

CHAPTER 139

Winter POV

I can hear voices above me, distant, like they are talking underwater and it's frustrating. But the last bit is clear and my eyes flash open as I grasp Vanessa's arm, before she can spill any blood from the goblet into my lips and tell her "I'm going to kill you."

I swing up and dart to the side, eyeing her with nothing but contempt. Everyone else is frozen. Vanessa seems to be in shock.

"How is it that you are immune to my spells?" she croaks, dropping the goblet with a clang.

I shrug. I actually don't know. What I do know is that I feel powerful, strong, like there's something pumping through my veins. I'm different but I like this feeling. It's addicting. I feel like I can take on the world, but my main concern right now is the bitch in front of me. She's going down and I'm going to be the one to do that.

She flings a bolt of lightning at me and I move, the bolt hitting the tree with a loud hissing sound. The tree topples with a cracking noise.

I glance around at everyone who appears to be helpless. "Let them go" I tell her firmly "your fight is with me."

"You really think that I'm that stupid" she spits out, circling around us all, eyeing me warily "they'll attack me the second they are free."

This time a fireball flies towards me and I duck in time. She smirks at me. Arrogant bitch.

"I have plenty of tricks up my sleeve" she says arrogantly "I intend to have that power you possess" she cries "and that child of yours too."

Like hell she will. I race towards her but she sends a giant burst of wind towards me, causing me to fall back and hit another tree. This time the poor tree topples to the ground from the crash. Whoops. I feel a sharp pain in my side, but ignore it, focusing on her instead. I can't let down my guard. She's powerful, but I'm stronger.

"Winter, be careful" cries my mother in warning. She's eyeing me helplessly. I feel bad that they can't move. It's kind of annoying as well because Vanessa is using them as shields as she flings her power at me.

"Just give up already" snapped Vanessa, a fireball just missing me by an inch as it goes flying past.

"Never" I snarl, my fangs protruding from my mouth as I give her a fake and insincere smile. "But you feel free to if you're scared."

Her eyes glint at me. "Kai" she says suddenly, turning to my mate, "go and fight Winter for me. She's trying to hurt me" she purrs.

My mouth drops open. Is this bitch for real? Oooh, what a goddamn coward. How dare she use my mate against me.

Wow, she's gotten desperate already huh.

Sabriel what do we do? We can't hurt our mate.

We could outrun him? Knock him unconscious? Drain his blood and make him half vampire?

No none of those. We're going to have to try and keep him at bay while fighting Vanessa.

Goodluck with that. That bitch is crazy. At this rate, she'll send all of them at you.

I know. let's do this.

Well, if we die, we die together. It was nice knowing you, Winter.

Same Sabriel.

Kai gives a gigantic shudder and then begins to move towards me, his eyes pleading, his mouth in a tight line.

"I don't want to do this" he says "but my body won't listen to me."

"I know" I tell him bravely "I know."

I cock my head at him. Maybe Sabriel did have a good idea after all. Kai begins to get closer and I don't move, not until the very last second, where I use my vampire speed to get around him, effectively swinging my arm at the back of his head and hitting him as hard as possible. My hand connects with a crunching sound. Kai's mouth falls open and then I watch, sadly and regretfully, as my mate crashes to the ground, facedown, completely and utterly knocked out.

Vanessa gives a shriek of frustration. She stomps her foot as I chuckle, relishing her little tantrum.

"That didn't go to plan, did it" I taunt her.

She narrows her eyes. "I was laying bets that you were too nice, to injure your mate, but I guess I was wrong about you" she snarls "so much for being sweet and innocent" she digs. I just laugh.

Whoosh. Another fireball. I duck just in time and see that it comes dangerously close to Damien. Then I blink. That's not Damien. My eyes travel around and I see two Damien's. My eyes widen. Did he find his twin? Is that what I partially overheard? I get distracted, a fireball hitting

my arm and I curse as I sat at it, sending it fizzling out. Damn it hurts like a bitch.

"Hurts does it" she mocks me. I flip her the finger.

It does hurt. I glance around at the others. They are far too vulnerable out in the open like this while she flings fireballs. I'm putting them in danger, staying like this. They can't dodge or duck like I can. I stare at Vanessa, narrowing my eyes at her, jumping to the side as she screeches in frustration at another near miss.

I hear the Vampire voice.

Give them blood to break the spell that comes from the siren part of her that paralyses her victims.

Whose blood?

Yours silly. You aren't affected by her spell, are you? You're not very bright sometimes, are you?

I'm choosing to ignore that.

Huh. What do you know. While I dodge fireballs and the occasional lightning bolt, I use my fangs to pierce the skin of my wrist, causing blood to trickle down my wrist. I shoot to twin Damien first and trickle it into his mouth while Vanessa stares, not comprehending what I'm doing. I do the same to Elena and real Damien, as well as smear some into Kai's mouth. They all begin to move and Vanessa gives a shout, "You bitch, what have you done", her tone extremely angry.

I grin. "Come and get me" I growl and shift, heading directly to the woods as she screeches indignantly.

