

## Chapter 48

Liam

After breakfast, we head to our room to get ready for our walk, as soon as the door closes Cam pulls me into his arms, and I break down,

“She believes me Can, my baby girl believes me,” he cups my cheeks with his hands and kisses away my tears.

“Goddess Liam she is feeling amazing, she has this aura of calm around her, it's almost impossible to not be calm in her presence.”

I grin at him, “but powerful, shit she nearly made us all sit up and beg last night at dinner. She is stronger than Thalia and not just because of her wolf, the human is strong, does that make sense?”

“Aye mo luran, (my pretty boy), now let's get ready to walk with your Bairn, I do not want to be in her bad books, I mean she has all three of those bonny lads under control.”

“Bonny lads uh? You think they are bonny?” I fake a jealous look and get a lear in response.

Goddess, I love this man with all of my heart, I would not have gotten through the last eighteen years without him.

We meet Astéri and her young Alphas at the door, watching all three boys making sure she is wrapped up warm and cozy, brings joy to my heart, and her look of frustration on her face makes me chuckle.

She is swotting away a pair of hands trying to wrap another scarf around her neck when she sees me, she pushes past the boys and grabs my hand.

“Ace and Ashton are going to stay behind, they need to go shopping for lunch, so I am just taking ‘the warrior’ as my escort.” She sends a withering look at one of the boys, but he just smirks and winks at her.

I am already in love with my daughter, she is a force of nature, I wonder if Thalia would have had her zest for life if she had not had the heartbreak that she had.

I hear one of the triplets, the eldest I think whisper to Astéri and kiss her goodbye, then the other kisses her goodbye, I thought one possessive mate was bad.

She links her arm through mine and we head off, she is so tiny almost a foot shorter than my 6’4”. Thalia was about the same height, but Astéri has a much fuller figure than her mother, Thalia was always fragile looking, like a swift breeze would knock her down.

Once we are outside, we head towards the forest, “so Liam what would you like to talk about?”

With a grin on my face, I clasp her tiny hand in mine, “I want to know everything about you Astéri, we looked at the photos Luna Amanda gave me last night, but they almost stop when you are ten or eleven, but you look happy with your ma and pa.”

Her eyes dull a little, “Amanda and Gemma, my mother were best friends, I grew up with the triplets, at least until my parents died when I was eleven.”

She tells me about the rogue attack that took her parents, that she had been there when it happened but her pa Alvin had hidden her in a tree, but she saw what happened to them.

Apparently, the Alpha and Luna had tried to take her, but her aunt Clementine had gone to the council and was granted custody of my girl.

Her life had not been easy with her aunt and uncle, they had only wanted her for the widows and orphans fund that Alvin had paid into,

I get the feeling she is holding back; I push her to tell me and she stops walking, she turns to the triplet I now know is Alexei and waits for him and Cam to catch up.

They lead us to a clearing and we sit on a low tree branch, holding tightly to Alexei's hand she tells me of the years of abuse she suffered at the hands of her aunt, uncle and cousin.

My wolf is growling in anger as she tells of the beatings, how they would withhold food from her, but I nearly lost control when she spoke of the last meeting that led to her being in a coma for two weeks.

The guilt I feel that I was not able to protect my child is overwhelming, "I am so sorry I couldn't protect your ma Astéri, I could have saved you all that."

Her tiny hand grabs mine, "but then I would not be me, and I may never have found my boys, the moon goddess always has a plan, we are just to follow."

I am in awe of my child. I look at my love and he is gazing at her with the same pride I am feeling.

"You keep calling me Astéri, that's what Thalia called me in her letter, I know it's Greek for Star that's why Gemma and Alvin called me Star. Did you talk about names when you found out she was pregnant?"

My smile is so wide it makes my cheeks hurt, "we were sitting on a cliff staring at the night sky, she was so full of hope, we talked for hours about our hope and dreams, then a shooting star zipped across the sky, she looked at me and said we will call her Astéri, she will be our little star."

My little star leans her head on my shoulder, I could sit like this forever.