

## Chapter 16 - The Stained Omega Novel (Anna & Fraction) Free Online by Elle T Jefferson

“That sad sack of an Alpha has a mate, feel sorry for that she-wolf.” I wince as I drain my mug. Goddess this coffee is awful. Rick comes and takes a seat next to me.

“I think we should follow him,” I look at Rick with a raised brow, “He was telling his head warrior to make sure the money was transferred so he could grab his mate and leave the whore house as soon as possible.”

“So, he’s paying for her?”

“That’s what it sounds like. If she is a wolf, then we have to be sure she wants to be there.”

“I assume Lewis is telling Darryl this too?” Rick nods, “Alright. I suggest we go in wolf form. Let’s go and meet Darryl and Lewis.”

We have been following Max and his Head Warrior for about forty- five minutes and they have pulled off to what looks like an abandoned farmhouse.

It’s not very big, the land around it is empty which adds to the feeling of abandonment. The white paint of the house is peeling, and we can’t see anything in the windows, we are staying back so we don’t spook the Alpha and his man. After only a few minutes we see Max come out the side door of the house pulling a petite woman with him.

We can’t tell who she is, but we can see she is n\*ked; she has dark hair and even from here I can see the bruises on her skin. The wind takes that moment to carry the smell of dark roast coffee and freshly mowed grass, no one else can smell it. Just me.

I rapidly switch. back to my human form not caring about my nudity “Don’t lose that car. that’s Anna!” I’m growling as I rapidly shift back to Leo. It’s time to fight for my mate. Me. Rick, Darryl and Lewis aren’t leaving here without her.

‘Mine! Mate! Mine! Mine!’ Leo is frothing at the mouth to get to his mate as I put on another burst of speed. I don’t bother following the car. Lewis and Darryl are following it and will let us know if it diverts from the route. me and Rick are heading straight for the cabin. Once we reach the one-mile radius from his cabin I slow and link with Rick.

'We need to take care of the warriors, as many as possible'

"There are eight of them out here I can smell them' Rick sounds excited at the prospect of fighting.

I'll take the five on the left, you take the three on the right' I laugh in my head at Rick's response, 'Sure you take all the fun' He runs off at the same time I do. We need to do this quick and dirty, once Anna gets here. I want nothing standing in my way.

When I'm close enough to the first warrior I pounce and snap his neck between my jaws. Poor bastard didn't see it coming. The next two go down just as quickly and just as deadly. Number four is in wolf form and smells me coming, snarling at each other walking in a circle. Each trying to figure out the other's first move.

I swish my tail to draw his eye, it works, and I lunge. I miss his neck and dig my claws into his back to stop myself sailing through the air, the wolf howls into the air as I snap my jaw closed around his hind leg. I use my strength to fl\*p his wolf onto his back. and I rip his throat out with my claws before he can make another sound.

He doesn't die straight away but I am done. I walk away leaving him to bleed into the ground. I run to number five but he's not here, I can smell him so he either ran when he heard number four die, or he has gone to the cabin.

'Heads up Alpha, Max and Anna are here' Rick's sounds over the link.

'Darryl and Lewis are with you?'

"They are."

'Wait for Anna to be clear and then we go. I want them all dead and Anna out of here as soon as possible.'

I stay where I am, I'm sure Darryl, Lewis and Rick are ready to go. Coming from more than one direction when we are small in numbers is a good thing. If number five is in the house that leaves a possibility of four of them, I like these odds.

I watch as Max drags my mate from the car, from here I can see she is marked more than I saw at the farmhouse. She is covered in bruises from

head to toe, she has open wounds on her torso and a nasty gash on her leg that looks infected.

She's thin, too thin, they probably withheld food and maybe even water from her. Her hair is shorter than it was and looks dull and lifeless. She has a glazed look in her eyes, she's talking to winter. I growl as he backhands her so hard, I watch her stumble.

