

Betrayed by My Beta Mate #Chapter 41 - Read Betrayed by My Beta Mate Chapter 41

Chapter 41

41 New Mate

Lily POV

We are supposed to meet with Lincoln and Amelia in twenty minutes. My mother can't stop smiling at Neal, who is walking in front of us. She is so thrilled I found him and she hasn't stopped gushing over how lucky we both are. "I'm so happy you found such a handsome loving beloved, Lily." I smile because she is whispering, but I know he can hear her with his wolf hearing. "Me too, mom", I say wiggling my eyebrows up and down. She taps my arm "that is not what I meant." I laugh and I hear Neal chuckle. We reach the dining room to grab breakfast before our meeting. We head over and take a seat with Charles and Lorraine. John will join us later. He took my aunt to his cottage this morning after the doctor discharged her. Hopefully, Michael will let Pheobe leave the room for our meeting. Wolves can be quite possessive during the mating and marking. I remember how long Neal and I spent making love when we mated. "When all this is settled, I plan to take you away for a week where it's just you and me", Neal links me. I can feel the blush on my cheek as our eyes connect. I roll my eyes and start to eat again.

"Where are the Elders" I ask Charles, knowing they were released last night from the pack hospital. "They wanted to ready their men for the battle." "They will be back this afternoon." I nod and take a sip from my coffee. "We may have to wait until Lincoln and Amelia finish speaking to Walker before we head up for the meeting." I see concern on Neal's face. "Why would Walker be here after he just went back to the pack?" "I'm not sure Lily, Lincoln is meeting with them in the office" Lorraine says. Neal stands and I do the same. We both head toward the stairs. "Lily I'm coming with you" my mother calls from behind us. She catches up and we walk down the hall toward the office. Neal knocks before he opens the door for me to walk in. As I walk into the office a wolf growls. I turn to see Walker growling and a woman I have never seen pick up a little girl. "Mate" he says looking in my direction. I can feel

Neal's anger through our bond and I know this isn't right. Neal is my only beloved. Neal steps in front of me as Walker comes toward us. He walks around us and now I'm even more in shock.

Walker POV

When the knock sounds on the door, the scent of wild flowers invades my nose. Rowan growls "Mate" he says. Lily is walking in followed by the most gorgeous woman I have ever seen in my life. I can scent she isn't a wolf. Maybe she is related to Lily, a sister or cousin. "I don't care who she is, she is ours." "Go to our mate", Rowan says and I walk toward her. Neal steps in front of Lily but I side step them wrapping this woman in my arms. I bury my head in her neck and breathe in her scent. "Oh, my goddess" I hear Lily say. "Lily, what's happening" I hear my mate say and I stiffen at her words. She doesn't know who I am to her. I feel a hand on my shoulder. "Walker step back and look into my mother's eyes." Her mother, this beautiful woman, is Lily's mother. I do what she asks despite Rowan's protest. I look into her gorgeous eyes and she gasps. "Beloved" she says, but she doesn't look happy. "Mom" Lily says but my mate raises her hand at her daughter. "Come with me please" she says and Rowan whimpers in my mind. "She's going to reject us." "Don't say that."

We walk two doors down and she checks to see if anyone is in the office. Once she sees it's empty, she walks inside and I follow her. She turns looking at me in my eyes. "I know that your wolf wants me because of the bond but," I step closer to her. "We both want you." She takes a step back and I hate that Rowan may be right. I have waited for her since I was eighteen. I refused to take a chosen mate because I wanted who the goddess chose for me. "Before you even think about accepting me you need to know some things." Her words lessen the dread I feel but I just listen and hope.

Iris POV

I can't believe this happening right now. I never expected to have another beloved. Conrad and I were not fated beloveds. I never told Lily that my father insisted I mate with a coven leader's son, but for a different reason. I was an only child and Conrad took control of our coven when my father died. I wasn't

strong like Lily and I didn't fight my father's wishes. I can't regret my choice because I have Lily. I never knew what it was to be drawn to a beloved, but it is intense. When I looked into his eyes, I could feel my soul start to bind to him. Despite how composed I look on the outside, my heart is ready to beat out of my chest. He needs to know what happened before he makes his decision. I take a deep breath before I start to speak.

“I know you want me because of the bond, but I need you to know some things about my past.” He doesn’t say anything, he just listens. I was mated to a man that was evil to the core. He never loved me and he used me to grow his coven. He growls but quiets quickly. “He promised a warlock my daughter for protection and I helped her escape.” “When she wasn’t there he gave me, to the warlock as payment.” I see his beautiful green eyes turn black before they return to green. “Please” he says and I continue. “The warlock is a monster and he did things to me that are unimaginable.” This time he picks me up taking me over to the couch and sits me in his lap. “I know you need to tell me more but I need to have you close to hear this before Rowan takes control.” I don’t protest and I continue. “He violated and tortured me in every way imaginable.” He puts his head in the crook of my neck again breathing deep. After a few minutes, he picks his head up and looks in my eyes. “None of that changes that you are mine and I’m yours.” He puts his hand on my face and the warmth from his skin against mine, warmth blooms in my chest. I’m afraid to believe that he is really accepting me and all I just told him.

“We can’t make it official right now and after all you have been through, I will not rush you.” “What is your full name beautiful?” “Iris Louise Bloom”, I say and he smiles. “I, Walker James Teller, accept you, Iris Louise Bloom as my mate and beloved.” I smile at his words as I know wolves don’t use the word beloved. I say a prayer of thanks to the goddess before I accept this man the goddess sent me. “I, Iris Louise Bloom, accept you, Walker James Teller, as my beloved and mate.” “May I kiss you” he asks and the fact that he cares enough to make sure I’m comfortable before he kisses me makes my heart beat a little faster. I press my lips to his and the kiss is like nothing I have ever felt before. When he pulls back, he stands but he never lets me go. “I think we need to get back to the meeting.” He starts

for the door but then stops. “Iris, the coven that is a threat to the Nightfire pack.” He stops and I nod my head. “I promise you that ba**ard is going to suffer for what he did to you.” He presses his lips to mine one more time before he takes my hand leading me back to the office.

Maureen POV

I hold my breath for Walker as his mate leads him from the office. “Mama, why did he roar” she asks and I chuckle. “It was a happy roar little one.” The Luna laughs and I remember we aren’t alone in the office. I carry Penny over and take my seat again. I turn to my mother with a smug look on my face and whisper. “See, I saved her mate.” She rolls her eyes at me. The Alpha clears his throat and I look back at him. “Since Walker will be busy for a little while,

let's talk about you ladies." "Alpha" Lily says with disgust in her voice. "I meant talking Lily" he says with a chuckle. I've never seen an Alpha who seems so kind and approachable. "So, can you tell us who is trying to hurt you." I stiffen at his words. "What my mate means is how can we help to keep you safe?" "Amelia is right, that is what I mean but we also need to know if someone will be looking for you." I look to mother and she is shaking her head at me. If it was just mom and me, I wouldn't care about fending for ourselves, but I have to think about Penny.

I look down at Penny and back to the Alpha. "Lily, can you and Neal take Penny to get a snack." I hold onto my daughter. I don't know these wolves. The witch walks toward us. She bends down. "My name is Lily, do you like ice cream?" She starts to bounce in my lap. "I promise you she will be safe and we will get the ice cream and come right back." I turn her in my lap so she looks at my face "you be a good girl, Penny." "I will Mama" she says and takes Lily's hand. Once the door is closed, I turn back to the Alpha. "We were part of a collective and the leader wanted to use me as a breeder." He growls and the Luna places her hand on his arm. "When I refused, he threaten to harm Penny, so we ran." "Walker insisted we come here but honestly you are putting your pack at risk by us being here." "He isn't exactly a nice person and he wants me." The Luna stands coming around the desk. "This man that would threaten a child is he Penny's father." I take a deep breath. "No, he was killed after we joined the collective during an attack." She takes my hand. "We are going to set you up in a cottage and we will

figure out the rest later." I look to the Alpha waiting for him to protest. "My mate is right." "I understand your worried that your presence will pose a threat to our pack but we cannot know you need help and do nothing." I look to my mother and she looks as shocked as I feel by his words. "I'm going to take you to one of our open cottages if you want to come with me" the Luna says. We stand and the Luna takes three steps before she stops dead. I look down at the floor and my heart drops.

Chapter 42

42 Keep Her Safe

Amelia POV

My heart breaks as I hear this woman talk about losing her mate. I can't help but think that the ba**ard she is running from killed him and I'm sure she believes the same even though she doesn't say it. The fact that he could threaten that precious little girl makes me sick. Star growls "disgusting excuse for a wolf." "I agree Star, they need our protection from that ba**ard that wants to use her like a damn breeder." "Lincoln, we need to help them" I link him. "I agree love, you are my Luna and you don't need my permission to extend safety to anyone." I smile because I couldn't love this man more. I worry she won't accept our invitation but I'm hopeful she will because of Penny. She agrees and I feel relief that they are safe but we will have to find out exactly what we are dealing with. I stand to lead them to one of the cottages and I feel a sharp pain in my belly before I feel liquid start to run down my leg. I stop walking immediately and look down to see blood pooling at my feet. I thought my water broke but I feel panic spread through my body at the sight of the blood. This isn't supposed to be happening. The doctor said everything was alright. I turn and Lincoln is already coming around the desk.

"Lincoln I'm bleeding." "I know love, we need to get you back to the hospital." I panic and link Lily "please get to the office I need you now." Seconds later she appears with Penny. The minute she sees the blood she wraps me in her arms not waiting for an explanation. "Go to the hospital" she yells at Lincoln before we disappear. When we reappear the doctor and nurses are already waiting for us. They place me on the gurney and start to wheel me down the hall. "It's ok Luna, we will get the pup out safe." I say a prayer that he's right because I can't lose our little bean. I say a prayer to the goddess as they wheel me into a room. The doctor begins to move the wand from the ultrasound machine over my belly and I can tell by his face that it isn't good. "What wrong tell me now" I demand. "Luna" he says and the door flies open. Lincoln rushes in taking my hand. "What the f**k is happening" he growls at the doctor. Talon is at the surface and I know he's upset but being angry won't change what's happening. I

squeeze his hand to calm him down. He looks down at me and his eyes return to their beautiful blue color.

"Luna your placenta is pulling away from your uterus." "Your losing blood." "We need to deliver the pup now for both your safety." "I promise you he is ready, Luna." I look at Lincoln because I'm scared. He puts his hand on my face "I'm here with you love, you both are going to be fine." He leans down and kisses me. The doctor and nurse wheel me to another room without Lincoln. Once I'm prepped and ready for the c-section they bring Lincoln in. I thought I would have to do this alone so I'm happy to see him. He takes a seat

by my head and runs his hand through my hair offering me comfort. "I'm scared Lincoln." "I know but we will get through this together." "Have you thought about any names love?" I smile he's trying to take my mind off what's happening." I haven't been able to pick any I liked and I'm just about to tell him that when the doctor gets our attention. "Alright Luna were going to begin and you're going to feel pressure along with pulling." I nod and Lincoln takes my hand. It's just as the doctor says, I can feel pressure and pulling but no pain. At one point I feel like I'm going to puke but it passes quickly.

