

The Alpha's Contract (Neah and Dane)

#Chapter 0061 - Read The Alpha's Contract (Neah and Dane) Chapter 0061

Chapter 0061

There was that rare spike in her thoughts. Almost a dark side that was trapped by who she had become over the years. Most people would find it unsettling, but it turned me on. It was enticing and I wanted to bring it to the surface

There's a brisk knock on the door that's accompanied with Raven's scent. Stopping our conversation, and from Neah's thoughts, I could tell she was grateful for the break.

"Come in." I call to my sister

"Hey," Her eyes move between me and Neah, trying to read the situation. "Can I take Neah shopping?"

"Shopping?"

"There's a couple of us going into the city. I thought maybe Neah would like to join us. Or am I interrupting something serious again?" "It's up to Neah." I look at my mate, still listening to her thoughts.

She shakes her head. "I'm not....I'm not ready for that." her eyes flicker to me,. "It might not be safe."

"Nothing can go wrong. It's neutral territory. No one is allowed to fight there. And I will be there." Raven pleads. "We will keep you safe." "Who is we?" I ask curiously

"Me, Klaus..." She names a couple of others

"Klaus is going?" Shopping was definitely not his thing.

"He wants to pick up some more books. You know what he's like. he won't have them delivered in case someone has creased the pages." She mocks, "And I assumed you would prefer us to have a chaperone."

"So you roped him in?"

"Yep!"

I turn to Neah. "She isn't wrong. The city is neutral. I trust Klaus."

“What about Trey?” She whispers.

‘I’m assuming the city is somewhere he wouldn’t go.’ I fix my eyes on Raven. “If there’s a problem....” “We will get her out of there.”

Moving to Neah, I pull her around to face me properly, “Raven has been to the city at least once a week since she was a kid. She knows it better than anyone. f you don’t want to go, then that is also fine.”

“You don’t...you don’t want me to go.” She keeps her eyes low. “I can feel it.”

“I would prefer you to be somewhere that I can easily reach you at any point of the day. But that is not going to help you get over your fears. I trust my sister, I trust Klaus, they are not going to put you in danger. And if anyone tries anything, they would be fucking stupid.”

“All the Wolves know who my brother is.” Raven adds. “Salem made sure of that.”

She claimed she didn’t blame me for Salem rejecting her, but certain phrases had me thinking differently. Choosing not to respond to her comment, I keep my attention on my mate. “It’s your choice Neah.”

“What if I...” “We will have to trust that you won’t. I could feel Raven’s eyes burning into the back of my head. I still hadn’t told her that Neah was a Lycan.

“I’m sorry, what??” Raven’s eyes immediately go to Neah when I break the news. “Are you seriously telling me that she looks like that thing you killed?”

“Yes.”

“So she isn’t a Wolf?” Raven is glaring at me as she demands answers. “Technically, from my understanding. they are part Wolf.

“Technically?” She splutters

“Yes.”

‘Well this is going well.’ Aero groans

“Okay, so the guy in the dungeon, claiming to be her brother. He is one too?” Raven asks “Yes.”

“And you are letting him live?”

“For now. Are you challenging my decision?” It was a rhetorical question. A warning to drop the attitude.

She turns to Neah, quickly softening her tone: and dropping her attitude: Most likely realising that what she is asking, would apply to Neah. 'Are you okay?' Content belongs to me)

Neah shakes her head.

"Then you definitely need to come into the city. Get away from this crap for a few hours. Clear your head and spend a shit load of my brother's money."

Neah's blue eyes flash to me.

"It's your choice."

Reluctantly, she agrees to go, though she spends the next hour checking that I was okay with her decision She asks me a final time before getting in the car with the others.

"Just try to enjoy yourself." I tell her

Raven pulls her into the car. "I will keep an eye on her. If it's too much, we will come back."

"You don't normally like the clingy ones." Eric mutters as we watch the car drive away.

"This is different."

"Because she is your mate and you marked her?" He cocks an eyebrow at me

"She's clingy based on fear, not because she wants me all to herself. She just needs time."

"How did Raven take the news?"

"She mostly focussed on the news I was letting Devon live. Took her a moment to realise that if she wanted Devon dead for what he is, she would be a hypocrite for not wanting Neah dead." -

'Raven doesn't usually make new ~~ friends so easily. She must like Neah. Especially to invite her to shopping. She's never done that with any of the others.' -

I nod my head in agreement. My sister had never been the greatest at social engagements, it's why she preferred the hospital "There's something I need you to do for me." I mutter as the car rounds the bend and it quickly leaves my sight. "You want me to keep an eye on her?"

