

# The Lightning Wolf Chronicles Novel

## Chapter 5

Read The Lightning Wolf Chronicles Novel Chapter 5 -

## Souls Bound By Promise – Timothy Nelson

### 171

Chapter 171: Many Things Have Changed

Evelyn's POV

I took a deep breath, facing Lucian's request. This conversation was coming sooner or later.

"Fine," I said, "just let me give her the keys first."

I hopped out of the car and pulled the keys from my pocket, handing them to Sophia.

"Drive carefully on this terrain," I warned.

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"I've driven before, you know," she rolled her eyes.

"Don't let her drive!" Freya yelled from the window. "Orion, if you want to live, don't let her near that wheel!"

Freya and I broke into laughter. Sophia was notoriously terrible behind the wheel despite all her training.

Orion silently took the keys from Sophia. "I'll drive. I'd prefer to arrive in one piece.

I grabbed a jacket and blanket from the tactical vehicle and tossed them to Freya. "Try to sleep if you can. We've been up for almost two days straight."

"Yes, boss," she mock-saluted as I climbed back into the SUV next to Lucian.

"So why'd you need Orion gone?" I asked directly. "What can't be said in front of him?"

"Can't I just want some time with an old friend?" Lucian answered, his voice gentle.

“It’s just... things are different now.”

“A lot’s changed since you left, Tiny,” Magnus said from the driver’s seat. “We don’t hang out together like before. Everyone’s got their own responsibilities now, preparing for our official roles. He paused. “Will you tell us what really happened that night? Was it Acacia?”

“I don’t want to talk about that,” I turned to the window. “I’m trying to forget it. But I’m not the same person anymore.”

“We can see that,” Lucian said softly. “You seem stronger.”

I nudged his shoulder. “Thanks for the gear. It saved my life more than once. And the birthday gifts... didn’t think you guys would remember.”

“How could we forget? Magnus reached over and squeezed my hand. “You’ve always mattered to us. We just hoped we mattered enough to you for at least a text letting us know you were okay. We were near the training center several times, but you only sent that formal letter.”

“You know I wasn’t allowed.

“That’s bullshit, Magnus’s voice hardened. “If you really wanted to see us, Alpha King Nathan would’ve made it happen. Commander Taric would’ve brought you himself.”

“Stop!” I snapped. “My whole life I’ve been the weak one, the Beta’s daughter who needed protection. People only noticed me because I was your friend. I needed to prove myself on my own!”

I took a breath to calm down. “Even if you don’t get it, I had to choose Sentinelning. It was hard, but I did it. I’ve been working my ass off to show what

I can do.”

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Chapter 171: Many Things Have Changed

The cat went quiet. Magnus breathed deeply before speaking

I won’t bring it up again. But I need to say one thing Alpha King the very first time I rode when you were captured. That bastard... hurt you? Freya wants to know what

His knuckles turned white on the steering wheel.

ka

Not like that,' I said quietly, staring out the window. Rest 1 sew to wrk. W my way to

Magnuss shoulders relaxed. I leaned against him and took turton's end.

I'm okay now, and I'm home for a while. Can we leave it at that for now? 17 pingeallly, be some things us back to sit but abs don't want to keep repeating it?

He grunted in agreement, squeezing my hand while focusing on the rat.

We drove in silence for a while. My leaving was clearly still a sure son, brogit me, those dear the hole of wing wis most could really talk, But right now, I needed to focus on the mission.

"Does Luna Isabella know I'm coming? Should we call bred? Indeed,

'No need, Lucian laughed. "When Milo spotted you, he blested it through the safe mund Ankle & Kut who found candy Eye moyo

now

"Where will we stay? I didn't plan on being this close to the ped

"You've been gone too long Lucien said. "Your teammates will stay in the pack use as quest

And me? Will I be in the Beta family area?

You still have your own room. No ones touched it since you left. We trally Ludan ket arsy

As long as I'm not imposing You're right, I've been gone a while, and things change. If we causing plens, not el ne

We pulled into the familier courtyard. A figure in pick was pacing by the earsangized Ana immediacy and deep teach a day num After we parked, Milo and Elliot went to handle the prisoner, and Onion parked the other ca

"Back already? Maria wnd dramatically, her face freezing when she saw me. Ws ate funtg here I taught so al finally damaged tem

My wolf growled in my throat. 'I wasn't dumped, caria. I was all See

"Don't kod yourself," the stepped doser with a nasty silent below be danght what mes puters

In the past, I never told the gays about her buying and she serves as thou as far ofte by gall ward and they

wouldn't slep in

Before I could knower, Larian wragged his was around my wait, Maptus modes of me, and Grapped my de unge wall.

"Remember," Magnus vouct was cales be carried therty 'ge only allowed the pack has a counting on tege manisms und

Dophie and Freya flanked me, outing calm but ready.

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Chapter 171: Many Things Have Changed

Is this the woman who's been messing with you? Sophia asked through our mind lin

This bitch needs a lesson. Let me give her one, Freya cut in, anger clear in her tond

Not happening. She's still pack. We can't attack without cause. Plus, she's the worst nd of trouble, I replied.

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Our exchange was cut short by rapid footsteps – Luna Isabella rushing toward us, ace glowing with joy. Lucian released me just as Luna Isabella pulled me into a tight hug that nearly crushed my ribs.

"My dear child! I've missed you so much!" she exclaimed.

"Luna Isabella, you saw me weeks ago, I laughed.

"That was when you were safe," she whispered. "Someone wants to hurt you, to take you from us again."

"Luna Isabella, shouldn't we discuss the party plans?" Acacia interrupted sweetly.

Luna Isabella hugged me tighter. "I'll explain later."

She turned to Acacia: "Plans have changed. Border activity means the party's on hold. I'm sorry."

She

addressed everyone: “We need to meet with Alpha Adam immediately. Evelyn we must decide about the prisoner and arrange lodging. Tell me what you’d like for dinner. Adam will be thrilled you’re back.”

She guided me toward the house, arm around my shoulders, with Freya and Sophia following. Acacia stood frozen, her eyes burning with hatred.

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Chapter 172: She Can’t Stay Here

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Evelyn’s POV

Acacia’s glare followed us until we disappeared upstairs.

Luna Isabella paused at my door, glancing around as if checking for eavesdropper. Her hand hovered over the doorknob.

‘Just so you know, the room’s not exactly how you left it, she said softly. “If I’d known you were coming today, I would ve cleaned it up.”

When she swung the door open, a wall of masculine scent hit me. The room looked like some kind of guys hangout spot – blankets and pillows scattered

around the floor, though my bed remained neatly made.

“Since you and Nadia left, these boys have been lost, Luna Isabella explained. They take turns crashing here, but they never touch your bed or closet. Too

scared of messing up your scent.”

“That’s absolutely wild,” Sophia burst out laughing. “What did you do to them? Seriously, teach me your ways.”

‘I didn’t do anything special, I shrugged. “We grew up together, practically joined at the hip before I left for training. I guess they missed me as much as I missed them.”

“Missed you? Freya snorted. Like when someone in your pack poisoned you and put you in the hospital for a month? Sorry, Luna Isabella, but why is that woman still prancing around like she owns the place after what she did to Evelyn?”

“Don’t worry, this room is completely soundproof, Luna Isabella assured us. I trust you both because Evelyn clearly does.”

She sighed deeply. Acacia’s always been trouble. But we’ve never managed to get hard evidence against her – trust me, we’ve tried. Accusing her without proof would look like we’re abusing our power. Her family would turn it into an even bigger mess.”

She looked at us seriously. “That cold welcome? Expect more while you’re here.

