

Dr Luna Book 6

The Lycan Princess Chapter 31-35

“Breathing in, you give me air. I’m living off your solar flare . Could you be my Supernova Girl?” Jamie sang as he winked at Novalie.

“Zoom zoom zoom make my heart go boom boom my supernova girl!”

“How does he even know that song...” Kurt groaned as Conner laughed.

“Yeah, the stupid thing is stuck in my head,” Kai groaned.

“How about you, Nova? Is it stuck in your head?” Jamie grinned as she sighed.

“I think it is time to quiet down some. I know it must be exciting to be close to a female who isn’t fleeing from your sight but take some deep breaths.” She then turned her head to look back at Audrey. “Do you have a mate in your pack?”

“I’m an extra.” She continued to look at the ground, not making eye contact.

“An extra?” Aiden asked and the girl nodded her head. “I’m sorry, I don’t know what that means.”

“I don’t get a mate. I was chosen to not have children. When I was young, they did an operation so that I would never have my period. This way, I could always service the males in the pack. When their mates were pregnant or on their periods, I was one of the stand-ins. My job is to service the pack.”

Diana’s mouth gaped open and she turned her dark gaze to Clover. They took away her choice to have children. They must have made her sterile so that she could be their pack who.re without getting pregnant.

Clover nodded her head. I have gotten a glimpse of her past. It is not a good one. And she doesn’t see anything wrong with it. This is completely normal to her. She used to cry

back when she was a teenager but she has become numb to it.

A teenager... gods how young was she?

At the age of thirteen, she is eligible to fulfill her role. As a virgin, she had the honor of being raped by one of the officers. And then, when they are too old to be of any use, they are sent away. Which means they are killed.

Something is terribly wrong with this pack. They didn't exist during my time. There were no Children of the Moon. They came into existence afterwards. When the three packs claimed vampires attacked them destroying most of the packs. Only the Alpha's son of one of the packs survived... convenient don't you think? No other Alpha or their son's survived to contest the new leadership.

You think the attack was intentionally provoked? Clover chewed on her inner lip. If this was the case then this was calculated.

Then all signs pointed to the remaining Alpha and their sinister motive. They could use the fear of the vampire pack to isolate them from others.

“It is just up ahead. The skints said they know we are coming and are preparing.” Novalie looked back and Aiden motioned for her to fall back.

“Let us take the lead.” Aiden looked over at Sion, who nodded in agreement.

“Yes, we will take the brunt of anything if they try to attack. Let’s see how stupid they are.” Sion rolled his head to the side as he loosened his muscles. “Kai, don’t release Audrey until I give my command.” They trudged forward, the ground crunching beneath their feet like broken glass. The brush was impenetrable, the branches and thorns snagging at their clothes and digging into their skin as they stumbled through the thicket. Every breath felt like an effort, yet there was still a palpable intensity in the air;

one of anticipation, at what lay in wait for them just beyond the brambles.

The trees and brush opened up into a small clearing; the surrounding darkness giving way to the pale sunlight. Birds chattered in the trees, the sound of leaves rustling in the breeze added to the cacophony of noise. In front of them was a group of men, behind them was a small village.

Four imposing figures loomed out of the shadows, each a muscled mass of testosterone and dominance. Their clawed hands twitched in anticipation, curled like menacing talons ready to rend flesh. Aiden felt a surge of power as his Alpha instincts kicked into overdrive, demanding that these wolves bow before him or suffer bloody consequences. He was the Lycan Prince and these wolves should be able to sense who he was. To confirm this more, their gaze shifted to rest on Diana.

Hungry eyes stayed on the princess with a greedy thirst. This was the act that crossed the final tolerating line for Aiden but before he could react, Diana did. She stepped forward, her silver eyes blazing like blue fire and a menacing growl rumbling in her throat. Her aura rippled in waves, beating at the wolves in front of them. “I am not asking for your respect... I demand it.” She snarled as Aiden moved next to her. A low growl rippled from his throat as an open challenge.

The men stiffened at the power and authority that radiated off of them. However, they did not cower, as the toughest of the men stepped forward, his dark eyes flashing with predatory intent and his lips pulled back to reveal sharp teeth. “What a shocking surprise to have such... important guests show up out of nowhere. I am Kale, Alpha of the Children of the Moon.”

Kale narrowed his eyes, a smirk tugging on his lips as he stepped forward. “You must be

the princess that the stories spoke of.” His eyes glimmered with a sinister gleam as he looked over Diana. “You are even more beautiful in person.” His eyes shifted from Diana to Aiden. “And I see you found your mate... of course mates aren’t always forever.” Kale’s grin widened, seeing the rage in Aiden’s eyes.

Diana did not move, not taking her eyes off of Kale. Her anger was simmering beneath the surface, like water about to boil over, but she held her composure. He seemed to be provoking them intentionally, which made her wonder what plans he had up his sleeve. Aiden’s glare darkened as he growled a warning, the hair on his arms and on the back of his neck standing up. His hands formed into fists as he tried to reign in his anger for Diana.

“I have to admit you don’t really meet what I expect of a Lycan.” Kale stepped forward as he lifted his eyes, not impressed.

A threatening growl rumbled in Kurt's chest. Kale was being a complete asshole, he was not being respectful at all.

“Well, you are not what I expected of... well, an Alpha. Thank goodness you are the rarity. I couldn't imagine the other packs being plagued with such a weak and pathetic leader. Oops,” Diana raised her fingers up to her mouth, “I guess you aren't used to women speaking to you like this. Well, Kale,” she hissed, not showing him any respect, “this woman will be deciding the fate of your pack.” The man's fate was already sealed, he would be killed. The disrespect in his eyes was disturbing. Where was his reverence? His instincts should make him naturally submit to her. Of course, if he wasn't a full-blooded werewolf, he could fight this with his other side.

Diana, Clover's voice echoed into her mind. Her silver eyes kept their focus on Kale as she listened to her friend. Several of these

wolves, including Kale, have a strange light. I've seen this aura before. As she spoke she felt Novalie move up to Aiden, whispering something in his ear. This is the aura of changelings,

demons.

Demons.

Both Aiden and Clover's voice rang in her mind.

And Kale has vampire in him. Aiden said, making Diana's mind spin trying to connect the dots. The Children of the Moon came into existence because the three other packs were practically wiped out by vampires. The vampires claim they were innocent and were only defending themselves. The motive wasn't clear but it seemed that Kale's bloodline set this whole thing up.

This changed things. With some of the wolves having changelings in them, they

were more powerful than they previously thought. However, they did have Clover.

Clover, can you hold them with your mind if it comes to it? Diana asked, still keeping her eyes fixated on Kale. His eyes seemed to glaze over in communication with someone.

I think I can. I'm not sure for how long though.

“The way you have treated your pack members is abominable. We can't allow this to continue. We have come to reclaim this pack.” Aiden knew that at this point it was clear this was a hostile pack. They were not going to allow them to come in and observe. Not that they needed to. The problem was that these wolves were now much stronger than they thought. Still, they were not a weak group. They had a sheya and a minor god on their side. If there was a fight, they would still be victorious. “Allow? Allow?” Kale laughed, the sound cruel and mocking. “You come here and think you can make

demands.” He licked his bottom lip, his eyes glittering with a recklessness that made his intentions clear. “Well Prince I have one for you.” Kale’s eyes skittered from Aiden, his eyes highlighted with a dark hunger.

A dangerous glow lit up Kale’s dark eyes, a wicked smile pulling at his lips. He was fixated on Diana, with a force that would not be denied. The way his eyes dwelled on her made Aiden all too aware of the greed and possessiveness he felt for her. Aiden growled deep and low, his body tensing. His mate was his and no one would take her away from him.

“Abandon the princess now, or die like the animal you are!” Kale’s voice echoed through the forest, reverberating off the trees with a menacing intensity. There was no mercy in his tone—only an ultimatum: flee or perish.