"Do. Not. Ignore. Me." Max is shouting at her getting closer and closer with each word, "I said go inside, upstairs you will find one bedroom. I want you on your knees next to the bed by the time I come up." Like hell he's getting in that house. Anna hurries away and into the house, the second the door closes I let loose a howl and charge towards Max. Just as I'm about to reach him a massive wolf comes out of nowhere and knocks me from the side, I roll as I land and come up snarling. I was so focused on Anna I didn't see his Head Warrior leave the group.

"I expect you to deal with this while I make the whore mine." I hear from Max as a howl sounds out as Axel makes short work of one of the warriors. We are still one short. I see Lewis and Darryl come up behind the head warrior.

With three of us closing in on him and Axel coming over to stand next to me the head warrior knows he's screwed. He crouches low and lets off a grumbling growl, he's willing to fight for his Alpha. As he lunges for me Darryl grabs his tail between his jaw which causes him to sweep around to find out who has him. Lewis and Axel snap their jaws around his hind legs as I come in and claw

I into his throat. I stand back and watch as he bleeds out, I don't take the time to revel in the kill. I quickly dash through the cabin door and charge up the stairs. I take the scruff on Max's shirt in my jaw and fling him backwards down the stairs where Rick is waiting in human form. I walk over to Anna on all fours. She is on the floor bleeding from the neck, I lean down and clean it with my tongue, I quickly shift back when I see the mating mark. I pick her up bridal style and start down the stairs.

"Don't kill him, Rick. The bastard marked her. We need him alive." I say as I walk past Rick, Max is out cold at the bottom of the stairs. I can't say more than that, I'm raging, Leo is pacing and demanding to kill the fucker who dared mark our mate.

(Anna)

I don't know where I am, the ground is hot and black. Like it was once on fire but hasn't been out for long. Stumps of what used to be trees are glowing with embers, the sky is filled with clouds but they are glowing red almost like a fire is burning somewhere in the distance. I don't know how I got here, the last thing I remember is being marked by Max. I feel my neck and trace the teeth marks with my fingers. I notice a white clump laid in the grass not far from where I am, as I walk closer to it I realise it's Winter. I fall to my knees and touch her fur wanting to comfort her, she whines and lets out low growls, she's hot to the touch, too hot.

'Winter...what's happening? I'm confused, I still don't understand why we are here.

'Can't. Hurts. Wrong.' Winter is making no sense; her voice is so far away from me.

I stand and look around the burnt field. 'Winter I don't understand. What's happening to us?!' The fire in the field is restarting and it's blazing towards us.

(Fraction)

Anna is laid in my bed, sweating, crying out for help and talking to Winter. Me and Rick got her back in record time thanks to Darryl's help. He travelled back with us with Max hog tied in the back of his car. We sped all the way home and made the journey in what felt like no time yet too much time all at once.

"She is fighting but without her wolf she is struggling." I look at the pack doctor like he has six heads.

"No shit! Fix it!" My rage has been taken to a whole new level since finding Anna on the floor of that cabin.

"I'm sorry Alpha but I cannot. She is Omega, she was mated against her will and her wolf is fighting the mark. It's now up to Anna and Winter. If she accepts the mark she will be mated, if she's strong enough she will reject the mark and it will fade. There is also the chance that she can die before being able to choose either option." The doctor sounds defeated as he slowly replaces the cold compress he has on Anna's head.

"What if I kill her mate? Will the mark fade without her having to decide?" I'm pacing back and forth along the end of the bed. I'm going to wear a hole in the carpet.

"If you kill him, she will die. If she's still connected to him when he dies, she will die, it's part of what makes her an Omega. The bonds between an Omega and an Alpha are strong and to a point too strong. One cannot live without the other.

"I've known Alpha's who have mated with an Omega who have passed. They didn't die!" I'm starting to question everything this doctor is telling me.

"That is rare, Omegas are rare. Someone can have Omega qualities and not be a full Omega. Anna is an Omega in every sense. She will love harder than most, she will be more loyal than most, her mere presence will resolve arguments and there are rumours of true blooded Omegas even being able to heal their mates. Sadly, Omegas are rare enough that we still don't know what they are fully capable of." The doctor is packing up his bag, "I will come back this evening to check her vitals, if you need me sooner, please just shout." with that the doctor leaves the room.

