

Caged between the beta & alpha

chapter 91

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A Cupcake & A Confession – LIAM

Three and a half days . That's how long Raven's heat lasted , three and a half intense days . I was close to breaking my resolution when I saw no end . Seeing her sobbing and begging me messed me up . Mom and Dad were shocked that it went over the three – day period , which was the common period for heat , but we assumed maybe the curse made it worse . Or Mom thought perhaps I'm just a stronger Alpha than Dad , but I don't think so .

When Dad and I spar , I only manage to outdo him by a little , and I'd put that down to being younger . The moment her heat was over , Raven fainted with exhaustion . I made sure her temperature was ok before I tucked her into bed , collapsing next to her and letting sleep consume me . We slept for almost an entire day , far too exhausted to do anything . That had been one hell of an experience , it had been more painful and draining than every lash I had taken . **(Dear Readers Latest Chapters Uploaded Daily On)**

Seeing her in pain fucking hurt so badly , and I felt like I was being punished for messing up . I just wish she hadn't had to suffer once again because of me . But there was something about this moment that helped . There was something in her eyes when she looked at me , holding me tightly and completely vulnerable in my arms .

I was meant to be her protector but I had hurt her . In some ways , having her in my arms trying to fucking seduce me and rip my clothes off felt like a chance for me to prove I was better than what I had become . My beautiful mate ... She was perfect . I had just gotten dressed , ready to head out to get all her favourite foods after running her a hot , warm bath with essential oils . I'm surprised our toes didn't fall off after all that time spent in the icy bath .

I had requested someone to come to clean up the room and change the bedding . Once they left , I left too , not wanting to be gone for too long . We hadn't really talked . When I had stepped out of the shower , I had carried her to the bath . She had just woken up . Kissing her softly , I promised to be back soon . Forty minutes later , I unlocked the hotel room door and pushed the handle down with my elbow , my hands laden with two paper bags , hot drinks and a large cupcake in a box .

I saw Raven looking breath – taking , lying on top of the fresh white bedding , her hands tucked under her cheek , wearing nothing but one of my t – shirts that fell to her thighs . My heart thundered and the thought of seeing her like this every morning , every day for the rest of my life , filled my mind . A guy could dream ... " Hey ... " She said , sitting up , brushing her fingers through her hair . Her cheeks were painted a soft hue of pink , a pout on her plump , lush lips . " Hey , feel better ?

" I asked , placing the bags on the bed . She nodded as I bent down , kissing her lips . A soft sigh escaped her and I moved back slowly , savouring the taste of her in my mouth , my lips tingling from where they touched hers . I sat down as she reached for the first bag , my gaze going to her shoulder as my T shirt slid down , revealing her smooth , creamy skin that I would never tire of .

" This smells great . . " She said , as we both began to take everything out ; egg and cheese muffins , bacon rasher sandwiches , pancakes , cinnamon rolls , buttered croissants , sugary donuts , brownies , hot chocolate , along with two bottles of orange juice . " We're both fucking starved . " I said , unwrapping a muffin for her .

" I know . When was the last time we ate ? " She asked , biting into it . I watched her , my gaze dipping to her gorgeous lips . " Around thirty hours ago , give or take . " I said , our eyes connecting . The sexual tension between us was intense . Her gaze ran over me before she looked away , taking a bite .

" Thank you ... for everything ... I know it was probably hard . I mean , especially when I was begging ... " She murmured , biting into the muffin once again , pouting . " Hard is an understatement , love . Have you seen yourself ? " I asked , smirking slightly . She looked up slowly , her eyes softening , and she smiled slightly . " It's weird , that you loved me for so long ... I'm nothing spe =

" " You fucking are . Now stop it . Stop thinking of yourself as any less . You are beautiful , kind – hearted , and everything a man could ever hope for . " I said , reaching over and pulling her into my lap . She blushed despite having been in my lap naked many times over the last few days . " Thanks , " She said , caressing my face . I hugged her tight as we continued to eat . Now that her heat was over , her telling me about her and Damon's rejection was on my mind again .

She held the last bite of her muffin to my lips and I took it , watching her unwrap another muffin as I bit into my sandwich , one arm around her slender waist . The sparks of the bond sizzled between us . " You said you and Damon rejected one another ... " I began . She paused from opening the bottle of orange juice and nodded . " I realised what I wanted ... I won't lie , when we were originally going to reject one another , it was emotional and I wondered what if ...

But this time , I knew i It was what I wanted . I could never treat him the way I did you . There was no point in stringing him along when I forgot everything when I'm around you . It was for the best , for all of us . " I kissed her shoulder softly . " Thank you ... " . " I said quietly . Yeah , I had been a jerk about it , but knowing she chose me ... " Nothing to thank me for . You're stuck with me for life . " She said , biting into a croissant.co " Just the way I wanted it .

" I replied with a smile . I don't know what it was , but something had changed between us . There was no longer any barrier ... " Oh , my goddess , a sponge cake ! " She said , unboxing the little treat I had picked up at the bakery that had just been opening up when I had gotten our food . " This one I'm not sharing !

" I smiled , amused . " I knew you wouldn't . It's all yours . " I said , watching her scamper out of my lap as she quickly flattened the box open and took the giant

cupcake out of it . I had to admit she looked fucking sexy sitting there on her knees in my shirt ... " I need a picture . " I said , quickly grabbing my phone .

