

Read Novel Alpha Leo And The Heart Of Fire By Moonlight Muse Chapter 111

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. My Resilience AZURA.

He means Endora. "Endora..." I say slowly. Judah nods, "She was always power hungry ... but she didn't just talk the talk, she walked the walk. Endora was always like that." He seems impressed by her. Why is he talking about her as if he knew her? "So, are you saying those with darkness in them can open this cave?" I ask.

"With her essence and yes, darkness, well done, Pet. You are learning well. Your so-called man was also one of her chosen vessels, but unlike them, he was conflicted, and that conflict was the reason his body began rejecting the darkness. He had too much good in him to hold that power. Despite his bitterness and hatred, he still held light. I saw the strain that rejecting the darkness took on him on that rooftop when we fought..." So that was it? The experiments she had done on Leo were to place her power inside of him as a backup... and his body had rejected it. Judah continued, as his eyes skim over my barrier. "I saw that he was dying, and I hoped he'd die before I came for you, but you had to go heal him, didn't you?" His anger and resentment grow, and he glares at my stomach. "You belong to me, yet you betrayed me. You let another man fuck you and impregnate you."

"I belong to Leo. I am pregnant with my mate's child." I snap coldly, turning my head so he can see my mark. The crescent

moon, with flames behind it, stars and a lotus. "Isn't this proof enough?" "Well, I'd like to see how he lives without

you because your time is running out. Then again, he'll be dying soon too." He says darkly as he turns back to the table. "Those two gave me enough information for me to know Leo Rossi's weaknesses." I frown, thinking about what he said about Emmet and Eric. "He has none." I snarl. "Doesn't he? He has many." Judah shoots back menacingly. "The man who cares for his pack so dearly... I wonder if he's coming for you or trying to protect the pack that is currently going up in flames due to the bombs placed there by Eric. At least he was useful before he ends up dead, if he isn't dead already."

My heart thunders as I stare at him. "Why harm the innocent!" I shout, fearing for the lives of my pack members. "Because I told you to come to me and you didn't!" He shoots back. We glare back at each other, and I have to tell myself that Leo will find the bombs and hopefully come for us soon... Judah was pure selfish, he really didn't care about anyone but himself, speaking of Eric so casually. Not that I could forgive Eric anyway. "How did you ever meet the Garrons? What did you offer Emmet and Eric in

return for their help?" I ask, trying not to show my burning rage. "Power. They would rule that pack and I'd take care of the Alpha and his son. I'm not interested in werewolves and their packs. I just want power, a different kind of power." "Werewolves? Why talk about us as if you aren't one of us?" I know he isn't one, but I wanted to know what he is.

"Because I'm not." He tilts his head and smirks. "And what are you then?" I ask coldly. "I'm not about to tell you that." "Fine... so how did you meet the brothers?" "How we met... evil attracts evil... they were looking for someone to help them and they... let's just say they sought out my help." I can see the anger in his eyes at those words. His entire body has tensed.

What is that about? "Now how about you stop being a bitch and lower that shield." His eyes are full of rage that he is trying to hide, and I know the conversation is done. "We're done talking." How will they open this cave without anyone holding Endora's essence? Will anyone find me here?

I push those thoughts away and glare at him. "I think we're ready." He says, he picks up the knife he had placed down earlier, and I see the red liquid that wraps around it, it evaporates becoming black smoke and he walks towards me, I tense reinforcing my shield, but he doesn't stop, suddenly he's right in front of the shield, and he slams the knife into it. I gasp, feeling the impact as the shadow began spreading over my shield. His smile spreads and my eyes blaze as I slowly place Corrado's head on the ground, reinforcing the shield fully. My eyes flash as he raises his knife, bringing it down on the barrier again. I blast it back and he's thrown against the far side of the cavern, but he's up in seconds. "You can't kill me you bitch!" He snarls and in a flash,

he's in front of me, but I have my barrier back up. No, I can't and that is why I need to conserve energy. My eyes don't leave him and his dart to the dagger. Quickly I move my foot forward and drag the knife closer to me and out of his reach at super speed. "No!" He roars, slamming into my barrier.

I will kill you!" His shouting makes Corrado stir, and he wakes up, wrapping his arms around my leg. "Mommy..." "It's going to be ok baby." I say as Judah slams himself against the barrier once again. I flinch at the force, and I see it, the black smoke that seems to be oozing from him. What is he?

I hiss when the force of his next throw forces me back but I stay braced, I will hold my ground. "We are going to get out of here soon, my Cherub. Just... close your eyes." I say softly to Corrado, my eyes blazing as they remain fixed on Judah.

He was trying to weaken me, and he is succeeding... I just have to hold on as long as I can... "Your heart will be mine, Azura! Your essence will be mine!" I can taste blood in my mouth as I keep the barrier strong. Until help arrives, I have to keep our pups safe... Leo...

'Always remember, no matter what crap comes your way, that the first person whocomes to your mind will always be there for you.' I smile faintly. Leo, Leo will come for us.

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. A Forgotten Language

LEO.

"That's the last one." Li Sheng says tossing the deactivated device onto the ground. Four had gone off in total before we had managed to find the rest and disarm them. I had felt thirteen tethers snap, meaning we had lost thirteen lives. Eric and Emmet's selfish plan had cost not only me but instead had cost the lives of many innocent people.

Those who had been trapped, and there had been many, had been accounted for and we had retrieved the bodies of our dead too. They ranged from the ages of eleven to ninety-seven. "Continue to comb the pack grounds until every area has been covered just in case there's more detonators." I say coldly. I need to f**king go after them. I know there is a team out there, but I still need to do something too.

"Will do Alpha." He replies, lowering his head before he runs off. Alejandro and several others were now in one of my meeting rooms, gathered

around a map, trying to find out where Azura and Corrado had vanished to, and the possible places they may have gone. "There's the forest there..." Elijah says, frowning deeply. He, Damon, and several others are here too, but time is just moving too f**king slow. With each passing moment, who knows what she's going through. I'm af**king mess inside, but I'm f**king trying to keep my sh*t together. I can't lose them, I need them. I walk over to the table, and look down at the 3D hologram map that covers the entire table. "I don't know... isn't that too close to your place? Maybe to the west, Dante's

gone to check that side out..." Alejandro mutters as I stare at the spot that the blimp of the tracker had last been, before it vanished. "He's misleading us." I say quietly, feeling my anger rise. This is a f**king game to him ... I want blood... I want to f**king kill. "Meaning?" Alejandro asks. "This is where Azura's tracker went off radar ... a place that's got literally three dense forest areas around it... making it the ideal place for us to f**king search... I'm certain he went in the opposite f**king direction. Trust me, I know how f**king b****rds work." I say menacingly. "Then where do you think they may be?" Liam asks. His anger is palpable, but I can see the worry for his sister in his eyes. I look down at the map, zooming out and scrolling fifty miles in the opposite direction. "The

caverns," I say, tapping the map. All eyes turn on me, and Alejandro cracks a brow. "Why do you think that?" "It's the last place he'd think we'd look... that place has magic that can cancel

out a lot of sh*t. Azura's tracker couldn't have just blipped out unless she's in a location that blocks the outside off..." I run my fingers through my hair, only for the strands of my hair to fall back in front of my forehead. "How sure are you?" Damon asks, frowning. "Pretty sure. Raihana wasn't able to teleport to Azura either. She had something of hers and Judah doesn't possess that kind of magic. So why the f**k did the teleportation not work? Unless of course there is a power strong enough to counter it. Raihana is meant to be one of the strongest witches alive, so tell me what can f**king counter her? Trust me, this is the place to search." I say confidently, turning away. They seem to take a second to mull over my words before Alejandro slaps his hands together, rubbing them. "Right, let's listen, he has the f**king brains." "Yeah, I do." "Remember, he's f**king fast; from the footage, we can see that he seems to have a link with the shadows..." Elijah is saying.

I frown. Shadows... I suddenly remember an image from a certain book I had gone over. A book that contained drawings and symbols that no one was able to read because of the language. I need to go over it again. "So what's the plan?" Ace asks and I'm brought out of my trance. My eyes flash as I frown deeply. Oh, I f**king have a plan... I turn back to the table, "We prepare to move out. I'll fill everyone in as we prepare. Gear up and move out. There's something I need to check. I will catch up." I command, turning away once more. I needed to check this.... "Delsanra, can you come with me for a moment?" I ask, turning to the white-haired woman. She looks up and nods before hurrying over and we head towards my apartment. That book may be gone in the fire, but I had scanned pretty much most of it onto the computer to look through them with ease. I had also tried to restore some that were pretty damaged. Not sure why these idiots didn't have all these books duplicated and saved. Who knows when we might need some information from them. "You're onto something." She states. I don't reply. I can't get overly confident until I am certain.... "What is it, Leo?" Delsanra asks. It's about half an hour later and we are in my cave. A place that remains untouched. Everyone else has gone ahead, but something told me I needed to know what we are up against to win. He had thwarted us a lot of times and I plan to finish this once and for all. My mind is spinning, the pressure rising as time slips by. I needed to find them. The longer I'm here, the longer they suffer in Judah's hold. I know I'm onto something... but f**k, knowing they are out there is messing with me. Fear of what may happen to her is rising as I keep on making notes, and the papers in front of me are full of my scribbles. "This is..." She trails off, as she leans down. I don't reply, looking back at the page I have up on the screen. So that's what you are... She struggles to read my messy scrawl and I sit back. "These symbols." I say, pointing to the ones at the top. "Can work to decode the entire page... Shadow." She frowns before glancing at me. "Shadows?" She asks. "Yeah, by translating that word as Shadow it gave me enough to work with. I was trying to check if it would work if I took it as the key to crack the rest."

"And has it?" She asks. "Yeah... it f**king has." I say, pushing the final sheet, which now contains full sentences that I had been working on, towards her.

She leans down, frowning as she reads the heading. This was a language long forgotten... and although there are still parts of the passage that are too damaged to read, or simply not fully readable, it makes sense overall. "Shadow Wraiths..." Her heart thunders as she scans the page. "Shadow wraiths are subspecies of the wraith family... What on earth... they don't exist." "Are you sure?" I ask, sitting back and looking up at her. She looks back at the page, as I stare at the image depicting a monster-like creature with smoke and shadows surrounding him. Because the picture was so far from a human, we hadn't paid it any attention when we had all tried to find out what we were dealing with. "Shadow Wraiths take a host to survive and to gain a solid physical form... Resulting in them disguising themselves in the identity of their hosts. With incredible speed and strength, Shadow Wraiths are even stronger where there are shadows present. Wraiths cannot be killed unless their true names are found and taken, upon driving a weapon made of pure iron coated with Nightshade,

Ephedra and Harpagophytum into their necks." She turns to me. "Do you think this is what he is?" "I think so..." I say, standing up. I have a sword which is fully iron.... "What... how... did you... how did you even figure that out?" She asks.

