

## The Alpha: Claiming His Enemy's Daughter, Chapter 41

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“Don't forget what happened to Venna, your twin siblings, Leane and all of the people that had sacrificed themselves for you.” Aria reminded him over and over again about the demise of the people that Cane loved and how it

was all because of Iris's father.

Aria hugged him even tighter this time and didn't want to let go even when Cane's body stiffened, as he hated to be touched. All the touches that he knew in these past ten years disgusted him greatly.

“Don't forget about what I had to go through for you and what Ethan and Jace had to endure to keep you safe, what Gerald had done to us.” Aria lifted her head and then looked at Cane with her teary eyes. “After what her father had done, how could you treat her so nicely?”

Cane's expression remained the same, as he listened to what she was saying, but he patted her back when she started crying in order to give her consolation.

“You treat her so nicely, giving her a room and taking care of her. People have become agitated because you helped her and didn't put her through the same misery like us!” Aria became emotional. “You even helped her to escape from the party. How could you do that to the daughter of the person that had given us hell for years? Have you forgotten about what happened?”

“I have not forgotten what happened.” Cane patted her back and let Aria rest her head on his chest, as he let her slide her hand under his clothes and tempt him. He could feel her hand against his chest.

Aria made sure that he didn't forget about it at all. This was their past, this was their revenge and he must not forget.

“Do

you remember that day at the mines? When you are not allowed to rest or given food or water. They literally wanted to starve you to death.” Aria could see the memory return to Cane. “Do you remember that moment?”

“I will never forget that.” Cane’s cold demeanor disappeared, there was a little bit of warmth in his eyes when he stared at Aria’s face.

“On the third day, under the scorching sun, you could barely move.” Aria ran her hands down his belly and back to his chest again. “Do you remember what happened to little Venna? She is still not back to her right mind after what they had done to her. After what you have done to her.” Aria took a deep breath, tears rolled down her cheeks.

Cane’s body stiffened when he heard her mentioning Venna. That was a big scar that he would never forget.

“She tried to kill you for a mistake you didn’t have a part in.”

Cane remembered that day clearly, like it just happened yesterday and it erased all the coldness in his eyes, replacing it with pain.

“It was me, who bandaged your wounds, it was me and Ameer, who told you to keep strong and not give up. I was there for you and I am always here beside you. We have gone through so much together, Cane. We have gone through hell together and that hell was given by Gerald!”

This time Cane hugged her and Aria felt relieved, since it was not every day that he would let anyone so close to him like this. He despised close contact if it was not for his carnal needs, even so, he would always keep distance.

And here, Cane started to reiterate those words that had been killing him inside; only if he was stronger, only if he could do something right, his people wouldn’t have had to suffer such agony.

Gerald had died, Cane had killed him, but what he left him with, the helpless feeling that he inflicted on him would forever be there. Even after he took back his pack and was in the alpha position, the feeling didn’t go away, it would always hunt him down.

She was the one who brought back the demons from his past, but then she would soothe him after she wounded him.

Aria had this urge to kiss him. Even after three years of them being together, not even once, did he allow her to kiss him, nor would he do that himself.

However, she couldn't push Cane further than this, since she had already driven him to the edge.

In the end, Aria unbuckled his leather pants and freed his phallus. She ran her fingers through the rough skin of it.

The incessant scalding left horrible scars on his manhood and he could have died because of it, if it was not for his alpha's blood that coursed through his veins.

"I want you, Cane... I only want you. I will go through hell over and over again for

you, because it is only you that I want." Aria looked at him pleadingly, as she lowered her head and took him deep inside her mouth,

until he hit the back of her throat.

Aria was kneeling in front of him, pleasuring him, soothing him. She gently ran her tongue on the coarse tissue of his phallus.

She felt powerful whenever she took him like this, as she sucked him hard and he groaned. She loved to hear how she affected him.

Cane held her head there, as he prodded her hips, for her to take him deeper. He wanted to forget everything and let this woman make him stop thinking.

Cane groaned, his eyes became darker, as he stared at her.

Aria used her hand to caress his butt, rubbing her fingers up and down. With a pop, she let out his phallus and sucked on her thumb instead, before she resumed her action and used her lubricated thumb to penetrate his ar se hole.

Cane let out a dangerous growl and started fuing her mouth roughly.

