The Female Alpha's Sanctuary by Sanctuary Chapter 181

Posted by Admin1, 13 Views, Released on June 3, 2023

Chapter 181 I blink at her.

She blinks at me.

And then I turn to Laura.

"Oh dear, Violet honey."

Laura scoops Violet in her arms much to Violet's protest as those chubby hands make grabby gestures at me. She's whining, fussing in Laura's hold when I find new profound confidence inside me. Shakily, I stand and reach my arms out to the child. She immediately halts her fussing, big eyes blinking and starts leaning into my arms when she sees them extended her way. The sour look on her face wiped clean and in place a look of content.

Laura doesn't miss the change of expression and takes it in kind.

"My niece Violet really seems to like you. She usually doesn't take to strangers.' Laura says, easing the toddler into my arms.

Violet's small body radiates with warmth. The softness of her little form a comforting, nostalgic feel when she clings onto my neck. Her little head settling at the crook of my shoulders. The feel of her silky hair tucked between my neck and shoulder makes me freeze in slight concern. This was the first time I held a child since then. I didn't have the courage to do so before.

"Shall we? The men must be antsy waiting for us. Hopefully no one broke anything yet." Violet tightened her hold around my neck, nuzzling her little face into my hair. It took all I had not to think about how Lila used to do the same. The feeling of a child pressed up to me was almost too unusual after everything that happened. The trauma of the last time I held a child and what followed still fresh in my memory.

A wound that was so deep it couldn't even scar.

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Laura and I walked down the stairs side by side, loud murmurs of conversation and bustling sounding from where we were. I could hear Weston arguing with Emerson, Isaac cutting in a few times to ease the the tension but overall was sure the argument wasn't anything alarming. After hearing the words "Ironman is better", I was sure it wasn't anything life threatening.

We walked into the living room, Stefan and Raizel talking in the corner of the room while the other three was huddled in the center. Xavier crawling on the floor looks up when he senses us and starts going my way when he sees Violet in my arms. He's still looking up at me, grabbing onto my legs that he uses as leverage until he's unsteadily standing up. Those puffy cheeks puff when he starts bouncing on his feet.

"Úp. Up."

Violet pulls from my neck and stares down at Xavier in scrutiny, "No."

It's that one word that catches everyones attention. Emerson is the first to respond. "D-did Violet just talk?"

Isaac goes next.

"Holy sh it your neck-"

Then goes Weston,

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Chapter 181

"Awww, look at how cute they are. Alpha, Alpha! Take a picture. You know you want to." I drift my gaze to Raizel and he openly stares. His father looked at him strangely, noticing the shift in his mood. Raizel's eyebrows scrunched together like he was seeing a confusing puzzle at hand. His firm body tight and upright. He slowly walks over to me, blinking as he stares down at the dress. The look of pure disbelief laced in his expression,

"That dress-"

He mumbled, trailing off at the end. He looked so shell shocked. The words he wanted to say escaping him as he stared. I could feel his wolf's excitement reach me but from the look on his face he looked utterly confused. Laura who hadn't really noticed the grave look on Raizel's face gushes in glee,

"Oh, that old thing. It was a gift from your grandmother. She wanted me to pass it on to my daughter as an heirloom, but seeing as you would never wear it I gave it to Selene-" "No,"

Raizel shakes his head, his hands lightly gripping my arms. Violet who'd been peacefully cocooning herself into my chest makes a face at Raizel. She grabs onto the neckline of the dress, small fingers curling into the fabric tightly. His expression and tenseness setting her off with alarm,

"That dress, I- I've seen it before."

He swallows thickly, eyes searching mine with determination overpowering everything else in his eyes. There's a mixture of emotions flooding out of him. Panic. Confusion. Intrigue. Hope.

Glimmering, thick hope.

"Rome, have you been going through my closet? I hadn't taken it out since I was pregnant with you-"

"The vision."

He cuts her off sharply, not looking at his mother. It's like something triggered the change in the air. I feel everyone tense aside from Isaac, the kids and I.

"The vision with the witches. I saw it then. The silhouette I was chasing after" his gaze falls to the pure white fabric draped over me. Lifting one hand, he holds the strip of apparel in between his fingers. A look of astonishment written on his face. "-she was wearing it."

Raizel's eyes never left mine.