"A little f**king late, though." I say quietly, entering my weapon room. "If the Shadow Wraith's name is discovered, it can be called on for assistance, but its help is very limited. Wraiths feed on high levels of energies to grow stronger..." Delsanra says realisation dawning on her. "Wraiths sense beings with high levels of energy wanting to either simply linger by these beings or depending on the wraith's intentions they will devour these beings... This is why he wants Azura..." "Obviously." I say coldly. "Can you get those herbs?" "Yes! Right away, but... how will we find his real name?" She asks. I frown, I had an idea about that... "Leave that to me... Can you call Janaina." I say, looking at her sharply. She nods and I hold out my phone... It's an hour later, and I am now near the caverns. I had made one last stop before getting here. "You were right. Her scent lingers." Dante says, smiling faintly at me. I can't smell it, but his sense of smell is obviously far better than mine.

I nod as I glance back at Alejandro who is arguing with Skyla. She had shown up not long ago, and I'm not sure which one is angrier. Kiara had stayed at the Pack to heal those who had been injured in the explosions, but I think right now,

they needed her to sort their sh*t out. "Not going to interfere?" I ask Dante. He glances back at them and sighs. "No... Dad won't listen." He says quietly. "I'm not a g***amn child." Skyla hisses. "You f**king are. Now get the f**k out of here." Alejandro growls. "No, and you can't stop me. At my age, you did a lot more than this." Skyla shoots back, her eyes blazing a reddish purple. "This isn't up for debate. Take her home." Alejandro snarls to one of his men. "I'm not just going to sit by whilst Azura is out there! You are so d**n sexist." She growls. He kinda is, since he only had an issue with his daughter being here... "Yeah, I don't have time for this. You causing a scene is

delaying things Skyla, get the hell home.” Alejandro’s command rolls off him, and I see Skyla’s eyes flicker, rage and anger consuming her and she’s trying to stop herself from shifting. He turns away from her and Skyla clenches her jaw before she looks at me, her heart thundering. “Find her.” She says, her voice shaking with anger, before she casts one last look at her dad, and I feel a little bad for her. I understand Alejandro’s concern. After all, she is his daughter... but smothering her isn’t going to do any of them any favours. “The entrance to the caverns is half a mile from here.” I say, “He will have backup and they are armed with the bullets we created. Do we know how many men?” “At least two hundred out front.” Jin replies. “So how about we go get this d**n wraith.” Jax growls. The sword on my back is ready... and I have everything I need... “Leave the bullets to me, I will handle those.” Dante says, frowning slightly. “With me.” Raihana says, stepping forward, her power c**ckling around her. I nod, as Alejandro walks over to us. “Are we ready?” He asks, as Dad and Rayhan step forward. I had already told them where exactly we are going to attack from. “Let’s do this.” I say, giving them a nod as the Five step up behind me, and our eyes blaze as we all run forward. Dante is the only one who stays with me, and even when the rest shift – aside from me, he doesn’t. We reach the caverns pretty fast and my heart thunders when I catch the extremely faint scent. Azura’s scent. It is barely noticeable, but it is here. She is inside.

We come to a stop when I see the army of men bearing arms, surrounding even this entrance. It was meant to be a lesser-known one, but it is obvious Judah now knows the caverns pretty well. “Keep going.” Dante says removing his glasses. He opens his eyes and I feel the sheer power of the energy surrounding him radiate off him in waves.

Well f**k. “Sh*t, he’s a beast.” Jax curses as we run ahead, just as Dante raises his hand and slams the men lining the entrance aside. We leap past them, sliding through the entrance to the cavern. I glance back at Dante, just in time to see two magnificent wolves. They are huge, as big as my wolf, if not bigger. One has a red aura around it, the other a green. Both are powerful and look different from one another. They leap from the sky, ripping through the enemy. But even as they fight, they seem to hold an other-worldly elegance and essence. My eyes widen in surprise as I see Dante simply standing there, a red and green glow emanating from him. His feet are apart, and he’s barely recognisable. From the power that feels out of this world, and the power that I know he is still holding in, he just made all of us, including Alejandro, look like f**king pups.

So he didn’t shift... he simply summoned not one but two wolves. Wolves that looked far more intelligent than any I had seen, both had auras that were immensely different, just like their appearances... The screams of the men as the wolves attack fill the air, and I turn away and run through the caverns. ‘We’re in.’ I relay to one of my men who wouldn’t shift and is standing with one person from each pack, they were the mind link between us all. ‘Alpha Alejandro says he’s in too.’ A reply came. ‘I’m in too.’ Dad’s voice came. ‘Alpha Rayhan has entered.’ ‘Perfect.’ I say, speeding up as I run through the halls, the layout of this place was burned into my mind. It didn’t take long for everyone to scour

the entire f**king place. Every time I hear, 'empty' or all clear' my stomach twists, but even when the rest are beginning to lose hope despite the guards outside, I slow down, staring at the sealed entrance to the place we had never been able to open... I don't know how, but I can tell she is close. My wolf restlessly paces in my mind.

'Azura?' There's a block, but I know she's here. I place my hand on the stone wall, feeling the rippling evil that lingers here. The temperature drops and everything seems to become silent. A whispering wind blows past me, and I frown. There is no place for a draft to even enter when we are so deep in, and no gaps to allow air... 'Azura!' I call again, pushing harder against the barrier, but I'm only faced with emptiness. I step back, looking at the entrance. This is the very same place that led to where Endora had kept mom for weeks before she ended up killing her... My heart squeezes and I take a deep breath before stepping back. 'I've found them. They're in the sealed rooms.' I say through the bond. 'What? How the f**k is that possible?' Dad growls. 'No one can get in there.' 'Well, somehow the b***ard did.' I reply coldly, when Alejandro's voice sounds in my head.

Guess being a Lycan was ideal in one f**king way. He can mind link with any Alpha, although I know doing so gives him a headache. 'Raihana and Delsanra are on their way to you, Leo. We can try this again.' 'That might work. Back then we didn't get them to try.' Dad says. 'Will they be able to?' I ask, frowning as I look at the symbols that cover the doors. 'They'll try.' Alejandro replies. I nod, closing my eyes as I try to reach for Azura once again, hoping Corrado was with her... Please f**king be ok. I can't hear anything and that makes me uneasy... What if somehow she is no longer here?

The fact that I can't feel any pain is the only thing keeping me going, telling me she is ok. 'How long?' I ask, turning as I see several werewolves jump at me. They were part of a pack as they didn't smell of rogues, but now that I know what Judah is, I wonder how they listened to him. Did they know that he isn't what he f**king portrays? I take out two foot-and-a-half-long daggers, and roll my neck. Well, until the witches arrive, I can use some targets to vent some of my rage on...

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I turn when Raihana, Delsanra and Liam show up, and a part of me wonders why Dante didn't come inside the caverns; I have a strong feeling it is something to do with the balance or some shit. He has kept a lot of Judah's men at bay. From the mind link, I know there are more than just werewolves out there.

I push the thoughts away as Liam places his hand on the entrance in front of us and the other two read the inscriptions.

"It's several sealing spells... from what I can make out, and what we know is, only those with Endora's powers within them can unlock it..." Delsanra murmurs with a frown.

A wave of power radiates off Liam, and I feel it hit back, forcing us all back. He jerks his hand back, and I can feel his anger. "Even last time it repelled me..." He murmurs in frustration.

"Well then, how about you leave this to the ladies." Raihana says, winking at Liam, as she steps forward.

"Of course. Go right ahead." He says, stepping back and letting her pass.

"I'm her descendant, maybe it'll work," Raihana remarks, touching the stone. She frowns, but I feel the same force push us back, although it's less this time. She mutters a curse before wrinkling her nose and brushing her hand clean.

Delsanra frowns. "But you don't really hold Endora's powers... I cut that tether. There has to be a way."

"Obviously. Judah's in there, Azura's scent is faint, but I smelt it, they're here." I say, my eyes falling on something on the floor.

I crouch down, my heart racing when I pick up a chain that is half covered in dust and dirt. I brush it off and stand up. It's broken, as if it had been torn from her neck in the struggle, but it's the exact same necklace Azura was wearing before I left her for the takeover.

"Is it hers?" Liam asks quietly. I nod, clenching my jaw and slip it into my pocket.

There's hope and there's fucking pain. We are close, yet so fucking far.

"No harm in trying, but if we need Endora's actual power and that's the case, then how did Judah get in there? How about we try to use force? How damn strong was she? Like she's been dead for decades, can she just stop being a damn nuisance?!" Raihana says with frustration, stepping back before she begins chanting something. Runes begin glowing along her hands and arms, and her hair is floating around her.

Delsanra takes a deep breath, and I see her shift, it isn't a big change, as her cheekbones become more refined, her lashes are thicker,

and she looks... prettier. Her eyes are bright red and her nails have grown.

Power radiates off both women as Liam raises his own hand, a blue aura blasting from his hands and at the door. All three powers mix as they focus on the entrance.

I frown as I scan the area. The entire ceiling and walls are shaking. Whatever is going up there, was affecting the entire foundation of this place.

We need to move fast. How did Judah get in there? He didn't have that kind of power, so how...

There has to be a fucking way.

The runes and engravings on the stone seem to emanate a dark energy. I can feel it, the potent evil of this place. I scan the entrance.

once again, wondering if Judah knows we are here. Would he try to harm her further?

I'm waiting, on fucking edge, fearing the pain that may return if he harms Azura.

Focus Leo...

I crouch down, looking at the runes along the bottoms. A certain inscription at the bottom catches my attention. I frown. Was that there moments ago?

"Can either of you read what it says right here?" I ask, pointing to it.

Raihana glances at me, her eyes blazing.

"That wasn't there..." She says, her power eases up before she crouches down. "The key is within the darkness."

The women exchange looks, "Any spell come to mind?" Delsanra asks, both frowning when Liam tilts his head and snaps his fingers.

"Witches tend to lack at solving standard riddles... what if we need to think outside of the box?" He suggests, as Raihana looks at him sharply.

"Poorly disguised insult." She says haughtily, standing up.

"Sorry. I didn't mean to insult you, but what if the message at the bottom is an actual statement and not a spell." Liam says, but what he said made sense and I zone them out.

"Maybe it's something else that we need.... Not Endora's powers..." I cut in.

"What do you mean?" Delsanra asks.

"The key lies within the darkness. What if that is literally the answer? Judah got in. He is a fucking evil bastard. Maybe it's those who have darkness within them who can open this shit?" I say, each passing moment feeling like years. I need to get to them.

“Darkness...” Delsanra says and nods. “My demon side... maybe it will work!”

The entire place rumbles again, and I faintly hear an explosion in the distance.

“And maybe I can somehow help... there is darkness within me.” I say quietly. We all have it... and I had let mine fester for years... sure I have let it go now, but it still remains.

“Let’s try.” Liam says. This time Raihana doesn’t join in, and I place my hand on the stone. Instead of forcing their power at it this time both Liam and Delsanra place their hands on the stone on either side of me.

