

ALPHA, ALPHA KINGS MATE, chapter 81-90, Kings, ALPHA KINGS MATE,

Reika POV

We caught up to the rest of the cars in no time. Ace had even managed to fall asleep while I was rubbing his bald head. Tet my anxiety was getting, higher the closer we got to the facility. Feeling movement next to me I look down at Ace only to see Ryker unclip his seatbelt before swapping places with him. He gently lays Ace's head against the window where he was sitting before shuffling over to me.

I see Tate's eyes go to the rearview mirror at the movement before going back to the road. "We will find Lucy," Ryker whispers, draping his arm over my shoulders and pulling me against him. Tyson turns in his seat looking back at us,

"What's the plan when we get there?"

"We see if Tim was lying. Check Lucy's old cell. If there is an entry, Ryker, Drake, and I will go down," Tate answers.

I sit up only to be tugged back down by Ryker. "We don't know what's down there. You can't go down there till we clear the floor. If she is down there, I will find her," Ryker says, kissing my head.

"If they are down there, chances are they have been watching us. None of you are going down there! And that means you too Luna," Tate says looking back at me in the mirror.

I roll my eyes. "You can't stop me from going down there" I mutter when Tate reaches over into the glove compartment before tossing something into Ryker's lap.

"Tate's right Reika We don't know what is down there," Tyson says when I see Ryker grab whatever it was Tate tossed him. I hear the sound of a zip making me look at what's in his lap.

"What's that?" I ask when I see some vials. Tyson suddenly looks over before grabbing the bag. Snatching it from his grip. "Give it back, Tyson. We can't risk it"

"You're right," Tyson says, tossing it out the window.

"You aren't sedating her. She can stay with me"

"Wait! You were going to drug me?" I ask, outraged.

"Great! Now they're going to start fighting again," Tate mutters and I glare at him.

"I knew you would want to go down there. If you go down there, we will be unfocused wondering where you are," Ryker says.

"I can handle myself, Ryker," I tell him.

"Yes you can, but you will be a constant distraction. Hierarchy won't allow us to focus knowing our Queen is down there unprotected," Tate says.

"Hierarchy?"

"Yes. You're our Queen. Our wolves would be antsy, natural order to protect. Same as with Ryker, natural order to obey what he says. You will be a distraction to us. So for the love of the Moon Goddess Reika, listen to your mate," Tate says.

"Whatever!" I tell him, folding my arms across my chest.

"Did you not see all those cars pull over? You think they did it for a pit stop? No! They pulled over because instinct tells them to protect their Queen! Ryker has marked you. Hierarchy would even make us go against him for you now!" Tate snaps at me.

"Watch yourself Tate! Don't forget who you are speaking too! She doesn't understand." Ryker snaps at him.

"And that's exactly the problem Ryker! She doesn't have any idea of the influence she has over our kind! She goes down there, she could get us all killed!" Tate snaps at him and Ryker sighs, frustrated.

"She will be fine! Ace and I will stay with her," Tyson says, reaching over and gripping my hand, he squeezes it softly. I press my lips in a line before nodding.

"If Lucy is down there, we will find her. If it is safe, we will call for you to come down," Tate says as we hit the dirt road.

I watch as Ryker's eyes glaze over, before Tate pulls off the road slightly. The four cars behind us tearing up the side and going ahead of us before Tate moves back to the center of the road following.

"Ace, up! And stay alert!" Ryker says as the brick building comes into view. My heart thumping in my chest, knowing we are so close. So close to freeing them, yet also nervousness seeping into me. What if everything Tim said was a lie, though I doubted it was, but still something felt off. My senses are tingling and on edge.

"Something doesn't feel right," I whisper, and Ryker looks at me.

Tate too, looks over his shoulder at me, and gives me a nod.

As we pull up men were jumping out of cars, Aamon also misting here and appearing out of thin air

“Stay here. Once we clear inside you can come in, but you don’t enter the basement till we say,” Ryker says, kissing my head. I give him a nod, Ryker and Tate jumping out of the car.

“Promise to stay with us Reika, you don’t leave our sides,” Ace says yawning.

” Can we at least get out? My back is killing,” I tell Ace and he nods, opening his door just as men start running into the building. A few running around the sides to the back. I lean against the car stretching.

Amanda wandering around sleepily makes me worry about her, even though she feels off. Aamon, Ryker’s Demon friend walks over to me, leaning on the car. “Let me guess? You’re here to watch me?” I ask him.

“Maybe I just like your company,” He retorts and Tyson scoffs beside me.

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ALPHA· ALPHA KINGS MATE· chapter· Kings· ALPHA KINGS MATE·

Ryker POV

The moment we stepped into the building I was on edge, something felt amiss. Everyone glanced around at the building we had been through multiple times, yet it was completely deserted. Nothing, here but yet I felt we were being watched.

Making our way to the basement where the cells are, everyone filed into the room. Tate and Drake walk into the cell next to Reika’s old one, Lucy’s cell. We looked at the bed and it was bolted to the floor, they yanked it, yet no door, the bed didn’t even budge. The tiles on the ground here make it impossible to see any opening. I feel along the edges of the frame tossing the mattress off it, feeling for a lever, anything that might prove Tim was right, that it was a door. Yet I felt nothing. Looking around the cell, the camera in the corner was blinking and I turned to look at the desk.

“Check the security footage for this room,” I tell them, and Elias, Tate’s Beta walks over, turning the computer on when suddenly we hear the sounds of locks being opened. Tate jumps out of the way just as the bed lifts from the floor and slides across the ground where he was standing. I look at the camera in the corner.

“They are watching us. They know we are here,” I tell Tate, pointing to the camera above his head.

“Why would they open it?” Elias says, walking over and sticking his head in and looking at the stairs that had now been revealed.

“Because it is a trap. Why else?” Drake says walking around the bed, to the top of the stairs.

“What are you doing?” Tate asks, grabbing his mate’s arm.

“Trap or not, I am not leaving those kids down there!” he says, and Tate lets his arm go nodding.

“Move, I will go first,” I tell him not wanting to risk him dying because he walked down there unknowingly, and Lana would kill me if something happened to him. As soon as I put my foot on the top step, the steps light up, blue lights running down the length of them. Yet I could see no end as I descended down them. Drake behind me, followed by the others. I counted 50 stairs before my feet hit solid ground. A corridor lighting up, lights flickering overhead down a long concrete corridor to a huge steel door. Music was playing, and I could see little caged speakers on the roof, the noise getting louder and almost deafening.

So loud we had to use the mind-links to communicate. “I don’t like this,” Drake says as we all walk toward the steel door. I mindlink one of the warriors still above ground.

“Brace that door so it doesn’t swing shut once the last one is headed down,” I tell him.

“Yes Alpha. Already onto it.” He replies. We got to the door just as it swung open toward us. It opened onto some sort of steel balcony and staircase, looking down we could see corridors and corridors of glass cells. Stepping onto the rickety staircase we all look over the railing.

“There’s hundreds of them!” Tate says, peering down. The entire place was abandoned, just children and teenagers, five or six to each cell. Looking out it was the size of a football field in length and width. Cells matching what is upstairs, only with bunk beds to accommodate the amount of people in each one. All their eyes peering up at us in worry, their hands covering their ears from the deafening noise coming from the speakers.

