Rejected Luna / Chapter 12: Trial Chapter 12: Trial -Mason-"Please, Mason!" Jax again. I woke up again with his voice ringing in my head, "I want to be with my mate, only my mate." I just plainly ignore him. Marissa is back in the packhouse and my room. She brought her luggage to move here with me, according to our plans before this big mess. I kissed her forehead to relax her; we did not have a good night. "Good morning, babe." She said, hugging me by the waist. I hugged her while both are lying in bed. However, it does not feel right. I know the reason behind our problems in bed. I need to end the situation with Clara, so I can be happy with Marissa. "It is not too late... please, go to our mate. She has a kind heart... ask for her forgiveness. If she is mad, we can win her over... the mate bond will help us. Please, Mason." Clara has made my wolf into a begging pup. Jax snarls at me; he is doing that a lot... Growling, snarling, grunting, always due to something related to Clara Black, the omega. Fortunately, the invitations for our ceremony were already sent, and in a month, I will mark Marissa. Then, our packs will merge, and my dreams will come true. We still do not know if she is pregnant. At least I can tell her smell has not changed yet. Everything is in motion from her packhouse. Her mother and other relatives are now in charge of the preparations. My mother has rejected to take any part in it. She is not even talking to me. While my father just wants the results from the trial. My mother is pushing his buttons against me. She is locked in her room, even away from him. Only Rose and some omegas are allowed in. "Today is the trial, right?" Marissa knows everything. She is pretending not to because she is not going to attend. I prefer it that way too. I nodded my head at her and stood up from the bed to start this day. Marissa is naked under the sheets, but I am not tempted. We tried to be together last night... In the middle of it, my body did not cooperate. Luckily, I was informed about an intruder on the west side of the territory; I took my chance to leave and avoid the interrogation. When I came back, she was already sleeping. It was just a weak rogue, not a challenge, neither worth torturing him for information. He was crazy, probably close to going feral. We locked him in the dungeon before his execution. "You left mate here," Jax whined. "After that show you made... " It is better this way. Maybe, if she hates me... If she stays away from me, then she might... Jax wants to beg for forgiveness, but Mason Van Ryan does not apologize. And I will never beg anyone for anything in this life or another. Besides, I am sure now that she used a potion and a spell on me. There is evidence, and I will prove it today at the trial. Clara did not provide us with any witnesses, and her Defender is Angel, which amuses me. Angel has not even nished high school. She might be the daughter of a prominent delta doctor. But she not even eighteen. I imagine Clara is desperate that no one wanted to testify for her. Probably, she does not have more friends besides my mother in this pack. Werewolves outside of the packhouse can tell stories about the kind of spoiled, ambitious, w***e Clara is... "Stop this! If you apologize sincerely, our mate will take us back... " I acted as if I did not hear Jax. Liam helped me to gather witnesses who accused her of being a w***e at school. They all happily agreed to be witnesses of character and will be at the front seat of the room. I will prove her real personality before my mother, and I will sober up nally. Jax will understand this is for the best. When I found Josh's gift and that open invitation, I become insane. Luckily, Marissa arrived, and she helped me to gain back control as a well-chosen mate would. "Remember what you promised to me." Marissa reminded me. I carry that promise with me all the time. She has nothing to fear. I will not leave her. Besides, we might be expecting a pup already. I took my seat behind my desk in the room of trials. Clara and Angel are sitting behind a small desk facing mine. Father orders the trial to start, and I presented my claim. Clara declared to be innocent of my accusations, but she did not add anything else. There is no evidence in her favor. This is odd. Clara did not ask to be declared as my Luna if I lose the case. My mother did not allow me to be the judge in this trial, but we got even because she is not Clara's defender. Father is an impartial wolf, so we agreed he would be the judge. "This trial is ridiculous." Jax again is getting on my nerves! I will prove him wrong, too. I am convinced. I need to stay focused. This will be over soon. What can a pair of little girls do against a Young Alpha like me? Jax kept growling! If at least I could shut up Jax. He is not feeling well, and he cannot ght me, a thing for which I am glad. I do not want him to take over and try to approach Clara. It would make me look pathetic in front of everyone. After my rst witness provided his declaration about Clara being a slut at school, my mother started coughing, and Angel stood up, asking permission to make some questions. My father agreed, and I just nodded. Angel is a stupid teenager. What questions can she make to change the terrible impression everyone got of Clara now? "Before asking anything to the witness, I would like our Alpha James to order Mr. Althaus to tell the truth and nothing else but the truth." "Wait, what? Why?" He is the quarterback of the high school. The most respected and admired among werewolves of his age due to his achievement on the game eld. Why is he sweating and breathing heavily at Angel's request? "Agreed," Father granted. I am standing in my position; I know I am right. My witness should speak the truth, and the following witness will do the same. Of course, I can kill them later, or they can simply disappear into the forest. Fake or not, none touches my things! s**t! I am not making any sense! Clara is not mine! Damn! "Warren Althaus, you will respond to each and every question in this trial against Clara Black with nothing else but the truth." My father's voice changes when he uses his command. The boy cannot do otherwise. Clara breathed in. She was not looking at me. I saw a strand of her hair out from her bun. She looks pale and thinner. "You did this," Jax, again in my head. When her eyes met mine, I turned to Warren. This is odd... The room should be lled with it, but I cannot smell it in the air. "When was the rst time you asked Clara Black to go out with you?" Angel stands before him, seeming very condent. Warren is from the gamma family, not related to Carter's branch, but still a right rank wolf. He would never try to date an omega. "I... I..." Is he trying to lie? "I think... we were fourteen." Angel smiled widely. I did not expect this answer. Did Warren try to date my Clara?! "Did she accept to go out with you?" Answer that, fucker! You said she tried to seduce you. And that you were the one who rejected her. "No, she did not." Warren lowered his f*****g head! "Okey, then... what did it make you feel? Remember, you have to tell us the truth." "I... Angry. I was angry!" "Why? Tell us..." "She is just an omega! It is an honor to be asked out by someone like me." I want to hit his head against the wall right now. For once, Jax and I agree on something. Breaking his skull!