They’re renovating and staying here temporarily,’ she continued. “They’ve taken half the second-floor guest rooms where you two should be staying,” she

told Sophia and Freya,

“They can stay with me, I offered.

“Absolutely not!’ Luna Isabella’s tone was firm. “Acacia can’t complain about you your own room, but if your friends move up here, she ll throw a fit. Het family’s always looking for loopholes.”

And your pack lets them get away with it? Freya asked.

‘Not everyone,” Luna Isabella sighed. “Some elders think they have more authori than Alpha Adam Unfortunately, many pack members dont we the problem.

Prince Alistair deals with the same issues. Whenever leadership changes approach, power plays start. We can’t let pack members lose faith in us.”

All quests should stay on the second floor- that’s the rule, the explained. ‘Butacia’s father keeps making excuses to get her onto the third floor.” She rolled her eyes. “Somehow she always cracks our door codes. Last time she broke, we had a huge argument. I finally had to use my Luna aura to shut it

down

How long have they been staying here? I asked.

“Way too long, Luna Isabella said wearily. Their house got damaged in a small earthquake a month after you left. The damage wasn't even that bad, but

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Chapter 172: She Can't Stay Here

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their inspector recommended tearing it down completely. The construction's dragged on forever with constant delays. Im sure they're doing it on purpose.”

“The boys recently came of age, but their ceremony's on hold because of security concerns. They don't mind waiting until spring. That family's hoping Acacia can stick close to the triplets, thinking they might develop feelings for her if they don't find their mates in time.”

“So he's using his daughter like a bargaining chip, hoping she might become Luna Sophia asked pointedly.

“That 11 never happen, Luna Isabella said firmly. “They'll wait for their true mate But they're young, and they used to have some... casual relationships. They later realized some girls thought that could lead to becoming Luna, which is ridiculous. Since you and Nadia left, they haven't shown interest in any girls they've changed a lot. Her tone mixed pride with worry.

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“Let's figure out the room situation,” I suggested, changing the subject. “Sophia didn't really get to tour the place during selection, and Freya's never been

here. I should show them around.”

I didn't want to dwell on how the boys had changed after I left. Their behavior wasn't my responsibility, and they shouldn't change completely because of me. They had their own lives and responsibilities – they were just growing up.

“Will Freya and Sophia be staying near Acacia's family?” I asked. “Or can they be at the other end of the hall? I'd rather keep them away from all that

drama.

“That family’s taking up three guest rooms,” Luna Isabella explained. ‘I’ll put you at the opposite end, near the third-floor stairs. That might reduce Acacia’s chances for causing trouble. We should also check with Alpha Adam about the prisoner. Has Commander Taric sent any updates on your mission?’”

“Nothing yet,” I glanced at my friends, who both shook their heads. “Weird, since specifically told him we’d wait for instructions. Maybe he wants us to stay put, or they’re tracking rogues too and can’t reach us. I’ll give it 24 hours before following up.”

The three of us headed toward my room when Luna Isabella stopped us with a laugh.

“Girls, you’ve been in the wild too long. Shower and change first. Is any of that blood actually yours? Clean up, then find Alpha Adam. No rush – there’s no emergency now. You should rest; I hear you haven’t slept in two days.”

We looked at each other, finally noticing our appearance. We were complete disasters: covered in dirt and blood, with twigs stuck in our hair. The blood on our necks and hands stood out starkly, and Sophia and Freya had splatter across their faces.

We all cracked up laughing.

“Evelyn, your clothes are still in the closet, but you’ve definitely gained some muscle, Luna Isabella smiled. ‘I’ll find something for all of you.’”

After washing off the battle grime, we changed into classic Isabella-style outfits colorful but flattering to each of us.

“Wearing bright colors feels weird, Sophia commented. ‘Like we’re targets.’”

“You’ll get used to it. I’m starving, I admitted. Let’s find food.”

I led them out, half-expecting to see the boys waiting, but the corridor was empty.

A wave of disappointment hit me, followed by irritation at myself I left to follow my dreams, how could I expect them to wait around? I headed downstairs but froze at the kitchen doorway when I heard voices.

Acacia and her father.

“Dad, do something! She can’t stay here! Acacia’s voice dripped with hatred. ‘She ruins everything!’”

I try, sweetheart, her father said. “But we can’t go after her directly. She’ll leave once her mission’s done.”

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Chapter 172: She Can't Stay Here

"Why not?" Acacia snapped. "Everything was better after she left. She's turning everyone against me! As the future Luna, I won't put up with disloyal

people!

"Once you become Luna, you can send her away,' he said quietly. "But we need to be careful now. Whether she has talent or not, she's still everyone's

favorite.

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Chapter 173: Change Starts Here

Evelyn's POV

Acacia's voice drifted from the kitchen, her tone venomous. "Dad, do something! he can't stay here! She ruins everything!"

I'll try, sweetheart, her father replied quietly. "But we can't go after her directly She'll leave once her mission's done."

'Why not? Acacia snapped. "Everything was better after she left. She's turning everyone against me! As the future Luna, I won't put up with disloyal

people!"

'Once you become Luna, you can send her away. But we need to be careful now. Whether she has talent or not, she's still everyone's favorite."

I rolled my eyes at their pathetic scheming. After everything I'd faced, Acacia's party games weren't worth my energy anymore.

I strode into the kitchen, completely ignoring their startled faces. Without acknowledging them, I headed straight for the cabinet.

"Dora always hides some goodies here," I said to Sophia and Freya, pulling out energy bars and dried fruit. "The boys eat everything in sight, but she manages to save some snacks."

I handed some to my friends and walked out without a backward glance. Acacia's shocked silence behind me was more satisfying than any confrontation could have been.

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Outside, the familiar scents of home wrapped around me. The pack lands looked exactly as I remembered, though I felt like a different person returning to them.

"This is where you grew up?" Sophia looked around, impressed. "It's way more peaceful than I expected."

"Just wait till you see the training grounds," I laughed. "Not so peaceful there."

As we approached the training area, unexpected shouts and movement caught my attention.

"What's going on?" Freya asked, pointing ahead. "Sounds like a lot of people."

"That's weird. It should be empty this time of day."

We quickened our pace, and I stopped short at the entrance. The field was filled with kids around ten years old, all training intensely under the supervision of my boys.

"Griffin!" I called out, spotting the Delta at the edge of the field. "What's all this? Since when do we have afternoon sessions?"

Griffin turned, his face lighting up. "Evelyn! Well, you could say this was your dog.

'My doing?'"

“These kids saw you go from underestimated Beta’s daughter to Sentinel,” he said with obvious pride in his voice. Now they all want extra training. Some recent... incidents... also made everyone realize combat skills matter.”

“Nothing serious,” he added quickly, seeing my concern.

I introduced my teammates. “This is Sophia, fellow Sentinel and friend. And this Freya from Crescent City pack, an Alpha’s daughter.”

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Chapter 173: Change Starts Here

Griffin nodded respectfully. “It’s an honor. Alpha, I’m truly sorry about what happened to your pack.”

“Thanks, Freya said simply. “I’m focused on the future now.”

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Griffin’s eyes sparked with mischief. ‘Since you’re here, how about showing these kids what real Sentinels can do? They’ve heard stories about you, but never seen Sentinels in action.”

“What did you have in mind?” I asked.

‘Modified chase game,” he explained, pointing to the obstacle course. “You three cross all obstacles from start to finish. The kids try to block you. If any of you gets touched, your team fails.”

“Any prize if we win?” Sophia asked, already stretching.

‘Beat Evelyn’s old record and I’ll throw you a feast, Griffin laughed. “Milo’s team came closest, but they’re still way behind your time.”

