to have been lulled into a deep

sleep by his Mate's scent. Not that Rafe had ever had that happen himself.

Though when he thought about that exact thing, he did sleep like the dead with Jack next to him, and he and Jack had both slept very deeply with Luci between them. She could occasionally get out from between them, leaving them in the bed together.

No other woman had ever been able to do that, he sighed heavily, wondering, for not the first time, why Luci was not their Goddess Gifted Mate. They'd loved her for who she was, how much fun she had been, they had liked that defiant streak and stubbornness they'd seen in her the very first time they'd met her.

Not that they'd seen much of that defiant streak once she'd been here with them, she was more tormentative and teasing, than defiant. Likely she'd only been like that due to how she was raised by Orien. The man had too many rules around her, and the way he made a point of telling her not to do things, but then expect her to do them at the same time. Contradicted himself always, trying to get Luci to step out of line so he could punish her is how he'd seen it.

"Pulling a spell from you, could k**l you." Jo-anne interrupted his thoughts as they walked back towards the packhouse.

He frowned right at her, had heard her words "Can it even be done?" he asked after a moment's thought.

"It is likely, but it took me an hour with your man Titan, and..." she sighed now herself, "He only had one spell on him. You and Jack, I dare say, have one, that is." She stopped walking and looked up at him, her head tilted to the side, thinking about it, he thought.

"Redone or reinforced every six to eight weeks." He muttered, "For six and a half years." He understood it would be difficult to draw it from him or Jack.

"Yes, even I don't know if I can remove it with you surviving it...and your Beta?" she huffed now, sounded more than annoyed.

“I’ll raise him to that of an Alpha,” Rafe told her.

“Still might not work.” She stated. “Best to get your answers, I think, from the actual source.”

“The witch in Wolf Valley Pack, you mean?”

“Hmm, likely so, if you want to keep yourself alive, I’ll talk to Hannah, see if she has a way, though if you or Jack trust me, I could use your blood to see what you recall, though I don’t know if it will show me what happened, with that spell on you. Likely to be just as fractured as Titan’s memories or if you were unconscious and have implanted memories.”

“You’re very powerful aren’t you?” he stated,

“More so than your own witches, I believe. Not that I use it, like they do. My feelings about things are not at all like theirs.”

“Mm, they do only as they please, you” Rafe looked right at her “Are a healer and want to fix things. Help people around you, find it difficult to stay out of things.”

“That is true, I hate people in pain.” She sighed, then put a hand on him and steered him over to the two she-wolves in question, who were soaked through and looked cold and bedraggled, from being left out in the storm without their wolves to help keep them warm. They were just like humans right that minute, cold and miserable.

“Do you want to know why it always had to be redone?” Jo-anne asked almost casually. He wasn’t exactly certain who she was talking to, him or them, but he answered.

“Yes.”

“Jack and Luci are mated to each other, it’s not a complete bond, but somewhere along the way, he mated himself to Luci.” She looked right at him and she seemed to be thinking about something, then just shook her head as if to say there was nothing more.

He sighed heavily now “I suspected that Jack had mated himself to Luci. His thoughts and actions are very much like how a Mate would react.” He stated and they were, he got agitated and distressed over her, more so than Rafe did. Didn’t like even being apart from her, something else no Mate was supposed to like, he hadn’t even liked a closed door between them with Orient here.

He could see Maria staring at him now, looking more than angry too.

“Something is blocking the Beta.” He told her “That was Jack’s love for Luci.”

“No it wasn’t.” Jo-anne stated simply “You, yourself love Luci, they got around that.”

His eyes moved to where he knew Luci was within the pack, could feel her out there in the house they had given her, thought about that statement for a minute, “The twins?”

“Yes,” Jo-anne answered him, “Your wolves were agitated a lot over the years, still had a connection to Luci, their own bloodline that she carried. So, there was still a real attachment. One that neither you, Jack nor your wolves truly understood. Because you didn’t know about them. If you had known, it’s unlikely they would have been able to do this to you at all.”

“If we’d known, we would have claimed her on the spot.” He sighed, turned and looked skyward as more thunder rolled across the sky.

“It’s not over, just a reprieve,” Jo-anne commented.

“You’re talking about the storm, right?”

Heard her chuckle softly “Yes, that witch of theirs.” He looked back at her and she hunkered down and looked right at Melissa “Yours.” She looked from one to the other and shook her head “They’re not twins, not even sisters. Lovers only but this one.” She pointed to Melissa, put a hand on her face and Rafe watched Jo-anne’s eyes go white just like a seer did.

Stood and watched on, saw Melissa gag and heave five minutes later, as Jo-anne stepped back. “Wouldn’t be between you and Jack on her own? So her father bled that one to himself and then the pair of them to each other to make it that they were sisters. Were best friends, still are.”

Rafe looked down at her “Why’d you do it?” he grated out.

Jo-anne took his arm and walked him away, “I can answer that. Leave them be. Your girl, Luci, is likely going to k**l them when she hears the truth. I know you and Jack want to, but speaking from experience, let her do it. It will help her get all that pent-up anger out, and with her not yet in control of her witch’s powers, it could get well out of hand if she has no release for it. She’ll come back to normal afterwards.”

They walked inside and he closed the umbrella he’d been carrying, put it in the rack with many others, ‘Why’d they do it?’ he asked.

“To take over your pack.”

“A very drawn out way of doing it.” he frowned at her now.

“They had to ingrain themselves here. It’s likely that your pack members see Melissa as a good Luna. When you died, she would have taken over, as is a Luna’s right, if you died of natural causes without an heir. But if she killed you herself, harmed you in anyway, it would be treason and they’d have the whole pack hunting them. They had to appear like they weren’t the ones harming you, to keep the pack attached to them.”

“You know this how?” he asked.

“I got it from Melissa just now. Her mind is simple, easy to read, her only goal to get rid of you and Jack, if one of you dies, the other would as well. She was to have her father step in and take over. She’d stay as the Luna, of course, but then changed that plan to suit herself, and doesn’t want her father here.”

Rafe shook his head. “Very long and drawn out.”

“It had to be for it to work. Though I’d have to get my hands on her father to get his thoughts on the matter. Why he decided to do this?”

Rafe sighed and nodded, "I'll give you the address if you like?"

Saw her nod, "I might."

"If Jack is mated to Luci, why is there no bond?" he asked.

"Like I said, it's not complete."

"No marking?"

"It could be all that is needed." Jo-anne nodded. "But that girl is a Triune, it could be that she actually needed all three parts of her alive or...realised to actually bond to someone, Hanna would know more about that, being a Triune herself, I suppose."

"Hannah and her sisters are not forthcoming," he muttered.

"They have their own agenda." Jo-anne nodded. "Though my knowledge is that they let this happen because otherwise Luci would only be a wolf, is all. She would never tap into her Siren or Witch bloodline, it was needed for that to happen."

"From bad comes good."

"From darkness comes light." Jo-anne nodded. "Everyone here got hurt Rafe, don't think that I don't see your pain. Which you hide from all, even Jack. You're very good at it, but pain is something no one can hide from me." She sighed heavily "Pain is something I understand all too well, it has its own aura, you, my friend, are as surrounded by it as both Jack and Luci are."

He saw her eyes move to the stairs. "West is looking for me. I'd better go. Rafe...try not to worry too much, all things are coming into the light now."

"Thank you Jo-anne." he watched her walk towards the stairs. "Oh wait, Piper?"

"I don't know anything about that." She shook her head and walked off up the stairs.

Rafe returned to Luci's room, it's where he had left Jack sleeping in her bed, smiled to himself as he leaned in the doorway to the bedroom and just watched him sleep, 'Ours.' Solar told him.

'Yes.' Rafe nodded, the man was theirs, he'd nearly lost control earlier in their office, likely would have marked and mated Jack right there if they'd not been interrupted. Turned and went back to the living area. He would and he knew it, but he did want to wait and sort Luci out first. He and Jack could wait. They'd never been together before.

Though he'd known when he and Jack marked the same Mate, they'd have marked each other and likely mated each other as well. Wondered if that was all that it would take for them to come together. Did they need to have a Mate between them first? They had never been together like that, had always been close though.

Always had what appeared to be a Mate Bond between them, even though they were never together. Their attraction right at this minute was so very strong to each other, wondered if that was because they were so very close to having one Mate between them, that Jack was half mated to Luci and it was drawing them together.

He stood and wondered if Luci had Mated herself to Jack, to both of them, for that matter, it was completely possible. He sank down on the lounge and thought about that. With Jack partially mated to Luci, that would definitely affect him as well at times, kind of just bleed through their bond from Jack to him.

He got up and wrote on the wall what Jo-anne had told him about Melissa and Maria, Alpha Colby. Their reason for doing this, to take over the pack, to draw out their deaths, knew as he wrote those very words, it was why they were always trying to keep he and Jack apart, to help with k*****g them.

Put that on the wall as well, stood back and sighed heavily, Addi had said they were dying. He'd been feeling hollowed out for years, didn't even know how much more he could take himself. Though as he stood there, thinking about that, no more did he feel all hollowed out, he was

reconnected to Jack, and he believed their bond was even stronger than it had once been.

That hollow place inside of him, was now where Luci and the boys were. Likely having her removed from him and his memories was actually what caused him to become hollowed out. Sighed and turned away from the wall, went back to bed. Curled his arms around Jack and pulled that man right into him. No more would they ever sleep apart.

The Alpha & Beta's Regret Chapter 123

Jo-anne POV

She was not here for war meetings, and she knew it now, was here for her own lineage to come out, as well as to help Luci and what was going on within the pack. Finally, she got to lay hands on that so-called Luna to this pack. Which allowed her to not only see that those two she-wolves had deceived the Alpha and Beta about being their Mates. There were not twins, were not even real sisters.

They had grown up in that pack of theirs up north, were simply friends. Melissa, who was the Alpha's bastard daughter, not a legitimate heir, had been convinced to do this by him. That man had not once acknowledged her as his own kin, wouldn't recognise her, was not his child to his Luna, but the product of an affair.

He had told her if she did this for him, he would recognise her, and she'd be a Luna to one of the wealthiest, largest packs there was out there. That when he came to the pack after she'd killed the Alpha and Beta. That he would let her retain her title as the packs Luna once she seated him as the Packs Alpha. He would make sure she got everything she desired.

Melissa didn't believe him, not truly, he had a Luna, and who wouldn't seat their own Luna when they were the Alpha. She didn't trust her own father, but wanted to be recognised by him and their pack, kind of desperate for recognition.

He'd told her that while she was mated to those two men and letting them do whatever they wanted to her, he would make sure she was

treated as his most precious child. That in his pack when she visited, that respect would be given to her by all here, she would be treated like the Luna she was.

Though she'd not gone willingly at first, she had to be swayed, she didn't want to have 2 men at the same time. Her father had taken matters further in order to sway her into this, convincing her that she could take her best friend Maria with her, mate that girl off to the Beta, so she wouldn't have to have the two of them.

Her father had bled Maria to him to make her his own child, and then had bled her to Melissa so it would appear that they were twins. They were the same age and both had blonde hair and blue eyes, could pass for being fraternal twins.

Only then had she been convinced to do this. Melissa had realised quickly once here inside the Black Forest Pack, that the life of a Luna suited her. She wanted for nothing and was recognised by all. Had found a way around her father, who she did not believe would keep her as the Luna if she instated him here as the Alpha, he had a Mate and two other children to that woman. They all hated her, knew he would just kick her out or she would go back to being what she had been growing up, a nobody inside her own pack.

So she had dragged it out over the years herself, not played it out the way her father wanted her to. She'd not poisoned Rafe and killed him within that first year of being mated to him. No, she'd turned to the very witch her own father had used to bespell Rafe and Jack into believing that they were their mates in the first place.

Asked that witch to find another way, that she couldn't just k**l Rafe, that his pack had three witches in it, which they had not known about when the original spell had been created. Knew they would know it was her that killed him, and when the pack actually found that out, they would reject her and she would have to return to this pack herself.

So she couldn't just k**l the Alpha and Beta, as had been her father's plan, which once her father had heard about the witches, he'd just pushed her to get herself pregnant. He had even given her and Maria a

potion to induce them into heat, to help that along. But she didn't want that, Rafe was not her actual Mate.

She did not want a bastard child to a wolf, that child would be no different to what she was growing up. She understood by then that her father was only using her, didn't actually love her at all. So, no, she wouldn't do that to her own child.

She and her friend Maria were now playing their own game, trying to weaken and separate the Alpha and Beta, as their witch had told them to. So that one of them would die, their witch understood that there was a much deeper connection between the two of them. Had told her, in order to secure and keep the pack for herself, separating them was the best option. Finding ways to drive a wedge between that connection was all that was needed.

So staying with those two, constantly being at them about how close they were, keeping them in separate bedrooms, not giving them an heir but always begging and pleading for one, would also hurt them, blaming them for it would cause agitation and hurt them. That it would be a long and drawn-out process, but she could give them a helping hand, magically imbued items that they could place throughout the packhouse to help with keeping the two wolves attached to them even when they no longer wanted it.

They would get angry but always come back to them, no matter what, defend the two of them and their bond to her and Maria would eventually be their undoing, that it could take a decade to do this to them.

But in that time, she could ingrain herself within the pack, do all her duties and let the pack come to not only like her but trust her, all she had to do was be the Luna, do the Luna duties and she would be loved by them, so that when Rafe and Jack did die, it would be her pack, and she wouldn't need her father to take it over. Could rule it herself.

Jo-anne realised that witch, she was loyal to no one but herself, would plot and plan for anyone for a price, was a dark witch and Melissa and Maria had been funnelling money to that witch for years now. Though, with a new spell to be done, had been told to keep that spell in place, the

funds themselves had to be given willingly to her, from the Alpha and Beta themselves. This would allow for Rafe and Jack to actually pay for themselves to be kept under the spell that was used. A little technicality, seeing as the witch didn't have them or their blood to use for the spell each and every time.

It was considered that seeing as they were paying for the spell to be put on them, this was what was actively keeping it attached to them and working. The witch, had liked that little part of her spell, amused her completely.

It seemed that witch was loyal only to where the money came from, then the Alpha to the pack she lived in, had bespelled him for Melissa, to stop him from realising he was also being deceived by them. Kept in the dark, all he knew was that there were witches in this pack, and they had to take the long road to get the pack. He had to be patient and request money every few months for upgrades and what not.

She let go of the she-wolf, disgusted by the nature of her. She was her father's daughter, his deceitful and power-hungry nature resided within that she-wolf. Didn't care who she hurt, only cared for the outcome she wanted, which was the position of power and no one to tell her what to do.

It was no wonder that this pack didn't suspect anything was wrong. She did actually do her Luna Duties. They respected her, likely looked up to her and went to her for advice, which she gave. This was not a good thing.

She also knew now, there had never actually been a Marking and Mating at all. Well, they'd had to let Rafe and Jack actually mate them, but it had been stopped by that witch at the crucial moment before the Mate Bond was to actually take effect. Rafe and Jack had been put to sleep by a spell and then been given memories of Marking and Mating. It was all just a magical illusion, so to speak. The filagree and bite marks, all just an illusion as well.

From all she'd heard while here in this pack, neither Rafe and Jack had known about Luci being pregnant at the time, so that spell that was used;

the original one. Had likely not accounted for that. That witch should have known about Jack having already Mated himself to Luci, she would have been able to detect it when attempting to make that first spell. His side of the spell would have been harder to manage and once that man knew about his sons, it was game over, no spell was going to work on him or his beast.

These two she-wolves were destined to die and likely not a good death. It was likely Luci and her two beasts were going to come out here and rip their heads off or, as Luci herself stated, explode some heads. She would likely need to, to get all that pain and anger out over what she was going to feel when she realised how those two had ruined her life.

She may have gotten Alari with the devastation of heartbreak, but Alari likely could have been brought out in some other manner. Utter heartbreak came from many things; the loss of a parent or a child, a sibling, anyone she was attached to.

Jo-anne left those two she-wolves out there. It was not her place to punish them, she'd already punished the old hag that had helped them, stripped that woman of her powers and she knew it, wondered if that old woman knew it yet and if so? was she hiding the fact of it and playing like she was still a witch.

That old hag was human now, no more could she meddle in things she should not, if she didn't use her magic every day, it might take her a while to realise she was no longer with her craft. Her punishment was severe and deserved in Jo-anne's book.

She'd returned to her bed and curled into West, smiled when he hugged her and murmured "Everything alright?" he asked, half asleep.

"Yes and no." she'd sighed.

"You'll figure it all out and heal everyone." He'd murmured right back "Just like Heath told you once."

She closed her eyes and leaned into him, thought about that, what Heath had told her about the first vision he'd had when she was bled to him at a

day old. He had told her now what he'd seen that day, that she was a powerful healer, who would heal many things, not just animals and birds as a child, but children in the pack, adult pack members and so many others in their world. Told her she was his precious princess growing up. Now he just chuckled about that, she actually was a princess. He thought that was very funny. A happy coincidence.

Wondered as she lay there how he and her mother would take the news that she was the Queen of the Light Witch's, if she wanted to be, sighed softly to herself, didn't really want that title. It was simply her birth rite and those three witches here in this pack. Had given her the royal robes of their coven, bowed to her. Sighed once more, already made the decision for her, she now realised, for she had three loyal subjects at her disposal, she guessed.

Though they didn't consider themselves light anymore, grey, which she had taken to mean neutral. They didn't interfere unless they wanted to. Wondered if they could be brought back into the light? Or if they were too far gone? She hoped not, like the idea that they could be good, all good, unlike her biological father.

She had no idea why heartache had soured him, and then turned him to dark magic, turned him into an evil man, who cared for nothing for anyone. She'd seen how evil he was in her mother's memories of him. He cared for no one and nothing other than gaining more power for himself.

Jo-anne wondered what it was all for, why he needed all that power? What did he want to use it for? Had needed, he believed, her blood to get that power, but why? What had been that man's end goal?

Sighed heavily once more, she still didn't have those answers, might not ever get them, would have to go out and talk to Hannah and her sisters once more. She was certain they had answers but she had likely to ask the right questions to get them, was going to have to ponder on that one herself.

"West."

"Sweetheart."

“Distract me from my thoughts.”

Felt him press his mouth to her neck softly and heard him growl all deep right into her mark spot “Yes my Queen.”

She whacked him one, and heard a deep rumble come from him as he chuckled, then his mouth found hers.

The Alpha & Beta's Regret Chapter 124

Jack POV

He'd woken this morning to find Rafe's dark blue eyes looking right at him, even knew what that man was thinking, smiled right at him, “Morning Alpha.” He drawled softly, had seen the man react to those very words every time Luci had used them, was going to try it out himself.

“Don't call me that, it turns me on Jack.” He'd said right back, his voice a little on the rough side.

Which only made Jack chuckle “Still looking to have your way with me, I see.”

“Yes...I want to talk to you about that.” He'd nodded slowly, but his eyes had moved to Jack's mouth, which had only made Jack smirk, which in turn elicited a deep growl from Rafe himself. Oh yes, he could play with his Alpha as much as Luci had been able to, it seemed. That could be a lot of fun.

“I'll be good, if you are.” Jack taunted the man, his tone all teasing, slid a hand along the man's bare chest, his fingers soft on his skin. Had burst out laughing and stretched himself out in the bed when Rafe shoved himself out of the bed and snapped at him to “Stop it.”

“Awe why, you know you like it.” Jack had teased him even further, ran a hand down his own chest, down his abdomen and stroked his own v-line all slow like, drawing Rafe's eyes to him, to the action of it. Just couldn't

it seem help himself, was and he knew it, trying to incite his own friend, his own Alpha into mating him.

He was just laying there watching Rafe struggle with it, even. He did really want to, it seemed, saw him shake his head and take a step back “Jack, please enough. Luci must come first.”

Jack’s eyes met his and stared right at him for a moment, then he pulled himself up into a sitting position, sighed “Why?” Had been his only question. Jack didn’t think that Luci would honestly care, likely just stated, ‘About time.’

“Because I want to watch you Mark her, have you watch me Mark her, have her Mark us back and then you and I can Mark each other, in front of her. That’s how I always thought it would go. Her to watch us.”

“I don’t think Luci will really care which order it happens in Rafe. Do you recall her trying to get us to mate each other?”

“Yes.” Rafe nodded. “But Jack...I want Luci to come first, for us to show her we love her, want her and can hold our own needs back until she has hers sorted out.”

“Really? And just how do you think that’s going to happen...the moment we claim her, mating her, marking her, both of us are going to be fighting to be in control, we’re very dominant, she knows this, is going to be between us, taking us both and you know it.”

“Then perhaps we should Mark and Mate separately, and then together.” Rafe sighed.

Jack watched him run a hand through his hair was himself, it seemed, not certain of how it would go. Jack knew it was going to be a full free for all, likely Luci would just hold one of them down in the end. She was stronger than the two of them now.

“Rafe, Luci has been between us before, knows what we are like. If we hold anything back, she’ll know it. Think something is wrong, maybe

even think one of us doesn't want to Mark and Mate her, that is only doing it because the other one wants it."

"Its not what it is though."

"She might not see it that way." Jack got up and out of bed, walked over to him. "Together, is how it's supposed to be, it's what you want, what I want, likely if we can get Luci to forgive us and understand. What she will want."

"I don't want to screw it up," Rafe huffed.

"We won't...you just need to contain yourself, if you want to Mark Luci first," Jack smiled at him. Watched the man huff now, he had new needs that he wanted to sate, it seemed, ones that were filtering to Jack himself.

Rafe's needs, it seemed, were higher than Jack's in that department, and it just made him smile, he'd not deny the man. Jack knew that, but honestly he himself was more interested in Mating Luci, and still happy to play with Rafe.

"That hurts Jack." Rafe muttered.

"Sorry, I can't help how I feel."

Rafe looked right at him and then just nodded "I do understand, come on, get dressed now, we've got to take the boys to school with Luci, and we both need to be in control when seeing her. Contain ourselves, you, more so." The man muttered. Then just pulled him in and kissed him long and slow, growled a little and stalked off to get dressed a minute later.

Jack shook his head, the man might want Luci to come first, but whether she would or not was another thing altogether. Wondered if they could Mate without Marking, if that would solve the angst in his Alpha.

Saw that man look right at him, "It won't." he'd muttered.

They'd gotten dressed and gone downstairs to get breakfast, school here inside the pack didn't start until 8am and they were going to walk the

boys with Luci. He was happy about that. Spending anytime with her was good, keeping his feelings to himself was another matter.

He'd stopped and looked at the new entries on the wall in the living area before leaving Luci's room and then looked at Rafe "Luna Jo-anne, used her seer ability on Melissa, after we saw Terence off, in the wee hours of the morning."

"Got some answers." He'd sighed "I'd be willing to bet that having our office and Luci's room spell free hindered them and their plans as well. Gave us two places to go and just be ourselves, feel normal."

"Possibly."

"When is Terence due back?"

"Terence estimated three and a half hours each way, depending on the weather, and he has to stop and refuel in Helena, so 9 or 10 I guess."

