

## Broken 271

### Chapter 271

Olivia turns to Angel. "Do we need to get Alpha's permission?"

Angel looks at me. "I don't think so." She answers Olivia. "I assigned Olivia as Lead Omega for the kitchens and I'm going to hire

a second Lead for the

packhouse upkeep."

I can tell Angel wants me to support her and honestly, I'm thrilled that I don't have to deal with any of this. I'm more than happy to

support her in any way she needs. "Sounds great. Olivia, you've obviously shown your Luna that you are more than capable of

managing the kitchens. Congratulations!" I tell her.

"Yes, congratulations." Dustin says beside me.

"Thank you." She says before moving past us.

I look at Angel. "Ready for warrior training?"

"Yes, but can we stop by the Luna office on our way? I want to see if it's ready and I can give Dustin his office back tomorrow."

"You're welcome to my office as long as you need it Luna." Dustin tells her as Sarah joins us.

Angel gives her a quizzical look. "Sarah is going to join us for warrior training from now on. She's going to learn how to use

weapons." I tell her, putting my arm around her and moving our group to the stairs.

She turns and looks at Sarah over her shoulder. "That's wonderful! I know you'll be great."

We split up the warrior training today, having Clint, Cara and Angel work together while Rik and I work with the warriors. We're

faster than the other warriors and it forces them to think differently about how they fight. Jackson and Chase move through the

crowd, giving feedback and instructions, while Dustin begins training Sarah on how to throw a knife.

Evan and Trevor, our lead warriors, come last. They are both bouncing on their feet. They love the fight and they are good at it,

which is why Rik and I made them. our lead warriors. At first we fight our own warriors, then we switch it up, giving them more of

a challenge.

When we're done, we see that Dustin has already got Sarah hitting targets on a tree.

"Dustin." I call him over. "Let's have her hit a real target.

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Angel is at my side in an instance. "Liam?"

I turn to my mate. "She needs to know what it's like to hit a real target, not just a tree. If she can't throw a knife when it's aimed at

a person, then she won't be able to protect herself or the pack."

I can see the hesitancy in her eyes, so I cup her face in my hands. "You gave me your amazing healing power, remember? I'll be

fine."

"Dustin, bring Sarah over. We'll start slow."

I strip and shift waiting for Sarah to join us.

"What's going on?" Sarah says.

Dustin looks at her. "Alpha wants you to hit a real target, or at least aim to hit him."

She's shaking her head before he's finished. "No, I don't want to hurt him. You've all been nothing but nice to me. I don't want to

throw a knife at him."

Dustin takes her hands. "You won't be throwing knives at trees, love. You have to learn how to aim and hit a real target. Liam and

Cyran were very strong before they mated with Angel. Now they have incredible strength. Plus, Cyran is fast. If you actually nick

him, I'll be surprised."

Several warriors circle around. This is not uncommon, but it will feel intimidating to Sarah. However, this is what it feels like in

real combat. You are surrounded by others, making noise. They may not be cheering you on, but you need to be able to block it out and focus on your target.

Dustin helps her set up and as I lunge for her, she throws the knife.

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I am amazed with Sarah. She is so organized and she has everything under control in less than 30 minutes in the morning. She

has my soon-to-be office getting cleaned, she has Dustin's office set up for me and she has an area outside his office set up

with a calendar to schedule appointments. I tell her to order herself a computer and both of us phones. I know that was

something else that Liam had on his plate and we're going to wipe it off today. This woman is amazing!

All day I meet with pack members. Most are just happy to have someone that they can trust to talk to. But there are some that

need assistance. I get the impression that the word is spreading that I'm available to meet with pack members, as my schedule

for today is booked and based on what Sarah tells me at lunch, the rest of the week is getting stacked up very quickly.

She and I decide that we will have working lunches every day. It's a great way for us to connect, for me to let her know what

needs to be followed up on and for her to let me know what my schedule looks like.

"Can I ask you something Angel?"

"You can always ask me anything Sarah."

She wrings her hands for a moment. "Dustin explained to me what the mate bond means. Is it really that strong?" She asks.

