

The Alpha: Claiming His Enemy's Daughter, Chapter 56

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Only when Ethan pointed it out did Iris realize the fact that silver didn't hurt her. After all, it was a rare occasion for her to encounter silver. No, she didn't think that she had ever encountered silver

before or even touched it.

But now, when Ethan said it, she looked at her hands that were holding the silver chains and felt weird because she indeed didn't feel hurt at all.

"Really?" Ethan frowned so hard. "How can that happen?"

Iris bit her lips, she missed the question, but Cane reminded her to continue to put the chains on him. Now, he had confirmed one more thing about her.

It took Iris a little bit longer to put the chains on Cane, because she wasn't used to doing it. Also because they doubled the chains, so Cane wouldn't be able to break free again.

After it was done, Iris stepped back and stood behind Ethan and Jace, staring at Cane, who started to shift into his lycan form.

Despite not being able to hear the sound of breaking bones, as his body twisted in weird angles, Iris could see how painful it was for Cane to be forced to shift into that monster. He was screaming, though she was unable to hear that, but once he had shifted completely into his lycan form, Iris started to hear that howling sound again.

This howl sounded so pitiful and sad at the same time. This was the same howl that Iris heard that night.

On the other hand, Ethan and Jace were on alert, both of them didn't let their guards down because things could escalate so fast. They were ready to shift into their beasts at the slightest doubt that the lycan started to feel agitated.

His red eyes were gleaming in the dark, as the reflection of fire danced in his eyes, but they were fixed on Iris.

The lycan howled, but it didn't try to break the chains that held him back, instead, compared to the previous time, this time, the beast was a little bit too calm. The lycan would only howl every now and then, but not try to do anything aggressive.

Yet, all of them could see how those red eyes were intrigued at the sight of Iris.

"I have never seen him so calm like this before." Jace frowned to see how the lycan didn't even make any attempt to break free.

"W- what does the alpha usually do in his lycan form?" Iris asked curiously. Her curiosity always got the better of her, as she looked at Jace and Ethan, waiting for any one of them to provide her with a little bit of explanation.

"He would hunt down the monsters in the Goffa mountain," Jace replied simply.

Apparently, in the six months they gathered power after they managed to break free from Alpha

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Gerald's clutches, it was also the time when Cane used dark magic in order to fight back.

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They needed to counterattack quickly because they couldn't afford to fight the Blue Moon pack if Alpha Gerald managed to gather his supporters and attacked them first.

Therefore, to strengthen the little bit of power that he had, the alpha made a sacrifice by using dark magic, which cost him himself.

And when every new moon came, Ethan and Jace would set him free in the Goffa mountain, for him. to kill the monsters there to satisfy the lycan's thirst for blood.

But, they couldn't do it right now, because there was a chance for the lycan to charge at their own people and kill them.

In the past, there were one or two guards who died during the new moon, but they were from the Blue Moon pack, thus they didn't care much about it, while this time, it was a different situation.

"How can you do that?" Ethan asked after he tapped Iris' shoulder to get her attention.

Iris tilted her head. "Do what?" She didn't understand. She didn't do anything.

eyes fixed

The three of them were sitting on the hard ground, watching the monster that had his red on Iris. And strangely enough, the lycan was way more calm than the few other nights. There was just the occasional howl or whimper, but aside from that, this monster looked almost docile, which was confusing.

"That." Jace nodded at the calm lycan.

"I didn't do anything. I am sitting right here with you," Iris replied in a matter of fact tone.

On the other hand, Ethan glanced at her with a frown, there were a lot of things that went through his mind, but he didn't know whether he had to voice this or not.

In the end, all of them fell silent, this was the most quiet and peaceful night during the new moon. time for Jace, Ethan and the lycan in six months, while Iris was just grateful that the lycan wouldn't pounce on her or hurt her again.

She hugged herself and rested her head on top of her knees. This night was a little bit cold for her. She stared at the lycan and heard him howling. This was the first sound that she heard since her life had been so quiet for years.

The night was so peaceful and none of them were talking, until the lycan suddenly roared viciously

and tried to free himself from the chains that rendered him unable to move.

Jace and Ethan's bodies stiffened, they thought the lycan would start wreaking havoc again, but then they heard something in the distance and craned their necks to hear it more clearly.

“What is that?” Ethan muttered, as he stood up. Aside from the vicious roar of the lycan, they could hear some other commotion. “I will go and check.”

It was hard for them to coordinate with one another without having the ability to mind link their pack members and all of that was thanks to alpha Gerald, who had

Iris also stood up when she saw Jace pacing inside the basement, he was trying to figure out what the commotion was about. She shifted her attention between Jace and the lycan and the more time. passed, the more agitated the lycan became.

“What happened?” Iris asked, she didn’t know why Ethan suddenly went out in such haste, but she assumed there must be something awful that was happening.

Now, the howling that Iris heard had turned into ferocious growls. Something aggravated the lycan, but she didn’t have any idea what that was.

“The monsters from the Goffa mountain attacked the people in the mines and those beasts almost reached the pack house!” Ethan shouted once he opened the door. He looked mortified.

“What!?” Jace was shocked. “At a time like this?!” He stared at the lycan and then at Iris, who missed what they were saying, Ethan talked too fast for her to follow, thus she didn’t know what happened.

“What is it?” She was desperate to know what was going on around her, but none of them gave her an answer.

“Stay here,” Jace said to her grimly, but Iris clutched his sleeve, stopping him from leaving her here. alone with the lycan. She was still afraid of being alone with this monster.

“W- where are you going?” Iris stuttered, she begged the beta to stay with her eyes. She was almost crying at this point.

“There is a monster attack and they almost reached the pack house, I need to go.” Jace pulled his hand away from her grip. “The lycan is calm with you here. You will be fine.”

On what basis could he make such a conclusion? Had he forgotten about how she had almost died when she found herself alone with the lycan the last time?

However, Jace didn't have time to argue with her over that. His people needed him now that the alpha couldn't be there to lead the warriors and defend the attack of the monsters.

Recently, the monsters in Goffa mountain became more and more aggressive. Within the last month, there were two attacks that were reported. Thankfully, there were no victims, but then the monsters had never reached the pack house before.

If they had indeed reached it, it meant that the situation in the mines was very bad, since there would be the first line of defense that they had to break through before they reached the village and the pack house.

"N-no, wait!" Yet, Iris couldn't stop them from leaving her alone here with the angry lycan. She tried to leave with the beta and gamma, but the lycan became even more agitated when she even walked closer to the door and out of his sight. "Ssh... ssh... calm down, okay... you are scaring me."

Iris felt like she was going crazy for even attempting to talk with the lycan, as if he could understand her, but she was worried about Hanna.

"What do you want me to do?" Iris frowned, because she felt like the beast wanted her to come closer. She took a step closer and the beast growled in a low voice. He reduced his attempts to free himself from the chains and when Iris took another step closer, the beast became even calmer. "Do you want me to come to you?"

Probably she read the situation wrongly, but she felt she was right with her interpretation.

Iris had been trying to figure out why the alpha could shift back into his human form before the sunrise, but there was no book that explained anything about it. Probably, she needed to hole herself up inside the library a little bit longer. There must be a book that could explain that somewhere.

Thankfully, her mother loved to read, thus the library was built solely for her and it contained millions of books from various places.

Iris stared straight into the red eyes before her, this was the first time she held his gaze and she felt... less scared of the monster.

His red eyes were so dark, like the color of blood and the reason behind it was because of the lycan's thirst for blood. He needed to kill to quench such thirst.

A lycan's existence was solely to kill, that was why they were called as cursed shifters.

