

## Chapter 21 - Their Bullied and Broken Mate

\*Loki POV\*

The more Melian questioned us about what happened to Lisa, the more frustrated I got. Not because she was asking, but because no one was giving her straight and honest answers. Liam had asked Jason and I to let him handle telling her, but with him pussy footing around, I wasn't going to let that happen.

"Melian, babe, Liam is trying to spare your feelings. I don't want to hurt them, but I think you have the right to know. It was one of your tormentors after all," I started to explain. The look Liam shot me said he wasn't pleased with what I was doing, but I felt deep down that our mate was stronger than what he wanted to believe.

Jason looked at me and said, "Finish telling her Loki. She deserves to know." Liam stood up and walked out of the room. I knew he was pissed and I would deal with that later. I took a deep sigh and continued. " Lisa is just as sick in the head as your family. Maybe worse. We had to use some force to get her to talk, and for her to be honest. She has every intention of running back to your brother, Thomas, and telling him where you, Jason and Rebecca are.

We need to make a decision on how to proceed, and I want you in on that decision. Liam thinks it will be too much for you, but your brother and I think you will be just fine." Her face went stone cold, and she sat up as straight as she could. "So Liam thinks I am weak, that my wolf is weak. That's good to know, because if I were weak I would never have made it out of my previous situation alive. I would have died before Jason made it to me in that warehouse, and I sure as hell wouldn't have made it through my first shift in the condition I am in. So, Liam can fuck the hell straight off with all of that nonsense. I will tell him that when he gets back too," she said. She was disappointed and pissed that Liam had underestimated her.

Just as she finished, he walked back into the room. "Where did you run off to?" I asked. He just shook his head and walked over to Melian. "I'm sorry, I shouldn't have tried to keep things from you. I just don't want you to have to deal with all of that anymore. That is what we are for. To protect you from anything that would ever hurt you. Please forgive me." He said as he kissed her hand.

She nodded her head and pulled away from him. "I do forgive you, I forgive you all. However, don't do it ever again. I may not be strong in body strength, but I am beyond strong-mind wise.

You all need to remember that. I survived horrors that people could only imagine." she explained. Jason shrank in his seat, the guilt all over his face.

She immediately called him out on it, "Jason, stop it! You have been forgiven completely. You shouldn't feel any sort of shame or guilt. You were just as much a victim as I was. You may not have been abused physically, but you were mentally abused. Dad mentally brainwashed all of you boys. You broke the cycle and I am proud of you. So this will be the last time I have to remind you of that." Tears flowed from both of their eyes and Jason moved to her and hugged her tight.

As the siblings sat there comforting one another, Dr. Flores and his surgical crew came in to go over the procedure with Melian and us. The four of us surrounded her to show her she wasn't alone, and listened intently to what the doctor was saying. He then asked if he could speak freely with everyone in the room, and Melian agreed that it was OK. She didn't want secrets from her family. He proceeded to speak, "As you know, Ms. Carter, the breaks aren't the only things we need to repair. The ripping from your vagina to your anus needs repair as well as the anus itself. So that brings me to the question of whether to do all of the repairs together, or do the breaks first and then the other repairs. Melian thought for a moment and looked at me as if asking for guidance. I kissed her forehead and told her that if it were me, I would do it all at once. She then looked at Liam and Jason and they agreed with me.

Rebecca put her arm around her and said, "Let's just get this over with so you can start to fully heal and now that you have Ruby, you will heal faster." Melian sat and thought about what we said and then told Dr. Flores to go ahead and do it all. He patted her on the leg and said that his team would be in shortly to prep her and take her down. After explaining everything, he took his leave. Mel laid down on her pillow and closed her eyes. We started to get up and move away so she could rest, and she asked us not to go. I laid on the bed behind her and pulled her into me. Liam sat next to her and rubbed her leg. She lay there for a moment before opening her eyes again.

"Before I go in for this, we need to decide something about Lisa. She was MY tormentor, and I want a say about what will happen to her, please." She stated. All of us sighed and agreed. "Fine, what do you have in mind? Babe, we can't release her to go back to your old pack. Not right now at least. It's too risky," I told her.

She agreed and thought for a moment and said, "Well, we can't kill her. People will start asking questions. I say we put her in a cell and hold her until I am at 100%. Then we start to prepare ourselves for what will happen once she makes her way back to the pack. I want her to go back and tell them they didn't succeed in ending me that day. Blood moon is stronger and better equipped to handle Mystic Shadows and whatever bullshit they think they will bring." I gave her a big smile and so did Liam.

We agreed to her plan and Liam linked me and said that we had an amazing mate. I nodded to him and then focused my attention on our mate. I couldn't wait to make her ours officially.

Respectfully

## Chapter 22 - Their Bullied and Broken Mate

\*Liam POV\*

Our mate had just been taken down to the surgery room for her procedure. I felt like a total asshole for attempting to keep things from her and was slightly upset with my brother for having the balls to tell her everything. This whole relationship thing is so new to me, and I feel like I am over-compensating on the protection end of it. I just want to keep her protected from any more ugliness happening around her. The goddess knows she has faced enough in her life.

"Penny for your thoughts big brother?" Rebecca asked while nudging my shoulder. I gave her a side smile and blushed a bit. "Ah, you know sis, Melian pretty much floods my thoughts nowadays. I'm not complaining though. At least I have something to take over my mind other than pack duties. Which reminds me, I need you to remind me to let the Elders know that Rico needs a huge bonus on his next paycheck. He has handled things with the pack this whole time, and has done a great job." I told her.

She nodded her head and said she was going to grab us all some coffee and food. As she was walking out the door, Jason yelled for her to grab a pizza for dinner. She laughed and shook her head. I think if Jason could eat pizza every single meal, he would. Loki and Jason had the game on the TV in Mel's room, and I kicked back in one of the recliners and tried to watch with them.

I started to doze off, and Loki smacked my foot. "How can you sleep right now?" he asked. I just closed my eyes again and tried to ignore him. As I tried to relax and keep my mind off of Mel being in surgery, my wolf, Rocko, started to speak to me. "OK human, what are we going to do to avenge our mate? The longer the bastards who abused her live, the more uneasy I get. I wouldn't put anything past these evil assholes." I truly didn't know what to say to him other than once she is better, they would pay with their lives. It seemed to appease him, and I promised him that when the time came he would get an equal opportunity of ending their lives.