The heated fix set deep in his expression never wavering from the evident confusion he felt. I didn't understand why he looked at me like that. Why it seemed like he couldn't believe I was standing there or why he stared after the dress like it was some magical thing balancing on a thin beam of needing to be destroyed or worshipped. That alone

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Chapter 182

And then there was that thing about some vision.

What were they talking about? A vision where he saw the dress I was wearing? It must've held some importance otherwise the others wouldn't have bristled the moment the word made it passed Raizel's lips. Violet who was still in my arms squirmed until I set her down- uncomfortable with the emotions her little senses were picking up. She felt the gravity of our conversation weigh on her and felt the need to detach herself to scurry off to the far side of the room. Xavier, who also felt the tension, was not too far off as he waddled after his sister. Or, at least, who I assumed was his sister. The identical slope of their noses and shape of their faces was a dead give away. I look around the room. Everyone's expressions and stances held the same air of weighty rigidness. Stefan was the first to break the tension. He looked between Raizel and I with caution before his eyes darted to the dress. Like his son, he stared at the article of clothing warily. He was just a bit better in hiding it, though.

"Son, are you sure?"

Stefan asks slowly, doubt dripping heavily from each word. He curls his hand around Laura's. Dark eyes search mine in wonder, alarm and a hint of something I hadn't thought I'd ever see from the former Ignis Red Alpha.

Hope.

Laura presses her lips together, chewing the inside of her cheek in thought and frowned. The earlier uncertainty in her gaze was still there but she pushes aside any stray thoughts. She looked every bit apprehensive at what Raizel had said. "You were only ten, dear. It's possible your mind is playing tricks on you-"

"No, that's not it."

Raizel shakes his head, his hands tight wrapped around my wrists. He looks as though he couldn't bear the idea of anyone thinking he was misunderstanding this. As if it physically pained him for someone to question what he so deeply believed was true, Whatever that 'what' was.

The lodged determination and certainty in his tone had a rough but sure edge to it. He left no room for argument even when everyone else in the room seemed keen on telling him otherwise.

"I'm certain. I can't mistake it. There's simply no way I ever could."

His brows tilt down, eyes narrowing at the floor as he tried making sense of everything in his head. I could see the cogs in his mind turning. The words he wanted to say was lost in his mind as the only thing he found himself doing was reaching up to caress my cheek. Almost in awestruck wonder, he brushes his thumb across my cheekbone and smiles. I couldn't figure out what was going on in his mind for the life of me. From the looks of it, he wasn't sure what was going on either.

"What are you taking about?"

I ask softly, leaning into his touch. I didn't want to set him off by saying the wrong thing, but my curiosity was getting the best of me. From what he said, I guess I looked like the silhouette he was chasing in his vision. That was the only thing I caught onto. I continued resting my cheek into his palm, feeling the tension in his body begin to uncurl its hold on him. No words were needed to be said to show that he needed comfort. The pain stricken expression, on his face was enough to say a thousand words. Pain for what? I don't know, but was desperate to find out.

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Chapter 182

He looks at me perplexed. He wasn't sure what or how to say the things in mind. So he drops his hand from my cheek, fingertips trailing down my arm until he intertwines our hands together.

"She doesn't know?"

Stefan asks with a frown. He looks between us, not noticing the slight look of displeasure on his mate's face at the thought.

Raizel only gives a stiff shake of his head in return; the gesture almost unnoticeable if not for my focus being directed at him. At this, Stefan sighs, shooting me a small smile before looking at the rest of the group. He straightens up, circling his arm around Laura's waist and pulls her close. He says something into her ear to which she nodsbefore letting go of her completely. He returns to look at the rest,

"Let's give them some time alone, shall we?"

He pointedly looks to Weston and Emerson before jamming his thumb in the direction of the exit. It was more of an order than a suggestion, really. Laura makes her way to the kids, taking Xavier and Violet by the hands. She leads them out, the two pups looking over their shoulder to wave me a silent goodbye. Violet's lips juts out in a pout as she lifts her hand for another shy wave. One of which I return with a small smile.

