The Alpha's Fated Outcast: Rise Of The Moonsinger

#Chapter 110

Chapter 110

110 She is a Moonsinger.

Lyla

I shrank back, staring at the decree he held out to me.

"W – What is that for?"

"Just take it.

" Nathan said quietly behind me .

won't even

"Why?" I turned to him.

"Why am I being summoned by the White Council? Fine, I got my heat

you but it's not as bad as it used to be before and these days I have it under control,

notice it:

"It's far from that , Ly ... " Nathan sighed and nodded to the warrior who still had the decree pointed in front of me .

He didn't look like he was going to bring his hand down anytime soon.

Reluctantly I collected it and opened it .

It was an invitation from the White Moon Throne Council demanding to see me today.

I turned and thrust the thing to Nathan then started back to the Pack hospital.

go with I heard Nathan tell the warrior that he should give us a few minutes to get ready and him before he ran after me.

When I got back to my ward, I sat at the edge of the bed my mind swirling with a lot of questions as I looked at Nathan who was acting like he expected this.

"Why would the White Moon Throne Council want to see me? And immediately I woke up? Is there a spy here or something?"

Nathan lowered his gaze.

" I told them .

"

"You told me?" I repeated narrowing my eyes at him.

" Why?"

He sighed and looked up from where he was leaning against the door frame with his arms crossed .

"It's not that simple, Lyla.

You're a Moonsinger- or at least they believe you are .

The White Council doesn't like uncertainties, especially when it comes to someone as powerful as a

you have Moonsinger.

They think you're a threat – not because you're dangerous, but because no control over your abilities.

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ng innocent I shook my head vehemently.

"I have control over this ability.

If I didn't I'll be hurting people alongside? Is not like I started zapping out the power or something.

It only comes to me when in situations like two days ago .

"So you agree you're a Moonsinger?" Nathan asked quietly.

"When did you know?"

I wanted to tell him I had found out from the Dark One himself ... the creature I was supposed to be fighting but then I would have to go into details of my messy relationship with him .

The White Council might flip over when they hear this.

"I know, Nathan said softly "But their concern is valid.

They care about what you are.

And this was the only solution we could come up with

" What do you mean?"

Nathan's jaw tensed.

"They were planning to take you by force and keep you in an enclosure

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until they confirm things themselves then figure out what to do with you .

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My eyes widened as panic crept into my chest.

"What? An enclosure? Like a prisoner? They can't

do that!"

"They can actually!" Nathan nodded.

"They're the White Moon Council ... the only power that they coincide to is the one who sits on the White Moon Throne .

"

"Ramsey?" my eyes widened further "Did he authorize this?"

" In reality , they tried to take you by force like I mentioned but Ramsey had to put his feet down .

In the end, we had to reach a compromise that's why you're being invited instead of being dragged there and Ramsey insisted you'll come willing.

That's why this meeting is so important.

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I swallowed.

- " And when I get there?"
- "The council promised to provide a Moon Priestess from the Golden Gate Pack who specializes in identifying Moonsingers.

She'll confirm if you're one or not .

"

I wrapped my arms around myself.

"I don't like this.

"

- "I know.
- " Nathan placed a gentle hand on my shoulder .
- "But I'll be right there with you.

"

Six Hours later.

We arrived at the White Mountain Region .

The White Moon Throne Council was located in Focal points joining the White Moon Pack (Home to Ramsey) , The White Lake Pack (Cassidy's Home) , The White Hill Pack and The White Cloud Pack .

These four Packs were the four Lycan Packs – including smaller Lycan Packs under them that made up the White Mountain Region and were the seat of power in our world is .

So , the Council Hall was in the middle of the Major Packs of the White Mountain Region .

When we got down from the car, I couldn't help but admire what I saw.

The Council Hall was an impressive structure, its ancient white stone walls radiating power and history.

As we entered , I noticed the room was filled with Council members , their eyes narrowing as they saw me .

Sitting on the head of what looked like a table was Ramsey, draped in a white robe and carrying a staff that had the symbol of the White Moon throne.

I'd never seen him dressed like that and for a moment, I thought he looked handsome but quickly, I shook the thought out of my head.

The last time I got carried away by a man's physical appearance I nearly joined a cult.

As I lowered my gaze, I locked eyes immediately with an elderly woman dressed in flowing white robes adorned with moon symbols.

