

Chapter 111 - Her Alpha's Orders

Jo-anne POV

Sitting at the dining room table listening to the king talk about her, as though she wasn't in the room, as though she meant nothing at all, was more than annoying to her and to Clova. She had been told by Belinda to please only speak when spoken to directly by the King or Queen and she had agreed. Jo-anne had no idea how one conducted themselves in the presence of Royalty.

Noted while she sat there silently, that Sonja, Ava, Jonathan, Ella and both of the Wests' parents also sat quietly and said nothing as they ate their meal and listened to what was being said around them. Only spoken when spoken to. Perhaps this was the completely normal thing to do, but she had no idea.

Knew that both Ava and Sonja had been to the Kingdom to be presented to the King and his warlock. She was older than both of them but knew that they had to at certain points in their lives, because she had been around when T.J. had to do it.

He'd always come to visit her at her home before going to the Kingdom, just to let her know how long he was going to be gone, to make sure to tell her to stay out of trouble and not to get hurt in anyway. At least that now made more sense to her, why he'd always done that.

She, however, had never had to go and be presented, go through any of the things that they had, so had no idea what it was like inside the royal kingdom, though she already knew she and Clova alike, did not much like their biological grandparents. Clova more so than Jo-anne, not after the way he had held her Mate down earlier.

Clova was sitting up in her mind, listening to all that was going on. Everytime the King opened his mouth to speak, her tail would flick furiously back and forth, sometimes her ears would lay flat against her head, just hearing the man talk was making her wolf angry it seemed.

Jo-anne got the distinct impression that Clova wanted a piece of him for hurting her Mate. They had asked him if he'd wanted to play with them, but although they had been thinking as one, it had definitely been more Clova who'd said that.

He was the King, but that didn't seem to bother Clova at all. She clearly did not like the man, and it was both of them that wondered what they would see, if they could get their hands on him. Turned their eyes on the man in question, found him looking right at her, felt heat grow inside of them, Clova snarled softly inside her mind. Her anger was growing. They didn't want to be anywhere near him. Didn't want to be in this room with him right now.

Found Wests' hand slipping into hers, squeezed it gently, gaining her attention. Her eyes left the King and moved to West.

'Your eyes are glowing.' he told her via the mind-link.

'Clova doesn't like him.' Jo-anne answered him honestly.

'Neither do I, but he's the King. Try to stay calm.' West encouraged her.

It was not likely something that she could control at this moment, not after all that had happened today, a part of her was really itching like crazy to tap into that well of power deep within them and release it. See just what they could do, and their anger was attached to that part of her, the angrier Clova got, the more that power screamed to be released, and Clova knew just who she wanted to release it on. Their so-called grandfather. Who only wanted to use them to feed his damned witches.

Her eyes moved back to the King, she could feel Clova stand up slowly inside her mind, a deep growl was resonating from her. Heard movement within the room around her, knew that growl had not just been in her mind, it had been out loud and low and menacing. That man had wanted her to die, to drain the blood out of her, had been willing to let them witches and that warlock.

Who had not only wanted a piece of them today, had also wanted their own mother, to be forced into breeding with her, just to create more like her, so that they could be used as bleeders to feed his witches as well. Her anger grew at this thought, building to fury.

"Jo-anne, calm down." it was Belinda.

"We will not." they stated together as she felt Clova come forward and join her "We want to play with him!" they stood up from their chair, their eyes still on the King. "We will not be denied." a finger pointed right at him "For he would feed us, to his witches, uncaring we are his kin." a snarl ripped out of them "He would willingly kill his own Kin."

Saw the King stand and push the Queen away from him. He knew they were a threat to him. "Back down girl." he snarled right at them.

They laughed a little menacingly right back at him, they were not going to back down, they were not going to be denied, not this time "Come...let us see inside your mind." and then they were gone up over the table to latch their hands to his head.

Saw his wolf emerge right away, could hear yelling all around them, her name, telling them no. telling them to calm down. Telling them what to do. They would not stand for it anymore, they would not be denied their desire to seek who this man was.

The King's wolf snapped their hands out and caught her by the wrists, and was forcing their aura over them, snarling right at them, it only ignited utter fury within them, made

that well of power searingly hot inside of them. They snarled right back at him, and pushed all they had at him, smiled and opened their hands. The stupid man had grabbed the wrong part of them.

Let him have a taste of their power, allowed it to flow out of her hands unchecked and felt him stumble back a half step and surged forward. They were winning, shoved all their aura and power at him used that anger inside of them and forced him back. He staggered a whole step his chair knocking over, snarled at them "Bow down." he roared at them with all his authority as the King of wolves.

Felt it hit them, his full authority, but they weren't just wolf, he was trying to make them Bow to him and his will, but the power that was in them belonged to a warlock, one her mother had said was a Royal himself, he was not the ruler of that side of them and that side of them was screaming to explode out of them at at this man.

They watched him through heat-filled eyes as he slid backwards against the use of their power, saw him half shift to his black wolf with its glaring red eyes. It was snarling at them in fury, trying to force them to submit.

They pushed hard, reached right down deep inside of themselves and grabbed onto that burning ball of power so filled with anger, so hot it was radiating like a burning sun and roared right back at him "You bow down wolf." and then threw it all at him, til the man and his wolf faltered and then they had him, saw it in his eyes, the fear that he and his wolf could not beat them.

Laughed right in his face and shoved him down to the ground and bit him right in the neck, saw it all as their vision whited over, saw everything he had done to her mother, planning to Mate her off to that warlock. The agreement to breed his own daughter to create bleeders to feed his witches, a minimum of a litter was the agreement with all effort to produce as many more as they could. Turning his own daughter into a baby-making machine and not of her own free will, just to create bleeders to feed his warlock and his witches, uncaring of his own child's happiness. He just wanted more power for his rule.

Saw his mapping out of her mother's bloodline, the tracking of all her children, waiting for that one that could be bled to his witches or bred to his warlock at his will, to be forced to create bleeders.

Pushed harder, latched onto it saw not just T.J. but Ava and Sonja's children too, that he intended to track all their children and their bloodlines, waiting for that one that could be bred to his warlock to produce those bleeders. Saw that he had already written up Mating alliances for any and all of the children that directly followed Belinda's bloodline, any child, boy or girl, to be given to his warlocks coven, they were all written up and waiting, just needed a name to be placed on it.

This man did not care for his own daughter, or her children, only for Belinda's bloodline, which could be inherited down the line. He was waiting to claim it and use it as he saw fit, regardless of the harm it would bring to that wolf.

Yanked themselves away from the man, snarled right down at him as they spat his blood on the floor. "You are unworthy to be a King."

Watched as the man heaved but managed not to vomit. Got himself up off the floor and glared right at them "You think you could do what I have to do to stay in power?" He snarled right back at them.

They said nothing, did not want any part of him or his bloodline. "We renounce you as our kin." they growled at him.

Saw the man's eyes go wide, likely no-one had ever beaten him like they had today, likely none had renounced their royal status to him before either. They did not care for him, "You come for us, we will play with all your men. Til death is all that awaits you." then turned and stalked out of the room, shifted fully into Clova and was gone, running at full wolf speed, away from the pack-house, away from all of them. Had to get away.

They could hear many of them inside her mind, calling out to her, trying to get her to stop, to wait, but they didn't know just how much danger they were all in. She was out of control. Their whole body was burning hot, felt like they were on fire and were going to explode any minute, they were burning up and there was so much pain inside of them, they needed to get away to get rid of the heat. Ran at full wolf speed through the pack and barrelled right into the lake. Clova dove into it and shifted them back to Jo-anne trying to release the heat into the water to get rid of it.

Stayed there in the water, it was blissfully cold, cooling them down, opened their hands under the water and let it all out, into the cold water till there was nothing left. Found her mother in the water next to her, turned and stared up at her "He's going to bleed all your bloodline, he's horrid."

"I know my child. It's why I had to hide you from him." watched as her mother sank down into the water next to her and hugged her gently to her chest "I won't ever let him hurt you, not ever."

"What am I?" she half sobbed.

Heard her mother sigh "A celestial wolf." she said softly "That power, you hold all comes from your father. He was a celestial warlock, drew his power from the sun, is all I could make of him."

"Is that why it burns?" she asked.

"I'm not sure about that, to be honest." Tilted Jo-anne's face up to hers "He was ancient, much older than Hendrick and a lot more powerful. And a Royal Alpha Warlock himself."

"He was horrible and cruel, wasn't he, angry and mean." felt her tears spill down her face. "I'm going to be just like him, aren't I?"

"You, Jo-anne, are nothing like him. The complete opposite, in fact. So gentle and loving, so forgiving and caring about others. You are nothing like him."

"But..." they could feel his power and with it rage.

"No buts. I have watched you for a long time, you, I promise, are all heart and he had none." she leaned forward and kissed her right on the forehead "Even now, your powers out of control, and you ran away from everyone, to stop yourself from hurting anyone. Deep down inside, I think you knew. You and little Clova knew you were about to lose all control and didn't want to hurt anyone. You and Clova, your good."

"I just..." turned at the sound of splashing in the water behind them, it was West, but ass naked, must have shifted and chased after them in wolf form. He was hurrying towards them, turned back to her mother. "There's so much anger and rage in me."

She didn't stop West when he knelt down in the water and touched her face gently, looked at him, he looked so concerned, "I'm sorry." she whispered to him.

"Don't be." he shook his head "Are you, alright?"

Jo-anne just nodded slowly "I was just so hot."

"We all felt it." he sighed softly and brushed her tears away.

"Did I start a war?" she worried. Now she'd had time to calm down, she knew they had attacked and threatened the King himself.

Heard her mother laugh out loud "No child. He'll likely leave and never come back, likely never tell a soul. You and little Clova made the King of wolves bow down to you. You could challenge him for the throne if you wanted to and likely win. Become the Queen of all wolves and rule over us all."

"I don't want that." her eyes widened "I don't even want to be a princess."

"That is a good choice." saw her look at West. "I think it is time. I step out of my comfort zone."

"Don't do anything silly, Belinda." West warned her.

"Me, West..." she snorted, "I am not that kind of person. I see a lot, and calculate even more. I believe there is one that I can trust to put an end to all of this. Its time I went home and dealt with this the way it should have been when I was 18."

"Don't go." Jo-anne shook her head and grabbed onto her, she needed her here, she was the only one to help calm her when she was getting out of control.

"I will try from here first." she smiled gently, then turned back to West "You got my little girl right."

"I do." he nodded "Always."

"Good stay here, in the lake until she is comfortable."

Jo-anne watched her mother walk away out of the lake, then shift to her wolf and head back to the pack-house at full wolf speed, "She's so fast," she commented.

Felt West settle down right next to her, "So are you. Not even Volt could catch Clova today." heard the smile in his voice, as he tugged her onto his lap. She went wanted the comfort he was offering.

But looked at him questioningly. "Really?"

"Mm." he nodded, "and Volt really tried was all he could think of, to get to Clova..." he smiled and then chuckled "Well then he got all excited at the challenge she presented to him."

Jo-anne shook her head and snorted, rolled her eyes "Volt just wants to catch and Mate Clova right."

Heard him laugh "Yes, in the end. What can I say? Clearly, Volt is utterly head over heels for your little Clova. Can't ever get enough."

Jo-anne shook her head. "Crazy."

Chapter 112 - Her Alpha's Orders

West POV

West sat with Jo-anne in the lake's water, had her right in his lap, hugged her a little, thought she might need it "We're alone." he commented, after he'd used the mind-link to clear the area of all pack members.

She looked right at him with a raised eyebrow, "I don't think now is..."

West chuckled "I wouldn't, out here with you..." he knew what she thought, amused him a little, he'd cleared the area so that she would feel more comfortable, and relax. But it also meant seeing as there was no one around that they could speak about whatever they so chose. "Well, I thought we could have a private conversation while here."

"About?" she enquired.

"A few things, regarding our pack." he smiled at her.

"Your pack, you mean West."

"No, it is our Pack..." he reminded her. "You will take over as the Luna, on the next full moon, mother will stay and help you for likely a year, but you will be in charge."

Heard her sigh softly, sounded a little sad "West, what if you can't Mark me?"

"That is something we'll deal with, I guess...I love you, Jo-anne. Volt loves Clova and as long as you're here with us, we're happy. Marked or not." he told her, and he didn't care as long as she was here, with him, he could deal with it.

"But you would prefer Marked! Yes?"

"Yes of course..." he nodded to her. "But our Mate Bond is still there. Not Marking you, really only hinders Volt and Clova's connection to each other, and they can talk in human form when they take over us." he shrugged.

"But they need that connection, to make them feel whole."

"We'll likely find away, given time." he reassured her with a hug. West was certain she had healed Heath, had made that man vomit up all her tainted blood. She was, as Belinda said, able to fix that. He wasn't exactly sure how, but she had done it, he knew that much.

"I wanted to talk to you, about Terence and Ella, actually." and he smiled, when she smiled right at him, thinking about them being Goddess-Gifted Mate's and he knew it. She'd done that too.

"I'm so happy for them West. Choosing Clova, was the right choice."

"Seems like it." he nodded at her. But that whole; only one can be happy thing! That was wrong. He didn't understand it, not really. Seeing as both Clova and Volt were happy, he was happy. Now Ella and T.J. were happy, even Belinda and Jonathan were happy, having everything out in the open. Everyone was happy, he thought.

He could even see how happy she was, not just right now, but when T.J. had claimed Ella. Jo-anne had been a ball of joy, bouncing up and down, so very happy, hugged Ella's parents nearly cried with joy, in fact.

"Are you happy, Jo-anne?" he suddenly asked. Maybe it meant only she or Clova could be happy, only one of them could be happy with the choice she made. He didn't want her to be unhappy with him as her Mate.

"Mostly." she nodded at him.

"Mostly? Can I ask what it is you're unhappy about...is it me?" West asked. He didn't particularly want to ask the question, she had not chosen him, she'd told him as much, right to his face even.

"I'm not happy about my tainted blood, West." she sighed heavily, "and I just know," she looked right at him "That it's my fault, you were the way you were in our previous Mate Bond. I, my blood, caused you to change, from that happy person you were to...a very angry man." she sighed again.

"Not your fault...Karen did that to us." he tried to tell her, reassuring her it was not her fault.

She shook her head. "No only that we were mated is her fault...my blood West. It's my blood that caused all of this between us, still now you're tainted. If we'd never been Mated till I was 18, as you say, you could scent me. What would it have done to you then?" he could hear the real worry.

