Chapter 42 of the scarred Luna -

Erin stood in Derrick's office, facing a mirror Derrick had made her stand by. Her lips palmed into a thin line as she watched him through the mirror slowly being out a rather fancy box. He glanced at her for a minute as he placed the box on the table. She wonders what could be in it.

"Close your eyes." He says and she smiled but does as he instructed, not without wondering what he was trying to do. She was so over her head she didn't hear his footsteps as he walked towards her until she felt his warmth radiate through her body, goosebumps breaking out on her skin. She gulps the pile in her throat, already nervous and curious as to what he was going to give her.

"Keep your eyes close." He whispers in her ear, not missing the way she shuddered when he placed his hand on her neck. He takes out the necklace, the same one he had gotten at the auction, watching through the mirror if she was going to to open her eyes but she doesn't. He placed the necklace on her neck and buckled it, smiling softly as he admired it on her neck.

Yesterday when the necklace was brought out to be auctioned, he was immediately mesmerized by the beauty and could only imagine it on her neck and so he bid even higher. Yes, he wanted Liam to lose but he also wanted to see the necklace on her neck.

"Open your eyes." He whispers in her eyes and just like magic, she follows his order and her eyes flutters open. He eyes dropping to her neck, a gasp escaped her lips.

"W-wha?" She stuttered, unable to keep her eyes off the

diamond studded necklace on her neck. She turned around, forgetting he was standing behind her for a second and gasped for a second time at how close they were.

"I- I don't-"

"It's too much." She says and if it were another person, they might feel a bit sad at what she said but it's Derrick and Erin, he knows how she works and so he smiled.

"It's very pretty on you." He says, not missing the pink blush rising to her cheeks.

"Thank you, Alpha but this- this is too much."

"I don't think so, I'm giving it to you excuse I want to. I thought of you when I first saw it so please take it." He smiled at her, bringing his hand to her head and slowly tucks the strand of hair behind her ear.

"B-but.."

"But nothing, I'm giving you this because I want to, Please accept it." Of course he should've known he would've to beg her accept the necklace. With the current smile on her face, he knew he has won.

"Thank you so much, this is the most beautiful gift ever." She squeaks out, her fingers trailing the Diamonds on it. She smiled, looking up at him but only gets lost in his eyes.

This is what she meant when she said he's hot one minute and cold the next. She has no idea what this means. What she's doing or what he is doing giving her such an expensive gift when he would only to take a step back when she think they've...

"Derrick, what is-" She starts but is interrupted at the last minute. The both of them jumping sort when Alexander walks into the office unannounced.

"I- oh fuck-" he blurts out, eyes widening.

"What is it Alexander?" Derrick asked like Alex didn't just see them that close to each other.

"Uncle Maxwell is back" he announced.

"What?"

"Yeah, he's back and downstairs. I wanted to tell you but.." he glanced at Erin, his gaze falling to the necklace on her neck, a knowing smirk making its way to his lips.

"I'll be downstairs soon." He tells Alex who nods

"I'll go too, Ana would be hungry." Erin rushes out but Alex stops her

"No, she's eaten and is with Vanessa. You can go back to doing." His hand motions between them carelessly. Erin grows even more embarrassed at this, watching as Alex walks out of the office. It's weird to see Alexander speaking to her so civil and okay, after all they didn't use to be the best friends but now, he tolerates her. Okay, maybe he does more than tolerate her. Ever since Ana showed up, he's been more relaxed with Erin and she supposed that's a good thing.

"You were going to say?" Derricks voice snaps her out of her gaze.

"Nothing, let's go welcome Uncle Maxwell. He's been gone for a while." She says, already walking out of the offices with Derrick behind her, forgetting to remove the necklace.

Maxwell sat on the couch, a smile on his lips as he looked around. It's been a while na show he is back.

"What are you doing here again? I told you to stay away." The anger in the voice had him smiling. Oh, he's missed that voice. He stands up, hands dipped inside of his pockets, he turns to look at Amelia.

"Amelia." He grins, out of everyone in the pack, he missed her the most.

"What are you doing here?" She sneered, her eyes harboring the strongest hatred he has ever seen.

"Why? Am I not a part of this pack? Of this family?" He asked, eye brows cocked up, waiting for her to shoot back.

"You know damn well why. You can't be a part of a pack when you murdered-"

"Ssh, Ssh, we don't want everyone hearing about this, do we?" He says in a low voice, a sinister smile making its way to his lips.