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## **The Alpha: Claiming His Enemy's Daughter,Chapter 42**

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## 42 HIS MARK ON HER SKIN

Aria liked it when Cane allowed her to do this and she was glad to let him take pleasure from her body.

Cane groaned and suddenly, he pulled away and lifted Aria up, as he tossed her onto the bed. He turned around her body and pushed the pillow under her stomach, so her ar se would be up in the air.

Cane sucked his thumb the same way Aria did and pushed it deeper into her hole, which made her shriek, but she adjusted to it quickly. From behind, Cane sneaked his hand to her breast and pulled on her nipple harder, as she cried in pain.

But, it was not enough for Cane, he wanted her to hurt more, thus he thrust his finger deeper in her back and muffled her scream by covering her mouth and nose. He literally suffocated her, which made her whole body shudder

from the lack of air.

Aria couldn't breathe, she thrashed her body and tried to push him away, but he didn't budge, instead, Cane bit down on her shoulder.

This time, he pulled out his thumb and thrust deeper all of a sudden, which caused blood to drip from her hole.

Aria felt lightheaded, the pain was too much and she could feel how distraught he was from how rough he was with her. He did her raw.

There was certainly no relationship between them to begin with aside from this carnal desire. Cane had warned her, but she didn't care. He had told her that she could die during their copulation, thus he tried his best to tone it down, but Aria always did the opposite and provoked him at every chance she got.

Aria didn't have any strength left as she couldn't breathe, but before she could black out, Cane released his hand that covered her mouth and nose, instead he rubbed her clt and started fingering her.

Rewards

He didn't give time for her to adjust when he thrust two fingers inside and now she felt so full. He did her from behind, but he used his fingers too at the same time.

Aria found it hard to breathe, even though Cane was no longer covering her mouth and nose when her climax hit her hard. She was breathless when she screamed her release. Her body shuddered for a long time, the pleasure was so painful.

But, Cane was not satisfied yet. He had not yet found his release and the longer it took, the more painful this was for both of them.

Aria was half conscious when Cane pulled out and turned her body around, and now her sweaty back was pressed to the bed as she was facing the alpha now.

He thrust deep inside her, as she emitted a long, soft groan when he worked his way inside her. He pulled back and shoved all the way into her again, as he started to fck her roughly as usual. His hands pressed her hips to the mattress, holding her captive to take his brutal thrusts.

It didn't take long for Aria to be on the very edge of her climax again, the pleasure washed over her. Cane literally drained her.

When Aria tilted her head to look at Cane, her eyes caught Iris, who was standing stupefied behind the door that was slightly ajar and she smirked at her.

From this position, Cane wouldn't be able to see Iris, because he had his back to her and his whole focus was on the woman beneath him.

On the other hand, Iris happened to go out of her bedroom just when they were fuing each other, while Aria was being so loud and made it clear what the alpha was doing to her.

However, Iris couldn't hear that, but she was sure that she was being loud.

Her cheeks heated, she turned her head and stared at Ameer, who was in the room along with her.

She was mortified to witness such activity and how brutal the alpha was when he drew pleasure from his woman, but Ameer didn't seem bothered by that. She had gone through so much, heard too many noises and had seen enough.

When you were a slave under Gerald's mercy, this kind of noise was an everyday occurrence. At the very least, both of them consented to this, while in the slavery, they would wonder, whether their friends or family members would survive the sexual abuse that they were put through.

However, Iris wasn't used to that and it baffled her how ignorant Ameer was to hear all that with a straight face. She didn't even flinch or feel awkward.

"Come here," Ameer said and Iris saw her waving her hand for her to come. Over and she snapped out of her daze, as she went straight to her. "I will apply the ointment on your wound and rebandage it again, after that, you can take a rest here until the alpha tells you otherwise."

Iris nodded, though she missed half of what she was saying, as her mind was so distracted by the image of the alpha and his mistress. He took her roughly, almost brutally. If it was her...

Iris shuddered at the thought. Did he do that to her that night?

She was sure that he was holding back at that time, because the intensity was so different when he took her, though it didn't make it less painful for her, since it was her first time.

"After I finish this, you need to take your medicine and get as much rest as you can." Ameer applied the ointment and then brewed her some herbal tea.

