

Caged between the beta & alpha

chapter 56

In The Dark

RAVEN

Taylor and I watched another movie after , we talked about our sucky situations as we ate all the snacks and even grabbed some beer from the fridge . Comforting each other when we needed it and laughing at our lame attempts at singing . Yes , we were both tone – deaf and sounded horrifying , but hey we had fun and lots of giggles .

Taylor was an amazing friend , and although we weren't close as children , it felt like I had known him forever . I mean , I did , but not like this .

The credits of the second movie had now ended and the TV had switched off , but me and Taylor were still awake , lying side by side on the bed , staring at the shadows that were cast across the ceiling thanks to the moonlight shining through the cracks in the curtains and the tree branches .

" Raven ... " " Yeah ? " I said , yawning as I rubbed my eyes sleepily .

" You know , when we were little ... When I was weird and awkward , that shy kid no one wanted to know or play with , you used to always greet me and talk to me " " You were not weird ; you were cute and adorable .

" I said , trying to keep my eyes open . " Mmm you'd think that ... But you were this little , tiny girl , like the smallest one in the pack , and everyone used to say you had a growth issue ... Cause you were like six , wearing two – year – old clothes ... " He said drowsily .

" Yeah ... I remember ... I'm sure it was three years clothing ... He chuckled sleepily . " You were like a damn little doll ... Walking and talking yet so damn doll sized ... Well ... you always had this big smile on your face and always talked to me , complimenting me on what I was wearing , my hair ... saying good morning and although it was something small , it made my day ... So , thank you ... " He yawned , turning on to his side to face me . " I never even knew your name for many years ... "

Hmm ? You didn't ? " I asked , turning my head to look at him . " No , I used to call you the girl who looks like a doll ... until I heard Liam calling you once ... I'm older than you , but I was timid , and back then you were so brave You still are ... You're damn perfect and no matter what you do , I'm going to support you ok ? " His eyes fluttered shut , and I yawned again . " Mmm thanks ... I'll always support you too ... " I remembered saying before my eyes fluttered shut and sleep welcomed me into its folds ...

My eyes flew open , my heart pounding . I sat up , looking around the room , it took me a moment to realise I had fallen asleep at Taylor's . His back was to me and he was snoring lightly .

I looked around the dark room , brushing my hair off my face . How had I woken up ? Something didn't feel right ... I slowly got off the bed , not wanting to disturb Taylor . I walked across the floor , careful not to step on the chocolate wrappers and rubbish that we had littered all over the floor , before I tip-toed to the window .

Taylor had left the top one open to air the room that had smelt of take-out , but it was fairly silent outside . The distant sound of an animal and the rustle of the leaves in the trees were all that I could hear . I peered out past the tree that stood in the corner of Taylor's garden and my eyes fell on my old bedroom window that was just across from Taylor's . I was about to turn away when my wolf's uneasiness made me look back at my old house ... Almost as if urging me to pay attention to it . She wanted me to go there . Why ?

I could feel her restlessness and I frowned , glancing back at Taylor , before I slowly unlocked the window and slid it up silently , flinching when it made a slight squeak . I paused as Taylor groaned and turned over , falling back to sleep..

I blew out a breath and slowly climbed onto the ledge , lowering the window as much as possible behind me before I jumped to the ground below , landing lithely , I stood up straight , ignoring the sharp poking of the stones beneath my feet , and padded towards my parents ' home , jumping over the low fence .

Mom lived alone now , was she ok ?

My heart skipped a beat as a horrible thought came to my head . No ... don't think like that , Raven . I walked around the house , my heart pounding despite trying to push that thought away . Should I just do the doorbell and see if she was ok ? Wait ... it's night-time , she'll be asleep ...

I stared at the dark house , hesitating before I turned away , but once again my wolf's restlessness made me turn back . Since returning to the pack she was a little more active and I didn't want to shut her out if she was trying to tell me something . I needed to respect that . Ok calm down , I'll mind link her .

' Mom ? ' No answer , she was probably asleep ' Mom ? ! ' I tried pushing through that block , frowning at the fact I was drawing a blank . What the heck ? Had she shut me out ? Could she do that so strongly whilst sleeping ?

