

The Alpha's Contract (Neah and Dane)

#Chapter 0171 - Read The Alpha's Contract (Neah and Dane) Chapter 0171

Chapter 0171

"What do you need?" Damien and Dane ask in unison. Raven starts making a list as I watch Mallory drift into unconsciousness. "Hurry. But be careful, we don't know where Salem is." She mutters as the men disappear out the back door.

Raven works to clean Mallory's stomach, prepping it for whatever she needs to do. I find myself unable to move. I was inches away from getting my revenge for what she had done to me and yet I couldn't say the words.

"Damien will never forgive me if she dies." Raven mutters, pushing intestines back in the gaping wound. My eyes flicker up to her, but she isn't looking at me, instead, she is too focused on saving Mallory.

If I stop her from helping Mallory, it would put her matebond with Damien at risk. She will hate me for taking away her chance at happiness. I couldn't lose the one friend I have.

"Can you save her?" I ask quietly.

"I think so." she gives me a tight lipped smile. "The wound higher up has already healed which is a good sign. But I think her stomach is a bit like my leg. I won't be able to tell until I can get in there properly."

She sighs. "I know you have issues with her, Neah. I know a million ideas are probably running through your head right now, but this is what I signed up for. Saving people and helping them has always been my dream. Please don't let me leave her to die."

"It's your choice. I will stand by you no matter what you decide." Nyx murmurs "Is there anything I can do to help?" It was so hard forcing the words from my mouth. Raven gives me a small smile. "Give me your hand."

She takes my hand and places it on Mallory's neck. "Normally, I would listen to her pulse, but it's not clear. Her body is going through mass amounts of trauma so you have to trust what you feel. Do you feel it?"

I nod.

"Tell me if anything changes, even the slightest little jump."

The men return after what felt like forever. Accompanied by Eric, Klaus and Eric's boys. The boy's eyes are wide as they see Mallory but Eric guides them straight past and into another part of the house as he hears one of the boys asking if the woman at the table is dead.

I watch Raven work. She's patient and calm, and completely in her element. The only sounds that could be heard is from the work she is doing.

"Now it's up to her." She steps back, admiring her work. Mallory was - lucky. There was enough flesh that once everything was back in its right place it had begun to knit itself together. Content belongs to <

I stumble from the kitchen, not quite believing that I had let her live. Dane's hand catches mine, stopping me from going any further. "Talk to me Neah."

"There is nothing to say."

"You were going to let her die. "I didn't though, did I?" The words sound so spiteful. "I... I helped. His hands move to my shoulders. "I wish you would talk to me more."

"I do talk to you." Content belongs to

"Not recently. You are so short tempered all the time and if you are not, it lasts for all of five minutes. Before you lose your temper. And how many times I have ~ asked you not to do it, Nyx keeps blocking me from reading your mind. I can't help if you keep blocking me out."

His crimson eyes bore into my own, making me feel small and seen.

I open my mouth to speak, but the words disappear into thin air like they were never supposed to be heard.

Chapter 0172

Dane "Neah?"

She falls into silence. Staring back at me with her mouth partly open. "Can we please find Jess and Jensen. I know she is dead. I just... I need to say

goodbye. "You're deflecting." I mutter.

"I just need to deal with one thing at a time." She mumbles with a frown. "Please?" she adds, practically choking on the word as tears fill her blue eyes.

I link my brother, he doesn't answer immediately. Though I feel his pain through our link

Jenson, where are you?' I ask again

Leave me alone!

Jenson!' I snap through the link

Fuck off!

Don't you dare speak to me like that! Where are you?'

You let them come here. You let them invade our home.' His anger through the link was rising to levels I had never felt before. Jenson, where are you?'

Far away from you.' He snaps, 'You put her in danger and I can never forgive you for that!' He takes a deep breath. "I, Jenson Black, former Gamma

of the Black Shadow pack, reject all ties to Black Shadow from this moment onwards."

FUCKER! Aero roars

I feel the breaking of our connection, just as Raven lets out a scream. She would feel it too, because he would be rejecting her as his twin too. Neah's eyes are wide as she stares at me, waiting for me to speak.

"He has rejected the pack. He has left. He left and he has taken Jess's body with him." I mutter in annoyance

She blinks back the tears. "What does that mean? Why would he reject the pack?"

"He blames me for Jess's death."

"Where will he go?"

"I don't know." My face hardens. "But he has made his choice and he can live with it.

"You are giving up on him, just like that?" She asks in shock.

"He doesn't want my help, Neah. He doesn't want his sister's help."

Neah looks back to the kitchen door where we could both hear Raven sobbing. Tears that she hadn't shed in years are probably drowning her face "Go to her." Neah whispers softly. "She is your sister."

I hold my hand out to her, "Are you coming?"

She looks up at me, a small smile, creasing her lips. "Maybe it doesn't have to be a completely bad day." She takes my hand and places it on her small bump. I could feel the movement underneath. Only slight, and more like flutters, but still movement. It was enough to keep me focussed and deal with Raven.

