Taming Her Beastly Mate Chapter 91

The Lycan Princess -Ch 3- Separate

Aiden kept his arm on Diana until they reached the meeting room. Then he let it drop. He knew she preferred it that way. It wouldn't always be like this... just until she was ready. He winked at her and pushed the door open. His eyes rolled over the room. His father's officers were there, as well as his Uncle Jason and his Aunt Jin.

"Aiden... Diana... please come in and shut the door." Wyatt said quietly. His face was taunt and his voice solemn.

"What's going on?" Aiden asked, glancing back to Diana, who moved to the corner of the room. She always stood there quietly observing the meetings.

"We think it is time we start working on shifting control of the pack over to you." Wyatt's eyes moved over to Diana momentarily and then back to Aiden. "When I took over it was in a rush. We want this to be a longer and easier transition. You will be the werewolves king... it is a heavy burden, and you are young. Your mother and I will continue to stay by your side even after you take over to help guide you. To start things out we want to start delegating responsibilities to you... and when the time comes your luna as well."

Aiden looked back at Diana and gave her a reassuring smile. "Okay, so where do we—" He stopped talking mid-sentence and clutched his chest.

Diana watched as everyone in the room besides Adam and Winston doubled over as if they were in pain. She instantly reacted rushing up to Aiden. Flashbacks of losing her brother raced in her mind as she put her arms on Aiden.

Aiden's shoulders were heaving as he reached up to clasp his mate's hand for comfort. Three strong lights from the fairy world had suddenly vanished. His hand was trembling as Diana cupped it with her other hand.

"Aiden." Her voice was a worried whisper. He lifted his gaze up to her with watery eyes. On the breeze, soft voices rose in song as they mourned their loss.

"It's my family..." He whispered... "they're gone."

Wyatt grabbed onto Freya's hand and stood up abruptly. "We are going to find out what has happened. We are heading to Elysium."

Elysium, the fairy kingdom, where many of Aiden's family resided. He had royal fairy blood in his veins, though he would never be an heir nor would his children. It was the women who had the power in Elysium. It was the fairy queen's daughter who would become the next leader.

Aiden watched as his Uncle Jason, his father's guardian and brother, stood up with his mate Jin. "We are coming with you."

"Aiden... we will be back soon to let you know what is going on. Just stay in the house until you hear from me." Wyatt looked over at his beta Sam and gave him an unspoken order. He then reached for his shard of the black pearl. This was a gift that allowed him to instantly travel to where other pieces of the shard were located.

Aiden met with his father's gaze for a moment before they entered the portal. He then stood up and grabbed Diana's hand.

"I'll be in my office." Aiden said, not leaving any room for objection. He pulled Diana with him back to his private room and shut the door. Instantly, he pulled her into his chest and leaned his head into the crook of her neck.

He had just lost his great grandparents and close family friend. It was overwhelming. Yet, when he felt Diana's trembling hand, he felt the need to comfort her.

"I'm so sorry for your loss, Aiden." Diana whispered as she leaned her head against him. She knew that fairies were all connected and that they could sense the lights of their royals and guardians. She felt horrible for the pain he was in. She was trying to be strong and be a support for him. Yet, that moment from earlier triggered a painful memory of her own. And for a second she thought she was about to lose Aiden. She couldn't go through that again. She couldn't bear the thought of losing him.

"It's okay, Diana. You aren't going to lose me."

Her lips trembled when she heard his gentle cooing tone. He was comforting her. He just lost important people in his life, and he was trying to make her feel better. She felt her eyes burning with tears that threatened to spill out. She blinked them away. She needed to take care of Aiden right now. "Aiden, don't worry about me. You must be in so much pain..." She looked up at him as his green eyes met with hers.

"Oh Diana..." He reached his hands up to cup her cheeks. "Telling me not to worry about you is pointless. You are all I think about. My biggest concern. I'm numb right now over my family. I don't know what happened... and I'll process it later. Right now, let me worry about you. That shook you, didn't it... what happened in there to everyone?" He pursed his lips as she glanced down away from his eyes.

He ran his fingers through her hair, grasping the back of her neck to tilt it up to him. "You want to help me..." He watched as she nodded her head slightly. Her lips were slightly parted as she looked at him curiously.

"Then comfort me, Diana." He commanded and clamped his mouth on hers, in a rough hot kiss that would have bruised a normal human.

There was a thirsty need and darkness in his movements that confused her. She felt disoriented as she answered his primal call for her. His hungry lips devoured her, his mouth was fused to hers as his tongue danced with her own. He pulled her firmly into him as his hand cupped her bottom. Diana shivered as she felt the proof of his desire burgeoning against her. A quiet whimper escaped her lips at the arousing sensations he was creating in her.

