

Read Chosen by the dragon kings novel Chapter 51 online free

Elora's POV

Abigail saved me, she saved my life knowing she would expose herself, expose her family. She nearly died to save me. And I feared what Silas was going to do to her. I could feel the bond, feel them and right now they were all in shock. But what happens after the shock wears off, what happens when Silas wants to break the curse again? I try to hop off Silas's lap, but his grip just gets tighter Matitus and Dragus both sitting on the floor with us.

"I'm sorry, Elora. I don't care about the curse; I just need you, please forgive me" Silas whispers into my neck, clutching onto me like I am his lifeline.

"Let me up please Silas" I ask, and he reluctantly let's go allowing me to stand. Turning around and looking down at him. I could tell he had been crying, it looked strange to see someone so cruel as him to have tears stains on his cheeks.

"Are you going to leave us?" Silas says, looking up at me. I don't know what to say, I love them. Even when the bond was gone, I still loved them. But this was toxic, Silas was toxic.

Instead of answering I walked away, I could feel their eyes on me as I turned on my heel and walked out. Feel their worry through the bond. I couldn't allow them to have this much control over me. It was annoying and couldn't be helped but I had to draw a line somewhere. They needed to learn to compromise. I knew Dragus would follow me blindly, maybe even Matitus if I left. But I didn't want it to come to that. As much as I hated him, I still couldn't bring myself to leave him.

Walking into the kitchen I look for Abigail and Marian. They weren't there but one of the cooks told me they went outside so I decided to see if I could find them. Walking past the library to the front door, I was stopped by Dragus.

"Where are you going?" he asks, and I could feel his unease through the bond like I was walking out on them.

"Abbie and Marian went outside, I am looking for them," I tell him, and he lets out a breath. I go to open the door when I feel a hand on my shoulder, sparks

bursting across my skin and I look over my shoulder to see Silas. He places a cloak over me.

“Don’t stay out there too long, it is especially cold today,” he says before tugging on the cloak and turning me to face him. He ties it closed before letting me go and I open the door and walk out. I see Abigail and Marian by the gates and head over to them. Abigail was arguing with one of the guards wanting permission to leave.

Abigail seemed distraught as I approached her, screaming hysterically for the guard to open the gate. Marian was trying to calm her down but failing as Abigail grew more frantic.

“Abbie what’s going on?”

“I found a text my mother couldn’t get out, they were captured at the eastern wall, they have Claire” she sobs.

“It’s alright Abbie calm down, I will speak to Matitus”

“No, no. You know why you can’t Elora. I can collect my daughter, but mum has to stay till she is granted clemency” she pleads, grabbing my hand. Looking at the guard I can tell he is a vampire by the crimson colour of his eyes, he folds his arms across his chest refusing to step aside.

“Move, let her out now,” I tell him. He smirks at me, stepping forward menacingly.

“You don’t give me orders woman, now get back inside to your owners,” he says before spitting next to my feet.

“I said let her out, now step aside leech” I yelled at him. He grabs my arm, yanking me to him. Enraged that he thinks he can touch me. I palm him in the face, only I wasn’t expecting the blow to actually hurt him. He starts screaming in agony when I feel energy burst from my palm as it connects with his face. Blinding white light spurting from my hands and I wasn’t even sure what I did, but he started screaming.

“My eyes, my fucking eyes” he screeches, he pulls his hands away from face and I could see I had blinded him. His eyes turned milking white. He growls lunging at me, my shock making me slow to react as he knocks me to the

ground. Abigail screams and Marian tries to pull him off me only to be shoved to the ground.

“You’re dead now bitch” he growls his fangs protruding, I struggle to get him off, fear consuming me as I see his fangs so close to my face. Abigail screams before blasting him with her powers, green light shooting from her and the smell of leaves hitting my senses before vines shoot from the ground and pull him off, wrapping around him and pinning him to the ground. They only hold him down long enough for me to get up when I see more jump from the brick walls to help their fallen friend. The man gets up lunging toward me but before he attacks, only he is blocked when Silas hand wraps around his throat. I could hear the snapping of his bones, the wheezing as he tried to breath around his crushed windpipe when he let him go. The vampire drops to the ground clutching his neck. Silas growls loudly and I see Matitus and Dragus stalking towards us, feeling their anger vibrate through me.

“That bitch blinded me” The vampire screeched, having healed from Silas crushing his neck.

“That bitch, is my mate” Silas growls before kicking him in the face. The other vamps put up their hands in surrender, backing away from us and the three dragon kings. The man on the ground coughs on his blood. Silas glaring down at him before he reaches down grabbing him. Matitus walks over pulling me into his chest, I go to turn back to Silas when Matitus pushes my face into his chest, just as I hear it. The sound of flesh tearing. The sound was sickening before Abigail threw up next to me. Matitus lets my face go and I turn to see Silas holding the man’s head by his hair, his body on the ground at his feet, with blood pooling around it and I fight the urge to throw up. Marian is white as a sheet. Matitus and Dragus however are unfazed by the gory scene before them.

