

Taming Her Beastly Mate Chapter 46

Chapter 46 Lost Lights

The wind blew in from the window, making his white strands of hair toss around freely. He stared out a window from a stone castle in the middle of the sea. Erebus turned his head as he heard the sound of someone approaching.

“My lord are you unwell?” A raspy voice asked cautiously. He noticed how Erebus leaned against the stone wall in an unusual manner.

“I’m fine. What news do you bring me?” Erebus turned back around to look outside staring off at the waves in the distance.

“We can’t confirm much. But we do know Aken was there with her as you already suspected.” The voice stopped talking as Erebus turned to glare at him.

“What about the dragon?!” Erebus growled in agitation.

“I’m sorry my lord. We can’t confirm anything there as well. But there was a rumor that they didn’t share a room last night. We heard a maid whispering that they were on different floors. The dragons suspected it was because of the woman’s father though.”

Erebus snorted angrily. “It was because she was spending the night with someone else. I warned her. I guess she doesn’t mind my face that much—” He narrowed his eyes as he looked back at the man. “Keep doing your job. Notify me when you have any new information.”

“Yes, my lord. It is easier for us now that the dragons have all gathered for their party. We can move about easier since there are so many new faces.”

“I didn’t ask if it was easier, did I? I don’t care. Just watch her. I want to know her everything no matter how insignificant you may think it is!” Erebus snarled as the raspy voice man flinched.

“Yes, my lord.” The man quickly bowed and backed away leaving the room.

Erebus turned and looked at himself in the mirror. His brows furrowed as his jaw tensed. “What to do... what to do?” He muttered to himself. Alexis had depleted his powers in the attack she did on him. A very rare skill to be able to

drain a god's power. It was coming back finally though he wasn't at full strength yet.

"Aken..." Erebus hissed out and clenched his fists together. His knuckles turned white as his hands began to tremble. He pounded his fist against the wall as he seethed. "You need to suffer. You can't have her. Yes, I'll make sure he suffers." A cruel smile spread over his lips. "I need him out of the way. When he is gone, I can claim my treasure." He reached out and lifted a crystal glass in his hand. He twirled it in his fingers allowing it to catch the light. Then he dropped it. The crystal shattered, little pieces of it scattering across the stone floor.

Erebus reached down and grabbed one of the sharp crystal shards. The jagged edge pierced his skin and soon dark crimson liquid trickled from the opening. He moved his fingers as the liquid smeared and dripped over his skin. His lips curled up as he continued to play with the sticky liquid.

"Ah well, a casualty of war."

Erebus teleported and stared above an area with menacing eyes. At first, he was met with some resistance as he tried to get through the invisible barrier. But he was a tier one deity and not a demon yet. And this barrier was created to keep demons out... not him. Erebus took a deep breath to refocus and this time teleported through the barrier, infiltrating the area.

Erebus walked casually up the path leading to the castle in the center. His hair was neatly pulled back and he walked with one hand in his pocket as he whistled. He carelessly walked as if he was on an afternoon stroll. When he reached the castle, he heard people talking to the side.

They were laughing and carrying on seemingly oblivious to his presence. But he had his energy suppressed so this wasn't shocking. He heard the words, "Your majesty." And his eye twitched as a sinister smile pulled over his face. He turned and walked around to the side patio of the castle where he noticed a small group of people sitting together. As he approached, a large man quickly stood to his feet and stared him down.

"I don't believe I know you." The man said as he stared at the white-haired man.

"Oh, you don't. And you don't really need to either." Erebus looked the man up and down he then arched a brow at him. He could feel the light energy that

emitted from him and the stench of wolf. “The fairy king I presume?” He watched the man nod and then he looked to his side at a woman who stood. It was clear the man was trying to warn the woman to stay back. Erebus lifted his hand and swirled it casually. “Don’t worry. I am not going to hurt her. I’m just here to kill you. Nothing against you or your kind. But I need you dead. It’s the only way to send the Kraken back to the ocean. Sorry about all this. No hard feelings.”

Erebus chuckled and grew a dark electric ball in his hand. Black lightning spun in his hand as he took in a breath through his teeth. A dark aura surged around him as he fixated on the fairy king.

“Don’t you even think about it!” Another tall man said as he ran protectively in front of the king.

“A guardian? I have no qualms with you. But if you wish to die as well...” Erebus shrugged and smirked making the electric ball larger. With a sinister chuckle, he launched the energy ball at the two of them. A bright light shot out as the woman jumped in front of the ball.

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She held out her hands as she prepared for what was to come. There was nothing they could do. She knew this from the start. She already knew how it was all going to end but she stayed anyways. Because if Erebus didn’t attack them, he would have gone after Wyatt next. Her place was with her mate... even in death. She felt strong hands hand on her shoulders as she began to tremble from the strain.

Even with the power of the Fairy Queen and her guardian they were no match for Erebus. There was a clear difference when it came to fighting against a deity.

She tilted her head to the side to look into the eyes of her mate. She was apologizing to him with her eyes. Yet his arms slid around her waist as he kissed her cheek.

“We are fulfilling our destiny. I have no regrets.” The man squeezed her tightly as his mate completed her preparations. This was their mortal end. But their energy would live on.

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Erebus scoffed. They were just delaying the inevitable. They were no more of a bother than a fly. A pest but nothing more. The strange light was odd because it was holding off his attack but not striking back.

The bright brilliant glow swirled rapidly and then suddenly vanished. Allowing the dark storm to consume them.

The evil energy engulfed the three bodies. Within moments it was all over, and three figures lay lifelessly on the ground.

“Ah well... casualties of war.” Erebus shrugged off the extra loss of life like it was nothing. Suddenly the area around him began to tremble angrily. A yellow film covered over Elysium that forcefully repelled him out. Curious, he tried to move towards the barrier, but it lashed out at him viciously.

“A little too late to up your defenses now. Idiotic fairies.” Erebus laughed and vanished with black smoke enveloping his body.

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Brian was practically sulking as they sat in the lounge. They dropped Bella off with Grandpa Sage an hour ago and he was acting like he was in pure agony. Alexis couldn't feel sympathy for him. At least his mate was in the same building. Hers was somewhere in the demon realm where she couldn't reach him. If anyone should be sulking it should be her. Alexis looked up and saw her mother walking with her Uncle Cody and Aunt Kelsie.