“Get them out! Find a way to unlock the cells!” I turn to the men behind me who start running down the stairs. The music suddenly cuts off, as we step on the floor below. Looking at all the glass cells, hundreds of eyes peering back at us curiously, as they look out through the glass. When a voice comes over the PA system making us all look up for the voice. A voice I never thought I would hear again.

“Surprise! Miss me, mate?” Danika’s voice suddenly echoes around the facility, making me spin around searching for where the voice came from. She can’t be alive! I killed her myself! Tim even said she was dead, yet how was her voice coming from the speakers if that were true?

"I see you found yourself a new b***h," Her voice taunts, enticing angry growls from my men.

"Get the kids out now!" I yelled to the men who were looking for the threat that was watching us. Suddenly sprinklers start turning on inside the cells.

"Had these fitted myself. 500 liters per minute. Times ticking Ryker, you can't save them all" Her voices carries through the room,

"Get every man down here! Now!" I boom through the link. Tate and Drake screaming through theirs before, I hear footsteps running toward us and down the stairs. Their eyes peered around at the cells and yet we still didn't have enough men to work on each.

"Tik tok," She taunts, when the kids all suddenly start screaming, their skin burning. And I realized they were being doused in Wolfsbane as they climbed their bunks, trying to get away from the ground.

"There has to be a way to get these cells open automatically." I tell Tate as we try to smash through the glass of the cell. A teenage girl with long blonde hair jumps from the top of the bunk before collapsing in the water. She grabs another child in the cell with her, tossing her on the bunk as she finds her feet, before walking over to the glass and tapping her finger on it.

"What's she trying to say?" Tate says, trying to read her lips.

I open my link and she jumps when I force it to connect with her. She shakes her head staring at me. "Behind you. The wall. The steel case holds the keys." she says pointing behind me and tapping the glass with her finger. I race over, going to where she is pointing before ripping the cover off.

"You've gotta be joking!" hundreds of keys were in there. Each cell having its own.

Tate grabs a handful when I notice each cell has a division number on it. Looking at each cell above each door had a number as well.

"The numbers! Grab the keys and find the numbers!" I yell over to everyone.

"Here, I got this one!" Tate says before jamming the key in the door. The door swung open and wolfsbane water flooded out and burned my legs.

The girl in the cell starts grabbing the kids out and running them to the stairs and placing them on it. "Run! Follow the stairs!" I hear her tell them before rushing back and grabbing some keys.

“Run them up,” I tell her and she shakes her head. “I’m not leaving my sister,” she says. Unlocking another cell, the teenagers start grabbing keys, helping free more while my men start grabbing kids and dropping them on the stairs leading up. The room

filling with water when the sprinklers in the main area start turning on, raining wolfsbane down on us. My men are screaming as they become drenched, yet they still don’t stop.

“What’s your name?” I ask the girl, “15. But my real name is Melena,” she says rushing to undo the next cell while I undo another. I growl as water seeps into my boots and up my legs burning through my flesh.

“Get out. I will find your sister,” I tell her, snatching the keys from her. Tate grabs her as she thrashes, not wanting to leave.

Tate passes her off to another one of our men who drags her up the stairs. “Do you know a girl called Lucy?” I call up to her as she is being dragged away. She shakes her head before shoving Tate’s third in command off and stalking up the steps.

“We are never going to get them all out,” Tate says as we make our way up the long line of cells and I could see Elias and Drake through the glass on the other side doing the same. Drake grabs Elias’s arm and pulls him upright as he screams, the wolfsbane burning him. Tate was also breathing through the pain, though now we were having trouble pulling the doors open against the water.. Men having to bail out or drown as they collapse in the water.

“Elias, get out of here.” I command when I see him drop again only just being caught by Drake’s hand before he plunges face first into the water.

“Find a way to cut the water off! Tell Aamon to get in here!,” I yell for Tyson through the link.

“Only 130 cells to go! Don’t think you’re gonna make it!” Danika’s voice rang loudly through the PA.

Brax growling menacingly. How the f**k was she alive when I killed her myself? Aamon rushes in, taking in the scene, unable to mist to something he hasn’t seen before.

“F**k! On it!” I hear him call as he starts misting into cells and grabbing kids. They jump away from him, their senses running rampant that a demon was in the cell with them. Aamon ignores them as he starts grabbing them one by one and misting them out. When he suddenly drops in one of the cells, smoke comes in through the vents trapping him.

“Oh, I prepared for you! Demon!” Danika taunts over the PA.

“Aamon!” I scream rushing over and banging on the glass. “Devil’s bane,” he gasps, choking on the air steaming up the room. The children coughing on it and Aamon slips below the water.

Tate rushes over with keys trying to find the right one, dropping some in his haste, and I scramble trying to retrieve them under the water. My hands burning, the flesh bubbling and melting off.

“Got it!” Tate calls, and we both yank on the door, pulling it open. Tate squeezed through the gap, grabbed him, and pulled him above the surface. I rush in, grabbing the three girls on the bunk and rushing to the stairs.

“Where out of time! We are dropping like flies!” I hear Drake sing out, as he too had kids tossed over his shoulder dumping them on the steps. His entire body blistered and burned, as I see all our men forced to retreat with the rising water.

“Unlock the cells Danika! They are f*****g children!” I scream over the water running into the room from the pipes above us.

“Now where would be the fun in that?” She retorts. Brax growls so loud it was more of a roar, as it echoed off the glass and filled the room.

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Reika POV

Something was going on inside. Aamon suddenly disappearing from beside me, and kids were running out from everywhere. Pack warriors come out with burns all over them, and the strong scent of wolfsbane.

Tyson runs off and I go to chase after him when Ace grabs my arm.

“He is just going to turn the water off. You can’t go in there,” he says. I race around looking at all the kids but none of them were Lucy. Kids rushing out everywhere, and I would guess nearly 100 or so spewed out through the doors.

We continued to wait, Amanda pressing forward after more and more kids came out. None of them her.

“Where is he?!” I ask in frustration. I could feel his pain, feel he was just as badly injured as the pack warriors and children that come out yet Tate, Drake and Ryker didn’t come out.

“Found it!” I hear Tyson yell out. Two men rushed toward his location. I take advantage of the gap, racing toward the door and into the building.

“Reika! You can’t go in there!” Ace screams at me. Chasing after me and trying to stop me from entering the building.

I raced down the stairs toward the basement trying to remember my way around this maze of a place, before coming to the door which was wide open. Another four girls racing out and down the corridor. They give me weird looks as they race past me, escaping the building.

“Reika! No!” Ace says, grabbing my arm as I run down the basement steps toward my old cell. Ace on my heels. This floor was completely empty when suddenly the doors started swinging shut and locking. Ace runs for the basement door and it shuts in his face before he can reach it, and stop it from closing.

I race into the cell to see the bed moving, sliding across the floor. “Ace!” I scream trying to hold it as the steel brace snaps. Ace runs into the cells and grabs it forcing it open.

“Find something to brace it!” he screams and I race back out finding a metal chair. I run back in, pushing it in the gap just as Ace let’s go of the bed door. The door slamming against the metal, bending it under the pressure.

We hear footsteps running before more kids come out, this time with Drake. His entire body burned and he wheezed as he breathed, sliding his body through the gap. He only just managed to squeeze through.

“10 more cells left,” he gasps.

“We’re trapped! The basement door closed, locking us in.” Ace tells him when he notices me in the cell.

