

## Traded To The Lycan King by MG Wattsons

### Chapter 70-72

#### Chapter 70

Merikh scoffs, looking away from me angrily, his jaw clenching. I look up at Caspian, who looks between my mate and me with a somber look on his face. It's obvious he thinks I should go with him, but that doesn't mean he enjoys the turmoil it brings me.

"So you aren't coming home with me, then?" Merikh asks, trying hard to control his words and the anger behind them.

"No, that is not what I am saying, either." I sigh, closing my eyes for a moment before I inhale and meet his fiery gaze. I can see the hurt on his face, feel his confusion through the mate bond.

"Then what do you want?" he asks. His voice has shifted, no longer filled with anger. Instead, it is soft, resolved, as he waits for my answer.

"I want to be able to make the decision on my own." I tell him, and he shakes his head in disbelief.

"We are mates. We are a team." He tells me. "We decide together

"Yet you made the decision that we leave tonight without telling me until right now. You made the decision for me with no regard for what I might need or want." I tell him.

"This is not the time for this conversation." He mutters, pacing away from me and toward the door.

"When is the time for it?" I ask him. "Because we hardly discussed it last night."

"We discussed it." He shoots back. I roll my eyes.

"No. You told me what I was doing, and I told you we would discuss it in the morning."

He scowls at me. "You actually said we would fight about it in the morning," he reminds me.

"And here we are, fighting about it." I shrug, standing

"Perhaps you two should discuss this after we are done here." Caspian says and I look at him, a little shocked. I had forgotten where we were.

"Was there something other than who I am going with that we need to discuss?" I ask Caspian, and he nods.

"Fine." Merikh grits out, but he refuses to look at me. He throws up a barrier through our bond and I frown to myself. I'm suddenly not all that excited to be alone with him later.

"Once we all go our separate ways, it will be difficult to communicate." He says as he wanders over to his desk and he pulls

out a box.

“What is that?” I ask him. Caspian pads over to me, holding the box out as I take it from him.

Merikh comes close, his chest brushing my shoulder as he leans close looking down as I pull the top from the box. I lift the sleek black cell phone from the box, looking up at him, a little shocked to see he would have a human device like this.

“A cell phone?” Merikh says quizzically. “How do you expect to use this in the water?”

“I won’t. I have already arranged for a small home on the shore of the ocean, one where I will place a siren in human form to watch the phone for news from you or anyone else who has this number.”

“You do realize these devices require service to work?” I ask Caspian, and he frowns at me.

“I do know how things outside of my world work, daughter,” He says. “All of that has been taken care of. Everyone’s numbers have already been added as well and there is a charger in there.”

“Okay.” I say, nodding and he meets my eyes. “If you just wish to speak with me or ask me a question, you only have to call, and my warriors will retrieve me.”

A smile tugs at my lips. This whole having a dad who wants to be a part of my life now feels strange. But it’s pleasant. Nice to not be the last of my family.

“I will probably have lots of questions.” I tell him and he smiles, the joy in his eyes telling me he wants me to call, that he hopes I will do it often.

“Anything else?” Merikh asks, breaking the tender father daughter moment and I frown at him. He looks away and exhales before he looks back.

“I will make sure she calls often.” He tells Caspian, who slaps him on the shoulder with a grin.

“Thank you. Well, that is all I have for now. Caspian says, giving me a smile. Merikh guides me to the door, the cellphone clutched to my chest as we make our way down the hall.

“I want to check in on Percy.” I tell Merikh. He says nothing for a minute and I look up at him, watching as he glares forward and then turns to look at me.

“We have a conversation we need to finish first,” he says, his words restrained.

My stomach drops, not looking forward to continuing the conversation I know we need to have. There is so much emotion, so much panic in what will happen and what I might say in the heat of the moment.

“There isn’t much left to say. I am considering going with my father.” I say with a shrug, trying to make light of it.

Merikh takes my hand as he walks toward our room. He pushes the door open and swings me into it, slamming the door behind us as he backs me into the wall. I square my shoulder, not afraid of him, and then I see the sheer terror in his eyes. The way he looks over my face like he is looking for an answer. "You can't go." He whispers, his body fully pressed to mine. The coolness of the wall does nothing to stop the heat burning through me as he pleads. He rests his forearms on either side of me, boxing me in as I tilt my chin up to look at him.

