Chapter 16

KADE

'Have them take the collar and shackles off Eric for a minute. I will give his wolf complete control. Since Elle is not here to give him some final words, I want you to do it. Give him solace and tell him that I will bring Elle to visit him before I give him to another human. I have selected his counterpart, and he is from an allied pack of yours. The wolf will remember everything when he is reborn. It will allow them both to help their future mate,' the Goddess told me.

"The Goddess wishes for you to unshackle and uncollar Eric.
She'll be giving full control to his wolf and wants some specific things said to him before it's time," I told Thompson.

He knew that I meant before he died. He nodded his head and removed them before helping him to sit in a chair. Green shimmers showed that his wolf was in control, so I sat in a chair in front of him and waved Gabriel over too.

"I'm Kade. What's your name?" I asked him.

"Grant," he said quietly.

He lowered his eyes away from mine. I lifted his chin up so that he would look into my eyes. There was no reason for him to fear me or shy away from me because there was a difference between him and his human. There was a

significant difference indeed.

"Grant, we don't blame you for what he did. That wasn't on you. Elle didn't blame you either. Are you aware of what's about to happen?" I asked.

He shook his head and swiped away some tears. We could see how much he was hurting for Elle. I placed my hand over his and gave it a comforting squeeze. This poor wolf was mourning for what his human did to her. His human was a piece of filthy fucking trash that deserved to be put down. Grant was not and never could be Eric. I hated that he ever had to deal with being the bastard's wolf in the first place. It must have been absolute torture. He had my respect for making Eric's life hell since the rejection.

"It was Elle's wish for you to not suffer because of his choices. She asked the Moon Goddess for a wish and was granted it. Elle wished for you to be given to a powerful future Alpha so that you could have a new life and to have a mate to complete you. You're about to go to the Moon Goddess until your new human counterpart is ready for you. You'll remember everything when you're reborn because it'll allow you both to help your future mate. Apparently, he'll be part of an allied pack to us, so I expect that you'll both be part of our lives. Before that happens though, she promises to bring Elle to see you in her realm," I explained to him.

His jaw dropped open as he looked between me and Gabriel. He was completely overwhelmed. There was a

mixture of confusion and pain in his eyes.

"Why would she do that for me?" he asked.

"Because Eric hurt you with that rejection, and it wasn't fair to you. I know every single thing that he ever did to her, and she never blamed you for that. Faye told my wolf how you'd always apologize for everything he did and would make his life a living hell as much as possible. Was that why he rarely ever gave you control?" Gabriel asked.

He closed his eyes and nodded his head. His shoulders shook as he tried to not to break down. It was hard to witness Grant's turmoil because he looked utterly defeated. Eric broke him apart because of what he had done. Grant had to witness it all but was unable to stop him. Tyre and I were extremely thankful for his thoughtfulness to our mate because he did the only thing he could which was to make his shitty human suffer as much as possible.

"That's why she did it. You were hurt by what he did just like she was. She mourned for you over the years. She knew that you were hurting because of what he did. She hated him for hurting you like that. She's always held you in high regard and has always been proud of you, Grant. Both she and Faye would've been thrilled to have you as a mate if it hadn't been for Eric," Gabriel insisted.

Normally a comment like that would have thrown Tyre into a fit of anger, but this situation was very much different because it was Grant that we were talking to and not Eric.

Tyre could understand it from the wolf's perspective. Their mate completed them. He also appreciated the fact that Grant tried to comfort our mate despite what that scumbag did to her.

"Where is she? Can I still say goodbye?" he asked quietly.

I noticed that Gabriel was mindlinking with him since we did not want the rest to know anything. Grant was apparently unaware of what was going on. I watched as his face morphed into one of sheer anger, and even his canines descended amidst all of it. He was furious about what happened to her.

'Vince said Beta Oscar has been missing. He would be the only one that Alpha Andrew would trust with something like this. He's not certain where she would be kept, but Alpha Andrew would have to know,' Tyre shared with me.

"Do you want us to tell Elle anything from you?" I asked him.

"Tell her that I can never thank her enough for the wish, but I won't waste it. I'll make her proud and lead with the strength that she always led the Omegas with. Tell her that I'm so incredibly proud of how strong and beautiful both her heart and soul are. And that she'll make the absolute best Luna. Tell her that I'll be waiting to see her," he said before swiping some more tears away.

'It is time,' the Goddess told me.

I had him stand up and embraced him. He did not hesitate

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to hold onto me. He told me that he was thrilled that they had us now because he knew that we would take care of them.

We all knew the exact moment that Grant died because we watched as a brilliant white light was pulled out of Eric as he screamed in agony. I restrained him until Thompson put the shackles and collar back on him. The silver would not doing anything now but would restrain him.

"Grant is free from you. He gave up on you and chose to die. Elle saved him though, and the Moon Goddess granted her wish which would give him to a new human and to finally have a good life and a mate. You took Faye and Elle away from him, so he took the ability to be an Alpha away from you. You're human now. It must suck to know that you're the only one suffering from all of this," I said with fire raging in my veins. I had no doubt that my eyes were black from the fury of it all.

