

## **The Alpha's Contract (Neah and Dane)**

### **#Chapter 0131 - Read The Alpha's Contract (Neah and Dane) Chapter 0131**

#### **Chapter 0131**

"And you need to because you are not going to like what I have to tell you." He mutters, not quite looking me in the eye "Neah bolted?"

"Eric and a few others are looking for her. They are trying to find her before Roan does" Sitting up coughing, I listen to the sirens drawing nearer.

"We have to go." I mutter as he helps me get to my feet

"You want to go home? What about Jess?"

I shake my head, "We just need to go. I can't be dealing with humans right now. I need to find somewhere where I can think.

We move as quickly as we can. When I look down, the wound has completely disappeared like it was never there in the first place. I feel a sense of relief. Death was not something I feared. But now it wasn't just about me, I had a mate and twins on the way.

We find an abandoned house and drop down on the dusty floor. "I hate humans." I mutter.

"Are you talking about the prick that hit us?" Jenson asks quietly "Who else?"

"It wasn't a human." Jenson murmurs. "You were knocked out. The guy stopped, got out of his car and looked in at us. Before laughing and driving away."

"You are saying it's a Wolf?"

He nods his head at me. "Who's territory are we in?"

"It's not, it's neutral ground." I mutter as I close my eyes and try linking Neah again "Are you sure?"

"I know every pack from here to Greg's packland. This is neutral land.

"I think you might be wrong.

When I look at him, he is looking past me.

Turning around, I see a large black shadow, crouching at the top of the stairs. Its beady eyes on us. It slowly rises to its full height, moving into the light where we could see it. A Lycan

It growls at us, drool dripping from its bared teeth. "Another fucking one!" Jenson snaps and I glare at him. I thought we had killed them all.' Aero mutters. 'How did one get away?'

I turn my attention back to the Lycan who hasn't moved. "We are looking for someone. A girl with red hair. She is like you, but was taken from her home, from her family."

It growls at us. "My mate is a female Lycan Alpha." I try, hoping it would show some form of interest.

It moves away from the top of the stairs, disappearing around the corner and out of sight. A few minutes later, a blonde female takes the Lycan's place.

"A young girl?" The blonde asks?

"She's fifteen."

"Why are you looking for her? You are Wolves.

"As I said, my mate is a Lycan Alpha. The girl is like her little sister. "I had one of those once." Her brown eyes stay on me.

"I'm sorry to hear that.

She snorts and folds her arms across her chest.

"Did you kill her?" Jenson asks

Her face hardens. She pulls at the collar of her shirt to show a bite, just like Jess' s on her collarbone. "What do you think?!" Content belongs to Swnovel.net

"How long ago were you bitten?" I question "Why does it matter to you, Wolf?!"

Aero laughs at the response and normally I would have too, but maybe we could use her assistance.

'We were attacked, back in my pack. The ones leading the attack had .~ bitten 'a load of humans, changing them forever.'" Swnovel.net

She jumps the entire length of the stairs. landing inches from me. "Was her name Cassandra?" "Yes."

She smiles, "I can't wait to kill her."

"You are too late. His mate killed her." Jenson mutters.

The blonde frowns as she smiles, making her look quite dangerous. As she smiles, I see an old scar, just above her lip,

"Good." she mutters

"You got away?" I ask, I wanted to know how she had survived all this time without a pack.

She rolls her eyes at me as though» the answer is obvious. Turning away from us, "she heads back towards the stairs. "I haven't seen the girl you describe."

"Please," Jenson mutters

The blonde looks back at him. "You care for her?"

He doesn't answer her, but I could see it in his eyes. "The man who had her kidnapped, he is not a nice man. "Who is?!" she snarls

"They want her to produce pups.

Her eyes narrow to slits. "Didn't you say she is fifteen?" "Yes."

She sucks in her cheeks as she stares at us. "I will help you, Wolf. But I want something in return. "What might that be?"

"Money.

"Seriously?" Jenson interrupts. "She is one of you."

"I named my reward. Take it or leave it!"

"Deal." I mutter, holding my blood covered hand out to her.

She shakes it. "You can call me Mallory.

## **Chapter 0132**

\*Trigger Warning- Talks of miscarriage\* Neah

My feet carry me forward as I run. I could hear the pack calling out to me. Telling me they could help me. Telling me that Dane would be fine. He wasn't fine. I could feel it. The pain grew stronger by the second, tearing at my heart as I moved

'What's the plan?' Nyx asks. I have to find him!' I fight back the tears Neah, he left hours ago. We won't find him on foot."

I have to try.' I break through the trees, coming to a stop at the boundary. I hadn't crossed it alone before. And all that panic I had felt months ago about stepping out into the snow was back.

"NEAH, PLEASE STOP!" Eric calls out from somewhere behind me. "Dane is alive.

I turn to see him creeping through the trees, his eyes on the ground as he frowns. The pain moves from my heart down into my abdomen "You are lying." A tear leaks from my eye and trickles down over my cheek. "I feel it." I pat my chest. "He is dead, isn't he!?"

Somethings wrong.' Nyx murmurs

"Dane is alive." Eric calls out. You were right, he wasn't. He was in a car accident. Impaled by glass, but it missed his heart. Jensen saved him" He slowly steps towards me. "I promise you, Neah. Our Alpha is alive, but right now, we need to get you to the hospital."

