

Caged between the beta & alpha

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Forgiveness

ZACK

I had just finished off what we had been working on with Damon , and after bidding him farewell , I decided to go to Taylor's . He had wanted to speak to me earlier but I had been really caught up . We were getting somewhere with this killer . Let's fucking hope so anyway .

The moment he had mind linked , the urge to just drop everything and run to him had been so damn hard to not do , especially since he had been ignoring me since that day . Now , what the fuck do I take him ? I can't just go fucking empty – handed ... I was not good at this , but there wasn't anything I could really give him . I stopped at my room to shower , I was a mess and I did not want to go over looking like this .

Once I was done , I pulled on some boxers , some jeans that I took a moment to pick out because , although I found them a tad fucking tight , I knew Taylor always checked me out in them . I smirked , pulling on a graphic tee and leaving the packhouse .

It was really quiet , although I could hear a few of the members in the pack lounge playing games . Guards who were in the clear flanked the entrance , giving me a nod . It really did feel like a fucking prison Not missing the weapons that the guards were holding .

Tonight , thanks to that footprint , we had been able to track back the killer's footsteps , right towards one of the graveyards , but it ended right there at the gates . We weren't able to gather any more information inside but we had set up some cameras and sensors discreetly .

Well , I hoped it was fucking discreet anyway . I reached Taylor's house shortly after , my gaze lingering at Jacob's home , which now felt eerie and ominous ... The reminder of what had happened there returned to the front of my mind . I turned away , ringing the bell , hoping it was Taylor who opened it and not his parents . The goddess didn't really hear my wish when his dad opened the door .

It looked like they were both heading out ... " Hello , Mr and Mrs Olsten , heading out ? " I said . " Hello Delta Zack , yes , we are ... We will be staying at Channing's for the night . He's assigned for surveillance , so we are staying with the children .

" Mr Olsten said , smiling warmly . Perfect , I get to talk to Taylor " We have an escort who will take us due t o the curfew . " Mrs Olsten added quickly . " Yeah , of course . " I said with a nod , spotting the two men who would guide them . Both were in the clear from being the killer . It was fucking strange to have to doubt

your own pack members ... " Were you here for a reason ? " Mr Olsten asked . " Ah yeah , I need to talk to Taylor . " I replied . " He's upstairs , go right up . " Mrs Olsten said with a smile , " He's probably watching TV . "

" Thanks . " I said squeezing past them . They closed the door behind them and I headed : up the stairs , following Taylor's scent , and reached his room . The door was open and I stepped inside . It was the first time I had come here ... I looked around , taking note of everything , wondering where he was . Maybe the bathroom ... I dropped onto his bed , looking at the poster on his wall . We really were pretty different .

A perfect match ... I heard a door open and the sound of whistling mixed with the scent of bath products , something floral laced with Taylor's own delicious scent .

He entered his room without a care in the world , then he froze , his eyes on me , but I was too busy raking my eyes over that sexy body of f his . Damn was my mate fucking fine ... Water ran down his body and into his towel , I fucking wanted to yank off the towel and look at him properly . I mean , I've seen him shift , but he was one of the more modest men when it came to walking around fucking nude , so I hadn't really seen the goods .

" Eyes up here . " Taylor said . I clenched my jaw , my lips set in their usual thoughtful pout . " You can't really control where I look , if I want to look lower ... I can . " I said cockily , before leaning back on my hands , not missing his gaze falling to my crotch , something that made me fucking twitch . Was it wrong that I wanted him on his knees ? But I remembered what I had done ...

" Right , I can't . " He said , a small frown on that gorgeous face of his . " I'm surprised you came . Weren't you busy ? " He walked over to his drawer , picking up some moisturiser and applying it to his face . So my mate was angry that I didn't come ? Cute . " I was , but I came as soon as I got free . You wanted to see me ? " I asked now standing up , shoving my hands into my back pockets . Taylor turned , his heart racing . Our eyes met and I swallowed , fuck how I wanted to pull him into my damn arms and ask him to fucking forgive me ..

" I told Channing . " Taylor said , those chocolate eyes of his softening , the pain in them fucking made me feel like a guilty fucker . It was my heart's turn to fucking race Shit ... Was it bad ? " And ... " I said softly .

" Channing being Channing ... He took it like a pro , and you know what ? He knew that Anna was cheating on him ... More than that , he's breaking up with her , not because of the cheating but because she blackmailed you , and he thinks it's high time he ended it ...

" I closed my eyes , feeling a weight lift from me . Thank the goddess ... Or in this case , Channing ... I will apologise to him in person too ... " I'm sorry ... and I know I owe him . " I " You do , he will make you work that ass off around the house and yard .

" Taylor said sounding damn cute . I tilted my head , I couldn't wait to work this man's fine ass ... Just the thought of fucking Taylor made me twitch . I have had a few one - night stands with men , but something told me Taylor was going to be a

whole new level ... I step closer , closing the gap between us . l'And what about you ? Do you forgive me ? " I ask , dragging my attention from his worship – worthy abs and into his eyes . " I do .

