

Alpha's Blind Luna, Chapter 31

Chapter 31

The engine of the Bugatti roared into the driveway and I listened to Ty and Logan talk excitedly. They came in and Ty sat down at the table, Logan leaned against the kitchen doorway.

"Oh man, Christine. One of my bucket list drives." He looked like he was going to cry.

"We'll have to have Bryan bring the Lambo next time." I smiled at Logan as I leaned against the kitchen counter.

"You have a Lamborghini too?!"

Logan chuckled. "No. It's my Beta's. What possessed him to get a yellow one will always be beyond me."

"Auri. Take me with you." Ty whined.

"Nope. You're on your own. You need to take care of my niece or nephew."

Ty whined but I turned my back on him. I gathered the ingredients for the frosting and started to cut the cake in three layers.

"Alright! Everybody out! Outside. Now! Shoo!"

Christine smiled and handed me the envelope. Ty took Logan and explained to him what was going on. I listened as they left to sit on the porch. I opened up the envelope and smiled. Mixing up white, pink and blue I filled the center layers with blue. I then coated the outside in white buttercream frosting. The last thing I made was cascading flowers of blue and pink. It took me about 15 minutes but I stepped back and admired my work. Washing my hands, I placed the cake on the table where Christine showed me they were going to display it.

I cleaned up the kitchen and put everything in the trash, the envelope I tucked into my pocket in my dress.

"You can come back in."

Christine came in and squealed as she went over to the cake. Ty side hugged me.

"You went a little over board there sis."

I looked up at him. "Never. Not for my niece or nephew. Plus my baby bro deserves it."

"Don't think I don't know about the car, Auri."

I coughed and looked away from him.

'Busted.' Kai snickered.

"If you don't mind..." Logan stepped up and Ty moved away, going to comfort the very emotional Christine. Logan wrapped his arms around me and rested his head on mine. "I missed you."

"Everything okay back home?"

"Yeah. A couple of injuries but nothing a good nights sleep won't fix." He buried his head into the crook of my neck. "Would it be bad if I stole you away now?"

"Yes! We haven't even gotten to the actual party yet." I laughed, putting my hand up and cupping his jawline. "Just relax. Nothings going to attack here. Except maybe Maddie."

A car door slammed and a whistle made everyone chuckle.

"Speaking of Maddie." Ty turned around.

I also turned, Logan letting go of me. Maddie walked into the house, taking her shoes off.

"Who's spicy ride is in the driveway? And who do I need to fuck to get in it?"

I laughed. "I mean, you don't need to fuck him. You could just ask."

Maddie's head snapped up, shoes forgotten as she ran to me and hugged me. I felt my breath leave my body as she squeezed super tight.

"Auri! You're back!"

I raised an eyebrow at Ty who shrugged. "I didn't tell anyone else. I didn't know if you wanted me to."

Maddie pulled back. "What?"

"I'm not working. I found my mate the night of the last Gathering." I blushed as Logan stepped up, snaking a hand around my waist. I could feel he was putting on his intimidating face.

"Al...Alpha Logan." Maddie bowed her head.

"Logan, quit it. She's family. Yours now too." I slapped him in the shoulder.

He feigned hurt as he grabbed it. "That's hurts."

"Please. Like Auri could hurt an Alpha."

Logan stiffened and choked down a cough. I looked everywhere but the eyes of my three suspicious siblings.

"Auri?" Christine leaned over from behind Ty.

"Alpha Logan?" Ty leaned over as well.

"It's a touchy subject for him." I said as I tried not to laugh.

"Alpha Logan, did my sister hurt you?" Ty was trying not to sound amused and was failing miserably.

"I was not hurt."

"Nope, just a broken arm and knocked out. In front of all the captains." I snorted out, unable to keep my mouth shut. I laughed and Logan slapped me upside the head.

"You said you wouldn't mention it anymore."

"The deal was you would spar with me and I wouldn't tell anyone. One, you haven't sparred with me yet. And two, they are my family. It makes you seem less scary."

"That the littlest member of our family managed to beat Alpha Logan, absolutely less scary." Ty was having a really hard time not smiling.

"It's okay." I patted his chest and walked over to Maddie. "He was going easy on me because I was his mate and he didn't want to hurt me."

Logan made a face. "I wasn't though."

Ty patted Logan's back. "Tough break. Need some liquid healing? I've got a bottle of Macallan 18 our Alpha gave me when we both inherited our dads titles."

Logan looked at Ty, a mix of curiosity and relief. "Alpha Leo stepped down."

Ty sighed. "Kinda. He's been up in Collin's business since he took over. But it's Alpha Collin now."

"Oh thank the moon goddess. I'll drink to that."

Logan followed Ty up the stairs. Maddie's looped arms with me and Christine. "Two older sisters. I love it. Now you can tell me all about the sex you've had so I can do it better."

Both Christine and I unhooked our arms.

"Nope."

"No way."

"Oh come on. No one tells me anything juicy. I'm just stuck here, mateless. Bored out of my mind."

"You're about to embark on a journey with them. You being the Aunt and living with them means you're gonna have a lot of responsibility helping."

Maddie huffed and stomped up the stairs. "I'm putting something cute on for the party since you guys are downers."

I laughed and so did Christine. She sat down on the couch and I sat down next to her. I played with my dress, my face flushed.

"How is it? Being pregnant?"

Christine raised her eyebrow at me. "Thinking of having some pups of your own Luna?"

I chuckled. "Goddess, don't call me that. The only time I get called that something is wrong."

She smiled. "It's different. Knowing you are about to literally give birth to the next generation. It's scary but also empowering. This is something Ty could never do, never handle." Christine paused, looking longingly up where our mates had disappeared. "He's so kind and sweet though. When he found out he was ecstatic. I think the only thing that dampened his mood was the first person he wanted to tell was you."

I looked at her, surprised. "Me?"

She laughed. "I don't know why you're surprised. Especially with how happy you were when you found out. I could hear you over the phone. Ty said you two had a special connection. That as much as he looked out for you, you looked out for him tenfold."

I shook my head. "Ty's probably the reason why I'm still alive. He would bring me food and water and bandages. One time he drove me to the hospital under a blanket because he couldn't stop the bleeding. He passed me off as a visiting friend from another pack and we were out in the forest." I smiled, thinking back. "I can't believe the doctors bought it. He's such a terrible liar."

Christine took my hands, she was starting to cry. I started to panic, I didn't mean to make her cry. But she touched my cheek. "I'm glad you're here. I'm glad you survived all that and still manage to smile and laugh and love another werewolf. I don't know if I could have." She laughed through her tears. "And you're right, Ty is a terrible liar."

I smiled. Christine was definitely a good one. I wished I had met her long before. That we could have grown up as friends.

"Sadly, my mate is a secret keeper." Logan leaned against the back of the couch. He nuzzled his head into my neck and I could smell the whiskey on him.

"Logan, you know all my secrets now." I chuckled.

"I didn't know you went to the hospital for something your father did." He grumbled.

"It wasn't Dad. It was Mom. She chucked a vase that Auri had accidentally chipped while cleaning the house." Ty sat down next up Christine and pulled her into his lap. "They had to put eight staples on her arm."

"Goddess."

"It wasn't bad though. I already had Kai then and they healed fairly quickly." I tried to lighten the mood but both Ty and Logan are stewing.

"Yeah. Then there was the shift."

"Fuck. Can we not talk about that. I can't ever get that memory out of my head." Maddie came down and flopped onto one of the chairs. She was wearing a vibrant pink dress. Obviously voting for team niece. She would be disappointed.

"Was it that bad? I know first shifts can be tough." Christine asked innocently.

Both Ty and Maddie looked at each other, while I just looked down. Logan's arms snaked around mine. "You never did tell what happened. Just that you almost died."

"She shifted in the walk-in-closet. We knew she hadn't been feeling well and mom was pissed that she was bringing the mood down. They locked her in the closet without dinner."