Aiden’s eyes narrowed to thin slits of rage as a fire lit inside of him. His anger surged like a seething volcano, ready to erupt in a

scorching and destructive fury. He was about to speak when a guttural growl ripped through Jamie's chest, reverberating with a force that threatened the very foundations of the Earth.

“Can we fvck this douchebag up already?! Abandon our princess? You must have decided you wanted to die today.”

“Stand down.” Diana said in a calm voice.

Kale's maniacal laughter echoed through the sky as his eyes burned with malicious glee. His voice was like ice, cutting through the air with an agonizing chill. “You are all doomed, helplessly unaware of your impending demise.”

There was a devilish tone to his voice that made the hair on the back of Aiden's neck stand on end. It was the timbre of a madman, one who relished in the idea of death and chaos, one who enjoyed war.

“What the hell are you going on about?” Sion asked, looking at the unhinged man. He was getting tired of this whole exchange. He promised Clover he would follow Aiden and Diana’s lead, but enough was enough.

Sion and Diana watched in horror as their friends around them suddenly fell to the ground. They curled up in pain as they struggled against something unseen. Audrey began to flee but suddenly combusted into nothing.

Diana gasped, and then, a familiar scent hit her nose. She watched as Kale lowered his head and the wolves parted to the side, making a path.

“I like theatrics and all, but I’m getting bored now.”

This voice... this voice. Diana’s eyes widened as a figure made their way towards them. A woman with raven-colored hair and copper-colored skin walked towards her. Her dark

brown eyes gleamed with malevolence as she looked between her and Sion.

“I’d like to introduce you to my Luna, Erin.” Kale said with a smirk.

“Not Erin...” Diana said as she took in a shaky breath. “Eris.”

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The woman with raven hair rested her dark brown eyes on Diana. Her lips curled up into a smirk and she tapped her chin. “Now how does the little princess know who I am...” Her eyes then moved to Sion. “You look so much like him. A remarkable resemblance. I can’t say how fitting this moment really is. It takes me back.” Sion went to move to help Clover, but the woman’s eyes glowed, stopping him in his place. He struggled in vain as he tried to break free of the invisible grip on him.

“You are not at my level, so don’t even try.”
She hissed.

“I don’t understand why you are even here?”
Diana furrowed her brows as she tried to
piece it all together.

“I needed a place to go undercover for a
while. I couldn’t get near your little frozen
coffin with that beast guarding you day and
night. I needed a cover...” She lifted her
copper arms out with a smile. “Look what I
made. With just a little bit of chaos, I created
myself a home. Full of servants to grant my
wishes. Completely isolated from the other
packs.”

“You caused the fight with the packs?” Diana
watched as Eris smirked.

“It was quite glorious. I made the vampires
hate werewolves and I was also able to
create a pack in perfect isolation. Of course,
I needed Kale here. Kale was able to inflict
vampire-like wounds on his father... well

who they all thought was his father. Kale is special, he is a werewolf, a vampire, and a beautiful demon. And these wolves all have received my little changelings. Except for the females and a few of the males... I wasn't going to waste my precious changelings on the weak." Eris looked back at Kale and then at Sion.

"Kale was rewarded with this pack. He would be able to lead them however he wished. This was just my safe hiding place. I see you have become a minor god. That allows you to enter without having any problems. But you see the reason I chose this location is because something special is located in this village." A glaze of ice formed in the air making a low cracking noise. A poisonous smile spread over Eris' lips as she watched the ice spread like a dome across the sky. "You see... this is a sanctuary for demons. It accepts them like their brethren. However, tier one deities will not be able to enter. So, it was the perfect place... to sit

and wait. All I needed to do was let that little wolf escape. My wolves drove her all the way to the Diamond pack. Right to...you.” She let out an airy laugh. “And look... that was all it took to get you to come to me. Though, what a surprise... I never thought I would get Faust too.” She clapped her hands together. “It’s perfect. I get the man and the blood.”

Diana felt her heart begin to accelerate as she realized the gravity of the situation.

Eris was a mastermind, and she had been playing them all along. Colleen didn’t escape... she was allowed to escape. They wanted her story to reach them. It was all a trap to get them here. Well to get her here.

Sion struggled harder against the invisible grip but to no avail. His veins bulged from his forehead as he desperately glanced at Clover. Clover laid there calmly instead of thrashing against the force that held her down. She seemed to be quietly assessing the

situation. Actually, she looked to be using her powers. She might not be able to manipulate Eris, but maybe the others she could? She wasn't panicking but looked to be planning. Diana looked down at Aiden, who was struggling to rise to his feet. She couldn't let anything happen to him or the others.

"Let them go. This has nothing to do with them." Diana listened as Eris' laughter rang into a high pitch shrilling sound.

"No, thanks. I'm in complete control here and I don't feel like being generous." A thunderous noise rang against the frost in the air. Eris looked up with a wide-open grin. "The guests have arrived in time for the show."

Diana looked up and through the frost she could see several figures hovering in the sky. Her eyes landed on the familiar man with red hair, Ike. He had come.

“This part makes me feel all giddy inside.” Eris squealed as she pranced around in a circle. “He can’t do anything but helplessly watch. I’m so excited that I don’t know what to do first. I have to torture the princess. I want her screams to drive him mad. I might drag it out for days.” She pranced side to side as she tapped her fingers together.

“I’m so happy you were able to get front row seats. I’ve been planning this show for quite some time.” Eris waved her hand above her head. “So sorry, you went through so much trouble to bring your friends and I can’t have them in for tea. Not to worry though. There will be plenty of blood that will trickle through the barrier.”

Diana’s heart raced as she watched the figures in the sky draw closer. She recognized Ike, but there were others with him as well. They were all powerful beings, but it seemed none of them could get any

closer. It was as if an invisible wall stood between them.

“Don’t you dare touch her!” Lycaon growled as the area thundered in response.

Eris’ pupils narrowed to pinpoints and her lips peeled back in a snarl. “You killed my flesh and blood. You took the only person who understood me. The only one who loved me. He wasn’t just my half-brother... he was my everything. I loved him!” The air grew thick and heavy as she began to tremble with rage.

“You act as if I killed him for no reason! He knew that killing MY lycans was a crime against me. He brought his fate upon himself.” Lycaon snarled as he shook the world with his rage.

“You have brought her fate upon her. This b***h will be tortured without mercy just so you can hear her screams. In the end, she will die seeing each of them tortured and

killed. Except you, sweetheart, you stay with me.” Eris looked over at Sion with a wink.

“No thanks, you can kill me with the others.” Sion curled his lips up in disgust.

“You remind me so much of Shaun. I had a soft spot for him because he reminded me of my brother. Just like you... you remind me so much of my brother.” She said as she licked her lips. “Anyways, let’s get this show started. Let’s hear you scream... princess.”

Diana pursed her lips together tightly and braced herself. She had to try not to scream no matter how badly it hurt. Eris’ eyes narrowed to slits as she threw out her hand. The pointy tips of her fingers ignited into black flames.

“This is going to be so much fun. I am so—”

“Will you shut the fvck up?”

Eris turned her head and her eyes instantly widened in fear. “H-h-h-ow did you get in here, Aken?”

A slight smirk rose over his face as he rolled his shoulders. “I’m not exactly the same as them... am I? No, I didn’t switch sides, but you have put your faith in the Murk crystal. You see the Murk crystal doesn’t block out tier one deities and allows demons to enter freely. It isn’t intelligent. It doesn’t work like that.” He said as he stepped in front of Diana, making Eris take a retreating step back. “I guess, given my ‘murky’ history, I am not as pure as a tier one deity. You know... I am surprised you and Erebus didn’t ever hook up. Of course, no one could get close to you with that brother fetish of yours.”

