

Her Forbidden Alpha by Moonlight Muse Chapter 61

Chapter61 Father To Daughter

The following day dawned cold and grey and it mirrored the mood within the Alpha's mansion perfectly. Breakfast was tense, even the delicious smell of Jessica's cooking couldn't lighten the mood. Indigo sat there, a pout on her face, looking between Elijah and Jackson. She wished they'd put aside their egos and stop this ridiculous issue between them.

"So do you both have everything packed?" Jessica asked looking at Elijah and Scarlett.

"Yep, all packed." Scarlett said playing with the scrambled eggs on her plate.

"Yeah, all ready for this ball." Elijah said in an antagonising tone. "I wonder if anything is going to change. You sure you don't want to come dad? To see how I reject anyone but Scarlett?"

"Watch it, I'm giving you one chance. You might come home with no mate but remember, you won't be taking your Alpha position." Jackson said coldly, his eyes flashing dangerously. Elijah simply scoffed.

"I don't mind, my wolf doesn't seem bothered either. So I guess we're good and it might be for the best right? I mean Scarlett's an Alpha with a pack..." He said smirking. Although the thought of losing his own pack hurt, he wasn't going to let his dad see that. He had put a lot of work into this pack and he loved it with everything he had.

“You’re a fucking disrespectful asshole you know that Elijah? Your mother would be ashamed if she saw you today!” Jackson snapped, slamming his cutlery down. Jessica closed her eyes trying not to scream in frustration as she watched her China plate crack in half from the force. Her daughters watched her try to control her wolf, her eyes flickering dangerously. Everyone knew Jessica’s temper when it came to her dishes.

“I wonder... Shame she’s not around or all this shit wouldn’t be happening to start with.” Elijah growled coldly.

“Elijah, please can you stop.” Scarlett said giving him a look. Indigo looked at her plate suddenly feeling really upset.

“You know, I don’t know what this mating ceremony will bring but can we at least have one meal as a family? Before shit goes down?!” She said.

“Indigo, language!” Jessica snapped.

“No mom! I’m fed up with seeing all this anger between dad and Elijah! Why can’t we just go back to normal, back to the way things were? Dad, I don’t get it, why can’t you accept their love? What’s so wrong with falling in love? You did it didn’t you? I hate being here when all you two do is throw crap at each other every single chance you get! Dad if Elijah isn’t the next Alpha who will take charge?! Because you can’t be so stubborn and make the pack become the ones that suffer because of your ego!”

“Indigo. This is beyond your understanding.” Jackson said curtly, but Indigo simply shook her head.

“No, dad. This time you’re the one who is failing to understand!” Indigo said, terrified to see her family breaking apart. “I hope they’re mates! Because then I’d like to see how you break your marriage with mom!”

With those words she ran from the room, not wanting anyone to see her tears.

“Indy!” Elijah said glaring at his dad before he ran out of the room after the girl he considered his sister.

Jessica looked down at her broken China plate. “All you are doing Jackson is breaking this family apart, where our own children want to see us separating because of your issues and stubbornness.” She said, her voice breaking slightly, “Scarlett can you give us some privacy?”

Scarlett looked between her parents and nodded leaving the room, but instead of going too far she silently pressed herself against the wall, not too close that they could hear her heartbeat but close enough to hear what was being said.

“Jessica stop encouraging them.” Jackson said, his voice cold.

“If this is about status, then I am ready to divorce you for their sake.” Jessica whispered, her voice breaking. Scarlett clamped her hand over her mouth to stop the gasp that almost escaped her lips. She heard Jackson’s breath hitch and a chair tumble over.

“Jess...”

“I love you Jackson and I don’t ever want to let you go but I love them too. I don’t want to watch them to go through any pain, Scarlett has been through so much already, I don’t want her future compromised because of me... And Elijah?! I took his mothers place; do you know how I feel that I’m also taking away his Alpha position and that I am the reason he

can't happily be with the woman he loves? If we never fell in love... gotten married... then this wouldn't be happening right now. I swear Jackson if you blackmail Elijah with the Alpha position and stand by it, get ready to see those divorce papers!"

Scarlett quickly slipped into the bathroom as she heard the sound of footsteps, knowing her mother had left the kitchen in a rush. Taking a deep breath, she stepped back out and walked back to the kitchen once her mother had disappeared up the stairs. Entering the kitchen she saw Jackson had dropped into a chair, his head in his hands. She felt a sliver of guilt fill her, looking at her stepfather.

"Dad..." She said. She hadn't called him that in a while, after all, they hadn't been talking properly and the word felt strange on her lips. He looked up as she approached, both not missing the pain in the other's eyes. Scarlett didn't stop until she was in front of him, quietly she lowered herself to the ground, her knees touching the ground as she slowly reached for his face. She hadn't tried to talk to him but she wanted to give it one shot. For her mum, for Elijah and for herself.

"Scarlett." Jackson said, looking away as he tried to hide the emotions in his eyes.

"Dad... can you look at me?" She asked quietly. Jackson sighed; he couldn't refuse his little girl. That was the problem, he considered her his own and it was too much for him to just accept that she wasn't biologically his. He looked into her sage green eyes, seeing the sadness and guilt in them.

"What is it, Scarlett?" He asked. Jessica's words had hit him like a slap and he wouldn't deny it hurt, the rejection and the fact she was willing to leave him so easily.

“I know this isn’t the most ideal situation anyone would want to be a part of but it’s happening. You were and still are the father I never had, I still consider you my dad no matter how messed up this is. Mama still loves you but she wants us all happy, all we need is for you to accept this, please? If you ever considered me your daughter, will you not grant me this one wish? I’ve never asked for anything growing up but today I just want to ask you to accept us. Do you hate me so much that you can’t stand to see me as Luna of this pack?” She said quietly trying to control her own emotions, to hide the pain from her eyes, something that was becoming increasingly difficult the longer she spent around Elijah. He had broken down all her walls leaving her exposed, even if he was like that shield standing right beside her.

Jackson looked at her. “By loving Elijah, it’s a sheer reminder that you didn’t consider us your own.” He said now stroking her hair, thinking when did she grow up? She shook her head, her eyes flashing defiantly.

“I considered you my father, I’m not lying and you know it. Elijah... I won’t lie. I never saw him as my brother, I never had that bond he and Indigo have.” She said quietly. “Please dad, this won’t change anything. Who cares what the world says? The only thing that matters to me and Elijah is what our family thinks. Please?”

Jackson closed his eyes, sighing deeply before he took her wrists, removing her hands from his face and held her hands in front of him. “You know Elijah doesn’t care about what I think. Indigo is angry at me, your mother threatened to divorce me... and now you’re asking me to accept it so calmly...”

“Won’t even one of those approaches work?” Scarlett said, Jackson smiled wryly.

“I once said to you any boy you chose to love would be lucky, well that asshole is more than lucky. What’s to like about him anyway?” He said frowning. Scarlett smiled, reaching up from where she knelt on her knees, she hugged him tightly.

“They say a girl looks for someone who’s a lot like her father when it comes to love... I guess I did the same.” She said softly, praying she could get through to him. “I don’t want to lose my father.” She whispered. Jackson felt his emotions surge as he gave in, he pulled her into a hug.

“You’ll always be my little girl Scarlett, for you I’ll try but you need to talk to him, tell him to stop being a rude asshole too.” Jackson said almost complaining. “You know he doesn’t even listen to me.”

Scarlett laughed in relief and amusement as she moved back, she had a feeling she would be pulled into a battle of tug of war more often than not between the two Alpha’s. “I guess I can try, we both know Elijah has an ego bigger than the size of England.”

“Now that I agree on...”

“You should go to mom.” Scarlett said. Jackson nodded standing up, about to leave the room, he paused.

“Don’t tell Elijah about our conversation.” He said. “Let him come back from the ceremony at least.”

“Got it.” Scarlett said standing up, unable to stop the smile that was gracing her face. She slapped her thighs, heaving a sigh of relief. She turned to gaze out at the sky outside. It felt like a weight was lifted from her, right now she felt like she could face the world.

“Blood Moon here I come.” She said turning and leaving the room. She needed to do a once over, to make sure everything was packed.

They would be staying the night there and spending the entire day there until the ceremony which was starting at around 10 pm tomorrow night when the moon was at its peak, it was at that moment that the mate bond would have a chance to snap into place. The thought made her nervous yet excited at the same time.

She spent the next few hours keeping herself busy. Indigo and Elijah had returned, and they even squeezed in a movie before those who were leaving for the ball got ready to go. Elijah and Scarlett were going alone together, with the rest taking a few cars and making their own way there. Tomorrow was indeed going to be a long day but both Scarlett and Elijah were prepared for whatever it brought their way...

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Chapter62 Preparations & Nerves

“Wake up baby girl!” Angela’s cheery voice came. Scarlett groaned as the curtains covering the hotel window were pulled open to reveal the bright sun that shone outside.

“Piss off Angela, you made me stay awake so damn long, now let me sleep!” Scarlett snapped. Angela hadn’t let her sleep until 4 am and she had missed Elijah dearly but Angela had caused a right scene that she wanted Scarlett to sleep with her. Elijah had begrudgingly agreed as he did have things to do and didn’t want her to get bored, also knowing being with her hyper friend she would be kept distracted and not spend too much time thinking about the following day. It had worked, Angela had gone on and on about her clothes, her future mate, how she was going to demand he mark her there and then and on top of that making her watch movies whilst they talked.

Angela now turned to Scarlett frowning. “Listen here! It’s past 12! Elijah’s text you several times. He even came to see you before he left for a meeting, I told him you were still asleep!”

“I missed him?!” Scarlett said, now jolting up and glaring at her friend. “This is your damn fault! I at least wanted to see him once...before tonight...”

“Oh honey, the way that man looks at you I don’t think you need to worry about anyone taking him from you.” Angela grumbled. “Now, we have an appointment at the salon at 5 so how about we get lunch, do a bit of sightseeing and then head there. I’ve chosen how I want my nails...” She carried on talking as she left the room going into the adjoining bathroom.

Scarlett simply groaned, zoning her out and picked up her phone to see Elijah had indeed sent 4 messages. Unlocking her phone she pushed back the duvet and looked at the messages.

‘Hey Kitten, awake yet?’

‘If you’re up by 10 we could maybe catch breakfast?’

‘Sleeping without you was fucking hard.’

‘I love you, seems you’re still sleeping, which is great because then I get to keep you up tonight. I’m heading to my meeting now, I’ll see you at the ceremony.’

Her heart skipped a beat, wishing she had got to have breakfast with him. This was all Angela's fault... She pouted in disappointment before sending him a text back.

‘Afternoon handsome, sorry Angela did my head in until 4 am! I’ll miss you today and I can’t wait to see you tonight Xx’

She stared at his message. ‘I love you.’ He said the words to her several times but she hadn’t said them back. She did love him, truly, madly and deeply. She would tell him tonight if he chose her... Although she believed he would, she still doubted it at times. Tonight could be a dream or a devastating nightmare, but either way, she was going to be that beautiful goddess who would turn heads. With a deep breath, she got out of bed ready to get started with their day...

— It was later in the day and Scarlett’s nerves were making her extremely jittery. She was alarmingly quiet even when they were at the salon starting with their nails, she chose what she wanted distractedly, her hands shaking from the nerves. She had never been so nervous in her life, not even bothered when Fiona stepped into the same salon. She didn’t even notice the brunette watching her intensely.

“Is this length, ok?” The woman asked making Scarlett blink, she nodded after a quick glance and fell quiet again.

“Scarlett?” Angela said, concern now clear in her voice. She reached over tapping her friend’s shoulder with her free hand.

“Hmm?” Scarlett said looking at her friend, Angela frowned.

“Are you ok?” She asked concerned. Scarlett nodded despite the obvious tremble in her hands. “You can talk about it...”