Every part of my being is wanting me to comfort Anna, but I don't know what to do. She's finally covered, wearing one of my shirts and a pair of her panties. The doctor has dressed her wounds and given her antibiotics for the infection on her leg.

She has a drip going into her, the doctor said it will hydrate her and give her some much-needed nourishment. Her wolf should be taking care of her now but if the doctor is right then Winter is busy doing other things. I decide to lay down next to Anna and try to sleep considering there isn't much else to do. Anna's cries have simmered down, and she seems to have slipped into a sleep state.

I don't know where I am, the ground is hot and black. Like it was once on fire but hasn't been out for long. Stumps of what used to be trees are glowing with embers, the sky is filled with clouds, but they are glowing red almost like a fire is burning somewhere in the distance. I see a white bundle on the floor with a girl sitting next to it.

"Anna? Winter?" I shout out, I start running towards them. The girl's head shoots up and looks straight at me. I recognize those blue eyes anywhere, "Anna, my Anna" I grab her and hold her to me when I reach her.

"Fraction? What...what are you doing in my dream?" Anna sounds confused.

“A dream? Is that where we are? The last thing I remember is falling asleep next to you. What happened here?”

“I think this is where I first met Winter, I don’t understand what happened to it.”

“It’s you Anna, you happened to it. Well, you and Max.” Max’s name comes out in a growl.

“He...he marked me. I remember the pain and that’s it. I know he’s my mate, but I don’t want to be mated to a man who buys women!” She sounds so strong, stronger than I know she is right now.

“He’s your mate? How is that possible?”

“I met him when I first got the place with those rogues, he came back. for me. He took me away.”

“No, I mean, how can he be your mate? Two mates....Goddess what a mess.”

“Two mates? No, I only scented one.” She looks me in the eyes, and I can see the question there.

“Anna, me and you, we are mates. When you wake up you will be able to scent me for yourself. Right now, I need you to focus, you and Winter need to reject the mark, or you will die. You could accept it but then you will be mated to Max.”

“NO! I won’t be mated to him. How do I reject him? I can’t get out of here, I’ve tried!”

“Try telling Winter, she should know what to do.” We both walk over to the white wolf whimpering on the floor.

“Winter. I, Anna Clem reject Max as my mate and Alpha. Winter, can you hear me?” She is trying to reach her wolf. “We reject Max as our mate Winter. Please hear me. Reject him. WINTER!” Anna is shouting at her wolf trying to reach her through the pain of a forced mating.

“Fraction, wake up.” I jerk awake to my mother shaking my arm.

“Mother, what’s wrong?” I’m annoyed, Anna needs me and now I’m not from hampe no datand up Foom me teck and pock at me moher

Manes on the gone now, the the needle coming a can get Though to Winter  
These down to her and tee well mos

Flames bum

288 Vouchers sure I can get back to her.

“There is a call for you, Alpha Callum from the Whiteridge pack.”

“Can’t James take it?” I stand up from my bed and look at my mother.

“James is on the phone now, but he needs you.” I hope Anna can get through to Winter. This is down to her and her wolf now.

(Fraction)

I begrudgingly leave Anna sleeping on my bed. As much as I want to be there for her, I don’t think I can fight this battle for her I wish! could, I wish it was within my power, I pray to the Goddess that Winter is still aware enough to help Anna reject the mark

As I enter my office, I see James sitting at my desk chair, notepad and pen in front of him and a phone to his car As I close the door. I see James roll his eyes

“Alpha Fraction is here now. I’ll pass you over James passes me the handset and moves from my chair to the sola

“Alpha Callum, nice to hear from you. We were concerned when you didn’t show in South Dakota”

“I am sorry about that My Luna had taken ill and needed my attention”  
Something about this doesn’t sound right to me, sure Lunas can get sick but surely, he could have answered the phone “We need to discuss the wolf you were following Alpha Callum is an older Alpha and by rights he should have stepped down and passed the title to his Alpha Heir by now. The old cont refuses though

“What about him?” I ask, I don’t want to talk about the man whose mere presence enrages my wolf

“He’s practically royalty within his packs. They have contacted me regarding him. Apparently, he came here to collect his fated mate and his pack felt the

loss of eight lives three nights ago. Please tell me you weren't involved in this. The Eastern packs are threatening war unless he returns home" Why the hell would they contact Callum. All calls like that sound go to Darryl, he's the Head Alpha in the area.