“This has nothing to do with you, Aken! Leave or else—”

“Or else what?” Aken arched his brow and grinned. He watched as she took another

hesitant step backwards. “These people are important to my mate. This has everything to do with me.”

“Stay away from me or I’ll send you to hell!” Eris hissed as Aken stepped forward.

“Your threats aren’t working. I’ve already been there.”

“This is not your fight. The princess is not your mate.” Eris hissed as she watched him intently out of the corner of her eyes. “You are not her savior.” Sweat beaded on her forehead as she stood there gritting her teeth.

Aken chuckled. “I’m not here to be her savior. I am here because my mate asked me to come. She asked me to get rid of you... unfortunately for you... I will do anything and everything my mate asks of me.”

Eris recoiled backwards as black flames danced around her. “You are by yourself in here. You are going to die—”

“No... you will die. I will tear you apart until you have nothing left to regenerate with. I’ll rip you apart, limb from limb... slowly.” He shrugged, a grin resting on his face. “I’m sure I can find something to do with your head and your body. I’ll keep you alive as long as possible. You were an ancient goddess before you switched sides. In either case, I’m sure you can regenerate as long as there are limbs left. I’ll make sure to chop off any you can regenerate and share them with the others.” His voice dropped into a deep gravelly tone. “I’m sure they will be happy to have a piece of you.” He watched her nose crinkle up angrily. “On second thought, I think they would rather just disintegrate your body here and now. This way there are no accidents.” He tilted his head to the side. “Remember, I’ve had to do this before. I know how to do it right.”

“Damn you. You think I will be an easy opponent? You know what I am capable of. Do you want to really risk facing me alone?”

“I’m not going to face you alone. After all, that wouldn’t be fair to Ly now... would it?”

Clover. Diana glanced at the ground meeting with her green eyes.

Can you control them at all? The wolves in front of us?

I have been trying but I think she put a block up on them. That, or it is the crystal in this place.

When this fight starts, those wolves are going to come for us. You can see it in their eyes. I don’t know if Eris will be able to keep you guys in her grip or not. I tested my feet, and I can move. If I have to, I will protect everyone.

If there is a fight, I am breaking free. You can’t have all the fun.

An orange glow erupted around Aken like a blazing lasso, spinning faster and faster, until it outshone the sun. Eris’ lips peeled

back into an arrogant snarl as she declared: “Don’t think I can’t figure out what you are planning. You plan to drag me out of the crystals’ reach. That isn’t going to happen.” The air seemed to crackle with her triumph.

Aken looked down at the fiery rope that should have burned him as it constricted him. His brows were knitted together for a moment before he let out a quiet chuckle. “Well, I’ll be damned.” The fiery rope had suddenly transformed into a mantle of frost, tightening around him like an icy vice. A vice that was turning brittle.

“What the hell is this?” Eris swore from behind him, her voice edged with terror as the orange rope solidified into ice.

“I never quite realized the connection I have with my mate.” Aken said in an awe-struck tone. “This power isn’t mine... it is hers.” The power acted on its own. As if Alexis had blanketed him with her icy protection. Maybe she was doing it from a distance? He

wasn't sure, but he felt his love for her swell inside of him. He could feel her presence and he suddenly missed her terribly. Time to end Eris so he could get back to the only person that mattered to him. The person who calmed the storm that raged inside of him.

His eyes snapped up at Eris and the bonds around him shattered. In a murderous flash, he reached Eris. His fingers gripped around her throat as he dove with her. Sheer terror reflected in her eyes as figures popped up all around them.

“Thank you Aken for bringing her out here.” Lycaon’s voice was filled with malevolence as he locked eyes with Eris. “Whatever you do Aken, don’t let go of her. We will combine our powers to make sure every part of her is destroyed.”

“You might kill me, but you will also lose your princess. KILL THEM!” Eris shouted.

Lycaon turned to look behind them to see monstrous wolves now moving towards the helpless group. He wanted to tell Aken to run in there and save them... save Diana.

“Save them or kill me?” Eris’ eyes widened as a twisted grin rested on her face. A black dagger shot out from her skin and into Aken. She tried to use the distraction to make a quick getaway.

Aken’s face twisted into a mask of rage as he snarled, “I’m not letting you go bitch.” His fingers dug deeply into her skin, like talons, as he held her in place. “Ly, this is our fight here. That one isn’t. Focus on what needs to be done...and have faith.”

Lycaon looked away and forced his gaze on Eris. He gritted his teeth and barked out a terse command. “Let’s get this process started.”

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The wolves of the Children of the Moon began to move in. Kale was a strange wolf with black spikes as his fur. There was more to him than just being a mixture of species. Something felt off... ominous.

Sion shifted into Anubis and slammed a golden scepter into the ground. The moment he did, the others instantly shifted and rose to their feet. They still looked to be struggling but were able to fight off whatever hold Eris had on them.

The colossal hound of Odell's moved to the front. Her long body curved protectively in front of Clover's black wolf. Slowly, the lycans moved to the front, Aiden taking his stance slightly in front of Diana.

"It's taking everything I have to hold this power at bay." Sion grimaced as he gripped his scepter tighter. "I won't be much help other than this."

“This is enough help.” Diana’s eyes widened in determination as her muscles started to ripple beneath her skin. Taking a deep breath, she shifted into her lycan form and charged forward into the chaos of battle. The fighting chorus erupted around her in an explosion of violence and destruction as she unleashed her primal strength upon her foes.

Kale watched as the chaos ensued, his black spikes bristling with anticipation. He glanced past the barrier at Eris. There was nothing he could do for her. The only thing he could do was make sure the Lycan Princess died. He turned his head searching for her white fur. He would do it for Eris. The metallic tang of blood filled his nostrils, and he let out a guttural growl. Kale charged into the fray, his spikes glowing with an otherworldly light. He moved with an almost supernatural grace, his body twisting and turning as he raced to Diana. A moment before he reached her a ball of silver and claws leapt into him. The both of them

tumbled together before he jumped back to eye the creature who dared to attack him.

It wasn't a werewolf, but a massive lycan. Its predatory eyes glowed as it stared at him. An intense hunger in his eyes. Its canines were long and razor-sharp. It bared its teeth at him in an open challenge. Kale didn't pay attention to who shifted into what but instantly he knew who this was, it was the Lycan Prince. Oh well... just one more opponent to take down before he ended the princess. He wouldn't mind ending the royal lycans.

Aiden's fur bristled as he eyed Kale warily. He knew that something was off about the black-spiked wolf but couldn't quite put his paw on it. When he saw Kale charging towards Diana he didn't hesitate, he knew he had to protect her no matter the cost. Aiden stepped forward, his body bulked with raw power, as he confronted Kale. Kale matched his stance, his spikes glowing with an eerie

light. The two charged each other, clashing in a blur of fur and teeth. Aiden's strength was unmatched, but Kale's spikes provided an added layer of defense. They traded blows, neither able to gain the upper hand. The sound of their snarls echoed through the clearing, drowning out the sounds of battle around them.

Kale let out a low, menacing growl, his spikes glowing brighter before leaping at Aiden with lightning speed. The two wolves tumbled and snarled, their teeth bared as they fought for dominance. Aiden was a skilled fighter, but Kale was relentless. With each blow, Kale's spikes glowed brighter, and Aiden felt a strange energy surging through him. He could feel his own power being drained away as he fought. His body shook as vicious spikes ripped through his skin, tearing him apart from within and snuffing out his life-force. The wounds were not ordinary – they burned like an inferno of agony coursing through his veins.

Aiden summoned all the strength he had left and rammed into Kale with all his might. Kale's spikes dug into Aiden's flesh, but he didn't let go. Instead, he used the momentum to flip Kale over onto his back. Kale growled in fury, his spikes pulsing with anger.

