

# Denied by Destiny: Trapped in the Shadows of the Mate Bond

## Bond 51 - 100

### Bond 51

Chapter 0051

Hector POV "Alpha!"

I awoke to a headache. To the excruciating feeling that someone had been shouting in my head all night like a loud thumping speaker at a heavy rock concert. "Whattt?" I yell back, the sensation of being disoriented overtaking me. I was groggy, my throat dry as sunlight seeps through the curtains in my bedroom. "It's Kaia, she's awake..."

"Since when?" I sit up, my head spinning as I remember having no dinner but plenty of whiskey. My eyes casting on the two empty bottles by the side of the bed "Since 3am, she went back to sleep, but is awake again now."

I look at the time on my phone, that I seemed to remember to put on charge before passing out. 8.30am, fuck...I've missed training..

"Damn it Aubrey, I told you to wake me the moment she woke up."

"I've been trying Alpha."

"I'm coming now..." I leap out of bed grabbing my jeans and finding a fresh tshirt from my drawers. I needed a shower, to wash off the smell of whiskey, but that would have to wait. ""...how is she?"

"She's not good. She had to be sedated back to sleep in the end."

Fuck! I knew I shouldn't have left.

I'm back at the hospital in record time. Vaguely remembering which corridors to go down, the memory of carrying Kaia in my arms still too raw.

I find her room, Aubrey sitting next to her on the hospital chair, talking to her...but Kaia seems vacant.

Her eyes blank.

Void of emotions.

What exactly has she been given.

As soon as I push open the door, her body stiffens.

"Kaia?" Her shoulders wince as I call her name.

"How are you feeling?"

At first she completely ignores me, and I wonder if she actually heard me.

When I go to ask the same question again, her head turns to look at me. Her eyes red and puffy from the

tears she must have shed, yet still hold an unrelenting strength to glare at me.

Chapter 0051

+25 BONUS

It was safe to say she remembered the argument, the photograph that bastard had sent.

From the moment I first met her, she had something about her, something that wasn't taught. And I was seeing it again now, but this time on the less favourable side. She was angry at me, but she needs to hear me out to understand.

"I'll give you both a moment alone." Aubrey softly says as she stands up, her hand brushing against Kaia's. Before she leaves she signals for the nurse to join her.

"Kaia, I need to explain. What you found, the photograph was taken a long time ago. Alora..."

"The doctor said I could leave after lunch..."

She abruptly cuts me off, as if she didn't hear a word I said. Her voice loud, like a foghorn that needed to drown out any other noise in order to be heard. "Okay...." I'm not sure where she is going with this.

"When I am discharged I would like to be allocated a house by myself.."

"Kaia that's not necessary, you need understand that Alora..."

Your mate bond is none of my business. I would like to request a house in a private part of the pack, preferably away from the alpha and pack house."

Her voice is cold, her eyes showing no emotion in them whatsoever.

"Kaia..." Her request was wholly unnecessary. If she would just let me explain.

"She's hurting, just give her some time. She needs to grieve the loss of the baby." My wolf quite rightly comments in my head. He was right, she needed some space and if granting her that helped her to recovery, then so be it. But first she needs to let me explain. "Alright Kaia, if that is what you want. But not until you have returned to the alpha house to let me explain."

I give her space, asking Aubrey to return and remain with her until she was discharged.

She returned home to me in the early afternoon, her body weak...Aubrey helping to support her as she walks.

As they enter the alpha house, I am in the office with Ezra, both of us moving to meet Kaia by the bottom of the stairs.

Ezra had covered training for me this morning and most of my business affairs. My mind, not surprisingly, having been distracted on other matters.

"Kaia, let me explain." I take a step forward, wanting to tell her everything. As much as it would pain me to share, I need her to know to help her understand.

"I can't, not now Alpha. I need to sleep." Her eyes are becoming droopy again.

"Will you join me for dinner?"

"The doctor has said she needs to sleep as much as she can Alpha. I'm sure with some rest Miss Kaia

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0051

will be down for dinner." Aubrey offers, as she starts walking Kaia up the stairs.

"Of course."

But she doesn't join me for dinner. She remains in her room for the rest of the day.

At 9pm, an incredibly tired Aubrey checks on Kaia with a plate of food but finds her sleeping soundly. She must need the rest, her body recovering and needing time to heal. At breakfast, at breakfast I will tell her all.

Ebony Woods Author

## Bond 52

Chapter

0052

Alora POV

Than has always been mine, and I his.

It's been that way from a young age, from when I first started to play with him, my parents becoming good friends of his. I don't remember the exact first memory but he has always been there, always been with

me.

He had every right to be jealous, every right to be possessive...I just couldn't make the choice. I couldn't be responsible for changing their lives.

I can't blame him for reacting this way. His eyes are dark, the flames of the fire offering the only light to his face as he sits there under the dark night sky, his head under a hood. If I didn't know him I would be afraid to be near him this night. He is ripping out every page of my diary, and throwing it into the small fire before him.

I'm standing in the back garden of the alpha house, a blanket draped around my shoulders on this chilly night.

Was it chilly, was I coming down with something...or was it the act that was being carried out in front of me. It was an act of coldness, or bitterness.

Every now and again he stops to read a page before grimacing and tearing the pages against the diary's spine.

Is this the therapy he needs, is that why this diary was kept....to serve him a purpose. If I didn't make it, so that he might remember me differently. Even grown to hate me.

My heart breaks at the man before me, broken again...memories coming back to him.

He's barely spoken to me over the past few days. He's thrown himself into pack business, having secret meetings with Medea. Yet every time I walk in and try to interact, they change the subject. Or should I say Medea does.

She's remaining warm towards me, and I know Than will return to me... he just needs time.

He needs to go through the emotions.

Something else was troubling him, something to do with this Kaia girl that looks like me. With everything that has happened I've not been able to broach the subject of her with him.

His temper was heightened as it was.

I could often hear him kicking off in the closed office of his to his mother. Their secret chats carrying on for hours.

He was frustrated about something, whatever Kaia had taken was causing him distress still.

It's like how it was, Than arguing with his Mother and Father in the office, Hector arguing back. Punches thrown, wolves trying to get out to claim me first.

Even at 16 I knew I wasn't a piece of meat to be claimed first. I knew I belonged to Than.

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0052

But we couldn't be certain, it was before his 18th birthday, we couldn't deny the older male feeling the mate connection first.

Looking back now, all we needed to do was be patient. I can see that now. The actions of a young girl unable to decide what was for the best, a 16 year old girl feeling torn. Torn between 2 loves.

"I don't want to discuss this again. I'm annoyed you kept the diary, annoyed you kept the photograph. But you were young, and clearly not of sane mind."

He tosses the last few pages of the diary into the fire, watching them turn to ash.

He then completes his deed by burning the diary cover on the fire with his lips curling up in the corner.

Once the tangible memory is destroyed he stamps the fire out with his feet, his body standing up and stretching up to the sky. His back uncurling from its crouched down position. "Shall we go to bed?" He walks towards me, his prowl every inch of a predatory alpha male. I nod my head, a small smile forming on my lips.

Yes I want to put this all behind us, behind me.

I don't want Than to be jealous still of something that happened so long ago.

I want so much to put it behind us, to move on. To be his Luna, his wife and the mother to his children.

"Come..." He places his hand out to me to take, which I do.

"Than..." I just need him to know, that it is him that I would have chosen.

"Hush...you see..." His thumb grips at my chin as he lifts my face up towards him. His lips crash into mine, in a bruising possessive kiss that leaves me forgetting to breathe. He pulls his lips away from mine, the pad of his thumb moving gently across my lips even entering my mouth to touch my tongue.

When satisfied he places his thumb into his own mouth, tasting my saliva...my kiss from his thumb.

...you see Alora my love, I always get my own way."

Ebony Woods Author

## **Bond 53**

Chapter 0053

Than POV

I wake up to Alora's naked body draped over mine. The silk bed sheet covering her lower half whilst her perfectly rounded breasts lay pressed against my stomach.

All I wanted was for us to stay like this, to be like this forever. But her body was failing her, she doesn't know it yet but she can feel something is wrong.

I can sense it through the bond.

Even last night, I could sense she was exhausted but she was on a mission to please me...to prove that we are each others.

He can plan all he wants, he's never getting her. I will rip out his heart the moment he gets close to her again. That's what I tried to do back then, as soon as he declared she was his mate in front of Mother and Father, I lost it.

I knew we were meant to be, I just needed to wait a few more days until I turned 18 before I had proof. But he wouldn't wait, claiming I already had more than I deserved, that she belonged to him.

There was not a chance in hell that she was leaving with him that day. In the anger of the moment I even fleetingly contemplated killing her myself just to stop him getting his hands on her. Then she made her own choice, neither of us.

My fingers trace the slim curvature of her figure, her breathing catching in her sleep at my touch. She was growing strong again, I just had to make sure it wasn't in vain. How could she ever think she was never mine.

My fingers trace all the way up from her thighs, to her hips and side boob, to her shoulders finishing at her ear. Before they rest on her neck.

I've been arguing with Mother a lot about marking Alora.

She wants me to wait, to mark her in front of the pack in an official ceremony.

I couldn't give a shit, I just need her to be mine. Fuck what the pack thinks, they'll follow my lead anyway.

I was their alpha and Alora my Luna. There could be no denying that.

However, my only concern was that I will lose the small connection to Kaia when I mark Alora. And I need that connection.

I need to get her back, for her to trust me. So that I can save Alora. Without the small buzz of the bond, I won't be able to control Kaia as I've always done.

I was having an internal battle between marking Alora and breaking into the Dark Phantom pack and taking Kaia....

It's been days, why hasn't she come back. The photograph should have done the trick.

Squashed any trust that she would have had in him.

Chapter 0053

She should already be here, why isn't she.

She had nowhere else to go. 1

+25 BONUS

"Calm down Than. You need to learn better patience. She will come."

"How can I be calm Mother? It's been days, it should have fucking worked." I could feel my own temper getting the better of me, my wolf getting closer to winning our internal battle for dominance. "And it will do. He's probably in crisis mode with her right now. Trying to regain her trust. Do you want me to bring Father in."

"No, I do not need Father to handle my shit."

"Then sort it out Than. Be the fucking Alpha you were born to be. I can't have your drama cause issues with me and my mate again."

With a final warning glare she storms out of my office, cursing at me under breath.

"Oh had Luna left?" Freya walks in carrying a tray of drinks, which she sets down on the cabinet by the door.

"Yes!" I grunt, my mood souring instantly at Mother's lack of maternal skills. Maybe she was right though, maybe Father was the one that could end this.

"Freya, I need you to remove all the boxes in one of the guest rooms upstairs. I need you to quietly take them to Kaia's old place and keep them there until I tell you otherwise." "I'll do it now Alpha."

"Freya..." I stop her just as she is about to leave my office, she turns to face me.

"Yes Alpha."

"You understand what I mean about quietly!"

Her mate, Zane appears at the door, looking between the two of us.

1

"Yes Alpha, I understand."

My eyes roll to the top of my head as they enter a mind-link, no doubt Zane checking that she is doing as she is told.

"Is everything okay Alpha?" Zane asks as he sits down ready to give his morning report.

## **Bond 54**

Chapter



0054

Alora POV

"You mustn't over exert yourself dear."

"I'm not, it's just a small run around the pack borders,"

"And does Than know?" Medea purses her lips at me, her toned down reddish hair bouncing as I try to keep up with her fast walking. I feel like a naughty school child being returned to the headmaster having been found out of class. "Does he need to know?" "Alora, you are still under a doctor's care you can't go running for miles when you still aren't well."

Medea caught me heading towards the training field and insisted on escorting me back to the alpha house, at once.

I needed to do something, I was going stir crazy. I wasn't the official Luna therefore couldn't complete any Luna task, so there wasn't a lot in the day to keep me occupied.

"I'm just bored Medea. I'm not doing anything, I need to do something."

"You're just like Than, you need to learn the art of patience. Honestly what is it with the youth of today, always in a hurry. We've only just got you back, let's not push you too hard too soon hmmm?"

She stops suddenly turning to me, her change in actions almost making me crash into her.

"I suppose so."

"That's my girl. Now I need to leave for a few hours and speak with Than's Father. I'll be back as soon as I can..."

"How is Alpha a Damon?"

"Fat, bored of being retired..."

Send him my best."

"Of course dear, very kind."

Alpha

Damon

non was different to Medea and Than, he didn't have that same hot temper that they possess. He was more reserved, yet in his hay day, no one would dare cross him.

It was Damon that stepped in, stopping Than and Hector from killing each other that day.

Busted and del

I can never win against Medea, no one ever can, I head back to the alpha house.

As I cut across a path onto grass, I see Freya leave the front door, carrying boxes in her hands. 2

I

My boxes....what the...

Where was she taking my boxes?

I follow her, keeping back as she seems to mutter to herself. My hearing still isn't as strong as it should be but something about being just a servant and not the female beta.  
+25 BONUS

0054

Chapter 005

She

wasn't wrong.

At f first I think she is going to her home, but she doesn't she takes a different route, a route she has shown

me before.

The route to take me to the empty house of Kaia's.

Мле

Why would Freya bring my boxes here?

These were my boxes, my property.

I stay back, hiding behind a large tree, I'm not meant to be down this way...even Freya told me I shouldn't

return.

It's not healthy to look into a life that you are jealous of, but that is what I am doing.

After Freya left, I waited 10 minutes in my hiding spot before entering the house.

Taking my time to look through each cupboard, each drawer... more thoroughly this time. I'm going to be missed by now but I don't care. I've entered some kind of toxic mind set and I can't leave until I know more.

I walk up her stairs....this is going to hurt but I can't help myself...

I head into her bedroom and open the wardrobe to find her wedding dress.

Would it be sick of me to try it on?

Yes I think it would be.

So why am I already taking it off the hangers, placing it already over my head.

I'm not entirely sure what has happened, but I am now standing in front of a mirror wearing a wedding dress that belonged to my mate's ex wife.

Who happens to look like me.

Who took my place whilst I was unconscious.

This is wrong, twisted.

sturbed by my own actions, I reach behind for the small circular fabric buttons on my back, to take the dress off, when I finally notice the boxes piled up by the side of her bed. Yes Than was hurting, yes he was angry...but what good would storing my boxes here do anyone...

He must have known I would only ask where they had been moved to?

I've never actually taken the time to go through my past, especially when my parents died. It hurt too much to go through paperwork, to go through memories.

But I was older now, wiser. Perhaps now was the right time. I also wouldn't want Than to find anything else that might have been kept without my knowledge

At

least t him not thinking I would be here, I am not disturbed. I must have been here for hours sorting through paperwork, old contracts, old documents that serve no purpose now. +25 BONUS +23 BO

Chapte

0054

of f me as a baby have been kept and I can't help but giggle at the pictures, my parent's holding me safely in their arms...their faces full of pure glee.

How old wa How Old

I was I here, I can't be more than a few months...

I turn the photo to look at the back when a note is written in my Dad's handwriting.

"First time we met Alora."

What an odd way to describe my birth.

Another photograph this time of them holding me, standing outside our old house.

"First time we brought Alora home."

I look at the photo more closely, I was wearing a pink babysuit but Mum was fully dressed and standing outside our old house. She look amazing for having just given birth. I reach deeper into the box of hidden memories, pulling out more photographs and a piece of paper.

My breathing catches in my throat.

This isn't a birth certificate, it's an adoption certificate.

Ebony Woods

## **Bond 55**

Chapter 0055

Chapter 0055

Alora POV

Adoption, no this can't be right.

There must be some kind of mistake.

My brain shifts through thousands of memories I shared with them, from the earliest I could remember up until their deaths.

Trying to find anything...anything that might give me more insight.

But all of my memories, happy or sad, are of them. I was their daughter and they my parents.

There is nothing that, unless I had discovered this certificate, would inform me otherwise. Not once did I ever feel as if I didn't belong. That I wasn't theirs.

My mind feels heavy, a heavy weight on top of my shoulders. That is becoming increasingly more difficult

to carry.

The more I try to think about this turn of events, the more I struggle to actually shift through the hundreds of thoughts coming to me all at once.

I can't think clearly, all I know is this piece of paper changes everything...everything I knew about my life.

About my parents.

Even the adoption has been dated as my birthday, so I could have been month's old by the time they brought me home. My birthday being a complete lie.

I have two choices...

I can put the certificate away and pretend I have never seen it.

Or..

I can take it to Medea and ask her about it.

Ask her what she knows. She has to know something.

No Alpha and Luna would allow a pack couple to adopt without their approval. Even down to becoming a pack member, they must of made me a member the moment I arrived on their pack grounds. Medea would know, she must know.

My wolf is stirring, she wants answers just as much as do...and I plan on getting them.

I'm flat out running, a stitch forming in my side, but I don't stop... adrenaline is fueling me,

My panting must be loud, I am getting plenty of strange looks from the pack members that I pass.

Even Freya, she looks at me as I run towards her and Zane, as they stand outside the alpha house. Her

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0055

eyes wide as she stares at me, as if she was questioning my sanity.

But things were making sense and I was starting to think clearly for the first time since reawakening. "Alpha, she's here." Zane shouts before his voice trails off, his eyes looking down at me in disbelief. "Where the fuck have you been, I was about to send out a search.....what are you wearing?"

Than is now looking at me with the same look as everybody else. He was mad, I had been gone too long and he was worried.

His hand grips my arm as he pulls me into the alpha house, into the main entrance hallway.

"Than...I need to speak...where is Medea?" I'm out of breath, my stitch has me bent over massaging the side of my stomach. Medea was right to stop my exercising earlier before it had even started. I really am still recovering.

"She's gone..."

"That's right to see Alpha Damon...I need her to..." Both Zane and Freya walk in, their eyes continuing to look at me oddly.

"Than, I found this in my boxes....this certificate."

"Boxes?" His eyes flash to Freya, a warning look of impending punishment for me finding them.

"I followed her, Freya has done nothing wrong. I was talking to your mother when I saw Freya moving my boxes out of the house. I found the boxes and went through them... Than I found this."

My breathing is still uneven as I place the certificate in his hands.

"What is it?" He looks at me perplexed at my current behaviour.

It was unlike me to disappear on him but he can't deny what I have discovered and what impact that will have on me, on us.

"Read it, its an adoption certificate...in my parents name...for me."

"Adoption...no that can't be right. You were born into this pack."

"I would have only been a few months old. I need to speak to your parents...I need to find out the truth."

Than doesn't seem to be as interested in this as I am. He just keeps looking at me, his eyes going up and down as if I were in a halloween costume in the middle of the summer. Then it clicks...I probably look the part. I didn't take of the wedding dress.

We stand in a self-enveloping silence before Than seems to remember where he might have seen this dress before.

On his wedding day.

"Do I remind you of her?" I take the certificate out of his hands and gently roll it up for safe keeping. This can't be damaged...can't be burned.

"Of who?"

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0056

Chapter 0056

Alora POV

"Of your wife?"

I couldn't keep quiet anymore. He needed to know that am aware of what I have woken up to.

That he married another.

Than's eyes remain on me constantly, his teeth flashing slightly but I don't doubt for one moment who they are meant for...not me that's for sure.

She took something from him, something he needed back.

"Out! Both of you out!" He roars at the beta couple, kicking them out of the alpha house and slamming the door behind them.

"I want to know everything..."

"Everything." His hands remain on the door, his head twisting back to look at me.

"You claim to love me..."

"I do love you." His roar is deafening as it echoes down the hallway. I can hear Freya gasp from the other side of the front door before Zane orders her away.

It's too late to hide away from this now. I was only starting to realise what this adoption certificate could mean. I couldn't go back to before, I have to let him know that I know. "You claim to love me, yet you married another..."

"It wasn't like that." He moves away from the door, his hand now pinching at the bridge of his nose. He never liked arguing with me, or I him.

But I have to get this off my chest, no matter how uncomfortable it makes him.

"You married another, whilst I was in my coma."

"I had the pressure of the pack, of my parents needing an heir..." His hands find mine instantly, placing them together and pulling them to his chest. To his beating heart. "But Than, she looks like me, she is me...look..." He could have picked anyone, yet he picked a person with a striking resemblance to me. As if I were still looking back at him.

I walk us into his office, reaching into this top desk drawer and pulling out a photograph of him and Kaia on their wedding day. Of her wearing the same dress I am now dressed in.

"How did you find this?" A slight growl rumbles in his chest. Perhaps he was feeling guilty for not burning it himself. He accuses me of keeping a memory...yet he keeps this...but now wasn't the time for me to bring that up.

"I found it in your desk drawer..." I bite my lower lip waiting for his alpha aura to crash into me. I shouldn't have looked through his things, I know this.

"You went through my things..."

## **Bond 56**

Chapter 0056 Chapter 0056



Alora POV

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"You went through my things..."

Chapter 0056

+25 BONUS

"You went through my things..."

"That's different."

"How?"

"Because she was never a threat to you but Hector was a threat to me." His voice is raised, always raised when it comes to Hector. "You married her....you slept with her." I whisper back, just because I don't raise my voice doesn't mean I'm not hurting just as much.

"No I never...." An automatic robotic denial comes to his mouth until he stops.

I can see it in his eyes, a memory. Something he has been keeping from me.

He has slept with her.

I think this hurts more than him marrying her, than him keeping her a secret from me.

"Who is she?" I clutch at my stomach, sharp pain running through me.

"Alora..." He takes a step towards me but I take a step back.

"Than... Just tell me who is she?"

"She's nobody. I was a college, I saw her...at first I thought it was you. A hoped that maybe you had woken up to come and find me. To take me out of my own living hell."

"I don't understand. Why did you marry her? What reason would you have to marry someone that looked like me. Was it to carry out some kind of sick fantasy of still living with me but I was half dead in the hospital... "No nothing like that, it was the pull of the bond at first..."

Wait...what...

"The bond?" I can't believe what I am hearing.

"You can feel a bond with her, a mate bond..."

His silence speaks volumes to me.

"Than, is she your mate?"

"No you are."

"But if you have a mate bond with her...and with me...it could mean..."

"What?"

"I need to speak with your Mother and Father....it's urgent that they come back."

"Then I will ask that they come back."

He holds his arms out to me, the version of a white flag for him. Calling for peace between us.

He pulls me into his chest, holding me tightly fearful to let me go w

Chapter 0056

I was also his.

My mind was spinning.

+25 BONUS

If Than had two mate bonds, and so did I...this must mean that Kaia and I are connected somehow. 1

My recent discovery of an adoption certificate calling into doubt my parentage...could it be I was related to Kaia.

"I want to know something. Something I want you to be honest with me about."

"Alora..." He shakes his head wanting us to forget all of this, but we can't. I can't brush this aside.

"Please Than, please..."

"Alright."

"Why didn't you mark her and make her your Luna."

"Because I always hoped you would wake up."

"Then why haven't you marked me?"

"Mother wants you to have a marking ceremony."

"Then let's do it."

"What?"

"Let's have our marking ceremony, you will mark me and make me your Luna."

His eyes pour into mine, a level of concern laced within his eyes. I knew Than better than I knew myself. He was contemplating something....something about her.

"Okay...let's do it."

"We will?" A smile erupts from my face.

"Yes..let's hold a marking ceremony. Alora, I've never been in any doubt that you belong to me and I belong to you. So let's show it to the world once and for all." "And you will invite every alpha and luna?"

He pauses, a frown briefly entering his face before he replaces it with a smile.

"I will invite every Alpha and Luna."

Today's Bonus Offer

## **Bond 57**

Chapter 0057

Chapter 0057

Kaia POV

I was back alone, back in a home to myself.

But this time was different, the pack wasn't ignoring me. I wasn't being shunned.

Word must have got around because every morning I opened the front door to find baskets of freshly baked bread and cakes, freshly picked fruit or vegetables from their gardens.