But then, when Iris was transfixed by those red color eyes, all of a sudden the lycan shifted his attention to something behind her and started to roar more viciously, he literally thrashed his body strongly to break free from his restraints.

"What...?" Iris turned her body around and saw a Brinetallon staring down at her.

Brinetallon was a monster the size of a werewolf, with two heads and tails as sharp as daggers, filled.

with venom.

This was the first time for Iris to see a living Brinetallon, she saw this monster years ago when the pack went on a monster hunt and what she saw then was just a dead body.

Iris took a step back, which made her walk closer toward the lycan, who was snarling viciously at this intruder.

If this monster was here, it meant they had reached the pack house.

The Brinetallon snarled back at the lycan, but didn't dare to come closer toward Iris, even though the lycan was chained.

Iris felt her heart thump in her ears because she knew that she didn't have a way to escape from this predicament. The only exit was the door and it was right behind the Brinetallon. She wouldn't be able to go past that monster without being harmed in the process.

Let alone injuries, she would be lucky enough if she come out alive.

On the other hand, it was the lycan.

Iris glanced at the lycan over her shoulder and watched how this beast was wrathful with the presence of another beast inside this room.

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Should I release him and let them fight? Maybe by then she could find a way to escape.

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But then, there was no guarantee that she wouldn't be crushed first when they started to fight in this

small room.

Just one stray strike from any of these monsters, and she would die.

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Time went still for Iris when she saw how both the lycan and the monster were trying to dominate one another. Despite being in chains, the lycan didn't back down at all and there she was, the runt, in the middle of an impending fight.

She didn't know how long both of them could hold this status quo until someone came. No one knew they were here, aside from the beta and gamma, but the two must be busy trying to control the situation with the attack on the pack house.

Iris gulped down, she fiddled with her fingers nervously, but she was standing closer to the lycan than the monster and when one more roar from the monster rattled the hut, Iris jumped back, until her back was pressed against the lycan's chest.

She felt scared out of her mind right now.

And unfortunately for her, the situation didn't last long, as the brinetallon charged forward, despite how ferocious the lycan snarled. Iris had to cover her ears when the lycan let out an ear-piercing roar. It was so powerful that the monster halted, but it didn't back down.

Now, with Iris' back pressed against the lycan's chest, she could feel his rumbling growl in his chest, while the brinetallon was only three steps away from her. She glanced at the silver chains that bound the lycan and realized that he was trying to free himself, yet it was not as easy as the other night, since they doubled the number of chains they used.

Iris trembled in fear when the brinetallon decided to attack, disregarding the vicious lycan, the monster's target was very clear, it wanted Iris, as one of his heads focused on the lycan, while the other one kept tabs on Iris.

"Arghh!!!" Iris screamed at the top of her lungs and turned around, pressing her body against the lycan when she saw the brinetallon charge forward, as its tail slapped the ground.

There was no way to escape and now she braced herself for the pain.

However, at the same time, the lycan managed to free one of his hands, as he wrapped his arm around Iris' body and the other grabbed one of the brinetallon's heads, breaking its neck with a sickening sound.

Iris felt the lycan strong arm around her body, pressing her closer to him, but it was almost suffocating, because this cursed shifter didn't know how to control his strength.

The lycan then threw the Brinetallon away, smashing its body against the wall. The monster whimpered, as it was clear that one of its heads had died. It limped to the other side.

In this case, it wouldn't take long before the other head dies as well.

Brinetallon was a strong attacker, but unable to heal once they sustained a grave injury.

Iris opened her eyes and watched as the monster limped to the other side of the room, whimpering with a pitiful sound, which she couldn't hear. For some reason, it was only the lycan's voice that she

Trembling, Iris realized that the lycan still had his strong arm wrapped around her body, but his legs were still chained. He couldn't move from his position, nor could Iris.

If she made a little movement, the lycan would growl viciously, almost like throwing a warning until she stayed still.

From the corner of her eyes, Iris could see that the brinetallon had finally stopped moving as it fell to the ground, seemingly dead because one of its heads had been crushed.

It was supposed to give relief to Iris, but she couldn't relax when she was literally in the arms of another dangerous creature.

She prayed to whatever Gods that would listen to her that dusk would break soon as she couldn't wait for the sun to rise.

Jace shifted back into his human form when he had ensured that every monster had been killed and the last wave of monsters had drifted back to the Goffa mountain.

Most of the servants went to the underground shelter, but a few people didn't make it there and mostly the villagers, who didn't have a bunker in their houses, died during this attack. It was a catastrophe, people died on the streets and the smell of blood was very thick in the air. This scene was almost the same as the time when Cane waged a war against the Blue Moon pack and annihilated the alpha.

However, there was a stark difference; they didn't kill the villagers.

But this time, even on the streets they would see children dead with their parents crying beside their dead bodies, or children crying over their dead parents and siblings.

All of this happened overnight, no one had imagined something like this would happen to them.

They had been informed about the increase of the activity of the monsters in the Goffa mountain, but they didn't expect such a massive attack. It hadn't happened at least in the last few decades.

"How could this happen...?" Ethan looked in disbelief at his surroundings, he was drenched in blood, dirt and whatnot. He went crazy when he killed those monsters, but still, it didn't help much. Many people died tonight.

“Where is the alpha?! Why is the alpha not here?!” One of the guards approached the beta. “Is the alpha fighting somewhere? We need to find him and make sure that he is fine!”

The warriors grew anxious during the fight because they couldn't see their alpha and even though Jace had taken the lead, they couldn't help but wonder about the alpha's whereabouts,

Those warriors didn't think that the alpha had fled from the scene. The only thing in their minds was; the alpha was hurt and couldn't join the fight. There was no way their alpha would flee from such trepidation. They were used to following the alpha's lead and watching him head first to the battlefield.

“He is fine, I think we need to wrap up here and strengthen the fortification around the mines, just in case there is another wave of attack,” Jace started to give out the orders, but he talked to Ethan in a low voice when no one could listen to them. “Go to the hut and check the situation there. I will handle it here.”

“Got it.” Ethan then rushed back to the pack house, passing many dead bodies in the front yard and the hallway. The monsters managed to reach the pack house and he became more and more anxious. At this fact.

Something could have completely gone wrong.

Ethan hastened his steps toward the hut and his heart sank when he saw the broken down door, claw marks on its front.

He prayed that nothing had happened inside, but he became more agitated when he smelled blood from inside the basement.

His legs stopped moving when he saw a brinetallon on the ground, at the corner of the room, the monster seemed to be dead.

“Iris!” Ethan called the girl, as she didn't move. Did she die? Did the lycan kill her? “Iris!” he called her name again, but then he felt stupid, because he remembered that Iris couldn't hear him. “Damn it...” he grumbled.

It was only an hour before the sunrise and the lycan didn't seem to care about Ethan's presence, as his focus was on the young girl in his arms. He cradled her attentively, letting out a low growl every now and then.

Yet, no matter how calm the lycan looked, Ethan couldn't take a risk and approach him carelessly. He needed to wait until dusk.

"Why is he like that?" Ethan muttered under his breath.

It felt like an eternity before the sun rose and the lycan gradually shifted back into his human form, until it was only the alpha, who was cradling Iris in his arms.

Cane's eyes returned to their normal dark color, as he stared at Iris with a mix of confusion and bewilderment, he could vaguely remember how he had held her all night like this.

Her scent, the warmth of her body, helped to alleviate his pain. The pain was still there, but with Iris in his arms, it was bearable and he could feel his mind was clearer, even though he was in lycan form.

How could that happen? And why? Did it happen only with her?