"Yes. I don't know how to explain it. Even if I was trying to explain it to a werewolf that hadn't found their mate, I'm not sure I

could. I didn't truly understand it, until I felt it. Your mate is everything. Everything that you've been missing in life, everything that

you want, everything that you have ever dreamed of, everything you didn't know you needed."

She nods, looking down at her hands again. "What about....what about having kids?"

I reach over and put my hand over hers. "Every person is different, but I can tell you, for some, having their mate is more

important than anything else. And from what I've seen, Dustin wants you. He may want pups, but he's willing to take the risk of

not having them to have you, his fated mate."

She sits thinking for another moment. "Will you go with me to see the doctor this week? I don't want him to know, until I know

what she says."

I pull her in for a hug. "I will always be there, any time you need me."

Olivia is my last appointment before warrior training. I had decided that I wanted her as my Lead Omega in the kitchen, but I also

felt that the job was too big to have someone managing both the packhouse and the kitchens. So I've decided to create a new

position. When I offer the Lead Omega position to Olivia, she begins to cry. She feels this is a great honor, but in truth, I've been

utterly impressed with her ability to organize and get the kitchens in order in a very short amount of time. I've already heard the

pack members talking about how great the food is and that they love the new variety.

She and I talk about the children working in both the kitchens and the packhouse and while the idea of "chores" for pups is

welcome, having them working rather than being in school is not acceptable. I make a note to implement limits to the hours that

pups of school age can work without prior approval from me or Liam. We also talk about the Lead Omega position for the

packhouse. Olivia suggested Samantha, the woman that just took Amelia and Charlotte into her home. I make a note to tell

Sarah that I need to meet with Samantha. Seriously, this whole having a secretary thing is the best!

As we walk out of the office, we run into Liam and Dustin. I was concerned that he might overrule me about Olivia. But I am

pleasantly surprised that he trusts my judgement and lets me make the decision.

I'm also happy to hear that Sarah will start learning how to use weapons. It's good for her to learn and feel capable of protecting

herself.

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When we the training grounds, I start working with Clint and Cara. We fall into a method of letting Clint guide us through the

training. It's his forte. He's trained both Cara and I, so we let him set the standards.

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It's tiring work, trying to boost each other's gifts, but it's working and we're getting better at it by the end of our training time. It's

about that time that I hear Liam talking to Dustin about Sarah having a real target. I know immediately that Liam plans to use

himself as her real-life target.

He feels confident in his ability to heal but I'm not feeling great about him getting stabbed. I watch as Dustin gets Sarah ready in

an attack stance and then as Cyran lunges at her. Sarah's response is instantaneous. It's a reflex response, she throws the knife

at Cyran. I can see the trajectory of the knife and there is no way he can move fast enough to not get hit. It's my instinct, I can't

stop it. Alessia pushes me to jump in front of Cyran and grab the knife.

It's a bit like a movie. I grab the knife between my hands, just before it sinks into my chest. I stand there for a moment, shocked

that it actually worked. Then Liam has shifted and is yelling at me.

"Angel!" He grabs the knife out of my hands. "I thought we agreed that you would never put yourself in between me and danger

again." He tosses the knife on the ground and grabs me by the shoulders, shaking me.

"It's not something I can control Liam. I hadn't planned on it, it just happened. Alessia saw you in danger and jumped in."

He wraps his arms around me, holding me tight. "We need to rethink how we are going to fight against these vampires. I can't

constantly worry that you are going to jump in front of me." He pushes back from me, looking at me.

"We need to plan to be side

by side the entire battle. That way we can both keep our promises. I can't lose you."

Rik and Cara come over to us. "I have to say, I agree with Angel. It's not something that we can control. If it had been Rik, I

would have jumped in. We need to reconsider how the five of us will be fighting." She spreads her arm to include Clint. "We need

to plan to be close together during the battle. If we, as Guardians, need to be close to boost each other's gifts, then you, our

mates, have to be close to us as well. Otherwise, we will break our ranks with each other to come protect you."

Rik and Liam look at each other. "Okay. Let's restructure our battle plan. We had already planned to have our Betas lead groups

and Dad can lead his own group as well."

"Agreed. That means that the five of us will be on the front lines." Rik pulls Cara

into his side. "You stay by my side at all times little Guardian." He tells her.