"So, you told others that she was harassing you to be your girlfriend?" His ears got red.

"No, before you assumed and believed his words while back ago." Jax! I need you to shut

"Yes... but I was not the rst one to say Clara slept with me... I just... other said it and... others did sleep with her, right? I know..." Warren looked at the other guys who were my

Shit! All of them look at each other and then any other side but their friend under

"Did you tell others it was alright to bully Clara? Did you throw rotten meat inside of her locker? Is it you the one who tried to assault Clara Black at the back of the school three months ago?" Angel's questions go on until that nal question with anger in her voice.

Jax now wants to rip his head off, and I cannot help but clench my st, barely hanging on

"Angel! Stop it! We are not here for that!" Clara asked Angel to stop. Angel got back to

"I liked her so much, and she did not like me back. I did not assault her! I just... She was supposed to like me; I am gamma! She is an omega! She was supposed to be grateful I show her any interest, but she rejected me more than once and dared to offer me her

"That is your reason for calling her "rejected Luna"?" Angel threw the question at Warren

"I overheard it from Mason," This imbecile! I had already forgotten those jokes with my

"I did not come with the idea... Mason is who mocked her all the time with his friends. I thought she rejected me because Clara wanted to be Luna. She is an ambitious b***h!"

"Warren Althaus, there will be another procedure to sanction your actions against Clara

"I do not take lightly assault or bullying on a pack member. You can leave now, but if you ever try something like that on a pack member, whichever rank... you will be expelled from

"You are under f*****g house arrest until I order you otherwise!" I was burning in anger.

I looked at my other witnesses. I approached them to ask them who is coming next. They remained silent. No one raised their hand. No one came forward to witness against her

There it went Clara's demonstration of character; I am angry but glad at the same time.

