

Darkness Mate Cheated Versus Fated by Victory Done

Chapter 41

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Zora'S POV

288 Vouchers

As soon as I arrived, our feast commenced. It struck me as peculiar that Marcel chose to wait until I joined them before digging in. Usually, when Darius wasn't around, he took charge. I took it as a thoughtful gesture and felt genuinely appreciative.

Once dinner was over, Eloise and Raphael hurriedly departed, and it didn't take a genius to deduce what they were up to. Eloise no longer seemed tense around him, and I couldn't help but feel happy for her. Cruz was a real jerk, and it was great to see her moving on.

I had hoped that Marcel would allow Kara to spend time with me, but it seemed like Kara preferred his company instead. I understood her choice. so I decided not to make a fuss about it. Slowly, I made my way back to the room, lost in my thoughts.

As I strolled along, Cindy crossed my path, and I braced myself for her usual sarcastic remarks. To my surprise, she embraced me instead, catching me completely off guard.

"Zora, thank you for not embarrassing me out there," she said, breaking the hug with a sincere smile.

"**You and the alpha** make a great couple; I hope it lasts. Ever since he **disbanded his Harem three** years ago, he's been single. You're **really** lucky," **she commented**, causing me to furrow my brow in confusion.

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“Were you around here three **years** ago?” I inquired, and she nodded in affirmation.

“I arrived just a few months before he sent away the women he was involved with. There were five of them in total,” she said with a smile, and a pang of envy coursed through me. But it was only natural, considering my feelings for Darius.

“Well, good for them; at least they’re free,” I remarked, and she shook her head.

“They didn’t want to leave. It was awful. He treated them like they meant nothing. It was heartbreaking to witness. Especially Arya, who was head over heels for him. We all thought she would become his mate, with the way he showered her with attention, and the fact that she came from a small pack up north. But he cast her aside as if she were worthless,” she explained, and I didn’t want to hear any more.

“Well, it’s not my concern,” I replied, hoping to change the subject. She nodded understandingly and placed a comforting hand on my shoulder.

“I don’t mean to upset or offend you. Please don’t take it the wrong way. But be cautious and be prepared to say goodbye. I’m only sharing this with you because you were kind to me today. When he let those women go, he made it clear that they were wasting their time because he has no intention of ever settling down,” she revealed. I smiled gratefully at her and expressed **my** gratitude.

“Well, when it comes to settling down, been there, done **that**. It’s not **as easy as** it seems. But hey, **let’s** see where this journey takes me. Still, I appreciate the heads up,” I said, flashing a grateful smile.

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As she spoke, I couldn't quite decipher her intentions. **Was** she trying to hurt me or just make me feel down? If she genuinely had my best interests at heart and was trying to warn and prepare me, then I truly appreciated her concern. But if not, well, she was simply wasting her time.

Returning to my room, I indulged in a refreshing shower and slipped into Darius's shirt, which had somehow become a regular part of my bedtime attire. It was pretty evident that our wardrobes had started to intertwine, a symbol of our growing closeness.

Who would've imagined that I, of all people, would end up with the infamous Dark Lord Alpha? It was a mind-boggling twist of fate. And what made it even more incredible was discovering that beneath his tough exterior, he could be sweet, loving, and surprisingly sensitive towards me. Of course, I couldn't overlook the fact that he wasn't exactly kind to others, but somehow, I liked that about him.

Lost in my thoughts, Monica interrupted, yearning for Darius's presence. "What do you think he's up to?" she asked, her voice tinged with longing. I let out a sigh, sharing her sentiment.

"I don't know, Monica," I said, and it hit me deep in my heart because Monica felt it, too.

"I think I'm starting to develop feelings for him," Monica confessed, and a grin spread across my face.

"**We** both are," I reassured my inner self, feeling a sense of warmth.

"Do **you** believe in **destiny**?" She questioned, using a word that had lost **its charm** for me.

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“Honestly, I don’t care anymore. If Darius turns out to be genuine and we end up together before he arrives, I’ll turn him down,” I confided in my inner self.

“Casey couldn’t do it, and he loved us,” She reminded me.

“Not enough, it seems. He didn’t want to show vulnerability. He acted like a jerk and only thought about himself,” I expressed my frustration.

“Do you think Darius will be different?” She inquired, knowing well that I could n’t provide an answer. But she asked anyway because it bothered us both.

“Our feelings intertwine,” she acknowledged, and a chuckle escaped my lips.

“Do you think he’ll fall in love with us?” I queried, and she fell silent.

“I wonder if he’ll ever confess his love for us, or if this is all we’ll ever receive,” I pondered aloud to my inner self.

“I can’t wait to hear that heartless Dark Lord Alpha confess his love for us. **It’s** like a complete reversal from the stories we’ve heard,” she remarked.

As I

lay in bed, I adjusted myself and curled up on my side, embracing his pillow.

“Let’s not get our hopes **up** too high, Monica. **We’re** still prisoners of war,

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and **he’s the** Dark Lord Alpha. **We** should be grateful for whatever we receive,
” I replied, grinning as I clung
tightly to the pillow, which carried **his** intoxicating scent.

Engaged in our activities, sleep eventually overtook us.

Blissful delight surged

within me, and for a moment, I believed it was all a dream. But when I opened my eyes, I found Darius nestled between my legs.

My mind was a bit foggy, and the intense pleasure he was bestowing upon me prevented my thoughts from settling. Unrestrained moans escaped my lips as I surrendered control of my body and succumbed to an explosive climax, awakening me fully with an insatiable longing for him.

He rose to meet my gaze, his lips glistening with my essence. He kissed me passionately, and I tasted myself on his lips.

“I couldn’t resist, Zora,” he whispered, his voice filled with longing, and I couldn’t help but embrace him and lock our lips in a passionate kiss.

“Good morning, my love,” he greeted me, his hands slowly removing my clothes, revealing the desire in his eyes.

He immersed himself in me, and I wished with all my heart that this **wasn’t just** a dream, that this moment was real and intense.

Taking charge, I flipped **us** over, eager to demonstrate **my skill** in taking control. I wanted to show him how I could ride the waves **of** pleasure.

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He held onto my hips, guiding me **with** gentle precision, **as if we** were dancing to an intimate rhythm only we could hear.

Lost in **my** own world of ecstasy, we reached the peak of pleasure together, our bodies synchronized in a symphony of bliss.

As we lay side by side, he drew me close, his lips tenderly grazing my neck, leaving a trail of sweet sensations.

“I couldn’t resist, those captivating green eyes. You’ve become my addiction,” he confessed, and I couldn’t help but giggle, feeling a delightful flutter in my chest.

Glancing at the clock, I noticed it was already two in the morning. He must have stealthily sneaked out of his mother’s house just to be with me. It made me feel cherished, like I held a special place in his heart.

“Did you miss me?” he inquired, and I turned to meet his gaze. “Not at all,” I fibbed, playfully teasing him.

With a gentle peck on the tip of my nose, he chuckled, his eyes fixed on me with a serious intensity that caught me off guard.

“Don’t break my heart, Zora,” he implored, and my laughter faded, realizing the vulnerability beneath his words.

He tenderly stroked my hair, **his** gaze unwavering. “I will never let you go,” **he** declared with unwavering determination, pulling me close, enveloping me in **his** protective embrace, and **together we** drifted into **peaceful** slumber.