She wanted to distance herself from him for both of their sakes. Yet, she couldn't. She needed him and was constantly seeking him out. Just like now... she needed him with a need that went beyond ration. She had tried to will herself away from Aiden so that she could protect him better. But her entire body called her a liar the moment he touched her. She was panting and felt her knees buckling. She clung to him to keep herself upright as she continued to enjoy the demands he was making.

"Diana..." He moaned as he held her to him tightly. His other hand took a firm grip on her butt. It slid around them, to press against the junction of her thighs. She gasped as an electric shock sizzled through her. Aiden kissed her hard again as he rubbed her through her jeans. The scent of her arousal filled the air, which only made him harder. His bulge was pressing painfully against his pants.

"Aiden..." Diana muttered breathlessly as his tongue assaulted her own. She was drowning in a sea of the most potent desire she had ever felt before. Her

body was alive with sensations that were taking control of her. Soon she wouldn't have the will power to fight it off.

"Gods Diana..." He pulled her bottom lip between his teeth as a low throaty growl rippled through his throat. He moved his hand against her pants as he peppered kisses down to her neck. He teased her skin, nipping at her earlobe. The sound of her moan echoed in his ear, and he came back crashing into her lips. Frantic. Urgent. He needed her to consume his thoughts and bring him peace.

It took everything she had to pry herself from his lips. She pressed her cheek against his chest as she tried to reel in her emotions. She could hear the pounding of his heart. A ragged hitch that matched her own. His arms wrapped around her as she held him close to her. Inwardly, she knew she loved him. She knew she could never let him go. While her brother was dead and never got his mate... she was still alive. And though she felt guilty... she couldn't deny wanting to be one with her mate any longer.

"Diana..." He said in a husky voice that quivered with his desire for her. He was in pain from the loss of his family. Diana was what he needed to mend the burning wound in his chest. He just wanted to get lost in her and forget the agony.

She lifted up her head to look into his eyes. Green pools that beckoned her closer and threatened to drown her. She reached her hand up to brush over his cheek. She was ready to tell him she loved him, and she had a good idea where things would lead after she did. It was important for her to voice it to him first. She wanted him to know how she felt. She was still mending but if he really wanted her, she wanted to be his.

"Aiden, I—"

"It seems like you two are getting along."

Diana snapped her head up at the familiar voice. Lycaon was leaning against the wall with his arms folded over his chest. She glared at him and straightened up to face him. Aiden had his hand resting on her waist.

Lycaon was the lycan deity. Diana harbored some ill feelings against him because he spared her life while everyone else in her family had died. Though recently, that has dwindled some. Now that she was finding happiness with

Aiden. However, she had a feeling that Lycaon being there meant something had happened.

"You don't look like you've missed me? You know I used to visit your family all the time. We had a good relationship together." Lycaon said as he looked at Diana's silver eyes that pierced into him.

"What do you want?" Diana said in a clear authoritative tone.

"I am here to watch over the Diamond pack. Well, more specifically you, Diana." Lycaon said as the door opened to Aiden's office. Wyatt walked in, his eyes moved to Lycaon and then to Aiden.

"You have to come to Elysium. Erebus is threatening to kill our family in order to get his way. The fairy kingdom is the safest place for us—"

Diana felt like Wyatt's voice became muffled as she focused on his previous words. She was seized with fear. She couldn't lose Aiden. Whatever she had to do to protect him she would. She made sure she controlled her breathing. She had to make sure, for just a few moments, she gave the performance of a lifetime.

"Okay, we will go to Elysium." Aiden said, holding onto Diana's side.

"It is important that Diana stays here. The Diamond pack needs one of their leaders. I can guarantee her safety but her safety alone." Lycaon said looking at Diana.

Aiden let out a dark chuckle. "I am not going anywhere without her. If Diana is staying, then I am staying!"

"You can't Aiden. You would be someone Erebus would focus on going after." Wyatt said pleading with his son. "Diana will be safe. Lycaon can protect her."

"I won't be parted from her!" Aiden growled.

Diana took in a strong breath. "The Diamond pack needs a leader. I can be that leader for them. I was born to be a leader. I can assume this role naturally."

"I'm staying with you." Aiden said, turning into her.

"I can't promise protection to you both," Lycaon said, as he leaned away from the wall.

"Aiden, you need to go to Elysium, where you will be protected by the barrier. I can handle things here." Diana felt her stomach squeeze in fear. She had lost everyone in her life already... she couldn't lose Aiden. She wouldn't survive it.

"I know you can handle things here just fine... but I need to be with you."

She stared into his green eyes, looking at him with unwavering determination. "No. You will go to Elysium." He began to object again, and she quickly cut him off. "I need time apart from you. I need time to think clearly so I know what I should plan for the future." She didn't mean it. It hurt like hell to say it, but she needed to get him to go where it was safe.

"Diana..." Aiden whispered with a frown. She wasn't fooling him. He knew she was just trying to protect him. He knew her. He understood her. She was his mate after all. However, inwardly he admitted that if she clung to him, he could never leave her. If she shed a tear, he couldn't tear himself away from her.