“I’m scared.” Scarlett whispered quietly, so her friend could just about hear over the music that was playing in the background. The nail technician glanced at the women mumbling wondering how they were even able to hear each other but said nothing returning to her job.

“Oh, babe...” Angela said, her heart breaking for her friend. She had never heard those words come out of Scarlett’s mouth before. “Maybe neither of you will meet your mate today.”

“That’s scary too, the ‘what if’ will remain.” Scarlett said watching the woman paint her nails.

“Believe in him.” Angela said softly, for once she was serious – praying that her friends’ heart was not broken tonight. Scarlett simply nodded but it did nothing to ease the emotions within her. “I mean worst case scenario- lock him in a room every blood moon, no chance to meet his mate!” She added trying to cheer Scarlett up, Scarlett gave a weak smile that didn’t reach her eyes.

Once her nails were done, they went on to get their hair and make-up done. She knew what she wanted and told them before getting distracted by her thoughts once again. Angela kept checking both hers and Scarlett’s makeup and hair not caring that the stylists were getting a little annoyed.

“All done.” The woman who was working on Scarlett said, turning her chair towards the mirror. Scarlett looked in the mirror, the woman before her was still her, yet she looked ten times more beautiful. The make-up accentuated her cheekbones, making her eyes look alluring with a smoky look, with some natural yet enhancing false eyelashes. Her lips had red matt lipstick and highlighter dusted her cheeks.

The woman had done an amazing job of covering the ugly mark on her neck too. She had asked Scarlett what had happened, she had said it was

an animal attack. The woman didn't really seem to have believed her but hadn't said anything else.

"Would you like some gloss?" The woman asked. Scarlett shook her head as she admired her hair which was pulled back into a bun, a few strands left to frame her face.

"I prefer matt, it doesn't get messy." She said, giving the woman a small wink making the woman smile at her words.

"Well, I want to make a mess and show the world he's mine!" Angela said. Scarlett looked over at her friend, smiling as she saw how stunning she looked. Her long black hair curled and left to hang down her back, she had a braid along the front and a slight quiff. Her eyes were shimmering in glittery gold shadow and her lips were a glossy nude. The girls smiled at each other, neither had to say it but both thought the other looked stunning.

"Ten baby girl!" Angela said as she stood up hugging the woman she had stressed out for the last hour. "Thank you! I love it!"

"I'm glad." The woman said relieved. Scarlett stood up too and thanked the women before paying for their services.

Now they just needed to return to the hotel, get changed and head down to the ceremony. The hotel they were staying at belonged to the Alpha who was hosting the event this time. The ceremony was also taking place in the same hotel which was convenient.

"Right, let's get going!" Angela said as she pulled her out of the salon. Scarlett saw Fiona staring at her, as her own hair was being styled into an extravagant up-do. Their eyes met but neither said anything as Scarlett let Angela lead her to the two pack warriors, who were sent by Jackson to

stay with Scarlett. Having two pack warriors trailing her was something even Elijah had agreed on, much to her annoyance. The four got into an uber heading back to the hotel together.

Scarlett looked at the glittering gold dress that was laid out on the bed before she slipped on the tiny sheer organza embroidered red and gold G-string she had specifically bought for tonight. She then stepped into her dress. It skimmed her curves perfectly, the adjustments made it even more beautiful. She looked in the mirror, her ample breasts were pushed together as she zipped the dress up from the side, her cleavage looked appealing and the gold shimmer that she had applied to her body only made her skin glow. The dress had a slit on the right, from mid-thigh to the floor showing off her leg and her gorgeous red 6-inch heels.

With Elijah standing an entire foot taller than her, she hoped she could reach his lips a little bit easier with these heels. She smiled at her reflection, turning slowly once just as a flash went off and she saw Angela standing there in her red floor-length dress, her phone directed towards Scarlett.

“You girl look an 11.” She said walking over to her best friend. “Well so do I.”

“You do.” Scarlett said, both girls smiled at each other before they helped each other put on the last bits of their jewellery. Scarlett helped Angela with her zipper before they took some selfies.

“I’m so nervous, my wolfs restless.” Angela said, picking up her gold clutch bag watching Scarlett apply some perfume.

“You’re not the only one...” Scarlett said, she had decided against a bag and was only taking her phone.

“Ok...shall we?” Angela said looking at Scarlett who nodded. They held hands just like they used to years ago before an event or party and left the room together. Both hoping for the best outcome...

Elijah was nervous, as he fiddled with the white button-down and adjusted his black blazer.

“Chill...” Liam said looking at his friend, he himself wore a grey dapper suit. Whilst Elijah wore a black tailored suit, with black dress shoes. A necklace hung around his neck peeping out from the collar of his shirt.

“I don’t know, do I look ok?” Elijah asked, he had his hair styled in a slight quiff, a few stray strands falling in front of his eyes.

“She loves you, what more do you want me to say? I’m sure even if you looked like a loser she’d choose you.” Liam said quietly. Elijah seemed to freeze – ‘she loves you’ – those words echoed in his mind. She hadn’t said those words yet and he never thought he’d be the one to admit this but he wanted to hear those words from her lush lips. For someone who never believed in love, he was now completely wrapped up in wanting to be loved by her.

The two boys made their way down to the ground floor and towards the hall where the event was taking place. Everything was decorated in reds and gold. The large hall itself had marble floors and the ceiling was glass, allowing the moonlight to shine through. The perfect feature for a mating ceremony which was often held outside. The walls of the hall had pillared archways along the sides, red flowers and garlands were draped around the pillars and bouquets of red roses were on every table and stand. Fairy lights were woven along the ceiling, glittering like stars against the glass windows, only adding to the glittering of the countless chandeliers. The tables that stood to each side were covered with gold

tablecloths. A vase of red roses with hints of gold stood in the centre of each table along with a scatter of tea lights and petals.

To one side was a bar and near the dance floor was a DJ. Couples were already on the dance floor, some making out already and others looking ready to pounce. Waiters were expertly weaving in and out of the couples with trays laden with drinks. Down the centre of the room was a red carpet and up ahead was the dance floor. To the left were the open doors that led to the gardens. Elijah could see the garden too was decorating in the same colour theme.

The music was not too loud nor too quiet, slightly louder than the hum of chatter that filled the room. The strong smell of food, the different drinks, the expensive fragrances and sex also filled the air but there was no extreme intoxicating scent that stood out, filling him with relief.

He saw Kiera with her lips locked to a very bulky man, he raised his eyebrow feeling sorry for the man. Taking a glass of wine from the tray of one of the passing waiters he made his way outside. He felt too nervous, he couldn't smell Scarlett but then again in this sea of people it wasn't really going to be easy to smell her out.

He leaned against the stone railing, looking out at the fountain that stood in the centre of the garden. The pleasant sound of the gushing water calmed his erratic heartbeat somewhat. The moon was high in the sky, a perfect circle with a hint of red coating it, something no human naked eye would ever be able to pick up. The Blood Moon. He closed his eyes taking a deep breath, never had he been more nervous about anything than he was now.

It was then, the most heavenly scent he had ever smelt hit him with great force. It was sweet, fresh and intoxicating, so tempting that he couldn't think straight. Not able to put any name to the scent that he was being

encased in, his ears ran with his thudding heart and his wolf leapt in his mind wanting to burst forth and bite into the neck of the owner of the scent. His grip tightened on the rail as he opened his now cobalt blue eyes trying to breathe through his mouth, trying not to focus on it.

“I Elijah Westwood future Alpha of the Blood Moon Pack reject you as my mate and Lu-”

“Don’t say it.” Interrupted a breathless yet sensual voice that made a shiver of pleasure rush through him...

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Chapter63 Her Mate

Scarlett entered the hall; her heart was thundering so loudly she wondered if everyone could hear it. Angela suddenly froze, gripping Scarlett’s hand tightly.

“My mate...” She said. Scarlett’s eyes widened looking at Angela who was scanning the crowds. A tall slender woman with blond hair in an elegant updo and deep blue eyes stepped towards them, dressed in a deep pink coloured gown, her eyes widening as she looked at Angela.

“Mate.” She said softly, her eyes flashing when she saw the girls intertwined hands. “Mine.” She growled, making Scarlett pull free and raise her hand in surrender. She was shocked to say the least, Angela had a female mate. She never knew Angela was bi.

She looked at her friend who looked shocked too, staring at the woman who now stopped in front of her.

“Hi, I’m Cassandra.” She said, holding her hand out. Angela just stood there stunned, the woman before her was beautiful but she was not expecting a woman...

“Uhh... Angela.” Angela said confused, sure she had a few crushes on women over the years but never thought much of it. She appreciated a hot woman when she saw one and the one before her was indeed ravishing. She let her eyes dip lower taking in the woman’s curves, feeling her stomach knot and quickly looked back into her eyes. The woman smiled seeing this and Angela quickly took her hand, gasping when she felt the sparks.

“Beautiful name for a beautiful woman.” Cassandra said, leaning forward she kissed Angela’s cheek as Scarlett simply stood there too shocked to speak. Angela now looked at Scarlett, confused with the emotions that went through her and the feelings that swirled in her chest.

“I’m Scarlett, Angela’s best friend.” Scarlett said trying to help her friend out. Cassandra seemed to relax a little at this, still holding Angela’s hand.

“Nice to meet you, mind if I steal my mate?” She said. Scarlett shook her head, not missing the conflict in Angela’s eyes. She felt a little concerned for her friend, someone who had never ever mentioned her interest in women before was now blessed with a female mate. She watched the two women walk off and hoped Angela found happiness with her mate.

“Now that, I wasn’t expecting.” Liam’s voice came from behind her, Scarlett turned not missing the disappointment in his eyes. He looked her over, she wasn’t his mate. The moment he had seen her across the room,

it had hurt but he wasn't sure how to feel about it. Relieved that she would not need to reject him? Or sad that he had no chance? Smiling softly he looked into her soft green eyes. "You look beautiful by the way."

"Thanks, you look good too." Scarlett said, her nerves playing up realising Elijah must be nearby. Liam looked at her understanding what she was thinking about.

"He headed outside." He said motioning with his head at the open doors on the far side of the hall.

"Thanks..." Scarlett said, giving him a small smile trying to calm her nerves as she made her way through the crowds of people. So many scents filled her nose but nothing stood out. With each step she took her heart thundered louder, pausing when she saw the open doors, her chest rising and falling as she slowly made her way closer.

There he stood in his perfectly fitted black suit, his back to her, his hands braced on the rail. But it was the surge of emotions that coursed through her when she looked at him that made her stop in her tracks. A dangerously intoxicating scent enveloping her, it was completely new, never had she smelt something so good. She took a deep breath noticing Elijah's normal scent was mixed under the overwhelmingly tempting scent that now came from him, making one thing crystal clear.

He was her mate.

She placed a hand to her chest as if trying to calm the emotions that swirled in her chest. Happiness, disbelief and relief, the moon goddess hadn't let her down. She had granted her the greatest blessing she could ever hope for. She was brought out of her thoughts when he spoke.

“I Elijah Westwood, future Alpha of the Blood Moon Pack reject you as my mate and Lu-”

“Don’t say it.” She said breathlessly, her heart racing as she looked at him. Elijah froze, that voice... His heart raced as he slowly turned to look at the woman who had spoken.

There she stood looking like a Goddess, her glittering dress accentuating every curve of her divine body. Her vibrant locks were pulled back and her large green eyes glistened as they looked at him with shock clear in them.

“Red...” He said, his voice hoarse; He could feel the bond sizzling between them, the pull to take her in his arms and kiss her driving him nuts. No matter how much he wanted to hold her, he was too stunned to move. She was his and he was hers. Even the goddess had fated them to be.

