

Taming Her Beastly Mate Chapter 71

Chapter 71 Goodbye

Meanwhile, back at the Thunder's hideout...

"So that's what happened." Wendy sighed in her office looking across her desk at Ryker. "We can't act on this yet. We need to find out how deep this goes. We need to know how many traitors we have. And I don't know who I can trust now." She tapped her fingers on the table. "I'm going to need your help on this Ryker."

"I'll have to talk this over with Brian. And I need to see my mate. I need to talk with her and explain everything. I just left without an explanation."

Wendy smiled. "What is it like?" Her voice was quiet as she looked at him. "As you know, I rejected my mate ages ago... but I often wonder what it would have been like.."

"I wish I could tell you that you aren't missing out. And that it isn't amazing. But it is and you are. And to think if I hadn't lost my memories I wouldn't have claimed her." Ryker shook his head. "My life is her life. There is no point without her. I love her so much." He let out an airy chuckle. "She is probably so mad at me."

"I'm happy for you, Ryker. I'm disappointed you are leaving our group, but it is also reassuring to have you at our prince's side."

"Mates aren't just a weakness. They are also a form of strength." Ryker watched Wendy smile and nod her head.

"But they are an incredible weakness. If I took your mate and held her hostage, you would do anything for her safety. And that is why we don't allow mates." Wendy watched as Ryker shrugged.

"You don't allow traitors either and yet here we are..."

"A grave error on our part. In the future, we will make dragons bind themselves to the Thunders. We never wanted to do this before but perhaps we should have all along." Wendy looked down at the table. "I've been too trusting. I am sorry Ryker. I should have looked for you immediately after you disappeared."

“Maybe it is a good thing I was mistaken for dead at first. If I was brought back here without my memories, I probably would have been poisoned by Mason. And he would have said I succumbed to my injuries.”

Wendy breathed out angrily through her teeth. “No wonder he was insisting we kept you drugged. I bet he was just waiting for his opportunity to poison you.” She shook her head and a low growl emitted from her throat. “I wish I could scorch him now.”

A knock was heard at the door and Wendy raised to her feet to answer it. Her office was soundproof, so telling them to enter wouldn't do any good. She opened the door and arched her brow. “Yes?”

“The prince has come back again...”

“Bring him to me. I'd like to speak with him.” Wendy shut her door and turned to look at Ryker. “Let's formulate a plan. Then you can go back to see your mate.”

—

Alexis panted as she tried to recover from the attack she sent out. When she felt Micah in pain, she sent out a powerful wave to his defense. It was a method she had used before against Erebus. She wasn't trying to hold her punches either. It was a powerful attack that would leave someone severely wounded if not dead. But it took a lot out of her and unlike with Erebus she still kept her connection to Micah.

The darkness wrapped around her body and began to constrict her lungs like a snake its prey. There was a chill over the shadow that was biting her skin. It was filling her with thoughts of despair as it tried to seep into her. Then it violently burst around her and dug its invisible hooks into her skin.

She stood there frozen. She could see Aken and her father's lips moving but there was no sound. Yet behind them, she could see a shadow figure moving towards her. A wave of repulsion hit her as she felt the malevolent nature of the shadow. It lunged towards her. Zigzagging with inhuman speed. It went to reach for Alexis but then an orange light slammed into it shattering the shadow. At the same time, the orange glow surrounded her as Aken's arms encircled her.

A new power inside of Aken awoke a moment before the shadow attacked. It was the awakening of his fairy power that was gifted to him by Alexis. The power allowed him to connect with Alexis and pool into her body. He was suddenly able to see the shadow right as it lunged for Alexis.

Aken disintegrated the shadow and poured his energy into his mate. She was in a vulnerable moment after sending out an attack like that. She was temporarily drained and left in a state where she couldn't fight.

"What is going on?" Levi growled unable to see anything.

"She sent out a mental attack to protect Micah. Whoever has him sent an attack of her own through that same connection." Aken kept his energy up as a shield as Alexis squirmed in protest.

"Take it down. I can't feel Micah as well." Alexis' voice was agitated as she tried to control her breathing and regain her composure.

"No. Not right now." Aken said firmly. He didn't care how much she insisted at this moment. Her safety was his number one priority.

Levi cursed under his breath. "You left yourself wide open for an attack." He shook his head angrily. "How were you able to stop it?" He then looked at Aken.

A crooked smile rose on Aken's face. "It was fairy magic. Her gift to me. It just... it is hard to explain but it called out to me in a sense of urgency. And then I could see this shadow lunging for her. It allowed me to connect with her in a way I can't explain. I could see what she could see. I could put my aura inside of her to protect her." He looked down at Alexis and tightened his arms around her making her squirming stop. "I'm not saying you aren't strong enough. But you are not doing this by yourself. There is no need to. Your mate is a deity. Your father is a deity. Take advantage of those facts. We are doing this together."

Aken felt as Alexis' body tightened and then she began to writhe in pain. She dug her nails into his skin as a cry escaped from her mouth.

"What is hurting her?!" Levi growled stepping closer.

"It's..." Aken shook his head and growled. "It's not attacking her... Lex drop the connection."

“No.” Alexis cried through clenched teeth.

“ALEXIS!” Levi yelled grabbing a hold of her shoulder. “Break the connection.”

“No... what if I can't... get it back.” Alexis panted and then bit her lip to silence her cries. Droplets of blood rose to the surface as she groaned from the pain. She wouldn't break the connection. She needed to hold on so she could find him.

“Alexis...” Aken tried to reason with her. He wanted her to stop. It was dangerous for her body to hold on like this. He leaned his head down and pressed his lips against hers. A sparkling sphere of light surrounded her as he poured himself into her. If she wouldn't let go then he was going to do whatever he could to help her. He tried to follow her connection to Micah and place himself as a shield to take whatever pain her could from her.

Meryl cackled as she plunged the razor blades of darkness into Micah. She watched him squirm as beads of sweat formed on his forehead. The pain was being threaded through him and tugging on his darkness to awaken. The light of the fairy princess was like scissors cutting the dark threads away. Her light continued to race inside of him keeping the darkness a bay.