Raven, as expected, is in floods of tears. She is on the floor, gripping on to Damien like her life counted on it. He is talking to her but even I knew it was falling on deaf ears.

"Will someone tell me what has happened?!" Klaus asks "Jenson has rejected the pack. He has broken all ties with us." I tell him

"Are you serious?"

"He blames me." I mutter

"He should blame himself." Klaus retorts. "He was the one who insisted you bring in other Alphas. If Roan had never come here, Jess < ~ would have been kidnapped - YOU guys would never have had to go after her. You would never have ret..." "He gestures to Damien and an unconscious Mallory.

It wasn't like Klaus to sound so irritated

"I'm just saying, we are all in this together. It's not his battle alone."

"Did he say something to you?" I ask, narrowing my eyes

He looks away

"Klaus?!"

"He has been making his annoyance clear from the moment the Rogue first presented himself." "To who?"

"Mostly me." He folds his arms across his chest. "I tried, Dane. I tried to make him see that he started this. That if he really looked into it, he could find

blame anywhere. "Why didn't you come to me?" Contents belong to

"I honestly thought I had it handled. He stopped bringing it up. I thought, maybe, he was finally starting to understand that it is out of our control. Then

Jess.... I'm sorry. I screwed up. I hold a hand up to stop him talking, focussing my attention on my sobbing sister. "Has she spoken?"

Damien shakes his head.

"Raven, I know you are hurting. Jenson has made his choice. You wouldn't have been able to change his mind. No one could have." I glance back at Klaus who sighs.

She doesn't speak. Her eyes are glazed and she stares at a spot on Damien's shirt, unblinking, unmoving while great big fat tears roll down her cheeks. Maybe Midnight was trying to offer some comfort, but then again, Midnight had lost her twin too.

"I will take her upstairs." Damien mutters, rising to his feet with Raven cradled in his arms. "I think I will rest too." Neah murmurs, her eyes shift to Mallory though her mouth remains closed

I stop her before she leaves. "Tell Nyx to drop the block."

She nods and her eyes briefly darken. I could feel all her emotions come flooding in. I never thought the day would come where I wouldn't feel nekmal because I didn't feel my ma 'es. Somehow, after all these yeats Searching, she was the only offre who made me feel complete.

In that second, I understood Jenson's reaction. He had gone from woman to woman until he had a mate who made him rethink everything because she was too young for him to act on it. Grief had hit him like a brick wall.

"Is she okay?" I ask Klaus about Mallory as Neah leaves.

'It was close according to Raven. He sliced her stomach up pretty well but somehow, she didn't lose much, flesh. Raven was able to put it all back together. It might just take a while for her to wake up." He pauses,

"I am sorry, Dane. would come to thi

If I had known it is, I would have

told you." Content

belongs to

"I know. It's in the past. What we have now is a Rogue on the loose. And I have no idea who its next target is. Did Roan say anything about the Rogues' plans?"

He shakes his head at me. "I would say Lycans, but it went after Raven first." He shrugs his shoulders. "Maybe it is whoever is fair game because it doesn't seem like it's here just to piss off Damien not anymore."

"No, but what else do the first two victims have in common?" "Neah, but that doesn't explain Mallory." He gestures to the unconscious woman on the kitchen table.

"Death." Mallory mutters huskily, her eyes still closed. "He wants to bring death to everyone."

Chapter 0173

Damien

Her fingers remain tightly coiled around mine as I lay her on her bed. Raven doesn't speak a single word as tears continue to roll down her face in uncontrollable sobs. The pain she is feeling is unforgiving and until now, I never knew that losing a twin was almost the equivalent of losing a mate.

It didn't matter that he was still alive. He had rejected the pack and that included his own siblings. And it had broken her.

Did he feel the pain, or was he caught up in the loss of his unclaimed mate? Either way I don't think I will ever be able to forgive him for what he has done to my mate.

Raven cries herself to sleep. Blood from helping Mallory, still stained on her skin. She lets out little whimpers in her sleep, eventually falling quiet as she slips into a deep slumber.

Cleaning up the blood, she doesn't move and I hope that my touch is somehow bringing her some comfort in her sleep. She had been to hell and back in recent days, she didn't need this too.

Slipping out of her bedroom. I make my way towards the stairs, stopping outside the Alpha's room when I pick up her scent. I could hear the gentle shuffling of her feet as she paced back and forth behind the door.

"I know you are standing out there." She calls out. "You can come in." She continues to pace after I have entered. Her hands are on her hips as she moves, a deep frown etched into her face

"Alpha Neah, you should be resting. Especially given what has happened tonight." I murmur, my eyes moving down to her rounding belly. It was crucial that her twins survived. They were the future of Lycan kind.

"Damien, please don't keep referring to me as Alpha and I'm fine. Is Raven okay?"

