

## OH FOR MATES SAKE

### Chapter 31 Dobhar



I had never felt so complete in my entire life. I could feel the connection with Sion flowing through me and it was amazing. The loneliness I ALWAYS felt... wasn't there. It was as if he wiped it away. I felt his arms squeezing around me and I opened my eyes to meet with his. His hazel eyes were shining back at me, and he had a content smile on his face.

I wish we could just stay cloaked in the cave. Selfishly, I wish I could just keep him here to myself. I was worried about what was coming next. What if I couldn't help the Chance pack? What would this mean for them? Sion couldn't sit back and watch his pack get manipulated and destroyed. I couldn't see him go through that type of pain. Which meant I had to succeed.

I lifted my hand up tracing my fingers over his cheek. He closed his eyes under my touch and let out a sigh of contentment. He leaned forward, brushing his lips over my forehead.

“I love you.” He whispered out, nestling his nose into my hair. I closed my eyes and tried to absorb this moment. I knew this was the moment we had to leave and go back to the others. I could tell by his reluctant sigh and how his fingers gripped into me he knew this too. “We need to head back.”

There it was, the ending of our magical moment. Sion was right though, there was too much going on. As much as I wanted to live here in his embrace, we couldn't.

I made a small hum in acknowledgement as he rolled out of my arms. He pulled his bottoms on and then I

also reached for my clothing. He grabbed them out of my hand and then kissed the mark on my neck.

“Let me...” He said in his baritone voice. If I thought it was intimate taking clothes off, this was on another level. He slowly slid each clothing article back on, making sure he left sweet delicate kisses on my skin. This was the best way to get dressed.

His hands were now resting on my hips and my hands were sprawled over his bare chest. It was still surreal that this man was mine. Not only was he mine... but he was perfect.

“Sion—” I started to say when the cave pool behind us made a splashing sound. Before I knew it, I was behind Sion, and I heard his menacing heart-stopping snarl echo off the cave walls. My breath caught as I stared at a creature I had never seen before. It was like a large water hound or otter... maybe a mix? It

was about seven-foot-long and was the size of a werewolf. And it had me in its sights.

It let out an eerie high-pitched whistle sound as Sion tried to step more in front of me. Crazy man. As if I would just hide behind his back.

“Clover, stay back.” Sion said in a concerned tone when I tried to step forward. He held his hand out protectively and the creature let out a low insidious growl. I could hear the sound of hooves trumpeting our way and then Demetri leaped into the cave followed by the other three men.

I watched as Demetri let out a sigh of relief and relaxed. “Odell! Knock your s\*\*t off.”

The creature looked at him and then it began to transform. Rich brown hair flowed, and I was soon looking into deep green eyes. It was a beautiful

woman, wearing a tan crop top revealing her mid-section and black shorts.

“Who is he!” The woman shouted and pointed her finger at Sion.

“That is Clover’s mate.” Demetri sighed and rubbed his forehead. “Damn.it Odell, I told you to wait until I returned. I haven’t had time to explain to you yet.”

“What the heck are you?!” Conner snorted as the woman turned a sharp gaze on him.

“This is Odell. She is a dobhar, which is a water hound. They belong to the fairy kingdom and are considered a dark fairy. It is all a bit complicated... but Odell is Clover’s pally. A pally is what most would refer to as a familiar.” Demetri sighed and let out a small groan. He rubbed the back of his neck and clicked his tongue. “It’s complicated, but basically a

deal was made and Odell agreed to watch over Clover. This was when she was just a baby before everything was turned upside down. And when Clover went to the Sulfur pack, Odell remained with me. She could hardly go there with Clover without being killed.”

“Oh... well I don’t need a pally. Odell, you are free to do as you please.” I shrugged and watched a sweet expression reach her face. Something I didn’t know she could make.

“This bond can’t be severed. I’m your best friend for life!” Odell said proudly.

“Honestly, dobhars are vicious creatures. She will make a great protector and you need protection, Clover.” Demetri looked up at Sion, looking for his acceptance over Odell. There was no way Sion was going to allow it.



“I want Clover protected and safe. I won’t deny her



from protecting my mate.” Sion answered and I inwardly groaned. He turned to look at me with a smile that quickly faded. “Of course... I should really talk with Clover over it.” He tried to quickly recover after seeing my face.

“How did you become my pally?” I asked, looking into the woman’s green eyes.

“Your mother chose me to protect you.”

I bit my inner lip and took in a deep breath. My mother. I felt like I couldn’t deny having her around. I didn’t know anything about a pally, but I could always use a friend. In a way, she was a connection to someone I never got to know. I’d like to learn more about dobhars and other types of fairies. Especially now that I know I belong to the fairy kingdom. I have lived my whole life in the pack. While I knew about other supernatural creatures, I rarely saw them.

“Did Demetri tell you about your mother?” Odell asked and I nodded my head.

“Yes, he told me she was like a high priestess. A powerful Sheya.” I watched as Odell shot him an irritated look.

“What is that all about?!” Odell hissed.

“It’s the truth.” Demetri said, defending himself.

“That’s like saying a wolf is a dog.” Odell clicked her tongue as Demetri gave her a look of warning.

“Odell...”

“Forget it, Demetri! Why are you tiptoeing around this?” I watched as Odell stopped and then looked at the officers of the Chance pack. “Oh... I see. You

don't trust them with her secret."

"Now wait a minute... I trust them and—" I started to say, but Demetri shook his head.

"It's not them that I don't trust. The thing is, we don't know if they are completely in the clear. For all we know, one of them could have nembrant glass in their eye and we are being spied upon. Which is why we need to start training your powers immediately. You'll be able to detect it. And I am hoping you... well let's not get ahead of ourselves. First, we train." Demetri looked over at Odell who sighed but kept quiet. I looked up at Sion and then the other three officers. The idea that one of them could be under Dr. Snydes' control was terrifying. I felt Sion's arm wrap around my waist, pulling me into his front.

"She never put anything in my eye or injected my body with anything." Sion rested his head on top of

mine.

“Well you wouldn’t admit it if you were under mind control,” Odell said bluntly, not reading the room. Sion was trying to comfort me, and Odell was completely unaware of that fact.

“How hard is the training? I don’t want her in danger.” I looked up at Sion and his eyes met with mine. “Nothing is more important than you.”

“I would never put her in danger,” Demetri said indignantly. It was quiet for a few moments before Logan finally spoke up.

“So, you are officially our luna now.” Logan said with a smirk as he eyed the mark on my neck. “But what is that?” He then pointed at the star mark on Sion’s temple.

“Oh yeah! I want to see it!” Sion said excitedly, pulling me with him as he rushed to the pool of water. He reached his hand up tracing around it with a big smile on his face.

“That would be her sheya’s mark. Each sheya have their own unique mark they place upon their mate. The mark symbolizes something about them as a sheya.” Demetri said, and I turned to look at him.

“What does a star mark mean?” I asked and watched as Odell curled her lips up folding her arms across her chest. I watched as Demetri nodded his head and sighed.

“We will tell you more soon.” Demetri glared at Odell, who rolled her eyes at him.

“You have a lot of power, Clover. As a sheya, you are born with the power to communicate. You can easily

reach other's minds regardless if they are a pack member or not. As you grow older, more powers will begin to unlock. This starts around the age of 20. Your powers are finally waking up. And in time we will tell you more about yourself. There... happy?!" Odell glared at Demetri, who looked like he was about to bust. "Don't have a cow. I wasn't going to say anything. Just the basics she should know."

"Odell..." Demetri said in a warning tone.

"You have no authority over me, Tree Tree." Odell gave him a poisonous smile and Demetri growled... GROWLED! Seeing a centaur growl with the sound of a wolf was pretty incredible... which had me thinking.

"Is there a wolf in there too?" I asked.

"Well actually..." Demetri said and then cleared his throat. "This is my wolf form. I am not the first mix

between a wolf and a centaur. I am the first to have fur like this but... this isn't my permanent form. This is my shifted form." My lips parted in shock. What just a minute... he shifted into that? Sure enough, right in front of my eyes, he shifted back into a human. He had no shirt on but, thank the heavens, he had shorts on. So wait... a centaur shifter? That's a thing?

"I'm not exactly sure why I turned out like this."

Demetri chuckled as if he read my mind. I am still trying to decide if he can do that. "Usually the wolf is dormant until a shift or they don't get a wolf. I was born looking like a human, so they thought I would just be a wolf shifter. When I first shifted... to say there was a lot of shock would be an understatement. My grandfather, Drake, figured there was more to it. He suspects the moon goddess planned it this way. So that I could have the speed and strength of a centaur but be able to shift and live as a human shifter with you when that time came." His eyes were

on mine. “I’m your beta, Clover. From here on out I’ll be by your side.”

Odell clicked her tongue. “So what rank does that make me?”

“You’re her pally, you don’t get a rank!” Demetri snapped at her. It was clear these two had some tension between them and it seemed like I was the cause of it... perfect.

“I’ll be Clover’s Gamma.” Kai suddenly spoke up making everyone turn to look at him. “I am only whole again because of Clover. I hope that isn’t offensive. You know how much you mean to me Sion. It’s just... what happened to me... I can’t let happen to you. It’s important for me to protect our luna... I need this.” I glanced up at Sion as he smiled.

“That is perfect actually. I need someone I can trust



unconditionally watching out for Clover. No offense to you two..." Sion looked over at Demetri and Odell, "but I know Kai and trust him." He then looked down at me. "Are you okay with this? I can personally vouch for Kai."

"I trust Kai... but I don't know if I like the idea of there being two sets of officers." I felt like this created a type of division. Shouldn't the loyalties be to both the luna and alpha? Each one having their own officers seemed to be creating unnecessary division.

"I know what you are thinking..." Demetri began to say. Of course he did, being the mind reader he is. "It isn't meant to be divisive. It actually helps in a moment of crisis. Instead of being conflicted about who to protect or worried that the other isn't protected, the officers already know. They will protect both the luna and alpha, but if there is a moment when they are separated, there is protection for both. I will also

offer my vow of obedience to the alpha when I become part of your pack. There are times you two won't be together. And during those moments, instead of leaving the beta or gamma, you each have your own officers."

"I don't want to take officers away from Sion." I didn't like the idea of poaching someone away from the man I love. I want him protected too.

"I like this idea, Clover." Sion's eyes met with mine. "It is actually really smart and I am surprised other packs haven't incorporated this. The luna and the alpha should have their own officers. Combined together as one when together but know who they are in charge of protecting when apart. I want Kai with you. He is my next strongest warrior, just in case I can't be there to protect you..." I watched as he pursed his lips. The time would probably come soon. We had to reclaim the Chance pack. Sion may not be able to remain

constantly by my side. Still, Kai was his delta.

“What about your delta?” I watched as Sion shrugged.

“For now, the position will be empty. Who knows... I think just having a beta and gamma is fine. I really don’t see a need to take on another officer. Especially between all four of our officers and your pally.”

“Are you sure?” I asked Kai and watched as a smile spread over his lips.

“Yes, I am meant to protect Sion’s luna.”

“Kai, bind yourself to Clover as her gamma. We don’t need an official ceremony.” Sion gently squeezed my shoulder. “She is already my luna. We just need to reclaim our pack.”

“Speaking of pack...” Demetri said as he rubbed the

back of his neck again. Oh my gosh! Was he going to tell me the Chaos pack was still around? I could barely breathe as I waited for him to speak. I felt like this was going to have a big impact on my life.

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[OH FOR MATES SAKE](#)

## Chapter 32 Crystal



“Is the Chaos pack still around?” Sion asked the question that was burning through my mind.

“There is no more Chaos pack,” Demetri said and I felt my heart sink. “The adults were all under mind control and met their end tragically...” I don’t know why but I felt a heavy weight on my chest. I guess I

was hoping... that somehow some of them made it. “However, some of their children survived.” That ass.hole! Why didn’t he say that from the beginning? My eyes were now glued to his as I waited for him to finish.

“The living survivors are known as the Nova pack. Over the past 20 years, they have also taken others into their pack. It is a very... mixed pack. It is full of supernatural’s. Clover... you are their Luna.” My lips parted and I didn’t know what to say. “They have leaders, but they have been waiting for their luna and her officers to come and take charge.” Now what do I do? I was the Luna of the Chance pack. I couldn’t ask Sion to merge a group of unknown mixed species into his pack.

“If they are willing, after everything is settled, they can become part of the Chance pack.” Sion smiled as he looked down at me. “We have more than enough

room and if they are your pack members, then they are your responsibility. Besides, as your mate, they are my pack too.”

Sion amazed me. He instantly took that worry off of my shoulders. He never even saw the Nova pack but was already offering this... because of me. How did I get such an amazing mate? He was always trying to make things easier on me no matter what challenges that meant for him.