His eyes widened and head shook back and forth quickly as if to deny it. A single claw extended in order to nick his arm to prove it. Part of me wanted to just slice his throat or rip his heart out, but Elle would get to help decide his punishment because she was the one he took from.

Eric gasped when the cut did not heal up immediately. I gestured for Thompson to bring him back next to his parents.

'Picking up anything from Alpha Andrew?' I asked Apollo.

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'He's really antsy about something. He's also positively furious. His mate is feeling very confused and sorrowful for her son,' he explained.

I nodded and clapped his back. Apollo's gift was very handy. It manifested when his wolf Deke awakened. He hated it at first because he did not know how to control it. It took a couple of years, but now he could turn it on and off as easily as flipping a switch whenever he wanted to. There were a couple of times when he came across an individual that could break through his control no matter how hard he tried to tune them out. Luckily, that was very rare.

"They don't look happy to be in the position they're in," I mused to the Council.

"No, we aren't happy because we've done nothing wrong!" the Luna snapped at me.

I cocked my head to the side as I observed her. I did not have to be Apollo to know that she truly did not feel as though they did anything wrong. It was a safe assumption that she knew about the raping that went on, yet their pack was blameless. That was how delusional she really was.

"Oh. Then this must be a complete misunderstanding," I said quickly as if I believed her.

Her head snapped up and relief washed over her face. She was delusional and stupid. It was clear that she focused more on her looks than her brains. How could she really

think that we would just let her go like that? Sure as hell not after what all we had seen and learned.

"I've been there less than ten hours, and I witnessed more than enough to tell me how fucking sick you all are. You three are disgraces to your titles. An Alpha family is gifted the amazing opportunity to take care of their pack and ensure that every member is safe and healthy. It's our job to ensure the prosperity of the pack and deal justice to those who harm it. We know all about what you allow to happen to the Omegas, warrior initiation, the fact that you don't allow them to be treated by a doctor even when the injuries are due to your abuse and torture, and we damn well know about what your son and warriors did to my mate," I snarled at them.

Tyre was just as riled up as me and blasted them with his aura. With the silver on and wolves suppressed, they responded to the aura just like a human would. They were terrified of the danger that I posed. I was the only apex predator here between them and myself. Their bodies involuntarily shook underneath the weight and power of it. How many times did the Omegas feel this exact way? Defenseless and unable to protect themselves.

These three would give up information one way or another because every moment that they wasted of my time meant that another moment of my mate's torture was still going on. I had no delusions that they would probably hurt her, but they better pray that they did not or else they would not live

long enough to be punished.

"What all have you told them?" I asked, looking back to the Council.

"Nothing at all. We're here in full support of you. This is your show and give you free reign on proceeding however you wish," Thompson said with a shrug.

Their eyes darted to him in disbelief. Had they really hoped that the Council would save them? Fat chance. The Council did not deal with leniency towards those who did what this pack had. There was no doubt that their titles would be stripped. As much as I would love for them to die, an Alpha or Luna living with their title stripped and set as a rogue was the worst form of torture. That was usually how the Council worked, so I would be okay with that. They would be picked off sooner or later though, so might as well make it fun for them first.

Without saying anything, I gestured for Apollo and Gabriel to grab one. I went for Alpha Andrew, Apollo went for the lunatic Luna, and Gabriel got the piece of shit son. We were not gentle.

Gabriel might have injured the son, but that was fine by me. I would gladly allow Gabriel to beat the shit out of him. Give him back a little taste of what he did to my mate over the years. How many bones had the fucker broken of hers? How many times did he make her bleed? How many wounds did Gabriel have to tend to? Did she have nightmares because

of him?

We sat them in chairs and made it so that their hands were attached to the back of the chair with their fingers outside of it just in case we needed access to them. We might have to get a bit creative to get the information from them. I doubted that the son had any idea where Elle was because Grant did not, and there was no way that he would have lied. He cared about both Elle and Faye.

I went into the kitchen and found some improvisational torture devices, gathered them up, and brought them back to the table. Their fear was palatable as they looked at the various sizes of knives, a clever, and a meat tenderizer hammer.

"I need an assistant. Gabriel, why don't you come on down and select your implement," I said, gesturing to all the fun devices at our disposal.

They were not just afraid of him but were downright terrified of Gabriel. I was glad that he was here to help out because he deserved to get some closure as well. This pack nearly destroyed him and would have if my mate had not been here to help him live through each day just like he helped her.

"I think that I'll go with the butcher knife because Alpha loves using it on the Omegas. Don't you, Alpha?" he asked as he turned around and waved it in the air, causing the Alpha's eyes to nearly pop out of his head.

"You can't do this. I'm your Alpha." He tried to sound authoritative, but his voice trembled as he spoke.

Gabriel threw his head back and let out a loud laugh at that. It was one of those laughs that someone released when they heard the funniest thing in the entire universe. I supposed that this really was the funniest thing given the circumstances.

