Never again by Malgorzata Uchto Chapter 17

/ Never again by Malgorzata Uchto Mandy's Pory

"How are you feeling?" Hope asked when I returnud From the bathroom. Star limping, i sat on the chair and winoed when my shirt slightly brushed against my back.

"I've been better, but i think i'm ok." I answered with a

little smile. She smiled back and we started to eat.

I met Hape the night Andrewshowed up. I will not

excited to see him again, but he saved meat that nament,

nonetheless. Who knows what Charlotte would have done to

me next. I brushed off the remnants of that night. Hope helped me that night with everything. She washed off the blood from my body and dressed my wounds. Even with

soothing Blake. Unfortunately, he knew that they were

hurting me.l hope when we get out of here, he'll still be my funny little Blake again.

I was hesitant at first to let her touch user to even talk.

but she told me about herself, and I believed her. Victims can

sense it in others. And she was one also. She was a human

like me and was" 22 years old. Andrew drugged her at a party

where they met and took her to his pack. She was fighting

him, but she learned to fear him. With the emotional and

physical abuse, she was afraid of leaving him. He was a

mönster. I had no idea why the Moon Goddess paired me

with him at all. He doesn't deserve to be loved.

blushed wi her praise

Thank you but I'm not his mother" replied, singh confused a preto explained. "He is my mate's on, but i care about him like my own." She knitted her eyebrows in Frown. But isn't Alpha Miller your note?" she asked in bewildarment. I exhaled and explained to her werything from the beginning. When I was done. Her eyes were wide and big as sauters, her mouth hanging epen. She was

speechless. I gave her few moments de process it all

Blinking few times, she opened her mouth to speak but then closed it. She repeated the movement few times, finally

finding her voice. "But it doesn't muke sense, he told

everyone you are his Luna and he came here to rescue you."

She mumbled, dumbfounded.

"He doesn't want me; he wants what I can provide." I

informed her.

Shaking her head in disbellel, she didn't say anything more. We ate breakfast in comfortable silence. She helped

me with my wounds, putting on some slinky ointment that is

supposed to hasten my healing and we started to wake up Blake. Secing him so lifeless, not smiling brake my heart God, please help us. I closed my eyes and exhaling, I put on

Blake, han

audio mat something

and

with a blank te he want to the table. His movement

impassive. Like a trained robot. I looked at Hope and she was

biting her lip to stap herself from trying. They would pay for

this. I would make sure about that.

Until naon there was no sien of Andrew or Charlotte

that made me slightly relax but i knew it was not over. He would come and try to make me to do all his bidding, but I was petrified at the thought of how he would do it. Hope left the room after lunch, and I was left alone with Blake. He was

sitting in the middle of the bed, looking out the window. I

approached him and kneeled on the floor in front of him, our faces almost at the same height,

"Blake, sweetie, please talk to me." I tried to get to him,

but it was not working.

"Honey. I know you heard those men hurt me, I know

you are scared," I took his hands in mine and continued, "We

knew this would happen, that's why I told you to hide b<u>ut</u>

I'm ok now, look at me?" I asked and waited for any reaction.

He didn't move, still looking out the window. I sighed and

hung my head low, when the realization dawned on me.

"Are you ashamed of me?" I asked, broken at the

realization that he didn't want me because I let them hurt

"No." I heard his whisper and leakedunkie

"I hate what they did, they are moniens." he replied with teary , finally he apened up to me. I slowly sod up and salbide him, he lend his body into mine. I

embraced him with one hand and squeed reassuringly.

"Let it all out." I encouraged him and he did. He cried for **some time, so l put him on my lap and hugged him tightly.** I winced when he tried to embrace me, accidentally touchine my injuries. He quickly put his hands between us and cried aven harder. I placed lingering kisses on his head several times, letting a few tears of my own fall. After his sobs finally

stapped, he tilted his head up and looked at me. I kissed his forehead and caressed his check.

"Better now?" I asked and he nodded in confirmation..

Our moment was interrupted by the sound of lootsteps.

Blake's body went rigid in my arms, and I could feel his

heartbeat speed up. Mine did the same. The door opened

and Andrew entered the room. My hold around Blake

tightened. Andrew went to the table, took one chair with

him, and placed it in front of me. He sat down leaving some

distance between us and looked at me with a warm smile.

"How are you feeling?" he asked with care. "I've been better." I answered bitterly.

"I know that simple apology will not suffice, but I am

truly sorry for what happened to you." he apologized, his

laint, you are important to me" he anh

inlik were mates.

,

Andrew, we both know that's not true. You *do*n't want

1. me. I have mate and he will come for us." My statement hade him grow

"No, you are MINE, and I will not give up on youl" he said through pitted teeth, clenching his fists. I went still.

voiding any moves that would inger him more. Blake was stiff and silent in my arms. After ter seconds, Andrew calmed

"I'm sorry, I didn't mean to snap like that, especially im

front of the child." he attempted to touch Blake

"Don't touch him!" | raised my voice, and he halted his

hand. "I'll leave you alone" he said, standing up and

returning the chair to its previous spot. My gaze followed him.

"I'll give you some time to think," he said and

attempted to leave the room, but my words stopped him.

"There's nothing to think about, my answer is still no. I will not fall for your tricks again. I know what you're after. And you won't get it, Deacon will kill you on the <u>spot</u>."

Stated coldly. His expression tightened at the mention of my

hmther

Your buddies talk too much while working i ndi didn't predict what damage would be caused by my ifupid

"WHT, if you know I don't ned to act polite with you anymore," he said with a maliclaus smiek on his face it all humppaned in a sernd,

He was suddenly in front of me, gripping Blake's shirt and threw him away from me. His terrified sincam filled my curs. His little body hit the wall and collapsed in the corner My eyes widened and I gasiped, staring at Blake, Andrew grabbed my throat and squeezed it hard, laying me down an the bed. I whimpered when my injuries on my back started

to burn

Tlooked up and saw a totally different side of Andrew

His eyes were red with rage, nostrils flared, and he smiled

deviously Black dots appeared in my vision at the lack of oxygen. I couldn't breathe. I tried to pry his ha<u>nd away, bu</u>t it

Was futile. He straddled my stomach, adding more pain to

my back and whispered into my ear.

"Lalways get what I want, and this time is no different.

This is just a beginning sweetheart, prepare for real fun later."

He let me go and rushed to the door. I rolled onto my

Stomach and tried to catch my breath. My blurry vision

registered his retreating back opening the daar. Before he

"I'm going to enjoy breaking you!"

When the door closed, I slid from hid and traveled to

Bilake. Panliked that he was hurt or worse, I thiked his

pulse and slighed in relief finding tweak but sivady. He just Dassed out. I scooped him up and with shaky lues Icarried him to bed. I laid beside and put myam around him, holding him protectively

What the hell just happened? Did I wake up the beast?

Looking at Blake, I couldn't imagine what Andrew would do tomakerne obey him. Would he hurt Blake? My blood ran cold at the thought. I couldn't let that happen. He would not touch him again. I already let him do too much. I was feeling tired, but I fought back my sleepiness in case he came back. My thoughts went to Ethan, was he searching for us?

He must be furious. Did he even know that it was Andrew all

along and Charlotte had a big part in it? What have lever

done to her? Was it jealousy that Ethan turned out to be my mate or hatred that he didn't reciprocate her feelings? Not

able to keep my eyes open any longer. I fell asleep.praying for Ethan to hurry.

I woke up to the sound of Blake's groaning. I

immediately opened my eyes and scanned the room. It was

empty. Just the two of us. I cupped his fac<u>e and strok</u>ed his

cheek to soothe him.

whispred

He started to buen his eyes and ante he did, he looked

"Haware you feeling does anything hurt?" I atd. checluing his body, he shaol his head and i relaxed,

"I don't remember, what happened?" Blake asked, confused. Maybe it was better this way. He looked at me **questioningly and I cantemplated what to do**

"What the last thing you remember?"

He was lost for a moment but finally answered. "I remember a bad man throwing me away and I hit my head, nothing after that."

"Because nothing happened after that, I brought you back to bed and laid down with you." I answered truthfully. He didn't need to know that Andrew was choking me. He looked into my eyes searching for a lie, but he fina<u>lly</u> nodded his head. I smiled at him, but his gaze fell down at my throat and he widen his eyes in shock. "What's that?" he pointed at my throat.

