

And Then There Were Four by Lilith Carrie

Chapter 121: Celebrating Family

My time in the office with Hale and Talon had been exactly as Thad remembered it being. Absolutely intoxicating. The only difference was their Lycans could no longer play, and honestly, I preferred it.

I preferred knowing the aggression they had for me was their own, and not the influence of a beast inside them. They were my mates, and it was them I fell in love with.

Not the Lycans that once possessed them.

Making my way downstairs, freshly showered and ready for

the night, I was stunned when I walked down the stairs only to find Kate, Angel, their new baby my mother, and my mother's mate all standing in the foyer waiting for me.

"Oh my God, what did you guys get here?" I squealed with excitement as I cleared the last few steps and ran over to them, giving them all hugs.

"We've been here for about the last hour or so. They said you were upstairs taking a shower, so we settled into our rooms," Kate replied as she turned around and showed me the car seat with the newborn baby fast asleep.

"Oh, my goodness. She's so beautiful," I cooed as she set the car seat down and picked the baby out of it, handing her over to me. "What's her name?"

"Her name is Dalia." The name was just as beautiful as the

child who slept peacefully in my arms. This was the size I had

remembered my twins being before everything that had happened, and holding her now almost brought tears to my eyes as I thought about it.

Pushing those emotions back, though, I handed her back to Kate as I turned to my mother and the mysterious Dr. Blake. "I'm glad to see that you're back, mom. And you, thank you so much for taking care of her."

"It was a pleasure," he chuckled as he pulled my mother close. "I would take care of her a hundred times over if I could."

"Oh, you..." she cooed at him as she kissed his cheek. "He is so sweet, isn't he?"

“Yes, he is,” I replied with a smile.

Seeing her happy like this was strange because I had never seen her happy with any man. Even my father. I didn’t remember those memories, and seeing my mother taken care of and loved more than anything, warmed my heart.

“With everything going back to normal, I hope that you guys will come more often. I even spoke with Damian about possibly building more accommodations.”

“You mean to this house?” Kate asked as she looked around.

“Actually, I have spoken with the guys, and we are going to be constructing a new manor, a new pack house. This one will actually hold the younger generations, those who are mateless and just starting out. Freshly graduated, almost like

a dormitory where they will be able to reside until they are ready to move out on their own.”

The idea lit smiles across their faces, and I was pleased they liked it. It was something I had taken on passionately, and even though it was just a fresh idea, I knew in time, it would be very beneficial.

Not to mention a welcome addition to go right alongside the beautiful library Damian constructed in my name for the pack.

“That’s going to be absolutely lovely, my dear. When do you start on the new house?”

“Well, the plans are still in the works of being drawn up, so we’re hoping that they can break ground on it in about a month. But the new pack house is going to have about twenty bedrooms. There’s going to be the main living area for us with a second floor for our guests and then, of course, the bottom floor, that is going to be the common areas. So it will be three stories, but it’s going to be a masterpiece.”

I was excited about the fresh changes and from the looks of my friends and family, I could tell they were also excited for us. There was a lot that was going to happen, but most importantly, we were making these changes for the fate of not only our pack, but for the future of our children.

After a few more small conversations, we all headed out front to where the pack members had gathered. Music was playing, and a variety of stations were set up for kids, and also crafts that some pack members made. Sort of like a small market.

As my eyes scanned the crowds, I spotted the twins with Damian, Hale, and Talon. Their happy faces laughing as Hale and Talon danced with them to the beat of the music. Castor loved music from what I was told, and often cried if the guys tried to turn it off.

As if knowing I was there, Damian turned, and his eyes connected with mine, and as they did a smile crept across his face till he made his way towards me. "Well, hello, gorgeous," he said, wrapping his arms around me pulling me close.

"Hello to you as well." I blushed.

"You look absolutely delicious tonight," he whispered in my ear. "Almost makes me want to take you home to finish more of what my brothers had earlier.

"Well, if you behave, perhaps later you and your brothers will enjoy more of me."

