

## Chapter 261 - My Professor Is My Alpha Mate

Lila's POV

We all stood in our assigned places around the circle, staring up at the sky with gaping mouths. None of us said anything for a long while. I don't think any of us could really believe what had just happened.

We just spoke to the guardian of the earth!

The protector of the grounds we stand on. Now her children are protecting us.

My heart was so filled with joy that I couldn't contain it.

"Lila..." my mother was the first to speak from across the circle. I realized she was now looking at me through unshed tears. "I had no idea you harvested so much power."

"There must have been some kind of mistake," I said, looking down at my hands as if I expected them to be glowing. But they looked ordinary to me, and I felt a knot tighten in my stomach. "I don't feel powerful."

"The Guardian doesn't make mistakes like that," Hazel said, she was also looking at me very carefully. "The orbs are attached to your powers for a reason. You have enough of it to feed them and keep them around for as long as we need."

"This means Lila needs to be safe and keep her wolf protected," Diana chimed in, glancing at Enzo.

His body tensed but I saw the determination on his face when he looked back at his mother.

"Even if that wasn't the case, I'd never let anything happen to her," Enzo said with fierceness in his voice.

I felt a sense of pride when looking at my mate and I knew as long as he was around, I was safe. I smiled up at him and he looked at me; he didn't return my smile. Not at first. I saw there was some worry in his eyes like he was contemplating something that he didn't want to say out loud.

It made my smile falter only a little, but then the corner of his lips lifted, and his gaze softened, bringing some ease to my heart.

“We are late for curfew,” he reminded me, making my smile drop completely, along with my heart as it fell into my stomach.

“What time is it?” I asked, gasping as I looked at my mother with large and worried eyes.

She glanced at her diamond-studded and gold wristwatch with a frown before looking at me.

“Just after 8,” she told me.

“Shit,” both Enzo and I said at the same time.

“We have to go,” I agreed as I ran to my mother and threw myself into her arms. “Please return home and stay safe. If darkness is really out there, then nowhere in between towns is safe.”

She held me tightly and I felt such comfort and love coming from her, I nearly melted in her embrace.

“You too, Lila Bean,” she whispered against me, kissing my temple gently. “I’m going to see your father first. I need to catch him up on everything that’s happened tonight.”

I pulled away from her and smiled up at her through unshed tears; her image was distorted.

“I love you,” I said to her.

She kissed my forehead.

“And I love you; forever and always.”

Enzo was pulling away from his mother as well and then I went to her, hugging her tightly.

“Be safe,” I whispered to Diana.

“You as well, dear,” she said, patting my back gently. “Thank you for helping us with this protection spell. And thank you for lending us your mother,” she added.

“Always,” I said, smiling as I pulled away from her.

I then turned to Hazel and bowed my head at her formally.

“Thank you so much Hazel; for everything,” I said to her.

“We will see each other again soon,” she said, opening her arms for me to hug her.

I did so without hesitation. It was brief but warm and comforting. I knew this village would be in good hands with her here; it always has been. Taking her away from this village, even for a little while, was a mistake. That would never happen again; especially now that we know how serious this situation is.

Enzo was thinking the same thing because he stepped beside me, bowing his head to her in respect, and said, "Hazel, I'm so sorry for putting you in danger. If it wasn't for me, you wouldn't have gotten hurt and had to leave this village unprotected. We wouldn't have needed Luna Selene's help. For that, I apologize, and I'll forever regret that decision."

She grasped his arm and peered up at him; her eyes were shining with love and admiration.

"I would have done it all over again if I needed to," she told him softly. "I'm glad I could help you uncover that wolfsbane in the protein mix. I'm glad Xander was captured and I'm glad Luna Selene was here. This protection spell wouldn't have worked otherwise. I don't regret anything, and I don't want you to either."

He smiled at her and nodded.

She hugged him briefly before pulling away.

"Okay, now get her back to school before you both get in trouble," my mother said from behind us.

Enzo grabbed my hand and started to pull me away from everyone. I waved one last time before turning and following my mate out of the village and toward his waiting car that he parked just outside the forest grounds.

"Do you think we really are protected from the darkness?" I asked as I slid into the passenger seat.

Enzo started the car and he stared at the forest opening, down the pathway that led to his mother's village. He had a worried frown on his face and a crease on his forehead.

"It can protect from dark magic definitely," he answered. "But Darkness is a powerful force that I worry the guardian won't be strong enough to keep away. Depending on how strong Zagreus is, we are still in danger until he's defeated."

"How do we defeat him?" I asked, my stomach clenching.

"I'm not sure," he answered honestly. "At least not yet."

I remained silent, watching as the forest grew smaller in the distance as Enzo drove further away. He glanced at me sideways before fixing his eyes on the open road before us. He reached over and entwined his fingers through mine.

His hand was warm and soothed some of my discomfort, but not enough to chase away the rest of my anxiety. I bit onto my bottom lip as I often do when I'm in deep thought and worried about something.

"I'm not going to let anything happen to you, Lila," he assured me. "I promise."

"You can't fight darkness, Enzo," I said, glancing at him with my eyes filling with tears.

"The Guardian's protection will help us get through for a bit," assured me. "Zagreus won't be able to walk through their barrier."

"But you worry his magic can still get in?" I asked, my voice coming out much weaker than I intended.

Enzo was quiet for a moment, trying to decide how to answer me without worrying me even more.

"I don't know," he finally said. "I think if it was that simple to keep him away, he wouldn't bother being here."

I swallowed the lump that had formed in my throat and took a deep breath, trying to steady my rapid heartbeat.

"As long as I'm breathing, Max and I won't let anything happen to you or Valentina," he assured me. "I promise."

"You not breathing is what I'm worried about," I said softly.

To my utter surprise and shock, Enzo pulled over on the side of the road and parked the car.

"What are you doing?" I nearly shouted, looking at him. "We are already late for curfew!"

He just stared at me for a short while; his eyes scanning my face.

"Enzo!" I yelled, starting to get aggravated.

Without warning, he cupped my face in his warm hands and leaned toward me, pressing his lips gently against mine. His kiss was warm and inviting, making my heart skip a beat instantly. I found myself breathing him in and my entire body relaxing against his. My eyes fluttered shut as his kiss deepened.

My face grew warm with heat and lust as the sparks flew between our connected lips. He tasted sweet against me, and I wanted so much more of him.

Soon, all my worries and stresses were gone from my mind. At that moment, it was just Enzo and me.

Then, he pulled away, but he remained only inches from me. His eyes were open, and he was looking into mine; I saw the love in his gaze as he searched my eyes.

“Feel better?” He whispered.

I managed a nod, unsure of what he meant. I feel great.

“Good,” he said, a cocky smirk on his lips as he pulled further away and turned back to the road.

He put the car in drive, and we started driving again. I continued to stare at him with a warm face and a quick beating heart. I was in a complete daze, but I couldn't wipe the grin off my face. I wanted to kiss him again; I wanted to be with my mate in more ways than just kissing.

Telling from Val's excited wiggling, she wanted the same thing.

I couldn't even remember why I was so upset only minutes ago. I didn't want to be reminded; all I wanted was Enzo.

The rest of the ride was fairly quiet; I kept stealing glimpses at him and I couldn't seem to stop smiling.

That kiss was amazing.

It took us about 30 minutes to get to campus and once we did, we quickly got out of the car and ran as fast as we could toward the dormitory. Enzo insisted on getting me to the door before going to his house on the other side of campus where the full-time faculty members live.

I knew Alpha Jonathan was staying with him for a few more days, so I couldn't sleep with him tonight as much as I wanted to.

The campus was vacant because once it was curfew, everybody was expected to be in their assigned dorms. A few security guards were patrolling the place and Alex, the gamma assigned to keep an eye on me per orders of my father, was probably in my dorm right now, waiting for my arrival.

Enzo texted him that we were on our way back and not to worry. But we had to make sure none of the campus guards saw us; especially together.

We stayed close to the buildings as we made our way across campus to the student dormitory.

“Shadows...” I whispered, triggering my wolf's abilities. “Cover us.”

The shadows left the building and the ground and began to form a dark shield that surrounded us. Once we were sure we were covered, we moved quickly across campus until we reached the dormitory.

We only had to get around the corner and then I'd be at the front entrance. I just had to hope the dorm advisor, Eileen Carter, didn't spot me.

I turned to Enzo and smiled up at him. He bent down and kissed me gently, pressing me against the wall of the building. My heart sped up as I wrapped my arms around his neck and pulled myself closer to him.

I didn't want to let him go.

But I heard a loud gasp, making me jump away from him and turn in the direction of the sound with a racing heart and a red face.

Standing before me was Brody and beside him stood Sarah.

Chapter 262 Freezing Time

## Chapter 262 - My Professor Is My Alpha Mate

Lila's POV

"What. The. Actual. Fuck," Sarah said as she stared wide-eyed at Enzo and me.

My entire body was trembling as I took a step away; I wasn't sure what I was planning to do. Part of me wanted to run in the opposite direction and take Enzo with me, but I knew that wouldn't do any of us any good.

I had to face this like an adult.

How exactly does an adult face this though?

Brody looked horrified as well, but he already knew that Enzo was my mate. I think he was more horrified that Sarah now knew about us as well.

Out of everybody at this school, it had to be Sarah who spotted us outside the school making out? What were we thinking?

"We were just saying goodbye to our mate..." Val sighed. "We aren't going to see him until tomorrow."

As much as I agreed with her, I had to face the fact that Sarah saw us.

The thought occurred to me that I could freeze time and try to sneak away. But that wasn't an ability I was skilled in just yet.

"We could at least try," Val said, I could hear the nervousness in her voice though. I tried to think of all my training with my mother; she said time freezing wasn't something we should do often, only when we really need it.

But we really need it right now.

"How do I do it?" I asked.

"Just think about time freezing," Val instructed.

It was a lot easier said than done though.

"Mom said it was easier to say the command out loud," I reminded her. "But what if we do it and it doesn't work. We will look stupid."

"We look pretty stupid now."

Val had a point.

"What the hell is going on?" Sarah asked, cutting through my thoughts. "Are you fucking the professor? You know, I had a feeling something was going on last year, but I didn't actually think—"

As she continued to ramble, I thought about the hours of a clock stopping and her words trailing off as her entire body froze in place. Then I said the words, "Freeze."

Soon, just as I imagined, she completely froze as did the sounds of a passing car nearby.

"Holy shit, it worked," I breathed to my wolf.