Obviously, she had thought about this since finding out her blood was tainted. Heath had said just one bite and he would want to kill her. That she was destined to die by his hands. He sighed "I honestly don't know. Don't want to think about it. Perhaps your mother would have come forward a lot sooner to stop it. I'm certain that Belinda, knows how to fix it." he smiled gently at her. "We will be fine."

Saw her think for a long minute about what he said "Then why didn't she fix it before?" saw Jo-anne shake her head. She didn't think so.

"I don't care, Jo-anne that it's not fixed, right this minute. As long as we are together I am happy." he reassured her "Can I ask you something about the only one can be happy thing?"

"Sure," she nodded.

"I still don't think that is right. Is that all the moon goddess told you? That your choice meant only one could be happy?"

Jo-anne was quiet for a long time then frowned “No,” she shook her head. “Selena said something about only one can be happy at this point in time, but that if everything was revealed everyone could be happy.” she sighed, “I never understood that part,”

West smiled softly after a full minute of thinking on her words. “I think I do. Because everyone is happy. So, everything to be revealed...meant your lineage, who you are. Belinda, so to speak, she had to be revealed to you, to all, her Mate and her children, the truth of your birth needed to come out, then everyone could be happy.”

Watched as she just stared at him for a long time, then smiled slowly “Do you think that was really it?”

“Yes, because everyone is happy...” but then he sighed “I’m only concerned about you being happy, you did not choose me, Jo-anne, told me out right. I want you to be happy in our Mate Bond. Do you think you will be?” again, asking a question he didn’t know if he would like the answer to.

She nodded slowly, “You’re different now. I see that. Though I chose Clova, by extension she is me, we think mostly the same. Kind of weird but therapy really brought us together. She wants what I want and I generally want what she wants.”

He was glad to hear that reached up and tugged on her ear “So you want me,” he teased a little.

“Maybe,” she answered him, but there was a smile in her words.

“You know, you say I’m different, I think you did that to me. When I accepted you as your Alpha, the minute our blood merged I felt calm. Like...” he thought about it while looking at her, “Like I was happy, you were where you belonged.”

“That’s the bond West.” she shook her head at him.

“No it wasn’t. I didn’t feel it on the day I took over, it took more than a week for me to start to scent you out all over again.”

“That’s not what your mother says.” she smiled at him.

“What did she say?” he asked curious, clearly they had talked about it at some point. When? He had no idea.

Watched her turn around in his lap and settle herself back against him, her back to his chest, leaned her head back on his shoulder, even rested her hands on his hands as they were linked together over her belly. So very comfortable, he really liked it.

“That she knew, what I was before you even left to track me down overseas.”

“Really and how is that?” he frowned. He’d not even known then, so how could his mother know.

Heard her chuckle, really liked that, sounded very happy “Said you flipped your whole desk over in a fit of rage, that I had left the pack.” her eyes moved to his as she turned her head and looked up at him. “Did you?”

“Mm, I did.” he nodded, would not lie to her about that “Ricky and Cole nearly wore my desk.” he smiled at the thought.

“Your mum said, that’s when she knew.”

“Mm, a smart woman never misses a thing.”

Heard Jo-anne giggle and felt his heart rate pick up at the sound. “Told me, that she once made Damien not just flip his desk over, but that his wolf picked it up and threw it out the office window, in a full fit of rage, before she knew what he was to her.”

West laughed now. “Ah yes, I believe so. She wound up tethered to him after that day, actually on that day, pretty certain his wolf stalked off and bound her to him for kissing some other boy.” he snorted it was a good funny story all his sisters and he had heard, “as far as I’m aware the tale goes; Dad knew what mum was to him, but mum had absolutely no idea at all, and it drove him and his wolf crazy with jealousy, so that was his way of solving the issue. Though I also hear from mum and dad, she was still just as naughty tethered to him, that the tether got shorted each day till she couldn’t be more than a foot from him. Hilarious because she had no idea why at the time, they still pick on him about it, I believe.”

“I think you’re more like Damien than you realise.” she chuckled.

“Is that a good or bad thing?” he wondered.

“Hmm...good, I like your dad.”

He smiled, “I will be better Jo-anne, I promise you...no more being an ass-hole.”

“Well, I’ll just push you into line.” he heard her chuckle and then watched as she lifted both her hands out of the water and they glowed a little, surprised him quite a bit as she wiggled all her fingers.

“So you have some control over it?”

“A little I guess,” she nodded. “I can feel for that power now and I guess I can reach it if I want to, but...I don’t like that I get all angry or am angry when I use it. That is bad.”

"Well, I think," he tilted her face to look at him again. "You just need some time to focus on it and learn to control it. That is all, maybe it was your inner anger that awoke your powers, but you don't have to let it control your power."

"And if I don't want to use it at all, like ever?" she bit her lip, kind of looked worried he'd care about that.

He smiled right at her "Then just don't. It is up to you. I will never ask you to use it for anything, I don't want you near any battle ever." he used his thumb to tug that lip from her teeth, damned woman couldn't not do that, it seemed. "I only want you." he leaned down and kissed her softly on the lips, "to be happy and be who you want to be, who you are." watched her smile right up at him.

"Can I still have my art studio?" she asked.

West smiled big now, "Yes, and I'm going to watch you paint." he moved his mouth to her ear and spoke softly "annoy you while you paint." growled a little playfully "hug you and kiss you and distract you, all the time in that studio." nibbled on her earlobe "I like watching you paint, it makes you happy." he kissed her neck, nipped gently at it, then pulled his mouth away and shook his head "I'd better stop there, before I get carried away."

Saw her smile as she looked away from him, liked that she could smile at the thought of them being together intimately.

"So, Terence and Ella." he changed the subject completely or he was going to have her right here in this lake.

"What about them?"

"An Alpha and a Luna, technically. How do you feel about that?"

Watched her as she sat up properly and then turn in his lap to look right at him, all curious about his meaning, he thought.

"Actually a Prince and Princess, technically." She corrected him.

West nodded, though he knew that T.J. would not claim to his royal bloodline, not officially. He was happy here in pack life. "I was thinking..." he slid his hand up her neck, his eyes on her mouth, Goddess he wanted to kiss her.

"Yes?" she prompted a few seconds later.

West leaned forward and pressed his mouth to hers for a long, slow, deep kiss, and she returned it, leaned into him even.

"Two Alpha's and Two Luna's for our pack." he murmured after breaking their kiss.

Saw her eyes go wide, then start to glow a little around the edges, knew she was happy, they glowed when she was happy. Wondered if she knew that, "I like it." she nodded "but will T.J. though. He likes being the pack Beta."

"You can make him, if he doesn't." West chuckled right at her "You out rank him now."

"What? No I don't, he's older than I am."

"Mm, but you just took on the King and won Jo-Jo." watched as her eyes widened at the use of her shortened name, but then she smiled a little "Do you like it when I call you Jo-Jo." he asked, it was her real name, the one T.J. had given her as a baby.

"It's nice, but...a little weird, only T.J. ever calls me that."

"Alright Jo-anne it is." he nodded, it was worth a shot, he did like Jo-Jo as her name. Had always been a little jealous that T.J. was the only one allowed to call her that.

Watched her think about it. "Well...Maybe Jo-Jo is okay out and about in the pack, but not in our bed." she shook her head "That's just too weird for me."

He smiled "We should go christen our bed." he growled softly at her. Liked hearing her say the words 'our bed.'

She splashed him "I'm sure you've."

West cut her off completely. "Never, ever. Have I had anyone in that suite, only moved into it a few weeks ago, only ever been in it once before, when mother insisted I look at it. Miranda was never in there."

"Hey... why'd you let me believe she was your Mate all that time?"

West shrugged "I didn't want you thinking about my possessiveness over you and trying to run away from me."

"Oh, and the order to keep me here. Like I could have gone anywhere." she rolled her eyes at him.

"Sorry about that, was still an ass-hole around you then," he admitted.

"Hmm." she looked right at him, then splashed him again "Well, I'm an alpha too, maybe I should put some orders on you then."

West laughed "Yes, go ahead." pulled her right up close to him and growled deeply "Make them all naughty." Watched her laugh and shake her head, pushed away from

him a little. Seemed to be back to her normal happy self again. "Come on, we'd better go and see what's happening in the pack-house."

"Can we ask them to just leave?" she sighed.

"You can I imagine." West nodded, still smiling. She had no idea how much power she actually wielded. It seemed. Got up and pulled her up onto her feet. Slid his eyes over her. "Hmm, can't have you walking through the pack naked...better shift to go back." felt Volt push forward to look at her 'yes shift' he told West.

"Goddess help me." Jo-anne laughed. She could see Volt right there, likely knew they were not going to make it back to the pack-house without their wolves mating again.

Chuckled "Mm, what can I say," watched her shake her head but saw Clova right there on the surface now too.

"Crazy wolves." she muttered.

Chapter 113 - Her Alpha's Orders

T.J. POV

He and his father trying to stop everyone from grabbing onto Jo-Jo as she launched herself at the King. The whole dinner table was a mess, there was no stopping her. He knew it, West knew it too, the man had just let her go as she'd shot off towards the King, it was clear from their words that they were very unhappy and wanted at him.

It was a direct threat to the King, but she was well within her rights as his own kin, to challenge him for the throne and that was likely what was about to happen, no-one had the right to get involved. His mother looked mortified, worried that Jo-Jo was likely going to end up hurt, but he doubted it.

West didn't seem bothered by it. Unusual for that man, T.J. knew West did not want Jo-Jo near any fight. But he too had seen what she was capable of when she and Clova pulled on all they had. T.J. was very curious about it as well. He and his father were holding his mother at bay.

Only held on to her until Jo-Jo let go. She had brought the King down, so very powerful she was, all that anger built up into a full on fury and all of it directed at the man who wanted to drag her and Clova away to be bled dry. It was no wonder they were angry. The King had brought it upon himself.

Both his mother and West shot out of the dining room the minute she was heard shifting.

T.J. stood now, looking at the King, his own grandfather, brought down by Jo-Jo, a female, that must tick him off a lot. The man looked rather pissed off as he stood and watched her stalk from the room. He also watched as both West and Belinda fled the room after her. Likely they were worried she would flee the pack.

He wondered just what Jo-Jo saw inside the man's head, whatever it had been, it had made her renounce his royal bloodline, give up any and all claim to the kingdom. She had beaten him and had a room full of witnesses, even the Queen herself had witnessed it, Jo-Jo now had the right to yank that crown off the man's head and put it on herself. To rule.

Watched the Queen walk over and touch the King's arm, her own Mate, brought down by their hidden grandchild, ask him if he was alright, only to be glared at. No, the man was not alright. He'd just pissed off a she-wolf today and then found one who could not only challenge him for the title of ruler to all wolven folk, but had beaten him, and now could take it, had royal blood and a legitimate claim to the throne as well. Even though Jo-Jo had renounced him and then threatened him to bring death to anyone he sent after her in the future.

The man would now be considering the fact that she is an enemy, it was likely that he was contemplating that this whole pack was about to become an enemy to his kingdom. He knew absolutely nothing about Jo-Jo and had come here with the sole purpose of making her a bleeder to his warlock and his witches without a care for who she was or what she was. The Luna to a pack. She could declare war against the kingdom at anytime she liked.

T.J. could see the man's brain actually ticking as he was trying to think out all the possibilities of what could come of his actions against her. All the witnesses to his actions. The fact that he and his Queen were currently alone without aid, no warriors, no warlock and no witches to back him up. He was in a very dangerous position right this very minute and he knew it. Gave T.J. leverage as the Alpha right now.

"Grandfather." He stated, knowing full well, the man hated the informal address at all times.

Saw his eyes turn to him, annoyance in them for all to see.

"Why don't you and I, as the Alpha, go to my office and make an Alliance agreement to keep everyone safe." and by everyone, right this minute he meant the King and his Queen, who were alone and unprotected.

Saw his jaw tighten "If I chose not to?" he grated out.

"Do you want a war with Luna Jo-Jo? Both you and your warlock lost to her today. You knew absolutely nothing about her, and came to...Kill her, I believe. All because you wanted her blood, something I've now heard is useless to you." he smirked a little.

"What do you want, Terence? Speak plainly." the King snapped at him.

"What I want. Is for you to leave all of us alone. No more testing us. No more interfering in mother's, mine, Sonja's, or Ava's lives. Jo-Jo has already severed ties with you. But I will include a clause that she will not hunt you down, if you leave her and any children she and Alpha Westley have, alone forever."

Oh, he was glaring at Terence now. "And you think she'll just agree to that, after what just happened?"

"I believe...West will be able to convince her," Terence stated simply. The man did not need to know that Jo-Jo did not have a mean harmful bone in her body, unless fully ticked off and all her powers were combined and activated.

Saw his grandfather really think about it "If I say no?"

Terence smiled "Well then, I guess...you're on enemy territory, and are alone and a full day's run, from the portal back to your kingdom."

"Are you threatening me, boy?"

"Of course not. Merely stating a simple fact is all." but it was a threat and a real one and his grandfather would know this.

Watched as his grandmother came into the full realisation of the situation at hand, what they had done by coming here and indeed just how vulnerable and alone they were at this very moment. Looked right at T.J. herself. She knew he was a stubborn man, just as defiant as his mother had been, wilful even inside the kingdom. Did not mince his words or play all happy families with them, actually hated being there when he had to be, and had expressed that often when there. There was no love lost between him and the royal family.

Watched her turn to her Mate and advise him that it was a good idea, considering the circumstances, and she was right. The King knew it. Knew there was always someone out there willing to dethrone a royal. Take their place and right this minute they were more at risk of that than they had ever been before.

"Fine." The King stated flatly.

"This way then, Alpha Damien, would you and father bare witness to the Alliance about to be made, please."

"Yes, Alpha Terence," he heard them both say in unison.

"I will want Alpha Westley's own signature on this agreement, considering it is his Luna who threatens me."

"You threatened her first," Terence stated calmly. "This way, and I am certain Alpha Westley will agree if it keeps you and your warlock away from his Luna and their Heir's forever."

And this Alliance was going to have the word forever, written into it, likely on more than one occasion, likely at the end of every paragraph. That was a certainty. He did not want his and Ella's children or their grandchildren, for that matter, under watch or threat of being taken away. Nor did he want that for any of his three sisters.

Walked into the Alpha's office and sat himself in the Alpha chair and waved that man into the guest chairs on the other side, oh he'd wanted to put this man in his place for a long time and was loving doing so. He'd left Ella with his sisters and Luna Natalia. She would be safe with the Luna.

