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Kyan's lips smashed against mine as he pressed himself between my legs. His hands clawed at my shirt as he tugged it off me, forcing his lips from mine. He tossed it aside before looking down at me, and there was so much intensity in his gaze it made me squirm. He growled softly before hooking his finger under my bra and shredding the middle with a clawed finger.

"Kyan, it is my only bra," I snapped, smacking his arm.

"You have more in the drawer. Lucas brought you clothes the other day," He purred before palming breast.

"I have clothes here, and you didn't tell me?"

"Maybe I like seeing you in mine," He chuckled before dipping his head. His lips replaced his hand as he nipped and licked at the soft tissue of my breast before tracing his tongue around my nipple. My back arched as tingles ran up my spine before he bit into the side of my breast.

Pain sliced through me, and I cursed him out, but he snickered before tracing his bite mark with his tongue as he traveled lower, nipping at my skin and making me tremble. His canines were painful as they sliced my skin, but his tongue was like a remedy soothing the pain.

"Is he a sadist?" Kora asked before cringing when he bit into my thigh.

"Kyan, I swear you bite me one more time, and I will bite you back," I snarled when he shoved my legs apart before settling between them.

"Shush," He growled, and I sat up on my elbows, watching him. He pushed his shoulder between my legs, forcing them wider before sucking on my thigh near the apex of my

legs. Thrills rushed through me and my pussy throbbed in anticipation.

"Typical man, can never find the clit," Kora chuffed.

"What are you talking about, and why now must you speak," I growled at her.

"Well then, don't whine to me when he has been sucking your left flap for ten minutes because he needs a map," Kora huffed, and I went to retort when his tongue slid between my folds, and I groaned at the hot wet feel of his tongue tasting me. "Tell Kora I know where the clit is," Kyan chuckled against my wet lips.

"Is that so Mr. smarty pants," She retorted. He growled, his tongue teasing, and her running commentary was driving me insane.

"Hmm, see, I was right, closer, nope, too far, not it," Kora taunted him when he shoved his tongue inside me. Kyan pushed my leg higher before biting the inside of my thigh with a growl. I could feel his annoyance at her taunting, and I was two seconds away from asking him to order her out of my head.

"See, he needs a map. He can't-" Kyan growled. The vibration made my walls flutter when his hot mouth locked around my clit. Pleasure burst through me insanely strong as he sucked and flicked it with his tongue.

"Oh god," I sighed, falling back on the bed.

"I can be," Kyan chuckled.

"Bravo, he found it; I guess he doesn't need a map," Kora said, eating her words and sauntering away to the back of my mind.

Kyan purred, his hot mouth licking and sucking, teasing more juices from me. My hips moved against his mouth as his tongue swirled around my swolien clit. He pinned my legs to force them flat against the mattress, so I couldn't move as he devoured me bit by bit, leaving me moaning writhing mess as I climbed higher only for him to slow his rhythm. After the third time, I seriously considered sitting on his face and taking what I wanted from him.

Kyan growled before biting down on my clit and making me buck. "So impatient," he purred befo re sucking on it. My eyes rolled into the back of my head when I felt him move before he shoved his finger inside me. I flinched at the unexpected intrusion while his tongue continued to flick and twirl around my clit teasingly, and my legs trembled when he pulled his finger from me before adding another.

My breathing became harsher when he added a third, and I squirmed at the stretching feeling. His other arm moved; he draped it over my hips and stomach before sitting up slightly, my leg forced wider and fun her into the mattress.

He curled his fingers up, and an airy moan left my lips, and he smirked down at me cockily as he thrust his fingers in me. My walls clenched around them. I moved my hips only for him to press harder down on my stomach to still me.

I growled at him and loo ked at him, but he was watching his fingers move in out of me before he dipped his face sucking on my clit and driving me insane as more juices gushed out, wetting the sheets and my thighs. His tongue lapping them up. Kyan pulled his fingers from me before he only reinsened two, the other pressing to my ass, and my eyes flew open.

"Kyan!" I shrieked when he forced his wet finger inside me, the feeling foreign yet not painful, just a different sensation. His tongue flicked my clit, and he sucked harder, his fingers moving inside at the same rh hm, and I felt my skin heat and my stomach tighten. My entire body tensed, and Kyan growled as my muscles locked around his fingers like a vice.

Heat rushed through me, blistering hot, and my mind went blank as my orgasm washed over me. A breathy moan left my lips at its rippling effect as my body relaxed. My entire body sagged with relief, and my pussy ached and throbbed to its own beat with minor aftershocks. Kyan pulled his fingers from me before laughing as I panted, trying to catch my breath. He kissed me, forcing his tongue in my mouth, and I was his puppet as he forced me to taste myself on his tongue.

"Did I find it?" he laughed.

"Or should I buy a map," he snickered. I groaned and slapped his chest as he hovered above me. He did more than find it; he bloody broke it, my clit still pulsating. Kyan pecked my lips and I yawned, too lazy to move. Kyan walked into the bathroom, and I heard him turn on the faucet as he washed his hands.

The phone began to ring, so I rolled and reached for it on the bedside table. Kyan, however, grabbed it before I could and answered it. He placed it to his ear, and I could hear Jonah's voice which made me sit upright.

"She is right here, I will chuck her on," Kyan said, passing me the phone. He smirked, and I snatched it from him, giving him a glare.

"Hello,"

"Sounding a little puffed out there, Mara, what have you been up to?" My face heated, and Kyan's eyes sparkled mischievously back at me.

"Nothing," I said, sticking my tongue out at Kyan.

"Really, so this hard-on I have much to your brother's disgust has nothing to do with you?"

"Please tell me you did not just say that in front of him,"

"Not a mental image I want, so don't tell him shit. I mean it, Marabella, one word leaves your lips. I will fry your boy toy," Eziah snarled from somewhere near him.

"What are you wearing?" Jonah chuckled.

"I am warning you, Jonah, that is my sister your talking to,"

Eziah growled at him. I chuckled, knowing Jonah was trying to tick him off.

"None of your business," I told him.

"You are naked, aren't you?" Jonah laughed before I heard banging and groaning, and the phone dropped.

"You little shit, get here," Jonah snarled. Eziah shrieked before I heard a loud thump.

"Get your hard on off me, you sick bastard," Eziah squealed.

"Mum!" Eziah screamed.

"Ha sucker, bloody momma's boy," I heard Jonah laugh before the sound of the phone being picked up.

"I am back, just had to sort out your brother,"

"Where are you?" I asked him.

"Bloody cabin in the middle of nowhere," Jonah answered.

"You gave me a dead arm," Eziah growled from somewhere in the background.

"0 h shit gotta go, Momma goose, I can hear stomping her way over, to sort out your brat brother," Jonah said.

"Wait, when will you be coming back?" I asked.

"Soon, we think she is hiding somewhere in the bloody mountains. I swear when I find her, if dad doesn't kick her ass, I bloody will," Jonah said before I heard another bang before hearing my mother's voice.

"What in the hell is going on in here? Why all the racket," She boomed.

"He started it," They both said at the same time, and I shook my head when the phone cut out. I stared at the screen and pouted.

"See, I told you he was fine," Kyan said, plucking the phone from my hand.d

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Jonah POV

Two weeks later.

Arg, what the f*ck. What do I gotta do to get a whole f*cking night's sleep around here? The decision to suffocate the little sod was not taken lightly. Only this time, I was pretty sure suffocation was the only way I could get a full night's sleep.

With a growl, I rolled on my side. "Breathe in, breathe out, breathe in, breathe out, nope, I still wanna suffocate him," I flipped off the tent ceiling. Why, oh why, did Kat make me his partner? I glared at the sleep thief. Every night, he stole my dreams away.

"Don't do it," warned Jax as I sat up and held the pillow over Eziah's face.

"I am putting him out of his misery and mine," I tell Jax when Eziah lurches upright in his swag. He was drenched in sweat and breathing hard as he blinked.

"What the f*ck, Jonah," he snarls, smacking the pillow away while trying to catch his breath.

"I was doing a public service, getting rid of the sleep thief," I snarled at him. Eziah glares at me before putting his head between his legs, trying to catch his breath.

With a groan, I flopped back down on my sleeping bag, trying to fall back to sleep. I was having a pleasant dream of Mara bobbing her beautiful little head, her mouth sucking my cock. Well, until this bonehead ruined it. My alarm started blaring when I shut my eyes, and I snarled, annoyed.

"Ah f*ck. This is ridiculous. Two bloody weeks and we have still not found her," Eziah snarled.

"What is ridiculous is the fact you keep waking me up. I was having an awesome dream, and you ruined it," I snapped at Eziah as I sat up.

"What was so awesome about it?" Eziah asked, running his fingers through his wet hair.

"It was about your sister, my dick, her mouth-" Eziah smacked me in the head with his pillow.

"What did I say about talking shit about my sister?" he growled.

"Well, you asked. I was simply answering," I retorted. Eziah replied with a growl.

"I give up. I say we call it. Time of death, whatever your phone says," Eziah waved his hand.

"She is not dead," I tell him. Eziah shrugged, and honestly, it seemed like we were wasting our time. We had been searching this damn forest for weeks, and still no sign of her.

"Well, if you would get these supposed gifts working, instead of fingering your asshole, we would have found her by now,"

"Dude, I have told you I get nothing, and lack of sleep is taking its toll," he growled.

"Don't whine to me about lack of sleep unless you want to tell me why; you wake up at all hours screaming for in the middle of the night. I don't want here about your lack of sleep," I snapped at him before standing up.

"Never mind," Eziah said, also tugging a shirt on. He sniffed it before pulling a face.

"I thought you did the washing the other day,"

"Yeah, my washing. Do I look like your laundry lady? Do it yourself," I snapped before undoing the tent zip and stomping out of the tent.

"Prick,"

"Asshole," I called back before making my way over to Casen, who was already up and making coffee over the fire.

"Bro, have you ever slept?" I asked him. He doesn't answer, just stares back at the fire.

"I know she is close; I can feel her," Casen said, and I shook my head. "We will find her," I tell him, sitting on the log around the camp.

Eziah stumbles out of the tent while trying to put his camo shorts on, falling flat on his face in the dirt. Casen nudges me and nods toward him and I chuckle.

"You right, princess?" I asked him, blowing a kissy-face at him, and he flipped me off before yanking his pants up.

