

Taming Her Beastly Mate Chapter 51

Chapter 51 Clash of the Gods

Alexis glanced up from the rock hard chest she was being held against tightly. Aken was holding her as his lethal glare was directed towards Erebus. She felt her heart flutter in her chest as she stared at his face. He had protected her...

"My love, are you alright?" Aken asked keeping his eyes fixated on Erebus.

Alexis nodded her head and bit her inner lip. She was so confused. Her body was battling against her. There was a warmth and love in his voice. Nothing was making sense. But doubt was now swimming through her mind. She wasn't oblivious to Erebus' words. She understood he had done something to her. So, who was she really? At first, she thought she came to this great epiphany about choosing to be a dark fairy. But now... now nothing was making sense. She couldn't deny the strange tingles that now crept up her body and how relieved she now felt that Aken is near.

Erebus clenched his teeth together angrily. "How is this possible?! How in the hell are you still here?! I killed the fairy king!"

"You always act before you think, moron. You captured Lucy because you thought she was my mate. And you killed the previous king and queen of the fairies. Now by doing so you strengthened the barrier. Let's see here. You pissed off Rogio, Lycaon, Leviathan, me, and oh now we are adding Endymion to the list. You just killed his fairy royals..." Aken smirked as he watched Erebus' eye twitching. "You know it is just a matter of time now. The council will be after you. I wonder what they would do with you. Eh, we won't find out because I'm going to kill you."

Aken narrowed his eyes on Erebus. "How dare you fvcking touch, my mate!" His deep voice cut through the air and echoed off the valley walls. "You went after my mate – My mate! You knew exactly who I am, and you did it anyway. You have a death wish. Did you actually think your plan would work and I would be cursed back to the ocean? Did you think you could get away with this? You are a COWARD!" Aken paused for a moment and shook his head. "You already know you are as good as dead with the deities. This is why you are switching sides. You want the demon king's protection..." He furrowed his brows as he tried to rationalize Erebus' thoughts. His plan was deeper than

this. There was something he was after. Something that he wanted so bad that he was willing to turn the gods against him.

Erebus was a coward. If he was willing to turn the gods against him, he had others backing him. Was it just the demons? Or were there other deities on his side? Aken didn't know why he didn't think about it before. Erebus was not acting on his own. Something bigger was being planned. And more than likely, Erebus was their pawn to help get it done. There was no way he was the mastermind. But who? And what? He had a feeling it was all leading to the strange nembrant glass. But for what purpose?

Erebus was fuming as he watched Aken's hand around Alexis. He had decided it would be her who he kept by his side. Aken was supposed to be cursed back to sea. Da.mnit, he messed up. He still wasn't full strength yet after what Alexis had done to him last time. And even if he was, Aken was not a deity he wanted to fight against. But Aken wasn't here alone. Right beside him was his weakness...

"Lex," Aken kept his gaze on Erebus knowing full well he would look for an opportunity to flee. "Get out of here. Go someplace safe. I'll find you when it is all over... I'll always find you."

Alexis stared up at him. She had a mixture of emotions that were flooding her system. And correcting what he called her wasn't a priority anymore. For some strange reason she felt... worried. "You are going to fight him by yourself?" She asked and watched a wry grin spread over his lips.

"You wouldn't be worried about me now, would you? Not the bad.ass, Xi?" Aken grin widely as his fingers caressed her skin. He felt her begin to pull away but he pulled her against him. "Lex... I mean it. Get out of here. As far away as possible. I love you."

Alexis felt him vanish from her side before she could say anything. Instantly she missed his warmth as she looked for him frantically. And a second later two colossal forces were colliding together. They were racing through the sky as their attacks made thunderclap through the air.

Alexis grabbed onto her chest as she watched from the ground. She didn't know why but she couldn't leave. She couldn't do anything. She was frozen as her inner battle raged. She felt a shiver run down her spine as her heart raced. She found herself worrying for Aken more and more.

The two powerful energies of the deities collided. As the explosion subsided Aken moved in. He dashed in front of Erebus. And thrust an energy ball right at him. His energy smashed against Erebus' darkness. An electrifying explosion sent wind racing away from the two gods. Dark smoke stung at the two men's eyes as their back and forth continued.

Aken was unrelenting, not holding back his punches. He just needed an opening. He flashed through the sky and randomly unleashed balls of fury at Erebus. Aken didn't hesitate. Flash. CRA.CK. Flash. BOOM. Then through the smoke, he found his opening. He sprinted through the sky colliding with Erebus. He swung his fist connecting it with Erebus's chin. At the same time, he grabbed onto Erebus so he couldn't go anywhere.

Aken finally had him and wasn't about to let go. He unleashed a frenzy of furious attacks on Erebus. He was going to be sure that he never touched Alexis again. He shot a colorful blast of energy into the deity. Erebus moved his hand and shot a black surge under Aken's arms. It moved towards its target like a black shooting star. Aken watched as the streak hurled towards Alexis. Damn. He released Erebus and teleported just in time to block the attack with his body. There wasn't time to defend himself. He could only use his body to shield Alexis. A cloud of smoke erupted into the sky as the energy lashed into Aken's back.

Aken winced as he held onto Alexis protectively. A small groan escaped from his lips as the assault ended. He turned his head to see Erebus was long gone. He used to opportunity to flee. Even though he landed a powerful attack against Aken he still fled in fear.

Alexis felt Aken's body slump against hers and her body trembled. "What have you done?! Why did you do that?" Tears crept to the corner of her eyes as she reached up to help support him. Her chest was tight. Tears were streaming. Her heart was hurting. And that is when something exploded inside of her. Her warm light swirled around her snuffing out the dark.

Alexis' white light swirled around her rapidly encompassing her body. The darkness faded from her eyes and the fog was lifted. Her memories flooded back inside of her, and her beasts were no longer blocked from her. She felt like something shattered in her mind as her light combusted inside of her taking back control.

And then everything was clear—she knew who she was. She was not Xi... she was Alexis. She wrapped her arms around Aken as her fingers began

shaking uncontrollably. He had saved her. And she had hurt him. She hurt Micah. Her breath was ragged as she remembered everything that had happened.

“Are you alright?” Aken asked and leaned up to look down at her.

“Am I alright?! Are you alright?” Alexis cried out hysterically with tears streaming down her face.