"Ty...." I warned him.

"She was twelve so Dad and Mom didn't expect it. But when you heard her scream in the middle of the night, hear her bones cracking. Maddie and I were standing outside our rooms, looking over the balcony. It was the first time we had ever heard an actual shift." He took a breath.

"Ty, don't..." I was holding onto Logan's arms tight.

"Dad stomped down the stairs and he was livid. Mostly upset that he was being woken up in the middle of the night on a work day. He went down the stairs and opened up the closet. Auri had shifted and she was laying on her mattress whining, crying. She didn't go to school with us. So all her knowledge were out of the books we would sneak her. So she had little to no knowledge about what was going on. The pain she was feeling."

"Ty stop." My voice was barely above a whisper and I watched as Maddie turned her head, closing her eyes. "Please."

Ty continued though, a disgusted look on his face. "Auri looks just like her mother and, of course, her wolf took after her mother. Dad just snapped. He saw the white wolf and pulled out the baseball bat in the living room, one that had been displayed on the wall signed by the entire Red Socks team. And he beat Auri. He continued to hit her, blood spraying everywhere. After a while, she stopped crying, stopped whining. The walls, the door, floors, my dad, the closet. Everything was red. He only stopped when Auri was completely red. She was no longer a white wolf but blood red."

He paused and no one moved. Kai whined in the back of my mind. She had retreated when the story started. Reminded of the pain she was born into.

"It smelled metallic and mom screamed at him of the mess he made. That he was going to get punished for killing her. He had even broken the bat in half. I specifically remember him looking up at us, dead eyes, his face covered in blood and he was.." Ty shivered.

"Smiling. He was smiling like a maniac. Like he had just done something meaningful in the world. Or rid himself of all his worry." Maddie's finished for Ty. "Alpha Leo came over with a doctor and a few other people. The confirmed she was alive. Barely. Alpha forced her to shift back. They cleaned up the mess as though it didn't happen, bandaged her up, and locked her in the closet. We got ushered back into our room and were told not to tell anyone."

"That was the day I swore to do my best to protect her. I couldn't let that happen again. I felt useless, watching from above."

"Ty, you were ten. You can't blame yourself for not acting." I looked at him but he snapped back.

"And you were twelve. Only twelve. You never were allowed to shift again! Alpha Leo helped cover that shit up every time my father went too far. Always protecting him. You didn't deserve everything that you went through."

I chuckled. "But I'm free now. Logan saved me. As well as some friends I made when I was gone in the city."

I felt a drop of liquid on my shoulder and I looked over to see Logan's deep dark blue eyes filled with tears. He was trying to hid his face in my shoulder. I turned around, my knees on the couch, as a held my mate tight. His hands gripped me fiercely and I just rubbed his back, making small circular motions.

"I'm okay now. I survived it. Thanks to Tv and Maddie. They both stood up for me and helped me when they could and now I have you."

Christine smiled sadly, rubbing Ty's arm to calm him down as well.

"Damn it, Ty. Why did you have to make us all relive that shit? We are supposed to be celebrating." Maddie stood up and went into the kitchen. She banged around in the kitchen for a bit until she brought out five glasses. "If there was ever a time for Tequila, now is the time." She flashed a smile at Christine. "Except for you. You're just gonna have to deal with straight iced tea."

She passed Ty one, who grabbed it quietly. She pushed two in my direction. I lifted Logan's head up and brushed the tears away with my thumb. He didn't say a word to me, his eyes not lightening to their usual icy blue yet. Leaning back, I grabbed the glasses and handed one to him. When he didn't take it, I smiled.

"I can just drink both and see how well the drive back goes."

Logan quickly swiped the one glass out of my hand. I settled back in the couch and sipped the drink.

"Oh god, Maddie, how much Tequila did you put in here?" Ty coughed and set down the glass.

"Not enough. There will never be enough to wipe away that fucking memory." She tilted her head back and drinking a quarter of it in one sip. "But damn will it help."

"Maddie, language."

Maddie growled but didn't say anything. Her eyes roamed the room and she sat up. "wait, did Auri bake the cake?"

I sipped from my glass and nodded.

"Score! You even fixed Tv's mane! Thank god! Auri can you just make sure you visit like ever three months. You can ignore everyone else. Just make us food and cut our hair."

Christine and I laughed.

"Depends on if Logan lets me out of his sight after that story."

There was a small rumble from deep in Logan but he didn't answer. I kissed his cheek. Turning back, I looked at the glass in my hand. Taking a deep breath, I put the glass to my lips and tipped my head back.

"Holy shit!" Maddie stomped her feet. "Get it!"

"Auri!" Ty laughed.

I finished the drink and slammed it down on the table. I closed my eyes against the burn but took a deep breath. All three of them looked at me in shock. I just shrugged.

"I've worked at a club since I was fourteen. You pick up a few things."

Maddie whistled. "Well well. Our sis is full of surprises!"

There was a knock on the door. We all turned, remembering that this was actually a baby shower with more than just us. Christine smiled and patted Ty's knee. She stood up with his help and they greeted the people coming in the door. I let my vision go black and stood up, making my way back into the kitchen. Out of the way of their friends and family. Not everyone was so accepting of my condition. Logan was standing in the kitchen doorway and I could feel him watching me.

The living room soon filled up. Christine introduced me to her parents. They were lovely. Her father was actually a human. It was rare for there to be interspecies mates but it did happen. They seemed more than understanding about me. Even hugging me, saying if I needed anything, that if I was in the area, to drop by.

I leaned my back against Logan. "It makes me happy that there are still decent people. Even if the pack as a whole isn't."

Logan rested his chin on my head.

"Cato, you're gonna have to give Logan back control at some point. You're a terrible driver."

Logan growled and I only laughed.

'Logan's walked far away.'

'Oh? Can you not reach him?'

Kai shook her head.

'Whelp. I'm gonna need him back.'

'Why?'

I looked out of the window. 'Because my parents are here.'

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Chapter 32

I pulled away from Logan and leaned against the wall in front of him. My father and Melissa walked in and I could feel the tension from the five of us. Christine gave a quiet hello and my father shook Ty's hand, claspng him on the back. There was still a lot of chatter in the room and not many people noticed the awkwardness. Christine's parents did though and I could hear their whispering in the corner.

"Dad, mom, Auri is here. She made the cake for today." Ty, I'm sure, pointed at me.

I gave a short wave and a strained smile. Honestly, I was afraid of what Logan or Cato would do.

'Logan's back.' Kai said quickly.

My father stalked up to me. "Girl. You are two weeks late. You have some explaining to do. Where is my check?"

"Dad!" Maddie came up. "This is a baby shower. Don't just ask her with people around."

"Maddie, this doesn't concern you." I felt his eyes turn back to me. "Where is the money, girl?" I stood up from my lean. "There is no money."

"Excuse me?"

"I said, there is no money."

I felt my father's eyes leaving me, I'm sure looking at the room seeing if he could get away with anything.

"We will talk about this when we get home."

"I'm not going home, so you're welcome to talk your financial situation over with Melissa. I don't know why the two of you assumed I was at work when I left a Gathering."

"Girl. Listen to your father. We'll speak about this later." Melissa pulled my father away, introducing him to Christine's parents.

I took a deep breathe and Ty squeezed my arm.

"We will protect you. It won't be tolerated in my home."

"Thanks Ty." I gave him a genuine smile.

"Alpha Logan!" I heard my father's voice go an octave higher than I'm sure he meant to when he finally noticed Logan. "My son is lucky to have the infamous Alpha from the Harvest Moon pack at his baby shower! Thank you for coming."

"You are the previous Beta, is that correct? Your son Tyler took over for you?" I heard Logan's voice and a handshake.

"Yes! We thought we would pass it over to the young pups who found their mates and were ready to take over. Though Alpha Leo still helps out..."