"Yes!!" Val cooed excitedly. "Maybe we really are the strongest of our kind!"

That was still such a surreal thought to me.

"What did you just do?" Brody asked, shocked as he stared at his frozen mate.

"You froze her," Enzo said, also staring at Sarah with wide eyes.

My heart leaped in my chest.

"I froze time," I said, shaking my head in disbelief. "Why did you guys not freeze?"

“I have witch's blood; stuff like that doesn't work on me,” Brody answered, shaking his head in disbelief.

“I have half Volana blood,” Enzo shrugged. “I guess it doesn't work for me either.”

I sighed and leaned against Enzo, feeling dizzy all of a sudden.

“Do you really think freezing time is going to do anything? She already saw you.”

“Can't you say she was hallucinating?” I asked, giving Brody my best pleading eyes.

He looked at me with such disbelief that it made my stomach clench.

“And lie to my mate?” He asked, pressing his lips together. “I don't think so, Lila. Why are you guys making out in front of the school?”

“We didn't think anyone would be here,” I said, feeling my face growing incredibly hot. “It's past curfew.”

“What exactly were you two out here for?” Enzo asked; he didn't sound panicked or even the least bit upset. Just curious and there was also a little humor in his voice.

Now it was Brody's turn to redden; he was bright red.

I raised my brows at him.

“Oh yeah; isn't she grounded?” I asked, folding my arms across my chest. “She can't be out here right now.”

“We were just talking...” he murmured. “I needed to see her, so I snuck her out. I was just sneaking her back in.”

“Seems we are all in an awkward situation,” Enzo said, giving Brody a wide smile.

“Unfreeze her,” Brody demanded.

“I didn't just freeze her,” I said, staring at my feet. “I froze all of time.”

“So unfreeze all of time,” Brody said firmly; I could tell he was getting worked up over this. “Plus, you didn't freeze the witches. That doesn't work on witch blood or Volana blood.”

I wondered who else it didn't work for.

I sighed.

“Please make sure she doesn't run off and tell everyone,” I pleaded to him.



“I’ll try my best,” he said.

“And after, we should talk,” I said to him, giving him a sly smile. “You and Sarah work things out?”

He looked down at his feet, his cheeks tinting pink.

“Maybe,” he admitted. “Definitely an outcome I didn’t expect. But yeah, we can talk about it tomorrow.”

I nodded in agreement and took a deep breath.

I imagined everyone regaining their will to move again and the hours of a clock ticking forward before saying, “Unfreeze.”

“You were actually sleeping with the professor,” Sarah finished her sentence before I froze her. “This is seriously rich.”

“Sarah, please stop,” Brody said, facing her.

She looked at him, startled.

“Did you know about this?” She asked him and for a moment, I saw a flash of hurt through her eyes.

He sighed and nodded.

“Lila is one of my best friends, of course I knew.”

“That’s she’s fucking the professor?” Sarah scoffed, folding her arms across her chest.

“It’s more than that,” I blurted before Brody could dig himself into a deeper hole. She flashed me a devilish look.

“Oh, is it?” She said, raising her right brow. “Do tell. I’d love to hear your sex story.”

“We are mates,” I said quickly.

Her mouth dropped open as she stared at me; then she looked up at Enzo who ran his hand behind his neck awkwardly and nodded in agreement.

“Mates?” She asked, now flashing between the two of us. “Like goddess given mates?”

“Yes,” we both said at the same time.

Enzo wrapped an arm around me, and I stepped into his warm and soothing embrace, snuggling against him.

“Holy shit,” she breathed.

“If anyone knew about this, we could both get into huge trouble,” I said, shaking my head. “Something like this needed to be reported from the beginning and it wasn’t. Either Enzo or I would have needed to be transferred to a new school and neither of us wanted that.”

“What are you going to do when you get married?” Sarah asked, raising her brows.

She sounded genuinely curious.

“By then I’ll be a graduate,” I explained. “It won’t matter anymore.”

“You are going to wait that long to marry?” She asked.

I saw Brody tensing from beside her; it was at that moment Brody realized his mate wanted to marry sooner rather than later. I tried to stifle a laugh by chewing the inside of my cheek.

“We agreed to not marry until after I’m able to graduate. I want to finish my education before I become a Luna,” I explained.

“Look, you girls really need to get inside before your dorm advisor finds out you aren’t there; if she hadn’t already,” Enzo interrupted our conversation.

Sarah groaned miserably.

“Please, Eileen Carter is the least threatening person at this school. She’s a bear for crying out loud,” she muttered.

“Bears can be tough,” I said, thinking about Rachel who was the toughest bear I knew.

Sarah rolled her eyes.

“Okay look; I’m not wanting to get in trouble for being out here because I’m grounded. So, let's just pretend we didn’t see one another.”

I raised my brows in surprise.

“Really?” I asked hopefulness in my tone.

Brody was grinning from beside her as she glanced at him; at that point, I saw her face redden as they made eye contact.

“Yeah,” she muttered, looking back at me. “I didn’t see you and you didn’t see me. Okay?”

This was unusual; last year, she would have jumped at the opportunity to report me. But now that she knew she was mated to Brody, who happened to be one of my best friends, she seemed less inclined to get me in trouble.

“She just doesn’t want to get in trouble herself,” Val muttered. “Don’t let her selfishness blind you.”

“You’re right,” I agreed. “I shouldn’t be so naive. Sarah will never change her ways. Not even for her mate.”

I had to make sure Brody knew that. But not right now; it had to wait until later. Right now, I needed to get to my dorm.

I turned back to Enzo and kissed him gently on the lips.

“I love you,” I said to him.

“And I you,” he said in return.

“Wow,” Sarah said, creasing her brows together. “I’ll never get used to that sight.”

She turned to Brody, her face reddening.

“So... we will talk later?” She asked, her voice dropping to almost a whisper.

His grin widened and he nodded.

“You bet,” he said, his eyes lighting up.

It made me smile oddly enough.

“Okay...” she said, running her fingers through her hair.

She turned away and looked at me.

“Are you coming?” She huffed.

“You bet,” I teased.

I waved goodbye to the boys and ran inside the girl's dormitory while Brody went through the other door leading to the boy's dormitory and Enzo went across campus to the faculty housing.

The dorm was extremely quiet; if we weren’t quiet enough, somebody would be able to hear us. We had to pass by Eileen’s door on our way to the stairway that led to our dorms. Sarah’s dorm was across from mine. That’s where the larger dorms were and for a while, Sarah didn’t have a roommate even though she had 3 bedrooms.

But now Kayla was her roommate.

There was a faint light under Eileen's door, so I knew she was still awake. I wonder if she had done her walkthrough yet to make sure everyone was accounted for.

I swallowed the lump in my throat as we snuck past the door and up the stairs.

Sarah said nothing as she went into her dorm, quietly shutting the door behind her.

I did the same.

Alex was passed out on the couch with his phone on his chest. I rolled my eyes and stifled a groan; the last thing I needed right now was to wake up.

I went straight into my room, excited to get some well-deserved sleep. I was so preoccupied with getting back to my dorm that I hardly noticed the Guardian's orb that hovered over the campus. I saw a faint lining of a shield being placed when I arrived on campus, but I didn't really take a moment to look at it.

I wondered if others could see it as well. I did, however, feel the calming sensation of the shield in place. I felt its powers and it was soothing to know we were protected. I hoped it made a difference though.

I pushed my door open and shut it behind me. Turning on my light, I turned toward my bed and froze in my place, gasping when I saw who was standing in my room with my jewelry box opened in front of her.

Chapter 263 Getting Somewhere Safe

## Chapter 263 - My Professor Is My Alpha Mate

Third Person POV

“Conjuring darkness was not part of our agreement,” Alpha Jonathan seethed as he stood outside of the study, he appointed to Jazzy during her stay with him.

Zagreus in his snake form rested on her desk, his eyes turned to slits as Alpha Jonathan stared pointedly at them. Jazzy leaned against her desk, a cocky grin on her perfectly formed lips as she glanced at Zagreus.

“Rest easy, my love,” she said to him. “I can handle this quite fine.”

She then turned to Alpha Jonathan who tried to remain as calm as he could but facing darkness in his own home gave him a chill down his spine; something he would never admit out loud.

“Our agreement was for me to save your daughter's life by turning her into one of those disgusting creatures,” Jazzy seethed, narrowing her eyes at Alpha Jonathan. “How I do it, isn't your concern.”

“When it's in my home, it is my concern,” Jonathan said, curling his lip up as he spoke to her. “You sacrificed my warrior to bring him here.”

“That half-minded mutt was no warrior,” Jazzy scoffed. “If anything, I did you a favor.”

“He was young; he was still in training. He was one of the best in training. He had the potential to become great,” Alpha Jonathan said to her, shaking his head at her.

He could help but feel disappointed; if he were to be honest, he liked Douglas. He wanted him to be Sarah's chosen mate if he continued to excel as a warrior.

This only made Jazzy laugh though.

“He was never going to be anything. You have many other warriors that are far more capable of defending your pathetic pack than a 21-year-old virgin,” Jazzy muttered.

“Darkness is not the answer,” Alpha Jonathan continued to push making the snake on Jazzy's desk hiss furiously. This time, he couldn't hide his flinch.

“It would be an impossible task without Zagreus to help us,” Jazzy said, stepping toward Alpha Jonathan before the snake attacked. Even with Jazzy's best efforts, she couldn't control the snake and if he wanted to attack, he would. “If you want this to work, you need to trust me.”

Alpha Jonathan's jaw clenched.

“Do you not sacrifice any more men to keep that thing alive,” Alpha Jonathan hissed. “As soon as my daughter is a powerful Volana, and she kills the rest of them as payment to you, our ties are done.”

On that note, he turned and slammed the door shut behind him.

The snake slithered to the ground beside Jazzy and began to take the form of the handsome gentleman known as Zagreus. He stood beside her, staring at the closed door that Jonathan had just stormed through.

“I take it he doesn't know the full plan?” Zagreus asked a glimmer of humor behind his tone.

“If he knew that his precious daughter was going to be my vessel, he would never go along with such a plan,” Jazzy chuckled.

“You realize for her to be your vessel, she needs to die during this ritual. She won’t be herself anymore.”

“Exactly. She will be exactly what I want her to be. She will do exactly what I want her to do without question. To me, she’s just a body. Except she will be as powerful as the strongest Volana. She should also still have her mind manipulation abilities without the curse,” Jazzy said, closing the small gap between her and Zagreus.