"Aiden, I need you to go to Elysium." Diana said, feeling each word stab her in her heart. Her nose burned as she fought off the tears. It hurt so much but she had to protect Aiden. Even if it meant lying. Even if it meant she would be lonely without him. Even if her whole body screamed at her to follow him. Lycaon was right, the Diamond pack needed a leader to guide them. They would feel antsy if their leaders and future leaders abandoned them. Leaving the alpha prince's mate behind was a sign of goodwill and trust.

Aiden reached out to her, placing his hands on her shoulders. He bent his head down to look into her silver eyes. He knew she was trying to push him away right now. She lost everyone she loved. It was one of her biggest fears. No matter how brave she tried to be he knew how hard this was on her. And how afraid she was of losing him. She needed him though; he often comforted her in the middle of the night. Who would soothe her back to sleep? It broke his heart to leave her.

"Aiden, Erebus could attack at any time. We have to go. Diana, I'm entrusting the pack to you. Sam, Adam, and Winston will be here to help you. Sam will go to the Alpha meeting tomorrow in my place..." Wyatt looked at the young woman who nodded her head at him. She had a natural leadership aura about her. And he felt better knowing she would be watching over the pack. Though, he couldn't help but feel concern for Aiden. He couldn't get a good feel on how Diana felt about Aiden. Hearing that she needed time away from his son made his heart hurt for Aiden.

"How long will I be gone?" Aiden asked, his eyes still glued to Diana's.

"Until Erebus is taken care of..." Wyatt answered, watching as Aiden closed his eyes. It wasn't ideal... but there was nothing they could do.

Aiden stepped away from Diana. He turned and walked to his desk, grabbing out some scissors. He turned away from them, as his arm partially shifted for a moment before it returned back to normal. He fumbled his hands together and then walked back to Diana. He reached his hand up to cup her cheek as he stared into her brave silver eyes. This was going to be hard for the both of them, but his concerns were of her. She knew others in the pack, but she was always with him. They hadn't been apart since the moment he found her. At night, they stayed close. Even if it meant him sleeping on the couch in her room. His stoic princess needed him, maybe more than she was ready to admit, but he knew.

"I'll go... for you. You won't be able to reach me there. Cellphones don't work in Elysium..." Aiden pursed his lips together. "I'll always be thinking of you." He moved in and kissed her lips tenderly, relishing in the sweet tingles that washed over him. It was something he never did in front of anyone because of how shy Diana was. However, he couldn't leave without kissing her goodbye.

"I love you Diana..." She felt his hot breath against her lips as she clenched her teeth trying to hold herself together. She felt him shove something in her hand, closing her fingers around it. "I'll come back to you as soon as I can... sleep in my room while I am away. That way you can feel close to me if you need me..." He paused and breathed in her scent one last time.

Aiden stepped back; his eyes still glued to hers as Wyatt put his hand on his son's shoulder. She watched his green eyes as Wyatt pulled his son into the portal, disappearing a moment later.

Her lungs burned as she tried to swallow the lump in her throat.

"You did well, Diana." Lycaon said, staring at her, then nodded his head. "I'll give you some privacy."

Diana felt like her body was vibrating as it hit her. She didn't know when she would see Aiden again. Her nose burned as the tears trickled down her face.

She opened up her hand and her bottom lip quivered. He had tied a patch of his silver lycan fur together. She lifted it up to her nose as she breathed in his scent.

A cry escaped her throat as she collapsed to her knees. She buried her head in her trembling hands as she began to sob. She was ready to start her life with Aiden but protecting him came first. She looked at his silver fur in her hands and she bit her quivering lip. He was still thinking of her first. He was thinking of her pain and wanting to comfort her. She wished she would have done the same for him. Her sweet Aiden. The man she couldn't help but love.

She took in a deep breath and rose to her feet. She walked over to Aiden's desk and sat down pulling out the papers he had been working on. She wiped her eyes and began to read over the documents. There was only one way she could think of to get through this separation. She would bury herself in pack work. So that Aiden could be proud of the job she did while they were away.

She took in a slow breath and nodded her head. Maybe this was a good thing. She needed to learn to do things without depending on others. She always had her brother before he died and then she always had Aiden.

She stacked the papers neatly in front of her and smiled as she looked over Aiden's notes. She traced her fingers over his writing, keeping a small smile on her lips. At least he was safe.

"Okay." She said out loud. "Let's get to work."

-Note-

On hold until Oh For Mates Sake is completed

Taming Her Beastly Mate Chapter 92

The Lycan Princess -Ch 4- Ike

Diana wasn't thinking about Aiden as she read over his notes. And she wasn't thinking about Aiden as she patted the patch of fur, he left her. Maybe working in his office wasn't a good idea... but at the same time it did give her a false sense of security. She could pretend in the depths of her mind that he wasn't gone. At least for now... while the scent was still strong.

