



Shackled (The Lord Series)

48. Angel

The evil laughter that has tormented me for hours has finally stopped. The viluator also. I have been awake for wanting to find myself in the dark anyone. Why did Alekos do this to me? dhe mend my fear of the darkness against this to me.

Every man in my lile, from my father to Alekos, had wanted something from

There has never been une instance where a man

gave me something without asking for something in relin, Why am I so

unlovable? Not that I wished Alekos, Reyes, or Stefan to

love me. The only thing i wanted was their protection. But not

When they were all over me, it felt good. For a little while, it felt goal to be

desired by one of the most eligible bachelors in the

city. Do they showed me thatit te

thumbs throb with pain, I barely remember when or how I removed the cuffs,

only the pain. It hurt so badly that I ended up

willing

What if I damaged the ligaments in my thumbs

over my injuries, wanting to feel how bad they were... Are these bandages

that I feel? I open my

Sunlight is coming from a window to my left. I am no longer in Alekos" closet

but in a bed. Why am I in a bed, and how am not in

just any bed but in Stefan's bed.

I've gone ins

There is no way this is real.

Laughter erupts from me just as tears roll down my cheeks. I put my pain against my mouth, not wanting to take my chance on this being real and Stefan finding me in his bed. He will for some kill me or personally take me to Carlos. Not to talk about Reyes and Alekos,

How will I explain how I got here when I was supposed to be locked up in that hellish place?

I love to go Now!

I jump out of bed. Who's T-shirt am I wearing? Did I put it on? It did not matter. I pass by the desk, my eyes on the ring. There are ways to make Alekos, Stefan, and Reyes suffer without touching them. Without honing! to change my mind, I grab the engagement ring, go into his bathroom, and... flush it down the toilet, Fuck Stefan! I hope he never finds happiness again for what he did to me. He had tricked me into believing he was okay with me being their bonded or whatever the fuck they call me. He had acted all possessive around me in Alekos' office, claiming I was their woman. Bulls hit! Doce home, he was as cold as an Iceberg.

I laugh again. Stefan would most likely give me a slow and painful death for getting rid of his precious ring. He can be my guest. Fuck him! Carlos as well, for turning my life upside down. Alekos and Reyes can go to Hell for torturing and locking me up.

Anger bubbled inside me.

I step into the hallway and listen, wanting to be sure that I am alone. The guys' low voices come from inside the living room.

Giselle is also with them. Probably on her knees, sucking their dicks.

The elevator is across from the living room. If I am quiet enough, I can escape without them realizing. I tiptoe to it and call it to

me. Nothing happens, I try again still nothing. In the elevator broken? Then I remember it works with their fingerprints. Reyes said they would add mine, but since I am a "spy," they must likely set up more cameras around the house.

Fuck them and their house! I should have never asked Alekos to help me.
htt

They wanted to break me? They managed to do that and more. I no longer care what happens to me as long as I can make them suffer for what they did to me

I go to Alekos' room and close the door behind me. Wasn't it enough for Aleksis to hurt me when we were in high school? No! He said to terrorize me after I came to Ina, begging her to help, offering her something I should have given to someone who cared about me. But no, I had given it to Alekos Fuck Raptou, only for him to tell me I am loose. Damaged goods as well. And that Carlos and his men licked me before him. Fuck Alekos as well!

If I Bushed Stefan's ring to the same place dead goldfish found their final resting place, the news, it is only fair to destroy something precious to Alekos.

that what?

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Except for his dick, which he uses to fuck any woman that opens her leg for him-and I stupidly let him be inside me w -1 don't

think he has anything could castrate him or

I look around his room.

I could trish this place.

Childish? Maybe. But I am beyond the point of caring I lock the door and go to his bed, grab all the framed photos from the walls,

put them on the floor, and stomp on them. Broken glass enters the soles of my feet. I have been subjected to so much pain in the last 24 hours that it is somehow easy to ignore it now. Or maybe! am fueled by adrenaline as my thumbs barely bother me right now

When all the photos are destroyed, my blood covering them, I grab them, together with pieces of glass and wood, and throw them on the bed. Shards of glass cut my fingers, blood and sharp pain coming from my palms. The rational thing to do is to have someone look at my wounds, but I am far from being done with Alekos“ Too bad the fireplace is electric: I would have loved to see his airplane models burn. Some of them are vintage and probably very valuable. I pick up one of them. which looks very expensive, and try to figure out how I can destroy it. It is perhaps a replica of one of the airplanes used in WWIL

I try pulling the front propeller, but my fingers are slippery because of all the blood from my cuts. I clean my hands on the T-shirt keeps appearing. And I think I see shards stuck in my palms

Frustrated, I throw the airplane on the bed and pick up another one. It looks like one of those planes people assembled themselves using apart and sca tter them on the floor. I do the same with all the kit airplanes on the shelves.

I want to see tekos figure out how to put them back together. wearing, but more blood

1 take all the pieces

Chapter 192



49. Angel

When I am done with the airplanes, I turn my attention to the books. While many are about airplanes, there are some written by Charles Dickens, Tolkien, and Bram Stoker, and other authors. Some of them are bound in leather or are rare editions. I run the tip of my index finger across the spines of the books.

Only one caught my eye.

The Asterious Island by Jules Verne. First edition.

It is Alekos favorite story. Mine as well. We read it together many times. I pick it up and open it. I am no expert on old books, but how much is a first edition worth? Moving a finger up and down a page, I leave a trail of blood behind it. A thousand dollars? I flip a few pages and circle some drawings. More? Should I rip some pages?

Will he even notice it! I love books, and I would have a heart attack if books were torn apart. While Alekos deserves it, the book did nothing to me.

If Stefan would take me to Carlos for flushing his precious ring, Alekos would probably snap my neck for destroying his book.

After the sacrilege of destroying a few more pages with my bloodied fingers, I put the book on the bed and look around the room.

While I could do more, it is a matter of time before I am found. And I still have to destroy something of Reyes'.

I returns to the door, and I am about to unlock it when I hear the voices of Alekos and Stefan in the hallway. I lean my ear against the cold surface of the door and listen

"I will take Giselle to the basement, and after that, we will see how our Angel is doing," says Alekos. "Wait for me in the living

room

Their Angel? Is this some kind of a joke?

My gaze travels to his bed.

Wait until they discover what I've done.

