

Alpha's Unhinged, Alpha's Unhinged Mate, Alpha's Unhinged Mate by Jessica Hall, Alphas, chapter, Series, Alpha's Unhinged Mate

Chapter 36

Lily POV

I was stuck in this paralysed state; I don't know how long I was out for, but I remember waking to Layla calling my name. Her voice ringing loudly in my head and I could feel a terrible headache coming on from whatever Damien gave me.

"Lily, you need to wake up. I can't shift, you need to do something, anything. Please wake up" I groan, forcing my eyes open.

"I'm awake, what?" I tell her, feeling defeated as the events of the night rushed to me. Damien's last words replaying over and over in my head. I heard the door, and I rolled my head to the side, too weak to sit up. Damien walks in and I see him walk over to me before Natalia drags a chair in and places it beside the bed.

Damien sits in the chair and brushes my hair out of my face. I can smell soup and he is a little blurry, but it is definitely Damien. I turn my head away, not being able to stand looking at him.

"Thank you, Natalia you may leave," He tells her, and I hear the door click shut. I try to roll away from him, but my limbs are too heavy, and I feel like I am being weighed down by weights.

"Look at me!" Damien demands. I ignore him and I feel Layla growl at his tone, like we are beneath him. Feel tears brim in my eyes at hearing the venom in his words. I feel his hands on my face as he turns my head, making me look at him. He sighs before rubbing my cheek with his thumb, and for once I hate the feel of the sparks as they rush over my skin at his touch. Hate the way he looks at me with that pained expression. He has no right to feel that way when this is his doing, he did this to me and he is acting like I did him wrong, like I betrayed him.

"You need to eat" He says lifting a spoon to my lips but I press my lips together refusing. My stomach growled at the smell of the chicken soup, I was starving absolutely ravenous but I would rather starve to death than rot in this room.

"Please Lily, you need to eat," He says, bringing the spoon to my lips. When I refuse, he growls before hitting the side of the bed angrily.

"Why do you have to be so difficult, I am trying to help you?"

"By locking me away?" I scoff, averting my eyes away from him.

"You killed three of my men and attacked my mother. What else was I supposed to do?" He says. Mother? His mother is dead? I know I have never met his mother, so how could I or Layla have tried to hurt her.

"Do you know who he is talking about?" I ask Layla, but she is just as dumbfounded as I am.

"Your mother is dead, I couldn't have hurt her" I tell him.

"No, I banished her. I can't believe you are seriously going to deny what you did, I caught you standing over their bodies. I know what I saw," He retorted.

I try to lift my head when I realise something is around my neck; I thrash with my arms, trying to get free, the thing around my neck suddenly making me feel claustrophobic.

Trying to grip it with my fingers but I can't reach. Damien just watches with a blank expression, like he isn't watching his mate struggle.

"You're only going to hurt yourself, Lily. Stop" I ignore him and he stands up and reaches in his back pocket before pulling another syringe out and popping the cap off with his teeth. I stop thrashing, not wanting to be injected with whatever it is he has in the syringe.

I watch as he sits the syringe on the bed beside me in warning to behave. Horrified that my own mate would subject me to this.

"Now are you going to eat or am I putting you back to sleep?" He asks and I press my lips together. Suddenly the door opens and Natalia walks in.

"Let me try, please. You don't need to drug her" Natalia says, and I hear her voice in my head and I almost gasp when I realise I can hear her and that the mind link is working.

"I will help get you out of here" She says, and I almost burst out crying at her words. She was going to help me, help me escape. Damien watches her enter before nodding his head and getting up.

"I will wait outside the door, make sure you sedate her, I will check" I watch as he walks out shutting the door behind him. As soon as he was gone, I burst into tears and Natalia hugged me.

"I don't know what I did?" I tell her, confused.

"I know sweetie, I know. Now eat for me please" She says, and I shake my head wondering why she isn't helping me out of the cuffs. Her voice came through the mind link.

"He is outside the door, we can't speak out loud" I nod and open my mouth as she spoons a mouthful in and I moan loudly at the taste, and the moisture, my mouth was so dry.

"Good?" She asks out loud for Damien's benefit.

"Yes, very" I tell her, opening my mouth as she spoons more in. I feel the mind link open before I hear her voice in my head.

"Damien's mother came back. Estella said you attacked her and killed the warriors that worked at the front gate." I shake my head, but she holds up a hand.

"I know you didn't do it, but when Damien was called to the front gate with an intruder alert, he found you standing over his mother with your teeth on her throat," I feel Layla trying to remember but she said she couldn't remember anything.

"That's not all, all the warriors were drained of blood, and you were covered in it" I stare wide eyed, shocked by what she said.

"Where is his mother now?" I ask through the link. Natalia shrugged. ""Damien had her sent off pack territory a few hours ago""

I nod, "Why can't I remember meeting her then, Layla has no memory of her at all?"

"I'm not sure, but Ryker said when you woke up after they sedated you, that you were groggy, he said you came downstairs and said you heard a noise and told him to stay inside. I think the sedative that they injected you with might have something to do with it. I honestly don't know because you seem fine now. We will figure it out though"

"I do remember seeing Ryker. He was asleep on the lounge when I went to get a drink, and I heard a noise outside. I went to check but I..I am not sure what happened after that" Layla says and I nod to her acknowledging what she said.

"How do I get out of here, you have to help me? I know we didn't do what she said. I don't understand what I did to her, but I know my wolf, she wouldn't just attack his mother for no reason"

"That's what I said, I told him this even Darian agreed. Darian tried to take over when Damien locked you in here. Made quite the mess before Damien got control back"

"Then why doesn't Damien believe him?"

"Because she is his mother and for some reason, Damien has always sought his mother's love, her approval. Can't stand the woman. Estella was just as bad as her mate. Both of them are sick in the head for what they did to him" Natalia says and for the first time I actually see her wolf try to come through. Natalia was always so calm, so motherly that I often forgot she was a werewolf. But whatever memories she just thought of angered her.

"You knew them?" I ask. She nods.

"Yes, I was Damien's nanny. After he got rid of them, he let me remain working with him. Said I was the closest thing he had to a real mother. The entire pack knew what was happening here, but we were all powerless to stop him. He killed everyone who tried, including my mate" Her voice was sad. I knew she had children, but I didn't know her mate was dead.

Damien pops his head in and Natalia looks at him. "Almost done Alpha," Natalia says. "Good when she is done, sing out, I might take her to have a bath" He says and I look at him in panic. Natalia was supposed to help me escape. Natalia, seeing the panic in my eyes, rubbed my cheek.