Meanwhile, Diana was in the thick of the battle, her body a blur of movement and violence. She tore through the Children of the Moon like a juggernaut, her claws and fangs finding their mark with deadly accuracy. Her eyes blazed with an inner fire, her primal instincts taking over as she fought for her life and the lives of those beside her. Her claws ripped through the flesh of her enemies, sending them flying in all directions.

Diana sensed the shift in energy and knew that Aiden was in trouble. She immediately searched for Aiden, who was deep inside the barrier. He was fighting against Kale, who was far from an ordinary werewolf. She

could see the wounds on Aiden, and while they didn't look serious, his body swayed irregularly. Something was wrong. She watched as Kale rolled away from Aiden and prepared to strike him. But before he could retaliate, Diana leaped in front of her mate and slammed her paw into Kale's face, sending him tumbling backwards. She stood in front of Aiden protectively baring her teeth.

Diana, there is something weird about his spikes. Don't let them cut you. Aiden's warning rang in Diana's mind as she braced herself for the next attack. She could feel the strange energy emanating from Kale's spikes, and she knew that she needed to be careful. She watched as Kale slowly got to his feet, his eyes locked onto hers. She knew that she couldn't let her guard down for even a second. Kale charged at her, his spikes glowing with an eerie light. Diana met him head-on, her claws slashing through the air with deadly precision. The two clashed in a

flurry of fur and teeth, neither able to gain the upper hand.

Diana could feel the surge of energy coursing through her body, and she knew that she needed to end this quickly. While they were locked close together, the light in the area began to rise and bend into sharp glowing blades. Blood stained her fur as the blades surged into the spiked wolf. His howls of pain echoed into the air as he rolled away helplessly.

Diana watched as Kale writhed in agony, the light blades still pulsing with energy. She knew that she had to finish him off before he could recover. She charged towards him, her body moving with lightning speed. She was completely fixated on killing the disgusting Alpha of the Children of the Moon. The man who was responsible for all the mental and physical abuse the pack was subjected to. A man who raped and tortured women for

fun. She was going to kill him, and there was nothing that could stop her.

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“You fvcking bitch.” Aken grunted out loudly, a pained expression reached his face as a glowing blue hand dug into Eris.

“Aken!” Levi’s eyes widened in horror as he inspected Aken’s chest. The gaping wound exposed a deep chasm that seemed to have no end. Blood gushed from the open wound, collecting at his feet and creating a sea of scarlet around him. Strange black ooze clung to the outside, quenching any hope of healing or regeneration.

“Don’t worry about me. Focus on her! We can’t leave even a trace of her existence alive.” Aken growled. Levi’s blue eyes looked conflicted as he returned his focus to Eris. Different strands of rope like energy encircled Eris from the other gods. They

were each holding the struggling woman in place.

“Why is she stronger now?” Rogio clenched his teeth as a black whip twisted around her.

“Someone has been feeding her power.” Reapus growled, curling his lips up in disgust. “She reeks of the dead. She has trapped souls inside of her.”

“Fvcking b***h! That was why she kept this pack. She has been farming their souls.” Lycaon snarled as he shook his head in disbelief. “All this time... she has devoured so many souls.”

“She is stronger than she used to be, but not stronger than all of us.” Shiva flung another frosted whip around Eris, constricting it tightly around the woman.

“That’s it. Now focus all your energy on that part. Lycaon... you destroy her head.” Aken grunted as he fought through the pain. Beads

of sweat dripped down his forehead as his forearms trembled slightly.

“AHHHHHHH!” Eris screamed in agony as her venomous eyes raced over everyone.

“It’s all useless! You’ll lose the battle in the end. The demons are the ones who will claim victory. The world will be theirs. You should have switched sides when you had the chance. Fools!” Eris chuckled darkly.

The ground shook violently as Eris struggled against the combined forces of the gods.

“This is nothing!” She screamed at the top of her lungs, her voice echoing across the desolate plain. “You’ll be the ones hunted soon. You will be the ones hiding. Too afraid to lift a finger, so instead you’ll watch the world be swallowed up. I saw it. And when I saw how you all vanished... every one of you... you were all cowards. You all stayed hidden waiting for one of Selene’s heroes to save the world. Only it never happens. It’s

already too late. They are coming. And the demons have already won.”

“Shut up, Eris.” Lycaon’s dark eyes glared at the woman whose head suddenly imploded. The energy from the other deities tore the rest of her apart. Within seconds, her whole body evaporated into nothingness.

“Man, she talked too much.” Aken gasped as he collapsed to the ground. Levi knelt beside him, grabbing his hand.

“Don’t you do it. Don’t you dare leave my daughter alone.” Levi growled as Aken chuckled.

“How could I ever leave her alone? I just need to rest.” He said, closing his eyes.

“I can’t... who... who can help him...” Levi muttered in a quick frantic breath.

The earth shook and trembled violently beneath as an echoing chorus of monstrous roars reverberated through the air, rising in

a crescendo that seemed to split the heavens above.

“What in the hell...” Reapus said, looking over.

“Hell is right. Those are damn hell hounds. This b***h was in cohorts with the demon king... there is no other explanation.” Shiva hissed as Lycaon went to race towards them. He hit the invisible barrier again and cursed.

“They can’t win against them.” Gaia whispered.

“Can your death god handle this?” Rogio asked as Reapus shook his head.

“If it was in the spirit realm, yes. He shouldn’t even be able to shift as Anubis here. He is already only at half strength, and he is too new with his powers. He can take one... but not more than that. They have to get out of the barrier.” Reapus began to pace side to side. If only the barrier wasn’t there.

—

Diana! Aiden moved in front of her protectively as Kale sprinted towards the hell hounds in retreat. Those are hell hounds. My family has fought against them before... we are no match for them.

Clover, can you manipulate them? Diana glanced over as more wolves charged in towards them. It looked like they were determined to keep them inside of the barrier.

No, I was trying, but they feel like they've been charmed or protected. We need to pull back. There are three of them... that is too much for Sion.

Diana looked over at their party. They were all okay, but they were weakened. Maybe if they were at full strength, they could fight against one of the hell hounds, but not three. During the fighting, they were driven deeper into the barrier. Maybe they could run out

but not without encountering fights and the hell hounds were coming right for them.

“You guys run! I’ll hold them off.” Sion yelled as he moved to the front.

“They aren’t going to leave you here to fight alone,” Novalie said as she brought her frosted leaves in the air. “And neither will I. I won’t back down no matter what. I promise, I won’t give you a hard time as a soul to collect.”

A loud screeching sound ripped through the sky. Everyone froze and looked up as a shadow swooped over them. A blue dragon roared angrily as a figure jumped off of the body. A large, colossal man with rich dark hair landed in front of them with a thud. He turned around and smirked.

“Look at all the fun you are having without me.”

Aiden wagged his tail as he stared at the man. MICAH!

The Lycan Princess Chapter 34

The blue dragon shifted as she landed, gliding to the ground on a sheet of ice.

“Aken!” Alexis cried as she rushed to his other side.

“Did anyone else know Aken’s mate was that attractive?” Rogio asked, as Aken groaned angrily.

“I’m not dead yet so watch yourself.” He lifted his heavy lids to look at his beautiful mate.

Levi sighed and then looked up at Rogio.

“And I am far from dead, so I’d be careful when talking about my daughter.”

“I’m far from dead too.” Aken said in a weak voice as he grabbed Alexis’ hand. “What are you doing here?”

“Aken look at you.” Alexis’ voice quivered as she looked at his gaping wound that refused

to heal. “The moment I felt my magic react with you I had to find you. I never imagined though...” Her voice cracked as she moved her free hand near his wound. “Daddy?” She looked up at her father with pleading eyes.

“Lex, I’m going to be okay. I’ll heal. I’m the Kraken... it will take more than this to take me out.”

Levi looked at his daughter and could see the pain in her eyes. He felt helpless to soothe her pain, refusing to accept that he had no answer this time. His thoughts raced for a way out but only desperation remained, like a gaping void that threatened to swallow them both. He shook his head slowly, “I don’t know... maybe Endymion could heal this? I don’t know how to get in contact with him though.”