I close my eyes trying to draw on the darkest, most bitter thoughts inside of me. The anger and resentment I had built over the years, I let it come up, trying to remember the anger, not the reasoning that Azura helped me see. Liam snarls and I feel a force slam him back.

“Join the club...” Raihana murmurs.

“There’s darkness within me, though.”

Liam says, frowning. 1

“Hmm, maybe just not enough...” Raihana replies quietly.

Nothing seems to be happening. I frown in

concentration, forcing my aura at the wall, as Delsanra’s power coats it in a thick layer and just when I think nothing is going to happen, I hear the rumble of the rock.

At the same time, I feel the power from the left. From the corner of my eye, I see Raihana and Liam step forward both with their power at the ready as a group of werewolves run at them.

A powerful explosion makes the ceiling shake violently, dirt and stones raining down on us.

“Be careful that the place doesn’t collapse. Go easy on the power!” Delsanra cries as the entire wall shudders and we both move back as the entrance begins to open.

I glance back at Liam and Raihana to see them engaging with the wolves,

“You two get inside!” Liam growls as suddenly an explosion goes off and his blue aura swirls around us like a shield, I run

inside but before Delsanra can follow, a dark flash of smoke rushes past me and I hear a gasp before the wall slams shut.

The first thing that hits me is Azura's scent and her emotions.

I turn just in time to see Judah spin around, his eyes blazing as he looks at me.

"You!" He hisses. "How did you get in here?"

"Leo..." A wave of relief washes over me at her voice, but I don't turn, both her and Corrado's scents giving me the strength I didn't know I needed. The three steadily beating hearts making that heavy weight of dread that had been weighing down on me.

ease up.

My family is fucking safe.

It may have only been five hours max since they have been taken, but it was far too fucking long.

"Well, so nice of you to join me, Leo Rossi."

Judah sneers, circling me.

Despite his outer calm, I can sense his unease. He wasn't expecting anyone to show up, or probably not this soon.

"Nice... when I'm fucking done with you, that'll feel pretty nice." My eyes flash as I look at him. "You touched my family... I told you before if you mess with Schurke Wolf...

you will fucking die. This time... it's Leo

Rossi you fucking messed with... which is a thousand fucking times worse..." He's circling me, and when he turns, my eyes go to Azura. She's on her knees, with Corrado's head in her lap. Her hands are raised as a vibrant shield encases them. The bruises on her make my blood boil with rage, even in such a state, she is protecting our pups.

Our eyes meet for a split second and I give her a faint smile.

"That's my girl.' I say through the link.

Her heart skips a beat and although she doesn't reply, I know she's heard me.

My attention snaps back to Judah in time to see his gaze fleetingly linger on the table.

“Only one will walk out of here tonight, and it isn’t going to be you.” Judah sneers.

“How about we put that to the fucking test.”

I growl venomously.

He smirks cockily and I wonder how his cockiness will vanish when he finds out that I have everything we need to kill him. I see Azura’s shield flicker, but no matter how much I fucking want to go over to her, I know I need to deal with Judah first.

I can smell wolfsbane in the air, probably to weaken Azura. I need to get this shit over with.

I launch myself at him – he’s fast, sidestepping me in time, but I’ve analysed the footage of him for long enough to know

exactly how he moves. It’s basic physics, after all. I turn in a flash, slamming my straight

fist

“I don’t know why you’re so fucking hell- bent on my woman, but the moment she stepped into my life; she became mine. Your first fucking mistake was not backing the fuck off right then.” I growl viciously,

kicking him again.

He attacks back, his claws ripping into me, and I slam him back, my aura radiating off me, as I draw the two daggers. I’ll use the sword when I have a proper opening.

“Try what you want, you’ll never win.” Judah sneers, grabbing the blade of my dagger and trying to yank it from my hold and failing. His smoky aura surrounds his hand before he lets go and runs to the table, grabbing his Jagdkommando. “Now let’s see who’s the better weapons master, a mere young alpha pup or me!”

“Oh yeah, you’re a lot fucking older than you say, right?” I say coldly as our blades clash. I can hear Corrado’s whimpers, and see the way Azura hugs him as she slowly turns, her eyes on the table on the far side.

“Obviously.” He snarls.

“Yeah... after all, the real Judah Gallahan. died fucking years ago.”

He simply sneers, and I smirk when my

blade slices his cheek, his eyes flash and I raise an eyebrow cockily.

“The pup drew the first blood, it seems.” I taunt.

“Not for long!” He lunges at me and this time I barely block his move. The knife rips into my left flank but I knock it aside, slamming the hilt of one of my daggers into his neck. He grunts, stumbling back before I slash through his chest.

“You can never get rid of me, no matter how hard you try, there is no way to kill me!” He spits.

“That’s not what I read about Shadow Wraiths…” I say calmly, watching him intently.

He tenses and I hear his heart thudding as his eyes flash in surprise.

“What did you just say?” He asks.

“You fucking heard me, but I’ll willingly repeat myself. I know exactly how to kill a wraith.” I say venomously, letting my aura radiate off me as I plunge my dagger straight through him. It goes right through him and he falls back onto the ground. He hisses as I dig the other side of the dagger into the ground.

“Do share, I’d love to know too.” Azura says stepping forward, I glance towards the side. to see a shield enveloping our son as she walks towards me, my heart skips a beat and I pull her close, trying to calm my thundering heart as I kiss her forehead. The sparks of the bond are the only thing that makes me believe this is real.

Fuck she’s alive and ok... I inhale the scent of her hair, letting it calm me.

Her heart is racing, and I can feel her emotions, her belief that I’d come, her determination, fear, anger and hope...

‘I got you.’ I say quietly.

I’ll always be there for you.

We both turn to Judah, who has now yanked the dagger out and lurches to his feet. Azura takes a step away from me, tensing as her power envelops her hands.

“I can’t be killed.” He says, laughing sinisterly, “Even if you know what I am!”

A little too fucking overconfident.

“The thing is, that’s where you are wrong, Judah, or should I say, Dimitri Ivanov?” I say challengingly.

His face pales, and for the first fucking time.

I see the flicker of fear in his eyes.

I guess my intuition was one hundred fucking percent correct.

Time for the hunter to become the hunted...

Read Novel Alpha Leo And The Heart Of Fire By Moonlight Muse Chapter 114

Alpha Leo and the Heart of Fire by Moonlight Muse Chapter 114

I watch Judah calmly, despite the hatred and rage within me, because he fucking got rid of the last of my doubts. My aura exudes from me in waves, and I can feel it swirling around the room, filling every corner and repelling the darkness that tries to cling to our skin.

I see Azura glance back at Corrado from the corner of my eyes, and know it's time to wrap this up, once and for all.

"I don't know what you mean. You know nothing!" Judah hisses, but it's a little too late for him to try to deny anything.

"It's a tad too fucking late to play dumb, but if you don't fucking know then cool. Let's do this shit. I'll take your name and try to kill you with a weapon coated with Nightshade, Ephedra and Harpagophytum for the sake of It won't work, but at least it'll entertain me." I say knocking his weapon from his hand. It rolls to the far side, and he growls.

I hate that weapon... every time I fucking see it... For me, it would always be associated with those who tried to hurt my family.

"Nothing can kill me!" He hisses, lunging at me, the smoke around him grows, it's a mix of shadows and smoke, and it pushes against my aura and Azura's moon fire.

Two against one... he's losing and the injury I had caused him before, is still bleeding. I have a few wounds and only more are added to it as we rip into one another, but I make sure Azura isn't harmed. He roars in rage as he jumps to his feet once more, but instead of attacking; he turns in a flash and runs to the table.

"Not so fast!" Azura growls, blasting him back as she walks to the table.

Judah is on his feet, and I know she is his target. He moves with incredible speed and for a second, my stomach twists as I run as fast as I can. I block his back, throwing one of my daggers up and grab his neck, throwing him across the room. My throw is accompanied by a blast of Azura's power that only makes the impact greater.

“You’re right where I want you to be.” Judah spits despite the blood that he coughs up. He staggers to his feet and dives past me in a blur, before he pushes Azura. She stumbles, and I see the black smoke rising off the stone plaque that sits on the table. I catch her, and push her behind me.

“Don’t let the smoke touch you,” I warn. Something about that stone is not right. Azura nods, backing away from it.

“So, I need to get rid of you first, then.” He spits as the entire room shakes violently and pieces of stone fall.

He’s good, but I’m better. Each punch I throw aims to break him, and every satisfying crunch makes me savour his pain.

“Daddy... Mommy...” Corrado whimpers.

I glance back at him, and my eyes blaze when I realise he’s injured too.

“You touched a child!” I snarl as Azura’s power wraps around Judah, forcing him to the ground. He fights it and she steps forward, punching him square through the nose. Blood squirts everywhere, as she punches him again.

“Your time has come to its end, Judah... finally I can step away from you and the nightmare that you created in my life.” She says, as he tries to grab her, only for me to kick him back, pressing my foot into his chest.

His claws are out, and he tries to dig it into me, but I spin around and slam my dagger into his wrist, and into the ground. He roars as he struggles.

“No, I need her! I must have her.” He hisses,

“I need this!”

Ignoring him, I draw the sword and look at Azura.

‘Do you want to do the honours, my sexy little psycho queen? One strike, and he’s gone.’ I ask her through the link with a

smirk.

Her face becomes solemn, and I think she realises what this means.

‘Is this really it? Just one stab and he’s gone?’ She asks as she grabs my other dagger, which fell during the fight, and she slams it into his other wrist.

'Yeah. Through the neck and take his real name. Dimitri Ivanov.' I say. She nods, and her eyes become cold.

"For everyone that you ever hurt." She says, reaching for the sword. "Dimitri Ivanov, your time to live is over..."

Her heart is thundering as her eyes blaze,
and her grip tightens on the hilt.

"You... can't kill me... remember how I was the only one who ever understood you, even your own family never got you little pet! I'm the one who fucking made you feel alive!" He hisses.

A flare of jealousy rushes through me, but it's only there for a second. She's mine, she's always been mine. What they had can never even fucking compare to what we have. Ever.

"No. I was just too stupid to realise if I talked to them, they'd get me. My family loves me, and you manipulated that, you encouraged the seed of doubt that was inside of me. I'm not the Azura you fucking knew. And you know what Judah? What we had was nothing, what I have now..." She looks at me, "Is beyond compare. Goodbye loser."

"Azura!" He snarls as he struggles violently against me, but he's far too injured to get up, even though he's healing it's not fast enough.

She raises the sword, "Dimitri Ivanov, just go to hell!" She snarls, and plunges the sword through his neck. A vicious wind erupts around her and instinctively I place my hand over hers on the hilt, keeping the sword there. His scream of rage becomes one of despair. Waves of energy slam through the cave, before his body dissolves into smoke that escapes his clothing and vanishes into thin air. The silence that follows is far too quiet, our racing hearts beating as one.

She lets out a shaky breath, letting go of the blade that is now charred, letting it clang to the floor, as she stares at the bloody clothes.

that remain.

"He's gone." She says before closing her
eyes.