She sat the papers down and sighed finally glancing up to look at the presence sitting on the edge of the desk.

"I thought you were giving me privacy?"

"I did but I am in charge of keeping you safe."

"You don't need me under constant watch. You'll be able to sense if another deity shows up."

"Unfortunately, Erebus has found ways to go undetected. Which is why he isn't dead already." Lycaon grabbed some papers off the desk, sifting through them. "Now we will have a chance to really get to know each other."

"Awesome." Diana said dryly making Lycaon chuckle.

"Let's start with more friendly names, hmm? You can call me lke. How about you? Dee Dee? Di? Ana?"

"Diana." She replied flatly as she tried to read the document in front of her.

"Oh? I have heard Aiden call you Dee... or is that only an intimate name for the two of you?"

Her face flushed as she turned her head sharply to look at him.

"Don't give me that look. I was just casually checking in on you. You two were the ones who weren't behind closed doors..." He smirked as he wiggled his brows at her.

She ignored him as she sat aside the papers for the evening. She stood up and Lycaon hopped off the desk. She turned her head to look at him. "Are you going to be following me around constantly?"

"Don't worry I won't look while you shower... not that you have anything I haven't seen before."

Diana scoffed and glared at him. "It's unnecessary."

"Perhaps... but I'd rather go overboard than..." He pursed his lips and stared at her. "I'm sorry I couldn't save your family... I'm not going to lose you too. Your family was important to me. I mourned their deaths. You... you are precious to me Diana." At first, she was ready to lash out... until she looked at his eyes. There was pain there, one that she recognized. Instead, she walked away without saying anything. She heard him following behind her as she opened the door. She walked down the hallway and watched as Sam stepped out of another office.

"Diana." Sam said nodding his head to her. "I'll be gone first thing in the morning. I'll be heading to the Sulfur pack. They are having a meeting among several alphas there."

"I'm confused. Why are alphas going to the Sulfur pack to meet?" Diana asked, her silver eyes piercing into Sam's.

"They formed a tight alliance during a time of difficulty. It is something that works well for them, and Wyatt has encouraged them to keep good relations. Especially since he couldn't be there during their time of need. There is also another situation there that I'm supposed to look into."

"I see..." She waited to see if he would continue and decided she wouldn't pry. "Please let me know if there is anything I need to know."

"If you need anything Adam and Winston are here-"

"Please Pops! If she needs anything Jamie and I are here." Kurt said jogging up the stairs. Kurt was Sam's son and Wyatt's beta. He pushed his dark chocolate hair away from his brown eyes with his fingers.

"Like I said... if you need anything Adam and Winston are here." Sam chuckled as he looked at Diana uncertainly. He had never interacted much with her before. And it was a bit weird having the lycan deity standing right behind her. Wyatt told him the Lycaon would be staying at the pack and just to act natural around him.

"If she wants advice on picking out Depends, I'm sure she will go to them." Kurt chuckled and smiled looking at Diana. "Don't worry Dee, I've got your back."

"Hey! Why does he get to call you Dee?" Lycaon said with a scowl resting on his face.

"Whoa! He talks... I mean I assumed you did but you seem so stoic." Kurt grinned widely clearly not intimidated by the deity. Lycaon just grunted but continued to look at Diana. "Is there any business I need to attend to before I retire for the evening?" Diana asked very business-like.

"Are you kidding? This place is so organized it runs on its own. Don't worry, your work here will be minimal. Go on and take a load off." Kurt said as he slapped his father Sam on the back. "Mom was making dinner when I left."

Sam nodded his head and then looked back at Diana. "Would you like to join us for dinner?"

"No thank you. I'll just grab something small from the kitchen. You can dismiss the rest of the help for the evening." Diana watched as Sam stared at her. It looked like he wanted to say more but he reluctantly nodded his head. It looked like he understood she just wanted to be alone.

"I'll see you the following day. I won't get back until late tomorrow evening. Goodnight, Diana." Sam said and Lycaon grunted making Sam look at him.

"Princess." Lycaon corrected and Diana turned and glared at the deity.

"We are on first name basis here. There is no need for royal titles. It is more personal that way." She turned and smiled at Sam nodding her head for him to continue. "Have a good evening gentlemen."

"Hear that, Pops? She called me a gentleman." Kurt teased as he elbowed his father as they walked down the stairs.

Diana watched their interaction with a faint smile on her lips. Kurt reminded her of her brother, Decker. It was both endearing and painful. She had been keeping up a wall since she came to the Diamond pack, not wanting to get close to others. She didn't want to experience the pain of loss again. However, that isn't right either. She would still feel the pain if something happened to the Diamond pack. Meanwhile, she was robbing herself of having a home.

Besides, Kurt wasn't having any of it. Neither was Jamie, Aiden's gamma. Both men demanded her attention and didn't give up trying to interact with her. That's how much they love and trust Aiden. If she was his mate, she was already family to them.

"You sure you would rather be alone?" Lycaon asked with a frown.

