

Fates Hands by Lori Ameling

Chapter 21

Adira was told that her sister, was only her half sister on her fathers side. Lily was her half sister, that explains a lot really. Lily left the pack and now she is before the king for trial and punishment. Part of Adira felt sorry for Lily, she never really had any one either. Sure she did some really terrible things and now she will pay for them.

Adira just couldn't hate her, not that Lily ever gave her a reason not to hate her. She saw Lily once walking alone in the park one day. Adira couldn't get that image out of her mind, Lily looked full of despair and so alone. Adira knew that this was Lily's true face. Since that day Adira could never fully hate her sister Lily.

Now hearing from Duncan, news from the Royal press. That her father and Joann killed each other with poison. It was a rather fitting death, they died like they lived. Still perhaps they got off just a bit too easy. It's for the best though, those two might have found a way to escape punishment. They were now dead and gone. Adira decided to look no more to those memories. They took all they were going to get, she wasn't going to give them any more.

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She wondered what kind of punishment would be given to Lily, perhaps not death but it is up to the King. Some of her actions led to other peoples deaths. She decided to let those memories go, what ever happens to Lily now is no longer her concern.

Duncan asked her if she wanted a say in what Lily's punishment would be, she decided that it was best to leave it up to the King. There was a lot to Lily's story that she didn't know and to decide her punishment was wrong, because she would be prejudiced and unfair.

Adira decided that everything that was before meeting Duncan was just a nightmare that would fade with time and be erased by the love in her new life. 2

She did feel uneasy though, she was waiting for the other shoe to drop. If she knew anything it was this, Alpha Micheal must be punished and then killed. Death was his only ending, otherwise he could come back and do even more evil than before. Not to mention those in the pack that liked to participate in the Alpha's sins.

She was a little down when she thought of all the potential victims and deaths of innocent lives. How many will go unaccounted and forgotten?. How many are nameless and will

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forgotten?. How many are nameless and will never be found? When all this is finally over and the evil is removed forever, she decided she would do something as a memorial of all those unknown lost souls.

Tears began to run down her cheeks, she felt a hand catching her tears.

"My little wolf, why are you crying? You know I never want to see anything but happy tears in your eyes. What has gotten you so upset?"

"Alpha Micheal has a lot to answer for, what could make someone so evil? There are so many bad wolves in our pack. There are those who knew and did nothing, some did nothing because they were trying to keep their pup's out of the Alpha's clutches. I just don't understand how he gets away with it, I lived in that hell hole of a pack, and I still don't understand it all."

Adira leaned into Duncan with a sigh, "I was just thinking of all of those poor children and women, how many will simply be left unknown, lost. I want to design a memorial for all of them, so they are not forgotten. Perhaps choose a day to dedicate it to them, so no one ever forgets them or what was done."

Duncan looked at her and kissed her on her nose. He whispered her name..."Adira, you are

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the single most beautiful being on this planet, just when I think I have seen all the rays of your light, you shine even brighter than before."

"I Love You, my little wolf for all eternity and beyond."

"I love you, Duncan my handsome naked knight. Thank you for being passed out on the floor, of the last room I had to clean."

After the session with Lily Williams, the King sat at his desk. He was worn and tired, after learning about his Son Adams' involvement. He rested his head on his arms and started to weep.

If there was evidence to back up what Lily told him, he was going to have to order the execution of his son. How could Adam the only family he had left in this world, have done this, molesting and raping children? Investing Royal money into that evil business, to get it started no less. Had he raised him to be so evil?.

The King howled in pain, it could be heard through out the kingdom and felt in every heart of every wolf within a 100 mile radius.

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Jack and the Kings guards arrived at the Kings chamber door at the same time. Jack knocked "Your Highness are you alright?" "Can we come in?"

"I am fine, I wish to be left alone tonight."

"Jack come to me first thing in the morning, I have a task for you."

"As you wish, my King."

With that the guards went back to their duties and Jack with one last look at the door turned and went back to bed. Leaving the King alone in his grief and anger.

Just before he went to bed, The King called for his captain of the Guards.

"I want you to take six other guards with you and bring my son back to me, I want him under guard and locked in his room. I will give you further instructions once this mission is done."

The Captain said nothing, simply nodded, turned and left to do his task as ordered.