"Why did they call you and not Alpha Darryl?"

"I have taken my Luna to Hati a few times in the past and I know some of the Alphas over there." Wolves holidaying with outside packs, that's a first.

"Well, I have no idea what you're talking about. I'll speak to Alpha Darryl and see if he knows anything. Do you need anything else, Alpha Callum?" I'm done with this conversation; I need to speak to Darryl and figure out what to do.

"Nothing more. I will speak to you again soon, Fraction." He hangs up the call on that disrespect. Not referring to me as Alpha Fraction was just as offensive as coming up and punching me in the face. I slam the handset down and turn to James.

"Speak with Darryl. He needs to know what is happening. Maybe he can dig into why Callum has a link with the Eastern packs" James is writing notes in his pad, "tell him to deny we have Max until I know how to handle the mate situation we have.

"Anything new on that? How's the Luna?" I can hear the concern for Anna in James's voice.

"She's fighting, her and Winter are strong. I don't know how after all they have gone through, but they are." I sigh and rub my hand over my face, "Doc says she's special, a full-blooded Omega. She's rarer than we thought."

"This will work out Alpha, I'm sure of it." James gets up and leaves probably to speak to Darryl as I requested.

I lean back in my chair and close my eyes. Killing Max's warriors might have just started a war, taking Max and holding him could cause even more damage. I can't let him go, not while he's linked with my mate, not while his life is connected to Anna's. The only way this will end is with Max dead after I challenge him for the right to mate Anna. A rejection won't be enough in the eyes of the packs, and I don't believe Max will accept a rejection from a full-blooded Omega anyway.



‘Rick, double up patrols and tell the warriors to report any suspicious activity.’ I mind link with my Head Warrior. Max still has a warrior out there, that combined with the ones who took Anna is still unknown to us. We need to make sure we don’t encounter any surprises. Just as I’m about to steal a thirty–minute power nap a knock sounds on the office door.

“Enter.” I sign out, Goddess forbid I have 30 minutes to myself. My mother sticks her head around the door.

“Sorry to bother you, Henry. I thought you might like to know Anna is awake.” I’m out of my chair before she finishes the sentence, I quickly sidestep my mother and dash for my bedroom. When I get there. I stop at the door. I quickly run my hands through my beard and hair, check. my shirt is not oddly tucked into my Levi’s and slowly enter the room.

Anna is sitting up in bed listening to the doctor. Her eyes meet mine instantly, the first thing I notice is the mating mark, it seems to be less. than it was. Before it was red and raised, almost angry looking. Now it’s pale and if I wasn’t looking for it. I’m sure I would miss it all together. Does this mean the rejection took?

“I want you to rest in bed for at least one more day and no shifting until I give you the all clear.” The doctor says to Anna who is just nodding her head, she hasn’t taken her eyes off me since I entered the room. The doctor turns and leaves seeing he won’t be getting much. more from either of us.

I see Anna’s pupils dilate and her nostrils widen, she’s scenting me. I just stand still and allow her tge chance to understand what Winter is telling me. The next words out of her mouth brings me to my knees. “Mate!” She all but growls at me.

(Anna)

I’m pleading with Winter to reject Max as our mate, I’m confused by Fractions presence but also not. It feels right that he is here, but I don’t understand it. Sometime between pleading with Winter and shouting at the Goddess for help I realise Fraction has gone.