Her silver hair was braided intricately and she had

surprisingly blue eyes that looked warm and vibrant and seemed familiar.

She turned to the council immediately.

"She is a Moonsinger.

Her aura is all over the place and there's a hallow around her head – a mark of the Moon Goddess herself .

I froze, feeling every eye in the room on me.

The council member began to murmur.

I felt Nathan's hand squeeze my shoulders reassuringly.

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110 She is a Moonsinger.

The woman – whom I presumed was the Moon Priestess Nathan had told me about approached me, her eyes filled with wonder.

"Neriah? Child, do you know me?"

I shifted uncomfortably, pressing closer to Nathan.

- "Her name is Lyla, Nathan said quietly.
- "You have the wrong person.

"

The woman's eyes flitted from my face to Nathan.

She stared at him for a long time and then sighed before looking away.

She came close and opened her palms to me .

" Give me your palms , Lyla and Alpha Nathan , please go sit with the Elders , thank you .

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" $H-How\ did\ you\ k-know\ my\ name\ \dots$?" Nathan's eyes bulged as he started , his voice filled with surprise but then he stopped midsentence and simply nodded then crossed the room to where the council members were sitting .

The woman came closer, then leaned into my ear and muttered something.

I wanted to crumble from what she told me but she held me , then pulled back and said in a quiet tone .

"What I've shared with you , Lyla ... should not be known until the right time comes and when it does , you must do well to fulfil it for your sake and Nathans ... "

Chapter 111

111 Your powers have been taken away from you .

Lylaxe

Then she drew in a deep breath.

" You are blessed with a rare gift , Lyla \dots you're the first Moonsinger after 10,000 years and seeing you finally means my time is near .

I've waited for you so long "

I stiffened as I stared at the Moon Priestess.

Did she just confess that she was 10,000 years old?

"Your voice has the power to calm Ferals – one of the Dark One's minions that took our form .

They're dangerous, lethal and cannot be killed by even the strongest of Lycan unless you

them first.

" "

"O - Okay?" I nodded trying to act very surprised.

I couldn't let her know I already knew.

weaken

"You also can heal the gravest of wounds , revive and give life but most importantly , you were created to destroy the Dark One .

"The Dark One?" I whispered.

Before the priestess could answer, a Moon Priest stepped forward from the shadows.

- "These are bold claims," he said, then turned to the council "And this is not the first time in our 10,000 years wait that someone had shown up claiming to be a Moonsinger just because of some ability
- "She did not show up claiming anything , "Ramsey's voice rang out laced with irritation .

Besides, does she look like she wants to be here?"

First , he stopped the council from kidnapping me and now he was defending me in the open ? What was Ramsey up to ?

"I apologize," the priest bowed his head "Perhaps, a demonstration from her would claim.

[&]quot; She was forced here, there's a big difference.

prove the

"Of course," the Moon Priestess nodded then turned to me.

"I heard you stopped some Feral wolves without hurting people, so I'm sure your power is under control.

Would you please hum for us ? Not sing \dots just light humming and any melody that comes to your heart .

I glanced nervously at Nathan who nodded to me from where he sat before closing my eyes .

I tried to recreate the melody that had come so naturally that night with Xander but nothing happened .

No silver light, no strange feeling just my cracking, dry voice.

The Moon Priest came forward.

His expression was kind but firm.

" I'll guide you .

You may not know yet how to harness your abilities, but I will help you tap into them.

Will you try?"

I hesitated but nodded.

" I'll try

The priest asked me to stand at the centre of the hall.

"Close your eyes," he instructed.

" Focus on the feeling you had when you calmed the Ferals .

Remember the light, the hum within you.

"

I wanted to remind them that all I had done was scream not sing.

Who recounted the story to them for fuck's sake?

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111 Your powers have been taken away from you :

Still, I closed my eyes, my heart racing.

I squeezed them shut, trying to recall the surge of energy I had felt two days ago and at that stone with Xander.

Maybe if I try to remember the stone, or wait, the lyrics to the song

" Now," the priest said, his voice steady.

"Hum.

Let your melody flow "

I managed to get one of the standing stones into my mind and opened my mouth , came out .

I frowned, trying again, but the connection I had felt before was gone.

The murmurs in the room grew louder.

but по sound

I cracked an eyelid to see Nathan holding back a smile , I had to lower my head , biting on my lips to stop myself from laughing too .