They cared and that meant the world to me.

I just couldn't properly digest that right now.

I was still healing.

When I am ready I will thank them all with the gratitude I hold deep within me.

My new home wasn't near the pack borders a I had requested, it was close to the alpha mansion and pack house.

Hector claims it is the only one available but I don't believe him. I know for a fact that there are unused houses by the borders.

He's keeping a close watch on me. If I should leave, he'll lose all bargaining power with the Amber Desert pack.

Lose any chance of getting her out...what did he say, freeing her?

She wasn't a prisoner, I was their prisoner. She was loved and adored by the alpha, by the pack who helped keep the past from me. She didn't need rescuing.

Sleep I was struggling with. The silence of the night making more own thoughts louder, the moon's powerful glow reminding me of what I have lost.

Yet her peaceful presence helps gives me start to heal at the stillest of night.

I was sleep deprived, my mind playing tricks on me. At night I could sometimes smell his burnt oranges and dark chocolate scent when I step outside to look up at the moon. The doctor said I would experience odd things, lack of smell, imaging scents that don't exist. That with my wolf regaining her strength, yet the reducing pregnancy hormones confusing her just as much as me, that I might have a week or two of phantom symptoms.

Why else would I imagine smelling his scent.

The mate bond already trying to push me towards him, already trying to betray me once again.

I won't have it this time, I refuse to be the moon goddess's puppet.

Her entertainment.

Chapter 0057

+25 BONUS

It's Aubrey sitting in the front room when I come down from my morning shower that has me almost jumping out of my own skin. I didn't sense her presence through smell or hearing at all. The doctor wasn't wrong.

"Kaia..." She jumps from my sofa as I scream behind her.

"Aubrey...you scared me." My hands clutch at my chest, my breathing heavy before I burst into laughter. At least for a change it wasn't tears.

"I'm sorry, I did knock."

"And yet didn't wait for a response."

"I've been knocking daily Kaia, more than once. I need to check you are well."

She has been knocking and I do feel guilty, I was fond of Aubrey but I just needed to be alone.

"Check?"

"Okay, fine...he is worried...he wants to know you are okay. He says you are blocking him. How?"

"Am I? Must be the hormones." I full well know I am blocking him through the pack link. Just as I used to

with Than.

"He misses you..." She sighs as she walks towards me, trying to pull me into her arms. I don't want to be touched right now, not by anybody. The fear of my inner turmoil leaking out is stopping me from leaving the house also.

"Aubrey...stop."

"Kaia, please...I've never seen him like this. He's not good, he's trying to give you some space. But it is clear how much he misses you. How much he cares for you. Won't you reach out to him, at least hear him out?" "Did you know Aubrey? Did you know about his mate?"

"I didn't know he had a mate, I had hoped..."

She had hoped I was his mate. That's what she was going to say before she corrects herself.

"Look how well he had done, look at this pack. Look at all of this in such a short space of time. It's as if he didn't have a life before this pack."

"Believe me, he did."

"Won't you at least listen....hear his side of the story. I'm not saying move back in but just let him explain." This pack was different, and maybe I owe them for their kindness...just to hear their alpha out. "I'll give it some thought."

"I'll give you some space. If you need me, please let me know."

As soon as she leaves, I am left with her parting words. But rather than soothe me, they do quite the opposite.

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0057

nature to try and reach out to me. If he wanted to talk, why hasn't he been knocking on my door.

I put my shoes on, letting my anger lead my head. Never a wide thing to do. My heart was too weak right now to fight my head.

I know I'm not thinking clearly but I can't help it.

Perhaps if he hadn't lied to me, I wouldn't have lost the baby.

I cut across the pack's central garden, the distance for once being a blessing, walking hurriedly towards the alpha house when a car arrives and pulls up next to Hector's car.

I stop in my tracks.

A car I have seen before... that can't be right. Why would he be here.

The door of the car opens, a car that belongs to the Amber Desert pack. Ebony Woods  
Author

Phew, 3 chapters today for you...enjoy. Please pass on some gems

for me if you can... they keep me going.

can...they

I have uploaded a new book - The Legacy of the Alpha King: Sins of the Father....

Sex

## **Bond 58**

Chapter 0058

Chapter 0058

Hector POV

+25 BONUS

"How is she?" As soon as I hear Aubrey enter the alpha house I spring from my office to find her.

Yes I might have put pressure on Aubrey to check on her, but she was just as concerned as I was. Kaia had distanced herself and even the pack, as a whole, was missing her bright daily smile. "She's doing better than I thought, she's a strong one."

Yes, she is a strong she-wolf, but that doesn't stop me from worrying about her.

She wanted to be placed in a house furthest away from me as possible.

I declined, she has been allocated a house to herself but it is still close by. My wolf warned me from putting her too far away.

At night time I often stroll past, as part of my night time walk. Funny, I didn't walk at night before she moved out.

Sometimes I don't even realise where I am until my wolf gives me back control. I can never muster the courage to knock on the door which is bloody absurd being it is my pack house, my pack door. ""She let you in?"

"She didn't have a choice, I let myself in."

"Aubrey..." I turn playfully at her, impressed by her forcefulness.

"You wanted to know she was okay, so I checked."

"And?"



"She's still healing Alpha, she needs time. Just give her time."

That I can do.

His arrival was announced to me through the pack-link as soon as he reached the main gate. I granted approval for access, I wanted to hear what he had to say for himself.

But if he thinks I am greeting him outside he has another thing coming.

He wants to talk, he can come and find me. I certainly won't be running out the red carpet.

A knock on the office door further announces that he has found me. With a deep breath I settle my inner patience, I would need it.

"Come on in Alpha Damon, I've been expecting you."

"You have?" He walks in and closes the door behind him.

"Would you like refreshments Alpha?" Aubrey is already preparing drinks for our visitor, her voice hitting me through the mind-link. Chapter 0058

+25 BONUS

"No, he won't be staying." I respond to her before returning my full attention to the retired alpha in front of

1. me.

"I knew it would only be a matter of time before he sent you. Getting his Father to do his dirty work."

"You two just have a way of winding each other up."

As always, playing down how truly I have been wronged.

"Nope, just him always getting his own way."

"Well, he wants Kaia back."

You've got to be shitting me.

"Not a chance. Kaia is my pack member now."

"And the wife.."

"Ex wife."

"The wife of the Amber Desert Alpha. She has a contract in place that she can't hide from."

"He doesn't need her, from what I hear Alora is awake. Have you seen her?" I lean forward on my desk, letting my aura start to circulate around us.

"No...I've been in retirement. There must be something we can do to settle this, without it getting messy." Hmm, that sounds more like Medea. Unbelievable, who exactly was running the Amber Desert pack.

"You all should have thought about that..."

"Hector." He tries to cut me off but this was my pack, my authority was king here.

"Before you denied our mate bond and drove Alora to suicide."

"We did no such thing."

"You gave her no choice, she couldn't see a way out. Than always whispering in her ear, always controlling her, never letting her think for herself. Always getting his own way. Well he won't. I might not have fought hard enough for Alora, but I will for Kaia...he's not getting her. Now if that's the only reason you came, I'll see you out."

I was seething, I could feel the rage inside of me. Like a red monster wanting to get out and set fire to the world. Set fire to Than and the Amber Desert pack.

"Alpha Damon...next time don't fight his battles for him. It makes him look weak."

I walk him out of my house, the sooner he was off my grounds the better.

In my incensed state I fail to notice her outside.

"Kaia..."

"Alpha Damon..."

Fuck!

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0058

She's standing by his car, almost sitting on the bonnet,

"Just the woman I wanted to speak to..."

"Oh?"

He takes a step towards her which enrages my wolf even further.

"Alpha Damon, you can not accost my pack members."

"Your pack member? She's the wife of..."

"Ex wife." She boldly stands her ground.

"Alpha Damon. As you can see I am well, I am alive. With regards to any contract in place I would say it was signed under a false promise by the Amber Desert pack and I am happy to get legal advice in revisiting the terms..." "Kaia, he needs you."

My growl is deafening to the point that both flinch from the aggression behind it. Any patience I was trying to hold on to had abandoned me now.

"Leave my pack member alone. Now leave, before I throw you out!"

Ebony Woods

Author

Wow so many gems. Please keep th

## **Bond 59**

+25 BONUS

Chapter

0059

Chapter 0059

Hector POV

"You don't need to throw me out Hector, I'll go. But changing a pack doesn't end a marriage or a contract... remember that Kaia."

"As soon as I can, I'll send my divorce papers over."

It's her parting shot as he closes his car door.

I know he has heard her, his hands are holding on to the steering wheel so tightly, that his knuckles are turning white.

Maybe it will serve a purpose to have warriors watching their borders for once. Even if just to remind them they don't fucking rule the werewolf world. Not anymore they don't.

We both watch Alpha Damon's car drive off, his eyes are watching us in his rear view mirror.

"Kaia, let me explain..." I call out to her, she's already walking away from me. How has it come to this, that she will barely look me in the eyes. "You can leave at any time, please?"

Her head turns back towards the direction she came from, the direction she was leaving in...but by a stroke of luck, a mere measure of hope I need to latch onto before it vanishes, she decides to listen to

1. me.

I take her into the living room, the soft comfortable sofas offering a more informal, relaxed environment

than the authoritative decor of my office.

I needed her to feel at ease in my presence again.

Feeling uncomfortable in my own home, fuck, I try to think of how to start my explanation. My hands are clammy, as I feel beads of sweat forming on both sides of my forehead.

"I first knew Alofa was my mate a few days before Than turned 18. He challenged me instantly, claiming that he was her mate... that I was wrong, that I had an ulterior motive." "Alpha...." She needs to hear me out, she needs to hear this.

"Kaia, please let me give you my side of events."

With a sigh, she sits back a bit more comfortably on the sofa, placing her hand out gesturing for me to

continue.

"Both Alora and Than were underage, they refused to believe my claim was true. Or Than did, Alora wanted to know more.."

Kaia scoffs which frustrates me. She doesn't know Alora, she has this image of a villain in her mind...but she's anything but. She's the sweetest girl and one that loves everybody.

I continue, now wasn't the time to correct Kaia on all things Alora.

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0059

"Alora wanted to hear me out, but Than refused. Ordering her not to go anywhere near me, forbidding for me to spend anytime with her. He was worried, as he should have been, that the more time I spent with her... the more she would feel the bond between us.

He had demanded that I wait until he turned 18...a little underage spoilt shit telling me what to do. I was 22 at the time, far more advanced in maturity than he... then..."

I've never spoken about that day, the dreadful discovery that fated early morning. How it was me that found her, and raised the alarm.

I can see her still now, eyes closed as if she were only sleeping. So peaceful.

Than tearing her from my arms, as Medea wailed behind me. The buzz I felt getting weaker and weaker the more her breathing struggled.

I didn't even realise my hands had been trailing through my hair on repeat, until I looked up at Kaia. Her eyes looking a few inches above my eyes, at my now disheveled hair.

The next bit...this was difficult to communicate.

"It was me that found her. My heart broke the moment I realised she was more than asleep, especially when I found the empty wolfsbane vial. She had decided to take her own life, than choose between us."

A gasp emits from Kaia's mouth, her hand placing on her chest.

"I didn't have my own pack, I couldn't declare a war against him. I had nothing. I needed time...time to build an empire that could bring his down."

"How did you know she would survive?"

"I hate him for it, but I've never doubted his love for her. His obsession is the only thing that has kept her alive. I wasn't even allowed to see her, to say goodbye. Medea saw to that. My Head Doctor is the best in the shifter community, if I could get her here..." "He might have been able to wake her up."

"Yes."

She remains quiet for a moment but I can tell she wants to ask me a question.

"How do I fit into all of this."

"A simple business deal, you for her. She needs freeing from him Kaia. Even if she doesn't chose me, she needs to escape him."

"So this entire pack you have built...is for her? Hector, you talk as if she is trapped, as if she is held against her will. She isn't...she is worshipped. She doesn't need freeing...." She pauses, shaking her head before continuing. What else was she going to say? "You've lost all bargaining power now anyway, with his heir gone...you have nothing."

My heart aches for what she has gone through. If I had just been more honest, maybe she could have helped me from the start. Kaia is smart, she is strong...more worldly than Alora.

He still wants her back. It's the sole purpose for him sending his father here. I need to know why... what is

Chapter 0059

the reason he wants her back. He never knew of her pregnancy.

He now has Alora...so why...why have the mate you have all but rejected.

"I won't betray you Kaia, but I do need to free her." 1

Ebony Woods

Author

+25 BONUS

Thanks for reading. Sorry chapters have been a tad slow for the last

2 days. It's been a busy few days.

I've also just updated Sins of the Father as well - check it out. Please keep those gems comin

## Bond 60

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0060

Chapter 0060

Kaia POV

Hector talks of freeing her as if it were his responsibility, as if she were imprisoned.

I suppose in a way she is, Than loves her too much to let her go...to let her leave with Hector..to let her die.

He would so easily carve into me to protect her, not one thought for my life. Would she love him so deeply if she knew what he was capable of, what he has done.

A part of me wants to enlighten her but maybe she was an innocent, as Hector has made out her to be. But isn't that the mate bond tricking him also?

It almost escaped me that freeing her was pointless, that I was the only cure to her current declining health.

Something that I'm guessing Alpha Damon didn't share with Hector.

Otherwise, I think I would be tied, gagged and placed in the back of his car boot on my way back to the Amber Desert pack by now.

Did hearing Hector's side bring me any comfort...

No.

But it has confirmed to me the male ego within their love triangle. I think both he and Than are so hell bent on winning, that they'll spend her last days fighting instead of spending time with her. And then it will be too late. This bond between us that, for me, has painfully been growing over the past few days, I need gone!

Without the Amber Desert heir growing inside of me, it's as if the mate bond has exploded back to life.

I'm debating which hurts more; the pain of the mate bond trying to force my mind and body so soon after my miscarriage or the fact that he can't even sense it.

I'm in a world of my own by the time I walk back to my home, not realising I have a visitor sitting on my doorstep, until I almost crash into her.

"Rosa, what are you doing here?"

"I just wanted to check you were alright. I heard..." I look down to find she has come with a bag, and I haven't got it in me to turn her away. She was still healing too and had kindly thought of me to bring something. "Come in." I welcome her into the house, not wanting some of my most private matters to be discussed so openly.

I already knew what was troubling her.

Once we have settled in the sitting room, she reaches into her bag and pulls out some bottled lemon water which is well known for helping clear toxins out of the body.

0060

+25 BONUS

"I heard about your baby. I'm sorry." She can't look me in the eyes as she places the bottles on the small coffee table.

"Thank you Rosa."

"Was the baby...was the father your ex?"

"Yes Rosa."

"It's selfish of me but I can't stop thinking about how that could have been me. What I would have done if I had fallen pregnant." She has been contemplating this, she has black shadows under her eyes and her nails are too short from over biting.

"You would have loved the baby. It wasn't the baby's fault, you would have felt the same way too, I'm certain of it."

My wolf growls within my mind as Rosa continues to talk to me. I nod and smile but have stopped listening.

My wolf is wanting my full attention.

Her strength has fully returned to me now. For the first time since arriving here she is demanding that I let her out, that I shift.

But I'm not ready to join the weekly wolf pack run. One on one sympathy is fine but a whole pack together, I would crack under their intense glares.



It would come from a place of warmth on their behalf but I would find such kindness hard to receive.

I needed her to wait until it was night time, until we were alone.

Rosa spends an hour with me in total, talking to me about pack members that I only know in passing. How a lot transferred over from other packs to help set up the Dark Phantom pack and haven't looked back since. Feigning tiredness she leaves me to it, to rest. But I have no intention of doing so.

Instead I pull up a map of the pack grounds getting an idea of where the borders truly finish so that I can have some space to let my wolf out tonight.

At midnight, I quietly open my front door checking that the surrounding area was clear.

I keep to the shadows, away from the dimly lit path not wanting to explain my midnight stroll. As soon as I reach a wooded area I take my clothes off and hand them high up on a tree's branch so that my wolf doesn't tear them to pieces when I shift. I don't fancy walking back naked.

I take a moment to let the moon's rays beam down on me through the canopy of the trees above. The moon beams are healing and empowering, as I feel the ethereal light dance upon my skin.

For a moment I am at peace, my wolf and I the most connected we have ever been.

She forgiving me and I forgiving her for our joint loss.

Chapter 0060

Then for the first time in a long time, I let her take control.

Today's Bonus Offer

+25 BONUS

## **Bond 61**

Chapter 0061 Chapter 0061

Ezra POV

I could curse myself for adding my name on to the overnight border watch roster. This was going to be a slow night.

Things have been a lot quieter since the Amber Desert warriors miraculously disappeared. However, judging by the conflict caused between Alpha and Kaia, that was the Amber Desert Alpha's plan all along. To cause a wedge between them to claim her back by sending those things in the mail to her. He didn't leave out of the blue, he made a conscious decision to withdraw his men and attack our pack in another way... by getting to the heart of our alpha.

Alpha has never spoken of his past before he built the Dark Phantom pack. The pack has grown in such a short space of time yet it feels as if it's existed for decades, not years.

I joined the pack from Alpha Jude's pack, where my brother is the beta. I knew staying would mean I couldn't rise above my brother, and I didn't want to...so I accepted Alpha Hector's offer to be his beta. I left my family pack and helped Alpha Hector push forward with his plans for the Dark Phantom pack. Judging by our reputation in werewolf society, we've done well.

The fields ahead of me are clear, a few night time animals but nothing out of the ordinary. I take in a deep breath of air, blowing it out through my cheeks.

Blimey, at this rate I'll fall asleep on duty.

Needing to keep active, I start to change my position by bringing myself more in towards the main pack grounds. We had enough men on patrol tonight and if things remained this calm I might finish early, I could do with catching up on some sleep. Sleep I clearly needed because I seem to be hallucinating.

Why else would I have just seen Kaia leave her house for the direction of the woods...

I follow her, but keep quiet as I track her. I don't want to draw attention to myself. I want to know where she is going.

She continues, leaving the main accommodation part of the pack grounds, entering deep into the woods. Her behaviour is out of character and I'm intrigued to find out what she is up to.

Since the moment I met her in the coffee shop I've always had a good vibe from Kaja, I've never been suspicious of her joining our pack....until now.

She stops by some trees and I have to backstep when she starts to remove her clothes in front of me.

Nudity isn't a big thing in the werewolf community but I do close my eyes for a brief moment just to give her some privacy.

Then it dawns on me...she has come out here to shift for the first time since her wolf has regained strength. Since what happened.

now feel like a prize idiot for not realising sooner. If she catches me out here, I'm going to look like a right pervert.

Following a lone female into the woods and spying on her from behind a tree. Beta or not, I'd struggle to

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0061

explain myself.

Once I hear the cracking of bones I open my eyes, preparing to leave her alone when the sight before me astounds me...a white wolf. Something that belongs to a shifter fairytale.

I've never seen a white wolf before, they are unique and through the centuries have been almost faded out. Such a rare sight.

As children they are mentioned in our fairytales, but I didn't actually think any existed any more.

I was going to leave but now I can't, not now I am mesmerised by the vision of her.

Kaia's wolf seems to be having fun by herself, frolicking around the woodland, trying to catch animals and even sharpening her claws against tree trunks.

I'm watching with bated breath as she starts to move out of the woodland area and towards a field. Her paws most likely wanting the feel of grass underneath her rather than the thickness of the woodland foliage.

I slowly follow her, keeping low and hidden. Using the natural shade of the midnight darkness to hide me from view.

She's just so... beautiful.

Having moved out into a clearing, I can see her fully under the soft glow of the moon. Her white fur brightened under the soft beams of the enchanting moon.

Alpha commented that Kaia had been pregnant even when she left the Amber Desert pack, which means her wolf hasn't shifted in a long time. She was well overdue this reunion.

She isn't a threat or in danger. I feel bad for my earlier thoughts of mistrusting her, thinking she was acting suspiciously...she just wished to be alone.

That, I can grant.

I decide to leave her dancing under the moon, giving her the tranquil peace she so desperately craves.

I leave as quickly as I arrived, ensuring not to make any noise as I carefully tip toe over twigs and broken branches in the woods.

As soon as I make it back to my post for the night, I order the guards away from the field area.

There was no need to watch that area tonight.

I would leave Kaia to heal under the moon for as long as she needed.

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0062

Chapter 0062

## **Bond 62**

Chapter 0062 Chapter 0062

Alora POV

"What's all this?" Medea asks as she steps into the dining room. Her eyes gazing in wonder at the breakfast banquet I prepared for her return.

I had been working on this since the early hours of the morning.

I was unable to sleep knowing that she would be back this morning. My levels of anticipation mixed thickly with anxiety and a secret feeling of excitement of what she may be able to tell me. For what she must know.

She was the ruling Luna at the time with Alpha Damon as her mate, ruling by his side. Nothing like this would have happened without her knowledge. She was the closest person to actually being able to ask my dead parents themselves. Medea appreciated home-made baked goods and I needed her on side today, to finally get the answers that I so desperately need.

"I wanted to make you breakfast..." I beam up at her as I place the last tray out on the table.

Medea had an art for reading body language. I needed to be careful, I didn't want her to brush the topic aside, to think I couldn't handle the truth.

Yes I was still under the doctor's care and recovering. But hopefully any day now he will sign me off.

I was starting to find the regular doctor appointments frustrating and preventing me from mentally moving on. I needed to stop being reminded of what I did on a daily basis.

I was feeling tired now but I don't care, the mess of the flour will have all been worth it.

"Is it just us this morning? This is enough to feed half of the pack."

"I went a little crazy I know, but I didn't know how things would turn out."

"Well this is a lovely surprise to come back to. You will make a fine Luna my dear."

She takes a seat at the table, helping herself to some of the croissants I freshly baked this morning and the fruit salad I prepared.

I have created the perfect environment and now was the perfect time to start asking questions.

Just as I am about to start questioning her, Than walks in.

He yawns and rubs at the back of his neck as he enters, stopping to wrap his arms around me from behind and kiss me on the tip of my shoulder.

"Good morning beautiful. Last night was...sexy." His voice enters my mind, my cheeks blushing from the memories of last night.

He looked crazy hot himself this morning. Grey sweat pants hanging on his hips and a black vest that shows his muscular body.

"Morning...I've made breakfast. Is now a good time?" I reply back through the mind-link, turning in his hold to reach up and kiss his neck. +25 BONUS

Chapter 0062

"Good time?" He inhales my scent, a soft rumble filling his chest from my closeness.

"To ask Medea about my adoption certificate?"

"I don't see why not." Than had been very supportive since I found this certificate.

He reassured me that we would find out together, our first port of call being his parents.

The wedding dress was now gone. Freya had returned it back to Kaia's old place. Than wanted to burn it but I think it serves a purpose of reminding me of what could have been, if I had succeeded. Without him by my side I really don't know how I would have coped. He has been my anchor in all of this. Always by my side, no matter what.

I take a deep breath in preparing myself for the news I have had sleepless nights over recently. Such information will change what I thought about my life forever.

A part of me wants to go back and not to have followed Freya to Kaia's. To not have put on that dress and checked the contents of the boxes.

But I can't change that now, all I can do is move forward with the support of Than, knowing we are in this together.

"Medea, I wanted to ask you something?"

"Yes dear..."

My fingers fumble as I reach into my back pocket and pull out the certificate that I have carefully folded.

"I was going through some of my parent's boxes and I found something that I wanted to talk to you about."

"Sounds intriguing." She smiles at me as she reaches for the jar of jam, her mouth already chewing on pastry.

Why was this so difficult. She is my mother-in-law, the woman that has been like a mother to me over the past few years...albeit I've been asleep for most of them. I should be able she says so herself. O talk to her about anything...