She smiled like the little minx she was and parted her knees slightly . With one hand , she pulled her shirt between her thighs , making it strain against her breasts . I swallowed hard , noticing her nipples were poking against it . She smiled coquettishly , raising the cupcake to her mouth . She stuck her tongue out sensually , licking the tip of the icing . Her eyes were looking straight at me , and I took a snap , feeling myself harden in my pants . Fuck ... "

You know how to tease . " I said . " Do I ? " She knew exactly what she was doing to me . She simply smirked cheekily . It had been so damn hard to resist her as she tried to tempt me to take her . She giggled , biting into her cupcake . " I can be ... " She said , our eyes meeting as she licked her lips . " But you haven't seen anything yet . '

" Looking forward to it ... " I whispered , taking hold of her chin . I leaned forward and she smiled , leaning into the kiss as our lips met . Sparks coursed through us , pleasure rushed through me and sent heat rushing right to my dick ... Fuck ... We parted and she looked up at me , her eyes solemn , and that glint of mischief was no longer there .

" I love you , Liam , and I'm ready to . become yours in every way . " She said quietly , her fingers touched her mark and she smiled softly . My heart thundered , realising despite everything , I was getting a second chance . A second chance to make things right , but even though she had just confessed her love to me , what she said next threw me completely . "

I want to mark you , Liam , I want you to make me yours completely ... I want to give you my first time , my every time , and my last time ... I want only you . To be by your side through the good and the bad . You and only you . " My emotions swirled through me like a tidal wave that had just been unleashed .

She wanted me ... me to make her mine completely ... A confession from her lips ... a confession from the heart and one I would never ever forget . " I love you too . Always have and always will . You are mine , I promise I'll take care of you for as long as I can ... " I whispered , my stomach clenching at the thought that perhaps I'll never get that .

" Yours . " She said softly , placing the cupcake down . She climbed into my lap , straddling me , wrapping her arms around me tightly . I hugged her tightly , feeling completely content despite the fear of losing it all eating up at me . Just then , I felt something snap inside of me . The pain knocked all the air from me and something wrenched free from inside of me .

My blood ran cold as the barrier on the darkness broke away . It rushed through me , stronger and more intense than ever , seeping into every corner of my mind and body , bleeding into my veins and heart .

The seal that Delsanra had put on it , had been completely broken . " Liam ! " Raven said suddenly , cupping my face , the tingles of the sparks soothing the storm a little , but It wasn't enough . " I'm ok ... The seal ... It's broken .

" I said quietly . I lifted her off my lap , feeling the darkness trying to take control , and I realised at that moment that no matter how much I didn't want it , I may still end up hurting those that I love ... There may still be a few weeks until the blood moon , but my time was over .

Caged between the beta & alpha

chapter 92

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A Sleepover – RAVEN

The entire journey home , Liam had been quiet . His hand never left mine , but the storm inside of him , well , I could feel it . My heart hurt for him , I just ... wanted us to be happy . I still believed we'd be ok , we'd be able to do this , but it still terrified me . " How are you feeling ? " Auntie Red asked me . It was night and we had just had dinner at the Alpha's home . I mean , I'd call it a small mansion really ... the kitchen was huge yet cosy .

I had insisted on helping clean up . " I'm ok , " I said , smiling and flashing her a peace sign . " Thank you for everything . " " Anytime . " She replied with a smile . " Heat is a bitch . " I laughed .

" Oh , it definitely is . " I agreed . " Auntie ... I know what Liam did brought back painful memories , but he really regrets it ... " She smiled sadly at me and came over , flicking my forehead lightly . " Are you trying to speak in his defence ? " She asked , amused . " Maybe ? " I said sheepishly . " He made a mistake ,

but there were factors and he's still working on redeeming himself . I love him and I don't want you to be upset with him . " Did I sound too bossy ? I hope not ... But she just smirked slightly . " I'm glad you both finally got there ... I swear it took you long enough ! " She teased . " Don't worry , I'm ok and I know he'll be ok too . You better head to bed , it's late .

" I nodded , dashed out of the kitchen and up the steps I'd climbed countless times throughout my childhood However , unlike back then , I didn't stop at Kia's room ; I walked right past to my mate's room . I opened it and saw him towel drying his hair . He was shirtless and I almost drooled at how delicious he looked .

Water trickled down that muscular chest of his , down his chiselled abs and into the band of his sweatpants that hung low on his hips , showing off his perfectly groomed V " Hey . " I said , my stomach fluttering as I shut the door behind me . " Hey ... " He said , tossing the towel into the washing hamper . My core ached and I knew , deep down , I wanted him completely . I had told him earlier that I just hoped he would lead the way now

He pulled me closer , his hands closing around my waist . " So ... I was thinking ... once I'm caught up with the work around- " He grimaced , closing his eyes and stepping away . My heart thumped , feeling the darkness surge around him once again . " Shit ... " " 1 " Hey , hey , look at me . " I said , gripping his face . " I'm ok . " He said , looking up at me , his eyes darkening to a deep navy but I could feel his

struggle . I pressed my lips against his , kissing him deeply until I felt him calm down and finally kiss me back slowly . His heart was beating hard in his chest . " We are going to get through this .

