## OH FOR MATES SAKE Chapter 61 Kisme

I didn't know what to say. I stood there quietly staring at everyone. I felt Sion's warm arm come to rest around my waist and I looked up at him. His sweet hazel eyes were glowing down at me. It looked like he was so proud.

I felt bad that the first thing I would be doing to the Nova pack was to drag them into a war. Looking over everyone none of them seemed to have any reservations. It was as if the battle with Doug erased any doubts anyone may have had. I watched as Doug walked up in front of me and he nodded his head in reverence.

"It is time we finally have our ceremony binding you and your mate to the pack." Doug said with a small smile on his face.

"Will the Nova pack be fine with combining with the Chance pack?" I asked and watched as his eyes lit up.

"The pack will follow and merge with you. This is the will of the pack." He lifted his hands up as an affirmative yell was heard from everyone. He then looked over at Sion. "Just like when the Alpha title passed over to you, you will both feel the merger of the pack. You understand how intense this can be and may wish to prepare Clover for it."

"Can't you just say here is the pack?" Odell asked with minor annoyance.

"I am not asking them to move into a house. They will be taking on the pack itself. There is a leadership bond that must be formed. Uniting them as their leader. We are all part of the roots and they will be the trunk of the tree. So—" Doug started to explain but Odell waved him off. All Rights Reserved. JM Snap.

"Whatever." She said and shook her head.

"Give me a couple hours to have everything prepared." Doug nodded to me and then turned and began delegating orders.

"So, what will this mean for Doug and Nadine?" Kai asked as he walked up behind us.

"They will fall in line with whatever roles given to them. You both still have openings for Delta's..." Demetri said tilting his head to the side with his brows raised.

"We will see how things look in the future." Sion said as I watched his eyes travel to Conner and Gia. They both were still back near the table, lost in each other's gaze. "Excuse us for a moment... Demetri we will need a quiet space so I can prepare her for the ceremony." I watched as Demetri nodded his head and then Sion pulled me away. He gently led me towards Conner and Gia. His eyes were taking in the scene and then he was looking at Conner. As we approached, I noticed Conner stiffened and straightened up.

"Conner." I watched as Sion stared at his cousin and then he looked over at Gia. "We can't have any issues with the Diamond Pack... so this can't be something that will end badly."

"Never... I don't plan to mislead her." Conner's eyes flashed to Gia and then back to Sion. I watched as Gia stepped into his side, placing a reassuring hand on his arm. He smiled and then looked down at Gia. "You feel something between us too... don't you?" I watched as Gia's eyes widened. Her body looked tensed as her face began to stain the color red. Then she slowly nodded her head.

"I don't understand it though. You aren't my fated mate but—" Gia began but Conner pulled her closer into his side.

"There are many different types of mates in this world Gia. Some fated and some chosen. Some are even bound together through magic and powers... ordained mates. There are also the rare soul mates and true mates but even then, it isn't limited to that."

I watched Sion study Conner and then his lips parted slightly. "Are you saying..."

"I think... I mean I don't know yet... but I think she may be my kismet." A whatsmet? I didn't know what this meant but Sion seemed very intrigued. He also looked shocked. What exactly was this?

"What is a kismet?" Gia asked and I was glad I wasn't the only one who didn't know what this was.

"It is an uncommon mate bond that forms through your compatibility. You can force one into existence, you can't choose it just like a fated mate. It is when a mate bond forms by your souls recognizing their counterpart in another. A chosen mate is a mate you choose... a kismet mate is a mate your soul chooses. It is a deep connection that once formed is unbreakable." Sion said and I watched as Gia's face scrunched in confusion. All Rights Reserved. JM Snap, Oh For Mates Sake.

"Isn't that a soul mate bond then?" She asked and Sion shook his head. "No. A soul mate bond is extremely rare. Those are bonds of the soul that are already destined. Some even claim they are mates whose souls reincarnated but refused to only recognize the same soul as their mate. A kismet mate is your soul choosing their mate. It happens over time, and it isn't immediate." Sion pulled me closer, and his fingers brushed over my arm gently.

"How do we know if that's what this is?" Gia asked and I watched as a sweet smile reached Conner's lips.

"You'll hear it. If a mate bond forms through kismet, we will hear it. My beast will claim it and so will yours."

"Lycan's have true mates out there, right?" I asked and Conner looked at me nodding his head. "They do. Just as those who take chosen mates have fated mates out there." I watched as he looked down at Gia. "I would be a fool to deny what I have right in front of me. A kismet mate or not... I—" He stared at Gia with a small smile. "When your father came for you, I didn't want you to go. I was desperate. My mind was flipping through every scenario of how I could keep you with me. I don't know why but I don't care why. I just want to be around you more and I want to know everything about you."

"I didn't want to leave you either. I didn't realize it until I saw my uncle and father. I knew they had come for me, and I instantly made the decision not to leave. I don't want to walk away from... whatever this is. I have never felt anything like this before and I am curious about this feeling. I don't know why I am drawn to you but I am. I just want time to explore whatever this is." I watched as Gia shook her head slightly and smiled. "I'm not saying anything concrete. I'm just saying I..." She stopped as if she was searching for the words she wanted to say.

"You don't want to miss out on something great." Conner said and I watched as Gia smiled up at him. I think a blind man could see the connection between them. Whatever the reason, it really didn't matter. If you feel that strongly about someone that should be enough.

"Well Gia, Conner is strong and confident though I think he will be the overly protective type." I said, reminding her of our conversation from in the cave. Those were qualities she wanted in a mate. Honestly, I think her, and Conner were a good fit. As a bonus that would mean I would get to see Gia all the time. She would join with Conner since he was Sion's beta. This could be a really good thing to help with relations with the Diamond Pack. I understand Sion's concerns before. They didn't need anything else causing a rift with the lycan princess.

"How long does it take for a kismet mate bond to form? And how do you guys know about this?" I asked as Sion chuckled.

"This is ancient knowledge that most werewolves have lost over time. Lycan's pride themselves in their knowledge and it has been passed down to us from each generation."

"Drilled into us you mean." Conner added as Sion nodded his head with a laugh.

"We may have lost our lycan form for a while, but the pride remained. This knowledge is part of our heritage. It was what everyone clung to." Sion's hand brushed up my side and his fingers brushed over my cheek. "If it is a kismet bond it will depend on the bond. It can be anywhere from hours, days, weeks or even months. Those bonds form differently."

"If a bond is there then it is there. This..." I watched as Conner looked at Gia again as he searched her eyes. "This doesn't depend on that. All I want right now is to be near Gia."

"I just want to be near you too." Gia admitted with surprising boldness.

"Just make sure you don't cause any unnecessary wedges for us with the Diamond Pack." Sion said with a wink as his hand put pressure on my side. "I need to prepare Clover for the ceremony. Link me if there is anything of vital importance if you aren't too busy." I watched as a sly grin reached Sion's lips as he guided me away.

"I think those two would be good together." I said and watched as Sion nodded his head slowly. "That's up to them to decide."

"Is there a lot of mental strain for the ceremony? What was it like when you became the Alpha?" I watched as his lips curled down as his eyebrows knitted together.

"I had been preparing for it for years. It is almost like your mind feels fuller. You can feel everyone's connection inside of you. You will be able to mind link with anyone as long as they are within range. A part of their connection is felt inside of you, but it isn't like you are constantly aware of it. Usually, you only know someone is missing when you try to reach out to them and can't. At first however it can feel overwhelming. There is a lot of pressure that you have to breathe through and accept." He looked ahead at Demetri who walked over to us. "Three houses down from here is a vacant house. You can take Clover there where it will be quiet. It will still be a couple hours until all the preparations are ready." Demetri looked at me and smiled. "This is a special event, and the pack wants it to be done right."

"Thank you, Demetri. We are not to be disturbed. This is vital to make sure she is ready."

I watched as Demetri nodded his head. "Understood. We will let you know when we are ready."

Sion guided me out the door and we were greeted with the cool night air. The air was fresh and welcomed into my lungs. The grass was slightly damp from dew as it brushed against my feet. We walked past a couple houses and then we arrived at the third house. It was a gray house with white shutters. There was a white porch that covered the front of the twostory house. "Is this it?" I asked and Sion nodded his head.

"Yes, you can tell from the scent no one lives here. It is just a guest home."

We walked up the stairs and entered into the house. There was a wooden hallway that stretched in front of us. Off to the side were brown carpeted stairs with a white railing that led to the second floor. To the other side looked to be a living room. It had a light tan leather couch and a flat screen television over a fireplace mantle. The place looked quite cozy and had a comfortable atmosphere.

Sion interlaced his fingers with mine and then pulled me up the stairs. All Rights Reserved. JM Snap. I looked around curiously as I took in the layout of the home. On the second floor, there were three white doors and another long hallway. He led me down this hallway and I looked up at him curiously. Did he even have any idea where we were going? We have never been in this house before or was he just checking the house out to make sure it was empty?

Finally at the end of this hall there was another door. He opened the door pulling me in behind him. It was a large bedroom with a king size canopy bed with beige curtains. There were two large windows against the wall that streamed moonlight into the dark room. Another door was opened slightly, and I could make out that it was a bathroom.

"I'm going to prepare in here?" I asked and looked up at the hungry eyes looking down at me. I felt my body shudder in response to his lustful eyes as he stepped into me.

"Yes... I'm going to completely prepare your body." His head dropped down to mine and I felt his hot breath searing my lips. "I think it is best to start with the Alpha and Luna becoming one for the pack." I breathed in his sweet breath as I felt my heart racing in response. "We have both fully merged with ourselves as individuals... now we need to do it as a mated couple. Clover..." I felt his fingers trembling as they climbed up my sides. "Is it okay... if I don't hold back?"

I smiled and let my tongue trace the bottom of his lip. "Only if it's okay if I don't hold back." With a growl his lips smashed against mine and pure fire ignited between us.

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Trembles coursed through my body as he hungrily devoured my lips. His hands gripped onto my bottom, lifting me up. My legs wrapped around his torso as our tongues danced passionately together. His teeth were biting my bottom lip and then thrusting his tongue into my mouth forcefully. His kissing alone was making my heart race and I was barely able to get gulps of air into my lungs.

I felt my back hit the wall as his body pressed firmly into mine. I felt his erection throbbing against me, demanding to be let free. His lips parted from mine as I panted for air, his kisses had stolen my breath. He pressed his lips to my neck, licking and nipping the mark on my neck. This sent tingling waves of ecstasy through my body and a quiet moan escaped my lips.

He gently slid my body to the floor, grabbing the hem of my shirt, slipping it over my head. Then he did the same with his shirt, discarding it roughly. His lips came back, only greeting me gently this time. His hand traveled behind me unclasping my bra and soon discarding it as well. I gasped against his lips as I felt his fingers pinching my nip.ple. Then his hand began to softly caress my breast. His hand massaged one while the other slid between us, removing my bottoms. He removed both of his as well and then drew me closer. I felt his bulge against my underwear, which was now the only garment remaining.

His hand slid over my hips and around, squeezing my butt roughly with a low growl against my lips. I felt his erection twitch against me, and a soft whimper escaped my lips. Oh, gods, I wanted him so much.

His fingers latched around the hem of my underwear and effortlessly he tugged them down. He lifted my body against his as he began to steal my breath again. His tongue attacked mine as I felt my back fall onto the soft mattress. I lay there panting as he stared down at me. His eyes explored over me before they made their way back to my face.

He covered my body with his and his hand slipped between us. He first moved his palm over my mound in a circular motion, then I felt his fingers dip into my core. Another moan escaped my lips as he began to pump his fingers in me. My hands gripped into his hair, smashing his lips harder against me. I felt his erection twitch against my leg, and I arched into his fingers. I wanted him.

"Sion," I begged as his vigorous lips crashed onto

mine again. His tongue mingled with mine as he wrestled for dominance. It was greedy and full of want. He moved away from my lips, kissing the tip of my nose. Then he lowered his head, and his mouth covered my breast. My fingers entangled more in his hair as he flicked his tongue over my n\*\*\*\*e.

"Clover..." Sion mumbled as he kissed my n\*\*\*\*e. "I need to taste my queen," he said as a smile spread across his lips. He moved his hand away from my core and I whimpered from the loss of contact. I watched as he licked his fingers and a growl reverberated from his chest. "I need more of this..." He said in a husky voice.

It was as if tasting me changed him. He grabbed my butt roughly, tilting me to his face. I clenched my legs in response and he growled at me. "Spread your legs for me, Clover," he demanded with dark eyes. I took in a shuddering breath as I felt the anticipation building inside of me. "Time to prep my Luna." He smirked and then dipped his head between my legs.

His hot tongue plunged inside of me as he held my butt firmly. I gasped and clenched my thighs around his head. He responded by growling and eating me harder. His one hand moved from my butt to press my leg down, granting him more access. I threw my head back and moaned from his maddening strokes of his tongue.

"Sion," I panted as I dug my fingers in the sheet. The waves of pleasure rippled through me. He mercilessly devoured me, plunging his tongue in aggressively tasting me until a c\*\*\*\*x ripped through my body.