“Wait! What are you doing down here?” He snaps before coughing up blood.

Ace mind links someone, his eyes glazing over just as two more kids come running up the steps. I grab their arms, pulling them through the gap.

“You kids stay in this cell,” Ace tells them before looking at Drake

“They are going to try and blow up the door,” Ace tells Drake and he nods trying to catch his breath.

More kids come out, when we hear alarms start blaring loudly. Ace and Drake covering their ears and screaming at the deafening noise, but Amanda and I were used to the deafening torture of loud music.

The door creaks trying to shut, the metal bending further, and I rush out just as Tate slips through the gap. I looked for something to brace the door, yet there were no more chairs. When suddenly the cell doors shut. I turned racing back and saw Tate pulling kids from the hole, just as the door snapped shut. Locking me out and locking them in. I could hear Tate screaming for Ryker to hurry up.

“Aamon is still down there. I need to go back.” Tate says just as the door strained before smashing shut under the pressure. The chair snaps sending pieces everywhere.

I bang on the glass, Drake and Ace also banging on the glass trying to break it when suddenly the door to the basement makes a loud bang, yet doesn't budge. Smoke seeping in the cracks as pack warriors tried to get in and open the basement door.

“Reika!” Drake calls me over.

“The computer! You can unlock these cell doors from the computer!” he says, and I look at the desk. I rush over to it, trying to figure out how to turn it on.

“The red button on the box under the table!” Ace yells pointing underneath. I look down and see a black box with buttons and press the red one like he said. When suddenly a cell door opens behind me, from inside. A woman walks out before she runs toward the wall. I stare at her and she hasn't seemed to notice me standing there. She pressed some buttons on a black panel before placing her hand to it, the wall opening up to a corridor, when I heard Ace speak.

“Danika?!” He says and she looks back into the room before spotting me standing there.

I ran my eyes up the length of her. She was quite pretty with her raven black hair tied in a ponytail. She had a top that showed off her midriff on and jeans with black boots on. Scars running across her chest, face and along her arms like she had been put through a blender, yet they didn't take away from her beauty. Cold red eyes peering back at me and fangs protruded from her upper lip.

One of her arms was missing and she had a robotic arm with a h**k attached to the end.

“Well, well, well. You, must be Ryker's mutt!” she sneers, before looking over her shoulder at the corridor door behind her.

I growl at her and step away from the computer, and her eyes dart to the cell behind me and she smirks.

“Oh. I am going to love, killing you! Let him feel the pain he put me through when he killed my entire family in front of me,” she says, dropping her black bag on the floor.

“Hi Ace!” she says smiling and giving him a wave.

She walks around, her eyes darting to the smoke coming from the basement door behind me.

“Still got some time to kill,” she laughs.

“Is that Ryker’s first mate?” Amanda asks just as she lunges at me with inhuman speed, slamming me into the glass cell behind me. The air being smashed out of my lungs from the force. Tate and Drake smashing into the cell glass trying to get out when her fist connects with my face. I try to shift.

“We can’t! We can’t shift!” Amanda screams

“Why?”

“I don’t know! I just know we can’t.” she says. She slams my head into the ground and I see black for a few seconds. Only to come to when her h**k goes through my shoulder and she flings me, my body hitting the cell door everyone was trapped in.

“She is so much stronger than us!” I gasp getting to my feet and spinning just as her foot comes flying at our face. I let my claws slip free, swiping them down her face and she screams before pivoting and kicking me in the chest. My body goes flying into the cement wall before landing on the floor in a heap. My head is searing in pain as it smashes against the wall.

“She is a vampire!” Amanda screams which would explain why she is so much faster than us. Hybrids were the greatest predator but vampires were faster. I crawl to my hands and knees just in time to see her foot come toward my face. I put my arm up to block it, feeling my arm snap as it is thrown into my own face, my nose breaking along with it, when she grabs my hair.

“Must s**k, knowing your daughter is down there drowning!” she screams before grabbing my head in a headlock with her arm. She tries to cut my throat with her h**k and I manage to grab her robotic arm just as it knicks my throat.

I yank on the metal and she flips over the top of me landing on her back. I rush toward her only for her to kick me in the face as she twists quickly. My head snapped back so fast I felt my neck crack.

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ALPHA KINGS MATE,**

Ryker POV

We couldn't find her. We looked everywhere. The cells unlocked when the water reached our necks before the water was finally shut off. Tyson found the water main. We only had to force the doors open enough to let them squeeze through. Tate raced out as he gripped the kids' hands making a chain and pulling them out.

"Ryker we need to get out!" he wheezes.

"Not until I know for sure she isn't down here!" I call back. I could no longer feel Brax. My wolf was completely gone, from all the wolfsbane.

Ignoring the pain ravaging my body, I felt like I had been doused in acid. I check all the rows of cells when I notice one door right at the back still not opened yet. I swam toward it, swallowing the poisonous water and choking, blood spewing out of my mouth as the wolfsbane burnt my lungs and tongue. I look in the cell to the bunk beds yet didn't see anyone inside. I move to the next row, the last one in this maze of corridors.

When I hear Tate scream from the exit.

"Ryker! Get out now!" he screams, just as I just make out the door slamming shut, cutting off his screams.

I was just about to turn around when I caught movement out of the corner of my eye. Something moving under the blanket in the last cell. "Lucy?" I gasp, before choking on more water.

I swam to the door, which was still shut, before trying to pry it open. But it was near impossible without Tate here to help pull it against the water.

I bang on the glass, the bundle of fabric moving, before a tear stricken face appears from under the blanket looking back at me. She looks toward me before looking at the water that had reached the top bunk. She puts her foot in the water before jerking it back onto the bed.

I wave to her trying to get her attention and tell her to stay on the bed. She nods her head staring at me as I try to jerk the door open, yet it doesn't budge. When something touches my foot. I look down to see one of Tate's mens dead bodies beneath the surface. One of the many we found as they tried to save the kids. Without hybrid genes, I would be dead for sure, so would Tate and Drake without being marked by Lana.

I grab the handle, lifting my legs and pressing them on either side of the door, on the glass. Using my legs to push off, the door slowly creaked open, the water from inside dropping and pushing toward me through the gap as it rushed out. I pull until my legs are fully extended before letting go. My shoulder was torn and bleeding, tearing under the pressure as the wolfsbane burned my skin.

I squeeze through the gap, "Lucy?" I breathe getting over to her. She stares at me wondering how I know her name. "You know my name?" She asks.

"I have been looking for you everywhere! My name is Ryker, and I know your mummy," I tell her. Her multi-colored eyes lighting up before she looks at the water.

"The water. It burns," she says looking at my shoulders and arms covered in blood.

"I know. I know sweetie. But I need you to hang on to me so I can get you out of here," I tell her. She shakes her head scooting back on the bed.

My entire body was burning so badly, I could feel the wolfsbane eating my skin away. I would hate to think what my body looked like from the chest down.

"You want to see your mummy right? I can take you to her. But I need you to come here. I will be quick, I promise," I tell her reaching for her.

She nods her head, grabbing my hands before crying out as the wolfsbane burns her. I jerk her toward me before she can retreat. Her screams break my heart as the wolfsbane burns her. I lifted her, placing her on my shoulders yet I couldn't do anything to protect her legs. Her hands went to my chin as she clutched it. The wolfsbane burning my face from her hands.