" I whispered . But how ? It was getting stronger and I know he was trying his best to fight it ... The door suddenly opened and we both turned , moving apart to see Azura standing there in a fluffy unicorn onesie with her hood up , holding a large unicorn plushie in her hand . " Waven , are you having a sleepover ?! " " Umm , yes , I am Zuzu . " I said , as Liam smiled slightly . " Then why I not invited ? " She asked unhappily . " Baby , what have I told you about knocking ?

" Auntie Red's voice came . " I sleep with Waven . " Azura stated firmly . " No baby , come , you can- " " Let her , I don't mind . " I said , glancing at Liam , who raised an eyebrow , looking unhappy . " We can all sleep here , right Wiyam ? " I cooed . He nodded , despite the fact that it looked like he was pouting , Auntie Red raised her own eyebrows .

" Are you sure ... ? " I looked at Azura , who was staring at me with those large blue doe eyes . They were glistening with tears that threatened to fall should I refuse the little Chibi . " Of course , I'm sure ! " I said , bending down I held my arms open to her and she ran straight into them , planting a big kiss on my cheek .

" Yay ! I sleep with Waven ! " " Great ... " " Liam said as Auntie Red gave us a wave and shut the door . And that was how we spent the night , Liam's arm under my head , my back to his chest , and me facing Azura , who was hugging her unicorn as she told me endless stories . " Oh wow , that's amazing . " I said , listening to another story . " Yes , and then " She carried on .

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' So , what were you saying earlier ? " I asked Liam through the link , very aware of his body heat behind me , and his hand that rested on my hip . ' I was saying , I wanted to take you out ... ' I bit my lip the moment his lips touched my neck , his scent making my mind fuzzy and my core clench . ' Out ? ' ' Yeah , I have some stuff I need to catch up on , but the day after Dad's birthday ..

. you and I ? Have a small getaway ? ' He asked , his voice husky and seductive . I knew if Azura wasn't here , I would have pushed him onto his back and kissed him hard . ' I like the idea . ' I said , sounding breathless even through the mind link . ' Perfect . ' His reply came and I smiled . I couldn't wait . A sudden thought came back to me and my smile faded away . Robyn's words echoed in my mind , her theory that Liam would have to give me up ... Was that the answer ?

But that didnt make sense , Damon and I had ended things so how did that work ? Something didnt feel right about it , I may not be smart but deep down I don't think that was the answer . But a selfless act from himself ... What if that was the answer ? It was finally the day of Uncle El's forty fifth birthday , and there was going to be a party in the packhouse . There was still no sign of Owen waking up , but to my relief , there had been no more killings ,

I wondered if I was just being too paranoid and it was Owen . Hmm , I didn't believe that though . As for Liam , he was losing control , and it broke me to see

that . Seeing him fight to the extent he was harming himself to keep himself weak – I hated it . ” Fuck baby ! ” I whimpered , watching him stab the dagger into his stomach right in front of me . We had just gotten ready for the party when it had flared up again ,

we were now kneeling on the floor in his bedroom , and I bit my lip watching him yank the knife from his already bandaged abdomen , the blood spreading on the white bandages . ” You’re killing yourself . ” I whispered , cupping his face and pressing my forehead to his . ” I’m fine . ” He said hoarsely . He had lost his colour over the last few days and I could see the constant pain he was in , well obviously when he kept stabbing himself to control it .

With his healing sealed away , he was badly injured . I stood up , silently grabbed another roll of bandages and returned to his side . He stood up , removing his teal shirt , and I began wrapping it up .

” You look beautiful . ” He said softly . I looked up at him , fighting back my emotions . I could see the love and admiration in his eyes as he looked me over , trying his best to act normal when I was breaking at the pain that he was in . ” I like the colour on you . ” He whispered , caressing my cheek .

” Thanks . ” I whispered . I wore a strapless knee – length deep brown satin dress with a slit down the left thigh . My hair was up in a messy bun , and on my feet I had some sparkly beige fishnet ankle heels . My lips were painted a matte deep brown to match my dress . ” You look as handsome as ever too . But you already know that .

” I said , tucking the bandage in . I tip – toed , locking my arms around his neck and claiming his lips with my own . His arms wrapped around me , holding me tight . I lost myself in his kiss , loving the way he dominated me , the way he bent me backwards as he kissed me as if it were for the last time .

Please , Goddess , don’t let anything happen to him . We broke apart and my gaze dipped to his neck . His scent intoxicated me . The sudden urge to mark him consumed me and I pulled him closer , my canines elongating , but before I could sink them into his neck , he pulled away . ” What are you doing ? ” He asked , his heart thudding . .

I felt a sharp sting of pain rip through me . ” I want to mark you ... ” I said softly . I wanted to mark him , and maybe , just maybe , it would help with the darkness . ” No love not now . ” He said , quietly looking down . ” What ? ” I knew I sounded upset , and I was , but I couldn’t deny the hurt I felt . ” Why can’t I mark you ? ”

He looked away ; I could hear his thundering heart as he turned away , going to his wardrobe to take out a fresh shirt . ” It’s just ... Let’s not rush it , I mean maybe at a better-

” I closed the gap between us and grabbed his arm , turning him to face me . ” Liam . What is it ? ” He was never a good liar . My heart was hammered incredibly fast against my ribcage , my stomach twisting with unease . There was more to it . ” It’s nothing , baby . Let’s not do this right now . ” NO ! We need to do this right now .