Then a lot of werewolves stood up, asking to be the witness of the character of Clara. In

An elder, a doctor, a nurse, a teacher, and a bunch of omegas. They wanted to speak in favor of Clara's character, despite not being listed by them. As I check the documentation,

Angel suggested only one witness testify since I had only one against her. I was offered to pick which one of them. I thought an omega would be alright. I did not care which one.

"Karima Bonham, you will respond to each and every question in this trial against Clara Black with nothing else but the truth." This time Angel will start the interrogation.

"Five years. The same time I have worked at the packhouse." How is it that long that she worked for us? I barely remember this omega. I think she was there when Clara serve us

"She is kind, even naïve. Still a pup at heart. Clara is not the type to get something with

"At the beginning. When I came to this pack, I heard the gossips from others. Outside of the packhouse. There are jealous werewolves because Luna Michelle favors her so much. Clara was just a pup when I met her, and not the brat others told me she was... Clara tries to help us during our shifts while still doing her homework and taking those piano lessons she hates... She started volunteering at the pack hospital because she wanted to help others. Clara cleans her own room, helps in the kitchen, laughs, and shares with us all the time. There are no pretenses on Clara... I feel that she is a good female and would never

Angel interrogations end there, and now I can look for the truth in this omega.

"Have you ever saw her adding something to any drink or food that was served to any of

"No. I have never seen anything like that. Besides, we all prepare meals together, or we help each other by serving. Clara does not serve food... if not me, then someone else like Dorothy, Rose, Jenna... I am closer to them since they are appointed on my shift." Her shift? I do not understand that. My face might say something to her because the omega

"We work on shifts at the packhouse, Young Alpha. More omegas are working at the packhouse in different turns. That is why there is always clean clothes, food, beverages,

Is this omega disrespecting me somehow? Jax just rolls his eyes at me. I am not going

"We will take a recess of 20 minutes." I guess my father noticed my discomfort. The break

I went to a private room next to the trial room where Carter and Liam approached me.

"I told you! Clara is not what others talked about. She is not... " Carter is defending her, and

"Shut up, Carter! I know, but the character check-up is not proof enough that she did not

"What if she is your mate? What would you do?" Liam asked me. He still looks like a

"I would not dare to reject my mate, even if she is an omega." Carter, the good boy. Always

"You are crazy... you have no idea what you are talking about." Liam understands my position, I would be the laughing stock for the whole kingdom, and Marissa is waiting for me. I might have a pup on the way. What about all my plans? All of that is bigger than just

"Mason, if Clara is your mate. Even if you ght this, your wolf will not help you mark

Marissa or any other shewolf. You need your wolf for that. Can't you see?" Carter is getting now on my nerves. How does he even know? This is the rst case in history if it is true that

"Would you really do that to her? Omegas' bodies can not handle that kind of pain, and most of the time, they die after rejection. Your wolf will never forgive you if she dies.

"What do you know?" Liam asked and grabbed Carter's shirt. Carter pushed Liam away

"My uncle told me! He said that his friend rejected a delta. They are stronger than omegas, but a gamma rank is stronger. She barely survived and stayed at the hospital. He was so miserable, and his wolf did not let him be, so he went to her to take it back. You know... the rejection. But it was too late, she died... and his wolf never spoke to him again, not fast healing, no strengthen senses, almost human... Our beasts want their mates; you cannot

"It is just one case... You do not know... the unwanted just die, and you move on. That is all.

"Mason, I need to talk to you..." My mother's voice. I ordered the guys to leave, so I can talk

My grandmother told me!" Liam is acting strange again. He understands me and my thoughts. Could it be? Damn, I do not have time for his s**t! I need to deal with mine rst!

"You are talking to me now... good. Are you changing your mind?" I ask her with no

"I think I have spoiled you too much, indulging your cockiness and bratty attitude, covering

"Mother!" I cannot believe she is talking to me like this. "Listen to your Luna; mother knows

"Son, this is the last time I will ask you this. Break the engagement with Marissa, accept the bond with Clara, and... I will reveal something important to you both. Please, think that Moon Goddess has her own reasons." She brushes my cheek with her soft hand, and I

My heart wavered on what to do now. They all insist so much that I am not sure anymore... I still want the greatness that Marissa can give me. Maybe, I can keep Clara around? Would she accept to be my mistress? I can hide her in a cabin near the border, so Jax can

"Don't you dare! She is my Luna; we will give her the place she deserves!" His voice, giving

Jax, it is not easy to give up on your all-life dream for something I am not even sure is real.

