

## Chapter 84

“Alpha, Alpha.” Dylan’s panicked voice booms through the walls, carrying itself into the office. Derrick stopped alarmed, eyebrows furrowed just as Dylan barged into the offices panting hard like he ran five miles.

“What’s going on?” Derrick snaps.

“Ambush.” Dylan pants out, sweat beads trickling down his forehead. Derrick paused, “What do you mean ambush? What’s going on?” He rushes out this time.

Dylan swallows hard, finally gathering himself to look at the alpha. “The outskirts market where the traders were given permission to trade. There has been some ambush and from what I saw, I don’t think it’s something senile.” He says.

Derrick swallows harshly, Erin’s words repeating at the back of his mind. ‘I’m going to the market to get things for the kids’ she said hours ago.

“T-The same market?” He stuttered, still trying to figure out everything. Dylan nods.

“Erin and Amelia are there.” He stated after some seconds of silence. Dylan gasps dramatically.

“They are? What do we do, Alpha?”

“What else? We are going to get them and if anybody gets in your way, do away with them instantly.” He says firmly, gearing up to leave as he summoned Alex over the mind link.

It’s been two months. Two months of peace but apparently that’s even too much to ask for. They only had two months before whatever this s, started.

“Gather everyone fit and capable. We are going to fight.” He tells Dylan who nods and rushes off to do as he’s been told.

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It all happened in a second. The entire market disrupts into an even more chaotic cycle than it was, with everyone running about like the market was on fire. Erin tried to hold onto Amelia tighter but it was futile. It’s like a stampede of people trying to survive even though nothing was happening to them.

“Amelia!” Erin screams, trying to find the other through the pile of people running about. It’s futile. She doesn’t see anyone that looks like Amelia but she does see her. Melissa.

She stood still, her stance firm and strong, gaze unwavering as she stared at Erin unblinking. Even with all the chaos going on around, the people running and screaming around, none of them seemed to touch her. None of them seemed to be near her. It felt like she had a protective guide around her and was invisible of some kind.

Erin looks around in panic. “Amelia!” She screams again but hears nothing other than the screams coming from the people. Her eyes widen in fright when she sees Melissa take a step in her direction. Every single nerve in her body screamed at her to run and forget Amelia. To run and save herself from the crazed woman.

“Amelia!” She screams again, hoping to hear something, to see even a glimpse of the woman but it’s useless. She sees nothing.

“Run! She wants you, not Amelia.” Her wolf growled at her. Erin doesn’t waste a second, she glanced at Melissa who was now sporting a smirk, like she could read the next thing Erin was about to do. Perhaps she did.

Erin runs.

Erin runs as fast as her legs could take her, pushing and throwing the people in her way off, her mind desperately trying to mind link Derrick but she's unable to. Erin runs into the only place she deemed safe for now. The woods.

Her chest beating erratically, her legs sprinting through the woods. Melissa is hot on her heels.

Erin can hear the sound of Melissa's footsteps growing closer behind her. Panic and fear fuel her every step as she pushes herself harder, her heart pounding in her chest. The Trees blur past her as she dashes through the dense forest, desperate for something. She tries again to mind-link Liam but it's useless. It's like her mind keeps failing her. It's never happened but here it's happening.

Her mind races with thoughts of Amelia, hoping she managed to escape the chaos at the market. Erin prays that she is safe and that they will be reunited soon. But for now, her priority is to survive and evade Melissa. She can feel the presence of Melissa behind her even as she ran, her theory dry and patched. Melissa's dark and dangerous aura sends shivers down her spine. Erin shudders, she turns to see Melissa hot on her chase although some steps away from her but still close.

She prays to the moon goddess as hard as she could. Hoping for something, someone to come to her aid. There's something about Melissa that gives her the creep and that is apart from the way she is. Today, she's even more darker than normal. One. Plus feel the darkness all over her. It's sickening.

Erin runs but soon, it all stops. A loud screech leaves her lips as her feet struggled to find balance. Her chest beating and pounding erratically in her chest. Just another step and she'll find herself six feet below. Erin swallows harshly, looking around fearfully. She's gotten to the end. The end of the forest. How does a forest even have an end? Beats her.

