

Taming Her Beastly Mate Chapter 81

Chapter 81 Win them Both

The room was in complete silence as the mirror glowed red. Titus and Brian had checked every royal throughout the night. It was now early morning, and they were on the very last royal. Instead of feeling relief at completing the check they now stood there in shock.

“What is this?” Lila asked as she stared into her reflection.

“It is a special mirror we are working on. It is supposed to reflect your mood based off of the color. Red means you are tired.” Rhea answered quickly as she glanced over at Levi. They would need to put Lila in a holding chamber until the glass could be extracted.

Bella wrapped her arm around Brian’s waist and looked up at him. She could see how noticeably upset he was, and Titus didn’t look any better. This also was unnerving. So many questions were swirling around in her mind. Who put the glass in Lila’s eye? Was it through a dream? Or was it someone who could get close to her? By putting one in Lila’s eye the next target was most likely Titus or Brian.

“I suppose I am a bit tired. There has been so much going on lately.” Lila smiled and shifted closer to Titus.

“There is a special room here that will help you rest.” Titus said with a small frown. This was killing him inside. His sweet mate, his confidant, the love of his life had a controlling piece of glass inside of her. They couldn’t trust her words. They couldn’t believe anything out of her right now. The only thing they could do was place her in a special holding room. A place where she couldn’t leave until they removed the glass. Bella had some training, but it was through a dream removal. Grandpa Sage had the ability to do it. They would need to send for him.

“I didn’t sleep well last night without Titus. I’m sure it will be better tonight. You have been busy all night messing with a mood mirror?” Lila asked looking up at Titus.

“We felt it was important. I insist you get some more rest.” Titus said as he watched Lila shrug her shoulders.

"I'm fine. I want to take a walk around Elysium today and visit the baby bears. I'm curious at seeing the potential guardians of the future." Lila said with a small smile.

"All of the baby bears are living in homes now. They don't live at the center. That is just active when it is time to pick a future guardian." Rhea watched as disappointment washed over Lila's face. She glanced up at Levi. Did Lila really want to see the kids or was this some sort of motive of the demons? Were they after the guardians? And was this for the guardian power or was it about getting the fairy princess?

"Come on." Titus said putting pressure on Lila's back. "You need to get some rest."

Lila violently shrugged her shoulder away from Titus. "I said I am fine!" She snapped in an unnatural tone for her. Lila had a very sweet and gentle nature. She would never snap at Titus.

Titus looked at her in a bit of shock. He was trying not to feel hurt and told himself it isn't her. She wasn't going to go into the holding room willingly. And he wasn't sure he had it in him to force her. He felt a gentle hand on his shoulder, and he glanced up to see Levi's calm blue eyes.

"Take a walk Titus." Levi commanded with a small nod. "I will handle this part." Lila began to walk past everyone heading for the door. Levi quickly reached out and grabbed her by her wrist. Her head spun around, and her wide eyes landed on him. "I need to speak with you." Levi had to tighten his grip as she began to tug violently against him.

"What do you want? What are you doing? Titus, make him let go of me." Lila said in a whimpering voice.

Titus turned his head and looked away. He had to fight against his natural instinct to heed his mate's cries. It was agony hearing every small whimper or sound Lila made. What if they couldn't fix her? What if the nembrant glass took a permanent hold of her? His lips pursed together as his chest heaved in ragged breaths. He felt like he was stuck. He wanted to stay by his mate's side, but he also had a job to do. His hands trembled as a soft hand rested on his arm.

"Titus, come take a walk with me." Rhea squeezed his arm and pulled slightly coaxing him along.

“TITUS!” Lila screamed as Levi grabbed onto both of her shoulders.

“You would disobey your deity?!” Levi growled lowly as he gripped her tighter. She thrashed against him harder and that was enough evidence that she wasn’t in control. A dragon’s instincts made them naturally submit to him. The fact that she was fighting against him meant the nembrant glass was controlling her.

“Go with Rhea, Dad. I’ll stay with Levi and...mom.” Brian watched as his father looked down at the floor. He just slowly nodded his head without sparing him a glance. He couldn’t imagine how his father was feeling. He wasn’t sure if he would be able to ignore his mates’ cries like that.

“Titus.” Rhea pulled on him gently and walked him out of the room. She had always had a connection to Titus. He was her soul twin. It wasn’t much but she could provide him some comfort. As they stepped out everyone else was standing there in the main room. Their eyes were looking behind them as Lila’s screams echoed out through the castle.

“Lila.” Dex breathed out looking through the door.

Rhea swiftly shut the door to contain Lila’s cries. She kept her other hand on Titus and looked up at Dex with a small frown. “Lila has nembrant glass in her eye.”

“Da.mn it!” Dex growled and turned his head to the side angrily. Ciana walked up to him, and he wrapped his arms around her. He leaned down to her neck and breathed in her scent seeking her comfort. His precious sister was being controlled. “We can remove it right?”

“We should be able to. We will need to bring Grandpa Sage here.” Lilly spoke out with a clear authoritative voice. “I will have him show me the technique. And I will work on a quick solution for the future. The nembrant glass is going to be a foe of ours for the years to come. We are going to need both defensive and offensive plans in dealing with it.” She looked over at Titus who looked like he was ready to crumble.

“Who was close enough to Lila...” Weston looked up at Titus with a puzzled look.

“If it wasn’t done through a dream then it was physically done, right?” Grayson gripped Ruby’s hand as he looked over at his son, Troy. His son’s mate was

Nia and her father, Reese, was Titus right hand man. Someone who would have been close to Lila.

“Reese.” Levi’s voice rang clear as he stepped into the room. Brian and Bella walked up with him. “Reese needs to be checked at once.” He looked at Titus and gave him a small smile. “She is fine. She is in the lower level holding chambers. There is a somnus fairy that will keep her asleep.”

“Dad, mom is fine. She is resting peacefully right now. Hopefully when she wakes up it will all be like a bad dream.” Brian said trying to offer his dad some reassurance.

“With the high risk of there being others with the nembrant glass in the West Dragon Kingdom Levi will need to go there. At the very least Reese and his mate need to be checked out. You’ll need the strength of a deity so that there isn’t a ruckus. Maybe take Dex and Weston with you just for an extra set of hands? And Titus can take Rhea to go see Olga.” Lilly could see the scowl on Levi’s face as she spoke those words. He nodded his head slowly like he already realized this was the course of action they would have to take. This was a sensitive situation. And they needed to be strategic with their actions. It was best if the enemy wasn’t aware that they knew of their plans yet. At least until they were better prepared.

“Lila mentioned something that I found concerning. She wanted to see the young bears that were potentials to be future guardians. I’m not sure what the plans are but I am glad there are no cubs in the center right now.” Rhea could see the distress in her mother’s eyes hearing that news. She understood it because she felt the same way.

“I am going to get to work immediately on something that will replicate the mirror effects. There is too much at risk.” Lilly looked up at Tyler and Tristan who were standing at the far edge of the room. Her eyes glanced over all of her family who were quietly listening. She noticed Destiny sitting next to Lucy, but her mate was missing. “Destiny, where is Harley?”

“He went to check on a few things. He will be back tonight.” Destiny rubbed her baby bump lightly as she watched her grandmother nod her head.

“Tristan, I want the guards on full alert. I want to know of all movement in and out of Elysium. Cody. Jason. I want you two to keep the family close at all times. Stay inside of the castle.” Lilly nodded her head to Tyler. “We are heading downstairs, and I am going to work on the detecting the nembrant

glass. Let me know when the Great Sage gets here.” She then walked to the end of the room to Tyler.

Rhea watched as her mother and father swiftly walked down the hall disappearing from sight. She walked into Lee’s arms as he pulled her tight against him.

“I have to part from you again...” Levi groaned in irritation. If it was just notifying the Great Sage, he could do that instantly and still go with Rhea to see Olga. But he needed to check the people who could get close to Lila. And if any of them had the glass in their eye they would have to be dealt with.

“After you meet with Olga come straight back here. My communication will be open at all times...” Levi sighed into Rhea’s hair. “Why haven’t I mastered the ability to be in two places at once.”

Rhea smiled and tilted her head up at him. His lips found hers in a soft gentle kiss. “At least we are busy. Instead of just being stuck here worrying about our daughter.”

“I still need to find Gaia after I’m done in the dragon kingdom. There is so much going on at once... I have no choice but to trust Alexis to Micah and Aken.” Levi squeezed Rhea in one more strong embrace. His heart was being pulled in so many different directions. The last thing he wanted to do was his duty.

“I love you, Lee. This battle will be over soon.” Rhea listened as Levi chuckled.

“This battle will end just in time for another war to start.” Levi said in a quiet voice.

“And I plan on winning them both.” Rhea said confidently gazing up into Lee’s eyes. No matter what obstacles they would face they would win. They had to.

—

Alexis sat on the balcony watching the setting sun. The breeze was playing with her long hair as she listened to the waves crashing against rocks. The golden-red light of the sun was coloring everything around her as it slowly vanished in the distance. She inhaled the cool salty breeze and glanced over at Erebus who was standing at the far end of the balcony.

They hadn't talked much that day. It was as if he was battling a storm of his own on the inside. And she could just tell that it wasn't the right time to bring up anything from the past... or future. Instead, she just quietly observed him trying to learn more about him. He had his hands placed on the stone railing just staring out into the horizon. His white hair was neatly pulled back revealing his face that was deep in concentration.

Eventually, she got up from her seat and stepped next to him. He didn't even acknowledge her presence. She glanced down at the water below. It was a deep dark blue reminding her of the darkening night sky. It was mesmerizing the way the dark blue water rolled against the shoreline. She closed her eyes and inhaled the salty air. It was strangely peaceful even given her current situation.

