

## **TLOA Lycan 441**

### **Chapter 441 - THIRTEEN YEARS OLD (5)**

"That woman." Hope nodded at the creepy woman with golden eyes, who was still smiling at her. "She has beautiful eyes." She murmured.

"Hm?" yet Rena frowned and followed Hope's line of sight to see nothing. "What woman? I don't see someone there."

Rena's comment made Hope freeze and turned her head slowly, as natural as she could, hope that the other woman didn't realize it, though it was impossible, as their eyes had already met.

"Nothing. Never mind that." Hope grabbed Rena's wrist to pull her to join with Aidan and Gary, at the side where two servants were helping them to prepare the barbecue stuff.

Rena frowned at Hope, but she didn't ask anymore question when Sebastian and Alyssa joined them and the small party began.

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Hope was checking her phone again and again. The time almost hit midnight, but this small party was far from over.

Now she truly regretted her decision when Sebastian called his other friends to come and joined them.

Ten boys around the age of fifteen to twenty and three more girls, just a few years older than Hope and her friends.

This barbecued party turned wilder with music and all. Hope hated it to the bones.

She checked her phone once again and risked to be scolded when she tried to call Kace's number, but his phone was not active, Lana too.

Now, Hope was sitting at the corner, the most quiet place in this backyard, away from the people who were dancing happily near the swimming pool. Alyssa and Rena were among them.

Hope didn't know if her two best friends were like that. It seemed this wasn't the first time they were in this kind of situation as they could fit in just fine with new people.

Well, unfortunately Hope didn't have the ability to adapt that fast. Even when almost all the boys there were trying to make a conversation with her, she chose to scurry away and hid herself here.

Not to mention the woman with the golden eyes, who was still staring at Hope from the same position where she first saw her.

It was not normal for those creatures to directly look her in the eyes, yet as though she knew Hope could see her, that woman confirmed it.

Once again, Hope tried to call Kace's number, but it didn't go through. He was still out of reach.

"What are you doing, hiding alone here?" it was Aidan, again. He slurred as he plopped his body down next to Hope.

Aidan's body was reeked with alcohol, but he looked sober enough for someone who had drunk too much.

"Were you trying to call home?" Aidan glanced at the phone in Hope's hand. "Don't worry, Sebastian would drive the three of you back."

Hope could only roll her eyes dramatically. She highly doubted that, seeing how Alyssa and Sebastian were nowhere to be seen.

"Nice necklace." Aidan commented when he saw Hope was playing with her pendant absentmindedly. "Can I see it?"

The necklace was the same necklace that Kace had given her for her first birthday, Lana told her about it and she always wore it ever since.

"Please, just for a little while." Aidan prodded, he stretched out his hand, asking Hope to allow him to take a look of it.

Hope was hesitated, she never took off the necklace before, yet what harm could have done by her letting Aidan see it for a little while, right?

Thus, she pulled the necklace over her head and put it on Aidan's opened palm, the ray of the moon fell on the pendant, which was a replica of the moon too.

However, the moment the necklace was with Aidan, he stood up and held it high to scrutinize it with his amber eyes.

"This is a beautiful necklace." He said like a murmur.

Hope felt uncomfortable for some reason, she got anxious, especially when she didn't see the woman with golden eyes again across the swimming pool.

Where did she go?

"Yes, it is." Hope stood up next to Aidan as she extended her hands, asking her necklace back. "Can I have my necklace?"

Yet, the moment Aidan tilted his head to look back at her, his eyes no longer the color of amber, but it was golden. The same color as the woman that she saw.

Aidan didn't say anything, but he grabbed the necklace and crushed it into dust only by using his single hand.

Hope's mind worked very late to discern the scene before her eyes. She was standing there, staring at the shattering pieces of her necklace that blew with the wind and when her eyes traced back to Aidan's eyes, only that time that she knew she was in deep trouble.

"You are not Aidan." That statement passed her lips in a whisper, but Aidan just smiled at her... creepily with the eyes that not even his.

Hope squinted her eyes at Aidan or whatever he was now, from the corner of her eyes she could see Alyssa, Rena, Sebastian and all of his friends were clueless about the thing that happened here.

Hope took a shaky breath as she glanced over at them, ready to run.

However, before she could take a step away, everything had turned dark. The first thought that flashed Hope's mind was; she passed out.

Yet, when Hope heard there were two or three girls screaming in surprised she knew, that wasn't the case, apparently it was power failure.

Realizing she was still standing in front of Aidan, which part of his soul was not his anymore, Hope immediately ran toward the crowd and found Alyssa.

"We have to get out from here!" Hope informed them nervously.

"It's alright, Sebastian is already gone to check it." Alyssa giggled at Hope's expression, she just thought her friend only exaggerated her reaction.

"No. You don't understand, we have to get out from here! Now!" Hope was half screaming at Alyssa and this made the girl wide her eyes questioningly.

#### **Chapter 442 - THIRTEEN YEARS OLD (6)**

"What happened? Is something wrong?" Alyssa frowned upon seeing how upset Hope was.

Everything was wrong!

Hope wanted to scream that words to Alyssa, yet before that could slip passed her lips, the situation proved that she was right.

At first, a piercing and shrill sound could be heard in the distance followed by a wave of question 'what happened?' among the crowd.

Hope and Alyssa also followed the source of it until they watched one of the Sebastian's girl friend, had laid on the ground, having seizure and then she didn't move at all.

"Sh\*t! what happened to her?!" almost all the boy sobered up from the alcohol effect, once they witnessed another girl was having the same seizures before she dropped to the ground and stayed still.

"Check on them! What happened to them!" the only girl who was left from her group was too afraid to approach her friends, her body was shaking uncontrollably beside a blonde guy.

"Did they overdose?" one of the nearest guy crouched down and inspected his girl friend, concern in his eyes.

"No way! They didn't use anything, we are just drinking." The last girl cried out, there was no way her friend had taken something without her knowing it. They were together all the time.

