

## TLOA Lycan 461

### Chapter 461 - FOURTEEN YEARS OLD (12)

"Why don't you tell me earlier that you know their parents!?" Hope demanded an explanation from Kace on their way back home, inside the car, after witnessing the interaction between Kace and Sophia and her husband, Sterling.

They were an old friend and very close on top of that. They were comfortable of exchanging threat or growl at each other most of the time during dinner while the children could only grimace by the scene that unfolded before their eyes.

"Because it will spoil the fun!" Kace exclaimed while laughing out loud.

"You almost made my friend got a heart attack, you know?!" Then Hope mumbled. "I almost got a heart attack."

"Why?" Kace couldn't contain the happiness in his eyes after successfully fooling his innocent little mate. He glanced at the sullen expression on Hope's face and couldn't help to not pinch her rosy cheek.

"I thought you will go berserk like last time." Hope swatted Kace's hand away from her cheek while glaring at him for pinching her out of the blue.

"Last time and this time is different case, sweetheart." Kace parked the car in front of their house. "I will never do any harm to someone you love."

And Kace meant his every word.

"Really?" Hope was slightly skeptical when she heard that, remembered the last people who made friend with her were not able to recognize her anymore.

Kace replied as if he could read what was going through his mate's head. "If you are referring to your friends, I will say that I was innocent about that. It was Serefina and when it was done, nothing I could do to help them, I am not a witch after all."

Kace was right, if the decision was left on his hand, he would never do that to Hope. Having someone, who once very close to you, suddenly forgot about your existence was simply very suck and there was no way in hell he wanted Hope to experience that kind of feeling.

"I know." Hope replied sheepishly as she lowered her head, he was just very upset at Serefina and wouldn't be able to voice out her frustration so she took it out on Kace. "I am sorry, I didn't mean to blame you for something that you didn't do."

"Don't be so down like that. I don't like it when you are upset." Kace tousled her hair and this time Hope let him do whatever he pleased. Her hair already became a bird nest because of Kace's habit, so she didn't see the use to stop him now.

Kace got off of the car after turned off the engine and was about to walk toward the house when he realized Hope was still inside the car.

With a small frown, he walked back to her and knocked on the window as it rolled down and revealed Hope's sullen expression.

"Are you still mad?" Kace asked, his blue eyes stared at Hope's black one, trying to figure out what happened with her.

"Kace, do you think I am really your mate?" Hope blurted out.

Kace was slightly taken aback with her question, but didn't avoid to answer it. "I don't think." He shook his head. "I can feel it." action

"But I am too young for you." Hope argued. "How old are you?" suddenly Kace's age became her concern.

There was a fleeting amusement on his blue ocean eyes when he heard this question. Kace didn't answer her immediately and enjoyed the impatient look on Hope's face. "Hmm... let me think... I don't know the exact number. We don't celebrate our birthday after all..."

"Your estimation?" Hope leaned over, afraid she couldn't hear Kace's answer.

"I am around seven hundred years older than you." Kace grinned and laughed out loud when Hope let out a loud gasp in horror.

"You are old!!!" she exclaimed.

"I am, but I am as good looking as any of your peer." Kace wiggled his eyebrows. "I know you think that I am handsome."

He realized the way Hope looked at him.

"No way!" Hope huffed, crossing her hands as she was trying to conceal her embarrassment by feigning her anger. "Don't you think that you are quite a pedophile?"

Kace chuckled, Hope was indeed raised by Serefina and inherited her sharp tongue. "If you calculated it with human time, well, all of the shifters are pedophile." Kace nodded in his own statement. "Most of the shifter will find their destined mate after fifty or so years."

"You know what? I have read this article, it said; normally the big gap in age difference, can be a problem in a relationship. It will not work."

Hope tried to look like a grown up woman when all Kace saw was a teenager who didn't want to be treated less than she expected.

"That article was written by human. I am not human and we will not be a normal couple, so it will not count." Kace replied, efficiently made Hope tongue-tied.

The little girl needed more and a lot of experience to outspoken the cunning Lycan before her eyes.

"You are a big bad wolf." Hope groaned, but both of them were laughing in the next second.

In the fresh and clear air of the evening night, the sound of their laugh was like a pure bliss of heavenly melody that rang through the front yard of their house.

"Let's go, you will catch a cold if you are out here for long time." Kace opened the car door and helped her to get down from the car.

Both of them walked toward the foyer as Kace fished out the key from his pocket and shoved it to the key hole.

But, he stopped midway when the door was slightly opened, his nose scrunched and he whipped his head toward Hope direction with horror dancing in his eyes.

"Hope are you hurt?" Kace grabbed her shoulder and made a quick observation on her body.

"No." Hope was confused too.

"I smell blood on you."

### **Chapter 462 - FOURTEEN YEARS OLD (13)**

"I smell blood on you." Kace's blue eyes darkened a few shade when he inspected her body again, but he couldn't find anything.

"No, I am not hurt." Hope was confused as she followed Kace's line of sight to observe her own body. No way she didn't know whether she was hurt or not.

"I can smell blood on you." Kace mumbled the same thing absentmindedly. "There is quite a lot of blood."

Hope twirled in Kace's arm as she showed him her back and heard when Kace's breath hitched.

"Why what happened?" Hope became panic. "There is something wrong?"

But then the voice that answered her filled with hesitation and slightly faltered. Kace spoke like someone who was reluctant to answer a difficult question. "Hope, you know... I think... uhm."

"What is it?" Hope snapped and turned around to see Kace was scratching his head.

"I think you are in your period." He finished it with a sheepish smile. "Did you forget your date?"

"Period?" Hope's brows scrunched together, but when the realization hit her, her eyes widened in shock and she rushed in to the house, leaving Kace in daze.

Kace had never dealt with this kind of condition, thus he didn't know what was exactly going on or the possibility that it was Hope's first period.

He just came out from his reverie when he heard Hope called his name from the bathroom.

"Yes, I am here." Kace knock the door once to let Hope knew he was there, so she could stop calling his name.