He was going to make sure that this Alliance was iron clad, and he knew so would his father and Alpha Damien for that matter. The three of them were out to protect their children and their family, as well as the pack, and not just for now, but it's future as well.

All the King was going to get was a guarantee that Jo-Jo would not come to claim the throne from him. That he and his Queen would not come to harm whilst here in this pack, and likely be provided with a full escort back to the portal to their own realm, defended on the way if necessary. Likely a guarantee that this pack would not alert other packs that they were here and unprotected.

T.J. smiled to himself, when his own father added a clause that the King, Queen, Hendrick and the royal seer's were never to come to this pack without the proper notification, a full 7 days notice by formal letter. Or it would be seen as a breach of the contract and their alliance and what Luna Jo-Jo decided to do about that breach would be adhered to.

Terence had a clause that had Hendrick, never allowed in this pack without an escort and no seers at all were to come here, as they were no longer needed, being that there were two very powerful seers already within the pack. They were no longer necessary to follow the warlock.

There was the agreement that his mother and he and all his sisters and any offspring any of them had and the future generations were all off limits to the king and his warlock, to be left alone forever.

There was nothing the King and Queen could do about it, nothing they could refuse him at this moment without putting themselves at risk, not while in such a vulnerable state. Hendrick was a selfish and unpredictable warlock. It seemed also unreliable at times even to the King. This was the second time to T.J.'s knowledge that he had abandoned the King here in this pack, though the last time he'd left the King with warriors and the King had felt safe and protected likely. Not so much this time.

There was no royal seal here, so Terence opted for a blood sealing of the Alliance. Each person signed the alliance contract and then used the pack's ceremonial blade to cut their thumb and their bloody print pressed under their signature to legitimise the contract. Not only the King had to bleed on this contract, so did his Queen, they only had to wait on West.

Mind-linked to the man himself, to tell him of what had gone on and the Alliance he had now made between them and the King and Queen, heard West laugh down the mind-link "You'd likely make a good ruler, you know that, right?"

"Not interested at all West. You know this."

"I do know it. Glad of it, in fact. You belong here, Terence." West told him with full certainty.

"Ain't going anywhere, West." he told him right back "I need your blood on this alliance as soon as possible. Then they can get the hell out of our pack."

"Alright, give me like 20 minutes. We're on our way back to the pack-house now."

T.J. glanced at the clock and smiled. It had been nearly 2 hours since he'd brought the King into this office, likely Volt and Clova were busy or had gotten busy again. They'd all heard her shift into Clova as she'd fled the pack-house in fact, they'd all heard both his mother and West shift as well, had seen the ripped clothing on the floor as well.

The King and Queen were getting a full escort back to the portal, had requested 20 of the pack's best warriors, in fact. T.J. mind-link to Oliver to put the group together and organise the transport. To take them away as fast as possible.

West strolled into his office wearing just a pair of gym shorts, took the Alliance paperwork and read through it, without so much as looking at the King or his Queen. Nodded and signed it, cut his thumb and pressed it to the page, then finally looked at the King and stated point blankly to the man's face "Leave my pack now." Then he just turned and walked out of his office likely to go back to Jo-Jo, he'd not brought her into this room, wouldn't risk her in a room with the royal again.

"He is very disrespectful and very rude," the King snapped.

"Not compared to you and your behaviour. Who turned up here to steal his Luna, tried to claim she was your warlocks Mate, just so you could bleed her dry or forcibly mate her off to that warlock. Imagine grandfather, if he turned up in your kingdom to do that to your Mate, how would you feel?"

Was glared at furiously by his grandfather, watched him stand up and turn to leave, heard Lark snarl inside his mind, walked the two of them, his own despicable

grandparents, their King and Queen, out of the pack-house to the awaiting escort "Oh, by the way."

Saw the man look right at him "I too renounce you as my Kin. As the Alpha of the Eclipsed Moon Pack, You are no longer welcome here." then turned and walked back inside. Had actually been wanting a reason to do that for a long time, knew it was why Lark had been snarling inside his mind.

His wolf had sisters and a Mate now to protect from that man. He was going to do it, now his grandfather would understand his actions were going to cause a flow on effect, because Terence was going to do his best to get both Sonja and Ava to renounce their bloodlines as well. His mother might never do it. She had siblings back there in the kingdom, ones she loved. Though he doubted she would have a problem with her children doing so.

They would all retain their strength and power, regardless of cutting ties with the King. They were born Royals, even if they didn't claim to it. Had taken Jo-Jo all of just one day to cut herself from that man. Whatever she saw had been enough for her not to want anything to do with them. He trusted her judgement.

If she could not forgive them, and she could forgive even one that tried to kill her. Then that spoke volumes to him. He would ask her and hopefully she would tell him. Perhaps he could use that information to convince Sonja and Ava to follow along with his decision.

Found Ella with the Luna and his sisters still, though they had all moved to the Alpha Bar, none of them were drinking just sitting around talking it seemed, Ella smiled right up at him "Come here woman." he growled at her softly, and pulled her into his arms when she stood "you don't ever have to worry about them now. I have severed ties with him as my Kin."

"Terence!" he heard both his sister's gasp in shock.

He looked right at the pair of them. "None of my children will be treated like we were. Like Jo-Jo was today." he told them, turned his eyes to Ella, smiled at her, his beautiful Mate "Not a single one."

Saw her smile up at him, he'd never get tired of her looking at him like that. "Not a single one! How many are you planing on having?"

"As many as you want." he smiled right at her, growled "Lets go and make one right now." then led her out of the bar to take her upstairs to their suite. He hated that they had been interrupted, she didn't even seem bothered by it, strolled along next to him, smiling to herself, seemed very happy about where they were going and what he wanted to do to her.

Chapter 114 - Her Alpha's Orders

West POV

He and Jo-anne were sitting in the Alpha suite, with both Belinda and Jonathan, he had the ceremonial blade on the ottoman between them. Jo-anne was looking right at Jonathan, it was clear that she didn't want to have her bond to him severed from herself. He could see that she actually did want him as her father.

It looked to West, that Jonathan himself wanted Jo-anne to be his daughter as well. West had seen the man with her, the way he had talked to her before being bonded to him, the way he had hugged her, told her she belonged in his arms and wanted her for his own child, and now that West was really thinking about it.

Jonathan had been the one to stand over her, in the packs hospital, while T.J. and Jayden had fought it out inside the Luna's medical suite. The man had actually refused to hand her over to Ricky at all, had protected her with his own body, like his own child at the time. Not even the pack's Gamma could get him to relinquish protecting her.

The man had always gone into the city with Damien to see her, had helped organise her contracts, the man, it seemed, had known about her for a long time. "Jo-Jo, it's alright." He heard Jonathan tell her "I'm still going to be your father. I've always wanted to be, you know this now."

West watched Jo-anne nod but say "I won't feel the connection to you anymore." sounded sad and a little pained to his ear.

"Jo-anne, how do you feel about Heath?" he interrupted them. He'd seen the way she was still connected to that man, even without her blood bond.

Jo-anne turned and looked at him, seemed to think about it. "like he's still my dad I guess, just..." she frowned "one of those dad's that's hardly around, I still love him, but were not as close as we used to be. Does that make sense?"

"It does," he nodded, thought as much, she still loved the man, had a heart as big as the moon, it seemed, "I think, Jo-anne that if you want to, and I can see that you do. Want Jonathan to be your father, even without the blood bond he will be, its what he wants. It's what you want, and with your powers and getting what you want seems to be a thing, so you are now family regardless." he told her, it was very unlikely that Jonathan was going to give her up, he was already calling her Jo-Jo.

"It's true Jo-Jo, you can't get rid of me that easily. I'm stubborn and when I claim something. It is mine forever. I have claimed you as my child, so that is what you are now. My daughter, we, Belinda and I are your parents."

Watched her nod and smile a little more "Alright."

“Wait...do I have to blood bond to Jonathan every time that the King or his Warlock turn up and then have to have it severed again, when they go?” Jo-anne was looking right at Belinda.

It was a good question, not even West had thought about that.

“It is a good precaution to have. But I don’t think that either of them will ever come back here. Not to take you. Once you are Marked and Mated by West, they can not remove you. That’s how I escaped the Mating Alliance with Hendrick. I ran here at full wolf speed and begged Jonathan to Mark me, he took me at my word that I was his Mate and did so.”

Heard Jonathan snort, amused it seemed. “I smelled you honey. Just thought you should have waited till you were 18 is all.”

Watched as Belinda stared at him a little shocked “You’ve never told me that before.”

“I like your version, where I am the hero who saves you, trusted your word and gave you what you wanted.”

Saw her whack him “You devil, all these decades, and you never not once said anything.”

“Yep.” he grinned at her “I have many secrets.”

Saw Belinda’s eyes go wide “No you don’t.”

“Hmm, Jo-Jo now knows at least one too. Saw it when she was blood bonded to me.” watched the man wink at Jo-anne “That is our little secret, a father daughter thing, no telling your mother.”

Saw Belinda turn and look at Jo-anne, who was now chuckling “Yes father.”

“Hey.” Belinda huffed.

West just sat and smiled, they were just like a real family, tormenting each other.

West completed the severing of her blood bond with Jonathan and asked how she felt, no different, just like the last time. Her scent changed went back to what it had been before, Rosewood, Cinnamon and Ylang Ylang, whereas when bonded to Heath there had been no Ylang Ylang but Lavender, and while bonded to Jonathan it had been peppermint instead of the Ylang Ylang.

West liked how she smelled, regardless of who she was bonded to. Each unique scent had been beautiful to him, they were all her as far as he was concerned. It was likely that her actual Mate scent was either the Rosewood or Cinnamon, and because it had

been retained at all times, he'd smelled and scented her always. Personally he liked to think it was the Cinnamon, loved that smell.

"Can we talk about...the warlock, who he was?" Jo-anne asked Belinda quietly.

"We can, but not today, Jo-anne, it's been a long day, a somewhat traumatic day for you. I think we should let you rest and we can discuss it tomorrow. I'll try to explain about the tainting of your blood and all of that as well."

Jo-anne nodded "Alright."

"We'll leave you two to get some rest...West who's currently in charge?"

"Terence." he frowned up at her, she should know this.

"Um, no. He is off with his new Mate like you are."

"Oh, then I guess I'll put Ricky and Cole in charge. Why?"

"I need to put a call into Christian, my brother. I need to use the phone in the Alpha office for that."

"I'll let them know, and to give you privacy as well."

"Thank you." she nodded and stood up. Jonathan stood as well and both he and Jo-anne saw them out. He mind-linked to Ricky and Cole as he said he would and let them know Belinda was on her way down and why.

Then he turned to Jo-anne. "I'll run you a bath so you can relax in there. It has been a long day. You must be tired."

"I am a bit." she nodded.

West went to fill the jetted tub in their en-suite and put in some lavender to help her relax, made sure the water was nice and hot, smiled as she walked towards the bathroom, when it was ready, wondered if she'd let him join her, the bath was big enough for the two of them.

He'd like to, just sit in that water with her leaned up against him, like in the lake earlier, though he was certain here in the privacy of their suite his hands would wander. Slide over her body nice and slow and, mm...

Saw Jo-anne stop dead, snap her head around to look at him and then turn and shove him back towards the lounge room "Out." she'd practically yelled at him, and then banged the bedroom door shut.

West stood there frowning at the door. Something was going on with her. That was not the first or even second time he'd seen her do that, the third time now. Narrowed his eyes on the closed door and thought about it.

The last time, she'd said she had a medical condition.

Sighed and thought back to each time he'd seen her react like that. The first time had been on his plane, she'd been sleeping, he'd been looking at her, frowned, thought she'd possibly been having an erotic dream, he'd been thinking about her at the time it happened. He'd been thinking about touching her, in fact.

Then the other day, in her room with both Ella and T.J. there, she'd come out of the bathroom in that towel and he'd slid his eyes over her, he'd been thinking about kissing her entire body nice and slow. Then now, he'd been looking at her, thinking about touching her too.

Heard Belinda's voice popped right into his head "Oh, and West, stop torturing the girl with your naughty thoughts."

Hmm, he stood and stared at the closed door for a long minute, that was an interesting thought, pushed the bedroom door open and leaned on the door, looked at the bathroom door, it was closed...surely it couldn't be that he was thinking about touching her.

Recalled he'd been more than thinking about touching her in his office, the day he'd walked into her bedroom and found her all hot and bothered, touching herself. Then that very night he'd been in this bed, right here in this room thinking about her, what they had done earlier in the day, when she had called out to him.

No it couldn't be that, surely not.

Though it was a nice idea, stood and chewed on his lips, as he pondered his thoughts. There was a way to find out, he supposed...a devious smile played on his lips now. Strolled over and leaned on the wall next to the bathroom door. Wondered for all of about 30 seconds if he should test his theory or not.

"Stop torturing the girl, with your naughty thoughts." rolled around inside his mind. If it was that? Then Jo-anne! He bit his lip, had been getting tortured for 10 long years by his naughty thoughts, of all the things he'd wanted to do to her, longed to do to her, had dreamed of doing to her and pictured himself doing to her, at all times of the day and night.

Closed his eyes and smiled, wanted to stroll into that bathroom, climb right into that tub with her, and slide his hands over her body, caress her breasts and bite softly on her ear and tell her about how he was going to slip his hand between her thighs had tease her slowly, heard a moan come from the bathroom, smiled to himself, oh he wanted to

join her now. Pick her up and have those legs wrap around him as he buried himself deep inside of her, heard a muffled cry of pleasure come from her, pictured in his mind, her riding him hard and fast until she came, actually heard her cum a minute later.

‘Damn.’ he thought, all them naughty thoughts for the past 10 years. He wondered if every time, she got a release like that, hmm, must be something to do with the witch part of her. Wondered if she knew what caused it, caused her to suddenly build to an orgasm out of no where, he could definitely have some fun with that.

Smiled and walked away from the en-suite, oh he was definitely going to have fun with that “Stop torturing the girl.” ha ha ha, he’d not even known he was torturing the woman with pleasure, oh but he was going to now. Chuckled to himself. Really hoped that she had no idea, even Volt was chortling inside his mind at the thought of Jo-anne and likely Clova gaining pleasure from just them thinking about touching her.

Sank himself down on the couch and wondered just how much thought he could put into it, and for how long it would affect her, he had some deep needs, could go on for hours, heard Volt snort, fully amused by the possibilities ‘let’s do it again.’

West laughed out loud at his wolf’s comment ‘You try it, think about all them things you like to do to Clova,’ he heard Volt growl all excitedly.