"Duck," I tell her, as I squeeze through the door and she does.

I start swimming back toward the stairs leading out, trying not to splash her. my entire body becoming weaker. I had spent way too much time in the water, my eyes blurring as I try to see where to go. My breathing got worse, as I started coughing. I could taste the metallic liquid of my blood as it stained the water in front of me red.

I grip the railing, reaching out for it before using it to lead me to the stairs, and to stop myself slipping under the water. I crawl up the steps before slumping my top half just out of water. She climbs off my shoulders just before I collapse.

"Ryker!" I hear her cry out, tugging on my face and lifting it out of the water.

"Follow the stairs," I gasp, more blood choking me as it gets trapped in my throat. My head is spinning, when I feel her step in the water. She screams before I feel her tiny hands grabbing my shirt, trying to pull me up the steps.

"Please! Just a few more steps." she cries. She grabs my hand off the railing tugging on it.

"You have to help!" she cries, and I muster the little strength I have left. Pushing off the steps as she pulls my body from the water, as she falls backwards on the steps.

"You look so much like her," I tell her. She peers down at me before pulling my top lip up.

"You're like me." she says, and I feel my head roll to the side. My eyes growing heavy as they close, before I feel skin press to my fangs. Making my eyes flutter open as it scrapes across my canines. Blood flooding into my mouth. I grab it while drinking from the source. My senses overtaking as blood rushes into my mouth.

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I could feel myself growing stronger as I drank greedily. Feel my wounds healing, when I hear a cry making my eyes open to see her face peering over me.

I lift my legs pulling them from the water and sitting up.

She jerks her wrist away from me, watching me warily and I take a deep breath. Trying to fight the bloodlust, urging me to kill her. I look up the stairs. I reached for her, my arms still burning but most of them healed. Yet I still felt weak, when I saw Aamon still stuck on the steps.

I get up grabbing Lucy's hand, pulling her up the steps toward him. I grab his arm tossing it over his shoulder and Lucy tries lifting him. Managing to help hold him up against me as we step into the corridor, yet all I saw was darkness. The door was shut, and the lights were out. I place him on the bottom of the steps before racing up them and trying to pry the door open. I bang on it.

"We can't open it!" I just make out through the door. "F**k!" I cuss before realizing Lucy was with me. I race back down and nearly trip over Aamon on the steps. I slap him, and, nothing.

I shake him trying to rouse him awake. "Come on buddy!" I tell him, slapping his face.

He groans yet doesn't wake, when an idea crosses my mind. He had devils bane in his system. I just had to remove it. I sink my fangs into him and nearly throw up at the vile taste of burnt hair, as it flooded my mouth. Yet I force it down, not only needing his disgusting blood. But also needing to rid him of the devil's bane. He jerks before gripping my face and shoving me off.

"Thank the goddess! You taste like s**t by the way." I tell him while he glares at me.

He looks around, his eyes landing on Lucy who sniffs the air, "You found her!" he gasps.

“And you f*****g fed on me? You sicko!” he says wiping his neck just as I hear screaming, and a loud bang above us.

I race up the steps, to hear loud banging and crashing before hearing her voice. I hear a feral growl, I recognize as Ace’s wolf, before it hits the glass.

“You need to mist us out of here!” I tell Aamon.

“I’m not sure I can. I need energy to feed off,” he says getting his feet.

“Can’t you like click your fingers or something?”

“No! But I can use you.” he says, his eyes flicking onyx.

“Are you f*****g nuts?! I don’t want you using your l**t s**t on me!” I tell him when I hear her scream before hearing Tate’s voice.

“Reika, f*****g shift! You need to shift!” my heart skips a beat and I race toward Aamon.

“Lucy come here. Hang onto Aamon’s hand,” I tell her, and she races up the steps before hesitantly grabbing Aamon’s hand. She crinkles her nose at his scent when Aamon locks his hands onto the side of my face. “Sorry bro. But the other way won’t work. I gotta touch ya,” he says, and I near throw up when I feel his gross manly lips press to mine.

I feel him pull on my energy, arousal flooding me as much as I fought against his charms. The room zapping and the smell of burnt almonds wrapping around us, before I feel my body zapped with energy. Within a blink of an eye, I find myself in the cell. Tate, Drake and Ace staring out the glass when Ace’s black wolf looks back before doing a double take, and I shove Aamon away.

Ace backs up before hitting the glass, and I scream when I see Danika smash Reika into the desk, breaking it.

Brax flying forward and smashing through the veil at the sight of our mate being attacked by our other mate. Aamon shakes his head, like he too couldn’t believe what he was seeing. As I slam against the glass before bouncing off it and being thrown backwards. I get to my feet when the entire building starts rumbling. Danika stops her advance on Reika. And I see Reika get to her feet on shaky legs, blood pouring from her. Lucy screams, finally noticing the woman is her mother.

“Mummy!” she screams. Reika’s head snapping to her, at hearing her cries. A terrifying growl tearing from her as the entire building rumbles like it is about to collapse around us. When Aamon laughs behind me.

“Avery’s here!” he says just as the door goes flying off the hinges and smashing against the wall on the other side of the room. I look back just in time to see Reika tackle Danika and they struggle. Danika trying to toss her off.

A furious Avery stalks into the room before she freezes, staring at Reika and Danika fighting. Her eyes turning pitch black before the lights flicker. Electricity zapping around her body and she raises her hands. Brax jumps on Lucy and shields her, just as electricity surges from her fingers and around the room. Hitting the glass making it vibrate before it shatters, raining glass down everywhere as they burst.

Ace growls running at Danika and tackling her off Reika, before I see Tyson shift also rushing past Avery through the doorway. As they start tearing her apart. Danika fights back as she kicks Ace, sending him flying. Avery flicks her wrist, a green light of her magic shooting from her fingertips. And Danika turns immobile just as Reika punches her hand through her chest. Tyson’s wolf tearing into her neck knocking her backwards and leaving Reika holding her heart. While Tyson ripped her head off.

Lucy spews, coating my fur at the sight. As Danika’s head rolls along the ground, her dazed eyes peering up before turning grey.

“Bout f*****g time you showed up! Been trying to get ahold of you for weeks!” Aamon says to Avery.

“I was visiting my father! No cell service in hell!” She spits back at him walking over to Danika’s body. She gazes down at it, her eyes blazing emerald and she swishes her wrist. The body catching alight as green smoke burns it. I shift back into my human form, Lucy’s vomit sliding down my arm and I flick it off. Avery then turns to her head when I call out to her.

“I want her head,” I tell her and she looks up.

“For what? A f*****g trophy?” She asks.

“No. For her husband,” I tell her. She nods, kicking it toward me. I nod to Tyson who was still in wolf form. “Why do I have to take the head?” He snaps through the mindlink.

“Be the only head you get. Now grab it!” I mindlink back and he rolls his eyes before picking it up by her hair, he strolls off toward the basement steps.

“Can’t say I’m surprised. There was something always off with that girl. No wonder I had trouble seeing her future before you killed her.”

“You felt no pull to her at all?” Avery asks and I shake my head.

“Good! Seems when I stripped the remnants of your bond it worked then ” She says before looking at her husband, Aamon.

I see Ace get up off the floor from where he crashed. He shakes out his fur before looking around, his eyes going to the cell behind me. Following his line of vision I see Reika clutching her daughter like she was her life line. Lucy sobbing in her arms as she clutched her back.