Today's Bonus Offer

GET IT NOW

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0063

**Bond 63**

## Chapter 0063

### Alora POV

"It's an adoption certificate." The words exit my mouth more clumsily than I had wanted. Yet they are heard all the same. Words she clearly didn't ever expect me to say.

She stops eating, her mouth opening slightly in shock before her eyes dart to Than who remains by my side.

"Ah I see. Goddess now that takes me back." She places her cutlery down, dotting the side of her mouth with a napkin.

"Do you know anything about this Mother?" Than is just as curious as to what she knows.

He takes a step forward, sitting next to her at the table. I move towards Than's chair, my hands resting on the beautifully carved wooden headrest. I need his closeness still to help calm my nerves.

In reality, I'm asking one adopted family about another. They aren't my real parents either but Medea and Damon have been here for me since I can remember.

Stepping up when my parents died to give me a home and support me. I wouldn't want to hurt their feelings either.

"Of course I do Than, it was Father and I that needed to approve Alora joining the pack. I did think the boxes had been checked..." She rolls her eyes, irritation presenting before she corrects herself. "Why didn't they ever tell me?"

"Too be honest dear I had forgotten. You became such an important part of our daily lives, spending all your time with Than...I didn't give it another thought. And I imagine your parent's would have told you, they didn't expect to leave you so soon." She's right.

My parents were most likely going to wait until I was of age to tell me. I was a happy child, why rock the boat when things were plain sailing for me...whilst they were still alive.

Things only started to deteriorate after their close deaths,

To me it doesn't change anything, I was still their daughter and I never felt anything but their daughter. I was truly loved by them.

But now all I can think about is who my birth parents are. Of the woman that gave birth to me.

"Do you know who Alora's parents are?" Than must be picking up on my emotions, as he asks the most important question of all..

"No, these things are very hush hush. I imagine it was a teenage mother without a mate. It's more common than you think,"

"There's nothing? No leads on where she was born, who her mother is?" Than seems just as dissatisfied with Medea's answer as I am. +25 BONUS

Chapter 0063

"Everything should be in the boxes. I can see if Father kept anything on file but I remember at the time your parents Alora, they headed up the adoption themselves. They just asked for our permission and for us to accept you into the pack. I'm sorry dear I can't be any more helpful on the matter. Now, what have I missed?"

The topic turns quickly onto matters of pack business and I find myself feeling disappointed.

I thought this would lead somewhere, lead me to perhaps a family I didn't even know existed.

I'm quiet for the rest of breakfast, letting Medea and Than discuss pack things as they usually do.

I don't think Than even notices that their conversation has moved on to his office, the door was now almost closed and I was alone in the dining room. Staring at all this uneaten food, at all this effort gone to waste.

My mood dampens. I'm starting to feel deflated and more alone than ever.

To find out that my parents weren't really my parents is life changing. But for them to not be here to explain it themselves...perhaps I'll never get to know the full truth.

I tidy up, ensuring the kitchen is clean and everything I used has been neatly placed away. Freya is the female beta, not the housekeeper, even though she has been used as such too much lately.

I refuse to let her clean up after my mess.

Carrying dirty kitchen towels to put in the laundry room I walk past Than's office to find the door still slightly ajar. My body freezes when I hear my name being mentioned.

"Than, she'll know if I'm not really planning a ceremony. Alora isn't stupid."



"Then just pretend Mother, pretend you are planning an event for our ceremony. Get the invites designed for her to approve. Pretend you are inviting alphas and lunas...anything to keep her thinking it is happening. But it can't yet happen....I'm not ready to lose the link to Kaia, not yet."

Ebony Woods Author

## **Bond 64**

Chapter 0064 Chapter 0064

Kaia POV

I can't think of anything worse than attending a pack party today. Attendance has been declared essential for every pack member.

I was even delaying getting ready, finding anything to distract me seemed more important...even the mundane task of checking my emails.

I'm late which perhaps was a mistake. I can hear the music from the pack hall before I even close my front door. The laughter of the pack members celebrating their anniversary of when the pack was created. I must admit for such a young pack, they have...he has done well.

I dread their stares, their whispers but when I finally arrive all I see of kindness.

Gentle nods of appreciation for attending, females welcoming me by gently touching my arms...letting me know that I am safe with them. That no one will mention my recent heartache.

Yet they all know, if I couldn't tell by their eyes...then Rosa coming over to check on me was confirmation enough. I was used to being ignored by a pack and I'm starting to realise the level of manipulation Than used on me in the college years. Grooming me as a lone female.

At the time I was on cloud nine, now I feel like a fool for believing his poetic words that he used to sweetly whisper into my ear.

The pack hall is decorated with large party lights which as the afternoon continues will offer a soft glow as evening falls.

A live band plays in the pack hall with a large bbq area and bar stand outside, tables and chairs prettily dressed with wildflowers picked from the pack's meadows.

How did they earn the reputation of a ruthless pack. Maybe that is how they have managed to grow so quickly, the image marketed out very different to the characteristic of the pack internally.

I see him talking to the band after they finish their song, deep in conversation. He hasn't noticed my arrival, why would he. To him I am just any other pack member.

I turn to head towards the outside bar, in need of a drink to calm the wolf within me. She was at her full strength again and the midnight energy she absorbed from the moon had worked wonders in our recovery. Both physically and mentally. "Kaia!" Beta Ezra hands me a champagne flute before pouring it to the top.

"I'm glad you came..."

"I thought attendance was essential?"

"It is."

"Well here I am then." I playfully tease but it doesn't seem to be well received by him.

An awkward silence falls upon us and I feel the need to fill it with small talk.

"The pack has grown quickly...in what is it..4 years?"

Chapter 0064

+25 BONUS

"Yes, Alpha has fought hard to move forward with his plans."

"Plans?"

"Alpha purchased the lands.."

"He didn't inherit them?" I've always wondered how Hector came to be Alpha of the Dark Phantom pack. I just assumed he inherited lands.

"No, he was on a mission to start a new pack within a certain timescale...a short timescale. Luckily Alpha Jude could spare me to help Alpha Hector."

"Alpha Jude? Isn't that his friend?" I remember Alpha Jude from the banquet ball.

"Yes, I am from Alpha Jude's pack. My brother is his beta. Alpha Hector offered me to join him, having no beta himself."

So Hector really has started from scratch and for what purpose?

"There you are..."

My heart skips a beat, and I could scream at it for falling victim to the bond, as he walks towards us. His powerful stride towards my direction is poetic itself.

The crowd parts, not one person conscious of what they are doing, their body's moving for them to let their powerful alpha through.

To hold such power of a pack bond...I wonder if it hurts sometimes. The burden of it all.

"Kaia and I were just talking about how the pack started."

"So keen to make an impression on the werewolf world?" I make light of the subject, earning a soft chuckle from both the alpha and the beta.

"I come from a business background, that's where my education is in. But I thought why not...why not start a pack. Why is it those only inherited a pack that can become Alpha." "Shake the mould..." I offer.

"Exactly."

Soft music starts to play in the background and in my peripheral vision I can see pairs coupling onto the dance floor.

Ezra clears his throat before excusing himself as he walks into the pack hall, surprisingly asking Rosa for

a dance.

"Would you like to dance?" His voice husky sending shivers of pleasure down my spine.

"Oh I'm...I'm not sure, I'm not very good at dancing..."

"Then I will lead the way."

He puts his hand out to me and against my better judgment I take it.

I couldn't think of a reason to decline him.

## **Bond 65**

0065

Chapter Kaia POV

He pulls me onto the dance floor as soft romantic music plays in the background, changing from the pop like beat that was on only a moment ago.

I've never danced so intimately...not even on my own wedding day.

I'm not really sure what to expect.

Continuing to hold my hand, Hector slowly spins me into him, my breathing fluttering slightly by the move.

His other hand firmly places itself on my lower back, my top rising slightly against his hold. I can feel the pads of his fingers touching my exposed skin, which must only be millimetres in-between the hem of my top and the waistband of my jeans...but for how it feels...it could be my entire body exposed nakedly to him. Damn this mate bond.

He pulls me closer into him and it could only be the two of us in this pack hall for all I care. Everybody else has faded away into the shadows.

His warm breath dances its own dance upon my temple before his lips almost touch the tip of my ear. I think if he wasn't holding me so firmly, I would also melt away into the shadows.

I hate myself for being so easily distracted by him.

I hate myself because I was still angry at him. I didn't want to dance, I wanted to shout at him, claw at him. Let him feel even an ounce of the pain I have felt.

How

The

!

yet the mate bond only increases its

as a counter attack each time.

The only comparison can give is it's like trying to swim in a stormy sea, my with me until I surrender.

body is exhausted from the fight and I know, as does those constant crashing waves, that I must submerge at some point. That I will submerge, it's just a matter of when. The mate bond toying

It breaks my heart to know he will never feel this between us..this chemistry that buzzes only just underneath the skin's surface.

The sparks that are ready to ignite from his very touch play a waiting game of their own. If touched his exposed skin..what would he feel.

Would his grey ash eyes burn their own fire. Would my own scent perfume this entire room in an attempt to lure him in... if I even have a scent to him.

"Tell him." My wolf's voice enters my head, she was back to full strength now.

"No."

INO.

"Tell him, he might then reject her for us."

J have to stifle a laugh from her hopes, her romantic concoction that she thinks is actually still a possibility.

"I shouldn't have to. I shouldn't have to plead for my own mate to sense our bond."

1/3

1/3

Chapter 0065

+25 BONUS

+25

Hector continues to sway us, my feet following his and have to fight the urge to keep looking down.

I danced with Father as a silly child, often on his feet but never as an adult...my time at his pack was more learning how to defend myself than how to present myself.

I don't think father ever wanted me to marry or mate. I don't think he ever wanted me to leave him, he missed mother so much. I think he thought I would always be with him.

When the music stops playing I miss his hold instantly, the lack of his hand on my lower back leaves a thirst for more that will never be quenched.

My body was already fighting my mind and for once maybe....that's what I needed. Just to taste the sweet

nectar of what should be mine.

"You're distant this evening." He walks us out where the noise of merriment makes me smile. Children

were running around playing chase, making their father's chuckle.

"Yes."

ΠΕ

walks us away from the pack hall, towards the gardens of the alpha house.

"You blame me?"

"Yes." For once I am honest. I do not need to pretend anymore, I do not need to hold an alpha's favour in order to remain safe in a pack.

I do not need to bite my tongue.

Yes,

, I blame myself. I am sorry."

He stops in his tracks making me turn to face him. His face showing his remorse in what happened, in how his lies came to light.

"I didn't mean for you to find out that way. If I could take it back then I would. I'd take that pain away from you Kaia."

His words confuse me.

"Will you consider moving back in?"

"Why?"

"Because I miss you."

"You don't need to answer right away...give it some time to think."

"What are you exactly asking of me?"

"To move back in with me..."

"For what purpose. I am a pack member, I have a house within your pack. There is no need for me to be your guest now, I have been assigned accommodation There is no need for me to stay with you anymore." My eyes gaze upon the garden around us, I do miss the alpha house...the company...but too much has passed between us.

## **Bond 66**

Ebony Woods

Chapter

0066

Hello my pack wolves

I just wanted to say thank you for your support with this book and for giving it a chance.

My personal life has been hectic this month so far, and I know chapters have been one a day. For the 20th day of January I've actually updated everyday except for 3. But I will try and update 2 chapters a day... it's the editing that takes the longest. I want to make sure the book's journey keeps you intrigued and wanting

more.

If you like to binge read a book then I do have completed books already on good novel under profile.

my author

I'm also slow with updates for Sins of the Father which I will improve on, like I said..it's been a hectic month.

Thank you as always my wolves.

20

suned

## **Bond 67**

Chapter 0067

Kaia POV

"No...she can't let him mark her." A desperate howl almost leaves his lips, forcing my own body to react with knowing dread.

"Hector?"

"It's an invitation to their marking ceremony..." He places a hand to his forehead that firmly leaves red pressure marks visible when he finally lowers his hand back down. "Why would he send that to you?"

"Because he is toxic..." He snaps at me, and I find myself putting my walls back up. My wolf knowing before me what is inevitably to come.

"...because he wants to show that he has won."

Won...

He thrusts the invitation into my hold and I feel sick just holding it, knowing the textured card has been perfectly designed with their happiness in mind.

His own parents announcing the joyous occasion...their names solidifying the bond they share with her... the bond I never had.

They never even tried. To them I was too argumentative.

My thumb strokes the delicately printed flowers bordered with gold ink as my heart aches. A sick reminder of what I will never have.

My mate is finally to mark another. I knew he would, after seeing her in the hospital bed. After hearing of her reawakening. I knew this would come.

Maybe I'm just more prepared than Hector, he has never let go of his plans... of his hopes of saving her.

"Something doesn't add up.." I break out of the hold their actions would reduce me to...tears, spiralling depression.

I've cried enough tears over the Sable Alpha family.

"How do you mean?"

"Why send this....it just doesn't make sense."

"I have to stop it..."

This is the first time I am seeing the madness of the wolf within. The wolf being denied a mate connection.



He is bursting at the seams, desperate to break out of the human form...I can see it in Hector's pacing, as he grabs at his hair, takes steadying deep breaths in...he is trying to calm his wolf. And for once I don't think he will win.

+25 BONUS

"Hector, you need to calm down. Look... it's not even for another fortnight. You have time."

Is there a part of me that wants to join Hector... that wants to stop this ceremony before it has started? To return back to the Amber Desert pack and claim what is mine...no.

If this is a mental mind game, and Than is guilty of using those against me aplenty, then I am now immune to them.

"She doesn't know what she is doing."

"She does...she knows Hector." I take hold of his hands...pulling them into me. I need to make him see... Than will never give her up. Sometimes it is better to walk away.

For your own sanity... it doesn't make you weak, if anything it makes you stronger. To admit defeat before it completely destroys you.

"She fully knows what she is doing. She knows who he is...you've got to understand...as I do... that we never stood a chance."

The embracing of his hands only pauses his self-harassing movements temporarily. He isn't in the mindset to listen, he has to see it for himself.

That's the only way he will ever learn.

"I have to go...now..." He pulls his hands from out of my hold, why does such a simple movement hurt so much. Like it carried the weight of a thousand knives being stabbed into my chest. "Hector..." I gasp.

"Just stay here....I have to do this...I won't be long."

My wolf growls internally reminding me of what else is a stake here if he goes to her. Not just our own mate connection...but my own safety.

"Hector?" I call after him...if he sees her...he's going to know. He's going to know how ill she is. He's going to fight to save her and the only way to save her is through me...  
"Hector, it's pointless."

"I have to try Kaia, she's my mate. I can't let her mark him..."

He's frantic...he's in such a state of panic that he can't even find his car keys. Cursing at himself for not being able to find them in his muddled mind.

In his chaotic search objects are thrown to the floor as he searches his office blindly.

I see the car keys, at the edge of his desk. My body blocking them.

I pick them up, turn and let them dangle from a small height. He takes them from me, only pausing for a moment to look into my eyes.

His eye's grey ash deepen in colour, à blackness almost bleeding through...his wolf was forward with him. I can feel my own peeking out, she wants to see his wolf for herself. See his wolf make this choice for himself as well...not just the human side always in control of the fur.

That the fur is in unison with the skin.

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0067

"Just stay here..." His parting words are almost inaudible from the banging sound of blood pumping at my ears. My wolf also screaming internally for me to chase after him, to stop him...any way I can. This is it...

When he returns, he will have the same mindset as Than...I will be that donor again.

How do you say goodbye without actually saying the words.

He must see it in my eyes, in my facial expression. But he is too wrapped up in his own emotions, in her... that I am yet again, invisible.

I will never see him again.

Today's Bonus Offer

## **Bond 68**

Chapter 0068 Chapter 0068

Kaia POV

I'm not entirely sure how long I remained in his office, my eyes remained fixated on the door he left through for so long that my eyes were dry. That's fine, they'd be soaking wet soon enough. +25 BONUS

I knew he wouldn't come back for me, but my mind was in a state of perplexity that a mate connection with another in the same room as him, couldn't compete to a bond miles away. Even though it was abandoned by her 4 years ago. 1

3

I really never stood a chance, surely the Moon Goddess would have foreseen this. I must have wronged her in a past life, now reaping the penalties.

When my feet finally start to move, it is purely only out of a robotic function that they do so.

My mind wants to go home and again, I'm not sure how long it takes for my legs to finally comply. But I'm very gentle in my movements, I even make sure his office door is closed behind me, also the alpha house. By the time he returns, it would be as if I was never there.

I feel a clarity I haven't felt since the day I married Than. I know my path now...and it is not here. 2

The sun outside is starting to lose its strength, the garden lights of the anniversary party now starting to take their hold.

Cheery music continues to play out, the fast beats of a dance track a complete contrast to the woeful song playing in my head.

Is it muddy, because my feet are incredibly heavy to lift all of a sudden. 1

All my mind can think of is getting back to my pack house. It's as if buildings and trees can't even stop me

I go as the crow flies...not even following the path cemented out to protect the gardens. My robotic form doesn't understand the scenic route. The only option is the direct path, even if beautiful flowers are in my

way.

The overspill of pack members from the hall all look my way as I walk towards them. Smiles greet me and I can only muster a small polite smile back. It isn't their fault I am broken...they've been nothing but kind to me. Nothing but supportive since the first day I entered as an outsider.

They call out to me, waving drinks in their hands...trying to entice me to party with them. The younger me might want to drink my sorrows, but not the mature me that knows differently. Knows it won't actually solve anything...alcohol would only numb the pain for a short space of time...not actually take it away. It will return soon enough.

I keep on walking.

I even spot Rosa and Riley laughing as they share a joke with their friends, they non-the-wiser of my own heartbreak this evening. And that is how it should be...they are his pack members...not mine.

The music continues to escort me home, the noise only dwindling out when I close my front door behind

Chapter 0068

+25 BONUS

I've done this before...hidden my feelings to the outside world only for the heavens to crash down on me when I enter my own solitude.

My legs have completed their robotic task. It is all I asked of them and they have fulfilled their purpose to get me home without collapsing in front of people.

But now they can collapse and so they do.

The flashback of him walking out returns to me, my eyes stinging with the tears that are threatening to fall.

This was déjà vu for me. I've been here before, in this position. Both mentally and physically.

"No more!" I declare to my wolf.

"I can't take any more. Promise me!" I beg of her through my sobs.

If my own fated mates can't want me...no other person will. So, what was the point. 1

As long as I had my wolf...then I would be fine in life. I may not flourish but it will be a life of my choosing, and that is beautiful to me in its own way.

"I promise you...no more." Her voice whimpers in my head. She watched Hector and his wolf leave for Alora too, both making their decisions. She may not have shifted in front of Hector or his wolf, but she not once faltered in her hope that he would pick us, pick her.

If we were two separate entities I would be feeling her hugging me as I wept in her arms. It feels almost the same...she remains forward with me throughout my cries..until my legs find purpose again, find their strength.

I wipe away my tears before standing up and checking my laptop one last time before I move.

C

Ebony Woods

## **Bond 69**

Chapter 0069 Chapter 0069

Kaia POV

I place my laptop in my backpack before heading upstairs and selecting only a few clothes that will get me to where I need to be.

I sweep the upstairs rooms one last time, ensuring I leave nothing out of place, no memory that it was me that lived here...clothes can be reused..can be thrown away, if he so chooses.

I walk downstairs, placing a jumper over freshly changed attire. Very calmly placing a few snacks and water bottles into my bag.

There is no need to wait, no need to wait until the cover of darkness. Everyone is at the pack party except a few and all will be up until the early hours of the morning anyhow.

There was no better time to go.

Closing the front door for the last time, I start walking in the opposite direction of the pack hall. The meadow was a happy place for my wolf and I, I would like to at least leave on some form of happy terms with myself. I won't say goodbye. It will do no good.

I head through the woods again, my wolf strengthening my vision as I tread through the dark woodland

floor.

My eyes are still sore from crying, hindering my own natural eye sight.

I walk towards a pack member on patrol, stationed to overlook the meadows. He turns to inspect the small noise I have created. A smile entering onto his face as he greets me hello, his smile turning into a frown when I walk past him. He calls after me as I enter the meadow, my footwork picking up pace.

He's raised the alert already...I didn't have long. I could already feel the nervous disturbance of the pack bond...for those that aren't too busy partying.

Beta Ezra in particular is already trying to push on the mind-link with me, but I push him back.

My walls are truly back up again.

I shake out the sensation of what I am about to do. As do so I notice something shaking at my wrist... the crescent moon bracelet only given to me this evening by Hector.

+ let my eyes cast upon the delicate bracelet one last time. Who knows what would have happened if the

invitation hadn't of been sent but in a way I am glad.

Now I will never spend another day wondering if I would be pushed aside, just waiting for that fateful day to come. What kind of life would that have been for me... 1 True clarity is a gift that I can finally behold.

I let my free hand touch the crescent moon pendant, it really was beautiful and such a shame I can't keep it. But in keeping it I wouldn't be fully breaking free from the second mate bond that tried to confine me.

1/3

Chapter 0069

+25 BONUS

I unfasten the clasp, letting the bracelet drop onto the long-grassed meadow...hopefully it will be buried in a day or two by nature.

With a deep breath I finally silence the warmth of the pack bond radiating in my chest, this is going to hurt.

I didn't have to reject the Amber Desert pack...joining the Dark Phantom pack gave me instant removal from Than's dominating pack bond.

I can already hear shouting in the distance behind me, Ezra and his men running through the woods towards me. The guard behind me now running towards me as I start to move again.

This time my intent clear..I had moved to the edge of the meadow. To the border of their pack.

"I, Kaia Glace, reject my position as a member of the Dark Phantom pack and now declare myself as rogue." I pant out through the piercing pain of each word, my hands clutching to my chest to help relieve my struggling lungs.

It's a pain I wouldn't wish on my worst enemy, a pain I hope never to go through again. It's like your own soul being ripped out from your heart.

You know you can survive because you have a beating heart still in place, but without your soul...is life actually worth living...

"Stop her!" I hear Ezra shout in the near distance.

I take my first step over their pack border...all colour draining from my face. I can feel it, it feels ghostly.

I am the walking dead.

I am now a rogue.

I hear snapping of bones behind me, as Ezra shouts for me before shifting himself.

I run...my feet moving the fastest they have in a long time. The last time I ran like this, I was with child.

My wolf is faster now.

I run as if my life depends on it. I was now a rogue being chased by the ruthless wolves of the Dark Phantom pack.

I had to tell myself this in order to keep moving.

I run, not stopping once until I lose them.

## **Bond 70**

Chapter 0070 Chapter 0070

Hector POV

What a head fuck sending the invitation was. I was only just making lead way with Kaia again, only just earning her trust when this damn invite was sitting on my desk. But I can't un-see it.

He must know that in sending this I would be driving straight to him, he is just lucky I am coming alone and not with my warriors.

I didn't want to leave Kaia the way I did but I know she'll have returned to the party by now, where she can enjoy the celebrations at least. 1

My foot had been slammed down on the gas pedal since the moment I left the pack grounds. I didn't have a second to lose.

The impending ceremony may still be a fortnight away but I couldn't let it go ahead, not without seeing her for myself.

Seeing for myself that she wants this. That she isn't only going along with it because she doesn't know she can make a choice, that she can have a different life if she wants it.

Than is a master manipulator who has been in her ear from the moment she woke up.

She won't know of other options, she won't have changed from that sweet and naive 16 year old that drank the wolfsbane as a cry for help. She may be 20 now but I doubt very much that she is as mentally mature as Kaia.

If you are in a coma for 4 years I presume the brain also pauses, the function of learning stops. I need to help her see.