Cane could answer the last question for sure that the lycan only reacted to her presence. Her scent could quench his thirst for blood and violence and with him touching her, keeping her close, he could

remain as humane as he could in his cursed beast form.

What was it with her?

"Cane," Ethan called him, as he entered the room again, after he saw the alpha had regained his

senses.

Cane slowly tore his attention from Iris' sleeping face. She was breathing slowly.

"Is she still alive?" Ethan asked carefully, as he approached the alpha and observed Iris. He saw the rhythmic rise and fall of her chest. "She is alive." He answered his own question, but then his expression turned serious. "There is something important that you need to know."

Iris opened her eyes groggily, as she looked at her surroundings and noticed she was in her own

room.

She rubbed her face roughly and pushed herself up to sit down before she touched her neck. There was no pain, which meant the lycan didn't bite her again, right? She checked herself briefly, but didn't feel any pain at all, only her muscles were a little bit stiff.

"Miss! You have woken up!" Hanna immediately rushed toward her and hugged her, she was sobbing already and this made Iris smile, hugging her back and feeling the warmth from her body.

She remembered what happened last night and now she could breathe in relief knowing that Hanna

was unharmed.

"I am so worried!" She stifled a cry. "I thought something bad had happened to you when I saw the gamma brought you back, unconscious. I thought you didn't make it to the shelter and became a victim of the attack." Hanna rubbed her face. "I looked for you in the underground shelter, but couldn't find you."

"I am with the alpha, remember?" Iris reminded her, she felt so grateful to have Hanna with her.

"Yes... but..." Hanna wanted to say that the alpha would gladly give her to the monsters and wouldn't care less about her well being, but it sounded so bold. "I am glad that you are fine. But, you slept. through a full day and night."

Iris frowned. She didn't think she had slept that long. "How long have I been sleeping?"

"A day. The attack happened yesterday."

Iris looked at the bright sunlight that streamed into the room through the window. "How could the monsters reach the pack house?"

"I don't know, but the alpha and the other higher ranking shifters are trying to figure that out, I guess it is not easy, because there were so many victims because of that massive attack."

Hanna then told her about what happened when she was unconscious.

“Now all the people are busy cleaning up after the mess, burying the dead, strengthening the fortification around the mines and healing those who got poisoned by the tail of the brinetallon.”

No one had a good sleep and all of them were grieving, trying to support one another and help the injured.

“Where are you going?” Hanna asked when she saw Iris was about to get off the bed.

“I will help too.” Iris felt the urge to help them, though she wouldn’t be much of help, but there must be something that she could do. It would be fine even if she could walk back and forth just carrying a bucket of water for them.

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“But, you just woke up. Hanna immediately stood up and followed Iris, who changed her dress into a simple one, so she could move around freely. “You need to rest more.”

“I am fine. It only means I have rested enough, right?” Iris smiled softly to reassure Hanna, as she changed her dress. Aside from her stiff muscles, she didn’t feel any pain. “I want to help. They are our people too, right?”

As they were still in the Blue Moon pack, most of the people that had died during the attack, except for the warriors, were not members of the Howling Wolf pack.

In the end, Hanna didn’t have any other choice but to follow her. She led her to the front yard, where the alpha had opened the gates and built a few huge tents for those who were poisoned by the brinetallon’s venom, because it could be fatal to the shifters, especially the younger ones. Their healing ability couldn’t heal them quick enough before the venom reached their hearts and killed

them.

At the front yard, there were seven huge tents, three tents for the patients poisoned by the venom of the brinetallon, two tents for those who were injured severely and the other two for the dead bodies, waiting to be buried, as they listed the people who had died and their families.

This attack resulted in a lot of children without parents and right now, they were in the warrior's dormitory, staying there until the alpha made his decision, where he would place those children.

Iris saw Amee from afar, she was talking to Grace, the healer, thus she walked toward her and greeted both of them.

"What can you do to help?" Grace looked at her skeptically.

"I know, I am not proficient with herbs, but I can help with feeding them and changing their bandages." Iris was so eager to help.

"I don't need your help," Grace said, as she turned on her heel before walking away.

"It's okay, miss. You still need to rest, Hanna said cheerfully, trying to lighten up Iris' mood after the rejection, but she was not yet done.

Iris then turned toward Amee, who was still standing there. "Amee, I am sure there is something that I can do to help you guys." Iris looked around her. "There are not many healers in the Blue Moon pack. and Grace is the only healer in the Howling Wolf pack, moreover, there were many servants and slaves that died during the attack. I just want to help."

Amee looked conflicted. She was right, they were short of helping hands and any help would be appreciated, but she was not sure how to make this decision. "You can end up sick and become a patient instead."

"I am not that weak, Iris interjected, but then she knew that she would easily fall sick. "I can handle myself and will try not to add to your burden."

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It needed a lot of convincing from Iris to finally make Amee relent and then give her a task.

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“I need people to change the bandages, because the wounds from the brinetallon’s tail makes the flesh rot very fast and we need to change the bandage and apply ointment every three hours. You can go to that tent and ask Grilla about the patients that need to be changed. There are around thirty people inside the tent.” Amee pointed to one of the tents not too far from them.

“Okay, I will do it.” Iris smiled brightly and then rushed toward the tent that Amee had pointed out.

Meanwhile, the old lady stood there, staring at the young woman’s back, her auburn hair was braided behind her back and she looked so skinny for a young woman around her age. She was a runt after

all.

But then, Amee still couldn’t imagine that the girl’s father was the one who had put them through those hellish days, when she was so caring and gentle.

Amee shook her head, there were a lot of things that she needed to do.

On the other hand, Iris immediately found Grilla, the head of servants, inside the tent. She was instructing someone to bring a bucket of cold water because there were five warriors that got a fever from the venom.

“You are here to help?” Grilla furrowed her brows. “The last time I heard, you are the luna of this pack.” She was mocking Iris when she called her the luna, because all of them knew what kind of pact that the alpha needed to make for her to become the luna of the pack. They resented Iris for that.

Iris became nervous. “Isn’t that all the more reason for me to help? Because I am the luna of the pack?” She asked in a matter of fact tone.

Grilla calculated the situation and she indeed needed a helping hand here. “Okay. You can bring cold water and wipe down those five men, make sure their bodies are not too hot and change their bandages too in an hour. Make sure you change their bandages every three hours. After you have done that, come to me and I will give you more tasks.”

Hanna wanted to complain because it was too much to ask Iris to do that, but she immediately agreed.

“Okay, I will do it.” Iris nodded, she took this task seriously.

“I will get the cold water for you,” Hanna said and immediately went to fetch a bucket of water, while Iris checked on the five men. All of them looked miserable, as they writhed in pain. The wounds from

the brinetallon’s tail had turned blue.

“Let me know if the wounds turned darker, because we need to amputate the affected part before the venom reaches their hearts.” Grilla grimaced. “It will be the end of them as a warrior.”

Iris flinched at the incitement. She knew nothing about this monster’s venom, but if the victim had to get amputated in order to stay alive, Iris was grateful the lycan killed the monster without so much of a fight.

“Understood.” Iris nodded and checked on the five men, making sure none of them had to go through.

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such a fate. She knew well how proud they were to be the warriors of the pack. Even the stable boy wanted to be a warrior when he grew up, unfortunately, because of her, he couldn’t even reach that

age.

Not long after that, Hanna returned with a bucket of cold water and both of them started to wipe the five men, while the other people took care of the other twenty five. Hanna wanted to help them as well when Iris said that she could handle it, and she just needed Hanna to bring another bucket of cold water.

“The destruction is very severe.” Jace approached the alpha, as both of them inspected the fortification around the mines.