Giselle whimpers and tries to say something, but Reyes snarls at her, his voice low and thick with hatred, "Shut the f uck up! Be grateful that Alekos is willing to give you one more chance to prove your loyalty to us. During the next gathering, Lords from other cities will be at our Blood Lodge. Make sure to put that mouth to good use while they are here. Until tomorrow night, you can perfect your skill with the men of the house."

"She is not one of the porai girls." Alekos intervenes.

What is a porai girl? I've never heard of that term before.

"The f uck she isn't. I don't care that your demon is a Leviathan and is stronger than our Belials, when it comes to things that affect our bonded, we should make decisions together. Giselle needs to learn never to disrespect our woman, our Lady, ever again." Reyes sounds very angry.

talking about? What lies did Giselle tell about me?

Belials? Leviathan? What is Reyes to

Not that it comes as a surprise that Giselle lied about me. From my experience, some women do that when it comes to getting into men's pants. My shoulders slump. I would have gladly let her have Alekos if she really wanted him that badly. There was no need to get in so much trouble.

When they see what I have done, would they take me to the Blood Lodge-probably similar to the Celestial Heaven, where the Dukes gather every Sunday-and have the service the Lords together with Giselle?

have Blushed Stefan's n

FIDE and destroyed Alekos stuff.....

"Keyes in right. I told you many times that I don't trust Giselle, but you wouldn't listen," Stefan says nest. "Now, look what happened when we trusted her. Angel is going to bend when the wakes up." brook up. Livad? I am mode than

iselle starts crying bysterally. "I did not lar

In a way, I understand Queße. What Loyst would take home the daughter of a Duke who is supposed to get married to Carlos de la Tiere and

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name her the new Lady of the house? She did what she thought was best for her and everyone living in the house. I don't think it was only because of jealousy but because of Erat.

"Shut up," all three men growl at Giselle at the same time. A whimper followed.

I feel sorry for Giselle. Even if she did spread lies about me, I don't want her to get punished. If not for me asking for Alekos' help, Giselle would be in trouble night now.

The sound of the elevator opening makes Giselle beg. "Please, I am telling the truth."

"Get inside!" Alekos orders her.

"Let's see if our Nena is awake," Reves suggests to Stelan alter the elevator leaves.

"Didn't Alekos say to wait for him in the living room?"

"Since when do we do whatever Alekos asks of us?"

"Fine," Stefan gives in. "But if she is still asleep, we will go to the living room."

My heart starts pounding in my chest. I am in so much sh it. If they almost

drove me to the ester of insanity for only thinking I was spying for Carlos, what would they do to me now?

I listen as they go to Stefan's room, and with great care, I unlock the door, open it, and peek into the hallway, Reyes and Stefan have their barks to me and make no sound as they walk. How can they be that quiet? The floor always squeaks under my feet.

I wait until they enter Stefan's room to tiptoe down the hallway in the opposite direction, toward Reyes' room

"Nena?" Reyes' voice reaches me. He sounds... scared? I must be inagining it.

I open the door to knee room and pet Inside,

"Reyes, come here! Stefan shouts, "There are blo ody footprints in the hallway."

F uck! Not only did I cut my hands, but my feet as well. I barely register the pain so I forgot about the blood or the shards stuck in my damaged flesh, but there is no time to get them out 1 hane to hide. Someone whistles.

"I don't even want to know what Alekos will do when he sees his room, Isn't that the book Nikolas gave Alekos a day before he was killed?" Reyes says loud enough for me to hear him.

Nikolas gave Alekos the book I destroyed? Sh it. I am in s hit up to my neck. is in your room now. We should stop whatever damage she is doing to your stuff before she has herself even more," Stefan says next.

Keyes asks, confused. "F uck! The guitar

I furrowe my brows. I vaguely remember a guitar in Reyes' closet. Well, if I am going to be killed on taken to the Blood Lodge, at least I will go, knowing I destroyed something precasus to all three of the gas. I march set to the closet where the guitar is.

middle of the walk in closet, sitting on the attoman, the electric guitar in my hand,

"Take the next step, and I will smash it to the ground," I warn them when they keep advancing toward me

They alienate a few feet away from

four and let me see your feet and hands. You are breeding"

2/3

49. Angel

tofan erases has won over his chest. "We are your Lord. And must I remind you that you made a contract with us?"

*Except I didn't sign any contract

or any contract," I say. I lurch my fingers on top of the strings

Boryes looks like he is going to be

The guitar is apparently very important to him.

"Put the guitar down, and we won't do anything to you." Reyes' voice is trembling "Let me take care of your wounds.

I laugh again, and only seconds later, my laughter turns into trying ugly trying.

"You think I care about some stupid cuts? I

flushed Gollum's precious ring down the bullet and destroyed Alekos hood. I think I am pretty much screwed at this point."

Melan's eyes.

eyes go wide. "What ring are you are you talking about?-

running down my cheeks. "Fuck you for pushing me inside that room last night. It makes me not feel bad for

I stand. Before Reyes can stop me, I smash the guitar on the floor

"Fuck you all," I scream before falling to my knees and burying my face in my palms, so as to escape from my mouth.

Chapter Comments

Pooja Yadav

my eyes are already wet for angel

Chapter 193



Shackled (The Lord Series)

50. Reyes

Flashback, Reyes 7 years old

Loud shouting and the sound of objects breaking come from downstairs: I am hiding under the bed in the small, messy room I share with Alex, my older brother. I have always been scared when our parents fought. Lately, it has been happening more frequently than before.

My father, Ander, works many hours and is rarely home. When he is home, he spends as much time as possible with Alec and me..

My mother, Roxanne, fills her days with drinking and is drunk most of the time. When Alec and I return from school, we often find her passed out on the couch. There were times when we found her with other men, drinking or inhaling a white powder through their noses-cocaine, Alec called it. I have never liked those men. Especially Ariel. He has always looked at Alec and me in a way that makes me uncomfortable.

Sometimes, Alec and Mother would go into my parents' bedroom. Since her room is next to mine, I could hear strange noises coming from there. When I asked Alec about it, he told me to ignore it. I even started to think Ariel was hitting Mother. Once, when Mother was

screaming Azar's name, I was on the verge of tears because I thought he was killing her, Alec took out his guitar, the one our father got for him the first time he went to a very special place on the day he turned seven-which I am not yet allowed to know about-and played a song, calming my nerves,
When I turned seven, some months ago, Azael brought me a book about angels and demons. It told the story of how the demons rebelled against Heaven, and God cast them out. Father told Alec and me that the demons left Heaven because the angels became corrupt, so I confronted Father about his Des. When asked where I heard about the angels being good, I showed him the book and told him about Axel. That day, my parents had their real first fight

The front door slams and only Mother can be heard yelling, letting me know my father has left. Knowing what will happen in the next few minutes, curl into a ball.