Meryl watched the shadowy gnats of her darkness burrow into Micah's skin. She sought out his hidden darkness. The power inside of her allowed her to tear into his abyss slowly freeing what was captive. Little by little, she was trying to drown him in darkness. She pushed her aura into him allowing it to lash at him in the form of cutting blades. She then spread the blades inside of him until they were numerous. It was like taking a pitchfork to a body of flesh. Because torturing his body would be torturing the princess' body. The fairy princess didn't know it but she had given Meryl the leverage she needed to get to Micah.

The invisible razors of darkness found every spot it could. They dug into his skin and attacked every cell in his body. He groaned from the excruciating pain. His body was shaking as he tried to hold in the screams that were struggling to come out. She was purposely torturing him.

Micah couldn't cast the darkness out because they were embedded inside of him. The pain was excruciating. It was meant to drain him. It was meant to make him an empty shell. He could feel it making him c***k. It was breaking

down his defenses to make him vulnerable. The darkness was trying to consume him. He would not allow it. He would not allow her to win. Micah took deep breathes as he tried to stop his body from shaking. He was determined to hold on.

“My my my my... it must be so painful, isn't it?” Meryl's spat out venomously. “Of course... your body is a defensive body. It is made to handle abuse. I wonder how your princess is holding up though.” She watched Micah's eyes bulge open as she planted the deadly seed that would give her Micah.

Micah suddenly felt his heart squeeze in pain. He looked down at his hand as he felt Alexis' light fighting inside of him. She had a firm grip on him and wasn't letting go. It didn't even occur to him that she was feeling this pain too. But of course she was. She was connecting to his light. No... his princess was taking this pain on her shoulders. She wasn't going to let go. He already knew that no matter what she would never let go.

He closed his eyes and envisioned her face. Her beautiful smile, bright blue eyes, and hair that shined like the sun. Through his pain, he smiled. His princess. His sweet, brave, fearless Alexis. “Oh Lex... I can't let you feel this...” Micah whispered out. He squeezed his fingers into a ball and pursed his lips together. This was killing him... what he had to do. But he had to. In order to protect Alexis... he had to let go of her. No matter what that meant for himself. He caressed her light inside of him and breathed in her comfort. One. Last. Time.

“I love you, Alexis... goodbye... my princess.”

—

Alexis' body was trembling as blood began to trickle from her nose. The pain was taking a toll on her and she was just waiting for it to stop. Micah was feeling this torture firsthand. Her poor sweet guardian. She was going to find him and make whoever had him pay. If it was Meryl she would eradicate her soul so there was no coming back. Hell would pay for this.

She felt Micah's light squeeze against her almost as if it was a hug and then...

SNAP

With a jolt everything stopped. The pain stopped. She furrowed her brows as she searched for Micah's light. It was... gone. His light was gone. She couldn't

feel it. Short fast breaths heaved from her chest as her lungs couldn't take in the fresh air.

"M..M...M...MICAAAAAAHHH!"

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Chapter 72 Return to Elysium

Alexis went limp and Aken lifted her up against his chest. He looked down and she was unconscious. There were beads of sweat on her forehead and her face looked twisted in pain.

"What happened?" Levi asked feeling helpless.

"Micah's light... it vanished." Aken looked up at Levi as he shook his head. "I don't know what this means."

"We need to go back to Elysium. If something happened with Micah, they will know. And... we need to take her back while she is unconscious." Levi looked up at Aken who seemed to be hesitating. "There is nothing we can do at the moment. We need answers."

Aken sighed and finally nodded his head. "That bear better be alright." He cradled Alexis in his arms and with a slight shift in the air, he transported to Elysium. Levi followed right beside him. Aken lifted his head up looking around the inner castle room they were in. Rhea and Lilly were both in there and came rushing over to check on Alexis.

"Is she okay?" Rhea asked and ran her fingers through her daughter's damp hair. Lilly grabbed Alexis' hand checking the state of her pulse.

"Follow me," Lilly commanded and led them through a set of doors on the other side of the room.

Aken looked around the room. It had cabinets around it and a bed in the center of the room. Lilly motioned for him to lay Alexis down. He raised his brows up at her and fastened his grip on Alexis. "She isn't leaving my arms."

"Oh for goodness sake. Then sit down with her. Hurry up!" Lilly commanded. Aken sat on the bed and looked over at her as she drew something up in a vial.

Aken instantly withdrew Alexis with a low growl. “What is that?”

“We need to keep her asleep. This will make sure she doesn’t wake up anytime soon. Quickly. She needs this in order to recover.” Lilly held the needle out, but Aken still wasn’t moving.

“Aken. Trust her. She would never hurt Alexis.” Levi watched as Aken furrowed his brows.

“I don’t think Alexis would want this.” Aken continued to guard her body.

“If she wakes up now she could hurt herself. You don’t want that.” Lilly insisted and motioned with her hand for him to hurry up.

Aken gritted his teeth together as he inhaled deeply. Alexis’ health was his number one priority. Reluctantly he lowered Alexis and Lilly quickly grabbed her arm and plunged the needle into her flesh.

“There.” Lilly sighed. “Now we can talk.” She looked up at Aken and smiled. “It is just a sedative, relax. I promise there is nothing there that will hurt her. But if she wakes up now she is going to hurt herself. She will be too upset. After the loss of Micah...”

“What happened to Micah?!” Aken finally asked interrupting Lilly.

“Fairy magic is special as you know. It has a life of its own. The connection between a guardian and the fairy princess is a joint relationship. A bond that surpasses basic comprehension. Stronger than the mate bond in a sense. Though it has never happened before... it is possible to sever that bond. Micah has rejected being her guardian... His light didn’t vanish it just quit. It isn’t being blocked either...”

“Alexis was in a lot of pain. She was linked with Micah in order to find him. And she was feeling what he was feeling...” Levi’s lips pursed into a thin line as he shook his head. “He was protecting her...”

“Without Alexis’ light inside of him...” Rhea whispered out with watery eyes.

“I’m going to get him back. I’ll find him and bring him back. She needs Micah.” Aken said firmly as he held Alexis’ unconscious body tenderly.

“Aken’s fairy magic has awoken inside of him.” Levi looked over at Rhea whose eyes widened.

“Already? That was fast. Levi’s still hasn’t awoken. Fairy magic is choosey like that. But it must have been necessary.” Rhea then furrowed her brows. “Did Alexis already...” She pursed her lips together. “Did Alexis claim you as her prince?”

“She marked me... twice. Does that count?” Aken chuckled as Levi cleared his throat and closed his as. Rhea and Lilly stood there quietly staring at one another.