“Mom!” Alexis hopped out of her seat to go to her. It wasn't often when her parents weren't together, and she was curious about where her father was. “Where is dad?”

“He is out searching for someone who should have the answers he is looking for.” Rhea glanced up as Micah and Brian joined them standing next to Alexis. “When did Aken leave?”

“This morning,” Alexis said flatly.

“It is babysitting time again for us guardians.” Cody chuckled and Micah snorted.

“This is nothing new for me. You usually get it easy with Levi barely leaving her side.” Micah watched as Cody shrugged his shoulders.

“I deserve to have it easier now. You have no idea how rough this one was when she was younger. We are actually lucky Micah. For our fairies to have such strong mates. Because of this, we get more time to relax. Once everything is settled with Erebus you are going to have a lot of free time on your hands. You may want to pick up a hobby or a woman.” Cody watched as Micah looked away unamused. Cody laughed and shook his head. “Hey, I know how you feel. I never planned on taking a mate either. It just happened. You don’t have to force anything, but don’t block the chance from happening either.”

“I understand. I’ve already had this conversation with Alexis. I appreciate it. Like I told her right now it isn’t even a thought. I just want Alexis safe. That is my only concern.” Micah looked over at Alexis in time to see her roll her eyes. He smiled and winked at her.

Suddenly Rhea and Alexis simultaneously collapsed onto the ground. Cody and Kelsie went to Rhea and Micah grabbed onto Alexis’ shoulders. He held her protectively into his chest.

“What is going on?” Brian asked seeing the wave of pain and disbelief wash over all of their faces.

“No... please no... NOOOOOOOO!” Rhea screamed as she grabbed her head. “I can’t.”

Levi appeared instantly feeling the distress of his mate. He knelt down, throwing his arms around her. And then turned to look at Alexis. She had her head buried in Micah’s chest and was quietly sobbing.

Alexis’ chest was heaving heavily. Three strong lights had vanished from the fairy world. She began to tremble slightly as a soft sound began to lull in through the open window. Soft tranquil voices hummed on the breeze as they mourned the loss of the fairy royalty and guardian. Their songs offered their condolences and captured their own pain. Her eyes burned with the hot liquid streaming out.

“I can’t believe they’re gone.” Cody sniffed as he embraced Kelsie into his arms. All fairies and guardians were able to feel the tragic loss.

Levi stroked Rhea’s hair as he held her close. She wasn’t saying a word but was quietly crying. There was no need for words right now. The agony they

were all feeling was evident. He could hear the fairies singing their mournful song and knew there was a great loss.

Their lights hadn't faded... they were gone. Alexis wouldn't see them nor feel their warmth ever again. It was all because of her. Alexis could feel her tears soaking Micah's shirt as she softly sobbed into his chest. "This is all my fault." Her inside squeezed as the raw pain washed over her.

"Shh, Lex. This isn't your fault." Micah crooned to her as wetness reached the corners of his reddened eyes.

Such a pity. This is all your fault. They are dead because of you. You made me do this to curse Aken back where he belongs. Such a pity... you only have yourself to blame.

The cruel voice sliced into Alexis' mind with a force that incinerated her head. The pain was indescribable as she grabbed her head and screamed loudly. Her raw emotions surged out as her vengeful anger took hold.

A bright glow surrounded her as Micah gripped onto her tightly. Red drops trickled from her eyes as her magic tried to reject the glass.

"No! She will hurt herself! You have to do it now Bella." Grandpa Sage yelled as the bright glow exploded sending everyone to the floor.

Micah lifted his head as his own crimson liquid trickled down his face. His eyes immediately searched for Alexis.

"LEX!"

Note:

Hugs. I'm sorry. This has to happen for the story progression. We are in for a few difficult chapters.

Taming Her Beastly Mate Chapter 47

Chapter 47 Xi

The room was quiet as everyone stared at Alexis. She was standing up as a dark energy emitted from her body. She reached her hand up to wipe away

the blood that had fallen from her eyes smearing the red liquid across her face. She looked down at her hand staring at the traces of her blood.

“Lex,” Micah whispered out and took a step in her direction. He watched as she turned her gaze towards him. Behind her blue eyes was a red hue that emitted in and out. Her warm white light was no longer shining. Instead, there was a suffocating darkness swirling over her.

“Alexis!” Rhea cried out, standing to her feet. “Oh, my poor baby. What did he do to you?”

A cruel smile spread over Alexis’ face as she shifted her body in her mother’s direction. “Do to me? Who can do something to me? I just accepted the truth.” She shrugged her shoulders. “And that is that the light only exists to emphasize the dark.”

Rhea went to step towards her daughter, but Levi grabbed her shoulder holding her firmly in place. “No Rhea—don’t. That is demonic energy. Lex, this isn’t you. Let us help you.”

“Help me?” Alexis chuckled and then sneered at her father. “You want to hold me back. You both have always wanted to hold me back. Well... I’m not being chained up anymore. By the way, it’s Xi now not Alexis... that person is dead.”

“No, she isn’t.” Rhea said calmly with a faint smile on her face. “Your light shines right here.” She tapped on her chest. “You just need to find your way back. We can help you.”

Rhea reached out sending a warm gentle light towards her daughter. Alexis glared at her mother with contempt in her eyes.

“That will not work on me. It’s unwanted.” Alexis sent a dark pulsating light towards her mother in retaliation.

Levi lifted up his hand sending the energy back towards his daughter. The energy collided with Alexis sending her to the floor.

“What are you doing?!” Micah growled as he lifted his dark gaze to Levi.

“Micah, it is the only way. We need to weaken her so we can handle her. She is my baby. I don’t want to hurt her.” Levi’s eyes watered as he looked at his daughter staggering to her feet.

“You won’t hurt her,” Micah said calmly. “Because I won’t allow it.” He took a protective stance in front of Alexis. He turned his head to look at his princess. “It’s still you and me, right?” He gave her a half-smile to which she returned. “I’ll be your dark knight.” He winked at her and was happy to hear her soft laugh. She was still his Lex. And he would protect her and stay by her side no matter what.

“Wait. I can help you.” Bella said quietly as she stepped forward.

“I don’t want your help nor do I need it,” Alexis said firmly snapping her cold gaze towards Bella. She watched as Brian put his arm around her protectively. An action that didn’t go unnoticed by Alexis. “Don’t you trust me anymore Brian? I change my energy and suddenly I’m your enemy?”