"Mmm, my Luna," Sion lapped up my juices and I felt his soft kisses land on my thigh. I felt his erection twitching along my legs as he traveled up my body. Finally, he was going to fill me up with what I wanted... or so I thought.

He stopped and inhaled my nip.ple making a startled cry come from my throat. My body was still overly sensitive from the o<sup>\*\*\*\*</sup>m as he began to pinch one nipp.le with one hand as he ate the other. His hot tongue sent tingles all over my body as I lifted my hips into him.

The feeling was so intoxicating as his passion burned my insides. My nails raked down his back as the maddening sensations flowed over me. "Sion..."

"Yes, my Luna?" He said, lifting away from my nip.ple to look at me. I tried to move, and he pressed me back into the bed. "This is your ceremony... let me serve you."

"Then serve me." I said, bucking my hips up into his. His eyes darkened as I felt his body tremble over mine.

"Oh, I'm going to... but I need to prepare you more. Consider this the appetizer..." He growled as he traced his tongue over my nip.ple staring at me. "So, tell me, my Luna... what do you want? Do you want something sweet?" He asked, lapping his tongue over my breast. "Or..." He tugged on my nip.ple with his teeth, sending a shocking sensation through me making me gasp. "Or do you want something else?" There was a dark unreadable hunger in his eyes as he climbed up my body.

He grabbed the back of my neck, turning my body to the side. His teeth raked over my neck and then he sucked gently, planting soft kisses at the end. "You want all of me, don't you, my Queen? You want the dark too." His lips brushed over my ear in a husky whisper. "This time... just a taste..." He growled as he bit harder into my neck as he positioned me more on my side.

He slipped his body behind me and kissed my shoulder. I felt his erection probing at my moist center from behind. His arms came around me, resting one over my breast and the other over my sensitive mound.

"My Queen..." He murmured against my shoulder as he thrust his manhood inside of me. He pumped into me vigorously as his one hand teased my breast. His other hand put circular pressure on my mound. Pleasure was engulfing me everywhere. Every thrust he claimed me with his powerful loins. Every kiss was sweet and endearing. I felt the waves building up inside of me and then he bit me on my neck. Pain and pleasure washed over me with a new sensation more powerful than before.

His thrust was powerful and maddening. His hands

continued to massage me, as the pleasure was building. Then suddenly he stopped, slipping out of me and lifting away from me.

"Sion!" I growled in exasperation.

He pushed my shoulders back as he sat beside me. His dark eyes stared into mine as he lifted my body, turning me so that I straddled his lap.

"My Luna, my Queen, my true mate... Clover, there will only ever be you. I bind myself to you in every way. I, Alpha Sion, Anubis, King of the Spirit Realm, and a man hopelessly in love with you, vow to only have you. In life and in death, etched into my soul and across time, it will only be you. I bind myself to you and offer my life to you. I'm yours to love and to command. This is my unbreakable vow to you, claiming everlasting love, claiming you for eternity. Through the light and the dark." As he said those words, I felt my insides gripped with a strange power. Every part of my body was responding to his words and then his hands lifted me up and then slammed me down onto his throbbing erection. I cried out in pleasure as he pounded into me. Wave after powerful wave of coursing pleasure rode through me. When his lips clamped down on my nip.ple he sent me over the edge. I cried out his name as I threw my head back. The waves of my o\*\*\*\*m brought him to his own powerful c\*\*\*\*x as he pumped his seed into me.

He pulled my body down with his onto the bed. He wrapped his arms around me as he left a tender kiss on my temple. My body felt like it was vibrating as it tried to come down from his extreme love making. It was euphorically exhausting. Even though I wanted to just go to sleep in his arms I knew I couldn't. I had a ceremony to attend shortly. As if he was reading my mind, I felt him lift my body up against his chiseled chest. He carried me off the bed and walked over to the bathroom. He turned on the bath, testing the temperature with his hand before stepping in the large round tub. He slid down into the warm tub, lowering me in front of him. The water was like a relaxing embrace that my muscles welcomed.

Sion sat behind me as he began to rub a washcloth over my front. He left soft kisses on my neck as I tilted my head to the side to give him more access.

"Sion."

"Hmmm?" He said as he continued to wash me.

"What was that vow you made?" I asked as he trailed sweet kisses over my skin. I felt his nose nuzzle against my skin as he gently washed my body. "Now that I have fully embraced who I am, I understand myself more. Something else I understand is the King of the Spirit Realm and what is expected of my role. This vow makes sure that I can only ever be with you. That I can only ever be intimate with you. Breaking this vow will destroy my soul. It binds me to you through the ends of time... just the way I want it."

"So, it doesn't change anything for us then?" I turned my head, smiling at him.

"No, this was always my intention, but now it makes sure we can never be interfered with." His voice was husky as I felt his hand move between my legs. At the same time, I felt his arousal growing behind me. "I can't wait until I can properly lock us away from the world for weeks. I'm never going to be able to have enough of you." "We still have time..." I said, turning around on his lap, smiling at him. My fingers were sprawled over his chiseled chest that was rising and falling rapidly.

"We need to finish getting you ready so we should—" He began to say, but stopped abruptly as I positioned myself over him. I listened to his shuddering breath as I pressed myself against his erection. I tilted my hips forward, letting his tip press against my entrance.

"Don't deny your queen what she demands." I said as I pushed down, taking him all in. He threw his head back and breathed out a curse word as I moved against him.

"Gods, Clover-" he said as he gripped my hips.

I grabbed his hands, lifting them away from my sides. I held onto each of his wrists, pushing them against the tub. He watched me with amusement as I smiled back at him. "This time, I'm in control. My turn to play." I said as I set the tempo. I slid up and down him tortuously slow, clenching over him. I listened as he let out sharp breaths and moaned in pleasure.

"Fvck, yes." He said as I slowed my pace, rolling my hips over him. He tried to move his hands for me, but I held them in place. A watched as his lips curled up as he tried to inhale one of my nip.ples. I pulled back and began to move against him again.

As I picked up the pace, water began to splash over the sides of the tub. The swishing sound increased as Sion gripped the edge of the tub. I could tell he was getting close and that was when I suddenly stopped. I watched as his closed eyes flickered open.

I let my hand slide over his chest up to his face. His eyes were filled with lust and desire. It was an intoxicating sight. I brushed my hand on his cheek as I pulled him closer to me. Our lips touched and his tongue slipped into my mouth. He was seeking something, and I let out a moan as I moved my hips over him. I moved against him again, picking up the rhythm, then abruptly stopping once more. I pulled away from his lips with a wicked smile. He was panting, watching me curiously as I eased myself off of him.

This is what he had done to me. He brought me close to my release but then stopped. He used the heightened sensitivity to please my body. I trailed my hands over his chest, satisfied when I felt his body shudder under my touch.

"You are right. I should probably finish preparing for the ceremony. I think I'll get a shower." I was laughing inside as I saw his eyes widen. A crooked grin spread across his face, and I hopped out of the tub quickly. I may have swayed my hips more from side to side as I walked to the other end of the room. I opened the glass shower door and flipped it on. I was trying to act casual, but my heart was pounding in anticipation. Out of the corner of my eye I saw him lift out of the tub. His hardened erection sprang out, seeming to point at me. As if it was saying target acquired.

With concise slow movements, he walked to the shower, opening the door. I was pretending not to notice him as I let the water pellets cascade over me. I listened to his sweet chuckle as the door shut. His lips were against my neck, peppering me with soft kisses up to my ear.

"My Queen..." His husky voice drawled as his fingers slithered around my stomach.

"Hmm?" I breathed out, biting my inner lip trying to hold back the smile. "My Queen..." There was a rasp in his voice as he began to suck on my neck. His hand slithered down my front as his palm rested over my sensitive mound. I turned to him to see his thirsty eyes on me. He grabbed my wrist swiftly, spinning me back around, pressing me to the wall. He had my wrists pinned above my head with one hand while his other went around to fondle my breast.

The water was streaming down over us as his lips traveled over my neck. His fingers teased my nip.ples and I gasped out a moan. He nipped at my neck then spun me back around as if he couldn't take it anymore. His lips crashed into mine as he released my hands. My fingers entangled in his hair as he lifted my body up. Our lips never parted as he moved me over his wet body. He slid me onto his erection, filling me up completely. His tongue attacked mine as he rested my back against the wall. At first, he moved against me slowly. Licking and sucking on my lips.

"My King..." I whispered against his lips, and he shook his head. He stopped his onslaught against my mouth as I panted against his lips.

"My only purpose is to please you. I am more like your servant." He moved against me slowly to demonstrate his point.

"That is why you are my King." I moaned against his lips from the sensations he was sending through me. "Sion, please me." I ordered, and he answered with a demanding thrust.

My back was pressed up against the wall harder as he gripped his fingers on my butt. He growled and devoured my lips as he continued to ram me. Harder, deeper, and with more fervor than ever before. A maddening storm of emotions ripped through me from his intense demands. The tingling sensations were so intoxicating that I felt like I was on a pleasure cloud.

My body was on fire from the pleasure that he was making me feel. I helplessly took his thrusts, my nails clawing at his back as my body began to tighten with the pressure building. I felt like I was becoming lost, falling deeper into him. His powerful loins rammed into me again and again, bringing me to a crazy release.

I screamed as the o<sup>\*\*\*\*</sup>m hit me. His hot seed spilling in me at the same time. His lips were on mine through it all. Only parting for my moans of pleasure. The water cascaded over us as we continued to relish in one another. The kissing was no longer urgent but sweet and full of love. Gently, he lifted me off of his manhood and placed my feet back on the shower floor. He molded my body against his as he drank my lips.

"I love you." He whispered against my lips before he shut the water off. He kissed the tip of my nose and then opened the door, grabbing a hanging towel. He wrapped the fluffy towel around me and then lifted me in his arms.

"Sion..." I giggled as he carried me out of the bathroom. He sat me on the bed and kissed my forehead. He took a spare towel from his hands and began to dry my hair. All the while, he was dripping with water still. "Sion here—" I went to move but he tucked the towel tighter around me, kissing my lips, then proceeded to dry me. He moved the towel to my legs and my feet. Softly patting the water away while his warm hazel eyes stared at me.

"I love you so much, Sion." I said, reaching out to

touch his wet hair.

"I love you more than anything. I don't want to just tell you this though. I want to show you. I want to show you how much you mean to me. I want to show you how much I appreciate you. I want you to know beyond any shadow of a doubt that you are my passion. I haven't been able to do that, but I will. I promise that this is just the beginning... and I will prove to you how I feel."

I blinked at him and shook my head, smiling. "Sion, you already have—" I watched as a smile spread across his lips and he moved to sit beside me.

"That is what I am telling you, my love... that I haven't even begun to show you. But I will. When all this is over, I will love you like you deserve. I will worship your body beyond your senses. So, prepare yourself for my intense passion." My body shuddered listening to his promise. That was more than intense enough already, and he was saying it wasn't what he wanted. That he wanted to do more.

His face drew closer as his tongue traced over my lips. "My Luna... my Queen, your body will know me well. So well. Your body will learn what being my mate means so much that when you hear the sound of my voice..." He sucked on my lip, pulling on it slightly with his teeth, arousing sensations inside of me all over again. "That when you hear my voice-" his tone dropped to a low husky rasp. "Your body will become wet in anticipation. Knowing what I bring is pleasure. And this will be our life." His lips pressed into mine again as his body came to cover mine. The towel was tossed to the side as he began to make love to me. This time slowly, making sure he sent me over the edge again and again.

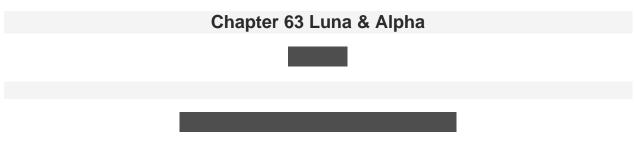
The intensity of his lovemaking was maddening. The pleasure he brought me was euphoric. And the love I felt from him... was undeniable.

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OH FOR MATES SAKE



Sion and I had cleaned up again and were now back in clothes. Sion said it was going to be hard enough to resist temptation that we had to leave the bedroom. I really hope they plan to have the linens laundered. His arm came around the small of my back as he escorted me down the stairs. Things felt perfect between us.

Not only were we connected with our powers, but we were more linked together as a couple. Sion was my everything and the future was something to look forward to.

"Clover," Sion said as he pulled me down on the couch next to him. "The ceremony will be just fine. It is more about being mentally ready to lead the pack. You are a natural. I have felt it since the first time I met you. You'll be fine. What we need to prepare for is the next steps. They will expect for us to give them a plan. This is why we really needed this time."

"And here I thought you wanted to have s3x with me."

The corners of my lips twitched up as he chuckled, planting a kiss on my neck.

"I've been caught... I won't deny my main motivation." Sion caressed my thigh with his hand. "However, don't you feel much more at ease now? Perfect for being ready for the ceremony."

I shrugged my shoulders and looked in front of me. "I don't know. I would have been just as happy with some ice cream." I teased him and felt his fingers wiggle on my skin.

"Is that right?" He laughed as he began to tickle my squirming body.