"Alright, that gives us plenty of time to walk Luci and the boys down to the school."

"It does. I know our parents are joining us as well, shame Addi isn't here, could have done it as one big family unit." Rafe smiled. "I'd like that."

"So would I, and I can see us doing that all the time, you and I, Luci, walking our sons to school every day."

Rafe smiled at him. "I think that would be nice."

Brad and Cooper were already downstairs for breakfast. "Any news?" Jack asked as he sat down. It was 7am and had been 5 hours since Terence had left with Allen.

"Yes, Piper is with Terence and Allen, there was a bit of an argument, Eddie is very unhappy, Harry stepped in, even Izzy had to come and calm him down." Bradley sighed "She's actually really upset and I haven't seen her like this in a long time. All I know is Eddie, doesn't want to leave her side, she's his job and a distressed Piper, freaks him out completely."

“I’m sure Allen can handle it.”

Brad had said nothing, just sighed once more.

“Eddie and Piper have a unique bond.” Cooper had stated. The man looked no happier than Brad himself.

Jack didn’t push it and neither did Rafe. They both knew that Piper had left, and been gone for many years, and hadn’t been in a good state when they found her. Likely her own Gamma had his own needs where their Luna was concerned, and not being able to do anything all those years she was missing, bothered him more than he let on.

He wondered briefly if Eddie was concerned that Piper would once again run away, and he’d not be able to stop her. He didn’t have all the facts on Brad and Piper, the man was tight-lipped on his Mate.

All that Jack knew was that Piper travelled all over the world, still held a very public human life, and that Brad and Eddie often went with her. No real surprise there. Also knew that when Brad couldn’t go, Piper had a full detail of all female elite warriors, 20 of them if Jack recalled correctly. It was one hell of an entourage, as the humans would call it, for his Luna.

Wondered as he realised that The Piper; of Piper Harper, Goddess Gowns, was going to be here in the pack, if he could talk to her about a dress for Luci, explain the situation to her and maybe have her agree to come back here and talk to Luci about the kind of Luna Gown she would want for her Luna Ceremony when it happened.

Then realised he was getting way ahead of himself, but it was going to happen. Both he and Rafe loved her, they knew this and they were under way in finding out all of the truth. Well, up on that wall was the actual reason for it, they could take it to her now, he guessed.

He and Rafe were going to have to sit and talk about that, also now knew Alpha Colby was completely in on it, they could start planning taking war to that man for doing this to them, to Luci. The only question was could

they do it with the threat of Victor coming at them. He was watching them.

He would know the moment they left the pack, to take war to the Wolf Valley Pack, and then Victor could descend on their pack, though time wise, they were only two hours from Alpha Colby and his pack, so getting there, having a battle and then coming back, should be able to be done, before Victor even got here.

Thought about it. Would the man risk it? He wouldn't know why they were leaving or where they were going, so he'd have to weigh up the odds. He might even think it was a trap to draw him to them. That thought stopped him. Could they plan it that way, draw that man to them, so they could come at him from behind as well as in front.

Trap him and take him down outside of his pack. Surprise him. It wasn't their style, both he and Rafe did like a direct attack when having to go to war. It lessened the risks if you knew exactly where the enemy was at all times.

Drawing someone to you opened up more risks. What if they retreated? Back-tracked before falling into the trap. Then those men coming in from behind were surprised themselves, and the front plan of attack wasn't there to back them up. It could get them all killed. He would have to think more on that. Bring it up at today's meeting.

Though he already knew that both their fathers and the previous Alpha Unit were also going to be in that meeting, any meeting from now on, had already stated as much, and they had plenty of war planning experience under their belts.

There was no war talk this morning, everyone was doing as they pleased, until after Terence got back, so they all had the morning to themselves. He and Rafe excused themselves to go and head off to Luci's to meet up to take the boys to school, they drove down. It was not raining but the ground was a soggy muddy mess in places. And he and Rafe thought it might be better to offer to drive them to the school.

They pulled up in the driveway and got out to find their parents already here, but none of them were smiling at all, “What’s wrong?” he asked.

“Luci’s not here.” Diana sighed.

“What?” both he and Rafe frowned. Jack pulled on her tether. He didn’t or hadn’t kept track of her last night. She seemed to have settled here in this house, had been happy yesterday, playing with the boys in the morning, gone out swimming in the lake and came back of her own free will.

“They’re already on their way to the school.” He frowned, could feel all three of them moving away from them, heard Rafe sigh heavily.

“I’ll find out.” Jack stated and mind-linked right to Luci.

‘Luci, where are you?’ he asked.

‘Taking the boys to school.’ Her tone was flat and bored, sounding to him.

He frowned instantly at the tone, felt annoyance roll right off of her, ‘I thought we were.’

‘I changed my mind.’ She shot at him, cutting him off, ‘Just like others do.’ And then the link was severed, he hissed in pain at the tearing feeling it caused in him, had yanked it violently closed and he knew it. Could see everyone looking at him now.

“Ticked off about something.” He sighed “Severed that link from me like Alari would, though I don’t think it was Alari.”

“Ticked off about what?” Rafe asked.

“I don’t know, only stated she changed her mind like others do.” Everyone was just staring at him now, “She’s about halfway there, and I don’t think she wants company. Might find ourselves face to face with Alari.” He didn’t like it, something had happened last night that he didn’t know about.

Mind-linked right to her guards for the night and asked them if anything out of the ordinary had happened. Though he doubted it, they would have reported it right away, so he knew there had been no actual threats to her.

None in this pack would stand for an attack on this house. They didn't know what she was to them yet, but they all knew the packs heir's lived here with her.

The Alpha & Beta's Regret Chapter 125

Luci POV

She didn't sleep much that night, tossed and turned, her annoyance was more than normal, and she had gotten up early and made the boys breakfast, got them ready for their first day of school. They were excited to be going to the new school. Liked being with other children.

She'd left the house a good 15 minutes before anyone could get here to her place, had decided she didn't want to walk the boys to school with everyone else. This was something she'd always done on her own. Why should she just give them what they wanted at every turn?

The twins could feel her annoyance rolling off of her. She'd told them she'd simply not slept well, which she hadn't, and told them she was just tired and cranky, which was actually true, just to ignore it. They seemed to just do so. Alari told her they could choose not to feel what she did, and were learning to do this.

Luci, right at this minute, was of the opinion they needed to do it all the time. She didn't want them feeling every time she felt agitated, sad or angry about something, and she was glad they were actively switched off to her right this minute, it might lead them to being cranky and ticked off themselves.

She'd told the boys it was just going to be herself walking them to school, they'd stared up at her for a long moment, they knew everyone was

supposed to be coming to walk them to school that morning. She told them she wasn't in the mood for company and they had just nodded slowly. It was also something they were used to just her and them going to and from school.

She knew where the school was, was strolling along through the woods on a path heading for the centre of the pack, they were barefoot and she was carrying their shoes, they were squishing their bare toes in mud puddles and enjoying the muddy track. She'd wash their feet and put their shoes on at the school.

The boys didn't mind, they liked being barefoot in the forest, it seemed. They were, as always chatting to each other happily, as she walked along behind them, was not thinking about anything, trying to keep her mind clear.

Felt a mind-link connect to her from Jack and nearly snarled all aggression at the man, knew he would feel her annoyance and anger, but for the first time since being here, didn't bloody care what he felt come from her, told that man, 'I changed my mind.' Thought almost bitterly, just like you and your Alpha, but didn't say that, snapped instead, 'just like others do.' And severed that connection to him herself. She didn't even need Alari to do it for her, she was not the only one annoyed right this minute. Even Kali was frustrated at the lack of punishment those men's mates had received over the attack that would have been if they'd been in that cottage; not only on herself and her mother, but the boys, their own sons. It seemed their mates were more important to them, that those two she-wolves couldn't even spend one night out in the rain.

She didn't want to be around them at all, didn't care to hear either of them inside her mind, wasn't bloody going to either, she could not only cut them off but also deny them in establishing a link to her. Alari could hold them all at bay, and currently Luci was telling her to do so, because both she and Kali were ticked off.

She walked the boys through the pack town, to the school, walked them through the gate. It was a lovely white picket gate, just like the fence that ran the entire edge of the school zone. Felt eyes on her and ignored it, knew who it was, the Alpha and Beta. Simply ushered the boys over to

the bathroom and had them wash and dry their feet, put their shoes and socks on and headed for the schools office.

They were shown around and then walked to the boys' classroom, nearly snarled at the smell of her Alpha and Beta. As they walked over, could hear their footsteps coming this way. Looked to her boys as their eyes moved passed her to their fathers.

"Boys." She stated firmly, cutting off their happy smiles. Both of them looked right at her before they could greet those two men, saw their eyes meet hers, almost worriedly, "I'll be picking you up when school is finished."

"Yes, mamma." They both stated.

"Go." She waved them off, knew they wanted to say hello to their fathers, something right this very minute she did not want to do herself. She turned and walked away without so much as looking at either of them, even as she heard the boys greeting them, happy to see them.

"Luci?" it was Rafe. She ignored him.

Walked away altogether, he might not like what he got if she stopped to talk to him. If either one of them tried to stop her at all, she might just punch them both into next week. If she'd learned anything from her mother, it was that one could and had the right to punish anyone, regardless of rank, over treatment and disrespectful behaviour to one's own children.

Which is what they'd shown, by not punishing those two women as they had stated they would, over the threat to their own children. It was completely disrespectful, and showed her how little they cared. If this was how it was going to be, then perhaps she would just out her shame and reject them.

Then she was free and clear of them, would take her boys away, bloody far away. She'd always thought the Alpha and Beta were fair and just, but it seemed their Mates were all that mattered to them. One could punish a Mate. She knew that, had seen her own mother punish Orien in many

different ways during her childhood, more than once for his treatment of her, she wasn't even the man's true flesh and blood, but her mother wouldn't stand for him hurting her feelings, if tears fell from Luci, that man was punished by her mother.

She pulled her phone out and tried to call her mother once more. It had been 24 hours now since she'd left. She sighed when she just got the message bank, there mustn't be any service out there at all. She didn't like it, but couldn't do anything about it at all.

She was headed for the packhouse herself this morning, didn't much care right this minute for anyone or anything at all, had shut off her emotions, like she'd once used to do back in Nightfall, when dealing with Orien and his treatment of her. Likely had a bland I don't care expression, the mask she'd learned to use when unhappy and didn't want others to know about it.

Or had a hard f**k off expression on her face, she saw a few pack members just step aside as they saw her coming, and thought absently, 'Must be my f**k off expression.' Stalked more than walked up the main pack road to the packhouse, saw it come into view.

Frowned at the two shaming posts, there were two rogue females from what she could smell on them, they looked to be freezing cold, were b**t a*s naked at that, didn't think that was normal. Female rogues were not a normal thing inside this pack, let alone to be chained up like that.

Rogue females from her knowledge were invited to stay here, given the opportunity for a better, safer and more secure life within this pack. It was an odd thing to see, that was for sure.

Saw one of them look right at her and stopped walking at the realisation that it was Rafe's own Mate. Frowned right at that she-wolf, turned her attention to the other shaming post and she was not wrong, the other she-wolf out there was Jack's Mate.

Didn't actually understand what was going on, got yelled at by Rafe's mate, "What the f**k are you looking at!" Saw that woman lift her chin

as though she was still in charge around here. But was of rogue status, so couldn't hold that title right this minute.

“Nothing.” Luci stated as she realised there was no filagree on the woman anymore. She shook it off, didn't understand anything that was going on right this very minute, it seemed. No wonder she'd not been able to feel those two out here, both of them had rogue status, which could only mean, they'd been banished and rejected by her Alpha and Beta.

Didn't understand that at all. Rafe had not mentioned it when telling her they were on the shaming posts. She'd not attached herself to the packs Luna, when they'd come back to the pack, actively ignored it, in fact. Hadn't felt them sever from the pack either, though she should have, she supposed, in some way. Normally, all pack members would feel the Alpha or Luna get severed from the pack.

Walked away from them and through the ground floor of the packhouse, heading for the indoor pool, was intending on letting Alari feel it, perhaps swim in it if it was to her liking, of course. The anger she had been feeling all morning she now knew was displaced and she felt very confused herself about what had happened. Was also still mad at them, as well as now confused.

Walked into the indoor pool and over to it, several people were in here already this morning. There was a group swimming laps taking up four of the lap lanes. The life guard on duty, she knew, was watching over a group of mums and dads with toddlers learning to swim. It was busy in here at this hour. Those swimming laps were training and building their endurance, she knew.

Walked over to the stairs and slipped her shoes off, stepped in and let Alari feel the water. Salt water pools didn't dry her skin out anywhere near as much as the chlorine ones did. She had swam in this pool more than a few times while living here. Though she was a much stronger swimmer now than she had been growing up.

Allowed Alari to push forward and test it herself, was actually stepped right down into the pool fully clothed, dropped down under the water

and swam out and away from the stairs, felt a burning sensation in their lungs and she was shot up to the surface. An irritated snarl erupted from her beast, 'no' was the answer, the saltwater pool was not to her liking at all.

Alari relinquished control back to Luci and she sighed. Her throat and lungs felt itchy and hot, could feel Kali healing her already. Looked down at the state of her now soaking wet clothes, and realised the room was relatively quiet, looked around to see several pack members staring at her a little wide-eyed, and realised it was the snarl Alari had let out, likely shocked them, "Sorry." She commented and walked over and got out of the water. She didn't actually know how many here in the pack knew she was a double shifter.

Stood just past the stairs into the pool ringing her hair out, when she watched Rafe walk into the room, nearly sighed out loud, she'd not only taken the boys to school by herself, she had not allowed either of Rafe or Jack's parents to walk to school with the boys either. Something she did know that they had all wanted to do. Had been ticked off with Rafe and Jack and taken it out on all of them, now for no reason at all, it seemed.

She watched him walk across the room towards her, likely wanting answers about her behaviour, saw him pick up a towel from the stack by the door after seeing her state, he wasn't striding like he was pissed off, casually strolled over to her, handed her that towel. She took it, and dried her long hair with it.

"Luci, is everything alright?" he asked.

"Alari does not like the pool." she stated, "Salt water does not suit her."

Saw him blink as she stepped around him, "I could likely change that for her needs. I just need to know what her needs are."

"Fresh water," She stated simply.

"I'll look into it." He fell into step with her. "About this morning?"

She frowned but said nothing.

“Luci, I don’t understand what happened.” He prompted a moment later she didn’t offer anything up.

“I was mad.” She said and walked out the door.

“Oh, I understand that much. But I don’t understand why. Were you mad at everyone or just myself and Jack? If so, may I ask why?”

Luci turned and looked right at him, saw Jack was prowling in the corridor not that far away. Moved her eyes to Rafe’s neck, there was no filigree there above his collar, turned and looked at Jack. He’d stopped prowling now, was just standing down there watching her, stayed down there though. But she and Kali could see his neck was also bare of filigree, they were no longer Marked and Mated to those two outside, it seemed.

“You lied to me.” She shot at him and turned and walked away from him towards the mudroom. She needed clean dry clothes to put on, and knew she could find them in there. There were shelves upon shelves of clothes neatly folded in that room for all to use after shifts.

“Luci, I’ve not lied to you.” he stated.

“Didn’t tell me the whole truth though, did you.” Stopped at the door and looked right at him “Left me feeling you’d not punished those two for trying to hurt my sons, I couldn’t sense them out there on the shaming posts, where you said they were.” She stated flatly and pushed into the mudroom, and banged the door shut behind her to find dry clothes.

[The Alpha & Beta’s Regret Chapter 126](#)

Victor POV

Victor stood waiting by his packhouse. His man had Addison. She was fully sedated with wolfsbane and cuffed by silver handcuffs. He’d dosed her with wolfsbane twice more on their trip back to the pack, since collecting her from her lake. She was Alpha blooded and it was burning out of her system quickly, it appeared.

Victor had reports from his man, Angus, that not only had he dosed her up with enough wolfsbane to knock her out for a solid 24 hours, it wasn't really working, she was restless and agitated in his backseat. That her eyes had been glowing behind her closed eyelids on occasion.

He'd warned Angus that she was a pure-blooded half breed, half witch, half wolf, that he didn't know the extent of her witch's powers, and had never seen her display any. But he strongly doubted they were dormant, had told him silver handcuffs were to be on and behind her back, were a must and to keep them firm not loose to lessen the risk of her breaking out of them. Being half witch, he didn't know how effective they would be.

Unlike Orien, who had cuffed his Mate with just one cuff, likely trying to reduce pain to her, but control her at the same time. Victor was not taking any chances, leaving a hand unbound, meant she could wake up and fight. Likely remove that cuff from herself as she had done the one Orien had put on her.

No, she was fully cuffed, both hands behind her back and fully sedated, told Angus to just dose her up each and every time there had been signs of any wakefulness, he was not risking losing her. It was also safer for his man to transport her. Victor also wanted her here in one piece.

She was not so dumb, and could stop her wolf from healing her up and he needed to make sure Luci understood he'd not harmed her mother at all. One bruise or injury from a fight, she could let them heal at human world pace and he couldn't have that.

It was a very long drive from that lake to his pack and his man had to take a longer route in order to avoid driving right past the Black Forest Pack. Which Victor had told him to do so, didn't want Luci or her Siren to pick up that their mother was close by all of a sudden. So he'd had Angus come down through Missoula and then the Clearwater National Park, use highway 95-5 to come all the way down and passed his pack and then swing back up and around to him from the south. It was a 12 hour drive without stops, not that he expected his man to do that, he had told him to take an easy trip, not to harm her unless it was utterly necessary.

It was now 9 in the morning, and Angus had just driven in through his pack gate. It had taken nearly 20 hours to get her here. He had stopped and rested himself and he still had her, nil reports of any actual trouble at all. Just the extra sedation was all.

Victor had already warned the entire pack, that Luna Addison was arriving and that she was completely off limits to any and all of them who thought they might want a piece of her, a Luna-ranked wolf, stated point blankly, she was his and anyone touching her in any manner, inappropriate, would find themselves headless by his hands, no exceptions would be made.

He was not going to have her harmed at all, he needed Addison in one piece to strike a deal with Luci. He'd also heard she'd flickered her eyes a few times in the past 10 minutes, was once again getting ready to wake up and come around.

Angus pulled the car up and there she was still asleep, it appeared in the backseat. Victor tuned his hearing into her breathing and heart rate, all steady and calm, nil signs of perspiration, or other indications that she was faking being asleep. He was preparing himself for a fight.

Looked at his man, Angus, and smiled right at him "Well done. You can go and rest, Dane and I will take her from here."

Angus nodded "My family?"

"Keep them there for now, Angus, in case Luci, her daughter, shows up, though she will be much harder to deal with."

"I can go back then?"

"Yes, by all means, stock up on what you need and go when you're ready, Angus." He nodded.

"I'll be on my way by lunch time, Alpha."

"Alright." Victor smiled "I've added a bonus to your monthly allowance, it's a permanent increase for all your loyalty and due diligence."

He watched Angus bow his head, smile at him and then walk away, after grabbing a bag from the front seat. His own luggage for the trip.

“Loyal,” Dane commented.

“That he is.” Victor nodded.

Angus had known Victor a very long time, knew better than to say no, or try and abandon his post. Had been around longer than Dane himself, he was almost as old as Victor himself was. Had survived many battles and his post up at Kintla Lake was like his retirement. Victor only called him onto active pack duty when needed. The man always answered.

His eyes moved back to Addison, she was sitting up and seat-belted on the back seat, had her head resting on a pillow and though was cuffed, he could see that Angus had tried to make the woman comfortable. Why? Who knew? Victor would have just laid her on the backseat and left her there, she would have been just fine.

Saw that slight glow Angus had told him about, from under her lashes, likely a part of that witch in her was trying to help her wake up. “Are we waiting or transporting her like this?” Dane asked.

“We’ll wait for her to wake up. Wouldn’t want to freak her out completely now, waking up in a cell is not a nice thing.” They both sat and waited by the car with the back door open, and just chatted casually. Victor was more than pleased with himself.

This she-wolf thought no one knew who she was. He’d not told anyone either, that was now a benefit to himself, because she’d thought all those years she was hidden and completely safe. Had thought returning to her lake was safe for her to do so. Was about to wake up and get the shock of her life.

He didn’t have any empty cells downstairs, but he had a comfortable one she was going to share with Zoe. He didn’t trust any of the others not to harm Addison in an attempt to get back at him. Send him into a murderous rage and k**l them for it. They all knew he was a savage, and would in fact k**l the one that hurt or killed her.

They had all seen him do it, or most of them, anyway, had been warned what would happen to them if they tried to hurt each other.

He sat relaxed on the step next to the car, chatting with Dane for a good 20 minutes before her pretty blue eyes opened. A flicker at first, “Here we go.” He’d smiled at Dane. Then they had snapped open, all the way, and she’d realised she was bound.

“Morning Addison.” He drawled all happy, “Good to see you again.”

Her eyes moved right to his, “Victor.” She grated out.

“Yes, you don’t think I wasn’t tracking everything in and out of that pack now, do you?” He smiled right at her. Saw her glaring at him now. “Now, now, don’t be like that, you’re unharmed and will remain that way. So, I can get what I really want.”

Actually, saw her smile “Really, you think Luci will bow down to you, because you have me?” sounded amused to him.

“A nice deal will be offered.” He nodded “Her mother unharmed and untouched by me, by my pack, or I can just hand you. A Luna-Ranked Wolf, over to my band of men, and they do like ranked females, one like you.” He slid his eyes over her slowly. “Will be in high demand, might not survive my men.” He nodded.

“Harm me and she’ll k**l you. Might do so, just for snatching me.”

“I can handle that Siren of hers.”

“You want to hope so.” She stated.

Didn’t he realize, seem all that concerned about being here, but why would she be, when she was leverage and hurting her? She even knew he couldn’t do that without risking Luci’s wrath.

“Let’s get you out of that car, Addison. Are you happy to walk of your own accord, or am I man-handling you to my cells?”

“I’ll walk Victor. You might want to keep the cuffs on me. Fallon, as you know, is deadly in a rage.” She sounded fully amused now to him.

Yes, he had seen her beast let loose. Had lost many a rogue to her beast, not that she knew it, no one did. Had occasionally sent a few in to try and snag Luci when she was a little girl growing up, no such luck on that front.

This particular she-wolf had a Sirens mentality, where her daughter was concerned, he knew better than to piss her beast off. Or the woman herself for that matter, and today actually seeing the glow under her eyelids, he’d know that she was a half breed, but had never seen the witch side of her.

But if it could push passed sedation and try to get out of her, he was willing to bet, it was likely mostly dormant but itching to be released. He was pretty certain of who her father was, not a hundred percent, but he did know where she’d been conceived, there had been two or three warlocks in that pack at the time, though he’d smelled her, smelled that bloodline on another as well.