Logan interrupted him. "You mean Alpha Collin Leo would no longer be Alpha."

My father laughed awkwardly. "Yes yes. Leo. Slip of the tongue. I've been Leo's Beta for years now and it's out of habit mostly."

"I look forward to meeting Alpha Collin. I'm excited to see the ways he will make his mark on the pack."

"I can arrange a meeting with Alpha Collin and Leo..."

"No need. I prefer to speak Alpha to Alpha when discussing business. Nothing ruins a good meeting like old ideals."

I bit my tongue and turned around, trying not to smile. I heard Maddie snickering in the corner. Making my way over to her, she reached out to me and pulled me close.

"He looks like he's gonna just step on Dad. He's pulled his full height. For a man who I just saw cry, he's scary when he's mad. Really scary."

I leaned into her ear. "He isn't mad. I think right now he's just being business Alpha. Like when he's going to the training arena."

"Fuck. I would hate to see him angry then."

"Maddie! Language!" Christine called from the other side of the room.

Maddie huffed and I laughed.

Christine's mom clapped her hands, breaking the tension in the room. "I think we should open gifts now!"

Everyone agreed and we settled into seats around the couch. I sat in a chair near the kitchen. Letting everyone else fill into the center. There were quite a few and they thanked each person after opening them.

"This last one is from Auri."

Christine's mom handed it to them. I smiled and pointed to Logan behind me. The tearing of paper and then the sound of the box opening, there was a gasp.

"A \$100 gift card to Childish Things!"

I tilted my head back at Logan. That dick.

"Auri, did you embroider this blanket?" Christine asked pulling it out of the box.

"I did. Sorry it's not perfect. But I thought something handmade was more appropriate coming from me." I smiled.

"Oh Auri."

"There is something else at the bottom. A card?" Ty took the card and I assume turned it over because he gasped.

"I promised you, didn't I?" I smiled bigger.

Soon, Ty crushed me in a hug. I hugged him back. "It's just a cake recipe, Ty."

"No. It's THE cake recipe. Thank you Auri. The blanket is so thoughtful too. You were the only one to make something by hand."

A little quieter, I leaned into Ty's ear. "Logan left off a zero at the end of the gift card, in case you get surprised."

Ty pulled back, his hands holding my shoulders. "What?" He choked out.

I smiled and patted his arm.

"Fuck. Why do you do this to me?" He pulled me into a hug again. I could hear the emotion in his voice.

"Ty! Language! What is it with you two today! Auri has been nothing but sweet and you two just have a mouth on you."

"Sorry dear." Ty tucked a hair behind my ear. " My sister and I can't help that we are passionate when it comes to our big sis."

I heard a disgusted grunt in the back of the room but Ty didn't say anything. He went back to the couch. He passed her the card and then I heard him whisper her.

"Fuck. Auri. Thank you."

I laughed. "Language missy."

Christine came over and gave me a hug as well. She stood and I knew she was acknowledging Logan as well.

"Well, that's it for the presents! Shall we have some cake!"

"Mom, hold up! Cause this cake is special in many ways."

Ty got up and took the cake, placing it down in the table.

"Auri baked the cake. So not only will it blow your mind but she is the only person who knows the gender. She put the color of the gender in the center of the cake."

A quiet anticipation fell into the room. Logan moved from where he was leaning to stand behind my chair. I smiled, feeling comfort in our close proximity. Everyone's hearts were beating faster. I could hear the shuffle in the room as Ty cut the cake. Taking a piece out, the room erupted in cheers and congratulations. I heard the happy parents cry.

"My little nephew will be well taken care of." I mused aloud.

Logan put a hand on my shoulder and squeezed.

The room didn't calm down as cake was passed around and now the sounds of praise filtered my way. I blushed, not used to the direct attention and compliments. It got to be a little much and I headed out to the porch for some fresh air.

"You enjoy the limelight ingrate?"

I jumped a little as my father shut the front door behind him.

"It's Ty and Christine's baby shower. You should be congratulating them. Your grandson."

"What would help them is if you gave up that check you got."

"I don't know why you think my answer is different. I didn't go work. I didn't go to the factory. I've been at a different pack with my mate."

He laughed heartily, borderline manically. "If you are going to lie, make up something believable."

"Whether or not you believe it is not my problem. I'm done giving you anything. I'm done with you. Maddie and Ty have moved on. I'm never going back." I didn't turn to him. I just faced the yard, hands wrapped around my waist. I did my best to keep my emotions out of it. I didn't want to startle Logan. He was doing so good.

"In three months you get a mouth on you? I'm gonna have to beat that attitude out of you."

I smacked his hand away as I knew it was coming for my cheek.

"Don't lay a hand on me." I growled. "You and Melissa are on your own now. You deal with your own inadequacies. I will not be your scape goat. Your punching bag. Or your workhorse. I'm done."

I turned away from him. His hand was too quick and he grabbed a handful of my hair. I tried not to scream when he yanked it back. Tears sprung to my eyes.

"Unhand her now." I felt Logan and relief washed over me.

"Sorry Alpha, this is a family matter."

"Then you better unhand my mate before I permanently remove you from my family because it's sounding better by the minute."

"M.. mate?"

Logan reached out and took my arm. He pulled me towards him and I felt my fathers grip loosen. Tv stomped out of the front door.

"Dad! What the hell! She's your fucking daughter. Your flesh and blood!"

"Yeah. Daughter of a whore." Melissa called from inside.

"The only whore here is you." Christine called back.

Logan collected me in his arms. I buried my face in his chest. Focusing on his scent so I wouldn't cry. He was rigid.

"Leave. Take Mom and leave. You aren't welcome here anymore." Ty growled.

"Son, you can't kick us out." My father called to him weakly.

"I can and you're lucky that as Beta I don't banish you for your crimes."

This my father laughed at. "Leo would never allow it."

"It's too bad Leo isn't Alpha anymore but I'm sure Alpha Collin will understand when I take actions involving my mate." Logan snapped back.

"He's right." A voice answered from the driveway.

"Alpha Collin." Christine has pushed pasted her guests and took her place next to Ty.

"Sorry I'm late Ty, Christine. I had to finish some paperwork." He walked up the stairs onto the porch.

I felt Logan's hand leave, shaking it hard with Alpha Collin.

"Alpha Logan, it's good to finally meet you. It's been a little chaotic here, but I had hoped to meet you in person."

"I didn't see eve to eve with Alpha Leo but I had hoped to also reach out to you."

"Yes, well, we both have a distain for my fathers actions and his roles to play not only in the pack but in this family as well." He paused. "Luna Auri, I know it's not coming from my father, but as Alpha, on behalf of the pack, I truly apologize for the treatment you have received and what has been covered up by my father."

"Thank you Alpha Collin. It does mean something to me. The feeling that this pack might learn from the past and be able to step forward into the future."

I turned around to look at him. Kai brought forth her eyes and I looked at Collin. He had been Ty's best friend for years. The two of them got into shenanigans but I knew Ty was a good judge of people. The man before me, though slightly stressed, had his own Alpha aura. Not as strong as Logan but it would be enough to invoke some change in this pack.

"What would you like to do Alpha Logan? I give you my full authority to act on my lands." Alpha Collin crossed his arms over his chest, looking at my father and Melissa who finally made it by his side.

"Frankly, I'd like to kill both of them and be done with it." Logan's voice was cold and unemotional.

"Anyone against it?"

Ty didn't speak up. Neither did Christine or Maddie. I sighed.

'You better not Auri. Let them die.'

"I am."

Logan shook for a moment, his grip on my arm tightening.

"Luna Auri?" Collin seemed genuinely surprised.

"I suffered years at their hands. There were times that I craved death, begged for it. Almost received it as well. But I just lived it out day by day." I glared at them. "Death would be a relief. One I don't feel comfortable offering them."

"What do you suggest?"