"Sleeping."

"You marked her, so how is she really feeling?" She presses

“Like her heart has been ripped from her chest. She’s in pain.”

She nods as she continues to pace. “I will kill him Damien.”

“Jenson?”

“You know that I’m not talking about Jenson.” She stops and stares at me. “Are you going to try and stop me?” lo.” I might have done it if it were another time. When the idea of an Alpha or being in a pack was of no interest to me.

“Good.” She starts moving again and pulls a jacket from the closet “Let’s go.”

“Right now? Even I know that’s a bad idea.”

“You said you wouldn’t stop me.”

‘I’m not trying to stop you. I just think we could choose a better time. When emotions are not so amped up. I’ve seen people make massive fucking mistakes because their emotions got the better of them.”

She rolls her eyes and drops onto the bed.

“He is causing havoc. You nearly lost your friend and your mate because of him. How are you so calm?” “Practice. You wouldn’t believe it if you knew what I used to be like, before I became a Lycan.” I add. She smirks, and mutters lightheartedly “What were you, some kind of mass murderer?”

“To those that deserved it.”

I watch the colour drain from her face, yet her blue eyes round in curiosity. “That’s why she turned you.

I ned. “She thought I would be a good asset to her little club.”

“Humans, I assume, if it was before you were turned?”

“Yes.

“How many?”

“I stopped, counting.” I shrug my shoulders. The number of bastards I had killed didn’t mean a thing.< compared to those who I saved. Contents belong to

“Fifty?”

“No.” “A hundred?” “That’s when I stopped counting.”

"What do you mean by those that deserved it?"

"Those that hurt children and young women. If I had known what ~ Cassandra and Trey were doing to you, I would have ripped them apart."

"That's why you are loyal to me now, because you feel you owe me something?" "Yes."
"Have you told Raven about your past?"

"No. No one likes to hear that news."

"You should tell her. You have claimed Ker, how do you think she will feel if you keep a secret like that from her? Because trust me, I know what it's like to have secrets kept from you your whole life." Content belongs to ~

Chapter 0174

She sucks her bottom lip between her teeth as her eyes narrow. "You could have easily killed him. But you didn't. You even purposely missed his heart after he had hurt Raven."

"And that was an emotional mistake." "Because a part of you hoped that your old brother was still in there?"

I don't answer because I don't need to. There was nothing more for me to say on the matter. I decide to change the topic. "Why don't you want me to call you Alpha?"

"It's not just you, I don't like anyone calling me it."

"But you use the term when needed, like when you were squaring up to Salem. And I heard that you used it to get the other Lycans to stop attacking Black Shadow."

A small crease appears on her brow. "I was made to call people by their status my whole life. If I didn't, I got punished. Even with Dane I still said it for a long time. It's not something that I want to force people to call me. It makes me sound...."

"More powerful than the rest of us? Because we all know you are."

Her eyes flicker up to me. "It makes me sound like a power pissed asshole." Content belongs to

Her comment makes me laugh.

"Dane did tell me that you took some time to accept your Alpha position. Maybe it's time for you to take back everything that was taken from you." She lets out an involuntary snort

“Is that it, Damien? Is that why you are really here? To try and convince me to be something I'm not.

“No. I can't convince you of something you have already been questioning. And I don't need to convince you that you are powerful. You already know that.

‘I haven't been questioning it.’

“Right.” I mutter, knowing full well that she had. I saw it in the way she acted. Her desire to correct what is wrong.

“Let's test this theory of yours.” she mutters. “How exactly am I supposed to be an Alpha of two bitten Lycans and a Rogue?”

“You don't see it.”

“What?”

“Those are a sign that the breed will thrive once more.” I point to her stomach. “What if there are more? What if they are all in hiding?”

She laughs and shakes her head. “That is a crazy theory.”

“You didn't know we existed until Dane and Jenson met us. You didn't know that you were a Lycan. What if there + is more? What if there are some that broke away from Cassandra and Trey?” Content belongs to ~

“Just stop.” Ne@ah snaps at me. Holding her Hand up and closing her eyes. When ‘she opens them again; > the blue is long gone and they are almsgtblack. Raven had mentioned something about it being a sign that Néeah was talking to her inner Lycan.

“You want to find more?” She asks after some time. “Wouldn't it be better for the twins if there were more of their kind to help raise them?” “You need to leave.” She mutters.

I don't try to say anything else. Turning and leaving the moment she asked

Downstairs I hear Mallory telling the others about what happened to her. Her eyes flash up to mine when I walk in and she gives me a massive smile. ‘I'm alive.’

“Why did the fucker come after you?”

“I was telling them that he turned up at my house. I was So surprised to see hira'in human form that I was too slow I in acting. He shifted and... she-gestures to the thick red> weeping wound on her stomach.

“Did he say anything?”