"Stop," I tried to squirm out of his reach, but I started giggling uncontrollably. "Sion, stop." I turned around in his grasp and kissed him. He pulled me closer to him and held me flush against his body. "Tell me my lips taste better than ice cream."

I smiled against his lips, breathing in his sweet breath. "Much better." My lips brushed against his as I said it. He chuckled and tensed his body in a way that I could tell he was holding back. "What is the matter?" I playfully situated my legs around his torso.

"No." He laughed as he buried his face into my neck. "We gotta hold out until after the ceremony." He raised his head and met my eyes. "We don't have time to do it again. Not enough time for my liking. I don't want it over fast." He finished with a wicked grin as he brought his forehead down to mine. I wasn't sure if he was trying to get across a point or if he was trying to torture me. However, I knew how to torture him as well.

"You think that is possible, my love? You don't want to

pleasure my body again?" I whispered before I bit his bottom lip then kissing him.

Sion moaned softly as his fingers gripped me. "I think we should just stop before we can't." He whispered back. "I'm serious. I don't have a lot of willpower. I'm ready to just pick you up and carry you back to the bedroom. Screw the ceremony. It will have to wait another day." I could feel him hard underneath me as if proving his point more. I didn't want to torture him any longer. Not to mention, this was also torturing myself.

How was I also ready for him already? I felt like a s\*x addict and couldn't get my fill. Yeah, this was a dangerous game to play. I eased myself off his lap to stand in front of him.

"Now you are too far." He growled, placing his hands on my waist. I giggled and shook my head. This was nice. For a moment, it didn't feel like we had a burden on our shoulders. It was a glimpse of what our reality would be like in the future. It was bittersweet. I hated we couldn't have it now... but we would. We were almost there, and finally, Sion and I were ready for the battle ahead.

"What are our plans for the Chance pack? I was thinking that we would arrive at the pack like normal. Since you are the Alpha, they will be expecting you to return anyways and—" I started to say, but watched as Sion shook his head.

"I want to take a look around the pack first. I can stand in the in-between and have a good look. I can gather anything that will be useful to us. Maybe even find out more of Dr. Snyde's plan."

"I think part of that sounds okay, but I don't want you digging deeper into that wanna be doctor. If the nycrops is anywhere near she may be able to see you. I don't want her to catch you all alone. She has an army at her disposal." I looked at Sion and could see that he wasn't changing his mind. "Sion, I am serious."

"Clover, this is information we can't just get on our own. This is a necessary risk." His eyes pleaded with mine as I pursed my lips together.

"Then let me at least come with you."

He chuckled and shook his head. "You are impossible, aren't you?"

"I won't lose you again, Sion. I can't... I won't live without you. And if they capture you, it would be as a trap to get to me. I'm telling you right now that I don't care if it is a trap... I would come for you anyways." I listened as he growled and scowled. "You would walk into a cage willingly?!"

"I wouldn't just skip in there with my pillow and sleeping bag. I would come to save you. Regardless of the risks." I watched as he opened his mouth, and I pressed my finger on his lips. "My point is that I might as well be with you. At least with the two of us together we won't get separated."

I watched as he dropped his head with a sigh. "You won't lose me again." He stood up and wrapped his arms around me. I felt his lips brush over my head as he held me close. He groaned and I felt him squeeze my body tighter against him. "Fine, I'll take you with me."

"I knew you were smart." I teased and felt his chest rumble under my hands. Just then, a knock was heard at the door. I looked up at Sion and he curled me against his side as we walked to the door. He opened the door to see Nadine standing there.

"Are you ready, Luna?" She asked and I smiled, nodding my head.

"I am ready." I watched as she fidgeted slightly and then held her hand towards me in a fist. I stared at it, and she nodded her head to me. I reached my hand out and something cold dropped in my hand.

I lifted the silver chain up to exam the round circular object looped through it.

"This was your father's ring." Nadine said in a quiet voice. "We have saved it for you."

I felt a lump form in my throat as I spun the silver ring in my hand. It had a wolf on the ring that looked to be growling. I moved my fingers over it and then brought it close. This was my father's ring. Something that belonged to my parents. I don't know why I was getting choked up all of the sudden, but I was. I could feel my nose burning as my eyes watered up.

I never knew them... I would never know them. They were gone. I have no memory at all since I was just a baby. This ring was all I would have of them and that hurt. I never realized I had this pain inside of me until just now.

"Thank you." I whispered out as Sion's arms wrapped around me, pulling my back into his chest. How did I miss someone that I never met? How did it hurt so much losing people you never knew? I pulled the chain over my head and patted the ring against my chest. I swallowed down the lump and forced a smile over my lips. "I guess we are all set then," I said trying to sound cheerful. "Go on ahead, Nadine. We will meet you there." Sion said as Nadine smiled and walked away. Sion spun me around and tilted my chin up with a frown. "I'm sorry. I wish you could have known your parents. It's the one hole in your heart I can't fill completely."

I smiled and shook my head, swatting away the dampness from my eyes. "I'm okay. I just wish... I wish I had a memory of them. I wish I had some memory in my mind of them. I'll never know them and I guess now that I know I wasn't abandoned... now that I know what happened... it just really sucks." I looked up at him and could see the pain in his eyes. Pain because of my pain. I might not have my parents... but I had Sion. I reached up and cupped his cheek. "You can fill this hole, Sion. You can fill it with your love and a family of our own." He kissed the palm of my hand, and a faint smile reached his lips.

"I'll give you all the love in the world, Clover. Just so

you know... it is okay to still miss them. It is okay to be sad that you didn't get to know them. I'll always be sad my parents are gone and that they never got to meet you. But we will live for them and have the life they would want for us. I love you." He leaned down and left the lightest, sweetest kiss against my lips.

"I love you, Sion." I took a deep breath and smiled. "Let's claim our pack."

The night air was cool, and the wind tousled through the trees as we walked towards a large fire that was lit right in the middle of the small town. Everyone was gathered and their eyes were on me as we got closer. Doug was standing in front of the fire and next to him was Demetri and Nadine.

"Luna Clover and Alpha Sion." Doug nodded his head respectfully. "The Nova pack does things a bit differently than a normal pack. This ceremony will officially bind the pack to the two of you. You will become the immediate heads of the pack. Where you lead... we will all follow. On behalf of the Nova pack, we swear our allegiance to you. We submit ourselves to your will and vow to protect you both. We swear to be faithful and bear true allegiance to Luna Clover and Alpha Sion, their heirs and successors, from now until the ends of time. So, say we all, so say the will of the pack." Doug's voice was drowned out at the end by the pack raising their voices loudly in affirmation.

Demetri stepped forward holding a circular golden globe that seemed to shine. "Each member of the pack has placed their oath on this sphere. All swearing their allegiance and acceptance to their new Luna and Alpha. Both of you place your right hand upon the sphere."

I looked up at Sion, who looked at the globe with interest. It seemed like this was something new to him

as well. We both slowly placed our hands on the metal object to find that it was surprisingly warm. The moment our hands landed on it, it glowed around our hands.

"Luna Clover and Alpha Sion, do you both claim this pack as your own? Do you promise to nurture the pack and protect it from all enemies?" Demetri paused and looked at us.

"I do."

"I do." We both said in unison. The moment the words came from out of our lips the glow spread up our arms in a golden flash. My mind became full, and a warm glow formed in my chest. With it I could feel each and every member of the pack. It was as if I knew them all inside of me. I recognized each different life force.

"NOVA PACK!" Demetri roared out. "Greet your

ALPHA AND LUNA!"

"AHHHOOOOOOO!"

"AAARRRRRRRRRRR!"

"WH00000000!"

All voices erupted into the night sky as their beast cried out happily. They all enthusiastically were welcoming us. Sion as their Alpha and me... as their Luna.

Note: Check my group for the next update time.

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OH FOR MATES SAKE

I smiled and looked up at Sion happily. His eyes were on me and I could see the love that was radiating in his eyes. I leaned in his side as he cradled me against his body. Suddenly, his arm became tense, and his body rigid. The smile on his lips quickly faded as I saw his serious face. His brows were pinched together, and a scowl rested on his lips. A strong breeze ripped through the air and with it a familiar scent.

I felt my body tense as a low group escaped through Sion's curled up lips. Silence blanketed the pack as they all watched us. They were on alert to see their new Alpha acting aggressively. Noses were in the air as they tried to find the threat.

Joey ran up to me with wide wild eyes. "You smell it?

Why is she here?"

I shook my head but there was no denying Taylor's scent, but she wasn't alone. I got a whiff of Hazel's scent too. They were traveling together and were not far from us. Why were they coming this way... unless...

"Could they have been working with Darcia?" I asked as I tried to think. Darcia was a half demon living in this pack. She was here as an omega but that was just her cover. Hazel was working with Taylor, and she was an omega in the Sulfur pack. Honestly, it was the perfect cover for them.

No one would give an omega a second glance. Omega's are weak and are not a threat. You are at times invisible as an omega which would mean you could get away with a lot. You were unnoticed. Hazel could have left the pack every night and no one would have known. This would be a great way to relay information.

The thing is that usually even omegas were loyal to their leaders. Was there more to it? Or was their ranking just a coincidence? I was digging up more questions than answers. If I wanted to know the truth, we needed to ask the source.

"Darcia is a demon, right?" Conner finally said, with his arm gently resting behind Gia's back. He looked up at Sion and I watched his brows knit together. "Do we know what kind of demon? Where is that little paramecium that has been hanging about us?" He glanced around and I did as well. I didn't see Stilts, but that didn't mean he wasn't around.

"What are you thinking, Conner?" Kai asked.

"I'm just saying... could this demon be our fire

demon? Is it possible for a half demon to be that strong?"

Sion and I looked at each other with wide eyes. Could Darcia be the one behind killing the innocent girl? Not just her though... Sion's parents and some pack members... Kai's mate...

They were all killed by a fire demon. If there was a chance that Darcia was the same fire demon, then she was incredibly strong. However, we were getting ahead of ourselves. We didn't even know if she was a fire demon. I looked around trying to find Stilts but he still hadn't shown himself. Maybe he went to investigate?

"What do you want to do?" Logan asked.

Sion and I were staring at each other. He was studying my face as he mulled over his thoughts.

"We have to find out what they are doing out here." I said as Sion pursed his lips together.

"It could be a trap. They have been preparing and maybe they are trying to lure you to them—" He started to say but I quickly cut him off. He wasn't about to tell me to stay here where it was safe if that was his angle.

"I am not going to sit here while—" I started to say when Sion began to chuckle. He pulled me against his chest and his lips pressed on my head.

"My Luna..." He pulled away from me with a sweet smile on his face. "I was suggesting, instead of risking our pack, that you and I go. We will investigate this situation together. We will travel in the in-between." He bent his head down so that his nose brushed over my forehead. "I mean I would love for you to stay here where I know you are safe but there is no way you'd wait quietly for me here if I asked, right?"

I smiled and tilted my head up to him. "How about you wait quietly here while I check it out." I flashed him a bright smile as his chest rumbled with a nod.

"We are stronger together. Honestly, I would also feel anxious leaving you behind. What if that is the intention? And because of that we should order the pack to be prepared for battle."

I nodded my head to Sion, and he tenderly kissed my forehead. He hugged me against his chest, and I could feel the tension in his arms. All he wanted was for me to be safe, but at the same time he wasn't going to fight about it. Not that he could force the issue anyways, but I appreciated this attitude. He was right, we were stronger together. "I don't like you two going alone." Demetri pursed his lips together and I smiled at him.

"We will be in the in-between so we shouldn't be detected by most. It is better than risking the whole pack. We need to know what is going on. We need answers. Have the pack ready for battle just in case." I watched as he nodded his head but could still see the anxiousness in his eyes.

"How long until we should come after you?" Conner asked, looking at Sion who shook his head.

"If we don't return, you are not to come for us. You are to prepare the pack and stay here. Be ready for war, but do not move from here. Contact the Diamond pack for help." Sion looked at me and I nodded my head in agreement. If we don't return, they should go to the Diamond pack for help. They were the royal pack and the lycan princess would be their best hope. "Luna... Alpha..." Doug said and I watched as he glanced around and I nodded my head in understanding. He was right. We should address the pack and ease their concerns. I was still a bit unfamiliar with this sort of thing. I looked up to Sion, who smiled nodding his head. It was so nice having someone who understood you like that. With just a look, he knew what I wanted. I love him so much. I don't know what I would ever do without him.

"Nova Pack! Your Luna and I will be going to investigate a possible threat to the pack. We want everyone to remain here and on high alert. We shouldn't be long, and we leave our officers and the former officers in charge. This is just a precaution, but the pack's safety is our number one concern. Parents, you can take your children to bed and rest soundly knowing the pack is being protected. Everyone else you are to take your battle roles. Direct your needs and concerns to any of the officers. We shouldn't be long."

The pack began to move after that. Each going to their posts or positions for defense. I was happy to see that this was a routine they practiced. It was important when there was an emergency that everyone knew what to do and luckily they did.

"Ready, my love?" Sion asked. I looked at our officers and gave them an encouraging smile.

