

Chapter 101

“Anyway, he got his vengeance. When I returned, it was without Dior. I knew I wasn't going to be able to take him down without a plan, so I went back home. My son took over the Reaper Wolves while I went back into hiding. For some time anyway, that was short-lived because eventually, we got a tip off about the whereabouts of the rogue women who fled our pack when Alpha Ezra attacked us,” Lorelei says. I have no idea what she is talking about, but Sage seems to be keeping up with most of the story; her eyes fixed on Lorelei.

“They were split among three packs, and Alpha Jackson offered them back to us in exchange for our help, and when I heard he was going to war against the black Creek Alpha, of course I took him up on the offer.”

“Yet you lost that war too. This one will be no different, Lorelei, cut your losses and run!”

“You would say that because you were my breaking point. I could have walked away until you took him from me! He was all I had left!” she spits at Sage, then nods to the men with the TV. They plug it in.

Lorelei forces us to watch a video. As the screen illuminates, a scene unfolds that feels like a descent into my own personal hell. Yet, it's not mine, but Sage's. Only here she is younger, her innocence starkly evident even in her sleep. The camera shakes, capturing the abrupt awakening of her mother, who immediately slaps it away with a protective ferocity.

The camera clatters to the ground, only to be swiftly picked up by Satish. His voice, tinged with malice, cuts through the tension. “I think I want this one,” he says, his hand reaching out towards the sleeping Sage who

is chained to a tree. The scene is chaotic, the camera swaying as someone else takes over filming.

Sage's mother attacks Satish in a desperate attempt to protect her daughter. But another man intervened with a brutal kick, sending her crashing to the ground. "Do you remember Jason, Pablo, Katix and the others?" Lorelei asks Sage.

Sage lifts her gaze to Lorelei. "Barely. They really aren't worth remembering!" Sage sneers.

"Well, let's see if you remember this then, shall we?!" Lorelei asks.

The video continues to play and Sage wakes to this nightmare, her screams piercing the air as Satish clamps a hand over her mouth, muffling her cries.

Her mother thrashes beneath Jason's assault, each plea for her daughter's safety a knife to my heart as he hits her with a rock. Satish's words, "Don't you worry, we'll take good care of her!" are a grotesque promise as her mother's life ebbs away under Jason's relentless blows. Sage, young and vulnerable, endures unspeakable horrors. Each frame is a reminder of the cruelty she faced as well as a hollow echo of the twisted acts that were once my everyday existence.

Then Jason, with a sickening eagerness, turns his attention back to Sage. "Me first! I've waited so long to get a taste of her," he declares.

"Fine! But I get her ass!" Satish snaps, and I feel my stomach drop. Glancing at Lucas, he has his face tucked into his knees, hands over his ears, and I feel sickened that he is in the room watching what happened to his grandmother.

The camera lingers on the scene, and I'm forced to witness the unspeakable acts inflicted upon Sage. His depravity doesn't end with her; the man, Jason, returns to her mother's corpse, defiling her in death.

The horror of what I'm witnessing is overwhelming. I can feel bile rising in my throat, and the urge to look away, to escape this visual torment. But there's nowhere to hide from the cruelty being displayed on the screen.

Sage, next to me, watches with a face carved from stone. Her lack of reaction doesn't stem from indifference; it's a shield, a way to protect herself from the agony of reliving this trauma. It's her way of maintaining control in a situation where she had none.

Satish seems frustrated by Sage's reaction, as if her lack of visible pain diminishes his triumph at hurting her. But I see her strength, the resilience that has carried her through unspeakable horrors. In her silence, she denies Satish and his monsters their victory by reacting.

The footage ends, and Lorelei sneers at Sage. "Still think you're an innocent Sage?!"

Sage looks at Lorelei. "Yes, because I did nothing wrong. your son is a sick man!" Sage growls, lifting her head to glare at Satish beside her.

"Now that is where you're wrong. It's not Satish I am talking about," Lorelei taunts, grabbing Sage's face. Sage glares at her.