Scarlett stepped forward closing the gap between them, her eyes locked with his blue ones, feeling her wolf going crazy in her mind. She was a mere two feet away when Elijah seemed to come back to reality and closed the gap between them. He pulled her into his arms tightly, burying his nose in the crook of her neck. She gasped feeling the strong sparks jolt through her, sending pleasure to her core. If she had thought he had an effect on her before, what she was experiencing now was more than anything she could have ever imagined.

“You’re mine, you’re fucking mine.” Elijah said, his strong arms tightening around her. He kissed her neck, the urge to mark her taking over and he pulled away looking into her eyes for a split second before his lips crashed against hers. Scarlett’s eyes fluttered shut as the wave of emotions and sensations hit her strongly. He kissed her with everything he had, she could barely keep up with him as he devoured her with that kiss. He had kissed her many times but there was something about this

one that would forever burn in her mind. He kissed her with passion yet at the same time as if she was a glass doll that may break if he was too rough. She could feel the strong pool of his emotions through the bond, enveloping her like a blanket.

He broke away when she needed air, both breathing heavily as he pressed his forehead to hers, she could feel him shaking just as much as she was.

“I’m yours.” Scarlett said softly opening her eyes, very aware of every inch of his body that was touching hers. His hand on her waist held her tightly, the other on her upper bare back, her skin tingling under his fingertips.

“Now and forever.” He said looking into her eyes. A huge burden that had been weighing down on him had been lifted and he felt light and free. “You look so fucking beautiful, I don’t think any words could ever be enough to describe how perfect you are.”

“Your eyes say enough, you look incredibly sexy yourself.” She said leaning closer and kissing his lips softly, her core throbbing as the sizzling pleasure rushed through them both. His hand ran down her back making her breath hitch, pressing her thighs together. He growled the dangerous scent of her arousal hitting his nose.

“Fuck, don’t make me take you right here.” He said, squeezing her ass as he pressed her against the hard-on that he was now supporting. She smirked.

“As much as that sounds tempting, I’d rather we don’t have an audience.” She said amused, her hand running down his chest and abs.

“Kitten...” He said throbbing, wanting her touch despite the fact they were in a semi-private area.

“I’m sure no one will realise...” She said biting her lips, looking up at him seductively as she made swift work of his belt. Slipping her hand into his pants she stepped forward, backing him against the railing. Taking a moment to scan the gardens, there was a few couples, some walking, some making out and one on the bench who seemed to be doing a lot more. She smiled teasingly up at him.

“Scarlett...” He said biting back a groan as her hand pushed his boxers aside.

“Elijah...” She said in an equally breathless voice, her free hand wrapping around his manhood.

“You’re a vixen Red...” He said squeezing her ass, he could feel her perfect cheeks under the silk gown and couldn’t wait to strip it off her body. Burying his head in her neck once again as she ran her hand up and down his shaft, despite not having much space to manoeuvre she managed well enough. Making pleasure rush through him.

“I think I have you totally at my mercy handsome.” She teased, her own pussy throbbing, she could feel the dampness pooling between her legs. Elijah’s hand on her ass tightening, she sped up, kissing his neck sensually. Her canines elongating, itching to mark him right there. Her heart thumped as she fought the urge, feeling him tense as he tried his best not to thrust against her. Knowing if anyone looked out, they would get caught if observed long enough.

“Fuck that’s it, sweetheart.” He groaned feeling himself nearing, pleasure consumed him tipping him towards the edge. Scarlett felt him nearing as he bucked against her hand.

“That’s it baby let go.” She whispered, his breathless groans driving her crazy and the urge to mark him took over. Her hand twisted into his hair

tugging his neck to the side as she bit into it, his eyes flew open as her sudden move made his orgasm rip through him, making his vision blacken for a moment. Pleasure from her bite sending jolts of electricity through him and he felt their bond strengthen.

“Fuck...” He whispered, groaning as she milked him for every drop worth.

The sweet taste of his blood and the sound that left him made a moan escape her. She licked the mark, not knowing how quickly it would heal with her abilities. Slipping her hand that was now coated in white cum out of his pants, she stepped back glancing around. Blushing when she saw a few couples watching them curiously, she turned away not caring as she raised her hand to her mouth and wrapped her lips around a finger and licked it clean.

“You taste delicious..” She said softly, looking into his lust coated eyes as he zipped his pants up and buckled his belt.

“That was... hot.” He said unable to find the words, he didn’t know what it was but seeing her taking control at times, to do whatever she wants was fucking amazing and an incredible turn on. She smiled slightly as he took out his pocket square passing it to her, she blushed lightly wiping her hand clean on it.

“I’m glad you liked it.” She said, her heart thudding realising she had marked him. “I’m sorry I marked you without-”

He cut her off, not letting her finish her sentence, kissing her passionately. He moved back after a moment and looked into her eyes. “Don’t ever apologise for claiming a right that belonged to you.”

A soft smile crossed her lips and she locked her arms around his neck, her heart filled with so much warmth, who said life couldn’t be perfect?

Their eyes met, lost in a world that only contained the two of them. Scarlett took a deep breath, wanting to say the three words she had been tempted to say for a while now and this time she wouldn't hold back.

“I love you Elijah, so, so much.”

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Chapter64 Becoming One

Elijah's heart skipped a beat, those words resonating in his head. She loved him. He cupped her face, leaning down he kissed her so tenderly it made her breath catch in her throat. Never had his lips moved so gently against hers, no lust or desire was fuelling it, it was an innocent yet loving kiss full of passion and emotion. She kissed him back until an annoying nasally voice interrupted them.

“Oh my god, yuck! What are you two doing?!”

Scarlett moved back as she looked at Kiera standing there with a very bulky werewolf who towered over her, his eyes full of admiration as he watched her.

“We're mates.” Elijah said cockily. “Although even if she wasn't I'd still make her mine.”

It took Kiera a moment to realise what he said, gasping she stared at them.

“You two were... fucking?”

“That’s none of your business Kiera, so why don’t you and your lovely mate move along?” Scarlett said, the man now blinked and gave a sheepish smile.

“Sorry I’m Drake. Nice to meet you Alpha Elijah, Luna...” He trailed off not knowing Scarlett’s name.

“Scarlett...” She offered, it still felt surreal.

“You marked him!” Kiera shrieked now running over to them to stare at Elijah’s neck, a look of pure jealousy crossing her face. Scarlett turned to Elijah’s neck, her heart skipping a beat to see the wound had healed up. In its place was a tattoo of a wolf with its head raised up, the mark itself looked like it was shimmering a dark grey. Her wolf, her mark. She traced her finger over it, sending a shiver of pleasure through him.

“It looks good on you.” She said.

“Oh yeah? Can’t wait to mark you too.” He said pulling her close, not caring that Kiera was standing there looking furious. He kissed Scarlett’s neck as Kiera grabbed Drake’s hand and led him away. “Poor guy.”

“I know.” Scarlett said wincing. “Shall we go dance?”

“Sure, I want to flaunt my mate off.” He said, kissing her hand before leading her inside. Scarlett looked around wondering if anyone else had found their mates.

“Angela found her mate.” She said to Elijah as they began swaying on the dance floor, her arms loosely around his neck. His hair that had been style perfectly now looked rather messy from their little play from earlier, although he still looked dangerously sexy.

“Great, any idea who he is?” He asked, his gaze dipping to her cleavage.

“She. Her name’s Cassandra.” Scarlett said, Elijah’s eyes widened in surprise.

“Wait what? I never knew she’s- wait... have you two ever-” “What! No! I don’t think she even knew! She looked shocked! Besides she’s my best friend, what goes through that mind of yours...” Scarlett scolded, Elijah frowned.

“But she’s seen you naked right...” He said, Scarlett raised an eyebrow.

“Seriously? Are you jealous right now Elijah?” She said frowning despite wanting to smile at the pout that was on his face. He looked almost adorable, as if someone had robbed him of something precious. He licked his lips, showing off his pierced tongue for a moment and sighed.

“Ok fine, I’ll try not to get jealous...”

“Yeah, you better not.” Scarlett said as Elijah spun her out and pressed her ass against himself.

“Do you blame me kitten? When I have the sexiest woman on the planet in my arms, of course I’m going to be protective.” He said kissing her neck softly, his touch soothing the burning stinging that lingered beneath the foundation. Now that they were going to face her father together, he could mark her right? He wanted to ask her but didn’t want to ruin their moment so instead he spun her around before dancing sensually with her once more.

It was a good half an hour later, with plenty of teasing and grinding on the dance floor. Elijah was ready to get out of there but Scarlett was too busy eating. He didn’t complain, just watching her was enough and he

wanted her to have plenty of energy for tonight because the night sure was going to be long...

“Scarlett!” Both turned to see Angela walking over to them, alone.

Scarlett frowned. “Where’s Cassandra?”

Angela looked at Elijah before looking away. “We exchanged numbers... I told her I’ll get to know her... I thought I’ll come to tell you I’m leaving, I had your phone so couldn’t call, are you two mates?” She asked clearly not wanting to talk about her own mate. Elijah smirked pulling his collar down proudly.

“Wow you didn’t waste any time Scarlett.” She said with a small smile. Neither missed the flicker of sadness in her eyes. Scarlett walked over to her, placing her plate down.

“Give her a chance Angela, you never know what this might lead to.” She said softly to her friend. Angela simply nodded before she left the hall.

“So... Shall we call it a night?” Elijah asked, pulling Scarlett close as he kissed her lips softly. Scarlett looked up into his eyes nodding, her heart racing. He held her around her waist as he led her out of the room.

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They barely made it through the door of Elijah’s hotel suite, already undressing one another. Elijah lifted her up making her eyes widen.

“Elijah!” She said.

“Let me at least carry you to the bed kitten.” He said. Scarlett now looked around, her breath hitching when she saw the candles that were arranged

around the room, the flower petals that littered the floor and were scattered around the table. She saw the huge bouquet of red roses that sat on the table next to the bed and a tray containing wine and a platter of chocolates. She looked back at him.

“You did this for me...” She said.

“Obviously, it definitely wasn’t for me.” He said placing her on the bed, her heart skipped a beat as she rolled her eyes admiring the romantic setting around her.

“Thank you.” She said softly, tugging him close. He reached for the chocolates, taking a piece he placed it to her lips as her head touched the pillows. Leaning over he kissed her, taking half the chocolate from her lips before their lips met in a passionate yet tender kiss, the sweetness of the other mouth mixed with the rich taste of hazelnut chocolate.

Her heart was a storm of emotions, his touch was softer although he was as passionate as ever, there was something tender there. He kissed her slowly down her neck, his hands finding the zipper on her dress and pulled it down, he slipped the dress off her shoulders. Scarlett sat up tugging at the buttons on his shirt before she tore it off instead. Elijah smirked.

“Sexy and impatient.” He said watching her dress slide off her breasts. He cupped them, taking one in his mouth licking and sucking on her nipple. She moaned, there was something different about his touch and it made her lose all rational thought. Lost in his touch she cried out as he tugged her dress off her, leaving her in her heels and tiny underwear, swearing as he admired her down there, her arousal playing with his sense. He kissed her down her stomach making his way to her core but rather than giving her what she wanted he kissed and nipped her inner thighs, inhaling her scent as his own hard-on strained against his pants.

“Don’t tease Elijah.” She whimpered parting her legs, wanting him to touch her in her most precious spot. Elijah smirked as he brushed his nose along her underwear.

“Patience my temptress...” He murmured, flipping her over he peppered her back with kisses. Moving back he stripped off his pants and boxers, she moaned feeling his dick pressed between her ass cheeks. He growled as his hands played with her breasts, kissing and sucking on her neck.

“Elijah fuck me.” She moaned, turning her head to look at him. He kissed her lips passionately before moving back and flipping her on top. She was about to grind against his manhood but he lifted her up onto his face, making her blush although it only lasted a second when he pushed her underwear aside. His tongue flicking out and running along her soaking slit, drowning her in pure bliss. “Oh god, that’s it, baby.”