"I better not come back to find any of you slacking." I teased to lighten up the mood. Sion pulled me into his chest and the air suddenly shifted. It became a bit colder, and the colors began to fade. I could see everyone, but they were not as bright and warm colored as before. I watched as they looked around.

"They are gone." Joey said, with his mate at his side. I

still hadn't gotten a chance to talk to her, but as long as she made him happy, that was all I cared about.

"They should be fine. I can't even sense them." Odell said, trying to reassure Kai or maybe she was saying it out loud for herself.

"It is this way." Sion said, redirecting my attention to him. I looked up at him as he lifted his nose in the air.

"You can smell them?" Oddly enough, I couldn't anymore.

"Yes, but I have already died once, remember? I think that connects me more with this realm." Sion laced his fingers with mine and then we began to walk. I glanced back once to see our officers were no longer standing there and had also taken on tasks of their own. "I'm glad the pack seems to have been run well." I said, and watched Sion nod his head.

"Yes, me too."

We walked in silence. Sion would periodically test the air with his nose as we headed further away. The pack was well out of sight, and we were somewhere deep in the woods. Sion stopped and turned to me. He wrapped his arms around me and held me flush against his chest.

"I love you, Clover."

"I love you too, Sion." I inhaled his heady scent and let the tingles embrace me.

"It goes against every fiber of my being to lead you towards potential danger." I listened to his quiet voice and smiled in his chest. "Same goes for me." He leaned his head down and buried his nose in my hair taking gentle whiffs of my scent.

"We will get the information we need and then get out. We don't need to overstay. I don't want to risk... anything." Sion's breath tickled my head as I nodded.

"I agree." I lifted my head up to look at him. "Everything will be fine Sion. The two of us together are strong. In the worst-case scenario, we can fight."

"Worst case scenario is what I am afraid of. Because even the strong can be killed and captured. The Alpha King isn't in his own pack right now. He is strong but knows there are still dangers. The same goes for us. We might be strong, but that also puts a target on our backs. I just..." He sighed and his hazel eyes gazed into mine. "You are everything to me. Without you, there is no point in this life or any life."

"If I die, I'll just meet you in the spirit realm early." I teased and smiled up at him. "Sion, I have a life worth fighting for. I have a future I want. A future family with the love of my life beside me. I—" His lips covered mine feverishly. His hot tongue plunged in my mouth as his hands held my face captive. Pure passion and love. This is what he gave me. Always. I can't believe in the beginning I was afraid to get close to him. He was the answer to every prayer I ever had. It was hard to believe that I was given someone who became my happiness. I live for him. I breathe for him. My Sion...

He pulled away and kissed the tip of my nose, then leaned his nose against mine. "Life with you is the greatest reward I could have ever asked for. I cursed the world when I lost my parents... but having you..." He stared into my eyes and smiled. "You are perfect Clover."

Suddenly, he lifted his head up abruptly. He gazed out in the darkness as I did as well. Was it a spirit? Or was it Taylor and Hazel? We were in the in-between, so it could be anything.

"I just love it when things go according to plan." A voice hissed. I desperately turned my head trying to locate the sound. Then through the darkness I could see someone coming into view.

A woman with long gray straggly hair spilled over the dark cape she was wearing. She had dull, lifeless skin with dark orbs for eyes. Shockingly, these orbs were staring right at us. Oh gods... I know where I saw this woman before. She was the woman from my vision, and she could see us.

This woman was the Nycrops... Meryl.

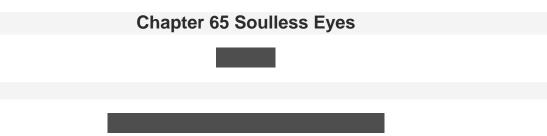
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OH FOR MATES SAKE



Meryl stood there calmly as her soulless eyes were directed at us. Sion held me tight as he defiantly stood in front of her. There was an eerie calm about her. As if this had all been calculated and planned. As if meeting us here was always the plan. But how? Maybe she intended to meet just me? However, it wasn't just me. Her cold, ruthless eyes seemed greedy and ready to swallow us into their dark. Her head tilted slightly as the corner of her lips curled up. I felt an instant chill rush up my back. I knew we were standing in front of pure evil.

"You do not belong in this world," Sion growled as black wisps of energy emanated from his body. She tilted her head to the other side as she held her position. She seemed to be enjoying herself.

"There are many creatures that shouldn't exist, but they do..." She raised her bony finger to point at me. "That one is the perfect example." With that, Sion let around a ferocious roar. The darkness around her eyes seemed to glow as her lips parted in a happy grin. His roar shook the ground, and it trembled below us. Or at least I thought it was his roar that did it. The tremors worsened, yet Meryl stood there unwavering. A cruel smile rested over her lips as the ground exploded around her. Two large worms emerged out of the earth, directing their fury at the nycrops. Right before they came in contact with her, they froze.

I watched as Meryl's bony fingers wiggled about and I heard two high-pitched screams from the worms. It was agonizing, knowing they were in pain. A moment later, they combusted into nothing not even dust remained. The nycrops let out a raspy chuckle and shook her head.

"A young Anubis... formidable but not yet, pup." Meryl rasped out as she glared at me. Or at least I think she was looking at me. It was hard to tell with her eyes full of the abyss. "I can't believe that you have been kept a secret from me... I mean I suspected... but didn't know. You don't even realize..." She sighed, shaking her head.

"So much preparations and planning... all for nothing. No matter how clever you are or how much you see, it doesn't matter. The board has already been set and the pieces are falling right into place." What was she rambling on about? I had no idea. It seemed like she was gloating, but wasn't it too early for this? She had no idea of the strength of Sion, and I combined. Like hell, she had already won. JM Snap. All Rights Reserved.

"It was all a waste of time. No matter. You have finally been found and within my grasp." The woman's dark eyes gleamed at me as her lips curled up in a wicked smile. "You, after all, walked into my trap willingly. All you needed was a familiar scent to lure you out."

I inhaled sharply and narrowed my eyes at her. She

was talking about Taylor and Hazel. "Are they working for you?" I listened as her raspy voice cackled.

"Disposable pawns... idiotic wolf packs. They have been periodically replacing omegas with demons for years now. They are barely even wolves once the demon changelings take effect. They are just a vessel... a host for our demons. And with such a weak wolf... arrogant mutts suspect nothing. Of course, there is a problematic pack we haven't been able to infiltrate... but no bother. I've left them with the ultimate... little bundle of joy." Her grin widened as she appeared to be thinking about whatever it was. "I had to do this since they have the nullifying scales now. A minor bump in the road... just a minor one. It doesn't matter. What is going to happen will happen. And the Moon Goddess' champions can't stop the destruction." She really liked to ramble and brag about the future.

My thoughts were on Hazel and Taylor. Were they both demons then? Taylor wasn't an omega. Was she a demon too or did she hate me so much that she teamed up with Dr. Snyde? How did Dr. Snyde really fit into all of this?

"Breanna Snyde..." I muttered and Meryl lifted her head up to look at me. As if I snapped her out of the delusional vision in her mind and she realized she was in reality now. She sneered at me and clicked her tongue.

"She is a child that was part... of my living past. Another... abomination that at least tries to atone for her parents' sins. The product of a werewolf and a witch. She has been giving me the energy and essence to help enhance the nembrant glass. In the end... it wasn't enough. I thought I was going to need... well you." She said as she stared at me. "But it turns out I was able to tap into a greater source. However, you are a dangerous existence to have around. A strange power that needs to be controlled. It is best to keep you at my side."

"Like hell I'd let you touch my mate." Sion growled as Meryl stared at him blankly.

"This match is already over." Meryl said with little interest.

"I am not done with you." Sion's voice was clear and commanding as he held me at his side. "You are the living dead. No matter what you are, you are still a decaying corpse. I have been given command over the dead. As such, I can—"

A black cloud shot at us and something sharp entered my eye. I winced and felt Sion stagger beside me as the nycrops cackled loudly. "You are right. As Anubis, this meeting would have been different. However, I was able to strike the first blow. This isn't the same nembrant glass..." She gloated as the pain stung my eye. Waves of searing heat sparked through me like lava. A nauseating burning sensation that almost made me numb. It attacked me and my body responded to the foreign invasion.

I reached up to cover my eye and could feel Sion stagger away from me. I could fight this. I saved Stilts from the nembrant glass in his eye, and I could do the same for Sion. I just had to get rid of the one inside of me first. It was trying to pull me into something cold and dark. An incredible evil was just waiting for me, but I wouldn't give in to it. I pushed out my energy angrily as I tried to disintegrate the shard in my eye.

"You are incredibly powerful little sheya. You can struggle all you want, but you can't fight off THIS nembrant glass. Not now that it has been infused with the essence of a god. Even a powerful sheya like yourself—" I shook my throbbing head as something tried to force its way into my mind. My energy lashed at it, halting it from going any farther. Then slowly, pushing it back. "Interesting..." I heard the grotesque creature mutter. "Oh well... at least I'll claim one of you... No... No! Erebus! You foul disgusting pathetic excuse of a slug... get out of the vessel!" She screeched angrily. I blinked my eyes to see how Sion was doing. It hurt so bad to even open my eyes but what I saw hurt more. Sion was on his knees in pain with his hands on his head. He glanced over at me as his one eye flickered red. His shaky hand reached out to me as his bottom lip quivered.

I fell down to my knees next to him and grabbed his hand. "Keep fighting it Sion. I can help us. Believe in me and keep fighting." His hand was trembling in mine. "I love you, Sion. Just hold on." His eye was flashing back and forth as he stared back at me.

"Only you... I'll only love you forever."

I didn't like this. I could hear the defeat in his voice. "Sion." I pleaded as liquid iron poured in my eye. I had to focus for him though. He needed me right now. His lips shakily kissed my hand then he ripped it away and held his head. His eye flickered again and he grunted in agony. He lifted up his head to the sky and roared loudly. I went to reach for him again but he shot a dark cloud towards me.

"My love... I'm sorry..." He gasped out as if it took every ounce of his strength to speak. "Live and be safe." He muttered with such a sorrowful look in his eyes as something dark began to swallow me up. The last thing I saw was Stilts appearing between Meryl and Sion. A blast of power came out of his cane towards Meryl. My eyes were focused on Sion and his eye that now glowed red. Then darkness... I was falling through the worlds. I was fighting off whatever was trying to capture me. This speck inside of me radiated with a foreign poison but it wasn't going to take me.

With Sion's face ingrained in my mind I was ready to explode. I screamed in the dark, forcing a wave of energy through me. Ribbons of power spun around me and swirled in the air. Then a strange sensation burst in my eye.

It was gone. The maddening pain. The waves of control that tried to swallow me. I had won. I was kneeling on the cold hard ground, and I was finally able to look around to see where I was. I blinked as I tried to control my breathing. The dark gray world was a dead giveaway that I was in the spirit realm. Sion had used his energy to send me here trying to protect me. I had to get back to him. Dam.nit Sion... how could you send me away from your side?! I had to be there to help him. With a shaky leg I lifted myself to my feet. I needed to help Sion. And Stilts... how did he get to the in-between? He could die standing against Meryl.

"Wait." A familiar woman's voice said.

I turned my head to see Shiva and Reapus standing not far from me. Shiva was looking at me with concerned eyes, while Reapus looked beyond livid.

"You are in no condition to go back yet," Shiva said as they walked up in front of me.

"Sion—" I began to say and Reapus growled angrily. His arms trembled with a deadly rage as he gritted his teeth. "We know. I am not happy about this. I am ready to break these da.mn rules. It's not like the demons are playing by them." Reapus scowled, as Shiva placed her hand on his arm.

"Only this time they are. They learned to not directly interfere and that is what is happening now. We can't do anything for Sion."

"We will see about that!" His voice spat out bitterly as Shiva shook her head.

"You can't. Or everything will be ruined. You have to let him go."

I heard Shiva's voice, and I shook my head trying to make sense of it.

"What do you mean?" My voice trembled as the breath of air barely came to me. Her pained eyes moved to me, and she frowned. I felt like my world was beginning to cra.ck. I didn't like this look. It meant nothing good.

"Sion has been lost. He is under Marcus's control now... the demon king."

What?! The air wouldn't enter my lungs. There was a large ball in my throat, and I had no spit to swallow. I struggled with fast narrow breaths as I shook my head. "I can help him. I will help him." It was a statement but also a question. I looked at Shiva, who turned her face away from me, closing her eyes. No. This isn't how it was supposed to be. I wouldn't believe it.

"No! I won't believe it. I am going to bring him back!" I stood up defiantly and clenched my fingers together.

"Sion is gone. He is lost to us." Shiva said a bit more

sternly and I glared at her boldly. "A deity's soul is merged with the glass in Sion's eye. He isn't Sion anymore. He is Erebus... he is Wicker... not a god... not a demon... a scornful, vengeful soul has taken his body. That is not the man you love, only his body... Sion is lost."

"He isn't lost to me. I will get him back! He is still inside, and I can get him back. I will risk my life to save him. To hell with this world. Without Sion it isn't worth it. I'll risk it all." My voice choked out in painful sobs. "I will use every ounce of energy in my body to save him. I'll either succeed or die trying."