"For Dane?" I whisper

"No. We need to get you checked out."

"I need to see Dane."

"I know, but right now, he is miles away and you are important.

The pain spreads further down into my hips and my thighs. It's only then that I pick up the rusty iron smell. My eyes find the spots of blood on the grass and fallen leaves. It leads straight towards me.

"Let me help." Eric whispers, holding a hand out to me.

He catches me just before I hit the floor. Swooping me up and carrying me in his arms with ease as he runs through the forest. Pain radiates through me. "Am I losing them?"

Eric doesn't answer me as he powers on and I could feel Nyx pacing in my mind. Her own worry echoing with mine.

'I killed my pups didn't I?" I mutter to Eric

He still doesn't answer me, but I feel him squeeze me closer to his chest, like Dane would do as my tears fall more freely. Eric barrels us through the hospital

'In here?' Raven shouts out.

The moment he places me on the bed, Raven is pulling up my top and scanning me.

"Well?" Eric demands

"Two heartbeats." Raven mutters, "Two strong heartbeats."

"Then why is she bleeding?" Eric demands

"If I knew that, I wouldn't be running tests, would I!"

"Are you sure they are okay?" I whisper, afraid to look at the screen she was showing me.

She smiles, "They seem perfect."

She runs some other tests, but can't find a reason as to what caused the bleeding. In the end she tells me to go on bedrest for a few days and then she will recheck me

"I can't do that. Jess is missing. Dane was injured. I've still got Roan to deal with. And what about this stupid party tomorrow?" "Not a fan of parties?" Raven tries to break the tension I glare at her, she knew I had never been to a party.

"Just take it easy between then and now. If the pain gets worse, you need to tell me. But I will stick by your side at the party. If something is wrong. I will be able to help you."

"What's wrong with Eric?" I mutter. He was outside the room, pacing. His arms folded up across his chest as he moved back and forth. His eyes were glazed as he links someone.

"He's checking in with Dane." Raven gives me a weak smile. "He said he was okay?" "Oh he is.... Maybe it's best coming from Eric. he is my brother's Beta. He might be able to give you more information." "Tell me." "It's not my place." she mutters turning away from me When Eric comes back in, he gives me a weak smile. A smile that doesn't quite meet his eyes. "Is Dane okay?" "He's fine, they have found a place to lay low and recover." His eyes shift to Raven who conveniently looks away. "And?" "They have found another Lycan. "Another?" "She has told them that she was changed a few years ago. Apparently one of the first to be bitten." "Did they kill her?" I ask, already expecting the answer. "No, she is going to help them." "Help?" "It seems that this Mallory was also bitten by Cassandra." "Mallory?" "That's what she called herself." lo." I could feel my body trembling. It couldn't be the same one. "No,no, no. You must have heard the name wrong." "Neah, what's wrong?" Raven asks "I know her.

"How? How is that even possible, they are miles away." Eric frowns

"She was at Moonshine. Not for long. Maybe a couple of months." "As a slave?" Raven queries. I shake my head, "She was their pet.

"Mallory?" Eric sits in the chair by my bed.

"She appeared one day. Cassandra brought her Jato the house. She was full of smiles; aughter and a few ~ days later, Something changed. She became-something else, like a ~ darkieess gradually took over her." pause because it reminded me a me. The girl who was nowshappy to rip out hearts like they were nothing.

"What do you mean?" Raven asks quietly. "She joined in with them."

"You mean, she hurt you?" Eric presses

I nod, remembering the last brutal incident befage I was bound for the final time. "She had taken hold of my shoulders and repeatedly smashed my head into the concrete wall of the bagement. Blood spattered all over the walls and floor unti lost Gensciousness. I never saw her again after that."

Eric and Raven were both staring at each other

"Surely it can't be the same one?" Eric mutters to Raven.

"How long ago was this?" Raven asks

"When I was seventeen, almost eighteen.

"So five years ago. It can't be the same one."

Eric sighs, "What does she look like? I can get Dane to confirm."

"Blonde, uh brown eyes. She had a scar, right here." I touch my face, "just above her lip."

"I will be right back." Eric strides out the door.

"Dane can fandle himself." Raven weakly siniles at me. "And if it is her, she might have changed. Five years is along time." Swnovel.net -

"Or she might have so much rage bottled up inside her that she takes him out the moment she gets a chance."

## **Chapter 0133**

Dane And you are absolutely sure she is okay?' I ask Eric through mind link.

Raven has checked her over. The pups are fine. Your sister thinks it's stress related and has put her on rest. Neah thought you were dying, she wasn't even aware she was bleeding until I tracked her down. I'm still not entirely sure what she was thinking when she ran."

She wasn't. All she knew is that she needed to find me.' I mutter back. 'Keep her safe and we will keep an eye on this Mallory.' 'You are letting her live?'"

'Right now, she might be the only one who can help us find Jess.'

'Will you be back tonight?'

'I will try but I can't make any promises. If I'm not, you know what to do.'

'Of course. Dane, just watch yourself around the woman. She sounds bat shit crazy and everyone is a little on edge.'

Of all the people in the world, I couldn't believe we had ran into another one of my mates abusers. We were hours away from home. Hundreds of miles away.

I look over at my brother who is half asleep. We had agreed to take it in turns resting. Keeping an eye on the Lycan we are sharing a house with "Finished linking your pack?" Mallory asks from the stairs.