"I, Gabriel Snow, denounce my ties to the Blue Crest pack," he said, enunciating each syllable. He raised one of his brows as if telling him to come up with another excuse.

'Vince said that Gabriel and Mate can still mindlink even without a pack link. Gabriel is still trying to reach out to her, but she must still be passed out,' Tyre said.

I found myself praising the Goddess yet again for their connection. The Goddess knew how necessary it would be, so she fortified it and made it something truly special. Hopefully, he can get through to her soon. That would at least let us know how she was doing and let her know that we were coming for her as soon as possible.

"Are you regretting not letting me leave with my mate?" I asked the Alpha pointedly.

"Yes," he spat.

'He's lying. He's feeling pretty damn smug about something,' Apollo interjected. I nod to him but made the Alpha think I

was nodding to him and his ridiculous lie.

"I don't believe you. Why don't you start telling the truth. Do you truly have a blood oath for Elle?"

"Yes. Like I said before," he hissed at me.

'Lie.'

I went behind him and ripped his head backwards while holding my hand out for Gabriel's knife. He passed it right over with a deep smirk. The blade effortlessly slid across his cheek. Crimson leaked from the wound. The silver was suppressing their wolves which meant that he was reacting like any plain ole' human would. These injures would not be healing quickly at all.

He growled and tried to move away from me, but my grip was unforgiving. The knife trailed downwards and pressed against his throat.

"Tell me the truth or this knife goes into your thigh. Do you have a blood oath for Elle?" I asked again.

He lied again, so his scream when I plunged the knife into his thigh was music to my ears. It was not my fault that he lied. I told him the consequences. This was why nobody messed with us. This was why he never should have touched or taken my mate. He fucked up big time, but he would soon learn that I would do anything to get her back no matter how much it would hurt him. I had no qualms and would simply just bask in it.

"Let's try this again. It goes into your dick the next time you lie to me," I said as I removed the knife and slowly trailed the tip down his pants until it was poised directly where it needed to be. "Do you have a blood oath for Elle?"

"No," he said, gulping.

I patted his cheek and told him that he was a good boy but did not remove the knife from where it was. Apparently, he valued his dick, so it was the new bargaining chip to give me the answers I sought.

"Was it just a ploy to keep her here so that you could kidnap her?" I asked.

He did not answer me, so I started to dig down with the knife. The moment that the tip pierced his pants and nicked his dick, he was shouting yes. He obviously had never been tortured before because he let me know the one thing that he would not risk getting injured.

"Where is she?"

"I honestly don't know. I told them to get her away and lay low until you guys gave up and left," he said without removing his eyes from the knife.

I looked towards Apollo who just nodded. Shit. I was hoping that he would have known the location. Luckily, Tyre was told by Thompson's wolf that Velma our tracker and Lucinda were almost here. They were another thirty minutes out.

"Why in the fuck would we leave, and who has her?" I demanded to know.

He winced when the tip of the knife dug into him a little bit. I never had a knife digging into my junk, but I would imagine that it was a painful and terrifying experience. I had no qualms about cutting off his if need be though. I would resort to whatever measure was necessary to find her.

"You'd leave because you would've realized that she wasn't worth the trouble because she was a used whore who came with too much baggage," he growled.

I saw nothing but red when those words left his mouth. I jammed the knife into the table before my fist cocked back. His nose was shattered, and the blood pouring out of it delighted me. His screams were music to my soul and sounded like a symphony. I punched him once more for effect before squeezing his chin between my thumb and forefinger, ensuring that I pressed hard enough to cause a great deal of pain.

"I would never leave her because she was made for me. The Moon Goddess gifted her to me, and I'll spend the rest of my life thanking her for such a precious gift. You wanted to break her but made it to where she was unbreakable in the process. You wanted to destroy her but made her invincible. That woman is more than I ever imagined a mate could be. You took her from me, but don't fret because she'll get to weigh in on your punishment when I get her back. She will

weigh in on all three of you. Let me tell you that she's not at all forgiving when it comes to what you did to her people," I promised.

I told Gabriel that I needed a lighter, and he went into the kitchen without even questioning it. This was a long time coming for him, and I was glad that he was finally getting a little bit of justice for what this pack did to them all. His history could never be erased, but what he was able to get today was a new start to a new life for himself.

The Council really was letting me run the show. They had no qualms with how I was treating the Alpha family. They made their stance perfectly clear earlier. The Luna kept looking to them for mercy, but they would not grant it. She obviously did not know a damn thing about the Council at all. They were ruthless when it came to ensuring that justice was served appropriately.

Gabriel handed me the zippo. I flipped it open and closed a few times and watched as the Alpha's eyes got glassy as if he was going to cry. Poor baby. How many times did he do worse to someone?

"Who has her?" I asked again.

I flicked the flame on and held it close to his face. He kept trying to move, so Gabriel held his head still for me. I gave him an appreciating nod.

"Beta Oscar and Warrior Dulaney," he whispered.