Marco gathered all the recordine

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found around the pack house and outside. He called two of their best trackers to look at the items, they picked up a faint scent on several of the items. They left Marco with their plan to sniff out the spy.

Now all we have to do is be patient and wait. See what the trackers find out. They were to be as silent about it as they could, they find the culprit and then come and tell the Alpha who it was, from there Duncan would decide how to deal with them.

Marco was pissed that they did that right under his nose. It had to be someone with a higher rank in the pack, other wise someone would of questioned their presence in the pack house and on the Alpha's floor,

Everyone was going after the Alpha of Rising Moon, but Marco felt that Alpha Micheals Beta was just as much to blame. The Beta would know everything his Alpha was doing, it was his job to assist and help the Alpha run his pack and to help the Alpha achieve his goals and dreams.

In Marco's eyes the Beta was just as guilty as the Alpha if not more so, it is the Betas job to assist. That ment that the Beta was the one finding him new avenues and women to abuse.

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Alpha Micheal was pissed yet again, being pissed was becoming his natural state lately, nothing was going the way he wanted. Two of the females in his pack that were marked to be taken, have come up missing. It was suspected that they ran away the night before.

His drug suppliers were running short of the things they needed to continue and wouldn't be able to make the dead line. His drug handlers are insisting on raising their pay. His Beta has been ignoring him, when he sees him again he is going to have the shit beaten out of him. O

Those stinking WereBears took a shipment of Aphrodite's Kiss worth \$750,000, god only knows where it ended up. Knowing those assholes they probably drank it thinking it was some sort of fancy wine.

Three more of his enforcers came back in boxes. Damn Bears are a fucking pain in the ass.

Micheal has heard nothing from the prince, he knew that the prince wouldn't betray him. Not after all the dirt he had on him. His brother and sister in law killed each other, they were always stupid but he underestimated their stupidity. He found out that his brother was taking money from the business, transferring it to an untraceable account. 16 million gone.

9:14 AM 10.OKB/s No one know's where Lily took off to, knowing that bitch she is probably spreading her legs for those disgusting WereBears. If she knows whats good for her, she will keep her ugly little mouth shut.

Then there was Spare, she made him think that she was hiding out with the Bears, instead she was spreading her legs for the Kings Hound, Alpha Duncan. Now she is the Luna of his pack, making it harder for Micheal to get to her. He will get her though make no mistake, that little bitch is going to pay for she has done to him.

Soon he will have her, he just has to be patient and bide his time.

She is going to pay and pay hard.

Chapter 22

Lily was in another room it wasn't much different than the last only this one also had a small bathroom attached and everything was done in every shade of Tan. None of her things were given back to her. With nothing to do she just laid on the bed and waited. Zinnia wrapped herself around Lily, they were both resigned to their fate.

They were both hoping for a death sentence. It was no more than they deserved and it would mean they could be with Leo and Zach again. Without them there wasn't any point to living.

Just as she was about to drift off to sleep, the door opened to reveal one of the Kings personal guards. Thinking to themselves, well this is it.

Her hands were bound before her as they walked down the empty corridors to the Kings court chambers. Those that they did meet would avert their eyes away, saying nothing.

The doors opened and before her was the King on his throne, Jack Dawson and the panel of elders. The only person not in place was her representative, every trial had the defendants representative and yet her's was empty. Not that she expected any, still though she thought

maybe there would be someone.

In the center of the room stood a really big male in an executioners robe and cowl. He held in his hand a very sharp silver sword, it shined in the light like a bright beacon of death.

Lily walked into the room, and curtsied to the King and nodded to the elders in respect. She stood in her circle on the floor. She stood straight and silent. Then the King did something she never thought would happen, he stood up and walked to the place where her representative would stand. In doing so he gave up his right to sentence Lily or have any say in the prosecutorial proceedings. Those in the commons balcony all gasped. (The commons balcony is where normal citizens could watch the proceedings or the court.)

The King spoke to the whole room not just the elder council.

"I come before you today not as the King but rather as this woman's representative. I do this because not only am I the only witness to the truth of her story but also because there isn't anyone left to stand here on her behalf."

"I have given all of you the interrogation record and my notes, as well as the evidence against

to point out the reasons for her actions. I ask that you take into consideration the abuse she suffered and the horrible loss of her Mate."

