

Chapter 88 Risking my life

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AMALTHEA'S POV

"Miss, I won't be going forward from here," The cab driver suddenly spoke, and I opened my eyes before lifting my hat.

"What's the matter? I paid you the fare to this particular destination according to the fuel charges, didn't I? How can you bail at the last moment? Where would I even hail a cab in this region? As far as I know, it's still around 25 kilometers to the destination," I said, and the cab driver shook his head.

"Madam, it's not about that. I am ready to return your money, but I won't go further. I just found out that the highway road to reach this Palace is under some repair, and we will have to take this forest route. When I had agreed to drive you there, I didn't know about that. I have heard plenty of news about this forest and how humans disappear from these forests. Please spare me. I have a family with a two-year-old daughter. I can't risk my life like that," He said, and I looked at him helplessly.

I get all that, but it's 25 km. How am I supposed to find someone to give me a lift in this area?

Judging from his adamant words, it is clear he won't agree to go to the palace through the forest, and it's not like I can ask him to risk his life either.

I know what he is talking about. The rogue attacks have been growing these days, and many humans have been reported to have disappeared from these areas. Any sane man would deny going into these forests.

Also, if a few rogues attacked us, the chances that I could save him are slim since humans don't have quick healing like werewolves, and he would die in a single attack.

"Fine. You don't need to return the money. I will find my way," I said before taking out my duffle bag.

It's a good thing I didn't bring too much luggage with me.

It's a 25 km journey. There's no way I would be able to cover it in a single go. I would've to take a few breaks.

Wait. I can call Harry to send a car here, right? I thought before taking out my phone to dial Harry's number.

Woah, what is this? Why does it not have any signals?

I guess luck isn't exactly on my side today. I will have to walk till my phone catches some signals. That's the only way.

'Well, it's been long since we have been out in the woods. Let's use this opportunity to enjoy nature and our surroundings,' Crystal suddenly said, and I scoffed.

'Well, you are not the one who is exhausted and has to carry this luggage. So it's obvious you can think about enjoying it when all I can think about is asking someone for help,' I scoffed before walking in the forest's direction that would lead to the council chambers.

After what felt like an eternity but was only fifty minutes, I sighed before placing my bag on the ground.

For as long as I remember, this part of the dense forest has been visited by the rogues often, and there is a high chance someone might still be here.

Taking out my jacket from the duffle bag, I wore it before placing all the daggers in my pockets to fight any rogue that might attack me in the woods.

'Amalthea, if it's getting so hard, should I take over?' Crystal asked me, and I sighed before shaking my head.

'I am sure I have covered around 5+ kilometers already. I would reach there in around two-three hours. Don't worry. Let's not startle everyone with your presence, yeah?' I said, and she nodded.

The ceremony is the day after tomorrow, so I am sure no one would pass through this area right now. The alphas are not free to roam here and there, leaving their pack alone if it's not urgent. I wonder if I would get help from anyone since my phone is useless without signals.

As I was thinking about what I needed to do next in my plan of revenge and get Lady Cera out of that damn hell, I felt the ground below me shaking, indicating something coming here.

However, from the vibration on the ground and the birds who immediately flew in the sky, it can't be just a person. It felt like something coming with good speed and force. Maybe someone is passing from here? I thought with some hope.

Seeing a few approaching cars, I quirked my brow when I noticed the familiar sign on them. It is one damn unlucky day.

People from the Black Blood pack? There is no way in hell they would've helped me. I thought as they passed from right in front of me.

What are they doing here in the first place?

Maybe they are also going to the council chambers. However, it's a bit strange. I thought they would go mad after knowing about the stealth of that red gem, but here they are, coming to enjoy a party.

Why does it feel like there is more to it?

Well, it's not like it should bother me.

As I sighed, feeling tired while walking forward, I was about to stop to drink water again when I smelt it, the lingering smell of blood in the air.

Why is the smell increasing with the steps I take? Judging from the direction of the wind towards me, it seems like some kind of incident has happened not far away from here.

'Amalthea, the smell is too strong. And it's getting stronger. Do you think we should wait here? Haven't you heard about the rogue packs that go around attacking passengers on this route? They have become more active these days. It's what that driver was talking about. You were talking about them too. Let's not risk it,' Crystal said.

'But we can't stop here either. What if some human is injured? We can't let a bunch of rogues taint the whole species. And there are high chances that the Black blood pack members who have gone a few minutes ago are the ones causing the scene. Maybe they killed some rogue. You know how cruel they can be, don't you?' I asked before walking in that direction.

If I knew I had to go hiking, I would've never agreed with Brian and come with Augustus.

After completing the target of walking thirty minutes without stopping, I was about to look for a suitable spot to sit and have some rest when I spotted some blood on the ground.

Is this the blood I had smelt earlier? Since the wind was on my side, I guess it was the smell from here. I thought before looking around, finding more bloodstains on the ground.

Increasing my pace as the blood on the ground was leaving a trail, I followed it before stopping abruptly as I saw two cars crash in front of me with two people unconscious inside them.

It's obvious, the blood doesn't belong to them since they are still in the car. Does it mean there are more casualties?

"Hey! Are you okay?" I shouted before rushing towards them.

Isn't this Black Blood pack's cars? I clearly saw there were quite a few people. Why are there only two people here? Where are the rest of them? And why the hell did they leave their people alone like this? Do they not care about their men? I thought before kicking the door of the car a few times to bring them out.

Once I made sure both of them were away from the crashed cars that were emanating smoke, I sprinkled some water on their faces, making them cough.

"Alpha, you need to leave. Don't care about us," one of them said, and I vaguely got the idea of what must've happened here.

It looks like there was indeed a rogue pack here, and it had attacked the Black Blood pack members. Judging from this man's voice, it looks like the Alpha had to run away with the rest of the members to save their life,

and if I am not wrong, they wouldn't have run far away.

If I try my best and the rogues are large in numbers, and they are trying their best to hide, then I might catch up with them.

'Amalthea! Get to your senses. We are talking about the people of the Black blood pack who are known for their viciousness. If these people are like this because of the sudden attack, do you think you alone will be able to take down all those rogues? And why are you risking it all for? You would be the biggest stupid in this world if you think you can help them,' Crystal said, and I shook my head.

"Who told you I am going to tackle them alone? I will inform Harry to send their best team to save us, and meanwhile, I would try to save the alpha from the rogues. I know going there might be my biggest mistake, but think of it. This is the only way I can curry favors with him. We have a long feud behind us, and there is no way I would be able to get Lady Cera out of there. Maybe I can help him and ask for Lady Cera in return?" I said, and she scoffed.

"Inform Harry? How will you do it? Your phone doesn't have any signals," she said, and I took out my phone before smiling.

"Well, now there are," I said, and she sighed.

'Amalthea, I know you think of yourself as a strong woman, but don't overestimate yourself. You are not made of metals. You have a human body like all of them, and you are bound to get hurt and die. What makes you think you could save the alpha? Are you some kind of witch who would be able to make him disappear with you?' Crystal said, and I smiled before shaking my head.

'I am not a witch, Crystal. I am worse than that. I am a wounded Luna who is out for revenge, and I would do anything to accomplish the little steps that would bring me closer to my goal. I am a survivor, and you and I both know that I would never risk my life for an alpha I don't care about if I am not confident. Didn't you hear what Brian said? There are people out there, who won't let me get hurt, no matter what. Let me test this theory a bit, yeah?' I said, cracking the bones in my neck as I sprinted forward, all my tiredness gone in a second.