The familiar sights of the Amber Desert pack grounds surround me as I enter onto their main incoming road. I'm meant to have freedom of movement into the Amber Desert pack, but when I arrive to find the gates aren't opening for me...I'm not wholly surprised. Than often liked to get his own way.

It doesn't take long for the gate to be heavily guarded, warriors even now added onto the security detail. Never capable of fighting his own battles himself. Always having to get others involved.

Why can't she see him for what he truly is...

Kaia's words of how Alora sees the real him flashes into my mind before I shake them out. I needed a clear head for this, not to think of Kaia back at my pack.

As I see him approach the gate, it opens and I finally get out of my car to face him.



"I want to see her!" I demand, an alpha trying to command another alpha.

"Not a chance! You are on my lands now Hector...here you are not King." He seethes out to me, his chest puffing out.

"I won't let her mark you!" I roar, my chin rising upwards almost to challenge him. A smirk enters on to his

1/3

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0070

lips as he takes a step forward trying to prove to his warriors that he was the one in control here.

"Then give me Kaia."

So this was about Kaia...not about Alora. Why...why did he want both.

He forgets I know him better than most...I know exactly how to rattle his cage.

"Like you say I'm not King here. But neither are you."

"What the fuck does that mean?"

"I had a visitor...didn't you know he came to see me. Came to beg as always. Remember the reason you are Alpha Than!"

I can't bear to be in close proximity to him right now, and without the strength of my own warriors behind me, I can't take on a pack single handed. I'd like to, but it wouldn't be smart to leave my pack and Kaia unprotected.

I start to back-step towards my still running car, when her scent hits me...my wolf instantly remembering the intoxicating scent of sweet mango.

It may have been 4 years, but it's as if we only smelt it yesterday.

Then she calls my name

The way she says my name makes my knees want to give way. As if she doesn't believe her own eyes that I am stood by these gates. "Hector?"

"Alora?" I call out to her in a mirroring tone to hers.

She starts to run towards the gate, my car's lights highlighting her under the darkening night sky. It was eery looking at the spitting image of Kaia, even though I had known Alora first.

She was ghostly white, pale in comparison to Kaia's sunkissed skin. Was she not back to a full bill of health?

My wolf growls trying to surge forward but I push him back, I am mindful of the warriors taking a stance towards me. She stops, her eyes on me as her hand goes to her mouth.

"Let me see her!" I roar as the warriors start to walk out to me. I don't care, let them beat me if they must. "Get her the fuck back inside!" Than roars, his arm shooting out pointing directly at Alora. Whoever let slip that I was here was in deep shit now. Someone scoops her up in their arms, dragging her back as she tries to fight against them.

"This isn't over Than...you mark her and I will announce war on the Amber Desert pack!" I throw the invitation into the mud, as I make this promise to him.

My eyes don't leave his once as I enter my car and reverse back down the road. I have to take steady deep breaths to calm the boiling anger deep within me.

I know this path well...each turn...each tree to avoid...my eyes remain glaring on his until I can no longer see him.

## **Bond 71**

Chapter 0071

Hector POV

+25 BONUS

The speed in which I'm driving isn't as fast returning to the Dark Phantom pack as it was leaving it. I needed time to cool off, the drive back being the perfect time frame to do so.

I didn't want Kaia to get involved, her reaction to the invitation was proof that she wanted nothing more to do with Than. I wouldn't let her keep getting dragged into my twisted past with Than and Alora. Kaia had been through enough.

I was followed the entire journey back. A few selected Amber Desert warriors given the task to make sure I returned back to my pack...keeping a watchful eye on me.

It was soul destroying to leave Alora having only just seen her. I didn't want to leave her, I wanted to jump over that gate and pull her into my arms...remove her from that toxic environment.

Leaving her left a pain in my chest...something didn't feel right but I couldn't place it.

4 years she had been unconscious and he wouldn't even let me talk to her...hold her. Hold what is supposed to be mine.

Suddenly, that same pain in my chest intensifies, causing me to temporarily swerve the car off the road.

I slam my breaks down hard as the car skids on mud. I look in the rearview mirror to find the vehicles following me have also come to a sudden stop.

My hands rub at my chest, as I feel my face grimace from the pain....until it stops as soon as it started.

I could sense that Alora hadn't been marked, so what was it...what was causing me such pain...

As soon as I enter the Dark Phantom pack gates the warriors following me speed off. I knew they wouldn't intercept...clearly acting as a surveillance team for Than.

I'm surprised to find the music no longer blurring out into the pack grounds from the anniversary party. They can't have turned in for the night already. Last year's event didn't finish until 4am. I remember the hungover state of most of the warriors at training that morning, only 2 hours later.

It isn't until I enter the safe private sanctuary of my office that my emotions try to overwhelm me. Anger. so fierce that my skin feels as if it should be turning red and hot to touch.

The earlier chest pain now taking a back seat as anger pushes forward.

I had to leave her there...I need to be more creative in getting to her without Than being present.

I sit down at my desk, pouring myself a glass of whiskey... the glass resting at my temple. Trying to calm the beast within.

I slowly sip my drink, pouring another when Ezra bursts through my office door.

""Where were you?"

"I had to attend to a matter off site, why aren't you at the party. In fact, while you're here, could you ask Kaia to come here."

1/3

+25 BONUS

25 8

"That's not possible Alpha."

"Did she not go to the party when I left? She didn't go home alone did she?" Fuck, she probably did. I was a fucking idiot. As if learning your ex husband was going to mark another would keep you in the partying mood.

I was so blinded with my own rage that I failed to support Kaia. I failed her as an alpha....as a friend. "Yes she went home...alone. Alpha...".

"I know it's late, I'll let her sleep and wait until the morning. If you're passing her house tonight could you put this note under her door for the morning..."

I pick up a piece of paper and a pen, and start to write a note.

I want to refrain from waking her up through the mind-link if she is asleep. Hopefully she will get the note early in the morning and join me here for breakfast.

As I write her name out my wolf growls in my mind, that pain in my chest returning.

I hand the now folded note out to Ezra who seems reluctant to take it.

"Ezra...I'm tired, I've been through shit. Can you just do as I ask. I'll explain things to you in the morning." place my head in my hands, wanting to get to bed so that I can start making plans of actions first thing tomorrow morning. I need to get her out of there  
"Alpha. I tried but her wolf is back to full strength. She's fast. Faster than I expected even in human form."

I need to sleep. The headache was only increasing in intensity and Ezra wasn't making any sense. How much has he had to drink. ""Who is?"

"Kaia. She's fast. You must have felt it...."

I don't like the sound of what he is insinuating. My wolf manages to lunge forward, forcing me to stand up and rush over to Ezra. That pain....

"Where is she Ezra." I demand, my hands placed on Ezra's shoulders.

"She's gone Alpha."

Gone....

"I tried to stop her, we all did. Something must have happened."

My chest....that pain I felt whilst driving in the car. Oh fuck!

I was so engrossed with seeing Alora again I just assumed...

But it wasn't...it was Kaia.

"She rejected the pack...fuck!" My hands clump at my hair, pulling at the ends.

"We chased her for as far as we could but she entered human territory and seemed to know how to cover

Chapter 0071

her tracks well. She disappeared almost instantly..."

Fuck!

+25 BONUS

I'm running out of the Alpha house as quickly as my legs will let me. Ezra hot on my tail.

I run, cutting across the gardens to her house...not even bothering to knock as I open the door.

The thickness of silence greets me on the other side of the door. I head upstairs immediately only to find hardly any trace of her even living there.

A few clothes but nothing that screamed Kaia.

No no no...I've forced her hand. I'm now seeing her face as I left and understand the full impact of what I have done.

"Alpha?"

"I've made a terrible mistake haven't I Ezra?"

"I hope not."

Chapter 0077

## Bond 72

Chapter 0072

Hector POV

1 month later

I'm staring at the same map that I have stared at for the past month. Hoping that something will suddenly come to me, or, the map will magically make something jump out.

Where was she...

I had searched every neighbouring pack, every local human town and city...she can't have just disappeared. Someone must know where she is..

I was torn...

I had warriors watching the Amber Desert pack's movements daily...tasked with ensuring the marking ceremony didn't take place. Which it hasn't yet. I had Alpha Damon's promise that nothing would happen until he approved it. They weren't in a position to risk a war with my pack and my alliance packs.

Guilt ate away at me daily mixing with the constant feeling of concern for Kaia's safety.

Where was she...

Alpha Jude and Ezra's brother, Beta Edmund, had been assisting with my search. Jude was the only person that knew of my failed mate connection with Alora and how she drank wolfsbane. He was there for me when I didn't want to keep living. Jude suggested spreading the search wider, that she may have travelled for sanctuary in a pack further away.

The map in front of me was of the entire country...pack lands highlighted only to be crossed off if a search had taken place and ended up being unsuccessful.

Something was festering inside of me, like an infection. I couldn't understand it but all I knew is my wolf and I missed Kaia, that we wanted to find her. To make amends.

In trying to search for her, I realised I didn't actually know a lot about Kaia. Her details before joining the Amber Desert pack were hard to source, something that Ezra was assisting me with.

For some reason she had a shady past and it concerned me even more to think she may be in trouble.

A knock on the door brings me out of my tranced like stare at the map, Riley and Rosa entering together.

1

Riley starts to talk about something but I'm struggling to concentrate..all I can concentrate is on Rosa's fretful face as she bites on her lower lip looking at the map on the wall.

"Rosa?" I call out to her, something was troubling her. I could feel it through the pack bond with her.

"Are you looking for Kaia still?" Her eyes are wide, as she takes in the red crosses on the map and notes scrawled next to the possible search areas.

"Yes."

1/3

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0077

""You don't think she went back?"

"Back where?"

"To her ex husband.."

""No, absolutely not."

"Good." She nods to herself, a deep breath leaving her that she had been holding in...her shoulders start to relax. She has piqued my interest, my wolf is on full alert for key detail. "Why do you say that?" I lean forward in my chair, keen for more detail.

"No reason." She shrugs before turning to offer a small smile, Riley clearing his throat to gain my full

attention.

I let it pass for now, but I know she is keeping something from me.

I couldn't get Rosa's questions out of my head.

Since when did Kaia confide about Than to my pack members. Surely she would have told me especially if it involved Than and Alora.

But I couldn't let it rest.

It was now evening and I knew I couldn't sleep unless I asked. I didn't want to communicate through the pack bond with Rosa...I needed to see her facial expressions with each answer.

It would tell me a lot more than the actual words she was speaking.

I knock on front door of Riley's and Rosa's family home, their mother answering it and inviting me in.

"Alpha, what a surprise... What can we do for you?" Their father comes up to me and shakes my hand... offering me a place at their dinner table.

Rosa sitting at the table already, a place set for Riley but he will be on patrol watch for another 30 minutes.

"I won't keep you, I need a private word with Rosa."

"Of course, we will give you some privacy." Both parents exit for the kitchen, leaving Rosa and I alone.

I take my time to approach the table, not wanting to put Rosa on edge.

"Rosa, I need your help. I need you to tell me anything Kaia may have told you. It might help me to find her."

"I'm sorry Alpha I don't know where she may be, if I did I would have offered that up by now."

"I understand. You seemed perturbed earlier that she may have gone back to her ex husband...why is that?"

"She came to see me after...you know....she told me I would learn to live again. That I would find someone else...that I had to keep living. I was in a state of shock, everyone said the same thing but she understood...she knew what I had been through." 2/3

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0072

She pauses to look up at me, a frown on her face for sharing this with me. For sharing what Kaia had said.



"Rosa, I won't repeat what you tell me...but it could be vital in helping to find her. I'm worried about her safety..."

"When I found out she was pregnant...I just couldn't believe how strong she was. That not only could she survive that...but that she was willing to love the child. That she saw the child as an innocent. I wouldn't want her to go back to him, not knowing what he did." "Why what did he do?"

Rosa becomes uncomfortable, I don't want to apply the Alpha command but I will. Thankfully she understands how imperative her information might just well be.

"She never said it, but to understand what I was going through...she must have gone through the same thing..." Ebony Woods

Author

Extra chapters today.....please drop a gems if you enjoyed the chapters. X

## **Bond 73**

Chapter 0073

Chapter 0073

Than POV

"You were designing them Mother, you must have sent one out to him..."

"Bite your tongue my boy, I don't fuck up." Mother hisses back at me.

"Medea, this i

is serious. Did you send it out?" Dad was here now, he has moved back into the Alpha house after shutting down any plans for a marking ceremony. "No, of course not." Mother shoots back, acting insulted at the question.

"You were designing them Medea..."

"Yes Damon, but I didn't send them out. I remembered what Than said."

"What did Than say?"

"That he wasn't ready to lose the mate connection to Kaia, that he needed it to get her back."

"Thanks Mother!" I could feel Beta Zane trying to push on the mind-link. I block him out, it would have to wait. My hands were rather full at the moment. "I'm not lying to your Father Than."

No you would never dream of doing that would you...

"No,

but you're happy to lie to me.

"Your Mother asked me to intervene, so

I intervened.

"You went to his pack...do you know how weak that makes us look."

"Weak? Did you just call your Father weak?"

"Enough of y

both

Dad roars slamming his fist against my desk, the loud bang echoing through my office. Maybe I am weak son, maybe giving you the pack was the wrong choice." Dad sighs.

you

"Damon!" Mother stands up to protest but Dad put his hand out to silence her. Warning her not to push his patience. Dad was a patient man until you push your luck with him.

"You had no right to see him." I growl, I felt betrayed.

"I have every right!" He roars getting into my face.

"You need to drop this Than, you need to find another way to cure Alora." Dad had never been fully supportive of my plan when I brought Kaia back from college. But he didn't go against me...until now. 2 "There is no other way....

"Kaia is a member of the Dark Phantom pack now, he won't give her up."

"You're right darling as always, Than...you need to listen to your Father, We will have to think of another way."

1/2

+25

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0073

Mother was always different when Dad was around...always watching her words. I know she must have sent that invitation, she's always liked to get under Hector's skin.

The household has been tense environment since Hector turned up at the pack gates. Alora was barely talking to me for how I ordered her immediate removal from the gate. And to top things off I was furious at Dad for going behind my back and visiting Hector. Since then, making a promise that he wouldn't allow the marking ceremony to go ahead right now. He had no right!

I needed them gone, I needed both my parents away from here so that I could start to fix things with Alora. Their presence maintained that awkwardness that has descended on the Alpha home.

Zane suddenly bursts through the door, a growl emitting from me from the unwanted disturbance.

"Not now Zane!" I moan, pinching the bridge of my nose in frustration..

"Alpha, you had your mindlink blocked."

"And for

good

reason Zane. Can you not see we are busy!" Mother shouts at my beta.

"What is it Zane?"

He looks to me, before his eyes dart to my parents. Whatever he wanted to say, he wanted to say in private.

"Just spit it out!" Mother shrieks from impatience.

"Alpha Hec Hector is at the gates demanding entry."

"Again?"

"What did he want this time. It had been a month since his dramatic arrival. Thankfully Dad hadn't been informed of the actual issue at the gate, but Hector had contacted him to promise war if the marking ceremony took place. "What do you mean again?" Dad asks looking between Mother and me.

"He wanted access about a month ago, but I refused....when he received the invitation." I stretch my spine out tall, standing by my decision.

"I told you he should always be welcome here. Let him in!" Dad turns to Zane, giving his command. He may not be acting Alpha anymore but he still had the ability to command my pack members, unless I denied it. I nod to Zane, giving my approval for him to follow Dad's command.

It doesn't take long for Hector to be escorted to the office, 4 of my warriors and Zane remaining with him. His dark thunderous aura is strong enough to almost shake the corridor walls. What's his problem now...

As the office door bursts open, a demonic growl leaves Hector before I am thrust against the wall, my throat held tightly in his hands. I push him off me, only for him to turn me and pin the side of my face against the wall...his lips at my ear.

"I know what you did, you f\*\*ucking disgust me

## **Bond 74**

Chapter 0074

Alora POV

Things are back to how they were. I may have been asleep for 4 years, Than having married another, but things were still the same.

I was still torn.

It's as if I never took the wolfsbane.

i

I was furious at Than for ordering one of his men to drag me away kicking and screaming. I just wanted to see Hector...speak to Hector.

It had been 4 years. Why couldn't he just see that...why did he deny me that.

Something was going on...Alpha Damon was living here again. For a retired alpha to return, it isn't a good sign within the pack and the pack's reputation when it came to other packs. They weren't telling me and I had a feeling it was more than the invitation that Hector received.

My heart broke seeing him so distraught, I thought he might have moved on. That he might have forgotten... it had been 4 years.

Than refused to let me move into a guest room, saying that I could ignore him all day if I wished but at night time, I was to remain with him.

I know deep down he only wants what is best for me, but the way he acted was unnecessary. He was the one that was married to another person...yet he acted as if I was the one that chose another.

I was in the bedroom, looking through photographs of myself as a child with my parents, the arguing with my adoptive family making me miss my...well adopted parents even more.

I had searched through everything and couldn't find any clues that might indicate where I was from. Who my real parents were. It also plagued me that Kaia had a mate connection with Than, yet so did it.

I was just about to reach for another folder of paperwork when I heard a deafening monstrous growl from downstairs.

Only one werewolf growls like that... Hector.

I listen intently, my ears pinned for any noise...when a commotion vibrates against the very walls of the

house.

I leap off the bed, hurrying down the stairs knowing Than was also in the office downstairs. As I reach the bottom step, Freya calls out to me at the front door warning me not to proceed. But I can't not wait, I can't not know.

I push past the warriors guarding the office door to find Hector pushing Than's face up against the wall, seething as he talks.

"I know what you did, you fucking disgust me." Both males are facing the wall, their backs to us, but there is no mistaking the loathing in Hector's low unworldly voice.

I rush in, not thinking of my own welfare, only that Than was in pain... Hector being the one causing it.

1/2

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0074

"Hector?" I place my hand on Hector's arm, trying to calm him down. His head snaps to me, eyes the colour of demonic black glaring down at me...his wolf in full control, in the human body. "Hector, what has happened?" I soothe, trying to pull him away from Than... trying to get him out of danger.

"Alora no!" Than pushes on my mind-link but I push him back out. I know Hector would never harm me. Not even when his hand lifts to touch my face. I don't move, as I let the soft tingles of his touch on my cheek lead him away from Than. A low threatening growl leaves Than for Hector touching what he believes to be his, I suppose I am his aren't I.

I've always been his.

Yet the low buzzing of the mate bond with Hector still challenges that. Even now it is hard to deny.

"She's gone, your invitation was reckless..." Anger takes back over him as he turns to Than again.

"Out! Everybody out!" I order at the warriors, Medea scoffing in the corner...my eyes glaring daggers at her. "You can't order us out dear. This is our home."

"Fine, but the warriors are to leave... Than..." I look to Than for him to nod in agreement.

He looks at my arm still on Hector, before his head slowly nods in confirmation.

"Tell me Hector, who has left?" I softly ask, regaining Hector's full attention "Kaia!" 1

"Kaia?" My eyes dart to Than, I don't understand how does Hector know her.

"How do you know Kaia?" I look up at Hector's eyes that were now starting to slowly fade from the demonic black, back to grey ash.

His scent of burnt oranges aromatically burning at my nostrils. I'm conscious not to react in front of Than, which is hard, the mate bond with Hector was a shock back then, yet not a shock I wasn't unhappy with. Hector's eyes travel from mine to Than's before returning back at me,.a sense of pity laced in them.

"She's been at my pack since she left here...he didn't tell you?"

""No, no he didn't!"

Ebony Woods

Author

Thanks for reading. As we come to the end of the month don't forget to use your gems on your favourite books before they renew.

12

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0079

## **Bond 75**

Chapter 0075

Alora POV

"No, no he didn't!" My words ring loudly and firmly within the walls of Than's office. What exactly has Than been keeping from me.

"So you've known where she has been all this time?" My eyes are fixed on the man I love so deeply, on Than.

"Of course he did, he's even sent warriors out to watch my borders."

The deceit just keeps hitting me in my chest like never ending punches, taking the air from out of my lungs.

Warriors at Hector's borders...

She took something, Freya had told me that Kaia had taken something from Than and left.

Was Than trying to get it back. Something he didn't want Hector knowing she possessed..could it be the demise of this pack. This pack that took me in and raised me...I couldn't let anything happen to this pack. Mate bond or not. "She's gone?"

"The invitation was careless, distasteful. It was deliberately sent to me to cause reaction but she read

it."

"I didn't send it!" Than seethes out through gritted teeth, his body tense from my closeness to another male. I take a step away from Hector, only realising my hand was still on his arm and his hand was now resting on my shoulder.

As soon as I step away Than's body automatically relaxes but only slightly, he was still preparing his body to launch itself across the room to Hector.

"What did she do?" I gasp out, regret hitting me hard.

"He's lying to you as always. Claims he loves you and that he wants to mark you, but he's been chasing his wife...his luna. Wanting her back."

"She's not my luna, Alora is!" Than roars taking a step closer to me.

"Yet you married Kaia! Making her your Luna. You might not have marked her, but legally she is your wife and luna. What did you think would happen sending this eh?"

"My son says he didn't send it, then he didn't send it!" Medea interjects, I fear only adding more fuel to the fire already burning out of control. It was teetering on the verge of turning into a wildfire.

"What a surprise, you piping up. You need to start carrying a muzzle to shut her up!" Hector roars at Alpha Damon, not even acknowledging Medea herself. Completely bypassing her and going directly to her mate. Years of hatred now coming out. Old wounds never healing.

"How fucking dare you!" Alpha Damon takes a step towards Hector, as does Than. The atmosphere in the office was stifling, the power of alpha auras swirling around making the air thick and heavy to breathe.

1/3

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0074

"Out of respect for Alora I wont reveal the true reason came, but I want you to know that you disgust me

all of you do."

True reason? Was the invitation not the true reason....

Hector storms out of the room, his shoulders slamming against Alpha Damon's...the sheer force making the retired alpha stumble a few steps back.



I could feel my own wolf pushing forward slightly, she wanted answers...answers to questions I had. Things that keep me awake at night. Hector never lied to me, he might have the answers I need. "Wait..." I gasp out, making a move to follow Hector only to be blocked by Than.

"You aren't leaving!" Than growls, standing in my path. His shoulder hunch forward making it clear I wasn't to pass.

I don't have time for his possessiveness right now.

"Out of my way!" I move past Than but he is the predator here, strong and fast.

"You aren't going to him."

"Oh, yes I am and if you love me like you say you do, then you'll let me see him."

"Alora." He grabs out at my arm, yanking me back into his chest. His breathing heavy and at my ear.

"I'm not leaving, I just want to speak to him." I calmly reassure him as I turn into him, my face looking up at his.

He doesn't move aside but he does loosen his hold on my arm. His breathing quickening even more as I leave the room.

I move as fast as I can, catching up with Hector who was already standing by his car door.

"Hector!" I puff out, bending down placing my hands on my thighs to catch my breath.

He eyes me with concern.

"I'm fine, just still recovering...I want to know more...about her!"

"I'm leaving, it's always a mistake returning here."

"I'll come with you...but not far... Than won't like it." My proposal was bold and I was already fearing the reaction from Than. Hector's eyes dart back to the alpha house to find Than already standing by the front door, arms crossed waiting for me to return.

"You aren't brave enough..." A smirk forms on Hector's lips.

"Try me!"

"Alora..." Than seethes in my head, hearing my conversation from where he stood.

"I'm going for a car drive with Hector..." I adamantly declare through our mind-link.

"Absolutely fucking not!"

2/3

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0025

"I'm going for a car drive with Hector, you will stay here. I won't be long." I repeat, already climbing into the front passenger seat. "Alora." His warning growl resonates in my head.

"I promise, I won't be long."