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Getting Closer

TAYLOR

I forgive him , I had to , I'm too fucking in love with him not to . Zack was standing so close to me I can feel his breath on my neck , his fingertips ghosting up my bare arms , not touching but close enough that I could sense the sparks of the bond rippling through the little air between us . " Are you fucking sure ? " He nibbled softly on his bottom lip , all that was standing between us was this barrier and now that's gone there's nothing keeping us apart . " I'm sure ... " I replied quietly . " I can give you more time , if that's what you need .

I know he would , that's what makes him so damn perfect for me . His patience . " I forgive you Zack . " I step in closer , my still damp chest lightly grazing against his own , those sparks rushing through us both . He closed his eyes for a moment , letting the feeling of it overpower him until his arm snaked around my waist and he pulled me against his hard body firmly , his perfect hazel eyes snapping open , and our gazes met .

" Thank the goddess ... " He exhaled , and before I had time to even smile , his lips were on mine . Fuck I love kissing him , it feels like every other one we've had was in a stolen moment but now that nothing is going to tear us away from each other ...

I finally feel like I can embrace every inch of his lips and enjoy this moment to the fullest . His lips aren't soft like a few guys I've kissed before , they're rough and firm . He knew how to use them too , guiding mine with dominance before he took hold of my hips and guiding me back until I slammed into the doors of my wardrobe . This is my Delta .

He's only slightly taller , but it feels so like so much more when he presses himself firmly against me , threading one of his hands into the back of my hair and tugging my head up so he can force my mouth open and slip his tongue inside .

The sparks that fly throughout my body are overwhelming , I've kissed him before but never like this . It's like he's touching every inch of me ; I can feel his nails digging into my back , his fingers pulling and tugging at my hair and his tongue exploring every inch of my mouth .

He feels good , being with him feels so damn good . I didn't think it could feel any better until he slips his hand down the back of my towel and grabs hold of my ass . The towel starts to slip away from my hips , but I grabbed it just in time , but apparently , that was the wrong move because Zack moves away from the kiss , allowing me to breathe as his eyes run down over my exposed body .

I suddenly felt naked , despite still clutching the towel to me . His eyes suddenly dart up to the vein pulsing in my neck as his fingers curl even deeper between my ass cheeks .

M " Drop the towel . " My immediate instinct was to let go , but why should I listen He can't just walk in here and think When he sees my fist tighten on the towel , he moves back from my body and takes hold of my wrists . There's a part of me that wants to tell him he won't get it this easy , that he can wait , but there's this other part of me that just wants to swallow his dick whole and watch him fucking tremble ...

No Taylor . No , you can't give him all he wants just because he's all your fantasies come to life . Bad Taylor . But then he had to go and say the one damn word that immediately made me lose any grip I had on my self – restraint .

" Mine . " My towel hit the floor quicker than a drag queen's death drop . This time when he looks back at me there's no trace of his stunning hazel eyes , instead replaced with the shimmering grey of his wolf . They are so beautiful , bordering on metallic as they capture the moonlight , like a hazy grey cloud surrounded by a silver lining , In many ways , that's what our relationship up until this moment has been .

Tiny flickers of light being clouded by the dull darkness that wishes to suppress our happiness . The radiating glow within them only grows stronger as he lets his eyes fall from mine and run down my body , taking in every curve and line of my muscles before settling on the part of me that most wants his attention . We've fooled around before but nothing like this , he's never seen me exposed , completely his . " You are fucking beautiful ...

" He whispers , his fingertips trailing up my abs . " And you're mine . " He grabbed hold of my waist with both hands , ripping me from the wardrobe and before I know it , I'm flat on my back on my bed . He's so fucking fast ... Oh Goddess .

The guy definitely has strength and by the looks of it , stamina . Before he even has the chance to climb on top of me , I have his shirt off , the sparks from my hands on his skin only growing that much more intense without the fabric between us .

His lips move to my neck , everything in my being crying out for him to sink his teeth into it but I become slightly distracted from that when his jeans definitely don't want to come off as easily as his fucking shirt . " How tight are these ? Did you paint them on ? " I asked with a small smile . Zack pulls back from my neck , smirking down at me struggling to remove the denim pants .

" I thought you liked these jeans on me ? You always seem to pay attention when I'm wearing them ... " He ignores my struggle , moving his lips back to my neck

and grinding his denim covered dick against my own . For a second , I lose all fucking thoughts of anything but how it feels to have him against me like this , then I remember how much better it would be if he was all I could feel .

“ So , are you attached to them ? ” I asked , as he sucks deep on my neck , ignoring my question completely and causing my back to arch up off the bed . My naked chest brushes against his , he growled when his nipples stroke against my own . Fuck ... He likes that ... ” Kind of , they’re my favou- ” He’s cut off when I tear the jeans off of him , the sound loud in the room . I thought he might be pissed , staring at the scraps of material that now lay in tatters on my bed , but instead , it’s only it seems to fuel the growing fire within him .

