# Darkness Mate Cheated Versus Fated by Victory Done Chapter 171

### Chapter 171

#### Eloise

The woman finished making my sandwich and handed it to me. I offered to pay for the sandwich, and she refused.

"I can't collect money from you, Luna; I am from the Orlov pack." She said, smiling at me and looking at my bump.

"For our future Alpha," she said, and I smiled at her and thanked her.

She also gave me Iced Tea to go with it, and I decided to sit by her stall and help myself.

Call me selfish, but I knew Kara might want to have a bite, and I wasn't in the mood to share.

I did tell Kara to walk me down to the stall, and she refused, so I would eat it a lone.

I was eating when a familiar scent caught my nostrils.

I looked in the direction it came from, and the bastard Cruz was approaching me. Usually, my heart would start racing, but I was calm. He **was** on my turf.

I composed myself to hear what he had **to** say. I had heard of their request, a nd I wondered what he wanted with me after they told him no.

I rubbed **my** bump gently and sipped **my** iced tea with the **straw**. I wanted him to **see** it.

He walked to where **I was** sitting and **cleared** his throat.

"Eloise.." he said, and I looked away from him.

"Eloise, **please**, I want to **talk** to you," **he said**, and I could not imagine his nerve.

"Please, Eloise, look at me," he said, and I felt movement, so I looked at him a nd saw he was on his knees.

"Please tell Orlov to send you home. I will take care of the baby as if it were mine. I will love you with all my heart. I will send Samanta and her children away. I want you to come home. I was a fool and did not know what I had until I lost you," he said, and I shook my head.

"I am happy where I am, Cruz, why should I follow you? Can't you see that I h ave upgraded? You once called me a whore, and you know whores always go for the best," I said, and he shook his head.

"I am sorry. I am sorry. You are not a whore. I am the whore. For doing what I did to you. I need you to come back to me, Eloise.

Since you left, my life has been in shambles. I did not know how I felt about yo u until I lost you.

Please, Eloise. I promise to be a better version of myself," he said, and I remai ned calm.

Not because I wanted to but because of my baby. I did not want to get upset a nd cause complications for myself.

"Let us not drag this, Cruz. Get off your knees and leave. I am not coming bac k to you. I am happy. I have a man that loves me, a real man, Cruz. One that adores me. You said I was a whore and worthless, but Theo treats me as his prized possession. His gem. I have liberty and freedom. I can do and say whatever I like, and I don't even want to get into the love- making part.

I did not know I was a virgin until Theo happened to me. I can't leave all

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that for a known hell," I said, seeing that my words affected him, especially the virgin part. I was just telling him the truth.

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"Look, you better leave this place because Raphael won't **treat** you nicely if he catches you here with me. Go patch things up with Rebbeca and her three bastards and move on with your life. At least no one is there to try to poison them again." I said, reminding him of the wicked accusation laid a gainst me.

"I am

sorry I let her set you up. I am sorry," Cruz said, and before I could reply, The o arrived and grabbed him.

I wonder how he got there so fast, and the woman in the stall came out and w as nodding.

"He **was** troubling Luna, Alpha," she said, and Raphael had rage in his eyes.

How did he get here so quickly?

I heard Darius calling, and I realised they might have been nearby.

Raphael knelt over Cruz and beat the shit out of him. He did not talk. He just k ept punching him against the ground.

I did not know what to do. I knew it would be best to stop Theo, but I didn't want to. Cruz deserved

it. He deserved every punch and every blow. He was lucky I was pregnant, or I could have joined in.

The audacity he had to come and ask me to come back. What the fuck was **h e** thinking? Only a fool would go back to a psycho like him.

People were gathered, and Raphael did not stop until Darius pulled him **off** him.

"Stay away from my wife!" he told him, and Cruz managed to get up and wipe his bloody nose.

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"I do not see a mark on her neck," he said, and that was it for me.

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I walked to where Cruz was and punched him with all my might with the help of Arya, my wolf.

He fell to the ground. The crack sound that accompanied the punch was satisf ying.

"I am not your property, Cruz, so fuck off, you sick fuck. And do not think I will let you get **away** with all you did. I won't," I said and spat on him.

I went to meet Theo, and he held me.

I felt so much satisfaction, and I believed Cruz needed more punishment.

"I want you to go for his pack and his title," I linked Raphael, and he held

### 1. me.

"All you had to do was say the word, darling," he linked me back and began to kiss me with his hand on my baby bump. I felt my anger dissipate as Theo fill ed me with love and joy. His kiss was possessive, and I welcomed it.

"Stay the fuck **away** from her," Darius warned Cruz with his command.

"The next time you overstep, I will sanction your arrest. Remember your place, Cruz. I will take this up with Casey for not putting you in check," Darius said, and I hoped Darius talked to Casey

to tell Cruz to stay away from me. I was done with the clown, and I hoped he g ot the message now

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Chapter 172

Zora

Nellie was into the Croquet game we were watching, and I wished Kara and El oise had followed us, but they wanted to remain in our **official** booth for reaso ns best known to them.

Abelardo had stylishly joined us, but we did not need to guess why he was wit h us and not with his brother. Neva seemed utterly enthralled by him, and he

wasn't different. It was so deep that Nellie and I left the booth, and they did no t notice.

"I want some sweet pop corn," Nellie said, and my mouth began to salivate.

"That would be yummy," I said, stopping at a cotton candy stall. I helped myse If to the strawberry—

flavoured variation, and the vendor refused to take my money.

He treated me with respect, and my heart fluttered.

"Have you heard about the new move by the sneaky council?" Nellie asked me, taking a bit of my candy and grimacing at the level of

sweetness.

"What move?" I asked her, feeling happy.

William had called me and told me he was rounding the people up and taking them to the warehouse. I was too eager because the me eting would be in two **days**.

"Some alphas raised a petition, and many people have signed it. They are trying to dissolve **the** lordship," **she** said, and I wondered **why** she would **say it** was **the** council members. **Clearly**, the **alphas did it of** their own

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volition.

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"Why would you think the council is behind this?" I asked her, and she scrunched her nose.

She had gotten some candy on her nose, but her warm, slightly sweaty skin h ad melted it.

"The petition puts the council in charge of everything while each region would have a council of alphas led by a governor, similar to what you practice in the east," she said.

We found a bench to sit on.

Nellie called on to a child and handed him money to buy us popcorn and som ething for himself.

The moment the boy left, she leaned against the backrest and looked ahead with a frown folding her arms.

"The Hands were royalty before it became a lordship.

This council was formed because of the tyranny of Collier's forefather, Eddard . It was an excellent way to keep the royal bloodline in check.

The council helped the lord remain on course and fought for people's rights.

They helped to question the lord and make sure he was fair to the people, but the lord was still like a king.

**He owns** and rules everything.

Hardy Corrigan might have revolted, but Darius still rules all four regions.