"She willingly did things that were terrible, she was party to things out of her control and had no guidance to tell her otherwise. Once her mate was killed in that horrible manner her wolf also left her for a time in pain, thus she did things out of anger and pain that she may have not normally done."

"None of these things can say that the actions of her choices were not hers, she chose to do what she did. For this she will have to be punished, abused or not. All that I ask is that you take the sentence of Death off the table."

With that the King went to stand next to Lily, as is his place as the representative at time of sentencing. The council of elders got up and went into the side chambers to discuss the case and punishment.

The King did not particularly care for Lily and the things she had done, he understood, yes. He was compassionate for what she had been through, no one

should of had to suffer as she has. Understanding why doesn't change the fact that the crimes were committed, nor does it excuse the criminal of those crimes.

He had to admit though she stood strong and ready for what was to come, she was sorry for what she had done but she understood what is done is done, there is no going back. If she was to die for what she had done, she was at least ready to face it. He wondered how she would face a sentence other than death though.

Lily was surprised when the King stepped in to be her representative, she wasn't exactly his friend when she delivered the news of his son. She wasn't a good person and she had been through some tough crap. She was sorry for the ones she hurt that didn't deserve it, especially Spare.

The only family she had left, perhaps one day Spare could forgive her. What is done, is done. There is no going back, only forward to wherever or whatever that may be. The room was as silent as the grave, no one spoke as they read about her and the things she went through. The council of elders has been out now for over an hour.

Lily went inside herself to be with Zinnia, they both sat together watching the sun set in Zinnia's world. Zinnia looked at Lily, now comes the night my little one. Perhaps it will rise with a few stars to light our way.

The King watched the shewolf as she went

inside herself to be with her wolf. He normally wouldn't allow for such a thing, since he was her representative and no one else could say no, he let it be. Let her have a little time with the only being that truly understands her completely.

Just as the King was getting a bit tired of waiting, the council of elders came out of their chambers to tell them the verdict and punishment of the charged.

Everyone in the Kings Court Room stood waiting for the sentence to be handed down to the accused.

"We the Council of Elders, recognize this as a unique and tragic case. How do you punish someone who has all their life been punished, then to go on and commit other crimes for which they were predisposed to do, with the teachings of their own experience to rely on."

"How now do we put judgement upon someone who has already faced the executioner?"

"Still the crimes were committed, as to her own admission she willing even committed some of these crimes knowing they were wrong."

"It is for this reason we sentence you Lily Williams of the Rising Moon Pack to a year of servitude for every person that you were

directly responsible for causing their death and a half of year for every person you were responsible for hurting physically.”

“Since there is no way for us to be sure of the exact numbers, we have decided that since you have been alive for 19 almost 20 years that you will serve 20 years plus 5. Your sentence will start at sunrise tomorrow morning. You will start out as the official floor scrubber, from sunrise to sunset.”

“You will not talk to anyone, if you must converse then nod your head. You will be given your daily instructions by the Kings personal butler in written form. No one will be allowed to talk to you or touch you in anyway. Penalty for talking to someone is death, penalty for anyone talking to you will be their death.”

“At the end of the 25 years you will be given the choice to continue as a servant of higher standing or you will be allowed to leave as you are, with the same things you came here with.”

Lily said nothing as she was escorted out of the room, they led her to the same room she spent the night before in. On the bed was a napkin, she opened it, it was a sandwich and an apple for her dinner. She noticed on the back of the door were two uniforms hanging from hangers.

She was tired and there was soon going to be no light as the sun was setting, she ate her dinner and laid down on the bed and went to sleep.

Duncan and Adira got a summons from the King, it didn't say why, only that they were to come within the week. Duncan wasn't in the least concerned but Adira was a nervous wreck. He held her in his arms as she rested the back of her head on his chest.

“Listen my little wolf there is nothing to fear, the King is a good man. I think he wants to meet the girl that was named Spare. I also think he is calling his closest friends to him for support, he has a terrible choice to make about his son.”

“We are going to spend the weekend there, so you don't have to pack everything you own. Once we get there, I will have a little surprise for you. Now go and get ready. We leave in an hour.”