I turned , thinking to go do the doorbell , I was beginning to feel worried , maybe I'm just overreacting . No wait , a sudden thought came to me and I padded around the house to the bathroom window , wondering if Dad ever got it fixed . I smiled when I saw the gap in it .

Something that Mom always asked Dad to fix , seems like he never bothered ! Perfect ! I scanned the ground , finding a decent sized branch that I used to slip into the gap and pry up the dodgy handle . It was a small window but I'd fit . Grabbing onto it , I pulled myself onto the ledge and squeezed in , frowning when my ass and thighs got a little stuck . Just great , seems like the only place I had grown over the years was there .

Stupid fat thighs I pulled myself through , feeling the window scrape my ass and snag at my pants . Finally , I managed to get in and blew out a breath . Yay ! The cool bathroom tiles were pleasant beneath my feet as I made my way to the door , opening it ever so silently .

Calming my heartbeat to minimise the sound of it . One look at Mom and then we were back out of here . She never needed to know I had been here ! I made my way down the dark hall , the scent of pumpkin spice lingered in the hall and I smiled sadly .

It was Mom's favourite smell , year in and year out . She'd stock up on the festive scented candles in the winters and use them throughout the entire year . I was careful , making sure to stay towards the wall . The floorboards didn't creak so much where they were hardly stepped on . Years of sneaking out really does help .

I went up the stairs as silently as I could . Glancing down the hallway , I could see the door to Mom's room was open and I frowned . Did she leave it open because Dad wasn't here ? Wait , I refused to call him Dad ...

The entire house was dark , and it was a little cold too , I felt my stomach twist . Wasn't she taking care of herself ? I silently made my way down the hall , frowning when I didn't hear a heartbeat . Wait , had she left the pack or something ?!

Was that why my wolf was worried ? After all , it had a link to family . I rushed to the door , pushing it open , expecting to see a half - empty room . I froze at the smell of blood that filled my nose . My eyes snapped to the silhouette of someone under the sheets on the bed .

My heart pounded as fear and panic settled within me . Alarm bells going off . No heartbeat ... Blood ... Was that " Mom ? " I asked , my voice shaky as I edged closer to the bed .

Please be a prank . Please tell me I'm wrong . " M - mom ?! " I whimpered , sounding terrified . Stay strong , Raven . My entire body was shaking involuntarily , I couldn't breathe properly ... I reached out with a trembling hand for the sheets .

Mom's scent and the stench of fresh blood now overrode my senses . I couldn't bring myself to lower the duvet My chest was heaving . I'm scared ... ' Liam " I whimpered through the link ; h e was probably asleep ... ' What is it , Love ? Are you ok ? '

Worry and concern were clear in his voice , but the warmth of just hearing him made me feel an inch braver . It was a struggle to reply , as I yanked the bedding back . My mouth widened in a silent scream and I stumbled back , my breathing ragged as I stared at the horrifying scene before me .

No please goddess ... no ! Fuck There lay Mom with blood – stained bedding under her , her empty mouth hanging wide open slit from ear to ear , her teeth were gone and where her eyes should have been were two gaping sockets .. ‘

Raven , where the fuck are you ? ‘ Liam’s voice snapped me out of horror my struck state . ‘ Liam ... Mom ... ‘ I trailed off when the sudden feeling of being watched overcame me . The hair at the back of my neck stood up and my heart thundered .

I whipped around , but I was too late . Something struck my head , a searing pain erupted through it , and before I could even recover or react , I felt a stinging pain in my neck . Then everything went dark ...

Caged between the beta & alpha chapter 57

A Team

LIAM

I was in my office with Damon . This was probably one of the fucking rare times we were completely alone and the urge to get rid of him wasn’t fucking overtaking me . The entire table and part of the floor were littered with papers and photographs .

I couldn’t believe I was in this fucking situation , where we were trying to rule out those who had full alibis around the time of the murders . Zack , Damon and I were the only ones working on this and it was fucking a lot , maybe we needed to bring in a few more people .

I know Dad offered and I might take him up on that . Mom had aunty Monica and Azura to take care of .

Maybe Raven ... I licked my lips remembering what happened earlier ... Perfect was not even enough to describe it ... She was fucking divine , and that pretty little pussy of hers was so bloody fine ... Feeling myself twitch in my pants , I frowned pushing the thought away .