"He is." I say, tugging her into my arms and hugging her tightly. Sparks rush through us and I tighten my hold on her, kissing her neck.

She hugs me back, and neither of us speak. She moves back and my lips crash against hers in a quick passionate kiss, and despite not wanting to fucking let go, our son needs us. She pulls away and we both turn to the child that still remains behind the shimmering barrier. Azura closes her eyes, and the shield vanishes, revealing our son sitting there with his chubby hands covering his eyes and I can't help but smile.

At least he obeyed his Mama.

"Corrado." I say, and his eyes fly open, eyes that are full of tears as he launches himself at me. I bend down, hugging him tightly.

"Daddy, you came!" He sobs.

"It's ok, he's gone son, you are all ok." I say, my arm tight around him as I reach up with my other arm caressing my girl's stomach before I take her hand and kiss it softly. I then tug her down beside me and wrap my

arm around her tightly as I slump back against the wall. Pulling them both onto my lap, I kiss Corrado's head gently, examining his injury. It's not too deep and I know he'll be ok. I turn, kissing Azura's neck and inhaling her scent deeply.

My family is fucking ok...

Thank fuck. She wraps her arm around my neck, kissing the top of my head and we simply sit there; I don't know for how long we remain like this, but I feel content. The stress and worry I had felt all night now left me exhausted.

'So how did you figure it all out?' She asks curiously.

I lean my head back against the cavern wall.' Well, it started off with your father saying the word shadows. From there a certain thought came to my head, and I had to confirm it..." I began explaining as I fill her in on everything...

"Call Janaina."

Delsanra doesn't take long to dial the elder woman's number. The speaker is on, the ringing filling my cave and it is answered immediately.

"Hello?" Janaina's voice comes.

"Hi, I had a couple of questions, and I'm hoping you might have some answers. Have you ever heard of Shadow Wraiths?" I ask, sitting down on my chair as I stare at the paper in front of me. There isn't time to waste.

"Shadow Wraiths? They are a thing of lore... but... do you think this being is a wraith?" She asks, sounding far more shocked than I would have thought.

Was it really that out there?

“I’m certain, I’ve also figured out how to kill it. The only thing is I’m wondering if you would be able to tell me any way that I could find out a Wraith’s real name, is there any way to force him to speak it? A spell that perhaps Delsanra or Raihana could perform?”

“Probably not. Our magic doesn’t always work on other mystical creatures... but I think I have the answer to your question. To take a name, you must give a name.” She says.

I raise an eyebrow.

“Give a name? Meaning an exchange?” Delsanra says at the same time that the very same thought came to my mind.

“Yes.” Janaina says. “So that means he has to give his name to-”

“The real Judah Gallahan, and that would be ...” I say, knowing exactly where our answer will lie.

“His grave.” Delsanra says suddenly.

“I know who to ask about that.” I say.

Thanks.”

“Anytime Alpha Leo.”

“I appreciate it.” I say before hanging up.

The Ardens, the Gallahans were part of their pack.”

“Do you have a number?” Delsanra asks.

“Yeah...” I say, pulling up my files and finding Kenneth Arden’s number. Time to find out where that grave is...

It rings a few times before it’s answered by a man who doesn’t sound like Kenneth. I had heard him over the conference call.

“Hello, Alpha Kenneth Arden’s office.” A

man’s husky, deep voice comes.

“Can I speak to the Alpha, it’s Alpha Leo Rossi from the Sanguine pack. I have an urgent question.” I say.

“He is not in. I’m Royce Arden, his son. Can I help?” He replies.

Wasn’t he supposed to be in America? “I need to know where the graves of the Gallahan family members are, specifically

Judah Gallahan’s. Your father will know why I’m asking.”

There’s a moment’s pause and I hear a scrape of a chair.

“Yes, he did fill us in on that situation. Their graves are in the pack graveyard, all of them were buried here.” He says.

“I need to check something on his tombstone.” I say. “I can head down there and take a look for you?”

“That would be great.” I reply, I wasn’t expecting this to go this fucking easy, but then again, it wasn’t Kenneth I was

speaking to – who always seems to want something in return for everything.

“Sure, I’ll call you back from my mobile phone. I’ll just head down to the graveyard and call you back.”

“Sure.” He hangs up and we wait.

After the longest fifteen minutes, the phone rings. Delsanra and I exchange looks as I answer it.

“I’m at the graveyard.” Royce’s voice comes. I can hear his footsteps, the howling of the wind and the rustling of the leaves.

“Thanks. I appreciate you doing this.

“Just give me a minute or two to locate it.”

He says, the line crackles and it feels as if a violent wind is blowing on the other end before the line steadies.

“It may not have Gallahan’s name on it anymore, if there’s any grave there that should be a Gallahan’s, but has an entirely different name, that will be the one.” I explain, thinking that sounds fucking weird.

“Yes, I am actually not able to find his name ... but according to the Pack archives, this one here is his grave.” He says, sounding concerned.

“What’s the name on it? It isn’t Gallahan is it?” I ask, thinking is this it? Was the answer within my grasp?

“No, it is not. Dimitri Ivanov, son of Harold
and Bertha Gallahan. What on earth...”

“Can you send a picture of it to me?”

“Yes, sure.” He says.

“Thank you, Alpha Royce.” I say, truly fucking appreciating his help.

“You’re welcome. I hope you manage to deal with him once and for all. He sounds like an absolute blooming nutter.”¹

“That’s putting it nicely.” I say before we hang up and my phone beeps.

I look down at the image of the gravestone.

We have our answer.

“So that’s how it happened...” Azura says as the room shakes once more.

“Let’s get out of here.” I say, and we all stand up. I lift Corrado up, and walk over to the table, looking at the array of things.

“Shall I destroy it?” Azura asks, raising her hand. I stop her and shake my head.

“No... this shit needs to be examined

thoroughly first...” I say, looking around the room. I reach into my pocket and take my phone out and snap a few pictures of all angles of this fucking place.

Azura watches me but says nothing. I can’t say much. I’m fucking paranoid and always need to be thorough. Once I’m done, I turn to the entrance. “Let’s go home.”

“Yes, home.” Corrado mumbles his agreement.

Azura nods, glancing back at the empty clothes on the floor, all that remains of Judah ... We get to the door, but before I can even try to open it, it swings open to reveal Alejandro, Dad, and Elijah.

All three tense, as if ready to attack, and I resist the urge to roll my eyes, instead smirking arrogantly at them.

“You’re a tad too fucking late. Tell me, did old age make you lot fucking slow?” I taunt.

Dad chuckles, relief in his eyes as he looks at us. Whilst Alejandro frowns as Elijah smirks and turns to him.

“Karma.”

And just like that, the dark, heavy atmosphere of the night fades away...

Read Novel Alpha Leo And The Heart Of Fire By Moonlight Muse Chapter 115

Alpha Leo and the Heart of Fire by Moonlight Muse Chapter 115

A few weeks have passed since that night, and everything is falling into place. But there were also several important things that we had to do in the past few weeks, from the rebuilding of parts of the pack that were damaged to the funerals of those who passed away, and being there for the families of those who had lost someone.

Construction wise everything is fixed, but the mark that the attack left on this pack would remain...

I had also delayed choosing my beta and delta at my own ceremony, because I was torn between who to pick. I had a few

options or five, should I say. Although I had told Dad that I would announce them soon

after everything that had happened, it had been delayed, but tomorrow, I am holding a small assembly where I will make the announcement.

“Ready?” I ask Jax, taking one last drag on my cigarette before putting it out.

He runs his fingers through his hair, as we both look at the door to Shane’s house. “No, but let’s get this sh*t over with. She won’t take it well.”

Yeah, we both f*cking knew that... After her surge of strength on the night of the attack, she had returned to her quiet state. I had given her a few simple tasks to do, after everything with Judah had happened, and she had carried them out perfectly. However, since things were normal again, she had once again confined herself to her house.

But it showed that she did have the strength to live on and rebuild her life.

I knock on the door, at the same time Jax rings the doorbell. We exchange looks, but it's not long before the door is pulled open by Kareena. She's just showered, her hair still wet and she's dressed in one of Shane's shirts and a pair of leggings.

Yeah, it isn't f*ckin easy to get over your mate...

"Alpha, Jax... Everything ok? I wasn't expecting visitors." She says. "Is that your way of saying we aren't welcome?" Jax asks, c*cking a brow. "Do I get the option to refuse?" She asks, before looking at me, "Come on in."

Yeah, I'm not sure this is going to work...

There are bags under her eyes as she leads the way to the lounge. I can tell it's not been used. Guess she is still spending most of her time in her room. She doesn't sit, simply crossing her arms as she leans against the fireplace.

'Clearly wants us gone fast.' Jax says through the link, smirking.

'Don't p*ss her off then.' I say, sitting back. "

There's something we want to talk to you about. Mind taking a seat."

An indirect order that I knew she won't disobey. She brushes her hair back and takes a seat on the sofa opposite us. But she's on edge, almost as if not trusting us.

"What's this about?" She asks.

"About you. You're not holding up great, and I know that living without your mate isn't f*cking easy. I know how it feels

thinking you'd rather die than be without them... I get that, and I can't f*cking imagine losing Azura... So I won't say I get your pain, because only you can f*cking explain that." I look down, knowing no matter how much I tried to imagine it,

nothing compares to actually losing your mate.

"Someone I know once said, and I quote... that losing my mate is like living in darkness. The pain of going another day

without them feels like a terrifying eternity that never ends. The sky no longer shines.

with the sun and the night is devoid of its sparkling stars. The warmth on my skin feels empty, and the smile and laughter of those around me is something I can no longer understand... My sun and stars are gone, and my heart yearns for one more touch, one more promise, one more moment ... but there is nothing. Just the hollow feeling of being a shell with no purpose...' "{

I glance over at her and she's looking down. I can't see her face, but I know she's in tears as I continue. "But we humans are selfish... We want our loved ones to live on without their mates... because deep down we know that those mates who are gone would never want you to live like this. They would want to see you happy..."

"What do you want Leo?" She asks me now, looking up at me and I see it, the raw pain that she's in, the pain she's fighting to squash.

"We... I have a proposition for you." Jax says. I glance over at him. He's serious now and Kareena looks at him. "I know that Shane is not replaceable, and this isn't to replace him, but to give you a tether to hold on to, so you can live your life and make Shane proud." She frowns, but she's listening. "Tell me Kar, you knew Shane better than any of us. He would want you to live on, right?" Jax continues.

She doesn't reply, but we both know that that is a f*cking fact.

"Obviously he would." I say. "And that's why here's the proposal. Let Jax mark you, so it eases the pain."

Jax glances at me and I know it was pretty straight up, but there is no way to sugarcoat that sh*t. Kareena didn't react. She's simply staring at me, as if trying to comprehend what I just said.

A tension settles in the room and Kareena's heart begins thudding. I guess it sank in...

"Are you two for real?" She asks, a hurt expression in her eyes.

"If you think of it in a logical manner-" Jax began.