"At least you get out of this room, maybe try to convince him to let you sleep in your bed?" She says. I can feel Damien's longing through the bond, his need to touch me and have me close. Or maybe it was Darian annoying him, but I knew it changed nothing that he still intended to keep me locked away.

"Maybe if we behave, he will see we aren't capable of doing the things his mother accused us of" Layla says, but I can also feel she is wary of him and she just really wants out of this room.

Natalia smiles before hopping up. Damien walks in and before grabbing the syringe, he injects half the contents into my shoulder while I try to get away from him.

"You said I could bathe"

"You can but I am not stupid enough to leave you unsedated, you will stay awake I didn't give you enough to knock you out just enough to stop you running" He says and I feel him undo the cuffs. Natalia's voice is ringing in my head.

"Behave, I have a plan. I will get you out, Lily. I promise" I look at her and she nods before walking out the door. Damien undoes the thing around my neck and helps me sit up. I frown when I realise he put a dog collar on me, my eyes burning with tears of embarrassment.

My limbs are floppy and I stumble as I try to walk. Damien's arm around my waist is the only thing keeping me upright. He walks me into our room. Pulling me against him as he sits me on his lap on the edge of the bath.

I hear the water run and using his arm that isn't around my waist; he pours something that smells like lavender into the water. I feel my head pull down as I lose the strength to hold it up. Damien stands and I am embarrassingly floppy like a rag doll. I feel tears run down my cheeks in embarrassment at my helpless state. This was so degrading. I try to

talk, but my tongue has no feeling.

I can hear Layla whimper in my head and I feel her open the mind link to him.

“Just take us back Damien, you are humiliating her” Damien freezes his hands going to my face as he grips my chin making me look at him.

“Don’t be embarrassed” He says, kissing my face.

“Yeah, and what happens when she needs to use the bathroom, Damien. Are you going to embarrass her further” Layla snaps at him. “Just take us back it isn’t worth this torture, can’t you feel you are hurting her” Layla says. Damien growls and my heart rate quickens before I feel him stand lifting me and carrying me back to the padded room.

He lays us down before securing the cuffs and I close my eyes, not being able to look him in the eye. I suddenly missed my dad. He would have gone ballistic if he saw how helpless I was, how helpless Damien made me feel. Damien brushed my hair back, making my eyes snap open before turning away. I watch as he walks away then hesitates, clenching his fists tightly, his entire body going tense before shaking his head and walking out.

“Darian is furious with him,” Layla says.

“It’s okay Lily, Natalia will help us and at least we can mind link now, so we won’t be lonely. We can talk to Callie” Layla tells me but I am not in the mood, and nothing she says will make me feel better.

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Chapter 37

Lily POV

Hours ticked by slowly and I lost all sense of time, I gave up any hope of ever getting out of this room. Damien didn’t allow anyone in the room after that night. Damien would come in and try to get me to eat, but I would refuse. I could feel his sadness through the bond, which only angered me more.

He put me in this situation and he can take me out of it, yet he hasn’t and probably won’t. Natalia has kept me company, even Callie talking to me through the mind-link. I never really paid much attention, too lost in my thoughts about how everything turned horribly wrong.

How he could accuse us of doing something Layla had no memory of. She didn’t even know what his mother looked like. I could feel her thoughts plaguing her as well, as she tried to remember anything, tried to recall every little detail of that night in question, but she only remembers seeing Ryker and hearing a noise outside. Nothing other than that.

Hearing the door locks turning, I look to the door expecting to find Damien entering. My face not even hiding my shock when I see Tabitha rush in with Natalia.

“We have to be quick before he gets back” Tabitha says, rushing to my side and undoing the restraints while Natalia does the same on her side.

My muscles aching from barely being used as I stand up. Tabitha wraps an arm around

my waist pulling me against her and I feel Natalia pulling jeans over my bare legs before she undoes the ties that hold the hospital gown together. Pulling it down my arms and I am standing topless in front of them. Tabitha helps her lift the shirt over my head while letting me lean on her.

“Quick, we need to hurry” Natalia says, going over and opening the door and I suddenly feel the mind-Link open up. Callie’s voice running through my head.

“I’m on my way” I hear her say before Tabitha tells her to hurry. Getting to the stairs, I looked down at them, worried about how they were going to help me walk down them, without all of us falling down.

“Why are you helping me?” I ask, looking at Tabitha.

“Because you’re my Luna and I owe you for saving my daughter’s life and my mates. And I won’t let Damien ruin the best thing that has ever happened to him. Especially for that c**t he calls a mother” She says and I wonder what she knows of Damien’s past that would cause the anger I could hear in her voice. Tabitha and Natalia help me step down the first three steps. Suddenly the door opens and we all freeze, our eyes snapping to the door and I feel my heart rate spike. Max and Callie walk in and I feel relief flood me.

Max rushes up the steps toward us, “Sorry Luna, but we need to be quick” He says scooping me up and walking down the stairs with me before placing me down on the ground. Natalia races up, closing my prison door, while Callie and Tabitha help me walk towards the door.

Max opens it wide so we can step outside. The sun is blasting my face and I can smell fresh air for the first time in days. I squint at the bright light heating my skin.

“Where are we going?” I ask.

“We haven’t quite thought that far ahead yet, it was the first time Damien left the pack house. We saw an opportunity, so we took it” Tabitha explains.

“Head to my place” She says looking over at Callie. We make our way down the driveway towards the park when I hear the familiar sound of Damien’s car driving up the street. He clearly wasn’t expecting to find me escaping as the car skids to a stop, barely missing us.

The look of pure anger on his face makes Callie whimper beside me, but Tabitha has a look of pure determination on her face and so does Natalia. Max places himself between Callie and I as Damien steps out of the car. His fists clenched tightly by his sides and I see the muscles in his jaw clench. A look I realised meant he was furious. He slams his car door before stalking toward us. Max puts himself between us and I see him flinch, waiting for Damien to do something.

“Move Max” He warns him. Max shakes his head and I see Tatum running over from the park toward us. Tatum rushes over, positioning himself next to Max blocking Damien from getting closer.

“I will only warn you once more, Move “ He screams using his Alpha voice. Max and Tatum fight against him, sweat beading on both of them, and their facial expressions look pained as his command rolls over them and it forces them to step aside.

Tabitha then steps forward, letting me go, and I grip onto Callie for dear life as I feel my legs wobble underneath me.

