

Chapter 96

The entire pack has been thrown in disarray at the news of their alpha. The news had spread far and wide before Amelia could curb it. Now everyone and their mother knows what happened to Derrick. They know he's at the brink of death, they know he's struggling for life, struggling to stay alive. Whatever happened in the cliff back then was rough and had impacted on Derrick terribly. His entire fur was covered in blood. Amelia remembers the horror that course through her veins on seeing her brother's body being carried, his eyes shut with no sign of life in him.

She had stumbled backwards shocked, terrified and absolutely disoriented. Amelia burst into tears, unable to come up with anything. The only noise she could hear was Erin's scream at the and that was it.

Now, Amelia stood right in front of the door with Erin, waiting anxiously for the pack doctor to come out. Vanessa stood beside her, her arms wrapped around Amelia's body. Everyone was as tense as it could get, all waiting to hear the news on Derrick.

Amelia lifts her head, her eyes flicking over to Erin whose eyes were stuck on the shut wooden door, not straying further from it. Amelia opens her mouth to speak for the first time in fourteen hours but it's at that exact time the door opens, her words dying in her throat as the doctors steps out with his apprentice.

His eyes heavy and dark like they've seen what no man should ever see. Amelia's breath hitches at the sight of the spent man, he looks around them, from Dylan to Amelia and finally settling on Derrick's mate. Erin.

Erin steps forward. "How is he?" She asks, it's crazy how much control she has on her voice even though one could see how the past hours has affected her, although she refuses to show a sign of weakness.

The doctor opens his mouth and then shuts it again, gulping tightly, he looks at her for the second time.

“Your Grace.” He starts and everyone of them straighten up tightly, all waiting to hear from him.

“Speak.” Erin commands and the nods.

“I’m going to be as frank as I can. His condition is very serious. He has sustained really deep wounds and has heavy injuries that cannot heal. His wolf is weak and for that it’s impossible to heal. I’ve administered some medication to help him but I’m afraid that this is where my capabilities extend too. I’ve waited all night and kept him under observation and I can tell you he has gotten pass the most serious part of it but still, that doesn’t mean his is fully recovered. He is still in a fragile state.”

Amelia shudders internally, she doesn’t know what she was expecting but this, this is all too much. A harsh sob escapes her lips and she doesn’t even realize she’s the one who’s sobbing. Vanessa sighs sadly, wrapping her arms around her body in a bid of comfort her.

“When will he wake up?” Erin asked again, looking like all the doctor had just said didn’t affect her. It’s baffling though.

The doctors looks distraught for a second and Erin tilts her head. “When will he wake up?” She asks again, this time adding more authority in her voice. The man swallows hard and shakes his head.

“I can’t tell you, Your Grace. I don’t know when he will wake up. It can take hours, days and maybe even months..” This one seems to affect Erin as she staggers back just a bit, her jaws hung open at doctors words.

“Months...” she echoes just as the man agrees, looking at them with sad heavy eyes.

Can't they just get a break? It's all happening back to back like a freaking clock. "Luna..." Dylan rushes to help her but she's quick to swat his hand away, looking back at the doctor.

"Not a single soul outside of us here must hear of what you've told us. Am I clear?" She instructs, slipping back into her Luna mode easily.

The doctor and his apprentice nods quickly, they would never tell a soul. "Leave." She instructs, glancing at Dylan who immediately understands, seeing the doctor off.

Alex sighs, staring at the door and then Erin. He opens his mouth to speak but it is cut off rather quickly. "You're all excused." Erin says, dismissing them casually.

Alex nods in defeat, he glances at Vanessa and motions that they leave with a sobbing Amelia in her arms.

They all leave, one by one. Leaving Erin to the words of the doctor ringing in her head over and over again like a damn chant. She swallows the thick pile in her throat, taking little steps to the door and opens it. A tear falls to her cheeks as soon as she lays eyes on him.

He had laid on the bed, a bandage wrapped around his chest, his face as pale as a white sheet, lips dry and chapped. He looked like he had aged ten years over the hours. Erin's breathe hitches as she's immediately hit with the image of him laying on the floor near the cliff, bleeding his heart out. She immediately clasped her hand over her mouth, silencing the gut wrenching sob about to escape her lips. She shuts the door close and walks towards the bed where he laid.

In silence, Erin sat by his side, her fingers intertwined with his. The room was filled with a heavy, suffocating atmosphere, and the seconds felt like hours. A tear rolls down her cheeks again and soon followed by others. She's totally distraught at the sight of an unmoving Derrick. The past hours has been a nightmare she wished would be over soon.

Erin sniffles, her eyes red and blotched from crying hard. She looks at Derrick what would seem like hours but it's only some minutes, Right there and then, she knew what she had to do. Derrick cannot wake up in this mess again. She has to do something to finally end this trauma that's befallen them.

She heaved deeply, making up her mind for once and for better, her fingers slowly slipping out of his cold hands. She made a silent promise to finish everything by here if need be but there's one thing she's certain of. Derrick will wake up and have all his troubles disappeared.

Erin opens the door to the study where Alex, Dylan and Amelia all gathered together. Alex eyes widen as soon as he lays eyes on her. A little confused.

"Erin." He trails off indignantly.

Erin shuts the door close from behind, her arms wrapped around her chest, she motions for everyone to seat still and gets in their midst, taking a seat where Derrick would usually sit down.