"A logical manner? I just lost my mate! And you two think I can just move on and let some random guy mark me?" She's angry and her eyes flash as she stands up.

"Not a random guy Kar, Shane was like a brother to me. I'm not doing this for my own gain." Jax counters firmly, standing up. Both are glaring at each other, and I know he's taken offence to her words.

"Yeah, so you can rub it into my face that you've done me a favour?" She asks coldly.

Jax shakes his head. "No. I'm only doing this for Shane, not you." He growls.

"Well, news flash Adams, I don't need you to do this for me. Now can you both leave? Please?" She asks, looking at me. Her chest

is heaving as she glares at the floor, her jaw clenched.

I stand up, "Think it over, the offer stands, think of what Shane would want for you..." I say glancing at Jax, who is frowning. "Come on Jax."

She doesn't move, standing there staring at the floor as we leave her alone. She is living alone but the only reason I allow her to be alone was on the condition that she wore a band that kept track of her heart rate, if there is any irregularity someone would come and check up on her. But since the last time she tried to take her own life, she hasn't tried anything again.

"That went as predicted." Jax remarks,

when we are far enough from the house to not be overheard.

"Yeah, well, let's see now... we did our f*cking part, the rest is up to her... I just hope she realises that Shane would not want her to f*cking give up on life." I say, remembering a conversation from long ago with Shane, before he found Kareena as his mate.

"The part of the mate bond that I don't like is how it ties our mates to us completely... I fear the aftermath it will take on my mate if something was to happen to me... I want her to live on Leo, I want her to fulfil all her dreams and not have her life end at me...'

We'll try our best Shane, we'll f*cking try to make sure she gets to live her life to the fullest... but didn't he realise we would all

always feel the absence of his presence from our lives?

Him... Jackie... I wish they were here...

I return to the Villa, which is currently still getting some work carried out to it, lost in my own thoughts. Deciding to go get a drink from the fridge before I found my s*xy little p*ycho, I head towards the kitchen. I smile faintly, thinking of my Baby Girl. Lately, her stomach was not something you'd miss and every time I see her I remember that we are going to have a little one to take care of before we know it.

I'm halfway to the kitchen, my gaze going to the open door. I can see Winona making something at the counter. She has her head

down, whilst Dad leans against the far counter, his eyes on her as he drinks his coffee.

I frown slightly, refusing to believe what everything I have witnessed points at.

There's no f*cking way... That sh*t doesn't make sense to me.

I shake my head, entering the kitchen and making my presence known with my aura. Instantly Dad's eyes snap to mine and Winona gives me a small smile before she places the milkshake and the biscuits onto a tray. Clearly a snack for Corrado.

"Leo, you're back. I popped down a short while ago, wanting to discuss if you had everything in place regarding the announcement of titles tomorrow?" He asks.

"You could have mind-linked me, but yeah, all that sh*t's in place." I say, frowning as I try to push the assumption I had out of my head. Dad hadn't move with us and he hadn't really given me a solid reason for his delay. I mean, he always f*cking wanted to live with us, and Azura and Corrado wanted it too.

Sure, I had my own theories as to why, like the f*cking tense scene that was in place until I walked in.

"You had your block up." Dad says, placing his mug down. "Thanks for the coffee." He adds to Winona as she's about to leave the room.

She tenses, her heart thudding before she gives a small smile and rushes from the room.

I raise an eyebrow, walking over to the fridge and taking out a bottle of water as I think back to how well they got on months ago... Speaking of Winona, since the attack something else had changed in her too. She felt... stronger. I'm no longer sure if she's an omega.

"So, when do you plan to move in?" I ask before I can stop myself.

Dad raises his eyebrow.

"I don't think that's a good idea. You are a young family, a new one at that. You lot need your privacy." He says seriously.

I scoff. "Don't give me that sh*t. The truth will work."

"I have no idea what you're going on about." Dad says curtly in a tone that reminds me, that although he may come off f*cking nice, he had a temper just like the rest of us.

"Do I need to really f*cking point it out to you?" I counter icily, just as I hear footsteps, and a delicious scent that I f*cking love fills my nose and I turn to see my girl walk in. She looks f*cking fine in baggy pants and a crop top.

"You're back." She says as our eyes lock. I close the gap between us, pulling her into my arms and kiss her lips passionately. My hand strokes the side of her stomach, whilst

I grip the back of her neck with my other hand. I relish the way her nails dig into my

neck as she kisses me back. After a few

moments, I slowly break the kiss, brushing my nose against hers before moving back.

“Yeah, just now.” I say, kissing her neck, before placing the water bottle down and locking my arms around her from behind, my hand resting on her stomach. “So, as I was saying...” I begin looking at Dad, my eyes cold as I say the f*cking words I just didn’t want to ever have to f*cking say. “The reason you’re not moving in, is because of whatever sh*t’s going on between you and Winona, correct?”

Azura gasps, but I don’t look at her, my eyes fixed on Dad...

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Alpha Leo and the Heart of Fire by Moonlight Muse Chapter 116

I look between the father and son, shocked at Leo’s words. Sure, there has been some tension between Winona and Marcel, but with everything going on, I never paid much attention to it.

Leo’s arms are firmly around me, so I can’t move either. Stuck between their intense stare off. Marcel frowns, a flash of irritation on his face.

“I have no idea what you are going on about,

Leo. I have a few things I need to handle.”

“Can we not f*cking do this? I’m not st*pid. I want an answer.” Leo persists.

“There is nothing to say. You have a misconception. Excuse me.” Marcel replies firmly, before walking past us and out of the door.

Leo frowns, but despite the cold look on his face, his touch is tender as he caresses my stomach.

“There’s definitely something... but I don’t think Marcel will say anything. Shall we ask Winona?” I suggest as Leo exhales, clearly irritated, before his eyes meet mine and he tilts his head.

“Yeah... She might be f*cking easier to get information out of.” He replies, his hand wraps around my neck as he forces my head back, and kisses me.

I can feel his hunger, passion and irritation in that kiss and although I know a round of rough sex might make him feel better, I

think we need to address this. It isn't the

first time he has subtly mentioned their behaviour in passing, but I think he was trying to deny it up until now...

I had my own assumption, but-

"What is it?" He asks, making my eyes widen.

These d*mn walls...

Leo flicks my ear, his tongue piercing, hitting my stud, and I shiver as he slowly nibbles on it, his hand around my throat

tightening, as the other squeezes my left

breast.

"Someone might see us." I whisper, my

heart thumping.

"Then you should keep your volume down." Leo growls.

As much as that makes my p*ssy clench, we need to talk to Winona. I pull away, turning, I tiptoe and kiss his jaw softly. The slight stubble that he has growing, p*ickles my lips and I kiss him again.

Goddess, this man is so d*mn s*xy I could tie him to a bed and f*ck him night and day.

Leo smirks c*ckily, and I narrow my eyes, realising he heard my thoughts again. 1

"No, I didn't mean that. I mean, I need my legs to function..."

His smirk simply grows as he advances on me until my a*s hits the cabinet behind me, and he places his hand on either side of me on the counter.

"I'm up for all of that, however... you will be the one who gets tied up." He says huskily. I bite my lip. 1

Oh, I wouldn't mind that...

But instead, I slowly push him away. "We have plenty of time for that later. Now come on, our son has been waiting for you. By the way, how did it go with Kareena?" I ask, I know they mean well, both Leo and Jax, but I also know that it isn't so easy to just move on and allow someone else to just mark you. Plus, it hasn't even been that long since Shane has passed away. 1

"Not great, but that's to be expected. I know it was insensitive, soon even, but I don't want to lose her." He says, frowning slightly.

"I know Blue Eyes... but she needs time..." I say softly.

"Time that we don't have." He replies.

I nod, hearing a door shut and know it's Winona since she went to drop Corrado to one of the pack kid's birthday parties.

"Come on." I say, feeling sorry for the poor soul we were about to question. Winona will c*ack like glass with a little pressure. I smile deviously as I lead the way down the hall to see her collecting some toys from the floor in the living room.

"Hey, you're back." I say, bending down and helping her with a few of the blocks.

"You sit Azura, I'll do this." She says.

"You're pregnant."

"Exactly, I'm just pregnant." I reply, "Trust me, I'm still very flexible."

I wink at Leo, making Winona blush.

There's something extremely satisfying about getting her all embarrassed and flustered. 1

'You really do have an evil streak.' He smirks.

'Of course.' I reply as I place the blocks into the pack, and sit down on the sofa.

"Winona, I have a few questions that I wanted to ask you." Leo says seriously.

Her smile fades and she looks at us, worry

clear on her face.

“Oh? What is it?” She asks worriedly as she zips up the pack of blocks.

“What’s going on between you and Dad?” Leo says. Her face pales and her heart thunders loudly as she looks up, reminding me of a deer caught in headlights. 1

She looks at the door, then at both of us, and for a moment, I feel guilty. I didn’t mean to make her feel cornered...

“Hey, it’s ok... We’re just concerned. You

two act a little... ok really on edge around one another. I mean, when I first came, you were all smiles when you talked to him, and you lot planned that party and stuff together ... and now you two avoid one another...” I say.

She shakes her head, but I don’t miss the way she swallows. “There is nothing going on between us, there is no issue, everything is ok.” She says, looking between Leo and me and d*mn, if she wasn’t so sweet, I

would have pushed her further. It’s these pregnancy hormones, I’m becoming mush.

Leo is watching her calculatingly. ‘Let me try this another way.’

‘Go ahead Sherlock.’ I say crossing my arms, as Winona begins rearranging the toys in the toy box. Toys that are already pretty organised...

“So, it’s Dad.” He says coldly.

I look at him sharply and Winona looks up at him slowly, almost as if not understanding what he means. I don’t understand either.

“What do you mean?” She asks worriedly.

“He did something to you, didn’t he?” Leo asks walking closer to her. She moves back against the wall where she is kneeling on the floor, her heart thundering and I frown watching him. “You can tell me, if anyone in this pack ever tries to take advantage of anyone else, they will be punished. I don’t care if it’s my father or anyone. Did he assault you?” 1

“Leo!” I gasp at the same time that Winona gasps, covering her mouth in horror.

“You can’t really be thinking your father would do that, would you?” She asks Leo, her voice shaky.

'See?' Leo says through the link, and I realise he said that to make her talk... Smart but rough...

"He's a man, why can't he? You two have been around one another a lot lately, alone too... Tell me, Winona, has he crossed a line he shouldn't have?" Leo snarls crouching down in front of her.

"Leo..." I say, I know we want answers, but her eyes are filled with tears, and I quickly move to her side, but before I can even hug her, I see a small frown cross her face.

"He has not crossed any line! Alpha Marcel is a good man, who has done nothing but be kind to me. Please don't talk about him like that. What if he hears?" She whispers.

Leo c*cks a brow as he takes out a cigarette and a lighter. I see an emotion in his eyes, but it's only there for a few moments before his expression is cold again.