Tabitha jabs Damien in the chest with her finger. “You dare lock our Luna up and chain her to a bed like a f****g dog. Every time your mother comes here, you roll over for her,

every f*****g time Damien. Why do you seek her approval, huh? What the f**k has she done to earn it beside nearly have her son f*****g killed”

Damien grabs her wrist, shoving her away and reaching for me, when I suddenly hear bones snapping. Tabitha shifting in pure rage as she bows her head, her teeth bared.

“Stand down, Tabitha” He growls at her, Tabitha’s voice booming through the mindlink and I cringe at how loud her voice is.

“I will not watch you treat her like this, how are you so blinded to see what your mother is doing. Layla doesn’t even know your mother. What would she possibly have against her, Damien. Think! You are going to ruin your chances at having a mate. Layla has had every chance to attack the pack, and she hasn’t. You really believe she would just randomly kill three of our men?”

“I know what I saw” Damien growls, ripping me out of Callie’s arms and tugging me against him. I feel Layla trying to take over and shift, but the amount of tranquilizers in our system made it impossible.

“We didn’t do it” I tell him pleading with him, I see his eyes soften as he gazes down at me before I feel him harden his resolve, pushing any feelings he has for me aside.

Damien tries to drag me back to the car when suddenly Tabitha lunges at him and I am tossed to the ground. Her voice echoing loudly through everyone’s head as she pins him down. I watch as Damien’s entire body shakes and I know he wants to shift.

“Darian won’t let them shift,” Layla says happily when she realises he is trying to help. Damien growls low before tossing her off. Tatum and Max shifting, their clothes ripping to shreds as they block him from getting to me.

Tabitha suddenly shifts back, standing in all her naked glory, and I see Callie peel her shirt off, leaving her standing in just a bra and pants. Tabitha pulls the shirt on and I find I am not even jealous of her standing in front of him naked.

“We won’t let you do this, You have always looked after your Pack Damien. Always been a great Alpha to us, protected us. But every time that poisonous woman walks in here you fold, what are you clinging onto. She was willing to let her Mate sell Natalia, forcing her to watch as your father killed her mate for trying to save you, the woman who raised you. Watched you be beaten within an inch of your life. Don’t feel guilty for her, for what she endured at his hands. She could have stopped it. Goddess knows I would lay my life down in a heartbeat for my daughter, she should have done that for you. No matter what she has done, you still love her, still willing to throw your happiness away for her, and for what? She will not be the mother you wanted and I won’t stand by and watch you throw away the best thing that has walked into your life”

Damien chuckled before stepping forward threateningly. “Coming from the woman who hated her own Luna, where was your love for her when she first showed up here? Huh Tabitha. Don’t pretend to give a s**t about Lily now”

“That’s because I was selfish Damien, I couldn’t see past my own jealousy, I won’t make that mistake again and none of us will let you ruin this pack for the sake of that b***h you think is your mother” Tabitha spat at him.

“And how are you going to stop me?” He says, stepping forward. Growls came from everywhere and I didn’t even see anyone coming over, too busy watching what was happening directly in front of me. Wolves suddenly appeared from everywhere as they circled around us.

“Like I said Damien, we won’t watch you treat her like this, won’t let you throw her

away. So you either let her come with me until you can see f*****g clearly and pray she forgives you. Or” She waves around to all the wolves and they all growl at him. Damien looks at them, yet I don’t see an ounce of fear in him. He knows he could take them all on and still come out just fine, yet I can feel he doesn’t want to hurt his own pack. And I doubt Darian would even let him shift as I feel his agreement with Tabitha’s words.

“So what is it going to be Alpha” Tabitha says, stepping closer.

“Don’t make the same mistakes your parents did, don’t let this pack fall for Estella. You know she couldn’t have done this, you’re just to blind to see it. Lily Loves you, even if she won’t admit, we can all see it. Just like we can see you love her. Now move aside”

“I can command you,” He says, looking at all of them.

“But you won’t, you know we are right Damien” Natalia says, stepping forward and touching his arm. He looks down at her hand.

“You’re better than this, son. Better than them, don’t make the same mistakes your father did. Your mother was never yours to protect Damien, she was meant to protect you. She is just stirring trouble like she always does. Why would this time be any different” Damien looks at her and I can see the hurt in his eyes and feel that he doesn’t like being referred to as his father.

Damien steps past her, and I thought at first he was going to grab me again. Instead, he walks over before bending down and brushing my hair out of my face, his eyes watching my face. I feel his longing through the bond and also his own churning anguish over his mother. He kisses my head before standing and walking off heading behind the pack house and I know he is going to shift and try to run his thoughts off. Tabitha and Natalia let out the breath they were both holding.

“Come on, let’s take her to my place,” Tabitha says, pulling me up. Tatum suddenly shifts before walking over and picking me up. Taking me from her. We walk toward Tabitha’s house and I can hear the entire pack’s voices in my head asking if I am okay and for the first time I can feel, they truly think of me as one of them, as their Luna or they wouldn’t have just risked their lives for me.

And to think I thought I had daddy issues, but at least my father changed to be a better man. Clearly though, Damien had his own issues, one’s he needed to work out before I would ever stand by his side.

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Chapter 38

Lily POV

Tabitha’s house was not at all what I expected, stepping in I was shocked to see actually how homely and lived in it was, neutral colour scheme and warm tones filled her lounge room when I first stepped inside, pictures hung on the walls of who I assume must be her family and there were already quite a few of her and her daughter along with her mate. Tatum placed me on her couch and Trey walked out, yet he didn’t seem

fazed that Tatum was standing close to his mate. Almost as if he accepted that he would be around more since he fathered her daughter. And I was happy that things were working out okay for Tabitha.

"I will go make you some tea" Tabitha said, when suddenly I heard the baby crying in the distance. Trey looked to Tatum, and he walked off. Only Trey left in the room with me along with Natalia. Looking at Trey, he had denim jeans on and a singlet. Since coming here he had filled out and no longer looked like a rogue.

I could also see the faint outline of Tabitha's mark on his neck and smell her scent all over him. He smiled before sitting on the couch next to me. Tatum walked out with his daughter in his arms. She looked like Tatum, with her wispy hair and dimples.

"What's her name?" I ask Tatum who gazes at his daughter lovingly making me think of my father.

"Tilly" He says before offering her to me and I hold my arms out for her. Tatum placed her in my arms and I smiled down at her. She yawned, her eyes fluttering. I caressed her little hand softly while she lay nestled in my arms, which I had to support on my knees.