"Just as a precaution."

Chapter 0062

Neah

Klaus smiles at me as I settle into the car. Raven introduces the two other women, but thankfully she doesn't mention the truth about me. I hoped she would keep it a secret, even if it was just for a little while.

"You will be fine." Raven keeps her arm linked with mine when I begin to fidget. "We are all here."

'I've never...' I could feel the other women looking at me.

"I know, that's why I suggested it. You can't stay cooped up in the pack all the time. It's good to meet others, to learn that it is not just us out there." "Though Black Shadow is the superior pack." Klaus winks at me

Raven pulls a small black card out of her pocket and hands it to me. "This is for you from Dane. He figured you wouldn't take it from him so he asked me to give it to you."

"What is it?"

The other women giggle, amused by my lack of knowledge and Raven shoots them a glare with her dark eyes

'It's a credit card.'

"Right." I take the black card from her, turning it over in my fingers. I had never seen one up close. I had never needed access to money. "I will show you how to use it when you buy something."

"I don't need his money."

Raven lets out a snort. "You should enjoy it, it's not like he is short on cash."

For a brief moment, I wondered how he made his money. It wasn't like he went to a workplace.

"Taxes." Klaus mutters as he opens up a book to read.

"Taxes?"

"From contracts." He confirms.

"Plus Dane owns a few of the businesses in the city." Raven adds. "He has deep pockets."

The other women in the car giggle again and I see Klaus roll his eyes.

By the time we got into the city, the scents were overwhelming. Traffic, Wolves, food, others that I couldn't place. I screw my nose up. "Like I said, it will take you a while." Klaus climbs out the car and stands next to me and scans the area

There were people everywhere. Some that seemed to be in a hurry while others had a much slower pace

"Welcome to the city." Raven mutters as she links her arm with mine.

I could already feel my body trembling. "Get it together." I whisper to myself, hoping the others are not listening.

Klaus stays a few steps behind us as Raven drags me from store to store, insisting that I pick out a few things and telling me that I can't go home empty handed.

She was enjoying it, but this really I wasn't something I liked doing. I wanted to go back to the safety of the pack. I wanted to get away from all the noise and the smells and silently begged to go back to the car. Content belongs to

A hand latches around my wrist as I watch Raven root through another clothing rack. Looking up. I see Klaus.

He lets go immediately, "I know, personal space, but you are not enjoying this, are you?"

I shake my head at him.

"Come to the bookstore with me. It's generally quiet.

Nodding my head, he tells Raven who pouts for a minute but then makes Klaus swear to not let me out of his sight. "I'm not stupid. Isn't this the whole reason I'm here?"

Raven gives him a location to meet at in one hour. "If you are not back..." Contents belong to

"You will call Dane." Klaus finishes her sentence for her. "I wouldn't expect any less." Following } Klaus out the store, he ~~

leads me through a couple of ~ 7 different streets and then down a side alley to a small bookshop. hidden away from the hustle of the city.

he quickly works his way through the shelves, Searching for something as I trail behind N observing some of the pretty book covers that made me wish that I could read there were so many stories here and I could barely pronounce any of the words.

Chapter 0063

"What kind of book are you looking for?" I ask, thinking that if he gave me a description of the cover, I would be able to help him find it

There's no answer.

Turning around, I don't see him and my heart skips a beat.

"Klaus?"

Still nothing

Racing between the shelves, I call out to him. There is still no answer, in fact there doesn't seem to be anyone else here.

"KLAUS?" I was desperate. My heart starts to race, my breathing quickened as I weakly call out his name again.

Turning up the final aisle, I freeze. Cassandra stood perfectly still. A smug smile on her face. Her arms folded just under her chest as she grins at me "So the rat has found her voice." Contents belong to

Just behind her, I see a foot poking out. A large boot that looked like the ones Klaus wears. A thick iron scent was slowly filling the air around me. "Did....did you kill him?"

She turns and kicks him in the side and he doesn't make a sound.

"The Alpha let you out then." Her eyes settle on the mark on my neck.

"I'm not...I'm not alone." I splutter

"Oh I know, but they aren't here with you now, are they?! It's just us." She combs her fingers through her long blonde hair. "And where is the good old Alpha Dane? If you are his contract bride, I'm surprised he let you out with these idiots."

"Where's.....where's Trey?"

"That is Alpha Trey to you!" She spits, "And it is none of your business.

