

## Alpha's Blind Luna, Chapter 66

"Come on Auri, you're faster than this!"

I was drenched in sweat and breathing heavy.

Morgan was chastising me. Growling, I rushed forward, swinging quickly with the two wood swords in my hands. Morgan easily blocked them with his one, but I spun around and brought my foot up, a kick aimed at his side. He blocked it too but it did push him a little. Smiling, I flipped the sword in my hand and hit Morgan in the stomach with the butt of the blade. But the sweet feeling didn't last long as his hand grabbed my wrist as he was doubled over. He pulled me towards him and threw me down.

I growled, feeling the side of his sword against my cheek.

"You got lucky. You're still too slow."

Morgan got off me and I jumped up. "I'm not a vampire, Morgan. I'm not ever going to be as fast as you." I downed some water on the table.

"You're wrong. You train yourself, you can absolutely be as fast. But you think too much."

"I have to think! Think of where you are because I can't fucking see you! Where your smell or hearing your movements. I have to think about all that."

Morgan sighed. "Honestly Auri, you need to take in your surroundings at once. Don't think about them individually, just know where everything is."

"I'm better than I was before!"

"You died! Of course you need to be better!" Morgan yelled at me and I shut my mouth, my head dropped.

I heard him huff and set the sword on one of the chairs.

"Take a break Auri. I need to get some work done." Morgan slammed the back door closed and I sighed.

Walking out into the grass, I listened to the waves crash against the rocks. Morgan had taken an invested interest in my training. After the night that Max

heard me play piano, he was very distant. Morgan said he had lapsed on work a lot and now he was catching up with everything. I wasn't convinced. He was avoiding me. I hated to admit it but I felt a little abandoned. Another High Council meeting came up and he had been gone for a while.

Morgan was one hell of a fighter. I wondered if the reason why he had never trained me before was because he knew I couldn't handle his type of training. Spinning, I held up my sword, acutely aware someone was coming up behind me.

"Better." Morgan took hold of my sword and pulled it out of my grasp. "I need to go into the office."

"Do you want me to stay behind?"

"No. Not after..."

I nodded. "I'll go get dressed then. Where are you dropping me off this time?"

Morgan huffed. "Why do you make it seem like I just drop you off in random places?"

"Because you do!" I smiled back at him.

"How does the boardwalk sound? It shouldn't be too crowded at this time and I should be done in about an hour."

I bit my lip. The boardwalk was always a little crowded. "That's fine."

Jumping in the shower, I took a quick one. It had been a few months and the first thing I had focused a lot of my energy on was being able to just take a shower by myself. That and actually trying to build my strength back up. My hands ran through my closet and I pulled out a sundress with spaghetti straps and lace. Pulling it on, I grabbed some flats and quickly braided my wet hair.

"Auri!"

"Coming!" I ran down the stairs and made a sharp turn into the garage.

Morgan already had the engine going of his Ferrari and I jumped in. He was quiet as we pulled down the road.

"Is this regarding the coven?" I asked since he was being quieter than usual.

"No. But it is regarding the High Council."

I furrowed my brow. "Isn't Max there?"

"Was. Apparently some shit went down. I don't know. I have to get the run down."

"Is Max okay?"

Morgan stepped on the gas, the car flying even faster. "I don't know. Apparently he offended High Councilor Cyra."

"Isn't that the woman he has been seeing for like hundreds of years?"

Morgan snorted. "Ever since Cyra was sworn in, whatever deep relationship they had went out the window. But now, I don't know. I thought they were on civil terms."

I nodded but didn't ask anything further. I just hoped Max was okay. Last time something happened, Morgan was put in the dungeon for two months. My hands grabbed my dress.

"I'm sure he's fine Auri. Max knows better than to make a scene." I wondered if Morgan was trying to convince me or himself more.

We stayed quiet until he pulled over the side of the road. Rolling down the windows, there were a lot of voices and my jaw locked.

"It looks like there is a street festival. Do you want me to go somewhere else?" Morgan asked.

"No, it's okay." I smiled at him. "You need to go. I'll be fine."

Getting out of the car, I shut the door behind me. I could smell the beach and the snacks from the street fair. Turning and waving, Morgan waited but then the roar of the engine signaled that he took off down the road. After a deep breath, I walked down the familiar steps and slipped my shoes off in the sand.

It was warm against my feet and I smiled. Lately I had been working so hard. Trying to push myself more and more. Morgan would push me in training but he felt I was going a little fast with everything else. The other day I cried because for the first time, I felt the slight twinge of pain as I accidentally cut myself cooking. I reveled in it but Morgan had to stop me from trying to see if I

could feel anything else. He was so upset after that he smoked half a pack of cigarettes. I chuckled.

Walking to the edge of the water, I felt it lap at my feet. I let my feet carry me a couple miles down the beach. It had been early when Morgan dropped me off. But after a couple hours, he still hadn't called me. I made my way back to the boardwalk and was bombarded by a sea of people. The hair on the back of my neck stood up. I tried to avoid running into people but they would bump into me and continue on. My heart rate started to rise and I felt disoriented.

"Morgan..."

My voice was small as I tried to pull my phone out of my pocket. As I pulled it out, a couple of guys ran into me. They apologized, helping me not to fall before continuing their run but they had knocked the phone out of my hand. I tried to listen to the ground, see if I could hear where it fell but there were too many people. Too much noise and smells and I couldn't concentrate. I could feel the strength leaving me, my hands starting to shake. Squeezing my eyes shut, I took a couple of breaths. Feeling the sea of people walking in all directions around me.

"Nice collar, kitty cat. Wanna come out and play with us?"

A male tourist, American from the sound of it, grabbed my arm. I tore my arm from him. Running, I tried to weave my way through the crowd. But it was crushing, the amount of people. Panicking, I tried to run through the streets away from the boardwalk. As I was running, a hand grabbed my arm and pulled me into an alley. I cried out and squeezed my eyes shut, my back against the wall.

"Auri! It's okay. It's me."

My heart was pounding my chest and I was in gasping for air. Sobs racked my shaking body. I tried to fight the hands holding me. But my strength was gone as my thrashing stopped, I could feel my head start to fall into unconsciousness. It didn't matter. Too much was going on, too many things racing through my head, through my senses. I started to slink down the wall but hands held me up.

"Auri!"

Suddenly, I felt lips on mine. They crashed into mine, kissing me. The gasping breaths were now forced to slow, breathing through my nose. My eyes shut as I felt the arms wrap around me, pulling me towards him. I grasped his shirt, my hands desperately clinging to him. The sounds went away, all except my beating heart. All the smells disappeared from my mind, just smelling his cologne. My shaking stopped and my knees were no longer going to give out.

His lips slowly retreated and he set me down gently, my bare feet touching the cobblestone. My heart was hammering in my chest but it was no longer because of the panic attack. Slowing, I touched my lips, feeling more shocked than anything.

"I'm sorry. I shouldn't have fuck..." I heard his footsteps retreat back.

I reached out blindly. "Wait...Max..."