Taking a big gulp of her tea, which tasted so spicy, Iris felt better as sleepiness came over her.

Iris didn't know when Ameer took her leave, but when she woke up again, it was already dark. Night had fallen and she was alone in this dark room.

She pushed herself to sit down and held her head. The headache was not as bad as before, but she was aware of her predicament. She remembered

clearly what she had seen that night and was sure that was son

forbidden for her to know. Now, she feared for her life.

Slowly, Iris got out of her bed and made her way out of this room, but she needed to go through the alpha's bedroom first before she could get out to the hallway.

Iris thought, since it was late at night, the alpha would have gone to sleep and she could sneak out of this room without him noticing it.

But, she was so wrong about it, because there he was, sitting behind his table, holding a few documents in his hand, while his eyes were fixed on her. Probably he heard the creaking sound from the door and this attracted his attention.

Iris lowered her head, she was not sure whether she must return back to the room or something, but then, from the corner of her eyes, she saw movement. The alpha called her over and she didn't have any other choice, but to go to him.

Slowly, she strode across the room and approached Cane,

"Al... Master," Iris said in a low voice. She almost slipped and called him alpha when he made sure he was not the alpha for her.

Cane stared at the auburn haired girl for a moment and this silence was so terrifying for Iris.

After that, he stood up and walked toward her, his hand stretched out and he pulled the bandage wrapped around her neck open. His eyes darkened when he saw her slender neck, where his mark on her skin was glaring back

at him.

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## **The Alpha: Claiming His Enemy's Daughter, Chapter 43**

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43 THE AMOUNT OF PAIN

Cane heard the creaking sound of the door and saw Iris staring at him with a complicated expression on her pale face. She lowered her head and fiddled with her fingers, not knowing what to do.

For a moment, Cane just stared at her with a stoic expression. He still had not yet decided what he was going to do with her now that the situation became even more complicated than he intended it to be.

This gave him another headache to kill his brain cells over.

“Come here.” Cane narrowed his eyes when he saw she didn’t move an inch. and then remembered that she couldn’t hear him. He waved his hand to beckon her over.

Iris saw the movement from the corner of her eyes and walked toward him. slowly. She was mortified when the alpha raised his hand and wrapped his fingers around her neck, as his eyes darkened to see his mark on her skin.

At this moment, Iris still did not realize about the mark on her. She thought she was bitten by the monster and the fact that she might be marked didn’t even cross her mind.

However, Cane saw it and he was not happy at all to see his mark on her. His enemy’s daughter. Gerald’s laugh kept ringing in his head, sounding like he was mocking him all over again for marking his daughter. He would roll over in his grave, laughing over how stupid he was.

“Ma- master...” Iris held his hand when his fingers tightened around her neck. He was trying to choke her and the realization made her panic, especially when she could see the hostility in his dark eyes.

With his strength, he would be able to crush her neck easily.

Iris gasped for air, but her airway was blocked and she started to claw at his hand, leaving marks there, but it healed within a second. He didn’t feel pain from it. Not even in the slightest.

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And when Iris’s face turned red and the pain became more unbearable, as she thought she would die from strangulation, Cane finally let her go.

Her legs became so weak, as she dropped to the floor, coughing fervently.

Her neck was in pain and her ears kept ringing. She gulped the air greedily to fill her empty lungs, but then she coughed even harder. Her whole body was trembling in fear.

Iris wanted to move away from him, yet she couldn't bring herself to do so when she didn't have strength to stand up or even carry herself away.

She flinched and whimpered when Cane hunkered down in front of her. His eyes were still emotionless, watching her in pain. He waited until Iris stopped coughing. It took a long time for her to be able to breathe normally.

Cane pinched her chin to tilt her head up, so she could see his face and read his lips, for he had a question to ask. "What were you doing in that hut?"

That was not an unpredictable question, since Iris knew that he would ask about it sooner or later, but she doubted that he would accept her answer.

"I- I heard a howl."

Cane narrowed his eyes. "You can't hear."

Iris knew he wouldn't believe that, because she didn't believe it either. It had been years since the last time she heard anything, aside from her own voice in her mind.

"But, I heard it." She insisted. She didn't know what kind of lie that she could offer. So, it would be better if she told him the truth, since Cane looked like someone who would be able to sniff a lie from miles away. "I heard a howl and followed the sound of it."