My paws thud across the ground, dodging trees, fallen branches and debris, my tail wagging. The vampire side is ecstatic at how well

everything is going. Everything seems so effortless. I can hear Vanessa behind me. For a witch she's definitely fast and finally I turn and shift back to the vampire part of me. She stops in her tracks.

"You're done" I shout out, my voice loudly echoing in the wind "you're nothing but a pathetic witch who uses her powers to get men because your too ugly for them to want you."

"How dare you" she screams. This time she sends dirt flying everywhere. I wince as small rocks hit me across the arms and chest. Never mind, they aren't doing much damage.

My speed is overwhelming as I race towards her and grip her by the throat. She gasps as I raise my arm back and then send her flying into a tree, her back hitting it with a loud crunching noise, her body sliding to the floor. She screams, spitting out blood as she stands back up.

"That was for Kai" I blurt out "I know you put a spell on him. I know what you did."

She barely gets an answer out when I'm holding her again. This time I reach my arm out and grip hers, breaking her arm as she flails wildly in my arms. I drop her and back away.

"I can heal that" she cries and I watch her broken arm slowly mend itself.

"I know" I say slyly "but it wouldn't be much fun if you couldn't."

She sends what looks like a small tornado at me. I get stuck in it, cursing, wind rushing around me as it lifts me high up into the air.

I brace myself. She lets me drop. I fall to the floor, on my back, my bones healing instantly.

"Nice one" I congratulate her, malice dripping from my voice "but now it's my turn. Let's see you heal this you bitch" I snarl and move.

This time I get behind her and wrench one of her arms behind her back. Before she can utter a spell or a word, I wrench her arm out and rip it completely from her body as she screams. I fling it away and walk back around to face her, blood spouting out everywhere. She uses her other arm to cauterize it. Even witches can't regrow limbs I think with contempt. I almost want to spit in her face.

"That was for Damien" I tell her, cocking my head and looking pointedly at her legs as she turns and tries to stumble away. "Where are you going?" I call out.

She looks back, absolutely terrified. Her so-called plan, or ritual that was to happen tonight, had completely backfired on her. I'd also ripped off her right arm, knowing it was the stronger one that she used to conduct spells. Her left one would be weaker and so would the spells she tried. I also suspected, that one armed, her siren side would be dormant or extremely weak as well.

I start to skip. She's unbalanced with one arm, struggling to move away. She definitely can't run. This feels like fun. The vampire side of me is gloating now. I move and get in front of her, forcing her to halt in her tracks. She weakly holds up her arm and sends a fireball at me. It fizzles before it even touches me. I grin, showing her my fangs.

"I'm hungry now" I purr "I can hear your blood pumping through your veins, the heavy breathing, your heart thumping. It sounds so delicious" I continue as she blanches.

"Don't" she tries but I just tsk and step closer.

I grab her by the throat, and force her head to go to the side, exposing the creamy side of her neck. My fangs pierce her skin as her body jolts, her other arm weakly trying to push me away. She tastes sweet with a hint of bitterness as I begin to drain her, sucking greedily at her blood. My mouth is watering. I feel rejuvenated, energetic as the blood continues to slide

down my throat. It's so smooth and fresh. So delicious. It's sweet, tantalizing. I feel triumphant. I've won and conquered her; she no longer poses a threat to me.

I'm careful though, not wanting to take too much, at least not yet. She has to suffer, for everything she's done. I still remember the helpless feeling of having to take the drug she gave me so she wouldn't kill Kai. I stop and pause, her skin is pale and her face is ashen. She's close to passing out but not yet. My other hand reaches up, clawing away at her midsection and chest. She gurgles, as the blood drips down onto the forest floor and seeps into the dirt, staining it red, as I stare in satisfaction. For a minute, I feel pity for her, but it fades. I also hear voices in the background and know that Damien and the others are coming. I stiffen however, as I hear the footsteps of someone else coming. Christ, did I not hit him hard enough? I was sure he'd be unconscious for ages yet. But it's him and I turn to face him, holding a very still Vanessa in my grasp. He halts, no doubt stunned by my red glowing eyes or the smile that won't leave my face as I torture my victim.

"Whoa, Winter" Kai says, holding up his hands "don't you think that you've done enough?" he protests, looking slightly green as he looks at Vanessa.

I shake my head. She hasn't suffered nearly enough. Not to my satisfaction at any rate. I want her to hurt more. I want her to die screaming. "No" I tell him heatedly, "she has to die."

"She's almost dead anyway" he argues pointing at me.

We begin to argue while I forget what I'm doing. A rock, a large one, suddenly rises from the ground while I stare in disbelief. I throw myself forward but it's much too late, the rock hitting Kai across the back of the head. He lands to the ground, the rock on top of him. It's bigger than his head. His skull looks slightly mushed. I give out a scream of rage, ripping

off Vanessa's head and flinging it across the ground, letting her body drop to the floor. I run to Kai. I pull the rock off his head and examine him, panicking at the sight of blood and more. I desperately try to feel for a pulse, but to my anguish and despair, cannot find one.

"Kai" I scream, beginning to shake him as Damien and the others come into view "Kai wake up.