

Their Warrior Luna Chapter 121

Knox:

We made sure Harley got through the threshold safely. She had a few bumps and bruises, but nothing compared to some scrapes she had been in. Cassius was beaten to death, but I had seen him worse off before, too, and knowing him the way I do, I am sure he is as eager to get back to Lennon as I am. I plan to bust her f*****g a*s for forcing us out of The Nothing while she was fighting Adoria. I don't know where she learned how to do the things she had learned while she was out, but wherever her mind was, the sweet little Lennon that jumped in front of the attack for us was gone. In her place stood a warrior of grace and skill.

Cass leaned his weight heavier on me, promising his mother we would return with Lennon safely, and then we turned, heading back through the portal Lennon had made. We stumbled, falling on our faces into...

"Is this sand?" Cass asked.

We both looked up to glistening crystal waters and a white sandy beach. Had her portal backfired? Or did she know we would return for her, so she made the portal go somewhere else?

"I turned it into the place where I met you and got to know you both better." We turned to see Lennon looking out at the waves rolling in.

"Where is Adoria?" I asked with my guard still high.

"Gone for good." She waved her hand like it was no big deal.

She rolled over on her hands and knees and crawled to Cass and me. She ran her sandy hands all over the gashes Adoria had marred him with. He hissed, scrunching his eyes up, and then immediately relaxed with a sigh. His wounds started closing quickly, relieving him of any pain he had been hiding from us. When did she learn to heal? She grabbed his wrist to help him set up, and the moment he was sitting, he pulled her into him, locking her in a bone-crushing hug.

"We have missed you so f*****g much, red!" his eyes were glossy with the unshed tears of the truth the both of us are keeping locked away. We love her.

Lennon:

I wrapped my arms tighter around Cass's neck, squeezing him with the same joy he felt.

"Let's go home. I have gossip." I said into his neck with a chuckle.

I stood and took Knox into another hug now that we had a minute to enjoy it. His massive frame engulfed me, and his long fingers ran through my hair, tying in a fist that had my stomach swarming in soft flutters.

“You are never leaving again, Princess.” He sighed into my neck, making my skin warm.

“Now, I never have to. Let’s go home so I can tell you guys what has happened.” I laughed again because he didn’t want to let me go. The big bastard missed me, after all.

When Knox finally let go of me, I cut a portal back to the pack house. I looped my arms in theirs and got started on the tea as we made our way home. It still feels so weird knowing I have an actual home.

“So, when I trapped Adoria inside me, I was mentally transported to this field of wildflowers where Mother Gaia was waiting for me. Right? Well, she wasn’t the only one. Queen Penthesilea, the a****n queen, was there too. That’s who trained me, or well... one of the ones who trained me. You won’t believe the powers I have!” My excitement of being back with them had gotten the best of me, but how they had given me their undivided attention about my journey had my trap flapping. I wish I had been paying more attention, though, because when we stepped through the threshold at the pack house, the whole pack was there cheering the return of their king.

The old me would’ve tried to shy away from him because I didn’t like the attention, but not the new me. The new me is going to stand here and cheer for the long life my friend gets to live. I let go of their arms and turned to Cass, clapping for his victory. Knox wrapped his arms around me and grabbed both wrists, stopping me.

“They are clapping for you, princess.” His dark chuckle in my ear had the hairs on my neck standing upright. I turned to look at all of them, and they were all looking at me.

“I am alive right now because of the collective efforts of my mother, your former queen. Death himself, and Lennon... Lennon is an incredible, fearless, beautiful—” Cass’s words were cut off when a tall blonde wrapped around Cass.

“I was so worried about you!” she cried out. Cass’s face scrunched up as he sat her on her feet.

“Ashley, what the f**k are you doing?” the growl that tore from him had my heart rate skyrocketing.

“Hi, my name is Ashley. I’m... I don’t know what Cass and I are, but I am the baby mama for now.” She looked back lovingly at Cass, who was squeezing my hand so hard I felt the bones straining. Not that it matters. I was squeezing him just as hard.

“You are having a baby?” I muttered the only thing that was in my brain.

“No, it isn’t mine, and when she has it. I will prove that.” We were still gripping each other’s hands, and both of our fingers were turning white from the pressure.

“WAIT... Are you two?” her finger pointed at our hands, and when he paused, it told me he didn’t feel the way I felt, so I clarified for her.

“We’re just best friends.” I made him let my hand go, and I backed up toward Knox.

“I want to go home... to the charm. I want to go back to your house.” I swallowed hard, making sure that the tears wouldn’t have the opportunity to fall.

He looked over my head at Cass. I couldn’t turn to look at him, I don’t know why, but my chest felt like an earthquake was raging in my heart, and I didn’t think I could stick around with a brave face right now. I just need a second to adjust and swallow my feelings.

“Just for a few days. Please?” Knox was still looking at Cass, who was so close to me now that I could feel his breath fanning on the back of my neck and head. Knox nodded and took me by the hand. We walked away from everyone, but there was only one that killed me to walk away from, and I could still feel his eyes creating holes into my back.

“Don’t worry, daughter. Embrace your skin. It is as beautiful as the flowers in the field and the birds in the sky.” Mother’s words ricocheted through my mind the second I crossed my arms to cover my stomach. I straightened my spine and held my chin high. I cut a portal to the charm Knox had made as his solitude, and I stepped through, only stopping to look back once I was through the blinding lights and knew he wouldn’t see me looking at him.

Knox:

“Cass, give her a few days. Then, if you are sure the pup isn’t yours, you have nothing to worry about.” I told him through the mind link. His heart was racing, ready to explode. The second Ashley asked what he and Lennon were, he paused because of the agreement we made about not telling Lennon about our bonds until the pup was born; she tore her hand from his, telling Ashley they were just friends, and I could feel his wolf ready to burst through and rip Ashley to shreds. It didn’t only because Lennon’s aura released, making the air thick enough to cut with a knife.

Her portal led straight into the kitchen, and I knew what she needed from me.

“Coffee or wine?” I asked, rubbing her shoulder. Now that our bond is whole, I will have hell keeping my hands to myself.

“Wine, please.” Her eyes were watering over, ready to ruin the incredible war paint covering her pale skin. Her bottom lip was shaking, and she was trying to hide it from me.

I picked her up, wrapped her thighs around my waist, and tangled her in my arms, squeezing her tightly.