"Kace, I need you to buy me 'that' thing." Hope said timidly.

If Kace wasn't a shifter and just a normal human being, he would have a hard time to hear what Hope was talking from behind the close door.

"What 'thing'?" but then, Kace corrected himself by nodded his head in understanding. "Oh, alright. I will be right back."

Kace heard Hope was saying 'please hurry' when he raced to the car and drove to the nearest convenient store to get the necessity.

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Kace didn't know what he should buy, thus he just bought one of each type and drove back home immediately before the female cashier could bore a hole on the back of his skull.

"Hope." Kace knocked on the door of the bathroom. "Here."

Hope opened the door slightly and extended her arms to receive the item that she needed. "Why did you buy so many?" Hope murmured as she closed the door again. "I will not use all of this."

"I don't know what should I buy, at least you can have a fun choose it." Kace could hear Hope was chuckling.

After that, Kace opened his phone and started to browse about what he should do to help her. This was her first period and from what he heard, it would be uncomfortable for her.

Inside the bathroom, after Hope was done with her business, she poked her head to see no one there, but he could hear rustling sound from the kitchen. It must be Kace.

Hope's bedroom was only the end of this corridor and she didn't think she wanted to meet with Kace after he watched her bleeding on her pants. It was so embarrassing.

And just like what the other embarrassing memories, Hope felt her dignity left her body. Well, that was exaggerated.

But, this incident only added to the list of 'stupid' things that Hope had done in front of Kace. For some reason, Hope was very self-conscious about her image in front of him.

Though she had said that she didn't want him to claim her as his mate and wanted to have an option for this matter, but unconsciously she had been trying to act like a decent woman to match Kace. At least this was what she thought.

She wanted to look more mature and less troublesome for Kace, so he could stop to call her 'little one' and treated her like a child.

Hope rushed toward her bedroom with towel around her lower body because her pants was stained with blood and she had to wash it after she wore clean pants.

Inside the bedroom she put on a blue jogging pants and rushed back to the bathroom to wash her bloody pants when she heard Kace was still making something inside the kitchen.

The man had not done yet when Hope walked back to her bedroom and lied down on her bed, with her face buried on her soft pillow.

However, before Hope could fall asleep, she heard the door of her room was being pushed open and a warm smell wafted her nose.

"What is it?" Hope turned her head lazily as she watched Kace walked into her room with a brown glass in his hand.

"I read this on line, it said it could ease the pain during period." Kace sat down on the edge of her bed as he handed the glass to her.

Hope received it. "Tea?" she looked at Kace questioningly.

"Chamomile tea. I found it in the kitchen." Kace was planning to buy it if he couldn't find it in the kitchen, but fortunately Lana had bought it.

"You know, you suppose to serve tea in a cup not a glass." Hope smiled contentedly when the warm liquid was cascading down her throat. It taste good, she had never known that they had this delicious tea at home. action

"Both look same for me." Kace shrugged nonchalantly. "Have you had period cramps?"

Hope thought about it for a while, "No, I am fine. I think I don't have period cramps, thankfully, I heard it will hurt so bad."

Kace nodded, seemed relief as well.

"I feel bad." Hope said after she took her third sip of the tea.

"Why? You need to go to see a doctor?" Kace took this seriously.

"No, it's not that." Hope shook her head. "I don't want you to see me... like 'that'"

At first Kace didn't understand, but then he realized what Hope was talking about. "I have seen worse Hope. Trust me."

#### **Chapter 463 - FOURTEEN YEARS OLD (14)**

"What do you mean you had seen worse?" Hope leaned back against the head board and looked at Kace warily.

"I had seen more blood than that." Kace shrugged nonchalantly, but then he looked at Hope mischievously. "And after you pooped and peed on me, do you think a small blood could compare to that?"

Kace knocked Hope's head softly.

"Go sleep. Don't think too much about that." Kace took the empty glass and put it on the bed side table as he tucked her in.

Hope laid flat on her stomach and Kace gave a massage on her lower back that made Hope sighed in contentment.

"Kace?" Hope mumbled with her eyes closed.

"Hm?" Kace hummed in response.

"Did I trouble you?" Hope asked.

"No." Kace answered lightly.

"Even when I peed on you?" Hope's eyebrows scrunched up.

"Even after you did what you had done on me." Kace said softly, his voice was like a lullaby for Hope.

"If I am not your mate, would you treat me the same?" Hope yawned, the chamomile tea helped her relax and Kace helped her to feel better.

"If you are not my mate, I don't think we will meet at all. But, it doesn't mean I will treat other people poorly. I will not lash out without reason, right?" Kace smiled when he heard Hope chuckled.

"I am glad we met." Hope opened her eyes and stared at Kace.

"Mmh, so do I." Kace nodded, agreed with her. At this point, he had to remind himself to thank Serefina for this. Despite she was always being very annoying, arrogant and all, but she did something that change his life entirely. The witch gave him Hope. "So, do you change your mind? You said it last night that you didn't want me as your mate?"

"I will reconsider it." Hope grinned. "Auw! What's that for?"

Hope swatted Kace's hand from her back because he pinched her waist.

"Oh, I will see what kind of guy who will dare enough to date you." Kace feigned an angry face that made Hope laughed.

"Well, until this time, you are still the handsome guy that I have ever seen." Hope complimented him.

Kace let out a soft laugh before he resumed to massage her back again. "Sleep Hope."

"What about Lana?" Hope yawned once again.

"What about her?" Kace watched the girl's eyelashes fluttered as she fought her drowsiness.

"She looks mature and less troublesome. She is dependable." Her sleepy voice laced with envy. "Don't you find her attractive? While me, I am just a pain in the a\*\*." Hope grumbled.

"Don't compare yourself to her and well... you are my favorite pain in the a\*\*."

But of them laughed and when Hope finally fell asleep she got the best sleep.

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"What are you doing?" Hope was ready to go to school when she came to the kitchen and sat on the bar stool, staring at Kace's back.