"It will be alright. I won't let her harm you anymore," Alec tells me. He has been sitting on the bed since the start of the fight.

A few minutes of peace followed, and I think Mother might not be mad at me tonight. I am about to get out from under the bed when I hear footsteps down the hall, and I freeze.

The door to the room opens

"Where are you, you little piece of shit?!" Mother stands in the doorway, a belt belonging to my father in

Mother's slurred voice has me peeing my shorts. I hit my fist. Will she be even angrier with me now?

Alec stands. "Mom, you should go to your room and lay in bed. You are not well,"

n her right hand

“Of course, I am not well! Your father left me because that little bastard couldn’t keep his mouth shut she screeches. “But I will teach him to never open his mouth again”

“Mom, please?” Alex, who is seven years older than me, has always been my hero. And now, he sounds as frightened as

“He is hiding under the bed, isn’t he?” she asked.

“I don’t know where he is.” Alec tries to push her out of the room.

“You dare protect Keyes after all he has done?!” she yelled.

“He is only a boy,” Alec keeps defending

“Almost a man. And tonight, I will teach you two what it meant to be the sons of a bastard”

Mother has never hit Alec before. Only me. Until now

she pushes Alex across the bed, and while she is doing that, I can hear the sound of the belt on skin, followed by Alec’s scream. I can’t let her be

art but from under the bed. Mother does not see me as she is facing away from me. When she is about to hit Alec again, I

50. Reyes

“There you are,” she says as she hits Alec one more time with the belt. “The bastard that ruined my life,” she yells and grabs me by the hair, and then she hits me on the floor. “Did you just say yourself?”

I try to talk, but only a faint, whimper comes out of my mouth, then she hits me with the belt over my bare legs. When I scream out in pain, she laughs,

“Mom, don’t!” Alec tries to intervene, but she slaps him across the face so hard that he hits his head on the nightstand and falls next to the

“You killed him!”

when Aler does not move or make any kind.

Mother (ghorns me and continues to me with the belt until my legs are full of buses, welts, and blood. The first time aboxit Azael, but she has never been so was the day I told my father.

“Look at the mess you made. Go let yourself,” the cadets me. Before leaving, she kicks Aler, and he groans.

When the door closes behind her, I drag myself to where Alec is “Wake up!” I beg my brother as I shake his

Ader turns on his back. His left brow is split

tw, the bone visible. I put my head Alec’s chest and cry silently. Ale puts his arms around me, and we stay like

cleaned up,” Alec says. I nod in

Ale takes me to our bathroom, gets me in the shower, and helps me

a tack and puts it against his been, stopping the blood

the blood from my leg. Before taking me back to the room, Alec grabs a hand one from

int me to play the guitar for you?” Alec inks an he sits on the bed. “Could you bring it to me? I am a mile dizzy.”

gatar. One din

guitar from the comer where Aler had put it. It is still placed in, and ut next to hire on the bed i love listening to Aler play the ga

Learn. Then, we will play together, run away from home, and become famoon.

on the second song when the door opens again, and Avarl enters. Mother follows him

and frowns. “Boy, what happened so you?”

1 glance at Mother-who it drinking wine from a glass-then back at Azael. “I got punished.

turns around and grabs Mother by the neck. He whispers something into her ear as he pets her hair, Mother nah nervously, and Azarllets go of her

I shake my head. al scares me more than my mothe

“Do as Azarl says or else you will receive another beating” Mother retorts.

Mother

and Alec puts but left arm around me. “Wherever my brother gom,

Alm. “And only your brother prei.”

Aler

wil grin appears on nucent’s face. “Two Lord’s children for the price of nine

When she tries to speak again, Azad cut her thon, “You want me to tell you

50. Reyes

“Can I take my guitar with me?”

End of the flashback.

Chapter 194



51. Reyes

“Break,” my demon growls in anger.

I look at the only thing that has kept me sane for years. I can’t believe Angel has smashed it to the Door. It was the only thing I had from Alec, and Angel took it from me.

1 can’t agree more with my demon. I will break Angel, just as she did with Alec’s guitar.

“You!” I growl.

Angel cries even harder. I want to hurt her. Badly. How could I have ever thought of accepting her as my bonded? I have never hated someone as much as I hate Angel right now. Not even Roxanne.

My chest hurts, but I ignore it.

Break Hellmy demon growls again.

Alekos needs to get her out of the house, or else...I will kill her. Slow and excruciatingly painful.

Stefan grabs her by her wrists and yanks her up. "What ring are you talking about?" he yells at her.

"Emily's," she whimpers

She threw away, Emily's ring? If I don't kill her, then Stefan will.

"You stupid cunt!" Stefan sounds enraged.

"Break Mell

Rage flashes into Angel's eyes. "I might be stupid, but at least I am not clinging to the memory of a woman who died years ago."

"I am going to fucking kill you" Stefan snarls in her face.

"Let's take her to the basement and show her all our 'boys.'" I will I cut her up into tiny pieces before I send her back to her father.

"Good idea," Stefan agrees and drags Angel after him

Angel tries to yank free from Stefan. "Let go of me!"

Stefan pick her up and throws her over his right shoulder. "If you don't stop. I will take you to the Blood Lodge instead he growls

as he smacks her as hard, adding more bruises to the ones she already has, making her whimper in pain.

She keeps fighting him, even bites him. Stefan smacks her as a few more times, each time harder, until she gives up. I pull out

a pair of cuffs from my pocket-I always have a pair with me as I find them useful for many things, a knife also-and a spider gag

and put them on Angel. The ring of the gag is custom-made to accommodate our cocks, and forces Angel's mouth to open

painfully wide-at least, that's how it appears. Good. She needs to suffer, just

like I am.

Alekos is in the living room, waiting for us. A look of confusion on his face when he sees us. "What's going on here? Why is there blood dripping from Angel's feet?"

