

Alpha's Blind Luna Online Free

Chapter 21

Chapter 21

I sat on the edge of a small cliff that was not too far from the house. Further east was a waterfall from a stream that wrapped around the territory but that was further than I wanted to go. The air blew through my hair and I had my leg pulled up, the other dangling off the edge. It was sunny and so the rock beneath me was warm since the trees didn't grow this close to the edge. It overlooked the rest of the forest that dropped down about thirty or so feet.

It was peaceful. There weren't any sounds

outside of the wind, the rustling of the trees, and the creatures in the forest. I found a place that I escaped to outside of the High Council castle as well. Here though, was familiar and safe. A place where my head could just not think of all the things I needed to do, all the duties and problems of the world. Naresh also sat quietly in my head as we looked out. At some point, I closed my eyes and slipped into a meditative state

I heard someone come up behind me and I looked back, seeing Hector shift and walk through the trees. Turning back to the view, I rested my chin on my knee

"This always was your favorite spot as a kid. I found you out here after the fight with your

brother." He sat down next to me, both legs dangling off the edge.

"The view is calming. It's far enough away from everything that you can lose yourself to the wilderness"

We stayed quiet for a long time. I snuck a glance at Hector again. Seeing him in a different light knowing there might be something going on between him and my mom. His hair now sported a peppering grey but it looked good with the braid he usually wore. He had lines on his face that showed he wasn't as young as he used to be. Scars riddled his upper body but none of them looked life threatening. Not like some of the ones my mom sported.

Hector had always been a big part of my life. Him and Bryan both I counted as uncles more than anything. My Uncle Ty had been busy a lot as Beta of his own pack and so we never saw him much or my cousins. They also were pretty mad at my mom and my dad for different reasons over the years.

"You know, your mom went through a lot before you kids were born."

I hummed. "I know."

"Nova actually saved your mom's life."

My eyes widened and I looked at him. "What?"

His face was blank but the sadness in his eyes was apparent. "Nova put off her dying from overconsumption of healing potions. She had been attacked and it was the final potion that her body couldn't take."

"But healing potions are so rare now-a-days. How did she end up consuming too many?"

"There was a point where she was tortured and they used the healing potions as a method of taking her to the point of dying before healing her. How they were able to get so many, I don't know, but she was drowned in them for over a year."

I was stunned. There were always bits and pieces of my Mom's life I was told. But this was more than just the quick words of 'my mission went south' or 'I went missing for a few months'. This was the first time I had heard that she had been tortured and that they used potions. That she had almost died back then before she died having me

Sighing, he rubbed his palms on his legs. "Yes, she took Nova without knowing what it would do. It was not a great point in her life. But she was alone and had literally no one. Nova just turned out saving her long enough that your

grandpa and dad were able to find a solution. That was the reason why she had to take steroids for years."

"She destroyed them though? The drugs?"

"Yes. We all thought it was the end of it. Until it popped up again a couple years ago. She was livid. The drug gives you super strength, sure, but you can't feel

emotions. At first, it would sound like a blessing but you slowly lose your humanity. I can't even say that it makes you become a wolf because even wolves feel emotions. You become a robot. Unfeeling,

unsympathetic and the more you take the drug, the worse it gets. Until there is a point when, even if you get off of it, you can't feel again."

My eyes widened. It was quiet but there was a shake in his voice as he spoke.

"The new drug... amplifies that, Vale. Your mom was on the drug for years and she could feel that sense of unfeeling seeping in. She got off of it and expected to die for a while. But this new drug, it only takes a couple months."

"Wait... so if Mom found it in a pack, if they were using it to test it then.."

Hector looked at me, his eyes moist but his face was stern. "Your mom found out too late. Winning the challenge a few weeks ago meant

they had to stop using it. Stop experimenting with it. But.. it was too late."

My hand covered my mouth. "So my dad.."

"Is just like your mom when she was on Nova. She couldn't feel love, couldn't feel anything deep for anyone or anything. While she couldn't be happy, she also couldn't be sad either. For her, at the time, that was a relief. There was so much pain she endured over the years, in her mind, it was better to feel nothing than everything. You're dad though.. watched the effects it had on her and he still took it. I don't know what would possess him to take it. To even be near it ever again."

"Was it the Nova that took her wolf away?"

Hector was quiet for a while until he also pulled up his leg to rest his chin on his knee. "No. Nova wasn't the cause. Kai died trying to save your

mom. You know your mom received a blue scroll from the old High Council, correct?"

I nodded. The story had been told to me but I knew a lot of details were missing from it. The details I had were a mission report more than a journal entry.

"A blast from some grenades broke her. Everyone in her body broke and then she was buried under rubble of a building. She didn't die though."

She should have, but Kai kept her alive. Kai sacrificed herself so that Auri could live long enough to be saved."

"But?" I could see it, the anger and pain in his face

He tried to compose himself by taking a deep breath and it worked to an extent. His scowl settled back into a thin line but Hector's brow was still furrowed. "The wrong people saved her. Everyone thought she was dead for over a year and she lost a lot of herself during that time."

"So now Dad..can't feel? Is that what you are saying? He can't love? Can't be happy or sad or angry?"

Hector nodded. "It's the reason why it's so easy for him to walk away now. Your brother and your dad have lost so much more than they realize. The worst part is, they can't feel what they have lost."

"But they have super strength?"

"No. Not unless they are taking it. Each tablet will last for seven days."

My eyes left Hector and looked over the forest. "How many other packs have you found this in?" "Eight."

I coughed and turned back to him. "How many."

He shook his head. "We don't know. But

someone is distributing it. Someone is getting into the packs and selling it without giving the full details of what it does. We are afraid of the lasting effects that it could have when taken too long. With the level of potency upped, there is a chance something far worse could be on the horizon."

"Do you have any leads? Any information?"

"The pack that is harassing the Silver Sun pack, we've been watching them for a while. It seems they were the first and longest sighting of the arug we have come across."

My leg dropped down and I turned to Hector. "You mean.)

"We've been looking for an excuse to be able to make contact with the pack and it turns out, we got one. The High Council requested your mom to take

care of them." He chuckled. "I think it will be our first trial run for our new pack." Hector smiled at me. "Bryan told me that he already told you about our plan."

Shaking my head, I swallowed down the feelings of protectiveness over my mate. "I know Mom keeps saying that I'm not needed yet. The High

Council also currently deems it not my problem but if we are already dealing with these kinds of drugs in eight packs..."

"I mean, the problem is we can't walk into a pack, tell them to give us all their drugs and then say don't do this again. They are just going to go out to get more. They are going to want to take it more. Especially with how people feel like there will be a war between the races. Everyone wants a leg up. And unfortunately, no one wants to work for it. This is easy and why wouldn't you want to be stronger than you ever have been?"

"So, Mom and Grandpa have been working on where it's getting distributed."

Hector nodded. "We stop the drug from being made, being distributed, we remove the ability for packs to get it. Sadly, the damage that has already been done won't be able to be reversed but we can prevent anymore from happening."

"Then what can I do?"

"Right now? It's keeping balance. The peace we have been clinging to so desperately. The spark we are wanting to stop from igniting the whole damn world. We need you to keep us balanced while we do this. If it all goes to hell before we are able to get this reigned in, packs are going to feel like this is a viable option to not only fight

but to keep their pack safe. Hell, we could end up winning the war but we would have lost

everything that makes us who we are and that I would consider a bigger loss than anything."

I didn't know what to say. Part of me wondered

if, even after a war, I would have to do what Alpha King Odin did. Go through every pack and try and help right the damage done. Even after all that

suffering, to still deal with the aftermath. Our family pack survived an attack, a war, but you could tell it had taken its toll. Both on our people and on my parents. Especially my mom but apparently there was so much more I didn't know about her.

Now, my mate was being pulled into this and it would only be the beginning if things didn't work out. If we weren't able to keep walking along the path that we found peace in. Knowing on either side of that path was a cliff that led to the deaths of many people. Meanwhile, trying to get a handle on something that could ruin our entire way of life, our connection to our families and mates. Everything we stand for.

My hand came up and rubbed my neck, trying to relieve the sudden weight I felt on my shoulders. Maybe my mom was right. Knowing all this, made me feel anxious and nervous and I wondered if I was going to be able to handle ready as we can be for whatever is coming'.



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Chapter 22

I sat in my office looking down at the paper work in front of me. The same paper had been in front of me for the last half hour but I couldn't bring myself to comprehend what I was reading. My mind wandered more and more lately. In my dreams, I found myself back at the High Council, roaming the corridors of castle. It was a never ending maze and at every turn I could smell him; fresh baked bread and basil.

Rose had tried to explain to me what it meant to have a mate, what it was like when she met Cory. I didn't understand until now. It was harder though, so much harder. The first day I saw him, stepping forward as the Alpha King Vale, I was shocked. I remember Leo having to get my

attention after he spoke. His words flowed over me and I felt myself being carried away. I wanted

him. I want to walk into his arms and never leave.

It was only when he backed away, disappeared from my line of sight that it all came crashing down on me. I remember shaking like a leaf and Leo leading

me away. We were shown our rooms but all I could smell was him.Vale. Not only was my mate male, but he was the Alpha King.

Already, I felt like I was living a lie within my pack.

Rose begged me multiple times to come clean about her and Cory, my Gamma and her fated mate. How could I? The pack expected me to be with my Luna.I was thirty, no pups,no fated mate, and if I told them that their Luna was actually mated to my Gamma they would in siston me choosing another Luna and immediately mating her

I never wanted to be Alpha. My older brother was the one who was supposed to be Alpha and he was, for five years. He had a mate and a son. He was the leader that everyone wanted. The world is cruel though and when I was thirteen, our pack was attacked. That day we lost two Alpha's.My father and my brother fell protecting the pack. Suddenly, the pack was left with me as Alpha at thirteen or my brother's son who was not even a year old

Owen was eighteen now and I know the elders have been hounding him to take his place as Alpha. He has been refusing to be Alpha since he was fifteen. I didn't speak to him about it

because I knew how mad it made him.Currently he was head warrior and trained all our warriors.Lately, with the attacks, he was patrolling more of the northern border trying to protect what little peace we had left "It's been fucking months!"Leo strode into my office, completely bypassing the fact that my door had been closed and that usually meant I was busy.

