

Scars by Jessica Bailey Chapter 46

Chapter 46

Amelie

Gideon turns and looks at me while he rubs the back of his neck. "OK, come on, girls," I say and pat the spot next to me.

I can see the happiness on Gideon's face than a flash of disappointment. The girls crawl in bed and wiggle under the covers. Rose is next to me, and she looks up and touches my chest right above my heart. "When you have our flowers, can we call you mommy?"

Tears start welling up, "Yes, you can call me mommy."

Daisy pops up, "When will you have our flowers?"

Gideon joins the conversation. "When do you want Amelie to have your flowers?"

Daisy stands up in the bed, and with all the determination her little body can muster, she yells, "Right now!"

I can't help but laugh. She's so fierce for a three-year-old. "OK, but you need to understand that there is going to be blood. So don't get scared." Gideon tells them.

"We're not scared, daddy." Rose is also standing on the bed now.

Gideon looks over at me, "Well, are you OK with it?"

"Yeah, I am. I kind of like that it's just us, and we don't have a crowd. Did you read how it's done in the mark book from my pack?" I want to make sure it's done right. Otherwise, the marks won't show, and I know the twins would be heartbroken.

"Yes. OK, let's go to the bathroom." We all get up and go to the bathroom to perform our family mark ceremony.

Gideon and I extend a claw, and we each make a small cut on the palm of our left hand. Gideon starts, "I, Gideon Alois ask you, Amelie Ashwood, to please accept my daughters Rose and Daisy Alois as your own. Please love them, teach them, and protect them as long as they live."

"I, Amelie Ashwood, accept your daughters as my own blessing from the goddess herself. I will love them, teach them and protect them all their life." We clasp palms. I can feel Gideon's Alpha blood flowing in mine. I know this will also force my pack mark to change as well. Whenever you share blood with an Alpha and share a bond of any

sort, your pack mark will change even without the ceremony. I already held his mate mark. Now I would have his daughter's family mark.

Next, Gideon reaches his hand out to Daisy, "You are the oldest. You go first. Hold out your finger." Daisy held out her finger and closed her eyes. Gideon pricked the tip of her finger.

"Ouch." She looks at him with a grumpy face.

"Well, I warned you first. Now go to Amelie and touch her hand." Daisy steps over to me and holds out her finger. I touch it to my palm.

"I, Amelie Ashwood, accept you as my daughter. Do you, Daisy Alois, accept me as your mother?"

"Yes, I do!" Daisy yells it for the whole packhouse to hear.

"OK, Rose, it's your turn. Hold out your finger." Rose holds out her finger and looks away.

"Owee," a tear rolls down her cheek.

"I'm sorry, baby, it will heal. Now go to Amelie."

Rose steps over to me and holds out her finger. I touch it to my palm. "I, Amelie Ashwood, accept you as my daughter. Do you, Rose Alois, accept me as your mother?"

"Yes, I do." It's so soft, but we hear it.

"Look, Daddy! Look!" Rose and Daisy are jumping up and down. I feel all three marks coming in at once, and it's a little uncomfortable. I can feel a surge of power. I stagger on my feet. Gideon grabs me.

"Am. Are you OK?" His touch calms the surge, and I regain my barring.

I breathe heavily for a second to calm my heart, "Yeah, I am fine now. It was just a big power surge from you and the girls than the three marks all coming in at once."

"I can feel your Luna aura got stronger. Honestly, you are the strongest Luna I have ever felt, and we still have to do the ceremony." I can feel the sense of pride coming from Gideon.

"I'm sure it was just a surge. Let's go to bed. It's getting late, and I want to rest." I feel Rose and Daisy tugging at my legs. I look down.

They look up at me with wide, pleading eyes. Daisy asks, "can we call you Mommy now?"

I get down on my knees, so I am face to face with them. I pull them both into a hug, and they hug my neck. "Yes, you can call me mommy. We are a family now. You girls are going to be big sisters soon too."

Rose looks up at Gideon, "Our brothers are coming soon?"

Gideon smiles, "Brother. You are getting one brother."

Rose looks at him and scrunches her face, "No, daddy, two brothers."

"Rose," I interject, "Not all babies have twins like you and Daisy. Most of the time, mommies only have one baby."

"Mommy," this was the first time Daisy called me mommy, "when will our brothers be here?"

I could tell we were not going to convince them it was only one baby, "They will be here in August. Before they get here, they will grow in my tummy. I will need you girls to help me around the house to get ready for him, OK. Will you help me?"

"Yes!" They say in unison.

I stand up, and a second surge hits me. I stagger again, and Gideon grabs me. I can feel my marks are fully formed now. I turn to look in the mirror, and my eyes are now glowing topaz. They have never glowed before. "Inari, are you doing OK."

"I'm more than fine. I have never felt this strong before. Hold on. It's almost done; we have one more wave coming. It's going to be the strongest." I brace myself on the sink.