Wordlessly, everyone files out, Isaac hanging around looking unsure and worried. He looks between Raizel and I, a crease in his brows as he tried to analyze the situation. His wolf's shoulders slumped forward with torn priorities. To listen to Stefan's suggestion or to stay back. Finally, he looks at me...... for instructions. With a sharp nod from me, he bows his head and walks out the door. I could feel his worry. Thoughts about staying close in case anything happens lingering in the back of his head, But I don't have time to discern his thoughts when he disappears out that door. 11-25

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Chapter 183

Raizel's jaw was tight, body tense and stiff as he glared into the floor. I could feel a surge of emotions radiate from him. A frown graced my lips. Walking closer to close the distance between us, I raise my hands to cup his face. His eyelids flutter shut the instant my skin touches his. The look of complete satisfaction overtakes his expression, but its

short lived. He lets out a heavy sigh, taking my hands in his and turns his head to kiss into my palms.

A lingering kiss on each one before opening those gorgeous steely greys.

His hands were curled around my wrists loosely, but I felt his fingers tighten around them by a fraction when he thins his lips together.

"I'm sorry, my love."

He says lowly,

"I haven't been completely honest with you."

My eyebrows knit together, eyes drinking in the image of this man tormenting himself in front of me. Shifting my weight to my other foot, I move forward until we're barely two inches apart.

"What's wrong?"

I ask softly. Part of me fears what he has to say. All sorts of thoughts ran through my mind. What was he talking about? His mate? My heart thundered against my chest at the thought.

Raizel shakes his head. There's a slight grimace crossing his features when he takes in a breath. He's nervous, maybe even a little anxious as he straightens his posture. He gathers himself and looks at me, eyes staring into my soul with undeterred love.

"Theres things you deserve to know- need to know. Things I haven't had the courage to tell you. I won't make you promise to.. stay with me. I can't do that to you, but please, listen to the very end.Please?"

I don't understand why he's telling me this. I open my mouth to ask but the look he shoots me renders me silent. That distant, weary look. So I close my mouth and I nod. "I know you have questions about my… mate."

I couldn't stop the flinch raking through me when he says this. I ignore the slight tinge of pain erupting from my chest. But of course, he notices, eyes snapping to me before they soften into warm silver. The hand that held mine tightens as he skims his thumb across my knuckles. A calming gesture to ease my nerves. Though right now, it did very little to reassure me.

The thought of his mate terrifies me.

It scares me knowing that there could very well be someone out there meant for him. That regardless of what Williams and Elizabeth told me of him having no mate, there was.

That she was just waiting around for the day she meets him, and as selfish as it was for me to think so, I didn't want them to meet.

And the thought angered me.

I was so selfish,

"My family line traces back to the very beginning. To when the Capital was first created, the systems and order... Romanuv Locksworth was one of the founders. You've heard of him, yes?"

"Of course. He was the one to propose the division of land among packs, The ideal Alpha."

Raizel nods, watching his thumb run across my skin.

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The Female Alpha's Sanctuary

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Chapter 183

"And you heard of his Luna? A nalisa Vendre?"

"Yes.'

Raizel stops his ministrations to look at me. The depth of his icy stare hardening in thought before he snaps himself out of that trance. As quick as he is to scan my face, he drops his gaze to pur joined hands.

"An alisa wasn't his true mate. My ancestor traded his destined for a stronger partner. He abandoned her. He abandoned his mate because he didn't deem her worthy to stand by his side."

My lips part but nothing comes out. Flashbacks to what happened to me ring in my mind but I force it down. Overwhelming emotion wraps around my neck. I felt acid burn in my throat. Disgust chokes me as his face comes into mind and what happened following suit. F uck. Why was this happening right now? I could feel myself stiffen when thoughts of Duskfall threaten to overcloud me. The feelings I tried so hard to keep at bay and keep under control now stares me straight on.

"My ancestor started something that should never have happened. He was the first to reject his mate. He broke through the Moon Goddess' plans. An alisa was the daughter of one of the top packs at the time. The rejection led to more than just stronger pups. Allies, money, rank... He was a greedy, bi tch with no conscience about his mate. But of course, his selfishness meant he had a price to pay."

I hung onto his words, unblinking as he continued. The fingers that curled around his hand grows cold.

"Every generation since him, was cursed. My grandfather, my father then... me." Raizel frowns, keeping his eyes trained on the ridges of my knuckles. I can feel the tension in his body rise up. The knots in his muscles visible under his thin shirt. "Every generation can only have one child. A boy. To ensure the Locksworth line doesn't end and to pass on the curse. A never-ending cycle."