“That is a very generous offer. Wouldn’t you like to meet the pack first before making such a decision?” Demetri looked at Sion, who looked down at me with a smile.

“No, there is no need.”

“They are also welcome to keep their pack and choose an alpha.” I didn’t know anything about this

pack but maybe they would prefer not to merge with strangers.

“I think they will want to follow you. Most of them were old enough to remember and your parents left a lasting impact on them. I don’t know if anyone could ever lead them but you.”

I couldn’t help but feel frustrated. If this was the case, then why not come and get me earlier. I was planning on taking my officer’s oath. They could have come and taken me a long time ago. So why did they leave me in the Sulfur pack?

“Your safety was more important than anything, Clover. We were always worried you would be found out. The Nova pack was not willing to put their Luna’s life at risk just so you could be their leader. They wanted you safe and happy.” Okay, seriously, could Demetri read minds? Because this was just getting

too weird.

“You have to be a mind reader.” I finally said, and I heard Odell snort.

“No, he isn’t. That is just an annoying habit of his.” I turned to look at Odell, who was looking at Demetri less than amused.

“So, you have been with him the past 20 years?” I asked and watched as she nodded.

“Yes. He was my link to you. I would bounce between the centaurs and the Nova pack.”

“So have you two hooked up?” Logan asked, making both Odell and Demetri laugh.

“No, Odell and I are almost like family at this point. Neither one of us is interested in the other.” Demetri’s



face suddenly grew serious. His eyes glazed over, and I could see his body visibly tense. “We need to move. There are voidless nearing the mine.”

I felt Sion’s arm tighten around me as he looked around the cave. There were two openings behind us, and I remember how the path split before we came into this glowing blue room.

“The moor is compromised...” Demetri looked over at Odell.

“What about the crystal path?” Conner asked and watched as Demetri furrowed his brows.



“There could be crystal bats there. They would alert the demons to our presence.” I felt the tension rising in the air and noticed how Odell shifted her weight.

“Can’t we just fight the voidless?” Odell clicked her tongue.

“And what do you think will be following the voidless? They are the mindless minions. Something more powerful wouldn’t be far away.”

“Serpents path.” Sion said in a clear concise voice. “We will take the windy narrow tunnel. It is guarded by the nauc but I think that will be our best chance.”

“There is a nest of nauc in there.” Demetri groaned but slowly nodded his head. “But I think you are right... that may be our best chance.”

Nauc... I have never seen one before. A nauc was like a basilisk. A large vicious serpent. It was its own lord and had a voracious appetite. If we encounter a nest of nauc... could we survive?

“The path is too narrow for an ambush. Any fight will

be one on one. So, this leaves two very important decisions. Who will be the head and who will be the tail? Everyone in the middle would be safe, so Clover would naturally be in the center.” Kai looked over the group and I felt my heart beating quickly. If we encountered a nauc someone would have to fight against them alone.

“I’ll lead.” Odell said confidently. “The tunnels are narrowly made so even the serpent beast won’t be able to curl and strike with ease. I have fought against a nauc before so having the most experience, I will lead. Does anyone else have nauc fighting experience? This should be who brings up the rear.”

“I do.” I heard Sion say the terrifying words. “I have fought against a nauc before, so I will follow behind everyone.”

“I have fought against a nauc as well.” Demetri smiled

and shook his head at Sion. “Stay in the middle with Clover. As her mate, it is essential that you are also protected. Regardless of if you need it or not.” He winked at me as he said that last line. Okay... I actually felt better Sion was now getting the same treatment as me.

“Okay, let’s get going. I don’t want to give anything a chance of getting close to my mate.” Sion pulled me along at his side as he walked to the back of the room we were in.

“We only have to pass through one opening of the crystal cave. We should be able to go through it undetected. From here on out we need complete silence.” I could hear Demetri’s voice behind me. It seemed like no matter what we did we would be encountering risks. I don’t know why, but I had a bad feeling about this. Like something was about to happen... but I am sure I was just nervous. I was

worried about everyone else, and it was giving me bad vibes.

I leaned into Sion's side as we walked through one of the openings in the back. I was going to be ready to protect him if I had to. I wasn't about to lose my mate or anyone else.

The air changed dramatically from one room to the next. The air was cool and crisp. There was a strange hollow-like sound as we stepped onto the strangely smooth surface below us. The silence was only interrupted by the sounds of drops hitting the water beside us. Our feet almost slid below us as we walked through trying to reach the other side of the cavern. This cavern was drastically colder than the room before.

The room wasn't only dark but had a heavy ominous feeling. I knew Sion sensed it too because he gripped

into me tighter. A piece of crystal rock fell from above us and the room echoed with the sound of it colliding in the pool of water. I was looking around in the darkness and noticed something shining above us. At first it was just a slit but then it widened. There were two strange white glowing orbs. Only they weren't orbs. I stopped abruptly and Sion snapped his head to look at me. I motioned upwards with my head watching as his gaze found the same glowing dots.

“Damn.it.” He whispered. Everyone immediately looked up, noticing the same thing. A crystal bat. A creature aligned with demons and could telepathically send them messages. No doubt it had already informed the demons of our location now. This was confirmed by a thundering growl at the other end of the cave.

“How the hell... when did they take up residence here?!” Demetri said and I realized he had said the



word they. I moved my head to get a better view and that was when I saw the eyes. Red glowing eyes began to pepper the dark room. Their teeth were bared as they slowly began to creep closer to us. Odell quickly shifted, leaping to the front, curling her body to act as a barrier in front of me. Then the wolves all began to shift. Sion kissed my forehead, "Stay back my love," he muttered hastily, and a moment later his black smokey lycan was in front of me.

I couldn't shift. I knew Sheena was there, but I couldn't switch to her body. Damn this was a problem. I looked up to see the many red eyes glued onto me. The body moved as one as the heads began to spread out, each seeking a target. I knew what it was even without ever seeing one before. It was a hydra. There were six heads and each one had chosen a target. Once again, I stood there helplessly watching. My heart was beating out of my chest. The

enormous body commanded the area as the heads bobbed back and forth in front of their opponents. It was as if they were taunting them.

My eyes were glued to the colossal smokey wolf as the head weaved in front of him. Saliva dripped from its fangs as a low growl ripped from its throat. It struck towards Sion and his lycan leaped to the side narrowly dodging the attack. The neck quickly retreated as Sion lunged towards it. The other heads also dived towards the others. Odell was the only one able to land a hit with her long talon like claws. Blood dripped from her claws as the creature bellowed. One of the eyes had been sliced blinding that one side of the creature.

“We don’t have to worry about killing it right now, we just need to remove its sense of sight. Then we can worry about finishing it off.” Demetri yelled, noticing what Odell had done. He must have liked her tactic

and I honestly thought it was very clever. With this strategy, they had a chance.

With each strike, the momentum was changing. The room shook with the beasts' thundering cries as little by little he was losing vision. The iron smell stung my nose as blood began to trickle towards me on the ground. The blood formed together like a stream as it dripped into the water behind me. Then something happened... something none of us anticipated.

In a movement that no one expected, the hydra pushed off moving its body in the air. It was airborne and it leapt over everyone, landing in front of me. It successfully separated me from everyone else. I could hear Sion's loud growls and Demetri's yell. Oddly the creature's heads were still focused on the others and not me. It pushed its back against me and I lifted up my hands to stop it. I felt the scales rippling below my fingers as I slid back.

That was when I felt it.

Icy tenacles wrapped around my body. One second, I was on land and the next I plunged into the water. The chill of the frozen water restricted my lungs as I tried not to gasp for air that wasn't there. The light of the surface was growing farther away as something continued to drag me into the watery abyss.

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[OH FOR MATES SAKE](#)

### Chapter 33 Downward



My lungs felt like they were being stabbed by needles. I struggled to grab whatever had a hold of me,

gripping onto something cold and cruel. I couldn't pry it off. The more I struggled, the harder it was to not take a breath of air. I couldn't see the light above me anymore. Judging by how fast I was being pulled downward, I doubted that even if I got free, I could make it to the surface. This is it. I was going to drown. My vision was beginning to blacken from the lack of oxygen and soon I would have to gasp for air. I would inhale water that would fill my lungs.

Deeper. Deeper. Deeper. There was no escape now and this reality was soul crushing. I wouldn't be there to help my mate get his pack back. I wouldn't ever have the family I dreamed about. My time with Sion was already over. Visions of the future we almost had flickered in my mind.

Sion was there pushing a child on a tire swing. I could hear the laughter in the air and the high pitched squeals. The sun was shining brightly as the wind

swayed the grass. I was standing there watching them with a smile on my face as I rubbed soft circles on my swollen stomach. And at night he would be there with me tucking our children into bed. We would stare at our sleeping children in awe of the life we created together. We would have saved the Chance pack and would be happy...

It was gone... all of it. Knowing I would never have my family hurt, but I was devastated for Sion. Without me, could they save his pack? Would he have a home to go back to? Would he be okay? He said he couldn't live without me and that I was the only thing that kept him going. I just want him to be happy. I want him to laugh with his children, even if they aren't mine. I want him to have someone to hold at night... even if it wasn't me.

My body began to tremble as I struggled not to breathe. I was now feeling lightheaded too. My body

would soon lose consciousness and try to breathe for me. My body was then suddenly whipped upwards, and I rolled onto the smooth icy surface. I gasped and choked on the air as I greedily tried to fill my lungs. I turned my head, looking for what had taken me.

I lifted off the ground, my body burned as I had to peel it off the frosted surface. I rose to my feet, leaning my hands on my knees for stability. I was in a small oval room. It was like a frozen air pocket. The room was covered in icy crystals and behind me was the pool of water.

I was alive for now. However, I was too deep. There was no way I could reach the surface on my own. I didn't see any sign of what had taken me. Did it bring me here to feast upon me later, knowing I would be trapped? I'm sure the monster doesn't get prey often. This could be like its refrigerator.

If it was going to come back to try to eat me, I needed to be ready for a fight. As long as I survived, there was a chance. Odell could get me out of here... if she survived against the hydra. I tried to connect with Sheena. It was like getting static interference. I felt her but not enough to shift into her. I couldn't even talk to her right now.

I was looking around the room when I heard a strange tapping sound. The noise echoed off the walls making it hard to tell where it was coming from. The tapping was getting louder and faster. As if something was running, but I couldn't see anything... on the ground. I snapped my head up searching for the source and my breath caught in my chest. A creature was running on the ceiling and now climbing down the icy wall.

It reached the floor, and I took a step back, eyeing the water behind me. I noticed the water ripple slightly, showing something was still waiting there. Diving



back into the water wasn't an option. I had no chance there... but I didn't have much of one here either.

My eyes followed over the light blue hard skeleton frame in front of me. Two large claws snapped loudly, resonating off the walls in the room. Its pointed tail was raised defensively above its head as its blue eyes glowed. It was the size of two lycans at least, not including the height of its tail. I knew the creature but had never seen one this size before. I was never a fan of normal sized scorpions, so this monstrous one turned my stomach.

Tss. Tss. Tss. Tss. Tss. It made this awful noise as its jaws pincer together. Its eight legs tapped across the ground as it closed in on me.

Tss. Tss. Tss. Tss. Tss.

I didn't know what to do. I had nothing at my disposal. Maybe there was a piece of the crystal rock in the

room that I could use? Without my wolf, I had just my bare hands. The claws clapped together as my heart raced. I think I would have preferred drowning...

I took another small retreating step as I looked around the room. There was no escape besides the water behind me. Which made me wonder how this creature got in here. Maybe he was another meal for the water creature. We were like its bacon and eggs. Only we were alive, and the bacon was trying to eat the egg.

My whole body was trembling from the cold. I didn't have the heat of my wolf to help keep me warm. Between the icy waters and this frozen room, I could barely breathe. There was a lot stacked against me. It seemed like it was always like this for me. Yet, I usually managed to overcome. Somehow... I would fight my way out of this.

I frantically searched the dark room. Little by little I

was losing more and more of my wolf senses. The room luckily had a soft blue glow which was now my light source. I noticed some rubble on the far-right corner. If I could get to it maybe I could find something I could use as a weapon.

SNAP

One of the claws clapped by my head as the other claw reached towards me. They were fast. I barely managed to avoid full contact. The pincher closed, managing to graze the side of my arm. Warm blood splattered over my cold skin as I reached up to cover the wound.

I watched as it raised its stinger up high. I couldn't get hit with that no matter what. The poison would be too much for me to overcome. I could mend from flesh wounds but not from that. Especially in my current state. As it began to strike towards me, I slid

underneath the scorpion. It was my best chance to use the smooth surface to glide underneath. It wasn't expecting me to go beneath it and I managed to buy myself a couple of extra seconds.

