

Chapter 45 Circle Of Life

ELIANA.

Elyndra's hostile cackles speared through my heated ears like a sword. All the color had drained from my face once I'd heard the truth and not only was it a lot to process, I started to doubt everything in that moment.

With tears in my eyes, I covered my head. I couldn't believe my Grandma could keep such a secret from me. I couldn't believe she was a Witch which meant I was a Hybrid and the enemy—the Queen of Witches was my Great Aunt. It meant my mother was a hybrid too.

I've lived a lie all this time. Every time she said I was special, this was what she meant. More so, this was going to affect my son, Elijah too. Because he had the Witch's blood inside of him, alongside his father's.

Perhaps, that was why he had nightmares.

It was all because of me. Because Nana didn't tell me the truth. How was I supposed to ever trust her again?

"It's okay..." Elyndra muttered, twisting her lips into a pout. "I understand you feel betrayed. How could Abigail my Nana do something like this to me?" Before she scoffed, like she could read my mind.

I lifted my eyes grudgingly to hers.

"I hate to break it to you but that's just how my sister is. That's how she's always been. Incredibly selfish and evil. You realize you wouldn't even be here if it weren't for her, right?" Elyndra said and even though I could tell she was only trying to get through to me, it wasn't a total lie.

I mean, either way, I wouldn't even have been here.

Maybe so, because she was already pregnant with my Mom when Grandpa died but at least she was the one who made the Curse, she was the reason Elyndra was trying to break it now.

"Do you see it now?" She whispered. "The pattern" A hard lump slipped down my throat. "And why you have to die..." Elyndra struck my chin and a chill went down my spine.

Fear impaled my eyes as she locked sternly into my gaze.

"But you don't worry, the sacrifice isn't until tonight. I'm only saving you from a much harder life. You know the fate of your own mother, Hybrids don't live that long. They never have since the beginning of time" Elyndra said. "I'm only saving you from all that" She added with a smile.

"And all this would be over before you even know it" She caressed the sides of my bruised cheeks as my eyes darted to the window above. The moon hung in the night sky like a malevolent eye, even though it was the early hours of the morning. Which meant I had some time before the next night when the sacrifice was going to happen.

Denver would save me by then, I muttered to myself.

'He wouldn't let anything happen to me'

The moonlight cast an eerie glow into the room and for a moment, the candle at the corner flickered in the light. I sensed something, something that made me feel an unsettling chill crawl up my spine. And by the way Elyndra suddenly backed away, I could tell she sensed it too.

"Someone's here?" She turned back to Luciana who emerged from the dark before stumbling to her knees. Her neck and face were bloody and when she crashed to the ground, I let out a gasp of terror.

"Viro potestatem quam tenemus—" Elyndra started her incantations as I breathed heavily through my lips. "Oh my God" Something sinister was lurking in the shadows and I was right because at that moment, Blake walked out and the air thickened with a pungent scent of impending doom.

"I did say I'll see you again" His lips curled into a smirk as he brought his eyes to rest upon me. "Nulli nocitura, et amor constans!" Elyndra yelled and there was a piercing sound that immediately rang through the air as an attack on Blake. But because we were both Werewolves, it was also an attack on me. My hands clamped over them as I felt blood drip along the sides of my neck.

"You're only hurting her" Blake seemed invisible, the kind of Wolf that was so powerful, invisible even to the Witch's powers. "Stop!" I gasped for breath and when she turned to me, he saw the perfect opportunity to attack. Blake pounced on Elyndra, hooking her to the ground.

His eyes, aglow with a feral hunger as his fangs pieced out of his lips. He locked into her, freezing her in place.

"I do recognize you" He gleamed with a menacing chuckle before he buried his teeth into her neck. Elyndra fell limp across the ground, even though I was sure she wasn't dead. One bite from a Werewolf can inject a large amount of venomous toxins into the veins of the Victim.