The reality of the pending battle is weighing heavy on me. There is no way that there won't be casualties. What if it's someone

that I have developed a close, personal relationship with? These people are like family, how can I possibly lose any of them?

I look around, seeing my Guardian family, Rik and his family and pack, Dustin, Sarah, Jackson and our warriors. Who among this

group won't survive? How many will have to die for us to win? What if we don't win? What happens if Cara, Clint and I are

captured and held captive. Cara and I may not survive the death of our mates, but what about Clint.

And then there's Sarah. I don't know that she can survive the terror again. She's just getting back to a semblance of normal,

feeling somewhat safe.

As my mind starts to spiral out of control, I feel Liam's strong arms wrap around me. "Calm down. I know it's tough to think about,

but you can't let it get into your head. It can easily overwhelm you and shut you down. It's war. It's ugly and it's messy and awful,

but we will prevail. Those disgusting leeches won't overtake us."

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I wrap my arms around Liam, holding if my life depends on it and, really, it does. When the time comes, it will be him and me. We

will live or die, together.

## Chapter 274

Over the next few days, Angel inserts herself as Luna of our pack. Her office gets set up, she and Sarah develop a routine and it

seems to run like a well-oiled machine. You'd think that they had been friends, planning to be Luna and Beta for years.

While the pack is feeling the tension of the upcoming war, the overall feeling coming from the entire pack is one of peace. I've

done the best I could, trying to be everything this pack needed, but at the end of the day, a strong Alpha isn't enough. A pack

can't flourish without a heart, and that's what Angel has given to this pack.

I know Angel is worried that we won't survive this war. But I don't know how the Moon Goddess could have finally brought us

together, given me everything that I've ever wanted in life, everything that this pack has needed for years, only to take it away. It

just seems too cruel.

Warrior training continues to go well. We begin running drills for the non-warriors to get to the bunkers and safe rooms. We

assign leads to ensure that everyone assigned to the room arrives before the doors are locked. They are also responsible for

ensuring that there is enough food and supplies based on any requests received by those assigned to the room.

Rik and I have scouts out, watching to see when vampires are close. So far, we haven't heard anything. In the interim, the

Guardians are getting stronger together. Watching them during training, it feels like Cara is the tie that binds the Guardians

together. While Angel and Clint are stronger together, she connects the two in a way that they can't without her. The connection

to her, as their daughter, seems to seal the bond.

"Alpha." I get a mind link from my border patrol.

"Yes."

“There’s someone at the border that wants to speak to you.”

“Who is it?”

“He says his name is Eli Gunnar.”

What the fuck is Eli doing back here? I put him on a bus over a week ago. “I’ll be there in a few minutes. Keep him there.”

“Dustin.” I mind link him.

“Alpha?”

“Meet me at the back door. Something is going on.”

We arrive at the border and I see Eli pacing. As soon as he sees me, he takes a step in my direction. My warriors immediately

step in his way, but I lift my hands up, stopping them.

“Eli, I didn’t expect to see you again.”

“They’re coming Liam. The vampires. I wasn’t fast enough to save your mother, but I’m here to make sure you are warned.”

“How long do we have?”

“A day, two at the most.”

“Thank you Eli. Do you need a place to stay?”

“No, thank you, Alpha. I have to get back. I found my mate.”

“Congratulations. Be careful, steer clear of the vampires on your way north.”

He nods, turns, shifts and runs off.

I look at Dustin. “Get the warriors set. We need to implement increased patrols starting immediately.”

I pull out my phone and call Rik. I let him know what Eli told me and he will also be increasing his border patrols.

When I get back to the packhouse, I go straight to Angel’s office. Sarah is outside. her office and tries to stop me. I put my hand

up, letting her know it’s important. I walk into the office without knocking.

“Liam.” It only takes her a moment to see that something is wrong. “What is it?” I see it’s Samantha that is with her today. “I need

to speak with you privately, it’s important.”

Samantha excuses herself and I pull Angel into me. "Liam?"

"Eli Gunnar was just here. He said the vampires are coming. We have a day maybe two." I needed to feel her against me, to know that she was safe, even if I knew it wouldn't last.