"Looking something for breakfast." Kace had opened all the wooden cupboard and found nothing.

"When Serefina and Lana are not at home, they will leave me with money to buy something to eat and I haven't shopped yet." Hope checked her backpack to see if she didn't miss anything there.

"So, what will you eat for breakfast?" Kace widened his eyes in surprised he didn't know about this.

Serefina...

Kace really wanted to talk in long sentences of profanities to the witch.

"I will buy it at school if I am not late." Hope shrugged her shoulder.

"Let's go then." Kace grabbed her backpack and walked toward the front door with Hope followed behind him with a big silly grin on her face.

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"So, that's the reason why you only visit me once a year?" Hope shoved a hotdog to her mouth. Both of them were in fast food restaurant near Hope's school building to get their breakfast. "To distract your brother's tracker?"

"I don't want him to know where I am." Kace finished his own hotdog and moved to another one. "You can say he is very stubborn."

"But, if your brother is really in love with Serefina why they don't get back together?" Hope tilted her head. "I had never seen Serefina dated anyone either."

The image of Serefina dated someone except his overbearing brother was ridiculous in Kace's head. The witch probably would turn the poor guy into a frog if he slipped with his words.

"Well, it is complicated. My brother will eventually find his mate and Serefina will be in awkward position." Kace just told Hope whatever she wanted to know, but didn't say about his brother had been hunting her down to be killed. It would too much for her to handle for now.

Kace fished out something from his pocket and gave it to Hope a small black card.

"You give me money?" Hope shamelessly took the card, afraid if Kace would change his mind and snatch it away again.

"I will not worry if Lana is around, but since both of them are often away and I can't be here for long time, I don't want you starve." Kace continued to eat his second hotdog, staring at the happy girl in front of him. "Don't buy something that will bring trouble. Understood?"

"Okay." Hope nodded her head. "How much inside?" she was very happy to have her personal card. She thought it was nice to have Kace as her boyfriend, she could buy everything she wanted.

It didn't mean Hope was lack of something, but Lana was very strict and wouldn't allow her to buy something unimportant.

"Check to find out." Kace laughed when he watched Hope was very excited. The Lycan was hellbound to spoil his mate.

Mystic River village was a small village, far away from the hustle bustle big city, although you have a lot of money to spend, but there were only a few items desirable to buy.

"Wow! You are the best!" Hope raised her two thumbs up.

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**Chapter 464 - FIFTEEN YEARS OLD**

'I will come back as soon as possible.' action

Hope woke up with a start when that haunting voice echoed inside her head, she reached her cell phone under her pillow and watched the digital clock showed her it was only one in the morning, still plenty of time to fall asleep again.

However, Hope couldn't close her eyes without recounting the last moment she saw Kace when he left her, again.

It was the same day when Kace gave her the black card. That day, Hope thought she would find Kace picked her up from school again, but it was Lana.

And at that time, she knew Kace had gone. Fortunately, they got home in time, just for Hope to see Kace was about to drive away from their house.

Of course, Hope got down from the car and confronted him. And that was what he said.

'Don't worry, I will come back as soon as possible.' He tousled her hair and kissed her forehead before he left.

Before, Hope didn't feel this sad when he left her. After all, he only came around once a year and Hope only thought of him as a great big brother.

Yet, these past two years, Kace came often and she was used with his presence, especially after the incident in the red river city.

Knowing they were mate and what the meaning of mate was, kind of very romantic and Hope, in that age, liked the idea.

Although she denied it in front of Kace.

However, after almost a year, there was no news whatsoever from Kace and he had not appeared ever since that day.

Hope didn't know how to contact him. The only news she got about Kace was from Lana.

Lana knew Kace whereabouts and everytime Hope was asking about Kace, she would have this dilemma; she wanted to know about him, but became upset because it was Lana who told her everything.

Hope got off of her bed and walked toward the kitchen. Her throat felt very scratchy and hurt, she needed to get a glass of water.

And when Hope reached the kitchen, she could hear Lana's voice from the living room. She was talking with someone over the phone.

Even after Hope was done and her throat slightly better, Lana was still talking.

It was midnight and Serefinia was also at home. Who she is talking to? Maybe...

Just when Hope reached the living room, she watched Lana turned off her phone. "Who are you talking to?" Hope asked with her hoarse voice.

"Oh, did I wake you up?" Lana didn't startle she just type something away.



"No." Hope walked closer. "Who are you talking to?" she repeated her question.

"Kace." Lana answered curtly.

"Kace? Why he didn't talk to me?" Hope felt her heart turned heavy. Upset.

"We are only talking about what Serefina told me." Lana put away her phone.

"I want his number." Hope demanded. She just woke up because of Kace's annoying promise and now he really called someone, but 'that' someone was not her.

Lana gave Hope an apologetic smile. "I am afraid you can't do that. Probably this time he had thrown away his phone."

"Call him." Hope pointed Lana's phone and she did what Hope wanted.

When Lana put the call through the speaker, it was the machine answered the call. Just like Lana said, Kace had thrown away his phone.

"Don't worry, he will come back soon." Lana tried to appease her, but Hope had turned around and walked back to her room without saying anything.

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Hope woke up again in the morning when Lana came into her bedroom and opened all the windows so the morning glory of the sunlight could intrude her eyes.

"You are late for school. Get up!" Lana tried to make the sleepy girl stood up on her feet by talking out loud and flooding the room with light.

However, she realized something when Hope just laid down and covered her face.

"What happened?" Lana took a seat beside the bed and check on her. "You got fever." She mumbled.

"Great." Hope replied with her scratchy voice and snuggled into her warm blanket. "Now, I have a reason to skip school."

"Don't be ridiculous." Lana stood up and walked out from the room while Hope touched her forehead. She was indeed having a fever. It has been a long time since she was sick.

Lana come back not long after that and brought a thermometer with her.

"Thirty eight point seven." She read it. "I will make something for you to eat before you take the medicine, but if you are not feeling better, we will go to the hospital."