But he was gone. My hand fell back down and I leaned against the wall of the alley. I heard pounding feet and a skid into the alley.

"Auri! I'm sorry!" Morgan crushed me into a hug. "I was stuck in traffic and then I saw all the people. I literally let loose half the boys to find you. Thank god."

"I'm...okay..."

"Max said you were about to pass out when he found you! Auri, don't lie to me!"

I shook my head and gave him a weak smile. "I'm okay." It sounded more confident the second time. "I just had a panic attack. I'm okay now."

"Let's go home." Morgan took my hand and walked me out onto the street.

"I lost my phone in the crowd. I'm sorry. Someone knocked into me and I couldn't hear where it fell."

Morgan squeezed my hand. "I'll get you a new one. Don't worry about it."

"I don't have my shoes either..." I blushed but cried out for a second as he lifted me up. "Morgan! You don't have carry me!"

"You weigh as much as a tomato Auri. I don't want your feet to get cut."

I sighed, giving up. Morgan placed me in his car and I rested my head against the seat. My hand went up and touched my lips. Max had been so passionate and yet so gentle. He had stopped my panic attack in its tracks. He was right, I was about to pass out. But I thought he was angry with me, he was avoiding me.

"I have to go away for a few weeks."

Morgan pulled me out of my thoughts. "Why?"

"Max offended High Councilor Crya." He paused.

"Kicked her out of his chambers because he wouldn't sleep with her. Never in my life would I thought I need to clean up a mess for someone NOT sleeping with the enemy."

"Why do you have to go?"

Morgan patted my leg and I let my head fall. "Because she's decided to come after my empire. So I need to straighten things out with the Council."

"And not burn down the whole place?"

He laughed. "Right. I'll make sure to remember that part."

We lapsed in silence as he drove.

"Max is coming over to make sure you aren't alone."

My head whipped in his direction. "Morgan! I can take care of myself!" A flush came up to my face when he said Max.

"I know princess. But at the very least you can use him as a shield. With that bastard already knowing about this place, I don't feel comfortable leaving you alone."

I crossed my arms over my chest and pouted. We pulled up into the driveway and I got out. I didn't stop as I opened the door, heading straight to my room but I knocked into Max. Stumbling back a bit, I felt the flush rest to my cheeks. Dropping my head, I quickly moved around him and flew up the stairs. I slammed the door behind me and leaned my back against the door.

## Alpha's Blind Luna, Chapter 67

"Auri! Dinner is ready!" Max called down from the bottom floor.

I was curled up in the window seat of my room. I hadn't gone downstairs. Morgan even had to come up to say goodbye. He had given me some books in brail and said that if I didn't want to talk to him, I didn't have to. But he had left hours ago. Now it was just Max and I.

There was a knock on my door but I ignored it. Running my fingers over the words. It had taken some time to adjust but I was back to reading at my normal speed. This book was impossibly fantasy. Getting just about every race incorrect. A far away place, with make believe problems and make believe solutions.

The door opened slowly and Max stood in the door. "Auri, you need to eat."

I refused to acknowledge him. Mostly to stop the blush from creeping its way back onto my face.

"Now Auri. I won't ask again."

This time I glared at him. I slammed my book shut and put it on the seat. Swinging my legs off and jumping to my feet, I walked past him. For a moment I felt my skin brush against his and I couldn't fight the blush that had risen but I filed down the stairs. He sighed for a moment and walked down the stairs after me slowly.

"It's on the dining table."

I let my hand skim the top of the table until it found a plate and I pulled out the chair and plopped down. Picking up the fork, I took a bite of food.

"I'll need to go to the market tomorrow. There isn't much in the kitchen." Max sat on the other side of the table.

I just ate my food in silence. It was good.

Normally, I still made dinner but I didn't mind this time. The awkwardness settled between us as we ate and I could hear every shift of his chair or brush of his hand against the table. I tried to mitigate my own sounds but when the plate slipped from my hand into the sink I jumped.

"Do you want me..."

"I can do it, thanks." I snapped at Max, picking up my plate again with a better grip.

Setting the plate in the dishwasher, I turned and pulled out some of the iced tea I made yesterday.

"Did you want me to read tonight?" Max had come up behind me, washing his own plate.

"We already finished Count and have moved on to One Hundred Years of Solitude in Spanish."

My body froze as Max leaned over me to grab the iced tea container. I didn't breathe as he poured some into a glass and then leaned back over me to put it back.

"I can read it. Morgan's Spanish is better than mine though."

I tried to steady my heart. "It's on the coffee table." Turning, I took my glass to the living room and curled up on the couch, in my usual position when Morgan read. Max walked over and sat in Morgan's seat. He leaned down and moved some of the books around until he found the one.

"How many books did you go through?"

"You've been gone for months, Max. Did you expect us to just sit around and do nothing while you were MIA?" I hated how bitter my words sounded.

He sighed but didn't rise to meet my frustration. I heard the pages of the book flip and then stop. Max started reading. His Spanish really wasn't all that bad. Morgan's was better but Spanish was so close to Italian sometimes Max would slip into his pronunciation of the Italian rather than the Spanish. Closing my eyes, I listened to his words. The words pulled me back into the story and I felt a smile creep onto my face. There was a moment Max paused, grabbing his drink and taking a few sips.

"Why did you kick her out?"

I heard Max cough slightly, placing his drink back down. "Is that what Morgan told you?"

"No. He said that he never thought he would need to clean up a mess after someone didn't sleep with the enemy."

Max cleared his throat. "I wasn't in the mood and she was being, persistent. I put my foot down and it didn't go very well."

I heard him flip through the pages. "Why have you been avoiding me?"

The pages stopped but he also didn't say anything. I pressed my knees closer to my chest, waiting. But the pages continued to be flipped through.

"I wasn't avoiding you Auri."

"Bullshit, Max."

"Anymore useless questions or would you like me to go back to reading?"

I glared at him. "Why did you kiss me?"

Max slammed the book shut. "It was a mistake. You were going to pass out and you weren't listening to me. That's all."

"So you kissed me? Why not just let me pass out?"

He got up and tossed the book on table. I listened as he left the room and winced when he slammed the door to his room. I buried my face in my knees. Willing myself not to cry, I just took deep slow breaths. Flopping over on the couch, I just laid down, letting my arm hang off, brushing the carpet. The next few weeks weren't going to be fun. Maybe now he would avoid me more. I closed my eyes, listening to the waves outside.

"What am I going to do with you Auri?" Max whispered.

I was vaguely aware he was carrying me up the stairs. He set me down on my bed and tucked me in. I expected him to just leave but he sat on the edge of my bed. His fingers brushed a strand of hair out of my face. I fell back asleep before feeling him leave the edge of my bed.

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Wiping my hair down with a towel, I walked up from the rocks to the yard. When I woke up, Max wasn't in the house. I figured he had gone to store. So I took the opportunity to start my usual routine. But when I came back from my

laps I did swimming in the sea, Max was unloading groceries in the kitchen. Wanting to avoid him at all costs, instead of eating breakfast, I started into my Tai Chi. The slow movements and smooth transitions were something Morgan worked with me. Now it was a meditative state before we would start sparring. Feeling every muscle in my body, controlling every muscle. The only issue I ever had was with the shackles, limiting some of my movement on my wrists and ankles.