His **decree must** be upheld in **all** regions, **or** it will be seen as treasonous. The leading alpha **of** each region **is** like a representative **of the** lord and

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must bow **to the** lord's command; that **is why** there **is always** competition for prominence in every region. One you are conversant with since **you helped** y our **ex**—husband rise to power.

They are to rule the region and keep it in check according to the lord's will.

That **is** the order.

Darius is lenient, so they have this false notion of sovereignty, but they remain under him; that is something your ex—

husband respects and keeps to it," she said and sighed, then unfolded her ha nd and brushed something off her jeans.

"This petition obliterates the lordship and renders Darius powerless. It will place the council in charge and leave the lordship as an honorary position and not hing more, banning the royal families from interfering or making decisions that have to do with governance." She said and looked

at me.

"Who is benefiting from that arrangement?" she asked, and I knew the answer.

"Not the stupid alphas, but the council. The council is the one benefitting from that arrangement, and to show you how eager they are, they shifted the hearing to the day after tomorrow instead of waiting until after the games," she said, looking worried.

Wanting to tease her, I pretended I did not know and proffered a solution.

"In that case, Darius can take up the Balyaev seat," I said, and she looked at me, eyes widened.

"Luis and Jenny Lawrence are dead. No one knows of the agreement I **made** with them. That could work," she said, but she wasn't happy **because** being head of the council wasn't the same as being a lord.

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I placed my hand on her thigh and gestured that she calmed down.

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"We are on it, Nellie. Do not trouble your gentle heart," I said, and she frown ed.

"The hearing would take place tomorrow, but they won't get what they want," I said, and she relaxed a bit.

"Have you all figured out the person that caused the attack on Brighton and fr amed Abelardo?" she asked eagerly.

"I believe it is the same person doing this," she said, and I shook my head.

"Not yet, but we want to take out Pamela Rivers and Joan Clayman. They have done enough," I said, and her eyes darkened.

"Those bitches are nothing but whores. I wouldn't be surprised if Collier fucke d them. If he didn't, I am sure Gavin, Lucas, or maybe three of them might hav e. They are just sore that Darius, Raphael and Marcel rejected their daughters. After studying all they have done and how I heard they behaved during the fe w hearings against Darius and Abelardo, I have concluded that they might be a part of it," she said, and I agreed.

The women had acted too suspiciously for them to be exonerated.

"Darius plans to unseat them. I guess he will do it after the petition hearing," I said, and she shook her head.

"He should do **it** now," she said, afraid we might not win the hearing, but I knew we would.

"There is no need to panic, Nellie," I said and just then, the boy she sent for **th e** popcorns returned. He also seemed excited.

"What took you so long?" Nellie said, and the boy gigged.

"Sir Orlov was beating a man that was disturbing his wife in front of the

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turkey sandwich stall," the boy said, and Nellie and I got up immediately.

I was so worried for Eloise that I began to panic. I just hoped she did not accidentally come off as flirtatious to anyone.

Holding our popcorn, we headed to the place.

I was surprised to see Darius calming Theo down; it looked like something ex plosive had happened. I rushed to where they were.

"What happened here?" I asked them and was shocked to learn that Cruz had tried to talk to Eloise. The nerve. Eloise was so excited telling me how Theo beat the crap out of Cruz, and I was amazed. I wondered why she came to the stall alone, but I kept the question to myself, seeing a bit of mayonnaise at the corner of her lips.

We returned to our primary booth, and I was surprised to see that Marcel had done the same thing to Sheperd.

I wondered when those two idiots would learn. How could they, in their twisted minds, think Kara and Eloise will leave the life they have now and go back to the hell they gave them? It was delusional, and I began to fear for their mental health. There was no doubt that they were mentally unstable after learning all they had done to their wives, but they should learn from Casey and let go.

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Zora

We returned home early, and Darius was a bit nervous about the hearing that had

suddenly moved up. I told him to relax, but he was nervous. It showed all over him.

"I think I have been too damn lenient. They wouldn't have tried this with my father," He said, and as sad as it was, he was telling the truth.

The people needed a firm hand. Everyone thought they could piss all over him

First, it was the forged letters, then my poisoning, Abelardo's set up, and now this. The earlier we started catching people, the better for us.

Gezel was yet to lead us anywhere, but Brian Wilson was asked to stay on her. We hope to catch a break.

"I agree with you, Darius. This may seem a bit wrong. But when this petition thing is over, we should make some changes to the council after we remove t hose women from the seats they occupy. The council members are old, and V ino is young and seems not to want to cross

anyone.

You should put him in check. If he can't do the job, he should let us know so we can place someone else. It is time he starts taking responsibility for the actions and inactions of

the council as their leader, or he should vacate the seat for a more capable pe rson," I said. Darius pulled me close **and** buried his nose in my neck.

**He** was **distraught**, and I could feel it. His love bite on my inner **thigh tingled**, and I could **feel** the tension he **needed** to dissipate.

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#### "We

can't work against the Lawrence now; they are our strongest ally on the coun cil.

Vino's need for my friendship has

always made him side with us. Asking him to step down would mean I would n ot have an ally on the council," he said, and I turned to look at him.

"As much as I know this isn't the time, I think it is time to get Abelardo on Baly aev's seat," I said, and he broke away and shook his head.

"I know Abelardo might have come around in your eyes, but I do not trust him to make good decisions. Especially with Glenda still in his life.

He has not been able to stand up to her and break away, how will he be able to handle the council?

Vino is still doing a good job compared to him. See how Larry used him.

I would be empowering a tool my enemies can use against me." He said. and I could see his point.

He sat on the bed, and I kneeled behind him to massage his neck and should ers. He needed to relieve his body from the tension he was feeling, I helped hi

m take off his shirt, and he flexed his muscles, making me run my palms again st his perfectly sculpted body on instincts. I went in front of him and straddled him. As much as I wanted to relieve him of his

tension, I wanted to enjoy it too.

Darius woke me up gently. I passed out after the multiple orgasms.

I looked at the clock, and it was seven in the evening.

He kissed my neck, and I moaned, waking up fully.

"William called, darling. He said they have all their wives and some of their c hildren. They are in a secured location." he said, and I got off the bed immediately and wore my house robe.

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"

will need **to** use the computer **in your office**; I hope it has a Virtual Private Ne twork installed on it," I said, and he nodded.

"Is your subscription active?" I asked, and he smiled.

"Always," he replied.

"Good. Leave this to us," I said and Linked Kara and Eloise to join me in the home office.

It was time to send our darling Alphas the instructions they needed to get their mates back unharmed.

Eloise and Kara got to the office simultaneously, and they were excited. They had yet to tell me what happened with their exes, but this was important.

"You reek of Darius, Zora," Eloise complained, and I laughed.

I passed out after making love and did not shower before coming to the office; of course, I reeked of him, and I liked it.

"I thought it was only me that picked the strong scent," Kara said, and Eloise s hook her head.