Elijah gripped her ass, working his skilled tongue against her, knowing exactly what made her moan in pleasure. She tangled her hand in his hair as he licked and flicked her clit. Her other hand grabbed her breasts, rubbing against her nipple, her head thrown back as she rolled her hips in sync with his flicks.

“Oh yeah that’s it, I’m going to come.” She moaned, her stomach knotting as the intensity built up. His tongue pushed into her dripping core making her gasp, moving against him faster, feeling her juices trickle out of her. “Oh yeah that’s it, right there!” She let out a loud moan of pleasure as her orgasm rushed through her. Elijah gripped her hips, lifting her off his face and down onto his dick making her cry out. Not expecting it, she took a deep breath trying to relax to accommodate his girth. Biting her lip as he stretched her out.

“You like it rough, right baby?” He said teasingly, knowing exactly what she loved. She moaned in reply, bracing her hands on his chest. He

gripped her hips leading her, knowing she still hadn't recovered from her last orgasm. Tonight, he wanted to make love to her until she dropped. He watched her breasts bounce, the way she looked, the way she felt wrapped around him. Her moans were like a siren's song, luring and trapping him in her temptations. The feeling of loving someone, desiring them and being made for them was more than anything he could have managed. Right now, this was heaven, a heaven he never wanted to leave.

He sped up feeling her nearing, his own release close. She met each thrust with her own. She now opened her eyes, breathless as she looked at him, each brutal thrust hit her g-spot making her see stars, the pleasure only building.

“Mark me Elijah, Please.” Her breathless voice coated with desire and love. Elijah sat up, pulling her close. He didn't need to be told twice, his wolf was already fighting to come out. He grabbed the back of her hair that was coming out of its pins, tilting her head to the side. He kissed her as she continued to bounce on his cock. Feeling her tighten he drew his canines out and bit into the place that she was already marked. His teeth seared her skin as she cried out in euphoria, another jarring orgasm coursing through her. He himself came moments later groaning against her neck, retracting his teeth and licking it to close the wound. He held her trembling body close, as both felt the bond complete.

‘I love you kitten.’ He said through the mind link that now was formed between the couple. She picked her head up, looking into his eyes before she hugged him tightly.

‘I love you too!’ She said sounding relieved – glad the link was restored, it had been far too long. The painful stinging that had accompanied her for so long was now gone, replaced by a cooling sensation. She could feel his emotions and he could feel hers. Her heart thundered feeling how

much love he felt for her, the fear that she would leave him, the way she made him feel...

“Wow...” She whispered, never had she realised how much she meant to him. No matter how much he said it, feeling it was so much more.

“Yeah, that was incredible.” He said smirking cockily, although he knew she didn’t mean the sex.

“We both know I don’t need to say how good that was... considering I was screaming.” She said licking his lips slowly, feeling him twitching inside her once again. He caressed her back, tugging at her G-string, his fingers brushing between her ass. “Your emotions...”

“Hmm, we need to work on our blocks.” He murmured. “But for now I want you to know how much you fucking mean to me.”

Their eyes met and Scarlett bit her lip feeling his finger brushing against her back passage. She could sense his emotion and thoughts, her heart hammered. He didn’t need to say it for her to know what he was thinking.

She ran a finger down his chest her eyes not leaving his.

“If you want it, say it.” She said seductively, a sexy smirk crossed his lips, his finger pressing against her tiny entrance.

“I want to fuck you in the ass, may I?” He asked arrogantly, his words alone making her core throb.

“I’m yours to play with however you want handsome.” She replied, kissing him sensually before he tugged her off his lap. Pulling her underwear off he tossed it aside, reaching for the top drawer he took out a bottle of lube. Scarlett watched him, as he applied a generous amount

to his hand before rubbing it along his manhood. His eyes never leaving hers, watching as she turned around on all fours, wriggling her ass in front of him.

“Fuck.” He swore rubbing his finger between her ass, his finger moving in a circular motion as he entered her. She bit her lip, the sting of pain and pleasure mixed. The feeling was foreign, forbidden yet deliciously pleasant. She moaned and Elijah leaned down kissing her shoulder before slipping his finger out. “I’ll take this slow kitten.”

“Fuck slow, I want you. I can heal.” She whimpered only making his eyes darken, but he still took it slow. She was so fucking tight around his finger... inch by inch he entered her, the lube helping, hissing at the tightness of her inside. Once he was almost fully in he grabbed her hips as he began fucking her. She clutched the sheets, the pleasure and pain mixing pleasantly.

Their moans of pleasure were the only sound in the room as he fucked her until he came, releasing his load into her. He reached around between her legs and rubbed her clit until she too felt her orgasm. Pulling out slowly he dropped onto the bed, tugging her on top of him.

“God you’re fucking perfect in every way.” He said now caressing her ass. She smiled.

“As are you.” She said, he brushed her hair aside, his eyes going to the mark upon her neck. A cocky smirk on his lips seeing the shimmering midnight blue tattoo, a moon with a wolf looking up towards it.

“I look good on you.” He said quietly. She smiled, snuggling against his chest feeling sleep overcome her. A content smile was on his lips as he gazed at his beautiful queen that was now snuggled on top of him. He noticed the marks she had left on him were fading away, it seemed since

their bond was complete she couldn't do much damage to him anymore. The thought amused him, he actually liked having her leave some proof of their lovemaking on him. He kissed her forehead, no matter what, he would keep her safe. Now and forever.

Her Forbidden Alpha by Moonlight Muse Chapter 65

Chapter65 Acceptance

“Please Papa! Please don't!” A child's voice shrieked in horror. Elijah frowned, what was this? He looked around; he was in some sort of room, a garage. There were tools and weapons around the side and a table with dry bloodstains in the middle. His attention fell to the man he recognised, who was smashing a child's head into the floor repeatedly. Anger blazed through him as he ran over making to grab the man only for his hand to go right through him. He tried again but it was futile, was this a dream? Looking at the child who was covered in so much blood, her tiny hands clawing at the monster's wrist. Elijah backed away his heart thudding, realisation hitting him hard.

This was not a nightmare, it was a memory. Scarlett's memory. He watched helplessly as Zidane dragged her by the hair across the room, picking up a large jug of liquid and stepping back flung it over the little girl. Her screams pierced Elijah's heart, the colour draining from his face as he ran to her side, feeling his eyes sting with desperation. Wolfsbane burnt her skin as she writhed on the floor, he tried to grab her, but his hand simply went through her.

“Bastard.” He growled looking at the man who was watching the child, his head tilted to the side with a manic glint in his eyes as he watched the wolfsbane burn her. After a few moments of watching he turned and left the room, leaving the child on the floor. Elijah watched her, wishing he could give her some sort of support as she writhed in agony before him.

The pain in his chest was too much, why hadn't he been there for her? Why did she have to go through this?

"I'm sorry, I'm so sorry..." He whispered to the child who could not hear him as she writhed and whimpered on that cold hard floor.

"...lijah! Elijah!"

His eyes flew open, his heart thudding in his chest, looking at Scarlett in the dim light of the first rays of dawn that peeked through the crack in the curtains. He looked her over bolting upright, his hands running down her arms. She was ok. She was here. Concern flooded her face as she cupped his face.

"Elijah... are you ok?" She asked, sensing his fear, anger and pain. He didn't reply, pulling her into his arms tightly. She didn't speak, too confused to say anything, his racing heart scared her.

"How did you survive it all?" His voice was barely above a hoarse whisper. Scarlett froze realising what happened, she had been having a nightmare, she had learned to become immune to them. Guilt twisted in her stomach, she had marked him and now he had to see all that. It was something she hadn't wanted anyone to ever know the extent of... He stroked her hair, moving her back so he could see her face.

"Hey, hey don't think like that and don't you ever feel guilty." Elijah growled. "That bastard is going to fucking die and I swear I'm going to put him through hell."

She didn't say anything, unable to think what she could possibly say that would comfort him. She wrapped her arms around his waist and he slowly lay back, taking a deep breath.

"I'm sorry." She whispered, he kissed the top of her head rolling on his side and pulling her completely against him.

"Like I said don't ever apologise." He said placing another kiss on her cheek, she had nothing to apologise for. Inhaling her scent that now held a little of his he tried to calm his raging emotions. "Go to sleep sweetheart."

She nodded resting her head against his chest, his arm underneath her head and closed her eyes. Wishing she could somehow block those horrible memories from him. It wasn't the worst memory, there was so many that were a hundred times worse... She didn't sleep, letting him fall asleep first, scared that another nightmare might disturb him so she stayed awake despite how tired she felt.

And only when his phone rang in the morning and Elijah woke up did Scarlett let herself catch a quick nap, telling him to shower first.

Promising herself she wouldn't let him carry her burden for her...

It was much later and they were about to head back, a lot of their pack members had found mates and Elijah was organising exactly who was returning and who was going straight to their mate's packs. The only female not to go with her mate was Angela. Liam and Fiona had not found their mates. The other wolves had been shocked to find out Scarlett and Elijah were mated, and some had been even more surprised they didn't reject each other.

Scarlett walked over to Angela who seemed lost in thought.

“Hey, you ok?” Scarlett said to her, a smile crossed her face but Scarlett knew her better than that.

“Of course I am!” She said tossing her hair. She looked at Scarlett’s neck seeing her mark and a genuine smile crossed her face. “That mark is gorgeous!”

“Thanks, it feels good to have that horrible mark gone.” Scarlett said running her finger along her mark, a soft smile crossed her lips and her stomach fluttered remembering hers and Elijah’s night.

“I’m happy for the both of you.” Angela said, Scarlett gave her a gentle smile. “Cassandra seemed like a nice lady.” She said quietly.

“Hmm guess so...” Angela said. “I don’t know... Anyway enough about me.”

Scarlett didn’t push it knowing she didn’t want to discuss it. Just then Elijah came over wrapping his arms around Scarlett’s waist from behind and kissed her neck.

‘I want Angela to come with us.’ Scarlett said through the link.

‘Sure sweetheart.’ Elijah replied glancing up at Angela. “I’ll get Liam to join us, you should too.”

“Really like you don’t mind me tagging along considering you two.. you know.. might want to be alone?” Angela said. Elijah looked at her, his head now resting on top of Scarlett’s head.

“I can share, now that I know she’s mine forever.” He said making Scarlett smile slightly knowing he was doing it for her.

“Ok great!” Angela said. Elijah looked over at Liam who was about to get into one of the other cars.

‘Join us, since we’ve got a third wheel anyway.’ He said through the mind link. He felt a little bad that he hadn’t found his mate. Liam looked at him, seeing how happy Scarlett looked in his arms, feeling a pang of sadness but he simply nodded grabbing his bag and made his way over to them.

They all got into Elijah’s car, with Liam and Angela in the back.

“I wonder how your mum and dad will be?” Angela said once they were out of London and on the motorway.

“Too bad, we’re mates; I want to see exactly what he does now.” Elijah said his eyes flashing.

“Elijah... let’s try sorting stuff out.” Scarlett said.

“Does anyone know you two are mates?” Liam asked.

“Back home? Yeah, Keira announced it to the world so I’m guessing everyone knows and Indy was going crazy on text.” Elijah said. Scarlett raised an eyebrow.

“She sent me one and it said congrats! He’s my brother only now...” She said making Elijah smirk.

“Never considered you my sister from the start.” He said.

“Ouch!” Angela said as the couple in front kissed. Sighing softly, she sat back.

Liam looked over at her, thinking it must be pretty daunting for her. They all fell silent listening to the music that was playing, and Scarlett rested her head back ready to sleep since she hadn't in the morning and Elijah answered a pack work call with his earpiece. Liam took the chance to mind link Angela.

‘You know, I know she wasn't what you were expecting but did you not feel attracted to her?’