The door to Mel's room opened and the strong smell of coffee, pepperoni and onions filled the room. "Four extra large deluxe pizzas and a shit ton of coffee and soda are served," Rebecca joked. Before everyone dug in, she made a plate and sat it aside for Melian. I appreciated that gesture, because once we started eating, these pizzas would be devoured in no time.

Werewolves have one hell of an appetite. We all sat around this little table eating and having humorous conversation. Dr. Flores came in and informed us that she was out of surgery, and in recovery. He told us that he had run into a few complications when trying to repair her rib, but it was now the way it should be. He informed us that now that she had her wolf, it would help in her healing, but he wanted her to stay for at least another two days. Man, that was not going to

go over well with Mel. She would listen to his orders though, even if she did complain a little. "When can we see her?" Jason asked.

Dr. Flores informed us that she would be in recovery for monitoring for at least another hour, and then would be brought back here to her room. We thanked him for coming in and telling us, and he left the room. I stood up and followed him out, "Dr. Flores? May I speak to you for a moment in private?" I called out to him. "Of course, Alpha. What can I do for you?" he replied. "Well, um, you said that her vagina area needed more repair than the other area. What did you mean?" I asked.

He led me into a small consultation room and we sat down on the chairs that were there. "Alpha, I don't know how far into her condition I can go before it breaks confidentiality and privacy. Seeing how you are one of her mates, and our Alpha, it is probably fine. When she was.....um, raped, they brutally damaged the inner lining and opening to the vagina. We had to stitch the tears and reconstruct her opening. It will heal and be fine, but once she is ready to mate again, it will need to be done with tender care or everything we did will be undone." He explained. I could feel my face getting flushed due to anger, but I nodded to let him know I understood.

"One more question, will any of that affect her ability to carry a pup or conceive?" He gave a slight chuckle and patted me on the knee. "Alpha, she will be able to conceive and carry as many pups as you three and the moon goddess seem fit." He said with a smile. I thanked him and went back to her room to wait for them to bring her back.

I finished my pizza and helped clean up the mess. Alarms started going off and I was linked by Rico to let me know that we were under attack, but they weren't rogues. It was Jason and Melian's family and the warriors from Mystic Shadows. Loki looked up at me and asked, "What do we do? Are they attacking or threatening to attack?" I shook my head and said we would go and find out. I slipped my shoes on and told Rebecca to stay there if Mel came back before we got back.

She assured me she would and the three of us ran out of the hospital. When we got to the gates, there was a lot of shouting and a few people fighting. Using my Alpha voice, I demanded everyone to be silent and stop fighting. "What in the actual fuck is going on here? Is there something I can help you gentleman with?" I asked. I looked at Jason and he spoke up, "Brothers, father. I don't know why you are here. Would you care to explain?" One of his brothers, I am assuming, Eric replied, "We came for what is ours. We have received word that you are holding our sister hostage. She disappeared and we thought she was dead. It appears you have had her all along."

Jason scoffed and said, "She isn't being held hostage. She is here for protection from you bastards. I disown my family name, and pledge my loyalties to Blood Moon. Melian and I both severed ties with Mystic Shadows, and the Carter family. We now ask politely that you respectfully fuck off!"

Standing up to monsters

## Chapter 23 - Their Bullied and Broken Mate

\*Jason POV\*

I am standing here face to face with my dad and brothers and all I can feel is pure hatred. I am trying so hard to keep my composure and not shift into my wolf, Edward, and rip them to shreds. I watched as Rico, Loki and Liam moved closer to my family, and was prepared to back them up if need be.

I walked up behind them, and made it known that I would back them up if shit went down. "You heard what your brother said. No one is being held captive here. As a matter of fact, this is now Melian's home as she is our mate. Therefore, she is the Luna here and you have no claim on her any longer. Any other questions before you are forced off of our territory?" Loki said.

My dad stepped forward and said, "Alpha Young, forgive us if it seems as if we questioned your intentions where my daughter is concerned. We have thought for the past couple of weeks that she was dead. We had heard from a reliable source that she was here, and we just wanted to see for ourselves out of concern if that was true." I burst out laughing, and everyone turned to me.

I threw my hands up as if to say I was OK, and said, "You have got to be shitting me right now! You? Concerned? Give me a fucking break right now! You ALL did unthinkable things to Melian. She has just come out of surgery because of the horrendous things you, Eric and Todd did to her during your last meeting with her. I found her on the dirty floor of that nasty warehouse where her blood was everywhere. Tell me brothers. which one of your DNA will show up on the rape kit that was taken from her? Dad? Yours maybe? You incestually raped your daughter or sister. It makes me sick to be related to you!"

Liam placed his hand on my shoulder, and I turned to look at him. I had tears streaming down my face and I was a mess. I nodded at him and had to walk away for a moment. Liam took over since he was the most level-headed of the three of us, and Rico stayed at the forefront with him. I stood back with Loki, who was trying to calm me down. I assured him I was OK, and we listened to the exchange between Liam, Rico and my estranged family.

"Beta Carter, I assure you that Melian is fine, and she is safe. She cannot be released to you because she has just had procedures to repair damage from a brutal attack that your son, Jason, states came from you and his brothers, Eric and Todd. Melian has backed up his description of events. As we stated before, she is mine and Loki's mate. So it is against her best interest right now to see you or any of those she has claimed participated in abuse all of her life. This includes you, your sons, your wife, and the Alpha and Luna of Mystic Shadows. So, once again, I am going to ask nicely for you, your boys and these warriors to leave my territory. We can handle

this the right way, or the hard way. You can have your Alpha contact me or my brother for a meeting to discuss matters further," Liam stated.

A smirk crossed his face and Loki, Rico and I couldn't help but giggle. He turned his back to walk over to where we were standing and that turned out to be a mistake. My brother Thomas attacked him from behind. Loki instantly shifted and attacked Thomas. As they were fighting, my dad intervened. "Thomas! Shift back right now!!" he yelled.