I didn’t see him leave, I needed him, and he just left me, I felt somewhat stronger with him by my side. I can feel the flames are getting closer to us, I can’t imagine anything good will happen once they reach us. If Fraction is right and this is just a dream I need to wake up. I’ve fought too hard for my life

for it to be taken away because some asshole Alpha decided I was his. Just as I'm about to be consumed by the flames I hear Winter, in a small voice say, "I reject you Max. as my mate and Alpha." Suddenly the flames around me go down, as if by magic the grass slowly starts to turn green, the once red sky is now breaking apart to show some blue areas. I think we did it, "thank you Winter."

I wake with a start. The first thing I realise is I'm not in the cage. I'm not sure where I am. Wherever it is, it smells good. Like white chocolate and freshly made breads, I turn to my right and see a set of black drawers with a lamp on it. The wooden floor is scattered in jeans and shirts, apparently the person who owns this room doesn't believe in laundry baskets. The bed I'm in is massive; it could easily fit three or four wolves.

"I'm so glad you're awake, Anna. I've just linked with the doctor, he's on his way now." I'm startled when I hear that voice, I turn to my left and start to cry.

"Momma Beth?" I can't believe she's here.

"Hi sweet girl, you had us all worried for a while there." A man comes into the room he's out of breath and carrying a leather satchel. He's smaller than James but taller than I am, judging from his sterile smell this must be the doctor. He walks to the bed and starts taking things from his bag. Nothing too scary looking, thank Goddess.

"Anna, I'm Doctor Lee, I'm the pack doctor here." He must be new, the last pack doctor was an elderly woman, "I'm glad to see you awake, although I wasn't expecting it to be so soon." He starts taking my temperature, "your temperature has come down and you no longer smell of infection. How's your neck?"

I slowly reach up and run my fingers over the mating mark, I can't feel the pain anymore but it's still very much there. "It doesn't hurt anymore." I tell the doctor, he carefully turns my head to the side to inspect the mark.

"It seems to be fading, it looks like you and your wolf have successfully rejected the mark." He starts saying other things, but I block him out. The smell of white chocolate and freshly made breads has just become even stronger, I look over to the door and lock my eyes with Fraction. "Mate!" I all but growl out. It's low and very unlike me. Fraction falls to his knees with tears running down into his beard.

The doctor quickly leaves after my announcement. I didn't hear a single word he said after Fraction walked into the room. As if all at once the green eyes in my dreams, the wolves running together, the smells I can't place, all make sense. Winter has been telling me for a long time that Fraction is my mate. That Leo is hers.

"How long?" Fraction looks up at me confused, he's still kneeling on the floor beside the bed. "How long have you known who we are to each other?" He takes my hand in his and a shot of electricity shoots through me, it's not unpleasant. I could enjoy this feeling forever.

"Since the first time I saw you." He says in a low voice. I'm shocked, he's known about this for three years and never told me.

"Three years! Three years and you never said anything. You kept me here like some sidekick friend, ignored me, refused to swear me into the pack and pawned me off to your Beta all the while knowing I'm your mate!" I'm enraged, does he not want me? Am I really so damaged that even my mate would ignore me for three years. Fraction gets off the floor and sits on the end of the bed.

"It wasn't easy, little wolf. Alphas can sense their mate from a very young age but if we meet our mate while they are still pups it's against our laws to tell them. Our wolves put up this wall that doesn't allow us to be anything but a protector to them. It stops any unfortunate incidents from happening, it also protects the pup until they are ready." I can see the truth in his eyes but after everything I've gone through and now this, I'm not ready to let go of my rage.

"And let me guess now I'm 18 and lying broken in your bed you think what? That I'll just spread my legs and let you mate me?" I've shocked him, I don't really mean what I said. I have this rage in me and it's bubbling over.

"Goddess no Anna. How could you think that of me? I've searched for you for almost a year, killed wolves to get you back and locked a foreign Alpha in my cells. I've sat by your side for days, neglecting the pack to help you heal. I somehow got dragged into your dream and I helped you reject what was forced upon you. Not once has the thought of mating you even crossed my mind; I just wanted you to wake up and be whole again." I can see the truth in Fraction's green eyes, I can also see the pain my words caused him.

"I'm sorry Fraction. I ... I didn't mean what I said." I cast my eyes down, I'm ashamed of myself. Fraction puts a finger under my chin and brings my eyes to his, "Don't be sorry Anna. You, of all people, are allowed to be angry."