“That he wants to kill us all. I know I have already said he is nuts. But the idiot is in full on demon mode. Talking about how he will make everything his. That we will bow down to him.”

Dane laughs. “If he wants to bring death to us all, how are we going to bow down to him?!” “It's a choice.” Klaus mutters with a frown. “He is saying it's either we bow down, or we die.”

“Then he chose the wrong pack to attack.” Dane snarls.

Chapter 0175

Raven

It took me less than a second to realise I was alone. Damien had brought me upstairs but he hadn't stayed. Maybe he was regretting claiming me after he watched me sob my heart out like a child.

My chest felt broken. Every breath seemed harder and harder to take, like my lungs were shrinking and at the same time a heavy weight slowly crushed them.

Its the breaking of our twin bond.' Midnight murmurs. She was in just as much pain as I was. Being a twin really did suck at times. It hurt more than my leg. It hurt more than being rejected. He's really gone.' I mumble back to Midnight

Yes.' she whimpers as another tear leaks from my eye. I'm quick to wipe it away. He had made his decision. He hadn't even had a second thought about me.

Damien had left my crutches by the bed. Picking them up, I make my way to the windows and drag back the curtain to see daylight.

Freezing, the curtain falls from my hand, hiding the blood I had just seen. Slowly, I pull the curtain back. A bloody handprint painted the outside of the glass. How? I didn't even have a balcony and it was a sheer drop to the ground.

My eyes roamed the grounds, but there was nothing and it was quiet. I assume Dane has told everyone to stay inside. But the hand print looked fresh.

Don't open the window.' Midnight mutters I wasn't planning too.' Really? You are not exactly one for leaving things alone!' She snaps. She was angry, we both were but there was no need to take it out on me.

“Aspen should have tried talking him out of it! I am hurt too! You lost your twin, I lost mine. We can't change that. Now can we deal with this, please.” I was trying so hard to bury the pain. Maybe if one of us does, it would help us to feel a little more normal.

Check the other window.’ she mutters reluctantly.

There is only half a print on the other window. “Do you think he was trying to break in?” If he was trying to break in, he would have done so, like at the hospital. Call Dane.’

I nod but sit back on the bed. ‘Why does he keep coming for me?’

I don't know. But sitting here, waiting like an idiot isn't going to help either of us.’

I'm grateful when Damien's sweet vanilla scent seeps in. It meant he was close. He doesn't even knock. Pushing the door open his dark eyes meet mine before drifting to the handprints on the windows. Contents belong to

He frowns and moves over to them. His brow crinkles up into a scowl. Ripping open one window, he leans out, looking at the wall between the windows. “Bastard!”

Damien slams the windows shut so hard that I thought the glass was going to break. He turns to me. “Have you seen him?” “No, I opened the curtains just now and they were there. Why me?”

“Mallory shared some information with us last night. I thought you would be safe. You don't have a fire escape or a balcony. I wouldn't have left you alone last night if I thought he would be able to get to you.”

“He hasn't,” I murmur. “But I wish you hadn't left.”

He steps towards me, his lips hit mine with force as his hand locks against the back of my head. His tongue begins exploring my mouth as his weight forces me backwards on the bed until he is pressed flush against me.

He forces himself in between my thighs, ignoring my little whimper of pain. The more urgent his kiss becomes, the more I feel him swelling against my pussy. He rocks his hips against me, ensuring that his demanding cock was pressing up against me.

His lips move to my jaw and to my neck. His teeth scratch along my skin. pulling soft moans from me as my underwear dampens from my own arousal

Lifting my top, he circles the tip of his tongue around each of my nipples, nipping them as they harden.

A heat begins to burn inside of me. creeping from the inside out. I try to ignore it as Damien's bites along my skin drive my insides wild, but it continues to grow, like an itch that needs to be scratched.

"I think..." I mutter as he pulls my sweatpants down along with my underwear "I know. It's a good job I'm here then, isn't it." He leans down and runs a tongue along my pussy. I see stars as his tongue deepens and everytime he flicks it along my clit, I find myself thrusting in his face, begging for more.

He takes my hand, guiding it down to my own throbbing pussy. "Make yourself cum. I want to see."

With two fingers, I start with small
but firm circlés, pressing my thumb
against myslit aslimaginehis =~
tongue lapping up my juices. As Is "
moan, he pulls out his own ver
large hardened cock. His hand.
glides up and down over the
thickness as he watches me
masterbate. Content belongs ite)

"I need you." I mutter through my moans as the heat takes over my body completely, Masterbating was not enough. I wanted him to fill me with his cock. I wanted him to fuck me as though his life depended on it.

Damien leans against me, his lips pressing hard against mine as the tip of his cock rubs against my entrance.

He pushes himself into me, filling the space or so I thought, until he pushes in further, letting his balls slam against me. He isn't gentle when he starts. thrusting. Hard and deep thrusts have me screaming his name as my body spasms against him.

