## Fated out Chapter 45

45 A father's plea...

Ramsey

I stood on the stage of the council hall, watching as Pack elders, Alphas and Lycans filed out. Most of them were still engaged in conversations, talking and laughing as they left the hall. I had just finished a brief with them regarding the Annual Moon Goddess Worshipping Ceremony which was only a few weeks away.

of I hated everything about these annual ceremonies. Not only was it the death anniversary my parents but they were unnecessary and a total waste of time and money but it was one of the stupid traditions that we cannot write off. Every year, we would send delegates to the country

ting for that year but this year, we are hosting.

made has to be carefully calculated to ensure the safety of the packs that will be coming to our country for the celebration. Especially with the looming threat of the Ferals although it's been weeks since we last saw them, still we have to be more careful.

My grandfather still lingered nearby engaged in a hushed conversation with Elder Thorne –

Because of how intense the celebration used to be; preparations are paramount. Every decision

Cassidy's father. I waited until the hall emptied, before I finally exhaled, allowing myself at moment to relax. That was when I noticed two figures at the back of the hall approaching me. It was Alpha Logan and his Beta, Jeremy Tanner.

"Ramsey, my grandfather's voice cut through the silence. "A word before I go?"

I nodded, crossing the room the room to join him and Elder Thorne.

"Alpha!" Elder Thorne nodded to me when I went closer. I acknowledged his greeting with a curt nod

before turning to my grandfather.

"I and Lycan Thorne were just talking about the delayed Joining Ceremony between you and your Luna Cassidy. We think two years is a long time to wait and the pack..."

"I told you, Grandpa!" I interrupted him before he could finish his sentence "That conversation is between me and Cassidy. Whether or not we want to start making babies is our business. I did what you wanted. We're engaged now and everyone knows she's my Luna even if it's not official. So, can

you stop being in our business?"

"We're not being in your business, Alpha," Elder Thorne sighed "An heir is important and..."

"I don't want to continue this conversation, I interrupted him taking a step back, a cold smile on my

face. "It's barely two weeks since our engagement and everyone is concerned about what we do in our bedroom. It's none of your business."

I turned and walked away from both men, towards the door. Alpha Logan and his Beta scrambled up to me when I reached the exit.

My grandfather tried to speak but I gave him a stern look. "This conversation is over, Grandpa. I'll

"Walk with me! I called out curtly without stopping.

"Alpha!" they said tentatively.

A few minutes later, we were in the garden and I turned to face both men, staring at them.

"I got your message, Alpha Logan, you wanted to see me?"

one."

curiously.

leave first.

My jaw tightened. I'd been expecting this. "What about him?" I shrugged staring at both men.

"It's been weeks, Alpha, Logan sighed. "He's the Alpha Heir, keeping him locked up just because he

He nodded and approached me cautiously. "Yes, Alpha. We...It's about Nathan."

He's done nothing wrong."

My expression didn't change. "He confessed that he knows where Lyla is, Alpha Logan and he told me to my face that he won't let me know. He's trying to be a hero and I won't stop him from being

refused to tell you the location of my daughter is absurd. The Ferals are no longer a threat, so you

don't need her. Besides, he might have been lying. Both of them have been friends since childhood.

cannot do this, if word gets out that an Alpha Heir is being held in prison because of random information as this, you think the Alpha Council will take it lying down?"

"Are you threatening me, Alpha Logan?" I scoffed.

Logan exhaled sharply, I could tell he was annoyed and was struggling terribly to control it. "You

He clenched his jaw, taking another step forward. "He's just trying to protect his friend. You can't hold him forever because you think he knows something. What you're doing is wrong? You're using your power and the authority of your office wrongly."

worried about her? Hell! You should be more concerned that she cannot be reached. Or perhaps you know something and you don't want to speak," I fired back.

"I am worried!" he said through gritted teeth. "Lyla is my daughter of course and like every other

father I am, but your blind devotion to finding her is clouding your judgment, Alpha Ramsey. I don't

understand your obsession with hunting her down like some..."

"At least, I care enough for you deviant daughter? How about you, Alpha Logan? Why aren't you.