“Can your mate heal him?” Gaia asked, thinking about how Endymion linked his powers with the fairy’s.

“I don’t know...” Levi shook his head. This was not the type of wound his mate had ever seen before. It was not a normal wound but one that had a dark presence willing it.

“Kali could handle this but she isn’t accessible anymore either.” Reapus muttered as he glanced up at Lycaon. Lycaon was staring at the barrier, watching the battle unfold within.

“I don’t get it.” Shiva clicked her tongue as she hovered over Alexis to look at the wound. “Eris is gone, so this shouldn’t still be active, right?”

“That bitch...” Aken coughed as blood splattered from his lips. “She’s attached her essence to the wound.”

“So we have to kill you to kill her?” Rogio said with a smirk.

“You would die before you ever laid a finger on him.” Alexis glared venomously at Rogio, her blue eyes darkening to midnight as she

scrutinized him. Her expression contorted with rage and malice, a cruel glint blazing in her eyes like an animal ready to attack.

“What was that?” Rogio asked as he pointed at Alexis. “Your eyes turned black and I don’t mean just getting darker.”

“Lex?” Levi said as he studied her face. He had seen those eyes before and he felt his insides restrict as he noticed the shades of her eyes changing.

“I’m not going to lose him...” Alexis’ voice seemed to change as Aken squeezed her hand.

“Lex, don’t. I will win... I can fight this.” Aken watched as she smiled at him.

“But you don’t have to fight this alone.” She said as her eyes were encompassed by darkness.

—

“What the heck happened to you? Do you need to sit this one out?” Micah beamed at Aiden, who growled at him in response. He then glanced around looking at the others. The hellhounds stopped their approach and were holding their position while they eyed up Micah. “I see we have some new guests at the show.”

“Who are you?” Sion said (in his Anubis form).

Micah’s eyes widened as his lips parted. “He talks... in that form. He is like Goofy, a real life Goofy. He is standing on two legs and everything. You almost have a sophisticated air about you... like you should be joining someone for tea and not on the battlefield.”

Sion stared at him blankly and then his lips twitched upwards as he let out a quiet chuckle. “Well, your sense of humor might be weak but I can sense you are strong...”

“Micah.” He grinned.

“Micah, I can sense you are strong, but I can’t tell exactly what you are.” Sion said as Micah turned back to look at the hellhounds.

“That’s funny because I don’t know what you are either.”

“We can play twenty questions later.” Sion said as he watched the hounds slowly begin to part to the side. Several giant monsters came into view. They had red skin, gray horns and tusks... they were onis. Some of the foulest creatures in the demon realm. The hellhounds were letting them come through first. As the first wave.

“Can you handle the stinky’s?” Micah asked as he eyed Sion. “I’ve got the hounds.”

“There are three of them,” Sion said as Micah smirked.

“I can count.” He said as he rolled his shoulders. “They are just puppies who need to be broken.” An orange glow began to pulsate from his body.

Aiden moved up next to Micah's side. His eyes scanned out looking for Kale. Micah looked down at him with concerned eyes.

“Be careful little cuz.” Micah said as Diana moved next to Aiden's side. He eyed the white lycan for a moment before he looked back at the hellhounds. He was happy to see that Aiden's mate was finally receptive to him. Though they had heard things were going well it was nice to see the two of them together. “We will have to all hang out soon. I need to introduce you to my Brandy. Maybe we can all meet up in Elysium with Lucy and Destiny too.” For once, it would be nice to all hang out without some weird impending battle bringing them all together. The oni's began to race towards them and Sion sprinted forward to meet them. Black wisps of energy shot out from him as he confronted the creatures head on.

Micah stepped forward and instantly paused. He glanced over to the side, looking out to

where Alexis was. His lips pursed together and he frowned. He could feel Alexis' distress and he wanted to go to her.

Lex

Help them, Micah. There is a crystal located in there somewhere. Find it and destroy it.

He clenched his jaw tightly as he looked at the hellhounds. "Be on the lookout for a crystal here. It needs to be destroyed."

Micah's orange glow pulsed from his body as he sprinted towards the hellhounds. In a sudden burst of rage, he brought his fist crashing down upon one of them with all the force he could muster. A thunderous roar emitted from his throat as he shifted into a monstrous bear, towering high above the hellhounds who growled at him viciously.

Let's go. We can't let Kale get away. Aiden linked to Diana who nodded her head. Kale seemed to have siphoned some of his strength from him but it was a mistake he

wasn't going to let happen again. He was more than just a lycan even if he hadn't tapped into his other strengths yet.... they were there.

Jamie and Kurt charged ahead, their hearts pounding with the adrenaline of battle. They were determined to keep their leaders safe no matter the cost. From the side, a pack of snarling wolves emerged, baring their razor-sharp teeth. Clover's wolf let out a blood-curdling howl and led a fierce attack, along with her companions. The loud, panicked cries of their adversaries bounced off the trees and through the dense undergrowth as their wolves growled ferociously, their hackles raised and eyes trained on their enemies.

Novalie raced next to Jamie as she tossed her frozen leaves at the demon wolves. This was when another group of wolves came crashing into them.

Keep going, we can handle this. Kurt linked to Aiden as he sank his fangs into one of the wolves. His jaws clenched until the loud cracking sound of its neck was heard. Blood pooled down to the ground as he tossed the limp wolf to the side to go after another.

Aiden nodded in response to Kurt's message, his eyes fixed ahead as he charged towards Kale with Diana at his side. As they drew closer, Kale's dark aura intensified, sending waves of malevolent energy rippling through the forest. In one swift motion, he lunged at Kale, his claws extended and gleaming in the light. Diana followed suit, her own claws slashing at the air as she leaped towards Kale.

At the last second, Kale turned his aggression to Diana. He ripped his fangs into her, soaking her white coat red. Something changed in Aiden at the moment. With a murderous growl he dove into Kale.

Kale snarled and bared his teeth, but Aiden was too quick for him. With a fierce roar, he plunged his claws deep into Kale's chest, ripping through flesh and bone like paper. Kale let out a guttural cry of pain, but Aiden didn't stop there. He bellowed a harsh howl of rage as he set upon Kale with frenzied anger. His jaw clamped around the wolf's throat like a vice, squeezing mercilessly until Kale's eyes bulged in terror. With a roar of triumph, he ripped through Kale's flesh and bones, relentless in his determination to obliterate him from existence.

Diana watched as Aiden began to mercilessly shred Kale apart. His blood was scattering everywhere along with pieces of Kale's wolf. Even after it was clear he was dead, Aiden's assault continued. Blinded by an unquenchable fury, he charged ahead with reckless abandon. The silver snout that once glimmered in the light was now caked in a thick layer of crimson blood, and the silver fur bristled with ferocity.

Diana had never seen Aiden like this before. She knew that the lycan within him was capable of unspeakable violence, but the level of savagery he was exhibiting now was beyond anything she had ever witnessed. She was shocked, afraid, and yet, strangely aroused. She knew that it was wrong, that she shouldn't be feeling this way at a time like this, but she couldn't help it. It was as if this was the part her beast knew and claimed.

Aiden Diana approached Aiden, who froze hearing her voice. With a savage snarl, Aiden finally stepped back from Kale's lifeless body, his fur drenched with blood and gore. He turned his head to look at Diana. She watched as the light flickered back in his eyes.

Diana... are you okay?

I'm fine. She giggled as she looked over at the mutilated body.

I'm sorry... I hoped you'd never see this side of me.

I'm not. Diana looked at him and wagged her tail. I'm ashamed to admit that it turned me on to see you like that. She watched as his tail slowly wagged and she stepped closer to him.

I'm starving for a feast I can't have yet. Aiden growled as he turned his head to look around. The other wolves were all but defeated. Sion had destroyed the onis and Micah had shifted back from his bear form to finish off the last hellhound.