“It isn’t his, Lennon. No girl has ever been able to f**k Cassius long enough to get pregnant, and Ashley especially is a conniving b**h. She was an easy piece of a*s that he used to scratch an itch, and it happened before he met you. She is just a power-hungry whore.” I told her the answer to everything I knew was racing through her beautiful mind.

“What, are you kidding? I’m so happy for him; Cass will be a great dad!” She muttered from the crook of my neck where her beautiful little face had snuggled deeply. She let her legs go trying to settle her feet on the floor. I lowered her, letting her get her feet on the floor.

I ran my hand across her painted face looking into the beautiful green eyes I had missed so much.

“When Cassius’s mate discovers his existence and feels the love and adoration he holds for her, he will make a great mate and be an even better father to their child. But Ashley’s pup is not his. Go shower and put your bathing suit on. I will give us some drinks, and we can relax. I still want to hear about everything that happened while you were away.” I used my thumb to wipe away the stray tear she couldn’t force away. She nodded, leaving me in the kitchen while I watched her walk away, sniffing, fighting the urge to comfort my mate.

“Is she alright?” Cassius’s voice rattled my brain while digging through my collection for the red wine that Harley and Lennon had drunk so much of. I think she could use the relaxation.

“She is upset, but she is hiding it well. She is hurting.” I told him truthfully.

“Come home, both of you. Let me make things right for the three of us. I can figure out how to prove the pup isn’t mine; I know I can. Please, Knox. I need my mates.” I rolled my head, trying to relieve the tension in my neck that had bunched up because of the situation.

“I can’t force her to come back home, Cass. You know that.” He was quiet, and I wondered if he had heard me.

“I’ll fix this, and when I do, I want you both to come home so we can tell Lennon the truth.” He cut me off after saying that, leaving me with a sad mate crying in the shower and a raging mate at the pack house with me in between the two as the mediator.

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Lennon:

As amazing as the hot water felt against my skin, my heart was still a mess, and I hated myself for being so obvious in my feelings towards Cass that Knox could tell what my thoughts were just from looking at me. At least he doesn't know I have a crush on him too.

He called that girl, Ashley, a w***e just for having s*x with Cass. Imagine what he would think of me if he knew that since I had that dream about the two of them having their way with me, the thought of just having one of them didn't satisfy the hunger that had been raging inside me for a tiny taste of them.

Once my skin was clean and my hair had been unmatted, I put the bathing suit on, feeling more than ready to sink into the hot tub out back despite the nibbling exhaustion in the back of my mind.

I left the bathroom with droopy eyes and thoughts of my warm bed. Until I saw that Knox was waiting at the back door with a chilled bottle of wine and two glasses. I couldn't stop the smile that busted out on my face.

"Aren't you just a proper gentleman?" I joked, trying to force myself to feel more lighthearted than I did now.

"You have no idea how chivalrous I can be, princess." He poured me a glass of wine and held the door open. I took it, sipping the sweet glass of up-to-no-good. I sank into the hot tub with a sigh. Trying to ignore how his words made my stomach flutter again.

"Alright then, girlfriend. Give me the gossip." He pretended to flip his hair like women often do, earning a chuckle from my depressed a*s.

"Right. Well... I met Penny at this entrance that led into the sanctuary of the most impressive women I have ever met. They taught me how to fight and use my powers, and then I met a faith healer that helped me love myself. OHHH, I fought a Harpy as my final test, and I won. That's why my face was painted, and OHHH! You are looking at the guardian of light. The Nothing, that's mine now. Your girl is moving up in this supernatural biz." I laughed.

I kept telling him about all of it. I couldn't help but blush at how he seemed so intrigued by my story. Laughing and looking at me in shock when I told him about the training schedule I was on and the new things I had learned. I sat back and looked around, trying to avoid the orange eyes looking through me.

"What did you guys do while I was out?" My fingertip rubbed circles around the rim of my glass; I hated that I even thought of Cass right now when the way Knox had been looking at me set my soul ablaze.

“We both almost went crazy being so worried about you.” He took a sip from his glass. The way his Adam’s apple bobbed up and down had my mouth dry, the flashes of him kissing me in my dream came to mind, and my heart rate increased.

“What else did you do?” he asked me. I was thankful he had missed how I stared while he drank his wine.

“I thought of the two of you. It was the only reason I had the strength to fight and get back. I realized something in the darkness when Adoria captured me ... You and Cassius... are the only good things in my life. Dying was the best thing to ever happen to me.” I closed my eyes during my confession and casually leaned against the pillow behind my head.

“Look at me.” His voice had gone dark, shaking me so profoundly that every muscle in my body vibrated to life. I did as he said, submitting to the trance that those orange eyes seemed to put me in every time. Not to mention that the same starvation I once had has returned. The same hunger that led to my death. Only this time, the starvation couldn’t be sated by the attention of a boy pretending to be a man. No, this starvation was driven by the feral lust brewing inside of me. This starvation is downright animalistic, and one of the only balms for those burns is sitting right before me. This man is the remedy for my ache and the urge to move closer, to touch, to taste... it is so overwhelming that it is painful.

I crossed the waters, closing the distance between us. My body relaxed the minute his skin met mine, giving me the urge to push forward. I straddled him, I hated how awkward and unsexy my inexperienced movements were, but the second his hands gripped my hips and pulled me flush against him, those insecurities disappeared entirely.

His right hand moved up my body, tracing fire in the wake of its movements. His hand grazed my n****e so tenderly, making my p***y clench, and it just kept going until it rested against my jaw. His thumb grazed my bottom lip, and I had to fight the urge to take it into my mouth. Does he know that he is just stoking the fire that is raging inside of me?

“I have so many things that I want to say to you. So many things that I want to do to you.” He thrust upward, grinding his hard d**k over my clit.

“But right now, I’m going to kiss you. Okay?” I couldn’t speak; I couldn’t nod. I just leaned in. Taking the first step in getting the taste of him that my tongue is begging me for.

His fists bunched into my hair. My hands clenched onto his waist, and the second my hips ground against his throbbing hard-on, he released my curls, wrapping one arm around my waist and pulling me so closely against him that the two of us could’ve melted into one. His tongue danced playfully against mine, and as the taste of him exploded on my lips, the clothes between our thighs felt like they separated us by miles. I reached back to pull the string around my neck that held my bathing suit top in place. But instead, he grabbed my wrists seconds before I made an absolute fool of myself.