"Leo."

He threw himself in one of the chairs in my office."No! Don't you Leo me! I swear they are just fucking around! They weren't planning to help us from the start and this is their way of saying it!"

"We can't just expect them to turn up

immediately to help,Leo. We have no idea what or who they are sending to help. You can't just ask people to drop everything immediately and fight a battle that isn't theirs to fight. We were lucky enough to have them agree."

"Yeah, thanks to that little twat."

I threw my pen at him, hitting him directly in the forehead. He cried out and rubbed his forehead. "The hell, Zeke?"

"I told you to stop calling him that! He is the Alpha King, whether you like it or not. You don't just become a King over night."

"Yeah yeah. Why you are so sensitive about him, I won't understand."

Sighing, I opened up one of the drawers and took out another pen. "Is there a reason you are here, Leo?"

"Yeah, my sister is on a rampage again that something is wrong and that means the world is ending. Can't you reign her in? I swear Cory spends more time with her than you do. She's pregnant, shouldn't you be trying to reign her in?"

"If she caught you saying that, you would be six feet under right now. So you better watch yourself."

He laughed and shook his head. His eyes roamed over me and narrowed. "You doing okay?"

I looked back down at my paper, finally able to read that it was a request for a trading caravan to come through for a week. They were coming over from Europe and making their way across the States. Signing off on it, I moved to the next page

"I'm fine. Why wouldn't I be?"

"I dunno. You've just been acting weird lately."

Tapping my pen against the desk, I read over the next request. It was an expansion and upgrade of the Gathering Hall in the center of town. They provided some pretty high numbers for their model

"Weird, how?"

I started to go through and mark the things I thought needed to be quoted again. It might be better to request some help from the human city below us. Sometimes, their prices were cheaper even with lugging the materials up the

mountain. We might be able to mitigate some of that by providing the materials ourselves and getting the work done by them. I pulled out a sticky note and wrote my thoughts down.

"Listless, quiet, reserved. You don't do much outside of working. I know you aren't sleeping as much lately. It's been going on since we got back from the High Council."

Putting the page with my notes in a separate pile, I moved onto the next order of business. "It's called stress, Leo. I'm so glad you aren't plagued by it."

He huffed and shook his head. "You're such an ass." Getting up, he walked up to the desk. "Tomorrow is training. You have to show. If you don't, Owen and I will come hunt you down."

"Sure. Who is Alpha again?" I looked up at him and there was a smile playing on his lips

Shaking my head, I shoed him out of my office only to be interrupted again by Rose. Her arms were crossed over her chest, her belly prominently showing just how far along she was in her pregnancy.

"I swear, I'm going to kill Cory. Next time he tries to do something for me, tell him to just not do it if he can't do it right."

I chuckled. "Rose, you're scaring people. It's okay that everything isn't perfect."

"It's not! Everything needs to be perfect, Zeke! How am I supposed to function if.."

"Rose, stop. Do you remember when Rachel gave birth?"

She wrinkled her nose. "It was chaos. Absolute chaos."

"It was. She had everything perfect but she never planned for anything to go wrong. Everything went wrong. Suddenly perfect, was nowhere what she needed. So stop worrying about everything being perfect. You need to stop stressing. It's bad for you and for the baby."

Rose sat down in the same chair Leo did and in the same exact way. It brought a smile, knowing they were absolutely siblings even when they were mad at one another. Leo was older than I was and originally had been my

brother's Beta. He wanted to know if I wanted to find a new Beta when I first took over but I trusted Leo with my life. He helped me with the transition when I was far too young to understand what it meant to be Alpha. Being paired with his sister made sense to everyone.

"Why is it that you know exactly what to say to calm me down? My own mate can't even do that." She grumbled and I chuckled.

"He's stressing about this too, Rose. Poor guy is doing his best to wrap his head around having a pup. Give him a break. He wants everything perfect for you and this pup too. Men just

struggle with the idea because we aren't the one scaring the pup. Cory loves you and that's what matters."

She started to open up her mouth but I put my hand up. "Don't, Rose. I already got the lecture from Leo five minutes ago. I don't need it again."

Chuckling, she got up. "How did you know what I was going to say?"

"Because I know you. You and your brother. While I appreciate the concern, I don't appreciate the lectures."

Shaking her head, Rose came over and kissed my head. Her arms wrapped around my shoulder and my hand came up, holding her arm

"We are just worried, Zeke. You refuse to talk to anyone and it's showing. If not me or Leo, find someone. Because we need our laughing and sunshiny Alpha back. Especially now when we are dealing with all this."

I nodded and smiled up at her. "I'll do what I can. It will help when the issue with the fucking Darkry pack goes away. I know I'm telling everyone to be patient, but Leo is right. It's been months. I don't know how much longer we can hold out." ①

"I believe in you and I believe in this new High Council. You are right when you said they can't just hire or request someone to drop everything right away. We will last as long as we need to. These bastards don't know which pack they are fucking with and we will show them."

I chuckled and nodded. "Yes, Luna."

She let me go and headed out the door. Stopping before she stepped out, Rose looked back at me. "Find someone to talk to, Zeke. Seriously."

The door shut behind her and I rubbed my face with my hands. Talking about it wouldn't help. This hole that I felt digging further and further into my soul. I didn't want to eat, sleep was restless and if I did, I would dream of him. Dreaming of his scent but then when I finally would see him, it was the face he made at me on the last day. It nearly brought me to my knees. He was so angry but it was also mixed with pain. The way his eyes looked at me, stared into me, it knew he hated me. My mate hated me and it was the face I saw every time I dreamed of him. I would wake up immediately and the hole in my heart always felt worse.

Sighing, I went back to my paperwork. I flipped through the next few pages and wrote notes or signed off on new projects. We were trying to keep every day life as normal as possible. We did implement a buddy system for the she-wolves. Just making sure no one would be taken again. After we had left for the High Council, the

attacks lessened and instead we spotted the more on the edge of the territory but not crossing over.

When I looked up next, I realized it had already gotten dark. I looked at the time and it said 9:45

p.m. Donna was going to give me another lecture on missing dinner, again. Reorganizing my desk, I set it out to be ready for tomorrow's drop off and pickup of new paperwork that Cory did for

me. It would be easier after training to jump into it if everything was organized.

Getting up, I turned off the light in my office and closed the door behind me. I snuck down to the kitchen and opened the fridge. There was a container in the fridge with a note on it. 'We will talk about this tomorrow. -Donna' and I groaned. She was going to let me have it tomorrow. Taking the container out and

throwing it in the microwave, I heated it up for a couple minutes before taking it back to my room.

"Another late night, Alpha?"

I jumped as I looked back, the door ajar and Cory Standing in it, his arms crossed over his chest

"I finished enough paperwork where I won't feel guilty about going to training tomorrow."

He shook his head. "Take better care of yourself. Rose is worried."

"I know. She tells me, constantly. As does Leo I'll make sure to add you to the list."

I opened up my door and slammed it a little too hard behind me. Sitting on the couch, I ate a few bites of the food but it felt like I was eating ash. Nothing tasted or felt the same. Forcing myself to eat at least half the portion Donna made me, I took a quick shower and flopped into bed. My head felt heavy and I felt myself spinning into a deep sleep.



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Chapter 23

My eyes opened and I was in an unfamiliar

forest. I was glad it wasn't the tight space of the castle that I normally dreamed. The trees grew taller here than at home and they provided much more of a canopy. It even smelled different. It was still clear and crisp but the trees weren't the same and the grass wasn't the same.

My feet were bare and I was wearing the sweats that I had on when I fell into bed after my shower. The grass felt cool and I thought this dream was surprisingly realistic for what I had been dealing with the past months. Though the first time I dreamed about him was an

experience I don't think my ass would forget. I shivered from the memory.

The wind blew through the trees and I turned to follow the breeze. My eyes fell on my mate. He was leaning against a tree, eyes closed, wearing nothing but boxers. I let my eyes roam over his body. He seemed different from when I first saw him but then, I was comparing him to a dream I had which was already weird. His eyes opened and his head turned to look at me.

At first, there was surprise but then I saw how his brow started to furrow and the slight smile he had on turned down. Panic started to rise in my chest and I knew I couldn't take it again. I couldn't handle that look and I would do anything to stop it. My feet carried me to him and I took his face in my hands. Pulling him down, I crashed my lips on his

Heart hammering in my chest, I let my hands move into his long white hair and held on for dear life. His hair was so soft, softer than

anything I had felt before and I wondered if his fur felt the same. My eyes were squeezed shut because I refused to see the look on his face. Refused to see the anger and pain and

resentment. His hands though, grasped my hip and pulled me closer. I couldn't help the feeling of elation as he pulled me tight against him.

We had to take a breath and his forehead rested against mine. I dared to look at him but his face was blank, his eyes closed.

"Why couldn't you wait for us?"

The pain and sadness in his voice made me swallow hard. "I already had been Alpha for nine years. Usually, our pack is so secluded that we have mate pairings within the pack but nine years without a mate, I was required to get a chosen one."

"You're the Alpha. You're not required to do anything, Ezekiel."

The way he said my name sent shivers down my spine. "I was never supposed to be Alpha. My older brother was. He died when I was thirteen. I was all we had left and I didn't know how to be Alpha. I was doing what was requested of me." "And now...?"

I looked back up at him and his eyes bore into

me. They were such a light brown that you could see the dark lines within. His intensity as he stared, I no longer needed to wonder what it felt to melt into a puddle

"I don't know."

Flashes of pain and anger made me realize I had said the wrong thing. His jaw set and his brow furrowed. "I wondered if you would be like Eros I guess you are."

My eyes widened and I stepped back. "How..how do you know about Alpha Eros?"

"You think I didn't do my research, Ezekiel? I wonder if your opinion of me is the same as your Beta. What did he call me? It ty bitty little twat?"

"I..he...he didn't mean it."

He chuckled. It wasn't out of happiness. It was hollow. "If he hadn't said it in the confidence of speaking with his Alpha, I may have believe you."

For a moment, his eyes looked through me, not seeing me. When I tried to reach out to him though, he snapped back to reality and leaned away from me. He was angry

"Eros and Odin both made mistakes in their meeting. They evened the playing field for how they acted to each other before they worked out their relationship." He stepped up to me, pulling his full height. I could feel his power and my head leaned back as I looked up at him. "I am no Odin, Ezekiel. I am disappointed, hurt, and angry that my mate doesn't want to be with me."