"I haven't said I am going yet," I remind him and he shakes his head.

"No matter how many times I tell you, you just don't seem to understand it. You aren't my other half, Colette. You are all of me. I need you."

My heart breaks as he nuzzles into my cheek and neck.

"I feel the same way," I say.

"Good, then you are staying with me," he murmurs, his lips finding my ear as he whispers against my skin.

"That isn't what I said." I gasp at his intimate touch, my eyes falling closed.

"Merikh, I need to be allowed to think about this. To make this decision. On my own."

He stops, nearly panting as he drops the most tender of kisses on my cheek before he pushes away.

"Don't make me use my alpha's command on you," he whispers in warning. "I do not want to be controlling or force your hand anymore than I have in the past, but I just... I can't... I need you with me."

My burning need for him whips into a raging frenzy of frustration as I scoff and walk past him further into the room. "You have made every decision for me since the moment I have met you." I hiss.

"Ch no. You chose to mate with me in place of that \*itch, Leslie, Willingly, if you recall." He says, his eyebrows raised.

"You are infuriating." I mutter, pinching the bridge of my nose before I shake my head. "You tricked me. Yes, I accepted. But you didn't choose me because you wanted me. You were there for me because of WHO I am, WHAT I am. Merikh, you came to steal me and use me."

"And the second I realized we were mates..." he says, but I interrupt him.

"You should have told me, but you didn't. Instead, you pushed me away and tested me with Grady-"

"He came on his own!" He laughs dryly. "I didn't seek him out. The dumba\*s came looking for you. All I did was let it play out."

"THEN! You refused to listen to me and you forced me into that promise, so I couldn't know we were mates." I say, tilting my head and licking my teeth,

waiting for him to find a retort for this. His chest rumbles with a low, dissatisfied growl from his lycan.

"I have already explained those actions to you," He says simply. Like the explanation was enough to make it all okay.

"Then there was how you never told me what I was or who my father is." I say, my hands on my hips as I watch him drop onto the edge of the bed.

"Is this punishment, then?" He asks, his voice a whisper.

My hands drop from my waist, my heart shattering, watching him look defeated and broken. His sullen eyes lift to meet mine and my breathing hitches. He is destroyed.

I want to rush to him, fall to my knees and tell him I was kidding, that it was all just me being a little crazy. But the truth is, the more I say it out loud, the more I realize I need to make this decision on my own.

"No, Merikh." I exhale, tears in my eyes as I move to his side. Sitting next to him. "This is me standing my ground and needing to do this on my own. I love you and who I am with you. But I feel like I am missing so much of who I am. I want to give you every part of me, but I still don't know myself fully."

He reaches over, taking my hand in his, but he doesn't look at me.

"So this isn't about you not loving me?" he whispers, and I laugh at the absurdity.

"Never." I say, jumping up and stepping between his legs. I hold both sides of his face, making sure he is looking up at me. "This is something that I have to decide on my own, okay?"

"Okay," he agrees reluctantly, "I will not hinder your decision. Even if it is one I don't like."

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Percy grins when he sees me walking down the hallway toward him. The relief I feel only shows how much this young gamma has grown on me and the reminder that I have missed him. He looks completely normal, well fed and free of mind. But then again, he had the last time as well. So, as I approach him, I give him a gentle smile.

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"I promise the witch is no longer in my head." He says, putting his hands up. I chuckle, stepping into a quick embrace before stepping back.

"It is so good to see you back to normal." I tell him and he nods.

"Yeah, well, it was a weird sensation. My only regret is I didn't realize it sooner." He says, frowning. I sigh, tilting my head.

"Perc, you fought her off! An incredibly powerful fae, not just powerful, but the d\*mn queen. You held her off and tried to give us a warning." I remind him.

"Yeah," he says as he shakes his head. "But she still won out eventually."

"No." I scoff. "You won. There isn't a single person you hurt. You let us know

in time so you could be saved. It takes a powerful warrior to do that.”  
He nods, looking away from me as the others scurry around with luggage and mingling.

“I know it may seem weird to ask this but...is there anyway you would be comfortable with me still remaining on as you gamma?” He asks, his freckled cheeks growing pink as he clears his throat and looks at the ground. I furrow my brows, confused.

“Why wouldn’t you be?” I ask him and he seems shocked by my response. “Alpha Merikh suggested it might be best for me to step down, just for a little while.” He explains, and I find myself growing, annoyed with my mate once more.