"Did you get John?" I ask suddenly, remembering my brother at the farmhouse with all the females and rogues.

"John? Your brother, John?" Fraction sounds confused, of course he would think John died when they attacked the Mountain Pack.

"He's the one who took me, well his rogues, but he sold me to Max. He made sure I was punished daily, he's holding all the other females. We have to help them, Fraction! We can't just leave them there to be raped and beaten!" My voice has risen to a shout by the time I'm done. The look on Fraction's face is one I will never forget. He's blaming himself. I can see it in his eyes. He stands from the bed and walks to the window.

"I'm so sorry Anna. I should have made sure all of the Mountain Pack died that day."

"It's not your fault " he turns to look at me and I can see the anguish on his face

"Isn't it? If I and the other Alphas made sure they were all dead none of this would have happened. Now he has countless females, he stole my mate and had her beaten and... and" he can't get the words out; his voice is cracking from the pain he feels.

"Fraction come here," I hold out my arms for him, but he doesn't come. to me. Preferring to feel his pain than let me help take it away, "Fraction, he didn't...they didn't rape me." His eyes shoot to mine, "I think Max was planning to, but I assume you were the reason he didn't. I saw females get attacked and I saw them raped without mercy but I.." The guilt I feel is huge and like a lump in my chest, "I was lucky, I guess. After I got there Max turned up to buy a whore." Fraction growls at me being called a whore, "His words not mine. John took me to him, and Max scented me. Because I was underage, he left me with them under strict instructions not to use me as I was his." I start picking at the skin around my nails, "I guess...I guess I was lucky."

I don't feel hacks. Ten worried for my friends, for Eve and Eliza and all the other females only know by look "Fraction, we have to help the ether We can't post leave them there le comes to me and k\*sses the top of my head

“Of course, we will help, but for now I need you to heal. Then we need to deal with Max. I will start the ball rolling on getting the other females freed”

I don't feel lucky, I'm worried for my friends, for Eve and Eliza and all the other females I only know by look. “Fraction, we have to help the others. We can't just leave them there.” He comes to me and k\*sses the top of my head.

“Of course, we will help but for now I need you to heal. Then we need to deal with Max. I will start the ball rolling on getting the other females freed.”

(Anna)

I'm back in the cage, it smells like I remember it, like death, S\*x and sweat have forever stained the walls around me. The women in the other cages are all silent. It was never silent here. I listen hard for the noise of S\*x and chatter above me. There is nothing. I notice a tall figure standing in the dark just out of reach of my cage. I sniff but I can't smell anything. I try to shout out but only silence leaves my mouth.

“Little wolf, little wolf, let me in.” a voice sounds from the figure before me. As my eyes adjust, I can sort of make out that it's a male. I still can't make a sound.

“I'll pry, I'll pull, and I'll stretch your legs around me” I don't like this person, whoever they are they're not friendly to me. I look around and the women have all disappeared. I'm no longer in my cage, I'm spread eagle on a bed, tied down by ropes that are cutting into my skin. I'm surrounded by silky red satin. I know this room: I fell asleep in this room. Blood runs down my arms as the rope cuts into my wrists,

“Little wolf, little wolf. Let. Me. In,” I turn to the voice and before me stands Fraction. Except it's not, his hair is a mess, his beard is gone, no more are the chiselled abs I've come to enjoy looking at, in their place is a beer belly. His once adoring green eyes are yellow and filled with rage. “Let. Me. In.” With each word he gets closer and closer.

I vault out of the bed covered in sweat, Fraction's shirt is sticking to me. My hair is soaked. I can't catch my breath.

“Anna, what happened?” Fraction is up and in front of me in no time at all. I back away from his confused look, he holds his hands up in a display that tells

me he means no harm. I dash for the ensuite bathroom and lock the door behind me. "Anna, open the door!" Fraction is pounding on the bathroom door.

"I just need...I just need a minute." I call to him.