I didn't waste any time as I sprinted to the other side. I could hear the tapping of its feet pattering behind me.

Tss. Tss. Tss. Tss. Tss. Tss.

I reached the rubble of crystal rocks and quickly searched with my hands. I was trying to feel for anything useful in the dim light. It was getting closer. I needed something... now.

Tss. Tss. Tss. Tss. Tss. Tss.

I grabbed onto two of the rocks and spun around. One of them I launched, hitting the creature in one of its eyes. It let out an ear-piercing screech as it flailed its

pinchers maniacally. My fingers gripped onto the cold icy dagger rock. The blood from my arm trickled down and onto my fingers before it dripped to the ground.

The scorpion began clapping its claws loudly as it angrily came towards me. With precise movements its claws reached out for me. I tried to lunge forward with my crystal shard but one of the pinchers grabbed me. I was helplessly swung around. My side hit the wall before I flew in the other direction. I landed on the cold ground; the air was knocked from my lungs. I tried to grasp my weapon only to realize it wasn't there.

There was no time, and it was on me again. I kicked at its bottom as I rolled across the floor trying to get away. Its claws struck at the ground next to me, cracking the surface. I could hear its feet pattering to keep up as its claws struck next to me again.

Then one of the pinchers connected with me. I felt my skin being ripped from my body as I was rolled to my back. It pinned me with its claws and raised its stinger up. I closed my eyes as I waited for the strike. I waited and nothing. Da.mn this thing was playing with my emotions. It was like a cat that had caught its mouse.

I slowly opened my eyes to see the creature just holding its position there. Its claws pinched my arms holding me in place. I could feel the blood oozing, but that was the least of my worries. The jaws of the scorpion clicked together in almost agitation as it held me. I watched as saliva dripped from its mouth onto my legs. I was making its mouth water...

“How disappointing.” A woman’s voice hissed from everywhere but nowhere. The creature then let go of my arms and backed away from me. What the hell was this?

I moved to my knees and looked at the wounds on my arms. I was cut but nothing deep. It looked worse than it was, and this scorpion was easily able to rip my limbs from my body.

“Who is there?!” I shouted as I moved to my feet.

I heard the loud clicking of a tongue echo off the walls. I was looking everywhere but there was no one. I even glanced up just in case. Still... nothing.

“Is this all you’ve got?” The voice asked almost mockingly.

“I can’t shift right now or—”

“I’m not talking about your wolf.” The voice scoffed at me. “Your wolf...” The voice was now mocking me. “Is that the extent of your strength? The shallow mental existence is a pathetic power. Forget about it. Discard



your wolf... and attack.”

“My wolf is part of me!” I shouted back angrily as the voice cackled at me.

“So are feces, but everyone discards their sh.it.”

“I’m not discarding my wolf.”

“Looks like your body is trying to do that for you.” The voice said in sly amusement. “But you won’t let go.”

“No, I won’t.”

“You’re killing her.”

“Discarding her is killing her!”

“No... it isn’t. But if you keep her... you will.”

“Why?!” I shouted angrily. Who the hell was this person?

“Your sheya powers won’t allow for her existence.”

“I was told—”

“You were told wrong.” The voice stated tersely.

Was it true? Was I killing Sheena? I told her not to leave me again. Was her staying with me killing her? It was true she felt weaker and weaker. But this could all be an elaborate scheme too. Like I was going to trust some stranger’s voice.

“Let your wolf go. She will go to another shifter.”

“I don’t even know who you are. Why should I believe you? What do you even know?”

It was quiet except for the sound the scorpion made as it moved its jaws back and forth. I straightened up and looked around.

“Let her go.” The voice commanded again. I stood there and defiantly stared in the darkness. “Embrace who you are.”

Sheena? Sheena?

Nothing. There was no sound from her. I wish she could tell me if what the voice was saying was true.

“I do prefer the hands-on approach... I think the lesson sticks better.” As soon as the voice spoke these words the scorpion began to make its move again. The pattering of its feet on the crystal stone headed my way. This time I knew it wasn’t going to kill me, but it would make me pay. It would challenge me, pushing me to my brink, trying to make me give up my

wolf. And if I didn't...I was in for more pain.

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[OH FOR MATES SAKE](#)

### Chapter 34 Stilts



The blood splattered across the ground as a pincher cut my leg. I had enough cuts on me that I was getting numb to the pain. I don't care what this voice was telling me to do. I know my body was rejecting Sheena, but she would have told me if it was killing her, right? I didn't have time to really think about anything. All I could do now was react to the incoming attacks.

I didn't know what their motives were, but it was clear

they wanted me alive. These wounds were meant to cause pain, but nothing was going to kill me. The question was why did this voice want me alive? I was told Sheyas are rare creatures that are desired for their skills. I can only assume this is someone wanting to use me as a pawn. I wouldn't trust the voice.

Unless I hear from Sheena or the Moon Goddess herself, I am not shedding my wolf from me. It didn't make sense to me at all. Plus, Demetri said I could keep them both. I was going to trust him over this voice.

Tss. Tss. Tss. Tss.

The pinchers clapped by my head narrowly missing me. I jumped back as I panted looking around the room, I was being toyed with and that pissed me off. If this voice expected me to crumble, they were wrong. With every cut I was getting angrier.

I straightened up, staring at the scorpion. The blood trickled down my body dripping to the ground. Did she want to break me? Did she think I would give in if subjected to enough pain? I internally scoffed. I wasn't about to cut down and surrender to the pain. Go ahead and underestimate me. I won't bow down to this voice. I am not going to shrivel back into a corner and tremble. I was going to fight until I had nothing left and then I was going to fight more. Until I no longer had a breath in my body.

If she was trying to break me, she wouldn't succeed. She was going to have to kill me.

The pattering of feet charged towards me. Only this time... I didn't dodge. I stood there staring it down. Closer. Closer. Closer. Its pinchers clapped in the air, echoing off the walls.

Tss. Tss. Tss. Tss.

I had enough. I kept my focus on the scorpion as I decided on my next move. I didn't care how cut up I would get. I was going to give this scorpion something to think about.

A black blur crashed into the scorpion sending it smashing into the side of the wall. The ebony water hound curled itself in front of me protectively as it snarled at the scorpion.

"Odell!" I panted looking at her body. She was dripping in water and blood. Her body had wounds that were slowly healing but were still there. But the wounds... they didn't look like something the hydra caused. I didn't have time to analyze them right now though. The scorpion was back on its feet and was now focusing on Odell. Sh.it. The monster may not plan to kill me, but Odell was different.

“Odell, get out of here! I’ll be okay.”

Odell snorted not even looking at me.

“It won’t kill me. I can’t explain but—” Odell didn’t let me finish as she charged ahead at the scorpion.

Da.mn. The scorpion had a poisonous stinger that if he used on Odell could kill her.

“Now... two verse one isn’t fair... is it?” The woman’s voice echoed in the room with a sinister chuckle.

“There... all better now.”

Dear gods what now...

Sisssss. Sisssss. Sissss.

Tap. Tap. Tap. Tap. Tap.



I frantically searched for the new sound. It was fast and aggressive.

Whoosh.

It landed directly across from me. It had two large obsidian eyes and six smaller eyes all staring at me. Its legs were jagged and hard crystals that held its body above us all. On its back it had numerous skulls all entangled in a web that it wore like a trophy case. Its head... was like nothing I had ever seen. It had two large fangs that protruded from an almost human like crystal skull. Where many more fangs and teeth surrounded the mouth.

Sissssssss.

The monstrous crystal spider spat at me as one of its large crystal legs tapped on the ground. It was focused on me as it spit something at me. It flew past

me and hit the crystal rock spewing a sticky web over it.

Its body began to bounce up and down as its head bobbed along with it. It was as if it was taunting me... laughing at me. I thought it was going to spew its web at me again but suddenly its head turned. The web shot from its mouth but not at me... at Odell.

It was almost like it was slow motion. The web connected with Odell, binding her feet together as the scorpion's stinger pressed into her back. I screamed as I watched her collapse to the ground. My feet moved on their own as I rushed to her body to defend her.

She was already unconscious, panting heavily. I moved in front of her body and took up a defensive position as the spider raced over. The two arachnids were looking at her as if she was their meal. I noticed

the drool dripping off their fangs as their jaws wiggled back and forth.



Tss. Tss. Tss. Tss.

Sissss. Sissss. Sisssss. Sissss.

Like hell I was going to let them touch her. I clenched my fists together and stared between the two monsters. In a voice that almost didn't feel like my own I shouted, "BACK AWAY FROM HER!"

The two creatures froze. For a moment, they didn't move. Then slowly, one leg at a time, they began to retreat. As if they were being forced but didn't want to. When they reached the wall, the spider began to bounce again in frustration.

"So, you can do it." The woman's voice said. Behind the creatures the crystal wall began to slowly drip onto the ground, revealing an opening behind it. A woman with blue hair sat upon a frozen throne with her chin resting on her hand. Her gaze was resting on me as if she was in deep thought. The two creatures slowly vanished from my sight. I knew that this was a higher demoness or a goddess because what else would have this power?

I stepped back keeping my eye on the woman for a moment before I knelt beside Odell. Her breathing was labored and the lacerations on her body were no longer healing.

“Odell...” I pursed my lips together and then snapped my head back to the woman. “She was just protecting me! How could you?!”

The woman began to laugh as she looked at me with amusement. “How could I? You are upset over just that little sting?” The woman leaned forward, now using both her hands to rest her chin on as she smiled at me.

“She’s been poisoned—” I started to say as the woman clicked her tongue.

“As if I would allow dangerous venom in something

like this. You could have taken a hit too. And I couldn't have you dying."

I looked at the woman confused and then back to Odell. "So, she isn't going to die?"

"She is just asleep. Honestly, it is quite funny. Look how upset you are over that little sting. But look at her body. Are you just as upset with your lycan?" My eyes widened as my lips parted. I quickly snapped my head to assess the wounds on Odell. She was right... these wounds did look like something a lycan was capable of. Was she saying... Sion attacked her?

"Your mate did quite a number on them." The blue haired woman finally stood up. I could hear her feet as they clicked upon the crystal surface.

"Sion... did this?" I whispered out.



“Oh, and not just to her. Honestly... he is quite terrifying...but that’s another problem. Anyways... I don’t care to waste my time talking about your lycan. I am here to talk about you.”

“What do you want with me?” I asked as I stood up to face the woman who stood in front of me. I had so many questions on my mind, but I kept drifting to Sion.

“I collect rare creatures... I love them. I’d love to keep you...” The woman nodded her head slowly as she stared into my eyes. “Of course, you aren’t interested but that doesn’t mean I can’t help you. After all, I need you to exist so you can create babies. Oh, I am getting ahead of myself.”

“I am not the only sheya.” I couldn’t understand if she wanted to collect a sheya why not find another one. Why me? I watched as she tilted her head to look at

me.

“Goodness child... you don’t know anything about yourself... do you?”

“Know what?! Who are you? What happened with Sion? Why did you tell me to get rid of my wolf?!”

“Slow down child!” The woman clicked her tongue and rolled her eyes. “I am the goddess, Shiva. It would be easier to use your powers without your wolf.

Honestly... using your powers while having a wolf... would be impossible... but not for you. I wonder...”

I watched as the woman flicked her wrist out producing a small ice cage with some strange creature in it. It was all brown and looked like an old man.

“Look at him and tell me what you see.” Shiva

ordered. I looked at her with confusion and then back to the creature. It was a brown creature with brown eyes. The creature placed his hands on the cage and stared at me. I furrowed my brows as I looked at it closer. What was that?

“What is that? And is that a green light coming off of its body?” I looked up at Shiva who continued to look at me. She then stepped closer and reached out for me. She held my face and gazed into my eyes. What was this woman doing?

“So... you do have it... crafty... crafty... gosh she is such a clever bitch.” I listened to Shiva mutter as she released my face. “Yes, and her children will have it. Will it last through the generations? It must... she can already see that.” She continued to talk to herself as she tapped her fingers on her chin. “She needs a lot of work though... a lot of work. It’s taking too long. But I’m not supposed to intervene... but she knows

balance gets destroyed anyways. Ugh... infuriating.”

What in the world was she mumbling on about? “Will my children have what exactly?” The woman looked at me as if she just realized she wasn’t alone. She sighed loudly and then rubbed her temples.

“You have true sight. You can see things that most can’t. It looks like it is just waking up though just like the rest of your powers. The green light you saw is nembrant energy. That light will let you know when someone is being controlled by the nembrant glass or its potion... or the injections. It will get easier for you to see in time. The problem is your powers...” I

listened as she sighed loudly as she stared at me.