Casen pulled the maps out. We were all in different parts of the forest, and I was stuck with Casen and Eziah in our search to find Rose. I looked over the map at all the highlighted sections. We had been radioing in all coordinates from each camp in our pursuit of her. Yet this forest was the size of an entire state, and in 2 weeks, we hadn't even made a dent.

"I want to search this area," Casen said, pointing to the map. We searched it yesterday, but we found nothing.

"We did yesterday," I told him, and he sighed. "I f*cking know, but my wolf wants me to go back there, so that is where we are going first," he snapped. Eziah and I stared at his outburst. Casen's shoulders slumped before he took in a deep breath.

"I'm sorry, I didn't mean," I slapped his shoulder.

"All good, bro. We have been stuck together for weeks; it's fine," I told him, and Eziah sighed and nodded in agreement. "I know she was upset, but she didn't have to run," he said, rubbing both hands down his face. We wondered if he would elaborate on this argument they had. 0 my he knew why she ran, and yet he had told us nothing, just that they had a fight.

"I'm a f*cking idiot," Casen said, shaking his head.

"Care to elaborate?" I asked him. "I can't, I just can't lose her," he answered, placing his head in his hands.

"You won't. We will find her." I told him. Casen had already lost so much. First his family, except for Vince, Vince went missing a year ago. Just up and left, and nobody had seen him since. Every time I asked dad to send out scouts looking for him, he always said he would come back when h e was ready.

"I shouldn't have told her. Your father told me not to, but I did, and now she has run from me," Eziah and I stared at him for a second, and I looked at Eziah wondering if he had one of his grandiose visions again. He shrugged, so I turned back to Casen, but he got up, chugging the rest of his coffee before walking off.

"Lets go," Casen says, stomping off among the trees. Drinking the rest of my coffee, I followed.

I felt like I was breathing in water. It was that steamy and hot I shrugged my shirt and tied it around my head to stop the sweat from getting in my eyes. It was now lunchtime as we navigated our way through. Casen ran ahead of us, but I didn't want to shift yet, and neither did Eziah. We were running low on clothes. We would stuff them in logs, but they were always missing when we returned. Not only that, I was worried about Jax eating something. My stomach had been turning all day, and the last thing I wanted was to throw my guts up and bring up whatever he chewed on.

Glancing over at Eziah, he appeared deep in thought. "0 i, are you searching or just walking around half asleep?" I snapped at him.

"I was thinking," Eziah retorted, and I rolled my eyes.

"Well, don't think too hard. I wouldn't want you to give yourself a headache," Eziah growled.

"Actually, I take that back. A head like that should ache," I chuckled before he pelted me with a rock.

"Chill, I was only playing. Man, you have been a real dick this entire time," I snarled at him, rubbing my side where it hit me.

"Between you and mum always breathing down my bloody neck, I wonder why,"

"Is that why your mother put you with us?" I asked him. "No, I asked to be placed with you and Casen," "You're telling me that she wanted you to stay with her, but you hand-selected us to be sleep deprived?" I said. Pain rippled through me, and I clutched my side and stopped, waiting for it to pass.

"You okay?" Eziah called out. I waved him off.

"Just a stitch from walking," I told him. The crunch of twigs and leaves told me he was making his way through the thick brush to me.

"I'm fine," I told him, catching my breath when I saw his outstretched hand reaching toward me.

"You have been getting them for hours," Eziah said, also not looking to crash hot himself.

"It's fine," I repeated. Yet the aches and pains started early this morning, and I could feel that Kyan was anxious, but Kaif was still under control. Though he was angry, I could feel that much, but Kyan's distress made me feel sick.

"This is pointless," Eziah says, stretching his back.

"I can't believe he still hasn't told us what is going on and why she ran. Don't you think it is a little odd?" Eziah asked, and I shrugged.

"That's Casen and Rose's business," I told him. "Yeah, but I don't get why it is a secret,"

"Probably the same reason you won't tell me about your nightmares. They are a secret," I deadpan.

"They aren't nightmares," he said, and I raised an eyebrow a t him. He brushed his fingers through his hair.

"They are like some out-of-body experience," he says. Okay, he was bat shit crazy, must get it from his mother's side.

"Okay then," I tell him.

"No, I am being serious. This is why I have told no one. No one would believe me," Eziah shakes his head before kicking a rock.

"Fine, I will give you the benefit of the doubt here and say you aren't nuts, so explain," I tell him as I continue walking. Swatting flies and insects as I went, the place was full of them, and don't get me started on the blood-sucking mozzies.

"I become her," he says. Did he just say he becomes her? As in a woman?

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"You become a woman?" Holy shit, he really is crazy. I keep my face neutral, not wanting to hurt his feelings. No, her feelings?

"I am being serious, Jonah," Eziah says, stopping. I looked over at him and he really was bothered by whatever was happening to him. He shook his head after I watched him for a second.

"Forget it," he says as he stomps past me. I grabbed his arm.

"No, I can see it is bothering you, so tell me." "You will just laugh,"

"I won't, promise," Eziah raises an eyebrow at me before noticing I was being serious, and he sighs.

"I can feel her. Everything she feels, I feel like I am trapped in her body. I can even see what she sees, sort of,"

"Who?"

"My mate and I can't help her,"

"But you haven't met your mate yet?"

"Not in person. I don't know how to explain it, but I know she is my mate because my wolf goes berserk wanting to help her."

"What do you mean, and how long have you had these out-of-body things for?"

"Two years, but they weren't frequent, but lately they are constant every night," he explains.

"Have you told your mother? Maybe she can help?"

"No, I can't. You know how the future changes. I probably shouldn't even tell you. I know mum will interfere and put m e on medication to help me, but I can't lose the connection to her; I need to know she is okay or at least alive," Eziah explains.

"So what happens in them?" I asked, not wanting to know, but maybe it might help if he could talk about it. Whatever i t is, it is bad because it affects him this way. "It's so dark where she is, but it's... I don't know. Sometimes they drag her out and hurt her, but mostly she is in the dark, scared." My brows furrow in confusion.

"So, she is being held by her pack?"

"I'm not sure. I can just see glimmers, like last night. It was the same place. They were torturing her, waterboarding her. That's why I woke up gasping," he says, rubbing his face.

"You have to tell your mother, Eziah,"

"I can't. She will make them stop. I need to know she is alright,"

"Your mother will help. Surely there can be a way to find her. Your mother is the moon goddess,"

"And she can't interfere, you know that. If she does, it could end worse than it already is. They could kill her,"

"Tell your mother," I tell him, gripping his arms. He goes to argue when I shake him.

"If they are torturing her and what you are seeing and feeling is what she is now enduring, death would be a blessing. Tell her, at least let her try to hel p. Because by doing nothing, you are torturing yourself and her, let the future change. Any fate would be better than the one she is stuck in," I told him, and he seemed to think.

"But what if I lose her?"

"Then you hunt down the bastards that touched her. No one should be forced to live like that. If what you are seeing is real, you need to stop it even if it ends there," I tell him. He sighed but nodded.

"Fine, I will tell her," he says before looking at me.

"Good, come on then, let's find this sister of mine, then we can focus on finding your mate."

"You want to help?"

"We may not see eye to eye, but we are still family. Family helps each other," I tell him.

"You seemed pretty pissed off about me getting involved with Mara and Kyan. Even though she is my family."

"Yes, because you all treat her differently." "I don't,"

"You do, Eziah. None of you realized she was hurting, but then Kyan f*cks up once and suddenly, you all want to be there for her? When none of you were before that. Then dared to upset her more when she voiced how she felt, and don't think I forgot what you said to her at the house."

"That wasn't my intention. I love my sister. Kyan is no good for her, and I didn't mean what I said; I was just angry she chose his side. Kyan is bad news, I mean it. I have seen it."

"Really, you see her relationship with Kyan, but couldn't see how your own friends treated her?"

"What are you talking about?"

"Were you all that blind?"

"Mara never told us. We didn't know. You do not know how hard she is to read. Not even mum can get a grasp on her or me. We have both tried, but when we tried to look, all we got was a blank slate."

"She shouldn't have had to. It was obvious. Did you know she was cutting herself for years?" Eziah looked away.

"I heard. We all just thought she was depressed because of the darkness. She kept it from all of us, just like Kyan has been hiding everything from you. You think he is good for, but he is the death of her."

"Hiding what, Kaif?" "You know he is Lycan?"

"Of course, I know. How do you know?"

"I saw it, the day of the Alpha challenge. That's why I escaped mum. He will kill her, Jonah,"

"He won't. Kyan is aware of what Kaif is capable of,"

"So he told you he killed her, I saw it. She was in his arms. It looked like he strangled her to death," I stopped at his words. They sounded similar to what Kyan described to me once.

"You had the same vision as Kyan?" "What?"

"As Kyan, he had the same vision," I told him.

"You knew and left her with him?" he said outraged.

"He is her mate, Eziah. Her mate, she already marked him. Kaif won't hurt her. I know it's hard to believe, but I think you have the visions wrong. I have told Kyan the same thing. They don't add up." "What do you mean?"

"Kyan has had two visions of how Kaif supposed Iy killed her. You can't kill someone twice, so you are both missing something," I scowled at him. I trudged further through the thick brush. Eziah was talking behind me when we finally reached the tiny clearing. I could see Casen ahead and call out to him.

"O i, wait up" My words cut off, and I stopped in my tracks when I noticed we weren't alone in the clearing. Men stood around us, and Eziah came up behind me talking some crap, and my hand smacked into his chest, making him stop. He looked up and noticed my stare as I turned to find we had walked into some sort of ambush. Men were holding spears aimed at Casen and now us.

"Woah. What the f*ck," Eziah said, glancing around.

"Hey, those are my bloody pants," Eziah snapped, pointing at one of them, and the man turned his spear to Eziah, who put his hands up.

"Geez, fine. You like them that much. Keep them then," he said.

"WE...COME...IN...PEACE...WE" I motioned to Casen, Eziah, and I. "MEAN YOU NO HARM,"

"They speak English, you knob,"

"O h, okay then, I was about to bust out the charades or an interpretive dance. Saves me making a fool of myself then." I shrugged before rubbing my hands together. I peered around at them, all nearly naked, but they didn't smell like wolves. However, there was something off about them.

"Well, in that case, have you seen a girl, nose piercings, heavy eye makeup? Rolls her eyes constantly about yay high." I hold my hand up to my shoulder to show how short she is.