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Zora’s POV

288 Vouchers

The sparks flew between Darius and me, and I found myself head over heels for him. My heart was a wild beast, refusing to be tamed.

Darius had the charm, the words, and the actions that made me feel like the center of his universe. I started thinking,

“This is the real deal.” But wait, I had thought that once before, not too long ago, and it left me shattered and scarred.

I wasn’t ready to take that leap again; it was a daunting prospect. I battled with my emotions, desperately trying to convince myself that it was just a casual affair.

I made a conscious effort to analyze the situation, protecting my fragile heart. The mere thought of Darius and I not being destined for each other terrified me beyond belief.

Thoughts about the future relentlessly haunted my mind. What if, out of the blue, she appears just like Lori did? Where would that leave me? Uncertainty casts a dark shadow over my emotions.

He had never uttered those three magical words to me. Perhaps, for him, **this was** merely a thrilling and exhilarating experience. I scolded myself for allowing these feelings to **take** hold **of** me, knowing the potential risks **involved**.

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Day after **day**, we would wake up together, share meals, and engage in training sessions side by side. I would then let him attend to his responsibilities while eagerly anticipating our evening rendezvous, where **we** would indulge in whatever activities pleased us.

This rollercoaster of emotions was both exhilarating and terrifying because, unbeknownst to him, I had fallen head over heels in love. The line between joy and fear blurred in his tumultuous affair.

The moment arrived when I decided to open up to Darius about my fears. We found ourselves lying on the grass in the secluded western garden of the estate, a haven seldom frequented by others. It was the perfect setting for our conversation, as if the tranquil surroundings were meant to shield and embrace our heartfelt exchange.

“Darius,” I whispered softly, as we lay side by side, gazing at the breathtaking stars adorning the night sky.

At that moment, the world seemed magical, and I feared that my words might shatter the enchantment we shared.

“**Yes,**” he responded, and a wave of relief washed over me like a gentle breeze.

“Tell **me**, Darius,” I ventured, “do you ever release your captives?” His laughter danced through the air, mingling with the twinkling stars above.

“Ah, **my** captives,” he mused, his **eyes** gleaming mischievously. “Are you referring to the prisoners in **cells** or the treasures I hold?”

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“**Your** treasures,” I clarified, and he exhaled, **as if** releasing a secret burden.

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“They have no place to return to, you see,” he explained, a touch of sadness in his voice. “I am their Alpha, and they are bound to me. They are not imprisoned here, this sanctuary is their only refuge for now. They are free to depart, but they choose to remain, seeking love or new adventures in Wonderland or other realms of the north. They stay here willingly, under no compulsion. I am a noble guardian, not a monstrous jailer. I hope these women will find love and move on when the time is right. I understand their desires and needs,” he confided, his words carrying a compassionate understanding.

“Hey, have you ever thought about settling down?” I blurted out, eagerly awaiting his response. Silence hung in the air, filling the space between

1. **us**.

“Sorry for prying, but I overheard some ladies gossiping about how you kicked out all those women from your harem. They mentioned a certain Arya whom you told that settling down was not on your agenda. I just want to know if it’s true,” I confessed, my curiosity getting the better of

1. **me**.

I quickly added, “Not that I’m concerned or anything. I get it. After a failed marriage, it’s natural to be cautious. I’m fine with where we stand now. If you happen to find your true love, I won’t be a hindrance,” I tried to convince myself, attempting to downplay my feelings for him.

He turned towards me, his **gaze** piercing into my soul. “Look into my **eyes**,” he commanded, and I obediently complied, masking any trace of emotions on **my face**.

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With a solemn tone, he confessed, “Yes, I did say those words, Zora. And I meant them. As the ruler of the north facing an imminent war, I can’t envision myself tying down any woman. It was my way of setting them free, allowing them to move on from me,” His words stung, for they revealed that his perspective hadn’t shifted.

When it comes to my destiny, I couldn’t care less about that stuff, Zora. I shape my own future, regardless of what the stars may say. I won’t lose my cool or betray a woman who’s been by my side through thick and thin just because fate dictates it. I’d reject destiny in an instant, even if it means appearing weak.

He uttered those words, and I couldn’t help but smile at him. Having experienced it myself, I knew it was easier said than done.

With a gentle touch, he caressed my face and flashed a smile.

“I’m not like Casey, Zora,” he reassured me. I nodded, but tears were already welling up in my eyes because I was once again a fool in love. I had fallen head over heels for someone who didn’t plan on taking things seriously with me.

“I’m nothing like my father. My accomplishments aren’t captives, they’re liberated. But I won’t let you slip away, Zora. You’re not held captive here, and you’re not a trophy. You’re the woman who means everything to me,” he declared, and I smiled back at him, though tears threatened to spill at that very moment.

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Zora's POV

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As I sat there, he motioned for me to sit up as well. With an intense gaze, he drew me close and pressed his lips against mine passionately. "I long to make love to the woman who holds my heart, beneath the shimmering stars," he whispered, tugging at my clothes ever so gently. The mere mention of 'love' from him left me in disbelief.

His lips traveled from mine to my neck, and I felt a rush of desire surge through me. "I can't wait to claim you as my own, Zora," he murmured, placing fervent kisses on the sensitive spot on my neck. The sensation overwhelmed me, and he traced a path to the curve of my neck, teasingly unbuttoning my blouse to reveal my bare breasts.

"Don't compare yourself to anyone else, Zora. You're not a trophy; you're so much more," he insisted, his eyes locked with mine.

Then, he took one of my nipples into his mouth, gently sucking and sending shivers down my spine. As he continued to pleasure me, he skillfully caressed the other one between his thumb and index finger.

Unable to contain myself, I began to moan softly, and he growled with **delight**, **feeding off** my pleasure.

He gently slid my panties down, parting my **legs** wide. I settled onto the soft **grass**, gazing up at the sparkling **stars as** he pleased **me** with his **mouth**.

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“Oh, Darius,” I sighed, my vision hazy and my heart pounding with excitement.

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I silently prayed for this moment to be everything I desired, writhing and moaning in delight. My fingers tangled in his hair as I eagerly awaited the climax. Every fiber of my being was alive, and I sensed the release building up inside me. Surrendering completely, I let go and it burst forth within me.

He continued his loving ministrations until I gradually came down from the intense pleasure.

Then, leaning over me, he locked eyes with me, his gaze filled with affection and understanding.

“I wasn’t joking when I told you this is what I want, Zora. I love you,” he declared, aware of the worries that had troubled my heart and taking charge before I could utter a word. We made passionate love under the shimmering stars.

“This **is** the moment, Zora,” he whispered, skillfully hitting all the right spots.

Soon, he **sat** up and pulled me closer. I took control, straddling him, holding on tightly **as** our bodies synchronized.

As the pleasure intensified, my pace quickened, knowing an orgasm was imminent. And then it burst forth, overwhelming and intense. He held me close, releasing himself into me.

His arms wrapped around **me**, his head resting against **my** chest.

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"I'm never letting go. I love you," he confessed, his gaze locked with mine.

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With tears of fear in my eyes, afraid that destiny might tear us apart, I hesitated to speak the words of love, as if they held some kind of curse. My trembling lips remained silent.

"Don't worry, Zora. You have nothing to fear when you're with me. I won't let anyone, not even fate, take you away from me. I won't repeat Casey's mistakes. I promise. Your heart and love are too precious for me to gamble away just because fate dictates. I beg you to trust me and love me without hesitation," he pleaded.