"It's a beautiful landscape here," Alexis whispered as she looked at him from the corner of her eye. "Very peaceful."

Erebus didn't respond, just continued looking out into the horizon. His eyes were filled with so many emotions, yet none of them seemed to change his expression.

"What does the mate pull feel like?"

Erebus suddenly asked and Alexis almost choked on her spit. She turned her head to look at him completely. His eyes were still watching the ocean in front of him but there was an almost pained expression on his face.

"Oh... well." Alexis reached up and grabbed her chest. A small smile played on her lips as she felt her feelings. "It is like finding another piece of yourself. It is something that was missing from your life before. And suddenly you realize you were never whole to begin with. There is an overwhelming pull like gravity that holds you to this person. You need to be with them. You need to feel their touch. A touch that both excites and calms you. You need to hear their voice and to be close to them. You don't care about anything else. It is so intense and wonderful at the same time. You want to protect them. To be everything you can for them." She shook her head slightly. "It is so much more than all of that. It is a connection like no other. It is like your souls are bound together. And without their existence you don't even want to live anymore."

Erebus was silent for a long moment and Alexis turned to look at him. His face was stern, almost like he was in pain.

“Are you okay?” Alexis whispered. She didn’t know why she felt the need to ask how he was. But he looked like he was stuck in an emotional storm.

“I... I don’t...” He suddenly shook his head and looked at her. There was so much pain in his eyes that it made Alexis’ heart hurt. “I don’t know what to do...”

He locked eyes with her, his expression was one of a man that had given up. She could see the battle going on inside him. She listened to him exhale loudly as he leaned on the railing in front of him. “I wonder if the universe has a mate planned for me,” he whispered as the edges of his mouth pulled downward. “Or maybe I don’t deserve one...”

He turned and looked at Alexis and gave her a small smile. “You know I wasn’t always this way. I used to be different. I used to...” He suddenly got quiet and closed his eyes shut. With a slow long breath, he cleared his throat. “It’s time we turned in for the night.”

Alexis followed Erebus back inside. She stayed just a few steps behind him as he led her to her room. She listened to the sound of him sealing her door and stared into the darkness. She could feel the level of pain coming from Erebus. In his rage he killed Ivory. Something like that would have made someone dark. No wonder he was so bitter and angry. He lost his temper and killed the woman he loved. A woman who also betrayed him.

It was probably easier for him to push all of that onto Aken which was why he hated him so much. It was the only way he could cope. She walked over to her bed and pulled up the covers. Erebus was close to opening up to her. Just a bit more and maybe she could get the answers she really wanted.

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“Aken, we will rest here for tonight. We are both too exhausted that even if we find her, we won’t last against Erebus.” Micah listened as Aken swore under his breath.

“Why hasn’t she summoned me yet? She should have broken the necklace immediately.” Aken growled through his teeth as he sat down on the grass.

“You know Alexis. She must have a plan in mind.” Micah sighed in agitation.

“You don’t think he took the necklace from her, do you? And now she can’t summon me...”

“Don’t think about that. In either case we are going to find her soon. We are getting closer.” Micah looked over as Aken looked up at the sky. His face was taunt and his expression weary. He didn’t look like the usual confident deity anymore. He looked like a man that was shattered.

Micah rolled over and closed his eyes. He understood his look because he felt it too. If something happened to Alexis... he couldn’t even allow himself to think it. Because that was a darkness he wasn’t prepared to fight. Instead, his mind drifted to someone else. Brandy. A small smile reached his lips as he thought about his fiery druid. He couldn’t wait to see her again. To wrap her in his embrace. He wanted to claim her again and again.

Micah felt his beast stir in agreement. There was something about Brandy that even captivated him on a primal level. He didn’t know why. But all he knew is the desire to see Brandy was suddenly becoming stronger. He didn’t know when... but he didn’t see Brandy as just a fling. Maybe he always felt this way but was denying it? But the more he thought of Brandy... the more she felt like she was his.

His mind drifted to unconsciousness as exhaustion overtook him. But he swore he heard a whisper in his mind. One that said, ‘MINE’.

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Harley sat alone in the corner of a dimly lit room. There was the low sound of music playing as a few people quietly chatted over drinks. Everyone was well dressed in the established bar. At the far end of the room was a long black counter with black leather bar stools. A man with a gray mustache and gray curly hair slowly poured a liquid over ice. The man put two drinks on a tray and brought them over to where Harley was sitting. He placed one glass in front of Harley and the other across from him at an empty seat then left.

Harley spun the glass slowly letting the ice clink at the sides before he lifted it to take a sip.

“I see you already ordered me a drink.” A voice said as they took the empty seat across from Harley.

Harley lifted his eyes up and nodded his head. “I’m glad you could make it.”

“It’s been a while. How has life been now that you have taken a mate?” The man across from him asked as he removed his black jacket.

“Having a mate is everything. More than I could ever deserve. We are expecting our first child soon and I couldn’t be happier.” Harley smiled as he thought about his sweet Destiny. He had to protect her and their unborn child. Over everything that was his number one priority.

“I’m glad to hear that.”

“It’s one of the reasons I asked to meet with you.” Harley suddenly became serious as he watched the man across from him sip his drink. “I want them safe. I want my child and mate safe.”

“Understandable.” The man said quietly staring at the melting ice in his cup. “Your mate... she is close with the fairy royals, isn’t she?”

Harley sighed and nodded his head. “I don’t like that look.”

“It might be for the best if you disappear from their world. Cut ties with the fairies. Cut ties with everything. And distance yourself.”

“Is it that bad?” Harley frowned as he stared the man down. “Taric... what do you know?”

Note:

Finally.I.am.feeling.a.bit.better.This.was.the.worst.chest.cold.I.have.ever.had.

The.Next.Chapter.Will.Be.on.the.26th.And.I’ll.be.releasing.a.chapter.for.Oh.F or.Mates.Sake.on.the.25th.

Taming Her Beastly Mate Chapter 82

Chapter 82 Failed Yourself

Rhea, Titus, Cody, and Kelsie walked the well-lit path towards the Coral Palace. Kelsie had shifted into a kelpie to transport everyone to the underwater palace. In the distance there were familiar looking guards just outside the entrance. They had the upper body of a human but had a deep forest green tail fin. They wore golden helmets over their blocky heads. And

they gripped silver tridents with their webbed fingers. These were the merrow guards. They have all seen them before... a long time ago.

"I swear they look like the same guards we saw last time." Titus chuckled under his breath.

"I'm not sure how I feel about this place." Cody shrugged a bit and looked at Kelsie. "I mean I sort of died here."

"You are alive because of here." Rhea reminded him with a soft smile.

"We are getting too old for these types of adventures. Let's retire." Cody chuckled and wrapped his arm around Kelsie.

"We can't go anywhere. We are going to be grandparents!" Kelsie leaned into Cody's side as Titus chuckled.

"Grandpa Cody." Titus turned and grinned at his friend. "Can you believe it? When we first came here Kelsie was pregnant. This time you are expecting your first grandchild. Thank goodness we aren't humans, or we would have to feel old."

"Things have changed so much since then..." Rhea reflected back and smiled. So much time has passed but standing here again it didn't seem like that long ago. She looked up as they finally stood in front of the guards.

"I am the queen of the fairies who is yet to reign. I am here to seek an audience with your queen, Olga."

"Proceed your majesty." The merrow guards parted to the side with their head bowed.

Rhea looked at the familiar white spongy texture walls as they walked into the building. Even the floor was the same white tile. It felt so nostalgic walking through the palace again. They reached a set of familiar bronze doors that two guards opened for them.

Rhea looked ahead at the woman sitting on a stone throne. Her deep blue sea hair curled around her body just like the first time she saw the merrow queen. Her green eyes stared at her as she moved her light green fin slightly. Her top half was covered by a gold-plated chest armor. She looked the same. Exactly the same.

“Welcome your majesty. It’s been a long time.” Olga smiled baring her white, pointed teeth.

“Yes, it has. Once again I am here because I need your help.” Rhea watched as her lips curled upwards with a slight nod.

“I figured as much. Well Rhea, what is it that you need?” Olga looked down at her pointed nails as she waited to hear what was requested of her.

“We have been dealing with nembrant glass. And it seems there is something that was created by merrow magic that can prevent the glass—” Rhea didn’t get to finish as Olga was already nodding her head.

“Yes, yes, yes. I know exactly what you are talking about.” Olga pursed her lips together as she stared at Rhea. She frowned slightly and nodded her head. “I actually already know about it. About everything.” She licked her lips nervously and inhaled deeply. “There is a price for what you ask. You know this is how my magic works. I saved your guardian by taking the hellhounds life. My magic is made with deals and compromises. This is what makes it strong. The nullifying scale is no different. It was created the first time by a nycrops who wanted something in return. And once again... it will be done by a nycrops who wants something in return... I’m sorry. But she is already here—”

“Yes, that is right. I’ve been waiting for you.” A woman with long gray straggly hair walked out into view. Her dull lifeless skin sagged from her body. She lifted her gaze up to reveal solid white eyes. “I am Meryl. I’m sure you’ve heard of me.”

Rhea gasped as Titus pulled her back while Cody stepped forward. “What the hell is all of this?!” Cody growled out.

“Easy there.” Meryl cackled. “I’m afraid you need me. The only one who can protect against the nembrant glass is the one who created it. And fortunately for you I didn’t create it because I wanted to. I needed something... Because of that I am willing to help you for a price. The merrow queen here is the catalyst. She can take my power that I trade and create a scale that prevents the glass from working. But this has to be a trade. And something I am only willing to trade for one thing only...” Meryl tilted her head to the side. “That is if the fairy queen isn’t too afraid to speak to me?”