“It isn’t like that Lex...” Brian watched her arch her brow up at him and he coughed out the name, “Xi... But this isn’t you. You would never attack your mother.”

“She was attacking me first!” Alexis shouted out in a wounded tone. “Oh, so it was okay for her to send her light magic to me? But the moment I defend myself I am the evil one?” She scoffed and scanned over everyone with the hatred that was consuming her. “I see. So, in all of your eyes, this version of me is unwanted.” She paused for a moment listening to their silence. She bit her bottom lip angrily as she clicked her tongue. “Fine. Then I guess this is how it is. Some great family I have.”

“Don’t give in to the poison. Please, Lex, this isn’t who you are.” Rhea pleaded as she prepared to reach her daughter again. She would try to smother the dark with her light. The problem is that there was still no guarantee. And that Alexis no longer trusted her.

“Xi, I don’t care who you are. I’m with you no matter what.” Micah turned to face Alexis and watched her nod her head.

Alexis walked up to Micah and wrapped her arms around his torso. He wrapped his arms back around her holding her protectively in his embrace.

“Always us.” Alexis smiled up at him genuinely. Then she scoffed looking out at everyone else. “If this is how you want it then we will be enemies from here on out. I am not a light fairy anymore. I am a dark fairy, remember that.” Black smoke surrounded her and Micah and then a moment later they were both gone.

“Damn it!” Levi roared he squeezed his eyes shut as his whole body trembled angrily. “Aken warned me that there was more to the Nembrant glass before he left. He said we needed to remove it immediately. What the hell did Erebus do to her?!”

“We can get her back, right? We can fix this.” Rhea cried and watched as Levi’s jaw clenched. “No. We can’t lose her. I’m going to Elysium. Everything is a mess right now. I need to speak with my parents.”

“Your parents?” Levi asked looking at her in confusion. “I thought...”

Rhea shook her head. “It wasn’t my parent’s light that went out. It was my grandparents, Alice and Ethan. And Alice’s guardian that were killed.” She squeezed her fingers together tightly. “It’s so much...” She whispered out and felt Levi’s arms wrap around her. She would miss them but she needed to pull herself together to focus on Alexis right at this moment.

“Let’s go to Elysium.” Levi shot his gaze over to the Great Sage. “See if you can find out any information. Brian, let your father know what is going on. But keep everything quiet. We need to keep this news between us.”

“Do you suspect a spy is here?” Cody suddenly asked feeling alarmed.

“Yes, the walls have ears. We need to keep all of this as quiet as possible. Most likely that fool thinks he killed Tyler. He will think Aken is gone. And we will need Aken now more than ever. As a soul mate he can reach a part of Alexis that we can not reach.” Levi sighed as he clenched his jaw angrily. That damn Erebus would pay for all of this.

“But Aken didn’t mark Alexis yet,” Kelsie whispered out. “Will it be enough?”

“It has to be.” Rhea shook her head. “We will reach Alexis no matter what. I won’t lose her...”

“Maybe I can try to take the glass out now?” Bella felt Brian’s arm tighten on her protectively.

“No. It is too dangerous to attempt now. We need to have her with us so Brian can keep her warm.” Levi looked at Rhea who was trying to put on a brave face.

“Let’s go. We need to get to my parents!” Rhea nodded her head. One step at a time. Right now, they needed to head to Elysium.

“Brian, after you talk to your father. Could you please wait upstairs in case Aken shows up before we get back? Tell him what happened and for him to meet us in Elysium.” Levi watched as Brian nodded his head. He could see the worry in Brian’s eyes. “Don’t worry son. We are going to get her back. No matter what the cost. Fairy magic is strong.” He nodded his head to Brian as Rhea opened up a portal.

Cody and Kelsie stepped through first. Then Levi and Rhea walked through together. They had just had a traumatic loss that continued to compound on top of them. But it wasn’t over. Now was the time to fight.

Rhea stepped out of the portal that led them to the inner lower citadel of the castle. She knew that this is where her parents would be. She wasn’t entirely shocked though to see her brother, Wyatt with his mate Freya there. As well as Jason and his mate Jin. Her mother Lilly had wet red swollen eyes as her father Tyler held her tightly. In her hand was a glowing letter that she hung onto tightly.

Lilly’s head turned to catch Rhea’s eyes and instantly she turned to her daughter.

“What is wrong?” Lilly asked and stepped out with her arms open for her daughter.

In that moment, Rhea was a child again and she stepped into her mother’s arms. She buried her head into her shoulder and quietly sobbed. “It’s Alexis. She’s gone dark on us. That glass did something to her. She left us.”

Lilly hugged her daughter tightly while Tyler patted Rhea’s head. Jason and Cody found their way together near their Uncle Tristan.

“What happened here?” Cody asked quietly.

“Alice already knew that Erebus was going to come looking for Tyler. She wrote everything down in a letter and sealed it down here for when the event happened. She said this was the choice they made in order to strengthen Elysium. They have joined with the living barrier of Elysium. Erebus will no longer be able to enter here. The three of them all decided on this choice. In order to protect us all.” Tristan said in a solemn tone. “We sent word out to

your Uncle Aaron. Wyatt, make sure you visit him after you return..." He then glanced around. "Where is Micah?"

"He went with Alexis," Cody said quietly.

"Good. He will keep Alexis safe." Lilly sighed and nodded her head. "Rhea..." She looked into her daughter's damp eyes. "It will be okay. We won't lose Alexis."

"We don't even know where she went. She teleported using demon magic. Lee couldn't trace it." Rhea whispered out.

"Her soul mate can find her." Lilly looked up at Tyler. "I was able to go to Tyler when he was missing."

"They haven't marked each other. And Derek wasn't able to find Lucy..." Rhea straightened up and felt Lee's warm hand on her shoulder. He gently brought her back into his arms so that they could comfort each other.

"That is different, Rhea. A deity was keeping Lucy hidden. As long as Alexis doesn't go to such lengths Aken will be able to find her. We will put our faith in him to reach her." Lilly took in a deep breath as she folded the letter her mother had written her.

"What if he can't reach her?" Rhea asked meeting with her mother's eyes.

"Then we will have to seal her away. As the strongest fairy princess to ever exist it will take the combined strength of you and I and most likely Lucy in order to do it. We can seal her and purify her with time." Lilly watched Rhea's worried eyes look up at Levi.