"There is no need to worry, this is just a fever. I will just sleep." Hope was ready to sleep again when Lana spoke before she left the room.

"He will be frantic if he knows you are sick."

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Hope was woken up when she felt someone touched her forehead and changed the damp towel on her forehead.

She had taken the medicine this evening and apparently her fever had not yet subsided, but Hope refused to go to the hospital. She felt she would be fine in the next day.

"Kace...?" Hope squinted her eyes to look at the man beside her, she recognized him right away even in this dimly lit room.

"Sst... just sleep, I will be here." He put the cold towel against Hope burning forehead and wiped her sweat.

The after effect of the medicine was very strong, Hope was fighting her sleepiness to see Kace, he looked so worn out in his leather jacket. "You are here?"

"I am here..." Kace took her hand and squeezed it gently, his ocean blue eyes shimmered with sadness upon seeing Hope's current condition.

"You never call me." Hope complained, although her voice was barely a whisper.

"I know and I am sorry for that." Kace apologized. "But, I hope you understand... once I return, I will never leave you again."

#### **Chapter 465 - SIXTEEN YEARS OLD**

"Why are you so grumpy in the morning?" Ian closed his locker next to Hope while Ethan stood beside his twin brother, eating his breakfast sleepily.

These two people stuck with Hope in the same school and class. What to do? In this small village there were not many options that could choose.

Ever since Kace visited their house, they would complain to Hope that their parents wanted them to put their eyes on Hope, for 'protection' or some short.

Ian would say it was troublesome, but Hope knew he was more than willing to follow her around just to know about Kace Donovan.

Apparently Donovan's family was a well known family for their kind. Like a royal family if Hope didn't misinterpret it when the siblings explained to her.

"Nothing." Hope slammed the locker door shut with a loud bang sound.

Ian stared at Ethan who was startled as well, just like the rest of the students nearby. "She is really something," he muttered.

"Don't disturb her." Rossie came from the other side of the corridor, hugging her backpack as she gave a bottle of water for Ethan. "She has been upset because she found out Lana was talking to Kace again."

Ian raised his eyebrows. "Why he did that?"

This year Rossie came to the same high school as Hope and her two brothers, thus there was not any different from their middle school. It would always be the four of them as they didn't mingle with the other student quite often.

The siblings caught up with Hope before they entered their class and sat down on the end of the table. Rossie came to join them because the bell has not rang.

"Why he called Lana, but not you?" Ian asked as he sat down on his seat next to Hope while Rossie took the seat in front of her.

"How should I know that?" Hope snapped at him, she was very upset.

The last time she met Kace was when she was sick, but Hope was not sure if Kace came that night, because the time she woke up, her fever had subsided and the annoying lycan had gone.

When Hope asked Lana, she didn't know about that and was pretty certain Kace didn't come. However, his presence was still lingered there...

Hope put her forehead against the table. "Are you sure that the mate couldn't separate with each other for too long?" She asked pitifully at Ian and Rossie while Ethan was reading his book, didn't want to get involve with Hope's love sick story.

"It should be like that..." Rossie gave some thought about it.

"But, he has been away for two years without any news! He called Lana occasionally, but not me!" Hope hissed through gritted teeth.

Maybe, it would be fine if there was no any news about Kace, but as it turned out, she caught Lana was talking with Kace a couple of time through the phone when he didn't even bother to call her.

"Am I really his mate?" Hope whined.

"You know what? I found a rumor about Donovan brother." Ethan finally joined the conversation and put down his book.

"What is it?" Rossie asked eagerly. She was always excited to know more about the progress of Hope's love line with Kace.

She always dreamed to have her own mate and the only person who has it that she knew, aside from her parents, was only Hope.

The younger siblings always thought it was romantic, well, Hope also thought the same until Kace left her for two years straight.

"I heard, the Donovan brothers were cursed for not having a mate for the rest of the eternity." Ethan said in confusion look. "But, if that is the case, then what is you?"

This piece of information didn't light up Hope's mood at all. "Maybe I am a mistake." She said sullenly.

"That must be not true." Rossie frowned, holding her arms in front of her chest. "Hope feels the spark every time they are making skin to skin contact."

Ethan shrugged his shoulder. "I am just saying what I heard."

Right at that time, the bell rang and Rossie sprinted out of the class to go to her classroom and when the bell stopped ringing, a woman, who Hope knew very well for her life, was walking into the room.

It was Lana.

Great!

As if it was not enough for Hope to see her inside the house, she had to see her inside the school too. This was one of Serefina's great plans.

Lana worked as an art teacher in this high school ever since Hope enrolled as the high school student. However, Lana didn't seem enjoy this job either, she wasn't a social person, thus becoming a teacher that should deal with a lot of students was something that annoyed her.

Actually, Serefina had told her this role ever since Hope was still in the middle school, but for some reason there was a change of plan. action

Hope propped her head with her hand as she scribbled absentmindedly while listening to Lana's boring voice for the next one and half hour.

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When the last class has ended, every face inside the class suddenly lit up and came into alive, not like their boring state a few minutes ago.

It happened to Hope as well, though there was nothing she could do once she reached home, she was still a normal student who would prefer the life out of school.

Usually, Hope would come to the siblings' house, played a few game with them before Lana would pick her up from there.

Maybe it was Kace, but apparently Serefina didn't object when Hope befriended with them, or probably just like Kace, Serefina also knew Ian's parents...

"Hi, Hope..." A boy's voice greeted her and Hope gave him a faint smile.

Hope knew him. He was Oliver, their senior. "Yes?"

"I wonder if you want to go with me, there is new..." his sentences cut short when Ian chimed in.

"Then keep wondering."

#### **Chapter 466 - DID I GIVE YOU PERMISSION TO LEAVE?**

"There is new teacher." Ian mumbled leaned over toward Hope's table as both of them stared at the entrance gate. Wishing the class would be over soon, yet it was impossible, they still had three hours before they could be free from school.