“It has to be because of the soul mate connection, right? The sharing of powers through the mark.” Lilly looked at Aken with a discerning eye. “He hasn’t been made the prince yet. So that’s all it can be.”

“Whatever the reason it allowed me to protect Alexis from a shadow attack.” Aken knew about fairy magic but not how in-depth it was. It was a type of magic that was alive. Unlike a witch and their magic. Fairy magic was a lifeforce of its own.

Aken looked down at Alexis and his heart hurt. When she woke up she was going to be a wreck. She needed Micah. He easily felt that much. “We’ve got to get Micah back. Alexis needs her guardian.”

“A new guardian is already ready. Usually, the fairy queen chooses the guardian for their daughter. But in the event of a death, there is already a replacement guardian that is trained. They already have the power of a guardian as a protector of Elysium—” Lilly was again interrupted by Aken.

“I don’t care if you have twenty guardians lined up for Alexis. Micah is her guardian. And I am going to get him back. Can the connection be restored?” Aken looked up and watched Lilly and Rhea looking at one another.

“Aken, the problem is that Micah has barely kept the dark sprite at bay. Without Alexis’ light protecting him... The Micah we know may no longer exist.” Rhea whispered out quietly.

“Bull.shit. He is there. If I have to pound his head in to make him remember, then I will.” Aken growled angrily. What the hell was wrong with these people?

“Aken...” Levi sighed. “It won’t be so easy to pound some sense into Micah if he embraces the darkness. Micah isn’t a regular werebear. His heart was replaced with a primordial child’s heart. And that heart was blessed by Gaia.” He watched as Aken’s eyes widened.

Aken furrowed his brows and looked down. “Ouch... so Micah is quite dangerous. I knew I could feel that power inside of him. You know that is my specialty sizing up my opponents. Which is why you have never given me a scare... no offense.” He smirked up at Levi. “So he is the first of his kind then? A titan werebear.”

“With his guardian powers on top of that... but he has given those up. Still, he is very strong. And I am betting the nycrops can see this too.” Levi growled lowly. “I’ve got to get my boy out of there.”

“Now wait a minute you guys were just saying—” Aken began but Levi snapped at him angrily.

“I was never saying not to rescue Micah! That is my SON, damn.it!” He sighed and shook his head. “But he may not be able to become Alexis’ guardian again. That is all. Whether he is dark or not I will not leave him in their clutches.” He trailed off in a whisper. It was torture thinking about what Micah was going through right now.

Aken looked down at Alexis and frowned. “She won’t accept not having Micah as her guardian...”

“She doesn’t have a choice. She is the fairy princess, and she has to have a guardian... no matter who it is. I know that sounds harsh but that is just how it is. I’m not saying she can’t accept Micah again if... if everything is okay with him. But right now... she will be given another guardian.” Lilly watched as Aken lifted his gaze up to her.

“You said fairy magic is special and that the connection between a guardian and princess is a joint relationship.” Aken watched Lilly nod her head and he glanced over at Rhea and Levi. “So how much do you want to bet she rejects the new guardian relationship?” He chuckled and his lips curled up in a crooked smile. “Because I can guarantee you, she will.”

“I agree.” Rhea looked up at Lee. “But she does need to be protected even if she rejects that bond. And we have multiple guardians here right now. And

one of them doesn't have a royal to guard. Since they are the extra guardian in Elysium. Even if Alexis rejects the guardian, they will still protect her."

"Why not have one of the relative guardians watch her? It's not like she would refuse her family." Aken suggested with a shrug.

"If we have to, we will. But the problem is that guardians are attached to their charge. They won't want to be away from who they are supposed to be guarding. Like I said it is like a mate bond..." Lilly frowned and shook her head. "It must have been terribly hard for Micah to sever his link to Alexis. Such a selfless love he had for her..."

"Has." Aken said firmly and this time Levi nodded his head in agreement.

"I think you are underestimating Micah. He might not have Alexis' magic inside of him but his feelings are real. And as a titan he is strong. Strong enough to beat the sprite on his own. He just needs to realize it." Aken wasn't sure where his strong devotion for Micah was coming from. Maybe it was because he was connected to Alexis. And he knew her strong feelings for Micah. He quietly thought about Micah and of him being held somewhere.

Aken's eyes suddenly widened, and he shifted his body moving Alexis onto the bed fully. He leaned down and kissed her on the forehead. "I love you..." He straightened up and looked over at Lilly. "How long will she be out for?"

"For several more hours. It just depends. It may even knock her out for a day." Lilly watched as Aken tucked the sheet over her gently.

"Please... watch over her closely. Make sure someone is with her at all times." Aken listened as Rhea laughed.

"I'm her mother. I've been watching over her since birth." Rhea then looked up at him curiously. "Where are you going?"

"I..." Aken looked up at Levi. "I need to borrow your dolphin for a bit if that alright?"

Levi snorted but quietly stared at Aken. He wondered what was going through his head. But if he was willing to leave Alexis it must be something important. He squeezed his arm around Rhea and kissed the tip of her nose. "I'll be back soon."

“If she wakes up before I come back... tell her I’ll be back soon and to wait for me.” Aken looked up at Levi. “Follow me.”

Raine was sitting on her bed in her room. She had been keeping herself isolated from everyone. Even though she knew Ryker was safe, she felt lonely without him. She was trying to keep her emotions calm. After he disappeared on her she feared the worse. And now knowing he is safe... she placed her head in her hands and began to cry. The emotional overload was just too much and it needed to come out. The soft click of her door shutting startled her and she whipped her head around. The scent hit her first before her watery eyes landed on him... her Ryker.

At first they just looked at one another frozen in place. Tears streamed down her cheeks as his eyes softened looking at her. “Raine.” He whispered her name, his voice was so hoarse with emotion. “What’s wrong, Raine. Why are you crying? Did I make you cry? I am... so sorry. I’m sorry for everything. I am so sorry, my love.” He walked over to her and kneeled down in front of her. “I am so sorry.” He whispered. He pulled her into his arms, and she laid her head on his chest.

“You’re here.” She cried. He grabbed the back of her head and held her head to his chest. “Ryker...” She whispered her bottom lip quivering.

“I’m so sorry, Raine.” His eyes filled with tears. She shook her head.