"I was just checking in with my mate." I had told Mallory that my mate was a female Alpha, did she know I was talking about Neah. She must do? 'I think she does.' Aero groans

"Is she okay?" She sounds sincere, but she also may have had a lot of practice sounding like she cared

"Resting." I smile back. I was only going to give her the bare minimum for now.

"Along conversation for someone who is resting." Her brown eyes remain on me.

She's suspicious.' Aero mutters

I would be too if the role was reversed!' I tell him

I give Mallory a reassuring smile, "I checked in with my Beta too. Running a pack doesn't just disappear because I'm not there."

She nods her head at me

"Do you live on your own?" I ask curiously. looking around at the rund down house.

Mallory raises an eyebrow at me. Puffing out her cheeks like she was trying to decide how to answer me.

"Mostly."

"My brother." I mutter, "He said when we crashed, there was another. Are there more of you?"

'We are playing with fire. Aero mutters

"There are a few," Mallory tells me

"All bitten?"

She nods her head at me and rises to her feet. "It was probably Damien that crashed into you. He doesn't like Wolves. Hell, he doesn't like anyone. "This is a neutral zone.

Her eyes remain on me as she slowly walks down the last few steps. "You all think that. You all say that when you try to pass through. Just because there is no Alpha here, it does not mean it is a neutral zone."

Her temper was growing as she slowly steps towards me. "Wolves think they know everything." "You are right. My mistake. Have you claimed it?"

"We did! We made it a safe place for any of our kind."

"It's only this year that I have learned about your kind." I mutter, trying to distract her.

"Because of your mate?"

I nod.

"And she is a female Alpha?"

"Yes." I couldn't lie when I had already told her

She looks me directly in the eye. "The girl in the basement." Her hard face softens, "She's alive?" I keep my mouth closed as she watches me

"I thought I killed her. Is she ...Is she really alive? You have to tell me!

"Yes. Mallory walks away from me. Leaning against the wall, she half smiles. "She's really alive?" "Yes." I repeat



She sighs, "You know what I did, don't you?"

'I have been told."

"By the girl in the basement? The one who is your mate?"

"Yes.

"Then you don't know everything."

she slides down the wall, landing on her ass as she scowls and picks at the hole in her worn out jeans. 'I was told that she was a thief. That they were holding her prisoner until they decided what to do with her."

She snorts "And of course I was stupid enough to believe them. I had met her a few times before then. She was always in the house, =< working: I thought she was just, > some kind of hired help, I didn't even know her name. And then she was bitten."

She runs her hands through her dirty blonde hair and sighs. "They put her in the basement, the day before I was bitten. Telling me this story = about how she had stolen family heirlooms. I was stupid enough to believe it. Stupid enough to trust Cassandra."

She shakes her head, leaning it back against the wall. "When that bitch bit me, something took over. I was so angry. I couldn't control it. I couldn't bury it deep down inside like I was used to.

"She sent me down into that basement and told me to have fun. They told me the female needed punishing

I see a tear creep out and roll down her cheek. She wipes it away, acting like it never happened. "Her screams still haunt me.

## **Chapter 0134**

"What did you do to her?" Jensen asks. I hadn't even noticed he had woken and wondered how much he had heard

"She begged me. Tried to tell me that the people upstairs were lying to me. Told me it was her home. That her parents had owned the house. It's only when I look back, that I realise I didn't see how ill she looked or how thin she was. I didn't see the dark shadows under her eyes. All I saw was a 'liar' that Cassandra had described. And I believed her'

Mallory drops her head forward. "She didn't even try to fight back. She was too weak."

It is horrible, listening to what she is telling me. It also showed how much Neah hadn't told me about her past. Or maybe it was one of those things that she had learned to block out.

"Even now, I hear the cracks of her skull from when I beat her against the wall." "You shifted?" Jenson asks,

"No." She shakes her head, "I was just an angry person and suddenly had the strength of a Lycan." Her eyes settle on me again. "Is she really alive? You are not just lying to get me to talk to you?"

"She's alive."

"But how? She should've survived that."

"Because the Moon Goddess wants her to live." I mumble

"How did you know she was an Alpha?" Jenson asks

"I overheard them talking. I never knew what the term Alpha was. Not until I broke free. Not until I met others." "Cassandra kicked you out after?" Jenson presses

"No. I was so disgusted with myself, I ran. I ran and didn't stop until I could no longer hear Cassandra and her demands rattling around inside my head."

"What about the others?" Jenson asks. I knew he didn't believe her story. "If you were the first one, how are there others here, in this area?" "We found each other. Or rather, they found me."

I call bullshit! Aero snaps

"Were they all bitten by Cassandra?" I ask

She nods. "For someone that rarely shifted. She liked to create us." She looks over to the broken window. "The sun is rising, we should get ready to move."

Mallory disappears up the stairs. She didn't seem as concerned about being out of our sight. Maybe there was some truth to her story? I don't buy it.' Jenson's voice fills my head. 'She's playing the 'I didn't know what I was doing' card. I don't trust her.'

You don't have too. She said she would help us find Jess. And all she wants is money in return. I can give her that.'

Jenson frowns at me. 'I thought you might want to kill her after what she told us.'

I do, but that won't help us to find your mate, will it?"

"Don't call her that!" He snaps at me and Mallory sticks her head around the corner.