“Now, what happened?” Silas says, turning to me.

“He wouldn’t let Abigail out to retrieve her daughter,” I tell him, and he looks to Abigail.

“Where is she?” He asks, watching her, his eyes glinting oddly more like a snake than a human as they flicker.

Abigail shakes her head and I hear Silas growl when she refuses to answer. I grab his arm making his eyes dart down to my hand.

"She is at the eastern border, they were caught trying to leave," I tell him, and he furrowed his eyebrows.

"Why was your daughter and mother leaving the city?" he asks, turning his gaze on Abigail. I could hear her heart start beating erratically in her chest.

"Silas please" I beg knowing Abigail would rather die than answer.

Silas grips my hand pulling me to him. He grips my chin forcing me to look into his snake-like eyes. Abigail's heart rate beating so hard I was surprised she didn't faint in her panic.

"You lied to me, you said she was Fae," he says, gripping my chin tighter between his fingers.

"You would have killed her and her family."

"What makes you think I still won't?" he says, his eyes darting to my lips. His arm wrapping around my waist pulling me closer, my body now flush against his.

"Because you don't need to Silas, she is no threat to anyone" I whisper. He growls softly before tugging my face closer, I could feel his breath move across my lips. His scent overwhelms me before he kisses me softly. His tongue ran across my bottom lip wanting access. My lips parted and he groaned before plunging his tongue into my mouth, tasting every inch of it before pulling away leaving me breathless.

"Open the gates," he says, turning to another guard who nods his head and obeys his command. The gates open and Abigail rushes out.

"Matitus will go with you, so your mother can get out?" he says. Abigail nods.

"Get her mother out," he says to Matitus. Matitus nods following Abigail.

"What are you going to do?"

"Nothing Elora, you said they weren't a threat. So, I am trusting you," he says, pecking my lips. Dragus steps closer to me, his fingers brushing the back of neck making me look at him over my shoulder.

"Come on, it's cold," Dragus says, looking towards the castle. Marian was already walking ahead and was nearly at the doors. When I went to follow her,

I heard someone call out my name. Turning around, I see Lilith by herself standing across the road. I smile before rushing over to her.

“Lilith, where is your mother?” I ask looking around for anyone that resembles her. Lilith was shaking from the cold and I pulled off the cloak I was wearing before draping it over her.

“Where is your mum?” I ask her, hugging her and trying to warm her. Lilith shakes her head, making me pull back.

“She died, she got sick, and I couldn’t find medicine” Lilith says, tears running down her cheeks.

“What about the rest of your family, your dad?” she shakes her head.

“What are you doing here?” I ask, trying to find someone she might have been with.

“I was looking for food, the dumpsters over here sometimes have good things in them” she tells me. I feel a hand on my back intuitively knowing it is Dragus. I look up at him. Lilith does too, before stepping back. I scoop her up not wanting to leave her out in the elements alone and hungry. Turning around I look at Dragus, but he says nothing, just looks over his shoulder at Silas who was watching us. He turns around and starts walking inside but he didn’t say I couldn’t bring her, so I start following after him. Walking across the road when Dragus takes her from me. I looked up at him worried he was going to make me leave her, but he kept walking with Lilith in his arms.

Lilith looks unsure in his arms and fearful but says nothing. Walking inside Silas is waiting by the door. Dragus places Lilith on the ground and she rushes over to me, grabbing my shirt and looking up at Silas. He stares back at her like he doesn’t know what to do with her.

“Where have you been staying?” I ask looking down at her. She takes her eyes from Silas looking up at me.

“With some other kids in the fabric warehouse, it has power there, the entire city has power now,” she says excitedly. I smile down at her.

“So, there are more kids there” she nods her head and my heart clenches at her words. Dragus holds his hand out to her, she hesitates before placing her

tiny hand in his. One of the maids comes out and Silas calls out to her. I watch as the woman walks over nervously.

“Find her some clean clothes and set up a room for the girl” he tells her, and she nods before smiling down at Lilith.

“Come let’s make you something to eat,” Dragus says to her and I watch them walk off toward the kitchen, Lilith looking over her shoulder at me and I nod encouragingly to her.

Turning to look at Silas, he is watching me silently. My thoughts going to the other children Lilith mentioned.

Silas cups my cheek, his thumb brushing my cheek bone.

“Say it,” he says, his eyes carefully watching me.

“The other kids” I start to say but know he won’t agree.