I strip and step into the shower, turning it on. I let the cold water punish my skin. Goddess. that was a bad one. It's been one week since I woke up in Fraction's bed. Each night he has fallen asleep in the chair next to the bed and each night I have awoken covered in sweat and panicked from a nightmare.

Sometimes it's my father, other times it's John, this is the first time it's been Fraction though. I sit on the floor of the shower and sob. I'm scared all the time, even when I'm alone I fear I'm not..

(Fraction)

I sit on the floor with my back to the door. for the seventh night in a row I'm listening to Anna sob to herself in the shower. I know what's happening in her dreams, she doesn't realise it, but she talks in her sleep. I listen as her father beats her, as John attacks her and dumps her in a cage, tonight I listened as I tormented her. Each time she speaks in her sleep it kills something inside of me. Since that first night we haven't spoken about being mates, I haven't touched her or even spoken. to her intimately. She hasn't left my bedroom, not once. I bring her food: she pushes it around her plate, and we sit in silence. I want to be there for her but I'm running out of ways to help. Her safe place is the bathroom, any time I try to talk to her she runs into there and hides for hours on end.

'What can we do Leo?' I reach out to my wolf for advice.

'Are you Alpha?' Leo responds

'What a stupid question, of course I am.'

"Then be Alpha"

'What the hell does that mean?'

He doesn't reply. "Then be Alpha." What the hell does that mean?!

(Anna)

I don't know how long I've been sitting in the shower, long enough for my shower to change from cold to hot and back to cold. My tears have mixed with the water, I'm not even sure I'm crying anymore. I should get up, I can hear Winter willing me to get up, she's lending me her strength, but I don't want it. I want my sadness to weigh me down. I'm carrying it around me like a shroud, like a bubble. I'm using it to protect myself.

It's like an explosion goes off in the bathroom, the door splintering shocks a scream out of me. Fraction is standing in front of me, he's wearing the basketball shorts he fell asleep in, his beard is full and wild like he's been running his hands through it. His hair is standing on end, which makes him look adorable and young. His eyes are switching between green and yellow, his chest is puffing in and out from his deep breathing.

He walks towards me as his eyes settle on green. He carefully opens the shower door and leans down to pick me up. My n\*ked wet b\*dy collides with his chest. I'm not sure if I jump into his arms or if he picks me up. I'm enveloped in a fluffy white towel as he sits me on the counter between the two sinks.

"This has to stop Anna; I can't help if you don't talk to me." He says in a low voice as he pushes the wet hair out of my face. "You need to start talking or at least stop running from me. I won't hurt you Anna, not ever."

As he talks my eyes are drawn to his mouth, I don't know why I do it, I'm like a moth to the flame. I lean in and land a feather light k\*ss on his l\*ps. He doesn't k\*ss me back, so I go in for another, this time I hold my l\*ps to his. I'm just about to pull away when he slants his l\*ps over mine, I feel his tongue caress my l\*ps and I gasp in surprise. As his tongue blends with mine fireworks go off in my head, it's like Christmas, fresh cookies and sunny days all rolled into one giant ball of goodness.

I moan into his mouth and pull him closer with my hands in his hair. I can't get enough of his taste. I try to bring my leg up to his hip as he pushes me away and holds me in place with his hands.

"Damn it, Anna. That's not what I meant!" He sounds mad, the weapon I feel pressing between my thighs says he's anything but mad.

"I need you." I say as I try to reach his mouth again, damn his immovable arms. "I'm your mate and I need you!"

“No!” He moves to stand near the bath out of arms reach, I pull the towel further around me.

“You don’t want me?” I’m starting to cry, Goddess when will I run out of tears?

“Does it look like I don’t want you?” He points to his crotch, “Of course I want you. I just don’t want you to regret it. When I finally have you, I want you to want me as much as I do you. I want you to feel loved and cared for.”

“Then you’re going to be waiting a long time.” I sound bitter and angry. I jump down from the counter and head back to the bed. I curl up under the sheets and start crying all over again. I hear Fraction take his usual spot in the chair next to the bed.

*Next Chapter coming soon.*

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