

# Their Secret Obsession (A Reverse Harem) by Pippa Moon Chapter 81

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Chapter 81: Astaroth

Mike POV

Chapter **81**: Astaroth

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“Want me to kill him too?” The hooded figure asked Anthony, without looking over at me, simply nodding his head in my general direction. Given the blasé edge to this stranger’s tone and the boredom written across his features, I got the distinct feeling he was serious.

“How much extra?” Anthony asked, his tone so severe I felt my jaw fall open; I wanted to look at my Beta and ask what the fuck, but the truth was I was too scared to look away from the demonic freak in case he acted on those unnatural impulses and slit my throat or some shit! Not like anyone would find me in this dark corner!

“I dunno.. a gold medal?” He grinned so slyly that I almost knew he was enjoying my discomfort. His sarcasm and reference were not lost on Anthony or me; at least, I assumed so, given the chuckle that left my Betas lips. A pit formed in my stomach that made me squirm a little. Is this how I made Lottie feel?

“Noted, I will let you know!” Anthony snorted.

“Fucking try **it!** I dare ya!” I seethed at Anthony, trying desperately to hide the fear I felt seeping into my bones as the demonic force approached and blocked my path. Not that my threat had any impact on my soon-to-be father-in-law; his “attention” wasn’t truly on me or the demon in front of us; he couldn’t seem to pull his

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gaze from the double doors. Which told me it wasn’t their first encounter ; if it were, he would be as anxious as me... surely?

“Scratch that; I will do it for free.” The hooded male snorted, finally turning to look at me, his eyes flashing the deep red that again reminded me of the pits of hell; something eerie exuded from his very being; corruption and chaos would be my guess. The feeling was so strong that I felt myself stepping away in case that shit infected me too.

“Me?” I laughed, trying to hold my own still. “I am his partner!”

“Ah, so are you who is paying me then?” He laughed, his eyes moving over me

with interest.

“No!” I grunted. That would be him!” I explained, nodding to Anthony, who was still watching the door, something unreadable on his face that had me more anxious

than this freak did.

“But you are partners.” He smiled slowly, his clear dislike of me making my

blood run cold.

**look.**

“He isn’t my partner; he is my daughter’s ex.” Anthony waved me off without a

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“Fiance!” I corrected Anthony angrily; if Kane was dead and Knox was an outcast, that left Lottie available again, and all fucking mine!

“That would be the blonde!” The demon grinned, licking his lips. “She’s hot! A nervous little thing! I bet she would make a good addition to my..”

“She is spoken for Astaroth!” Anthony announced his attention finally on the fucking lunatic beside us.

“They always are!” He shrugged, holding his hand out to Anthony. Amusement is playing on his lips. I watched the two of them interact and realised that under any other circumstances, I wouldn’t give him a second glance, noting that there was nothing memorable about him; his clothes didn’t scream money, his hair didn’t scream luxury, and his aura was rather... forgettable.

“If I stood out, I wouldn’t be the best at what I do!” He laughed, turning to look at me, his eyes glimmering with the same amusement he wore on his lips.

“You read my thoughts?” I asked, narrowing my eyes on the creep.

“Yes, a perk of my trade! Although, some, like you, I can read more easily .” He grinned a tooth smile that had my toes curling with rage.

“Really, why?” I asked, knowing I would regret asking the second a deep

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chuckle left his throat.

“Because they are usually the weaklings in the group!” He winked nastily

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“Now is someone going to pay me or..” He closed his eyes as the doors opened from behind us, and Lilly rushed out screaming for help, saying that her mate was hurt... hurt.. not dead! Wide-eyed and confused, I watched as Sebestain’s men rushed after her, darting into the hall in a panic.

“I thought you **took** care of it?” I asked, scoffing at the scene before me.

“I did.” He smiled at me, sending a cold chill down my back.

“Clearly!” I barked, despite my better judgement,

at me to shut my

mouth. Turning to the door,

he smirked, seeing Lottie storm out of it, that beautiful dress that had everyone

rendered speechless earlier coated in blood and not all of it hers. I watched her push through the crowd, looking for someone.

“So.. are you paying me, Attewood, or am I asking your daughter for the aymment?” The demon I knew to be called Astaroth asked, without remorse, as he turned to look over his shoulder at Lottie, who was visibly getting angrier with each passing second.

“Are you sure she is spoken for?” He asked plainly.

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Chapter 81: Astaroth

“YES!” I snarled, stepping closer possessively. “Just because you cleared the debt, don’t change shit! She is my prize! I get her! Do you hear me, demon filth? | will find a way to destroy you if you so much as touch her.”

“You’re so cute when you’re angry!” He laughed, tapping my nose with his long, pale finger. “Unbunch your panties, unlike you, I don’t take before it is offered.”

“You’re a demon like I will believe that!” I started with a snarl as I watched his

eyes follow my soon-to-be wife!

“I don’t care what you believe.” He laughed, clearly bored again.

“Just take your fee and leave!” Anthony sighed as the sounds of murmurs and gossip filtered through the room.

“No! Alpha is dead!”

“Alpha is gone!”

“I can see him; he is dead.. did you hear!”

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## Chapter 82: You Are Wrong!

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Lottie POV

I wasn't in the mood for this shit; I had expected to come out here to find my father, the damn beta of this pack, to be supporting people. To be getting those injured, if any, to the infirmary, maybe I don't know, organising our pack warriors discreetly in case one of the visiting alphas decided to launch an attack tonight when we were most vulnerable. But instead, I find him in the darkness with Mike no doubt conspiring with whoever the fuck this male was. Meanwhile, those I cared for were left scared, confused, and running around like headless chickens.

It was a joke!

"He is a joke!" Sage growled a statement I was inclined to agree with, but I wasn't ready to voice that just yet.

"Leave!" I demanded of the stranger who was not part of my pack, I knew I was being rude and had insulted him, but frankly, I didn't have time to kiss his ass; my mate was injured, and my other was close to a breakdown while they secured their father's body, my best friend's mate was at death's door and if he died not only would she be left devastated but everyone out here who I was meant to protect one day would end up at war with a pack we stood no chance of beating.

We were royally fucked!