To build this stronghold alone, they needed a lot of money, while their funds were a little bit strained, not to mention the houses that were destroyed during the attack and also the fund for medicine for those who were injured. This would hurt their finances.

“You can’t build the two packs at the same time, Cane. In this situation, you should let go of the Blue Moon pack.”

“Their resources are too valuable to let go. We don’t have a strong economy back in the Howling Wolf pack either.” Due to bad management, the Howling Wolf pack was almost dead. The only income that they got was by selling slaves and providing prostitution services alongside a gambling area, which was led by none other than the members of the Howling Wolf pack itself.

“We can get all the resources here and build our own pack.”

“Do

you mean you want to abandon the people here, while we rob them of their fortune?”

“I know that sounds so awful, but you need to choose. You can’t build two packs, at the very least, you need to save one of those.” The damages from last night’s attack were too great for them to handle.

Hearing that, Cane didn’t say anything and Jace added more information.

“We can’t rely on the mines, Stone said himself that the production has decreased greatly these past two months. The demand is high, but we can’t meet their numbers.” It was hard to find the magic stones, especially when there was a conflict between the slaves and the slave trainers every now and then.

Most of the mining slaves were the warriors from the Blue Moon pack and their pride and ego hurt to do this job.

“Magic stones...” Cane contemplated for a while over what Jace said. “Call Iris here.”

Jace frowned, but then his eyes lit up. “Do you think she can find a lot of magic stones?”

Iris was keeping tabs on the five men, as she didn’t want them to lose their arms or legs, they were unconscious and would occasionally whimper in pain.

Iris kept them hydrated by wetting the towel and dabbing it on their lips, so the water could seep into

their mouths. She diligently changed their bandages and applied ointment.

People there looked at her skeptically at first, mocking her for trying so hard to look good. They didn't believe she was genuine about what she was doing, but Iris didn't hear that, she couldn't hear

them.

This was the first time for her to be grateful to actually being unable to hear, so she didn't need to be hurt by what they were saying, after all, she knew how they felt about her and no matter what she did, they would only see her that way.

Thus, she focused her attention on the five men in her care.

Iris didn't realize that the sun had set and it had been the third time she was in the tent, which meant, more or less, she had been here for eight hours and her stomach was rumbling. She was hungry, but she was afraid to ask where she could get food.

Right now, because the five men had been taken care of and their fever had subsided, she was helping the other patients by changing their bandages or grinding herbs with Grilla or Ameer, who would come occasionally.

All of the people there looked at her strangely, because they expected her to give up within one or two hours, but the fact that she was still there even after the sun set made them frown.

"Miss Iris, you need to eat." Hanna came with two bowls of warm porridge, she approached her and pulled her to the side, as she told her to put down the herbs. "You will not be able to help anyone if you fall sick yourself."

Iris put down the herbs and followed Hanna outside the tent, as they sat down on the ground, a little bit away from the commotion.

Hanna had asked for permission for her and Iris from Grilla to go and eat.

"Here, this is not tasty, but at least, we have something to eat. It seems the pack has trouble with food because the attack last night destroyed our food reserves." Hanna sighed.

Iris looked at the bland porridge. It was warm, but the look of it made her frown, yet she didn't have

any

other choice. It was either eating this bland porridge or staying hungry.

The taste must not be as bad as it looked...

However, she was wrong. The taste was way worse than anything that she had ever eaten, but Hanna ate it without much difficulty, thus Iris could only swallow the porridge. After all, she was hungry.

Before her second spoon, Jace came toward her. It was easy for the beta to find her because he remembered her scent.

"The alpha is looking for you," Jace said, as he saw Iris lift her head and look at him.

"Why?" Iris felt her stomach rumbling, wanting that not so delicious bland porridge. "But, I am eating."

"You can eat later, get up and follow me. This is more important."

< 58 PEOPLE LOOKED AT HER STRANGELY

Reluctantly, Iris got up and followed the beta.

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58 PEOPLE LOOKED AT HER STRANGELY

Rewards

"But, you just woke up. Hanna immediately stood up and followed Iris, who changed her dress into a simple one, so she could move around freely. "You need to rest more."

"I am fine. It only means I have rested enough, right?" Iris smiled softly to reassure Hanna, as she changed her dress. Aside from her stiff muscles, she didn't feel any pain. "I want to help. They are our people too, right?"

As they were still in the Blue Moon pack, most of the people that had died during the attack, except for the warriors, were not members of the Howling Wolf pack.

In the end, Hanna didn't have any other choice but to follow her. She led her to the front yard, where the alpha had opened the gates and built a few huge tents for those who were poisoned by the brinetallon's venom, because it could be fatal to the shifters, especially the younger ones. Their healing ability couldn't heal them quick enough before the venom reached their hearts and killed

them.

At the front yard, there were seven huge tents, three tents for the patients poisoned by the venom of the brinetallon, two tents for those who were injured severely and the other two for the dead bodies, waiting to be buried, as they listed the people who had died and their families.

This attack resulted in a lot of children without parents and right now, they were in the warrior's dormitory, staying there until the alpha made his decision, where he would place those children.

Iris saw Amee from afar, she was talking to Grace, the healer, thus she walked toward her and greeted both of them.

"What can you do to help?" Grace looked at her skeptically.

"I know, I am not proficient with herbs, but I can help with feeding them and changing their bandages." Iris was so eager to help.

"I don't need your help," Grace said, as she turned on her heel before walking away.

"It's okay, miss. You still need to rest, Hanna said cheerfully, trying to lighten up Iris' mood after the rejection, but she was not yet done.

Iris then turned toward Amee, who was still standing there. "Amee, I am sure there is something that I can do to help you guys." Iris looked around her.

"There are not many healers in the Blue Moon pack. and Grace is the only healer in the Howling Wolf pack, moreover, there were many servants and slaves that died during the attack. I just want to help."

Amee looked conflicted. She was right, they were short of helping hands and any help would be appreciated, but she was not sure how to make this decision. "You can end up sick and become a patient instead."

"I am not that weak, Iris interjected, but then she knew that she would easily fall sick. "I can handle myself and will try not to add to your burden."

< 58 PEOPLE LOOKED AT HER STRANGELY

It needed a lot of convincing from Iris to finally make Ameerelent and then give her a task.

Rewards

"I need people to change the bandages, because the wounds from the brinetallon's tail makes the flesh rot very fast and we need to change the bandage and apply ointment every three hours. You can go to that tent and ask Grilla about the patients that need to be changed. There are around thirty people inside the tent." Ameerpointed to one of the tents not too far from them.

"Okay, I will do it." Iris smiled brightly and then rushed toward the tent that Ameerhad pointed out.

Meanwhile, the old lady stood there, staring at the young woman's back, her auburn hair was braided behind her back and she looked so skinny for a young woman around her age. She was a runt after

all.

But then, Ameerstill couldn't imagine that the girl's father was the one who had put them through those hellish days, when she was so caring and gentle.

Ameer shook her head, there were a lot of things that she needed to do.

On the other hand, Iris immediately found Grilla, the head of servants, inside the tent. She was instructing someone to bring a bucket of cold water because there were five warriors that got a fever from the venom.

"You are here to help?" Grilla furrowed her brows. "The last time I heard, you are the luna of this pack." She was mocking Iris when she called her the luna,

because all of them knew what kind of pact that the alpha needed to make for her to become the luna of the pack. They resented Iris for that.

Iris became nervous. "Isn't that all the more reason for me to help? Because I am the luna of the pack?" She asked in a matter of fact tone.