West and Volt sat and listened from the living area. Their hearing tuned into the bathroom and sure enough, there it was. She was gasping and moaning, muffled by what, who knew? She was clearly trying to hide it from them, heard her climax and groan afterwards. Volt was chortling inside his mind ‘Oh that is fun.’ he told West. West had to agree with his wolf.

‘Oh yes, that is going to be a lot of fun.’ got up and quietly closed the bedroom door, so when she got out she’d think he’d not heard anything at all. Was going to play it that way. Keep that a secret for now, for his and Volts’ own enjoyment, for now anyway. He’d tell her eventually.

Heard her come out of the bedroom, he was sitting with his legs out stretched his feet on the ottoman, the T.V. was turned on, moved his eyes to her, and smiled “Want to watch a movie?” he asked patting the couch next to him, like he’d heard nothing. Done nothing to hear her all wanton and aroused for him.

Jo-anne was standing there appeared a little nervous, likely trying to figure out if he’d heard or not, he thought “I won’t bite Jo-anne.” he chuckled “Not allowed remember, I’ll even go make popcorn if you like.”

“No, I’m good.” she murmured.

“How about a nice relaxing cup of tea?”

“Hmm.” she sat and looked at him. “Alright.” likely confused about him, he’d never done these things for her before, but he would now, wanted to.

West smiled, “Pick any movie you like, I’ve got a nice strawberry and Vanilla tea, you might like.” and he did, had a whole assortment of teas in the pantry, over 20 different flavours, for her to try. He got up to go and make the tea, smiling the whole time. Yes, he was going to play with her, chuckled to himself as he walked back in with her tea, saw her look right at him questioningly.

“Just thinking about something Belinda said to me, about my naughty thoughts, where you were concerned.” he told her as he handed her the tea and then sank down, grabbed the throw blanket off the back of the couch and flicked it over the two of them and made himself comfortable.

Watched her fall asleep not even 30 minutes into her movie choice. Exhausted, it seemed, he smiled, picked her up and carried her off to their bed and settled in next to her, kissed her temple, murmured “happy to help sweetheart.” and then just lay and watched her sleep until he fell asleep.

Chapter 115 - Her Alpha's Orders

Jo-anne POV

She was sitting in West’s office with both T.J. and West, they were all waiting for Belinda and Jonathan. It was just after breakfast. T.J. had told her that Ella would be here for her but he’d not wanted to wake her up, had wiggled his eyebrows at her and grinned “She’s exhausted and needs the sleep.”

Jo-anne had laughed and shook her head. It did not surprise her in the slightest. West had always tired her out, bloody Alpha-Blooded males, had needs and a lot of them, could go all night long if they so desired to, and need very little to no rest in between. It had been a long time coming for T.J. and Ella and now they were Goddess-Gifted Mates. She could well imagine T.J. going all night long with her. Ella was likely to sleep all day.

She herself had woken up to find West watching her sleep, yet again. Had raised an eyebrow at him and he’d just smiled at her, liked watching her sleep, he’d told her. Before pulling her into his arms and murmuring into her ear, “I used to watch you sleep all the time, every day.”

It had shocked her and she’d stared up at him, he’d just chuckled softly “It was the only thing I allowed myself, though it did make it hard not to touch you sometimes.”

“You should have just touched me.” she’d teased up at him.

He'd growled at her softly, then kissed her chastely and said "Up, before I have my way with you."

"You don't want to?" she'd asked a little worriedly.

"Oh, I do...but I might get carried away, and we don't want to risk Marking you, till the taint is out of us, so I will refrain." Then he'd bitten her softly right on the ear, and gotten up and out of the bed.

They'd eaten in the pack-house dining room, where many of the packs members smiled at them, were even addressing her as Luna. She'd looked at West questioningly "Did you announce me to the Pack?"

"No, T.J. may have or the fact that you are here and Jayden was escorted from the pack would have been enough for them to all figure it out. But I'll do it right now." he'd told her and then she'd heard it, a pack wide mind-link he'd opened, a simple straight forward statement "I'm happy to announce to you all, I have a Luna. Jo-anne Carlton, who is my Goddess-Gifted Mate, has accepted me. Please make her feel loved and welcomed."

Jo-anne looked right at him. "Loved and Welcomed?"

"Felt right." he shrugged at her.

They were now sitting waiting on her parents, who when arrived, walked in and closed the door before sitting down across from her. They both smiled at her and she'd smiled right back. It felt more than nice, she realised to have them as her parents.

She was seated in one of the single chairs, T.J. was in the other chair and West had perched himself on the arm of her chair, seemed comfortable, his hand was playing with her hair, the man was always touching her now, mostly she thought it was absently done, wondered if he even knew if he was doing it.

"What would you like to discuss first?" Belinda asked her.

"The taint in West and how to get it out of him." it was her most pressing need. They could not Mark each other till it was out of her, and for Volt and Clova to complete their bond and be able to fully connect to each other, they needed that.

"Alright." Belinda nodded and took a deep breath in "Bleeding you to another line, was the only way to hide you from the royal family. It also would taint your blood. As a baby, you wouldn't have a choice in the matter the bonding would happen but as an adult, to taint your blood, you actively have to want that. I already knew your blood was special...the Warlock that took me, Merrick, he knew and couldn't wait for you to be born, so very excited about it...not in a good way, mind you. Your blood is rare and special, due to your royal bloodline, and the Alpha Royal blood line at that. Merrick

himself was also an Alpha Male from a Royal Warlock coven, very old at that hundreds of years old, though I never found out exactly what his age was.

“ This made your blood special, anyone who tastes your blood, even without the ability to foresee, can receive a vision of their future, or that’s what Merrick raved about. On and on about the purity of your blood, the benefits he would gain from it.” she sighed and shook her head sadly “I only made the mistake once, of asking him what would happen if your blood was tainted by anothers...” sighed “I think he took it as a sign I was going to try and taint it, got one hell of a beating while he screamed at me, all his anger and fury directed at me, about how dare I consider this, that your tainted blood would only give twisted altered versions that could drive one to hurt and kill you. And that he needed you to be pure and not like some mongrel with another's blood inside of you.”

“ were you pregnant with me at the time?” Jo-anne asked, more than horrified by the thought of this man beating her while with child.

“Yes.” she saw Belinda nod, “It was not the first time I’d been beaten by him, he did not care for me at all. Only what I could breed for him. Barely looked me in the eye, only when he wanted to frighten me or was punishing me for trying to escape, which I did do, even with his mark on me, I did not and neither did Wren want to be there.

“You were bled into Heaths line and this was what tainted your blood, though my understanding is Heath took your blood first and then his was given to you. It’s likely Heath had a vision of himself or of you at that time. Your blood would have been pure. A good vision, I imagine. He loved you a lot, cherished you so much. I’m not sure why he changed.”

Jo-anne thought about that while Belinda had a drink of water. “Is it possible he got my blood, after Karen was mated to him.”

“It is...” Belinda nodded “is there any time you know he was exposed to it?”

Jo-anne tried to recall if there was anything but shook her head. “No, but Karen did”. She nodded. “When I was 12, I cut my finger while helping to prepare dinner, and she kissed it better, then went to get a band-aide and never came back.”

“I remember that day, we looked for her.” T.J. added “not in the house at all.”

“But I don’t think that Heath did.”

Heard West sigh on the heavy side “He could have, when you were 16, in the hotel room, you had blood all over you.”

Jo-anne looked up at him a little surprised. She’d not considered that “I guess. That was not your fault, West. Karen did that to us and you know this now.”

Watched him just nod, but say nothing, still blamed himself, it seemed, even with the knowledge that he'd fought against it and not wanted to. Tried hard to resist it. Even under whatever drug she'd had him he'd tried to resist, he was a good man deep down inside.

"He did bite me when I came home, or Jester did." she offered up.

"Hmm, it seems your unrealised blood at 16 had a slightly different effect on both of them, West and Heath. Heath would likely have seen a future, the one when you were a baby, but was at war with himself til he bit you, likely why he stayed away from you after your mating to West. Til his wolf bit you.

"West likely got a compulsion to hurt you, but not kill you because you were not yet fully realised as a witch. Why he was that way with you in your bond," saw her eyes move towards him a little sadly.

"Do you think Jester bit me to try and make me go away? He did tell me to leave, that I should have stayed away before he actually bit me."

"It is possible, then a bite after you turned 18, which is when your witch's powers would have come into being in all likelihood, showed him another twisted or altered vision of something he could not cope with. Therefore, killing you was his solution to that problem. The compulsion would have been very strong, likely unable to help himself not with so much of your tainted blood in him already."

"So it's my fault that he attacked me." Jo-anne sighed.

"It's not your fault Jo-anne." It was West "How were you to know? None of us knew...bar Belinda." sounded a little on the angry side to her.

"I couldn't protect her West...Hendrick and his witch's would have found her as a child. If I didn't leave her bonded to Heath. It was the only way to hide who she was, what she is." she was frowning at him.

"Please don't fight about it." Jo-anne looked up at him. He didn't say anything more, but looked more than annoyed to her.

"West, I am sorry, I couldn't stop what Karen did to the two of you. I never foresaw it, and by the time I found out, it was too late. I have tried to fix you. Nearly killed you doing it actually. I can't. It is not within my power to do so."

"Would you have intervened, if none of that had happened...stepped up and stopped me from Marking Jo-anne at 18 if things had moved along the normal path for us?"

"Yes, because you being Mated to her would have protected her from Hendrick. I would have. I mean that. It would have been a private conversation in this office with you and

your parents only” her eyes moved back to Jo-anne “Though I likely would have left you out of it...I’m sorry, Jo-anne.”

“I understand...there is real pain there for you.”

“Yes.” Belinda nodded “I’ve never actually told anybody everything.” she shook her head. “I don’t want to...” watched as Jonathan hugged her gently. “It was not a good place to be, but if...” she sighed and looked right at Jo-anne “you want me to.”

“Not if you have to relive it...no.” Jo-anne shook her head, she did not want to cause her mother pain more than what she had already lived through.

“You said you tried to fix West once? And couldn’t.” Jo-anne asked.

“I did, though he doesn’t recall it.”

“I don’t” West stated. “When was that?”

“About 4 months or so after you were Mated to Jo-anne. You were really hard to get alone. Terence was always with you.”

“There was a reason for that. I was constantly worried I was going to hurt Jo-anne. Needed Terence right there to stop me.”

“I’m sorry,” she sighed again. “I did try, used the packs ceremonial blade on you. You were blind drunk and passed out in a guest room down the hall from your and Jo-anne’s room. It didn’t work, just made you scream in agony, your heart rate quadrupled and you were thrashing about all over the place. At one point, you just stopped breathing and I panicked thought, knew it was going to kill you, rescinded the order on the blade, it still took a full minute for you to breathe. I’m sorry I really did try to remove her blood from you, but your bond to her was not a blood bond, or not entirely, so I couldn’t remove it. Your bond to Jo-anne was a Mate Bond, much more difficult a thing to remove.” she sighed, “and I only know of two who could do that, remove a mark at will. Without the person involved doing it via rejection anyway.”

“Who?” Jo-anne asked maybe these people could help her.

“The moon goddess and Merrick...He removed mine from Jonathan. When I woke up, it was gone.”

Jo-anne was the one to sigh now. “So we can’t fix him them. He’ll never be able to Mark me!” This was not what she wanted to hear at all.

“Not true. I believe you can now, remove your blood bond from West. You healed Heath, you have Merrick’s powers in you. You just need to figure out how is all.”

“Hang on,” it was West “our Mate Bond was severed by the moon goddess when Jo-anne rejected me. I was in agony for bloody hours, felt like my skin was being cut off of me one layer at time, I was in agony and pain for hours.”

Jo-anne stared at him in surprise. She’d not felt anything. “I know it’s supposed to hurt. But hours of it?”

“You didn’t feel a thing, I know.” he looked down at her. “But T.J. can attest to my agony if you like.” he comment and her eyes turned to T.J., it wasn’t that she didn’t believe him. It was more out of surprise that was all.

“About 4 hours, he ran around like a bloody mad man, I couldn’t even contain him started all over the pack but we ended up out in rogue territory mostly.”

“Didn’t need the pack, seeing that.” West muttered.

“I’m sorry.” Jo-anne looked up at him. She’d had no idea, put a hand on his knee.

Saw him shrug ‘Perhaps I got your pain as well as my own. Punishment for my treatment of you. It’s what I’ve always believed. Deserved it.”

Jo-anne frowned at him now. “Don’t say that, it was not your fault, West.” she shook her head, none of it was his fault.

“Perhaps...” Belinda was now looking right at West “perhaps that part is now all gone and all that remains is any blood from bites inflicted by Volt.”

“She did have bite marks all over her...” West nodded and looked down at her. “I’m sorry about that.”

“That is not your fault, West, even Clova is a bitey creature. And it’s not like I haven’t bitten you recently.” her eyes moved to his chest where she had bitten him that night, a good bite at that.

Saw him smile a little at her, knew he was thinking about it.

“Perhaps, Jo-anne you just need to do what you did to Heath.” Belinda commented.

“What? I didn’t do anything to Heath.”

“Actually you did.” West said “Whatever it was, he vomited up your blood and then he seemed to just be fine, got better and is back to his old self, the real Heath I believe, the one that was your actual dad that loves you.”

Jo-anne frowned and thought about that, she’d not really done anything to the man, just...wanted, really wanted him to get better, like prayed for it,...turned her eyes to West

and wondered if that would work on him. She'd prayed for Heath to return to that loving father she'd always known. Would praying for West to return to who he was before her at 16 fix him.

"What are you thinking?" he asked her.

"I, I really don't know, maybe...if I really want it, you'll just get better. I have always prayed to the moon goddess and if I really wanted it, got given what I wanted, I guess."

"Sweetheart, that was not the moon goddess, that's just you. Your powers as a Royal Alpha witch. You healed so many things growing up, because you willed it. Merrick was ancient, he did not need spells and potions or not, that I saw, just used his will to get what he wanted. Was very powerful."

Jo-anne was more than a little confused, her power was all attached to her anger, how could she use that to heal someone, frowned, she was not going to turn that on West, it might hurt him. "I don't think so," she shook her head "my powers are all anger, triggered when I'm angry only."

"Actually," she turned and looked at him, saw him smile a little "I don't think its only your anger." he smirked a little. "Your eyes do glow when your happy, really truly happy and..." he chuckled "When your...well really happy."

Heard T.J. laughed and when she looked at him saw him wiggle his eyebrows at her suggestively.

"What really?"

"Mm" West laughed. "Yes."

Heard both Belinda and Jonathan chuckle as well. They all got his meaning.