I bond-link Gideon, "Put the girls to bed. I'm going to get hit with one more surge of power. I don't want to scare them." Gideon nods and picks up the twins.

"Mommy is going to be done in a second. You girls get in bed first mommy and daddy will be right there." Gideon quickly sits the girls on the bed and comes back to the bathroom.

"I didn't read anything about it being this intense. Are you OK? How's the baby?" I could feel his worry.

"It doesn't hurt. It's just my body needs to get used to the Luna and Alpha power. I don't think it's normally this strong, but I'm also pregnant, and three bonds are forming. I can feel the girls and the pack. I also think our bond is getting stronger. I didn't think it could get any stronger." I take a few deep breaths, and I feel it start.

I can see the marks getting richer in color, even my mate mark. My eyes are glowing brighter they look like gems more than ever. Gideon is standing behind me, holding on to me so I don't fall. The surge hits me like a shock wave throwing me into Gideon. It's so strong that it almost knocks him off his feet. I feel my Luna power pulsating in me. I'm breathing heavily and trying to control it.

"Am, you have to control the power. If we walk out of here like this, it could scare the girls. Right now, I am the only one who can stand it. I'm even having trouble withstanding the pressure. My Luna is the strongest Luna. She can even make Alpha's bend their knee. You are truly my Queen." He kisses my forehead.

"Inari, we need to control this power. I don't want the girls to be scared of us. I also don't want the rest of the pack to fear us. What do we need to do." I'm desperate to get this under control fast. It doesn't hurt; on the contrary, I feel amazing.

"I don't know. I'm trying to channel the energy. I think we need to do it together. I am just not sure how." I can feel her struggling to get it under control.

"Normally, we would shift, and the power would naturally adjust. I'm sorry, Inari. I know we can do it. We might need Gideon and Ulv to help." I pull Gideon closer. We sit on the floor, and I am in his lap.

"Gideon. I think we need your help. We can't shift the power won't settle on its own. I think I need you to use your Alpha aura." He holds me tighter.

"OK. I'm not sure if this will work but let's give it a try." He takes a deep breath, closes his eyes, and I can feel him channel his Alpha energy. He opens his eyes. They are glowing Rubies. "Luna Amelie, do you submit to me your Alpha and mate?"

"Yes, I submit. You are the only wolf I will submit to." My head adjusts to expose my mate mark to him. He pulls me closer and kisses my mark before biting down. As soon as he does, I feel the power calm and Inari relax. "Thank you. I feel the power has leveled out."

"Am. Look at your shoulder." I look down at my shoulder, and I knew my pack mark would change, but I wasn't expecting it to match Gideon's until the Luna Ceremony. It was larger and took over my whole shoulder as he did.

"I guess I'll get the connecting pattern and Luna mark in two weeks. I already have the ranking pack mark now." My head feels dizzy when I realize I can hear the pack. It's different than the mind-link I was used to as a pack member. This was almost more invasive. I felt like I was spying on them, and I didn't even mean to. "How do I turn that off."

Gideon looks at me and tilts his head, "Turn what off?"

"The Pack-Link. It feels creepy being in everyone's head." I shake my head, trying to tune them out.

"You have the Pack-link already. It's different than the mind-link, which allows you to talk the pack-link is more like an alarm. If anyone is in distress, it will signal you. Inari will need to help with this one as it's more connected through our wolves." I feel Ulv push through to Inari. After a few minutes, the noise in my head disappears.

"That's better. OK, I'm exhausted. Let's go to bed. We both have a ton to do tomorrow." I kiss Gideon's cheek and stand up.

"Are you OK to walk?" He's still worried.

"Yes, I feel great, actually. Just tired is all." We walk out to the bedroom together, and the girls are still up waiting on the bed for us. We get in bed with the girls between us. We all get under the covers, and Rose cuddles up to me, laying her head on my chest.

"Mommy, I'm glad you are daddy's wuna," Rose whispers to me.

"Thank you, Rosie. I'm glad too because now I get to be you and Daisy's mommy." I kiss her forehead, and we all drift off to sleep.

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Chapter 47

Amelie

"Owe!" I wake up with a tiny arm smacking me in the face. I turn, and Gideon is waking up with a foot in his face.

"I think we are going to need a bigger bed," I whisper as I slowly get up.

There is a slight panic in Gideon's expression, "They can't sleep with us every night."

I smile and head to the bathroom to get ready for the day. It's my first unofficial day as Luna, and I have so much I need to prepare for the Luna ceremony and pack duties. I knew what kind of Luna I was going to be. My focus would be on improving the lives of my pack members. I had a lot to dig into to do that. I knew I was going to enhance pack meals first and do some minor redecorating in the packhouse to prep for the Ceremony. I needed a team, and I knew just where to find them.

I quickly get dresses. It's starting to warm up a bit, it's still chilly, but I want to show my marks a little. I find a tank top and a thin oversized cardigan. I can look casual but still show off my marks. I'm proud of them. Gideon comes in right after I'm done getting dressed. He corners me and will not let me pass. "Where is my kiss?" He brings me into

him and kisses me. He slides my cardigan off my shoulder and kisses my mark. I moan at the sparks that are stronger than ever. Gideon picks me up and sits me on the counter, and slides the rest of my cardigan off when the closet door creaks open.