“Stop, princess.” My face lit in a blaze. I pulled away, standing to my feet. My eyes burned with the tears of my shame, and my thighs were slick with my ignorance. I started backing away from the sexy god of a man with a heaving chest and eyes so full of fire that they could burn the world.

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“I’m so f*****g sorry, Knox. I don’t know what came over me; I—” My words hang in my throat as the situation’s weight strains my vocal cords. I cleared my throat, trying to seem like I didn’t give a s**t that he didn’t want me the way I wanted him. The same shame I carry over Cassius being a father to the child Ashley is carrying. His child. This is too f*****g much.

“Don’t you dare apologize, Lennon!” He crossed the water so quickly that I almost busted my a*s in response to his movement.

“I want you so f*****g bad. I want to bury my c**k so deep in your dripping cunt that you can’t breathe. But you have been drinking. You have had two glasses of wine, and I know that may not seem like much, but I don’t want you to wake up regretting anything the morning after I make you mine.” His hands reached out to take my hand, and I damn near whimpered when I pulled away.

“Is that what you think? That I threw myself at you because I am drunk?” I couldn’t stop my eyes from rolling back in my head. He is more in tune with the fact that I want Cass than he is with the fact that I want him just as badly. I stepped out of the hot tub and went to the back door as quickly as my still-shaking legs would take me.

“Lennon, stop!” The way his voice sounded made me turn to face him. I can’t believe he thought the aura bullshit would work on me. I straightened my spine with urgency to prove my worth and my capability. I let my own magic slip out. The wind carried my hair in wild wisps of red, and my embarrassment had turned into anger.

“Put your aura away, or so help me, I will leave. I will jump realms and chase time forward or backward or whichever way I have to so that I will never see you again. Or you can reel it back in, and I will go to bed, and in the morning, we can pretend this never happened. We can just go back to being best friends. Okay?” He nodded, deflating as his aura shrank.

“Thank you... good night, Knox.” I walked away with the most ignorant of plans in mind. But I guess only time can tell if it is a wrong decision. The only thing fueling my thoughts is the need to clear my mind. Besides... it wouldn’t hurt to see if my body had been discovered or not... right?

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Knox:

I watched her walk away, and it was everything in my being not to follow her, pin her against the wall, and show her exactly how much she meant to me. Instead, I stopped our kiss before I took it too far because it wouldn't be right for her first time to be with just me. Cass should be there too, and now she is pissed at us both, and I can't even tell her why I stopped it.

I dried off and got out of the hot tub. I cleaned the mess up and put the glasses away when I felt a power fluctuation. I ran to her room, and my heart almost stopped when I found her door locked. I kicked it in, panicking. She is leaving me. Leaving us again. She told me she wouldn't go anywhere ever again, and now she's leaving because of a misunderstanding. f**k that. Lennon is ours, and I will be damned if I let her go. I jumped her portal as it was about to close. She had jumped into the human realm. What the f**k is she doing back in this place? We were in the forest, and I could hear her footsteps in the crunching leaves beneath her feet. Fall had hit in this realm, and I could smell her sweet scent floating on the crisp breeze blowing through the now-naked trees.

"Lennon kissed me. I stopped it before it went too far because I didn't want her first time to be without you. Now you have f****d s**t up for me too, Cassius. I'm sending a portal to you. Jump it because we are going after her, and when we find her, we will tell her the truth right now. f**k you, f**k Ashley, and f**k everything else. This bull s**t ends now." I mind-linked Cassius. I knew he heard every word when the fear in his bones vibrated our mate bond.

As Death, I was never meant to have a mate. It was never written in the fates for Death to have that connection with another person, and the moon saw it fit to allow me to have two of those bonds, and I will be damned if I give up on it so easily. The portal lights ignited, and Cass stepped through it, looking deadly as hell.

"Where is she?" he growled.

"Follow me." my tone matched his. I don't know why we are angry. It isn't like we are mad at her. This is our fault. We are the ones who f****d this up, not her. We made our way through the forest. Something tells me she is in the same place I called out to her for the first time. I held my hand out, signaling to Cass to quieten his steps. I pointed over the embankment, and just below us was our little mate. Soft sobs were falling from her parted lips. Will-o-the-wisps were dancing around the forest, singing the mourning song of their people and lighting the way for her. Crime scene tape was blowing softly in the wind. She was fisting the dirt that once covered her body. She had been found... but I already knew that. That is just another of the many things that I hadn't been honest with her about.

Lennon:

I rolled my eyes angrily when I saw the worn yellow tape whipping softly in the breeze. Of course, they had found Carter, but I bet the entire police department walked right over me, not even bothering to notice the dirt on my grave that still hadn't sunk yet. But as I approached the shallow grave where my current life had begun, I realized it was empty. I collapsed to my knees, clenching fistfuls of the dirt. I couldn't process it at first. I felt like I was dreaming. No one had even been looking for me.

The wisps were back. They lit the forest for me the same way as before, and this time, they sang me a tune. The melody was full of sadness and grief. It was like they were singing the sounds of my heart's feelings out loud. I hadn't even realized I was crying until the tears falling from my eyes landed on my dirt-covered hands, splattering my emotions in dark brown across my skin.

I knew they had followed me. I knew they were watching, and something about this moment made the anger inside of me that had been directed at both of them vanish. I needed them. I need them in any form of relationship I can get, and I want to kick myself for losing sight of that. Even if I never satisfy my hunger for them, if I never find out why girls leave Cassius's room broken and in tears. I still need them. I turned to where I knew they were hiding and held my hands out, showing them the dirt. Both stepped from their hiding places in the trees. Understanding and concern laced Knox's face. Cassius seemed confused and with every right. He has no idea what happened to me other than I was murdered and buried. But he was here, and I know without a shadow of a doubt his support is mine if I ask for it.

"They found me." I sobbed at my own words. I bet I am buried in the community cemetery. I bet they had a funeral... I wonder if my mom went to it before I killed her.

"Come here, princess." Knox scooped me up, and I let him wrap me in his arms, holding me tightly. Cassius was rubbing the arch of my back as I sobbed into Knox. I shouldn't have come here. I told myself I never would again. Now that I am here, I want to see the fixer-upper. I want to buy flowers for my grave because God knows no one around here will, and then I want to put my petty-a*s attitude behind me and go home with my friends. I want to return to where I was always meant to be.