This looked more awkward than that night, Xander had asked me to sing to those stones.

" If humming feels unnatural, try singing, we will try to stop you so you won't hurt anyone in the room, the Moon Priest instructed.

" Focus on your healing energy .

Feel the resonance within

your

- " She just discovered she was a Moonsinger two days ago?" Ramsey's voice rang out again .
- "How would she know what song to sino? Or what to hum?"
- $\mbox{``}$ It is not taught to anyone , Lycan Leader ," the Moon Priestess who has been quite suddenly answered .
- " It is a gift and we don't know the words or lyrics as you might say .

The only person

that might know is the Dark One.

"

Makes sense since he gave me that scrap of paper .

Maybe that's what I need.

- "You see , the first time I sang , there was this crap of paper , Xander ... "I trailed off , realizing I was about to tell these people that I once dated the Dark One .
- "What was that ?" the Moon Priest asked staring at me .

- " Nothing .
- " I shook my head closing my eyes .
- " I'll try to sing " I pushed harder , my face scrunching with effort to remember the words but no melody came to my heart and nothing happened .
- " Perhaps something simpler, the Priest suggested.
- "Just try to summon the light we heard.

about , the one you used directly on the $\ensuremath{\mathsf{Trinax}}$.

"

I nodded and tried again, awkwardly throwing my hands in the air like I saw Xander do but nothing happened not even a spark.

Or should I tell them about the stones? There was something about it that must have helped me spark my powers.

Elder Eldric , Ramsey's grandfather rose from his seat, a furious expression on his face .

"Is this some kind of joke?" he demanded, "We were told you displayed extraordinary powers now she can't even produce a simple hum?"

and

I was feeling frustrated now.

"I don't understand," I said, my voice cracking.

"It worked two days ago and all I did was scream.

I didn't sing or anything "

Ramsey's grandfather shook his head with disdain .

"This is a waste of time.

Clearly, we've been deceived.

Ramsey growled low in his throat, immediately silencing the murmurs in the hall.

" She's not

111 Your powers have been taken away from you .

lying.

She is a Moonsinger and I saw it myself!"

My chest tightened as doubt crept in .

I had for the longest time prayed and wished not to be burdened with whatever the powers were but now , I wanted it .

So, had I imagined it? Was the power just a fluke?

"Then let her prove it to us.

"One of the elders shouted.

" Maybe she needs a reenactment of what happened .

Since she's just discovering the power , she hasn't learnt mastery of it yet ," Ramsey defended me again .

.

"Are you saying we go look for Feral wolves all because she wants to make an experiment?" Cassidy's father asked making the others to laugh.

Suddenly, the Moon Priestess raised her hand silencing the room.

" Enough .

There is an explanation for this.

"

She turned to me, her expression unreadable.

"Your powers have been taken from you.

"

Chapter 112

112 Split – second decision ...

Lyla co

Silence fell over the council hall.

My knees nearly buckled.

"Taken?" Nathan asked.

" How is that possible?"

The priest touched my face gently.

There are ancient magics at work here.

Someone – or something – has stripped you of your abilities.

"

The Trinax, I realized.

- "When it grabbed me ... "
- "It is not possible, the priestess shook her head.
- "Yes, the Trinax are creatures of dark magic that haunt the sleep world and our mind.

They create a world where they constantly push you

who into thinking of failures or the things that can or could have happened that's why anyone stares at the face of a Trinax longer than 10 seconds will go mad but they cannot take away the power of a Moonsinger.

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Ramsey's grandfather scoffed.

"Convenient excuse.

Look , from all the history books I've read , the Moonsinger is always someone so elegant , adept in fighting and perfect in all their ways , not her ... she's a deviant to begin with if she cannot control herself then ... "

- "ELDER ELDRIC" Ramsey's voice rang out in annoyance silencing his grandfather.
- "How can you be so crass in your speech? If not for anything ... but for the sake of the dignity of this council, you should show some respect to the daughter of the you.

an who risked his life to s

His grandfather mumbled something but didn't say anything else .

My fists clenched to my sides, anger and humiliation bubbling within me.

But Nathan stepped forward, with a commanding

tone.

" She is the Moonsinger .

Whether her powers are active or not we shouldn't look down at her without first knowing the cause .