"She is beautiful" I tell him just as Tabitha walks in.

"I see you finally met Tilly properly" Tabitha says with a nod.

"I blended our names. I hope that isn't weird, I felt you deserved that after delivering her and everything I have put you through" She was sitting on the other side of me.

I feel my heart clench that she would add a piece of me in her name.

I hand Tilly to Tabitha and I notice Trey is gone before he returns with a bottle for her and hands it to Tabitha.

"I should head back to the Pack house Lily, you will be right here. I will let you know when the Alpha comes back if you like?" She says leaning down and hugging me. I nod and watch as she leaves. I feel a little awkward here. If anyone had said a few weeks ago, I would be sitting in Tabitha's house with her, I would have laughed at the thought but she was proving to be quite a good friend despite our troubled and awkward past.

"What you said out there, about Damien. How do you know so much about his childhood?" I ask, turning to Tabitha who looks a little awkward at the topic change.

"We grew up together, Damien in the Packhouse and I lived two houses down with my parents. We used to play in the park together on the rare times he managed to sneak out. I knew he was the Alpha's son, but every time I would see him, he would have new injuries. I knew things were bad at home for him. He always had broken bones and bruising or cuts like on his back" She said and I could see by the look in her eyes she was reliving those memories.

"He took a bad beating for me once, I snuck into the pack house wanting him to come play and his father caught me. I didn't know then that they allowed no one in the pack house. We had just moved here and been accepted in the pack, when I saw him in the window and wanted to ask if he could play. I was four, Damien six, his father went to hit me with his belt but Damien ran out just in time and threw himself over me taking it so I didn't have to. We became friends after that." She said softly.

Her words reminded me of Aria and all the c**p she copped at the hands of my father, I truly owed my sister my life and I knew if we could go back she would do it all again because that's the sort of person and sister she is.

I smile sadly at her. "His father was horrible but despite the beating his mother was

worse in my opinion”

“How so?” I ask,

“Might be best if he would tell you, I never witnessed any of it, but I have heard the stories”

“So is that why he is covered in scars from a belt?” I ask and instantly regret it.

“No, something far worse and the worst was watching it. After that day the pack changed, everyone could feel the power shifting and you could truly see the monster he was, I saw so many men break that day at what they did and even though Damien had forgiven them, and they had no choice. I know they will never forgive themselves, I also think that was when Damien first felt his wolf, things changed after that, Damien changed and he grew angry” She said.

Looking down in her arms, I notice Tilly had fallen asleep in her mother’s arms. Trey came over and gently picked her up. “I will go change her and put her to bed” He says kissing Tabitha on the head.

“And I should go,” Tatum said, hopping off the armchair.

“You’re not staying for dinner?” She asked, looking up at him.

“Depends, what are you and Trey making?” He asks.

“Taco’s,” says Trey, walking out and smiling at Tatum and I see Tabitha blush, making me wonder if there is more between the three of them than what meets the eye, as I not only see Trey looking at Tabitha with L**t filled eyes. I chuckle, making them look at me.

“What?” Tatum asks, sitting back down obviously deciding to stay.

“Nothing, just think it is interesting, that you three all have the same look in your eyes as you look at each other”

“And what look is that?” Trey asks, a smirk on his face.

“Are all of you sleeping together, I don’t care so no need to hide it” I ask, and I watch Tabitha’s face turn beet red and both Tatum and Trey smile at each other.

“That obvious?” Tatum says.

“I didn’t think you were bisexual, so honestly I am a little shocked” I tell them honestly.

“Well, I am going to make dinner” Tabitha dismisses herself, embarrassed as she walks out.

“Well, I am glad that is out because now I can stay without raising eyebrows” Tatum announces, then I realise the mark on his neck. I tilt my head to the side to get a better look.

“They both marked you?” Tatum nods his head before my eyes dart to Trey’s “and you them?”

“I haven’t marked Tabitha yet, but soon. She was a little busy planning a jailbreak” I nod in understanding. It wasn’t too strange that wolves gave up waiting for their mates. Some never find theirs because their mate dies, it also wasn’t too strange in today’s day and age that they were more open to having more than one mate.

I was more shocked that I hadn’t noticed earlier,

“Doesn’t help that we have been drugged off our faces for the last few days,” Says Layla and I realise she has been watching this entire time and feels calm and relaxed.

After dinner I notice I have more movement, and can walk without help. My muscles were sore, but I didn’t need any help to shower or walk up the stairs, and I was feeling more like myself as the hours ticked by. When everyone went to bed, though. I couldn’t sleep, instead walking over to the park and sitting on the swings.

Tonight was a full moon, and I felt invigorated sitting under the stars and moon, feeling the moonlight on my skin. The breeze softly caressed my skin.

I was on the swings for about ten minutes when I heard a noise. Looking up, I see Damien walking out of the pack house. He only had a pair of boxer shorts on, his beautifully sculpted body glistening under the moon. Seeing him walking down the long driveway, I go to get up and run for Tabitha's when he speaks, his voice catching in the breeze washing over me, and I can't help the longing I feel as I see him get nearer.

"Please don't leave" He says and I stop but remain wary as he approaches. He holds his hands up.

"I have nothing I promise and I have no pockets" He says pulling on his boxer shorts. I let out a breath and sat back on the swing. Damien sits on the swing next to mine. Neither of us say anything. Just sit in silence. When I can't handle the quiet anymore, I look to Damien.

"Where is my father?" I ask, knowing his funeral would have already been.

"Aria had his body transported back, and he was laid to rest alongside your mother" He says. I hold back my tears and swallow the lump in my throat, nodding my head.

"I'm sorry" Damien says before reaching his hand out to me. I look at it but turn my face away and he drops his hand.

"I know what I did was wrong, I know that now, please come home" He says and I can hear the desperation in his voice.

"Of all the things you did, do you know what hurt the most?" Damien looks at me and shakes his head.

"You called me unhinged, I hate that word. I have heard it from so many people and yet coming from you, the one person I didn't think I would hear say it. Hurt the most" I feel his guilt seep into me.

I see Damien get off the swing. "I know you hate me, and I know I should never have listened to my mother. I should have listened to Ryker. Should have known the moment I saw her. She was up to no good. But she is my mother and I" He doesn't finish, just shakes his head.

"I'm sorry Lily, if it makes you feel any better I have spent all afternoon, removing the door and all the padding from the room. I will even let you do what you want with it," He says, wrapping his hand around mine, which is holding the chain of the swing.