"This is neutral territory.....You....they won't like you here." I glance at Klaus's foot which is moving a little. "They have their own rules. "Do you think I care about that? You are the reason my brother is dead!

"And you are the reason my parents are dead!" My abrupt response takes me by surprise.

Cassandra's eyes narrow at me and I see Klaus roll onto his back. I was so relieved to see that he was alive. "Why...why are you here?" I demand, trying to find my confidence.

"Trey wants to see you

"Why?"

She smirks at me. "He wants to remind you.

Klaus quietly stands up behind her, his hands clamp around her throat. "Remind her about what?"

Before she answers, Beta Eric charges in from nowhere. He grabs hold of me, pulling me behind him.

"Answer me!" Klaus demands.

Cassandra fights against him. Digging her perfectly manicured nails deep into his wrists, yet Klaus refuses to let go, even when his blood trickles down over his skin, dripping into small puddles- by his feet.

"Let her go, Klaus." Beta Eric orders

"She tried to kill me."

Tried. Something tells me that is all she can do if she tries. She has most likely never killed anyone in her life. She sets others up to do her dirty work?" He smiles. "Dane is going to have a field day when I take you to our dungeons. I wonder what he will remove first. A finger, perhaps a toe. Maybe your tongue."

"As much as you want to kill her, Klaus." Beta Eric continues. "Dane would much rather see to it. After all she is targeting his mate." "Bride." Cassandra spits.

She had seen my mark, did she not think it was genuine?

"Mate." Beta Eric mutters. "You have crossed over into a different territory. Cassandra. Not only have

you played with fire, you have given yourself the death penalty. "

"Trey will come for you!" Cassandra screeches and I cover my ears

"I don't doubt it. And I am very much looking forward to it." He looks up at Klaus. "My van is out the back, take her out to it and lock her in." "Fuck you, you stupid Wolves!"

Klaus scowls.

“Go on then, shift.” Beta Eric muses. “I dare you.”

Chapter 0064

Neah

Cassandra glares at him. “You don’t want that.”

Klaus looks confused, he was the only one in here who didn’t know what I was, what Cassandra and I were.

I had no idea what Beta Eric was trying to achieve. She would show everyone what I would look like. She would show him the monster that I was.

Cassandra's eyes settle on me. It suddenly dawned on me that she didn't know. She didn't know the mark from Alpha Dane had broken my binding. Contents belong to

That was why she was holding back.

Everything that Devon had said about keeping it hidden from me was starting to make sense. They didn’t want me to know the truth.

“I will come willingly.” She mutters

“Good.” Beta Eric and Klaus speak in unison.

“Klaus, I’m taking Neah with me. Clean up the mess in here. If this gets out. We will have even bigger problems

He nods his head. Grabbing hold of Cassandra. The smell of iron is still thick but I couldn't see where it was coming from.

“She killed the shop assistant.” Beta Eric mutters quietly to me, like he was reading my mind. “What you are smelling is a large amount of blood.

Cassandra giggles as Beta Eric pushes her forward. The van was parked at the end of the alley in the opposite direction of the busy high street. Cassandra gets in willingly and something just felt off.

Beta Eric slams the doors, locking her inside.

“Come on, you can sit up front with me.”

“Some....somethings wrong.

He cocks an eyebrow at me and looks around. "What do you mean?"

I look up and down the alley, trying to make sense of my gut feeling. Beta Eric follows my gaze. "No one else is here."

"Are you...sure?" My stomach ties itself up in knots. Cassandra hadn't tried hitting me, which was a first for her. "They never left the pack without each other."

"What are you talking about? Cassandra was alone when she tried to poison us.

"At the packhouse. But when they left, it was always together.

Devon had fallen out of a tree. I look up to the top of the buildings. There was nothing

When the door to the bookshop swings open. Trey was dragging Klaus along the ground towards us by his long hair. "I will give you him in exchange for my mate." He growls, his eyes locking on me.

Beta Eric's hand is latched around my wrist again as he holds me by his side. "Is he even alive?"

"Barely. But if you take him now, he might just recover."

"Why?" I whisper. Looking at the trail of blood that had followed them.

He sneers at me as I ask him the question and refocuses on Beta Eric. "You have a decision to make and I suggest you make it quickly." "Get in the van, Neah." Beta Eric doesn't look at me.

I do as I'm told and hear Trey mutter something about me actually following instructions. I wanted to say something and hesitate before opening the

door.

"Van!" Beta Eric calls out.