## **Bond 76**

Chapter 0078

+25 BONUS Chapter 0076

Alora POV

An awkward silence enters the car as Hector speeds off pack lands and I have to grip onto the leather seat from his fast driving. He wanted space between me and pack lands before I changed my mind.

I have to close my eyes, I couldn't watch Than's face in the car side mirror from what I have just done.

I will return, of course I will, this is my home.

The pack link becomes diluted down the further Hector drives out of the pack grounds. I am just about to tell him to pull over when he must sense my unease, and pulls the car into a car park on top of a hill.

I didn't want to be so far out that I could no longer feel the pack. Not being marked, the pack was my only contact link with Than...until he marked me. Then he could mind-link me wherever I was.

The hill was famous, some kind of human battle occurring here centuries ago that has now become a tourist hot spot.

Except for a few cars, it was quiet now, and for a moment I can sit in silence, my eyes casting out at the beautiful landscape in front of me.

I haven't been in Hector's presence for 4 years, and I have to find inner strength to be the first to talk. I don't look to him but I can feel his eyes on me, my cheeks reddening from his intense stare. He was taking me in, all of me.

"You always said you wouldn't lie to me..." I sigh out, my head resting comfortably against the head rest as I continue to look out at the view.

"I did, and I stand by that." His eyes follow mine to the view outside the front car window.

"Then why was she at your pack?"

"I found her in a coffee shop I own, my look outs had reported a female running from the Amber Desert pack throughout the night. His men were chasing her, she had escaped. Running for her life they said. She was asking about me at the coffee shop, I had to know what she wanted. Then I saw her..."

"And?" My eyebrows furrow, what did she take that she would run throughout the night to avoid being captured.

"I couldn't believe it..."

"You thought it was me?"

"When she turned, I knew instantly it wasn't you...Kaia... is different..." My heart sinks slightly at his choice of words, does he mean different in a positive way. 1 "Then what?"

"She wanted to join my pack, she wanted shelter from Than."

"Your pack...that's so odd to hear. I can't believe you are an alpha of your own pack." I glance at him, a soft smile forming upon my lips.

He had gone against the grain and made his own position in the werewolf world. He was training in

1/3

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0076

business, so to learn of him running his own pack is quite the turn-around.

My eyes drop down as his hand lands on top of mine before pulling it into his, entwining our fingers together. He lifts our hands up to his lips and kisses the back of my hand gently, the tingles from his touch making me swallow the moan I want to let out. Our eyes find each other and I'm not sure how long we have gazed into each other's, until he starts talking again.

"I found you."

At first I'm not sure what he means, until it dawns on me... he found me. His eyes hold mine for that second too long, pain radiating in his as a I feel remorse tighten in my stomach.

I didn't want anyone to find me, not like that...I wasn't thinking properly at the time.

"I'm so sorry Hector. I never meant....to..." I struggle with my words, memories returning to me. Tears start to form in my eyes before a single tear escapes, dropping down my cheek.

"I became an Alpha for you..." He whispers, watching my tear fall.

"For me?" I never cared about titles, I would never reject someone based on their authority within a pack so why would he feel the need to become an Alpha for me.

"When I found you, you were barely alive. I raced you to the hospital, sounded the alarm. I wasn't allowed to stay, I was removed from the facility, from the pack. Without the actual words...banished. I was threatened with the Amber Desert warriors if I didn't comply." "Than?"

"No, Medea. It was the hardest thing I have ever had to do...leaving you like that."

I take a moment to let his words sink in, how heart breaking it must have been for him to not only find me but then be turfed out of the pack, not knowing if I would survive.

The severity of what I did continues to haunt me. 1

"What's she like?"

"Kaia?"

"I found a photo of them on their wedding day...I couldn't believe what I was seeing. I can't believe he married her."

Hector doesn't respond and for once I was expecting him to have something bitter to say against Than for marrying another. Instead he turns his head away, opening his window, breathing in deeply.

"Grief makes people do odd things." He cryptically replies, his hand letting go of mine and clenching by his thighs.

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## **Bond 77**

Chapter 0077

Chapter 0077

Alora POV

"What's wrong?" I ask as his jaw tenses, his hands remaining clenched down by his thighs.

He doesn't verbally respond, only shakes his head. He won't lie to me but in not telling me, isn't that just the same.

Being in the car with him, with the engine turned off, was starting to challenge my self control. I have to wind down my own window as his scent was becoming more potent from the lack of fresh air. I'm not sure if I can trust myself against the imate bond... It has confused me once before.

"Do you know where she has gone?"

"No, even if I did, I wouldn't tell you." His tone has some bitterness laced within it, something I wasn't used to being on the receiving end from Hector. "Why?"

"I can't have it go back to Than."

"I wouldn't do that...I wouldn't betray your trust."

"You wouldn't have a choice... Than has some kind of hold on you." That bitterness he can taste on his tongue, I can sense it. The corner of his mouth sneers, "He's my mate.."

"I'm your mate Alora. What about me?" He roars, a loud bang resonating within the car as he strikes at the 'steering wheel, his anger eating away at him.

I could sense his wolf was trying to come forward, trying to fight the hold. His chest starts to pant from the struggle within.

I very slowly move to open the car door, I won't be marked forcibly.

As I open the car door and push it ajar, he reaches across me, pulling the car door shut.

The top of his dark brown hair brushing under my nose and I can't withhold the wanton whimper my wolf emits.

Why was everything so complicated. Why do I have two mate bonds.

He lifts his head but not enough to remove that need within me. His lips so close to mine I can feel each exhalation of air. I inhale his exhaled breath, the smell of warm mint making my own mouth saliva. It feels too lustful, inhaling air that has already been in his lungs. How easy it would be for me to place my lips on to his...to taste him.

"Alora." He breathes out, edging slightly closer to me.

As I close my eyes preparing myself for his lips to touch mine, I see Than's face in my mind... the heartbreak I would cause him from just one kiss.

He wouldn't survive it I wouldn't survive hurting him.

1/3

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0077

"I can't, I'm sorry..." I pull away, my chest heavy with the burden of always breaking somebody's heart...

also my own.

Always torn.

"Did you know I was adopted?" I needed to change the atmosphere in this car, I needed to put my mind solely back on fact finding. Remain focused.

"You adopted...no." Any idea of trying to kiss me now gone as he reacts shocked by my words.

"You don't remember me arriving to the pack?"

"I didn't live at the pack permanently until I was 8. You have always been...there. Always causing me headaches." He chuckles and it makes me smile to know he is thinking fondly back on memories.

But all his memories will have been of me and Than, this was what was hard to explain.

I had always been with Than.

"I think I am related to her...to Kaia." I bite on my lower lip, I know it sounds odd but it can't be a coincidence that we are identical and both have a mate bond with Than.

You think you could be twins, separated at birth?"

"Maybe. It would explain why we are identical, why I am adopted. Did you grow close to her, did you see much of her?"

"She lived with me."

"She lived with you..." I recover myself quickly enough from the surprise news of Kaia living with Hector.

Something wasn't adding up. Through marriage she was meant to be the Luna of the Amber Desert pack so why would Hector have her staying at the alpha home. Be in close proximity to his alpha office. She could have been sent to seek out information on his pack. For all he knew, she could have been a spy.

"You're surprised she lived with me?" He questions as I remain silent, considering his reasoning behind it.

"She could have been a spy sent from Than to gain information on you. How did you know you could trust that she really did leave the Amber Desert pack?"

"She joined my pack Alora, she drank my blood...I could sense she had good intent."

"Did she mention where she was from?"

"No, something I am now furious at myself about. I should have looked into her past when she asked to join the pack."

look at the time on the car's media system, I've been here too long. Than will never trust me to leave again.

"I need to head back."

A groan leaves him, before he looks to me, complete sincerity in his offering.

"Are you sure you want to go back? I can show you a different life, a better life. You just need to give our

Chapter 0077

mate connection a chance."

"It's my home. Plus Than will be waiting for me...I promised him I wouldn't be long."

"It isn't safe for you there anymore, not with him."

"With him?" Jealousy was never attractive on Hector, it wasn't natural to him.

"Alora..."

"Hector, Than would never hurt me." I've gone into defence mode, I didn't like people thinking Than would ever hurt me. He was just passionate about keeping me safe, keeping me as his.

"I'm sure Kaia thought that once. When they married....Alora he forced himself upon her."

A shriek leaves my mouth as my hands instinctively cover my ears. I won't hear such things.

How could he say such a thing. This was beyond pack politics, beyond rivalry for a mate bond.... this was slander against a good alpha. Disgusting behaviour and I'm disappointed Hector would stoop so low. "You're lying."

"I wish I was."

"What, she told you that for herself." My eyes narrow, I won't have lies spread about my Than.

""No..."

"No!"

"No...but she told a young she-wolf who was attacked by one of Than's men when watching our borders. It's not the only thing..."

"I won't listen any more. I want you to take me back."

"Alora..."

"Hector...just take me back!"



## Bond 78

Chapter 0078

Hector POV

"Hector just take me back!"

"Alora..." I try to plead with her to let me finish but she has completely shut down on me. She angles her body towards the door, her leg crossing over the other even her legs trying to get as far away from me as possible

"If that's what you want.." I seethe through gritted teeth. I could tell her what a monster he was, but she would never believe me.

She was so manipulated by him, so under his control from such a young age that I'm realising now what Kaia said... that we never really stood a chance.

The drive back to the Amber Desert pack is silent, she refuses to engage with me any further. She might as well have marked him already, she'll never see him other than through her rose tinted eyes.

As we pull into the gated entrance, Than is already waiting with his warriors. I wonder how much longer he would have given me before starting the hunt. Perhaps he doesn't know her as well as he thinks he does, there was no way she was going to leave with me...even I knew that.

My chest was heavy, each breath painful knowing that this might be the last time I saw her. I can't return here, this pack held too many bad memories for me as it is.

Most of them provided by the ever delightful Medea. Memories I don't like to think about, how I spent the first part of my life living completely differently to the werewolf community I know thrive within. 1

How Medea tried to oust me as soon as I arrived. How she would play nice in front of her mate, but as soon as his back was turned, the bitch would come out. Father, never knowing her true colours. I suppose Than gets that from her.

"If you go back to this pack he will mark you and any bond between us will be gone." I try one last time to get through to her, to make her see. Even from an early age Medea has had her teeth in Alora. Another mother figure that Alora needed when her own parent's died. I really was up against it when I returned

after years away.

"I know." She breathes out, the severity of her choice to leave the car hitting me square in the chest.

She would always choose him.

I've been stuck in a state of limbo for the past 4 years planning for a future that was never meant to be mine. Planning for a future with her, that she would never accept. Him...always him.

He opens her side door, putting his hand out for her to take. I'm surprised the door wasn't ripped off its hinges. I could see the shaking of his body...his wolf pressing beneath the surface wanting to kill me, for it to be done. For the competition to be removed once and for all. "Go back to the house...my men will escort you."

"Than..." She turns to me her eyes full of concern as Than slams the passenger door shut.

1/2

Chapter 0010

His hand snakes to her neck, his head dipping to kiss the top of hers and I have to swallow back down the bile that rises to the back of my throat. She was meant to be mine. wont be long."

She leaves, escorted by his men as Than walks to the driver's side and I am forced to wind down my window.

I'd rather not converse with him, I'd much rather just kill the prick with my own hands.

"If you show up here again, I will murder you where you stand." His snarl is laced with hatred for me.

"If it wouldn't destroy Alora I'd murder you now for what you have done to Kaia." My snarl back is just as hateful.

"Oh?" He bends down, leaning against the window frame.

"I was going to trade Kaia for Alora, but I can see now that Alora will never be out of your control..."

"Like I've said all along, she's mine." His smugness is sickening, and he knows it.

Chapter 00/0

## Bond 79

Chapter 0079

"Then mark her, and leave me and Kala the fuck alone, +25 BONUS

I could never reject Alora, I didn't have that in me. She would have to reject me, or be marked by Than for the mate bond between us to disappear. I'm strong in so many other ways, but not strong when it comes to her.

The mate bond can be cruel, even now it was giving me hope that she'll still pick me. That she won't let him mark her. Always fighting until the very end.

If I got out of that car to face him, I would have killed him.

I was the stronger wolf, there's never been any doubt about that...I was the first born after all.

Driving back to the Dark Phantom pack, I'm surprised to find both Beta Ezra and Riley outside of the alpha house, seemingly awaiting my return.

As I climb out of my car and walk towards them, Riley is shifting nervously as he stands.

"Alpha, Lapologise...my sister never should have..."

D

"No, I'm glad what she told me. It makes sense now...why Kaia left a pack when pregnant. Why she needed shelter...she was terrified of him. I just need to know she is okay, that she is safe. I hate to think of her with rogues struggling to survive." I've done wrong by Kaia, she'll never want to look me in the face again. But as long as I know she is safe, I'll leave her be.

"She did mention when she first arrived she was looking for someone, an alpha that visited this pack." Riley states, which piques my interest. Why am I only learning of this now.

"An alpha?" I walk both of the men into my office, turning on the lights due to the lateness of the night. Yes we had enhanced eyesight to see in the dark but it wasn't exactly sociable.

I sit down at my desk, the map starting to become an unwanted sight in my office now. How can something hold so much information, yet not give any information.

"She said he must have stayed at the alpha house, that she was looking for someone. I said that she should ask you, that you would only welcome alphas as a favour to packs within the group alliance." Riley shrugs.

This was news to me, I assumed she joined my pack wanting to escape Than, but if she had ulterior motives then she played me well at the beginning. Perhaps, as I thought, she wasn't as naive as her carbon copy.

"Ezra, I need a list of any alpha's that would have visited since I started this pack." A small spark of hope lights within me. I've been blindly searching the Kaia for a month now. Maybe I should have asked the pack for details, she clearly made an impact on them. Sharing things with them, she hadn't shared with

1. me.

"On it. I'll see what I can dig up." Ezra nods, walking out of the office as he dials a number.

"Riley, you're off duty go home."

429 BORUS

Chapter 0079

"No Alpha, I'd like to stay. I would also like to know tha Kalo is safe. I owe her my protection for how she helped Rosa. I want to help."

Protection... I feel like a fucking dickhead. Kala was living within my house but only with the pretence on my side that I would use her and the baby to trade her in for Alora.

Alora...who would never accept me and would only have returned to Than the first moment she got.

I was a monster, willing to subject Kala to a fate worse than death... return her back to Than. She knew his true colours, she knew what he was like. If she can see it, why can't Alora.

I would never ask anything of Kaia again, as long as I knew she was safe. I would leave her alone, if that's what she wanted. But I had to find her, if anything to protect her from Than. Ebony Woods

Author

Second chapter as promised. Please drop those lovely gems....

10

## Bond 80

Chapter 0080 Chapter 0080

Alora POV

I'm pacing the soft carpeted bedroom floor, most likely leaving worn marks as I retrace the same steps over and over again. What was taking Than so long.

Then I hear shouting downstairs, Than yelling at his own parents, ordering them out of his house. I can't help but walk to the door, opening it slightly to hear more clearly...hear Medea trying to argue back. Trying to remain within the house and not leave with Alpha Damon.

I hurry away from the door as I hear Than stomp up the stairs, and I prepare myself for his wrath...I caused this, I know I did. It is my fault he is angry, I shouldn't have gone off like that with Hector but for once I needed to know...I needed to hear it first hand and not be through the words of another.

"What were you thinking?" He roars at me as he opens the door to our bedroom, slamming it behind him. "He could have marked you, I couldn't have done anything to stop it."

"No Hector would never do that, he would never force himself like that..." My words quietly dwindle out, Hector's words coming back to me. 1

He forced himself on Kaia. No, Than would never do that.

"What did he say?" Than demands as he takes his top off, his muscles flexing from his anger as he walks into the ensuite turning the shower on. What was he doing, was he so enraged he needed a cold shower to calm down.

He walks back out, as I remain frozen on the spot, eyes on the Alpha unravelling before me.

He stalks towards me with a thunderous predator look in his eyes, stopping and sniffing the air around me...before his nose sniffs my face.

"You stink of him...did he kiss you?" He snarls, his hands clenching into balls by the side of him, his body trembling with anger.

"No of course not!" I respond hiding the regret within me. He didn't kiss me, but the lingering scent would be from his closeness to my face, to our almost kiss. I'm an idiot.

"Open..."

"What?"

"Open your mouth.." His hand grips at my jaw, my mouth following his alpha command as it opens widely for him. 1

I'm aghast at what is happening, as he seems to smell my breath, making sure no traces of Hector's saliva remain in my mouth.

"I didn't kiss him!" I knock his hand away from my jaw, my own anger now rising within me.

How dare he question me like that.

Even if Hector did kiss me, I returned home to Than. He was the one that married his other mate, yet I never bring that up....I never challenge him about that as often as he challenges me about Hector."

1/3

002 1:1:00 1:]: 000

+25 BONUS

Chapter Doan

"Shower now!" His alpha command washes over me again and without my wolf at her full strength I haven't got a hope in hell of fighting it.

Dragging my feet I slowly start heading to the ensuite, the steam from the hot shower already entering the bedroom. Walking into the misty bathroom I go to close the door behind me, wanting space between him and me, when he follows me in...already stripping his own clothes off waiting for me to do the same.

Keeping my eyes on his, I strip down leaving my clothes on the floor, when he picks them up and tosses them in the bin.

"Than?" I gasp out at his bizarre behaviour, there's jealousy and then there's this red haze that seems to currently have taken over him.

"Than, nothing happened..." I frustratingly roar out as I try to take my clothes back. They only needed to be washed, not thrown out. He was acting like he did with the diary.

He pulls me into the shower, the hot water burning my skin at first but I don't react...he just needs me close to him, he needs the scent of the other wolf off me.

The other wolf that has always been his competition, even before I was meant to be his as well.

"Than?"

"Shhh..." He places my finger to his mouth as he hushes me, his naked body standing against mine as we

both stand under the hot stream of the shower head.

"You belong to me!" He growls, his eyes opening to that of his wolf. His hazel eyes taking on a redder tone to them, his anger bleeding out.

"Open your mouth!" He commands and I can feel my body reluctantly following his order, my mouth opening wide for him to inspect again.

"He told me to mark you, for you to leave him alone...hmm? Is that what you think a mate does, abandons another." He seethes out, his lips almost touching mine. His closeness leaving a burning buzz on my skin, he needed to touch me or back away. "No." I gasp out as he takes hold of my jaw again, his hold a little too firm for my Than.

"But you did, you abandoned me. Everything I'm doing is for you, to keep you alive. Why can't you see

that."

"I do, I'm sorry Than, I never meant to abandon you." I whimper out.

"You belong to me!" He repeats as his hand continues to hold my jaw, while the other snakes to the back of my neck.

Before I know it he has thrust his tongue into my mouth...his saliva mixing with mine as he tastes every part of my mouth.

I know what he is doing, he's trying to erase any hint of Hector from me. I don't struggle against his firm hold, he needs to do this but my mind thinks of Kaia.

Was he like this with her....possessive. Is that what Hector meant. If so she had him all wrong, Than just needed reassuring... he needed to know that he was meant for this life, meant to be the Alpha of the Amber Desert pack. Chapter 0080

That it wasn't handed over to him because of his fami

"If you ever go near him again..."

"I won't Than...I'm yours. I won't go near him again. Ma

## Bond 81

00

Chapter 0081 Chapter 0081

Alora POV

"This is crazy, we will get caught." Freya's already trying to back out of our agreement, her body bouncing on the balls of her feet. Her fingers were fidgeting, wanting to press the elevator buttons to go back down.

"We won't get caught. I just need you to distract the doctor somehow and I'll sneak in. 5 minutes tops."

"5 minutes....that's too long."

"Okay, I'll be as quick as I can."

"I'm going to be in deep shit..." She bends over clutching her stomach, looking as if she was going to start vomiting on the lift floor.

"Only if we get caught, and we won't get caught. I thought you were the female beta?"

"I am the female beta!"

The elevator comes to a stop, a loud ping sounds as the doors open revealing a busy hospital floor.

My doctor's office was on this level and I had to look at my medical records, there had to be something

about where I was born.

"Don't make me regret this..." Freya's voice now enters my head, as I drop down before exiting the elevator and hide behind potted plants.

The plan was for Freya to create a commotion, which would result in all the medical staff running to her aid...giving me time to slip into the doctor's office undetected. 1

People were being cagey around me, not being truthful and I wanted answers. One way or another.



Hidden behind a plant I watch as Freya walks over to the floor's reception desk, suddenly and rather theatrically, collapsing to the ground.

I move quickly, knowing I could get caught out at any moment. Thank the goddess that it's my doctor that is the first to aid the female beta who has mysteriously fainted before him.

I gently close the door to his office behind me, listening out for the click and checking the commotion outside was still louder than any noise I was making. As I turn almost jump out of my own skin when I

I find a figure standing in the corner of the office...a model skeleton.

I go through each drawer, each filing cabinet, almost deciding to bail out early, this was a bad idea. Until the last drawer to try happens to be the only one locked.

I frantically search his desk and windowsill for the key, when I find it in the most unlikely of places... in the teeth of the life size skeleton.

I quickly use it to unlock the drawer at his desk, it has to be in here... it has to be locked away being the future Luna of the pack. I had drunk wolfsbane...he wouldn't want nosey nurses to stumble across my file. "Hurry up!" Freya's distressed voice rings out in my head, trying to hurry me up.

"I've found it, 2 more minutes..." I plead as I start flicking through my own file looking for my birth certificate...anything that would give any details to me.

+25 BONUS

Chapter 006)

Licking my finger, I flick through pages and pages of records, finding pictures of me in my coma. Pictures of me looking on the brink of death.

Guilt hits me of how Hector must have found me, how I must have looked like this.

Nothing, there's nothing that mentions where I was born and who from. It's as if I just magically appeared one day

I gather the papers back together when a word catches my eye....failure.

I pick up the document to give it a closer inspection. This was dated after I woke up, in fact only updated on my last check up with the doctor.

I skim read the majority of the paragraphs, knowing we didn't have much time left, when an icy chill climbs up my spine.

Major organ failure...

I was quick to exit the doctor's office. Freya regaining her consciousness as soon as I entered the elevator, as I remain hidden from the medical staff's view. It couldn't have gone better. Today's Bonus Offer

GET IT NOW

## **Bond 82**

Chapter 0082

Chapter 0082

+25 BONUS

We are now back at her house, I was informed through the mind-link from the doctor that Freya had fainted in the hospital but refused medical attention.

I put his mind at ease saying I would check in on her, which now worked as my alibi.

"Did you find what you wanted?"

"No...it's as if I was wished for and boom...I arrived at my parent's front door. A baby ready to adopt and call theirs."

"Is that such a bad thing? Why dig up a past that wants to stay hidden. Maybe there's a reason for it..." Maybe she was right. But something inside of me still wanted to know what the link was between Kaia and I. Hector said it himself...twins separated at birth.

If that was the case she might know something more. Was she raised by them but left when she married Than, or was she adopted.

An orphan...

Fast footsteps outside gather distance on Freya's front door before it bangs open revealing Beta Zane in the hallway.

"Freya?"

"In here?" She yells out to him from the living room. We had to make it look good, she was laying on the 'sofa with a duvet...her legs slightly elevated.

"What happened? We were at the far border when the doctor mind-linked to say you had collapsed at the hospital..." "I'm fine."

"Why were you at the hospital?" He crouches down in front of her, playing the role of a concerned mate very well. I wasn't convinced. I think if I wasn't here, he might not be as attentive. I'm not saying they do not love each other but he can be short with her, even in mine and Than's presence.

"I was visiting a new mother when I got light-headed....probably just over exertion."

"A new mother?" Than's asks as he enters the front door, closing it behind him.

"I thought I could smell you. Alora, what are you doing here?" His face is puzzled by my being here. I don't see why...I was his future Luna after all. Wouldn't it be fitting for me to check up on my female beta. 1

"I was mind-linked to check on Freya. The hospital said she refused medical assistance..."