‘I did, I mean it's something I've never considered so I just need time. How do you feel? That you didn't meet your mate?’ She asked through the link. Liam looked out the window at the passing cars, sighing.

‘In a way I'm glad, I'm not ready to accept someone when I love someone else. I think it's for the best. So, when the time comes and I meet her, I can be the mate that my mate can be proud of but now isn't that time.’

Angela didn't say anything, his words echoing in her mind. She did feel bad for him and she hoped one day she'd have the answer she was looking for also hoping Liam had a mate who would love him unconditionally.

They had dropped Liam and Angela off and now just got home. Elijah smirked before he reached over and kissed her in the entrance hall. The smell of fresh homemade chips and charcoal chicken wafted through the air, reminding them both of Jessica's amazing cooking.

‘Let's get to this.’ He said mockingly.

‘Elijah seriously, don't make things worse.’ Scarlett said quietly, just as Indigo came running out from the kitchen.

“Guys!” She said rushing at Elijah and giving him a big hug.

“Congratulations!”

Scarlett crossed her arms watching as Elijah spun her around grinning. “I got my girl, right?”

Indigo nodded, high fiving him when he put her down.

“What was I, a prize to be won?” Scarlett said narrowing her eyes. The two smirked at her.

“A lot more than just a prize sweetheart.” He said wrapping an arm around Scarlett’s waist and pulled her close. Indigo wrinkled her nose as she watched them kiss.

“That’s still gross...” She mumbled.

Elijah was about to speak when Jessica and Jackson stepped out of the kitchen. The tension between father and son was strong. It was Jessica who made the first move, stepping forward she hugged Scarlett tightly, proud to see her father’s disgusting mark gone from her neck.

“I’m so happy you two are mates.” She said softly but still loud enough that everyone in that hall could hear.

“Thanks mama.” Scarlett said, happy to hear those words. Jessica stepped back and looked at Elijah, who now turned his gaze to her. She gave him a smile which he returned, accepting her embrace.

“I know you will take care of her.” She said quietly.

“Obviously.” He replied, now looking back at his dad. “So Alpha Jackson, she turned out to be my mate. Her mark should be clear proof of that, want to make sure it’s real?”

Jackson looked at his son, frowning deeply. Deep down he knew that he was the one in the wrong. The two of them were destined to be together but to admit that wasn't easy. He clenched his jaw looking between them.

"I don't need anything to be proved... it seems you two are mates..." He said.

"So, when will the two of you divorce?" Elijah asked raising his eyebrow, making Scarlett frown.

"No one is divorcing and no one is taking away anyone's position. Dad please, you said you would try before you even knew we were mates." She said softly, remembering their conversation in the kitchen.

"I did..." He said curtly. Elijah frowned.

"So shouldn't you at least admit you were wrong or apologise?" He asked coldly. Jackson's eyes flashed.

"I'm still your father boy."

"It's the only reason I'm holding my anger back. You threatened to strip me of my Alpha position for your own ego so now I want to know, since we're mates, what will you two do?"

"Elijah we-" Jessica began but Elijah raised a finger stopping her, his eyes not leaving his father.

"I wouldn't have had a problem whether we were mates or not. Maybe you should take out the stick that's shoved up your ass and accept you were fucking in the wrong." He said coldly. Jackson frowned clenching his jaw.

“Fine. I may have been but I will not apologise. We will hold the Alpha ceremony a month from now. Once we have dealt with Zidane and his pack.” He said nothing more, turning and heading upstairs. Elijah simply frowned coldly, he knew he wasn’t going to get an apology from the man but he wouldn’t make it worse for the three females who were watching him. Different emotions in all their eyes.

Jessica looked guilty and sad, Indigo looked worried and Scarlett was frowning deeply. Elijah looked at Jessica, despite everything she had been supportive. It was high time he spoke to her one to one...

“Can I have a word?” He asked, a small frown on his face.

Jessica nodded looking at her daughters. “You two can go in, get the drinks on the table in the meantime...”

The girls nodded, heading to the kitchen and Elijah walked towards the lounge. Once inside Jessica shut the door after her, looking at her stepson who was now running a hand through his hair.

“I won’t drag this out. I’ve never seen you as a mother, although you were there for me growing up, no one can replace mom.”

Jessica nodded looking down at her hands. She had tried to win his love but it seemed she hadn’t been enough. His words were cold and emotionless, it would be a lie to say they did not hurt her.

“It doesn’t mean I don’t think of you as family. I appreciated what you did for dad, for me – heck I got a little sister too. But growing up Scarlett was someone I never could treat the same way as Indigo and I think it was the reason I became angrier with everything. When she called dad ‘dad’ it irritated the hell out of me. Maybe it was the bond or my feelings for her that I never realised, I don’t know. I just want to say I don’t regret the fact dad married you, for him bringing you here. I know I come off

like I don't care at times... but I just wanted to let you know that I do consider you family." He finished, shoving his hands into his pockets as he looked at his shoes.

Jessica smiled gently, his words warming her and any doubtful thoughts she had were gone. She brushed away her tears that she didn't even realise she had and stepped forward cupping Elijah's face.

"Hearing that means more than I can ever express. Thank you." She said softly pulling him down, placing a kiss on his forehead. Elijah gave her a hug, thinking he was glad he had told her how he felt. Some relationships didn't need a title and this was one of them. She would never replace his mother but she was the closest thing he had to a mother figure and he did love her even if he could never say it.

"Well, we better get to the kitchen before my chicken gets burnt!" She said smiling. Elijah smirked.

"Or it's all eaten, especially with the way those two eat." He said making her chuckle as they both headed back to the kitchen just as Jackson was coming down the stairs with Scarlett. The four exchanged looks, the men simply looked away haughtily whilst the women smiled. Things were going back to normal, even if it was a little by little.

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Chapter66 Believing In Ourselves

It was the following day and Scarlett was on her way to Amelia's. They were leaving for The Black Storm Pack tomorrow morning and she wanted to see the woman before she left.

She was walking along, lost in thought until she saw Fiona and Elijah having a heated argument up ahead. She stopped frowning, did the woman not get a hint? Elijah growled at her making the girl break into sobs again. Scarlett shook her head; she was fed up with her constant tears.

Walking over she grabbed Fiona by her arm and wrenched her away from Elijah, her eyes a steely silver as she glared at her.

“You know... I gave you a clear warning. Stay. Away. From. My. Man.” Scarlett said her voice cold, her Alpha aura surrounding her making Fiona look at Elijah fearfully. He simply shook his head.

“I think I’ll let your Luna deal with you.” He said. Leaning over he gripped Scarlett’s chin, kissing her sensually. “I’ll see you later, I’m heading to the packhouse to organise our team.”

“See you later.” Scarlett said, all the time not letting go of Fiona’s arm. She watched Elijah walk off before turning her gaze back to Fiona. “I warned you...”

“I love him! It’s not my fault!” She sobbed; Scarlett frowned.

“He isn’t yours. As your Luna by going after the Alpha you are directly insulting me!” she said, now letting go of the woman’s arm. She slapped her hard across the face. Fiona gasped as her head snapped to the side sharply, pain throbbing through her. Scarlett grabbed her by her neck and lifted her up trying to control her anger.

“Because I’m your Luna I won’t do more. But I swear... Chase Elijah again and I will make sure you are thrown out of this pack! Do I make

myself clear?!” Scarlett snapped. Fiona looked at her, whimpering as she felt blood trickle out of her nose. She had lost, even if her heart didn’t want to believe it. There was nothing left to hope for and she knew Scarlett would follow up on her threat, Elijah had said the same thing minutes earlier. Seeing the hatred in his eyes for her had hurt a lot. A foreign feeling bubbled in the pit of her stomach for the woman in front of her but she seemingly looked away, casting her eyes to the floor.

“I-I promise, I won’t try anymore... It’s clear there is no place in his heart for me.”

“Yeah, there isn’t and this time I hope you remember that.” Scarlett snapped icily. Fiona simply nodded feeling defeated. Scarlett pushed past her feeling annoyed, she had ruined her mood entirely!

She reached Amelia’s cottage knocking on the slightly open door. The smell of tea brewing filled her nose when she heard Amelia speak.

“Come on in you don’t expect me to come and welcome you graciously because you’re the Luna now?”

Scarlett smiled as she pushed the door open and stepped inside.

“No, I would never expect that of you.” She said amused. Looking around she saw the table was already set with Cherry Bakewell Tarts, Angel Slices and Coconut Cake. All homemade and smelling divine.

“Good!” Amelia snorted as she turned the pan off and poured it into two mugs.

“You baking for me is enough.” Scarlett chipped in slyly, making Amelia frown at her whilst bringing the tea over.

“Oh, don’t let it get to your head. I baked these for me, now unless you want me to give you a good beating sit that ass down and tell me everything.” She said making Scarlett smile.

“Ok. if you say so.” She said picking up a tart and taking a bite.
“Goddess, these are magical!”

“Why thank you. Now no dallying, I want all the details minus the nasty bits.” Amelia said, happy to see the mark that now graced Scarlett’s neck. Scarlett smiled as she began to tell Amelia the full events of the day of the blood moon...

30 minutes later Amelia sat back smiling, happy to hear it all, including Jackson and Elijah had lunch together. Things were indeed looking up.

“Now I am glad, I do think you’re too good for that fool! But I think he is improving a little.” She said, smiling as she placed her empty mug down. Scarlett nodded.

“He’s improved a lot, I really do love him.” She said smiling softly.

“I’m sure you do!” Amelia said, her smile now faded as she looked at Scarlett seriously. “You are leaving tomorrow?”

“Yes...” Scarlett said, the mood shifting drastically as the women fell silent.

“You were blessed by the Moon Goddess, given as a gift to our kind. Sadly, it was used against you in the vilest way and worse, at the hands of the man who was meant to be your father. I know it will be hard to face him, but I also know you are strong enough to do so. You are an Alpha Scarlett and although that man deserves a painful death, don’t do anything that will make you regret it later.”

Scarlett looked at her. Amelia had always been a wise woman and although she wanted to tear her father to shreds or torture him the way he had her, she knew what she truly needed to do was find closure. She would be the one to end his life, but she would also remember what Amelia had said. She nodded.

“I understand Grandma.” She said quietly. Amelia smiled at her and gave a small nod.

“I’m glad, you are a blessing child and above all else I want you to know that.”

Scarlett let her words sink in, she didn’t know why the goddess had blessed her as an Alpha, but she would never take it for granted. Sure, she had often resented Selene, but she had also been the one to bless her with Elijah as her mate. She would be an Alpha that would make her pack, her family and above all her mate proud. Picking up a slice of coconut cake she smiled contently, something about such a simple conversation with Amelia put her at ease...

Night had fallen and Scarlett was sitting on Angela’s bed; her friend had been a lot more silent over text and Scarlett wanted to spend a little time with her at least. Knowing she was going through a lot.

“Ok, so Aladdin or Beauty and the Beast?” Angela said holding up both DVDs of the live-action movies.

“Aladdin.” Scarlett said, leaning against the headboard. She pulled the bag of trays she had picked up before coming here and took out the drinks.

“Aladdin it is!” Angela said, putting the movie on before she came and dropped onto the bed next to Scarlett. The movie started and both girls dug into the snacks. “I love the songs.”

“My favourite is Prince Ali.” Scarlett said.

“Oh yeah you loved singing that one.” Angela said amused as she opened a packet of crisps, her eyes on the movie. Scarlett nodded.

“Yep.” She said before she looked at Angela. “Cassandra... what is she like?”

Angela’s smile faded and she looked at the packet in her hand.

“Confident, beautiful, funny... and she’s always known she was a lesbian.”

“And is that what scares you? That you’re inexperienced with women?” Scarlett asked. Angela sighed.