Reluctantly, I climbed in, closing the door, just wishing that I had a bit more of a backbone. The van rocks a little and a few moments later, Beta Eric gets in, sighing

"Did you hand her over?" I ask quietly

"I had too, we don't abandon our own."

"And Klaus, is he....is he alive?"

“Yes, just.

“I’m sorry. This is...this is my fault.”

“No, you don’t need to be sorry. None of us expected Trey to be here. Dane thought it would be too public for him, especially with the area being a neutral zone. ” ~~

“Why did you come?” I ask as moans come from the back of the van.

“Why do you think?”

I wasn’t sure whether to feel pleased or annoyed. But if he hadn’t turned up where he did, it might be a completely different story and might not be making my way back to Alpha Dane. -

Beta Eric doesn’t speak the rest of the way back other than to confirm that Raven is already aware of what has happened Alpha Dane is waiting at the packhouse when we arrive. He waits for me to get out of the van when he grabs my face and forces me to look at him “Are you hurt?” He demands

“No.”

“Don’t lie to me, Neah.”

“She...she didn’t touch me.”

He pulls me in against his hard chest, locking his arms around me. “I should have trusted my instincts to not let you go. ”You said....you said it was up to me.”

“It was, I should have known better with them both still out roaming the country.”

“I don’t think she knew.” I mumble against him.

“What do you mean?”

“Beta Eric challenged her to shift. She...she looked at me. I don’t think she knew that your mark broke my binding.

“She should-have scented you. Or ~~ maybe she was confused. It’s been a long time since you were first bound. Maybe she mistook your scent for Klaus’s.”

“Make sure Klaus gets seen too.” He calls to Beta Eric. “Raven won’t be back for a while, but there will be someone else over at the hospital.”

Chapter 0065

“Come with me.” He mutters, dropping his arms from around me

I follow him through to his office. I'm not sure what it was, but every time I was brought in here, I felt like I was going to be told off. That everything was going to suddenly crash down around me.

“Eric said you had a weird feeling.”

I nod. “Before Trey appeared. I... I don't.”

“You can't explain it.” He mutters as he sits at his desk and leaves me standing in the middle of the room.

“No, it just didn't... it didn't feel right.”

“What did she say to you?”

“That Trey wanted to see me. That...” I screw my face up because her words just didn't make sense. “That he wanted to remind me.” “Remind you of what?”

“She didn't say. She didn't really have a chance.

“Klaus interrupted her.”

I shake my head, “Beta Eric. He just wanted to protect me, just like Klaus.”

He doesn't acknowledge my comment about Klaus.

“I should have killed Trey when I had the chance.” He mutters with a frown.

Slipping into the empty seat in front of him, I watch him scribble a few things down. Wondering what he was writing.

“Alpha Dane, how did they know? How did they know where I was?”

“A question for Klaus when he has healed.”

“Klaus?”

“I'm not saying he was involved, but he saw Cassandra before you did. I need to know what happened in those few minutes before she attacked him.” He glances up at me.

“Are you sure you are not hurt?”

“Confused.” I mumble, trying to make sense of it all

“I will handle it.” He changes the subject, asking me if I had bought anything nice.

“A few bits and bobs. I think Raven has them.” I pull the credit card from my pocket and slide it across the desk towards him. He picks up the card and smiles. “I tell you to buy what you want and you barely spend anything.”

He pauses and his crimson eyes lock on mine. “The city was too much for your senses, wasn’t it?”

‘The first quiet place was the bookshop. Klaus said it took him almost a year to adjust.’

“It did, particularly his hearing. It’s why he lives so far out of the centre of the pack. There are a lot less people coming and going about their day and it was just easier for him. Unfortunately, you don’t have that luxury.”

“Because I can’t protect myself?” “Because I want you in bed with me, every night. Not hiding out in a house, somewhere in my pack.” Contents belong to

Alpha Dane takes me with him when he’s told that Klaus is back to a hundred percent.

He is sitting on the edge of the same bed that had been on when I thought I was dying. Klaus had taken the band out of his hair, letting it hang loose around his shoulders. He quietly drums his fingers on the bed.

His eyes see me first and he quickly jumps up. "Are you okay?"

I nod my head as Alpha Dane gives me a reassuring squeeze. “Are you?”

“That fucking asshole came from nowhere.”

“Which one?” Alpha Dane questions him.

“What do you mean?”

“The blonde, Cassandra, she was the one who knocked you out first, right?”