Rico stepped in between Loki and Thomas and told Loki to shift back. The two men stood glaring at each other, and I noticed Thomas was bleeding profusely from his shoulder. Liam stood up and looked at both men. "Loki, I want you to go back to the hospital and get checked out. While you are there, check on our mate." Liam demanded. "Bu..." Loki started to reply, and Liam held up his hand. "Please, Loki. I will be fine here." Giving a low growl, Loki turned and stomped back towards the hospital.

Gamma Nick followed behind to make sure Loki was OK and went to his destination. He then turned to my dad and brother and said, "Attacking an Alpha on his own territory is an act of war, Beta Carter. I could easily take your son in and put him in our cells and let him rot there until I made a decision about what his punishment would be. It would most likely be death. However, I am willing to let it go....this time...if you take your family of misfits, the warriors you came with and yourself, and get the hell off of my land. If you choose not to, your son will be taken to the cells, and you and the rest will die right here. I am NOT playing around anymore." The look on my dad's face was of pure anger.

He yelled at my brothers and the others to head back to Mystic Shadows, but informed Liam and Rico that this wasn't over and that Alpha Scott would be in contact. He then turned and left and Liam, being a smartass, started to wave at them and yelled, "Ya'll come back when you can stay awhile, alright?" Rico and I started to laugh and that caused Liam to start laughing. He came up to me and pulled me in a bear hug, and said, "Bro, I am so proud of you and I know Melian would be too. I know it couldn't have been easy." I shook my head and told him that it was a lot easier than I thought it would be.

We started to walk back towards the hospital when Loki linked Liam. "Liam, you guys need to get back here NOW! Nadine was there with Mel when we got back and put something in her IV. Mel started to convulse and set off the alarms on her monitors. Dr. Flores is working on Mel right now, and Nick took Nadine to the cells. Where do you want to meet me?" Liam closed the link and he was furious. He told Rico and me about what had happened and I told him that I would go to the hospital with Rebecca and Rico and he should meet Loki at the cells. We all shifted and started to run towards our destinations. I cannot believe this is happening right now.

Traitorous intentions

## Chapter 24 - Their Bullied and Broken Mate

\*Lisa POV\*

I can't believe they are keeping me captive. All because they are afraid I am going to release the whereabouts of their precious mate and sister. If their little mate only knew the things that we have done together, she would probably walk away from them and she would be destroyed. At the same time, though, if anyone else found out, I would be banished from my pack and theirs. So this is a secret I will keep for now. I heard a door slam and the sound of heels walking towards my cell.

"Lisa? Where are you child?" I heard Nadine call out. "Auntie Nadine, I'm here. Please help me get out of here." I beckoned. She came to my cell and held my hands through the bars. "Child, I warned you to stay away from them and their mate. You have brought hell fire on yourself. I don't know how to get you out of this one. Your parents have been calling, and I don't know what to say to them, and I'm running out of excuses," she said with tears in her eyes.

I told her it wasn't her fault and that I would figure out a way to get out of this cell. She asked if I had eaten and I told her that they had brought me food, but the smell in this place would make me wretch if I even tried to eat. She nodded in understanding, and pulled a chair closer to the cell. "I can't stay long, Lisa. I'm surprised the guards let me in at all, but I told them it was to make sure you were alright so that I wasn't fully lying to your parents. If the twins find me here, it won't be good. They are already on edge because she had surgery today." She continued.

I started to cry from the feeling of being helpless, and I asked her if she would do something for me. She gave me a strange look and told me it depended on what it was. I lowered my head and took a deep breath and replied, "I need you to help me get out of here. Then, I want you to put a concoction of wolfsbane and silver in her IV line. Not enough to kill her, but to make them think she is dead. Once she is unconscious and alone, I will take her from the hospital and back to her family. Before you do all this, I need you to call Beta Carter and tell him she is here." The look of horror on her face said she was hesitant. Shaking her head, she agreed.

She already had a disdain for her nephews because she felt her son, David, deserved to be Alpha. He was killed by rogues not long after the twins took over the position. She had always felt that if David was given the Alpha title, the rogues would never have gotten to him. She was probably right, but no one ever knows why things truly happen. Fate put her son in the rogues' path, not the twins. She went to the control room and grabbed a set of cell keys and came and opened my cell door. She led me to a maintenance hall that had a service door and told me to wait until she opened the door that she would exit.

When the alarm went off on the door she opened, I had to go out the door that she showed me. It led to a patch of woods I could use for cover until I could find my way off Blood Moon territory. I had to be as quick as I could in my human form, because I couldn't shift. They had given me small doses of wolfsbane to keep my wolf, Tammy, at bay. She had found me a pair of prison clothes so that I wasn't almost naked, and I dressed quickly. She hugged me and told me to call her as soon as I was safe, and promptly walked away. I waited until I heard the alarm go off and raced out the service door and straight into the forest. I ran as fast as my legs would carry me, and prayed that none of the patrols spotted me.

\*Nadine POV\*

That day leaving the cell house, I instantly regretted my decision to agree to help Lisa. Not so much about setting her free, because the reason they were holding her was stupid, but about putting the Wolfsbane and silver in that girl's IV. She was my nephew's mate, which made her family, but in retrospect, they hadn't been my family for a long time.

By blood, yes, but I was outcast after my son led rogues into the territory trying to escape them. He wasn't the only one murdered that day, there were also 25 others killed. When I defended David's actions, I was never treated the same. That is why I am helping her. I have no loyalty to them any more.

To make things worse, my sister Roxy was their favorite. Roxy and I had a very rocky relationship, always have. I knew I couldn't ask her for help, but I knew she kept doses of wolfsbane and silver in her office at the hospital. She was head administrator, as well as an OB/GYN. Dr. Flores took care of most things, and Roxy was a backup and delivered the babies.

I went straight home and called Beta Carter. He told me he would be here by the evening, and I waited at home until I heard from him that they had arrived. I left my house and moved with haste over to the hospital and went to Roxy's office. Thankfully, she wasn't there. Taking the cabinet keys out of her desk drawer, I retrieved the vials I needed.