He fucks me for what feels like hours. Mind blowing orgasms one after the otWer, but it still wasn't enough. Within minutes of < orgasm ing, I wanted more and {> couldia't stop

it, not even if I wanted to. twas so hot and horny. Thankfully Damien never sips either, pleasing me in anyway he could.

It's subsiding." He presses his lips against mine

"Do we have to get out of bed?" I mutter. Leaving the bed means having to deal with all the problems outside and I wasn't quite ready to deal with that yet. "We could just stay here, in our own little bubble."

"As much as I enjoy listening to you moan my name over and over, we still have a Rogue on the loose. Hiding somewhere and who apparently has also learned to scale the walls."

I ned and sigh, sinking back into the comfort of my pillows as I look at the bloody handprints. "And what about when I'm alone in here again?"

"Do you really think I will let you sleep alone again?"

Chapter 0176

Neah

I sit hunched over with my forehead on the cool wooden desk as Dane, Eric and Klaus try to come up with a plan. But every scenario was a waste of time. Salem was smart. He had outsmarted Raven, Jess, even his own brother.

Turning my head to one side, I glance at Mallory whe is asleep on the sofa. Klaus had said it was unfair for her to be alone while in recovery and my mate had agreed for him to bring her to the office

Her eyes are closed and her arm dangles over the side of the sofa, but I had a sneaking suspicion that she wasn't really asleep. That she just wanted to hear what was being said.

We should say something?' Nyx mutters Not yet." I reply. I still didn't trust Mallory. I may have helped save her life, but that didn't mean she was trustworthy.

Everything surrounding her seemed too good to be true. The others didn't see it yet and constantly reminded me that she was trying, but they will see what I see, it's just a matter of time.

Damien had told me more about his past then what she had. All she kept harping on about was what she had done to me and that made me suspicious.

I see her eyelashes move, but all she does is roll over, so that her face is towards the back of the sofa. I won't be able to know for certain if she is faking sleep.

"Are you okay?" Dane moves around the desk to me, partially blocking my view of Mallory.

"Tired." I mutter. It wasn't a lie. The movement of the twins inside me had been non stop all night. I had barely slept a wink. "Do you want to lie down?" Contents belong to

I see Mallory tense. waiting for my answer, "No."

He leans down and kisses my cheek when there is a knock at the door, dragging my eyes away from Mallory.

Klaus opens it to Damien and Raven. Her cheeks are a little flush and my guess was that she had been in heat as they hadn't left her room for most of the day.

"Now what's your problem." Dane mutters

"Salem has been trying to watch Raven."

"What do you mean?" I sit up.

"Bloody handprints on her windows and his scent." Damien replies.

"How?" I ask in surprise, "Your room doesn't even..."

"I know. We haven't figured that out yet."

"Please tell me I get to kill someone today!" Damien asks

Dane had agreed to let Damien kill Roan

"Well you are in luck, today is the day." Dane smiles. "We need to get him out of the picture. 'About damn time!' Nyx mutters.

Klaus wakes Mallory. Though she practically springs up from the sofa when he touches her, almost as if she wasn't really asleep like I suspected

The seven of us head to the dungeon. Roan was supposed to be having his death sentence dealt in front of the entire pack, but given the circumstances, Dane decided it would be best if we got it over with in the dungeon.

Roan laughs as we stand in front of his cell. His eyes drifted across each of our faces as though he was reminding himself on who to haunt after his death.

"Go on then, do it!" He gloats.

Dane clears his throat, his crimson eyes lock on to the asshole in the cell. "I am sentencing you to death for your acts of crime against the Alpha and Luna known as Neah Kitson."

Roan laughs again. His smile takes up most of his face. He had lost a lot of weight since being locked up and it gave him even more of a creepier look than before.

"I assume the girl is dead." Roan asks as Dane unlocks the cell. "Why would you assume that?"

"When she was down here he told her he would kill her. She still opened the cell anyway, but she wouldn't open mine." He spits on the floor. "She deserves to be dead."

"Deserves? After you had her kidnapped by your brother, you think she deserves to have her heart ripped out?" I was fuming "Careful now, Neah, you are carrying a precious load. We wouldn't want anything to happen to the twins." "You will be dead soon. Those twins are nothing to you." Damien growls

"Rather invested, aren't you, Lycan?" Roan's grin seems to grow further, practically reaching his ears. "My pack is coming for me."

Dane bursts into laughter. "No. No they are not Roan, Your Beta has taken over Ashburn city. Your pack wants nothing to do with you. In fact, your Beta wants to be called when your heart has stopped beating. "Content belongs to 4

Dane unlocks the cell, moving in with Eric. "You are a liar Dane. You know they will seek revenge for my death. They won't rest until you suffer." Dane and Eric hold him still as Damien unlocks his chains. Raven slips an arm around mine, using me to steady herself.

"Go on then, kill me. You will never find out the truth about the young redhead."