“I’m so glad you are back. I’m so thankful you are safe...” Raine then began banging her fists against his chest. “You are an id.iot. How could you leave without me?! Take me with you. No matter where you are going...” She hiccupped as her breath shuttered. “How could you not take me with you... You don’t know... the thoughts that were racing through my mind. I thought... you might have abandoned me.” She whispered as he tilted her head up to look at him.

“Gods, Raine. Da.mn I am so sorry.”

She let out a laugh, as he wiped her tears away. “You should be.” She said with a huff.

She raised up both hands placing them on his cheeks, “I love you, Ryker. I love you. And you are mine.” She pushed forward tasting the lips she had been deprived of.

Their tongues danced together. The kiss was passionate and almost feral. He growled against her lips as she moaned softly.

“Gods, Raine I missed you. I have so much to tell you and to explain to you.” Ryker murmured through his siege of kisses.

“Me too.” She smiled against his kisses. He lifted up from his knees and pressed her back on the bed where he continued his assault. She giggled underneath him as his hands traveled over her sides. “Ryker... are you back to stay now.”

He sighed and leaned on his side. He traced his hand over her chest slowly with a small frown. “Actually I need to leave again. I found out I belonged to a group that protects the West Dragon Kingdom. But there is a traitor there. The reason I lost my memories. Brian and I are going to help flush out any more traitors. Including those who are in the dragon kingdom now...” He looked down at her. “But I’ll come back to you. I promise I will always come back to you.”

“Us.” Raine whispered out quietly. And watched his eyes studying her. She grabbed his hand and placed it on her stomach. “Us.”

Ryker’s eyes widened and he looked down at his hand. “Raine... are you saying?” He watched her smile as she nodded her head. “We’re pregnant?!” His lips curled up and he pressed his lips against Raine’s stomach. “We’re having A BABY!”

Note:

Next update will be on the 4th. Thank.you.all.for.your.continued.support.for Dr. Luna.

Taming Her Beastly Mate Chapter 73

Chapter 73 The Bond

Levi sighed in annoyance as Aken knelt down on the ground quietly.

“You weren’t made the fairy prince yet. How many times do I have to tell you he isn’t your guardian yet?” Levi snorted in agitation. Aken had been dragging him all over the place on a hunch. Aken felt he was connected to Micah and that he could find him.

“Flipper shut your bottlenose mouth so I can concentrate!” Aken growled as he dug his fingers slightly into the earth below him. Every once in a while, there was a glimmer of light. A small flicker of Micah he felt inside of him. He didn’t know the meaning of this but maybe it was because of Alexis’ connection with Micah. He was certain Alexis would still be able to feel it too. But he wasn’t going to drag her into danger. He would find Micah and bring him back to her.

“Micah might have cut off his connection, but Alexis didn’t cut off hers. I’m certain there is still a link there.” Aken turned and watched as Levi shook his head.

“It doesn’t work that way.” Levi said and Aken stood up angrily.

“Then what is this? You tell me how can I still feel Micah’s energy? I’m feeling it through Alexis... so how is it there? Even in this small amount, I shouldn’t be able to feel a severed connection.” Aken glared at Levi who looked down in deep thought.

Aken and Levi suddenly looked at each other at the same time as they both came to the same realization.

“Primordial!”

“Primordial!”

“Could that be it?” Levi asked as Aken nodded his head.

“That must be it... damn.it.” Aken whispered out. “We have to find Micah.”

Levi began to pace back and forth. He was shaking his head and his body movements were erratic.

“What is it?” Aken asked as he watched Levi looking distressed.

“Talia...” Levi said in a harsh breath. “The primordial beast Talia... what happened when she died...”

“I know what you are thinking. Remember she was the beast. Even still...” Aken frowned as he tried to scan his memories. “I never paid much attention to those things. I don’t know what happened...”

“A primordial beast chooses a master. And they become connected. The beast is linked to the master. But that link affects them both. When Talia was killed what happened to her master? She had to have one, right? Gaia would know...” Levi watched as Aken’s lips tightened together.

“Micah may have subconsciously chosen Alexis as his master... Okay. We find Micah first. Then we need to find out more about this bond. Honestly, Levi, I am a bit disappointed. Isn’t this supposed to be your thing? The nerdy deity council member that knows everything?” Aken watched as Levi lifted his brows up at him.

“You haven’t even been to one of the council meetings.” Levi snorted in his defense.

“Right. Did you miss the part where I said nerdy deities?” Aken shrugged. “There is nothing geek about me.”

Levi chuckled and glared at Aken. “Are you calling me...”

“A geek.” Aken grinned at him widely. “Though you did land in the timeout corner, so I guess your position has changed.”

Levi pursed his lips together and his eyes turned dark. “I’ll never forgive them for that. Make no mistake. I go to the meetings to be aware of what is going on. But there is a rift that will never be repaired.”

Aken nodded his head. “The council should never be a thing. A bunch of deities with too much time on their hands that think they can make the rules for everyone else. That is a problem we need to solve.”

Levi nodded his head. It was a problem. And he experienced firsthand how much of a problem it actually was. It took him finding his mate before he really felt the strain of the council. But now he saw them in a different light. The problem was how to fix it.

“He is further to the south.” Aken straightened up and looked in the distance. “Let’s keep moving.”

Micah opened his eyes feeling his cheek resting on the cold stone floor. Cold. Just like how it felt inside of him without Alexis' light. And it hurt. It really hurt. For the first time since he was a child, he felt the bitter loneliness again. Back when he constantly yearned for a loving family. Now, he was plagued with the memories of his princess.

His princess... she would be given a new guardian now. She probably already had one. He had been here for two days now. Two days of excruciating hell. He thought he would be struggling to fight off the dark inside of him. He was afraid it would take over immediately without Alexis' light. But it turned out that without Alexis he just didn't have a reason to care. He felt empty. At times... numb. But when the nycrops tried to provoke the darkness, he was able to hold it off... on his own.

He rolled over to his back and winced at the pain that wracked through his body. He had been injected with a serum that slowed his healing. It also poisoned his thoughts. It was mixed with demon blood to feed the dark sprite inside of him. But it didn't feel like it was getting stronger...

He glanced over at the enchanted door. It wasn't just a magical door. It acted like a seal of sorts. One that may even be able to seal a deity if it surrounded the whole room. But since he couldn't teleport, the door was sufficient enough to keep him prisoner. He wasn't sure if there would be a means of escape for him. Sometimes... it seemed futile to resist his darkest urges and yet he fought anyway. He always resisted. Whatever they did to him, he pushed through it. He fought because Alexis would expect him to fight. She always believed in him. That he was stronger than he realized. And maybe she was right.