Eyeballing us she snaps, "What are you talking about?"

"Jess." I mutter back

She slowly nods her head, Yet I see the slight narrowing of her eyes. "Right." She didn't believe us, it was evident in her tone Dragging a bag, she moves back down the staircase towards us. The bag heavily thumps against each step

"What's in the bag?" Jenson questions

"Weapons." Her brown eyes move to me. "Where do you think this girl is being taken?"

"To a place called Dark Ridge.

She laughs, "Dark Ridge? You guys really need to come up with better pack names. But I know where that is.

"What do you call the pack here?" I ask, "For the ones who have escaped?"

"Rogues. And we are not a pack!"

"Rogues?" Jenson muses.

"Those of us who don't belong. Nor do we want to be a part of some pack!" She spits the words out.

"But you are willing to help us?"

"As long as you don't try anything stupid." She smirks at me.

She leads. Us: almost a mile from the house to an old beat up car. She throws her bag in the back seat. "Get ia!"

Mallory settles herself in the driver's seat. Her hands gripping the wheel as she waits for us.

"We haven't got all day!" She snaps. "The sun is already up. Don't you~ ; want to get back to your mate?"

"Get in." I mutter at Jenson

He takes the back seat while I sit in, the front next to her. Her foot hits the pedal and she drives like there I is no 'one else on the road. >

“Will you chill?! We don’t need the human police to chase us down!” I tell her

She grins and keeps her eyes on the road, “There are no police out here.”

“Stop the car!” Jenson yells out after thirty minutes of driving.

“But we need...” Mallory mumbles

‘I can smell her.’

Mallory pulls the car over and Jenson practically throws himself out the door. His eyes are darting about. “Tyre tracks,” He mutters crouching down to the ground.

“What? That could be anyone.”

He sniffs the air, “She got out. She ran!”

Jenson stares out to the cornfield in front of us. He moves forward, reaching over the fence, grabbing a stem “What is it?”

“Dried blood.” He growls.

## **Chapter 0135**

Dane

Jenson starts climbing the wooden fence.

I grab his shoulder “You have to wait. We don’t know what we are walking into.

“Does it matter? I need to help her, she is running. I can track her.

“Dane is right.” Mallory mutters. “You don’t know what else is in there.

‘What is she talking about?’ Aero asks

“Rogue Lycans?” Jenson chuckles. “I’ve killed enough Lycans already, a couple more won’t hurt.” Mallory looks at me. “I didn’t tell you everything. When you asked me if there were more. I said a few.” “Is this something to do with the Damien guy you keep mentioning?”

“No.” Her eyes scan the corn.

“They hide here, is that what you are trying to say?”

"It's more than that! Look around you Dane, there are not many hiding places out here. But you should know that there are some who stay in Lycan form, almost like they have lost their human side." She looks around her. "How many humans have you seen since you arrived in this town? And no police."

"They killed the humans?"

"They feast on them."

Fucking gross!' Aero gags

"That's why Damien tried to get rid of us?"

She nods, her dirty blonde hair falling around her face. "Damien keeps the Rogues from moving elsewhere. He brings them bad people. You know, criminals, people that hurt children. Those kind."

"How many are there?" Jenson asks as he continues to stare into the cornfield

"A dozen."

"Damien's the only one like you?" I ask. "One that still shifts between both forms?"

She nods.

"Screw it!" Jenson charges into the corn

"Don't!" Mallory grabs my arm again. "You have a mate to go back to. I can't be the reason she gets hurt again." "Jenson is my brother!" I mutter, pulling my wrist free of her grip. "And Jess is her family."

Quickly hurrying into the corn, I realise I am practically blind. The tall stems block my view of everything. Whichever way Jenson had headed, the corn stems had jumped right back up in position. I would be relying entirely on my nose. And that was the problem. Lycans didn't have a scent when they shifted

Mallory appears next to me. "I will try to help."

We creep forward, inch by inch, following Jenson's scent.

After a few minutes Mallory stops me. A new scent hits me. one that I had not smelled before.

"Damien, I Know you are there, watching me! Come out." Mallory demands

I see the corn move close to us. Dark eyes pop out, though the corn still hides the majority of his face. He was taller than me. "You shouldn't be here, Mallory." His deep voice mutters

Mallory's arms fold up over her chest as she rolls her eyes. "Have you seen a girl with red hair, she's being chased by a Wolf?" "You know I see everything."

"She is one of us, Damien. Cassandra bit her."

He steps through the corn towards us. I could see why he had been chosen to be turned. He is massive.

Massive is an understatement.' Aero muses.

"Then why are there Wolves after her?" Damien demands

"It's complicated." I mutter.

His dark eyes find mine, his upper lip twitches "Funny coloured eyes you have for a Wolf."

I ignore his comment, "One Wolf

kidnapped her as a favour for SS someone else." I mutter "The other is. her mate, and is trying to save Ker."

"Right. A Wolf mated to a bitten Lycan. Now I have heard it all" He shakes his head dismissively

"It's true." Mallory mutters. She frowns, "Remember what I told you about why I ended up here?"

Damien's head moves up and down but he doesn't break eye contact with me. "What has that got to do with anything?" "She's alive and she sees the redheaded girl like a sister.

"You told me you killed her, Mallory."

'I thought did, but she....she somehow survived. And the least can do to repay her is to help her by making sure that the girl is safe."