Neah,' Dane links me. 'He is just trying to get in your head. He is trying to buy himself time.'

"The truth," I mutter, removing Raven's arm from mine and stepping into the cell. I lock eyes ~ with the gatint looking man. "The < truth oth at she was just a girl, who had her ife turned upside dowh' You don'tknow what that's like, but roaybe if I rearrange your_ergans, you will feel what it's likevfor just a few seconds. Damien move."

Damien glances at my hand that was already quickly becoming claws. He steps around me as one by one my claws pierce Roan's chest, like slicing into soft cheese.

He fights the screams. His body sweats profusely as he struggles against my claws but that only makes them sink deeper.

Slicing his flesh open, he struggles against Dane and Eric, who refuse to let him drop to his knees.

“Isn’t this what you want, Roan?” I hear the darkness to my own words. I had so much rage surging through me.

“Please, please stop or kill me quicker.” He begs.

“You don’t deserve a quick death.” I mutter, pulling my claws free of his flesh. The wounds partially knit together, just for me to slice through again. I repeat the action three more times, putting all my anger into his slow and painful death.

His head drops low as he coughs up more blood. I knew my claws had penetrated his lungs this time. I could tell by the strange whistle that comes from his mouth

Forcing my claws in deep, I squeeze the lungs and tear parts of them from his chest.

His entire body trembles until Eric and Dane let go of him, letting him fall face first in the pool of his own blood and piss.

Leaving the-cell, I see Raven with her head buried against Damien's chest but his. Eyes are on me along with Mallory's. I hope they both could see that-twas not worth fuckingawith. Nat anymore. “

I don't stop, and walk straight out of the dungeon, if Salem wanted to attack, I will be ready to rip him apart.

Chapter 0177

Damien I would usually have been impressed by Neah's kill if I wasn't so worried.

Mallory nudges me, giving me the same look of concern. I knew what was going through her head and I slowly shook my own. We would need to be really careful.

Raven keeps her head buried against by chest, grossed out by how Neah had killed Roan. Neah had made him suffer over and over until she decided enough was enough. Or rather, she was done playing with her prey.

“Raven, go with Mallory, I need to speak to Dane.” Her dark eyes peer up at me. “Why, what's wrong?”

“I just need to confirm a few things, that's all.” I reassure her, hoping it would be enough information to keep her from pushing. It wasn't that I wanted to keep secrets, but Dane was Neah's mate, he should hear the information from me first.

“Come.” Mallory smiles at her. “You are mated to my best friend, we should get to know each other.”

Dane is looking at me suspiciously but Raven follows Mallory anyway. A few moments pass and he orders Eric and Klaus to go with them. just in case Salem was about. Salem wouldn't show himself yet, whatever he was planning, he was dragging it out, much like how Neah had killed Roan. I wonder if she knew she had spent hours torturing him.

“What?” He snaps when the dungeon door is closed and it was just us and a dismembered Roan. “There was something you told me about her Lycan being a separate spirit. “And? I know I said you could kill Roan, is that what this is about?”

“No. It's just. since I have been here, I have come to understand that when her Lycan is pushing forward her eyes are dark, almost black. It's her Lycan that helps her find the courage to kill.

“Yes.” Contents belong to

“They weren't black, Dane. They were her usual blue colour. She had no help from her Lycan. She wanted to kill. She wanted to torture him. His strange crimson eyes lock with mine. “She has a lot of deep seeded anger. And it's not like any of us are angels. Not from what she told me.” I nod, half a smirk creeping across my lips. “She told you about my past.

He continues to stare back at me and I could see why so many were put off by him, but he didn't scare me. I had dealt with much worse.

“We all have a past Dane. Every single one of us, but I'm talking about the present. The one where you are at risk of losing your mate.

He slams me up against the wall. his arm pressing against my chest as he tries to hold me in place. “I suggest you take that back.”

‘I won't ever lay a finger on her.’ shove him back and straighten out my shirt. “made a promise to = => protect tier. I am telling you that you need to stop her from killing anyone else's. Now matter how much you agree with it.”

4

“I'm not going to stop her from wanting to put things right. It's her right to hurt those who have hurt her.

“Then listen to me, Dane, because you will lose her and it won't be to death.”

His brows fuse as he glares at me.

He shakes his head. "You are wrong." "Mallory saw it too.

"She was just getting revenge for Jess." He defends Neah, but I hear the scepticism that he tries to hide in his tone. Deep down he could see it too.

"Think about it, Dane. You grew up knowing how to punish people. Making them pay for their sins. Most Rogues didn't. The ability to kill with ease became a new adventure and I see that in Neah. You said it to yourself. For the best part of sixteen years she was a Slave. Her abilities were bound. Her true life was kept from her. And she has gained everything back in less than a year."

Chapter 0178

He shakes his head in denial. "Roughly the same amount of time before a bitten Lycan turns fully Rogue if they don't control themselves." "She wasn't bitten. And you still turned.