He turned to the Priestess.

" If it's not the Trinax then who could have taken the powers away?"

"Can we close the meeting at least?" Elder Thorne spoke suddenly.

"We're not about to listen to a question and answer session wh

we have other things to do.

Couldn't the Moon Goddess have given us a Lycan as a Moonsinger? She keeps skipping us and appointing these

werewolves.

"

My ears burned red with embarrassment as I stared at the "ty of Cassidy's father.

"Who knows, you might have displayed such fine powers because of the fear.

If I had a Feral and a Trinax attacking from all sides , I'm sure I'd have ten times my strength now ," he added with a scoff .

The rest of the Elders shared mocking laughter.

I lowered my head, trying to fight the tears that gathered at the corner of my eyes now.

"Elder Thorne," Ramsey said in an unmistakably cold tone.

"You're suspended from the council until further notice.

Have your subordinate replace you during meetings.

If I see you an inch

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112 Split – second decision

within the council hall, I'll make sure you're stripped of all your titles entirely "

Silence reigned in the hall, partly because of how guiet Ramsey had given the order.

He didn't even raise his voice but you could see the seriousness on his face and heart it in his tone.

- "You can't dismiss me, Lycan Leader, Elder Thorne rose to his feet.
- "Aside from the fact that this council cannot function without me , I am to be your father in law .

Is this how you plan to treat

Lycans were audacious creatures.

I don't think anyone had ever challenged my father openly as they were doing to Ramsey .

- " I'll give you until sixty seconds to leave with your dignity , Ramsey continued quietly " Or I'll have you thrown away "
- "Why?" Elder Thorne smirked his eyes flitting between me and Ramsey "Is that how much the deviant pleases you that you're now favouring her over me? A mere werewolf without a wolf?"
- "Elder Thorne, that's enough, Lenny who had been standing quietly beside Ramsey came forward and walked towards his.
- "Leave!"
- "If anyone should leave then it should be our Lycan Leader and not me," Elder Thorne continued.
- "He fought with a werewolf over a woman at the funeral, he has constantly looked down on our traditions, kept my daughter waiting for four years and ..."
- "That's enough ... "Lenny growled and motioned to the guards standing at the entrance of the

hall.

When they came closer to him, Elder Thorne swatted their hands away declaring he would leave by himself.

All the while, none of the other Elders said a word, if anything they were quict.

After Elder Thorne was removed , Ramsey turned to the Priestess , " Please tell us , how did she lose her power ? "

"The Dark One is the only person with the ability and skills to shut down her powers more like numbing .

I heard one time that he can extract a portion of a Moonsinger's power and use it against them , in the process , he might also lock off their energy points .

"

I swallowed hard.

- "I also realized when she walked into the room at first that she's a reincarnation of the first Moonsinger, the priestess added.
- "That happened centuries ago," one of the Elders, a woman suddenly spoke.

I noticed she was silent the entire time and didn't join the men when they were laughing and making jokes .

- "How can you be certain?"
- "I am the High priestess of the Moon Goddess and for every High Priestess that passes away, the new High Priestess would be bestowed with all the memories of the former one.

That is, what happened over 100 years before me and being a Sigma wolf makes it easier.

The Elder nodded.

I know

"So, you're saying she's a reincarnation of the first Moonsinger?" Nathari asked.

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"Yes, her name was Neriah.

She was the only child of her family and Alpha Thriad and the one who released the powers of the Dark One , unknowingly of course because of how trickish he was .

He was able to convince her to do it.

They were on the verge of getting joined and mated.

for life when the Moon Goddess intervened.

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"Should we be worried that she's the reincarnation? Ramsey asked, leaning forward, his voice was tinged with worry.

"Every Moonsinger is a reincarnation of the past one and not the one from years ago which is confusing to me .

The last Moonsinger was a man – a general of the fourth ranks from the packs across the sea, the Priestess said.

Was he the man I used to see myself as in my dreams? I wondered silently.

The priestess came to me again , leaning forward as her piercing eyes studied me intently .

" Have you had an encounter with the Dark One himself?" she asked.

The hall fell silent.

I could feel the weight of everyone's expectations pressing down on me.

The council members watched me closely, their gazes intense and searching.

Nathan came forward and stood nearby.

His presence was both comforting and suffocating.

I hesitated.