"Let's get to work," I told them, and they were happy.

"We are to create temporary emails and send them letters instructing them on what to do, but we must not make it seem like it came from the

Hands," I said, and Eloise nodded.

"It should come from the west. Let us request ridiculous amounts of money. It can come from any part of the west except, Jake Brighton's territory," I said, a nd **Kara** frowned.

"Don't you think **Jake's** people would need money **the** most?" She **asked** me, and I sighed.

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I remembered my poisoning. I did not pursue the matter because I wanted pe ace and did not want the peace we had **established** with our **visit** to be **destroyed**.

"Remember **how** sick I was when we returned?" I said, and Kara nodded.

"There was poison in my system, and I think one of his children or his Nephew did it; how best to hurt the wolf lord by trying to kill his mate. I believe I was lu cky I couldn't keep anything down and kept throwing up. It saved my life. Only a little of

whatever they put in my food got into my bloodstream." I said, and she was st unned.

"Why didn't they poison me? We ate the same food," She said, and I shook my head.

"We did not use the same plates. I am not sure, but I think the poison was on the utensils, not the food. Or maybe it was water or juice I was served in the bedroom. Either way, someone wanted to hurt Darius by hurting me." I said, and she was in shock.

To think she would have died if they had opted to feed her the same poison must have scared her.

My pregnancy symptoms had saved my life.

Kara had no issues, so she would have kept everything down, and it would have gone into her bloodstream.

"What is Darius doing about it?" She asked, sounding a bit annoyed and feelin g betrayed.

"I did not let him dwell on the matter. What happened in Brighton isn't a myste ry, Kara; what is happening now is a mystery. We need to figure out the people working against our men. As for Jake's children, I know they did it because of what happened to their mother. They were trying to get even. **We** know them and their reasons. We can catch them anytime, but the person who authorised the attack on Brighton and framed Darius

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then, Abelardo, **is** very dangerous. We need to catch that person, so they don't **do** much damage." I said, and I could see motivation in **their eyes**.

**We** got to work contacting the alphas anonymously and instructing them on **w** hat to do if they wanted their mates back.

Eloise, Kara and I had dinner in the office, and Kara seemed a bit ill.

I did not want to get her hopes up, but I felt it would be best to take a pregnan cy test because she had been acting funny.

92.79%

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Zora

She had been very emotional, and her eating habits had changed. It might als o be the hormones because I knew she was taking fertility meds.

Regardless, I thought it was best she checked herself, but I kept it to myself.

We finished what we needed to do in the office and returned to our bedrooms.

Darius was not in the

bedroom when I returned, and I was too tired to look for him. So I showered a nd went to bed.

"I want to sleep," I linked him.

"I will be with you shortly," he replied, but I didn't want him to feel pressured.

"Take your time," I said and let it go. Slowly sleep came, and I fell into dreamland.

I woke up feeling energised and nervous the following morning.

We went to the arena early and sat in our primary booth.

I was surprised to learn that Cruz and Sheperd won't be playing rugby, so our men decided to pull out.

I hoped the two douchebags had given up and decided to move on.

I had yet to find out what happened, but I hoped Kara and Eloise would tell me soon.

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**We** were watching the ball game in our booth when **three northern** Alphas ca me to see Darius.

They looked distraught and worried; I did not need to guess why.

I fought the urge to smile and looked at Kara and Eloise.

Eloise looked away, and I knew she was going to giggle.

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To hide, she buried her head in Raphael's chest, making a romantic gesture s o she could laugh, but we all knew why she was laughing. I felt like laughing, too, but I dared not pull the same stunt as El oise, she had beat me to it.

"Your Eminence, Sir Sidorov, Sir Orlov, Sir Hand," They said, greeting our men and Abelardo. Then they went to greet us.

"Lady Hand, Luna Hand, Luna Sidorov, Luna Orlov," they said, greeting us. I was referred to as Luna Hand, while Nellie was Lady Hand, a position that wo uld soon be mine.

"What is the matter, Alpha Christian?" Darius asked the alpha that seemed in charge.

"My Lord, we need help," he said, sounding frantic.

"Yesterday, our mates and children were kidnapped, and we have traced the m to the west.

My Isabelle is all I have. I am afraid they will hurt them. I do not know how po werful or broad their network is, but it is more extensive than what my pack wa rriors can handle.

The west **is** under you; please have them return our mates," He said, and I re alised we **had** hit the jackpot because they were so scared that they had forgo tten they were working against Darius.

"Did you have any altercations with anyone?" Darius asked him, looking

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concerned, and the man could not answer.

"Please, we are losing time, **my** lord," he said, and I wondered if **his wife** was his fated.

"Is your mate your fated?" I asked him, and he looked at me and nodded.

"Who will do such a horrible thing and why?" I asked, looking genuinely sorry for the man.

"They took his fated?" Kara asked, feigning surprise.

"We need to do something about it. This cannot be accepted. Do you know them or where they are?" Eloise asked, and he shook his head.

"What did you get yourself involved with that would warrant such a drastic action," Darius asked.

I knew he wouldn't link it to us because their names on the petition were supposed to be anonymous.

We also kidnapped Lunas from alphas that had nothing to do with the petition to throw off suspicion.

We weren't supposed to know they were the ones that raised the petition until tomorrow when the hearing would happen.

"I didn't know, but they took lunas from fourteen packs," Alpha Christian said, genuinely confused.

"Very well, I will get someone on it tomorrow evening. As you all know, there is a council hearing tomorrow. I have to defend my position, so I won't be able to do anything about it pending the meeting outcome. I will know what to do," Darius said, and the man became hysterical.

"We need to move now," he said, pleading with Darius.

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#### "I would

if I could, but some people have asked that I relinquish my power and hold to the council. That is what the hearing is about. If I lose, then how will I help get them back? That responsibility will fall on the council or whatever new system has been made to replace me," he said.

"In a democratic government, I won't be able to just act, Alpha Christian. I have to negotiate and see if we can meet their demands, it won't even be my job in that case, it will be the job of the council or the governors," Darius said stating the truth. The men realised they had shot themselves in the leg.

"So you will handle them after the hearing?" The man asked, realising there w as no way out for him.

"If I am still lord and in charge, well, yes. I will instruct my men to handle it. But so we save time, please report to Brian Levi and give him all the event details so they can start investigations.

### After the hearing

tomorrow. I will spring to action based on the outcome. if I lose. I will turn the matter over to the council and wash my hands off it," He said, and one of the men went on his knees.

"You won't lose, my lord. My wife is eight months pregnant; democracy won't get her back. We won't let you lose," he said with determination.

"Well, it is up to the people who raised the petition," Darius told them, and the man stood up and looked at Christain with scorn.

I figured it **was** Christian's idea, but instead of planning how to deal with him, we would need to drill him to find out who put him up to it. That would likely lead **us** somewhere. I was going to do something about it after we had w on and the names of the people who raised the petition were exposed; I **will** make my move.