Now, such venom would be enough to kill someone like Carys if not saved but Elyndra, it would take a lot more than to get rid of her. He knew, but however, he stood up.

I don't think anyone really knew how to kill the Queen of Witches. But at least the bite bought him some time for whatever he wanted to do. Blake inched closer to where I sat and I backed away with fear in my eyes.

"What do you want?" I shivered. His hands stretched out to me, breaking the chains with the slightest pull. "I'm here to save you" He croaked and my inability to tell whether or not he was serious at that moment made me even unsettled.

Even after he freed me, there was still fear in my heart.

Why would he save me? Blake, of all people. Not Denver but his brother.

"What?" He shrugged his shoulders. At that moment, my eyes fell on Luciana and what he'd done to her. Half her face was mauled with claw marks scarred into her skin and she was laying there lifeless. A bite from a Werewolf could kill her too and she was dead.

Elyndra on the other hand wasn't dead. She was just unconscious and I wasn't sure how much longer she'd stay that way. So I stood up, if this was my chance to escape, then I was going to take it.

I scurried with my wounded legs towards the door when Blake suddenly closed the distance with his terrifying speed. A bolt of panic froze me to the ground when that gnarly smirk curved his lips again. And before I knew it, Blake stabbed me in my chest with a knife.

The searing pain was as numbing as the shock once I realized what had happened. My eyes fell to his hand and then back up at him. "You didn't think I was just going to let you go now huh" He chuckled.

I didn't think he was going to stab me either.

As I fell to the ground, horrid gasps escaped my lips. Time blurred and my world became a whirlwind of pain and terror. As soon as my knees grazed the hard floor, blackness seemed to overshadow my vision. And his guiltless, icy-blue eyes was the last thing I saw.

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DENVER.

"So where is she, Elyndra?!"

Abigail's voice was somewhat between stern and frail, harboring just about enough emotion from all the unsaid words and tension between her and her sister. But at that moment it clicked in my head that Blake was the one who had her, there was just this rage and anger that filled me.

"Not even a hello? After all these years" Elyndra cooed and there was so much sarcasm in the tone of her voice. "Where is she? Whatever it is that happened in the past, you must leave my Granddaughter out of it!" Abigail replied. "You still the whole world revolves around you huh"

"Well, part of the reason I took Eliana was to punish you but I'm sure you've already put two and two together enough to know that isn't all."

"You want to break the Curse" Abigail whispered.

"Bingo!"

"A Curse that you made. Do you think life can be a lot more poetic than this? I mean it's a circle of life when you think about—" "You killed the man that I loved and every witch took your side. Then you abandoned me. Where was I supposed to go?" Abigail asked.

"That's what you always thought, Abigail. There were never sides between the two of us. It was only us against the Werewolves and you had one job to do! One job which you somehow still managed to screw up as you do everything else" Elyndra replied.

"Well, I'm sorry for falling in love. Is that it, Elyndra? Is that what you want? Because I'm even more sorry that in all your years of living, you've never felt a fraction of love" Abigail said.

"Mum and Dad's were just about enough for me" She replied and Abigail scoffed so much that tears welled in her eyes. "There were two sides and if anything, you've made it abundantly clear over the years who's you were on. So why won't we abandon you?" Elyndra said.

"I was your family. And you were always so big on family. I never wanted to create the Curse" Abigail bellowed but Elyndra shook her head. "Who are you kidding you were going to do it either way because you were grieving over a man and over what you thought was love" She continued.

"A love that made you betray your own family for the enemy...Do you think it was easy for us to let you go—" "Elyndra," "No, Abigail! You were my sister. You and I were all our parents had. We were the future of the Coven and they've told us ever since we were attacked" Elyndra said.

"But you just didn't listen. You were so selfish and for all these years, you've convinced yourself that somehow I was the monster" She added.

"Look around you, where we are today. What we are, what has become of us is all because of you. Eliana wouldn't have to die if not for the Curse you placed on her, forgetting that a part of her was a Witch too. And you lied to her. You lied to her all her life."