"You took from me the only piece of Dior I had left! Jason Dior Shivani was my son! And I know you and your mate killed him."

Sage's reply is defiant. "I see the apple doesn't fall far from the tree then! And that thing deserved so much more than death."

"No it doesn't. And you'll end up just like your mother! A dick in her ass and a smashed skull by the time I'm done with you!" Sage holds her gaze, refusing to look away.

"Do your worst. If your weak, pathetic son couldn't break me, you certainly won't."

Lorelei's gaze hardens, a mix of pain and rage. "Dominic got his vengeance. But now, it's my turn. And this," she gestures at us, "is just the beginning," Lorelei says, standing up and looking over her shoulder.

"Celeste created the Gemini Daggers, but I intend to create something far more sinister. A dagger is only a dagger, an object. Harmless unless used by some other God or Goddess. By the time I've finished with you both, I will have created not only a God, but a God Slayer," she smiles cunningly, her eyes flicking to her son. "The Octavians won't know what hit them when he is unleashed!"

Sage snickers, and Lorelei grips her hair, pulling her head back to stare directly into her cruel eyes. "You dare mock me while sitting in the chair you'll die in?!"

"Have you met Kaif?" Sage laughs. "Or Eziah? Or how about Katya?" "Make him a God? You're just putting a bigger target on his back!"

"Satish may not be a Reaper Wolf, but by the time I am done he will be immortal! His bite lethal, even to a God or Goddess." My brows furrow in confusion.

"Satish Sanguis Lupus. Not a werewolf but also not human, he has no wolf inside him, he is the wolf. The beast of man, or animal of man. Reaper Wolves, being apex predators, have intense hunting and predatory instincts. In Satish's case, these instincts are hyper-elevated, manifesting as an overwhelming desire or need to hunt and consume blood. This bloodlust is more about the primal urge to dominate and assert his superiority as a predator. The more he consumes, the faster he heals and the stronger he gets, that's where Lucas comes in. Born of a dark Gemini Demigoddess and an Octavian Demigod father? He's the perfect one to test how fatal his bite will be!" Lorelei laughs, and my heart beats faster at her words.

"Shock them!" she orders and the lights flicker when I hear the charge and my eyes go to the chords attached to me before I feel the agonizing jolt.

It's in that instance that finally Eziah mindlinks me. "We've got your location! We are on our way!" I can't answer as my body tenses and my teeth grind. My wolves howl in my head.

Lorelei laughs maniacally as I writhe and scream from the electrical shock, yet she moves toward Sage. "Oh, don't worry my dear," she taunts.

"I'm not going to kill you ... yet! I want you to suffer first. Just like my son did!" She walks over to me and leans down, her breath hot on my ear. "But unlike him, you won't have a quick death. Oh no, you'll beg for it before I'm finished with you!"

My body convulses again as another shock runs through me. I grit my teeth, trying to hold back the screams that threaten to escape. I can feel my strength draining away with each passing moment.

Suddenly, there's a loud crash coming from somewhere above us, the electricity cuts off, and I gasp for breath. "Go check what's going on!" Lorelei orders as a commotion upstairs grows louder. "Now!" she yells, and I hear men rush off.

"Again!" she orders, and I scream.

Chapter 102

With all my might, I pull against the restraints holding me down. My muscles strain, my bones aching. Lorelei watches with glee as I writhe in pain. She cackles, relishing in my agony as the next volt courses through me.

“Hold on Temperance, we are close,” Eziah tells me. I'm barely conscious, the remnants of electricity still dancing along my nerves. Lorelei hovers over some aged papers. Satish, however, begins questioning the source.

“It's not working, where did you even get that old thing,” Satish asks.

“Alpha Jackson provided it as part of a deal. It's incomplete since he was killed before he gave me the other page but mentions a sacrifice and drinking the blood of the Gemini's last breath. We need both wolves to come forward,” she says with an unsettling calm.

Satish approaches, lifting my chin with a cold grip. “Bring the other wolf forward!” he demands. I'm too weak to respond, my body battered from the relentless electrocution.