Why can't I mark you ?! " He looked down for a few moments but I didn't let go of him , waiting for my answer . He looked into my eyes , his own cerulean orbs wracked with guilt . But the words that left his lips felt like a knife had just been plunged into my heart . " Because if I do die ... I don't want it to break you completely . "

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chapter 93

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You Are My Dream

LIAM

Raven didn't say a word . Her anger and pain were clear in her eyes . She had clenched her fists and stormed out . I had called after her , but she simply shook her head not saying anything . Even when I had pulled her into my arms and apologised , she simply stayed stiff , a single tear escaping her eye . That hurt ... but it was the truth , I was fucking scared . We had walked to the packhouse in silence but I held her hand tightly . ' Raven ...

' She didn't reply , simply holding my hand tighter . The hall was decorated in a rustic theme . The wooden tables were bare , with just a black runner down the middle . There were bottles of whiskey , ice and drinks lining the table . It's definitely not a party for kids in here ... The double doors that led to the garden were wide open . The garden was decorated as well , and I could hear the music was louder out there . " So , food's in here , dancing and drinking are outside . "

Taylor said , walking over , a bottle in hand and Zack by his side . " Easy on the drinks , we just got here . " Zack said , looking down at him with love clear in his eyes , despite the arrogant look on his face . " Don't worry , I'll be fine . Damn girl , you look good . " Taylor said , smiling at Raven as she slowly let go of my hand and he hugged her tight . " You ok ? " I watched them , seeing the concern in Taylor's eyes for her . Even when she gave that dazzling smile and nodded , I knew she wasn't ... " Hey , guys ... " Damon said , coming over . He was dressed similarly to me in black pants with a button – down shirt .

" Hi . " I said , as he turned to Raven . " Hey ! " She said , giving him a smile before hugging him . I watched them as he hugged her back and looked away , giving them a moment . The sacrifice they made for me isn't something I'd forget and as much as I wanted to keep her in my arms , I couldn't be more selfish with her than I already have been . "

How are you feeling ? " Damon asked her quietly . " Perfect . " She said , smiling . I know a few of the higher – ups probably knew she had gone into heat as both Zack and Damon needed to cover for me . I saw Damon's ex glance towards us , lowering her head to me before she walked out towards the back . " Well , unless we are going to be like the old folks and stay inside , shall we head outside ? "

Zack asked . " Oi ! Who you calling old , pup ?! " One of the older men shouted , already downing beer like water . " Or do you want to try us ? We may be old but we can assure you that we are strong and able !

" Another called out . " Oh , I can vouch for him ! He is very able ! " His mate said , blushing as the other old she – wolves all began to tease her . Yeah , still young at heart . I smiled slightly as Zack raised his hand i n surrender . " Sorry , " " You deserved that , babe . " Taylor said as they led the way out , Damon following them . I turned to Raven , who looked at me just then . She looked breath – taking . It was a little different than her usual colour , but she suited it beautifully .

The dress hugged her curves , emphasising that tiny waist and cleavage before draping over her sexy ass . She reached up , her eyes flashed and her heart raced as she cupped my face , tugging me down . ' Raven ... ' She didn't reply , simply placing a soft kiss on my lips . The sparks were dancing between us , yet beyond them , I felt her lips quiver slightly as she pulled away . A ripple of whispers spread through the old wolves but I pretended not to hear them a s Raven wrapped her arms around mine , resting her head against my shoulder .

I was hurting her once again . I didn't like the silent treatment . " I knew it ! " " That's our Luna ! " " I see Scarlett in her . " " " They make a cute couple , I just hope she's not a magic lover ... " I frowned , feeling a flare of anger . I know what they were insinuating , the birth of Azura ... " Ignore them . " Raven whispered , but I was far too angry to do so .

I turned back towards them , staring at the granny who had spoken , about to speak , m y eyes flashing when I felt a hand on my back . " Patience Liam , I'll handle it , go outside . " Dad said quietly , his eyes blazing cobalt . He didn't like anyone saying anything about Azura's birth as much as me , he had made it clear it was never to be talked about . I just wish people weren't so fucking backwards ...

" Drink ? " Mom said , pushing two glasses into mine and Raven's hands . " You look good , Mom . " I said giving her a hug . " Thanks . " She said , doing a small twirl in her cerulean dress that matched Dad's eyes . " Where's Elijah gone ?

" " Handling something inside , " Raven said , her attention going to the small kids area that was all decked out with balloons , a bouncy castle , a ball pit and some Omegas dressed up as cartoon characters . " Ooh , there's a kiddie area ? " " I don't think anyone is going to feel comfortable leaving their kids at home . " Mom replied as Raven hurried over to go see the kids .

" She sure loves kids . " 11 " Hmm ? " I said , raising an eyebrow , a little too distracted by Raven's ass . " I'm not complaining . " Mom said with a smirk as Dad stepped out and she wrapped her arms around his neck . It took me a second to realise what she was hinting at . Pups ...

I looked over at Raven , watching as she pulled faces , teasing the boys and complimenting the girls on their outfits . I felt a pang of pain inside . I doubted I'd live long enough to see that moment ... I swallowed hard ; I wouldn't let this

darkness get the better of me ... " Kiara won't be making it . " Dad's voice said as he stepped into the garden , phone i n hand . "

Oh no , why ? " Mom said playing with Dad's shirt . TE " Because ... " I looked away as Dad got a little too distracted checking Mom out . Their Delta's mate has gone into labour early , it's high risk , the one having quads , so Kiara needs to be there . " 11 " Oh , if we knew earlier we could have sent someone to bring Dante at least .