Fuck ” It would have been easier to just put them all under Alpha command . ” I said coldly , trying to focus . I still intended to do that , but only with those who had blanks in their alibis . We were hoping to cut out at least eighty percent of the pack .

" It's about trust and respect . " Damon murmured , organising the files into ranks . With a pack with over a thousand members , it wasn't fucking easy . At least we could rule out the pups . " Still , they'd understand .

" I said . Looking at the warrior files in front of me , taking a few papers that were stapled together , I tilted my head . " I wouldn't be surprised if it's this fucking asshole ... " " Damon turned to look at the papers I held . " Owen ... Yeah , he's a prick , but I don't know , I feel he's just too obvious . " He murmured . " And the job does feel too clean for him . " I added , but still , we couldn't just cross anyone out .

The pile of those who were definitely ruled out thanks to full alibis was small ... less than 200 ... That was far too fucking low ... " I'm covered . " Damon said , holding up his pile , frowning when he saw the one under him . " You got yourself here ? The fuck ?

" I cocked a brow , massaging my temples , feelin a headache coming on . " With my psychotic tendencies right now , I could be a fucking prime suspect . I don't remember ripping Jacob's arm off , so ... " The only ones spared from the assessment were Mom and Dad .

The rest were on it to make it fair , although deep down I trusted Damon , Raven and Zack . It was a guideline we were following . Zack did his search on me and Damon , Damon . did Zacks . " Yeah and made a mess . This job is too clean to even think it's you . " Damon murmured . " Zack is totally covered . " " Great , at least two of the higher position ones are . The priority is the security team , who do we have covered ? "

" Esteban Drew ... Ben ... Cassidy " I nodded . That made me feel a lot fucking better . " Mom ... " I looked towards him as he picked up his mom's file and I felt a sliver of guilt . Putting Aunty Monica in this shit wasn't right . He simply flicked the file open , staring at the many blank sections .

It was obvious there'll be blanks , she stayed home for the most part . " I won't put her under Alpha command .

" I said quietly . He looked at me and shook his head . " No , I get it . " " He said , his voice as calm and gentle as fucking ever , placing her file into the larger pile . I walked over , taking the file and putting it in the other pile . " I said , I won't . " I said firmly , my eyes flashing warningly , before walking back to my desk . A silence fell between us before he called me .

" Liam .. I glanced at him , raising an eyebrow . " Thanks . I appreciate it . " He said quietly . I gave a curt nod and we continued our work . It was weird yet calming , almost like old times before our fucked up mate situation . Hours had passed and we were still working on it .

Even Zack had shown up and we scoured through the files together . Damon had gone to get us some hot drinks and had just gotten back , shutting the door after him . " Thanks . " I said , grabbing a bar of chocolate from the tray , massaging my forehead .

My eyes fell on the tub of painkillers and I glanced up at him , but he was back to his work . Thanks ... but I wasn't able to say that to him . I took two pills , swallowing them down with some water . " Shall we rule out the ten- to fourteen year – olds ? " Zack asked , looking at a wad of files .

" No , we know even kids can be killers ... " I said , dropping back in my seat . " I think it's a female . " Zack said , suddenly making both Damon and I look a thim sharply . " What ? " Damon asked . " Look don't you think the job is really clean ? I don't know . I feel like a female " would be this precise .

" I don't think so . Men can be too . " I shook my head . " Any reply about the handwriting analysis ? " Damon asked . " Yeah , both are inconsistent with one another . There's been some tracing , some changes between the slant , and the speed and pressure of the pen varied drastically .

" I muttered . " We only got that it is definitely the same person . " So , they were careful there too . " Zack muttered . " And no fucking scent . " I said , frowning . " As if the messages were written and kept until nothing remained , or they wore gloves and somehow disguised their scents .

" Were the papers tested for any remnants of scent masking sprays or anything ? " Zack asked . " Yeah , nothing . " I frowned . " And our fucking werewolf abilities don't help with this shit . " Damon murmured , grabbing a mug of hot chocolate for himself .

Zack nodded , picking up his coffee and looking between the two of us before glancing away . " Want to say something ? " I asked , cocking a brow . " No , just glad we are working together . " He said , with a small smirk " Hmm , " I said , ignoring Damon's grin .