"Nothing sweetheart, I'm fine." I forgot about the

bruises.

"He hurt you." He stated.

"A little but it's nothing really." I assured him.

We got up from the bed and went to the <u>bathroo</u>m to

*cle*an

face

dine

math. We

harta

mdunt af Huad Furtwapple, Now we could leave me

have ler later. Full and satisfied, we went back to bd. Wie

talked about what we would do when we got back home,

dan t know when, but I prayed to God and to Moon Goddess

that it would be soon.

"I want you to marry my dad." Blake sudden statement shocked me. I hadn't thought about that yet.

"Really, this is what you want?" I asked.

"Mhm," He nodded.

"Well, you know first I need to talk to your dad about that. It's not that simple." i tried to explain. "Marriage is a Very important step in an adult's life, it makes you legal to everyone and you need to be ready, both parties need to do it willingly, not because someone makes you do it." He thought about what I said for a minute befor<u>e he</u> asked, "But you're mates, when you mark each other it is like marriage, right?"

Good point, it was the same but without a certificate.

"You are right but in the human world where people

don't mark each other like wolves, we need to be sure before

IN

understand," he said, confused. T Highed and tried aan

"Yes, I am your dad's mate. Moun Goddess ometimes

Pairs two different species, the chose me for your dad

because she want us to meet. When the humans

they don't have the bond, they need to create it between

themselves, and it is a very hard work. Sometimes that bend

fades with time and people ge separate ways, Searching for someone else. Do you understand now?" i asked, hoping! did not confuse him more. "But I would love to marry your dad, too."I added, smiling from ear to ear. My words made hlin nod vigorously at the thought and we continued to talk about little things to cheer up our moods.

Sometime later, I noticed that my back didn't hurt

anymore. The ointment Hope gave me did the trick. My skin

felt numb when Blake tried to touch me, it didn't burn; i just felt cold. I concluded that it was a good sign. We ate some leftovers from lunch when we got hungry, and I told him all about California and the places we would go after going back

home.

When the sun set, Hope came into our room with

another tray of food, I noticed her swollen eyes and a

bruised chin. She didn't look at me. Instantly. I knew he did

Something to her. That made my blood boil in rage. What

Tvited herhaal with us he haitantly repte, We ale in silence, fald im Lalk in front of Bike. When

were done, lacked Blake to wash his hands in the bathroom

to buy me some time alone with Hope. Once the door closed, I turned to Hope

"What did he do to you?

She shook her

h and denied giving me any answer I tried ta touch her arm, but she pulled away and stood up. I watched her struggle with her ammotion...

When she finally lifted her head and I met her eyes, I saw it all. All the pain, disgust, and hepalessness in them. She had already given up. She refused to fight. She was slowly dying inside. Determine to help her, I stood up and

slowly approached her. She looked at me, timid and frightened about what was going to do. Uncertain she would let me, I opened my arms waiting for her move. Assessing my motives, she slowly closed the distance and embraced me,

sobbing I held her tight caressing her back saying soathing

and encouraging words into her ear. We stood there for few

moments before we heard heavy footsteps in the corridor.

Alarmed, I held her at arm's length and ordered her to lock

herself in the bathroom with Blake, which she did in a rush.

When the doors opened, a very intimidating Andrew

walked in. His domineering aura surrounded him. His ata

IN

Focused on me; his malicious shared into my soul, endine chills down my hoy lulped. I knew why

He took prior to my way and stopou inches

way. He lifted his hand to show me on things I took a look

andatter few words i realized what it was widening my

ellacked back at him.

He sneered, whispering. "It's time to break you." and at that mament the jolt of a thousand volts of electricity ripped painfully through my body, causing strong and lone muscle contractions. The power of the tasör sent me down to the ground with a silent scream. He didn't stop, he used it again

and this time the power was even stronger causing me to

löse consciousness

I woke up when the cold water was throwri at my face.

Dumbfounded, I didn't know what is happening Blinking my

eyes and catching my breath, I tried to wipe the water from

my face just to feel a stinging pain in my wrists. I couldn't

move them. Trying to wipe my face with my shoulder, 1

regained my focus. I was tied to the chair with ropes. My feet

and chest were tied also. I looked around the room and saw

dark walls, dim lights, and a door. I couldn't see what was

behind me because my movement was so restricted. My

heart beat erratically, my breaths shallow and painful, the

röpe was so tightly tied, it didn't let me take deep breaths. |

Hound me from behind in. With a lot and hayilari,

the conclude the sound of the lock clicking nude

1. up. My thrast w dry, and I licked my chapped lips to moisture them with my saliva.

can hear your heartbet; i cansmell your fear and it definitely turn me on." Andrew's calm and disgusting voice Came from behind me.

"I don't have to do this, you can just give me what want and you'll be out of danger." His voice was getting

"You won't get huri." He whispered in my ear, slightly brushing his lips over my carlobe. His scent and his tauch made me sick

He slowly walked around the chair and stood in front of

me, his hands in his pants packets and his face cold with

unreadable eyes. I didn't say anything. I didn't want to talk with him. Tonly looked at him, trying to seem unaffected. I

focused my mind on the happy faces of Ethan and Blake,

elving me strength and courage to face the monster in front

"Cat got your tongue sweetheart?" he asked with a

Smirk.

let cher. The impact of the Halepuse my hand

laced Andreeapain. He groaned in annoyance. Sighinghe walked behind me. I heard some notes. The sound of natal its clinking a loud thud of something hay. He **chüasing a torture device to hurt me. Once the sounds** Hüpped, he decided to speak

"You know as much as I don't want to hurt you, you're

giving me no choice." His voice and lootsteps stopped right

behind me. I felt a cold and sharp object slightly piercing my

right arm. I turned nyhed and saw very sharpsmall knite. Andrew slid the knife dawn in opping above my albow. The pressure intensified, piercing my skin. I flinched at the pain and clenched my jaw. He turned the knife for Fimes like he was drilling a hole. I could in the blood ooring

from the wound, but I still didn't cream. Hostopped

without a word and did the same with my left arm. The pain

made me grit my teeth again, but I still refused to scream.

When he was finally done, he faced me again, waiting

for my reaction. I only looked at him and smiled. He smiled

back and crouched down before me, not taking his eyes al

of my face. He did the same to my left thigh, just above my

knee. I inväluntarily moved my les, causing the blade go

der and in my eyes for a second, When lopen them, I w abaction in Andro id he proceeded Ba my he thigh, once again moved

m e. All my limbs were hurt ana hendine. It is adiudvantagnahe. Buti

had to make him untime

"I'm impressed As human, skially weak on, you should be begeing me to stop." he said and c d his head to the night

"Te's pathetic to tie up a mere hunuan just to show your dominance As werewolf, you should be able to do it without restrictions." I scotled.

He clenched his jy again. It was working

"As an Alphe you don't need to put much effort inta

break any wolf, yet you did it with me am lihat specialar

Praybe you're scared?" I continued to taunt him. He was

getting angrier. "So, why don't you unitie me, and we'll see

am that weak to not fight you." I sent him my chulonging

smile and he did what I wanted.

He ripped off the ropes and grabbed me by my throat,

bringing me to his face. His blue eyes met my gray ones. And

this simple sight gave me hope – his wolf was dormant; he

was not present at the moment. Looking at me, offended,

he threw me at the wall. I hit it with my back, hiding my head

in my arms. I fell to the ground. The pain in my wounded

arm intensified and i hissed. I tried to move my legs and

stand up but a kick to my stomach caused my back to hit the

We art, lourled into a ball, soothing the pain, I noticed Lituat ntly back duln't hurt much. That ointment would **miracles. I looked** up and sw Andrew paling around the

room, buning

his hair in frustration. I took that time to

slowly sind up. It was puntul but bhrable. Once

standing. I strained my legs muscles to study myslin the corner of my eye, I saw the table with knives. Forming a plan in my mind, I looked at Andrew again.

"I'm still standing." He stopped at my words and Snapped his head to me. Seting me actually standing, he pounded towards me, growling burlescaped moments before he could reach me, and he hit the wall. I grabbed the table counter to keep my balance and while he recovered, I picked up the first small bonite that w in reach and hid it in

my hand, I let go the table and took two steps his www, he did

the same and aimed a punch at my lice, but i lifted my arm

and he hit my shoulder. Without thinking, he repeated and

punched me again. I fell to my knees, and he started to kick

my ribs. Once again, I blocked his hits with my arms.