Daisy yells, "Daddy! Where is Mommy!"

We stop mid-kiss, "They are not sleeping with us tonight." Gideon says before answering Daisy. "Mommy is in here with me." The door burst the rest of the way open, and Rose and Daisy come running in.

"Come on; girls, let's let daddy get dressed. We should go pick out outfits for the day too. Come on." I give Gideon a wink, and I hear a sad whimper as I walk out with the girls in hand.

We walk into the twin's closet, and they seem to want to dress like me. We find the closest outfit we can to mine. I put up their hair in a high ponytail, again like mine, and I feel like I have two little mini-me's walking around. We go back to my room to get Gideon to go down for breakfast.

We would have to do most meals with the pack for a while. It was fine for now, but I wanted to cook for my family and have our private time. I knew it would come; I just had to wait. Marcus announces to us I guess there was no sneaking in. Everyone stands to attention as we pass; they bow their heads.

As I am walking with the twins in hand, the shoulder of my cardigan slips down, and everyone can see my marks. There are gasps and whispers; I even hear a snarl or two. I scan the room, and I see the same table of she-wolves. They are bowing their heads, but they are cursing me under their breath. I can hear them as clear as if they were right next to me. Since taking the pack mark and the family mark, my Luna power is more substantial, so Inari is stronger; our senses are better than before she was sealed.

I bond-link Gideon, "Take the twins. I need to take care of this once and for all."

"Don't hurt them too much." Gideon turns around and picks up the twins.

Daisy protests and squirms but falls in line when Gideon uses his Alpha aura. Now was not the time for her to throw a fit. I walk over to the table. As I walk through the dining hall, the crowd moves, and everyone bows.

"Are you ready for this, Inari?" I need her to help push my Luna aura.

"I am ready!" I can feel her pulling in our power, and as I walk over, I can feel it pulsating. I know my eyes are glowing yellow again because I hear mummings coming from everyone as I pass by. Only the Alpha's eyes glow. This was probably the first time they saw a Luna's eyes glow. I'm not your average Luna.

I get to the table they are all bowing. "Kneel!" They all instantly drop to their knees.

"What is your name?" I target the leader of the group.

"Von Jericho, ma'am." She smirks. I knew she deliberately called me ma'am to do two things. One was to insinuate I was old, and the other was to avoid calling me Luna.

"You will address me properly as Luna. Do you understand?" I did not care about the age insult. I felt being older made me wiser, but she would not insult my position. Insulting my position insulted the pack, my family, and my mate. I would not tolerate it.

"Forgive me for saying this, but you haven't completed the Luna Ceremony yet. So, you are not our Luna." The edges of her lips start to curl up.

"Jericho, right? From the Alpha Jericho bloodline, correct?" She nods, acting all proud of her Alpha blood.

"Your mother Jenna was a chosen mate, correct? Let me guess a Luna without a Luna mark? She was a Delta, if I'm not mistaken." Von Glares at me.

"She is still a Luna." She snarls. I wished I could educate this ignorant girl on marks and what they mean. Her mother was not a Luna. The goddess did not bless her to be one. I knew her mother, a vile woman who flaunted her position and used it to belittle others. Her daughter needed a reminder she was not a pack princess anymore.

I pull down the shoulder of my cardigan, "What you fail to realize is that I am a fated mate. I don't need the Ceremony. As you can see, I have already been blessed by the goddess with my mate's marks." I step closer to her, where I am only inches away, and push my Luna aura out. She buckles under the pressure. "You just need a reminder of what a real Luna's power is like. Since he's an Alpha, I already have my rank pack make. Also, my Alpha bloodline is richer than yours. My mother a fated Luna and daughter of a Beta bloodline. I didn't ask or crave to lead a pack; I was born to do it and trained since birth. Never question my position again. I am giving you a warning. Next time I won't be able to hold back your Alpha." I smile back at her. I would use words this time and hope she was smart enough for there not to be a next time.

Von sneers back as I walk away, "Alpha blood, you are a child of desire, a bastard at best."

Gideon roars from his seat at the front table. I turn and look at him and put up my hand to stop him. I needed to fight this battle, or I would never have the pack's full respect. He backs down, but I know he is about to rip Von's head off.

I turn and push more power out, and Von is prostrated in front of me, unable to stand the pressure. "The details of my birth are no secret. You are not saying anything I have never heard before. You seem to think that this is my weakness. What you fail to realize

is that I don't have the backing of one Alpha but two. In a few years, I will have two brothers as Alpha's connected to this pack. Two of the strongest pack in the area and the country. What you perceive as my weakness is actually a benefit. You should use your brain more. It might help you raise in rank. Now we are done here. You're aware of the consequences if I hear another outburst."