“Tell me, my love. What are you going with her once she kills all the other Volana wolves?” Zagreus asked, wrapping his strong arms around her thin waist.

“I might keep her around as my pet. It could be fun,” Jazzy said, shrug. “Might use her to kill my stupid sister as well.”

Zagreus gave her a low and deep laugh as he bent down to kiss her red plump lips. But just as he neared her, he froze entirely, his body shuttering in agony. He released her and gripped the desk to stabilize himself.

His scream brought her on high alert as she ran toward him.

“What is it? What is happening to you?”

“It’s that guardian,” he hissed through his teeth. “It’s been summoned.”

“The guardian of the earth?” Jazzy asked, looking around frantically as if it might appear in front of her. She knew the guardian was meant to protect the earth, but she never heard of it protecting packs.

“That bitch is back,” Zagreus seethed. “She must have been summoned during a protection spell.”

“Will it kill you?” Jazzy asked, extremely worried that her plans might falter.

“No, nothing can kill me. I’m immortal,” Zagreus said, much to her relief. “But I won’t be able to use my magic. It makes me powerless unless I have a moonstone.” Jazzy pressed her lips firmly together as she traveled to the window of her study and peered out into the night sky. A hazy light shield was surrounding the pack. She clenched her fists together furiously.

“They are protecting this pack,” Jazzy said through her teeth. “How do they know where you are?”

“Do you see any orbs of light?” Zagreus asked.

She squinted her eyes at the shield and on the very top she saw one orb of light where the shield was originally cast.

“I see one, yes,” Jazzy said feeling and sounding annoyed.

“If there is only one then I doubt they know I’m here. Or else they’d all be here and trying to cast me out. They are here to protect this pack and I’m assuming others as well. There’s 4 of them all together,” Zagreus said, trying and failing at taking a deep breath.

He was still hunched over and feeling a wave of pain electrocuting his insides.

“You’re powerless?” Jazzy breathed. She stared down at her hands and felt less powerful than she had moments ago. Her brows furrowed together. “Will it affect me as well?”

“All dark magic is being cast away,” he answered. “The only thing that will strengthen our abilities is a moonstone. I need to get out of this shield before I revert to my snake form.”

“Alpha Jonathan has a warehouse that is rigged to hold the strongest Volana. Will that work?” Jazzy asked, holding onto one of his arms.

“As long as it’s outside this barrier,” he answered. “I won’t be able to cast this dark curse next week unless I get my hands on a moonstone.”

“I might have one somewhere. I’ll look for it later. I need to get you out of here first,” Jazzy said quickly as they made their way out of the study door.

“The curse is strong enough to cast away the guardian’s protection, but I won’t be able to do it without the stone.”

They made their way down the spiral staircase and into the foyer of Alpha Jonathan’s manor. Zagreus let out a low scream as he doubled over; Jazzy heard a bone cracking loudly. He was turning back into his snake form by force and when it’s done by force it’s extremely painful.

“Keep going!” He growled. She held onto his arm which was now attached to the side of his body and pulled him along with him. Thankfully his feet still worked; at least at the moment, it did.

They walked outside and they went as fast as they could toward the pack border. He screamed again as agony arched his body.

“That Volana goes to the school of shifters in Higala. Which means all my magic there was probably undone,” Jazzy seethed with annoyance.

“Most likely,” he said, taking rapid breaths.

“But that bear we took over; we used your magic for that. Will that be undone as well?” Jazzy asked.

Instead of answering, he screamed again in agony. They were almost at the border. Many guards had taken notice and were charging toward them, but one fierce look from Jazzy halted them.

She didn’t even need magic to control them; they were pathetic and weak creatures and their obedience toward her made her laugh.

Zagreus fell to the ground; Jazzy could see his snake-like eyes forming. Her heart raced against her chest at a rapid speed. She wasted no time; she used all her strength to grab him and drag him past the borderlines and out of the shield.

As soon as they made it to the other side, he gasped for breath as if he had just gone deep diving and was now just coming up for air. She was gasping as well and lay on the ground beside his frail and trembling body.

He was no longer shifting into a snake; his body was back in his control. He slowly formed his body back into the human form that Jazzy knew and loved.

They stayed like that for a long while as he struggled to regain his strength.

“We should keep moving. We have quite a while to travel to get to the warehouse,” Jazzy said, standing to her feet.

“Are you sure it’s safe?” Zagreus asked, finally managing to get to his feet as well.

“It’s rigged in our favor. Trust me, it’s safe,” she answered.

He nodded and followed her through the forest grounds; it would take them an hour to reach the warehouse and they were going on foot. Thankfully, Jazzy felt her powers restored. She had a moonstone necklace in her jewelry box, but unfortunately, it was left in Starcove. She would have to get it if she wanted this dark curse to break the barriers of the guardian.

“As for the bear, if she has possession of a moonstone, we can keep control of her.”

“Where is she going to get a—”

Jazzy’s words trailed off as she remembered that day, she saw that Volana wolf; she wore a moonstone bracelet. Where she got it was beyond Jazzy, but she had it and they attended the same school.

That bear, Rachel, needed to get that bracelet before she lost control.



# Chapter 264 - My Professor Is My Alpha Mate

Third Person POV

Rachel walked the narrow hallway of the academic center as the sun began to set on Sunday night. Blood had stained her lip, and she used her thumb to wipe the remainder of it off before leaving the building and returning to her dorm.

She felt the darkness within her wiggle with delight as the blood it just consumed filled and strengthened it. Rachel didn't understand her sudden craving for blood; as a bear, they didn't drink or desire blood. But the sudden urge was too much for her to ignore and she would stop at nothing to satisfy the craving.

The warm pool of blood from her victim made the darkness inside her excited. Once she started, she couldn't find the willpower to stop. Not until the heart of the victim had stopped beating and she stopped struggling against Rachel's hold.

She had died and Rachel buried her deep in the basement of the academic center; somewhere nobody goes.

As she rounded the corner and pushed open the doors, a girl ran into her coming from the opposite direction, making Rachel's head spin and the darkness swirl around her in fury.

"OH! Sorry, Rachel. I didn't see you there," the girl, Rachel recognized as Mckenzi in her bear-shifting class, said.

Rachel glared at the girl and as soon as the girl looked into Rachel's eyes, her smile immediately dropped. Rachel's eyes were dark and becoming inhuman; Rachel couldn't help the anger she felt despite her desperate efforts to keep her cool.

The girl gasped but tried her best to hold her composure. Though her body trembled, and she took a step back the girl said in a low tone, "I'll see you later."

She turned on her heel and began to run in the opposite direction. Rachel hissed an animalist and snake-like sound. She was about to run after the girl and have her for a late-night lunch, but she soon got a terrible migraine that made her stop in her tracks. She leaned against the building, panting for breath, trying to regain her rattled brain.

What the hell was going on?

The darkness that swirled around her was in agony.

It was past curfew and Rachel needed to get back to her dorm before she got in trouble. She couldn't be caught out here right now, but she was in too much pain to move. Her limbs were listening to her anymore.

It felt like her insides were being electrocuted and the more pain she felt, the angrier the darkness that consumed her felt.

"Rachel," she heard a low tone in her head; the voice sounded like her own, but she knew they weren't her thoughts.

"It hurts..." Rachel said out loud through her teeth.

"I know it does and it's going to continue hurting unless you do exactly what I say," the voice said in return. "Do you understand what I am saying?"

"I'll do anything..." Rachel cried. "Just make it stop."

"Where are you right now?" The voice asked, urgently.

"Outside the academic center," Rachel answered, she was sliding to the ground and pressing her legs to her chest as tears ran down her narrow features and her body jolted and trembled in agony.

She could visibly see the darkness leaving her body through her features and the feeling was terrible. It once had a hold around her brain, and she felt the grip loosening; she screamed in pain as it attempted to dig its claws into the soft section of her brain and hold on for dear life.

"Listen to me, Rachel," the voice ordered. "You need to get back to your dorm and look for a moonstone bracelet. Do you understand me?"

"A moonstone bracelet?" Rachel asked through gritted teeth and tear-filled eyes. "I don't have one."

"Your roommate, Lila, does," the voice told her. "Find it. The pain will stop once you have it."

"I don't know if I can..." Rachel cried.

"You must!" The voice growled furiously.

Rachel pulled herself to her feet; a wave of dizziness hit her, and she feared she'd fall over. She swallowed the large lump in her throat before making her way across campus, trying to act as normal as possible.

She finally made it back to her dorm where a bunch of others were hanging out in the dorm lounge. Some girls were watching television and others were playing video games and chuckling with one another. None of them were paying much attention to Rachel, except for one who had said hi to her in passing.

Rachel chewed the inside of her cheek, wincing as pain coursed through her body but she made no movement to hunch over and scream like she wanted to. She was thankful the girls couldn't see the darkness leaving Rachel's body like Rachel could see it.

When she got back to her dorm, she was pleased to see that Becca was in her room and Alex was sleeping on the couch. His phone rested over his chest and heavy snores left his nose, making Rachel roll her eyes.

She disliked this guard; she found him arrogant and annoying. She didn't just feel that way because of the darkness that consumed her; she felt this way long before that. She snuck into Lila's bedroom; she kept the light off, just in case. Which was fine because she could see fine in the dark; especially since she was consumed by this darkness. It heightened her senses and made her more capable; and stronger.

She knew this bracelet that the voice spoke of; she saw Lila wearing it all the time. The idea of Lila not wearing it currently seemed ridiculous, but she had to check anyway.

Lila's wooden and beautifully engraved jewelry box sat on her dresser across the room. Another wave of pain coursed through her, making her grip the bed and gasp out in short and quick breaths.

"Did you find it?" The voice asked urgently.

"Not yet..." Rachel said in a horse whisper.

"You are running out of time; hurry!"

Rachel wasn't sure what would happen once time ran out, but she certainly did not want to find out. She went toward the jewelry box and opened it. Lila had a bunch of fancy jewelry, many pearls and gemstones along with many chains of different lengths and colors.

As she rummaged her fingers traced along something that instantly soothed some of the pain she felt and calmed the darkness down. She sighed in relief as she pulled out the moonstone bracelet, smiling as the darkness slithered its way through her mind and wrapped around her brain once again.

The agonizing pain eased.

Then, the door of the bedroom swung open, and the light turned on, making Rachel freeze.

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Lila's POV

"Rachel?" I asked as I went into my room.