"Strip him of his job. Remove him from the books as Beta. The house is already paid off. I paid it off about 6 years ago. But let them struggle in their own poverty. In knowing they will always struggle. For the rest of their lives. No one will help them. No one will give them money or food. Everything they do they need to do themselves. If they coming begging to you for money, food, a job, anything, you can give them the number of the silver factory just outside the territory. They are always hiring desperate people for low wages." My eyes narrowed.

"Remind me not to get on your bad side, Luna Auri. Consider it done. I'll inform the pack members of our new Omegas."

I nodded. "Thank you, Alpha Collin." I looked up at Logan, he was still glaring at my father and Melissa. I could see his the tendrils of Alpha presence lashing out. "Is that okay, Logan?"

His chest moved up and down. "It's lenient but I leave the decision to my Luna." Logan's Alpha presence pulled back. "I'm sorry Alpha Collin, but under the circumstances I'd like to take my Luna home. We can have our talk another time."

"Understandable."

Ty spat at our parents. "Get off my porch. Don't you dare show up with a hundred yards of this house." They scuttled off.

I smiled sadly, hugging Ty. "I'm sorry Ty."

"Why the hell are you apologizing?"

I looked at Christine and hugged her. "It was supposed to be about my little nephew. Not dredging up our years of family drama."

"My dear. We are family now. And it's nothing like pruning the old family tree to make it grown stronger." Christine chuckled.

"Beta." Logan tossed him keys and Ty caught them. "Keep my baby company. I'll send one of my boys to come get it next week."

He coughed. "Next week?!"

"Enjoy her to the fullest. She doesn't feel free until you open her up past 150mph."

Ty swore and Christine elbowed him in the side. "I'll take good care of her Alpha."

"Let's go, Auri." Logan was already walking down the stairs when I gave Maddie a quick hug and followed after him.

"You want me to drive you seem..."

That's the last thing I want Auri. Get in the car."

I winced. He was livid. Not necessarily at me but the whole situation. Everything that had happened today. It compiled together and wove into an entirely new beast. I sat in the passenger seat of the Mercedes and Logan pulled out, leaving the house with my family behind. My phone automatically connected to the car and a song I had been practicing came on. I turned it down low quickly and looked out the window.

"Sorry." I mumbled.

He didn't reply. Didn't look at me.

'Kai?'

'Nope. He's a solid wall. Nothing in or out.'

I nodded and looked down at my phone. Pulling up my texts, I opened up the chat I had with Bryan.

-Warning. Alpha's livid. Kai can't even reach him. He hasn't said a word. He even left the Bugatti behind.

-Oh shit. You okay?

-Yeah. I'm fine. I'm just worried about him either exploding or imploding. At this point.

Both are possibilities.

-Shit. Shit shit. Maybe try to stop to eat? Get him some coffee. That usually will soften him up.

-Do I soak him in the coffee? 7

-Lol. Very funny Luna.

I put down my phone and glanced at Logan. I couldn't say anything. What was I supposed to say? Sorry? I did that to Ty and he reacted negatively to that. Did I touch him? I looked and both his hands were gripping the steering wheel tightly. So I just settled into the long awkward drive.

About a half hour in, one of my favorite songs came on. I couldn't help it. Looking out the window at the forest, I didn't even realize I started to sing. I closed my eyes during the chorus, forgetting the awkward silence. Suddenly Logan jerked the wheel and I let out a cry as he slammed on the breaks. I looked at him, wide eyed. He didn't look at me as he threw the car into park and kicked open the door.

I watched, still in shock, as he took a deep breaths outside the car, his hands on his head. Through the mate bond, I could feel the struggle he was having. Anger, frustration, sadness all were swirling around between us. I started to open the door to reach out to him when suddenly his wolf form burst forward. Logan had lost the battle for control and I watched as he raced off into the forest. I was left in the passenger side of the car, door open, on the side of the road.

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I quickly fumbled for my phone.

"Bryan."

'Coffee work?'

"He just left."

'What?'

"I...I..." I stuttered still in shock as I looked out the window. "I had my music on and I started to sing. I didn't realize it. But halfway through the song, he pulled over. He just threw it into park, opened the door, and just left. He took his wolf form and disappeared into the forest."

'You're sitting alone in the car right now? He just left you alone?'

"Yeah..."

'What the hell?'

"It was a rough day. A lot happened with my family. He was livid but I don't know what to do. Do I go after him?"

'No. Get in the drivers seat. Continue back home. I don't want you alone in a vulnerable spot. You're in between territories and a Luna is fair game from a lot of enemies. Shit. What the hell is he thinking?'

I unbuckled my seat and crawled over the center console. I got into the drivers seat and shut the door, locking it. I took a few breaths when I realized I was shaking.

'Calm down Auri. Focus. Drive. Bryan is right. We are too vulnerable. We just made a lot of new enemies.' Kai focused me.

Adjusting the seat back to where it was, I pulled the car into drive and pulled back onto the road. I got up to speed and relaxed a little more.

"On the road now, Bryan."

'Good. Come home, Luna. I've got the boys on high alert for Alpha. He isn't answering mind link.'

"Don't bother with his phone, it's here in the cup holder."

'Got it. Good to know. And Auri?'

"Yeah Bryan?"

'I can't believe I'm saying this but drive like Morgan.'

Bryan hung up and I slammed on the gas and watched as the speedometer climbed well past the 100mph marker. I sped down the road at top speed, only slowing down to get onto a new highway or road. I even used the shoulder to pass people. Morgan would be so proud.

It took me two and a half hours to pull into the pack house. Bryan met me after he spoke to three other warriors.

"Thank the goddess. Remind me to kiss Morgan's hand for teaching you how to drive."

I smiled. "What's the situation?"

"Alphas MIA. No one's been able to spot him. I even sent Group 12 out further past the border but nothing."

"That's not all is it though."

"No. We have a rogue situation."

"Alright. Debrief me as we walk." I pulled my hair up into a high pony tail. I grabbed the spare clothes and changed in Logan's office as Bryan gave me the rundown.

Two teams. Ten each. One coming from the northwest, one coming in from the west. I had rolled out the map and pulled out a marker. Bryan gave me the locations of where the groups were stationed at well.

"Where's the most help needed?" I opened Logan's weapon cabinet and pulled out two swords and a couple knives.

"Luna, you can't be serious."

"Bryan. Someone needs to lead. This isn't my first rodeo. It would be Logan if he was here but he isn't. Can you handle that Beta?"

"Yes Luna. Hector has an extra group in the Northwest because we were expecting them there. The group on the west we are unprepared for."

"Alright. I'll have you drop me off with Groups 4, 5, and 6 at the West corner. I want you to meet up with Hectors group in the Northwest."

"Luna..."

"Beta, you question me one more time and I'll have more than words with you."

"Yes Luna." Bryan hung his head.

"Let's go."

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Bryan drove off road and I was standing on the back of the Jeep. I heard the sounds of battle and I jumped off.

"Head north! I'll catch up to you when I'm done here!"

"Yes Luna!"

I jogged further into the trees. I could see and smell the rogues. They worked recklessly and with no structure. Logan would be proud of his groups. They stayed organized even with the Rogues. I could see a few of them were hurt.

'Fall back. If any get past me, kill them.'

'Yes Luna!'

I chuckled. If only Bryan would listen like them. Pulling out my swords, I walked past my retreating pack members. I swung the swords around a couple times, feeling their weight. I missed my own.

'You ready to let off some steam Kai?'

'Oh you bet your ass I am!'

I smiled and faced the now 9 rogues. Two jumped me at the same time and I hopped back, watching the both of them knock into each other. They fell to the ground and I didn't take a second thought in slicing off their heads.

"Disorganized. Pitiful "

I shook the blood off my swords. Already I was dirty but I'm sure they could see a sparkle in my eye. Three more came at me. I dodged the first one, letting my sword take his head off in one motion, and sunk my sword into the belly of the second while swinging him towards the third one. The third one yelped as he hit a tree. I pulled out one of the knives and nailed him to the tree between the eyes. Five down, four to go.