He continually claims that he needs me, that I am the one in control, and yet he does things behind my back. I get he is trying to protect me, that he isn’t doing these things to be controlling or possessive. But intended or not, that is exactly what it feels like.

“Alpha Merikh is wrong.” I say with a tight smile. “I would not feel comfortable with just one Ga\*ma. You guys are a package deal. I need you and Penny.”

“Glad to hear you say that,” Penny says from behind me, and I look over my shoulder to see Percy’s twin grinning. “When Alpha made the suggestion, it felt...wrong.”

“I will talk to him about it.” I promise.

Hayes walks past us, a somber look on his face as he looks lost, almost like he is just going through the motions. I look at him before turning to see Percy and Penny with an alarmed look on their faces as well.

“I will go speak with him,” I say, rushing off after the lumbering beta.

“Hayes...”

He looks up slowly, blinking at me before he gives me a half-a\*sed smile.

“Can Thelp you Luna?” he asks.

“Uh, well, first you can explain this mood to me.” I motion to him and he sighs, shaking his head.

“It is complicated” He whispers, then he glances around. “I would like to discuss it with you when we make it back to the pack...if you might have the time?”

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It is obvious that Hayes is desperate and if this has anything to do with our last heart to heart, I can only assume he is struggling with his new found mate.

"Of course," I tell him. "We are family before I am your Luna."

"Thank you Colette." He says, rubbing his face. "Where Merikh is usually great to talk to about these things, sometimes a woman knows a woman better than an alpha."

"I can definitely agree with that." I laugh and nod in agreement.

"Hayes!" Merikh calls out, beckoning his beta over to him from outside the open double doors. Hayes rushes off, leaving me standing in the doorway watching my handsome mate with a tinge of fury. Why the hell does he have to be so good looking? It makes it so much harder to be angry at him when he does st\*pid shit and then smiles at me.

Right on cue, he shoots me a s\*xy grin and a wink before turning to Hayes and pointing some things out. I exhale in annoyance before turning and heading to my father's office to tell him my decision.

His door is wide open, his office tidy and neat and his desk completely empty. A frown creeps across my lips as I move deeper into the office. There is nothing here that feels like him. The homey feeling he brought the room with his disarray and the smell of his salty scent that felt familiar and comfortable. I trap my bottom lip between my teeth, then rush out the office door, heading toward his room. He has to be there, packing. Unless she doesn't really pack? What could he need from our world when he lives under the sea?

I fly through his bedroom door, not bothering to knock, and I'm slammed in the face with the scent of bleach and cleaner. Tears fill my eyes, my heart aching at the thought of missing him and not being able to say goodbye. I didn't realize he was going to be leaving so soon.

His massive bed is made, the windows drawn and white linen covering the couch and nightstands. It is obvious he is gone, one of the first to leave. But why would he leave me without me telling him myself what my decision was? How could he know I was going to choose to go with Merikh?

As I exit the room, I slam into someone, grunting and bouncing off their body into the wall with a thud. The back of my head aches as I touch it, wincing. Someone touches my arm and look up to see the worried face of Ezra.

"Luna, I apologize. I was informed you were rushing up here and I have a message to deliver you from Caspian." He rushes out, then he grimaces as he watches me blink. "Are you alright? Should I see if Brent of Hyacinth are still here?"

"No, No I am fine. What letter do you have for me?" I ask him and he reaches into his pocket withdrawing a small letter with a wax seal of a violent ocean wave. I brush my finger over the seal before looking up at him.

"When did he leave?" I ask.

"He left twenty minutes ago." He says. "Caspian wanted to say goodbye, but he wasn't sure he could do it without breaking down."

"I see," I murmur, looking down at the letter, slipping my finger under the lip and breaking it free from the wax.

Colette,

There is much I wanted to say to you during our time, much I had planned to do with you and even more I had hoped to experience with you in the near future. But fate plays games more often than not, and for now we find ourselves apart again.

War is a dangerous game, one that many see as a strategy for who is the strongest. But it is not. Use your strong mind and stay close to Merikh. I have every bit of faith he will keep my little girl safe, where I failed to protect your mother.

I want you to know I respect your decision to stay with Merikh, though I had wished you were the one to tell me and not your mate. Trust your instincts, test your abilities, and stay hydrated.