I glanced around the field and spotted the boys. Milo was waving excitedly, Elliot watching the children, Magnus and Lucian maintaining their composure.

Orion... he kept looking away whenever our eyes might meet.

Griffin’s voice boomed across the field. “Everyone! We have special guests today Evelyn and her Sentinel teammates. They’ll show you what real teamwork

looks like.

The kids erupted in cheers, several familiar faces waving at me.

“That’s not fair!” a skinny boy protested. “Making us go against Sentinels? We don’t have a chance!”

Freya crouched to his level. “Do you think real enemies care about being fair? You get stronger by facing people better than you. If you only fight weaker opponents, you’ll never grow.”

The boy fell silent, and I noticed other children looking at Freya with new respect

Griffin organized the teams, then returned to us. “Don’t hold back. These kids need a real challenge. You grew up with tough training, Evelyn – smallest in size but toughest warrior we’ve ever had.”

His words caught me off guard. Being back in this place, surrounded by memories hit me harder than expected.

‘Evie, you okay?’

I turned to find Orion beside me, his brow furrowed in concern.

Without thinking, I threw my arms around him, breathing in his familiar scent. A sense of safety was something I’d missed desperately.

‘I haven’t forgiven you yet,’ he muttered, squeezing me tight.

‘I know. I’m sorry I didn’t do more, I whispered back.

‘Sorry isn’t enough. We’ll talk after this. He patted my back once before pulling away and heading toward his team.

‘What was that about?’ Freya asked. ‘Can he sense your emotions or something?’

‘Kind of. He always shows up when I need someone – when I’m feeling down or sure. It started after my wolf awakened.’

‘Sounds like mate bonding to me, Sophia said bluntly.

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## Chapter 173: Change Starts Here

“No way!” I shook my head quickly. “Definitely not that. We’ve talked about it. The other boys can comfort me too. It’s just... our group thing

‘Ready!’ Griffin called out. “Ladies, prepared to face the challenge?”

We exchanged grins, battle excitement kindling inside me.

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“Nothing to worry about,” I said, flexing my wrists. ‘I could run this course blind lded. Freya, contain the right flank; Sophia, take left to split their attention. We’ll meet at the center point, then sprint to finish together.”

“Got it,” they nodded in unison.

“These kids aren’t slow, and they know the terrain better than we do. But they’re inexperienced and fall for fake-outs. Use the obstacles to your advantage.”

Yes, Captain, they responded through our mind link.

I took a deep breath, feeling that familiar pre-battle rush. It reminded me of my first day at Sentinel training – nervous, excited, and ready to prove myself.

‘Ready... begin!’

At Griffin’s signal, I launched toward the climbing frame. Behind me, children shouted and footsteps pounded, but I didn’t look back. I grabbed the first bar and pulled myself up, keeping track of my teammates from the corner of my eye.

Freya had already drawn six kids to her side, moving effortlessly between balance beams. Sophia was easily outpacing the children trying to flank her.

This is too easy, Sophia laughed through our link. These kids have no coordination.

Don’t get cocky, I warned. They’re smarter than they look.

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Chapter 174: Has He Always Been This Pushy?

Evelyn's POV

Just as we converged toward the central meeting point, the kids suddenly switch tactics. Instead of chasing us wildly, they formed blocking patterns.

Clearly, someone was directing them.

“Interesting, I muttered, vaulting over a barrier wall.

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Milo's voice rang out across the field. “They're heading for the ropes! Cut them off there!”

They've figured us out, Freya said through our link.

Then let's switch it up, I replied. Sophia, head straight for the water pool. Freya, take the cargo nets. We'll meet fifty meters from the finish.

The children scrambled to adjust, but too late. We moved like lightning, approaching the finish from three different angles.

\*Sprint!\* I shouted, pouring on the speed.

The wind rushed past my ears. Just as I neared the finish, the complaining boy from earlier lunged at me from the side. I dodged at the last second, using his momentum to propel myself across the line. Sophia and Freya crossed moments later.

“Time!” Griffin checked his stopwatch, eyes widening. “New record! Ten seconds faster than the previous best!”

The kids swarmed around us, faces a mix of disappointment and excitement.

“How'd you do that?” a girl asked, eyes shining. “There were so many of us!”

“That's teamwork,” Sophia replied with a smile. “When you coordinate well, you can overcome bigger numbers.”

‘But we couldn’t tell who was who,’ another kid whined.

“That’s exactly the point,” Freya explained. “In a real fight, confusing your opponent gives you an edge.”

Griffin addressed the group. “That’s today’s lesson teamwork, strategy, and adaptability. Even against stronger opponents, the right approach can make all the difference,”

The boys approached, Milo clapping enthusiastically. “That was awesome! Those moves on the cargo nets were insane.”

“I totally lost track of you,’ Elliot admitted. “That crossing pattern was brilliant.”

Magnus stepped forward, his analytical gaze sweeping over us. “The real questions: who was your core? Who should have been the primary target?”

The children erupted in debate.

“Beta Evelyn!” one boy declared. She’s the leader!”

‘No, the other Sentinel, argued another. “She was always in the key positions.”

‘I think it was the Alpha,’ a third chimed in. She moved fastest!’

‘Who cares? The complainer rolled his eyes. “They won, game over.”

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Chapter 174: Has He Always Been This Pushy?

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Magnus fixed him with a stern look. ‘It makes a huge difference. Identifying the primary target lets you focus your resources where they matter most.

“In real combat,” Lucian added more gently, ‘wrong judgment could mean mission failure.”

‘Looks like someone needs extra training. Milo teased the boy. “Devil’s training tomorrow, 4 AM.

“What? I didn’t do anything!” the boy protested.

“Your attitude is the problem,” Orion said quietly. “Never dismiss a learning opportunity. Even games have value.”

“Devil’s training?” I asked. “What’s that?”

Lucian’s eyes twinkled. “Our new special program. Starts at four every morning, inspired by someone who always trained at crazy hours.”

“You mean me? I stared at him.

“Yep, Milo grinned. After you left, we realized dawn training actually works, especially for kids who need motivation.”

Griffin clapped his hands. That’s it for today. Pack up your gear the principal wants you in ten minutes.”

The children scattered, their chatter fading. Watching them go, I felt a surge of pride. Maybe my efforts had made some small difference after all.

“Quite a show, Magnus said, appearing at my side. “But Mom’s waiting. She told us to take care of you three.”

“Already? I frowned. “So soon?”

“You just finished a dangerous mission,” he replied firmly. “Plus, Mom’s prepared a huge brunch, and you know how she gets.

Let me at least say bye to Griffin,” I protested, but Magnus was already steering us toward the parking lot.

“Don’t even try to slip away,” Lucian whispered, his hand resting lightly on my back. All three of you – in the car.”

“Why drive? The pack house is like five minutes away,” I grumbled. “They always forget I spent years at this training ground until they decided I was qualified enough to ride in their precious car. I climbed in anyway.

“Alpha Freya, please get in, Elliot said, holding the door open with a polite but firm tone.

“Has he always been this pushy?” Freya whispered to me, a teasing smile playing on her lips.

“With me, he’s not pushy, I murmured back. “Just protective to the point of suffocation.

“Move over!” Sophia nudged Freya. “I’m starving! Pack house food is amazing.

She shoved Freya toward the middle just as Elliot slid in from the other side, catang Freya to crash into him. I turned to the window, fighting a grin.

Orion took the farthest seat, keeping his distance. His expression remained serious, eyes filled with emotions I couldn't read. I made a mental note to talk to

him later.

The ride back was surprisingly relaxed. Milo rattled off funny stories about what neither able to hide their interest. I wondered how Freya could seem so affected

missed, while Elliot and Freya engaged in some silent power struggle, espite her Sentinel mark, which should suppress attraction.