"Do we know how many there are?"

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"Not yet. Our scouts haven't let us know that they've seen them coming yet, but based on Eli's report, it should come at any

time."

I hold her for another moment. "I need you to make sure that the bunker and safe rooms are ready tonight. I will be announcing

to the pack that the vampire attack is imminent and that all those pack members that will be going in, need to be prepared at all

times from now on."

"I'll take care of it, Liam." She hugs me tighter. "I love you."

"I love you."

Angel and I work late into the night, finally falling into bed exhausted. It's early the next morning when I'm woken by another mind

link.

"Alpha! I need you at the border of the Canyon Ridge Pack."

"On my way. Contact Beta Dustin and have him join me."

I hop out of bed and begin pulling sweatpants on, knowing I'll be pulling them off again in a moment to shift. Angel hops out of

bed. "What is it?"

"Something is going on at the border, I have to go.

"I'm coming with you."

"Angel..."

"You and me Liam. We've agreed to stay together during this fight. I'm coming."

I nod, not wanting to waste time arguing.

We head out, both stripping and shifting as soon as we're outside. We run to the border I smell a scent that I've never smelled

before. It smells like the air after the first snow of the season and ice, like a glacier. "Fae." Angel mind links me.

We arrive at the same time that Rik arrives, and I see them. There must be 500 fae warriors standing in formation. They have

spears, taller than they are, the color of silvery white. I guess height is something all fae have. I thought it was just Ailduin, but

every one of these warriors, and I honestly can't tell if they are all men or if some are women, are seven feet tall or taller. They

look like something out of Lord of the Rings.

I shift and stand in front of Angel. I know nudity is common among shifters, but she's mine and I don't want others looking at her.

When she's dressed, she tosses my sweats to me.

"I'm Alpha Liam, this is Alpha Rik. What's going on?"

The leader steps forward. "King Ailduin sends his regards and in order to show his commitment to the alliance with the

werewolves, he has sent 550 warriors to fight for the Guardians against the vampires."

I look at Rik, shocked. The look on his face tells me he's just as surprised as I am.

"Your presence is most welcome. Thank you and even without your assistance, our alliance would be strong." Rik tells them.

I look at Rik. "Erm, I'm sure we can find places for you to stay..." I begin.

"No need. King Ailduin provided us with what we need. We understand there is a canyon where the battle is planned."

"Correct."

"We'll set up camp there, unless you have any concerns with us being in position when the vampires arrive."

"None whatsoever." Rik says, looking at me. I shake my head. I don't have any concerns either.

"Thank you. We appreciate your support." Angel steps up, reaching her hand toward the Elf, with her palm facing forward, her

fingers pointed to the sky.

The Elf leader extends his hand in the same way, stopping just shy of touching Angel's. "King Ailduin sends his regards,

Guardian."

She nods before turning back to me. "I need to get back Liam." She looks between Rik and me. "Are we good here?"

"We're good." Both of us say.

Rik and I work with the fae to ensure that they are set up and don't need anything.

I'm about to head back to my packhouse when the next mind link comes through. "Alpha! They're coming! There are thousands of them."

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When I get back to the packhouse, I call the leaders of each safe room. "Are we ready? Is there anything at all that is still

needed? War is imminent."

After making sure that we are set, the leaders of each room and I begin going around to make sure that all pack members know

that the rooms are open. Anyone that may need some extra time to get to their safe room or bunker can head over now and get

themselves set up.

We have one she-wolf that is on the verge of delivering her pup. I have assigned a doctor to the safe room where she will be.

We have also made sure that other pack members that may need medical assistance during the war are in this same

room.

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I'm just finishing up and getting the older, slower pack members settled in the safe rooms when I get the mind link from Liam.

"Angel, where are you?"

"I'm finishing getting the elderly and pregnant into the safe rooms."

"They are coming. They will be here at dark tonight. I'm headed back. Start getting ready. I'm about to send out the pack link to

let everyone know to be prepared.”

A moment later, Liam sends out the pack link, letting the entire pack know to begin preparations for the battle, war is here.