I glance over to Mallory, and see more emotion than ever. I see the" guilt she feels, the sadness for. what she had done. I see that she has been living with her actions for years. .

"Why isn't she here herself?" Damien asks

“She's on bed rest.” I bite my tongue from saying anything more.

Damien narrows his eyes at me, but he doesn't push for more answers. “You are in luck. The Rogues are a few fields over, sleeping.” He leads us through the corn, to both Greg and Jenson who are bound, gagged and out cold.

“Where is Jess?” I ask

“Jess, you can come out.” Damien calls, standing over the unconscious men

A few seconds pass and she charges through the corn at me, locking her arms around my waist. “I didn't think I would see you again!”

“Which one is the kidnapper?” Damien asks me.

## **Chapter 0136**

I point to Greg.

Damien strides over to him, ripping him up off the ground. He sinks his teeth into Greg's throat and tears it out. Tossing Greg away like he was nothing as he spits out the throat. “The Rogues will find him later.”

Damien's eyes scan Jess as she hugs me. “Cassandra really turned someone so young. I ned, “But old enough to be able to shift.”

“She needs shooting.

“She's already dead.” I reply

“You killed her?”

“No, my mate. She ripped her heart out.

He chuckles, “Your mate is smart.”

“She's the Alpha.” Jess whispers from my chest

Damien suddenly looks up and out into the corn. “You need to move. They have picked up the scent of fresh blood.” His dark eyes move to Mallory. “Take them to the house. I will meet you there.” Damien presses his lips to her forehead before taking off into the corn

“Jess, go with Mallory. I will get Jenson.”

I haul my brother up onto my shoulder. Damien must have hit him with a decent force to knock him out.

By the time we make it back to the car, he is stirring. "Jess." He mumbles

"Jess is safe. You will see her in a minute." I mutter just as he crashes out again

"Come on!" Mallory shouts. "If they catch your scent, I won't be able to stop them."

The car speeds away, the moment I close the door. Mallory doesn't take us back in the direction we came, but she carries on north "He said take us to the house!" I snap

'I heard. He isn't talking about the shit pit you hid out in!"

Jess spins in her seat to look at me. Her soft blue eyes are wide. "He kidnapped me! Alpha Greg took me!"

"I know. I'm sorry. I was so busy protecting Neah, we all were. I didn't think you would be harmed.

"Why? I did nothing to him.

"He kidnapped you for his brother."

"Alpha Roan?"

I nod

Her eyes move to my brother. "He really came to find me?"

"Yes."

"I'm still not accepting his rejection.

"Then don't. Maybe it's time he learned he can't always get what he wants. But if the last two days have taught me anything, he does care for you too. And he will wait."

She smiles and slowly turns back around, relaxing into the seat

Mallory pulls into the drive of a much tidier house than the last place. Freshly planted flowers sit in boxes on the windowsills. A small white picket fence framed the garden.

"This is your actual home?"

"The other place is my base. This is my personal home. Just because I'm a beast. it doesn't mean I can't have anything nice. Make yourself comfortable. I need a shower."



Jess immediately raids the fridge, muttering about how she was starving as I dump Jenson on to the sofa. His bruises had healed, yet still, he wasn't awake.

The front door swings open and Damien strides in. He laughs when he sees Jenson. "He needs to learn to take a proper punch! Where's Mallory?" "Shower." Jess mumbles with her mouth full "Right." He takes off his jacket, revealing the tattoos that creep up his neck. "The Rogues know that you are here." He sits on the sofa opposite me

"As soon as Jenson wakes, we will be leaving.

He looks towards the stairs, his voice dropping to a whisper. "Take Mallory with you."

"She doesn't want that. She doesn't want to be part of a pack."

'He's right!Nvallery moves down the stairs towards us in a fresh set of clothes. "She had tied up her blonde hairtoo, "This is my home. And lam natieaving without you, Dainien'

"I need to stay to make sure the other Rogues stay put. You don't belong here anymore."

"This is my home!" There is so much rage in her eyes. But she softens the longer he stares back at her. "They are getting restless, aren't they?"

He frowns-as he nods, "Food is becomingsparse for them, That one wolf won't be enough for all of them. They are turning on each other. Three have died in the last week. . Damien tells her. "

"Really?" Mallory whispers, slowly sitting down. "Why didn't you tell me?"

"I didn't want to worry you. Mallory, they are on the verge of turning on us." Damien tells her. "You are going to kill them?" I ask

Damien nods. "It needs to be done."

"It was supposed to be a safe place for them. After what she did to us." Mallory groans

"It was, onée." He moves over to her. "Go with the Wolf. Go see the female Lycan. Apologise to her. If I survive, I will ceme find you. If I don't, then youwill need help to take the' Ragues down." <

## **Chapter 0137**

Neah "Are you sure I can't do anything to help?" I ask Raven. "It's really hard to just sit and do nothing.

"No. You need to stay right there. Eric has it handled." She passes me a glass of orange juice and climbs on to the bed with me. "Have you heard anything from Dane?"

I shake my head. It was the longest I had gone without speaking to him. It felt strange. I knew he was fine now. I could feel it, but it didn't stop me thinking about him.

'I'm sure everything is good. You never know. He might be back for the party.'" Raven mutters hopefully "Eric already said it was unlikely and we still haven't figured out what we are doing about Roan."