"You're a swine. You're a fucking-"

"Uncle, you're back." Derrick's voice had her biting back her words, Maxwell quirks an eyebrow up at her, smirking because he knows she wouldn't say a word again. Amelia stood there, writhing in anger. She watched as Derrick hugged the same man who murdered their parents, standing there still and unable to say a thing.

"Are you back for good or?" Derrick asks, the excitement in his voice could be heard.

"Who knows? Perhaps I would just stay here forever, I'm sure that won't be a bother, would it?" Maxwell asks but his eyes was on Amelia.

"Of course not, it would never be a bother. You're always going to be a part of this pack." Derrick says.

"Welcome back." Erin spoke up after some minutes of watching the two men interact. Maxwell looks behind Derrick to see zero behind him, a soft smile on her lips.

"It's good to see you again." He says, stretching his hand forward for a shake. Erin steps close and shook his hand, not missing the way Maxwell's eyes drops to her neck.

"That's a beautiful necklace by the way." He says and Erin nods, her hands back on her neck as though shielding the necklace.

"Thank you." She replied and stepped back from him.

"It's good to have you back, Uncle.

"Yeah, I had to come back after all the annual festival is coming up very very soon and this time, I heard it will be taking place in our pack."

Now this had Erin in shock. The annual festival? How did she miss this? How did she not realize it's very close now? She's been so busy with other things that it totally skipped her mind.

"Yeah and arrangements are being done. Don't let me hold you back further. You should go rest for now." Derrick tell the man who nods in agreement. He smiles and looks at Amelia the grabs his bags. He reached Erin and paused, his eyes falling to her neck once again. She felt self conscious about it, bringing her hand to her neck again. He seemed to get the memo and finally walked away, leaving the three of them alone.

"Annual festival is coming up and we are holding it?" Erin blurts out as soon as she could.

"Yeah, you know what that is right? Because you look very confused right now." Amelia chirped in.

"Of course I know but.. you do know what the Annual festival means, right?"

"What are you getting at? What's your point?"

"He will be there? Every pack alpha has to come to the pack hating the annual festival and this time, it's us. Liam will come and he will see me." She felt scared and agitated. Liam cannot see her, she has to be dead to him for the rest of her life. He absolutely cannot see her.

"Hey Erin. Take a deep breathe and calm down." Derrick's deep voice has her looking up at him, eyebrows furrowed in confusion. Why were they so calm right now? They should be worried. Liam will be there and she would be done for.

"Calm down." Derrick places his hand on her shoulder, helping her to breathe properly and not get a panic attack.

"He's not coming." Derrick stated.

"What?"

"I know all pack alpha has to come to the pack hosting it and I know how it goes but Liam won't come. Apart from the fact that he totally despises me, I just recently gave him a reason to not come again." He remembers when he had won the necklace sitting on her neck, if there is one thing about Liam, it's the fact that he is a sore loser.

"How are you sure?"

"First off, he hasn't attend any of the annual festival for the past three years and we both know it's more than three years. He certainly will not attend this one especially if it's my pack that's hosting." Erin looks up at him.

"I don't-"

"Believe me, Erin. He won't be attending. You have nothing to worry about. If you did then I'll tell you and make sure you're safe. He won't attend." He says, his fingers stroking her cheeks lightly. Amelia stood by the corner, watching them being so soft with each other.

"I believe you." Erin says and in her eyes, Derrick would see everything. Her trust, admiration, support and care. Everything.

He leans down without thinking and kisses her forehead softly. Amelia's eyes widen at the display of affection. What even goes on in their head? They are both pinning after each other but would rather suffer in silence while believing the other doesn't reciprocate their feelings.

She clears her throat loudly, breaking them from their reverie. They seems to have forgotten they have an audience here. They jump from each other's touch, Erin's cheeks burning a bright red immediately. Amelia holds back a chuckle on seeing them so flustered.

Amelia's gaze drops to Erin's neck and she just know Derrick gave it to her. He's so whipped and won't admit it so she decided to fluster them even more.

"Nice necklace, Erin. Whoever gave it to you must like you a lot." She says and winks at Erin who splutters, unable to come up with anything reasonable while Derrick started to cough.

Amelia walked out of the place, laughing at their obliviousness at each other's misery. She doesn't know how much longer it would go on for but she goes it's soon.