

Chapter 105

Miranda POV

My body flew back after being hit with some type of electrical shock. My head hit the concrete wall. My ears rung and my vision blurred. Soon everything was dark but it didn't last long. A warm feeling came over my body as I sat up. I was no longer in the Kingdom but in a hilly field filled with wildflowers. The scent was like nothing I had ever smelled before. I inhaled deeply, this breath better than the next. I welcomed the warm fuzzy sensation it was giving me.

Not long after, I began walking, making my way down the field to the little house at the bottom of the hillside. I stopped as I recognized the house. I turned around and looked at the hill and realized I was back at my childhood home. I smiled for a moment but soon frowned as I looked at the house and remembered the horrors that took place behind those doors. A shudder went down my spine as terrible memories flooded my mind.

I walked up closer to the house and noticed a thin smoke cloud was coming out of the chimney. I frowned at seeing the smoke because no one should be there. But, someone was here, but who could it possibly be? Did someone stumble upon the house and make it new again? I approached the house with caution, determined to find out. All of my family was dead, aside from Avalynn, who was a cousin of our family, and Cassie, who was in the North where it was safe. When I was in front of the door, I didn't feel the need to knock as my hand reached for the door knob. But before I could grasp it, it opened up wide and my mother was there. She walked right through me and yelled for my younger self to come home. I took a few steps back, stunned at the events that had just occurred. My eyes snapped at hearing my mother's sweet voice. How I missed her so.

"Miranda, my dear, it is time to come in. We can play tomorrow!" She walked over to our bell, rang it four times and walked back inside. Soon I watched as a younger me approached and, went inside. I walked in and watched as my entire family sat down together and ate their food.

It was so nice to see my mama and papa. I have missed them so much since they passed away. I sighed and walked around the house, looking at everything, memories flooding my mind. Soon the brightness and warmth that I grew up with turned dark and cold. I looked around and felt a chill in the air. Everything was now covered in dust and broken. I felt sadness and anger rise up in my chest. My breathing picked up as I noticed stained blood on the beds and the chairs.

"Hello." I heard a woman's voice. "I have been expecting you for some time now."

"Me? Why me?" I asked her.

"You are an important key to helping unite the Northern and Southern Territories." She smiled at me. "It comes with a cost."

"A cost?" I asked.

She nodded her head. "I can not tell you the price you will pay, but it is worth it. In the end, it is all worth it. I will promise you this, it is worth it."

Whoever this was liked to repeat herself, but I guess she wanted to make her point clear. Regardless of the price I would have to pay, if it brought us peace and happiness, I would be willing to sacrifice even myself if that was what it would take.

"I am prepared to pay whatever cost to let there be peace among us all." I told the mystery woman.

"That is good to hear, my child." She smiled, placed a kiss on my forehead and stepped back from me. "You should probably get up, they need your help." Her arms waved and when her hands came together in a clap, pounding and throbbing was all that was left in my head.

"Miranda! Miranda! Get up! You have got to get up!" I heard Avalynn by my side.

"Babe! Get up. f**k! We need someone to move her! Get her to the hospital!" I heard Brent call out to someone.

"No, I am fine." I barely managed to get out. "Give me a minute, the pain is lessening."

I sat up with their help as my eyes opened I saw that the wall in front of me was crumbled and now scattered around me.

"I am good. I promise. I am fine." I told them. "Just help me stand, please." They did as I asked and I was standing.

"Brent! It's down! Their cloak is down! I can see them in the trees! They did it!" Everest called out to us, causing us to all look at the tree line.

Sure enough, there they were, all the witches who were once hidden were now revealed. Chanting or shooting magic out at us, trying to slowly pick us off. Our witches were fighting them back, keeping their hands full as our Lycans and wolves tried their hand at picking them off one by one. I felt my anger rise inside of me as I moved forward. I was a key, the woman said. My magic will bring us together. I am sure Avalynn was the other key to helping unite us all. I looked over at her and she looked concerned.

"Are you sure you are alright?" She asked me.

"Yes, I am sure. Let's go." I turned to Brent and gave him a quick embrace and a kiss. "Go, now. Give your orders. We all follow your commands. We are all behind you, we support you."

He kissed me hard on the mouth before letting me go again as he looked down at me. "I love you, be safe."

"I love you, be safe." I returned the sentiment. My heart felt as if it was swelling and beating harder than usual in my chest.

With this, we turned and all four of us parted ways to stand where we were needed. I had a few witches launch themselves at me. I turned as they flew at me and threw them into the crumbled tower, their bodies hitting with a thud.