Growling in frustration, his kicks got more erratic, and I

Fell to the ground and curled in a ball again. I hid my head

and stomach still holding the knife and let him kick my arms,

my legs, and my back. At this point, this was my only way to Eire him. My whole body was in pain, and my hold on the knife was loosening. He successfully landed one kick at the back of my head, causing the black dots to appear and blur back of my head, causing the black dots to appear and blur my vision. Exhausted and tired, I was starting to give *up*. When he was satisfied with my state and his breathing was heavy from tiredness, he grabbed me by my hair and harshly pulled me up at my feet. I was d*izzy, my w*ill to fight was leaving me, and I longed for this to end as soon as possible. But the next words he said between pants made me grip the knife tighter, my heartbeat speed up and my strength and courage come back doubled. "Tomorrow, I'll play with that little brat."

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After hearing those words, was implu o plurip that

knit into his chest, but I knew it would not work. The knie

loc small and was too Wink. I was lucky that Andrew

Wild Eired for today and simply drared

back to my room,

ardering Hape to help me before storming out of the room and slamming the door.

Once Hepe and Blake saw the state I was in, they both rushed te me. Blake embraced me, crying and I cringed in pain but dismissed it, happy that I was still alive and able to

protect him.

"Sshhh, it's ok, I'm alright." I saethed him and kissed

the top of his head. Hb sweet scent relaxed me and

reminded me of Ethan. That thought made me smile. I

attempted to stand up, but my abused body give out and I

landed on my butt

"Ouch."

"Let me help you." Hope extended her hand, and I took it, allowing her to help me up.

"What hurts?" she asked escorting me to the bathroom.

Blake was gripping my forearm for dear life.

"Everything." I simply answered.

When we reached the bathroom, I sat on the toilet seat

and smiled again at Blake.

While being drey Araw hat in my room,I had

No

Hope took the washcloth and drenched

in warm

water. She brought it to my face and wiped the dried Hasd

from my chin. Next, she did the same with my

and

Her eyes held so many emotions that it was hard for me

to name them all, but the most evident was anguish. She Hted her hand to wipe way the sweat from my forehead, but I gripped her wrist and stapped her. She looked at me puzzled, I smiled at her in answer.

"What's wrong?" she asked, dueless and my smile widened. "Nothing, it's just that."Tanswered and showed her my other hand which was still holding the knife. She gasped and covered her mouth with a hand. Blake was still holding my arm tightly with his face pressed to my shoulder.. "Where did you get that?" she asked in a whisper, looking around like she was afraid someone would see us. "I just got lucky" i said and fisted my hand hiding the knife. She shook her head and mouthed 'no' to herself. She was afraid to leave him. I grabbed her hand and made her

look at me. It took her some time to do it. When her eyes met mine, she sniffed few times.

"Tonight, we're all leaving this place."

but the womallistening. Her brezikshme in

pie

hurchin and ined ag*ain*

"Hape leak at mai demanded.

Slowly she started to open her eyes and our eyes met **"Inhale and exhale**, inhale and exhale." I inputted the words a few times and she started la breath slover following my instructions. It took herafew moments to calm

down. I brought Blake to my side and kissed his ternple; he was still silent. I turned back to Hope and took her hand,

squeezing it reasuringly.

"I have a plan but I'm gonna need your help. Hope, I

know we can do this." I whispered, "You don't deserve to live

like that, no one does. I know this will work." She shook her

headasi.

"Hope! Your name is Hope, it has a powerful meaning

don't lose your hope, don't let him win." I tried to convince

her.

She looked at me with teary eyes and I noticed a slight

change in them. My heart buoyed; it was working

"H-how?"

"You know the building. I saw an emergency door at the

end of the corridor, where does it lead?" I asked.

1... can't. She deni*ed*.

Yes, you can. Tuu are rong woman, brane and y*ou* de la tevaur life freely. Look what he did to you, he's

meter. We have to try." I replied, de mind,

She finally started to speak and told me everything

about the building and the surrounding are. It was not

much but it would suffice. I asked her to help me with a

shower, Blake was still not leaving the bathroom. I just and

him to close his eyes and he sat at the toilet seat. My injuries

might scare him, and I didn't want that. After a quick and refreshing shower, she put the stinky ointment on all my

wound's.

Tasked her to bring me some simple clothes to dress in, to not arouse Andrew's suspicion. Still in the bathroom, 1

waited for Hope wrapped in a towel, instructing Blake about

tonight's plan. When Hope come back, she gave me a simple

blue t-shirt and jeans. She even brought some for Blake

although they were feminine, he didn't object. He also took a quick shower and put on the black leggings and black t-shirt she gave him. They were a little too big but covered

his little body perfectly. I hid the knife in the back pocket of

my jeans, and we exited the bathroom.

I searched the room to find anything we could use to

protect ourselves. Blake and Hope were eating the food

Hope had brought while I was with Andrew. I checked the

closet but found nothing in the bathroom there were only

Tray in took the pine to ibe htmitti

"While you doing you need in est." Hopard.

I didn't answer

took the place and wild in

towe<u>l. I p</u>licuditan the floor and jumped on krew is.

When the sound of breking resounded, inteled down and

unwrapped the towel to se Hit worked. Satisfied I picked up a few hurp pieces and put two in my pocket. I handed one

to Hope.

She was confused. You can use it

a weapon." I simply

stated and she hesitantly took it, hiding it in her own packet.

The sky was dark outside. I didn't know what the time

was, but it had been few hours since Andrew brought me

back to my room. Blake had fallen asleep after the meal, and I let him. <u>He would</u> need to be ready when the right time

came. I looked at Hope, she was sitting on the bed,

nervously biting her nails. I approached her and took her

hands in mine. I smiled at her.

"It's going to work, trust me." She hesitantly nodded her

head. I stood up, went to the door and put my ear against it

to check for any noises outside. After few minutes of not

hearing anything, I decided it was time. It was now or never

She woke up Blake who was not happy that she interrupted his sleep but after reminding him what we were doing a few seconds later he sobered up. They approached me, holding hands and I looked at Blake.

"Are you ready honey?" I asked him and he nodded.

"Remember we need to be silent;can you do that?"

Once again, he nodded, gripping Hope's hand tighter. I exchanged looks with Hope and we both nodded our heads. Inhaling a deep breath, I slowly turned the doorknob and

opened the door.

When I peeked through the crack, I saw a dimly lit

corridor. Waiting for any sounds of footsteps, I slowly opened the door wider. Thankfully, it didn't creak, and I stuck my head out to check the area. So far so good. Without my

glasses, i had to narrow my eyes to see better, and rely on my hearing. I took out the knife from my pocket and gripping it firmly in front of me, I took Blake's hand and walked out the room. When we were in the corridor, I gestured with my

head at the door and Hope understood. She silently closed

the door. We couldn't leave any signs that we were gone.

Taking silent steps forward, we reached the end of the

corridor. We stopped and waited a few seconds to make sure

no one was around. I held my hand up in a gesture to stop them and tiptoed across the hall, holding my breath I slowly opened the emergency exit door. Peeking inside the dark

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Weed the window ruly and lasted on

Haljasting my eyes to the darkn

, I spotted ahaldu

d

Preden shed and pointed at the

Blue Lo scan the

Even as a kid

still we

ll and his enhanced

Т

he were better than human'. He confirmed the

was clear and we climbed down the fire escape staircase. We tried to make no sound so our descending from the second Maar took us some time. Once down, Hope and I took Blake's hands and ran in the direction of the shed. My legswire

hurtime but the adrenaline gave me strength. We ran about

500 yards, not looking back.

We reached the shed and paused to let ourselves catch our breath. We stood with our backs pressed to the wall.

"Are you good?" i whispered to them. They nodded their

heads, trying to calm down their breathing

I looked behind the shed and saw two men standing at

the corner of the building, smoking. I turned around and put

my forefinger to my lips, instructing Hope and Blake to be

quiet. I looked again at the men, they stood there for a

moment and after finishing their cigarettes they went back

lo

Ρ

ranh chance

Chacking here w w seconds and the sprinted in the form

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W

did it "Hupe whispered, wiling at me.

We're not sale yet, wned to move." Tordened and *Eri*pping tighter Blake's hand, we hered forward.