He stops himself to glance up at me. The look he gives me break my heart. It's the face he made that told me he wasn't expecting me to stay. The look of complete resignation and hopelessness.

11:26

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Posted by Admin1, 12 Views, Released on June 3, 2023

Chapter 184 "What's the curse?"

I ask softly. I couldn't resist. I stare at him straight in the eyes, trying to show him I was willing to stay. That I would be here till the very end and that he shouldn't worry. He watches me for a moment. There's a slight furrow in his brow. He's trying to read me, to see what it was I was thinking but honestly even I don't know. I was a blank page just waiting for him to paint on. Eventually, he sighs and returns to playing with my hand.

"The Goddess has placed her mark on us. The mark of a crescent moon. Each generation, the mark changes its place. It could be on your arm, your leg, your eye... My father was marked at his hip above his right leg. He was born paralyzed with it, and so they cut it off. The curse takes away a body part or sense. It's our punishment for starting the evolution of wolves. Our punishment for existing when we were never supposed to. A wedge in fate that my ancestor forcibly created. My ancestor's treachery led to the possibility of withstanding the mate bond. Something that we should never have been able to do. My ancestor messed with fate, and so the Goddess saw it fit to punish us. Including all of us following him."

He goes silent, waiting for my response without looking at me. He was cursed just as the others before him. Punished for something he wasn't responsible for. How unfair. So terribly unfair. I slide my hand away from his and he flinches, the sadness in his face visible but he says nothing. Almost- as if he was expecting rejection and was patiently waiting for it. Moving closer, I rest my forehead on his chest, allowing my hands to cup around the back of his neck to bring him down to me. I curl my fingers around his hair, uncurling them to scrape my nails on his scalp. A gesture I knew he was find of. He sighs in contentment, an occasional growl ripping from his lips. His eyes shut in bliss as I look up and nudge his chin with the tip of my nose.

"And you?"

I ask, kissing his jaw.

"What's your curse?"

I'm almost afraid to find out. From what I saw, he didn't seem to suffer from a physical sense. I don't even remember seeing the mark-

It hits me like a ton of bricks. His chest. The tattoo on his chest was the mark he was referring to. I pull back to get a good look at him. He knows what I realized and gives me a half hearted smile. Swallowing down the lump clogging my throat, I look at his chest and run my hands down his torso. My fingers stop at the hem of his shirt, curling around the fabric before I look up to him questioningly,

Tipping his head down, he gives me a nod.

Slowly, I lift his shirt up. He makes no sound or action of resistance and allows me to pull it over his

without another thought. During our time together, I was so focused on his face and what he was doing that I hadn't really paid much mind to the tattoo on his chest. I'd thought he had it done.

head. His scent hits me even harder when I drop his shirt onto the I was wrong.

He kept his head down, watching as I inspected his chest.

Staring at the inked patch of skin, I lift my hand to run my fingers over it. He lets me do as I wish, shivering under my touch when I trace the curve of the moon. Something so beautiful was a mark of torment. Frowning, I bury my face into his neck and wrap my arms around his waist.

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The Female Alpha's Sanctuary 77.99% hapter 184 "What does it mean?" I mumble onto his skin.

Raizel doesn't say anything for a moment until he sucks in a shaky breath and whispers,

"It means I'm mateless."

I froze in his hold as his arms wrapped around me.

"It means I wasn't given a mate the moment I was born."

It finally all made sense. The thing Elizabeth and Williams were talking about with him not having a mate and the situation being "complicated". That's what he'd meant when he said "I should've known it was impossible" at the time in the Sacred Pool. He knew he didn't have a mate and that's why he was so sure Hestia wasn't his.

I tried to pull from him but he keeps his hold on me tight. He doesn't want me pulling away and so I rest my cheek against his bare chest. The comforting thumps of his heart ring in ears as I breathe him in. The warmth his body radiates mix so deliciously with mine. I don't know what to say. How do you respond to something like this? Is there even a correct way to handle this? Here he was giving me his truth. Laying all his cards in front of me without holding anything back.

"[.."

Raizel sighs to himself, pressing his lips to my hair as he breathes in a ragged breath. 11:

Chapter 185

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Chapter 185

"When we start a family, we will only ever have a boy. We won't have any more children no matter how desperately we want to have more. I- I can't give you more than one. I don't even know if I could give you one in the first place..."