I go upstairs to change into clothes durable enough for fighting. On my way back downstairs, I go to Sarah’s room and realizing

she’s not there, I lift my nose in the air and sniff her out. I don’t have to go far, she’s in Dustin’s room. I knock and it only takes

her a moment to open the door.

“It’s time.” I tell her. “Grab your bag and I’ll make sure you get settled.”

Her eyes go wide. “Let’s go, we don’t have time to wait.” I tell her.

She nods, grabs her bag and begins to follow me.

“Luna!” Dustin’s panicked voice links me.

“I’ve got her Dustin. I’m getting her into the bunker.

“Make sure she has her knives. It’ll make her feel safer.”

I turn to Sarah. “Dustin wants to know if you have your knives.”

She smiles. “I have them.”

I relay that to Dustin and when we get to the bunker, I set Sarah up at the front with a clipboard with the names of all of the

individuals due to enter. “We have a few hours, but we need to make sure everyone is inside before the doors are closed and

locked.”

“I got this. Go!” She says.

Pack members were pouring into the packhouse. Pups were clinging to their mothers or grandparents as they began finding their

way to their assigned safe rooms. I assist where I am needed and try to help calm pack members who are scared or crying.

I watch as loved ones kiss, holding each other in case it is the last time they will see each other. As I turn to head outside and

begin making my way toward the canyon, I see Dustin run in. He runs straight up to Sarah. I watch as she jumps into his arms

holding him tightly. I'm thankful he came to see her. We don't know which of us will return, but I do know that not every one will.

I take a moment to look around, wishing things were different, but knowing that this battle must happen. Liam is right, these

vampires will keep coming and now it's not just about me, Cara and Clint. We have Sarah to think about too, and any other

human mates that may be out there. My role as Luna is to stand beside Liam and protect this pack, every member of the pack.

Our alliance means we also stand together to protect Rik and Cara's pack. Even if we didn't have the alliance with them,

Alessia's relationship with Artemis would mean that I would always fight for her and by association, Rik and their pack.

I watch as Dustin kisses Sarah passionately enough to leave her breathless before jogging over to me. "Ready Luna?"

I nod. "Let's go."

As we run toward the canyon, I see some warriors running off in other directions. "Where are they going?" I ask Dustin.

"Liam set up some warriors to reinforce our weak spots and make sure no one gets to the bunkers and safe houses."

It makes sense. Liam would want to make sure that if they send any vampires to try to take hostages, that they wouldn't be

successful. As we come up to the place where the other warriors are, Dustin grabs my arm, stopping me.

## Chapter 277

"She said I could mark her after this is over. Sarah, she told me to come back to her so she could accept me as her mate." I

watch as he swallows the lump in his throat.

I reach out and grasp his arm, waiting until he looks at me. "Then I suggest that you listen to your mate and do exactly what she

says."

He gives me a half smile before we turn and make our way to our places. Dustin is leading a group that will come in from one

side, while I will be up front with Liam, Cara, Rik and Clint.

I jog up to Liam. He opens his arms and I rush into them, wrapping my arms tightly around him.

“Little Angel, all you need to worry about today is staying alive. You do that and so will I and we can figure everything else out.” I

nod my head against his chest.

He pulls back, taking my head in his hands, looking at me intently. “You and me, Angel. Promise me you will fight beside me

today, not in front of me. Promise me.”

‘Alessia, can we promise that?’

‘If his life is not on the line, then yes. Otherwise, we won’t be able to stop protecting him.’

I look at Liam. “Make sure you’re never at risk of dying, and yes, I can promise that. But if your life is at risk, more than just the

fight, Alessia and I won’t have a choice but to step in.

“Understood. And the same, Angel. I will trust you to protect yourself, but if it looks like you are losing the fight, I will jump in.”

I smile softly up at the love of my life. Never in a million years would I have known that my life would be so different in such a

short amount of time. This man is my everything. “You and me, Liam.”

We’re all here, milling around, waiting for the vampires to show up. We’re set in our line up front. Cara is in between Clint and

me. Liam is on the other side of me, Rik is beside Clint. We are the front line. Cara, Clint and I will use our joint power to try to

take out the first wave of vampires. We know that there are too many for us to take them all out, but if we can hit a large wave, it

will help the other wolves. see the next wave coming.