Likely, if she did turn to her witch’s side, not something he’d ever seen, she’d be a force to be reckoned with. Luckily for him, she was a gentle soul, a kind-natured woman, ninety percent of the time, the other ten percent, was when she was ticked off.

He helped her out of the car and put a single hand on her arm. After checking that the cuffs were securely in place, he got to see that scar from Orien’s handiwork, “That.” He commented as he walked her up the stairs, “Is always going to remind you of your former Mates’ betrayal and cruelty.”

“Yes.” She stated simply, “A full reminder to never trust, an Alpha Male, ever again.”

He chuckled softly “Not all of us would do that?”

“Oh, and you wouldn’t.” She rolled her eyes as she walked next to him, didn’t struggle to get free at all, his touch on her was light, almost caring.

“I would not have been so stupid as Orien. I’d have let you go or taken you right away to find your daughter, not stopped you, knowing how closely bonded the two of you are, but that man’s sheer jealousy over how much more you love Luci, over him. Has eaten away at him year after year. Finally got to have you all to himself, and then once again she rises up and all you want is her and not your own Mate. He truly hates her, you know, with a real passion.”

“Let him.” She stated uncaringly “She’ll k**l him too.” Addison shrugged.

“And I bet you’ll let her. So very cold hearted Addison. Does 27 years of being mated to him mean nothing to you at all?” he asked curiously, as Dane unlocked the door to the basement.

“Nothing at all. My life is very long, I’ll move on.” Her eyes turned right to him. “Because yes, I am cold-hearted, when I want to be. You, Victor, might want to remember that, keep that front and centre of your thoughts. Cold and Heartless.” She smiled sweetly up at him, but her voice was now devoid of all emotions.

He chuckled softly, “You know Addison, you and I could make a nice pair. I’m cold and heartless most of the time.”

“I know what you are.” She stated as he walked her down the stairs.

[The Alpha & Beta’s Regret Chapter 127](#)

Addison POV

Waking up to find Victor staring at her, more than shocked her. Though to hear him state he was watching all movement in and out of the pack, didn’t really surprise her at all. She’d only been at her lake for maybe two and a half hours, three at the most. How could he have people there so quickly?

She knew Rafe and Jack suspected he had rogues watching all the roads in and out, and at a distance. So, it was entirely possible that they had seen the helicopter leave the pack and raced off after it, in wolfen form,

but she didn't think they would be that quick. A pure-blooded Alpha Wolf might have kept up.

She knew Terence hadn't been pushing that helicopter to the max, had taken it easy, there had been no rush to get out to the lake. It was a full curiosity to her. No one knew where she had hailed from prior to meeting Orien, she'd never told a soul. Had to let it go, perhaps this man had wolves all over the place, for who the hell knew what reason or purpose.

She was walked into that packhouse of his. It was nice, neat and tidy. Though she didn't like the way the omega's all wore maids' uniforms, she didn't see a need for that at all. Anyone walking passed them would know what they were. Omega's were generally smaller than normal wolves even in human form and his were tiny, likely didn't treat them very well or feed them properly. What she was seeing of those she saw. They were all thin. A little too thin for her liking.

She watched as all of them stopped walking at his presence and bowed, and not just their heads, but at the waist. They all also greeted him, "Alpha." In a soft but respectful tone, and didn't move until he had passed them completely. Stayed in that bowed position until his back was to them.

His pack had seemed nice the last time she'd been here, and still did. Kept clean and the furnishings she did see, all looked well maintained, her eyes moved about the foyer, she knew from her past visit that it was four stories high. Had a single set of stairs but they were enclosed after the first floor. No one got to see beyond the first floor.

Unlike in Nightfall or the Black Forest Pack, which had sweeping stairs on either side of the grand foyer that went all the way to the top floor, an impressive sight for all to see. Open for all to see what was up there. This place was closed off to prying eyes.

As she was walked, Addison could see that he was leading her to that basement door, that led down to his cells, and there it was, once again, an almost family bond feeling. At least being down there she would likely

find out who it was. She didn't know if she wanted to or not, but wasn't really getting a say in the matter.

She had not seen anyone in her actual family since she was 18. Didn't know if she wanted to even now all these years later. She did not struggle against him or even argue with the man, she was cuffed with silver, he wouldn't know it didn't work on her, but the wolfsbane still had Fallon gone from her.

It was likely her beast would stay gone but only until the cuffs came off. The combination of wolfsbane and silver did hinder her beast, but if it had just been silver, it wouldn't have bothered her beast at all.

To her surprise, his hand on her arm was light and gentle, and he'd not said a single harsh word to her, couldn't she thought. Not after hearing what he wanted her for, Luci would not stand for any harm coming to her. Though if he used that threat of giving her to his men. That would likely see war before he was prepared for it.

He had no idea she was Triune or she strongly doubted it, would think she was a double shifter was all. From what she had told Addison of the day her beasts had come together and the raw power she'd displayed, it was likely Luci held as much power as her grandfather did, maybe more, she didn't know.

The lights turned on as they went down the stairs, though she noted his Gamma Dane, stayed upstairs, smiled to herself as she realised, she'd not seen the man's Delta, "Did your Delta die?" she asked casually.

"Yes, I've replaced both Gary and Dan. Don't you worry about that. Got those new men in hard core training right this minute."

She didn't believe him, not even a week had gone by, there was no way he had found two loyal and just like him that quickly, but she left it alone, just nodded her head. Victor pushed them through a door at the bottom. He hadn't used a key to unlock it, he had some faith that his cells were going to hold whoever was down here.

Her eyes moved along the cells as he walked her down the long corridor, she saw only females down here and saw all of them look at her in turn, sighed internally. Yes, this was his cells. But not for war prisoners or enemies.

No, this was where he kept women he liked for his own sick, twisted needs in all likelihood. They were all dressed in nice clothing and had nice bedding, but she could see the hollowed-out look or smell the fear on them as they all looked at him. Could also tell by their scents. They were all pack members here, and not just wolves, either.

Several of them looked right at her, and she saw a sympathetic look on their faces. This was his own private w***e house, he'd filled it with women who interested him or he liked the look of, turned him on, she supposed. Wondered if these were the women that had bared him those children of his.

“Got yourself an unwilling harem, I see.”

“Not all are unwilling.” He smirked.

“Given up, demoralised and just lay there for you now.” She muttered. Didn't like what she was seeing down here at all. No one deserved to be treated like this. This was just like the place she'd been created, she supposed.

“No, I've got two down here that actually love me f*****g them. You'll likely get to see it, I f**k when and where I want to.”

“Good for you,” she stated flatly.

Then she saw it, that tank at the end of the hallway. She frowned right at it. “If you think Luci is going to live in that, you're very mistaken.”

Heard him actually chuckle as he walked her right to it, “No, I will build my Luna a lake if she wants it, the moment she gives me an heir.”

Addison held in the snort of amusement. Clearly, he didn't know that much about Sirens. He turned her away from the tank, but even as he did, she knew what was in it, could feel the connection to it. This man

already had a Siren, ignored it for now, didn't want him to know she felt that connection.

If she could sense his Siren, it was likely, it might be able to sense her out. She didn't actually know, she could because Lucian's venom ran in her veins and she was pure-blooded, which heightened her senses. She was generally actually good at picking up what other creatures were.

Her eyes moved to the cell in front of her, a lovely looking she-wolf, small but pretty, dressed in very nice clothing, stood before her. She was looking at Addison as much as Addi was her. There was no fear in this one where Victor was concerned, and by the clothes she wore, a nice pair of cream chiffon slacks and a soft short-sleeved soft pink blouse. The plush looking rug on her floor and the comfortable bed and coverings in there, had a small bookcase filled with books even. This she-wolf was either one that liked him, or she was his clear favourite.

"Zoe, some company," Victor stated. "This is Luna Addison."

"Alpha Addison." She corrected him "Orien and I are no more. I renounced Nightfall. I am an Alpha not a Luna, now."

"My apologies." He stated and she could hear the full amusement in his tone, "Zoe, Alpha Addison will be staying with you for a few days, maybe a few weeks."

She watched as Zoe looked right at him, though only briefly so, dismissively she thought, and then looked once more at Addison herself as Victor opened the cell door and gave her a gentle push to step inside, then closed the door and locked it.

"Come, Addison, let me take those cuffs off you."

She moved to the bars of the cell and he did remove her cuffs. She stepped away from him and rubbed at her wrists not because the silver had burned her, but because they had been on quite tightly, even had reddened marks all the way around her wrists from them.

“The bars are silver in this cell, the door handles are all silver on all the exit doors. Don’t think that you and your wolf can get out.” He smiled at her. “Ask Zoe about that.”

“I won’t try to leave Victor. Luci will come for me.” She shrugged uncaringly.

“Oh, I’m counting on it.” He stood and smiled at her “I’m curious, Addison, how did it feel to have your Goddess Gifted choose me over you?”

“I left him, told him to get the hell away from me and my daughter. It was over long before I knew you were the one to even attack my daughter, injure her son.”

“Did that little bastard survive?” he asked now.

“Yes, he did.” She smiled up at him, “I hear you got your a*s handed to you, by a pair of six-year-olds.” She laughed herself now, found that very amusing, “Poor Victor, you have no idea of the trouble your about to unleash upon yourself.”

“I understand Siren’s Addison, got me one.” He smiled and looked pointedly at the tank now across from her. “One that will protect me, loves me.”

“We’ll see, her verses Luci. I hope she’s good and strong.”

“Only a rare few know about her Addison. I have kept her a secret all her life.”

She just smiled at him again and nodded, he had. She had no idea he had a Siren, but that bond she felt, likely she could exploit that herself, only he didn’t know it.

“I’ll leave you to settle in.” Victor stated “Now, Zoe, be nice to your new room mate, the longer she’s in there with you, the longer I’ll leave you alone.” He chuckled softly and walked away.

“Arrogant,” Addison muttered, and turned to look at the she-wolf in the cell with her.

“Not the word I would use.” She murmured, “Hi, looks like you’ll be here a while.”

“Mm, we’ll see.” Addison extended her hand to Zoe, “How long have you been here?”

“Years.” She muttered “I’m never getting out.”

That grabbed her attention. “You’ve tried.”

“Most of us have.” She nodded “Despite what he said, only one enjoys his company.” Her eyes moved to the tank.

“Sirens like s*x.” Addison nodded “How old is she?”

“I don’t know, he raised her from a toddler.” She shrugged.

“What was your punishment for trying to escape?”

“I got hit, just once though...” she sighed, “Then he killed my father as a warning not to try it again.”

“Your father?”

“I was born here, unlike all those women who were brought here for his amusement, I suppose.”

Addison looked at her now, the state of her, the cell and what she’d said, hit just once, “He doesn’t like hurting you?”

Saw a smirk on her face. “Oh, he’d like to, a lot I imagine, his beast won’t allow it.”

Now that got her undivided attention, “You’re his Goddess Gifted Mate.”

“Was.” She nodded “Rejected him, wound up here minutes later.”

“Cruel bastard,” Addison sighed. She now understood his words, they might be rejected, but he still came in here and took to her. Likely and unfortunately for Zoe, they both probably still took pleasure in the mating. Poor she-wolf.

“You have no idea,” Zoe muttered, “Your daughter he wants?”

“Yes, he’s not likely to ever have her and this,” Addison turned and walked back to the front of the cell. “Even if he was to actually obtain her, he’d lose all of this, including you...she wouldn’t stand for him with others.”

“I hope she doesn’t come for you.” she heard Zoe state, “Sorry that’s quite selfish of me, but with you in here, he’ll leave me alone.”

Addi smiled at her. “When I go.” She leaned her arms on the bars and glanced across at the tank. “We’ll all go.”

“You’re arms?”

“I’m not affected by silver, no one knows it. I play that it affects me is all. I’m half witch, this place.” She turned and looked at Zoe. “Won’t hold me long, I’ll stay till my own agenda is complete. How loyal is that Siren to Victor?”

“I don’t know to be honest.”

[The Alpha & Beta’s Regret Chapter 128](#)

Rafe POV

He could tell she was mad at him, by the tone she used to draw the boys’ attention back to her. Even the boys knew she was mad, their little smiling faces at seeing them, faltered at the sound of her voice, and then there were no smiles at all, as they looked at her.

Though he heard no gravel in her voice, to indicate it was Alari on the surface or Kali for that matter, no, that was all Luci before them, and she

was out to let them know she herself was mad at them. Hell right this minute she was letting everyone around her know she was ticked off.

The way she turned and stalked away from he and Jack, hadn't so much as looked at either one of them, he let her go. She needed a minute by the look of it. They spent a few minutes with the boys to give her that time. Saw them into the classroom, and a few of the other children who'd not met the boys yet, looked to him and Jack.

They all knew their Alpha and Beta, and would understand the meaning behind them bringing these two boys into the classroom. Watched them all look from he and Jack to the boys as well.

Made the announcement to the class and the children that would now be growing up with them "Children, the future of your pack." He smiled at them "My and Jack's sons." He announced proudly, smiled down at the boys and motioned for them to go and find a seat. He saw many shocked little faces, but several smiling ones as the boys went to sit.

He could feel concern welling off of Jack, his attention was clearly elsewhere, he was worried about Luci and why she was suddenly mad and for no apparent reason, either of them could understand. They'd not done anything, as far as he knew, to warrant her sudden anger with them.

Jack had yet to remember the whole truth of his own memories, and Rafe wasn't going to tell him, he had mated himself to Luci. The poor man was in enough pain. Telling him that, would only compound it tenfold, and there would likely be no stopping him or Flare from racing off to try and complete the bond. Marking her out of nowhere in her books. Likely wouldn't go down so well.

Clearly, she was not ready for that at all, but Jack's growing concern was likely to see him recall it and Rafe had a feeling it was going to be sooner than later. Trying to stop him after that was going to be his biggest issue. Jack loved her, Flare loved her and when those two both realised there was a half-realised, actual Mate Bond between them and Luci, s**t was going to hit the fan.

He was keeping track of her tether. It surprised him that she was headed for the packhouse, or at least that's what he thought, she was going in the right direction. Latched a hand right onto Jack, the moment they stepped out of the classroom and walked him away, "Calm down."

"She's angry with us," He blurted out.

"I know, try and relax. We'll go and talk to her. Just give her a few minutes to calm down."

"I don't like it," he burst out, and Rafe could feel the anxiousness as well as hear it in his voice.

Rafe sighed, kept a hand on him and walked him to their car, actually put him in it and shut the door, before going round to the driver's side and getting in himself. He could tell Jack was tracking her, it was in the full frown on his face, the focus he was showing.

Rafe drove the car to the garage and parked it. They both got to see her stop and look at Melissa and Maria on the shaming posts. He sighed, had wanted to sit her down and tell her in person the reason why. Had been going to do it yesterday when they'd been going to talk to her about Orien helping them, but she'd left the pack and so it had been delayed.

He had all the answers, but still didn't have all his own memories, none of how they'd tricked he and Jack into thinking they were their Goddess Gifted Mates. How that mark had been on them the whole time? Though both he and Jack had memories of scenting them and marking and mating them.

Answers he knew he wanted to be able to give her, knew she was going to ask, how could she not? He wanted to be able to tell her all the answers so she could understand and hopefully realise they had not hurt her or abandoned her of their own free will.

Watched her walk away from those she-wolves after only a minute and then headed right in the open front doors of the packhouse, wondered just where she was going. She'd not once wanted to be in there of her own accord since getting back.

He was trying to give her space, still had hold of Jack as they walked to the front door themselves. The man was actually starting to freak out. Rafe could feel it, even understand it more than Jack did himself. This was like when Luci was in their office with just Addison and Jack had hated it, didn't want space between them when she was angry and upset.

It was his bond to her in full swing, even though he himself or his wolf didn't know what it was. On a deeper level inside of him, he needed to comfort her, and it was going to get the better of him, if he couldn't calm down.

The problem was it wasn't just Jack that was agitated, it was also Flare. Solar could feel it and was getting on the agitated side himself. He didn't like feeling Flare like this, it rarely happened. Both the man and his wolf were getting distressed over Luci's emotional state.

He walked Jack right passed those two and before he even knew what happened, Jack ripped himself from his hand and had struck them both, one swift hit to each of them, and then Flare was snarling right at them all his aggression on the surface. He could see Melissa was unconscious as she dangled there from the post, she'd taken the first hit and not seen it coming. Maria had tried to get herself out of the way and been struck while on the move. She'd been tossed over by the force of it, and rolled around the post she was attached to. He could see that her left shoulder was now dislocated.

"Speak to her again like that" Flare snarled at her, "and I'll rip your head off."

Rafe put a hand on him gently, "It's alright Flare, they can't hurt Luci anymore." He tried to calm him. "Release buddy."

He could see Maria looking at him now. They'd never actually seen Luci before and now had. She was nothing compared to Luci's looks, plain by all means. He felt Flare recede and Jack was still glaring at the woman. "Don't you ever even dare to look at her, don't dare to look at anyone here." He snarled out, "Or I'll personally gouge your eyes out."

Rafe blinked in shock at Jack's words. He'd never once heard Jack be so vicious or aggressive, never had he ever threatened something like that before. Turned and steered him away before he did do that. He did see the way that She-wolf's eyes snapped right to the ground. She understood he had meant it, that whatever hold she'd once had over Jack, was gone completely.

That he was fully ticked off and she'd never seen him in a full rage until right that very minute, he was generally calm, only ever raised his voice if necessary. Jack was starting to loose it and she was the reason he was in pain. Likely realised it was only a matter of time before her head was coming off, as they had told them. When Jack did explode it was very unlikely he was going to be able to stop him.

Despite Jo-anne stating to him, 'let Luci k**l them, that it would be good for her', he didn't think Luci was going to get the chance. Jack and Flare were likely to do it in a fit of pure rage, which it did look like they were building to. Not something this pack had ever seen.

He stepped into the packhouse and halted Jack in the hallway. The man was still tracking Luci's tether, as was Rafe. Jack knew exactly where she was, saw her push into the indoor pool at the other end of the packhouse. Stopped Jack.

"Jack, I'll go, you're losing it, you have to calm down, please." Got glared at by his own friend, "I understand, your need to comfort her." he sighed, pulled Jack into his arms and hugged him, "We don't know what's wrong, let me go and talk to her, your anger on the surface is not going to help. Breathe Jack, take a minute." He felt Jack's arms slide around him, "Just breathe Jack." Rafe told him softly, slipped a hand into his hair and turned Jack's face into his own neck, "Breathe." He murmured, "I'm right here." He told him, stood there uncaring of who saw them.

What he was doing with Jack, pressing him into his neck, right to his mark spot, it was a very Mate thing to do, and there were pack members watching, they understood what he was doing. He was trying to calm Jack with not just his presence but his touch and his own scent as well.

Though they were all curious about what they could see, none of them looked all that shocked by what they were seeing or hearing. He could hear Jack's heart rate, focused on it and could hear it slowing down, feel his anger washing away from him, not even Jack wanted to be angry in front of Luci.

"I don't like it." Jack murmured "Her mad at us."

"I know." Rafe sighed. "Stay here, I'll go and talk to her." He pulled himself away. Now the man was calm, looked at him. "Can I trust you to stay here?"

Saw Jack nod his head slowly, Rafe nodded "Don't be angry with her or around her. We don't want her thinking we're angry at her, even if she is us."

"I know. I'll tick Alari off."

"That is not Alari on the surface. That is Luci who's mad Jack, and for once Alari is letting her show it."

Saw Jack nod again "She's never once been mad at us ever."

Jack was right, not once in all the time they'd known her, had she ever been mad at either one of them. "Stay here," Rafe told him, and then headed off down the hall. She was in the indoor pool room.

Walking in there, he saw she'd actually gotten in the water, saw her look right at him, and she didn't look all that happy to see him standing there. Did not get the response he was expecting to his question, the salt water did not agree with Alari.

That did not really surprise him, considering she had been born in a freshwater lake, he did know that nowadays there were options for freshwater pools. He would look into it for her, sort that out, and have all the pools here in the pack changed over, so Alari could swim anywhere she liked in the pack. Wouldn't always have to go to the lake.

She had no problem admitting she was mad when he asked what happened this morning, tried to get her to explain, because he couldn't

fix it if he didn't know the underlining reason. Saw her not only look from him to Jack, but then directly at his neck.

Knew exactly what she was looking for, she'd stopped outside the front of the packhouse, not only registered that those two out there were of rogue status but both of them were now unmarked as well. Though why she would be mad about that, he didn't understand, watched her look back to Jack, looked at his neck as well, then just state 'you lied to me.' And turned and stalked away, heading for the mudroom.

Cleared that up right away, he'd not lied to her, didn't understand her comment, hearing her explain what she meant, sighed internally, obviously she'd tried to feel for those two out there, and hadn't been able to. Though she should have felt them sever from her as a pack member. Not that she'd said anything about it at the time.

He frowned, wondered if the pack did not feel Melissa sever from it. His frown deepened, they weren't actually Mates, so likely not, he'd not thought of it at the time. He had other things to deal with.

His eyes moved right to Jack, who he knew was on the move once more, snagged that man. "Give it a minute."

"NO."

"Yes, I don't think she felt Melissa sever from the pack. Maybe no one did." His mind was racing now, turned and called out to the first pack member he saw, "Did you feel Melissa sever from the pack, when I rejected and banished her? Turned her rogue?"

"No, Alpha." He was informed.

Rafe huffed in annoyance. "She didn't feel them get severed."

"Thinks we didn't punish them." Jack snapped at him.

"But we have, she's now seen it. Give her a minute to calm down, was pissed off about that, them not being punished. She now knows the truth, Jack."

“Needs an explanation is what.”

“Yes, likely so. But she looked right at my neck and yours as well. She’s not dumb Jack, understands we’ve also rejected them and banished them as punishment. Would have seen their state, the bruises from our mothers, her own mother. How cold and uncomfortable they are out there, is trying to sort it out in her own mind.”

He mind-linked right to Luci, ‘I’m sorry Luci. I thought you would have felt them be severed from the pack.’

He got nothing at all from her, then the link was just cut from her end, not ready to talk to him yet.

The Alpha & Beta’s Regret Chapter 129

Jack POV

He didn’t like it, understood why Rafe was man-handling him, he was more than agitated about Luci being mad at them, and he wanted nothing more than to calm her down. To pull her into his arms and hold her tightly to him, tell her he loved her and that everything was going to be okay.

It wasn’t just him either. Flare was more than anxious, wanted out of him to get to her as well, and even though they both knew that deep down they had to calm down themselves, every part of them was screaming right now to lay hands on Luci, comfort her as a Mate would.

Was only a little surprised by Rafe’s very personal display of calming him in the middle of the packhouse for all to see, the way he was holding him and pressing his face into his own neck, telling him to breathe, knew that man was doing exactly what a Mate would do. Using his own touch and scent to calm him down.

Slid his arms around him and let Rafe calm him, just stood there also uncaring as to who saw the two of them and the display of affection that was going on. He breathed in deeply, and more than once, as he felt Rafe

slide a hand up and down his back, as the other brushed through his hair softly.