They all decided to rush me at once, snapping their jaws. I kicked one in the teeth, hearing him yelp and fall back. Another one tried to catch my arm but both swords sliced through his neck at the same time. The other two worked in a better partnership than the others. They took turns, biting and swiping. I barely got a scratch as I threw my sword at one digging into his forehead and the other got an up close feel of my sword shoved into his snout. The last one I had kicked his teeth in was still shaking his head. I walked over to him, putting my swords away. Wrapping my arms around his neck, I gave it a quick twist and he dropped.

I turned and looked at the groups who were staring at me, slack jawed. They had shifted wearing sweatpants.

"Do you have your vehicles?"

"Yes Luna! It's just outside the trees."

"Well, what the fuck we waiting for? The ice cream truck? We got another group in the Northwest!"

"Yes Luna!"

We jogged to their two Jeeps. I held onto the back as we headed north. When we pulled up, Hector and Bryan were pulling back Group 2 and Group 7.

"Looks like we came on time!" I jumped off as the boys parked and followed me.

"Luna! Another 7 joined and we've taken some heavy damage. Two casualties on our side."

"What's left?"

"Seven. Five from the new group, two from the old group."

"Understood. Hector, get the wounded out of here. Take them to the hospital. Bryan, reorganize the groups add group 4 and 5. Sorry 6, hang back make sure they wounded get out."

"Yes Luna." Everyone replied at once.

I walked into the fray. It was chaos. A rogue jumped at me from the front and I just looked at him.

"Are you stupid?"

I ran my sword into his nose and he dropped down in front of me. I raced to the aid of Captain Lila as she was getting double teamed. Running behind one of the rogues, he was so focused he didn't see my foot kick him straight in the asshole. He yelled and turned to me but I dug my sword through his cheeks. The second one was so shocked, Lila dug her canines into his neck and ripped his throat out.

'Fall back. Make sure no one comes past the edge of the forest.'

'Yes Luna!'

She ran back and I focused my energy on the four left. I walked casually to the group of four.

"Which one of you wants to die first?" I sneered and I heard Kai cackle in the back of my mind.

All four of them raced after me, much the same as with the previous group. One got their teeth kicked in, two got impaled into a tree with my swords and the last one I let Kai take over my human form. She grabbed the rogue by the jaws and pulled his jaw apart, completely ripping apart his skull. I dispatched the toothless rogue left and headed back to the groups.

"Group 6, do me a favor and take one of the bodies of our fallen warrior. Group 8, grab the other body. I want them taken care of and out of this mix. Any other groups that are uninjured, I want these burned. These ones and the ones down south. I want to see the fucking smoke from Canada."

"Yes Luna!"

Everyone scrambled and Bryan just stared at me. "You got something to say Beta?"

"No Luna."

"Good. I don't want this to happen again. We shouldn't have lost any."

Bryan hung his head. "Yes Luna."

"Set up the paperwork for their burials and remembrance. I want it on Alphas desk before..." I looked at my watch. It was already 6pm. " Tomorrow. 6am. I'll take care of the families tonight."

"Luna!" The rest of Group 2 came forward. "They were our comrades. We would like to go with you. We were supposed to protect them and we didn't. We owe it to their families."

I nodded. "Jump in."

I pulled out without a second glance to Bran. He was not used to me taking charge but I hated how he was looking at me. We came to the first house and the three of them, Tanner, Nick and David were the ones who knocked on the door. They were the ones who broke the news to the families. When they would look to me I would tell them of their sons bravery. Tell them while there would be no replacement for their lives, we would take care of them. The second home was much like the first. It hurt but I swallowed m sadness and discomfort. These people lost someone they loved and the least I could do was show them love and support.

I dropped Tanner, Nick and David at the hospital to go get checked out and then made my way home. I parked the Jeep on the side of the house. Going into the pack house, I headed straight to the kitchen bathroom. Stepping in with all my clothes, I just let the water run over me. I slowly started to peel pieces off of my body. The two swords and two knives went into the sink. I then peeled off my clothes one by one. I washed the blood off my face and hair. Then I just stood, letting the water run over my naked bod. My head leaned against the cool tile.

'You need to rest Auri.'

I shook my head.

'You just killed what, 13 rogues as a human? After that mess of a day? Take a break.'

'There is a shit ton of paperwork Kai. We don't get to rest. Not yet. Logan's not back.'

I got out of the shower. I did a quick jog to our bedroom for some clothes. Then I walked into Logan's office. Closing his weapon cabinet after putting the weapons back in place, I poured myself a double and plopped my butt in Logan's office chair. Pulling off the map and crumpling it into the trash, I got to work first organizing the paperwork in front of me.

-

"Luna?" Bryan knocked on the door.

I was mid sip on second double when I looked up. "What's up?"

"Are you okay?"

"I'm almost done with the paperwork in front of me. Though the doofuses sent over the revised contact. It's shit. Logan's gonna laugh at it."

"Luna, you didn't answer my question..."

I slammed my glass down. "Bryan, you keep looking at me like I'm going to morph into an alien and eat you. Stop." I leaned back in Logan's chair. "My mate is missing, two of my pack members are dead, we are burning 25 rogue bodies. This is the biggest attack yet and it doesn't bode well. How the fuck do you think I am Bryan. Please. Tell me how I should feel right now?"

He looked at the floor. "I've never seen you..."

"What? Step up? I've never had to and never wanted to. I accepted my place in this pack Bryan. I didn't want to become The Huntress here."

I took another sip of my drink. "Are those the two fallen warriors paperwork?"

He nodded and handed them to me.

I grabbed them and looked through them. I read through them. "My only adjustment would be their placement. They were in the same group. Let's not

separate them now. Otherwise it's fine." I made the notation on the sticky note and then signed both of the papers, putting them in the to-be-filed pile.

I finished a last signature and moved the rest of the paperwork to the same pile. Standing up, I downed the last of my double.

"Did you eat dinner?"

Bryan shook his head.

"I'll make something." I pushed off the desk and walked past Bryan. As I did I ruffled his hair. "Don't think you're solely to blame for their deaths. You'll only dig yourself in a hole with ever warrior that dies on our watch."

He padded after me, not saying a word. I put on a kettle and rummaged through the refrigerator. I grabbed some chicken, soy sauce, sake and few other ingredients. My phone started to ring.

"Bryan, can you put it on speaker?"

"Sure."

"Hello?"

'Hey cub!'

"Papa! How are you?"

'I'm good princess. Though I've heard you've had a rough day.?'

"From start to finish. I'll have to tell you about it later. It's a long one."

'Sooo....'

I turned my head away from the stovetop. My eyes narrowing. "Papa?"

'Are you missing an Alpha?'

Alpha's Blind Luna, Chapter 34

Chapter 34

I looked at Bryan. "You know, funny enough we are. The ass just left me in the car on the side of the road. Alone. I need to kick some sense into him."

'Well, he looks like he's had an interesting go of it today. My boys found him passed out in the forest. Butt naked.'

I sighed and turned the stove off. "Is he at the club?"

'Yeah. He wasn't too far away so we figured it would be best to bring him here.'

"My stupid mate. The things I have to do."

"I think I'll stay behind for this one."

I looked at Bryan, a little confused and hurt. "Fine. Look after the pack. I'll be back."

I grabbed a granola bar from the cupboard and headed out the door. I jumped in the Mercedes just because I knew the seat was where I needed it. I munched on the cereal bar as I drove like Morgan had taught me. It only took me four hours and was about 11pm when I pulled up. I tossed the keys to the valet and Fred opened the door for me as I dipped under the rope.

"Auri!" Max came over and hugged me. "Why do you smell like blood?"