" Mom said , sounding a little disappointed . " Next time . " Dad said quietly . I watched Raven help a pup that had fallen off the bouncy castle to her feet , kissing the top of her head softly . She was beautiful , selfless , and so fucking perfect ...

" Go have fun , or are you just going to stare at her from here ? " Dad said , smirking , bringing me out of my thoughts . " Hmm . " I murmured , slipping my hands into my pockets as I looked around . The couples dancing , the teens teasing and messing around to the side , the children laughing and giggling with no care in the world .

Taylor and Zack were standing to the side talking , or more like flirting quietly , before Channing rolled his wheelchair over and they joined in talking together . Robyn was sitting with Aunty Monica , styling her hair . And Mom and Dad were now making out like this was their bedroom ... Seriously ...

Damon was now next to Raven , who was next to the dessert table , both smiling over something . She looked towards me and her eyes softened , motioning me over . I gave a small nod , my emotions surging within me . I was always in the background ... I'm sure if worst came to worst ... They'll be ok , because they have each other .

They lived without me for three years , and they would live for many more ... I looked at her as she brushed her hair out of her face , nodding to something Damon said , but her gaze kept coming back to me . The only one I was scared about was her . Her reaction from earlier , her love for me ... I would fight this for as long as I could . For her .

I walked over to her and she excused herself , coming over to me . " Want to dance ? " I asked her . Her eyes widened in surprise before she nodded vigorously and pulled me towards the dance floor .

She wrapped her arms around my neck and I gripped her waist , pulling her against me as we began moving slowly to the music , her scent like a wave of serenity . " Please don't think like that . " She whispered , her fingers brushing my neck , sending off sparks . " With you in my arms how can I ? " I whispered huskily . Bending down , I kissed her with everything I had , pouring my soul and heart into it . You are my dream . You are my life . You are my all .

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chapter 94

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You Are My World

RAVEN

It terrified me knowing that deep down he felt like he wouldn't make it . I saw him fighting . Even at night , he'd wake up and hold me tight , his heart thundering as the darkness surged . I felt him weaken as he repeatedly hurt himself to contain the threat he may become . The emotions in his kiss terrified me . It told me how much he loved me , how much he wanted to be with me , yet the fear that he'll lose me " So ... tell me , what colour I should wear tomorrow ?

" I asked , looking up into those gorgeous cerulean eyes that I loved as a new song began playing . " Hmm I actually have something for you . " He said smiling softly His eyes sparkled as he caressed my cheek before cupping my chin . " I hope you like it " " Ooo an outfit ... I do like it ! Even if I haven't seen it ! " I said kissing his thumb that was rubbing my bottom lip He smiled in amusement before his gaze fell to my lips as he licked his own lush ones .

I wrapped my mouth around his thumb , taking it fully into my mouth , letting my tongue stroke it as I sucked on it for a moment , my eyes watching him seductively , my core throbbing with a need only he could satiate . " Fuck love . " He growled huskily , pulling me close and kissing me hard . This was the life .

LIAM It was much later , everyone had eaten and drunk a lot . I had gone easy on the drinks , having two and that's it . With the darkness looking for any chance to seep out , I needed to be in my right fucking mind . We were seated at a table ; Zack , Taylor , Damon , Raven and I playing spin the bottle . A game that Taylor insisted we play . " Ok ok , how old were you Zack when you lost your virginity ? " Taylor asked , smiling goofily .

The dude sure was drunk . " Thirteen . " Zack said , making Taylor pout . " That's early ! " " You asked , babe . " Zack replied , kissing him hard . Taylor pulled him close , although there wasn't much space left between them . The rest of us exchanged looks as Raven giggled , watching them . " How old are you ? " I asked her , standing up . Her reply was only to whistle and giggle again . Damon chuckled . " Go home , guys . " He teased . The three of us went over to the side .

The party was still going strong , and I knew it would continue for another few hours . " Aunty seems happier lately . " Raven said , looking over at Monica , who was now sitting with Mom and Dad as Mom hugged her . " Yeah , I think having more people around her has really helped ... " Damon said guiltily .

I knew he was probably feeling awful that he had to leave her often . " You have work , don't feel bad , no one realised we could have done more ... I'm sure we

can make sure Auntie always has someone around her . " I said , frowning thoughtfully . " She's aware that Dad isn't here ... But she's coping . , " Damon whispered , his eyes on his mother . " Yeah , losing a mate isn't easy . " Raven said quietly . All eyes were on Auntie Monica , but I won't deny that we were all thinking of our own situation ... I realised Damon only had his mother ... and Raven ... she only had us ... Her family was gone .

" Ooo they are cutting the cake ! " I smiled , watching her . Dad had cut the cake and Mom had fed him a piece a while ago , but it hadn't been cut up for the rest until now . Trust Raven to want some , but in the process , she left me and Damon alone with that mate comment hanging in the air ... I decided to ask him the question that was on my mind . " Why didn't you tell me you two had rejected each other ? I swear I didn't know , or I wouldn't have said- "

" I know you didn't . You're not a sly " person , Liam . You're straight up . I knew you didn't know and Raven confirmed that . We did what was best , for all of us ... " He said quietly , looking up at the sky , sighing deeply . It " It takes a lot . Thank you . " I said quietly , looking at him . " It does , but that's the difference between us ...