'I'm sorry, I don't...' he mind-linked to Rafe.

'It's alright Jack. Just take this moment to calm down.' His voice was soft and gentle, and Jack hugged him, needed him right this minute. So did take comfort in him. Closed his eyes and just stood there until he was calmer.

Had to wait there, but couldn't, it seemed, stand still as Rafe headed off to talk to Luci. At least one of them was under control right at this very minute and level-headed. How he could do that Jack didn't know, was stronger willed and more disciplined, he supposed.

Watched her come out of the indoor pool room, in fully wet clothes, and understood right away why she was there. Alari was testing the water in the pool, to see if it was suitable for her needs.

Saw those brilliant green eyes of hers turn on him, he'd stopped pacing the moment he saw her, she looked right at his neck and he knew she was trying to understand and figure out what was going on, what had happened. Realised she'd not felt Melissa sever from the pack. Because she had not actually been the Luna, realised none of the pack members would have felt it.

Heard her words about being lied to and then how she felt, had tried to find out if Maria and Melissa were on the shaming posts, but because they had been turned rogue, they weren't part of the pack anymore and so she'd not been able to feel them out there. Which led her to believe, they'd not punished them at all and had gotten mad about it.

Stood there and wondered if she thought she'd allowed the boys to come and roam in the packhouse unescorted with Maria and Melissa roaming freely as well, wondered if she thought they had introduced them to those two even. Who knew where her mind went over it?

If that was the case, then it was no wonder she was mad. The minute she stalked off, he was on the move. Wanted to clear that up and explain to

her, needed her to know that it was not like that. So, she could calm down and see the truth of the situation. Rafe stopped him yet again, and he didn't like it at all.

Hearing him ask the very question about feeling Melissa sever from the pack and getting a no, as confirmation, he was right. The pack had not felt it.

“Do it now, Rafe. Announce it, fix this.” he demanded, all his Beta aura flowing out of him.

Rafe stared at him for a moment at the aura that Jack was pushing at him, likely shocked him. It was not something either one of them had ever done to the other, but his need for her to understand was k*****g him.

There was no need to hide it from Luci. They'd not meant to either. Had been dealing with their own issues on the matter, and just not realised the pack didn't know. He wanted her confusion cleared up right this instant.

Rafe nodded “Relax.” And then he felt Rafe open up a pack wide mind-link, even connected Luci to it last so she knew it was for the entire pack and likely wouldn't shut him out before he could get the message out.

‘I, your Alpha, have an important announcement to make regarding the leadership of the pack. Myself and Beta Jack have rejected Melissa and Maria. I have also banished them from this pack and turned them rogue. It has come to my attention that there was no actual feeling of severing, of the so-called Luna from the pack itself.

‘I will explain that in detail when I have all the details myself.’ He heard many shocked gasps and one pack member asked why?

‘They are traitors to this pack, tried to k**l the heirs to the pack, their mother and their grandmother.’ Rafe stated firmly but simply. Then the link was let go.

Jack knew there was a full pack meeting coming, everything would have to be disclosed to the pack once the truth came out. Jack sighed, he knew Luci had listened to the message, he'd been feeling for her and she'd not disconnected it from her end, likely she wanted an explanation herself as to what was going on. Now she had one, though it was late and she'd been mad with them.

He was hoping now she had an explanation, she would calm down and not be so mad at them, maybe even want to come and talk to them. That was what he was hoping for. That she knew they were no longer Mated and come back to them.

He also wanted to go outside and rip Maria and Melissa's heads off, couldn't yet, didn't have all the information at this time. He tried to mind-link to Luci himself as Rafe steered him back through the packhouse, towards their office, felt it connect and only managed to get her name out before it was severed from her end. Did not like it at all.

"Leave her Jack, you're getting all worked up again. I need you to stay calm. Please...I know it's difficult and Luci being upset is really hard for you and Flare to handle. I don't much like it myself. But we need all the answers, to tell her the truth. Partial truths are not good enough, you know this will leave unanswered questions."

He did know that, just hated it completely, wanted to be with her. A part of him needed to be with her, if she was in pain, so was he right this minute, and though normally he was patient and level-headed, he was really starting to lose it and he knew it. Something was wrong with him.

"Nothing is wrong with you," Rafe stated as he walked him into their office "You love her Jack, Flare loves her. You both want to Mark and Mate her, so your reaction is perfectly acceptable, you're just reacting to her mood, because you love her."

"You're not like me," Jack stated.

"I'm not at all happy Jack, I can guarantee you that, but one of us needs to be in control. You and Luci were always that little bit closer as well." He sighed "You always knew what she wanted, how she felt. Annoyed me

sometimes, how you just always knew what to do or say where she was concerned. Your connection to her was and likely is still, just like yours and mine.”

“I know.” Jack nodded and it was true, when she’d been here, he’d had no trouble knowing what was going on with her, even now a part of him understood her, his bond to her even back then. Rafe was right. It was kind of like his and Rafe’s, the closeness. He felt them equally the same, most of the time.

“You need to calm down is all. It’s all going to be fine. You and Luci, you’ll be okay, both of you will mark each other soon.”

“You?” Jack frowned at him, sounded almost like he wasn’t going to.

“Oh, she’s not getting away from me, anymore than she is you.” Rafe smiled at him “We’re going to tell her we love her, we’re going to tell her that we want her to be our Mate, ask her to accept us.”

“When?” Jack blurted out, couldn’t bloody help it, he wanted to know when. He wasn’t the only one either. Flare also wanted to know.

“I don’t know.” Rafe sighed a little heavily, “Maybe when Addison comes home, and Luci has emotional support, I don’t know what she will feel or do, or say, how she’s going to react to all of this.”

Jack didn’t know either, sighed and could only pray it would be alright, “I think it’s best don’t you Jack, if Addi is here, for Luci, be with her maybe even when we tell her.”

Jack sighed, “That’s three days away.” He muttered. “I don’t know if I can actually make three days, without telling her everything. How I, Flare feel, we both want her to know.”

“I understand.” Rafe nodded with a sigh, “We need to give her a bit of space and perhaps we can get her to come talk to us, tell her about Orien today, that he is helping us. It’s a good reason to see her, yes?”

“Yes.” Jack nodded, they’d wanted to do it yesterday but she’d not stayed in the pack, gone swimming and not come back till after dinner. So today was as good a day as any.

He could feel her out there in the woods behind the packhouse, walking north and realised she was heading for Hannah and her sisters place, sighed again to himself. “Going to see Hannah I think.” He told Rafe. “Do you think those three are going to teach her to tap completely into her witch side?”

“Yes.” Rafe nodded “I also think it’s Luci that is the witch.”

“What?” Jack frowned at him,

“Is a Triune, three completely separate but also together. Wolf, Siren, Witch. Kali is the Wolf, Alari is the Siren, that means Luci is the Witch. She just never knew it. Is learning about herself, becoming whole now. I guess all three parts of her are coming together as one. The definition of a Triune.”

“Leave the Triune alone, her time will come.” Jack huffed as he repeated Hannah’s words.

“Likely Hannah is going to teach her Jack, and we should let her, I think. Luci might not feel whole at the moment. Remember the boys both laughed and said ‘Mamma’s happy’, that was when Luci used her witch craft for the first time. It made Luci happy.”

“Probably made all three of them happy.” Jack nodded.

He turned at the sound of Terence’s helicopter flying over the pack, could feel Allen as well. Both he and Rafe connected to him ‘How’d it go?’

‘Smooth flight, though Piper is hard to feel out, a bit weird to me.’

‘What do you mean?’ Rafe asked right away.

‘I don’t know, it just feels odd to me is all. Only when I’m directly focused on her can I actually sense her out.’ Sounded a bit confused.

'You and Eddie?' Jack asked.

'He's very unhappy, to say the least. Piper is upset about something, I'd say more than upset, distressed at times, it's not good for her in her condition, she wants Brad himself. Had no issue getting her on the helicopter. She wants to be here, with him, from what I can tell. So that's a good thing. Though keeping her 20-woman unit home and Eddie, a massively heated discussion. It took a call from Brad and him talking to them all. Telling them she would be fine, before Eddie would let her get on the helicopter by herself.'

'Alright. I'm guessing Bradley will meet you at the training grounds.'

'Yeah, I can see him and Cooper already waiting on us to land.'

Jack looked at Rafe after the link was cut. "Her condition?"

Rafe thought about it for only a moment. "Pregnant I'd say."

"I didn't think they were having anymore."

"Neither did I. Just Brandon and Winter."

"Maybe something did happen?" he sighed "I bloody hope not." He murmured a little worriedly.

"I don't think it's that, Cooper said, as far as he knew nothing was going on back in their pack and if it was that, there is no way Brad would be here, while Piper was dealing with something like that."

Jack nodded, Rafe was right. No Alpha would leave their Mate with something like that to deal with.

[The Alpha & Beta's Regret Chapter 130](#)

Luci POV

She stopped walking as she felt a pack wide mind-link from her Alpha connecting to her, and even knew she was the last to be connected to it. Sighed, he was trying to make her stay connected and not disconnect

herself. Stood and listened to him tell the entire pack that not only had he and Jack rejected their Mates but had banished them as well. That it had come to his attention no one in the pack had felt the Luna sever from the pack. The reason being for this, they were traitors who had tried to k**l her and her entire family.

It was clear from his statement that not even he understood why the pack hadn't felt her sever from them, sighed and shook her head, cut Jack clean off, when he mind-linked to her less than a minute later. She needed a minute to herself. Had all day, in fact, to be by herself and ponder. The boys were in school here inside the pack for the first time. Focused on them and felt them, happy as they normally were, they did like school.

Shook it off. What kid liked school? She'd liked the friendship aspect of it but not the homework. Her boys loved school, didn't mind doing their homework either, likely going to be the top of their classes, till they found girls that was. Goddess, that was going to be a handful and she knew it.

Let it go, was years away from that happening, might just let their fathers deal with that one. Heard both Kali and Alari snort, fully amused by her thought. She'd never been shy about s*x. That was how she ended up in this mess. Pushed it aside, didn't even have needs anymore. They died long ago with the breaking of her heart, she supposed.

Walked on in the woods, was following a trail that wound itself through the woods, didn't even know where she was going, just trying to clear her head and being out in the woods helped. She stopped walking as she came to a large clearing, it was so bright under the sunlight compared to the darkness of the forest.

Didn't know there was a massive clearing in the middle of the forest, knew it couldn't possibly be recent, there was a very well established and massive garden right in the middle of it, and a log cabin on the other side of the clearing.

She'd only been wandering, she'd not had a destination in mind, and now looking at this place, knew it had to be where Hannah and her sisters

lived. Though she had run all over this place, in both human and wolfen form, had lived here for a year, she'd never once come across it in all that time, and no one had ever mentioned this place to her. It was very pretty, so full of life and colour, she could almost feel it, how alive the place was.

Moved her eyes around the clearing, to really look at the place, it was more than pretty. It was utterly stunning to her, she could see practically half the plants in here glowing under the sun's rays.

Tilted her head up as she heard that helicopter of West and Terence's come back, didn't see it but felt Allen himself up there somewhere. Moved her attention back to the garden and found Hannah standing on the front veranda, waved her into the garden and smiled at her. That was going to take some getting used to.

Luci stepped from the edge of the forest and into the light of the sun, and nearly sagged with the warmth that suddenly spread throughout her entire body, a calmness rolled right through her with that warmth. Aalyiah, who she'd not seen previously when looking at the garden, stood up from between some of the plants to her left and smiled at her. "It's comforting to come home." She said softly.

Luci nodded, "I guess it is."

"Come in, we'll make you some tea." She motioned for Luci to walk through the garden, and she got a tingly sensation as she walked through it, reached out and slid her hand along a few of the plants as she went. They felt soft under her touch, really liked it, she realised.

Luci was invited inside and smiled at the portrait of Allen and Cosmos up on the wall. "Got yourself a handsome Mate, and a cheeky wolf I see."

Watched all three of them turn and look at the portrait themselves and all of them smile up at it. Could actually see the love they had for Allen right at that moment. It practically radiated off of the three of them, she thought as she sank down on the lounge. "Tailored your cabin to his colouring."

“We did.” Giannah chuckled, we’d miss him much more if we didn’t, always off in the packhouse.

She smiled couldn’t argue with that, that’s where a Gamma was needed most of the time, as part of the leadership of a pack, and responsible for the Luna. Looked around the cabin and realised she didn’t even feel uncomfortable there inside their home. Was inside a witch’s house and felt completely relaxed. “I’ve never seen this place before,” Luci stated, making herself comfortable on the couch.

“Only those we want to see it, get to.” Hannah told her “You are always welcome here Luci, anytime you need guidance or just for tea.”

“Thank you,” she nodded, might just take her up on that.

Watched as Hannah moved about making tea, she had a lovely glass tea pot, which she placed in many things, all fresh ingredients, Luci noted. Watched her stand and place cubed apple in there, a half dozen fresh raspberries, along with a small piece of cinnamon, half a vanilla bean and then sprinkled in what looked like ordinary black loose leaf tea about half a teaspoon.

Watched as Hannah poured water into the tea pot and she got to see all the ingredients start to infuse, brought it over to them and place it on the coffee table, there were four pretty glass teacups all with gold handles, had a pretty bunch of tiny blue flowers coming from the top of the handle and fell down the side of the cup with two green leaves on the bottom of the handle and two more tiny blue flowers as well.

She smiled at them. They were lovely, “It’ll need to steep for several minutes.”

Luci just nodded, she could already see the ingredients starting to change the colour of the water and swirl about slowly in there as they blended together. It was nice to watch.

“It’s sweet and delicious,” Giannah told her. “You’ll like it.”

“Is it relaxing?” she asked.

“Not really, a little on the invigorating side, but it will be good for you, help you to learn and retain new things. After tea, I can sit with you, help you practice your craft.” Hannah told her.

Luci thought about that, “I’d like that.” She nodded, “Though what if...”

“Don’t worry about that, you were distracted is all and here everything can be contained by us. You’ll hurt no one, Luci.”

She nodded, it would be nice to know she could learn how to use that power within her, “Luna Jo-anne?” she asked, knowing that woman was also a witch.

“Our coven leader, she’s more of a healer, is all light witch, you will be...” she seemed to think about it, “more like us, but mostly due to having Sirens’ blood in your veins. Don’t concern yourself with it, and you may be any kind of Witch you like in reality. The choice is yours, after all. We’re also not bad, Luci, we just tend to let fate take its course instead of intervening. Let things play out as they need to.”

“What things?” she asked curiously.

“Many things actually, but if we intervene, the truly good things won’t happen in the future. So sometimes, we have to let not-so nice things happen to those around us, in order for true good to come from it.”

“Like what?”

“That’s harder to explain.”

“Can you try?”

“Hmm...Luna Jo-anne’s conception. Hideous and horrid for her mother to experience, but Jo-anne is all heart, good and light. What a true light witch is all about. Though her father was a monster, Jo-anne is not. Her mother suffered terribly for years at the hands of a true monster, and we had to let her, so that Jo-anne could be born.”

Luci stared right at her now, “My mother?”

“We know, but here you are. Perfect in our eyes, as you should be. Your own path had many deviations. We could not see which it would take for you to get Alari.” Heard the three of them sigh, “Everything happens for a reason Luci, please do believe that.”

“It hurts.” She murmured as she watched Giannah pour the tea and then hand her a cup.

“Hmm, but the Goddess smiles on you. You felt no pain all these years, attached to those two as you are. She did not want that for you, are special even to her,” Hannah told her.

“I don’t feel special.” Luci muttered.

All three of them chuckled softly “No one, ever feels special Luci, that is something you have to figure out and believe yourself.”

“Who does that?”

“Luna Jo-anne, she always believed in the Goddess, prayed to her for all, got to meet her once to we heard. Not many get that privilege, only the most devout.”

“Ain’t going to be me then?” she sipped her tea. “This is lovely.”

“Yes it is.” All three of them stated, “Our favourite tea.”

Luci got to spend the morning sitting out in the garden with not just Hannah but Aalyiah and Giannah as well, learning how to produce that ball of light at will. Make it disappear when she wanted to, and how to move it about and around her.

Was smiling and happy sitting there learning from them all. At one point it was almost like they were sitting playing a game of catch, the witch’s light being passed around between them like it was a ball.

She was happy, Kali and Alari were also happy right that minute, it was an odd feeling to have all three of them feeling happy at the same time. Most of the time, they were only ever happy when watching their boys or interacting with them. Never when they were on their own. Mostly just

closed off to everything, and just went through the motions of the day, if on their own.

Practicing her newly found craft, she was happy, knew it was just her as well, not a wolf or siren thing. This was who she was, honestly couldn't wait to go home and show her boys, or her mother when she came back.

"My mother?" she asked.

"Is where she needs to be. Safe." Hannah told her, "Don't worry so much about Addison, she is more powerful than she lets on, like you are."

"Is that because of her witch's blood line?"

"Yes and no, before all of this is over Luci, you and your mother, Jo-anne even, will all be..."

"What?" Luci prompted.

"Better able to access your witchcraft, we'll all share a unique ability, which will make life more interesting," she chuckled softly.

Luci looked right at her, "You see a lot, don't you?"

"Yes, it comes with age and experience."

"How old are you?" Luci asked out of sheer curiosity.

"Now, now, that's not polite, young one."

Luci chuckled softly to herself "My apologies, I was just curious about Allen and..."

"We've not discussed it, likely not though, he is aware of that."

Luci sighed a little heavily, as she nodded, bid them farewell. It was after lunch and she was hungry. She thought Allen would make a good dad, was kind and caring. It could well be that those three were just too old to bare him children. 'Comes with age', Hannah had stated. It was likely they were very old, could well be ancient.

Wondered how there would be a continuation of the Gamma bloodline if there were no children. She shook it off, it was not up to her only they and Allen could make that decision. Walked on through the forest, and produced a ball of witch's light to light her way ahead, smiled to herself.

Now she understood how to create it and move it, she could do it at will, and without fear of it exploding like the other night. That was a nice feeling to have, strolled along at her own pace and smiled a few times at plants, they just seemed to glow up at her, almost like she could see their life force.

She had also liked hearing that her mother was safe and where she needed to be, was probably enjoying her time up at the lake then, wondered when she'd get to go there herself. If the twins would like it there too, feel a connection to the place, Alari had no doubt that they would. It was their father's lake, so there would be a connection to it. She was certain of it.

The Alpha & Beta's Regret Chapter 131

Victor POV

Victor was more than happy with how his day was going, until his border patrol reported to him that a black Kitsune was at his eastern border. Huffed in annoyance nearly instantly, that thing could stroll in to his pack at will and he couldn't do a damned thing about it.

If it was who he suspected, he needed to smile and be polite. Mind-linked right back to his patrolman, told him to leave it alone. It was likely Alpha Sloan, on some sort of council business, that he was on his way, to continue to just patrol as normal. To simply tell the Kitsune that he was on his way to greet her.

Then he got up out of his chair and headed off to go and speak with the woman. He'd met her before, didn't particularly like talking to the woman herself, tried not to, in fact. If he didn't have to say anything, he simply didn't. She was a truth seer and he had to actively think about his word choice and inflection, the way he stated things.

Tried to keep his answers short and simple, the best way to deal with her was with monosyllables a, 'yes' or 'no' and in a flat, unemotional tone. Long sentences allowed that woman to read one better. A flat yes or no, made it much harder for her to feel one out. He'd spoken with her before on a few occasions, and didn't much enjoy her company.

He had to keep himself off the topic of rogues at all times. She was rumoured to be 500 and she was very perceptive at that. Also worked for the Wolfen Council as a retrieval specialist and investigator. He also currently had something that was not his, though Victor doubted very much that anyone knew about that at this time.

Not even he had contacted the Black Forest Pack to let them know he had Addison, and his understanding was that Angus had left the woman's phone in the cabin she'd been at. Smart man had thought about whether anyone would track her phone. Left it there to make it look as though she was still there. Liked that about Angus, that he used his brain.

He doubted very much that Sloan was here about that, so he would do what he always did, when Sloan strolled on by and prowled around, stopped off at Silla's tank and tapped the small bell that would draw her attention and alert her to him being there wanting to see her.

She appeared just a few seconds later and smiled up at him, "Walk with me Silla," he smiled down at her "I have a surprise for you."

She shifted and got out of the tank, dried herself off with the towel he gave her from the waterproof cupboard he had out there, and chose for her a lovely summer dress to wear. It was a soft white with thin straps and fell in flowing material to her knees, her long brown hair fell past her hips, nearly to her knees. She never cut it. Liked it long, as most Sirens did.

She slipped her hand into the crook of his arm and strolled across the pack with him at a casual pace, making sure that Sloan knew he had no concerns about her being at his border, or wanting to speak with him.

He chatted with Silla, as she tried to guess what the surprise was, chuckled a few times at her excitement. She did like gifts, though not

actual things, just small like this, her favourite snack, or going to see someone she hadn't seen in a long time. Talked to her about things that interested her, like what could be on the bottom of lakes, what type of fish were in lakes, how many lakes there were. She dreamed of going to a lake one day and swimming freely for hours or days.

He'd had to remind her she wasn't safe out there, unlike him, there were many that might hurt her. She'd just nodded, looked a little sad and he'd changed the subject, offered to let her do some shopping and buy her some beautiful dresses, or perhaps trinkets for her tank, now that made her smile and giggle up at him.

Buying things for her tank, she did like that, had many things in that tank on the floor of it, though mostly he noted they were things that would be on the bottom of a lake floor. She was trying to make it like a lake and he knew it. He had to remind her on occasion that it wasn't a lake and too many rocks and dirt she liked to throw in there meant he had to drain the tank to clean it for her.

She hated when that happened, sulked in his bath tub till it was refilled.

His pack members all addressed him and Silla with the formality he expected of them. She was a happy creature and he'd managed not to incur her wrath ever. She liked him and that was why he always took her with him, when Sloan appeared on the border.

The girl always smiled up at him, and he could genuinely smile down at her, with real affection in return. Sloan did not miss that about the two of them, not many things could take on a fully grown Kitsune. Silla, however, could. He'd never had cause to ask her to and wasn't likely to either, didn't want her only believing she was there because she was a weapon. She helped defend the pack at times of her own free will. He liked that too.

Sloan, he now knew resided within a pack in Utah, had a Kitsune grandchild, who was now a Luna to that pack or was going to be soon, he supposed. He'd not heard about the heirs' ascension at this point in time, but didn't think it was far off.

Victor also knew he shouldn't mess with them, though Silla could Siren Call a Kitsune just as well as any other creature out there. Nine tails meant nine lives and he didn't think Silla would survive more than three or four calls. Sloan's beast would be on the move and hard to attain after just the first one and she'd be smart enough to try and put herself between him and his Siren.

Though Sloan was a no-nonsense creature, she was not stupid and a twin he'd heard, though he had not seen the woman's twin. He did know Kitsune had multiple births, rarely ever did they have no direct sibling that would feel them sever from them.