The Spy waited for his informant to come, once again the bastard snuck up on him.

“Well you said you have information, what is

it?”

“If I tell you this, can you promise that you are not going to hurt or kill the Luna?”

“I promise that I won't hurt or kill your Luna.”

"Duncan and Adira are going to the royal gardens to answer the Kings summons, they will be taking the car and will be heavily guarded. They will be staying for the weekend. You may have the chance you are looking for. If you go there, they will not be so closed off or guarded as heavily there. They will not be taking the same route home, I don't know what that is going to be."

"Now are you going to free my son?"

"He will be free if this turns out for our benefit, if not then perhaps another arrangement could be made."

The Spy looked around and that damn informer was gone again. "I've really got to find out how he does that." As for not hurting or killing the Luna, he told the truth on that. He wasn't going to be the one to hurt her or kill her. That belonged to his Alpha.

Chapter 23

#####WARNING, BAD LANGUAGE AND SITUATIONS#####

The informer was coming out of the woods to the back of the Pack house, when a shadow moved into the light. It was the Beta Marco. "Hello Nolan, out for a run?"

"Hey there, Marco. Yeah, I was out for a run."

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"You are going to be busy tomorrow, I know as gamma you are in charge of the training and you decide who is going to be doing what and all that, I am sending you four new wolves who need some training up. Is that ok to send them?"

"Yeah, it's fine Beta. I have room in the intermediate class if that will suit their needs.."

"Thank you Gamma Nolan, it helps out a lot. Well see you around then." Marco nodded and went off into the woods, Nolan assumed he was off for his daily run along the border as part of his duties."

Marco stood just inside the tree line watching the Gamma go into the pack house, He now knew who their traitor was. He turned and headed into the woods to trace Nolans trail, to

see where he meets his spy. Just before he shifted, he mind linked Duncan to tell him who their traitor was and not to trust him.

Alpha Micheal listened to his spy report, thinking that this is the perfect time. He was going to go and fetch her himself this time, no more bumbling idiots. He's going to send a team in to get her too, he will use them as his distraction.

They will keep them focused on them, while no one would be looking for him, after all why would he go to the royal gardens himself and take the chance of getting caught. Going there is the last place they would look for him.

He will have his revenge on the whole lot of them, starting with their Luna. He has a special

room all made up just for her, her special room and he spared no expense. After all she is a luna and protocol has to be maintained, don't want them to think he didn't have any manners.

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Once he had her no one was going to find her, they will come here looking but she won't be here and neither would he. They are going to the honeymoon cabin. Where he takes only his special girls.

He will after all need a stress reliever, it has been a very busy week for him. It ended today

when he had to kill his Beta. The fool thought that I had gone too far and was putting everyone in danger of discovery, he thought he could take my place.

Well surprise, I got to him first. Poison and women are the best ways to kill a male. To bad his Beta never learned that lesson.

He was no fool, as soon as he heard about Lily being before the King, he knew that little bitch would spill her guts out. He would have his fun at the honeymoon cabin with his little Spare, when he was done with her, he would hang her from the hooks in the rafters like a trophy for all to see, then he will take his money, and go where no one will find him. 2

This time when he starts up the business again, he will make sure there are no loose ends to take care of, or any Kings to answer to.

The Prince was enjoying his afternoon bath, he was being washed by two beautiful maids. Music was playing softly in the background. Another maid was feeding him fruit and dates, she would place them between her breasts and he would have to go in to get them.

They were all laughing, as another servant

D seived them wine. The prince had the servant put a small amount of the Aphrodite's fears into the bottle, the young maids were getting quite Theated, it was wonderful. He will have them all over and over tonight.

It had been a good day for the Prince, until he heard the noise of boots hitting stone. In marched his fathers Captain and six of his best warriors. They wasted no time, the girls scattered as the warriors grabbed him out of his bath, dragging him naked and dripping through the halls of the Princes summer House.

They tied him up and gagged him, tossed him into the back of a van and drove off to the airport.

The Prince was frantic with fear, he wasn't sure if this was about his involvement with that pack or something else perhaps a military coup. At least he hoped that this was a take over, it had to be, his father would never hurt him like this, he would yell at him and take away perhaps a toy or two but that was it.