"This stupid bitch not only destroyed your book and eyes guitar but flushed Emily's ring down the toilet! We are taking her to the basement. And she is no longer our bonded. I would rather fuck Giselle than have this loose cunt as the Lady of the house,"

Stefan informs Alekos

My demon sounds agitated. I don't understand why. "She should be glad I didn't kill her on the spot."

"She did what?" Alekos tries to understand what we are saying

"Destroyed our stuff and the book Nikolas gave you a day before his death."

1/3

51. Reyes

All her demeanor changes. His eyes turn red. "Let's take her downstairs to the living room. We are going to give her a punishment she will never forget "

Stefan and I don't need another explanation, and we know what Alekos has on his mind.

As we are done with you, you will have wished you had stayed with Carlos I tell her as the elevator takes us to the first floor.

Angel makes no sound. It is like all her life is gone, leaving just an empty shell.

will, and I will take great pleasure in doing so.

Lite is in the living room, cleaning. When she sees Stefan entering with Angel over his shoulder, she rushes to him. "Is the Lady well? Should I call the family

"the entire family." Alkon tells her

Lesa looks confused, and after glancing one more time at Angel, she does as she is told.

Stefan drops Angel to the floor. Tears swirl in her eyes as she hits her head against the coffee table. Stefan and Alekos laugh

“With a very loose pussy” Alize adds

My demon had never been so impetuous. It is as if he is desperate. For what?

To see Angel hurt even more? Strange. My demon

has loved Angel from the moment I saw her chocolate. So did L. But that loss shattered, just like Aler’s guitar.

Angel tries to stand. „Jinkos pushes her down. “Stay on your knees until you are told otherwise!”

was told and put on her knee. She looks like she is in a lot of pain but tries to hide it. Even if bruises cover her ass and legs, and

her hands are

cuffed behind her back, she holds her head high as she glances at Stefan, Alekos, and L.

I don’t take long for those working in the house to appear in the living room—seven women and ten men. They wait to see what is

happening

of Angel while Stefan takes his phone out and starts recording. Angel glances at the staff gathered around the living room, her

cheeks turning

red with indignity to be embarrassed

Alekos grabs her chin between his fingers and forces her to meet his gaze.

Stefan

is here alone, you better suck Stefan, and me really good while those working for me watch. Fail to make us happy and you will

repay me not only to Carlos but to your father as well. I am sure you wouldn’t want him to know what a whore you are. I am sure you wouldn’t want him to know what a whore your daughter is

has.”

Angel shakes her head and they but they make it difficult for her to speak “–”
Urkos stands and spent, and pull to cook out. He is already hard. Stefan and I
do the same. Stefan keeps recording as Alekos
fists Angel’s hair and shoves himself into her mouth, and starts fucking her
throughout while he slaps her face. Angel stands still,
staring into Alekin, eyes as he uses her. Tears streaming down her face for the
first time. Nekos Buck Angel’s mouth. In the past.

Borned upon. Ampel needs to leech, her place
was punished, her borders took numbers, kissing her

51. Reyes

I doubt Stefan will want to touch Angel after what she did. To be honest, I
don’t want to touch her either, but I will do it anyway. I

kneel behind her and force a finger in her ass.

“Fuck, yeah! At least your throat feels better than your pussy,” Alekos
groans.

He shoves all his length down Angel’s throat, making her gag, and doesn’t
move for a few minutes. keep punishing her ass,
pushing three more fingers inside it.

I on her

Stefan records how Angel struggles to free herself from Alekos’ grip and to
accept my fingers. Saliva drips down her chin onto
the t-shirt she is wearing and on thighs. Alekos spits in her face, then, with his
left hand he mixes his and her saliva and smears it
all over her face. After a few more slaps, he starts moving his hips. fast, and
he is on the verge of coming; he pulls out and gives
his dick a few pumps, and finishes on the floor.

I take Alekos place, and instead of shoving my dick in her mouth, I shove the
fingers that I had in her ass moments ago. I rub

them against her tongue. "This is what you taste like-like s hit," I say before spitting on her face.

I shove my co ck in her mouth. I make her gag and choke on it, wanting to make her suffer and humiliate her in front of everyone.

Tears run down her face, and she looks...defeated.

My chest hurts.

The anger I feel for what she did makes me want to use

want to use all my t

my torture devices on her

I use her mouth for a few minutes before letting my ji zz fall on the floor.

Stefan, who has been jerking while reading, comes a few seconds after me but not before spitting into Angel's mouth. The

ultimate insult to a Lady

When blood-brothers come next to their bonded and spit on her face in front of witnesses, they let her and everyone else know

they don't want her anymore. Not that we will let her go. Oh, no. She will stay here until we destroy her until she is nothing but a

shell of her former self,

The spark Angel had in her eyes fades away, and I feel like something snaps inside my chest.

"Break Hellstar," my demon growls weakly, and I finally understand what he was trying to tell me.

Angel is not just an ordinary bonded.

She is my hells

Stefan and Alekos as well, since we are blood-brothers.

Our perfect match.

Our mate.

A satisfied smile spreads across Stefan's face. "Carlos just received the video.

Now he not only knows that we used you like the

cheap shut you are but that we no longer want you. He can have you”
Angel whimpers. Alekos and Stefan rub their chest, a frown on their faces.
We let our anger control us, and we broke the already fragile bond with her.
And it is almost impossible to create a new one.

What have we done?

Chapter Comments

Ana Simone Rodriguez

POST COMMENT

I'm ready for more interesting character development at this point. The last 20 chapters have felt a bit flat and repetitive with all

the punishment/abuse/humiliation. Someone
Chapter 195



52. Angel

I am in so much pain I can barely breathe. It isn't a physical pain; it feels like my soul broke into many tiny pieces. Like I lost someone I love deeply. Not just one person but many at the same time. My heart is pounding so hard that I think I am going to have a heart attack. Not that I care if I live or die anymore. I just want the pain to be over.

Aleks looks at me with anger and disgust. After destroying their stuff, I probably deserved to be treated like I am nothing more than just a cheap whore, but did they have to record it too?

1

Stefan's phone rings. "Carlos," he says as he picks up. "I hope you liked the video. Don't worry, we will return her to you once we
I feel like throwing up.

Stefan has sent Carlos the video of me being humiliated in front of Alekos' staff. How will I ever look into their eyes after this?

My father probably knows about it already since Carlos and him were very good friends. They probably realized that I lost my "V card." The shame my father must feel right now must be matching mine.