Grilla calculated the situation and she indeed needed a helping hand here. "Okay. You can bring cold water and wipe down those five men, make sure their bodies are not too hot and change their bandages too in an hour. Make sure you change their bandages every three hours. After you have done that, come to me and I will give you more tasks."

Hanna wanted to complain because it was too much to ask Iris to do that, but she immediately agreed.

"Okay, I will do it." Iris nodded, she took this task seriously.

"I will get the cold water for you," Hanna said and immediately went to fetch a bucket of water, while Iris checked on the five men. All of them looked miserable, as they writhed in pain. The wounds from

the brinetallon's tail had turned blue.

"Let me know if the wounds turned darker, because we need to amputate the affected part before the venom reaches their hearts." Grilla grimaced. "It will be the end of them as a warrior."

Iris flinched at the incitement. She knew nothing about this monster's venom, but if the victim had to get amputated in order to stay alive, Iris was grateful the lycan killed the monster without so much of a fight.

"Understood." Iris nodded and checked on the five men, making sure none of them had to go through.

< 58 PEOPLE LOOKED AT HER STRANGELY

Rewards

such a fate. She knew well how proud they were to be the warriors of the pack. Even the stable boy wanted to be a warrior when he grew up, unfortunately, because of her, he couldn't even reach that

age.

Not long after that, Hanna returned with a bucket of cold water and both of them started to wipe the five men, while the other people took care of the other twenty five. Hanna wanted to help them as well when Iris said that she could handle it, and she just needed Hanna to bring another bucket of cold water.

“The destruction is very severe.” Jace approached the alpha, as both of them inspected the fortification around the mines.

To build this stronghold alone, they needed a lot of money, while their funds were a little bit strained, not to mention the houses that were destroyed during the attack and also the fund for medicine for those who were injured. This would hurt their finances.

“You can’t build the two packs at the same time, Cane. In this situation, you should let go of the Blue Moon pack.”

“Their resources are too valuable to let go. We don’t have a strong economy back in the Howling Wolf pack either.” Due to bad management, the Howling Wolf pack was almost dead. The only income that they got was by selling slaves and providing prostitution services alongside a gambling area, which was led by none other than the members of the Howling Wolf pack itself.

“We can get all the resources here and build our own pack.”

“Do

you mean you want to abandon the people here, while we rob them of their fortune?”

“I know that sounds so awful, but you need to choose. You can’t build two packs, at the very least, you need to save one of those.” The damages from last night’s attack were too great for them to handle.

Hearing that, Cane didn’t say anything and Jace added more information.

“We can’t rely on the mines, Stone said himself that the production has decreased greatly these past two months. The demand is high, but we can’t meet their numbers.” It was hard to find the magic stones, especially when there was a conflict between the slaves and the slave trainers every now and then.

Most of the mining slaves were the warriors from the Blue Moon pack and their pride and ego hurt to do this job.

“Magic stones...” Cane contemplated for a while over what Jace said. “Call Iris here.”

Jace frowned, but then his eyes lit up. “Do you think she can find a lot of magic stones?”

Iris was keeping tabs on the five men, as she didn’t want them to lose their arms or legs, they were unconscious and would occasionally whimper in pain.

Iris kept them hydrated by wetting the towel and dabbing it on their lips, so the water could seep into

their mouths. She diligently changed their bandages and applied ointment.

People there looked at her skeptically at first, mocking her for trying so hard to look good. They didn’t believe she was genuine about what she was doing, but Iris didn’t hear that, she couldn’t hear

them.

This was the first time for her to be grateful to actually being unable to hear, so she didn’t need to be hurt by what they were saying, after all, she knew how they felt about her and no matter what she did, they would only see her that way.

Thus, she focused her attention on the five men in her care.

Iris didn’t realize that the sun had set and it had been the third time she was in the tent, which meant, more or less, she had been here for eight hours and her stomach was rumbling. She was hungry, but she was afraid to ask where she could get food.

Right now, because the five men had been taken care of and their fever had subsided, she was helping the other patients by changing their bandages or grinding herbs with Grilla or Ameer, who would come occasionally.

All of the people there looked at her strangely, because they expected her to give up within one or two hours, but the fact that she was still there even after the sun set made them frown.

“Miss Iris, you need to eat.” Hanna came with two bowls of warm porridge, she approached her and pulled her to the side, as she told her to put down the herbs. “You will not be able to help anyone if you fall sick yourself.”

Iris put down the herbs and followed Hanna outside the tent, as they sat down on the ground, a little bit away from the commotion.

Hanna had asked for permission for her and Iris from Grilla to go and eat.

“Here, this is not tasty, but at least, we have something to eat. It seems the pack has trouble with food because the attack last night destroyed our food reserves.” Hanna sighed.

Iris looked at the bland porridge. It was warm, but the look of it made her frown, yet she didn't have

any

other choice. It was either eating this bland porridge or staying hungry.

The taste must not be as bad as it looked...

However, she was wrong. The taste was way worse than anything that she had ever eaten, but Hanna ate it without much difficulty, thus Iris could only swallow the porridge. After all, she was hungry.

Before her second spoon, Jace came toward her. It was easy for the beta to find her because he remembered her scent.

“The alpha is looking for you,” Jace said, as he saw Iris lift her head and look at him.

“Why?” Iris felt her stomach rumbling, wanting that not so delicious bland porridge. “But, I am eating.”

“You can eat later, get up and follow me. This is more important.”

< 58 PEOPLE LOOKED AT HER STRANGELY

Reluctantly, Iris got up and followed the beta.

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Jace took Iris to the mines, where Cane had been waiting for her.

They went further away from the area where she used to dig the ground or any rock there to find the magic stones in this barren site.

This was the first time for Iris to look at the fortification that was built for their protection against the monsters from the Goffa mountain up close. There was a huge hole there, which was now being repaired.

Iris came closer to Cane and from a closer look, she could see how haggard he was and how his complexion didn't seem good, yet his eyes were sharp as ever.

"Alpha," Jace called the alpha to get his attention, because he was talking to someone right now. Cane turned around and looked at Iris, walking behind the beta. He immediately wrapped up whatever conversation that he was having with the man.

"Report to me as soon as possible," Cane said and sent the man away, before he focused on Iris. "Can you find the stones?" He asked without even offering a simple greeting to Iris. His bluntness was really something.

Iris nodded. She knew about the struggles of this pack, since she learned about it here and there and also thanks to Hanna, who always filled her with information. Regardless of it being useful or not, she would always keep her well informed.

"Can you find forty five magic stones?" Cane asked without hesitation.

"Forty five?" Iris widened her eyes.

For now, they only had fifteen magic stones in total, while they needed to gather sixty of them to meet the demand and if they didn't meet it within a week, they would have to get them from Red Claw pack, which had the biggest mining site in this continent.

If the Howling Wolf pack and Blue Moon pack shared a mining site, then the Red Claws had one for themselves, therefore, they were the richest pack in the continent.

In other words, if this merchant didn't get the deal with the Howling Wolf pack, they would lose the buyer, it would take time to get a big merchant like this, while they really needed money now.

"You can't?" Cane looked at her impassively, while Jace was also waiting for her answer,

"I can." Iris sensed more than that in the mining site, but still forty five was a big number.

On the other hand, the beta was visibly relieved to hear that, which made Iris frown slightly with that expression.

"I want you to point out where to find those magic stones, I will ask people to dig that spot." Cane wanted to get it done now and didn't want to waste any time, thus he ordered Jace to gather forty five men and come to him immediately.

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However, before Jace left to get the order done, Iris stopped them.

Rewards

"Are you short of money?" She caught up to it quickly and since she learned that Cane didn't like to beat around the bush when he talked, she didn't want to upset him either, especially when there was no other polite way to ask about this.