He straddles my hips and presses his body down against my solid cock . I look up at him , finally letting myself take in the sight of him above me like this . Almost every night since the day we found out we were mated ... I’ve imagined this so many times ... It’s even better than I imagined . He presses his hands down either side of my head on the pillow , lifting himself up just enough that I can slip his boxers down his legs and uncage the beast within . Holy shit ...

A beast it is indeed . Yeah , I was definitely going to feel that in the morning . Zack smirks as he watches my eyes grow wide at the sight of his solid monster , saliva filling my mouth when he slowly runs his hand down his abs and grazes his fingertips at his bobbing length . ” Scared ? ” Me ? Scared ? No ... Nope ... Kind of . But I’m not going to show him that .

I’ve been with guys before , a few actually , but I’ve never been with someone like him ; someone who can make my heart race with a single look , someone put on this planet just for me . He was made for you Taylor , he was fucking made for you . So was that .

I slip down between his legs , his body still hovering above me as I move my hands around his back and press until I can suck his nipple into my mouth . If I wasn’t hard before , then the sound of euphoria that leaves his lips the instant I flick his bead with my tongue , that would have done it . He’s so fucking sexy .

Placing one hand in the middle of his shoulder blades , I begin to twirl my fingers around his awaiting nipple . Flicking and pinching it , making him moan in pleasure . ” Fuck ...

” The spark of pleasure that ignites between his skin and my lips is enough to make my head dizzy , but it’s the feeling of him leaking pre – cum onto my stomach that pushes me over the edge .

He tries to move but I don’t let him , keeping my grip on him firm as I run my tongue down from his chest , slipping further and further between his legs as I kiss his stomach until I come face to face with his pleading cock . ” Tay ... You ...

” He trailed off when I swirled my tongue along his tip . I love that reaction ... His dick is so fucking big I can feel my lips stretching to their max just to wrap around him , it should be uncomfortable but honestly , it just feels so damn good . I’ve always liked a man who can push my limits , and something tells me that I’m going to find a whole new level with Zack .

I only take his tip in to start , slowly rolling my tongue around the tip teasingly , my eyes on him as his head tilts back as a string of swears and groans leave his lips I know I should wind him up a bit more , I should tease every inch of him , but the moment he started to slide across my tongue I knew what I wanted . Instead , I grab hold of his ass and slam his entire length down into my throat .

" Taylor ! Fuck ! " I knew he'd like it hard and fast , everything about him screams rough . " Guiding him back by his hips slowly until only his tip sits in my mouth again , I wait before I press him forward fully into my throat , but I can sense the hesitation from him . ' Why are you holding back ? ' " I ask through the link , feeling his thighs shake as I flick my tongue against his tip .

' I don't want to hurt you . " Cute , but does he really think I'm that fragile ? I'm gay , I'm not flipping china . Ok then , hard way it is . This time when I grab his hips and force him into me , I slip my hands around until my fingers sit at his crack .

I feel him tense , pausing with his dick firmly inside my throat as I slip my finger between his cheeks and start to stroke over his little hole . He practically jumps out of his fucking skin , if his cock wasn't in my mouth I'd laugh . Pulling himself out , he stares down at me , the tip of him still sitting on my bottom lip . " What the fuck are you doing ?

" I honestly can't tell if he's turned on or dying of embarrassment right now , either way , I'm getting the reaction I wanted . " What ? You said you didn't want to hurt me , I assumed that meant that you wanted to be the one to ... " He lets out a vicious growl , one that causes my own eyes to flash a piercing blue at his show of strength , a hot damn turn on ... " Taylor . I'm not ... I mean I haven't ... You were practically born to be the ... "

Bless his little forever – top heart , can't even say the word . I let him panic for a moment , just because it's so fucking cute to see him like this , but he quickly catches on and all humour vanishes from his face . " You're fucking with me .

" He said frowning . I smirk at him and nod , something that I thought might earn me a kiss but instead , I get something so much fucking better ... His hands come out to grab my throat , tilting my head back as his thumbs pull my jaw open and he places his dick right back on my lips .

" I'm going to make you pay for that . " Yes daddy .

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Hot & Perfect

TAYLOR

He immediately thrust his full length down my throat , catching me so off guard that I practically choke on his monster , but it doesn't stop him , pulling out just enough for me to catch my breath before forcing all the way back in again . I've never been against someone taking control of me , but having someone fuck my face like this is probably the most I've ever been turned on .

He doesn't let i my head move , holding it in place against the bed and thrusting his hips against me from above so that he controls his speed and the depth at which he fucks me . I'm in heaven .

My glorious mate hums and groans with satisfaction as I hollow my cheeks and tighten my lips around his length until I can feel him swelling with his nearing completion . I prepare myself to swallow his load , but moment he reaches his climax , he pulls from my mouth and unloads completely onto my face .