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Love,

Dad

Tears fall from my eyes as I read his word, holding it close. Then tears turn to anger and confusion, the last paragraph replaying over and over again. When did Merikh go to him? It couldn't have been after the meeting where I told them I would make my decision. Merikh would never betray me that way....would he?

"Ezrah," I call out to him as he walks further down the hall.

"yes?"

"Did Merikh go see my father before he left?" I ask him and he looks conflicted, clearing his throat.

"That is a question better served for him, don't you think?" he asks, arching a brow.

I tear from the hallway, rage building as I get closer to Merikh. There is no way he isn't feeling my anger through the mate bond, as I don't even try to shield it. He rounds the corner before I make it to the doors, his hands up already to keep me calm.

"Colette..." He says, and I know what he did.

Merikh went behind my back. Again. After everything, after what we discussed. I had already decided. D\*mn it, I was choosing to go with him. I wanted to be near him. To fix us better before I left. But now? Now I can't even look at him.

“How dare you!” I seethe and he frowns, guilt rippling through those green eyes I love so much. “You are such an asshole.”

“I knew what you would choose.” He tries to tell me and I laugh dryly.

“Hardly.” I scoff at him.

“You were going to choose to stay with me. I know you Colette.” he reminds me as he steps closer. I shove at his chest.

“It wasn’t your decision to predict or share with him. It was mine! MINE! and you did exactly what you promised you wouldn’t.” I grit out. “You said you would support my decision.”

“And I do,” he argues back.

“Good!” I hiss. “Then get my bag from the car. I’m going with my dad.”

“What?” He asks, like the air was sucked from his lungs. I swallow roughly, squaring my shoulders.

“I need space from you,” I say. “So, for now, I will go with Caspian. I won’t be gone for a long time. Just a few weeks.”

A range of emotions play over his face before he places his hands on his hips and barks out a laugh of disbelief.

“Are you serious?” He asks, “Truly really serious? Because if you are, then I won’t stop you.”

I hesitate but stand my ground. “Yes. I am serious.”

## **Traded To The Lycan King by MG Wattsons Chapter 72**

Taste than the 32 T waning to take us back home, throwing the trunk open while Haves watches me with micrest. His a\*se he is about to speak, but since him with solid glare and he takes two steps back, his hands www.te de sendes the last thing I need right now to talk about what just happened

Now the hell am I supposed top when I can’t even bring myself to admit it is happening? Colette is going to change Now we wexx 2 will seiously det her have this just her testing me, lesing my resolve Well, it she wants to pla bborn, she sin for a surprise Because I am the most stubborn of the two of 4x Ivan Ave we bees walking them past wx. Huy, and tha. The burn on my back twinges and stings, but at least wwwsvinger then the blinding rage 1 feel right now. My van is aghing me for control, urging me to just grab our gusts us placing her in the car until we get home  
stop

But over 2 Resow that is wrong. Shi, what I did was wrong Should I have made decisions for her? No, and I get that, but her choice. She didn’t know who her dad was and then she found him and learned of her



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xxxto be overwhelming, but to abandon her pack b abandon me This feels like a rash decision.

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a time moving her at the doorway as I drop the bags at her feet. She looks WIN Avered with unshold roars and I can see how torn she feels. But it's hard enough to let her go. In concern

not right now

attor, taking a step back, but she follows the Her hand reaching out and taking hold of

Telose my eyes inhaling her scent,

"Merkh. "she whispers, her voice breaking as as it has ever been. Even with this heartache. "Now

There are so many questions I want to ask her. So many

the place where her fingers touch my skin, the spark as strong

"Please what?" I ask her, arching an annoyed brow. "Please forgive you?

Please pretend that this is breaking me inside" She grimaces, and a rogue tear travels down her cheek as she draws in a shuddering breath.

"My hands are tied" She whispers, looking up at me. "I refuse to be a showpiece with a title. I want to be more than that."

lyank my wrist from her grip, stepping closer into her bubble.

"The only one who doesn't see your worth is you. Why the hell do you think I am fighting this so hard?" Iscoit

"Then let me go and find my worth," she says, "For myself"

I chuckle dryly, reaching out and cupping her face with both hands. Her thin fingers reach up, resting on my wrists as she meets my heavy gaze.