You're an Alpha and I'm a Beta . " He smiled despite the pain in his voice , but his words hit home . " We won't ever be equal , no matter how much we say it . " I didn't say anything , I couldn't . I was an Alpha , and it was in my blood to be possessive , but in the process , I had made him feel inferior ... That was never the intention . "

That's not true Damon , my behaviour does not mean- ' " I love you , Liam , you are my Alpha , but don't use that line . We both know we aren't equal . " He said quietly , his eyes full of hurt , hurt that he usually masked so well . " Guys , come here ! " Raven shouted . " Come on . " Damon said , patting my shoulder . "

Damon . " He paused , glancing back at me . " Yeah ? " " I may have wanted her all for myself , but never once did I think that I deserved her more than you because my rank was higher than yours . I've always loved her , since I was young , that was all I could think of . That I loved her first ... It was never because I was an Alpha and you weren't . " I said quietly . I needed him to know that . " Isn't it the same thing ? " He asked quietly .

I didn't reply , unable to . If anything were to happen to me Maybe they could be together ... Maybe that's why she was given two mates ? I watched him walk off , thinking he'd once said he'd die for me ... Didn't he realise I'd do the same for him too ? " Liam ? " Raven said , coming over holding a plate piled high with two , no three , large slices of cake . " Yes , beautiful . " I said softly as she caressed my face with her free hand . " Are you ok ?

" I nodded , " That's a lot of cake for one bite – sized she -wolf . " I teased . She pouted . " One was for you . " She said . I raised an eyebrow . " Was it ? Or were you planning on taking y share ? " I asked . my s " Not at all ... I mean , you should offer it to me because I need to eat lots to grow ... but that wasn't the plan . " She said , blinking u p at me . Oh , it was definitely the plan , when it came to sweet treats , Raven could eat lots . I chuckled ,

" Depends on what I get in return ? " I asked . " And now your bartering , shouldn't mates be willing to give up everything for the other ? " She complained , sounding cute . " I still want something in return . " I wrapped my arm around her as she did her best to keep her plate upright , and it was at that moment that I felt a wave of coldness wash over me . Something wasn't right . I may not have the ability to foresee like Kiara ... But I have always been very intuitive .

It was the same when we had pinpointed where the witch Endora was trying to resurrect was buried . I just ... felt it . I looked around sharply , the sound of Raven's voice fading away , my eyes burning a magnetic blue . I could see the kids playing together ... Azura now in Mom's lap ... No , it's not ...

I turned scanning the crowd , watching Damon walk back towards the wall where we had been not long ago ... and it was then that I saw it . The flash of something out there , hiding in the trees , metres beyond the wall . My heart thundered in my chest , as I saw the glint of metal , and I realised what it was ...

Time seemed to slow down , my heart . thundering in my ears as my eyes homed in on the man who was holding one of the deadly assault rifles we had designed only to use on the Wendigos years ago ... Weapons that were now meant to be locked away ... A weapon that was pointed towards us , with Damon being in its first line of range , eating his cake unsuspecting . My instincts kicked in and I pushed Raven to the ground .

" GET DOWN ! " I shouted , as I rushed towards Damon in a flash , spinning him

around , shielding him with my own body as I heard the shots go off . Screams erupted in the air , pain ripping through me , knocking the breath from me . Pain , suffocating pain My entire back was screaming in burning agony , spreading through my entire body . I couldn't breathe , I couldn't

The growls of wolves filled the air as Damon turned , his eyes wide in shock as he stared at me , catching me before I fell . I said I'd die for you too ... My eyes stung as I realised this was it

I never got to say goodbye to her ... Her piercing scream of despair ripped through my heart . I had failed her . I wanted to see her ... One last time to tell her I loved her ... but I couldn't link ... I looked up at Damon's hazy face . He was saying something , panic and fear in his voice .

I wanted to tell him ... to take care of her ... I felt my heart palpitate before it seemed to slow . The agonising pain was fading ... and darkness was surrounding me . Was this what death felt like ? Was my time truly over ? RAVEN My heart shattered when I felt agony tear through me , as I watched Liam pull Damon away from the wall ...

Watching my love take the rain of bullets , the smell of his blood and wolfsbane hung in the air , his pain and sadness washing through the bond . A scream left my lips as I ran towards him . All I could think of was the seal on his healing . Many wolves rushed past , heading to the attacker , but all I could think of was my mate ... " Liam ! " I cried as Damon placed him on his side .

" Fuck ! " He whispered , he was shaking I was about to look when he shook his head , placing his hand on my shoulder . " Don't look . " " Liam baby , " I whimpered , cupping Liam's handsome face instead . His heartbeat was fading , I couldn't think straight ... This can't be happening He couldn't heal ! He can't ... "

He can't heal ! His healing is sealed ! " I sobbed as if someone could fix this . " " What do you mean , Raven ?! " Damon asked urgently . " No ... No , Liam , wake up ! " I cried , cradling his head to my chest . He can't die , or I don't want to live anymore . Goddess , take me instead ! " Liam ! " Aunty Red called . " Raven , what do you mean he can't heal ?! "

She looked ghostly , tears streaming down her cheeks . " He got Delsanra to seal his abilities away so he wouldn't hurt anyone if he lost control ! " " No wonder ... I couldn't sense his Alpha Aura ... " Aunty Red murmured . " We need something to lift him onto ! To get him to the hospital ! " I stared down at him

This was a nightmare ... It's not real ... I couldn't breathe ... I can't ... I don't want to live without him ... I need him ! The pain inside of me was ripping me apart , tearing into me like a thousand beasts ready to kill , each passing moment more painful than the last . My head was pounding , my heart was squeezing ...