"You don't need to worry about that. Eric and Klaus will have it covered."

I groan, sipping the orange juice when there is a knock at the door.

"Come in!" Raven calls out

Eric steps into the room. His eyes are low. "Dane is on the way home.

"He found Jess?" I mutter, shoving my juice at Raven

"Yes. She is fine. she is safe."

"Why does it feel like you are not telling us everything, Eric?" Raven is staring at him with her dark eyes. "I've known you my entire life. I know when there is something else you want to say. Jensen is fine, Dane is fine and you have just said Jess is safe. So what is it?"

His eyes settle on me. "You need to stay calm."

Raven clambers off the bed and punches Eric in the arm. "Are you serious? You should know by now that telling a woman to remain calm, doesn't make them remain calm!"

He sighs "Dane is bringing Mallory here."

It felt like my heart stopped. "Why....Why would he do that? You told him. You told him what she did to me. You said he confirmed it was the same woman. That she had the same scar."

"Neah, breathe!" Raven mutters as I get out of bed and start pacing

"He's bringing her here?!" I almost cry

Let me think! Nyx snaps, she was just as riled up as I was. 'Maybe...maybe he is bringing her here so we can kill her.' "Nea, talk to me." Raven mutters

Maybe he wants you to get closure.' Nyx suggests

I felt sick. Since I had heard the name, the memory of what she had done to me had unlocked. And now, just like my parents bloody faces, I replay it over and over in my head. The pain, the cracking of my skull, my pleading until my words were nothing and darkness took over.

“Neah!” Raven calls my name again.

“She can’t come here.” I mutter

“Okay. But please get back into bed.” She turns back to Eric, “Why the hell would he bring her here?” “He said he would explain when he arrived.”

“I don’t understand.” I mutter, moving out of Raven’s way. “He always said he wanted to kill everyone that had hurt me. And now...he is bringing her here. To my home. I’m pregnant!”

“And that is why you need to rest. We can handle this.” She clenches her teeth as she glares at Eric. “Can’t we!” “Of course, you and the heirs are our priority.” Eric mutters

I feel my stomach churn. I already knew what was coming and launch myself in the direction of the toilet

“Just go and keep an eye on Roan.” Raven mutters at Eric as she rubs my back.

“It’s a joke right?” I mutter when she helps me back into bed.

“Dane always ‘has his reasons. I’m sure he wouldn’t do anything that would purposely put you in harm’s™ way. Fodils on the positives. Jessis safe. Dane and Jenson are bringing her tome. No matter what is-thrown atyou, you have found a way to rise above. If you have to kill fir, then kill her.”

“You’re right. I need to keep my pups safe.” She nods and flicks on the television. “Now, can we watch this film I’ve been telling you about?” “Why are we still going ahead with this?” I mutter as Raven slowly walks with me towards the training grounds.

Music had been playing for most of the afternoon. Everyone already seemed to be in the party mood, though it wasn’t supposed to be starting until sunset.

“As I have said, the pack needs it. It was Dane’s idea. It kept Roan here a little longer and it gave my brothers the chance to find Jess.” And bring the bitch here.’ Nyx growls

“Ladies!” Roan comes up behind us. Did he hear Raven? “How are you feeling Neah?”

“Tired.” I mutter. He was playing the nice guy act

“It must be hard carrying twin Lycans.”

"We don't know if they are Lycans yet!" Raven tells him briskly

"Right. yes, Neah did say that. Out of curiosity, when will you find out?"

"Not for a few months." Raven declares

His dark grey eyes hover on me. "A few months is a long time."

"There's nota lot I can do about that!" I snap at him. Knowing what he had panned for Jess made.fe so angry. But he was also overly interested in the twins. More> specifically, my unborn twits. Céntent belongs to

"Hey, there you are!" Klaus comes jogging towards us. "Happy Birthday."

"I thought this was a celebration for winning the war." Roan states

"It is, but we also celebrate our pack leader's birthdays. It's a joint celebration" Klause tells him "No one told me it was your birthday." Roan grins at me. "Happy birthday Neah."

"It's not something I usually celebrate." I mutter

He watches-me as Raven and Klaus talk. He doesn't speak a single word anda shiver goes down my spin re. Jess was a distraction. It was'the twing-he wanted. I could feelit i in my bones. It was why he was. Still here. Céntent belongs to

"Come on, Roan." Klaus shouts. "Come tell me about Ashburn city. I've always wondered what it was like for you lot. Do you still do pack runs?" I let out my breath as Roan follows Klaus, answering his questions

"His brother is dead, right?" I quietly ask Raven

"That's what Dane told Eric."

"He hasn't said anything. Not a single word. He would feel it right. He would know that his brother was killed."

"Possibly. It's a little different when they are in different packs. There is a good chance he felt something. But there is also just as strong a chance that he felt nothing. Why?"

"I think it was a setup." My eyes flicker around to make sure we are alone. "He hasn't mentioned his brother once. And the questions. He is desperate to know if the twins are Lycans."

## **Chapter 0138**

Neah

Raven convinces me to stay at the party. She somehow convinces me to sit and do nothing. To let Eric and Klaus keep an eye on Roan while I relaxed.