"Are we strong enough to seal Alexis?" Rhea leaned into Lee's chest as she gathered her courage to move forward. The loss of her grandparents was a terrible blow. But losing Alexis... she could barely stand from this shock.

"If Aken fails there won't be another choice. We have to be strong enough." Lilly felt Tyler's hand curl around her stomach. His head leaned into hers.

"At this moment we have to wait for Aken. For now, we will give Alice, Ethan, and Dylan a proper send-off. One that they all deserve." Tyler rubbed Lilly's side and pulled her into him.

From the upper level of the castle, they all stood on the balcony as the sky dimmed. Fireflies began to light up the sky as the fairy's song rose to greet the night. During their sorrowful song the barrier around Elysium responded. Yellow streaks zig-zagged over them emitted a familiar energy and light they all recognized.

A faint smile reached Lilly's lips as she leaned into Tyler. Their energy had changed form, but it was them. Her parents and Dylan were now constantly guarding and protecting them. They were still here... part of the living barrier that protected Elysium.

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My beautiful daughter. Sometimes it is a blessing to know the future even if you don't avoid it. If you are reading this it is because the future finally arrived. Know this... we are not dead. Your father, Dylan, and I sent ourselves into the barrier the moment before we died. Our bodies remained only as a shell to fool Erebus.

I had several premonitions about this day. Showing the different possibilities and outcomes. Selene visited me and Endymion offered to protect us. Since the fairies belong to him. However, with every change the casualties were different. And with the growing future threat Elysium needs a stronger barrier.

Elysium is now safe from Erebus. He will not be able to get to our family behind the barrier. You must bring them all here. Until Erebus is destroyed this is the safest place for them. Selene will send Rogio to protect the Vampire kingdom and Lycaon will watch over the Diamond pack.

Your father and I already decided a long time ago that we would enter the barrier. This just presented the right opportunity for us. And of course, Dylan wouldn't be left out. Don't cry for us. This way we will never leave you.

We could have fought this and changed the future. But this is the destiny we chose to embrace. We love you and will always be here watching over you. Feel our energy that swarms around you and smile.

Until we meet again.

Note:

Xi is pronounced Ksi

Taming Her Beastly Mate Chapter 48

Chapter 48 Alexis is Dead

High pitch screams echoed in the dark forest. Closer. Closer. Closer. The cries moved closer as they wailed in the wind.

Micah turned and stared in the direction where the sound was coming. He didn't move or flinch as he braced himself for the approaching evil. Alexis chuckled and walked next to Micah.

"You aren't afraid of the shrieks, are you?" Alexis scoffed and turned as the shrieks arrived in masses.

Instantly the shrieks stopped, and their screaming ceased. It was as if they sensed the unnatural swirling energy of the woman in front of them. And for the first time ever the shrieks retreated going deep into the forest. Entities of evil retreated from the dark fairy princess. Because what was in front of them was an untouchable creature. One that didn't fear death but welcomed it.

Alexis shrugged. "I guess they didn't want to play." The world was now quiet and even the birds didn't dare to sing.

Micah stared at Alexis as he tried to adjust to her new personality. He did what he had to do back at the castle. He made sure that Alexis allowed him to stay close. He would protect her no matter what. And he hoped that he could reach the real Alexis that was deep inside.

"What is the plan now, Xi?" Micah asked casually when he noticed her gaze landed on him. "Are you going to turn into Elsa and let it go?" He chuckled and watched a wry grin spread over her face.

"That's not a bad idea." Alexis walked into a small clearing in the middle of the forest. Then she spread her hands out and began to build her fortress.

Micah watched with a sense of dread as Alexis' beautiful ice magic was now dark. Black ice sprang from her hands and rose from the ground. A black rigged crystal tower reached for the sky. It branched out from the center like limbs from a trunk. Sharp dark ice spikes spread out in an imposing warning. Two thick, round towers branched out from the center but remained

connected by obsidian ice walls. A set of small icy stairs led to the center of the ice building which had two thick frozen doors.

“I’m disappointed. Elsa’s castle was way cooler.” Micah chided and listened to her snort at him.

“Elsa was a cry baby who built a large castle to hide herself inside. I’m not hiding from anyone. If they want me, then come for me.” Alexis shrugged as she walked up the steps of her ice palace.

“Xi, you wouldn’t really fight against your parents if they come... right?” Micah watched her snap her head in his direction. She was studying him with her dark glaring eyes. Her eyes were almost black now and completely void of the beautiful blue that often lit up when she smiled. A red hue could be seen flickering across a red eye.

“Why Micah? Is that a problem for you? Who am I to you? Am I Alexis? Or am I Xi?” Alexis’ face turned cold as she set her icy gaze on Micah. She brought Micah with her thinking he accepted the person she is. But, if he was only following her because viewed her as Alexis this was a problem.

Yet, when she heard him ask if she planned to fight her parents her insides froze. She felt her emotions begin to tear like a piece of paper. It was like that part of her as Alexis wasn’t her at all. It was a distant memory of someone familiar that she could no longer relate to. There was a dark cloud in her mind that put a barrier around that part of her. She didn’t know why but it made her frustrated. It was confusing to think about. It was... painful. But Micah made her feel like she wasn’t lost. It was like he was part of her. He also had a darkness inside of him and belonged by her side.

Alexis watched as a gentle smile spread over his lips. He stepped over to her and wrapped her in his embrace. And— She didn’t push him away. Instead, she felt his acceptance embrace her and she sighed with relief. Why was she relieved? Did she really need Micah that badly? This was something she wasn’t going to analyze any further. She decided she would refer to before as her past life. And maybe her past life was who needed Micah so badly.

“Xi, it doesn’t matter to me what you call yourself. I’m the one who will always be by your side. If you need me to slide into some leather pants and a leather jacket just let me know. You are my princess no matter what. I won’t allow myself to be apart from you. Remember, it is us. I need you.” Micah felt her tension ease after that. Which gave him hope. Xi wasn’t all bad. She was still

Alexis. He just needed to remind her of that. But he would bide his time. No matter how long it took.

“So, did you set me up with a hot tub? Or something cool in my room?” Micah teased as Alexis backed away from him. He could see the confusion in her eyes for a moment before they returned to darkness. Maybe being near him could help the light find its way out.

“Be thankful I made you a room.” Alexis gave him a dark smile.

Micah’s smile faded slightly at the new coldness she was showing him. And swallowed the pain down deep. “Lead the way... Xi.”