Then I look at the table, the evidence is there. I found bottles of potions and a spell with my name to embrace a shewolf as my mate after a kiss, and I found the f*****g gift of Josh and that invitation. She already had a plan in her head to chase my cousin, my own

"Darling, please... You need to understand, Clara might be on trial before your eyes, but for the rest of us who love her... you are the one on trial... You have done so much harm already that she is the one who should reject you." Her voice breaks at moments.

"She is not my mate, mother. She can do it any time. Now would be a perfect time."

Jax screams again. He wants to beg Clara for forgiveness in front of everyone out there to

"It is not that! You are an i***t! Rejecting us might hurt, but it is the same as suicide for an omega. Would you ever recover if your mate prefers to die than to be with you? Really?"

Alphas can take a lot of pain, while she ends up dead regardless, just for being an omega. Weakling, that is the problem. She is weak and will always be... A title of Luna would never

"Please, Mason. I am begging you now. I want you to be happy! If at least I were sure to tell

"What, mother? The time is almost over. I need to go back to the trial room." Mother

"Mason! Please, she is special... This is your blessing in disguise... Listen to me! I think I have always known, but I was not sure until her rst shift... Just trust me." Mother is

"Babe, good news!" Marissa enters the oce without knocking, completely excited. She threw her arms around my neck and kissed me, forcing her tongue inside my mouth.

"I am sorry I interrupted, babe... I am glad mother is here too. I just wanted to tell you; I am pregnant!" Her words removed the oor from my feet. I hesitated a moment before looking

"I have already made my mind, mother. This is happening today."

remember her connected to the machines years ago. So close to death.

mess. I would have sworn that he has loosened weight and muscle.

choosing to do the opposite of what we would do or say. Mr. Otherwise.

"What would any of you do? Reject her, of course."

an omega mate or any bond.

she is my mate, which she is not.

Forget about marking another female."

pull them apart without consequences."

to mother.

visit her...

cousin!

make it up to her.

"It will not kill us, Jax, relax! We are Alpha".

grabbed my arm with both hands to stop me.

almost crying again. It breaks my heart, maybe...

Jax almost screamed every word.

change her nature.

you now... "

at my mother again.

another headache.

remorse in my voice.

your mistakes over the years... "

better." That annoying voice of Jax.

from him and cleared his voice.

"If I reject her, that will be all." I have reasoned this already.

and a neat and clean white packhouse ready for more than two hundred wolves."

anywhere here. It is better to end the interrogation at once.

tricks. She works hard." Angel smiled at her and decided to ask something else.

"What would you like to say about the character of Clara in this trial?"

"Have you ever disliked Clara Black? For any reason?"

use dark magic on anyone. That is why I came here."

the Alpha's family members?"

added more information.

comes in handy.

put a spell on me."

I am glad and irritated. Make your mind!

the pack. Understood?" There is no argument against my father's command.

my sanity to not go there and kill him myself.

Clara's side, ending Warren's interrogation.

"Answer the questions," I commanded Warren.

"Oh, Goddess! I... I am sorry... I just... " Warren is red.

friendship! I am a gamma, for f*****g sake! How dare she?"

This is a prank; I cannot believe this s**t.

guys.

but looked at me. What is this delta trying to do?

"Jokes? Slander!" Jax screamed at me. "She is our Luna."

Fuck me! He just did not say that.

Black." My father stated

Warren was about to leave.

Damn! Focus, Mason!

her favor.

since father commands to tell only the truth.

she did not le anyone as her witness.

"How long have you known Clara Black?"

tea the other day.

Clara and Angel mind-linked.

I should have commanded him to tell me the truth before this asco.

the f**k up!

witnesses.

interrogation.