Then it hit him, he is kidnapping me to make sure that I marry that dog faced princess. That would be a fitting punishment after all. He smiled at that thought, it didn't matter anymore if he had to marry that ugly bitch. He was going to have his own special place soon, that he

could visit any time he wished, so he could enjoy his dirty little desires.

He tried to shift into his wolf, but nothing happened that was when he noticed that he was bound with silver cords wrapped in cloth. It won't burn him but he won't be shifting into his wolf again till they are removed.

He cursed at the Captain from the trunk, knowing that when he was King the Captain of the guard will be the first to go.

Adira was in awe of the Royal Gardens, you would think it would be part of a big city. Instead it was at the base of two mountains, there was a castle but it blended in with the rock and trees. It was surrounded by other houses, some as large as pack houses, three or four stories high. While others were smaller and blended in with the wild of the mountains.

There was a smaller human town about four miles from here, the town called this place the resort. She gave a giggle when she heard that, if they only knew. The town though was a nice kinda town, well taken care of and its residents seemed happy enough.

They were also very grateful for the resort

because they donate money to the town when it is in need. They also sponsor programs for the children and teenagers for schooling. They are also responsible for the well equipped hospital.

As they got closer to the castle Adira realized that it was much bigger than it looked. Perhaps it was illusion that made it look smaller. Most of the place was carved from the surrounding stone of the mountain. As they went up the final drive, Adira saw why it was called "Royal Gardens" it was nothing but flowers mostly roses everywhere. It was beautiful and breath taking.

When they pulled up to the main entrance they were greeted by six servants and four guards.

Duncan held out his hand for Adira to take, he led them up to the servants all lined up for them for inspection. Adira wasn't used to this sort of thing, she greeted them all by asking them questions and shaking their hands.

When they went into the castle, the servants all scrambled to get their things to their room. They were happy because they usually do not get the nice ones. Usually it was the demanding snobs.

What no one realized was that in that moment

they had a watcher in the shadows, watching and waiting

The Gamma now Beta of Rising Moon Pack was getting worried and frustrated. Since the Alpha went off to god knows where, they have had constant attacks on all their shipments going in and out. It was those damn WereBears, they were a bunch of assholes that was for sure.

They never attacked the same place twice, He even made his routes random on a daily basis, still the bastards found them. It was getting out of hand, with the Alpha gone he was unsure how to handle it. So he decided that for a couple days they were going to go into shut down.

Lock the whole place down, everyone will be locked either in the pack house or the warehouse. Two of the females are about to give birth and the midwife is missing. The high end clients were no longer coming in after hearing about that stupid bitches trial.

Not to mention the highlight of his hell week, their Luna hung herself from the fourth floor window. That was a mess to clean up, over half a dozen pack members were witnesses. He had to make up a story, saying that it was all just a sick joke.

He wasn't sure how many bought the story but he knew they wouldn't ask too many questions. They knew what happened in this pack if you go snitching,

Whatever the Alpha was up to he better get it done quickly or he isn't going to have a pack to come back too. Already he had noticed that there were a few of the innocent families had left in the night.

Can't have them all leaving, they wouldn't have anymore product to sell. He had the enforcers going around the pack houses warning them not to leave, if they do they will all end up with the missing. Fights are breaking out amongst the pack and it is a very tight rope they are all dancing on.

Chapter 24

##WARNING!! More bad language and situations.###

The Prince was getting a little worried, usually when his father sent guards to fetch him he was always waiting for him to come through the door and pounce on him, yelling and screaming.

This time there was nothing, they walked him down a silent and empty hall. When they reached his room they tossed him in and locked the door. He wasn't worried about being locked in he had plenty of other ways to get out of this

room.

He walked over to his closet and put on one of his more formal uniforms. He then went to the other side of the room, where a secret panel was hidden, that led out to the gardens. He snickered as he crossed the room, when he got to the panel however it didn't open. No matter he went to the trap door by his bed, it was sealed shut.

With a little bit of unease he went to his balcony, when he opened the doors he was met with bars. He sat down on his bed, this time he was feeling fear creeping up his spine. Something was wrong, perhaps it was a military coup after all. He won't know till he see's his

father, if they let him see his father.