" Raven didn't come home , did she ? " Zack asked hesitantly . " She went to Taylor's " I said , frowning when Zack looked disappointed . My eyes narrowed . " What's your problem with that ? " I asked icily .

" No problem at all ... " Zack said , but his tone said otherwise . He sounded fucking down . Did he have a fucking crush on her ? My eyes flashed dangerously at the thought , but I don't know ... I never got that vibe from him before . We finished our drink and I glanced at the time : Ten to three ...

" Let's call it a night . " I said , running my fingers through my hair , knowing it was probably a mess now from the number of times I had run my fingers through it . I stood up stretching , I needed to sleep .. Maybe I'll take her room . Although I wish I could cuddle up to her , I'm going to have to deal with her scent

' Liam ' Raven's whimper came suddenly through the link , making my heart thud . Why did she sound ... scared ? ' What is it , Love ? Are you ok ? " I asked , my heart beating way too fucking fast . A thousand worries and fear rushed through me .

Zack and Damon looked at me , sensing the change . She didn't answer . I rushed to the door , both boys instantly following me . ' Raven , where the fuck are you ? ' I asked , fear enveloping me . ' Liam ... Mom ... ' Raven ! Raven ? Fuck ! But nothing .

I felt as if I was hitting a wall and I knew she had not fucking blocked me off . " Something is wrong with Raven ! " I said , running down the steps and out the door faster than the other two . " I'll link Taylor , she was with him ! " I heard Zack say as I rushed towards Taylor and Raven's parents ' home .

She had mentioned her mom ' Did she link you ? ' Damon asked , worry clear in his voice .. ' Yeah . ' I said , speeding up . I left them both behind . The moment I reached the houses , I saw Taylor banging on the Jacobs ' front door .

Alpha ! Zack linked me I pushed him aside , breaking the door down .

Fuck her scent was here ... I ran up the steps , taking three at a time then ran down the hall . The smell of blood hung in the air . Panic and fear wrapped around me , and all I could think about was Raven . Be fucking ok . My heart was in my mouth as I pushed open the door to the master bedroom . Coming to an abrupt halt and my eyes widening in shock at the sight before me ...

Caged between the beta & alpha chapter 58

Worry & Concern

DAMON

I ran into the Jacobs home a minute or so behind Liam , only to see him running down the stairs with Raven's body in his arms . " What the ... " 11 " I need to get her to the hospital . She's injured and I think there's poison in her system . She isn't healing ! Her mom's dead . " He said , the fear and worry in his eyes tearing at my own heart .

I nodded , knowing he was the fastest to get her there ... but to my surprise , he held her out to me , his cerulean eyes full of pain . " Make sure she's ok . " He said , his voice hoarse . My heart thudded as I took her in my arms .

She was tiny and didn't weigh much at all , her head falling against my chest . I nodded , not saying anything then turning and running from the house . I knew he wanted to find whoever did it , and I could see the pain in his eyes as he let her go . I could feel her blood coating my arm , which meant she wasn't healing . Was it the same poison that was killing the people around us ? If it was , it meant we'd be able to save her .

The fact that the killer let the body shut down itself by using a mix of ricin , silver and wolfsbane was very intelligent . I quickly mind linked the head doctor and told him I was on my way , filling him in on the situation and carrying my little mate as I ran as fast as I could . When a pack member is killed , or when they broke pack ties or joined another pack , the Alpha would feel the pack link break .

But when an ill person passes away or if someone is dying slowly , it wasn't really noticeable to the Alpha . The tug was so subtle , you wouldn't realise it at all . These murders shut down the organs first , slowly yet surely .

The fact that they seemed to have thought this entire thing out so fucking cleverly worried me . Time was running out and we were no closer to the truth . I rushed to the room the nurse guided me too and placed Raven on the bed , placing a kiss on her forehead .

She was pale and looked so fucking fragile The " Please step outside Beta Damon ! " T doctor said , before he began to shout orders . " She's been poisoned , get the antidote for silver and wolfsbane . The Alpha said there may be ricin ! We need to pump it from her body . Hook her up , check her blood pressure !