"New teacher?" Hope raised her eyebrows as she sighed and leaned back against her seat. "We will graduate less than three months, why they hired a new teacher? Moreover, Mr. Wentworth will come back." Hope frowned.

They supposed to have a P.E class now, but before all of the students could change their clothes, Ms. Meredith came and informed them that Mr. Wentworth had an accident and needed to be hospitalized, thus there would be a replacement for him.

Therefore they were inside the class, waiting for the new teacher to come and introduce himself.

"I thought it is Mr. Miller who will teach us." Ian back to his seat next to Hope and put his face flat on the table. Boring.

In this last years, Ethan didn't have the same class with Hope and Ian, hence it was Ian who stuck with Hope for their entire years in this high school.

He didn't complain though, just like Hope, since they had their own little secret about the supernatural world, it was way more comfortable to hang out together.

However, Hope just started date the boy who had been courting her for the last one year.

Ian and Ethan, of course, objected this idea as they gave her dozens of advices, because Kace would obviously not take this too well, after all they were tasked to look after her and they assumed this included part of their task.

But Hope countered them by saying; He was gone for years without news. With that, they were tongue tied. It was Kace fault. action

And, speaking of the devil...

"Hope!"

Ian grimaced even before he could hear the voice of the young boy as his scent wafted his nose.

Hope turned her head and smiled at Oliver, she waved his hand casually as she watched him sauntered the room and stopped right next to Hope, blocking Ian with his tall and muscular body.

"I heard Mr. Wentworth is hospitalized, so you don't have class now, right?" Ian smiled at Hope and talked softly to her.

"We have, the replacement will come, so you better shu, shu..." Ian waved his hand, gesturing Oliver to go away from their class or anywhere near Hope.

"Do we have a problem here?" Oliver turned around to face Ian, disgusting look on his face.

Oliver and Ian had been like this ever since Oliver tried to get close to Hope. At first, Oliver thought Hope and Ian were together, but after some inspection, they were merely close friend. That's why Oliver couldn't understand why this guy was being overprotective to her?

"We will always have a problem every time you come to her." Ian's boring eyes suddenly came to live. He liked this provocation and Hope knew where this would lead to.

"Okay, enough boys." Hope tugged Ian's arm and sent a glare to Ian. "I don't have a plan to be in the center of this drama, alright?"

Hope scanned her eyes toward the other students that had been curious about the progress of the scene before their eyes, but once Hope glared back at them, they whipped their head away and seemed to busy themselves.

Hope didn't really associate herself with the other students except the siblings, but it didn't mean they could mess with her.

The first year of school, Hope beat up a boy who tried to corner her just because she looked sweet and quiet, the boy thought he could do something to her and only ended up being hospitalized because Hope hit his head with a brick.

The most relief part was Serefina didn't complain or scold Hope for that, she dealt with the parents of the boy and settled things down easily. Of course, with a little bit snarky comments here and there.

And when Hope asked why she didn't get angry because of that, Serefina just shrugged her shoulder and said; "If it was me, then we would be at his funeral not in the hospital."

Hope shut her mouth, and she thought, it was the time when she forgave the witch because she had erased all of her friends' memories.

"I just want to ask you if you want to skip class and go out with me? I want to show you something." Oliver sounded annoyed, not because of Hope.

However, before Hope could reply to his offer, Ian interrupted them again and this agitated Oliver further.

"Hooopeeee..." Ian drawled, yet his eyes focused on something in front of the class.

"What again!?" Oliver snapped, but immediately shut up when he watched toward Ian's line of sight.

Hope was the last one who realized it and when her eyes followed them, she could feel her heart dropped to her stomach by the sight of him.

Yes, it is him!

Hope felt her stomach did summersault and her heart hammered her ribcage painfully as she couldn't take her eyes away from those beautiful ocean eyes.

He looked exactly like the last time Hope remembered him, if she couldn't say he looked much hotter with his shoulder length black hair that he tied it behind his nape.

Hope felt her world spun just by looking at him. Damn! He was gorgeous!

But, his eyes darkened a few shade when he traced down to Hope's intertwined fingers with Oliver.

As if electrocuted, Hope immediately freed her hand and somehow felt guilty. She did not even hear Oliver's voice, which mumbled at her, saying he had to go.

"Where are you going? I will start the class." Kace's voice rang through the classroom as the other students also mesmerized by their new teacher's beauty.

"I am sorry sir, but I shouldn't be here." Oliver said apologetically and was about to go when Kace sat down on his table and spoke languidly.

"Did I give you permission to leave?"

**Chapter 467 - YOU WILL KILL THE POOR BOY**

Kace's voice sounded arrogant, but also s.e.xy at the same time. How he could do that? Hope talked to herself as she narrowed her eyes at the man whose blue eyes didn't leave Oliver.

Meanwhile, Oliver was in awkward position. The noise in the class died down with the presence of their new teacher.

All the female students would gawk at Kace's handsome face and his too perfect body as the boy would just sit there, feeling intimidated by his presence.

Kace seemed to know this and he enjoyed the attention that directed toward him.

"Did I give you permission to leave?" Kace repeated his question, demanding for answer and crossed his bulging arms in front of his chest.

Show off!

Hope scoffed as she sat down, paid zero attention to her boyfriend's predicament situation as her black eyes fixed on the guy who left her for three whole years without a single news!

"No, sir." Oliver shook his head, tried to contain his voice, as he didn't want to humiliate himself further than this.

Kace had put him under the limelight, it was either he behaved and waltzed himself out from this situation or pissed the new teacher, which he didn't know how his character was, and got punishment for escaping his class.

"So, what are you doing inside this class?" Kace smiled harmlessly and made all the female students' heart fluttered.

"He asked Hope to escape the class with him!" It was Ian who spoke out loud, receiving a glare from Hope and Oliver. He was trying to take Kace's good side.

"Escaping class, huh?" Kace tilted his head and smirked. "Good, you can stay here then." He nodded and plopped down from the table that he was sat.