A litter was 2 to 5 Kits at a time, and he knew she was in contact with all the other Kitsunes in the country, he couldn't take her on, not without the risk of a full war with her home pack, wherever it was, not to mention the pack she now resided in, was only six and half hours away. It also had another nine-tailed Kitsune within it, her granddaughter, only young but would have been born with the knowledge of all Kitsune, as wolves were.

So, no. He didn't want to take on one that had connections that were close by and could be here before he could pull his allies here. Her beast was just sitting waiting on him, all its tails waving about and on display for all to see. It was an impressive sight and if he could get himself one, he bloody would. It took them years to find mates, sometimes hundreds of years. Sloan, he knew, was still unmated and he'd never heard of one taking a chosen either. Just seemed to have the patience to wait it out.

He heard Silla laugh as soon as she saw Sloan, jumped on him and hugged him. He chuckled himself and then she was gone, running off to Sloan. She'd known Sloan since she was a little girl, and liked not just Sloan but her beast too. The first time she'd seen her, squealed with pure excitement, she'd only been here a year and was still getting used to the idea of no one hurting her.

Seeing Sloan's beast that first time had been the first time she'd lit up with real joy, even he'd liked seeing that. Now, for Silla was no different than that day, she still got all excited about seeing Sloan and her beast.

Likely why Sloan stayed in her Kitsune form just for Silla, she knew he would bring her.

The fact that he had a Siren that was happy and liked him, smiled up at him and loved him always, went in his favour where the council was concerned, because Sirens were not something to be messed with and torturing one or trying to actively contain one was not something one would normally survive. So, if a Siren liked you, it was a sign that you were a good person and your pack was a nice place to live.

Sloan's beast allowed Silla to not only pat it, but hug her tightly as well. Only then did she shift to Sloan herself. She smiled down at Silla and touched her face. "You get more beautiful every time I see you, Silla."

Silla smiled right at her, beamed practically at hearing the compliment, she did like knowing people thought she was beautiful, though he'd never seen a Siren that wasn't an alluring creature. She also knew she was beautiful. The entire male population of his pack practically drooled over her. She'd slept with a few of them, he just let her, couldn't stop her even if he wanted to, she was unmated and a s****l creature.

Though the ones he'd seen her with weren't the brute type, usually 18 or 19 and still decent in treating others. He was her only brute, but that was because she trusted him and he'd never once hurt her. He'd also lost a few men to her. When they'd tried to get what they wanted from her, she'd Siren Called them to death. He'd never even so much as frowned at her for it. Smiled at her and told her he was proud of her, that she could defend herself, expected nothing less of her than to k**l those trying to hurt her.

"Sloan, what can I do for you?" he asked simply, still smiling at Silla.

"Nothing really, Victor, just here to check on that band of rogues for the council."

"There have been no issues with my pack." He stated, and it was the truth.

“Yes, I’m aware of the last report you put in. I have been requested to inform you of some news from the council while here.”

“That would be?” he asked with a raised brow.

“The council has decided to offer them a new pack territory, to relocate them. The council has found a nice piece of land for them to settle on, out in Colorado. Close to a human city, where the council themselves can watch over them. I believe are going to introduce them to another pack, a mostly female warrior pack. It has a strong Alpha and a Warrior Luna, which they believe can handle them. Will likely absorb them in a year, are hoping to even out the numbers in the warrior pack and let many find their mates. Which will help both packs, as well.”

Victor was frowning at her now, and didn’t like what he heard. “Why move them? They are settled where they are.”

She was looking right at him and he knew she was doing her truth-seer thing, “Not up to me, Victor.” She stated simply, “Just relaying a message is all.”

He nodded, wanted to rage about it, but kept himself in check, “Why you? and not a phone call from the Alpha Council themselves?”

She shrugged, “I don’t know, call and ask them.” She smiled at him.

He was very bloody unhappy about this turn of events, they were his band of rogues, not just a group of them out there. Thought about it for a minute, then stated, “I could take them in,” He commented. It was true and right this minute he was thinking about bringing them all in. Couldn’t yet trust them with the female population here, he didn’t think, but he’d rather deal with internal issues here in the pack than lose them altogether.

“Bring that up with the council, not my thing.” She stated simply, “I see Silla is well.”

“She is always well.” He smiled and she was. Silla was a topic he could talk about with Sloan and not concern himself with. “Likes it here, with me.”

He watched Sloan turn and look at Silla, “She might be better in a lake, Victor.”

“Oh, is that so?” He cut her off, before she could mention other Sirens. “You do recall I saved her life when she was just 2, yes, from those who captured her, killed all of her kind and took her for themselves.”

His eyes moved to Silla and he saw sadness touch her beautiful face, for the loss of her Siren family, he held out his arms to her and she came right to him, moved into them and he hugged her, as she took comfort from him. “I have always protected her at all times, I will always protect her from those that would use and abuse her.”

“Vic Vic.” Silla half whispered. He could hear the sadness in her voice.

He rubbed his hands down her back. “You can stay here Silla, as long as you like.”

Felt her hug into him and watched as Sloan noticed once more, as she always did, just how much Silla loved and trusted him, agreed to stay here with him, which is what he wanted her to see, wanted the council to know. It showed them he had a heart and wasn't a cruel and uncaring man all the time. Though they all did know he was a very hard man, and held all his allies to the letter.

They all also knew he was a good ally to have, assisted when requested every time. Knew he could be fair and honest due to that, he was reliable to those he himself chose to make alliances with, for one reason or another.

“Is that all, Sloan? Silla is now upset, and wants to be back in the water to help comfort her.”

Sloan nodded “Yes, I’ll be going. I have need to get back to my pack. My grand daughter just gave birth to her first litter of Kits, so bloody cute they all are.”

“Congratulations.” He stated, didn’t mean it and knew she’d pick up on it, and didn’t care. Turning Silla away to walk her back to her tank. She did not like being reminded that she was the only one left.

It actually did make her sad, there was this little muling sound coming from her, and he could feel waves of sadness rolling off of her, “I’m sorry Silla. She was cruel to make me bring that up.”

Silla just nodded and leaned into him.

Though that news, an entire litter of Kitsunes had just been born, that bothered him, considering he did know some of those Gypsy’s had gone to that pack, they’d all been split up, though his little princess, the most powerful of them, was with the Black Forest Pack. Just something else those two pricks had taken from him, just one more reason to hate them.

He stopped at the tank, “Silla, I will always be here for you. I promise.”

She nodded but said nothing, too sad. “Hop back in the water.” He tilted her face up to his and kissed her forehead softly, “If you want company, just come and find me, I can distract you all you like.”

She nodded and stripped off, dropped into her tank and he returned to his office.

The Alpha & Beta’s Regret Chapter 132

Jo-anne POV

She was sitting eating a late breakfast with West in their suite this morning. She knew there were no meetings today until after Luna Piper had arrived, and Alpha Bradley had tended to her problem. Jo-anne had not met Piper herself yet. Had talked to her over the phone a few times, she appeared to be a lovely woman.

She herself had worn a Piper Harper gown, as had Ella, for their Luna ceremony. She also knew that Piper was still well situated in the human world, and ran her Goddess Gowns company from Helena now, out of Bradley's head office there, and that she actually still travelled all over the world for Bridal shows.

Jo-anne had an art show currently on display in Seattle herself, and still had her human profile, though she was mostly back logged with painting portraits. She smiled at the thought of her art show, she had turned all those pretty pictures she'd taken of the Singapore solar trees through the bubbles floating up in the air, into a full series of art.

She'd liked how magical and whimsical they had been and had not stopped at just one, had painted 10 of them, though her favourite one was hung in her own Art Studio. It still made her smile every time she looked at it, even West liked it. She'd seen him stare at it a few times, just smiled at her and stated, 'It's got childlike wonder.'

Her head turned and she sighed, could feel pain practically radiating through the packhouse, got up and stepped outside her suite to see Rafe holding Jack, trying to contain him. It was Jack's pain she was feeling, and she wondered how long Rafe was going to be able to contain Jack and his beast. It was both of them in pain.

The minute Jack and his beast recalled the truth, there was going to be no containing him or his beast, she didn't think. She could right this minute actually feel his pain, his distress, where Luci was concerned. Wondered just what was going on, she couldn't see Luci though. There wasn't anything from Luci herself right this minute in the pain department, any more than what Jo-anne felt normally, but she knew something was going on. Had Jack just remembered? Was that it?

Watched on with full interest as Rafe pulled Jack into him to calm him, leaned down on the railing and just watched, smiled at the sight of the two of them, it was very much a mate thing to do, and so open for all to see and hear. Rafe had made his decision to claim his Beta, it seemed, and from what she was watching, Jack was or had willingly accepted his Alpha as his Mate as well.

Luci was what would bring them together. This was a good thing, they were back to their normal, or from what she'd heard anyway, Luci, it appeared, was really meant for them. She got to watch Rafe calm Jack considerably, but for how long it would last she didn't know.

Every fibre of that man and his beast was screaming for his Mate. Putting the two of them in a room together alone would likely see Jack just blurt out he loved her, wanted her for his Mate even.

She knew Luci would like hearing it, but didn't know if she would just accept him back, wondered, as she watched him pace around if Jack and Luci's beasts would fight it out. She'd not met the Siren or the Wolf, but had gotten the impression her Siren was going to be a problem. She was very headstrong and only concerned about herself.

She left them alone. Rafe appeared to be handling things with his Beta for now, and returned to her suite. West was waiting for her in the doorway. "I don't like not being allowed to fix it," She muttered.

"I know, but maybe there is a reason it has to play out this way."

"You sound like those witches, do you know that?"

He sighed "You'll help when it's time, Jo-anne."

"Or I'll tell Hannah to shove it and act regardless." She muttered and walked into the suite, "That is Jack in full distress, it's rolling off him in waves I can't un-feel."

She heard West sigh, "He needs to get himself under control, going into battle all emotional like that, could see him, get himself killed out there."

Her eyes moved to West now, she'd not even considered that side of it. How they were all going to go into battle with all those emotions running so very high. That likely wouldn't be good for anyone.

She sank down at the table and watched West make her a cup of tea, bring it over and place it in front of her, smiled up at him, "Thank you."

He just smiled back at her and nodded, the distraction she'd asked for earlier was gone and she was back to being annoyed with the situation at hand. Though-honestly, now that she was thinking about that up-coming battle she wondered just how that was going to go.

Three witches, herself, who was a Royal Celestial Wolf, Luci was a Triune, a wolf, a witch and a siren, and then there was Alpha Addison, a wolf witch cross breed much like herself. There were six witches here inside this pack or had been till Addison had left to go visit her lake. There would be once more when she got back.

She knew just how powerful she was, the triplets were and she knew that both Luci and Addison had the power to be unleashed. Sat quietly thinking about that as she sipped her tea, it was a lovely blend of red berries and mint, quite refreshing.

Just sat and wondered, really wondered if a full blown war was needed at all? Saw that white haze around the edge of her vision and saw the six of them all together, all wearing the same coven clothing, she was in her Royal Robes, and Luci and Addison, though wore the same style of dress with hollowed out backs and a hood. Their dresses were green and white, not blue.

The six of them were all standing together. She didn't know where they were or when it was, for that matter, but no-one else was around at all. Not West or T.J., not Rafe or Jack. It was just the six women all presenting as witches, they were out in the woods at night or at least she thought it was night. It was dark outside, though that didn't mean anything here, it could just be in the forest here somewhere.

They were all standing around talking, she couldn't hear what, watched as they all held hands and stood in a circle, then were just gone. Blipped away. Saw the suite come back into focus and found West looking right at her from across the table, "That doesn't happen often." He commented, "Important?" He questioned.

"Yes." She nodded, "I dare say very important."

"You going to tell me?"

Jo-anne thought about that for a long moment then sighed, “No, it doesn’t concern you at this time. Lets see how it plays out. It could be a very long way off.”

“Vision of the future?”

“I believe so. Didn’t have a time line or location even, so it could be years down the track.”

“Or it could be tomorrow.”

“It’s not tomorrow.”

“How do you know?”

“Addison was in it. She’s not here right now.” She stated simply.

It could simply be that it was the day Luci and Addison were brought into the coven was all. She’d not gotten a good enough look at Luci herself to see if there was a double mark on her, so she didn’t know if it was before or after all of this mess was sorted out. That would have been nice to know. But visions didn’t work that way, they could be as cryptic as the Goddess herself.

She was not like her mother, her visions were not always clear to her, their meaning couldn’t always be detected by her. It wasn’t something that happened often either. Belinda, however, could at will search for something specific to her needs, see pathways that would or could come from a single action, had told Jo-anne it took her years of dedication and training and all her focus to do it.

Jo-anne wasn’t that obsessed with knowing what was going to happen later in life. So didn’t focus on that. Her mother had, had a need to, to try and protect her, know when Hendrick or her own father, Sebastian, might be coming for Jo-anne, so her focus on that particular gift had made her very good at it.

She turned at the sound of a helicopter returning, T.J. was back, felt him fly over the packhouse itself and sighed as her head tilted up. There was sadness coming from the helicopter. Could she not catch a break at all.

'T.J. what's wrong?' she mind-linked to him the moment she felt him go stationary and be on the ground.

'Nothing with me, Luna Piper is upset.'

She sighed, 'Do you know what about?'

'No, but I could hazard a guess for you.'

'No, I'll hunt the woman down myself, after she's had a chance to speak with her mate.'

'He's here waiting for her.'

'Alright. I'll stay put, kind of getting bombarded from everywhere.'

'That can't be good.'

'It's not.' She sighed and closed out the link.

She couldn't very well go barrelling on down there and try to fix everything, she might not even need to. It was likely that Bradley would be able to comfort his Luna. She didn't know why she'd been brought here, no one did. Well, no one bar Hannah that was. That woman had her own agenda.

The Alpha & Beta's Regret Chapter 133

Addison POV

It was interesting sitting listening to Zoe, and that woman was more than happy to give up whatever information she had on Victor and his pack. It was clear to Addison that Zoe did not like the man, and didn't want to be here. She was even willing to give up which of the women down here with her were the mothers to the man's children. Told her that they lived elsewhere, not information she actually had. Their actual location was unknown to her.

Told Addison that the longer she was there, that yes, there was a real possibility that Addison herself would hear him have s*x with the others

at some point. That it did not in fact bother Victor, who heard or saw what he did. Then she had just leaned back on the wall and stared at the tank across from the cell.

“That one, however, has never not once seen him, in here, in my cell.”

“That is because you are different to the rest of them down here, to himself even. He doesn’t want her seeing that. I hope she’s not deluded enough to think that he hasn’t come in here though.”

“Who knows Addison, he uses her too. Before coming in here, then sends her up to his suite, only comes in here after she is gone.” Zoe’s voice was devoid of all emotion as she spoke.

Addison sighed and looked right at her, “He’d still smell like you though.”

Zoe just shrugged, didn’t care to think about it, she imagined, not likely any of the women down here did. “Has she got a name?” Addi indicated to the tank.

“Silla.” Was the simple reply.

“Her beast?”

“I’ve never heard him use it.”

“That is interesting. Have you ever seen her Siren use her call?”

“No, but I have heard a few of his pack members have died over the years. She only likes being touched by those she chooses to let touch her. Victor praises her for her deadliness in protecting herself, from my understanding. She’s not once gotten in trouble for k*****g pack members.”

That was not a real surprise to Addi. She saw the water move and ripple every now and then, it was a large tank and she didn’t believe the floor here was as deep as that tank went. Likely much deeper than eight feet. Victor had definitely modified his packhouse to build that tank down here. Only Silla’s tank could be seen from Zoe’s cell. She realised that Zoe herself couldn’t see the other women. Could hear them and likely talk to

them but couldn't actually see them. It had concrete walls on three sides and bars only on the front.

She got up and walked back to the bars, turned and looked down the hall as best she could. Couldn't actually see the others in their cells, only down along Silla's glass front of that tank. She sighed and shook her head.

"He doesn't like the others looking at you, or him. Doesn't want them watching the way he is with you anymore than he wants Silla to see it." Sighed heavily, "You two might be rejected, but he's still possessive of you, thinks of you as still his Mate, I would say."

"I don't really care what he thinks."

Addi believed her, "You also can't see him with them." her eyes moved back to the tank. "Except for Silla." That was a curiosity to her.

"He enjoys coming down here and doing her in front of me, all the time. Rarely takes her back to his bed."

"Ah, I see. He's trying to punish you for rejecting him. Why did you? out of curiosity, if you don't mind."

"You saw them all, right? I was not the first he put in here. I also seriously doubt he'd be faithful to me. Likely enjoy inflicting pains of betrayal on his own Mate."

"Hmm, perhaps." Addi nodded, though only Victor himself would know the answer to that one. "He presents himself to the wolfen world as calm, cool and collected, very imposing, to be feared, but never cruel to women."

"He's very strict even here with pack laws, especially when other packs are visiting and he announces every pack's imminent arrival. Makes certain the pack is cleaned up, dressed up and behaves themselves. It's a death sentence for those who cause trouble when others are visiting."

Addi sighed, ruled by fear alone. She'd thought that before, now it was confirmed, "Not a nice place to live."

“Only for those not loyal to him. I grew up here, my parents were loyal to him. They also grew up inside this pack. I knew how to be respectful, was taught early on, I knew when to work and when to train, when to bow my head. If you’re born here, you have rights and if your loyal and respectful, treated fairly I suppose.” She shrugged.

Likely didn’t know any better, had likely never been to another pack and seen how they were run.

“If you incur his wrath, it is not just you that’s punished, he’ll harm your family before your eyes, before he hurts you himself.” heard the heavy sad sigh, “I learned that, the very hard way.”

“Your father?”

“Yes.” She nodded.

“Your mother?” Addison asked.

“Is still out there. He dumped my father’s lifeless body at my cell and stated, I’ll go bring your mother now.”

Addi looked right at Zoe. “Did he harm her?”

“I told him I’d k**l myself if he touched her, screamed it at him. He didn’t believe it though.”

“What happened?”

“He laughed at me, until I broke my own arm. My wolf, Halo, snapped it herself, right in front of him, it was the last time he saw her on the surface. She stared up at him and snarled, ‘I’ll snap my own neck’. She’s alive and unharmed, from what I can tell. I can feel her out there. Moving about every day. I don’t think he’s willing to risk it.”

“I doubt it. You, being his Goddess Gifted, gives you leverage over him, it seems. A weakness he probably doesn’t like at all.”

“Small as it is, yes it does. Mother shuts down all my attempts at mind-linking to her when Victor is in the pack. I only get to actively talk to her when he’s away.”

She stared right at Zoe now, full of curiosity, thought about that for a long moment. “She might have some sort of order on her.”

“He does have one on her. I was told I’m never allowed to talk to her. It’s another way of punishing me for trying to escape a second time. I can mind-link to her but she cuts me off.” Heard Zoe herself sigh, “She told me when he was gone once. Out of range of her himself. Not to talk to her, he knows when I do. She’s been ordered to include him into all mind-links from me each and every time. So I can only speak to her when he’s not here.”

“Cruel indeed.”

“Your daughter...he wants her to be his Luna?”

“Yes.” Addi nodded, “Since she was 18, 9 years now. It’ll never happen. She already loves other wolves, and Alpha and Beta at that. Has children to them even...She’ll k*1 him before he touches her.”

“I heard you state, he got his a*s handed to him by six-year-olds.”

Addison laughed now, “Yes, he did. My daughter’s sons, fully realised and pure-blooded at that. Protected their mother with a deadliness that comes from being a siren.”

“She’ll come for you?”

“If he tells her I’m here, he kidnapped me. He’ll die for it. Has me but now has to play a deadly game in letting her know he has me. What he doesn’t realise is he’s now the enemy in her eyes. Nothing will ever change that, and I mean nothing, not even trying to use me as leverage.”

Addison saw movement in the water and got a glimpse of that Siren over there, a pretty looking creature, not that it stopped and looked at her. It was just swimming about in there as it would in its natural environment. She could see it was fully grown, and if Victor was sleeping with it?

He had raised it, though that tank had been built during her and Orien's Mate Bond, so he got her after Luci was born, saw her move about quite a bit and then she was gone, her dark green tail swished her away and in a hurry.

"Being called by Victor," Zoe sighed. "She does like him, he's never had to worry about that. Calls him 'Vic Vic.'"

Addison burst out laughing now. She could not imagine anyone calling Victor that. It was such a cute name, something a child would do, "Is like a father figure in other words." Though even that was horrid to think about, he'd raised her from a child, groomed her more likely, so that when she was mature enough he could have her and she'd heard Zoe state that he did.

"How old are you, Zoe?"

"25, Why?"

"Is the Siren older or younger than you?"

"I don't know."

"Think about it, did you see him with her as a child walking about?" and she knew he would have. A young siren was attached to its parental figure.

There was silence for a long while as Zoe thought about it. "Yes, actually. She was a tiny little thing, on his hip, he used to carry her like she was precious to him."

"She is precious to him." Addi nodded. "She is a perfect k*****g machine, so she's younger than you then."

"Why all the questions?"

"I need information to turn her against him, is why, if we all want out. She needs to want not to tell him, she is how he knows you or anyone down here try an escape, likely reports to him."

“I don’t think she will listen to you, Addison, and won’t believe he’s not to be trusted.”

“She might be young Zoe, and act all innocent and sweet. It’s what they do, how they attract people to them. But she is still a Siren, a s***l creature and that beast of hers would understand what you and all these women are down here for. That, unlike her, none of you can move about freely. She just has no reason to leave him. Likely he’s got some hold over her, I just need to figure out what that is.”

“Good luck, that creature lights up like the sun when he comes, plays with him.”

“There is a bond of some sort, he was likely careful to make sure of that. Uses it to control her, perhaps she doesn’t understand that.”

“I don’t think she’ll ever leave him.”

“Never been out of the pack I’d bet.” She mused aloud and sank back down.

Everyone down here was brought lunch, by the Gamma at that. Likely no one else other than Victor himself was allowed down here.

“Addison,” Dane commented.

“Dane.” She stated right back, “I hope you’re ready to die along with Victor.”

“We’ll see, with you as leverage, it might just not turn out the way you think.”

“It might not go according to Victor’s plans either.” She smiled right up at him. “You might want to consider that yourself.”

Addison sat in the cell and just contemplated all she had learned from Zoe. That she-wolf wanted out of this place as much as those other women did down here she imagined. Silla might be Victor’s best weapon. But Zoe was the best leverage.

She was rejected, but still he couldn't seem to let her go. He couldn't harm her himself, which also meant that he couldn't send anyone else down here to harm her either. Put that girl right in front of herself and she'd be safe from even Silla.

Though she wondered what would happen if Zoe changed her mind and offered herself up to accept him, would he accept her back and claim her? Take her for his Luna and give up on Luci? Who knew, she glanced at Zoe sitting on her bed reading a book. She didn't think that she-wolf would take him back.

