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《Aurora's pov》

The room is quite dark as the open door had given most of the light. But now that it was closed, the only light coming in was the little space under the door itself.

My heart thudded against my chest painfully as I hear the commotion behind the door. Whatever was going on wasn't pretty and it was terrifying to think that someone had perhaps come to rid themselves of me.

That someone was Samuel.

Lily's eyes glowed slightly and she grumbles. "It's Samuel. He's demanding that Eli give you to him. Don't worry Eli wouldn't let him get a hold of you."

I knew she was able to see me so I nod. I trusted Eli, it was Samuel I didn't trust.

'Don't worry, I'm sure my brother is already on his way.' She tries to ease my concern. I smiled shakily yet palm my stomach as if this would protect my baby.

Eli's pov

'You need to get to the infirmary quickly. Samuel's here and I don't think he comes for a measly conversation.' I mind linked Xavier.

'Is Aurora with you?' He mind links quickly. I could literally feel the

panic racing through the link. And the anger.

'Yes.' I mind linked back. I winced when he roars through the link. Great now I'm definitely going to get torn into pieces.

'I will protect her with my life if it comes to that.' I mind link just as Rodrick steps beside me.

He looks at me through the corner of his eyes. "I've locked them in a room that can hold its own against werewolf strength. If he gets through us, the door will hold against his force perhaps until Xavier gets here."

I nodded.

Then froze, I sniffed the air. The stench of metallic, Blood.

"Do you take the smell of that?" I growl, my canines jutting out from my gums as I take a storming step forward. Traitor. Killed innocent people.

"It might not be the best idea to walk up to him." Rodrick pointed out.
"From the strong scent of blood and the curling scream, he's
angered, enraged and has no doubt killed some of the doctors, if not
perhaps all." He said sadly. "You should try to talk to him, perhaps
stall him until alpha gets here. It will not be good to go against an
angered wolf, far less one who was a beta just an hour or so ago."

I look over at him. He was right, but Samuel was a man who would seek war and didn't take too kindly when he was dismissed easily. Not only did it sting him when Xavier removed his title, but it also stung him when he gave it to me.



"He has come here for war. Typical of a wolf who has been casted out, he's now rogue. If he didn't come here for Aurora, then he has come here for me."

I snarl, and twisted my head to look at the door, my nails sharply visible as I growl and wait for him to show up.

I knew he was taking his time, typical Samuel who liked to play mind games with his prey.

I listened sharply to the sounds of his footfalls, straightening my spine when the sound gets closer.

Like the sound of a ticking clock, his feet hit the floor. Until he's just behind the door.

He's now rogue since the alpha has severed the bond that had him tied to everyone in the pack. So mind linking him was not an option anymore.

I turn to Rodrick slightly. "Stay back and don't get yourself killed. We need you." I told him.

It was true, we did in fact need him. He was the only doctor who would not only be able to take care of our pregnant Luna but he was also the only one who would be able to make a cure.

He nods, stepping back and doesn't protest when I take a step forward.

"This is treason and you'll pay dearly for killing those innocent people.

[&]quot; I sneered, pressing my feet to the floor as I take a fighting stance. I



knew Samuel could hear me and can smell the arrogant stench coming off of him in waves.

He had no remorse for what he had done.

The door open, creaking slowly to reveal the wolf many in the pack trusted. My eyes fall to the blood dripping down his hands and staining the tiles on the floor with crimson.

I snarl angrily.

His eyes are dead, unemotional as he takes one step forward that had him in the doorway.

"Where is she?" He says calmly but the glow in his eyes is anything but. They still glowed blue even though it was visibly lighter. They'll turn yellow when he has passed the border and will no longer be on Crimson Moon territory.

"Who are you talking about Samuel?" I was playing the dumb card, stalling so Xavier would reach here in time.

He might have removed Samuel's title, but he hasn't yet done the ceremony to pass down the title of Beta to me. Which means, even though Samuel has weakened a bit, he was still very much stronger than me.

This time he didn't bother to hold back his malice as he snaps his jaw and barks. "The whore who caused all of this?!"

"Give her to me Eli and I'll spare you." There's an edge in his voice, a warning that told me he was very serious and that he'd do anything

to get to Aurora.

Rodrick was right, going up against him wouldn't be the smartest idea. But if it did come to that, I'd do it in a heartbeat if that means I'll save our future alpha.

"You're no longer the Beta of this pack. I no longer have to listen to you." I snarled angrily.