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Aken flashed into the upper level of the castle in the dragon kingdom. By his side he had Terra. As soon as he found her he quickly teleported back so he could be with Alexis. But he didn’t sense her there...

“Aken! Thank the gods you are back.” Brian jumped up from his seat with panic and Bella stood up next to him.

“Where is Alexis? What happened?!” Aken felt sheer fear wash over his body. He could see the apprehension on Brian and Bella’s faces.

“Erebus entered Elysium and killed Alexis’s Great Grandparents, Alice, Ethan, and their guardian Dylan. Something inside Alexis snapped and she has changed – she isn’t our Lexi anymore. She even attacked Rhea and demanded we call her Xi. Levi told me to send you to Elysium.” Brian watched an eerily dark expression form on Aken’s face. “They might have more information there.”

“Where is she now? Is she in Elysium?” Aken asked in a cold voice.

“No. She teleported with a black smoke that was untraceable. It was—demonic.” Brian watched Aken clench his jaw and his knuckles whitened as he squeezed his hand. Terra took a timid step away from him as she watched him cautiously.

“I told that damn reptile that the glass needed to come out now. Damn it... I should not have left her.” Aken shifted his weight on his legs as he tried to think what to do.

“Levi said—” Brian started but quit talking with the irate glare Aken gave him.

Aken took in a deep breath in order to calm himself. He would get his mate back. No matter what he was collecting what was his. Even if he had to lock her up. It didn't matter to him. He would protect her from herself if he had to.

“Where is Micah?” Aken growled lowly.

“Micah is with her. When Levi pushed her darkness back at her to protect Rhea Micah defended Alexis.” Brian could see Aken's shoulders sink down in relief.

“Good bear. Alright. I'm going to bring Alexis back.” Aken could feel his rage swirling inside of him. But above that was fear. His sweet mate was lost inside of herself. That damn piece of glass was clouding her mind. He needed to get to her before it was too late.

“Erebus was trying to kill Tyler in order for the curse—” Brian listened as Aken growled through his teeth.

“Oh, I know what that bastard was thinking. Even now he is still a coward. He is afraid to face me. Instead, it is easier to reactivate the curse. Well, I'm not going to give him that opportunity. It's time I claim my mate.”

“Levi is waiting for you in Elysium,” Brian said once more.

“And that means what to me? Serendipity can handle whatever business he needs to handle there. Alexis is my business and the only business I care about. I will find her.”

“Through your mate connection?” Bella asked curiously.

“Perhaps? But it isn't consistent enough. She wears a necklace with my essence in it. And that is something I can easily track.” Aken then turned to look at Terra. “Stay here until I return.” He glanced at Brian to see him nod his head letting him know it was alright.

“My lord, I can help.” Terra watched as Aken shook his head.

“No, not this time. Just stay here and wait for my orders.” Aken then turned to look at Brian. “When Levi comes back tell him I am bringing back my mate

and to leave it to me. I don't need him coming and making matters worse." Before Brian could respond Aken vanished.

Aken moved instantaneously through space. He allowed himself to be guided as he tried to connect with his own energy. As he got closer, he could feel a new pull. He felt his connection to his mate. And if he could feel it... Alexis would be able to feel it too.

Aken appeared in a familiar forest. One he had visited before when he protected Lucy from the shrieks. Through the trees, he could see a black shiny structure. The magnificent ice structure was beautifully made. The shiny ice was like a black pearl in the forest. It was exquisite and so was the person who made it.

It was in that direction that he could feel his heart pulling him. As he got closer his breath caught in his chest. Standing outside of a black ice palace was Micah and next to him was Alexis. Her eyes were dark, and they stared at him like he was a foreign existence.

"What exactly do you want?" Alexis snapped at him in a cold tone.

Aken chuckled and leaned back on his heels in a relaxed manner. "Well, that is an easy question... you."

Alexis scoffed. "No thanks. I'm not interested." She stared at this man with her foggy memory. All she could remember clearly was the pain and sorrow. He never came for her. He was always hiding from her. Her emotions were swarming and intertwining with darkness.

Micah looked over at Alexis. "How does he look to you? Does he look like Erebus at all?"

Alexis looked at Micah and rolled her eyes. "No. If he looked like Erebus I would have killed him already." She wasn't sure why but she had a deep-rooted hatred for Erebus.

"Does he look like—" Micah started, and Alexis clicked her tongue.

"Just a person, Micah. A person that I don't feel anything towards."

Micah looked up and met with Aken's green eyes. Alexis probably no longer feared Erebus, so she didn't see his face. But the fact that Aken looked

normal to her meant he was no longer her heart's desire. That... or she didn't have anything she feared anymore.

"Lex, I'm—" Aken started but Alexis immediately snapped at him.

"Xi. I'm not this 'Lex' you speak of. It's Xi."

Aken grinned and tilted his head to look her over. His eyes trailed over her body very slowly. He watched her body tense for a moment under his gaze. "No, you are her alright. You are mine."

"I belong to no one. Least of all, a god who left Alexis alone her whole life. What? Now you have a change of heart? Well, Alexis is dead. She isn't here now. You don't have a mate anymore."

Aken stared into her dark eyes and watched as a red hue swirled through one of them. She didn't remember things clearly. And she was obviously trying to warn him off. But he was certain that he could reach her. No matter what... he was going to bring her back.

Taming Her Beastly Mate Chapter 49

Chapter 49 Alexis or Xi

"Levi! You're back." Brian stood up when Levi teleported into the room. Levi's blue eyes landed on Terra and Brian quickly explained, "Aken came back with Terra, and he's gone after Alexis on his own. He'll bring her back and he wants you to leave him to it." Brian paused for a moment. "He doesn't want you making the situation worse."

Levi set his jaw and inhaled a long, slow deep breath. Alexis was his daughter, and he felt a strong urge to save her. Although he and Rhea were worried sick, Levi knew that if anyone could reach her it would be her soul mate. He didn't want to get into a battle with his daughter. It broke his heart last time even if it was just deflecting her attack back at her.

"I don't care as long as he is able to bring her back. That is the only important thing. So... he better succeed." Levi shrugged his shoulders slightly and looked around. He had come back to gather Rhea's things. After a lot of deliberation, it was decided for her to stay in Elysium, where Erebus can't reach her. At least for now, while things with Alexis were chaotic.