I searched his eyes, and they held a sincerity that mirrored Casey's, until the day he laid eyes on Lori.

"You better not make promises you can't keep," I told him, my hands trembling, and my knees quivering with nerves.

"Trust me, babe. I'm not like the rest. I'm gonna keep my word," he whispered as he inhaled my intoxicating scent.

Before

you, I never thought my heart could skip a beat or experience this kind of love. But you've shattered all my doubts and made the impossible possible. I need you to have faith in me, to take this leap of faith alongside me. I know it's asking a lot, but I'm asking you to give me a chance. Let your guard down one more time. And truth be told, I threw caution to the wind because let's **face** it, my heart was already all in.

"I love you **too**, Darius," I **confessed**, my voice **filled** with vulnerability. "Please don't **break** what **little** remains **of my** heart. I don't **think** I can

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survive another rejection. I'll always be by your side, no matter what temptations come our way. I choose to be with you, and I'm willingly giving you my heart. If fate ever tries to meddle with us, I'll let it go in a heartbeat. Because it's you I choose, and I choose you wholeheartedly. But please, Darius, don't let me down. Don't make me share you, and don't make me regret this decision," I pleaded desperately, and he held me tightly, as if promising to protect what we had.

"I'm totally ready to take this journey with you, Zora—settling down and starting a family. I genuinely want to create a life together, and I really hope you'll give me that chance," he pleaded, and I nodded in agreement.

I wanted those same things, too, even though life had dealt me some heavy blows. Despite the hardships, I still longed for those joys.

"Never pay attention to gossip or compare yourself to the people from my past. What we share is something entirely different. It's special and brand new," he assured me, and I nodded again.

Underneath the starry sky, he kissed me and we made passionate love. In that moment, my heart soared, and my worries melted away.

However, the fear of fate lingered, as I dreaded what it had in store for me. Eventually, Darius invited me to meet his mother in Wonderland. After my encounter with Abelardo at the club, I wasn't particularly excited about the meeting.

I discovered that his mother was strict and kept a close watch on her sons. Despite Darius confessing his love for me, what if his mother didn't approve of our relationship?

I **was filled** with apprehension, but since Darius insisted and assured me

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Zora's POV

We had breakfast in our room before getting ready to go.

For me, Eloise was the person who worried me the most, since there were only two possible outcomes: either she would be selfish and force her son to pick between her and me, or she would give me an opportunity. Of course, I was hoping she'd grant me an opportunity.

When I was with Casey, he had no parents, so I had never experienced this.

That time, we prepared and went to see Darius' mother.

However, it turned out that Silvester had waited for us in front of the door.

"Marcel demands my help right now. Do you believe you can hold out for me? The situation looks serious; it involves Elbert and the East," he stated, made me a little concerned about Casey.

"Link me once you're prepared to go," I replied, then he agreed. So, I chose to enter Kara's chamber.

Kara was embroidering a piece of cloth in her room when I arrived. Although it was horrible, she appeared to be enjoying it. Moreover, due to the fact that we didn't dine in the restaurant that morning, I hadn't seen

her.

"Hey, why haven't you people left yet?" she asked, setting down the hoop **holding the** cloth she was tarnishing with her embroidery.

She grinned **at me** when I observed a diamond ring on her finger.

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“**He** made **the** proposal an hour ago. I **just** answered yes without giving it **any** thought,” she stated, beaming **with** teary eyes.

“I can’t make the same mistake twice, can I?” she asked, so I could tell that she was anxious. Fear gripped her.

“What made you say yes?” Observing her anxiety, I questioned her.

“Since I love him, I know it will be fantastic to spend the rest of my life with him, but secretly, I’m afraid fate will intervene and ruin it for me once more,” she replied, then I rushed to give her a hug.

She backed away, gave me a head nod, and wiped away the tears.

I began to understand why she was spending her time in her room embroidering a piece of cloth, rather than interacting with the other people in the Eastern garden as she usually did.

“I must take this risk, if not, I would continue to speculate and regret my actions. It’s a pleasure to meet Marcel, he’s a wonderful man. He is better than that shithole, Sheperd. Which is good,” she wiped away her tears and added.

“Feeling nervous and ecstatic at the same time is a confusing combination of feelings,” she admitted, so I grinned in response.

“Has Darius informed you about the events taking place in the East?” I shook my head in response to her next question.

“We were ready to go when Marcel contacted him for a discussion concerning Elbert and the East,” I informed her, then she nodded.

“That bastard,” she yelled, while I **was** left wondering what had gotten **into** her.

“Elbert split **the** East with great success. The East is no longer entirely under **Casey’s** authority. The East **has** merged with **the** South in some **areas**. I **also** observed that he could attack **Casey** to seize total control of

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the East. I just took snippets of Marcel’s discussion. I’m sure Darius would let you know what’s transpiring on in case I misheard,” she responded, making me shocked.

How could the Eastern Alphas have allowed Elbert to exploit them in that way? I felt anxious. I hoped Casey had all the support he required to fight back. Joining up voluntarily was one thing, being coerced into it was quite another.

After nearly two hours of anxiously waiting in Kara’s room, I made the decision to go back to my own. I didn’t want to lounge around in the garden too.

“Can you tell me your position?” I linked Darius.

“In the meeting,” he answered, while I started to get bored. The thing I could do was sit and pray for Casey. However, I eventually gave up waiting and went to sleep.

A few hours later.

A disturbance in the hallway startled me awake.

It was dusk when I peered out of the window.

I questioned what was going on. Darius also still hadn’t come back.

The discussion had lasted all day. What was going on actually?

When some guards approached my room, I sit on the bed because I realized they were Northern guards. That was the first time anyone had ever got into Darius’ chamber.

“Darius” I linked him but got no response, indicating that he was not present. Unexpectedly, Abelardo entered, carrying a furious expression.

“Tie **that** woman; **she has a few** issues to answer,” he stated, making **Monic** a start to **snarl**.

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“It will be better if you cooperate with us, or your acts might be interpreted as t reason,” he cautioned me, so I stared at him fiercely.

“Is Darius aware of it?” I couldn’t help inquiring, but he seemed uninterested.

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“I don’t need his consent to interview a prisoner. No matter how he treats you, your situation remains unchanged. We require your full cooperation, in order t o figure out a crime that has been committed,” he stated, then the guards cuff ed my wrist with the silver handcuffs.

“What’s going on? I should at least be informed of what transpired,” I uttered t hose words, as the guards took me out the room.

“You will learn during the investigation.” Abelardo remarked, so I attempted to link with Marcel and Raphael, but they didn’t answer either.

“What is going on with Darius?” I questioned, afraid something might happen t o him, but Abelardo interrupted my question and slapped me.

“You must refrain from using his name. He is lord of the North!” he stated. I co uldn’t help wondering, what had transpired to leave him in this state?

“He still believed in you. Even if, I’ve cautioned him. Currently, our mother was attacked and she is now in critical condition. She was with an elder from the c ouncil when she got attacked in the afternoon. Sadly, the elder did not survive. The guys were recognized by the soldiers as a mixture of Eastern and South ern troops. The council has requested that we must interrogate the newcom er s, particularly you, because I am aware of your connection to Elbert. Since yo

u arrived here, Elbert has ventured to launch two attacks. It must imply something," he explained, but I thought that was an absurd reason.

"All of us have vowed to serve the Alpha," I stated and avoided using Darius' name.