"Can I ask you a question?" I ask, looking at the house. He nods before sitting on the ground between my legs and resting his head on my thigh. I brush his hair with my fingers and I feel him shiver from my touch.

"Why do you live there?"

"What do you mean?" He asks, confused.

"I mean, after everything your parents put you through, why didn't you tear it down?"

"It's not the house's fault, besides I have remodelled it, although the layout is still the same. Honestly, I don't know why" He says, looking up at me and I trace my finger over his nose. Damien grabs my wrist before pressing it to his lips and running his nose over the inside of it inhaling my scent.

"Can I ask another?" I feel him nod before he looks up at me. "What did your mother do, Tabitha said she was worse than your father"

He shakes his head.

""" In some ways, she was. She never hurt me like he did. But I can understand why

Tabitha would say that”

“You’re not going to tell me, are you?” He shakes his head and I sigh. Damien gets up and extends his hand to me, I look back at Tabitha’s house.

“I promise Lily, I won’t lock you up again,”

“Darian won’t let him Lily, you can trust him besides I have enough strength to shift, I can kick his a*s if needed now” Layla tells me. I hesitantly grab his hand and let him pull me up. I hear him sigh before pulling me against his side, wrapping his arm around my shoulder as we walk back home.

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Chapter 39

Lily POV

Stepping inside, my heart rate hammers in my chest. Damien’s eyes darted to me as he looked down at me. Looking toward the stairs, I can see piles and piles of the padding all tied together at the foot of the stairs. Damien squeezes my hand softly, tugging me toward the stairs but I shake my head not wanting to be trapped up there again.

“If I remove the bedroom door, will you come up?” He asks and I nod, still unsure.

Damien walks off, going to the cupboard under the stairs before retrieving something and walking up the stairs. Waiting I can hear the noise of a drill and I hear him moving something before he appears at the top of the stairs. I watch as he walks down the steps before he reaches his hand out to me.

I hesitantly place my hand in his and let him tug me up the stairs. Once on the landing, I looked to my prison and the door was gone.

“You can look in it if you want, it looks very different now” He says and I look at him before following him into the room. He was right, it looked vastly different. It had massive bay windows which must have been boarded up.

I could see where he plastered the tiny holes from whatever was used to hold the padding to the walls. I was also shocked to find another door. Moving toward it, I open it and find a small room. Only big enough to fit maybe a single bed if you were lucky.

“That used to be my room,” He says, making me look at him. It didn’t even have a light, it was that small. And wasn’t much bigger than the storage cupboard under the stairs.

Our walk-in was bigger than this small room. Closing the door. I step back, Damien watching me from the doorway. The room was pretty big without all the padding, and with the door gone the entryway was huge.

“This was originally my father’s office” He says looking out the windows, a troubled expression on his face. I nod before walking over to him.

“Why do you stay here?”

“Because as much as I hate it, it’s still my home” He says, tugging me against his chest and wrapping his arms around me. I lean against him.

"You can help me paint it tomorrow? You can pick the paint" He asks.

"What, there is more than one shade of white?" I ask, the entire place was white.

"Well yeah, actually there is, but you can pick something different if you want?" And I can feel the unease move through him at the thought.

"You have some serious OCD problems," I tell him.

"I don't have OCD" He deadpans.

"Yeah, you do and I could hear your heart rate spike at the thought of the walls not being white" His heartbeat skipping a beat and I raise an eyebrow at him proving my point.

"Fine, paint it white. But I want that wall," I tell him, pointing to the main wall that had no windows or doors attached to it.

"Why?" He asks, confused.

"Perfect canvas" I tell him, and I feel his unease, but he nods his head anyway.

"You like to paint?" He asks and I can feel his curiosity.

"I used to"

"As much as it pains me, you can have the wall then. Come, we should go to bed" He says, squeezing my hips. We walk into the room and I flop down on the bed, enjoying his scent that the room is filled with. Damien lays next to me, tugging me against him before pulling the blanket over us and I relax against him. Layla purring in my head at his closeness. Exhaustion taking over as I drift off to sleep.

The next morning, I woke to the sound of the drill. Damien secures the door back in place and I feel Layla on edge pacing and my heart skips a beat. Damien popping his head back in the room and seeing me awake comes over and climbs on the bed next to me.

He leans down kissing my head, "Relax, that door has kept me up most of the night knowing it wasn't there" I can see the lines under his eyes and feel his exhaustion washing over me through the bond telling me he was speaking the truth.

"I won't lock you up, Love. I swear," He says, kissing my temple and pulling me on top of his chest.

Natalia then walks in, a tray in her hand. I try to hop off Damien, but he holds me in place and I give up. Natalia smiles before placing the tray on the bedside table.

"When suddenly the downstairs door bursts open and I hear running before Tabitha appears in the doorway with Trey, a look of relief on her face when she sees me.

"Oh, man next time warn us you're leaving. I woke up, and you were gone." Tabitha says.

"Good morning Tabitha, Trey" I chuckle. Both of them are still in pyjamas. Tabitha had a Hello kitty night dress on, and I smiled at her outfit.

"What it's cute!" She pouts. Natalia shakes her head before walking out. Trey looks a little awkward, but I don't feel any hostility from Damien.

"Since you're okay, we will leave you to it" Tabitha says, raising an eyebrow at my position on top of Damien.

As they turn around though, Damien speaks, looking at Trey.

"Can you and Tatum come by later, I need help to get some stuff from the basement" Trey nods before answering.

"Yes Alpha" Damien nods to him and they both leave.

"The basement?" I ask, looking down at him.

"The paint is down there, but so is the original contents of the house, so I need help to shift things to get down there and grab the paint. Then I will take you to buy whatever weird colour you're going to ruin my walls with him" He says kissing my face.

He lets me sit up, and I hop off him and reach for the tray Natalia brought up to us. I see a bowl of fruit, toast and coffee. I grab my coffee, handing Damien his. Taking a sip of mine, I moan at the caffeinated goodness. Before downing the cup.

Damien sips his while I bite into a piece of toast before getting up and rummaging through the walk-in.

"What are you looking for?" He asks when I don't come out for a few minutes.

"Something I can paint in" I call back out. Finding a shirt of Damien's and a pair of my denim shorts and walking out placing them on the bed.

"I like that shirt" He whines, "You have four of them, you'll live" I tell him while munching on my toast.

"You're not wearing those pants, Tatum and Trey will be here" He says, eyeing my shorts.

"They're mated" I tell him before I realise what I said. I was unsure if Damien knew already.