Cassius:

I rubbed her back while she cried into Knox. I looked at the small shallow hole in the ground, and my blood boiled. Someone had hurt her, folded her into a tiny hole that I don't think I could even sit down inside of in a forest, and left her there. I was fighting the urge to rampage and kill every human that crossed my path until I found the one that hurt her when Knox's soft voice echoed in my mind.

"We will find the two bastards that are left while we are here. She deserves the choice to feed on them if she wants to." A chill went all through me. His voice was soft and tender

for the pain of our mate, but his eyes were locked on the small hole in the ground and were just as full of fury as I was. I nodded once and let myself step into them just a bit closer. Maybe, if anything, I could warm her chilled skin with my body heat. Perhaps the bond could calm her the way it does me.

I was surprised when she turned and latched onto me the same way she had Knox. I picked her up, wrapping her legs around me. I snuggled into her neck and let her cry her heart's frustrations out right there. I knew she needed this moment, and the only thing I could do for her right now was be there for her.

"Lennon, there is something Knox and I need to tell you. I don't know if you are ready to hear it or not... but I just wanted you to know that when you are ready and want to sit down with us and talk about it, we will be ready to tell you... or answer any questions you have about it." I didn't let her go when she went to pull away from me. I wanted to keep her here just a bit longer just in case she never lets me touch her again. The wind had picked up, and a chill wracked her little body.

"Do you smell that?" She asked me. She sat up, with her eyes glowing just like the sun on a summer day.

"Lennon. You need to breathe through your mouth, baby girl." Knox spoke to her so softly I didn't think she heard him until her soft lips parted slowly, inhaling and exhaling a shaking breath. After that, her whole body started trembling against me, and I could only look to Knox for answers. Maybe she was hungry?

"How... are... they... here?" Her chest was heaving, and her hands were locked in tight fists, clutching my shirt.

"Let me down, Cass." Her voice had changed to reflect the aura rolling off her in waves. Knox shook his head no at me, but I couldn't resist her command. Not because she was my mate but because whatever happened while she was sleeping in that hospital bed those six days had turned her into something much more powerful than I can comprehend. I lowered her down, helping her steady herself. Her whole body was still in violent vibrations, but she made her way up the hill in the opposite direction to where we had come.

"The night she died, she was drugged, brutally beaten, raped, and buried alive. Her spirit held the hand of her dying body, and then once it did die, she refused to leave it. I forced her away when one of her murderers stumbled down by her grave drunk and shot himself. I fed her his soul, but the other two haven't been charged, and the one who killed himself took the fall for all of it in a suicide note he had left before leaving his house for prom. He told her he could make it better before killing himself, and I didn't understand what he meant, so I have been keeping tabs on things here. I didn't want to tell her until something was done about the other two." Knox's mind-link had me seeing red. The fur sprouted on my arms and chest, but Knox softly squeezed my shoulder, using our bond to calm my beast.

“She can sense them. So can I. She has become ravenous for them because the pieces of her that they took are calling to her. If you interfere... she could turn on you. Let’s follow and keep her safe, and then we can talk to her.” This mind-link was like throwing cold water on my rage.

We followed her up the hill and through the woods. The further we went into the darkness, the more animal in nature my little mate became. Once upon a time, the bastards that harmed her treated her as their prey... but tonight... my little sunshine is all predator, and the pathetic little motherfuckers that hurt her are the only prey for miles.

She held her hand out, and the expensive door of the lake house blew open, shattering the glass. I smiled as she stomped into the place I can only assume held some of her darkest memories. She didn’t bother looking anywhere. It was like she knew where they would be without them even offering to come and see where the banging of the shattered door came from. She kicked a bedroom door open and dragged a scrawny b***h boy off of a girl that looked oddly similar to Lennon, but she paid her no mind.

“I killed you!” she growled, pinning him against the floor. The guy she had tossed to the ground turned pale at the sight of her.

“What do you mean, Lennon? When did you kill him?” Knox asked her, but the only thing that I could focus on was the piece of s**t on the floor about to speak to Lennon. How dare he think he had any right to open his mouth to say something to her after the ways he hurt my innocent little sunshine.

“If you even so much as speak to her, I will make my friend here resurrect your a*s after we watch her kill you so that I can f**k you up a second time. Don’t doubt me, little boy. If you disrespect the woman before you, I will de-f*****g-stroy you! Better yet, don’t even look at her, you little bitch.” I spat on him. Lennon’s fury-filled gaze snapped to me when he shut his eyes so that he couldn’t look at her. She stared into my eyes for what felt like an eternity before she refocused on the little b***h who had just pissed himself all over the wood floor.

“When Adoria pulled me into The Nothing... I killed him. I killed Chad and my mother too.” Knox dropped down beside her. I recall him saying he felt her mother dying and went to her, and he had seen Lennon there when we were at her bedside in the pack hospital.

“No... No, you didn’t, angel. Your mother committed suicide when they found your body. She became just lucid enough in her breakdown that she blamed herself for not caring for you better. You were there when she died. But you did not kill her. Chad and Grant are both alive and free because Carter took the fall for everything before killing himself the night I took you home. His letter led to the discovery of both of your bodies. I know I should have told you sooner, but I wanted to be able to do something about Grant and Chad before I told you anything. You didn’t kill any of them, princess. Adoria made you see what she wanted you to in the darkness. It was not real.” He ran his fingers through

her hair, giving her the tender affection that both of us were dying to shower her in, and then he looked down at a very mortified whoever the f**k he was and back to Lennon.

“But you can, you know... nothing says you can’t cause the monster that was created the night that you died the same pain he caused you. I know where Chad is too. We can go there next.” She shook her head no and loosened her grip on him. But I won’t have that. She deserves this. She deserves to take those bits of her back from them. I dropped down on the other side of her, gently taking her quivering chin in my hand. I turned her gaze to the little redhead, still frozen in fear against the headboard.

“Look at her, red. Doesn’t she remind you of someone?” She looked long and hard at the girl in that bed. But she didn’t speak about the truth floating in the air, so I spoke it for her.

“He enjoyed what he did to you so much the night that he killed you that the only way he can come is by sleeping with someone that reminds him of you.” Her shaking subsided at the confirmation of what she had thought, and her emotions that had been swarming from anger to sadness and back to loss turned into raw fury. Knox understood what I was doing. Lennon will fight for the people she loves the most, and she is absolutely vicious in the execution of that fight. She is a beast by any right. But she runs from the things that cause her harm or sadness. Not anymore, though. No... today she learns that, above everything, she is the most important thing in the cosmos.