“You want to help them?” he says, making my eyes dart to his and I nod. Silas kisses me softly before turning and grabbing another cloak and draping it over my shoulders.

“What are you doing?” I ask.

“You need to come too; they will run from me,” he says, opening the door and motioning for me to go out. I dart out the door, and Silas grabs my hand, holding it in his.

“Why are you doing this?”

“Because you want me to,” he answers. “Besides, there is plenty of room till we figure out what to do with them,” he says, tugging me against his side.

I stop, wondering if he would do something else. Silas stops but is still holding my hand.

“What is it?” he asks. I hesitate before asking.

“Will you open the gates?”

“Well yeah we kind of have to, to find them,” he says but I shake my head.

“No, the border gates.” Silas scrunches up his face.

“You want me to open the borders? You don’t know what you’re asking, Lora.”

“Yes, I do, people want to leave the city and you should let them,” I tell him, he tugs my hand, and we keep walking.

“You think we have the borders closed because we don’t want anyone let out?” I nod at his words.

“There are worse things out there, than in here that’s why the borders are so heavily guarded that’s why no one leaves Elora”

“What do you mean?”

“It doesn’t matter right now, let’s find these kids you want to help,” he says, draping his arm across my shoulders.

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Elora’s POV

It took us around twenty minutes to find the fabric warehouse. As soon as I stepped in, I found children from the ages of five all the way to teens. They were all underweight, not clothed for the weather but yet had managed to make beds out of leftover cuts of fabric. They showed the resourcefulness you needed to be able to survive in this city, the same street smarts I was forced to endure growing up here. You made do with what you had or could make yourself. It hit home a little with me. Silas however looked shocked, like he never really paid attention to what the people of this city were suffering. As soon as he stepped into the warehouse behind me, they all took off running for their lives.

“Wait, wait please don’t run. He won’t hurt you,” I started calling out, but they still hid. A couple of the teens grabbed the smaller kids and took off, all except one which as I approached was only about three and definitely the youngest. I picked her up and placed her on my hip. She was freezing cold even with the makeshift blanket wrapped around her and had a terrible cough.

"Please don't let him eat my sister," a little boy with the same dark hair as the girl, called out rushing into the warehouse. The little girl held her arms out for him, scared of us so I passed her to him.

He went to run off when I grabbed his arm, making him stop. "We want to help," I tell him. The boy looked toward Silas.

"We don't need any help, especially from the Dragon King," he said. I will give him one thing: he was brave to say those words in front of him. Silas wasn't a forgiving person, but I was shocked by his reaction, he turned around and walked out. Leaving me here with them.

"Silas," I yelled to him, but he ignored me and kept walking. Should I chase after him? I didn't know what to do. He just left me here. The kids started coming out once he was gone and I could feel Silas anger through the bond. I waited but after half an hour he hadn't returned. I tried to do what I could to help make them a little more comfortable.

"You're the Fae?" One girl walked up to me and said. She had black curly hair and pale skin, around the age of twelve. I nodded not really knowing what to say.

"So, you can save us?" she said, making me confused.

"I don't know what you mean," I tell her, and she looks confused.

"You have magic?" she asks.

"Yes, but I don't know how to use it yet" she nods in understanding.

"So, you're going to rid the Kingdom of the Dragon Kings?" she asks, her words shocking me.

"No, they are my mates,"

"So, you're one of them?" she asks, stepping away from me.

"No, I just want to help," I tell her, reaching my hand out to her wondering what stories they had been told. I knew humans had their own stories and legends, but did they really think I was granted magic to kill the dragon kings?

A group of kids were trying to light a fire with a flint. Walking over I could tell they were wary of me but they didn't run off.

“Let me try,” I tell them, and a boy hands me the flint. I get it to light the kindle, but it goes out almost instantly. I try again when suddenly all the kids take off running, making me look up and I see Dragus, Matitus and Silas as well as Marian come in. All of them carrying boxes and bags. Matitus walks over and blows, and I can instantly feel the temperature change, the logs catching alight. I turn and see Silas do the same with a barrel and Dragus to an old fire pit the kids had rustled up.

Marian rushes over to me with five big black bags. Placing them at my feet before turning and looking at all the petrified kids and screaming out to them.

She places her fingers in mouth whistling loudly, so loud I had to place my hands over my ears with my heightened hearing. Matitus rubbing his ear too.

“Right, all of you listen up. They mean no harm. They wanted to help but seeing as you won’t come to the castle, we brought some things to you” Suddenly I saw the cooks walking in with the cleaning trolleys and could smell hot soup and they had loaves of bread and plastic bowls. The kids all looking out from their hiding places hungrily.