"Promise **you** will help us no matter what **if** you win," Alpha.Inkabod **asked** Da rius.

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I **knew** it was because he knew Darius would find out they were **the** ones **that** raised **the** petition against him.

"I have no choice," Darius told him, and he nodded, but something in Christain's eyes did not make me confident.

He did not seem to exhibit the desperation that Inkabod was exhibiting. In fact, only Inkabod seemed

to have decided what to do about the petition. I guess we will have to find out t omorrow.

They left our booth, and four more Alphas came with the same complaints.

91 94%

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Zora

We told them the same thing, and they left.

We closed early, and we all began to laugh the instant we got home.

"What kind of emails did you send them?" Darius asked, and I laughed.

"We were going to give them instructions not to back the petition, but there was no way we could do so without them linking it to you. So we opted for somet hing extreme.

"Asking them for ridiculous sums of money in exchange for their mates. We made it look like a criminal activity. We knew they would have no choice but to seek help from the authorities, which is still under you. It was a gamble, and it paid off," I explained, and Darius lifted me up and spun me around.

We spent the rest of the day worried about the hearing and how it would'

1. go.

Dinner **was** silent, and we all ignored Glenda. She got away with things she w ouldn't have on an ordinary evening because our minds were elsewhere. We slept early.

Darius and I woke up early the next day and got ready to go to the council hall.

Everyone was ready, and even Nellie decided she would visit this time. Collier **was** no longer alive; if I could go to the council hall, then she too could go there.

**We** went in a convoy and arrived on **time**.

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The press was outside, and it was a big event.

We heard that they had suspended all the games for that day.

It was highly

unnecessary, but they wanted to make it a public affair. They wanted to publicl y strip Darius of his power for all to see. They were not going to have it easy a fter this.

We sat in Darius's Loge while Nellie and Abelardo sat in Abelardo's loge.

The entire council members were seated, and Vino looked worried and

nervous.

He did not seem to like the topic of discussion, but he should have shut it dow n and not let it get this far.

Lenny Mikhailov, Jacob's replacement, spoke on behalf of the council.

I wondered if Darius had moved on Jacob, but I doubted it.

The man was just deliberately absent. Maybe he orchestrated this whole shit.

Lenny started by addressing everyone and greeting us with the utmost respect before proceeding.

"We

are here to debate the petition raised by the collective. It is called the Democr atic petition. The people have signed it, and the owners of the petition are her e to defend it and tell us why it must be turned into a bill and passed by the co uncil," he said and cleared his throat, then picked up a sheet of paper to read.

"Alpha, Christian, on behalf of Alpha Inkabod, Alpha Paulman, Alpha Michael, Alpha Theophilus, Alpha Gabriel, and Alpha Kent, representing three thousand people each represented by a signature of the signed petition, ask for the following," he said and coughed to clear his throat.

"That the authority of his lordship be given to the council and shared

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among the governors of the four regions.

That voting should take place before creating a law and implementing it.

#### The

council seat should be made public, and occupants should be selected by vot e, with each region having a representative on the council. That the **tax** be red uced and that the lordship be dissolved entirely with immediate effect," he said , and people began to murmur.

Vino banged the gavel and told the press and the few citizens that were allow ed to witness this hearing to be silent.

It had taken them by surprise.

"Defending this Petition is Alpha Christian of Haddad," Lenny said and sat do wn.

Alpha Keyshawn walked to the centre lacking confidence and could not look up in shame.

I pretended to be surprised. We all pretended to be surprised so he would kno w that his actions were treacherous.

Lenny gave him the floor, and he addressed us respectfully and greeted all of us.

I noticed Larry, Pamela and Joan paying attention to him.

I wouldn't put it past them.

I wasn't confident because yesterday, Christian did not seem like he would br eak.

If Inkabod **had** shown up, it would have been **a** given. I decided to hope for the best.

"Dear council, **The** alphas and I have discussed this extensively and realised t hat we **made** a mistake," Christian said, and everyone began to

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#### murmur.

I looked **at** the council to **read** their body language, and **they** all seemed disap pointed.

"We are sorry to waste the time of this

council, but we will want Lord Hand to continue to rule over us. He has done a tremendous

job over the years, and it will be wrong to rob him of his birthright in the name of democracy," he said, and Joan got angry.

"Do you think this place is a joke? How dare you stir shit up and back out last minute? You wasted our time," she said with rage, and Pamela agreed. Likewise, three other people. They were livid.

Vino had to bang the gavel, but I noticed his voice was slightly more stern than it used to be. There was a power in it, too, and it made me wonder why he pretended to be timid all along.

"You know you can't raise this petition again. You know this will never be disc ussed by this council in Lord Darius's lifetime again?" Vino asked Alpha Christ ian, stating the implications of pulling out, and Christain nodded and said he knew, and that was the end.

We all remained while the press and civilians were asked to leave the council hall.

Darius did not look at Christian, and I wondered what they would discuss after this hearing.

Once everyone had cleared out, Vino tried to end the meeting, but Darius stop ped him.

"I, too, have an issue to bring up," he said, and everyone was silent.

I could **also** see they were nervous.

"Pamela and Joan acted against me. I am tempted to have them arrested

57.17%

#### 10.04

## Chapter 175

288 (Vouchers

for **treason**, but I **will** kindly ask **them** to vacate **their seats**, or I **will arrest** th em," he said, and there was an uproar.

"Silence," Darius said with deep command, and the place **was** silent. He **was** angry, and we could all feel it.

"You did not only disrespect my upcoming union, but invited Alpha Corrigan to the north without my consent.

Hardy Corrigan murdered my father, he tried to stake a claim on my family's p osition and attacked my estate to steal my mate. You dared to invite him as a

guest to the north, knowing fully well he is an enemy of the north?" he explain ed, and everyone was silent, realising his point.

I saw Pamela and Joan in tears because they knew he had a point.

"I have been patient with the two of you and treated you with respect, but you have insulted me with this action, and I will kindly ask you to resign your servic e, or I will force you to do it," he said.

"Please, lord Hand, we did not see it that way, we wanted to use the games to unite the regions," Pamela said.

"If your intentions were not malicious, you should have run it by me instead of bringing the guestlist late, so I won't be able to cancel them. You brought two people you believed had a history with Zora so you would try to stop my wedding. I will make an example of the two of you," he said, and I knew his mind was made up.

I did not feel sorry for them because that was exactly what they tried to do.

**While** they pleaded their case, I **was** glad about our progress and decided it w as time to invite Alpha Jake Brighton to identify the enforcer that led the attack against his pack.

#### Content

288 Vouchers

Chapter 176

**Darius** 

The hearing had gone better than I had hoped. Zora and her friends have come through. They were indeed ruthless.

Seeing how far they

went made me realise that the only power their previous mates had over them was the marks they bore to force their loyalty. I made a mental note never to cross my mate.