"Oh, Sh\*t! D\*mn!" the guy cursed out loud as he crawled backward, trying to stay away from the two girls.

"What? What happened?" automatically, the crowd that circled the two bodies on the ground, taking three steps away too, scared because of the guy's reaction.

The guy was helped to stand up and with shaking finger, he pointed at the two girls while speaking in a hoarse voice. "The girls... they are dead!" he exclaimed.

An uproar erupted from the crowd as they tried to be as far away as they could from the two bodies, yet near enough to shot an anxious look to the girls' body.

"Hope." Alyssa whipped her head toward Hope beside her, fear in those eyes. "Hope, you know something about this?" it was weird enough for Hope to react that way, but when Alyssa saw what was happening, probably Hope knew something about this.

"No. I don't." Hope's eyes locked on the dead bodies, it felt like she didn't have the strange to look away from it. "Are they really dead?" she asked with shaking voice.

Hope had been warned to not go out alone after the dark and not to take off her necklace, yet she violated those rules.

However, how she could have known the consequences would be like this!

Hope shook her head vigorously. Maybe... maybe this was only coincidence? This couldn't be happening just because she broke the rules, right?

It was too far- fetched to think that way.

"Hope, I am afraid." Alyssa whimpered beside her and grabbed Hope's hand tightly.

To say Hope was afraid too, it was understatement, because she could see more than what Alyssa or those people there could see it.

Hope darted her attention toward Aidan, yet he had gone, the spot where he was standing minutes ago had empty and her necklace had been destroyed.

"Let's get Sebastian, he must know what to do." Alyssa let out shaky breath and grabbed Hope's wrist, tugging her along with her to enter the house through the same door where Sebastian had disappeared to check on the electricity power with some servants.

"Where is Rena? We have to get her too." Hope tried to slow down Alyssa, but she was too afraid to stay in the back yard.

"It's alright, Rena went inside the house with Gary not long before that happened." Alyssa grumbled, trying to find her way in this dark house. It was only the ray of the moonlight from the huge window that lining at their left side in the corridor that illuminated that place. "I am sure she is fine."

Hope prayed that was true. She didn't want anything bad happened to people that she knew.

The further they went inside the house, the darker it became. "Alyssa, do you know where we will go? You know this place?"

Alyssa stopped in the room that looked like a gym, frustration was written all over her face and this didn't settle well with Hope. "I don't know Hope, this is the first time I am being here too." she groaned.

"So, why did you tug me here?" Hope let out a frustration groan of herself by Alyssa recklessness.

"I remembered I came from that door and turned this way to reach the front door." Alyssa defended herself.

Hope let out a frustrated groan when they had to retrace back to the corridor where they came before.

However, when they were about to turn around, someone walked straight toward them and bumped Alyssa, because she walked ahead of Hope while dragging her.

"Ouch!" Alyssa's hand immediately let go of Hope's wrist and flew to her face, her nose was a little bit hurt because of the sturdy body that she bumped onto. "What the heck!" she cursed.

"Oh, I am sorry!"

Hope froze in an instant when she heard that voice and the person that they encountered. Out of instinct she pulled Alyssa away from him.

"What?" Alyssa rubbed her nose and looked at Hope questioningly. "What are you afraid of? He is Aidan." She grumbled, why Hope acted very strange in this past hour?

Hope ignored Alyssa complained, but her hand gripped her tightly, didn't let Alyssa to walk over toward Aidan.

Frustrated, Alyssa let Hope to hold her as she asked Aidan. "Where is Sebastian? Have you seen him?"

Aidan shrugged. "I see him there." He pointed toward the other corridor, "he was looking for you."

Alyssa let out audible sigh and smiled with relief. "Let's go there." she was about to walk toward the direction that Aidan told her, but Hope didn't budge and held her still.

"Hope! What is it now!?" Hope action started to make her irritated.

But, Hope just locked her eyes on Aidan and spoke slowly. "You have golden eyes color."

#### **Chapter 443 - THIRTEEN YEARS OLD (7)**

Alyssa whipped her head toward Aidan and frowned. "I don't know if your eyes are golden." Yet, she shrugged that fact off. "Whatever, let's find Sebastian."

Alyssa tugged her hand away from Hope, but she didn't want to release her and this really pissed her off. "Hope, I don't know what is wrong with you! If you don't want to go, I will go alone!" Alyssa snapped at her.

A smile pulled on the corner of Aidan's lips. "Yes, Hope. Why don't you leave her alone, so we can talk?" his voice was slightly hoarse and deep, but Alyssa didn't notice that.

She tugged her hand hard from Hope and immediately dashed away from her and Aidan while shouting over her shoulder. "I will find Sebastian and Rena, just stay with Aidan!" her voice was upset, but it laced with concern too.

"Hello, dear." Aidan spoke with throaty voice.

Hope's expression turned hard as she glanced over Aidan's shoulder to find a way to escape from this predicament. She didn't know what happened with Aidan or maybe he was possessed by something, but she was glad that he left Alyssa alone.

"I don't know you." if Hope was afraid, she didn't show it on her face. "What do you want from me?"

As she talked, Hope crept her back along the wall very naturally, slowly shifted their position, but she didn't immediately ran away, knowing whatever possessed Aidan would tackle her to the ground in a blink of an eye.

She needed more time to think about it.

"What a cliché question..." Aidan sneered, he licked his lips as his golden eyes shone even brighter. "I have been looking for you since you are a baby."

Hope frowned. Since she was a baby? What was that mean? That was why Serefina and Kace were very adamant to not let her out of their sight? Because there was a creepy creature that looked after her? Why they didn't tell her?

It would be easier for Hope if those three people could just tell her everything. They didn't need to hide it since Hope could understand their reason now.

Hope was upset, but she was still aware there was a danger that lurking around in the form of human in front of her.

"Well, now you find me." Hope walked back to the direction where Alyssa had gone. However, she still considered her choice, because this creature seemed to not take interest toward her friend.