Reyes grabs the phone from Stefan. "If you don't want another war to start between the Lords and the Dukes, you better forget

about Angel. She is our property now," he growls into the phone before throwing it to the floor and smashing it with the heel of his

shoe, I am just their property, nothing more. My chest hurts even more. Can someone just kill me already? I don't want to feel the

pain anymore "Get out!" he yells at the staff. Everyone rushes out of the living room. Then, looking at Stefan, Reyes asks angrily,

"What in the f ucking love of G od do you think you are doing?"

"Letting Carlos know where he can find his wh ore," Stefan says between gritted teeth.

Who re

Stupid bitch

Shit cant.

This is what Stefan really thinks of me, what they think of me. They don't know how right they are.

Alekos runs his fingers through his hair. "F uck""

Reyes grabs Stefan by the collar of his T-shirt. "This is the last time you fucking insult our bonded, Reyes slams into Stefan's face before letting go of him.

Stefan snorts. "Our bonded? Are you f ucking serious right now? She threw away Emily's ring! She smashed Alec's guitar right in front of you. Alekos' room is a mess.

"Stefan has a point Alekos says.

*If you don't want her, I do!" Reyes says before kneeling in front of me. When his hands reach to grab me, I flinch. What will he do to me now? "Don't worry, Nena. I won't let anyone touch you ever again," Reyes says as he removes the gag and the cuffs.

Liar! Liar! Liar!

Not that I care what happens to me, not after what they did to me. Not after letting Carlos and my father know. Carlos must have figured out where I am. Maybe it is for the best. After he is done with me, Carlos will give me to his men, and in a few hours, all of it will be over. I will be one of the many victims that appear on the News. Reyes takes off his shirt, remaining in a white tank top, and uses it to clean my face. When he is done, he puts the shirt on the table and picks me up in his arms, bridal style. I don't even bother to struggle.

"Let's get those wounds cleaned. I think I saw some glass stuck in your feet."

They will get infected, and I will die before Carlos gets to me," I whimper.

"Maybe they

I don't care about anything anymore. I just want to die. Reyes's touch feels cold and strange, adding to my pain.

Reyes takes me to the elevator. Alekos and Stefan follow us. "You are not going to die. I will make sure of it," Reyes tells me, his voice low and menacing.

Stelan gets between Reyes and the elevator. "If you take her back to the Lair, where we should have raised our family with

Emily, I am leaving."

52. Angel

Alekin speaks next, "Reyes, the bond broke. We can find one who will care about you and won't trash our belongings. Someone who won't fight us every moment of the day I made a mistake by thinking the

is

The one,” Melan adh

c. I feel like knives stab my chest. Alekos gave up on me. Again. The air me they remind me of how I am not fit to be there and how Emily was that only love, I around me suddenly disappears, and rich brath I force myself to take is pure agony.

“The Lait nevet belonged to Emily. It was always Angel. So, if you don’t want Angel as our bored, that’s fine. I will take her to my apartment and try to repair the bond there. Mefan, let me pass. “

Stelan gets out of Reyes” way. “Don’t come crawling back here when you realize she is not worth it.”

“Tine,” Reyes says as he places his thumb on the elevatan’s button. The door opens, and he enters, Alekos and Stefan did not try to follow.

“We are supposed to be a team Alekos tries to convince Reyes. “And you need us to keep you sate.”

“I only need Angel,” Reyes pushes one of the buttons inside the elevatin. “I know that she is the one. The only one. She is our hellstar. At least mine..and I love her.

Too bad had to break her and the bond for me to realize it”

What is a bellstar?

Alekos” eyebrows inch up, shock weiten all over his face.

Stelan shakes his head. “There are no mone hellstars.”

Alekos is about to say something when the door closes, and the elevator takes leyes and me in the garage,

“Where are you taking me?” Lask when Reyes takes me to his car, My voice sounds so weak and lifeless.

“To my apartment. Stefan and Alekos are the only ones that know about its existence. You will be safe there,”

Safe? What does he know about being safe?

"As long as I am in your hands, I will never be safe," I say bitterly.

Kryes balances me on his left leg and takes out a remote car key from his pocket. Then, he opens the door to his car and pestly places me in the passenger seat. Why is he suddenly acting like he cares? He fastens my seat belt before getting behind the wheel.

Aleken gets out of the elevator and runs towardi Reyes" car. "Wait?"

"I know I f ucked up, but I will prove to you that I love you" Reyes starts the engine, not waiting for Alekos.

Mour. I saw the hate in your eyes when I smashed the guitar to the floor. You finished on the Blour and spit on my face, just like

Aleks and Stefan. I might be a stu pid c unt," I winced as I remember what

Stelan called me, "but I know what that means. Me

habéis repudiado. You have forsaken me."

Chapter Comments

Ana Simone Rodriguez

no. very much no.

Chapter 196



Shackled (The Lord Series)

53. Angel

Reyes grips the wheel hard. His knuckles turn white, and he drives out of the garage. "I did hate you for the guitar. It belonged to

my brother. But my demon and I need you more. And you are neither stup id nor a cu nt. You are my mate. My other half."

I short but quickly cover my mouth, not wanting to provoke more of Reyes'

wrath. When he doesn't lash out, I lower my hands.

What mind games is he playing right now? Does he actually think I will believe I am his other half? I am just a... stupid cunt, with a loose passy.

"You have a brother?" I am even afraid to speak to Reyes, but the idea of him being quiet is even scarier. Who knows what he will be plotting, then?

Reyes grips the wheel even harder. I should have kept my mouth shut. "Had. He died because of me six years ago. If I had done my part right, as my father had told me, he would have been here with you today. You would have been his hellstar. He would have probably recognized you as his half long before the bond snapped in Two." He stops at a red light and turns to look at me, "I will Ex the bond, I don't know how, but I will do it." He gently strokes my hair.

Blood keeps coming out of the many cuts I have, and I look at it transfixed. How much blood does a person have to lose before they die? "I am sorry for your brother. I should have never broken the guitar" A nervous laugh leaves my lips. "No wonder you hate me,"

Cold fingers cupped my right cheek, kecing me to look at him. He claims my mouth, his kiss adding to my pain. "I know how badly I f ucked up, and I probably don't deerve another chance, but I will undo the damage I did. He coles my bottom lip with his mouth. "Once I take care of your feet and hands, we can snugde in bed and watch TV while eating ice cream Or whatever you want."