He swallowed down the lump in his throat and tightens his arms around me,

"And if we have a child...our child... Our beautiful, beautiful child will bear my bloodline's curse. He will lose a part of him. Physical or sense... the Goddess will take from him. And when he's ten, his mark will show and people will talk of how he's an abomination. He won't have an easy life. So if you change your mind about this- us, I won't blame you. I'll understand. I just-"

He cuts himself off,

"I love you so much, doll. Everything I am is yours. If you don't want me anymore," He pulls away and for the first time I see it.

Unbridled fear in those beautiful greys. The vulnerability in his eyes breaks my heart into two. He licks his lips, eyes dropping to the ground as he forces his lips to thin. "If you don't want me anymore, I won't hold you back. I can't and won't ever do that to you."

I was stunned into silence.

This man who was known to be ruthless and unmerciful was breaking apart in front of me.

No facade of strength and power. He was allowing himself to crumble. So I smile, shaking my head gently before taking his hands in mine. I pull them from around my waist and lead them to my lips. Kissing his wrists as he does mine, I can't help but smile into his skin, "One child, you say?" Raizel draws his brows together in confusion. There's an abundance of anxiety beneath them but theres a shimmer of hope under all of it. "That's not good. He'll be spoiled with affection." I muse. Slow, but surely, a smile inches across his face and I melt. Goddess he was so gorgeous. Raizel drops his head onto my shoulder and laughs in relief, Yes, he'll be smothered with kisses from his grandparents.' At this, I let out a laugh. "Oh Goddess! Meredith won't put him down." Raizel nods but doesn't lift his head from my shoulder. I let my hands tangle in his messy curls from his bed hair and run my fingers through them. "My father and Williams will take him hunting every season." 'Elizabeth will teach him how to play the piano." "Emerson and West will help him build a tree house." "Isaac and Noah will try to intervene." "My mother will abuse the camera with just about everything he'll do." I purse my lips, playfully tapping the tip of my chin with my free hand. "And I'll teach him how to grow flowers in my garden." 11:26 The Female Alpha's Sanctuary 78:39% Chapter 185 Raizel lifts his head to look at me, loving how I didn't stop playing with his hair. He raises a brow, soft, gentle look in his expression as he asks, "You have a garden?" I hum absentmindedly. "Not yet... but I'm planning on having one." Raizel smiles at me, kissing my bare neck before nuzzling into the crook of it. "You'll have to allow me to help you. I'll carry the heavy stuff." "And if I refuse?" There's a glint in his eyes when he smirks at me. "I have a few ways to convince you otherwise." And without another word, he leans forward to press his lips against mine. He sighs out. "I'm not sure I can really consider it a curse anymore." 11 He says quietly. I tilt my head to the side, running the tips of my fingers down the side of his face. "What do you mean?" His eyes close briefly when he breathes me in. His long lashes curtain under his eyes. Smooth skin just begging me to lay a kiss on it. "It's what led me to vou."

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My heart clenches at his words. Pure warmth filters through me and inflates my heart. If i thought i couldn't love him more, i was just proven wrong.

"Aren't you romantic?"

He shrugs unceremoniously,

"I'm just honest."

"And the vision?"

Raizel straightens up as if he just remembered what we were talking about and stares down at the dress. He shakes his head and frowns,

"When I was ten, mother and father had me see witches. They took me to the sacred shrine to get my curse told. It was the first time in our bloodline that the mark was over the chest. The witch and I saw into my fate. There was a... silhouette I was chasing after. I couldn't see her face but I did see the dress she was wearing."

His eyes scan down my body,

"And you're wearing it."

"What do you think that means?"

I ask him, letting my uncertainty bleed into my words. I didnt know much about witches except that they have a tight connection to the Moon Goddess. They were her direct descendants, the followers of the Goddess and while some strayed away from their original purpose, they were nothing to underestimate.

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Chapter 186

Raizel can only bite his lip before pursing his lips together.

"I don't know. I want to think that this is fate. You coming into my life, that is. That we were supposed to be."

"I'd like to think that too."

He gives me a small kiss, resting his forehead against mine.

"How did I get so lucky to have you?"

"It's all in the hair."

He rolls his eyes but the smile on his face widens. He searches my face for a second, his smile melting into a softer more affectionate one. Raising a hand to my cheek, he brushes his thumb across my lips.