However, Shadow pushes through, and I feel my eyes bleed black. “Which one are you?” Satish interrogates.

“Shadow,” she growls defiantly.

Satish's frustration boils over. “The other one! I know she has two!” he shouts. When Shadow remains silent, he orders another shock. My body convulses, a puppet to their cruel whims.

“We are almost there! I'd port to you, but I need to know where to go!” Eziah urges, and I hear his whimper as the shock affects him too.

Then, in a terrifying turn, they bring out Casey, and my heart drops. Sage, bound beside me, screams in terror. Lucas, in his cage, bangs against the bars, his young face twisted in fear.

Vince, who had brought Casey in... a girl he raised as his own daughter, hesitates. "Maybe use the boy instead?" he suggests, a conflict evident in his eyes.

Satish pauses, eyeing Vince suspiciously. "You're not having second thoughts, are you?"

Vince's gaze flickers between Casey and Satish. "The boy... he'd... I've raised this girl like she's my own!" he stammers.

"You want to get back at Rose, right?!" Satish presses. Vince nods reluctantly.

"Then this is how you do that! Hook the girl up, because, like your brother took my son, so am I about to take his daughter! Or do you have a problem with that?!" Satish asks coldly.

Sage pleads desperately. "No! No, use me! Shock me!" Her voice breaks, the anguish clear.

I'm screaming internally, begging Shadow to come forward. Nova joins in the plea. The sight of Casey being strapped to the machine is unbearable as she thrashes, confused and terrified. Lucas's screams fill the basement, echoing our horror as he rattles the cage door.

"Eziah!" I scream through the mindlink. "They're going to kill Casey!" I whimper, tears flood down my cheeks, and Sage loses it, ripping at her restraints, and I yank on mine fiercely.

"Shadow please! Please!" I beg her. "She is a baby!" I plead, just as something shifts inside Shadow.

"I can't let her. We can't!" Shadow whimpers as they strap little Casey down.

"What?" I beg her when Casey screams and so does Sage. But it's Lucas's scream that sends the power out. The lights flicker before total darkness engulfs us. Lorelei screams to get the lights back on, only when they do

return, Casey is gone from the chair. “Where did she go?!” Lorelei snarls, looking around before spotting the cage empty, the door still shut.

“Did I forget to tell you Lucas can portal?” Sage cackles. “Oh silly me, must have slipped my mind!” she mocks. Lorelei, in a rage, storms toward her, but then the lights flicker again and the power goes out once more. Lorelei and Satish snarl, and I feel something brush my back, making me jump.

“I know you're in here, Lucas!” Satish speaks, and my eyes dart to the side. Sage's eyes glow back at me when the power comes back on, and I suck in breath when I notice Lucas untying Sage. But there's something very off about him. His skin is ghostly pale; his nose dribbles with blood.

“Hmm, it seems he has power yet is too weak to harness it!” Satish laughs just as Lucas sways on his feet. “He'll do for the sacrifice, put him in the chair!” Lucas collapses, and my breath comes in short pants as panic kicks in. We may have Casey out of here, but now Lucas is trapped.

They strap Lucas down, while I pull on my restraints, my heart racing frantically in my chest when I feel something odd. Both Shadow and Nova go quiet within me when it feels like they both step forward at once, but it's Shadow who speaks of that, I am sure. However, it is Nova's voice I hear. Only it has Shadow's sharp edges to it. I wonder if I'm just delirious from the electric shocks.

Just as they are about to shock Lucas though, Shadow surges forward, seizing control. “You always were a weak piece of shit Satish! To hurt a child?!” her voice vibrates out of me with a menacing edge.

Lorelei turns towards me, a twisted smile on her lips. “We did it! She's marvelous!” she utters, her hand cold on my face. “And so we meet the Shadow side,” Lorelei smiles, looking over at her son.

Shadow laughs, a sound that chills the air. “Do you know what a shadow is?!” she taunts.

Lorelei smirks. “She’s feisty. Now we just need to break them and get them to merge. Shock them, use everything we’ve got!” she orders eagerly.

