

Caged between the beta & alpha

chapter 76

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His Sins

RAVEN

I had ended up asking Taylor if he was free , and the both of us left the pack grounds with him deciding we needed drinks . I actually agreed , I think it would be a nice break away from everything . Now here we are on our ... I'm not sure what number bottle , and with plenty more to come .

It was too early to find a club , so we had come to a pub , and I know a few of the people here were quite surprised that we were still sane after all that alcohol . " ... So , I gave Sparks back to him . Daily latest chapters only www.infobagh.com

" I finished resting my cheek on my hand . " Ah baby girl , he is going to be happy . That's created with so much love from his sister ! " Taylor said , downing another glass . I think we were both done for the day . The sun was setting too ... How long have we been here ? " Yeah , and then , Nina saw me and told me I had this in control and comforted me ...

I wonder who she's lost there . " I said sadly . " Nina the Omega ? That's weird , she doesn't have anyone there . " Taylor mused , scrunching his nose thoughtfully . " Really ? Well then , I'm surprised that she takes such good care of it . " " It's maybe assigned to her . " Taylor shrugged picking up an empty bottle . " That's empty .

" I said with a small smile . " I can't drive ... There are three of you right now ... " Taylor grumbled , pouting cutely . " I'll tell someone to come to get us ... Shall I call Zack ? " I teased . He blushed , his already flushed cheeks darkening . " Call my sexy man ... " He nodded . I smiled , mind linking him , hoping we were still in range ... Twenty minutes later , we were in Taylor's car , with Zack and Taylor in the front and I was staring up at the dark sky from the back , my mind pondering over Nina . I always saw her there . Surely there must be a reason ... By any chance , did she have a child that passed away ?

She was an Omega getting pregnant by a pack member wasn't unheard of . My stomach twisted . Was it maybe a mated werewolf or was there something more to it ? I know I was just coming out with assumptions , but I promised myself that next time I saw her I'd ask her . Maybe she was hurting in silence ... Dad's trial . The meeting hall in the packhouse was full . The Alpha's , the Beta and Delta there , along with many other adult pack members who wanted to sit in .

Uncle El was seated at the table on the dais alongside Aunty Red , Damon and Zack . As for Haru Jacobs ... Well , he was cuffed as he was placed in a seat , two

guards flanking him . He was a lot thinner and looked like an empty shell . Losing Mom had indeed taken its toll on him . He didn't even bother looking at me , staring given up on life .

blankly at the ground as if he had already I was seated in the front row , with Taylor next to me . Uncle El had just told everyone why we were here and listed Dad's crimes ; from physical abuse , neglect , emotional abuse , manipulative behaviour , lying and breaking every law that the pack stood for . I knew for many it was hard to believe that the respectable Haru Jacobs could have committed such crimes . " I have already heard evidence from a few others who have seen his behaviour , and have seen him lose his temper at her .

He also confessed this in the presence of the previous Alpha and Beta Damon . Without wasting further time , I will run a few questions past his daughter , the victim of his abuse , to affirm the facts . Both will be under Alpha command to attest the truth and only the truth . " No one could argue with that , as I stood up and Uncle El looked down at me .

" Under my command , I expect you to speak nothing but the truth , and not abstain or hold back anything . " His command rolled over me but unlike before , the power of his Alpha command wasn't as strong ... was it because I now held Liam's mark ? " I understand . " I said . This was the start of my resolution , to be who I wanted to be , for me and no one else .

" From as far back as I can remember , I was always told I'm useless , stupid , worthless , unwanted and that I was the worst thing that could have happened to my parents . No matter what I did , I was put down , told that I was not good enough , that maybe it was for the best that I died somehow . Growing up I became so used to him getting abusive that I began to just deal with it ...

trying not to upset anyone . I just wanted to ride it out , and I became ... numb to it , so familiar that it had become normal . " I was still doing that with everything , and I wanted that to change . " I always did things wanting to make them proud , but I was never enough . Even when I became the head warrior and I returned , I was told I'm trash ... " I took a shuddering breath and continued .