Wouldn't that endanger them if Hope ran toward them? For now, Hope was sure that this creature only wanted her. action

"Did you kill those two girls?" Hope tried to buy as much time as she could.

Unexpectedly, Aidan chuckled upon hearing Hope's question. "Oh, I like it. I like their soul." He tilted his head and flashed Hope a harmless smile. "But I like you better."

Gluttony remembered the first time she laid her eyes on her and her intoxicating scent as if inviting her to consume her whole.

Yet, Kace and the witch were on the way and they had been keeping the girl all this time. Not only that, even when Gluttony managed to find her a few years ago, she couldn't come closer because of the protection that Serefina had placed on her.

The necklace.

That thing prevented her to come near this source of smell.

However, tonight, without the protection of Serefina and the lycan around, she was free to do anything toward her, especially after she destroyed that necklace. Hope last protection.

Five years ago, Gluttony also came across with a little girl, who had this same intoxicating scent. Afterward she sent two people to go to the girl's house, unfortunately those two stupid creatures failed and the little girl was gone.

That made Gluttony frustrated, because either that little girl or this girl in front of her, they were both had that inviting scent that she couldn't resist.

Gluttony liked young soul better.

"Come to me and no one would get hurt.?? Aidan extended his arms, trying to close the gap between them, but Hope took another step to avoid him.

"Why should I listen to you?" Hope's black eyes shone fiercely under the moonlight that streamed down from the big window behind her. She looked very beautiful.

...and delicious in Gluttony's mind.

"You killed two girls." Hope glanced at the other side of the corridor, there was a door, which would lead to the side yard.

Hope and Alyssa accidentally opened that door when they looked for the main door earlier.

"They were nothing." Aidan crossed his arms, his golden eyes traced along Hope's line of sight and found the same door. He chuckled. "Don't waste your time to think a way of escaping this situation." than his chuckled turned even creepier. "You will not stand a chance."

Hope straightened her back as the door just right beside her. She glanced at it briefly. "So, why don't you tell me, why were you looking for me?"

"I don't know." Aidan shrugged his shoulder and crossed his arms. "You smell good I guess."

Despite her fear, she felt disgusted, though Aidan was being possessed by something now, but to actually hear it out loud from his lips, it still sounded disgusting and Hope didn't like it in the slightest.

It sounded pervert.

"You kept asking me questions." Aidan walked over toward Hope, but this time the girl didn't move, she stood her ground with sharp eyes. "This is my turn to ask you."

Hope raised her eyebrows, "Well, I guess you are too kind, asking your prey in their last breath?"

Aidan chuckled. "You are special dear. I think I enjoy this moment, feeling your fear in the air and how you are trying hard to conceal how scare you are now."

Hope gritted her teeth and glanced at the door again. "Well, if you want to ask me, just do it." She shrugged her shoulder nonchalantly as she felt the vibration on her pocket, someone was calling her now.

Who is it? Kace?

**Chapter 444 - THIRTEEN YEARS OLD (8)**

"Why are you with the Donovan?" Aidan stopped three steps away from Hope, leaning his body against the wall next to him, didn't even bother when he watched Hope was grabbing the handle of the door, ready to flee. "You know who is he?"

Hope knew Kace's last name was Donovan, but... "That the same question that I want to ask him too if you don't mind to let me live a little bit longer." Hope answered offhandedly. She reached her pocket and swept her hand across her phone screen that she assumed it would answer the call, whoever it is.

"Hmm." Aidan rubbed his chin. "So, you don't know?" his voice a little bit off as he contemplated. "Don't you think that you are too ignorance, little girl?"

Hope scoffed. She had been living with Serefina for as long as she could remember, of course there were one or two traits of that witch that she got. Especially, her arrogant personality when it came to threat.

"If you know him very well, then you should have known he would come to this house, right in the second corridor where it next to gym." Hope rumbled about her location, so whatever the caller was could hear that, moreover if that was really Kace.

"Are you trying to give your location?" Aidan's golden eyes traced her body and stopped at her pocket, where Hope's phone was.

Hope didn't say anything, but her silence broke in that very second when she felt something exploded on her pocket.

Hope dropped to the floor, clutching her h.i.p.s where she could feel her phone had been shattered and the sharp shard pierced her jeans and skin. Her breath hitched with the pain that came after that.

She bit her bottom lips to stop her from crying. She could feel the area on her h.i.p.s soaked with liquid. Blood?

Hope gritted her teeth as she shot a menacing glare at Aidan or whatever he was at this moment.

The pain was so real! She had never felt this kind of pain before. No. Kace and Lana would make sure she would never be in any kind of pain before!

There was a moment when she fell from the stairs and Kace would wreck some havoc just to get her to the hospital, though it was still bearable. He scolded Lana for so long because of that.

Aidan sniffed the air with eyes closed, relishing the scent of Hope's blood that almost like a drug for him and this made Hope felt disgusted just to see him.

"It is so annoying to be in this body..." Aidan murmured as he ambled toward Hope, who was still crouching on the floor, clutching her bleeding h.i.p.s.

Hope tried to move away from Aidan, but the pain prevented her to do so.

"I wonder, what are you?" Aidan dropped to his knees and stared at Hope's eyes. The helpless sight of her pulled a harmless smile on his lips. "I have never come across scent like this except a few years ago..."



Gluttony still remembered clearly that child's scent even now, it would be great if he had that girl and this one...

Aidan gripped Hope's chin as the girl glared at him menacingly and this only made him chuckles. "Such a brave girl you are..."

Aidan's golden eyes traced down at the Hope's fingers where her blood soaked through the fabric of her pants.

He stretched out his hand to touch the liquid, but a deep frown morphed on his face when he looked at his forefinger, the tip of it which made contact with Hope's blood was badly charred.

"What happened with this?" Aidan's grip on Hope's chin loosened as he stared at his finger. "How could this happen?"

Aidan was puzzled, but Hope was at lost as well. Because their close proximity, she could see how her blood had that effect on him, yet her mind worked faster to help herself from this situation.