“Did he rape you?” Knox asked the girl whose tears were now falling freely.

“N-No. W-We are dating.” She sniffled.

“Does he make you do things in bed that make you uncomfortable?” He hit the damn nail on the head with that one because the girl started sobbing harder. Her curls bounced around her shoulders as she confirmed for us what we already knew.

“Tell her what he makes you do.” Knox released his aura just enough to make the human bend to his will

“Play dead. He makes me play dead when we...” Her confession pushed Lennon over the edge. Immediately she started feeding on the soul of her assailant, and with the guilt lifting off my chest that was caused by pushing her to take his soul, I stood back and watched the love of my life save herself, and God only knows how many other women. Next, we take the other guy, and if my little one doesn’t want to end him for herself, I would gladly rip his f*****g heart out for her while she watches.

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Lennon:

I have never felt more myself than I do right now. It was like something snapped into place for me when Grant's soul entered me. My heart hammered in my chest at the realization of what I had just done, and I was surprised it didn't bother me more. I turned to look at Lindsey Walker. A girl that I had been in school with since pre-k.

"Hi, Lennon." She said, wiping her eyes.

"Knox, make her forget we were ever here... and everything he did to her. She is a good person." I looked at him for only a second before I looked back at Lindsey, and then I just walked out. Knox told me he could find Chad; now that is all I can think about. A soul for a soul. I stepped out onto the porch and wrapped my arms tightly around myself.

"I'm sorry, Red." When he whispered from behind me, Cass damn near made me jump from my skin.

"You have nothing to apologize for, Cassius." I don't know if he is talking about the baby, me dying, or them giving me the confidence to take Grant out. Either way, he didn't do anything wrong.

"I do, though." I hope he can see the confusion written on my face because, f**k I'm just too tired to argue about if he offended me or not.

"Let's hear it then. No, wait. Let me guess. You don't know how to take the memories of their hands on me the night they killed me, so you just want to tell me you're sorry because what can anyone really do? No? You feel like you made me kill Grant, so you are sorry for pushing me to do the thing that I wanted to do from the moment they shoved me in that f****g hole. So, if it is that one, I should thank you. Do you feel guilty because you knocked up Ashley before we found the guts to admit we had caught feelings? If it's that one... you should be with your kid. Anything between us will fade away when you hold that sweet little baby for the first time, Cass... and you will be an incredible dad. I hugged him tightly, inhaling the masculine smell of his skin. I bunched his shirt up in my fists again. I wanted to get his body as close to mine as possible, and when he picked me up and let me wrap my legs around him, I knew the churning in my stomach meant that I never wanted to let him go. I would have to force myself to let him go.

"I took her home. She won't remember anything." Knox said, stepping out onto the porch with us. I unwrapped my legs despite the bile rising in my throat at the loss of his contact, and I nodded at Knox.

"I want Chad." I rumbled.

"I know where he is, I can sense him, and I can do it myself. I'm sure you both are busy." Knox stepped into me. He put a loose curl behind my ear and wiped away a tear I hadn't even realized I had let fall.

“Not a single chance in hell, baby girl. You’re stuck with us for the rest of eternity, and I will... we will always be at your beckoned call.” Knox’s dark scent wrapped tightly around me when he placed a tender kiss on my forehead. My eyes watered over at his words. Something tells me he told every word the truth. I will never be without them again, and despite the things they have going on in their lives, they will always be there for me. My family. They will always be my family.

“Let’s go then. I’m ready.” I cut a portal into the forest, stepping through with newfound confidence.

We stepped through the portal into an alleyway behind some dive bar. The smell of vomit and garbage sludge was hanging heavy in the air. But not heavily enough to drown out Chad’s scent. He was lying on top of some garbage bags with his own vomit on his shirt and lap. I took the toe of my shoe, lifting his foot up and dropping it hard enough that he stirred awake. I wasn’t expecting someone drunk enough to puke on themselves to move so quickly, but he did, and the next thing I knew, I was pinned to the wall with a switchblade digging into my throat.

When he looked into my eyes, I could see every disgusting thought, every terrible intention, and every sin he had committed in his lifetime. This awful excuse for a male gets off on the pain and suffering of women. He had even thought of children in that vile light, and I retched at the images playing through my mind. Then Knox and Cassius pulled him off me, slamming him onto the concrete so hard it made me jerk.

Both were beating his face with unbridled fury, and my heart swelled at their willingness to rescue me. No one had ever taken up for me before, which solidified how much they cared about me. My head swam, still stuffed full of all of Chad’s putrid thoughts, but I managed to steady myself as Knox and Cass stood up a very disfigured Chad.

“Apologize.” Cass roared.

“Scor-Spof,” Chad tried to follow the command Cassius gave him, but he was choking on his own teeth and blood, and I couldn’t help but stand there a moment, watching as the same light he stole from me began to fade from him and then I fed. Knowing that my death had awakened something in Grant destroyed me. But Chad had done this many times before and had no intentions of stopping, and taking the life of a monster like this was so easy it scared me. Finally, I got so full and content with the rot within him that every bad thing that had ever happened to me just... disappeared.

Knox:

Cass and I dropped that piece of s**t like a sack of taters, and his sick thud on the concrete only made it better. How f*****g dare he? I grabbed her by her neck, turning her face to the sky to inspect the raised pink line across her throat. I tried so hard to fight it, but I couldn’t anymore. I picked her up with a smile when she wrapped her legs tightly around me as if it was second nature for her now. I wrapped her hair in my hand and

jerked her head back, placing a soft line of kisses across the spot where the knife had pressed into her delicate skin.

Her skin broke out in chills at the contact of my mouth, and some part of me that was not caught up in how she tasted on my lips wondered if the pull of our bonds had strengthened since her soul was made whole again after taking the final soul of her murderers.

I cut a portal and stepped through to the charm, where I took her home on the first day. That was the day that she met the real me. It's time we talk with our little one, and this is the safest place for that conversation. Cass opened the door for us, and her soft breathing turned to soft snores.

"I guess being a bad mother fucker will really take the life out of ya." I chuckled, heading towards her bedroom door. It won't be much longer until we hopefully have her perfect little self tucked between the two of us where she belongs.