"I would prefer to be alone, but it looks like I won't be." She turned and looked at him as his lips curled up.

"You don't prefer to be alone."

"I've been alone for a century... asleep." She stared into his green eyes as a soft smile rested on his face.

"You weren't alone." Lycaon eyes stayed glued to hers. "I stayed there with you. I talked to you. You never liked being alone... especially in the dark. I would keep the torches lit and, in a way, you gave me company too. Talking to you about my failure and frustration... helped. It was a long time before I could get over the death of your family. I should have been there to protect them."

"How did you know I didn't like the dark?" She looked at him curiously as a sheepish smile spread over his lips.

"I guess I have always watched over you even back then..." He then cleared his throat. "I mean I watched over Decker too. Did you know he used to play army with his quill pens?!" He chuckled and Diana giggled too.

"He did and he would wage war against his candlesticks." Diana laughed and shook her head.

"Remember when he took your picture and said it looked like little pigs instead of lycans?" Lycaon laughed.

"Oh gosh yes! I was so mad at him." A sad smile reached her lips. "I miss him."

"It's okay to miss him, Diana. But he is gone... they all are. You can't stop living because they did. Live for them. And make them proud of the woman you are."

"I admit... I have been pushing everyone away. But I'm not going to anymore. Aiden... Aiden has been wonderful to me. He is always thinking about me and putting me first. I don't deserve him, but I am glad I have him."

"He doesn't deserve you." Lycaon snorted folding his arms over his chest.

Diana shook her head. "No, he deserves better. I haven't been a good mate to him... but I will be." She looked up at Lycaon and could see his eyes twitch

slightly. His lips were pursed together, and he turned his head letting out a sigh.

"He is the one you are meant to be with." Lycaon inhaled, filling his lungs, and then looked around. "So, what is for dinner? I hope you plan on making me something since you dismissed all the help."

"Cold meat and cheese sandwiches."

"You don't have to sleep in the same room that I am." Diana huffed as she finished drying her hair. He was on her heels all evening. He even stood right outside of the door while she showered.

"Forget it princess. I'm staying with you. I'll be on the couch." Lycaon said looking up from his seat.

"Lycaon—"

"Ike." He corrected with a grunt.

She stared at him for a moment and then shook her head. It wasn't worth the effort. She wasn't going to convince him to sleep elsewhere anyway. She walked over to Aiden's bed and slid under the covers. In her hand, she held the patch of fur he had left for her. She lifted it up by her nose before closing her eyes.

"Can you get the lights?" She mumbled. She wondered how Aiden was doing. She tried to pretend he was just out with the guys or that he was on patrol. But it was hard to trick yourself when you knew the truth. What was hurting the most was the unknown. How long would she have to be parted from him? How long before she could tell him he was everything she wanted and more? Inwardly, she cursed herself for not claiming him earlier. She wasted so much time. And if she learned anything... time was precious. Every moment should be treasured because you never know when it could be your last.

Aiden... I'll make you proud. Before she fell asleep every night she would usually think of her family. And that she wanted them to be proud of her. For the first time, she was thinking of making Aiden proud. She squeezed the patch of hair and nuzzled her cheek into it. Using his scent to embrace her in sleep. Lycaon stared at the sleeping girl. He watched her a lot... he always watched her. Painfully, he realized he had been watching her too much. From the young fiery girl who fascinated him to the brilliant brave woman she is today.

He moved his fingers and a paper appeared in his hands. He smiled as he stared at the drawing a little girl had made. It was supposed to be of the lycan kingdom and their deity. He let out a silent chuckle. Decker was right... they looked like pigs. He laid the paper down at his side as he looked back at Diana.

She had a future and a destiny. She had a mate. As much as it pained him to admit it... she wasn't his. He ran his hand through his hair as a soft sigh escaped from his lips. He told himself if she continued to struggle, he would take her away. He would take care of her and give her the comfort she needed. He realized that he had been hoping for that.

He kept checking on her while she was at the Diamond pack. Each time she was getting closer and closer with Aiden. He felt physically nauseous when he caught them making out in the hallway. It was because he realized, the dream he had kept hidden, was gone.

She was never his to have. She was never his to hold. But she is his to protect. Even though he hated it... he knew Aiden was the one for her. Countless years he had spent on this earth... and she was the one who captured his heart. Someone whose destiny didn't intertwine with his own.

He never meant to develop feelings for her. It just happened as he watched the sleeping beauty. He told himself it would be better once she was with her mate. It wasn't. He couldn't will these feelings away and he couldn't act on them.

The only thing he could do was be there for her. He could be someone who would protect her and support her. He could still be a part of her life... as a friend. He wasn't the type of person who would break up the mate bond. Aiden and Diana were part of an important future.

He waved his hand and the drawing vanished. With a sigh, he stood up and walked to the far side of the room, standing in the balcony doorway.

"I know you are here." He growled into the darkness quietly.