Looking at the burn on Aidan's finger, she knew what she has to do.

Hope raised her bloody hand and pushed Aidan away from her with that very hand, smeared her blood on his face.

Gluttony didn't expect this move from Hope, thus this action caught him out of guard as he stumbled backward while covering his face. It burned badly.

A shrill scream followed afterward, echoing in that empty corridor. Hope watched how Aidan rolled on the floor, clutching his face as he screamed in pain.

Even with that commotion there was no one came to look what was happening, Hope became wonder what had happened to the rest of her friends.

Yet, she couldn't stay there any longer and wait for Aidan to recover, or became too upset to even engage in conversation like before.

Thus, ignoring the seared pain that shot through her h.i.p.s, Hope opened the door beside her and pushed herself out of that house.

She closed the door and used it as her support to stand up. The pain made her groan and curse under her breath.

Now, there was no way for her to make a contact to Kace since whatever creature that possessed Aidan had destroyed it.

She had to find another way, but first, she had to find the main gate so she could escape from this house. It would take enormous effort with her bleeding h.i.p.s.

Ignoring the pain, Hope drag herself along the side yard, she still could hear Aidan's scream before it became very quite.

The power had not yet fixed, hence the only light that helped Hope to see was only the pale moonlight.

Instead of being in the middle of the city, Hope felt like she was in middle of nowhere, everything was very dark and quiet.

Hope didn't know how long she had walked, but the moment her eyes caught a sight of the white wolf, she could feel her tensed body relax almost immediately.

However, the white wolf snarled and dashed toward her with his sharp fangs on full display.

#### **Chapter 445 - THIRTEEN YEARS OLD (9)**

"KACE!" Hope screamed on the top of her lungs when she watched the white wolf dashed toward her with his sharp fangs and claws.

Out of instinct, Hope dropped to the ground and covered her head between her hands, she thought Kace was about to attack her based on the vicious look on his red eyes.

However, the pain that she expected didn't come, instead there was a loud menacing snarl and growl from behind her.

Slowly, with thumping heart, Hope pried her eyes opened and watched in horror when the white lycan was trying to tear a woman apart.

Hope had never seen her before, but from the look of it, apparently the woman was another supernatural creature and when Hope's eyes landed on her golden one, she knew immediately who she was...

Those golden eyes...

Was she the creature that possessed Aidan earlier?

Hope was very astounded by what she was witnessing until something soft touched the side of her body.

She flinched and was about to fight and run away again when her eyes caught a sight of brown wolf beside her.

"Lana!" Hope exclaimed in surprise as the feeling of relief flooded her system and let her to take relax. With Kace and Lana were here, she was safe now.

The brown wolf nudged on Hope's h.i.p.s and she grimaced. "It's okay..." She mumbled and let the brown wolf to help her to stand up, moved to the side so they wouldn't catch within the fight that occurred.

Hope supported her body with the wall behind her and watched as the white Lycan tore the woman's neck and threw her ruthlessly to the nearby tree.

The tree shook and let out a cracking sound, ye it didn't fall.

The woman crawled with her arms to avoid the vicious attack from the white lycan and rolled her body aside.

At this point, Hope had forgotten about the pain on her h.i.p.s. The scene before her eyes was something that she had never seen before. She had never known that the gentle white wolf could turn into something so brutal like this.

It didn't mean Hope mind it, after all, the woman had possessed her friend's body and almost killed her if Kace and Lana didn't come right in time.

When the fight was still happening, another growls and snarls could be heard from the distance and it wasn't only one or two, from the sound of it, it seemed there were at least ten werewolves or Lycans were coming toward their direction. action

Hope could feel the brown wolf, which was standing in front of her, tensed. She let out a low and deep growl on her own.

What is it? Are they not friends? Since they were coming from the same kind, Hope thought they would help them, yet the long howl from the white lycan told her, it seemed that wasn't the case.

The disturbance made the white Lycan stopped with his attack, unfortunately that one moment was used by the woman to escape, the time her figure ran toward the tree, she disappeared, leaving only white smoke as she vanished without a trace.

The white lycan snarl and growl in his anger, seeing his prey managed to get away.

But, everything happened really fast when because the same moment the woman with golden eyes disappeared into thin air, there were around twenty werewolves and Lycans came into Hope's line of sight.

The brown wolf in front of Hope anxiously pushed her against the wall, hiding her figure from the creatures that had just come.

Yet, it was futile attempt because they could sniff her scent from where they were standing in their four sturdy legs.

Fortunately, the majestic and livid white lycan before their eyes was enough to draw their attention from Hope.

Among the crowd of huge wolves, there was one big grey wolf that stepped forward. Though that wolf wasn't as big as the white one, but its size was bigger than the other creatures that came with him.

The two creatures stared at each other for a few seconds before the big grey wolf lowered its head and showed its neck.

Hope recognized that as a sign of submissive. Kace had told her about one or two rules within his kinds and it was also indicated that Kace held higher position compared to the rest of the werewolves and lycans there.

That fact alone was enough to make Hope sighed in relief.

She couldn't imagine if Kace had to fight those twenty creatures, though Lana would help, Hope doubted they would have an upper hand.

Afterward, there was an ear-piercing cracking sound from the big grey wolf as he shifted into his human's form.

He was a man, who was only slightly shorter from Kace, wearing torn jeans and tee shirt, yet the around him showed that he was someone with high rank that couldn't be underestimated.

"My name is Calleb Watson. I am Gamma supreme in Torak Donovan pack." That man introduced himself. "I assume you are the brother of our Alpha."

Calleb used question mark in the end of his sentence as he stared at the white lycan before him. It was well known that there were only three white lycan and all of them were Donovan.

Whoever they were, they couldn't disregard the royal family from their kinds, though this was not the other Donovan's land.

To answer Calleb question, Kace shifted back into his human form with his clothes and pants intact. His blue eyes were still the color of blood, but he was aware enough with his surrounding and has fully control over his beast.