The comment was an invitation, and as I made it, a low growl echoed from his throat as he pulled me tighter against him. The feeling of his quickly hardening cock against my thigh was a welcome feeling indeed. However, for right now, there wasn't any time for that kind of fun.

We had things to do and the twins to celebrate.

As the sky quickly darkened, the bonfire was lit; we sang Happy Birthday to the twins who clapped merrily while the pack's children and other pack members stood around singing Happy Birthday, watching them blow out their candles.

Of course, we had told everybody no presents, but they wouldn't hear any of it.

The tables were piled high with gifts for the twins, and knowing that the pack loved them as much as we did was an emotional feeling. They were the future of this pack, and hopefully, they wouldn't be the only ones. It was just a matter

of time before things settled down further, and with the new house, there would be plenty of room to grow our family.

"How do you like everything?" James said to me as he walked over from the gift table where Hale and Talon were trying to wrangle two very messy children.

My mother watched as she laughed and took pictures.

"It's beautiful. You outdid yourself, James. You honestly really

did. I'm so pleased with it all." James wouldn't let me have a hand in anything through all the events. Instead, he took it upon himself, with the help of his brothers, to make today as perfect as he could.

Stepping forward, I brushed my lips against his, showing him the affection he deserved. The affection I had longed to give him all day. It was moments like this I was glad I actually had more than one mate, because each one of them had a unique

characteristic I absolutely loved.

“I don’t have time for this right now,” James said with a strained voice, obviously wanting more. “We’ve got other things that we’re doing, and if you keep it up, I’m not going to be able to control myself.”

He was hungry for me, and I could see it in his eyes that he wanted more of what I had to offer him. “Where is the fun in restraint?”

My teasing remark seemed to perk his ears, and as it did, he

grinned. “Good things come to those who wait.”

I wasn’t sure what he meant, but I was eager to find out. Quickly, with a peck to my cheek, he turned and made his way

of time before things settled down further, and with the new house, there would be plenty of room to grow our family.

“How do you like everything?” James said to me as he walked over from the gift table where Hale and Talon were trying to wrangle two very messy children.

My mother watched as she laughed and took pictures.

“It’s beautiful. You outdid yourself, James. You honestly really did. I’m so pleased with it all.” James wouldn’t let me have a hand in anything through all the events. Instead, he took it upon himself, with the help of his brothers, to make today as perfect as he could.

Stepping forward, I brushed my lips against his, showing him the affection he deserved. The affection I had longed to give him all day. It was moments like this I was glad I actually had more than one mate, because each one of them had a unique characteristic I absolutely loved.

“I don’t have time for this right now,” James said with a strained voice, obviously wanting more. “We’ve got other things that we’re doing, and if you keep it up, I’m not going to be able to control myself.”

He was hungry for me, and I could see it in his eyes that he wanted more of what I had to offer him. “Where is the fun in restraint?”

My teasing remark seemed to perk his ears, and as it did, he grinned, “Good things come to those who wait.”

I wasn’t sure what he meant, but I was eager to find out. Quickly, with a peck to my cheek, he turned and made his way

off through the crowd, disappearing from sight.

He was right, though.

There was still a lot he had on his agenda of things he wanted done for the night, and I would not be the one to burst his bubble and stop him.

Instead, I made my way over to where my mom was standing with the twins, who were getting cleaned up, and watched as she cooed over them, absolutely delighted by her grandchildren.

“They’ve gotten so big,” I said softly, her eyes casting towards me as she nodded.

“I know you missed out on a lot, dear. But there are plenty of other things to worry about. Your health being one of them.”

“I know, mom,” I said with a sigh. It’s just moments like this realized I’ve missed out on so much. I know eventually, it’ll get easier, but for now, I just have to work with it one day at a time.”

She knew exactly what I meant, and wrapping her arm around my shoulder, she pulled me close to her, kissing the side of my face just as she had always done since I was little.

“Well, now that you’re awake, you can start working on making me more grandchildren. The comment she made caused us both to laugh as I raised my brow.