I felt someone dragging me away from Liam . " Let go of me ! " I struggled , tears blurring my vision . I need him ! " He'll be ok . " Damon's soothing voice came , but it was lies ! I could hear it in his voice , the broken tone of defeat . The two doctors were shaking their heads and pointing at his back . " ... can't move him " " He'll die ... " " It's too late ... " No. NO ! It's not too late ! " I need him ! Let go of me ! " I screamed . I won't let him go ! I twisted in Damon's arms , slamming my elbow into his ribs as hard as I could , and broke free , rushing to Liam's side .

Aunty Red was sitting there frozen , her face ghostly white . I pushed through , lifting Liam's head in my hands . You are my world . I won't be able to live if my world is gone . I looked at his handsome face , tears streaming down my cheeks . The fight isn't over until we take our last breath .

I kissed his unmoving lips , and for a moment everything faded away ... The soft tingle of a dying bond remained ... There's nothing worth living for if he's gone . I looked down at his neck , my heart pounding , my eyes flashing before I bent down , extracting my canines and sinking them into his neck . Marking Him ... I felt the flicker of the spark flare through us as I felt the bond becoming complete . His heart skipped a beat , picking up for a moment , and my heart leapt with hope .

" Please , blue eyes , look at me . " I begged . " We need to get the bullets out . Just try ! " Aunty Red was shouting . " Contact Kiara ! " D " Luna , please listen , he ... there's no hope . " One of the doctors was whispering . I stared down at him , begging him silently . Wake up , baby ... Please wake up ...

His heart thumped , once ... twice ... and then ... It stopped . I felt something being torn from my chest , agony slicing through me like a million lashes . " NO ! " Aunty Red's scream filled the sky . I closed my eyes as pain I had never felt before

wrapped around me ... I couldn't breathe . The pain inside of me was crushing me ... Goddess ... If you are to take him , then you will take me too ... I opened my eyes , as tears streamed down

my cheeks , staring down into the face of the man I loved ... Reality hit me brutally , wreaking havoc in my life in a way I never thought was possible , completely destroying me . Only one reality rang clear in that raging storm . Liam was gone .

Caged between the beta & alpha

chapter 95

/ Caged Between The Beta & Alpha
Light & Clarity

LIAM

Bright light , that's all I could see . I couldn't hear or feel anything ... I opened my eyes and looking around , there was nothing but light . It was dazzling , yet it didn't hurt the eyes . I was no longer in pain ... I sat up slowly . Where am I ? ” You are nowhere , just in - between life and death . ” A majestic voice came

It was strong and beautiful , but it didn't sound human . A soft laugh filled the air and I realised something was forming in front of me . A glowing outline of a tall woman with long hair ... I had to look away . Looking at her directly made the eyes sting due to the intensity of the light . I didn't need her to introduce herself to know who that was . I lowered my head to her , not sure how to feel . ” ” Goddess ... ”

” Indeed , my child . ” I could tell from her voice that she was smiling . ” I am proud of you ; you sacrificed your life for your brother . ” I frowned , everything returning to me . ” I don't think he sees me as a brother anymore ... I lost that right long ago . ” I said quietly . She held her glowing hand out , her flowing white dress swaying in a non existent breeze .

I took it hesitantly , feeling a cooling smoothness wash over me . ” It is in your blood to want your mate for yourself . You are still brothers . You are one pack , one family . ” She said , as I stood up , letting go of her hand . That's true , we are ... ” To err is part of life ... You broke the centuries - old curse , child ; one I knew you could

Surprise rushed through me , and although I couldn' t hear it , my heart was thumping in my chest . ” The curse is broken ? ” ” You gave the gift of life , selflessly sacrificing your own for someone else , someone who has caused you great inner conflict . You cast aside your bitterness and fought this darkness … ” ”

I stayed silent , remembering the curse and prophecy . She laughed softly . ” The curse … ah … Helios is not one to forget the insult … His curse was strong , I knew I would need someone powerful to break it . I have waited centuries for the right wolf to be born . I have created many strong , powerful Alphas of the Deimos line . Yet none as compassionate as you . Alpha' s are powerful , strong and have the will to lead , it is their soulmates who are usually the more compassionate , loving ones .

I couldn' t simply evade the curse . When Helios foresaw your birth and the power that you would have , he came to me … I couldn' t simply bend the rules , us gods have rules and regulations too after all … To break the curse ; yours and the blessed wolf' s birth weakened the curse but I had to seal away your abilities

In their place , he placed the darkness within you , the ultimate test to either break the curse or end the Deimos line for eternity . The burden was upon you before you even left your mother' s womb . ” I pondered on her words , taking it in slowly , frowning slightly . ” Abilities ? ” I asked , trying to make sense of what she had said completely .

” Yes , you are the Deimos prince . ” ” Aren' t all Deimos Alpha' s princes since we come from the Deimos line , like Dad or Grandad ? ” I asked as we walked side by side with no destination in mind . ” Not at all , I placed within you the powers second only to the original Deimos wolf .