“We brought food, blankets, and clothes. Now don’t be afraid come over and stop being stupid if they wanted to kill you, they would have already” Marian yells. The kids were all staring at her. Once the first one comes forward and the others see he lived, the rest slowly make their way over to us.

The Dragon kings coming over to me and staying away not wanting to scare them. The little girl I held earlier walked over shyly, looking up at them. I know just the look of them was intimidating, but I could see her curiosity and she reminded me a lot of her brother with her bravery. He walked over to her, placing a beanie on her head from one of the bags Marian had.

Silas walks over grabbing the bag. The little girl only had an oversized jumper on and dirty socks. Silas rummaged through the bag before pulling out a onesie that was a little too big but would fit her, if I rolled the sleeves and some socks and mittens.

“Where did you get this stuff?” I asked curious.

“I flew to the next city over, Lycan territory” he said, handing me the stuff for her. I pull the jumper off her revealing dirty singlet and knickers. Helping her into the onesie she then sat down and Matitus put her socks on. Her brother was eyeing him and so did she, as she looked up at him. Her dark ringlets

falling in her eyes. Matitus smiled at her and she smiled back. The cook brought a bowl of soup over for her and I placed her next to her brother closer to the fire pit so she would stay warm while he helped her hold her spoon.

“What are we going to do with them?” I ask Silas.

“They are too scared to come back with us, but I will speak to some people and see if we can fix a place up for them, get some people to look over them and organise food and clothing to be dropped off.

“They need medicine,” I tell him, and he nods, “I will see what I can get from somewhere, I doubt they would accept our blood even if we offered it to them” he tells me. I nod in agreement, these kids were petrified of them and wanted nothing to do with them.

“I know a pharmacist who can make medicine, he just needs herbs,” I tell him, and Silas looks over at me furrowing his eyebrows. Dragus doing the same. Once the kids were settled Marian told them people would be back tomorrow to bring more food, the cooks left a few drums of water and loaves of bread until someone could come in the morning.

Walking out of the warehouse, I detoured going in the opposite direction of the castle. “Where are you going Lora?” Matitus asked.

“To see if Victor survived the winter so far”

“Victor, who’s victor?”

“Someone that can help them,” I tell them, walking toward the old derelict store. The shudders were down as it was getting late in the afternoon. I bang on the shutters.

“Closed for the night” I hear Victor’s voice sing out from inside.

“Victor it’s me, Elora”

“Elora?” he says, and I see him open the peephole on the roller shutter. He then rolls it up.

“How is your grandmother dear?” he says, opening the door, before freezing and stepping back about to close the door.

“Victor they won’t hurt you, I just need your help” Victor opens the door allowing me to enter but steps further into the shop warily and I could hear his heart rate increase.

“How’s your grandmother dear,” he says but I could hear the shakiness in his voice at three dragons being in his store.

“She died Vick,” Victor stumbled back, and I grabbed his arm to steady him before he sat down behind the register.

“I always loved her, you know, such a lovely lady. Did the medicine not help?” he asked and I shook my head.

“No, she killed herself,” I tell him, swallowing down the lump that formed in my throat. He nodded in understanding suicide wasn’t a big deal here, a lot of people saw it as an out even though that’s not why grandma did it.

Victor runs his hands through his greying hair. “So, what do you need?”

“Medicine, cough medicine, antibiotics.” Victor shakes his head.

“I have none. I have been cleaned out and haven’t had the funds to buy more from underground or find any herbs. Everything is frozen”

I take off my mother’s necklace and hand it to him.

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“I can try Elora, but how much do you need?”

“A lot” Silas looks at me, before staring at my necklace I handed him. It was gold so it had value to the underground dealers that grew stuff in the old tunnels but even I knew it wouldn’t be enough.

“When do you need it, I can’t head to the tunnels now, it is getting dark, it’s not safe out there of a night”

“Which tunnels?” I ask.

“They moved to breach tunnels” I nod. Silas and Matitus watching our exchange confused.

The underground tunnels were moved and kept hidden so they wouldn’t be found easily if the Dragon kings found out about it and put a stop to the operations underground, unfortunately those that did know like myself and Victor it cost a lot to get herbs from them. Medication being an expensive and valuable trade to those that had a green thumb.

“How much?” Silas asks.

“Depends how much you want. This would buy maybe three herbs, enough to make two bottles” he said holding up my necklace. Silas digs in his pocket before taking my necklace and handing it back to me. He pulls out a handful of gold coins and so does Matitus and Dragus.

“This?” Silas asks. Victor’s mouth falls open before he grabs one biting into it. “Solid?” he asks and Silas nods.

“Well, you could buy the entire place with what you have there,” he says, nodding to the handful of coins.

“I can’t go now; the vamps will be out hunting and the rest of the creatures” Victor says.

