

Chapter 0027

Verena

Holy crap, Alpha Niklaus wants me.

I mean, I kinda figured it out since he's always trying to come on to me, but to hear him say 'for now' as if we have a future is...something. After my last experience with an Alpha, I do not fancy myself a Luna again.

The role carries too much trauma; trauma I am not willing to give up my life for.

So I'll stick around, play housekeeper until I have enough money to leave. I may not be a shifter anymore, but I can still disappear like one. Another month or two won't hurt.

"Verena, Alpha Niklaus wants to see you in his office," Martha calls just as I'm about to clock out and it takes everything in me not to roll my eyes.

What is he going to try now after last night? Pushing me up against his desk this time? It's 7pm and I'm finished for the day, so I won't bother to change. Maybe the way I look will put him off.

But as soon as I stepped through his office door, I knew it wasn't about me. Two of his brothers were there, Laz and Ares, and they looked stricken. While Alpha Niklaus wore the same expression, the anger radiating from him nearly knocked me over.

"You- you called for me Alpha—"

"Sit down," he growls and my heart drops. Ares gets to his feet and starts pacing, so I walk over to the chair he was in and sit down, waiting for whatever it is.

I place my hands in my lap and wait for him to start, swallowing deeply. He stops, pinches the bridge of his nose and breathes out a long sigh. "Dimitrios is dead," he says and my heart fucking drops.

Dimitrios... his Beta, is dead?

"W-what happened?" I ask, but I know I didn't even need to ask because the answer is written on his face. "Lucan."

Alpha Niklaus nods. "We overlooked the fact that Fabiano may have left a contingency plan if he were ever found to be the traitor in my pack. Mitri, his wife and twin babies were tortured last night and their bodies returned to me this afternoon," he says as a pained expression crosses his face. "In pieces."

I lift a trembling hand to my mouth, horrified at what he's just told me. Lucan was cruel, yes ... but heartless and capable of killing children? I never would have thought this was how low he'd stoop to.

"I'm so sorry for your loss," I say, looking at him and each of his brothers. "I never should have come here. I'm so—"

"Enough of that, Verena. You gave us an in when we had none," Alpha Niklaus says. "This is why we need your information right now."

I nod. "I'll do what I can to help—"

"Hasn't she fucking helped enough?!" Ares roars, slamming his fist on the desk next to me, and I jump. "Kristina is alive because of her info, but now Mitri is dead because of it!"

"Ares," Alpha Niklaus warns, shaking his head. "She didn't just save Kristina, you know that."

I look between the brothers and know they must be talking through the mind link about something, because Ares growls and walks over to the wall. He leans against it and crosses his arms, but he's staring daggers at me.


"What we need your help with are the locations of his safe houses; places where he'd need to hide out if things get too hairy. Can you help us with that?" the Alpha asks and I immediately nod.

"There are five scattered around the country; some here in your own territory," I say before listing them all. Alpha Niklaus nods, then he looks at Laz and Ares for a few minutes. They then walk out, leaving me alone in the office with their elder brother.

My heart is still beating wildly when I hear him sinking back into his chair and breathing out a sigh. I lift my gaze to him and see he's leaning his head against his fists, as if trying to reel in his anger.

"Alpha—"

"He was my most trusted," he starts, his voice muffled. "His worst nightmare was his family getting caught up in his

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feuds, and I fucking led them to him.”

I reach out to take his hand and he looks at me; broken. “ This wasn’t your fault, Alpha. This was Lucan; it’s all Lucan.”

But I know nothing I say will help. He’s a true Alpha and will blame himself for any loss of his pack members, unlike Lucan. It’s even worse now because Dimitrios was his Beta.

He removes my hand from his. “I should’ve paid more attention and ensured we were all covered, instead last night I...” he trails off and scoffs. “Instead, I was in a pool with you, not thinking about my brothers at all.”

My heart drops ... Oh, Goddess, he blames himself because of last night. “No, Alpha Nik—”

“That will be all, Verena. If there’s anything else I require, I’ll have Martha call you,” he says, and I can literally see him shutting off his emotions as he dismisses me.

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