"I think your powers are all tied to all your emotions, just woke up with your anger like I thought yesterday." West smiled down at her.

"Came into your full powers Jo-anne." Belinda drew her attention. "Because you could hear Heath's pain and agony. You needed to heal him. It was Heath, who you loved as your father, he was dying and a part of you, deep down inside, knew you could heal him, fix him. It's why I told West that he had to take you out there to see him, that next morning."

"Alright." Jo-anne nodded "I think I need a minute." and she did, likely needed more than a minute, this was a lot to absorb.

West saw everyone out while she sat and thought. Then he came and sat next to her. "I know you'll figure it out." he smiled at her gently.

“Can I go and see Heath? I want to ask him something.” She asked.

“Sure, I’ll walk you over.”

Bit her lip and looked at him. “Can I go by myself, on my own?” she knew he was likely to say no, but wanted to go on her own.

He raised an eyebrow and then sighed “I’d prefer not...but I guess he’s not had a single episode in days, nothing since you healed him...T.J. is not going to like it though. Still doesn’t want Heath anywhere near you.”

She understood that about T.J., “He might not West, but he needs to. And I think a walk on my own, to clear my head, will do me some good right now.”

“Alright.” he nodded “I’ll let the guard know you’re coming.”

Jo-anne smiled right at him, he was definitely different, allowing her to do what she wanted most of the time. “Thank you.”

Chapter 116 - Her Alpha's Orders

West POV

Watched as Jo-anne walked out of the pack-house, heading for the cells, didn’t really want her to go on her own, but she wanted too. From what Belinda had revealed today, it was very likely that Heath was actually of no threat to Jo-anne at all anymore.

He was curious as to what she wanted to ask the man, but it was her business and she would tell him when she was ready, he supposed. Or tell T.J., West doubted their bond would diminish even now that he had Ella, they would still be really close and he knew it.

He sighed and headed back to his office. He had a few calls to make himself today, he needed to start getting things underway for the up-coming Luna Ceremony, needed to organise new furniture for not just his office but the Luna’s office as well. He also needed to talk to his father about remodelling some of the 4th floor. He had a feeling Alpha Terence and Luna Ella were going to need a bigger suite. Smiled to himself.

West knew he was making the right decision for his pack and with Jo-anne also on board and liking the idea herself and by the way her eyes had glowed, he knew that she was really happy about it too. The question was, did he just spring it on the two of them at the Luna Ceremony or let them know before hand?

Sat behind his desk and pondered that very question, he did not know how T.J. would react or Ella, for that matter, if he sprung it on them. Then there was how to get Ella dressed appropriately for her Luna Ceremony without her knowing about it. Knew she

wouldn't want to outshine Jo-anne, perhaps it was best that he just sit them down and talk to them.

Though he was not going to take no for an answer, he also didn't want an argument either, so no, he could not spring it on them. Would have to bring it up with Terence first. Didn't think it would take much for Jo-anne to convince Ella. And if he could get T.J. on board, that man had always been able to get Ella to agree to his wants.

Made a call to the packs carpenter and requested two new desks, one for the Alpha's office and one for the Luna's office. Did not need to explain why. There was nothing unusual about a newly established Alpha or Luna, for that matter, redecorating their offices. Most had their own unique tastes and Luna's would often not just redecorate their office but their suite and sometimes the entire pack-house. Though West didn't see Jo-anne doing that, not her thing he didn't think, Ella might want to though, who knew. He was not fussed.

Decorating was a Luna's job. It put their very own personal stamp on everything. He must remember to tell Jo-anne she could decorate their suite any way she liked, smiled at the thought, must also convince her to go shopping and fill up her wardrobe full of clothes. Wondered if she actually let him purchase her a Luna's gown, hadn't liked his choice last time. Perhaps something very different from the last one, though he still wanted to use those diamonds he had in his safe.

Got up from his desk and wandered up to his parents' suite, found them both sitting on the couch together chatting happily it seemed, his fathers hand was resting on his mother's stomach. She was not showing yet, but soon would be. Alpha pups grew fast and came early at that.

"Boys or Girls?" he asked them, sitting down across from the two of them with a smile. He was curious as to if he was getting brothers or sisters. Was hoping for brothers though.

Watched as the pair of them chuckled and shook their heads "It's going to be a surprise." his mother smiled right at him.

Shook his head, his mother would never be able to keep that a secret. "Till you decorate." he smirked "What colour did you pick?"

Saw his fathers hand whip up and snap over his mother's mouth, West burst out laughing, she never could resist answering that question and he knew it as well as did his father. They were both staring at him now, a little shocked it seemed, and it took West a moment to realise it was because he was laughing, waved it off.

"So I have some news," he stated.

"She's pregnant." his mother burst out excitedly,

"No." West shook his head, babies on the brain it seemed "Well, not that I know of anyway."

"Come on son, you're an Alpha, put your hand on the girl's belly, it's been well over a week now. You'd feel a tiny heart beat in there if there's a pup."

West smiled, he'd had his hands on Jo-anne's belly just yesterday and had not even thought about checking that. He had just liked the fact that she was comfortable around him enough to relax back all naked against him. "She'll tell me if she is." he shrugged, he didn't need to check, it would happen when it happened, he was in no rush actually wouldn't mind spending a few months just him and her, ravishing her in all the ways he liked, would have to curb his appetite for the woman once she was with pup, had barely even shown her all the things he liked or learned what she liked, wanted that before any pup he realised.

"So I wanted to talk to you two about the packs' future, in fact."

Saw them both frown at him.

"I'm going to appoint Terence and Ella as Alpha and Luna."

"The hell you will." his mother suddenly yelled at him, shooting right up onto her feet.

"Calm down mother." he shook his head. Jo-anne had said he was like his father but he was pretty sure that he got his temper from his mother. "Two Alpha's and Two Luna's, I'm not stepping down."

She was still glaring right at him, unhappy it seemed about the idea. "Why?" she asked as his father tugged her back down onto the couch.

"Because Terence gave up everything yesterday. To protect this pack."

"That's not the real reason," his father stated. "You'd already made the decision before then. Terence was your back up, if you never found your Mate."

"What?" his mother gasped.

West nodded "That is true." he told his father looked to his mother. "I was not expecting a Mate or children for that matter. So I already had a contingency plan in place. That Terence would take over as the Alpha and his first born would hold the title of the Pack Heir."

"Son." she was frowning at him, "Now I know your life has not been easy for a very long time, but you can't just go and hand the pack over to another like that."

“Actually as the Alpha I can.” he told her. “Father was also aware and did not object. Thought as I did, that Terence was a good choice. And over the past few days, look at his mother. He is a born leader, steps up and can handle anything. Is an Alpha and should be.”

“I don’t like it.” she muttered “That boy defies me.”

West smiled he knew why. “Because you removed Jo-anne from his care mother. Is why and he’s still mad about that.” watched her huff and look away from him. “Did you know mother, who Jo-anne’s mother was that day, when Terence found her out in the snow?”

Saw her jaw tighten but say nothing.

“So you did know...” he sighed “You, Terence and Belinda all need to sit down and sort this out.”

“No we don’t. Belinda was just a girl at the time, Westley, bore a pup to another not by choice and hid that pup. Yes, I knew right away who’s child she was. I could smell my friend on the baby. I also knew why she did what she did. As I’m certain did Jonathan at the time. I did what I knew I was supposed to be do, with a new born pup and no parents to claim it.”

He sighed “Then perhaps you need to explain this to Terence. Belinda has come forward and explained as much herself. To both Jonathan and Terence, now just this morning. I would like for you and Terence to get along, mother. I would also like your acceptance of he and Ella as our packs Alpha and Luna as well.”

“I don’t like it. It will make things difficult, who’s child will claim heir to the pack. The one that is first born, or the one that has royal blood?”

“Mother, you are too angry to think straight. Jo-anne also has royal blood.” he reminded her, “though they have both renounced the King and to his face as I understand it.”

“What? I knew Jo-anne had, but Terence?”

“Yes, Terence renounced him after the alliance was signed and told him.” he looked to his father for confirmation “that he was no longer welcome in his pack.”

Damien nodded. “He did, and I don’t think that man will come back, not anywhere near this pack. Though your annual meetings in the kingdom will likely still have to be attended by one or both of you.”

“I don’t think he will come back either, and as I understand it, Belinda has plans of her own. Where her father is concerned, used the inter realm phone last night to call Prince Christian, next in line to the Throne.”

Heard his father whistle “It’s possible, there might be a dethroning coming.”

West shrugged. He did not particularly care. “It is possible, I will not be offering assistance to either party, our pack will be neutral and stay out of it.”

“A wise choice though...” his father sighed, “it is possible any and all involved will have to present themselves to aid in the dethroning.”

“I will not be putting Jo-anne in a room with those two again.”

“Hmm, from what I saw yesterday, she’d likely kill one if not both of them. That could aid Prince Christian, she could just hand the Throne to him, if she doesn’t want it.”

“She doesn’t, already told Belinda that.” West informed him.

Saw his father think on it for a long time, “Likely if Belinda tells everything her father did to her back then, trying to mate her off to Hendrick, and hide her Goddess-Gifted Mate from her, and what he tried to do to your Luna after you were mated to her...i think, the royal wolven council will hire an independent seer to hunt out the information for themselves and remove him if it proves true, he was and is a threat to his own blood line.”

“So no war?”

“Likely not...” his father shook his head “Not once that Alliance Terence drew up against the King and Queen is produced, it’ll confirm everything about what went down, and what he was trying to do to his own kin.”

“I guess we will have to wait and see then.”

“Yes, though it will be your alliance papers that will need to be seen. The king will deny everything I imagine.”

“I’ll gladly send a copy or have one of the royal council come here and smell the blood of his King and Queen on it.”

“A good idea.”

“Mother, about my making Terence and Ella a part of the packs official lineage?”

“Do whatever you want...But” she turned and pointed a finger right at him “Don’t say that I didn’t warn you.”

“I hear you, I don’t think it will be an issue to be honest. Terence and I will draw up a new pack law that this pack is to be run by two Alpha’s always, one from each blood line

his and mine.” he stood up, she likely though he’d never really sat and thought this through but he had a lot over the years. Stood to leave.

“Wait, you will not have a Beta.” she stated.

“Sonja can step up.” West smiled, the majority of this pack's heirs would all have Alpha blood, royal alpha blood at that. “Our pack will be one of the strongest now and for the future generations to come.”

He stood watching as his mother's brain was suddenly ticking. “You know, son, Ava has no Mate. She rejected hers long ago.”

“I’m aware of that, yes. My understanding a rude dick of a man. Who did not stop fucking the she-wolf she found him with, just smiled at her and kept on going.”

“She is itching for a pup of her own. Though no 2nd chance mate has come along. Belinda is heart broken by her daughters' craving to be a mother.”

“Yes and your point being?” he asked.

“Ricky and Cole son, they do need an heir, perhaps some sort of agreement could be made their.”

West frowned now “A breeding alliance? That is archaic.”

“No not like that, she wants a child and so do they, so a mutual agreement. Patterson could help with the conception, of course.”

“Mother, are you planning Alpha-blooded heirs for every member of the Alpha units heirs to this pack?”

“Why not? If they agree with it, that is. Offer it and see what happens is all I am saying. Ava knows both of them, and they are respectable. She might like the idea. Get her need to be a mother fixed even though mate-less. Speak to her first, then approach the boys.”

“I will consider it.” he nodded and walked out of the suite. The woman, it seemed, never stopped planning for babies at that. Shook his head and headed back downstairs. It wasn’t a bad idea and they had both expressed their wishes to adopt already. Could work though it would be up to Ava. He could talk to her, and allow her to make that decision, even let her approach them to sort it out.

Came to a halt on the first floor as he smelled rogue scent, heard Volt snarl instantly at the stench, turned and looked at where it came from, saw two females coming down the hallway towards him, a mother and daughter. They froze to the spot when they realised

he was looking right at them, Volt was on the surface, likely looked like he was a threat 'Terence did tell me about this Volt.' he told his wolf who'd been sleeping at the time.

Felt Volt recede "My apologies, I'm Alpha Westley, you must be the two Alpha Terence brought in."

Saw the mother nod, he could tell the little girl was scared of him, he could smell her fear, see the way she was now clutching her mothers hand and had stepped closer to her. "You're safe here, little one...though we should initiate you into the pack so you don't have to be afraid, around anyone, come on lets go do that." he turned and walked away down the stairs to the pack foyer, knew they would follow him, not many would ignore an Alpha's request, certainly not a rogue requesting sanctuary.

Found Terence in the Alpha's chair and smiled, such a natural thing. The man had been seen in that chair damned near every day since West had taken over. For one thing or another, he picked up the pack's ceremonial blade and handed it to Terence. "Alpha I believe you need to initiate these two into our pack."

Watched as T.J. frowned up at him "You're back West."

West shrugged "And you're currently sitting in the Alpha chair, so you do it."

Saw T.J. stand up "West?"

"No, you do it. You're still the Alpha in charge. I haven't taken it back yet. So go on. You know how."

"West only the actual Alpha can do that."

"Hmm, then I guess you'd better agree to be the Alpha with me, from now on." then just turned and walked out of the office, nodded to both the woman and her daughter "Welcome to the Eclipsed Moon Pack."

Let's just see what the man would do.

Chapter 117 - Her Alpha's Orders

Jo-anne POV

Heath looked so much better, and he smiled right at her, like he used to. She realised "You're alright!" he sounded very re-leaved to her ear.

"I am." she nodded "how are you doing?"

"All better. Thank you for healing me."

"I..." she frowned.

"It's who you're meant to be, Jo-anne. A healer. I've seen it, watched you as a child do it. I didn't tell you or anyone else for that matter, because children should be allowed to be children and live happy, fun lives. Not be trained like a slave to your ability. You just need to be a child. Every child has that right."

Jo-anne was just staring at him now. It was what she was meant to be? Needed to be just a happy child? She'd only been really happy till her sisters had come along. "Why'd you change?" she asked "Why'd you stop loving me?" it had always hurt, though she'd tried not to let it show.

"I never did. But Karen turned out to be extremely jealous of you. Of our bond, and I was worried she would hurt you. Found out that she was nicer to you if I paid our children more love and attention. I'm sorry."

Jo-anne shook her head sadly "It was mean, and it hurt."

"It was." he agreed, "and it didn't help in the end. I'm sorry." he sighed heavily "I'm sorry for what she did to you. I had no idea."

"Do you know how I healed you?" she did not want to talk about Karen or what she'd done to her and West.

"Yes, the same way you healed all those animals, you used to bring home as a child. You just prayed for them to get better...you have two mates, I hear."