When we reached the forest, we stopped about 30 feet way from the tre line. Luckily the sound was covered in mass, 50 üur steps were a little bit mutted. This gave us priore time to stay un neticed. We marched in an unknown

direction, checking the dark woods. I didn't know how long

we had been walking, but we didn't stop. Nobady was chating us yet. I was afraid to wonder if we really made it or if

the worst was yet to come. After about forty minutes al

walking Blake göt a little tired so we stopped for few

minutes.

"Blake, we need to be quick.I don't know if we are safe

yet." I whispered into his ear.

"I hear a river." he whispered back.

This is something that might give us an advantage in our

escape. Our scents could be washed away a little to distract

the rogues in case they noticed our absence.

No

Thirty minute of walking. I finally heard that ther, men Betting cloth. Hape and I smiled a chother. The revithet way to river we walked slowly, trying to make no found, the

moss started to grow less

dless, so our eps w

e

calculated and careful

The river was wide, but the shining moon allowed us in See the bottom, it was not that deep. With Blake in my arms we should be able cross it without much problem. The only problem was t hat the riverbank was at least 15 feat bülow

where we were standing

"What now?" Blake asked nervously. I looked right and

left, trying to find some way down.

***There." I said and pointed at the most feasible way to**

go down. It was a breach in the cliff about 30 feet to our left

allowing us to slide down.

"That's our only option." I stated and we walked to the

spot. When Isaw it closely, I gulped. It was quite steep. I

wasn't sure could we make it without a sound.

"Ok, I'm firs<u>t, then y</u>ou Blake." I pointed to him, and he

shook his head, scared, looking at the breach.

Na

made anather hole to ready my

DEERE with my hands.

I did the time. On nepaternother, I climbed down about

i

1. t. I looked up and Hope and Blake's faces Carelliyi

watching me

"Follow my steps or dig your own holes." I whispered and proceeded my way down. Once my feet felt the water, I slowly dipped my body into the icy river. When my feet touched the bottom, the level of the water reached my

chest.

"Ok, go." I whispered again and held my hands up to

gesture Blake to do the same.

He slowly followed my lead, and I whispered

encouraging words to him. When he was in the middle, Hope

started to go down also. They slowly came down and I never

took my eyes off of Blake. About 3 feet from me, Ive lost his

balance and with a little scream he slid down the soili

Caught him when his legs hit the water. I turned him around

and hugged him. He wrapped his legs and arms around me

like a koala bear

herinin haha H

ai

Nou

*Th*ay bih trend. The chilly mal br p little *bit* and we were le fordi hundikatomy body tightly and carefully took step through the rher. Hope

W

right behind me. We looked around us to waifanyone

was following but we didn't spat anyone.

Finally, we proud the river. Our drenched clothes hugged our bodies like gloves. We entered the woods again and stopped to wring the water from our clothes. Blake listened for a few seconds to make sure we were alone. Once he confirmed, we started the hike.

"What are we going to do next?" Hape asked with chattering teeth. We were cold drenched, and hungry.

"I don't know, maybe find some place to call for help." I

answered, trying to cheer her up.

"Who can help us here?" she questioned, hugging her

body to keep warm.

"My mate and my brother. They are definitely looking

for us." I answered truthfully.

I knew they were. They would not give up on us that

easily. We walked for about another thirty minutes, I was

getting tired with sleeping Blake in my arms, but I refused to

11/19 -

W

ay higher than a humani's, allowing us to warm up –

little bit during our juurne, i wary about our

roundin, we didn't talk much. We didn't we anything

encept the tree. It was like a numar-ending Sety.

The sky earted to get brichter, The dawn was coming

We could see a lot more now through the trees.

We

walked a lot this night but I still wain't sure it was enough to

feel safe. At some point, we both Palt exhausted and decided

to nesi a little bit. We found a big fallen tres with a crack that

could shelterus all. We crawled inside and squeezed againsi dach other to provide us more warmth. Not fighting back our

tiredness, we fell asleep.

Topened my eyes not knowing where I was. The bed felt

so uncomfortable, and the darkness didn't let me to see

anything except for the bright ray of sun peeking through the crack behind me. I turned around with difficulty and saw the

forest, green in the sunlight. The memories of last night

invaded my mind. We escaped. I turned back to see Hope

sleeping right next to me and Blake between us. I poked

Hope's arm in attempt to wake her up. Groaning, she slowly

opened her eyes and once she saw me, she smiled.

"We did it." She exhaled a relieved breath.

ite Voi

Erwd back auto their hom e buched the Hlinghiem bind laakel wound.

Tharu Was withick and rule, but the sun

shining bright abhalpingh mare. The roud or purch to be seen in the distance inhaled there

and led to myl. Fredom. Iwled to the clinthe log where I had previously seen the rayofun and informed Hope that I was going to look around.

"Mhm." She answered, still wounding slapy and hucoed Blake closely to her body. He huered her back and i chuckled a little scuing that.

I was about to sit up when I heard the sound of

breaking twigs in the distance, and I hid m ell behind the log: The mohled sounds of nervous taking caught my

attention. I looked through the crack and saw Hope

widening her eyes and Blake'u pened face

"..he'll blusif we don'!." was all il could register from

the sounds. My heartbeat increased in der Widening my

eyes, I focused on the sounds. They were coming closer. Making up my mind in a second, I put my hand into the crack

in the log and handed over the Erite to Hope. When i felt her

handgrip it, I told her my instructions.

"Stay here until it's safe, then run. Run and don't look

back." I whispered. I took one last look at Blake and

mouthed to him I love you! I saw Hope covering his mouth

Ia me hali ime

z in ln mmhar

Late INo

and piping them tightly in my hand, Ished my lungs

Come on, tucher. I'm right here!"

Seconds later heard the foot laps behind me. Hollowing me growing and starling I turned right ind increded my speed. They were getting closer. I looked behind just to seeone of the three men trying to grab my shoulder. I swung my hand and

аг

cut his forearm, turning L. Not stopping.lled them back to the river ran along the cliff haping they would slip at some point. I felt someone grip my

shoulder slightly and I plunged the shard in his hand. The

grip loosened with a scream, and I continued my run. When!

reached the edge of the clift with no escape, I stopped and – turned around. The three men were furiously approaching me. The one I hurt the most was holding his hand to the

chest. I looked behind me and noticed I was about 10 leet

away from the edge.

Lifting my hands up in guarding stance, I prepared for

the fight. The broken shards i held in my fist were cutting

into my skin. I gestured for them to come closer, which they

did. Two of them attacked in unison, aiming at my face. I

Noi

het me mu puniheshari lah HTIE

Ehtig ming him holding his tomli to top the

in the gut. We look one step back and his foot slipped, ciughima Gall down into the river.

Facing the two others. I waited

further nov one of them cared at me and launched with no hesitation. His cha reaching my chest and sliced, waring my t-shirt and Scratching my skin. I lifted my left hand and plunged it into his neck, but his stopped me inches avay, holding my wrist. I pulled my knie up and hit him in the balls, he fell to his knees holding his crotch. Gripping his hair, i lifted his head up and pluriged the shard repeatedly into his throat making the blood splatter on my lace. Once his body laid down <u>at</u>

the ground. I kicked it and watched as he fell into the river,

Hitting his head on the nearest rock with a loud cracking

sound, leaving a path of blood behind his floating body,

washing away all the evidence of the fight.

I quickly turned around to the third rogue just to see

him disappear. I was alone at the edge and no one was

attacking me. I looked again at the floating body, washing

away with the current of the river and bid my goodbye.

Smiling to myself, I hid the shards back to my pockets and

tumed around. I was instantly or high alert. It was him. In all

his glory. Andrew was standing in the spot the third roue **had previously occupied**. His face red from anger, his nostris

Hared and the cold eyes that bure into me and sunt shers

down my spine. If looks could kill, I would be already six feet

under.

*That was a bad move, bitch!" he growled at me taking

slow but long steps my way and stopped inches away from me. I could clearly see his face. His veins popped at his neck from rage, his breathing was heavy and his crazed eyes

narrowed at me.

