

Chapter 101

Skylar

“I didn’t know I could,” I even surprised myself. My heart is still pounding like a drum as I look at my hands. The light is warm, pulsating with an energy that makes my skin tingle-it feels alive. Behind us. I hear a glass shatter and when I whirl around, my mom is standing there, gaping at us.

“You guys just...appeared out of nowhere.” Irma laughs

“Sorry. Mom Skylar’s Fiat just isn’t cool enough. Did we frighten you?”

“Never mind that,” she says, nodding at Lucas “Why is he unconscious? Did something happen?”

Irma and I exchange a look, unsure what to tell our mom. We don’t want her to freak out, but how could you possibly explain what just happened? In the end. Jaiden is the one who explains the situation, “Shadow Lycans attacked us, and umm...in order to defeat them. Lucas had to shape-shift into a dragon. But he sort of lost control and killed two of Alpha Max’s pack members

on their own territory, and now Alpha Max has issued an order to kill him.”

My mom gasps. “This is bad!”

Irma snorts. “No shit_”

“This isn’t the time to be joking around!” my mom snaps at her before sighing and picking up her phone. “I’m calling Xavier. We need him to open a portal back to Haven for his son before Alpha Max’s pack murders us all.” I glance down at Lucas.

His long eyelashes cast shadows on his cheeks, and my heart clenches. I don’t want to be separated from him, but what choice do I have? Alpha Max most likely won’t kill us if we send Lucas back home.

“Oh...” My mom stares down at her phone. “I have an incoming call from...Alpha Max’s family?”

My heart thunders in my chest. Alpha Max’s family? Why would they be calling us? Irma catches my eye, a mix of fear and confusion etched on her face.

“They are not calling us to offer peace.” Jaiden interjects cynically, eying the phone in our mom’s hand like a venomous snake.

“Maybe...maybe there’s a chance we can negotiate,” I find myself saying, hardly daring to believe it. Still, I know there is nothing to gain from ignoring the call. My mom nods resolutely, pressing the accept button.

“Hello?” We all hold our breath as silence shrouds the room. “Yes, this is Lola, Skylar’s mom.” My mom answers stiffly after a pause. Her eyes move to Lucas’ unconscious form. She bites down on her lower lip nervously. “We don’t want any trouble, but we cannot hand over Lucas,” she states firmly. flick towards Jaiden and then fall on me. The responding silence is lengthy and hangs heavy with anticipation. My knuckles are white from hugging Lucas naked, unconscious body to my chest.

“Is that so?” My mom finally breathes out in disbelief. My mom looks at us with wide eyes when she finally disconnects the call. And the words she speaks next send a chill down my spine.

“Alpha Max wants a date,”

“A date?” Irma asks in disbelief. “Does that idiot seriously think I’m still interested in him?”

“He doesn’t want a date with you,” my mom says, her eyes landing on mine. “Alpha Max wants a date with the werewolf that can teleport through time. He wants a date with Skylar, and if she accepts, the Deluxe pack won’t attack us.”

A collective gasp fills the room. All eyes are on me as if I hold all the answers in the world, but I'm honestly just as confused as everybody else. Why me?

"You can't be serious," Jaiden scoffs, his face pale but unshaken
"Skylar's not a bargaining chip!"

"But what if it's the only way to save Lucas?" Irma's voice is soft, hesitant.

"And what if it's a trap?" Jaiden counters immediately, his protective instincts flaring.

"It isn't a trap," my dad suddenly says as he appears around the corner with a thoughtful expression. "I've always suspected Skylar is special, and it looks like Alpha Max has realized just how special. So, no, this isn't a trap. Alpha Max is interested in claiming Skylar as his mate. The question is, are you willing to date the devil?"

Even though I have zero interest in dating Alpha Max or giving him a home filled with pups, I don't want the Deluxe pack to become enemies with the Bloodmoon pack. Sure, the two packs might exist on two different continents, but hostility has a tenacious way of seeping into every crevice, every border, regardless of geographical distance. "I'll do it," I mean those words, even if I'm afraid of where this might lead and mean for my future. "I will go out with Alpha Max."