I picked up the syringe from her desk and quickly added the liquids from the vials to it. I placed the vials back in the cabinet and locked them back, replacing the keys in the drawer in her desk. I snuck out of her office and asked the desk attendant where Melian's room was, and she gladly gave it to me. I moved through the halls until I found her room. Room 236.

I opened the door and walked in. The smell of fresh antiseptic filled my nostrils and I tried not to gag. There she was, still out from the anesthesia. For a moment, I questioned my decision and started to turn to leave. I heard voices coming from down the hall and recognized one as Loki. I quickly grabbed the syringe and started to administer the concoction. She started to convulse, making it harder to keep the syringe in the IV port. I was almost finished when her door opened.

Loki was on me in a flash, and Nick ran to get a doctor. Loki threw me in a chair, commanding me to stay put, and went to check on his mate. I could see him linking to someone, who I was certain was Liam. I was in deep shit, and it was my own fault. I started to cry hysterically as the doctor and some nurses came in to check on her.



"I'm so sorry Loki, I ....." I started to plead. He walked up to me and smacked my face. "What have you done, auntie? Why did you do that???" What did you give her???" He screamed. I told him what I had done, and even told him why. He smacked me again and told me that I would regret my decision. Little did he know, I already did.

Trouble brewing

## Chapter 25 - Their Bullied and Broken Mate

\*Loki POV\*

I couldn't believe my own aunt had betrayed us. Nadine had been bitter towards us ever since we took over as Alphas, but I never in a million years thought she would pull a stunt like this. Liam, Jason and Rico should be here shortly because I linked Liam as soon as I saw what was going on. It was taking everything I had not to destroy my own flesh and blood.

Thank the goddess that there were doctors and my aunt Roxy in the room trying to help Melian. Rico and Liam ran into the room and Rico and Nick had to hold Liam back. I have never seen my twin so pissed off. "You fucking bitch! You are dead to us, do you hear me???" DEAD!" Liam yelled. My aunt Roxy walked over to Liam and tried to calm him down, and it took a few minutes, but when she made him listen to Mel's heart monitor and how it was racing, he started to calm down. Jason called Rebecca and asked her to bring in some coffee and ice water.

I requested a watermelon redbull instead. I was drained both physically and mentally. We all sat down near Nadine and watched her cry and beg us to forgive her. "Nadine, your best bet right now would be to just be quiet. None of us want to hear your pleading. You will be punished to the highest extent, family or not, for attempted murder of your Luna." I warned her.

Jason was seething, and had to walk out of the room to cool off. I looked at Liam and asked, "Do you think the Carters and Mystic Shadows will come back unannounced again?" He chuckled and nodded his head. "I'm sure of it. They aren't the smartest people. I wouldn't be surprised if they never returned to Mystic Shadows and were just waiting to 'surprise' us," he replied.

I darted my eyes over to Rico and Nick who were standing by the door and sent them a link to ask if they could check on Lisa and then add extra patrols along all borders. I also wanted 5 of our elites to go into the nearest town and check for any sign of our mates' family and pack. They both assured me it would be handled and left immediately. I filled Liam in and he thanked me for acting on that. We were both facing our mate's bed, and the doctors were preparing to take her down for a blood transfusion with the hopes that whatever Nadine administered would flush out.

Aunt Roxy came and spoke with us, and assured us she would be just fine. "The whole syringe didn't get emptied into her IV, which is a good thing. The wolfsbane interacted with the anesthesia that was still in her system, so that's what caused the seizures. I want you boys to get some rest. Put that old hag in the cells and deal with her later. You won't be any good for Melian if you are exhausted," she smiled. I called Nick and asked if he could come back to get Nadine and take her to the cells before leaving for patrol, and he didn't answer. I quickly called Rico, who answered and sounded panicked.

"Yes Alpha?" he asked. I told him what I needed done, and he replied, "Uh, Alpha, we have a bit of a problem. Lisa isn't in her cell, and, by the strength of her scent, she hasn't been in there for many hours." I asked him to send Nick immediately and disconnected the call. Jason and Rebecca came in just in time to see me lunge and my aunt. Jason and Liam pulled me off of her and she was screaming for help. Liam told her to shut her mouth and asked me what was going on.

I told him what Rico had told me and if Jason, Rebecca and myself weren't standing between them, he would have killed Nadine right then and there. "Where is Lisa, Nadine? Don't bother lying." He yelled at her. She was sobbing and having trouble speaking. Liam again asked her the same question, and finally she said that she had released her so that she could go home. That she felt that we were wrong about holding her hostage just because she knew our mate's family.

Jason turned to my aunt and asked, "Ma'am, do you know fuck all about my family? I don't think you do, because if you did you wouldn't have let her go to them. They are far from good people looking for their daughter. They are the reasons she is in the shape she is now. They beat her, raped her, and left her for dead in an abandoned warehouse. Now please tell me how good they are." The horror that spread across Nadine's face said it all. "I...I...I didn't know. Lisa said they were worried sick about her, and just wanted to find her. What have I done? I am so very sorry boys." she mumbled. Nick had finally come for her and immediately took her to the cell house.

I was never so happy to see someone go. I filled in Jason about the suspicions that Liam and I had, and he fully agreed. Jason said he wanted to go into town with the elite, because he would know exactly what and who to look for. Rebecca protested, but agreed in the end. She was worried about him, but understood. I linked our head warrior, Timmy, and told him to gather our warriors and meet us at the training field. The rest was going to have to wait. There were more important matters to handle at the moment.

We went and sat next to Mel on her bed and took in her scent. Touching her sent a calm through me that I needed more than anything. To think I was going to fight this bond at the beginning was the dumbest thing I could have ever done. I knew that she was about to change Liam and I's world for the better. I just hoped she would let us do the same for her.

Preparing to attack

## Chapter 26 - Their Bullied and Broken Mate

\*Lisa POV\*

I don't know how long I had been running for, and all I knew was the light at the end of the tunnel was closely approaching. I could see the lights of the closest town up ahead, and started to walk along the side of the road. I was far enough away from Blood Moon that I should be OK until they figured out I was gone.