"I love you.

He whispers it like a soft promise. An intimate phrase that he doesn't want anyone else but me to hear. Like a secret he wants to keep between us, but I'm sure everyone knows. The love I feel for the man is nothing that can be hidden. The burning torch of affection lit up inside me can't be concealed and honestly, I don't want it to be.

I am his and he is mine.

Curse or no curse, I'd stand by him.

It doesn't matter who knows.

"I love you.

"Well this is awkward."

Weston nods his head awkwardly as they sat in a circle on the ground with the two kids hanging off Emerson's arms like vines. The Beta and two Gam mas had resorted to becoming the children's "playmates" as they waited for the Alphas to finish talking in the other room,"

Isaac looked over his shoulder and watched as the former Alpha and Luna spoke into the phone at the far side of the room. The looks they wore were a little unsettling, in fact, everyones looks were when they were speaking of some vision or whatnot. He felt a little reluctant in leaving his Alphas side, the atmosphere of the room had felt way too off for his liking.

He knew Alpha Locksworth would do no such harm to his Alpha. It was hard imaging he ever could when all he sees is the loved up look in his expression when he sees Selene. Still, he wondered what the hell was going on. Being kept in the dark was never something Isaac could handle.

"Who do you think they're talking to?"

Emerson asked, keeping his eyes trained on the former Alpha with a look of curiosity on his face. Weston shrugs, glancing over in their direction before giving Emerson a frown. He had no idea what to make of this situation. He would've tried to c rack a joke or two but under these circumstances where his best friend's heart was put on the line, he couldn't find it in himself to make one. He was far too absorbed in the craziness of what was going on to even properly think straight.

"I don't know... could be Williams. The dress thing really freaked them out." "I'm sure."

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Chapter 186

Emerson sighs,

"F ucking hell, I'm freaked out too."

Isaac cuts Emerson a glare to which the Gam ma raises his brows up in surprise. It's when he feels the tug on his arm that he realizes that the kids were actually very much listening to them.

'....Sorry."

Violet, who had been giving him a disapproving glare nods in satisfaction before continuing on to play with his shirt.

"You think it's true though?"

Weston asks, more to himself than anyone else.

"That the dress is the same one?"

Emerson shrugs, cutting a glance at Isaac who sat there all confused.

"Could be. Fate is weird like that. The chances that our Alpha is interested in a woman who just so happened to have a f uck up of a mate. Who's to say it wasn't all part of the Goddess' plans?"

"Yeah well, if we're taking about the Goddess here, I won't sugarcoat it and just tell it to you straight. She's a b itch if you're telling me she did all of this for a reason."

Isaac mumbles, unbothered to hide the venom in his voice. He had no idea what they were talking about but if they were speaking of the Moon Goddess and her plans, then he had no mind in being as brutally honest as he wanted to be. She was just a being who takes, takes and takes. Never seeming to have enough and takes more from everyone he cared about.

Emerson frowns and looks to Weston who's already looking at him. Clearly they sensed the threat in his voice but they chose to ignore it. Isaac didn't seem to want to talk about it anyway. Violet and Xavier wandered off, finding more interest in the crayons laying around in the living room than the conversation they had no idea about. Their squeals and little footsteps could be heard going off into the distance.

"Hey... out of curiosity. I just want to ask,"

Emerson tilts his head to the side and looked at Weston.

"Why the hell are you and Jones so bi tchy to one another? What the f uck happened between you two?"

At the sound of Noah's name, Weston dramatically rolls his eyes and groans.. "Nate? Goddess, don't remind me. The little sh it-"

Thuds on the door cuts Weston off completely. He draws his brows together, looking at the other two in mutual suspicion before letting his gaze slide over to the former Alpha and Luna. Stefan Locksworth was already heading toward the door, his stance stiff and rigid as he found himself unable to identify the presence behind it. He knew someone was there but the scent was masked completely,

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Chapter 187

Taking hold on the door k nob, he turns it and opens the door wide open to reveal the last person he had ever expected to see.

"Hello there, Stefan. I came to speak to Selene. I know she's here."

Isaac stands, guards up at the sound of his Alpha's name being said. He narrowed his gaze at the red cloaked figure, unable to make a proper assessment of her strength until his eyes zeroed in on her finger.Or rather, what was on her finger. A serpent ring.