"Gluttony is in your land and you don't know about that." Kace growled in deep voice, his eyes bore a hole on the Gamma. "Yet, because of you, she managed to escape."

"We know she is in our land and we have been chasing after her in these past years." Calleb admitted. "I guess you are Kace Donovan, would you like to meet your brother to talk about this?"

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Kace sneered while he folded his thick arms in front of his chest, glaring at the Gamma sternly as if he just asked something that totally wrong. "Do you think I am here to meet him?"

Calleb smiled harmlessly, he was that kind of man who would always be smiling regardless of the situation. "My apologize, but this is Alpha Torak's territory. I think, at least, you wanted to say 'hi' to your brother."

"Say 'hi' to him from me." Kace waved his hand toward Calleb and his blood red eyes gradually turned into its initial ocean blue. "I think with bunch of wolves that you bring here, you can still manage to look for the devil." Kace nodded at the rest of the shifter behind Calleb who were still in their beast form, showing their neck to the royal family member.

Calleb rubbed his chin, "I think you know it is impossible for us to track her since she had vanished."

"Whatever." Kace answered nonchalantly. "Don't bother to report this to Torak, I will be on my way out of this city after I am done to take care of my friend."

"You know that I couldn't do that, I will have to report everything that happened here to my Alpha." Calleb flashed an apologetic smile, yet it didn't reach his eyes.

Afterward, he tilted his head toward the direction of the brown wolf, but his main focus wasn't on that creature, because he could smell it.

"You befriend with human?" Calleb's smile fell as he frowned and asked Kace.

"That is none of your business." Once again, the color of his eyes changed into dark one, the harsh tone in his voice made a few werewolves among the crowd with lower rank whimpered.

Kace wasn't an Alpha of some pack, but he was still the royal family of the Lycantrhopes.

Seeing Kace was showing his temper, Calleb tried to pacify the angry lycan. "I am sorry for my rude comment, but is there any way that I could help you with?"

Hope was slightly surprised by how polite that lycan treated Kace, despite the fact they were in their territory.

Based on what she knew, Lycans and other shifters, they were very authoritarian towards their territory and Kace was in theirs.

However, it seemed this fact didn't bother them, not to mention they offered their help too.

"Sure. I need to go to hospital to check on my friend injuries, so I will need a car." Kace flashed the Gamma with his lazy smirk. "Don't worry, I will leave it once I get out of this city."

"Sure." Calleb flashed him a boyish smile as he gestured to the rest of his kind to retreat. "If there is nothing else that I could do, I will take my leave. The Alpha would love to know what is happening here."

With the mentioned of Torak, Kace didn't bother to respond. "You can leave now." he waved his hand impatiently.

"Farewell Kace Donovan." Calleb gave him a slight nod before he retreated and joined his pack member.

Once they were gone, the yard turned quite, but the power was still not fixed, thus darkness still canopied the entire area.

Kace's gaze turned toward the brown wolf as she stepped aside to reveal a young girl, who was supporting herself against the wall.

Upon seeing Kace was walking toward her, Hope became nervous and wanted so bad to bury her face on the brown fur of Lana's wolf.

Hope dropped her head as suddenly she took interest on her own feet until a pair of shoes appeared in her line of sight, Kace's shoes. action

Kace took a deep breath as he could smell a strong scent of blood from Hope, a deep frown appeared on his forehead while his eyes traced along her small figure and stopped on her blood soaked h.i.p.s.

The moment Kace squatted down in front of her, Hope was startled and attempted to move away, but his strong hand held her to stop her from moving.

"Don't move." Kace grumbled.

Hope flinched by how smooth his words, she expected him to scold her or at least snapped at her, yet there was only concern laced in his grumble.

"Is it hurt?" Kace raised his head to meet Hope's eyes, which had filled with tears that was about to stream on her cheeks. "That hurt?"

Hope gulped down her sob. It wasn't the pain on her h.i.p.s that made her wanted to cry by the gentleness in his voice that made her eyes watery.

"Come. Don't cry." Kace stood up and carefully carried Hope in his arms as easy as she weight nothing. Probably for Kace that was true. "I am sorry for coming late."

Kace meant it when he apologized for the mistake that Hope had created.

For some reason, Hope felt her chest caved in and the feeling of regrets flooded her entire body, she sobbed on the crook of Kace's shoulder while he walked toward the exit gate that she couldn't find it.

"Don't cry, we will go to the hospital and they will take care of you." Kace kissed her forehead, hugged her even tighter against his chest. There was nothing that Kace wanted now except for Hope to not feel any pain.

"I thought you will be angry at me..." Hope said between her sobs, barely a whisper.

Kace sighed deeply. "I am not angry at you, I am worried." He stared at Hope for a while before she looked away and buried her face again. "You don't know how worried I was..."

Kace almost lost himself when he couldn't find Hope and the faint scent of her suddenly vanished when he was right in front of this house, as if there was some magic that intervened with his search.

His heart almost burst with anger when he caught the scent of her blood that indicating that she was injured.

"You almost make my heart stop beating, girl..." Kace said softly.

#### **Chapter 447 - THIRTEEN YEARS OLD (11)**

"You spoil her too much!" Serfina's angry voice boomed inside the hospital ward, where Hope was laying unconscious after she got stitches on her h.i.p.s.

"Lower your voice." Kace shot her a warning look. "She is sleeping now!"

Serefina gritted her teeth as she glanced at Hope on the hospital bed, though her voice was not as loud as before, but the anger that laced in her tone didn't dissipate.

"If she keeps doing this in the future, I will be the one who discipline her." Serefina lashed out and stormed out of the room. action

The witch just came from Sebastian's house, where she had to 'take care' of the mess that Hope had created. Of course she wasn't happy at all when she heard about this and too livid to stay in the same room with Kace and his teenage mate.

Meanwhile, Lana was not there, like usual, she would stay away from Kace whenever he was with Hope.