Before he could finish, I cut him off sharply. "You should be grateful it isn't you in his place,

Logan," My voice was cold. "Until Nathan tells me where she is, he'll remain here and I mean every

word of it. You can report me to the Alpha council or the White Mountain council, you'll see that I am not wrong and Nathan is the culprit. I am simply doing my duties."

Alpha Logan's face darkened. "Your duty is to your people and not this. You're crossing a line,

meddling in my family's business. You can't just..."

"Don't forget your place, Logan!" I growled cutting him short again. "I'm the Lycan Leader here and not you!"

this... this has gone too far.

Just as I was about to respond, Beta Jeremy – Nathan's father who had remained quiet until now,

He flinched and dropped his gaze before looking up at me again. "I apologize Lycan Leader but

"I found something," he said breaking the silence. From his coat pocket, he pulled out a sleek smartphone and handed it to me. "Nathan's phone. I found it a few days ago while cleaning up his

things. I'm sure there's something in there maybe in their conversation that could help you find

Lyla."

came forward

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are you doing?"
what
The Beta turned to face Logan, his expression hardening. "I'm doing what's necessary to protect my

Alpha Logan's turned sharply to his Beta, his eyes wide with disbelief and outrage. "Jeremy, the hell

"Alpha Logan!" ŴWŴ.nove①Wɒ(r)M.coM

"Are you going to tell me the truth now? You know where she is right? You've always known. Just tell

me, I am not going to harm her. I simply want to bring her back to her home. This is her home. She

"Then why are you annoyed that your Beta may have given me a clue to where she is? You gave

After a curt bow to me, Jeremy turned on his heels and left the garden, leaving me and Logan

behind. Logan stood there, his fists clenched at his sides, he looked exasperated. Just as he was

belongs here and not with those savage humans."

He hesitated for a fraction of a second, but then he shrugged, his features hardening. "I don't."

"Because she's our mate!" Lax howled inside me.

son," he said firmly. "If you're not willing to, then I am."

about to leave as well, I called out to him from behind.

me the impression that you do not care for her?"

"I don't!" he said coldly. "You can do whatever it is that you wish, Alpha."

He paused, turning slowly. "Yes, Lycan Leader, he muttered, irritation in his tone.

His face flushed with anger. When he spoke, his pitch was slightly higher than normal. "I'll ask again, Alpha Ramsey and with all due respect, What is your obsession with my daughter? What has Lyla done to you? Why are you so hell-bent on capturing her?"

I studied him intently, searching his blank eyes. "Then tell me about this Omega she's staying with.

Bring any information you have on her and I'll use that to find her."  $\mathcal{W} \otimes \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{n}ov \hat{\mathbf{e}} \ell w \cdot r \otimes \mathbf{m}$ .

"Oh! I'm sorry, I was taking a stroll. Am I interrupting something?" she asked, her eyes darting between us.

But I couldn't say that. My lips pressed into a thin line, my fists clenched at my sides. But before I

could respond, a small rustle nearby caught my attention. Cassidy came into view, her eyes

Alpha Logan straightened giving me a curt bow before turning to leave. When he was gone, Cassidy came closer to me, staring at me curiously. "Who was that? What was that about? You looked like

"No!" I replied, turning to smile at her. "We were just finishing."

you were arguing. Isn't he an Alpha? Why would he..."

rounding with surprise when she saw us.  $\mathcal{W} \otimes \mathbf{w} \cdot n \otimes (\mathbf{v}) \otimes (\mathbf{v})$ 

"Just pack business!" I stopped her midsentence, shaking her arms off me. "Nothing for you to worry about."

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Remembering I had a meeting now with the security department, I thrust Nathan's phone into

"Drop this in my room, will you?"

"Whose phone is this?" she asked, staring at the phone suspiciously.

"Nothing for you to worry about, I said urgently. "I have to go, see you later!"

That was a stupid mistake...

death about her, 24 full moons of feeling empty, edgy and irritable for no reason and 24 full moons of putting up with a woman I could never love.

For it'll take 24 full moons before I see Lyla again... 24 full moons of listening to Lax nag me to

The same woman who deleted all the contents on Nathan's phone and severed my link to ever

Cassidy's hand.