"Has a bad attitude and rainbow-colored hair. Parents named her after a flower, but she is more like algae. You know you want to get rid of it, but keep it around to feed the fish. Or maybe she is more like an obnoxious weed. Major pain in the ass, but a pain I kind of want back, so perhaps you have seen her around?" I joke. None of them laugh, just stare at me.

Eziah leans toward me, and they raise their spears and step closer.

"Looks like we are doing this the hard way then," Eziah mutters to me.

"Oh, so you have a plan?"

"Why do you?"

"Yeah, I say bail and leave Casen to defend for himself," "I heard that asshole," Casen called out. "So you're fine with it then? Good to know, buddy. Have fun with your new friends,"

I turn about to leave when another spear is thrust toward m e, right at my family jewels. I look down at it, before tilting my head at the man.

"Were you really going to leave?" Eziah whispers, looking at the spear pressing against my nuts.

"No, of course not," the man that was holding the spear grunts at me.

"I thought they spoke English?"

"They do. I think we should have gone with the charades, though they aren't big talkers," Casen calls out, and I peek over my shoulder at him. With a heavy sigh, I turn back to the man holding my nuts hostage.

I sniffed the air, trying to see if they were human when I got a whiff of something that wasn't human or wolf. Why do they smell like bears?

"So, which one is the mate killer?" comes a booming voice as a man stomped through the long grass. I turned to face the voice and found a man barely clothed.

"Ah, not mate killers, but he is her mate. I am the brother, and the short one is the cousin," I told the giant of a man that approached me. He looked between us all before pointing to Casen. "That one, take him," the man said while I peered up at him.

"Nope, no can do Bigfoot. He is staying, and nobody is going anywhere," I told him when the other man poked my crotch. I growled at him, and he jumped back before snatching his spear and tossing it.

"You dare come into my forest and challenge my men to destroy my land?" the man announced before his eyes flickered at me. Well, that is new.

"You saw that, right?" Eziah asks, and I nod.

"Yep, not human," I told him.

"You're not really going to try to fight that big bastard, are you?"

"I have had bigger," I tell Eziah. Eziah gives me a funny look.

"No need to fight. We come for our little Rose's mate killer," the man says, removing his pants. "But if you insist," the man says.

"Are you sure you have had bigger?" Eziah asks. "Mate, he is not a mate killer,"

"No? So where is her other mate, then? Vince, I think she said his name was?" the man asked, turning to look over at Casen. He hung his head.

My eyes went from Casen back to the man in front of me. " Casen, care to explain what the f*ck he is talking about?" I called out.

"Oh, you didn't know?" the man asks. I look at Eziah, who seemed just as oblivious.

"Vince isn't missing. I killed him," Casen said, and Eziah and I stared wide-eyed at him. What the f*ck?

"So what shall it be? We take the mate killer, or" he suddenly shifts. And not into a wolf, but a f*cking bear.

"You best still have power in your bank?" I mutter to Eziah, " because we are gonna need it." I tell him, shifting just as he came rushing at me.

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The moment we clashed, all hell broke loose. All of them began shifting and attacking. My focus is solely on this giant directly in front of me. It became clear he was the one in charge. Were-bears, who the hell would have thought those existed, and what were chances of us stumbling upon them. Trust Rose to find the only other monsters beside us.

His paw swiped at my face, and I sank my teeth into it, which made him roar as Jax's teeth sliced through the pad of his paw, his claws scratching out tongue as he waved his arm. Out of the corner of my eye, I saw Eziah taking his sweet ass time as he got undressed. Folding his clothes while the bears circled around him, he kept at his leisurely pace of getting unchanged. Casen was fighting two and had a spear stuck in his side while the rest spun around, watching with their spears ready.

The bear roared as he swiped at my back, his claws raking through my fur to our tail before he grabbed it and flung me across the tiny clearing. We hit a tree, and Jax got back to his feet and shook out his fur, spraying blood everywhere a s we turned back toward our target. The bear stood up on its feet and snarled before dropping back down and charging at us. Jax growled, rushing at it before springing off his feet and onto its back, tearing into his neck.

"F*cker's got thick skin," Jax growled at me.

"Make a good rug. We need a new one," I told him. But one thing was not on this bear's side. We had speed he could never match, and years of handling Kaif, this was child's play for us. He tried to toss us off, but Jax sank his teeth deeper, making him whine and try to rip us off, and swiped over his shoulder at us.

He abruptly stood up, leaving us hanging from his neck by our teeth, while he flung his arms blindly, trying to get us off. Jax snarled before he was forced to let go or lose a tooth. He slid onto his feet across the grass about 10 meters away from the force of being tossed off. Casen had killed a smaller bear, but had a huge bite in his back leg and fought another while three stood around Eziah's naked form. His hands were glowing and they stared, mesmerized.

"What the f*ck is he doing, showing them a magic trick?" Casen snarled through the link at me. The bear I was fighting also turned to look at Eziah before cocking his head to the side. The light in his hands grew more extensive and the bears backed up, Eziah smirked at their obvious fear.

"Always enjoyed hunting, and I m ust say, you have a lovely pelt," he said while looking at a malted-colored one. They backed up some more, staring at his hands as he rolled the sphere between his hands, letting it grow bigger as his power surged thro ugh it. The gigantic bear I was fighting against suddenly roared and ran at him. Jax was quick on his heels, about to rip into him when Eziah raised his hand before slamming the ball of light at the ground.

The ground lifted like a wave, and my eyes widened when I was blasted backward. All I saw was black fur coming at m y face. I was about to attack the bear when it flew towards me. It smashed against me and we hit the ground in a heap.

The air was expelled from our lungs in a quick wheeze, and I felt some of Jax's ribs crack as its weight crushed us. The bear landed on top of us, and Jax struggled to get out from under the big bastard, squirming when the bear suddenly got off us and shook himself out. With a glance around, the other bears started charging at Eziah. He was tossing a sphere of gold in the air like he was about to play

dodgeball. Trees around us were fallen or wholly uprooted, except for the spot where Eziah stood, which was perfectly intact and looked untouched.

The rest of the place looked like a tornado had passed through. He smiled and the beast charged at him, snarling and growling all claws and teeth. Eziah raised his hand when he suddenly disappeared as fur engulfed my vision of him, and all I could see was the black bear. The enormous black bear roared and stood up, raising its paws, and the other bears slid across the ground and came to a halt at their leader's order. The bears shoulders dropped in what looked like submission, and the black bear turned to face Eziah, who waved to him.

"Do you mind stepping aside? I don't want you as rug. I want that one?" he said while peering around the giant bear and pointing to a malted brown o ne; he sent him a wink. The black bear suddenly shifted, turning back to his human form before dropping on one knee.

"Sorry, I didn't know you were the Moon Goddess's kin, your Majesty," he says, and all the bears drop on their paws and bow to him. Eziah huffed and tapped his foot, clearly annoyed. Whatever, for I did not know, we were nearly made into a bear snack, so I had no idea why he was upset.

"M um always ruins my fun; I was really looking forward to skinning that one," Eziah pouted before winking at the bear he liked, who shuddered and backed up, bumping into another. Well, this is fresh development, and how did they know about the Moon Goddess?

Casen shifts back, drenched in blood, and huge claw scratch down the center of his chest. He rips the spear out of his side, blood gushed down his abs and leg as he covered it with his hand while it healed. He snarled, stalking toward us.

"Web I then, you best show me to my mate," Casen growled,

gripping the leader's shoulder and turning him to face him. The man glared at him, but Casen flashed his canines at him.

"My mate, where is she?" he growled angrily with rage. Yet, I was still trying to get over his confession of killing his brother. I couldn't wrap my head around it.

Eziah also stared at Casen, and I had no idea what to think of anything anymore. I just wanted this shit over so I could go home to my mates. However, I wasn't sure the sickly feeling in my stomach was caused by all this drama, or Kyan, maybe a mix of both. Yet as I shifted back, the first thing I did was double over and threw up next to the tree. I clutched my stomach as pain rippled through me.

"Jonah?" Eziah called out to me, and I shook my head and gasped. I felt like something was crushing my chest, and I found it difficult to breathe.

"I will take you to her?" The man said. Casen shoved him forward with a snarl. The man got to his feet, and those with him shifted back. I tried to catch my breath.

Everything suddenly ached. A dulling throb resided behind my eyes, and I staggered, clutching a nearby tree trunk.

"Can your friend walk?" the leader said. I waved him off and forced myself upright. Turning, vertigo washed over, and I suddenly saw double before everything went black.

Kyan POV

A few hours earlier,

Marabella struggled to contain the shadows. We had created a dome shield so they couldn't escape while I tried to coach her to pull them back in. Her hands glowed a smokey gray as the shadows engulfed her. "Just draw on it," I told her, walking around the dome of my magic to see her better thro ugh the transparent shield I created. "Kyan, I can't," she cried as frustration set in.

"You did it before. Just focus on them and try to pull them back, feel for their energy and will it to draw toward you," Sweat beaded on her forehead as she concentrated. The do me surrounding her filling with mystical mist. "Kyan!" She shrieked as panic set in before she unleashed them completely.

"Ella, I need you to calm down. Don't panic, just breathe," I told her. Kaif's unease settled over me as we watched the shield obscure her and go completely dark. Black as coal when I heard her cough.

"Ella?" I called to her, all I got was a shuddering rasp of a response. Kaif shoved forward with me, reinforcing the shield. It shudders as the darkness swirling inside tried to break out, her own power mingling with it, and she made the same choking noise.

"Kyan, this shield won't hold much longer," Kaif warned when pain sliced thro ugh my neck; Kaif quivered inside me as the bond to her faltered. "Ella?" I rasped out. Kaif, in a panic, dropped the shield.

"Kaif, no," I screamed as the shadows burst free. Kaif recognized his mistake threw my hands out, trying to pull them, and I let go of control, letting him take over. His hands glowed a silvery blue as he tried to place the surrounding shield again. It was like grasping air in your hand, near impossible as they swirled like a tornado above.

Marabella gasps, and he turns his head toward her to see her clutching her neck. As if she had been choked. She crawled to her hands and knees, and her eyes blazed white for a second.

"She hasn't let go of them," I murmur to Kaif, and we glanced up. The shadows were swirling above but not unleashing. Marabella raised her hand, and I could see the black tendrils around her throat from where the shadows had tried to kill her.

Marabella gritted her teeth before she screamed, trying to draw them back and thunder and lightning suddenly cracked across the sky. A storm came out of nowhere, and the winds picked up, blowing her hair across her face.