"That's...!" I started to speak but he growled silencing me

He didn't say anything for a minute but his hand brushed my cheek. I leaned into his touch, reveling in it but his hand dropped to his side

"You've had time to work through this, Ezekiel. If you still haven't chosen me, then the next time I see you, I expect you to reject me."

My heart sunk and I couldn't stop my knees from collapsing. The thought of rejecting my mate sent a sense of pain and fear through me. One that I had never known before

"I can't...."

"You can, and you will. I will not have a mate who will feel shame or anger that I have taken him away from his pack. I will not have a mate who tells me he doesn't know if he wants to be with me!"

I winced at the anger as his words lashed out at

me. My eyes closed and my head turned down. «And it's easy for you? To have an Alpha as a mate? To have someone like me?»

"You are my mate. My goddess given and my fated. I would have given you everything I had It's not much now but one day, I hoped to give my mate a home and a family. I realized it didn't matter if you were male or female. Only that if you loved me and accepted me as well."

My breathing became ragged and I watched as he turned, walking away from me

"I can't.I want my mate.I want you.Vale..."I rasped out

He paused but didn't turn around."Take care of my mom.Goodbye, Ezekiel."

I tried to clamor after him, tried to get my legs to move. As soon as I did, as soon as I reached out,my face connected with the hardwood floor of my room. The sheets were tangled around my waist and I was almost hanging from the edge.My heart was pounding in my chest and I could feel my body start to shake. Anger took over,and I felt my canines elongate, my hands becoming claws

Ripping through the sheets, I grabbed the

nearest thing and threw it against the wall. The lamp shattered against the wall. Next came thenight stand and as it exploded into splinters against my desk, the desk broke as well. It wasn't enough. The pain and anger made me see red as I kicked the chair from the desk into one of the posts of my bed, making the post and the chaiibreak

The door to my room swung open and I could see Leo, his wolf taken over from the color of his eyes, as he surveyed the destruction.①

"Get the fuck out!" I screamed at him.I grabbed one of the pictures off the window sill and threwit at the door.

It broke to pieces and his eyes went wide as he looked from the broken frame to me

"What the hell is going on?"

"I said leave, Beta!"

Far is, my wolf stepped up and growled at him. Faris didn't speak and had never spoken a word since I shifted. He expressed himself through sounds to other people but I was always able to feel how he felt. It was part of the reason why I was never trained to be an Alpha. My dad always thought I was broken, that my wolf was weak. It wasn't the case and I proved it time and time again. But if Faris stepped forward, it was always for a good reason

"Faris, let Zeke back. He needs to explain what the fuck is going on." Leo put his hands up as he watched us

"The hell is going on Leo?" Rose was angry, coming up from behind Leo. She elbowed her way past him but he put a protective arm in front of her. Gasping, her hand covered her mouth as she looked at the damage and then to me

Leo growled. "Rose, you need to go. I don't know why the hell you weren't sleeping in here with

him, but I'm glad. You need to go."

"I'm not going to go! Do you see him? Look at him! He's in pain, Leo. Stop." Rose grabbed his arm and pushed it down so she could walk past

him.

She stepped forward tentatively before reached out to us. Faris growled but nowhere near as loudly as he had at Leo

"It's okay Faris, it's okay." Her hand came up and brushed against our cheek. We flinched at her touch but Faris didn't move away. He liked Rose and honestly, we felt like she was more of a sister than a mate

He closed his eyes and backed away, allowing control back to me. I felt my hands come back and my canines retract. I opened up my eyes but they were filled with tears. Rose tried to brush them away but instead, they just poured out of me and down my cheeks

"Leo, close the door please."

"Rose, I'm not leaving you."

She growled as she turned her head to him. "That was not a request, Leo. When your Luna is telling you to leave and to close the fucking door, you do it, Beta. I will not ask you again."

Her voice slipped into that of her wolfs for a moment before Leo bared his neck and slowly shut the door behind him. She may not have been my mate anymore, but Rose was still Luna Turning back to me, both her hands cupped my cheeks. ①

"Zeke, what is going on?"

My lip shook and I closed my eyes, the tears falling faster. "I found my mate, Rose."

"Oh Zeke..shouldn't you be happy? Why are crying?"

"My mate hates me." I whispered, my voice barely above a whisper. "He hates me, Rose."

"He?"

My eyes opened and I looked her in the eyes. "My mate is Vale, Rose. Alpha King Vale."



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We sat on the floor, her legs were draped over mine as her back leaned against my broken bed My back was against the wall and her fingers were intertwined in mine

"So...you saw him from a balcony twice. You know he is your mate. You keep dreaming about him and this time you met him, you talked. It did not go well and you woke up

I nodded, my head was leaned back against the wall, and my eyes were closed. Somewhere in them iddle of the explanation, I had stopped crying It didn't feel better though, my heart still hurt with every beat

"How do you know if he actually hates you?"

"You didn't see his face that day, Rose. Leo could tell you. It nearly brought me to my knees. He was livid. He was still fair and still advised the council on our situation but he was so angry. He didn't even stay for the rest of the meeting, he left and slammed the door so loud behind him even some of the High Councilors flinched."

She nodded but narrowed her eyes. "How do you know that it was even him in the dream? What if you know that it was even him in the dream? What if you're just projecting your insecurities in the form of him? That your subconscious is building him?"

"It would be hard to explain. I just..know. It happens and I can tell the difference between the dreams. The ones where I'm reliving the same moment of seeing him. This was different, felt different. On top of that, I don't even think my subconscious could come up with the thought of rejection. Of us rejecting him..." My sentence trailed off as I tried to breathe through the pain.

Rose squeezed my hand, helping me refocus and not give into the panic attack. "Zeke, why didn't you say anything?"

"What could I do, Rose?' Hey it turns out his toriyis repeating itself for our pack?' Hell, even Vale knew about Alpha King Odin and Alpha Eros Plus, if Leo found out..."

Her nose wrinkled as she grimaced. "We are going to have to tell them eventually. When I have this child, either we will have a couple years before they realize he isn't going to present himself as an Alpha or we will have no time cause he's going to come out with a full head of red hair."

I chuckled. "With how much heartburn you've had, he's probably got a full mane."

"Goddess, you are so fucking right." She laughed and shook her head, her hand absently rubbing her stomach. "I'm serious though. We need to tell them."

"Then what, Rose? The elders get pissed.

Remove your title? Throw another she-wolf at me? Anyone unmated at this point is between eighteen and twenty. I would know, I sign the paperwork. I'm not mating with a child."

She chuckled."How old is the Alpha King? Leo keeps calling him a college aged twat."

I let off a growl and it made her laugh harder."Leo is so going to regret his attitude later. I want to be there for that."

"I don't know how old he is."

"You didn't do any digging on him? Who he is?Who is family is? Nothing?"

I shook my head and she threw her hands in their."Ezekiel Silver, you should be ashamed of yourself!"

"I'm sorry. I'm not snooping around like as talker."

Rose shook her head and sighed."He's obviously done some research on you. I mean, he must have been so sad.We've kept our secret and so the outside world believes you are mated and have a pup on the way. He must have found out between the first meeting and the second."

I felt the tears start to come back but I took a couple of calculated breaths."I would have probably felt the same as him. Especially if I was younger. He didn't even have a chance."

"What do you want to do?"

I looked at Rose, her eyes were watching megaging my reaction or my emotions. My eyes left hers and I looked down at our legs. My hand sreached out and started to massage her ankles as I chewed on her question. A small smile came to my lips when I heard her moan

"I don't know."

"That's a lie."

My eyes narrowed as I massaged her swollenankles harder."It's not. My head is telling me don't be stupid.My family is here,my friends,my life. Literally, my entire bloodline is here.I am Alpha and I have my place. This pack trusts me to do my duty and to act accordingly."

"But..that's your head. What does you heart want?"

My hands stopped for a moment, holding her. "Rose, I want to say fuck it. I want to pass my title to Owen and throw myself into the arms of my mate. I want to somehow have a family with

him, to give him all the love he deserves. I want to be there for him in everything. And god dess above I want him to fuck me so bad."

Rose snorted and slapped my arm. I chuckled and went back to kneading her ankles. Sighing, I added. "Life doesn't work out how we want it. The elders are going to find that out when that tuff of bright red hair crowns in a few weeks and I have to accept my fate."

"I think you're wrong. I think the moon goddess knew exactly what she was doing." She leaned forward and took my chin in her hands. "Your brother was supposed to be Alpha. He was the older one and so you would have been free to go with your mate."

"But my brother's dead, Rose."

She inhaled sharply. "I know that, Zeke. But you also aren't the only Silver. Owen is his son and should have taken over anyways. He already has a mate and you know they will most likely start having pups soon. He's going to be nineteen this year. The boy was supposed to take over four years ago at the earliest. You've just been protecting him."

"He doesn't want it."

"Neither did you!"

I growled. "Then how can I force it on him, Rose? Knowing what I had to do, how can I force this position on him?"

"Because it's where he belongs, Zeke! You think it's any coincidence that we never had pups for all the sex we had? Because it was neyei

supposed to be your line that continued on here You were always meant for Vale."

"So I'm just supposed to say, 'fuck it'? Throw the title on Owen and leave? Leave everyone behind? You, Cory, Leo?"

She laughed. "Who said we weren't going to go with you, dumb ass?"

My eyes widened."No way. How could you? You have..."

"The same exact people you do, Zeke. If we all go together, that's our family. Owen is young and he has his own support system. Leo won't be Beta and Cory maybe could be Gamma but he will go where I go. I don't know how happy your mate will be having your ex-Luna, ex-mate with you, but I'm willing to fight for the right."Tears shinned in my eyes again and she laughed."Hey!Don't stop. You're hands are like magic. Cory just rubs them and they get all red."④

I chuckled and nodded.As my hands massage her feet, I looked for the clock on the wall but it wasn't there. Leaning forward, I caught the time on the floor

"I have to be at training in thirty minutes."Then I get twenty-five more minutes of massage." She closed her eyes and leaned her head back against the bed."I'll try to have this cleaned up by the time you come back."

I took her hand and kissed it."Thank you,Rose I'm sorry I didn't talk about it sooner.I should have I just..."