"Why?"

Iris could understand why it was hard to believe her explanation, if she were in his shoes, she wouldn't believe herself either. Why would she follow the sound of that howl? Normally, the first instinct that came to your mind was to run away from such an unknown howl.

Howls like that must be coming from a beast and someone like her, a runt, who knew nothing about protecting herself, should seek for a shelter, not the other way around.

Iris tried to explain herself the best way she could, but she knew it was not convincing enough for Cane.

“Do you know what happened to you then?” Cane’s voice became so much darker now.

Iris nodded. “Yes...” her voice was small. It was filled with dread when the events of that night rushed to her mind once again. She still remembered how she thought she would die when the monster pounced onto her and shifted back into its human form.

“What have you seen?”

Iris swallowed, but it hurt her throat tremendously. She felt like she was eating sand that grazed her gullet.

“A... a monster, chained to the wall with silver chains and then...” She avoided his intense gaze when she spoke again. “I saw the monster shift into its human form before he bit me...”

Her whole body was trembling when she remembered that moment. That was the most terrifying moment in her life, aside from when Mason whipped her when he was drunk.

“And then? What else?” His voice was akin to glaciers.

“The monster...” Iris lowered her head, she was so afraid to say this out loud. “The monster shifted into a man and it was you...”

Iris could feel the tension building up once she let those words out. Would he hit her? Would he choke her to death like he did earlier? Would he kill her for knowing what was supposed to be a secret?

Probably Cane would have done that if he didn’t accidentally mark her. He marked her without her consent. More so, he didn’t have control over what he was doing at that time. Her scent drove the monster crazy and her touch felt

like fresh water that soothed his pain and he wanted more, because the pain wrecked him and it was unbearable.

However, he couldn't kill her now of all times since the bond between them started to form already. This was a lost cause for him.

"Was it you?" Iris wanted to make sure that her fear didn't cloud her mind and she saw something that didn't even exist.

Iris raised her head and looked at him closely, she was sure that she could see a murderous intention flashing in the back of those dark eyes, as if his beast would come forward and rip her apart. She shuddered involuntarily and dropped her head, as she stuttered.

"I- I promise I will not say anything about that night. I swear, I will not utter a single word." Iris shook her head. "I will do anything you tell me to do." Her throat was killing her and she was afraid, besides being unable to hear, she would soon be unable to speak.

The pain from his strangulation was so severe, but she was afraid to show it, since she was in a position where she couldn't upset the alpha even more than this.

up, so

Once again, Cane put his finger under her chin and tilted her head she could look at him. "Do you know what else happened that night?"

Iris was confused with the question, as she searched in her memories about that dreadful night, but she couldn't find anything aside from what she had told him.

"I don't know what else happened... I- I lost consciousness..." Iris was still visibly trembling, especially when Cane grabbed her hand all of a sudden and forced her to stand up, he dragged her to the other side of the room.

The grip was so tight, she was sure that he would leave bruises on her wrist,

Rewards

but that was the least of her concerns, because things could go so bad for her, so much more than suffering a few bruises.

But, Cane stopped and then made her stand in front of the mirror, as he pulled down her collar, which made Iris recoil out of instinct, but the alpha steadied her first and made her stand there firmly.

Cane pulled aside her curly, auburn hair and made her look at her own reflection in the mirror.

At first, Iris could only see a pale, skinny girl, with big blue eyes, which looked so big and out of proportion for her face staring back at her. Her auburn hair was messy, her curls made her head look so big. She didn't see herself as a beauty and that was what her brother always told her.

But then, her eyes trailed down to her neck, since Cane pulled her collar down to let her see what was there and Iris gasped. She was shocked to see a mark on her neck.

She knew what a mark like this meant to shifters. She had seen it herself and how sacred a mark was, but how? How could she get this mark? And the realization dawned on her, which made her stagger back, but Cane held her, so she could face this reality.

"Impossible..." Iris would have never thought that getting that bite from the monster would be a marking process. "How... how can this happen?" Iris turned her body around and then faced Cane. "Why?"

Cane felt aggravated by the question, but it didn't show on his expression.

"I don't want a single soul to know about this." His voice was so low and cold. It emanated danger. The tension was so heavy, it made Iris feel like he strangled her again. "Not a single soul will learn about this and what happened that night."