Her head snapped around hours later at the sound of that Siren singing, she even heard Zoe sigh, it was forlorn and heart breaking. She was sad, and not just a little bit either. That song Addison noted as she walked over to the bars and looked at the tank, was causing waves to ripple through the water and slosh over the sides every now and then.

Not likely a good time for anyone to be in the water. It would likely kill anyone daring to go in there. She was devastated that was a given and turned her eyes to Zoe, questioningly.

"I don't know," She said as she walked over to stand next to her, "But it happens from time to time and it always sounds utterly heart broken."

"Because she is right this minute. Something happened today."

"I've touched her face a few times, sometimes she actively seeks comfort, will take it from me on occasion."

"That is good. Means deep down she's open for others to be bonded to her, wants a family bond..." That thought stopped her and her eyes moved right to the tank. She knew that was it, she had no other Sirens, she was lonely. Victor had raised her since she was little, that Siren over there had likely been taken from her family, she missed them or they had all been killed and she was the only one left alive.

Little Silla was right now grieving the loss of her Siren family, something had happened to remind her of it. That part of her Victor could never

take away. Sirens loved Sirens, that creature craved her own kind. If she could put Alari right in front of Silla, Victor was going to lose her.

She heard Zoe s**k in a shuddering breath and knew that song was going to make her cry, like all down here would. The glass was dumbing down the sound but only to a level that didn't harm them. The actual sadness and devastation, the grief in her Siren song, was rolling through this place for all down here to feel. Right this minute, Silla needed other Sirens to comfort her. Nothing else would do it.

The Alpha & Beta's Regret Chapter 134

Rafe POV

He knew Bradley was dealing with personal issues with Piper and so left him alone and out of their meeting. Though now his father and the entire previous Alpha Unit were all in this room. Cooper was here, as were West and Terence.

Though starting a war, was not something anyone should want to do. They could not just sit around and risk Victor bringing war to them his way. That much was agreed upon by all. Victor and his band of unknown rogue numbers was not something they wanted coming here and attacking them from all sides.

They had seen that not long after Luci had gone missing and every one in this room was of the opinion it had been Victor. No visual proof had been attained because that man had been dressed from head to toe in all black, hiding who he was. But they were certain it was him.

He'd had plenty of men loyal to him that night, likely had even more now, than he'd had back then. All were in agreement of that as well.

The real question was, where did he keep them all. The council had reported back about those abandoned packs near the Bloodless Moon, how many were there even, but they were all in agreement that they were not Victors, only band of rogues.

Jack was on the phone to the council again and they were all waiting on the outcome of the call. Whatever he'd told them on his last call, had seemed to stir the wolfen council themselves. He did know Jack had mentioned to them that Victor had tried to kidnap and take one of their pack members for himself, that he had harmed a six-year-old in the process uncaringly in order to get to that pack member.

That they believed the man was going to come back and try again, even though she did not want to go with him. Even go so far as to tell his allies, she was to be his Luna. Because that was what Victor had told the she-wolf himself, then had told them that six year old was one of the heirs to their pack, his own son.

That council member, Alpha Austin, had listened patiently to Jack, told him he'd have one of their most trusted take a stroll on over to Victor's pack and investigate her way and get back to him when he had news. Jack was now trying to get news.

He could feel Luci was still out with Hanna and her sisters, was keeping track of her, so that he and Jack could snag her for a conversation when she came back. He was hoping she was a bit calmer than this morning. Kind of needed her to be, to contain Jack himself. Now he understood that the man had bonded himself to Luci and not told him about it either. That kind of confused him. How did he not know? Surely he himself would have sensed that within Jack. He'd always been able to understand Jack's thoughts and feelings.

Wondered if it had gotten passed him because he already knew that Jack loved her, so it just felt the same to him. He sighed a little to himself. Maybe he just forgot that as well. Who the hell knew? He didn't even understand himself anymore.

Perhaps he should just mind-link to her and ask her to come to the office when she was finished, whatever it was she was doing out there. Thought about that and decided against it. The last time he'd interrupted her training with Hannah, she'd blown up a part of the forest. No, he had to let her train with Hannah and uninterrupted at that, if that was what she wanted.

He watched as Jack walked back into the war room and shook his head, “Alpha Austin stated, his contact hadn’t called him yet. Likely end of the day. To just try and be patient, she doesn’t live locally and will likely go in her beast form. So Victor will know who she is. He’ll call us as soon as she’s reported back to him.”

Rafe didn’t like it, but there was nothing he could do about it. Alpha Austin was fair and just. Most liked him, poor bastard was still unmated after 200 years. That was a very long wait for a Goddess Gifted mate, but the man seemed to be patient enough to wait around for her to show up.

He’d heard that the man had never taken a chosen Mate, just shrugged it off when it was brought up by other council members, stated something about their lives being very long, so maybe he just had to wait for his Mate to be born was all. He was going to wait.

Rafe called it a day, they couldn’t do anymore planning until they had that report from Alpha Austin’s contact. He felt Luci heading back to the packhouse and waited with Jack outside the back of the building until they could see her.

She was smiling at herself, had a ball of witch’s light floating in front of her, and he couldn’t help but smile himself. She looked happy right at that moment. He felt happiness roll right off of Jack at the sight, he liked seeing her happy.

That ball of witch’s light vanished with a simple wave of her hand as she reached the edge of the forest line and came into the clearing of the pack itself. Did that just like Hannah and her sisters did, to make it disappear. She had learned how to master it, it appeared, and was happy just being able to do that, and saw her smile widen a little even, as she’d done it.

It was a sight to see, she was almost like her old self in that one moment.

Rafe mind-linked right to her ‘Pardon the intrusion to your day Luci, Jack and I would like to talk to you, please.’

Her eyes met his a moment later, she could obviously feel where he was through the pack tether and had automatically searched him out. The

smile on her face was gone, but she didn't turn and walk away from him or Jack. Had stopped walking briefly to locate him and look from him to Jack and back, but that was all.

'In your office?' she asked simply.

'Probably would be for the best.' He commented.

'I'll get something to eat first.' She answered and cut the mind-link to him. He watched her continue walking, was headed for the packhouse dinning hall, he and Jack left her to get something to eat and went to wait in their office. Left that door open for her.

She strolled into their office and looked around, spotted them sitting on the couch together. She was still carrying a cup of coffee, "You wanted to speak with me?" She asked. There was no anger in her voice, she seemed to have calmed down from this morning.

"Please come in and close the door, have a seat with us." He asked her.

Watched her do so, and then look from him to Jack and back.

"There is news about Nightfall," he stated simply.

"Haven't you severed ties with Orien yet?" she asked right back, with a frown.

"Not yet..." saw her frown deepen, "We actually wanted to talk to you about that."

"We were going to discuss it with you yesterday," Jack offered.

Watched her look to Jack but say nothing, she'd been gone from the pack all day long.

"Orien can't sever ties with Victor," Rafe stated and raised his hand quickly to halt her words, "Victor will go and s*****r Nightfall the minute he does."

“He was threatened by Victor on the way home. No one was there to protect the pack,” Jack added.

“It was actually complicated, Orien knew this the whole time. He also cleared out Nightfall within hours. All the women and children were sent to other packs. Milton’s Mate, informed your mother, when she severed herself from the pack.”

“Tracey, is Milton’s Mate.” She stated as though he didn’t know her name. “What was the threat?” she asked.

“Addison or the pack?” Rafe sighed.

“The life of one woman or the lives of 600 pack members.” Jack sighed himself.

“So mum and Orien?” she asked after a moment’s thought, “and why am I only finding this out now?”

“Because Thatcher was there, Addison and both Jack and I were worried, you’d go off to save Thatcher. He is now back at Alpha College.”

“I know that.” She nodded “I talked to Thatcher already...Mum and Orien?” she asked again.

“Have decided it was best to sever ties to each other, to show Victor it was over. Give the impression Orien is staying loyal to Victor,” he told her.

“Is that not the case?” Luci asked him directly.

“No.” Jack shook his head. “Victor has men mated into Nightfall, they are likely still loyal to Victor, report back to him. What goes on inside Nightfall.”

Luci was staring at them now, a deeper frown than before, she was thinking about it, knew how alliances worked and the dissolving of one, “How do you know Orien is not still loyal to Victor?” she finally asked after several minutes of thought.

“He has given us Victor’s numbers and a detailed map of Victor’s pack as it is now. A little different to your mother’s memories. As for Nightfall, only Orien, his unit and warriors remain there.”

“Luci, Victor has a very large tank of water under his packhouse,” Jack stated.

She just looked at him for a moment, then asked “You’re telling me this because.”

“It’s likely for you. Orien said it went in years ago.”

“Wasted his money then.” She shrugged it off uncaringly “Back to mother and Orien. What is going on there?”

“We don’t know, they both agreed to sever ties, to save Nightfall, and their bond can be regrown. They’ve talked about it already.”

“It’s not up to me to put them back together. She was hurt by him, as was Fallon, by his choices, before she came here, before he and I had words. Thatcher and I have already agreed to stay out of it.”

“You both discussed it already?” Rafe was frowning at her, she was obviously in full contact with her brother, but he too was keeping things about Nightfall from her. Clearly, not even her own brother wanted her to go there.

“Mm, they always fight. He’s a chauvinistic pig of a man and mother is quite open. It was always a roller-coaster ride between them. I don’t know what she’ll do. That is something she must figure out on her own, this time.” He heard her sigh a little.

“What is it, Luci?” Jack asked, “You can tell us.”

Her eyes moved to Jack and then to Rafe himself and she seemed to be debating what to tell them. If she even wanted to at that, he thought.

Saw her just sigh heavily after a long minute, “Do you know why she went to Lucian’s Lake?”

“To retrieve your father’s ceremonial blade.” Jack stated “It’s your birthright.”

“Also to perhaps find survivors,” Rafe told her.

“To get the blade is correct, so I can become her Alpha.” She stated simply.

Rafe was just staring at her now, more than shocked by her words “Is that something you want, Luci? To be the Alpha in charge?”

“Not particularly.” She shook her head, “Though I do understand that I’m stronger than even you,” she stated with a nonchalant shrug.

“Yes you are!” Rafe nodded. He wasn’t going to deny it at all, she was and always would be. Couldn’t even if he’d wanted to, Solar had bowed down to her. “Luci, about this morning. I do apologise, we didn’t realise that the pack did not feel Melissa sever from it. When she was rejected and banished by me.”

“Why is that?” she asked right back.

“We’re still working on that,” Rafe sighed, “From what we know, which we don’t yet have all the answers to, and we’d like to get them before the three of us sit down and chat about it. All of which Jack and I would like to do.”

“When your mother comes home, all of us together,” Jack stated.

“Our Mate bond was…” How did he do this, put it in a way that wouldn’t hurt her even more than she already had been, still was. “Not blessed by the goddess.” He stated.

“What?” She was frowning right at him now.

“We don’t know, and we only just found out a few days ago ourselves.” He huffed, was still more than annoyed about that.

The Alpha & Beta's Regret Chapter 135

Jack POV

He wanted to tell her everything, could see she didn't really understand what had been said. He'd watched her look at the clock and realised Luci actually needed to be elsewhere, or on the move to walk from here to the packs school, which took a good 25 minutes from here.

She needed to leave and, shortly, to go and pick up the boys from their first day of school. "Can we sit down properly when Addison comes home? We would like to explain everything to you." he told her, "All of it, once we know the whole truth."

"But, we'd like to wait till we have all the answers, so we can answer all of your questions." Rafe told her, "We don't want to only be able to give you half answers."

"Why do you need to discuss it with me at all?" She asked. "It's your life, I have no say in what you do."

Jack sighed, "Luci, you were affected by this as much as Rafe and I were. So were Kali, the boys, Solar and Flare. All of us deserve to know what actually happened."

"The how and the reason why?" Rafe commented. "We want that, not just for us, but for you as well."

He watched her eyes move to the clock again, had other pressing matters than them, it seemed, or them trying to explain to her why they wanted to talk about it. Did she not want that, he wondered. Did she not think it concerned her at all?

"May Rafe and I come with you? to pick up the boys, Luci." He offered, changing the subject. He could see she really wasn't interested in talking about what had happened.

But at least she was here and talking to them, calmly. That it was Luci herself, there was no Kali and no Alari on the surface here in this office.

Just Luci dealing with them herself, like the other morning, though he'd realised she shut them out that morning, she was not doing that right this minute. She was sitting there openly talking with them and he was glad to see it. She was being more like her old self, he thought.

Having her like this was also helping him to stay calm and in control, allowing him and Flare to be in the same room with her and not lose it and try to claim the woman for themselves.

He couldn't sense any anger or pain in her, she just mostly looked a bit on the confused side, and her statements led him to believe she either didn't think she had a right to an answer or just didn't care to have one at all. Jack wasn't exactly sure which it was at this point, knew she could look impassive when she wanted to. He'd seen it a lot with Orien when she'd been 18, hid her emotions well when wanting to that was.

He watched Luci look right at him and then moved her eyes back to Rafe, saw her just sigh and then nod, stood up, "It's fine...you can understand my anger though, yes?"

"Yes." Both he and Rafe stated together "We are sorry Luci."

She turned and walked away out of the office and they both followed her, fell into step with her as they crossed through the packhouse foyer, heading for the front doors which both stood open at this hour of the day.

He watched her look right at him, he was on her right, smiled at her, how could he not, when he was itching to not only walk with her but touch her as well. Hadn't yet been able to, not even so much as hug the woman or touch her face, or her hair even. Not even hold her hand, put a hand on the small of her back, all things he'd once been able to do with her.

Luci turned and looked at Rafe, who'd stepped to her left but was also now walking directly next to her. It was how they'd always walked with her, never in front of her as her Alpha and Beta, but always on either side of her as her equal. They'd loved having her between them, even just walking around, or sitting around for a meal.

It was them and their way of showing her they respected her, she'd never had to knock to enter their office and had the codes for both his and Rafe's Suites, so she could come and go as she pleased at all times, choose where she wanted to sleep.

They'd treated her like the woman that was going to be their Luna, he realised, had always done so. "This is weird." Luci murmured after returning her attention to where she was walking.

Jack just chuckled softly, "Like old times." He couldn't help but say.

Watched her shake her head, but say nothing and he could see several of their pack members watching them all walking together. Smiled at them even, they smiled at him as well. Knew it was what they would have seen with the three of them the last time she'd lived there.

'Jack don't do it.' Rafe's voice came down the mind-link to him and his hand was suddenly on Jack's wrist. He'd not even realised he'd been about to put a hand to the small of her back as they walked.

Looked at it and sighed internally, such a natural thing for him to do, he'd not even known he'd been about to put a hand to the small of her back as they were walking, had been thinking about the things he missed and that was all.

Looked at his own hand, it had just been a purely natural instinct, he'd not even known he'd done it. Pulled his hand back and put both of them in his pants pockets, 'Sorry.' Was his only reply to Rafe.

He even understood why he'd done it. The pack members were actively looking at the three of them all walking together, like they'd once used to and he'd been trying to display his claim on her, show them who she belonged to. It was typical Mate behaviour.

Walked with her right out the front doors and down the packhouse front steps heading for the school. When he heard a female voice yell out, "Is that your w***e, Rafe?" he knew it was Melissa. That she-wolf just didn't know when to quit, couldn't accept that they had lost.

He stopped walking, because Luci had stopped walking, turned and looked at her. He knew she hated that word. Orien had used it before, it likely caused her painful memories of her own past history with Orien, when she still believed that he'd been her father.

Jack watched as Luci's eyes moved to those two on the shaming post, "Ignore it Luci, it is not what you are. Never were." Rafe told her softly, almost gently.

He saw her eyes move right to his neck for a moment and then she just walked off over there to the shaming post herself. He had no idea what she was going to do at all. This was new to him.

Saw her stop right in front of Melissa and look down at her. "Do you not understand the rules of being on a shaming post?"

Jack nearly burst out laughing, also felt pride roll off of Rafe as they stood there and watched Luci, remain calm in the face of the two women who had ruined all their lives.

"f**k you." Melissa snarled.

Luci's hand struck her before Melissa could get another word out, a full slap to her face. He heard Melissa cry out in pain, before she turned her angry eyes on Luci.

"The rules are simple enough, 1. You don't talk to anybody in the pack while on the shaming post."

"I'm the Luna..."

She was struck again by Luci. "You should really practice rule 1. I'll be happy to stand here all day and punish you for every word you utter to anybody." Luci stood staring right at her, daring her to speak again. When she didn't and seemed to understand, Luci would actually do what she'd stated, she continued. "Rule 2. You don't look at anybody within this pack, you're being shamed keep your eyes on the ground where they belong. Are lower than the lowest of omegas when on a shaming post. Though by the stench that comes off you. I'll rephrase that, I don't mean

to offend the omegas here. You are just a disgusting rogue with no status at all within this pack. Eye contact is also worth extra punishment.”

Melissa was still glaring up at her, she'd taken many hits over the past 24 hours, had a bruised and swollen face, and clear bruising to her rib cage from the hit Addison had landed.

She had now been struck by the previous Luna, his own mother. The future Luna's mother, also a Luna, ranked Wolf and now Luci herself. The future Luna to this pack, not to mention himself.

It kind of amused him a little, and he was glad he'd not just ripped her head off. Was being punished a little every day by all Luna-ranked wolves, which were of equal rank to that of Alpha's. So each hit was in fact like being hit by an Alpha himself.

“Drop your eyes or I'll slap you once more, though, where I grew up.” Luci commented, and then he watched her kneel down and stare right into Melissa's eyes, “You'd get a full lashing with the cat of three tails. One lash for every word you spoke.” Saw her turn and look right at Rafe, “Do you have a cat to lash your pack members with Rafe?”

She addressed Rafe for the first time since coming back by his name and not his title, showing full familiarity.

“Yes Luci. Would you like me to have it brought to you.” Rafe asked her, and Jack could hear the smile in Rafe's voice, and also felt happiness roll off of the man at the way she'd used his name.

Jack nearly laughed as he saw Melissa's eyes widen and she opened her mouth to say something, “Really! You'd break rule number 1. So quickly.” Luci stated, “Yes, please do, Rafe, bring it.” He watched her stand up and looked down at Melissa. “I've not had the pleasure of using my Alpha strength in years. Mother always enjoyed a good lashing and taught me well on how to handle a cat of three tails. How to make it rip through the skin and scrape across bones.”

He watched her roll her shoulders, put her hands together and c***k her knuckles as she stared down at that she-wolf. He just wanted to hug her so badly right this minute. Because before him was Luci.

The woman they had fallen in love with, there was no fear in her of repercussions, she was all alpha female with an attitude of 'I don't give a f**k.' Something she'd mastered due to the way Orien had treated her growing up.

Flare was suddenly up inside his mind all attention as they both watched her, 'Mate.' He suddenly growled, in a soft deep rumble inside Jack's mind.

'Yes.' Jack told him, 'Soon.'

'No, is our Mate.' Flare stated, and Jack's head tilted to the side slightly as he looked at her. He really thought about those words and he realised it was true. Recalled it was true, was flooded with the memory of mating themselves to her, in a weak moment during that one time she'd gone into heat, he and Flare had Mated themselves to her, they had barely been able to contain themselves in order not to Mark her at the time, had barely held that back.

He found Rafe's hand on him 'Breathe Jack', he murmured down the mind-link 'I know...I understand, it's why you react to her, as you did this morning, we're going to fix it.'

His eyes moved to Rafe. 'Breathe, you can do this. Pull yourself together or she'll see it. Know something is off with you.'

The Alpha & Beta's Regret Chapter 136

Luci POV

Hearing herself being called a w***e, stopped her footfall instantly. She did not like it, point of fact, she'd never, not once ever been paid for s*x. Had willingly slept with Rafe and Jack at every turn. They'd, as far as she recalled, simply enjoyed s*x with her, looked for her, hunted her and spent many an hour enjoying her.

They had never, not once offered to pay for s*x with her, never bloody had to, just looking at the two of them got her all hot and bothered. Not once had they even used the word concubine either. Which was what Orien had told her to go and be, when hed told her to leave Nightfall.

Her attention moved to the she-wolf in question, Rafe's previous Mate. Now rejected by him and shed heard him in his office. Was still curious about that statement of 'not blessed by the Goddess.' It was an odd thing to state after all this time. Considering, she recalled him announcing he and Jack had both found their Goddess Gifted Mates, the day they had come home with them.

Something else was going on around here. She also recalled Jack telling her that things around the pack were not as they should be. She looked at Jack's neck, no filagree adorned him, she knew that both of them had rejected their mates just by the fact that there was no longer any filigree upon either one of them.

Looking over at the two of them on the shaming post, wondered if Rafe and Jack had been tricked into mating them 'not blessed by the Goddess' rolled through her mind once again as she stared at those two, then suddenly she understood. What those words meant. Those two she wolves were not actually their Goddess Gifted Mates.

That was what Rafe had said, just in a round about way was all.

Those two also wanted to talk to her about it. Had stated they only found out a few days ago themselves. Were still trying to figure it all out. Felt anger rise within her and let it build. Stalked herself over to those two.

It was clear to Luci that this she-wolf had no idea what a shaming post-punishment was for. What the rules were of being on one. She herself understood them very well. Orien liked using the one in Nightfall. Though for her personally, she had enjoyed Orien's ten-day stint on that shaming post, a great deal.

Looked at the she-wolf, who she now realised had taken Rafe and Jack from her. She could see that she had already taken a few hits, had some nice bruising already on her face, one eye was pretty swollen, and black

and blue. She had a split lip and a nice partial handprint on her face. It was too small a print to be from Rafe or Jack, those two had quite large hands, bruising to her ribcage area as well.

Luci looked at the she-wolf's neck as she educated them on what being on the shaming post meant, how one was to behave themselves while on it. She saw not only no filigree there, but that there was not even a scar from the bite of being Marked

Luci felt Kali snarl inside her mind as they truly understood what Rafe had told them, was the exact truth, even though he had also tried to keep it from her at the same time.

Could only take from that conversation just now that it meant that they did not know how it came about before trying to explain it to her. That they wanted her to understand what had happened to them, how they'd been tricked exactly.

She took great pleasure in that first hit to that she-wolf.

She understood now, that yes, her Alpha and Beta had been completely tricked into it. She'd seen the filigree on them, everyone had. But this woman had not been felt by anyone in the pack, when she had been rejected as the Luna and severed from it. Understood that was because she wasn't actually really marked and mated by Rafe himself.

Cracked that she-wolf a second time, a little harder, a little of Kali behind that hit this time, her wolf was ticked off about all of this as much as Luci was. She really wanted to lash her with everything she had right that minute. These despicable she-wolves had taken Rafe and Jack from not only her and Kali, but her boys. She didn't know why, didn't really care at this very minute. She just wanted to punish them with all she had for it.

Asked about that cat of three tails and then requested it, she was only going to use it if she didn't shut the hell up.

Saw the look on her face when Rafe offered to have it brought to her and she stated yes. He was not going to deny her the right to punish this she-wolf, likely not the other one either.