“Lex.” Aken sighed out relieved as he looked at her face. Her blue watery eyes were sparkling up at him. “My Lex.” He reached his hand up and cupped her cheek. “You found your way back to me.” He felt the inner tension inside finally subside. His beautiful mate was finally back to herself.

“I’m so sorry.” Alexis closed her eyes as the streams continued to fall. “Where is Micah? Is Micah alright? What about you?”

“Micah is fine. I took him to Elysium. Hey... shh... we are fine. My Lex,” Aken straightened up and held her face in his hands. “Gods, Lex.” He whispered out and pressed his lips into hers. She responded to him instantly and he held her head captive. He greedily thrust his tongue into her mouth as their lips moved together.

Sweet welcoming tingles erupted over Alexis’ body as she moaned into his mouth. Her hands reached up to grasp onto his chest. It felt like she hasn’t tasted him in years, and she was craving the comfort his kiss was bringing her. His scent blanketed her wrapping her in a cocoon. She needed this moment. Even though her inner struggle was beginning to brew again.

Suddenly Aken pushed away and stared at her. “Am I not your heart’s desire right now? What about the nembrant glass?”

Alexis didn’t feel the glass anymore. It was like the moment her light came free the glass vanished from her.

The glass is gone, Alexis. You were able to expel it on your own with your fairy magic. Welcome back. Yuki’s voice was calm and soothing. It was refreshing to hear her voice.

“The glass is gone. Yuki said I expelled it on my own.” Alexis looked down at the ground. She had attacked her mother. She hurt Micah and Aken. She felt

like she didn't deserve to even look at them right now let alone receive Aken's comfort. She stepped away from Aken as she turned her head away from him.

"Thank you for blocking Erebus' attack and for saving me. Are you hurt badly?" Alexis' voice was quiet as she closed her eyes. The leaves rustled in the warm salty breeze that swirled around them. She felt his heat come up from behind her. His chest leaned into her back as his arms snaked around her front. His head leaned down into her neck and his tongue flicked over her skin. She inhaled sharply as his tongue slowly trailed up her neck and to her ear.

"I'm fine. I heal quickly, my love." Aken nibbled on her sensitive skin and tugged on her ear lobe with his teeth. "I want to give you, my mark."

"Aken, my family—"

"They are all safe in Elysium. And Rogio is guarding the Vampire kingdom and Lycaon is protecting the werewolves. But it's time I protect you. And give you the gift of my summon. Then I can come to you instantly. I want to complete our bond and join our souls together. I want to make you mine forever Alexis." Aken crooned to her as he peppered her neck with feather light kisses.

Alexis closed her eyes and bit her inner bottom lip. As good as that all sounded... mentally she just wasn't ready. She was trying to come to terms with what had just happened. And the loss of her great grandparents. But there was something else that was killing her right now. And that was Micah. She needed to see him. She hurt him and he was only trying to stay by her side. She couldn't begin to relax until she at least saw him. She needed to tell him she was sorry.

"Aken. It's not that I don't want to. I do. It's just... everything is a mess up here. I need to see Micah. I need to tell him how sorry I am. And—"

"My love. Let's go see Micah. I'm here to heal all your wounds. Whatever you need I'll do it. And whenever you are ready... I am here." Aken spun her around keeping her captive in his arms. He leaned his head down and kissed her forehead. "I know your family will be relieved to see you. And I think you will feel better once you see all of them... and I do mean all of them." Aken chuckled.

"Thank you."

“You don’t need to thank me. Just stay by my side and let me love you. That’s all I want.”

“I’m sorry Erebus got away because of me.” Alexis looked up at him apologetically as his fingers sifted through her hair. She watched a warm smile spread over his face as his eyes glowed with love for her.

“Don’t worry about it. He can no longer keep us apart. And we will get him eventually.” Aken leaned his head into Alexis’ forehead. “I can see the pain in your eyes. My love, it’s okay. Don’t blame yourself. Blame Erebus.” He wrapped his arms around her tightly. He needed to hold her. Now that it was all over the panic over what had happened was sinking in. Gods... he could never lose her. He needed her.

Alexis closed her eyes and sighed. It felt so good to be in his arms. Too good. She felt like she didn’t deserve this type of contentment. As much as she wanted Aken to claim her and put his mark on her she couldn’t right now. Maybe she would feel better after seeing her family. But right now... she was hurting. Xi wasn’t there for long but she wounded Alexis. She tainted her and made her hurt the people she loves.

Aken could feel her conflicting pain. Yes... he could feel it. It wasn’t strong but it was trickling into him. He wanted to wipe it all away. It wasn’t her fault. She wasn’t in her right mind. She needed to see her family. She needed to see that they didn’t blame her either. He brushed his lips over her forehead once more and straightened up.

“Okay, let’s go to Elysium.”

Note-

I will be traveling tomorrow and don’t know if I will be able to manage an update. If I do yay, surprise! If not, I wanted to give you a head’s up. I hope you are all enjoying the journey so far.

Taming Her Beastly Mate Chapter 52

Chapter 52 Darkness Was Coming

In the distance, Meryl watched as Aken, and Alexis vanished. She clicked her tongue and rolled her eyes. If only Aken could have finished Erebus off. He was so close. She wanted Erebus to die. She wanted her granddaughter’s

soul released from him. Meryl felt a heavy pressure begin to pull her down as the shadows hid a liquid darkness.

“How close is it to being finished?” A sinister voice rasped from the shadows. It was as if the shadows themselves were speaking. There was no physical body to be seen.

“My lord.” Meryl bowed her head respectfully, keeping her gaze on the ground. “It is almost there but we need more essence in it. Right now, the nembrant can be broken if the person is strong enough. We can try adding more of your essence or a deity’s essence is needed. That should do the trick.”

“I see...what about what we already have? Will it work for the invasive species?”

“I believe so. There are no guarantees. But it almost worked on a demigod and she would be more powerful.” Meryl listened as the shadows hummed in acknowledgment.

“Do what is necessary. This must be done. This way, we can work from the shadows undetected. We may not be able to fight in the apocalyptic war, but we will take control from the shadows. Preparations must be ready.” A dark chuckle sounded from the darkness. “That damn moon goddess won’t be able to stop what is coming. Not this time. The world will taste terror.”

Meryl hesitated for a second before she finally voiced what was on her mind. “I’m not sure how much the nembrant can hold essence wise. I would like to respectfully suggest the idea of a binding agreement. Someone who will agree to be the host for more power.”