Kace sighed deeply when Serefina was no longer inside the room, he then sat down on the seat beside Hope's bed and caressed her cheek.

"She is gone, you can wake up now." He said softly. Kace visibly could see that Hope slightly flinched. "I know you are already awake."

Fluttering her lashes that akin to the wings of butterfly, Hope opened her eyes and stared at Kace sheepishly, before she dropped her gaze and took a sudden interest with her fingers.

"I am sorry that I cause you so much problem." Hope murmured, barely a whisper, yet Kace could hear it nonetheless.

"Now you know why we are not allowing you to go out alone?" Kace's expression turned stern along with her voice and the moment he retracted his hand, he could see that Hope slightly flinched again. "Because it is too dangerous for you."

"I know and I am sorry." Hope bit her bottom lips. "I was just upset, but I will not do that again." most teenager would say something like that to appease their angry parents.

"What makes you upset?" Kace softened his feature when he saw how sullen Hope's expression now, apparently the restriction from them had upset her.

"I can not hang around with my friend just like the other teenager." Hope pouted and sulked upon hearing Kace's question.

Kace knew regardless the danger that lurked around her, Hope was still teenager and it was their mistake to not explain it to her properly about what was going on with their life, with her life.

At that time there was a nurse who came inside the room. She gave the best smile that she could muster toward Kace and pleasantries words before she injected something inside Hope's IV drips tube.

After she gave one or two advises for Hope to take a rest and everything would be better tomorrow, she left the room, leaving only Kace and Hope alone again.

"What is that creature that came after me?" Hope stared at Kace timidly, after she was sure that the man before her eyes wasn't angry and didn't pull that scary look anymore, her gaze became firm and demanded an answer.

"Beelzebub. The devil, or you can call her Gluttony." Kace sighed, it seemed the time for him to explain everything to Hope was due.

Maybe not now because of her condition, but it would happen in the near future. Serefina had been fussy over this matter.

The witch wanted Hope to know it all, yet at that time Kace still thought he could prevent to overstress Hope regarding this matter.

However, after tonight attack, he knew that he owed her explanation.

"She is the bad guy, right?" Hope moved to find comfortable position as she laid on the side of her unharmed body.

Kace readjusted the quilt around her.

"Have all of you been keeping me safe from her?" Hope yawned, apparently the medicine that had been injected on her drips started to kick in.

"She included." Kace nodded, caressed her head and made Hope's eyes become heavy because of the tickles feeling every time Kace touched her, yet she refused to fall asleep, no when Kace was willing to answer her questions that had been rummaging her head for years.

"How many creatures are after me?" Hope asked, fluttering her lashes and biting her lips to prevent her from yawning.

Kace looked at the white ceiling, high above them before those beautiful ocean blue eyes stared at Hope once again. "There are many."

Hope frowned. "Is that the reason why you always insist on not leaving me alone?"

"Yes, little angel." Kace nodded, half of it was true.

"That creature was injured when she touched my blood." Hope informed Kace. "Maybe we can fight her. You know, like Bonnie and Clyde..."

It seemed the medicine had clouded her mind now.

Kace chuckled. "Sleep baby girl."

"No, I have more questions to ask." Hope frowned, trying to fight the urge to just close her eyes and let the darkness take over.

"You can ask me later." Kace persuaded.

But, Hope didn't listen to him. "The boy named Aidan was possessed by that creature." She yawned. "Is he dead? I touched him with my blood and his face was charred." She frowned when the image jumped in the front of her mind.

"He is fine, slightly disfigured, but fine." Upon seeing the frown didn't disappear from Hope's eyebrows, Kace added. "His family wealthy enough to get him plastic surgery."

This time Hope let out a soft chuckle that mixed with her another yawns. "How about my other friend?"

Kace didn't answer immediately, he caressed her cheek and erupted the spark between them. Hope likes it. "Serfina had their memories erased about this tonight event and your friends had been sent home."

"Hm." Hope mumbled. "Kace?"

"Yes?"

"What are you?" Hope's voice was barely a whisper this time. "Are you like my guardian angel?"

Kace smiled, "Kind of." It was the other way actually.

"Hm..." Hope hummed before her breathing turned even and Kace kissed her forehead.

"Sleep my angel."

**Chapter 448 - THIRTEEN YEARS OLD (12)**



Hope was packing her belongings sullenly, she just discharged from hospital yesterday and Serefina had arranged everything for her.

They would move out of this city.

Hope was upset, but her guilty stopped her from complaining. Actually this was the best result that she could get.

Whatever Kace told Serefina, it worked.

The witch didn't scold her or she was being punished after the ruckus that she had created, but her decision couldn't be changed this time.

She was determined for them to move from this city, therefore, here Hope was, pull and stuck all of her books, clothes and all of her precious possession.

Lana came to her room after she had done with her things to check on her.

"Can't I, at least say goodbye to my friends?" Hope raised her head, staring at Lana with her doe-eyes, pleading.

Lana was always her friend since Hope's early memories, she didn't seem aged and only looked more stunning every time Hope has time to observe her.

Well, she looked aging, yet for her case she only looked more mature and sexy in her callous personality, but gentle enough if it came about Hope.

The first time Hope was aware about the attraction for the opposite sex, she thought Kace was with Lana. Because why not? Both of them were beautiful and perfect with each other, not to mention they were from the same kind.

"They will not remember you." Lana helped Hope to pack her things that she had been doing it halfheartedly.

Hope's jaw dropped open, she knew what exactly that meant. "How far Serefina had erased their memories!?" She could hear her own voice was shaking and her question came out as a high pitch voice.

"All about the event that night and..." Lana paused to stuff all of Hope's books inside a box. "... all about you."

Hope couldn't believe it! She thought Serefina would only make them forget about what was happening in Sebastian's house, not to erase all of the memory about her entirely.

"All about me?" that was cruel.

"I am sorry Hope, but yes." Lana tousled her head, offered a little bit of sympathy before she finished what Hope couldn't do because of the shock that was going through her systems rendered her speechless and paralyzed.