“You realize that was you who commanded the arachnids to back away. You have the power to control with just your words. Which is why you are invaluable and terrifying. If you were power hungry you could wage war using other armies at your

disposal. But this isn't all sheya. Most can only have the power of suggestion and for one person. You are different. Your mother was already special but you... you are in a class of your own."

"Your mother gave birth to you in the blessings pool where the Moon Goddess told her to. It was under a pink moon. The goddess Eos and Selene both blessed you giving you powers that will be necessary for the future...." She paused for a moment then continued. "One of the gifts you have is true sight. Unlike your mother, you will never be able to be controlled by the nembrant glass. You are strong Clover... but you need to trust yourself. I provoked you, threatened your life and you still didn't use your power. It wasn't until your pally was injured that you summoned your strength. So what do I do? Do I keep you and train you? Or do I trust you will find a way on your own?" She shook her head. "That damn mate of yours though... he's a problem. I'd almost have to

keep him too...”

“What do you mean he is a problem?”

“Well look what he did to your protector? And you should see the others...” I stood there shocked as Shiva continued on like nothing. “I can’t pop in and out because that will be too much interfering. Either I take you now or—”

“I’m not going with you. I’m not leaving Sion and I have things to do.”

I watched as she smirked looking at me. “But can you do them?” She raised her brows at me almost mockingly.

I don’t know when, but Odell shifted and was now standing in front of me. “She can...”

“Odell! Are you okay?!” I asked as I placed my hand on her shoulder. “Did Sion really...” I didn’t have to finish as I saw her eyes. She gave me a small smile and then patted my hand.

“I’m fine.”

“I don’t understand... what happened?”

Odell bowed her head to Shiva and place her fist upon her chest. “I will help her be ready.”

“Very well... but I’ll be sending one of Gaia’s people to help watch over her. You know how important she is. This isn’t about right now either... this is long term. I don’t even understand it all... but Selene can see what we cannot. Take the pathway behind me. I’ve done my part...”

“Wait... what is that thing?” I asked noticing the brown

person thing still there.

“Oh yes him...” I watched as the cage vanished and she snapped her fingers. The green light left him suddenly and he stared up at the goddess angrily.

“Quit putting that thing in my eye!”

“Oh, Stilts. I needed someone that can absorb the glass. A gnome hybrid is perfect for that.”

“A gnome...hybrid.” I muttered as I stared at him. It was true he was bigger than a normal gnome. But I couldn't figure out what else he was mixed with.

“You know what Stilts, I want you to stay with her. I think you can help. I think a lot of her blockage is a self-issue and you know a lot about that.” Shiva looked down at the little man who maybe came to just above my knee. Usually, a gnome can fit in the palm



of your hand.

“I’m not a babysitter.” Stilts instantly cleared his throat as Shiva glared at him. “But of course, I am happy to help.”

“Good.” Shiva then turned to face me. “He will be staying with you. Now... I need to find Gaia. I have a good bit to talk to her about... especially that bear...” She trailed off.

With those final words the goddess vanished. I looked over at the gnome. I had a lot I wanted to ask him, but I couldn’t focus on anything right now but Sion. Was Sion, okay? Why did he attack Odell? What happened after I was taken? I needed answers. What if Sion was under the nembrant control?! I felt my heart racing as I turned to Odell.

“Odell... what happened?”

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[OH FOR MATES SAKE](#)

## Chapter 35 To the Path



Sion

“Sion? Sion?!”

I opened my eyes, seeing Conner hovering over me.

“I was getting worried. How are you feeling?”

I blinked at him as I tried to remember what happened. Clover... I sat up glancing around. She still wasn't back, and neither was Odell. I closed my eyes

as I recalled what had happened....

The moment I couldn't see Clover, I went feral. I was in a blind rage when I heard the sound of the water. I dove into the hydra, attacking its center. I didn't care about the heads swooping towards me. There was only one thing on my mind and that was getting to my mate.

In order to take out a hydra, you have to take out its center. With all the heads acting as defensive guards, it isn't an easy task. Yet, somehow I managed to fly past them all and I dove into the body. My claws shredded into it as my teeth plunged a mortal wound in the creature. The creature began to fall but I didn't care about that. I moved past him and dove into the icy water.

Clover.

I could only think about her. I swam down and fast, but it seemed no matter how far I went I couldn't find her. I didn't care about my own life. I just had to save her. Then the giant otter hound grabbed ahold of my neck and was pulling me in the opposite direction.

No, I had to get to Clover.

She dragged me back onto the surface and I scrambled to go back. But I was met with resistance. My own pack was now guarding me from the water.

"Sion, leave this to Odell." Demetri said, but it was as if I couldn't hear him.

If something happened to Clover, I might as well be dead. I wouldn't live this life without her. It was as if my body moved on its own in that moment. I charged towards the water. I didn't want to hurt anyone. I just wanted them out of my way.

In that moment, all I cared about was Clover. She could be drowning right now. She might be fighting for her life. She was waiting for me! This drove me to a feral level.

This time, when I was met with resistance, I attacked. I was in a blind rage. I barely recognized anyone. I was lashing out at anyone who was blocking my path.

“Odell GO! We will handle this.” It was muffled but I heard Demetri yell.

“Snap out of it, Sion!” Kai now stood in front of me. He had shifted back and stood in front of me defenseless. It was this act that brought me back. I could see his eyes and the blood dripping down his body. I did that. I had hurt him.

Then suddenly I was slammed by some invisible

force. I crashed into the wall, and everything began to go dark.

Take a nap, pup. When you wake up, make your way through the path. You will find Clover at the end of it.

.....

I opened my eyes as I took in a deep breath. I had shifted back at some point when I was unconscious. I looked over everyone, but they were already healed up.

“I’m sorry.” I muttered as I moved to my feet.

“Don’t worry about it. You were just trying to get to Clover...” Demetri turned around with a frown, staring at the water.

“What happened to you?” Logan asked and I shook

my head.

“Something hit me. But there was a voice... it said when I woke up to make my way through the path. That Clover will be at the end of it.”

I watched as Demetri pursed his lips together in deep thought. “A woman’s voice?”

I nodded my head, and he clicked his tongue, shaking his head. “Let’s do as she says.”

“Wait a minute, we are going to just trust some voice?” I looked back at the water hoping to see something. Some sign that Clover was okay.

“That wasn’t some voice. Whichever goddess it was, made sure you didn’t continue to hurt anyone or yourself. Which means, they did it for Clover’s sake. I don’t know what they are up to, but if she says we will

find Clover at the end, then we will. This way, Clover won't have to travel Serpents Path. It is safer this way without her able to shift freely. Which means her healing is also hindered." Demetri began to walk ahead as the other looked at me.







“Let’s go. I need to get to Clover.” Inwardly, I was afraid. I attacked her pally... I attacked everyone. When it came to Clover being in danger, I couldn’t control my emotions. Nothing else could even begin to matter but her. She was my salvation and my downfall. I wonder if she will feel differently about me. After she hears about the monster in me...

“What is going on with Clover’s wolf?” I heard Kai ask, and I glanced up, looking at Demetri expectantly.

“I was planning to wait, but I don’t think any of you are compromised. You know how I explained she has two dominant powers inside of her? Well, that is true, but it isn’t just that. A sheya’s power is so much that it takes over everything. It makes no room for anything else. However, this will not be the case for Clover.

Clover was born in a blessing pool. She was blessed by several goddesses, but the main ones being Eos and Selene. We really don't know what all she was blessed with, but we do know she can keep her wolf. It will be hard, but she can keep both powers. Selene insisted on this because she is a born luna."

"Wait... time out... why? Why would she get the blessings of—" Logan began, but Demetri interrupted him.

"This has always been bigger than Clover. She doesn't realize this yet, but she is part of something bigger. Don't you think it is weird how the Alpha King just suddenly emerged? And now to know his son is somehow a lycan? A future lycan king with his future pure lycan queen. Ultimate rulers of both werewolves and lycans. The fairies have also grown in power. Their future queen is a demigod. Another fairy princess is the future queen of the vampires. Don't

you see? This is like a chess match. The pieces are being assembled for war. Clover is one of those pieces. My grandfather has been in council with the Fairy Queen. A war is coming that can't be stopped. The gods won't be able to intervene. And the demons will use the nembrant glass to seize control from the shadows." Demetri stopped and turned to look at all of us. I was already aware that something bigger was coming but didn't realize how in-depth it all was.

"It will be Clover's descendants that will be needed in the upcoming war. They will have gifts that will be invaluable. Clover is still developing her powers, but she will be able to see when someone is being controlled. This and her other gifts are things she will pass down through the generations. Clever gifts from the goddesses meant to help with the future war." I watched as his eyes met with mine. "Clover has an umbrella effect. She is like a walking shield, able to protect those around her. She just has to learn to

control it. Her children... your children will have this.”

“So my children will be sought after because of their gifts? They would have to be next to the lycan rulers...” My eyes widened as Demetri nodded his head. I swallowed as I realized what this really meant. “But... the princess... and my bloodline...she would never...”

Demetri shrugged. “I doubt they would want someone so important to just live in the Diamond pack. Someone with those gifts... would probably be made part of the family... don’t you think?” I inhaled sharply, not liking where this was going. “Look... we are getting ahead of ourselves, but this is where all of this is going. For now, we need to find Clover and work on saving your pack.”

I ran my hand through my hair as I continued to follow Demetri. I didn’t have anything against the Diamond

pack or anyone there, especially the lycan princess. It was just, I was afraid that she would hold a grudge. I would try to explain to her about Shaun and that he was actually an identical twin but who knows if she would believe me. I don't want my child to suffer from the sins of an ancestor. I don't know these people. My concern would be my children first... children.

I mentally chuckled to myself. I didn't even have a pack to go back to. I want children, but mentally my mind isn't there. My focus is on Clover and then saving my pack. Who knows now though... after Clover hears how I snapped, she may not want to stay with me. She might end up disgusted that I could hurt my own pack members like that.

I didn't want to make excuses for myself. No excuse was really excusable. The thing is, I haven't had my lycan for that long. I have still been adjusting. My lycan form is stronger and the emotions are more

intense. Things I felt before were amplified once I was given my lycan form. My emotions are on thin ice when it comes to Clover. I can barely keep them in check.

When I was being kept from going after Clover... I couldn't control myself. I didn't want to control myself. I saw my future disappear and it went into the water. Honestly, even presented with the same situation again... it would still happen. I would still fight to go after her. For her, I'll be everything... I'll do anything but without her... I'm a feral mess.

If I hadn't been knocked unconscious and heard that voice... I would have continued to dive into the water after her. I don't care if it would have cost me my own life. Gosh... I am a mental wreck right now. My whole body is on edge. I just need to see her. I hope she doesn't turn away from me... please don't hate me, Clover. I just love her so much.



“The path will now narrow... I’ll lead. Sion you bring up the rear. If there is a fight, it is too narrow. It will be a one on one, so be careful.” Demetri then walked into the serpent’s path.

I turned and looked at Conner, Logan, and Kai, nodding for them to go ahead of me. When Conner finally reached me, he stopped and looked at me.

“I should be the one to be last. If something happens to you—”

“Conner, I have the experience and I am stronger. Go on... Conner.” I sighed for a moment and then looked into his eyes. “But just in case... if anything did happen to me... protect my mate above everything.”

“She is my luna, that goes without saying.” He smiled at me and then turned towards the tunnel.

I watched as he slowly walked into the narrow path, and I followed behind him. I glanced behind me once, trying to see if I sensed anything. Demetri was in the most danger. He was walking straight into a nauc hole. A narrow but tall opening where it was impossible for someone to squeeze around you. If Demetri encountered a nauc it would be a one-on-one battle. The same would go for me. If something came up from behind me, I would have to take it out on my own.

I would fight anything I had to. This was my path to get to Clover and nothing was going to stop me. I needed to see her. I had to see her. I hope she was okay. I hope the voice was telling the truth and she would be at the end of this path. I wouldn't be able to calm down until I breathed in her scent.

Gods please... let her be okay. I don't care about

myself, but Clover... she is everything. Just let her be safe.

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[OH FOR MATES SAKE](#)

## Chapter 36 | Hope



SION

Demetri led the way as we all followed behind him. We all shifted into our feral forms making sure we were ready for anything we may encounter. We were well aware we were entering a nauc nest and they were monsters that were incredibly protective. The tunnel was narrow but tall, the sides were pitted with red carved out stone.

The Serpents path was a labyrinth. One narrow tunnel would lead to a larger cavern with more narrow tunnels branching off of it. I had been in here before back when the nauc hadn't claimed it as a nest.

