Chapter 16

I was screaming, I knew that I was because my mouth was wide open and my eyes squeezed shut as the pain escaped in waves of sound but I couldn't hear anything. My lips were puling back and my jaw tense but all of the sounds that I knew that I was making were muted. A black fog was cluttering my vision and I couldn't make out a single person or place.

All I could do was feel him against me and my hands were touching something wet as my nails contracted - dragging down and grabbing something to hold onto.

The only thing I had that ensured me I'm wasn't dead was the pain.

Worse than the sting of a thousand poisonous bees or to be marked a hundred times by an Alpha - this pain was outer worldly, something they could use in hell to torture the imprisoned amongst hellfire and demons.

"My king, I think the transition is complete." Her voice was a murmur in my ears but I knew it was Lady Hale who spoke because she was the only one that would dare to address him directly.

I felt every inch that he pulled his canines out, pressing in my flesh, sending the last of the venom into my veins as he pulled them out. "I know," he said, "those last moments were a lesson."

That son of a bitch... a lesson, a painful one, you dick.

"Don't piss him off." Trixy warned but it wasn't like he could hear my thoughts.

My vision remained impaired and all that I saw forming were little white dots where people should be. I felt the drops of sweat against my burning skin and the numb touch of his hold but I couldn't tell how hard he was holding or if had moved from our position.

I couldn't feel my legs, or hear the beating thuds of my heart.

Only now was I beginning to regain some mobility in my arms and I tried to feel around for a weapon, anything to help me now that all other senses are gone.

"Don't fret, puppet. Take a deep breath," Darian said with a hint of amusement echoing in his words.

"Why can't I see?" My voice was shaking and he no doubt heard it.

Did he enjoy seeing me like this-docile and harmless?

"My venom is replacing Alpha Emanuels, it will take some time for it to burn away any reminder of him in your body and leave only my trace under your skin."

He leaned down and I felt his breath against my ear.

"But when it does, you'll belong to me. Fully and completely,"

Everyone around us were as quiet as mice, standing still and controlling their breaths and their heartbeats extremely well because I couldn't hear any distress in anyone.

But then I heard him and I wanted to scream for him to stop and stay quiet but it was to late, Emanuels voice filled the house and the walls vibrated under his growl.

"What good are the rules if they aren't to be followed?" Sorely tamed rage coated his words.

I looked around and rubbed my eyes, I needed to get my vision back and the tingle in my legs from the pain throbbing down from my neck made it harder to focus.

"Emanuel, don't," I choked out and in a vague attempt to reach out for him my hand shot out in what I thought was his direction.

Darian growled and I knew right then that he saw it as me choosing another over him. He grabbed my face and dug his fingers into my cheeks. I was forced back with the side of couch pressing against my knees and I yelped as the pain doubled and shot out through every nerve.

"You will speak only when spoken to," he growled the warning as he leaned in. My skin turned cold from his touch and the pain stopped for a split second to leave room for fear when he coldly added,

"And you will never again defend another man."

I didn't know if she wanted to defuse the situation or calm the king, or perhaps she didn't give two shits about that and just wanted to continue her game but Lady Hale cleared her throat and spoke up with a loud tone.

"Alpha Emanuel, i'm sorry if you feel cheated but these are in fact the rules. King Darian has the right to choose which ever girl he wants because he pulls rank and also because since the beginning of the Hunt it has been said that the Lycan will hunt before the wolf." Lady Hale explained, making every Alpha in the room feel inadequate with a single sentence.

With Darian's hand still pressing my cheeks together and his eyes boring into mine, I silently begged that Emanuel would stand back.

[&]quot;But he didn't hunt!"