"So, you're more concerned if he overhears?" He says as he lights his cigarette. "Then tell me, if he hasn't done anything, then what's the f*cking issue?"

"There is no issue. I promise you I will never hurt you...but please don't blame your father." She whispers before she stands up and rushes to the door. She pulls it open, and it shuts with a rather loud slam after her.

Leo smokes his cigarette, and I tilt my head.

"Harsh much?"

He doesn't respond as he stands up, staring at the door. "Had to be..."

"What is it?" I ask, walking over to him. He

looks down at me, a small frown on his face.

"Her last sentence... I promise I will never hurt you..." He scoffs, shaking his head. "I can't wrap my head around it." He runs his fingers through his hair, and it takes me a moment to click.

Whoa... wait what?!

"D*mn, are you saying them two got the hots for one another? D*mn Daddy Marcel

likes the Nanny." I snicker, earning a cold glare from Leo, one that doesn't bother me as I smirk. "Sooo is Winnie going to be like "I trail off, realising what she meant.

I promise I'll never hurt you.

I almost said something insensitive....

“Leo... if they like one another- wait, do they? Or is it just one way?” I shake my head, confused.

“It’s definitely both of them... I saw the way she treated Dad when he was fatally injured.

The way he looked at her before he left... the

signs were all there, it just felt too f*cking far-fetched to me... She just turned twenty-seven...” He mutters.

“Yeah... but love doesn’t have a number.”

“Love?” Leo says, turning his back to me.

I place a hand on his back. “Is it like Marcel to just casually date? And Winona?”

He looks over his shoulder at me and shakes his head. “No... and I know Winona has turned down many men. Trust me, I f*cking know.”

“Then... I guess there’s something there... I personally think she is refusing to let herself feel because of you... Because she doesn’t want to hurt you...” I trail off, unable to finish my sentence.

“By taking Mom’s place.” He finishes for me. His voice is quiet, and I can feel the sadness there, but there isn’t anger. I look up at him and nod slowly. “I wouldn’t hold that against them... not if it’s what they really want.” He says quietly. 1

I’m proud of the way he’s dealing with this.

“Dad’s been alone for far too long, but f*cking hell, Winona?” 2

I smirk as I wrap my arms around him from behind.

“Yeah, it’s pretty d*mn shocking. What is with you Rossis and liking younger women?” I muse.

“Hey, that sounds f*cking weird. Don’t go around saying that sh*t.” He mutters.

I simply smirk.

“Well... this would be the third Rossi.” I snicker, grabbing his c*otch and giving it a tight squeeze, before I let go and run off.

“Azura!” He growls.

I stick my tongue out as I pull open the door and run down the hallway of our new home...

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Alpha Leo and the Heart of Fire by Moonlight Muse Chapter 117

It's the following day and we are at the assembly. Leo is standing in front of the huge screen, wearing a black suit with a white shirt that has a few buttons left open. He scans the room consisting of the most important members of the pack,

along with the top-ranked warriors, and the Five. I'm sitting next to Corrado, who watches his father with complete adoration. A big smile on his face as he listens to Leo make the introduction.

I smile softly and put my arm around him, he glances at me and snuggles closer before looking back at Leo.

My s*xy Alpha...

He's so d*mn gorgeous...

Leo's ice-blue eyes flick to me, his chiselled jaw and that pout of his making me lick my lips and after a moment he looks away again.

'Tease.' He says through the link as silence falls over the room, and Leo continues to talk. "As you all know, now that I'm Alpha, I need to choose my second and third in command. Beta Raj deserves to take a break too, and we have been without a Delta for a while. As many of you know, I have my side business, one that is going through a lot of changes recently, and one I will slowly direct into new fields."

I watch him, feeling proud of him. He had told me some of his new plans and he had taken my suggestions on board too. I can just see the incredible things he will achieve.

"It was a hard decision to make, when I have not one but five whom I trust for these positions. So, I've decided to do things a little differently. I will have two Betas and three Deltas. Jax Addams and Li Sheng Yu, will be my Betas. With Ace Axton, Dan Jobs, and Jin Hayashi as my Deltas."

I look at the five, and Ace is giving Leo the narrow-eyed look. Dan seems surprised, and the rest are serious as they listen to Leo. "As well as being Delta, each will be assigned to a separate area to lead. Ace will be head of security, Jin will be head of weaponry

and training, and Dan will be head of research. I know they will do this job efficiently. After all, the seven of us work together perfectly “Leo looks at his hands for a moment, a frown on his face and I know he’s remembering Shane. “So, can the five of you get up here so I can swear you in?”

“Let’s go get our knighthood boys.” Ace says, making me smile. “Shame I don’t have a sword.” Leo replies, taking the knife that is in the box on the table in front of him. “Raj.” Raj steps forward, and Leo becomes serious once again.

“I Raj Kapoor, relinquish the title of Beta of the Sanguine Pack, and will continue to serve this pack with everything I have.” He says solemnly.

Leo nods as he looks at Jax.

“Do you, Jax Addams, accept the position as one of the Beta’s of the Sanguine Pack, do you swear your allegiance to me, your Alpha Leo Rossi?”

“I Jax Addams, accept the position...”

The vows continue. One by one they slit their hands and shake with Leo’s, and soon all five are officially initiated into their new ranks. Everyone stands up and claps. Just like their mates, I’m proud of this moment. Proud to see Leo become the true Alpha he was born to be. All six of them deserve these positions and, as they hug each other, I smile. They were always meant to be a team and always will be. AZURA.

A FEW MONTHS LATER...

THE NIGHT BEFORE THE BLOOD MOON.

Babies are gremlins, little minions who like to kick and punch you, knowing we will never lift a finger to them.

I’m lying down with my huge belly that puts Mount Everest to shame, blocking my view of my hunky mate. I bet the inside of my stomach is black and blue with all these attacks on me.

I hate that it’s women who have to go through this and not men.

D*mn them with their perfect abs, they get to have the fun with their d*cks and it’s us women who suffer. I’m full-term, yet this little Rossi devil doesn’t want to make an appearance.

I’m so mad right now.

I watch him slick his hair back, his white shirt hangs open, his grey pants hugging those muscular thighs... and that a*s...

"I hate you." I growl. Leo smirks as he looks at me. "Keep hating me, there's something incredibly enticing about rage sex." He says arrogantly, coming over to me. I frown as I sit up. I'm stretched like a balloon, and it is beginning to tire me out. The pain in my back is constant and I feel drained... Leo's smirk fades and I see the concern in his eyes, but he masks it as he lifts me onto his lap. "Not long now." He says quietly, stroking my stomach. I feel our pup kick his hand hard and he chuckles. "It's as angry as you are. I think our pup is almost ready to come out now." He says, as I rest my head on his shoulder – exhausted, the pain in my spine is pretty bad.

Kiara has tried to heal me too, but the pup is quite powerful, hence why I'm so drained.

I blame the d*mn Rossi genes.

"You hold the Asheton bloodline, S*xy

Mama; I'd say it is a bit of both of us." He says, kissing my neck hungrily.

I don't argue, the delicious waves of pleasure making me sigh softly. I grab his freshly styled locks and yank his head up, kissing his lips roughly. 'Seems like I have the perfect way to satiate that anger.' He teases, but his hands are already working on the buttons of my dress. "Good, now make yourself useful and f*ck me." I reply breathlessly, as his hand rubs over my panties.

His eyes flash as he rips my panties off before he flips me onto the bed.

Leaning over me, he grips my dress from the bodice and tears it right off me,

leaving me in just my bra. It's only for a couple of seconds before that ends up on the floor too. His eyes rake over me, and like always, the hunger and desire in them tell me how much he wants me no matter how I look. He leans over me, making sure not to put much weight on my stomach, kissing my lips once, before he grabs a c*shion. Placing it under my lower back, he grips my thighs and pushes them open and I gasp when I feel his tongue flick over my p*ssy. I whimper as pleasure rushes through "F*ck Leo." I gasp, my hand tangling into his hair. He doesn't stop, tasting every inch of me before I feel his tongue growing and it delves deep into me. I can feel my juices trickle out of me as he tongue f*cks

me nice and deep. and I feel my org*sm building to that incredible high that I truly love.

"F*ck Leo!" I moan. "That's it, baby, right there."

My cries grow as his tongue f*cks me faster, flicking and twirling around my cl*t in between. My org*sm hits me hard and I groan in pleasure as my vision darkens and I can see white dots. He slips his tongue out and I gasp when he plunges two fingers into "Leo!" I grab his wrist, but he doesn't stop, and a second org*sm rips through me."

Goddess..."

I gasp as I yank him up and kiss him hard. I sit up, unzipping his pants. He helps me pull them off as he fondles my breasts, sucking on my nipple. I blush knowing that I was already leaking a little from them. Not that he cares. He shamelessly sucks on it before doing the same to the other. I whimper, reaching behind me and down between us to grab his c*ck. I stroke it a few times before I straddle him and direct it to my entrance. He grabs my hips as I slowly ease onto his c*ck, only for him to slam up into me. I hiss as I feel extremely full before I start to ride him. I tilt my head back,

pleasure rocking through me. I brace my hands on his thighs as he grabs my breasts, f*cking me nice and hard.

I gasp when the gremlin kicks again, but I'm far too focused on the pleasure my man is inflicting on me to care about the pain. "F*ck baby girl, that's it." Leo growls, his hand reaching up and tangling in my hair as he f*cks me hard and fast.

"I'm close..." I moan, the s*xy sinful sound of our skin hitting against one another, filling the room and mixing with our moans and our racing hearts. "Don't come until I say so, Beautiful." He commands as he speeds up and I cry out teetering on the edge. His grip on me is tight as he chases his own release.

"Leo... f*ck, I can't hold on!" I gasp, whimpering when my release rips through me. I let out a moan of ecstasy.

Leo growls, kissing me hard as he slams into me with a final few thrusts releasing his own load into me.

I gasp, pulling back, to give my stomach room, "F*ck that was... so good." I

moan, as Leo yanks me onto the bed next to him, and I pull him close by the collar of his shirt, kissing him hungrily.

"But I told you not to come..." Leo says, his cold eyes looking down at me.

I raise an eyebrow, loving when he looks at me like that. "Shame I didn't obey." I say tauntingly, making him grab my hair and tug my head up.

"Seems I need to teach you a lesson." He growls with a devilish smirk that makes my core knot all over again...

"What do you have in mind?" I ask as his hand wraps around my throat, and he leans in for one hot bruising kiss...

I have just had a long soak in the bath and pulled on some loungewear when I come out of the bathroom to see Leo on the phone. He's massaging his temples and I frown,

wrapping my soft fluffy cardigan around myself. "I'll meet you there." He says, hanging up and tossing the phone onto the bed. "What's wrong?" I ask. My a*s still feels raw from his sizzling hot yet painful punishment.

"Mishiko said Kareena's gotten worse.

"We're going to go down again and I'm going to try to talk to her again." Leo says.