“A suggestion? Do you think I don’t already know this? That is not what I want. A binding agreement leaves a trail.” The shadows scoffed as they moved in the breeze. “Or perhaps that is exactly what you wanted... Do what I demand. That is all.”

“Yes, my lord.”

The suffocating darkness vanished, leaving Meryl to finally lift her head. She looked at her fingers as she closed them into little balls. She knew better than to try to deceive him... that was the best she could do. Whatever happens, she won’t regret it.

“I guess I need to visit the doctor again. I’ll see if she has more valuable information that will help my task. And hopefully some unique essences I can use.” Meryl was fully prepared to go down the spiraling path of darkness. From the moment she died she scorned the world. There was only one existence that mattered and that was her granddaughter, Beryl. She would save her soul no matter what she had to do. She tried what little she could but to hell with it all. Beryl was all that mattered. She would do what she had to. Even if it meant damning the world and handing it over to demons.

The demons were being clever this time. They wouldn’t act on it themselves but would be acting from the shadows. Winning a war without ever soiling their own hands.

Darkness. Was. Coming.

Aken and Alexis transported to Elysium. They were near the Castle in a garden with a variety of different flowers. Aken looked lovingly down at Alexis as she took a deep breath and looked around.

“Lex.” Aken frowned slightly and sighed. “There are a lot of people up ahead.” He lifted up his hand and brushed his thumb over her cheek. His fingertips buzzed from the exciting tingles she brought him. She leaned her cheek into his touch, and he watched her close her eyes slightly. “It is too much for you right now? I can—” His forehead creased as he pursed his lips together. “I can feel you are anxious. Why don’t I grab Micah and take us somewhere quieter?”

Alexis smiled and then leaned her forehead into his chest. “My family isn’t going to allow that. They are going to want to see me.”

“I don’t care what your family wants. I only care about what you want. Let me protect you. I will shield you from your family.” Aken listened to her sweet giggle that he had missed.

“This is my family you are talking about. There is no shield that will protect me from them.” Alexis smiled up at Aken’s serious eyes. She watched as a smirk spread over his face.

“Well, today you are in luck. Because I am that shield. My love, I will move mountains for you. I can easily shield you. Even from your family.” Aken

wrapped his arms around her tightly holding her body flush against his. He leaned his head down to rest on top of hers as he slowly took in her scent.

“Aken...”

“Shh. Just let me hold you right now. I need to calm down.” Aken leaned into her body and closed his eyes. He was so focused on bringing Alexis back that he didn’t allow himself to think about what could have happened. But now it was consuming his whole thoughts. This was too close. Way too close. He could have lost her and with her, his reason to live. There was no future for him without her. “Lex.” He whispered into her hair. “Come back with me to my home. It’s safe there. I want some time with you where we can forget about the world and troubles for at least a few days. We can bring Micah back with us. I need to pick up Terra too... I left her in the dragon kingdom.”

Alexis closed her eyes and leaned into his embrace. She felt her nose sting and her eyes burned as they watered. That actually sounded amazing and maybe just what she needed. She needed to think and clear her head. There were a lot of emotions swimming around inside of her but there was also something else bothering her.

You can’t keep it a secret.

Now you are talkative, Yuki. Alexis laughed inwardly.

You’ll adjust. It isn’t as worrisome as you are making it. And you are stronger now. I’m always here for you to talk to.

But I am... I am different now. I am unlike the other fairy royals. We have dark fairies... kelpies are considered a dark fairy. But...

“We don’t have to... I’m sorry. It was selfish of me to ask.” Aken noticed Alexis’ tension. The last thing he wanted to do was add anything to her plate.

Alexis lifted her head up and bit her bottom lip. “It sounds wonderful.” She gave him a weak smile. “I’m just thinking is all...”

Alexis, you know you might as well just say it. The moment he marks you he will know your thoughts anyways.

“I’m different now. Aken, the glass had demonic power injected into it. When I destroyed the glass, the power went into me. This isn’t dark fairy power. This

is demonic power. A fairy princess with demonic power... it's unheard of. What am I now?"

"Hey now. You are still you. You are still Alexis. My love—"

"Aken, the fairy princess is supposed to be everything that is good and pure in the world. I'm—I'm not pure anymore. I've been tainted."

"Is Lucy also tainted?" Aken watched as her eyes looked at him in confusion. "She is part vampire too, right? Vampires have never been known to be everything that is pure and good in the world. So do you think different of her?" Aken smiled as he cupped her cheek. "You don't. Of course you don't. Just like this doesn't change anything about you either. Except it makes you stronger. Is this why you are anxious right now?"

Alexis nodded her head. "It feels foreign and if I am being honest, it scares me a little bit. It is like Xi is still here."

"Xi has always been part of you. Everyone has a little Xi in them... Or a lot of Xi in some circumstances. It doesn't define you. And the darkness won't drown out the light." Aken leaned his forehead against Alexis' and stared into her blue beautiful eyes. "I'm sorry I didn't protect you from this. Don't be scared. I'll be by your side from now on."

"Don't apologize to me about not protecting me. Please. I don't want the relationship of always being protected. I want us to be partners where we protect each other. I was weak. In a moment of weakness, the glass was able to invade. This is my fault—"

"Alexis!"

"It's true Aken. I allowed this to happen. I should have fought harder. I should have been prepared."

"Prepared? How could you have prepared for that? Stop. You are just upset and—"

"YES! I am upset. I hurt you! I hurt Micah. I attacked my mother. And now there is this dark energy inside of me. I'm not feeling sorry for myself. I am just being honest. I am stronger than that. I shouldn't have let the darkness win."

“Lex, it’s over now. It’s all over.” Aken crooned to her, but Alexis stepped away from him shaking her head.

“It’s not over. Because it is all fresh right here.” Alexis lifted her fingers to her head.

“Don’t!” Aken growled and stomped towards Alexis, closing the gap between them. He grabbed her by her chin and crashed his lips against hers as his other hand wrapped around her waist, holding her against him. A low growl hummed in his throat as he claimed her greedily. He moved against her lips roughly as he plunged his tongue into her mouth. He felt her hand reach up to his head, digging her fingers in his hair and tugging him more into her.