" Aside from the mental abuse , he'd hit me sometimes . Never enough to cause permanent damage , but a push or a thump . One time , he grabbed my hair and pushed me into the wall when I was thirteen , I broke my nose , but Mom just snapped it into place and told me to clean it up ... " I felt a flare of anger and I didn't need to look up to know whose anger it was .

Aunty Red . " It was more emotional abuse than physical . Mom , she'd let it happen and just watch it . " " How can you talk ill of Kimberly when she's in her grave ? " A woman behind me muttered . " Silence ! " Uncle El growled .

" She's stating facts and it's mind – sets like yours that make people think that behaviour is normal ! Kim let this happen , when she shouldn't have ! . " Aunty Red growled , glaring at the woman who had dared to speak . " I will deal with you afterwards . " " Yes ... Luna ... ' "

Uncle El nodded at me and I slowly sat down before Dad was placed under Alpha command . ' Do you want to wait outside whilst we question him ? ' He mind linked me . ' No , I'm ok . ' I said . I would face this , I needed this closure .

He nodded curtly before asking Dad to attest to his sins . " She's the reason my son isn't here ... She shouldn't have been here ... " His voice was flat , as if he had no will to live . His eyes stared blankly at the ground . He carried on , repeating everything I had said , each sentence that left his lips becoming more and more hateful .

I could sense the anger , shock and irritation from those in the room at his words , and I realised that if I had spoken out when I was younger ... there would have been far more people on my side than I ever could have imagined ... Taylor gave my shoulders a squeeze , and I felt a little comfort in him .

" Now that we have heard from both and we can all agree that he is guilty ... It is time to hand out his punishment . " Uncle El said . " He should be thrown out of the pack ! " " Lash him and keep him locked up . " " Silence . " Uncle El said loudly and the room went quiet . " For his crimes , Haru Jacobs will get one hundred and fifty lashes with a silver whip ...

I would have him banished , however that would only result in him turning feral due to the loss of his mate and may harm others ... He will remain in this pack , stripped of his rank and due to his deteriorating health ... He will be placed under house arrest at his home rather than kept at the prison , but I will ultimately let Raven decide .

If you want him in the cells we can do that too . " " " It's befitting . He can stay in his house . " I said quietly . I never wanted to see this man again , to the end of his life ... He can be alone ... " I have one request . " I said suddenly , swallowing hard as I stared at the man before me .

" Of course . " Uncle El said . " He is not to visit the grave of my brother Renji Jacobs . Ever . " I said icily , my chest heaving as some light seemed to return to my father's eyes .

" What ... No ... No ! I can ! Don't you go there ! " " I will go there , as much as I want . This is the last time I will ever see you . Goodbye . ' I stood up and turned away .

" Your request is accepted . He will be kept under house arrest anyway , and that means at all times , until his passing .. " Thank you . " I said , not turning back to the man who was shouting at me and walking out towards the door . That first burden was lifted ... I felt like I was getting somewhere ... I've got this . I felt my wolf stir and I smiled gently . No , we've got this ...