Shadow’s laughter grows darker. “Shadows steal light. Light becomes darkness. And what comes next is blinding!” she threatens, her presence overpowering the room, yet I feel the nauseous feeling emanating from her.

“But you’re not just darkness, being a Gemini,” Lorelei retorts, undeterred by Shadow’s ominous warning.

The air crackles with tension. My wolf’s emergence has changed the game, but to what end? And what did Lorelei mean by making them merge? Fear and uncertainty grip me, even as I’m trapped within my own body, an observer to the battle before me.

“She means we all become one,” I gasp at Nova's words when Shadow answers next.

“A cataclysm,” Shadow growls, when suddenly an explosion goes off above ground, dust, and debris rain down.

“Now, Satish! They're here! They've found us!” Lorelei screams at her son, when another blast makes the entire place shake.

Chapter 103

Temperance

The world shakes violently as explosions rock the building from above, the ground beneath me quivering as if in fear. “They're here! They've found us!” Lorelei’s scream cuts through the chaos, her voice a promise of the war about to ensue.

Lorelei hits a button, and a jolt of electricity courses through me in unending waves, tearing screams from my throat. The world around me erupts into chaos – Ezra, Mateo, and Andrei burst through the door, their arrival a storm of fury and blood.

“Complete the ritual, Satish! We'll hold them off!” Lorelei yells over the cacophony. The battle rages, a maelstrom of violence and fury. I catch glimpses of the fight – Andrei's desperate attempts to revive Sage, his hands pressing rhythmically against her chest.

Sage gasps, her body lurching upright in a sudden resurgence of life, but my own heart feels like it's about to burst from my chest. The pain ebbs, my vision blurring into obscurity, yet the screams of battle continue to pierce my fading consciousness. My heartbeat drums in my ears, a frantic, uneven rhythm that seems to echo the surrounding chaos.

Amidst the turmoil, a torrent of memories floods my senses, overwhelming and relentless. I’m thrown back to my 18th birthday, a day marked by violation and despair. We were so excited to leave our cage, we thought Satish had a change of heart. But we were wrong!

There is nothing more vile than man, and I have endured the worst.

All of Satish's followers were utter trash, revolting. All night, they took turns between my legs, forcing themselves inside me while he watched with a depraved smile, taking pleasure in their sick pleasure and my pain.

Until it was his turn.

Every detail of our torment replays, so detailed I can feel the ropes that bound me to the table, the hands holding my legs apart. The stench of alcohol on their breaths. The raucous laughter and catcalling as they cheered each other on, their grunts and groans, and the wet slapping sounds of their thrusting.

Finally, when the last one was done ravaging me, it was Satish's turn. He took his time with me, enjoying every moment of my humiliation, until I was bruised and bleeding and scared out of my wits.

Satish was a monster, a kind of evil I hadn't known existed until that moment. I felt violated and broken, and was certain I would never again experience even a hint of joy. I was resigned to a lifetime of fear, pain and despair, convinced that my life would never be anything but a cruel and inescapable nightmare. Nova whimpers in my head, remembering it as our lives continue to flash before my eyes, even the memories taken from me.

I relive the harrowing moment of giving birth, only for my baby to be torn from my arms by Satish, his cruel laughter echoing in my ears. I see through Shadow's eyes, me walking in on our baby being sacrificed, her anguish tangible. She took upon herself the grim task of ensuring we never bore another child, biting into her own flesh to prevent further pregnancies. These recollections rip through me, tearing at the very fabric of my soul.

Then, a new pain – sharp, devastating – as teeth sink into my neck. My life force drains away, leaving me feeling weightless, detached. Eziah's scream rings out, filled with raw agony and despair. My vision darkens, not with unconsciousness, but with the looming figure of Satish, his face

a mask of triumph and cruelty. My blood coats his lips, and runs down his chest.

Nova and Shadow are silent now, their presence fading with each labored beat of my heart. As the darkness envelops me, I'm lost in a sea of fractured memories – the traumas endured by my wolves, their sacrifices, their pain and my own.