“Well, there are four of them, and considering the fact they are not interested in naturally knowing which children belong to who, I can guarantee you that with their sexual appetites, I

will be pregnant more than once.

Even though this was my mother, we hid nothing from each other, and as my comment made her laugh, she looked over to Damien gestured for him to come over.

I could see the hesitation in his eyes. According to Talon, he was terrified of my mother. Although I didn’t understand why she was such a sweet lady. Nevertheless, he walked toward us with caution.

“Yes, ma’am,” he said quite quicker than I had expected, making me laugh.

“Now that my daughter’s awake and she’s looking marvelous, by the way, I do expect to have more grandchildren, so considering she says you have a very large sexual appetite, hope by next month she’s pregnant again.”

“Mom?” I exclaimed with wide eyes as I stared at her. “Come on now, our personal life’s personal. You’ll get more grandchildren when they come. We’re not rushing into anything.”

“Don’t mom me. I want more grandchildren,” she scoffed, rolling her eyes. “After all, I only got to have one child of my own, and now I’m too old to have any more. I expect to have loads of grandchildren that I can spoil.”

“Oh, my goddess! Mom, stop.” I laughed, looking at Damian apologetically

“Okay, okay.” She smirked. “I’ll go find Blake and leave you two alone.”

As soon as she was away, I stepped closer to Damian and sighed. “I am so sorry about that. She can be a little eccentric.”

“Oh, I know she can. You should have seen her while you were asleep.”

Cracking a smile, I shook my head and turned my gaze to where she had disappeared. “She isn’t wrong, though. I do want more children. I just really want to wait until we have more room because even though the pack house is big, it’s not big enough for us to have more children right now.”

ITO

“Don’t you worry about the house situation. I’m taking care of that. As for making more children, we could always start by practicing tonight,” he said in that deep, sultry voice I loved so much.

I wasn’t sure what he had in mind, but as I glanced in the direction he was looking, I saw James walking towards the house as Hale and Talon quietly handed the twins over to my mother and Blake, who were more than happy to oblige whatever they said.

And from the knowing look on my mother’s face as she glanced at me, full of mischievousness, I knew exactly what they were talking to her about.

And there was no way in hell she would decline that offer.

Chapter 122: Taking All Four

I wasn’t sure what to expect as I walked back to the house with Damian, Hale, and Talon. However, the moment I stepped into the darkened corridor of the house, I was wrapped into the firm muscular arms of James, who held me back as Hale stepped forward, a smile on his face. His deep blue eyes caused my heart to race as he raised a brow.

“You look surprised.”

My heart raced as my gaze fell upon the three of them. "Can you blame me?"

"Don't worry... we won't bite-hard." Talon chuckled, causing Damian to roll his eyes as he stepped forward.

"You held out on two of us earlier Ivy," he said in a dark, seductive voice as he cupped my chin in his hand. "That wasn't very nice, was it?"

"No," I whispered in response as I took a deep breath, the feeling of his hand cupping my aching cunt making my mind flooded with images of what they were going to do.

"No, what?"

"No, sir." I gasped, the feeling of his finger sliding beneath the fabric of my panties was more than erotic, and as he teased my clit, I wanted to come undone. "Don't tease me if you won't finish it."

I wasn't sure where the comment came from, but the moment

it left my mouth, I regretted it. The looks the guys gave me were dangerous... devious, even. I knew whatever they had planned was going to leave me completely off balance.

Before I knew it, I was lifted off my feet. James wrapped me in his arms even tighter as he dragged me back down the hall towards God knows where. It wasn't until we made it towards the basement door I questioned what exactly they had planned. They honestly had done nothing like this, but seeing this side of them turned me on more than anything.

"Are you sure you are prepared for what we have planned for you?" Hale asked in a sultry tone that seemed a dive right into the depths of my core, making me ache for him.