Rhea clicked her tongue and pushed herself forward. Cody growled and stood next to her protectively glaring at Meryl.

“I’m not afraid of you. What do you want?” Rhea held her chin high as she stared at pure evil.

“I will give Olga enough power to make more nullifying scales than you’ll be able to use. Practically an unlimited supply. In return, I want something simple from you. Life.” Meryl watched as Rhea’s eyes widened and her lips curled upwards. “Not for myself of course.” She reached into her pocket and pulled out a purple vial. “But for my granddaughter. I want her soul to be put into the body of a fairy and to be raised among fairy kind.”

Rhea, Titus, Cody, and Kelsie walked the well-lit path towards the Corel Pelece. Kelsie had shifted into a kelpie to transport everyone to the underwater pelece. In the distance there were familiar looking guards just outside the entrance. They had the upper body of a human but had a deep forest green tail fin. They wore golden helmets over their blocky heads. And they gripped silver tridents with their webbed fingers. These were the merrow guards. They have all seen them before... a long time ago.

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“Things have changed so much since then...” Rhee reflected back and smiled. So much time has passed but standing here again it didn’t seem like that long ago. She looked up as they finally stood in front of the guards.

“I am the queen of the fairies who is yet to reign. I am here to seek an audience with your queen, Olge.”

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“We have been dealing with nembrent glass. And it seems there is something that was created by merrow magic that can prevent the glass—” Rhee didn’t get to finish as Olge was already nodding her head.

“Yes, yes, yes. I know exactly what you are talking about.” Olge pursed her lips together as she stared at Rhee. She frowned slightly and nodded her head. “I actually already know about it. About everything.” She licked her lips nervously and inhaled deeply. “There is a price for what you ask. You know this is how my magic works. I saved your guardian by taking the hellhounds’ life. My magic is made with deals and compromises. This is what makes it strong. The nullifying scale is no different. It was created the first time by a nycrops who wanted something in return. And once again... it will be done by

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“Easy there.” Meryl cockled. “I’m afraid you need me. The only one who can protect against the nembront gloss is the one who created it. And fortunately for you I didn’t create it because I wanted to. I needed something... Because of that I am willing to help you for a price. The merrow queen here is the catalyst. She can take my power that I trade and create a scale that prevents the gloss from working. But this has to be a trade. And something I am only willing to trade for one thing only...” Meryl tilted her head to the side. “That is if the fairy queen isn’t too afraid to speak to me?”

Rheo clicked her tongue and pushed herself forward. Cody growled and stood next to her protectively glaring at Meryl.

"I'm not afraid of you. What do you want?" Rheo held her chin high as she stared at pure evil.

"I will give Olgo enough power to make more nullifying scrolls than you'll be able to use. Practically on unlimited supply. In return, I want something simple from you. Life." Meryl watched as Rheo's eyes widened and her lips curled upwards. "Not for myself of course." She reached into her pocket and pulled out a purple vial. "But for my granddaughter. I want her soul to be put into the body of a fairy and to be raised among fairy kind."

Rhea, Titus, Cody, and Kelsie walked the well-lit path towards the Coral Palace. Kelsie had shifted into a kelpie to transport everyone to the underwater palace. In the distance there were familiar looking guards just outside the entrance. They had the upper body of a human but had a deep forest green tail fin. They wore golden helmets over their blocky heads. And they gripped silver tridents with their webbed fingers. These were the merrow guards. They have all seen them before... a long time ago.

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"I swear they look like the same guards we saw last time." Titus chuckled under his breath.

"I'm not sure how I feel about this place." Cody shrugged a bit and looked at Kelsie. "I mean I sort of did hate it."

"You are alive because of it." Rhea reminded him with a soft smile.

"We are getting too old for these types of adventures. Let's retire." Cody chuckled and wrapped his arm around Kelsie.

"We can't go anywhere. We are going to be grandparents!" Kelsie leaned into Cody's side as Titus chuckled.

"Grandpa Cody." Titus turned and grinned at his friend. "Can you believe it? When we first came here Kelsie was pregnant. This time you are expecting

your first grandchild. Thank goodnass wa aran't humans, or wa would hava to faal old."

"Things hava changad so much sinca than..." Rhaa rflactad back and smilad. So much tima has passad but standing hara again it didn't saam lika that long ago. Sha lookad up as thay finally stood in front of tha guards.

"I am tha quaan of tha fairias who is yat to reign. I am hara to saak an audianca with your quaan, Olga."

"Procaad your majasty." Tha marrow guards partad to tha sida with thair haad bowad.

Rhaa lookad at tha familiar whita spongy taxtura walls as thay walkad into tha building. Evan tha floor was tha sama whita tila. It falt so nostalgic walking through tha palaca again. Thay raachad a sat of familiar bronza doors that two guards opanad for tham.

Rhaa lookad ahaad at tha woman sitting on a stona throna. Har daap blua saa hair curlad around har body just lika tha first tima sha saw tha marrow quaan. Har graan ayas starad at har as sha movad har light graan fin slightly. Har top half was covarad by a gold-platad chast armor. Sha lookad tha sama. Exactly tha sama.

"Walcoma your majasty. It's baan a long tima." Olga smilad baring har whita, pointad taath.

"Yas, it has. Onca again I am hara bacausa I naad your halp." Rhaa watchad as har lips curlad upwards with a slight nod.

"I figurad as much. Wall Rhaa, what is it that you naad?" Olga lookad down at har pointad nails as sha waitad to haar what was raquastad of har.

"Wa hava baan daaling with nambrant glass. And it saams thara is something that was craatad by marrow magic that can pravant tha glass—" Rhaa didn't gat to finish as Olga was alraady noddin har haad.

"Yas, yas, yas. I know axactly what you ara talking about." Olga pursad har lips togathar as sha starad at Rhaa. Sha frownad slightly and noddad har haad. "I actually alraady know about it. About avarything." Sha lickad har lips nervously and inhalad daaply. "Thara is a prica for what you ask. You know this is how my magic works. I savad your guardian by taking tha hallhounds

lifa. My magic is made with deals and compromises. This is what makes it strong. The nullifying scale is no different. It was created the first time by a nycrops who wanted something in return. And once again... it will be done by a nycrops who wants something in return... I'm sorry. But she is already here—"

"Yes, that is right. I've been waiting for you." A woman with long gray straggly hair walked out into view. Her dull lifeless skin sagged from her body. She lifted her gaze up to reveal solid white eyes. "I am Maryl. I'm sure you've heard of me."

Rhea gasped as Titus pulled her back while Cody stepped forward. "What the hell is all of this?!" Cody growled out.

"Easy there." Maryl chuckled. "I'm afraid you need me. The only one who can protect against the nanbrant glass is the one who created it. And fortunately for you I didn't create it because I wanted to. I needed something... Because of that I am willing to help you for a price. The marrow queen here is the catalyst. She can take my power that I trade and create a scale that prevents the glass from working. But this has to be a trade. And something I am only willing to trade for one thing only..." Maryl tilted her head to the side. "That is if the fairy queen isn't too afraid to speak to me?"

Rhea clicked her tongue and pushed herself forward. Cody growled and stood next to her protectively glaring at Maryl.

"I'm not afraid of you. What do you want?" Rhea held her chin high as she stared at her.

"I will give Olga enough power to make more nullifying scales than you'll be able to use. Practically an unlimited supply. In return, I want something simple from you. Life." Maryl watched as Rhea's eyes widened and her lips curled upwards. "Not for myself of course." She reached into her pocket and pulled out a purple vial. "But for my granddaughter. I want her soul to be put into the body of a fairy and to be raised among fairy kind."

"Beryl... you are talking about Beryl." Rhea watched as Maryl nodded her head.

"I want my granddaughter to have another chance at life. This time I want her away from the world of demons and witches. I want her to live among the fairies. I have brought Olga an infant that I froze right at death. I will implant

Beryl's soul into the baby. And you will give me your word she will be raised in Elysium. Among the fairies." Meryl tilted her head to the side. "Do this and you will have your defense against the nembrant glass. It is that simple. What do you say, your highness?"

Rhea turned and looked at Cody, Kelsie, and Titus. They both shook their heads and frowned. "No Rhea. She's pure evil." Titus whispered to her.

"Beryl was the child that injected the blood curse into our brother. And she terrorized Lucy and Derek. You can't take that child into Elysium." Cody spat out in a harsh whisper.

"What choice do we have?" Rhea looked at them and shook her head. "We don't have a choice here. Besides, we will be raising Beryl as a child. This will be her chance. Abaddon changed. Maybe Beryl will too..."

"You could argue that Abaddon was never evil to begin with. He was lead into that path of darkness." Cody snorted shaking his head. He didn't agree with this at all.

"Perhaps this is Beryl's case too. What choice did she have as a child? She didn't know another life." Rhea lifted her head up to look at Meryl. "Elysium can give Beryl a new fresh start. Then it is up to her to choose her path. At least this time she will be given the best chance to start out right." She turned and looked at Cody, Kelsie and Titus. She smiled at them and nodded her head. "This is a trade I am willing to make... one we have to make."

Rhea stepped forward and breathed in slowly while looking at Meryl. "The fairies will raise Beryl. She will be ours and we will raise her as our own." She watched as Meryl's lips curled upwards. She wondered what thoughts and plans she was hiding behind her smile. In either case, it didn't matter. They didn't have a choice and Meryl knew it. They couldn't live without the nullifying scale. They couldn't constantly worry about someone being controlled.