“She asked me if I could reach a book for her. As I stretched up, she clobbered me across the back of my head with something heavy.” “Have you met her before?” Alpha Dane presses.

“Never seen her in my life.”

“And the when they left, that guy came from nowhere, almost like he came down from above me and sliced all the way down my spine.” He glances at me. “Don’t worry, all healed. I’m a fast healer.”

“You’ve never met them, spoken to them before?”

"Are you asking me if I set this up? Dane, why would I risk being almost killed? You know I'm smarter than .. that. The guy barely missed my x heart. And I would be an idiot to try messing with you. I've seen what you do to those that cross you. I would rather be on your side than standing against you. "

My eyes flicker to Alpha Dane but he doesn't notice. I had only seen him kill Kyle. How dark could he go?

"Right." Alpha Dane murmurs, turning away.

"Am I clear to go?"

"Sure."

"Are we still having a tutoring session tonight?" Klaus asks me.

"No, not tonight." Alpha Dane answers before I get a chance to say anything.

He doesn't sound angry. But he doesn't sound happy either. It made me nervous. Because it made him unpredictable. Klaus leaves without speaking another word and Alpha Dane just stands there, with an unreadable expression.

"Are...are we going back to the house?" I ask after what seemed like forever.

My question seems to pull him from some sort of trance. He smiles and nods his head. For the rest of the -> evening, he barely spoke to me but appeared to be watching my every move to the point he was making me nervous. Content belongs like) 4

It was only when I was getting into bed that he asked me if I was accidentally linking them.

Chapter 0066

Dane

She scowls at me. "Is that.... Is that even a possibility?"

"Right now, it seems like anything is."

"Because I'm a monster?"

"You need to stop calling yourself that."

She rolls on her back, staring up at the ceiling. Sighing, she rests her hands on her flat stomach.

“They will all react like that.” She mumbles, puffing out her cheeks. “You...you are the only one that doesn't seem...”

‘I'm not bothered by what you are. All I care about is that you are mine and why are you still insisting on wearing clothes to bed?’ I pull her in against me. She lets out a little gasp as my hand goes up under her oversized tshirt and grazes her lower back.

Unexpectedly, she pushes me away.

“I can't.” she whispers and tugs the tshirt back down over her hips.

She was fighting hard to try and not think of something. Trying to keep her mind clear so I wouldn't know what the problem is Pinning her to the bed, I drop my weight on top of her. “What's wrong?”

“You're....crushing my.....lungs.”

I ease my weight off of her just a little. But not enough that she can escape from under me.

“Are you still feeling a little tender?”

She closes her eyes.

“And you are embarrassed?” I drive a leg between hers, forcing her thighs apart.

Her head shakes a tiny bit. “Uncomfortable.” she whispers

Kissing the mark on her neck, I tell her I will let her be, just for tonight. Only then, does she relax. She drops off to sleep before I do, curled up into my side.

‘We need to stop Trey and Cassandra.’ Aero mumbles. ‘They almost caused a war in the neutral zone.’ I know.’

‘We both know there are others out there that are desperate to knock us down a peg or two.’

‘I know.’ I mutter again, running my fingers through my mates dark hair. You know Row angry I've been, > Aero. I wish we had been there ons that shehad never gone. But I can't change what has happened. ‘ean

only make sure something lke that river happens again.’ Coritent

belongs to

Looking down at Neah, her eyelashes fluttered on her cheeks as she slept peacefully. Seemingly unaware of the anger that was growing inside of me.

I need to run.' I mumble to Aero, slipping myself out from Neah's grasp. I think we should speak to Devon again.' He tells me

He didn't know that Neah was going into the city.'Contents belong to

No, maybe he can give us a better understanding of what they might be planning now. Or maybe he will at least be able to predict their plan.'

Pulling on a pair of shorts, I make my way through the house and out into the fallity snow. The cold beneath my bare feet offered some relief from the constant warmth-of my body. Walking through the snow to the dungeon, I see a guard: leaning against the door, Bored out of his mind. Content belongs like)

"Any problems?" I ask "No, keeps himself to himself." The guard mumbles, stepping aside to let me through the door.

The guard closes the door behind me as soon as I turn on the lights.

"Really, it 's-the middle of the night?" Devon mutters. He apologises when he sees me. "I'm not the greatest when I haven't had sleep. What can I do for you Alpha Dane?" He © stretches out his limbs and yawns.

"Neah." I mutter

"You are going to need to give me a little bit more information than that." He rubs his eyes. "You keep talking about Neah, being this Alpha."

"She is.