A moment of awkward silence stretched before Cane replied to that. "Yes. Trying to get two, almost destroyed, packs back to floating, eventually takes a toll on the savings." He assumed Iris must have caught on to the situation. She was quite witty.

"Why don't you use the Blue Moon pack's treasure?" She didn't think that they would hit rock bottom like this if they had used the treasure, but then probably they didn't know about it.

“What treasure?” Jace asked her, he looked so intrigued about this, so did the alpha, even though he didn’t show it on his expression.

“Blue Moon pack’s treasure. From what I heard, my father took all the treasure from the Howling Wolf pack and combined it with the Blue Moon pack’s. There must be a lot there. I used to hear Mason bragging about how our fortune will not deplete even if they partied every night.” She knew all of that because they were so careless to give her sensitive information, while calling her how stupid

she was.

To be fair, a runt like her, who was banned from socializing with other people, couldn’t do anything

with such sensitive information.

“In that case, where is the treasure?” Because Jace was in charge of handling their expenditure, he became greedy to know more about this money.

“I know where it is, but I don’t know how to open it,” Iris replied in a matter of fact tone. “I think there is some kind of key or something to open the door.”

“Lead the way.” Cane didn’t waste much time. It was way better than digging forty five magic stones, if they had ready money at their disposal to rebuild the village and fortification.

“The place is in the pack house.” Iris glanced at Cane. “Actually, it is inside your bedroom.”

The bedroom that the alpha occupied right now was the previous alpha’s bedroom, therefore, it made sense for the treasure to actually be there.

Cane and the other people had been looking for this and they even asked Mason, but the man was so stubborn, thinking that he had nothing to lose. In his opinion, he would be tortured anyway, thus why he should give them the fortune.

Not even for a moment did Cane think about Iris. Since her involvement with her father and brother

was so low, he thought she knew nothing.

Finally, they went back to the pack house and along the way, Iris could feel her stomach hurting a little bit. She was hungry. It was safe to say that the last time she ate food was when she had a hard bread that Hanna gave her this afternoon when she woke up.

However, she didn't dare to complain about that.

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Rewards

"Here, inside the spare room." Iris entered the spare room first. She had occupied this place for a week when she was whipped by the mistress and a few days before that, thus she could see the bookshelf that Mason talked about. "Mason said there is a room behind this bookshelf."

There was only one bookshelf in this room, thus she couldn't be mistaken.

The alpha then asked Aderan to get more guards to tear down the wall behind the bookshelf along with the bookshelf, as it couldn't be moved. Seemed like the bookshelf itself was the door to the

Four guards came with sledge hammers, as they started to work on it.

The spare room was not that big, thus aside from the four guards, the alpha and the beta, Iris and Aderan went out of the room.

But then, someone tapped her shoulder and when she turned around she found a young maid servant carrying a bowl of warm porridge, but this time there was meat on top of it.

"The alpha said to bring this to you," the young maid servant said politely, as she handed the bowl to

her.

you," Iris

"The alpha?" Iris was surprised, she saw him giving one of the guards instructions on their way here, but she didn't know what he had talked about, since he had his back to her. "Oh, thank" she muttered and then received the bowl. Did the alpha hear how her stomach was growling?

The young servant excused herself and disappeared behind the closed door.

On the other hand, Aderan only gave her a side glance and then focused back on the progress of their findings, while Iris went to sit down at the corner table and ate there silently. The porridge was still bland, but it tasted better with this small portion of meat.

Iris was enjoying her meal when she saw Aderan rushing into the room frantically and because she couldn't hear the commotion there, she didn't know what happened, yet she could make a guess

about it.

However, she was eating right now and she didn't want to lose a chance to eat like before, thus she chose to stay there and ate her meal slowly. After all, if they managed to find the treasury, they didn't need her again, right?

Halfway through her meal, Cane suddenly sat down across from her, which made her lift her head and look at him. She stopped eating.

"What else do you know about this pack?" Cane asked. He observed Iris' expression when she answered him.

"I don't know much. I was not allowed to go out of my bedroom and meet people. I happened to know that secret treasury because Mason always bragged about the money inside saying if he became the alpha one day, he would inherit that fortune and throw a party every night. He bragged about the secret place and when I was there, I saw only one bookshelf, so I am sure the treasure is inside." Based on Mason's character, it was a high possibility that he was the one who would blabber about

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such an important thing.

"Is it really there?" Iris asked out of curiosity.

"Do you want to see?"

"Can I?"

Rewards

Cane didn't say anything when he stood up, thus Iris assumed this was his way of telling her to follow him and it was what she did.

She walked two steps behind him toward the spare room and saw a huge hole in the wall, the four guards were trying to clean the debris.

Iris poked her head inside the hidden room and gasped in surprise to see the treasure inside. There was indeed a lot of money. At least, Mason was not just bragging about it. With this money, he really could throw a party every night.

Thankfully, this treasure wouldn't be wasted in such a deranged way.

From the corner of her eyes, Iris could see how pleased Jace was. He didn't need to toughen up in his expenditure and it was rather funny to see how he was smiling from ear to ear.

Meanwhile, the four guards chatted happily with each other about how they had never seen so much money in their whole lives.

However, Cane didn't have much change of expression.

Iris didn't venture further inside and only stood at what was supposed to be the door, but after looking around for a moment, she backed away.

"I think I don't need to find the forty five stones anymore, right?" Iris approached Cane and asked.

"You will go to the mines tomorrow with Ethan and find the forty five stones, Cane replied calmly, before he left, leaving Iris there, stunned.

The deal with the merchant was also important. At least, Cane learned that it would benefit them in the long run if they were on good terms with the merchant, especially when they could find the magic stones easily now with Iris here.

Iris looked at Cane's retreating back and Jace followed after him, after that, it was only the four guards and Aderan, who were there.

Not sure of what to do and since there was nothing that she could do by staying behind, Iris walked out of the room and went to the front yard. She needed to change the bandages of the five men, it had been three hours since she changed them last.

“What are you doing here?” Grilla asked Iris when she saw the young woman enter the tent. Everyone had returned to their quarters to sleep, only a few people were still there to check on the thirty patients.

“I need to change the bandages,” Iris replied, as she entered the tent and went straight to the five men she was in charge of and started to work on their bandages.

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Rewards

People who saw her there were frowning, they would never think that Iris would be so dedicated to this. It was already late and even if she didn't show up, no one would look for her.

But there she was, taking care of those five men diligently, when she was the luna of the pack.

“Are

you sure she is Gerald's daughter?” A young woman approached Grilla, as she stared at Iris. “Or is she only pretending to be nice?”

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“Are you sure she is Gerald's daughter?” A young woman approached Grilla, as she stared at Iris. “Or is she just pretending to be nice?”

Grilla shook her head. “I don't know,” she replied in a small voice, but she intended to look at her closely.

Meanwhile, Iris was not aware of what they were talking about, she only thought that they were mocking or cursing her for being there, which she was already used to and now, she only focused on what she was doing.

Attentively, she removed the bandages and cleaned up the rotten flesh and applied ointment, before she bandaged the wounds again. She had done it thrice before, so the fourth time was much easier for

her.

However, the fifth man stirred and opened his eyes. Iris was surprised, but offered him a smile. She just put on ointment and only needed to bandage him again, but seeing he woke up, she offered to give him a glass of water, thinking he must be thirsty after being unconscious for so long.

Iris swiftly washed her hands and poured a glass of water for him.

“Here, you must be thirsty,” Iris said warmly, as she brought the glass close to his lips, but to her surprise, he swatted her hand away, which caused the glass to shatter on the ground. It attracted attention from the people around, some patients stirred awake because of the disturbance.