"They're fighting her," Kaif whispered.

"What?"

"The shadows. They don't want to go back to her, so they are fighting to break free of her,"

"You are making no sense," I tell him as I watch, horrified. " They belong to the Octavian bloodline Kyan, now out they want to go home," "But?" He glanced at Marabella when she fell backward as if the rope to her shadows suddenly snapped or gave way. Kaif looked up to see them suddenly whisking with alarming speed directly at her. It all happened so fast, and I screamed in horror as they flew toward her just as she sat up.

She shakes her head, her eyes returning to normal, and Kaif moved as the shadows rushed toward her. He tossed himself in front of her, and he tensed as they smashed into him. So cold and loud. I could hear the dying screams of those trapped there writhe through my soul. Icy cold, and Kaif jolted as he took it, absorbed it. He gasped and stumbled forward, and I peered out his eyes to see Marabella cup her mouth with her hand as he steadied himself on his feet.

"Thank god," I murmured to Kaif, but I got no answer. I pushed on the barrier separating us, but he seem locked in place; the barrier was rock solid.

"Kaif, give me back control," I said, pushing on it when his back arched before he collapsed. Darkness swallowed me, and yet I could hear my own heart beating, the sound hollow before flickers of light. No memory flashed through me, only they weren't mine. The shadows were angry, and I first, I didn't understand what was happening as I watched. I was a bystander.

A woman stood by a cradle humming when the door opened, and I looked over at it. I recognized this room. It was one upstairs in the house only different, like I was transported back in time. Their clothes were not suited to this time period either. The wo man was wearing a puffy dress with shoulder pads, her hair curled down her back. Whereas the man had brown pants and a white shirt, and suspenders. The man says something to her, but the woman doesn't turn. I couldn't hear what he said, but I could hear the tune she hummed, which I thought was peculiar. Her voice clear, rings loudly on echo.

"Do you know what creates a monster?" She murmurs as she leans into the cradle. I looked at the man, who seemed confused.

"Another monster," she says before turning with the baby in her arms. Little black tufts of hair showed on his little head.

"Monsters create Monsters, Kaif. I won't let you make him one," she whispers, looking down at the baby in her arms. She brushes her finger down his nose and black tentacles rush under her skin, making it ripple.

"Mummy won't let him ruin you, isn't that right sweet boy?" she says, her lips turning up in a snarl. She raised him above her head, and the man I now knew was an ancestor, one that contained Kaif, rushed forward, hands out. His eyes were on the baby in her arms.

"I won't let you turn him against me. I won't allow him to be a monster," she sneered, her eyes turning black. The man shifts, and Kaif rushed forward just as she went to throw the baby. Kaif's hand snaked o ut just in time to grab the bundle of fabric while his fist connected with the side of her head. He clutched the baby to him while the wo man went sprawling before smashing her head on the corner of the dresser. I watched as he soothed the screaming baby, and my eyes moved to the wo man. Blood started pooling around her and across the floor. Kaif loo ked down as the trail reached his feet. He jerked, stanled, before glancing over his shoulder to see her bleeding on the floor. He appeared to scream, before placing the baby in the cradle and rushing toward her.

Clutching her and trying to wake her. Her body was floppy in his arms. The memory fizzles, and I am tossed into another one and another, the same cycle repeating as I watched them all try to kill his child. Then, those he didn't kill tried again and again until he was forced to kill them.

I closed my eyes, unable to witness the horrors each woman tried to do to their own young as the shadows overtook them all. Changing them and destroying them. I couldn't take it, feeling sick to my stomach when Kaif growled menacingly, and I opened my eyes to see Kaif was now standing. He growls at Marabella, who looks at him horrified.

"Kaif?" she whispers, but he wasn't seeing her. He was seeing someone else. His last mate, as she tried to drown their 4-year-old son in the bath, thought he broke the curse with her. He had marked her the night before his burning anger vibrated through him, and I tried to shove through the barrier. Screamed to him, it wasn't her. Marabella scrambled backward on her hands and feet, trying to escape him. Kaif slashed the air, narrowly missing her face with his claws, and she shrieked before scrambling to her feet.

He growled before giving chase as she shifted. My surroundings blurred as she raced toward the forest, ever thing turning into a blur as Kaif chased her. Kora darted among the trees, and a sense of Déja vu washed over me.

The trees zipped by in a blur as we chased her. Kora daned between the tombstones and along the track, trying to remain on the narrow path, but Kaif was faster, and she diverted away from it. Marabella was forced to flee into the thick brush, but it was no good as Kaif lunged forward. Her loud scream infuriated her more and Kaif commanded her to shift back.

"Shift," he yelled into her face as Kora squirmed in his arms, trying to break free. Her body tensed in his arms. Her body shudders and her ribs crack as he squeezes while she tries to fight his command. Eventually her bones snap, and she is forced to shift in his arms.

His grip never lessens and Mara's scream rattling off

words that would disable me if we're used on just me, but a monster like Kaif. One that held the power he has, and filled with rage he felt, they had no effect. The shadows of our ancestors weren't the Octavian bloodline at all but his mate's ghostly shadows. Now I know why they refused to return to her. They knew he would protect her, and instead of killing their offspring, they wanted to kill the source, which was Mara. His mates wanted revenge, and using Kaif, they would get it. Ending the blood lines, ending our mate.

Kaif laughs and squeezes her. She thrashes, gasping while she tries to break free. I scream, shoving forward as he aims to rip out her throat to kill her. "Kaif No!" I screamed before smashing my hands against the barrier that separated us. He jolts. His teeth, missing their mark, and instead of killing her, he marks her. His teeth slashed and tore through not only her neck but also her chest and shoulder blade. She screams loudly, and blood runs down her body before she goes limp in his arms just as I smashed through the barrier.

Her head falls forward. I scoop her. Marabella's body is all floppy, and I notice I am in Kaif's body, not my own. I sniff her, and her head rolls back in his furry arms. Blood drenched her, and her marking looked more like a bear had mauled her. Blood oozed out of her, dripping off our arms, and the color drained from her face. Her heart rate slowed to a deadly beat as I looked on, horrified at what he had done.

I shake her, but she doesn't wake when I notice the markings around her neck, thick lines etched into her skin from the shadows, and I look around when I feel Kaif surge to life and stir within me. "What have I do ne?" he gasps as the shadows evaporate and fizzle. An icy feeling seeps out of me and down our arms, forcing me to shift back into my human form. I grit my teeth, not wanting to drop her as the shadows leave me and seep back into her.

"The ruins! Get her to the ruins," Kaif screams at me. I look up the hill before I take off running.

Fated To The Alpha by Jessica Hall Chapter 255

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Kyan POV

We laid Marabella down on the ruins, and panic coursed through me at seeing her like this, blood gushed out of her neck, and I felt the weight of this place suffocate Kaif, force him down and away from the surface where she was safest. Marabella was bleeding profusely, but since bringing her here, I could feel her healing, feel the pull on Kaif as he took it from her.

The bond caused by bringing her back all those years ago was strong when I felt Jonah drop. I knew he did by the cold feeling that settled over me. Kaif felt it too.

A Domino effect as Marabella bled out, Kaif pulled on her life force, keeping her here, while Jonah took it from Kaif. It was moments like these that I truly realized I was purely a vessel. Yet I had a different view of Kaif now.

Understood him better and why he did the things he did. Seeing it firsthand as I was there to witness it all. The things his past mates tried to do, heartache he felt at killing them. Pulling Marabella into my lap, I buried my face in her neck before running my tongue over her wounds, sealing them closed along with his mark. It

didn't work as good since I wasn't in his form but hel ped a little, and I felt her stir as she came back to the world of the living. The shadows filling me from Kaif were tortuous.

The darkest parts of his past would forever haunt me, the sickening things he had endured and all out of spite. "That happens every time you mark them?" I ask Kaif. His voice was muffled but still there. He couldn't reach the surface here, not that he was willing to come out anyway. Fearful he would hurt her again.

"Yes, I believe when Luna was trapped in the stone, Hades cursed all mates to share her hate, share her heartache at losing her son, forever to live with the darkest pans of her once marked. I have tried, and a few times we thought we broke it, turns out each mate becomes a little wiser, it is my punishment for turning her so n against her, for taking her as my mate, for Celestes sins."

"But you didn't," I tell him, and he shrugs.

"I didn't defend her either; I let him believe his mother was dead. I didn't think she would come back,"

"So there is no way of breaking the curse?"

"No, it's an endless loop. No one can live with the shadows once released, no one is strong enough to block out their hate, no one can live with what I have done," Kaif said, and I looked down at Marabella in my arms. She stirred, and I brushed her hair from her face and her nose wrinkled as she frowned. She looked like she was in a nightmare

before her eyes fluttered open.

" Kyan?" she murmured, and I sniffled, loo king away from her.

"You will be okay, Marabella," I tell her, scooping her up in my arms. I sense for Kaif to make sure he was secure before I stepped out of the ruins. Terrified, he would come back and finish the job of the shadows tried.

It made no sense to me. They tried to kill their own sons, all of them. Not one was able to live with it. The shadows grew so strong they couldn't take it and gave in to their demands, but the shadows tried to kill their vessel this time. Which confused me.

I trudged through the forest back towards the mano r. Guilt was eating Kaif, and sorrow filled me. Getting closer, I mind

-linked Lucas to open the door as I walked across the lawns, it had started to rain, and I needed to get out of here for a few hours. Needed to get away so I could think.

Marabella had dozed off and remained asleep until I put her in the bath with me. The water turned red as I cleaned her. I could hear my pho ne going off, and no doubt Jonah would be on the way home. He would be worried about us both. I block him out, not wanting to feel his worry when I had mine and hers to deal with.

"It doesn't look that bad," Marabella says, glancing down at her neck and shoulder. Though healed, we had permanently mutilated her. I look over her shoulder and nod, not saying anything. I would never forgive myself and neither would Kaif. This should not have happened.

Marabella seemed unfazed by his savagery branding her skin and turned her face to look up at me over her

shoulder. She leaned up, nibbling on my lips, and I turned my face away from her.

"What's wrong?" She asked, her brows furrowing. She watched me warily. But I felt her worry of me actually being Kaif, felt the tug in the bond of her fear she was trying to mask.

"Nothing," I tell her leaning my face to hers and kissing her softly. All too soon, I pulled away, and I could feel her confusion at my distance. She seemed to believe everything could go back to normal but I knew the fate that would come for her.