"Lottie!" Mike endeavoured to say, his hand gripping at my elbow as he tried to pull me from the stranger I had just narrowed my eyes on and into him. My feet, however, remained rooted to the floor. The hooded figure was so familiar yet so alien to me. His hood hid his face, but from what I could see, he screamed trouble! Making my blood run cold and ice prickles the hairs at the back of my neck.

He was dangerous, and I needed to tread carefully, and perhaps in a different time when I was racked with guilt and dread, I would have. But all I could think right now was that my people needed me, and this man did not belong here; after all, "who comes to a ball in a hoodie and jeans, jeans I noted that were covered in blood?"

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Chapter 82: You Are Wrong!

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On any other day, I would take more notice of him; today, though, I had enough to deal with without worrying about some hooded figure and his bloody clothes.

“Baby!” I heard Mike’s simper voice beg, feeling his hold on me; I pulled my eyes from the strangers and slowly turned to look at Mike’s face and then to where his hand rested on my elbow as if it was covered in shit.

“Do not ever presume to touch me again!” I seethed, flicking my eyes back to his face, an apparent demand written on my face.

“Release me!” I added when he didn’t seem to get the fucking hint—Standard for Mike!

“Lottie, please!” He sighed, clearly embarrassed.

“So help me, goddess, if you do not release me, Mike, I am going to lose my shit right here and tell everyone what a sleazy bastard you are!”

“Charlotte!” My father snapped my eyes, flicking from Mike’s shocked pools to his, shaking my head slowly, my lip curling in disgust.

“Don’t even start... father!” I snarled the last word like venom on my tongue before my eyes met Mike’s again, “NOW!” I barked with another glance at his hand that was still gripping my flesh like one would grip a lifeboat in a storm- desperately

and scared.

“Please.” He whispered but did as I asked and let go of my elbow. My eyes observed him; seeing the pain dancing across his features once would have made me weak, but now they made me angry! Steading myself against his games, I harden myself to him.

“Damn, I like her, Attwood..” The stranger laughed. “When you get bored of your mates.. Come find me sugar!” He chortled, his eyes flaring with intrigue as I span to look at him. Insulted and enraged.

“I told you to leave. I would like to talk to my father. Alone!” I ground out through clenched teeth.

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## Chapter 82: You Are Wrong!

“As you wish, Luna!” He chuckled, the sound cold and eerie, devoid of any warmth that a standard chuckle might have. He was.. creepy, to say the fucking least.

“I am not the Luna. Laura is!” I snapped, looking back at my father.

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“See, that... is where you are wrong, sugar; her mate, the alpha, is dead..” He laughed loudly, instantly regretting being so rude to him, knowing I had got his back. up, and the price of that was the scene he was about to cause. With everyone’s wolves still MIA, no one but those in that room knew of Alpha’s

demise. I had hoped, at least! Turning to look at him, I crossed the space between us, my bloodied dress swirling around my feet.

“You are wrong!” I snorted, shaking my head, but the damage was done; people were looking at me with questions glistening in their eyes

“Am I?” He questioned, his hands tucked into his pockets as he thrust his chest. out in an attempt to look foreboding. He didn’t. He looked like a sick fuck who liked to play games with people! Myself included, apparently. In the mirror behind him, I saw Mike and my Father attempt to leave, no doubt hoping to avoid my questions. Spinning around, I pinned them with a formidable stare.

“I am not done with either of you!” I hissed. “STAY!” I commanded, and to my surprise, I saw those visiting Alphas I had feared would attack us now we were weak, move to block their exit, an unspoken message passing between us.

They had my back.

Thank fuck because I am not sure I had the strength to fight them on my own. Nodding my thanks to the Alphas, I paused, feeling the air turn cold around me.

“I saw it happen, you know, your Alpha die, I mean. I was right there... such a shame.” the stranger’s voice sang out cheerfully into my ear as a hand slid over my hip.

I spun back to the hooded male, filled with questions I desperately hoped he could answer. But given my earlier insolence, I doubted he would. Only to see her had vanished into the crowd, his words lingering in the air.

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## Chapter 83: The Alphas!

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Lottie POV

Turning to glare at my father and Mike, I pursed my lips, wondering how on earth everything had managed to go so wrong. Their eyes met mine, and I could see more than anger dancing in their eyes because of how I spoke to them; there was something I couldn't place, and it had me more than a little suspicious.

"You two better be able to fix this cluster fuck you have caused because I have had enough of everyone's bullshit!" I growled, looking at them with just as much bitterness as they clearly bore me.

"I don't have to explain anything to you!" My father hissed, the contempt in his tone not lost on me. "Have you forgotten who you are talking to.. girl!" the last word spat out with such disrespect I felt my back stiffen.

"How could I forget!" I mocked.

"I am your beta; you will show me respect.."

"Respect is fucking earned, Father!" I laughed, cutting him off brutally. "And have you heard... You are no longer Beta because..." Swallowing the lump in

throat, I closed my eyes and willed myself not to lower myself to his level and confirm the rumors; it wasn't my place to.

"Knox will need me as Beta still; he has been away for too long, and no one knows the pack as I do. With his brother and father..."

"Don't you say it!" I snapped, realising with startling clarity that he thought Kane was dead too; closing the gap between us, I levelled my eyes on him.

"They will need me; you will need me!" He snorted arrogantly.

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"I have needed you my whole damn life, and where have you been, the bottom of a bottle or any where I wasn't," I replied coldly with a dismissive wave of my hand.

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### Chapter 83: The **Alphas!**

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“I coped

then. I will cope now!” Approaching the Alphas, I lowered my head respectfully, they might be on our turf, but they were still Alphas, men worthy of respect, and I would be damned if they weren’t shown it. I had enough to contend with without pissing anyone else off.

“Thank you, gentlemah. I need to speak to my father and Mr Green; it’s rather time-sensitive, but I wanted to check that you and those you brought here are all ok?” I asked, my eyes scanning the Alphas, in their suits and masks, looking every inch the beasts I knew them to be, three of them in total, all as tall as Knox and Kane. Maybe they were not as well built as Knox, but they were still undoubtedly more than anyone in this hallway could contend with. The first male, who I knew to be Alpha Adam from the blue horn pack, tilted his head respectfully but said nothing. I had spent a summer with his daughter at a camp and knew he was a man of a few words.