Jo-anne shook her head. "Not anymore, I rejected Jayden."

Saw Heath smile "You need to heal West, it's why you're hear, isn't it? To try and figure out how you do that."

She just nodded "I didn't really do anything to you."

"Sweetheart, you wished with all your heart for me to go back to the man I was before Karen, the man who loved you, your real dad."

"How do you know that? You were sedated at the time."

"I was, but I think you wanted me to know," he shrugged, "you are special, always will be. Though something about us changed two days ago" he frowned, "you feel different to me now."

"You can still feel me?"

"Yes, I'm still blood bonded to you."

“Oh,” she was surprised by that, perhaps only her tainted blood had been removed from him, not that first initial drop of her blood as a baby, when she, as her mother put it, was pure of blood. “Do you want West to remove that?” she asked him.

“No.” he shook his head “You’re my little girl, Jo-Anne. I love that, I want to keep that, if that is alright with you?”

Jo-anne did not know if that was a good thing or a bad, to be honest, that he was still blood bonded to her. Would need more clarification on that. Perhaps Belinda could sort that out.

“Why did you bite me?” she asked.

“We needed you away from us. We’d stayed away from you at all costs. Already knew we’d hurt you. I saw it when you were 16, I think...a vision of us hurting you, badly. So we stayed away, Jester, and I needed to keep you away from us.”

“And the trying to kill me?”

“After we bit you, we were flooded with images of you killing Karen and it drove us to try and protect our Mate. The only way we could at the time do that was...” he looked at her. “I’m sorry. Jester,” he sighed “Has retreated, I can barely feel him at all, he has to much pain from what we did. I don’t know if he will come back.”

Jo-anne sighed now, she’d been there once, had thought she had lost Clova. “Give it time, it was not your fault or Jesters, my blood is special apparently.”

“You’re special Jo-anne.” saw his eyes move to her neck. “West has not claimed you yet?”

“He can’t, it will make him like you and Jester were,” she told him softly, and actually felt sad about that she now realised.

“Then fix him.”

“I don’t really understand how.”

“Sweetheart, yes you do...I think, you just came here to see for yourself, that you did really heal me. Not to ask me how, answer me something. What do you want for West, way down deep inside, what do you truly want for him?”

“For him to go back to how he was before me. Before waking up next to me in that hotel room, before my blood ruined him...but” a part of her was also terrified at that the same time, that he would no longer be her Mate, because at that time he had not been. That their bond would just vanish along with everything that she wanted for him.

“But?” he prompted her after a full minute of silence.

“What if that’s it? He does go back to that man and I and Clova are nothing to him and Volt, I can’t...I don’t want that, I don’t want Clova to feel the loss of Volt. She has loved him her whole life, like literally, since 4 days after I got her. It’s all she wants.”

“Ah, I see your dilemma.” he walked over to the cell bars and leaned on them. “ You were gifted to him, it will be fine. At worst you’ll have to wait for the next full moon once again.”

“That’s a month away still. Clova and Volt are already Mated.” she worried. Not only had they mated, they’d knotted each other multiple times. Those two crazy wolves she knew were trying to get a pup of their own. Regardless of her and West’s thoughts on it. They were truly crazy, she thought.

“It’s fine Jo-anne. It will all be fine. I remember everything, even the not-so nice things I said, so will West and Volt. Come here.” he held his arms out through the bars and she let him hug her through them. “Heal him and it will sort itself out. Everything will be just fine, I promise.”

“I’m scared... what if it doesn’t?” she admitted.

“It will. Your life has been one horrid tale after another. I think Selena will grant you happiness, to make up for all of the past. Do you think you can be happy with West?”

Jo-anne nodded, she knew she could, he was a good man, a possessive ass-hole at times, but that was she now knew her tainted blood inside of him. That had caused all of that, it wasn’t the real him. She let go of Heath.

“Belinda is my real mother, Terence is my brother.” she told him. He had a right to know.

Heard him sigh very heavily “Well, that’s not a good thing on my part. Terence wants me dead...But I guess the pack laws are there for a good reason.” he touched her face before stepping back into the cell fully “Stop denying that man.”

“Heath, I am not going to let either West or T.J. kill you. It was not your fault. They also both know this now. I’ll sort it out and I’ll have Maree and Marie come and visit you later on. They both want to see you.”

“I’d like that.” he nodded “Go on Jo-anne, go and do what you have to do...Heal West. It’s the right thing to do and you know it. You never put yourself first... I don’t think you’re about to change and become selfish now.”

Jo-anne nodded, “I’m glad you are better Heath.”

“Me to, even if it’s short-lived.”

“I’ll work on that,” she told him and headed out of the cells. He did not deserve to die. It had not been his fault, it was her tainted blood, that had ruined him, ruined Karen even, ruined West too. So many lives ruined and in turmoil and filled with pain and fear all because of her tainted blood. She really hoped that her children would not be like her, not have the same blood.

Headed right for the Alpha’s office and stared at the two females in there, smiled all her other worries forgotten in an instant, walked right over to them. She’d had a vision of these two already. A happy one already, when walking with West to see the Luna in the hospital. They smelled like pack members now. “Welcome, I wondered how long till you got here!” she smiled at the little girl after her mother. Hunkered right down in front of her “You, my little one, have nothing to fear from your father anymore. He’ll not be able to find you. I promise you that.”

“You know who they are?” T.J. asked, sounding completely shocked.

“Yes I do.” she nodded and stood up. “I want to introduce you to someone.” she grabbed Carmen’s hand and pulled her along behind her “Someone who will protect you and your daughter always.”

“What?” it was Carmen, sounded more than shocked.

Jo-anne mind-linked to the man, to find out where he was, in his suite. Even better, took them right up to the 3rd floor and knocked on the man’s door. T.J. was trailing her, clearly curious about this himself.

Oliver opened the door at her knock and smiled at her “Luna.” he half teased and she knew it was because he had obviously known what she was long before she had.

“Mr, I follow orders and won’t tell you my name.” she shot right back at him and saw him laugh “I have two charges for you to protect. I order it.”

“Yes Luna.” he was suddenly serious. She knew that he would not even ask why. Just follow the order without question. Suddenly realised why West liked him.

“They’ll stay here with you, till proper accommodation can be found.” she told him.

“Oh, alright. I’ve got spare rooms I guess.” she stepped aside and Jo-anne ushered Carmen and little Camilla inside.

“Carmen, Camilla, this is Oliver, Alpha West and Alpha T.J.’s Elite Warrior. You’ll be safe here with him, under his care.”

Heard Oliver correct her "I'm actually their War General." saw him smirk right at her, cheeky bastard, had lied to her accounts for the entire team of men he had on her, his own unit in all likelihood.

Shook her head and smiled. Stepped out of the room, winked right at him and then just closed the door, giggled to herself two could keep things hidden.

"Oh what are you up to, Jo-Jo?" T.J. asked her.

"Me, T.J., nothing. Just putting something delicious smelling right under Oliver's nose, for the next full moon."

"Oh really?"

"Yes," she smiled "makes me happy to match make. I think my foresight might actually come in handy for this half un-mated pack of ours." Then she looked right at him. "Oh T.J., I hope you like lots of pups!" she winked at him.

Saw the man grin right at her "Already working on that." he wiggled his eyebrows at her, "why you think Ella is exhausted?"

Jo-anne laughed at him. "Stop, it's already happened. Saw it before you even claimed her, knocked her up the first time you slept with her."

"What? Really...I'm gonna be a dad?" then she was up off the ground in a big bear hug. "Boy or a girl?" he asked all excitedly as he put her back down.

"I didn't see that, just saw Ella." she moved her arms out in a big circle to indicate the size of the belly she had seen "out here."

Saw T.J.'s eyes go wide. "That's not just one in there then."

"Unlikely." she chuckled "Go." she waved him off and laughed, he looked so very excited, then he was gone, heading up the stairs to go find Ella for himself. She was going to be an aunt, wondered if their mother knew already. It was likely she supposed.

Strolled along to the Alpha suite, found Belinda by the door, a small vial of her blood in her hand, standing looking at the door, hesitantly. Like she wanted to knock but didn't want to, at the same time "Mother?"

Saw the woman's grey eyes turn on her, and suddenly realised she had her mother's eyes too.

"I...I just." saw her hands shake as she looked to the vial, then took a deep breath. "You should have this."

“What is it?” Jo-anne asked.

“My blood, so that if you want to know. You can see everything, my past, Merrick and...” she looked at the vial, her hands were still shaking “Your choice,” she held it out “I don’t want to relive it ever, but you have the right to know about your conception and what kind of person he was. This way I don’t have to relive it.”

Jo-anne took the vial. Obviously she had been to see Patterson to have her blood taken.

“You might understand the choices I made and...forgive me for abandoning you and leaving you tainted, for not...”

“Stop. I don’t blame you. You did what you had to, what you thought was right at the time. I don’t have any anger towards you over this, there is nothing to forgive, you had a terrible choice to make and I’m sure you made it with not just your own interests at heart.”

“Thank you...but that could also help you understand your other side. I don’t really know, but it could.” then she hugged Jo-anne “Use it, don’t use it. It is completely your choice.”

Jo-anne hugged her back “Do you know, your going to be a grandmother?”

“I know triplets, I already saw and told Ella.” she pulled away and smiled “They will be a handful, all little girls just like their mother.” she laughed softly.

Jo-anne chuckled, “Well, that will be fun when they're all grown up and T.J. is trying to stop them from playing with all the boys.”

“Yes it will.” Belinda nodded and then walked off down the hall, felt better it seemed.

Perhaps she was more like her own mother than she realised, that woman went from being anxious and scared to happy in a blip of a second, just like Jo-anne could. Hmm.

Chapter 118 - Her Alpha's Orders

West POV

West looked up from his seat on the couch, when he saw the Alpha suite door open, smiled to see Jo-anne just walk into the suite, although he himself was not feeling all that good right this minute, had a headache that he just couldn’t shake, had set in just on half an hour ago, and felt odd to like he was hotter than normal.

But smiled up at her, as she closed the door, she'd not knocked, just walked on in, like it was her room, her suite now. A good thing he thought. She was carrying a small vial, in her hand and was looking down at it. Seemed contemplative.

"Everything alright?" West asked her.

Her eyes moved right to his, seemed completely surprised at him sitting there on the couch, probably thought he was downstairs in the office in all likelihood. It was where he usually was. But had come here when he'd started to not feel so good.

"Mm," she nodded to him "It's my mothers blood. So I can see her history if I want to." she held it up for him to see properly.

"Do you want to?" he asked, curious himself if she would. He'd probably want to know but he liked information. He had no idea if Jo-anne was the type of person to need answers to everything.

"I don't know," she sighed heavily.

Watched as she walked over to sit down next to him, put the vial on the ottoman and then just sat and stared at it. Looked to be in two minds about it to him.

"Why are you here?" she turned to look at him. "I thought you'd be off trying to convince T.J. and Ella of your plans to make them our other Alpha and Luna counterparts."

He reached and touched her face gently liked how she used the word our, "I'm working on T.J. as we speak. But I have a headache and I have all month to convince them." He smiled at her "though I do like it when you say 'Our' all the time." West told her honestly and he did like it, made him feel more secure in her choice of him. That they were going to be okay.

"A headache?" she was frowning at him, trust her to pick that out of all the things he'd just said "Do you get them often?"

"No, just occasionally." he answered her. "It'll pass. I did do a pack wide link this morning, they cause headaches. Don't worry about it." he leaned back on the couch and tugged her with him "Come give me a cuddle, it'll help."

Heard her chuckle and murmur, "no it won't." but felt no resistance and then she was leaning into him, even sliding her arm around his chest and relaxing on him completely, her head on his chest right where she'd bitten him the other week. West closed his eyes and breathed in her scent, and frowned a little "You smell like Terence. Why?" he could also smell Belinda but knew they had been together.

"He picked me up and hugged me all bear hug like, super excited." he could hear the smile in her voice.

"Why?" he smiled, knew their bond was going to stay in tact.

"Because my brother. Your best friend, is going to be a daddy." she giggled.

That snapped his eyes open, he didn't move but was staring down at her now. "Since when?"

"Since the first time he and Ella slept together, I imagine." she laughed softly "I saw her pregnant, didn't much think on it at the time, thought I was just day dreaming, but now not so much. Mum confirmed it, triplets and all girls."

"Goddess help me." he muttered "I'm always surrounded by women." but he still smiled "I'm happy for him and Ella...How do you think Ella will take the news?"

Saw Jo-anne look up at him "Ella already knows, Belinda already told her at some point."

West nodded, it aggravated his headache though, so stopped and leaned back on the couch. "Ah, that's what that was." he said as he recalled Belinda and Ella having a private conversation the night they'd all slept in Jo-anne's room, that Ella had smiled at T.J. and told him it was none of his business.

He sighed and rubbed his temples as the throbbing started to increase inside his head. His headache was getting worse by the minute, it seemed. He'd thought that having her right here with him, her scent might help with that, knew a Mates' scent could help to calm one down, put them to sleep even. Relax one completely.

"Do you want me to get Patterson, West? You do look a little pale actually."

"No, it's just a headache," he sighed.

"I'll go and get you something for it." and then she was up off the couch and gone from his side, gone from the room, just like that. It bothered him quite a bit actually, did not want to be away from her.

Got up from the couch himself, swayed on his feet, felt dizzy all of a sudden. Stood still until he was right to walk, followed her towards the kitchen through the dining room door, felt nauseated and grabbed onto the door frame as he nearly fell down, struggled for a good 10 seconds to stay on his feet before standing up properly, steadied himself and then walked through into the actual dining room, could see Jo-anne going through the cupboards looking for something for his headache.

"I don't..." Oh, he didn't feel so good at all. "Keep anything in here." he grabbed onto the dining table as she turned to look at him.

"West?" he could hear the panic in her voice.

"I don't feel so good." he muttered as he sagged down on to a chair, blinked a couple of times, then she was right next to him, tilted his face up to hers, he could actually see fear in her eyes. "I'll be fine." he told her, but even he knew wolves didn't get sick for no reason. Something was wrong with him, but he didn't want her to worry.

Felt her hand on his forehead. "Your very hot West."

Was not feeling well enough to even play with that sentence "I always run hot. Don't worry about it."

"Don't you tell me not to worry," she snapped at him. "I am your Mate, it's my given right."

That made him smile, but only briefly. He loved that she could stand up to him and that she had just called her his Mate. Groaned "Get me a bucket." he muttered, as he felt his stomach roll, he was going to vomit and he knew it.