I knew the truth my encounter with the Dark One - Xander was something I had kept hidden for years .

But given the way everyone was acting, the suspicion and pressure surrounding me.

I made a split decision

Chapter 113

113 Doomed !!!

Lyla

"No , "I said carefully .

"Except for the attack by Feral wolves years ago , I haven't met anyone like that .

"You were attacked by Ferals? the Priestess arched her brow "And nothing unusual has happened since then?"

"No.

" I lied again.

She studied me for a moment, her eyes seeming to look right through me.

For a soul – stopping second, I was certain she would call me out on my lie.

But then she nodded slowly repeating her earlier statement .

"The Dark One is the only one with the ability to completely strip a Moonsinger of her powers," she said almost to herself.

" Interesting .

"

Nathan stepped closer to me , his hand brushing against mine .

"What do you mean?" he asked.

"It means," the priestess replied.

"That Lyla might have met the Dark One somehow and maybe she didn't know and gods help us, if he took her powers then we're in for a bumpy ride.

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Elder Eldric, who had been silent until now, spoke up.

"What bumpy ride? Explain!"

She turned to address the council.

"The Dark One doesn't just steal powers.

He collects them .

Removes them strategically.

Always with a purpose and with Lyla being Neriah's reincarnation – she was the most powerful Moonsinger ever lived I can't help but wonder that there's more to it than what we're just seeing "

I fought to keep my expression neutral.

My heart was racing and my brain w

running in circles, trying to figure out when Xander had taken my powers.

Was it that night of the ceremony? That was the only time we did something that made me feel strange.

I opened my mouth to tell them the truth but Nanny's warning rang in my mind .

Jus had parted ways and she went to her pack she had warned me:

before we

"Don't let anyone know you're the Moonsinger and if they manage to find out , don't ever let them know about Xander .

It'll do you more harm than good .

"We need to understand what happened, the priestess continued.

" Every detail could be crucial.

Nathan squeezed my hands, a gesture of support.

But to me , it felt like another form of another reason to keep my secrets to myself .

pressure,

"I'm telling you everything I know," I said quietly.

"The Feral attack.

Nothing more.

"

The Moon Priestess didn't look convinced, but she didn't press further.

Instead, she turned to the council.

"We must prepare her with or without her powers right now she's vulnerable.

"

- " And why should that be our responsibility?" The elder who was a woman asked .
- "She lost her powers ... she has a pack, I'm sure they can make provisions for her to be safe.

Because of her,

11.

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now we are doomed entirely.

"

- " Elder Mira!" Ramsey growled, his eyes flashing with annoyance.
- " What is wrong with everyone.

today? We weren't doomed before the Moonsinger showed up, what has changed?"

- " Everything .
- " Elder Mira sighed .
- " At least we had hopes that once we find the Moonsinger, everything would be fine.

She or he would lead our warriors and conquer the Dark One to fight those dreadful Ferals .

Do you know how people will panic if they hear that our so – called saviour does not have powers anymore? Do you know the implication?"

- "This is not time to panic, Ramsey gritted his teeth.
- "It is," Elder Mira scoffed.

"We are doomed, Lycan Leader.

You heard the High Priestess , no one can defeat the Feral except with the help of the Moonsinger .

Isn't it concerning to you all? Or am

I the only one who sees a bleak future?"

"There is no bleak future, Elder Mira, the priestess said quietly.

"I know you're afraid but there is no bleak future.

Although I cannot reveal everything, the Moonsinger will get her powers back.

Now, if you all will excuse us, I need to have a word with the Lycan Leader and the Moonsinger privately.

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The council exchanged puzzled looks before one by one , they rose to their feet and started leaving .

When the hall was empty, Ramsey came down from his seat and walked towards us.

His gaze rested for a second on me and Nathan's joined hands before resting on Priestess .

"You wanted to see me?" Ramsey asked.

"Yes, Alpha," she nodded.

"I see that you and 'Alpha Nathan are connected to Lyla that's why I allowed you two to stay.

The thing is , I think Lyla is worried about coming clean with everyone present , I hope this is a better approach .

"

The woman turned kind eyes to me.

"You're lying.

" She said flatly.

I froze.

My mouth went dry immediately and my heart resumed its racing.

" $I-I\ don't\ know\ what\ you're\ talking\ about\ ,"\ I\ stammered\ ,\ but\ my\ words\ sounded\ weak\ even\ to\ my\ ears\ .$

" No , the priestess pressed .