I hear a whimper come from her as I turn and walk away. "Yes, Luna."

It all made sense now. She comes here to try and seduce Gideon and become Luna. I wonder if she rejected her mate before coming here. She didn't care about Gideon or his twins, just the power of the position. Being so greedy for power, she would have been a horrible Luna, just like her mother.

I step up on the platform where our table is. Gideon grabs my hand and stands to address the pack. "As I said yesterday, Amelie Ashwood is my fated mate blessed to me by the goddess herself. She bears my mark, the ranked pack mark, and the family mark of my daughters. She is pregnant with my heir. If she was not fated, she would not have been able to bear any of these marks. These are not just my blessing but blessings for the whole pack. In two weeks' time, she will complete the Luna ceremony and finalize her Luna power. As you can tell, she already possesses most of her Luna power. Disobeying her is disobeying me. Am I clear!"

The entire hall rings out, "Yes, Alpha!"

"Now, without any more disturbances, let's enjoy our breakfast." Gideon snarls while looking over at Von and her cronies. Gideon sits, and everyone in the hall sits as well.

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Chapter 48

Gideon

I should have never let a Jericho into my pack. Any Alpha children who apply to join my pack I personal review and interview. I felt sorry for the young Jericho girl a few years back. Maybe I was blinded by the loss of Mandy. I remember my interview with Von. She said she was trying to escape her family reputation and wanted a fresh start. Her family does have a horrible reputation, and the Blue Crescent pack has the highest rate of deserters. I have taken in many who have left because of her father, Blake Jericho. Von came here shortly after her brother Nox became Alpha. From what she said, three years ago, he more or less pushed her out, scared that her mate might challenge him for the Alpha title. She was a pack warrior, so she decided to apply to the Druit Guard instead of going Rouge. Now I wonder if that was her intent.

I have had many a she-wolf try and get close to me since Mandy died. I never gave in to their advances, no matter how attractive they are or how lonely I am. I put my daughters

first, and the last thing I wanted them to see was their dad with a revolving door of women. I vowed that the only woman I would introduce them to would be my second chance mate if I had one. Thank the goddess she gave me the best second chance that was possible.

Watching Amelie handle the unruly she-wolves was a huge turn-on. Her power was terrifying to others, but to me, it was perfection. She made her point without doing any physical harm. Amelie was right when she said she would show Von the true power of a Luna. After researching with Alpha John, I learned more than I wanted to about werewolf marks and bonds. No matter how much chosen mated wished to be a ranked member, they really would never be. It's comforting to know that power isn't just given out. I can't help but wonder how Amelie and Inari were tricked into thinking, well, I should say, feeling that Tate was her mate. Who is helping him hide?

My mind can't help to wonder to Amelie's still open case. She is now my mate and the mother of my children. I needed to get to the bottom of this.

"Gideon, are you still upset. You have barely eaten anything." Amelie breaks my train of thought.

"Oh no, I was just lost in thought for a moment." I reach my hand under the table and rub my hand on Amelie's thigh.

I lean over and whisper, "I think the girls need to sleep in their own room tonight."

Amelie turns and looks at me. Then I hear in the bond-link, "Gideon, whatever do you mean?"

I answer back, "I need to make sure my mate gets the full experience of her new room."

Amelie turns away, "I am already well acquainted with my accommodations, Alpha."

I don't know why, but it's the sexy thing I've ever heard when she calls me Alpha. It's as if she's telling me to take control, and she's ready for me. I lean over again and tilt her chin up to look at me, and the shoulder of her cardigan slums off, and her marks are fully exposed again. I give her a slight grin, "Oh, there is much more that you have not experienced, my Luna."

I finish my meal, and when I see the twins and Amelie are ready, I get up. As expected, the entire hall stands and bows as I leave. I have always hated that. It always makes you feel awkward. But like I have to keep a sense of order. I glance over at the table of she-wolves that caused an issue as we pass. I snarl, and they quickly kneel. I keep walking; Amelie is right behind me with the twins in each hand. Once we are out of the corridor of the hall, I turn and pick up Rose and take Amelie's hand in mine as we continue to our wing.

Amelie bond-links me as we are walking back. "When can I cook a meal for my family and ranked members?"

"How about tomorrow night. I know Becky will be happy to see you, and I need to add her to the pack, so we might as well do it tomorrow after dinner together." Amelie squeezes my hand.

"Thank you, Gideon." She stops and looks at me. "I have one more favor."

"With all these favors, I hope I get a reward." I give her a mischievous smile.

"We will see how well the Alpha can complete his favors." Giving me a sexy smirk.

I laugh a little. "What is your request, my Luna?"

"I need you to mind-link the ranked she-wolves to the kids' playroom, and please tell them to bring their laptops. I will also need four tables and four chairs, a wireless printer, and office supplies brought us as well."

I nod my head, "It will be brought up shortly. After your Ceremony is done, we need to renovate your office."

"Where is the Luna's office?" She asks.