“Don’t step away from me Lex.” He mumbled into her lips through his heavy panting. “There is no room for space between us. Never again. I— I can’t ever again. I’m the one who is weak, Lex. I need you. I can’t live without you. My love, I am dependent on your existence.” He breathed in her breath and gently nibbled on her bottom lip. “If you need time. Take it. But never let there be space between us. I’m so sorry I did before. I regret it. I thought I was protecting you. I don’t deserve you! But I can’t think about that anymore because I need you. I won’t ever let you go.” He pressed against her lips gently as he captured them once again. This time it was very light and slow. Between his light kisses, he muttered into her mouth, “I’m possessive. I have a temper. I’m tainted. I’m aggressive. And I’m all yours. And you. Are. All. Mine.”

Alexis’ slender hands curled into him as her inside swelled from the sensual excitement. His mouth was soft, hard, hot, and his taste was maddening. Her heart was beating faster as her breath escaped in gasps between kisses. His tongue slowly probed into her mouth and pleasure was filling her insides. The taste, feel and smell of him had her body erupting with electrifying tingles. The intimacy of his tongue on hers as she felt his desire for her. She drank the sweetness he offered her as she pressed into him. Forgetting about everything. Except her want and need for her mate.

“I hope you don’t need time apart from this,” Aken murmured into her lips as his hand trailed down her side and gently traced around her breast. He pulled away from her and prodded her nose as he looked at her swollen lips.

Alexis panted for a moment and then smiled. She shook her head. “When I am with you, I tend to forget about everything else. It’s like the confusion is gone and I have nothing to worry about.”

“You don’t. There isn’t anything for you to worry about.” Aken could see by her faint smile that she didn’t feel that way. He wrapped his arm around her waist and nodded his head. “You’ll see. There is nothing to worry about. About what I offered earlier, we don’t have to.”

“No, let’s go back to your home. I think that is exactly what I need.” Alexis watched the grin spread across his lips. And she could tell that this meant a lot to him. And honestly, she needed quiet time with him too. She needed some quiet time with her mate. “We’ll visit with my family then take Micah and Terra with us.”

“Perfect.” Aken kissed the top of her head and then glanced up. “Let’s get you to your bear first. I think you both need to see one another.”

Alexis nodded her head and gnawed on her inner lip. She did need to see Micah. She had hurt him badly and she couldn’t forgive herself for that. She leaned into Aken’s side and let the comfort he gave her relax her. It’s funny how Aken said he didn’t think he deserved her. Because right now that is how she felt... like she didn’t deserve him.

Maybe they should mark each other later. They would be baring their souls to one another and there could never be any misunderstandings.

As they approached the castle, Alexis could hear the sounds of joyous laughter. It went quiet and as they walked around the corner all eyes were in their direction. Everyone had sensed Alexis and Aken’s presence. Alexis scanned the scene in front of her until she locked onto a set of blue eyes that was now slowly moving towards her.

Taming Her Beastly Mate Chapter 53

Chapter 53 Family Reunion

This story is a part of the Dr. Luna universe / Locke family realm. This chapter has some of our old favorites and I will give a brief recap for those who haven’t read their stories.

Micah felt the instant relief to see Alexis standing there in front of him. But all he could see was her pain from the moment their eyes met. His connection to her was intense and all encompassing but without the romantic mate feelings. He needed to be with her, to be by her side. He knew her feelings – his

emotions were tied to hers. But for the first time as Xi, Alexis was hollow and absent and there was an emptiness inside of him.

He was no longer closed off from Alexis. And her pain was now his pain. His silly princess. How could she give him such a wounded expression? His body moved on its own towards her. He watched Aken remove his protective grip on her, but Alexis remained frozen in place.

Micah reached up and grabbed his chest wincing slightly. Inwardly he smiled when he saw her move towards him. She ran up to him and he swung his arms around her. He laughed as he caught her by surprise listening to her shocked gasp. He leaned his head down on top of hers as he continued to chuckle. "As if I am still hurt. Silly princess."

Alexis gripped onto his shirt and leaned into Micah's chest. "Micah." She breathed out quietly. "I'm—"

"Don't you dare, Alexis. Don't apologize to me." Micah kissed the top of her head and listened to the snort from Aken to which he smirked at. Mates...

"Let me see Lex. Did you get the glass out?" Micah stepped back and grabbed onto Alexis' chin. He bent his head down to examine her eye.

"Yes, the glass is gone— but." Alexis started and paused. The glass was gone but she had demon energy now. She watched as Micah studied her thoughtfully. He smiled at her and roughed her hair up slightly.

We both have some darkness in us now. Micah winked at her as a possessive arm snaked around Alexis' waist. Micah kept his gaze on Alexis' blue eyes as the family began chattering and closing in. Lex... does this upset you? Because you've never had a problem with me and my darkness. This isn't any different.

Alexis' mouth parted in shock. Micah was right. His darkness was never a concern. He was a guardian. Was it the dark in her that was really bothering her? She averted her gaze from him and looked down at the ground.

"You said the glass is gone?"

Alexis glanced up to see Harley hastily making his way towards her. He was the son of an original demon and her cousin Destiny's mate.

“May I?” Harley asked glancing from Aken, Micah, and finally Alexis. “I’d like to see.”

Aken glanced down at Alexis and tightened his grip on her waist. These were mostly strangers to him. And trust wasn’t something he gave away freely, especially with his mate.

“It’s okay Aken. Harley is family and I trust him.” Alexis nodded her head to Aken who fixated his gaze on Harley. You could see he was prepared to attack the instant he felt it was necessary.

Harley nodded at Aken respectfully. “I understand your feelings. Don’t worry. I just want to help. I have experience with nembrant glass.” He bent his head down to gaze into Alexis’ eyes. His brows knitted together and he reached his hand out to grab onto hers. He stared into her eyes like he was opening a hole with his gaze. “The glass has been absorbed and the powers along with it.” His lips pursed tight together forming a tight line.

“Harley, what is it?” Destiny’s sweet voice rang out from the side. She was sitting right beside Lucy with their beautiful baby bumps.

“Alexis is okay.” Harley turned his head to look over at his mate. He knew she was worried, and he wanted to reassure her.

“What is that look for?” Levi asked moving in finally. He reached out and plucked Alexis from her mate and into his arms. He squeezed her tightly as he held his baby girl. He had been worried about her and missed her. It was relieving to have her close and see she was alright. Rhea was instantly there, and she wrapped her arms around her daughter as well.