It was awkward for Oliver to stand behind Ian's seat, but he couldn't see an empty seat there. "I am sorry Sir, I will go back to my class."

"I would like to have you here." Kace raised his eyebrows, feigning a hurt look across his face because of Oliver's rejection. "Have a seat please."

"There is no empty seat here." Oliver frowned, he was unsure why this new teacher didn't let him off. "I am sorry for coming to your class, sir. I will take my leave."

"No, please stay. So we will know each other too, since I am new here." Kace opened waved his hand to ask Oliver to come closer toward him.

Hope was dumbstruck, she felt like she was out of place. She didn't even know what was going on with Oliver since she was too shocked with the realization Kace was there.

And became her teacher.

Lana was a teacher in this school too.

What happened with those people?

On the other side, Kace still opened his arms, inviting Oliver to come closer.

Hesitantly, Oliver walked over and glanced a few times toward Hope. Wrong move, because Kace caught his gesture and felt his wolf scratched his head.

Oliver felt humiliated in front of his girlfriend by this incident and threw a hostile look to Ian because of his comment, without him knowing the true predator was lurking at him.

"Good, you can sit there." Kace nodded at his chair, which facing the whole class.

Hope was staring unbelievably at Kace, whose use his authority to 'punish' Oliver from escaping class, even though today was his first day.

"You are in trouble, girl." Ian whispered at Hope and received a glare from her.

In front of the class, Oliver was sitting on the seat, which was intended for teacher while Kace introduced himself in fun way that made the tense atmosphere from before, disappeared.

All the students would laugh and be more interactive with whatever he said and because Kace came late, today P.E class replaced with introducing session until the bell rang. action

Once Kace waved goodbye to the class all of the girls squalled with each other and said something like; 'he is so handsome.' Or, 'he is very funny.' Or, 'He is my new favorite teacher.'

Hope frowned, hearing those comments, somehow, irritated her. She couldn't wait until the school finished and she could confront the bad big wolf!

Hope fumed when she heard a girl exclaimed she wanted to be Kace's girlfriend.

"So, will you break up with that boy?" Ian nodded his head at the direction of Oliver, who was walking out of the class with angry expression.

"No, what would I?" Hope was stubborn.

The siblings could see when Hope accepted Oliver, she was only annoyed at Kace.

"You know what? If you keep being stubborn like this, you are killing that poor boy slowly." Ian shook his head.

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Hope couldn't find Kace and Lana when the school has ended, not in the teacher's room or anywhere possible for teacher to come.

Oliver had asked Hope to go with him again, but she was not in the mood to hang out with him, thus Hope chose to walk back home.

Since the high school and their house were only ten minutes by foot, Hope rarely went to school with Lana or returned together.



People from the school only knew both of them were cousin, thus it was normal to see them together.

Just like the other day, Hope would walk with the siblings and after she couldn't find Kace inside the school, she really wanted to reach her home immediately.

But, she didn't need to do that, because before she turned at a crossroads, a yellow car honked behind them.

"Get in." Kace's face was framed with the car window, his expression was devoid from any emotion.

And when Hope didn't move to get into the car, Kace got off and strode toward her. He flashed the siblings a warm smile and even greeted them. "Hi, Rossie." Rossie waved her hand timidly as a reply, but when Kace's eyes fell on Ian and Ethan, they became hard. "We will talk again later boys."

And with that, Kace ushered Hope toward the car and strapped her before he sat down behind the steering wheel.

### **Chapter 468 - MARK**

During the five minute drive, no one talked inside the car. Hope was staring at the flashing trees out there, yet the truth was; she was checking on Kace through his reflection on the surface of glass.

Deep down, she was thrilled knowing Kace had returned and was sitting next to her, but she was also anxious because he didn't say anything ever since they were only alone inside the car.

Hope wanted to break the silence, but was unsure about what she had to say to him. a 'hallo' would be too weird.

When the car finally stopped in front of the house, Caleb turned off the engine, but didn't get out from the car while Hope unbuckled her seatbelt.

"Don't you want to say something to me?" Kace turned his body and stopped what Hope was doing. He strapped her again.

"No." Hope raised her head and snapped at him, she could see Kace furrowed his eyebrows.

"Are you sure?" Kace ignored Hope attempted to free her hand from his grip.

"Yes."

"You don't want to scold me?"

"No."

"Curse at me?"

"No."

"Hit me or kick me?"

"Will you hit me back?" Hope narrowed her eyes.

Kace chuckled upon hearing that. "I will never do that, even if you kill me I will die in peace."

"You are being hypocrite." Hope bit the hand that gripped her. She thought, she would hear Kace's scream or at least his breath hitched. But there was nothing.

When Hope peeked at him through her long lashes, she watched how Kace didn't even flinch, he stared at her with this serene look on his face.

Realized it was a futile attempt to hurt him, Hope let go his hand and opened the car door, stomped her feet toward the house.

However, before she could reach the door, Kace had stopped her by pulling her body against his sturdy chest. His warm breath fanned her nape and this sent shivers down her spine along with the spark that erupted from their skin to skin contact.

Hope remembered how she missed this feeling.

"I miss you my sweet Hope." Kace whispered to her ears, his hoarse voice laced with longing.

"You don't miss me enough to call me." Hope said those words through gritted teeth. She didn't know she was this upset because of Kace's absence. But, right now she felt like crying because she was agitated.

"I want to, but it's a little bit complicated back then." Kace frowned when he remembered what he had been through just to settle down here a little bit longer.

"But, you called Lana. You talked to her." Hope remembered how she caught Lana was talking to Kace over the phone and he would hang up without asking about her.

"I can't talk to you. There was something going on at that time." Kace said in apologetic tone. His arms tightened around Hope's body as he buried his face on her shoulder.

Being hugged from behind like this, has its own advantage because Kace wouldn't be able to see her face, which had turned into a bright red.

But, she forgot, Kace could hear her heartbeat that thumping wildly against her chest and he smiled to know he had this affect on her.