The car bounced along the uneven road. Fatigue washed over me, but I forced myself to stay alert. The boys familiar scents wrapped around me like a security blanket, almost lulling me to sleep. I watched the familiar landscape pan by the window, feeling a strange mix of comfort and unease.

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Chapter 174: Has He Always Been This Pushy?

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At the pack house, we climbed out and headed to our rooms to freshen up. Freya and Sophia went to the guest rooms on the second floor, and we agreed to meet in the dining room. The boys and I walked toward the third-floor stairs.

A sugary voice called from behind: "You're finally back! We couldn't find you at school thought you'd gone training again!"

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Magnus kept hold of my hand. Lucian's arm stayed around my waist, and Orion spod right beside me. No one tried to hide me or push me away. Instead, they moved closer, forming a silent protective barrier around me.

# The Lightning Wolf Chronicles Novel

## Chapter 5

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## 175

Chapter 175: Let's Talk Together

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Evelyn's POV

“Acacia, I thought I made myself clear, Magnus said, his voice calm but firm. “Pack security comes first, and we’ve adjusted training schedules accordingly. Luna Isabella is waiting for us, so we need to go.”

He placed his hand lightly on my shoulder, guiding me forward. This time, I didn't avoid Acacia's hateful stare, but I didn't provoke her either. I wasn't here to restart old fights, but I definitely wasn't going to cower like before. This balance felt right – something I'd learned after leaving home and surviving everything that followed.

“Why is she even allowed upstairs?” Acacia blocked our path, her face twisting into that ugly expression I knew too well. “Luna Isabella said the third floor is off-limits to outsiders. Only you guys are supposed to be there.”

“Acacia,” I kept my voice steady, “we both know I have my own room here. High-ranking members can access the third floor. I'm a Beta, you're not. When you eventually become someone's mate, you'll get the same privileges. Can we drop this pointless drama now?”

I didn't raise my voice – just stated facts like I was explaining something to a stubborn child. Her eyes burned into me, but we were already moving past her.

Lucian squeezed my hand reassuringly.

Once we reached the stairs and Orion locked the door behind us, everyone relaxed.

“Damn,” Milo said, eyebrows raised. “What happened to that shy girl we used to know? Who is this badass standing in front of us?”

“Just tired of her same old bullshit, I shrugged, letting go of Magnus's hand. “Whoever ends up with her is totally screwed.”

I headed straight for the kitchen, starving and ready to put the unpleasant encounter behind me. Luna Isabella had prepared an amazing lunch – roasted

meats, fresh bread, and colorful salads covering the table. She urged us to eat quickly before Acacia's family returned.

"Hurry up, kids," Isabella whispered, refilling our glasses. "That family takes forever to get ready for meals. We probably have about thirty minutes before they show up. After eating, we'll get some fresh air on the terrace – the weather's perfect today."

We all nodded and dug in. Our time at Sentinel training had taught us to eat efficiently, especially during short breaks between missions. Sophia and Freya ate just as quickly, clearly not wanting another round with Acacia.

Elliot and Milo talked quietly about tomorrow's training schedule. Apparently Griffin had ordered all warriors to extend their morning sessions, much to

their frustration.

'Another five-kilometer run at dawn? Is Griffin trying to kill us?' Milo complained through a mouthful of meat.

Elliot shook his head. 'Border incidents are up lately. Extra training won't hurt. Just be glad you're not stuck patrolling all night like some of the guards.'

I wolfed down my food while listening to their familiar bickering. Even after being gone for over a year, hanging with them felt like slipping on a favorite

old hoodie comfortable and right.

'Come on, don't dawdle,' Luna Isabella urged, bringing the last plate of fruit. "Let's head to the terrace before Acacia's family gets back."

The terrace was bathed in warm afternoon sunlight, the air filled with the scent already there, talking about security patrols when we arrived.

Isabella's carefully tended flowers. Alpha Adam, Griffin, and Thomas were

"Evelyn!" Adam greeted me with a genuine smile, patting the seat beside him. I was starting to think these boys had kidnapped you. Come sit."

I sat next to Griffin, soaking in the family atmosphere I'd missed so much. It felt both familiar and strange, like stepping into a world I used to know.

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Chapter 175: Let's Talk Together

Who's that guy? Sophia asked through our mind link, glancing toward Thomas.

I'll explain later, I replied. Notice the fancy tea set though – Isabella only brings that out for serious talks. Brace yourself for the interrogation.

A few minutes later, Isabella's expression darkened. "How are they back already?"

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The glass door swung open as Acacia's father walked in, wearing a fake smile that didn't reach his eyes.

'Sorry to crash your little party,' he said, looking around with mock surprise. "Couldn't find anyone, and here you all are having a private gathering. His tone made it clear he thought we'd deliberately excluded them.

"Just enjoying the nice weather,' Isabella replied, her voice gentle but firm. 'Is something urgent?"

"Wanted to talk to Adam about our house renovations,' he said, walking straight toward the Alpha without observing proper etiquette. 'Since everyone's here, why don't we discuss it together?"

This guy is so annoying. Sophia complained through our link. How does he always find us? Does he have some tracking device or something?

In my pack, someone like him would've been demoted to cleaning toilets ages ago, Freya responded harshly.

Freya, that's a bit much, I cautioned.

You haven't seen me when I'm really being excessive.

He's actually Griffin's brother, I explained. From an old family line, used to have some status.

Hearing this, Sophia choked on her tea, coughing while water dripped from her nose. Freya and I couldn't help laughing as we patted her back.

Acacia's father frowned. "What's so funny? Is pack infrastructure a joke to you people?"

"You're absolutely right, Freya said, blinking innocently with a sugary voice that barely hid her sarcasm. "Infrastructure is super important, especially alongside that mansion of yours that's been under renovation for over a year with no end in sight. Finishing it quickly would free up resources for actual public projects, don't you think?"

I really like your friend's direct approach! Adam told me through our link, eyes twirking with amusement.

To ease the tension, I changed the subject. 'Luna Isabella, do you have any plans for tomorrow? We don't have new assignments right now and would love to help out with anything the pack needs.'

"Speaking of which,' Acacia's father cut in uninvited, eyeing us three girls, 'shouldn't you ladies be in school? Our pack doesn't tolerate skipping classes.'

"Sir, Freya replied with perfect politeness that somehow still felt icy, "I've completed my education through accelerated programs. Sophia has graduated too. As for Evelyn, she handles high-level missions while taking college courses, even receiving personal instruction from Alpha King Nathan himself."

I was impressed by Freya's response. As an Alpha's daughter, she clearly knew how to deliver a verbal slap wrapped in polite packaging – no less deadly than a well-sharpened knife.

"Young leaders should spend more time at school," he insisted, to set an example for lower ranks and stay connected with regular pack members. That's what responsible leadership looks like."

2/3

10:04 Mon, Jan 12 DG.

The Lightning Wolf Chronicles

## The Lightning Wolf Chronicles Novel

### Chapter 5

Read The Lightning Wolf Chronicles Novel Chapter 5 –

## Souls Bound By Promise – Timothy Nelson

### 176

Chapter 176: She Just Needs Some Time

\$ 74%L

Evelyn's POV

No one responded to his lecture as he stood there with his chest puffed out. Surprisingly, even Griffin avoided making eye contact, seemingly unwilling to

acknowledge this was his brother.

His real goal is getting the boys back to school, I explained through our mind link. That way Acacia would have more chances to chase after them.

Doesn't he realize that'll backfire? Freya asked, bewildered.

They're living in a fantasy world, I replied. They refuse to face reality.