“I will go, if you can make it” he nods before realising what I said and shaking his head.

“Elora, it is dangerous at night,” he tells me. I shake my head, no one would mess with me while I have these three with me.

“Just listen out for my knock,” I tell him walking out. Victor follows behind us, locking back up. The dragon kings watching me before following as I turn down a dark alley.

“How do you know where you’re going, and why would you give him your mother’s necklace?” Dragus asks.

"You don't have the luxury of keeping things in this city, Dragus, you barter to get what you need. Come on," I tell them, walking up another alleyway before stopping at a drain. I lift the grate before using the ladder to climb down. Silas follows first then the others.

"Have you been down here before?" Silas asks.

"Yes, I have come here before with Victor, they move so they aren't discovered. But yes, I have been here, even lived in these tunnels when I was younger," I tell him while navigating through the tunnels. I could feel their shock through the bond and guilt. But I paid no mind to them, instead looking for the ribbon markers that were set high on the walls to show the way. This was life for so many it was about time they realised the hardships their people went through. After about twenty minutes, the tunnels started widening and opening up and I could see light up ahead. Before hearing a voice sing out.

"Password or I shoot"

"Aloe vera" I called out hoping they still used the same one.

"Elora?"

"Yep" I called out before recognising the voice.

"Max?" I ask walking forward and stepping into the light. Under the lights, plants grew even drugs, but that's not what I was here for.

"Elora, what are you doing bringing them here?" Max says, raising his gun. I grab the barrel pointing it at the floor. Max used to work for Victor, so I have known him for a while, but I honestly thought he was dead.

"We need medicine, I have money," I tell him before the clear film curtain opens up and a man walks out to see what's going on, instantly raising his gun.

I put my hands up and Silas growls loudly at the gun being pointed at me. "We mean no harm, just need herbs," I tell him. He had dark skin the colour of mocha and green eyes with a shaved head. He lowers his gun but eyes the dragon kings. I hold my hand out to Silas.

"Give me the coins" Silas hands them over.

“Her only,” the man says, and all three dragon kings growl. He raises the gun again. It wouldn’t kill them, but I knew it would hurt and probably get everyone here killed if he fired it. Realising that himself he lowered it. I stepped forward walking through the curtain, the entire place looked like a greenhouse inside. Lights ran off a generator hanging above the pots of plants and the smell of herbs strong enough to drown out the pungent smells of the tunnel.

“I need medicinal herbs.” The man nods before showing me what he had left.

“All of them, I can get more if needed,” I tell him, showing him the coins, his eyes going wide. He nods and helps me wrap them in paper. Walking out. I see my dragons waiting, leaning against the wall except Silas who was glaring as I walked out.

He tugs me to him as soon as I am in reach. Max and the other man stepped back with their hands up. Silas growls, before stepping forward.

“I want you to move this above ground, If I have a place set up can you move it above ground and supply the pharmacies and the people?” he asks. Both men looked shocked for a second.

“I will be open to being robbed above ground, and this costs money, and I need the lights to grow. It is too cold” he tells him.

“Power is on and I will cover any costs, just move it above ground and as for security we can make the place secure”

The man seems to think for a second before nodding.

“I can try. I need to organise people to move it, that takes time.”

“I will send help,” The man nods before holding out his hand. “Deal” Silas grabs his hand, shaking it before putting his hand on my back and pushing me towards the way we came. All of them followed me through the maze of tunnels.

“How do you know where you’re going?” Matitus asks.

I point to the bricks, “every intersecting tunnel will have a ribbon showing the way,” I tell them by showing them at the next one and pointing to the corner above our heads.

When we find the tunnel we came out of, I climb the ladder. Hopping out, I am yanked by someone. A menacing growl comes from behind me as I feel an arm rip me from the drain and toss me. Dragus jumped out and tackled the man, which was actually a human man. Dragus claws cutting through his neck as he swiped at him. I stand up before running over trying to stem the man's bleeding.

"What are you doing?" Dragus yells at me for trying to help the man.

"He would have been trying to rob me not kill me, he is human" I yell but it is too late, the man gurgling and choking on his own blood before he stops breathing. I shake my head standing up.

"But he was going to rob you?" Dragus says, and I can feel their eyes on me.

"Yes, because they are forced too, this is what happens when there isn't enough to go around. He isn't the monster here. The vamps are. He would have robbed me; vamps would have killed me or the lycans would, that break into the city, not the humans" I tell him and Dragus looks to his mates.

"That's why everyone goes into lockdown after dark, this man must have been desperate, believe me no one likes to be out after dark here," I tell them.

Silas helps me up before we start making our way to Victor's shop. I knock three times and he opens the door ushering us in. I hand him the rolled-up paper full of herbs.