After asking Joan and Pamela to resign, they got off their seats to beg. They be egged so much that Larry and the rest of the council pleaded on their behalf.

"We didn't see it that way, your eminence. We were trying to unite all regions, and since Corrigan honoured the invite, we thought we had ended the feud," P amela said in tears. Zora responded with rage in her voice.

"Liar!!!!" she screamed at her.

I wondered where the anger was coming from. It was clear Zora had

severe issues with these women.

"Lady Hand was there when you taunted me, boasting it might not last. You d eliberately withheld the guest list, knowing we would find out. Stop lying and o wn up to your mistakes!" Zora warned her, and Vino had to bang the gavel even though I could see he did not want to.

"Until **you** are wedded, you still cannot speak in this council," Vino said with pleading **eyes**, and I knew he was right.

I could not wait for **the wedding** to be done. If they push too much, I might **as well** claim **Zora** before **the** blue moon, since the goddess has

0.00%

10:04

288 Vouchers

## already blessed our

union, and leave the Blue moon night to Marcel and Raphael.

"I am sorry, Luna Zora," Pamela said and went on her knees.

Pamela wasn't a fool. She knew she had gambled and lost, and she knew Zora would be the Lady of the north. It was the wisest option for her right

now.

"I am begging you to not see it in that light. A lot was happening with this petiti on, so we could not compile the list quickly. I swear on my wolf, Joan, and I di d not try to work against your union. Please, Lady Zora, please believe us. The seat is all we have and the only honour our family has. We are the only wom en in the council. If we vacate, they will be occupied by men. Please, lady Zor

a. We promise never to antagonise or disrespect you again. Please show us mercy," Pamela begged, and Joan joined in. They had successfully put Zora on the spot. Her decision would shape the way people would look at her henceforth. It would be the beginning of her northern reputation as Lady.

Pamela and Joan were brilliant. They knew people would not accept a Lady th at isn't merciful and forgiving, and I knew my mate wasn't any of those things.

"What do you want to do?" I linked Zora, and she did not respond. Instead, she squeezed my hand for all to see.

She squeezed it **in** a pleading manner. Zora **was** just as innovative as these women were.

She knew what they **were** doing, and she had outsmarted them. Her actions showed she was pleading on their beh alf, and ordinary citizens and the press were there to see it. Zora **was** good at publicity.

"Very well, **my** mate has pleaded with me, but I can't let your transgressions **g o**. Because of Zora's pleas, I will suspend you two for three months to go and reflect on your actions," I said; Joan went on her

25615

X24

**10** 04

### Chapter 176

288 Vouchers

knees next to Pamela, and they both bore their necks to Zora and **me**. The su spension was better than them losing **their** seats on the council.

"Since this matter has been resolved, I, as a result, close this hearing," Vino said and banged the gavel.

"I want to talk to the alphas. We need to know how and why they came up wit h that idea," Zora linked me, and I smiled at her while we got ready to leave the e council hall. "I will have to question them. It is beyond your office. Please do not be offended, Zora, but even when you are officially Lady, there are certain things you won't be able to do. It would have been easy to have you question them if they had come to us. It would be a private matter, but this would be done officially, and Alpha Christian is the leader of the north, just as Casey is the I eader of the east. I have to treat him with respect," I linked her back, and she I ooked at me and smiled.

"You need to

change some laws, Lord Hand; I am your better half," She teased, and I smile d at her, glad she took it lightly.

"You know what, I think you should be with me during the questioning; that way, you can accidentally chip in, and I will all ow it as a form of indulgence." I said, and she beamed at me.

"Marcel, invite Alpha Christian to our house in the estate. Tell him to follow us along with his friends," I linked Marcel, and he laughed. He knew exactly what I had in mind for the alphas.

We stepped out, and my mother squeezed Zora's hand. She knew Zora had a hand in the outcome of the hearing.

"You **got** yourself a gem," She linked me, and I smiled at her. We did not want to **speak** out because we did not want people to listen to our

conversations and figure things out.

The **ride home was joyous,** and I was breathing fine.

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10:04

288 Vouchers

This was the second time Zora would do something drastic to save me from the council.

She had come into **my** life at the right time.

We arrived home and headed to our room to change. The moment we entered , I grabbed Zora, and she let me.

"I would take you right now; if Christian and his friends weren't waiting for me in my office," I whispered in her ear and grazed my teeth on the sweet spot.

She was aroused immediately, and I could smell it.

91.46%

#### Content

10.04

288 Vouchers

Chapter 177

Darius

Cremin was going crazy. I needed to claim her. The mate bond had begun to t ug even harder than it did with Shanon. I contemplated it but wanted it to be s pecial, so I relented and forced my teeth to retract.

I could not resist the scent. So I put Zora against the wall while she giggled, k nowing what was happening. She teased me, grinding her cute butt against me, and I reached under her skirt and realised she wasn't wearing panties, which made us giggle.

"You are naughty, green-eyes," I said and rolled up her skirt.

I buried myself in her and went to work.

I battled my wolf so hard. Cremin wanted to sink his teeth in. I wondered how Marcel and Theo would feel when they found out we were fated.

### I needed the union

to be unique. Although it was meant for chosen mates, the blue moon ceremo nies were extraordinary and more romantic than the claiming of fated mates. I could not deprive both of us of that joy. I also wondered how the claiming would be on a blue moon now that we were fated.

I pumped and felt her come, which made me grab onto her tightly and go faste r until I came too.

We got ready to head downstairs to join Alpha Christian and his colleagues in my office. I knew Inkabod was with him and along with two other Alphas. Marcel **had** already linked me.

I entered the **office with** Zora and found only Raphael and **our** guests waiting.

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10:04

288 Vouchers

"Where is Mareel?" I asked Raphael.

"He had to take Kara to the hospital. She is running a fever," he said, and Zor a giggled.

I wondered what was amusing about that statement but kept it to myself.

I went to sit on my chair and asked Zora to sit on my lap. Zora's presence ma de the meeting look less serious.

"Alpha Christian," I said, and he bowed his head in shame.

"I can't believe you were the one

that championed that petition, yet you had the effrontery to ask me to help you find your mates. Why couldn't you wait for the democratic government you we re pushing for to find them?" I asked him, and he was silent.

## "Do you think

ruling is easy? I have to put up with a lot of shit every day Do you know the a mount of nonsense I deal with? My peace is taken from me daily to keep you safe. In my time, there has been no war. Do you think it is that easy? Do you n ot know history? Have you forgotten what happened when something like that was in place? The head of the council was regarded as lord. The governors fought for that seat, creating a serious war, forcing my family, the Si dorovs, the Orlovs, the Belyaevs and the Lawrences, to wage war and reinstat e the autocratic rule of the royals, which formed the lordship. Why will you wa

nt to return to such a time. Christain? Have I not been lenient? Have I not allowed everyone to rule their packs as they see fit? Why?" I asked him, sounding genuinely hurt because I was.