Micah's fist swung through the air towards the hellhound as he sang loudly. "He came in like a WRECKING BALL!" His fist collided with the hellhound, sending him crashing into the ground. His iron-like fist collided with the beast again, crushing its body. He stared at its lifeless corpse for a moment before he turned around. He threw his hands

up and yelled, “Are you not entertained?!” Then his eyes darted back across the barrier.

Micah stepped forward and instantly paused. He glanced over to the side, looking out to where Alexis was. His lips pursed together and he frowned. He could feel Alexis’ distress and he wanted to go to her.

“Has anyone found that crystal?” Micah asked as Clover shifted back to her human self and walked into view.

“I think this is it.” Clover said, holding up a dark green glowing crystal.

Sion shifted back to his human form and walked over to Clover. He looked her body over and pulled her close to his side. He grabbed the crystal and tossed it over to Micah. “It’s all yours.”

—

“Lex, what are you doing?” Levi asked cautiously. He didn’t know what to make of

her darkened eyes but she lifted her face up to him to reveal a soft smile.

“Don’t worry daddy. This is part of me now, but I am in control. There is another power that has been actively growing. I feel like it is growing with the dark fairies that enter Elysium, but I remain in control. I think I can help him with it.” Alexis felt her heart pounding as Aken’s iron grip engulfed both of her hands, and pressed them firmly against his chest. He brought her low enough so that her face was near his. His hot breath on hers sent a fire surging through her veins, and the heat radiating from his body seemed to suck the air from her lungs.

A soft chuckle left his lips and he opened his eyes to look at Alexis. “Do I really look that grim? Baby, you don’t need to be worried. I am sorry I am worrying you.” His lips brushed against hers delicately. “I love that you want to help me but—” He exhaled slowly as his aura rose around him. The

rocks trembled on the ground and the leaves swayed in the breeze. The gaping wound on his chest seemed to swell in the darkness, seeping away into the shadows before slowly closing up.

“I just needed a moment to catch my breath. I told you all I was fine.” Aken said as he sat up, embracing Alexis in his arms. He inhaled her scent and buried his nose in her hair. “I feel much better now.”

“Aken... you—” Rogio stood there with his mouth open as he glanced up at Reapus.

“He most certainly did and now he is stronger.” Reapus smirked and stepped over to Shiva so that he could wrap his arm around her.

“What did you do?” Alexis asked, her face resting against his chest.

“He absorbed her essence.” Levi stood to his feet and glanced towards the barrier. “But he released the souls.” A smile formed on his

face. The souls Eris absorbed were still in her essence but the moment Aken took it in he claimed it as his own. Instantly, in that moment, he released the souls that she had claimed.

“Yeah he did...” Reapus sighed as he looked around. “Looks like a job for Anubis. Ouch!” He said as Shiva swatted him.

“I think you can handle this one. He has done enough for today.” Shiva clicked her tongue as Reapus laughed.

“What? That in there? He’s fine.” He looked at his blue-haired beauty and then sighed. “Fine, I’ll send these ones along.”

“Ike.” Gaia said, stepping up behind him. Lycaon’s gaze was fixated in the direction of where Diana was. A rippling gust of energy burst through sending the trees back and forth violently. In that second, Lycaon disappeared as he headed to where Diana was.

“Micah broke the crystal.” Alexis smiled as she glanced over at the women she didn’t know.

“Gaia...” Shiva said quietly. The woman turned her head slightly as her golden eyes met with Shiva’s.

“He is blind...” Rogio sighed in agitation as he pursed his lips.

“He doesn’t even know I exist.” Gaia chuckled quietly as she lifted her head up to the sky.

Alexis curled her fingers in Aken’s shirt as she stared at the woman. She recognized her pain and she remembered that feeling all too well. It wasn’t that long ago when she used to stare out into the darkness wondering if Aken cared about her. Though this was a bit different, she still understood her pain.

“She was all he had when he was about to lose himself. He convinced himself that he needed her. He is attached to Diana and

loves her but I think even he can recognize it isn't that type of love. He didn't know that before but I think he can see it now." Reapus watched as Gaia nodded her head slowly.

"Perhaps, but—" She turned her head to look at all of them. "It's obvious to all of you. I doubt it has escaped him. He just isn't interested..." A small smile rested on her face. "I guess I was desperate to see him again after all this time. You know he didn't let anyone come near when he had the princess sealed. I just wanted to see him now. I just want him to be happy. It's okay. Really, it is."

"I'm interested," Rogio said, and she began to laugh.

"No thanks. I am not interested in being part of your harem. We all know the life you like to live." Gaia laughed, shaking her head. "I'm not into sharing."

“Ouch, yeah I’m not a one woman man. Sorry G.” Rogio listened as Aken snorted.

“That’s because he is afraid he can’t please one woman entirely. He would hate it when she went to someone else to be fully satisfied.” He grinned widely as Rogio growled.

“Aken...” Alexis scolded quietly. “It is different when you are joking around and teasing Micah but—”

Aken chuckled as he let her hair tickle his nose. “I’ll behave.”

“Well... I’ll be damned. So the Kraken has been tamed.” Rogio rubbed the back of his neck. “She is good for you, Aken.”

“I know it. She is the best part of me.”

The Lycan Princess Chapter 35

Diana stood next to Aiden as the group gathered together.

“We need to search the area well and see who can be saved and—” Diana nodded her head slowly and everyone knew what she meant. A flash of red hair suddenly appeared in front of her.

“Ike!” Diana yelled happily as she ran over to him. He patted her head with a small smile resting on his lips.

“I guess I should have just planned to stay with you the whole time.” Lycaon chuckled. “Eris has been destroyed. You are no longer in any danger from her.”

“Ike, my dude! How’s it hanging... you guys should really see—” Jamie turned to look at Conner and Kai wiggling his eyebrows.

“Jamie, you’ve got to let it go.” Kurt said as Micah chuckled.

“All I’m going to say is you haven’t seen anything until you’ve seen what the Kraken has dangling between his legs. I’m sure this guy knows what I am talking about.” Micah

winked at Lycaon, who cleared his throat.
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“Let’s divide up and search for the other pack members. I am sure many of them are afraid. Clover, if you aren’t too tired maybe you can help keep them calm.” Diana watched as Clover nodded her head happily.

“I have plenty of energy left. Guys remember that those we are dealing with have a lot of mental trauma. They may not be too trusting.” Clover looked up at Sion, who nodded his head.

“I’m staying with you,” Sion said as he glanced up at a large building in the distance. “Clover and I will head there first. That is probably the main house where the Alpha kept his... women.”

“I know Colleen’s scent the best. I am going to search for her family. I’m pretty certain I killed her brother... or maybe her father? It was someone who had a similar scent.” Kurt

then began to walk towards the houses, lifting his nose in the air.

“Ike, you aren’t leaving yet, right?” Diana asked, and he shook his head.

“Go do what you need to. I’m going to have a look around. Eris may have been into much darker things here. We are certain she kept this pack just so she could harvest their souls. They were a constant power boost to her. The way the onis and hellhounds came out means she was working with demons heavily.” Lycaon looked around as his eyes scanned the buildings. “She was here for so long. I need to see what else she was into. Be careful as you look around.” Lycaon looked at Diana for a moment as she walked away with Aiden. He was relieved to see she was unharmed. Surprisingly, the weird jealousy seemed to have faded. He thought seeing her next to Aiden would make his blood boil, but it didn’t. He hated to admit it, but maybe he was depending on being around Diana for

himself. He loved her and he thought he wanted her to want him. Or maybe he just wanted her to choose him? Because the more he thought about it... he didn't want her romantically.