I couldn't relax. In fact relaxing was the furthest thing from my mind. "I should just kill him!" I whisper for the hundredth time. "Get it over and done with." 'I agree!' Nyx murmurs

"Shifting is not going to help your situation. You said it yourself, you feel pain moments before your shift. And if you were a Wolf, you wouldn't be able to shift anyway! Think of the pups."

"Lam thinking of them!" I grumble back

"I know you want him gone. And to be honest, I agree with you, but just do this for me, okay. Let the guys handle it." "If something happens

"Nothing is going to happen! There are too many people. It would be a death sentence."

'I don't think Roan cares about that.

My gut feeling told me everything I needed to know, and so did Nyx. She hated sitting here while doing nothing. She hated the waiting when she knew we could kill him in seconds and get it over with.

"Besides, what do you think his pack will do when they find out you killed him?" Raven whisper shouts at me

"L...I don't know."

"Precisely. We don't need another war. At least not yet anyway."

I look over to where they had set up the bar. Roan is sitting at the bar. Klaus and Eric are either side of him as he throws back drink after drink. "The guy is going to be too drunk to do anything. anyway!" Raven smiles.

After a few more drinks, Roan leaves his seat. The other two stay at the bar, preventing any suspicion as Roan makes his way onto the dance floor. He stays there for all of three seconds. The moment he see's me, he makes a very wobbly path in my direction. A huge grin plastered to his face.

"Neah." He slurs as he stops in front of me. "Can I have this dance?" "Resting!" I mumble back

"Ah," He smiles and places his hands on my stomach. I wanted to vomit. who thinks its okay to do that? "The pups. I'm sure one whirl won't hurt them!"

"She is on rest. Doctor's orders." Raven mutters as she stands.

"Pfft!" He grabs me and pulls me up in the air, holding me against him and just high enough that my feet can't touch the ground. "Let her go!" Raven snaps at him

He glares at her and spins me away. "We need to talk."

With each twirl, I feel sick. Without my feet being planted on the floor, I couldn't force myself away from his tight grip.

He had my stomach pressed against his. His arms coiled around me. His face dangerously close to mine.

"I think you are lying to me about your precious-Alpha." The previous slurring disappears, it was like I hadn't watched him down drink after drink. He Spins us again, moving me towards a darkened corner. I see Klaus and Eric moving in my direction. If Roan tries anything, they would be too far away to Save me. They needed to move faster.

"Please put me down." I mutter, digging my nails into his arms

"Not until you tell me where your mate is." His dark grey eyes narrow as he waits for an answer.

He leans itclose, his horrible breath fans my face, "You see, I know Neah. I know fy brother didn't makeit" home know Jess didn't make it there So I will ask you one more time, where is your mate?" Content belongs to ~

'I have already told you, he's doing some work in the city." I whisper and he spins impossibly faster. Hise hands 'slide to my lower backand dig into my skin.

"Don't lie to me Neah. I know he killed my brother. I know it's your birthday, he wouldn't miss that unless there was something serious happening." "I'm not lying." "Spoken like a true liar." He murmurs and smiles . "It takes one to know one."

"Let her go, Roan." Eric appears to one side of us. stopping Roan from spinning me any further.

## **Chapter 0139**

"Tell me where he is!" Roan snapped just as my nose is filled with Danes' woody scent

'I'm right here! And I suggest you let go of my mate.' Danes' voice echoes through me. The relief I feel hearing that he is home is unlike anything I have ever felt.

I'm dropped as Roan turns to face my mate. Jenson stands tall next to Dane along with Jess. And then there was Mallory, the girl who had almost beaten me to death.

"You killed my brother!" Roan screeches

"No, I didn't." Dane shrugs his shoulders

'I felt his death. Don't lie to me'

"And yet it wasn't me. It was a Lycan." Dane speaks calmly, though I feel his annoyance

"Don't bullshit me!" Roan screeches, grabbing me and pulling me back against him. His hand coils around my throat and he squeezes as I stare at Dane.

The music stops and I feel all eyes on me. "It wasn't Dane." Mallory mutters as she steps forward with her hands raised. "There are Lycans that have the taste for flesh, it was them." "Bullshit!" Roan yells as he squeezes my throat a little more. "They are all dead."

"Do you really believe that? I believe that Dark Ridge is your brother's pack, right? There is a place before Dark Ridge that has been claimed. The town is owned by Rogue Lycans. Your brother passed through with one of our kind as his prisoner." she gestures to Jess. "He was never going to make it out of our town alive."

Her brown eyes find mine as he continues to squeeze my throat. My vision is darkening. Her face was not the last I wanted to see. "So you killed him?" Roan growls.

"No."

Nyx.' I whisper as I find it impossible to breathe

'What about the pups?' She whispers back.

There will be no pups if I'm dead anyway. Just the claws.'

Pain rips through my entire body. I could feel the claws pierce my fingertips as Mallory kept talking to him. Reaching behind, I plunge the claws into his stomach. His hands instantly let go of my throat as he yells in pain. My feet hit the ground and as I'm about to run, I lose my balance, landing face first in the dirt.

GET UP!' Nyx screams at me

I couldn't move.

“NEAH, GET THE FUCK UP!” She screams again.

There is shouting around me when warm hands slip under my shoulders, helping me to my feet.

Mallory's face comes back into view.

“I know,” she mutters. “I'm the last person you expected to see.”