"How is he? Any improvements?" Amelia rushes out like it wasn't just about forty minutes ago when the doctor told them the news. Erin shakes her head sadly, watching the hope diminish from Amelia's hopeful eyes.

"We don't have much time. We need to prepare and it's unfortunate Derrick is on his sick bed but we can't stop. We have to protect the thousands of people in the pack. We can't slack off, not now. It isn't what Derrick would've wanted." She replied.

"We have everything prepared but this hiccup we have has put a strain to things. The pack members are no longer as calm and cooperative anymore. They're scared and afraid, rightfully so. They believe there is no hope because Alpha Derrick is unconscious. Who will lead the pack to war?" Dylan said distraughtedly.

Erin shuts her eyes close for a second, her hands placed on the arm chair, gripping it tightly, allowing the pack bond for the first time in years. It takes a second and it all comes rushing in. different emotions, differing voices courting through her head. Erin could feel everything all at the same time. It was draining yet euphoric at the same time. In the past, derrick had asked her to give it a chance but she refused vehemently, she didn't think she could ever get used to the buzzing headache after it but now...

Erin opens her eyes slowly, shutting the pack bond off again. She opens she'd eyes to see six pair of eyes staring at her intently, waiting for her.

"They're scared and highly bothered. News has spread around the pack of Derrick's condition but we cannot falter now. That's exactly what Dimitri wants and we can't give him that. Not now. We will fight and protect our pack with our lives and if need be, we will gladly give our lives for the pack."

Everyone seemed to be on the same track with no one interfering in the plan. Erin and Alex go ahead and draw the plan derrick had come up with. The three of them spend the next hours planning and at exactly five pm, they stop to materialize their plans. There wasn't that much to do seeing as Derrick has done everything until what happened today.

"Vanessa and I will gather the women into the gall like planned." Amelia says, standing up alongside Dylan who was going to do his own part.

Eric nods, watching them walk out of the study to do their bidding. She's left alone with Alex.

"We will go ahead with the plan Derrick had laid out before and we will wait." He tells her, also getting ready to leave. Erin sighs, wiping her calm sweaty hands against her trousers.

"Tonight is crucial." She starts and the man halts in his steps, her voice ringing in his ears, he slowly turns to look at her.

“Erin.” He begins.

“There’s no doubt he’s heard of what happened already and if he is as smart and intelligent like I’ve heard he is, then tonight is the perfect time to do away with us. Our pack alpha is injured and unconscious, without him there’s no true leader to lead the pack. This is the best time to infiltrate the pack and if I were him, I won’t wait a second chance.” She lifts her head and looks at Alex.

“Tonight is very crucial for us.” She says again. The beta stares at her for a couple of seconds and nods.

“Everyone will be extra vigilant tonight.” He says, bows slightly and walks out of the study, leaving Erin to herself.

An extra hour passed and Erin finds herself in front of the iron bars gate, keeping Samantha away from her. The other stood at the opposite end, her blonde hair scattered and rough on her head. Her eyes bloodshot red, it’s obvious she’s been crying. Erin couldn’t make out the puffy state of the girl’s eyes at first but she had been staring at her for five minutes now. Samantha doesn’t look like the Samantha Erin remembers. Her eyes were glazed, her skin paler than what Erin remembers.

Samantha scoffs, the bitterness and hatred she had for Erin showing like it’s never left, not like it ever did. She sneers bitterly at Erin, spitting nastily towards her direction.

“I hate you. I despise you. I curse the day Derrick accepted you into this pack. Everything has been going well for me, for us until you showed up. You showed up and ruined our lives, my life.” She practically screams at Erin.

“I hope Liam took that brat of yours and I hope she gets to die untimely. I want to see you cry and suffer. I want to see you writhing in excruciating pain.” She screams harshly.

It's like something snapped in Erin at the mention of her pup. Her eyes widening dramatically, she practically leaps towards the iron bars, grabbing the trash spitting woman from inside the cell she stood, her hands wrapped around her throat, squeezing the life out of her.

Samantha's words echoing in her head, the alarms buzzing loud and clear, Erin saw red at the implication of her pup dying.

Samantha chokes, her face frowning deep purple as she struggled against Erin. Since she's been casted out of a pack, as a pack member, her strength has greatly reduced while Erin's has increased tremendously than it was in the past years. Samantha chokes, struggling to breathe as she clawed at Erin's hands pitifully, grasping to the last bit of air she could get.

"So much audacity from the likes of you. What did you say? You wish my daughter dead. I'm pleased to tell you, your phony little plans didn't work and now your silly plan has gone to dust. Your partner is in the deepest part of hell and you will soon be joining him." Erin spat out angrily, her grip slowly loosening from the other's neck, her hand prints visible on the woman's neck.

Erin opens her mouth to speak but at that exact moment does it happen. The bell going off as hard and loud as it could, alerting every living being in the pack of the danger approaching. Erin heaved deeply, her body shaking from the anger she just felt and is already rising within her. Just like she predicted, it's happening.

Samantha cocks an eyebrow up, a smirk on her lips even as she rubbed her sore neck. "Trouble in Lala land. I hope you die and stay rotten, you witch!" She sneers.

"I'll be ack for you, Samantha, I'll be back to feed you to the vultures. Mark my word." She spat out just as the door to the dungeon is open, the noise seeping into the place.

"Luna, Luna." Dylan's panicked voice comes through as yells for Erin.

Erin turns and rushes off, ignoring Samantha cackling loudly.