"Well, I can't honestly answer that, can I? Because you haven't exactly told me what you had planned." Sarcasm laced my tone, enough to make Talon scoff with laughter. Hale, however, didn't seem pleased, and taking two steps closer, he grabbed my face tight, forcing me to look at him as he leaned down, running his tongue across my lips.

"Such a pretty mouth to be so sarcastic. Perhaps tonight we'll see just what that mouth can do"

Normal girls more than likely would have been terrified of what was about to happen: four strong men, ripped to no end, taking you down into a dark basement, manhandling you, tossing you around. It would have been like something off of a crime document,

For me, though, this was absolutely fucking hot as hell.

“All talk, and no bite.” Again, with my mouth opening without thinking. Part of me was talking this way, wanting them to be

bad to me. But the other part, the more rational part of me, was asking the insane side of me if I preferred duct tape as a means to shut up.

At the end of the day, though, both sides kind of said, fuck it.

James didn’t hesitate to toss me over his shoulder, dragging me down to the basement in the dark. Hanging over his shoulder like this disoriented me, and as I moved, he smacked my ass hard, causing me to yelp, which in turn caused the

other men to chuckle.

“James... when did you decide to go from perfect dad to dominating wolf?” | teased, earning me another smack as I felt him shake his head against my side.

“It’s called balance, Ivy. We have been holding back on you with a lot of things we enjoy, and after months of you having what you wanted... well, you’re finally going to see what we want.”

“Sounds dangerous...” I muttered as I was quickly put on my feet, the light flickering on causing me to shield my eyes so they could adjust.

As I took in the room, I was shocked by what I saw. At first, I hadn’t understood why they had brought me down into the basement. It was supposed to have been turned into their man cave, but it was clear that while I was knocked out upstairs, they had other plans.

Plans that highlighted every aspect of the kink world you could possibly think of.

Paddles, robe, chains, hooks, you name it. From furniture to

more elegant features, they lined the walls and decorate the floor. It wasn’t thrown together hurriedly. It seemed they had spent a lot of time taking every bit of their interest into account in creating this room.

Four corners-four mates. That meant there were four different flavors of fun.

“Jesus Christ, you guys really were busy when I was asleep.”

Hale and Talon shrugged their shoulders with their arms crossed over their chests as they turned their gaze to Damian, who seemed to take charge in the situation. Even James had stepped back only for me to calculate that no matter what! did, it was going to be them who decided what I would get tonight.

“Here’s how this works,” Damian drawled as he slowly unbuttoned his shirt. Every slow movement of the buttons coming undone allowed me to see a part of his ripped muscles hiding beneath too much fabric. I was practically drooling with anticipation, but as he spoke again, I glanced up, trying to pay attention. “...are you listening to me?”

“Trying, but you’re being very distracting right now.”

Letting out a heavy sigh, he slid his shirt off and tossed it aside. “You will spend time in every corner with each of us, and as you do, we will send your mind reeling with fantasies.”

I was enticed. I’ll give him that. My body was practically giddy with excitement because before the meet-and-greet with the twins earlier, I hadn’t had proper fun with my mates since I had been awake. My body, now completely healed, was ready to be taken.

Ready to be treated like their perfectly good cum slut... or so I have heard Talon call me before

The thought of each of them filling me. Each of them taking me was exactly what I wanted. I wanted to please each of them, and I wanted each of them to fill me with their cum until their balls were empty and I was dripping with their satisfaction.

“Sounds delicious,” I went to say before James grabbed me from behind by the throat and pulled me close.

“I’m glad you think so, Ivy. Because I’m going first.”

Glancing over at Damian, Talon, and Hale, they all smiled at me. “Youngest to oldest, Ivy.”

I didn’t have time to question anything until I was turned around to face James. A dark, sinister look in his eyes gleamed before his lips were against mine, and his tongue was fighting with my own. The kiss was heated, far more heated than anything I had ever had with him-and I loved it.

11

Pulling me towards a four-poster bed, I was pushed against the post, my left arm quickly brought up as he shackled me to a spreader bar that was hung from hooks on the post. The tightening of the restraint caused me to glance up with a racing heart. I was excited but nervous about what was in store.