Lincoln POV

The minute Lily disappeared with Amelia my heart left me. I can't lose either of them. I run as fast as my legs can carry me and shift as soon as I hit the pack house door. I can hear my parents yelling my name but I can't stop to tell them what's happening. I have to get to her. As soon as I hit the doors a nurse takes me to Amelia's room. I have to be strong for her and our son but I'm panicked inside. Talon is whining to see Amelia scared and worried. When the doctor says she has to have a c-section my heart clenches in my chest. I have to hold it together for her right now. They wheel her away and I take some deep breaths to calm myself. I change into the clothes they gave me and pace waiting for them to return. A moment later a nurse comes in to lead me to the operating room. I head right for the seat near Amelia's head. I need to touch her and feel that she is alright. I brush my fingers through her hair before the doctor says its time. I take her hand in mine. I don't even know how much time passes

before I hear the doctor say "you have a healthy baby boy." Our pup's cries fill the room and I exhale the breath I didn't even realize I was holding.

I look at Amelia and a tear slides down her cheek when she hears his cries. "He's alright, our pups alright" she whispers and I lean in and kiss her lips. "Yes love, he's perfect." She chuckles "you haven't even seen him yet." "I don't have to, he's our pup." "He can't be anything but perfect." "Go check on him Lincoln please" she says. I hate to leave her but I do as she asks heading over to a basinet where the nurses are cleaning up my son. "Congratulations Alpha" the two nurses say and I reach down touching his tiny hand with my large finger. "That's our pup Lincoln" Talon says. I smile amazed that my wolf has accepted my pup so easily like he was always meant to be ours. I knew he would but hearing him say it looking at him is amazing. Before I can ask how much he weighs I hear the doctor's tone change speaking to the nurse helping him with Amelia. I turn to see what's happening. "Alpha, you need to leave" the doctor says in a tone that I don't like. "No, I will not, what is

happening.” “Alpha, I respect you but your mate is bleeding and I need to do my job so I can make sure we don’t lose the Luna, now get out.”

In any other instance I would kill a man for speaking to me this way but right now I’m not the Alpha. I am a man who needs his mate and the doctor is the one who can help her not me. I walk toward the door looking back once at them working on Amelia. I walk out of the room and stop in the hallway. I walk to a chair about five feet from the door and sit. I won’t move from this spot until I know they are both alright. I watch a nurse run down the hall with bags of blood in her hand. I can’t believe this is happening. An hour ago, we were in the office and I was so proud of her. She is the perfect Luna and mate. She cares about our pack and others. “Have faith the goddess won’t take her from us” Talon says. “I hope your right because I won’t survive losing her.” I put my face in my hands and just wait. A few minutes later I feel a hand on my back and pick up my head to see my mother standing next to me. “Lincoln” she says and I stand wrapping my arms around my mother. “Lincoln, Amelia is strong and she will fight to be here with you and your son.” “He’s beautiful and perfect mom but I need her to be alright too.” “She will, I have faith she will.” I hear the door open and immediately turn to see the doctor

coming through the double doors. He is covered in blood and the hope I was feeling a few minutes ago starts to fade.

“Alpha, she is stable and should make a full recovery.” “You will be able to see her shortly.” I grab the doctor and pull him into a hug. “Thank you for saving my mate and pup.” “No thanks is necessary for saving the Luna or the future Alpha.” I step back and he smiles before he turns to go back in the room. I turn to my mother “I told you that girl is strong and she is not going anywhere.” I hug her and say a prayer of thanks to the goddess for keeping Amelia safe. Thirty minutes later a nurse comes out and leads me to the Luna room where Amelia is feeding our pup. I can feel the tears in my eyes and I make no effort to stop them from flowing down my cheeks. “Come here love” she says and I walk over to the side of her bed. She motions for me to slide in next to her and I do just that wrapping my arms around both of them. As I watch my mate feed our pup I thank the goddess again for blessing me with this woman and our pup.

Atlas POV

I link Tristan to have the men ready in the pack yard for our attack. I have waited long enough and knowing that Walker has probably told them things about our pack means that we need to move now. Thomas walks into my

office. “Do you really think now is the time to attack knowing that James is still alive?” “I would be careful Thomas it sounds like your worried about facing your fellow Elder.” “That could be because I’m f**king worried about what that means.” “You do realize that they have their own warriors.” I laugh “Thomas I have no problem doing what it takes to get what I want, just ask my brother.” The shock on his face is comical. “You really killed him didn’t you.” I walk over and grab Thomas by the throat. “Yes, and I will have no problem doing the same to you so don’t get all righteous on me now.” I release him and walk over to me desk. I pick up the phone and he answers on the third ring.

“Is your collective ready?” “Good, we are heading to the Nightfire pack now and I expect that you will do what I paid you for.” I hang up the phone and again Thomas is looking at me like I’ve grown ten heads. “Please don’t tell me that you have really put your trust into filthy rogues.” I don’t share my whole plan with Thomas because he doesn’t need to know my plans for the rogues. “You just don’t know how to do business Thomas.” “If you pay enough, you can buy loyalty and power.” He shakes his head and I can tell he doesn’t agree but I don’t really care about his opinion. The only thing that matters right now is making that ba**ard Lincoln pay for taking my mate and getting Amelia back by my side before she has my pup. We head downstairs and my men are waiting in the pack yard as I ordered. “Today we will destroy the pack that has taken your Luna.” “I want my mate and pup back safely.” “Do I make myself clear.” “Yes Alpha” they say in unison. “Alpha Lincoln is mine to kill, everyone else is up for grabs.” “Make your Alpha proud.” The wolves begin to shift and howl. Thomas and I shift taking off in the direction of the pack and my mate. I will have her in my bed tonight and remind her she is mine.

Chapter 43

43 Attack

Amelia POV

As I hold my son and look down into that chubby little face, I say a prayer of thanks to the goddess for keeping my pup safe. The door opens and Lincoln walks in and my whole world is in this room. I see the tears running down his cheeks and my heart clenches in my chest. I know he was scared. I could feel his fear through our bond. I hate that he felt that for even a moment. I call him over and he slides in next to me, wrapping his arms around me and our son. “He’s beautiful and perfect” he says, staring down into his perfect little face.

Once he finishes drinking, I turn a little so that Lincoln can hold him. I place our pup in his arms and it looks so funny to see this Alpha, who is huge, holding our tiny pup. "Hey little one, I'm your daddy" he says softly to him. He places his finger in the pup's hand and we just sit staring at him for a long time without saying a word. He breaks the silence, "have you thought of what we should name him love?" I have but I don't know how Lincoln is going to feel about the name I would like him to have. It's not just my decision, so if he says he isn't ok with it, I will gladly pick something else. "Love, just tell me" he says. He must feel my nerves through the bond.

"I thought since Elias made all this possible by releasing me from the pack and he would be our pup's uncle, we could call him Eli Daniel Thomas." He looks back down at our son for a minute before he looks back at me. "I think that is perfect and I agree he should have a piece of his uncle." I smile and press my lips to his. He really is the most amazing man. "Eli Daniel Thomas, you are the next Alpha of the Nightfire pack." I chuckle "he's not even walking yet and you're already giving him his title." "It's never too soon to start Alpha training right Eli" he says. He hands Eli to me and kisses me before he slides out of the bed. "Where are you going, don't leave?" He leans down, kissing my lips softly. "Love, I am not leaving your side until we take Eli home, but if I don't go get my parents I'm going to be disowned." I laugh and he leaves. "Eli you are a very lucky pup to have all these people that are going to protect and love you." "I promise you that I will protect you until my last breath." I bend down kissing

his forehead breathing in his scent. "We are mothers Amelia" Star says. "Yes, we are and I can't wait till I can shift so you can spend time with your pup." She is walking in my mind like a proud peacock.

A few seconds later, the door opens and Lincoln comes back in, followed by a group of people. I smile when I see Lily, Neal, Charles, and Lorraine. "Maureen" I say looking up at Lily. "I took care of them." "You worry about taking care of my little bean and healing" Lily says. "Alright, I get my grand pup first" Lorraine says pushing through and stealing my pup. I hand him over and Lily bends down hugging me. "I'm so proud of you." "Thank you, Lily." "Thank you for befriending me and leading me to the man I was meant to be with." She kisses my cheek and she pulls back. I watch her wipe her eyes before she turns to Lorraine holding Eli. "What is my nephew's name?" I look at Lincoln "we would like you all to meet our pup, Eli Daniel Thomas." They all take turns holding him before Lily hands him back to me, so I can feed him. "Alright my Luna needs to get some rest" Lincoln says and everyone grumbles but listens to him. Once everyone is gone, he takes Eli, laying him in the

bassinet next to our bed and slides in next to me. I fall into a peaceful sleep knowing that my mate and pup are safe here with me.

Atlas POV

We arrive in the woods near the human city. I can smell their pathetic scent on the wind. A few seconds later, a smell that is worse invades my nostrils. It smells of rotten eggs and flesh. I can see Thomas is uncomfortable as they break through the trees. I don't see Damien among the rogues, but his second in command, Carter, steps forward. "Alpha" he says. "Where is Damien?" "Damien deeply apologies that he couldn't be here but he is dealing with a very important issue." I step forward, pushing my aura out. He drops his head, "there better not be any f**k ups or you all will die today." "I assure you, Alpha, we are very capable men and we will not disappoint you or Damien." I step back "you will come in from the southern border providing the distraction my men need to come in from the northern border. I notice that Thomas smiles finally catching on to my plan. "As I told my men should any of you encounter Alpha Lincoln, he is mine to kill." The men nod their understanding at my orders. They all turn and head in the direction of the southern border. As soon as they are out of earshot, I turn to Thomas.

"So they are your sacrificial lambs" he says smiling. "Did you really believe that I would be working with filthy rogues for any other reason?" "What about their leader Atlas?" "Are you really concerned about one rogue coming after us?" I turn away from Thomas and toward my warriors. "Remember what I said, Lincoln is mine." "I want Amelia brought to me if you find her." They all bare their necks before we take off toward the northern border. We will give them enough time to draw the pack warriors to them so we can get in and find my mate. We stay far enough from the border to hide our scent so as not to be detected.

Lincoln POV

I'm trying to sleep but honestly, I can't. Laying here holding Amelia when I thought I might lose her and staring at our beautiful son is better than sleep ever could be. "Our pup is amazing" Talon says. "Yes he is." The door opens to the room and I snap my head in the direction ready to whisper yell at whoever dare walk in here without permission and wake Amelia. The minute I see Michael I know something is wrong. I slide out of bed and Pheobe is standing behind me. "What is going on" I hear Amelia ask from behind me. "I'm sorry but we have a large rogue attack at the southern border." I'm torn, I don't want to leave Amelia here alone." I try to link Lily and Neal but they have

a block up. "I will stay with her and protect her" Pheobe says. "Lincoln, you need to go protect the pack." "I will be fine here with Pheobe." "I will try to interrupt Lily who I'm sure is trying to give our son a playmate." "The rogues are on the opposite side of the pack they will never make it to the hospital." I know she's right but that doesn't make me feel any better about leaving her. I lean down and kiss her before I turn back to Pheobe. "Please keep her and my son safe." She nods and we run from the room.