"Have you told her yet?" A voice asked quietly.

Lycaon turned his head and glared at the man. His eyes were hidden by the lid of his cowboy looking hat.

"No." Lycaon said tersely.

"No?" The man let out an airy laugh. "Should I?"

"This isn't your concern."

"You went through a lot of trouble for her. Seems weird that you haven't told her yet."

"Don't you have souls to collect?" Lycaon snarled. "You do your job. And leave me to do mine."

"Is that what you are doing? Your job?" The man chuckled and tilted his hat up to look at Lycaon. The man pursed his lips together and finally removed his hat, sifting his hands through his blonde hair. "I think you are making this harder on yourself. It would be best to distance yourself."

"What do you know?!" Lycaon turned his green glare upon the man. "How has distancing worked for you?"

"Touché. It is hell either way." The man sighed, "tell her soon. It might be a shock if she figures it out on her own."

Lycaon nodded his head. "I don't know if she is ready to know... but I suppose you are right." He glanced behind him as he watched Diana stir slightly. "Time for you to go, Reapus."

"I'll be around." Reapus said putting his hat back on and vanishing into the air.

Lycaon walked back inside, quietly sitting on the couch. He leaned his head in his hands as he contemplated what he was going to do. Her heart was so fragile right now... it could go either way.

Reapus was right though, soon she would figure it out on her own. He had planned something for her... but now he wasn't sure if it had been the right thing to do.

He leaned his head back, exhaling quietly. Soon. He would need to tell her soon.

Note:

This book is on hold with maybe an occasional update here and there. It will resume after Oh For Mates Sake is finished.

Taming Her Beastly Mate Chapter 93

Bonus Chapter Trsitan's Secret

Tristan walked down the long corridors of the castle in Elysium. As he rounded a corner, he heard Caleb's voice call to him.

"Tristan!" Caleb yelled, making the man stop in his tracks. "A few of us are going on a night hunt. Are you game for joining us?"

"Maybe another night. I have company tonight." Tristan raised his brows as Caleb nodded his head in understanding.

"You really should think about settling down instead of bedding random women."

"It isn't your concern how I keep my bed warm," Tristan watched as Caleb lifted up his hands in surrender.

"True enough. You do you. Have fun doing the bear wrestle... thing." Caleb chuckled as he turned, walking away, leaving Tristan alone.

Tristan smiled as he made his way back to his room. He has always vocally told everyone how he would never take a mate. Traditionally, guardians didn't take mates, but this has changed recently with the next generation. He had always lightly joked that he was fine with the way it was. And told those around him that he was by no means a monk.

This led them to infer he slept around... but that wasn't the case. With a small smile on his face, he pushed open the door to his room.

"I was wondering if you were ever going to come to bed." A sultry voice cooed to him. He looked at the beautiful brunette with emerald, green eyes and saw her full breasts under her nightgown, the fabric hiked up to reveal the smooth skin of her thighs under the silk. Her hair fell over her black negligee, obscuring part of her flesh and highlighting the curves of her hips and breast. "My legs couldn't get me here fast enough. You know this is my favorite part of the day... feasting on your flesh." Tristan eyed the temptress as his large frame moved towards her. "Caleb stopped and asked me if I wanted to go on a night hunt with the guys." He watched as her green eyes searched his.

"What did you tell them?"

Tristan chuckled as he reached out to touch her exposed skin. He slowly traced his fingers over her bare skin, smiling as he felt her respond to him. "Don't worry, love... I alluded that I have company. They still think I entertain multiple women. What they don't know is you are the only woman who I hold in my arms at night." He felt her body shift slightly away from him and a frown formed on his lips. "Cass..." He cooed to her.

"I'm sorry, Tristan. I know we've been together for decades now, but I'm afraid of the pressure if they know..."

"Cass... I'm not going to change the rules on you. We were both very clear with each other how we felt about mates when we first met. I won't pressure you, but I am ready to embrace whatever this is... only if you ever are."

Cassie stood up from the bed and walked across the room. She inhaled a slow breath as she tried to still the stirring memories of the past. It was decades ago now... but sometimes it seemed like it was only yesterday...

Cassie walked through town; a gold pocket watch clutched tightly in her hands. The precious metal was cold in her fingers, and the glossy finish was so bright it seemed to glow. She paused occasionally and admired it in the sunlight, as if she had stumbled onto something new and wonderful. The intricate engraving, with the sun in the center and each star linked by a swirl of lines, seemed to move under the light of the afternoon sun. The smile on Cassie's face grew as she thought about her mate, Greg.

Greg could be quiet and reserved at times. He wasn't always big on showing his affection, but they were mates. She was certain he cared for her deeply as she did for him. A couple of years ago, he was caught stealing gems from dark elves. The punishment was potentially lethal, especially for a werewolf. Cassie was an elf of light, but still kin to the dark elves and she could not bear to see her mate suffer a punishment beyond endurance. With courage fueled by love, she offered herself as reparation, a sacrifice she was certain would be rewarded with a lighter sentence.