"I didn't want to waste their time...honestly I'm fine."

"Alora...come!" He was still pissed off at me and me being here won't have helped. I wasn't meant to leave the Alpha home without his approval...me not telling him won't go down well.

"Aren't you going back on border patrol?" I look to Zane, I didn't want to leave Freya alone...not if I needed

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0082

to keep up with this story.

"Alpha has given me the shift off to care for Freya. Thank you Luna for checking on her."

"I hope you feel better Freya. I'll check on you tomorrow, let me know if you need anything." I offer as I stand up.

"Thank you Luna."

As the front door closes behind Than and I, he grips my hand in his, pulling me into him.

"You left, without telling me."

"I didn't realise I was in a prison. The hospital said she left alone, check with the doctor for yourself. I said I would check on her...or do you not trust me?"

I hold his stare, I wasn't going to back down, not over this. As far as he knows I went to the aid of a female in trouble, he has no right to be angry at me for acting as the Luna.

"You're right, I'm sorry my love. It's just been a stressful time. Of course you aren't a prisoner, I just like to know you are safe."

## **Read Bond 83**

### **Bond 83**

Chapter 0083 Chapter 0083

Hector POV

I had extended my search to Alpha Jude, I needed his assistance looking into information that dated long before I set up the pack 4 years ago. Yes I had intelligence, yes I had records...but not as much as Alpha Jude who had decades, if not centuries' worth of alpha

names and pack details.

I was over pushing it, I know I was...but what was the alternative...

Accept my fate with Alora and just wait around for the mate bond to evaporate, for her to have been marked by Than.

No, I had to keep myself busy...and I had to get to Kaia before Than did. I don't understand his infatuation with finding her, and he'll deny it for the sake of Alora, but I know for a fact he is searching for Kaia. His trackers have been seen combing the borders of the alliance packs, packs that would attack them if I gave the order.

It's my fault he is looking for her again, in my red haze of anger I gave information out that I now regret doing. The mate bond with Alora has always made me think irrationally, something seems to possess me that I don't recognise in myself. Now I've potentially put Kaia in harm's way. I had to get to her first.

Ezra, Riley and I have been looking into the background of any alphas that had visited the Dark Phantom pack since its creation, which is more than I thought. Even in the space of 4 years, we've held more events than I care to remember.

"This one?" Riley calls out to me, as he uploads another alpha's picture up on the large screen I had installed in my office to aid in our hunt.

"No, he died, his son took over the pack.." I correct him from my own memory.

"Maybe Kaia doesn't know he died...maybe that's why she couldn't find him." Ezra offers.

"Hhmm maybe.." I wasn't convinced, Kaia had a purpose to come here from day one. I thought I had been clever in gaining her trust to join my pack, thinking I had the upper hand but she had also been playing me from day one. No matter what game I tried to play with her, I know now that she was going to drink my blood regardless. It wasn't many that could play me at my own game.

"How about this one?" Riley uploads another picture up on the screen, a face I don't recognise. They were just all starting to blend together.

A male with dark black hair, he had an alpha look about him but other than that nothing that stirs a

memory within me.

"I don't remember him..."

"I'll see if I can find any images of him when he arrived, our cameras must have picked up something. I'll also email Beta Edmund to see if he has anything on his system."

We were just going around in circles and I was losing all patience in our search.

We had been at it for days, how can Kala be so hard to find....and this mysterious alpha that she was supposedly looking for.

+25 BONUS Chapter 0083

"Here Alpha, this could be him...he has greying hair compared to the first image but this male definitely came to our pack..." Riley states as he uploads the photo on the screen of a male walking across the front alpha gardens.

He had black hair like the previous photo, but he had aged a lot since judging by his now greying hair... the

scar.

He has a scar across the eye. I sit upright, excitement stirring within me from my wolf.

"I remember him, odd man...he had a scar across his eye." No wonder I didn't recognise him from the previous photo, he looked decades older now. He only stayed a few nights and left as soon as I started asking questions about his pack. "How long did he stay?" Ezra asks, now standing behind Riley on his laptop.

"Days, if that. He turned peculiar when I started asking about his pack. From memory he was looking for land to buy. What was his name..."

"Do you think she was who he was looking for?" Ezra asks turning to me, seeming unsure of why Kaia would be looking for such a menacing looking male.

Shit! Sorry Alpha. You are going to have to owe your brother Beta, this is unreal..." Riley cusses before himself as he receives a new message, gasping from what he is reading.

"Load it up!" Ezra demands with his beta authority and I sit with bated breath. Riley uploads the email message from Alpha Jude's Beta onto the screen.

"Beckett!" I read out the alpha's name from the email.

I read the email before Riley starts to open each attachment one at a time for us to view. Jude's records

show that this Beckett was the Alpha of the Clear Waters pack before it was attacked 4 years ago.

"The attacked killed most of the pack, except for the alpha and a few that dispersed. Why on earth would Kaia be looking for him?" Ezra reads out before stopping and asking the question that was also playing me. Why was she looking for Beckett... "Fuck!" Riley curses, hitting the side of the table.

"Riley!" Ezra reprimands Riley.

"Sorry Beta...."

"Well what is it?"

"You aren't going to believe this another email has come through." Riley loads it onto the screen before reading it out for himself.

"Beta Edmund puts Our records show that Alpha Beckett's pack the Clear Waters was attacked 4 years ago. Reason of the attack unknown. Beckett since visited a number of packs looking for land to buy. Says his mate died in childbirth and that his child was killed in the attack."

As soon as Riley stops reading my mobile phone starts ringing. I look at the caller to see it is Alpha Jude. Whatever he has to say he didn't want to include on email

"Jude?\*

Chapter 0083

+25 BONUS

"Hector, the child that died in the attack...I'm sending you a picture of her now."

"Her.." I respond to Jude, who sighs down the phone before ending the call.

My phone beeps with the new picture message, I open it to find a picture of a young girl...maybe early teens, no older than 14.

It's a picture of her smiling standing next to this Alpha Beckett as his lips press against the top of her head. They are standing outside a large house, I presume an alpha house. Sun kissed skin, long brown hair and a smile upon her face as she looks to the camera. She looks happy, a child's innocence still to her. Beckett's face also smiling, no trace of a scar in his face at all. This photo was taken before the pack attack.

It was her, he was the alpha she had been searching for.

Kaia...

## **Bond 84**

apter 0084

Chapter 0084

Kaia POV

If I extend my hearing far enough, I can hear the voices of the humans on the white yacht in the near distance. Their laughter now travelling on the ocean breeze.

They were anchored, dressing to snorkel in the crystal blue waters that I now call my home.

This was my favourite spot, the cliff tops. It reminded me of the Clear Waters pack, of the pack I grew up

1. in.

I never knew my mother, she died when I was born. But growing up at her pack, I always felt close to her.

Until the attack and Father sent me away.

I was alone then, trying to stay hidden enough until I found Father again. That's when Than found me, I thought my life was turning for the better after finding my mate...oh how wrong was I. If anything I had traded a lone life of safety, for a dangerous life of living in a pack again. Not all packs are like my

Mother's

...I can see that now.

I was in the best spot in the pack, best view in the entire country, I think.

The vastness of the ocean offered the extra level of protection the lands needed.

It was contested land. Also within a human tourist hot spot. It hadn't been easy protecting the borders but since day one of arriving here, I have been attending warrior meetings, strengthening local alliances and monitoring training of new trainees. I hadn't stopped.

Which is how I wanted it, I didn't want to think...I just wanted to keep moving.

I was on my usual daily walk, pausing to take in the views as I do every day. If I wasn't in the Alpha's office working, I was walking around the pack grounds This felt like my new home and I think I'll be happy here.

I watch the snorkelling humans, the coastal wind whipping through my hair when I feel a presence behind me. I turn to find the Alpha of the Nightshade Reformed pack standing alone.

"You shouldn't be out here alone Kaia." His lips tug up into a small smile, a weighted sigh emitting from his lungs...he didn't like me being unguarded.

"I'm fine, I've looked out for myself for the past 4 years as it is." My eyebrows furrow as he takes a step towards me, the scar across his face showed no sign of causing him pain but to think what he must have gone through with the pack attack, what he must have endured.

And he did it alone, without me.

The limp in his leg causes him pain daily, I can see the suffering behind that brave face he puts on for the pack members daily. But he can't hide it from me.

\*The borders aren't safe and this is still a reformed pack." Since buying the lands, Father opened up the pack to rogues, as well as shifters that wanted to join a new pack



for better opportunities. The majority of members meant no harm, but sometimes it was hard for rogues to leave their pasts behind him.

1/2

"Look at them, I don't think they are a threat to me right now." I chuckle pointing at the humans in their bikinis and swim shorts, now splashing around enjoying themselves.

"I thought that before Kaia, and then we were attacked."

A sadness washes over me, the past must haunt him daily.

"I could have stayed, I could have helped...fought even

"You were 16 Kaia, I couldn't lose you. I couldn't put your life at risk like that. I would never put you in the position where you had to chose between yourself and others. The Clear Waters pack is dead to us now, we can only remember it and try to recreate it with the Nightshade Reformed pack. If these bloody rogues will stop battling against my authority"

"They are just used to being self serving, not thinking of others. They will get there Father, you just need to stay patient. Show them the strength of being part of a pack.\*

"With you by my side Kala, I can do anything" He smiles at me, before gesturing his elbow for me to take.

As I walk towards him, his eyes glaze over into a mind-link. I was so proud of him, he had become an alpha again.

When I arrived to the pack he couldn't believe it. I walked along the long straight path having been granted access at the gate using our code word. When he sent me away, just before the borders were attacked, he gave me a code word for us to use if he survived and I ever went looking for him.

I think he thought it was a joke at first. But when he came running out of the Alpha house, moving as quickly as his leg would allow to find me...I collapsed to my knees in tears.

No matter what had happened before that moment I could finally let go, finally grieve.

Because my life would start again, a rewrite. I had my beloved Father back. I didn't need a mate bond, I only needed him

My arm laces within his as we start to slowly walk back to the alpha house. Once his mind-link finishes he looks to me with a smug smile.

"Come, I have a surprise for you."\*

## Bond 85

Chapter 0085

Kaia POV

"A surprise?"

"You'll see..." He chuckles at my slight apprehension, my eyes narrowing playfully to him in an untrusting

manner.

We walk back to the main grounds of the Nightshade Reformed pack, taking longer than if I walked alone. Father's leg does slow him down. But only in body, his mind was still strong.

He had done so much in the past 4 years, the beautiful white stoned alpha house a testimony to that.

We were still building as we went, pack houses and now a small medical centre until we could raise more funds to expand within the borders. Due to the lands being contested, we had regular attacks from neighbouring packs that claimed the land belonged to them. Many packs had already signed a treaty since I arrived, if we promise to send warriors in the event of an attack on their lands. I pleaded our case, even venturing into their lands for meetings but other packs still felt we were up to something else...we weren't. The rogue attacks were often paid for by the packs not agreeing with our set up on these land, even trained warriors posing as rogues to gain entry. My role here was not only to help build up from within, but build our reputation on the outside...something Father just didn't have time for.

It was hard to rest, but we were on a mission and nothing ever worth having was easy. It also helped that sleeping was still hard for me and I would often work into the early hours of the morning, not wanting to visit my past in my own dreams.

'As we walked down the main path back to the alpha house, I gaze at the beautiful Mediterranean cypress

trees that had been planted alongside the path. They have grown tall to reach the sun's warmest rays.

These reminded me of the Clear Waters pack and I think Father purposefully picked these trees as a reminder to himself. In memory of Mother.

We even had live stock on land; sheep, cows and horses that graze on the grass fields over the hills. Fish was often the meal of the day due to our coastal surroundings, and our pack members enjoyed fishing when not on duty.

I myself have already been horse riding regularly as I did as a child, the youth of the pack often wanting turns themselves. What was there not to love about this pack and I felt extremely lucky to be the one to help Father take it forward. 1

As we gather distance on the alpha house, Father's smile widens as he spots a figure standing by the double front doors of our home.

I stop in my tracks, my eyes resting on the male...a male I haven't seen in years.

I can't help but sprint towards him, the sounds of my Father's chuckle from behind ring in my ear as I launch myself at Samson, his arms wide open readying to catch me.

He smells like sea salt water, with a sour note...a sign that he has been walking along the coast line and was still a rogue.

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0085

"Finally, you found him I see..." He places me down on my two feet, his eyes looking into mine.

"I did, thanks to you." Without Samson I never would have found Father, he worked tirelessly to connect us back together. Even when I was at the Amber Desert pack, he was still emailing me with updates... never once forgetting his duty to his previous Alpha family. "How was the ruthless Dark Phantom pack?" He raises an eyebrow at me, before his facial expression changes to a more serious tone. He realises too late that I perhaps haven't been forthcoming with information of my time spent away with my Father. "The Dark Phantom pack?" Father asks, worry clear from his furrowed eyebrows as he joins us, shaking Samson's hand.

"Alpha Hector...you were there?"

I hadn't heard that name for over a month now and as soon as I do, it's as if all my hard work of healing starts to unravel at the seam. Every time my mind starts to think about him, I remind myself and my wolf of how he left, how he left for another. "It was a fleeting visit Father, no need to worry. I kept to myself.." I try to calm my Father's nerves, the guilt he feels from sending me out alone into the world eats away at him daily.

He doesn't even know of my joining the Amber Desert pack, of me marrying and being the rightful Luna of that pack. I couldn't bear to tell him, it would only upset him...of what I myself have endured.

This was our rewrite, everything outside of these pack grounds can no longer harm us, as long as we are together.

"Great to see you at last Samson. You will stay at the Alpha house yet?"

"I wouldn't want to impose..."

"Nonsense. I have work for you...best for us to be under the same roof." Father declares, not taking no for an answer. He walks through the double doors of the alpha house leaving me outside with Samson. I can't believe he is here. Perhaps there were others still alive, others that can come home.

Ebony Woods

Author

Thanks for reading. What do we think of Samson?

4

## **Bond 86**

Chapter 0086 Chapter 0086

Kaia POV

After dinner, Father pulled Samson into his office for a private conversation. Something apparently, that was just for them to discuss together.

I wanted to check the guard's night time shift switch over anyway, which was where I was now. Things were quiet tonight at the border, but we can't get complacent...the attacks can happen at any time and are arranged to try and catch us off guard. So far they've not been able to breach the borders.

I was on one of the hills that looks down to the pack grounds, more inland than by the coastal cliff tops. I could see everything, even Samson leave the alpha house and start walking towards me in the distance.

"There you are." He climbs the last part of the hill, before stopping and catching his breath. The gradient was steep, it took a few attempts before no longer feeling the climb on your chest.

"I wanted to check the borders, look...look at this view."

"It's certainly one to compete with Clear Waters." Samson takes in the view, the moon now shining brightly upon the ocean waters in the far distance. The pack grounds were well lit even for werewolves. I'm assuming Father wanted the additional security of light within the inner pack grounds to help

members feel safe.

The borders have continued to hold, there is no other choice...they must hold. But with constant threat at your door, the pack members to become wary at night time.

"I'm glad you got out in time." He says, and I nod in agreement as we continue to enjoy the view. In my peripheral vision I sense Samson now looking at me. This must be a bittersweet moment to be reunited with his Alpha.

Samson's Father was the beta in our old pack and didn't survive the attack. Samson is 2 years older than me and at 18, left to start his beta training.

He wasn't there for the attack. My heart breaks for him knowing he was so many miles away and learned of the fate of his pack through hearsay.

"It must have been awful for you to be so far away." I let out a sigh, my eyes now looking into his.

"It was! Alpha Beckett says he is looking for a beta, that I could perhaps trial out for it. He says the beta blood within me is strong."

"You should..." I smile at him, he would make an excellent beta.

"You should, I mean only if you plan to stay. Where have you been?"

"After the attack, I ended up in a small pack. Not a lot to them but they offered me shelter and in return I would train their warriors. I had a few months of beta training under my belt..." "You didn't finish training?" I gasp.

"No pack...no beta."

I hadn't even thought about it. Without a pack Samson wouldn't have been able to complete training, he would have been made a rogue by default. +25 BONUS

Chapter 0086

"What about you. You hadn't told your Father about being at the Dark Phantom pack..about leaving the Amber Desert pack."

"Father doesn't know a lot of things... things I don't really want to tell him."

"Oh? Like what?" Perhaps I would tell Samson and Father in time but I was thriving in my new life, I didn't want to drag my old life into it...not yet. "Another time maybe...that's in my past now. I'm all about the future nowadays."

A soft smile enters onto my face as I start to head back down the hill top, the guard shift switch had taken place and I could now retire for the night.

"You look good, beautiful in fact."

"It's the sea air, it's being by water again. There's something majestic about it." I could feel even for myself how refreshed I had been lately. The hill down is steep and I've done it plenty of times but Samson still insists on walking next to me, his hand held out slightly in case I needed aid.

Once a beta, always a beta.

Samson was a close friend of mine in my childhood, he would be in the Alpha house during pack meetings, as of course was I.

Father was protective, I didn't really have a big groups of friends...I think he worried I would be influenced but Samson was always ready to play, ready to teach me horse riding. He was even with me for my first shift. We kept it a secret, in our pack it was taboo to shift without family members when underage.

We walk back to the alpha house, me giving Samson a small tour of the inner pack grounds. Either myself or Father will need to walk him through the pack borders tomorrow and he'll be up early to run training tomorrow morning

"I know this is forward as I've only been here for a few hours, but...if I was ever to want to spend time with you...."

"I'm always here if you need support Samson, although I've only been here for a month. I'm learning as I go."

"I meant...like a date. Maybe tomorrow."

"A date...with me?" I was taken aback by this and wasn't entirely sure of how to respond.

"Unless....you don't want to. I'm sorry, that was stupid. I should have asked if you have a mate...you found

your mate?"

"I just wasn't expecting it. I have a senior pack meeting tomorrow evening but after that...maybe we could do something."

"Okay, it's a date then." He smiles as he opens the front door for me to enter first.

"Okay...." A small level of excitement bubbles within me, but my wolf isn't feeling as enthusiastic about the prospect of a date with another man.

## **Bond 87**

Chapter 0087 Chapter 0087

Kaia POV

The pack meeting to discuss defence tactics has overrun, which if Samson wasn't present for, I would be feeling guilty about delaying our dinner plans. But him being here himself, he is starting to get an insider's knowledge of just how much hard work it takes to defend the borders by a number of threats.

We were currently discussing which packs I had personally visited recently, and out of those visited, which ones that have already agreed to or are likely to agree to signing a peace treaty. Things had progressed quicker with my arrival, I think a female's touch was needed when handling affairs of a delicate matter with males.

"What about the Crystal Moon Pack?" Father asks the warriors and myself.

I choose to keep quiet, I hadn't visited that pack yet and for good reason. I know for a fact it is linked to the alliance that the Dark Phantom pack is apart of. I know I can't put off visiting the Crystal Moon Pack for the sake of our pack member's safety, but I will delay it for as long as possible. I can't have certain people know of my links to this pack, of my presence here.

For the last hour, something was troubling Father. He kept shifting on his seat as if he were uncomfortable. As if something was bothering him.

"Is everything okay Father?" I mind-link him. As soon as I arrived, Father declared me the missing heir to the pack and a party was hosted in my honour where was officially made a pack member. I was no longer a rogue, which did cause a few issues on my travels in finding Father's location.

"Something doesn't feel right, something is warning me to check the borders." He responds back through the mind-link as we both continue to listen to a warrior discussing defence techniques.

This wasn't the first time Father's wolf was giving him a warning signal, but often it was a false alarm. This was contested land which meant our wolves were never truly able to settle, we always felt on edge. Danger always lurked near the borders, even the humans on the sandy beaches could be felt by our

wolves.

"Keep your eyes vigilant on the borders...something doesn't feel right." I open our mind-link up to the guards on the borders, I could feel the sense of dread myself. Something that I was still getting used to.

That's when the sound of bells start to ring from outside, just as a guard pushes back on my mind-link to warn us of an attack and the exact location. Before he could finish his voice stops dead and a sickness in my gut washes over me.

"Get to the borders!" I roar out in the meeting room, Father already feeling the loss of life through the pack bond as his hand goes to his chest.

No not again.

We run outside to hear the warning bells ringing from every direction, each post was under threat.

"We are under attack, those who can fight get to the borders! Expectant mothers and children are to remain in lockdown!" I order through the pack-link, Samson close by my side as I prepare to run to the borders. "Kaia!" Father shouts at me from behind, he is unable to run...even in wolf form his leg prevents him from

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0087

running at the speed we need right now.

"No Father you stay here!" I could only think of protecting him, how I couldn't lose him.

"You aren't going." He growls at me, pulling me back into him.

"I can fight, you'll only slow me down."

He looks hurt by my admission but it was true, we would be slow in arriving to the battle and I couldn't concentrate worrying about also defending Father. It was harsh, but it was



meant in a way to protect him. "You stick by her, you don't let her out of your sight." He points his finger to Samson, a warning tone in his voice.

"Yes Alpha!"

"Do I have your word?"

"Yes Alpha, you have my word. I will guard her with my life." Samson's beta tone gives Father some reassurance but I know this is hard for him. To let me go to battle without him. He protected me before by sending me away...but he can't do that now and I wouldn't let him. I'm not the young adult I once was.

didn't have time for this, and neither did the pack members already at the border and those hiding in their homes with their innocent children. Even by standing here we were losing too many lives.

I had to stop the attack by any means possible.

I start running, my wolf pressing beneath my skin as I strip my clothes off as I run. Samson remains by my side, also stripping, and as we exit the main pack grounds I shift.

The cracking of bones ignites my wolf's fire within me. She had been dormant for a month. I hadn't been allowed to shift since arriving at the pack grounds, Father had forbidden for me to do so.

But this attack was different, something seemed more fierce about it. I had no choice but to shift. Any taboo Father carried from our previous pack wouldn't work here, times had changed. I had changed.

My white wolf runs alongside Samson's sandy brown coloured wolf, her back bone stretching out in preparation for the fight ahead of us. She doesn't stop running once, not even with the sight of wolves attacking our own.

It only spurs her on to defend our Father's claim to these lands. I push her forward, her legs even outrunning Samson's wolf, as we jump mid air, crashing into a group of foraging wolves..

## **Bond 88**

Chapter 0088 Chapter 0088

Kaia POV

I've spent my life being trained by my Father to protect a pack that no longer exists. Now we have this pack and I need to protect it with all my might. They cannot breach too far into the pack, they cannot get to the innocent women and children who hide away in their homes.

They've breached the borders already but they won't get any further, not if I can help it.

We haven't had the funds to build a pack shelter, something that now was paramount for our future...if we

can survive this attack.

The children and expectant mothers are too widely dispersed, they need to be securely guarded together in a shelter that would be impossible to penetrate.

They just keep coming. But they aren't rogues, these are pack wolves.

These are wolves that have been ordered to attack with the precise purpose of reminding us of who these lands belonged to, not us apparently.

Laim for the young wolves first, the ones that hadn't been in training long. There weren't many female wolves in comparison to ours, that's not unusual we were fighting for survival, this pack is not.

They have plenty of trained warriors to use for such an occasion.

I don't kill, I refuse to kill unless necessary. Most, I can take down with a bite to the hind legs or an attack to their sides...but as I take out the most inexperienced fighters, the main warriors start to see the damage I am doing. And they clearly know they need to take me out.

I was born to be a luna, I am a luna wolf. I am bigger than the female wolves and even bigger than some

of the male wolves.

I was meant to be a luna, my genetics not knowing what cruelty my own mate would put me through.