Best . Punishment . Ever . His warm seed trickles down my cheeks , dripping from my lips as I become lost in the vision of him panting and groaning in pure pleasure . He takes a moment to compose himself before he looks down at me , fire and lust burning in his eyes before he drops his face to mine and begins to nuzzle into the side of my neck .

" You look so fucking good covered in me ... Marked by me 17 Marked . I want to be marked by him in every fucking way . His tongue slips out between his lips , running up my neck and onto my face before I realise what he's doing , lapping up every drop of his essence from my skin and making me harder than I knew was possible in the process . (Latest Chapters uploaded everyday on novelheart.com)

Fuck ... there was just something too fucking hot about that ... With his lips still glistening with his own see , he looks down between our bodies at my raging hard – on . I shake with anticipation as he begins clawing his nails down my stomach , before reaching the bottom and grabbing hold of my hips .

We stare at each other for just a moment , letting our building emotions flow through the bond , the tingling sparks on my skin flurry as he grips my hipbones that little bit harder right before throwing his strength against mine to flip me onto my stomach .

My shaft rubbing against the sheets alone makes me moan , but pleasure like I didn't know was possible overtakes me when he grabs my ass firmly with two hands and starts to massage my cheeks . " Have you got any ... ?

" " Bottom drawer . " I practically pant as he reaches over my body and pulls open the drawer on the bedside table , taking out the bottle of lube and smirking at it . I twist my head slightly , looking back at him over my shoulder as he lets the thick cool liquid pour out onto his fingers . " You were prepared ... " His husky response comes just as he starts to circle my awaiting bud .

" Well , it's not like this is my first time " I let the words fizzle out when his wolf's raging grey eyes meet mine .. Shit , has this guy got some alpha in him o r

something ? Because he's giving me some seriously dangerous possessive vibes right now . I try to think of the right words to settle him back down again , but apparently , they aren't needed as he immediately slips not one but two fingers into me , stretching me and letting my mind float away on a cloud of fucking pleasure .

– Fuck ! ” His long thick fingers reach deep inside me before pulling back and slamming in again . I knew he wasn't exactly a novice at this type of thing , but I didn't expect him to know exactly what he was fucking doing already .

A raw animalistic growl pours out of his chest when he adds a third digit and I find myself thrusting back trying to get him deeper . Fuck , he feels so fucking good . ” If you want me to lose control , you're going the right way about it .

” He moans as I start to fuck myself with his fingers . Does it say a lot about me that now he's said that , I just want to do it more ? I thank the goddess that there's nobody else in this house when he tilts his wrist and thrusts back in , hitting my pleasure point with such force that I scream his name .

(Latest Chapters uploaded everyday novelheart.com)

” Fuck Zack ! ” If Raven still lived next door , I would definitely be hearing about this in the morning , that girl has ears like a fucking bat . The tingles that coat my body suddenly don't feel like enough , the urge to be with him completely taking over like completely .

” Zack ... I need you ... I want you to ” My mate pulls his hand away and I immediately feel empty , nerves suddenly taking over my body as it feels cold and alone , but that feeling disappears completely when Zack forces my knees under my body then lays his chest against my back , his tip brushing against my hole .

” Are you sure you want this Tay ? Because once you're mine , I'm never letting you go ” 0. His tip presses into me just enough . that I can feel the sparks starting to infest every fibre of my being . When will he realise ?

I've always wanted this , always wanted him . ' I'm yours , Delta ' He smirks . Then without hesitation , he buries himself deep inside me with one harsh thrust . Oh fuck , oh fuck , oh fuck .

Ok Taylor , breathe ... breathe He's big . Fuck , he's really big . Zack doesn't move , holding my body tight to his and kissing along my spine as the sparks seem to grow with every passing second ... until finally , I can feel the pain start to slip away . His hand flattens against the mattress next to my head , I reach over and lock my fingers with his , telling him it's safe to move .

He pulls out gently , focusing all his energy on me and sensing any hesitation before he pushes back in again . Fuck , I know it's been a while , but I don't remember it feeling this fucking good . ” Fuck Zack ... Harder baby ...

" The pleading groan of satisfaction that leaves my lips appears to be all he needed before he pulls out and starts to slam back into me . I knew he'd be dominant but when he grabs hold of my hips and arches my back so that he's hitting my prostate with each deep thrust ,

I find myself surrendering to him willingly . " Tay , fuck , you are so fucking tight ...

" It's hard for me to concentrate on anything but the overwhelming pleasure of having him inside me as he starts to pummel me without mercy , just the way I like it . His arms reach around my body as he delivers a round of short , sharp thrusts , pulling me up from the bed and slamming my back against his chest as he sits me in his lap and starts to power up into my body deeper than ever before .

Everything overloads my mind , the sparks from his naked skin erupting against mine . I can feel myself floating to the edge , tipping over it even further with each hard thrust that he uses to worship my body with .

" I want you to come with me ... Fuck Tay , you have me so fucking close . " Zack loops his one arm around my waist firmly , keeping me on my knees against him as he reaches around with his other hand and starts to pump my dick .