"Were scared? Confused? Lost?"②

Nodding, I smiled at her."All of that and more."I wonder what he meant by 'take care of my mom'."

I shrugged."I have no idea."

A quiet fell between us and we just sat,as I massaged her feet, ankles, and calves. Every once in a while a moan would escape her as I hit the right spot and I would smile. Ten minutes passed before her eyes opened and she had a determined look on her face

"I have to."

"Have to what?"

Her face turned serious and I realized I was going to get a lecture."Have you looked at yourself in the mirror lately?"

"Yes? Every day, Rose. How else am I supposed to know I look like a mangy mutt when I walk around the pack house?"

"Ha-ha, very funny. I mean it. Zeke. You're rail thin. When was the last time you ate a full meal?"

My eyes fell on the container that was half eaten now jammed between two shelves of the broken desk. "Since I came back."

"Months? Zeke!" Her voice went higher and she looked at me worriedly

"I'm fine, Rose. I do eat. Donna makes sure I do. I still work out as much, if not more. Everything just tastes like ash in my mouth. It's hard to swallow anything." I admitted truthfully.

"Ash? Are you serious?"

I nodded. "I've tried everything. Donna's cooking, restaurants, prepackaged food, hell even the game Faris finds. It all turns to ash in my mouth. It smells fine. But I just..stomach as much as I can before I can't."

Rose pulled her feet off of my legs and moved to kneel next to me. Her hands cupped my face. "Zeke, you need your mate. You need to be with

him. This is more than just a fated pairing. You need him. He needs you."

"He hates me, Rose. How could he need me or want me?"

"You're wrong. I think, in fact, that he loves you more than you love him right now. I think the pain and anger you see is the only way he can get up in the morning alone and go to bed alone. Don't mistake that for him not wanting to be with you. I think he wants to be with you more than you know."

Standing up, I lifted Rose up onto her feet gently so she wouldn't need to try and get up on her

own. I kissed her cheek.

"Thank you. I need to change into training clothes. These sweats won't fly."

Rose chuckled and nodded. "Probably grab a shirt if you don't want to scare the guvs."

"Scare them?"

"That their Alpha is wasting away."

I rolled my eyes and shook my head. The door closed behind her but I was already in my closet. Grabbing a black t-shirt and some athletic shorts, I changed into them before heading out of the pack house. Since I was running late, I avoided the kitchen so that Donna's lecture would absolutely ruin the entire training session.

"Look who decides to show up."

I smiled at Owen and clasped his arm. "I haven't missed a day of training. I just haven't done it with you all."

"Sure, Alpha, sure. If that's the case, then let's start off with some sparring and work our way through." ①

Taking a deep breath, I felt a familiar peace and excitement settle in as we got ready to train. Something about leaving everything you have been thinking about behind to fight. Feeling only the muscle movements and sometimes your opponent's next move. Cracking my neck and stretching my arms, I stepped up to the sparring mat as Owen took off his shirt.

Honestly, I was a little jealous. Being the second born, I was always smaller. I barely could call myself 6ft. I was built on the smaller side but Owen took after both my brother and my father. He was about the height as my mate and bulkier. How Vale's hands grabbed my hips though and pulled me to him, I'd never been so happy to be on the smaller side. I fit against him perfectly. "Pay attention, Alpha."

Even with my mind on my mate, I still dodged his swing. Owen was predictable. He had taken his shirt off and I could see every move of his muscle and where he was going to punch or hit next. I had been sparring with him so many years that it was easy to zone out sometimes. He maybe the head warrior but he still hadn't beat me in a fight.

Smiling, I allowed him to gain a little ground before I started to slip under his attacks and break down his guard. Little by little, he started to fall back and I hit my stride. He started to growl and I watched as his claws came out but I dodged them at the last second. They caught my shirt and tore it off. Chuckling, I managed to grip his wrist and pull it behind his back. My foot swept under him and he fell, his arm still pinned to his back. Digging my knee into his back, I smiled as I pinned him.

"Zeke. what the hell...?"

I looked up and the entire training group had stopped their sparing, staring at us. It was Leo who was looking at me worriedly

"What?" I looked down but there wasn't any blood or anything. "What happened?"

My knee came up off the back of Owen and he flopped over, his eyes widening as well. He

jumped up and walked up to me. His hand first touched my forehead and I flinched.

"Are you sick?"

"No..what?"

Owen looked at me seriously and his voice came over our mind link. 'You look like you're dying,uncle!



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I curled my fingers up into a fist and let loose on the tree in front of me. Every single punch made splinters fly as I punched further and further into the wood

One, two, three....

Faris growled and I started to go faster..eleven, twelve, thirteen...

I stopped training with the boys almost weeks ago. After the fiasco that happened at the training grounds, I had elders and doctors up my ass for a week after that. They all came to the conclusion that I was fine, something both Rose and I knew but the entire pack now wondered if I was on my death bed.

..thirty-three, thirty-four, thirty-five.

I still could barely eat but I did make an effort to eat more than I had been. It wasn't helping though. Now, Leo was starting to hound me and wouldn't let me alone. Even when Rose told him

off, he would come back minutes later as soon as he walked away. The only time I ever got some peace and quiet was when I snuck away for my own personal training

'Alpha, we need you at the pack house.'

I growled and swung my foot, hitting the same spot and the tree cracked in half. The trunk

slammed to the ground and I took a deep breath. Leo, I swear to the goddess this better be a legit reason your calling me.

'We've got a band of fucking riffraff here.

My eyes narrowed and I rolled my shoulder. Throwing on my shirt and pulling my hair back into a pony tail, I replied. 'I'll be there in a minute.'

I jogged from the forest since I wasn't too far from the pack house. Coming out of the woods, I saw an old military Humvee parked out front of the pack house. There were a few people leaning against the car itself whereas Leo and Cory were standing in front of three others. As soon as Leo caught my eye, he nodded to them and jogged over to me.

"They fucking sent the bottom of the barrel for us." He was livid.

"What are you talking about?"

He turned but leaned into my ear. "There is a blind wolfless woman, a vampire, two old wolves, three young ones. This is the group the fucking High Council sent us. It's a fucking joke."

I took a deep breath. My anger started to rise as I felt like all the time I had said be patient, hoping the High Council would send an army to help us and protect our pack, was not a waste. I looked over the group that was standing outside of the vehicle. This was the best they could send us? We were basically on our own. Holding back my anger as much as I could, I walked up to the three that were still speaking with Cory.

"Alpha Ezekiel, I presume." One of the older wolves held out his hand. His hair was peppered grey and braided down the back. He was built much like Owen was, though bulkier. "My name is Hector Mendez. This is Bryan Steele and Auri Meadows. We are here on behalf of the High Council."

"Is this a joke?"

All three of them looked at me, both confused and slightly shocked. I, however, was not in the mood. My eyes fell on the woman between them. She was just as old as they were and she was about 5ft 6in. Her grey eyes looked at me and I felt the anger overflow.

"Excuse me?" The wolf, Hector, took a moment to recover but when I looked back at him, he was glaring at me "I asked if this was a joke. I told the High Council that I had a real problem. I told them people in my pack were getting attacked and abducted." I waved over their little group. "This is the best they could come up with after nearly three months?"

I started to ready myself as Hector shook his head and moved forward but was the woman, Auri who was exactly as Leo described, wolfless and blind, held him back. He stopped

immediately and stepped back, turning to walk back to their vehicle. Bryan looked down at her and nodded.

"As much as you may think we are a joke, Alpha, I assure you we are not. We would like to post up at the northern part of your territory, at the boundary, if that is alright with you. We want to be out of your way as much as possible."

Snorting, I shook my head. "Why should I allow this? You want me to just report your deaths to the High Council now or when we confirm it in a week?"

There was a growl from behind and I saw two younger male wolves holding back Hector. Bryan cleared his throat.

"You can do whatever you wish, Alpha. However, the territory, we will go further north but we would prefer to be able to still protect your borders while we set up."

"Do whatever you want. I just don't want that vampire near the town. Is that understood?"

Bryan nodded and turned back to the group; signaling for them to pile back into the Humvee Auri though stood in front of me and didn't move to go back with her group

"Woman, you better fucking go. We need to make plans for getting your bodies to the High Council." Leo growled out

A small chuckle came out of her mouth before she shook her head. Turning, she went back to the group and got in the passenger seat. They pulled out and down the road, heading north

"What a fucking joke." Leo yelled as he turned back into the pack house

Cory had a frown on his face. "I don't know." I looked at him. "What do you mean?"

"They may seem like a rag tag group of rogues but there is something about them. I can't put my tinger on it."

"Did you see that wolf Bryan's leg? It looked like he would have a better time if you amputated it with that scar! He probably has a cane!"

Cory and I walked back into the pack house while

Leo yelled. He was pacing in the living room, yelling as he threw up his hands. Rose came dawdling in, her hand on her belly. Her due date was in twelve days and she was feeling it.

"What is all the yelling about?"

"Goddess, Rose. The fucking circus came to town and apparently they are going to fight the Darkry pack for us." Leo growled.

Rose turned to me. "What is he talking about?"

I sighed and rubbed my face. "There are a group of seven that came in a Humvee supposedly at the behest of the High Council."

"So they are here! That's a good thing?"

Leo laughed manically. "Oh yeah. Real fucking good."

"Let's just say we are hoping the cover of the book doesn't reflect the contents of it." Cory said it nicely and Leo shook his head.

"This is a fucking disaster." He sat down on the couch and buried his head in his hands.

I let my hands relax from the fists that were balled up."At this point, just tell the patrol and Owen that they are up there.Let them do

whatever the fuck they are doing. From our side,we need to start planning on how we are going to fix this. It's obvious we aren't going to get any other help."

Cory and Leo nodded, both of the now headed out of the room. I ran my hands through my hair

"It can't be that bad." Rose looked at me, tears in her eyes

"I wish I could tell you otherwise.I really do."

'Alpha, we have a problem.

I growled and slammed the papers in my hand on the desk. I had been trying to get through this paperwork for an hour. Between the illegiblehandwriting and what exactly they were

requesting, I was getting frustrated. Now, I was being interrupted.

What Leo?'

'Owen, he got a little mad..

I sighed and rubbed my eyes.'I'm not in the mood now, Leo. Give me the whole damn thing.