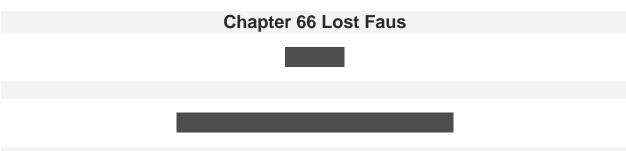
"Are you willing to really pay this price?" Her voice was almost a scoff. "You have a piece of Sion... will you chance losing it? Will you risk the life of your unborn child on a slim to nothing chance?" Shiva's words made me freeze. I was... pregnant?

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OH FOR MATES SAKE



My hands came down to rest over my stomach as I looked down. I was pregnant with Sion's baby. The family we had talked about and wanted was already starting. A small smile spread over my lips and I looked up at Shiva. I was determined and had an unwavering conviction. I would save Sion and I would have my family.

"If this is true, then all the more reason for me to bring Sion back. I won't give up on my child's father. How could I ever face my child?" I could see Shiva getting ready to interject. "This is my life, my future, my family and I am not going to give up on it. You are telling me it is impossible but I am telling you that it is." I looked over at Reapus. "I will bring Sion back. Whoever this Erebus person is... no matter how strong he is... he can't have my mate."

"I won't let you leave. We can't risk something happening to the future you are carrying." Shiva sighed, but I folded my arms defiantly.

"You'll have to fight me then." I didn't care she was a deity. Nothing and no one would keep me from my mate.

"Child, you are no match for me. There is no way I am letting you—"

"Let her go." An unknown voice said in the darkness. A warm yellow glow shined around us as a figure hid in the now blinding light. I don't think he wanted me to see who he was.

"But what about what Selene said—"

"There is nothing that can be done to change the war that is coming. One of the world's protectors will become their fiercest enemy. There is only a shred of hope..." The masculine voice said as his figure pointed to me. "The Lockes and Fausts destinies will soon be forever intertwined. The shred of hope will come down to their descendants. This is their fate... this is their burden." "If she dies, the future will lose their chance." Shiva looked at me as the faceless man hummed.

"No... even if she dies... she belongs to Reapus and so does the soul of her unborn child."

"Oh? More favors? No offense... actually to hell with it... lots of offense, but Endymion, you and Selene piss me off. You just go around commanding others as if you are our leaders—"

"Reapus!" Shiva hissed and I could see the nervous glance in her eyes back to the other figure.

"No, seriously. Don't forget what Selene did to us. It is her fault we spent so much time apart."

"No, that would be Shiva's fault for jumping to conclusions... technically." The voice, who I guess was Endymion, said. Endymion, was the fairy deity which also made him my deity. The light continued to shine so that I couldn't see his face, but his demeanor looked relaxed.

"Which wouldn't have happened if she didn't meddle. Everything she does changes the course in someone else's life for herself. For her visions. Hell, look what she did to the damn Locke family in order to get you back. What she continues to do with the war that is coming—" Reapus seemed very irritated but Endymion's calm voice cut him off instantly.

"Would you rather she did nothing? Let the demons win and consume this world. Let their sickness spread through all worlds. Give up on this world and turn a blind eye... is this what you want? Of course not! You are right, she interferes, but for a reason. She does what she does because she can see the bigger picture. A burden you can not even fathom having. What do you do, Reapus? You collect and guide what has already ended. She sees a future that is always changing. She is trying to help guide events without disturbing the balance completely. How dare you say her name with such disrespect. Careful, God of Death. Be very careful." Endymion's voice was level, crisp, and clear. There was so much authority in his words that I could feel his confidence. I think he was upset with Reapus but his tone never gave him away.

"Don't lecture me! You know nothing of my burden either. The pain and sorrow of every soul wanting to go back to their loved ones. You are right. I don't see the future, but don't dismiss my job. Don't dismiss any of the other gods. We all carry our own burdens. Maybe you are the one who should be careful because some may take your attitude as elitism." There was no mistake in Reapus' tone. It was challenging and aggressive.

"Let's get back to the topic... what about Clover? Is it

even possible? If Erebus has claimed him..." Shiva said and I listened as Endymion made a humming sound again.

"What does that mean?!" Reapus growled and, honestly, I was with him. I wasn't in the mood to play games. I was ready to get Sion back. "You would think being in the black hole all that time would have humbled your as.s but you are still so arrogant

and—"

The light around Endymion pulsated as I watched a slight smirk reach Reapus' lips. This was what he was going for. He was wanting to make this deity angry. Their issues were not mine. And right now, I only had one concern, and that was getting Sion back. I cleared my throat and felt the attention shift to me.

"I am still here and I don't have time to stick around

and watch you guys work out your issues. Sion needs me. Stilts could be dying right now. I—" I stopped talking as the deity embodied with light stepped towards me. He reached out to me and his hand stopped before touching me. The glow surrounding him began to fade until I could see the deity, they called Endymion. His blue eyes were kind and his blonde hair draped over his forehead.

"May I?" He asked as he looked at my abdomen. I slightly nodded my head, unsure what he wanted, but I didn't feel like he meant any ill will towards me. When his hand touched my abdomen, I felt a gentle warmth from his touch. A smile spread across his face that soon became broader. "A son." He moved his hand back away from me as I looked down, placing my hands over my stomach. "You will have a very strong son..." My eyes flipped up to him as the kind smile rested on his face. "If you are to have more children—" "Only with Sion." I could see a smile resting on his face. "Why do I feel like you are stalling me?" His grin widened and then he looked past me. I turned my head to see a man with fire red hair with a young woman with light blonde hair and pale silver eyes. Who were these two people? In order to get to the spirit realm, they had to be more deities I guess.

"This is Lycaon, the lycan deity. The woman next to him is Diana... the lycan princess. The Faust family and the Locke family must unite for the future." Endymion said, and I could see how Diana's body grew tense. "However, I need to tell you both a story..." Visions began to play in my mind as his voice began to speak in it. JM Snap. All Rights Reserved.

"There were once two identical twin lycans. One of them fell madly in love with the lycan princess and begged to have her as his mate. The other brother, fell in love with Eris, a cruel fallen deity.

Shaun overheard his brother and this woman plotting against the lycan kingdom and he took matters into his own hands. He would act like he was on their side so that he could stop their plan. However, Shane's jealousy got the better of him and he locked his brother in a tomb of silver. He then took on the role as Shaun, stealing the royal sceptor and destroying the lycan kingdom.

After he completed his mission, Eris abandoned him. Alone, he went back to free his brother. He explained what had happened and Shaun went mad with grief. He was in so much pain that Shane injected him with an amnesia potion. He then took on the role of Shaun and started calling his brother Shane.

The fake Shaun became an omega wolf. Abused and weak. Eris never did show herself to him again. And

the real Shaun was not forced to be an omega but became a powerful alpha. Only the moon goddess knew the truth to who the real Shane and Shaun were.

The real Shaun was given a fated mate by Selene and was given a blessed life. That was until Shane, overwhelmed with jealousy, confessed his sins to his brother. Once the story was heard, the real Shaun remembered Diana and what had happened.

He told his fated mate and children his very sad story. He told them to remember and to pass it down so that the truth would always be known. Shaun couldn't forgive his brother for what he had done. So he asked his brother to meet him far away from the pack territories. In a painful fight he killed his brother and then himself. He couldn't allow his brother to live, but he couldn't bear killing him. Shaun loved his fated mate but Diana had captured his heart. When he remembered Diana, he felt as if he was cheating on her. He couldn't move on. So that night, both twin brothers died.

Clover, Sion is the descendent of the real Shaun. A good man who was betrayed by his brother."

I watched as his eyes moved to Diana's. Her silver eyes were watered up as she stood there quietly.

"He didn't betray you and now it is time to embrace his line. The next generation will need to unite, but this time the choice is yours. Two Queens of their own right will decide the fate of the world. This is your part to play... and this time... you two will make the decision."

I looked up at Diana, whose silver eyes were staring straight back at me. "I am pregnant with a son now... but my mate... he needs my help. I might not have any more children..."

"A daughter." The Lycan Princess said, and my brows knitted together. "We will only accept this treaty if you have a daughter. She will be the one to join the Diamond Pack. And this will only happen if I have a son. Only if these conditions are met... so I guess that means you better get your mate back."

I like the way she was thinking. We would only unite if I had a daughter, which would only happen if I got Sion back.

"Do you agree to these terms? If you have a daughter and she has a son you will betroth them?" Endymion asked me with interest. I looked at him cautiously as I tried to think over the terms. I was checking to see if there was a catch there that I was missing.

"If I have a daughter with my mate, Sion, she will be

engaged to the prince of the Diamond pack... if they have one." I watched as his lips curled up and his blue eyes looked over at Diana.

"A vow. I want to hear a vow." Endymion said, and I watched as Diana also eyed him suspiciously.

"Isn't this something between the two of us? Why do you need the vow?" She asked in a calm but icy tone. Power emanated in her words. She held herself upright and stared down the deity as if she were his superior. Wow... now that is a future queen.

"This agreement is bigger... it means a possible future. It is a glimmer of light in a dreadful dark. Your oath tells me that sentimental mothers don't change their minds later." Endymion stared at her and I watched as she turned to me.

"This will only happen if I get Sion back. I know there

is a war coming, but I can't see that far ahead. However, I know that if I have a daughter... the Diamond pack would treasure her. If our children being together can help save the world..." I started to say as Diana nodded her head.

"We owe the future generations this chance." She walked up to me with the red-headed man right behind her. She lifted out her hand and smiled. "A binding agreement."

"For the children of tomorrow," I said, clasping her hand with mine. Our hands glowed for a moment until we released them.

"I have heard about the Chance pack and their dilemma. I have sent warriors to the Nova pack to assist you. If you need more help, please don't hesitate to reach out to me. The lycan prince should be returning soon—" I watched as she stopped and pursed her lips together. I remembered that she has been separated from her mate. He went to Elysium while she stayed with the pack. I am sure she was anxious to see him again.

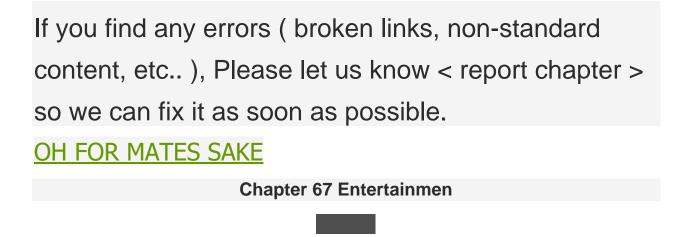
"Thank you." I said with a small smile. Right now, there really wasn't anything for anyone to do. It was all up to me and that was including getting Sion back. "I hope you are reunited with the prince soon. I'm sure it has been difficult being apart." She nodded her head and then looked up at the deity next to her.

"We are finished here." She said, and he placed his hand on her shoulder. A second later, they were gone. I took in a slow breath and turned to face Endymion.

"I am going after Sion," I said, and I watched as he shook his head. "No... you won't be going after him." His icy blue gaze was locked on me as I narrowed my eyes at him. What game was he playing? Did he ever plan on letting me go? But he needed me to have a daughter... unless. My eyes widened as I took in a shaky breath. JM Snap. All Rights Reserved.

He lied. I am pregnant... but not with a son, but with a daughter. He never planned on letting me go to Sion. It was all a trap to make a deal with the Lycan Princess. I squeezed my fingers together as the rage built up inside of me. The ground rumbled below me as my anger reached a new level. Pure fury was ready to erupt and this da.mn deity was my target.

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I felt my lips curl up angrily as raw burning rage boiled over. I wanted to lash out and cause pain. An emotion so strong that it threatens to consume your entire being. The anger was building up inside of me like rapids in a raging river. I felt like I was being forced to enter a door to a world without Sion. That wasn't going to happen. I wasn't the carpet for these deities to walk on. How dare he lie to me. I just found out I was pregnant and already my daughter is being promised to another.

I did everything right. I may have made some mistakes, but hell I have paid for them and then

some. Why must I live without my mate? Why was it that everything in my life always ended up a da.mn mess?! Was this some curse because of the sins of my parents? What was it?! Why was I being denied my mate? Why would my child have to grow up without their father? I wouldn't allow it. I had enough. I wanted to scream. My blood raced through my veins as wisps of energy swirled around me. I was unraveling. The fury was building like pressure in a volcano ready to erupt without thought of the consequences.

Regardless of their reasonings, this was MY life. I might fail, but at least I would try. In the wicked storm that was brewing inside of me a serene calm suddenly came over me. It allowed me to think rationally. I wasn't a mindless creature of bitter rage, no better than a vengeful spirit. If I went down this path, I was going to lose myself. I couldn't lose my sanity. I needed to keep my wits so that I could succeed. I am better than a mindless monster.

The spear of dark anger came close to capturing my heart. I could still feel the fiery tingles pricking my skin as I took in a slow steadying breath. The pink ribbons inside of me burst out and vanished into the darkness. As if they were seeking to bring the light. The ribbons almost seemed to have a life or conscience of their own. Were they a reflection of my will? The energy is mine but there was something different about the pink ribbons.