It was something Reapus said to him while they were looking for Eris that made him take pause. Reapus asked him how badly he wanted her. He asked how much he craved her intimately. Lycaon didn't answer him, but the thought had been on his mind ever since. He wanted to hold her close and keep her safe. He wanted to make sure she was happy, and he thought he wanted her to be happy with him. To look at him like she looks at Aiden. However, the idea of being in an intimate relationship was not on his mind. He loved Diana, but he had to admit it was not romantic. He wanted to hold on to her tightly because he was leaning on her. He let his sanity rest completely on watching over her.

She was awake now. She was happy with her mate and Eris was destroyed. He now had some soul searching to do. He would always be there for Diana and her family. He just needed to rediscover himself now. So much time had passed, and it was like he was frozen in time with Diana. He had to relearn the world and himself.

Kurt wandered into a house that had weird cables hooked on to the ceiling. The silver cables seemed to travel through the house. A sound below him drew his attention to the basement. He walked down the stairs quietly as he followed the sounds. There was a wide-open room and then a door off to the side. Where there were more cables that were attached to the ceiling.

He walked to the door and opened it. He saw several children all huddled close to a woman who was chained to the wall. Silver

cuffs burned her skin as her wide eyes stared at him.

“Please... don’t hurt my children.” She stammered out.

“I won’t hurt you. I am here to help you. My name is Kurt and I think you might be related to my mate... Colleen.” He watched as the woman’s eyes looked at him cautiously. “Colleen lives with me in the Diamond pack.” He walked over to the wall and gripped the chains above the woman who flinched at his movements. One of his powers was that he could disintegrate silver. It was something his mother and grandmother could do. A selkie gift in his family. Within seconds, the chains melted off of the woman. He took a step back as she leaned down to hold her children.

“You are safe now.”

“But the Alpha—”

“Is dead... and so are many of the warriors in this pack. Judging by the scent... your mate was also killed.” Kurt watched as the woman sighed in relief. Her hands trembled as she leaned her head down.

“Thank the gods... is it really over?” She muttered quietly.

“We are gathering the survivors together. We would like to talk to who remains on what you wish to do. If you want to remain in your pack here, or come to the Diamond pack. We can help you and will help you all heal.” Kurt then looked at the children. “Hey there kiddos. I’m your Uncle Kurt.” The kids quickly shifted their gaze away as soon as he looked at them.

A sad smile reached his lips as he looked at the terrified children. What atrocities had they been subjected to? They were accustomed to watching their mother bound in chains all their lives. The psychological damage was so severe it would take time for

them to be healed. The kids were young, but with a strong support system, they could rise above the trauma and live a life of peace and joy.

Kurt kneeled down to their level, slowly reaching out a comforting hand towards them. To his surprise, the youngest child, a little girl with big brown eyes, reached out to grab his hand.

“Uncle Kurt?” she whispered, her voice small and timid.

“Yes, sweetie?” he replied gently, giving her hand a soft squeeze.

“Are you going to take us away from here?” she asked, her eyes filling with tears.

Kurt’s heart broke at the sight of the tears welling up in her eyes. “Yes, if that is what everyone wants. We won’t take you away if you don’t want to leave, but we can guarantee your safety and help you heal. Would you like that?”

The little girl nodded slowly, clinging onto Kurt's hand as if he was the only source of comfort in her life.

Kurt smiled softly at her. "Then let's get you and your family out of here. You're safe now," he said softly, as the little girl took a timid step towards him. He gently lifted her up and hugged her closely. "What is your name?"

"Effy." The little girl glanced back at her mother.

"She was given the letter F as her name by her father since she was not a son. I call her Effy." The woman's eyes were sad as she cast her eyes downward.

"What is your name?" Kurt asked, looking at the woman.

"Minnow. My mother called me Minnie. My mother changed our names when our father wasn't around. Colleen's name was Cull. My father had wanted to kill her when she was

born but the Alpha wouldn't allow it. He said we needed females.”

Kurt felt his insides rage as he held his composure. He didn't want to scare them more than they already were. He took a deep breath to calm himself and looked at Minnie with compassion. “I'm sorry for what you've been through. But you don't have to be afraid anymore. We'll take care of you and your family.”

Minnow looked at Kurt with a glimmer of hope in her eyes.

“Thank you.”

Kurt nodded and slowly made his way towards the door, holding Effy in his arms and motioning for Minnow and the children to follow. As they walked up the stairs, Kurt couldn't help but think about the horrors that had taken place in this house. The twisted minds that had orchestrated such atrocities were beyond his comprehension.

He stepped out into the sunlight and watched as Minnie's eyes watered as she stared at the sun.

"I haven't been outside... in so long." She whispered, looking up at the clouds.

Several pack members had been gathered. Conner was waiting there with them while the others were still out searching through houses.

"Don't do it. Look, I'm leaving. I don't mean any harm." Jamie said as he backed out of a house with his hands up. Novalie was right behind him.

"Impure! Mutts! Infidels! You are unworthy!" A woman screamed.

"Please, we are not here to hurt you." Novalie said in a calming voice as the woman stepped out.

"And you'll never get the chance! Remember who we are!" The woman screamed as she

looked at the other pack members. “We are the pure chosen children!” She yelled as she plunged a silver dagger deep into her heart. She collapsed instantly as Novalie screamed. Jamie rushed up to the woman as his face twisted in pain.

“Damnit.” He cursed between clenched teeth. Behind the door a toddler waddled outside. He was barely walking. Novalie quickly scooped the child up and took him away from the scene of his dead mother.

“Some won’t allow themselves to be saved,” Minnie said calmly. “They have been brainwashed to this way of life. I might have been bound and chained... but I never stopped fighting. I want better for my children and for myself.” Kurt watched as a tear trickled down her face as she held her children’s hands. Her face looked determined as she looked up at the sun. “Whatever this pack decides... I am leaving with my children. Can I live where Colleen

is? I haven't seen my younger sister in... a very long time."

"Yes, you can come with us. You can meet your nephew, Sully. He is just a baby but the cutest little guy."

"You have a son together?" Minnie asked, looking at him with a smile.

Kurt paused and smiled. "Sully is my son even if he isn't my blood."

Minnie nodded her head as she looked at Kurt. "I'm glad my sister found someone to take care of her. Thank you for that."

"Your sister is my everything. There is no thanks necessary."

—

"I tried... I know I was helping their mood and fears... so why—"

"Clover, don't do this to yourself." Sion lifted her in his arms, cradling her to his chest as

they walked out of the large house. They were all dead. Every single one of them. They took their lives instantaneously. As if it was rehearsed and planned. Clover was talking with them, and it looked like it was going over well. Then in an instant they all stabbed themselves in the heart. Every one of them at the same time. There was nothing that they could do. "This was their choice." He said, glancing back at their souls that now remained there in shock.

"Wait." One of the souls called out, making Sion pause. He turned his head to see one of the souls staring down a hallway. "The children... please take care of our children. They are locked in the room below this hall."

"Clover... down this hall search for a door that leads downstairs. The children are there." Sion said quietly as his mate instantly hopped out of his embrace to sprint down the hall. Sion stared at the souls as he let out a sigh. "Why did you do it?"

“We didn’t have a choice. It was as if we were being controlled.” One of the souls said. Sion furrowed his brows together as he thought about this. Clover should have seen it if that was the case. She can sense those types of auras.

“Sion, I found them.” Clover yelled.

“I’d like to speak with you some more before I send your souls along—”

“I’ll handle this one.” Reapus said as he suddenly appeared with Shiva. “Shiva—”

“Already on it.” She said as she froze the bodies, encapsulating every part of them in ice.

“Clover didn’t sense anything strange—” Sion began as Shiva shook her head.

“She wouldn’t. Not yet at least... but she will be able to detect things like this in time. This is a different case, it isn’t the work of nembrant glass.” Shiva looked down the hall.

“There are a lot of children there. Your mate needs your help guiding them out. Reapus and I will clean this up.”