“DON’T TOUCH ME!” The man roared in anger, the way he looked at her, as if he was going to kill her, made Iris jolt and stand up. She took a few steps back out of fear. “Don’t touch me, you monster!”

The last thing that he knew was; he was fighting a monster and got injured, only to wake up and see the daughter of alpha Gerald. His mind was racing back to the days of his slavery and he couldn’t control his emotions, despite his body aching all over.

It was a fact that nobody would ever get over what happened on those dark days.

“GET OUT!” The man screamed and became even more ferocious when Iris didn’t move.

It was not that she didn’t want to go from there, but she was too afraid to move, her body didn’t want to cooperate with her, her leg was cut when he pushed the glass to the ground, but she didn’t feel the pain, she was stunned.

“Come here,” Grilla said, as she pulled Iris away, out of the tent, while the others tried to calm the man

down.

Once they were outside, the cold night breeze hit her face and it made her able to breathe again. Iris was hyperventilating without her knowing it.

Grilla gave her a glass of water to calm her down, which she ended up finishing in one go. She felt slightly better now, but the panic was still there.

“I- I didn’t do anything to him... I just gave him a glass of water.” Iris was afraid that Grilla would think that she was trying to harm the man, without that accusation alone, she had been hated enough.

“I know, I know...” Grilla said in an attempt to calm her down, because she was stuttering now. “That

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Rewards.

man is named Avid. He had it hard in your father’s reign, so the sight of you must have triggered. something in him.”

“Wh- what happened to him?” Iris knew that she shouldn’t ask. Nothing good would come out of this and even if she knew, there was nothing that she could do to change other people’s views of her. Grilla sighed deeply. “Your father used his parents, his siblings and himself as bait to lure the monsters out, but he was the only survivor. He watched his family get killed and he couldn’t help them.”

The guilty feeling as a survivor was something real, which you couldn’t simply put aside and her father had this penchant of making other people feeling helpless and desperate, making them lose all hope that they had, shattering even the tiniest bit of light for them to live on.

Thus, it would be their minds that died first before their bodies followed.

“Go and take a rest. I can’t let you in any longer, but if you still want to help, I can put you somewhere.” Grilla watched how Iris was crying silently, she wiped her tears roughly, so she still could read what she said. “Now go back and rest.”

The sight of her crying like this didn't settle well with her. It shook the whole image that they had built around her, since it would be Gerald's shadow that shrouded her every time they looked at this young

Woman.

Iris nodded and wiped her tears again, before she muttered a 'thank you' and then walked away toward the pack house.

She sniffled on her way to her bedroom. She really wanted to know why her father and brother were so cruel as she had to bear the brunt of something that she didn't do now. They hated her for what they had done.

The path ahead of her was slightly blurry because of tears, yet because she had been living in this place for twenty years, it was not hard for her to find her way around.

When Iris entered her bedroom, Hanna had been waiting, she looked worried and Iris felt bad to make her feel that way.

"I will prepare a warm bath, okay? You will feel better after that," Hanna said. She didn't ask what happened, because she could see how distraught Iris was right now.

After that, she prepared a bath for her missy.

At least, Hanna was right about one thing; after taking a bath, Iris felt slightly better and easily fell asleep, but her nightmares still troubled her.

Early in the morning, she was woken up by Hanna, who told her that Ethan was waiting outside the door, he said that they needed to go to the mines.

"Now?" Iris looked around and realized the sky was still so gloomy, which meant she didn't even sleep for three hours completely.

"Yes. He said he wants you to hurry, Hanna said, sounding almost apologetic because she knew how tired Iris was, but she couldn't turn the gamma down. "I told him that you will need fifteen minutes to get ready, since you came so late last night."

Iris thanked her and immediately got off the bed and prepared herself. Hanna helped her to braid her

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long, curly hair, so it wouldn't get in the way.

"Do you want me to come with you?" Hanna asked out of concern.

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"No, it's okay." Iris had told Hanna about what happened and what she would do later in the mining site. "I don't think it will take a long time. I will see you in the front yard.

"I heard what happened last night," Hanna said sadly, as she brushed her hair. "I thought you had returned to the bedroom, that's why I was waiting for you here. I didn't think that you would change the bandages first. How foolish of me."

"Don't blame yourself, Hanna. I really thank you for what you have done for me." Iris kissed the back of her hand, which was resting on her shoulder. "I am so happy for you to be by my side."

"You deserve all the happiness in the world, miss." Hanna kissed her head and finished her braid.

"So do you."

And after that, Iris met with Ethan, who looked annoyed because he had to wait for her and only nodded when she apologized.

Both of them then entered the carriage. No one talked during this carriage ride, though Iris could feel his eyes on her several times, as if he wanted to strike a conversation, but he didn't know where to begin.

However, Iris pretended that she didn't see anything and fixed her eyes on the road, where houses were severely destroyed and people were busy building their places again.

The money must be enough to cover all of it, albeit it would need effort and time, they would be fine.

Ethan tapped Iris' knee to get her attention before he spoke. "Since when do you know about your ability?"

Iris tried to think about that. “Since I was put in the mining site. That was my first time there, so I didn’t know before that.”

Ethan frowned deeper, as if he was thinking so hard about it. “Do you really think that you can find forty five stones in the mining site?”

“Yes.” Iris nodded, he seemed to be in disbelief when she answered this immediately, without even thinking twice, but his expression was really amusing to her.

“How many magic stones do you think are inside the mines?” Ethan couldn’t stop asking. This girl intrigued him and if she could make money for them, it was a great thing, since they couldn’t torture her, because now she was the luna.

Despite it not being official yet, since they needed to go to the capital city and get the blessing ceremony done in the temple, before she could be recognized as Cane’s mate and the luna of the pack, they needed to treat her with a little bit of respect for her title.

“There are many stones there. Maybe hundreds of them...” Iris contemplated for a while, because she was not sure about the exact number.

“Hundreds of stones?” Ethan raised his brows. “You can find them all?”

“I can sense them, I think I can find them.”

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“What do you sense?” Ethan couldn’t help barraging her with questions, because on the other hand, it was so funny for him as well. Only if alpha Gerald knew that his daughter could find those precious stones so easily, he wouldn’t have locked her in her room and would have put her in the mining site. day and night instead.

In the end, they ended up chatting during the rest of their trip to the mining site and Iris was happy that Ethan warmed up to her a little bit.

However, once they arrived, it seemed something snapped in Ethan and he put back his cold, demeanor, as if he forgot that he was not supposed to be so friendly with her.

“We are here,” he said curtly, as he got down from the carriage and walked ahead. He didn’t even slow down his pace, so Iris had to half run to follow him.

When they entered the mining site, Stone had been waiting for them along with the forty five men that he could gather.

Iris was glad that he looked fine after the attack, but she didn’t see Ania. She glanced around, but couldn’t find the little girl.

Stone noticed that, but he didn’t say anything.

“You can start now,” Ethan told her and Iris started to point out the spots she could sense the magic

stones at.

It took around two hours for her to point out all the forty five magic stones that were still buried deep inside the rocks.

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The Alpha: Claiming His Enemy’s Daughter Chapter 60

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“Are you sure she is Gerald’s daughter?” A young woman approached Grilla, as she stared at Iris. “Or is she just pretending to be nice?”

Grilla shook her head. “I don’t know,” she replied in a small voice, but she intended to look at her closely.

Meanwhile, Iris was not aware of what they were talking about, she only thought that they were mocking or cursing her for being there, which she was already used to and now, she only focused on what she was doing.