The male in the middle, a blonde with tanned skin from spending too much time outdoors, smiled warmly, a smile I had no doubt caused a lot of ladies’ panties to drop! Like his companion, he said nothing;

his eyes, even through his mask, shined with an interest that made me more than a little uncomfortable. There was nothing sexual in the gaze, but I was aware of the way he was assessing me, and if everyone in this damn hallway wasn’t doing the same thing, I might be intimidated by it.

It was the third who approached me, offering me his hand and shaking it carefully; I smiled up at him through his silver mask that made his dark eyes pop, something I knew he was aware of. He was the largest of the group, covered in tattoos similar to Knox’s, but his features were not as fair or as kind; his dark eyes and dark hair made him seem somewhat feral, dangerous and in many circles, I am sure incredibly desirable.. but none held a flame to my boys!

“No one is seriously hurt, Luna.” Dark and dangerous offered, his tone softer than his eyes. Rolling my lip through my teeth to stop the tears I felt pooling in my eyes from falling, determined to hold my own. I wasn’t the Luna- Laura was! I hated that they were calling me it; it felt wrong and disrespectful to the woman who had raised me.

“Charlotte or Lottie is fine.” I **nodded** unpretentiously. “Please have your injured sent to the infirmary; let our doctors look them over. It’s the least we can **do** for the..

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## Chapter 83 The Alphas!

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inconvenience you have all suffered.” He nodded in reply, his eyes scanning me closely; swallowing the lump forming in my throat, I sighed and decided they already knew I needed their help; not asking would give them the upper hand if they offered.

“I hate to ask more of you, gentlemen, but..”

“But..You are going to.” D&D smiled with a nod of understanding.

“I am.” I chuckled. “I need..”

“YOU have no right to ask anything of them. You stupid girl!” My father growled, approaching from behind me..

Before I even had a chance to consider a response, I watched the blonde Alpha step forward, his body shielding mine, as the sound of a skin slamming into skin echoed around the hall. I knew, without looking, that he had taken a blow seemingly meant for me.

Turning, wanting to face my father, knowing he was the one to blame for the attack, I hesitated, feeling a hand wrap around my stomach and pull me from what one might call the splash zone as the male I had been talking to wasted no time in dealing out his own particular brand of punishment for my father’s apparent insult.

I watched in slow motion, wide-eyed and open-mouthed, as a blow landed on my father’s jaw, so fierce it knocked my father to the floor. Blood flew from my father’s mouth along with a tooth; mesmerised by the brutality, I watched as it rattled across the marbled floor and rolled to a stop at the foot of the stairs.

“Sorry,” The blonde offered, releasing me from his grasp with raised hands in submission.

“Sorry, Luna,“... Adam laughed, slapping the golden blonde god-like creature on the back. “Chase here is a bit old-fashioned and has an issue with men raising their voices to women,” Adam **added** with an upapolegtoic shrug.

“And Liam there... well, he just likes a good scrap.” He chuckled deeply with a wink at Liam, who strolled past my father to stand beside me as if he hadn’t just

## Chapter 84: Stay Hidden

Lottie POV

“You are exhausted; your body is flagging Char!” Sage moaned at me, and I had to fight the urge to roll my eyes; I was exhausted! Goddess knows I could fall asleep standing up.

“I know, but Kane and Knox need me to get these answers! Lilly needs me to help Bash!” And like fuck was I going to let them down, they had lost their father and needed justice and solutions!

“No, Char, they need you to support them, to hold their hands and tell them it’s all going to be okay,” Sage whispered, clearly nervous about my response to all

this.

“But it’s not going to be okay.” I sighed, “Not unless we can fix it.”

“Char, you can’t fix everything.” Sage sighed, and I knew she was right, but I could at least try! “Go be with the twins!”

“I can’t!” I breathed. “This is all my fault; how am I meant to go in there and face them when this... is all on me! If I had just rejected them like my father had said, maybe none of this would have happened!”

“Maybe... but they would still be in pain, Char.. Do you truly think they would just accept your rejection? Do you think they would just let you walk away? Because I don’t!” Sighing, I didn’t answer because I honestly didn’t know what to say.

“But..” Was all I could muster.

“Char, Havoc tore that room apart tonight because Mike baited him; you were at his side... literally declaring yourself their mate.. a bond set in blood... And still, he tore the place apart. What do you think he would do if you left them? Because let me tell you... he would pull the world apart to find you. They both would.. and how many lives would be lost then?”

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Chapter 84 Stay Hidden

“I don’t know.” I groaned, needing her just to be quiet.

“More than we lost tonight..” she continued, trying to get through to me.

“But NOT their father, Sage! Not Leigh..”

“Luna.” Liam prodded, trying to bring me back to reality. “How can we help?”

“I was going to.. ask..” I stammered, my tone laced with heartbreak, my eyes still on my father’s tooth; following its blood trail, I met my father’s furious face as he pulled himself to his knees but remained on the floor. Mike was behind him, looking.

paler than I had ever seen him but silent, probably trying to plan his next move.

“Charlotte?” Kane’s voice cut through my head, and I sighed, closing my eyes; I had blocked them out, unable to cope with the overwhelming emotions ripping them apart.

“I am here, Ace.” I smiled; despite the pain in his voice, I felt my body relax at the familiar presence of him inside my head.

“Where are you?” He asked, but I knew he already knew.

“Getting answers. Is Knox okay?” I asked, biting my lip as I waited with bated breath for him to speak.

“No... He needs..”

“There was a male here, Kane, who said he saw what happened to your father. He could clear Havoc’s name.”

“He could also be lying,” Kane warned me, but I could hear the hope in his voice, and I closed my eyes, needing him to have the same faith in Havoc that I did.

“Kane.. he didn’t do it! I know it! I will be there soon...” I pleaded gently.

“Okay, but I am coming to you.” He sighed deeply, making me tense quickly.

“No!” I snapped, panic whirling through my body at the idea of Knox being left

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Chapter 84 Stay Hidden

alone, but also.. Mike and my father’s earlier words played through my mind.

“Mike thinks you are dead, and so does my father.”

“What, Why?” He yapped, but the anger that flared in his throat was apparent.