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A very took the lead heading out of the building, relief flooded me that we found them. Hundreds of hybrid mutation eyes watching us. Fear being the main thing we saw in their eyes. Fear of the unknown.

“What now?” Reika asks, looking at the children all sitting in groups surrounded by our people.

“We take them home,” Avery says, placing her hand on Reika’s shoulder. The gravity of what we had done truly sank in. Freedom is something these kids have never known, and now, they are free. Free to live and grow, the way they should have been able to. Tyson and Ace lead Reika and Lucy over to the car, while everyone sorts out the kids into groups. Walking around, I was nearly knocked over by a little girl with brown hair, she was around 7 years old, as she ran directly into my path. I went to grab her, thinking she was running off as Elias chased after her, only to see run into the arms of Melana who scooped her up. Crushing her to her. I grab Elias’ arm and shake my head. Melana nods to me and I go around checking everyone.

Avery and Aamon went around counting how many children were rescued. All in all there were 211 children. The sad reality was, that we only rescued half that many women. So there were bound to be plenty of orphans. Now, we just had the hard task of finding who belongs who.

“I have buses on the way to bring them to Avalon City. They will be safe there,” Avery says,

“We lost 8,” Tate says, coming over to me. I nod at his words. Despite their loss, we rescued 211, 8 for that many wasn’t bad at all. Though now Tate had the hard job of alerting their families, as all of them were from his pack.

We loaded all the kids on buses. Avery would take care of them, and send any that couldn’t be placed to the packs for new homes. Looking around, I see Tyson and Ace leaning on the car talking with Reika. Lucy sitting on the boot watching everything going on around her as she yawned sleepily. Making my way over to them, thankfully both boys had managed to rustle up pants.

"I put Danika in the boot," Ace says, pulling a face. Tyson grabs Lucy off the boot, Reika pushing off the boot reaching for her.

"I'm not taking her away. Just putting her in the car," Tyson tells her, and she nods watching him place her in the car before coming back over to us.

"Well that's the last bus," Aamon says, coming over as I pull Reika to me. She tucks her face into my neck, inhaling my scent. Her tense body relaxes and Aamon chuckles as she sniffs me.

"If you two are going to kiss again, can you go somewhere else? It nearly made me puke," Ace says and Reika pulls away and looks at me funny. I shake my head at his words.

"Can't say it was the worst kiss of my life. Definitely not the most pleasant," Aamon chuckles.

"Wait! Who kissed who?" Tyson asks looking at Aamon.

"Ryker and Aamon were sharing a moment when they misted into the cell. And we caught them with locked lips," Ace says before shivering in disgust.

"Think I got pash rash. Felt him slip in the tongue too," Aamon says, making me smack him.

"F**k off! You kissed me!"

"And you liked it! I heard you moan for me." Aamon says.

"Wait! Why were you kissing Aamon?" Reika asks.

"I wasn't! He needed energy. And unfortunately for me, I was all there was. Can we just pretend it didn't happen?"

"Fine by me!" Ace says, side eyeing me.

"No. I think I will reminisce on that moment. Was so, sensual, and e****c," Aamon says. I go to kick him only for him to mist behind me.

"Missed me, lover!" he says.

"Aamon!" I warned him.

"Just playing. No need to get your knickers in a knot. I know you want me! It's only natural for you to have feelings for me after such a moment," I rolled my eyes at him just in time for Avery to come over.

"You ready? I want to get back so we can find them somewhere to stay," Avery asks Aamon. He nods before taking her hand.

"I will be in contact soon. We might need to send some your way," Avery tells me and I nod. I see the place starting to clear, cars leaving and Ace and Tyson hop in the car. Tate and Drake both say goodbye to Aamon before hopping in their car. Avery walks over and gives Reika a hug. Squeezing her tight and Reika hugs her back before letting her go.

Avery comes over and gives me a quick hug before pulling back.

"Take care of your mate and new daughter. I will be in touch," she says, rubbing my arms just as Aamon wraps an arm around her getting ready to mist out of here. She lets me go, her eyes sparkling and burning emerald green as she smiles at Reika.

"Oh! And congratulations!" she says.

"For what?" I ask and she nods to Reika.

"On your son," she says before they both misted back home. Reika was just staring at the space Avery was before looking up at me.

"She is aware Lucy is a girl, right?" She asks and I chuckle, pulling her to me before placing my hand on her stomach. "Our son," I tell her and she looks at my hand before placing hers over it.

"We are having a son? You impregnated me?" She says, and I can't help the laugh that leaves my lips.

"You truly have a way with words," I tell her.

"And yes. She means you're pregnant," I kiss her head before resting my chin on her head. Her arms going around my waist when Tyson opens the car door sticking his head out and looking at us.

"Can we go? I am starving!" he says before shutting the door and I sigh letting her go. We walk over to the car and Reika goes to open the back door to hop in with Lucy. Hopping in my seat I see Lucy is fast asleep leaning against Ace, who was asleep with his head on the window. Reika opens the passenger side door climbing in the front, also seeing them asleep.

"She is fine," I tell her as she looks over at Lucy asleep. Tyson pulls a shirt from his bag tossing it over her arms to keep Lucy warm.

"We won't let anything happen to her Reika. She is safe in the car," Tyson tells her yawning. She nods, turning back to the front and I start up the car and we all head

home. Tate and Drake honk their horn as they turn off in the opposite direction of us, heading home too.

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Reika POV

One month later

I yawn rolling over onto my stomach before jumping, when I realize I nearly crushed our son. My entire body ached with the extra weight I was carrying. I feel for Ryker yet his side of the bed was cold and his scent weak in the room.

“He probably fell asleep in Lucy’s room,” Amanda tells me as I force myself out of bed to go pee. I nod to her in agreement. Lucy has terrible nightmares and was constantly waking during the night. For the first few days, she refused to sleep anywhere besides our bed. Tyson and Ace made the bedroom next to theirs a princess room and managed to convince her to sleep in there, but she still gets up. But it was better than being kicked every night, and for the most part Ryker puts her back to bed before I even realize she got up.

I washed my hands before pulling on some of Ryker’s pants, they were all that fitted around the growing bump. Once I am dressed I go in search of Ryker and Lucy. I stop at her bedroom door and stick my head in. Ryker was asleep on the floor. His head resting on her pillow on her bed as he slept half sitting up. A book still clutched in his fingers. I hold in my laugh when I see Tyson sitting next to him and Lucy on the bed, both of them with textas in their hands as they drew on his face.

Lucy puts a finger to lips shushing me as she giggled while joining his eyebrows together with a red texta. Tyson drew on a mustache before laughing quietly and standing. Lucy hands him the texta, and he reaches over Ryker and picks her up before walking toward me with Lucy on his hips. He hands me the three texta’s and I shake my head before taking them.

“He is going to kill you,” I whisper to Tyson.

“Was her idea,” he says motioning to Lucy in his arms and she points at him, blaming Tyson. He pretends to bite her finger and she pulls it away quickly giggling.

“Let’s go make breakfast,” he tells her before walking down the stairs. The three of them were inseparable. Lucy is constantly harassing them, and I have caught them up at midnight playing video games when she was meant to be sleeping. Pocketing the texta’s, I follow them downstairs leaving Ryker asleep on the floor.