"Endymion!" Reapus growled and was at my side. I felt his hand rest on my shoulder and squeeze it gently. "Don't think you are immune from feeling another gods' wrath. There is a limit and you have reached it. I'm over this... I'm over all of it. Anubis is mine and fu.ck your balance. I'm bringing him back."

I glanced up at Reapus, shocked, but also relieved. I

felt like finally I had someone in my corner. My eyes then narrowed on Endymion to see his reaction. His eyes seemed calm and friendly. There was caring in his eyes, as if he was watching his child. A humming chuckle came from his lips as he smiled.

"Reapus, I can appreciate how much you care. However, remember what happens when you interfere with plans. Rogio isn't the only one who has clout with the deity council. Remember what happened to the Kraken? Your fate could be even worse than cursed to the ocean."

"Is that a threat?" Reapus' voice dripped with a venomous tone, and I felt his fingers dig into me slightly.

"I've had enough of this from both of you." Shiva clicked her tongue and rubbed her forehead. "This is why Selene usually handles these things. She is a bit more tasteful in her approach. Endymion, you can use your words. I know you were swallowed in darkness with no one to talk to, but communication would be nice. And for the record... I think it is s\*\*t that you can know what is going on while we all can't."

"I don't. I just do what my love tells me to do." The deity replied. His eyes were still watching me, as if he was assessing me. "I know she has the best intentions. I don't have to know. I just listen and help where I can."

"I think you are a hypocrite," I said with more bite in my tone than I intended. I heard Reapus let out a stifled chuckle next to me as his hand left my shoulder. Endymion raised his eyes and his brows pinched together.

"Hypocrite? Elaborate." His voice was level and once again had almost no emotions. I couldn't tell what he was thinking. He was very good at hiding how he felt.

"You are telling me not to go after the man I love. However, I think that if something happened to the woman you love, you wouldn't give a da.mn about the consequences. You would do anything to get her back, wouldn't you? Even at the cost of ruining everything. Even if it destroyed the world... wouldn't you risk it all for her?" I already knew the answer, but I wanted to hear him say it. Of course, he would. He was holding me to a different standard.

"I know I would. To hell with the world's balance. If Shiva needed my help, I'd send all the souls to hell in order to save her." The deity beside me said with no contrition in his tone. His lips were pursed together as he waited for Endymion to answer. Instead, I heard a small sound come from Shiva and she turned her head away from us. "You are such an idiot." She mumbled, not showing us her face, but I could tell she was happy to hear that response. I heard Reapus chuckle as he left my side to take her in his arms.

"Why would I care about anything else if you weren't by my side? I've been apart from you long enough. I won't do it again. I'm sure Endymion feels the same, don't you? You've been parted from Selene once before... would you bear living without her again?"

"Never." Endymion's voice cracked slightly and when I looked at his eyes, I could see the pain. "I will never be parted from her again." Exactly what I thought. I wanted to slap some sense into him. Was my love for Sion not good enough for them? Did they place themselves on a higher level? He should understand the reason I was willing to risk the world for Sion. My love didn't have any less value because I wasn't a deity. "Then you understand." I said as Endymion looked at me again. "You know the pain of being ripped away from someone you love and feeling this growing emptiness inside of your chest. When you think about not being with them again you don't want to remember at all because the pain is all consuming. I won't give up on him. You can never make me give up on him. I will save him and then I'll save the Chance pack. For once, I am going to have it all. I will have my pack and my family. I will see Sion hold our child in his arms. I won't accept anything less. Save the consolation prize for someone else."

I stood there quietly as Endymion gave me a sad smile. "You are looking at me as if I am the bad guy here. Do you really think that we are that cruel? Do you think we would want to separate you from the man you love? We don't get pleasure from your pain. It hurts us. The sorrow in your heart... it hurts me. You are one of my creations. You, especially, have a big role to play. Your descendants will be one of the keys to having a future." JM Snap. All Rights Reserved.

"You lied to me." I spat out bitterly. "You told me I was pregnant with a son—"

"I didn't lie. You are pregnant with a son." I watched as a calm smile rested on his lips as he waited for me to continue.

"I will only have children with Sion." I furrowed my brows as I waited for him to speak. I felt my heart beating angrily against my chest as if it was declaring war on the god. If he expected me to have a child with someone else, it wouldn't happen. I'd cut my uterus out to make sure of it.

"Is she pregnant with twins? A boy and a girl?" I heard

Shiva ask and my eyes widened as I glanced at Endymion.

"No. She is only carrying a son." He smiled at me as I shook my head, slowly trying to think what this meant.

"Then... I can go to Sion?" I asked.

"No." His voice was calm and matter-of-fact sounding.

"Well, I am not asking... I am going to him." I watched as his lips curled up and his warm eyes met with mine. "I don't need to ask. Honestly, this is going beyond manipulating things if you hold me against my will. I'm going to go and save Sion—"

"It is too late for that."

"What do you mean?" I felt a lump form in my throat. He wasn't beyond saving. I didn't want to hear anything like that. I could feel Sion. I was connected to him. My lips parted as a massive black cloud formed behind Endymion. I watched the dark mist as my heart raced. I felt him... I smelled him. But how?

I stood there frozen as Sion stepped into view. By his side was an agitated Stilts.

"Gah! Get me out of this stale place. It gives me the creeps. I told you to leave me be." Stilts grumbled as he poked his cane at Sion's foot. Sion's eyes were on me. His beautiful hazel eyes.

I couldn't move. I could barely breathe. My eyes began to water as the tears began to fall freely streaming down my face.

"Clover..." I heard his voice, and he ran to me. I took a few staggering steps forward as he wrapped his arms around me. I grasped his body tightly as the sobs escaped from my throat. My Sion... he was here.

"They said... a deity had control... they wouldn't let me go to you... Sion..." I hiccupped and buried my head in his chest. I felt him rest his cheek on top of my head as his hand ran over my back.

"It's okay. I'm okay." Sion cooed to me. "I'll always make my way back to you. I promise."

"You sent me away from you... I'm so mad at you." I mumbled in his chest as I felt his lips brush over my head. I was so relieved, I was angry, I was all the emotions right now. I still couldn't believe that everything was okay. It was right? I had been inwardly preparing to go to war to save Sion and here I never had to. What the hell was that about?!

"Not that I am complaining... but this wasn't what was

supposed to happen right?" I heard Reapus' voice as I sniffled quietly. "Wasn't he supposed to wreak havoc on the world?" JM Snap. All Rights Reserved.

"I never said he was lost forever." Endymion's voice had a light tone in it. Now he was showing emotions. I moved my head slightly so that I could look at the deity. "This will be a problem in the future. Erebus will take control of another... but he couldn't with Sion. Erebus fled as soon as he realized that Sion's soul was protected. A certain sheya has laid claim to his soul already."

"Those sheya creatures are more closely related to demons than fairies." Stilts snorted as I continued to cling to Sion. My insides were a mess from the extreme ups and downs. I didn't care about anything. I just wanted to hold Sion and never let him go.

"I felt him. His thoughts were erratic and irrational. It

was brief but... it was a horrible experience. He couldn't completely take a hold of me though. And the moment he realized it his presence left me. Then pink energy from Clover crashed into me destroying the glass. This was the moment Meryl fled. Which was a good thing for her..." Sion's voice soothed my soul. His tone vibrated against my body, and I breathed in his scent.

"What the fvck Endymion?! Couldn't you have said Sion was fine from the beginning?! You had me thinking he was the one everyone was going to have to fight." Shiva roared, sounding extremely pissed. I heard Reapus chuckle, and a smirk raised over Endymion's face.

"You are right. I have been in a black hole of darkness for so long. I guess I needed some entertainment. My main purpose here was the arrangement with the sheya and the lycan princess. Now that it has been completed, I'll be on my way." Endymion said and I felt Sion's body grow rigged.

"What deal with the Lycan Princess?"

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OH FOR MATES SAKE

Chapter 68 Sions Anger	

I heard Sion's icy tone, and I bit my lip. I had a lot to tell him. One, I was pregnant, and two, I promised if

we ever had a daughter, she would be betrothed to the prince of the Diamond Pack. I shouldn't have made such an agreement without talking to him. In my defense, I didn't know I would be able to talk to him. Which hit me. This was Endymion's plan. This was the reason he didn't tell me instantly that Sion was fine. With the lycan prince gone and Sion, he only had to get the lycan princess and me to agree. Da.mn... I was played. Not that I wouldn't have ended up agreeing to the match. Honestly, I could see a huge benefit having my future daughter with the future lycan prince. It just would have been nice for us to make these decisions with our mates.

Diana thought she was helping me out by agreeing to the treaty only if I had a daughter. She thought by saying this, the gods would help me get Sion back. Endymion told us it was our choice to make, but why did we act in haste? We could have made the decision later. I guess after hearing the story about Shaun and Shane, we were both emotionally invested. All I could think about was getting Sion back and if I had a daughter, that would mean that I did. Hypotheticals are easy to agree to.

I stepped back from Sion and looked up at him. His jawline was rigid, and his lips were pursed together. His brows were knitted as he glared at Endymion.

"I'm sorry," I whispered out as his eyes flashed down to me. I noticed how his brows wrinkled as he looked at me curiously.

"Well, you two have a lot to discuss. Until next time... adieu." Endymion winked at me and with a smile, vanished. Wow, he was cheeky.

"Come on, Stilts. I'll take you back." Shiva said and I noticed she motioned with her eyes to Reapus.

"Good! The vibe here gives me the creeps. You can change the look anytime, you know? The depression is over now, right? So let the realm shift with your mood." Stilts grumbled as he stared at Reapus. For such a little guy, he had a lot of spunk. He didn't mind mouthing off to the gods. Yep... I liked him. JM Snap. All Rights Reserved.

"If the place looks too enticing, souls will not want to leave. The idea is for them to move on." Reapus snapped at him in agitation as Stilts snorted.

"Well, you don't have to worry about that. I have taken sh.its that looked better than this place."

"Okay, let's go," Shiva said hastily as a blue light quickly engulfed them. She obviously wasn't in the mood for a bickering fest.

I glanced back at Sion to see his eyes burning a hole

into me. The words Endymion spoke obviously plagued his mind. I gave him a nervous smile and wetted my bottom lip. "I'm sorry, Sion. I entered into an agreement without talking to you. I didn't know what would happen. I was told you were lost, and I couldn't get you back—" I wasn't expecting the low, threatening growl to escape his lips. His eyes darkened and he narrowed his eyes at me. He had never looked at me like this before. There was rage storming in his eyes as his lips curled up slightly.

"The deal you made... does it have to do with you?" He asked, and I tried to swallow the lump in my throat that wouldn't go away.

"Both of us," I whispered and watched as he clenched his jaw. He squeezed his fingers together so tight his knuckles began to turn white.

"Is it a binding agreement?" He growled.

It hurt to see him looking at me like this. I deserved it... but my insides felt shaken. I slowly nodded my head and listened to a low hum of a growl escape from his throat. "I'm sorry." I choked out. I listened as he let out an angry sigh and rubbed his forehead.

"Is it a temporary agreement?" He stared at me until I looked down at the ground giving him the answer he didn't want. I listened as he inhaled through his teeth and I looked back up at him.

"I know you made the decision with the knowledge that you were given. I'm sure it was the god's fault... but..." His breathing was erratic as he inhaled a shuddering breath. "Clover..." He snarled and then took a few steps away from me. He began to pace back and forth in front of me, looking more and more agitated. He shook his head and continued to growl. He stared at the ground with a terrifying intensity as he stomped on the ground. He stopped and raised his finger, looking at me, then shook his head, closing his eyes.

"Sion—"

"I WON'T GIVE YOU UP!" He slashed his hand through the air as he roared. "I don't care. I can't. I will fight them all. I'll keep you here where they can't get to you. Clover, I can't. I don't have the restraint." His eyes were menacing. His tone was fierce but not necessarily addressed to me.

I looked at him in confusion and my lips parted as I tried to find my voice. "Sion, you don't understand—"

"I understand you made a hasty decision. You have to understand that I won't live without you. I don't care if you agreed to belong to the Diamond Pack. They will never be able to claim you. I'll kill anyone who tries. It doesn't matter who the person is... I'll drag their soul from their body and obliterate it. You. Are. Mine." His nostrils flared as he set his jaw. His hands trembled angrily, but his eyes were filled with sorrow. He instantly thought the agreement with the Lycan Princess was about me. How was he going to react when I tell him it was our daughter I promised? My insides were balled in a knot as I braced myself for his reaction.

"Sion, I never agreed to belong to the Diamond Pack. I—" He didn't let me finish.

"You said it is about us." I watched as his eyes studied me and I nodded my head.

"Yes, I made an agreement involving us, but it isn't about me." He let out a loud breath and placed his hands on his knees. He muttered something under his breath that I couldn't quite make out. Then he looked back up at me. The look that washed over his face was replaced with concern and relief. He closed the gap between us with calm and slow movements. His hands landed on my shoulders, and he kissed my forehead.

"Thank the gods." He muttered in my hair, wrapping his arms around me.