Once I finished about an hour of that, I grabbed the two wooden swords Morgan and I practiced with. I started through a few stances, quicker and harsher than my meditative state. Bringing the two swords down together, they crashed against one. I jumped back at the ready.

"Morgan asked that I still spar with you. To keep you from getting soft."

I snorted. "Fine."

I attacked first. He stumbled back a few steps. He tried to attack but I deflected him easily. Spinning, I aimed a kick towards his head but he dodged back. Stepping forward, I swung my swords, forcing him to only block and eventually blocking one with his arm.

"The only one who's gone soft is you, Max."

He stepped forward and started his attack. I smiled as I easily deflected his attacks, stepping up as he tried to close the distance between us. His movements were becoming more and more angry. Max was frustrated. Well, he could join the club.

One hit. he overreached, trying to knock my sword out of my hand. Taking the opportunity, I stepped to his side and used my sword to force his leg to drop to one knee. I took hold of his shoulder and slammed him back onto the grass. My knee crushing his chest, sword stuck in the grass just next to his neck. I stared down at him face to face. I was breathing heavy and I slipped my knee to the other side of him. I was now straddling his chest.

I leaned down and stopped just as our noses touched him. My lips then brushed his and I kissed him. At first, it felt like I was kissing a statue. I was feeling his lips, they were still soft but he didn't move. I started to pull back but Max's hands came up and intertwined in my hair, he pulled me back to him, kissing me now with a passion that I hadn't felt the first time. My heart hammered in my chest so hard I felt sorry for his ears. Opening my mouth

ever so slightly, his tongue snaked into mine, tasting me. His tongue played with mine, as I closed my eyes. We broke apart after a couple minutes.

He started to sit up and I slid down his chest, now straddling his lap. I knew I was looking at his chest now and I cursed being so short.

"I couldn't have Cyra in my bed because all I could think of was you."

My head snapped up at his words. "You were avoiding me..."

"I knew. I knew my feelings Auri. I knew it and I hated myself for feeling them. I tried to ignore them, but then the night you finished my song..." He trailed off.

"I thought you hated me. I thought you were angry I finished your song."

Max's hands held my back. They were shaking slightly. "No, I don't think I've ever felt more pride...and love.." His forehead touched mine. "But I was your savior, and your master. I didn't think you could handle that. You lost Logan, lost so much. I didn't want to force you away with my own inability to control myself."

"When did it start?"

He hesitated before answering my question. "It's been a few years. I think the most prominent moment was when when you were talking to me about retiring The Huntress. You were no longer the little girl we raised but a woman. One that I had immense pride and love for...a love that turned into the kind Morgan warned me about." He shook his head. "I felt terrible. Morgan knew to warn everyone away from you and never allow us to fall for you."

"That long?"

Max leaned back on the grass, his hands leaving my back to hold him up. "Basically I had to decide to remove myself completely or just be content with the title of best friend and never letting my feelings out. Never letting them surface and locking them away."

My hands took hold of his shirt, balling up into fists. How many times had I tortured Max, not knowing his feelings for me. How often we would be in close proximity or would sing together. I felt bad.

"You found your mate and I was honestly relieved. You would be consumed with him and I could let you go. Knowing you were safe and happy. When Morgan came back with that damn death scroll, I lost it. I destroyed half the club. When you asked for me to bring the Range Rover around, all I wanted to do was tell you not to go, not to do it. It wasn't worth it. I broke, feeling partially responsible by not stopping you."

Max took an unneeded haggard breath. "Your death though. I've never felt like immortality as a punishment until the day Morgan confirmed your death." His voice shook.

"Max..."

He inhaled sharply. "When I found you, Auri...I couldn't settle my nerves. I was the last person that should have been your master. I begged Morgan to take over because of my feelings and your state of mind was tearing me apart."

"You saved me though. It was only because of you that I got out of there." I placed my hand on his cheek. It was cold against my touch.

"Auri, I knew Logan would be the only one to bring you back. It ate at me but it was still better that he came, that he would be the one to save you. But then he left...without you..." His voice tailed off. His hand pulled my hand away and I dropped my head. "I hated myself. I hated that I was secretly happy. I hated to see you in pain but you reached out to me. My feelings for you roaring back. I had to leave. There was no way I could sacrifice what trust we had built."

I chuckled. "So you kissed me while I was having a panic attack?"

Max shook his head. "Not my finest moment. But it literally was all I could think of to do after not seeing you for months."

"Not to mention it wasn't consensual."

He huffed. "Thanks Auri for tacking that onto my already guilty conscious."

"I mean, we are even now right?" I smiled and he sat up.

"Morgan is going to kill me."

I wrapped my arms around Max's neck and pulled him down, so his lips touched mine again. My heart sped up again and I enjoyed the feeling. Max was safe. He was my best friend, my savior. He was there for me, always gentle and kind. I knew he cared and I cared for him as well. Max slid his hands to my hips, pulling me back.

"Auri, stop."

"But..." I looked at him confused.

"I don't want this to be one sided. I know Morgan has said you've gotten better but..." Max paused. "Can you actually feel..."

I put my hands on my hips, shoving his away. "Are you serious right now? Maximillion did you really just ask me if I can feel?"

"You've been through so much. I don't know if I could survive watching you like that again Auri. It tore my heart to shreds." The pain in his voice was apparent.

Putting my hand on his cheek, he leaned into it this time. "I told you. I'm here to stay. Not even Micah can throw me back into that state anymore."

His head shot up as he heard me say his name.

"I may not....right now..feel the same depth of feelings as you do, but I'm not little bird anymore. I still wake up at times screaming, I still struggle with crowds, I still can't put Morgan down in a fight, but I'm stronger than I was."

Max brushed a finger against my cheek. "Morgan is going to absolutely murder me."

"Wouldn't be the first time." I smiled.

Max put a finger under my chin and lifted it up, kissing me with a love that I never thought I would feel again.

## **Alpha's Blind Luna, Chapter 68**

### **Chapter 68**

I screamed as Max launched me into the pool. I hit the water and quickly swam up, gasping for breath. I heard him jump in after and then it became too

quiet. I started swimming towards the edge when Max came up under my legs, launching me again into the middle of the pool. I laughed as I hit the water.

"Max!" I yelled as I broke the surface again.

He was laughing and started to swim over to me.

"Some of us have to breathe!"

I felt his arms snake around my waist and pulled me close. I wrapped my legs around him and he turned, pushing me up against the wall of the pool.

"Is this why vampires don't date werewolves? You have to breathe?" Max's lips crashed against mine in a passionate fever. His body was pressed against mine, leaving no room for even the water to settle between us. I kissed him back, my hands grabbing his wet hair. Pulling it back, his lips separated and I mock bit his neck. I felt him shiver and I smiled.