“I don’t know why, Kane, but I need you to stay hidden... Please. Trust me.” I begged my mate through our bond.

“I do... But Charlotte... You are going to have to start accepting help. You can’t fight every battle on your own.”

“I am not on my own!” I smiled, lifting my eyes to meet three sets of cautious eyes. “I have help.. and trust me. I am safe! I promise!” I grinned slowly.

“I need more than that..”

“Kane.. I love you... I do, and I know it is killing you, but I need you to watch and protect Knox.. and Lilly... And let me protect you! Just this once... you can punish me later for not listening.. okay!”

“I will hold you to that, Charlotte!” He laughed lightly, but I could hear the pain in his voice.

“I should bloody hope so!” I laughed about to cut the link off but paused to ask one final question..

“Kane... How is Sebestain?” I asked, bracing myself for the worst.

“Holding on for his wolf.. but..”

“Make sure he holds on! I will be there soon!” I ordered cutting the link off and focusing back on the Alpha’s in front of me.

“Back with us?” Liam, asked, a brow arched as he watched me.

“Yes, sorry.” I apologised nervously, stammering over my words. “I was.. em.. going to say?”

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Chapter 84 Stay Hidden

“You would like us to secure everything while you chat with these two.” He nodded, checking over his shoulder to the large Alphas behind him, who simply nodded in agreement. “Done!”

“BUT..” Chase interjected softly. “I am not sure how I feel about leaving you alone with this one..” The blonde motioned with his boot to my father, who was still struggling to find his feet, no doubt from the ringing in his ears.

“Don’t touch me!” My father hissed, and I scoffed, wondering if he had forgotten that he already had.

“He will remember when he looks in the mirror and sees his tooth missing.” Sage giggled.

eyes.

“I will be fine, Chase!” I dismissed him with a smile that didn’t quite reach my

“What would Kane and Knox say if you asked to be left alone with these two.... after what he just pulled?” Adam asked, his eyes observing me for any signs I was lying.

“They would trust my judgment!” I lied, stubbornly pursing my lips and crossing my arms over my chest.

“Liar... He would already be dead!” Sage laughed, and I could see that they thought the same thing!

“Really? Because I saw how your mate ripped that ballroom apart because of that one.” Pointing at Mike in disgust, he shook his head and looked back at me. “Said something... disrespectful.”

## **Their Secret Obsession (A Reverse Harem)** **by Pippa Moon Chapter 85**



Chapter 85: Careful!

Kane POV



“Get the door.” I told Knox with a nod to the servant’s exit. I couldn’t keep my Father here much longer. Someone was bound to walk in, and I wasn’t ready to answer the questions they would have, much less deal with the pity cast in their eyes. I knew my pack would be grieving as much as Knox and I soon enough. I didn’t know how much of that shit Mike had given everyone but going by Lotties experience, I guess we had around another twenty minutes to get my Father somewhere secure.

“Careful!” Knox growled from the doorway. As I gently lifted my Father into my arms. Fighting back the tears that blurred my vision, I carried him from the ballroom and out of the servant’s quarters.

“Watch his head!” Knox roared when I knocked our Father’s head on a pillar on the back stairs.

“Sorry, Pop’s.” I whispered, my eyes falling to his face, hoping that, by some miracle, the bump to the head would wake him up. It wouldn’t. I knew that. He was gone. Grounding the lump back down my throat, I met Knox’s gaze, knowing he, too, had a similar thought.

“Are we taking him to the infirmary with Bash?” Knox asked as we walked through the passageways. Frowning, I looked at him as he held doors open for me and my precious cargo.

“No.” I answered cautiously. “It’s going to be busy in there; Charlotte has sent all the injured there; I don’t want people gawping at him. I am taking him to his room.” I expressed, seeing Knox gnaw at his lip, his eyes still red raw from crying. I sighed, knowing he disagreed with my decision.

“What is it?” I asked with a groan as we approached the elevator.

“Maybe there is something that Doc can do? We should take him to the

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Chapter 65. Carefull

Infirmery! Everyone can wait till Father wakes up.” He tried to reason with me.

“People will bleed out while they wait!” Rolo interjected internally, and I closed my eyes in frustration.

“What isn’t he getting?” Rolo added moodily, his mood infecting mine. I didn’t have the energy for both of them right now. So I refused to answer my wolf for now because I knew that, unlike me, Rolo was angry with Knox and his wolf, blaming them wholly for the mess we were fleeing from.

“I know you are angry, but..” I tried to say, feeling his anger rise.

“No... I don’t understand why he had to let Mike bait him after you and I fought so hard to stay calm! Goddess knows Mike threw everything at us while we waited for Charlotte to arrive, and it was Knox who insisted we stay calm and not react..”  
“Sucking down my moan, I knew where he was coming from, but still, I didn’t want to have the discussion, not now. “Yet one snide remark from Mike and Havoc goes berserk and...”

“I know.” I snapped, knowing Rolo was just warming up, and I was not ready for

this shit.

“But do you.. because you are treating him like a fucking child! You get this is his fault... Don’t you?!”

“No, it was Mike’s!” I corrected my wolf, “You know better than anyone that Havoc isn’t just a normal wolf! He is more beast than the rest of us. Knox tries fucking hard to keep him under control. This wasn’t his fault!”

“Whatever you say!” Rolo growled and shut our link off. With a deep sigh, I shifted my Father’s weight in my arms, Knox quickly moving in front of me to support Pops as I moved him carefully into a more secure position as we stepped into the elevator.

“He weighs a ton!” I muttered.

“Kane..” Knox prodded, and I soughed, looking at him harshly, hating my self for it, but he was clearly in denial I, and I didn’t have the patience or the time to ease

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Chapter 85: Careful!

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him into the reality we found ourselves in.

After all, how much clearer could I be? I stood in the servant elevator, naked, covered in my own blood, holding the dead body of my Father like one might hold a sleeping child or sibling.. except my Father wasn’t sleeping.. at least not one in which he would wake from.

“Knox.. He is dead! You get that, right Buddy?” I asked bluntly.

“But..”

*“But*

nothing, Knox, he is dead; I am sorry, brother, I am. I am not trying to be a dick, but you need to accept that he is gone.” I declared with resolve, not wanting to deal with this on my own. I needed him to help me, and he could only do that if he was living in the real world beside me.