"Regardless you're not wearing them, they're too short" Confirming he knew they had their weird love triangle going on.

"Yes, I am," I tell him, refusing to be told what to wear. Damien glares at me before huffing in annoyance. A low growl escaping him. Ignoring him, stepping into the bathroom, and pressing the button on the wall and turning the shower on.

Stripping off my clothes, I step under the water, wetting my hair when Damien walks in and strips his off, my eyes trailing over his muscled body. Layla purring in my head.

"Stop it" I tell her as arousal floods into me from her. Damien sniffs the air, my arousal flooding the room embarrassingly from the steam. Damien steps in, his hands going to my hips and I shove them off, stepping away from him. He grabs my hand and places it on his chest as he steps under the water. I run my fingers down his chest and over the hard muscled lines of his abs.

Damien chuckles before pulling me closer against him. His hand runs over my b****s as he palms it. His lips go to my neck as he sucks on my mark, making me push myself against him as pleasure rolls over me. Layla purrs loudly in my head and I realise it is her arousal hitting me and I force myself back. Damien groans loudly, trying to tug me back to him, but I push him away.

"You'll give in," He says, chuckling.

"Not likely anytime soon" I tell him, his hand going to my hip and I turn around when he presses his chest into my back pulling me against him and I can feel his e*****n digging into my back.

"You seem so sure, but you're forgetting something" He growls below my ear before sucking on my mark making me moan loudly, my hands going to my mouth in shock from my reaction to him, so tightly pressed against me.

"And what is that?" I murmur as he continues to assault my neck with his lips before he sucks my earlobe in his mouth, his teeth grazing, and I feel my stomach tighten and my core pulsating. He chuckles and I feel it rumble through his chest against my back.

"You will go into heat soon; we are both marked now" He says, and his words sink into me like he just chucked a bucket of ice water over me. I step away from him, instantly

missing the contact of his skin.

“No” I gasp. Damien’s face lights up as he smirks.

“I’m surprised you haven’t already, but you will soon. Your scent is getting a lot stronger, addictive” He says, taking a deep breath, a sly smile on his lips.

I stared at him, anger boiling at his words. I wouldn’t have to worry about going into heat if he hadn’t marked me.

“Don’t be cranky, it’s a good thing” He tells me.

“Yeah, for you it is, I don’t want to complete the mating process. Not after everything, definitely not now”

Damien looked down at me sadly. “I told you I was sorry, Lily. What more can I say?”

“Yeah, until next time and your mother turns up, then what? You’re going to kill me next time,” I spat at him before storming out of the bathroom.

I heard him sigh and switch the water off. Drying myself, I got dressed. Damien walked out, his eyes going straight to my shorts. He growls low but doesn’t say anything before going and getting changed himself. Walking downstairs, I take the tray into the kitchen when I hear the doorbell. Damien answers it, and it is Trey and Tatum.

Walking out, I say hello and we all follow Damien back into the kitchen where he opens a door. The draft hitting us in the face the moment he opened it. The air was thick with the smell of dust and paint. Damien reaches in flicking a light on which lit the stairs up. When he said it was full, he wasn’t lying.

Once down the bottom of the stairs he passed boxes up which we stacked on the kitchen counter and table. After about half an hour Damien had enough room to get to the back where he stored the paint and Tatum went down to help him. Trey and I waited in the kitchen with Natalia. I noticed Natalia eyeing one of the boxes, which read photo albums. Curiosity got the better of me and I could feel Layla wanting to look too.

Walking over to it, I opened the lid, pulling a black album out.

Trey, also curious, walked over looking over my shoulder. Looking through the photos, most of the photos were of the pack before I finally found one of Damien as a little boy standing next to a dark-haired woman with a stern face. His father glaring down at the photographer, clearly not wanting his photo taken. Damien looked like a deer in headlights, eyes wide and only around six years old. He was also sporting a huge black eye and had on clothes that were too big for his tiny frame.

I could feel Layla stirring in my head. “What is it?” I ask and I hear her growl.

“I have seen that woman before” She growls, making goosebumps rise on my arms. I could feel anger bubbling but could tell she couldn’t recall where she had seen her. “I just remember her face,” She tells me.

“Is that Damien’s mother?” I ask, verifying it with Natalia. She tilts her head and nods.” Yes, that is Estella” She confirms. At her words, Trey looked up.

“Did you say Estella?” I looked at him confused and Natalia nodded. Damien and Tatum come up the stairs with two big tins of paint, and painting equipment. I thought he would be mad that I opened the box, but he said nothing. Trey walked over and peeked at the photo and gasped.

“What” I ask.

“I know her, is that the Alpha’s mother?”

“Yes, she is. How do you know her?” Damien asked, curiosity flashing behind his eyes.

“She was one of the rogues I was running from when I came here. She chased me over

the border”

“Why were you running from her?” I asked, and I noticed everyone was now intently listening.

“Like I said, I stumbled into the Pack, I really meant no harm Alpha. I was trying to escape her and her Mate.” He says looking at the picture.

“Impossible my father is dead, I killed him myself” He says pointing to the picture of his father. Trey shakes his head.

“No, that isn’t her mate. Horrid man, he tried to recruit the rogues I was with into some fantasy he had about attacking the Blood Moon Pack, said he needed to take down an Alpha so he can take over their Pack. Has some vendetta against the Luna of the Blood Moon Pack apparently they had him jailed for twelve years”

“And you are sure he is my mother’s mate?” Damien asks.

Trey nods. “Positive, apparently he was going to help her escape her old Pack but went missing for years. When he came back, she was already a rogue. Now he is obsessed with taking over someone’s pack. Said he wants to start a war with the Blood Moon and Black Moon. Scary bloke too, gave me the creeps, and he isn’t a typical werewolf either, some sort of Hybrid. I can’t explain it. That doesn’t even accurately describe him and he was always injecting your mother and himself with some green liquid”

Alarm bells were going off in my head, ringing loudly, and I could feel the same coming from Damien.

“What was his name?” My stomach turning upside down and twisting in knots. I had a feeling I was going to regret asking that.

“Kane, or Kabe”

“Kade?” I ask.

“Yes, that’s it, Kade, that is your mother’s mate” Trey says and I feel the blood drain from my face. Damien instinctually, pulling me closer as he wraps his arm tightly around my shoulders.

“I am going to need you to recall every little thing you know about Kade and my mother,” Damien tells him. Trey nods before taking a seat at the table.

“Why, may I ask?” He says, looking up at Damien whose jaw is clenched tightly and I can feel how tense his body is, his muscles rippling as he tries to remain in control. I could feel Darian fighting against him, wanting to shift.