I shrug. "I don't care." Decause I don't. Except for dying. That's the only thing I want right now.

The traffic light turns green. "I know the broken bond hurts like hell, but once we are home, I will make sure you feel better," he says as he presses the acceleration pedal and steers the car to the left. I will never be better. Not after everything that has happened. I glance out the window. The relection of a broken woman, once full of life and hope, stares back at me. I hate myself so much. is chest.

"What is this bond you keep talking about?" I ask, wanting to distract myself from the pain in my

"It's a link that connects my soul and those of my blood-brothers to yours. Our bond was fragile, as it usually takes from a few days to a few weeks for it to become permanent. So, when we punished you in front of everyone, it broke. We knew it could happen, and we still went through with it. I think, in a way, we wanted it to happen. Go d, how stu pid we were. Being a hellstar makes you more sensitive to emotions, and your pain is ten times worse than mine."

I am not sure if Reyes is crazy or on drugs. Humans don't have banihs with other people. Not in the way Reyes suggests. "Oh," Reyes drives to one of the safest areas of Voross City and parks in the garage of a residential complex. "I think you are going to like the apartment. It has two floors and it's big enough to turn into a Lair and raise a little family in it. If you want that," he adds, looking at me.

Tears stung my eyes, and a lump formed in my throat. "I don't care.

Why would he want a family with someone like me?

He clasps his right hand behind my neck and pulls me to him. "I hate seeing you in so much pain."

"Then kill me and put me out of my misery."

“I will make things right.” He kisses me, his tongue finding its way into my mouth.

I want him to stop, to not touch me anymore. Can't be see how much it hurts me?

He breaks the kiss a few moments later. “We need to get out of the car, or else I will f uck you right here.” He is breathing hard.

“If you weren't hurt, I would not have thought twice and just done it.”

“Why would you want to f uck a loose pus sy”?”

“Stop that!” he growls, making me flinch. Then in a more gentle tone, he adds,

“While I have not been inside your pus sy, I know

you will feel divine

1/2

53: Angel

He ruts me short. “Held. He was trying to hurt your feeling. And from too good of a job.” He opens the glove box and takes out a that he puts in the back of his wantband-and a wallet and gets out of

the car. “11 lucky enough, I will have you to myself tonight, but I doubt Alekos and

belean, be srys as he opens the passenger seat.

that they know you are

until he picks me up to ask “What do you mean by belter?

By closes the door with his foot and locks the

“It's the word Lords use when referring to their mates”

“You are confusing Mares? What are

It is not the first time Beyes reden ta bimw

such. Even Vjekos said he was one. “Demons like those from hell or... ?”

“It will make sense soon,” he replies as he t

takes me to one of the complexes de

Once inside the apartment, Reyes deactivates the alarm and informs the

guards about him being home before taking me to the living room and putting me on my back

will be right back," he kisses the top of my head before disappearing down the hall leaving me alone

Suddenly, I feel alone. I have a hard time breathing, and my

couch and curl up in a ball. My heart beats fast, like it is about to explode, the pain

When Bayes returns

later. I am still on the floor crying

wrong with me? I start hyperventilating as I fall off the couch. What did they do to me?

"I am here," he tries to comfort me as he picks me up and his

gentle touch, while mild, helps me calm down, I can breathe again. He kisses my forehead while rubbing my back. The pain is more

bearable :

"Let's get those wounds cleaned and bandaged," he says when I stop crying,

"And I want to see your knees and thumbs

"Can I take a shower first? I feel... dirty.

Chapter Comments

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Chapter 197

– Sebastian –

The course to the port, heading to Lumeria, was longer because they departed from the capital. Sebastian and his group

stopped in another town, where Zev had rented a manor for their stay overnight.

They departed for the port at dawn and rode on a private ship overnight. The boat was just the right size to accommodate over forty of Sebastian's men. Plus, their cargo, gifts for the vampires, and one pickup truck that could carry their luggage in and out of the island.

Finally, at three in the morning, their ship landed at the port of Lumeria.

It was still dark and misty around the island, so Sebastian waited until the sun was out. That way, the vampires would be in their

most vulnerable state, in case their peaceful living life was a complete lie.

At seven in the morning, they packed up for the walk. Lumeria was vast and isolated. The vampires made a home at the center-most part of the island.

All their men had lined up their luggage and loaded it into the truck. Kate was making sure all essential packages were included in the load.

"We carried weapons, healing potions, and food, Luna Queen and Alpha King," one of the warriors said.

Zev, who had scouted the way to the vampire camp, arrived at the port to announce, "All clear within half a mile so far, Alpha."

"Good," Sebastian said. He turned to Kate and stated, "Let's go."

The path into the center of the island was narrow. Many of the royal guards and warriors, with Kate and Sebastian, had to walk in their wolf form. They had trekked twenty yards into the island when a sudden foul smell hit their nostrils.

"Eeww, what the hell is that?" Kate asked with a frown.

A growl left Zev's lips. He was the one at the very front of the group. He said, "It smells of the dead! What's going on?"

“Check it out, Zev!” Sebastian ordered, and the beta nodded reluctantly.

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Zev and two warriors disappeared into the trees where the foul smell came from, and in just a matter of seconds, the sound of angry paws thundered against the ground. Low growls suddenly surrounded them, and while it suggested other werewolves

were

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around, Kate and Sebastian could not recognize their scents.

“They are using this smell of the dead to cover their identities! Men!”

Sebastian commanded, “Get ready!”

Everyone in Sebastian’s party was in their fighting stance, and just as they expected, unknown werewolves emerged from the trees. Their bodies were stained with evil intent.

The expressions on their faces suggested they had gone feral. Each furrowed brow, flared nostril, and growing yellow-stained fangs told a story of uncontrolled rage.

A growl left Sebastian’s lips before he declared, “Rogues! Kill them all!”

44%

Sadly for Sebastian and his men, dozens of arrows whizzed through the air before any fight could happen, their silver tips gleaming in the emerging sunlight.

Sebastian looked around and saw a few of their warriors were hit. He growled, "I'll kill you all!"

Kate shifted into her wolf form and advanced first. Maintaining his human form, Sebastian leaped into the air, and a battle of strength commenced.

Zev had returned to their side, fighting against two rogues. He fought in the same row as Kate and Sebastian while the others tried to create a protected arc around them.