The dark elves lashed out without mercy, slicing through her womb with cruel precision. She remembered how she screamed in agony as her uterus was removed, a permanent punishment to her and Greg alike. The sorrow and anger spilled down her cheeks while Greg kept a steely expression on his face. She was sure this was a painful loss for him as well. Not only was she injured, but she could never give him the son he desperately wanted.

She tightly grasped the watch as she blinked up at the sun. The sun's rays were welcoming, and she took a deep breath. She had long come to terms with her inability to have children, but she wasn't sure if Greg ever had. She had brought up adopting before, but he had refused her flat out. He said if he could not have his own children, he didn't want any at all. That was the last he ever spoke about children. She assumed he decided not to dwell on what couldn't happen.

Cassie walked down the shopping district to order a special chain for the watch. She heard a laugh in the distance from a voice she would have recognized anywhere. But what was Greg doing in town? He was supposed to be out on patrol for a few days. This is why she planned to come to town for a couple of days to shop for his birthday. Her head swiveled in the direction and her feet moved on their own towards the sound of his voice. In just a few moments, she was standing outside of an establishment with the words 'Madrid Jewelers' written in elegant gold lettering above the door.

She furrowed her brows in confusion and then stepped inside the dark brown wooden door. Cassie's heart dropped to her stomach as she looked at the far end of the room. Greg was standing at the far end of the room with a woman wrapped in his arms. He was smiling down at the woman as he held out a ring.

Cassie's lips parted as she recognized the woman. It was Elouise. She had left the pack seven months ago, though no one knew why. Though, judging by her pregnant stomach, she looked to be about seven months along.

"Patrol sure has changed." Cassie's voice was laced with ice as the couple turned to look at her with shocked eyes. Elouise looked at her with a sympathetic face and shook her head. "This isn't how I wanted for you to find out, Cassie. I would have told you sooner, but... Greg said he wanted to handle it."

Cassie glanced at Greg, her heart constricting as she observed the stone-like hardness that had taken over his face, a look that seemed like it would never disappear.

"What did you expect, Cassie?" Greg's voice was terse and seemed agitated. At least that was some emotion. "You think this was easy for me, Cassie?"

Cassie's lips pursed, her own anger growing. "I expect my mate to be loyal, Greg. I expected the love I had for you to be reciprocated by you. What we had just wasn't enough for you?"

"You could never give me what I really wanted, Cassie, she could. And she did." Greg said as he pulled Elouise closer to his side.

"I'm sorry, Cassie. You know I always had feelings for him... I know this was cruel and selfish of me. I won't deny that. I won't ask for your forgiveness." Elouise said, lowering her gaze from Cassie.

"I saved your life, Greg. I couldn't give you what you wanted? That was because I sacrificed that for you!" Cassie's voice was growing louder, but she hardly noticed.

"I didn't ask you to," Greg said simply, not even blinking.

"You would have been killed. What mate wouldn't sacrifice themselves for the one they love?!" Cassie snapped, shaking her head. How could she have been such an i***t? She gave up a big part of herself for him. She lost the ability to have children for him.

A cruel smirk reached Greg's lips as he looked at Cassie. "Did you ever hear me say thank you? I never would have asked you to do that. Did you ever think that I wanted to get caught? Imagine being the beta of a werewolf pack and mated to an elf. I wasn't given a werewolf as my mate. I couldn't stand it. Ready for some truth? I wanted to get caught that day. You were with me... I honestly thought that if a fight broke out they would end up killing you. Instead, you willingly offered yourself up as a sacrifice. I couldn't have planned it any better. Only to my disappointment, it wasn't life-threatening. However, now that you can't have children, the pack will pity my situation. Having pups is part of life. They won't look down on me for leaving you. Sorry Cassie... but I need you to move out so Elouise can move to where she belongs. And we can raise our pup in our pack."

Cassie squeezed her hands into fists. Her knuckles were white with tension. That bastard used her. He never cared about her. She had gone through that horrible ordeal for nothing. She heard the sound of the door opening behind her, but she was too blinded by rage to care.

"You think that I should just walk away? Should I crumble on the floor crying because you used me and cheated on me? i***t. What elitism is this? Since when does a werewolf become higher than an elf? You were embarrassed being mated to me?! I am a high light elf. If anything, I downgraded to accept you. I can't have children now because of you. Do you think you are stronger than me?" Cassie growled as light glowed in her hand. "You will be dead before you can even touch me."

Elouise jumped in front of Greg and began sobbing, placing her hand over her stomach. "Please don't, Cassie. I'm so sorry. I know he has wronged you. I'm sorry for my part in this as well. But please... don't take my child's father away from him."

