

## Chapter 96

As she stood up, Sarah rushed to her side, her voice filled with concern. "Charlene, be careful. If anything seems off, find a way to send us a signal. We'll be here for you."

Nicole nodded, her gratitude mingling with apprehension. "Thank you, Sarah. I'll do my best."

The guards flanked her as she followed them out of the house, her heart pounding in her chest. The journey to the Alpha's quarters felt interminable, the weight of uncertainty and fear growing with each step.

Finally, they reached a grand hall adorned with intricate carvings and symbols, an aura of power permeating the air. The guards gestured for Nicole to enter, their expressions stern.

Stepping into the room, Nicole found herself face to face with the imposing figure of the Alpha, a regal presence emanating strength and authority. His eyes bore into hers, searching, assessing.

As Nicole stood before the Alpha, his Luna and the Beta, trepidation and curiosity filled her being. Their piercing gazes seemed to scrutinize every inch of her, searching for answers.

"My name is Charlene," she began, her voice steady yet tinged with a hint of uncertainty. "I was attacked by rogues, lost my way in the forest, and ended up being saved by a family who took me in."

The Alpha, a formidable presence, regarded her with a stern expression. "Charlene, your sudden appearance within our territory raises questions. We found a cloak of dark magic on you. What can you tell us about it?"

Nicole's eyes widened in surprise, her mind racing to comprehend the implications of their words. "I... I don't remember anything about its origins. I woke up injured and with no memory of my past. The family who saved me told me nothing about it."

The Luna, a gentle and compassionate woman, spoke up, her voice filled with understanding. "Perhaps her memory loss is related to the dark magic. We should tread carefully, Alpha."

The Alpha's gaze softened slightly as he turned his attention back to Nicole. "We will give you the benefit of the doubt, Charlene. But be aware that any involvement with dark magic poses a threat to our pack. We will keep a watchful eye."

Nicole nodded, her gratitude mingling with a sense of relief. "I understand, Alpha. I have no intentions of causing harm to anyone."

The Beta, an imposing figure with a stern countenance, chimed in. "If you truly wish to prove your loyalty to the pack, Charlene, is there anything you can offer? Any skills or talents?"

Nicole's brow furrowed as she searched her mind, still clouded with fragments of memories. "I... I'm sorry, but I can't remember what I used to do or what skills I possessed. It's all a blank. But I'm willing to learn and contribute in any way I can."

The Luna's voice held warmth and kindness as she intervened. "Charlene, we understand your situation. We can assist you in the process of regaining your memory. We have methods of learning and meditation that may help you uncover your past."

A flicker of hope sparked within Nicole's heart, her eyes shining with gratitude. "Thank you, Luna. I would be honored to join you in those practices."

The Alpha nodded, his stern expression softening ever so slightly. "Very well, Charlene. You shall have the Luna's guidance on your journey. We hope that through this, we can gain a better understanding of your true nature."

With those words, Nicole was dismissed from the meeting with relief and anticipation within her. As she made her way back to Sarah's family, she couldn't help but feel a renewed sense of purpose and determination.

The prospect of uncovering her lost memories and discovering her true self held an allure that propelled her forward.

Upon her return to the family's home, Sarah greeted her with concern, her eyes filled with worry. "Charlene, what happened? Are you alright?"

Nicole offered a reassuring smile, her voice filled with a mix of gratitude and excitement. "I'm fine, Sarah. The Alpha and his council questioned me about the cloak of dark magic they found. They believe it might be related to my memory loss. But they're willing to give me a chance, plus the Luna promised to help me in my journey of self-discovery."

Sarah's expression softened, a motherly warmth radiating from her. "That's wonderful news, Charlene. We'll all be here for you every step of the way. And if there's anything we can do to support you, don't hesitate to ask."

Over the following days, Nicole delved into a routine of learning and meditation under the Luna's guidance. They explored various techniques to unlock her memories, delving into the depths of her subconscious in search of answers.

The Luna's patience and nurturing approach provided a safe space for Nicole to unravel the mysteries of her past.

As she delved deeper into her meditations, flashes of forgotten moments began to flicker in Nicole's mind. Fragments of her past emerged, fleeting glimpses that sparked recognition and curiosity, but she couldn't understand it.

She recalled Crimson and Shane and the horrors she suffered; Liam and Dark Moon and the maltreatment he gave her. But that was it.

Somehow, somehow, she recalled that Asha betrayed her and that Garrett was also evil. Memories of her time with Liam resurfaced. She had memories of him being sweet but believed that it was a dream.

It couldn't be real. It couldn't be real because Liam himself had said that he wanted to sever whatever connection they had.

For some reason, she missed him. She ached for him so badly, yet she was terrified of meeting him again because not only did she escape from his evil clutches, but she also slit his sister's throat.

She remembered Lilian and her hatred for her, but she also didn't understand why the memory of slitting her throat remained with her.

She kept all these secrets, of course, because, in her head, Silvermoon was the best thing that had happened to her.