He remembered that he'd left his laptop in his adjoining study, he opened the door and found the room was empty. Literally empty, there was nothing, just open room and empty book shelves, even the curtains were gone. He rushed over to the book case in the middle and moved it away from the wall, he then tapped the hidden panel to find his safe.

He opened it and to his horror there was nothing inside. He cursed and kicked the book case till he calmed down. He went over to the bell pull and gave it a tug, nothing. He did it again, again nothing. Usually when he tugged on it a servant came running to do his bidding. Now only silence.

He started to throw a fit, smashing things left and right. Completely destroying an old priceless table and chair set. When he was done he listened to see if anyone was coming like always, there was only silence.

That was when he noticed an envelope on the floor by the door, it was an official invitation with his name written on it. It was his fathers hand writing, he opened it. All that was in there was a simple invite, he was to dine with his father in his private rooms at 7pm in two nights time.

He went over to the bar area to get a drink, he looked through all the shelves and storage closet, nothing not a single drop of anything.

Well I guess the cat's out of the bag now, he is going to have me marry that dog faced princess, I will probably be under lock and key till we have at least our first child. He couldn't wait to be King and be rid of all this nonsense. Perhaps it is time that dear old dad met with a tragic accident.

He had been planning it for years now, he even had three plans to do it. Then he remembered that those plans were on his laptop. Shit.....

Duncan was asked to go to the King in his private chambers as soon as he arrived, when he got there he wasn't surprised to see Jack there too. He gave Jack a hug in greeting and they sat down with their long time friend and King.

They were worried about him, he looked sick, tired and older. His son was killing him from the inside out. He greeted them but then he went silent again. Both Duncan and Jack looked at each other in concern.

"Your Highness please talk to us, tell us what has you so troubled?"

"As you already know, it is my son that grieves me so. What have I done to make him hate me so much. I already was dealing with heartache when I learned what he had done. Then this morning before my son arrived, I looked through his lap top. He has plans, yes more than one to kill me off."

"He wrote it all down as if it was nothing more than another chore he would have to take care of. It was in so much detail, two of the plans were almost flawless, he would of gotten away with it for sure. He was just waiting for the right time, waiting for the right opportunity."

"Then I find out that the money he used to invest in that horrible pack operation, came from the peoples coffers. He stole the peoples money, to open a business that would rape, torture and kill innocent children and women. Even grown men. They thought of humans as no more than tissue, to be used and disposed of.

They don't think much better about our species either."

The King went quiet again, then he grabbed his head and began to yell out in a voice that was filled with pain.

"MY SON, MY SON DID THIS. MY SON WANTS ME DEAD, MY FUCKING ONLY SON IS A MONSTER, MY SON, MY SON.....WHY?"

"I LOVE YOU, MY SON..... MY SON WHY?..... WHY?....

The king in a howl of rage and sorrow shifted into a huge golden wolf, taking off at a run jumping out the window, into the last rays of the sunset. Duncan and Jack shifted and went after him. When they cleared the window they noticed two other rather large wolves also going after the king. They realized that it was two of the Kings personal guard.

Adira was sitting in her very fancy room enjoying some alone time to just be at peace and to talk with Artemis about their pup. She was also worried about the King after hearing of the Prince's betrayal, she didn't know the details but it can't be good if it involves Rising Moon. She heard the most painfully sad howl she had ever heard. She could feel the pain, it had to be the king, only he is powerfull enough to project that so strongly.

She was just thinking of going to the balcony to see if everything was ok, when the doors flew open and there stood a beautiful golden wolf, the look in its blue eyes made her heartache for

him.

She wasn't sure what he wanted till he padded over to her and laid his head in her lap, whimpering. She petted his head slowly to

comfort him. Why he came here she didn't know, she hadn't even been introduced yet. She let him stay there softly petting his fur till she felt him calm.

It was then that two more wolves jumped into the room, followed by her mate and a really big grizzly bear. Duncan went into the other room and came back wearing pants. He mind linked Adira asking if she was ok.

"I am fine Duncan, but why is the King and his wolf seeking comfort on my lap?"

"Perhaps because you have a very nice lap."

Adira gave him a dirty look, "really Duncan jokes are a bit out of place at the moment."

"I don't know why he came here, perhaps he needed a safe place to let go of his sorrow. You project that you know, you and Artemis both do, now that you are with pup it is even more intense. Either way, do you mind if he stays there for a little while?"