"Yet another thing you thought you'd get away with" Elyndra looked her dead in the eyes and I watched as Abigail's lips fell wide open at what she said next. "But she knows now," She added. "I made sure of that. I made sure she knew you for the monster you really are" Elyndra sauntered closer to Abigail who limped backward with tears in her eyes.

"How could you?" She barely had a voice now. What was left was so broken and disheveled at the thought of Eliana never forgiving her for her lies. "You're probably wondering now, what would become of the both of you—the inseparable Nana and Daughter pair but I want to help you"

Abigail arched her brows as Elyndra smiled maliciously before inching closer to her. "Even though you don't deserve it, I want to help you" Elyndra said. "Help me by telling me where Eliana is" Abigail muttered.

But the other shook her head.

"At least you won't have to ever see her again" And in a split second, Elyndra struck her arms out and pushed Abigail down the staircase. I plunged myself forward the moment she tumbled down the hard stairs.

"Magica mea texo, ut fabula discooperiatur, Sapientia antiqua et proposita clara" Elyndra started her incantation when I threw myself at her but there was a force that held me back and I fell to the ground. "You're not as strong as your brother, you know that. You're a feeder" She turned to me and I caved my head down as soon as a storm took the room.

"I'll kill you in a second."

"But don't kill her!" I strained my voice over the noise. "You won't gain anything by killing her —" "What does it matter anyway?" Elyndra asked and I arched my brows. She faced me completely.

"You'll all be dead by tonight anyway. Eliana too!" She yelled. "There's no saving her" I shook my head. "I know it's my brother that took her. There is saving her" I gritted through my teeth.

"Why do you think he took her?" She muffled a chuckle, bringing her hands to rest and the storm to a calm. "The question is why are you not bothered? Why are you still here when he's thwarted your plans? I mean you wanted Eliana and now, he's taken her!" I replied and the chuckling didn't stop for a while. I could still hear Abigail gasping at the bottom of the stairs but there was no way to get to her.

"You really don't anything huh?" Elyndra said. My throat went dry.

"Know what?"

"Why your brother has Eliana...it's not to thwart my plans. Rather, he makes it a lot easier without me moving an inch. Because she is going to get sacrificed tonight, not just by me" I stood up firmly.

"What are you talking about?" I whispered.

"He's going to do it" Elyndra said. "Why would Blake need to break the Curse?" I asked, my mind racing with thoughts but still, I couldn't figure it out until she told me. "He's not breaking the Curse. He's trying to do something even worse" My heart sank at those words.

"He's trying to resurrect Aurora."

My lips curled. "What?" I was hit with a storm of emotions, half of which was confusion. "Why do you think he came back here?" Elyndra inched forward to me and I pushed a hard lump down my throat.

"The thing is, he's also going to need Eliana for his little mission. And either way, she still sacrificed in the end. Once that happens, the Curse is also broken. It's a win-win for everyone. Everyone except you're an Eliana. That's what I've been saying," Elyndra paused and I could barely believe my ears. Aurora, after this long, my brother still loved her.

So much that he was willing to bring her back from the dead. At my expense too. I knew he hated me for whatever his reasons were but dragging Eliana into this was about to be his biggest mistake yet.

"That's if you find her in time" Elyndra drew me out of my thoughts.

"I can hear your inner voice, you know" She said before turning back to Abigail's body across the floor. "It's quite poetic, the circle of life. And how everything leads back to Eliana in the end" Elyndra said.

"But it all ends tonight. I'll see you later"

"No!" I growled, stretching out my hands in the air but puff! Elyndra vanished into thin air, leaving a precipitation of black dust in the air. And with as much shock in my eyes, I threw myself forward to Abigail.

Her hands clung limply around mine as she softly gasped. "Save her," As if those were her last words, she whispered. "Please save Eliana."