I felt betrayed; I felt like my kindness was thrown back at me.

"We did not mean to either," Christian said and looked up at me with

"I am content **with** your rule. I was forced to back **that** petition," he confessed, and I frowned **at** him.

17.28%

tears.

10.04

288 IVouchers

"My first son and my only

Alpha heir went to study in **Gad**. A group **of** people kidnapped him and forced me to **raise this** petition and back it up," he said, and **I frowned at** him.

"Why would you send your son to school in the west? It might be under me, but you know how my father acquired the place and took out the ir leader. They might be civil, but we all know it is unwise to roam about the w est unprotected. They have only started accepting my rule. What were you thinking?" I said, and he shook his head.

"I sent

him there against my better judgement. My mate forced me to do it." he said.

I wondered who the kidnappers were and how they reached him.

He was a significant man **in** the north, and taking his son was a strong move.

I did not know his family very well, so I made a mental note to better get to kn ow the Alphas and their family members.

"How did they reach you?" I asked him, and he took out his phone, checked some things, and handed it over to me.

"That is how," he said, and I was stunned.

It was video footage of Liam Bricks, the same Liam Bricks I had extradited from the west and had locked up in a dungeon at the estate. The very Liam Brick s working for the uprising. The same man that accepted the money transfer that I could trace. The bloody traitor.

**In** this footage, he **was** tied to the chair in silver chains. I could tell it was silver because his wound was bleeding.

"So they sent you this footage?" I asked him, and he nodded.

"What did they tell you they would do?" I asked, and he took his phone

38.34%

10.04

288 Vouchers

Chapter 177

from me and showed me an email.

"If you do not raise and support that petition, we won't only kill him, but we will come for the rest of your family," it read, and I was surprised.

"Did they take your wife?" I asked him, and he shook his head.

"Those people were different. They just wanted money," He said, and I realise d he had to choose between his wife and his son, but I knew that the video of his son was acted out because his son was one of them.

I planned on keeping that information to myself.

The group was a lot worse than I thought.

Picking Gezel up was very important now. I needed to drill Liam to know how deep he was in the organisation.

"So you had to choose between your mate and your son," I asked, and he sho ok his head.

"I could come up with that money they asked for, but I realised I was a traitor when I spoke

to you at the game. You do not deserve what they wanted to do to you, and m y colleagues could

not come up with their ransoms. I decided to gamble and let Liam go for the s ake of peace," He said, and I could see the resolve in his eyes.

I could also feel his loyalty and the depth of his determination. He must have t hought about it hard before making up his mind.

"You have done well because your son is part

of a criminal group planning an uprising. Their headquarters is in Gad, and we are trying to trace him because he received a huge sum of money a few week s ago," I told him, not wanting him to know I had him in custody.

The man gasped **in** disbelief, and so did Inkabod and the other alphas.

"How are you sure?" **He asked me,** and I checked my phone to pull up the

57.57%

10040

## Chapter 177

email with Liam's ID. I showed him, and he was speechless.

1

288 (Vouchers

"You are the lead Alpha of the north; it was the best and **fastest way to** push **their** agenda," I told him and collected my phone.

The man had tears in his eyes.

"Liam Bricks?" He said in disbelief, and I knew there was more to the story be cause his last name wasn't Bricks.

"The petition stated that the council

leader would be head of the council, which is the only seat that would not be d ecided via election. Could it be that the council leader is involved? Because I f ound that clause baffling." Christain asked; I smiled and shook my head.

"It is a norm. In the case of democracy, the council will vote for who will occup y the top seat, and they will have to choose the top five families. The Hands, S idorovs, Orlovs, Balyaevs and Lawrences. It can be either of us. The current c ouncil leader might not be the leader in the end. I think they are after somethin g and

need us out of the way. Right now, everything goes through me. Imagine what would happen in that type of setting," I said, and his eyes showed understanding.

"Well, Brian Levi is on the case, and your mates will be found and returned to you; meanwhile, when I catch your son,

I will let you know so you can question him. I won't release him to you becaus e he has committed treason. Am I clear?" I asked him, and he nodded.

"His ID says he is twenty-

two. How old is he?" I asked him, knowing there was no way Christain would have a twenty-two-year-old son, and that **guy** did not look it.

"He is seventeen, my lord; he just turned seventeen," Christian said. I could n ot believe the organisation was recruiting minors. Whoever was running this th ing was desperate. Somehow I believe the arrest of Gezel would shed some light on the matter.

77 81%

#### Content

10:04

## Chapter 178

288 Vouchers

Chapter 178

Zora

could not believe the wealth of information we had just gotten from Alpha Christian.

Who would have thought Liam

Bricks was underaged and Alpha Keyshawn's son? The man had carried out the task given to him diligently, thinking he

was saving his son's life. Liam was a wicked child, and I was furious.

I could not say a word in the office. I was speechless.

Thinking of everything, I wondered what this uprising group wanted.

The issue came down to the four families that would head the council if the bill was passed.

Raphael and Marcel were Loyal. That leaves Vino, but Vino does not seem like the trouble kind. He did not seem pushy, and he never

antagonised Darius. He has never done anything to work against Darius. nothing we know of.

I know he wants to be a friend and join their group. Today was his first show of anger and power, and he was irritated that the Alphas had wasted our time. He was relieved that the bill wasn't passed. He might not have told me, but the smile on his face after the hearing said it all.

I was curious to find out who this person was. Was it Jacob Makailov? His fam ily wouldn't be considered if the bill was passed. It was a colossal mess, and we were right in the middle,

"Alpha Christian, we need your hel son," I spoke up. and 1

## Chapter 178

288 (Vouchers

His eyes were bloodshot. He **was** angry and ashamed **at the same** time. Trea son **was** a severe matter. His son had brought shame to **the** family, and if wor d got out, his family would lose respect.

#### Traitors are

never able to redeem themselves, hence why Joan and Pamela swallowed their pride and begged, they had no choice but to do so, or they wouldn't be cast out of their families and stripped of their names because of the lasting consequence of their actions.

"Anything to save my family's reputation, Luna Zora," he said, and I nodded.

"What is his real name?" I asked, knowing Bricks wasn't **a** northern last name.

"Liam Zakharov," He said, and I nodded. He was a true northerner.

"Did he exhibit any behaviour before you sent him to study?" I asked, and he shook his head.

"He was happy and content before I sent him to the west. He wanted to go to Gad. He was an introvert in Haddad and did not have friends. He eventually m ade a friend online and wanted to meet this friend, so he pressured his mother to ask me to let him go to school in Gad to be close to his friend.

felt it **was** an odd decision, but my mate wanted her son to be happy. The pro spect of him finally having a friend seemed great, so we contacted a hostel th ere, and they assured us he would be cared for. We went there in high spirits.

A few months later, he called to inform us he would be sharing an apartment with his friend and that he did not like the living condition of **the hostel**.