"You know exactly what I'm talking about, Lyla Woodland, "she chuckled softly.

" Just like Neriah , you lied about

history has a way of repeating itself and for theting involved with the Dark One , I guess

Neriah's mistakes too .

sake of our world, I hope you do not repeat

I didn't say anything, I just shifted my weight from one foot to another.

I needed to be sure that We were both talking about the same thing.

I didn't want to be thrown under the bus.

"You have met the Dark One, Lyla.

I can see it in your eyes, in the way you hold yourself.

Stop hiding the truth.

"

Nathan and Ramsey exchanged concerned glances.

"Lyla?" Nathan's voice questioning.

was e gentle,

But I couldn't answer.

I was frozen, my mind was reeling.

How could the priestess know? I had been so careful with my responses and my emotions .

"Let me tell you something again," the Moon Priestess continued, her tone dropping further.

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"Neriah – your reincarnation and the first Moonsinger was a woman of incredible power she was

the only one that was able to lock down the Dark One and take away a lot of his abilities too which most Moonsingers are not gifted with .

Anyways, one of the ways, the Dark One stripped her of her power was through the most intimate method possible...

She paused, as if to let the words sink.

... By having sex with her

Chapter 114

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Lyla

The room seemed cold as both Nathan and Ramsey turned to stare at me.

Nathan took a step forward, tightening his grip around my hand.

"What are you talking about?"

The priestess ignored him, her eyes were fixed on me.

"The Dark One doesn't just steal power through physical force.

He uses manipulation , intimacy and the deepest forms of energy connection which is sex ... "

I felt the blood drain from my face.

My legs wobbled, but for Nathan's hold, I would have crumbled to the ground.

It felt as if all the secrets I had safeguarded all these years were threatening to burst free .

"Tell me, the priestess demanded, "What really happened?"

For a moment, I thought I would shatter.

Snippets of everything that happened four years ago teased into my memory, threatening to crush it completely.

Ramsey moved closer, reaching out to touch my arm.

"Lvla?"

I pulled away from him, trying to breathe.

"L ... "I started, then stopped.

My voice was barely a whisper.

"I can't ... "

The priestess softened slightly.

"Child, whatever happened, you're safe now and we will not judge you.

If anything think of it as us trying to protect you but we cannot if you don't tell us the truth .

" a

I looked at them at Nathan's gaze , filled with concern , at Ramsey's blank stare and the priestess's knowing eyes .

My gaze moved past her to the Moon Priest who stood a little distance away from us .

Our gaze met and slowly, he bowed his head and turned on his heels, exiting the hall.

Finally, it was just us.

People who won't stand to gain anything with my confession.

I swallowed hard, hoping the lump in my throat would dissolve.

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"He found me," I whispered, so softly they almost didn't hear me.
"Years ago, precisely around the time I left Blue Ridge for good.
The priestess stepped closer.
" Who found you, child?"
My hands began to shake.
The memories I had fought so hard to suppress were clawing their way to the surface,
desperate to be exposed.
"The Dark One," I said, my voice breaking.
" His name is Xander.
"Lyla ... " Nathan murmured and tried to reach for me but I moved away from his touch
I didn't want to be comforted .
"I see, "the priestess nodded.
"Before you say anything, his mark is on you.
I can smell him all.
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didn't attack you on that day? " she asked.
"Because you had Lyla's scent on you,
Ramsey's eyes widened slightly.
" What day?"
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"From my vision, I saw you in a forest at White Moon Pack and Ferals came and sniffed you, even a Trinax... Do you know why they couldn't harm you?"

He shook his head.

"I don't know how but , Lyla's scent is on you – the scent of the Moonsnger , her power ... a bit of her power resides in you that makes Ferals and Trinax cower .

I don't know how that happened and neither would I probe but Lyla ... " she turned to me again " Tell me the truth , did you ... were you intimate with the Dark One?"

1 shook my head, trying not to crumble.

When Hooked up , I saw Ramsey had a hurt expression on his face and Nathan ... well , I didn't know how to put to words his expression .

"No!" I shook my head.

"We kissed, and he helped me out a lot during my heat but we were never intimate for some reason he didn't want to, even when I tried to initiate it, he said he wanted to wait until we're properly joined.