One I wasn't willing to let her pay for. Grabbing the loofah, I continued to wash her, she squirms on my lap, trying to touch me, but I was quick to maneuver her and stop her wandering hands. Once finished, I helped her out of the bath and wrapped her in a towel.

"Have you heard from Jonah today?" Marabella asked me.

"He is fine. I think he found Rose. He should be back tomorrow or maybe tonight," I answer. I felt like I was on autopilot, and I knew she could sense my strange mood, her eyes watching me as I stepped into the room.

I retrieved some clothes wanting to go to work. I needed a distraction and work seemed like a good one. Her arms wrap around my waist as she hugs my back, her fingers trying to undo the buttons I was painstakingly trying to do up with my shaking hands.

"Marabella, stop,' I tell her pulling away from her. I watched as she retrieved pajamas, but I felt her hurt at my rejection, and it sickened me that I would feel it worse in a minute.

Kaif remained quiet, yet hated what I was going to do, hated me for it, but he felt the guilt of hurting her and,

doing that opened his eyes to the future that awaited her. He knew there was no escaping it, and I refused for her to become the next Octavian woman to pay the price for a feud they weren't part of.

"Tomorrow, I will take you back home. It is too late now, and I need to get to work," I tell her.

"What?" she asked, shaking her head as she pulled her nightie on.

"What for?" she asked, and I turned to face her. She seemed confused as she climbed into my bed. She pats the spot beside her, but I shake my head.

"Did I do something wrong? I will learn to control shadows, Kyan, I am fine," she says, looking up at me as I move closer to her.

"It's safer this way, Marabella, it is the only way,"

"Why do you keep saying my name like that, so formal?" She pulls a face. My heart twinged at the horrid sinking feeling I was getting from her.

"I'm fine, see it's just a scratch. You don't have to send me home, and Jonah will be back tomorrow," She says, tugging at her nightie. I look away from the scars that mark her.

"I won't let you be the next life claimed," I tell her before pecking her lips, she tries to deepen the kiss and tugs me closer, but I unwrap her arms from around my neck.

"I love you, don't doubt that,"

"I know you do; I love you too," she says, reaching for me, but I stand up and step away from her.

"Kyan?" Marabella asks as fear trickled through the bond from her and she tries to climb out of bed.

"I Kyan Dominic Octavian,"

"Kyan, no, just wait, we," she says, but I keep going because I know if I stop, I won't be able to go through with it.

Marabella tries to jump to reach me.

"Reject you, Marabella Pierce, as my mate and Luna," I finish, and she staggers back at the same time I do, feeling like my soul was just shredded apart. Tears trekked down her face as she choked on her sobs and clawed at her chest. Kaif wailed in my head screamed the anguish I felt at what I had just done.

"You can take it back," Marabella begged, her heartbreak near destroying me, and I sniffled, looking away from her. It was for her own good.

"But I won't," I choked out. "I can't. I won't be the reason you die," I tell her before escaping the room.

"Kyan, please," I heard her running after me, but she stopped at the top of the stairs and I knew the weight of the bond severing was tearing her apart. I could barely keep going myself, wanting nothing but to rip my own chest open and yank out my heart, so I don't have to feel this pain. Lucas comes out of the kitchen and looks at Marabella's fallen to her knees.

"What have you done?" Lucas murmurs, his shock evident as I look at him.

"What I had to," I tell him before leaving him to look after her. I needed to get out of here, away from her. I couldn't bear to watch her like that. So like a coward, I ran.

Fated To The Alpha by Jessica Hall Chapter 256

3 Comments / Fated To The Alpha by Jessica Hall Novel Novel Chapter 256 Marabella POV

Kora howled in my head, her pain amplifying mine, making it ten times worse. I felt like I couldn't breathe, like the air was being crushed from my lungs, agonizingly slowly. Everything was fine, then it wasn't. I knew something was up with him because he was blocking the bond. He had been quiet all night. Yet I didn't expect him to reject me.

A person can only take so much before they break and only suffer for so long before the suffering becomes nothing but a burden to carry. In the midst of so much darkness for so long, so much loneliness in your life, you realize it is no longer worth it, that you can't live with the heartache.

Everything was in chaos, and when I look at what has come to pass in my life, I wonder how the hell I got here. What was the one part of my life that determined it would get to this point? Where did I go so detrimentally wrong that I ended up here at this exact moment? Was it because I wasn't strong enough like they all claimed?

Looking at Lucas, who was frantically calling my name, I glanced around and thought, is this i t? Is this all it will ever be, and will I always be this unhappy? Unhappy in love, disappointed i n life, and down with how things turned out. I couldn't hear a word he was saying. I am sure h e meant well, but I was deaf and mute to my surroundings, drowning in my grief. .novel.com

For years, I lost the perception of seeing myself clearly. Kyan let me see who that was, only then to take it back from me. My life I thought, was changing. I was giving value to myself, and I allowed myself to see a future with him and Jonah. Now that dream was gone, and I was back where I started. Standing up, I felt nothing. Nothing at all like I switched off to life, pulled the plug. I was dead long before I recognized I was dying.

Alone and grieving for a life of that would never be. I thought we would work it out, had it mapped out in my head. Now there was no map, and I was stumbling blindly back into the abyss of myself. This isn't the life I wanted or would choose for myself. So this time, I will choose differently. If the shadows wanted me, they could have me, so with that, I chose death.

How foolish of me, how silly of me to believe I was anything but another burden. I won't be the burden anymore; I won't go back to that place. I couldn't go back to living on autopilot, going through the motions but not living the moments, doing what's expected while expecting nothing in return. No, I couldn't live like that anymore, and if that was living, I wanted no part of it. .novel.com

I was vaguely aware of my phone ringing beside the bed. It rang out, and as I watched his name pop up on the screen, it vibrated off the bedside table and started ringing again. Bending down, I picked it up and unlocked it. Kora was long gone, and I had no idea where she went, but she left me, too.

I didn't realize I was typing until I hit send on the message. Blinking, I stared at the message before it started ringing in my hand again, and I dropped it. Locked the door and sat on the bed. Kyan's scent was everywhere, and I heard Lucas talking to me through the door. I must have said something back because he left. I had no idea of the words I spoke. The echoes of his footsteps leaving told me I was now alone again, that whatever I said must have convinced him I was okay, although I was anything but.

This is what depression does. Your life slips by without you realizing it was passing, and I couldn't go back to that. I could identify the traits because they were mine so long, and I refused to live like that again, making my family suffer again by watching me turn back to an empty shell. No, I would rather be free. If my only freedom was death, so be it.

Jonah POV

Something had to have happened. Pain rattled through my chest, and it was pure agony coming from one source, and that source was Kaif. Kyan wasn't answering his phone, so I tried Lucas, who answered and told me what had happened; said Kyan went to work and had rejected Mara.

I was twenty minutes out of the city and driving like a madman, trying to get back to them. Yet I was torn in two directions. I needed to check on them both. However, something was nagging at me when Mara wouldn't answer her phone.

Some gut instinct told me something was wrong. I knew Kyan rejected her. There was no doubt that that was the crippling pain I felt coming from him. Giving up when no one would answer, I continued driving when a cold rush coursed through me, making every hair on my body stand on end.

Jax whined restlessly, and I grabbed my phone to see a text message had popped up without me noticing. Relief flooded me when I saw it was Marabella, yet the message itself made my blood run cold.

'It should have been you.' I nearly swerved off the road as I dialed her number, yet still, she didn't pick up. Pick up, pick up, I thought anxiously, but no answer. Dialing Kyan's number, h e answered finally.

"Where is Mara?" I asked.

"At home," Kyan answered, and I swerved off the road, sending dust and debris everywhere.

"Where are you?"

"Heading back home, I went to check things at work," Kyan answered, and I tossed my door open. Jax was on edge, picking up something that told me to trust his instincts.

"You need to get back home," I tell him.

"Yeah, I am on my way back," Kyan says before he groans and I hear the sound of metal on metal when pain smashes through my chest.

"No," I gasp as Kyan's suffering intensifies before I feel it through Kaif. I knew he had an accident, but he was alive and breathing. I knew that much because I was still alive even though for the first time, I wished I was dead when I felt the pain of her tether to him disappear. Jax shifted before I even had time to register what it was. I felt it rip through Kyan and we were running, running through the forest, headed toward the manor.

We had never run so fast, running off fear and adrenaline, and I could feel Kaif had taken over Kyan. He had lost control and was also trying to get to her, but I knew it was too late. That became all too clear when I heard Kaif's wailing scream as I reached the manor.

Everything blurred around me as we smashed through the place and up the stairs. Kaif was o n his knees, and my legs gave way when I saw her in his arms as he untangled the rope around her neck.

"What have I done?" Kaif murmured, looking down at her. Lucas stood horrified as he looked in the doorway. Tears trekked down his face as he cupped his mouth in horror at her lifeless body when Kaif suddenly shifted, and Kyan took his place.

I just stared at the markings that wrapped around her throat, her limp body in his arms. She can't be gone.

"Do something," I choked out.

"I killed her," Kyan whispered, looking at me helplessly.

Fated To The Alpha by Jessica Hall Chapter 257

2 Comments / Fated To The Alpha by Jessica Hall Fated To The Alpha by Jessica Hall Chapter 257

Katya POV

We had just got to this bloody camp in the wilderness, surrounded by men barely clothed and reeking of were- bear. Shake my head at how crazy this shit was. Of course, I knew of their existence but to be frank, when I looked into the fountain of past? Honestly, there were too many fountains to keep track of. I thought for sure, it was a trick of the light. The fact they knew who I was shocked me.

Mateo sat next to me, sitting around this campfire as I watched the chaos ensue.

"Did you know?" Mateo asked me, nodding toward a group that was huddled around Casen. Every move he made had them on edge. I can't believe the mess we found ourselves in because of my niece. I love her, but I would also love to kill right now.

"Yes, Celeste cursed them; I didn't think literally, though. They were a rival village or something, and they stole her bear skins, so she cursed them, she had a temper," I tell him.

"You can fix it, right? I think that is what they want in return for Rose," Mateo asks, and I scrunch my face up at the thought.

"Do I look like I am running a damn circus? Not my circus, not my monkeys. I have enough shit to worry about without chasing after Winnie the Pooh because they stole

someone else's honey. They need to figure it out themselves; I didn't curse them. I sure as shit can't un- curse them."

"Woah, settle love, just asking. No need to get your panties in a knot."