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Ailduin’s warriors are lined up on either side our central line of warriors, led by Anders. Chase and Dustin have the groups that

will hit from the sides.

I catch the scent, my nose going up in the air at the same time as Cara's and Clint's and a moment before Liam's and Rik's.

It's only a moment longer before the first line of vampires comes through the tree line across the canyon. Front and center are

Prince Keenan and Sebastian. On Keenan's other side, there is another vampire that also looks like vampire royalty, based on

his chosen attire.

Keenan's nose goes up in the air, taking a deep breath. "Custos Regni." His disgusting purr sends a shiver of memory down my

spine. "Do you understand now, Dimitri?" He asks his companion.

I watch as Dimitri's fangs come out and his eyes turn red. Wolves all around us begin growling low and dangerous. While Alessia

is growling in my head, I stay quiet. I'm watching. I know how the vampires work. This may not be the feeding room, but

vampires love to play with their food or their kills. This will be no different..

As the two royals sniff the air, distracting most of the werewolves with their show, two groups of vampires rush out to attack

Alduin's warriors. I step forward and throw my hands out, my aura pushing out hard and fast. Cara grabs my hand, her other

holds Clint's and I feel their power connect with mine. When my aura hits the vampires, it's like they have run into the sun. Every

one of them. turns to dust.

A cheer goes up on either side of me, but Keenan's sneer is focused solely on me.

"I'm not the same little girl you fed on for years Keenan." I say his name contemptuously. "You'll find I'm not so easy to capture

this time." "Then it will be even sweeter when I have you in my possession again."

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I snarl at Keenan's comment to Angel. I wasn't sure which one was him, but I knew it had to be one of the two pompous looking

leeches.

And now I focus my attention on him. He's mine. For everything he did to Angel, I will kill him.

Angel and the power of the Guardians, give them pause, but only for a moment. They must give a signal that I miss, because

suddenly, hundreds of vampires are heading our way. Angel, Cara and Clint push out their aura, Angel making sure it's directed

in front of our line of werewolves and fae.

A second wave starts almost immediately after the first. The first group runs right into the Guardian aura and are instantly turned

to dust. The impact is taking its toll on them because the second wave starts getting through and another wave is right behind

them.

I see several vampires heading toward Angel and Cara and I jump into the fight. Cyran bursts through at the same time Kai,

Rik's wolf, does. We begin tearing through the vampires. Remembering what they said about Clint, I toss a vampire in his

direction, watching from the corner of my eye as he catches the leech mid-air and rips his head off. This is an effective strategy

as the vampires are having a harder time reaching Clint because of his wheelchair, modified for battle.

The vampires are fast. I can hear wolves being injured and I feel every time one of my wolves is killed.

I was initially worried about Angel, but she's fierce on the battlefield. All of her Guardian's knowledge is coming out and it shows.

The vampires that try to get to her are taken down quickly. She is staying close to Cara, helping to ensure that she and her baby

aren't injured. Clint is also staying close, although being in the wheelchair, it's harder for him.

Rik and I have moved more toward the front, not exactly blocking access to Angel and Cara, but close to it. There are enough

vampires that we're still fighting several each. Cyran's fur is covered in blood. I'm not sure how much is theirs and how much is

mine. I have felt every injury to my body, but thanks to Angel's advanced healing power, I am healing fast.

At one point, a vampire must be about to grab me. Angel shifts mid-air and Alessia takes out the vampire before I even realize

it's there.

I'm not sure if it is intentional or if it's just how the battle transpires, but the Guardians begin to separate. Rik stays close to Cara

and I stay close to Angel.

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Fighting together, side by side with Angel, is very effective. One after another, Cyran is ripping through the vampires, blood and

guts spraying everywhere. He's a fighting machine and Angel and Alessia are just as lethal.

We are able to assist Ailduin's warriors who are also feeling the effects of the battle. Several of his warriors lay dead on the

battlefield. Periodically, I notice that there are wolves dead on the ground as well.

The only good thing is that it feels like we're in an incinerator. There is so much ash in the air that it's obvious that while there are

casualties on our side, there are more vampires being killed.