“He just looks so peaceful! Like he is sleeping on the sofa after watching the match or on the lounge in the garden with Ma. You know?”

“I know.. and I wish that were the case...”

“But it’s not!” Knox growled, slamming his hand on the lift button, the doors slowly closing. I could feel the guilt washing over him and suddenly understood, like Rolo, he was blaming himself for our Father’s death, and if he was just sleeping.. he wasn’t to blame.. or at least not too much.

“This wasn’t your fault, Knox!” I offered, my eyes finding his in the steel cage.

“Did you see the way Ma reacted to me...” Knox growled, shaking his head violently, fear prickling my neck as panic set in, not wanting Havoc to lose it again.

“Knox!” I warned as I squeezed my Father to me protectively. Hating that this

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## Chapter 86: **Buckle Up**, Buttercup!

### Knox POV

“Knox.. she just needs time.” Kane tried to say, but even I heard how weak it sounded. Looking down at my Father, I tried to imagine just for a moment what Ma was going through; the man in my brother’s arms wasn’t just our Father. He was her mate! And he was gone... potentially at the hands of their son! Me! The pain must be unbearable... I understood why she couldn’t stand to look at me!

pulled my eyes from my Father’s empty gaze, unable to handle the feel of my brother’s pity-filled eyes on me a second longer; I didn’t deserve their pity! Instead, I looked ahead into the glass panel on the wall, seeing my own reflection, naked and vulnerable, but my skin was free of marks and bruises, clear of any signs of the devastation my brother bore; the only similar thing we shared was the marks we accepted from Lottie.

I wanted to reach out to Lottie and tell her I needed her, but what right did I have to the comforts he offered? Despite Havoc’s whining, I knew she needed the space from us. I had felt her heartbreak through the mate bond back in the hall before Lilly came rushing in; she was suffering just like Kane and I. I got it. My Father was the only positive role model she had ever known, her only protector, and he was gone... I wanted to tell her that she had me and Kane, but it just felt weak, especially coming from the man who had caused her such hurt.

“I love you!” A voice echoed through my head; the familiar sound of my little mate had me relaxing, but I couldn’t help the tears falling from my eyes like some fucker had just turned a bloody tap on.

“You do?” I asked, knowing how pathetic I sounded.

“Of course I do, silly! This wasn’t your fault, Knox, so stop blaming yourself!” She ordered, with more determination than I think I could muster right now.

“You are wrong!” I replied brokenhearted.

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## Chapter 86: Buckle Up, Buttercup!

“Knox... I am female..” She teased, her tone light and easy.

“And?” I questioned my brow arching, not following her riddles. “What does that have to do with anything!” I added in confusion.

“It means I am never wrong! Now buckle up, buttercup! I need you to stay strong. I will be back in your arms in no time, and we will fix this mess.. ok?”

“Perhaps it’s for the best that you stay away!” I uttered, hating myself for saying it, but it had to be said. I could feel her tension through our mate bond, anger mixing with disappointment.

“And perhaps you should eat me!” Despite the trauma coursing through my veins, I couldn’t help the smirk that played on my lips.

“Perhaps I will!” I laughed, feeling a little better just from talking to her; I could feel the faith she had in me through her words and our bond, and for a moment, I remarked on how she would never cease to amaze me.

“I will hold you to that stud; I will be back soon.” Lottie’s sweet voice filtered through my head, making me crave her presence.

“Where are you?” I asked, feeling a sudden wave of anger wash through the bond, and I knew instinctively it wasn’t aimed at me but at whoever she was dealing with.

“Trying to get help for Sebastian; I won’t be long.” I hated that she was out there doing this; it should be me trying to find a solution to the bedlam I had caused. I hadn’t even thought about Lilly and what she must be going through! My eyes drifted into the mirror to Kane behind me, his face sullen and lost in thought as he looked down at my Father. Following his eyes, I found myself racked with guilt for the temporary happiness I felt talking to Lottie, given that everyone around me was suffering.. because of me!

“I love you. I just want to help Lilly; she can’t lose her mate too!” Lottie added when I didn’t say anything; my eyes were still locked on my Father’s vacant eyes.

“You shouldn’t!” I snapped and cut the link off, closing it and pulling my eyes

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## Chapter 86 Buckle Up, Buttercup!

back to mine in the mirror, meeting my blue hues; seeing the chaos in them from Havoc, I couldn’t help but feel a rush of anger bubbling through my body like an explosion waiting to happen.

The sound of steel collapsing undoubtedly broke Kane’s thoughts, his eyes. shooting up to see my fist embedded in the side of the elevator; a crack split aggressively in the mirrored panel I had been looking in, splintering it up through the mirror and distorting my reflection. I pulled my fist back, and the mirrored panel shattered, falling to the floor like beautiful crystal rain.

“Feel better?” Kane asked me, evidently trying to keep the anger from his voice, as he squeezed our Father tighter to his chest as if fearing Havoc was about to detonate in the elevator.

“Not even a little bit!” I snapped as the doors opened, stepping out of them with Kane behind me, clutching Father securely in his arms. I lingered and watched him walk towards the suite that he shared with Ma, but I couldn’t will my feet to

move.

As if sensing my reluctance, I watched the large form of my brother pause, my Father’s head and feet poking out from either side of him as he turned to look at me puzzled.

“Brother?” His voice cracked with tension and pain that broke my heart; walking in the opposite direction, I waved my hand in the air dismissively.

“Where are you going, Knox?” He roared, seemingly coming to the end of his patience.

“Ma, don’t want me in there! TRUST ME!” I snapped as I disappeared around the corner and away from him.

side.

“Brother..” Kane bellowed, and momentarily, I debated returning to my brother’s

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## Chapter 87: **We Say Nothing!**

### **Mike** POV

“Some partner you are!” Anthony snapped into my head; his words rang cold and angry like the fucker was delusional enough to think he had a leg to stand on.

“Ten minutes ago, you were considering whether or not to have that fucking demon kill **me...** Remember!” I reminded my one-day father-in-law, refusing to even glance in his direction.

“I was joking! Fuck take a joke, Mike!” He had the audacity to snarl into my mind, but his words sounded weak even to my ears.