Was she realised happy to offer it up, was going to give it to her and likely stand there and just watch her lash the hell out of the two before her. Wondered if this was why they were not dead already, because they knew she would want to hurt them herself.

Took the moment to stand and stretch, prepare herself for the task of dishing out a punishment which she herself now understood was fully deserved. They were alive partly due to her Alpha and Beta not having all the answers. They had not yet spilled all of the truth about how? When?

Where or why? It had been done to them. Some information they still wanted.

Looked over at the other she-wolf, saw that girl drop her eyes instantly from Luci, wasn't it seem willing to risk her wrath. Was not of Alpha blood or she didn't think so, kind of smelled like Rafe's mate, but not so much. That was a curiosity to her, thought about that, she'd seen her own mother bleed young orphaned children to others. Not just parents but siblings as well, to create good strong bonds.

They smelled similar enough to that family, but she, as a pure blood, could pick the slight difference, others wouldn't.

Looked at the she-wolf's neck, also no scar. She'd not been able to see that on either Rafe or Jack, they were wearing collared shirts which kept that part of their necks hidden from her. Though they would know it themselves, hadn't told her, why she didn't know. They likely had their own reasons, she guessed. Let it go.

Looked at both of them, Rafe had a hold of Jack, they were talking privately via a mind-link. Though it looked like Jack was troubled, and not just a little, and Rafe in all likelihood was trying to console him about something.

She watched as Rafe hugged Jack right into him, not the first time she'd seen that, and realised it wasn't just her watching them, but both Kali and Alari were also watching both of them, as Rafe pulled Jack's body right into his.

The boys had told her they'd seen their daddies kissing.

She hadn't doubted it, was just a little surprised by it was all. She'd never been able to get them to do that and she had tried to on many occasions.

Saw as Rafe's eyes moved to her and he smiled just a little,

"I'm going to be late if I don't get going." She stated

Neither of the she-wolves on the shaming posts had said another word and seemed to understand if they shut up she'd not lash them. "I'll leave you two alone." A slight smile to her own face, she liked seeing them that close to each other. Saw him smile at her tone, which implied she thought they needed some privacy.

Watched as Jack pulled himself from Rafe and stated "We're coming, Luci." Seemed to just pull himself together, whatever had been going on he'd gotten "updated by jobnib.com" passed it. Likely used his bloodline as he would in a battle to just ignore the issue in the moment, to come back to it later. "I'll come back and lash them myself later." He stated and there it was, his Beta tone shining through.

"Probably should." She muttered and walked away from the two of them, she might just come back here herself and beat the hell out of them both, for what she had gone through. Was currently undecided on that, but only because she knew if she lost it and let all her anger loose, the boys would feel it.

They would come running right to her all ready for a fight themselves. She couldn't have that. Didn't want that, wanted them to grow up normal and happy without feeling like they needed to come and fight if she was in a fight.

'It's in their nature. Alari told her 'All sirens understand they can fight from the moment they can produce a call'

'I don't want them too.' Luci told her and she didn't. They are just children, they should not go into battle and see all that blood and horror. Should not be a part of it, not until they are adults, over 16, as wolves do.

'Not just wolves, Luci. Alari commented.

'I don't care, there will be no fighting for them anymore unless it is absolutely a necessity, to defend themselves only.'

"You won't be able to stop them...Don't even think I could' Alari huffed a little.

Then we tell them not to. Make them understand why not.'

You may try, their own nature may win out over everything we want for them.'

We'll find a way! Kali interrupted them 'I don't want my pups fighting either. A united front we'll present.'

They walked on to the school in silence, at least it seemed the three of them were on the same page. She could feel it, not even Alari, as proud of them as she was, wanted them to fight at this young age. Though she and Kali could feel Alari's concern over it. Alari understood that stopping them could be an issue, something they were going to have to sit and figure out, it seemed.

She walked into the school as the bell went, noticed that there weren't many parents there to pick up their children.

Most children just ran off with their friends, heading home by themselves. Knew where their houses were, and that they were safe here inside the pack. They did not need an escort, their parents had no fear of harm coming to their children inside the pack. That was nice, not something human parents got.

The boys were new to the pack, so dropping off and picking them up was not only something she had to do, it was pure habit, she'd been doing it since they started school a year ago. It had been too far for them to walk alone, from their old house to their human school.

Watched them come out of the classroom and smile up at her, she smiled right back at them and got hugged by them as she always did, "Did you have a good first day?" she asked them.

“Yes mamma.” They told her and looked passed her to their fathers, who were standing just behind her, had come to a stop a few steps back, likely just letting her greet them without interference.

Saw both boys smile and waved them off “Go.” She told them, could sense them wanting to go and say hello.

Wasn’t going to stop them, took the moment to look inside the classroom for their teacher. “Did they behave themselves?” she asked. “They can get a little...boisterous at times.”

Esme chuckled, “All Alpha children can be. Their fathers both barely sat still in my class, and I doubt Luci, you did as well.”

That was true, shed been a ball of energy, had multiple nannies all the time, and ran them ragged as well. She had only ever sat still if on her mother’s lap. “Hmm, I was a bit of a terror.” She agreed.

“They’ll settle into a routine, though not likely before the end of the school term. I’m used to that, don’t worry about it.”

Luci nodded “If they do get too much, just let me know, I’ll come help.”

“Alright.” Esme chuckled once more. “But I handled those two out there, I’m certain I can handle their twins.”

It was nice to hear that the boys had behaved and had a good day.

The boys were no different walking home from here to the house, than they were out in the human world. Though right this minute they were actively talking to both their fathers about their day, how they’d played with all the other kids, got to run around the field and beat everyone in the school.

She shook her head when the boys told her that Astral and Spark could outrun all the other kids. “They don’t have their wolves yet.” She told them simply and both boys stopped walking and looked at her questioningly, didn’t seem to understand why not

“May I take that one?” Rafe asked her.

Luci nodded “Be my guest.”

They continued to walk while Rafe explained about wolves to them. How most werewolves got their beasts at 16, not at six, that some got them even later and made mention of Kali not coming until Luci herself was 18.

Both boys turned and looked at her. It wasn’t something she’d ever mentioned to them, never really thought about it and they’d never asked, , so it just didn’t come up.

Both Rafe and Jack stopped at the door to her house, didn’t attempt to come inside,

, “Luci?”

She looked at Jack.

. “Yes.”

“Please come and have a family dinner with us tonight.

Everyone would like that.”

She stared at him for a minute. She was not ready to do that, she thought. “I’ll bring the boys. What time?” She asked in return.

“Are you staying for dinner?” Jack asked.

“No,” she answered honestly, “You don’t need me there.”

“Luci please, I understand....

She raised her hand and Jack stopped talking. “To be honest with you both, I don’t want to have a family dinner with everyone. But you may have the boys for dinner. I’ll not stop you from seeing them. We’ll need to work out some sort of schedule, I guess.”

“Luci, that won’t be necessary,” Rafe told her. “Jack and I will do whatever suits you best. Just let us know and we’ll accommodate your needs, all of them, whatever they are.”

She raised an eyebrow at his words, but said nothing at all on the subject. “Dinner what time?” She asked.

“Six is good.” Rafe nodded and he tugged Jack away, actually turned the man and looked to be walking him off down the driveway. He’d stopped talking altogether at her words of not wanting to attend dinner with them as a family. Had just stood there kind of staring at her sadly, shed thought. Shook it off, all their lives were different now, they just had to get used to it.

The Alpha & Beta’s Regret Chapter 137

Jo-anne POV

Jo-anne was walking through the packhouse foyer when she came to a halt at seeing Alpha Bradley sitting on one of the sofas with a woman. She looked quite sad and Jo-anne sighed as she felt it. There was true sadness and pain rolling off of her.

Knew the woman had to be Luna Piper, it was in the way Bradley was touching her, he was trying to comfort her, something a Mate’s touch could do. Piper herself, she’d spoken to only over the phone, had never had the pleasure of actually meeting her in person. She was a very busy woman from Jo-anne’s understanding.

Not only was she the Luna of a pack, but had a human world business to run, she was all leaned into Bradley, but her eyes were off in the distance, appeared to be lost in her own thoughts. Jo-anne saw Bradley look right at her and nod his head in greeting. He didn’t smile at her and she knew why. His Luna was upset and he didn’t know what to do about it, or couldn’t actually do anything about it.

She took in a deep breath and prepared herself to walk over there and put herself right in front of Piper, and that aura of pain she could see was rolling off of the Luna, and it was pouring out of her, like a river flowing freely and unchecked down rapids.

She'd never seen so much pain and sadness come from just one before, walked over there and nearly drowned in it as she introduced herself. "Luna Piper, she gained the woman's attention.

"I'm Luna Jo-anne. Alpha West's Mate."

"Hello. Piper said softly as she turned soft brown eyes on her, to acknowledge her presence.

Jo-anne sank herself down on the coffee table right in front of the woman, couldn't help herself, wanted to help her. Extended her hand to the woman. Piper glanced at it. "I'm sorry, I'm not really in the right frame of mind, Luna."

"I completely understand." Jo-anne nodded, but she needed to touch the woman in order to help her. Was now just staring at her, couldn't it seem take her eyes off of Piper.

There was more to her than she was seeing. She was shrouded in something that felt very familiar to her.

Couldn't quite place her finger on it, knew she was being rude, by sitting there staring at her and still holding her hand out, watched as Piper became uncomfortable under her intense and direct gaze.

"I'm sorry Piper, I don't mean to make you uncomfortable.

But I am a healer and you have pain," Jo-anne told her, changing tactics. "I may be able to help ease your pain, better than any Gamma or even your own Mate can."

She saw Brad flinch at her words, in her peripheral vision.

Ignored it, that man was of no concern to her at all. Stayed focused on Piper herself, could now feel Clova was up inside her mind and looking at the woman as well.

Closed her eyes briefly as she felt Clova shift and unite them as one, opened her eyes and looked right at Piper " Please." They stated together as one "Take our hand." It was not something they did very often, usually only when they were severely ticked off and in an all Alpha fury of uncontrolled proportions.

But this woman before them, pulled at every fibre in their being, both her and Clova. They ached to touch the Luna before them, held their hand out to her and stared right at her. Saw as Piper really looked at her now, registered the difference in her she supposed.

"Don't be afraid, we won't hurt you. Not ever, you already suffer enough...please take our hand." She and Clova spoke as one. She knew her eyes were glowing as were the moons down her back, and could see that Piper was more than a little reluctant.

Saw her wolf push forward and look right at her. White wolf's eyes and shot to their feet, as pain rolled right off of the beast before her, they stumbled backwards as if they were hit with it. Gaspd as though they'd been slapped right in the face by it.

Felt Clova fall away from her as she fell backwards, felt hands on her and knew it was West, catching her before she fell down completely. "I've got you." he murmured and sank them both down to the floor, as tears poured out of her, a sob escaped her. she looked right up at him, as he looked down at her.

"Take a breath sweetheart." He said gently, never took his eyes off of her, touched her face softly, "Breathe, Jo-anne."

She sat there in his lap staring up at him, trying to cope with the pain shed felt. It wasn't even hers, but struggled with it. Took a moment for Jo-anne to realise West was telling her to breathe because she actually wasn't breathing, had sucked in a breath with that sob but not released it. Let it out finally.

“There you go.” He sighed softly.

“Thank you.” She murmured.

T.J. was suddenly right there next to her looking down at her. “Who hit you?” He grated out.

“No one.” She shook her head.

“No one,” West also told him.

Her eyes moved back to Piper, both she and Bradley were staring at her wide-eyed. “I’m sorry.” She sighed must really look like odd behaviour. West helped her up,

“Your

wolf..”

“Has white eyes.” Piper nodded.

“It’s not that,” Jo-anne shook her head “She has pain and not just hers. She carries others pain or...at least I think that is what I felt.”

Jo-anne took a moment for herself and then sat herself back down once more, “Please Piper let me help you.” She could see sadness in the woman now. “You can’t, it’s not something that can be fixed.”

“May I at least try.” She held out her hand once more.

Piper sighed herself and then just nodded, took Jo-anne’s hand in hers and there it was, that something so very familiar to her. Felt Clova once again pull forward and unite them as one, to try and figure out just what it was they were sensing.

It was old magic, very old they realised, and tied to the wolf herself, not the woman. What she had felt was the wolfs lineage all of them in that blood line had pain. The woman’s wolfen bloodline was shrouded in magic and not the nice kind. Dark magic, as was the pup that she was

now carrying. It was a girl and already Jo-anne knew it carried the wolf's bloodline, this was the pain that was in them right this minute,

it was something that they couldn't

escape, something her own children couldn't escape.

She released Pipers hand "I need a minute." She stated.

"I don't expect you to be able to do anything," Piper said quietly, and leaned back into Bradley.

Jo-anne stood and prowled around, paced back and forth in the foyer, West sat and watched her, as did T.J., her eyes moved to Piper many times as she tried to sense out the actual magic around the wolf's bloodline itself. She was finding it more than difficult to do so. Didn't like not being able to understand it either.

Realised after several minutes that there was something else blocking her from sensing out the actual magic, something was in the way, actively hindering her, looked right at Piper and realised it was a charm of some sort.

Stopped walking and stared right at her, slid her eyes right over her all slowly trying to detect that charm, where it was on her. Saw nothing but normal jewellery on the woman.

She reached out with her witchcraft to try and have it sense it out and there it was she was drawn to Pipers chest, saw a fine chain around her neck.

Walked over and tilted her head as she assessed her closer,

"Piper, you are wearing a magical charm of some sort.

Take it off please."

Brad shot right to his feet and his wolf was right there on the surface, snarling at her all aggression. Stepped itself between her and Piper.

“Don’t you touch her.” She heard both the man and wolf snarl at her, a full threat, and she knew it.

Held both her hands out to stop West and T.J. they were both on their feet and she knew it,

, “It’s fine.” She told them,

but then felt those spider-like sensations crawl all over her brain and muttered “Back off, the kingdoms seers are tracking the threat you are posing to me.”

“You will not touch her,” they snarled again.

“Fine.” Jo-anne nodded “My apologies. She even took a step back away from them to show she was of no threat.

Heard T.J’s phone ring, and then he cursed out loud and walked away to answer it, knew it was their mother. She also likely felt those seers or seen them herself. “You might want to warn Rafe and Jack that the kingdom seers might be on the way here.” She told West.

“Great,” he muttered and she watched him look at T.J. “I’ll wait for the outcome of that call and the next.” He sighed.

“What for?” Bradley grated out now, his wolf having receded

“Because you and your beast just posed a full threat to me and my safety. I may have renounced my claim to the royal kingdom but King Christian won’t accept it, so any threat against myself is for his seers to investigate.” She sighed

Watched him frown “I only wanted you to back off. I will not have you remove her charm.”

“It’s protecting her then.” Jo-anne understood now. Looked at Piper.

“May I see it then, I will not attempt to remove it.”

“I’ll need your Luna’s Oath on that.” Bradley stated flatly all

Alpha now.

Jo-anne raised an eyebrow at him. “Sure.” Held out her hand right to him “I’ll give my oath not to remove it, and you’ll give your oath not to interfere in my assessment.”

“Enough, Brad, sit down, I don’t want seers in your brain or mine for that matter.” Piper muttered, then practically yanked him back down on the sofa. Jo-anne watched her pull a pendant from beneath her shirt and showed it to her.

“I can’t take it off, just so you know, not ever.”

Jo-anne nodded as she hunkered down and really looked at it. Its magic was also old, she could tell, almost as old as the magic on her wolfs bloodline. “What exactly does it do?”

Piper shook her head.

. “I can’t discuss that out here in the open.”

“Not ever.” Bradley stated

Jo-anne’s eyes moved to his “It’s that bad then?”

“Yes.” Both Brad and Piper stated together.

Jo-anne nodded her head and stood up, thought about it long and hard, that charm Piper was wearing was actively blocking Jo-anne from truly understanding the magic that caused her wolfs lineage to be so filled with pain. That charm also felt somehow familiar to her as well. They were connected; the black magic and the white magic.

Somehow, there was a connection between them both.

“Perhaps we could all have dinner together. Privately in one of our suites. I will keep the confidence, swear an oath to do so and retain it for my very long life. Never relinquish it.”

Piper was frowning at her now. “Why would you do this?”

She asked

“I need to.” Jo-anne stated simply “My wolf and I are drawn to you. Crave to touch you, find out what is familiar to us about you and, there is something. We also want to rid you of that pain you have. But to do so, we must know the root of the evil that bewitches your wolf’s bloodline.”

Piper was just staring at her now, seemed to be thinking about it, saw her and her wolf talk to each other, moved her eyes to Brad, that man still looked very unhappy with her.

“JoJo.” She looked to T.J. “Mother is contacting Christian to call off the seers.”

She nodded, “A good idea. I don’t see a threat, just concern for Piper’s actual safety and wellbeing.”

“You shouldn’t be the one thanking me.” T.J. stated “Alpha Bradley should be, seeing as he was the one posing a threat to you.”

“I was only defending my Luna as any Mate would.”

Bradley stated.

“You could have simply stated no,” T.J. shot at the man. “I understand how protective you are of Piper, but you threatened a royal princess, is that really wise?”

She heard Bradley sigh now and saw him look right at her “

My apologies Luna.” He stated and inclined his head slightly, “But you must understand, I need to protect Piper, even from those allied.”

Jo-anne looked at him. “It’s fine, I didn’t know it was life-threatening, will...choose my words carefully and I will give you my sworn Luna’s Oath at dinner.”

The Alpha & Beta’s Regret Chapter 138

Addison POV

That Siren sang for several hours, her song made several of the women down here in the cells cry. Pain was radiating off of the creature and could be felt by all. Even Addi found it hard to hold back tears herself. Leaned there up against the wall trying to not feel the pain of the creature.

Then it just stopped and all was quiet. Addi was more than curious about what had happened to make her so very sad. Walked over and took a book from the small bookcase Zoe had in here and then walked to the bars, and stared at the tank for a long moment. It was a risk but one she needed to take.

Hurled that book at the tank's glass, watched it smack right into the glass with a resounding bang before falling to the floor.

"Are you crazy insane?" Zoe gasped.

"Maybe. Just stay back." Addi told her.

She saw that creature for the first time. Its angry face appeared before her and looked at her from behind the glass. Two black eyes peered right at her, saw that creature bare its pointed teeth and her, saw bubbles come from it and knew it was hissing at her, watched as its tail flicked furiously in the water.

Addison stared right back at it, didn't look away, knew that the Siren wouldn't like it, also knew that the beast understood how deadly she was, but Addi needed to get a good look at her, which she was doing right this minute.

She was actively challenging it and she knew it, watched as one clawed hands tapped the glass, clicking its nails on the glass all menacingly.

Laughed at its attempt to be menacing. Saw it hiss once more in the water and then swim about furiously, away and back to the glass to stare at her many times.

"Don't piss her off, Addi."

“I need it to fully surface.” She replied simply “Mind-link to Victor, you can do that right?”

“I can, I never do it.” Zoe muttered.

“Tell that man I am down here ticking his Siren off, and it looks to be going to k**l me. I want to see how loyal to him it is.”

“You’re treading on thin ice, Addison.”

“Or his Siren is.” She stated and grabbed another book and hurled it at the tank, watched at that Siren slammed itself into the glass and understood in that moment it knew, it wasn’t allowed to touch any of Victor’s women down here, that was good for her.

It was furiously swimming about and she grabbed another book, it was right here staring at her now. Addi smiled at it and then just hurled that book right at the thing’s face, saw It roar inside the water, “That’s it little one, come to Addi now” She chuckled softly.

Watched as it shot to the surface, as she heard the door bang open to the cells down the corridor and Victor yell all Alpha “Silla, NO.”

She smiled at that creature on the surface, and let out that deep low whistle, that Lucian had taught her to call him.

Saw that Siren’s head snap up and its whole body go rigid Oh yes, it understood on some level what that sound was, even above water. Though she knew it would resonate better in the water, but she had been taught to do it on land.

Addi knew she’d hit the mark she had intended to because she had that Siren’s undivided attention now. It didn’t know what to make of her though and she knew it.

Victor was suddenly right there at the tank “Silla, back off now. I need her alive.”

He got hissed at by his own Siren in an aggressive manner.

“Silla, tell your beast to back off or I’ll drain the tank for a month.”

Interesting she thought to herself, stood there and watched his interaction, saw that Siren of his sink back down into the water and then it was just gone. Victor’s eyes turned right on her, he was filthy mad and she knew it. Though he was trying to control his temper, she thought. Smiled right at him all sweetly, but said nothing at all.

“I wouldn’t aggravate Silla. He grated out.

“I wasn’t trying to, just wanted to see her, she was so very sad, Victor. As a former Luna, I just wanted to comfort her was all.”

He was glaring right at her now, didn’t believe her at all. He looked at the books on the floor and then back to her. “You do it again and I’ll punish one of the others down here, bring her right here and punish her in front of you, make sure she knows its all your fault as well.”

Addi frowned at him, wondering if he actually would do that.

Saw him raise an eyebrow at her now and then just announce loudly for all down here to hear “I will punish one of you for every upset or disturbance that Addison causes.

Bring you right to this cell and do my worst to one of you each and every time.” He was standing there staring at her pointedly.

“You’re a despicable savage,” she stated.

“Yes I am and you’d do well to remember that, if you get injured on purpose down here. I’ll injure each one of them in the same way, it will be on you that, that happens.” He stated, and then just turned and walked up the stairs of that tank. She watched him touch the water and a moment later saw that Siren appear before him.

“Silla, come on, spend time with me, hop out.”

Saw that Siren shift to her human form and the girl got out of the tank. He took her hand and walked her down the stairs behind him. Although

she had Victor's hand, her eyes were on Addison as she walked passed her.

"My apologies Silla, was it." she stated softly "I've not seen a Siren in a while... miss them." she called out as the girl was pulled along by Victor, leaned on the cell bars and watched for as long as she could, saw Silla turn and look right at her.

That's it' Addi smiled to herself 'let your natural curiosity about other Sirens consume you.'

Victor may have rushed down here and taken her away, but even Silla, which was her human name, not her beast's name, understood he'd not come to calm her because he cared she was upset and angry. No, it was because he didn't want her hurting the new girl he'd brought into his cell.

To Silla, Addison was just a new female he was going to have s*x with at some point and he didn't want her damaged. Stood and wondered about that creature even more now. If he always called her Silla, did he even know her Siren's name? It was possible he didn't. Her beast would only give it up if she wanted to.

"Zoe, thank you."

"What did you achieve from ticking that bastard off?" She muttered.

"I established a connection with Silla...'m curious, Zoe, have you ever heard him call her anything but Silla?"

"No, why?"

"Because if he doesn't know her Siren name, there is room for me to win that creature over yet."

"I don't think so, she was furious."

"I know, but she understood me."

"Understood what?" Zoe asked with a frown.

Addi smiled. “That I know other Sirens. You said Victor raised her since she was a toddler.”

“I did.”

“She’s remained inside this pack the whole time. I bet that thing, Silla’s beast, Silla herself, has no idea there are other Sirens out there.”