I laid her down softly onto her bed after Cass pulled back the covers and tucked her in, kissing her cheek softly. As I pulled back, she grabbed onto the collar of my shirt, and the words that fell from her soft lips had me frozen in my place.

"Please stay." I looked at Cass, who nodded, and out of respect for both her and Cass, I slipped my shoes off and laid down on top of the duvet. She snuggled into my side so fast that her body melted against me, making my heart rate wild. I thought s*x was the best physical feeling I would ever experience, and here I was on the verge of combustion with just having her next to me. I let my fingers run through her red hair and relaxed when a soft sigh fell from her. She feels something for both of us. I just don't know what.

"Cass. Will you stay too?" She patted the bed behind her pulling the covers back. He took his shoes off and laid down, snuggling into her back. She pulled the blanket back and from around her chest and kept tugging and whining until I took the hint and got under the covers with them. We were out of it before the duvet settled around us.

Lennon:

I woke up to an empty bed, but I could still feel their bodies' warmth inside the covers. I stood up, stretching my muscles. I feel good. I grabbed a pair of biker shorts and a sports bra. I don't know if I wanted to run or hit the gym... I was still in my own world when I left the bathroom and went into the kitchen for coffee to find two exhausted-looking men.

"Damn... am I that bad of a bed feller?" I chuckled, grabbing the coffee that Knox had held out for me.

"Remember how I said we wanted to talk to you?" Cass's tired eyes looked over my body. I figured after my petty a*s snapped on him on Grant's porch and admitted I had feelings for him that he would've been gone this morning.

“s**t. I was hoping you had forgotten about that... What’s up?” I asked, sitting on the stool so I could see both, and then I settled into sipping my coffee with the ‘we need to talk’ nerves swarming in my gut.

Knox:

“When she wakes up, we need to tell her,” I told Knox, passing him a cup of coffee.

“I don’t think she’s ready. She had a rough night.” He grumbled into his cup.

“She’s not, or you’re not?” I eyed him, and when he rolled his eyes at me, I knew his fear of losing her was gnawing at him.

When she stepped from her room, I watched as she tied her long hair into a bun on her head. She was dressed for training, and it made me warm. She feels complete again, and now that she is sitting across from us and knows we want to talk, I can see her nerves behind her otherwise unbothered expression. Cass had joined me on this side of the counter, and I could feel his fear raging, and between her anxiety and his fear, nausea was warping me.

“All right. I guess I will rip off the Band-Aid.” I looked at them both one more time before I swallowed the remanence of their whirling emotions.

“Cass and I are your mates.” I just blurted it out for her.

I should have waited for her not to have hot coffee in her mouth because when the word mates got out there, she spewed her drink all over us and then started choking on what Cass and I weren’t wearing.

“She didn’t run away like I thought,” I said, passing Cass a dish towel.

“Don’t count your blessings just yet, shit-a*s. If I could breathe, I would.” She gripped the island’s edge, blinking away the phosphenes clouding her vision.

“Say it again because I don’t think I heard you right.” She grabbed paper towels and started wiping the counter.

“You heard right,” Cass said, grabbing her hands and trying to make her focus on what we wanted to say to her.

“I’m sure you have questions. We want to answer them. Just breathe for a second, and let us help you through this.” His thumbs were grazing her hands softly.

Her green eyes were looking deeply into his icy gaze, and I knew her feelings must be a f*****g mess.

“How long have the two of you known?” Cass and I exchanged glances.

“When I fed you the first time, you and I imprinted. When you imprint with death, as long as the bond isn’t nurtured, it will fade. But ours has been nurtured and is complete.” My voice trailed off. I prepared my neck for the thud of her slapping me on the face, but it never came.

“How was it nurtured?” my own emotions welled up in my throat at her question. This feels like a good start.

“Nurturing happens when an imprinted bond is pursued. Things like dating, having s*x, getting to know each other in a more intimate sense than friendship.” I refilled her coffee and sat it in front of her.

“Thanks...” She took the cup in her tiny hands, tapping the ceramic glass with her index finger.

“We haven’t done any of that. We only kissed.” Her flushed face looked up from the blonde coffee she had been pretending was the most interesting thing in the world for her.

“When you jumped in front of Adoria to keep her from harming us, our bond recognized that as a sacrifice. You nurtured our bond in full by making that one decision.” My heart was thundering like a wild animal trying to break free from my ribcage.

“Of course, I sacrificed myself. You two are my best friends. I would do anything for the both of you.” So that’s the lie she had been telling herself? Even the blush that had stained her porcelain skin had deepened in her own lie.

“It doesn’t work that way, princess. If you only considered me your friend, our imprint wouldn’t have formed in full. I think you feel more for the both of us than you care to admit.” I reached out, tucking her loose curl behind her ear. Gently, I lifted her to look into my eyes. Her tongue reached out, wetting her lips, and damn it, I have never wanted a taste of something so f*****g wrong.

“Let’s say I do. There is nothing that can be done about it.” She dropped her head again, fighting the ache of the bonds that, after last night, I knew she could feel.

“There are absolutely things that can be done. We want you, Lennon. f**k, I have never wanted anything so badly in my life.” Cass’s voice was barely above a gruff whisper.

“When did you know?” She looked at him finally. I could almost hear her heart rate picking up, and something told me her fear was wrapped around Ashley’s pup.

“The first day we met on the beach. The second I saw you, I fell head over hills for you. It hurt like hell watching you leave me on that beach that day. I know you are worried about

the Ashley bull s**t, but Lennon, there is no way that pup is mine, and I despise her.” I almost winced for her. The pain that shot through her at the sound of her name on his tongue and the mention of the pup almost gave us both whiplash.

“Where can I find your mother?” Her gaze drifted slowly back to Cass, and her eyes were solid white, glowing like the clouds in a summer sky.

“The packed house.” He hung his head. He knew he blew it.

“I’ll be back soon. Maybe while I am gone, the two of you can figure out what the f**k we are going to do. I said I would reject you when I found you. But you have sunk your f*****g claws into me. If Ashley’s baby is yours, you can forget about me, Cassius. I didn’t have a father, and she is a rotten f*****g b***h. That baby deserves at least one good parent.” And with that, she turned, cutting a portal to the pack house, and left the two of us standing there with our jaws slack.

Cassius:

I was fighting the urge to shift and rip Ashley’s f*****g throat out.