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"In what ways can we be against him? How come Elbert's sins should be paid for by us?" He glanced at me angrily when I questioned.

"Let me explain why. I cautioned my brother to be cautious with you, but he ignored me. It's a shame I'm here to settle him down when he loses his train of thought. Our mother has successfully avoided detection in Wonderland since our father was slain. She just revealed her Wonderland residence to you before this incident occurred. Elbert's attempt to seize you from the North is something else I won't soon forget. Today was the day for you to see her. They may as well have come to fetch you,

but when they didn't find you there, they chose to cause some harm to others." when he remarked, my eyes widened at his cunning slant. To put it that way made me appear untrustworthy.

"I refuse to say anything unless I meet my alpha," I responded, so he looked at me angrily and smacked me one more time.

"You'll treat me with the same respect. The council has given me the authorization to employ violence if needed. I wouldn't want to muck up my brother's plaything. Don't push me." he stated, but I didn't say anything because I knew this was a terrible scenario. Despite how much I despised Abelardo, I had to admit that he was right.

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Chapter 45

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Chapter **45**

Zora's POV

I was taken to a cell and put in jail.

Soon after, I was placed in a cell alongside Kara and Eloise. I assumed Eloise resisted because she was bleeding from the nose.

They couldn't afford separate cells for all of us.

Other women who had been transported from the East were also imprisoned; some of them were cuffed with silver chains and forced to sit on the floor due to the overcrowding of the cells.

"This is quite unjust. They still treat us like captives even if we swore to fight for the North," Kara responded, while I could only nod.

"Let's wait till Darius gets back. I was confident he could set Abelardo in his place." I told Kara, but she gave me a headshake.

"I don't think it's that easy. Darius would have to let the probe forward if the council is supporting Abelardo on this," she told me what I already knew.

"Why did Elbert murder a council member and assault their mother?" When I questioned Kara, she gave me a grimace.

"Recall that there is a conflict," I shook my head at what she said.

"Nothing significant can be gained from that," I remarked, but Eloise only gave me a dismissive headshake.

"He may make the lord and the North unstable. If she passes away, Darius would behave irrationally, giving Elbert the chance he desires." Eloise

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added, while I kept shaking my head.

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“Still, that doesn’t seem like Elbert’s way of doing things. I believe this was done to make Elbert seem,” I asserted.

“It makes no difference, we must still respond to inquiries. I wish we had something helpful to share,” Kara replied, knowing that it would be useless if we didn’t know anything.

Nobody came to help us. There, we stayed the night.

“Who allowed you the authority to enter here and carry out this action?”

Darius’s voice came to me. He was furious. So, I had awoken in the cell where they were keeping us.

“What does it matter if Elbert assaulted Mother? Does it imply that you ought to vent your anger on Zora, Kara, Eloise, and the virtuous ladies from the East? What wrongdoing did they do here?” he questioned, then I noticed Abelardo’s answer.

“The instruction came from the Council. So, I’m simply doing it,” In an effort to defend himself. Abelardo claimed. His speech also had a hint of anxiety, in my opinion. Darius was indignant. All of us felt it.

“You’re simply acting as a jerk. Without treating them so poorly, you could have questioned them any inquiry you needed to. I don’t see why you wanted to injure them,” Darius remarked.

“Treating them so poorly, you say? Yeah, of course, I should, because they are prisoners. They ought to be in a cell, not in your bed,” then I heard a punch, followed by an uproar. His brother was being beaten by Darius.

“Please don’t do this, I’m okay,” I swiftly linked him. I was unsure if it was effective, but the discontent subsided. Following some footsteps, I noticed Darius standing in front of our cell.

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Chapter 45

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“Open it!” he shouted at the guard, making the guy so terrified until he dropped the key twice before unlocking the cell.

“They must respond to the council’s inquiries,” Abelardo said, which I overheard.

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“When that moment arrives, it will be handled respectfully,” Darius answered, then as the cell door was opened right away, Darius ran up to me and carried me out.

I forced him to set me down because I really wanted to walk. However, he felt anxious and terrified.

“I’m not mad at you,” I told him, so he should calm down.

Eloise and Kara were escorted out too.

“I’m sorry I didn’t get back in time,” Darius apologized to me, so I assured him it was alright.

I lied and said they hadn’t when he asked whether they had hit me. I didn’t want Darius to lose control and attack his sibling.

“What transpired?” As we were making our way to the room, I ultimately asked him.

“The house of my mother was assaulted. While a council member was slain, she was hurt. Elbert troops left a message requesting I should give you to him,” I was shocked when he said that.

Abelardo’s rage was justified.

Why would Elbert act in such a manner? What was he up to?

“So he has always known where your mother is located?” Darius regarded me and stared into my eyes as I questioned.

“The second difficulty is that. Only the council members, my brother, and

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Chapter 45

I am aware of my mother’s residence. Elbert’s knowledge of the incident. there and his awareness of our impending visit surprised me,” Darius answered. I realized the circumstance was a dilemma.

Either Elbert had an insider and learned more than Darius believed, or Elbert wasn’t actually behind the plot but it had been staged to look like he was. I was afraid to express these thoughts but expected they would find a solution quickly.

“How is your mother?” I decided to ask this question instead.

“She has recovered well and is no longer in danger,” he answered.

I entered after he opened the door.

“You could not worry about the council or Abelardo, Zora. He is a complete bastard. Nobody is asking you to prove anything. Marcel and Raphael are already looking into the plot,” he explained, so I nodded as

an answer.

I wouldn’t be seeing his mother any time soon as a result of this situation.

Suddenly, Abelardo knocked on our door after Darius and I went back to our room.

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Chapter 46

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Chapter **46**

Zora's POV

Initially, I was terrified of that jerk, but since Darius was back, I was enraged.

Darius appeared to be planning to ignore his brother, but he reluctantly opened the door as the man continued to knock.

Angrily, the guy entered our bedroom.

I could tell he hated me from the way he stared at me.

I'll be honest. I had no idea what his thing was, but it was apparent that I was on his bad side without cause.

"Even if you are the Wolf Lord, you have no authority to obstruct my probe," he stated, but Darius did not reply to what he said.

"Mother might have been murdered and these women could have been running free," he stated, while Darius, simply nodded.

"Absolutely, they will run free, Abelardo. Why should someone be punished for something they did not do?" he replied, making Abelardo stunned

"She was aware that mother was in Wonderland," he insisted, but Darius shook his head in disagreement.

"She had no idea where mother's location in Wonderland Don't attempt to blame Zora for this, the only individuals who had that knowledge were me, you, and the council. In addition, she will never injure me, so Hardy probably has nothing to do with this. It is not his style," Darius expressed his disapproval.

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Chapter 46

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What occurred to you? You used to be so severe and determined. Now you appear pussy whipped,” Abelardo couldn’t help wondering, making Darius chuckled.

“You know, Abelardo, nothing occurred to me. I am not insane and I won’t begin to behave that way just for you. Zora is one of my pack’s members and the East is occupied. She has no justification for battling me or harming our mother. You must put it aside, Abelardo. The way things are, you no longer have the authority to enter my land and direct my men. You must go through me for anything you desire to accomplish and Zora deserves respect. You must under no circumstances ever attempt to harass or harm her again.” he cautioned, so Abelardo wore a dejected expression.

“She’ll be the cause of your failure, Darius, and I’ll laugh at you when it occurs.” After telling him, he turned to face me.