"Since you've clearly noticed you're unwelcome, maybe you should leave so we can continue our conversation," I said directly to Acacia's father, keeping my

voice steady.

His face darkened instantly. Clearly, he hadn't expected anyone to challenge him openly.

"What kind of attitude is that? Seems like that Sentinel camp has

thrown basic manners out the window."

"Actually, sir,' I set my teacup down carefully, at the Sentinel center, our first lesson is respect for everyone's time and space. We were invited here, yet you're trying to push us out." I shot Isabella an apologetic look. "And frankly, the tone you just used with Luna Isabella would get you disciplined at camp."

Seems my presence makes certain people uncomfortable," he sneered. "But this is still a public area where any pack member has the right to be. Perhaps

some have forgotten their place."

He glanced around for support but found only cold stares. Finally getting the message that no one was backing him, he stormed off with a sour expression.

"I'm sorry, Isabella," I said quietly. "I shouldn't have been so blunt..."

'Don't apologize," she cut me off gently. "I've wanted to say that for ages."

The tension gradually melted away as conversations shifted to lighter topics. As sunset approached, the day's stress and exhaustion caught up with me. After all the Sentinel missions and what happened during captivity, my body desperately needed rest.

"Evie, you're about to pass out," Magnus said, noticing my constant yawning. "Time for bed."

Before I could protest, he'd scooped me into his arms. Surprisingly, I didn't fight back like I normally would, instead settling against his chest.

You must be wiped out, he murmured, concern in his voice. "Usually you'd be killing me by now."

"Whatever, I muttered, though I couldn't help smiling. Just making an exception today."

From the corner of my eye, I spotted Elliot trying to carry Freya too. Though she eventually pushed him away, she eventually gave in. Lucian and Orion flanked Sophia, making sure she wasn't left out.

"Where's everyone going?" Acacia's sharp voice cut through the hallway. I thought we were hanging out tonight.

"Early training tomorrow, Lucian replied without stopping. We need sleep Nigh Acacia."

Magnus's steady pace was oddly comforting as we continued upstairs, giving me a sense of security I hadn't felt in months.

When I opened my eyes again, I was lying in a familiar bed surrounded by comforting scents.

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Chapter 176: She Just Needs Some Time

A piercing scream yanked me awake.

I bolted upright, disoriented. It was Freya: "BRI, HELP ME! Please!"

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She was sobbing. I tried to move but found myself trapped by several warm bodies. Freya's fear hit me through our connection, making my heart race.

"Hang on!" I struggled desperately to get free.

"What's wrong?" Magnus mumbled sleepily. I realized his arms were wrapped around me.

"Freya needs me - move!" I said urgently, practically vaulting over him.

I sprinted barefoot down the hall. "Freya, I'm coming! Where are you?"

“Here. A faint sob came from my room.

I burst through the door and immediately pulled her into my arms. “It’s okay, I’m here. You’re safe. This is Polaris City, my room. Nobody can hurt you anymore.”

She clutched my nightgown, burying her face against my neck, her whole body shaking with sobs. I just kept whispering reassurances, gently rubbing her back. Environmental changes always took time for her to adjust to. At the training center, we shared a room so I could comfort her immediately after nightmares. But when the dreams were especially vivid, she sometimes needed longer to separate reality from the past.

“Can we help?” a voice asked from the doorway.

I turned to see all the boys standing there looking worried. Sophia quickly slid onto Freya’s other side, stroking her back.

“Not right now,” I said softly. “She just needs some time. She’ll be okay soon.”

Sophia and I gently rocked Freya until her sobs quieted and her breathing steadied.

“I’m sorry,” she whispered hoarsely. “I’m fine now, go back to bed. Shouldn’t have woken everyone up.”

“That was a bad one,” I studied her pale face and trembling hands. “You sure you be okay?”

“The scents here are just unfamiliar,” she attempted a weak smile. “Needed to make sure I was safe. Really, I’m okay now.”

“Want someone to stay with you?” Sophia asked.

I suddenly realized I wasn’t sure where Sophia was supposed to be sleeping possibly in Lucian’s room. The thought she might have been in his bed created an odd twinge in my chest, despite the fact I’d just been sleeping surrounded by three triplets. I quickly pushed these complicated feelings aside; now

wasn’t the time.

“No need, Freya shook her head, trying to look stronger. “You all go back. We’ve got early training.

“You guys rest,” Elliot unexpectedly spoke up, his voice gentle but firm. “I’ll stay with her.”

Freya didn't object, just nodded slightly. I stood to leave, still concerned. Lucian me to my side, lightly touching my arm.

Call us if anything happens, I insisted. "Anytime, seriously."

She nodded again, pulling the covers to her chin. Elliot sat in the chair beside the bed. We quietly filed out, returning to our respective rooms.

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Chapter 176: She Just Needs Some Time

'Don't ask,' I shook my head at the triplets. I'll explain later, just not now."

74%

They exchanged glances but didn't push, simply nodding in understanding.

In the morning, Alpha Adam's voice from downstairs woke me: "Evelyn, please come to my office."

I jumped out of bed, glancing back at the confused triplets.

All of you come too, Alpha Adam added, tension evident in his voice. "You'll follow her anyway."

An uneasy feeling settled in my stomach as we quickly dressed and headed straight to his office. When we entered, the atmosphere was thick with tension. Freya and Sophia were already there, their expressions grim.

## The Lightning Wolf Chronicles Novel

### Chapter 5

Read The Lightning Wolf Chronicles Novel Chapter 5 -

## Souls Bound By Promise — Timothy Nelson

### 177

## Chapter 177: Why Not Ask My Opinion First?

74%

Evelyn's POV

"Take a seat, Adam motioned to the chairs, his face grim. "I've got some bad news. Your team was ambushed during their mission. Thankfully, nobody died.

Taric just filled me in a few minutes ago."

"That explains the radio silence," Sophia said, leaning forward anxiously. "How bad was it?"

"Pretty rough, Adam confirmed with a nod. 'Everyone's alive, but Mark was sent back to the royal pack. He took a hit from a knife laced with some kind of toxin that caused a severe reaction. Given what's happening, you all deserve to know what we're up against."

He rubbed his forehead, looking more worried than I'd ever seen him. My stomach tightened if everyone survived, what could be worse?

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"The rogues have scattered among nearby packs and are now heading our way. Intelligence suggests they're planning a major attack, so we need to strengthen our defenses immediately." His eyes locked with mine. "And Evelyn, it looks like you've become their primary target."

The boys around me started growling.

"Settle down," Adam ordered, his Alpha authority unmistakable. "We've always known Evelyn was their target. But things have changed - we believe they've figured out or at least suspect your special abilities."

"What does that mean?" Elliot blurted out, forgetting protocol.

Adam didn't correct him, just continued: "Juniper thinks your magic training is more critical than ever now." He slid an elegantly wrapped package across the desk - the magic book I'd been studying at the castle. "Inside are detailed instructions. She believes you need to continue your studies independently."

-

I took the package, feeling the faint energy pulsing from the book. The irony wasn't lost on me in the middle of a crisis, I was expected to teach myself

magic.

“Alpha King Nathan has ordered the royal pack borders sealed and recommended surrounding packs do the same. You’ll all need to stay here for now. Adam continued, “You’ll still get training and missions, but Sentinel headquarters is focused on treating the wounded and reorganizing, which might take several

days.’

He closed his eyes, a deep growl rising from his chest. He was communicating with his wolf – something that usually only happened during major decisions.

When he looked up again, he sighed heavily: “What I’m about to show you isn’t pleasant, but you need to see it.”