"I'm not wearing any for them to be in a knot." I hissed. Mateo wiggles his eyebrows before I hear a gagging sound, and my eyes narrow in on my son.

"I do not want to hear about your panties or your private bits," Eziah whines.

"You came out of my private bits," I growl at him. Hands fall on my shoulders, and I look up to see Ezra and sigh as Maddox comes forward.

"Lose the mood. You have been insufferable lately," Maddox snarls.

"Well, if you and Mateo here didn't chase our daughter off," I snap at him.

"How many times do I have to apologize for that? She freaked us out. We didn't realize how powerful she was," Maddox said, bending down and nipping at my neck.

"Cut it out, or I will feed you to the bears," I tell him. Maddox sighs, and I feel the change in the air as he handed control back to Ezra, his aura lessening.

"Have you found out anything remotely helpful?"

"Yes, they keep calling Casen the mate killer, something about Celeste and if we want Rose back, you need to help them."

"They are holding her hostage?" I huff.

"Kind of, not really Rose wants to stay," Ezra explains.

"Not my monkeys, not my monkeys," I mutter when I feel Sage's aura getting closer. I smirk. Hell has no fury like a woman scorned or, in this case, a mother. She was a raging inferno. I had never, ever seen her so goddamn angry. She almost made me scared until I remembered who I was.

"Why are you smirking?" Mateo asks, nudging me.

"Sage," I chuckle. Eziah, Ezra, and Mateo look at me, and I notice And rei spins around and looks in the direction I feel her coming from.

"Now you have done it," Andrei tells Rose.

"She has done it al right; I don't think I have seen an angry bone in that wo mans body, and she f*cking livid," Eziah chuckles and smiles. That boy has a warped sense of humor. Enjoys watching people's horror. I glanced up just in time to see Rose's eyes look past us. " Mum?" she says, obviously shocked.

"You little brat, you wait until I get my dam n hands on you," Sage was furious, pulling leaves and twigs from her hair as she stomped toward her daughter. Her clothes were torn from the forest. Rose yelps and jumps up, and I roll my eyes when she dans behind Casen.

Didn't want him before and now wants to use him as a shield, he pushes her away. Also, clearly not happy with her. Andrei tried to intervene when Sage grabbed her by the ear. The tri be elder or chief, whatever the heck they call themselves, stood up but quickly sat back down when Sage pointed a shaking, angry finger at him. Wow, he backed down plenty quick enough, sitting back on his log-like scolded the boy. Eziah cackles and kick him as he laughs at Roses's embarrassment. "You brat, how bloody dare you. Do you have any idea how many people are looking for you? This is no behavior for a future Alpha," Sage scolds, dragging Rose away while she tries to pry her mother's fingers off her ear.

"Hours, bloody hours spent negotiating with them, and she just walks in no care in the world rips her out by her ear," Andrei puffs out his chest, and I see the leader get up.

"Sit down," Andrei and I both snap, and he does. "Seems Sage spooked him,"

"More like bluffed him," Andrei says and I snicker.

"Sometimes that is all that is needed," I tell him, and he nods before looking over at Casen.

"I know you're upset. Don't blame him. Rose will see it too,"

"You sure about that?" Andrei asked.

"I kept my mouth shut, didn't I when Vince's wolf returned to the fountain?" Andrei nods.

"Sage?"

"I would hate to be you when you got home," I warned him, seeing how that was playing out the moment she stepped into the clearing.

"More about Rose or Vince?"

"Vince," I tell him, and he nods before calling Casen over, who gets up off the ground when I feel the familiar cold rush of a message in the Moon Goddess realm. I click my tongue, annoyed, always right when we are in the middle of something. Eziah suddenly gasps, and I look over at him to see him doubled over before he staggers, and Mateo tries to grab when he throws up against a tree.

"Eziah?" I shrieked, rushing to his side when I felt the realm sucking me in. I reach out for him when he grabs my arms.

"Marabella," he chokes, and we are ripped through the realms. My surroundings fade and I am pulled into an extra dimension and find myself in front of the fountains.

Eziah still held his stomach one hand on my arm. He let go and rushed to the fountains, swirling his hands in the water while I went to check the bonds. Looking for what pulled me here, when I noticed Kora floating around in the abyss of mist, in limbo. I race back to the fountain of past that Eziah was sifting through when he stopped. His thunderous growl was blood-chilling, and I saw the black tendrils sliver up his arms, darkness tainting him, and his hands glowed. "Eziah?" I whispered, knowing what he was about to do, yet I couldn't bring myself to stop him.

"I can feel her dying; I can feel it," Eziah gasps.

"I know,"

"I am bringing her back," I swallowed, having seen it, but I didn't realize it was linked to Marabella. I always thought his mate brought out the darkness in him. Eziah shoved me before reaching for the dagger off the gold desk. My brows pinch.

"Eziah, what are you doing?" I ask, this wasn't pan of it.

"Making sure he f*cking feels it," Eziah snarls and disappears before I could stop him.

"F*ck!" I turn to the fountain, peering in and moving to the present. I watch as Eziah portals into the room. Trying to focus o n what I know, I know he becomes dark, but how. And why the dagger?

"Hang on, Ko ra, he will bring you back to her," I whispered when I watched Eziah stalk toward Kyan and Jonah. The true meaning of the Gemini Twins was revealed to me at that moment. Power shared between my twins was balanced with one gone Eziah was absorbing it all. I felt sick, feeling the rage emanating out of the fountain. What I was not expecting, though, was what he did next.

"I will make him feel it," Eziah said. My eyes widened when he stepped over Mara's body in Kyan's arms, and Kyan looked up at him, confused before his eyes widened. It happened so quickly I almost didn't believe it. I felt sick to my stomach when Eziah plunged the knife into Lucas's neck before kissing him. He turned, dropped to his knees, and kissed his sister while Lucas swayed in shock, clutching his neck. Eziah gasps and falls backward on his hands when Lucas crashes to the floor behind him.

Marabella lurched upright, looking around while Jonah just blinked in horror. I watched the darkness leave Eziah like mist in the air, going back to Marabella as it seeped into her when I felt the cold rush of a life returning to the fountain. I peered over it to see Kora was go ne and in her place was Lucas's wolf.

"He killed him," I gasped, turning back to the fountain only to see Kyan explode in rage and attack my son.

Tears slipped down my cheeks, knowing I would have to tell my brother he had just lost his best friend. Whoever thinks being the Moon Goddess is easy has no idea of the crap I witness, the choices I get wrong every day. This was one of them. Wandering over to the fountain of life, I move Lucas's wolf into the fountain to re-home him when an appropriate vessel comes through.

It was sad to think I had become desensitized to death at this point. Gripping the fountain, I stared down at Dominic's wolf, his dark mystical aura swirling around

in limbo. No matter how much I had tried, I couldn't pull him from this state between shadows and light. For sixteen years, he has been trapped here, never going home like he was waiting for something.

"You wanna have a plan, Dominic, because I can't see a future out of this," I tell his wolf.

"I trust you do," I tell the mystical aura floating in the mist. I have kept this secret for sixteen years, and I was sick of carrying it. No wonder she gave up, no wonder she wanted to rest. I had barely done a smidgen of the time she did, and I was exhausted of the choices, exhausted of being the Moon Goddess. Exhausted from living with their deaths.

Fated To The Alpha by Jessica Hall Chapter 258

2 Comments / Fated To The Alpha by Jessica Hall **Chapter 258**

Marabella POV

Death was not at all what I imagined. I expected oblivion, nothingness, peace, and solitude, but this? This was something else, I knew I was dead, I felt my heart stop, yet why could I still feel? I felt like I couldn't breathe still, felt like I was tingling all over, like when you get pins and needles from not moving a limb for so long. It was a horrid sensation to have. My subconscious felt like it was floating in space when I suddenly felt like I was being pulled. Pulled to something new.

Light flickered ahead when I felt like I was suddenly moving fast before coming to a halt. I squeezed my eyes shut at the motion before opening them to see a man. To see hundreds of people. Although they weren't people, they were almost translucent, but the man in front of m e was flickering. I held my hand out and looked at it and I too appeared to be transparent. However, I was also flickering surrounded by the abyss of shadowy mist.

"Hello Marabella," the man says. That voice I recognized immediately. I blinked, looking over at him. He was tall like Kyan, with dark black hair, he had a suit on and I could see he had matching shadow marks covering his chest and arms like Kyan does peeking out from near his collar. There was no mistaking who he was.

"Dominic," I whispered and he nodded his head, stepping closer to me and I reach my hand out to him. Only it goes straight through him. My brows crease and I look around at all the shadowy figures. Why didn't they flicker as Dominic and I do?

"Where am I?" I asked, peering into the mist. "In the shadow realm, where all Octavians go," he answered.

"Shadow Realm?"

"Yes, there are many realms, like the Moon Goddess realm, prison realms like this one which i s reserved for Octavian descendants and their mates, more realms than anyone could fathom,"

"But I am not an Octavian, Kyan rejected me," I tell him. Dominic shakes his head. I followed him as he walked through the mist and through the people wandering this place. The shadows did not have an end. After a while, I couldn't stop my wandering eyes as I peered at all the women, women from the dreams that haunted me all my life. The women who did unspeakable things, things that would horrify anyone.

"I have seen them before," I whisper, stopping as I gaze into the sea of people.

"I have heard their voices, their screams, seen what they have done," I whisper, yet they moved through me unseeingly, each one passing through me colder than the last.

"They contain luna's anger," Dominic says, and I look at him.

"Who are they?" I ask him.

"Kaif's mates, each one he killed, they are forever stuck in the shadows,"

"I heard their whispers. They tried to make Kaif kill me," I tell him.

"Yes, because they know you can break the curse."

"Don't they want the curse broken?" I ask him.

"They want Kaif punished for his sins," Dominic answers before he walks again through the shadows of nothing but emptiness. It had no end, nothing, just shadows of ghostly figures lost to the mist.

"*M*y family has been trying to break the curse for centuries, each of us doomed for history to repeat, but each generation we keep track, we record and learn,"

"I don't understand how any of this helps me now I am stuck here,"

"But you aren't, just like me, we are floating among the abyss. *W*e aren't a piece of it yet," Dominic says, stopping again.

"Ah, I'm dead," I tell him and he chuckles.

"No, my dear, not yet. Or not for long any way, I have seen it,"

"You have visions even here?"