“Rhea, Cody, and Kelsie will all be staying in Elysium for the near future. The barrier around Elysium is now stronger with the new energy from the retired Fairy King and Queen. It can now keep Erebus out. It is the safest place for them right now since I can’t constantly be at her side.” Levi looked over at Terra. He studied her aura curiously. He noticed the young lady looking down nervously under his gaze.

“You don’t need to be afraid. You are welcome here.” Levi nodded at her politely. She was a very interesting young lady. He could see how having her around would be useful to Aken. He shifted his gaze back to Brian. “I’ll go and speak with your father about everything. I won’t be around as much with everything going on.” He turned then to go to his room to pack the things Rhea wanted. The truth was it was killing him to not go after his daughter. It wasn’t like he could find her anyways. And even if he could the best he could do was force her back. He would have to fight her and subdue her. This was something he only wanted to do as a last resort.

For Levi, it was important to return Alexis back to normal... no matter what. He was afraid that Aken would be satisfied as long as he was by her side. Would Aken leave Alexis as she is if she accepts him? If so, he would be in for a very tough battle. Because he would help capture Alexis to be sealed. And that would mean fighting against Aken... possibly Micah too. And that would be a fight he wouldn’t be able to win... alone.

—

Aken and Alexis stared at each other. Neither one broke eye contact. Aken took a step towards Alexis, and she created a dark icy sphere in her hand while taking a small step back. Her eyes narrowed on him as she prepared for his next move. Aken halted and tilted his head to the side. “Are you afraid of me?” He smirked and listened to the disgusted scoff.

“No. That doesn’t mean I want you near me.” Alexis watched as his green eyes softened looking at her.

“Lex, I missed you. You haven’t forgotten me. I know your body remembers me and the way I held you.” Aken inched a bit closer as he remembered the way he made love to her at his cabin.

“Held me? You haven’t held me. And it is Xi!” Alexis started to feel uncomfortable under his lingering gaze. Why was he looking at her like that still?

“My love, I’ve done more than hold you.” Aken’s lip curled up in a half-smile as he watched Alexis’ eyes widen. “You are quite the temptress...and I couldn’t resist.”

Alexis snapped her head to look at Micah. “What is he talking about?!”

Micah frowned and pursed his lips together. “It seems like some of your memories are not there. You don’t remember? You and Aken... you two have been together. In a mate sense.” He cleared his throat as he watched her startled face.

“N-n-n-o. I... I don’t... I haven’t.” Alexis looked down as she tried to pull up her memories.

“You did... you have... and it was incredible.” Aken watched as her cheeks blazed with fire. Her mouth gaped open slightly as she shook her head in denial.

“I don’t want to hear about it. I don’t want to hear these lies.” Alexis took a backwards step away from Micah. “You are lying to me too. I can’t trust anyone.”

“Lex... I mean Xi.” Micah quickly tried to recover from his mistake.

Alexis let out an airy snort. “Just as I thought. You still look at me as if I am Alexis. You care for me as her and not as me.” Her face looked at him wounded as she felt alone.

“I care for you as you. You are my princess no matter what.” Micah pleaded as she took another retreating step back.

I trust Micah. I trust Aken. A voice whispered in her head.

Who are you?

You don’t even know who I am?! You don’t know the name of your own wolf?
Do you know who you are?

I don’t need you.

What about your great grandparents who were killed by Erebus? Did you need them?

Alexis reached her hand up to hold onto her head as it began throbbing in pain. Her eyes flickered in color between dark and blue as her inner struggle raged. She closed off the connection to the unwanted creature that was invading her mind. She had enough to deal with right now. She caught Aken moving towards her out of the corner of her eye. She quickly threw her cold dark icy sphere at him.

It caught Aken by surprise, but he managed to successfully dodge the attack. His eyes lifted to look at hers. Her one eye was glowing red while her other eye flickered between dark and blue.

Dark smoke began to swirl around Alexis as she prepared to teleport again. Micah leaped out grabbing on to her. He was not going to let her disappear on him. He wrapped his arms around her tightly as she squirmed.

“Let go of me!” Alexis snarled and turned her hand into Micah. She shot an icy sharp dagger into his chest. She watched as his eyes winced in pain as his blood splattered out from behind him. Red drops dripped from his mouth, but he refused to let go of her.

Alexis began to prepare another ice dagger as a stronger set of hands encompassed her restraining her wrists. She was forcefully turned into Aken’s chest as Micah slid down to the ground.

“Alexis, you have to stop. I have to stop you. I won’t let you cause this much pain to yourself.” Aken held her tightly as her body thrashed against his. He gripped her tighter and pinned her against him. Her arms were crisscrossed and held in his one hand firmly. He leaned his head down into her neck and brushed his lips against her skin. He felt her body still as a minor shudder escaped from her body. “You see? Your body knows who I am.” He crooned to her as her body began to fight against him again.

“Don’t fool yourself,” Alexis yelled at him as she tried twisting her body free.

“Lex,” Aken cooed to her. “I don’t want to hurt you. Let me help you. Why else do you think I would hold you like this and not fight you?”

“It tells me it’s been a long time since you’ve had a woman!” Alexis hissed and listened to the low chuckle from Aken.

“My love – you are the only woman for me and we were together very recently.” Aken turned to look at Micah who was holding his chest and still on

the ground. The wound was severe, and he hoped because Micah was a powerful guardian that he would be able to heal himself. A sharp shard of ice suddenly rose from the ground between Aken and Alexis. He maneuvered Alexis to the side to protect her and felt his skin hit with a burning cold force. There were thousands upon thousands of severe jolts of cold electricity shooting up his chest. That was followed by a heat he had never felt before. He felt the hot liquid pour out from his chest, but he turned his sad gaze to Alexis who planned to injure them both.

“Are you alright?” Aken asked as he tried to look her over.

Alexis stood there frozen. He took the full force of her attack, protecting her. Why? Why would he protect her? And what was this agonizing feeling that was squeezing the oxygen out of her lungs. She felt like a mountain had fallen on her chest as her body began to shake. She was staring at his wound and couldn't stop trembling.

Alexis looked over to her side and the crimson stained ground around Micah. It was like her body was being slammed on the inside. Her heart was aching. She was shocked to feel dampness trickling down her face, falling to the ground by her feet. She turned back to look at the green eyes that were locked onto her. There was no anger there. Instead, he looked at her with sadness as he reached his spare hand out to brush the wet streaks from her cheeks.