As soon as we leave the hospital, we both shift. Talon is ready to rip apart some rogues for interrupting our time with our family. When we reach the border, the warriors are fighting about three hundred rogues. Talon starts to rip through rogues left and right. A large brown wolf jumps on our back and we easily throw him off. We turn and bite down on his shoulder. The wolf's whines spur Talon on. He releases his jaw and this time bites down on his neck. I hear his bones crunch and we drop the body to

the ground. I start toward a black wolf when I notice Michael is surrounded by three rogues. We jump in next to him and quickly dispose of the three wolves together. We go in separate directions, helping other warriors kill more rogues. I feel like they are multiplying as we kill them off, more keep coming. I hear running wolves coming from behind us and I turn to see the Elders followed by more warriors. I turn back just as a dirty brown wolf jumps at me. He manages to catch me with his claw, which just pisses me off. Talon growls and jumps knocking the wolf to the ground. He holds him down and bites his neck, ripping it out. Elder James's wolf joins the fight and he has surely battled before as he rips through rogue after rogue. I'm glad they are on our side and here to help us.

Atlas POV

"Alpha, the rogues have crossed the border and are fighting with the pack warriors." "Excellent, stay there and alert me of any changes." "Yes Alpha" he says and cuts the link. We stalk forward, crossing into the territory. I stop the men as a patrol guard comes toward us. I give orders for them to surprise and deal with him so he doesn't alert that f**ker Lincoln. Once he is dealt with, we move further into the territory. We come to a building that I'm sure is the pack hospital. I can see the pack house is through more trees. "Tristan take this flank of warriors to the pack house." "I don't care who you have to kill to get her location, just do it." "The minute you know where she is you link me." "Yes Alpha" he says and leads about fifty warriors toward the pack house that is likely full of omegas and worthless pack members. Once they are out of sight, I see a woman walking away from the hospital. "Bring her to me Thomas." I

can see he isn't happy with taking my orders but he does as I ask. She fights but he manages to bring her behind the building. I have fifty more warriors hidden in the trees.

Thomas has his hand over her mouth and I can see the fear in her eyes. "I will not hurt you if you tell me where my mate is." "Do you understand me?" She moves her head up and down. "He is going to uncover your mouth and if you do anything I will snap your neck." "Don't link anyone and don't scream." She nods again and he removes his hand. "Where is my mate?" "Who is your mate sir" she says with a trembling voice. "Amelia is my mate." Her eyes get big and she whisper "Luna." I grab her by the throat

"she is no Luna of yours, now answer me." "She is in the hospital with her pup." I smile, she had our son. I can take them both home today. "Where in the hospital", I ask and after she tells me I snap her neck. I drop her to the ground. I hear gasps from behind me and I turn to see several of the warriors looking at the body on the ground. "What the f**k are you doing?" "I told you to wait in the trees." "I'm sorry Alpha we heard something and were concerned you might need our help." I growl "get back to your post and refrain from thinking." "Just follow f**king orders." He lowers his head and they return to the trees. I turn back to Thomas, "let's go, we don't have time to waste."

I lead Thomas into the hospital and a woman is sitting behind the station. As soon as she sees us, she jumps up to run and I rush over grabbing her. "Lead me to Amelia's room now" I growl. I grab the back of her neck and she starts to walk down a long hallway. Thankfully, we don't run into any other pack members before we reach the room. I throw the woman at Thomas. "Dispose of her while I get my family." I put my hand on the door and push it open slowly. When the door is split far enough for me to see inside, I smile. Amelia is in the bed feeding our son. She looks perfect, as I knew she would. She lifts her head to the sound of the door and our eyes meet. The smile that adorned her beautiful face is gone, replaced by fear and anger. I push the door all the way open and step inside, closing it behind me. That's when I see the woman step next to my mate's bed. She places her hand on Amelia's shoulder. I chuckle "that's cute, they left you to protect her."

Chapter 44

44 Bye Wolf

Amelia POV

As soon as Lincoln leaves the room, Eli starts to cry. It's almost like he knows his daddy left. I smile to myself at that thought. Pheobe looks at the baby in the bassinet and I can tell she's nervous. "It's OK, just pick him up and support his head." She looks at me like I'm crazy. "I've never held a baby before Luna." "You will do fine just remember what I said about supporting his head." She reaches in and lifts him slowly until he is in her arms. He immediately quiets and she smiles. "See I told you that you would do fine." "He's beautiful Amelia." "He looks like a perfect blend of you and Lincoln." I smile because, despite who his sperm donor is, he does look like Lincoln. I'm sure it is a gift from the goddess. He starts to fuss and I see panic flash on her face. "It's OK, he is probably just ready to eat again." She places him in my arms and once I have him positioned, he latches on quickly. I look back at Pheobe, noticing the mark on her neck. "Congratulations on your marking." She blushes and touches her fingers to her mark. "Thank you, Luna." "Pheobe, unless we are in a formal setting, you can call me Amelia." "After all you are the Beta Female now."

I can see concern on her face at my words. "What is it, Pheobe?" "I just hope everything is going well with the rogues." I'm sure that's part of it but her expression changed when I mentioned her being Beta Female. "Are you worried about becoming Beta Female, Pheobe?" She nods and takes a deep breath. "I know Lily was accepted by your pack despite being a witch but she isn't a ranked member." I reach out taking her hand. "You will be accepted because you are Michael's mate and this pack doesn't care about anything else." She smiles and I squeeze her hand. "You and I will have our ceremony at the same time so you don't need to be nervous." She grabs the chair and sits down near my bed. We continue to talk about Eli trying to keep our minds off the fact that our mates are fighting right now. I have complete faith that they can handle the rogues, but that doesn't mean we don't worry. I hear the door opening and look expecting to see my handsome mate, but instead I see Satan himself smiling at

me. This cannot be happening right now. How could he have gotten into the pack?" I hold Eli a little tighter to my chest. He will not have me or my pup.

I feel Pheobe place her hand on my shoulder and he looks at her. "That's cute they left you to protect Amelia." "I just killed three other pack members and you will be no different little girl." "What are you doing here, Atlas" I say hoping to take his focus off Pheobe. I see the fake smile he was wearing slip and the true man behind the facade is exposed. "How could you ask me that?" "You're

my mate Amelia and you belong with me, not that ba**ard.” I laugh “really, you’re going to stand there after all you have done and pretend you’re the victim.” “That you have been wronged by me.” I open my link to Lincoln hoping he will realize what’s happening. If I try to link him directly, I have no idea what Atlas will do. “You don’t understand what Freya did” he says. “No, I don’t and you are no different.” “You betrayed me and your brother.” “Your own flesh and blood.” He growls “everything I did was for us.” “You f**ked Freya and killed your brother for us.” “Do you even hear yourself right now?” “There is nothing left to us.” “Lincoln Thomas is my mate and the father of my pup.” His eyes turn black and I know Silas is at the surface. He starts to stalk toward me and I slide out of bed holding Eli to my chest. I watch as he looks like a mime trying to feel the air. “What the f**k is this” he says in my direction.

“You will not hurt my Luna” Pheobe says, stepping in front of me. “Oh, you’re a little light witch hiding her scent from the big bad wolf.” I roll my eyes at this a**hole. I can’t believe I never saw who he really was. He tries to push through whatever Pheobe has holding him back. Knowing that he can’t reach us, I directly link Lincoln. Before I can say a word, Lincoln does. “I’m on my way love.” I can see his eyes darken and Silas is at the surface when he realizes what I’ve done. “You are mine and I will have you again, Amelia.” “I never agreed with my pathetic human, for what he did.” “This is over, Silas.” “I am not your mate anymore.” “I am sorry that this is hurting you but I’m happy now.” “I have a mate who only cares about me, not a title.” I see the moment he realizes what I’m saying is final. He stops fighting to get to me. “This isn’t your fault, Silas, but I can’t be with Atlas.” He smiles with love in his eyes and in the next instance, Atlas’s normal eye color is back. I see confusion on his face and I can tell he is trying to speak to Silas. “He left you, didn’t he?” He looks in my eyes and for the first time I see genuine fear.

“It’s your fault, you made this happen by being a wh*re.” “He chose to abandon me because of you.” “I never f**ked someone who wasn’t my mate.” “That is on you Atlas.” “You are getting everything you deserve.”

Lincoln POV

As I rip through rogue after rogue, I start to hear a distant conversation in my mind. It’s an open link. At first, I think it might be Lily. Maybe she realized I was trying to link her earlier. I listen waiting to hear Lily’s voice, until I hear Amelia say Atlas’s name. Talon bites down on the rogue in front of us. “This was a diversion, that ba**ard has kept us busy to get to Amelia and our pup.” Talon growls, turning immediately and taking off toward the hospital as fast as our legs can carry us. We are almost there when I feel the full link from

Amelia. "I'm on my way, love" I say. A few minutes later, I reach the hospital and shift. I rush inside and when I reach the door it's locked. "Amelia", I yell before I slam the door, throwing it open. As soon as I see the ba**ard I see red. "Pheobe get them out of here now", I give Alpha command and she wraps her arm around Amelia disappearing. I wait for this ba**ard to attack so I can rip him apart but he doesn't. "Lincoln, his wolf has left him", Amelia says, and I smile.

"This is over Atlas." "You can die with some level of dignity or I can snap your neck right here." "What do you have in mind, Lincoln?" "I am the Alpha unlike you, who is nothing." "I didn't have to kill my own brother to take that title." "Someday my son Eli will be the Alpha of the Nightfire pack." I can see the anger on his face at our pup's name. "So, we can go to the pack yard and settle this like men or you can die in this room." "Fine but if I kill you, Amelia's mine." I laugh "Amelia is not a possession to be taken or offered" "She will never be yours again even if by some miracle you kill me." He starts toward the door and I follow behind him knowing he can't be trusted. When we reach the pack yard, warriors from his pack are standing with mine. Elder Thomas is pleading for mercy in front of Elder James. "Why are you standing there?" "Kill them" he yells to his men. They turn to me, baring their necks. "It looks like everyone sees who you really are." He screams and turns rushing toward me. I side step and he rushes past me.