As soon as my other hand was shackled, he slid his finger down from my lips over the curves of my breast, straight towards my aching core. His fingers slowly massaged my sensitive clit as I moaned softly against him. “I know we said we would do this, but I can’t help but wonder if she would

prefer to take all four of us at once.”

Hearing him say that caused me to groan in pleasure as he moved his fingers faster against me. My head tilted back as my lips parted, my eyes rolling back in agonizing pleasure. “Yes, please.”

“Did you hear that?” Talon chuckled, “she’s begging for it.”

“I don’t know…” Damian replied. “That might be too much for her.”

“Only one way to find out,” Hale added.

They were tormenting me with their words, and as they did, I placed my gaze back on them. “You won’t know what I can take until you stop being a pussy and find out.”

Before the others could say anything to my comment, James grabbed my throat again and smiled. “Have it your way.”

I didn’t realize what I was signing myself up for, but before I knew it, the chains to my restraints were loosened, and a weird skinny brace was placed below my hips as I was bent over the object. Shackles on it were attached to my ankles, and with confusion, I watched as they made sure that I would be able to move.

It wasn’t until a fanning breath on my aching pussy made me realize that one of them was aching to taste me, and as his tongue slid across my clit I gasped.

“God, you taste so good.” James’ voice from behind me was enough for me to smile, and as my eyes slid up, I watched two very naked twins standing before me, stroking their thick

cocks.

“Look, she’s practically salivating, Hale murmured to Talon as I opened my mouth and licked my lips.

“Don’t be shy,” I teased, only to have Talon grab my hair and yank my head back with a smile on his face as he rubbed the head of his cock against my lips.

“You want it?”

“Yes,” I whispered as I stuck my tongue out to lick the pre cum from the head of his cock. A soft moan escaped him before he shoved the full length of his cock into my throat. I gagged for a moment, but slowly he thrust, giving me a second to breathe and then diving him back in.

All the while, my eyes drifted to Hale, who had a devious smile on his face as he stroked his full length, and James, who ate my pussy like a Christmas feast. The sensations building in me from that caused soft gargled noises to escape me as Talon fucked my mouth just like he wanted to.

The sensations were overwhelming, and as my mind reeled, I couldn't help but wonder where Damian was. That was until a quick sting crossed my ass, and I yelped in surprise. "Did you like that, princess?" Damian said, causing my heart to race as I tried to concentrate on what I was doing.

"I think my brother asked you a question," Talon snapped with a smile as he slid his cock from my mouth.

"Yes!" I squealed as another smack came across me. It hurt, but the pain felt so good. My pussy was throbbing, and as he did it again, the sensation from James made me cry out as the

first of many orgasms swept through me.

"Your turn Hale," Damian ordered as Talon stepped back, letting Hale take his place."- and James... fuck that tight cunt of hers. Make her scream again.

They didn't waste time in doing what Damian ordered, and as Hale slid his cock into my lips. I moaned only to have my tight pussy filled with James' thick cock. The rapid thrusts he produced slammed me forward just as Hale thrust into my throat.

To make matters more insane. I watched Talon out of the corner of my eyes, pick up a massive white wand with a gigantic head, and push a button, turning it on. I wasn't sure what the hell it was, but as he walked toward James, I had a feeling I was about to find out.

A rush of vibrations blasted across my sensitive clit, sending me forward as I tried to move. Another wave of pleasure coming from my throat as I came hard against it. With Hale in my throat, and James in my cunt couldn't control them.

The rippling waves of pleasure tore through me one after another until I felt James leave me, and the shackles slowly come undone. It was Damian, though, who took me in his arms as I used him to lean against. The smile he gave me wasn't as dangerous as it once was, but the words he whispered into my ears sent a rush of heat through me I wasn't expecting

"I want to knot with you tonight, Ivy. I want you to carry my child, but, take James and the twins at the same time. Do you think you can do that?"