Rachel stood over my jewelry box, the one my mother had given me before I left for college, and my mother's jewelry lay scattered across my dresser.

I furrowed my brows together, very confused, and extremely tired.

"What are you doing in here?" I asked, narrowing my eyes at her.

"I was looking for something," she said, giving me an innocent smile. "I thought maybe you had it, but I guess not."

"Why would I have something of yours?" I asked, looking at her pointedly.

"I'm not saying you stole it. I thought maybe you found it and thought it was yours," she said, forcing an awkward laugh. "I didn't mean to intrude. I did knock first, but you weren't here."

She quickly placed my jewelry back into the box before turning to face me.

"I'm really sorry," she said again.

"Did you check with Becca?" I asked, yawning as I made my way to my bed. I didn't mind her being in my room, I was just a little thrown off and I feel a bit invaded. But I was too tired to think about it right now.

"I will check with her right now," Rachel said as she made her way out of my room. "I'll see you tomorrow."

She shut the door behind her without saying another word. I furrowed my brows together as I stared at the closed door. I had a weird feeling that she wasn't telling me something, but I just wanted to sleep.

I sat up in bed and stripped off my clothing before grabbing my pajamas that lay on my dresser. I went to take off my bracelets and frowned when I realized I had forgotten to put them. I usually wore my mother's moonstone bracelet which she told me is good for protection. I shrugged it off; I must have left it in my jewelry box.

I went toward my bed and lay down. I sighed, feeling my entire body relaxing and sleep creeping around the corner.

It didn't take long for sleep to completely consume me and my mind drifted off into a peaceful darkened state.

Chapter 265 Powers are Restored.

# Chapter 265 - My Professor Is My Alpha Mate

Lila's POV

“Oh, my goddess; did you hear what happened last night?” Kay asked as she ran up to Becca and me in the dining hall.

I had a tray of food she almost knocked over in the process of grabbing my arm excitedly.

“What's up?” I asked, trying not to sound too annoyed with her. Looking at her excited face though, the annoyance melted away.

“Everybody got their powers back!” She nearly screamed and on cue, others started clapping excitedly around her.

“Everybody?” I asked, raising my brows, and looking around.

“All the witches, and those with abilities,” she answers. “Yes!”

“That's incredible!” Becca said, mimicking my thoughts. “Thank goodness for that.”

“Yeah,” I agreed, relieved that everything was restored to normal.

“Yup,” she said, her eyes twinkling with happiness. “And I know how it happened.”

I raised my brows at her as we made our way through the dining hall and toward an empty table, the only other table available.

“Do tell,” I said, sitting down beside Becca.

Kay sat in front of me and leaned in close, lowering her voice so only we could hear her.

“It's the guardian of the earth,” Kay said, completely and utterly surprising me. Of course, I knew that the guardian was involved, but how did Kay?

“The guardian of the earth?” Becca asked, looking at me and then back at Kay. “Who is that?”

“She's our earth mother,” Kay explained simply. “She's the protector of the earth; like the ground we stand on. As a forest fairy, we worship her like a goddess. We work closely with the

guardian and her orb children. I can sense her magic a mile away and this is definitely her magic.”

“If she protects the earth, then why would she restore your magic?” Becca asked, taking a bite of her spaghetti.

“I’m assuming whatever took our magic was also hurting the earth,” Kay said, shrugging. “Her earth.”

My stomach clenched; I knew exactly what was hurting the earth. It was darkness and I also knew the guardian wasn’t going to be able to keep darkness away for long. Even Aura said that darkness would grow and soon her barriers wouldn’t be strong enough to keep it out.

“I wonder what was hurting the earth,” Becca breathed, and I could hear the worry in her tone.

“Whatever it is, the guardian is protecting us from it,” Kay said, a smile planted on her lips. “Thank goddess for her. I don’t know what we’d do without her. But I’m so happy that our magic is back!”

“That’s really incredible,” I said, trying to give her a non-bothered smile.

I looked down at my own plate of spaghetti, suddenly not hungry. I was too worried about this darkness that’s been conjured. But I didn’t want to tell them this because it would only worry them and cause the school to go into a frenzy.

“Are you okay, Lila?” Becca asked, furrowing her brows at me.

I blinked a couple of times and looked at her.

“Yeah, of course,” I’m just thinking about the committee.

“Oh, right. We have a meeting tonight, right?” Kay asked, excitedly.

“Actually, we need some more members before we start any meetings. I was going to go around campus after lunch and post some fliers,” I told them.

I grabbed my backpack from under the table and rummaged through it until I came across a manila folder; within the folder held the stack of fliers. I handed one to Becca and another to Kay so they could read them.

“Anyone wanting to become a committee member can seek our Lila, the president of the club, after dinner hours in the student lounge,” Becca read.

“She will be there until curfew; come join a fun committee with awesome people and help make this school incredible,” Kay finished.

“I like it,” Becca said with an approved smile. “I can help put fliers up once we are done eating.”

“I’ll help too,” Kay said, grabbing a stack of fliers. “I’ll go right now!”

“Thanks,” I said. “I’m going to go too. I’m suddenly not very hungry.”

“I’ll eat your food,” Becca said, grabbing my plate. I laughed and nodded, waving goodbye to her as I left to place fliers around the school.

I started with the wooden lamp poles outside, and then I put some of the doors to the buildings. When I got to the school bulletin board in the center of campus, I heard a familiar voice from behind me.

“Hey, Lila,” Brody said as he approached.

“Hey,” I said. “Want to help?”

I handed him some fliers; he was part of the committee after all. He should help us post the fliers around campus.

As he helped me post them, he nudged my shoulder with his.

“Thanks for not saying anything about last night. Sarah said she got back to her room and hasn’t gotten in trouble for being out last night,” Brody said casually.

“As long as she doesn’t say anything about me being out past curfew, or anything about Enzo being my mate, then I’ll keep her secret as well,” I said, shrugging. “I’m glad she’s not in trouble though.”

“Yeah, me too,” he said, his grin widening as he got lost in thought.

“So, you decided to not reject her?” I asked, raising my brows at him.

He shrugged only one shoulder and his smile faltered only a moment.

“We are starting by talking,” he admitted. “Nothing is officially determined yet, but there’s definitely promise. I actually enjoyed talking to her last night.”

“Just be careful, Brody,” I warned him gently. “I don’t want you getting hurt.”

“I know you don’t trust her. But I don’t think Sarah is as bad as she makes herself seem,” Brody said, his cheeks turning a light shade of pink as he spoke about his mate. “I mean she is kind of a bitch, but it’s for good reasons....” He paused when he saw my face. “Sometimes,” he added sheepishly.

“You are right, I don’t trust her. But I do trust you, Brody,” I said, shrugging as I put another flier up on the campus bulletin board.

“I was thinking that maybe we could talk to Headmaster Prescott about her possibly being a member of the student committee,” Brody said in a breath, making me freeze.

“She was banned from school activities,” I reminded him.

“I know... but I thought if maybe you—”

“You want me to ask if she can join the committee?” I asked, raising my brows. “The very committee she tried to steal from under me?”

“I know it was unfair to you... but I think it could really help her and—”

“Brody, I don’t think that’s a good idea,” I told him honestly. “Besides the other members would hate that idea. Not to mention the school. She traumatized a lot of people.”

“And she feels bad about it,” he said; I could see that he was pleading with me using his eyes.

“She feels bad?” I asked; I wanted to laugh. “She didn’t even apologize.”

“If I get her to apologize to the entire school, will you consider it?” He asked.

“Why does this mean so much to you?” I asked, meeting his pleading eyes.

“Because she’s my mate and I think it could benefit her. I think she needs this. She just wants to feel like she belongs,” he answered.

I was finding this very hard to believe, but I already told Brody that I trusted him. I wasn’t going to go back on that now, so I just sighed.

“If she gives a heartfelt apology to the entire school, then yes I’ll consider it,” I told him, keeping my eyes locked on his. “But there’s no guarantees.”

“Thank you so much, Lila,” he said, giving me a quick side hug before handing me the rest of the fliers that he didn’t put up and then ran off in the direction of the dorms. Probably to tell Sarah the news.

I only sighed and shook my head as I stared after him.

I knew for certain I was going to regret this.

....



“How long have we been sitting here?” Becca asked, slouching in her seat, and staring up at the clock that ticked on the wall.

Brody, Becca, and I sat in the student lounge with a bunch of signup sheets for the student committee. On the fliers we posted this morning it read that we were going to be in the student lounge after dinner and if anyone wanted to join the committee to come see us.

But nobody even approached our table.

“An hour,” Brody said, yawning.

“Has anyone seen Rachel?” I asked.

I had hardly seen her at all today; she told me she would be here to help us, but she hadn’t shown up.

“Not since this morning’s class,” Brody said, shrugging.

“I saw her in the dining hall around lunchtime,” Becca said, frowning. “But we didn’t really talk. She looked busy with a couple of girls I hadn’t seen before.”

Rachel didn’t make new friends easily; I found that strange, but nothing to worry too much about. At least I hoped not.

My attention was instantly drawn to the front door of the lounge and my breathing instantly got caught in my throat.

A slender woman with long black hair and bright green eyes walked into the lounge, turning everybody’s attention to her. She was stunningly beautiful, and I felt Becca tensing from beside me as her emerald, green eyes scanned the room until they landed on me.

“She’s a vampire...” Becca breathed.

I nodded, unable to find my words.

It was often that we encountered vampires around campus because there weren’t that many of them. They also went to school at night so we didn’t often see them; but sometimes when the sun went down, we would encounter one or two.

For centuries, vampires and other species did not get along. Vampires and werewolves in particular are known enemies. But in today’s world, there’s been a long truce between our kind. Not that it automatically made us allies or anything, but we are no longer enemies. All species are allowed at this school and typically vampires would keep to themselves.

She walked toward our table, and I got an icy chill from her vibe alone, making me shudder as she approached our table in the back of the room.

“Are you Lila?” She asked, raising one perfectly trimmed brow.

I managed to nod.

She glanced at Becca and then Brody before fixing her eyes back on me.

“Is this the whole committee?” She asked.

“Um... no,” I said, finally finding my voice. “It’s only a couple of us. There are others.”

Vampires are known to be incredibly good-looking as well; so her looks alone were intimidating. She folded her arms across her busty chest and tilted her head to the side as she took me in; I suddenly felt self-conscious, wanting to avert my eyes, but unable to do so.

I had seen her around campus before, but I never actually approached her or spoken to her. Vampires around campus were known to hate anything that had to do with other students and school events, so we never bothered them.