" I was pushed from the room , my heart thundering at the clear worry on the doctor's face . We couldn't lose her . I tried to contact Liam , but all I reached was a block , Fuck ! ' How is she ? ' Taylor's strained voice came through the link . ' I don't know yet . Where's Liam ? " I asked .

' He's trying to search for clues . He's angry and I feel so damn guilty . I'm sorry , I swear I feel like shit . I didn't hear her leave or I would have gone with her ... I'm sorry , I know she's your two's mate and I can't imagine how you must be feeling . " ' She'll be ok ... ' I said softly .

I ended the link , pacing the hall feeling so damn frustrated , worried and helpless . I ran my fingers through my hair dropping onto the bench . Please be fucking ok ... I was scared of losing her . We needed her , heck I'd give anything for her to be ok .

I'd happily take her place too . Her smile , her unique eyes , her selflessness ... Come on Raven , fight . A few hours had passed , Liam had mind linked a few times asking how she was , but that was it . He didn't say much but I could sense his pain from his voice , although he was desperately trying to hide it . Finally , the doctor said she was safe .

The poison had been administered close to her neck , and if she had been brought in any later , things could have been worse . I entered the hospital room , a bandage was wrapped around her head .

The doctor said she had been struck with a sledgehammer , but not with enough force to have done severe damage . Either the killer was in a rush to leave , or they were generally not fucking strong enough . My thought went back to what Zack had said . Was it a woman ?

I brushed my knuckles down her cheek , a tingle of pleasure following . Her soft , plump lips were parted slightly as she breathed softly . Her long black lashes fluttered slightly at my touch , I bent down and placed my lips gently on hers .

The sparks of the bond rushed through me , and the sweet taste of her mouth was something I wouldn't forget . That ache in my heart was growing . I didn't know if I had a chance , or if I ever would .

She was that special , rare gem that you wanted to protect forever and not hurt anymore . I love you . I took her delicate hand in mine , thinking how small and slender it was in comparison to mine before I kissed it softly . I heard the sound of running and I knew it was Liam . I slowly placed her

hand down , the pain in my chest heightening . She was meant to be mine too , but I couldn't have her ... I smiled gently , just hoping that no matter what , she got her happily ever after ... The door opened and Liam ran over .

He was shirtless , the necklaces around his neck hitting against one another , the sound loud in this silent room . His eyes were fixed on Raven as he caressed her forehead , his other hand stroking her arm , before he curled his fingers under her chin pressing his lips to hers . His heart was racing ; I knew he was as worried as I had been , if not more as he wasn't able to be here .

I looked away , feeling the painful tug at the scene before me ... His love was so intense for her ... Was mine any less ? Was there a difference between our love ? Don't think like that Damon ...

But no matter how much I told myself to stay positive , I did feel like I was losing all hope of the three of us making it work . Liam pulled the armchair forward , sitting by her bed , now holding her hand to his chest .

" Found anything ? " I asked .

" A footprint , a partial one but it's there . The killer wasn't expecting Raven to show up , that was for certain . " He said coldly . But we found no one that looked suspicious . Everyone seemed to have been asleep , but I did fucking order a search of the nearest places .

I don't know ... I feel like we are missing something big .

" He said , running his free hand through his hair . I nodded , grabbing the other armchair and situating myself on the other side of the bed . I glanced at her hand and placed my hand over it , feeling Liam's intense gaze on me , but he didn't say anything . " And was there a note ? " " " Obviously . " " " What did it say ? " " You deserved this .

Caged between the beta & alpha chapter 59

Moments Of Love

LIAM

I tried to tell myself that he was just holding her hand out of concern , that he was her friend too ... But I couldn't deny the irritation that was flaring up inside of me ... That anger threatening to lash out . I tried to focus on Raven , letting the tingles that coursed through me at our touch calm me .

" You deserve this ? " He repeated , frowning . Yeah , so , the three notes ... The first said ; ' Who's next ? ' The second ; ' Two down , I wonder how many more to go ? ' And now this . There's nothing really in them . " I said , pausing . " You deserved this , is probably the most to go on .

" True , but who do they mean ? Her mom ? Raven ? Do they have an issue with Raven ? Damon mused . " I frowned , clenching my jaw . " These murders started when Raven came back to town ...