"West?"

"Bucket, or I vomit on the floor." his hand clutched at his stomach as it cramped "Fuck." he muttered right before he heaved, he hated to throw up, shoved himself back from the table and gagged and heaved. A container was right under his face and then he was throwing up violently, uncontrollably, he was barely able to catch his breath between bouts, barely able to draw in half a breath before throwing up.

His eyes were watering and he was desperate for air to reach his lungs, they were burning and it was causing him pain on top of the vomiting. It actually felt like he couldn't breathe at one point, felt as though he was going to pass out, his lungs were screaming for needed oxygen, and his strength was draining away rapidly from him, he could feel himself sliding off the chair as it passed, and finally a breath could be drawn in.

Practically just sagged down on to the floor. When it was over, his mouth was filled with a horrid acrid metallic taste and his throat was burning like it was on fire and had been hit with a cheese grater. His eyes were closed as he tried to drag in recovery breaths, finally when he opened his eyes there was a saucepan in front of him, and it was half filled with blood, looked like he'd heaved up a good amount more than a litre of it, 'That can't be good.' he thought as he looked at it, it wasn't all red, some of it was black and other parts brown. Looked like infected dying blood.

He felt like crap, to be honest. Found Jo-anne staring right at him, a cloth to his mouth, it was damp, wiping his lips and chin. Then put a glass to his mouth. "Don't drink it, rinse and spit it." she told him, still she sounded worried. But he got it.

"That was terrible." he muttered after swishing and spitting three times. He did not want to risk even a single speck of that left in him to be swallowed again.

“How do you feel?” she asked him. Pushing the pot away.

“Horrid and I’m tired.” West admitted honestly “Guess you healed me?”

“Mm” she nodded, though looked a little nervously at him.

“What’s wrong?” he asked her this time.

Saw her bite her lower lip nervously, “Don’t do that.” he murmured, “I’m not well enough to kiss you right this minute.” reached up and used his thumb to tug her lip from her teeth.

Felt her arms around him and a second later she was actually in his lap and hugging him. He smiled and hugged her back, he felt tired, hell exhausted, he realised and just leaned right on her and closed his eyes, his cheek on her head.

“Do you still love me?” he heard her ask softly, almost sounded worried that he wouldn’t.

“That is a stupid question. I’ll always love you. I always have Jo-anne.”

He felt a hand on his shoulder, then another on his back, knew it was not Jo-anne she was still in his lap. Opened his eyes to find T.J. and his father, Damien, looking down at him.

Groaned in protest when they asked Jo-anne to hop up and then got him up off the floor, he did not want to get up at all.

“That is a shit load of blood.” he heard T.J. state as they helped him from the dining room to the bedroom.

Heard Jo-anne “Volts, a bitey creature.” even heard her giggle a little, smiled to himself she was right Volt and Clova did like to bite when wound up.

“Come here,” he growled and felt Jo-anne sit next to him on the bed, looked up at her. “I’m tired, and you’d better be right here, when I wake up.”

Heard both his father and T.J. laugh.

“I’ll be around...somewhere.” he heard Jo-anne tease him a little. “Get some sleep.”

West rolled right onto his side and curled his arms around her, settled his head right in her lap and smiled as he drifted off to sleep.

West woke up alone, frowned at their empty bed, looked around. Jo-anne was not even in the room. He was certain he had told her she'd better be here in this bed when he woke up, yet she wasn't.

Sat himself up and leaned on the padded bedhead and smiled. He did feel different, he realised. Lighter almost, he ran a hand through his hair as he looked out the window. It was evening outside, he'd been asleep all day, it seemed.

'Where are you?' he mind-linked to Jo-anne.

'Around.' he could almost hear the smile in her voice.

'You're supposed to be here.' he growled playfully at her.

'Oh am I?' she teased right back.

'Mm, I think you should come here to me. I'm all healed and I need and want my Mate.'

Heard her actually chuckle softly 'I'm having dinner with mum and dad.'

'Hmm, but I want you.' he told her out right his voice all deep and husky, and he did want her.

'I'll come after dinner.'

West smiled at that 'After dinner, I'm hungry now Jo-anne. Come here and let me eat all I've ever wanted to eat.' he growled very deeply at her.

'Stop it.' she gasped at him, did not miss his meaning, there was no way she could.

'No.' he smiled 'Never.' and cut the mind-link to her, oh he was going to have her. His beautiful Mate, finally, her tainted her blood was out of him, and she herself was once again untainted. He was going to pull her right into this bed and Mate the hell out of her, Mark her and claim her completely. She was never going to escape him, not ever again.

'Jo-anne.' he mind-linked to her again, allowing all his desire to be heard in that one word.

'West?' she replied.

'Come here to our bed. Or I am going to play with you until you are all hot and bothered and beg me to come and find you.'

Heard her laugh now 'Oh really, and how do you plan to do that?'

West grinned to himself, then laughed into the empty room, cut the link to her. His eyes sparkled with mischief. Oh she had no idea what he could do to her, while not even touching her. Let the game begin, he thought to himself.

Chapter 119 - Her Alpha's Orders

Jo-anne POV

West was sleeping soundly in their bed, Belinda had told her he would likely be out for quite a while, but that she was certain he would be okay. She'd sat with him curled around her for almost an hour, before slipping from the bed.

Was currently sitting with her head in her hands, her elbows on her knees just staring at the vial of Belinda's blood. A part of her wanted nothing to do with the memories it would hold, but some other part of her wanted to know just what her mother had gone through. She had no idea what she would actually see, how bad it was going to be. Did she really want all that knowledge?

Her mother did not want to relive it, but thought that Jo-anne had a right to know everything to go along with her lineage. She was sitting alone in the living room of her new suite. The Alpha suite, she knew when West woke up he was going to come looking for her to claim her, and she would let him. Wanted it, just like Clova did.

He was out cold after she had realised while talking to Heath, she could only ever want West to be freed of the tainted blood inside of him, wanted him to go back to who he truly was, before Karen had hurt him, hurt them both with what she had done to them.

He'd thrown up a lot of her blood, barely had time to breathe between bouts of vomiting, but she was glad that it was done. He still loved her, and when she had touched him, she could feel all of the electric sparks of their Mate Bond still in tact. She was thankful for that. Had been worried it would pull their bond apart and deep down inside she did not want that at all.

He was resting now and Jo-anne had no idea how long he would be out cold. So this was a good time to contemplate her decision to see or not see. A good time to do it. When she was alone she thought. Didn't know how long it would take or the reaction she would have to it, so alone was the best option.

Sighed and reached out for that vial, twisted the blue cap off of it and took a deep breath in before putting the vial to her lips and tilting it up. Focused solely on what happened to her mother with Merrick.

Found herself as Belinda, out shopping in the human world with Natalia, the two of them with their sons, baby T.J. and baby West. Belinda left little T.J. with Natalia in a cafe, they were having coffee in, to go and use the ladies' room.

Upon coming out of the bathroom, she found a man standing right in front of her. He was very tall, grabbed a hold of her, a hand around her upper arm, an iron-clad grip as he stared right down at her "Sleep." he had ordered her instantly before she could react to his grip and she had suddenly become very tired, tried to pull away from him, only to stumble and then be picked up by that man and then darkness and coldness had surrounded her.

Belinda woke up chained to a bed in a very large room, tried to reach for Jonathan right away, to call for help. As panic set in, at her realisation of the situation at hand, she knew instantly she had been kidnapped, obvious from the man grabbing her to being chained up. There was no connection at all, she could not reach Jonathan. Like he was just not there at all. Pulled at the chain holding her to the bed. It did not burn like silver and Wren was still with her. They both used all their strength, and together they were strong, but the chain did not budge, they tried to break the bed post she was chained to, but it too would not break, not even crack when they hit and kicked it with all they had.

Then that tall man walked into the room. He had long white hair, it was braided down his back, was wearing a pair of red pants and an open long jacket that reached the floor it too was red in colour, his chest was completely bare, his thin lips twitched in to a smile as his eyes landed right on her, though it was not a friendly smile "still." he commanded her.

Belinda had felt her whole body freeze as he walked across the room towards her, had complete control over her, he touched her neck, right on her mark spot. "You belong to me now. I have removed your Mate." he told her.

"No." she gasped in horror.

"Yes. You're mine now. It has taken me a long time to locate and get you..." his hand slid up her neck and tilted her face right up to his "so special and rare. All that royal blood in your veins, plus the ability to see." felt his hand move to her hair and grab a fist full pull it painfully and yank her head back. "You'll produce me a good strong child." and then his mouth was on her neck and it burned like fire as she felt him mark her.

"No." she cried out in horror at what he was doing, at what he wanted of her. "Never will I." she snarled at him the second his mouth was off of her.

Saw him laugh "I think you will. I can make you do anything I want." felt him place a hand on her stomach. She screamed at him to get his hand off of her, to not touch her, saw his eyes go from black to complete silver and glow for a long minute "You are not yet ready." he'd told her as his hand had fallen away "I'll come back daily and check for when you are ripe, then I'll breed with you." he'd then just turned and walked away to the bedroom doorway, stopped and looked right at her "Release." he commanded and her whole body had sagged "I suggest you don't fight me on it. That will only hurt you, not me." Then he had gone.

She stood trembling in that room, reached up to touch her neck, felt nothing, no sensitiveness of her filigree mark that Jonathan had given to her. Looked around the room as tears filled her eyes, ran for the mirror she saw and tears burned down her face at the sight of her neck now. There was no silver filigree, just a dark circle outline with blotches inside it, looked like a full moon to her. That man's hideous mark was on her skin, dark and dreadful, a horrible sight to see.

She and Wren had tried to reject him, to rip that mark off of her, but it would not leave her skin no matter what they did, no matter what they said, no matter how many times they ripped at it with their own claws and gouged it off, it always came back.

Belinda had daily visits from him. Was brought food and water and when he thought she was 'Ripe' he took her against her will, used his powers to hold her still when she fought him, uncaring of what she wanted, uncaring of whether he hurt her.

She had tried to escape more than once, when that chain was removed so she could bath properly or change clothes to something clean once a week. Or right before he was to have her. She had fled from him, from his castle, knocked the woman attending to her down and unconscious and had fled. Only to have him hunt her down, every time.

Only the first time did she get far away from him, lost in the mountains around his castle not knowing where to go. He'd not known she'd run til his servant had woken and told him. She'd gotten a half days run away from him. Before he had appeared directly in front of her, his hand had snapped around her neck and he'd grated out angrily "you belong to me." as she tried to lash out at him to rake her claws through him and hurt him, gone for his own throat and not made it. He'd yelled "still." at her and she'd been forced to still.

He had used magic to move them back to the castle hidden somewhere in the mountains. He had chained her with silver and beaten her so badly that day, that she'd been a ball of pain for a solid week. Then he had dragged her by her silver cuffs through his castle to a room and made her watch as he used an enchanted blade to stab the slave woman she had knocked unconscious, to make her escape, had been made to watch as that blade had drained the very life force out of that woman, then when she was dead he had turned to her, looked directly at her "Her death is on your hands. All of them will be. You run away, I will kill them because of it."

Belinda had stood rooted to the spot, staring at the now lifeless woman, her body crumpled on the floor. Merrick had grabbed her and shoved her up against the wall of that room. "You will produce me, my child. I have already foreseen it. You can not escape, your fate is chosen already. I have foreseen our child, a Celestial witch wolf hybrid. It's blood will give me great powers, enhance everything about me. I'll be able to see all and change the future to my liking because of it. There is no escape wolf. Accept it. You are mine now." then, as if to prove it had taken her right there against her will once more in front of that dead woman. She had fought him with all she'd had till he'd

used his powers to hold her still to get what he wanted. And then he had dragged her back to her room and chained her up once more.

Belinda had spent that first 6 months desperately trying to escape Merrick to no avail. Many she had been forced to watch die, for her attempts to escape his clutches. A few had actively encouraged her to run. They, she noted, looked not pained to die before her, but almost relieved to be granted death. She'd been beaten severely each and every time he'd brought her back, then chained with silver before and after bathing to reduce the risk of escape, to keep her wolf Wren at bay.

Two long years of being forced to Mate with that warlock, she'd learned how to watch and listen. He always seemed to know when she used her own foresight, likely felt the vibrations of it, as she did when he used his.

Belinda hated him with every fibre of her being, was only ever thankful for one thing, that he had removed Jonathan's Mark from her, so her Mate, her real Mate would never feel the pains of what this man did to her. Thankful that he likely thought she was dead and she was glad that he did not have to feel the pains of betrayal as that warlock mated her repeatedly when he thought she was Ripe or needed to be reminded of who she now belonged to.

Had finally gotten her pregnant and then her every move was watched. It had taken her a lot of effort and a very long time to find a way to hurt him, she had to actively stop fighting him, no matter how much it pained her, had to force herself to pretend and act to slowly start to fall in love with him, took a year to make him fully believe it. She was already pregnant by then, used the child to connect with him.

Had made him believe she was in love with him, and let him touch her swelling belly, actively encouraging him to do so. Let him touch her when he wanted to, told him how much she wanted to please him, then did as he'd asked to prove it, hated every moment of it but made him believe she loved it all. Told him that they would have many more children to come as well.

Had made herself touch that horrid man, tell him she wanted him, call him to her bed and ask for him to touch her, until he was convinced he'd won her over, that she was finally his and then and only then had he given her breathing room, only a little freedom, it did not stop a beating if he thought she needed it.

But she got to move about the castle, made sure to smile at him all dreamy eyed when she saw him, never let him see how much she was disgusted by him, hated him deep down inside. While she had walked about that castle trying to get her bearings and find out where she was in the world. In the middle of the British Columbia Mountain range near a place called Hope.

Found she was a full 7-day run in her condition from here to her pack.

Found that every single person here in this very castle was a slave to Merrick, they were all bound to him, for one reason or another, to do his will. No-one in that place was happy and all of them had some sort of magical mark on them too. Hers was as his Mate. He however, did not bare hers. She and Wren would never Mark him and it was the only thing he could not force them to do, it seemed.

Every Mark she saw was some phase of the moon. Merrick himself bore 9 phases of the moon like a tattoo that went from his collarbone to his pelvic bone right down the centre of his chest with star constellations dotted around it and through the moons. He also had born a massive sun that covered the entirety of his upper back and on both the insides of his wrists.

The day Belinda had escaped from him, he had been enjoying watching her ride him, had come to her room excited, had told her their child would be born soon, was very happy and excited about it, had been all hands on and she knew then, that she had to do it.