"Nice work." Seraphine's voice echoed in my mind.

"Thanks, can you harness the magic too?" I asked her.

"Of course, everything that you in your human form have learned, trickled to your beast form. I can do whatever you can. Shift so we are better protected." She told me and I did just that. I shifted to my Lycan form in the blink of an eye.

It was complete and total chaos. Bodies were flying every which way from the strength of our men. The witches were battling one another, but still the siblings have yet to make an appearance. I felt a pain in my side, well more of an irritation, the witch had moved a sharp stick into my hip. Seraphine yanked it out with her teeth as fire flew from her claws, setting the witch ablaze. The thought "b***h" crossed her mind and gave me a small snicker.

I got to thinking while everyone was fighting and worried that this could be a distraction. What if the siblings were using this to keep us preoccupied? I linked with Brent to let him know of my concerns.

"Hey. Has anyone laid their eyes on the two of them?" I asked.

"Negative. There have been no sightings of either of them. Is that odd?" Brent replied.

"Very odd. I am afraid it is a distraction. We may need to spread our forces more thinly and watch our back. I can take a team and move to the other side and scout?" It was more of a question than anything.

"No, I don't want you alone and not by my side," Brent told me.

"I will be fine, besides, it won't be much longer until you are finished here. You can join me soon. I will take a team of Lycans and witches with me." Seraphine looked over in his direction after ripping through another witch and he nodded.

I sent a link to ten Lycan warriors and had them meet me at the gate. They stuck to my side like glue as we made our way through the castle. Once we made it through to the other side, my gut instinct was right. High above was a gigantic blue orb of some sort. The siblings were high in the air, chanting. Before I could even react, the bright blue orb was sent to the other side. It flung through the castle, breaking everything it came across, not even slowing down.

"Move!" was all I managed to get through the link before the blood-curdling screams hit the air. My heart sank when I knew what had happened. A blue explosion hit the other side and I had feared that my family, friends, and people were gone. The siblings moved to the other side and we were hot on their trail as we followed them. We were halfway to the other side when pain ripped through my heart and I fell straight to my knees. I let out a scream that was so painful that I saw stars. I blinked a few times as pain ripped through my heart. I felt it, I felt his pain. It ripped through me like I was nothing. The very breath I had just breathed had left my body, leaving me desperately gasping for more.

"We must go, quickly!" Seraphine told me.

I had not realized that the pain I had felt caused me to shift into my human form. I stood and looked at the Lycans around me. I inhaled deeply and forced the shift. The pain subsided and I realized when Seraphine whimpered she was taking most of my pain away. I was thankful for her more than ever at that moment. She was so strong, holding me together.

We moved quickly to get to where we needed to be. Avalynn met me at the door and I was thankful to see her. She had blood smeared across her face but she was okay. She held her hands up to stop me and then Everest came into view. I tried to shift.

"Don't," Seraphine warned.

"Let me shift!" I commanded her.

"No, don't not until you remember what I told you." She spouted back.

"What? This is no time to reminisce!" I yelled through our mind.

"Do not lose control. Do not lose control." She repeated to me and I realized at that moment that something had happened, something bad. I did not know who but it was obviously someone I was close to. A friend maybe? Oh god, no. It couldn't be. The pain I felt would make sense now.

I looked over at Everest and back at Avalynn. He was holding something, someone. My heart shattered. I knew then who it was.

"No" I told Seraphine. "Please do not tell me. Please do not say it."

"Your rage." She seemed worried.

"f**k the rage. It will be used the way I intend it to be used. Fight beside me, fight with me, but do not fight against me!" I yelled at her and felt her whimper back.

I forced the shift as my rage took over and I ran to Everest. It was Brent. His body was bruised, bloody, and just broken. I could hear his heart, but faintly. Tears streamed down my face at the sight of him, but when I heard the laughter ringing in the air above our heads, all I saw was red. I didn't have to even ask what happened, I knew it was that blue orb. I knew there was something to it that was more dangerous than the destruction of the castle walls. When I moved forward, ready to attack, I felt Avalynn's hand grab my arm and pull me back for just a moment.

"Not alone. You will not fight this battle alone. I will fight with you." She told me and I nodded my head at her.

"I will make sure he gets to the hospital." I barely heard Everest tell me. I looked at him for a split moment and back up at the siblings.

"So, who is next in line to fall?" She asked Avalynn and I.

At the same time, we both said "You."