“My baby.” Rhea whispered as she played with her daughter’s hair.

Harley took a few steps back as the creases on his forehead increased. Aken was now studying him and so were a lot of the family members.

“Lex, forget about what happened before. I don’t want you thinking about it. Okay?” Rhea leaned her head into her daughters. “I’m so glad you found your light.”

“I did... but I also retained the dark,” Alexis whispered out quietly.

“About that dark—” Harley finally spoke making everyone snap their head in his direction. “Do you think you can summon a ball of it? Just the dark. It may take some focus, but you should be able to do it.”

Alexis licked her lips nervously and glanced back at Aken. The moment he saw her anxiousness he pulled her back away from her parents and locked her in his arms.

“I think she has been through enough for now. She doesn’t need to perform circus tricks for your amusement.” Aken growled lowly as he held her protectively.

“It is important. I wouldn’t have asked otherwise.” Harley sighed.

“Harley is right. It shouldn’t be too hard Alexis. Give it a try.” A little boy with dark hair and eyes said.

“Now now. This is an adult conversation.” A man with blonde hair and brown eyes grinned as he patted the boy on the head. The little boy was not really a little boy at all. He was actually a half-demon whose soul was saved and placed into a child’s body. But the man liked to tease him anyways. He was also the future guardian of one of Lucy’s unborn children.

“Oh, then why are you here? You were getting your butt powdered only yesterday, Jasper.” The little boy snorted in irritation.

“Uh oh. Aba is cranky. You see what happens when you miss nap time?” Jasper grinned as Aba rolled his eyes at him. Jasper was the vampire prince’s cousin and also a very close friend of the family. He was here with the Vampire Royals – Princess Lucy and Prince Derek.

“It was your turn to put him down for a nap. I don’t want to hear it.” A man commented as he ran his hands through his green hair. This was Justice. He was Lucy’s guardian and her cousin. His sister was Destiny, and their parents were Jason and Jin.

Aken kept his gaze on Harley. He could feel exactly what he was by his aura. It was hard to hide the energy of a demon let alone one from an original demon. He ignored the others and focused on him. “What are you looking for?”

“Aken,” Levi said in a terse voice. “I know you don’t know these people. But we all trust them. I trust Harley. He wouldn’t ask without reason.”

“I-I-I can try.” Alexis shivered out. After being that deep in darkness the last thing she wanted to do was conjure it willingly.

“I’m right here Lex. I’m not letting go of you.” Aken wrapped his arms around her waist determined to support her however he could. Or teleport her away from her many family members. Which was rapidly crossing his mind.

Micah stepped in front of Alexis and nodded his head to her. “I’m also right here.”

Alexis held her hand out and at first made a white ball of snow. She stared at the ball and focused on the dark swirls inside of her. The snow slowly turned black as tiny sparks rippled off of it.

“Interesting...” Harley walked up and grabbed the ball out of her hands. He recognized the source of this energy. He glanced up to see Aba staring at it wide eyed. It was a source that was easily recognizable to those who have felt it before.

“That’s not good,” Aba whispered out quietly as he backed up to Lucy in a protective stance. The energy source made the hairs on the back of his neck stand up in alert. He didn’t have all of his memories and was even missing the memories of one lifetime. But this was a power he knew in his soul. And nothing good could come from it.

“What isn’t good?” Alexis asked nervously.

“It’s nothing to do with you. You are fine. And you have a nice power boost now. It will take you time but once you learn to utilize it you will be even stronger.” Harley watched as she tilted her head to the side.

“Can I still teleport like before?” Alexis asked and Harley shrugged.

“As of now... no. But later down the road? Maybe.” Harley watched the impatient green eyes staring at him from behind Alexis. He was wanting an answer now. “That demonic power didn’t just come from any source. That power was infused with the demon king’s essence.”

“Are you sure?!” Levi said in mild alarm.

“Yes,” Aba answered confidently.

“I’m very sure. I know this energy very well. It was given by none other than the demon king. For him to get involved means he has an interest here somewhere.” Harley looked over at Destiny and his unborn child. They were his world. His everything. If he had to, he would disappear with them. The demon king’s involvement could only be bad news for everyone.

“That reminds me. I met someone. An old woman. She had grey hair and white eyes. I couldn’t recognize her power, but it was different. She looked like... I don’t know. Her skin was dull and gray. But I met her while I was still Xi. She knew about the nembrant glass. It seemed like she was working for Erebus. But I just remembered. While my head was hurting, I heard her talking to Erebus and she is trying to free her granddaughter’s soul.” Alexis’ gaze moved to her Uncle Wyatt and Aunt Freya.

“She said her name is Meryl.”

Taming Her Beastly Mate Chapter 54

Chapter 54 Nycrops?

“She said her name is Meryl.” There was silence around the room as everyone looked toward Wyatt and Freya – The King and Queen of the Werewolves. They knew Meryl and it wasn’t a name that brought anything other than dread, death, and destruction where ever she went.

Freya had a chill go down her spine as she thought back to the last time they had met. (Demon War: Rise of the Alpha.) Meryl had been obsessed with Freya’s family since her mother had chosen a vampire mate. She had killed both of Freya’s parents as well as injected Wyatt with a blood curse.

“Meryl... I killed her. How is it possible?” Freya looked up to look at her mate, Wyatt in disbelief.

“I wonder if she plans to settle her old grudge,” Wyatt growled angrily. He glanced over at his son Aiden who he knew would be apprehensive. His mate Diana had remained at the Diamond pack against Aiden’s protests. Lycaon insisted Diana would be safe and that it was important for a leader to stay behind. Aiden was adamant that if Diana stayed behind then he was staying as well. But Diana was unwavering that she would stay alone. She wanted time away from Aiden. If truth be told Wyatt was a bit anxious over the

relationship. Diana had a wall built around her and would only briefly let Aiden in before it was back up again. He knew his son was hurting but he never voiced it.

Wyatt knew what it was like to be rejected. And at this point, he wasn't sure how things were going to go for Aiden and Diana. Aiden wanted her. But Diana—he honestly wasn't sure. She seemed to care for Aiden, but she has been reluctant to accept his mark. If Aiden ended up rejected all he could do was be there for him. For now, this worry needed to be pushed to the back burner.

“Is she a necromancer like Beryl had turned into?” Lucy asked as she attempted to get up on her own. An attempt that failed. She had three men on her instantly and a little boy all scolding her. Lucy clicked her tongue, “I can stand!”