A witch.

"Ivory, what's going on?"

Stefan's voice was void of any pleasantries. The rough, serious edge in his tone was making Isaac's wolf struggle with the need to submit. The witch didnt seen affected. She simply smiles, darting her bright orange eyes across the room before settling her gaze back to Stefan. She doesn't even falter when she makes her way in.

"I need to speak to her about her fate. Or rather, what was of her ancestor's fate." "What? What are you-"

"Isaac? Are you alright?"

Selene stepped out of the room, looking at her Gamm a in concern with Raizel following

after her. Isaac felt a sigh of relief leave him when he sees the tension from the latter was relieved and no longer hanging over him like a cloud. As much as he wishes he could say all was well, the newly introduced female standing in front of him said otherwise.

It didn't take long för Selene to catch sight of the woman.

She stared at her, a weird look in her eyes as she took in the witch. Just like Isaac, she immediately caught on from the ring the woman wore.

"Selene."

Selene frowned, unsure of what to say. The witch put her on guard. Whether it was because of the way she smiled dreamily at her or the thick scent of her power was unclear. Raizel pressed himself behind her and snaked an arm around her waist protectively, looking down at the witch with slight suspicion before speaking, "Ivory. What brings you here?"

lvory doesn't let everyones mood dampen her smile. She steps forward, aware of their stiffening postures until she came face to face with Selene. She marvels at the fact that the female Alpha doesn't waver in her presence, just like the mate she has. Everything was coming into place, just like she always knew it would years and years ago since entering the Young Alphas vision. She was glad they finally found each other.

"Hello, Young Alpha. It's been a while. I came to speak to your mate."

Raizel tightens his hold around Selene's waist.

"Speak to me? About what?"

Isaac is a little baffled at Selene claiming the title of his mate, but he felt a burst of joy rumble from the depths of his heart for her. Words

s couldn't convey how happy he was that Selene finally found the one to complete her. True mate or not, Raizel was undoubtedly the only one she was meant to be Chapter 187

with.

"About your fate. About the vision. And of course, about Luna Bennett."

lvory smiles when she sees Selene's brows furrow.

"The woman Romanuv Locksworth rejected. His mate."

Her gaze cuts to Raizel when realization slowly sinks into him. She looks at Selene once more, her ruby red lips widening until her pearly white teeth is showcased. "Your ancestor."

"What? Raizel, what's going on?"

I look over to the man behind me, hoping he had some form of answer as to what this woman was spouting. My wolf had been dormant for the most part of today, more than a little exhausted from the amount of energy we used up but after recognizing the possible sign of a threat, she was quick to get alert.

She pushed aside the fatigue and watched with intense interest as the woman smiled up at us. Her ears perked up and straightened, body tense and bushy dark grey tail raised.

Her beady black eyes skimmed over the red cloak that lvory wore.

"I came here to speak with Alpha Crestfield. Nothing less and nothing more."

Came Ivory's soft response to my wolf's unease. My wolf relaxed her shoulders, taking Ivory's words in stride and when recognizing no lie in her tone, huffed before settling down in my mind. She sent forth waves of caution before resting her head on her paws. "Ivory, what exactly are you implying here? What of Luna?"

My gaze slides over to Stefan. His expression pinched, fists clenching and unclenching from the nerves steeling his posture. A permanent frown plastered on his expression with his jaw tight with warning.

"I'm not implying anything, Stefan. I'm simply stating reality."

"The reality of?"

Raizel's deep voice cut from behind me, his arm that wrapped around my waist pulling me closer into his chest until I was practically crushed against him. My wolf sighed in contentment, basking in his warmth but never letting her eyes wander from Ivory. Ivory hums but the smile on her face remained.

"I think it's best we take this up in your office."

The witch let her eyes glide over the rest of us, taking note of who was here and listening in.

"There's much to explain."

"I'm sure you're all confused. Possibly not even aware of what's going on, but before I start, I must tell you that everything you're about to hear is true. All has been written down and recorded by the Goddess. She's shown me the memories herself through visions. Nothing I tell you is fabricated or twisted with some truths added in the mix. Whether or not you believe me is up to you, but I swear on the Goddess and my loyalty to the Order that I'm truthful in all I'll say."

The Female Alpha's Sanctuary by Sanctuary

Score 9.4