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From The Heart DAMON

Raven's father was committed, and although I knew the Alpha had set his punishment, I still wanted to tell Liam about it. I'm angry at him. So fucking mad at what he did. But past his split personality, there was that part of him that I knew. I wouldn't be able to forgive him easily ... If ever. I don't know if I could ever call him a friend again either. Looking back, I think that ended a few years ago. I was maybe just stuck in a fucking illusion that things would work out ... It did fucking hurt ... but life was shit like that. I entered the cells and unlocking the door, entered his cell. He was sitting there, his eyes closed, his hair that he always had gelled and styled was lying messily over his forehead. His eyes opened and met mine, they looked ... broken. I knew he'd feel it, but maybe this is the punch he needs to realise that he can be in fucking control. He needs to take control of his own shit. Neither of us spoke for a while, and Liam looked away first. "What do you want?" He asked quietly. "Raven's father was trialled today, he's been given one hundred and fifty silver lashes. He'll then be placed under house arrest and stripped of any rank or status he had. I thought, despite everything, you might want to know ..." I said, clenching my jaw. "Thanks ..." He replied. Gone was the cold arrogance that had surrounded him since his return. All I saw was his emptiness. "Who will deliver the punishment?" He asked quietly. "I thought I'd ask Alpha Elijah if I could." I said. He nodded, with the tiniest of smiles that didn't reach his eyes crossing his lips. "Will you also deliver mine?" He asked, looking up at me. An emotion in his eyes that I couldn't read unnerved me. My heart thumped and I stepped back, narrowing my eyes. "What?" "My trial is in two days, I don't want Dad to suffer. What I did ... I've caused him even more pain ... My punishment won't be small, and it shouldn't be ... but I don't want Dad to do it. You can tell her it was my wish that you do it." "Don't want me to look like the bad guy?" I asked, unable to hide the bitterness from my voice. "He ... No, because you're all she has now ..." said. "What I did deserves capital punishment and I expect no less, so ... be there for her." I sighed heavily. He wasn't making it easier to hate him. "I never wanted you to step aside, I was willing to make it work, all three of us. Raven is loving, she would have been able to treat us both well." "That won't happen because I always believed that it's one to one, there's no space for a third. There's no point in discussing it ... I no longer deserve her, so good luck." He said. "Not after what I did." "You're giving up because of what you did ... but you still love her." I said quietly, hating that I couldn't just hate him fully even if I'd not forgiven him. "I do, more than anything, but what I did was unforgivable and it's a little fucking late. When we love someone ... we do what's best for them." He said, running his hand down his face and massaging his jaw. His beard had grown too. "Yeah, we do." I said quietly. "I just kept her stuck in the middle ... in this constant tug of war. Not anymore." Our eyes met, and I nodded. "I heard from her that you two were going to reject one another ..." He said quietly. "Yeah ... I realised that you would never accept it working between us and she was hurting. You ruined it all." He nodded, staring down at his hands. "Thanks ... for telling me about the trial ..." I nodded, looking at him. Something told me that with this clarity ... Maybe just maybe, this was the push Liam needed to defeat the darkness inside of him. I turned away and paused. I needed to speak my thoughts and so I glanced back at him. "Nothing is over until you let it be. There's goodness in you, Liam. Find it ... Embrace it and let go of all the negative crap." I said quietly. "We will always be here for you, to help you through it." I added, through the link. No matter how fucking hard it is or