My mate had to travel to **Gad** to see where he would **stay** and meet his friend. She **was** a young female wolf **that** went by **the** name Elaine.

#### 20.94%%

10/0

### Chapter 178

She seemed deeent, and **my** mate said it **was okay.** That was how **he move d** out of the hostel," He said, and I frowned.

#### 288 Vouchers

"Did she bother to find out anything about Elaine?" I asked him, realising that might have been his recruiter.

"The girl was an orphan and worked in a bakery in Gad. Her name is Elaine A shbreed. She went missing after my son was kidnapped. I think they killed her

," He said, and I realised that Elaine was a part of it and Elaine wasn't her real name.

"Why did you send your son to the west using a false ID? It doesn't make sen se," I asked him, and he nodded.

He did not

seem surprised, so I knew he was aware his son wasn't bearing his real name .

"I do not travel, Luna, and honestly, I felt it was odd that Liam would ask for a fake ID. He said his last name

would get him in trouble because he was an Alpha breed and the son **of** the N orthern leader. It did not make any sense, but I let it be. He is his mother's fav ourite, so she must have helped

him get it done. Something about wanting him to blend in. He had somehow g otten it in his head that he had no friends because of his last name. She said t he west would be a great way to start over for him. Little did I know he planne d on getting involved with criminal activities and did not want to be traced. The bastard!" he said with rage, and I shook my head. I wanted to question his ma te, but I kept it to myself.

"I think this Elaine girl talked him into it. Based on all you have said, other than being an introvert, he was completely normal until he went to the west. I think he was catfished and made to move to the west for this purpose so they could initiate and use him. He is a pawn in a dangerous game," I said, and tea rs rolled down Christian's cheek.

He had **fought the tears**, but they won eventually and **trickled down**. He we nt on **his** knees **immediately** and **bore** his neck.

45 94%

10:04

## Chapter 178

288 Vouchers

"Please, Lord Hand, he **is** my only heir, do not kill him. Lock him up and do an ything you like but do not make it public for my family's sake. He will not succe ed me, but I do not want him to die, and I do not want him to pull down the res

t of my family. Please, Lord Hand," he pleaded, and I could see the desperatio n in his eyes. Why did Liam do this to his father? This man was the leader of t he north, just like Casey was the leader of the East. Other than the council and

my mate, he answered to no one. All alphas reported to him. He was a powerf ul man, his son had just belittled him. Having him beg Darius in the presence of his Alpha subordinates was a disgrace, but one he had to risk so his stupid son could keep his life.

"Seeing what you did for me at the council today, I will make an

exception, but just this once," Darius said, and I smiled and rubbed his thigh g ently to commend him. It was hard not to make an example of someone that h ad committed treason. It would make it seem like it was an okay offence, but Darius made the exception.

Regardless, I planned on questioning his mate. I wondered why she would make a false ID for her minor son and allow him to move in with a stranger she did not bother to investigate.

It was suspicious.

Knowing Gezel was a luna and part of this nonsense, this woman might be a part of it too. Luckily for me, she was in my custody.

Alpha Christian and his colleagues left, and Darius, Theo and I went to the din ing room to eat.

Kara and Marcel were there, and they both seemed extremely happy.

The moment we sat, Glenda came towards the table.

74.94%

#### Content

10:04 D

### hapter 179

288 Vouchers

### Chapter 179

#### Zora

'You can't sit here tonight, Glenda," Nellie said, a bit irritated.

'We are having a family dinner. The last I checked, Abelardo has not committe d to you, so respect yourself and cat in the room or anywhere you like. And th at is an order." Nellie said to her sternly.

Honestly, we were all tired of having Glenda around.

I wondered when Abelardo would do the needful and send her away. He wasn 't going to commit himself. We all knew it, so I wondered what she was still doing here.

Glenda looked at Abelardo, and he glared at her.

"I did tell you it was over, and you should go home, but you chose to hang aro und," he told her, and we gasped. Glenda was shameless.

"We broke up yesterday in the morning, and we are not getting back together again, Glenda. This time I am done. I can't deal

with your nonsense, and I do not think it is something I want to put up with for the rest

of my life. You have done enough. My brother and I are in a good place now, and I want to keep it that way. I will never be Lord of the north, and you should leave since

that is all you ever nag about," He said, and I gasped because I understood w hat had happened.

Glenda must have been part of why Abelardo pushed against Darius so hard.

"So you broke up with **me** because

I wanted you to be a better man?" she asked him, sounding angry and hurt.

0.00%

10:04

**288** Vouchers

Chapter 179

Zora

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## Chapter 179

288 Vouchers

"It is irritating, Glenda, when you constantly ring in my ear that I am suppose d to be Lord. You tell me I am a fool for allowing my baby brother to walk all o ver me. You make me feel inadequate. Guess what? I do not have alpha gene s, I cannot lead battle, and I cannot command respect, so I am not qualified fo r the position. I am done with the nagging and yapping. It has almost cost me my life," he shot back, and she picked up a glass of water and threw the content at him. The content hit Kara, and I could see the rage in my friend's eyes.

"That is not the real reason; it is because of the harem whore, Neva. I know yo u two slept together. Do not try to make this about my words of encourageme nt," She said, and Kara slapped her.

"You can throw whatever you want, as long as it doesn't touch me," Kara said, cleaning the water spilt on her.

The water was cold too, so I could understand Kara's anger. I also figured she contemplated before slapping Glenda because she allowed the woman to fini sh her sentence before doing it. I knew she also did it because of Glenda's ch oice of words towards Neva.

"A whore, you say," Abelardo said smiling, "if a virgin can be regarded as a whore then

it's okay, but she is more of a woman than you will ever be. An alpha breed fro m a prestigious family well brought up

and a joy to be with. She makes me want to

be a better version of myself. She accepts me for who I am and genuinely lov es me. I am not a social staircase to her. Neva is the best decision I have ever made. Since you have decided to spill it, I might as well announce my intentio ns," He said and stood up and went to where Neva was sitting.

He went on one knee and brought out a small jewellery box.

We all knew what would ensue. He asked Neva to marry him, and she said **ye s** before he could finish the sentence.

**Tears** of joy streamed down my cheeks. I **was** so emotional **that** Darius **held** me.

27.79%

10:05

## Chapter 179

288 (Vouchers

"It is irritating, Glenda, when you constantly ring in my ear that I **am** supposed to

be Lord. You tell me I am a fool for allowing my baby brother to walk all over me. You make me feel inadequate. Guess what? I do not have alpha genes, I

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27 79%

10:05

Chapter 179

Glenda stormed out of the place, and she was wailing.

#### 288 Vouchers

I did not like her methods or intentions, but it was painful. She had been with Abelardo for years, and he never popped the question. Neva came in and too k it all.

I do not blame Doimine either, if all he said was true, then he would have sent enced himself to hell if he married Glenda.

We all congratulated them; it was indeed a happy day for us.