“Your situation is precarious. For eleven years, he has been attempting to replace the gap Shanon left behind. You could believe he is madly in love with you right now, but if Shanon ever comes back, he would ditch you without a second thought. Just don’t relax,” he warned before making his

way out.

Darius was furious over his brother’s remarks, but I got up from the bed. gave him a back hug and kissed him.

“Stop being bothered by it. His remarks can’t affect me,” I reassured Darius, but he was still upset.

We all found ourselves in the same situation when we left the room to go to supper, so I worried how Kara and Eloise were faring.

Darius and I took our seats in the quiet dining room while Marcel and Raphael seemed furious. My buddies appeared to be a little concerned as I observed them.

I hoped our relationship wouldn't become volatile.

As we dined in quiet, Darius made the decision to start a conversation.

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Chapter 46

"Say it," he exclaimed, then Marcel placed his fork into his plate.

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"You have my utmost respect. I recognize the seriousness of the offense. but Abelardo had no business beating up and dragging my fiance from her bedroom like a criminal. I work for you and not the Hand family, so I maybe could punch him next time," Marcel added, while Darius looked at Raphael.

"I could do the same," was Raphael's only response, making Darius chuckled.

"I've already punched him," he answered, trying to diffuse the situation and it was successful.

"What's up with that guy? The terrible aspect is that the council is aware that he lacks the necessary qualifications to serve as lord, yet they continue to place him in situations where he would disagree with you. I believe we ought to put it up at the summit," Marcel remarked, as Darius nodded.

"The onslaught on my mother and Jenny Lawrence from the council was the biggest issue; Abelardo was the least of our worries," Silvester said.

"When being Luna in the East, I've heard you're one of the greatest investigators and strategists around; what did you feel about this?" Marcel asked me a question, then I glanced at Kara, who was grinning and nodding. He must have heard from her, after all.

“Well, from what I’ve learned, it doesn’t appear to be Hardy’s method of action, rather, it sounds to be more of an insider job, but I may be mistaken,” As I answered, Darius tenderly stroked my hands.

“Speak freely, Zora,” he urged, as I could see he shared the same thoughts. His fascination with the fact that I got the same notion as him could be seen in his eyes, **in my** opinion.

“I believe someone is attempting to compel you to join the fight against

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Chapter 46

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Hardy, probably Jenny could have been the true target, your mother might have merely been around the wrong person at the wrong time,” I spoke, then Marcel scowled.

“They would have murdered Luna Hand as they did Jenny if they had intended her dead, but instead, they simply injured her before continuing Jenny appeared to be the major target. You must ascertain who might wish to murder Jenny,” Marcel nodded as I continued.

“Why did you make it appear as though Hardy had dispatched soldiers to try to capture you and blame Hardy and the East for the attack?” Raphael asked.

“That was the silliest storyline I’ve ever seen. This was done by a not so intelligent person. First of all, Hardy is unaware of her location; secondly, how in the world did he learn Darius and I were planning on coming there? Whoever did this is aware of the conflict between Hardy and the North. They are also aware that Hardy has made an effort to capture me from the North. They just believed that Darius’ animosity for Hardy would cause him to ignore the other elements of the plot and pursue his arch-enemy instead. The guy was careless and dumb,” I explained, then Raphael seemed satisfied with my answer.

“We all had similar thoughts, Zora, but since Kara mentioned that you are a strategist, we were curious about your abilities. Fortunately, you are really competent,” Marcel stated. I turned to face the smiling Darius.

“You two owe me fifty each,” Darius replied to Marcel, while I was speechless that they had placed a wager on this. We laughed as I lightly tapped his palm, then our supper was once again filled with hilarity

We spoke about it at dinner, but I was still concerned. I was astonished to learn that someone was prepared to use the South and the East as a ruse to get their goals.

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Content

Chapter 47

Zora's POV

Even **so**, I had no idea what was going on with Jenny. I was unable to sleep because of the chaos.

Darius was too exhausted to notice that I was having difficulties sleeping, so I spent the entire night tossing and turning

The incident that had occurred disturbed me. The North and East were causing me concern. I worried about Darius' mother too. Abelardo frightened me most of all since I didn't know most of his personal plans.

HA

I got out of bed early and took a shower.

I used the bathroom while Darius was still asleep. I switched on the tap and stood below it, attempting to clear my head.

“Good morning, darling,” Darius murmured as he joined me in the shower.

I was startled since I had been thinking for a long time and had not heard him enter.

He scowled when I turned to face him.

I could see it was hard, because he was completely **nude**.

“What’s the problem?” I shook my head in **response to** his **kind** question.

“I know you have **some** problem, Zora,” **he added, so** I could **only**

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sigh.

“**Darius, what if someone** had murdered your mother? What may **have occurred?**” I **spoke out**, expressing my **worries**, but he gave **me a** warm embrace in **response**.

“Let **it go**, please.

You cannot be harmed by Abelardo. I am confident that you will never betray me. You’ve already shown that. It doesn’t matter what Abelardo declares,” he replied, kissing me.

“Zora, you are secure with me. I’ll stop anyone from harming you,” he stated, then I drew back.

“You might have gone to fight with the East because of this,” I exclaimed, fearing for Casey, but he looked into my eyes calmly.

“I care about you too much to criticize your ex or your family. Unlike previously, I would do some research first. So, don’t think too much about it,” he explained, that was why I nodded because I understood it.

In the shower, he lifted me up, so my legs encircled him.

“**We** can’t let this go to waste right now,” he remarked, making me chuckle.

He helped me **get out** of the shower **and** onto the bed before **descending** on me.

When I **was tossing and turning**, I **ought** to have **awoken him**. His **caressing of me made my problems seem unimportant**.

I **groaned as I sensed his finger enter me as he stroked on my nerve bundle**. As soon as I **reached my peak**, he **rammed his extremely hard and stiff manhood into me**. It was **quick and vigorous pumping**. Like he had been **waiting for** it all night.

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Before he finally arrived, I had **already** reached **multiple climaxes**. **By the time** he was done, **my legs felt** like jelly.

He **softly** rubbed my back as I laid down to regain my breath.

“Zora, don’t be concerned about war. How can I prepare to go to **the** battlefield when I would like to create a household that **includes you** as my wife?” he stated, making me freeze in bed.

I looked into his black eyes to figure out if he was being **serious**, but there was certainly any.

“Darius,” I called him, then he gripped and kissed my hand.

“Please don’t worry about what went on with Abelardo. I haven’t ever in my entire life been so certain in a decision. I desire this. I never used safety measures around you because of this. I would like to get married and have kids with you. I want you to be my mate, my wife, and my Luna,” he said, making tears of joy and relief streamed down my cheeks.

“Darius,” I called again and he nodded in agreement.

I **was** unable to talk. My throat was blocking my breathy speech.

He gave me a warm kiss while beaming **at** me.

“That **is** the reason I want you to come meet my mother,” he **replied, breaking** the kiss, **and proceeded** to get a **jewelry box from the dresser**.

"I chose **this for you,**" he **stated** and held my left hand as he sat next to me in bed.

"I've never had this kind of feeling for someone before. Zora, I want it to be known that you make me whole. You are neither a whore nor a prisoner, therefore no one will ever again use such

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terms to describe you. You have both my respect and my life. **You own** all I have, Zora. Together, **I** want to make this jump. Let's carry this through," he stated and pulled out an emerald ring, while I **giggled at the green gem.**

"It matches your eyes, doesn't it?" he joked, smiling with me and then put the ring on my ring finger. I kissed him since the shiny band made it appear magnificent.