"It's been a long day, Max. It wasn't even topped off with the 25 rogue attack, that was just the kicker. But boy did it let me relieve some stress."

He chuckled. "Didn't scare anyone did you?"

I gave him a sad smile. "Bryan won't look at me in the eyes. "

He pulled me into another hug. "I'm sorry princess. He'll come around."

"Is Morgan in the suite?"

"Yeah. He's checking in on the pup."

I nodded and headed up the stairs. I walked down the hallway and opened up the door.

"Cub!" Morgan hugged me tight. "Jesus, you smell like blood."

"First Max, now you! I showered!" I sniffed myself and only smelled the vanilla coconut bod wash.

He chuckled. "It's a vampire thing."

"How's he doing?"

"Most of his scrapes healed already. He's still got some pretty bad bruising."

He walked me over and Logan was laying in the couch, his chest was bare. He had a ton of bruises on his ribs. Morgan had put him in sweatpants. From the bruising on his hip, I could assume it went all the way down. I sat down on the chair across from the couch.

"Do you need anything? Any food?"

"Do you mind making me some miso soup?"

"Of course princess. I'll be back."

I leaned forward, my elbows resting on my knees, my hands holding up my head. I stared at the floor. My mind was so lost with everything that had happened I jumped when Morgan set the Miso soup down on the table in front of me.

"Don't bore a hole into the carpet, it's my favorite one." Morgan kissed my forehead and left me alone on the suite.

I knew the club was in full swing on a Friday night. I sipped my miso soup. Once I finished it, I stepped away to put the bowl in the sink. I sat back down and proceeded with boring a hole into carpet. Every so often I would glance Logan's chest, watching it rise and fall.

I waited until the sun started to rise and I stood up, clasp my hands behind my back. The sun started streaming through the buildings and I watched the sunlight come up.

"What..." Logan croaked behind me.

"You're at Morgan's. His men found you fucked up, buck ass naked just outside the city." I didn't turn, enjoying the colors from the sunset. It was rare I got to see these sunrises anymore. "Apparently you took out a few mean o' trees in the forest on your way down."

"Auri..."

"Don't you dare. I don't want to hear it."

"But..."

"No. We have to go home. I have shit I need to do and you have some apologies to write." I turned to him and he looked at me, surprised.

"Love..."

I strode past him. " Go to the bathroom. Come down in less than 10. We are leaving."

Slamming the door shut, I skipped steps as I walked through the club. I went behind the bar and grabbed a triple shot of tequila. Knocking it back, I coughed and pounded my chest. I felt the hair on my skin stand and I was awake. Morgan would already be running around with Max and Chris at this time. I strode out of the building. The Mercedes was already out front and I sat in the drivers seat. 15 minutes later, Logan walked out in pants and a shirt. He got in the passenger seat.

"Buckle up."

Without waiting, I smoked the tires pulling a U-Turn right there as I sped off. I continued to drive like Morgan but I was a little more relaxed this time. I would go to bed after the memorial. I pinched the bridge of my nose. After a few minutes though, I dialed Bryan.

"I have Alpha."

'Is he up?'

"Yes Bryan, I am up." I could hear the smile in Logan's voice.

Bryan caught it too and ctsked. 'Luna, will you make it back in an hour?'

"I have to. I might look like shit but I'll be there."

'You could never look like shit, Luna'

"You wouldn't say that if you saw her." Logan chuckled by I looked at him, deadly serious. He actually looked back, scared.

"You don't get to say a word. Not a single one." I growled at Logan. Turning back to the phone, "Are we back at full capacity, Bryan?"

'Yes Luna.'

I nodded. "Alright. I'll see you at home."

I stepped on the gas. I was not going to be late for the memorials. We pulled up with 10 minutes to spare and Logan looked thoroughly confused.

"Go home Logan."

"Auri what the hell is going on?"

I leaned over the console and I locked eyes with his icy blue. "Go home Alpha. Bryan will explain it to you when we get back. Go home shower and eat something. Goddess knows you don't need anymore sleep."

I got out of the car and slammed the door shut. Hector strode up to me. "You sure you're up for this."

"I have to. What else can I do Hector? How else do I send them off?"

He nodded and back off. "Alphas leaving."

"Good. I told him to. He doesn't need to be here for this since he decided to abandon me on the side of the road."

"Is there anything I can get you?"

I smiled at Hector. "A glass of water would be fantastic."

Two female werewolves walked up to me. "Beta said you might need our help with your dark circles." She held up makeup and I smiled.

"If you could make me look like I'm not sleep deprived, that would be lovely ladies."

They nodded and got to work. The ten minutes was quickly used up and Amy worked her magic making me look like I had actually slept. The memorial started and I nervously wove my fingers in and out of each other.

I walked out on the stage after a few speeches and the crowd clapped for me but I quickly put my hand up, silencing them.

"Truthfully, I'm not one for speeches. I'm not as eloquent as our Alpha. Nor do I have his nerves of steel." I smiled out into the crowd. "But as someone who has lost someone close in an attack and knowing what everyone here has gone through. Whether it be the past couple months or years, I felt I needed to give something. So I give my well wishes and send off to the moon goodness, as well as how much I love and feel for the ones left behind, the only way I know how."

looked out over the crowd and took a deep breath. I began to sing. I sang softly at first, my voice slightly shaking. But I took a breath before the chorus and my voice steadied. I sang louder. I sang for the fallen warriors. I sang for their mothers, fathers, mates, and pups. I sang for the group who had lost two comrades. I sang for the wounded. I sang out for all of them. Closing my eye and placing my hand on my stomach, I belted out the last notes of the song.

Silence engulfed the ceremony and I fell to my knees, exhausted. Feeling like I had failed them. That I hadn't been fast enough or strong enough. Suddenly there were roaring cries and claps that deafened me. I looked out over the crowd and everyone was crying but they were all looking to me. They were clapping and hugging one another. I smiled a little through the tears that had sprung to my eyes. Maybe it was an okay send off.

Bryan came over to me behind the stage and leaned his head on my shoulder. "I'm sorry Auri."

"I'm sorry too. I forgot how scary I get. I should have warned you." I put my arms around him.

"You were incredible. You stepped up when I just fell apart. I felt like I failed you, standing next to you and not doing shit."

"You listened. That's what I needed you to do. Plus, you will always be the best Beta ever. So try not to beat yourself up okay? I already have your punishment."

He lifted his head up.

"I told Alpha you would fill him in."

"Fuck. Was he really being a snarky ass this morning? After he left you? After the shit with your family?"

"Yes. But I honestly couldn't tell you if he even remembered yesterday or not. So I leave that to you. I give you my full authorization to punch him if he starts acting up."

He nodded. "Do you need a ride home? I brought the Jeep."

I looked back at the memorial. It would be in full swing for the rest of the day. "Yes please. I don't want to bring everyone down."

Bran shook his head. "You lifted every single one of their souls. It was incredible. Absolutely only something you could have done for them."

I smiled and got in the passenger seat. Bryan drove back to the pack house. We jumped out and I was first into the front door and Logan was standing there.

"Auri! What..!"

I put my hand up "You talk to Bryan. Not to me I'm showering and going to sleep. I haven't slept in a day and a half. Considering the day it was, it might as well been a week."

I turned from Logan. He tried to reach out to grab me but I pulled my hand away. I didn't look back as I walked up the stair.

Slamming the door to our room shut, I stripped down and got in the shower. This was a quick scrub. I was too tired. Walking out of the bathroom, I towel dried and climbed into the sheets. Closing my eyes, I quickly drifted off.

-

I knew he was staring at me. He was boring into my back but I was so tired that even with Logan staring, I still drifted in and out of sleep. When I finally woke up, the sun was going down. The room was empty and I sat up. I didn't feel great, but I felt better. Getting up and dressed, I padded out and down the stairs. Roaming through the fridge I not only felt but smelled Logan behind me.

"Is there something I can help you with Alpha?"