The guards barely checked on the inmates unless they were feeding us. Finally getting into town, I found a person willing to let me use their cell phone. I called Thomas and he didn't answer, so I called Eric. "Eric, don't hang up, it's Lisa. I have some important information for you. I know where your sister and Jason are. She isn't dead at all, and to top it all off, she found her mates." I told him. "She what? She's where? How do you know all of this? Lisa?" he asked.

I went into full detail of how I saw Jason and had yelled at him about how you guys were looking for him and he told me Melian was dead. I felt something was off, so when I saw Blood Moon's Alphas, Jason and some others pushing a wheelchair with a screaming girl in it, I followed them. They went into the forest behind the hospital, and I saw a magnificent wolf. The girl had just had her first shift, and her wolf had a powerful aura, but she was injured, so she shifted back to her human form. That human was none other than Melian." The other end of the line was silent for a while and I called his name to see if he was still there. He replied, "I'm here. Just trying to process everything you just said. Thank you for informing us. I'll tell my dad and we will head that way. Where are you at now?" "I am in a town called Nehalem, it's about 5 miles west of Blood Moon.

I have no where to stay though," I told him. He asked for the nearest hotel and said he would reserve me a room and be there by morning. He said he would tell the clerk to allow me to order room service on his account and that I was not to leave, and then he disconnected the call. I thanked the nice man who let me use his phone and went straight to the hotel.

After checking in, I went into the boutique that was inside the lobby. I knew Eric would be fine if I charged for some fresh clothes and toiletries, and I would make sure to pay him back. After making the purchase, I went to my room and took a shower. The hot water felt so good running over my body, and the smell of vanilla and coconut from the body wash filled the room. I will never take being clean for granted again. I ordered my food and turned on the TV.

Once my food arrived, I ate quickly and then snuggled into bed. I passed out while watching a movie and didn't wake up until almost noon the next day. I thought of calling Thomas or Eric to see what was going on, but decided against it. Last thing I wanted was to piss them off. So I

popped the TV back on and watched some true crime documentaries. I was starting to get bored so I ordered some lunch and sat out on the balcony watching the ocean until the food arrived.

As I was relaxing, I saw 6 black SUVs pull into the parking lot. As the men filed out of the car, I saw that it was Eric and the others. I quickly changed out of my pajamas and into something more suitable, and waited for them to come to the door. Once they knocked, I answered the door and was nearly run over by almost 30 men. "Whoa, person standing here." I informed them.

After noticing their demeanor, I probably should watch my smart mouth. Thomas instructed one of his warriors to go and reserve 8 more rooms and renew the reservation on my room as well. He then turned to me and asked, "Tell me, do you know the weak spots on the Blood Moon's borders?" I shook my head and told him other than the main gate, I only knew the way I came out. It wasn't as heavily guarded or patrolled, but it wasn't completely a weak spot either.

He raked his hands over his face and sat on the sofa. Eric was leaned against the wall with a scowl on his face and the other brothers and their dad were sitting silently around the room. "Would one of you mind telling me what happened?" Michael looked up at me and said, "Well, they confirmed she was there. We saw Jason, who basically told us to fuck off, and then the Alpha's demanded we leave their property. They told us we would have to fight them to get our sister back." I mouthed the word 'OH' and then asked if they knew I had escaped. Michael just shrugged his shoulders.

"Dad, I need you to call Alpha Scott and have him send more warriors. If they leave within the hour, they could be here by nightfall. I think a surprise for Blood Moon tonight is in order. If we let her stay there any longer, it's only going to be worse for us," Thomas bellowed. Beta Carter nodded his head and excused himself and left to make the call. The warrior sent to reserve the rooms returned and Thomas told Eric, Todd and Michael to go figure out room arrangements for everyone.

Eric asked him why he couldn't do it, and he replied that he was already in the room he was sleeping in. Eric chuckled and shook his head. Everyone but Thomas left and I asked him where I was supposed to stay now. He grabbed me by the hair and kissed me hard on the lips, sending waves of electricity through my body. "You will stay where I tell you to stay, and that will be right here with me, mate." HOLY SHIT! I was Thomas' second chance mate.

What happened?

## Chapter 27 - Their Bullied and Broken Mate

\*Melian POV\*

The room is so quiet, except for the alarm going off on my monitor. I open my eyes and it's dark outside and the lights are dim, and the room is empty. Where is everyone? I searched for the nurse button but I couldn't find it. It didn't matter though, within just a few minutes a woman that I recognized as the twin's aunt, Roxy, came in. "Ah, you're awake. Here, let me turn this thing off for you." She smiled.

"How are you feeling sweetheart?" she asked. I tried to sit up, but the pain was too intense. "Like I'd been hit with a sledgehammer." I tried to laugh. "Could you possibly help me sit up a little, please?" I asked her. She pushed the buttons on the side of the bed and the back raised up. I told her that was good, and she happily nodded.

"Ma'am, I'm sorry to be a bother, but where is everyone? Usually everyone is in my room," I asked, with a half-hearted laugh. She sat beside me, and rubbed my hand. "There has been a lot that has happened since you went down to surgery. Your family showed up with warriors from your old pack, and they wanted to take you from here.

The boys refused and demanded them to leave. They think that your brothers and the rest will attack when we least expect it to get to you. There was also the incident after you were wheeled back here after your first procedure involving my sister, but I will let the boys tell you about that." she answered. She was very sweet and comforting. I wish I had someone like her when I was growing up.

My mates and Rebecca were very lucky. We sat and chatted for a long time, and we were both startled when we heard alarms sounding. Roxy's eyes glazed over and I knew someone was sending her a mind link. "Sweetheart, we are going to have to go to another area of the hospital. Your family and pack are attacking us at our western border, and we need to make sure you are safe." She told me as she walked to my door and yelled at someone that was outside in the hall.

A young nurse came rushing in, and started to adjust my bed to be moved. Dr. Flores came in soon after and the three of them rolled my bed, IV pole and monitors out into the hall. We entered a service elevator and went down to the basement of the hospital. Dr. Flores was moving so quickly that I felt like I was driving a race car. It was making my head dizzy, so I closed my eyes. He pushed me into a room at the end of a long hallway and the three of them followed.