"You vampires and your biting kinks."

He laughed and tried to fling me back into the pool but with my legs wrapped around him, he only flung himself into the water. I pushed off of his chest with my feet and come up in the deep end.

"You're in trouble for that Auri."

I screamed and tried to get out of the pool but he was too quick. I dipped down under the water as he pulled on my feet. Kicking off from the bottom, I swam up and gasped for air.

"Good to see you two are back to normal." Morgan said as he walked out of the back door.

Max was creeping up my legs and I tapped his head. His hands left and he came up further away from me.

"It took a while. But you lock up two people in a house for FOUR WEEKS. At some point someone has to apologize." I pulled myself out of the pool and grabbed the towel. Morgan came and hugged me. "You sound tired Papa."

"Is that your way of telling me I look like shit?"

I looked at him, smiling. "I mean you said it not me. But I also can't actually see you."

He was about to lite a cigarette but I took it out of his hands and tossed it on the table.

"He does look like shit. Though now he looks dejected after you took his vice away." Max came up behind me but didn't touch me.

We had actually had a wonderful four weeks. It was awkward at first and poor Max had to help me with my flinching. We had finally gotten to a good place. You could say actually dating. I hadn't really experienced it before considering the whole 'mate' process. Logan and I never really.....dated. Max was different. He was a gentleman and went slow. We went to clubs, the beach, restaurants and even took me to an opera. Sometimes we would stay home and other times we would go out to date spots. Morgan was a touchy subject though.

"I don't want either of you smoking in or around this house anymore."

I heard Max clap Morgan on the shoulder. "Withdrawal takes about a week."

"Shit."

I smiled and headed into the house. "What happened at the meeting?"

"Well, nothing good. You know what the say about a woman scorned..."

"Turns into a batshit crazy bitch?" Max added as he walked into the house.

"Hell hath no fury." I corrected him.

Morgan sat at the kitchen island and I poured him some iced tea and added some vodka. "Fury didn't even begin to explain it. But luckily, men outweigh the woman on the council. So I managed to appeal to the dicks of the group." He sighed. "Cyra Max, really? Cyra? Even after she became a High Councilor?"

I chuckled. "Seems like Max has a taste for women who are bad for his well being."

Max snorted and coughed as he was drinking iced tea. Since I was right next to him I started slamming him on the back a little too hard, biting my lip from smiling too much.

"You have no idea Auri." Morgan sighed.

Holding back my smile hurt so bad. I wanted to burst out laughing.

"Sometimes, I feel like werewolves and mates have the right idea."

I froze, the smile dying and the laughter disappearing. "It's not all its cracked up to me."

Morgan sputtered. "I'm sorry princess! I know! I was just speaking as a whole."

"I know Papa." I gave him a sad smile and took my glass to the couch. "Maybe I should just date Max."

Max started to cough again and Morgan laughed. "Princess, don't joke about that."

I took a sip and leaned back in the couch. "Should I date you then, Papa?"

"If you want to go out on a date I will take you anywhere you want to go." Morgan was always the sweetest. He genuinely cared about me and raising me.

"I'm just glad you're back to read. You know Max has a horrible Spanish accent, it turns into Italian Grandmother real quick." I laughed.

Morgan sighed. "Sadly it won't be very long. As part of my side of the deal, there are a couple things I need to take care of."

"What? Now you're their lap dog?" I looked at Morgan, worried.

"Don't worry, it's nothing blue scroll related. Just some under the rug stuff they need."

Max put his drink down. "Why would they need you though? They have the resources."

"It's a new drug. Apparently it's called Nova? Supposedly, it makes your eyes look like a galaxy if you take it."

"Sounds pretty."

Morgan snorted. "Might sound pretty but it's been curated for the supernatural. Made with a mix of wolfsbane, vampire venom, and pixie dust."

"Is pixie dust really a thing? I thought that was Tinker Bell, Disney stuff."

Max sat on the couch next to me but kept a respectable distance. "It's rare and it's very potent. This mix doesn't sound like it would effect humans though."

"You're right, it doesn't. It's been a sole vampire distribution. But it's making vampires run amok. Like they forget their control. It's a hell of a thing."

"You want me to jump in? I've done enough drug busts." Max leaned forward.

Morgan, who had taken up his usual seat, leaned back, the chair groaning. "No. I need to be dealing with this. The quicker we get this done, the faster I can set fire to that castle."

"So how long..."

"I have to leave in a couple days. I'll mostly be in the office, but I'll need to go to different locations."

I looked down. "So you are moving out, basically." I pulled up my knees and wrapped my arms around them. Morgan was still the one who I leaned on the most. Especially while Max was gone.

"I'm sorry, Princess. I've been told I've been hiding away too long."

I nodded. "Should I just...move somewhere else too?"

"Why would you do that Auri?" Max this time, sounding a little upset.

"I mean, you're here because of me. Maybe I can just...find my own place. Or go back to being The Huntress. That way you and Morgan can get back to work. I don't want to be a burden to you."

"Auri!" Morgan sat down on the couch between Max and I. "You will never need to go back to being The Huntress. Everything I teach you, trained you is solely for your self preservation. I will not have you fighting as you were before. Taking on suicide missions. Ever." He pulled me to him and hugged me. "You never need to be alone again. You will never be a burden. You are my precious daughter who has already been through enough as it is."

Tears made their way to my eyes and I held him close. "Thanks Papa." After a while, I laughed. "So I guess Max is stuck with the blind chick."

Morgan growled. "He's lucky. If it wasn't for his fuck up, I would have him do all the grunt work."

"Gosh, thanks boss."

"I'm still pissed at you. Fucking Cyra! I mean really."

Getting up, I kissed Morgan on the head. "I'm gonna shower and be back down. Maybe if you're up to it, we can read? Otherwise we can do something else."

"I'll head up too."

"Max, I'll need to fill you in a little more when you get back."

I was already walking up the stairs and I skidded to a halt in front of my door. After two weeks of not sleeping in it, I almost walked past it. As I opened the door, Max brushed his hand along my back and I turned to him, smiling. He leaned in and gave me a silent kiss, leaving to go to his room. I smiled and closed my door gently. My heart was beating fast again. Getting into the shower, I washed off all the pool water and tried to rinse off my worry from Morgan and the Council.

It wasn't working and there was a knot in my stomach. Instead of making it a long one, I just got out and got dressed in some sweats and a shirt. I opened the door and froze.

"Logan's pack decided to take the deal with Micah." Morgan's voice sounded even more tired.

"Are you kidding me? They are trusting that psychopath?"

"I don't think so. I think its just its a better deal for them. Apparently Logan is worried, fearful even. Bryan says he may be willing to make a deal with the devil if it meant to protect his pack."

Max snorted. "The kid needs some sense knocked into him."

"Funny enough, that's what Bryan said. He said he's been so wrapped up in his new pup that he is struggling to juggle everything. Bryan said Auri did a lot when she was there. But Logan refused to make Leandra, or whatever her name is, Luna. Won't let her near the work."