"Now, I'll show you the consequences of your

disabedience." he announced in a cold and sharp voice

before he grabbed my throat, squeezing it, cutting off the oxygen to my lungs. In panic, I started to scratch his hand, digging my nails into his skin but he stayed unaffected. Almost at the verge of losing consciousness, I remembered

the piece of shards in my pockets. With a shaky hand I tried

to reach it. Once I succeeded, I pulled it out and aimed at his

face. With one weak swing. I plunged it into his cheek. He

released my throat and stepped away, putting his hand on

the wound. I collapsed at the grass coughing trying to catch

my breath.

"You'll pay for that." he roared.

I tilted my head up and looked at Andrew, his expression was no longer just crazed; it was homicidal. e*xp*ression was no longer just crazed; it was homicidal. He raised his fist in an attempt to land a final punch and I closed my eyes. My thoughts went to Blake and Hope, and I prayed.

Please God, let them make it alive.

The impact of the punch hitting my jaw sent me to the

ground. The pain was unbearable, but I was still conscious.

With my blurry vision, I saw Andrew crouching down and

grabbing my shirt lifting me slightly up. Everything hurt, and

my body refused to fight. I sent my last words into the air

before the darkness consumed me.

"I'm sorry Ethan..."

Never again by Malgorzata Uchto Chapter 19

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/ Never again by Malgorzata Uchto
1. 19. The pet plan
E
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' POV

The würda resounded in my head repeatedly, I was trying to them from my mind by focusing on my task, but it was not working. When Hem Infomed me that Iran

told him that, I was enra dat first but when it finally s

in

my mind i wa depressed and deved. What it was true? What if I lost them forever? Brushing of the negative thoughts, I continued my task.

Nyt ware repeatedly hitting the punching by letting out my anger and frustration. It had been four days since they had been taken, Four days of nathing. Although

the pain my wolf felt was one I was not relaxdat all.

Interrogation of Brian didn't get us anywhere either, he was a

stubborn jerk, not even Deacon was able to punch the

information out of him. He refused to caperate. Slowly

losing my temper, I hit the bag again, this time with my claws

auti tore it to shreds. I watched as the sand scattered ani

the floor

We'll find them.' my wolf assured me, determined.

Breathing heavily. I closed my eyes trying to relax at his

words, but it only pissed me off more.

When? It's been so long, and we still have nothing.'

Snapped at him in response. He whimpered at my harsh tone

at p

hared to the back my mind. Himas

Humud de ih

Bhaurhits. I lume und ta handirection and whim alty approaching me with his hands held up highina urud aning usturs. His face was full of concern

"Tihan," he slowly started. "I can't imagine how you're Neeling right now but i know your behavior crutha padi They are afraid to approach you in far of your wcontrollable rage sibunchald cautioudy.picking. every word and i wighed remembering the moment I almost

unleashed all my frustration at one of my warriors and mily snapped his neck when he tried to something. His saared face was haunting

for the entire day, so I decided

to lock myzelf in my ollicar in the futu.

"Ethan your packinds you don't forget about your

dulien" he added.

"I'm scared, Ben." I whispered, "T'm so scared for them, we have no information to move forward, nothing to make

us dose in on their location, I don't_"I choked on my last

words, not able to voice my thoughts. Crushed. I hid my face

in my hands

"I know Ethan, we are all scared, but we need to stay

strong for them. Especially you." He lectured me, reminding

me w<u>ho the real Alpha</u> was here. I put my hands down and

that his head

with him

. It tulivud ta

n

.

"Come on Evi you med tomat setting er at least change your clothes, you look like whitman" He mua, making adspunted face, trying to lighten up my mood the added. And you will like one." That comment made me laugh hard, but nodiled my head and walked out of the

pm with him.

The last four days had barely slapt, saten, or even

showed. I was constantly thinking about Mandy and wake

er planning the

e pu. Where are they, what is Andrew's

next move, will I be able to see thaman? And that

Comment Brian made added fuel to the fire.

Me, Ben, Decon and Nico were trying to prepara rescue plan, but without the most vital infomation, the right

location, we were all in a black hole. I entered my apartment

und went straight to the bathroom. Taking of my clothes, I

snied them, and the smell made me almost remit. I really

stink. Goddess, how did I never notice this before? I threw

the dirty clothes to the laundry bin and turned on the water.

Waiting until it was hot enough for my liking, I took a look at

kanel kal

rack. The only thing was my body m an vulpted from all the toueul had

my much

when the hot wished the busined the

hower, the hot

w

eathing

m

aining and achine

Fusch and i lato cond-h ading farew minutes ja enjoying the feeling before i wished my body thomughly. After ending my show, lerimmed the

Eowntubblwand bruciled my hair, I put half of my still We long har into a bun. Dressed and refreshed, I left.my priment to head to my oldi.

Entering the office, I sawall of my resout crew standing

in front of the huge miphanging at the wall we had marked

the abandoned pack houses in a 300-mile radius. We

dy chclud most of them, but there were still a few to

beeramined.

"Thank you, Simon, we'll be in touch." Diacon said inta

his phone and ending the call, he crossed out another spot. I noticed there were only five left. Deacon turned around and

noticed me.

"Good to see you back, Ethan" he said smiling, making

the others to turn around as well. I greeted them all with a

mod and approached the map. Scanning it from top to

bottom lturned my head to Deacon.

P ne the mhp. Deon putkisphere on the new dan

had ordered witary laat ouibustand d eed.

"The thin the the

m-Pravintowhours builor

The w a ter the line meneed to wait till den "He

p etaling dipbreath and approached the map. This

et is naar my memis territory. 50 we need to be very carstul." He pointed at the onelated the north, and this one is surrounded by miles of thick and a lot of wwmou." He then pointed at the southerno. Il modded my **head in kn**owledgment. I hope they will find something or We have to send our watch area, which meant over fifty abandoned places attend all over the country,

*How about your allies, did you call themFlasked him

once we sat down to enjoy our meals brought by the Omega. It was so delicious that I devoured mine like a starred intun, which I actually was. Yes, they all promised to call if they motion anything suspicious around their territory." #a wered between bites af his glazed pork tenderloin we were all eatine. "But so far nothing has happened." We all inodded at his information and continued eating

We sat in my office for few hours waiting for the calls

from our scouts to update us. Two of the groups informed

that the locations they checked are empty with no evidence

of Mandy or Blake's appearances. Nico crossed out the spots

Garnched the barbe ethisma.

"Howare you holding up!" imbed him, cred, he

uzundand collah

this moment. Now his

der ch

. He was bored and uptight.

1 support you know mine and Mandy's historyi" he asked friendly but hestant. I a*dd*ed at his question

"Well, although I have my fate now, I still care about Mandy" he continued, making Deacon sit straight up in his chalr

"I do love her, not that way anymore but still, she owns a pic of my heart and knowing she's somewhere out there tacing all this wil on her own again, it scares me," he whispered, afraid and i neticed a single tear falling down his cheek, "I just don't want to see her broken again," he wiped way the bear with his hand and looked at Deacon, "She deserves happiness. Goddess only knows how much she deserves it," he said and tuned his sorrowfullxce to me, "Promise me Ethan, promise that when we'll find her, you'll pive her that happiness, just promise me," he almost begeed, I couldn't voice my answer for a moment so i nodded my head in response. "I swear, when this is all over, she'll be the happies woman walking on earth." I replied finally finding my voice. We waited for another few hours before the next call informing us about the same thing, no presence, and no Den looked atach other is confirmation. He addedlik hodnich my ty, not wanthgverts the pun in the The whimna my waltended water about 10

Tinira andainaut immedixhyltes exhausted. I hoped

we would find them soon. Tired and sleepy after a long day.

we all want to our beds waiting for the dawn to come.