I certainly never saw one in the student lounge before. A tight knot had formed in the pit of my stomach, making me feel ill.

“C...can I do something for you?” I asked, chewing on the inside of my cheek. I hated how weak and soft my voice sounded.

I knew she could sense my unease.

“Yes,” she answered after a long pause. “I’m here because I want to join your stupid little committee.”

Chapter 266 A Vampire on the Committee

## Chapter 266 - My Professor Is My Alpha Mate

Lila’s POV

“You want to become a committee member?” I asked, staring up at the gorgeous-looking vampire with what must have been disbelief written all over my face.

I’m sure Becca and Brody both looked about the same.

“Does it look like I’m joking?” She asked, rolling her eyes.

“I suppose not,” I said, chuckling nervously. “What is your name?”

“Skylar Barnett,” she muttered.

My heart nearly jumped out of my chest; she was a Barnett? As in Albert Barnett and Claudette Barnett?

Albert and Claudette basically owned the fashion industry. They were definitely vampires, but they were the most popular vampires to ever exist when it came to fashion, design, and modeling.

That’s why Skylar looked familiar to me; I had seen her in magazines before. That also explains the high-end boots and black cashmere jacket she wore.

I glanced sideways at Becca whose mouth was practically on the ground; Brody, of course, was clueless. He didn’t know much of anything about fashion; but I knew the Barnett’s were huge, which made Skylar huge.

“If you’re done gawking at me, can I fill out the form or not?” Skylar asked, rolling her eyes at us.

“Oh yes,” I said a little too quickly, sliding it over to her.

She sat down in the seat in front of me and started to fill out the form in perfect cursive.

“I’m sorry, but may I ask why you want to join the committee?” I found myself asking, making her pause and glance up at me. “It’s just that, vampires don’t typically like school events or activities... so I’m a little confused.”

She put the pen down and leaned back in her seat to look me over carefully. I felt my face warming instantly.

“My parents are making me take an extra curriculum,” she muttered, sounding extremely annoyed. “Something about wanting the world to know the Barnett’s aren’t just about looks. We also have brains.”

“It would be good to have a vampire on the committee,” Brody shrugged, looking over at me. “I mean, we have all the other species.”

I hadn’t realized that until he spoke those words; but he really was right. We had a bear, wolves, and a fairy, all we needed to complete the committee was a vampire. I wanted the committee to appeal to all students, including vampires. So, having a vampire on the committee was only right.

“We would love to have you, Skylar,” I said to her, giving her a fond smile.

She didn’t return the smile; she stared at me with an expression I couldn’t read. Then, she grabbed the pen and continued to fill out the form.

“When are meetings?” She asked without looking at me.

“We were planning on holding them at 2 in the afternoon…” I began to say but then froze when I saw her hand pausing.

She was a vampire; she couldn’t be here at 2 in the afternoon. Vampires don’t burn up in the sun, but they are uncomfortable and if they get enough exposure, then they will get sick. I couldn’t let that happen to my new committee member.

“But that’ll obviously have to change,” I continued, trying to appear as casual as I could. “What time do you start your first class at night?”

“9 pm,” she answered. “Is that an issue?”

“No, of course not,” I said, a little too quickly. I wondered if she could tell just how nervous I was; I clearly had no experience when it came to talking to vampires. “Sundown is at 7 and curfew is at 9 during the week. So, maybe we can have the meeting at 8?”

“That works for me,” Brody said with a nod.

“Me too,” Becca said as well.

“Great,” Skylar said as she finished filling out the form. She slid it across the counter and toward me.

She really did have great handwriting.

“When’s the first meeting?” She asked, pulling out a little black notebook from the bag she kept slung over her shoulder.

“Tomorrow,” I told her.

“Should we meet here?”

I glanced at the paper to make sure she listed her phone number.

“I’ll text you and let you know,” I answered.

“Got it,” she said as she wrote in her notebook. “See you tomorrow.”

She stood and with long and confident strides made her way out of the student lounge, leaving nearly everybody staring after her.

“What just happened?” Becca finally found her voice.

“We just got a vampire in our committee,” I said, still staring at the door. “Holy crap.”

“How many more members do we need?” Brody asked, staring at our list of members. I knew he was probably thinking about Sarah. I hadn’t even brought up the idea of adding Sarah to the other members, but I knew they wouldn’t be happy with that choice.

“Two,” I answered. “We lost the other two from last year. So far, we have you two, Rachel if she ever wants to show up, Kayla, Skylar, and me. To be a full committee we need at least 8 members, but ideally, I’d like 10.”

We stayed silent for a short while; I was so lost in my own thoughts that I didn’t realize Headmaster Prescott was approaching our table.

“Good afternoon,” Prescott said as she stopped at our table. “How’s the recruitment going?”

“We got one more person,” I told her. “We need at least 2 more.”

“Actually, I wanted to talk to you about that,” Brody blurted, making us all look at him. My stomach clenched because I knew exactly what he was going to say. I just didn’t think now was the right time.

“I’m listening,” Prescott said, eyeing him carefully.

“It’s about Sarah...”

Her smile shifted and now she was looking at him pointedly.

“What about Sarah?” She asked.

“I know she’s banned from any extra curriculums or activities. But I don’t think that’s fair. I think she should still be part of something, or else she’s never going to work as a team. She needs to learn to get along with others and not rely on her abilities to get her through. I think we should have her be a member,” Brody spoke with such confidence that I was impressed.

Prescott raised her brows at him, and I heard Becca gasping at his words.

“Sarah caused a lot of issues for many students,” Prescott reminded him. “What makes you think she can be trusted.”

“I guess I just have faith in her,” Brody replied. “I think this would be good for her and it’ll teach her that we work better as a team. Plus, I think it would be a good punishment for her to work under Lila. Don’t you think?”

Prescott looked at me and I felt my face warming under the intensity of her stare.

“And you’ve spoken about this together?” She asked, still staring at me.

“Brody brought it up to me earlier,” I confessed.

“And you find this to be a good idea as well?”

I was quiet for a moment as I allowed her question to settle in the air between us. I glanced at Brody who refused to meet my eyes and then I looked at Becca who was pale as a ghost. I knew she didn’t like this idea whatsoever; I also knew she wouldn’t be the only one.

I looked back at Prescott and squared my shoulders; trying to appear as confident as I could.

“If I’m honest, I’m not really sure if Sarah can be trusted. But I do trust Brody and if he thinks giving her a chance is a good idea, then I suppose no harm could come from it. If she oversteps, we can always kick her off the committee.”

Prescott was quiet for a moment as she thought about this and then she soon nodded; I felt Brody relaxing beside me.

“She can be part of the committee, but she won’t participate in any school events. Understood?” Prescott said firmly, making us all nod immediately, even Becca.

“Thank you so much,” Brody said, bowing his head in respect to her.

Before she left, she turned to me.

“Oh, that reminds me. I have a classroom for you,” she said, giving me a fond smile.

She reached into her briefcase pulling out a small baggie with a bunch of little keys in them. She placed the baggie on the table and slid it toward me.

The baggie read: RM 210.

“You’re giving us an entire classroom?” I asked, gawking at her.

She nodded.

“The student committee is going to need a real place to work,” she answered. “You are in charge of maintaining it.”

“Thank you so much,” I said, hardly able to contain my excitement.

Both Brody and Becca took a key from the baggie.

“When you get more members, send me the list so I can put it in my records,” Headmaster Prescott said, giving me a wink before she turned and walked away.

“I can’t believe we get a whole classroom,” I said, staring at the baggie with disbelief.

“I can’t believe you didn’t tell me we are adding Sarah to the committee,” Becca said, narrowing her eyes at me. “Everybody else is not going to be happy.”

I felt myself sliding down my seat in defeat; I knew she was right. I’m not sure what I’m going to do.

Chapter 267 Combat and Shifting Class

## Chapter 267 - My Professor Is My Alpha Mate

Enzo’s POV

“You returned late last night,” Alpha Jonathan said as he sipped his mug of coffee.

I almost forgot he was here; almost.

“I had things to deal with in my pack,” I muttered, pouring myself a cup of coffee as well.

“I know that curfew doesn’t apply to faculty members, but you really should be leading by example,” Alpha Jonathan said, narrowing his eyes at me.

I clutched the mug so tightly my knuckles were growing white. It was far too early to deal with this shit.

“When exactly are you leaving?” I asked through my teeth; I was aware that I was sounding disrespectful. But I didn’t give a shit. I wanted him out of my house.

“Until I feel like leaving,” Jonathan said in return. “They are starting to create my own house on campus. Once they start building, I’ll head back to my pack until it’s completed.”

“And why exactly do you need a house here?” I asked, my tone going dry. “You don’t strike me as an educator.”

“As a matter of fact, I’m planning on starting a business course,” Jonathan said simply. “Is that a problem, Alpha.”

Instead of answering, I muttered, “So, I guess you’ll be sticking around more.”

It wasn’t a question, but it made Jonathan scoff and chug the rest of his coffee.

“Don’t forget who owns this school, Alpha Enzo; and who signs your paycheck.”

On that note, he turned and went into the bathroom. I shook my head at him, not wanting to get into it or be out here when he returned from his shower. I went into my room and grabbed a pair of sweatpants. I purposely took my shirt off; I don’t wear a shirt when I jog, and I needed to go for a run.

“That guy pisses me off,” Max muttered as finished dressing.

“Yeah, you and me both,” I said in return. “I don’t like the idea of him being here all the time. Especially when Lila is here. I can’t really explain this odd feeling I have.”

“Let me loose and I’ll teach him a lesson he won’t forget,” Max growled, but there was a bit of humor behind his words.

“Easy there, old wolf,” I said to him, not able to hold back my laugh. “Something is telling me that’s probably a bad idea.”

“You’re no fun,” he whined.

I left the house and instantly started to run down the path that connected the faculty neighborhood with the rest of the campus. It was still early, so I knew most students were still sleeping. The campus was very quiet as I ran my normal course.

The cool breeze that hit my skin felt good as I grew warm from the cardio. As I ran past the dorms, the scent of honeysuckle filled my nose, easing every single one of my tensions and realizing my body. The scent was mouthwatering and incredible.

“Our mate,” Max breathed as he took in the glorious scent.

She was in the dorm, sleeping. I could feel her resting, but I could also feel her anxieties. She was worried about something, which made me worried as well.

“We should go to her; she needs us,” Max complained.