Iris nodded. She knew that she had to clamp her mouth shut the moment she learned a secret that she shouldn't know.

"Say something about this and I will throw you to those savages, for them to

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take pleasure from you until your last breath.”

Iris felt her eyes sting with tears and fear. She nodded again and immediately covered her neck with her long, curly hair. She didn't want to die in that way. That was a horrible way to meet your demise.

There was one time in the past when she sneaked out of her room in the middle of the night and saw how her brother ordered ten savages to rape Will, Cane's personal guard at present, and the image would never go away from her mind.

She couldn't hear Will let out endless earth-shattering screams, but she could feel it when he saw the anger and desperation in his eyes.

They had freed themselves from the slavery, but no one would be able to recover fully from what happened, from the hell that they had gone through and that was understandable. What they had gone through was so severe, it was beyond your worst nightmare and it dragged on for years.

People, who still stood strong and didn't break during all those hellish days, would never be normal.

“U- understood.” Iris nodded, she tried to hold back her tears. Her brother always told her that she upset him more when she was crying, thus she didn't want to do that.

“Leave now.”

Cane didn't want to see her. She gave him another trouble that he didn't want to face.

Meanwhile, reading that, Iris immediately rushed out of the bedroom. Her legs almost gave away, but she willed herself to be, at least, on the other side of the door before she broke down. She didn't want Cane to change his mind and punish her later.

On the other hand, after Cane heard the door being closed, he broke down. He fell to his knees and covered his face with both of his hands, his

shoulders trembled. The realization that he had marked another girl

Rewards

wrecked him. It felt like an insult to Leane. To his destined mate. He felt horrible.

More so, it was the girl that he was supposed to hate to death.

There were no tears, he couldn't cry, but the pain shook his whole body. This amount of pain suffocated him.

He felt like he had betrayed his dead mate.

## **The Alpha: Claiming His Enemy's Daughter, Chapter 44**

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Hanna was shocked to see a battered Iris walk into the bedroom in the middle of the night. She looked haggard, shaking like a leaf while her body was so cold.

Hanna immediately jumped from her bed and approached Iris. Panic and concern filled her eyes. She had been trying to find her for the past few days and get any information about her whereabouts, but the only thing that she could gather was the fact that Iris was in the alpha's bedroom, that was why the mistress looked so agitated, as if she would throw a punch at anyone, who made even a trivial mistake.

But no one knew whether she was still alive or not.

She was thinking of going to the alpha in the morning, but now she saw her dear missy standing at the door, hugging herself and looking so miserable.

"Oh, my dear... where have you been?" Hanna immediately rushed toward Iris and hugged her close.

Once Iris felt the warmth of Hanna's arms around her, the only person that she knew wouldn't put her in harm's way, she broke down into tears in an instant. She felt exhausted, she had dragged her tired body to this room in fear that Cane would change his mind and throw her to those savages

regardless.

She was afraid for her life and what would happen to her. Her future was so bleak.

“Hanna... Hanna...” Iris kept crying, bawling her eyes out, until her voice turned hoarse and her throat was in pain. Her ears kept ringing because of the strangulation and she was in so much pain, physically and mentally.

“It’s okay my dear, it’s okay...” Hanna hugged her tighter to give her a sense of protection that she was not alone. She was not alone in this world and she would do whatever to keep her safe, though what she could do was very limited.

They stayed like that until past midnight and Iris had slightly calmed down, probably because she was so tired after bawling her eyes out. Though she didn’t say anything about what had happened to her, what the alpha had done to her and why he confined her for days, Hanna knew better than to

ask.

“I will run a bath for you. A warm bath will help you to calm down better, okay?” Hanna said.

Thankfully, this room had a small bathroom and a small bathtub inside, which was the only comfort that Hanna could offer to Iris.

She nodded, thinking a warm bath would feel good, since she had not yet taken one for days.

But then, when Hanna had prepared everything and even sprinkled flower petals that she could find in the garden, Iris remembered about the mark on her neck.

“I- I want to bathe by myself,” she said. “I want to be alone.”

At first, Hanna didn’t agree, but then when she saw how disturbed Iris looked and how she desperately wanted some alone time, she backed down.

“I will be right here if you need anything, okay?” She cupped her face, making sure that she understood what she was saying.