Alexis watched as Aken's body shifted, stepping into her. He lowered his head drawing closer to her. And right before she could object— His hot lips covered hers in a fiery flash. Her eyes widened in shock as he pried his tongue into her mouth for a full invasion.

And for a brief moment... everything felt—right.

Taming Her Beastly Mate Chapter 50

Chapter 50 Meryl

Alexis was in the depths of confusion. She couldn't explain the waves of tingling pleasure nor the vague familiarity of his embrace. The sensual and electrifying way his tongue caressed hers was making her feel unsteady. Her body instinctively leaned into him which deepened the kiss. In this moment everything was right. This was where she was supposed to be. Right here in Aken's arms.

Alexis' body was responding to Aken automatically. A small moan escaped from her mouth as she became delirious with his greedy kiss. Her fingers dug into him as she demanded more. What was she doing? Her head started to hurt as it pulsed angrily. It was like something was trying to break out. And when the warm light swirled through her dark aura she panicked. An obsidian wall of ice sprang up from the ground dividing her body away from Aken. She quickly used this moment to wrap herself in a cloud of black smoke and vanished.

"So close." Aken clenched his teeth together as he prepared to follow her. Right before he went to chase after her the sound of crying wails filled the air. The high screeches began heading in their direction rapidly.

"What are you waiting for? Go after her?!" Micah coughed out as he winced in pain.

Aken looked at Micah. He was in no shape to fight or even escape the incoming droves of shrieks. He would go after Alexis, but first Micah needed help. Besides, how could he face Alexis if he left Micah wounded and alone out here? She would never forgive him. He knew how much this bear meant to her. Truth be told the bear was growing on him too. Micah's devotion to Alexis was beyond admirable. He was someone he could trust with Alexis.

"What are you doing?!" Micah growled as Aken knelt beside him.

"Don't worry. I'm going to get our princess back. But you need to be taken care of first. Man, she really got you good." Aken teased as he wrapped an arm around Micah's shoulder.

Micah snorted, "Look who's talking."

"What this? Just a flesh wound. That right there is deep. Honestly, it needs a healer. Yep! That is where I will take you." Aken answered the thought that sprung into his mind.

"I'll heal on my own." Micah protested as the wails from the shrieks got closer. "Just get Alexis." The idea that his princess was confused and all alone was shattering him. He wanted to be by her side but if he couldn't at least Aken could.

"I'm going to. I almost had her." Aken chuckled as he teleported Micah quickly before he could continue to object.

Micah and Aken looked up at the startled faces surrounding them. Aken had planned to get them to Elysium which he did. Right in the middle of a group of people on an outside patio. He eased Micah down to the ground and his eyes immediately found a set of familiar blue eyes.

“Aken! What happened?!” Levi yelled as him and Rhea knelt down next to Micah. He was looking over the wound that was slowly healing on the bear. He quickly assessed the damage and was relieved to see it wasn’t life-threatening. Still... how did he get such a deep wound...

Aken surveyed the area in front of him. It wasn’t quite what he was expecting. He moved his supporting arm as another woman came next to them. Her blonde hair swirled in the breeze as she knelt beside Micah. He remembered seeing her before during the demon war.

“What happened?” Rhea asked biting her bottom lip. The wound was deep, but Micah wasn’t in mortal danger. She was asking what she was afraid of... she was asking who was the one who wounded Micah.

“Are you alright? Where is Alexis?” Levi asked looking at the gash on Aken’s chest. It was unsettling. If Alexis was the one who wounded them both... Aken was the one they were depending on to save her. Would they really have to seal her?

“Alexis sends her love.” Aken chuckled as he motioned over at his wound and Micah’s. “I almost had her. She was so close.” He turned his attention to Micah and nodded his head. “Alright, Micah. I’m going to get our princess... you stay here and get healed up.”

“I’m coming with you,” Levi said firmly and Aken shook his head.

“You should probably stay here and keep the rest of the family safe.” Aken shrugged.

“There is no need. Erebus can’t enter Elysium now. The living barrier chooses who it allows to enter. And it is even more powerful now that... now that my grandparents have added their energies to it.” Rhea said quietly.

Aken nodded his head thoughtfully at this. “In either case, you still aren’t coming with me.” He looked into Levi’s blue eyes. “I’m bringing your daughter and my mate back no matter what. But in order to reach her, you may not like

what I have to do.” Aken’s green eyes then narrowed at Levi. “It’s not like I am going to hurt her or weaken her down by attacking her.”

“That is my daughter. I don’t want to hurt her.”

“And you won’t. Ever. Because she is mine...” Aken then glanced over at Rhea and all the people standing around. He noticed Lucy who he had rescued from Erebus. She was heavy with child and was standing next to a couple of men and a young child. “You said Erebus can’t get inside this barrier?”

“No, he can’t.” The woman with blonde hair said as she held her healing hands on Micah.

Aken watched as another familiar face came into view. It was the man he had gifted as his summon. The man he was connected to... for now. “So then... it’s safe for me to mark my mate and connect my summoning abilities to Alexis.”

“Force your mark on her?” Lucy finally spoke up not liking what she was hearing.

“Alexis would have gladly let Aken mark her before...” Rhea spoke up defending Aken.

Aken shook his head and chuckled. “I am not saying that. The worst thing I can force on her is my affection. Maybe kissing her. I’ll do what I have to do to bring her back. But I think I can reach her without marking her.”

“Aken, we haven’t been formally introduced. I am Lilly the Fairy Queen. You are Alexis’ soul mate. That means when you mark her your soul will connect with hers. In that moment you will have a chance to remove the glass. It would be safer than the dream world. And it may be your only chance to reach Alexis so keep that in mind... Alexis has the power to remove the glass on her own. As the fairy princess, something like this is within her power, she just has to discover it. But because she has lost herself you may need to take things farther than you want.”

Aken nodded his head. “I understand what you are saying. Don’t worry. I’m going to get Alexis back...” He turned his attention back to Micah. “Just rest my friend.”

Micah snorted and smiled. “You act like I am on my death bed. Look at me? I’m fine.”

Aken looked at Micah closer and he was right. The wound was completely healed. Even with fairy magic... a wound that deep wouldn’t have healed that quickly. Micah rose to his feet and looked at Aken expectantly.

“Stay here Micah. If she runs again I will be able to chase her faster this way.”