I turn and take a fighting stance. He comes forward and swings, trying to land the punch to my face. I dodge and hit him in the ribs. I feel the crunch of bone and he doubles over. He manages to stand up and we start to circle each other. I don't wait for him to throw a punch again. I round house kick, striking him in the face. He spins falling to the ground. He tries to shake off the blow and get to his feet. I don't let him. I think about all the things he did to Amelia and I superman punch him in the face. His attempts to stand are futile this time. He can't get to his feet. I'm not like him. I'm not a monster who enjoys this torture. I just want him gone. I reach down, grabbing him by the throat. "Atlas Canfield for the murder of Elias Canfield and the betrayal of Amelia Thomas, you have been sentenced to death to be carried out by me." I squeeze pulling back and rip his throat out. He grabs at the blood pouring out but in seconds he's gone. I step back and stare down at this man who threw everything away. I feel an arm wrap around me. I look at Amelia and our pup. I know that I would do anything to keep her safe and not hurt her. She smiles up at me and I kiss her forehead. "Let's get you back to the hospital." I look around at my warriors and the Dark moon pack warriors waiting for orders. "Thank you for your honor and doing the right thing even when it meant going

against your Alpha.” “You can return to your pack and I will be there with my Luna tomorrow to discuss how we move forward.” The man that I assume is the head warrior nods and they all shift heading into the trees.

I turn back and the Elders are standing smiling at me. I see Thomas is not dead but he is knocked out on the ground. “You will not be hearing from him ever again, I assure Lincoln”, Elder James says. I walk over, shaking each of their hands. “Thank you for helping me protect my pack and family.” “No thanks is necessary, Alpha Lincoln.” “We will be here anytime you need us.” They take Thomas and head toward the pack border. “Michael have the warriors dispose of him over the border” I say pointing to Atlas’s body. “Yes Alpha” he says walking over to the warriors. I walk over to Pheobe with Amelia’s hand in mine. “Thank you, for protecting my family.” “I will always protect my pack Alpha”, she says, and I smile. I turn to Amelia and she hands me Eli. I lead her back to the pack hospital. Once she is back in bed holding our pup, I take a quick shower. I come out and slide into bed to hold my mate. I feel a

sense of peace knowing that Atlas has been dealt with and Amelia is safe. We may have more to deal with, but as long as I have my mate and pup with me, everything is right in this world.

Chapter 45

45 The Ring

Amelia POV

Eli’s cries wake me. I turn over and sit up in bed. Lincoln is already sliding out of bed to grab him. “It’s ok love, I have him.” I position myself in bed and Lincoln sets him in my arms. I start to feed him and Lincoln sits back down. “Are you hungry Amelia?” “Yes actually I’m starving.” He smiles “I’m going to go grab us breakfast while Eli enjoys his.” I chuckle and he kisses my forehead before he heads out the door. “I guess you were hungry little one” I say as he drinks fast. When he finishes, I put him over my shoulder to burp him. A knock sounds on the door and despite everything that has happened, I still freeze. When the door opens, a smiling Lily comes walking in with the cutest one-piece suit for Eli. “How is my nephew this morning?” “Your nephew is great.” “The question is will he have a playmate after last night”, I say wiggling my eyebrows. She looks at me confused. “Don’t play dumb, I know

that is the only reason you would block me.” Now the look of confusion is one of concern. “What happened last night that you tried to link me,” she asks panicked. “Everything is fine, we are fine.” “Amelia tell me what happened please?”

“Atlas came for me and Eli with Thomas.” She looks horrified. She stands and starts to pace back and forth. “Lily, we are both safe.” “I wasn’t there when you needed me.” “Don’t do that, you had no idea what was happening and we are safe.” “What if he had gotten you both?” “What if he had” I stop her. “Don’t even let your mind go there.” “Sit down Lily.” She finally listens and sits down. I hand her Eli and make her look in my eyes. “If you knew we were in danger, would you have been there to help us?” She looks affronted by my question. “Of course, I would have.” “You two are my family and I would protect you with my life.” “Exactly, so don’t you dare feel guilty that you were spending intimate time with your mate.” I tell her everything that happened including the rogue attack. “I’m glad that Pheobe was here and that Lincoln took care of him finally.” “Amelia, the rogue attack that was a diversion you don’t think that Maureen and Judith are a part of them?” I hadn’t really thought about it till Lily just

brought it up but I don’t think they had anything to do with the attack. “Even if they were a part of the collective, I don’t believe that they knew they would be attacking us.” “Good because I like Penny and I would hate it if her mother betrayed the pack.” “Did any of the rogues survive?” “Lincoln told me that three rogues were taken to the cells for questioning.” “Good I’ll make some truth serum so we can find out exactly what we’re dealing with.”

I tell her about Silas and how he left Atlas when he realized that I was happy and had moved on. “I have a weird question but something about yesterday is still bothering me.” She waits for me to ask. “After what Silas did, do you think that the goddess will give him a second chance with a better human.” “I don’t know Amelia but I hope so.” “Based on what he did I would say he deserves one.” “It’s sad that he was given to such a ba**ard.” “I hope she does.” The door opens and Lincoln walks back in with a huge tray of food. I laugh “I said I was hungry but I can’t eat that much.” “I know but you need to eat to feed our pup, so I brought you some of everything.” Lily hands me Eli and hugs me before she walks toward the door. She stops in front of Lincoln. “I’m sorry I wasn’t there last night when you needed me.” “No way, I’m sure Amelia has already told you that you have nothing to be sorry for.” She laughs “you’re starting to sound like each other.” She hugs him and heads out the door. He takes Eli and lays him in the bassinet. He pulls the bassinet over to the table

and I smile. He pulls out my chair and once I sit, we eat in comfortable silence.

Lincoln POV

“Amelia, I spoke with mom and told her to postpone the ceremony for a few days so you can rest.” “No, don’t do that.” “Love there is no rush, especially with that ba**ard being dealt with.” “You are already my Luna and this is purely a formality.” “I know that but with the coven still out there I want Pheobe connected to the pack if we get attacked.” “I told her we would do our ceremony together.” I smile at this woman who is perfect in every way. She worries about others to a fault. “Ok I will let her know to set it up for this evening.” “It doesn’t need to be anything fancy Lincoln.” “Just a party and a pack run.” “Finally, I get to meet Star in the fur.” “Believe me she is waiting patiently to meet both her mates.” “Did

you hear that Lincoln, she can’t wait to meet me.” I laugh “I heard that, I hope she isn’t disappointed.” “You’re so funny, you just remember who the Alpha wolf is.” “I’m only kidding Talon.” He growls and recedes in my mind. I link my mother and she screams with excitement. “I will have everything ready.” “Thank you, mom.” “You’re welcome, how is my grandpup?” “He is perfect mom.” “Yes, he is.” “Let me know when your back in the pack house and I will have a few dresses for Amelia to pick from.” She cuts the link and I look back to Amelia.

“You just made my mother very happy.” She smiles “I love your parents so I’m glad I made her happy.” We finish breakfast and the doctor comes to check on Amelia and Eli. “OK Luna, everything looks good so I am glad to discharge you both, but if you need me, you link me immediately.” “She will” I answer before she can and she rolls her eyes at me. The doctor leaves and we dress Eli in the suit that Lily brought before I carry him to the pack house. Pack members congratulate us and we make it to our floor about twenty minutes later. I walk to the door across from ours because I have a surprise for Amelia. I just pray she likes it. “Lincoln, what are we doing?” I open the door and she gasps. We walk in and the room is a light blue with wolves everywhere. “Oh, my goddess Lincoln, it’s beautiful.” “When did you do this?” I smile “I’ve had some of the pack members working on it.” “So, you like it.” “I love it so much but I’m not ready for him to be in here without us.” I smile again and reach out my hand out leading her to our room. Once we get inside, she gasps again.

I had them set up a bassinet and a rocking chair in our room so he could be close to us. I don’t want him far from us either. I lay him down in the bassinet

and Amelia jumps into my arms. She starts to kiss all over my face. "I love you so much Lincoln." "I love you too, Amelia, and I'm glad you love it." I kiss her one more time before I set her on her feet. "Mom wants to show you some dresses if you're up to it." "Absolutely, we should call for Pheobe since she will need a dress too." "I'll link Michael, we need to talk about Lucas anyway." I link my mother and Michael to come to our floor with Pheobe. About ten minutes later, my mother arrives with five dress bags. She lays them down and immediately picks up Eli. A few minutes later, Michael lets me know that they are waiting outside my office. "Bring Pheobe to our room and you and I can meet in my office." "On our way", Michael says and cuts the link.

Amelia POV

I can't believe that Lincoln did all this. It's beautiful and I couldn't have done a better job myself. I hated saying anything about keeping Eli in our room, but there is no way I could have him in another room yet. I should have known he would understand, but the fact that he set up space in our room for Eli was amazing. He is going to be the most amazing father. When Lorraine arrives with the dresses, she immediately picks up Eli. I love that he is going to have such a loving set of grandparents. I push the thoughts of my own parents from my mind. A knock sounds on the door and Lincoln opens it. Pheobe looks petrified to be here and I hate that she still feels out of place. Michael kisses her and Lincoln kisses me before they leave the room. "Ok ladies, I have a few different styles and colors for you both to pick from." She motions to the bags sitting on the bed with her head as she holds tight to Eli.

I walk over picking up the first bag. It's a beautiful sapphire dress that is form-fitting. I love it but I need more time before I can wear that kind of dress. I show it to Pheobe and she looks mortified. "I don't think I can wear a dress like that." She absolutely could but I don't want her to be uncomfortable. "You absolutely can, but if you're not comfortable we can move on to the next." I pick up the second dress and it's a beautiful lilac color with beading on the bodice. It would be perfect as it flairs at the waist. "I'm going to try this one unless you want it." She shakes her head and I set it down on the bed. I pick up the third bag. I unzip it and the most beautiful dark blue mermaid style dress is in the bag. I don't even give Pheobe a chance to over think it. "Try this one on please" I say. She takes it from my hands and heads into the bathroom. A few minutes later, she comes out and she is stunning. I can tell she is nervous and out of her comfort zone. I walk over taking her hand and lead her to the mirror. "You are a beautiful girl and you look stunning in this dress." She stares at herself for a few seconds before she starts to smile and I'm happy that she isn't fighting me about what I just said. "Alright now it's your

turn” she says to me. I head into the bathroom and slide into the ball gown. I can’t zip the back so I head out and Pheobe zips me up. When I turn around, they both gasp. “What” I say as I walk toward the mirror. The dress looks like it was made for me. I love everything about it and honestly, you can’t even tell I

just had a pup, thank the goddess. “You look beautiful, Luna”, Pheobe says and I smile. I know she is only calling me that because of the dress. “Thank you, Pheobe.” “You both do” Lorraine says.

Pheobe POV

I still can’t believe that the wolves are willing to accept me. When Michael leads me to the bedroom, I feel like a trespasser. The Alpha floor for wolves is a private place. When Amelia starts to show me the dresses, I’m nervous about picking one. When she shows me the blue dress, I love how it looks but I’m sure how it will look on me. I’ve never worn anything elegant and I’m not exactly well-endowed. When I stepped in front of the mirror, I felt beautiful. I didn’t even feel like it was me staring back. Amelia’s dress was perfect. She has been so kind to me, even knowing what my brother has done. I’m so happy that I was able to protect her yesterday when she needed me. “What he has done is not your fault” the voice that helped me fight Lucas last time says in my head. This time the voice sounds more familiar. Since that day in the hotel, I haven’t taken the ring off my finger for fear I would need its help.