"That's all I want. You've got yourself a deal." Meryl turned and looked at Olga. "Get the preparations ready. We have struck a deal."

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Alexis walked behind Erebus outside on a gravel walkway. The salty wind swirled around them as the waves rolled across the ocean. The last few days

Erebus had been quiet. She could see he was battling against himself. The storm seemed to hit him in surges.

She had managed to disarm the magical cuffs. She was a demigod and it couldn't handle the constant strain from her powers. She was trying to be patient and wait until she knew more. But she wasn't going to just stay there quietly while he tried to take control of her body again. It was time for her to start getting the answers she needed. She breathed in her resolve and watched as Erebus stared out at the ocean.

"Why are you working with the demons? I can't figure it out. You don't seem like the type who really wants to cooperate with them." Alexis watched as his body tensed. He turned his head and looked at her as if he was shocked to see her there. In that moment she could see the wild animal in his eyes, and she regretted saying anything.

"How could YOU possibly understand?" Erebus' voice dripped with venom as he turned his gaze upon her. "You are the darling in your world. The fairy princess that everyone loves and desires. You even have a damn deity wrapped around your dainty little finger." His lips curled up as he sneered at her. "I'll give it to you. You are beautiful. You have a kind nature that even soothes the most tainted of souls. I can see why he is so attracted to you even without the mate pull." He stepped towards her staring into her eyes.

She wanted to step back, but she stood her ground. His eyes were filled with fury and rage. He had never looked at her like that before, and she didn't like it. His hands were clenched into fists at his sides. She could see his chest heaving up and down with each breath he took. "So, you are working with the demons because you want to be accepted?"

Erebus scoffed loudly as his fingers tilted her chin up to him. "You don't know loneliness. You don't know what it is like to want someone so badly... someone you can never have. And not just a fleeting moment. Eternity. I will never have the one person I want for all eternity." He then rubbed his thumb over her cheek as he stared at the mark on her neck.

"I'll ask you this and don't lie. You will not be punished for speaking the truth, but I will punish you for lying to me." He leaned in close to her face and she could feel his breath on her neck. "Did he have you?" She froze. She couldn't move, she couldn't look away from the burning gaze that was boring into her eyes. "Did he take you?" Alexis felt her cheeks flush. She couldn't bring herself to answer. "Did he have s*x with you?" His voice was so close to her

she could feel his lips brush against her ear. “Did he lay you down and thrust into you until you couldn’t breathe? How many times did he take you? Did you satisfy him as well?”

“Beryl... you ere teking about Beryl.” Rhee wetched es Meryl nodded her heed.

“I went my grenddaughter to heve enother chence et life. This time I went her eway from the world of demons end witches. I went her to live emong the feiries. I heve brought Olge en infent that I froze right et death. I will implant Beryl’s soul into the beby. And you will give me your word she will be reised in Elysium. Among the feiries.” Meryl tilted her heed to the side. “Do this end you will heve your defense egeinst the nembrent gless. It is thet simple. Whet do you sey, your highness?”

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"Beryl... you are talking about Beryl." Rhea watched as Meryl nodded her head.

Alexis lips parted as she tried to step away from him. "Answer me, Alexis!"

"Why do you care? Of course we have been together. He is my mate... he is my soul mate." Alexis watched as his eyes widened with a menacing look.

"He's kind to you, huh? Is he a considerate lover?" Erebus clicked his tongue as he gripped her chin harder. His eyes then caught the shine of something on her neck. He quickly reached out and ripped the necklace off of Alexis' neck.

"That's mine!" Alexis reached out frantically to retrieve the necklace. It was her lifeline to Aken.

Erebus sneered as he held it up. Inside the clear sparkling gem were the words 'You've always had it.' The gem radiated with a familiar aura that he recognized immediately. "A gift... he gave you a gift." He shook his head angrily and snapped his head to look at Alexis. "What a sweet gesture of his

love for you. You know... he gave me a gift once too. I thought it was a token of his affection. But you know what it was?! It was a trick! It was a cruel trick that I am reminded of EVERYTIME I see my hair color. It isn't the color of my hair that is the problem. It is the reminder that I was never good enough! It is the constant reminder that I was only a joke to him!"

Wait a minute. Alexis' eyes widened as her mouth parted in shock. She wasn't hearing this right, was she? Because it sounded to her like Erebus wanted Aken. His eyes flickered at her widely as he shook the necklace at her.

"Is it that shocking for you too? Is the idea that absurd?!" Erebus growled angrily.

"Does he know? Did you ever tell him?" Alexis whispered out in a ragged breath.

"Why? So he could laugh at me? So he could make fun of me for eternity? I— My feelings used to be..." He shook his head slowly. "I only ever wanted him to look my way. Do you know how happy I was when he gave me a present? I thought finally he had noticed me. I was a fool. I was deceived." He ran his fingers through his white hair. "His cruel joke put a poisonous thorn in my heart. And your sweet kind note... he laughed! I tried to forget. I tried to move on with Ivory... but she betrayed me too by going to Aken. Aken. Aken. Aken. Aken! He was always causing me pain. Mocking me and my feelings." He glared at Alexis. "I want him to know despair. I want him to feel this type of pain. Which brings me to my impasse.... Do I take you for myself? Or do I kill you? Such a tough decision and I just don't know what to do." A mocking smile crept over lips as he stared at Alexis.

Alexis looked at his menacing eyes. Was this it? Was this why he had been so quiet? He was deciding if he should kill her to hurt Aken or put the nimbrot gloss in her eye. She tightened her fingers together and glared back at Erebus. Did he think she would tremble with this knowledge? All of this because of an unrequited love?

"Wow. You are ridiculous. For one you were too afraid to ever voice your real feelings. At least be man enough to confess. Then your feelings would have been out there instead of the guessing game you played. If you get rejected, you get rejected. Then you at least have the closure you need to move on. Instead you dwelled on a relationship you never had the courage to reach out for." Alexis watched his eyes grow dark looking at her. And she scoffed and folded her arms across her chest. "What? Did you think I would pity you? After

what you have done to everyone? What you did to my cousin?! You have caused your own pain. You have brought upon your own loneliness. My uncle was rejected by his mate. He didn't crumble. He moved on and found a second chance mate. It was the best thing that ever happened to him. You never even found a mate. You never even confessed your feelings. You had your chance. But you were too much of a coward to take it. You foiled yourself. You failed to be honest with yourself. And because of that you never found happiness. You have made the decision to stay in pain."

Erebus grew pale as his lips retreated back into a thin line. His nostrils flared and his eyes narrowed down at Alexis. Erebus' eyes flashed at Alexis and with a vicious snarl his body jerked to move beside her. Alexis was prepared for this reaction, and she swung a black icy sword she instantly manifested in her hand. The sword sliced across the front of Erebus pulsating with energy that sent him flying in the air.

The wind roared tossing Alexis' hair wildly behind her as she watched Erebus stumbled back to his feet. "I'm not in a dream world here. If you are going to fight me, be prepared to lose your life!" She watched as he curled his lips up at her. His eyes were narrowed in on her and were dark. A few drops of blood trickled below him from the wound she had inflicted on him. She felt the dark aura coming out of him as his feet shifted below him. She wasn't sure if she could win this fight, but she was going to give him hell. And hopefully send him there.

In a blur, he sprinted towards her. She raised her sword and lunged back at him. The world lit up around them as two powerful lights collided in a thunderous crash.

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Erabus snaarad as ha hald it up. Insida tha claar sparkling gam wara tha words 'You've always had it.' Tha gam radiatad with a familiar aura that ha racognizad immadiatally. "A gift... ha gava you a gift." Ha shook his haad angrily and snappad his haad to look at Alaxis. "What a swaat gastura of his lova for you. You know... ha gava ma a gift onca too. I thought it was a token of his affaction. But you know what it was?! It was a trick! It was a cruall trick that I am ramindad of EVERYTIME I saa my hair color. It isn't tha color of my hair that is tha problem. It is tha ramindar that I was navar good enough! It is tha constant ramindar that I was only a joka to him!"

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Alaxis lookad at his manacing ayas. Was this it? Was this why ha had baan so quiet? Ha was daciding if ha should kill har to hurt Akan or put tha nambrant glass in har aya. Sha tightanad har fingars togathar and glarad back at Erabus. Did ha think sha would trambla with this knowladga? All of this bacausa of an unraqitad lova?

"Wow. You ara ridiculous. For ona you wara too afraid to avar voica your raal faalings. At laast ba man enough to confass. Than your faalings would hava baan out thara instaad of tha guassing gama you playad. If you gat rajactad,

you gat rajactad. Than you at laast hava tha closura you naad to mova on. Instaad you dwallad on a relationship you navar had to couraga to raach out for." Alaxis watchad his ayas grow dark looking at har. And sha scoffad and foldad har arms across har chast. "What? Did you think I would pity you? Aftar what you hava dona to avaryona? What you did to my cousin?! You hava causad your own pain. You hava brought upon your own lonalinass. My uncla was rajactad by his mata. Ha didn't crumbla. Ha movad on and found a sacond chanca mata. It was tha bast thing that avar happanad to him. You navar avan found a mata. You navar avan confassad your faalings. You had your chanca. But you wara too much of a coward to taka it. You failad yourself. You failad to ba honast with yourself. And bacausa of that you navar found happinass. You hava mada tha dacion to stay in pain."

Erabus graw pala as his lips ratraatad back into a thin lina. His nostrils flarad and his ayas narrowad down at Alaxis. Erabus' ayas flashad at Alaxis and with a vicious snarl his body jarkad to mova basida har. Alaxis was preparad for this raaction, and sha swung a black icy sword sha instantly manifastad in har hand. Tha sword slicad across tha front of Erabus pulsating with anargy that sant him flying in tha air.