"Right across from mine. It hasn't been used since my mother, so It requires updates." Mandy was a warrior, so she didn't have any interest in holding office hours.

"Well, I will work out an office hour schedule after, but I will be doing most work while watching the children. Like my grandmother, stepmother, and mother all did. I will raise my children and handle my duties. I do not want an official nanny. I will need the ranked females to contribute, of course." Every day she reminds me of just lucky I am. I can't fight the giant smile on my face.

"I guess we will have to add some permanent desk to the paly room. Sorry girls, we are going to take up some of your playroom space." I bounce Rose in my arms a bit.

"If mommy gets to stay with us more, then it OK," Rose reassures me.

"Yeah, mommy, you can be wif us!" Daisy squeals.

"Well, thank you, girls, for sharing!" Amelie squeezes Daisy's tiny hand.

"You weltome!" Daisy says, beaming.

"You girls get to meet mommy's friend Becky today too!"

“You brought your friend with you!”

“Yep, she has red hair, she cooks well, and she’s lots of fun!”

“Welly? Will she cook for us?”

Amelie gives the girls a big smile, “Tomorrow night, mommy and her friend are going to cook dinner! Would you like that?”

Rose nods her head and giggles, and Daisy is jumping up and down, squealing.

Amelie and I both laugh. I didn’t know we could all be this happy. Soon we would be adding one more to our shared happiness.

As we continue to the packhouse, I catch the slightest movement out of the corner of my eye. I know exactly who it is.

I use my mind-link, “Von, you are still alive out of respect for your Alpha father, but I will not hesitate to end your life if this continues. This is your final warning. You will be on punishment duties for the next month and will do 20 extra laps during training during that month as well.” This was too light a punishment, honestly. I wanted to tear her apart for her blatant disrespect. I know if I actually harm the girl, it would give her father and brother recourse to apply to the Elder Council about excessive punishment. I knew I would be exonerated, but it wasn’t worth the headache right now.

“Alpha, I’ve always loved you. I can be a good mother to your twins. I am just asking for a chance.” Von whines.

I feel discussed as soon as her words enter my mind. If I could, I wanted to scrub my mind with soap to rid myself of the filth. “Never show your face to my family or me ever again. That is an Alpha order.” It was all I could do not to vomit.

I turn my attention back to the three most important women in my life. This was our happiness, and no one would take that from me.

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Chapter 49

Amelie

“Ladies, as the ranked females of this pack, we will focus our attention on improving the lives of all pack members. We also need to refine our pack’s reputation from militant enforcers to investigators and relief responders. Should others fear us? Yes, but they should also see us as hope.” They all stare at me with wide eyes. During the month together at the Ashwood pack, I got to know Gideon and how the pack operates, and I

outlined changes I felt needed to be made. Some would be quick and easy. Others would take years to develop fully. My ideas and solutions floored Gideon. He gave me free rein to use my authority to improve the pack. He said he knew I was always meant for him to make the pack stronger than he could ever on his own. He permitted me to use whatever resources I needed. So am taking the ranked females under my wing.

Shay the Beta, Jorden the Gamma, and Becky as the Delta. Becky may have been born an Omega, but as soon as she was mated to a Delta, she was one too. Benjamin was the captain of the Elite Delta Squad. She was a leader, and people were drawn to her; she was only an Omega because she was not a warrior in the classical sense. Shay, on the other hand, was a true warrior. She was small in stature but being the Beta female, she could take down almost any male in the pack not because she was strong, she was, but because she was smart and could quickly find a wolf's weakness and exploit it. I knew someone with that level of quick reasoning and decision-making needed to be on my team. Then you had Jorden the Gamma female, a warrior, yes, but she was one of the top investigators and trackers. She solved cold cases for fun! My team was unstoppable.

I continued, "We will be starting by making small changes and slowly implementing bigger ones. We will also need to increase the number of Omegas into the pack." Shay and Jorden gave me a curious look. It was not dismissive or hateful but wondering what I wanted all the workforce for. I smile wide, "We are going to be improving hospitals and schools first. We will also be putting together a relief and rebuilding task force. This group will supply support for packs in need of rebuilding after a disaster, war with a rival pack, or large-scale Rogue attack." They all look at me, then look at each other and start clapping. I chuckle. They have no idea the number of changes that would be coming. "As I said, our schools and hospitals need to improve first. This is the only way we will have the right people. We will also need civil engineers, architects, restauranteurs, shopkeepers, and grocers. Everyone will have their place and purpose. It does not matter if you clean the toilets or fight on the front lines; everyone is important and plays a vital role in our pack. We are the ranked females. We are the example and will lead this change." I can feel my Luna aura leaking out as I stand to address my team.

All three stand and move to the front of the table I am standing behind and kneel. I didn't ask them to do that. They all just did it in unison. Shay was the first to speak. "Luna, if I may."

"Please speak freely, and you all can call me Amelie or Am when we are together, please." I nod

"Thank you, Luna Amelie. We feel blessed by the goddess that you are our new Luna. You are who our pack needed." Jorden chimes in.