"Now, let's get you hooked up and new IV bags going. Hopefully, we won't have to stay down here long." Roxy reassured me. As soon as they hooked up my pain drip, I started to doze off again. A pounding on the door caught my attention and I could hear Rebecca screaming to let her in. The nurse opened the lock and pushed the door open to allow Rebecca and Trinity to enter. I was so happy to see them both. "Rebecca, what's happening?" I asked.

She was trembling from adrenaline and was having a hard time getting her words out. She held up a finger signaling me to give her a moment, and sat in a chair beside my bed. Roxy gave her some water and she sat there calming herself and sipping the water. After collecting herself, she turned to me and put her hand on my leg.

"We are under attack sis. Mystic Shadows and the Carter family have breached our western borders and are out for blood. They want you back, no matter the cost. They claim that you are disabled and not in your right mind, therefore unable to make your own decisions," she explained. With all the pain meds, I was finding it hard to follow what she was saying. "They want me back? They left me for dead. Why bother me now?" I asked. "The only reason I can think of is you can put them away for a long, long time if people find out what they have done to you.

The royal council will definitely disband Mystic Shadows and punish Alpha Scott. More than likely with death. Same for your dad and brothers, and if they can prove Candace knew of their doings or participated in any way, she will perish too." Rebecca explained. I closed my eyes and nodded my head, letting her know I understood, but I was too tired to respond. I eventually dozed off, and fell into a familiar dream.

I was walking through a dark forest towards a silvery light. I could hear a waterfall in the distance, and the slow babbling of a brook. The smell of wild flowers and wet earth filled the air. As I came into the silvery clearing, there she sat on a tree stump. The moon goddess herself. "Welcome back my child. I'm sorry we are meeting again under less than happy circumstances. I brought you here to let you know that things are about to change in your life, and it will be hard for you. I need you to trust me when I tell you that it is OK to feel uneasy, but you need to allow yourself to feel the depth of love your mates have for you. Ruby has informed me of your hesitance and your fears. I'm here to tell you that you are and will be safe as long as your mates are bonded with you," She said.

With that, she kissed my forehead and told me to open my eyes. When my eyes opened, I was back in my room with everyone there. Did I dream of being in the safe room? However, looking at my mates, my brother and the others, I knew my answer. All of them were covered in blood and looked exhausted. Roxy was tending to Loki's arm, giving him stitches, and Rebecca was mending a cut across Jason's face. Liam, Nick and Rico were being checked over by a couple of nurses, and I couldn't help but feel a tinge of jealousy when the nurse was touching Liam.

Nick was the first one to notice I was awake and bellowed, "Welcome back to the land of the living, Luna." I smiled and tried to speak, but my throat was parched. One of the nurses brought me some ice water and I sipped on the cold liquid. It felt amazing on my scratchy throat. After drinking half the glass, I finally was able to thank Nick. Once the nurse was done with Liam, he was promptly on his feet making his way to me. Cupping my face, he bent over to kiss my lips and placed his forehead on mine. "I'm so happy to see those gorgeous green eyes. You have been out for quite a while." I gave him a confused look and said it had only been a few hours, and he looked at me and said, "Babe, it's been more like 22 hours."

I looked at Rebecca and she nodded in agreement with Liam. I looked back at Liam and asked the big question, "What happened during the attack? Did you kill them?"

Marked

## Chapter 28 - Their Bullied and Broken Mate

\*Liam POV\*

I was so happy to have Mel awake, but dreaded this conversation. "No, baby. Not all of them. I'm sorry. However, your dad and brothers, Eric, Michael and Todd are in the cells. Your brother, Thomas and the Alpha got away. They will be taken care of though, I promise you. We were also able to put Lisa back in custody as well. While they attacked us, they sent her to get you. One of our warriors was able to catch her before she made it to the hospital doors though." I told her.

The look of disappointment that they weren't dead was evident. She closed her eyes and whispered, "It's OK, I'm sure you all did your best, and I'm just thankful that you are all still alive. What will happen to them now?" I told her that we would have to contact the Royal Council, and they would have to do a surprise investigation into Mystic Shadows, and that the pack would probably be disbanded. I also told her that we had sent warriors into Nehalem to search for Thomas and Alpha Scott. If found, they will be captured and placed in cells with the others.

She seemed satisfied with what I said, and asked me to lie with her for a while. I lay next to her the best I could in the small hospital bed, and she snuggled her head next to mine. "Liam, can I ask you a question and you be 10000% honest with me?" Melian asked. "Of course you can." I answered. She opened her eyes and looked up at me as she whispered, " I want this to work with the three of us, but I am going to need patience and time when it comes to mating. Is that going to be a deal breaker?" I was shocked that she even asked that question, and I linked Loki and asked him to come over to us.

He came and sat on the other side of Mel, and I asked her to repeat that question to Loki. She did as I asked, but this time tears fell from her eyes. He bent over and kissed her on the forehead, and then answered her for the both of us. "Melian, babe, we will wait as long as you need. We already love you, and couldn't imagine our lives without you in it. So, please don't worry about that. We will go at whatever pace you need, OK? Now, I have a question." She breathed a sigh of relief and nodded her head at him. She looked at me for reassurance and I pecked her on the lips to give it to her.

She asked Loki to ask his question, and he replied, "How do you feel about marking each other soon? With all the craziness going on, having that connection to each other is important." Looking at us both, she smiled probably the biggest smile I have ever seen from her, and answered his question. "I am alright with marking each other, especially since I was certain you would both reject me over the mating situation. Ruby agrees that marking each other is important

right now. When do you want to do it?" Loki linked me to say that today wasn't the day, because he knew that was my answer.

I chuckled because he knew me so well, and I told her within the next couple of days. That way she could get her strength back. Marking takes a lot out of you, and I didn't want it to cause issues. As we were discussing everything, Rebecca approached us and cleared her throat. "Guys, can I fill you in on a little information? Marking her would only help strengthen her, and would probably help her heal." she informed us, then asked us if we wanted some coffee or anything from the cafe in the hospital. Mel's eyes lit up and 'Hazelnut coffee and a pumpkin muffin!' left her lips. Rebecca gave her a salute and said "Yes Ma'am!" and left the room.