“I don’t know, maybe? Or it’s just a shock when I’ve always dated men.”

“I don’t think that’s a good enough reason hun.” Scarlett said looking at her friend as she opened the bottle of coca-cola and took a sip.

“I know...” Angela said, now dropping back and staring at the ceiling. “I’m just scared that I’ll accept her and then I’ll realise later on I don’t want her.”

“I don’t think that will happen... but why not go on a trip away together? Just the two of you, maybe Scotland? I don’t think you putting distance between you two and thinking of all the ‘what ifs’ is wise.” Scarlett said, Angela, pouted picking up a chocolate bar and threw it at Scarlett.

“You’re annoying! Don’t play Luna!”

“Well, I am your Luna so listen to me!” Scarlet said amused. She lay down next to Angela and looked at the ceiling, the movie long forgotten.

“Do you think she’ll be ok with me, with all my doubts? My past with men and everything?” Angela asked. Scarlett turned her head looking at her friend.

“I’m sure she will, she knows this is all new to you and I’m sure she will respect and take it slow. I’m sure if you ever miss a dick, she could use a strap on.” Scarlett said smirking. Angela blushed smacking Scarlett’s arm.

“Hey, don’t put an image of her like that in my head!” She said glaring at her friend, Scarlett raised an eyebrow.

“I only mentioned a strap on, you’re the one who’s imagining things!” She said laughing as she sat up grabbing her drink again. Angela smiled softly.

“I think you’re right, if I don’t give us- this, a chance I won’t ever know...” She said. Scarlett nodded.

“Exactly and come on, we both can appreciate Cassandra is one sexy woman.” She teased, Angela pouted.

“Don’t check my mate out!” She said picking up one of her cushions and smacking Scarlett with it.

“Well, you checked mine out!” She shot back. Both girls laughed and teased until the movie finished and Elijah came to collect Scarlett. Something both girls taunted him about until he admitted that he was

missing her like crazy. After all, she didn't really need anyone to escort her home.

—

The next morning rain was pouring down as the 50 men from Elijah's pack accompanied them, ready to face off against Zidane's pack. Jessica had wanted to come but Jackson and Scarlett had been fully against it. Scarlett was in the back of the car with Elijah and Marcus, a pack warrior. Liam was driving and Aaron was in the passenger seat.

"We should get to the Black Storm pack in another hour and a half." Marcus said.

"Oh, and the other packs are on their way, two have already reached there." Aaron said, tapping his knee as he looked ahead.

"How many men are we in total?" Liam asked his face serious, now in full warrior mode. He was after all the best fighter after Elijah, he knew the rough number but Alpha Daniel had chickened out at the last moment.

"We're looking at near enough 600 wolves." Elijah said.

"That's a good amount considering how many of his men he kills off, we will still be enough to handle him and his pack." Aaron said referring to Zidane. As Beta he was the strategic one.

Scarlett didn't add to the conversation, her mind flitting off to the things she had learned about Zidane. For many years his pack had plenty of rogue attacks but soon his ways of ruthlessly torturing any trespassers became well known and even the rogues backed off. She remembered Amelia saying her being a part of The Blood Moon pack was a blessing and kept rogues away. She wondered how true it was, knowing she was

getting closer and closer to facing him made her not believe in herself much, but she refused to back away or get scared.

Elijah's arm tightened around her, sensing her turmoil. She had always been brave but every night he now shared the nightmares that plagued her dreams. It was hard, painful and hell to experience but what hurt the most was she had suffered it all and kept it all inside. After that first night, he tried to keep calm not wanting to disturb her. Having noticed how she would try to keep herself awake so he didn't get disturbed with her nightmares. He hoped in time those memories would ease up. He kissed her softly.

"Everything is going to be alright, I pro-"

He was cut off when something slammed against their car with such force it was thrown off the road, seeing the large car that had hit them flip over and burst into flames. Pain seared through her back, the smell of gas, fire and blood filled the air. The strong sense of Deja vu overcame Scarlett remembering the first time Cade had come for her, her heart thumping loudly when she caught the scent of several werewolves that she didn't recognise...

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Chapter67 The Clash

"We need to get out!" Liam shouted as he punched through the roof. Shifting and ripping the side of the car off. No one needed a second warning, Elijah scooped Scarlett up, lifting her out of the car before placing her down and turning to face the 12 large masked werewolves that were now facing them. Before any of Scarlett's group could even attack they threw something on the ground and Scarlett stumbled back as the strong smell of wolfsbane gas filled her senses.

‘Fall back!’ Elijah shouted through the link. ‘Scarlett!’

‘I’m ok, I’m-’ She was cut off when she felt something stab into her side and her vision went black.

‘Scarlett!’ Elijah called, trying to sniff her out with the strong wolfsbane that was tearing at their insides. He ran forward sensing Scarlett’s scent moving away, shifting as he leapt from the smoke and tore out the heart of one of the wolves. Scanning the area he saw Scarlett being thrown in a car before it zoomed off. Fear and panic filled him like the gas that surrounded them, he couldn’t lose her.

“No!” He shouted about to run after it when three wolves blocked his way, anger blazed through him, no one was taking his woman from him. He attacked them in blind rage, tearing two to pieces before he stopped as he gripped the throat of the third. They needed one alive...

He looked around seeing the other three finishing off the werewolves that were left behind, none of the three had been able to shift thanks to the gas and even Elijah could feel the effect it was having on him. Aaron held one and looked at Elijah.

“Alpha, do we need someone to talk?”

‘One is enough’ Elijah replied through the link before he ripped the werewolves head from its body. He looked towards the distance; the car was long gone. They needed to regroup, track and head to Zidane’s pack immediately. Shifting back, he walked over to Aaron.

“I need a phone, tell the packs what’s happened and tell them to step on it, I will contact Rafael.” He commanded, taking Aaron’s phone from

him. His heart raced wildly, despite the calmness of his tone his heart and mind were a tornado of emotions. Scarlett had been taken, if anything happened to her... He took a deep breath, he would not let fear engulf him. This time he would save her...

They didn't head to Rafael's pack, instead making their way straight for Zidane's pack. Aaron had been left with the wolf to get any answers on where exactly they were taking Scarlett. The fact they had been ambushed meant that Zidane knew they were coming. But how? And how did they know what car Scarlett would be in? Questions that had no answers but Elijah vowed to himself that he would find out exactly what happened. There was no chance it could have been from Candice because that wouldn't have told them what car they were in and if there was someone within Elijah's own pack that betrayed him then they would pay dearly...

They reached Zidane's pack in record time and although he had driven dangerously fast once they were picked up, it had still been a few hours since he had last seen Scarlett. More than half the allied wolves were with them, with a quarter going around the back to close in on them and a smaller number consisting of the best tracker wolves had tried to follow if any tracks or scent was left behind although the chances were very slim.

They parked at the edge of Zidane's territory of thick trees, there was no choice but to go by foot.

"We're right behind you." Rafael said, as his brother stepped out from behind him scanning the trees.

"Thanks... Although I don't think he should be here... We need to shift." Elijah said, they would be a lot faster in wolf's form. Alejandro glanced at him, his lip curling slightly.

“I can keep up.” He said. Rafael looked at his brother then at Elijah and simply nodded. Elijah said nothing, he didn’t want to put both brothers at risk with them being the only heirs to their pack but he knew how stubborn Rafael was and Alejandro was at a whole other level.

“Well then let’s go.” Liam said. He too was in a mess of nerves thinking how he hadn’t been able to protect her... He should have protected her.

They shifted and began running towards Zidane’s pack, Elijah’s eyes widened in shock as he saw Alejandro running ahead at a speed that was inhuman even for a werewolf. He felt a chill go down his spine, there was something off about the boy, no human or wolf could run that fast... Elijah sped up trying to outrun the boy, he inched faster but the boy still kept pace with him until both were running side by side.

“What happened Alpha? Did your pride just take a hit?” Alejandro mocked as he jumped over tree roots. Elijah couldn’t reply in wolf form but he wanted to ask the boy exactly what he was because he was not an ordinary werewolf teen, he didn’t even have his wolf yet.

He didn’t ponder over it for long, his mind once again rushing back to Scarlett. Was she safe? He pushed the fear down as he focused on getting to the heart of The Desert Storm Pack.

The trees began to thin out and members of Zidane’s pack were stationed around, it was clear they were expecting them.

Elijah stepped forward, the plan was for Scarlett to be here. It was now probably common knowledge that Zidane had her, would that mean those siding them would change their mind. He wasn’t sure but he needed to try. Stepping forward, he shifted into a man. Rafael and Liam stepped closer on each side of him, still in wolf form.

“I Alpha Elijah Westwood of the Blood Moon Pack and the mate to your future Alpha Scarlett. I am asking you to stand down. Zidane’s ruthless reign ends now. Step down, accept Scarlett as your new Alpha and we will avoid a lot of bloodshed!” He said letting his Alpha aura surround him.

Two of the men smirked coldly. “Do you think we didn’t know of your plan to come? Not everyone who pretended to side the old Luna was actually on her side.” One of them spoke. Elijah frowned ‘Old Luna..’ His eyes widened in shock, was Candice Zidane’s mother?

“Then you’ve signed your life away.” Elijah said, he didn’t need to give a signal for his allied wolves to lung forward. Elijah himself shifted mid-air before tearing out the heart of the first man, setting the pace for a full-on bloodbath.

All around wolf fought wolf, even the cloudy skies seemed to mirror the mood of those fighting below. In the sea of wolves only Alejandro stood in human form, easily fending the wolves off and cutting them down. He saw Elijah break through the ranks, he was indeed a force to be reckoned with, bored of the wolves around him he ran after him. Using his two long daggers to decapitate a few wolves on the way.

Elijah reached the middle of the pack living areas, everything was dead silent... Too silent. He sniffed the air but there was not even a hint of Scarlett around. The smell of blood and wolfsbane clung to the air. He rushed to the packhouse, shifting back as he pushed open the door. His eye widened when he saw children, adults and elderly lying around – each one supporting bruises and injuries. There were some trying to care for those who were heavily injured

“What happened here...” Elijah said quietly. One of the men looked up, his eyes lighting up when he saw the two men at the door.

“Alpha Zidane... someone ratted us out and he took it out on us.” He said, his eyes looking haunted. “He killed a lot of us.”

“That bastard...” Elijah growled. It was obvious if compelled they wouldn’t have been able to disobey their Alpha’s command.

A few more of his team had appeared and Elijah ran his hand through his hair. “Check the entire place, the cells, the mansion, everywhere for Scarlett! I want another squad to help the injured.” He commanded, pointing to certain wolves motioning them what to do. Someone tossed him a pair of pants and he pulled them on. Alejandro wondered off and one thing Elijah realised was the boy listened to no one.

He walked to Liam and a few other warriors, taking a phone from one of his men and called Aaron.

“Has he spoken?” He asked trying not to sound as desperate and worried as he felt. He was the Alpha and he needed to stay strong for his people.

“He just said the cavern and then the bastard ripped his own tongue out.” Aaron growled. Elijah closed his eyes, it had already been a while since Scarlett was taken, each minute was killing him.

“That’s all he said, cavern?” Elijah said, thinking it felt like they were grasping at straws.

“I know where that is.” A weak yet recognisable voice came from behind them...

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Chapter68 The Mad Alpha

Elijah turned and saw Candice standing there barely able to support herself, the injuries on her body were shocking. It seemed those in the morbid packhouse hall were the lightest injured.

“You need to see a doctor...” Elijah said, seeing the blood the woman was losing.

“He killed them all.” She whispered. “You don’t have time, the cavern is 20 miles from here, not far from the River Kent. I can mark it for you on a map.”

The man holding her made her sit on the ground as he shouted at someone to bring a map. Elijah opened a map on the phone in his hand and crouched down holding it out to her.