Judging by Demetri's confidence, he has also been in here before. Up ahead the path would branch into four different tunnels. The two on the far right will lead to the way out but the one we wanted was the middle, to the right. The tunnel on the far right will lead to a thin shale rock pathway that will open up but would also lead to a treacherous drop off. It's dangerous, and that is without possibly having to fight. If you fall from there and manage to survive you will end up in a raging underground river. The current and undertow is enhanced by a magical pull. Those who have fallen in... were never seen again.

The path in the middle was very narrow. The sides of the wall had jagged edges that would impale into your

skin if you bump into them. The sharp pointed crystal rocks would make fighting in there treacherous. Still, it was the less dangerous path. So I knew this was the one Demetri was planning for.

My eyes scanned over the tunnel walls searching for any sign of life. My nose was picking up the scent of the nauc as I lifted it in the air. My ears would twitch as it picked up sounds in the far distance. Somewhere in the maze of passages there were nauc moving about.

The air was stale in here. We were going deeper into the earth and there wasn't an air shaft anywhere near this area. I noticed how both Logan and Kai's ears were moving and lowering. Their wolves could sense the danger ahead. A danger they could not handle. Conner's ears were alert and focused. Occasionally, tilting to the side to listen behind.

Suddenly, Demetri stopped. We all looked forward anxiously and tried not to make a sound. Beneath my paws I felt the vibrations of something with substantial weight. A hiss echoed off the walls and the vibrations became softer. Slowly we began to move again into the darkness, deeper into the nauc's nest.

Just in front of us would be the room with the four paths. If we could just manage to get through the next section, we would be back in a more open cavern. I heard a quiet intake of breath. Whatever Demetri was seeing had him upset. I noticed how the sound of his feet changed. What in the world was going on? I lifted my head up and noticed he was no longer shifted as a centaur but was standing there as a human. Why would he unshift right now?!

We began to move again but something was wrong. We weren't heading towards the middle right tunnel but the far right one. No.. no no no. This was bad.

Centaur hooves on shale rock was a death sentence. Our paws would be okay but still this was not ideal. As I finally reached the center, I realized why we were diverting. The path in front of us was covered in rocks. There must have been a cave in. There was no choice. I slowly followed behind the others and watched as a blue glow began to shine ahead.

As we stepped out onto the open cliffside there was blue glowing moss that greeted us down the ravine. In the depths, you could hear the water menacingly racing.

“Shit...”

I heard Demetri mutter in a quiet breath. I could see him looking in the ravine so I glanced down as well. I didn't notice it at first. Da.mn. If you fell... you were done. Hovering in the lower part of the ravine was a red cloud of miasma. The toxicity created by the nauc all seemed to gather and rest in the bottom of the trench. The air was toxic down there.



Demetri turned his head to look at us. He mouthed the words to us in silence.

“If someone falls... you don’t go after them. Or you are both dead.”

Those are orders. I reiterated to my pack. If anyone falls... there is no surviving that. Don’t go after them. Concentrate. We can make it through this.

Demetri began to slowly make his way again. Logan and then Kai followed behind him. I felt the rock sliding beneath my paws as I tried to keep my balance on the unsteady ground. This is where those damn nauc excelled. Their scaley bodies allowed them to climb the walls and the path without falling.

The sound of rocks slipping, a wolf whimpering, and stones clanking down the ravine had me on edge. I noticed Logan’s wolf’s feet scurrying to get back on

the ledge. Two large hands grabbed onto his neck and helped him back up. I finally breathed again as I watched them begin to move along the path. We were trying to be as quiet as we could but those sounds probably alerted something. We needed to be cautious but move with haste.

We were only halfway through this path when I heard the sound of rocks crashing down the ravine. I glanced behind me to see what I was hoping we wouldn't run into. A black nauc was slithering up the trail behind us at a speed we couldn't outrun.

Keep going! I ordered my pack members as they all froze, hesitating about what to do. I growled and glared at Conner. Go! I listened as he growled as well, but continued on ahead. I would hold this monster off while they reached safety. I slowly maneuvered over the unsteady ground so that I was now facing the nauc.

SKAAAAA

It hissed at me and bared its fangs as it raised its head above me. It clearly had the advantage here, but I was going to stand my ground. I wouldn't be stopped here. I had to get to Clover. Nothing was going to stand in my way.

It lunged at me, and I leapt in the air landing on the serpent, sinking my fangs into its neck. It began to flail its body and I jumped back to the ground. My feet continued to slide as the rock beneath it tried to pour into the ravine. I frantically ran in place kicking more rocks. Blood dripped from my fangs landing on the falling rocks. I pushed off hard, managing to jump again trying my best not to stir the rocks below me.

SKAAAAA

I was now panting wishing I had a moment to catch my breath. I barely managed to escape falling into the ravine and the serpent was upon me again. This time it began to slide up the side of the wall making rocks trickle down to me. Its body dove towards mine, crashing just in front of me, the ground giving out all around us.

I ran on top of the monstrous serpent using its body to leap to safety. The nauc tried to recoil the body closer to its head but with all the strength I could muster I jumped away. The rocks trembled under my feet as I tried to stop their avalanche into the abyss.

“Sion, RUN!” I heard Demetri’s voice from behind me. I glanced back at him to see they were standing on solid rock successfully reaching the other side. His gaze was above me though. My chest was heaving as I looked up. Another nauc, one much longer, was slithering over the ceiling. Its yellow eyes were locked

onto me as the other nauc got in position in front of me.

SKAAAA

It hissed as venom dripped down its fangs. I began to back away. If I engaged, the other nauc would be upon me. My only chance would be running but the serpent on the ceiling was going to catch me. It was traveling much faster than I could over this shale rock surface.

I waited for the nauc to strike at me. As soon as it did, I evaded jumping backwards. Then I turned and tried to run. The rock below me starting to give way. My paws scrambled over the sifting ground. It was taking so much effort just to move.

SKAAAA!

The loud hiss came from above and I knew... this was it. The colossal serpent crashed into me, using its body to knock me over the edge. It was as if everything was in slow motion.

I could hear the panicked cries from my pack. My body was weightless, falling into the darkness. The nauc falling with me.

Clover...

All I could think of was her. I wasn't afraid. I just hated to leave her. It was as if she was here with me in this moment. She captured my mind, and her face was all I could see. I held it in my heart. Her love, her laughter, her scent... and even though it wasn't for long... for a moment she was mine.

She would be okay though. I know Conner, Logan and Kai would keep her safe. She also had Demetri

and Odell. They would protect her. She would end up taken in by the Diamond pack and would be safe. I just wished I could have told her all the things I have in my heart. I wish I could have left her with something to remember me by.

I hope she will be happy, I thought as I fell through the miasma.

I hope she will find love; I closed my eyes as I felt the icy water greet me. Instantly my body was yanked into its currents, being dragged lower. It was as if I was in a whirlpool. I tried not to think about it though. I kicked my feet, testing out the current, but it was useless. I opened my eyes as I was dragged deeper. I attempted to paddle against the current, but it had a grip on me. I watched as the nauc was swept away disappearing before my eyes. There was no escape. And I knew even if I did somehow get out, the air was toxic.

The pressure of the water pounded against me. It squeezed my lungs. I needed air that wasn't there...and I had no choice. I inhaled the water, the liquid rushed inside me. It's amazing how peaceful it all felt. My body felt relaxed and almost soothed. There was no pain... just comfort.

I remembered her face and smiled as my vision began to tunnel. Gods, I wish I could have held her one last time...

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[OH FOR MATES SAKE](#)

Chapter 37 Is he...?





## CLOVER

I needed to get to Sion. Odell said that he was ready to kill himself trying to get to me. He was so desperate to save me that he attacked anyone who tried to stop him. He must be so worried. I needed him to know I was alright.

“We need to go faster,” I said and the little man in front of me grunted as he kept up his pace. Odell and I have been following the little gnome hybrid down an icy path. Going back the way I came in was risky. Even with Odell, I would just barely make it to the surface... if I made it. I found out I was dragged down here by a squid monster. It could swim faster than Odell and I barely made it.

I told Stilts, the little gnome, that I had almost drowned and he laughed... cackled was more like it. Apparently, I was never in any real danger. The

monster squid has a magical air bubble so I could have breathed freely the whole time. I guess the purpose of it, is so the squid can capture land prey and keep them alive for fresh eating.

It was all an elaborate plan to try to force out my powers. I was extremely annoyed. At the very least, she should have only tricked me. She could have told the others, so they didn't worry. Then Sion wouldn't have injured anyone trying to get to me. I know the goddess didn't expect that reaction... honestly, I didn't either. I didn't blame him for it though. How could I? Not when he was just trying to protect me.

Just thinking about his hurt and worry made me nauseous. My poor Sion. I bet he was worrying about me right now and if I was okay. He was probably afraid of how I would feel after I heard what he did. I needed to get to him and reassure him. I needed to see him so that I could calm down.

“We are almost at the outer edge. We will wait for your companions there.” Stilts said in his gruffer voice.

My heart was racing. I was feeling incredibly anxious. My whole body began to slightly tremble, as a burning sensation gripped my heart. It felt like a knife had been driven into me and I raised my hand to grab my chest.

“Clover, are you alright?” Odell asked as we entered the dark gray circular stone room.

I shook my head and stepped backwards until I reached the cold stone wall. What was going on? I felt like I was suffocating. A wave of nausea hit me, and I leaned my body over, resting my hands on my knees. My head was pulsating, and my body was frantic.

I needed to do something, but what? Something was happening and my existence was screaming at me. Suddenly a pain gripped over me, radiating from my mark on my neck. It poured downwards and through my veins like acid burning and eating at me.

My breathing was erratic as my vision faded in and out. My chest was being squeezed until I was almost gasping for air. Tears were pooling from my eyes as I struggled to stand. My body was seized with uncontrollable tremors.

A pulsating wave ripped through me as a void began to fill in my soul. Dear gods... Sion. It was Sion.

“SION!” I screamed as my eyes traveled over the other passageways. Something was wrong. Something had shaken the bond... it felt severed. I reached up touching the mark on my neck, trying to feel my connection to him. My fingers traced over the

proof I belonged to him.

I was hysterical and desperate. I ran. With a drive I didn't know was there, I moved my legs. I didn't know where I was going. I was letting instinct lead me. The tears continued to burn my eyes as I sprinted into the darkness. I could hear the scuffling sound of the other two as they ran after me. But it was like everything was disappearing.

What was happening? Was Sion okay? He had to be okay. He was okay. He just got hurt but he would heal. He was a lycan and was just fine. He just needed me. We needed each other. I would hold him in my arms, and everything would be okay. Everything was fine. I continued to lie to myself. Waves of agony washed over me as I staggered forward.



Through my blurry teary eyes, I saw Demetri. My eyes quickly followed over Kai, Logan, and Conner. Sion was not with them. They were just standing in the tunnel as if they were hesitating about what to do.

“Sion?” I felt like I was hyperventilating. They all had crestfallen faces as their red-swollen eyes looked up at me. I shook my head and kept walking forward.

“He’s okay. He’s okay... he is okay.”

Kai walked up to me, wrapping me in his embrace,

pulling my head to his chest. “He’s gone...” His hoarse voice choked out in a sob. I shook my head as I struggled in his embrace.

“No... no no no no no no  
NOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!” My voice didn’t sound like my own. It was a mixture of hysterics and the cries of a shattered soul. Kai gripped me tighter in his arms and I felt his own dampness land on my arms.

“Gods... I’m so sorry. It hurts like hell... I know. I’m so sorry. I couldn’t do anything. It should have been me... not him.” Kai’s voice was shaking as his arms began to tremble.

“I have to see him.” I pushed back as Kai held me firmly.

“You can’t.”



“I’m going to see him!” I yanked myself away and this time Demetri and Conner formed a wall to block me. Demetri stood there in his human form with one of his hands outstretched towards me.

“Clover... he has fallen into a ravine where there is a river with a deadly vortex current. And... if by some miracle he survived that there is a deadly miasma cloud above the river. Impossible... he couldn’t have...” Demetri stopped when I shot him a look. I didn’t want to hear him say it.

“Clover...” Kai placed his hand on my shoulder as his eyes met with mine. “When... when my mate died... I felt it...” I watched as he tapped his chest. “I felt it here. There was a pain that radiated inside of me, and I felt empty.” His eyes were now searching mine. I shook my head not wanting to listen to what he was telling me.

“He has to be fine... he has to be fine. He’s... he’s all I have.” I felt like my throat was constricting as I fought to get air.

“Luna, you are not alone. We are here... you have us, and the Chance pack needs you.” Conner’s voice was firm but when I looked at his eyes, I could see his pain. The evidence of his tears over his swollen red face.

“We can’t leave him here.” I whimpered as I felt myself shutting down. Luna? How could I do this without Sion? I can’t. I won’t. I won’t believe he is dead. I stepped back and shook my head. Lies. This was all another lie. Sion was just hiding around the corner. Or maybe he went on ahead? This was all an elaborate set up to get me to use my powers.