“Pheobe, please know that I have always loved you.” “Mother is that you” I say in my mind. “Yes, princess it is.” “It is time for you to take on all the powers the goddess has given you.” “I don’t understand what you mean.” “Pheobe, are you alright” Amelia asks me. “Yes, I am but I need to truly use the bathroom if that ok.” “Of course, you can” she says. I take my clothes, heading back into the bathroom to take off the dress. Once I’m undressed, I turn the water on and reach back out to my mother. “Mother, I will not help Lucas hurt these people.” “I have found my beloved and I will not betray him for you or Lucas.” There is silence for a moment and I figure she didn’t get the answer she wanted so she is done with me. “I don’t want you to betray them princess.” “I want you to help them.” Now I’m truly confused. She has always acted like the sun sets on Lucas, even when I told her about my father. Is this all a trick to get information from me or manipulate me. “Pheobe. do you still have the ring I left for you?” How does she know about the ring? “Could she really have left it for me? I look down at the amethyst on my finger and the color seems deeper today. “Yes, mother I do.” “I want you to smash the stone.” “Why

would I do that, the ring helped me?’ She laughs “no it didn’t.” “The ring allowed you to

use some of your real magic but until you smash you won’t have all your powers.” “I don’t understand.” “I know don’t princess but I can’t explain everything now.” “You have to trust me and I know I’m asking a lot after everything I’ve done but I promise you I’m telling you the truth.” “I will explain everything else later.” “I have to go.” “But mom” I say but the connection is gone. I roll the ring around my finger. What if it’s all a lie and I destroy something that is helping my powers?” “What if it’s the truth and I could have more power to defend my beloved and pack?” I don’t know what to do.

Chapter 46

46 Accept I

Pheobe POV

A knock on the door brings me out of my thoughts. “Pheobe, are you alright”, Amelia asks, and I take a deep breath before I open the door. She looks concerned when she sees me. “What’s wrong” she asks concern in her voice. “I need to talk to you, Michael, and Lincoln about a conversation I just had with my mother.” She looks past me like she expects to see her and I chuckle. “Not here in the physical world, in my mind.” “Of course, let me get changed and we can go to the office.” She takes Eli from Lorraine who has to go check on the arrangements for later and we walk down the hall to the office. I can feel Michael even when I can’t see him. The door opens before we touch the handle and both our beloveds are smiling. Michael’s smile falls and he must feel my turmoil through our bond. “What’s wrong Pheobe,” he says, as he wraps me in his arms. I hope that telling them is the right thing to do. I don’t want to keep secrets from them. Michael leads me over to the chairs in front of the large desk but when I try to sit next to him, he pulls me onto his lap.

“Michael”, I say, and he growls. Amelia laughs “it’s a wolf thing, Pheobe, you’ll get used to it.” I roll my eyes but I stop trying to move to the chair. I look down at the ring before I look back at Lincoln and Amelia. Eli is asleep in Amelia’s arms and for a moment I just stare at this perfect little boy. I take a deep breath before I begin. “As I told Amelia my mother reached out to me.” Michael growls again and he buries his nose in my neck.” I see a look of concern on Lincoln’s face. “What did she want Pheobe?” “She told me she

wants to help me.” “Do you believe her Pheobe” Amelia asks and I don’t know what the answer is but I’m afraid to make the wrong decision. “After all that’s happened honestly, I’m not sure if she is trying to deceive me to get Lucas what he wants.” “Which is Lily” Amelia says. “I think that Lily and Neal should be here for this part of the discussion” Lincoln says. I watch him link for a few seconds and moments later Lily and Neal appear near the door. They take the chair next to us. “So,

your mother reached out to you” Lily says. “Yes, she did, but I’m not sure what her intentions truly are Lily.” “How does she plan to help you?”

“She told me that I don’t have all my powers and in order for me to gain them I have to smash the ring she left for me.” “So, she helped you in the hotel room against Lucas.” “She did, but what if that was part of gaining my trust.” I see sympathy in Lily’s eyes. “May I see the ring, Pheobe?” I slide it off my finger placing it in her hand. I feel a sense of loss when the ring is off my finger. She closes her hand and her eyes. After a few seconds, when she opens them, she has a smile on her face. “Pheobe what exactly did your mother say about this ring” Lily asks. “She said that I will need all my powers against Lucas and smashing the stone is the only way to make that happen.” “Pheobe I know how hard it is right now for you to trust your mother after her support of Lucas but I think you should do what she asked.” I look around to the others. Amelia and Lincoln nod at me. I turn in my seat so Michael and I are eye to eye. “What do you think Michael?” “I think you need to trust your instincts and your family”, he says, pointing around the room. Lily hands me back the ring but I don’t put it back on my finger.

I grip it tightly in my hand. “I think I should do this outside just in case.” I stand and Michael takes my hand. We all head down the stairs and to the pack yard. I just pray to the goddess that doing this isn’t a mistake. I let go of Michael’s hand to walk away from the others. “No way” he says as he comes to stand next to me. “I have no idea what is about to happen and I can’t have you get hurt if this is a trick.” “You are my mate and we are in this life together.” I smile and I can tell that he isn’t going to listen. I lean in and kiss him before I place the ring on the ground. I pick up my foot and slam it down, smashing the ring. A purple smoke comes from around my foot traveling up my body. I’m completely engulfed and I can feel it start to penetrate my pores. “Pheobe” I hear Michael’s voice but I can’t answer. I feel like I’m being lifted off the ground and I feel the minute Michael’s hand slips from mine.

Lily POV

As we watch Pheobe step on the ring, she is surrounded by purple smoke that completely covers her body. I watch her body lift off the ground and despite Michael's attempts to hold onto her, he can't. He

looks like he is on the verge of shifting when we watch the smoke be absorbed into Pheobe's body. He completely shifts losing the fight with his wolf. When I realize what's about to happen, I rush forward placing my hand in the air. As she starts to fall, I stop her from hitting the ground and lower her slowly. Michael shifts back and rushes to her. She is unconscious and we all rush to her side. "What is happening" he says with panic in his voice. I place my hand on her forehead and close my eyes. The minute my skin touches hers, the power I feel mirrors my own. My eyes snap open and everyone is waiting for me to speak. "Lily, is she alright?" "Yes, she just needs time to adjust to receiving all her powers so quickly." "Take her to one of the guest rooms on our floor, Michael, and link me if anything changes" Lincoln says. Michael bends down, scooping her up into his arms, carrying her to the pack house.

"That was pretty intense, Lily", Amelia says. I steal Eli from her arms and she chuckles. "Yes, it was because whoever bound Pheobe's powers knew she was special like me." I see the shock on everyone's faces. "She is a blessed witch" Lincoln asks. "Yes, and I have a feeling there is a story behind what her mother did to hide her powers." "I was young when my powers emerged and my mother knew what my father would do to use me." "So maybe her mother knew what would happen if Lucas knew what power his sister had." "I believe that and I hope I'm right."

Two Hours Later

Pheobe POV

My eyelids feel heavy but I manage to push them open. I look around and nothing looks familiar in this room. I feel a warm body next to mine and I know it's Michael, which makes me relax. "Michael" I say softly and he sits up quickly and starts to kiss my face. "You scared the hell out of me love, don't do that again." I smile, "I'm fine I promise." "Do you feel different because that was pretty intense?" "I do feel different, stronger." He brushes the hair from my face. "Are you still feeling up to having your ceremony tonight?" "It's supposed to be in an hour." "Yes, I definitely feel up to it and I'm ready." He

smiles at my words and lays a soft kiss on my lips. I watch him link and a few minutes later we head back to the office. Everyone is waiting for us inside. Lily

smiles the minute she sees me. She rushes over and hugs me. I know it sounds weird, but I feel strangely connected to her. It's different but I keep that to myself. "Pheobe, I know we have the ceremony tonight but tomorrow I think we should see what you can do now that you have all your powers." "Of course, I would like to know too." "I also think you need to reach out to your mother." "Maybe she can let us know exactly what your brother has planned." I'm still worried about my mother's loyalty to Lucas but since she seemed to have been honest about the ring it's worth speaking to her. "Yes I'll reach out to her but we still need to be careful with the information she gives us." "Agreed" Lincoln says.

A knock sounds on the door and a very irritated looking Lorraine walks in, followed by Charles. "Why the hell isn't everyone getting ready for the ceremony?" "Mom" Lincoln starts to say but stops when Lorraine gives him a look. "You all better go get dressed now." It's funny to see the Alpha listen to his mother so quickly. "Yes mom" he says and leads the Luna out of the office. She turns to me and I stop smiling. "You young lady are about to become a ranked member of this pack and you need to go put that beautiful dress on so you can take your place as Beta Female." She smiles and wraps me in a hug. "Thank you" I say. We head to our room and I go to the bathroom to dress. I'm in front of the mirror when I notice a mark on my side that wasn't there yesterday. I turn so I can get a better look and it is the shape of a crescent moon. Why would I have a mark suddenly appear on my side? It has to have something to do with the powers I just gained. I shake it off for now because I don't want to be late. I slip on the dress and put on light makeup before I head out of the bathroom. When I walk into the bedroom, Michael is getting dressed. "Oh my goddess your gorgeous" he says, and his eyes darken. "Don't even think about it, we don't have time." His eyes return to their beautiful chocolate brown and he smiles. "Later your mine love." I nod and walk over kissing him. "It's time to go love." It's funny but the nerves I had about being accepted by the pack seem to have faded and I'm ready as Lorraine said to take my place."

Chapter 47

47 Ceremony

Amelia POV

After we leave the office, we head back to our bedroom to get dressed. Eli is starting to squirm, so I sit on the chair feeding him while Lincoln showers. I look down at this perfect little boy who will grow up surrounded by love. He will know every day how lucky he is to have his family. He will become a leader this pack deserves learning from his father. Thoughts of the Darkmoon pack enter my mind. The pack deserves the type of leader Elias was. "Amelia" I hear Lincoln say my name and it brings me out of my thoughts. "What are you thinking about love" he says, sitting down next to me. "The Darkmoon pack", I say. "I spoke with Tristan and let him know that we will be meeting with them tomorrow around twelve." I smile and nod. "Amelia your the Luna of this pack." "You are a part of every decision I make going forward." "We are partners and your decision carries as much weight as mine does." I feel warmth spread throughout my chest at his words. Lincoln is unlike any Alpha I've ever known. I don't think even Elias would have said that to Freya.