The priestess nodded.

" It seems he was being careful.

The last time he was intimate with Neriah without getting bonded to her, she was able to unlock his energy points and therefore it was easy to take away his powers.

Tell me, how did you meet him?"

" At my human school .

He was human and we became friends.

He showed me care, love and attention than I have ever gotten from anyone.

He helped me during my heats especially and he would do this thing with an orb , that helped relieve the intensity of the heat .

I inhaled deeply.

"

"He was so good to me ... too good that I didn't believe he was evil , didn't seem that way to me .

"The priestess sighed , giving me a contemplative stare .

"Can I see your back? Your spine precisely?" she asked suddenly making me confused .

"I can smell him on you , Lyla but we need to confirm if his mark is on you or not before we make conclusion .

"Like r - right now?" I asked my eyes widening.

any

" Yes ," she nodded and motioned for me to turn and give her my back , I did as she instructed , trying to hide the blush on my face as she gently lifted my blouse .

Nathan had the decency to turn but Ramsey stood there, gazing at me intently.

It took a shove from Nathan before he agreed and turned his back.

The priestess's fingers traced my back delicately, I could feel her hands trembling before her voice reached me.

"You have his mark, Lyla, she whispered.

" You truly met him .

"

She continued her examination.

Her fingers gently traced my bones.

Suddenly, she inhaled sharply.

"Look,"

When I turned, there was a small mirror positioned to reflect my back and there – etched into

1139

114 Deepest forms of energy.

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my skin with a precision so perfect were three distinct stars.

They were not birthmarks or tattoos ... and they seemed to shimmer under the glow of the light filtering through the windows

of the hall.

"Three stars," the priestess murmured.

"Three stars is an indication that he has marked you.

Like you know when you find your mate and he marks you ... "

"Can we see?" Nathan asked, from his voice, I could tell he was dying of curiosity.

" If you want, " the priestess said quietly.

Almost immediately , both men turned abruptly and rushed to where I was to see the mark on my body .

After a while, Ramsey asked.

"What's going to happen to her now?"

" Nothing except just like Neriah, the Dark One has fallen in love with her.

Only those he loves he gives his mark.

Thankfully, it's only three stars.

Had it been five, she would have been completely transformed and converted to the dark side and her essence merging with his, "the priestess said.

" I think I know how he took my powers and also \dots " I lowered my gaze swallowing hard

.

"There's a possibility that I might have released his powers from whatever had held it .

He told me himself that Neriah trapped him and he forced me to , " tears gathered at the corner of my eyes .

"To bind me to him, thankfully, someone showed up and saved me.

"

"You only activated one level of his power, Lyla.

On the night of the Gemini moon, I saw the vision but he didn't take your power that day," she took a deep breath.

"It appears he must have taken it using the orb and just so you know, your heat is a channel ... like a portal that opens up and allows your powers to be channelled.

"

Xander had made similar statements about me being powerful in my heat .

I recalled all the times he had forced me to hold the orb and the hot feeling that had emanated from it each time I held it .

" I had no idea honestly.

I just thought he was being nice and we were dating at that time ... so ... it was the most natural thing to do and I didn't ... think I should guestion him .

"

The priestess chuckled, placing a comforting hand on my shoulder.

o the Dark One All the "Don't worry, Lyla ... you're not the first Moonsinger to lose her ability Moonsingers before you, including Neriah all lost their powers to him.

"

Chapter 115

115 Revenge is tiresome ...

Ramsey.

The High Priestess had to leave because it was time for her afternoon devotions but she promised to come back afterwards, to finish up the conversation.

My gaze flitted to Lyla ... although she was trying to wear a brave smile , I could see the sadness

in her eyes .

"You need to rest, I'm sure there's provision for us in the pack.

We should go .

Nathan muttered ,.

placing his hand on the small of her back, already guiding her towards the door.

But before they could leave, I mustered courage and approached them.

I met Lyla's gaze with a pleading look of mine.

"Please, I murmured "I need to speak with you.

"

Nathan as usual tensed, inserting himself between me and her.

"What else do you want to tell her, Alpha Ramsey? You want to blame her more?"

"Stay out of this, Nathan... for once, can you just sit back and do nothing? This is between me

and Lyla.

"

Before he could respond, Lyla placed a gentle hand on his arm.