'Owen was patrolling north and apparently he got into it with one of the kids in the circus.

'Do we need to send the pack doctor for the kid?'

He was quiet for a moment.'No Alpha.It's...the blind woman slapped him before he could do anything to the kid.

I snorted.'She slapped him?'

'So he issued an official pack challenge to he rand she accepted.

'WHAT?' I roared over the mind link

Getting up, I threw open the door to my off ice and stomped down the stairs. Throwing the front door open, I shifted and headed up north. I let Faris take over until we got close. I could smell the group of my warriors as well as Leo. Turning a little east, I shifted when I found a tree with some clothes in it. Throwing on the shirt and sweats, I strode over to my group.

"Uncle..I."

As I walked, I threw a punch at his face. He stumbled back as my fist connected and I

growled. "You fucking idiot. I don't care if they are from the fucking circus you can't just fight someone and then issue a challenge to them!"

"She slapped me!"

"Why didn't you dodge?"

He looked down, his face flushed. "I didn't see it."

"Goddess, Owen, she fucking blind!" (4)

"I don't care! She accepted it!"

Growling, I grabbed his shoulder. "I, Alpha Ezekiel Silver, take over the challenge for Head Warrior Owen Silver."

A feeling of needing to finish this fight was he over me and I rolled my shoulders, trying to take a breath.

"Uncle! This is my fight!"

"Not anymore, Owen."

Turning back to the rag tag group, the woman, Auri was knocking one of the guys upside the head. The others were laughing and shaking their heads. I wondered if they even felt a little worried for their smallest and most handicapped of the group going against a werewolf in his prime.

I broke from our group and walked halfway to their group. "I've taken over the challenge for my nephew. He wouldn't know how to hold back."

Hector crossed his arms over his chest, smirking hold up more than three minutes then. This should be fun."

The two young male wolves laughed."As long as it's not our ass getting kicked,I'm fine."

Auri, though pointed to the both of them and then punched their stomachs. They doubled over in pain but my eyes widened. There was no time between when she moved and when they

doubled over. I didn't even see her movement.Thinking back to what Owen said, that he didn't see it coming, I realized maybe Cory was right.Maybe there was more to this group than met the eye.

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Auri pulled her hair up into a ponytail and

stripped down into a sports bra and the leggings she was wearing. I knew she was older but she was stunning, even for a werewolf. Her eyes were a stormy grey and her hair was white. It reminded me a little of my mate's hair.Her slooked natural though and I wondered just how old she really was

She was small but the amount of muscle packed into her was shocking. I pulled off my shirt as well and tied my sweats tighter.As she stretched,I did as well. We had run all the way up here so I was already warmed up but I still made sure I was loose.

Not saying a word, she reached out and waved me forward to attack. I took her signal and raced forward. However, I held back as I threw my punch.It wasn't until I saw her face inches from mine that I knew I fucked up. My feet left the ground as I flew back from her punch.Landing on all fours, I coughed and tried to catch my breath but she had hit me so hard, all the air in my lungs was gone.

"Holy...."Owen, from behind me, mumbled.

Getting up, I staggered for a couple seconds before righting myself. I was glad I did because she appeared in front of me. My hands came up instinctually as she punched me and the power alone made me lose my footing and stumble

back. One after another, I tried to block and sometimes she would get in a hit that would send me flying. My mind raced as I tried to get on the offensive but every time I tried to take a step forward, she pushed me three steps back. She was a master and I felt like a child.

"Auri, now you're just being rude. If you aren't going to teach him something, don't hold back." Bryan, who was actually leaning against a cane, called out.

I had gained some distance between her but my eyes widened as I looked at her. A smirk played on her lips. She shrugged.

"Come on. We've got dinner in thirty minutes and you promised to make soup."

Auri nodded and then as soon as I blinked, she was gone from my vision. I looked around in front of me but not even a full second later, I felt myself flying forward, a kick landing squarely in the middle of my back. I almost fell exactly where she was standing before. I managed to stay upright but a knee connected with my ribs before a foot connected with the front of my face. I didn't feel anything else as I lost consciousness.

"I think our little Alpha here is walking up."

Squeezing my eyes together, I opened them and blinked a few times. Jolting up, a hand pressed on my chest.

"Woah, hold on there. Not too fast. Alpha got you good in the face." My eyes adjusted and I realized I was looking at the female younger wolf of the circus group.

"What..what happened?"

Hector walked by and handed me a glass of water which I took. "Our Alpha laid you out, is what happened. Honestly, I didn't think she would aim for your face."

"You're still very much bruised but I made sure that your nose, cheeks, and jaw were all aligned so that they would heal correctly." The young wolf smiled. "Oh! My name is Lucy, I'm the pack doctor."

"Pack doctor?" I looked around the tent. I had seen it when I came up but I didn't realize just how big it was. It was a mini pack house. There were even

flaps that lead to other rooms. A table was set up in the center with seats for everyone as well as a mini kitchen and bean bags in the corner for lounging

"We might not look it, but we are a pack." Lucy smiled. "Hector, is our Beta, Bryan is the Gamma. AJ and Jax over there are our head

warriors, I'm the pack doctor, and our Alpha put her foot in your face." @

My eyes widened as much as they could with the bruising. It definitely hurt too. "The wolf less blind woman is your Alpha?"

Lucy started to laugh and so did Hector. The two young male wolves groaned and got up from the pile of bean bags. "Fuck. I could have sworn they would have known who we were. We fucking introduced themselves."

They both slammed hundred dollar bills on the table. Bryan added another and Auri came over from the kitchen where she was standing and gathered the money, shoving it in her pocket. I looked at them, confused.

"Goddess, he really doesn't know." Lucy shook her head and left my side. "No wonder they have been treating us like shit."

"Shall we reintroduce ourselves then?" Hector smiled, leaning against the table.

"We'll start." One of the head warriors smiled. "I'm AJ, Jax is my older brother. We are known more in the mercenary community as The Bloodblades"

Lucy chuckled. "The only reason they are called that is because they don't clean up after themselves, let's be honest."

"Ha ha, very funny." Jax chimed in. "She is Dr. Lucy Steele. Also known as Dr. Shelley, after Mary Shelley, author of Frankenstein. Her knowledge in medicine and all things doctoring are mind-blowing"

"Aww...guys, that was really nice."

AJ chuckled. "Her attitude could use a little work."

A mug flew across the tent and hit AJ on the shoulder. He rubbed his shoulder and wrinkled his nose. "Doctors are supposed to heal, not hurt. Goddess, Lucy, get it right."

I had a hard time not smiling. This group was a pack for sure. Probably one of the closest families I had ever seen within a pack.

"I am Bryan Steele. Lucy is my daughter. I also was Beta to the previous Alpha King, Logan Everfell, of the Harvest Moon pack." Bryan smiled, he was leaning on his cane. "I am now Gamma and head strategist of our band of merry men "

The color drained from my face but I looked over at Hector. He was laughing. "I was Gamma to the previous Alpha King as well. I am now Beta to our pack."

Auri came over and sat on the edge of the cot I was laying on. There was a soft smile on her face. She had a bowl of soup in her hands and she held it out for me.

I bit my lip and shook my head. I realized she couldn't see that and sputtered, "I..no..thank you though."

"You should eat. One, you won't regret it. Her food is literally from heaven. Two, you need the food to counteract the healing accelerant I gave you." Lucy pulled out one of the chairs at the table and sat down. "We already ate while you were passed out. She's been keeping it warm this whole time."

Tentatively taking the bowl from her hands, I felt bad. Placing it in my lap, I took the spoon and sighed. Putting it in my mouth, instantly tears came to my eyes. I could taste it. It didn't taste like ash. I could taste the soup, the bacon and cheese, the potatoes and the cream. I could taste it all

"Wow, I mean, I know it's good but I didn't think he would start crying..." Lucy said but her dad smacked her leg with his cane. She whined but didn't say anything else.

Auri looked up at Hector and smiled. Hector nodded. "You've been tasting ash lately, haven't you?"

I looked from him to Auri. "Yes. How did you know?"

She smirked and shook her head. Her eyes met Hector's again.

"Ah! Yes, we forgot to introduce our Alpha. How silly. Do I need to say all of it?"

Smacking his leg, she nodded.

"Alright alright. Sometimes you don't like to be introduced in full." He took a breath. "This is our Alpha, Auri Meadows. She's is the Luna Queen, mate to the previous Alpha King. She also is more well known as The Huntress."

I choked on some of the soup. Her hand came up and rubbed my back as I coughed. "The Huntress?"

She smiled brightly and nodded.

"The vampire you saw, he's out collecting some information right now but he is Morgan Russo, the Italian Mafia vampire boss. Also Auri's adopted Dad. So you will rarely ever hear us refer to him as that. Usually it's just Dad or Uncle." Lucy added and I looked at all of them, shocked

"You might have thought we were a joke, but the High Council decided the your pack needed the best. You got the best, no matter how we may look." Bryan added. (4)

Shaking my head, I looked down at the soup in my lap. "I'm so sorry. I didn't realize. I mean we should have never judged you by how you looked anyways..but I apologize for my, and my packs, behavior."

Auri touched my cheek and lifted my head up. She shook her head and brushed away the stream of tears that was from when I first tasted the soup. Her smile was still on her face and I realized she already knew exactly what was going to happen and how we were going to react to them. She never held it against us.

"I'm so sorry."

Leaning forward, Auri ruffled my hair and shook her head. She got up and headed back to the small kitchen setup.

"Yes! Cake!" Jax and AJ pushed and shoved each other to the table and sat down.

"Come finish your food at the table, Alpha Ezekiel. You can have a slice of cake with us after." Lucy had a smirk on her face

Her dad whacked her again in the leg. "Don't offer cake without the warning, Lucy. It's rude He's not from our pack. Poor guy has to go back to his own house after this."

She huffed and turned around at the table.

Hector came forward and grabbed the bowl from my lap. He smiled, "Just in case your legs don't work the first time."