It was true that not all the memories were the happy one, but even it was a sad memory, Hope still chose not to forget it.

No. She still had it, but not with the other people that she had created those memories with. They forgot about that, forgot about her.

Probably and most likely it was true, they no longer remembered that she actually ever existed. Hope knew how powerful the witch was.

Before, she always admired her for that, dreaming if she was also a witch like her, but now she could feel the hatred that engulfed her heart. action

What Serefina had done was too meant. She didn't have to do that, right?

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It was a serene night after the fight in the red river city and Lana was a little bit restless by the fact that they would go back to the mystic river village, near the northern coven, again.

There was something that didn't settle well with her with that fact.

The first time she joined Kace and Serefina was because she was heading to the northern coven to find her fae mother after her own pack was being attacked by vampire.

Yet, when she was there and became part of this small family, well she couldn't say this was a family, but still what Serefina, Hope and Kace offered to her was the close one, Lana no longer cared to find out about her mother in northern coven.

However now, after the ruckus that Hope had done, they would go back to that place and Lana didn't think that was the best idea, at least not for her, especially when Serefina had a plan for her that she couldn't refuse.

A knock on the table startled her and made her jumped out of her skin. Lana whipped her head in alert with stern look on her face, but her feature softened when she caught a sight of Kace, standing right before her eyes with arms crossed over his chest.

"What are you thinking until you don't realize I am here?" He asked with a small frown between his eyebrows.

"Oh, no..." Lana gulped hard and shook her head, she was too engrossed with her own thought that she failed to notice him.

"Don't blame yourself, Hope was in her rebellion age." Kace grinned with his own statement. "It's not your fault."

"Hm." Lana hummed as she lowered her head. Honestly, she indeed felt guilty for what Hope had done, it seemed like she had failed to look after her, but that wasn't the reason why she was spacing out.

"Hope is sulking in her room since this afternoon."

Lana decided to change the topic and she was very sure Kace wouldn't miss it the moment she mentioned his mate.

"What happen to her?" He straightened his back, ready to dash out toward Hope's room, whether Lana gave her the answer or not.

And she chose to answer it. "She is upset because Serefina erased all of her friends' memories about her."

Right on cue, the moment Lana finished her sentences, Kace stomped his feet toward the direction of Hope's room while grumbling something like; 'this witch!', 'Stupid Serefina!'.

Lana followed Kace figured until he disappeared at the corner of the corridor.

How nice was it to have someone who looked after you... Hope was lucky to have someone like Kace, to be his mate.

Sometime Lana envied the little girl for her ignorance, clueless about what she had and how cruel this world could be.

Lana slumped on her seat, staring blankly at the spot where Kace was standing a while ago. She had been staring at his empty spot for these past thirteen years...

### **Chapter 449 - THIRTEEN YEARS OLD (13)**

The moment Kace opened the bedroom door, totally darkness greeted his eyes, yet he let it be, as he could see his mate just fine in this kind of condition.

Hope's small body crouched down under the blanket that covered her whole figure, pillows scattered around her, if it wasn't because her uneven breathing, she was perfectly hid on her own bed.

Kace walked inside the room and sat down at the edge of her bed after shoving away a few pillows, so he could take a closer look at the bundle beside him.

Extending his eyes, Kace gave pats on Hope's head but didn't say anything.

They kept quiet for long time with only her occasion sobs and Kace's breathing that could be heard inside the dark bedroom.

It happened until the little girl decided to come out from her hiding place and regarded Kace with her teary eyes.

Hope thought Kace wouldn't be able to see her in this darkness, but Kace could see her regardless, even the faint strain of streaming tears on her cheeks or her wet lashes. He could see it all.

"Serefina erased my friends' memories about me." Hope's voice came out hoarser than she thought, but it didn't stop her from complaining to Kace. "She didn't need to do that, right? Is it the way she punished me?"

Kace couldn't help it as he scooped Hope's body and placed her in his laps, cradled her in his arms and patted her back to soothe her dejection.

It worked well when Hope stopped sobbing and nuzzled her face on his chest, looking for another form of comfort.

"Serefina did not punish you, it is her way to keep you safe." Kace said in soft voice, he could hear Hope scoffed against the fabric of his front shirt and this made him laugh. "I agreed with you that her method looks very cruel, but she means good, yet don't know how to show that side of her emotions."

Kace knew what he was saying right now was true. He has known her for centuries now and even when they were still in their realm, before the great war happened, it was always him who was able to get along well with her during her stay in the castle.

If he thought about it, he should be proud of himself because not many people could stand her sharp tongue and quirky remarks.

"She is so mean!" the little angel in Kace's arms bit back, didn't like when he defended the witch and he could only grimace upon hearing Hope's sharp voice.

"I know. I know..." Kace patted her head to appease her anger.

"They will not remember me." Hope was sobbing again and kept rumbling about the memories that she had created with her other friends for hours, venting out her frustration while Kace would only let out a hum to acknowledge her complaints.

"I tried to attract his attention and we are getting close now, but he will not remember me again after this..." Hope's rumbling reached the point where she talked about the boy in her class that she had crush on him.

"Wait. What?" The hand that pat Hope's back stopped as his body stiffened. Kace found himself was gritting his teeth. "What boy?"

As if she was just awoken from her long reverie, Hope was startled, she didn't know why she felt very comfortable and blurted out that story about Ian.

It was only Alyssa and Rena who knew that she had a crush on him and also helped to create opportunity for Hope to talk to him during their break. Ian was a senior, he was only two years older than them.

"My senior..." Hope said timidly, biting her lips. She didn't know why suddenly she felt nervous to let Kace knew about this.

It was only normal right for the girl around her age to have a crush on other boy, right?

Hope was unsure if Kace agreed with that logic based on his reaction right now.

"And you what? You like him?" Kace asked incredulously. Oh, Selene...