Iris nodded and then stepped back, as she closed the bathroom door.

Once she was alone and was sure that Hanna wouldn't come back into the bathroom, Iris slowly stripped off her dress and looked at her body. There was a blurry mirror in the bathroom, where she could see her mark closely and felt a lump forming in her throat.

Around her neck, bruises started to form and it wouldn't look good in the morning. If Hanna noticed this, she would make a fuss over it.

Iris sighed, she felt so tired, as she walked toward the bathtub and dipped herself in the water. The tub was so small, she needed to fold her legs, but the warm water felt so nice against her skin.

Iris looked at her arms and saw more bruises. The alpha indeed didn't care to be gentle with her. Why would he?

In the end, Iris stayed there until the water became cold and Hanna knocked on the door to check on her condition.

Iris got a fever after she returned, but Hanna found the healer again and asked her help. Even though she did it reluctantly, she helped her.

Therefore, today, when Iris felt slightly better, she returned to the mines, despite Hanna telling her to take more rest.

“No, I don't want to be left alone in the room.” She was mortified that the

alpha would call her and punish her, though if he wanted to do that, working in the mines wouldn't save her from him.

Because of that very reason and how Hanna failed to make sure she stayed on the bed, here she was, under the scorching sun.

Iris found one magic stone, which she hid under her belt. The alpha took her magic stone and the book, thus she couldn't figure out anything yet, but she could still feel the magic stones that surrounded her. She could feel

them and there were a lot.

The more she spent her time in the mines, the more sensitive she was. This was also one of the reasons why she wanted to come back here.

Easily, Iris found another stone and sneaked it into her belt again as she thought, two was enough. The next time she found the third one, she would hand it over and get herself a nice and warm meal,

She intended to go to the library again tonight and wished that she wouldn't find anyone having sex there.

And that was what she did.

After the sun set and she showed two magic stones to Stone, who looked at her, baffled, she got a warm meal and a little chunk of meat.

"How can you find those magic stones?" Stone asked her in his gruff tone. He had worked in the mines before. As it wasn't an everyday occurrence, he knew how hard it was to find a stone, let alone two in a day.

"I don't know. I just found it." Iris munched on her little meat and drank her warm soup, staring at him innocently. He obviously didn't believe her.

Later that night, after Iris made sure that Hanna had fallen asleep, she sneaked out of the bedroom and walked toward the library. She used to do this, even when her father was still the alpha, thus she was familiar with the best places to hide and how to avoid the patrolling guards.

Once she was in the library, Iris knew which shelves that she should go to and found the book rather quickly than the last time she was here.

Iris came to this place with two magic stones that she got that day and started to look for what kind of stones were those.

However, when she perused the book, from the corner of her eyes, she caught a book title that made her stop reading as she lifted her head to look at that book closely.

It was a book about ancient creatures. For some reason, Iris was intrigued and pulled it out from the shelf and started perusing it briefly.

Her fingers stopped flipping the pages when she gasped to see the illustration of a lycan. The monster that she saw in the basement of the rickety hut. The monster that the alpha had shifted into.

It was a lycan. A cursed shifter, who had performed dark magic.

“Impossible...” Iris stared at the description of it, but she couldn’t find many things there, aside from a lycan was a shifter, who had broken the rule of nature and tried to use magic, which was a power that didn’t belong to

Therefore, as punishment, they would turn into a lycan, the cursed shifter, every new moon.

Iris lifted her head and tried to think what night that day and she gasped in shock. It was indeed a new moon.

“Your curiosity knows no bounds.”

The book and two magic stones dropped to the floor at the sound of Cane’s voice that rang inside this quiet library. Iris didn’t know that she was not alone until he came into her peripheral vision. She blanched at the sight of him.

Meanwhile, one of the magic stones rolled on the floor and stopped right under Cane’s shoes. He bent down to take it and inspected the magic stone.

“You sneaked this out again.” Cane’s dark eyes fell on Iris, as she took a step back, to put a distance between them. It was her instinct to be away from the alpha, because he emanated danger for her.

“I found four today and I gave two to the slave trainer.”

“And you think it is justified for you to keep the other two?”

Iris couldn’t answer that, but she couldn’t not look at him, just in case he was saying something and she missed it. She didn’t want to upset him after what happened.