He picked up a wooden box from the desk. My gut twisted instantly. Though I had no idea what was inside, instinct told me it was bad news.

“What’s that?’ Freya asked nervously. “Evelyn, you look like you’ve seen a ghost.”

Last time we got a box like that, it had a Luna’s pack mark ripped from her bod I said, barely recognizing my own voice. It was a warning and a challenge.

Curses filled the room immediately.

‘Have you opened it? Magnus asked, barely containing his anger.

“No one could,” Adam replied. “We all tried and failed. We think it was specific found magical traces, but even she couldn’t open it. She suggested you try, but

meant for Evelyn. He pushed it toward me. “Juniper examined it and

need to be careful.”

‘Hell no!’ Orion stood up, pushing my hand down as I reached for the box. “We don’t know anything about this Juniper person. What if she’s playing us?

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Chapter 177: Why Not Ask My Opinion First?

What if that thing is rigged to hurt Evelyn? I could feel him trembling slightly.

I'm with Ori on this, Elliot said firmly. Find someone else. I'm not letting my sister take this risk. She nearly fell into a coma last time, remember?

Absolutely not.”

74%

Alpha, this feels too convenient,” Lucian added. “We should be more cautious.”

“Enough! All of you, shut up, I snapped in frustration. “Do I look like some scared little kid to you? Why not ask what I think before deciding for me? Give

me the damn box!”

“Evelyn, this isn't safe...” Magnus tried.

“Orion, I looked him straight in the eyes, “I get that you're worried, but if you keep stopping me, I swear I'll make you regret it.” I held his gaze until he

finally shook his head and let go of

my hand.

Adam pushed the box toward me. I hovered my hand over it, immediately sensing strange energy fluctuations.

The box looked ordinary, tied with simple string. If it contained something deadly anyone who'd touched it would already be affected. I carefully untied the string and slowly lifted the lid. The moment I saw what was inside, I dropped the lid like it had burned me.

Strong arms suddenly lifted me into a warm embrace. Familiar scents surrounded me, grounding me back to reality.

“Breathe, Evie,” Orion whispered, his lips close to my ear. “You're safe, we're all here. Tell us what's in there.’ He tightened his hold, and I let his scent calm my racing heart. He always knew exactly what I needed.

I took a deep breath and turned to Freya: “It's Robert.”

“What?” Freya looked confused, pointing at the box. “How could Robert fit in there?”

I forced myself to calm down and carefully reopened the box like it might explode. Everyone leaned in to look, and Freya gasped, covering her mouth.

Elliot pulled her into his arms silently. Freya stared at the box, her eyes darting between me and what lay inside.

In the box were a pair of eyeballs.

Those eyes – I’d looked into them countless times, trying to figure out why Rober seemed gentle yet traveled with rogues until I learned the truth about his mate. The blood around them was still fresh, giving off a strong iron smell, deliberately preserved.

–

They’d killed him. Mixed emotions hit me sadness at his death, but also a feeling that maybe he’d gotten what he deserved. After all, he betrayed us for a mate who had betrayed him, nearly getting us recaptured.

“Hey, say something.” Orion gently touched my cheek as I struggled to focus. “Ev, you’re scaring us.”

“Robert was one of the rogues I met at college, I finally managed, my throat dry Him, Brandon, and Peter. We kept in touch with the rogue camp through them, acting friendly but all with our own agendas it wasn’t real friendship. Hate cheated on him with Brandon, but Brandon wouldn’t let them reject each other, just to torture Robert mentally.”

‘In the end, Peter risked everything to help Freya and me escape that hellhole,ook a deep breath, my lungs burning.

We’d escaped while Robert chose to stay and face the consequences, all to be wit that didn’t mean I could fully forgive him. In my heart, he was both helper and

a mate who’d already betrayed him. I understood why he betrayed us, but rayer, a pitiful soul driven to extremes by love and desperation.

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The Lightning Wolf Chronicles

## **The Lightning Wolf Chronicles Novel**

### **Chapter 5**

Read The Lightning Wolf Chronicles Novel Chapter 5 –

## **Souls Bound By Promise – Timothy Nelson**

### **178**

## Chapter 178: This Must Be Fate's Lesson For Me

Evelyn's POV

74%

Orion's gentle tap on my wrist pulled me back to reality. Magnus and Lucian stood nearby while Orion kept his arm around my waist, as if afraid I might

collapse.

"You two should handle the pack stuff," I said to Magnus and Lucian, my voice rough from emotion. I glanced pointedly at Orion's arm. Seriously, I don't

need three babysitters watching my every move."

"Not happening," Orion said flatly. "Let them deal with that. You're stuck with me

I sighed. These Alpha boys could be suffocating, but with those lifeless eyes still fresh in my mind, I couldn't deny his presence was comforting.

"Get used to it, he murmured. "We're not letting you disappear again."

"I'm staying too, Elliot insisted. "This is clearly a threat against our family."

Only then did I really notice Freya. She was leaning against Elliot, hollow-eyed with tear tracks on her cheeks. The box had hit her harder than I'd realized, dragging up all those captivity memories. I silently thanked the Moon Goddess that Elliot was with her.

Sophia cleared her throat. "I'd like to check the perimeter with patrol. She looked around the room. "If we find anything weird, I'll tell Cyrus and get aerial backup." She frowned. "Based on how you're all acting, this isn't your first... warning."

Alpha Adam considered briefly. "Magnus and Lucian, handle close patrols with Milo. Sophia, you can join, but stay away from boundaries – if anyone catches your scent, they'll know Evelyn's here." He turned to us. "Elliot and Orion, you're responsible for protecting Freya and Evelyn until we figure this out."

Everyone nodded. Before leaving, they each gave me one last worried look.

"Ori," I sighed, trying to break free, "you need to let me move. Being stuck here will drive me crazy, and I'd hate to hurt you when I snap."

He loosened his grip but kept his eyes locked on me. "Just promise you won't go anywhere alone," he said. "And I need to know everything, start to finish, no

matter how hard it is to hear."

"Some things are tough to talk about, I hesitated, glancing at Freya, and some aren't mine to share. But I can tell you what happened at college."

"Good," Orion nodded. "You were only supposed to help with reconnaissance. Howd you end up as a student?"

I explained my mission, carefully avoiding details of Freya's suffering during our aptivity that wasn't my story to tell. She'd gone rigid the moment I started talking, and I knew she'd have nightmares tonight. I planned to stay with her.

Finally, I mentioned Peter helping us escape. Though he'd participated in trapping us, we never faced real harm when he was around, I believed he'd been trying to protect us while maintaining his position. With Robert dead, I worried out Peter's safety.

"Thanks for telling us," Alpha Adam said, his eyes soft with compassion. "I know this is painful for both of you."

I nodded, wiping away tears. "I need to train or run, do something to clear my head. I tapped the book on the table. "Besides studying this, any other

instructions?"

Commander Taric wants you to keep your normal training while following Juniper's instructions," he said thoughtfully. "Though showing up at school might help. Those kids look up to you, and seeing you back will motivate them. If a real fight breaks out, we'll need everyone ready."

"We can patrol the school, I agreed. "I know they're using all PE classes for combat training now. Freya can also beef up surveillance around school grounds

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Chapter 178: This Must Be Fate's Lesson For Me

\* 3.74%

and pack lands."

Though still shaken, Freya nodded after meeting my eyes. “We need to check all weak spots, her voice gradually strengthened. Especially the waterways around your territory there are tons of entry points.” She looked directly at me. But you shouldn’t be on patrol. Don’t give me that look you know I’m right. They’re targeting you specifically, and this box proves it.”