I was the destined luna of the Amber Desert pack, by marriage, I technically am the Luna. And fight like a Luna I will.

I am now the acting Luna of the Nightshade Reformed Pack and will protect my father's members as such.

Samson doesn't leave my side once, he takes his promise to my father with absolute seriousness.

His sandy brown coloured wolf was slightly bigger than mine, he was born to be a beta and fight like one he does.

Most of the time he gets to the wolves before me, but to help him, I bite into their flanks to take them out. For not having a mind-link with me, he certainly is familiar with my movements and can sense my next steps.

It must be spending a childhood together.

Except for a few scars to his flank, his wolf is exactly the same as I remember him...but he has lived the life of a rogue for the last 4 years and that does leave signs..even on the best wolfs.

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0088

I am strong and nimble, I am able to see teeth before they manage to sink into me and only if I need to do I go in for the kill.

I'm not the alpha but I can still sense our numbers dwindling, our fighters injured and even feel the screams of pains through the pack bond from the deaths of loved ones. We didn't have long left.

I sink my teeth into the flank of a wolf that has Samson held in a tight lock by his neck, my wolf mauls trying to get in deeper to this wolf's ribcage when it finally whimpers and collapses to the ground. That's when a force the weight of a truck slams into both me and Samson, knocking Samson on top of me, my lungs winded from the movement and weight.

Catching my breath, I turn to see a large dark grey wolf... the Alpha wolf.

He had finally joined the throes of his own war. His unnecessary war, that was killing his people and my father's. 1

He was attacking without even taking notice of who he attacked, he was on a killing spree. Each time one of the pack wolves dared to fight him, his claws slices through them like butter.

My wolf jumps up ready to fight when Samson blocks my path, standing in my way and attacking the alpha wolf instead.

I watch in horror as the alpha wolf deflects Samson's attack and pins him down on the ground, his jaw surrounding Samson's head waiting to crack it with his teeth.

"No!" I scream to my wolf, who growls out to the alpha in warning. She stalks up to him with a menacing stance, her tongue licking her teeth readying for her next bite. Then something weird happens.

The alpha male looks at my wolf before freezing, his eyes locked on mine as he considers my invite to a fight. His jaw remains locked around Samson's wolf's head, waiting to kill.

But rather than accept my challenge, his jaw loosens and he backs away from Samson who is panting on the floor. Freed, Samson manages to get up and stand next to my wolf.

The alpha wolf growls at mine, before howling to the moon and retreating. His fighters pulling back and retreating with him.

I watch in astonishment as they withdrawal, climbing back over our borders running back into the distance that they came from.

Ebony Woods

Author

## **Bond 89**

Chapter 0089

Chapter 0089

Kaia POV

I was helping with the injured, this is why the hospital needed to be bigger. With an attack like this we were now running at over occupancy.

There were even beds in the corridors with young males only just of age, screaming in pain. We didn't have enough doctors or nurses, we had scraped through one battle only to enter into another.

I was running around the hospital trying to find bandages to help stop the free flow of blood pouring out of so many.

The alpha's attack was expertly executed and if they attacked again now, we wouldn't have a chance in hell of keeping our lands.

Father finds me in the hospital as Samson is assisting me with now resetting the dislocated bones of a she-wolf.

His aura is dark and thick, his anger suffocating the atmosphere of the medical centre that was already struggling with creating a peaceful environment to encourage recovery. Most here will be fine, once the bleeding stops and the bones are reset their wolves will speed up the healing process.

Some were in surgery, fighting for their lives and would need additional support in their healing journey.

"I'm fine Father." I gasp out as a loud snap indicates to me the bone of the she-wolf has been put back into place.

"What happened?" His eyes take in the room around him, it was a sight myself that would haunt me for years to come.

"The Alpha joined the fight...he attacked Samson and me..." I keep my voice a low sound, I didn't want to increase Father's anger as it was.

"Then?" His chest rumbles knowing already that I had put myself in the path of the alpha.

"I don't know....when I challenged him he backed off all of a sudden. It was really peculiar. All of his fighters retreated and withdrew from the attack."

"Did you shift?"

"Of course I did Father.." What kind of a question was that, I wouldn't be standing here now if I hadn't of shifted.

No human form could have survived the attacks of those wolves, they were out for blood.

I don't miss the side eye Father gives Samson, who firmly holds the alpha's glare. Father can't blame Samson for this, I led the wolves into battle I couldn't stand back and watch from the sidelines. That wasn't me.

"Fine, I'll check the injured. I want you to go home." He commands to me, his alpha aura washing over me. "I want to help our people, I'm here to help." I try to fight it but his is the only aura I've always had to submit to. I am his daughter after all.

+25 BONUS

## Chapter 0089

"And you're great at it, but you are covered in blood yourself and need rest too." Father changes his tone slightly, not the authoritative tone of an alpha but now that of a concerned parent.

I look down at my arms and chest, he's right I am covered in blood. I could do with a warm shower. I don't even know whose clothes I am wearing...it was the first thing Samson handed me once we shifted back into human form and assessed the injured on the fields.

I try to rub off some of the blood that had dried on my arm to reveal bruises of my own, I hadn't taken in my own injuries. The adrenaline still pumping through my veins was keeping any pain at bay.

I accept my father's offer to trade places with me at the hospital, so that I could go back and refresh. I would find rest difficult but I could at least shower and dress properly to return back to the hospital in the morning.

Samson escorts me back to the alpha house, his own skin caked in dried blood and gashes that had now healed, but still needed cleaning.

"I'll fetch the medical kit if you want to take a shower..." I start to head upstairs, only for Samson to pull me back by my elbow.

"Kaia..."

"What is it?" I look into his face that seemed to be troubled by something.

"I have to leave the pack for a few days. I have commitments that I need to smooth over. I didn't expect to be offered a place here..." He turns, grabbing some car keys off the sideboard in the hall way before returning back to me.

"You're leaving now?" I'm perplexed by his sudden announcement, he can't leave now...not when the pack was at risk of another attack any moment.

"I won't be long, I'll come back as soon as I can." He kisses me on my cheek before walking back out of the front door and borrowing a pack car to leave in.

+25 BONUS

## **Bond 90**

### Chapter 0090

## Chapter 0090

### Alora POV

I've been living two lives, one where I am happy in front of Than. Him none the wiser.

Then there's the other me that when I am alone, I start to obsess about what I read on my files in the doctor's office.

Without Than near me, I can't stop thinking about it.

I need a second opinion, a doctor who isn't part of the Amber Desert Pack, who will tell me the truth. It is now clear that people have been holding back on me.

A part of me is in denial also, but the other part is starting to put things together. How I've not really been alone since waking up from my coma. Why my wolf isn't strong enough to shift. Why I've been having abdominal pains.

Than is leaving pack grounds for a few days, taking Beta Zane with him. This was my opportunity, my chance to find out for myself what the hell was going on. With Medea off pack grounds still, Freya is to move in with me to keep me company.

She was in too deep with me now not to help me with this.

www

"Where are you going again?" I ask Than as I walk him out of the front door.

"Just to visit a few packs...just part of pack relations. Networking and building up strong relationships with other alphas." He places his overnight holdall in the car boot before walking back over to me. He snakes his arm around my back and pulls me in for a kiss. Sparks erupt across my lips from his gentle kiss.

"I won't be long, I promise."

"I'll be fine. Just be yourself, they'll love you...as I do."

With Than and Zane both off grounds, now was the perfect time for me to visit a new doctor. Freya as always was against my idea but she would prefer to come with me, than let me go alone.

We were going to drive into the local city, Freya having sourced a doctor that can be discreet and has no links to our pack.

I was confident that we wouldn't get caught by Than on Zane, because I am barely spending time outside of the alpha house...therefore, my presence wouldn't be missed.

Except for the guards on the gate. We had a cover story in place to get past them...our excuse is that we are picking up supplies for the pack, gifts for the maternity ward.

Driving into the local city, nerves start to overwhelm me from my bold plan in seeking the truth. Freya must pick up on my nerves, as she places a hand on my thigh that was trembling uncontrollably.

"We can head back, we don't need to do this." Her voice has a hidden depth of hope, hope that I would back out.

"I need to know what is wrong with me. If what I saw is true then it changes everything."  
In more ways

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0090

than I would share with Freya right now.

"Just take each moment at a time, I'm sure the doctor will put your mind at ease. I'm sure what you thought you read was a mistake. You were rushed and underpressure in the doctor's office, you misread it that's all." Freya has been a real support to me recently, but I can't pretend to be as positive as she is.

Even in the haste of the dramatically staged moment created by herself, I knew what my eyes saw. I didn't misread.

I wasn't expecting it to be a female doctor, I don't know why. But it put my mind at ease the moment I entered her room.

She takes her time giving me a full health check, taking bloods, listening to my heart and then completing a scan on my abdomen and lower back.

"Well?" I ask as she sits me down at her desk, reading through some of my results.

"This is unusual indeed...for a werewolf not to heal."

Freya remained in the waiting room, which consisted of a mixture of both werewolves and humans. The female doctor most likely kept under the radar from the werewolf community due to her serving of the human world as well.

She is right to think that my wolf should be able to heal any internal injuries as well as external injuries, but I have failed to inform her of what I did.

"The results are saying you have organ failure which must be wrong..." She doesn't believe her own documents in front of her as she flicks through them time and time



again. She even pulls out of her desk drawer glasses as if her own eyes deceive her. "It's not wrong. I drank wolfsbane...a considerable amount of wolfsbane. I then entered a coma which I remained in for 2 years." 1

"It would explain why you are having the organ failure. The machines that you would have been wired up to during your coma kept you alive. I'm sorry my dear but it would seem there is no coming back from this."

I'm weightless as I leave the doctor's office, Freya trying to ask me what happened. But I feel light, as if I wasn't walking but floating.

Poor Than, no wonder he has been so possessive...he knows the fate I have doomed us to and how long I have left.

I can't let him mark me. It would be too cruel for him to mark me, only for me to be ripped away from him.

I carelessly push open the building's doors not even looking as I join the busy pavement, full of human workers on their lunch breaks. I can hear Freya telling me to slow down but her voice is quiet, as if miles away. The area is swamped with people, and I just want to be alone. I even bump into somebody's shoulders turning briefly to apologise before moving on...

"Kaia....Kaia is that you?"

## **Bond 91**

Chapter 0091

Hector POV

I had called on all pack/training session this morning. Something had me feeling unsettled recently and I couldn't put my finger on it.

The borders were clear, there was no sign of imminent danger so very did i have this feeling in the pat of my stomach.

It had been there constantly for the last few days from the moment i woke up, 1 the moment 1 went to sleep. Even waking me up in the night like a sense of foreboding

I usually have this feeling when an attack is moments away or a non pack wolf has entered into the Dark Phantom Pack grounds.

But the grounds and borders were clear. There was no sight of another person for miles.

I called an all pack training session as a precaution/theasure. If an attack was to occur, then the non-warriors would have had recent training at least.

"Again!" I command to a group of pack members that were underage. Technically they shouldn't be training to such a level yet, not at their age. But war doesn't consider ages. "Alpha, Alpha Jude is at the gate." Ezra mind-links me from across the training field.

"Really? We weren't expecting him today, were we?"

"No Alpha, not to my knowledge."

"He'll have to wait. Get Aubrey to make him a drink, and to wait with him in my office."

"Yes Alpha!"

I spend longer at training than I had anticipated, I was conscious that I was keeping Jude waiting but this was about the safety of the pack.

We have always held our borders but there is always a first and if enemies got into the central pack grounds, it most likely would be mothers and children that they would attack.

I had to give everybody a fighting chance,

Ezra joins me as I head back to the alpha house, desperate for a shower but that would really be pushing my luck with Jude. He hasn't come all this way for tea and biscuits. Whatever he has to share, he wanted to do it in person. According to the gate guards, he has come alone...Edmund not joining him.

"Sorry bud to keep you waiting..." I swing a glance his way as I walk into my office.

"No worries, Aubrey here is always a pretty sight to pass the time with." He goes on the charm offensive with Aubrey,

"Stop it Alpha, I'm old enough to be your mother."

"Has anyone called you a MILF?" He purrs as she heads for the door, rolling her eyes. A chuckle leaving his chest as he turns to me with a wide grin. +25 BONUS

Chapter 0091

"Seriously Jude..." I sigh out.

"What?"

"She is literally like a mother figure to me..."

"Hence the term Mother fucker...."

"What can I do for you Jude?" I groan out trying to change the subject as I sit at my desk, putting my mobile phone on charge.

"This isn't common knowledge yet, but one of the alphas in the alliance launched an attack on a pack last night, that has been pushing their luck."

"And you know this how?" I look to Ezra who was leaning against the office door having closed it after Aubrey left the room.

"Just listen...the pack that was attacked, the alpha offered to buy the lands but because it is contested lands. he was refused. It's classed as no-man's land. Sacred land not to be touched. But he started to build on it anyway, without permission." "Hence the attack..." I cut in. This was a real political headache. Thank the fuck it's got nothing to do with

1. me.

"Most of the packs locally have now signed a treaty not to attack because it is taking in rogues that want to be rehomed. Clever as fuck to go down the diplomatic route, plus it helps control the rogue problems in that area. If the rogues join this pack, they won't be knocking on the borders of the other packs."

"Where are you going with this." I shake my head, I had a lot to get through today and Jude wasn't getting

to the point.

"The alpha...the alpha that has made claim for the land he has a scar across his eye."

Holy shit!

"That's got to be Beckett."

"Sounds like it. Apparently his Luna has been arranging the treaty agreements. However, they were attacked after our alliance pack received intelligence that Beckett was looking to extend his lands further. "Did they leave Beckett alive?"

"He wasn't there. Apparently the Luna led the defence. But here's the thing...the attacking alpha called off the fight during the actual attack. He made his warriors retreat, even though they were winning." "What, why?"

He pauses, standing up to look at the map on my wall. It has been added to every day, it wouldn't be long until it ripped under all the pins. You could barely see the map any more, it was covered by a sea of red pin heads. Jude's eyes go to the picture of Beckett pinned to the side of the map before turning back to me, his hands in his front pockets.

## Bond 92

Chapter 0092

Hector POV

"What do you know about white wolves?" Jude asks me something that I never expected a full grown Alpha to ask me. Let alone my closest friend.

"White wolves?" I huff in amusement standing up and walking over to the side cabinet where Aubrey had left refreshments. I pour myself a coffee, knowing I would need the caffeine after a busy training session and now Jude talking to me about bloody fairy tales. "They are a myth...a fairy tale." I grunt as I stir my hot drink.

"That's what I thought but this alpha, he swears to the Moon Goddess that he saw one, during the battle... at this new pack."

"There's no such thing as a white wolf. He must have had a knock to the head and seen something white in the distance."

White wolves were a myth, a fantasy. Something you tell children as part of a nursery tale.

The story was created to help children understand their connection to the moon, to the Moon Goddess and how they differentiate from human children. The Moon Goddess in her true form, in her wolf form, took on the appearance of a white wolf. An ethereal creature placed as a gift on earth, a connection to her.

Always watching. I think to in-still a level of fear into children, mothers wanting to teach right and wrong from an early age.

"He claims he fought her, that she was the Luna leading the defence."

"Jude, can you hear yourself!" I chuckle looking to Ezra expecting him to be enjoying this as much as I am. But he seems to be listening to Jude's every word, engrossed in this story. What was the matter with these two.

"I'm telling you Hector, this alpha believes in what he saw. So much so that he is already planning another attack."

And there you have it. No white wolf, just an alpha wolf hungry for power.

"For what purpose?"

"For the white wolf?"

"Ha, he can't just kidnap a poor light brown wolf that is what he thinks. Sounds like a headache, I'd stay clear if I were you Jude. If these lands are contested and this Beckett is expanding out without permission, that is the reason for the attack. A smoke screen, a poor smoke screen at that."

This wouldn't be the first time an alpha has gained alliance backing to invade a pack.

The last time this happened, the alpha claimed it was because rogues were being trained to carry out attacks. But instead it was the alpha's own vendetta due to the alpha of the opposing pack, refusing to let his daughter marry him.

Often there was an ulterior motive.

1/3

Chapter 0092

+25 BONUS

"Did he at least tell you where Beckett's pack was located?" I sit back down, my hands running through my hair frustrated at the lack of progress I have made on locating Beckett.

"Of course, what do you take me for?" Jude smirks and I find myself sitting up right and forward.

"Well apparently a little girl that loves fairy tales. But in all seriousness...you know his location?"

Jude shows me on my map where Beckett's pack is apparently located. The area does seem to validate some part of Jude's information.

These lands are disputed, all surrounding packs sharing borders to this land that has another border by the sea. I can see why an attack was launched if they received intel that Beckett was looking to expand. "What do you want to do?" Jude looks to me for a decision.

"I need to find Kaia... If this pack.."

"The Nightshade Reformed Pack." Jude cuts me off.

"Interesting choice for a pack name. If this pack is in danger of an attack, and Kaia is there...we should warn her. Get her out.

It sounds like this pack hasn't got long before it is destroyed from the outside.."

"I'll call the alpha, see whether he has information on pack members. I'll ask him to hold off until we know whether she is there." Jude pulls his phone out readying to make the call. "Thanks pal."

Jude prepares to leave my office, when a pale looking Ezra walks away from the door and sits down on

the sofa.

"Ezra?" This wasn't like him, I've never seen him look so...pale.

"Alpha, I need to tell you something....something I should have told you at the time. But I didn't...because I don't know why. It felt wrong to speak of it." "Okay..."

"I've seen a white wolf." With all that suspense, I expected something serious...not a joke.

"Really?" I roll my eyes unconvinced because I just know for a fact they do not exist. There is no evidence it is only a fairy tale. I imagine a white wolf often appears in front of drunk werewolves on numerous occasions. "Where?" Jude asks my beta, a note of excitement in his voice.

"Here.."

"Here?" Jude sits back down next to Ezra, a growl emitting from my chest for their continuing piss take.

"Jude!"

"Shut up Hector... Ezra, tell us."

"I saw a white wolf here in this pack."

2/3

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0092

"For the love of Goddess..." I moan out in frustration at Ezra and Jude.

"When?"

"The night of the anniversary party." 2

"Ah, well that explains it you were all pissed." I clap my hands together, another sighting that could be easily explained from alcohol consumption.

"No Alpha...I stopped drinking the moment you left. I saw her with my own eyes."

"Her? Who Ezra, who was the white wolf..." Jude presses.

"It was...Kaia."

Ebony Woods

## **Bond 93**

Chapter 0093

Chapter 0093

Than POV

Who ever was hiding her, was hiding her well.

A few of the alpha's were willing to let me search their lands, the others not so much. Zane was going to try a few other packs before heading back to Amber Desert land, where I was now on my way back now.

I didn't like to be away from Alora for too long. It felt unnatural.

Pulling up to the alpha house I turn the car's music off before exiting the vehicle and heading to the front door. Opening the front door I call out to Alora, announcing my arrival but hear nothing back from her. The house was shrouded by an eerie silence. "Alora?" I push on her mind-link as I close the front door and toss my car keys into the dish on the side table.

"In the office..." Her voice responds through the mind-link, relief causing my tense muscles to relax.

"What are you doing in there?" I call out, walking into the kitchen first to switch on some coffee. Don't tell me she was finally getting on with some emails as the soon to be celebrated new Luna.

Casually I head into the office, expecting to find Alora sitting at my desk checking her emails when the scene that greets me is in fact my world unravelling before my very eyes.

Papers strewn across the office floor, boxes ripped open and my secure filing cabinet... broken into. Panic hits me in my chest like a punch as I expect to find Alora in the corner held as a hostage, when in fact my eyes can't believe what they are seeing...Alora holding documents in her hands as she scans through the information that I'm assuming is the information I didn't want her to see.

"What are you doing?"

"Lies...all lies. Since the moment I woke up." Her voice is breathy, her eyes frantically scanning the information before her.

"That's not true." I close the gap between us, to explain, but she takes a step back..away from me.

"First I find out you were married, and now this....what else aren't you telling me?" My blood turns cold as she holds in her hand the document from the pack doctor. Her medical summary from when she was in a coma. Her organ failure information.

"Alora... Listen to me.."

"Than stop...there's nothing you can say now. I know...I know I am dying."

"Alora!" I slam my hands to my ears not wanting to hear her say such things, then we she goes to repeat it I rush forward, placing my hand over her mouth to stop her from saying it.

"Don't." I growl, holding her close to me. Her eyes red and puffy, fresh tears flowing as I continue to cover her mouth.

It pains me to see her so upset, I was meant to be the one protecting her, keeping her happy but I just

can't seem to do either.

1/3

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0093



"I can't lose you." I whisper as I remove my hand from her mouth.

"Why didn't you tell me. From the moment I woke up my wolf has been disconnected, I've struggled with the simplest of things...the pain... Than my stomach is in constant pain. Why didn't you tell me the truth." She sobs into my chest, the weight of everything since she took that wolfsbane, since my own brother walked into the alpha house demanding she belonged to him overwhelms me and my legs give way.

I keep ahold of her, making sure I take the brunt of the short fall to the ground where I just hold her tightly in my arms. She wraps her legs around my torso, rocking me back and forth.

"How could I, you are my everything. I couldn't even admit it to myself Alora. I didn't want you to feel the burden of guilt. It was a miracle you woke up, call me a fool but I hoped you would never need to know." I admit slowly in-between her sobs, stroking the back of her hair. "I feel guilt every day Than. The mental struggle of not being able to shift into my wolf, the guilt I feel for that, eats away at me every day. For what I did to you burns at me from the inside, and for what I did to Hector.." "Why does it always become about him."

"This is about him also Than. He found me, can you imagine the torture of finding your mate almost dead. Not just that, my actions resulted in him being thrown out of the pack. His only crime was loving me."

"I'm not listening to this, you don't belong to him, you belong to me!" I pull her arms off me, standing up and leaving her on the floor. I can't keep going round in circles. She can't keep thinking of another when' with me.

"I should have finished the bottle..." 1

"A red burning rage erupts from me, so strong that I could take on an entire pack and destroy them all with

my bare hands.

"What did you just say?" I bitterly ask, her words sounding like poison to my ears.

"If I had of succeeded you'd be married still, the pack having a Luna that could fulfill her duties and all this shit-show wouldn't have happened. Because I wouldn't be here." 1

My anger is tangible, I can feel it spreading out of me and into the room. My full alpha aura projects off me onto her, it's full strength taking her breath away.

She tries to fight it, so I apply even more strength to it. Something I have never done to Alora.

I regret it instantly when the colour drains from her face, her eyes rolling into the back of her head. Her body not strong enough to fight my command and she was unwilling to submit.

"Alora..." Fear, a fear I've only experienced once in my life takes over me. When Hector mind-linked me telling me he had found her all but dead, the memory lives on as the worst day of my life, this coming a close second. She knows, she knows that she is dying...my time is out.

My heart thumps in my chest as I watch Alora collapse to the floor, her body unable to fight any longer.

## **Bond 94**

Chapter 0094 Chapter 0094

Alora POV

My eyes open focusing on the white ceiling of the hospital room. I would recognise those beeps from anywhere...I'm back.

Everything was upside down in my life. The argument with Than had taken all my strength, the amount I had left. I was growing weak.

Now that I understand why I haven't been the same since reawakening, a sense of calmness has now embraced me. And that's okay.

I made that choice as a foolish 16 year old and I am now paying the price. For whatever reason, the Moon Goddess didn't take me then. I'll forever wonder if it was to make me live with the regret before finally reaching out to take me home to her. I'll have a chance to say goodbye to Than.

Not like before.

I'll also have the small window to find out what Kaia is to me. Than can't hide me now, he can't keep the

outside world from me.

"Alora?" I turn my head slightly to see Freya looking at me, a small sad smile on her face.