"Yes, I have seen it all, and Kaif will break the curse, and you will help him. That is why they tried to kill you." He says, motioning to the sea of shadowy figures.

"Is that why I am flickering and they aren't?" I ask him, looking at my hands.

"Your soul is still tethered to earth because you are a twin, a Gemini one. Your power when you died lives on through your brother. Light can not exist without darkness, balance. You and Eziah are half of a whole. When you were born the shadows became worried. Because you were born when darkness arose, Kaif arose and they knew, because darkness attracts darkness, just like it seeks light,"

"So I am not dead?" I ask. Was it possible to get a headache when dead because I swear I could feel one coming on?

"No," he says. I look at him. His too flickered as I did and I glanced around. Everyone else was ghostly shadows, but they didn't flicker like us.

"Then why do you look like me?"

"I was wondering when you would realize," he laughs.

"My soul may be trapped here. But witches are tied to their magic. It's part of our souls, so la m neither here or there. In a limbo of sorts waiting for my magic to die out or returned to me," my brows furrow.

"But you gave me your magic," I tell him, and he nods.

"I did. I also gave you my shadows, anchored my magic to you. My body is dead but my soul lives on. Our bodies are vessels, vessels for Lycans, a vessel for life,"

"You speak in a riddle, you know that?" I tell him, he chuckles darkly.

"Don't we all," he offers.

"Well, I was never any good at riddles," I mutter.

"So how do I free them?" I ask, looking at all the lost souls surrounding us, trapped in a time only they can see.

"You set Luna free, free of her anger,"

"And that will break the curse, give Kaif his redemption?"

"Redemption is a strange word, it means we have done something wrong that needs to be forgiven,"

"These women, though, were going to kill their children. I don't believe he did anything wrong," I admit. "Ah, see that is my point, to break the curse you must set Luna free. But redemption was not something Kaif needed to seek from someone else, it was something he needed to find within himself. He has to forgive himself. Only then will he have the freedom he desires."

"Again with the riddles, can we speak like I don't know, modern-day language? I think I would find it easier deciphering emojis," I huff.

"What is this emoji you speak of?" Dominic asks.

"Come on, you aren't that old, you haven't been dead that long,"I deadpan. "The little pictures i n text messages," I offer.

"You mean those funny little faces?" he pulls Kissy lips and sticks his tongue out.

"I never understood the meaning of those things, especially with the eggplant and cucumber one that Jonah likes to send you. I think riddles are a much cleverer thing, makes you think, makes you wonder." my face flamed. Thank God he doesn't speak emoji.

"He meant salad, eggplant, and cucumber salad," I lie.

"I will have to remember that," Dominic says.

"So is Luna here too?"

"No, she is trapped within the stone. Find that, set her free, and that will also set me free," Dominic tells me.

"If you saw the future, why did you die for it then? Why not alter it?"

"Because fate is a funny thing, like a domino effect. Change too little, change too much. It all follows a sequence, sometimes better, sometimes worse. I saw two ways this went. Kyan kills me and I die for not saving you, or I save you and fate kills me and you live. I chose the option that let us both live, the one that sets him free."

"But if I go back, I will become like them eventually," I whisper.

"No, don't you see Marabella, I figured it out. Us men were bestowed with the horrors of our mate's pasts. We saw what they became, yet the women were bestowed with Luna's rage because they thought Kaif betrayed them,"

"Again with the riddles. I think you just enjoy speaking nonsense," I laugh.

"Your different Marabella. When I died, I gave you the shadows. You would be tainted with Kaifs when you return but you are stronger,"

"How? It makes no sense,"

"Because you lived with them, see that is where we went wrong, they all saw the future of what could be, filled with Luna's rage of her betrayal, her own son killed her, so that is what they saw. They saw Luna's end and then end for each other, saw Kaif turn on them. You though have seen why he killed them, I didn't just give you my magic, I gave you my shadows so you could learn to live with them, understand the action behind what Kaif did. The shadows no this, they are filled with so much hate they don't want Kaif free, that is why they tried to kill you. They know you can break the curse, they are stuck in the time in which they died they see no error in their ways, you however have seen the darkness that becomes of them, the shadows can't touch you, twist you, because you lived with them,"

My skin begins to flicker brightly, and Dominic smiles. "Your time is up,"

"What do you mean?" I ask.

"We will meet again," Dominic tells me.

"But wait, I need to know how to break the curse."

"Find the talisman," he says before he suddenly feels very real when he grabs me. His hands n o longer passed through me and I looked down where his hands clutched my arms.

"Break the curse Marabella, don't forget what you are. You don't just harbor my magic, you aren't just an Octavian woman, you are Gemini, you are the darkness of your brother's light," h e says before he shoves me and I am suddenly falling.

• My eyes open wide at the feeling rushing through me, like wind passing through everything,

and I suddenly can't breathe again as I fall through the abyss when I am suddenly in darkness once again.

I try to suck in a breath, try to find my sense of self when I see a glowing orb in the distance. I closed my eves, knowing I was about to crash into it and brace for impact trying to suck in air. When I gasped, I was choking.

Air filled my lungs, I lurched forward, gagging and choking on air. I coughed, trying to catch m y breath, and clutched my neck. Eziah was in front of me, a dagger falling from his fingertips and Lucas. I blinked, wondering what was going on. His face fell, blood spurting from between his fingers as he clutched his neck.

"No!" Kyan screamed beside me as Lucas crashed to the ground in a pool of his own blood and Kyan exploded in rage.

Fated To The Alpha by Jessica Hall Chapter 259

2 Comments / Fated To The Alpha by Jessica Hall **Chapter 259**

My eyes widened in horror as Kaif burst free of Kyan with a thunderous growl that made the hair on my arms stand on end. Jonah rushed forward to stop him when Kaif turned and flung his hand, blasting Jonah backward and into the wall. A scream of fear left me, and I rushed toward Jonah, helping him sit where the walls dent from the impact.

"I'm okay, but you need to move if you want me to stop him," Jonah gasped, then groaned as h e sat up. My heart twinged now, realizing how foolish my actions were.

When I killed myself, I thought I was ending my pain, yet seeing Jonah, it was clear I was only giving it to him. My mistake was clear to me now. I ended my life without thinking of its effect on him, which was obvious from the tear streaks on his face. Even now, he was still fighting for me, even after I gave up the fight myself.

He cupped my cheek with his hand and went to get to his feet. I turned my head just in time t o see Kaif stalk toward Eziah. My heart lurched when I saw him swing at him, his claws raking down his chest, which earned him a snarl from Eziah, his shirt torn open, and his blood stained it red.

"I warned you about hurting my sister; I fucking warned you, Kyan. It was either Lucas or Jonah, a life for a life. To give, I must take first. You did this, not me, you did, and now you pay for it," Eziah screamed at him, clutching his bleeding wounds.

His words seemed to stun Kaif for a few seconds. His rage dissipated, and Kyan returned before collapsing next to Lucas on the floor. "I didn't know," I heard him whisper, and my stomach sank, and tears trekked down my cheeks. Eziah staggered and leaned heavily on the door frame, his hand clutching his chest. Blood pouring out between the gaps in fingers. His skin went pale and his lips turned blue.

"Eziah?" I whispered, and he looked over at me, his face clammy, and he smirked.

"I'm alright, sis, but we need to go," he rasped out, holding out his other hand,

"She is not going anywhere with you," Kyan snarled at him, and Eziah's eyes flashed gold before flickering oddly. He pulled his hand from his chest and the blood pouring from him was a mixture of red and blue.

"Come, Marabella," Eziah hissed, trying to stand upright before stumbling forward and tripping over Kyan. Kyan moved with a speed that would have shamed Kaif. His rage still burned, and I saw the tattoos of his darkness that covered his back, chest, and arms ripple as he grabbed Eziah's throat and pinned him against the wall. Kyan smirked, "You don't scare m e, Kyan." Eziah growled. "I don't need to scare you, but if you try to take her, I will fucking kill you." Kyan snarled while his eyes flickered to a demonic black.

"Good thing it's not up to you then," Eziah retorts, and Kyan's grip tightens; Eziah's face changes color, and I watch as Kyan's claws break free of his fingertips slowly as a warning. Razor-sharp and digging into his skin.

"Choose wisely, Ella," Kyan says, not removing his eyes f*ro*m Eziah, *w*ho only smiled mockingly. Caught in between, I could only watch. I wanted to help my brother, but Kyan was clearly on the verge of losing control.

"What, now you suddenly want me?" I scoff. Kyan's jaw clenches and his knuckles turn white, and Eziah chokes. Clawing at his hands. "Kyan!" I growl, feeling Kora finally come forward; I actually wondered if I had lost her. Though groggy and out of it, relief flooded me.

"Choose Ella; what will be?" Kyan snarled, finally turning his head to look at me. Eziah's eyes flashed, and his hands let go of Kyan's wrist and smashed against Kyan's chest. Eziah's eyes bulged from his head, and I saw his hands glow brightly. Kyan looked down at them before his eyes met Eziah's, and he smirked.

"You maybe be a Gemini wolf twin, but you are no match for a Demi-god witch hybrid," Kyan snarled. Black tendrils suddenly slivered up Eziah's arms as Kyan's shadows seeped out, darkness tainting Eziah, and I rushed to get to my feet to help my brother when I was ripped backward and into Jonah's lap as he grabbed me.

"Agree," Jonah whispered as his hands wrapped securely around my waist, and my back met his warm chest. "Kyan, let him go," I pleaded.

"What's it going to be, Ella? You try to leave, I kill him, you stay and he lives, so pick. I have lost enough tonight, and I won't lose you a second time," Kyan warned as my brother choked." Say yes, I won't let him hurt you again," Jonah murmured below my ear while my heart thumped erratically

"I'll stay, I'll fucking stay," I screamed, thrashing in Jonah's arms as he tried to keep me away from Kyan, who looked like he had let the darkness take him over.

"Kyan, she said she'd stay, release him," Jonah growls at him, holding me tighter, and Kyan lets him go with a shove. Eziah went to attack him but elbowed Jonah and rushed forward, getting between them,

"She stays," Kyan tells him, unfazed by my brother, who looked like he was on the verge of passing out. "Stop, I will be fine; Jonah's with me," I whispered to Eziah as Kyan bent down to grab Lucas. My eyes went to Jonah, who nodded to us both. I owed Jonah to stay, and I prefer t o stay with him then go home after so long of being away.