After our meal, Marcel stood up to make an announcement. I already knew what it would be, but I was attentive.

"Kara and I went to the clinic today, and we are four weeks pregnant." He said, and everyone was overjoyed.

We all knew Kara wanted this badly, and now she had it; I looked at Eloise, w ho sighed with relief. Finally, she could rub her bump in the presence of Kara without feeling guilty.

I looked at Kara and smiled at her. She had come to complain to me some days ago, crying profusely, if only she knew the godd ess had already blessed her. I wondered if her test strips were working, and I planned on asking her that question.

The day had gone better than we had hoped, but we still had much to do.

I was ecstatic about Kara's news. She beamed so beautifully at the table. I sig hed with relief, knowing Kara had finally gotten her wish. Our children would b e born around the same time and grow up together.

How much more could we thank the goddess for blessing us so greatly? From unhappy women whose husbands had cheated, to war trophies, then lunas of the most powerful men in our world. We must have done

something extraordinary in our past life for the goddess to smile upon us.

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#### Zora

There were two great pieces of news. Neva had finally given it up and was get ting married, and Kara was expecting. Darius and I retired to bed in high spirit s.

"[

can't believe my brother finally popped the question," Darius said, changing int o something comfortable to sleep in.

"And to think the woman that brought that out of him was Neva," he added, and I laughed.

"It sounds weird that some of the women in the Harem are virgins, don't you think?" I said, and he laughed and came to sit on the bed.

"Yes. We usually sort them that way to avoid them being molested or abused. Saying they belong in our harem makes them sort of forbidden. but we allow them to mingle and choose a mate if they so desire. It is my way of protecting them." He said, and I had figured that part out already

"So why did Theo say you do not touch used goods?" I asked him, remembering what Raphael had told us upon our arrival.

Darius giggled and pinched the bridge of his nose; eyes shut tight with his fac e looking up. He was laughing seriously.

"So, that is where that came from," he said and looked at me, still laughing.

"I wondered why you **called** yourself used goods that night I came to your roo m. It baffled me. Here I was, thinking I had found someone worthy to

be

my companion, and you were busy calling yourself used goods.

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Theo can be an arsehole like **that**. He must **have said** it **so no** one would **get ideas** into their **heads**.

Lunas are usually bold and very experienced. We have had a couple that had tried to seduce their way out of service. They are usually the most cunning of the trophies, and I did not expect less from them," he said, and I laughed.

"You, my dear, did

not seem interested at all. None of you seemed interested. Kara looked like she just wanted to have fun, Eloise wanted to be left alone, and you were still trying **to** let go of Casey. An unusual mix, I must say. But it all worked out well." He said and placed his hand on my lower belly, I had a little bump now. **It** was n't obvious, but I could feel it with my palm, and he could feel it too.

"I wanted to claim you when we got back today," he said, still touching my lower belly and staring into my eyes. He wasn't smiling anymore; he was serious and looked deeply with need in them.

"Then why did you hold back?" Monica asked, and I blurted it out.

He caressed my cheek with his thumb resting my face in his palm and staring deep into my eyes.

"Because I want it to be special, green—
eyes. I want the moon to bless us twice; I want to do it in the eyes of everyone
. I want to claim you for all to see and know there is only one woman in my he
art, and she will always be you, Zora. I do not want to do it
in the confines of our bedroom. I want everyone to see it," he said, and it touc
hed my heart.

Blue moon claiming **was** usually a ceremonial public affair; of course, we will have to do it again in the heat of passion in our bedroom, but the claiming is d one under the moonlight in the eyes of all the people invited to create and soli dify the bond.

We did not need that because we were fated already, but Darius wanted the aesthetics that came with it. I knew it was the romantic aspect that he

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liked. **The** vows and promises, the shifting and marking. It was great, and it **was** something to **look forward** to.

**He** moved **close** to me and kissed me, stirring up a hunger in me.

I returned the kiss hungrily, and I heard a low growl.

It was Cremin, and I knew we would do more than kissing. The mate bond was driving both of us crazy.

Taking off my clothes, Darius laid me down on the bed and went to work.

He straddled me and bent to suck on my nipples gently, blowing and sucking on them.

"If you move, I will cuff you to the bed, green eyes," he warned me, and I did not know if I should moan or nod.

He grazed his teeth on my skin, moving from my breast to my neck and sucked on where his mark will rest. His mark on my thigh tingled, and I writhed a little.

"That is it," he said, getting up.

I was very wet. He stripped down his clothes entirely and reached for the cuffs he used on me in Vino's mansion, with blindfolds and a feather.

"All that," I said, feeling impatient, and he did not speak.

Darius cuffed my hands to each side of the bedpost, tied my legs apart, and c overed my eyes with the blindfold. I was nervous and eager at the same time.

"You did a beautiful job today at the hearing and asked the right

questions when **the alphas** came. You deserve a reward, green **eyes**," he tea sed **me**, whispering in my right ear, and **I** felt **my** nipples harden.

I felt the **feather** touch **my** lips and **gently** move **down**.

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I felt it between **my** breasts, and **it** moved and circled my right nipple. I felt Dar ius's wet mouth on that nipple, sucking it and teasing it with his **tongue**.

His licks were expert, and I was craving more. Then he left it and circled the fe ather on the second nipple and did the same to it with his expert mouth, it felt warm and delicious, and I moaned, tugging on my cuffs to touch him, but I cou Idn't. It made them feel helpless and at his mercy. I knew that **was** the point, a nd I loved it.

"You are soaking wet, green eyes," he teased, and I felt his tongue in my belly button.

"Darius, please," I pleaded with him.

I did not know what I was begging for, but Monica wanted more. Not seeing w hat he was doing was driving me wild.

I felt his thumbs on both my nipples, and it felt good, his thumbs also felt a bit wet, and it gave the tongue effect.

Before I could absorb all the pleasure I was getting, I felt his tongue searching for my clit, and I writhed to guide him to it, but he kept missing it deliberately.

He would tease the tip with his tongue, suck a little and move elsewhere. He d id it so many times that I became frustrated.

"Goddess, Darius do something," I moaned impatiently and heard him chuckle

"It is mine, so I will take my time," he teased.

I tried to close my legs, but they were tied apart for that reason.

Monica became wild, wanting **the release**, and soon he **sucked on** the nub a nd **did** not let it **go this** time.

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He was still caressing my nipples with his thumb. I was in a pleasure haven and doubted I could take much because my body was sensitive.

The build-up came up quickly while I ground myself against his lips.

I heard him growling, his love bite tingling and driving me crazy. The orgasm e xploded.

"Ahhhhh," I moaned, shaking.

He left my clit and bit into his mark on my inner thigh, giving me a second wav e.

I could feel the tears in my eyes, even though I had blindfolds.

Darius had taken me to an incredible height, and I could not help but let the or gasms move through me.

I felt the tip of his cock on my entrance, and my body went crazy.

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