"When you realize there is nothing to find, you know where to and me"

She looks at me, biting her bottom lip. "I promise to call you every day"

I sigh, tugging her to me as I press my lips to hers. Her hands sqleeze my arm, and I kiss her soll and sweet. Tying to convey through the connection just how much I am begging he then I break away, taking a step back.

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"I think I will need some time to cool off." I tell her, hating myself but wanting her to understand that this is what it feels like to me. Like she is abandoning me and our pack. Even if that is not what it is.

"How much time?" She asks, tears racing down her cheek more consistently.

I shrug. "A few days. Maybe a week." I tell her, knowing dmn well that it will feel like an eternity.

"Okay...I will call you in a week," she whispers, her voice weak as she wipes her tears. "I do love you, Merikh."

"I know." I exhale, "But not enough to stay."

"It's not about how much I love you and you know that."

I look behind me at the SUV's where my beta and ga\*mas sit, probably watching us trying to figure out what the hell is going on. Then I see Penny clamber out and creep up the steps toward us. She sticks her hands in her pockets.

"It is time to leave, Alpha and Luna." She says intentionally, eyeing the bags in front of Colette.

I turn and walk down the steps, heading to the car, leaving my heart behind me.

"Colette will not be coming." I mutter as I walk past Penny.

"What?" she asks, her voice going up an octave in shock. "What the hell does that mean?"

"It means she is choosing not to come home, Penny." I clip out and look over my shoulder at her.

Penny looks between Colette and I. Colette, now hugging herself with tears streaming down her cheeks and me, looking like an insensitive a\*shole with the tears I want to let out tightly locked away.

"Alpha..." Penny says, and I already know exactly what she is going to say.

Hell, I knew it the second she stepped out of the SUV Penny is going with Colette and I had hoped it would go this way. If I' had suggested it, I am certain Colette would have been upset and offended. But with Penny insisting she go with her, I expect Colette won't be upset over the company.

"Ask her," I say. "She gets to decide if she wants you to tag along."

"Luna, I am coming with you." Penny insists.

"You really don't have to," she says and Penny laughs.

"Whether you are getting in touch with your wolf's side or siren side, you are my luna and I am your gamma. My job is to protect you at all times," she says.

"And you are my friend."

I gaze up at Colette who smiles for the first time since our fight and she nods happily.

"It might be nice to have company." She says.

With that, I move to the SUV, climbing in the passenger's seat and slamming the door shut.

"Let's go," I mutter to Hayes. He hesitates and I slide a glare his way. "Now,"

"I'm going" he grumbles, before way too slowly pulling away.

We drive in silence, fighting the urge to look in the rearview mirror as the mate bond stretches. If I look back and see her,

there is no way in hell I will leave the way she wants me to. This is what she is asking for. She is asking for me to be broken so she can find her way to feel

whole.

In retrospect, it's not a terrible thing to ask of me, it's something I want to give her. But f\*ck if it doesn't hurt my heart and ego. I can feel her emotions slowly draining from my head until we pull out of the mansion grounds and she is gone from me completely. My mark burns before it dulls to a throbbing, and I place my hand over it.

"Plan on filling me in, brother?" Hayes asks, and I look out the window.

"Not really," I admit..

"How about you tell me, anyway?" He says, and I roll my eyes.

"Not much to tell, Colette wanted to go with Caspian and learn what her skills are." I shrug.

"Mmhmm, and you seem super thrilled about it." He teases.

"Aren't you the clairvoyant one?" I grumble in annoyance.

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"Did you guys at least discuss it?" He asks, seeing right f\*cking through me. I hate when he does that shit. I glare at him and he chuckles, shaking his head.

"You idiot."

"Careful, I'm your alpha." I grumble.

"You are my brother first. And you are an idiot. I bet you tried to strong arm her into coming home by deciding for her and knowing Colette she got mad and decided she was going to do it

I don't respond. I look out the window instead, watching the trees blow by as he speeds down the paved road.

"I am proud of you, Merikh." He then murmurs. I turn to look at him, my brows knitting together.

"For what?" I ask.

"I mean, she isn't tied her up and locked in the back of the SUV. You let her go, and you are trusting her to come back when she is ready" He says and I move uncomfortably in the leather seat.

"Yeah, well, I was da\*n close to doing just that," I mutter, and Hayes laughs again.

"She will be safer with Caspian," He reminds me.

"That's the only thing keeping me sane."