Tidal waves of pleasure begin to drown me , I feel like I'm suffocating in the best way possible as his movements grow ragged and his length swells inside of me just as his lips come down to meet my neck . I throw my head back against his shoulder , giving him the greatest access to my throat and shoulder as his teeth elongate and scratch against the skin . He hits into me hard repeatedly , then finally at the moment my eyes begin to see stars from the overwhelming bliss he buries his canines into my flesh .

Pleasure and pain become one perfectly balanced union , he unloads deep inside me at the same moment streams of thick white come shoot from my tip . My head feels so fucking dizzy , I didn't know pleasure like this was even possible . I can smell the iron in the blood seeping from my open mark but even that only adds to my severely heightened senses ...

I feel the surge of the bond strengthening as his mark begins to heal . The moment he retracts his teeth , I collapse . Zack hardly had enough energy to pull out of me and gently lay me on my back before giving in to exhaustion and resting his head down on my chest .

I can hardly breathe , neither can he as he pants for air against me , exhaling onto my sweat covered chest whilst our naked bodies intertwine . The moonlight feels like it's glowing just for us , Zack eventually managing to pull his head up from my chest to look at my neck , his eyes widening with delight and casting back the glow of the moon in the sharp grey that takes over them as he looks at his mark on my body .

" It's fucking beautiful . " He reaches up , slowly trailing his fingertips over the mark and unleashing a rush of pleasure through my body that I've never felt before . " It's the silhouette of a wolf howling up at the moon ... Fuck , I really

want to see it , but I want to kiss him more . Zack keeps stroking at his mark , thoroughly enjoying the shiver that runs through my body each time , until I cup the back of his head and bring his lips down onto mine .

He moans with pleasure as I slightly lower myself under his body , our members brushing together as I move my kisses to his jaw and have to bite back a growl at the sight of his bare neck .

Mine . Zack's breath halts when I run my tongue along with the place where my mark is going to sit , I get ready to ask for his consent but when I move my lips away from his skin , he only forces himself back against my mouth again . Ok Mr Delta , I know what you want . My wolf's instincts take over as my lips start to kiss his skin , my eyes glowing that bright piercing blue at the moment I plunge my teeth into his muscle .

The bond hits me like a fucking truck . The rich copper taste of his blood is like fine wine in my mouth , my eyes rolling back into my head at the moment our bond snaps completely into place , I can feel the power of just us against one another surge around us like a pleasant storm .

He practically collapses onto my chest when I release him from my grip , forcing me to lean down so I can lick a away the excess blood and look at my gorgeous mark on my even more gorgeous mate .

It's still healing but I can faintly see it taking on the form of two wolfs embracing . A perfect representation of exactly how I feel about him , of us . " I love you Tay , I need you to know that . I know how fucking lucky I am to have you , after everything ... I swear to you , I'm going to spend the rest of our lives proving to you that I was worth this fucking hassle . "

I can't help but laugh at his little confession .

The truth is , he was already worth every minute of it . Slowly , he gently drifts off into sleep , still laying against my body . I love him but he's practically crushing me , so I slowly moved him onto the bed next to me , gazing at my perfect man .

I feel perfectly content , perfectly happy . A small smile played on my lips as I stared at him before sleep overcame me too ... Moonlight Muse Author

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For Someone We Love

RAVEN

The following day , I had left the cottage early after showering and headed to training feeling restless and nervous . My heart was breaking and although I knew this was a decision I had decided on , it still hurt . I would talk to Damon no matter what , right after , I couldn't keep delaying it . After training and once I had showered , I quickly grabbed an oversized hoodie that fell to my thighs and some over – the – knee boots .

I left the packhouse , my hair still wet from the shower , heading straight to Damon's like a woman on a mission . Not today . Not today , nothing was going to stop me . I rang the doorbell , letting out a breath I didn't know I was even holding when I finally reached Damon's home . ' Damon ? I'm outside . I said through the link softly . My heart cracking a little more .

" This must be important , huh . ' His deep , sexy voice came . ' Hmm . ' I replied , feeling awful and waiting for him to open up , he did a few moments later . He had a shirt on , but the buttons were undone , showing off his perfect body .

My stomach fluttered and the pain in my chest reminded me of our connection . " Hey . " I said softly . " Hey , gorgeous . " He said pulling me into his arms , I closed my eyes , hugging him tightly . His beating heart was like a soothing melody compared to the thundering of mine ... This decision I had made ... Was there really no other way ? I knew the answer to that ...

" Hey ... What's wrong ? Are you ok ? " His soft voice brought me out of my reverie , my heart beating like a drum as I slowly moved back and nodded , forcing a smile . I was the selfish one here , wanting them both ... but I knew who I was prioritising and what needed to be done was for the both of us " Yeah , kinda ... Can we talk ? " I asked softly . " Sure . " He said . " Shall we go for a walk ?