Before I could say another word, Shay says, "I, Shay Marshall, Beta-female of the Druid Guard pack, pledge my loyalty to my Luna, Amelie Ashwood, the mother of our pack."

Shay just gave the Luna pledge. This was a little know pledge only done between the Luna and the ranked females. It was a huge sign of respect not only for the Luna but the Alpha too.

“I accept your pledge. Please rise Beta.” I extended my canines, thank the goddess Inari was not fully sealed, biting into my thumb. Shay extended one of her claws and made a small cut on her palm. I let a few drops of my blood fall to her cut. As soon as it did, her cut healed, and she wavered on her feet a little.

She looked up at me with saucer wide eyes, “Wow, that’s power on the same level as the Alpha.” I smile.

“I, Jorden Rodriguez, Gamma-female of the Druit Guard pack, pledge my loyalty to my Luna, Amelie Ashwood, the mother of our pack.” I bite my thumb again, and Jorden cuts her palm.

“I accept your pledge. Please rise, Gamma.” I let a few drops of my blood hit her palm.

She drops back down to her knees and regains her composure. “Holy shit! Are all Luna’s this strong?” I just smile. I cannot tell them that I am a descendant of the first of our kind.

Becky looks up at me, “Am I allowed to do this? I mean, I’m an Omega.”

I raise an eyebrow at her and cross my arms, “Becky Sanders, you are no longer an Omega. You are a Delta female, a ranked member of this pack, and a member of my team.”

She takes a deep breath, “I, Becky Sanders, Delta-female of the Druit Guard pack, pledge my Loyalty to my Luna, Amelie Ashwood, the mother of our pack.” I bite my thumb for the last time. I was thankful that I heal quickly again. Becky cut her palm.

“I accept your pledge. Please rise, Delta.” Becky stands, and a few drops of my blood hit her palm. She instantly falls backward. Thank goddess that Shay is fast and caught her. Becky’s eyes glaze over for a second, and she gasps for air. Her eyes close for a second and suddenly open, glowing bright blue.

“I-I... what was that! Are you an Alpha?”

I laugh. “Well, all true Luna’s are. We are the Alpha female of the pack. I come from a very long line of Alphas and Betas, so my bloodline is a little stronger than most. Now our bond is stronger. We are sisters, family. You should all check your pack marks.”

They all roll up their sleeves, and behind their oak tree pack mark, was a crescent moon. Jorden looks up at me, “What is this?”

“It’s the Ranked Luna mark. What you all did out of instinct was called the Luna Pledge. It can only be done between a true Luna and the ranked females of a pack. In return, you all received a blessing from the moon goddess herself. We are a stronger pack because of it.” I pull down the shoulder of my cardigan, showing them my pack mark. “You see, I now have the same crescent moon behind my oak tree. Just how Gideon and your mates have a full moon behind theirs. This is the proper mark for a ranked male and females wolves of a pack. I am proud to share it with you ladies!”

“Mommy! That was so cool!” Daisy comes running up and tugging on my leg. I had not noticed the kids had stopped playing and gathered around us. Ryan and Easton are running to their mother’s and Rose sitting on Becky’s lap on the floor. I was glad they saw it. I was also glad they were not scared of me or what happened. All the kids are looking at the upgraded pack marks in awe and wonder.

I bend down and pick Daisy up. She starts touching my marks, and her eyes are wide and full of questions. “Ladies, let’s take a break. It’s almost lunchtime, and I think the kids have questions. We need to teach them as they will take over our roles one day.”

“Yes, Luna.” They say in unison.

“Please call me Amelie when we are together.” We all head down to the dining hall together.

As we enter the dining hall. We are announced, and everyone stands and bows. I was not expecting them to do that when I entered without Gideon. Gideon and the ranked Males were already seated at the head table. They were the only ones not standing. Gideon looks at us with curiosity, and I give him a wink. Becky breaks off and sits with Benjamin.

I guess I will need to talk to Gideon about adding Becky and Benjamin to our head table. As we get to our seats, our mates stand and pull out our chairs. They are complete gentlemen. I can tell they all sense something, but they are not sure what it is.

Gideon sits and turns to me, “Something is different. What happened?”

I turn my body toward him and show him my pack mark. “Notice anything?” He examines it.

“It has a crescent moon. How or why?” He gets a big smile on his face. He knows this is good.

“They instinctively did the Luna Pledge. I accepted, and we sealed it with blood. They are now officially the same rank as their mates blessed by the goddess.” His mouth drops at my words.

“I can feel their auras changed. They are stronger.” He is grinning from ear to ear.

“That reminds me we need to move Becky and Benjamin up to our table. She is officially my only Delta-female and now raised his rank.” I look over at Becky, and she is showing Benjamin her upgraded pack mark, and he is in total awe of her.