I was speechless. I had run the conversation through my head multiple times since it was announced that she would be coming here. I had so much I wanted to say. So much anger that needed to get off of my chest. Yet, as I stared back at her, not a single word leaves my lips.

~

Every ounce of confidence I had is washed away. “You need to move!” Mallory mutters. “I can take it from here.” Raven appears at my side, looping her arm with mine and glaring at Mallory.

“I was just trying to help!” Mallory frowns at Raven

“Let's go.” Raven tells me, while steering me away from the crowds and away from the woman who I had almost killed me once. >”

“Roan.” I mutter when we are away from the party.

“Dane is dealing with it.” Raven snaps, she seemed annoyed, but not about me being attacked. < Somethig else seemed to be bugging her. She begins inspecting my neck, which we both knew was already healed. Content belongs ite)

swnovel. net 4

“Are you okay?” I ask quietly

“YES!” She snaps again, avoiding eye contact. “You shouldn't have shifted.

“It was just my claws!” I grumble, but as I study her face, I knew something was off. “What's wrong? She sighs, turning her back to me. “This is going to sound mad.”

“Madder than a man in the pack who is after my twins?”

“The woman with Dane...”

“Mallory?” I spit her name



She nods. "She carries someone else's scent." "Okay."

"My mates."

"Salem?" I ask confused

She shakes her head and frowns. "My new mate."

## **Chapter 0140**

Neah

"What are you talking about Raven?" I mutter as she tugs me into the house

"It's not her scent." Raven mutters. She shakes her head avoiding my gaze. "It's on her. It's someone she has been near." "Another Lycan?"

"I don't know, there's no way to tell the difference. You....when you first came here you smelled like a wolf. Though you had an odd scent too, from being bound. She said there were Rogues? What if it's one of them?"

I shrug my shoulders, I didn't know how to answer her. I didn't have a clue what a Rogue was.

"I never thought....not after Salem." There is a hint of sadness in her eyes

"You loved Salem."

"A part of me still does." She sighs. "He was everything and.... And he threw it away because of my brother. Because of my pack." "Do you think this new mate won't meet your expectations?" I was grateful for the distraction, even if it is only temporary.

"I don't know. I just know he is going to have to be pretty amazing for me to even consider accepting him."

"I will trade problems." I half smile at her

"Your problems are my problems." she bumps her shoulder into mine. "And one of them is heading our way."

Through the open front door, we see Mallory making her way towards us. Her hands are shoved into her jeans pockets. A frown etched on her face. What right did she have to be angry? She was lucky we hadn't killed her already.

She stops just outside the front door. Her eyes on me. "Can we talk?"

The Audacity!' Nyx snaps

"I have nothing to say to you." I make it clear with my tone that I was not interested in anything she had to say. She nods her head, a small smile plays on her lips. "You don't stutter anymore."

My eyes narrow, "Why are you here? Why did my brother bring you here?"

"He was asked too."

"By who?" Raven demands

"My best friend. Look, I didn't want to come. I wanted to stay in my town, but the Rogues are difficult. Damien said they are becoming feral, impossible to control

Raven's dark eyes flicker to me before returning to Mallory. "And where is this Damien?" "He stayed behind, he is trying to kill the Rogues. He said if he does, he will meet me here.

"This mate of yours, is he a Lycan too?"

"He is not my mate, but yes, he was bitten just like the rest of us." She shows us the bite mark. "Well, => almost like all of us." Her brown eyes settle on me and she takes a step closer. "I believe you are the only puré bred left." a

"That's far enough." Raven holds a hand up to her. Placing herself between me and Mallory.

"I still can't believe you are alive." Mallory shakes out her blonde hair. "You should be dead. I thought I had killed you "Is that why you are here? To finish the job?" Raven asks

"No. Of course not."

"Then why weren't the first words out of your mouth an apology?" Raven snaps.

"Can someone even apologise for something like that?" Mallory tuts with a frown. "It's unforgivable. The words won't mean anything. I know that if it were the other way around, Neah wouldn't be apologising to me."

No,' Nyx murmurs, 'We would have made sure we finished the job!'

"You should leave!" Raven snaps at Mallory

'I've not killed anyone, not since that day.' Mallory mumbles, ignoring Raven. 'I couldn't. I shift purely. to scare-people. To make them back off. wnake threats, but it's rare I 'low through. That day changed "

"And that's supposed to make me feel sorry for you!" I snap.

"No, that's not what I'm saying. I they used me-too. Cassandra did. She told meties about you. Lies that I believed at the time because I = thought she was the most amazing person and I wanted to make her happy. I wanted her to believe I was wérthy." Content belongs:to

"By hurting a defenceless girl? What the fuck is wrong with you?" Raven growls She shrugs her shoulders, "Everything.

Mallory's eyes shift between me and Raven. "I helped him find Jess."

"I can't listen to this." I whisper to Raven.

Raven neds her head at me and tells me to go lie down.

I leave the both of them talking as I head upstairs to rest. Trey and Cassandra are dead, I didn't think I would need to deal with anymore people from my past.

I was in and out of sleep when Dane appeared, bringing with him the stench of blood. "Is Roan dead?" I mutter sleepily "Not yet." He leans over me and presses his lips against mine. "We are having some fun first."

He pulls away from me and seconds later the shower is turned on. I wait for him to get in before I sit up and ask the burning question. "Why did you bring her here?"

He pauses to look through the glass door at me. "I was asked to bring her."