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She pointed at the box, fire rekindling in her eyes. “Robert may have betrayed you but he was the only outsider who got close to you. You can’t risk yourself

be smart. Do what you do best analyze and plan. Let the warriors patrol while you lead.”

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“Freya, I don’t want to be caged here, just like you,” I admitted. “It sucks being stuck somewhere ‘safe’ while unable to do anything.”

‘Who said you’d be imprisoned? Who would dare?’ she raised an eyebrow.

I shot a pointed look at Orion.

‘Men do make stupid decisions,’ she said with a slight smirk, and we both laughed, breaking the tension.

“So what should I do?” I asked, feeling slightly better.

Go to the school, like Alpha Adam suggested,” she said decisively. “You can inspire those kids. We need to plan how to protect the children, your pack members, help them through this mess.”

Tears glistened in her eyes, and I finally understood – she’d watched her own packs destruction and was desperately trying to prevent history from repeating. I walked over and hugged her.

“They’ll be okay,” she whispered, voice trembling. “It can’t happen again.” She took a deep breath and let me go.

“You’re right,” I nodded. “I’ll go to school with you to check things out. Sophia can keep patrolling so we cover more ground. You’ll meet up with her and the others there, document everything, then we’ll strengthen the boundaries.” I turned to Alpha Adam and the boys. “That work? Since this danger is coming because of us, we have to make sure nobody dies for it.”

“Agreed,” Alpha Adam nodded. ‘Freya, take a circuit around pack lands first; Evel, follow Juniper’s instructions. We’ll meet here at noon to plan specifics.

‘Let’s go,” I said to Orion. “I need to get outside, burn off some energy.”

“Wow,” he raised an eyebrow. “You’re actually letting me tag along without fighting me?”

‘Don’t have much choice,’ I shrugged. “You’d follow me anyway, so why argue? Besides, I’ve been kidnapped, tortured, and beaten too many times. Clearly, going places alone is a bad idea for me – must be fate’s way of teaching me a lesn.”

He chuckled as I grabbed the wrapped book, and we headed out together.

We hit the kitchen first because all the drama had left me starving. The moment ora spotted us, she smiled and handed over a loaded plate, then looked at

Orion.

“Got something for you too, Alpha Orion,” she produced a hidden plate from bed the counter.

“Uh... thanks, Dora? Orion’s surprised expression maile her giggle

“Someone’s gotta take care of our Evelyn,” she said. You staying out all day? Wad me to lis lunch? You always forget to cat when you’re busy.”

Today’s gonna be crazy,” I said gratefully. ‘Lunch would be amazing. My trammas and those boys will need food when they get back too.”

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10:05 Mon, Jan 12 DAG.

Chapter 178: This Must Be Fate’s Lesson For Me

“Of course, sweetie. Now eat up. She winked and returned to her cooking.

74%

We’d barely started eating when high heels clicked on the hallway tile. Anticipating trouble, Orion and I exchanged a glance and quickly focused on our

food.

# The Lightning Wolf Chronicles Novel

## Chapter 5

Read The Lightning Wolf Chronicles Novel Chapter 5 -

## Souls Bound By Promise – Timothy Nelson

### 179

Chapter 179: Why Are You Still Angry With Me?

& .74%-

Evelyn's POV

'Get me an iced lemon water and a slice of whole wheat toast, no butter,' Acacia demanded from the kitchen doorway. 'Hurry up, Dora, I'm going to be late.'

Orion and I exchanged glances, deliberately slowing our eating to avoid drawing attention.

'Dora! Acacia called again. 'I said I'm in a hurry!'

Dora didn't even turn around, continuing her work at the counter. 'Sorry, no personal breakfast service before six-thirty. Water pitcher's over there, help

yourself.'

'Then why do I smell food?' Acacia stormed into the kitchen with her hands planted on her hips. 'Someone's clearly eating in here.'

'Because our future leaders have been working since five, Dora replied, calmly chopping vegetables. 'Their schedule is different. Regular breakfast starts in

half an hour.'

'You seem to have forgotten who I am,' Acacia's voice carried a clear threat. 'As a potential future Luna, I deserve special treatment.'

I felt anger bubbling up, but Orion touched my wrist, silently telling me to stay out of it.

“Listen, young lady,” Dora set down her knife. “You’re staying in Alpha Adam’s home and enjoying pack hospitality, but that doesn’t make you our future Luna. A true Luna appreciates every pack member instead of making demands. You will never become Luna. Now, pour your own water and get out of my kitchen – you’re disrupting my work.”

Acacia’s mouth fell open. She’d clearly never been confronted by an Omega before and had no idea how to respond.

I couldn’t help laughing, catching Orion’s eye. We quickly finished our food, ready to slip away.

“Miss Evelyn, Dora said, “where will you and Alpha Orion be heading? I can have lunch ready when you need it.”

“We’re running in Silver Pines first, but we’ll be back before noon,” I answered. “We can grab it then.”

‘I’ll have it ready,’ Dora nodded.

“Thanks, Dora, Orion squeezed her shoulder. “You’re always looking out for us.”

‘Yes, thank you,’ I hugged her. “Not just for the food, but for everything.”

‘For you, child, anything,’ she hugged me back tightly.

As we left, Acacia and Dora were still arguing. Nice to know not everyone bowed that family.

When we reached Silver Pines, Orion suddenly stopped. I turned back. “What’s wing?”

“Nothing, just...” he stared at the forest ahead. “I haven’t come here much since at time.”

I immediately understood what he meant. “You stopped coming after I left?”

“Not completely, but whenever I pass by, those images come back, his voice dropped. “You in Gamma Thomas’s arms, looking half-dead. You have no idea how awful it was waiting to hear if you’d make it.”

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Chapter 179: Why Are You Still Angry With Me?

\*I’m sorry you all went through that, I looked down. “I wish I could cut that connection so my pain wouldn’t affect you. I never meant to hurt anyone.”

'Don't ever think like that,' he said firmly. "Without that connection, I wouldn't have found you. You wouldn't be here now."

"What are you talking about?" My heart picked up speed.

74%

"Who do you think found you first in that locker room?" He looked straight into my eyes. "There's something between us that lets me find

hurt."

you

when you're

"What really happened that day?" I asked carefully.

"You went to change, and we were waiting at the training grounds, but you never showed, his eyes darkened. "Then I felt this sharp pain in my chest and

ran straight to the locker room..."

He took a shaky breath, a tear sliding down his cheek. "You were covered in wounds. And you actually told me to let go, to let you die."

His voice broke as he dropped to the ground. I'd never seen him like this this always-strong, silent boy breaking down at the memory. I moved closer to

him.

He knelt on the ground, resting his head against my stomach. His arms wrapped around my waist as he buried his face in my clothes. We both cried, his shoulders shaking slightly. He found me. He always finds me.

"I'm sorry," I whispered.

"Then they took you away from me, his voice was muffled against my shirt. "No updates, nothing. We only knew you were alive, that's it. That letter was all

we ever got."

"That was all I could say," I stroked his hair. "I was alive. That had to be enough.

He gave a bitter laugh but didn't let go or look up.

“I’m sorry, Evie,” he took a deep breath. “I’m sorry we only figured everything out after you left. After summer training that year, our dads and Griffin sat us down and told us the truth. I wish you’d trusted us enough to tell us, but I get it we never earned that trust.”

This guy who always seemed fearless was now crying while holding onto me like might disappear if he let go. In all my memories, he’d never shown such raw emotion, but here, with just the two of us, he’d completely broken down.

This moment belonged only to us – this connection that only we understood. I sent calming thoughts to him, just as he’d done for me so many times.

“If you missed me so much, why are you still mad at me?” I asked, touching his feek.