“Sit down and relax. You don't need to use up your energy standing.” Derek slid into the seat and pulled her down onto his lap.

“Might as well forget it, Lucy. All our men see are porcelain dolls about to break.” Destiny leaned back as she rubbed her round hardened stomach. Ever since Harley found out she was pregnant he has been doting on her relentlessly.

Harley moved back to Destiny and placed his hands on her shoulders. He lightly rubbed them as he looked up at everyone. “She could have been brought back a number of different ways. She is working with demons. Necromancy, soul binding, I mean there are many forms that she can be brought back as.”

“She could materialize and teleport. And she was strong. I remember feeling her aura. I've never felt anything like it.” Alexis murmured as she tried to remember the details.

“The thing is most necromancers have black eyes. White eyes...” Harley trailed off as his lips curled downwards. He mindlessly rubbed Destiny's shoulders. He had been avoiding the depths of the demon realm for quite some time. Ever since he found his unborn mate, he distanced himself. He didn't want his sweet mate being subjected to the horrors of the dark world. But because of his absence, there was a lot now that he didn't know. Even the loyal men he kept by his side no longer had the same dealings.

Harley had moved all his interest into the corporate world. He had grown his businesses to be a global tycoon. For a Demon, his work and business takeovers were non-violent but so satisfying. Destiny and her mother Jin were too kindhearted and he would protect their gentle souls from any evil lurking. And one of those evils now was someone who was brought back from the dead with white eyes. A creature like that was very dangerous. Because there was only one that came to mind right now.

“A Nycrops.” Aba lifted his little brown eyes up to Harley.

“How?!” Tristan scowled as he looked at the small child. It was hard to remember that this kid was much older than he was.

“Aba is right. A nycrops seems to fit the puzzle correctly. They must have sealed her body with an alabaster stone. It would have collected her soul and essence when she died. Then the demons would have only needed to retrieve it. And with the powers of the stone, they can bring back a species of their choosing.” Harley looked up at Levi. “Deities and original demons won’t have any issues with a nycrops. But even your guardians will have one hell of a fight on their hands. If she is indeed a nycrops the demons have unleashed one hell of an ally.”

“I think they are using her to work on the nembrant glass. Erebus asked her why it wasn’t working. Is there something special a nycrops can do with the glass?” Alexis asked and watched as Harley’s eyes widened.

“That’s it.” Harley nodded his head and sighed. “The nembrant glass was originally created by the nycrops. So, they must need one for enhancement’s... or more production.” He lifted his eyes up to Levi and then to Aken.

“Right, we need to get rid of this nycrops as soon as possible. The last thing we need is more of that damn glass.” Levi growled. He didn’t like the sounds of this at all. It smelled. The whole discussion reeked of something sinister.

“At least the family is safe inside of Elysium. We can take this time to observe and come up with a well thought out plan.” Tyler finally spoke up as the patriarch of the family.

“I’ll be taking Alexis and Micah with me for a bit,” Aken spoke out firmly leaving no room for objection. Though it happened anyways.

“Where?! I just got my daughter back. I want her where it is safe.” Levi balled his hand into a fist. Rhea’s small hand encompassed his own hand as her eyes also held to Aken’s.

“I just got my mate back. And this is after her not being able to see my face because of the glass. I understand your concern. But she will be safe at my place. What fool would come into my home? No one. It is well hidden and protected. And I will be there.” Aken looked down at Alexis and smiled. He was keeping his temper under control for her. He really wanted to lash out at the cold blooded flying serpent. Instead, he wanted to make this less stressful for Alexis. For her, he would behave himself. “It will be safer for Alexis if she is linked to my summon abilities. I’ll be able to teleport to her instantly.”

“After everything that happened, I don’t think this is a family decision. I think Alexis needs this.” Micah winked over at Alexis and listened to Levi’s quiet snort.

“I understand. Selfishly, I want you here with me. But Aken is able to protect you. Just like Lee protects me. And I know he would never put you in danger.” Rhea squeezed Lee’s hand and looked up at him. One of the toughest things they had to do now was to understand their daughter was an adult. It was time for them to let go and allow her to make her own decisions.

“Well before you go you are having girl talk with us!” Lucy insisted. “It’s been a while since us girls have been together. Someone go get Raine. She can come up for air for a couple of hours to be with us.”

Cody began coughing and Jason started laughing. Jason’s daughter, Destiny, has already taken a mate and is pregnant. He knew all too well the emotions his brother was feeling.

“It won’t be long before you are going to be a grandpa yourself.” Jason teased his brother.

“I’m too young to be called grandpa.” Cody pouted. His baby girl now had a mate, and it was hard not to be the number one man in her life. They always had a fun close relationship. And he was still adjusting to the newness of it all.

“Young? I’m having specially engraved canes being made for your birthdays this year.” Justice grinned widely at his uncle and father. “We should make one for your dad too, right Aiden?” He looked over at his cousin who had a

blank expression on his face. His mind seemed to be somewhere else. He lifted his eyes and nodded with a faint smile.

Alexis looked at her cousin and felt her heart crush to pieces. She understood the pain of your mate distancing themselves from you. It hurt. And you felt like there was something wrong with you. That it was because of you that they didn't want you. Because you weren't enough as you are, otherwise, they would be by your side. She knew that look. She didn't know what was going on in Aiden's life exactly, but there was some pain there. Luckily, she had experience with it and knew how to help it. And that was to distract yourself.

Alexis swirled her fingers together forming several white thick fluffy balls. And then she unleashed her frigid barrage. Justice, Aiden, and Jasper soon were wearing a layer of white snow on their face. It dripped down slowly melting as it hit the ground below them.

Aiden looked up at Alexis and a smile reached not only on his face but his eyes. "A snowball fight? Like when we were kids?"

"Why not?" Alexis smiled biting her bottom lip.

"What are teams? Because these two can't play. They can only roll." A cheesy grin spread over Justice's face as another snowball slammed into his cheek.

"Oops." Alexis shrugged with a giggle.

"Hit him again Lex!" Destiny snorted glaring at her brother. "I am busy cooking your niece or nephew in here. Have some consideration."

"I was having consideration. I didn't call you Stay Puff Marshmallow Man." This time Justice dodged to the side missing the next flying snowball.

"No teams. It should be a free for all." Aiden said and then glared at Micah. "No teams, Micah."