From the corner of my eye, I noticed Rodrick backing away, perhaps sensing that a fight was well on its way.

Samuel takes another step forward, his eyes blazing with fury and disgust. "How many more shall die because of her? She's a curse to us all! Alpha chose wrong by not casting her out or killing her. I refuse to see the pack I protected for years crumble because of a mere being that doesn't deserve anything less than death. Let me fix the issue, Eli. Give. Her. To. Me."

I snarled loudly, which managed to bounce off the walls. "I will not hand you the packs Luna. You are no longer in the pack Samuel, no longer our Beta, you've been casted out. This means, whatever issues are in the pack, are no longer of your concern."

He stares at me with burning rage as I continued.

"I suggest you get out of here before Xavier comes here. I've already mind linked him and he's on his way." I warned hoping he'd do the right thing and get away from here before Xavier does in fact get here. It wouldn't end too kindly if he does stay.

But Samuel's eyes narrowed as he spat. "You think that you're so

tough now that Xavier has announced that you'll be Beta Eli?"

I don't answer him because I didn't need to. It was now clear that Samuel has lost his mind and wouldn't listen to anything I have to say.

"Back in my day, we fought to get the Beta titles. We didn't get it handed to us so easily. We had to earn it. As long as I'm within pack grounds and have the blue in my eyes, I will remain Beta. I will not have a weak alpha's judgment cloud that of those in the pack. When I am done with you, I'm coming for her then, for him." He snarls.

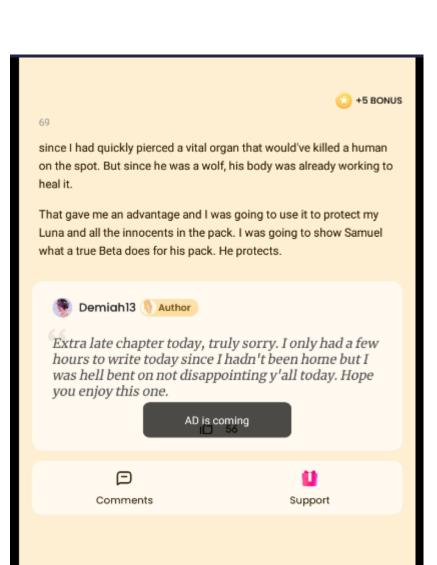
I saw the first signs of him ready to shift and acted quickly. "Protect them at all cost!" I shouted at Rodrick as I bound over to Samuel before he shifts fully and lodge my nails in his belly to slow down the process of his shift.

He snarls, his fingers tightly gripping around my wrist and painting my skin with blood. With the pressure of his fingers, I could feel the slight crack of the bone of my wrist as he twisted it and managed to pull my hand away from his stomach.

"And you're supposed to be the next Beta? You're nothing but weak!" He spat, not caring that his stomach was bleeding and headbutted me. "You don't deserve such title."

I snarl. Samuel may be stronger than me, but I had always had something no one else had in the pack, speed.

I quickly shifted into my wolf, throwing him away from me and back into the corridor. I try to ignore the sight of the dead doctors as Samuel and I fought with teeth and claws. He couldn't transform yet



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Eli's pov

My jaw snaps, my teeth sink into his calves, blood drenched into my mouth, swirling on my tongue. Metallic.

Samuel roars, bending his leg only to pull away from my jaws. His skin remains inside my mouth and I spit it out.

Nasty.

The little distraction had him somehow flipping over me, his arms wrapping around my middle. He can barely wrap his arms fully around me, but it was enough for him to add pressure, grunting as he manages to break one of my rib bones.

My wolf whines, turning over so that Samuel would land on the floor painfully.

When I hear the satisfying thud of him hitting his back on the floor I turn around, ready to go for another attack, but he's quick enough to slash his nails behind my leg.

I growl, snarling as I keep pressure off the leg so it would heal quickly and would not bleed out so much.

Samuel goes in a crouching fighting stance as he waited for my next move. His eyes were dead set on me and would send chills of fear down a lower rank but not me.

"I do not want to hurt you, Eli. You're a good kid who's lost right now



and have fallen under her spell just as alpha has. Let me help you see that you're all wrong. " He grumbles, his leg bleeding out on the floor and creating a pool under him.

Even if that heals up, he'll forever have that scar.

I growl, straightening up to show him my power. His blue eyes glowed angrily at my defiance. He was no longer my Beta and I did not have to stand down to him. He no longer has my respect.