And before she answered the question, Cane picked the book from the ground and started to look through it. From the title alone, he knew what kind of book Iris was reading.

“A lycan.” Cane picked the second magic stone and then put the book on the table, as he was only a step away from Iris. She couldn’t take another step back because her back was already pressing against the bookshelf. “What have you learned?”

Iris cleared her throat and answered his question honestly based on what she had read earlier.

“It was a lycan. The monster that I saw was a lycan. Did you perform dark magic?” she asked gingerly. This time, she looked him in the eyes, so she would be able to see his reaction, but his expression remained unreadable.

Cane closed the distance between them again, until he was only a hair’s breadth away from her, as he stared down at her neck, which was covered by her curly hair. She had let loose her hair in order to cover her neck, since none of the dresses she owned had a high collar.

He brushed away her hair to see his mark on her and she flinched when the tips of his fingers grazed her skin. He could also see the bruises on her neck from when he tried to strangle her.

The mark was so glaring now that the skin had healed from the biting. He glared at it with so much hostility, but then when he blinked his eyes, it disappeared, his expression returned to being stoic.

“Have you told anyone

anyone about this?”

Iris immediately shook her head. “Not even Hanna saw the mark.”

Cane said nothing, he dropped the two magic stones into her hand and then walked away from her, leaving her inside the library alone.

Iris was not sure whether she had to follow him or not, but seeing the magic stones in her hand that he handed over again to her, she took it as him not minding her keeping them. After all, he took her magic stone last time.

And so, Iris spent many hours inside the library, perusing the books with no one bothering her. She ended up learning a few interesting things about magic stones and was fascinated by it.

But then, the most interesting part was when she found a book about the lycans and everything that entailed the curse. How to deal with the curse and how to help a shifter when the new moon came.

She was not sure whether Cane knew about this or not, but she wanted to let him know if she had a chance.

Especially the part where the curse for the lycan could be lifted by a Serafim. It was the title for a woman, who held a great divine power, but such a person lived on a different continent.

“Did the alpha know about this? The curse can be cured...”

## **The Alpha: Claiming His Enemy's Daughter, Chapter 45**

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45 THEY WERE OUT OF OPTION

“Did the alpha know about this? The curse can be cured...” Iris muttered to herself, as she held the book close to her chest, thinking of how to tell him about this.

Serafim came to this continent fifteen years ago, for the royal wedding of the king and the queen. At that time, King Aeon and Queen Della were only the crown prince and the crown princess.

Their succession to the throne had left bad blood within the royal family, but fortunately, Cane's mother was left out of it, because she stayed away from the capital and followed her mate back to the Howling Wolf pack.

She didn't give any indication that she wanted to be crowned as the heir. That was why she was the only living cousin that King Aeon had, but it was no longer the case now, since Alpha Gerald killed her along with her

husband.

Iris learned about all of this from her teacher when she was ten years old and she remembered how proud he was when he explained to a ten years old little girl the gory scene that was the death of Cane's parents. He told her in detail, despite Iris having tears in her eyes, not wanting to know about that. He made sure she read his lips and knew what he was talking about.

Iris wanted to read more, but then she would have spent a lot of time in this library and she needed to get some sleep before she went to work in the mines the next day.

But then, she realized that she was attracting unwanted attention by finding these magic stones easily, so she wouldn't find any stones tomorrow, which meant, there would be no warm meal for her.

She was not sure whether she had to hide this fact or not.

"The queen said that the king is planning to put one of his people in charge of the Blue Moon pack and he has gotten the five alphas to approve the same," Aderan reported this information to his alpha.

Today would be the last day of their meeting and the king would announce his decision about the fate of the Blue Moon pack, as he was against the idea of merging the two packs together, since it would make Cane the alpha of two packs. The other five alphas supported the king's decision.

"What should we do?" Aderan asked in a concerned voice. They would be damned to let those wicked people from the Blue Moon pack that had been involved in torturing them to be free and taste their freedom again.

Most of the people in the Howling Wolf pack demanded Cane to kill them all if things had come to that. Why would the king meddle in their business when he turned a blind eye while they were enslaved for a decade?

The king didn't have any right to get involved.

Cane shared the same sentiment. His cousin shouldn't have bothered to come all the way to the Blue Moon pack, he should have sat quietly on his throne.