I woke up drenched in w in the middle of the night.

ping for air. The nightmare was also reliable ! **almo<u>st b</u>elieved it. Getting out of** the bed, I went to the

bathroom to take a shower wupposed I was not gonna fata

slæpandime ponafter experiencing that nightmare. Letting the water to wash away my swet, l dlesed my eyes ind anyzed the dream Mandy in my arms only in her underear layimg cold, bleeding out, trying to say something before she released her last breath. Her lifeless and bloodied body slipping through my hands while I try to keep her close to me, crying

my heart out in pain. Is it my future, am ll going to lose my

love again? Or it's a sign of something new that those shitty

TV programs tell you to believe in? I didn't know. Sighing. I

Finished my shower and dressed. It was my turn to talk with

Brian this time. I left my apartment and headed out to the

TIE

Entering the dwand coldlungon.lwald chur any occupied in the mid of the titler. We Ney

in the day, the last the red price

quiet. When i appuched Brian's cell, ww him ting

the cold concrete, handchained above, Hished hanging down low. He was sleeping they did number on him. His shirt was insitrids, sparing the cuis, burns and bruits. opened the door and stepped inside, taking the chair

placed it in front of him and sat down and contemplated what to *d*o for a moment. I finally decided to wake him up. Tita luckor doesn'idim e dilip

I asked one of the guard to being the bucket af enld water. When he did, I pointed at Brian, and he immediately obeyed my silent command. When the water hit <u>Brian's</u> hud, he woke up in an instant, groaning in pain and cold. When he lifted up his head, ww his bruised face. Both eyes were swollen, nose broken, and lips were chapped, covered

in dried <u>blood</u>. When he noticed my presence, he stup

straight and smiled.

"I see the Big Bad Alpha finally decided to visit me," he

mocked in hoarse voice. I guess he's not receiving any food

or even water. I didn't answer just continue to stare at him.

"To what do I owe the pleasure? Is there something you
want from me he continued, "I guess you still haven't

Hundilem: Himashamelehrat only your girl but

Houd analyeHaddochucine I was boline

parade, but I tried to stay in to inshow how mukh

hlwurde

acted the..

"Let me out. I'. Li himl"

wol demanded,

Erying to force his way out. I had to fight him to not let him de that. Once we find them, I'll tear him apart mywell.

"Why?" I simply asked.

I needed to know at least that. He had been leyal with unblemi d opinion, never causing problemi and had been

very promising pod warrior, why did he betray met

"Why what?" he asked, pretending to not know what was talking about. Nat answering his question, I waited for him to talk. After few momenti al silence, he vighed and

started talking

"I guess I can tell you this," he started dispassionately

and turned his eyes toward the concrete wall, "I wanted her

for myself, she's hot ask in her bossy mode," he chuckled,

his every word is pissing me off even more, "...but when you

announced she's your Luna l got angry, but can't fight with

an Alpha, right? _" he smirked and turned his ejes at me, they are full of amusement."... so I guess my cousin will do

the job and claim her as his." he continued, laughing At that

point I was not able to control my anger anymore, clenching

my fists I stood up and walked to him. My wolf was telling

me to kill the fucker.

didn't finish his se*ntence*, my shut him up. I handed

h er punch at his stupid lace. I was unable to stop

1. my. He was askbardio think about her this way, the sounds of breaking bones satisfied me. I didn't pay attention

te anything around me, howards were trying ta stop me

but I duntaxed. Brian's face was unrecognizable at that

paint, the blood was everywhere, am the floor wall.my clothes and Fist. Just wh en I was about to land the final

punch i was stapped by Nico's words.

"We've got somethine!" he shouted enthusiastically. and halted my hand midair.

I loaked at the unconscious body in front of me with

disgust. "We're not over!" I spalat him and walked away.

When Nico noticed the state I was in, he gestured at my

bloodied clothes and suggested to shower first and change my clothes, which I did in the dungeon's showers. Nico

handed me clean clothes and I quickly put them on.

"What have you got?" I asked putting my shirt on and

walking out of the dungeon with him.

*The scouts from the northern spot called and

confirmed it's empty." he replied, this was not giving us any

needed information. I raised my eyebrow at him

questioningly, "but the southern team spotted a few rogues

searching nervously for something in the woods." he added,

hint of happin

and a little hape. That made my heart beat

"I don't know anything more, brc they hung up. wanting to check it completely we're all waiting for the further information," he finished, and we hurriedly walked

back in my office in silence

When I entered the office Ben, Deacon and Peter were sitting at the chairs discussing eur plan. When they noticed me and Nico, they all smiled, and I quickly smiled back and sat in the empty chair next to Peter.

"We need to wait for the next call, but I have a good feeling about this." Deacon stated and I saw the wme

happiness in his eyes. My wolf said the same to me but

without a solid proof I didn't want to celebrate prematurely.

Distracting ourselves from the phone, we were discussing all the possible ways of attacking Andrew, we formed a great

plan to work it out. At some point, leven had an argument

with Ben. He disagreed with him staying here to lead the

pack during our mission. He loves Mandy dearly and wants to participate in our mission, but we can't leave the pack

without a leader. With Deacon's help and Peter's assurance,

he finally agreed.

We ate the breakfast prepared for us while everyone from time to time took a glance at the phone laying on the

air and went to my amemte led by my #1!

or I would go crazy. I went straight to Blake's room and ut

his bed. His scent still lingering on the sheets althouth after

m y days was slowly fading

I looked at the photo frame this nightstand and

grabbed it. It's a photo of me and pregnant Emily. We were smiling at the camera, me behind Em holding her swolken womach protectively.

"I promise Em, Ill find him." I whispered tracing my finger over her face "I hope you're watching over him from above and maybe even keeping your fingers crosud for me

and Mandy." I said a little unsure, she was my first mate after

all. I know she said she wanted me to be happy again before

she died, but I'm not sure if it was genuine or she just said it

knowing she wouldn't make it

"Em, I am happy with her, she is d Herent than you, but

she loves Blake like her awn and I love her so much that I

can't stand the thought of losing her too." I confessed, shedding few tears.

"I loved you Em but I love Amanda more." I whispered

and pulled the picture to my chest, hugging it tightly. After

few minutes I kissed the photo and put it back. Wiping away

the tears, I stood up and walked back to the office.

When I rendered, they were all found at the phone lently, waiting for it to rigut luck in my cha **exhalad. Be**n noticed my wett-shirt and concerned.

"Are you ok?

His eyes didn't leave the car stains on my shirt, 191 salained. "I was in Blake's room, i was talking to Emily."

"Emily?" he asked intrigued, making all other to look at

Tes. I found our photo at his nightstand and I told her about Mandy and Blake, bing her to watch over him and.."

used and sighed, and a blasing for my relationship with Mandy." They all smiled a me, knowing about my previous mate. Nico was about to say something when the phone

ring, catching our attention

Descon immediately answered it and put it on speaker. ""What have you 2007 he asked quickly.

"It's definitely here although we haven't reached the

house yet." Aman's voice I didn't recognize answered.

"How do you know if you didn't check the buildingi

Deacon asked, confused.

"Well... we still have some distance to walk but we have

a confirmation," he paused for a second, we all waited for

hirn to continue

"Is Alpha Jone<u>s with y</u>ou?" he asked hesitantly. We all

Finally had a mail, and and cryingine

It was Hakelimediatalysteed up and walked to the

de and bent over towar him better. Everyone around

ped in shock

"Yes, buddy It's me, it's daddy" i

a n d happily. shedding wears of joy. "Wre you ok buddy.is Mandy with you?" I asked hoping they were ok Hevikundskowy

ansivered

Tmok but Mandy is rol_"he didn't finish because of his hard sobs. My heart stopped and everyone around stiff<u>ene</u>d in fear. What does he mean? She can't be dead; I

should feel the bond breaking Shaking my head at the thought of my nightmare, I sat back in the chair and put my

face in hands.

"We found him hidden in a log with another woman but

it's not Mandy." The man informed us. Who is the and what is

she doing with BlakeI stood up again and asked him to put

her on the phone.

"Hello?" a tiny and weak voice answered.

"Who are you?" I asked firmly.

"My name is Hope and I ran away with Blake and

Mandy." She answered, crying

DVI

asked are politely. Shamed ad explained erything

7 was forced to stay with him, he abundme... he's memb" she united was helping Mandy with her

injuries while stay

there and shovinced milonu

y mith her. He did it but this morning we hard them arching for us to the..." she paund, will leaned over the desk. "She told us to wait until it's safe then run and don't lockbuck while she led them in another direction. She red us" she finished and I paidather words. She sacriod

herself to let them run away. While I was deep in my

thoughes, the man's voice pulled me out al my daze.

She said he'll try to mate with her and mark her to

become his Luna. She vid it's something about you Dewan

but she's not sure..."

Deacon commanded him to keep them safe and stay

hidden in case the rogues came back. We all stood up at the

same time and went to prepare for the take off. Me and

Descon mind linked our warriors to prepare to hit the road in

five minutes. I went to my apartment and grabbed some

clothes for <u>Blake</u>, Mandy and me and put it into a small bag,

Heading downstairs, I saw the Omegas handing out coolers

with food and drinks to warriors and they stulled all twenty

cars with them. We are taking 100 warrions with us; half were

from Deacon's pack. Once everything was ready, I was talking

with my wimbon while ma iminutid hh.