This is just a nightmare. I’ll wake up and Sion will be

there. He will hold me and tell me that everything is okay. He will tell me that he will never leave me. We are going to have a family together. I looked at my hands and it was as if I couldn't feel them. In fact, my whole body felt numb. I was breathing erratically and couldn't accept what I was being told. It all was becoming too much.

"I'm going to find him." I looked up at the others with determination as I tried to hold myself together. I couldn't walk away like this. Deep inside, something felt like it was building up inside of me. As if I was under pressure and something was about to break free. It was overwhelming and all consuming. My mind was now focusing on Sion. He was the only one that mattered. I needed to find him.

I stepped forward looking at the others who were blocking my path. "Stand aside," I said in a firm voice as something began to radiate around me.

“Clover... there is nothing there but death. We need to leave.” Demetri’s voice was sounding faint. I saw his lips moving and heard his voice, but it was like he was far away from me. I continued to walk forward and then arms grabbed onto me. Stopping me. They were stopping me from going to Sion.

The confined energy inside of me was at its limit. “Move!” It was like there was an explosion inside of me. Everyone around me went flying, crashing into the walls. My legs gave out and I collapsed on the ground. My vision began to tunnel. In the small circle of my vision, I watched as the gnomes’ eyes glowed blue. He was the only one still standing and he walked towards me. He leaned down to look at me with his gleaming eyes shining at me.

“Now isn’t that interesting.” The gnome's mouth moved but it wasn’t his voice. It was the voice of the

goddess Shiva. “Rest...”

As if on command, my eyes closed, and everything went black.

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I could smell smoke and hear the sound of a fire crackling as I began to wake up. At first, I couldn't remember what happened. Where was I? What had happened?

“She needs time.” I heard Kai's voice. “She will never fully recover. I haven't but in time she will learn to move on. I still cry for my mate... but I am able to function now.”

No. My memories began to flash in my mind like a reel. No... my mate wasn't dead. I couldn't accept it. I couldn't process something like that. Every cell in my

body was ready to fight against this reality. Then I remembered the glowing blue eyes of Stilts. I sat up and searched the area.

“Clover...” Odell said in a soothing voice as my eyes scanned over everyone. I found my target and I glared at him.

“Is this another one of her games?!” I growled as I stood up. The gnome sat there quietly watching me as I walked over to him. “Is this another lesson?” He still didn’t answer me, and I found myself livid. “I want to speak to her! She can see me through you, can’t she? That is why she left you with me. Can you hear me?! Shiva?!”

“I might have some unorthodox ways of testing powers, but I wouldn’t kill someone for it. Even I have my limits.” A woman’s tongue clicked angrily. A blue light grew next to the gnome until it took form. Shiva

stood there studying me as if I was a specimen.

“You... you didn’t touch Sion?” I watched as a sneer formed over her face and she rolled her eyes.

“Of course, I didn’t touch your mate. Though had I known he was the key to unlocking your powers I could have worked that angle earlier.”

“So... is he... is he...” I couldn’t form the words as nausea washed over me. I saw how her eyes softened and I couldn’t bear to hear her words. So many sympathetic eyes on me. I wanted to disappear.

I took in a deep breath as I fixated my gaze on her. I needed to at least hear it. “Is he dead?” I wanted to vomit but I got the words out. I watched as she averted her gaze from me and turned her head away. Oh gods no...

“Da.mn... I hate being put in this position.” I heard her voice mutter as she turned back to face me. My hands began to tremble as I bit my bottom lip to stop it from quivering. She was about to break me, but I wouldn’t disappear yet. I would use this pain to relieve the Chance pack. I would use this anger to kill Dr. Snyder. This was all her fault. We were only here because of her. I felt a darkness creep inside of me. Yes, this was all her fault, and I would kill her for it.

I wouldn’t fall apart. Not yet. So, I looked into Shiva’s eyes with a newfound determination, ready to fuel myself for war.

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[OH FOR MATES SAKE](#)





Clover

I watched as Shiva turned to glare at the gnome. She then tapped her chin and a smirk rose on her face.

“You do it, Stilts.”

“Me?!” I watched as Stilts pointed at himself with his mouth open.

“Yes, you will do it. Then I had nothing to do with this. I didn’t say a word. Nothing at all.” I watched as Shiva suddenly nodded her head, tapping her fingers together. “In fact, I am going to leave... yes...you know what to do...” She turned to look at me and nodded. “I will see you again, Clover.” Instantly she vanished as the gnome began to grumble unpleasant words under his breath.

“I don’t work for her! When did I sign up for this?”

Bullies! That's what the deities are... bullies. Selfish, self-absorbed bullies. Ta ta ta ta ta ta..." Stilts hopped around as he held his hand that was beginning to freeze. With a low growl he scowled and folded his arms over his chest. I watched as he began to walk away. "Well?" He called, glancing over his shoulder. "Are you coming?"

"Where?" I asked and he shrugged.

"It is nice weather for a journey." He looked into my eyes and there was something unreadable there. Something that was almost hopeful. I nodded my head and looked at the others. They were already stepping closer and ready to follow our little companion.

Conner came to my side, and I looked up at him. "Let's go for a walk, luna."

We followed the gnome in the darkness. I know I shouldn't feel this flickering flame of hope inside of me, but I did. I glanced around at the others who had all remained silent. No one was ready to talk. Instead, we all followed Stilts to wherever he may be leading us.

We walked quietly in the dark. Conner held me close to his side guiding me in the dark. My wolf vision was faint, and I also still had wounds on my body from earlier. I would figure things out with Sheena later.

Shiva did not come out and say Sion was dead, so that had to mean something right? Or was the gnome leading us to his body so we could at the very least put him to rest?

My body felt weak. Maybe it was the mental exhaustion from worrying about Sion? Or it could be from using that overwhelming power earlier. I was still

shocked over it. They didn't just move on my command but were thrown out of the way. Was this part of my powers too? Was it just a strange combustion of my powers or did I also have Telekinesis...

I reached up subconsciously and rubbed the mark on my neck. Sion's mark had felt dull and empty. There was nothing to it. The small mark he had left me was beginning to fade. I pressed into it with my fingers, desperate to feel it. This time when I pushed on it, my fingers began to buzz for a split second before it vanished. My eyes widened as I looked ahead. I was no longer hopeful that Sion was alive, because now I knew that he was. Something was wrong with our connection though. Sion... I'm coming.

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Sion

I woke up in a dark, empty void. Nothing. It was an empty black space that stretched for eternity.

“Am I dead?” I muttered to myself quietly.

“Yes.” A deep bass voice answered into the void. “But you don’t have to be.”

“I’ll do anything just send me back!” I pleaded as I turned in the dark searching for something.

“Anything?”

“Yes.” I didn’t hesitate. I didn’t care... it didn’t matter what the cost was, as long as I could go back to Clover. In the dark, I saw a speck of light and I ran towards it. The light grew brighter and brighter.

And then I felt like I was being lifted and pulled out of the emptiness...

I began coughing wildly, throwing up water. My whole body ached as I leaned my head on the grass.

Grass? I blinked, trying to figure out where I was. I was no longer in the dark. How was I alive? Who brought me back?

I could hear the sound of someone vomiting and I sat up more, my eyes searching for the sound. Near the river's edge was a woman with long black hair. She was frantically rinsing her mouth and spitting the contents out.

"So gross. So gross. Yuck, I have wet mutt on my lips now. I'm going to throw up again. So repulsive." The woman then turned and glared at me as if I had done something to her.

"What happened? Did you save me?" I asked as she shuddered, shaking her hands.

"I smell so gross! Yes, I saved you. Then you weren't breathing, so I had to force air into your mouth and BLEH..." The woman retched and puked onto the ground as she shook her head. "I can't even think about it without getting sick."

Okay, this type of reaction was weird. Why save my life if I was this repulsive to her? I glanced around, not recognizing the area. I needed to get to Clover. “How far away are we from the mines?” I didn’t recognize her scent, but she must be an aquatic creature of sorts to have had the ability to rescue me. She wiped her mouth and grimaced as she stood to her feet.







“I don’t know. I just dragged you to the opening as fast as I could. This is wherever the magical vortex spit us out... How do you expect me to think right now?” She spat out at me as she started spitting on the ground. “God, it’s never going to leave my mouth.”

“I’m... sorry?” I felt like I had to apologize to her for saving my life. It was clearly a disgusting inconvenience for her. “Why did you save me?”

“Because you are the marked one.” I watched as she laid down in the grass trying to rub it over her body. What did the marked one mean?

“The what?”

She stopped what she was doing to point at my face. “The star! The mark! Do you not even know your own mark?”

“This?” I pointed up at the side of my face. “The mating mark from my mate?”

I listened as she scoffed and shook her head. “Idiot. That is a celestial mark... a blessing from the deities.

You are with a blessed mate... you know... a celestial maiden. Someone chosen by the gods because of their importance.”

“I heard she had received blessings from the goddesses—” I started to say, and she clicked her tongue, snapping her eyes up to mind in irritation.

“This is why canine shifters annoy me. They don’t pay attention to things that they should. The deities leave things in this world to help keep it safe. In a time of great tragedy there are things that will be here to help protect the world from total destruction. There are bridges, doorways, keys, weapons, and champions.” She shrugged and shook her head. “You have also been blessed. I mean...drowning people is sort of my thing... but your mark called me to save you. I was commanded to rescue you.”

“Commanded, by who?” I asked, and she looked at

me as if I was an idiot.

“That doesn’t concern you.” She clicked her tongue, shaking her head.

I reached up and touched the mark on my face. It was more than a mate mark it was also a type of blessing. I looked at the woman in front of me. I couldn’t tell exactly what she was, but I think she was some type of fairy.

“Are you a fairy?” I asked and the woman sighed in exasperation. I didn’t realize it was an offensive question, but I guess it was.

“I am a high dark fairy you mongrel. A kelpie. And my poor body has been tainted by your filth! Ugh... I smell so bad.”

I stood up, taking in my surroundings. I looked over at

the kelpie and nodded my head in appreciation.

“Thank you for saving me. I need to get back to someone so if you could point me in the right direction...”

“It’s Epona. And I didn’t agree to help any more than I already have. You are lucky you are alive. Stay out of the water, pup. You are no water dog.”

The woman then jumped into the river, vanishing without telling me where I was. I mean, I was grateful to be alive. I just didn’t know where I was, and I had to get to Clover. The sun was just starting to rise, so it was morning... but what morning? I had no idea how long I had been here or where here was. Yeah, I could figure it out, but I just wanted to run towards Clover.

According to Epona, the magical vortex just spat us out. I could be anywhere. Who knows where the

random hole opened. The wind began to blow tossing the leaves around me. On the breeze, I could hear a faint whistling sound that was growing louder. From the shadows a man dressed in all black with a long dark trench coat walked towards me. His hands were in his pockets, and he wore a black cowboy looking hat. His face was hidden in the shadow the hat made as he continued to whistle.

“Nice day for a swim, eh?” The man lifted his head and grinned at me. It was the same bass sounding voice from the black void I was in. His eyes were covered by dark sunglasses, so I couldn’t see his eyes. Something about him made my body tense up. I didn’t know who he was, but my beast could sense he was dangerous. I took a small step away from him, not wanting him to get too close.

“Wise. Those are great qualities to have young Alpha Sion.”



Okay, that got my attention. How did he know my name? And if this was the man who saved me, he had to have great power. I narrowed my eyes at him as I prepared to shift if I needed to defend myself. I didn't know what he wanted of me.

“Now, that is no way to act. Especially not to your savior. Who do you think ordered the kelpie to save you?”

I tightened my hands at my side, feeling the deathly aura emitted from this man. I rolled my shoulders back and stood confidently in front of him.

“You did... why? And kelpies belong to the fairy kingdom so why would she listen to you?” I didn't feel like he meant me any harm, but my beast was restless in this man's presence. He may have brought me back to life but I didn't trust him.

“They belong to the fairy kingdom of course but kelpies are dark fairies. They can belong to the blessed and the unblessed. We tend to get along because of the games they like to play.” The man’s voice was like ice. Cold and collected. This man was here for a reason, and I wanted to know who he was and what he wanted.

“The games they like to play?”

“Yes, games that interest me like drowning creatures.” I watched as the man’s lips curled up.

The man stepped closer, but I held my ground, staring at the stranger. “How do you know me? You know my name... what is yours?”

“Of course, I know your name. A piece of my powers has been granted to you in that little mark.” The man

lifted his hand from his pocket, pointing at my face. So, this man was implying he was a deity... but I thought only the goddesses blessed Clover? “It was her mother’s last demand before I took her life, guiding it to her next destination.” Wait a minute... was he saying he was death? The one in charge of collecting the souls of the dead. “I am the one who allowed you to live. You died... I could have collected your soul... but I held it...”