“Let the fucker stay on the floor, maybe it will remind him that even the mighty can fall.” I laughed at Flint, “Where he belongs for what he has done!” I waited for a reply but frowned, remembering he was not going to answer any more than he was going to heal me!

I kept that from my face as I looked ahead at the three Alphas whom I had personally welcomed earlier, even though that was meant to be the twin’s job! I had done everything to ensure they felt welcomed when Knox and Kane were busy fucking and mating my girl! I showed them their room and helped them settle in with a complimentary drink!

As directed by Anthony!

Now, as I looked back on the events of the last twenty-four hours, I was starting to realise that I had been taken for a mug and set up to take the fall if anything was to go wrong!

Beta may be the one to have sourced whatever it was we were pumping these people with, but I was the one disturbing it. He had requested a change to the recipe when I had a test-run it on a few of the women I was fucking, and they had noticed their wolves were MIA. Or rather, their mates had. It had caused quite the “fucking problem! Anthony had assured me what he gave me this evening was up to

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Chapter 87 We Say Nothing!

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So, as I understood it, whatever I had been feeding people tonight was so subtle that it was unnoticeable to the human side; they did not feel like their wolves were not sleeping or missing. It didn’t affect their mates, so unless they tried to shift, they wouldn’t even know that their furry friends were indisposed.

I was doubtful; I couldn't imagine not being able to sense my wolf and its feeling.. normal.. but after drinking the double measure I had given Kane, I had to say I still felt like myself, except when I tried to shift on impulse when Knox had injured me, I couldn't!

Not only could I not shift, but my wolf was not healing my fucking shoulder... which made no sense because if they were still present in my body, should they not be able to heal me? I had so many fucking questions that Anthony needed to answer when we got away from these fuckers.

“What do you want me to do with this one?” The largest of the three Alphas asked., Pursing my lips, I wanted to glare at Lottie, but I kept my head lowered, hoping she didn't notice how my body vibrated with rage at being treated with such fucking disrespect; we had been together for fucking years! I made her what she

was today!

“Unless **you** want me to announce what you and I did this afternoon before the ball... I suggest you do NOT throw me under the bus!” I warned her privately, aware that I hadn't given her the same courtesy when Knox had come knocking earlier.. but Fuck it! She deserved what she got! I did not!

I was following orders... she was betraying me!

I knew she was glaring at me from the tension crackling in the room and the feeling of hate wafting through my body. Something she would have to get over because with Kane gone and Alpha's death currently pinned on Knox.. She was fucked and would need me! But it was fine; we would be okay because we had all the time in the world to fix our issues once Knox stood trial and was found guilty!

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Chapter 87. We **Say** Nothing!

“Nothing.” She scoffed. “He isn't a risk to me. Or worth your time, gentleman.” She laughed lightly. I was almost fooled into believing her hate for me for a moment, her tone so barren of emotion and warmth.



“Yeah, he looks a bit.. broken!” One of the males laughed, shoving me forward, the surprise sending me flying onto my knees. Turning slowly, I looked past the male I knew to be called Chase to Lottie, my eyes glimmering with an unspoken threat. A simple message written in my eyes. “I will repay you for this!”

“Hold up, ain’t he is the one who welcomed us..”

“Yeah, couldn’t get further up your ass Adam!” Liam laughed with a shrug as he bent down to lift me up and pushed me towards a wall none too gently.

“Watch my shoulder!” I hissed, and finally, I looked up to face the Alpha, biting my tongue at the remark that was playing on the tip of my tongue. I watched as someone approached my Beta with a pair of cuffs in his hand.

“It will take more than a pair of handcuffs to secure him!” I laughed, rolling my eyes, but the gasps that filled the air reminded me that we were not alone in the hallway. Closing my eyes, I sucked down my pride at remembering that the majority of the pack were loitering out here, ready for directions on what they were to do and if the rumours were true, no doubt needing to know what happened to them.

Fucking pussys!

“Will you shut your fucking trap!” Beta growled into my head, my lips curling into a nasty smile as I looked at him.

“Your daughter is Luna right now, and we both know she is gonna question us in a minute. I suggest you play nice, or I will make sure everyone here knows I was playing to your tune; it was you who killed our beloved Alpha **and** forced me to drug them..”

“No one will believe that shit! They saw you bait Havoc, they heard what you were saying...”

“Yes, but what they don’t know... is how stupid you are!” I grinned over at him

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Chapter 87: We Say Nothing!

as someone began cuffing his hands behind his back.

“What?” He laughed bitterly into my head, the sound triumphant and uncaring.. until I spoke.

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記事を読む

Chapter 88 Remember Anything?

Chapter 88: **Remember Anything?**

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Lottle POV

Knox was in all-out meltdown mode, Kane was utterly and unequivocally heartbroken from what I could sense through our mate bond, and I wanted to be with them, yet here I was dealing with his shit show. Lilly had mind-linked and asked me to hurry up with whatever ‘fix’

I had promised for Bash because he was going downhill fast. So, as we entered the office on the middle floor, close to the infirmary, I knew I was running out of time.. and patience!

Fast!

“Thank you!” I nodded respectfully to Chase and Liam, who were hovering in the doorway after bringing my father and Mike in. My father had been shoved to his knees before me, more of a humiliation attempt from Chase, I guessed, but

whatever, my father’s pride was the least of my worries. Mike had taken a seat in a chair opposite the desk.

“Adam and his men are securing the grounds; I will make sure everyone visiting is aware that we are here to support, not make matters worse.”

“And if they don’t have the same outlook on this mess as you?” My father asked from the floor. “The pack’s Alpha is dead at the hands of his son. His other son is dead.. not everyone is going to be hiding their agendas.” My father conveyed with a look towards me that I undoubtedly wasn’t the only one who witnessed.

“YOU think Adam, Chase, and I are playing a game?” Liam asked, the smirk across his face reminding me of a wild animal planning its attack.

“Not everyone is deceitful, Father.” I snapped, stepping between my father and the doorway with a nod at Liam. “Thank you for your support, Alpha’s. I would be very grateful if you wouldn’t mind leaving us alone, I have to talk to my father.”