"Of course not Duncan, he can stay as long as he needs to."

With that Adira slid off the chair and onto the floor, as the King wrapped himself around her keeping his head on her lap, falling asleep.

The two guards mind linked Duncan, telling him that is the first time since he found out about his son, that he has slept. Without waking the King, Duncan put pillows and blankets on the floor so Adira would be more comfortable. Adira mind linked then all at once, using her Luna abilities.

I don't care what he has to do today cancel it, further more I would like for you to bring in food and some herbal tea. Oh, one more thing, the only naked wolf allowed in my room is my mate. So bring the king some clothes, please. Jack being the smartass that he is, mind linked back. Well I know that you said naked wolves but how do you feel about naked Bears.

If you parade around my room naked Jack Dawson I will find a way to shave both you and your Bear bald.

Duncan started laughing as all the males exited the room, the guards took up position outside the door and Duncan and Jack went off to get the things that The Luna asked for.

Adira looked down at the King with a sigh, the world is an unfair nasty place sometimes. I am so sorry about your son. If you like we will name you our child's godfather that way you can visit and play all you want. No strings attached.

She started to hum a song, she wasn't even aware she knew. It was some where over the rainbow. As she continued the Kings breathing became deeper as he went further into sleep.

Lily was cleaning the steps and sidewalks of the main entry court yard, when she saw movement out of the corner of her vision. When she turned fully to get a better look, what ever it was it was already gone. Shaking her head at the feeling that for a second it felt like Alpha Micheal's *presence*.

It was that same creepy feeling she would get when he would watch her and her friends play in the forest.

He would haunt her day and night till she was dead. Letting it go, thinking that it was just a figment of her imagination, she went back to her sweeping.

Chapter 25

The prince lay on his bed in his room, it was getting late and still no one came in. He was getting hungry, he gave a sigh at his discomfort. He got up to bang on his door again when he heard the most painful howl, he knew in an instant that it was his father.

Good, he thought. At least he wasn't the only unhappy wolf in this castle. Still that howl made him feel worried. What was going to happen to him, what kind of punishment was he going to inflict on him. His wolf let out a whimper inside him and then went silent again.

Just as he was about to bang on the door again, two guards came in with a tray. They sat it on the floor and locked the door again. When the prince lifted the lid covering the food he grimaced. It was two slices of plain bread and a cup of water. That was when he had a feeling things are going to be worse than he originally thought they would be.

Still though he won't be treated like the others that get caught, there won't be a public trial or punishment for him. It will all be done under the table, so as to save face for the royal family That was always his ace in the hole. He would get into trouble he would play the Royal card,

either buy his way out or intimidate them into silence

Well if his Dad found his laptop and his financial records then as the King he would be pissed. Which means that the Elder council has also seen all the evidence. Shit, I am screwed this time. Better get used to the horse faced princess, he has a feeling that his days of fun are over. 2

They will have a big fancy Royal wedding to distract the people about their prince's dirty deeds. He will get married and will have to start a family as soon as possible, while he is being watched day and night.

As far as the plans on his laptop to kill his father, he will just say he was thinking about writing a book about a king killer. He would never hurt his father how could they think such a thing..... The Prince started laughing and couldn't stop.

Marco and two of his most trusted hunters were waiting at the spy's meeting place. Marco had already put Nolan in the dungeon, he then had Nolan text the spy saying that he had more information for him and to meet at their normal

snat

The fact that this wolf called himself a spy was a joke. They could hear him a mile away and he stunk of drugs, sweat and sex. It was enough to make all three of them want to puke. Marco decided that the first thing this guy was gonna get in the dungeon, was a much need bath, well sorta like a bath anyway.

When the spy reached the meeting spot, they all surrounded him. The spy was surprised at their presence, geesh what an idiot. They were not even really hiding from him. What kind of wolves do they have at that pack.

They threw him on his stomach, bound his feet to his hands and a rope around all of it and proceeded to drag him out of the woods on his stomach. When the little girl screaming got too much they stopped long enough to gag him.

They decided to drag him because not one of them wanted that stench close to them. Perhaps some dirt and leaves from the forest floor will help to improve his smell.