Tha wind roarad tossing Alaxis' hair wildly bahind har as sha watchad Erabus stumblad back to his faat. "I'm not in a draam world hara. If you ara going to fight ma, ba preparad to losa your lifa!" Sha watchad as ha curlad his lips up at har. His ayas wara narrowad in on har and wara dark. A faw drops of blood tricklad balow him from tha wound sha had inflictad on him. Sha falt tha dark aura coming out of him as his faat shiftad balow him. Sha wasn't sura if sha could win this fight, but sha was going to giva him hall. And hopafully sand him thara.

In a blur, ha sprintad towards har. Sha raisad har sword and lungad back at him. Tha world lit up around tham as two powarful lights collidad in a thundarous crash.

Taming Her Beastly Mate Chapter 83

Chapter 83 Storm

Brian and Ryker walked back into the hidden hideout of the Thunders. Mason was the only member of the Thunders that was acting with the demons. There were hybrid dragons that were half-demon that had taken root in the West

Dragon Kingdom. After interrogating one of the traitors Brian and Ryker were able to get a list of everyone involved.

Brian and Ryker walked back into the hidden hideout of the Thunders. Meson was the only member of the Thunders that was acting with the demons. There were hybrid dragons that were half-demon that had taken root in the West Dragon Kingdom. After interrogating one of the traitors Brian and Ryker were able to get a list of everyone involved.

One by one they dealt with those who were working with the demons. Levi had found two others with nembrent glass in their eyes. One of them was Reese. They made sure they checked everyone they were interrogating to determine their innocence in the matter.

Now there was just one dragon left... Meson. He was the dragon that was of royal bloodline and would need Brian's strength to bring him down. Wendy met them at the entrance and bowed her head respectfully to Brian.

"Meson is in the main room. Are you sure no one else is involved?" Wendy asked nervously.

"We will be checking the others in case they have nembrent glass in their eyes. But as far as we could tell Meson is the only member in the Thunders that is working with the demons." Ryker then looked up at Brian who was staring down the corridor.

"Let's put an end to this." Brian said in an agitated voice. Because of this man his mother ended up with nembrent glass in her eye. He had brought corruption to the dragon kingdom. He was one of the worse kinds of traitors. And there was only one way to deal with a traitor of his magnitude.

"We will back you up—" Wendy started to say but Brian chuckled her off.

"That won't be necessary. Just stay back so I don't accidentally hurt any of you." Brian walked briskly down the hall with Ryker and Wendy at his heels. He walked into the room where he had seen Ryker chained up before. There sitting in the middle of the room was Meson. He turned and looked back at Ryker and Brian standing up slowly.

"I don't think it is a good idea to have those who aren't part of the Thunders coming here freely." Meson said looking over at Wendy.

"I don't think it is a good idea to have a traitor as a member in the Thunders." Brien said with a small smirk.

"Traitor? I have been with the Thunders for years and have never thought about betraying them." Meson retorted though his eye twitched slightly.

"You are a traitor you have been working with demons!" Ryker growled angrily. "It is because of you that I lost my memories the first time. You set me up to be attacked."

Meson sneered at Ryker. "I see you've gotten your memories back. Still, I am not a traitor. I am doing what is best for the dragon kingdom!" He said vehemently. "We shouldn't be allied with the feiries. They are not our equals. They will bring us down and be our undoing. We need a powerful ally. And the demons have offered an alliance. This is best for the dragons!"

"You are more idiotic than I thought. Demons don't offer alliances out of the goodness of their hearts. They only do because it is a benefit for them. They will betray us." Brien growled angrily. "They will wait until they have taken over everything and then turn on us!"

Meson scoffed and rolled his eyes. "Funny you should say something like that. After all dragons turn on each other all the time. It was dragons that exiled my mother not demons."

"You are right. We made a mistake there. She should have been destroyed. Then we wouldn't be dealing with her bad egg right now." Ryker smirked as he watched the rage burn in Meson's eyes.

"So now what? You plan to exile me? To imprison me for eternity?" Meson scoffed arrogantly.

"No. You have betrayed us all. You have put all species in danger not just dragons. You risked everything against our allies while working with our enemy. There is only one punishment here. You will be eliminated for your crimes." Brien said in an authoritative voice.

"You don't have the right to execute me. I am a royal!" Meson yelled.

"Right? You aren't a royal any longer." Brien smirked. "Your family was officially disowned."

Meson smiled evilly and took a step forward. "So, you are going to kill me?"

"Yes." Brian said slowly looking at the contempt in Meson's eyes.

Meson reared up his head and threw a bolt of dark lightning at Brian. "You are a fool! The demons will be our salvation not our downfall! This will bring everything to light!" he screamed.

Brian felt the fleshing light with his fire. He looked up at Meson and it all made sense. He was a dark demon. That was dark demonic energy. This was where his loyalties truly belonged.

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“You will never betray us or anyone else again.” Brian then focused on Mason releasing his new power from scorio. It was no longer an element he feared... he knew how to fully control it. The heat engulfed Mason catching his body on fire. He watched as Mason screamed and writhed in pain. The flames ate at his body and consumed him. His body soon turned into ash then scattered over the ground in a glittering pile.

“You will never betroy us or onyone else ogoin.” Brion then focused on Moson releosing his new power from scorio. It wos no longer on element he feored... he knew how to fully control it. The heot engulfed Moson cotching his body on fire. He wotched os Moson screamed ond writhed in poin. The flomes ote ot his body ond consumed him. His body soon turned into osh then scottered over the ground in o glittering pile.

It was over. He had ended one of the threats to the dragon kingdom. Brion knew there was more danger since they still had the demons to deal with. But right now, his world had become a little safer. He looked up at the ceiling and sighed. Now they just needed to get Alexis back...

The dust settled revealing two figures standing several feet apart in a standoff. The blood trickled onto the ground as they both heaved heavy breaths. Alexis gripped her black sword and winced from the pain radiating from her side. A constant red stream oozed down her body.

Alexis was strong but she was not a god. One on one she had reached her limit. She closed her sword against Erebus and inflicted several wounds upon him. But Erebus was an experienced fighter, and he was stronger. This was not a battle she could win using strength alone.

The thunder cracked in the sky above as a storm moved in. It was as if it was setting the mood for their battle. The lightning flashed and a loud rumbling sound rolled through the sky.

"You have been tough, princess. But I think we both know how this fight is going to end. Why don't you try begging for your life? Maybe I will be merciful." Erebus' lips curled upwards as he glowered at Alexis.

Alexis raised her sword and summoned an ice storm around her. Sharp icy razor blades surrounded her as she prepared herself. Beg? As if she would beg. There was more fight in her than that. If she was going to die, she was going to inflict as much damage as possible on her way out.

Alexis gripped her dark sword that swirled with her light and dark power. The icy razor blades around her flickered in color alternating between white and black. Behind Erebus the waves rolled in angrily answering the storming clouds above. The sky was dark and ominous. Slowly they began releasing large wet droplets as lightning flashed across the ocean.

"I'm sorry to disappoint you, but you will not get such satisfaction from me. Like I said if you are going to fight against me you should be prepared to lose your life." Alexis spat out as she waved her hand forward sending her blades ahead. Lightning flashed as the icy razor blades sliced through the air. Erebus

deflected the attack as Alexis charged towards him. She swung her sword, but this time shot a morbid beam of light at him that he wasn't expecting. The swirling energy hit him head on with a thunderous explosion. Erebus was thrown backwards slamming into the ground.

Erebus placed his hand on the ground and sent a dark energy burst towards Alexis. He watched as the earth roiled up from the ground swallowing up his attack. He stood up angrily and seethed in anger. "He gave you his summon!?" He clenched his jaw and glared at her with contempt. Aken had given her his mark, his summon, his heart... everything! Why her? Why wasn't it him? He couldn't take it. She didn't deserve him. Her love was shallow in comparison to his. Yes, she should not get to have him. Her existence was a problem. Once Aken was freed of her he would finally understand. He had to save Aken from her poison.

Erebus charged towards her and released his energy in a wide arc. Alexis raised her sword in a defensive stance as his energy swung down upon her. The energy tore through her arm. She took a step back and dodged the rest of the blow. She then twisted her body and lunged forward with her sword. The icy sword shattered, and his energy tore through her skin. She could feel her blood dripping down her face her clothes were torn into shreds.

Alexis winced and staggered backwards. She lifted up an icy shield as she tried to regain her composure. She was losing blood and fighting a losing battle. Erebus' power was still greater than her own. He was stronger, faster and an experienced fighter. She was bleeding and her body was growing weaker. She may be smart and resourceful but that was not going to cut it. She needed to win. She needed to defeat him. She couldn't go down like this.

"Your love is no greater. It is shallow, fleeting. It means nothing." Erebus yelled as his dark energy smashed against her icy barrier. "What do you know of love? You are practically a baby in this world. You don't even understand it. It makes you weak. It is cruel! Love is the reason for suffering in this world."

"No." Alexis said in a quiet breath as she narrowed her eyes on him. "That isn't what love is. You are the one who doesn't understand it. You've been blinded by your own selfishness. You are a slave to your emotions. You think you know love, but you don't. You are a coward. Your love is a lie."

Erebus lifted up her necklace and waved it at her. "This is your love. It is meaningless. It is insignificant. And it is fragile. It can be destroyed." He squeezed the gem in his hands, and it shattered. He sprinted forward

slamming against the wall of ice. The ice shattered and fragments flew in all directions.

Alexis' clutched her side and prepared for his assault.