“Talk to me.” Knox leaned against the island, looking at me with concern in his blazing eyes.

“That pup isn’t mine. I need to figure out how to show her that.” he tucked his hands inside his pockets and started rocking back and forth on his heel.

“What did you have in mind?” If I have to wait three more weeks to prove that the pup isn’t mine, we could risk losing her altogether... or I will anyway. An imprinted bond can’t be rejected like a goddess-given one can.

“We go back and see if there was a moment where you might have slipped up and gotten her pregnant.” I think he may be overly sleep-deprived because he is talking nonsense now.

“Oh... Did I not tell you that I can time travel?” He grinned his cocky grin and waggled his eyebrows at me.

“If you can time travel, why not just go back and stop me from f*****g her?” Wouldn’t it make more sense to keep the act from occurring at all?

“No matter what, we do not interfere. There is a reason the past occurs, and if we change anything, there is no way of knowing we will return to the same present we left.” I thought hard about what he had said.

“f**k it. I will take what I can get, I guess. But we have to be back before Lennon.” I washed my coffee cup and turned back to my other mate.

“Let’s do it.” He shrugged, grabbing his cloak from the rack. His body morphed and stretched until he was almost ten feet tall. He stepped into me, covering me with the cloak of Death, and then I watched as the world zipped wildly around us until it sat us in the same exact spot we were in. I deflated as I realized it hadn’t worked.

“It didn’t work.” I let myself get too excited at the prospect of finding a solution that I convinced myself this would be a good start.

“Oh, it worked. We’re back twenty minutes before you take Ashley to your bed. Now we are just going to where you f****d her, and don’t forget... you can’t change anything, Cass. No matter what, you have to watch and nothing else.” He cut another portal and stepped through. I sighed, still feeling defeated. I trust him and his magic. That is all I can focus on with us doing this. I may get the answers to my questions. But if I don’t, time will tell us everything we need to know.

Their Warrior Luna Chapter 125

Lennon:

I can’t believe they have known this whole time that I was theirs, and instead of making the decision to tell me so we could build on that relationship, Cass ran out and knocked a b***h up, and Knox made me feel ashamed for kissing him. I growled and grumbled the whole walk through the pack house. Harley and Fallon are my only other friends, and I have never had boy drama before and need help. Unfortunately, I have no idea what to do about any of this. I’m still so lost on this bond s**t, and I almost feel guilty for not at least asking for a crash course of some kind when the moon told me that I had a mate bond with one of her children. But I didn’t, and now I am left with seeking help from the only other person I can think of. I went up to a large door sensing her behind it. I knocked lightly...and then knocked again when no one answered. I hope she isn’t asleep or something.

“Harley, I am sure you are probably busy... but could we talk, please?” the door swung open, and a man I recognized as one of Cassius’s fathers stomped out in a huff.

“I’m sorry,” I called quietly as he walked away.

“Pay him no mind, Lennon. He acts like a t**t waffle more often than not, but Axel is a very good guy.” She smiled, knowing her mate heard her. I chuckled a little, stepping inside the door and closing it behind me.

“So, what did they do?” My eyebrow rose in the confusion of her words.

“Cassius and Knox. They have clearly upset you.” She crossed her legs and poured me a glass of wine. I sat on the couch across from her and poured my heart out about everything. Even the things I didn’t want to discuss started rolling out of me like a

snowball going full force down a mountain. Then when I finished, I slumped back into the couch, feeling entirely numb.

“I will kick their asses when they get here.” She growled. I laughed because even after all of the s**t I had just told her, she chose to focus on their f**k ups which I hated to admit I appreciated.

“I raised them both better.” She got up and walked around the room with the wine in her hand.

“We need to get Ashley to admit that her pup isn’t Cass’s.” She said, still wandering around the room.

“Come with me. We will go to the best thinking place in the house.” She walked over to a bookshelf, opening it to a hidden place full of comfy chairs and old books.

“This used to be the guy’s man cave, but I kinda stole it.” She chuckled, sitting down in her chosen chair. But the only thing on my mind was how she didn’t even believe it was Cass’s baby, and if everyone else could believe him, why couldn’t I?

“Why does Cass have three dads? Like... he looks like all three, and so does Fallon. I’m just curious how the multiple mate thing works.” She turned her chin up, letting her long black hair fall around her back and shoulders. She was thinking her answer over carefully, and I could tell she wanted her answer to be the answer to all of my questions.

“The bond I share with my mates is the most special thing to ever happen to me... Other than getting my wolf back after their rejection and having Cass and Fallon. The moon goddess knows what she is doing when she gives us our bonds.” She laughed, but my jaw dropped.

“They rejected you?” My jaw was still slack when she started telling me their story.

About halfway through our second bottle of wine, Harley fell back against the couch. Her eyes rolled into the back of her head, and she mumbled, but I couldn’t understand what. I ran from the office, yelling for help. Harley was having a seizure, and for some reason, I assumed supernatural creatures wouldn’t get sick. That seems stupid now. I have more questions for Knox and Cassius than I realized.

“Help, Harley, she—” I found Harley’s mate, who she had said acted like a t**t waffle, but as soon as he heard her name coupled with the word help, we ran back into the office. We turned into her little hole in the wall, and he immediately relaxed. He walked over, picked her up, and sat down in the chair, holding her and rubbing her hair from her face while her head lulled from side to side, and her eyes kept rolling wildly in the back of her head.

“She is just having a vision. She will come around in a bit. Good looking out. This is a rough one.” He kept rubbing her hair from her face as her movements slung more thick black locks into her sweating face.

I sat on the floor, watching how soft this brute of a man was with this small woman. You could see the love blazing in his eyes for her, making me wonder what kind of mate Cass would be.

“Are you okay?” the man asked me, probably wondering why I was still staring at them.

“I’m fine. Just thinking.” I looked at my nails and plucked at the cuticle.

“He is still a dumb kid. He is an amazing king. A hell of a leader. But you have to understand that is how he was raised. From a young age, Cass knew what his responsibilities would look like, and he sat in that saddle like a f*****g champ. But... young men make mistakes when it comes to young women. Sometimes those mistakes happen because of pressure from someone else. But sometimes, those mistakes happen because those young men are still dumb kids. If he hurt you, I am so sorry. We raised him to praise his mate, and I am sure this whole Ashley thing hasn’t been easy for you. Shit... it hasn’t been easy for any of us. But I know Cassius will figure it out. He’s got a good head on him.” He never took his eyes off of Harley the whole time he spoke, but his words made me think of every encounter that I have had with Cass. He has never been anything but wonderful to me. But that doesn’t change the fact that if that kid is his, he should be with it. Harley started coming around, and when he smiled at her, it lit up the room the same way Cass could. Maybe I should go back and listen to what they have to say before making any rash decisions... Perhaps I am the one being a dumb kid.