“Because the Pack he wants to attack belongs to Lily’s sister, the Lycan queen. Kade is also the man responsible for hurting Lily” Natalia makes some coffee. Trey tells Damien everything he knows, which really isn’t all that much and similar to what he told us. Said that as soon as he found out their plans he ran, not wanting to be involved in any war.

When they leave I kind of wander around not really knowing what to think. Walking upstairs, Damien starts laying painter’s tarps on the floor.

“Will you be right here, I will run you to the Hardware store and you can pick out the paint you want. I just need to speak to my pack and tighten border patrol, and I want to send some scouts out. I think I should also ring Reid and let him know”

“I can come with you” I tell him. Damien shakes his head.

“No, you stay and relax. I won’t be long promise.” He says.

””””I can get Natalia to run me”

“Do you know what you want? I can send Max”

I nod and tell Damien, his face going pale slightly. “You’re not going to paint it rainbow,

are you?"

Laughing, I shake my head. "No, I want to paint a mural on it"

Damien looks a little taken aback but says nothing.

He kisses my head when his phone beeps. "I gotta go, but Max will be over with what you want in an hour. I will only be gone for a few hours." He says. Before walking out.

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Chapter 40

Lily POV

Max came over and by that time I had finished prepping everything. Max helps me paint the walls all white and when we are done, we wait for the paint to dry. But seeing that the weather is pretty overcast today, I knew it would take hours before I could start painting the wall that Damien had let me have to do as I pleased with. Max eventually went home, but the Alpha didn't return till nightfall. All day I was left to my thoughts. Questions I wanted answers to. Damien has always been up in my business, yet he never answers my questions about himself. And with all the stuff going on with his mother just made me question his past more. Then there was the entire heat to worry about, Kade, my father's death, everything just weighing me down and I was becoming homesick. I was watching TV when I heard the front door open. His voice echoing throughout the house.

"Lily?" He sings out.

"In here" I call out to him before I hear his footsteps walk around the corner and into the lounge room. He leans over the couch and kisses the top of my head. "Natalia put your dinner in the oven" I tell him, turning my attention back to the TV.

"I already ate, sorry I took so long" He said before flopping down on the lounge next to me and tugging me to him. He puts his face in the crook of my neck, inhaling deeply.

"What's wrong?" He asks when I don't respond to his affection.

"Nothing, I just want to go home" I tell him before pressing the power button and turning the TV off.

"This is your home Lily" He says confused.

"No, my actual home. You know where you kidnapped me from" I tell him and I hear him growl low, it rumbling through his chest.

"Why?" He asks, not even trying to hide his confusion.

"To see my family, to grab some things from my old pack house" I tell him.

"Maybe in a few days when things settle down, we can go for a day or two. I can't be away from the pack at the moment" He says stretching.

"I can go by myself, it isn't that far of a drive" Plus it would be nice to be away from everyone even if it is only a few days. Give me time to think.

"No, Lily. You're not going anywhere without me" I roll my eyes before getting up. He grabs my wrist, tugging me down and onto his lap before wrapping his arms around me.

I push on his chest.

“Just hear me out, please” He says, kissing my hair. I slump against him, knowing it is no use and will just turn into an argument. I can’t be bothered even arguing at the moment, I feel deflated.

“In a few days, I promise I will take you. But please don’t try to leave. Kade is out there and so is my mother. What if they see you leave and attack while no one is with you?” He asks, making me sigh. He is right. It probably wasn’t the best time to leave the Pack, but that didn’t stop me longing for freedom.

“Fine, I will wait” Damien pushes me back on the lounge before moving between my legs, leaning his weight down on me. Damien kisses me softly before deepening the kiss. When I feel his hands roaming, I push on his chest, making him sit up. He groans, annoyed.

“Why? We need to finish the mating process; I know you want to. Why do you keep denying me?” He says frustrated.

“I told you why, just drop it Damien” I tell him getting up. Damien gets off the lounge before walking out slamming the front door behind him making me flinch. Walking up the stairs, I climb in bed. Layla coming forward instantly, her voice ringing loudly in my head.

“What’s wrong, Lily? You have been quiet all day and keeping your walls up. You were fine earlier until you found out about Damien’s mother?” She asks.

“I’m just tired, and everything is going wrong” I tell her. Layla continues to try to pry, but I push my walls up. Layla keeps pestering me though, so I hop up. Walking down the stairs, I go to the kitchen looking for something to drown her out. Opening the fridge, I see Damien’s beers. I pop the cap before downing the bottle and grabbing another. Half an hour later, I have drunk six and am feeling a little woozy when Damien walks in naked through the back door and I can tell he went for a run. He walks over to the fridge and I lean on the counter watching him.

“Lily, you know I don’t like you drinking” He says looking back at me. I shrug, finishing the bottle, when I hear him sigh before grabbing two more out and handing me one.

“That’s it no more after that one” He says, giving me a pointed look before taking the top off his one eyeing me.

“What’s going on with you?” He asks curiously.

“Nothing, Layla is bugging me,”

“About the entire mating process or your weird mood?” He asks.

“Both” I tell him honestly. I knew Layla wanted to finish the mating process, but she would not force me, she understood my reasons.

“I’m just in a weird mood” I tell him while walking out of the kitchen.

Damien follows me upstairs, before turning the shower on and walking back out. “I can put you in a better mood” He says, walking over to me still naked and standing in front of me. I raise an eyebrow at him when he stands in front of me with his junk in my face.

“Tempting but no thanks” I tell him, he walks off hopping in the shower, I lay back down on the bed feeling a little tipsy.

Damien walks out before going into the walk-in and I hear him groan. My lips turned up slightly. Earlier, when I got the washing off the line with Natalia, I just jammed it in the draws.

“Lily” He groans, I hear him pulling everything from the draws, he walks out with a pair

of shorts on and an armful of clothes. He dumps them on the bed. I watch as he folds, and I sit up to help him. Folding one of his shirts, he snatches it from my hands in frustration and refolds it.

“You know you would make an excellent housewife. Maybe we should switch places. I will be Alpha and you Luna” I tell him, and he raises an eyebrow at my words before shaking his head.

“Maybe learn to clean up after yourself and I won’t have to” He says, grabbing a pair of pants and folding them neatly.

When he finishes, he puts them away and I just let him go. No matter if I help, he will just rearrange anything I do. Damien comes out before shoving my legs apart and lying between them. I raise my knees getting ready to kick him off, but he just folds his arms over my hips and props his chin on them watching me. I brush my fingers through his hair, and he closes his eyes.