I hoped that this would be the final time I would say yes to marriage.

I could tell a difference when Darius made love to me the second time, because he was so pleased with my response. His movements were firm and purposeful.

He was expressing all of his emotions, **so** I was really grateful to receive them.

Cremin soon took over, so when Monica jumped in, things became **out** of hand. They had also decided to be mates.

Content

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Chapter 48

Casey's POV

It was **difficult**, but I needed to defend what remained of my area against Elbert's attack.

I really wished Zora was on my team during these situations.

She was well aware of what was required and how to behave.

Our chances didn't look good, however I was still depending on Sheperd and Cruz.

That was fine, even if Elbert teamed up with the smaller Alphas.

I believed it was their decision.

Some of them want vengeance for their loved ones while others wished to pursue the wolf lord to reclaim their daughters. I could feel their suffering. No matter how the Wolf Lord defended his attack, it was wrong. It was incorrect to target the entire East since an East pack decided to assault him.

I **was** aware **that it** would be cowardly for the East to concede defeat, then advocate reconstruction and **progress**, but I was **unwilling** for **us** to **suffer** any further **losses**.

The warriors in the North had larger armies and were stronger.

We could have leveled the battlefield by pooling our resources with those of the South, but I refused and still do not have faith in Elbert's motivations.

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The remaining Alphas who belong to me responded when I **called for** a meeting.

They were both enraged and terrified.

Cruz was the one who introduced Elbert to us, thus everyone held **him** responsible for our tragedy.

We were all furious that Elbert intended to coerce us into joining

1. up.

It appeared as though the portion of the East that voluntarily followed him was inadequate. He invited Sheperd, Cruz, and I to join his squad as well.

I wasn't calling the meeting because of what I saw during the alphas' arguments and blame-shifting. I convened the conference because I needed to identify the ideal peace option. It was not an option to come along Elbert.

"We need to declare a cease-fire," I remarked, making the room become silent.

"Alpha Casey, we are unable to perform that; the man is insane. I've heard that he claims to be the legitimate Wolf lord after killing Collier Hand," Ramsey stated. As a result, Elbert's level of ambition **startled** me.

"We should **find a method** to let him **know that we disagree with** his opinions, also that we won't **wage war against the North,**" I **advised them, and they concurred.**

"How will we accomplish that? We've already let him know that we take a neutral approach. What other way is there for us to make it clear to that scumbag that we don't care about his promises or supporting his agenda?" Alpha Christian stated.

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"Since you informed us that Luna Zora had positive things to say about the Wolf Lord and that he had been handling our sisters and daughters properly, we have come to an understanding. How many more are we still going to lose?" Timmy spoke, sounding just as weak as he was.

He belonged to the group of Alphas that shunned combat. Since his daughter was already mated, he only had his granddaughter. That was why, I could see why he was afraid.

“I propose that we confront Elbert and make him aware of his limitations. We can defeat him; the greatest of the East is not what he snatched,” Gaston remarked, while I shook my head.

“Luna Eloise handled shelter protection, Luna Kara handled welfare, and Luna Zora was one of our greatest strategists. We have no hope if those three facets of our society aren’t here. By stealing the three strongest Lunas from the East, the North already rendered us helpless. We must count on durability, like my wife used to say, intelligence always triumphs over strength,” I stated this while thinking about Zora, and then we became silent.

“**We** remain able to do with what we currently have,” Gaston replied, so I nodded in agreement.

“**Naturally**, we are able, but we don’t want any more devastation. I propose to have a **peace talk** with him,” I **suggested**, but they **started to** complain.

“**The guy is crazy. He won’t respond to anyone or us. He is avaricious and possessive. He will not give up until he has what he needs,**” **Gaston countered. It seems that the Alpha had already decided to confront Elbert.**

“I’ll try to arrange a peaceful meeting with him,” I answered, but **Garrick objected.**

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“**Cruz is to blame for this catastrophe. He should end this problem because he was the one who brought it upon us. Why put your life in danger?**” **Garrick responded, so** I could only nod.

“Alpha Garrick, I recognize your rage, but this goes beyond petty. Cruz did bring him, but we were all in agreement. We decided to merge

our forces
with the South in order to shield ourselves, despite Zora's warning that the Wolf Lord wasn't
troubling us. Cruz did not coerce us into the partnership; we voluntarily chose
to join; so he cannot shoulder the burden by himself. I am
the leader of the East, so I am the one who should talk with
Elbert," as I acknowledged my role and announced, everyone fell silent.

"We'll start a war with Elbert if something happens to you. Just that straightforward is it. He needs us for the army he is assembling, and a battle with him
would weaken his force's size and might. Even if we lose, we will still cause harm.
I would rather injure the bastard and die than accept
commands from him," Sheperd responded, making me realize that he didn't like Elbert

too.

Max asserted that Sheperd had sent numerous letters to Kara in the North,
but he never received a reply. He attempted to imply that Zora created her
letter **under** threats, but I had **to** make him aware of the distinction.

**I never mistreated my wife for Lori's benefit, except from breaching my
pledge to her.**

I never touched her and I treated her as my wife as I should have.

**I wouldn't have given her up and would have sacrificed my life for her, but
he acted in the other way.**

**He should
interpret her quiet as a sign that she is moving on. She had probably left
while still having fun there.**

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She

was undoubtedly enjoying every moment of **her life** alongside **Alpha**, Beta, Gamma, or Delta, **since it** was customary in the **North** to **distribute** Lunas among the highest commanders.

Anything would be preferable than the life she and Jada had with him.

I frequently noticed the silver scars on Jada's white fur while we were out **for** our community full moon treks. Since it was none of my concern, I disregarded it.

Sheperd refused to let go despite my pleadings, while he later expressed a desire to wage war on Elbert. All I saw was a frustrated alpha seeking excitement.

He never cared about Luna the way he ought to have.

I turned to face Cruz.

"Make plans for a conversation with Elbert for the following evening in the area of Hill Valley Land that borders Krane. He'll feel secure meeting me there," I ordered him, then ended the

discussion.

During the conference, Lori kept buzzing my phone, **so** I rushed **home** to **find** out **the** issue.

When I **got** there, I discovered Northern warriors in my house.

I needed to be cautious even **though** it **didn't** appear like they were coming to attack me.

The last **time they visited my house, they brought my wife with them.**

I prepared myself before entering the home.

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As Lori began to show, we discovered we were **carrying triplets.** It indicated that **soon our home** would become **filled.**

The news made me joyful, but my happiness wasn't **complete.**

I didn't want this kind of life for myself.

It broke my heart that Zora wouldn't be joining me on this journey toward parenting.

I gradually came to terms **with** the fact that, rather than fate, I was to blame for my misery.

My pledge would always haunt me since I failed to follow it.

Content

Chapter 49

Casey's POV

"Alpha Casey, the Council of the North has sent us," the envoy's leader announced as he entered my humble abode. I offered a curt nod, beckoning him to take a seat as I settled onto the couch **in** my living room.

My gaze swept across the room, discontent rising within me at the sight of Lori's renovations. Zora had an exquisite touch when it came to decorating, but alas, this was now Lori's domain, and she had the liberty to do as she pleased. My eyes fell upon the refreshments she had prepared for our guests, tiny delectable **bites** and drinks neatly arranged on a tray.