Her shaking hands reached for it. Elijah zoomed in around River Kent and Candice began to move the map as she looked for the location.

“He’s your son.” Elijah said. The woman didn’t even falter at the statement, simply sighing.

“Yes, a shame isn’t it. I gave birth to a monster, nothing to be proud of.” Her voice was clipped despite how weak she looked and sounded.

“It doesn’t define you, you’re Scarlett’s grandmother and I’m sure she will be happy to know she has you.” Elijah said quietly. Candice looked up giving him a weak smile before she motioned to the phone.

“It’s around there, you won’t miss it. They would have had to travel by foot at the end.”

“Thank you.” Elijah said standing up. “I want those with any knowledge in first aid to stay behind!”

Candice and the man supporting her looked up at him surprised. Elijah raised an eyebrow.

“This pack belongs to Scarlett and I will take care of what is hers.” He said softly, his heart clenching painfully at the fact she wasn’t here.

“Thank you, Alpha Elijah, please save our Alpha too.” The young man next to Candice said. Elijah nodded.

“Harrison knows where the cavern is once you get there, although he isn’t a state to walk. Perhaps if someone can carry him?” Candice suggested, looking weakly over her shoulder as she motioned to a teen boy.

“We can do that.” Elijah said motioning to Liam to get the boy before walking off, they had no time to waste...

—

Scarlett groaned, her entire body was screaming in agony. Her insides were burning, and she could feel the wolfsbane being injected in her even now. Her arms were tied painfully behind her back, it seemed they knew not to take chances. A sharp kick to her stomach made her flinch, making her open her eyes slightly. She looked around they were in some sort of cave and she almost smiled in irony. Why was she always brought to caves? She was beginning to hate them. She could tell from the light that came in from outside that it was probably late in the afternoon. She could see a few wolves standing around the edge of the large cavern.

“Fucking bitch!” Hissed a voice she recognised instantly.

“Fuck off.” She spat back, now glaring at the man who was stood above her. His platinum hair was no longer sleeked back, in fact, it looked like he was stressed out. She was glad he was, his suit looked ruffled too. She wondered why he was so stressed but did not have time to ponder over it when he grabbed her by her hair and lifted her from the ground, slamming her against the wall. She clenched her teeth not giving him the satisfaction of knowing that he was hurting her. “Keep going, end it. Kill me if you can.” She taunted, glaring at the man she resented with every inch of her being.

“Oh, I will.” Zidane said glaring at her. He had thought she would succumb to the mark and when he came for her he would destroy her but then there was an influx of attacks and trouble from within. He had to regain control. He hadn’t thought the blood moon would change things, but it had, she had found her mate and any control or plan he had was ruined. Then she had the cheek to try to overtake his pack!

He slammed her head against the wall angrily and Scarlett gasped, her hands were bound by silver chains and although they burned her skin she knew if she had the strength she could break free. “I was meant to be in control! You were made for me to use! You will be my obedient dog, or I will fucking kill you!” He shouted, repeatedly smashing her head against the wall and making her vision spin, hissing when he emptied another syringe of wolfsbane into her.

“It wouldn’t have worked; You can never control me... you never were able...the reason...” She trailed off, trying to clear her darkening vision. “The reason I irritate you so much is because you were never able to break me. I’m a fucking Alpha!”

She smirked as a fit of cold blazing anger surged from the mad Alpha and he dropped her kicking her across the head.

“Don’t ever give yourself that much importance!” He shrieked, his eyes flashing dangerously, his wolf making its presence known. “I will break you!”

“Then go ahead, all you can do is attack when I’m down. If you’re such a strong Alpha fight me! One on one!” She shouted, seeing one of the wolves step forward a syringe in hand. She growled making him hesitate, feeling her aura around her.

“Give it to her!” Growled Zidane and the man made to inject her. Scarlett spun around, pulling her chains and letting them whip the man across the face.

“Bastard!” The man growled. Scarlett’s eyes flashed dangerously her Alpha aura now surrounding her despite how weak she was feeling.

“You will regret this...” She said quietly, the dangerous tone to her voice made him hesitate but Zidane stepped forward grabbing the dropped syringe and injected it into her neck. “I’m not alone. Not anymore.” She mumbled as he hit her across the head making her fall to the ground.

Her vision blurring, thinking this wasn’t meant to happen. She was meant to be stronger than this... She needed to shift. If she could, she would be able to defeat him... She closed her eyes, his beating continued as he kicked every inch of her body wanting her to scream out, to hear her pain. She worked on her heart rate, she needed him to think she was out cold. One thing she knew about Zidane, he hated rushing to the kill, preferring to play first...

‘Focus on something that calms you’ She told herself, taking a deep breath as Elijah’s face flitted into her mind, focusing on him she honed out the pain her body was facing. Remembering his scent, the way he held her, looked at her with so much love and the promise to always be

there for her. She felt a sharp pain in her chest. She needed him and this time she couldn't free herself, she had been tricked and resorted to such a weak state...

'Elijah...' It was the last thing she thought before a searing pain rushed down her back, realising Zidane had moved on to using weapons for his abuse.

'I'm coming Kitten, hold on...' Elijah's distant voice came, she smiled weakly. Had she imagined his voice? Probably... but she didn't mind, if this was it then she was glad the last thing she thought she heard was her loves words...

'Hold on...' It was the last thing she heard as a knife was stabbed into her back repeatedly before she lost consciousness.

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Chapter69 You Were My Dream

Elijah ran through the forest, the passing trees were a blur. Rafael, Liam and Alejandro were alongside him with many wolves following behind. With each passing second his worry for her grew, he couldn't feel anything through the bond, but he also knew she was alive. It was the only thing that was keeping him sane. Still knowing her father was a psychotic maniac didn't help.

They saw some wolves ahead and knew they were on the right track, it also meant Zidane knew they were here. Nothing was said as the plan was already put in place. The wolves at the front burst through their ranks, before Zidane's wolves could follow the rest lunged at them. Elijah growled, feeling a loss of his own pack. It only pushed him further, slowing down when he saw the three women he hated so much. The

wolf-less women, it seemed even the third had survived... Alejandra stepped forward, spinning his weapons in his hand.

“I’ll handle them.” He said, his quiet rugged voice cold as ever. Rafael looked at him and Elijah knew they were mind-linking. He saw Alejandro frown before giving a curt nod. Rafael nodded as if satisfied and motioned for Elijah to carry on. The moment they rushed forward, the women jumped forward each holding a weapon. Alejandro threw his first weapon at one, who jumped aside to avoid it, in a flash he grabbed the second by her neck.

Elijah tossed the third aside as he ran past her but before she could lunge at his back a dangerous menacing growl that held complete power made her stop. In fact, every wolf there slowed down, all including Elijah. Turning to the young boy, not missing his blood-red eyes.

“Go.” Alejandro said, something about his voice was almost a command and he didn’t question it, turning and rushed ahead. Liam still carried Harrison on his back, the boy looked rather shocked at what had happened, even holding fear in his eyes at the sight of Alejandro’s red eyes. That was not a colour a wolf ever had for eyes... but what confused him more was the boy looked younger than 18.

“It’s straight ahead, there!” He said.

‘Leave him here with two wolves’ Elijah said through the mind link before running ahead.

‘I’m coming kitten, hold on,’ He thought through the link, hoping she could hear him. He could feel she was near, picking up hints of her scent although they were mixed with so many others. ‘Hold on...’

Minutes later the entrance to the cavern was easy to spot, a line of wolves stood there and he noticed that all of them were bulky and well trained. Cade stepped forward.

“You should really stop butting into other people’s business.” He said coldly. Elijah didn’t care, he wasn’t someone who was going to see reason and he had no time to waste. He growled threateningly, a clear indication as all of them rushed forward. Zidane’s men shifted as they clawed and ripped at each other.

‘Elijah go!’ Liam said through the link, knocking Cade aside. Rafael was fighting three other wolves. Elijah took the chance and entered the cavern; it was a lot larger than he had expected. The smell of blood and wolfsbane filled his nose, stronger than the intoxicating scent of his mate. His mate that now lay in a pool of blood, just seeing her in that state dug painfully at his heart.

Zidane stood over her, a weapon raised to attack her once again. Elijah growled in rage, jumping across the cavern and knocked Zidane back. The man shifted into a huge wolf before he even hit the floor, he was black and white and the evil look on his face matched the darkness of the man himself. Saliva dripped from his mouth and his manic eyes were burning with pure evil. He snarled at Elijah.

Elijah growled back, anger burning within him, wanting to burn him for everything he had done to Scarlett. Keeping his eyes on Zidane he licked Scarlett’s face, relieved she was still breathing. He yanked her chains off her, not caring how it burned his paws, and flung them aside. The clang of the metal hitting the ground was drowned out by Zidane’s roar of rage as he lunged at Elijah.

Elijah lowered himself and threw himself straight at the lunging wolf, in size he was bigger than Zidane but the man was indeed strong. Their

wolves fought and ripped at each other. Elijah didn't feel any of the pain, anger and adrenaline fuelling him, the nightmares haunting Scarlett filled his mind. This man had ruined her childhood and he would make sure he paid for that.

Scarlett opened her eyes, the pain was lessening, had he stopped? She knew she wasn't dead, for the pain was still present. Her heart hammering when she smelt a familiar scent. Elijah. She looked around hearing the growls and howls of wolves at war, some were close and echoed around the empty walls. She recognised both, seeing a bloody Elijah fighting against Zidane, who looked even bloodier. Elijah had him currently pinned to the ground, as he bit into his side. Scarlett got up, her top was completely torn from all the brutal attacks with the knife to her back, holding on by the shoulder slightly. Her chains were gone and although she felt weak, she could stand. It would take a short while for her to regain her strength and she couldn't wait, she was going to deal with Zidane too.

She saw Zidane look at her, his eyes lighting manically. Throwing Elijah off him he was about to jump for Scarlett but was stopped when Elijah threw him to the ground once again.

'I'm fucking sorry sweetheart; sorry I was late' He said through the link. She shook her head not wanting to distract him, yet at the same time she wanted to tell him.

'You came and that's all that matters.' She replied softly. He glanced at her, his eyes softening despite the blood that was dripping from his jaw. Just then the sound of a howl of pain echoed from near the entrance to the cavern and Scarlett moved closer to the wall.

'Stay clear of the fight.' Elijah mind linked, his voice strained as he and Zidane came dangerously close to her and Zidane tried to lash out at her

but was dragged back by Elijah. She nodded, keeping to the side as she moved away from the fight.

It was then several wolves came rushing in, one of them lunged at her until Liam in wolf form knocked him aside, she recognised the attacker as Cade. He was bigger than Liam's wolf but even then Liam was impressively strong, putting up a good fight with the Beta. Liam ripped through his side throwing him to the ground, turning he looked her over, his eyes filled with relief seeing she was ok.

She was about to smile when she saw Cade silently getting up, her eyes widened in horror as she watched it happen as if in slow motion. He lunged forward but his aim wasn't Liam, he was coming right for her. She knew from the glint in his eyes, he was aiming for the kill.

Elijah too saw the move but he was too far and trapped in a fight with Zidane, fear consumed him as he shouted out, watching as Scarlett raised her arms in reflex, just as Liam rushed forward to protect her.

"Watch out!" She shouted but it was too late, the moment when they had both been distracted had cost them. Scarlett felt the pain in her chest as she watched Cade's claws rip through Liam as his large form shielded her. His eyes widened in shock as his warm blood dripped onto Scarlett.

Rafael rushed towards them, throwing Cade off Liam before he could fully rip his heart out. Liam collapsed forward, shifting back into his human self. Scarlett caught him, cradling his body before placing his head on the ground.

"Fuck!" She cried out in panic, his chest was a gaping mess, a wound that even a werewolf would not recover from. Her heart pounded in her chest as she pressed her hands to a wound that was too large. She heard Elijah's angry growl but she had no time to look. "Fuck no... no..."