“We can’t. We’d get caught,” I reminded him.



“It’s not fair. Not being able to be with our mate.”

I knew he was right; I found it unfair as well, but there wasn’t much I could do about it. It was either this, or I returned to my pack and not be around her at all. It was torture being away from her. At least now I get to smell her amazing scent and feel her nearby. I can be here if she needs me to protect her from any danger. I know where she is all the time, and I can steal kisses in private.

Before, I couldn’t do any of that.

Once she graduates from the school, I’ll be able to make her my wife and Luna of my pack. She was going to make a wonderful Luna.

Her scent stayed with me even when I was no longer near the dormitory. I have been running for about 15 minutes and I wasn’t even close to being winded yet. Usually, in the mornings, I run several laps around the campus. Even once I get winded, I tend to push myself until my legs no longer want to work.

When I neared the academic center, I got a strange scent of rotting flesh that made my stomach clench and my body shutter. It made me freeze in my tracks and give the air a long and steady whiff, which in return made me gag.

“What the fuck is that?!” Max growled in disgust.

Before I could respond to my wolf, the door swung open and a girl I recognized as Lila’s roommate, Rachel, ran out of the academic center. Her face was pale as a ghost, and she was breathing heavily.

She froze when she saw me standing before her.

“Professor...” she said, her voice trembling slightly.

“Hello, Rachel... is everything okay?” I asked, trying to keep my tone calm.

“Yes,” she said, a little too quickly. “I was just dropping off a late assignment before class started.”

“I see,” I said, eyeing her carefully.

She normally had bright blue eyes, but her eyes seemed to be dark. Like the darkest part of the ocean, something was off about her.

“Rachel, do you smell that?” I asked, still keeping my eyes on her.

Her body visibly tensed.

“I don’t smell anything, Professor,” she said, running her fingers through her hair. “But I need to go. I’ll see you later.”

I said nothing as she took off running toward the dormitory.

I stared at the academic center, the scent started to disappear and became less potent.

“That was strange...” Max said, mimicking my thoughts.

I shook my head of any thoughts and continued my run.

On Tuesday my classes started early. I had shifting and combat 101, at 9 am and another one at 10 am.

Then I had shifting and combat 102 at 2 pm, and another one, which was Lila’s class, at 3 pm.

I had a later class at 6 pm which was my advanced shifting and combat class.

Tuesdays and Thursdays were typically my busy days; on Mondays and Wednesdays, I only had 2 classes, one at 10 am and the other at 3 pm. On Fridays, I only had one class, which was advanced and was held at 11 am.

I will say, out of all my students, Lila was probably the best one at combat and I’m not just saying that because she’s, my mate. She spent most of her life training with her father and the best gamma warriors in our nation. It’s not surprising that she excels in combat and I’m proud to be taking her training even further.

I hated to admit it, but she seemed to have gotten fiercer and stronger since we trained last year. Which means her training with Xander actually paid off a little bit. Even though he was poisoning her and abusing his power. The thought of him physically hurting her made me feel sick.

3 pm came slowly; I counted the hours before I’d be able to see Lila and touch her. Even if the touching was for the combat portion of our class. She walked into the arena wearing a tight tank top and a pair of yoga pants that left no mystery about her incredible body. Her outfit hugged every curve perfectly. She kept her dark curls tied up in a high ponytail and when she walked toward me, she had a bright smile on her face and her gorgeous eyes lit up with color.

She was vibrant and beautiful; the very sight of her made my wolf howl in delight and my heart raced in my chest.

“Good afternoon, Professor,” she said as she walked past me to stand beside her friend, and roommate, Becca.

The way she said “Professor” was teasingly and almost seductive. I had to stifle the growl that emerged from my throat.

I wanted to press her against the wall and have my way with her right then and there, but I couldn't and that pissed me off.

The scent of honeysuckle filled my senses, making me forget about that rancid flesh scent I smelled outside the academic center earlier this morning. I made a mental note to ask Lila about her friend Rachel and see if she's noticed anything strange about her.

There were about 20 students in this class, including Sarah who stood in the very back and looked incredibly awkward. I have a feeling she lost her support system and friends when everybody recovered the memories, she took from them. They also regained their free will, so they were no longer under her control.

I noticed some students giving her passive-aggressive and dirty looks, but she seemed to be paying them no attention. Even her combat partner was keeping her distance.

"Okay everybody; we are going to start today by doing two laps around the arena grounds outside," I told them, making my voice boom across the arena.

I motioned for them to exit out the door; sometimes I liked having class outside. It made it easier for the shifting portion of the class.

"Two laps in human form. Two laps in wolf form," I ordered. "Go!"

They all began to run out the door and make laps around the large field. Lila was the fastest; her form was perfect, and she hardly broke a sweat on the first lap. On the second lap, her cheeks grew pink and sweat beaded on her forehead and dripped down the nape of her neck.

She was the first to complete the first two laps and then she shifted into her glorious pure white wolf and her running grew almost as fast as lightning. Her wolf was huge, and her form was nearly perfect as well, making Max howl in delight.

The others soon shifted into wolf forms as well and also began running quickly, but certainly not as fast. I watched her with a sense of pride, and I made a mental note to show her just how proud of her I was later.

Something in the far distance caught my eye though and I narrowed my eyes in that direction. Standing off near the bleachers, I saw a girl sitting there, watching the group of wolves running. Her body seemed stiff as a statue and for a moment, I couldn't tell who it was. But Max's growing anxiety and unease felt like a repeat of this morning.

The girl slowly stood on the bleachers, and that's when I realized who she was.

"It's Rachel..."

/Chapter 268 She was here. Watching

# Chapter 268 - My Professor Is My Alpha Mate

Lila's POV

“It feels so good to run!!!” Val cooed excitedly after we completed our 4(th) and final lap.

By the time I shifted back into my human form, I was panting and breathless. I quickly ran to the side of the field and put my clothing back on. Most wolves were used to being naked around one another. It becomes second nature pretty quickly growing up because when we shift, we have to do it naked, or we will ruin our clothing.

Most packs have chests of clothing in the woods in case we have to shift in the woods, but we aren't opposed to being naked around one another. However, that didn't mean I wanted to stand around naked while waiting for my classmates to finish their laps.

Sarah was the next to finish the laps and went to fetch her clothing as well. I hadn't spoken to her about joining the committee yet; I suppose I had to do that soon because our first meeting was only a few hours away and I'd like her to be a part of it.

Becca said she recruited one boy from her werewolf history class, Luis. I've seen him around campus, and I've often seen him studying with Becca in the library when they are about to take an exam. But I wouldn't say I was super familiar with him. However, Becca said he wanted to join the committee and be a part of something important, and plus, we needed the members, so I wasn't going to deny him.

Brody mentioned that there was someone on his football team, Matt, who might join as well. I guess I just had to wait and see if he showed up. But I knew Matt was a bear, but also very strong and pretty good at school as well. He was also a guy that all the girls went crazy over. He might be a good addition to the committee and bring it some popularity.

I was excited for our first meeting tonight; now I just had to hope that Sarah would join us. If not for us, then for Brody.

I already sent out a group text for those I knew were going to attend the meeting to meet us in room 210 of the academic center. I spent all morning planning out this meeting with Becca and we already have a few future projects lined up.

I wished that Rachel would have joined us to help us plan for tonight's meeting, but she's been acting strange lately and said she had something to do. But she never elaborates on what exactly she has to do.

Brushing the thought out of my head, I approached Sarah once she was fully dressed.

“Hey,” I said, stepping beside her.

She was watching the other students run the rest of their laps and she glanced at me with a questionable frown.

“Look, you don’t have to pretend to be nice to me just because we are keeping each other's secrets,” she muttered, folding her arms across her chest.

“I’m not...” I was about to say but then I stopped myself and took a steady deep breath. “I wanted to invite you to join the student committee.”

She raised her brows and looked like she was about to laugh in my face.

“Even if I wanted to join your stupid little club, I’m not allowed, remember? Grounded,” she said, rolling her eyes and turning back to the other students who were just finishing their laps.

“Actually, you can,” I said to her, turning her attention back to me. “I already talked to Headmaster Prescott and decided it might be good for you to learn to work as a team.”

“And work as a lesser version of you? No thanks,” she scoffed.

“Don’t you want to make up for what you did to the students? They don’t trust you right now, Sarah. You broke that trust and traumatized a lot of them. You told me you were going to apologize to them; this is a good way to prove that you are different and that you truly are sorry.”

“And what makes you think anyone else would want me on the committee?” She asked, furrowing her brows together. “Like you said, they don’t trust me. I traumatized them.”

“You have to earn that trust back somehow,” I said shrugging. “Headmaster Prescott said you can be a part of the committee and learn to work as a team and deal with working under my authority. But you can’t participate in any school activities yet. It was the best I could do for you.”

She was quiet for a moment as she stared at me.

“Is this your way of getting me back?” She asked, pressing her lips firmly together. “Making me work under you?”

“If you want to look at it that way, then that’s fine. But in my eyes, it’s a way you can give back to the school after you took away their free will and their memories. What you did was awful and it’s going to take a lot for them to trust you again. This is a good way to start,” I said, shrugging. “If you decide you want to join the committee, you can come to our first meeting tonight and I’ll give you the form to fill out. It’s in room 210 at 8 pm.”

“8 pm? Why so late?” She asked.

“We have a vampire on the committee, and it works better for her,” I answered.

This time, Sarah did laugh, but it was dry and humorless.

“You convinced a vampire to join the student committee?” She asked, “How’d you manage that?”

“Actually, she wanted to join. She wanted to make a difference and show the school that she isn’t just looks,” I answered. Then I leaned in closer as if I was telling her some juicy secret. “It’s Skylar Barnett. As in—”

“The Barnett Fashion Franchise?!” Sarah gasped, finishing my franchise.

I nodded in response.

“Yeah, she’s kind of a big deal and she joined the committee,” I said simply. “It’s pretty cool.”

I knew I was saying this stuff to convince her, but I also truly meant it. She glanced down at her yoga pants.

“I’m wearing their sportswear,” she said, and I could feel her growing excitement. “I knew their daughter went to this school. But vampires are rarely seen.”

“I know,” I said in return. “So, can I expect you tonight?”

She was quiet for a moment, the excitement in her simmering.

“Why do you want me there so bad?” She finally asked after a short silence. “Why do you want to help me after what I did?”

Now it was my turn to fall silent as I thought about how to answer her. I decided to just tell her the truth.