Sure, Sebastian and his warriors were attacked by surprise, and yes, the rogues came prepared with silver arrows, but it was not enough to contain the royal guards, the warriors of the Wind Walker Pack, and much more, the Alpha King and Luna Queen.

Rogues were dying and helplessly yelping in pain. Sebastian knew they were winning until more rogues appeared, and to his shock, he saw two hostages covered in sacks.

"Stop! Stop!" One unknown werewolf with a black and white coat said from a distance. He was standing behind two giant trees

that served as his earlier hideout. "Stop fighting, or your friends will die!"

"Look here, Alpha Sebastian! Eyes here before you make regrets!" the black and white werewolf said. "Give them space!"

The wounded rogues retreated, but they did so cautiously while flaunting their fangs. With the attacking rogues withdrawing,

Sebastian and Kate focused on the more prominent werewolf in front.

The mysterious werewolf said, "Sebastian Armstrong! I urge you and your luna to surrender!"

Kate was gasping for air, still in her wolf form. Only Sebastian remained in his

human

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form, seething. Finally, being able to concentrate on the person before them, Sebastian realized that those who were holding the hostages down were vampires.

“This is payback, Sebastian! For what you did to our family! You may have killed most of us, but a few lived to continue the fight!

Haha!” The vampire said before revealing the face covered in one sack.

Kate gasped, seeing it was Gus! He was barely hanging on, severely beaten, and dripping with blood.

When the other vampire uncovered the second hostage, Sebastian snarled! It was Gabriel. He was in the same state as Gus, barely breathing and covered in wounds!

“Surrender now, or these two will die!” The domineering werewolf said.

“Who are you?” Sebastian barked. “You are not a rogue!”

“Hahaha!” The werewolf laughed. He said, “Maybe we will tell you before you die today!”

The black and white werewolf continued laughing, and the other rogues became amused.

“Let’s do it step by step,” the vampire holding Gus said. “Surrender all your supplies as a start, and we can give your uncle first!”

Numerous inquiries swirled in Sebastian’s mind. Firstly, why had no one reported Gus or Gabriel missing? What transpired, and how did these individuals manage to take them? Why had he been oblivious to Gus and Gabriel’s distress? However, Sebastian also considered that they were abducted during their journey. He would have

been too far away to sense their despair.

'Kate, Sebastian turned to his wife, mindlinking, 'We can do this. Whatever they asked us to surrender, we can outsmart them and fight them'

'I agree,' Kate linked back.

Sebastian gave the orders to his men, and about five warriors unloaded the trucks and surrendered their supplies to the rogues.

After this, the rogues tossed Gabriel in front of Sebastian. Gabriel rolled unconsciously to the ground before Sebastian caught and carried his frame.

"You bastards!" Sebastian snarled.

"What? We don't want to risk approaching you, Alpha Sebastian," the black and white werewolf revealed.

Sebastian observed how Kate shifted into her human form. She hurriedly freed Gabriel's hands and feet, for they were tied together, his clothes were dirtied and torn.

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"Good! Now, for our second request, Alpha Sebastian, we want your luna!"

The vampire said before letting out an ominous laugh.

"No!" Sebastian said outright. He certainly did not expect them to ask for his wife! "Fucking no!"

"Then, your friend dies!" The vampire threatened.

While Sebastian objected, Kate mindlinked, 'Seb, I can do it. You forget that I am strong. I can fight them. Let me do it!'

'No, fucking way, Kate! I'm not going to lose you!' Sebastian said.

'They have our bags. I can pretend to get clothes but also get a healing potion for Gabriel and Gus, Kate proposed. 'Just one

bottle would be enough to sustain them until we get more help!

The couple argued while linking until the vampire hit Gus in the back, making the latter cough out blood. Gus was so beaten up that all he could do was tremble as he lay on the ground. He could not even mindlink.

'I think he has been given wolfsbane, Kate told Sebastian. 'We should train your warriors to get immune to wolfsbane'

'Sebastian, come on. I have a plan. Gabriel and Gus will die without a healing potion!' Kate insisted.

A low growl rumbled in Sebastian's chest. He said back, 'Fine.

Turning to the vampires and the unknown werewolf, Sebastian said, "Fine, and after I give you my wife, what happens next?"

"Your wife will ensure us that you won't fight back. We will abduct you and control you," the vampire responded.

'Control me?' Sebastian thought. Sadly, Sebastian had no time or pleasure to analyze their plan. They had called Kate over, and she reluctantly got up.

"She must get clothes first. I won't let you stare at my wife while she is naked. Her clothes are in our bags," Sebastian said.

The rogues laughed, and so did the vampires. Nonetheless, Kate hurriedly made her way to the luggage and carelessly looked

for her clothes while secretly stashing a single bottle of the healing potion.

"Stop looking at me! I command you!" Kate kept distracting the rogue guarding the bags, and Sebastian added too.

44%

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"Look at my wife, and I will kill you first!" Sebastian barked.

Finally, Kate managed to get into a pair of trousers and a white top. Sebastian did not know where she hid the potion, but she

linked, 'I got one'

Like Gabriel. Gus was rolled on the ground to Sebastian's way. After Sebastian settled Gus behind him, he asked his opponents,

"Answer me this first. Are you the called Crimson Resistance?"

group

"Yes, we are, and we call ourselves that because we cooperated with the remaining vampire rebellion," the black and white werewolf replied.

Referring to the black and white werewolf, Sebastian asked, "Are you whom they say is the new Lord?"

"Hahahaha!" The unknown werewolves and the vampires laugh, confusing Sebastian and his men.

Suddenly, a voice behind him said, "No, I am the new Lord."

Before Sebastian could turn, he felt a sharp blade stabbed his back.

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Chapter 198

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Sebastian —

44%

"No, I am the new Lord."

Sebastian felt a sharp pain against his back, and what shocked him was how it affected him greatly. He wondered what kind of weapon would give him such an excruciating pain!

When he turned to see who it was, he was mortified!

The man who stabbed him was his beloved godfather, the man whom he trusted the most, and the same man who had a hand in

raising him!

Gabriel Carnel.

“Why?” Sebastian asked, but before he could get a reply, he felt his entire body stiffened.

“What – what is in that blade?” He asked.

“Sebastian!” He heard his wife scream. “Ahh!”

“Alpha!”

“Luna!”

His warriors called, but the black and white werewolf threatened, “If you move, your alpha king and luna queen will die!”