I swung my legs over and stood up. To his prediction, my legs started to give out and I swayed, catching myself on the chair that Lucy had been sitting in next to me. Taking a breath, I took a step and it was far less shaky. Slowly, I was able to get to the table and sat down. He then placed the bowl in front of me before taking his place at the table. Auri served everyone cake and they all chatted. She smiled and seemed to be chatting with them but she still hadn't said a word

"She's mute." Lucy leaned over to me just as I finished my third bowl of soup. "There was an attack on our pack. Vampire nearly killed her. His nails went through her neck and destroyed her vocal cords. She is group mind linking and then sometimes she will sign if she knows the person can understand it."

I looked over at the woman who I had been told

stories about as a kid. She was the one who

helped my Dad keep our pack lands when he was young but I knew back then she was still in her teens. She also had brought down the

Blood Hunter coven, fought in wars, her skills were legendary. Here she was, sitting at the head of the table, smiling, laughing, and serving everyone as though they were a normal family.

Lucy smirked and held out a plate for me. "Want some cake?"



Alpha's Blind Luna Online Free

Chapter 27

Chapter 27

I walked back into the pack house late.

Surprisingly, they had been completely open with everything. They joked and laughed and

either Hector or Lucy added what Auri said, who was hilariously uncensored. It got to the point where Lucy or Hector would blush and refuse to say what she said, leaving AJ or Jax to say it.

For some reason, it felt really comfortable to sit at the table with them. It felt like when I sat with Leo, Rose and Cory, except this group was

exceptionally louder. You could also tell that they all had been through much more. Especially Auri, Hector, and Bryan. The way they carried

themselves was different and I wondered if it

was only because of the war that they fought in

or if it was more.

"Zeke, what the hell man?"

I closed the front door to the pack house and Leo, Owen, Cory and Rose were waiting for me, sitting

in the living room.

"Goddess! Look at your face Zeke!" Rose looked

at me, worried but I waved her off.

"Don't get up, Rose. I'm fine. It's just the

leftover bruising."

Owen did get up and looked at my face. Everything seems to be put back properly. Gwen came out but she had no idea where to begin."

"Their pack doctor is somewhat of a genius. She is young but she is incredible."

Leo's eyes narrowed. "So what? The clown crew

has a good doctor?"

I growled. "Don't fucking call them that.

Goddess, have some decorum Leo. Sometimes I wonder how you talk about me behind my back."

He stood and walked over to me. Looking down

at me, he growled. "Why the hell shouldn't I?

You said yourself, they were a joke. Now you're all buddy buddy with them? Because you let the

she-wolf beat the shit out of you?"

"Let her? I didn't let her do anything, Leo. There

was no way I could have won. Not in a million

years! Her skill level is crazy, you watched her!"

"I watched you lose. To a blind, wolfless ... "

I cut him off. "The Huntress, Leo. I lost to The Huntress. The Luna Queen. I lost to the previous

Alpha King's mate."

His eyes widened and he shook his head. "There is no way that tiny thing is The Huntress. The

Huntress is a myth, a legend."

"She is and she is now Alpha of that pack. So I suggest you swallow your pride because next time you see them because you will apologize.

Hector and Bryan? Gamma and Beta to the previous Alpha King. The two young wolves that

Owen tried to pick a fight with? They are The Bloodblades in the mercenary community. The

young she-wolf? Dr. Shelley is what she is known as in the medical community. The

vampire with them? The Morgan Russo."

I took a deep breath."So next time, you and

Owen will both apologize to them. We asked the High Council for help and they sent the best they had. We are lucky to even have a chance to have them help. The pack needs to make sure they are willing to help with anything they need moving forward. But they still need to leave them alone. I also want the patrol to work with them and see when they are doing their rounds. I trust them

completely on the borders."

"Uncle!"

"That's Alpha, Owen. What you did today,

already was way past the line. No matter who

they were, you don't pick a fight with them. I

told you to stay away from them. I expected my

head warrior and future Alpha to be better than

that."

Owen growled."I am not the future Alpha! That

kid is!" He pointed to Rose.

I felt Faris growl and come forward but I pulled him back."You will be Alpha, Owen. You will be Alpha as soon as this Darkry situation is wrapped

up and you're going to fucking deal with it. I

didn't want this either but here we are. Both

Alpha's."

"That kid ... !"

I roared. "That isn't my pup, Owen!"

Everyone in the living room froze but my anger was seething. "Cory is Rose's mate. They have been mated since Cory got back five years ago and they are together." I glared at Leo. "That's

why she wasn't in my room the other day.

Because she doesn't fucking sleep with me, she sleeps with Cory. That pup is theirs. I won't have a line and I don't intend on it. Owen, you will be

Alpha and you will receive the title. I've been

putting it off for years, but it is time you take

your fathers place."

"I don't want to!" He yelled at me.

"I don't care what you want, Owen! I am Alpha, I am your uncle, and I will do what is best for this pack. I don't know why you won't take your place

but you will now. End of discussion."

Turning on my heel, I stormed up to my room

and slammed the door. Stripping down, I

slammed the bathroom door shut and turned on

the shower. My hands leaned against the

countertop and I looked in the mirror. Rose was

right to look worried, my face looked terrible.

Luckily, it was all healing bruises and probably

would be back to normal by tomorrow.

Lucy had done a damn good job setting

everything and I lifted my shirt over my head. My side also had the same bruising color of purple and yellow but my ribs had been set. Looking at myself fully, with the bruising, I almost did look like I was dying. I was so thin now I wondered if I

would be able to put the weight back on that I needed. My taste being back made me happy.

Whatever Auri did, must have fixed it because her soup and cake were out of this world good.

Getting in the shower, I rinsed the blood, dirt, and sweat that clung to me. I let the water pound against my back and rise off the anger from earlier as well. Rose was going to be pissed. I

know she didn't want to tell her brother like that and I just fucking yelled it. Plus, telling Owen he was going to be Alpha was a conversation I was building up to. Sure, he needed to grow up but there was no valid reason as to why he couldn't

be Alpha.

I didn't want Rose, Cory, and Leo to leave the pack with me either. This was their home and they had generations of their family here. They were also very prominent families of Beta's and Gamma's for the pack. After dinner, while I walked back, I realized I might be able to convince Alpha Auri to take me on as a temporary pack member. At least until I could

get my head straight and work on a plan to

somehow convince my mate not to hate me. It would also be good practice on backing off being

an Alpha.

I finished showering, dried myself off and got

into bed. I was so tired that I fell asleep as soon

as I pulled the sheet up and my head hit the

pillow.

My eyes opened and I looked up at golden eyes staring down at me. I tried to move but I realized I was being pinned down. Both my wrists were

being held together over my head. Heart

hammering in my chest, I started up at my mate. There was a five o'clock shadow on his jaw and dark circles under his eyes but they were

drowned out by the look of need in his eyes

Leaning down, his face was inches from mine.

His breath fanned over skin and I felt the

goosebumps erupt all over. Lifting up, I pressed

[Tar/

my lips against his. He greedily kissed me back,

his hips grinding into mine. We broke a part after

a time, both breathing deeply. ①

“Vale.”

I watched his pupils dilate when I said his name.

His grip on my wrists also tightened. A smirk came to my lips

"Don't say a word, Ezekiel. I need you. Goddess, I need you right now."

I nodded and turned my head to the left allowing him better access of my neck. He growled, and I felt him nip at my neck and shoulders. His tongue ran along my muscles and I shivered.

"Make sure to eat while my mom is there, you've gotten too thin." He kissed my chest and I gasped, his teeth grazing my nipple.

"That ... feels..weird. Vale ... "I whined, my body shivering against his touch.

There was a low grumble which I realized was a chuckle. "When was the last time someone touched you, dear mate? Why are you so sensitive?"

"You ... "I gasped. "The last dream."

He hummed against my nipple, the reverberations tickling it and making me arch my back. "I meant in person, my little alpha."

I shivered as his lips trailed lower down my abs, licking between them. His hand finally left my wrists but somehow I still couldn't move. It

was like I was tied up still. My skin tingled as

Vale's hands brushed down my sides and his

nails dug in around my hips, holding me tight. A moan escaped me and I tried to bit my tongue to

stop it.

"Don't you dare bite it down. I want you to wake

up your whole pack house, do you understand?"

I nodded and as his tongue licked the tip of my cock I screamed out his name. I sputtered, trying to stop him but his lips were already around my

head and his tongue swirled around. My eyes

squeezed shut as I tried hold back. My breath

became ragged as I felt his lips slip further down my shaft. His warm tongue swirled and then he

sucked.①

"Vale ...no.I.don't ...I'm going to ... "

Trying to move, trying to pull out of his mouth,

Vale's grip only tightened around my hips and I

felt his nails dig in. The pain mixed with the

pleasure was my undoing and I came, unable to hold it back any longer. Blood rushed to my face

and I dared to look down at Vale. He was smiling

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as he caught my gaze. I watched as his Adam's apple bobbed as he swallowed.

Instantly, my limp dick stood back to attention and Vale laughed. It wasn't a hollow laugh but a full one and it made my heart soar. I wanted to hear it over and over again.

"Vale ...please ... "

I pulled up my legs and rested them on his shoulders. His eyebrow rose and a smirk came to his lips

"Are you offering your ass to me, Ezekiel?"

"Yes ... "I choked out. Turning my head, I couldn't look at his gaze as embarrassment rushed through me

He hummed against my inner thigh and I shivered. "Such a good little Alpha. I guess I should give you exactly what you want."

Kissing my thigh, I felt pressure against my ass and two fingers entered me. I bucked against him but his hand quickly pressed down on abs, holding me in place as he slowly pumped his fingers back and forth. Again, the feeling was odd and I felt weird until it started to tingle. He

added another finger, stretching and pumping as deep as his fingers would go and back. 1

"Vale.that ... "

"Does it feel good?" He leaned down and licked my cock."You've got pre-cum coming out, so I think it does."

His low voice vibrated through my bones and I gasped. For a moment, his fingers left and I whined at their loss but quickly shut up as I felt his dick press against my hole. He pushed in slowly again, giving me time to adjust to his size. Vale was much larger than his three fingers and went much deeper as well. I made the mistake of looking at him and he smirked, slamming all the way into me and I cried out. Tears came to my eyes as I felt like I could feel his dick in my stomach.

He didn't move for a while though, his hands holding my hips. They were shaking a little.

"I.can't wait..."

Vale started to move in and out. At first, it was slow and I felt the familiar odd sensation

building but it turned into a pleasure so intense as he fucked me harder and faster. I let out moan after moan, my toes curling he pounded into me.