They hesitated for a moment. They had already made me weak, but the fact that Damian wanted to knot with me and have me carry his child was something that spurred a fire in my soul. "Yes."

It was the only answer he needed, and I was quickly carried over to the bed where my three other mates were waiting eagerly for me. James took my arm as Damian climbed onto the bed. His thick cock waiting to take me, and as I climbed up to straddle him, I cherished the feeling of his fingers running across my sides.

Slowly, I lowered my aching tight cunt over his cock, and as I did, I gasped softly. "Fuck, it's so thick."

"Mmm..." Damian groaned. "I'll never get tired of how amazing your pussy feels."

Pulling me forward, he took my lips in heated passion. James came behind me and dripped something thick and cool over my puckered ass before the feeling of his finger intruding me caused me to whimper as I slowly relaxed.

"Good girl," he said as he stretched my ass before lining the head of his cock up slowly, pressing it into me inch by inch.

"Good girl." He said as he stretched my ass before lining the head of his cock up slowly, pressing it into me inch by inch.

"Breath, Ivy," Damian whispered as he kissed me again.

Stilling for a moment, I relaxed around them both, and as I did, I nodded, the slow movements of their cocks inside of me causing me to groan in pleasure, "Open your mouth, Ivy." Hale said as I glanced to my left to see his cock ready and waiting.

I did as he asked, and as the sensations from Damian and James possessed every inch of me, I let Hale slowly fuck my mouth until his pace quickened, and I knew he wanted to cum.

"Fuck, her ass is so tight. I won't be able to go much longer," James moaned as he picked up pace, and quickly stilled, spilling himself inside me.

"Knot her, Damian," Talon cried out. "I want to watch her cum undone with you."

"Me too," Hale replied as he slipped his cock from my mouth. "Fuck her hard."

As James removed himself from me, I was quickly flipped over onto my back. Damian hovered over my body as he thrust savagely into my tight cunt. The force of his thrusts caused me to whimper as he took my lips again.

The swell of his knot was coming, and as it did, I glanced to each twin who stood on either side of me. Their eyes locked onto my face as they slowly stroked their thick cocks, picking up pace as Damian pounded away at me.

When I didn't think I could take anymore, I came hard, my tight pussy clasp around Damian like a vise as he came hard just as the warm spray of cum crossed my chest from the twins.

It was the first time we had ever all fucked like this, but the sensation and moment was something I would never forget. I was taken with them. Captivated with my mates in every way, and as the moment was over, they didn't hesitate to tend to my every need.

"You're such a good girl, Ivy," Damian whispered as he stroked my bottom lip with his thumb.

Chapter 123: News of the Future

I wasn't sure what I was expecting when they took me into the house, but one thing I did know was whatever they had had planned for me; I was going to enjoy it.

Damn, was I right.

When they took me down into the basement, they had absolutely blown my mind with the things they had done to me. They touched every inch of my body and every bit of my soul. I loved them more than anything, and nothing in the world would ever complete me more than they did.

Except my children, of course.

By the time the night was over, and they carried me upstairs toward my bed, I was exhausted! They had made sure after everything they had done to me, I received the proper care needed, from them cleaning me up to caressing my body to kissing me gently, showing me nothing but affection.

Every bit of it was sweet and romantic; after I gave them the pleasure they wanted, they tended to me as if I was everything to them, which I was, in a way. I wasn't just their mate. I wasn't just their Luna. I wasn't just the mother of their

children.

I was the love of their life.

They had shown that to me more than once, and looking back at everything we had gone through, I wouldn't have changed a thing. *We* wouldn't be here if it wasn't for the trouble we

had gone through to get to where we are.

All of the trials we faced together ended up strengthening us, strengthened our love, made us unbreakable. And at the end of the day, we never gave up. We never gave up on the hope one day our family could live as we always wanted.

In peace with everything we had built.

Laying in between my mates, their arms and legs entangled with my own, a massive pile up on my bed barely big enough to contain us all-I laid awake. I listened to the steady beating of their hearts, and the slow rhythm of their breathing.

