

Chapter 10

She sighted the cave that he told her about, and as relief filled her, she stalked up to it, but Elise quickly came to a halt as a shadow passed through the trees beside her.

She looked up to see that the shadow was a male who had appeared in front of her, blocking her way. He had a sinister look on his face as he approached.

"You think you can run away from us, beauty?" He chuckled. Elise tried to walk back, only to feel another person behind her. She was ambushed.

"Don't you dare come near me!" Elise said, but her high-pitched voice was barely a threat to the males.

"Don't worry, we'll make you feel so good that you will forget about that alpha—agh!" He groaned as Elise landed a hit on his groin the moment he touched her shoulder.

"You little bitch!" He snarled. His partner was quick enough to grab her hand, bending it backward until she was immobilized and couldn't attack or run.

"Nice try, you bitch," he hissed. He raised his hands high, giving a hard backhanded slap to her cheeks. Elise's skin throbbed, but it was nothing she couldn't handle. After all the abuse, this was nothing.

She held his stare and growled at him, "Look at this little pup; I'm going to

show who's boss, lay her down, and get her pants off!" She ordered him to fight back.

Biting the arms of the second captor, he retaliated by pushing her against a stony hedge, where Elise's head hit a hard rock. Her vision immediately blurred as she fell to the ground.

She could hardly breathe; she wondered where Ka'al was, but she couldn't blame him, knowing that he was still fighting off the rest. Elise bound her hand in a fist until it drew blood. "Moon goddess, I need the strength," she whispered.

The footsteps drew closer as one of them dragged her hair and pulled her up; their snickers felt like distant echoes as Elise's eyes shot open; her eyes were a violet hue burning with power as her body felt like it was on fire as power surged into her.

The last thing Elise felt was rage, and she saw red before all hell broke loose.

"Elise!" Ka'al shouted as he raced towards the cave; he had shifted back to human to save his energy as he pushed forward through the trees.

He came across the clearing, his nose twitching from the smell of blood as panic arose in him. "No, no, no," he muttered as he reached forward.

The scene in front of him shocked and confused him. The brutal claw

marks and bloodied bodies of two males were littered by the rocks; their eyes were open, and they still looked shocked in terror, even in death.

"El!" He called again as he moved forward, seeing red hair behind the rocks. He saw Elise, unconscious yet unharmed; her hand was bloodied, and it wasn't her blood. "What in the moon's name happened here?" He wondered in a whisper, and he reached down to pick her up.

He placed her on his back and quickly walked into the forest; for all he knew, the rogue betas could have reinforcements that could arrive at any moment.

Ka'al walked for almost two hours before he felt Elise's cold body finally twitch. Her eyes flew open, and her body and mind panicked but calmed down the moment she took in Ka'al's familiar scent. "Ka'al—"

"You're awake," he grunted. "Don't worry, we're almost there," he said as Elise glanced around, realizing it was already nighttime.

"Where are we?"

"We are in the gated territory of the Blackmoon pack; the rogues can't come here," he said to her, and Elise's eyes widened.

She pushed herself off his back, not caring if she'd fall to the ground, but Ka'al stopped her in time. "What the hell are you doing?"

"We can't be here," she warned, her eyes filled with panic. "My parents always warned about the Blackmoon pack, that they are savages led by

their alpha king, who is known as the “dread wolf,” and they kill anyone that trespasses on their land; they will hurt us,” she told Ka’al, who tried to control his features.

“Nothing will happen, little wolf,” he assured.

“How do you know they won’t hurt?” Elise asked, but she stiffened when she heard shuffling across the trees; this time trooped males crept out of the trees as Elise clutched onto Ka’al’s palm with a tight squeeze.

The male who was in front looked like he had seen a ghost, but there was relief in his eyes as he stared at Ka’al, leaving Elise confused.

“Alpha, you’re back.” He bowed with one knee bent to the ground to show his utmost respect, and other wolves followed. That was when it all clicked and made sense.

The very man beside her was the alpha of the Blackmoon pack, the dread wolf. Ka’al was their alpha king!

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