Hope, being angry, was within his prediction. However, it was also warm his heart to know she still cared for him.

"Can you stop doing that in front of my house?"

Hope was startled when she heard Serefina's cold voice, she immediately wiggled her body out of Kace's arms, but Kace didn't seem to mind it when the witch glowered at him.

Kace put his arms around Hope's waist as he turned around to face Serefina whose face had turned unsightly.

"Can you explain it to me why the hell you are a teacher in her school?!" Serefina's short red hair tied in the same style as Kace.

Kace grinned. "Let's go inside and talk."

"Really Kace! I really wanted to burn you alive!" Serefina bellowed as she sent the lycan a dagger look.

Behind Serefina it was Lana, she was still wearing the same clothes that she used in the school. Apparently she just came.

"I hope she really burns you alive." Hope commented as she swatted Kace's hand away from her waist.

"Do you think you can escape?" Kace grabbed Hope's wrist and pulled her back until her small body bumped his chest. "We still have something to talk to."

"No, we don't." Hope refused to look at into his eyes. Her voice was coming hoarser. "There is nothing I want to talk to you."

That was a lie. Hope really wanted to pursue his explanation for leaving without any news.

"Of course there is. Let's start with the guy named Oliver." Kace grabbed Hope's shoulder and put her arm- length. "Do you think you can escape after you betray me, you foolish girl." Kace knocked her head gently before he leaned down and kissed the spot where he hit her, just like years ago.

"I don't betray you!" Hope snapped at him, but couldn't help the blush that spread around her face. "I don't accept that mate thing, remember?!"

Kace shrugged and grinned at her. "Whether you accept it or not, since you have marked me, I will stake my claim on you."

"Mark? When did I mark you?" Hope frowned, as long as she knew from the sibling, the lycan would stake their claim by leaving a mark on their mate's neck.

Hope had seen the mark on Sophia's neck and it was beautiful. She wanted it too...

Ah! No! No!

Hope shook her head inwardly.

"You bit me and left your mark." Kace raised the hand that Hope had bitten when they were inside the car. "Wait for my turn to mark you, babe." He winked at her before walked inside the house to face the angry witch.

"That's not a mark!" Hope screamed in frustration, but all she could hear was Kace's laughter.

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## **Chapter 469 - PRUDE**

On the other side, Lana walked past the fuming Hope with expression that devoid from any emotion. She had seen how Kace and Hope interaction, and it was enough for her to know her own place.

At least, she hoped she knew before this feeling became more unbearable.

"Lana, did you know Kace will come back today? He becomes a substitute of Mr. Wentworth." Hope followed Lana inside their house.

"No, I don't know." Lana shook her head as she went inside her bedroom with Hope followed behind her just like a lost puppy. "I think Serefina also didn't know about this."

"Yes, I can see how angry she was." Hope plopped down on Lana's bed and hugged her pillow. "Why he come back? If he takes a job as a teacher in our school, then it means he will not go in the near future, right?"

The possibility of Kace wouldn't roam around outside world and would stay for longer time, excited her, though Hope wouldn't admit it.

"It depends." Lana changed her clothes to tee shirt and jeans, her everyday outfit.

"What do you mean?" Hope frowned, already dislike the idea of the possibility Kace would go again.

"The fact that Kace returns out of the blue, he must have plan on his own. It depends if he could convince Serefina. Or..." Lana pulled her backpack from under her bed.

"Or?" Hope followed Lana's movement with her eyes.

"Or... whether Serefina will agree or not, Kace will stay anyway." Lana shrugged her shoulder. "You know right, both of them are stubborn."

"Yeah. It's hard to live with them." Hope nodded.

"You are stubborn too." Lana glanced at her and took the backpack with her to stuff some clothes inside.

"I am not." Hope pouted. Well, sometime she was stubborn, but not all the time like the two of them.

"Where are you going?"

Lana was rearranging her things as if she would go for days. It had been a while since Lana had gone for a secret mission that Serefina gave to her since she worked as an art teacher.

"I have to go somewhere." Lana said without turning her back.

"That stupid mission again?" Hope scoffed. She disliked it when they had to leave her alone in this house. Sometime, Hope would come over to the siblings house and stayed overnight there.

Lana chuckled when she heard that. "Serefina will tell you off if she heard how you address her task."

"It's alright, she is with Kace now." Hope also laughed lightly. "I wonder what they are talking about."

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"I thought you will tell me off or at least throw one or two fireballs." Kace grinned when Serefina was only staring dagger at him since five minute ago.

He was looking at Serefina while running his hand on the surface of the window, inside Serefina's bedroom.

"No, I want to kill you now!" Serefina glowered. "What the hell do you think you are doing here?!"

Kace sighed deeply and tiredly. "Don't worry, Jedrek's people will not find me here."

Serefina raised her eyebrows. "What have you done to them?"

Kace shook his head. "I hurt Maximus."

Maximus was the lycan who had been tracking him down for centuries and failed in every attempt as this world was very big and he just worked alone.

Maximus only had two missions, find Kace's mate and killed her or dragged the younger brother of Donovan back to their realms.

Since it involved Kace, thus Maximus only paid attention toward Kace. He always thought as long as he found Kace, he would find his mate too.

"Explain to me what do you mean with hurt?" Serefina narrowed her eyes. "Normal 'hurt' will not bedridden a lycan." She said in matter of fact tone.

"Let's say I put him only an inch away from his death bed." Kace still talked lightly, but his eyes flickered with uneasiness. He didn't like the fact he almost killed Maximus, though that person did nothing but hunted him down all the time.

"Oh, wow!" Serefina raised an eyebrow sarcastically. "Finally you come to your senses."

"Don't say it like I want to kill him." Kace narrowed his eyes at her. "I don't have a choice."

Serefina didn't interest with what he was saying. "So, why do you think, no one will come after you?"