They were just as worn out as I was.

The only problem for me, though was I was no longer sleeping. My mind wandered over everything, wondering if there was something I was missing, and when I couldn't take it anymore, I slipped from the bed and made my way downstairs to the kitchen.

It wasn't until I was deep in the fridge searching for a snack, absolutely famished from all the exercise I had gotten from the guys I realized I was no longer alone in the kitchen. Turning slowly, I came face to face with a familiar set of eyes I had not seen in a very long time.

"Kara, what are you doing here?"|

She stood before me as she always did, a brilliant warrior outfit decorated upon her body, her sword against her chest as her wings folded behind her back. An elegant headdress of feathers and jewels upon her head as her silver eyes stared at me with amusement as a small touch of a smile crossed her

lips.

"It's good to see that you're awake." She stepped forward. "Word spread, in the realm that you had finally awakened. The others were eager to know if the rumors were true. So they sent me to check on you."

"That was very kind to them. I'm sad that I missed out on so much of my children's lives. It would have been nice had my father helped me along in the journey to waking up sooner."

My comment was sarcastic and slightly unneeded, but I was

allowed to feel the way I did after everything I had been through. Kara seemed to know this as well, and, raising a brow, she shook her head. "Yes, I do apologize for that."

“Why did he wait so long, Kara, to tell me he was my father? I know there was no way to make it through, but I had met Frigga and you in the dream realm and never once did he approach me.”

She stood there in silence, unsure of what to say, as she tried to formulate words multiple times, but her mouth opening and closing vocalized nothing. After a moment of silence between us, I looked at her curiously to know why she had absolutely nothing to say and what she said next shook me to my core.

“It isn’t easy being Odin. He has done things in his past that he regrets. But you were not one of them and trust me when I say he had wished many times to be here. That is why he’s going to give you the gift that he is. That is why he is going to train them and protect them.”

Train them and protect them? What in the hell was she on about?

“I’m sorry, I’m not following. Train and protect who?” I asked her with a narrowed gaze, trying to understand what she was saying. Even though, deep down, I had a feeling I already knew who she was referencing.

Standing up straight, she adjusted herself, her eyes widening in surprise as her smile fell. “Your mates didn’t tell you, I take *it?*”

“No, they obviously didn’t. So why don’t you enlighten me on what it is you’re talking about?”

“Well,” She said with hesitation. A prophecy was read when your children were born. Within that prophecy, it deems Pollux and Castor as the saviors of our realm.”

“The saviors of your realm? You mean the realm of the gods?”

That isn’t possible. They’re just babies.” I laughed, trying to shake off whatever she was trying to say.

“Ivy, this is not something we would joke about. Your children are special. Gifted even, and they have an important future ahead of them that demands they be present in our world.” I could tell that she was trying her hardest to get me to understand what she was saying, but the only thing I heard from that sentence was ‘in their world’.

“We can’t all move to your world, Kara. That is impossible. We have people here to take care of.” I replied angrily.

Yet, when my gaze met hers again, I could clearly see | misunderstood her. "Ivy, that isn't what-"

"No, absolutely not," I snapped, cutting her off. "Over my dead body."

My reply was firm, and as her lips tightened into a thin line, she took a deep breath and exhaled, trying to force a smile on her face, as if she was talking to someone who didn't quite understand. "I hate to break it to you, but the terms have already been set."

"And I hate to break it to you, but no terms have been set with me."

Even though I expected my comment to anger her, a smile spread across her face from ear to ear. I wasn't sure what she found funny. There was no way I agreed to this.

Unless....

When she said the terms have been met, it meant an arrangement had already been agreed upon. More than likely while I was asleep. "No..."

"From the look in your eyes right now, Ivy, I have a feeling that thoughts are running through your mind over your mates possibly agreeing to something.

"They wouldn't do that. They know how much my children mean to me," I replied in disbelief

"That they do, which is why they actually had made a counteroffer to benefit you," Kara added as she pulled a small knife from her pocket as she began picking at her nails.