You did not only give me a drooling baby as my mate, but now as she grew up, she actually likes a teenage boy? It is too hard for him...

How the lycan could compete with the boy that barely reached the age of fifteen? Fifteen years were nothing in his world. That amount of time would fly by in a blink of an eye.

The worst part was because Kace couldn't tell Hope that she was his and she was his mate, the person that he dedicated every single breath and every single beat of his heart for...

What a cruel reality that Kace had to face...

And now he was forced to hear his mate complained about another guy without him could do nothing!

Where was the mate- bond that all of the mate shifter would feel it? Couldn't she feel it too? Was it only him that could feel the pull?

Oh, right! Serefina had mentioned it, it would only him who would feel it and the mate- bond only worked on him not on both sides.

In another way, Hope could fall in love with other men as her heart pleased and for him? Kace would be doom...

At this moment of time, Kace was glad and had the sudden urged to thank Serefina for what she had done.

Well, the sympathy and sadness that he felt for Hope had evaporated into thin air since Hope mentioned her senior, Ian.

"Hm. I wish Serefina did not only erase his memories, but also his existence." Kace grumbled when he heard Hope was rumbling about that boy.

Hope raised her head, "what?" she was not sure with what she heard from Kace.

"Nothing." Kace shook his head, trying to get rid his jealousy that started to root in his chest. "Happy birthday my angel."

"Oh, right! Today is my birthday!" Hope spoke excitedly and Kace leaned over to kiss her forehead.

#### **Chapter 450 - FOURTEEN YEARS OLD**

New school, new friends and new rule.

Hope sighed. She was in her last grades in middle school. So, why she should move to this remote place? Hope didn't understand, from all over the places and cities, why Serefina should choose mystic river village?

From the sound of it, it gave Hope a goosebumps, she never heard about this place before, though Lana had told her that they had been living there for five years when she was a child, but she didn't remember anything about this place.

Well, Hope guessed she was too young to remember a thing.

However the new building of her school was nothing like her old one. This was just... a little bit... old.

Her old school was one of the famous middle school in the red river city, sophisticated and modern with an artistic touch.

Hope sighed. Why they don't just let her stay for another one year so she could graduate from that school?

Now, she really regretted what she had done, the consequences were not worthy at all!

Hope gritted her teeth and clutched her bag tightly to suppress the disappointment in her eyes upon seeing the old building.

To placate her, Kace had bought everything that she wanted and fought with Serefina because he was spoiling her too much, but it didn't make Hope less upset.

She wanted to go back to her previous school and be with her friends. She didn't want to start it from the beginning again with people who she would only know for one year before all of them enrolled in the high school.

Though in this kind of place it was most likely Hope would see the same people even when she went to high school.

There were not many options here after all.

Hope walked toward the administration room and met a woman with curly blonde hair, which tumbled on her shoulder, she wore golden spectacles that covered almost half of her face.

"Are you Hope Mason?" the woman smiled brightly and Hope couldn't help but return the gesture.

Well, this was not as bad as she thought.

"Yes." Hope nodded and gave her a large brown envelope for her registration.

While she checked on Hope's documents, she introduced herself. "You can call me Mrs. Abby." She glanced at Hope to see her nodding her head and continued. "Why did you decide to move here from the big city like Red River?"

"My mother wants to move here. She is from here." That was the best reason that Hope could muster, she didn't think that the first person that she met would want to know the detail.

"Oh, really?" Mrs. Abby raised her brows. "I had never heard about a family named Mason before. You know, this is small village even your neighbor could hear when you breathing." She winked at Hope before her eyes drifted to the computer in front of her again.

"That's creepy." Hope mumbled.

"Why are you moving in your last grade?" it was not common to move in their last year, especially to another place faraway.

Hope shrugged her shoulder. "You need to ask that to my Mother if you want to know the detail." She didn't think Mrs. Abby wanted to know the real reason.

"Oh! You live in that big house? The one at the end of the apple street?" Mrs. Abby was surprised when she read Hope's address.

"I guess so." Hope didn't really remember the name of the street, but she was sure that the house that Serefina owned was the biggest house in this village.

"That house has been empty for a long time." Mrs. Abby moved her chair to the other side of the table and took a few documents from the printer. "Be careful with ghost."

Hope was half laughing when she watched Mrs. Abby smiled teasingly at her as she gave her a blue folder.

"Don't worry, my mother is scarier than ghost." And I had seen something worse than that. But, Hope didn't voice out her last statement.

Mrs. Abby laughed along with her as she shook her head, made the curls flapped her face. "Most of teenager will say that."

Hope leaned over and talked in whisper. "Yes, and actually I can see ghost."

"Nice joke." Mrs. Abby laughed dryly, but her eyes told Hope that she wasn't that kind of person who was into horror movies.

"Thank you, Mrs. Abby." Hope straightened her back and waved the woman goodbye.

"You are welcome dear. If you need something else you can ask me here." Mrs. Abby waved at the sweet girl.

"Sure." and Hope walked out of the administration room to find her next class.

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Hope walked through the corridors with a map on her hand and locker number. Since it was written 2046, thus she thought it would be in the second floor, but when she arrived there, her number was not there at all. It started with 3.

Hope frowned. Why didn't they mention it as well what floor exactly her locker would be.

"In trouble?"

Someone's voice echoed next to Hope's ears, too close for her liking. Out of reflect, Hope turned around to see a boy was grinning at her, amused by her reaction.

"I don't have bad intention." He raised both of his hands, surrendered.

Well, funny. Hope gave him a dry smile that didn't reach her eyes. "Help me then." She blurted out and made the boy widened his hazel eyes in surprised before the grin made its way back to his lips.

"Give me." Though he said that, but before Hope could give him the folder, he had snatched it from her.

How rude. Hope was squinted her eyes, if she wasn't a new student she would have slapped his head for acting so brazen.

Yet, Hope was newcomer, so she needed to be more lenient.

"So, your name is Hope. Nice name." he commented with another silly grin before he waved his hand.

"Follow me."