"You're not safe here," Eziah sputtered, and I held my hand against his chest, trying to stem the bleeding. Ignoring his words, I looked up at him. "What did you do to him?" I snapped Kyan. But said nothing. "Why aren't you healing?" I said, looking back at Eziah.

"Guess that gene I got from mum," Eziah huffed.

"Kyan, help him," I pleaded, but he ignored me, grabbing Lucas and shoving past us.

"He can help himself," Kyan growled be*f*ore walking out of the room naked, carrying his uncle down the stairs. Tears brimmed in my eyes. *E*verything was fucked up. Kora was no help; I only had the ability to kill things, not heal them, and my brother was bleeding out because of me.

"The Dagger, it transfers power, you have power *M*ara, you can help take it from him," Dominic's voice suddenly appeared in my ear, and I turned to look for where it landed. My eyes spot it on the floor kicked under the dresser, and I rush over to grab it and Jonah pounces on me, instantly trying to rip it from my hand.

"Jonah, stop," I tell him, trying to shove him off. "You won't be hurting yourself with that thing," Jonah snapped. "Give it to me now, Mara." Jonah snapped, reaching for it.

"I'm helping my brother now move," I snapped at him, and he looked at the dagger in my hand before his eyes darted to my brother. The worry on his face was obvious, but I wasn't stupid enough to try it again. No one else would die for me. "Fuck," Jonah cursed and stepped aside but hovered near on top of me, towering over me like he thought I would turn it on myself. Eziah had collapsed, sliding down the wall, his legs out straight in front of him as he wheezed. Kaif's claw marks seemed to poison him; I had seen nothing like it before as black veins slivered beneath his skin.

I knew what Dominic was saying and felt the rightfulness of his words as I looked at my brother, his eyelids drooping. "Where's mum when you need her?" I mumble, and Eziah laughs.

"Trying not to interfere. Bet she is screaming at that damn fountain right about now," Eziah laughed.

"She is in the moon goddess realm?" I asked him as I sliced his palm.

"Yeah, she got pulled there when you-" He doesn't finish. Jonah stood over my shoulder, and when I went to do the same to my own, he gripped my wrist and snatched the dagger from my grip before turning my hand and slicing my palm, making me hiss before taking the dagger.

Blood pooled in my palm before I gripped Eziah's hand, and I gasped, feeling the power the dagger held in it. The effect was instant, and the moment my hand connected with Eziah's, I siphoned the darkness out of him; the darkness rushed out of him, and the coldness of Kyan's taint moved into me. Eziah gasped and his back arched off the wall. I watched as his chest healed and could feel his hand healing in mine as mine healed in his. I let go and looked at m y palm. "That is one crazy dagger," I murmured, opening and closing my hand while examining it. Eziah patted his chest as he looked down to find himself healed. "Nifty little thing, be needing that back, though," He said, clicking his fingers at Jonah.

"You could try saying please," I tell Eziah, and he rolls his eyes. "Only for you, sis," he says before turning to look up at Jonah, who was still standing behind me.

"Dagger, please," Eziah says, holding out his hand in Jonah's direction.

"Nope, neither of you can be trusted with knives; I will give it to your mother when I see her next," Jonah says, and Eziah glares at him.

"Where do you think we are going?" Eziah snaps at him. "Mara stays. Kaif isn't of a rational mind for her to go anywhere, and neither is Kyan." "I am not leaving her here," Eziah growled at him.

"I am with her, Eziah. Suck it up and go before he comes back,"

"You fear him," Eziah laughs.

"And you're an idiot if you don't, now go," Jonah says with a glare. Eziah looks at me, and his brows furrow.

"Marabella?" Eziah murmurs, but I look up at Jonah, and he helps me to my feet before placing his hand flat against my stomach, tugging me closer.

"She will be fine, Eziah. I won't let anything happen to her." Jonah tries to reassure him.

"No, she is coming with me. They are no longer mates. She has nothing holding her here, and I am not leaving my sister with that psychopath,"

"He is her mate," Jonah argued, pulling me flush against him. I went to tell my brother to go, but he cut me off, *y*elling at Jonah.

"Not anymore; he didn't want her," Eziah growled, reaching for me. His words stung me more than he would know, I know he was defending me and meant well, but hearing that made my chest ache.

"He made a mistake, but she was right about one thing. It should have been me and now it will be," Jonah said.

My brain didn't have time to process his words before his teeth sank deeply into my neck. I gasped and blinked as he held me against him, pulling me closer. *M*y eyes rolled into the back of my head, and Kyan stopped dead in his tracks as he walked back in the door, his eyes on Jonah, and I saw them flicker to Kaif. My eyes fluttered, and sparks rushed over my skin a s my surroundings dimmed as I fought to remain conscious. "Looks like you have a little competition, Kyan. May the best man win," I heard Eziah laugh before everything went black.

Fated To The Alpha by Jessica Hall Chapter 260

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Marabella POV

Fated To The Alpha by Jessica Hall Chapter 260 – I had awoken at Jonah's the following day, and three days had since passed. My parents had been annoying the hell out of me, and I swear if I get one more positive affirmation meme from my father, I may just drive up there to shove his phone up his ass. Every day like clockwork, they all video chat like they were worried I would try to kill myself again. Although, I was more concerned about Kyan's state of mind than worrying much about my own. We hadn't heard from him since Jonah brought me here. Not one word, however. Today was Lucas' s funeral, so I would get to see him.

As I climbed out of Jonah's car, he grabbed my hand and pulled me to the burial ground of Kyan's family, weaving us through the cemetery to the back. It was odd. I half expected the service to be held at the manor since it had its own graveyard. "I thought more people would show up," I whispered to Jonah. Looking around, only Kyan and Andrei are standing beside the grave that has already beendug. Not even Sage was here, which I thought odd.

Lucas and Andrei were best friends, so I thought she would have come.

"Kyan only invited Dad, Mum, and us. Mum couldn't handle it. Stress has gotten to her bad, and Dad has been having to sedate her," Jonah whispered, and I glanced at him.

"Why what happened?" I ask, worried for Aunty Sage.

"The whole Vince and Casen thing, you know Mum's fragile and not in a good place right now. She thinks Dad is keeping things from her, and her anxiety has been playing havoc," Jonah tells me.

"Well, he did, kind of kept it from her," I mumble, and Jonah sighs. Walking through the small fence, a shudder ran through me as we entered his family plot. Suddenly, an electric current rushed through me and stopped me in my tracks. It was an unnerving sensation. Taking a look down at the ground, I realized I had walked right past the grave of his father. My brows furrowed, and my footsteps faltered as if something was halting me from going any further. Andrei, noticing us, walks over, and he grips his son's shoulder. Yet my eyes went to Kyan, who stood silently next to his uncle 's coffin. He stared blankly ahead, and Jonah was talking to his father. With one last glance down at his father's

tombstone, I let go of Jonah's hand and wandered over to him and stopped beside him. He had his hands in hands in his pockets. Without thinking, I slipped my hand into his pocket, grabbing his hand in mine. He looked down at his pocket before pulling his hand back out and squeezing mine gently. I didn't think you would come," he whispered.

"Kind of owe my life to him; it would be a bit rude not to, plus he made good scones," I told him, and he chuckled. "He did and jams," Kyan chuckled to himself. Jonah walked up behind us and grabbed Kyan's shoulder before pulling him back and wrapping his arm around his chest.

"Love you, bro," Jonah said, smacking Kyan's chest softly. Kyan nodded, then squeezed his hand before letting him go. Jonah let him go before moving beside me, his hand going to my waist, and we listened to the man holding the small service.

Andrei said a few words, but Kyan just nodded and clenched his jaw as the coffin was lowered. When it was done, he turned to me before pecking my cheek and letting my hand go. He walked away while I stared after him, and so did Jonah. Jonah 's brows furrowed with worry.

"Want me to check on him before I go home?" Andrei asked Jonah, and he nodded. His father

hugged him before hugging me and walking out of the graveyard after Kyan. We followed, although the same thing happened again when I passed Dominic's grave. The same violent shudder ran up my spine, and Jonah stopped looking down at me while I tried to make sense of the strange sensation that had once again overwhelmed me.

"What's wrong? Your emotions are strange," Jonah murmured. I shook my head before sucking in a breath.

"Nothing, just a strange feeling when I walked past it, " I answered.

Once we were back home, Andrei rang to say Kyan went to work, and I moved to the couch. My phone started buzzing as my parents tried to ring me.

Tossing it on the sofa beside me, I ignored it, not really feeling like talking or in the mood to hear about Pack dramas.

Jonah came to sit with me, flicking on the TV and scanning through the apps for something to watch, when we heard a knock on the door before the sound of keys turning in the lock. Jonah tugged me against him, kissing the side of my head. "It's just Kyan; I thought I felt him getting closer," he whispered, and the door opened. He dropped his keys on the bench before walking into the living room. He said nothing, just sat down beside Jonah and me, and I waited for him to say something, but he never did. Kyan just stared vacantly at the TV, not really watching it like he was stuck in his own thoughts. Jonah ordered takeout when it was dinner time when Kyan looked over the back of the couch to where Jonah stood in the kitchen on hold with someone downstairs.

"Can I stay here the night?" Kyan asked.

"Yeah, you don't gotta ask," Jonah said before whoever he was talking to picked up. Kyan nodded before turning to face the TV again, resting his chin on his hand. Kora watched him worriedly. Despite the bond being gone because he rejected us, I still felt the overwhelming need to touch him to ensure he was okay. "Are you okay?" I asked him, and he glanced at me.

"Yep, the house is just too quiet," he answered, and I chewed the inside of my lip before scooting closer to him. Laying down, I put my head in his lap and looked up at him.

"You don't hate me?" Kyan asked, his hand dropping on my shoulder while his other pulled my hair back from my face.

"I never hated you, Kyan, and I'm sorry about Lucas," I told him, and he nodded.

"I have no one left now," he murmured, staring away at the wall.

"You have Jonah and me," I tell him, and his eyes flick down to me, his fingertips trailing over the scar left by Kaif's old mark, and he smiles sadly. I have Jonah, not you. You belong to him now," Kyan murmured as Jonah sat back down, lifting my feet onto his lap.

"You two kiss and make up yet, or are we still being the awkward throuple?" Neither of us said anything, and I wasn't exactly sure what any of us were anymore. Everything was different now; the bond was gone however, the feelings remained. Awkward throuple it is then," Jonah sighed, pressing play on the movie we were watching.