Micah snorted and shrugged. "I know what a free for all is."

"Oh, you know it but every time we have one you end up protecting Alexis." Justice turned a scolding eye to Micah.

"I don't know what you are talking about." Micah shrugged with a sly grin on his face.

Aken leaned his head down and brushed his lips over the top of Alexis' head. As he held her gently.

"Why don't you go get Terra and bring her here. I'm sure she would like to participate as well." Alexis watched as Aken frowned slightly.

"It will take you seconds to grab her and come back here." Alexis giggled.

"Terra?" Destiny asked as she raised her brow looking at Aken suspiciously.

"Terra is half demon and half vampire. Aken took her in after the demon war. I don't think she thinks highly of herself. She was nervous meeting me thinking I wouldn't want to be around her. I think being around our family is exactly what she needs." Alexis smiled up at Aken.

Aken grabbed onto Alexis' shoulders and guided her to Micah. "Hold onto her and don't let her go. I'll be back in seconds." He listened to Alexis laugh but Micah nodded to him in understanding. He released Alexis into Micah's arms as he prepared to grab Terra and flash back instantly.

Alexis watched Aken disappear and what was maybe twenty seconds later he was back with a confused Terra by his side.

"What is the rush?" Terra asked and then her whole body tensed as she looked up at all the people. She bit her bottom lip nervously and her gaze instantly went to the ground.

"Terra! I'm glad you can join us. We are going to have a snowball fight. It'll be fun." Alexis shrugged herself out of Micah's arms and reached out to grab onto Terra's hands. She could feel how tense Terra was. And her eyes looked up at her anxiously. She could see confusion washing over her as she glanced around timidly.

Terra was being hit was an overwhelming wave of emotions. She was never around a lot of people and suddenly it was a crowd. But there was also this strange scent that was pulling her. It made her begin to glance around as she tried to locate the source. Then her eyes landed on a pair of brown eyes that were staring at her intently. She caught her breath in her throat as the eyes stared at her possessively. Then she heard him growl and he marched towards her.

"Mine."

-Note-

There has been a glitch with iPhones and voting. Hopefully, it's fixed soon.

Taming Her Beastly Mate Chapter 55

Chapter 55 Family against Family

"Mine." The words spilled out from Jasper's mouth as he stormed towards Terra. An overwhelming need of something he couldn't understand drove him without thinking. Her hazel eyes captured him as her scent beckoned him closer. Her scent was like the most delicious blood he had ever tasted. It made his insides roll in a frenzy, wanting to mark her... to taste her. She was his mate. She was his. But right before he could reach her, Aken pulled her back protectively. Which made Jasper halt. He glared at Aken with his possessive eyes. And for a moment . . . it appeared he was actually crazy enough to consider taking her from the deity in front of him.

Aken held his gaze on Jasper. "Wait." His deep voice radiated with authority as he glared at Jasper. He waited until he saw the vampire's eye color flashback to normal before he dropped his gaze from him. "Is this man your mate"? He had no problem with allowing her mate but he was giving her a moment to process what happened and what she wanted to do about it.

Terra's hazel eyes looked at the brown eyes of the man in front of her. There was no denying what she felt. There was no denying the mate pull. His scent was a blend of cinnamon and leather, different from any other scent she had come across. It was a smell that was now hers. His blonde hair stood in a messy manner that she craved to touch. Her eyes were tracing over his lips as she felt a magnetic force pulling her to this man. But he was a stranger. A stranger who knew nothing about her. "Yes, he is my mate. But—" She stared at Jasper. "We have different allegiances." She looked at the pure-blooded vampire man that stood behind him. She could recognize his scent. Her vampire blood would know a high-ranking vampire when she met one. And she could tell the man in front of her was also a high-ranking vampire. "You follow the vampires. I have sworn my allegiance to Aken."

"Terra." Aken quirked a brow up at her. "Don't hide behind excuses. Remember the talk you had with me. Not quite how one would speak to the one they pledge allegiance to..." If Terra didn't want to take Jasper as a mate, that was fine. However, she wasn't going to hide behind excuses.

Terra nodded her head. She understood Aken instantly, so she decided to just say what the deal breaker was. "My parents fought with the demons during the demon war. I am the daughter they left behind when they died. My mother was a pure-blooded vampire, and my father was the son of an original demon." (Demon War: Rise of the Alpha)

"Do you remember their names?" Harley asked with now a piqued interest.

"Yes, my mother was Claire, and my father was Leoric." Terra saw a few people stir uncomfortably.

Aba had his brows knitted together as he frowned. "Leoric... that name... I—" He didn't have his memories from his first life. And some things were blurring even from his second, though for the most part, he remembers his existence as a bound servant. But this was a name he had heard before. A name he was told about. "Is that the same Leoric who was my half-brother?"

"It is," Harley confirmed and nodded his head. "There was no other son of an original demon by the name of Leoric. So, I guess that makes her your niece." Harley chuckled and could see the confused face of the young woman. "It's a long story. One they can catch you up on later."

"My name is Jasper. The prince of the vampires is my cousin. Yes, I am loyal to the vampires. That will never change. My family is there. You are not your parents and I won't reject you because of what they did. Finding each other at this age is a gift. Let's take some time to get to know each other."

The man's voice, although hoarse, was deep and calm. The timbre of his voice was one that made Terra want to listen. She reached up and tucked a strand of her dark hair behind her ear. As she tried to ignore the almost painful feeling inside of her. She thought back to the draw she had seen Aken had towards Alexis. He was always going to watch over her. As if he couldn't live without seeing her. She wouldn't lie to herself, she wanted that too. But she wasn't just going to agree to it. She didn't know anything about this man. Not enough to agree to give him her life. It was almost like Aken sensed this though, because his next words were in consideration of her.

"Why don't you come back with us? During that time, you two can get better acquainted and can decide what you wish to do from there." Aken winked down at Terra who gave him a faint smile in appreciation. He knew she would feel better not being surrounded by so many people immediately. She wasn't used to this after all.

Jasper frowned and pursed his lips together. Lucy was heavily pregnant, and it didn't sit right with him to leave her there along with Derek.

"Go," Derek said in a commanding voice. "That's an order." He knew his cousin well enough that he would have to give him the push he needed.

Jasper turned to look at Derek. Their eyes met and a slight smile reached Derek's lips.