"Fuck. Ezekiel. you're fucking tight... I can't..."

How he was still able to talk was beyond me. It was so far beyond me that all I could do was yell his name as I came, cum shooting up my body and covering my chest. There was a low growl as Vale slammed into me and I felt hot, his dick twitching as he came as well.

"Damn it. Your face.. I couldn't fucking hold it in after the look on your face when you came."

He was breathing heavy, his arms resting on my knees. ①

"I choose you, Vale."

His eyes widened and he looked at me. "What?"

"I choose you. I was always planning on choosing you. After this shit is done with the Darkry pack, I'm passing the Alpha title to my nephew. He should have been Alpha years ago, he just kept refusing and I allowed him to. I had no where else to go." 1

I reached out, not even realizing whatever was holding me back wasn't there anymore. My hand brushed his cheek and he pressed his face into my hand.

"I choose you. I'll figure the rest of it out later.

But you are mine and I am yours."

Vale smiled and I saw his eyes shining with tears. "Thank you, Ezekiel. Thank you for choosing me."



Alpha's Blind Luna Online Free Chapter 28

Chapter 28

I opened my eyes and sighed. Luckily, the sheets were thrown off or I would need to wash the sheets again. My body was drenched in sweat

and I groaned. Rolling off the bed, I quickly jumped in the shower, washing off my stomach specifically. I don't know how many times I had released but it was more than once. The cold shower felt good but sadly, it woke me up as well.

The clock reminded me it was 3:15 a.m. but I wasn't going back to sleep. Not now. My stomach

did growl and I realized that even after three bowls of soup and cake, that my body had decided that it was out of starvation mode.

Throwing on some sweats, I decided it should be okay without a shirt at least in the pack house.

Opening the door, I checked the hallway but

everyone seemed to be asleep still. Walking down the hall and into the kitchen, I dug around for some leftovers in the refrigerator. ①

There was a container of lasagna and I threw it into the microwave before grabbing a fork. I took a bite and gagged. Leaning over the sink, I spit out the food, coughing and trying to not throw up. It still tasted like ash. I thought the kick to the face fixed it. I know I didn't imagine eating

three bowls of soup earlier. I didn't imagine

nearly crying again over a piece of cake.

I threw out the leftovers and grabbed a hoodie. Throwing it on, I started a run into the forest. No one would be up and around this early. I knew

where the patrols would be and I could avoid

them easily. I headed east and then worked my

way north.

Faris wanted to run but I needed to run out the

feeling of Vale on my skin. Every time I thought

of him, Faris purred but I growled, pushing

myself harder. Sweat poured from my body soon

as I pushed myself harder

It was still dark outside and my eyes caught a

light in the forest. I knew I was up north pretty far but I hadn't hit the edge of our territory yet. Curving my path, I headed towards the light but I realized it was moving, bouncing around as it floated through the forest. I stopped when I saw multiple bodies, lights gathering in the darkness. Ducking behind a tree, I peaked around to take

stock of what I was seeing.

There were at least four fey, human looking but towering in height. Around them were upwards of twenty or so lights and smaller fairies floating around. It was the smallest body that caught my eye. The shock of white hair and golden eyes that reflected in the darkness made me realize it was Auri. Outside of the laughter of bells of the

smaller fey around, there wasn't a single sound

coming from the group.

Ezekiel, you can come out. We've known you

were in the area already

My eyes widened and I stepped out from behind

the tree. The two of the four fey turned to look at

me but Auri and the other two didn't move.

Shoving my hands in the pocket of the

sweatshirt I was wearing, my head bowed as I

was not exactly in presentable attire for this

group. Auri was wearing a beautiful dress and it looked like water flowing as the lights from the

fairies reflected off of it. The other fey were

dressed up even more extravagantly. I stayed a bit back, watching them as they turned back to

converse. 1

I realized that one of them had clasped arms with her, most likely able to converse with her even with her inability to speak. It was ten minutes until Auri stepped back, bowing low to the four fey. They, in turn, bowed their heads to her. That shocked me. Fey didn't bow for many. They wouldn't even bow to the High Council. I

bowed my head as they turned to leave, still

wanting to be respectful even though I wasn't part of the conversation. Disappearing further into the forest, some of the fairies stayed, flying

around

Couldn't sleep?'

I jumped this time. Thinking that it was one of the fey that reached out to me, not Auri. I looked at her and she was smiling, now sitting at the foot of a tree on some of its roots.

'I ...I didn't ...'

'Speak out loud. So you don't get used to mind

linking me only. No one else can hear you. I

taught my children to do it and my pack already

knows.' Her hand waved me forward and I

walked up to her, plopping down at the base of a

tree opposite of her.

"How can you speak to me?"

A smirk came to her face. 'There could be a couple explanations for the reason. The one I will go with currently is that you are an Alpha. I have a specific..connection...with Alphas and therefore can mind link you.' Shaking her head, she shrugged. 'I will be honest, I didn't try earlier because I didn't think it would work

I hummed. The way she spoke made it sound like she had more secrets than she could keep straight. It was now just a guessing game for her. Faris didn't seem put off or have an issue with her though. There was at least that.

So, what's on your mind Ezekiel? Considering you're out here running before the sun has risen.'

I blushed slightly. "A lot of my mind. Just trying to ...straighten it all out."

Auri chuckled. 'As Alpha, I'm sure you have a lot in your plate. Darkry being one of them.

Nodding, I sighed and leaned my back against the tree. "You guys being here, now knowing who you are, has lifted an immeasurable weight off my shoulders."

'I'm glad we could help. I'll be honest we had our eye on this pack long before they started harassing yours. Now, we had a valid excuse to seek them out.

My eyes narrowed. "Why?"

She smiled and leaned back. 'You're very secluded here.' There was a long pause from her.

I would say it's as much a blessing as it is a curse.

"I don't know about it being a curse."

Her arm came up and I watched her pick up an acorn. Tossing it into the air once, she let it go a

second time and hit me in the shoulder. Wincing,

I rubbed the spot it hit.

"Ow..what the hell ... "

You don't even know what's going on outside your own pack. While I appreciate the customs and the history your pack uphold, it blinds you. You know nothing about what has been going on

in the world outside the rumor or legend that

weaves it way into this territory.

I nodded. "We were taught as kids that the

outside world was cruel and unkind and unjust. That the pack is the only family you could ever want or need. Our traditions were above all else

and as a Silver, our blood was the blood of the

first. Blessed and chosen." It was a rhetoric I knew well. Something that, as a child of the Silver family was beat into us, not just as an

Alpha.

Yet no king and no white wolf has ever come

from your line.' Auri snorted and her grey eyes found mine. 'It's because you cling so dearly to them that the world has passed you by without you even knowing what has happened. One day,

war could overtake this place and you would

have never seen it coming

"Is war coming?"

Her face gave me a solemn feeling. 'It's already

here, sweetheart. Darkry is just the tip of the

iceberg.

My eyes fell and I rubbed my palms on my pant

leg. If Darkry was only the tip, I hated to think what was below the surface. What Auri and her pack were already dealing with. What Vale was

already dealing with as the Alpha King

Suddenly, me choosing him seemed silly. I was the one who was unprepared. I had no knowledge of what was going on in the world; of what was happening outside of my own territory? I lived in this bubble and I was content with it until going

to the High Council. Hell, it had been decades

since one of our own people went on a plane. I'm sure people who left the pack might have but no

one who was still part of the pack ever left

outside of the human city down the mountain.

I jumped as I felt Auri place her finger on my forehead.'I can see the steam coming out of your head.'

"It's just..a lot."

It is a lot. But the best thing about it, is that you aren't alone trying to take that on. It might feel

like it, but it is never the case.

A quiet filled the space between us and I watched her, seeing such a similarity between her and my mate. My eyes narrowed and unconsciously,I reached forward and brushed her hair.As soon as I touched it's softness, my eyes widened when

I realized what I did.

"I ...I'm sorry.I don't know.what came over me

She chuckled though.'You miss him a lot?'

"Who?"

'Vale, you silly boy. Who else would I mean?'

I coughed and shook my head."I don't know..I

don't know what you're talking about."

Her laughter filled my head as well as hearing her slight chuckle out loud.'Oh,Ezekiel.I know

exactly who you are and who your mate is.

Honestly, I didn't think my son's mate would be

so dense.

My eyes widened. Suddenly, what Vale said to me

clicked. He knew his mother was coming. He

knew she was here. Swallowing hard, my brain connected the dots. The current Alpha King was the son of the previous Alpha King and the Luna Queen, who happened to be The Huntress. I felt so dumb not seeing the similarities in the both of

them.

"So the white hair."

Laughing again, she nods. 'It's natural. I am a white wolf and so is Vale. Our hair is the same

color as our wolf form.

"Can you..shift? Without your wolf?"

She nodded. 'I fight better on two legs than I do

on four but I'm not too shabby. It's just hard,

sometimes. Shifting makes me feel alone. I

haven't shifted in over a decade.' There was a sad

smile that graced her face as well as a wistful

look in her grey eyes.

"Can I only eat your food?"

She shrugged. 'I only know much of what my

own experience is. It might just be proximity to me, since Vale is my blood. You feel more at ease

with me because I'm the older, female, sexier

version of your mate.' Auri winked and laughed.

"You must hate me though ...I'm sure Vale told you about me. Especially after the High Council

ordeal."

'Oh, he did. But I've lived long enough, through enough heartache, to know that it's never what it seems. If you took everything at face value, you would miss so much more that lurked between the surface. Vale ran home after that encounter.

We had some good training and talks. If

anything, I think he was worried for you more.

"He asked me to reject him but I told him..that I would choose him. I want to choose him. I want to learn, Auri. I want to be an Alpha who can

stand by his side. I want to grow. I was going to ask you if I could come with you. After the

situation with Darkry is over."

You don't have to ask, dear. There will always be a place for you in the pack. We are, after all. Vale's pack.

Shocked, I cocked my head to the side. "Vale's?"

I Vale didn't take over Harvest Moon, his older brother did. Vale never wanted to deny his

brother the pack and so he decided to go to the High Council to learn. From there, I decided I would help build him a pack. One that he could trust and make sure that they would help him as he ruled. We, the Golden Moon Pack, are Alpha King Vale's pack. When he is ready, I will pass my title of Alpha to him.'