He thought that the only thing keeping him from going dark was Alexis' light. He was so certain that without it he would be lost to himself. He finally understood something. He used her light as a crutch to control his dark. Once her light was gone a different power from deep inside of him stirred. One that had remained dormant. It awoke and put a stranglehold on the darkness. Yet, it was still there.

In the distance, he heard the soft sounds of footsteps descending down the stairs. Meryl was coming to try to break him again. He was going to be tortured and plagued with disturbing mental images. He had to fight. He couldn't break. She wasn't doing this for no reason. If she was doing this, she

planned to use him. Maybe even against Alexis. He couldn't allow it. He had to resist. He knew he couldn't last forever...

He listened as the sound of her feet as they shuffled to a stop. He turned his head to look at her as he stayed laying on the ground.

"You aren't looking so well." Meryl's lips curled up into an evil smile.

"Must be something in the air because you look like someone who has died... oh wait..." Micah snorted with a smirk. He shifted up and into a sitting position. Making sure he hid his pain.

Meryl glared at Micah. She felt annoyed at the bear's attitude. He still had too much fighting spirit. She needed to remedy that.

"Maybe if you die again you can request to be cremated. That way at least for one moment in your life you can have a smoking hot body."

"You are in such a good mood today. Perhaps I shouldn't spoil it..." Meryl shrugged. "But I can't help myself. Do you know what I just realized? The fairy princess is the niece of someone I loathe." She watched as the smile faded from Micah's face as her poisonous grin twisted. "I made sure to do my proper research. After all... she will be staying with me while I give her a new nembrant glass. Specially made with love from Erebus." She could see the darkness filling Micah's eyes. "Oh, now not to worry... I don't plan to hurt her. Taking her away and hurting her family is enough for me. In fact, it has fueled me."

"Don't. You. Dare. Touch. Her." Micah's voice echoed off the stone walls as he growled standing to his feet.

Meryl cackled and stepped towards the barred door. "I wonder what sort of things Erebus will do to her..." She lifted her finger, sending out a dark purple cloud at Micah.

Instantly visions began popping in Micah's head. Cruel images... disturbing scenes that nauseated him... and angered him. He knew she was playing against his weakness, but the graphic visions had his veins bulging. Had his jaw clenched as his lips curled up baring his fangs. A dark liquid traveled up his protruding veins as he struggled to remain in control. Micah squinted his eyes at her as he felt his legs wobble. His eyes darted around in his head as the dark liquid traveled up his neck and into his head.

Meryl watched him with amusement as he was struggling to remain in control. Finally, she would break him. She just needed to keep pushing. If he wasn't so valuable, she would have just killed him. If the nembrant glass was actually ready they would have inserted one in him already. He would be a useful pawn to have. So even if she couldn't break him this way, they would still be able to use him eventually. And until the glass was ready, she would enjoy making him suffer. Her eyes looked him over... maybe they wouldn't need the glass after all.

Micah felt like he was drowning with no air. His lungs were constricting as his emotions raged inside of him. The visions were too much for him. The scenes of Erebus abusing Alexis curdled his stomach. He had to keep watching powerless to stop it. The screams cut through his ears. All reminding him he was powerless right now to help her. No other guardian could protect Alexis as he could. But he wasn't her guardian anymore. He was trapped here.

The negative power seeped into Micha's pores and plagued his mind. He thought he was strong. But was he? Was Alexis his source of strength? She was the first one he loved. He would gladly sacrifice everything for her. But without her, he felt like he was at the bottom of an abyss. He was screaming but no one could hear him. At the top, he watched as Alexis walked away and he reached his hand up in vain to her.

"Don't leave me alone," Micah whispered out in his madness. He was losing his mind. Everything was blurring together. He was being tormented and no longer knew how to fight.

The feeling of emptiness was consuming him. He was tired of fighting this battle with himself. He didn't want to endure anymore pain or suffering. He just wanted to give up. He didn't want to feel anymore. He lost Alexis and now he was losing himself. His vision began to tunnel as he was wrapped in a black embrace. It was shutting out the pain. It was shutting out the light. But in the darkness, he could feel something stronger. Something that was hidden in it.

"Nycrops!"

Meryl clicked her tongue angrily and stopped her assault on Micah. She turned her head to see a demon standing before her.

"How dare you interrupt me!" Meryl hissed out.

“The army is now in position and waiting like you have commanded. I’m here for further instructions.”

“Wait. Just have them wait. Timing with these things is everything.” Meryl glared at the demon who just stood there staring at her.

“You just want them to wait?”

Meryl glared at him not saying another word. She watched him until he finally turned and left. She sighed and clicked her tongue. “Well what do you want?!”

A man appeared with white hair neatly pulled back in a ponytail. He was wearing a black leather jacket and dark leather pants.

“Wait?! That wasn’t part of our agreement.” Erebus snarled as he glared at Meryl.

“You think too small. There is much more at stake.” Meryl’s white eyes focused on Erebus in disgust.

“Much more at stake? The Leviathan and the Kraken are looking for him!” Erebus whipped his hand out pointing at Micah harshly. “Do you think they are just going to ask you to hand him over?”

Meryl cackled and pointed over at Micah. “I want them to find him.” She tilted her head to look at the bear trembling on the ground. “Because he is going to kill them.”

Erebus looked at Micah and noticed his dark eyes. Black blood was running through his veins. His fangs were elongated as he panted in growling gasps. He looked feral. A thundering roar ripped from his chest as he turned his dark gaze to look at Erebus and Meryl.

“What the hell... what is that?!” Erebus gasped as he felt terror race over his body. That creature was not a regular werebear. It was emitted a dangerous power. One that frightened him.

“That,” Meryl said with smug satisfaction. “Is our dark titan.”

Taming Her Beastly Mate Chapter 74

Chapter 74 Nita

“MICAH!” Alexis yelled as she sat up. Her forehead glistened as she panted heavily. It was taking her a moment to figure out where she was. She blinked her eyes and looked around.

“Alexis.”

Alexis watched as her cousin Lucy reached out and grabbed onto her hand. She closed her eyes and slowly shook her head. No. No. No. No. She was in Elysium. Where was Micah?