"I should have been there." He growled.

I looked at him, tired. "Where?"

"The memorial!"

I snorted. "Yes, just like you were there when I told their families that their sons had died. Just like you were there when 7 jumped into the attack with the 10 in the northwest. Just like you were there for the 9 that had gone through the west side. Or there when you left me abandoned on the side of the fucking road! After my father attacked ME. After you found out what happened to ME during first shift." I glared at him. "You didn't belong anywhere near that memorial because you weren't anywhere near here."

"Plus, Auri knocked it out of the park. They didn't even miss you. Both at the memorial and the battles." Bryan came in and hip checked me out of the way of the refrigerator. "My turn to cook."

"Fine. Can you pour me some iced tea? My throat feels like it's on fire."

"After that song, I'm not surprised." He slid over a glass and I took it, sitting down at the end of the island.

"I don't remember yesterday."

I rolled my eyes. "Fucking convenient."

"Auri, please..."

"Don't talk to me Logan!" I glared at him. "For you, the last thing you may remember was us, cuddling in bed two nights ago but that doesn't mean we can go back!"

I could tell he was mad as he sauntered up to me. I'll be the first to admit my control snapped. My hand went up and I punched Logan in the face. A perfect right hook. I watched his form crumbled to the floor.

'Oh shit Auri.'

Bryan turned on his heel and leaned over the counter. He whistled. "Well if that doesn't jog his memory..."

I sat, sipping my tea for a moment, staring down at my mate's crumpled body. Sighing, I got up and with Bryan's help, we lifted him to the living room couch. I rubbed my face as I walked back to the kitchen and sat back down on the kitchen counter.

Bryan came back into the kitchen a minute later and continued to cook. We sat in silence. For the first time in years, I wanted a cigarette. As the Huntress, I had smoked fairly regularly. Just a way to pass time or de-stress after a not-so-great mission. I put my head down on the kitchen island, feeling the cool marble against my forehead.

"Want a hot chocolate?"

I nodded. I felt a mug be pushed towards me. I looked up and saw Bryan, leaning against the counter, staring at me.

"Luna. How can I help?"

"Do you have a cigarette?"

He chuckled, slightly taken aback. He opened up the kitchen drawer and threw me a pack of cigarettes. I snagged them off the table and headed out the back door. I turned back when I realized Bryan had followed, holding out a lighter. Bryan took the box back and slipped one out for himself. Reaching over, he lit mine first and then his. We leaned against either side of the kitchen door, smoking.

"Honestly, I'd never thought I would share a smoke with my Luna." Bran chuckled.

"You had the wrong ideals of your Luna then." I smiled and winked.

"Maybe I did. I thought Logan's Luna would be a trophy wife. Like a prim, proper, First Lady type."

I laughed out between smokes. "Disappointed?"

"Elated actually. I hated the thought."

I made the smoke come out of my nose. "Well, honestly I never felt I would fit in a pack."

"That memorial would say otherwise."

Bryan and I fell into silence, the house lights illuminating the back yard. I stamped out my cigarette first.

"I'm going for a run. I need to just..."

"Not think?"

I nodded.

"Go. Dinner will be ready when you get back. If Logan wakes up, I'll take care of it."

I grabbed his shirt and pulled him into a tight hug. Burying my face into his chest, I felt him rest his cheek on head. Everyone was so much taller than I was.

"You really are the best Beta."

His chest rumbled. "You are the best Luna."

I stepped away and shifted.

'Kai, you wanna run?'

'Do I?' She took over and I just sat back, enjoying the forest evening.

Alpha's Blind Luna, Chapter 35

Logan's POV

I bolted awake only to be met with a splitting headache. Looking around, I was lying on the living room couch. Bryan was sitting across from me in the recliner, his tablet in his lap.

"Morning cupcake. How you feeling?"

"Like a herd of elephants just ran over my head."

"Damn, Luna has a hell of a right hook." A smiled played on his face.

"What?"

Bryan closed the case on his tablet and leaned forward. "Let's play a game. Its call the 'Lets See what Alpha remembers in the last 24 hours' game." He seemed annoyed, almost angry. " What do you remember about yesterday morning?"

I squinted my eyes. "I remember...waking up next to Auri. I had a phone conference in the morning. So I got up, got dressed, made coffee, and had the leftover sandwich Auri made."

He clapped enthusiastically. "One point! You're already doing better than last time we played." Sarcasm was dripping from his words. "What's next?"

"I had the meeting. The Auri came in. She was wearing this beautiful purple dress. We were supposed to head off to her brothers baby shower." I winced, my head was throbbing. "But we got notified a group of rogues attacked."

"Another point! Keep going cupcake."

I growled, his attitude pissing me off. "She left first. I followed after we cleaned up the mess here. Then. then Tyler and I took a spin in the Bugatti. Auri was happy with her family. I drank some. And then..."I burned my head in my hands. "She told me what happened during her first shift. Or Ty did actually. She was beaten to death, or near death by her father. Alpha Leo covered it up."

"Fuck." Bryan looked surprised.

"Cato took over for a bit but then her parents came. I was so proud of her. She stood up to her father. But the second time she tried, he grabbed her hair and yanked her back."

"That family is a shit show."

I nodded. "I wanted to kill him right then. Alpha Collin was allowing me. But Auri stopped me. She handed out a torture rather than a punishment. I remember being livid. Not at her, just the whole situation. Her always wanting to protect everyone else around her but feeling double, if not triple, the pain herself."

"Keep going, Alpha."

I rubbed my eyes. "I left the Bugatti with Ty and took Auri home."

"Nope. Wrong. Think again." Bran definitely was pissed.

Closing my eyes, I tried to take it step by step. "I was stewing. Angry. Livid even. How could she just let them live? How could she just not be effected by any of this? And then she sang. Shit she sang and I snapped. How was she able to just be while I was here, thinking fo just setting that house on fire and breaking all their necks?"

"Right. And?"

I opened my eyes and looked at Bryan, shocked and horrified. He seemed to seethe, reveling in my reaction. "I left her. I just left her. I pulled over. I need to breathe. I got out of the car and suddenly mv control just snapped. I ran into the forest. I just left her..."

"That's right. You left Auri, in the car, in the middle of two pack territories. Completely alone."

I looked up at him. "I didn't wake up until the morning. I think I managed to take out a tree and it took me out too. I was at Morgan's and Auri was pissed. She looked like she had been through hell."

Everything that was coming back though was hazy. Like I was seeing it from a different perspective. I looked at Auri, she looked like I did after she left. I couldn't remember anything else past that. How we got back to the house or even before I woke up. Bran sighed and nodded.

"There we go. The actual Alpha's back. Not the snarky ass. Man, Auri's right hook did actually work."

"She punched me?" I asked, confused, though it did explain the headache.

"It's fine. You deserved it. You woke up at Morgan's with no memory of the day before. You were grating on all our nerves. Considering what we had to deal with yesterday and today..." He trailed off.

"What happened this morning?"

Bryan looked at me like I was supposed to be joking. "Shit. You don't actually remember that do you?" He finally asked after a minute of staring at me.

I shook my head.

"When Auri got back, we were under attack. She stepped up. Alpha, she was incredible. She didn't shift once. She dispatched around fifteen of the rogues herself. In total there were twenty five."

"What? Auri fought? What the hell happened to the defenses?"

"What happened? Alpha, we had two separate groups hit the west side. While I had an entire group out looking for you. Then there were a surprise seven that joined the northern group. We fucking lost two good warriors Logan! If Auri wasn't there, we would have lost more. She was fucking incredible." He turned defensive as he snapped at me.

I coughed, emotion welling up. "Who did we lose?"

"Arthur and Jet, from Group 2. After the battles was done, Auri took Group 2 and broke the news to the families. She didn't sleep because after doing all that, she finished the paperwork in the office, the paperwork for the both of them, and THEN Morgan called. She drove all the way over and watched your ass all night. THEN she did the memorial this morning. Fuck Logan, if she didn't knock it out of the pack. She sang and there wasn't a dry eye but she literally lifted everyone's soul."