You are far more pure - blooded than your predecessors , hence a Deimos prince . Far more powerful . ” ” Yet … ” ” Speak your mind , child . ” She said , although I knew she knew what I was thinking . ” Raven … Her having two mates … What was the reason behind it ? ” I asked quietly .

Unable to hide the sadness , I always felt that I wasn' t enough . ” Oh child , never think you are not enough . ” 1 ” Then why ? ” ” To test you . I couldn' t simply allow you to have a life of ease if I wished for you to break the curse . There were several outcomes that could have taken place , and even I did not know how it would go .

I cannot foresee everything after all , just the possible outcomes ... When I made you , I created for you a mate whom I knew would be far too gentle to want to hurt either . It needed to be from you .

” She sighed , despite her voice sounding as light and powerful as ever . ” You have broken the curse , yet you are neither alive nor dead . ” I knew that ... ” However , your mate marked you . ” I looked at her sharply , only to flinch due t o the blinding light and look away , touching my neck . My heart thudded at the realisation .

” She’s completed the bond between you two . ” Raven ... why ... ” Because she loves you . ” ” But I’ m on the brink of death , right ? ” I asked , my heart squeezing in pain .

” Yes , your heart stopped a moment ago , here time moves strangely ... But she marked you . Even when your body could n o longer fight , she still risked her own life by sharing her strength with you , thus destroying this curse . ” ” But I was too late ... ” . I didn’ t care ... But Raven ... My heart squeezed thinking of her .

She had lost everyone in life ... ” If you die , wouldn’ t that mean the curse has won ? You must live . ” ” 1 My heart soared with hope . I looked at her , fighting the bright light , knowing that this moment was about to end . I had one request . ” Damon ... please give him a second chance . He doesn’ t deserve to be alone .

He had given up Raven for me and although I couldn’ t share her ... I wanted him to find his happiness too ... He had lost far too much . I couldn’ t see her properly , but I knew she was smiling . ” Fear not ... I have a plan , I always have a plan ... Fight for what you want child ... The Deimos line MUST live on ... ” Her voice faded away and I looked around , realising she was gone .

Suddenly , I was plunged into darkness . What was this ? Then I was falling backwards at an incredible speed ... RAVEN ” No ... no ! ” ” Raven ... ” Damon whispered , but I refused to let go of Liam . Even though it hadn’ t even been a minute since his heart stopped , it felt like an eternity ...

” Do something ! Bring him- “ A sudden darkness seeped out of him , sending a shiver down my spine , and then an enormous amount of dazzling blue energy emitted from Liam , throwing us all back . I gasped as Damon caught me , both of us getting thrown straight into the dessert table .

The wave of pure blue aura burst outwards , shattering the windows of the packhouse in the process . The trees bent under the sheer force of

the blue light that illuminated the entire sky , washing away the darkness . ”

LIAM ! ” I cried out , feeling the sizzling strong snap of the mate bond fall back into place , a surge of emotions and strength filling me . He’ s alive ! I was the first to rush to his side , the glowing blue aura whirling around him . H e took a deep breath , his eyes flying open , blazing a brilliant magnetic blue that stared directly into mine . He cupped the back of my neck , one arm pulling me into his lap . ” Baby … ”

” Blue eyes … ” I whispered , flinging my arms around his neck . His heart was thundering loudly , that intense aura surrounded him .. ” Fuck , I love you . ” He whispered , His heart was pounding as was my own , his hands roaming my body as if to reassure himself that I was alive .

” I love you too , so much . ” I whispered , his hand tangled in my hair , pulling me close and kissing me passionately . I couldn’ t even kiss him back for a second , too shocked at the intense sparks that erupted inside of me , the pure intensity of the completed bond made my entire body sizzle with delicious tingles that sent my stomach into a knot of burning desire . ‘ I can’ t lose you … ‘ I whispered through the link , kissing him back , our lips so perfectly moulded against the others .

You won’ t . ‘ I whimpered softly , the moment he broke away , kissing me down my jaw and neck , not leaving an inch of my bare skin empty from his touch , his arms wrapping around me tightly . The muffled silent sob of Aunty Red reached me and it took my all to pull away from his touch , my eyes full of tears .

I looked at her , knowing she wanted to meet her son too . I motioned with my head and she came over , smiling at us , flinging her arms around us both with her body shaking in silent sobs as she held us tightly . Liam’ s strong arms wrapped around us both , placing soft kisses on top of both of our heads .

” I’ m ok . ” Liam said , my heart skipping a beat as I closed my eyes . Thank the goddess … Aunty Red moved back and Uncle El pulled her into his arms , looking at Liam . He was in nothing but some shorts since he had been one of the ones to go after the attacker in blind rage . ” You gave us a scare there . ” He said quietly .

” Sorry . ” Liam said , standing up . ” No need to apologise , guess you’ re just making up for being such a good pup when you were little . ” Uncle El said , his eyes full of emotions .

The man before me had truly been through so much in life , yet he still remained so strong . He hugged his son and I smiled watching them . Liam was taller and bulkier , and I realised that he was ready to let his father retire ... To be the Alpha that Uncle El could rely on too ... ” Wiyam are you ok ?! ” Azura’ s little voice came , big tears splashing down her cheek . “

I am , pumpkin . ” Liam said , crouching down and pulling her into his arms . I smiled softly , staring at his back , save the blood that remained , he was fully healed ...