Micah... Alexis reached her other hand up and rested it on her chest. He quit being her guardian. She was going to freeze his brain when she saw him. How dare he?! They are a team!

However, she still felt connected to him. It was a different light than the guardian one. But it was his just on a different level. There was a connection there. Though it felt thready and in distress. She needed to get to Micah. She looked around searching for Aken. She saw her cousin Justice, her cousin Lucy, and her husband Derek. But not Aken.

“It’s okay. You are back in Elysium...” Lucy watched as Alexis shook her head becoming more agitated. She turned and looked at Derek. “Let Aunt Rhea know she has woken up.”

“Lexi girl.” Justice plopped beside her and placed his arm around her shoulder. He was Lucy’s guardian, but he was hoping he could still help Alexis by being near her. She was family and he could already see how distraught she was.

“Where is Aken?” Alexis whispered out.

“Aken and your father aren’t here. It’s okay Alexis...” Lucy squeezed her hand trying to comfort her.

“I need to get to Micah... How long have I been here?” Alexis looked over at Justice who was patting her shoulder.

“Why don’t you lean back and relax,” Justice said in a calming tone.

“I am fine! There is nothing wrong with me. I need to get to MICAH!” Alexis yelled shrugging Justice off of her. “How long?!” She turned and looked at Lucy.

“Two days.” Lucy watched as Alexis’ shoulders slunk down.

“Two days? Why? How?” Alexis didn’t understand why she was asleep for so long. She looked up at Lucy who averted her gaze to the floor. “What did they do to me?” She demanded quietly.

“Grandma has been keeping you asleep...” Lucy admitted in a whisper. She watched as her cousin closed her eyes briefly in anger. “They were concerned about you. They know... how upsetting this will be.”

“So they keep me asleep?! I should be out there getting Micah back!” Alexis snapped and then inhaled a deep breath. “Sorry, Lucy. I don’t mean to snap at you. This isn’t your fault.”

Lucy smiled and shook her head. “I understand. I would be upset too. I think Aken and your father are searching for Micah...”

“I need to call Aken back for me. I can help them find him—”

“No Alexis. We will need you here.” Rhea said firmly walking into the room with Derek right behind her. “The cloaked army can arrive at any moment. And without your father and mate here we will need you. Titus is here to help if we need it. But as the future leader of the fairies, you must be here Alexis.”

“But Micah—”

“Has your father and Aken looking for him. Elysium needs you here.” Rhea looked at Alexis and smiled. “I know your heart wants to find Micah. I want him back here too. We are leaders of the fairies, and we are needed here. I know you understand.”

Alexis inhaled sharply and looked down at her hands. She closed her eyes and searched through her summon link for Aken.

Aken, can you hear me?

My Love, I’ve missed your voice. I miss your face...

I... I can’t stand this.

I’ll be by your side soon. I’ll find Micah. Lex, I can feel him. I’ll keep searching until I find him. We are close.

You can feel him? How?

Through your connection to him. There is a lot to talk about. I'll explain later. But right now, I need to concentrate.

Please bring him back to me... Micah is important to me.

I know my love. I will find him. I love you. Stay inside Elysium and be safe. If you need me call out for me.

Alexis felt him close off the link before she could respond. He must really need to focus. Which meant he must really be close. She inwardly pleaded they find him soon. Micah had always been part of her. She was so young that she didn't remember what it was like to not have his light. But now she felt incomplete. Like something was missing and it was uncomfortable.

A soft knock was heard on the door, and everyone lifted their gaze up. Lilly smiled and walked in. A woman with black hair tightly pulled up in a high ponytail walked in. She was tall, toned, with a tan complexion. Her brown eyes looked at Alexis and she slightly bowed her head.

"I heard you were awake." Lilly watched as Alexis' eyes narrowed at her. A look she wasn't shocked to get, given the circumstances. "Alexis this is Nita. Nita will be taking over as your guardian—"

"No," Alexis said firmly.

"Lex—" Rhea tried to reason with her daughter.

"I SAID NO!" Alexis yelled angrily. "I have a guardian. He cut the link to protect me. Not because he doesn't want to be my guardian. He. Is. My. Guardian."

Lilly nodded her head. "Be that as it may. Nita will be taking over his duties for now."

"I don't accept you," Alexis said firmly looking at Nita.

"I understand princess. It is still my job to protect you no matter what." Nita said in a clear concise voice.

"This is the next guardian?" Justice quirked his brow and stared at the woman.

“Yes, Justice. She is the guard guardian of Elysium. Nita... this is Justice. Lucy’s guardian.” Lilly watched as Nita nodded respectfully.

“I know who the fairy guardians are. Even if they don’t take the time to learn who the guard guardian is...” Nita said giving a sharp glance at Justice. There was a hint of hostility in that remark that didn’t go unnoticed.

“It’s harder to keep up with all the guardians now. Back when I was the fairy princess there were only three guardians. That was the standard. There were never more than three at a time. But that has changed now. We have evolved. We now have a total of nine guardians.” Lilly looked over at Justice with a small smile. “Though I think my grandson should have introduced himself to you long ago...”

“Oh wait. You’re Captain Try Hard, right? I remember now.” Justice said innocently but Nita’s eyes slanted as she glared at him. “I mean we were never formally introduced but I remember seeing you train. Tristan said you live and breathe being a guardian.”

“As a real guardian should,” Nita said indifferently.

“And what is that supposed to mean?!” Justice growled standing up defensively.

The two guardians’ auras swirled in the air clashing against the other. Lilly smiled as she remembered when Tristan met the guard guardian of Elysium. They were in an intense stare down. Then when Dylan and Tristan first met there was a lack of trust between them. It was a guardian’s nature. To be suspicious first and overly protective.

“Nita has trained hard and has really stepped into the role after the last guard guardian stepped down.” Lilly listened as Justice chuckled.

“Funny how that works. Live and breathe being a guardian but it isn’t forever for the guard guardians. They can step down. Of course not the ones who guard the royals. We are with them for life. We don’t take the easy road when we get older.” Justice put his little jab in but Nita completely ignored him. Instead, she was looking at Alexis.

“It is nothing against you. But I have a guardian. And he has risked everything to protect me. I can’t and I won’t accept anyone else as my guardian but him.”

Alexis said in a firm but kind voice. She had nothing against Nita, but she wasn't her guardian. That spot could only belong to Micah.