"Why do I think Lucy is going to turn into a terror like them," Amanda says as we walk down the steps. I laugh at her words, yes, the three of them were always up to mischief.

Getting to the kitchen, Tyson grabs the cereal down and pours a bowl for himself and was about to pour some for Lucy.

"Not those. They made her hyper last time," I tell him.

"Please! The other ones are gross," Lucy whines. Tyson looks at me and I roll my eyes as he pours them in her bowl, before he sends her a wink.

"Fine! But you're dealing with her then! I am getting too fat to chase after her," I tell him.

"Looks like you're with me today," Tyson tells her, sitting next to her. I plug in the toaster. The only thing I have mastered in this b****y kitchen is how to make toast. Ace walks in yawning before slumping on the table.

"Wake up!" Lucy tells him, pulling his eyelids open.

He growls at her and she growls back at him, making him smile. "Flick the kettle on Reika," Ace whines and I roll my eyes, turning it on and grabbing cups down.

"Don't make them, I will. You can't make coffee without destroying my taste buds," he says as I reach for the coffee. I finish making my toast before sitting down at the table. Ace makes me a coffee and places it in front of me just as Ryker walks, in looking rather tired. He cracks his neck and I shudder at the sound. Tyson and Lucy snickering to themselves at his drawn on face. Ace shakes his head trying to hide his smile when he notices, and I nearly choke on my coffee as he walks over to me. He grabs my coffee and I huff annoyed.

He takes a sip before looking at Ace. "It's my first one," I tell him and he eyes me before looking at Ace who nods, before he hands it back to me.

"No more today," he says, reaching down and rubbing my belly before pecking my lips. He goes to make his own when I see his eyes glaze over and I know someone was mindlinking him.

"F**k sake!" Ryker growls out loud before I see his eyes refocus.

"Language!" Ace says, pointing to Lucy.

"No! I gotta go. B****y fight between your pack and mine," he tells him. Ryker had started dividing the packs for Ace and Tyson. And now some old rivalries had come back. Both packs competitive and not liking the change, even though there were no borders between them. Some also didn't like the idea of being told what to do by two teenage boys. Even though they have both been working their asses off and learning

what to do. Ryker tries to get me involved, yet I just can't wrap my head around what I am meant to do and find it stressful.

"Wait!" Tyson calls after him.

"First! I mustache you a question." Tyson says and I hide my smile behind my cup.

"What?" He asks as he is about to walk out the door.

"Want Ace to go with you?" Tyson says and Ace raises an eyebrow at him.

"He isn't even dressed. I will be back soon," he says ducking out and I hear him grab his car keys before hearing his car start as he leaves.

"Think he will notice?" Ace asks and Tyson laughs.

"Even if he does, we already planned it out. Hey Luce," he says nudging Lucy with his elbow.

"Planned it out?" Ace asks confused like me.

"Yeah! We are going to say you did it!" Lucy giggles and I laugh, while Ace glares at Tyson.

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Ryker POV

I was going to kill them! They just made me look like a f*****g twat! Reika would also pay for not telling me what they had done. I can't believe she let me go deal with pack business with scribble on my face.

Who does that? Using my car mirror, I tried to scrub the c**p off my face. I even walked into a service station with this s**t on me! No wonder the clerk gave me a funny look. Hearing a knock on the window, I turn to see Zane and I roll it down.

"What?" I ask.

"Now I know you can't grow a mustache, but it's a bit extreme drawing one on don't you think?"

"F**k off Zane! What do you want?" I tell him, one more snide comment and he would be eating his teeth.

“Got a call today. An Alpha’s meeting has been called for in July”

“Change it! Reika is due in July”

“No can do. The only day everyone is available”

“Then cancel it till a later date!”

“It’s to do with the hybrid mutations” Zane tells me. F**k sake! I’m over this issue! They are just kids! And we have taken over half of them into our pack, so I don’t understand why they are having issue introducing them to their packs.

“Fine! Try asking to move to June. I gotta go! I’ve got brothers to kill!” I tell him and he chuckles. I was on a mission. A mission to destroy that little t**d! I knew it was one of them. Why did I have to be cursed with those little shits.

Just as I leave the city to head home, my phone rings. Jacob was calling and I knew instantly it was to do with Reika. Poor b****r. I felt sorry for him, putting up with her mood swings right now. I love the woman but d**n, she could be infuriating.

“What’s up?”

“Reika has made me take her grocery shopping, and I can not think of what the hell she is talking about. And she doesn’t know what it’s called either. She just knows she wants to put butter on it.” I nearly snorted trying to hold in my laughter. Her pregnancy cravings would be the death of me. That, and the hormones. She cried because one foot was fatter than the other. She thought she had wonky feet. I shake my head at the memory.

“Where are you?”

“The grocer just outside of town”

“Be there soon. Also, have you got any wet wipes?”

“Wet wipes? What do you need those for? Did you s**t yourself, Alpha?” He laughs.

“No jackass! Tyson and Ace drew on my face. Just meet me in the carpark with some!” I told him before hanging up. I’m going to kill them. They will die by these hands, I think to myself as I put my foot down on the pedal.

Pulling up, Jacob was waiting out the front with baby wipes in his hands. He rushes over, opening the door before laughing. “Yes! Very f*****g funny!” I tell him, snatching the packet off him and removing the c**p from my face.

You could still see faint lines but it would have to do. Walking inside, I find Reika looking rather flustered. She hated shops, she hated being around people in general.

I wrap my arms around her and she jumps before realizing it is me.

“You are in so much trouble when I get you home”

“What did I do?” She asks.

“You know exactly what you did. You let me leave the house with scribble on my face,” I tell her and she snickers.

“So what are you craving this time?” I ask her.

“Something yellow, but it has a green n*b thing on it. That’s all she gave me” Jacob says looking at the shelf.

“Squash. She was dreaming about them last night,” I tell him.

“That’s in the fruit section Reika, not canned stuff” Jacob says wandering off.

“We need more butter,” she says, walking off.

“There was still some in the tub,” I tell her and she stops looking at me.

“I may have eaten it” she admits.

“You ate butter? Did you put it on anything?”

“Yep! On a spoon, with salt,” she says like that makes perfect sense. That’s b****y nasty.

“You shouldn’t eat butter like that”

“Who says?” She asks, finding the butter.

“It’s not healthy to eat a tub of butter,” I tell her, just as Jacob comes over with a bag full of squash.

“Are these what we came here for?” He asks and her eyes light up. She grabs one out and I take it from her, “You need to c**k it first”

“How do we c**k it?” She asks.

“You steam it. And I will show you when we get home,” I tell her.

“They have any more?” I ask Jacob.

“Yeah, half a box”

“Go grab it for me. Or you will be back here tomorrow,” I tell him and he nods. “I don’t understand how she can crave something she has never eaten before,” he says before walking off.

We made our way to the check out and I quickly paid for everything before leaving.

“I will take her home. Just put it in my car. I need to speak to her anyway,” I tell him. Reika looks at me but says nothing, though I could feel her anxiety. I knew this would turn into an argument. One I am sick of having. She climbs in, adjusting the seat belt around her belly as I start the car.

Her anxiety played havoc the longer I drove, yet I didn’t feel like arguing over this again.

“You need to let Lucy go to school. She wants to go,” I tell her, pulling onto the dirt road leading to the house.