I couldn't help but wonder if Lori had acted foolishly, slipping something into their drinks. The mere thought sent shivers down my spine. The last **thing** I desired was to find myself caught in a **vicious crossfire** between Elbert **and** the nefarious Dark Lord Alpha.

Lori's smile lit up her face as she made her way towards me, her eyes filled with anticipation. With a polite smile in return, I watched as she retreated to her room. I had yet to grant her access to the master bedroom, a decision I had not yet been inclined to make.

Zora's attire still hung delicately on the racks, and her captivating images adorned the walls of our shared space. Over time, Lori had

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grown accustomed to their **presence**, and they no longer **stirred any unsettling** emotions within her.

Curiosity piqued, I questioned the man before me, the one who seemed to hold some authority in this situation. "May I know what brings you to my doorstep?" I inquired, maintaining a polite yet inquisitive tone.

With an air of significance, he introduced himself as Jacob Mikhailov, the spokesperson for the esteemed Northern Council. Though his appearance struck me more as that of a formidable warrior, I chose not to dwell on it and allowed the conversation to proceed.

No formal introduction was necessary; he was well aware of my identity and the role I played in this complex landscape. This knowledge on his part only deepened my curiosity about the purpose of his visit.

"The North wishes to ascertain your interest in joining forces with us," he declared, his words carrying a weighty resonance. "Alpha Hardy Corrigan has **laid** claim to a portion of the East and now **poses a grave** threat, seeking to subjugate the remaining regions under **his tyrannical** rule. We stand **ready** to aid in **liberating your people** and putting **an** end to his **reign of terror.**"

His **proposal lingered in the air, and I found myself shaking my head in quiet dissent.**

"At what cost, Mr. Jacob? The group that joined forces with Hardy did so willingly; I have no desire to reclaim them. He has promised

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Chapter 49

them **things that are** beyond my ability to provide. I am a **firm believer** in non violence. The northern faction is the source of the **hardships** my people face, as they launched an unprovoked attack, seizing our **wives**, daughters, and sisters. It is the North that has done **us** wrong. They struck the first blow. Had they truly desired peace, they would have engaged in peaceful negotiations. regarding the alleged aggression initiated by Blue Howler before wreaking havoc upon our lives. The majority of us will never fully recover from the losses we suffered as a result of that attack. Hardy has gained allies as a consequence. While some of us are prepared to let go of our loved ones, no matter how agonizing it may be, others have sworn to exact vengeance. I apologize, but I cannot align myself with those who destroyed my home and shattered my life," I stated emphatically, causing Jacob and his men to rise from their seats.

"Alpha, I understand that you are still mourning the loss of your Luna. Please know that she is being well cared for in the North. The Lord himself has personally ensured her safety. Should you ever have a change of heart, please don't hesitate to reach out to us," he said, to which I responded with a nod, signaling the end of our discussion.

They **departed** in silence, and a wave of relief washed over me, **allowing me to finally relax.**

A few hours had passed when Cruz reached out to me, conveying the message that Hardy was now prepared to meet.

I had anticipated the meeting to take place the following day, but Hardy displayed a strong eagerness to proceed without delay.

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Informed of my impending departure, I apprised Lori of my destination, which invoked a sense of fear within her.

Lately, she had been investing considerable effort, even engaging in **training** while carrying our unborn child. I was aware of her aspirations to step into Zora's shoes, and in an attempt to assuage her concerns, I reassured her that this encounter would be peaceful and that I would return unharmed. Gradually, she released her apprehensions, permitting me to depart for the Hill Valley pack.

Upon my arrival at Sheperd's pack house, I was taken aback to find Hardy already present. His willingness to come alone to this location signified a measure of trust in my intentions.

Sheperd, in a low growl, informed me, "He has surrounded the place," before excusing himself momentarily. Evidently, Hardy's trust in us was not yet fully established.

"Hey there, Casey," Hardy greeted, beaming at me, but my smile **was** nowhere to be found.

As **we sat** alone in Sheperd's **office**, I had hoped for **a peaceful** chat **with** him, but I **couldn't** shake off **the anger** I **felt about everything he had done and** hadn't done.

"I **see** you're **doing just fine without Zora**," he remarked, and I **stayed silent**.

Perched on the office couch, I gazed at him, wondering why he

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was pushing for us to team up and attack the north. Why did he **want to target** a man who was simply minding his own **business**? "**What's your deal, Hardy?**" I inquired calmly, **and** he let **out** a sigh.

"**That** man, Casey, he completely shattered my life," he confessed.

"He wrecked my life just as he did yours," he uttered, his voice **filled** with resentment.

Shifting the topic abruptly, he inquired about my well-being, although unrelated to our current discussion. Despite this, I decided to respond, understanding that since I had called for the meeting, it was my responsibility to maintain politeness.

Curiosity getting the best of me, I asked him about the specific actions that had provoked such intense hatred. He let out a sigh, indicating that his words might not be entirely trustworthy, yet I remained willing to listen.

Back when I was only fifteen, Collier Hand launched an attack in the southern region, attempting to extort taxes from **us**. In defiance, my father led a rebellion, resulting in the capture of my mother. Eventually, Collier emerged victorious, and we were coerced into paying those taxes. However, we foolishly believed **that once we complied**, they would release my mother. Alas, **we soon** discovered **that the northern forces never returned what** they took. My father **fell** into a deep **depression**, **losing his sanity** along **the way**. **While others** were eagerly **anticipating** the **day they would come of age to find their** destined **partner**, I was **forced to mature prematurely** and **assume the role** of **Alpha**. **Collier robbed me of the life I should have had**. **When I finally managed to kill him**, I **saw**

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it as

an opportunity to free our **world** from the malevolence **of** the North. Naturally, I should have become the Wolf Lord, but his **son seized** power instead. My plea for a fair competition against that wretched scoundrel to determine who would claim the **seat** was **callously** rejected,” he explained, his voice heavy with disappointment.

“I released my grip on the situation in the south and turned my attention to Zora,” he shared, locking eyes with me.

“I noticed the mark on her neck, a powerful deterrent for me. However, I realized that you had discovered your destined partner, which meant the union was bound to end eventually. That’s when I saw my chance to approach her. I devised a plan to court the captivating green—

eyed beauty,” he explained as I fought to keep my composure, resisting the urge to punch him.

“But then I learned that the North attacked and abducted her, just like they did with my mother. That was the moment I decided to stop being kind,” he declared, his eyes transforming into a fierce golden yellow, signifying his wolf nature.

“**So, you’re** going through all of this for a woman you only met **once?**” I questioned, highlighting **the** absurdity of **the** situation. He chuckled **in response**.

“**You see, unlike us Alphas, who can sense our destined mates** whether they are **claimed or not, it doesn’t work the same way for other wolves. It doesn’t matter** how much **time I spent with her or how many encounters we had, Casey. The only thing that matters is that Zora is my destined partner,**” he revealed, leaving me utterly

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stunned and speechless.

Now, everything he had done **suddenly** made perfect sense.

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Chapter 50

Darius’ POV

I was absolutely thrilled by the bold move I had made. It filled me with excitement, and I couldn’t wait to celebrate our engagement. As I glanced over at Zora, who was mesmerized by her ring, a smile spread across my face knowing how much she adored it. The dining room was bursting with life as we savored our meal, and I couldn’t help but feel grateful for giving love another chance.