My mouth fell open. I couldn't believe what I was hearing. Rose was right, I should have done my research. There was a rustle and I stood, my arm protectively out in front of Auri. She, however, chuckled.

"Princess, I'm not ready to accept my Grandson's mate just yet."

The vampire I had seen sitting in the car was walking towards us. He was wearing jeans and a button-up shirt but it looked dirty as though he had been rolling around in the forest. Auri behind me, hummed.

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behind me, hummed.

"You'll need to. They've accepted one another. He's a little dense but I think he will be good for Vale. Plus, I've wanted a son-in-law that didn't try to fight me every time I walked into the room.

Morgan Russo snickered and my eyebrows furrowed. "You can understand her mind link?"

"I'm part of the pack, my dear grandson."

My face flushed red and I bit my lip. He laughed and shook his head.

"Tell me you have good news."

"I've got good news, okay news, bad news, and

bad news."



Alpha's Blind Luna Online Free Chapter 30

Chapter 30

Rose's jaw dropped but she quickly shut it. "It's wonderful to have you here, Alpha Auri."

"How can a woman be an Alpha?" Leo grumbled, he was looking away from us and I growled.

"Leo, show some respect."

Auri put her hand on my arm and shook her head. "It's okay, Ezekiel. Don't worry about it. I'm sure it's the same reaction as your elders would have toward me."

"That doesn't make it right." I growled. Turning back to Leo, I grabbed him by his shirt. "What the fuck is your problem?"

"Zeke! Stop!" Rose put her hand on my shoulder but Auri took it off and pulled her away from me

He growled. "I want to know what the hell is wrong with you! You've been a disaster since we got back from the High Council."

"You think that gives you the right to insult everyone else? If you have a problem with me then you take it to me. But you will not be disrespectful to anyone else. Auri could have removed your head for the disrespect and I would have had to just allow it!"

"She's a woman! You let her beat the shit out of you, or you've become too weak to even call yourself Alpha."

I growled and he did too. My fist came up ready to beat the shit out of him when suddenly the air in the room got thick. Letting go of Leo, I reached forward, trying to hold myself against the table but I fell to my knees. Leo was already on his knees baring his neck. Looking up, I saw Auri, her eyes the same golden color as Vale's. Her back was straight and her jaw was locked. She was pissed. ①

The whole room was on their knees but she was holding Rose who was looking down at us, wide-eyed. Auri growled

Alpha Ezekiel, this is not the way to handle this

I bowed my head. Leo was shaking next to me his eyes wide as he stared at the floor. The airless ended and I felt like I could breathe again. Leo was coughing, trying to gasp for breath

stumbling a bit, I managed to get to my feet and tried to help Leo but he just shoved me off. Auri had let Rose sit and smiled

Donna came in with a plate of food for Rose, Cory and Leo while also putting a plate of muffins in front of everyone. I nodded to Donna who smiled and I took one of the muffins. Tearing a small piece off, I put it in my mouth and chewed. Auri looked up at me and I sighed. I could taste the carrot and the spices in it. ①

I guess we know our answer. I'll head out. There are a lot of things we need to do before tomorrow

Laughing, I nodded and smiled. "Thank you, Alpha Auri. I'll speak to you later this evening in regards to the plan."

She nodded and smiled. Giving a nod to the others at the table, she walked expertly out of the kitchen and the front door. Leo slammed his hands on the table as soon as he heard the door shut.

"What the hell do you think you are doing, Zeke?"

"What am I doing? What the hell was all that? You just going to disrespect an Alpha in front of her face? Literally brought you to your knees!"

Leo huffed. "Brought you to your knees too."

"She is the fucking Luna Queen! Of course, she brought us to our knees. Leo, what is going on with you?"

"How about you tell us why you were screaming Vale' last night like he was fucking you in the ass?" He growled out. ①

I stood up to him, looking up. "Because he was Leo! Alpha King Vale is my mate. After hearing all your fucking over the years, I would think you could handle it."

His eyes went wide and he stumbled back, away from me. "The Alpha King is.."

"...my mate. Yes, Leo. Now, if you'll excuse me. I have work to do. I'm tired of needing to fucking explain myself every time I say something!" Huffing, I stomped through the house to my office and slammed the door shut. ①

Throwing off my sweatshirt, I went into the office bathroom and turned on the shower. After a quick rinse, I threw on some jeans but I realized I didn't have a shirt in the room. I grumbled but I refused to leave. Sitting down at my desk, I waded through the ridiculous amount of paperwork on my desk

There was a knock on my door and it opened. Leo walked in, his head down and he shut the door behind him.

"I'm not in the mood..."

He sighed. "I'm sorry, Zeke."

I looked up at him, surprised. "What?"

"I'm sorry, for how I have been acting. I know you have the pack's interest always front and center. I shouldn't have acted that way. I will apologize to Alpha Auri in regards to my behavior. I just thought I would start with you."

Sighing, I leaned back in my chair. "Leo, you know you have been my best friend coming upon two decades. You took care of me and helped me become the Alpha I am today. I know this isn't you and I know you're reacting to the stress that I have been under..."

"No, Zeke. I was questioning you as Alpha. Since you showed me your weakness at the High

Council. I didn't realize it was because you had come into contact with your mate. I shouldn't have judged you based on that. I've known you for too long. I'm sorry."

Leo looked me in the eyes. They reflected

remorse and sadness. I smiled and nodded. "We need to speak to the Elders. If you wouldn't mind calling them together for me."

Nodding, he smiled back and headed out of the office. I was glad that everything now was out in the open. The last thing I wanted to do was to keep secrets from him. He was my Beta and my best friend.

'Owen, please come to my office in twenty minutes. I need to speak with you.

'Yes, Alpha.

Even though the mind link you could hear his disdain and I smirked. Five minutes later, Leo opened my door. "The Elders are here."

Standing, I realized I didn't have a shirt on and groaned but Leo threw me a dark blue button up. He smirked and I grumbled a 'thank you',

quickly buttoning it up. The five elders walked into the room just as I finished tucking in the tail of the shirt. I smiled at them and motioned for them to take the seats that encircled my desk

I took a seat at my desk and cleared off the

documents to the side so I could put my hand on the desk

"This is very sudden, Alpha Ezekiel. What is it you want to discuss with us?" One of the elders, Joanne, was cross and a thorn in my side at every turn no matter if I followed their directions or not, was the one who spoke up.

"I've called you here because.."

Elder Brett cleared his throat. "I think we need to discuss the rogues sitting on the edge of the territory, in our territory, first."

I sighed. "They are a pack. The Golden Moon pack and they were sent by the High Council to remove the Darkry pack."

"A pack? Them? Please. I walked by one of their members this morning. She was blind. If that's not a spit in our face, I don't know what is."

"Were you here, Brett, when my father received help from The Huntress, back in his early days?"

He scoffed. "Well, of course I was."

"Then I wonder what you were doing during that time, because The Huntress then, as she is now is blind. So I hope you did not say anything to her as you passed, otherwise I would regretfully need to inform you that you can go with the rest of the pack to apologize for your behavior towards The Huntress, Luna Queen, and now Alpha of the Golden Moon."

His eyes widened and his jaw dropped. "I didn't..."

"Didn't know? You and the rest of the pack. If you would like, you may go with Leo after this and apologize to her. He needs to also apologize for her behavior." I smiled sweetly. "However, since that is already being handled, it is not the discussion I wish to have."

"Then what it is, Alpha? We don't have all day. Some of us have work to do." Joanne barked at

me. I remained calm despite her jab. She would

always try to get me to be angry, to fight her. It was useless though and I knew it. Clearing my throat, my hands clasped together.

"I will be stepping down as Alpha as soon as the Darkry pack has been dealt with."

Three of the five elders were up, starting to yell different questions at me but I heard a distinct about damn time from Joanne which made me chortle. Motioning them to sit back down, they quieted.

"Who will take up as Alpha?"

Leaning back in my chair, I smiled. "Honestly, I don't give a damn."

All of them looked at me, shocked.

"I will ask Owen but if he still refusing, I cannot force him to be Alpha. Not like you all did to me. So, you may be able to ask Leo to step up until Owen has a pup who is willing to be Alpha, but I will not longer be Alpha." ①

"How dare you, you ungrateful pup!" Joanne growled. "We were stuck with you. A Silver has always been Alpha for this pack."

I smiled. "It sounds like this will be the first then. I will be joining Alpha Auri's pack and going with them when they leave. So I will not be here." ①

"Who do you think you are?" Elder Brett growled

Standing, I leaned over my desk, looking at each one of them. "I am Alpha. You are the Elders and while you seem to think you have power over the Alpha, you don't. My word is how this pack will proceed in the future. There will be no word after this out of any of you. If you want a Silver to be in the seat when I leave, I suggest you think about away to make it more appealing to Owen. You are dismissed."

"You can't...."

Growling, I glared at the group. "I said, you are dismissed. Get out of my office."

My Alpha presence washed over them and they quickly stood. Shuffling out of the room, Leo was waiting on the other side. He watched them go and raised an eyebrow. Shaking my head, I lopped back down in my seat

"They seemed particularly grumpy."

I nodded and rubbed my eyes. "I made them particularly grumpy. Is Owen here yet?"

Leo nodded. "You want me in for this one?"

"You can. It might help me from attacking him."

Chuckling, I closed my eyes

Owen came in and Leo shut the door behind him. He took a seat opposite of Leo in the room. I rolled my shoulders and opened my eyes

"I..."

Owen cut me off. "If you are here to ask me to be Alpha, I refuse."

Leo growled. "Show some fucking respect to your Alpha. He may be your uncle but he is still your Alpha."

"I don't give a shit since you keep trying to force me to take the damn position. I refuse."

I cleared my throat. "Give me one good, valid reason why and I won't make you Alpha."

Owen's eyes widened and so did Leo. The both of them leaned forward.

"You have yet to give anyone a valid reason as to why you won't be Alpha. If you give me one, I won't force you or ask you again."

Owen's eyes fell to his lap and he fidgeted. "Faith isn't my fated mate."

My eyes narrowed but I didn't say anything. Leo, don't you say a word until he is done.' My mind link went through and Leo gave me a curt nod.

"What do you mean?" "My fated mate is a human."