The King woke up in a bunch of soft blankets on a floor, who's floor? There was soft morning light coming in from the open balcony, a gentle breeze moved the curtains. There was the scent of blossoms everywhere, it was coming from

outside.

"If you are awake your highness there are clothes for you on the bed, please put them on and join me for some breakfast."

Normally he would be a little put out if someone ordered him around but this voice was soft and it was more like a request than an order. He put on his clothes and stopped for a minute. He didn't remember the night before, he ummm didn't sleep with someone, did he?"

His wolf started to laugh something he hasn't heard in a long time. "No we did not sleep with someone last night, not like you are thinking anyway. We did find refuge in our grief."

He went out on the balcony and there at a table was a lovely young shewolf, then it dawned on him, even though he had yet to meet her, this had to be Duncan's Luna, Adira who was once named Spare.

He sat down and just looked out at the gardens, his heart still heavy. She handed him a cup of tea and served him a plate of food. It was pancakes, sausages with a side of bacon and scrambled eggs. It smelled heavenly.

When he tasted them he was surprised. they were wonderful, lately his doctor has been

giving the cook instructions and his food has been a little lacking.

“This is wonderful, Luna Adira.”

“Thank you, I asked your cook for the use of her kitchen so I could make you breakfast.”

“I know you have some serious and terrible choices to make today, I also felt that for just this little bit in time, that you could just be you and relax. I know that is hard and that this timing might be off, I don’t think so though. I think this is what you need, to get back your strength.”

“What is it you think I need, some really good food? To make all this better?”

“No, your highness. You need to feel again, feel the sunshine on your face, the smell of the blossoms in the air and yes the taste of good food. I suspect that you have not allowed yourself even the simplest of pleasures for a very long time.”

“Once everything happens today, the world will be dark again. I want you to remember this moment and what I tell you.”

“Oh, and what might that be? Just be happy, dance around and chase rainbows?”

“No your highness, all I ask of you is to remember to just breathe.”

He looked at Adira speechless as tears formed in his eyes, “how did you know?”

She looked at him with a look that said she didn’t understand.

“Those were the same words my mate spoke to me before she left this world to be with the Goddess.”

“When things for me got really bad or I was starving as a young pup, I would cling to those words, I would tell myself, Just breathe Spare, just breathe you know things will work out and I would go on.”

The King stared at her and then said...

“How in all that is good and holy, did that dark shit hole of a pack ever give way to such a bright and beautiful light?”

They sat there in happy silence and sunshine, as the King and his Wolf prepared themselves for what was to come.

Before he left, she stopped him. "Your Highness do your heart some good, don't handle matters today alone. Let this burden be carried by more

than just you alone. Tonight you dine for the last time with your son and then tomorrow he will face the council alone for judgement.

"Don't discuss anything that has anything to do with this trial, just for this last time be father and son. It won't be easy but if you manage to do it you will not regret it."

Once the King had left, Duncan came in and sat down where the King just was sitting. He looked at Adira in wonder.

"Do you know what the King just told me in the hallway?"

"He took me by the shoulders and said that if I ever miss treat you or make you cry. He will come himself personally to beat the living shit right out of me. Then he is going to take you back here and make you his queen."

"Then he said that we are now family, that you are to be called Lady Adira the Luna of Storm Crow Moon pack and of Crystal Moon Pack, it is the Kings birth pack. Our pup's will be his grandchildren. Not only in name but in an official compacity. He said he wants at least six." 2

What did you two discuss in here anyway? Whatever it was must of been epic."

"Duncan we didn't discuss anything other than the truth."

Duncan went over to her and knelt down on one knee in front of her, I wanted to do this as soon as we got here, out in the gardens but things happened.

"Will you, Adira Spare Williams MacPatton be not only my Mate but also be my Wife?"

He opened up a little blue box, inside there was a gold ring, in the center of the band were two hearts holding a diamond in the middle of them. Like the love that their hearts share, brilliant and bright.

She jumped into his arms knocking him on the floor and started to kiss his face frantically while giggling at the same time saying "Yes" over and over in between kisses.

Things quickly became heated and they both lost there sense of time and space. Duncan made love to his Lady right there on the balcony floor in the spot light of the sun.

Everyone in the gardens and that side of the castle heard their joyous cries of pleasure.