"Yes, I can make a bit with this," he says, sorting the herbs. "I can have it done by morning" I nod, and Victor shows us out. The night was extra cold tonight and by the time we got back to the castle, I was shivering and my hands aching from the cold, my teeth chattering loudly. The gates open and Matitus tugs me against him lending me his warmth. I press my hands under his shirt and onto his hot skin.

"Geez your hands are like ice," he says before grabbing them and blowing on them. My fingers warm before I rip them away when they become too hot.
"Ow"

"Sorry," he says as Silas opens the front door.

"Come, a shower should warm you up" Silas says, and I follow them before turning to Matitus.

“Abbie?”

“She is at her house with her mother and daughter” I nod, relief flooding me that she is ok.

“Lilith” I ask Dragus.

“Marian gave her your room” Dragus answers. Silas had been pretty much silent the entire trip home and I could tell he was thinking, and I had also found him invading my thoughts a few times but instead I let him. Walking into the bedroom, I rush to the bathroom, turning the shower on.

Stripping off, I step under the showers spray. The hot water burning my skin made me flinch till my skin heated enough for it to stop.

Matitus stepping in with me and Dragus. “Where is Silas?”

“Thinking, he didn’t realise things were so bad out there, none of us did” Dragus answers guiltily. I say nothing, instead showering quickly before hopping out. When I walked out Silas was walking in with a tray of soup and bread like we gave the kids. I get dressed and he hands me a bowl and some bread as I sit at the desk. My belly rumbling from not eating all day.

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Elora’s POV

The next morning, I woke early eager to get back to the children in the warehouse, my back was killing from sleeping on the couch in the room. I refused to sleep in the bed, just because they helped the kids yesterday didn’t mean I was forgiving of everything. One thing I was aware of though was that halfway through the night Silas got up and walked out of the room. The shutting of the bedroom door woke me and when I got up this morning his scent was only faint, indicating he didn’t come back once he left. Getting up, the first thing I did was get dressed and race downstairs and check on Lilith. I couldn’t find her in my old room but found her eating breakfast with Dragus in the dining room. Silas walked in behind me as I walked over to her. Lilith eyes Silas warily but didn’t move, she seemed to have become quite comfortable around Dragus and was smiling when I walked in.

Sitting next to her, I stole a piece of toast off Dragus's plate making him smirk. "Did you sleep well?" I asked Lilith and she nodded while eating her pancake before answering.

"Yes, it is warmer here than out there" I nodded in agreement when Silas walked over, placing his hands on the back of my chair looking down at me and making me look up at his closeness.

"I need to speak to you" he whispered below my ear, making me shiver. There was something about the way he spoke that had worry eating at me. Pushing my chair out, I got up following him out of the room. Matitus seeing us walk toward the library followed making me wonder what it was he wanted to speak about.

Matitus sat down on the armchair and I sat at the end of the desk. Silas stood silently watching me and I could feel anger through the bond that he was trying to mask, if it weren't for the bond, I wouldn't have even been able to read the cold expression on his face.

"What did you want to speak about?" I ask, my heart skipping a beat when I saw the corners of his lips tug up, like he was enjoying the fear in me.

Silas stepped closer, making my heart rate spike as he stopped in front of me.

"You're nervous" he stated as he braced his hands on either side of my waist on the desk.

"Should I be?" I ask, wondering what he wants.

"Yes, I don't like liars and you lied to me again" he answers, and I see Matitus out of the corner of my eye giving me a worried look. I swallow my mouth suddenly feeling dry. Silas smiled seeing how nervous I had become at his accusation, but it just made me more curious as to what he was referring to.

"I don't know what you are talking about" I answer honestly. Silas smiles sadistically, his face moving closer to mine.

"I will only ask you once and if you lie to me, I won't be held responsible for what I do next" he whispers against my lips before biting down on my bottom lip. Silas pushes my knees apart and moves between my legs trapping me between him and the desk giving me no opportunity to get out of this situation.

“What are you talking about?” I ask looking toward Matitus who shrugs clearly not understanding where Silas was going with this either. Silas grips my chin, forcing me to look back at him.

“I was up all night wondering why Abigail would let her daughter leave without her, now why would a mother let daughter go unless she was scared of something happening to her?” Silas said, watching my face carefully. I felt the blood drain right out of me at his words.

“And I gather by your reaction, you know exactly what I am talking about and why Abigail would rather take the risk of her daughter escaping the kingdom then remain within the safety of the borders”

I look away. I knew exactly why Abigail did what she did. I understood her need to protect her daughter especially from someone like Silas.

“So, my question is Elora. Why would Abigail tell her mother to take her daughter and run?” I open my mouth to answer when he speaks again. My heart beats erratically in my chest as his hands go to my thighs gripping them tightly.