“I don’t,” I answered simply. “But Brody does, and I trust and value his opinion.”

Her cheeks flared red, and she quickly looked down.

“I’ll just tell him that you’ll think about it,” I said, turning away from her. She said nothing as I walked away from her to join Becca who had just finished dressing in her clothes.

“Did you ask her to join the committee?” Becca asked.

I nodded.

“I guess we will see if she shows up,” I said, shrugging. “I did what I could.”

I glanced at Enzo who was watching me intently; I could see the worry that was in his eyes, and I wondered if it was because he overheard my conversation with Sarah. I knew he didn't trust her either, but I needed him to trust me on this. So, I gave him a bright smile, and he soon returned it with a small smile of his own and then a wink before he turned to the other students who had just finished their laps.

Enzo looked so good standing in front of everybody that I could hardly keep my wolf in check. He wore baggy sweatpants and kept his shirt off, showing off his incredible body and his mouth-watering abs. He had some scarring on his chest from past battles that hadn't fully healed due to the silver weapons used, but it only made him look extremely manly.

I wanted to rub my hands all over his body; just the thought made heat flare on my cheeks and my heartbeat rapidly against my ribcage.

Everybody got with their partners, Enzo was my partner. As he approached me, it took everything I had not to throw myself into his arms.

We both got into our battle stance, and I was the first to attack. We always started in our human forms. Enzo was fast and dodged a lot of my attacks, but I also managed to dodge most of mine.

Last year, he used to go a bit easier on me, but when he returned this year, I asked him to not do that. So, now he goes much harder, and I really appreciate it.

It felt like it's been so long since I felt his hands on my body and feeling him touch me at this moment sent heat to course through my body. He lifted his hands so I could punch each hand with my fists as if we were training for a boxing match.

“I've been wanting to talk to you about something,” he said in a low tone for my ears alone.

I glanced up at him, not wasting any time in punching his hands.

“I'm listening,” I said, proud that my voice didn't come out squeaky.

“It's about Rachel...” he said, making my entire body freeze.

I looked up at him, meeting his very concerned eyes.

“What about her?”

He glanced over to the far distance of the battlegrounds with a frown, and I followed his gaze to the distant bleacher; they were empty. I looked back up at him with a curious frown and he met my eyes again.

“She was here,” he said. “Watching.”

My heart fell into my stomach upon hearing his words. I didn't have to see her to know he was being truthful; I believed him wholeheartedly.

I didn't have to say anything, he spoke again, and his question sent a nervous chill down my spine.

“Have you noticed anything strange about her lately?”

Chapter 269 First Committee Meeting

## Chapter 269 - My Professor Is My Alpha Mate

Lila's POV

Enzo's question stayed with me for the rest of the day. We didn't talk much more about it during class but told each other we would try to meet up afterward and talk about it some more. But I knew he was right; something had been off about her. She wasn't her normal self and she's been extremely distant.

When I asked Becca about it, she thought Rachel might be a little depressed probably because she broke up with her boyfriend. But she was fine after she and her boyfriend split and that was months ago.

“Sometimes depression comes much later after the breakup,” Becca said with a shrug. “I think the jewelry she was looking for was probably something he had given her.”

“Maybe,” was all I said in return, but something didn't seem right about that. “I guess we will see her at the meeting. She said she'd be there.”

“Yes, but she's been saying a lot of things lately,” Becca said with a shrug.

I knew she was right about that too; what was happening to my friend?

She's been my roommate since last year and we've been close since then, but lately, it just felt like she was pulling away. I hated thinking that she could possibly be depressed.

Why would she be watching our combat and shifting class though? It wasn't making much sense to me. I decided to brush the thought out of my mind and just focus on my duties for the rest of the day. I didn't have the time to worry about her right now; I had to focus on this meeting.



It was our first meeting and I wanted it to go well. I would talk to Enzo about it later; he told me that Alpha Jonathan was planning on returning to his pack this evening, so I'll be able to spend the night with him.

I was excited to be held by my mate all night. It was much needed and all I wanted was to kiss him and show him just how much I love him. But also, I felt much safer being with him vs. being away from him.

Becca and I were the first in our new classroom and we were both excited to be there. It was a typical classroom with long wooden tables and chairs that sat in the center of the room. They looked like conference tables and were perfect for the committee. There were a bunch of art and crafting materials around the room too so I knew it was once an art room.

It actually wasn't far away from Miss Emily's room, which was in the art department.

In the front of the room was a large desk with a computer and everything. There was a golden plaque that sat on the desk that read: President.

"That's you!" Becca pointed out with a proud smile.

I still felt a little out of my element being called a president and having my own desk, but I was also filled with excitement.

"We even got a whiteboard," Becca said, running her hand across the large whiteboard that sat in the front of the room near my new desk.

"This is going to be amazing," I said as I went toward my desk and placed my backpack down. I rummage through my stuff and pull out all my folders and notebooks. "I have all the plans we came up with. I can't wait to talk about it with everyone."

Brody was the next to enter the room and as soon as he stepped inside, his eyes widened.

"This is awesome," he breathed.

Beside him stood, Matt. He looked a little awkward; like he couldn't decide if he wanted to run for the hills or take a seat.

"This is Matt," Brody introduced. "He decided he wanted to join after all."

"Hey, Matt," I said, giving him a wave. "I'm Lila and this is Brody."

I wasn't sure if Matt knew of me like I knew of him. Matt was a tall and muscular guy with shaggy blonde hair and chocolate-brown eyes. He had manly facial features and I knew from his scent alone that he had Alpha blood. This meant when the time was right, he would take over his father's pack and become an Alpha. Though, I wasn't quite sure what pack he belonged to.

It suddenly made sense as to why he was joining the committee; I'm sure it was probably his father's idea.

"Hey," he said, running his fingers through his hair.

It also made sense as to why girls fell to their knees when he walked by them. He was very handsome, but he wasn't as handsome as my mate personally. I still noticed his attractiveness and I found his smile contagious, even if it was awkward.

"Lila is our president," Brody explained. "And she's pretty cool. You'll like her."

"Cool," Matt said, giving a nervous laugh.

Soon, Kayla appeared at the doorway, peering inside the room nervously for a moment until she recognized those in the room and she instantly relaxed.

"Oh, good. This is the right room," Kay said as she walked inside. "This is so cool."

"Woah..." Matt said, his eyes wide when he looked at her. "You're a fairy."

It wasn't a question; I was surprised that Matt could tell right away that Kay was a fairy and telling from her face, she was surprised too.

"I am," she answered, her cheeks growing pink as she looked into his eyes. "I'm Kayla."

"Matt," he said.

She smiled pleasantly at him before turning to me.

"We get this whole room to ourselves?" She asked, eagerly.

I nodded.

"Yes," I answered, grabbing the baggie of keys from my desk.

I handed her and Matt both keys.

"Key's to the room," explained.

"Cool!" They both exclaimed at the same time.

"Jinx," Matt lamely said.

Kay chuckled and went to take a seat at one of the seats.

Brody walked closer to me and spoke in a tone that was so low I knew that only I could hear him.

“Did you speak to Sarah?” He asked.

I nodded.

“I told her about the meeting and the time. It’s up to her if she wants to show up,” I said, shrugging.

He narrowed his eyes at me.

“Were you nice to her? Or did you make it feel like an obligation to invite her?” He surprised me by asking; his voice was a little cold that it took me back.

“When am I not nice, Brody?” I asked, folding my arms across my chest. “I told her that if she truly wanted to make amends and show the school that she’s sorry then she will join the committee.”

He nodded and sighed.

“Sorry, I didn’t mean anything by it,” he murmured. “I just haven’t spoken to her since that time you caught us outside. I’m worried is all.”

I placed my hand on his upper shoulder and gave him a small smile. I understood where he was coming from; I’d be upset too if the table was turned, and it was Enzo. I got that he was worried about his mate, even if they didn’t establish their relationship yet.

“I get it,” I assured him. “No worries.”

He smiled and went to sit at the table with Matt.

I found a place at the head of the table and started to set up my notebooks and folders. In one of the folders was a signup form which I gave to Matt and a pen.

“I just need you to fill this out,” I told him.

He began to fill it out when the door opened, and Skylar poked her head inside the room. Her aura and energy could be felt right away, and everybody looked up to see her. I heard Matt and Kayla both gasping when she walked into the room.

I told Kayla we were holding the meeting late because we had a vampire but seeing it and hearing about it were two different things. I don’t think any of us would think that she would actually show up.

“Am I late?” She asked, glancing at the clock on the wall.

It had just turned 8 pm.

I shook my head.

“You are right on time, Skylar,” I assured her.

Without saying anything more, Skylar walked into the room and found a seat on the opposite side of the table and furthest away from everyone else. I don’t think that surprised anyone.

Almost immediately after, the door opened again and a skinny, nerdy-looking guy walked into the room.

“Is this the student committee room?” He asked peering around.

Before I could answer, Becca spoke first.

“Hey, Luis!” She said cheerfully. He smiled pleasantly at her. “I saved you a seat next to me,” she added, waving him over.

He quickly walked further into the room and toward her. I handed him a signup sheet and a key as he walked by and murmured, “Thanks.”

I got a key for Matt as well and slid it across the table to him and another for Skylar.

“Everybody in the committee gets a key to this room,” I explained. “Even if we don’t have any scheduled meetings, you are all welcome to come here to get work done. I am planning on having a meeting at least once a week. But I’ll keep you updated via text messages, so make sure my number is in your phone.”

I felt like I was truly in charge; the feeling was surreal. I spent my entire life watching my father be in charge, so I suppose it was like second nature to me.

The door opened again, and I turned to see Rachel running into the room. I was honestly surprised to see her.

“Hey,” I said to her, trying to act casual.

“Sorry, I’m late,” she said, rushing past me and taking a seat at the table. “I had some stuff to do beforehand.”

“Seems you always have stuff to do lately,” I said; not trying to sound mean, but I was a bit annoyed and a little worried for her.

She glanced at me, pressing her lips firmly together.

“I’m busy,” she said, her voice much dryer than it ever has been.

Her eyes were dark; they weren't like her normal bright ocean blue. Looking into them made me feel uneasy.

"Sorry," I said, not wanting to get into an argument. I grabbed a key from the baggie and handed it to her. "Everyone gets a key to this room," I explained.

Without saying anything, she took the key and shoved it into the pocket.

