Fated out Chapter 48

8 Echoes of

my

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Lyla

I must have drifted into sleep when Xander took me to the guest bedroom upstairs.

Something tickled me on my chin and I opened my eyes.

Feral wolves. Cold air brushed against my skin as I stood among the towering trees, their branches blocking off the light from the sun or was it the moon – I couldn't tell what time of the day it was.

I was in the Northern forests this time around the same forest where I had been attacked by those

How did I get here? I wondered looking around. I was so sure I was in the human world or did something happen to me while I was sleeping? My heart raced as I strained my eyes in the darkness hoping those wolves would not attack again. I try to bring out my phone to call someone, maybe Nathan, since I was back here, perhaps, he would take my calls or respond to

But when I looked down, I was clad in strange-looking clothes. It was made with part metal, the kind

my messages.

resembled the gown, I had worn when I was healing at the healer's quarters in White Mountain pack. How had I gotten into this? I wondered again. Was there another attack? Was this Ramsey's doing?

used by warriors to fight in the old time and the other part was made of a really light material that

"Lyla..."

Suddenly, a voice called out. The whisper seemed to come from everywhere and nowhere at once. I spun around, my hear racing and eyes wide, as I searched for the source of the voice but all I could

voice wavering.

"Lyla..." the voice came again. www.noveLwo(r)M.com I shuddered stumbling backwards as I tried to look for a weapon. I would not allow them to attack

me again. Anything that would make me stay away from Ramsey. I bent slowly, searching the

ground around me while my eyes scanned my surroundings.

"Who's there?" I called out with a trembling voice.

see were the trees blending into the shadows.

I found something long and thick... maybe it was a stick. It was so dark, that I couldn't see. I picked it up and held it in front of me. "Lyla!" the voice came the third time and it sounded like it was behind me. I whirled around but saw

only trees and shadows. "Why don't you stop being a coward and show yourself" I called out, my

"I'm here, Lyla," the voice echoed, now seeming to come from my left. "I've always been here." I turned once more, frustration and fear building within me. "Who are you? What do you want?"

A soft chuckle resonated through the trees. "I am your wolf, Lyla. The part of you that you've

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forgotten, the part that's been trapped." I whipped my head to the side again, from where it seemed the voice was coming from but there

was no one there, just more trees, more shadows. Panic rose in my chest as I turned again, this

then you're failing because I'm just a werecreature without a wolf." "Are you so sure?" the voice

time to my right but the forest was still empty it was just me and the voice... I guess. "What do you

mean, my wolf?" I scoffed. "No! That's impossible. I don't have a wolf. If this is a means to scare me,

wouldn't be here inside you, waiting all these years."

asked, a hint of sadness colouring its tone. "You are not just a werewolf, Lyla... if you were, I "Inside me?" I paused "You're inside me?" $\mathbf{w} \mathbf{w} w. \mathbf{N} o \mathbb{V} e \ell \mathbf{w} \mathcal{O} r \mathbf{m} . \mathbb{C} \odot \mathcal{M}$ "Yes!" the voice came again. "I've been here all this while. I came to you the other day but you got

so scared and left. I'm sorry, I couldn't heal you after the attack. It's just that..."

get my hopes high or maybe you're working with those damn Feral wolves." "No!" the voice said vehemently, it sounded offended. "Something is holding me back. I cannot. even

absurdity is this? If you are really inside me, I would know. You will manifest. You're lying, trying to

"Hold on!" I interrupted the voice, lowering my stick weapon but not letting it go. "What sort of

that I cannot understand. You must go back to your mother... she will help you figure it out. Tell her everything..." "My mother?" I laughed dryly. "Did you bring me here? Did you bring me back to this world because

physically communicate with you except through the dream world. I am caged, trapped in something

"You think my parents would suddenly forgive me out of the blues?" I cut the voice short before. it continued. "They hate me in case you haven't noticed and the only thing they might do is kill me.

Look, I've been through so much already... I don't want another dose of that trauma."

There was a short pause from the voice before it continued. "Appearances can be deceiving, Lyla...

repeated my voice cracking.

you to the truth."

surrounded.

fear.