"Alexis, Nita will be following you around for now. Even if you won't accept the guardian bond it will be her job to protect you." Lilly looked at Alexis as she talked to her in her no-nonsense voice.

Alexis sighed. She wasn't going to win this one.

"Fine." She said in a resigned tone. "But I won't accept another guardian bond." She then looked at Nita. "I can tell you take your job very seriously. However, I don't like to feel smothered. And..." Alexis shook her head. "It just feels wrong. Because Micah..." She whispered out quietly.

"I am not trying to take your guardian's place. You are bonded. I understand that. I am just here to protect you until you get him back." Nita smiled at Alexis as she reassured her. "I understand the situation. I just want to keep you safe."

"Thank you," Alexis said sincerely. Alexis knew Nita meant well. But since she had a guardian, she didn't need another one.

Rhea walked over and pulled Alexis into a hug. "I know your heart hurts my sweet daughter. But we will do everything we can to get Micah back."

Alexis looked over at Justice, who had an amused look on his face. "What?" She asked him.

"Oh nothing... just thinking is all." Justice's lips curled upwards.

"About?" Lucy asked as Derek rubbed her shoulders.

"Well, just curious to see how Nita does being the guardian of Alexis. She is used to being the guardian of a place. A place that isn't disobedient, stubborn, or runs away. One that doesn't get into trouble." Justice looked over at Nita. "Now you'll see what a challenge they actually are."

"Hey!" Lucy snorted as she looked at her cousin.

"You know it is true Luce. And I know you can hear your husband agreeing with me." Justice looked up at Derek who chuckled quietly behind Lucy.

“He is right,” Derek said slyly as he slid his arms around Lucy gently rubbing her baby bump. “But I wouldn’t have it any other way.”

“You better say that.” Lucy teased.

“Whether I say it or not you already know how I feel.” Derek kissed her cheek and pulled her into his arms. “Come on. I know your feet are sore. I’ll massage them for you.” He kept his arm around her as he guided her out of the room.

“Yes. I’m off duty!” Justice rolled his shoulders back and stretched upwards. “Time to find Aiden and beat him at some games.”

“Such a tough life…” Nita scoffed quietly.

“One of the perks when they have a mate. Trust me… they don’t want you around during private time anyways.” Justice winked at her as he walked out the door.

“Alexis,” Rhea said as her daughter turned to look at her. “I have some things to tell you about Micah.”

Taming Her Beastly Mate Chapter 75

Chapter 75 The Fun Begins

Lilly walked down the hall slowly. Alexis and Rhea were still talking in the room about Micah. She sighed as she tucked her hair behind her ear. The future could go either way from here.

“Toots!”

Lilly turned her head to see Tyler’s cousin Avery coming up beside her. She took her arm in her hand and they continued walking down the hall. Avery was the first female friend Lilly had made and they have remained close ever since.

“Tyler, Tristan, Kade, Cedric, and Caleb are acting like children again. They are out there bumping chest with your kids and grandsons.” Avery eyed her closely. “What’s wrong?”

“Sometimes it is hard having to do the right thing.” Lilly gave Avery a sad smile.

"I told you. You are too sweet to be the rough one. Make Tyler do it... what was it?" Avery watched her as they stepped outside into the garden.

Lilly shook her head and shrugged. "It's nothing." She looked up at Tristan and Cody arm wrestling. The men were all surrounding them cheering them on.

"I'm next!" Caleb cheered as he eyed the match.

Tyler suddenly lifted his head and looked around. His gaze met with Lilly's, and he swiftly walked in her direction. He could feel her pain first before he knew her thoughts. He could see the hurt in her eyes. He walked up to her and pulled her into his arms kissing the top of her head. He rubbed her back in soft circles as he tried to comfort her.

"I'll go and see what Rosa and Merida are up to," Avery whispered as she left to give the two of them some privacy.

Tyler kept Lilly tucked under his arm as he walked with her away from everyone. "You aren't doing anything wrong. You are doing what you must. Alexis must have a level of protection."

Lilly leaned into his side and nodded her head as Tyler sighed knowing her thoughts.

"This isn't about Micah. This doesn't mean you don't care. We both know what is at stake. You are still getting the premonitions about Erebus... Lilly." Tyler spun her around in his arms and tilted her chin up to him. He smiled as he looked into her eyes. Times like this words weren't necessary. It was much better since they were connected through their souls. He rested both of his hands behind her back and pressed her closer.

"You couldn't have been soft about this one Lills. Alexis is the fairy princess and must be protected. We just have to hope they can get him back."

"Last night... the premonition I had about Micah. And of the future... our hope..."

"Lilly." Tyler squeezed her body against his and buried his nose in her hair. "We already know our role in all of this. We will protect our family the best we can. And we will provide a sanctuary for magic. That is our fight. Right now, we have to concentrate on the present. You know that is why you had the

premonition last night. They are going to find him, and we will be ready. Together. No matter the outcome..." Tyler held her head against his chest. He could feel her fear and anxiety. But he also felt her love, loyalty, and courage.

"I love you, Tyler."

"I love you, forever Lills. Even death won't stop my love for you."

"Of course, we won't ever really die. When our time comes, we will become part of the living barrier. So that we can protect our family forever." Lilly nodded her head and sighed. There were things she could control and things she couldn't. Sometimes she felt like she needed to fix everything. But it was impossible. Tyler was right. The only thing they could do right now was be ready... for whatever outcome.

—

Erebus watched as the black eyes of the dark titan glared at him. His fangs were bared and low menacing growls ripped through his throat. He could feel the power surging from the beast, and he didn't like it. While he was strong, he didn't see how he could be on equal strength with Aken.

"Perhaps he could destroy Leviathan. But Kraken? And then both of them together?" Erebus shook his head. "Impossible."

Meryl's lips curled upwards. "Both at the same time wouldn't be a fair fight now would it..."

Erebus stared at her blankly. "They are arriving together. Do you plan to fight one of them?" He arched a brow at this in amusement.

"I don't have to. All I have to do is make sure one of them is trapped with him at a time." Meryl watched as confusion washed over Erebus's face. Idi.ot.

"Will you just take a good look at the room? And pay attention to the top of the room." Meryl clicked her tongue in annoyance. It was painful to explain everything to him step by step.