"Right. What is she capable of?"

"No one knows for certain. I've tried researching, but the most I came across is how someone in her position will be of great power. They just need to know how to tap into it.

"Are you talking magic? Like a Witch." "Honestly Alpha Dane. I don't know. I just know that she will be able to get us back to our rightful status in the world.

"And that's why they fear her?"

Chapter 0067

"At the moment, I don't think it's so much as they fear her. They fear what she might be able to do." "Particularly Trey and Cassandra?"

“They are the only leaders left, what do you think!

“What would Trey want to remind Neah of?”

“What do you mean?” He rises to his feet and stands face to face with me. Only the bars keep us apart. “What does Neah need reminding of?”

He cocks an eyebrow. “I don’t know what you are asking, Alpha Dane. Is she in some kind of trouble again? You have to let me out of here. You have to let me help her.”

“She is my mate.” Contents belong to

“I am aware, but she is surrounded by Wolves. She needs someone who is her own kind. Someone who gets what its like to be us.” “We have been over this, it's her call.”

“She doesn’t know you are here, does she, Alpha Dane? All these late night visits and she is blissfully unaware as you lot try to figure out her past. “Late night visits? I've been down here a couple of times since you have been here.”

“Your bestie comes down here a lot. I believe he is having relationship issues.”

“Why is Eric talking to you about his mate?”

“Sometimes a third opinion is better.” He shrugs his shoulders

“Do you speak about Neah?”

“Nope.

“What do you talk about?”

“Like I said, his problems and in return for me listening. he brings me things.” He gestures to his cell that now had a stash of fizzy drinks along with the bed, clothes and reading material. I would need to speak to Eric about this, not once had he mentioned it.

Devon's fingers curl around the bars. “I swear to you, Alpha Dane, I am not here to hurt her. You know you can make the decision to let me out. You don’t have to wait for my sister to decide.”

I still don’t trust him.’ Aero mutters “Why would Trey and Cassandra go into the city?” I ask, ignoring Aero as well as Devon's pleas to be let out.

“I'm not following.”

"They've kept themselves to themselves. Hidden away from <> other packs. None of us knew of your kind's existence and now, they are going to neutral territories. Why would they do that?" Content to ~

'I'm guessing for the same reason everyone else goes there. Looking for something or....someone. Neah had a run in with them, didn't she?' "Eric got her out." Devon grins at me, "The hero. I knew he was a good man."

"He's not interested in men." I tell him again

'Everyone can be swayed, Alpha Dane They just have to have <> that....a bit of uncertainty.' He winks at me. 'Anyway, for Trey and the whore to go into the city, there must be a big reason. A plan of some kind.'

"Could they find her?" "Not Cassandra, but possibly Trey.

"Because of the blood connection?"

He nods his head at me. "But they would have already had to have been nearby to know she was there. The same as me finding Moonshine. I told you I could sense it, but it grew stronger the closer I got. It's how I knew I was going in the right direction."

He places his hands on his hips and struts around the cell, muttering to himself. He comes to a stop and his blue eyes flash up to me. "Who knew she was going?"

"My sister, her tutor, and a couple of other females. And obviously me and Eric." "All Wolves, right. You haven't got any other Lycans hiding here?" "Apart from Neah. Is it possible she could have told him, by accident. like open up a link between them?"

"Unlikely. The only other option is that they were already there for something else and Neah walked right into it. They won't come here, purely because you have the numbers."

I stare at him, remembering how he had explained to us how Lycans had come to exist. He said it was a story and no one actually knows, but what if it was the truth?

"Devon, can they create more?"

Chapter 0068

Dane

'What are we going to do?' Aero demands

I need to speak to my Beta.'

This is bad. We need to gain control over this, right now.' My hand hammers against Eric's door.

"Woah, woah, woah!" He snaps, pulling open the door, before he even has a chance to see me. "Are you trying to wake my kids?" He freezes when he realises its me. "What's wrong?"

"Devon!"

"Shit, he told you. Look I just needed someone to vent too. And I know you've had...."

"That's not the issue. Whatever weird thing you have going on with him, is up to you, I'm not worried about that. They can create more." He rubs the sleep from his eyes.

"What?"

"They can create more Lycans."

"Well, it would make sense, the same as us creating more Wolves."

"Eric." He was missing what I was saying

"Shit." He mutters, finally understanding. "Are you serious? I mean, the information has come from Devon.

"He said it was like an unspoken rule that they were not allowed to do it. They would have likely kept it in place purely to keep the pack a secret. If the pack were any bigger, they would have been more noticeable."