I took in all the information he was giving me. Two of my warrior were dead. My Luna had taken up her missing Alpha's spot not only in battle but after as well. I had literally left her to fend for herself. No explanation, no help. Then apparently, I didn't remember all that had gone on at her families?

"And she only gave me a right hook?"

Bryan smiled. "Our Luna is nothing if not forgiving."

"Where is she now?"

"She took off for a run after having a smoke with me."

"I'm sorry what?" I looked at him, shocked.

"I asked her how I could help and she asked me for a smoke. So we smoked in back and then she said she needed to clear her head. I think she was upset that she let you get to her."

"Why is she alone?"

Bryan rolled his eyes. "Cause you would be hard pressed to find someone right now considering the memorial ran all day. That and they would now all look at me like I was crazy. The world needs to be protected from her, not the other way around."

"I caused my mate so much frustration and hurt that she punched me and had a cigarette?" I looked down at my hands that were clasp together.

"You were a right ass when you woke up from Morgan's. You're lucky thats all you caused her. She had been through enough." Bryan stared past me, into the void. "She scared the shit out of me. It was like she was a completely different person. Covered in blood. It was horrifying."

"The battle?"

He shook his head, still staring. "No, Auri. Covered in blood, barking orders. Smiling as she decapitated wolves. She ripped a werewolf's jaw in half. Not even flinching as she was literally soaked in blood. Not shifting even once."

I stared at him. Wondering if he had seen right. If he was talking about my Auri, our Luna. The gentlest creature who took care of everyone and everything. I remembered back the first day I found out she was a warrior. Covered in three different rogues blood. Proud. Willing to protect her family even though she wasn't officially Luna. It was months ago but her performance at the training barracks proved she knew what she was doing.

"Alpha, Luna was holding back during training with everyone. She would beat everyone to a pulp, I mean hell, she even beat you and she was holding back. That scares the shit out of me." Bryan sighed. "But she was so upset at me. For looking at her differently. Treating her differently after that. And the memorial..." He shook his head.

"We don't deserve her do we?" I smiled absently.

"No, we do not."

I rubbed my shoulders. "How can I ask for forgiveness after that? How do I even begin?" I looked at Bryan but he shrugged, leaning back in the chair again.

"Thats up to you. I've got no idea. I just told her I would catch you up to speed."

"Well, I guess I can start by asking for your forgiveness."

Bryan looked up at me, surprised.

"You've always been there. Backing my ass up Taking care of Auri and the pack. I wasn't thinking about anyone other than me and how I felt. It effected everyone at the worst time and I'm sorry." I looked up at him.

"Apology accepted. I'm still not helping you with Auri. You're on your own." He smiled at me and I nodded.

Running my hands through my hair, I stood up. My head spun a bit and I steadied myself. I could hear Bryan snickering.

"Goddess, was it such a perfect right hook."

"Bryan, could you do me a favor?"

His eyes narrowed. "Depends."

"Can you grab Hector and go out for the night. Use my card."

Bryan stood up. "Your card? Hell yeah!" Bryan raced up the stairs. "HECTOR. We are going out on Alph's dime! Suit up!"

"Heard! Suiting up!"

I chuckled as I went into the kitchen. Pouring myself a glass of water, I grabbed four Advil, hoping they would take the edge off of the pounding headache.

"We are not taking that yellow monster."

"We can't take the Mercedes. It's going to take us ten minutes to get in it after our tiny Luna has moved the seat around."

"Jeeps dirty from the battle."

"Bugatti is not here."

"That leaves..."

"The Mustang!" They both yelled at the same time.

"Bye Alpha! Have a good night!" Hector waved as he ran after Bryan who was already starting up the engine.

As they pulled away a quiet settled into the house. It had been a while since I had been alone in the house. Truthfully, I wanted them out because they were still my pack. I still needed to be a leader. While they dealt with my antics, I did my best not to show weakness. If they lost confidence in me, our pack would crumble. I knew that.

Auri was different though. As much as she was my Luna, she was my mate. I showed her sides of me I never would show my Beta or Gamma. I needed to not feel like I was keeping up appearances for them. I needed to be there for her, not as Alpha but just as me. Walking out to the back yard, I scanned the forest to see if I saw her or heard her but there was nothing. I didn't know when she had left for her fun but I knew she could run for hours.

Settling on the grass, I sat on my knees. I put my hands on my knees and waited, looking down at the grass. Closing my eyes, I listened for her while I tried to think of the best way to ask for her forgiveness. I thought about it for a while but nothing came to mind. Cato was no help either.

"Logan?"

My eyes snapped open as I saw Auri, pulling a sweatshirt over her naked body. It fell all the way down to her mid thighs. She looked beautiful. Beautiful and tired. Tons of emotions filled me as she walked towards me that, not all of them my own. I bent down and put my forehead against the grass, bowing to her. I heard her run to me, falling down in front of me.

"Logan! What's wrong?"

She was concerned for me and I started to cry. After everything I had done, her first action was to run to me. I was right. We didn't deserve her. I didn't deserve this beautiful creature. Auri was rubbing circles on my back. I sobbed into the grass.

"I'm sorry my love. I'm so sorry."

I heard her sigh. "It's okay Logan."

My head rose, looking at her. She also had tears in her eyes. "It's not okay. It won't ever be okay. You should have never gone through that. Any of it. Not

without me. I just fucking up and left." I squeezed my eyes shut. "Why am I so weak?"

She scooted closer to me, our knees touching. Taking my head, she held it to her shoulder. I wrapped my arms around her and she held me.

"You're not weak Logan. I know if you had known about the attack, you would have been there in a second. Been there for everyone. Hell, you may have done an even better job that I could have ever done. We might not have lost two..." She was holding me as tight as I was her and I realized she felt responsible for their deaths. She had been dealing with all this and just keeping it inside.

I pulled away, looking at her seriously. "It's not your fault. From what Bryan told me, you were incredible. You're the reason why there wasn't anymore casualties. Not even I could have done what you did. Not after that shit show of a family reunion. Then you turned around and took care of me? Auri, you cannot beat yourself up. You cannot think that you were anything but incredible."

Wiping away her tears, I let my hand rest on her cheek. She leaned into, closing her eyes.

"After yesterday, I am nothing but a sorry excuse for a mate and an Alpha. I couldn't handle it. I couldn't handle your mercy. Your ability to still smile or to sing after all that. I felt myself being torn apart, watching you as your father abused you. After hearing about your first shift. You went through it, and I couldn't handle it. How spectacularly idiotic am I?"

Auri shook her head. "It's a lot. Truthfully, I probably would have never told you if Tv hadn't said it. It's not pretty. What I remember is not as much as they do and a lot more painful. I didn't think you needed to know. Honestly, I was surprised my dad pulled something at the party."

"It doesn't excuse me, leaving you alone. Leaving you in a situation like that. Not only when you were dealing with your own thoughts, but then, not answering. Leaving you alone completely in the face of the biggest attack we have had since I lost my parents."

"Logan, I forgave you the moment you left. I could never not forgive you. I was angry, sure. But you don't have to apologize. I understand."

I shook my head. "Auri, I don't deserve you. I don't deserve your forgiveness."

She chuckled. "You know, there is this amazing thing called love. No matter what, I will always love you and I will always forgive you."

I swallowed hard, looking at her as my tears fell. Her golden eyes staring at me. "I love your Auri. More than you know."

She kissed my cheeks, my tears. "I think I know. Considering your on your knees, crying in front of me. And I love you just as much."

We stayed like that for a while, before I swept her up in my arms and took her into the house. Hearing her laugh, both made me soar and broke my heart at the same time. I knew I would love this woman my entire life. I would never let her go.