how angry we are at you . ' Our eyes met for a moment before I turned and left the cell ... RAVEN Dad's punishment was carried out the following day in the cells , at the hands of Damon . Followed by being bandaged and returned to his home , where he would be kept under complete watch . From what I heard , he wouldn't last longer than a few months at most . Was it wrong that I didn't really care ? There were some people who hurt you , but you can still love them , but Dad ... There was no space for that when I felt nothing but bitterness towards him . I returned to training today and it seemed everyone had been warned to behave , either that or the truth about Dad had made a few people guilty . Owen still acted like a prick but that was his nature and it won't ever change . After training , I had showered , got dressed and spent the afternoon pondering over everything . What I needed to do and what I wanted . I had now taken the photographs of Robyn and Damon and headed out to his i In the late afternoon . I rang the doorbell , and he opened soon after , looking as handsome as ever . I would always appreciate him , but I don't know what the goddess wanted , it was a mess . " Hey . " He said , pulling me tightly into his arms . I hugged him back , the tingles of sparks reminding me of our mate bond , but in life , there was a lot of bonds aside from the mate bond ... " Hey , how are you ? Was the lashing ok ? I didn't realise you would have to do it . " I said quietly . " I wanted to . " He said , closing the door behind me . " Ah ... I see ... Damon , I visited Liam the other day and he mentioned that he received a picture of us kissing ... " I said , taking a seat on the couch as I took out the envelope I had received too . " It's what triggered him off before he came to find us The image of him marking me flashed through my mind , and that familiar squeeze in my chest urned . Our happy moments , sad moments , painful memories ... all flashed before me . " A picture of us kissing ... I received something similar ... " Damon said frowning . Turning on his heels , he suddenly left the room before I could continue , I heard him run up the stairs . My brows furrowed as I stared down at my envelope . Have we all received something similar ? Oh , how I wish I had mentioned this sooner . Damon returned holding an envelope , now seeming to hesitate before he held it out to me . " I got pictures too . " I said softly , holding out the envelope of him and Robyn . We took each other's envelopes and I slid the pictures out , my cheeks burning as I realised what this was ... Shit ! I quickly pushed the images back in . The day Liam went down on me outside the Alphas ' home ! I looked up at Damon , who looked utterly guilty as he looked down at his own pictures and pushed them back in , running his fingers through his curls . " I'm sorry you had to see these ... I uh ... guess it's good that Liam only got a kissing picture ... " " Yeah ... " I said , shoving my pictures into my bag . A tense silence followed before he spoke . " Someone's trying to cause issues ... " " Owen ? " I said , frowning . There was no one else who hated me as much as he did . " I don't know ... Maybe it could be him . He is a piece of shit ... Well , now that we know , we'll work on figuring it out . " " Yeah . " We both fell silent and I realised that somehow things really had changed . " I went to see Liam too . " Damon said quietly , making me look up at him sharply . " He wants me to deliver his punishment . " My heart thudded and I looked at him . " Would you be able to ? " He smiled sadly . " He doesn't want Uncle El to do it , knowing it'll be hard for him . At the time I didn't think of it , but ... I think he knows how angry I am at him too , and this is probably the only way I can vent my anger ... He is my Alpha and there's not really a chance where I can vent my anger , so this is ... it . " He frowned , as if he had just realised what he had said and closed his eyes . I looked down at my chest squeezing . Yeah , that sounded like Liam ... " His punishment won't be light , will it ? " " No . " Damon said quietly . I nodded . I thought as much . I now turned to him . " Thank you for being an amazing friend and mate . " I said softly , reaching out and taking his hand in mine , my heart pounding in my chest at what I was about to do . He smiled , a glimmer of sadness in his eyes . We both knew he knew what was coming . "

You're no one's second choice and I won't treat you as such . I love you and I always will . We will remain friends . We haven't done anything that could make it awkward . " I joked . Damon nodded . " I saw it coming ... You ... You seem different over the last few days ... Smiling less , more lost in thought ... but you seem to be ... content . " He brushed his fingers over my knuckles , sending a ripple of sparks through me . " I seem to have gotten some clarity ... How can I love anyone when I don't even love myself ... " I said quietly . " When I'm so concerned about others ' opinions and emotions ? Since the start I've felt like this thing , caged between the two of you , feeling guilty , torn and upset . A king once told me that I need to stop trying to accept things , to think deeply about what I want – I want to be happy . " He smiled warmly and there was no sadness in his eyes this time , just a look of understanding and pride . " I'm proud of you and I love you . I always will , and I'm still holding you to that chilling time as friends . " I nodded vigorously , my hair falling in my eyes . " Of course , you should ! " I said , the glow of the setting sun warmed the room , gracing his skin beautifully , only enhancing the handsome man before me . A man who was selfless and loving . A smile that was completely genuine crossed my lips . This time , there was no doubt or what – ifs . I knew what I was doing and why . I raised his hands to my lips and placed a gentle kiss on each hand . For my happiness and for his . " I Raven Jacobs , reject you , my amazing friend , Damon Nicholson , as my mate . " I said softly , holding his hands to my chest . But I will always cherish you as a friend . " I , Damon Nicholson , accept your rejection . " I will always love you . We closed our eyes , feeling that painful pull that ripped through our chest . Our hands were still combined . I couldn't breathe for a few moments from the pain that jarred my body as I felt something snap and felt that emptiness settle somewhere deep inside . Yes , it was painful , but once it was done , I felt better . We opened our eyes slowly , gazing into each other's , my eyes sparkling with so many emotions . Then , under that setting sun , we smiled at one another

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