I go over everything Devon had told me, including them not being able to track Neah unless they were close by. "Do you think they were looking for recruits?" He asks.

'The city doesn't just have Wolves. A lot of humans work there, unsuspecting of our kind. So yes, it's a possibility.' "We should have researched them more."

"We weren't to know. They smelt like Wolves, they acted like Wolves. It was as simple as that. However, the contract they wanted was never about needing support or Neah. I believe they are looking for a way to tear me down. And it all started with the very thing I've created."

"They wouldn't be the first, Dane. There have been plenty over the years including your own brides that have tried to get out of your contracts or ones that were just doing it to gain information. Now if Treya and the rest were to turn a load of people, we both know that we still have the numbers. And they are the most skilled fighters. Your brother made sure of that.

He frowns at me, "How is Neah reacting to the information?"

"She's unaware. She was fast asleep when I left."

There's a noise from upstairs and we both wait patiently to see if one of his boys appears. A few minutes passed and there was silence "but we still decided to take the conversation outside. Content to ~

"Is she alright?" Eric asks. "She was oddly quiet on the way back from the city. Not in the same way as when we brought her back here the first night."

"I think it's just some kind of shock. She seems te-like Klaus and I think seeing someone she likes so close~ to death has made her feel a bit out of sorts." I couldn't even say she was panicked because that was not the feeling I was getting from her. "Thanks for getting her out of there."

He cocks an eyebrow at me. "You never need to thank me. I am your Beta and I will go out of my way to protect your mate. It's my duty. "You've never been interested in protecting the other brides." He shrugs his shoulders with a smirk, "You never claimed them."

We sat for hours in his garden, trying to come up with a plan. Eventually the sun comes up and his boys appear within minutes, demanding food for their 'starving stomachs'.

Eric looks at me. "She needs to be on board for our next move. It won't work without her." She needs a hell of a lot of confidence.' Aero mutters

Then let's help her find it."

So much for our run.' Aero grumbles.

Its the pack run tomorrow night. we will have to wait until then."

Neah is already up by the time I get back to the packhouse. Sat in the ~ kitchen; munching on a piece of> toasts "She has braided her hair back from the face today and I could see she had removed the ear plugs.

"How are the ears?" I keep my voice quiet Contents belong to

"Trying.... trying to get used to it." She mumbles, screwing her face up at me. "You got up early. "I never slept."

"Oh."

"Aero wanted more answers from Devon and then I went to see Eric."

She takes another bite of her toast but doesn't say anything. She did that a lot. Keeping her questions to herself.

Chapter 0069

"I found out something about Lycans last night.

She still doesn't say anything and just stares at me as she eats.

"It is to be believed that Lycans can create more Lycans. By biting humans."

She drops her toast, her blue eyes are wide, her mouth hangs open. "Is...is that true?"

"I don't know for certain, but it seems like a high possibility. It was how they were created in the first place." "Why would....why would Trey want more?"

"Numbers. At the moment, he doesn't have them. But if he does create them," I pause, staring at her, because I already knew what her reaction was going to be. "They need their true Alpha and not some wannabe."

'Pm not..."

"But you are, Neah. It's in your blood whether you like it or not. If Trey is trying to create a new wave of them, there will most likely be those that hate what he has done to them. They will hate what they have been turned into, they will hate being a Lycan."

"Like me." she mumbles, dropping her blue eyes to look at the discarded piece of toast.

"Exactly. Do you know how powerful they would be if they had a leader who felt the same way?"

'I'm not.... Alpha Dane, look at me. I'm...I'm the furthest thing from...a....a...leader.

"It's in your blood."

"Stop...stop saying that. My father had me bound, he... he didn't want me to become a leader. He raised Trey as my older brother."

"Our father's don't always know what they want."

I sigh, leaning back in the chair as she watches me.

"I am a bastard. The child of an Alpha and an Omega. My father was growing restless and desperate for an heir. Convinced an Omega to carry me."

"I thought

"Raven and Jenson had a different mother. She took me on as her own. Raised men exactly the same way as my siblings. Our father's don't always know what they want but sometimes, if it wasn't for their poor decisions, we wouldn't be here."

Her blue eyes rise to meet mine.

"Your father was the reason your life went downhill, long before Trey. Instead of embracing you, he sent you into a downward spiral. That continued when Cassandra came into your life. Yet you survived, Neah. For twenty-two years, you survived everything that was thrown at you."