“No problem, Chase will be outside. And for those who asked... if ANYONE is found to be plotting against Luna. I will hand them over to her mate for dessert!” He

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## Chapter 88. Remember Anything?

**added** with a wink at me before he left. I knew he was teasing, but still, the fact people feared my mate made me sad beyond belief. He hadn't done this; I knew it! Pushing my pain down, I allowed a smile to swipe across my lips at the way my father stiffened at the Alpha Liam's comment.

"Take these things off." My father growled, rattling the cuffs the second the doorway closed. Ignoring him, I moved to stand in front of my ex-boyfriend, the man I had spent years mistakenly in love with.

"That shit you put in the drinks.. how do I reverse it?" I asked bluntly.

"I don't know.." Grabbing his head with strength, I never would have thought I had, I slammed it down on the desk, mesmerised for a moment at the blood that exploded on the wooden top.

"That will leave a mark!" Sage grinned.

"Might as well do it again, then!" I replied, troubled by the pleasure I got from putting Mike in his place. I could feel the adrenaline rippling through us and knew it was coming from Sage.

"Not even you are stupid enough to spike the whole damn pack and those visiting unless you know what is in it! So let me jog your memory, Mike!" I smiled sweetly, my fingers that were entwined in his hair gripped tighter and forcefully. I slammed his smug face into the desk again. His grunt, as pain undoubtedly ripped his head apart, did not affect me. He could suffer as far as I was concerned. Pulling Mike's head up by his hair, I forced him to look at me; blood pooled from his nose and ran down his lip, coating his teeth and making him look disturbingly wild.

"Getting desperate, Daughter?" My father asked from where he remained, kneeling before me. Coughing my cheek to stop the rising anger, I glared at the man who bore me.

"Don't!" I warned with another brutal clash of Mike's face to the hardwood.

"You won't really hurt us. You love us! And we both know it!" My father laughed at me; his faith that the blood that bound us would protect him had me baffled.

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## Chapter 88. Remember Anything?

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“See, Father, that is where you are wrong..” I seethed, pushing Mike back in the chair. My hand gripped the letter opener on the desk before Mike had the chance to use it on me. “The men I love... Well, you see, they have suffered tonight at this man’s hands, and I suspect yours too! So make no mistake at the lengths I will go to to ensure that you both suffer their pain a million times over!” I smiled sweetly as I fingered the letter opener in my hand. My eyes locked on Mike, hearing him cough. up blood.

“Remember anything?” I asked sweetly, my face the picture of innocence.

“Fuck you!” Mike snarled, spitting his blood at my feet. Pursing my lips with a nod, I stepped to his side. My fingers ran up his neck and into his hair. His hand that remained closest to me moved to swat me off, and I chuckled, amused, as I slammed it down on the wooden armrest palm up. With Sage’s help, I impaled the letter opener in his palm.

“What did I tell you about touching me?” I asked as a piercing scream ripped from his throat. My father’s eyes shot to the head and in question, something dark flashing behind his eyes that I had never seen before.

“Fear! He is scared!” Sage laughed... “And honestly, Char... I am, too!” She teased with a purr of approval.

“Good... so he should be!”

“What the fuck!” Mike screamed as his free hand moved to pull the metal out; a sense of betrayal and rage washed over me as I watched him look at his hand like

all that mattered when the people I cared

that TINY inconvenience he suffered was for.. that he was meant to care for where suffering unexplainable loss.

“I think not!” I laughed, and honestly, I was not sure what happened, but I moved so quickly everything felt like a blur. I found myself on the other side of Mike, a pen in hand that I had gotten from the desk and, without a second thought, that was impaled in his other hand, keeping them steady and secured to the chair.

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記事を読む

Chapter 89: What **Drink?**

Lottle POV

I never claimed to be a great interrogator, but I would be damned if these two got the better of me. Every ounce of suffering I felt through my mate bond was because of one of these two, and they would be paying for that.

“In blood?!” Sage cackled, hopping from foot to foot inside my head, excited at the prospect of being allowed to play.

“If you like!” I replied calmly before turning my attention back to Mike, who was groaning like the coward he was.

“I won’t ask again!” I warned him. Slowly, his head lifted from his bloodied hands to my face; something had settled behind those eyes I once loved and felt safe with that made me feel good: Doubt! For the first time, he was apparently doubting the he had on me.

“I don’t..” He started to say, but I cut him off by pressing my finger into his shoulder wound caused by Knox.

“Charlotte!” My father screamed, and I shook my head, resolving myself to do what needed to be done.

“Help me out, Sage!” I expressed aloud, and to Mike’s utter surprise, my nail elongated into a claw. “Can’t say I didn’t warn you, Mike!” I laughed as I slid the nail into his injury, wiggling it around mercilessly; his screams filling the room were like fingernails on a chalkboard to my father. I could hear him scuffling behind me and knew in my gut that it wasn’t to help Mike.. but rather to make sure I didn’t push him too far and force him to cave, giving me the info I needed.

“FUCKING HELL CHARLOTTE!” My

father roared from where he had gotten

himself to his feet with the support of the desk. Turning my head to glare at him as I pushed my finger further into Mike, his cries booming around the hallway like a ballad of pain that was music to my bloody ears!

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Chapter 89 What Dunk?

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“Ok.. ok!” My father surrendered, backing off; as I turned back to look at Mike, I caught a glimpse of my reflection in the mirror on the opposite wall and saw the beauty that was Sage’s violet eyes.

“I got ya back!” She smiled at me. Nodding, I flicked my **second** finger, allowing that **nail to grow**, and with no warning whatsoever, I shoved that against Mike’s now cozing wound. The feeling of his flesh tearing under my touch did not bother me; what bothered me was not getting the information I needed.

“STOP!” Mike screamed just as the door flew open; the Alphas I had allowed. into the fold stood in the doorway, assessing the scene before us before they stepped into the room and closed the door behind them. Kindly offering me **SOME** privacy to conduct my business.

“And you thought she couldn’t handle herself!” Liam chuckled over his shoulder at Adam and Chase, who watched me cautiously, their lips pulled into a tight line- clearly disapproving of me getting my hands dirty.

“You know I would have done that for you!” Chase asked, stepping into the room. Mike’s eyes met mine, and I swallowed the lump in my throat.