" " Ok . " I said , thinking we could go towards the woods , somewhere alone ... Maybe being inside would just make it even more suffocating . He stepped out and locked up behind himself , shoving the keys into his pocket .

He gave me a small sexy smile and began to button up his shirt , hiding those perfect abs from the world . We stayed silent and he let me lead as we walked along . With every step I took , I felt as if my feet were dragging ... Goddess ... please ... give me strength ... I slowed down when we were in a deserted area of the woods , the rustle of the leaves like a whisper of disapproval at what I was about to do here ... Walking down towards the river , I stopped looking around . We were a good way away from the Alpha's home .

I sat down , motioning for him to sit opposite me . He sat down , his soft blue eyes meeting mine and my heart clenched painfully . Why did I feel like he knew this was bad news ... ? " It's ok Raven , you can tell me whatever you need to . You know that . " He said softly , taking hold of my hands , those sparks of pleasure wrapping me in warmth and kissing my knuckles softly .

I closed my eyes , before opening my eyes and staring down at our hands . He was special too " I haven't been fair . " I said softly , my eyes stinging already . No

matter how hard I tried to keep the tears at bay I knew I wouldn't be able to , not today .

He frowned slightly , concern clear in his eyes , yet he waited for me to speak . The sound of the river and the birds chirping in the trees were the only sounds around us , yet even then , our voices simply blended into our surroundings , promising me that my words would remain a secret or were they pleading for me to not do this ?

" Raven ... It's okay ... Look , whatever it is , it's going to be ok . " I blinked coming out of my thoughts . " I need to say this ... Please let me speak . Don't tell me it's ok , none of this is ok . " I said , taking a deep breath . I licked my lips , biting down on my lower one . Where do I start ? How do you tell someone you are about to break their heart ? Especially when they don't dese it ...

" I'm sorry you got a shitty mate like me . ' I whispered , my eyes stinging as I stared at this necklace , unable to look into his eyes . " I'm sorry that I treat you the way I do ... That I haven't even treated you as mine ... I'm sorry that I'm not the mate I should have been ... I don't even get why the goddess paired someone like me with two mates , when I have done nothing to treat you equally ... I'm so fucking sorry , but it's not enough ... Goddess , it's not enough "

My throat felt constricted , I couldn't breathe properly . " Gorgeous ... Don't ever blame yourself , I haven't really stepped up either ... but it's ok ... Maybe Liam- " I shook my head . " Liam won't change his mind – set ... he won't and we both know that . " I whispered quietly , trying to fight back the storm that was threatening to break its dam . " If he doesn't agree , what will you do ? Will you fight for someone who hasn't even been fair ? Would you fight Liam ? " The sadness in his eyes tugged painfully at my chest . I knew the answer , no .

Not because he didn't care enough , not because Liam was his Alpha , but because Damon had a heart of gold and all he knew was giving , not taking ... and that was what I was doing once again . Hurting him . His next words confirmed that ... "

I'm so fucking sorry ... I can't go against him ... It's not just that he's my Alpha ... He ... He always put you as number one Raven . When we were kids ... he always looked out for you , always talked about you always wanted you ... I'm the one who was too busy looking elsewhere .. His voice held so much pain that he was trying to hide , but he was failing ... failing so badly .

" Or perhaps you subconsciously told yourself I was off – limits because of Liam's love for me ? " I asked softly . He looked at me , and shook his head . We didn't know ... We never would know because we had already walked our chosen paths ...

" No ... If it comes down to one of us , he is the one that deserves you . " He said softly , kissing my hands once again . " With this curse , pushing Liam would have been fucking catastrophic . I am not going to ever risk that .

" I nodded , if Damon or I tried to pursue anything , it would have caused Liam to go off the edge into the darkness . Love , bonds , and our situation weren't as easy as one might think ... And regardless , I couldn't use the curse as an excuse .

I clearly favoured Liam so I couldn't hold Damon back any longer either . The moon goddess gave some werewolves second chance mates ... I prayed to Selene with everything I had inside to give Damon someone better ... Someone who would treat him like a king ...

A thought at the back of my head clawed its way to the forefront of my mind , telling me that what if Liam died ? Would I break the bond with my surviving mate ? But I knew the answer to that . Yes , because if that happened , I deserved to be alone .

Damon was no ones back up , he deserved the best . " Rejection ... That's what you're implying . " Damon said , smiling slightly . Breaking the final grasp on my tears . " I won't say this for the sake of it , but because it's the truth . You deserve someone who treats you as the one and only king in her life . You deserve someone who doesn't favour another above you .

For someone with two mates , I should be equal , but even if it's the circumstances or my own fault , I haven't treated you right ... I can't string you along Damon , it's hurting me too . " I sobbed , staring into his eyes .

I needed this , for me , for him , for Liam ... No one was happy like this ... But in the end , it was Damon who would get hurt the most by the rejection , but he was hurting like this too ... " I'm so fucking sorry I'm sorry " He let go of my hands , his heart pounding . I could sense his sadness too as he cupped my face , brushing away my tears . I gripped his wrists , the pain in my chest unbearable . It hurt , so so fucking much .