"What kind of counteroffer would benefit me? You're talking about taking my children. There's no way in hell that's going

to fucking happen," I shot back at her as I tried to keep my tone at a low whisper. The last thing I wanted were my mates waking up to this conversation. I wasn't ready to see them if they had agreed to this.

"Unfortunately, Ivy, you no longer have a say in this. You were outnumbered, your mates agreed. What is going to happen is going to happen whether you want it to or not," she said, causing my blood to boil as panic set in.

"No, that isn't fair!"

"You're overreacting, Ivy." Kara sighed. "I could have taken them at six months old before you even woke up. I am on your side of this... they won't go till they turn eighteen."

"On my side? Are you fucking serious right now, Kara? These are my children."

"I know they are, but they will need guidance on how to use their powers, Ivy. Guidance that you never had, and look how well that went." She countered, giving a low blow to my self esteem.

She wasn't wrong. I hadn't even known what I was, and I had made a terrible mess of things. I couldn't let that happen to

them. I couldn't allow them to not know who or what they are.

Powers. My children had powers!

Wrapping my head around the idea was impossible. I was still an immortal when I had them, and those genes passed down to them at birth. Immortality, I gave up to save Damian, and would still do even if time was returned to that moment.

"There has to be another way."

Shaking her head, she gave me a sad look. "I wish there was, but there isn't. We aren't even sure when they will start using their powers."

It took everything in me to leave that thought out of my mind in front of Kara. I had known the answer to that statement, and that was because of Castor. It was because of her I woke up. The being inside her brought me back, and if Kara knew, it may have changed her mind.

She may have forced them to leave now.

"Please," I whispered, with tears in my eyes. "You can't do this, Kara. They can't go through what I went through."

Low, heavy footsteps on the hardwood floor behind me caught my attention, and as I turned, I saw Damian stepping forth from the shadows of the hallway, his arms crossed over his chest as he looked between Kara and I before letting out a heavy sigh.

"This wasn't how I wanted you to find out. I was planning actually to have this conversation with you tomorrow," he said. "I need you to understand that this is for the best. It will help them."

"How could you?" I snapped at him, not understanding why he would ever agree to give her children away. "They are mine too, and you didn't even speak to me about this. You didn't even ask my opinion."

"How were we supposed to have asked your opinion, Ivy? You were unconscious for a year. What we did, we agreed upon in

unison. We grew up not knowing how to control what we were, and it took over us until we were old enough to understand what was going on i

What Damien was saying made sense. He didn't even need to finish that sentence for me to know exactly where he was going with it, and tears continued streaming down my face as I nodded my head.

It wasn't Kara's fault. She was simply doing as Odin, my so called father, told her to do.

"Okay," I hissed. "Eighteen."

Kara seemed pleased with my response and nodded her head. "I will leave you two for now. I will be back in a few years to check on them. If you need me, you know how to call for me."

I didn't know, but I wasn't about to tell her that.

Watching her go, I turned to Damian, who looked at me, surprised. "You are actually agreeing to that?"

"Are you fucking kidding me? Absolutely not."

"But-" he stammered with confusion.

"Damian, I know that you guys were just trying to prolong it. I'm not angry at you... it wasn't like you had a choice in the matter. However, if they think they are going to take my children, they are sadly mistaken," I exclaimed as I smacked my hand upon the counter.

Stepping towards me, he wrapped me into his embrace, kissing the top of my head. "We have till their eighteenth birthday to find a way out of this. To find a way to keep them

safe. Let us just focus on that, and our family. Don't let Kara's words upset you."

I was silent in the end. Thinking over everything going on, and the fact the gods thought they were entitled to my children, when in reality, they were not. I may not have been an immortal anymore, but I was still the creature I had been before.

I could feel her beneath my skin. Not as strong, but still very much alive.

If they thought they were going to ruin my family and take my children...

Well, I'd find a way to destroy them all.

The End.

Authors Note

Thank you all, my darling readers for staying with me through the first two books