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Sebastian fell on his knees, still trying to fathom how a single blade could immobilize him this way. He looked up and was shocked to find his wife also down on her knees, gasping for air.

He assumed whatever it was they had stabbed him with, they had pierced the same to his wife!

“What -what is happening to me?” Kate said.

Sebastian saw how Kate’s body was trembling. She fell to the ground, barely moving. He called, “Kate! Kate! What have you done to my wife?”

He felt his hands were also shaking, as if tremors had taken over him. “What – what-”

“It’s called the golden serpent, found in the depths of Eswen’s seas,” Gabriel said. He stood before Sebastian, and his eyes glowed in red as he revealed, “It is a secret venom unknown to all kinds, strong enough to deliver an unbearable pain, render a winter- grey wolf weak and, eventually, unconscious.”

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“If it’s strong enough to immobilize a winter-grey wolf, then certainly, strong enough to weaken the powerful alpha, Sebastian Armstrong!” Gabriel revealed. “It was difficult, but we managed to get two snakes, enough to produce a few doses for you and your wife.”

“Do you know how I discovered this poisonous serpent? It was documented in Queen Avery’s library,” Gabriel said triumphantly.

Sebastian’s godfather narrated what he uncovered, “One purebred, winter-grey wolf had explored the seas of Eswen with two other warriors of his kind, only to be bitten by a golden serpent. With the venom directly punctured into his veins, he lost consciousness underwater. The said winter-grey wolf died because his colleagues could not bring him to shore in time to find out what happened to him.”

“I simply put the royal guard on the watch to sleep while I uncovered all the secrets held by the winter-grey wolves. They protected this discovery with utmost secrecy to prevent any potential exploitation. Haha!” Gabriel remarked. “It seems they aren’t as elusive as they believed!”

“Well, with the exception of Queen Avery and those who inherited her powers, Kate was fortunate not to have inherited the same abilities. Otherwise, this plan would have been unsuccessful,” Gabriel explained.

“Why? Why! You were like a father to me!” Sebastian screamed.

“Why? Because you are the key, I will use you to attack Taplean and the other nations!” Gabriel said before another ominous laugh escaped his lips.

With all the remaining strength in his body, Sebastian snarled, “I’m not going

to let you use me!”

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“Oh, but you won’t have a choice!” Gabriel laughed again, and for some reason, Sebastian thought that his voice duplicated and was accompanied by another person’s laugh.

“What do you mean? how?” Sebastian asked. Unfortunately for him, Sebastian’s consciousness faded as his body convulsed.

He did not get the answers he wanted to hear.

Sebastian awoke, feeling exhausted.

‘Alpha! Alpha, what do we do? Gus is dying.’ He heard noises around him, forcing him to flutter his eyes open.

He recognized an enclosure around him. It was a mobile cage shaped like an igloo. It was made of silver, only meant to hold one person at a time. Sebastian grunted, and

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that only alerted the rogues who were guarding them.

“He is awake! Quickly give him another dose!”

44%

“F uck!” Sebastian tried to push away the blade, stained with snake venom, but his body was still too weak to fight it.

He felt a sharp pain in his leg, and it did not take long for him to lose awareness again.

The next time Sebastian woke up, he stayed quiet. He learned the hard way not to let the rogues know he was aware of his

surroundings. He linked with anyone while keeping his eyes closed.

'Kate?'

'Sebastian,' Kate called. 'Pretend to be asleep.'

'I am. How are you? Kate?' He asked.

'I'm fine. They did not watch us thoroughly last night. I managed to give Gus a small dose of the healing potion. I think he will

live, Kate said. 'But I spared half of the healing potion just in case.'

'Where are you?' Sebastian asked.

'Across you,' Kate said.

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Sebastian looked through his eyelids and saw Kate's lying figure. She was in another igloo-shaped silver cage. He managed to

look past his wife and noticed that the rest of his men were in a bigger prison; their arms and legs were secured with silver

chains. Only Gus was lying on the ground, but his limbs were still tied.

'Zev, did they also give you the same snake venom?' Sebastian asked.

'No, Alpha, only wolfsbane. Now and then, they throw in wolfsbane flowers in our cage. We take in wolfsbane in our every

breath. When the potency of the flower runs out, they add more. You and Luna Kate got the more potent poison, Zev responded.

'Alpha, we couldn't do anything. They had you and Luna Kate. We could not risk attacking until they poisoned us too, Zev added.

'Okay, try to act weak. Hopefully, they will reduce the amount of wolfsbane and venom they give us,' Sebastian suggested.

'When we are stronger, we can fight back. Instruct the

rest.'

'We will do, Alpha, Zev said.

Sebastian directed Kate the same. They formulated a plan by acting as if the poison had

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44%

utterly taken over them. Unfortunately, Gabriel returned sooner than Sebastian had hoped.

Gabriel's scent was now identifiable. Sebastian understood he no longer masked his scent. Along with Gabriel, four other people followed behind him.

"Leave! We want to be alone," Gabriel ordered, and another set of footsteps suggested the guards around Sebastian left the area.

Sebastian noticed Gabriel and his companions approach him. Someone poked Sebastian's arm, but he remained to act like he was out of it. Then, he heard a woman speak, "This is the alpha who killed our son?"

"Yes," Gabriel said.

"Then, it is only right that we use his body," the woman replied.

"Yes. Many of the rogues have doubted my strength since permanently settling in this body, so getting into Sebastian's body would win back their confidence that our plan would succeed," Gabriel said.

"And yes, he deserves to be used because he killed our son."

"But we still do not know if it will work," the woman responded.

Gabriel replied, "It will work. His body is now weakened."

The woman sighed and said, "It's not about the strength; it's the compatibility. My son was the best receiver of your soul because you were related!"

"Well, we don't have a choice now, do we? Sebastian killed our son, and I can't stay in this body forever! Gabriel is old and is not strong enough! It will have to work!" Gabriel insisted.

'Use my body? Kill their son?' Sebastian wondered who this woman was. 'And why the f uck was Gabriel talking like he wasn't himself?'

It was all too confusing for Sebastian, and his clue arrived when the woman said, "Okay. Fine, Vlad. I hope this works. Let's start transferring your soul into Sebastian's body."

'Vlad? Vlad. Vlad. Vlad, Sebastian dug into his brain. 'Who the f uck is Vlad?' Realization suddenly hit him; he said, 'The -'