There may be a connection there . " I said , suddenly thinking he had a point . Damon looked surprised at that , before becoming thoughtful . " Good point . Do you think we should track down those who would have issues with Raven , I mean , her dad wouldn't kill his mate and he's in the cells , so he's ruled out as the killer . " Hmm , yeah , I think we need to list anyone who : may have any sort of link to Raven .

" I said quietly , just as the door opened and Dad stepped in . He glanced at us , I didn't miss the way his gaze flickered to both Damon and I holding Raven's hands . I swear if we weren't fucking mated no one would have ever even thought anything of us holding her hand . So fucking annoying .

" I think you need to make a list a lot broader than that . " Dad said , checking the machine that Raven was hooked up to before frowning and sitting at the edge of the bed . She was so tiny , there was a good gap from the bottom and her feet .

" What do you mean ? We're thinking of may have anything against her . " Damon said . But I think I understood what Dad meant . " You mean , people who may have issues against Damon and I ... her parents ... anyone who is somehow even linked to Raven , an indirect grudge , right ?

" I said sharply . Dad smirked humourlessly and nodded . " Yeah , exactly . " He said , " You two boys look exhausted . Head to bed , I'll stay with her . " No thanks . " I said coldly . " If it was Mom , you wouldn't have left . " He sighed , once again I had to try to fucking calm down . " No , I wouldn't have , but you look a fucking mess .

" Don't really care , you two can leave , I'm staying . " I said icily . I could feel my anger flaring up and that bitterness towards everything beginning to flare inside . " Let's go uncle . " Damon said and I was glad at least one of them understood .

Dad shook his head but stood up , Damon placed a quick kiss on Raven's forehead before he walked to the door . Dad caressed her head before he too turned . Pausing at the door he glanced back at me , almost as if he wanted to say something but decided against it and closed the door behind him . I didn't move . Even as the sun began to rise in the sky , I sat there waiting for her to wake up , but she remained asleep .

The doctor came in around seven in the morning to do some checks , asking if I wanted to rest or have something to eat . I refused . All I wanted was for her to wake up . Come on love , wake up ... RAVEN My eyes fluttered open , and I stared at the sun that was shining brightly through the blinds . Liam's scent filled my nose , I looked down to see his head of strawberry locks resting on the bed near my arm . His

hand was holding mine . I frowned , seeing the catheter in my hand , pulling it out irritated and confused . What happened to me ? Where am I ? I rubbed my head , feeling the bandages when I froze . My heart began to race as Mom's face returned to me .

No ... Was it a dream ? Fuck it wasn't ... I was in a hospital room ... I looked around . Mom was dead . There was someone in that house ... My heart was banging against my ribs painfully and Liam sat up suddenly , instantly getting up from the chair and sitting down next to me on the bed .

" Hey , hey , baby girl it's going to be ok . " His voice , huskier with sleep , came as he cupped my face , pressing his forehead to mine .

" Mom ! She's dead . Someone was there Liam , I felt it , but I didn't hear a heartbeat- " He pressed his lips to mine , sending a wave of calmness and pleasure through me . His lips grazed against mine sensually and I slowly calmed down .

My rapid breathing calmed down and I slowly kissed him back , his hand moved from my face , tangling into my hair at the nape of my neck , his tongue slipping into my mouth . I sucked on it letting him explore my mouth , moaning against him . His heart was beating fast and I could sense his emotions . ' I'm ok . ' I said through the link , pushing the blanket off me and getting onto my knees .

His arms locked around my waist , lifting me into his lap . I gripped his shoulders , blushing when I felt him throb against my core as I straddled him , kissing him harder . He broke away when I needed air , burying his head in my chest . I blushed even more , but wrapped my arms around his neck , brushing my fingers through his hair , feeling so safe here in his arms . " I'm ok . " I repeated kissing the top of his head ..

" I'm not letting you out of my sight from here on out . " He said with such conviction that I was worried he meant it . " You don't mean that , do you ? " I asked suspiciously . He smiled and my heart skipped a beat . The sun shining on this handsome face of his . " I do actually .

" Hell no . " I said pouting , before hugging him tightly . " You must have felt the link with your mother , right ? " He asked softly . I tensed before moving back and looking down at his glorious bare chest .