His jaw snaps. "You're all making a huge mistake by accepting her into the pack. She'll doom the crimson moon. What we've all fought for would have been all in vain!"

I push myself back, a growl tumbling out of my chest as I get ready to pounce on him. I have heard his talks far too much. Nothing he would say would persuade me to be on his side. He no longer had a say in anything, especially with anything that has to do with the Luna's life.

His nails curl against the bloody tiles beneath him. The pool of blood was coming from his body. "Stand down!" He roars, eyes glowing furiously as he curled his lips back to show off his sharp teeth.

He didn't seem to get it. He no longer had a voice in this pack. He still thought he was beta.

I shook my fur, standing straighter as I defy his words to show him that he was no longer superior to me. And as he lets out the angriest of growls, I take speed, my jaws tightly catching the skin of his shoulder before he moves away.



His nails dig into the fur on my belly, meeting skin as he slashes. I roared dropping him only to pounce back.

He manages to get his arm around my neck, tightly squeezing it as he tries to break the bone. I snarl and do the only thing I could think of at the moment.

Sunk my teeth into the side of his ass. 3

He howls, letting out a string of curses as he loosens his hold around my neck. I take that as an opportunity to knock him back with my head, sending him flying into some of the waiting chairs a few feet away.

I growl, sneering as I slowly come up to him while shaking my fur and showing my dominance. I snap my jaws, telling him to give up.

His blue eyes glow, not as brightly as it was a while ago. He shows his teeth as I hover over him, snapping my jaws threateningly.

"It wouldn't matter if you kill me now. Do you think me of a fool to not have had a backup plan, little Beta?" He taunts, stressing on the word Beta while glaring at me hatefully.

With the wounds I had forced him to endure, he cannot shift into his wolf. Which perhaps fed his irritation.

But his words made my growls grow faint as they register in my head. What the hell did he mean by that?

I shift into my human form quickly grabbing his neck, my claws threateningly pressing to the skin as I roared. "What did you do?" My

tongue whips out accusingly.

His eyes gleamed with mockery as he bravely spat out. "What we should have done the moment she stepped foot in the territory."

I press my claws into his neck, snarling as I warned him that if he didn't elaborate, I would claw out his neck.

But Samuel was a man who never showed his true emotions and hid his cowering behind the facade of a brave wolf which he used at the frontline of the battlefield since forever.

He was an intelligent wolf and he knew exactly what to say to catch you off guard.

"While you were protecting that whore yesterday, I made a few calls. You see, even if I don't sink my claws into that bitch's pretty little neck, they will do it themselves. They're coming." A smirk crafted nastily on his face.

"For her. For you. For everyone who tries to protect her." He whispers tauntingly.

Roaring, my claws dig into his skin, piercing until blood starts to trickle out. "Who did you call you bastard?!"

With a sly smirk on his face, I only had time to penetrate my claws into his neck before I felt a painful pierce through my stomach.

I look down quickly, seeing that he had somehow pushed a broken chair leg into my stomach.

"The council." Samuel sneered as he pushes the chair leg more into

my stomach which earned him a growl tumbling out of my mouth.

My hold around his neck loosens as he curls the broken leg into my gut, blood curling up my throat and spilling out of my mouth.

"How does your own blood taste like Beta?" He snarls in mockery, eyes dancing in satisfaction as he pushes the leg deeper.

"You'll tell me when I'm done with you." Xavier snarls and I turn slightly to see him bounding over in all his naked glory, red eyes, teeth sharp and the promise of death in his eyes.

I hadn't heard him when he entered and by the looks of it, neither did Samuel.

Samuel throws me off of him. I land on my back, holding the broken chair leg and ready to pull it out as my head turns to look over at Xavier.

"Took your cool time alpha." I managed a bloody smile, despite losing a lot of blood and growing weak.

I hear the shatter of glass.

"Manage to get yourself in a bit of pickle I see brother." I hear Christopher's voice beside me before everything suddenly turns dark.

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Xavier's pov

'Murder him. Kill him. Make him suffer as he takes his last breath.' Reckon roared in my head as I bound over to Samuel who cowered 70

and backed away.

"Alpha-

He started but I roared loudly, silencing him as the stench of his fear tickled my nose.

"Eli's in bad shape." Chris voiced out as he picks up Eli into his arms, careful to not shift the wood inside Eli's stomach to damage anything vital. Eli grunts and grumbles out something incoherent.

A door suddenly opens and Rodrick peeks his head out. His face showed it all. He was relieved, but when his eyes landed on a wounded Eli he places his doctor's face mask on.