“So what?”

Addison turned and looked right at her. “Sirens love Sirens more than they love anything else. They don’t particularly like being alone as she is here.”

“And?”

“I know 3 sirens.” She smiled “Now, Silla knows I have a connection to her own kind, will be curious and maybe I can use that to our advantage.”

“She loves Victor.”

“No, she doesn’t. Loves the s*x on tap. If she loved him, you’d all be dead and he’d have a Siren Mate and little Siren babies.” She laughed now.

Silla did not love Victor like he thought she did. Lived here because she had never been anywhere else was all, and didn’t know any better. She had just seen the way hed talked to her, gently so up there at the top of those stairs, took her hand and led her away.

There was trust there, she was willing to bet, but she didn’t think that Silla was going to be 100% loyal to Victor like he thought she would be. Wondered just what he had told the girl, how he’d gotten her for himself. Likely 18 years ago and if she’d been a toddler, she couldn’t be more than 20 or 21, still young and impressionable.

She could work with that, was going to, in fact. Sank down and leaned on the wall. “Zoe, can you mind-link to all the women down here, are they pack members?”

“Yes, he forcibly bled most of them to him. When they were brought here, does it again if they sever from the pack.”

“Good,” she smiled “Let’s have a chat about getting us all out of here at the same time, shall we?”

“He’ll k**l my mother.” She heard Zoe sigh.

“Then she comes with us as well.” Addi stated simply,

We’ll snag her on the way out if you know where she is.”

“I do, but if this doesn’t work.”

“It will,” she nodded “Trust me, I’m or was a Luna that was in the war room. Planned strategies and I know how to fight. I’m also a pure-blood, strong.../ also got me a witch side, that is itching to be fully released and realised, am barely containing now adays. I think it’s time to let that side of me out...finally got me a genuine reason to out myself completely.”

She looked down at her hands and nodded as she felt the heat of her magic itch in her palms. Yes, it really did want to be released and used by her. What better place to let it out than on this man and his pack! She saw them glow just a little bit and smiled to herself, it would not be hard to release it.

She only had trouble containing it. Letting it out was just a matter of letting go of all her control over it. Shed seen the way it had rattled the paintings on the walls in Rafes packhouse. Had barely contained it then, she would let herself release it when the time was right. On his warriors, in all likelihood, knock a few of them off to help with that war that was coming.

She’d always kept it contained, didn’t want that father of hers feeling it and coming for her, so had barely ever used it, only to hide what she actually was from the world. Kept that bit of silver out of her eyes with a simple spell. The silver in one’s eyes usually denoted witch blood from what she’d read, and she’d hidden that after her life in her home pack.

They'd all known what she was because of the way her eyes were, hated her for it even, so she'd learned to hide that silver from the world, a simple little spell of illusion which was only on herself and affected no one else.

The Alpha & Beta's Regret Chapter 139

Victor POV

It shocked him more than a bit to have Zoe mind-link to him. The woman had not done that since the day she had rejected him; actively opened a link of her free will to him.

He did it to her, but not the other way around.

Bane was up instantly at the sound of her voice inside their mind, he knew who it was right away, though there was clear amusement in her voice, it was not something that he thought was funny at all, Victor, your little Siren is about to lose it and use that call on my new roommate. I'll make sure to stand right behind her, when it happens.'

What?' he'd roared and shot to his feet, he'd dropped the phone in his hand and heard it clatter to the desk, uncaring that he was on the phone to the wolfen council, trying to find out why they wanted to move those rogues.

'I'm going to be free of you.' Zoe laughed at him down the mind-link.

Bane had moved him on the spot at her words, taken full control of his body and shot him out of his office. When she cut that link to him, he felt fear roll off of his beast, not fear for Addison but fear for Zoe and her wolf Halo.

They'd shot down the stairs still at full wolfen speed. Bane was not having a bar of losing Halo. His wolf had never been able to mate Halo, not even once, and she did not push forward even on a full moon, when he was with Zoe.

They'd not even seen her eyes flicker one in the past seven years. Not once looked at his beast, it was only ever Zoe on the surface.

She was still in there. He could feel her, but had never once seen her since shed broken her own arm as a threat to them that she would k**l herself if they touched her mother.

That was the only time he'd seen her since locking

Zoe up.

She'd not once shifted to her wolf form in that cell either, seven years was a long time since seeing her wolf, and she was a pretty wolf, with her mother being a red wolf and her father a grey wolf, she had gotten a true hybridisation of the two species colouring, had a white muzzle and neck fur, with a dark grey face and two pretty orange markings above her eyes. The inside of her ears were filled with white fur that had dark grey around the edges and then the back of her ears were dark orange, her underbelly was mostly a light orange and brindled through with white, as were her legs; the standard red wolf colouring, but her back was a full brindle of the three colours, orange, dark grey and then had white markings that ran down and around behind her shoulders. So very pretty and her fur was twice as thick as other wolves. Bane only got to look at her from their pack file of her, the day they'd photographed her wolf once it had emerged when she was sixteen. Which he did every month. Bane wanted her wolf, his Mate.

He burst through into the cells and saw Silla's beast on the surface, and above the water, could see the water in the tank was spilling over the side and splashing to the floor. It was clear that her tail was flicking furiously about in that tank causing those waves. Yes, she was angry.

Then she just stilled and stared at the cell across from her as he yelled out to her, and he knew why. Addison had tormented her into surfacing, had clearly wanted her too, so that she could do what she'd done out on that lake. To call to Luci, couldn't reach Silla in the water, so had antagonised her to the surface.

He heard the deep low sound of a whistle coming from down that end and saw Silla's reaction to it. It was instantaneous. Knew right then that Addison was trying to bond with Silla, she had that Siren Venom in her veins and was trying to get Silla to recognise it.

Was more than fuming about it, even more so when Silla's beast hissed right at him, and he had to reprimand her for it, threaten to drain that tank as punishment. Turned and looked at Addison, if he didn't actually bloody need her in one piece, she'd be getting a beating or more right this minute.

Threatened all the others down there for every infraction she might consider making from this point forward, and he would follow through, put them in front of her, so she had to watch him punish them. Made sure all his women knew it too. None of them would help her, he could be a real cruel man when punishment was to be dished out.

Removed Silla, she needed to be calmed down and taken away from Addison, only to hear her speak softly to Silla and mention Sirens directly was not something he wanted, but he knew what Addison was doing. He had to get the girl to stay focused on him and, although he was completely furious with Silla herself, because she knew better than to try and attack one of his women, he needed to remain calm and in control, gain her focus, bring it back to him and keep it on him.

Though he'd not introduced Silla to Addison and not told her to stay away or leave her be, she should still know better.

Sat her in his office on the lounge, put one of his shirts on her and was just frowning down at her, she wouldn't look up at him, had gone all quiet and he knew why. Addison's words about not seeing a Siren in a while were bothering her.

Silla had already had an emotional day today, had suffered the memory of her pack being destroyed, the loss of her family and then likely the miss-treatment she'd suffered at the hands of her captures, before he'd seen her and saved her. Only to have Addison mention Sirens again.

"Silla?"

“She threw books at me.” Silla huffed.

“I understand, but Silla, you know better. You can’t harm them, they are my women. Some of them are the mothers of my children even, you know this.”

“She’s not.”

“No,” he agreed, “but I need her alive.”

“What for?” she asked, her eyes finally moving to meet his.

“Is a bargaining chip is all. I’m not going to have s*x with her” he told her. Couldn’t it would tick Luci off. If he thought he could get away with it, he would tie that woman to his bed and take her for as long as he saw fit. But couldn’t and he knew it.

“She’s very pretty,” Silla stated and turned her eyes away.

“She is...” he smiled to himself, knelt down in front of her. ” Are you jealous Silla?” he tilted her face up to his, “You’re much more beautiful a creature than any I’ve ever seen.”

Saw her smile just a little, knew she was vain about her looks. “Don’t you ever worry about how beautiful you are.” He told her.

She nodded.

“Good, now can I trust you to behave if I let you go back to your tank.”

He got nothing from her, which only told him that her beast was still upset or angry. “Don’t listen to anything that she-wolf has to say, please don’t fall for her tricks either.

She was trying to get you to k**l her on purpose, Silla.

Doesn’t want to be here, doesn’t want to be a bargaining chip for me to get what I want.”

“What do you want from her?” She asked him. Looked right at him now, wanted an answer to that question, it seemed.

He thought about that, he couldn't very well tell her that he was trying to pull in another Siren, one that was much more beautiful than she was. “I need something and when I get it, guess what will happen. It's good and you'll love it.”

He smiled right at her.

“What?”

“I need this one thing, it's precious to me, but you will also be happy about it too.”

“What is it?” she asked, full of curiosity now

“Hmm, that will ruin the surprise, I know you like surprises.” He smiled at her, knew she actually did.

“Yes.’

“You'd have me spoil it?” he asked right back.

Saw her really think about it, and then shook her head ‘no.

“That's my girl, but I'll give you a clue if you promise me not to let that she-wolf antagonise you or your beast into harming her.”

Watched her nod her head now “We promise.”

“Let's see...” he teased her a little and she pouted up at him.

He chuckled softy, “Alright, it will hold more water than the tank you're in now.” Saw her eyes light up instantly, knew she would love that “Ah, Silla. You're just so full of happiness now, how can I not just tell you and make you fill with joy.../ want to see you all happy and excited. I'm going to build you a massive lake.”

Saw her eyes widen now “Fish?”

“I’ll put fish in it, and crustaceans, whatever you want in there, you can have it.”

Laughed when she launched herself at him and wrapped her arms around his neck, a happy squeal coming from her, he knew how to cheer her up and there was nothing more than she liked than water. Though that lake was not for her, once Luci was here, he wasn’t going to be able to keep them apart. They’d likely bond quickly, being sirens and both alone all their lives. Attach right to each other, they were only five years apart too, so they would be like sisters and they’d swim in the lake together. Once it was built.

He stood up and took her with him, “Come on, let’s look at the pack map, see where the lake will go.”

She smiled right at him now and he knew all her anger was gone. Knew even her beast was placated right this minute.

Showed her the map and touched the area he was going to dig out for that lake to go in. “It won’t be very big, and will take some effort to get water into it. I’ll have to put in lots of piping from Snake River” He touched the river and traced a line from it to the eastern part of the pack. “But it will be deep and much larger than that tank you have now.

What do you think?”

“How big?” she asked.

Victor smiled at her and fished a pencil from his pocket, ” Hmm.” He drew a rough circle on the map “This big enough for you?” he murmured a little teasingly, knew it was only small and saw her pout up at him, knew she would, drew another circle around that one “This big?” saw her pout deepen “Alright.” He chuckled and handed her the pen ” Show me Silla, what do you want.” He smiled right at her as she grinned right at him.

Watched her draw on his pack map a massive circle and laughed softly “Now Silla, I won’t have room for all my wolves, if it’s nearly half the size of the pack.”

Watched her pout again at him “How about a compromise, what about half that but really deep, and I can put in some man made tunnels and caverns for you to play in.”

She smiled and nodded, was more than happy now and he knew it. Ran a hand through her hair “Now about Addison, the new she-wolf, you won’t hurt her right, or listen to anything she has to say.” Saw that pout once more. “Silla?” he tapped the map “I can’t get the lake without the use of that she-wolf. I need her alive and unharmed. Do you understand?”

Watched her look at the lake and sigh but then nodded her head. “Don’t be jealous of her. I’m not interested in that she-wolf at all. You’re perfect, not her.” he leaned his mouth right to her ear and murmured “What say I let you celebrate about the lake, I’m going to build you.” dropped his voice to a softer huskier tone “The way you like.” He bit her neck softly “Hmm,” knew she would want to, a happy Siren was a frisky Siren.

The Alpha & Beta’s Regret Chapter 140

Rafe POV

He could feel it the minute Jack knew it. He felt the flood of emotions through their bond as he stood watching Luci lay out the rules of being on a shaming post. He had been smiling at her himself. Not once had he seen Alari today, not even this morning. She was getting comfortable dealing with them herself. That was a good thing and would make it easier for he and Jack to talk to her, explain things to her.

Though the moment Jack realised he was Mated to Luci, Rafe knew it, felt it, snapped a hand right onto him, felt more than joy roll through him, but it had been replaced in less than three seconds by utter and complete sadness.

‘Breathe Jack.’ Hed murmured to him as gently as he could, needed to keep him calm right that moment ‘I know.’ He told him softly and he did know Jo-anne had relayed it to him. Hed not told Jack, how could he when he knew it would gut him completely and I understand, it’s why

you reacted to her this morning, the way you did.' And it was, he was her Mate already 'We're going to fix it' he promised him, and he meant it, they were going to fix it.

He saw Jack's eyes move to his, saw the pain in them, so much pain that his normally dark forest green eyes were dull and lack lustre, pulled him right into his body and just held him tightly to try and comfort him 'Breathe, you can do this. he said softly, slid a hand right up into his hair 'pull yourself together, or she'll see it. know something is off with you...'

Could actually feel Jack clinging on to him 'I remember it, all of it.' he murmured, and Rafe knew it was true, he'd gotten the flood of memories himself the moment Jack had. The man had lost himself to Luci's heat and had Mated her, but had refrained from Marking her, had only been able to because Rafe himself had never agreed to it.

He sighed softly himself now 'I'm sorry Jack.' And he truly was.

This was his fault in reality. Wanting to wait a whole year before claiming Luci. Giving her the chance to find her Goddess Gifted Mate in that time.

Hugged him even more 'Blame me, it's my fault!' He murmured None of this would be happening to you, to her.

If I'd just let us claim her the day she'd come home with us.'

He could feel eyes on him and looked at Luci, saw her looking at them, the way they were standing holding each other. Tried to smile at her, didn't know if he'd pulled it off or not. Jack's pain was not only affecting him but Solar as well. All four of them were really starting to struggle with it.

With all that had happened to them in the past six and half years. Knew it was going to catch up with him at some point, he was desperately trying to delay the emotional explosion he knew was coming his way, trying desperately every second of every day to maintain his Alpha persona to keep his own emotions in check and not lose it like Jack was doing right this minute.

But with Jack in such distress, he was struggling to hold himself together. To be strong for the both of them right this minute. Was at some point going to crumble himself, was trying to keep himself contained and strong, in check and act like the Alpha he knew he needed to be.

Jack and Flare knew they had lost everything and it was k*****g them right this minute. They were barely holding themselves together. Didn't know how long it was going to last or when he would completely just lose it.

Though the moment Luci tried to walk away from them, give them a minute as shed stated, Jack's whole attitude changed in an instant. He'd yanked himself from Rafe's arms and snapped right out of it. He pulled himself together, pushed passed his own pain and Rafe knew why, because she, his Mate was about to walk away from him and Jack didn't want that at all. Needed right his minute to be right there next to her.

He belonged to her and didn't want to be apart from her, not ever. Right at this minute, knowing she was about to walk away had snapped him to his senses, and he was all Beta. Rafe actually felt it, the shift in Jack as he pulled on his bloodline, so he could deal with what was going on around him and still be able to function. Much like they did when in battle. Disconnected themselves from their emotions to fight without distraction.

Like he himself was doing every damned minute since finding out the truth.

Those words about lashing the she-wolves on the shaming post, it had come off as a simple enough statement, but Rate had the distinct impression it was going to happen.

Rafe also wasn't going to stop the man. Would hand him that Cat of three tails which he had lan bringing to them. It was down in the cells hanging on the wall for all their prisoners to see.

He let Jack walk right next to Luci, the man and his wolf needed it, but felt sadness roll off of him and Flare when she declined to have dinner, 'honestly didn't want to have a family dinner' with them. Those words

just gutted Jack and Flare completely. Rendered both of them silent, he could feel pain welling up in the two of them. The woman they loved and had unwittingly mated themselves too didn't want to spend time with them.

A part of Jack and Flare understood, the circumstances were not great, with all that was going on at the moment, but they were hurt by the words and didn't know how to deal with them, it seemed.

Rafe had to take hold of him and actually walk him away, or the man was likely just going to stand there all afternoon and night staring at her house, wouldn't budge at all, until he told her what was going on with him.

'it'll be alright Jack.' He mind-linked to him 'it's Luci on the surface, not Alari and not Kali, it's been Luci all day long.

She's getting more comfortable with us. That is a good thing..breathe Jack.' He told him, but got nothing from the man, he didn't seem to be able to think at all right this minute. Was just completely numb, it appeared. Rafe sighed and steered him gently back towards the packhouse. Walked at a slow pace, it was all Jack could seem to manage, barely able to function and put one foot in front of the other.

Rafe walked with his hand on Jack's back. Jack stopped walking as the packhouse came into view and then there was just pure anger rolling off of him and Rafe knew why, his eyes were on Maria.

"That witch of theirs, she would

have known." He suddenly grated out. "the Beta was always the problem." He snarled out and then was just gone off across the pack at full wolfen speed.

Rafe shot after him not to stop him, the man needed to punish those two and the only reason hed not done it himself now, was because Luna Joanne had told him Luci would need to do it herself. Need to get all her anger and rage out for the pain she suffered

He stopped short of the shaming post, and just stood there watching as Jack swung that cat of three tails. He could hear and see both those she-wolves screaming and trying to get out of the way of the lashing Jack was unleashing on them.

Stood there and stared right at the scene unfolding before his very eyes, looked at the anger Jack was displaying right this minute and realised that was exactly what it was.

What Luci needed to do, he turned and looked back the way they had come. His brain was screaming at him, he turned and looked at Jack, 'an incomplete bond' Jo-anne had said and he suddenly knew what it meant.

Luci had mated herself to them both as he had suspected, but shed not marked either of them, so hed let it go. Had thought he'd been wrong about it. Felt pain not only touch him as he turned and stared at Jack, but ripped through him as he realised Luci was already attached to them both.

She had mated herself to them, that was why she wouldn't spend time with them. Hadn't been able to look at them, didn't want to have a family dinner, as Jack had posed it.

Being around them caused her more pain than either one of them had understood. It's why she wasn't herself and was unable to deal with them.

It was likely k*****g her as much as it was now k*****g Jack and ripping through himself. No wonder the boys always went to her when she was upset. They could feel everything she felt, knew it hurt her just to look at them.

Saw as Jack stilled and turned to look right at him, Rafe's own pain and sadness at this realisation had finally pushed passed Jack and Flares rage and filtered to the man. Watched him drop the cat and step over to him "I'm sorry." He blurted out as tears fell from his own eyes. He'd truly ruined both their lives with his stubbornness to follow through on their pack law of waiting one year to claim a chosen Mate. Had ruined all their

lives, not just theirs, but hers and the boys as well. This whole pack had suffered because of his one decision.

Being the Alpha of the pack, he'd only been trying to abide by the pack laws, showing his pack that the Chosen Mate rule also applied to him, their Alpha, to their Beta as well.

That he wouldn't pull rank and overrule that law just because he was the Alpha and could do so.

No, he'd wanted to show his pack that he was fair and just and held himself to the same rules that he expected all of them to abide by. That he would also wait out the one year of being together before claiming a Chosen Mate, just like they all had to.

That it wasn't just them that he expected to follow the law, that he too was held accountable to them as well. That he held himself to the same standards he expected all of them to hold themselves to. He wasn't just their Alpha, but a pack member as well. Knew the laws and could and would follow them.

That one decision had ruined everything, he'd hurt so very many. Felt Jack hug him and stood there and just let him "I'm sorry." He whispered and hugged him back.

"I understand." He heard Jack state, knew Jack could feel why he was upset, his walls had just crumbled on his own emotions, he couldn't hold them back from Jack right this minute. "Luci and you are in so much pain because of me."

"We'll fix it." Jack murmured.

Rafe's eyes moved to Melissa and he understood the anger Jack felt. She was bloodied and sagging on the ground, had held up better than Maria, who was now unconscious dangling from that shaming post. "I'd k**l you," he told her, "But, I think Luci will benefit more from doing it herself than I would. It's her right to k**l you and I'm going to let her." he told her simply "your hours are numbered." And he meant that. He would tell her everything tonight when they dropped the boys home.

Mind-linked right to Hannah 1 need to talk to you now.'

"In your office would be best. She stated simply.

Then he and Jack were stumbling around inside their own office. He gagged as did Jack, as they pushed away from each other, he managed to hold in the vomit until he had his hand on the bin by his desk, then just heaved his guts up into it

Looked up at Hannah standing there in the middle of his office watching the two of them, really wanted to smack that woman with all he had, saw her raise an eyebrow at him, knew what he was thinking in all likelihood; reined it in.

"What the hell Hannah?" Jack yelled at her.

"A private conversation is needed." She stated right back.

"You could have bloody asked." Jack snarled out.

"Rafe asked me, so here I am."

"Enough." Rafe sighed "I didn't mean for you to blip us here."

Hannah shrugged "I couldn't have the two of you walking passed Luna Joanne right at this very minute. I have her on another quest, so to speak. You two are an emotional mess that would distract her."

"Well, who's bloody fault is that?" Rafe suddenly roared right at her, she'd done nothing to stop any of this mess.

Again, that raised eyebrow, she was not afraid of him, could wave him to sleep or blip herself away in a millisecond "Calm yourself. What do you need from me?" she stated.

He took a moment to do that, calm himself. "The twins...

when Luci loses it and it's coming." He sighed.

"You don't know the half of what is coming." She stated"

But go on.”

“I don’t want the twins feeling it. Getting involved, can you stop that? Intervene.”

“Rafe?” it was Jack. He could see that Hannah was thinking it over, or weighing up the odds even. Wasn’t exactly sure. He turned to look at Jack. “Your rage, will be Lucis rage, which the twins will feel and react to. I don’t want them to feel that from her, be apart of that with her.

They are just children.”

“No, you don’t,” Hannah stated. “They will k**l many, are more powerful than Luci, her rage...it has to come out. But the boys are a witch’s children. I can’t actively touch them without the said witch’s permission.”

“Is there a way around that?” he asked.

She shook her head. “Magic on a witch’s child is even worse without permission. I don’t know if even Jo-anne could intervene in the backlash that would be caused if I used magic on the twins without their mothers permission.

Only more deaths I’d suspect. I need Luci’s actual permission, if I can get it. I could put the boys into a deep sleep state. Until her anger resolves. They’d not feel it and be unharmed. Perfectly safe here with the two of you...how much time do you think I have to get it?”

“I’d have to say a matter of hours. From what I just learned and what I think she is now starting to understand.”

“Ah!” she nodded “The truth is out for you to see.”

“You have explaining to do.”

“I did nothing wrong. Was not my place to intervene in fate.

Though..” she sighed on the heavy side “I wish I had intervened between the three of you when she was 18. She should have become a Triune then, but you and Jack stopped it...intervened in that path yourselves.”

He was staring at her now. “What?”

She waved it off. “Luci, I’ll need her permission, I’ll attempt to get it.”

“Leave the Triune alone?” Jack murmured.

Hannah looked right at him. “Yes, that still remains.” Then she was just gone, blipped out of their office.