She looks around for a way to escape but it's futile. There's nowhere to leave and run. Erin's breath comes in short gasps as she glances back, eyes blurring with unshed tears, every nerve in her body panicking as she realizes there is no escape

route. The dense forest has led her to a cliff, a steep drop that seems to stretch endlessly below.

Panic surges through veins as she realizes she's trapped with nowhere left to run. A choked-up gasp escaped her lips, she looks around, desperate and panicked for an escape route.

Melissa's footsteps approach, growing louder with each passing second. Erin's heart pounds in her chest, her mind racing around for a solution. She can't let Melissa reach her, her feet slowly halting. A sinful smirk made its way to her lips. She looked just like she did earlier. Not a single drop of sweat, not a single hair misplaced in her hair. She looked like she hadn't been running.

Melissa smiles. "Are you done running?" she asks, tilting her head sideways.

Erin's chest rises and falls rapidly as she tries to catch her breath, her eyes locked with Melissa's predatory gaze. Fear and anger mingle within her. "What do you want Melissa?" She bites back.

Melissa paused, "What do I want?" She asks, "What do I want? She asks again, taking a step towards Erin.

"I'll tell you what I want. I want you dead. I want you gone and buried. I want you and your ghost out of this world. I want everything that to with you gone! I want you dead." She grits out, eyes red with anger.

"Can you do that? Can you grant my wish?" She asks and then begins to laugh. It's emotionless, empty, and sickening. Erin swallows harshly. Her wolf begging to get out of there, screaming at the danger in front of them.

Erin swallows harshly, begging every goddess in the universe to help her. Melissa smirks, taking a step closer to her, she seemed to enjoy the fear, the terror embedded in Erin's eyes.

“Stay away,” Erin growls, just then did Melissa’s scent fill ed her nostrils. It’s suffocating, bitter and disgusting. Erin looks at the other, unable to understand why her scent had to be that disgusting. It’s like a decaying rat was rubbed all over her body and scent gland.

“What have you done to yourself.” She blurts out.

Melissa cackles. “Did you know, Liam gave me wolfsbane. He tried to kill me. He fed wolfsbane to me and took my wolf.” She reveals.

“What am I without my wolf?” She asks and then began to laugh again.

“That’s right. Nothing! I would rather die than become ridiculed. I would rather die than become ridiculed. I would rather die than allow myself to be mocked.” She paused.

“But, I won’t die alone. You’re coming with me. You and...” she doesn’t get to complete her words.

“Melissa?” Liam’s voice comes thundering through the dense woods. He had take up their prints and trailed them to the cliff. Melissa turns, and her body tenses when she sees him. His wolf stood still, eyes on the two women. It doesn’t take a second, Liam changes into his human form, taking a step forward to Melissa, his eyes filled with a mixture of anger and concern.

“Liam,” Erin breathes just as Melissa cackles. It instead sounds like she’s in pan.

“You’re here too? One thought of this bitch being hurt has you running down here.” She sneered, a tear falling to her cheeks as she runs her hands through her hair.

Liam opens his mouth to speak but paused, inhaling the rather formidable scent. It’s sickening.

“What are you doing Melissa? Leave Erin be.” He grits out, ignoring the scent.

“Leave Erin?” Melissa scoffs.

“Has it always been Erin? Tell me, Liam. Have you ever wanted me like I wanted you or has it always been Erin for you?” She asks. Erin resisted the urge to roll her eyes. Erin to Liam? Even that sounds preposterous.

“What are you-“ Liam is cut off rather harshly.

“Don’t fuck with me. It’s always Erin this! Erin that!” She paused again, looking at Erin who’s managed to gain a foot away from the edge of the cliff.

She chuckled, wiping the tears that trickled down her chin, her eyes red, her aura getting even more dark and disgusting by the minute. “It’s good you’re here. They say there is a thin line between love and hatred. After what you did to me, I only have hatred in my heart for you.” She grits out, hands balled into a tight fists.

Liam nods. “Fine. You hate me. Take it out on me then and leave Erin alone.”

Melissa’s laughter fills the tense air she takes a step closer to Liam, her eyes glinting with malice. “You think I’ll be satisfied with just hurting you? No, Liam. Erin deserves to suffer too. She deserves to feel the pain I’ve felt all this time.” Her voice is laced with Venom.