“He is the captain of the Elite Delta squad. It should have been done as soon as he found his mate, but now that his mate is the Luna’s Delta, it will have to be done.” He leans over kisses my cheek. I look over, and I see Shay and Jordan showing their mates, and both men turn and look at me and bow.

The next thing I knew, Gideon stands and pulls everyone’s attention to him.

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Chapter 50

Amelie

The next thing I knew, Gideon stands and pulls everyone’s attention to him. “Druit Guard! Our Luna has given us another blessing. Shay Marshall, Jordan Rodriguez, and Becky Sanders, please stand.” All three ladies stand proudly. “I know you all felt these powerful ladies’ auras as soon as they walked into the room. There is a reason for that. They are now officially the same rank as their mates. They Serve the Luna as her eyes, ears, and hands as the Beta, Gamma, and Delta females of our pack. Their strength and power have increased. They have also been blessed with the upgraded pack mark of the Luna. Our pack is stronger with them. Tonight, we will throw a feast in these she-wolves’ honor and the blessing from the moon goddess.” He ends it with a roar, and the hall erupts in howls of approval. The look on the faces of Tyson, Marcus, and Benjamin was priceless.

We finished lunch, headed back up to the playroom/our office, and continued our plans for the pack. Most would think it odd for us to be discussing pack details in front of small children, but it was normal for me. This was how I was raised. I realized now why my parents did what they did. My siblings and myself were always meant to run packs. Our parents knew and started training us from the day we were born. We just didn’t know it. I was going to do the same. They all would grow up as a family and support each other, making the pack stronger.

A few hours before dinner, we decided to end early so we could all get ready for the party tonight. I take the girls to their room, and we pick out princess dresses for them to wear tonight. I mean, it’s a fun pack party. Let them enjoy themselves. This was not a formal event but a celebration.

The girls help me pick out my dress for the night as well. At first, they wanted me to wear a “Queen Dress,” as they called it, but I convinced them I should let the attention be on the other ladies tonight. They reluctantly agreed. We decided on a simple A-line spaghetti strap dress. It was black with small white flowers. I added a jean jacket on top

with tan leather closed-toe wedge heels. As I was redoing the girl's hair, Gideon came into the bedroom to change as well.

He walked over to the bed where the girls and I sat and gave each of us a kiss before disappearing into the bathroom. He came out wearing jeans and a blue and green tartan button-up with the sleeves rolled up. He looked yummy.

He bond-linked me, "Am, your eyes are glowing topaz. If you keep it up, I'm not going to be able to keep Ulv back."

"Is Ulv the only one who needs to be held back?" I look at him with hooded eyes filled with lust.

He turns and looks at me with a crooked grin, "Your Alpha will punish you if you keep pressing."

I bit my bottom lip, "I think my Alpha finds pleasure in my punishments."

He licks his lips, "More than you ever want to know."

We were snapped out of our private conversation by the girls. Rose crawled up in my lap. "Mommy, when will I get marks like you and daddy?" she asks

I look down at her and put my arm around her. "You will get your first one when you are ten after your first shift when you get your wolf."

"What about the one like daddy gave you?" she asks as she touches my mate mark. It was odd. I didn't know that when your children felt your mate mark or family marks, your body filled with love and warmth. I loved it. It was like a hug.

Gideon didn't like the direction the conversation was going, "When you find your mate and daddy approves of him, you will get your other marks. Remember ONLY if daddy approves. You are my girls first."

I can't help but giggle. I felt sorry for whoever ended up being their mates having to deal with an unreasonable Alpha father like Gideon.

Gideon takes Daisy's hand and extends the other to me. "Are we ready to join the party?"

I stand up, picking up Rose as I did. Gideon gives me a look. I know he doesn't like me carrying the girls because I'm pregnant, but honestly, they are not heavy, and I want them close to me. I move Rose to my hip, and she snuggles into my neck. I smile and stick my tongue out at Gideon. He shakes his head and chuckles, and leaves Rose be. We start to head down to the dining hall, and halfway Daisy decides she wants to be carried too. Gideon picks her up, and we get to the entrance of the dining hall. We can

hear the party has already started, but of course, the music is cut off, and we are announced.

“Everyone rise, for the Alpha and Luna.” I really hated this. I quickly got the girls in their seats and sat. Gideon is pushing in my chair. Before he sat, he gave a few words. “Everyone, please enjoy tonight to the fullest! Tomorrow morning training is canceled. Let us celebrate our ranked females and the blessings from the goddess.” Howls, yelps, and whoops filled the room. The music came back up.

The center of the room had been cleared for a dance floor, and a DJ booth had been added as well. Everyone was in casual party attire. The mood was joyous and fun. I look down at the table, and I see Benjamin and Becky have been added to the head table as well. Servers bring our food. The girls eat quickly and are squirming to join the other kids in the back corner of the room. The small kids had made their own dance floor and were taking turns dancing. Or what looked like dancing.

Gideon stood up and looked at me with a smile. He held out his hand, “Amelie, right? Would you care to dance?”