When she did so, I noticed there was a light red stain on her pants, making me narrow my eyes at her. She smelled off; I couldn't explain it. Just different. But I didn't say anything to her about it out loud; I just shook my head and clanked at the clock.

It was 10 past 8, which meant I needed to start this meeting because Skylar had class at 9.

"I guess this is everybody," I said, shrugging and glancing at Brody who looked disappointed.

I sat down and opened my notebook, starting from the very first plan idea Becca and I had. A fall formal. We never had a back-to-school party and we've already been back for a little over a month, so we decided on a fall formal instead.

"So, I'll need volunteers to prepare that. We'll need a venue, preferably one with a ballroom, and some to help with decorating and catering," I explained. "We have plenty of funding, so money isn't an issue," I added.

Before anyone could say anything, the door of the room slowly opened, turning everybody's attention in that direction.

I heard Kayla gasping loudly and the color of Becca's face drained. I didn't have to look to know who it was, but I did anyway.

"Hey..." Sarah said in a low and awkward tone. "Sorry, I'm late..."

Chapter 270 A Corpse

## Chapter 270 - My Professor Is My Alpha Mate

Lila's POV

"You aren't late at all," Brody said a little too quickly, making me furrow my brows at him. He pulled a seat out beside him and motioned for her to sit down.

She stood in her place at the doorway though, staring at me almost sheepishly.

“Come on in, Sarah,” I said, motioning for her to enter the room and sit beside Brody.

“What the hell is going on?” Rachel asked, staring at Sarah with the most disgusted look on her face. “Why is she here?”

She said the word “she” like it was a bad taste on her tongue, which surprised me. I knew Rachel didn’t like Sarah, not a lot of people did, but I didn’t expect her to be so rude.

“She is here because she is joining the committee,” I answered simply, taking a signup sheet and a key, and handing them both to Sarah as she took her seat next to Brody.

“I thought she wasn’t allowed to,” Kay said, glancing at me and then back at her curiously.

“Headmaster Prescott made an exception,” I explained. “It’ll be good for Sarah to learn how to work with a team and it’s her way of giving back to the school. She’d like to right her wrongs and there’s no better way than to join our committee.”

“But she can’t participate in any school activities. But she can help us plan them and be part of the committee,” Becca helped me explain.

“You both discussed this without me?” Rachel scoffed; I looked at her feeling all sorts of shock and disbelief.

“You haven’t been around to talk,” I reminded her, my force becoming much flatter than I meant it. “I’m sorry that we blindsided you with this, but you haven’t been here.”

“I don’t want that bitch here,” Rachel hissed.

I looked at Becca who was staring directly at Rachel with her body tense.

“It’s not up to you,” Becca surprised me by saying. “Lila is the president, and it was approved by the headmaster.”

“We should have taken a vote,” Rachel said, folding her arms across her chest.

“Okay then let’s vote now,” I said, also keeping my eyes locked on her. “Raise your hand if you care if Sarah stays.”

Brody was the first to raise his hand, I raised my hands and I was surprised that Becca raised hers as well. She looked at me and smiled at me.

“I’m with you, Miss President,” she answered my unspoken question, making me smile.

Luis also raised his hand, glancing at Becca with a little smile on his lips.

Hmmmm. I thought to myself. I made a mental note to ask Becca about her relationship with Luis later.

I was surprised to see that both Skylar and Matt rose their hands as well and when I looked at Skylar with my brows raised, she shrugged and muttered, “I don’t really give a shit.”

“I don’t care either,” Matt said, giving me a boyish grin.

Kayla was hesitant though and I couldn’t blame her for that. She had her powers stripped of her, not that it had anything to do with Sarah, but everybody has been associating Sarah with the strange events from the last few days. So, I didn’t blame Kay for being a little nervous about her.

“Can we trust her?” She asked, looking directly at me.

“If we don’t give her a chance, then who will?” I asked in return, glancing at Brody who gave me a small smile.

He mouthed, “Thank you,” before I turned back to look at Kay who sighed and nodded, raising her hand slowly.

“I say she stays,” she said, sounding defeated, but giving me a nod.

I looked at Rachel and shrugged.

“There, we voted,” I said simply.

“This is fucking ridiculous,” Rachel hissed. “I’m not staying here with that bitch,” she growled, quickly standing to her feet.

The force of her movements was enough to knock her chair to the ground, making it clatter loudly against the hard floor and making every jump, startled.

“It’s either her or me,” she hissed, staring at me.

I saw her eyes darkening and I knew she was being fueled by fury; I just wasn’t sure where it was coming from all of a sudden. Rachel wasn’t an angry person, and it was alarming that she was acting this way.

“That’s not fair,” I said, staring at her in disbelief. “We just voted; Sarah stays, Rachel.”

“Then I guess you made your choice,” she muttered. “I’m out of here.”

She grabbed her things and stormed toward the door, making me stand up quickly.

“Rachel!” I called after her; but she didn’t stop to turn around, she slammed the door shut behind her, leaving us all in silence.

“That was weird,” Becca breathed; she was the first to speak after the long silence.

I looked at her and saw the worry in her eyes; we exchanged identical and knowing looks. She now knew that I was right. I sighed and sat back down, facing everyone else.

“Where were we?” I asked, trying to appear normal.

“The fall formal,” Matt surprised me by saying. “You wanted to plan a formal and asked for volunteers.”

“Oh, right,” I said, running my fingers through my hair. “Anyone want to help set up for a fall formal? We’ll need a venue, catering, a theme with decorations, etc.”

“I’m really good at planning stuff like that,” Sarah said with a shrug. “I can get a venue with a ballroom and get the catering. I might need some help though with the decorating part.”

I was surprised that she was quick to volunteer.

“Put me to work,” Brody said, giving her a bright smile and making her cheeks grow pink.

“I can help too,” Skylar shrugged. “I’m a great decorator.”

“Me too,” Kay said, giving Skylar a nervous smile. “I’ll help too.”

“Okay great,” I said, happily. “That makes me happy. Thanks for the volunteering. Remember, feel free to use this room to collaborate whenever you want. You each have keys, just members to lock up when you’re done.”

They all nodded in agreement.

“What about your other idea?” Becca asked eagerly.

I had a bunch of ideas, but I knew the one that Becca was most excited about was the tutoring center.

I flipped to the next page of my notebook.

“Becca and I discussed the possibility of opening a tutoring center here on campus,” I announced. “It’s surprising to me that we don’t actually have a center for that. Students should have a safe environment to help other students. We could recruit the best students to be our tutors.”

“That’s an awesome idea,” Kay said. “I have some classmates who are great at specific subjects. They’d make great tutors.”



“And I know football players who are struggling to stay on the team because their grades aren’t great,” Matt said, looking around the table. “They could use a tutor.”

“I second that,” Brody agreed.

“Of course, we are going to need permission for this because it might be something they have to either build or make room for,” I explained.

“Leave that to me,” Sarah said, leaning back in her seat. “My dad owns this school and I’m his only daughter. I can get him to approve it if he thinks it’ll benefit the school.”

“Thank you, Sarah,” I said, and I honestly meant that. She was really proving herself today.

She didn’t return my smile, but she nodded and wrote something down in her personal notebook.

“Do you think I could be a tutor?” Luis asked, his eyes wide with excitement. “I’m getting all as in history and I love the subject.”

“It’s true; he helps me and others all the time,” Becca vouched for him.

“Of course,” I said to him. “Thank you, Luis.”

He looked very pleased.

“I was thinking we should also do more fundraisers,” I said to them. “I know we have plenty of money for a couple of different projects, but the money will run out eventually. I think we should hold a fundraiser every month. It can be different things. Food, drinks, knick-knacks.”

“I make pretty cool bracelets that I could sell,” Kay announced, holding up her arm of beautiful and colorful bracelets.

“My father wants to open a coffee shop on campus. It should be ready in a few months and apparently, I’m supposed to be in charge of it. Goddess knows my father doesn’t need any more profit so I could see if some of the profits could go towards the committee fund,” Sarah offered.

“That would be great. Maybe some of us could work at the coffee shop as well to help out?” I asked.

“That works with me,” she shrugged. “We’ll need the staff, and it doesn’t take a genius to pour coffee.”

“I have football practice almost every day, but I can take a shift or two,” Matt offered.

“Me too,” Becca said, nodding at Sarah.

“Your contributions are amazing,” I said proudly. “Also, if anyone knows anyone else who’d like to join the committee, have them see or text me. We are now down a member.”

“I’ll keep an eye out,” Becca said softly.

Skylar soon stood, glancing at the clock.

“I have to get to class. I’ll see you all later.”

“I’ll text you about when to meet for when we plan the fall formal,” Sarah said; she nodded as she packed up her stuff.

“That hour went by fast,” I pointed out. “I guess that’s the end of the meeting. Great job guys. Get some rest. We will meet again soon.”

On that note, everyone began to pack their things and leave the room; Becca stayed behind though.

“You were right; something is wrong with her. We need to find out what it is,” she whispered.

I nodded in agreement.

“I’ll meet you in our room later; I need to see Enzo first,” I said, grabbing my backpack off my new desk, which I was never going to get used to.

“Don’t get caught,” she winked.

I chuckled and left the room.

I quickly made my way out of the academic center and into the cool night air. I was walking toward the faculty neighborhood where I told Enzo I’d meet him, but I paused when I saw bright and very loud sirens entering the school.

I froze when police cars and an ambulance rushed past me, nearly running me over. Thankfully, a firm grasp on my wrist and a tough yank pulled me out of the way and into a dark corner against the academic center building. I wasn’t nervous or frightened of the strong arms that held me because without seeing him, I knew it was my mate.

I looked up at Enzo’s concerned face as he stared at the bright red lights that lit up the night.

“What’s going on?” I asked, staring up at him, breathless and dizzy from his incredible scent, but also my heart was pounding from the loud sirens.

I got a glimpse of the symbol on the ambulance and saw that they were coming from a nearby pack hospital, which meant they were wolf authorities. Possibly the Crescent Moon pack, which was Alpha Jonathan’s pack.

It would make sense that they'd use his hospital and authorities, but for what I wasn't sure.

"They found something in the academic center," Enzo whispered to me. "I should have reported it when I smelled it, but the scent went away so I thought I imagined it. But apparently not because they found something in the basement."

I noticed Enzo was trembling and I had never seen him like this before.

I looked up at him with a worried frown.

"What did they find?" I asked, almost too nervous to find out the answer.

He met my eyes and I saw the remorse in them.

"A corpse..." he said in a broken whisper. "They found somebody dead in the basement."