“She doesn’t need to go. I never went and I am fine,” she says.

“Reika, you can’t even spell your own name,” I tell her, and she growls at me.

“Not my fault! It’s the stupid pencil! Not doing what it’s supposed to do!” she snaps at me.

“No, it’s the person holding the pencil. Do you want her to struggle like you do? And Tyson and Ace can’t keep having days off to help you with her,” I tell her and she sighs.

“Then they can go to school. I am fine with her”

“You’re missing the point Reika. Lucy wants to go and I have enrolled her. She starts tomorrow,” I tell her, I was not backing down, she could pitch a fit but Lucy was going to school.

“You can’t do that! She isn’t going!”

“Yes I can because I am her father. And she wants to go. Nobody will take her from you. school is a normal part of life Reika. Whether you like it or not, she is going”

“F*****g bullshit!” she says looking out the window.

“She deserves to be a kid. Let her be a kid.”

“Fine then! But I want Tim gone. It creeps me out knowing you have him still in the basement. Why is he even still alive?” She says. Probably because I like listening to the b*****d scream for me to kill him, I think to myself.

“Fine! I will do it when I get home, but you let Lucy go to school, and you let the doc see you”

“No one is touching me.”

“I will be with you, and she is a doctor Reika. You need to get over this fear you have of doctors. She just wants to check our son.”

“No! She wants to take him from me!” I sigh, frustrated. Anyone in a lab coat comes near her, and she runs, convinced they are going to cut our son out and steal him.

“I won’t let anyone take our children,” I mutter as we pull up. She threw the door open, nearly ripping it off the hinges.

“Deal with Tim!” she yells at me before slamming the door.

I grab the bags from the boot following her inside. Ace, Tyson and Lucy were sitting on the couch when I enter.

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Lucy peeked her face over it, giggling and I locked eyes with Tyson and Ace.

“It was Lucy’s idea!” They both say pointing to her.

“Liar! You said we were going to blame it on Ace! It was your idea!” Lucy says, smacking Tyson’s hand away, and I raise an eyebrow at him.

“So it was Tyson?” I ask her and she nods while Tyson looks ready to soil himself.

Tyson darts off toward the kitchen. Just the place I am headed anyway. I hear my bedroom door slam and know Reika is losing her s**t upstairs about Lucy going to school.

‘She’s probably up there clawing our pillow in a fit of rage. Glad you have to deal with her’ Brax tells me.

‘You better not ditch me, like last time!’

‘F**k that! She lets Amanda out, you on your own.’ Brax tells me, b****y wolf scared of someone who barely reaches our chest.

'She may be small but she is vicious. I'm not getting involved once the claws come out.' I roll my eyes at him and head for the kitchen.

"Tyson just come here, stop being a chicken," I tell him, dropping the bags on the counter.

"No way!" I heard him call out. B****y idiot, just gave himself away. Walking over to the pantry, I opened it. And he was cowering in the bottom of it, holding the broom like it would save him.

"It was all Ace's idea, I swear on his Xbox not mine," he says. I rip the broom away from him and he squeals trying to find an escape.

"Please, pretty please with a cherry on top don't kill me" he begs and I laugh at petrified face, he tries to run between my legs but I close them around his head.

"And not the hair, it just grew back" he squeals as I reach down and grab him. I toss him over my shoulder while he thrashes trying to escape, d**n he was getting heavy.

"Lucy baby come with me, I need your help," I tell her, marching up the steps. Tyson screaming and thrashing on my shoulder.

"Lucy don't help him, help me," Tyson begs and she giggles, skipping up the steps ahead of me and waiting on the landing.

"Traitor, I am not having a tea party with you now," Tyson tells her. I walk toward the bathroom and Tyson grips the door frame and I have to pry his fingers off before turning him upside down. As soon as I walk toward the toilet he starts screaming the noise is high pitched and makes my ears ring

"Take the hair, take the hair, no it has skiddies" he screams, his hands clinging to the toilet bowl trying to stop his head from going in. I dunk his head in it.

"Lucy be a dear and flush the toilet for daddy"

"Lucy don't do it, don't listen to him you love me more," Tyson screams before his words are cut off by her flushing the toilet.

She giggles, and I let him go. He falls awkwardly to the floor stuck between the toilet and the wall. Ace laughs from the doorway and he gives Lucy a high five on her way out.

Tyson was dry retching in the toilet bowl. Serve him right the little s**t.

"If it makes you feel any better, that skid mark was mine," Ace tells him and Tyson growls at him before throwing up. I scoop Lucy up, giving her a cuddle. "Guess what?"

“What?” She asks.

“You get to go to school tomorrow,” I tell her. Her little eyes light up.

“Really, mum said yes”

“No, but I did, I will deal with your mother,” I tell her, kissing her cheek. She wraps her tiny arms around my neck.

“She is really going,” Ace asks me through the mindlink and I nod.

“Yes, I wouldn’t have said she is if she wasn’t”

“Reika?”

“Not happy but she is enrolled and going”

“We can pick her up and drop her off, we can just walk to school from hers,” Ace says.

“You sure?” I ask him.

“Yep,” he says, holding his arms out wanting to take her, the boys for the most part had settled right down, and the bond they share with Lucy was quite strange, they are almost drawn to her. I dread when they find their mates because I don’t think Lucy will like not having their constant attention.

“Can you watch her for me, I have something to take care of” he nods and I head for the basement.

“Tea party?” She asks him as we walk downstairs..

“Ah okay, but we are having the strawberry cookies, I hate chocolate ones,” Ace tells her as they walk off toward the kitchen.

I lock the basement door behind me before walking into the cell. Danika’s skull sat beside him on the steel table.

“Did you sleep well?” I ask him. He groans, his eyes fluttering open.

“Please kill me,” he begs.

“Well today is your lucky day, because death I shall grant,” I tell him, smacking his chest before pulling on some gloves.

“Want to share one last kiss with your beloved wife” I ask, picking up her skull and clanging her teeth together. He starts sobbing. “Please just kill me, are you really that

f****d in the head to keep me alive. There is nothing left to cut off. I have no f*****g legs or arms you're a twisted p***k"

"I can go if you want, we can do this tomorrow, d**n maybe next week I can schedule you in," I tell him, about to take off the gloves.

"No, no please" I turned back to him.

"I will miss our chats, it was knowing you we have shared some good times," I tell him looking down at him, he was just a torso and head now, amazing what a werewolf body can endure. Honestly I was amazed at what he has been able to endure and survive, amazed at myself for not becoming bored and killing him.

"But luckily for you, I have a hormonal pregnant mate upstairs who wants you dead, so you know the saying, happy wife happy life," I tell him before putting my hand through his chest, he chokes gurgling on his blood before I pull his heart from his chest, the life draining out of him before turning grey. I sigh now, what would I do with my spare time?

'You could always go c**k those squash and beg for forgiveness, I don't want to die in my sleep' Brax tells me and I roll my eyes at him.

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Reika POV

2 months later

I awoke from my daily nap on the lounge, my lower back was killing and overall I just felt uncomfortable.

'Come on, get a swing up' Amanda tells me as I swing my legs trying to get enough momentum to get up, rolling doesn't work. I got stuck on the floor for an hour last time, stupid nerve pinching in my a*s.

"You right big mamma," Tyson asks and I growl at him.