"How are you feeling?" She tilts her head, placing a hand on my upper arm.

"Sore, but I'm okay. Where is Than?" I blink, looking around the room to find it empty, except for Freya.

"He's gone off pack grounds, he was desperate to find something to help you."

Perhaps it was time for Than to realise nothing can save me, and going off pack grounds was wasting the little time we had left together.

"What happened?" Freya asks as I slowly sitting up. I felt as I did before. I think I just grew weary from the same argument, from trying to fight Than's command.

"I don't know. I just got so angry at him. For hiding this from me, then we argued and I think the stress overwhelmed me."

"Luna Medea has been informed and is on her way back..."

"She is?"

"Once she is here, you won't have the freedom you do at this very moment in time. Except for you there is no Alpha family member on pack grounds...do you understand what I am saying."

I look to her, yes I fully understood what she was saying. This would be the only time for the rest of my life that I will have the option to choose for myself, to make my own decision.

"You've heard?" I ask in a low murmur.

"I've had a text. I've been given a possible location...if you want to act we need to do it now."

Planning a pack escape from a hospital bed was the last thing I needed right now, but Freya was right.

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0094

The moment Medea arrives, I won't be able to leave.

If Than is off site, as well as Zane...then I need to act fast.

"Zane's going to kill me." Freya bites down on her lower lip.

I refuse to let my actions cause more issues between her and her mate. Freya was the female beta and when I am gone, she'll still have to support Than and Zane. Her life will be hugely impacted by the decisions I make today. "I can go alone..."

"No, I'm too deep in this now. If we can get back what she took, then at least I might be able to remain at this pack with a shred of dignity still in tack."

I check myself out of the hospital, informing the doctor that I am fully aware of my illness and that I want to rest at home, from the comfort of my own bed.

As soon as we get back to the house, Freya helps me pack clothes before racing home and packing for herself.

I go downstairs into Than's office, the mess I had created was now gone. Tidied up as if nothing had ever happened.

I grab a piece of paper and write Than a note. I know what I was about to do would break Than's heart all over again but I had to find Kaia. I had to find out once and for all what she was to me, what she took from Than. So when my time on this earth was done, I could go to the Moon Goddess finally feeling at peace.

"Ready?" Freya's soft voice calls out to me from the office door as she holds both holdalls in her hand.

"We will need cash!" She adds, her head gesturing to the safe behind the painting on the office wall. I nod in confirmation before folding the note and leaving it on his computer keyboard.

I head to the safe, knowing that the code would be my birthday...I don't officially know, but I know Than. I only take a few notes to keep us going until we reach the Nightshade Reformed Pack.

With one last glance at the alpha house, the house that became my home after my parent's died, I enter the car's passenger side. Freya turns on the car's engine, before turning to me. "Are you certain you want to do this?"

"Yes, I am certain."

## **Bond 95**

Chapter 0095 Kaia POV

I had been pulling double shifts at the medical centre, as a collective we had done well to get our patients home and healed as soon as possible. There were a select few that needed additional medical attention but hopefully within a week or 2, they would be able to be discharged and rest at home. We lost a few but not as many as I had expected.

Thankfully the attack abruptly finished as soon as it had started. Any longer and our death numbers would have been far worse.

"Thank you Luna." One of the nurses smiles at me as I help her lift a male patient on to the bed.

They hadn't said anything in general due to not wanting to disrespect Father, but I could tell the pack as a whole, appreciated my leading them into battle and remaining to help with the wounded. I could never be the official Luna due to being Father's daughter, but I could act as such...the role as I was born to play. Just for another pack.

"Why don't you go home, I can finish up here." One of the male doctor's walks into the room to assess the patient that had just come out of another operation.

"I might, I could do with the night off. I'll make some herbal lotion before I go." The herbal lotion worked wonders on speeding up the recovery and the nurses had shown me the ingredients. Many of them had been using it for years as rogues, without the access to medical pack centres, they used what they could and what nature could provide.

Once I finish for the day, I head back to the alpha house desperately needing a good cooked meal and a long hot shower.

Things had quietened down since the chaos leftover from the attack, but Father and I knew better than to get complacent. There was a reason the attack was stopped and I'm not naïve to think the alpha had a change of heart half way through the attack.

He stopped for a reason and we both knew this moment of peace wouldn't last long. The pack here would always be under threat. Which is why I need to push forward with getting more treaty deals.

Entering the alpha house, I can hear Father talking to somebody and judging by the slight sour scent in the house, Samson was back. A flutter of excitement enters my heart at his soon return, I thought we might have scared him off with the conditions of the land and the fierce attack on our grounds. But here he was.

And I'm yet again covered in dried blood, iodine and goddess knows what else. I needed to shower and wash off the remains of being at the medical centre, again..

"Kaia..is that you?" Father calls out to me as I reach half way up the stairs.

"Yes Father, I am just going to get changed."

"Can you come here now, it's urgent." I roll my eyes at his request, just what I didn't want. To be seen like this.

I hadn't looked in the mirror but I'm pretty certain my hair bun was half down in some kind of frayed

1/2

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0095

hairstyle.

I push open on the office door to find Father standing up at his desk and Samson sitting adjacent to him, turning and taking in my appearance when I enter. "One of the alpha's you had been communicating with has offered to meet with us." Father

"Great, I'll get changed..."

"No, I will go alone."

"But they will expect me, I'm the one that has been negotiating with them."

"I'm not freezing you out Kaia. We've just been attacked and then another pack offers to meet with our acting Luna. I'm just taking precautions to protect you, that's all."

"Whatever you think Father." Part of me wanted to scream out to him, to let him know exactly what I had been through.

For him to know how strong I am, how far I have come in strength, in my own character. He still sees me as that young woman he had to send away, tears streaming down my face as he put me in a car. Maybe I'll always be his little girl. Maybe I'll always be that 16 year old to him.

A frown enters on to his face as he walks around the desk to me. His thumb gently gripping my chin as he lifts my face up, for my eyes to meet his.

"This isn't about your ability to hold a meeting with them. It's about keeping you safe."

A soft smile enters my face at his words. He was right, this wasn't the time for my pride to get in the way.

"Samson is to be your shadow. I don't want you going to the medical centre with me away from the pack. I should only be a day or 2."

"I'll let the doctors know Father."

"Good girl, I'll see you soon." He kisses the side of my face before leaving the office.

Leaving me with Samson. As soon as the door closes, Samson clears his throat to gain my full attention.

"I believe I owe you a dinner.." Samson grins at me as he stands up.

Ebony Woods Author

Thanks for your patience with one chapter a day. Next week the schools will be back so will push for 2 per day as much as I can.

13

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0096

## **Bond 96**

Chapter 0096

Kaia POV

Father was a bit of an old style Alpha. He liked to have the alpha house busy with staff, just as we did at the Clearwaters Pack. Always someone available to attend to his every needs. That's what it used to be like, but not so much anymore, not with modern alpha leaders. The staff here were grateful to be part of a pack again, and would go above and beyond what should be expected of them. They even kindly offered to cook dinner for Samson and I, but he had rejected their offer before my lips even moved to answer. He wanted to cook dinner and it would be nice to have the alpha house to ourselves. A quiet evening so that we could catch up and talk about old times.

I didn't believe him at first when he said he can cook, he really can. I was used to betas that worked just as many hours as alphas, not having much time for themselves and therefore not being very good at looking after themselves. So to watch Samson cook was refreshing.

We were both in the kitchen, music playing softly in the background as he pours wine into a glass as I sat at the kitchen island watching him. It was nice to be with someone from my childhood, someone I could be myself around.

A lot had changed since our innocent childhood day. We spend time talking about the pack we grew up in, how the moon would always glisten on the still crystal clear waters that surrounded the lands like a moat protecting a castle.

How at night time it didn't look like water, it looked like a mirror reflecting the twinkling stars in the night sky and how the moon's soft tranquil glow would beam off the water's surface.

Even just picturing it, I feel instantly relaxed.

There's no grand presentation as he places the bowl of spaghetti bolognese in front of me. He was not a showman, he can cook and he knows it. He's had to look after himself for 4 years as have I. He is a survivor.

I twirl the spaghetti around my fork before placing it into my mouth, when he asks me a question.

"So what happened at the Dark Phantom pack?" He asks twirling his own fork, before looking at me already expecting my answer. Where do I begin.

I use the chewing of my spaghetti as an opportunity to think of my answer.

"What do you mean?" I swallow, wiping the corner of my mouth with the napkin.

"You left abruptly. I expected you to have stayed there for longer. Did something happen?" He presses. I know I need to tell him, but a part of me still isn't ready to relive what I went through...in both packs.

I look down at my bowl of food contemplating exactly how much to tell him. Would it help me to share more, to let someone from my past in on my secrets..I'm not sure. Sometimes no good can come from oversharing. Sometimes the past was better left...in the past. "Hey, Kaia....I'm always here for you. You can tell me anything." His hand strokes my arm, refocusing my mind on the present.

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0096

"I found out things, things that make me question the moon goddess' plan for me." I sigh out, placing my fork down. My appetite suddenly disappearing.

"And?"



"It would seem I have 2 mate bonds. Neither of which want me."

"I can't believe that!" Samson gasps out in disbelief. Because it was unbelievable, how unfortunate someone could be to miss out not once, but twice. When he realises I was being completely genuine, his hand grips mine...his held offering a comfort I didn't know I actually needed. I can't help the single tear fall down my cheek, I was usually more together than this...more in control of my emotions. But something about having Samson here was reminding me of what my mother would say...what she would have been like. "What was she like?"

"Luna Aliko? I don't really remember...I just remember long brown hair....like yours." He sadly smiles as he brushes a few strands of hair behind my shoulder.

"I'm sorry...about her and about mates that can't see how special you truly are." He adds.

"It's fine, I'm happy with my lot in life. I've realised I don't need a fated mate bond to excel in life...I just need to be around my Father. Together we can get this pack authorised, I truly believe that. I've worked so hard with most of the packs, I just need a few more to sign a treaty deal and we can relax slightly." "You need more warriors, more defence.." We do, and hopefully if he decides to stay, he would play an integral part in helping us to keep our borders.

"Will you accept the Beta role?"

"If your Father decides he wants me for the long term, then yes, I think I will accept it. It would be nice to feel fully submerged in a pack link again. To support you..."

"Your Father would be proud of you." I say, placing my hand on his arm as his jaw tenses from my statement.

He reaches forward grabbing his glass and taking a sip, before turning to me with a strained smile...both his parents would have been proud of him. He's lost so much as well and he wasn't even there to help.

"Where have you been for the last few days?" I change the subject slightly off his parents, I didn't mean to upset him.

'I had left the other pack not realising what to expect here. I had kept things close to my chest, not really explaining to them what I was doing. I didn't want to not have a place to return to if things didn't work out ere. But I've told them that I will be here from now on

You might change your mind when you are faced with another attack."

won't, I know what you face...and I want to face it with you. I want to face everything with you."

## Bond 97

Chapter 0097 Hector POV

"You are certain Jude?" I ask for a final time over the speaker phone to Jude as I stood in my office with Ezra and Riley.

"My source is good for his word. Alpha Beckett has left the Nightshade Reformed pack, if you want to find her, now is the time." I was potentially treading on very thin ice with visiting Beckett's pack that was currently in a conflict with a pack from the group alliance.

If I enter the pack, it could be seen as a step against the alliance, a step in favour of the Nightshade Reformed Pack gaining the lands. Which would bring a political headache to my front door.

I don't for one moment believe there has been sightings of a white wolf and Kaia could be connected, but something within me was keen to find her. To offer her a safe place back at this pack. It pained me in my chest to think of anything bad happening to Kaia, and living in a pack like that...it would only be a matter of time.

"Okay, let's do this." I'm determined to reach her, and with the Alpha off site, it should make my mission slightly less...problematic.

"Pick me up on the way..." Jude's voice springs into action over the phone's speaker.

"Really?"

"Yes, I want to see what this Beckett has been up to."

I formalise my plan with Ezra and Riley, before grabbing details on the Nightshade Reformed pack's location for my car's satnav system when I feel a guard push on my mind-link.

"Alpha?"

"What is it?"

"There's a car parked up on the North side border, not moving...just waiting."

"How long has it been there?"

"Around 10 minutes now Alpha."

"The colour?"

"It's a red SUV, which blacked out windows. I can't see who and how many are inside."

A red blacked out SUV is a classic Amber Desert pack vehicle. We were being watched but I didn't care, I -wasn't going to let that prick's antics stop me leaving today.

"I'm leaving, I'll make sure to check the vehicle out as I pass it."

Why had Than sent a car to watch me and my pack, shouldn't he be too busy living in mated bliss to worry about what I am up to.

I would have felt them mark one another, I would have felt the severing of my own mate bond with her.

But why hasn't he done it.

1/3

Chapter 0097

+25 BONUS

I leave the pack grounds, ensuring the gate is thoroughly locked and guarded behind me.

Just in case.

As I gain distance on the red SUV, the driver window winds down and I'm surprised to find Than is in fact the one carrying out surveillance. I park the car up, exiting my vehicle to challenge his presence here.

My shoulders are stretching out, my body standing tall as I search the area around me. He was definitely alone, there was no trace of other werewolves, no warriors...nothing.

Why was he here.

"Well, this is a surprise." I smirk as I stand close enough to the car, but not too close. He can hear me well enough from inside the car.

"Is she here?" No time for pleasantries as usual with him.

"Is who here?" I know exactly who he means but it's fun to antagonise him with any opportunity.

"Don't play dumb with me...Alora." I wasn't playing dumb, who else would he mean. It's always Alora and Than, nothing would change that.

But why would he think she was here. Why would she not be with him.

"Now why the fuck would she be here?" I cross my arms over my chest, my muscles rippling to remind him I was the alpha here.

"She's left, gone with my female beta."

"Gone where?" I seethe through gritted teeth. It never failed to amaze me how so easily he could fuck things up.

"That's why I am here...I don't know."

"You don't know?" I scoff.

"You don't know where your Luna is, where your mate is? You mean to tell me you weren't watching her like the usual hawk that you are?"

"No, I was off grounds."

"Off grounds...not still looking for your ex wife are you?"

By the clicking of his jaw I could tell I hit the nail on the head. He had everything he could ever want, his mate, a pack to run yet he still wanted his ex wife.

I'll never forget that day, when Alpha Damon came to collect me. It was the day Mum had died, I was only 8 years old.

I knew I was a werewolf, he had visited me often, we were even a happy family until I was 4. Then he claimed he found his mate, that he could no longer be with Mum. It was me that wiped her tears, me that cuddled her at night when the sadness wouldn't leave her, me that kept her going.

She was heartbroken when he left, leaving the 2 of us to stay in the human area to shack up with his new bride and Luna. The ironic thing is that Mum made him happier even though, as Medea would always say, she was just a human.

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0097

The day I arrived to the Amber Desert Pack I was told I would be the future Alpha, that Damon had brought me back home with him.

Not one mention of my Mum, it's as if she hadn't ever exist.

I remember meeting Than for the first time. This 4 year old boy was thrust into my lap to play with. I was told I was his big brother, I was to protect him for the rest of my life. How when I was Alpha, I would look out for him and he would be my Beta. How times have changed, how Medea made Damon change his mind.

My own Father stripping away my alpha title, making Than the rightful heir. How Medea's poisonous tongue got into Damon's ear, making sure to let him and me know that being half human, I wasn't good enough to be an alpha.

Yet here I am, a self made alpha. Looking down at the man, the brother, who was meant to be my Beta.

The brother I was told to protect, always taking what is mine.

Ebony Woods Author

Thanks for reading. Please drop a gem if you enjoyed the chapter. More chapters to come.

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## **Bond 98**

Chapter 0098

Hector POV

"She's not here!" I bitterly reply. +25 BONUS

"If she was, would you tell me?" He steps out of his car, resting his back against his now closed door. "Honestly, no. If she has run away from you, it is for a good reason. I won't pretend to know her as well as you, but I think I at least know her that well enough...now get the fuck off my lands!" I roar out.

These are my lands, lands I had secured and protected off my own back, not because they were handed down to me through a family.

I had gone to business school to work in the human business markets, letting the thought of ever being an alpha leave me a long time ago. Then when I returned a few days before his 18th birthday to discover she was my mate...I just knew the only way to ever get her away from him, would be to be an alpha.

To rival him in pack size and strength, to save her from him.

Now I know she never wanted to be saved, that whatever he does she'll forgive him time and time again. Their twisted love story I no longer want any part of.

This pack I created for her, no longer rivals the Amber Desert pack... it overshadows it. It could squash his pack within a day. All it would take was my command.

I could recreate that pack to keep her mine, but I wouldn't ever find that belonging with her I needed. I know now the only time I ever felt worthy...felt like I belonged was when I was with another...fuck when I was with Kaia.

My wolf whimpers in my head from my realisation. Know it makes sense. Why every time he shifts we end up in that meadow, he was pining for her... he missed her too.

I turn my back on him, I am done. I mind-link Ezra to ensure his car, with him in it, leaves our lands as soon as I am gone. If not, my chosen beta has my permission to use force.

I walk to my own car, opening the door when Than mutters something under his breath. Something that makes me stop dead in my tracks....that makes my blood run cold. "What?" I grunt, hoping I misheard.

"She's dying. The wolfsbane has left her with organ failure. She found out. Found out what my head doctor and I was keeping from her, she's left...only leaving me a note." Black dots cover my vision and hot burning acid starts to work its way up to the back of my throat...dying.

She was dying and now had vanished... her own Alpha not knowing where she was. Her own mate. In my lapse of control my wolf surges forward...taking his anger out on Than. "How long have you known?" I growl out, stalking back towards him...and pushing him against his car

door.

"I've known for some time, even when she was in the coma. It was reported that she would need medical intervention, the machines were the reason she was still alive."

1/3

+25 BONUS

Chapter 0098

"How could you keep that from her?" My hands push against his chest again only this time he has some fight back in him, pushing me back at my own chest.

"What would you have done, told her? I hoped she wouldn't know, that I would have found her the cure before her even realising."

I don't know what I would have done. But I wouldn't have kept it from her, declared my undying love for her yet chase my ex wife at the same time.

"I don't know what you expect me to do with this?" Why is he telling me now, why the fuck didn't he tell me when she woke up.

"Nothing, I'm just trying to prepare you for when the time comes. That you will feel the loss of the mate connection." He raises his voice to me.

"I've already prepared myself for that when you mark her. Why haven't you marked her?" I match his raised voice reminding him who was the true alpha here. (1)

He turns his back on me, unwilling to answer my valid question. I won't let him drop this bomb on me and walk away with his legs still attached.

"Why haven't you marked her?" I spit out, he was giving up. If he truly loved her he would have put his own pride aside, he should have told me earlier...I could have helped. I might then know where she fucking is right now to get her the help she needs. "Fuck you." He growls as I grab the back of his neck, pushing him down to the ground...pushing his face against the mud.

"Why haven't you marked her..." I repeat holding him to the ground only for him to fight against my hold.

"Answer me?" I roar out, only for him to kick from behind forcing me to release my hold on him.

He tackles me to the ground and we both fight for control.

Throwing punches, kicking and even biting...years of bent up hatred for one another finally coming out.

I hated him, truly hated him and if we didn't share blood I would have killed him by now. It is by grace only in sharing the same father that he is still alive. In planning that she w

Chapter 0098

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"I need Kaia..." He wheezes out as I hold him in a tight head lock, cutting off his air supply.

Again, what was his fascination with Kaia...

"Why?"

"She can save Alora."

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## **Bond 99**

Chapter 0099 Kaia POV

"If you keep heading that way and do not alter your course, you will come to my favourite place. The cliffs with the most perfect view I have ever seen." My hand points out to the cliffs in the distance.

"Then we must make time to see it today." Samson spins to me, insisting that I add an extra spot onto the border tour I was giving him.

He's already had a border tour but this time I wanted to take him out further, so that when he was beta he wouldn't need to keep asking me details on parameters.

It took me a while to read the border lines, they were very zig zag, not at all like normal packs that tend to be a circular border style. That's why it was a nightmare keeping the borders protected, they changed depending the location. Once he is a sworn in member of the pack he'll start to feel the buzz of the pack bond and the vibration of the lands beneath his feet.

I walk him to the cliff tops where the sun shines strongly on us, the waters below glistening against the sun's beams remind me of Clearwaters. I look to Samson, his eyes light up at the view before him. The mesmerising look he holds tells me that he automatically thinks of our previous pack, and I can't help but place my hand in his. 1

Knowing what he misses, everything. I had father still, he had nothing.

His head tilts downwards to looking at our hands, his eyes rising upwards to meet mine and I suddenly feel the need to break this awkwardness I have created.

"Look, I've spent hours here just watching them. I'd love to be on the yacht looking up. Seeing what it looks like to them."

"What what looks like?"

"This cliff and all of it....whether they can tell they are living amongst us. That if they walked onto our borders would they sense it like we do. Do their senses kick in if they are in danger...haven't you ever wondered?"

He doesn't answer instead his gaze lingers on me that little bit longer than expected, before he looks back out to the sea. I start to feel stupid for commenting on humans...of course no other werewolf would think of them. Why would they It's just me that wonders of another way to life. The human way.

"Do you think it hurts them?" He asks forcing me out of my own inner embarrassment. I look to him in puzzlement, wondering what he means.

"The sun...they burn so easily. Do you think it hurts them?"

"Yes."

"Then why do it."

"To feel alive.." I scream out jokingly, causing him to laugh. I didn't know a lot about humans but they fascinated me. Samson was right, why did they let their fragile skin burn under the sun. Why didn't they protect themselves better.

"Come on...let's head back." He pulls at my hand, walking me back away from the cliff tops.

1/2

Chapter 0099

+25 BONUS

Back at the alpha house, I make Samson a hot drink in the kitchen as I search around the fridge freezer seeing what was on offer for dinner tonight. It had been nice just being the 2 of us at dinner time, he was so easy to talk to. Especially reminiscing of our old pack. I know I shouldn't, I should leave that pack in the past but it was my mother's pack and I selfishly enjoyed talking about it.

Adding milk, I stir Samson's coffee before placing it in front of him when my pack-link is pushed against.

"Luna?"

"Yes..."

"There's someone at the gate asking for you. But I think it's some sort of magic at play here...it's a trick, a possible attack." The guards voice is apprehensive.

"What do you mean?"

"She looks like you. Damn, if I didn't know any better I would say she is you."

"Hey, hey are you okay?" Samson's hand touches my cheek forcing me to flinch away and come out of my

mind-link.

It's only when his eyes go down to my hand that I realise I was still holding his hot coffee, my palm scolding within it's grasp.

"What is it?" He stands up, walking around the kitchen island to me.

"There's someone at the gate for me..."

"So..."

"Someone from my past...someone that shouldn't be here." I respond in a robotic mode, I didn't know

how to react to this.

"Then let him come, I want to see this mate that refuses you. We will walk out together." He places my burnt hand to his mouth, blowing on it gently. His cool air provides a level of coolness to the burn. He thinks it will be one of my mates, but how do I tell him the person that is at the gate is in fact my identical.

"I need a group of warriors to escort her towards the alpha house." I demand through the pack link.

## **Bond 100**

Chapter 0100

+25 BONUS

Ebony Woods

Chapter 0100

Hi my pack wolves,

Just popping on to say thanks for all your recent comments and feedback.

Please trust the process.

Each character has a part to play in Kaia's story (who is the FL1), things will start to make sense in the next few chapters. I promise I'm not making up characters to keep things dragging.

I will do a character profile and recap on my social media channels so be sure to follow me.

If a live book isn't quick enough for you, check out my completed works and then you'll have some chapters back here to catch up on. I work as quickly as I can but please remember I am a mother to a young family, and have another job. I type as quickly as my fingers will allow.

Love to you all x

10

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