“What about the messengers?” Cane turned his head to talk to Will, who was walking on his left side.

“They were supposed to arrive this noon, five of them had returned, but two messengers were still on their way here,” Will reported the situation and Cane only nodded.

They didn't slow down their steps toward the strategy room, where they held the meeting. The five alphas had been waiting for him. The king would

arrive last.

Once Cane stepped into the room, he saw the alphas were sitting on their respective seats, while their betas and gammas stood a step behind their alphas.

The tension was so thick, as they awaited the final decision that would seal

the fate of the Blue Moon pack. They would fight tooth and nail for this pack to not be merged with Howling Wolf pack, because aside from all the benefits that Cane would get, he would monopolize the mines all by himself if that happened.

Jace and Ethan immediately approached Cane and stood behind him when he sat down on his seat. The room was so quiet, it was so different from the day of the introduction a week ago.

[Ask Will to find Iris and bring her here on my order.] Cane mind linked the

beta.

Gerald had done something to Cane in his slavery days, which severed the mind link between the members of the Howling Wolf pack.

He forced them all to drink poison, which cut the ties between one another, to weaken their unity, but only recently Cane managed to mend the severed bonds, but it was only with his beta and gamma, and they couldn't use it if they were more than three steps away from each other.

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Not too far from Iris, Will was standing with his arms folded in front of his chest, staring at her with a stoic expression. People tended to look at her

this way if they were not directing a hostile gaze at her, thus she was used to this.

“You need to come with me,” Will said, once Iris looked at him. “Now.” He added when Iris didn't move.

“Where to?” Iris asked, she stood up and dusted her dirty dress off the debris.

“This is the alpha's order,” Will replied.

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“Me, as the judge of this ordeal, will make the decision based on the majority of votes and all the alphas have agreed to this.” King Aeon started his speech. “Based on the majority of votes, we agreed not to merge the two packs together and I will restore Mason's status as the alpha of the pack.”

Ethan and Jace were seething when they heard that, they were visibly upset with that declaration, but Cane looked so calm as ever.

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No matter what, he was still the king.

“He still has a lot to learn about leadership, yes, but he is the alpha’s son. The title will be passed down to him.” The king looked at Cane smugly, knowing that he couldn’t retaliate and this was a basic rule for shifters like them. They didn’t really have a say in it.

However, Cane shook his head and then told Jace to do something. The beta walked out of the room and returned with Aderan, who dragged Mason into the room, to join this meeting.

Cane was aware that there would be a slight possibility that he would win this case, therefore, he had a backup plan or two at his disposal.

“Outrageous! Why did you bring him to this meeting?!” Alpha Gill stood up and glared at Cane to see a naked Mason being dragged into the center of their attention. He was gagged, unable to speak, with both of his hands tied behind his back while chains limited his leg movements.

“Calm down!” The king was furious. He pounded his fist on the table. He glared at alpha Gill until he yielded and sat down again, after that he shifted his displeasure toward Cane. “What is the meaning of this?”

“I brought him here just in case all of you have forgotten that he is not qualified to be an alpha.” Cane stood up and walked toward Mason. His eyes flared with anger, but Cane didn’t care, he received that anger gladly, since he was having the upper hand this time. He could have him killed if he wanted to.

“Restore his status and he will get his people to help him maintain the pack!” Alpha James from Bloody Wolf pack shouted. “He was a prisoner, yes, but the king has restored his status, you should treat him with respect!”

“No. The decision has not been made yet.” Cane then kicked Mason, so he would roll over and show his private part. “I think all of you forgot about this tiny little fact.”

All of them glared at Mason, who was so exposed for them to see, but none of them talked, thus Cane broke the silence,

“He has been castrated. There is no way for him to produce an heir.” Cane looked at all of them one by one, as the realization dawned on them and they started to understand where this was going.

For the alpha, even though you were a first born, if you couldn't produce an heir, then it would be the end of your reign.

“That's your fault to have him castrated!”

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Rewards

Yet, no matter what excuses that they threw at Cane, they knew they were baseless and the king couldn't disagree with Cane.

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And moreover, that was the same excuse that those alphas and the king used a decade ago when Cane asked for help when he and his people were enslaved and were treated no different from dirt.

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