" The same thought came to my mind too that perhaps our parting is the right thing to do , even if it isn't the best thing ... We can't let Liam turn to the darkness completely , and I can't go against him ... " He said softly , brushing away more of my tears .

My lips quivered and I looked into the shimmering eyes of his wolf . " I love you , Raven , and even if we cannot be together as mates ... Will you promise me that you will always be my friend ? " He asked , his eyes shining with unshed tears . My vision became blurred with the tears that were spilling down my cheeks . Yes , that was a promise I'll always keep ..

Even if Liam didn't agree , I would always be there for Damon as a friend because he had lost so much in life . I know it would never be enough ... I wasn't doing him justice , and I'd carry that guilt with me for the rest of my life ... " You don't need to ask me that ... Damon , you are always going to be someone special to me . I love you too . I want you to know that ...

" " I also wish I could tell you that I did have a connection to you too ... Before the mating ball , I had feelings for you both ... Liam was my first love ... But I loved you too ... But what's the point in saying all that when all I'm doing is hurting you ... I broke into wracking sobs , letting go of his wrists to clamp my hands over my mouth . It hurt . I couldn't breathe .

My chest ... My heart , breathe ... breathe ... His arms wrapped around me , pulling me into his chest . He stroked my hair , not caring that I was soaking his

shirt with my tears . He rubbed my back as I took deep breathes , but for some reason , I was lacking oxygen .

" I love you too ... You're a pure soul , Raven *** He whispered , his voice thick , and I dared to look up to see his own eyes glinting with tears . I gasped , sobbing painfully . " It won't be goodbye ...

" His soothing words and gentle caress , why was he so selfless ? Did he agree because he wanted to ? Or was it because he didn't want to make my decision harder for me ? " This is for someone we both love . " He added quietly , kissing the top of my head . I nodded , for someone we both love ... Moonlight Muse
Author

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In The Woods

LIAM

I frowned as I stared into the bathroom mirror , styling my hair , remembering Raven's rush in the morning to get going ... (FLASHBACK) " You're in a hurry . " I said . " Yeah , training and then I have stuff to do . " She said , towelling her hair after her morning shower .

" What stuff ? " I asked casually , handing her a smoothie I had just made . She smiled and shrugged . " Stuff . " She repeated . Damon . If she couldn't tell me , it meant it included him . (END OF FLASHBACK) Since then , that irritating flare of anger wasn't subsiding ... I wasn't fucking enough ... First in my fucking arms then i n his ...

My chest heaved , my nostrils flaring as I combed my fingers through my hair , swiftly styling it with some hair wax . Watching my eyes turn from cerulean to magnetic navy blue . Breathe Liam ... Maybe it's not Damon ... I stepped into my bedroom , I needed to get to my office .

There was some crap I needed to ... My thoughts vanished when my eyes caught sight of the brown envelope that had clearly been shoved through the bottom of my door . It was thin and flat i and , from what I could tell , blank . Frowning I walked over to it and picked it up . Nothing was written on it either . I ripped it open , wondering what the fuck this was .

A photograph ? I tilted the envelope , shaking it a little , making the single photograph that was inside slip out . I stared at it for a few seconds , my anger flaring up inside . My heart thundering in my ears and the surge to destroy everything in my wake burning like the fires of hell needed to be released .

Lies ... It had all been a fucking lie ... Both of them were playing me I stared down at the image with burning hatred , a picture of Damon and Raven kissing ... From her clothes , I could tell it was the day her father had been brought to me ...

So they had been at it since the beginning ... So all that fucking shit about waiting ... He kissed what was mine ... 2 As for my little mate ... How could someone so innocent play such a fucking game ... ?

Her smiles ... fake ... Her struggle fucking made sense now ... How long were these two at it behind my back ? It was worse than if they had done it fucking openly ... They had both mocked me ... If they wanted to see me fucking lose my shit , well , congratulations , they just fucking got it ...

It was high fucking time that I showed them exactly who was in charge here ... I crushed the image in my hold , tossing it aside as I headed to the window , not even bothering to open it as I ran right through it .

The shattered glass scattered everywhere as I jumped to the ground , feeling the pain rip through my knees at the impact , shards of glass cutting into me . I relished in it , the smell of blood ... I needed more . " Alpha ! " I didn't stop to listen to anyone , as I broke into a run , the anger enveloping me consumed me entirely . The urge to let it all out and tear every fucking living thing around me to shreds fucking consumed me .

I wanted to destroy it all , to unleash carnage upon every single fucking person in the vicinity ... Liars ... Cheaters ... and above all else – perfect fucking actors . But I would save this wrath for the two who deserved it foremost

DAMON I held her tightly , the pain of what I knew was to come breaking me . But ... I knew it was for the best . I had been given an anonymous envelope of her and Liam kissing and making out just the other day outside of the Westwood home ... even one with Liam on his knees .