Kace walked to Serefina's bed, but she glared at him. She didn't like someone sat down on her bed. "Because Maximus is Jedrek trusted person." Kace plopped down on the couch near the bed, looked exhausted. "Jedrek will not give the task to kill my mate to other lycan and take the risk that more people know about the prophecy, about the Donovan will mate with guardian angel."

Kace knew Jedrek was too prideful to have a guardian angel as his mate. He despised them. He just hoped the moment his brother met his mate, he wouldn't do anything stupid.

But then he looked at Serefina. It was such a pity that they couldn't be together. It was only when with Serefina when his brother looked normal.

"I think he will wait until Maximus recover." Kace added as he leaned against the backrest and closed his eyes. action

"Something happened to you right?" Serefina's green lime eyes scrutinized the lycan's body and her brows furrowed. "You are dying."

Kace opened his eyes and rolled them incredulously. "Don't exaggerate the situation I am just injured, not dying."

Apparently his battle with Maximus had affected Kace as well. During the fight, he couldn't let his beast took control completely. He was hesitated and didn't want to lose it to his bloodl.u.s.t instinct. Therefore it led to this.

"Your spirit beast is injured." Serefina corrected herself.

"Hm." Kace nodded. "That is one of my reason to recuperate here."

"Let's see, how bad your wound." Serefina sat down beside him.

Kace frowned. "It's on my back. I have to take off my clothes."

Serefina rolled her eyes. "Don't act prude. Take it off!"

#### **Chapter 470 - WHAT ARE YOU DOING?**

Serefina rolled her eyes. "Don't act prude. Take it off!" She snapped at Kace when he crossed his arms in front of his chest comically as if protecting his dignity. "I had seen the three of you n.a.k.e.d."

"But, Jedrek's body is the only thing that you will imagine, right?" Kace said teasingly.

"Talk like that again and I will make your wound look like a scratch compared to what I will do to you." Serefina's voice was very calm, but she didn't miss her point.

"Alright, alright. No need to threaten me like that." Kace took off his clothes and turned his back to face Serefina.

The witch's eyes opened wide in shock. "You are so stupid." She said in pure irritation. "If someone like Maximus, who has lower rank than you could beat you up like this, I don't know how you will face the upcoming war."

"Don't talk about war." Kace's shoulder tensed as he let out a low- short growl.

"It will happen." Serefina raised her hand as a light appeared on the tip of her forefinger. "No matter how you will deny it. It will happen."

"The war will not happen. We live in peace now." Kace said stubbornly. He hated it when people was talking about war. action

"Why do you think you have your mate now?" Serefina threw the question, which the answer was very obvious.

The prophecy was right. The spirit of guardian angels would breathe in human's child and the three of them would be the mate of the three infamous beast of Donovan.

It was a bless and curse, at least that was what the Donovan's thought the first time they heard about their curse was being lifted.

A bless, because having a mate was a bless to their eternity life, but also a curse as guardian angel was the weakest creatures in their hierarchy. Lycanthropes despised them.

But, not now, at least for Kace. He loved Hope from the first time he laid his eyes on her when she was still a baby, even before that.

The thought of having a mate and be with her was the only reason why Kace was in this kind of situation now, instead of letting his brother to kill his mate brutally.

"Can we talk about that later and focus on my wound first please." Kace felt uncomfortable with the topic.

"You can't run away forever from this. Sooner or later you need to think about this." Serefina traced the light on the tip of her finger on the surface of Kace's wound.

"Then I choose to think about that later." Kace knew the true purpose of the resurrection of the guardian angel, he just didn't want to think about it now when he just come back from years of separation from his mate.

Serefina could only sigh in defeat. If Kace didn't want to talk about it, then she wouldn't have a choice, but change the topic. She was not in the mood to argue with this guy.

"Did you find any clues about where her blood is?" Serefina traced her hand to the second line of his wound.

There were four lines of deep wounds on Kace's back, it was clear to see what caused it. A shape shifter had clawed his back rather brutally.

However, the thing that confused Serefina was; why he didn't heal? With his healing ability, Kace would recover within days and it was impossible to hurt his spirit, yet even with her magic, the wound wouldn't close. Despite the fact she wasn't a healer, but it was still odd.

"I do." Kace nodded. The blood that Serefina referring was the blood that was being taken from the hospital when Hope was sick.

Ever since the blood was taken, something horrible happened within the supernatural creatures. Though it wasn't a big incident, but the fact it could lead into something big, wasn't an appealing idea. Someone, who owned Hope's blood, definitely wasn't someone with good intention.

"What is it?" Serefina had not yet exchange information with Kace for months, thus both of them needed more time to catch up with everything.

"It leads me to the northern coven." Kace replied, feeling a breeze of cold wind from behind his back. It must be Serefina.

"What is it? Witch?" It was most likely that creature had involved themselves in this.

"No, it's not a witch. Its Fae." Kace also frowned when he gave this information to her. "I know what you think about this."

"Fae is not an aggressive creature. Most of them like to leave in peace." Serefina frowned. If it was about aggression, then Fae would be the last creature after the guardian angel who had that kind of trait.

"I know, that's why it's confusing. Moreover, what is a Fae doing in the northern coven when that place is very... cryptic." Kace furrowed his eyebrows.

As far as Kace knew, the northern coven was limited only for the witches, no shape shifter really went there as that place was very dark and magical.

That was why, mystic river village was the best place to hide for rogue like Waggle family, the siblings, and them.

However, as the creatures that filled with pride, most of them didn't want to come here and looked for protection from other creatures' magic and power.

Thus, this village was still avoided by many of them.

"Do you have any idea why your wounds don't heal?" Serefina gave up, befuddled and gestured for Kace to put on his shirt again.

"I don't know." Kace scratched his head. "When I fought him, he looked a little bit off."

"Tell me." Serefina demanded.

However, before Kace could say anything, the door was pushed open and Hope's figure appeared.

"Serefina, Lana wants me to tell you... what are you two doing!?" Hope's eyes widened in disbelief. The scene before her eyes was; Kace, who just put on his clothes and Serefina, who was slightly panting. They were both surprised. "Are you...?!"