Erebus tilted his head to the side and peered up through the bars. It was a sealing stone. Something that was created by the gods in order to hold a deity prisoner. He swore softly under his breath and then turned to glare at Meryl. "How the hell did you get that?"

“Doesn’t matter. I have it.” Meryl grinned as her white eyes glimmered in the dark. “I plan to allow only one deity to pass through before it locks. Then let the deathmatch begin.”

“You better trap Leviathan first. Because I know that the Kraken will be able to kill him. He is a terrifying deity.” Erebus looked up as Meryl eyed him quietly. “His skills are unmatched. I’ve seen the part of him that he keeps locked away...” His voice grew quiet as he thought back on his memories. “I have never seen anyone that could be his equal—” He listened as Meryl’s cackling interrupted him.

“I can’t believe it. You like him!” Meryl screeched in a raspy voice. “I have been wondering what it was... why you are so angry. What your problem was with him... It’s because you like him! And he was never interested in you. Oh, that is so so so sad. It’s hilarious.”

“You don’t know what you are talking about,” Erebus growled though a light red glow spread over his cheeks.

“You want to hurt him... you want him dead or cursed because you can’t have him. Oh, it’s hysterical. You are much sicker than I took you for.” Meryl cackled until Erebus’ hand wrapped around her neck.

“Shut. Your. Mouth.” Erebus growled out slowly annunciating his words as he squeezed his fingers around her throat. “You would already be dead if you weren’t useful. But remember—no one is indispensable.” He said releasing his hold on her.

Meryl let out an airy raspy laugh. “That is why you want the demigod. Because of the connection there. It is like having a piece of the Kraken.” She snorted not caring about the deity’s anger.

Erebus glared at her angrily. He was on the verge of snapping and killing her right there. But then her head tilted to the side and she smirked.

“You better disappear and quick. We are going to have company. Very soon.” Meryl could see Erebus’s eyes widen and then he instantly vanished. A shadow serpent disappeared, and Meryl nodded her head. It was time to get out of there.

A dark smoke surrounded Meryl as she vanished. She was now watching the room through a seeing crystal. She slowly flicked her wrist as she focused on

the sealing stone. "This is going to be so much fun watching them battle. Who do we want to win? Do we even care?" She laughed to herself and then began to murmur and chant. The sealing stone began to glow brighter and brighter. "It is time for the show to begin." The stone would allow one deity to enter before it closed off. It would seal one inside and one outside. But which one would get in? Who would be stuck with the dark titan?

Meryl watched as a flash entered inside of the arena. Her lips curled up as her white eyes flashed. Of course this was only one of the stages. She motioned to the shadow snake. "Let them know it is time." She watched as the creature disappeared in the shadows as she activated another seeing crystal. "Let the fun begin..."

—

Aken looked around in confusion. Something had pushed him back bouncing him away from trying to enter. He looked up through the bars and saw Levi and Micah standing off. But something was wrong. Micah was snarling and he had a predatory gaze on Levi. Aken tried to enter but was again met with resistance. Sh.it. This was a setup. He looked up at Levi worriedly. Leviathan was more of a finesse deity. Not brute strength. His eyes widened as he watched Micah lunge for Levi.

—

Levi's eyes instantly landed onto Micah, but he could see the darkness in his eyes. It traveled through his veins. "Micah... It's Levi." He tried to talk to him, but he only snarled loudly at him. His fangs were protruding, and his arms were bulging angrily.

"Micah... It's okay son. We are here for you. Alexis is waiting for you. Remember Alexis? She needs you, Micah. You have to come back for her."

Micah dove towards Levi who managed to teleport just behind him. He tried to think of what he was going to do. How could he reach Micah?

"Defend yourself!" Aken yelled through the bars.

"I can't hurt him." Levi shook his head as Micah turned to face him. He had told himself he would do what was necessary when the time came. But who was he fooling? He couldn't. He would rather die than kill his son. But if he died... Rhea died.

Micah lunged towards Levi again. He could see the rage in his eyes... Micah was blinded by it. It was as if he was completely feral.

“Micah! I know you are in there! You have to fight this!” Tears gathered in Levi’s eyes as he stared at the boy he watched grow up. The boy who refused to have parents ... but got them anyways. And staring at him right now Levi realized how much of Micah was in his heart.

“Leviathan! Now is not the time to play the pacifist. Defend yourself!” Aken ordered through clenched teeth. He wasn’t saying to kill Micah but at least subdue him. He couldn’t just keep evading him.

“I won’t hurt him,” Levi whispered as he stared into Micah’s black eyes. “I can’t hurt you. I love you, Micah...” He whispered as he watched his son’s eyes flash viciously. He was growling and his fangs were shining in the light as his black eyes narrowed on him.

“You have to! Or we may never see the real Micah again.” Aken growled at Levi. The da.mn goldfish. He couldn’t just continue to swim around Micah. He had to subdue him. Aken looked around the room and noticed the sealing stone at the top. There... he had to break that da.mn seal.

Micah charged towards Levi but swiftly turned anticipating him to teleport. He swiped his hand with his elongated claws sinking into Levi. Blood splattered onto the floor as Levi jumped back grabbing onto his arm. He felt the blood pooling between his fingers as he panted. This was not at all like fighting a werebear. The power of the titan was flowing out of him. And with it a dangerous attack that wasn’t allowing Levi to heal.

“Levi!” Aken growled and grabbed onto the enchanted bars shaking them. His brows were furrowed as he watched Levi stare at Micah. This is ridiculous. He was breaking through. Some stupid enchantment wasn’t going to keep the Kraken out. He began slamming against the door repeatedly. He had to bring them both back. He couldn’t see Alexis in that type of pain. Somehow... he had to fix all of this.

“I can’t lose you.” Levi’s lips were shaking as he stared at Micah. “Micah... please. PLEASE!” He pleaded in a hoarse voice as tears streamed down his face.

Micah sprang forward, his teeth ripped into Levi's shoulder as blood poured from the wound. The pained grunts from Levi filled the air as he fell to the floor.

"LEVI!" Aken yelled in panic as he watched Micah leaning over Levi. His claw was raised as he prepared to attack again.

-Note-

I have created a new group just for my books. The family trees for the doctor series will be pinned at the top so it is easier to find. The Facebook group is called JM Snap: Snappers Society. Please join it for information and discussions. I will have my tentative schedule here as well. I plan to release another chapter for Oh For Mates Sake next week. And will update it once a week.

Taming will still update every other day.