The found Lure and filaku," ihehappy.ch interrupted my pch,

I tured the bacalm down, but anly on the run out my. Dur Luna till held captive and w ard to hurry to what i watched as they all madded their heads in tamation, "Wet you all Ee not show mercy to anyone who is respons ble for her pain or helped the enemy in his plan. They all will pay for their astioni. Do you agree with me?" I asked and they all shouted

We told everyone the plan and we themate

moments to

y goodbye to their familie. I hoped we would

not les anyone in this milyon, Aria's death was enough to

handle. Minutes later, w

ill get into the car

was riding in

the first car with Deacon Peter, and Nico as our drner.

Fidening aur shat balts Nice started the engine and all 20

cars tookoll one after another heading south to bring back

our Luna home

Looking out the window, I watched as the trees become

a blurry sight. We didn't have much time to waste vo ve

drove with maximum speed. When we crossed the

boundaries of my territory, I closed my eyes, and my

thoughts went to Mandy.

I'm coming baby, please hold on!'

Never again by Malgorzata Uchto Chapter 20

/ Never again by Malgorzata Uchto **20. Luna Ceremony**

I wabe upuru pudingach, traditioned hlienyheid underth pll but my body washarting with my month, I decided to hide **tace in handshut** wien tried to them, I loitathingholding to my lett rikt. Slaulslared my

Within difficulty. I trually just to the brightness and locked

round the roam:

i was not the room was in beton, it was bir more masculin and has more furniture. Finally looking at my left hand in witculled to the badpost.ifted myllup slanty, moining in pain and red my back on the comity

pillow. Fighting the headache, il tried to remember what happened, Messaging my temples with my right hand the iremnants of last night came to me in pious.

My encounter with Andrew in the torture room... my talk

with Hope...run. forest.. river.. the fallen tree, freedom

The realizatlan dawned on me immediately

Looking around the room was confused, how did igat

here? The truth hit me with more memories, the rogues that

were chasing me, our light and finally Andrew who found me

at the cliff. I sighed and closed my eyes again. He did this to

1. me. He restrained me, preventing me from escaping. This Nyhuis. We to be ind Hipe. Ihota hai they can it and are now waterway from he t

found on help theoll Ethan Hewamy

only channel

to

kto light Andrew this

. The

hndeche i Lulling me and the miss cida't work bude Wirthing else hurt too. Ikut myself to sleep or more. Hybe with time I would feel better.

I woke up again to find a trwy filled with food placed the bed with some painkillers and water I canfully sat up and brought the tray deser. First, I starin with the food. It H led so good that my stomach rumbled loudly. Slowlyi began to eat, when I devoured almost the half of the mati mained in satisfaction at the delicate and perfectly prepard

chicken. I put some potatoes and vegetables into my mouth

and closed my Eyes. It was so delicious. Between the bite of

my meal. I swallowed the painkillers and took few sips of water waiting for any suspicious reaction of my body. I w<u>as</u> not sure what kind of pills they really were. But the pain in

my head slightly lessened, so i guessed he was not trying to

drug me

When I finished my meal not leaving anything on the

plate, I pushed away the tray and patted my stomach in

gratitude. Now I just needed to wait for someone to take it

back. I dlosed my eyes again and rested. When I was starting

to doze off, some<u>one entered</u> the room, through narrowed

further away, trying to the more biance between us. He diah'tswanything took the tray and in the room closing the door behind him. Hating for de minutes to make sure no one else was coming. I let my body to relax and took a lite map.

Ipurred when I fult Ethan's handily hrushing my hair.i love when he does that. The sparksalsays make me Hlax and tall mep: But now I didn't feel the sparks. It was

not Ethan.lopened my eyes and looked at the person. I pulped, ing Andrew sitting at the edge of the bed looking at me lovingly. His is focused on my lips. What win wrong with him, the last time was with him he was Nady to murder me and now he acts like a lorisick puppy?

"Andrew," I whispered his name and he lifted up his page

and locked eyes with mine. He smiled, sighing in relief.

"I was worried you hit your head hard and would not

wake up," he sid, still brushing his hand through my hair.

His touch was gentle and careful What is wrong with him?

he really bipolar?

"Where am 17" I asked him, not making any moves,

Letting him to continue his act

"This is my room, I decided it's better to have you here

with me." he answered and left my hair to start caressing my

cheek with his thumb. His touch didn't affect me like Ethan's.

It was quite the opposite. It disgusted me.

can't be my Lunap

artmm, can if he

wait to the walk-in closet. I up at the bed and watched hinchoosing orihing in the with dothes from right to bat.

"Aha, this on" he titlu-aandered the room

holdinga ner with a beautiful vary dre

bolnathim

confused as huld down the dress on the bed.

"it's for yourlunu ceremony." Hentai, shocking me with his word. A luna cremone sisutiloid buck at the dress and then back at him.

"I'm not your Luna, Andrew you know I will never dept you." He sighed deeply my words and put his hands

in pockets

Whether you like it or not, you'll become my Luna. I already made the preparations for your ceremony Everything's ban organized while you were asleep, they are just waiting for you to come. He replied with a sinoire mile like this was a normal thing. I was speechless at that moment. My voice was stuck in my throat. Composine myself, I cleared my throat. "What are you talking about, who are they?" I asked with my shaky voice, unable to hide my fear.

"Your new pack, sweetheart." he answered, sending me

a beamine simile before he walked out the room. Leaving me

Andra ane gancamenske, don's more. His

гid.

espre won showed divitisection. He cre

am at

chest and cred his had to the rht.

What was hellung beuttisen him my questioning look. He sighed and explained

ready for your curencny.

"You were supposed to

We're living in two haun."

I shook my head at his stupidity, "How m upposed to get ready with these?!" I asked in imtaion, pulling my curd

wrist to show himni.

Hepared his forehead with a groun. "I forgot about

that." he apologized and walked over to the bedpost and

Е

uincuffed my wrist. I immediately pulled it to my chest and

mas<u>sag</u>ed the numb spot with my other hand, still waily

observing him.

"Get a shower and dress up, we don't have much time

to waste," he ushered me to get up, but I refused.

"I am not going anywhere with you, you're delusionalit

you think I'll voluntarily let Ethan gol" i was mad, why was the Moon Goddess doing this to me, what had I ever done to

her?

"Let me tell you a story." Andrew offered and sat at the

end of the bed comfortably, looking at the spot on the floor. I

pulled my knees to my chest and hussed my legs.

"Let me continue" . disturud for him to o on. He once again tumed his puze to the spot on the floor and continued.

"Once upon a time, there was a little boy. He had a leving mother and protective father he admired the meat. **He watched the lo**ve och other dearly and wished that

someday he would have the same anands and

unconditional love. His childhood was perfect, he was

adored by the pack and loved by his parents," he pausid and

smiled at his words, "Then one day it all changed," he said,

and his face turned cald. "When his mother died, not able to

protect hersell the little boy's world was crushed. He

searched for compassion in his father's arms, but he never gotthat. He was left alone to deal with his grief. For two years he hadn't seen his father, always spending time with the nanny" he stopped and closed his eyes. I switched positions and crossed my legs. It was his story, I realized. Andrew was letting me in to his head, I kept my eyes on him, intently "When the boy turned 12, his father finally showed up,

but he was different: firm, cold, emotionless and

unpredictable. His new wife changed him. He stopped taking

care of the pack's needs but focused on his own desire for

ate

India. The

wholped him was his nanny, who lowed him themes. Until the day his father tow n that from the boy" he growled the int mord in ne, ki Gulped knowing what was next

"Halald the boy that love is wear

and he cut

llow him tob

1. ak. His von wat barn to be net. respected and powerful, and no one will **stop him from** kching that goal, so he slit the nanny's throw in front of the boy. It was supposed to make him a better Alpha. stronger, fearless, and unstoppable. And it did. The boy

trained even harder, every day after his intense Training with

warrion he continued by himself. Everyone was afraidal

him, pack members were wary around him but that wn't

mnough, he wanted more. Following his father's advice, he

reached for more." Andrew turned his retiling face toward

me, but his eyes held so many emotions. I deciphered pride, superiority, and some hintolcranes.