"But I—"

"As long as I am keeping you, it's fine. I was afraid..." I heard his shuddering breath as he gripped me tighter. "I was so afraid the gods plotted to take you away from me. I love you so much... as long as I have you, it doesn't matter. Whatever deal you made—"

"Sion!" I pushed away from him, seeing his shocked face. I had to stop him. Once he knew what I agreed to, he was going to be livid. I wasn't thinking rationally, and I should have waited to discuss this with him. He had every right to be furious and he needed to know. "I…" I pressed my lips together and held my gaze with his. "I promised that if we have a daughter, she will be betrothed to the future Lycan Prince." I felt my body tighten as I waited. Nothing. I looked up at his face as he stepped towards me.

His hand softly brushed over my cheek. He trailed his hand to my jawline and pressed his fingers under my chin softly. He tilted my head up until our eyes met. His eyes searched mine and then a small smile formed over his lips. "My love. My heart. My everything... are you okay with this deal? Because if you aren't, I will do everything in my power to change it. This was something I already thought might happen. I hate taking away our daughter's right to choose, but if she ended up as the future lycan princess... I can't think of a safer place for her to be." JM Snap. All Rights Reserved. "I shouldn't have made such a decision without you..."

"Clover, look at me." He demanded as he forced me to look at his warm hazel eyes that were full of love. "This is a strong decision. It was the right one. It was the future that I am sure she was already destined for... if we ever have a daughter. Who knows what the future holds? It's okay, Clover. Honestly... our daughter would deserve a strong mate. As long as she is happy and treated well, that is all that matters." He lowered his lips to mine, capturing them tenderly. "I'm sorry I worried you." Oh yeah... that reminded me.

"How could you send me away like that?!" I cleared my throat and watched his eyes light up.

"I knew that I couldn't fight him off. I could feel him taking over my body. I was afraid he would hurt you using my body. I couldn't let you be put in that situation. I had to get you somewhere safe while you were trying to take control of yourself. You couldn't fight me and the glass in your eye." His lips curled up with a small shrug. "I knew you'd come for me once you were fully in control. I saved you so that you could later come and save me. Luckily, you already saved me. You kept me protected so that he couldn't take over me completely. I'm sorry, though... I didn't realize the gods would end up using this situation to their advantage."

"Reapus came to your defense. He thought you were lost too. He was ready to defy the other gods to get you back. I think he cares more than he likes to lead on." I smiled at him, and he chuckled.

"He just wants me to procreate and have lots of babies. He doesn't want to lose me without at least giving him one child. I'm sure had I done that, he wouldn't have cared at all." Oh yeah... I forgot. I guess I had something else to talk to Sion about.

"No... he still would have cared," I said and smiled up at Sion. "I, uhm, found out something." I gazed into his curious eyes, trying to think of the best way to tell him. I guess like pulling off a bandage. Don't beat around the bush and comes right out with it. "Sion, we are having a son. I am pregnant."

I watched as he stood there waiting as if I was going to say something more. Then slowly, the realization washed over his face. His eyes strayed from mine to move to my stomach, then back up to me.

"You are pregnant?" He whispered and I nodded my head.

"Endymion said that I am pregnant with a son." I watched as he slid down to the ground on his knees.

He reached out, pulling my body to his face, where he kissed my stomach sweetly.

"Our family..." He whispered, placing his ear over my abdomen. "My little alpha... we are going to have a home ready for you. We are going to reclaim our home... Oh..." I watched as his eye flickered up to me and could see the hesitation. "Clover—"

"Don't say anything stupid, Sion." I smiled as he rose from his feet. "I'm barely pregnant. I am capable of fighting, and we can't save the Chance pack without me." I watched as his lips tilted down as his brows folded together. Then he shocked me, picking me up in his arms and twirling me in a circle.

"We are having a baby. I have my Luna, I have my baby, and now we just need our pack." I smiled as he flashed me a white toothy grin. He softly placed me on my feet and his lips came to capture mine. "I bet you thought I was going to say you are pregnant, so you can't fight now?" He chuckled against my lips. "I know better, my Queen. However, I am going to be so protective over you... you might as well get used to it. There is nothing you can do about that."

"Well, after almost losing you as many times as I have, I am also going to be really protective over you. There is nothing you can do about that." I said in a mocking tone as he chuckled.

"Oh well, I get really vulnerable when we are in bed so make sure you are extra protective there." He wrapped his arms around me as I smiled into his chest. "It's almost over." He whispered and I nodded my head.

"A normal life will seem boring after this." I teased,

feeling his rumbling vibrations under my chest.

"I'm afraid our life will never be normal..." He said and I could hear the sadness in his voice. I glanced up at him to see his eyes looking out into the distance. His lips formed a thin line as his shoulders rose and fell. "It won't always be life or death... but it won't be a normal life."

"Sion?" I watched as he looked at me with a sad smile. I knew he was thinking about his role as Anubis. He was given a knowledge that I wasn't. As time passed, he was learning more and more about his role. I gave him a reassuring smile and interlaced my fingers with his. "It's okay, Sion." He nodded his head and hummed in agreement.

"One step at a time. Let's head back..." I squeezed his hand lightly. I wanted to ask him more but that would be a topic for another time. Right now, it was time to focus on getting the Chance pack back. It was time for me to introduce the real me... to Dr. Breanna Snyde.

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Chapter 69 Death Gods

As Sion held me close, he started to transport us away from the spirit realm. I felt the air around us shift and Sion's fingers gripped into me protectively. As the world began to come into focus... all I could see were bodies. It was as if an army had been summoned and was waiting here for us. An army of voidless.

I felt Sion's body relax as he stared out at them. I looked up at him to see his eyes scanning over the area. "Your souls should have been allowed to move on a long time ago." He said as the, voidless hissed at him. They held their talons up defensively and seemed to hesitate on what to do.

Sion turned me around in his arms as we walked away from the voidless. I was confused. Were we just going to leave them there? I glanced up to see Sion's eyes glowing amber. His eyes were focused ahead as his fingers casually caressed my side. Suddenly, I heard the sound of bodies hitting the ground behind me. I glanced back to see all of the voidless had collapsed. Their bodies were melting into the earth and vanishing from existence. Was this... Sion's power? I snapped my head up to look back at him. He didn't even flinch or work up a sweat. Nothing but the color of his eyes had changed. Just how powerful had Sion become?

"The voidless are not what you think they are." He casually began to say as we walked. "They were created from body parts, earth, and blood. Beings created by witch doctors. The bodies became the host to spirits and souls. The spirits and souls became the fuel needed to animate the creatures. They are undead creatures and, as such, are under my jurisdiction." I listened to him quietly as we walked through a dirt covered path.

"I am glad to see you have finally embraced who you are."

In front of us were Reapus, Shiva and Stilts. Reapus stared at Sion with a tilted grin on his lips. He no

longer had the hat covering his eyes that looked proud of Sion.

"Yeah... I understand it." Sion's hand rubbed over my side, and I glanced up at him. His eyes were back to his hazel color and he seemed relaxed. "I understand the duty I am tasked with. Though, I am still trying to figure out... what exactly this makes me."

"It is complicated, Sion. Your role in this life and in death are intertwined. You were dead, so you are different. You have been granted skills that you usually would have gotten when your life was over. You are more than just helping the spirits move on. You also are here to enforce the rule of the living. Just like how the voidless violate those rules—"

"I understand my role, Reap. It is like... I already know." Sion seemed to interrupt him hastily, like he didn't want him to continue to elaborate. "I get that I am a lupine now and that I can take the form of Anubis. However..." I watched as Sion pursed his lips together as his brows knitted together. "There is more... isn't there? I feel it." I glanced back up at Reapus to see him shift uncomfortably.

"You can't not tell him," Shiva hissed in a quiet voice.

"I think he already knows." Stilts snickered, folding his arms over his chest. "Don't you?"

"What will this mean for Clover?" Sion said the words through clenched teeth.

"What do you mean?" Reapus ran his hands through his hair and sighed heavily. "You are stronger than what she is. She has abilities that you do not. It is because of the bond between you two that you are able to sense yourself." "I don't want that bond to change. The connection between us." Sion glanced down at me. "I understand why it happened now. I mean... it was really confusing at first. I didn't know... I didn't understand it. It made me feel crazy... but now I get it. I get it. I know the truth of it." I felt Sion's body tense next to mine. "I just want to know exactly what this will mean going forward. We are expecting a child... what will all of this mean?"

I watched as Reapus sighed and pinched the bridge of his nose. "Some things you are not meant to know now. However, I don't want to keep you in the dark." I watched as he glanced over at Shiva, who slowly nodded her head, giving him her permission to continue.

"Clover will become like you when her mortal life is over. Your bond will not change. In fact, it will grow stronger. However, her powers will be slightly different. She will have the gifts of life more than death. You can each tap into each other's powers thanks to her being a sheya." I watched as Reapus' eyes focused on me. "After... after your mortal lives are over, the rules will change. You will be bound by the rules that Shiva and I are playing with now. You won't be able to interfere freely. That includes helping your direct descendants in the future."

"Wait... if we are bound by the same rules as you two..." I furrowed my brows and slowly looked up at Sion.

"You will both be gods. Not high-ranking tier 1 gods... but gods none-the-less. You will become death gods directly under me." My lips parted as I took in a slow breath. I had wrapped my head around the idea of us being immortal, but this was something entirely different. A blessing and a curse. I would get to see my children and children's' children... all of my descendants, but I wouldn't be able to intervene and help them.

"There are rules and responsibilities to being a death god." Reapus stared down at me with a serious look in his eyes. "Our laws... they must be upheld. The balance must be kept and the pact with life must be upheld. As death gods... you must uphold both sides of the pact." I felt like I was breathing in water as I looked up at Sion with my mouth parted.

"What... what does that entail?" I was curious as to what that would mean.

"You will understand when that time comes. It isn't now. And there is always work arounds... like Sion." Reapus winked at me with a crooked grin.

"You'll have an eternity to be with your mate," Shiva said with a smile. "There is no separation for the two

of you. You'll always have each other." I watched as she leaned into Reapus' side. "Even when you fight, you still have time to make up." She said, winking at Reapus, who let out a rumbling chuckle.

I glanced down at my stomach and my hand came to rest over it. "What about my children... will they be—"

"They will not be deities. That is Sion's role and yours because your lives are intertwined. Your children will be lupines that have sheya abilities. Powerful. Rare. And desired by many. Your children will be safest in the Diamond Pack." Shiva said and I felt Sion's arm move around me. He turned me to face him as he stared into my eyes. He searched my eyes quietly with a discerning look on his face. I looked back at him confidently and smiled at him.

I didn't want him to think that this news affected me negatively. Honestly, it was more a blessing than

anything. I will get to love Sion for eternity. A small smile finally reached his lips, and he leaned his head down to rest on mine. His lips began to smirk as his eyes lit up.

"I'm going to sleep with a goddess."

I giggled as I ran my hands slowly down his chest. "Well, you already have the body of a god." At least soon, you'll have the stamina of one. I teased through our mental link as a low growl escaped his lips.

Are you saying I ran out of stamina last time? I wasn't even close to being done. If it wasn't for the ceremony, I would have brought you to a level of ecstasy you would have needed days to recover from.

Oh, my sweet, naïve Alpha... you would be the one who would need days to recover. My lips twitched upwards as his chest reverberated in a low growl. We will put that to the test. Which one of us will fall asleep from exhaustion first? His mental voice cut into my mind with a low husky promise.

I look forward to it.

"So what about Meryl? That bi.tch is nowhere and there isn't even a trace of her." Stilts' voice cut the mood. Sion and I turned our heads to look at the agitated little man. "She is covering her aura, or else you two would be able to sense her." He said, looking at Reapus and Shiva.

"We can't destroy what we can't find. It would be a waste of resources. She will show herself soon enough. She can't and won't hide forever." Reapus made eye contact with Sion and me. "I wish I could tell you everything I know, but..." He sighed as he glanced at Shiva. "...but I can't. Instead, I will tell you things are deeper than you think. Be aware and be cautious. Be prepared... for what is to come."

I glanced up at Sion and watched as his eyes narrowed into a focused stare at Reapus. "You are worried about something. Something big." Reapus' eyes shifted to Sion, and he nodded his head slowly. "I guess just because you know it doesn't mean we have to. It could change the events if we know, which is why knowledge is power. We will manage." Sion wrapped his arm around my waist.

"I know you will," Reapus said with a genuine smile. I could feel things had shifted with Reapus. He had a look that showed he cared about us.

"Stilts... take care of her," Shiva said with an icy tone. The little man grumbled and tapped his cane in the dirt. "What am I, a da.mn guardian? I am not a bear." Stilts grumbled as Shiva's lips twitched.

"Well, if you would prefer to come back with me-"

"I'll watch over her!" Stilts shouted hastily. "I'm better than a guardian. I don't have an unbearable temper that I need to control." He mumbled to himself. "I have a better sense of humor too." He continued to mutter to himself. Shiva let out a light chuckle. I glanced at the woman, who looked at me with a gentle smile.