"He doesn't trust her." Max cursed after a moment. "So he's willing to have the pup with her but not trust her? What kind of bullshit..."

"Bryan wanted to ask for help. Apparently, they decided that they were going to trick the Alpha King. Get him set up to attack Logan's pack but turn on the king. How he has to muster all those troops and then to also train. We are looking at a year, maybe two till it goes down. Bryan is asking us, the mafia, to also jump in." Morgan paused. "He also wanted to speak to Auri directly but I said no."

"Good." Max kept his voice low. "She shouldn't have anything to do with that pack. Ever."

Morgan patted Max on the back. "I know how you feel."

"You aren't going to help them though are you?"

Morgan paused. "Honestly, it's a good opportunity to go after the Bloodhunter coven."

Max slammed his hand on the table and I jumped in the doorway at the ferocity of it. "You can not be thinking to side with the fucking Alpha King, Morgan!"

"No, no. But I'm thinking it would be a good opportunity to sweep up the mess after. Especially if Micah is going to be there..."

I walked down the stairs and both of them hushed. But I came up to Morgan. "I want in. I want in the fight. I want a chance to kill Micah."

## **Alpha's Blind Luna, Chapter 69**

## Chapter 69

No Auri.' Morgan's voice was firm

"This isn't just you though. If its a year or two, I can train. Be better. I can...

Morgan stood up and I felt him loom over me the old vampire presence starting to emanate from him. "I said no and that's final."

Tears sprung to my eyes, feeling angry and

frustrated. "Why not! This is more my fight than

it is yours! Why would you deny me that

chance?

"Because I'm not losing you again Auri!

Morgan yelled. He was walking away from me.

Do you think I can't do it?

No, I don't think you can! He turned from where he was walking and yelled at me.

Stunned, I stepped back. Max was behind me and his arms held my shaking shoulders.

I think you will die at the hands of him. I think he will whistle and you will die because he asked you to and I'm not taking that chance, Auri!

Morgan, you don't mean that. Max moved his arms to hold me around my waist, holding me up on back, ready for either

"I will not lose her again, Max!"

I yelled back at him. I'm a fucking werewolf Morgan. I will die. You will lose me. That's a fact You will mourn me again. Whether it be 5 years or 70 years. I will die. The least you could do is allow me to do it on my terms!

No. That's my final answer. I haven't even decided if I'm going through with it either. I was only thinking it would be a good opportunity. But we aren't going to discuss this topic again. Morgan sat down in his chair

Angry, I stomped up the stairs to my room and heard a lighter go off. I grabbed one of the vases and took the flowers out. Chucking the water over the balcony, I heard Morgan curse.

"I said don't fucking smoke here!"

I slammed the door to my room and flopped on the bed, screaming into my pillow like I was 16 again. After a while, I just sat up and grabbed one of my books. It wasn't half bad, the historical fall of Alexandria, supernatural edition. The secrets and things that were kept, the city that was a pioneer in all races living together. This was the second time I was reading it. It made me feel better to dive into a book

"Auri?"

After a while, I heard Max on the other side.

What? He sends his second in command? Tell

Morgan he can fuck off.

The door opened and closed. Max walked over and sat on the edge of the bed. "Morgan already left. He was really pissed."

Yeah well. He'll deal with it.' I grumbled

Auri, he's only trying to protect you.

I scoffed. "Sure, hide me away from the world so

I never see the light of day again. Never live again. Because goddess forbid I get a stubbed toe.' I know Max didn't deserve my anger but I

felt as though I had been trying to build up to defeat Micah. That he was my goal. To rip his

head off myself and make him pay for everything

he had done to me. Now, when we had the

perfect opportunity, Morgan shuts me down

Give him time, Auri. It's been less than a year since we've had you back with us. Max reached out and grabbed the book from me. He pulled my ankle, just under my shackle and I squealed as I slid towards him. Max was on top of me, pinning me down. "What he said was out of line and I'm sure he will apologize for it later. But for now.. Max kissed my forehead and then my cheeks. Let's thank my fuckup for making Morgan leave for longer so I have you all to myself."

I chuckled and tried to push him off but he

continued to kiss down my neck. He tugged at my shirt.

you really think I'm in the mood after that?

He put my hand on his face and I could feel him wiggle his eyebrows. "I think you could blow off some steam."

Laughing, I grabbed his shoulder and flipped him so I was straddling him. "Maybe I do." Leaning down, I kissed him and started to unbutton his shirt. He pulled the shirt off when I was done and then also lifted my shirt off my head.

"Tsk Auri, you shouldn't be going without a bra now that you've gained all your muscle back."

Are you calling me fat Max?"

He grabbed my breasts, fondling and massaging them. No, I'm just saying you have a knockout body and it needs to be reigned in."

I leaned down and let my breasts lean against his cool skin. Nipping him at the jaw line and then down his neck, he slide his hands easily past the elastic of my sweatpants.

Auri Meadows! No underwear!' Max slapped my ass through the sweatpants and I laughed

I unhooked his pant button and unzipped his pants. I raised my eyebrow. "you tell ME nounderwear and you're going commando as well!"

Max laughed and flipped me under him again. He was much quicker in dispensing of my pants. Kissing down my stomach, he laid a kiss on my

clit and I closed my eyes. The dull throb of pleasure, made me smile. It was small but it was something. It was muffled but feeling

something, anything, was a revelation

Our first two tries were not good and he hadn't want to try again. Bringing up memories and pain, Max had to take the brunt and I knew he felt terrible. He thought I was pushing myself too much. The third time, I managed to get

through without tears, without memories. Just him and I, making him feel good. It wasn't until our more recent escapades did I feel anything. The first time I felt anything it came as such a shock that I climaxed within minutes and Max was delighted. That was the night he took me to the opera. Now, it was small but the pleasure was there. Pain though, hadn't gotten any better since the small twinge months ago.

Max continued to lick and nuzzle. One thing that was very new was the perks of Max being a vampire. He didn't need to breathe adding some interesting foreplay and actual sex. Another was that when he came, there was no seed. Max couldn't reproduce but I could feel his cock throb

in me when he came. Max was like ice, as my body temperature rose from the pleasure, his body would immediately cool me off. He told me

it was like he was walking too close to a fire sometimes but he liked putting his hand over the fire.

"Auri, I can't wait today." Max whined. "You looked so damn good in that bikini."

He moved and pressed his cock at my entrance. I closed my eyes, digging my nails into his shoulders and he slowly moved inside of me. But once he was in, moving, I let out the breath I was holding. I moaned, the pleasure building in me. Max throbbed in me at my moan and smiled

"I swear. You've ruined me for the rest of my life." Max kissed me and I nipped at his lips before he finally opened his mouth. My tongue dove in and swirled

around his. He moaned loudly against me. As I drew away to take a breath, I pulled his lip with me. Moaning again, he started a faster rhythm and I finally felt that edge.

Max...n I breathless called to him and he smirked.

He started to go harder and faster, his cock reaching all the way inside me. Max moaned and I felt his orgasm but he continued to pound into me. Not even 10 seconds later, I came as well. Clutching to his arms as my body spasmed with the pleasure. Max flopped over, laying sprawled out on the bed.