“Because you want something,” I stated plainly and watched as he shifted to face me fully. His large frame body held eerily still as his hidden eyes stared at me.

“Yes.”

“I figured that is why you decided to save me.”

“I’m not so kindhearted that I brought you back just so

you can live. There is more to it. You died with my powers inside of you. Powers that were exchanged by the mate mark. You now live with enhanced power. A power you only have now because I made sure you lived.”

I could see where this was going. He wanted me to use these powers on something. And honestly, I owed him. I was alive and would get to see Clover again because of him. Whatever he needed of me I was ready. It is what I agreed to... anything.

“What do you want me to do?”

“Good, it is better if you just accept your fate because it can’t be changed.”

Okay, that I didn’t like the sound of. I thought he just wanted me to do something... now it sounded like I was being given a new role.

“Now wait... I have a pack. I am the Alpha of the Chance pack and I have a mate who—”

“None of that has changed but YOU have. You are no longer a lycan... you are now a lupine. The first of your kind, larger, stronger... more advanced in every way. You will create a new species that will be a champion in the future. For you to receive such a gift, there is a price. One that will be your burden.”

I am no longer a lycan? I didn't feel any different. I narrowed my eyes at the man in front of me and, in a low growl, I asked him, “Who are you?!”

“I am Reapus, the death phantom. And you... are no longer just Alpha Sion. You are a lost soul collector. Someone who can put tainted spirits to rest. You are now the death lupine... Anubis. Anubis... you can choose again.”

“Hold up... I’m a soul collector? Anubis?” This was very overwhelming, but as he spoke, I felt a power growing inside of me. “And choose what exactly?”

“When you died, the bond that you had with your mate cracked. You can choose to mend it... or you can choose a new fate. You can choose a new mate.”

I scoffed at the death phantom. Reapus, was a death god, the one most referred to as the Grim Reaper. He guided willing souls on their way. The souls that refused could become tainted vengeful spirits. He never came back for them. This was now what he was tasking me with, to collect the lost souls of the world. Honestly... I didn’t care. As long as it meant I could be with Clover I would do anything.

He was telling me I could choose a new mate. He didn’t understand. Not even death could sever our

bond. So, it put a c\*\*\*k in it... I would reclaim her again. I would rechoose her over and over. Through every lifetime. She was the only one for me.

“Choosing her will mean your descendants will shoulder a heavy burden. It will be up to them to—”

“There is no OTHER choice. There never was a choice. It’s her. Always... only...forever... it is her. Alive and beyond death... I choose her. Whatever that will mean for the future... I am confident any descendant of mine will find a way.” I met his eyes confidently as a smile crept across his lips. He nodded his head and stuffed his hand back into his pocket. He nodded his head in the distance and I followed with my eyes. I now noticed a small child leaning against a tree. The child’s gray body was curled up in a ball, silently lying there.

“It is now time for you to learn how to do your job.

Shift, Anubis!”

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[OH FOR MATES SAKE](#)

## Chapter 39 Lupine



Sion

When I shifted into my lycan form it was easy...natural. My lycan always stood in the light, we ran in the sun, I knew the feeling of that beast. I understood it... it was me.

Shifting into this... this new foreign form... was anything but simple. I didn't have control over it as my body began to change. I didn't recognize this; it was



as if its cold fingers gripped into me.

Pain.

Agony.

Sorrow.

Doubt.

Darkness.

Cold.

Unfeeling.

Hurt.

Loneliness.

Regret...

In waves it beat against me, as a shadow it encircled me. Like razor blades it cut into me bleeding out the light inside of me. The air was no longer fresh... it was thick and musty. Magma was rippling through my veins, and I fell to my knees. The world clouded over as the brightness receded.

Volcanic pressure raced through me, washing away my light. The sound of my bones cracking echoed in the air. I threw my head back and screamed as the agony usurped me. The quake of pain swarmed over me as the snapping continued. The tightness gripped my chest as I struggled for air against my straining throat walls.

I gasped in the stagnant environment that failed to bring me fresh oxygen. Whiteness consumed my knuckles, as the unrelenting torturous pain assaulted

me. I swallowed down the scream that wanted to escape as a loud POPPING sound was heard.

I collapsed on the ground as the biting pain finally subsided. I squeezed my fingers together and my eyes widened. I had fingers! I glanced at my short black hair covering my arms and pushed up. I sat up on my knees and my heart stopped.

The world was gray. There was no sun. The grass was black, the sky was dark, and the trees were withered. It was death. Everything looked like death. Where was I?

I lifted my hand up to touch my face. My head was in the shape of my lycan but... nothing else was familiar.

I slowly stood up, the earth seeming farther away, as the monster I became stood erect. I stared at my clawed fingers and then looked over my body. I had

on black chained shorts. I was shirtless and under the thin layer of black fur my abdominal muscles protruded.

I lifted my gaze over to see Reapus was standing there quietly observing me.

“What have—” I stopped and gasped. I spoke. I didn’t mind link... I spoke in a voice I didn’t recognize. It was a low gruffer voice... one of a beast. A shadow crept inside of me trying to snuff out the rest of my light.

No. Whatever this new power was... I was still in charge. I wasn’t going to be taken over.

A flicker of light began to spark inside of me. At the same time, the wind began to swirl around me, as I began to reclaim myself. I wouldn’t allow this to completely take over who I was. Black smoke swirled menacingly and through it the colors of the world

flickered in and out.

Flashes of light erupted in the sky as lightning began to illuminate the world. The swirling smoke rapidly swam around me encompassing me in a funnel.

Darkness hissed around me and bounced off my skin. The shadows seemed to groan around me as the light inside of me grew.

What started out as a flickering light was now burning bright. The glow reached my skin making the shadows hiss away. The darkness rampaged wildly around me like a tornado and I was in its eye. I felt like it was trying to swallow me up. I could feel a force pulling me back.

Something grabbed hold of me. A possessive strong pink energy wrapped around me like a rope. The gentle warmth caressed my skin as a smile reached my face. The bond may have cracked but it was still

there.

Was she near? How was her energy reaching me? I was no longer being pulled down but up. I focused on the light, my angel. I concentrated on what used to be there... the bond. This was when the sunlight kissed my body.

It was so simple... Clover was my light. She was the one who could keep the darkness away. As I thought about her, I felt my body shifting and changing. Fingers were now paws, the fur was shaggier, I became slightly shorter and could still stand. This time... I looked less human and more lycan. I imagine this was the form of a lupine.

Then everything imploded. The light. The dark. It all went inside of me.

The grass was green again. The sky was blue, the

river was full of life and on the move.

“Well... I’ll be damned. The moon bit.ch was right.”







I heard Reapus say as I panted, trying to catch my breath. I went to ask him something but this time I could only growl. In this form I couldn't speak.

"I bet you are full of questions." Reapus was analyzing me curiously, as if he was waiting on something. I could feel her light, but I couldn't see her. It was like her energy came to me, knowing I needed it.

"Sion, you have accomplished... what shouldn't be able to be done. You can now exist in both realms. The one of the living and of the dead. You will stand

as Anubis in the spirit realm and among the living you will be a lupine.”

I growled at him, baring my teeth. You were going to keep me in the spirit realm?!

“I was under good authority that you would be able to exist in both realms... though I haven’t seen it happen for those who aren’t gods. It wasn’t worth worrying you about... you didn’t have a choice anyways. Either you would or you wouldn’t.” I watched as his lips curled upwards. “Of course, I see you had some help...” He cleared his throat and looked in the distance. “We will discuss that later. For now, let’s see what you can do. Can you do your job effectively here? It would be easier on the other side. In time, you should be able to master moving between the two realms seamlessly. That is, of course, if you...” He shook his head and took in a sharp breath of air. “Over there is a grudgeful spirit.”

I was angry but I kept it all hidden inside of me. I didn't like the idea that I had just been played with. I was told I could live again and be with Clover. Now, it turns out that was only true if I managed to exist in both realms. I needed to know more. I died and this is now my price to pay.

I turned and stared at the gray looking child. As I did, the world around the kid began to flicker. In the realm of the living, it looked like a child but in the dark spirit realm it was a shadowy monster. A sense of ill will and resentment began to wash through me.

“You feel it Sion? The malice being projected. This child drowned in the river. He refused to journey with me so that he could see his mother once again. He waited for them to pay their respects... they never came. And this is what he turned into. A spirit that tries to drown anyone who goes for a swim.”

So why not take care of it? I mentally growled at him.

“Because that is not my job. I don’t collect the vengeful spirits. I only take the willing.” He turned and looked at me. “Dealing with the rest is your job.”

So, what am I supposed to do?

“That is up to you. You can either destroy him or save him IF you can...”

Destroy him? You mean obliterate his soul? No... he was just a child. He was—

“He isn’t anymore. He has killed and will kill again. You can see the beast beyond the child.”

I leaned forward so that I was on all fours instead of two feet. It still felt more natural this way. Plus, I would

be faster. I eyed up the child and shook my head.  
How can I save him?

“IF. That is an if. You’ll have to beat the spirit to submission. Make him let go of his grudge. If he refuses, you have no choice but to destroy it or it will destroy you. And if it succeeds, it will eat your soul.”

I know the safest option would be for me to catch it off guard and kill it. That isn’t who I was though. The child was innocent and became corrupt. I wouldn’t feel right unless I did everything I could. I took a few steps towards the child and then heard Reapus’ voice.

“Oh, and Sion...”

I turned and looked at him.

“You’ll need to use that dark power you are fearing.”

His voice dropped and he looked at me with a stone face expression.

Another trick?

“None of it was ever a trick and neither is this. You can’t win without it. Sion... I didn’t kill you. Remember that. I gave you a chance to live again.” His voice was hard and bitter as he spat those words out. “You stand here because of me.”

I am under no one’s command but my own! I growled at him, and a faint smile reached his lips.

“That isn’t true though... is it?” I watched as his lips curled up more. “You are under HER command...”

Always...

Did he think that would upset me? I will openly admit it. For her, I will do anything. I don't care who thinks it is wrong for an alpha to submit to his mate. I love her above all.

"I'm glad there is someone who can put you on a leash." There was more in his tone than I cared to explore. It seemed that there was a weight there... another burden.

I turned away from Reapus and walked towards the kid. I needed to end this as fast as I could so I could get to Clover. I was still worried about her. Was she okay? What happened when she was taken? Did she meet up with the others?

As I approached, the child lifted his head. The little boys' eyes connected with mine. At the same time, the world flickered, and I could see the red eyes of his beast. A guttural growl crept from the boy.



The child stood to face me. It knew. The body of the child morphed in and out between beast and child.

“I forgot to mention...” I heard Reapus yell. “No soul collector has ever been able to purify a tainted spirit.”

I know it was a warning for me to just destroy the spirit. If no one has done it before, then I would just have to be the first. I felt the energy building up inside of me, answering the threat that was growing. I took a threatening step forward and the grudgeful spirit froze. It looked like it was contemplating its next move.

At least... that is what I thought. Suddenly it lashed out. Its body whipped energy in the shape of a claw towards me. I managed to roll out of the way and back to my feet. The darkness inside of me began to seep out. Wisps of darkness protruded from me in

response to the attack. As if it was insulted.

I dug my feet in the ground and sprinted towards the spirit. Like talons, the energy around me slashed at the monster. My own claws met with him. Upon impact, cold dread crept inside of me. The spirit's feelings beginning to project into me. The dark energy began to wrap around the spirit, strangling the life out of him. It was trying to eradicate his existence.

I jumped back. This wasn't what I wanted to do. I had to bring him back.

"Don't retreat, Sion! The spirit must know there is no chance of winning. Only then will it relent and if not, you must destroy it." Reapus yelled urgently.

This was just a child who lost his life unfairly. He was emotionally wounded and probably scared. He didn't want to be this way. How could I get him to concede

without killing him? If only there was a way to hold him within my grasp without him fighting back.

The grudgeful spirit wasted no time and quickly slammed into me. Its energy pinned me down as its body hovered over me. I didn't want to obliterate his spirit, but I couldn't lose either. I had to get back to Clover. As I thought about her, the sweet light of hers greeted me. Only the energy was stronger... it was near. It began to push the spirit away from my body and I felt her presence getting closer.

"Stop." The sweetest voice in the world growled out. A pink cloud surrounded me, as it chained the spirit in its place. The spirit could no longer move. The pink cords acted like puppet strings attaching to every part of the spirit.

It was completely immobilized and, driven by instincts, I walked towards it. I kept my eyes locked with it as I

came closer. The feelings coming from the spirit began to change. The malice started to fade and, in its place, sadness and pain. The monster flickered with the child still within. The grudge began to diminish as well as the monster.

