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《Aurora's pov》

"I must go now love," Xavier says as he reluctantly peels away from me and walks over to the closet to pull out some clothes.

"Where are you going?" I whispered, dreading that he was parting ways with me even though I knew he was much needed now more than ever.

"We can no longer wait and have them attack us. I must start training the pack now. We don't have a few days to get ready, we only have hours." Xavier grumbles as if his gut was telling him that the council was well on their way. 1

I will not lie, the tone of his voice made me nervous and if I was being honest, I was also feeling fear.

A few hours, that was too little time.

It wasn't enough time at all. Another reason to doubt that we would be ready when they do strike.

I'm about to voice out my concerns but Xavier suddenly stops midway through putting on his sweatpants.

He turns around and I instantly notice the fogginess in his eyes. He was being mind linked or he was mind linking someone. Either way, he seemed to be frustrated at what he was receiving through the link.

But then that frustration soon turned to fiery anger and a loud growl rumbles out of his chest.

When his eyes had gone back to his amber he still looked vexed beyond

imagining, especially with the evidence of crimson swirling in the pools.

I sat up on the bed, my heart leaping. The news he had received must not have been good at all. They had completely wrecked his composure.

"What is it, Xavier?" I asked in worry.

He was worrying me and it didn't help that his anger seem to not want to diminish.

"There's a call I need to take in the study. Aurora, promise me that you will stay in the room, even if you hear anything, you will stay. That whatever happens you will remain here until I come back." He mutters out as he finishes fixing on his sweats.

"I-

His eyes burned through mine hotly. "Promise me Aurora!" He snarls.

I flinched and nodded quickly. He was very angered and it would be wise to not anger him further.

Xavier doesn't bother to put on a shirt and with one final glance at me, hurried out of the room like the fire of hell was nipping at his feet.

I watch the closed door in startlement and worry.

: Xavier's pov :

I entered the study and closed the door behind me.

"Are you sure it is him on the line?" I asked with unrestrained anger.

Chris nodded, seeming to be equally angered. "I know the sound of that bastard's voice anywhere. It's him."



Christopher was supposed to be going through the files of our sixteen year old and above wolves to see their ranks and those who we can train for combat. Also, we were hoping we'd get a few who were excellent in the medical field. 1

Chris did not want to leave Lily's side but he knew we had to act quickly.

And it was a good thing too he was here because I would have missed that call.

I nodded and walked further into the room. I looked at Chris and gave a nod before picking up the phone and bringing it to my ear.

I stay silent waiting for the bastard to speak first. It takes a good while but he does.

"I can hear the sound of your breathing alpha of the crimson moon. Is the big bad wolf angry? Frustrated perhaps?" Raphael's voice is a taunt, one that made me grip the phone in my grasp tightly until I was sure a little more pressure and I'd have it crumbling in my hand.

"You have some nerve calling here Raphael." I spat, remembering what Aurora told me about his ruthlessness with her.

She hadn't said much but I knew he had not treated her kindly. And that was enough for me to kill him. Unfortunately, that cannot be done through a phone. Still, my teeth tingled to sink into his neck and tear it off.

"You know Xavier, you remind me so much of your father. You have his eyes you know that?" He mocked.

I snarled, roaring when Reckon pushed through the barrier. He needed to understand that Raphael was unfortunately not here and giving him

control would be useless.

"Leave my father's name out of your dirty mouth Raphael. You're not man enough to even whisper his name, let alone say it out loud." I sneered.

Chris walks around the desk and plastered his hands on the surface as he looks at me, clearly listening to what was going on.

"And what about your sister? Is she still fighting that God awful sickness? Poor girl has been trying to keep breathing for what, eight, six years? I'm not sure, maybe five-

"What the fuck do you want Raphael!? I'm not stupid to not know you have a reason for calling." I roared through the line and cutting him off before he could finish his words.

It was quiet on the other line for a while, perhaps a minute or two had even passed until Raphael had the nerve to chuckle. "You're short tempered like him too. Sad that you got all his traits honestly."

I snarled, contemplating if to end the call. Raphael was currently wasting my time, especially since I had to train-

A sudden thought came to mind. Of course, it was him. Why else was he calling?

"It's you, isn't it?" I questioned tightly even though I already knew the answer. "How did you manage to do it you sleek bastard without leaving your scent?"