I sigh as I sit down next to him. "She's hurting... but it's only been a few months." I say softly. Not long after everything settled down, Kareena found out she was pregnant. It seems she had conceived just before Shane's death, and when she ended up in the hospital for her attempted suicide, there had been no need to perform a blood test or urine sample, so no one had figured it out at the time. And with that revelation, the men had become even more adamant about her making it. Whilst me, Sera and Mishiko understand that she needs time, oh, and Dan. He is probably the most sensitive of the guys.

But I have to give them one thing, the bro code between them is incredible. The way they are there for one another and for

Kareena is incredible to see. She is trying to live now, even going to work, trying to leave the house for the baby, but I can see the toll his absence is taking on her. "I know... let's try this one more time..." Leo says sighing. "That child needs his mother." "Let me come with you this time." I say, standing up. He looks down at me. "You up for it?" He asks, stroking my sore a*s. I glare at him. "Perfectly fine."

He smirks. "Good, that a*s really can take a lot." He says, kissing my stomach.

My core clenches and I pull him up.

"Mmm, it sure can..." I say as he kisses me again before we are forced to step apart and make our way out of the Villa. The place that is now fully home, now that all my stuff from the Blood Moon had been delivered too. Marcel hasn't moved in with us... He refuses to discuss anything to do with Winona, and even lost his temper once. He lives in an apartment, and I know Leo would have wanted him here, although he never voiced I just wish Marcel understood that he was wanted here... Winona also never mentioned it ever again, but on the rare occasion when they do run into one another, I can see the feelings they have for one another, feelings they so desperately try to hide from one another. I just wish they weren't so d*mn stubborn. They both need to get laid. "I can hear your thoughts and I really don't want to think of Dad like that." Leosays and I smirk.

"Well then, stop eavesdropping on my thoughts."

"Barrier baby girl." He says c*ckily.

The mood becomes heavy once again when we see Dan waiting there for us. We greet one another and my mind goes to

Kareena once more. Dan had offered to have a word with her, too. This time, we will take a different approach. He had been trying to get her to focus on other things, but nothing was working.

I now look up at the house. Only one light is on and it's in the master bedroom.

"Does she know we're coming?" I ask.

"Yes," Dan says as Leo wraps his arm around me, leading me to the door...

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We ring the doorbell and it's opened by Mishiko, the smell of home-cooked pizza wafts past my nose.

Oh, d*mn, this smells so good! "D*mn, who's cooking?" I say, rubbing my tummy. Mishiko smiles.

"Sera." She replies, stepping aside and letting us enter. "Are Ace and Jin here?" I ask as Leo brushes my wet locks off my face. My hair still isn't dry from my shower. "Yes, we are." Ace says popping his head through the door.

"Self-invited." Kareena says, c*cking a brow pointedly at Ace. "You practically keep my woman half the time, so I'm welcome." He says dismissively, and Sera frowns at him as Kareena's brows furrow and she disappears back into the kitchen.

She looks awful, her shoulders stick out like blades, and she's lost a lot of weight.

But before I can worry about anyone else, I have a bone to pick with my mate. I place my hands on my non-existent waist and glare at Leo. "Where's Jax and Li Sheng at?" Jin asks. "We never knew this was a party." Dan remarks. "Whatever... So, there was an entire party going on here and if I didn't ask to come along, you would have eaten pizza without me?" I ask Leo accusingly. "No, seriously, I didn't f*cking know all these b*stards were going to be here." Leo says and I give him a dirty look. "I don't care if you did or not, you should have invited me." I grumble, making Ace smirk.

"Answer to the missus now Leo." He says, but I get distracted as I spot Kareena through the archway to the kitchen.

She's alive... but empty, and suddenly I see someone else in her. As she slowly runs her finger along the counter, her eyes cast downwards and her dark brown locks fall in front of her face. My gaze dips to her stomach. She's not as big as me but she's showing a lot now... My heart thumps, and Leo looks at me sharply as I'm suddenly enveloped with emotions I can't search control. My eyes sting with tears and I quickly glance towards the stairs.

"I need to wee." I say, grabbing the banister. I'm barely two steps up, when Leo grabs my wrist. "Let the woman at least go to the bathroom. She's already ready to pop." Sera scolds Leo, but he doesn't let go of me. 'Azura.'

I know I can't hide anything, and I slowly look down at him. Our eyes meet and I know he knows what I'm thinking.

'That baby... is just like me Leo... only Indigo didn't want to live for me... She's trying... and I really hope that Kareena continues to fight.' I say through the link. 'She will.' Leo says, tugging me into his arms. I turn to my side, wanting to feel him completely against me, something that isn't completely possible with my belly right now. No one says anything and when I finally look around, I realise the hallway is deserted. I'm grateful for their consideration. I close my eyes, resting my head against Leo's chest. We will get Kareena into a better state of mind... The doorbell rings and I slowly move back when Mishiko comes out of the lounge, and goes to open the door for Jax and Li Sheng. "I brought beer." Jax says, holding up a few cases. "Great." Mishiko smiles, letting them come in, and Li Sheng closes the door behind them as we all head to the living room.

It's about an hour later and I think we all enjoyed our pizza. Whilst the men now

drank the beer, as they also criticise the taste, Jax included.

Kareena has been silent, although she did talk when she was asked a question, but for the most part she didn't contribute much. I observed her as we ate,

seeing the way she was forcing herself to eat.

She is trying... she's trying for her pup... I saw the way she caressed her

stomach, the pain that glimmered in her eyes before she'd lower her head...

She now stands up and begins collecting the plates. I stand up, following suit. "I feel bad that the pregnant ladies are the ones working." Ace says looking at Sera who is still eating. She gives him a scathing glare. "Then get your a*s up and take the dishes, I cooked." She scolds, making me snicker.

"Yeah, stop being a sexist pig and pull your weight." I add.

Leo smirks.

“And that’s why you should keep your mouth shut.” Jax says, as Dan stands up to help.
1 “Yeah, do my share, Dan.” Ace says to Dan, making Jin shake his head. How old are you guys?” Mishiko shakes her head.

“Clearly not mature enough.” Sera says, as I leave the room.

My smile fades as I watch Kareena scrape the plates into the bin. “Hey...” I say,

“Hey...” She replies, giving me a smile that doesn’t reach her eyes.

“How are you holding up with the pregnancy? Is the little one being good?” I ask.

She smiles slightly, placing a hand on her stomach. “He kicks a lot at night, but he’s being good...” Her eyes sparkle with tears, and she turns as she places the plates in on the worktop.

Dan and Li Sheng place the rest of the stuff on the counters, bringing in everything from the lounge.

“Hot drinks?” I ask.

“Jax said he’s ordered some in from the café. Should be here soon.” Li Sheng says.

I nod as Dan glances at me.

‘Want me to stay?’ He asks through the link.

‘Let me try to talk to her first?’ I suggest.

He gives me a small nod as he leaves the room.

‘You going to be ok talking to her?’ Leo asks.

‘Did Dan snitch?’ I ask, putting the sauce bottles back in the fridge.

‘Barrier Baby Girl? You really do suck at keeping those walls up.’ Leo’s s*xy

c*cky voice comes back.

‘Oh, well, stop prying in my head.’ I pout, as I turn to Kareena, who is loading the dishwasher.

“You know, not many people here know, but in the battle that took place with Endora, my mother died.” I say, this topic hurts...

She looks up at me, frowning slightly.

“I’m sorry... I didn’t realise you were alive. back then.” She says, tilting her head as if she’s doing the calculations.

“I wasn’t. She was pregnant with me, but she was adamant to fight in the battle... and die.”

She pauses from loading the dishwasher, confusion on her face, but she doesn’t speak waiting for me to continue.

“My sperm donor, her mate? He was abusive and a cheat. When Alejandro found out... it was his pack my parents were in... well, he sent him to his death as a punishment for abusing Indigo – my biological mother.”

I know people here generally know that I’m not Mama and Dad’s biological daughter, but not many know the full truth.

“Well, she didn’t want to lose him... She somehow stuck by him because he was her mate and with his death... she became a shell of her former self... wanting to die, even when she had me inside of her.” I take a breath as she looks at me. The pain and understanding in her eyes making me continue. “Today when I saw you, I realise that that baby inside of you is like me. He needs his Mama, he always will. Not everyone is lucky to find people like Mama and Dad. You’re not like Indigo though. Her mate was abusive. Shane was a hero... She didn’t even last long. You’re here months on trying to survive for your prince. I know you don’t want to accept Jax’s offer but you know... he loved Shane, he wants to see you live Kareena, and you don’t even need to be in a relationship-”

“And if his mate shows up?” She cuts in. “Then what? How will things go? Sure he can reject me and move on since I am not looking for love but... what if the bond makes me start seeing him as security?”

She presses her lips together and I realise that this is her hesitation...

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“He’s old. I doubt he’ll find his mate now.” I say although I know Alejandro was like thirty-four, Jax is only in his late twenties. “I’m trying my best, Azura. I won’t abandon my child.” She says quietly. “I don’t need a man.”

The front doorbell rings and Kareena walks past me to get it. At the same time, Jax comes out of the living room. Their eyes meet before Kareena power walks to the door and pulls it open before Jax can. Enter title...

“Delivery.” The guy from the café says. Hello, Luna.” He smiles at me as he passes Jax the trays holding the hot drinks.

“Thanks, man, you got the desserts?”

“Just on the bike. I’ll go grab them.” He says as Jax nods.

“I got here first.” Kareena says pointedly, trying to take the drinks from him, but he holds them out of her reach.

“Don’t be petty. Get the desserts.” He says. c*ckily, making her frown.

‘Maybe they’re a bad match.’ Mishiko says through the link as she steps out of the living room, too.

‘I don’t know, they might work...’ I reply.

D*mn, our conversation was going so well before the door-bell went off. I almost got to the hard bit! Jax carries the drinks through to the lounge and he’s back out by the time. the guy brings the bags to the door.

“Thanks.” Jax says, taking them and Kareena manages to grab one. ‘You are annoying.’ She says, leading the way back to the living room.

‘Scratch that... I think they are the perfect match...’ I say to Mishiko through the link.

We enter the lounge where Sera is already passing everyone their drinks and I take a seat next to Kareena, I know Leo wants to talk to her, and today hopefully as a group, we can make her understand.

“The chocolate cake is Jin’s and Kar’s.” Jax says. “The cookie doughs are mine, Mish’s and Li Sheng’s...”

I sit back enjoying the cosy atmosphere, my eyes falling on Leo, who is sitting opposite He sits back, picking up his coffee, his smouldering eyes on me. He doesn’t need to say anything for me to know he’s checking me out. I smile slightly, remembering our sex session from earlier. I push the thought away before I get distracted from the goal. We just need to wait for the right time to speak to Kareena.

She sits back with her chocolate cake, lost in thought once again. We all begin eating, but she doesn’t move, as if she’s reliving something as her eyes begin to well with tears and her heart begins thumping.

“Kareena.” Mishiko says sharply, placing a hand on her arm. She doesn’t move.