The black wisps crawled around the pink ribbons that held the child in place. His eyes met with mine and I felt his humanity. The black energy swarmed around the child as if it was removing the impurities. A serene energy filled my insides as the swarming energy stopped. The child now looked normal.

“Thank you.” The boy said and the ropes around him fell. Reapus walked over quietly, with his outstretched hand. The boy reached out for him, the moment he touched Reapus’ hand, a white light glowed around him. As the light faded, so did the child.

I turned my head, to search for her. The voice of my

angel, who had also helped save the boy's spirit. Without her power, he wouldn't have held still like that. In this new state of mine, I could see Clover's energy. For there to be so much of it, she had to be close. My eyes scanned in the distance and there she was.

Standing there quietly watching me was my sun. Her blue pools met with mine and I watched as they began to well up with unshed tears. Was she afraid of me now? Disgusted with me now that I looked like this?

Suddenly, she ran towards me, as the tears began to flow from her eyes.

“SION!”

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## OH FOR MATES SAKE

### Chapter 40 Reunited



Clover

I felt like my body was being yanked forward. He needed me. Without hesitating, I ran. I sprinted ahead of the gnome, ignoring the yells behind me. I let my feet tell me where to go. Some powerful urge was leading me forward.

As I leapt through the thick brush my eyes were instantly drawn to him. I knew it was him even though he looked like nothing I had seen before. A shadow was hovering over him and the power I felt back in the mines surfaced again.

“Stop!” I commanded and felt the energy whipping from my body stopping the shadow. My eyes stayed on Sion as his new beast moved towards the changing shadow. I was shocked as the image of a child came through. It was only then that I noticed the other person who walked up to the child.

Even when the child vanished, my focus stayed on Sion. I knew something had happened. I felt the snap in our bond, but it was still him. My entire being knew him. My eyes began to blur as I took in a shaky breath. I had lost him. I thought I would never see him again. I thought I would never feel his warmth.

The golden eyes of his beast met with mine and I couldn't stand there any longer.

“SION!” I cried running to him. I couldn't get to him fast enough. No one else existed. No one else

mattered. His body began to change. And there he was... the warm hazel eyes of my Sion. He took a hesitant step towards me before he ran as well.

I jumped into his arms, clinging to him as he grasped onto me. Tingling sparks ignited over the contact, remembering the bond. I smashed my lips into his greedily. I didn't need air, I needed him.

My face was stained with wet tears, but I didn't care. My whole body was trembling on the inside. His fingers entangled with my hair as his tongue invaded my mouth. I welcomed the warmth of his mouth as his tongue caressed mine. His tongue moved in taking sensual possession as I savored his familiar taste.

I don't know how long we were lost in each other. Eternity wouldn't have been long enough. When our lips finally parted, our eyes met. We stood as close as we could, arms wrapped around the other. Neither



one of us wanted to let go.

“I thought you were dead.” My voice was almost a whimper as his thumbs brushed away my tears.

“I was.” His voice sounded sad, and his face looked solemn. “I was brought back... and I changed. There is a lot I need to talk to you about.” I knew the look and the tone. He was worried about me and what I would think. I brushed my fingers over the side of his face and shook my head.

“I love you Sion. No matter what... I mean, when I thought you were...” I shook my head and took in a shaky breath. “I can’t lose you, Sion. I need you.”

He leaned his forehead against mine as his thumb brushed over my cheek. I could see the way his eyes watered and the pain in his eyes. “I’m so sorry for everything. I didn’t mean to hurt anyone when you

were taken. And I—”

“Sion...” I gave him a weak smile yet sheepish smile.

“I sort of threw everyone out of my way trying to get to you too.” I watched as his eyes widened and then a rich chuckle reached his throat. “I think we might be the perfect pair.”

“I’m different now.”

“I don’t mind,” I whispered tracing my fingertips over his face. “I’m changing too.”

“Damn, man, I thought you were dead.” I heard Conner’s voice and turned my head to see the others behind me. I could see the relief in their eyes. Sion’s death was something none of us wanted to face.

“I did die...” Sion started to say and I just wanted to hold him closer. I felt incredibly protective and wanted

to shield him. Sion began to chuckle, and I looked up at him curiously. “Clover, you don’t need to wrap your energy around me... I’m okay now.” My eyes widened and my lips parted. I looked down at my hands not quite understanding. I imagined myself shielding him, but I didn’t actually do anything... did I?

“He can see your life energy.” I heard a stranger’s voice reminding me of the man I had seen earlier. “A soul collector has the ability to see life energy. It is even more powerful than your true sight.” The man flashed me a white toothy grin as I snapped my head back to Sion. A soul collector? Is that the meaning of Sion’s new form?

Sion’s lips curled down as he looked at me. I reached my hand up caressing his cheek and smiled. “My Sion... that is what you are.” I noticed the shine in his eyes almost instantly as the stranger chuckled.

“Yes, the my part... that has me very curious. The bond between the two of you has been cracked but yet your power still is wrapped around him. You pulled him from the spirit realm. A sheya’s power is almost disturbing. What was Endymion thinking giving you so much power?” The stranger was staring at me as if he was waiting for me to answer.



“Endymion?” Logan asked.

“Endymion is a sheya’s deity. Of course, this one is also a werewolf, so she has the power couple backing her, both the moon and earth deities. Still...” The stranger’s hat shadowed his eyes as he faced me. “They can’t stop what fate you choose.” I didn’t like the sound of that. And apparently, neither did Sion as he growled, pulling me slightly behind him.

“What exactly does that mean?” Sion growled.

“Now you want me to finish explaining? I was trying to tell you before when I brought up you choosing another mate...”

“That is out of the question. There is no one else for me—” Sion growled as the man cut him off angrily.

“But will you subject her to being your mate?!”

Those words got Sion’s attention and I watched as he narrowed his eyes at the man. “What do you mean...”

“Clover has attached her energy to you. This is why you can stand in the world of the living. She is the reason you will be able to move freely between the two realms. But taking her as your mate will come at a binding price. The payment for you to be able to walk

among the living now is that she will have to walk among the dead with you... when her time has ended. If you mend the bond, it will be binding.”

Well, this didn't seem so bad to me. It meant I would always be by Sion's side in life and in death. I noticed how Sion noticeably paled as his lips pursed together tightly.

“Wow that is unfair.” I heard Demetri's voice and I could see Odell frowning as well. I didn't understand what the big deal was.

“So, she won't get to move on. She will be stuck in the spirit realm...” Odell looked down at the ground.

“Sion will be forced to collect souls on the other side... for eternity?” Kai's voice was a faint whisper as the stranger nodded his head. I still didn't see what was bad in this. If Sion had to collect souls, then I



would want to be by his side. An eternity with Sion sounded perfect to me no matter where we were.

“What is with you guys? This means I would always be by Sion’s side. Would this have any effect on our children?” This was the only thing that I could see that could be a problem. The stranger shook his head no and I shrugged. “Sounds like a good deal to me. An eternity with Sion is exactly what I want.”

“Clover, I couldn’t ask you to—” Sion started to say and I snorted cutting him off.

“You didn’t.” I said in a matter-of-fact tone. “And if this was reversed you would stay with me without hesitation. So don’t ask me to do differently than you would.” I challenged him with my gaze.

“This is eternity in a world that is dark and cold.” It didn’t matter what Sion said.

“Then I will bring the light. It’s not like I’d let you part from me anyways. You are mine forever whether you like it or not.” I watched as a small smile reached his lips as his hands trailed over my sides.

“Why wouldn’t I like it? You are my sun, my love, my everything... of course I want you with me. I just feel cruel and selfish—”

“Actually, she is the cruel and selfish one.” The stranger said in an unforgiving tone. “Without asking you she has threaded your soul to hers. Look at it Sion... see how her energy has entangled itself in you. It is—”

“Perfect.” Sion’s eyes were glued to mine.

“Idiot... do you even know what that means?” The stranger let out an airy laugh.

“Wait... what did I do?” I didn’t mean to do anything. It seems my powers are awakening at a frightening speed, and it projects my will on its own.

I watched as the stranger walked towards me. Sion gripped me tighter as the man came closer. He stopped right in front of me and reached his hand out. He seemed to be studying something with a scowl.

“I didn’t even have a choice in the matter.” The man mumbled as his eyes met with mine. He had eyes that looked like autumn leaves. There were many colors around his iris that seemed to be drilling into me. “You connected your lifeline with his. If he dies you will be pulled into the spirit realm too.” The man looked up at Sion. “If you mark her, her fate will be sealed to yours.”

That’s when I clicked my tongue angrily. “Haven’t we

already been over this? It doesn't matter to me as long as I am with Sion. My energy knows how I feel. If something happened to Sion, there is no life for me anyways—”

“Wrong!” The man's voice was like thunder that shook the earth. “You have to survive. You are part of a bigger picture.”

“Then we won't die.” I snapped back at him and watched as his lips curled up at me.

“Perhaps you don't realize who you are yelling at.”

“Perhaps I don't care. Don't act like you have a bigger claim on my mate over me because I have no problems enlightening you.” I felt Sion tug me back into his chest as the man lifted his brows. Sion held me protectively against his chest as fire for me burned in his eyes.

The man's eyes danced in amusement as a smile reached his lips. "He is what you want then? No matter what?"

I scoffed and arched my brow at the man. "I think I made that clear." I made direct eye contact with the stranger. I didn't care who he was. He knew he was trying to get Sion to change his mind by making him think he wasn't being fair to me. It was a bunch of crap. Sion would have followed me into hell if I moved there. Why wouldn't I do the same?

"Well... I have never had an Anput before but you decided you wanted this role all on your own. You will also be a soul collector with Anubis in the spirit realm when your time on earth is over."

"Now wait—" Sion began but I instantly cut him off.

“As long as I am with Sion.” I replied confidently and then stopped as what he said finally clicked in. I looked up at Sion, “Anubis?”

“There is a lot to catch you up on. I guess I can give you some time for that before I take Sion with me.”

“I’m not going anywhere with you Reapus.” I heard Sion growl. Reapus... as in the Grim Reaper? That was who this stranger was?!

“I need to help you get transporting between the realms under control before you reclaim your mate. Otherwise, you will drag her there with you now that she has connected herself to you.” Reapus answered calmly with a shrug.

“Can’t I stay with him?” Panic seized my insides at the idea of him leaving me again. I lost him once; I couldn’t lose him again. I watched as he shook his

head.

“No, you can’t and it is important he masters this. He has the ability to stand between the two realms. Which means he can see and hear what happens in the living but not be seen. Well, most won’t be able to see him.” Reapus’ eyes met with mine as his face grew serious. “It may not seem fair... it may actually seem cruel... but when the deities can no longer interfere...”

“Oh my you are so dramatic!” A familiar woman’s voice said loudly as a blue light manifested beside Reapus. Her blue hair tossed in the wind as she reached out to poke Reapus in the chest. “This is why you have problems making friends. Quit being so weird.”

“This isn’t your business.”

“Gosh you are still wearing that hat. Do yourself a favor and burn it. It isn’t a good look for you.” I watched as Shiva tried to reach for the hat and was blocked by a wave of shadows.

“If I recall you used to like this hat...”

Okay, I was picking up on an underlying tone there. I watched as Shiva sneered at the death god, her lips curling up poisonously.

“The hat was perfect for covering your face.”

The two of them stood there quietly in a stand-off. The uncomfortable aura swirled around us until Shiva finally spoke up again.

“You can quit the dramatics. I know you have a flare for it but enough already.”



“He needs to learn—”

“Before I take Sion with me...” Shiva said in a mocking tone which showed she had been watching us. She clicked her tongue and laughed, “If that isn’t a flare for the dramatics.” She turned and looked at me as she shook her head. “Don’t mind him he can be a child at times. He will need to borrow your unhinged mate... really you need to work on that. You can’t go mindlessly slashing others...” She said, looking at Sion before she turned to look at Reapus. “But there is no reason you can’t bring him back and forth between training sessions. Gosh, you act like you can’t instantly teleport between the two realms. That is what I mean by being dramatic.”

I looked over at Reapus, who opened his mouth and then stopped. A sheepish smile curled upwards as he let out a chuckle. He removed his hat, running his hand through his golden hair that had been hidden. “I

didn't even think of that." I watched as he nodded his head and then looked at Sion.

"It's settled... I'll be back for you soon." Reapus then turned and looked at Shiva. "And we need to chat." I listened as Shiva scoffed and then the two of them vanished.

For a moment, we all stood there quietly taking everything in. Sion's hand pressed into my waist as he began to lead me away from the others.

"We need to talk."

Note: I'll try to have another update by the 22nd

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