“Now Don’t lie to me Elora” he whispers, and I feel my blood run cold.

“What will you do?” I ask worried if I tell him, yet by the look he is giving me, he is daring me to lie to him because he knows the answer already.

Silas looks to Matitus who was watching intently trying to figure out what Silas knew.

“I want you to go get Abigail’s family and bring them here, ” he tells Matitus.

“Silas what is this about?” Matitus asks standing up. Silas looks at me and smiles his sharp teeth gleaming in the light.

“Why would I want Claire, Elora?” he asks, his grip on my thighs tightening making me whimper.

“Elora?” Matitus asks looking at me worriedly.

I shake my head when Silas growls before gripping my chin tightly between his fingers. I feel tears brim in my eyes.

“She is just a child,” I tell him.

“Answer him?” Silas growls and goosebumps rise all over my body and a tear slips down my cheek.

“She is the oracle” I whisper and Matitus gasps, Silas however smiles sadistically before kissing my lips and I pull away. Silas steps away, turning to Matitus.

“Bring her to the castle” he tells Matitus but Matitus steps back shaking his head. I grip Silas’s arm and he looks back at me.

“You shouldn’t have lied to me, you knew all along what she was, what Abigail was, and you still chose to lie to me”

“She is a child Silas” I snapped at him.

“I am well aware of that” he growls.

“I want Abigail’s daughter here; you have an hour, or I kill her mother, understand?” he says.

“You’re a monster,” I tell him getting off the desk. Silas grips my arm tightly tugging me to him.

“You knew that already so don’t act surprised, Elora”

I went to walk out when Silas pointed to the armchair.

“Sit, I don’t need you warning Abigail” he says, and I do as I am told.

“Abigail’s here?” Silas nods, not adding anything. Matitus still hadn’t moved, and I could feel his hesitation through the bond. I pleaded with my eyes for him not to do what Silas asked but the next words that left Silas’s lips, I knew he would do anything Silas asked.

“Don’t make me tell you again Matitus or would you like me to show Elora what I did to you, last time you lied to me” Matitus fear filled eyes dart to mine before he turns on his heel and walks out. Making wonder what Matitus lied to him about and what Silas did to instil the amount terror I could see in his eyes.

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Elora's POV

Silas and I waited in silence, he didn't utter a word, yet I could feel him watching me. Dragus obviously realising something was up when I never returned walked in, stopping and leaning on the doorframe.

"Why are you holding her here?" he asked Silas. Silas looked up at him, his eyes scanning over Dragus. "You know why?" he simply says. So Dragus knew and never warned me.

"Come Elora," Dragus said, making Silas growl and stand up. Dragus ignored him, holding out his hand. I looked at Silas, but he didn't say anything when I stood and walked over to him, grabbing his hand. Silas was angry about me keeping it from him, yet I could feel something else, uncertainty.

"Bring her back when Matitus returns" Silas said, running a hand through his hair. Dragus nodded to him, pulling me from the room.

Dragus took me to the dining room and Abigail was sitting there with Lilith completely unaware of what Silas had planned. She looked up and smiled at me as I walked in and I went to go to her when Dragus pulled me against him.

"Have some faith in Silas, he may be a monster but that's because you refuse to see him as anything else" Dragus whispered. Looking at him Dragus gripped my hand tightly refusing to let me go to Abigail. Abigail was going to be angry if I didn't warn her as it is. I didn't have to wait long, after about twenty minutes I heard the phone ring. I looked over toward the door when Marian walked in holding it with a worried look on her face.

"Abigail, it is your mother," she says her hands trembling and I know what is about to happen. Hopping up, I get ready for Abigail's wrath. Abigail answers the call and I watch as all the blood drains from her face, the phone dropping from her hand before she spins around and glares at Dragus and I.

"Where is my daughter?" she spits at him. Dragus holds up his hand telling her to wait.

"Silas has been scouring that library all night and there is no other way to break the curse, Abigail," Dragus says, and Abigail takes off running toward the library and I chase after her.

“Abbie wait,” I called out to her, knowing if she ticks off Silas, she will feel his wrath. Abigail runs to the front door before stopping and stepping back as she turns to face the library. Matitus walks toward her and Dragus never said anything to me about Matitus returning. Abigail shoves past him into the room and I run toward her, freezing next to her as I walk into the Library.

Claire looked up when we entered, she was sitting on the floor with Silas in front of the fireplace. Silas had my grandmothers’ book in his lap. Abigail’s voice stuttered as she called for Claire.

“Claire, come here.” Claire looks up unaware of what is going on. Claire goes to get up off the floor when Silas grabs her tiny hand and I see Abigail take a step forward, her hands glowing green.