CRASH

The lightning flashed. Thunder roared. Erebus' body rolled across the ground as another body attacked it mercilessly. Familiar warm arms crept around Alexis' body, and she breathed in the scent of her mate.

"Aken." She lifted her head and smiled. His eyes looked over her with worry as his hand cupped her cheek.

"Are you alright?" Aken's voice was warm and soft. Alexis' clothes were in tatters and covered in blood. If they hadn't broken when it did... he couldn't even think about it. His heart ached as he looked over her wounds. This was unforgivable.

"I'm hurt but I'll be fine." Alexis leaned up and his lips crashed down against hers. It was a possessive frenetic kiss that was everything she needed. She felt her body responding to him and even her healing was accelerating in that moment.

"You should have summoned me right away. I have been so worried. I could have lost you. I love you so much." He lowered his lips on hers again this time tenderly. Aken pulled back and his eyes turned to Erebus. He held Alexis close but gently against him as he watched the bear relentlessly attacking the deity.

Erebus' body rolled across the ground as Miceh kicked him around the earth. He finally managed to get to his feet. Blood trickled from his mouth as he brushed it aside hastily with his hand.

"How dare you hurt my princess!" Miceh growled. "I will kill you for touching her."

Erebus began to laugh maniacally. "You can't kill me. If you kill me now, I'll live in the netherworld. My soul will just wait to take over another body. No, it is actually safer for you to let me live than to kill me."

“And how does that fit in with your plans? You are the one who is the pawn now.” Alexis watched as Erebus’ eyes flickered over at her. His eyes traveled to Aken’s hands on her and his lips curled up in disgust.

“You linked yourself to that necklace!” Erebus’ chest heaved angrily as a menacing look filled his eyes.

“Looks like you couldn’t destroy love after all. Instead, you set it free.” Alexis smirked as she watched him tremble in anger.

Erebus glared at Aken. “You shouldn’t have happiness. Why should you get what you want? You don’t care about others! You only care about yourself. You are selfish. You deserve to live a life of loneliness.”

“Geez, all this because he dyed your hair white? Seems a bit extreme.” Miceh scoffed and Alexis cleared her throat strongly making him look at her.

“Why don’t you say what this is really about...” Alexis looked up at Erebus whose eyes narrowed on her with contempt.

“Wait... what this is really about?” Aken looked down at Alexis and then back up to Erebus. “What is this really about?”

Erebus shot a blast of dark energy towards Alexis angrily. Aken pulled her body slightly behind him and effortlessly blocked the attack. At the same time Miceh launched himself back into Erebus.

“I don’t care what you are linked to. You are going to die today. And then I will find every piece of nembrent glass and destroy it.” Miceh growled as his deadly fight with Erebus continued.

Taming Her Beastly Mate Chapter 84

Chapter 84 A Seven

Erebus spat out a mouthful of blood and sand as he lifted his head up from the ground. The titan was so much stronger than he imagined. Yet, he couldn’t focus on the fight. He kept glancing over at Aken and Alexis. Aken wasn’t even bothering to fight. Instead, he was staying next to HER. It was bad enough that Aken chose her. Now he was even too good to fight against him. He wasn’t even given the decency of facing Aken in battle.

He grabbed a fistful of sand in his hands as he clenched his teeth together. He was never good enough for Aken. Even now, he wasn't even worth Aken's time. He pushed himself up to his feet and sneered at Micah.

"You are stronger than her you know? How does it feel to be below her? That your existence is nothing compared to hers?" Erebus watched as Micah quirked his brow up at him.

Micah looked at the man dumbfounded. "What are you talking about? All I want is to protect her. My existence is meaningless without her. It is nothing without her." He narrowed his eyes at Erebus and let out a low growl. "What is your problem with my princess?"

"I don't understand. Why her?" Erebus finally turned and looked at Aken. "Is the mate pull that powerful that it left you no choice?!"

"She is my choice... my only choice. There could never be anyone else for me but her." Aken listened as Erebus scoffed at him.

"And what about before?! What about before her? Admit it. The mate pull trapped you. Yes, that is it. It must be it. You never kept anyone by your side like you are keeping her. You are bewitched. She is a poison." Erebus began to ramble to himself with wide wild eyes. His fist were clenched and they were trembling with anger.

"What is wrong with you? A poison?" Aken snorted and shook his head. "She is my salvation. I wasn't living until now. She is my purpose. The air I breathe...my everything. It is hard to explain but the mate pull isn't like that. You have a choice but why deny what was made for you? What is wrong with you? Why have you changed so much..."

"BECAUSE OF YOU!" Erebus roared.

"I'm sorry about your hair. It was a joke—" Aken started to say but the loud laughter from Erebus stopped him.

"I was never vain. I can't believe that is what you think..." Erebus' voice dropped to a whisper as he looked at Aken with wide wounded eyes. "Did you ever think of me as anything but a joke?"

Aken furrowed his brows and shrugged. "I never thought you were a joke. It was just a prank. Some fun to pass the time. And you were vain. You went crazy trying to reverse the effects of the dye—"

"I DIDN'T WANT THE REMINDER OF THAT DAY!" Erebus snapped bitterly.

Aken looked over at Micah who was also looking at Erebus as if he lost his mind.

"Aken..." Alexis whispered out tilting her head up to look at him.

Alexis didn't have to say anything. Her thoughts swam into Aken's mind, and he knew. He stared at her and swallowed hard. He tried to reminisce on the past, but he didn't remember anything that insinuated Erebus' feelings towards him. It didn't make any sense. He turned his head to look at Erebus. He was unsure what to say... to say he was shocked was an understatement. As shocked as he was, he was also angry. Erebus did all of these horrible things because he thought he was in love? That was ridiculous.

"How the hell was I supposed to know?" Aken finally growled out in a gruff voice.

"How didn't you know?!" Erebus snapped back poisonously. "And would it have made a difference?"

"No. I'm sorry but no it wouldn't have. At least not for me. But maybe it would have for you." Aken watched as Erebus shook his head angrily.

"You think you are too good for me, don't you?!" Erebus growled as Micah started to choke on his spit.

"Time out. I am missing something here..." Micah looked over at Aken who shrugged his shoulders shaking his head.

"Apparently... I guess he... well... from my understanding..." Aken stumbled over his words which angered Erebus.

"You can't even say it?! Am I that repulsive to you? Is the idea of me liking you that unbelievable?" Erebus glared at Aken who stared at him blankly.

"Da.mn... Aken has game. Mr. Stuuuud Muffin." The corner of Micah's lips curled upwards as a full grin reached his face. He looked over at Erebus and

shook his head. "I don't get it. Is all of this because of your feelings for Aken?!" He raised his brows up and looked back at Aken. "The guy isn't even that hot. He is like a seven."

"A seven?!" Aken scoffed. "What the hell are you then?"

"I'm a ten... easily." Micah flashed his white toothy grin at Aken who let out an airy laugh.

Erebus looked at Micah and then back at Aken. "This is not a joke. You did not give me a chance. You never even looked at me."

"I am sorry, but how was I supposed to know that you were interested in me?" Aken frowned at Erebus who scowled back at him.

"It's a good thing I didn't say anything. You would have just used it to torment me more. I was nothing to you—" Erebus wasn't able to finish his sentence as Aken spoke up angrily.

"What?!" All of the sudden Aken's face darkened, and he turned to look at Erebus. "Just because I was never interested in you doesn't mean I didn't like you. Maybe I didn't like you the way you wanted but at one point I considered you a friend. Maybe I took my pranks too far. The hair dye was just supposed to be a fun prank we would laugh about. Look I'm sorry about that..." He shook his head and looked over at Alexis. "But this... what you have done. I can't ever forgive you. You hurt the most precious person in the world to me. I can't forgive and forget. Damn it Erebus... how could you do the sh.it you've done? This isn't just about me. This is about you. You blame all your actions on me." Aken scoffed and rubbed his forehead. "But this isn't about me at all..."

"Of course it is about you! I wouldn't be this way if it wasn't for you!"

"That is bull.shit! That's enough! It's time for you to take accountability for yourself. Quit blaming others for the sh.it you are doing. I didn't ask you to fall in love with me. You did that on your own! You never told me so how was I supposed to tell you I didn't return your feelings? But you... YOU are the one who has hurt people. You even lashed out at me?!" Aken laughed and shook his head. "You didn't love me man. I could NEVER hurt Alexis. No matter what she did to me. Whether intentional or not. I love her too much. She is too dear to me. You are trying to take the guilt off of your shoulders by throwing it onto mine. This is not my burden to bear... it is yours."

Erebus' shoulders raised and fell as he breathed in ragged breaths. This wasn't his fault. He didn't want to be this way. Maybe it wasn't Aken's fault either... but then whose fault was it? He looked down at his feet in deep thought for a moment. Of course. He lifted his head and his eyes beamed in on the woman next to Aken. It was her fault. Her future existence back then... her current existence now. Because Aken was destined to have a fated mate he was unable to see him. Yes. Yes. This is the reason.

It wasn't Aken. It was Alexis. It was her existence that was the problem. It was fated mates. "The real reason..." Erebus mumbled to himself as he glanced at Aken out of the corner of his eye. Aken and Alexis needed to be separated. "Don't you see? It's her... She is the problem. You will be better once we get rid of her." His eyes narrowed in on Alexis as Aken stepped in front of her protectively. Suddenly Erebus felt something hard slam into the side of his face. His body flew through the air until he smashed into the sandy ground.

"I don't think so..." Micah growled as he pursued after Erebus. "You are the real monster in this world. I am not going to tolerate this any longer." He swung his fist down at Erebus who rolled out of the way a split second before impact. Micah's fist connected with the ground with a powerful surge of energy making the sand and dirt fly in the air.