"Get over here and help me get my a*s off the couch please"

"Where is Lucy?" I ask as he walks over to me.

"With Ace playing video games," he says, holding his hands out to me. I clutch them making sure to maneuver my skirt so I don't tread on it.

“Ready,” Tyson asks and I nod.

“1..2...3,” he says before heaving me to my feet just as I feel my feet get wet.

Tyson jumps back, “aw man you just peed on me,” he says, shaking head before he shivers, grossed out.

“Why am I always the one that gets covered in bodily fluids?” he Huff’s.

‘I don’t think that was pee’ Amanda tells me and I look down at the puddle on the floor. Ryker was at the Alpha’s meeting, he had been staying home but couldn’t escape this one meeting. I hope it’s just pee.

“I will get the mop,” Tyson says, wandering off.

I try to walk back to the stairs to go change my clothes. Tyson, walking towards me, stops and groans.

“No, stay still you’re leaving a trail like b****y snail, I am not following you around with a mop, do I look like a janitor?” He asks.

“You look like someone who is about to get smacked,” I warn him.

“Geez b****y hormonal woman, go on then” he mutters, mopping everything up.

I start climbing the stairs having to stop halfway up when pain washes across my abdomen, so sharp it takes my breath away as I clutch the railing.

‘yep baby is on its way’ Amanda says suddenly pacing in my head.

‘What no, Ryker isn’t here’ I breathe, gritting my teeth.

‘our son doesn’t know that’ she says.

More pain ripples through me and I scream being brought to my knees.

“Reika,” Ace says, looking over from the top of the landing.

“S**t Reika, Tyson get a hold of Ryker” he yells before racing down to me.

“Come on let’s get you downstairs,” Ace says, grabbing me under the arms and hauling me to my feet.

“Mummy?” Lucy says.

"She is fine, Luce. She is ok," Ace says, looking up at her. Ace starts walking me down the stairs.

"Ryker is on his way," Tyson says rushing up the stairs toward us when I drop, contractions starting again. I land backwards on Ace clutching his legs.

"Just breathe Reika," Tyson says, looking at his phone.

Ace holds his hand out while I breath through the pain only for it to get worse. I grab his hand and squeeze his leg.

"Breathe Reika, breathe through it," Ace says. I start panting and Tyson raises an eyebrow at me trapped on the floor. "What are you doing?" I ask when the pain subsides, letting me catch my breath.

"YouTube seeing how to deliver a baby, doc is a few hours away best be prepared just in case," Tyson says.

I glare at him before feeling another come on. "D**n they are close," Tyson says and I grip Ace clenching my teeth when Ace makes a strangled noise behind me.

"That's not my hand" he chokes out, the noise leaving him sounding quite pained.

"Just breathe Ace" I scream through gritted teeth.

"My nuts," he squeaks, he sounded like a mouse.

Ace slapping my hand squealing. The contraction leaves Lucy frightened and she comes down the stairs.

"We need to get her up, before I lose the other nut," Ace says.

"Sorry" I gasped seeing where my hand grabbed him as I writhed in pain.

"Ryker is 30ks out," Tyson says, gripping my hands to pull me up.

"Nope, nope, I'm not moving" I snap as another contraction ripples through me. I hear Tyson trying to soothe Lucy who was watching frightened but I was in too much pain to console her.

"Argh I need to push" I grit out through clench teeth, as the sudden urge to go to the toilet rolls over me making me grunt.

"You need to check her," Ace says.

"Check her for what, I am not looking down there," Tyson says looking disgusted.

“Tyson b****y look,” Ace demands. Tyson shoves my skirt up over my knees.

“Ah she has no underwear on,” Tyson shrieks, jumping back.

“But can you see anything,” Ace asks when I suddenly feel the urge to push again.

“What am I looking for? I am not a midwife,” Tyson says, looking between my legs and rubbing his chin as I push.

“I see, I see” he suddenly goes pale before passing out.

“Oh for frig sake,” Ace says frustrated.

The urge dies down and I can catch my breath. “Reika, try to sit up, Lucy grab some pillows for her back,” Ace says and Lucy runs off before returning with some cushions. I was drenched in sweat, my clothes sticking to me. Ace jams the cushions behind my back when the front door bursts open.

I look up moaning in pain to see Jacob rush in. “Oh f**k, what do we do,. What do we do?” Jacob panics.

“Language, what is wrong with you?”

“I can see her v****a” Jacob says and I roll my eyes at him.

“Lucy, grab some towels,” Ace says, climbing out from behind me before moving in front between my legs.

“You know what you’re doing right?” Jacob asks him.

“Can’t be that hard just gotta catch right?”

“I feel another contraction coming on” I breathe out, my entire body clenching as I need to push again.

“Oh my god you catch,” Ace says, stepping away.

‘one of them better catch or I’m putting my claws in someone’s a*s’ Amanda says making me laugh.

‘don’t make me laugh, it hurts’ I tell her.

“You catch,” Jacob says, pushing him back.

“You’re older,” Ace says just as I push again.

“There’s no coming back from that” I hear Jacob say, making me growl at him as I push down with a loud groan.

“I think I see, hair. I see hair,” Ace says excitedly before I see his eyes roll in the back of his head and he goes down like Tyson. Jacob shrieks, pulling him away.

‘2 idiots down 1 to go’ Amanda mutters.

“See this is why I am gay” Jacob mutters to himself.

“You can do this”

“Are you telling me or yourself?” I scream before another contraction comes on, making me want to push again.

Lucy comes down with towels. “Can you see anything” I breathe panting.

“Not looking, just catching,” Jacob says when Lucy pushes him away.

“Let me look,” she says.

“I can see the top of his head mum, keep pushing,” she says, her little eyes staring between my legs and I take a deep breath and push.

Her eyes lighting up while I turn purple faced with pushing, yet nothing happens but a burning sensation.

“Don’t stop,” she says but I shake my head, “I can’t, I can’t,” I tell her trying to catch my breath. I wipe my hands on the steps, sweat running off me everywhere.

The urge and contractions coming back just as the door opens again but I am already pushing, my eyes clenched tight as I press my chin to my chest.

“Keep going, keep going” Lucy squeals. Her voice was rising higher. When Ryker’s scent wafts to me. And I take a deep breath before pushing again.

“That’s it” I hear Ryker’s voice before I feel burning pain before I feel his head slide out and I gasp sucking in much needed air and as I catch my breath.

Opening my eyes, I see Ryker and he leans over pecking my lips, his hand between my legs, holding his head.

Lucy between my legs still.

“Wanna catch your brother,” Ryker asks, looking down at her and she nods excitedly.

Ryker sits back and I feel another contraction coming on.

“Hands here Lucy,” Ryker tells her just as I push, I feel his shoulders slip out before he floods out in a rush, Ryker and Lucy catching him and I sigh with relief. Ryker wipes him with a towel and I look down before hearing his cry ring out loudly through the house. The sound of new life.

Lucy had him cradle in her lap, her little hands under his body while Ryker had his small head in his hand while he wiped him with the towel.

“You did it mum” she s**s and Ryker kisses her head.

“Here, I will wrap him up,” Ryker says, taking him from her and using the towel to wrap him in. He places him on my chest and Lucy comes over looking down at her new brother adoringly as she holds his fingers. Ryker kisses my lips also looking down at our new addition in our arms.

“Welcome to the world Rayan,” Ryker whispers.

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