"Ahhh you're smart like him too. I wondered how long it would take for you to realize it was me who have the wolfsbane." He chuckled.



" You know Xavier, I always thought you'd come after me first. What a terrible mistake you had done in not doing so. So perhaps you're not as smart as I thought you were."

My nails jut out as I growl. "How did you manage to do it!?"

Raphael is quiet again for a while before he sang. "With a little help of course. It's crazy how much you are hated Xavier. There are so many who want to take you down. I just so happen to be the one who's going to do it."

I snorted. " You think an old man like you would be able to take me down just because you have wolfsbane Raphael? Do you know why I left you for last? So I can take my sweet time in killing you. Things have not changed just because you have something in your grasp Raphael."

Raphael is quiet for a while before he laughed. " You're getting bold for a guy whose mate is no longer under his protection."

I froze, growing cold. I snapped my eyes to Christopher, silently telling him to go check on Aurora. He nods and quickly leaves the room.

"More wolfsbane for me!" He sang, chuckling as he ends the call abruptly.

I throw the phone to the wall and it shatters as I turn around only to feel cold inside when Christopher's voice cracks through the mind link. " She's gone alpha. She's not here!"

« Aurora's pov »

I throw on one of the shirts Lily had given me and got off the bed. The door suddenly opens a minute after Xavier left and I'm surprised to see Sarah coming in with a tray filled with cookies. " Brought you some

treats, Luna." She smiled cheerfully.

"They're lemon cookies. Don't worry I perfected the recipe this time."

My stomach grumbles as I remember that I hadn't eaten for today. I honestly wouldn't even care if the cookies tasted bad. I was that hungry.

With all that was happening I deserved to eat, at least for the baby I was carrying.

I smiled, sighing when the smell reaches my nose. "Thank you so much Sarah. I'm famished." I giggled slightly when my belly growls.

She places the tray on the bed and chirps. "Better dig in then."

I nodded and grasp one. I bit into it.

"Don't mind the tang, I may have added a bit more lemon than I thought."
"She giggles.

I smiled and gobbled the entire cookie so quickly that even Sarah was surprised. "Woah you really were hungry."

I nodded and reached for another but then as my fingers brush the cookie, my vision started to get fuzzy. I shook my head and stumbled slightly as I go to sit down on the bed.

I must've stayed too long without eating.

"Do you want another luna?" Sarah's voice sounds like an echo.

I lift my head to watch her and I'm confused to see two Sarah's.

What was going on?

"Sarah?" I whispered, my throat quickly feeling like sandpaper.

I hear the clicking of the door being opened and I shift my blurry vision towards the door. I can't see the face properly but I can make out dark hair. The hair was too long to be Xavier's and the body certainly was female.

I turn back to Sarah only to hear a sob shake out of her mouth as I call out her name barely coherent.

"I'm so sorry Aurora. She has my little sister. I had to do it. You must understand I had to or else she would've -

" Oh shut up you low ranked bitch."

That voice, it sounded like -

"Adrian please don't hurt her, I -

" I said shut the fuck up." Adrian hissed as she comes near.

"Now I need to be quick, guard the door you stupid bitch and make sure no one is coming." Adrian snaps.

"What are you -

My tongue is too heavy for me to continue.

Sarah leaves me and walks towards the door. Adrian comes to stand in front of me. I want to call out to Xavier knowing something was wrong, but my throat felt like it was closing up.

"There's quite a few alliances you can make when your alpha sends you on errands." Adrian laughs.



Through my blurry vision I notice her fingers latching to the chain around her neck, she brings it to her lips and seems to be murmuring something. A few seconds later, there's suddenly another woman figure standing beside her.

"You called for me?" The other woman murmurs.

"You know what to do," Adrian whispers.

I try to pull myself away from them, but my body felt as equally heavy as my tongue. I closed my eyes in repulse and fear when I felt cold fingers gripping my weightless arm.

Suddenly I don't feel the softness of the bed under me anymore. No, I feel cold wet concrete. I opened my eyes to see metal bars and the figures of Adrian and the other woman.

I watch as both figures seem to disappear into thin air in a matter of a breath. On their own, my eyes closed again, unable to stay open as darkness creep into them.



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