Alexis watched as Micah and Erebus began to battle again. She shook her head sadly and looked up at Aken. "What do we do about him? Can we seal him?"

"I don't think we have a choice but to eliminate him. If he comes back through the glass at least that body will have limitations. He is a tier one deity right now—" Aken's eyes widened in shock. "Micah! Look out!"

A dark black electrically charged cloud engulfed Micah momentarily stunning him. Erebus took this moment to flee. He flashed away but ran into something solid making him stop. He wasn't able to teleport...

He lifted up his gaze to see what had stopped him. He felt his chest squeeze as his body trembled in fear. Aken had flashed in front of him blocking him from teleporting away. His green eyes bore into him. Erebus licked his lips nervously as Aken reached out and grabbed his wrist.

"No more tricks. No more running away. No more... No matter what you can't be allowed to live any longer. If you come back through the nembrant glass, then we will just have the pleasure of killing you again. You have brought this

upon yourself..." Aken looked at Erebus but didn't feel any pity for the man. All he could see was Alexis bloodied body... and Lucy's. The pain Alexis went through when she lost her great grandparents. He remembered how Erebus had put the nembrant glass in Alexis' eye and she couldn't even look at him. He remembered it all.

A loud explosion was heard behind them and a bright orange glow surrounded Micah's body. He slowly walked towards Aken and Erebus. The sand stirred below him as the orange glow pulsated from it. He looked up at Aken and nodded his head.

"Goodbye... Erebus." Aken said quietly as he looked at the white in Erebus eyes widen. The deity was nothing like he used to be. Honestly, he was more a shell of himself. "I'm not sorry about what must be done. I am sorry if I unknowingly hurt you..."

Erebus' looked away from Aken bitterly. He didn't want to hear his apologies. They would rue this day. He would make them all pay. This wouldn't be his end.

Micah stepped forward with a cold expression on his face. His eyes were dark as his anger bubbled to the surface. This deity was a threat to his princess. And it was time to get rid of him. He reached his hand forward and Erebus tried to flail himself away. Aken reached out and grabbed onto his other arm gripping him tightly. Micah's fingers gripped around Erebus' throat and his orange energy concentrated in his hands.

Erebus' neck started to burn, and his eyes began to bulge out. He struggled against the hold Aken and Micah had on him. "N-no... you'll be sorry for this. This isn't over. I will target you...your family. It won't matter to me. I will become your never ending plague."

Micah growled as he squeezed harder on his neck. "May the darkness you have chosen swallow you up." The bright glow pulsated and with it Erebus' screams. The energy burned a hole straight through the middle of Erebus' throat halting the screeches he was making. His body went still and fell to the ground as Micah and Aken released their grips.

The sky above rumbled quietly as the wind blew softly. The storm was moving on. "Should we seal him?" Micah's voice was low.

“There is no need. Erebus is no longer connected to this body.” Aken said turning away.

Micah stepped backwards and turned around as well. He walked next to Aken as they made their way back to Alexis.

“Such a shame.” Micah said shaking his head back and forth.

“What’s that?” Aken looked next to him as Micah sighed.

“Nothing really. It’s just such a shame you know? He loved you to death...”

“Really Micah...” Alexis watched as a sheepish grin reached his lips.

“What? Too soon?” Micah suddenly felt an icy whip lash across his back.
“Ouch! What was that for?!”

“That was for disconnecting your guardian link.” Alexis reached her hand out like she was going to punch him. Instead, she wrapped her arms around him.

Micah pulled her head to his chest and leaned his head down on to hers. “I missed you too Lex.” He whispered quietly with a small smile.

—

The dark room lit up with a red ominous glow as a cruel smile spread over the demon king’s face. He reached out and grabbed a piece of red glass and twirled it in his fingers.

“Welcome home.” Marcus chuckled and sat the glass back down on the table.
“The puzzle pieces are all coming together. It may take some time... but when this war is over, we will be victorious.”

Note:

I’m state side. The next update will be the 5th at 8 in the evening Eastern Time.

Taming Her Beastly Mate Chapter 85

Chapter 85 Changes

Back in Elysium Rhea sat on a couch with Levi. In her arms she held a sleeping infant... Beryl. Meryl had handed them the baby with no strings attached. Just to raise her in Elysium. In exchange they brought back barrels and barrels of nullifying scales. And there was still more being made by Olga.

Grandpa Sage was able to extract the glass from Lila's eye and they were now distributing the scales in masses. Lilly was able to create special crystals that could detect the nembrant glass within a certain radius. It was enough to cover all of Elysium and she was making more to help protect the other kingdoms not to mention the packs. But this came at a price for Lilly. She had to infuse her own power into these crystals giving away a small piece of herself with every crystal she would create. Though this was a small price to pay in order to help protect everyone. Even if she ended up using all of her fairy magic, she would always have Kira. She was always more comfortable using her strength as a werewolf. It was more her style.

With Lilly's fairy magic being slowly drained from her they had to make a tough decision. They decided that Rhea would now need to take over as the active Fairy Queen of Elysium. Levi and Rhea would be moving to Elysium at the conclusion of the dragon party. Since Rhea and Levi would be living in Elysium, they decided they would adopt Beryl. They would raise her as their own daughter and teach her their ways. Hopefully this time, under their guidance, things would be different.

There was another big change happening in Elysium. The dark fairies were slowly moving in. As they came the area was expanding and adapting for the new arrivals. Just like fairy magic, Elysium, was also alive. The place was a beautiful flowing entity. Like a living, breathing being that was slowly changing and adapting in order to fulfill the prophecy the dark fairies spoke of.

Alexis was both a dark and light fairy. It was told that a fairy princess of both light and dark would be the bridge for fairy kind. The yin and yang of the fairies. She would be the greatest protector the fairies had ever known. And in their time of greatest despair, she would provide them all a safe haven.

Unfortunately, not all of the dark fairies wished to unite under the fairy princess. Some of them even joined up with the demons. In all species, there were those who turned their backs on their own kind. This was no different with the fairies.

One of the biggest surprises was the rising flowing power in Elysium. With the presence of the dark fairies, it was bringing about a different type of magic.

This magic merged together. The white and dark energies intertwined creating a power that was unrestrained. Lilly felt as if the two powers always belonged together. It was as if the two energies were now whole.

Destiny walked into the room with Harley by her side. She reached out her hands towards Rhea so that she could hold the tiny baby in her arms. The baby opened her eyes for a moment before falling back to sleep.

“It is hard to believe she was evil.” Destiny said as she patted the baby softly.

“Believe it.” Lucy said as she walked into the room. Derek, Justice, Aba, Jasper and Terra were all with her. They would be staying in Elysium until the crystals were finished. When they were finally able to return, Terra would be coming back with them to the Vampire Kingdom.

“But things can be different for her this time.” Lucy smiled and looked down at Aba. Aba wasn’t always the way he is now. He used to terrorize her family... but that was another life. And one that he still doesn’t remember. He has visions of his first life sometimes, but it is still fuzzy to him.

“What do you think, Luce, will we end up having our babies before we go back home?” Destiny felt Harley’s hand on her shoulder, and she smiled up at him. Harley had talked with her family extensively over the things he had found out.

Apparently, the demon king is the one behind the pool of power. He was using it to summon alien creatures that would be drawn to its evil. The pool was destroyed by Levi and a few other deities. However, the damage has already been done. According to the demon king’s son, Taric, the army would eventually reach earth. And with the power of the nembrant glass the demons would take control of the army.

These alien creatures belonged to another world with gods of their own. If the gods act out against them there would be a war. A war against deities. This is something the gods will not risk. Because of this the gods will not intervene. Levi and Aken can’t fight, or their own deities would turn against them. The Demon King, Marcus, had planned this out well. And by using the nembrant glass it will keep his hands clean of everything.

Levi had tried to go to the council over this news, but they wouldn’t hear of it. To them it didn’t matter. A war against other gods was something they wouldn’t risk. Which meant they were on their own against this evil that was coming. And according to Marcus’ son, Taric, these creatures would swarm

over the world like a plague. Bringing destruction and death. If they all united to fight against them there would be heavy casualties. It was uncertain who would win.

Taric believed that these creatures would be able to enter Elysium. This was the first place Marcus planned to attack. He intended to wipe out the fairies first and all that were associated with them. Could the creatures really enter Elysium? This was something they couldn't risk.

When the time came, Elysium would be sealed. Harley and Destiny talked about their options. As a demon Harley could continue to live in this world but they would have to disassociate themselves with the fairies now. This was something Destiny wouldn't do. She couldn't. Together they agreed they would also be sealed with Elysium.

"With the crazy way our family is you two will be having your babies at the same exact time." Aiden chuckled from the far end of the room. He smiled as he looked over at his sister and cousin. He didn't care to wait for the crystal to be complete. As soon as he hears that Erebus has been killed, he will be teleporting back home. He missed Diana and needed to see her. His father could wait for the crystal. He had a nullifying scale in his eye and would take the mirror back with him to check over the pack. He would also bring back nullifying scales to distribute among them.

"I can't wait to hold my future niece or nephew." Justice said proudly. "Though by the looks of Destiny's stomach I think she is giving birth to a toddler." He teased playfully.

"Ha Ha very funny." Destiny shook her head and handed Beryl over to Lucy who had come to hold her.

"Soon you will have cousins to play with. You are going to be so loved Beryl. My Aunt Rhea and Uncle Levi are the best." Lucy looked up at her aunt and uncle and smiled at them.

Cody walked into the room along with Jason, Jin, Wyatt and Freya.