'Go, this is your fated mate we are talking about. We are completely safe here.' Derek winked at Jasper. 'Go and win her heart.'

Jasper nodded his head. Thank you. He turned back around and looked at Aken. "I accept." His eyes then moved to the hazel eyes of Terra. The girl was the most beautiful creature he had ever seen. Her dark hair spilled over her caramel shoulders. Her eyes were brown accented with little flecks of gold and green. They were mystifying and alluring. And right now, how she was biting her bottom lip made Jasper squeeze his fingers together tightly. He needed to fight for self-control so that he could adjust to her pace. She wasn't brought up the same way he was. He wanted to know everything about her.

Jasper wanted to accept the mate bond right away. He didn't fear it. He wanted to cherish it and the beautiful mate in front of him. It didn't matter to him if he didn't know her. But things were different for him. He grew up with loving parents and in a safe environment. He hoped that in time Terra would learn to put her trust in him. However, he couldn't ever see himself leaving the Vampire Kingdom. It was his home, and he knew this was something that they needed to work through.

"Terra, Jasper is family to me. I grew up with him. He is like another one of my cousins. I can attest that while he can be annoying, he is a good guy." Alexis listened to Jasper snort.

"Hey, I am not annoying. How can you call me annoying when there is Justice and Aiden around?!" Jasper grinned as he listened to the chuckles from the other men. His eyes were back to looking at Terra. "Would you feel comfortable enough taking a walk with me? I promise I won't bite... unless you ask."

Terra raised a brow at him. Her mate had a lot of confidence in himself. Well, it would take more than confidence to impress her. She was raised by Mr. Confidence himself. "I'm not a dog. I don't need to be walked." She looked

around and spotted a nice area where the tree's created a cool shadow canopy. She looked up at Aken and said, "I'll be over there waiting. Let me know when we are leaving."

Jasper watched her walk away, admiring the way her hips swayed. He wanted to follow her and drag her off somewhere private. Let her feel how the mate bond connected them. But instead, she brushed him off. To say he was shocked was an understatement. He had never been turned down before.

Aken couldn't help but smirk and quietly laugh. She was headstrong and doing things on her terms. He watched Terra sit down in the grass and then turned to look back at Jasper.

"Well?" Aken said in a harsh whisper.

"Well, what?" Jasper hissed back. He was still trying to pick his crumbled self off the ground.

"Idiot." Alexis clicked her tongue. "Go sit by her."

Jasper stared at Alexis confused. "But she said—"

"You want a formal invitation?" Micah chuckled at how dense Jasper was. He was used to women throwing themselves at him. A woman playing hard to get was uncharted territory. A woman who happened to be his mate.

"Oh...OH— You think—" Jasper glanced over at Terra and his lips curled upwards. He then made his way over towards Terra. He thought she was shooting him down. Here she was giving him a chance to talk alone but on her terms. Okay, he could roll with this. Not that he had another choice.

Alexis smiled and turned her gaze away from them. She hoped that everything would work out for the two of them. She didn't know Terra well but from what she could tell she was a nice young woman. She didn't think highly of herself. Of course, then you had Jasper who thought too highly of himself. They were probably a perfect pair to help even each other out.

"Alexis! You are back." Raine cheered out as she ran over with Ryker in tow.

"What were YOU two doing?" Justice asked with a smirk.

"Sleeping." Ryker shrugged innocently.

“Sleeping? Uh-huh. Sure.” Justice scoffed and Ryker grinned widely.

“We were sleeping... only because we didn’t sleep at all last night.” Ryker’s smile quickly vanished as he heard the snort from Cody not far away from him. “It’s hard to sleep in an unfamiliar place.” He cleared his throat and listened to Justice’s snicker.

“Now that Raine is here it is catch up time!” Destiny grinned. “We all four have mates now. Lucy and I are about to pop. I want to hear about everything.”

“Hey what about the snowball fight?” Aiden asked with a grin. “You wouldn’t be afraid, would you?”

Alexis laughed. “Afraid? Alright, you asked for it.” She looked over at a flat grassy area below the patio they were standing on. With a wave of her wrist, the area turned white with thick fluffy snow. “You know... this isn’t a battle you can win.”

“I have no shame in ganging up on her to bring her down.” Justice rolled his shoulders cracking them.

“Well to be fair about this...” Rhea spoke up clearly enjoying herself. “Alexis you can’t summon more snow. No one can use their magic. And I am joining in on the fun too.”

“Of course you are.” Cody snorted folding his arms over his chest.

“What’s the matter, Cody? You afraid of getting embarrassed?” Wyatt smirked as he cracked in knuckles in front of him.

“If Wyatt is joining in then I am too!” Jason chuckled as he felt his excitement begin to rise. No matter how old they were they were still big kids at heart.

“I think I need to make the playing field bigger.” Alexis giggled as the white spread more. One of the things she loved about her family was their fun nature. They were tough and fierce when they needed to be. But they also knew when to have fun.

“I’ll be by your side, my fairy. I’ll protect you.” Levi rubbed Rhea’s shoulders and looked up to see green eyes drilling into him. He leaned his head down and lightly peck her lips. “Whether you want me to or not.” He mumbled against her lips.

Aken chuckled. “Well of course if you are joining in on this I will also be joining.”

Blue pinned against green in a fierce stare down. They might all be family but right now it was war. Mother against daughter, father against son, cousins against cousins— all competitive and not willing to show mercy to the other.

“Aba, are you coming? Just remember don’t eat the yellow snow.” Justice flashed his pearly white grin as the young half-demon rolled his eyes.

“No thanks. I’m staying with Lucy.”

Justice shrugged his shoulders. “Suit yourself. I understand. I mean you are so young and little. It would be a massacre.”

“Reverse psychology won’t work on me. Idi.ot.” Aba sat down next to Lucy quite content to sit this one out. He wasn’t a big fan of snow.

Aken walked next to Alexis and scooped her into his side. “You know... we have to win this right? I can’t lose to the blue— your father.” He cleared his throat and winked down at her.

“I don’t plan on losing. Snow is my element after all.” Alexis felt him tug her to a stop as he spun her in his arms. He bent his head down and kissed her forehead gently.

“Alright my love. Let’s defend your honor.”

-Note-

Taming is still in the top 10. Thank you for all your support! You are the best. I really appreciate your votes and support. If you want to help me more, you can make a post on Dreame Official FB group supporting my book.