We've been fighting for hours, when suddenly, prince Keenan and the other asshole leech are there. It's obvious why they are

considered royalty. They are stronger and smarter fighters than the other vampires I've been killing. Keenan is clearly after

Angel. I still have several vampires attacking me at once and so does she.

I can't focus on the other leech, he's gone after Cara. I have to trust that Rik will protect his mate, I need to focus on mine. There

is no way that this asshole is getting my girl. Cyran latches on to the throat of a vampire, just as I feel another one grab us

around our rib cage, squeezing painfully. I rip the throat out of the one that Cyran has his teeth in, turning our head trying to get

to the one that is wrapped around my ribs.

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I feel a couple ribs crack and Cyran's howl of pain is loud. Alessia immediately turns and sees our situation. She begins tearing

through the vampires that are fighting her but just as she is about to get to me, Keenan grabs her. He picks her up, one arm

around her rib cage and the other around her throat. He looks at me, giving me an evil smirk, before sinking his fangs into

Alessia's neck.

She snarls and begins shifting. I'm not sure why she's shifting already, but if she is, I am going to as well. As it is, Cyran is stuck.

The shift back is painful given the broken ribs, but as soon as I do, I realize why Angel did it. I'm more agile against them in my

human form. I twist in the vampire's arms and slice my claws across his face and neck. I know he's not dead yet, but I need to

help Angel.

I turn and see that Keenan no longer has his teeth in her neck. Even though she's got blood dripping down her chest, the spot

where he bit her is healed over already. Keenan's nose looks broken. I'm guessing Angel punched him or maybe. threw her head

back to break his nose.

"Duck!" I mind link her a moment before my arm comes up, slamming into his head. Angel ducks under my arm and she goes

after the vampire that I injured but. didn't kill. Keenan's head snaps back. I take advantage of the opportunity and I reach out

grabbing him by his throat.

"Angel is mine. You will never hurt her again." I snarl in his face.

"We'll see about that, mutt." He says, trying to throw a punch at my face. Unfortunately for him, he doesn't realize that I'm mated

to a Guardian, and I can see every move he makes. I grab his arm, wrenching it behind his back, twisting so that I'm behind him,

my other hand still holding him by his throat.

"Angel!" She needs to kill him more than I do, and I want to give her that opportunity.

She turns and sees that I have him exposed for her. "Go for the heart!"

It's just like it was in my office when Sebastian attacked us. I am holding him exposed, waiting for Angel to take him out.

Unlike in my office, Angel's fist punches directly under Keenan's heart. I watch

as she grabs his heart in her hand and I feel him flinch. She leans.”

getting in his face. “You will never hurt anyone ever again, you disgusting creature.” I watch as her jaw sets and she rips his

heart out of his body.

I let his body drop to the ground. Angel squeezes his heart, a fierce look on her

face. I grab her pulling her to me. We’re both naked, we’re both covered in blood, but I don’t care. The leech that tormented her

for seven long years is dead.

As I hold her, I look around. We are winning. Killing Keenan caused the death of many other vampires. I’m guessing it’s true what

they say about vampires sires. If you cut off the head, the body dies, in this case, all the vampires he created are dead. It’s

making the battle swing easily in our favor. I’m about to jump back into the battle when I feel Angel flinch.

I only have a moment to look when she screams my name.

“LIAM!”

She jumps into my arms, throwing her arms out on either side of me as I feel her aura push out around me and to our wolves

and allies, a moment before I feel a blast that sends everyone flying backward.

Keenan is dead, but what caused the blast?

## Chapter 280

When Keenan sends his first wave, there are hundreds of vampires. The power that Cara, Clint and I have together can only

hold for so long. It drains all of our energy. We are able to wipe out the first wave of vampires, but the second wave mostly gets

through. By the third wave, we break off and begin fighting

individually.

We stay together as long as possible, and I see Rik and Liam throwing vampires to Clint to take out. He’s a machine. He always

was. Alessia remembers him from his younger days. He's stronger than an Alpha, so powerful. Even now, in his revised

wheelchair, he's taking on more vampires than most of the wolves on the battlefield.

I wasn't expecting to be able to feel the death of our pack members. I've never been a ranked pack member and it's hard to

concentrate constantly hearing the howling of wolves in pain and then feeling their death in my mind and heart.