He'd pulled her on top of him to enjoy staring at her swollen belly, rarely did he ever actually look at her, was completely obsessed with the child growing inside of her, the child he intended to imprison and use as a blood bag for his own sick twisted purposes.

Belinda had already stolen that small enchanted dagger, hidden it in her bed to use. She knew that he would close his eyes as he got close to cumming. Waited for it. Leaned down and cried out his name as though she was also happy and cumming, enjoying herself. Knew he liked to hear his name. Slid her hand under the pillow where the dagger was hidden and curled her hand around the handle, waited till his eyes were closed, whipped it out and buried it deep in his side, between two ribs right into his lung, saw his eyes snap open, had not been expecting it.

The one thing she had been good at was to never think about harming or being a threat. Her own bringing up had taught her that, he'd never seen it coming. Used all of her wolf strength and Wren had given her everything she had that day, to hold that blade firmly inside of him.

Watched as it started to suck the life right out of him almost instantly, felt one of his hands clamp around her throat and start to squeeze, she'd returned the favour with her free hand cutting off his ability to speak.

His other hand was on her hand on the blade, but she was not cuffed with silver, it might hurt the child, and so it was both her and Wren staring down at him, holding him down by his throat, holding that dagger inside him.

If he strangled her and they died, so be it. They knew if they did not win this battle right now, he would simply kill them anyway, cut the child from her and then turn that blade on her, so it was one or the other a fight to the death, only she had the upper hand, that blade was working on him sucking the life right out of him as he struggled against them.

Watched gleefully as that blade sucked the life right out of him, it was buried as deep as she could get it all the way to the hilt, held it in him and held him down, watched him start to really struggle as she realised he was losing the fight, struggled to pull that blade from him, from her hand, but she and Wren would never stop fighting and second by second, minute by minute his life was taken from him, til he was a lifeless grey corpse underneath them.

Gotten out of the bed and thrown up all over the floor, stood staring at his lifeless corpse, tears streaming down her face, finally had freed herself from him, felt his mark disappear from her skin.

Had left that blade in him, when they'd gotten off of him, did not risk taking it out of him, what if he was so old and ancient that he could come back from the dead. Had ran off and showered, scrubbed herself clean, till she was practically red raw, sobbing the whole time, had grabbed clothes and dragged them on and then just ran from that hideous place, that had been her prison for the last 2 years, as she ran so did everyone else who was there.

Everyone was fleeing in droves, just like she was, no one paid anyone but themselves attention, they were all tortured in one way or another by Merrick, and they were all now free. Likely running for their very lives praying that he was actually dead, just like her running back to whatever family's that had been left behind. Had been taken from.

Belinda had a long way to go and knew her baby was due soon, but had not yet delivered the baby when she was a day from the pack, was worried about what to do about the baby, how to protect it, knew deep down inside this was what Hendrick wanted her for, to have her bare a child like the one she now was carrying.

Went into labour just an hour from the actual pack border, it was cold and snowing and had to stop and deliver the child herself, wrapped the baby in a torn off piece of the dress she was wearing, never looked at the child, not once, couldn't know if it was a boy or a girl, couldn't know anything about it, for that would mean the seer's then could see the child as well.

Had snuck into the pack. In the middle of the night, managed to avoid the border patrol due to the heavily falling snow and lack of wind that night. Her scent had been dampened from them and she knew how the patrols worked, it was her pack.

Put the baby down in the snow. "I'm sorry I can't be your mother." she had kissed the child on the head and fled again back out of the pack, her own heart breaking at giving up something she had been willing to kill for and die to protect, her precious child. Knew that child was alone but had heard it start to cry as she'd run away. Prayed to the goddess for someone to find and protect her child.

Knew someone would hear a baby crying, and go searching, find it. Knew Natalia would do what any pack would for an orphaned child. Bleed it to another line. Hiding its lineage from all, even her, till the child came of age anyway.

She had stayed out in the wilds of rogue territory a full day away at all times from her pack, in the mountains, stayed away for 2 weeks, allowing her body to heal and recover from giving birth, also give the Luna time to find her child a good home.

Was thin and frail looking, not much food out and about mid winter, was dirty and unwashed but had nothing to clean herself with. Had heard wolves in the distance and did not know if they were a pack or rogues, but knew there were many, had to run for her pack to make sure not to be found, a lone female out in rogue territory, never a good thing, not even for one as strong as she and Wren.

Ran right to the Northern border, fell down on to her knees right in front of the patrol man, who looked right at her very shocked, to be laying eyes on one, they likely thought was dead long ago. She had begged for him to call Jonathan.

It did not take long for him to arrive, saw his wolf Chase racing towards the border at full speed, shifted as he came to a halt. Alpha Damian had not been far behind him, Belinda had just sat there and stared up at him, looking at Jonathan, praying the moon goddess had not gifted him another. Watched him through tears as he knelt down and slid his arms around her, she had sobbed uncontrollably as she'd clung on to him. Heard him sob her name as he picked her up and held her to him, heard him thank the goddess for returning her to him.

Jo-anne's eyes returned to the room and her surroundings. She could feel the tears sliding down her cheeks, for everything her mother had to go through, for all she'd had to do to save not just herself but her own child, from a fate worse than death.

She got up and walked out of the suite, walked to her mother's suite and knocked on the door, when she opened the door and looked at Jo-anne, she just put her arms around her mother and hugged her tightly. "I wish you to never think about it anymore. I am your and Jonathan's child always." and she meant it, every single word, she did not want her mother to ever have to randomly, subconsciously or even absently think about that time in her life, never have to dream about it ever. Could let it go. Know about it but not feel the pain of it anymore. To be freed from the pain of it.

"Thank you." she heard Belinda state softly a minute later and then pull away from her.

"I'm a little bit worried about West," she changed the subject. "He's not woken up yet."

"He's fine, just sleeping, he will wake up in time."

Saw Jonathan watching the two of them, smiled at her and then mouth the words 'thank you.' at her.

She smiled at him. "Hi dad."

Chapter 120 - Her Alpha's Orders

Jo-anne POV

Jo-anne smiled and apologised for the interruption to the dinner "West is awake." she told her parents. Both T.J. and Ella as well as Sonja and Ava were all sitting at the table as well, it was their first real family dinner, she'd not known how long West would be asleep, but so far he'd not even rolled over in his sleep. So she had agreed to have dinner with them.

It was very clear to Jo-anne what he wanted, Clova was all excited inside her mind by the thought of finally being completely bonded to Volt. Jo-anne like the idea herself, but the man was barely awake, likely needed more rest so she was intentionally put him off. Seems he'd let it go for the moment, had cut the link.

"You might want to go to him sweetheart." her mother smiled at her.

"I'm sure he can wait until dinner is finished." she smiled.

"Might not, he is Alpha blooded, and the taint is out of him now. He'll be looking to claim you fully."

"I know what he wants. It can wait." Jo-anne picked up her glass of wine to take a sip and stilled as a hot shiver shot up her back, practically banged it down and shot to her feet. "I'm sorry I have to go." she told them in a rush and hurried to exit the suite. Damned shivers just came when they felt like it.

"Jo-Jo." it was T.J. calling out after her.

"Son, just leave it." she heard her mother's voice, as she stepped out of the suite. Stopped in the hall.

Goddess, where do I go? Jo-anne had no idea what rooms were empty up here and she needed to get inside one and quickly, couldn't have a full blown shivers out here in the 3rd floor hallway for all to see.

Bit down on the moan that was trying to escape her as she felt heat slide up her legs, like someone was touching her slowly 'Jo-anne.' it was West again.

Goddess he was going to feel her arousal through the mind-link, just like last time 'not now.' she shot back, desperately trying to keep herself under control.

Heard him chuckle, 'feels like you want me.' he teased.

'Enough.' she severed the link herself, he'd not missed it. Damned man and his Alpha senses. Put a hand on the wall and gasped as the next wave of pleasure started to roll through her. It was light, almost teasingly so, was more able to handle that, pushed off the wall and hurried down the hall.

'You come to me, or I'll hunt you.' West's husky voice came to her, then he severed the link himself.

That bastard was toying with her. Felt her arousal down the mind-link and had decided to play with her, it seemed. She couldn't have him find her like this, had not even told him about her shivers yet.

Bit her lip, wondered if she could play it off as she was just all wanton for him. He'd not known that last two times, headed up the stairs, noted the heat die down in her back a little and sighed with relief.

But then gasped and stumbled about half way down the 4th floor hallway, on the way to their suite, as a deep roll of pleasure hit her. Damned near lay down on the floor to accept it, was so darn good, then it was gone and she gasped "What the hell is going on?" Jo-anne muttered as she leaned on the wall. Her shivers never came and went like this before, this was all new.

Pushed into the suite and leaned on the door, closed her eyes and bit down hard as a massive amount of pleasure rolled through her, balled her fists and clamped her thighs together, squeezed her eyes tightly shut and tried desperately not to react to the feeling of what was someone actually pushing inside of her, trying to hold it off.

"Well, well, well. What do I have here?" it was West and she knew he was right in front of her, would have heard her come into the suite, hell he could probably smell her from the bedroom. She opened her eyes only to find him smiling right at her, his green eyes right on hers, full of desire, reached out for him.

Found her hands caught by his and pushed back against the door "Don't you smell delicious."

"West please." she practically begged him. She could already feel the next wave building, and needed to hide it from him.

"There is no rush Jo-anne." he stated softly, leaned his mouth to her ear "all the things I want to do to you." he whispered and a moan escaped her, he wasn't even touching her, but goddess it did feel like there was someone between her thighs "I want to taste you." he growled and another moan came from her "Deeply." he bit her ear lobe, cried out, almost believed he was doing just that "Softly at first Jo-anne." it was too much she had to give into it sighed as pleasure started to build slowly, so hot and goddess so darn good. "then harder, til you cum for me." she was suddenly gasping and moaning, could hear his breathing, heavy in her ear.

“West.” she cried out as her orgasm started to build. He wasn’t even touching her, just talking to her, but she could swear what he was saying was exactly what she was feeling.

“I’m going to kiss you till you cum, ravage your sweet pussy til you cry out and scream for me.” his mouth was on her neck and her whole body was burning hot, he was still holding her up against the door, pinned there, just listening to her moans holding her down so she couldn’t get to him, could feel her orgasm coming now, building quicker, heard him chuckle softly as she cried out finally as she climax right there in front of him.

Moved her eyes to his, there was pure amusement in his eyes ‘no he couldn’t know.’ she had kept it hidden all this time, but the way he was looking down at her, he did know, had to know. Then that deliberate slow smirk that played across his mouth “Do you want more Jo-anne?” he growled down at her.

“I don’t.” then gasp as another wave started to build, found his mouth on hers briefly, before he picked her up and pressed her against the door. “Oh, there is much more I want to do to you, let’s see.” his mouth moved to her neck “I’m going to bury myself so darn deep and hard inside of you.” he growled.

A scream burst from her as pleasure ripped right through her so hard and fast, she couldn’t contain herself, it actually felt like he was inside of her, “West” she gasped, wanting the real thing.

“When I’m done playing with you.” he smiled right against her neck and her eyes snapped open at his words, then his eyes were on her, looking right at her, he didn’t say anything but the sensation of him inside of her, taking her was so very intense, it was rolling through her body getting harder and faster till she was gasping and screaming, desperately clinging onto him.

Heard him chuckle “ Oh aren’t you a delight.” he growled.

“How?” it dawned on her. It was him, he was doing this to her, she’d felt everything he’d said he wanted to do to her. “No.”

“Yes.” he smirked right at her, his eyes were glittering now.

“You bastard,” she gasped “I was at dinner.”

“I know,” he laughed, “Oh Jo-anne, the fun I am going to have.”

“West.” she gasped in shock.

“Now, what say we do it for real.” he was on the move carrying her towards their bedroom. His mouth found hers, it was hot and hungry, she found herself underneath him, his hands already pulling at her clothes.

“West wait.”

“Why?” he smiled down at her “Do you need more of...” his words trailed off and she gasped as pleasure started to bloom between her thighs.

“Screw it.” she muttered. She was not going to be able to stop him, if he could just think about it and she felt it, there was not a hope in hell of defeating him or stopping him. Reached up and pulled at his shirt, as he took his pants off and then hers were gone, shoved him down on the bed and climbed right on top of him. Her mouth found his and his hands slid over her body. “Take what you want, Jo-anne.”

“I will have all of you.” she told him as she lined him up and thrust down on to him to take him into herself, let her head fall back at the feel of him inside her, all hers, he was hers to have as she wanted, when she wanted and how she wanted, rode him hard and fast, crying out his name as she came.

Felt him sit up, one hand in her hair, his mouth crashed down on to hers, his kiss devouring her mouth as he thrust up into her, felt his hand slide up her back and cried out for him, her need building as he touched her moons so much desire and need burned in her for this man, her Mate.

Screamed his name as she came again, felt his fangs buried in her neck and was suddenly under him, his whole body thrusting harder and faster in and out of her. He was Mating her and she knew it, felt Clova push forward so they could Mate him right back, both their bodies hot and wanton for each other. He was looking down at her, right into their eyes as he Mated her “Mine.” He and Volt roared together as they knotted them.

“Mine.” she and Clova roared right back at them, as they came, felt so very full as his knot stretched them to their limits, pulled his neck to her mouth and sank their fangs into him. Marking him, claiming him once more as theirs. Only this time willingly, knowingly, theirs forever. Looked right up at him “You’re a bastard.” she sighed softly.

Saw him smile, “You have no idea, what you’re in for, Jo-anne.” his voice was deep and sexy as hell, and full of taunt. Felt his hand touch her face, “I love you.” he murmured and leaned down and kissed her softly as his knot released and he slipped from her body and lay next to her on the bed. “and I’m going to show you, everyday just how much.”

Jo-anne rolled over and looked at him as he lay there next to her, could feel herself starting to get sleepy already, damned man, “How am I going to handle you, you don’t,” she yawned, “even look tired to me.”

Saw him chuckle “I’m not tired. Satisfied yes, tired no...” grinned right at her “Do you want to go again?”

“Goddess help me.” Jo-anne muttered, knowing he actually did already want more “tired West.”

“Hmm.” he rolled on to his back and pulled her on top of him. “Sleep, I’ll let you rest.” she heard the smile in his voice “One hour, then I am going to wake you, ravage every damned inch of you.”

Jo-anne smiled as she allowed her head to settle in the crook of his neck as she felt his arms curl around her waist and hold her to his body gently “Might need more than one hours sleep then.” she murmured sleepily as her eyes closed, “We love you West.” she sighed contentedly as sleep started to claim her.