“Sit Claire” Silas says to her but there was no anger in voice, he spoke softly looking up at her. Claire smiled before flopping back down on the rug.

Moving into the room, I step next to Silas, Abigail following me. Lilith walks in and see Claire waving to her. Silas looks up when Claire waves back to her.

“Claire, go play with Lilith so I can speak to your mother” Claire nods before hopping up off the floor and running towards Lilith and they both run off and I notice Dragus follow after them to keep an eye on them.

“How dare you take my daughter” Abigail spits, her anger making her hands glow brighter.

“I mean your daughter no harm, Abigail. I am just pissed off you both lied to me” Silas said standing before leaning against his desk. He had my grandmother’s book in his hand scrolling through the pages not even fazed by Abigail’s magic. He flicks to a page before turning the book around holding it toward us. I step forward taking it from him. Abigail looks down at the page, worry crossing her features before she turns her glare back to Silas. He folds his arms across his chest. Waiting for us to say something.

“I will not sacrifice my daughter for a curse” Abigail says, her hands glowing brighter.

“Read it again” Silas says, and she looks at the page and so do I. Silas steps forward stopping in front of us pointing to the page.

"It says you need the blood sacrifice of the Oracle. I won't let you kill my daughter, Silas."

Silas shakes his head before taking the book from my hands and closing it.

"Says we need the blood sacrifice of the Oracle or a magical sacrifice, it never says I need to kill your daughter, just that I need her blood and only your daughter and Elora need to read the incantation to break the curse." Abigail thinks over his words before grabbing the book from him and flicking through the pages to the page he was on.

"Says you need a powerful magical sacrifice or the blood of the Oracle as well as the blood of the sun and moon, to right the wrongs of the past and restore the balance to where it once was. Are you sure this is for the curse on the Dragons?" Abigail says looking up at Silas.

Silas nods. "Yes, before the Oracle died, she said. To break the curse, we had to find the Fae's book of spells that was with one of the royal families along with the chosen one, the fae with magic," he says pointing to me. Abigail nods her head.

"Well for starters we need a full moon and exactly where are you going to get the blood of the moon and sun"

"Taylor, and a human" Abigail nods in understanding from my knowledge humans were supposed to represent the sun because they had an impending life force, whereas creature of the moon like vampire and werewolves were cursed by the moon, making them strongest during the full moon but weaker during the day to create a balance between and give the humans a fighting chance. Every creature has a weakness. Vampires were weakened by the sun. Werewolves by wolfsbane. Humans by their mortality. fae were weakened because we weren't granted immortality, fae had magic which gave us a form of immortality as long as we weren't injured, we could technically live forever as long as no harm came to us. Dragons though, I was unsure what they were weakened by.

"The next full moon is in three days time; we will break the curse and you will allow your daughter to help"

"And if I say no?" Abigail asks.

"I will do it anyway, best to keep your family alive Abigail, I have waited a hundred years to break this curse, a hundred years for her. I won't let anyone stand in my way of breaking it, no matter what you mean to my mate," he says looking over at me.

"As for you two," he says, looking between both Abigail and I.

"You will not lie to me again," Abigail nods and Silas looks at me, but I turn my face away. I hear Silas growl before I hear him speak. "Abigail you're free to go, you may take your daughter home and return in three days" Abigail nods and runs from the room to collect her daughter leaving me with an angry Silas.

"You think I am that cruel to kill a child?" Silas says, stepping toward me. I turn to look at him and he steps forward making me step back.

"It wouldn't be the first time you have killed children Silas, those girls you had slaughtered were still children in my eyes"

"I promised I would not kill Abigail and her family. Have I done that?" I say nothing.

"Have I done that"

"No, not yet," I tell him. Silas nods before dipping his face in my neck inhaling my scent.

"After everything you have done I am supposed to trust you blindly now?" I ask and he pulls his face from my neck before gripping my face with both his hands.

"Yes because I am your mate, I won't lose you again. If anything, trust that," he says before storming off leaving me with Matitus still standing near the bookshelf watching me. I let out a breath.

"Come Elora."

"No, I need to check on the children at the warehouse," I tell him about to walk off when he grabs my arm.

"Silas already did that while you were sleeping, he has made arrangements with people in the city and hired people to watch them. He also saw your

friend Victor and retrieved the medicine for them. He is trying to change for you maybe give him a chance Elora”

“Give him a chance? He has had every chance to make things right Matitus.”

“Yes, and every time you have been fighting against him every step of the way. He is doing all this for you, why can’t you see that?”

“Because forgiveness is earned and even if I did forgive, I will never forget what he has done. Not only to me but every goddamn person in this city Matitus. He wants my forgiveness he better well fucking earn it”