Sure you couldn't see anything , but it was clear what was happening ... It fucking hurt ... So so fucking much It was like someone had ripped my heart out , scrubbed it over a field of broken glass and then stabbed it with a thousand fucking knives.

I had told her to move on with Liam , but clearly , she wasn't able to forget me completely ; I was just holding her back . She couldn't enjoy being with Liam if I was there , lingering in her mind and making her feel guilty for it . I had held hope that maybe there was just a glimmer of a chance ... but there wasn't . Liam ... he would never be happy until he had her completely . He wouldn't trust me

This was something that we would both do for our Alpha , our friend My brother ... Her mate ... There were many types of bonds in life , and each one was special ... The bonds of family , of Alpha and Beta , of friendship ... and of mates ... Sometimes we had to sacrifice something for the betterment of something else . I looked down at her , as she sobbed into my chest .

I love you so fucking much but I'm not worth it ... Not worth you hurting yourself over ... I held her , telling myself it was not the last fucking time I'll see her or hold her , but who was I kidding ? This was the last time I'd hold her as my mate ...

My precious , perfect mate ... For a fleeting moment , I saw us happy ; mated ... content ... But that was all it was , a fleeting moment that was gone like a whisper in the night ... We could never be ... She was his ... She would always be his . We sat there for a while , the pain in our hearts fucking powerful ...

Her tears slowly came to a stop , and she moved back , wiping her eyes . " Shall we do it ? " She whispered . I nodded as she slowly moved back and sat on her knees before me . Fresh tears streamed down her cheeks , but she was staying brave .

" Want me to do it ? " I asked , not wanting her to be in any more pain than she already was . She reached for my face , wiping my tears away . I closed my eyes , letting myself relish in those sparks for the last time ...

I opened my eyes slowly . The sun shone down on her , a beautiful goddess with a heart as pure and dazzling as the first rays of the morning sun . I didn't want this ... I didn't want to lose my mate ... How many more people that I love will I lose ? Fuck ... But I couldn't be selfish , for her and Liam . Seeing them happy , that would be my happiness ...

" I'm so sorry . " She whimpered , her hands trembling . " Don't be ... " I said , taking hold of her hands . One last kiss ... Please ? I glanced at her lips and she nodded , trying to smile as she understood my silent last wish ...

Her beautiful eyes were full of pain and sorrow . I leaned over , our eyes meeting , and she tilted her head slightly as I pressed my lips to hers ... The salty taste of her tears coated her pouty soft lips , and I knew it was the last time that I would feel them .

The tingles of the mate bond coursed through us , but there was nothing passionate about this kiss ... It was deep , full of love and sweetness . I moved my lips slowly , trying to etch the memory of this moment in my mind . I love you , Raven ... I moved back , taking a deep , shuddering breath . I would do this ...

" I Damon Nichol- " A menacing animalistic growl ripped through the air , making every animal in the forest run . Birds erupted into the sky , alarmed from their resting places , and every hair on my body stood on edge .

An enormous surge of darkness swirled in the air , covering the entire area with a feeling of pure blackness and foreboding , making us both jump to our feet , both turning to the source , our hearts thundering as one . Shit ... Liam had seen us kiss ... Fuck ... He stood there , his claws and canines out , but it wasn't that that chilled me , it was pure blackness that covered his entire eyeballs .

His expression was one that was filled with so much hatred , he was unrecognisable . " Liam this- " Raven began . Another growl cut her off and in a flash , that was far too fast for even an Alpha , he was before us . Before I could

even react , his claws ripped through my chest ,followed by a bone – breaking fist that connected with my face , knocking me back with such force that I was thrown a few feet into the air .

Before I hit the floor , pain lashed through my body as I tried to get up . ” Raven ! ” I shouted , worry for her safety filling every fucking nerve of my body . I got to my feet , the urge to protect her screaming at me to go to her , he had his hand twisted in her hair and from there everything felt like it was far . away ... ” You will only ever be mine , love .

” He hissed , just as I began running towards them ... But ... I was too late ... I watched as if in slow motion as he yanked her head back , tilting her head upwards ... She mouthed his name , trying t o get through to him , but ... it wasn't going to work ... Fear had me in its grip as all I could do was helplessly watch him sink his teeth into her neck brutally . The sound of Raven's scream of pain filled the air , a sound that I knew would haunt my dreams for years to come...

I pushed him away but I knew I was too late ... I shielded her body from him , my heart was pounding with an anger towards him that I had never felt before , and with worry and fear for the tiny precious woman in my arms , whose neck was bleeding far too deeply from his brutal assault , that had ripped open half her neck .

She was gargling up blood , clutching at her neck . Her eyes looked blank as she coughed up blood .

There was no fucking force on earth that could reverse what he had just done . Not only had he marked her against her will , but he had ripped away what should have been one of the most sacred and special moments of her life . Blinded by his untameable anger , Liam had ruined everything .