" It's fine," she assured him.

"I can handle him"

Nathan turned , cupping her face as he gazed at her tenderly , " Are you sure ? Who knows what he'll blame you for this time around ? "

* Probably for being careless and losing my powers but I'll be fine.

I was expecting this anyway.

Nathan nodded and pulled her into a hug, kissing her forehead before he pulled apart with a sigh as if he didn't want to leave.

" I'll be back in ten minutes .

,,

Although he didn't talk to me directly, I knew the threat was for me.

I waited until he was gone before I turned to face Lyla.

Lax howled inside me, begging for contact between me and her but I remembered the way she had moved away from me moments ago ... she must hate me so much.

"How are you holding up?" I asked quietly.

"It's a lot to comprehend, right?"

" Not really, " she shook her head.

"I already knew what I was and the power I had .

To say the truth, it's a big relief to me that I don't have it anymore.

I wasn't planning on becoming a hero or saviour to this world.

That kind of life is not for me.

_

"Why why do you say so?"

She chuckled ... " This is a formality to me, Ramsey.

Everything that happened today, I really do not care.

If I leave and go back to my life, the Ferals won't attack anyone and even if they do ... I'm sure there'll be other solutions.

[&]quot; she responded with a small smile.

You heard the high priestess say all the Moonsingers lost their power and as much as I'm dying with curio know how it went afterwards, It's soothing to know this has happened before, so I won't be taking on any form of responsibility.

"

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"So ... you'll leave us to our fate?" I asked.

She nodded inhaling deeply.

"I don't plan to leave my life as a Moonsinger or whatever name it is .

Back in the human world a lot of people are waiting for me – friends from college , friends from the office who get worried if I come fifteen minutes late , neighbours who despite the fact that I was cold to them in the beginning , still drop off apple pie now and again \dots "

She trailed off, clutching at the hem of her skirt tightly.

"To me, those are my people.

The ones who want me genuinely.

Here , the only reason why I am suddenly important is because of this stupid singing ability despite that , they still think I am not qualified enough .

" If this is about what my grandfather said earlier, I apologize.

It was a bit cruel and ... "

" A bit?" she scoffed interrupting me.

" I'm done putting up with excuses of any form .

I'm sick of hearing apologies for something that is not my fault .

I don't care if the Ferals attack and kill

everyone ... "

I stiffened.

" Lyla ... you don't mean that?

"But I do!" she smiled.

"You lot have done nothing but ridicule me all my life.

Complained about my pheromones, complained about me not having a wolf.

You rejected me because you didn't think I'd fit into your tiny world and you expect me to actually come back and help ... why ? Why should I be responsible for the people who have shown me nothing but hate all my life ? "

" Lyla ... "

Tears gathered in her eyes now.

"You know, I started therapy at one point and I was so damaged that I knew I would not heal, no matter what approach I used or the different kinds of professionals I go to.

That is how much I was wounded emotionally .

So I made up my mind to always leave .

I think revenge is tiresome but leaving is superb.

When someone offends me , I don't try to talk it out , I just let them go and forget ... life moves on .

"

I stared at her , trying to understand \dots hoping this was a joke but the fierceness in her the only proof I needed to know she was serious .

eyes was

She rose to her feet, adjusting her clothes.

"By the way, thank you for not allowing the elders to bring me here against my will, Nathan told me and also for defending me earlier.

It was nice to see that you have a soft spot for me.

"

" I've always had ," I said quietly .

"You can't leave, Lyla ... please.

The fate of our world rests in your hands.

Think about your mother and your sister ... "

" My mother hates me ... my sister well ... " she shrugged daintily .

"We have our sisterly moments now and again but there's no deep connection .

Except for Nathan, you all should deal with the Ferals yourselves.

Once Nathan's coronation is done ... I'll leave .

There's a guy in my office ... Paul ... I think he likes me and we'll go on a date as soon as I get home .

"

" Lyla ... " I tried to reach for her but she moved away from me .

" Let me make this right , please \dots "

"For what you did to me or on behalf of the entire world?" she cocked her head at me, giving me a wide grin.

115 Revenge is tiresome ...

I took a deep breath, trying to still my racing heart.

It was not or never, I had to get the weight over my shoulder.

Here goes nothing ...

"I love you, I declared becoming bolder.

"I love you, Lyla ... and I need you.

I always have though