"He killed his father and his bitch and became Alpha at

18 years old." He finished his story and i paled. My stomach

knotted in fear. I didn't say anything

"So, you see, when I want something that will give me

more power, I'll do anything to have it," he clenched his jawi

and marrowed his eyes at me. I was only able to blink at him.

until my buck hit the headboard. When he opened his eyes

in

the truth: he

psychopath. Hein

jokin he was dead arious. My heart dropped to my stomach and my breathing became unten. He sent mea

damnant, scary smile and left the room.

i was stunned for a moment. What just happened i

looked at the door he just left through and tried to process

his words.

His own father did this to him. For his own selfish

reasons, he created a monster, an emotionless monster and

he paid the ultimate price for that. Thinking about his story, my mind started showing me bits and pieces from my own

life. An abandoned orphan with no information except for my

name and birthdate. My struggles to survive in horrible

orphanage with uncaring caregivers and bullying older

protégées. The pushing, shoving and all the mean and nasty comments. We were all the same, why lash out in your anger at younger ones? When the memory of that dreadful night

no

the mentary

Emmie,

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un anal

late

W

abundened, hurt, and used for womeone els

benefit. The difference was that I was sved, while he w

not. Naviknew why the Moon Goddess paired us. I was

supposed to save him, heal him, and love him endlessly and unconditionally. My heart sank a little at the realization. It was my fault he was this way. I could have been there for him

even after the rejection, I could have showed him that love

is not a weakness but a strength. That there are other ways to reach for your goals.

I didn't know how but I found myself in the shower,

washing my hair. My body must have moved on its own wh<u>ile my</u> mind was busy showing me the story of my life. I spent

30 minutes in the shower enjoying the warm water that

relaxed my aching muscles and washed away all the dirt.

sweat and blood from my body. I was shocked and

overwhelmed that the injuries on my back didn't burn at the

contact with warm water. That stinky ointment worked

miracles.

I stepped out of the shower and covered my body with a

ashamed quickly turned around to scanny back. The cat From the whipping and knit were where but they had

ale umed pinkisThat mark with a good specialist could

remove or cover them if i escaped. I met mye again in the mirror and exhaling a big breath, I corrected my

statement. Once Lescaped.

Finishing my business in the bathroom, I went back to

the room wrapped again in the towel and looked at the dress laying on the bed. Should I put it on, let go the love of my life just to lead a miserable life with the man I don't and will never love? I closed my eyes and thought about Ethan, his

handsome face appeared in my mind, and I smiled. His

enticing green eyes, long brown hair, full pink lips. I put my

fingers at my lips and remembered how he took possession

over them, how he poured all his love and affection into

every kiss we shared. How he made me feel like I was the

only girl in the world he wants to spend the rest of his life

with. I went back to the day when we said 'i love you' for the

All

No, I will not give it up lopened my a

nd decided in

poate rid.com

play his came until I find a wit lorun. Ethan

on his

know it, he won't let me go that easily. Nodding to my

rabbed the dress and wit back to the hathroom. Once! put the dress on, loped in awe at my reflection. It was the most beautiful dress I had ever seen. It was a backless wory W-neck with delicate spaghetti straps, and a sheer badio,

kulate

W.BRUNO

overlad with beautiful floral leaf applique that exposed my

Hall breasts perfectly, with a silk organza ball skirt that was

light as wir. It was stunning, it was what I would have chosen

ld.com

for my wedding with Ethan. I was so focused on admiring my

reflection, that I didn't notice another person standing in the

doorway staring at me.

"You look gorgeous." Andrew's voice pulled me out of

y lat

my thoughts. I jumped a little, surprised.

"You schred me." I said putting a hand at my chest,

calming my erratic heart.

date d.com

Andrew, dressed in black, slowly walked into the

bathroom and stood behind me. Our eyes met in the mirror,

he placed his hands on my upper arms and I flinched slightly.

Not breaking our gares, he gently brushed his palms down

my arms and leaned forward.

"Tonight, I'll make you mine forever sweetheart." he

whispered, brushing his lips over my ear and leaned forward

even more to place a lingering kiss on my marking spot,

red roses pluoed in high vasen on both sides of the red carpet that led to makeshift altar in the middle of the room.

Looking around, I saw a few nervous looking nen standing

tward at the door. Andrew stopped when we reached the

altar and turned me to face him.

"We have no time, so we have to be quick," he smiled but I also noticed him nervously looking at the men. Something was not going as he planned. I tried ta turn and look out the big window behind me, but he harshly pulled me back to him, and my face hit his chest.

"Ouch!"

" said we have no time," he repeated, displeased,

"Do you Amanda Anderson swear to stay loyal to your new..." he didn't finish because he was interrupted by a loud,

powerful and menacing growl in the distance. My heartbeat

increased, and my lips formed a joyous smile.

"Ethan!" I whispered, smiling, I tried to release myself

from Andrew's hold, screaming Ethan's name. I struggled for

few seconds, then he put his arm around my waist and

me aut alihe balle

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ing and

to his

Tumedam, 'vi" i streamed at him, kicking my in Hr and dining my nails into hitam

Н

Shut up, it's time far part two of the ormany" He

sabing

stairs taking two eps

I started to

L

а

his words. ithe marked me, it would be over for me

and Ethan. He apend the door to room and slam

dit

shut, lackimus inside. He put me down and I stepped way

Trendim immediately. It was a different room, more

secured with a big king size bed and a balcony. I tried the balcony door but it was locked.

I turned around to see Andrew putting another lock to

the door. I started to breathe tast, lacking around

dep

ly to find another way out. Tears gathered in my

yes, blurring my already blurred vision. The muffled vices from downstairs indicated that Ethan hud already barged inside. The fighting had already begun. Blinking away my tears, I watched as Andrew took off his shirt and walked my way. When the shirt landed on the floor. I did the stupidest hove on earth and jumped on the bed, trying to outsmart him and reach for the door but I stepped on my dress, and I fell to the ground. Immediately he grabbed me by my hair and lifted me up, throwing me on the bed. i landed on my

face. Turning around i brushed the hair from my face and

crawled back away from him. He stood at the end of the bed,

king pissed. His jaw clenched and eyes old. breathing he vily.

indre you don't want to do this, this is at what you really want." I tried torson with him. He closed his res and took a deep breath.

When you boom my Luna, he'll che me everything that I want." he replied opening his eyes. Heyabbed my ankle and pulled me to the end of the bed. My skirt went up with that move, exposing my thighs. Ho eyes got a little darker at the sight. I used my other leg and kicced him in the balls. Ha screamed and put the hand at his cratch and fell to His knees. I quickly bucked him in the face aiming for his nose

and he fell on the ground. I grabbed the lamp on the nightstand and smashed it on his head hard, leaving him

inconscious

i hurried to the door and with shaky hands i worked

with the lock he put on the door, pulling at the padlock to

open it. Seeing it wouldn't open, I looked around for a key, Andrew started to regain consciousness, slowly moving his

body, grunting in pain. I contemplated searching his pockets,

but I couldn't afford to make two stupid moves at the same

day. I sprinted to the bed and crawled onto the other side

and grabbed the second lamp. Turning over to smash it once

again on his head, I bumped into a hard chest, dropping the

lamp at the floor. I felt his hand at my neck and hot breath at

my cheek.

"I wanted to be partie, but you asked for."

H y growlid and with one qulak m ehe pinned medarnih bud, siraddling my stomach. I tried to kick him, but my short legs couldn't reach him. Lack of

o n caused the black dots to appur in my eyes and lextended my hands and scratched his facr. He hissed when I successfully left some

deep outs.

"You bitch!" he reared, and hard släp landed on my cheek, adding more pain. Nat loosening his gris at my neck. he kneeled between my lee and start la unbuckle his belt

Fear crept up my body and I tried to shut my lex, preventing

him from achieving his goal. When he started to undip his fly,

a loud pounding echoed on the door. The pounding became

louder with every passing second. Andre

struggled with his

Pants, cursing

Sensing he was losing the fight, he stood up from the

bed, dragging me with him. He opened the balcony door and

walked backwards keeping me close to his body, still

squeezing my neck. We reached the railing the moment the

doors flew off its hinges and an enraged half-naked man

filled the door frame.

"Ethan!" I screamed.