"I wonder why there aren't more vampires having sex with werewolves. I really do.

I smiled, turning on my side. "Maybe it's the thousands of years of feuds and racial discrimination on both sides.

You know, I think if everyone would just fuck it would completely blow all that out of the water. Max turned on his side as well. You really have ruined me, Auri. I've never felt this way about any woman. I don't think I will ever let you go.

I sighed. "you and Morgan both act like I'm not mortal.n

You don't need to be immortal, Auri. I'm gonna do my best to be by your side even when your old and wrinkly

Shaking my head, I flopped on my pillow. I don't think I intend on living that long. Trapped in a body that is weak and dying? I've done enough of that thank you. I just want to go out in a blaze of glory at my strongest."

Max wrapped his arm around my torso and pulled me close. He nuzzled into my neck. "Then I will be there right with you.'

I smiled and nodded. Closing my eyes, I let his body cool me down until I fell asleep.1

He is driving me insane!' Morgan was pacing the living room.

Max and I were sitting on the couch, watching him pace. My feet were in Max's lap and he was massaging them just before Morgan had drove up. Now my feet were stuck into the couch cushion. Morgan only really came by now to vent. It

would be a 1-2 hour ordeal. He'd have a home cooked meal and then he would leave. It was about once a week for the past 2 months. Now was his favorite rant, Bryan.

The boy calls me once a week at the most random times, I already fucking told him I

wasn't going to converse with him and that I

wasn't going to allow you to speak to him. But he just keeps fucking calling.

Why don't you just let me talk to him Morgan? Maybe get him off your back for a bit?' I offered

Both of them froze. Max had been mid-shift in the couch and Morgan stopped mid-pace

just let me talk to Bryan. I don't want him to keep bothering you. Especially if it's something dumb like where are the keys to the weapon

cabinet.)

Do you know....

Walk into the office, second bookshelf on the right, fourth row down, third book, sixtieth page. There is a box cut out for it

Max chuckled. "Morgan, I don't think it would hurt necessarily. As long as it's just Bryan."

I nodded. "I don't... I don't want to speak to

Logan. I don't want Logan to know I spoke with Bryan either...

If you are sure about this....

Nope. But I want him to stop bugging you.

Morgan pulled out his phone and dialed the number. Max pulled me to him. Sitting me in his lap for the first time in a long time in front of Morgan. He had his fists balled up and I realized he was worried, even if he agreed with me.

Hello? I looked at the time and realized we had woken up Bryan at like 3am his time.<sup>2</sup>

I've got three rules, maybe four.

Morgan?!

Rule one, you will not put your Alpha on the line. Rule two, you will not tell your Alpha of this little chat. Rule three, whatever the fuck you have to say better be worth it because if you make her cry so help me god, I will rain fire down on the entire pack and the Alpha King will be the LEAST of your worries.<sup>y</sup>

I bit my lip to hold back a laugh. I could also feign a deep inhale trying to hold it in as well.

Understood. I shouldn't be doing this anyways.

Logan would never approve.

"As long as we have an agreement..." Morgan passed the phone over to me.

Hey Bryan.' I let my voice come over as calm as I could make it.

Oh god, it's good to hear your voice.

I smiled. Bryan had been my best friend in the pack. One of the few relationships I did miss. Bryan, you have been bothering Morgan far too much. It needs to stop."

I...hold on...' I heard clamoring and a 'where are you going?' as it sounded like he left the room

Did you find your mate Bryan Steele?' I smiled

I did. She's lovely and will absolutely be the death of me.

I chuckled. "Good. About time you met your matcho

I heard a door close and the wind pick up. He had walked outside and was jogging a bit

Auri, I'm losing my mind.' Bryan finally spoke at full volume. I don't know how to be Alpha and I never wanted to Alpha but he's basically just thrust the job on me and I don't know what to do.

I blinked and stood up off of Max's lap. "What do you mean?"

He's just checked out. He was checked out when he came back. He would do stuff and then just flat out leave it half done. Then Leandra tried to help and he snapped. He's basically just thrown it all out the window. I've been running the pack for months.?

I pinched the bridge of my nose. I don't know what you are looking for Bryan Organization tips? How to handle training?

I need you...back...'

I sighed and leaned my back against the wall. Both Morgan and Max's stares were boring into me. "Bryan, you know I can't do that."

'm losing my mind.

I chuckled. "That's what it means to have that kind of leadership. Just accepting that is the first step."

What's the next step?,

Time management and organization'

The line went quiet for a second. I don't have pen or paper out here.

I burst out laughing

Auri! I'm serious!

I took a couple breaths and went into how to manage time, making sure to confirm that he was making time for his mate. He needed to adjust his workday and what he was doing. He also needed to make sure that his mate also stepped up. If there was no Luna, the Beta's mate would need to also work through some of the duties of the Luna. Especially if Bryan trusted her. I walked him through my original filing process of the paperwork as well as the training regimes.

You're taking care of yourself though? Making sure you still go to training? Your body will give out on you if you don't take care of it and keep on top of training.

I am and so is Hector. Hector is a beast now, more beast than man.

“Good.

Alpha however...

I took a deep breath. I appreciated Bryan for not saying his name.

Auri, I think he gained like fifty pounds at least since he came back. He doesn't train anymore. Sometimes I think he is just punishing himself.

Not my issue Bryan. I'm happy to help you, but he made his choice. All you can do, is support the pack.'1

Thanks Auri. Really. I was starting to breakdown. Denise was worried.

Just take care of her and yourself. Do the best you can. Don't be afraid to ask for Hector's help with the training stuff. He seems to be good at that.)

Yeah. Shit. I think Alpha knows I'm out. I gotta go.

Stop calling Morgan Bryan. This was a one time thing. It's not my pack anymore I'm not Luna anymore.n

You will always be my Luna. No matter what. Over the line, I heard Logan yell Bryan's name and I handed the phone to Morgan, not wanting to hear anything else

Get off my line Beta! Morgan hung up the phone and came over to me, putting a hand on my arm. “You okay princess?n

I nodded.

Max chuckled. “Now he really is a fat bastard.

Morgan hushed him but I smiled. “It's okay. Max is feeling the high school reunion feelings of the popular kid getting his just desserts.n

Morgan and Max laughed with me

Thanks, princess. That's one less thing I need to worry about.

Of course, Papa.

I'm sorry.' Morgan took my hand and kissed the back of it. "I know I sometimes get overprotective of you when it comes to them or anything really. I should know you're stronger than that but I can't help but worry.

"I know Papa, I know. Both you and Max are just looking out for me. You can't just keep me hidden away for forever.'

Sadly, I'm realizing that. But I'm not ready yet.' He hugged me and I smiled into his shoulder.

Not until I can beat you?"

"Exactly.'

I swore, it would be a while for that

## **Alpha's Blind Luna, Chapter 70**

Chapter 70

I'm headed out, thank you for the dinner! Morgan grabbed his suitcase and now clean laundry.