“I’ll discuss this with you later.” Reapus said, as Sion nodded his head, leaving to go to Clover.

“I’ll teleport their bodies out of here, so the children don’t see them.” Shiva whispered as she vanished along with every trace of blood and the bodies.

“So, Eris wasn’t acting alone. She was using him.” Rogio said, suddenly appearing above Reapus.

Suddenly, bodies appeared around the room as the rest of the deities arrived, along with Shiva who returned. Aken stood there holding Alexis next to him protectively.

“I’ll kill it.” Aken shrugged as Levi sighed.

“You can’t do that to it. Besides, that would really upset the others.” Levi snapped, as Aken snorted.

“See that’s the difference between all of you and me. I’m not afraid to piss off anyone to do what needs to be done.” Aken turned his head sharply to look at Levi.

“Aken.” Alexis placed her hand over his arm as she looked out at the others. “Does this mean whatever did this has a deity behind them? Someone you aren’t willing to upset?”

“Not deity... deities.” Levi looked at his daughter with a small frown.

“It’s complicated.” Gaia whispered. “The creature isn’t bad...”

“But it isn’t good either.” Lycaon pursed his lips together as he lifted up a small sack.

“Looks like they were bribing it with gems.”

“I’m confused.” Alexis looked up at Aken, who smiled down at her sadly.

“Think of hypnosis. You don’t even realize you are hypnotized, but something triggers the response. They were triggered to respond to the news of their Alpha’s death by killing themselves. That creature shouldn’t exist.” Aken listened as Shiva clicked her tongue.

“It doesn’t mean any harm. It was being used.” Shiva snapped out angrily.

“How many just killed themselves because of it? Yeah... it’s harmless.” Aken scoffed.

“Alexis, the Mimic is like a child. An intelligent creature with the mind of a little kid. It isn’t evil and it isn’t good. It just is. He loves gems and pretty stones. I call him Raven because that is what he reminds me of. He was bribed to put those thoughts in their minds, but he didn’t mean any harm. He just wanted the gems.” Shiva looked at Alexis, who shook her head in confusion.

“So why does the Mimic have a connection to the deities?”

“Raven is a discarded child of the deities. He isn’t a demigod. He is the product of two gods. He just needs someone to take care of him, but he vanished a long time ago. I was going to take him in... but then things happened, and I left. When I went searching for him later, he was gone.” Shiva shook her head as she looked around.

Clover and Sion came down the hallway escorting a dozen children with them. She was holding two toddlers in her arms while Sion was carrying another.

“Raven would only look like one of those small children.” Shiva frowned as she nodded in their direction.

Alexis gasped and then turned, swatting at Aken. “He’s only a little child.”

“My love, that little child can be dangerous. He might look like a child, but he is very old.”

“He just needs to be looked after.” She hissed as he chuckled, nodding his head.

“Alright my love. I am sorry.”

“Did anyone record that? I just heard the Kraken apologize.” Rogio grinned as he looked over at Aken.

“I’m going to find him and when I do, he will live with me.” Shiva said as Reapus stepped next to her.

“Us. You mean he will live with us.” He smiled at her as she nodded her head.

“We just have to find him.” She whispered as she looked at the timid children walking into the room.

“Well... I don’t think he vanished. There is a good chance the demons have him.” Rogio

said and instantly clamped his mouth shut seeing the pained look in Shiva's eyes.

Alexis left Aken's side to walk up to the little children. "Hi little ones."

"Where is momma?" A little boy asked with big tears of fear trickling down his cheek.

"Your mommas had to go away. I know it isn't the same, but you'll be taken care of." Alexis could see the distress in their eyes. It was odd. These children were the Alpha's children. She would have thought that out of all the children they would have been treated the best.

"Do we have to give our lives to the Luna there for food too?" A little boy asked as Alexis gasped.

"The Diamond Luna would sometimes eat one of us. She said we would live on inside of her." An older girl said.

“Never. You are not food to be eaten. You will be loved and safe.” Alexis watched as the children blinked at her quietly.

“Lex!” Aiden said as she turned smiling.

“And this guy right here will be your Alpha. He is a pretty incredible guy.” She said as she walked over to him. She wrapped her arms around him as he lifted her up.

“You and Micah showed up just in time.” Aiden said as he sat her down gently. “We were coming to find you. Everyone who remains wishes to come to the Diamond pack.” He said, looking at Sion and Clover as Diana walked in with Micah. Micah was holding a child by his shoulders. He was snarling and growling, looking completely feral.

“I found this one in a hole. It looks like they just lowered food to him. He doesn’t talk... but he does bite.” Micah chuckled.

“Clover, we thought you could communicate with him.” Diana said as she took one of the toddlers out of Clover’s arms.

“Yes, I’ll try my best. Sion, take him so we can go someplace quiet.”

Sion handed the child he was holding over to Alexis and then proceeded over to the aggressive child. “Easy there. We aren’t going to hurt you.” He took the child in his arms and felt the pink ribbons inside of him move over the child. At that moment, the child’s body seemed to relax.

Alexis watched the two until they left and then turned to look at Diana. “We haven’t gotten to know each other but let’s plan something fun. Maybe a party at the Diamond pack?”

“I would like that,” Diana said quietly, as she looked at the child in her arms. He was still in diapers and would most likely not remember anything from the Children of the

Moon. These children would need good understanding families to bring them into their homes. Luckily, there was an abundance of families at the Diamond pack who would do just that.

“What a crew,” Aiden said as he looked at all the children. “They are siblings, so they should remain together.”

“That’s a lot for a family to take on suddenly.” Diana whispered as Aiden nodded his head.

“It is, but I think there might be some families willing to take on a family of this size. I want them to go into families. We don’t have an orphanage at the Diamond pack anymore. We decided that all children found would become part of one of our families.” Aiden listened as Alexis hummed in approval.

“That’s for the best. I think an orphanage would only make them feel like an outsider.

On the other hand, with so many of them and after what they have been through, they will need extra attention. Two parents may not be enough.” Suddenly Alexis smiled. “But two parents and grandparents would do the trick.”

“That is exactly what I was thinking. We have a few families that live in big houses with their parents. One of them was never able to have children. I know they have enough love to give all of them.” Aiden said as a tight high-pitched whistle came from his mouth. A fairy messenger zipped into the room, and he began to give his message to it.

During that moment, Diana walked over to Lycaon. She reached to her tiptoes and whispered into his ear.

He let out a low chuckle, shaking his head as he began to process what he had just been told. His index and middle finger massaged the space between his eyebrows.

“Yeah... I know.” He looked at her confused face and smiled. “I know these things.” He then nodded to Shiva and instantly a golden scepter appeared in his hands. He slowly lowered it and handed it to Diana. “I know this holds a lot of memories for you, but I hope mostly fond ones. I made some adjustments to it so that it can never be used for evil again. I promise I will visit often but if you ever need me... use the scepter to call me.” He watched as her silver eyes watered up as she pursed her lips together in a tight smile.

“Thank you, Ike.” She whispered as Aiden came to her side. “This was my parents’.” She held it out to show him as Lycaon cleared his throat. She looked up at him as he motioned over to Aiden.

“What is it?” Aiden asked as Diana smiled at him.

“Okay, I was going to tell you, but your mother told me not to.” Diana chewed on her lips and then shrugged. “I’m pregnant.”

Aiden stood there quietly with his mouth slightly agape. He then shook his head with a chuckle and wrapped his arms around Diana. “We don’t have to keep all of the traditions; some are meant to be broken.” He laughed as he looked over at Levi, who nodded his head in agreement.

“Are you mad?” Diana whispered as Aiden brushed his lips over her forehead.

“No, I am so full I could burst with happiness. Thank you... for sharing your life with me.” Aiden leaned down and kissed Diana deeply, pouring every ounce of love he had for her into the kiss. He pulled apart and gazed into her sweet silver eyes. “Let’s go home.”