Thankfully, my Guardian instincts kick in and I'm fighting like my Guardian spirit has fought for centuries. The amount of

knowledge that flows through me is incredible. My Guardian has even fought against vampires, so we know how best to kill

them, and we are killing them as fast as they come at us.

I'm making sure that I'm close to Liam, even when we get pushed away from Cara, Rik and Clint. I know Rik will protect Cara. He

didn't want her here in her pregnant state, but I understand her desire, her need, to be a part of this. We are the power in this

fight. And we are what the vampires are coming for. This is our fight.

Cyran is amazing. There is something to be said for the strength and power of an Alpha. There is a reason that they are the

leaders of their pack and Liam is showing exactly why he is the leader of our pack. He is fearless and he is deadly.

I see Liam battling multiple vampires when yet another goes to jump in to try to bring him down. Before I even know what we're

doing, Alessia has taken over and she jumps in to take the vampire out, ripping its head from its body in one move.

I see Ailduin's warriors fighting, some dead on the ground. I'm heart broken, knowing that the immortal lives of these warriors has ended.

I hear Cyran howl in pain. Alessia whips her head around, ready to jump in to help him and that's when I smell him. Prince

Keenan. He takes advantage of my momentary distraction and grabs us by our neck and chest.

"There's my girl. My delicious, mouthwatering girl. Oh, how I've missed you. I

will enjoy having you, taking you every night.” Alessia is thrashing in his arms. From the corner of my eye, I see him look at Liam

before sinking his fangs into Alessia’s neck. The pain is excruciating.

‘Alessia, we need to shift. You’re too big, it makes it easier for him to keep a hold on us.’ She agrees and we shift in his arms, not

caring if he gets hurt in the process. When I’m back to myself, I slam my head into his face, forcing him to dislodge his fangs

from my neck.

I hear Liam scream for me to duck and I do, going under his arm as it comes up to punch Keenan on the side of his head. When

I duck, I see that the vampire Liam injured isn’t dead yet. I let my claws come out and I slice through his neck, separating his

head from his body. I’m watching to see if he will turn to dust when I hear Liam.

“Angel!”

When I turn, Liam has Keenan. He’s giving me the chance to kill him, to end the misery that haunted me for years. My mate, the

man I love, will give me this because he knows I need it more than he does.

Unlike with Sebastian, I know exactly how to kill this vampire. I punch just under his heart and Alessia lets her claws come out,

puncturing his insides while we grab his heart. Keenan’s face is almost comical, like he can’t believe that I would want to kill him.

I want him to know that I’m doing this because he’s the most worthless creature on the face of the planet. A blight on the

supernatural community. I feel no regret when I rip his heart from his chest and crush it in my hands.

Liam pulls me to him, holding me. I need his touch more than he knows. My mind wants to spiral out of control, back to a dark

and hateful place. Holding on to Liam keeps me grounded. It keeps me here, refusing to let me go to that dark

place.

We pull apart and I look around. There has been a shift in the battle. We are winning now. There have been casualties but, in the

end, we will win.

As I turn to look at my fellow Guardians, I see it. The leech that was with Keenant has Clint, his fangs deep into Clint's neck. As I

watch, Dimitri rips Clint's throat out. His mouth is covered in blood that is dripping down his face. His face, turned up to the night

sky, has a look of total ecstasy from feeding on Clint.

I feel it, just as I have felt every other death tonight. The tether that bonded us as Guardians snaps and I know that he is gone. I

realize that Cara feels it too, the death of her father. I watch as she turns, seeing her father crumple to the ground.

I hear her scream at the same time I feel her aura, the absolute raw power pushing out of her. She will kill us all in her grief.

"LIAM!"

My only thought is to protect him and as many others as I can from Cara's power, bomb, because that is what it is, an

electromagnetic pulse of her power.

I jump into Liam's arms, wrapping my aura around him and throwing it out to as many wolves and fae warriors as I can reach

before the power blast reaches us. I take the brunt of what feels like a concussion bomb, protecting my love, my mate, and as

many others as I can before everything goes black.

Hundreds of miles away, in a tiny efficiency in a small town, a Guardian awakens.