"You will do just fine now. Trust in yourself and trust your mate." She stepped back as Reapus' hand went around her.

"We will be watching," Reapus said with a wink as the two of them disappeared in a blue flash.

"I'll meet you two back at the Nova pack." Stilts

snorted and then vanished as well.

Sion and I walked quietly together back to the Nova pack. Right before we reached the barrier he stopped and wrapped me in his arms. "I love you." He said, kissing my forehead and then sliding to his knees to kiss my stomach. "And I love you, my son." He glanced up at me with a strange expression on his face. "Clover... do you regret this?" I looked down at him in surprise. "I know you wanted a normal life and—"

"I just want a life with you. It will be our normal. I love you and the life we are building together." I smiled as I ran my fingers through his hair. "I love you and the child you put inside of me." In a quick motion, he stood up and wrapped me in his arms. He covered my lips in an urgent, heated kiss. My heart was beating wildly against my chest as the sweet tingles erupted over my body. "Thank you, Clover, for staying by my side through all of this."

"You are the only one for me, Sion. Now we will have forever together... I can love you like I want to." I listened as Sion chuckled and he leaned his head on my forehead.

"This is why you are my perfect mate. You are the best decision I ever made. I am only able to embrace who I am because I know that I have you by my side. You are my strength, Clover."

His lips covered mine again and my head began to spin. I never wanted this kiss to end. I never wanted this feeling to stop. I never wanted anything to go wrong. This moment was perfect. I knew that we were about to head into something fierce. We had another tough battle in front of us and all we could do was hope everything was going to be alright.

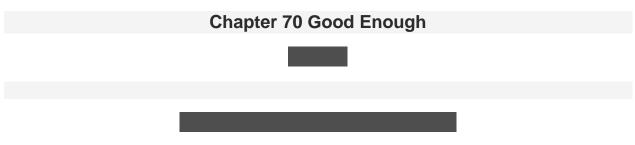
One more big battle and we could hopefully have peace. I just hope we don't lose anyone close to us.

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OH FOR MATES SAKE



Sion and I finished explaining everything we had found out, including the demon changelings. The only

thing we didn't mention yet was that we were expecting. There were warriors from the Diamond pack here, including their Beta Sam. He was very knowledgeable, and it was clear he had seen his fair share of battles.

Sam had a fresh perspective on the demon omegas. He said that just because they were demons didn't immediately make them bad. There are demons and half demons in the Diamond pack. One of them granted elemental powers to the Alpha King.

I guess in my mind, since they planted the demons there, this would automatically mean they were against us. However, Sam didn't agree. He felt that since they grew up with the pack, they could become loyal to them. Especially if they weren't treated poorly. Sion surprisingly agreed. He said that everyone would be judged based on their own actions and being in control of themselves. Since obviously, we can't blame anyone for being controlled by the nembrant glass.

Speaking of the nembrant glass, Sam told us that they would be delivering nullifying scales to all the packs soon. These scales would prevent the nembrant glass from working. He also said that the fairy queen was working on a way to detect anyone who was under the effect of nembrant glass. This would also be something that the packs would get.

A solution was coming, but we still had to save the Chance pack and this was my show. No one else here had the ability to purify the nembrant glass. I have done it with Stilts and myself. I would now need to do it for the masses. It was a bit intimidating. I needed to be able to perform a task that I had never tried for the masses. There wasn't time for error, since lives could be lost. The pack would be there to defend me. They would try their best not to injure the controlled wolves, but they had to protect themselves first. If I messed up... many would be injured and killed.

Sion and Sam were discussing the layout around the Chance pack. They had a map drawn out and Sion was pointing at the best areas to enter. I was trying to pay attention, but my mind would keep drifting back to what I needed to do.

"I don't know anything about this man."

I heard an angry voice and turned my head to see Gia's father scowling at her. His jaw was clenched, and a small frown rested on his lips. While Gia's brows were creased together, and she looked ready to fight.

"I need you to trust me," Gia said, and her father let out an airy laugh.

"I trust you. It is him I don't trust. What do you mean he could be your mate? I have never heard of this kismet thing before. It is probably something he uses—"

"It isn't! And even if he is not my mate... this is my choice." My eyes darted from Gia back to her father, Adam. I could see the veins protruding from his arms as he stood there like a mountainous figure.

"Gia. I think you are misunderstanding me. I am not telling you what to do. I understand that you are an adult and can make your own decisions. I'm just saying it is my job to protect and keep you safe."

"That is my job."

My eyes widened as Conner stepped next to Gia, putting his arm around her. He met Adam's gaze

confidently and I swear the air felt heavier. Sion and Sam quit talking as they tuned in to the growing tension.

"Dad, I want to introduce you to Conner, the beta of the Chance pack." Gia's voice was level and calm. In fact, she looked relaxed and leaned more into Conner's side.

I watched as Adam's lips curled up as he scoffed. His eyes were focused on Conner, who held a confident gaze with him. "It will always be my job. My home will ALWAYS be her home—"

"Adam." I watched as Sam stepped next to Gia's father and then looked over at Conner. I was glad he was there to de-escalate the situation because it was looking rather tense. "Do you want to rough him up a bit and teach him who is in charge?" My lips parted as I stared at the two men. They didn't look like they were joking.

"Uncle Sam!" Gia clicked her tongue and moved herself more in front of Conner.

"It is okay," Conner said, pulling her back to his side. "I am a lycan, after all. And they are just werewolves—"

"Naïve pup. We are werewolf officers to the Alpha King. You don't understand what that means, do you?" I watched as Sam's lips twitched into a smile.

"It doesn't matter what it means to be honest. There is only one thing that matters... and that is the woman next to me. I would like to know what your issue is with me?" Conner said with a low growl in his throat. This was when Sion left my side and moved next to Conner. "I can vouch for him. He is a good guy—" Sion started to say, but Adam cut him off.

"Doesn't matter. You could tell me he spends every day feeding the hungry and building shelters for the homeless... it wouldn't matter." Adam said with a slight shrug.

"You decided you won't like me no matter what?!" Conner growled and Adam let out a low chuckle.

"I decided I wouldn't like you from the moment she was born. You had no chance. No man will ever be good enough for my baby..." Just when I thought the tension couldn't get any thicker, Adam finally smiled and looked over at Sam. "Just like I wasn't good enough for your sister. I'll never be good enough for her, but all I can do is try my hardest every day." He looked back at Conner. "You will always fall short... but will you try your hardest every day to always fall short of being good enough?"

"Now that, we agree on," Conner said as his lips tilted into a smile. "I'll never be good enough for her... but I will do my best because she is already perfect for me."

"Good man," Adam said, and the two clasped arms. Okay... what was this? Just some weird show of male testosterone?

"Daddy..." I watched as Gia's eyes watered up and she had a bright smile on her face. She stepped forward and her father embraced her in his arms.

"Selfishly, I wanted you to stay with your mom and me. I wanted to always keep you close. I don't want to let you go even though I know you are ready. I am a bad dad for wanting to hold you back, huh?" Adam said in a hoarse, raspy voice that showed how emotional this was.

"No, you are the best daddy." I watched as a tear trickled down her face as a small smile rested on her lips. "I won't be far away. I promise to visit all the time." I watched the two of them and could see the family love they have for each other. I was happy to be with my mate. It wasn't bittersweet for me at all. I wonder if it would have been like this for me had my parents been alive. This was part of life for everyone, but for those with mates it was more drastic. Usually, it all happens so fast. There weren't months to get used to the idea. You find your mate and, instantly, you belong to each other.

"No need to get emotional now." Sam chuckled and smiled at the two of them. "You can share your parting words later when it is time. Though, I don't want to be around when Susan releases her waterworks." He chuckled, rubbing the back of his neck.

I watched as Adam squeezed his daughter tight and then kissed the top of her head before pulling away. Adam and Conner were looking at each other now. Conner placed his arm around Gia, bringing her back to his side.

"So... is this pretty much official?" Sion asked. They didn't mark each other, but their words made it sound like this was a done deal. It was very interesting to me how fast this was going. If it wasn't a type of mate bond, it was an insane type of chemistry between them. Conner looked down at Gia, who looked up at him a bit uncertain.

"It is for me..." Conner said in a quiet whisper.

I watched as Gia shyly nodded her head, which was uncharacteristic of her. However, she did have quite the audience all waiting for her response. "I want to be with you too, Conner."

"Given the timing, let's make it official after we save the Chance pack." Conner pulled Gia in a full embrace, and she buried her head in his chest. He looked at Adam and gave him a short nod. "I will be good to her. You don't need to worry. I promise I'll be a good mate to her."

"Okay, so what is the plan here?" Odell finally snorted and the mood began to shift to what the important topic was.

"Yes... Conner, did you do as I asked?" Sion said, and I looked up at him in confusion. What had he asked? He must have sent a mental link because I was at his side the whole time.

"Yes, and it is done. They will meet us by the old oak."

"Perfect. This will be a good way to weed anything else out." Sam said, and I felt like I was really missing something.

"What did I miss?" I said, and Sion and Sam looked at me with wide eyes.

"Weren't you paying attention?" Sion asked and he raised his brows. Oh shoot. They did say it and my mind must have drifted. I was so busy thinking about what I needed to do that I missed something important.

"You nodded your head in agreement..." Sam said and I chewed on my inner lip as I tried to wrack my brain. Sion's lips twitched upwards as he walked up to me.

"It is okay. I am sure there is a lot going through your

mind." He said as his hands came to rest on my sides. "We sent Joey back to the Sulfur pack. We told him we would be meeting by the Chance pack near the old oak tree."

"You are telling another pack the plans?" Nadine asked as she stepped into the building.

"We are setting the stage. If there are others under nembrant control or are working with Dr. Snyde, this will let us know. We are setting up the trap first." Sion said as he kept his eyes on mine. "We have the numbers on our side. We know that Taylor and Hazel were working with Dr. Snyde. There could be more. We need to know if there are others." I felt my heart begin to beat a bit more. What if Jude was involved? What if Denny was involved? My mouth felt suddenly dry. They weren't under the effects of the glass so if they were involved... they were doing it on their own. I guess no matter how much I tried to act like I was fine on my own, I still have attachments. Denny, Joey and Jude were the closest people I had to family for so long. The idea that one of them could be behind all of this... was nauseating. If they were, we would end up fighting against each other. The painful truth would be that meant I was never someone they cared about. Which should anger me. I should be ready to fight them if that is the case. Instead... I felt... sad.

Sion's eyes were still on me as I looked around the room. I finally noticed that someone was missing. "Where is Kai?"

"Kai went with Joey and Stacey back to the Sulfur pack. He is strong and his wolf is very experienced with Dr. Snyde and her ways. He should be able to spot anything that is concerning." I watched as Sion's lips twitched up as he leaned forward pressing his lips on my forehead. "You really weren't paying attention, were you? Everything is going to be fine." He whispered against my skin. The thing was, I thought I had been. I didn't realize how badly I had zoned out of the conversation.

"Just to confirm, the wolves in the Chance pack are being controlled, so we should avoid lethal force," Sam stated, and I turned my head to look at him.

"For everyone except for Breanna Snyde. She isn't being controlled. Same with Taylor and Hazel if they are there." I couldn't wait to choke slam that 'Call me Bree' b\*\*\*h. I didn't have my wolf when I first met her. Not only did I have my wolf now, but I leveled up with my other powers.

"Don't forget, Darcia," Doug said, and my eyes snapped up to Sion. Darcia was a fire demon who could have been the one responsible for killing his parents. If this was the case, she was very powerful. "Darcia is powerful, so everyone should not engage against her. Leave her to me." Sion said, and our eyes met. I would be busy removing the mind controlling effects from the pack to help fight. I know Sion was strong, but we knew nothing about this demon. I didn't want him leaving my side. Not that I wanted him there to protect me, but that I could protect him. "I don't want to risk losing anyone else to this fire demon. I am strong enough to handle her." He said, giving me a reassuring smile.

"Our focus is keeping the enemy off of Clover while she works. We will do our best to subdue the enemy with no casualties." Demetri said, and I looked over the room. Everyone had brave, determined faces. They all had faith in me. This plan all came down to me and being able to use my powers. If I mess up... it could be one of them who pays for it with their lives. I was inexperienced, but what choice did we have? I felt Sion's fingers caress my arm and I looked up at him. I gave him a brave smile.

"It is time to mobilize the warriors." He said as his hazel eyes studied mine.

"Yes, it is time to close this chapter so we can move on with our lives." I said and heard Logan make a whooping noise.

"Yes! It's time to reclaim home!" Logan cheered and punched his fist in his hand.

Yes, it was finally time. I just hope I was ready. I don't know why, but I just had this horrible feeling like something was going to go wrong. That or either I would mess up, or we would get taken by surprise. Maybe there was more at work there than we knew and we were the ones heading into a trap. This is why, while the others looked pumped and ready to fight, I hid behind my smile. As we walked out of the tent to the cheering warriors, my mind wandered. I was flipping through all the possible scenarios I could think of, trying to figure out if we were missing anything. JM Snap. All Rights Reserved.

I didn't know it then... but I was right. There was something important that we had overlooked. And it would cost us...greatly.

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