I asked Loki and Mel both if they were OK with going ahead and marking each other, and both agreed. Loki said we could do it after Mel had her coffee and muffin. That way, if she were to fall asleep afterwards, she would have food in her belly. We agreed and Jason joined us for some conversation. In no time, he had Mel belly laughing at the things he was saying. The sound of her laugh was contagious, and warmed my soul. Rebecca returned with our drinks and you would have thought it was Christmas for Mel. She happily took her coffee and muffin and took a big sniff of her coffee. "O-M-G this smells like pure heaven. Thank you so much."

After finishing her muffin, she seemed in better spirits. Jason and Rebecca left to check on Trinity, and that left just the three of us in the room. I heard Mel giggle and looked over at her. "So, are we going to do this or what?" she asked with a huge smile. Loki bent over and pulled her into a deep kiss, and she winced from pain.

"Sorry, the jaw is still a little sore, but doc said it's healed nicely since I got Ruby." He apologized to her and she pulled him back into the kiss. She went between him and I, kissing us passionately. I told her to mark us first, just in case both of us marking her at the same time caused her to pass out. She had me come in closer so she could get to my neck, and nuzzled her nose into the crease of it. While she was inhaling my scent and lightly kissing my neck, I suddenly felt a sharp pain as her fangs broke the skin.

It quickly went from pain to the most amazing feeling I had ever felt. She licked where she marked me and then gave me a kiss and turned to Loki. Doing the same to him as she had just done to me. She asked us to sit her up and we did, then proceeded to kiss her neck and, at the same time, placed our mark on each side of her neck. She moaned in pleasure and then went limp. I started to panic before she started to laugh. "What's so funny?" I asked her. She opened her eyes and looked slightly embarrassed. She then answered, "Is it common for someone to orgasm while being marked without sex?" Loki and I looked at each other and then we smelled it, she had cum during her marking. It instantly made us both hard. I went to answer her question but she had fallen asleep.

"Loki, I know we promised to be patient, but with her arousal smelling like that, it's going to be very hard." He laughed and ran his hand through his hair and agreed with me. We laid beside our mate the best we could and rested with her. This bond we had was even stronger now. Right now we rest, later we leash hell on her tormentors.



## Chapter 29 - Their Bullied and Broken Mate

\*Beta Carter POV\*

DAMMIT!! How could we be so careless? Thankfully, Thomas and Scott got away with what warriors we had left. Our egos definitely got the best of us this time. I sat quietly on the cot in the cell I was in, and listened to those around me. You learn a lot by just listening when others think you are not. For example, since being here, I have learned that only 1 of my sons is close by. That son is Todd. I have also learned that our head warrior, Nathaniel, is also in a cell close by me.

As is that little wench, Lisa, who turns out to be my son, Thomas' 2nd chance mate. I find it ironic that the moon goddess would grace any of us with a second chance mate. Yet he gifted my son, the worst of them all, with one. She did also grant me a second chance, but it was before I had gone completely off the deep end. My second was alright, but she never came close to comparing to my Dru. Drucilla was my first mate, and the mother to all 6 of my kids. She was also my first love. I was never the same after she passed away. I became more and more cruel to my only daughter, and brainwashed my boys to join in on her torment. Constance joins in on the torment, but she isn't as bad as the rest of us.

"Dad, what the hell are we going to do?" I heard Todd yell. "Dad!" I stretched out on the cot and told him to shut up because I needed to think. I hope Thomas and Scott are smarter about our rescue than they were about this damned attack. Goddess knows I told them this was a bad idea, but my loyalty to Scott had me following him anyway.

Sometimes, I feel like I should retire, but I remember that the only one of my boys who even wants the Beta position is Michael, the youngest of the boys. He isn't mature enough to handle it yet, and he wants to wait until Scott's son, Adam, takes over as Alpha next year. "Mr. Carter?" I hear that little bitch whine. "Yes, Lisa? This had better be important," I told her. "It is, sir. Um, I know the twins well, and I know they are calling the Royal Council to get involved. If we aren't rescued soon, we are all going to die for our punishment," she sobbed. "How do you know that? What have you heard?" I demanded her to answer.

"One of the guards who brought me down here told me that I wouldn't be leaving the cell house alive once the Royal Council arrived." Lisa explained. I lay quiet, contemplating what our next move should be, or if we should make a move at all. "Nathaniel?" I called out. He quickly answered, letting me know he was there. "Do you know where they took my other boys and the rest?" I asked. "Yes, Beta Carter, they are in the hall closest to the main guards office." he

replied. With somewhat finding comfort that the boys are too far away, I decided to try and take a nap. I needed to rest my brain and body for at least a few hours so that I could think straight. It was going to be hard with the stench of urine and feces permeating the area, and the heat of the building making it so much worse, but I needed to try.

I was finally sleeping peacefully when the sound of something hitting the cell door woke me up. I sat up to see what it was with my eyes still half closed and saw a group of people I was dreading speaking with. "Wakey Wakey daddy in law!" One of the twins bellowed in a mocking voice. I think it was Loki, because of the hair, but I wasn't certain. Rubbing my face with my hands, I groaned. Fuck my life right now. "To what do I owe the pleasure of you asshats being my wake up call?" I asked and then chuckled.

My son, Jason, came into view and said, "Good morning dad. We have come to ruin your day." The smirk on his face made me want to rip his face off. He looked just like his mother's father. Zeke never liked me and even the reminder of his face made me sick. I shook my head at their antics and told them that whatever they were going to do, get it over with. The twin's Beta, happily strutted into the cell and informed me that I was going to be shackled and taken for questioning, and that if I tried 'anything funny' he would kill me on the spot. I stuck my hands out in front of me and he grabbed my wrist, and poked me with something.

I looked down and saw that it was a syringe. "What the fuck? What did you just do?" I asked. He laughed and replied, "You didn't honestly think we would allow you any type of ability to use your wolf on us, did you? Come on David, we aren't as dumb as you look." Dammit! I guess it's time to just be silent. I was pretty much dragged out of the room by the Beta and a man I assume was the Gamma. The sound of my son and pack warriors pleading for me to help them had to fall on deaf ears this time. I didn't want them to depend on me to save their lives, they were on their own. I glared at Todd as I walked past his cell, trying to convey that he had better not snitch.