“Are you going to tell me what’s eating at you?” He asks. I roll my eyes at him and go to move when he holds me in place by pushing his weight down on my hips.

“Everything” I tell him. He seems to think for a second. Before he speaks, I ask him a question.

“What did your mother do?” His eyes snap to mine.

“That’s what you have been wondering all day, your emotions have been way off. Darian has been pestering me all day about it” I nod, and he sighs.

“Nothing bad like you are probably thinking,”

“Then what, Tabitha said she was worse than your father”

“My mother never beat me, Lily.”

“Then what did she do, and how did you get all those scars?”

I trace my fingers over the one that wraps around his shoulder and he shivers. He sighs before answering.

“She used to seek me out, I would run and hide, my father would become enraged and beat her if I weren’t there. Mum would come find me; promise she would help me. She almost seemed like an actual mother in those moments. She’d hug me and comfort me and I always fell for it. Then she would hand me over to him. Tell me I had to protect her, that it was my job as the next Alpha to protect the Luna. That if I took her beatings, she would love me, basically. That it was my duty as her son, that I owed it to her. Guilt me into coming out of hiding or returning home just so my old man would focus on me instead of her. Then when he was done with me, she would come in, patch me up and tell me it was my fault that, if I helped her more around the house, or was a better son my father wouldn’t hate me”

Layla was growling in my head. She was furious with his mother. Wanted to kill her for what she did. A mother’s first instinct should be to protect her kids, not force them to be a punching bag. I didn’t understand how she could look at her own son and subject him to that and not try to protect him.

“Don’t cry Lily, I am fine. I’m here, aren’t I. Still alive.” He says. I hadn’t even realised I was crying till he brushed my tears away. I should comfort him, yet here he was, the one wiping my tears. This was the most he really spoke of himself or his mother. I knew he had a dark past. Everyone knew. Now though, I kind of understood why he was a neat freak. Not only was it a sense of control, but an old habit.

“What about your scars, they look like cuts?” I tell him looking at his chest, you could

just make them out under his tattoo's. Damien's back was littered with them all the way to his waist, long jagged lines trailing over his back like a map.

"I was ten" My stomach dropped just by hearing how young he was. At ten I was still playing with barbie dolls while he was being tortured.

"My father beat me up pretty bad, and I left, escaping the pack determined to live as a rogue. Mum tracked me down and dragged me home kicking and screaming. My father was having a pack meeting, the entire pack was there. I remember seeing Tabitha as she came running over crying. I didn't understand why at first. Her mother came over and pleaded with my father before removing her. I didn't understand what was going on. My mother dragged me over to the flagpole that used to sit in the centre of town and handcuffed me to it. Then she just walked away, saying nothing at all. I didn't know at the time but heaps of Pack members had tried to leave the Pack, wanting to be free of my father. My father said that they should punish those who betray the Pack and try to leave and that even though, I was the Alpha's son it wouldn't reduce my punishment and that he would make an example out of me"

"Your father hurt you in front of everyone?" I asked. Damien shook his head.

"No, he made the pack do it, every single member that was old enough to hold the whip. Three days I was stuck to that flagpole. As soon as I would pass out, he would make them stop and wait for me to wake again,"

"The third day, he made a whip out of razor wire, said he wanted me to never forget, wanted the pack to never forget the repercussions of betraying him. Pack members refused; they hated the idea of hurting their next Alpha with a normal whip let alone a razor wire whip. My father forced them and killed those who refused. They stained the concrete with my blood, I prayed for death, prayed so hard. Then Darian awoke. His voice kept me conscious. I couldn't shift, so I couldn't heal. Darian kept telling me over and over that he would save me, that he would kill my father, that I just had to wait till I could shift, endure it a little longer and he would fix everything. My father handed Tabitha the whip. She refused every other day, refusing to hit me with it. She has a scar across her lower back for that refusal. I told her to just do it and she still refused, so my father hit her instead before her father threw himself over her, protecting her. I felt terrible, I was nearly dead and the only thing I could think about was saving them, saving my Pack and with Darian now awoken I knew I would." Damien sat up readjusting himself before kissing my fingers that were touching his cheek. He didn't seem upset considering I was a crying mess, like he came to terms with it.

"So, when I shifted for the first time when I was thirteen, not long after I actually met you for the first time. I started training with the patrol guards in secret. They wanted to see him fall. Then one night he beat me again and Darian lost it. Forcing the shift and ripped him to pieces. He wanted to kill my mother too, but I begged him not to. So, he didn't. After that I took over and became angry, which is where the rumours come from. I hated Alpha's. Wanted to kill them, convinced they were all like my father. My father's Beta taught me how to run the Pack until I was seventeen, so when he retired the job went to his son"

I didn't know what to say after hearing all that, but I wanted to know so badly. Knowing now, though, I kind of wish I didn't. I couldn't imagine living through that, I know Aria lived through some horrific s**t from my father protecting me. But what his father and mother did was disgusting. I don't even think my father back then would have been that

cruel.

“What?” He says when I say nothing. I shake my head and I can feel Layla pacing in my head. She wanted to kill his mother and get revenge for him.

“Well, you make my childhood sound so much better after hearing that” I tell him, using sarcasm. I honestly didn’t know what to say and sarcasm was my go-to when I was left speechless. Damien chuckled softly.

“It wasn’t all bad, I have some good memories” He says.

“Like what?”

“They might upset you because they involve Tabitha,” he says. I used to hate Tabitha but now after knowing everything and how things had changed between her and I. I was grateful he had her, that he had one real friend who stuck by him and I could now understand why he was involved with her and I actually felt bad that I caused the rift between them.

“I want to hear them, Tabitha isn’t so bad,”

“She isn’t?” He said mockingly. I slap his shoulder.

“She has grown on me; I understand her better now. Besides, I have to like her now she named her daughter partially after me” I tell him. Damien smiles before lifting himself up and placing his arms on either side of my face as he moves closer. He brushes his nose on mine and I kiss his lips.

“I love you, Lily, and no I am not just saying that, so you sleep with me, but I won’t say no if you want to” He says chuckling softly.

I smile before kissing him and pulling back. “I love you too, but you can wait another night,”

“So tomorrow?” He asks hopefully.

I laugh before pushing him off.

“Where are you going?” He asks when I get up.

“To shower, you can join me if you like” His eyes light up before I see him get up following me to the shower.

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