“Final chance, Mike.” I asked through mindlink; unsurprisingly, I watched his eyes flick to my father behind me, waiting for a sign of some sort from him.

“Do you think he will save you?” I asked, shaking my head; my father’s growled, erupting into the room. “HE has no standing in this pack anymore.. he is a no-one now! The only person who can save you... is me! And I will... if you tell me what I want to know.”

“Don’t listen to her! Without her precious twins, she is nothing but a used-up whore that single-handedly destroyed this pack and got the Alpha killed.” My father spat out.

“Pardon?” I snorted, so angry I felt another nail poke into Mike, flashing him an apologetic look before I realised that the fucker deserved it and pushed it harder into him.

“Nothing wrong with whores!” Adam announced, into the sound of Mike.

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Chapter 89 What Drink?

screaming like a child. “Some of the most honest people I have ever met have been whores!”

“And he has met many!” Chase laughed, and I closed my eyes in frustration; they weren’t helping. Opening them, I realised they had approached, Liam on one side and Chase on the other, both looking at my makeshift restraint system.

“Not bad!” Chase grinned at me with a wink that had me rolling my eyes.

“I have..” Adam continued from over by my father. “And I can tell you.” He started to say before the sound of something smashing silenced Mike’s screams and cries. Turning, I watched as my father hurtled across the room into a filing system, papers and folders flying everywhere. I watched, enthralled, as Adam bent and grabbed my father’s chin and lifted it to stare at me. “And... SHE is not a whore.” My eyes widened slowly, and I met Adam’s stare, unsure what he was saying, that I wasn’t a whore or I wasn’t honest.

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## Chapter 90: Who Are You?

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Kane POV

“I told you I was more stocked than you, Pops!” I uttered as I walked out of the bathroom after slipping on a pair of my father’s sweatpants and a T-shirt

“He knew; he just liked to tease!” Rolo replied when my father did not. I sighed, feeling wrong for wearing a dead man’s clothes, and not just because they were too tight. I simply couldn’t bear to leave him alone and go to get my own... And I wasn’t exactly going to sit here in my birthday suit and wait for my Mother!

My eyes caught my parent’s large oak-carved bed that Father lay on peacefully. He had had it designed for my Mother on one of their anniversaries. If you looked at the beautiful carvings, you would see that the bed told the story of their union. Pulling my eyes from the craftsmanship to my father with a whimper at how peaceful he looked, it would have almost been like he was sleeping if he didn’t smell like rot already, and his body wasn’t rigid and stiff.

“Pops.. If you can hear me wherever you are, know how lucky I was to have you as my father!” I whispered pointlessly as I sat on the edge of the bed, my eyes filled

with tears.

“Do you remember that time you thought you had caught Knox stealing your fancy wine and tanned his ass for not owning up to it? You were so cross as you were saving it for your anniversary

y... Poor Knox couldn't sit for a week!" I went on with a smile as I recalled the memory like it was yesterday.

"It was never Knox; I want you to know that... It was Lilly and Charlotte... He took the blame to save the girls getting the spanking." I grinned to myself as the tears began to rain from my eyes. "I asked him after why he didn't tell you it was Lilly, and he said he refused to see the little princess you had turned Lilly into, tainted in your eyes. He knew how much she meant to you!" the lump in my throat swelled uncomfortably, forcing a sob from my lips.

"He loved you, Pa! I need you to know that!" I sighed, patting his cold hand;

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Chapter 90 Who Are You?

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turning to look at him, I eyed his clothing and shook my head in anger; they were saturated in blood, something I knew would break Ma if she saw it.

"I am sorry, Pa, but I have to change you. Ma.. I can't let her see you like this!" I whispered as I crossed the room and grabbed him a pair of sweats and a shirt. Undressing him was more complicated than I expected because his body was so stiff and uncooperative. But I managed; some of me wanted to burn the clothes, but the rational part knew better. Sealing them in one of his gym bags, I dropped it in the bottom drawer of his chest and looked back down at my father's bloodied body.

"Shit, you suffered!" I gasped, hating what I was seeing on my father's body, potentially at the hands of someone we knew! Blood covered most of him. Disappearing into the bathroom again, I came out with a washcloth and began to clean off the blood that had soaked into my father's skin. I expected to find deep cuts or lacerations, given the amount of blood, but I couldn't find a single wound on him; rocking back on my feet, I held my breath and wondered if my father's wolf had

started to heal him.

"Could you sense his wolf, Rolo? At any point tonight?" I asked, wearing a confused expression.

"No!" Rolo admitted sadly.



“Then why does he have no fatal injuries? Sebastian was badly torn apart... It makes no sense.” I whispered as I got him dressed as smoothly as possible and sat back down on the bed, my hands brushing through my father’s wiry hair, the same

shade as mine.

“What happened to you, Pops!” I asked as if he was going to answer me.

“You will need to ask your brother that!” My Mother hissed from the doorway, making me jump. Closing my eyes, I let out a breath, not liking the anger I felt

I

tucked into her tone, not so discreetly. Turning, I met her stare with a sigh.

“Ma, Knox didn’t..”

“Mean to kill your father?-

HIS father?” She asked, arching a brow as she approached, waving me off the bed. Her eyes were red-rimmed from crying; I hated

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Chapter 900 Who Are You?

seeing her like this. It was like she had aged in the last hour!

“Do this.” I corrected her with a truthfulness I hoped she believed.

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“Are you sure?” A voice asked from the doorway. A voice I hadn’t heard before, raising my eyes to meet the dark face of a stranger. Unbothered by my gaze, he stayed where he was, leaning up against the door frame in a hoodie and dark bottoms, not exactly fitting in with the night’s black tie theme.

“Who are you?” I asked, fighting to keep the anger from my voice and him intruding on such a private moment. And if Charlotte was right, people thought I

was working to do for us.

was dead... this fucker could ruin whatever sh

“He helped me to my room; he is ok, Kane.” My Mother complained as she slipped into my spot on the bed.

“Knox and I..

“I don’t want to see Knox.” she hissed; the way she spat my brother’s name like a poison had landed on her tongue had me wincing. This was so unlike my Mother.. she adored Knox, but she had to know on some level that things were not what they