I slightly shook my head at him, and he nodded and he understood. Todd and Eric would be the last to snitch because they were as heavily involved as I was in the last attack on Melly. Michael is the one I worry about. He likes to be a part of the abuse from time to time, but he also has days that he 'feels bad' for what we have done to her. That is a sign he is weak, and to save his ass he would rat us out in a heartbeat.

I was pushed into this room that had nothing in it but a barber-style chair, a metal table, a cart with some tools for torture, and 4 desk chairs. The smell of disinfectant and bleach is overwhelming and causes my stomach to churn. "Sit your ass down, David. We have a list of questions that need answers." Loki said with a stone face. I turned to glare at him and spat on him instead. That was a mistake.

Promises made

## Chapter 30 - Their Bullied and Broken Mate

\*Loki POV\*

It's 5am and I open my eyes to see the most beautiful woman I have ever seen staring back at me. "Good Morning," she smiles. I kissed her nose and whispered, "Morning gorgeous, sleep well?" She nodded her head and tried to snuggle in close to me. She told me Liam had left to go get us some coffee, and her some orange juice. I asked why they were up so early, and she replied with the fact that they hadn't slept much. She was dealing with pain, and Liam was just restless. She asked me if we could talk until Liam got back, and I nodded. "What do you want to talk about?" I asked her.

Her face took on a serious composure and she put her good hand on my cheek, and then looked me directly in the eyes and said, "Loki, my fearless man, I want you to make me a promise. I want you to promise me they will not get a fast death. I want it to be slow and painful. I hate feeling so bitter and vengeful, but I can't help it in this situation. That is not my character, but babe, I can't live my life knowing they got off easy with something quick. I was beaten, physically and emotionally abused, and now.....raped for 13 years of my life. Giving 13 seconds to die doesn't seem enough."

Tears were now streaming down her face and she was trembling. "I kissed her hand and put my finger under her chin. "My love, I will make them pay for as long as you want me to. I don't even think Liam will fight me much about it. However, we can only do what we can until the Royal Council gets here. Then, it becomes their decision about what happens to them. They will, however, let you plead your case, and will probably ask your recommendation on what their punishments should be." I explained.

She gave me a slight smile and nodded her head. Liam had come back into her room and was instantly alarmed because she was in tears. I put my hand up and gave him a knowing look. I linked him and told him what had happened, and he agreed that it was whatever she wanted. These monsters had done this to HER, and we were going to take revenge on them for HER. She sat up and took her juice and gave small moans as she sipped it. I didn't know watching someone drink juice was so erotic.

I gave a little laugh and she looked at me all confused. I shook my head and told her that I was just happy she was enjoying her juice. Liam had also brought him and I breakfast burritos and Melian some scrambled eggs with tomatoes and spinach mixed in them. I had never seen anyone so happy to have scrambled eggs before. "How did you know I liked my eggs this way? All that is missing is ketchup," she asked. Liam and I looked at each other and at the same time questioned her about the ketchup.

All she could say was she learned to eat a lot of things with ketchup because her stepmother couldn't cook, and she usually got the leftovers from dinner all mixed together. They would allow her to have salt, pepper and ketchup in her room since she didn't eat with them at the table usually. So she had gotten so used to eating things with a tasty red condiment that it was second nature now. She promised she would try to taste things in a new light, especially since she wasn't eating scraps anymore, and that made us both very happy. She surprises us every day with the things she is willing to compromise and try.

Nick and Rico came in to inform us that the RC would be here in two days, and that it would probably be best to go start questioning our attackers. We agreed and told Mel what we were doing. She went stiff and took a deep breath. "I want to know everything they say, please. Even if you think it will hurt me, understand?" she demanded. We both promised and kissed our mate before we walked out with our Gamma and Beta. We passed Jason, Rebecca and little Trinity in the hall, and Rebecca insisted Jason go with us. He kissed his family and turned to go with us. These interviews were either going to be lots of fun, or pure hell. I was determined for both to happen. Fun for us, hell for them.

We got to the cell house and the first person we grabbed was the world's shittiest daddy. "Wakey Wakey daddy in law!" I bellowed while beating on the door with a pipe wrench. He glared at us and tried being a smart ass by asking what pleasure it was for us to wake him or some crap. Jason wished old dad a good morning, and let him know his day was about to suck. He had the balls to laugh at that comment and shake his head at Jason and told us to get this day over with already.

Rico walked into the cell very cockily and informed him that he would be shackled and not to try anything with his wolf. Surprisingly, he held out his wrists and before he could pull back, Rico stuck him with a syringe with wolfsbane. David was instantly pissed and asked what Rico had done. Rico replied that he had dosed him with wolfsbane to subdue his wolf. We weren't giving him any chances to try anything dirty. Nick went in and helped walk David to the interrogation room.

His people were calling out to him, but he surprisingly ignored them. That is until we passed his son, Todd's cell. They exchanged looks and I knew that he was sending some kind of signal to his son, and once Nick noticed, he practically drug him forward and pushed him into the room for his questioning. He stood and looked around for a minute before I walked in with what Liam calls my 'death glare from hell' and threw the wrench on the table. I looked at my monster-in-law and said, "Sit your ass down, David. We have a list of questions that need answers."

He hesitated so I pushed him into the chair and Nick quickly locked his shackles to the brackets on the floor next to the chair. Liam pushed the cart with our "tools" over to the table where our chairs were. I walked over and sat next to my brother, our Gamma and our Beta. I leaned forward with my elbows on the table and looked this piece of shit right in the eyes and asked, "Want to tell us why the hell you found it necessary to abuse your own daughter for 13 years? Then again, I don't know why the fuck I'm asking. You WILL be telling us, one way or another." I put on my gloves and picked up one of the tools on the cart and moved around the table and leaned against it, standing in front of him.

"I'm waiting, David." He shook his head and I moved towards him, taking the silver scalpel and cutting across his cheek. He screamed out in pain, and Liam walked up to him and whispered in his ear. "Buckle up bitch! We are just getting started!"