“This is why we couldn't merge,” Shadow’s voice is a whimper in my head, laden with resignation. “We have nothing good to balance out the bad.” Acceptance of our end fills her tone.

In the midst of the chaos, my world narrows down to the agony coursing through my veins, the electricity tearing through every nerve. Lorelei's twisted delight in my pain is a distant echo as my mind spirals into despair.

“Shadow? Nova?” I plead, feeling the mate bond with Eziah fray and snap. The loss is a physical ache, a void where warmth once resided. “I don't want to die!” I whisper, my voice barely audible over the sound of fighting.

“No Temperance, it's time to let go!” Nova's voice is a fading whisper in my consciousness, resigned to the end.

“There is nothing left to fight for!” Shadow agrees, her tone heavy with centuries of pain.

But then, piercing through the fog of my despair, Eziah's anguished cry reaches me, igniting a spark within the depths of my soul.

“He is!” I gasp, realization dawning on me. Eziah is my reason to fight! My beacon in the darkness.

“You may not have anyone worth fighting for! But I...I have him!” I declare, pushing back against the encroaching darkness with newfound determination.

As Shadow and Nova's tormented memories flood through me, I latch onto the one source of light in my life – Eziah. His presence, luminous as it outshines the shadows.

“You asked what a shadow is?!” I growl, my voice a blend of Shadow’s darkness and Nova’s dim light.

“The darkness that destroys light,” Shadow echoes within me, her voice a ghostly whisper.

“And what of Nova?!” I ask Shadow.

“Nova means light, but we have none,” Nova admits, her voice faint.

“Wrong!” I counter, my voice a defiant roar. “You see only shadows, but I've seen light! I won't let you take him from me!!” I scream when my existence breaks.

Chapter 104

Eziah

The moment we reach the old mine, we step into a war zone. Uncle Andrei is being attacked from every direction, his entire body drenched in blood with Reaper Wolves spilling out from everywhere when the mindlink opens up. His voice flitting through all our heads.

“They can't step into the mine! It is man made!” he growls, and it takes me a second to see what he means when I see the ominous eyes within the tree line. Andrei is trying to get them close enough to the forest for the were-bears to help, only now he is cornered and outnumbered. Kyan and Dominic step out of a portal next to me, my mother coming out of another.

Four mines we ended up searching before finding this one, unable to get the exact coordinates from Uncle Andrei because he's been distracted. Dominic growls and immediately starts running toward Andrei to help.

“Fuck sake! Send her back, Kyan!” I hear Casen snarl, turning to see Casen step through with the open portal, with Rose forcing herself through.

“My daughter is in there!” Rose says.

Casen grabs Rose's face in his hands. “I know, but you're wasting time. I'll get her back!” Casen kisses her, shoving her through, and Kyan is quick to close it. Peering around, I try to figure out which warehouse. I've tried reaching Temperance but have been unable to, yet I feel she is alive.

“We need to get the were-bears down here,” Kyan mumbles beside me before rushing off as more and more come out from everywhere and nowhere. There are hundreds. “Find the bunker! We'll get there as soon as possible!” Kyan yells out over his shoulder.

I turn to Casen, “You check that one with my father. I will go to this one,” I point out when suddenly an explosion goes off, tossing us back. The wind is knocked out of me and I sit up to find the gas bottles up the side exploded, Reaper Wolves are on fire, screaming as they run blindly directly into the path of the were-bears. “Kyan, we need them down here!” his father yells out over the chaos.

“Fucking working on it!” Kyan snarls, and his clothes shred as Kaif comes forward. Jumping to my feet, I run for the first warehouse, but the entry is immediately blocked, and I spot them coming out of elevators and stairwells when suddenly the ground starts shaking. They all stop momentarily, peering past me uncertain. I cast a glance over my shoulder to see Kaif when I realize what he is doing. The were-bears can't come down here because it's no longer a forest. Yet as black ghostly trees start sprouting from the ground, I figure out what he's doing. He's creating a forest for them.