Sure Papa!' I gave him a small wave

"Call if you need anything.' Max added.

We were sitting on the couch after Morgan had done a little reading for me while we waited for his clothes to dry. I got up, confirming that the door was locked. After that, I headed up the

stairs.2

I'm gonna go to bed. I'm really tired after that.

I stood in front of my door before deciding it would be okay to sleep in there tonight, not wanting to disturb Max. He came up behind me though and put his hand on the door

Where do you think you are going?

I turned around, aware he had me caged against the door and no way to escape. I smiled

"I figured I would sleep in my room. I didn't want to bother you tonight."

Why would you ever bother me Auri? Other than get me hot and bothered."  
He leaned into my ear, growling the last sentence.

I'm worried I might not have a restful sleep. After talking with Bryan...' I looked down at the floor.

Max put his hand on my cheek and lifted my head up. "All the more reason, Auri. I will be here for you. Always."

He kissed me, pushing me against the door. I wrapped my hands around his neck and pulled him harder, kissing him deeper. My heart

hammered in my chest and I started to melt under his touch as his tongue slipped into my mouth.

"The fuck...")

I froze but Max pulled away immediately. My hammering heart now was racing. We hadn't heard him come back in and come up the stairs

Morgan...' Max stammered.

Papa! I can explain.' I stepped in front of Max putting myself between him and Morgan.

I could feel it. The aura of Morgan the Vampire. But this was so much worse. This made me cough and struggle to breathe. This was on the level of the elder I had fought, but far angrier. It was as if the elder had underestimated me.

Someone better fucking explain what I'm looking at.' Morgan was stalking up the stairs now.

"Max and I have been seeing each other. Dating. He's been really kind and....

Kind enough to get into your pants Auri? Morgan growled

I swung my hand out, protecting Max. That's not what he's done. I love him, Papa. He loves me. He has helped me to overcome a lot.,

Do you call him master in bed now?

This time I growled. "How dare you!

Max, I warned you. I warned you when she turned sixteen. I told you what would happen if you touched her, if you fell in love with her. I warned you. p

I heard Max take a deep breath. "I remember. I tried to stay away."

Obviously not hard enough

Morgan stop! It was my choice! I decided it.

Morgan took my arm in his hand. I felt my eyes involuntarily close, his aura squeezed the life out of me. My knees started to go weak and I tried to pull my arm out of his grasp but he didn't let go. You don't get to decide when he was originally your master. When he took advantage of your weakened state. When did it start? When you were still little bird?)

Morgan! How dare you think Max would do that! I yelled at him, still trying to get out of his grasp. Feeling like he was taking the life out of me.

Suddenly, I was being flung back. I slammed into the wall but cried out as I slide down the wall. I barely landed on my feet but my knee hit the edge of one of the stairs.

Morgan, don't hurt him!' I screamed.

But just as I said it, I heard the sickening crack and shaking of the walls. Morgan had thrown Max into the wall. I tried to get up but my knee was giving out on me.

STOP IT!' I screamed

Morgan, don't lose control."

Don't lose control? Max, I told you I would kill you the moment you touched her. I told you that you were going to be the last person to ever hold her heart because I know the things you have done. I know who you are. She will never be part of that. I'm far past losing control. I've now lost my second in command, someone who I

considered a brother., 1

Something was off in Morgan's voice. It was becoming deeper, more animalistic. I shivered at his voice and aura was oppressive. He was going to kill Max though. I thought that he would be angry but this angry? He told Max years ago and the thought made me a little angry. Sure I didn't have my mate back then but Max was my only real best friend at the time. I used to run over the idea with Kai, when our mate would reject us what our next step was. Max would come up and she would scoff but I never really shot the idea down. Now knowing he had half feelings for me back then, I felt a little sad. If Logan had just rejected me when we first met, what would have happened between Max and I?

STOP IT MORGAN!' I screamed again from the stairs.

Auri, you need to go. You need to leave the house now. Go up the driveway.' Max sounded scared. "Take the Control Protocol. Now."

My eyes widened and I shook my head. The Control Protocol was something that Max and Chris taught me when I was eleven and I started to stay full time with Morgan. Chris said that all vampires control their killing urges, their inner animal. He said it akin to you losing control and your wolf taking over. Blind rage but far worse. We had a protocol set up if there was ever an issue. Only one time did Chris and Max take me away from the suite when I was 15. I had felt it then though, Morgan's aura. But Chris and Max spirited me away almost immediately

I remember saying that Papa wouldn't hurt me. But they said that, my Papa was very old. Having someone you care about for 10 or even 20 years out of an over 500 year lifespan was short. That this inner animal wouldn't know the difference wouldn't see me as his daughter. It would know I was a werewolf and it would know it needed to kill me. That's all it would think about. Killing

No! You'll die! I can't let you die, Max!

NOW AURI! Max cried out as Morgan sent him flying again. This time, a lot of furniture broke. Max let out a gargled cough and for the first time, I smelled blood.

Taking a deep breath, I got up and punched my knee to get it to work. I limped over to the kitchen and grabbed the bottle on the counter. Smashing against it against the wall, it shattered, leaving me with the top of the bottle. I could hear Max trying to fight Morgan but I knew he wouldn't win. I knew Max would die if I didn't do something.

I took the bottle and slammed it into my thigh. I felt nothing but I dragged it down my leg, blood starting to pour down my leg. I reached over and grabbed two of the kitchen knives.

MORGAN!! I yelled and I listened as there was a thud of Max's body.

It was horrible, waiting a few seconds before I heard Max cough. Relief flooded me and I refocused my attention on the vampire now fully aware of my presence. I heard him jump from the balcony to the living room. As he walked towards me, furniture went flying and as I heard the solid wood dining table fly into the wall, I realized this would absolutely be my death. Crouching, I brought up my knives just as Morgan and I had sparred multiple times. But this version didn't hold back.

I started to attack but each swipe was deflected by his hands. Dodging his swipes at me, I jumped back, wobbling a little with the blood loss in my left leg. The knives still up, I tried to attack him again and this time I managed to swipe his cheek. He didn't reel back, didn't even move. Suddenly, instead of deflecting my next attack, he grabbed the knife with his hand. I brought my other knife up and stabbed his hand that was holding the other knife. But he didn't even register the action. Instead he pulled back his hand, holding one knife and the other in his hand. Now weaponless, I just put my arms up, fists ready.

One final try, I tried to punch him but as I jabbed forward, I felt the two knives embed themselves into my stomach. Stunned, I stumbled back for a second, my hands feeling the handles of the knives. In my confusion, Morgan had already closed the distance and I felt his hand wrap around my neck, pushing my collar up further. Slowly, he was lifting me off the ground into the air.

"AURI!" Max screamed, it sounded like he was coming down the stairs.

He was okay and that was enough for me.

grabbed Morgan's arm that was holding me up, choking me. I could feel his grip tighten and I

knew he was just going to snap my neck, crush everything. Tears rolled down my face. Spots filled my vision and I struggled for breath.