“It-it’s ok.” Liam said coughing, pain contorting his face although he tried to smile.

“Why did you do that?! I can heal better than you!” She shouted, watching his blood mar her hands. She looked around before pulling off the torn shirt she was wearing that was falling to pieces, pressing it against his wound but it was futile, he was losing too much blood.

“If dying meant I saw you strip for me, I would have done it sooner.” He said cheekily winking at her, trying to smile despite the pain that rocked his body. Scarlett shook her head, not able to play along, trying to fight the tears that were welling in her eyes.

“Don’t say that! You can’t die Liam no...” She whispered; her hands shaking, her heart was thumping loudly in her chest and she felt sick. She wished she had the ability to heal, why wasn’t that the gift she had?

“Don’t waste your tears on me Scarlett... I’m not worthy of them.” He said softly, his face was draining of colour and with it, Scarlett knew his life was creeping away.

“Don’t say that please Liam, don’t let go.” She whispered looking around for help, for anything that could help him. Even if she knew it was futile... He tried to smile raising a trembling hand he brushed her tears off her cheek, cupping her face.

“I wish I didn’t have to... But it’s ok if I had to die, I’m glad it was saving you.” His soft words tore painful at her chest, not even realising when she let out a loud sob.

“No, no, Liam you have things to do! Dreams to accomplish... A mate to find...” She broke off crying for the friend she didn’t even get to know properly, a man who had always wished her well from the side-lines.

Now remembering the small things he always did for her... things she had taken advantage of and had never realised. From passing her a water bottle after training or giving her a shaded spot, complimenting her when she looked good or asking if she was ok when she was quiet...

His blood coated her hands but what would always remain in her mind was the fact he was trying to hide his pain from her.

“The only dream I had was you.” He said softly, his voice barely above a whisper. Their eyes met, soft brown against sage green. The sounds of the fighting around them drowned out and Scarlett felt her heart break as she shook her head. She couldn't form any words seeing the strong love in his eyes for her. Instead she leant down, pressing her lips softly against his. She felt his gasp of surprise against her lips before he kissed her back ever so tenderly, tears still streamed down her cheeks. She didn't move back, not until his hand that cupped her cheek dropped to the ground and his lips became still.

Liam was gone.

Her Forbidden Alpha by Moonlight Muse Chapter 70

Chapter70 May You Never rest In Peace

Scarlett sat there, her body suddenly feeling numb. Elijah had seen her kiss him, heard his dying words, but despite the searing jealousy that had come from his wolf the pain he felt for his dying friend outweighed it. He had seen Liam die as it had felt like a part of him had died with him.

Rage and hatred towards the Alpha he fought and his dogs overcame him as he lashed out at the wolves who had joined Zidane.

Scarlett stood up, watching Rafael slam Cade to the ground. He was nearly dead. She watched as he shifted to human form. Rafael made to tear his head from his body but Scarlett stepped forward.

“Allow me...” She said, not caring she was only in her bra or that she was drenched in blood, her own and Liam’s. Even then she was healed but the few bodies that lay around her were a stark reminder of men who would never return to their families. Men she knew and some who were the enemy...

Cade looked up at her, fear in his eyes as he looked at the burning anger in Scarlett’s steely silver eyes.

“He has my mate...” He whispered as if it would right the wrongs he had just committed. Scarlett shook her head.

“You could have taken it slow, eased up on your attacks... but you didn’t care.” She said quietly. She saw the flicker of his eyes as he looked for an escape and she knew she was right. Cade really didn’t care... She reached for him, her nails elongated before she plunged her hand into his chest as he screamed in agony and ripped his heart from him. It pulsed in her hand before she tossed it aside not even sparing the body a look.

Rafael who was in wolf form engaged with another wolf as Scarlett lunged at another one, clawing the wolf’s neck before she snapped its head, with her hands doing the damage that she knew they couldn’t heal from.

Zidane was now limping, despite three wolves fighting Elijah with several dead around them. Scarlett growled menacingly.

“Back down!” She hissed. It only made them hesitate at her Alpha command, she was after all their next Alpha and her command was second only to Zidane’s. However, the moment of hesitation was enough. Before they could continue Elijah took the chance to tear them both apart. Zidane growled lunging at her, but Elijah bit into his neck tearing him back and throwing him to the ground. Scarlett didn’t waste time, jumping forward she sunk her claws into his neck ripping it open. She wasn’t done but she would make sure he stayed down. She stepped back watching Zidane shift back.

The anger that was growing in her chest was fuelled by the loss of all the wolves who had lost their lives. He gave her a cold venomous look. Elijah stood by her side, making sure no one touched her.

“You won’t make it out of here alive!” Zidane hissed, his eyes scanning the entrance of the cavern. She didn’t miss the slight frown on his face realising no more wolves were coming.

“We came prepared. Your rage, resentment and greed for power caused the loss of so many lives today. You hated me, wanted to hurt me, what did you think? That this time I didn’t have anyone? Remember you were only able to hurt me because I was a helpless child, now I have a pack and a mate who loves me unconditionally.” Scarlett said, resting her bloody hand on Elijah’s golden fur that was matted with blood. She watched Zidane’s anger growing as he clutched at his neck, knowing he wasn’t healing.

“You don’t deserve happiness! The witch told me you would try to take my pack from me!” He hissed manically. Scarlett raised an eyebrow as he continued.

“Your mother took you away from me! You were meant to be mine! To rule and to control! That woman told me about your ability, I bet your

mother knew!” He spat, standing up he lunged at them. Scarlett knocked him aside before walking over to him. Elijah followed, keeping his distance knowing this was her fight.

“I was not yours to control or to abuse! You enjoyed torturing me when you should have been proud of the children you had!” Scarlett shouted her voice shaking. “Don’t you ever try to blame mama, her only mistake was not trying to help the pack. A pack you have abused for far too long but I will make up for that now.”

Zidane chuckled coldly. “You can never kill me, you don’t have it in you. By killing me it shows you are no different than I am!” He darted towards her but she was ready, her eyes flashed as she caught him by his throat. His hand about to plunge into her chest but she knocked them aside with her free hand. She slammed him to the ground, kicking him hard and hearing the crunch of bones.

“I am nothing like you or I would torture you slowly, I’m better than you... and I don’t want to waste a minute more than I need to with you.” She crouched down, grabbing him by his hair just as he had done to her countless times.

“May Selene send you to the pits of hell.” She said coldly, glaring into green eyes that matched her in colour yet could not have been more different. With those final words, she plunged her hand into his chest. Squeezing his heart, he hissed in agony, his eyes flickering between his own and his wolfs.

“Fuck you.” He spat, gripping her wrist but for the first time in their lives, the tables had turned. The child was now the Alpha. Scarlett simply gave a cold smirk.

“How does it feel? Being on the receiving side?” She asked softly, twisting her hand in his chest. He hissed in pain but there was not an ounce of remorse on his face. “May you never rest in peace fucker.”

With those words she ripped her hand out of his chest, his heart along with it, instantly dropping it. Zidane fell to the ground dead and Scarlett turned away; He didn't deserve even an inch of mercy. She felt a surge of power within her, feeling the pack link snap into place, by default she was now Alpha of the pack.

A menacing growl left her lips. ‘Stand down! I am your new Alpha!’ She said through the mind link. She sensed the confusion, the fear and the relief of different wolves.

Some congratulated her, others asked about Zidane and others were glad it was over.

“They will stand down, tell your men to apprehend those who were fighting.” Scarlett said to Rafael and Elijah. Both did as she said. Elijah shifted back, pulling Scarlett into his arms tightly as Rafael looked at the wolf who was now cowering in fear, he clearly had not anticipated Zidane losing.

Scarlett wrapped her arms around Elijah's waist, the spark of the bond sizzling through her. The comfort she felt eased the pain in her heart slightly.

“Liam...” She said quietly, she knew he probably saw the kiss but she didn't regret it.

“I know kitten... I'm hurting too.” He whispered. Liam, the backbone of their trio – Him, Liam and Aaron. Liam was the peacemaker, the one with the heart of gold... He caressed her hair, letting her cry silently into

his chest. Liam had died for Scarlett and that was something he would never be able to repay him for. He only hoped wherever he was, he was happy. He kissed the top of Scarlett's head, inhaling her scent.

"It's over. It's fucking over..." He whispered. They had lost many, he knew his father was feeling every loss as Alpha and he wondered how high that number was. He looked over at Rafael whose eyes were shadowed. He too had lost many.

"Let's get out of here." Elijah said. "I'll get someone to collect our men."

"Liam..." She said tugging free. Elijah moved away from her, lifting the body of his friend. He had had his life in front of him and it had been taken so easily...

"What do you want done with Zidane and his men?" Rafael asked.

"Toss them in the cavern and burn them." Scarlett said coldly, not an ounce of remorse within her. They had made their bed of choice, so they could now lay in it.

The four left the cavern together, Rafael dragging the last survivor of Zidane's men from the cavern along with them. They didn't stop until they reached a horrifying scene making them freeze. Blood and torn bodies covered the floor for metres around. Scarlett's heart hammered as she saw even wolf limbs lying around. Whatever had killed them had been so fast that they hadn't even been able to shift back to human form...

Frozen in their tracks, they looked at the brutal horror scene before them. Scarlett felt her stomach churn at the sight. All eyes now went to the young man who leaned against a tree casually, not seeming to care he was naked. The only thing on his tattooed body were the few chains that hung around his neck. Taking a drag from a cigarette.

“Alejandro...” Rafael said his face paling as he looked at the carnage before him. It was obvious to Scarlett and Elijah that Alejandro was probably behind it, but was it possible for one young boy to do this? Looking around it was obvious there were near a hundred bodies...

“Brother.” Alejandro said blowing out a puff of smoke as he looked up at the sky that peeped out from the trees.

“Why are you naked?” Elijah asked sharply. The boy was only 15 after all, he didn’t have a wolf... right? Rafael visibly tensed, something that didn’t go unmissed by Elijah. Alejandro simply smirked humourlessly.

“Oh? Well since everyone was stripping and showing what they’re packing, I thought I’d join the party... and it seems although I still have a few years to grow, I’m already winning in that department.” He taunted shamelessly glancing at his brother and Elijah. The two elder men simply frowned at him. Scarlett frowned, daring not to look down past his chest as she growled at him for insulting Elijah who was definitely huge. She knew that for a fact and took offence. Elijah glanced at her, if the situation wasn’t so dire he would have found it amusing.

“Easy there, stating facts.” Alejandro said mockingly just as a few men from Elijah and Rafael’s packs showed up, scanning the scene before their eyes went to Elijah and the body in his arms. A few from The Blood Moon pack recognised their trainer and lead warrior. Their faces fell as they slowly walked over passing the men pants before they took Liam’s body from Elijah.

“Get this place cleared up.” Rafael growled at Alejandro who simply raised an eyebrow as he pulled the pants on.

“I did my part, do the fucking rest.” He said coldly, his eyes flashing that burning red. Elijah had seen earlier, it lasted for less than a second before he turned and walked off.

Elijah looked at Rafael. “I won’t ask what you’re hiding, I owe you a lot as it is.”

Rafael gave him a grateful smile. “You owe me nothing and thank you.” He said quietly, they placed a hand on each other’s shoulders. Both had done so much for the other and it was not something either would ever forget.

“Thank you for everything, you lost your men because of me. Thank you.” Elijah said as Rafael smiled sadly.

“I’m just glad your Luna is safe, I’m happy that you two turned out to be mates.” He said quietly. Scarlett smiled gently.

“Thank you, Alpha Rafael.” She said.

“Anytime Luna or should I say Alpha Scarlett?” He said smirking, slightly lifting the mood a little as Elijah pulled Scarlett into his arms. It was finally over. They had truly won.