"What do you think we should do with the pack?" I look at him confused. "The moment I killed Atlas the pack became ours." "So, you're the Alpha of the Darkmoon pack?" "I can either make them part of the Nightfire pack or I can speak to Elder James about appointing a new Alpha." "What are you going to do?" "Amelia, I just told you this is our decision and we will make it together." "So what do you think we should do?" "Honestly, Lincoln I'm not sure." "There are so many obstacles to them joining our pack." He smiles "what obstacles love?" "Space for one, the pack isn't small and we would need to have housing for all its members." "Ok what else?" "Lincoln, I don't know how about uprooting all their lives to bring them here." He smiles "I think those are both valid points, anything else." "Not that I can think of right now."

Lincoln POV

After I finish in the shower, I come out and notice that Amelia looks like she is million miles away even though she is staring at our son. When we start to talk about the Darkmoon pack I already know what I would like to do, but as I told Amelia, this isn't my decision alone. "I agree that it will be a change for the pack members and we will have to do some building to accommodate this many new pack members." "But" she says with a smile. "As you said they deserve leaders like Elias" I say taking her hand. "Besides this pack is our son's birthright since Elias had no children of his own." I see tears form in her eyes and one runs down her cheek. I get down on my knees in front of her. "Amelia talk to me." She rests her hand on my face. "You are the most amazing man I have ever known." I place my hand over hers "no I'm the luckiest man you have ever known." "I have the perfect mate and pup." She

chuckles and I lean in pressing my lips to hers. She pulls back, wiping the few tears from her cheek. I take Eli from her, who is finished eating, to burp him.

“I think we should talk to the pack and see how they feel about becoming part of the Nightfire pack” she says over her shoulder as she heads into the bathroom. I rub Eli’s back and smile at how amazing she is. Twenty minutes later, she walks out and she is stunning. She takes my breath away. Eli is asleep in my arms and I lay him in the bassinet before I turn to Amelia. I walk toward her. I wrap my arms around her waist. “You are so beautiful and I will spend the rest my life loving you and all our pups.” This time I kiss her softly. When she pulls back, the love in her eyes humbles me. “Thank you, for loving me and our son.” “I know you think you’re lucky but honestly, I would live through it all again to have you.” I take her face in my hands and kiss her one more time. I pull back “are you ready love?” She smiles “I’m more than ready.” She picks Eli up and we head down the hallway. When we reach the bottom of the stairs, my parents are waiting for us. When my father hugs Amelia and takes Eli from me, I think how this moment almost didn’t happen. I’m just glad that he remembered the man he really is when it counted most. He passes Eli to my mother and turns to Amelia.

Amelia POV

I love to see Charles and Lorraine with Eli. They are both so in love with him. I can feel Lincoln’s happiness through our bond that his father is here after everything that happened. Lorraine takes Eli and it’s time for the ceremony to begin. I can see through the curtains that the whole pack is in the pack garden. “Where is Pheobe” I ask but before anyone answers, she walks in with Michael, Lily, and Neal. They both look beautiful, but Pheobe looks nervous. Lily walks over to me and wraps me in a hug. She whispers “are you ready Luna?” I chuckle “absolutely.” When she pulls back, she waves her hand in front of me. She opens her palm and the most beautiful bracelet is lying in her hand. “Lily, you didn’t have to do that.” “Yes, I did.” “It’s not only a gift but also a spell.” I look at her confused. “The bracelet is enchanted to protect you when I’m not there.” I wrap her in my arms again. “Thank you for being my friend and my family.” She pulls back and heads toward Pheobe. She gives her a necklace. “I know you don’t need the protection but you’re part of our family now, so this is for you.” I see a tear roll down her cheek and I’m happy she has found her place with us.

“Alright let’s get this show on the road, Lincoln,” Lorraine says. He starts for the door and I’m confused because I thought we would be walking down together. I notice that Charles is still here with me and Pheobe. “Well ladies, I

know I'm not your father by blood but I would be honored to walk you to the stage for your ceremony." I fight back the tears "I would love that." He turns to Pheobe "I would love that too." He stands between us and we both wrap our arms in his. The doors open and we walk through, stepping out into the garden. It is so beautiful. I can't believe that Lorraine arranged all this in such a short time. As we walk toward the stage, I see Lincoln standing with Eli in his arms. I assumed Lorraine would be holding him but I guess I was wrong. I look to the left of the stage and Elder James walks up. I love that he will be the one presenting us to the pack. When we reach the bottom of the stairs, Charles hugs me and kisses my cheek before he does the same to Pheobe. I walk up, coming to stand next to Lincoln.

"Nightfire pack, it is my great pleasure to be here today to announce your Luna and Beta Female." The pack starts to howl at his words and then they quiet. "Amelia, please step forward" Elder James says. I step in front of him. He hands me the chalice that has Lincoln's blood in it. "Amelia Thomas, make your

vow to the Nightfire Pack." "I, Amelia Marie Thomas, vow to put the pack's needs above my own." "I vow to lead the pack by the Alpha's side and always treat all pack members with kindness and respect." "Please drink from the chalice Amelia" Elder James says. I drink and the moment I pull the chalice away I feel the overwhelming connection to the pack. I close my eyes and try to focus on putting blocks up so I can get my bearings. Lincoln wraps his arm around me and I open my eyes. "Are you alright love?" I smile "I am, thank you." We turn to face the pack. "Nightfire pack welcome your new Luna, Amelia Thomas." "I would like to also announce the future Alpha of the Nightfire Pack, Eli Daniel Thomas." Again, the pack breaks out into howls. We step back and Pheobe and Michael step forward.

Pheobe POV

When Lily hands me the necklace after she gives Amelia the bracelet, I feel even more connected to these two women. I know we are different, but I feel like they are more like my family than my coven ever was. When Charles asks to walk me to the stage I'm honored and saddened. It makes me think of my father. He will never get to see this happen or for me to have pups. Lucas took him away from our world and if it takes every breath in my body, he will pay for it. I push those thoughts from my mind because this is one of the best days of my life. The first was the day I found Michael. Standing on the stage staring out at all the pack members, I have butterflies in my stomach from the nerves. When Elder James calls Michael and I forward, he takes my hand as we walk

toward the Elder. “Nightfire Pack it is time for us to name your Beta Female.” “Pheobe take the chalice.” I take the chalice in my hands. “Make your vow to the Nightfire pack.” “I, Pheobe Brin Master, vow to put the packs needs about my own.” “I vow to support the Alpha, Luna, and Beta male to defend the pack against all enemies.” “I vow to use my powers to defend the pack and never against it.” The Elder nods and I drink from the chalice. I immediately feel connected to Amelia and Lincoln. It’s different than my connection to Michael, but it’s just as amazing.

“Nightfire Pack welcome your Beta Female Pheobe Master.” The pack breaks out in howls and the nerves I was feeling seem to fade away. “Now the Alpha and Luna would like all pack members of

shifting age to join them in a pack run” Elder James says. I hate that I can’t be part of this. Michael squeezes my hand. “Don’t worry, Pheobe, you’re still going on the run”, he links me. I furrow my brow at him. He leads me down the stairs and starts to take off his clothes, shifting into Jaxon. He licks my shoulder and I laugh. He lays at my feet and nudges me with his head. “You want me to ride you like a horse.” I swear the noise he makes sounds like a snicker. I climb up so I’m on his back with my hands buried in his fur. The connection to Jaxon is just as strong as it is to Michael. We wait for Lincoln and Amelia to shift and lead the run.

Amelia POV

“Are you ready, Star?” She is so excited I didn’t think she was going to make it to the end of the ceremony. We step off the stage and Lincoln stands waiting for me to shift. “It won’t hurt like our first shift Amelia, but it might be a little uncomfortable since its been so long.” “No worries Star, I’m ready.” The heat consumes my body and the familiar feeling of bones shifting and fur growing comes rushing back. A few seconds later, I’m looking at Lincoln through Star’s eyes. He looks shocked as he walks forward, placing his head on her snout. “Star your gorgeous” he says and I can feel her pride. Star is average but her fur is a beautiful chocolate brown with spots of white on her paws. He lays a kiss on her snout before he steps back, shifting into Talon. Star immediately rubs herself against him. “Star now is not the time for mating.” “You say that because you had your time.” “I know and I’m sorry but the whole pack is here.” “As soon as the run is over, I’ll feed Eli and see if Lorraine will keep him for a little while.” “Thank you, Amelia.” She deserves her time with our mates too. We nod at Talon and he takes off. We run side by side with our pack following close behind us. It feels amazing and the connection gets even

stronger. I worried about being accepted, but now I know this pack was where I belonged from the beginning.

Lucas POV

I head to the wing my mother uses in the mansion. I haven't seen her in two days and though I'm glad to not hear her nagging about my treacherous sister, I need to know why. I know she is worried I will kill

Pheobe when I attack that pathetic pack and she should. My sister made her choice and, just like with my father, I made mine. As I get close to the door, I can feel my mother's magic and I stay quiet. What the f**k is she doing that she would be using her magic? I push open the door and she turns looking shocked to see me. "Lucas, what's wrong?" "I don't know mother, why don't you tell me." "I have no idea what the hell you're talking about." I force her to sit and walk toward her. "You wouldn't be reaching out to the little b**ch that betrayed us would you mother." I see anger flash across her face but it's gone quickly. "I haven't spoken to your sister since she left the coven." "You were never a good liar mother but to be sure I think we should have a drink." I swirl my hand producing a vial of truth serum. I see fear this time in her eyes and I know I was right. She has been in contact with Pheobe. I smile to myself. She doesn't know it yet, but she just helped my plan. "Drink mother and then we can talk more." She purses her lips until I pass my hand in front of her. Once she drinks the vial, I lead her to the chair. "Now let's have a chat, mother."

Chapter 48

48 Its Time Wolf

Lincoln POV

The minute Amelia shifts into Star, it takes my breath away. She is the most beautiful wolf I have ever seen. Her fur looks like silk and it's the most perfect chocolate brown color. I know Talon is ready to be with her, but right now, we have to run with the pack. "I promise you, Talon, as soon as the celebrations is over you will have time with Star to mate and mark." I press my lips to her snout before I shift. She does not make it easy when she rubs her soft fur down Talon's side. "Soon Talon", I say, and he takes off. As we run, I have never felt so connected to my pack. We run the border of the territory and once we return, we both shift. After dinner we will have our time with Star.

Before we head to the banquet hall, I lead Amelia upstairs. We are standing outside our office and I stop her before we go inside. "Lincoln, shouldn't we be down at the dinner?" "We should, but I made a decision and I would like to take care of it before we go to dinner." She looks confused but I don't explain. I just lead her into the office.