"Get him inside here quickly." Rodrick rushes out, opening the door wider so Christopher could walk in easier.

"Are they safe?" I asked Rodrick knowing that I didn't have to specify who I was referring to, he'd already know.

"All three."

I nod, feeling the ease of relief off my chest knowing my mate, my unborn child and sister were safe.

Now that I was relieved that Samuel had not hurt them, I can put my focus on making him pay painfully.

"You made a mistake by coming here," I said slowly as I kick a chair away from me.

The entire infirmary had the stench of blood and death. Soon Samuel



would join those he had killed. If the moon goddess even offers him that luxury.

He was a traitor. She probably had a special place for traitors.

"A terrible mistake you're going to be paying for even in death." A cruel smirk dance on my lips when he backs away.

"I was doing this all for you Xavier. To make you see-

"You killed innocent people for me?! You came to kill my mate! And you wounded my Beta! And you have the nerve to say this bullshit was all for me?" I gave out a very dry laugh that visibly made him gulp.

Reckon wanted to taste blood but I refuse to have any of this traitor's blood near my mouth.

I will tear him limb from limb until I stare down into his eyes and make sure I'm the only one he sees before I tear off his head from his body.

"I am your Beta!" He snarls.

I tilt my head mocking him with a bored look and an equally bored tone. "Not anymore."

He snarls, angered by my words.

"Even if you get rid of me they will still come for her. You will need me if you want to have a chance-

"Enough!" I bellowed, getting angrier by the second. He should've stayed quiet. He should've really kept his damn mouth shut.



Now I would make sure the curling scream of his would rock the earth.

"Who did you tell?" I murmured, crouching as my claws get longer.

He knew he had no chance against me. Knew there was no way of escape. He couldn't fight me. Not when he was wounded and not when my power dominated his.

So all he could do right now was beg for his life. But he also knew it would fall on deaf ears. He had done too much for him to ever get redemption.

Killing innocents was treason and it was a crime punishable by death.

"You must understand Xavier. I was doing this for your own-

A blood curling scream pushes out of his mouth as my fingers wrap around his ankle and twist it. It breaks and turns oddly. He'd not heal from that for a while. Then again, I had no intentions of making him heal.

"Wrong answer." I barked, my claws digging into his skin.

"Who did you tell?" Every word came out as a bark.

"I didn't-

Another scream drums on the walls of the infirmary as I grab his other ankle and twist it around oddly until I hear the pop of his bones breaking. It sounds beautiful, like my new favorite song.



Samuel shook his head. "I served your father for years and had been by your side ever since his death. I fought alongside you and this is how you repay me?"

He had the nerve to look at me as though I was the traitor?

I stood up, watching the flicker of fear in his eyes as they followed my every move. Without any emotion showing on my face, one of my feet presses down on his leg, hard. "Still the wrong answer."

Samuel roars in pain as I lean down, grip his other leg, and tore it off his body. "Last time to answer," I whispered boredly, flinging the leg away without caring where it landed.

"Who. Did. You. Tell?" I snarled, my hand going to the other leg. His eyelids are already heavy as his body succumbs to the loss of blood. He should've known what would've happened to him if he tried to kill my woman.

He should've left when he had the chance. Now there was no going back for him.

"The council," He choked on his own blood. "I'm sad that I'll miss when they tear off your mate's pretty little neck-

I had no more patience to listen to him further and let his screams of pain play like a violin in my ears as I rip him apart.

《Aurora's pov》

"It's Xavier. Thank God! " Lily whispers in relief as she holds me tightly.



She had just seconds ago told me that she could smell Eli's blood which meant he was injured. Fear had me frozen in seconds.

But now knowing my mate was here, relief bloomed inside my chest. Hopefully, he had gotten here in time before Eli suffered a worst fate.

"Samuel will have no choice but to back down-

Suddenly a loud cough rocks her. And another soon follows after. She drops my arm, perhaps to cover her mouth. I couldn't be sure since it was still so dark in here.

"Are you okay Lily?" I asked in concern. That cough didn't sound good.

"I'm going to get a lot of shit for this but I didn't drink my medicine-"
She wheezes out but gets cut off by another painful sounding cough.

"I just need to sit-

I hear the sound of the medical supplies crashing to the floor and then hear the thud of a body meeting the floor. "Lily!" I gasped, aimlessly searching for her as my heart drums in my chest with the beat of uncontrollability.