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others!" $\mathcal{W}\hat{W}$. $\mathbb{N}\mathcal{O}\mathcal{V}$ elw $\mathbf{O}\boldsymbol{r}$ (m).c \mathbb{D} (m)

"No, Lyla. That's now what I mean. Your mom is..."

you wanted me to return to my mother?"

Do not believe the front presented at you. Something is holding me... us back. It's like a trap and if you don't do anything, I might never meet you... ever..." My pulse quickened. "I don't understand. What has that got to do with me? A trap? What trap?" I

"You must try to save us, Lyla!" the voice urged, growing softer, more distant. "A lot of lives rely on me and it's only a matter of time before the veils are torn completely. When you save yourself, when you break free from the illusions binding you, then I'll come, fully manifested."

"What illusions?" I pressed "What are you even talking about." "You must trust your instincts, Lyla!" the voice was fading now... I could barely hear it. "It will guide

I turned in a frantic circle, my eyes darting between the trees the voice was definitely not coming from inside me. I would feel it, right?

*Just tell me specifically what I need to save, who I need to save? What are you talking about?" I demanded, my voice rising in desperation. "Wait!" I called out as another whisper came from the trees. "Don't go! I still don't understand! I don't have a wolf or anything, I'm a deviant. I'm not like

Silence. The voice was gone leaving me standing alone in the stillness of the forest, I stood. there, frozen, my heart still thudding as I tried to entangle everything the voice had said. And then just suddenly, the forest shifted. The air grew colder and thick with tension. My neck prickled... something was happening, I could

feel it. Slowly, I became aware of movements in the shadows between the trees. Red eyes gleamed

in the darkness with low growls filling the air. My breath caught in my throat as I realized I was

It was the Feral Wolves – the exact ones that had attacked me before. They weren't alone... they

had come with the other creature in white, the one who had attacked me. It was larger than I

remembered. It moved with an unnatural fluidity and the face which in the past was a mass of nothing, suddenly became clear to me. At least, I could make out the eyes. "Well... well," it purred, its voice filled with mockery. "Look who's come back to play"

I took a step back, my heart pounding so hard that I was afraid it might burst from my chest. I lifted

"That's what you're going to fight me with, Moonsinge?!" It chuckled "You're different from the other

"No!" I shook my head vehemently. "I didn't choose anything. This is just a dream... it has to be. I

the stick and pointed at it. "Stay away from me," I warned, though my voice quavered with

ones although, you all share one thing in common – Stupidity," It huffed. "But I can see that you've made the right choice. You've chosen him... faster than the others ever did.

am in the human world and not here with you." "Is it?" it laughed, its eyes beaming with amusement. "Or is it the truth your consciousness refuses

to see? You're so close, Lyla. So close to embracing your true nature."

in. Let him show you how much you've been missing"

damp forest floor.

Its mouth became visible to me. It grinned, revealing rows of beautiful pearly teeth. "You should

choose already the final choice, I mean – all the way, it added, its voice dripping with glee. "Let him

My throat tightened. "What true nature?" I asked, backing away slowly, my feet dragging against the

I shook my head, stepping back, trying to distance myself from the creature. "No... No! I don't want anything from you!

your stance. The freedom... the power.... you've only scratched the surface – it can all be

But it only laughed. "You don't understand yet, do you? Being with him, that's a choice. You've made

The Ferals around me began to growl, their hackles raised as they closed in on me. My heart was

"No," I whispered, terror clawing at my throat.

yours."

hantine facto

48 Echoes of my wall...

against the rough bark of a tree.

"You're lying. This isn't real."

dreamed of..."

"NO!"

I just need to wake up. This is definitely a dream.

The creature crouched, preparing to strike. "Let him in, and he'll show you a world you've only

With a bone-chilling howl and a terrifying burst of speed, the creature leapt towards me, claws

stretched like before. I threw up my arms in an attempt to shield myself, a scream tearing from my throat -

When I opened my eyes, sitting in a recliner across the room was, Xander... eyes fixed on me intently. @

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