When we walk in, Lily, Neal, and Elder James are waiting for us. She looks around and then back at me. "I have decided that Neal will be Gamma and Lily will be Gamma Female." "They asked me to do it privately as to not take away from yours and Pheobe's ceremony." She looks into my eyes and tears run down Amelia's cheek. I wipe them away with my thumb. "Thank you, Lincoln." "This is amazing" she says before she rushes over hugging Lily and then Neal. "Well, I believe it's time to make it official" Elder James says. I take the dagger from my desk cutting my hand allowing my blood to once again run into the chalice. "Neal, make your vow to the pack" Elder James says. "I, Neal Connor Martin, vow to put the needs of the pack above my own." "I will support the Alpha and Luna in all pack matters." "I will defend the pack with my last breath." He drinks and I feel his connection to me get stronger. "Lily, make your vow to the pack" Elder James says. "I, Lily Teresa Martin, vow to put the needs of the pack above my own." "I will support the Alpha and Luna in all pack matters." "I will use my powers to defend

the pack with my last breath." Elder James turns to me. "Neal Connor Martin you are the Gamma of the Nightfire Pack from this day forward." I turn to Lily "Lily Teresa Martin, you are the Gamma Female of the Nightfire Pack from this day forward." I shake Neal's hand and hug Lily. Amelia does the same. We all head down to the banquet hall. The moment we step inside, Pheobe and Michael are waiting for us. We stand before the pack and I formerly announce Neal and Lily as Gamma. The pack breaks out into howls and we all take our seats at the table.

Amelia POV

I'm still in shock about Lincoln naming Lily and Neal as Gamma's of the pack. He truly is an amazing man. I can feel Star's desire and excitement all through dinner. I manage to keep her under control. I can feel Lincoln's eyes on me throughout dinner. As soon as we say goodnight and thank our pack members, he leads me to the clearing. Lorraine was ecstatic about keeping Eli for a few hours. Once we are alone in the clearing, I start to take off my clothes and Lincoln does the same. I give Star control and we shift. Lincoln does the same and before Talon can get close, Star takes off. "Star what the hell?" She laughs "this is wolf foreplay, Amelia." I roll my eyes and stay quiet.

They run for a long while before they return to the clearing. I feel like a voyeur as they complete the mating. I'm sure this is how Star feels when I'm with Lincoln. They mate several times before they lay next to each other. They lean against each other just enjoying each others presence. I can feel Star's satisfaction and love. Before I can say a word, Talon bites down into Star's marking spot. If I thought our connection was intense before, it's ten times stronger when Star bites down into Talon's marking spot. We are connected in human and wolf form. Both our souls are bound to each other's. After a half an hour, we both shift and dress. We walk back to the pack house hand and hand. I feel completely at peace.

Damien POV

"Where the f**k is she" I roar, and the men in my office cower as they should. I made it perfectly clear that she was not allowed to leave the collective and she disobeyed me anyway. Even after I threatened that brat and her mother, she still ran. I had hoped once I got rid of her mate that she would be mine

willingly. I walk back toward my men. "If you hope to all keep breathing, I suggest you go and find her." "Yes Damien" they say and scurry from my office. I slam my hands down on the desk. Lucious is pushing to the surface and I'm ready to let him out. I walk toward the door and before I can even grab the handle, the door flies open. Trent is holding a barely conscious Carter. "What the f**k happened" I ask Trent. "I'm not sure Damien." "We found him outside the collective when we were looking for Maureen." "Why the f**k would you bring him here instead of the medical cottage you a**hole?" "He was coming in and out of consciousness and he insisted Damien" Trent says. He picks Carter up over his shoulder, to take him to the medical cottage. "I want to know the minute he is awake, am I clear." "Yes Damien", he says and leaves my office. What the hell is happening? "You better get this under control Damien." "I thought you were in charge here." "Shut the f**k up Lucious." "I want that she-wolf, you know what Desiree said." I push him to the back of my mind and take a seat at my desk to gather myself.

A knock sounds on my office door and I have no desire to deal with another person right now. "Open the door Damien" I hear Desiree speak through my door. I am in no mood to deal with her bulls*t right now, but if it has anything to do with Maureen, I will have to. "Come in" I growl out and she walks in with a huge smile on her face. "You better be here because you have something to tell me and not just to waste my time." She comes around the desk and puts her hands on my shoulders. "You're so tense" she says starting to rub my shoulders. I snatch her hands "enough, tell me what you know about

Maureen's whereabouts or get the f**k out of my office." "Fine, I just thought you could use a little stress relief." "I don't need stress relief, I need to know where my mate is." She laughs "does she know she is your mate." "If she wants to keep that little brat safe, she will be anything I want her to." "Well, I hate to tell you this but based on what I could see when I did my location spell she is in a large pack right now." I growl "that's not possible, she's a f**king rogue." "Packs don't just take in rogues." "Well apparently this one does." This can't be happening. "Damien, Carter is awake and he needs to talk to you now." "Figure out exactly what pack so I can get back what belongs to me." She nods and leaves my office. I head toward the medical cottage.

When I get inside, one of the healers is with Carter. "Leave us now" I say and she rushes out of the room. "What the f**k happened Carter?" He takes a drink of water before he speaks. "Atlas set us up." "Only three of us made it back because he used us as bait." "Are you f**king kidding me" I scream and pick up a table throwing it across the room. I hear the door open "get the f**k out" I say, and the door shuts just as quickly. "That ba**ard is going to pay, Alpha or not, for f**king us over."

Lucas POV

"Are you sure this is something you really want to do, Lucas?" "She is your mother," Leland asks. "Did I ask your opinion, Leland?" "No, but I" he stops mid sentence. "I would keep that opinion to yourself Leland." "Now do what I told you and ready the warlocks for the attack." "Yes sir" he says and leaves my office. So my sister is in the Nightfire pack. My mother did her best to fight the truth potion, but in the end the potion always wins. Now it's time to pay that pack a visit and take what is mine. Hopefully, I can find my pet too. I will make Lily watch as I kill her mother and Pheobe. It will make her much easier to control. I sit back in my chair and think about finally getting everything that is owed to me.

Chapter 49

49 New Day

John POV

The ceremony was so beautiful and I'm glad that Lily and Neal were made Gamma's. It's still hard to believe that everyone important to me is here in a

wolf pack I chuckle to myself. I told my mother that I would have breakfast with her, Aunt Iris, and Walker today. I'm going to go on a run and get a little training in before we have breakfast. I throw on gray sweats and a black t-shirt. I head out of the cottage and toward the path. As I start to run, I feel like I'm being watched. I look around but I don't see anyone. Great John, your being paranoid, I say to myself. That f**ker Lucas has me losing it. I can't wait to watch him suffer for all he did to my aunt. A wolf steps out as I run near the border and I stop. The wolf smells like pack but I don't know all the wolves in the pack yet. It makes no move toward me. "Can I help you?" The wolf growls and I step back. "I am part of this pack and I don't want to hurt you." As soon as the last word leaves my mouth, the wolf shifts. Now I'm pissed as she stands there laughing.

"What the f**k Clarissa" I say as she starts walking toward me. "Oh, John learn to take a joke." "That's not funny or a joke." "What if I cast against you?" She rolls her eyes. "What the hell are you doing out here, stalking me?" "Don't flatter yourself John." "I was out on a run when I scented you." "Fine, I need to finish my run because I have plans." I see something flash on her face but its gone so quickly I think I imagined it. "Don't let me keep you from your plans" she says. I'm just about to take off to finish my run when I notice her scenting the air near the border. "What is it" I ask. "It's not a wolf but I smell something close to the territory." I hear what sounds like a moan and on instinct I start to walk toward the sound. I'm wrenched back by Clarissa. "What the hell do you think you're doing?" "That's outside the pack land." I pull my arm free "I'm not going to let someone or something suffer just because it isn't part of the pack." I start again to cross the border and when I pass through trees the moaning gets

louder. I walk a few feet to the left and that's when I see her lying on the ground covered in blood. I link Lincoln before I wrap her in my arms teleporting her to the pack hospital.

Maureen POV

"Seriously Maureen we need to leave." "Leave and go where mom?" "You know damn well that he is looking for us and I have to think about Penny's safety." "I understand that these wolves are being nice right now but they have no idea what you can do." "Wolves crave power and when they figure out you have powers they will use you., just like that ba**ard wants to." I know she is just worried but I wish she would just trust me to always do what's best for all of us. "Mama" Penny says interrupting our conversation. "Yes baby" I say bending down so I'm eye level with her. "Can I see Lily?" I smile, she is such a

sweet girl. "I think they are busy but maybe we can go on a run later." "I can see Clary" she says in her sweet voice. My wolf preens to hear the nickname our pup has given her. "Yes, you can see Clary." "Now, why don't you get washed up for breakfast." "Ok, mama" she says and heads down the hall. This cottage is so nice and her room is perfect. I let myself enjoy the safety and comfort even though I know it can't last.

I expect my mother to pick up where she left off before we were interrupted, but thankfully she heads to the kitchen to start on breakfast. Penny comes back up and I put her in the booster seat at the table. Once my mother sets the plate of pancakes down in front of her, she wastes no time digging in. I smile at my innocent little girl who is happy right now and I need to keep it that way. So, I plan on staying here as long as we can. Maybe Damien will give up, I can only hope. A knock sounds on the door and I stiffen. "It's not him Maureen" Clarice says and I know she's right. He would never make it into the territory besides I would scent him. I get up going to the door. I look outside and Lily is standing on the porch with her mate.

Lily POV

We woke up early this morning because I wanted to go see Penny, Maureen, and Judith. With everything happening the last few days I don't want them to feel unwelcome. We spoke with Lincoln and Amelia about everything and they agree we should offer them a place in the pack. I knock and when the door opens Maureen smiles. She looks so much better than the day they came to the pack. I'm glad the clothes we had brought fit her. Before I can say a word, little arms are wrapped around me. I bend picking her up. "Hello there, Miss Penny." "Hi Lily" she says with chocolate on her face. "Did we interrupt your breakfast?" "No, in fact there is more than enough if you two want to join us." "Please Lily", Penny says and I couldn't say no if I wanted to. I turn to Neal and he smiles. We head inside and Judith is already setting plates down for us. "Good morning" she says. I can tell she doesn't trust us yet but I'm hopeful she will. "Good morning, Judith." We all sit and start to eat breakfast.

"I'm sorry the last few days have been so hectic." "We wanted to stop by and make sure you were all comfortable and have everything you need." "Yes, everything has been perfect." "I'm so grateful you given us a place to stay until we can figure out where to go next" she says and my heart sinks. I had hoped she realized this pack isn't a normal wolf pack and that Lincoln and Amelia will offer them a permanent place to keep them all safe. "Did you ever think about becoming part of the pack?" Before she can answer I get a link from Amelia. "A woman who is badly injured has been found by John just outside the

territory.” I stand “I apologize but Neal and I need to get to the hospital.”
“Please think about what I said.” “This pack isn’t like others and we would love for you to all stay.” I smile at Penny before I wrap my arm around Neal and we disappear.