My mother, noticing him, drops to the ground, her hands digging into the earth while my father Mateo and my uncle shield her as she starts bleeding her magic into the earth, giving it life. Trees and plants emerge from the ground, and the place shakes like an earthquake. I'm momentarily mesmerized, transfixed by the beauty amid the chaos when suddenly, I'm tackled.

Wolves tear into me, and Malachi shifts, his teeth tearing through them as he fights back when they start getting ripped off me. I find Maddox in my father's form, flinging them off like they're merely children.

“Go! I will be right behind you!” Maddox orders, and I take off for the stairs, leaving my father to hold them back while I slip into the stairwell, only the moment it opens I am ambushed by more.

“Fuck!” I curse, knowing Temperance is only a few stairwells away from me.

“Hold on! I'm almost to you!” I mindlink Temperance, but I get no response from her. Am I too late? Panic rises in me as I shift, barreling into them. I plunge forward until I see Andrei come down the stairs followed by my father.

“What's going on upstairs?!” I yell through the mindlink.

“Kyan and Dominic are handling it. The were-bears will take over the moment they're close enough!” my father yells as he tosses another into the wall. Suddenly, screams come through the mindlink. It's Temperance. I hear screams coming from the door blocked by the other wolves. *Shit*, I think as desperation fills me.

As we breach the chaotic scene, my gaze immediately falls on Sage, collapsed in her chair. Andrei, bloodied and determined, rushes to her side, starting CPR in a frantic bid to revive her.

My father barrels into the room and immediately starts attacking. My eyes scan looking for Temperance only for my father, Mateo, to shove past me, his face a mask of concern, scoops up Lucas, but it's Temperance who draws my focus, her body convulsing under the relentless assault of electricity. She writhes against the floor, her naked body writhing from the electrical charge.

Her body arches and jerks as she screams and the skin on her arms split open. Thick, dark smoke drifts from her skin where the electricity has done its damage. Her hair is a frazzled mess, white and charred, her eyes a clouded milky white as they roll in her head.

My chest tightens with a combination of fear and rage when I shift causing wolves to scatter. “Where is Casey?!” Andrei screams through the mindlink.

“Does anyone see Casey?!” he urges as he pumps Sage's chest, her body limp on the cold hard ground as we fight to push the Reaper Wolves back for him. I try desperately to reach Temperance, who is still convulsing in

the chair. Temperance's body stops and the lights flicker oddly, glancing over her body arches like a bow. I can see the jolt of the electricity course through her body as it leaves her limp in the chair.

The room erupts into a maelstrom of violence. Reaper Wolves launch themselves at us, fangs bared and claws extended. But nothing prepares me for the transformation of Satish and my scream echoes throughout the room, feeling the agony of his bite when he sinks his teeth into her.

Chapter 105

Eziah

Satish is on top of her, his body covering hers, his eyes are glowing red, his jaw distorts as his fangs grow, and his fingers lengthen into claws. He morphs into a monstrous, hairless wolf, his skin etched with black and blue veins and eyes glowing blood-red. A creature that nightmares are truly made of, he towers over us, muscles rippling with unnatural strength.

In my shock at our shattered mate bond, I clutch my chest, gasping for breath as I feel the bond severing, and I'm frozen momentarily in agony. Maddox leaps at Satish, but he's swatted away like a mere nuisance. I blast Satish with light, and he recoils, screaming and clutching at his eyes, blinded by the intensity. But it's a temporary setback for him.

Andrei is still at Sage's side, working tirelessly. His determination echoes my growing desperation. But as I try to reach Temperance, another wolf barrels into me, knocking me off course. Maddox reengages Satish, but it's a losing battle. An explosion rocks the building, my mother's scream piercing the air from above, where she's aiding the were-bears against the Reaper Wolves.

Then, the unthinkable happens. Satish sinks his teeth into Maddox, who stumbles back, black poison snakes under his skin. My mother's wail is a sound of pure agony above, and I struggle to breathe as he collapses to the ground.

My father, Mateo, rushes back in, clutching his chest, collapsing before my eyes. My father is gone. Rage and grief battle within me as I give control to Malachi. We throw ourselves at Satish, but he's a force of nature, unstoppable in his fury.