“I wasn’t going to ask to come. I know you are just dying to put your arms around me again so I am not giving a lecher like you the chance.” Micah smiled and watched as a grin spread on Aken’s face. “It seems like part of her still recognizes you. She no longer sees Erebus when she looks at you. But maybe it is because she doesn’t fear him. She doesn’t see anything different. So her heart may not desire you or she doesn’t have any fears. My point to this is, be mindful of it when you bring Alexis back.”

Aken nodded his head. “Thank you, Micah,— Thank you for staying by her side.”

“Aken I—” Levi started to say but Aken winked at him with a slight smirk and vanished. A low chuckle left Levi’s throat as he shook his head. “He is lucky he is Alexis’ mate...”

—

Alexis was just focused on escaping Aken and those feelings that she wasn’t sure where she now was. Aken was trying to manipulate her mind by using the mate pull. She wasn’t going to be tricked. She looked around her environment. She listened to the sound of water hitting the shore as the wind swirled bringing a salty smell with it.

She was standing in a valley of dark ferns that traveled up both sides of the hills. Behind her was the ocean playing with the shoreline. And in front of her led to a dark cavernous area.

Alexis looked down at her hands and closed her eyes. She wasn’t dumb, she knew there was something wrong with her. Her memories weren’t clear. Things she should remember were suddenly fuzzy. But what wasn’t fuzzy was the stomach turning pain she was feeling when she thought about Micah and Aken. Her heart hurt as she thought about the injuries she inflicted on them.

And she was angry with herself for hurting them which confused her more. She lifted her hand up to hold her throbbing head.

“Well, aren’t you a peculiar one...”

Alexis heard an old raspy woman’s voice from her side. She looked to see someone staring at her through the thick ferns. The woman had long gray straggly hair with dull lifeless looking skin. The woman’s eyes were completely white with no color at all. A strange power came from her, but it wasn’t one that Alexis recognized.

“Ahh, you have the new Nembrant glass in your eye. I can see the glow in your eye.”

Nembrant glass... why did that sound familiar but also foreign to Alexis.

“I have glass in my eye?” Alexis watched as a crooked grin formed on the old woman’s face.

“Wow. You don’t remember it? Interesting... good to know. What about your master’s voice? Do you hear their commands?”

“Master’s voice?” Alexis scoffed. “I don’t have a master, nor do I hear any voice.”

The old woman clicked her tongue and furrowed her brows. “It’s because you are too strong. I’m sure if it was in any other creature’s eye it would have worked. Maybe if we use more dark power next time.” The old woman rambled to herself as she stared into space.

“Who are you?” Alexis turned to face the old woman fully. The old woman stopped talking to redirect her gaze to Alexis.

“That is a loaded question.” The old woman shrugged. “You can call me Meryl. And what is your name?”

“Xi.”

“Alexis.”

A deep voice said from the direction of the sea. Alexis spun around to see a man with neatly pulled back white hair. His eyes were glued to her and seemed to be expecting something from her. She felt her body tighten in

anger as she looked at Erebus. A deep rooted hatred that she couldn't quite explain. She launched a barrage of black icy daggers at him. He flashed out of the way looking at her curiously.

"Why are you angry with me? I've come to claim you. Don't you feel the need to submit to me?" Erebus asked glancing over at Meryl.

Alexis continued to unleash her fury of icy spikes at Erebus. She felt her head throbbing as liquid iron flowed in her brain. She felt like she was being tortured and had to stop to hold her head from the agony.

"WITCH! What is the meaning of this? Why is she attacking me?" Erebus snarled. He was furious

Meryl's lips curled up in a sinister smile and she shrugged. "I don't know. Xi, why do you attack him?"

"Quit playing games witch! Or I will—"

"You'll what? You won't do anything to me. Because you need something from me. And you have something I want. I'm only helping you for a mutual exchange. I'll get you what you want and in exchange, you will release my granddaughter's soul!"

Erebus pointed over at Alexis as he watched her gripping her head and stumbling backwards. "Why isn't it working like it is supposed to?!"

"You put the glass in a demi-god, you i***t. You just gave her a demonic power boost. But curiously it has affected her memories. But she feels no devotion or loyalty to you. It looks like she has a deep-rooted hatred for you." Meryl sneered at Erebus.

"Fix it," Erebus said between clenched teeth.

"I'm going to have to start over with a new source and try to make adjustments." Meryl turned and gave Erebus a cold stone stare. "Why do you want her under your command? What exactly are you wanting to command her to do—" She blinked at Erebus with her white eyes. "Pathetic..." She clicked her tongue in disgust. "I see you are at the point of having to force women—"

“I didn’t ask for your opinion on the topic.” Erebus snapped and Meryl cackled. “You damn witch—” From the corner of his eye he watched as a black blur rushed towards him. He moved just enough that the shard grazed his front piercing the top layer of his skin. “Alexis!”

“It’s Xi!”

“I see... so my treasure wants to play, does she? Well then... let’s play.” A dark chuckle escaped Erebus’s lips as he formed an obsidian electric ball in his hand. “I think you need to take a little nap until we can get this all sorted out.”

“I think you need an eternal nap.” Alexis pushed back the pain in her head as she composed herself. She raised her chin at the man defiantly as she prepared to fight against him.

“Tell me... why are you fighting me? Do you even know?” Erebus watched as Alexis blinked and pursed her lips together. Inwardly he smiled. “Don’t you see this is all a trick, my treasure? They poisoned your mind to keep us apart.”

Alexis scoffed. “i***t. I can hear. I just heard you talking. ‘Why isn’t it working?’ She clicked her tongue and rolled her dark eyes.

“I was talking about an antidote I was having prepared for you.” Erebus tried to manipulate her mind but the next second the ice barrage spiraled at him again. He flashed through the air and gritted his teeth. “Yeah... I think you need that nap.”

“I’ve got things to do,” Meryl said as she disappeared in a cloud of black smoke.

Erebus formed another energy ball, not unlike the ones he had that killed the fairy royalty earlier. “I’m sorry my gem. I never wanted to hurt you, but you aren’t thinking clearly. Don’t worry. I’ll make it all better.”

Alexis watched as the black spiraling ball came crashing towards her. She couldn’t dodge it. She threw up a thick ice wall that shattered instantly. She closed her eyes and braced for impact. She felt a strong arm wrap around her protectively as a loud explosion was heard.