"Then maybe it's something to do with her being bound. I don't have everything figured out. All I see is that she is walking the same path as I did. Anger and hate fuels her." I turn around, resting my hands against the stone wall and hanging my head low. This was not a problem that I thought we would run into.

We were supposed to be starting afresh, not running into past problems

"She is your mate Dane. I can see that you love her. We can all see that, there is no question about it. But if we don't get ahead of this, Salem will be the least of your problems." I turn around to see his frown.

"It's Neah." He mumbles. I knew my words were hitting home by the way he spoke with his jaw clenched.

"In theory, due to her being bound, I have been a Lycan for longer than she has. And trust me, I know what I see. Mallory brought me back from that, long after I had let myself go."

Dane snorts. "When we first learned what she was, do you know what she was afraid of?"

I shake my head

"Becoming a monster. Ironic don't you think." He folds his arms across his chest. "Seeing as you came back from being a Rogue, can you help her?" "I can try, but in truth, Mallory is probably the best one to help her. She was the one who helped me.

"Neah doesn't trust Mallory and that isn't going to change anytime soon."

"Then I suggest we find a way for Neah to accept Mallory."

He glances back at Roan's slumped body. "Do you really believe I'm losing her?"

I nod. "The thing is, she won't even realise it herself until it's too late."

Raven is sitting in the kitchen with Mallory by the time we head back to the house. Given the circumstances, they were both giggling and stuffing themselves with ice cream.

"Where's Neah?" Dane asks

"She headed upstairs. She didn't want to see me." She sighs. Every day she was growing more and more desperate to find a way to please Neah. And still, Neah wanted none of it. Content belongs to -

Dane nods and leaves, hopefully to have an important conversation with his mate. "Did you talk to Dane?" She asks as she shoves a spoon in her mouth.

"Yes."

"What am I missing?" Raven frowns. "We were having a laugh until SS Damien walked in and now, now you are acting like you have the weight of the world on your shoulders."

"It's fine." I tell Mallory. "Dane knows so you can tell her."

Raven's eyes round as she listens to Mallory. Her lips part until her mouth is wide open and I can see her tonsils. She was terrible at hiding her feelings, but I love the fact that she thought she could. Content belongs to <

"Does she know?" Mallory asks "Not yet. Dane doesn't want anyone to say anything to her. Which, in my opinion is fucked up. but she is his mate." "He wants to protect her." Raven sighs. "She has spent most of her life fighting for it and now she has to do it all again."

"It's different. Contents belong to

"How?" Raven's dark eyes rise to mine. "How is it different?"

"Because that life was something she never wanted. This is something she is slowly choosing. She just doesn't know it yet." "Why?" Raven mutters with a whisper

"It makes her feel strong and powerful. It gives her the feeling of satisfaction."

“The sad thing is, if she had been raised a Lycan, she would never have this need inside her.” Mallory gives Raven a sad smile “We both know that is hearsay. Neither of us knows what her life could have been.” I snap

“I can’t lose her too, Damien.” Raven pleads with me. “I can’t, it will break me.”

As she stared at me, I felt it. Every little glimmer of emotion that she was trying so hard to keep bottled up inside.

Mallory reaches a hand across the table to her. “Neah will need to want the help. It’s the only way it will work.”

Chapter 0179

Raven

Damien is tense as he moves around my room. He had checked the windows several times before closing the curtains. Thankfully, there were no more bloody handprints.

He looks so tired.’ Midnight murmurs There’s a lot going on’ I mutter back

I knew better than to ask him if he was okay. It was obvious he wasn’t, but I wasn’t exactly the greatest when it came to me being reassuring. I tried to be reassuring to Neah when she first came here, and all I did was stick my foot in it about Dane having other brides. Though that was a combination of me trying to warn her.

Jenson told me once that I was too truthful for my own good. That it would get me in trouble one day. You always have been a shit liar.’ Midnight snorts. It was pretty much the only thing she agreed with Jenson on

Damien checks the hallway and even checks the bathroom, which has a window that even Neah couldn’t fit through. It was like he was expecting Salem to jump out at any second and attack us. There was even a moment where I thought he was actually going to check under the bed.

I knew he was just doing it to gain some level of control

“If he’s in human form, we would be able to scent him. If he is in Lycan form, you will be able to scent him.” I remind him. “You’re right.” He stops in front of me and leans down to kiss me

He pulls back, resting his forehead against mine.

“You think it’s too late, don’t you?” It was a question that I had been desperate to ask. But I had managed to keep it out of my thoughts so that it didn’t bother him if he read my mind.

lo." It was a heavy no. Almost like he wasn't convinced of his own answer. "You don't have to lie to me. I can see it in your face. You warned Dane, but deep down, you think it's too late."

"It's impossible to know. Not a single one of us is the exact same. For example, you and Jenson. You are twins, your wolves are twins too, but you are not in any way alike. There's no way of knowing that if she crosses over, we can bring her back. If she doesn't want to...." He trails off as he shakes his head at me.