Cassie closed her eyes, reigning in her anger. Elouise was protecting him much like she had that day. Another woman letting emotional stupidity rule them. Without a word, she turned and stepped towards the door. She paused and spoke quietly, "I won't be returning. I don't want anything. Burn my stuff for all I care." With that she left the shop. She left town and dove deep into the wilderness. She didn't need anyone. She didn't need to be around people. And she certainly didn't ever want a mate again...

"Cass." Tristan's hot breath sizzled against her neck as his lips tenderly brushed over her soft skin. She leaned back in his embrace and inhaled his steady scent. She had met Tristan a few months after her mate abandoned her. She had just found out that Elouise had given birth to a son. She was aimlessly wandering through the forest when she ended up in the territory of the Diamond Pack.

Tristan had found her there in the clearing, her deep green eyes and light brown hair illuminated by the moonlight. Her cheeks were flushed, not from the cold night air but from the heated argument she'd had with herself. In a heated exchange, she spilled everything to Tristan. She let out all of her pain and anger. Then in a startling move his lips were burning hers. It was a fiery exchange between the two of them that soon turned into an unbridled passion.

Cassie had left early the next morning while he was sound asleep. She felt a little sad, thinking she would never see him again. Shortly after that, she overheard that Greg had been attacked by a werebear and it left him with an injury that would never allow him to have any more children.

She remembered how she charged back to the Diamond Pack. Tristan seemed to have been waiting for her under the moonlight. He admitted to castrating Greg and said the world was a better place for it. She was livid with him since that wasn't his business. They both argued and, once again, they ended up in each other's arms. There was an undeniable, passionate chemistry between them.

After that, they began to randomly hook up a few times a month. Then, after he moved to Elysium, she also made her home there. Since then, there was rarely a night they didn't spend together.

"You are a very strong woman. It was your strength that I first fell in love with. It made me feel things I always swore I wouldn't." He turned her body around so that she was now facing him. "I'm happy being whomever you need me to be. If you are ever ready for a public relationship, I will also be ready for that too. I just want you to be happy."

"What about you, Trist? I want you to be happy too." She felt the rumble from his chest as he lifted her in the air. Her legs wrapped around him as he led her to his bed.

"Good. Because this is what I need to be happy. I don't give a da.mn about labels. I don't care if everyone knows or no one. I just want you...this." His voice grew husky as his hands gripped her bottom.

"Yes, this." She nodded as her fingertips trailed across his bare chest. She pressed her lips against his and kissed him. His tongue swept across her mouth and danced with hers. She shivered as the warmth from his skin seeped into her.

Tristan's lips moved down her neck and across her collar bone. He growled as he threw her on the bed. Her eyes watched as he took off his pants. He was a tall man with a broad, muscular body. His brown hair was perfectly cut, his eyes a deep blue. He was a very handsome man with a mysterious aura about him. Even though he could be intimidating, ever since their first night together, he had always treated her as if she was precious. Something she was afraid to believe in for years. But now, as he gazed down at her, she knew that Tristan was the one man she could be with.

He was fine with her never being able to have kids. In fact, he said it was better for him since he was a guardian. His priority would always be the royal fairy family, but he said he realized that he still had time for himself too.

"You make me happy, Cass. I love you." He placed his knee on the bed as he climbed on top of her.

"I want you, Trist." Her hands reached up to dig into his rich brown hair pulling him down to her lips. "I love you too." She whispered out before his lips crashed upon hers.

Labels didn't matter. What mattered was what was real. It may have taken her a long time to get there, but the important thing was that she did. She loved Tristan and trying to deny her attachment to him wouldn't save her from feeling pain. She couldn't fake her feelings out. They didn't have to be called anything but just be what they were. Finally... she was ready. Ready to no longer walk in the shadows. Ready to let everyone know she belonged to him and him to her.

The moonlight streamed through the window, hovering over their silhouettes as they danced the dance of passion. As they lay there in euphoric exhaustion, Tristan wrapped his arms around her, keeping her close to his chest.

Cassie laid her head upon him, and with a content smile resting on her lips, she thought about how unimportant the events of the past were compared to the pleasure of being in his arms. She never thought she would fall in love again, but when Tristan held her after a long day, when he whispered soft words of love into her ear, and when they danced together under the stars, she knew she had found happiness again.

"Trist?" Cassie whispered.

"Mmm?" Tristan hummed tiredly.

"Tomorrow..." She whispered as she drew lazy circles on his chest. "Tomorrow... I'll walk out with you for breakfast. I think we have kept us secret long enough." She felt him roll slightly and now his body was hovering over hers.

"Are you sure?" He asked and she nodded her head. "You know what this means?" She shook her head with a small smile on her face. "This means I no longer have to wait for the cover of darkness to feast upon your flesh."

"You have duties."

"Tyler covers Lilly during the day too. And now I'll also be covering you." He leaned his head down and passionately kissed her lips.

Love wasn't always pretty. Sometimes it was messy and unconventional. But real love wouldn't abandon you. And real love was always worth fighting for.