I growl, giving Malachi control, and they battle with teeth and claws, just as Satish is getting the better of me Casen tears into the place, his wolf Zyan tackling Satish, but he too is overpowered. Dominic, entering the chaos, yells, “Get your mate out!” But I'm rooted to the spot, watching Temperance, still slumped, lifeless.

I glance over my shoulder to see Dominic shoving my mother toward my fathers. Temperance lays slumped unconscious in the chair next to Lorelei, who is hiding behind Satish's huge monstrous form.

Zyan stalks around the side of Satish but is kicked. Shadows suddenly erupt from Dominic. “Your shadows are no good against me!” Satish laughs.

“They aren't for you. They're for her!” Dominic snarls before muttering something in a foreign tongue and tossing them at Lorelei. She screams, barely getting out of the way.

Satish lunges at me. Casen and I get rag-dolled as we try to avoid his bite. As we are thrown to the right, I see part of the roof caving in out of the corner of my eye. My heart nearly stops.

“Zyan, get out of here! Take Temperance with you!” I tell him just as the roof next to Casen crashes to the ground. Zyan whimpers, his back legs being crushed and I try to race to get to him and Temperance when a hand locks around Malachi's tail, flinging us against the wall.

Satish stalks toward us, and my breath lodges in my throat as his claws reach toward my face. A loud clap rings out, the remaining lights flicker, and a body narrowly misses Satish as it is tossed over the side of the staircase. Satish looks at the stairs and I follow his gaze to the stairs where Kaif, in his immense Lycan form, descends. Satish's smile is chilling, a sign of the battle yet to come.

Kaif descends the staircase, his presence is godlike, exuding raw, untamed power. His eyes lock onto Satish, the monstrous, hairless wolf with veins

of black and blue pulsing under his skin. A sinister smile creeps across Satish's face, but I notice something else. Something off; a flicker of uncertainty in his blood-red eyes.

“Ah, Satish,” Kaif's voice booms, echoing through the shattered halls, filled with a dark promise. “I was hoping you'd be more... impressive.”

Satish snarls, his muscles coiling in preparation for the inevitable clash. The air around us crackles with impending violence, a storm about to break.

“You think you can take me on? Let's see if you live up to your legend,” Satish spits, his voice a guttural growl.

Kaif chuckles, a sound that sends shivers down my spine. “A legend? Perhaps. But legends have a way of becoming nightmares. And I'm about to become yours!”

Their collision is cataclysmic, a clash of titans from another world. Satish lunges with unnatural speed, but Kaif counters with a grace that belies his size. They're evenly matched, two monsters battling in a windstorm of fury, claws, and fangs.

Around us, the battle rages on. The room is a vortex of violence, but all eyes are drawn to the epic confrontation at its center. Satish's strikes are lethal, but Kaif parries each attack with a predator's precision. His laughter rings out amidst the chaos, a sound both terrifying and exhilarating.

“You're strong, Satish, I'll give you that. But strength isn't everything. It's how you use it,” Kaif taunts, his voice dripping with contempt.

With each exchange, Kaif's dominance becomes more apparent. He's toying with Satish, drawing out the fight, savoring the challenge. Satish, for all his monstrous power, begins to falter under the relentless assault.

“Is this all you have? I expected more from a creature of your...making!” Kaif sneers, his fangs bared in a wicked grin.

Satish roars in frustration, his attacks becoming more desperate. But Kaif's movements are like ghosts, his every move meticulous and calculated. The sound of their fight is the sound of destruction.

Blood spills, painting the ground in a gruesome tapestry. Satish's form is marred with wounds, his once intimidating presence now diminished. Kaif, unscathed and unfazed, stands over him, the embodiment of a vengeful God, making me wonder what he'd have been like in his prime.

Turning from the destruction, I move toward Temperance. I finally reach her, pulling her from the chair just as the roof caves in. The compound turns black with the dust and debris, obscuring my vision entirely. I choke, coughing and spluttering as I drag her limp body toward the stairs.