"I know Neah is your friend Raven, but there is only so much we can do. Only so much any of us can do."

He sits on the bed next to me.

"You will try?" I ask

"I won't stop trying."

"What about the pups? Contents belong to

He keeps his eyes averted.

"Will they survive?" I push. Maybe if Neah knew what would happen to her pups, it would keep her from becoming something she is not. Damien clenches his jaw.

"Tell me, I can handle it."

"There was a female in our group of Rogues, who was pregnant when she became fully Lycan." "The pup died in birth?" "She ate it." His eyes flicker to me and my shocked face. "It's not black and white, Raven. Everything is food to them unless...."

I cut him off as I add up the information "Unless it's in Lycan form. The pup was born in human form. so she ate her own pup."

He nods. "I warned you Raven, we are dark. Everything about being Rogue, is food and games. It's like it's like nothing else matters. This world could be crumbling on you but as long as you have food, you don't care." Content beténgs to 4

"It took me a long time to understand why we become so obsessed with food and the simple answer is the same as why you eat so much after you shift. It makes you so hungry, but for a Rogue, the hunger doesn't go away, ever."

"As hard as it seems, you need to tell her." I whisper quietly. "Those pups mean a lot to her, this pack, to Dane, to me and to you too. Maybe it will keep her from killing anyone else> Maybe it will stop her changing: I hear the pleading in my own tone. I was

afraid of losing her. As soon as in that second, I knew there was more to what Damien speaks of.

Chapter 0180

The constant warnings. Telling me he is dark, that I should be scared of him. That I will one day hate him. How he talks about Neah changing. I let go of him. “You think you will be dragged back to that life?”

I hold my breath, waiting for his answer. Contents belong to

‘I used to. Everyday was a fight.’

“You don't anymore?” I ask in a whispered tone.

“Not since you.”

I feel my heart skip a beat. The only other person that said something was because of me, was Salem. He had wanted a blood bond. To align himself with my pack. Only he wasn't a Wolf. How would that have worked? I mean I knew Lycans could blood tie themselves to each other, because of Neah and her first mate. But between a Wolf and a Lycan? Was that even possible?

I let go of Dane, shuffling myself off the bed and holding on to the dresser to keep myself upright. “Really? You are thinking about my brother now?” He mutters, having read my mind

“He wanted a blood bond. We were supposed to have completed it but then... then he found out about Dane.” I shake my head. “I would have had to

bow to Trey and Cassandra. They really fucked things up for us all. “Then you had a lucky escape and for that. I am extremely grateful

I see the lustrous look in his eyes. The desire to prove that I'm his and his alone. “And let me remind you why.”

His lips graze mine as his hands grip my waist. He lifts me up onto the dresser, nuzzling in against my neck as he positions himself between my thighs.

“You smell so good.” He murmurs against my skin before nipping me, “But you will have to wait.”

“For what?” I gasp in annoyance.

Less than a second later, there is a thundering knock on the door and I catch my brother's scent. His timing was absolutely shite. “I know you are in there Damien!

Damien gives me another quick kiss and moves to the door, letting in Dane. "How can I help?" Damien muses, looking back at me as I desperately clamp my thighs together, waiting for my arousal to disappear.

"I need you to talk to Neah."

"The conversation didn't go well then?" Damien asks

"She is hormonal, she is angry, she thinks I'm 'nebullshitting her or rather Nyx does. She has always been' one to listen to me. To accept my word as what it is. But this, she doesn't want to know." <

I watch Damien's face harden. It was subtle, but it was there. I couldn't™> read his mind yet, but I knew what he was: thinking, it was the one thing he was worried about, that we were to date. " "

"Where is she?"

"Down the hall in our room."

Damien begins to head in her direction when Eric starts shouting from downstairs, calling for help.

"I will go to Neah." I murmur, getting off the dresser and reaching for my crutches. "Go see what's wrong with Eric."

The men hurry towards the stairs as I make my way to Neah's room. She is curled up in the big chair in front of the window, cradling her small bump. She gives me a small smile.

"Did you hear Eric?"

She shakes her head, her blue eyes are full of that same sadness I saw when she first arrived in Black Shadow.

"Dane told you?" "He's wrong, right. He has to be wrong. I wasn't bitten. I...." she sighs heavily "Damien has spoken a little bit of it." I mutter quietly, pulling the stool from her dresser over to her. "He is worried."

She frowns. "Dane said I sliced Roan open over and over."

"You...you did 1 was confused, we had all been there, We had all seen what she had done to him and no -> one had stopped her. It had gotten too much for me that I buried my face into Damien's armpit sai wouldn't have to watch it. ©

“No. It was just three times.” “Neah, we were down there for hours.” She shuffles herself around on the chair until she is facing me properly. “Hours?”

“You don't remember?”