Lincoln POV

When John links me I’m in the shower. I jump out and dry off. I dress in jeans and a t-shirt before I head out into the bedroom. Amelia is laying Eli down in the bassinet. “What’s wrong Lincoln?” I tell her about the link and she immediately gets dressed. A knock sounds on the door and my mother comes in. “Thank you, Lorraine”, Amelia says and we head to the pack hospital. When we reach the lobby, a nurse is waiting for us. “Alpha and Luna, I’ll take you to the room.” We follow her to a room at the end

of the hall. When we open the door John is sitting in a chair. A woman who looks to be in her late forties is lying in the bed hooked up to a lot of machines. She even has a breathing tube in. John stands when he sees us. “John” I say and he tells us everything that happened. I try to scent the woman. She is not a wolf but I don’t believe she is human. “Alpha and Luna” the doctor says as he walks in. He walks over touching the machines before he addresses us again.

“She was barely alive when John brought her here.” “She has a lot of wounds, lost a lot of blood, and she isn’t healing” the doctor says. “She isn’t a wolf.” “No, she isn’t and based on her scent I would say she is human” the doctor says. Why would a human be this close to the pack land? Something about that doesn’t make sense. “What are you thinking, Lincoln”, Amelia asks me. “I’m thinking that there is a reason this woman was close to our pack.” “We need to figure out what that reason is.” I watch Amelia link before she looks back to me. “Lily and Neal are on their way.” I kiss her forehead and we wait for them to arrive. “John we will stay with her if you want to go get cleaned up.” He looks down at his clothes I think realizing for the first time he is covered in blood. “I’ll be back to see how everything is after I get cleaned up” he says before he leaves the room.

Amelia POV

Ten minutes later, Lily and Neal are shown in by the nurse. “John found her outside the pack land and the doctor said that he doesn’t know if she is going to survive.” Lily walks over to the bed and lays her hand on the woman’s head. She closes her eyes and we just stand in silence. The only sound in the

room is the steady beeping of the monitor and the breathing machine keeping her alive. After a few seconds, Lily's eyes fly open. "She isn't human but something is blocking her powers." "I'm not going to unbind her powers because we have no idea why someone did this to her, but I will heal her." I love this woman. She's right, we can't put the pack at risk until we know exactly what happened to her. Lily begins to pass her hands over the woman's body and a glow that looks like sunshine envelops her. When Lily drops her hands, I can already see the cuts and marks are starting to heal.

"She has to have the will to survive now" Lily says. "We have to go to the Darkmoon pack today to meet with the remaining warriors about the pack." "Will you watch over her and link us with any changes?" "Of course, we will" Lily says. She hugs me and we head back to the pack house to tend to Eli before we leave. When we reach the pack house, Lorraine is sitting in the dining room with Charles, who is holding Eli. He is telling him about the pack and I smile. He will be ready to be Alpha by five with his father and grandfather teaching him I chuckle to myself. When he finishes, I take Eli to feed him again before we get ready to leave. It's my first time leaving the pack and Eli. "We won't be gone long, love, and Michael, Pheobe, Neal, and Lily are here to protect Eli and the pack." "Hey I'm still able to kick some a** too", Charles whispers like Eli will know what he is saying. I chuckle and kiss his forehead before I hand him to Lincoln. He does the same and gives him back to Charles.

We head to the SUV and drive until we reach the Darkmoon Pack. As we drive through the gate and the pack house comes into view I feel a pit in my stomach. I never thought I would step foot in this pack again. Lincoln takes my hand. "Are you ok love?" "Yes, I am, it's just strange to be here." He leans in and presses his lips to mine. It definitely helps me to calm down. "You are strong, don't forget that Amelia", Star says. "Thank you", I say. Lincoln, comes around opening the door and we walk to the pack house. Tristan is waiting and shows us to what once was Elias's office. When we walk in my last moments in this pack come rushing back and the thoughts of Elias overwhelms me. "Amelia, we can leave and I can come back alone if this is too much." "No, I am your Luna and this pack needs us." "Alpha and Luna, welcome to the Darkmoon Pack" Tristan says.

Chapter 50

50 New Pack

Lincoln POV

Tristan bares his neck in respect to us and I nod. "Shall we sit to have our discussion Alpha and Luna," he says. He gestures to the chairs behind the desk, before he takes the seat across from it. Two chairs have been placed behind the desk and I lead Amelia over to take one. I know this isn't easy for her, but I couldn't be prouder of the strength and determination she has shown. Despite the memories she has of this place, she insisted on staying with me for this meeting. I take the seat next to her and she places her hand in mine. "Tristan, do you have any other pack members that you would like to join us for this meeting?" "No, Walker was the only other ranked wolf in our pack." "Amelia and I came to discuss the future of the pack" I say and he has a look of confusion on his face. "As you are the only remaining ranked member, we would like your input to determine how we move forward." Despite his confusion he nods and I proceed. "Amelia has told me a great deal about your true Alpha, Elias." "I'm sorry for your loss and all that the pack has endured due to Atlas's treachery." I see sadness flash across his face "thank you, Alpha." "After discussing things with my Luna we have come up with two options to move forward with the leadership of this pack." "The first option is the members can become part of the Nightfire pack." "The second option is speaking to Elder James about appointing a new Alpha." He looks at me like I have ten heads but he says nothing.

"Tristan, you, may speak freely in this meeting." "We value your opinion, you know the pack members and we don't." "I guess I'm just confused." "You killed Atlas, which makes you Alpha of our pack." "That is werewolf law." "Yes, it does, but a good Alpha does what's best for the pack, not himself." "I will be honest with you Tristan I want to combine the packs as this pack is my son's birth right but Luna Amelia is right that you and the other pack members should be part of that decision." "I appreciate you taking our well-being into account Alpha and your right Alpha Elias was nothing like his brother." I sense a but coming. "Alpha Elias was a wonderful Alpha that was kind and treated all of his members well" Tristan

says. "I mean no disrespect to his memory but he wouldn't offer this if he had defeated another Alpha even if it meant disrupting the pack members lives." "Honestly if you're asking my opinion Alpha, I believe starting over under the kind of leader we deserve is what is best for all of us." "Based on everything I have learned of you and seen, you are that leader." "I have already begun to prepare the pack for the idea of joining the Nightfire and I have met no resistance." I turn to Amelia and she smiles. "I believe we have our answer Lincoln" Amelia says. I turn back to Tristan. "I have already spoken with the

pack contractor and he has assured me that he will be able to have the cottages we need to house the new pack members ready in one month.” “We will also be expanding the warrior barracks to accommodate the new warriors.” “That’s amazing Alpha,” “We were worried as warriors where we fit in the new pack.” “I will offer the same assurance to everyone in the pack when we meet.” “Everyone will be treated equally and no one will lose their rank.” He smiles and nods at me and Amelia. “One last thing before we meet with the pack, I would like you to oversee the day-to-day pack business until the move.”

“Alpha” he says and I raise my hand to silence him. “After the integrity you have shown, you have my respect and trust.” “I will speak to you every day until the move is complete and if there are any issues you will let me know immediately.” “Of course, thank you for trusting me, Alpha.” He stands “the pack is waiting in the yard for your arrival.” We head down the stairs and out the back door that leads to the pack yard. Amelia’s grip on my hand tightens and I can feel her nerves at seeing the pack members. Tristan steps forward, “Darkmoon, welcome our new leaders, Alpha Lincoln and Luna Amelia.” They all bare their necks in respect to us. “Thank you, Tristan”, I say and he steps back. “As you all know, Atlas betrayed not only his pack but Elias.” “Atlas killed his own brother to become Alpha of this pack.” As I look at the faces of the pack, they look disgusted and dissappointed. “I know that Alpha Elias was a great man” I say and look to Amelia who nods. When I look back, pack members are smiling at Amelia. “Tristan informed me that he has spoken with all of you about becoming part of the Nightfire pack.” “As the new Alpha, I want to welcome you all to the Nightfire pack.” They start to look around at each other. “I will promise you a few things about the move that hopefully will put your minds at ease.”

“You will not be second class pack members.” “Your rank will not be affected, but all ranks in our pack are to be respected.” “I will not tolerate mistreatment of any pack members.” “New housing will be ready in one month for all of you.” “Until that time, I will be leaving Tristan in charge.” “I expect that you will respect him as you would your Alpha.” “Yes Alpha” they say in unison. “Now, unfortunately we would love to spend more time here today but we can’t because we need to get back to our pup.” “If you have any concerns or questions, please address them with Tristan as we will be in touch daily.” “Yes Alpha” they again say in unison. We turn back to Tristan to thank him when I notice a woman walking toward Amelia. My instinct is to pull her behind me, but my mate doesn’t need me to protect her. “Luna” she says.

Amelia POV

As I watch the young girl approach me, I try to remember her name. "Luna" she says in a soft voice. "Yes, what can I help you with." "I just wanted to apologize to you." I look at her confused. I hope she isn't going to tell me she was with Atlas too. "What is your name" I ask. "My friends call me Liz." "Liz, what could you possibly have to apologize for?" "I never told you what I saw because I was afraid." I stay silent. "I saw your mate with the old Luna." Lincoln gives a low growl and I smile. "You saw my ex- mate with Freya." "Yes, Luna and I should have told you but." I stop her "I understand why you didn't tell me and you don't owe me an apology." "The only people that should have been sorry for their behavior are both dead." "Thank you, Luna." "You're welcome." She heads back with the others and I realize that the pack holds no ill will toward me. After we thank Tristan, we head to the SUV to return to the pack. I can't wait to get home to Eli. Even this short time felt too long. Once we get in Lincoln leans in pressing his lips to mine and I feel it down to my toes. When he pulls back, I'm breathless. "You were amazing today." I smile "I think you were pretty amazing today." He pecks my lips once more and starts the drive back home.

Lily POV

The room door opens and John comes back inside. He comes to sit next to me on the couch. I told Neal to go to the training he was supposed to run today and I would let him know if anything changed. "She hasn't woken up yet" he says like a question. "No, I used a healing spell and most of her wounds are gone but she hasn't woken up." "Who is she and why was she so close to the pack?" "I wish I knew John but honestly until she wakes up all of that is a mystery." I stand walking over to her bed. I lay my hand on her forehead hoping that the healing she's done will allow me to see what happened before John found her." As soon as the scene starts to play in my mind, I realize exactly who she is. I turn to John and the look on my face must scare him because he stands rushing toward me. "What did you see" he asks. "We have to get Pheobe right now John." He looks at the woman in the bed and without a word he rushes from the door.

I brush the hair off her cheek and I can see the resemblance now that I know who she is. I pray for not only her sake, but Pheobe's that she wakes up soon. The door opens and Pheobe rushes in, followed by Michael. The minute she sees her she gasps. "What happened to my mother" she says. I come around to stand in front of her. "Your brother did this to her because he found out she was helping you." "How did she make it here?" "From the images I saw when I sensed her thoughts, it appeared to be a coven member that teleported her outside the pack." "Why would a coven member risk themselves and go

against my brother?" "I'm not sure Pheobe but right now let's just be thankful he did." "I used a healing spell so hopefully she will wake soon." Michael brings a chair over for Pheobe and she sits taking her mother's hand in hers. Michael and John take a seat on the couch. I pull my chair to the opposite side of the bed and we all sit waiting for Pheobe's mother to wake up. I pray to the goddess she does after her own son ordered her dead.