" I felt something , but I was asleep ... My wolf was restless and she must have felt the link break with Mom's wolf . " I whispered . He nodded . your loss , even if she " I'm sorry for : wasn't the best mother . " He said quietly .

I nodded , yeah , she wasn't but I still loved her . I pressed my lips together and looked into his eyes , feeling that prickle in my own that I did not want to feel . He looked down at me , one hand going around my bare waist . I realised I was still in my clothes from last night , minus the cardigan . His other hand cupped the back of my head as he pulled me into his embrace once more .

I clung to him , wrapping my legs around his waist like a monkey , feeling the sadness well up inside of me as I hugged him tightly . I remembered my last words to her ... Wishing things had gone differently ... Our relationship had been strange . Her passing was strange ... but I would not cry ... After a good few moments , I moved back , my gaze falling to his bulky arms as I tried to change the topic . " Your biceps are thicker than my waist .

" I said , running my hand over one of his arms slowly . " Are we going to compare body sizes now ? He asked huskily , I stopped moving my hand up and down his arm . " What else do you want to compare , our height ? " I said frowning .

" No , if we're doing comparisons I would say there's a certain part of me that is definitely thicker than your forearm . " He smirked and I froze , it took me a second to realise what he meant as I stared at my arm . If sex seemed appealing a while ago ... it was terrifying now

That would damage my insides ! " Raven ... " I blinked and looked at him . " You ok ? " " Of course I'm ok ! " I said , quickly climbing out of his lap and away from that very scary , forearm sized thing . I couldn't help but stare at his crotch . Goddess Liam looked rather amused , I quickly looked away . Just when Liam was about to speak , the door opened and Aunty Red stepped inside , her hair up in a high bun with a few strands out .

Even at this age she looked like she was a model in her twenties , she had Azura in her arms and the little girl was holding a gift bag and flowers . " Raven baby girl , thank the goddess your ok . " She said coming over and giving me a tight hug . I hugged her back before giving Azura a kiss on the cheek . Aunty Red glanced at Liam when she moved back from me and cocked a brow .

" Do I seriously need to have to see your morning wood every time . " She asked , feeling my forehead . " F " Then don't come at the wrong time . Liam growled before getting up and walking off to the adjoining bathroom .

Aunty Red shook her head , before taking a seat on the bed . " I heard about Kim . " She said softly , placing her hand on my knee . I nodded , sighing deeply . " What happened to your head , Waven ? " Azura asked , looking at my bandages .

" I bumped it . " I said . " Oh no , let me kiss it better . " She said crawling off Aunty Red's lap and giving me a hug then a big kiss on top of my forehead . " Aww ! I already feel better , Zuzu ! " I said , hugging her tightly . She giggled and moved back .

" Mama ! Gift ! " She said , holding her hands out to Aunty Red , who smiled at her and passed her the gift bag and the flowers . Just as Liam stepped out of the bathroom , I couldn't resist smiling at the fact he no longer had a hard - on .

" Wiyam ! Look I got Waven bownies and a teddy ! " She pulled out an adorable teddy bear and gave it to me . I took it and gave her a big smile " Thank you ! " " Have you two had breakfast ? " Aunty Red asked . We shook our heads and I realised Liam was frowning . Azura was busy wrestling open the lid to the tub of brownies before taking one out and holding it to my mouth .

" I got to go . They've done some analysis o n the footprint and found another not far from it . " He said , making my heart skip a beat . Me and Aunty Red exchanged looks looking back at him . " Really ? " I said trying to swallow the brownies .

" Yeah , we'll see if it's anything , but there was a scuff of blood , so it may be something . " He said , coming over he kissed Aunty Red on the forehead before ruffling Azura's hair and kissed her cheek before turning to me .

" Get the rest you need . " He said , ' Oh and I wouldn't trust anything from Azura's hands . She picks her nose ... " He added through the link , making me smile before he took hold of my chin and tilted my face up to his .

His lips met mine in a sizzling deep kiss that made everything fade away . We parted after a few moments and Liam moved back . My eyes fell on Damon , standing there with a bouquet of flowers and a brown bag that I could smell contained breakfast ...

Guilt rushed through me as our eyes met , and I felt my heart completely crumble the moment that warm smile crossed his face ... Moonlight Muse Author Thank you for reading..