I never thought my heart could beat passionately for someone again, but Zora proved me wrong and set my heart on a thrilling race. Throughout dinner, I held her hand tightly, seizing every opportunity to steal a kiss. It felt like a defining moment for me.

Once dinner was over, we returned to our bedroom, and our desires took over. We surrendered ourselves to each other with an **untamed** passion, like two wild creatures. Within the confines of **our room, there** were no boundaries or restraints, and deep down, I **knew** it would always be **this** way.

“I don’t think it’s a good idea for me to come along. **Your brother has a strong dislike** for me, and your mother **recently went through a terrible incident that supposedly involved me,**” she expressed, **dressed in her jeans.**

“I want you by my side. And I hope we can find an opportunity to talk to her about what happened, so you can gather some insights

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on the matter. Most importantly, I want her to meet her future daughter-in-law,” I stated, and she gazed at me.

“I don’t have much experience dealing with my future in-laws,” she confided, and I furrowed my brow.

“Casey’s parents are still alive,” I countered, and she nodded.

“They went away when Casey took over, and they haven’t come back since. It was just the two of us until Lori entered the picture,” she revealed, devoid of any trace of pain in her voice. I was glad to see that she could discuss Lori and Casey without being hurt. It demonstrated that she had moved on.

I embraced her tightly, pulling her close to me, and planted a passionate kiss on her lips. It felt absolutely right to have her in my arms. She was the perfect match for me.

“Green eyes,” I told her, and she responded with a delightful giggle. **“You don’t** need to worry about anything when you’re by my

side. I would **go to** any lengths to protect you," I whispered, lightly kissing the tip of her nose. These weren't just empty words to boost her **confidence**; they were my genuine feelings, **and I meant every word.**

Anyone who dared to come between us would face the full force of my anger.

"Please, come with me," I pleaded, stealing a kiss on her neck, yearning to sink my teeth into it. Unfortunately, I would have to

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wait until our wedding night to fulfill that desire, as per tradition.

"Alright," she agreed, and I chuckled in response.

"Perfect, put on a dress; Jeans can be quite a hassle," I remarked, playfully giving her buttocks a gentle squeeze, eliciting a giggle. **from** her.

"You're such a naughty one," she teased.

"Just for you," I responded, causing her cheeks to blush.

I tenderly brushed her blushing cheeks and ran my thumb along her parted lips. She sensually licked it, sending delightful shivers down my spine. However, she soon stepped away to change her **attire.**

"Choose something short," I suggested, regaining my composure, **and** she smiled in agreement.

"She **belongs** to me," Cremin declared, to which my **inner** wolf **couldn't** help **but** laugh.

"She's ours, Cremin," I corrected him, and he let out a growl.

"Let's speed up the wedding; as the lords, we don't have to wait for the Blue Moon ceremony. I want to claim her as mine now," Cremin insisted, and I wholeheartedly agreed with my inner wolf.

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Chapter 50

#288 Vouchers

The Blue moon ceremony was still three months away, and I couldn't bear to wait that long to claim my woman.

"I'm losing control, Darius," Cremin confessed, hinting that he might give in to his primal instincts before the appointed time. I, however, intended to resist for as long as possible.

She came back, wearing a cute orange sundress that accentuated her gorgeous legs.

"That color looks amazing on you, darling," I complimented, and she beamed with delight.

"It was the only decent outfit I could find for the occasion," she chuckled, fully aware of her less-than-impressive wardrobe selection.

We headed out, and I couldn't help but feel a surge of youthful excitement. As we walked, I impulsively grabbed her and planted a **passionate** kiss on her lips. I didn't care who was watching; I was embracing the freedom of living life on my own terms, and it felt **invigorating**.

Initially, I **had planned** to be **the one** behind the wheel, but **at the last minute**, I decided to **let** Brian take **the driver's seat**. **The intensity of my emotions made me doubt my ability to focus on the road. Instead**, I chose to **explore other possibilities**.

As we journeyed, I couldn't resist the temptation to touch Zora. I gently rested my hand on her thigh, gradually moving it higher. My

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heart raced with desire, and I wondered how much longer I could resist.

"I'm not wearing any underwear," she whispered mischievously,

and I couldn't help but gaze at her intently. A deep, primal urge stirred within me. Sensing my desire, she took my hand and guided **it** between her legs, close to her most intimate area. A moan escaped her lips, igniting a fire within me.

"So, this is why you insisted on wearing something short," she whispered with a playful smile. I knew my eyes were filled with longing; I struggled to control the intense desire that consumed

1. me.

With a gentle touch, she reached for my zipper, sliding it down and delving into my underwear. As she wrapped her fingers around me, a wave of relaxation washed over me, anticipating the pleasure she was about to bestow upon me. Lowering herself, she enveloped me with her mouth, igniting a fire within me that couldn't **be** contained.

Lost in the moment, I couldn't discern **our exact** location amidst the **woods**, but it didn't matter. **It** was my first time experiencing intimacy **in a car** with a woman, and **I was** enthralled by **the novelty of** it.

She expertly moved her head up and down, taking me deep until the tip grazed the back of her throat. Sensing my desire to delay release, I opted not to climax in her mouth this time. Instead, I guided her to straddle me, allowing her to take control.

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Chapter 50

"**I told you I could ride,**" she playfully remarked, alluding to **our**

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inside joke about horse riding. Although her **comment brought a smile to my face,** my heightened excitement prevented me from **laughing.**

Overwhelmed **with** pleasure, I emitted a mix of growls and moans. Her movements were perfectly aligned, creating an exquisite sensation of tightness and harmony. I yearned for her pleasure to take precedence, so I exercised self-control. Guiding her body, she gyrated sensually, grinding herself against my length.

“I’ll be right there,” she whispered, and her words danced melodically in my ears. Her ecstatic moans reverberated as her muscles gripped me tightly, releasing waves of pleasure. When she finally descended from her climax, I let go, feeling a sense of tranquility wash over me as she dismounted.

“That was incredible,” I murmured, leaning in to kiss her, which made her giggle playfully.

“I hope **I don’t** doze off before we arrive,” she chuckled, expressing her light-hearted **concern**.

“Same here,” I **replied**, glancing at the driver, who **seemed**

uncomfortable.

We had **inadvertently intruded on his privacy**, and a **tinge of guilt** crept over me.

Eventually, **we** reached my **mother’s house**, and **Zora and I stepped inside**

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Chapter 50

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In the sitting room, my mother **sat** with Abelardo and **one** of **Shanon’s cousins**. **Unluckily**, it happened to be his new **girlfriend**, **Glenda Sullivan**—a rather unpleasant **person**.

“Alpha,” Glenda exclaimed, rising from her seat upon catching sight of me. My brother mirrored her actions but appeared displeased at the sight of Zora.

“Why did you bring your girlfriend here to meet mother?” he spat angrily, and I could feel my anger rising, but Zora restrained me.

I approached my mother, embracing her tightly and planting a kiss on her cheek.

“Mother, I’d like you to meet Zora, my fiancée,” I introduced, a wide smile forming on my face. My mother reciprocated with a warm smile of her own and embraced Zora.

“What!” Glenda and Abelardo exclaimed in shock, their voices ringing out. I couldn’t help but wonder if my brother would ever learn to mind his **own business**.

“She’s **not your** destined one,” Glenda sneered, **and I confess**, if it **weren’t** for **my respect for women**, I **might** have **been tempted** to give her **a taste of** my **exception**.

Content