‘Because you were never this happy or healthy when you were here,’ his voice steadied. “Even though you’re exhausted and dirty, I can see the light in your eyes. Leaving was good for you. That pisses me off you got better after leaving. Makes me wonder if we were just holding you back.”

I hadn’t expected that.

“It’s not about which place is better,” I said softly. “I just needed space from all ts. I needed to see if I could survive without this safety net. Even though things went sideways, I don’t regret it. I was always planning to come back.”

“What if the Sentinels want you to stay?” he asked roughly. “What if they want you as an instructor until you find your mate what would you choose?”

‘Do you really think that would happen?’ I countered.

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Chapter 179: Why Are You Still Angry With Me?

“Who knows,” he shrugged. ‘You always pull off amazing stuff in no time. Who can guess what you might do when you go back?’

↩. 74%;

“But right now, I’m here,” I said firmly. “And the pack’s in danger. I won’t leave again until everyone’s safe. Even then, I can’t just walk away like before. It

hurt too much, and I couldn’t sleep either. If Alpha King Nathan truly needs me, we’ll figure something out. I think we’ve all grown while I was gone. Now I

need to focus on training and studying Juniper's instructions."

He slowly let go and stood, wiping his face. Within seconds, his expression returned to its usual calm mask, as if the breakdown never happened.

"Who is Juniper anyway?" he asked. "What's she teaching you?"

"Juniper's a witch from Mia's coven," I explained. "Because I'm related to Alpha King Nathan, I have certain abilities. She's teaching me basic magic now."

## The Lightning Wolf Chronicles Novel

### Chapter 5

Read The Lightning Wolf Chronicles Novel Chapter 5 -

## Souls Bound By Promise – Timothy Nelson

### 180

Chapter 180: But I Don't Care About Any of That!

Orion's POV

74% =

"Magic?" I stopped dead in my tracks.

Evelyn turned around, something complicated flickering in her eyes. "Remember that bloodline thing I mentioned? Alpha King Nathan is my uncle. That

makes me Alistair's cousin."

She took a breath, her voice getting serious. "He told me that royal daughters are born different. Some read minds, some control elements. Legend says

there'll be someone with multiple gifts."

I stared at her. "You're saying..."

“Nathan thinks I’m that person. Her voice dropped to almost a whisper. “Back in that storage room, anyone else would’ve died. But I survived. Not just luck

– I’ve got some kind of resistance to toxins.”

Rage hit me like a freight train. “Acacia.” I spit her name out like poison. “I know it was her. She almost killed you, and we just sat there doing nothing.”

“Ori...”

“No!” I spun away, fists clenched tight. I watched you suffer, watched you leave. All because of ‘not enough evidence. Max and Luc keep talking about the bigger picture, pack stability.”

I whipped back around to face her. “But I don’t give a shit about any of that! I only care if you’re safe. Maybe I’m not Alpha material because I can’t stay cold and calculating like them.”

Evelyn’s POV

His words hit me right in the chest.

“You’re wrong.” I stepped closer. “You three each bring something different. Max handles strategy, Luc does diplomacy. And you...” I reached up to touch his face. “You actually give a damn about people. That matters just as much.”

He closed his eyes, leaning into my hand. “Sometimes I hate being weak.”

“That’s not weakness. That’s being human.” I kept my voice soft. “Right now, let’s focus on what’s happening. I need to control these abilities, and you’re the only one who can help.

He opened his eyes, confused. “Why me?”

“Because you feel my pain. You find me when I need you most.” I smiled at him. Maybe we’re connected deeper than we thought.”

We started our warm-up run through Silver Pines. Morning mist still clung to the trees, sunlight breaking through in golden patches. This place held so

many memories, but now it felt different. Peaceful. Full of hope.

‘So what’s this elemental manipulation’ thing actually mean? Orion asked as wogged.

“Think of it like...” I searched for the right words. “Your wolf senses smells and sands, right? My abilities let me feel hidden stuff. Earth’s heartbeat, wind talking, water flowing.”

\*Sounds like some mystical bullshit.”

1/3

10:05 Mon, Jan 12 D

Chapter 180: But I Don’t Care About Any of That!

“Pretty much. I laughed. “When I practiced with Juniper, I felt underground root networks. Plants warning each other about danger coming.

Orion grabbed my arm, stopping us both. ‘What danger?’”

74%

“Don’t know. But nature picks up on things before we do.” I looked at his worried face. “That’s why I need to learn this fast. If the rogues are using magic, we

need defenses.”

Back at the pack house, Dora had lunch ready. She shoved a basket of food at me going on about making sure I ate enough.

“Just got some meat back on those bones, can’t have you getting skinny again.” She kept adding stuff to the basket. “Ori, you watch her. Don’t let her forget

to eat during training.”

We found a quiet spot in the back garden. Orion opened the basket and amazing smells hit us immediately.

“So now what?” he asked. “How do you start this magic training?”

I carefully pulled out Juniper’s ancient book. The thing practically hummed with energy, leather cover gleaming weird in the sunlight.

“First this.” I found the envelope tucked inside. “Juniper said there are specific instructions.”

The envelope tingled when I touched it. Definitely enchanted. I opened the letter and read:

Dear Evelyn,

By the time you read this, I'll be handling more urgent business. The witch council got word – rogue wolves aren't just torturing innocent werewolves, they're going after my people too. We can't let this slide.

You need to start training immediately. I think you're key to the coming war, but on if you master your power.

Study the marked chapters in order – no skipping. Your wolf has magical talent too. Asten to her when you're stuck.

Important: Always have someone trustworthy with you during practice. Magic training can make you pass out or drain your energy. Your safety matters more than

progress.

I've prepared two crucial skills: protective barriers and elemental charm making. The first protects you and your team from magical attacks. The second gives

ongoing protection.

Remember – only one charm per day. More than that will hurt you. Practice at night you can rest after.

Emergency contact through Conrad. Moon Goddess bless you, child.

Juniper

I set the letter down. Orion was rubbing his temples, frowning.

'You look like hell, I said, concerned.

'Tried reading along with you. Felt like someone smashing my skull with a hamn. He winced. That normal?'

'Letter's got protection spells. Only I can read it. I opened the book. "Try this."

Orion glanced at the pages, then jerked back fast. "Fuck! Hot as fire! What the h are you studying?"

2/3

10:05 Mon, Jan 12 D G.

Chapter 180: But I Don't Care About Any of That!

“Top secret stuff. I closed the book. ‘Good thing Juniper’s careful. Means her knowledge is valuable.”

74%

We spent the next few hours working on protective barriers. Hard as hell at first I could feel magic moving inside me but couldn’t control it right. Orion watched for signs I was pushing too hard.

‘How you feeling?’ After my tenth try, he handed me water.

“Like I ran a marathon.” I was breathing hard. ‘But I think I’m getting close. Caneel energy building in the air.”

By evening, we headed back to the main building. Everyone was already on the terrace waiting. Sophia and Freya looked beat but excited their patrol!

must’ve gone well.

“How’d you two do today?” I sat at the dinner table. “That whiny kid behave himself?”

“After Freya’s special training, he’s done complaining.” Sophia grinned. “She showed him what ‘harsh reality’ means.”

“Just taught him that real fights don’t get easier because you whine.” Freya shrugged. “Kid’s got potential. Just needs discipline.”

“Speaking of discipline, Elliot turned to Freya, his voice going soft. “You were incredible today. Those kids worship you, especially when you showed them

combat moves.”

He leaned closer, voice low enough only our table could hear. “You know what? Watching you train them, I started thinking about the future...”

Freya’s eyes went wide. I felt my face heating up. Jesus, when did Elliot start flirting? And with Freya of all people?