

## Chapter 105

Skylar

On Thursday night, Lucas is sleeping in my bed in his cat form told him it's less weird if he isn't in his human form, which is true. Seeing his sculpted abs and muscles makes me dumb, so yeah, this is for everyone's safety. I close my eyes and drift off to sleep, and almost immediately, I was sent into a weird place. I'm floating in a vacuum, and I see images before me, scenes that I've already experienced mixed with ones that I've never seen before.

'They are variants of you,' Jinx explains. 'Visions of other timelines that are taking place at the same time.'

I lock my eyes on my wolf, who easily swoops down out of nowhere to land in the mist surrounding me. Her purple eyes appear concerned. 'Is this a lot to take in?'

'Umm, yeah.' I gesture at one of the scenes. It's the one with me and Lucas on the beach. 'It's a little freaky that my romantic scene with Lucas ended with a kiss in another universe because I'm pretty sure THAT never happened in mine.'

‘But it COULD have happened,’ Jinx snickers.

My checks burn a little. “Whatever...”

‘Admit that you find him cute.’

‘He is, but that isn’t the point. I want to know what I’m doing here, Jinx.’

‘Right...’ She clears her throat and wanders to a bubble with a scene I haven’t seen before. ‘Look closely.’

I do what she says and look into the bubble. Alpha Max is in it, bowing down to...a demon? I gasp. ‘Is that Lucian?!’

‘Yes,’ Jinx replies. ‘This is before Alpha Max became his host. Lucian is inside of him now.’

‘He is what?!’

‘Shh,’ Jinx hushes me. ‘I need you to watch this scene.’

Even though I’m horrified, I look down into the bubble. Alpha Max is talking to Lucian. “Oh, great, Lucian. My pack isn’t what it once was, and I’m desperate. I want the Deluxe pack to take over Europe, but we lack the strength.”

Lucian snorts at the kneeling Alpha. "Your generation won't be enough for total domination, but your heir might be able to take over."

"I have to wait that long?!"

"Maybe not, but it isn't wrong to be on the safe side," Lucian says and steps forward, his eyes wandering over the area where Jinx and I are peering through the bubble. He narrows his eyes but turns around. "Since I'm a demon and will live for a very long time, I want you to secure the pack's future before I lend you my strength."

"And how do I do that?"

"You marry one of the special werewolves, of course. Claim her as your mate."

"I don't know of any special werewolf."

"Skylar Alvarez is one. She is very strong. I've never seen a psyche werewolf like her. The powers match her perfectly and I have a feeling that, for the first time in history, the powers can be passed down. Don't ask me how I know this. I just have a feeling."

Alpha Max blinks. "Skylar Alvarez...that's the girl living with Caleb and Lola. My brother has a crush on her."

“That’s the one.” Lucian smiles. “Claim her.”

“Yes, my lord.”

The scene ends there, and Jinx tilts her head. ‘Before you say anything, I want you to look at the future if you decline to marry Alpha Max.’

I take a deep breath and look at the other bubble Jinx points to. Once again, Alpha Max is in it, but this time, his face is drawn with fury, and his eyes are bloodshot. There are demonic wings on his back, and he is surrounded by dead bodies- the Deluxe pack has won a war against the Bloodmoon pack. Caleb, Lola, Xavier, Jaiden. Daisy, Irma, and Lucas-everyone I hold dear is dead. I see myself in the scene, too, bruised and beaten, held captive by the Deluxe pack.

‘No...’ I whisper, horrified at the sight. Jinx gives me a knowing look.

‘That’s what will happen if you decline Alpha Max’s proposal. Skylar, you have a choice to make here. This isn’t about love or romance, it’s about survival.’

‘But... But Lucas...’ I look down at my hands. I don’t want to admit it, but there’s an itch in my heart when I think of choosing someone other than Lucas.

Jinx shifts uncomfortably on her paws. 'Lucas is your mate, but he isn't strong enough to beat Alpha Max. He lacks control of his powers, and Xavier. Xavier isn't strong enough to defeat all of the demons that Lucian will let into our world. He is about to open a portal to let more magical creatures into our world.'

'I won't abandon him,' I say firmly, lifting my chin up defiantly. 'Lucas needs me, or he will just lose control of his powers regardless.'

'I know,' Jinx says soothingly, 'but you need to consider your options here. If you marry Alpha Max, your family and pack won't have to die. It will break Luca's heart, but at least he won't have to die.'

The images dissolve into mist, leaving me alone with Jinx in this vast nothingness. Their significance presses against me from all sides.

I sigh deeply, looking at the space where the bubbles were just seconds before. 'This isn't fair.'

'Life seldom is,' Jinx murmurs sympathetically.

Suddenly, my mind feels heavy, and tiredness begins to engulf me. I can feel myself waking up in the real world. Someone is hugging me and my heart clenches when I open my eyes and see Lucas hugging me in his sleep. He is in his human form, and his large body engulfs me protectively. I drink in the peaceful

expression on his face, wondering how things could become so complicated. Without thinking, my fingers hover over his cheek, tracing the sharp contours of his face in the faint light that filters through the window. His lips quirk into a small smile at my touch without waking up.

“You’re going to be heartbroken.” I whisper sadly, touching the bottom of his lips. He has never looked more kissable, but this boy isn’t mine to keep.