Her heart was racing.

'You've blown it.' Aero mutters. "You were too over the top and you have freaked her out.'

She screws her eyes closed and shakes her head. "I'm not.....I'm sorry...I have to go."

I don't try to stop her as she flees the room. Aero was right. I had fucked up any chance of making her feel powerful. Told you.' Aero mumbles, retreating to the back of my mind.

Neah keeps her distance for most of the day. But every time I catch a glimpse of her, she is muttering to herself.

Late in the afternoon, I hear her scream and race through the house to find her in the kitchen. Broken glass surrounded her. A deep cut in her hand that was dripping blood all over the floor.

Pulling her away, I remove the piece of glass out of her deep wound and watch as it quickly heals. The wound disappears in seconds, not even leaving a faint pink mark. It was like it had never been there. Another sign that shows she is an Alpha.

Her blue eyes flash up to mine. "Sorry." she whispers. Contents belong to

"It's fine." I murmur, turning her hand over in mine. "Before you were bound when you were eighteen, were you always able to heal this quickly?" She nods her head at me. "They hit me," She frowns, "Over and over because the bruises would last a few seconds before fading. Why?"

I sigh, "I know I keep saying it, Neah. But healing this quickly, it's normally because of Alpha blood.

She tugs her hand from mine and shakes her head.

Picking up a piece of glass, I slice it across my own hand for her to see. The wound is gone in seconds. "If it happened to Eric, it would take << longersKlaus's wound took hours to healThis," I grab her hand again, holding it up to her face. "This is who you are."

Chapter 0070

Neah Focussing on my hand, I run my thumb over the palm. There wasn't even a tiny mark. It had been so long since I had healed this quickly.

Over the years, Trey and the pack had great fun in trying to make the bruises last longer than a few seconds. Hitting me harder and harder, sometimes, breaking my bones, only to hit me again once they had healed

After I was bound the final time. the beatings continued, just not to the same extent. They got their satisfaction by seeing me permanently wounded. "It's the Alpha in you." Alpha Dane mutters. "The only reason it took so long before is because of the binding."

Curling my hand into a ball, I dig my own nails into my skin, watching tiny beads of blood appear. The moment I release, the small wounds are gone and I'm just left with a few droplets of red, staining my hand.

"This is what Trey wanted, Neah. To beat you down, to take away your power, to make you little more than nothing. And you," he tips my chin up with a single finger. "You are not nothing. I need you to see that."

His hands move to my hips as he continues to stare at me. "And we are telling the pack today." lo." I shake my head at him. I just wasn't ready. I didn't even want to see what I looked like as a monster.

"Neah, it's time. I've held off for as long as possible. They need to know."

.I don't have a choice, do I?" I whisper, lowering my eyes.

"Not this time, no."

Maybe it was better that they knew. If they decide they don't want me here, it would be better to find out now. "They will want you here."

I look back at Alpha Dane to see his crimson eyes watching me. He didn't seem in the least bit worried. Closing my eyes. I ned my head, Still not quite believing that I was agreeing to it.

"Good, the meeting is set to start in thirty minutes."

"Thirty.... Minutes?" I thought I would have more time to talk myself into it

"I will be right by your side and Eric will be on the other side of you. But there is also something else you need to do." "I can't... I haven't even done it." Contents belong to

"I'm not asking you to shift. I am asking you to make a decision about Devon.

"Oh. Do....do you think he is a risk?"

"Aero still doesn't trust him."

"What about you?" I ask quietly

"I'm still on the fence. But at the end of the day. he is your family.

I involuntarily snort. "Technically so is Trey."

"You have a point. Speak to Eric, he has been having a lot more conversations with him than I have.

"What do you mean?"

"It's a long story. "He mutters. He picks up the ear plugs off the table and hands them to me. "You. are probably going to need these."

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Quietly pushing them back in my ears, I scan the room looking for a dustpan and brush to sweep up the broken glass.

"There will be someone along to clean it up." Alpha Dane tells me as he tries to guide me from the room. "It's time to go.

Walking over the snowy ground, we pass the train hall, travelling further south than I had ever been. We duck into the trees, following a well-trodden trail, moving deeper into the forest. Alpha Dane keeps his fingers hooked around mine at all times as my nerves build. The growing knot in my stomach wasn't helping and we had to stop multiple times so that I could vomit.

We were surrounded by some that had shifted while others were still in human form. There were so many of them, more than I had ever seen. It made it even scarier, if they attacked, I didn't stand a chance. Content

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