Knox:

We entered the massive closet that Cass surprisingly kept neat and waited. The past him would come through that door with Ashley any minute now, and maybe we could figure out the truth.

“What do we do?” he grumbled, seeming more hateful than usual.

“It’s simple, really. We just watch. But man, you’re lucky you’re hot because you are a little ditzy behind that great hair, aren’t ya?” I chuckled at his question.

“No, a*s. What do we do about Lennon?” His eyes were tired. He was tired of having his mate but unable to have her. Tired of Ashley’s drama. Just f*****g tired in general.

“We let the fates sort it out for us and do what we can to support each other now. Lennon will come around, Cass. If she wasn’t going to come around, she likely would have rejected us and left when we told her instead of asking questions first. That was her plan from the gate. She told the Goddess she wanted to reject her mate. But she didn’t. She asked questions and then went to get more answers from your mom. But, if she doesn’t

come around, we have to accept that.” That thought alone damn near shattered me. A life without her would kill me all over again, and I just can’t picture it.

“Will they be able to hear us?” He asked, getting antsy over the situation.

“No, but they could see us as a shadow if we were out there,” I told him.

“I don’t want you to watch this and think badly of me or worry about Lennon with me. This is a quick and gentle f**k for me, but if I remember right, I was still a bit rough with her. I don’t know if you remember this night, but I came to your place right after this, and we went out. I won’t hurt Lennon if she ever gives herself to me. I know her past is scary for her, and I know you worry about her. Hell, I worry about her. I just want you to know I would never hurt her intentionally. Not in the bedroom, not in any way.” he looked fearful of my judgment.

“Cass, I know you wouldn’t. I know we don’t discuss what we have done with women, but I’m not a tender f**k either. If they don’t leave with their back blown out, walking on shaking legs with a sore a*s, I didn’t do my job, Did I?” I chuckled.

“Knox, I can’t come if they don’t cry. It isn’t as simple as a rough f**k. If I don’t make them cry, I can’t finish. I wouldn’t care if I ever came again if I could have her, though. I need you and her both to know that.” He couldn’t look at me, and I wouldn’t force him to. I just put my hand on his back so he knew I was there for him, and I trusted him with myself and Lennon both. Relationships take work, and ours won’t be any different. Besides, something tells me the fates wouldn’t have gifted Cass a mate if he didn’t deserve one, and it wouldn’t be one that couldn’t handle every aspect of him. We were torn from our heart to heart when the door to Cass’s room busted open. A heated make-out session happened between the two until the door shut, and then s**t hit the fan. He slammed her on the wall, seeming more beast than man.

“On your knees.” Cass’s command could be felt even from here, and as his mate, it took Death’s aura to keep me from dropping down to my knees at his words. He wrapped his fist in her hair and yanked it back, making her gasp as the pain from the tension on her scalp mixed with the pleasure of his c**k being thrust into her throat. She clawed at his hips, fighting for air. Her gagging and the sucking sounds of her slobber and his thrusts filled the room. He pulled her to her feet, never letting her hair go, and when he flung her on the bed face down, he knocked the wind from her. He rolled on a condom and sank into her before she even had the chance to get her breath again, making strangled screams echo through the silence. He wrapped his hand around her throat from behind, pulling her head back. Her face turned red from the brutal f*****g he was giving her... or maybe he was just choking the life from her. Either way, it felt like we stood there watching for hours, but the moment had come, and before I even saw it, I knew this pup wasn’t his after all. He yanked her off the bed and to her knees again, throat f*****g her smiling as tears kept streaming freely from her face, and then he freed himself from her throat and shot his come all over the smeared mascara and lipstick painting her b***h face.

“You were right. The likely hood that the pup is yours is slim to none. Now we just need to figure out what to do about it.” I told him before cutting a portal home. We have our own mate to think about now.

Lennon:

“Axel, check on Fallon. I’m fine now. But that was bad for me, and something tells me Fallon is just coming out of hers too. We need her down here. Lennon, get comfortable, babe. That one was about you.” Harley told Axel and me when she finally returned to her feet.

Axel nodded, leaving the room, and my heart damn near ruptured at her words. Why is she having visions about me? Before I could ask, Axel came in with Barrett carrying Fallon. A notepad was on her lap, and she had a washcloth across her eyes. Behind the three was the one with red eyes carrying a cup of coffee and a washcloth for Harley.

“Mom, are you already in here?” Fallon called out. Her voice was strangled, like she had been screaming. Harley leaned over and pulled her daughter into her lap. She snuggled into Fallon and kissed the top of her head. My heart yearned for that motherly bond at one point, but now it seems... unnecessary.

“I’m here, baby.” Harley held onto Fallon as they attempted to recuperate from their visions. I stood to leave when she nodded, and her mates and Barrett turned to leave.

“Not you, Lennon. You can stay.” Harley said.

“Lennon is here?” Fallon sat up, keeping her eyes covered with her cloth. She patted around, looking for her note pad and then held it out for me to grab. I swallowed hard before taking it. I couldn’t even look at it until Harley spoke.

“You need to see it, sweetheart. Don’t be scared. I know it looks bad, but what you see in that drawing is what the fates wanted Fallon to see. I can interpret the rest for you because my guides took me there. I saw everything.” I flipped the notepad over at her words of encouragement. The page looked like something out of a horror story. A woman in the middle held a box above her head with waves of blackness pouring from it, swallowing the page entirely. Another woman stood in front of her, untouched by the darkness.

“I don’t understand,” I mumbled, tracing the indents of the page created by whatever Fallon had used to carve the image into the paper.

“Have you ever heard of Pandora’s box?” Harley asked me. My heart started crashing against my sternum again.

“I have, yeah.” I sat down in the seat, suddenly feeling lightheaded.

“Pandora is coming, Lennon... and you are the woman fighting her in that drawing.” I fell against the chair in a huff. It looks like I don’t even get to have normal boy drama in my afterlife.