“Kareena!” I say, snapping my fingers in front of her face.

She blinks and looks up with a start. Her heart is still pounding as she looks at the room of people as if just remembering we are here. "I'm just a little tired. I'm going to head to bed." She places her cake down, not even having eaten much of it.

"Kareena, a word?" Leo says, making her stop in her tracks. She closes her eyes for a second and I know she's near breaking point. I get what Mishiko is concerned about "What is it?" She asks, trying to remain calm and collected.

Everyone falls silent, and I take her hand, slowly tugging her down beside me again.

She glances at Leo, who now sits forward.

"I care about you. We all do. We're worried about you, Kareena, about this pup. Let us help you." He says quietly, his voice is firm and emotionless, but we all know beyond that, Leo has a heart of gold, and he means it. She clutches her neck, her eyes stinging as she tries to search control herself. Blood trickles down her neck where she's digging her fingers in and Li Sheng looks away first. "I won't let anyone remove his mark from me." She says quietly, her eyes blazing black. "You know, back at my old pack... there's a woman who took a chosen mate after her mate died... and you know what she did? She had her mate's mark tattooed just beneath where her mate mark sat, and when her chosen mate marked her, she still got to keep her mate's mark close. If you agree... maybe you could do the same." I say quietly, slowly tugging her hand from where she had clawed into her skin. "That's a neat idea." Ace says seriously, his arm around Sera.

"But, it's all I have left of him." She whispers.

"You have his pup." Leo reminds her, and she nods slowly.

"True..."

"Well, if you don't want Jax to mark you, what about me?" Li Sheng asks quietly.

I can't help but smile when Dan nods and also looks up. "Or me?" 1

"Check it out. It's like that TV show, only you got three hotties to choose from." I tease, trying to lighten the mood.

"It isn't Jax, that is the issue." Kareena says, running her fingers through her hair. "I just, it isn't fair to your mate who is out there, either." "Is that why you're not agreeing?" Jax asks incredulously, c*cking a brow. "Over something that you can't even guarantee?"

"Not only that, I don't want to tie myself to anyone." Kareena refutes.

"The main thing here is to break the bond between you and Shane. After that, if you want to reject Jax and break the bond, your can. Unless you mark him, that

bond won't be completed." Leo says, watching her sharply.

The room falls silent, and I take her hand. "Do it for the baby... for little Shane... because you know that Shane would want you to be there fully for your baby. Children pick up on emotions far better than adults. If you aren't happy, he'll realise. You need to be the best version of yourself for him."

She closes her eyes and turns towards me, and I hug her tightly, trying to [search control](#) my own emotions. I can't even imagine being pregnant without Leo.

Being alone in this world...

She buries her head into my shoulder, and I stroke her back as Mishiko turns her face away, trying to hide her own tears that she wipes away. Jin gives her hand a squeeze, and she rests her head on his shoulder as we wait patiently for Kareena's decision. Her baby kicks and I chuckle when my minion kicks back. Kareena moves back, startled, and she smiles as she looks down. "I think these two are going to have a lot of play fights." She smiles.

"Yeah, but I'm sure they'll also be the best of friends, just like their parents," I say.

She nods.

"Well, they have a legacy to continue," Ace says and Kareena sighs.

"Ok. I agree. But once I've had the baby, I'll reject you and break the bond." She says, looking at Jax.

He nods, and Dan smiles as Leo looks at me with relief in his eyes.

'Thanks...' He says as the mood in the room lightens.

"So, you choose Jax, huh?" Ace says,

"He offered first." Kareena replies pointedly.

"Quit it." Leo frowns.

"So, are we like doing this now?" Mishiko asks, looking at them.

Kareena shakes her head. "No... I want to get the tattoo done first."

Luckily, we're werewolves.

“Then how about we get that done tomorrow.” I say,

She nods and although I’m sure she’ll be ok, I think tonight I’ll stay with her. The ambience of the room is lighter after that, and I notice Jax watching her a few times with concern. She made the perfect choice by picking him, somehow;

I feel that this will become so much more.

Read Novel Alpha Leo And The Heart Of Fire By Moonlight Muse Chapter 120

Alpha Leo and the Heart of Fire by Moonlight Muse Chapter 120

I enter pack grounds, driving slowly as I look up at the Blood Moon. Things always feel a little lonely on a Blood Moon... I sigh heavily, looking at the bags in the passenger side of the car and smile slightly.

I have been over at Alejandro’s pack today and Kiara has given me plenty of things for Azura. She is very excited about the baby’s

arrival, however, Azura hadn’t wanted everyone to come, not wanting everyone fussing over her. Telling her family to come once she’s in labour if they must. She’s going to have the baby soon; she’s been getting pains on and off for the last few days and I can’t wait to hold my grandchild in my hands. I don’t remember much about Leo as a child, and with Leo not really allowing me as much time with Corrado, I missed out on the newborn stage,

something I am looking forward to.

Although I don’t think I’ll be very good with newborns.

I glance back at the bags on the seat next to me, deciding to stop at Leo’s and drop these off first. I need to ask if there’s anything they need me to do for when Elijah and Scarlett come down tomorrow.

With Leo as Alpha, life is peaceful, but at the same time, it’s a little empty... I have far too much time on my hands now... These are the times I do wish I had someone by my side, and then there’s a certain someone that I can’t seem to get out of my mind. She cares... I saw that when I nearly died... but perhaps those feelings just aren’t strong enough. I don’t even know what I want. She’s young and may meet her mate. She clearly doesn’t want me, so why am I still going over this?

It irritates me.

I park up outside the villa, deciding to go on foot from here. I walk around to the other side, grabbing the bags from the car.

“Alpha Marcel.” The guard greets from his post at the gates. “Charles.” I greet him with a nod. “The Alpha and Luna are not in.” He says as he holds out the scanner pad and I place my hand on it. Leo is extremely careful with security, and I don’t blame him. Not after what happened last time. “That’s fine. I just have some things I’ll leave inside for them.” I say and he nods as the gates open, and I step through them, heading up to the house. I reach the front door, entering the passcode, and scan my thumb. I would rather not ring the doorbell. I look at the time on my watch, it’s late... past eleven and I know Rosaline will be in her own quarters by now, Corrado will be asleep and Winona... Well, I don’t think she’d want to see me.

I shut the door after me quietly; I haven’t seen her for at least three weeks... the only time I saw her was when she brought

Corrado home from school when I came down one of the times and that was only through the window, since he had come into the lounge by himself. Otherwise, she avoids me like the d*mn plague. I’ll just leave them here; I don’t really want to mind link them at this time of night. I walk down the hallway, deciding to place them against the wall where no one can trip over them. With Azura pregnant, she needs to be careful. I place the bags on the ground, about to turn away, when a faint delicious scent fills my nose.

I tense, turning sharply as I stare down the hallway. My entire body seems to go into overdrive, and I find myself sniffing the air.

The intoxicating scent... the pull... This reminds me of the mate bond... When I had found Petra... My eyes blaze and I’m no longer in charge as my wolf surges forward like a beast on the prowl. I need to find that scent... My heart races as I walk down the hall, the scent getting stronger. It’s a little familiar yet so intense and delicious I can’t pinpoint it. The kitchen lights are on, and the smell is even more amplified here. I enter the kitchen, my eyes blazing gold as they land on the delicate frame behind the counter, making a cup of tea. Her eyes fly open and for the first time since I’ve known her, her eyes dazzle a brilliant honey topaz shade. 1 “Mine.” I snarl, unable to stop myself. The word rings in the large kitchen, overriding the thundering of our hearts.

She gasps, the spoon falling from her delicate fingers as she stares at me in shock. Her eyes return to normal as she backs away. Her heart is thundering as I try to regain search control of my emotions. “How can this be?” She whispers, her hand clutched to her chest. She looks even more beautiful than before if that is even possible. She’s in satin white pyjamas and for a moment I wonder if this is reality or a dream.

“If you think about it, we have never seen each other under a blood moon.” I say quietly, perhaps it is a good thing... the timing feels better now... But what I can’t get my head around is did the Moon Goddess really give me a second chance mate? And it turns out

to be the woman that I want... My life hasn't been one full of happiness... This just feels too good to be true... is it a dream?

"Winona." I say quietly, approaching her. She's rooted to her spot, staring at me. I don't know what to do... She's not happy. I can see the turmoil in her eyes. The pain of her unspoken rejection tugs inside of me... My wolf is more alive than he ever has been, I've only ever felt his rage in battle or anger, this emotion is different... he wants her as much as I do, but I'm no longer sure she wants us. The moment I reach for her, my fingers grazing her hand, bolts of delicious sparks course through me, making her eyes flash that gorgeous topaz shade again. A gasp leaves her, and our eyes meet, when she suddenly pulls away. She opens her mouth as if wanting to say something and, for a moment, I feel as if she's about to reject me when she suddenly turns and runs. "Winona!" I growl in frustration. Why can she just not talk? 7

I turn, walking down the hall as she runs for the stairs and takes them two at a time. She's a fast runner... I frown about to follow her when I realise what I'm doing and pause. I can't follow her... Corrado's asleep and maybe she just needs time...

I have to prepare to be rejected too... after all, I'm a man in his sixties... why should she settle for me?

I sit on the bottom steps of the staircase, running my fingers through my hair. My head is pounding, my wolf's rage rising and my own irritation and hunger all combines... I don't know how long I sit there, head in hands and I only realise when the front door opens and the sound of Azura's voice makes my head snap up. "... eena's tattoo looks perfect, when her new mark heals, I think they will both go so beautifully..." She trails off when they both spot me. "What are you doing here?" Leo asks, frowning sharply as he scans the hall. "Everything's fine." I reassure him, knowing that the break-in from a few months ago is playing on his mind. "I just ..." I glance around the hall, trying to remember why I came here. "Ah, the bags." I nod. "Kiara gave some stuff for Azura." "What's wrong?" Leo asks as he steps closer, his eyes flashing a steely blue. "Nothing..." I lie, staring at my hands, and observing the countless scars that cover my palms. Some are more prominent, whilst others are barely noticeable. What am I even to say to my son?

"Doesn't look like nothing to me." Azura says walking towards me, a hand on her stomach. She flinches and closes her eyes for a second. "Are you getting contractions?" I ask with concern. "Yeah, but Doctor Donna says there's plenty of time left yet. Plus, my waters haven't broken." She says wincing again. "I'm not so sure." Leo says glancing at her. "So, the truth." He says, his eyes hard when he looks down at me. How long will I deny it? With us being mates ... I need to tell Leo myself.

"Tonight is the Blood Moon." I state, taking a deep breath as I stand up. They both look at me, nodding as they wait for me to continue. I smile humourlessly. "Do you know, tonight I guess I am one of the rare lucky wolves who is blessed with a second chance mate."

Azura's eyes widen into saucers, but Leo seems stunned as he stares at me, expressionless.

"Who?" He says as calmly as ever.

But I know that the calmness can be a

façade. However, there's nothing to lose and I cannot keep this a secret any longer.

"Winona."