I cannot help the laugh that leaves my mouth. It was the same thing he said to me the night of my brother’s heir ceremony. I take his hand and smile, “sure!”

He pulls me up, and in seconds we are in the middle of the dance floor. My feet are barely touching the ground as he is slowly twirling me around. He lets my feet touch the floor, and we just sway to the music. I couldn’t even tell you if the song was fast or slow. To us, it didn’t matter; we were in our own world. Gideon leaned down and took my lips. Then all of a sudden, there was cheering; we snap out of our bubble and realize everyone was watching us. The pack was happy the Alpha and Luna got along. Daisy and Rose came staggering up to us.

“Mommy, daddy, I’m sleepy,” Daisy said as she lifted her arms to be carried. I picked her up, and Gideon picked up Rose.

“Alright, girls, let’s get you to bed,” Gideon said.

“Will you read us a story?” Daisy asks me.

“Of course, baby.” I kiss the top of her head. I didn’t know I could love them this much this quickly.

We get the girls to their room and into bed a few minutes into “Green Eggs and Ham,” and they are both out. Gideon and I slowly get off the bed and go across the hall to our room.

As soon as I close the door behind me, Gideon has me pinned up against it. In an instant, he has my hands pinned above my head with one hand while his other is running up my thigh under my dress.

Gideon kisses, licks, and nibbles at my neck and ear. He whispers, "tonight, I will reward my Luna for her hard work." He takes my lips and rips my underwear off. I was seriously starting to run low on underwear.

He drops my hands and picks me up by grabbing my ass. I latch on around his waist with my legs, and he lays me on the bed. He throws off my jacket, and I start to unbutton his shirt. I run my hands down his chest. I can't help the urge to trace his muscles with my tongue. Gideon growls with approval as he stands at the edge of the bed. I am on all fours licking and kissing his chest down to his abs. I trail down to his V. I play with the top of his jeans with my tongue. I see the bulge, and his jeans are getting tighter.

"Take that dress off before I ripe it off." He snarls.

I stand up on the bed. I unzip my dress and let it slowly drop to my feet. I walk over to him. Since I am standing on the bed, my breasts are in his face. He quickly paws at my breasts and takes one into his mouth. I pull his unbuttoned shirt off his shoulders and kiss and lick his mark. He grabs my ass with his free hand. I moan at his forcefulness and his hunger for me.

I slowly start trailing down his chest and abs again. I undo his jeans and push them down with his boxers. I finally free my prize. He's rock hard just for me. I take him into my mouth, and Gideon bends down quickly, putting two fingers into my pussy.

"Baby, your mouth is amazing."

I hum a little, and he quickens his figure speed. Suddenly he stops. "I want to give you your reward." He pulls my mouth away from what I thought was my prize when he lays down on the bed. "Come here and put my cock back in your mouth." I crawl over, and he pulls me on top of him. My pussy hovering over his face and my mouth at his cock. He licks my folds, and I moan. I take his throbbing dick in my mouth, and he devours my pussy. The harder I suck, the deep he makes his way into me. He brings up his hand to open me more and adds fingers and his tongue. I moan as I deep trout his cock. We are both on the edge when he pinches my clit. I clench around his fingers and tongue, and he comes into my mouth.

I am panting from the stimulation, but I need more. I know Gideon feels how much I want him. He moves me to the side and quickly gets behind me. "My love, are you ready for the rest of your reward?"

"If it's a gift from you, I will gladly take it," I say, looking over my shoulder at him.

He's already hard again. He rubs his head at my entrance, teasing me and rubbing my juices all over his cock then he thrusts in. "You are mine!" I can't take it. I come as soon as he thrusts in. I yell.

"Our room is soundproof. I want to hear your voice."

Almost on cue, I scream, "GIDEON!"

He moves on, and in every position he moves me to, I come again and again. It indeed was a reward orgasm after orgasm till I think I'm going to explode.

"Gideon, I can't take much more."

"I want to come with you." I see his eyes flash red. Ulv is calling for Inari. I feel her come to the surface.

'He wants to mark us again. I want to mark them as well.' I feel Inari extends our canines. I see Gideon has too. He pulls me up to his chest while still keeping his cock inside me. He licks my mark, and I feel my climax drawing near.

He pulls back and looks at me, his eyes ruby red and canines fully extended. He licks his lips and bites into my mark. My climax is intense. I scream, then bite his mark, and I feel him fill me and his dick twitch. We both release our jaws. I collapse into him.

I breathe in his scent. I don't think I could ever feel this happy or safe in my life, but I do. Gideon kisses my cheek. "We should probably sleep with clothes on. I don't lock the door because of the girls, so they might come in at any time."

I giggle, "I wouldn't have it any other way." I pull back and look into his eyes. I rest my forehead on his. "You truly are my blessing and my gift from the goddess." I kiss him before getting up to grab some pajamas. He does, too but only sleeping in lounge pants, leaving his bare chest for me to run my hands over.

We crawl back into bed, and I find my spot in his arms, and we fall asleep.