"Raine is having bad morning sickness, so Kelsie is staying with her. Ryker hasn't come back yet from distributing the nullifying scales to the Thunders. If mom wasn't so busy, I'd have her examine Raine. I don't remember Kelsie's ever being this bad." Cody looked up a bit worried.

"I'm sure mom has time to check on her Cody. I think she is probably fine. There are a lot of magical elements stirring inside of Raine. Magical pregnancies are not easy and no one's experience is the same." Rhea said with a comforting smile.

"That's what I told him too, but Grandpa Cody here is worried about his baby girl." Jason patted his brother on the shoulder and winked at him.

"Ryker needs to just stay by her side. She could use his comfort right now." Cody scowled as he inwardly brewed.

Wyatt laughed loudly as Jason snickered beside Cody.

"You were just saying that Ryker is with her all the time, so you never have a chance to be alone with her. Now Ryker isn't with her enough." Wyatt smirked at his brother.

"There is just no pleasing him. You know mother spoiled him." Jason had a wry grin on his face as Cody turned to face him.

"No way! We all know which one was the spoiled one." Cody said and all three men turned their heads with sly smiles to look at Rhea.

"Tsk. That is absurd! I wasn't allowed to do anything. You never let me even have a date. You were all overprotective but that doesn't mean I was spoiled." Rhea clicked her tongue as Levi scooped his arm around her.

"That's why I love them so much. They kept the raging walking hormones away from you. They accidentally ended up being the best wingmen." Levi kissed Rhea's head and smiled. They were both putting on a brave face. It was all they could do. Alexis was still out there, but Aken and Micah were looking for her. The whole family was worried, but this was how they coped. They acted like everything was fine while they worried on the inside.

"I resent that!" A voice boomed from the entryway. They all looked up to see Titus, Lila, Brian and Bella walking into the room. "I am certain I was your best wingman. I did hold her hostage for you in the dragon kingdom." Titus grinned as he looked at Rhea.

"You were being an interfering whelp. I had it under control." Levi snorted indignantly.

“Oh yeah... very under control.” Titus looked at Rhea and they rolled their eyes.

“You really should have just told me I was your mate back then. And let me figure out what I wanted to do with that information.” Rhea looked up to see the sheepish grin on Lee’s face.

“Instead, Kelsie and I had to wipe the drool off her chin every time she saw you.” Cody listened as Rhea gasped.

“Cody!” Rhea said slightly mortified.

“That’s okay Rhea. Levi here was no better. I knew every time he came back from seeing you, he would be brooding and in a bad mood.” Titus looked around the room. “Is Lilly still working on replicating those crystals?”

“Yes...” Rhea said with a slight frown. “It is taking so much out of her.”

“It is going to be weird without you guys living in the dragon kingdom.” Lila said knowing Titus was thinking the same thing. The nembrant glass left her in a bit of a blur. Unlike Alexis who remembered everything clearly, she didn’t. It was like waking up from a dream state. What happened from the time she got the nembrant glass in her eye until it was removed was blurry. She didn’t even remember when it happened.

“Any word on Alexis?” Brian finally spoke up in agitation. He was not like this family and just pretending everything was fine didn’t work for him.

Levi frowned and looked down at Rhea. Her face was crestfallen as she glanced down to look at her hands. The whole room became solemn as their worries were brought to the surface.

“No... nothing.” Levi said quietly.

“Then what are we doing? We should be—” Brian started but stopped with a glance from Levi.

“How do we find her? We can just aimlessly wander around looking for her. With everything going on we shouldn’t be splitting up. I would do anything to keep her safe. I—” Levi stopped as three people manifested in the middle of the room.

“Thank the gods!” Rhea jumped up and wrapped her arms around Alexis. Alexis hugged her mother tightly as her father wrapped them both in his arms.

“Just god. Thank the god. And I’m right here. You’re welcome.” Aken said with a smirk.

“Pfft. Thank the guardian. I’m the one who killed Erebus.” Micah snorted and Aken glared at him.

“And we found them because of me.”

“Because the moron broke the necklace. Oh... I’m sorry...” Micah said solemnly.

“Sorry?” Aken looked at him in confusion.

“I shouldn’t speak like that about your lover...” Micah grinned widely.

Aken glared at Micah. That da.mn bear couldn’t wait to tell everyone.

“Lover?” Brian asked with a playful smile on his lips.

“Didn’t you know? Aken is so much of a man that Erebus fell for him.” Micah ran his hand over his chest and tugged down on his shirt. He bit his lower lip and batted his eyes at Aken. “Careful Alexis or I might not be able to resist those godly pheromones he is oozing with.” He dodged to the side as Aken swung his arm at him. “Owww you vicious thaaaang!”

“Erebus was in love with you?” Levi looked up at Aken who turned from Micah shrugging his shoulders.

“I don’t think he knew what love was to be honest.” Aken just couldn’t fathom such a poisonous love. Erebus thought he was in love with him, but his actions never reflected it.

“Are you okay?” Rhea held her daughter’s head against her.

“Yes, I am fine. We would have been back sooner. But we searched over Erebus castle for clues, and I needed to change my clothes before we came back.”

“What did you find?” Levi asked looking at Aken and Micah.

“Nothing. There was nothing there. It was almost... It was as if he planned to die...” Micah said clearing his throat uneasily.

“I wish we didn’t have to kill him. I couldn’t seal him on my own and we couldn’t risk losing him again.” Aken looked at Levi and shrugged. “Da.mned if you do... da.mned if you don’t.”

“You didn’t have a choice. You couldn’t risk him getting away.” Levi then directed his attention to Micah. “I spoke with Gaia more about you. I’m guessing Aken filled you in...” He watched as Micah nodded his head. “You have chosen Alexis as your master. You are connected to her now. Which is why you can both sense each other even when you weren’t a guardian. The master bond with a primordial still has many mysteries. Gaia isn’t sure what this will all mean. Talia, the primordial beast that was killed, never took on a master.”

“I guess we will be learning about it now then.” Micah chuckled and shrugged. “The dark sprite is no longer an issue for me. I am not sure exactly, but I believed I absorbed it.”

“Let me see.” Lilly’s voice rang out clearly. She walked towards Micah with Tyler and Tristan. Her face was drawn, and her body was tired. But she would complete her tasks. She would do whatever she could to ensure everyone’s safety. She walked up to Micah and cupped his cheeks in her hands. She stared into his eyes focusing. She was searching for the lifeforce of the sprite.

“He is right. The sprite no longer exists inside of his body.” Lilly dropped her hands and then turned to look at Alexis. “We have a lot to fill you in on, but you look tired. You’ve been through a lot. Why don’t you rest?”

“I’m taking her to my home to rest. When she is feeling better, we will come back here.” Aken looked at Levi who reluctantly nodded his head with a frown.

“She could rest here too.” Levi said and Aken chuckled.

“I was going to take her straight to my place, but she insisted on seeing everyone here first. I was going send you a mental message that she was safe.” Aken turned his head slightly to look at Micah. “I told you the sea slug would have something to say.”

Levi scoffed and Micah grinned. “I think he was pretty mild over it considering everything that happened.” Micah elbowed Aken lightly. “You are not the only

one who loves her... And she wasn't the only one who loved you." He grinned widely as Aken shoved him.

Terra stepped forward with Jasper by her side. "I have decided to stay with Jasper if that's—"

"Stay with your mate Terra. You deserve happiness." Aken watched as she smiled happily, and Jasper rested his arm around her.

"I know there is a lot to talk about... I'll be back in a day or two. Will you still be in Elysium?" Alexis looked at her mother who nodded her head.

"Yes, your father and I are moving to Elysium... it is something we can talk more about when you return." Rhea squeezed her daughter tightly before she released her.

Aken reached his hand out to Alexis who stepped into his arms. He kissed the top of her head gently and brushed his nose in her hair. She was exhausted and needed to rest. He understood that her family needed to not just hear that she was safe. They needed to see it. He looked up at everyone in the room.

"I'll bring her back after she has rested." Aken said and Lilly raised up her hand in a stopping motion.

"Wait... before you go." Lilly reached her hand out and handed a scale to Alexis and Micah. "Take these. They will prevent the nembrant glass from affecting you in the future." Just then a baby started crying and Alexis turned her head in shock.

"Did someone have their baby already?!" Alexis looked over at Lucy now noticing the baby she was holding. Even though she was heavily pregnant still.

Lucy smiled and shook her head. "We are all still pregnant here." She rocked the baby slowly until she fell back to sleep. "I think the baby is something else we can talk to you about after you are rested." She glanced up to Rhea who nodded her head.

Alexis let out a tired sigh and leaned into Aken. After being captive, fighting against Erebus, and recovering from her wounds, her body was exhausted. It was finally creeping up on her. Aken knew this through their connection. He was also exhausted after the search for her. He had barely slept. Right now,

they needed to rest. Everything else could wait. The immediate danger was over.

Aken nodded at everyone and a moment later the three of them were standing in the main room of their home.

Micah watched as Aken lifted Alexis up and carried her up the stairs. He headed to the kitchen to grab a quick snack before he headed to bed himself. His thoughts weren't entirely on sleep. He was thinking about Brandy. When he saw one of the servants, he decided to ask about her.

"Is Brandy still here?"

"No, she is due to make a delivery tomorrow morning though."

Micah nodded his head as he gathered some snacks in his arms. He felt a wave of disappointment wash over him as he made his way back to his room. He couldn't deny the feeling he was having. Suddenly his body was screaming at him to find Brandy. As if she was his and belonged to him. Maybe it was just the anticipation of seeing her again? Or... it was something more. He would know when he saw her tomorrow morning.

In the morning... he would make an important decision about his future.

Note:

Next update on the 8th. Two more chapters left I think? Maybe three.