I forgive you, Papa. I choked out between the gasps and tears.

Suddenly, the hand stopped crushing me. It was still holding me tight enough that I was losing consciousness. All at once air was rushing into my lungs. I gasped as he had dropped me to the floor. My head slammed against the floor and I tried to fumble with the knife handles, pulling them out.

NO! AURI! Max slid up next to me, putting his hands on my stomach. But I'm sure between the blood between the two knives and the self-inflicted wound on my thigh, there was more blood on the floor than there was in me

Max collected me to him, rocking. Auri why..why would you do that...why don't you listen? He was crying. I hadn't heard Max cry. I

wondered how his face looked. Moving my hand up, I put my hand against his cheek, soaked with tears. The blood on my hand soon made the tears indistinguishable. He held my hand tight. He was rocking back and forth

Suddenly, Max picked me up off the floor and carried me through the house. I could hear him kicking furniture away. Max made his way into the garage and he placed me in the seat. He had one hand on my stomach, trying to still apply pressure while driving with the other hand. I could hear honking but I was losing my ability to even 离岗粪盔嘖庚en.

Stay with me, Auri! I'm not losing you! Damn it Auri! Stay with me!

I'm sorry Max.

He was sobbing. "Apology not accepted. You are the only thing I care about right now and I will save you

Swerving and the tires screeching, he stopped and pulled me out of the car. He strode in.

"SAVE HER. DOC FUCKING SAVE HER! Max screamed

Max, what the hell...Jesus fucking Christ Max!

There was another voice.

“Please, for gods sake, save her.,

“Max you know we don't serve her kind here.”

Max kicked something, sending it flying. “you're the only one who can save her! She fucking has silver restraints on her! You have to save her! He was dissolving into tears. I wished I had the

strength to wipe his tears. “She saved me Doc she saved me from Morgan. She's his daughter. Please...please...I love her...” He was pleading.

Shit. This is Morgan's kiddo? Alright, bring her in, quickly. But I can't promise anything.

Max carried me further into the hospital and I could feel him let me down on a bed. I weakly reached out for his hand as he laid me down. I tried to squeeze it but I could barely manage the finger movements. His hand was torn from me as I felt myself being moved. I felt needles being stuck in me and clothes ripped off.

Two stab wounds to the stomach and one stab wound on the thigh. Looks like the two on the stomach are clean but the one of the thigh..

“I know, just do your best. Lets see if we can't stop the bleeding first.”

I slipped in and out of consciousness and I heard them trying to work their best with my mangled body. Finally, I felt their hands leave, instruments set down.

“Call him in.”

“Yes Doctor.”

There was a pause.

‘Doc?’ Max sounded so tired.

Max, we tried. I'm sorry but there isn't

anything we can do. She's semi-conscious now. How, considering the amount of pain she's

probably in, I don't know but you can say your goodbyes.

I heard Max fall to the floor, he just yelled. Screaming incoherently, it broke my heart but I had done it so he was okay, so he would live. I knew he would be okay. I also had already said what I needed to Morgan. I hoped one day he would forgive himself. Max dragged himself off the floor after a few minutes and I felt his cool hand in mine. I moved my fingers, trying to hold his hand.

We were left alone, the doctor leaving while Max was still on the floor. It was quiet besides his sobbing and the whirl of the machines hooked up to me.

I'm sorry. I'm sorry I couldn't protect you. I'm sorry you thought you had to protect me.' His head fell and he rested on my shoulder. "I love you. I love you so much. Please don't leave me now."

"well well. Max a million. I thought I heard your voice"

If I could have, my body would have froze. The small amount of blood in me froze. I wanted to cover Max at the same time. Save him from this man, from Micah.

It seems poor Maxy here fell for little bird. Gother killed in the process.' He tsked. "How sad. And after I gave you such a good deal.

Fuck off, Micah.

Now now, would you say that to the man who is trying to help?;

Max's head lifted off my shoulder. (what? y

"You see. I happen to have in my possession right now, a healing potion. Highly frowned upon in polite society as no one really knows the lasting effects. Though, I'm sure our little bird could tell us, Considering how many she has had n

You would heal her? Why?

I wanted to scream at him no. I wanted to scream to let me go. I wanted to yell, thrash, destroy this man. My nails dug into Max's hands but he didn't feel it. I wanted to cry and scream.

“Well, you see, I feel bad. You obviously fell for little bird. She is something special. Apparently more special to you than I realized.”

Shit shit shit. He heard Max. He heard I was...

Morgan's daughter? The Huntress? Fascinating. I didn't think I had such a well-known werewolf in my hands. I actually feel a little bad not using her to her full potential.,

I dug my nails in further. I was trying not to lose consciousness.

Micah, what do you want?

Well, it's simple. Work for me. You leave Morgan's side, though from the word around Morgan's already removed you have his second so you are out of a job anyways. But I want you to work with me. I find you useful.'

You just want me to work for you?

No no no no no. Max no. Just let me go.

You will also have no contact with her. Not a single touch, word, glance. You have to let her go to save her.y

Max's hand was shaking. He took his other hand and held my cheek, Max even brushed some hair out of my face.

“My god, you really love her, don't you? Does she love you?”

Max didn't answer his question. He kissed my forehead. “I'm sorry Auri. I know you will hate me for this. I love you too much to let you go.

No no no. I couldn't move and I felt his hand leave mine. I was absolutely going to hate him. Alright. If that's what it takes, I'll do it.n

Micah clapped. “Perfect! Boy's, escort our new recruit to the car. We better tie her down, she's going to start thrashing as this goes down..

A couple people came in and I felt my limbs being secured in the locks. He put his hand on my arm and leaned down so I could feel his breath on my neck

“You see, little bird. This will be my final act in your story. How I really break you. I know you love him. He's not even your mate and you love him, Well, I'm

going to steal him away and you will never see him again. It will be your fault and whenever you see something from the Bloodhunter coven know it was also his doing. That your lover has become your enemy now."

He chuckled. "But you are going to be alive and well. You are going to live every day, alone. Morgan leaving you because he wouldn't dare risk hurting you again. Maximillion gone. You will be all alone. Oh! One last thing! Do you mind handing me those scissors and lifting her up?"

I felt my back rise and as I did, I heard the scissors cut through my hair at my neck. All of it fell away.

"Now, I know who you are. You even brought me your ultimate weakness. I didn't even need to search for it. Now you will just be a weak little human. Unable to remove her own shackles and never able to shake who I created.

Roughly, he grabbed my face and pulled my head up. He jammed a finger into my mouth and the liquid poured down my throat. Micah smashed his lips against mine as the potion poured down my throat. Leaning back, I heard him cackle as he walked away. The potion started to work and the feeling of fighting unconsciousness went away. I started to thrash against the bed

"I'm going to fucking kill you, Micah! I'm going to kill you!" I screamed at him but my voice was hoarse. "MAX!" I thrashed against the restraints more and the one on my right arm broke. Fumbling for the second one, I felt a needle go in my arm. All the strength I just received left me and I fell back unconscious.