Attentively, she removed the bandages and cleaned up the rotten flesh and applied ointment, before she bandaged the wounds again. She had done it thrice before, so the fourth time was much easier for

her.

However, the fifth man stirred and opened his eyes. Iris was surprised, but offered him a smile. She just put on ointment and only needed to bandage him again, but seeing he woke up, she offered to give him a glass of water, thinking he must be thirsty after being unconscious for so long.

Iris swiftly washed her hands and poured a glass of water for him.

“Here, you must be thirsty,” Iris said warmly, as she brought the glass close to his lips, but to her surprise, he swatted her hand away, which caused the glass to shatter on the ground. It attracted attention from the people around, some patients stirred awake because of the disturbance.

“DON’T TOUCH ME!” The man roared in anger, the way he looked at her, as if he was going to kill her, made Iris jolt and stand up. She took a few steps back out of fear. “Don’t touch me, you monster!”

The last thing that he knew was; he was fighting a monster and got injured, only to wake up and see the daughter of alpha Gerald. His mind was racing

back to the days of his slavery and he couldn't control his emotions, despite his body aching all over.

It was a fact that nobody would ever get over what happened on those dark days.

“GET OUT!” The man screamed and became even more ferocious when Iris didn't move.

It was not that she didn't want to go from there, but she was too afraid to move, her body didn't want to cooperate with her, her leg was cut when he pushed the glass to the ground, but she didn't feel the pain, she was stunned.

“Come here,” Grilla said, as she pulled Iris away, out of the tent, while the others tried to calm the man

down.

Once they were outside, the cold night breeze hit her face and it made her able to breathe again. Iris was hyperventilating without her knowing it.

Grilla gave her a glass of water to calm her down, which she ended up finishing in one go. She felt slightly better now, but the panic was still there.

“I- I didn't do anything to him... I just gave him a glass of water.” Iris was afraid that Grilla would think that she was trying to harm the man, without that accusation alone, she had been hated enough.

“I know, I know...” Grilla said in an attempt to calm her down, because she was stuttering now. “That

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man is named Avid. He had it hard in your father's reign, so the sight of you must have triggered. something in him.”

“Wh- what happened to him?” Iris knew that she shouldn't ask. Nothing good would come out of this and even if she knew, there was nothing that she could do to change other people's views of her. Grilla sighed deeply. “Your father

used his parents, his siblings and himself as bait to lure the monsters out, but he was the only survivor. He watched his family get killed and he couldn't help them."

The guilty feeling as a survivor was something real, which you couldn't simply put aside and her father had this penchant of making other people feeling helpless and desperate, making them lose all hope that they had, shattering even the tiniest bit of light for them to live on.

Thus, it would be their minds that died first before their bodies followed.

"Go and take a rest. I can't let you in any longer, but if you still want to help, I can put you somewhere." Grilla watched how Iris was crying silently, she wiped her tears roughly, so she still could read what she said. "Now go back and rest."

The sight of her crying like this didn't settle well with her. It shook the whole image that they had built around her, since it would be Gerald's shadow that shrouded her every time they looked at this young

Woman.

Iris nodded and wiped her tears again, before she muttered a 'thank you' and then walked away toward the pack house.

She sniffled on her way to her bedroom. She really wanted to know why her father and brother were so cruel as she had to bear the brunt of something that she didn't do now. They hated her for what they had done.

The path ahead of her was slightly blurry because of tears, yet because she had been living in this place for twenty years, it was not hard for her to find her way around.

When Iris entered her bedroom, Hanna had been waiting, she looked worried and Iris felt bad to make her feel that way.

"I will prepare a warm bath, okay? You will feel better after that," Hanna said. She didn't ask what happened, because she could see how distraught Iris was right now.

After that, she prepared a bath for her missy.

At least, Hanna was right about one thing; after taking a bath, Iris felt slightly better and easily fell asleep, but her nightmares still troubled her.

Early in the morning, she was woken up by Hanna, who told her that Ethan was waiting outside the door, he said that they needed to go to the mines.

“Now?” Iris looked around and realized the sky was still so gloomy, which meant she didn’t even sleep for three hours completely.

“Yes. He said he wants you to hurry, Hanna said, sounding almost apologetic because she knew how tired Iris was, but she couldn’t turn the gamma down. “I told him that you will need fifteen minutes to get ready, since you came so late last night.”

Iris thanked her and immediately got off the bed and prepared herself. Hanna helped her to braid her

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long, curly hair, so it wouldn’t get in the way.

“Do you want me to come with you?” Hanna asked out of concern.

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“No, it’s okay.” Iris had told Hanna about what happened and what she would do later in the mining site. “I don’t think it will take a long time. I will see you in the front yard.

“I heard what happened last night,” Hanna said sadly, as she brushed her hair. “I thought you had returned to the bedroom, that’s why I was waiting for you here. I didn’t think that you would change the bandages first. How foolish of me.”

“Don’t blame yourself, Hanna. I really thank you for what you have done for me.” Iris kissed the back of her hand, which was resting on her shoulder. “I am so happy for you to be by my side.”

“You deserve all the happiness in the world, miss.” Hanna kissed her head and finished her braid.

“So do you.”

And after that, Iris met with Ethan, who looked annoyed because he had to wait for her and only nodded when she apologized.

Both of them then entered the carriage. No one talked during this carriage ride, though Iris could feel his eyes on her several times, as if he wanted to strike a conversation, but he didn't know where to begin.

However, Iris pretended that she didn't see anything and fixed her eyes on the road, where houses were severely destroyed and people were busy building their places again.

The money must be enough to cover all of it, albeit it would need effort and time, they would be fine.

Ethan tapped Iris' knee to get her attention before he spoke. "Since when do you know about your ability?"

Iris tried to think about that. "Since I was put in the mining site. That was my first time there, so I

didn't know before that."

Ethan frowned deeper, as if he was thinking so hard about it. "Do you really think that you can find forty five stones in the mining site?"

"Yes." Iris nodded, he seemed to be in disbelief when she answered this immediately, without even thinking twice, but his expression was really amusing to her.

"How many magic stones do you think are inside the mines?" Ethan couldn't stop asking. This girl intrigued him and if she could make money for them, it was a great thing, since they couldn't torture her, because now she was the luna.

Despite it not being official yet, since they needed to go to the capital city and get the blessing ceremony done in the temple, before she could be recognized as Cane's mate and the luna of the pack, they needed to treat her with a little bit of respect for her title.

"There are many stones there. Maybe hundreds of them..." Iris contemplated for a while, because she was not sure about the exact number.

“Hundreds of stones?” Ethan raised his brows. “You can find them all?”

“I can sense them, I think I can find them.”

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“What do you sense?” Ethan couldn’t help barraging her with questions, because on the other hand, it was so funny for him as well. Only if alpha Gerald knew that his daughter could find those precious stones so easily, he wouldn’t have locked her in her room and would have put her in the mining site. day and night instead.

In the end, they ended up chatting during the rest of their trip to the mining site and Iris was happy that Ethan warmed up to her a little bit.

However, once they arrived, it seemed something snapped in Ethan and he put back his cold. demeanor, as if he forgot that he was not supposed to be so friendly with her.

“We are here,” he said curtly, as he got down from the carriage and walked ahead. He didn’t even slow down his pace, so Iris had to half run to follow him.

When they entered the mining site, Stone had been waiting for them along with the forty five men that he could gather.

Iris was glad that he looked fine after the attack, but she didn’t see Ania. She glanced around, but couldn’t find the little girl.

Stone noticed that, but he didn’t say anything.

“You can start now,” Ethan told her and Iris started to point out the spots she could sense the magic

stones at.

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