

Chapter 1- Shadow Moon

Elizabeth's POV

I woke with a start, my eyes darting across the room looking for a threat. Nothing is there, but a part of me already knew that. For the past week I've been having the worst nightmares, remembering nothing but fear when I wake up. I look at the time and sigh, it's already 5 AM so I need to get ready for the pack run. I belong to the strongest werewolf pack, the Shadow Moon Pack. Every morning pack members between 16-24 go on a run to let our wolves out and increase our stamina. This is led by the future Alphas of our pack: Callum, Daniel, and Isaiah. They're identical triplets, and just turned 19 a month ago. So far they haven't found their mate, which means she either isn't from this pack or hasn't turned 18 yet. While wolves shift for the first time at 16, they can't find their mate until their 18th birthday. A fact that makes me increasingly nervous as my birthday is tomorrow.

I get dressed in a sports bra and leggings, something that I know will annoy Callum. Callum has never liked me much, so even though most of the girls dress this way for the run, he always get mad at me for it. Normally I would wear a tank top over it to avoid his anger, but I don't have any clean ones today. Oh well. He can throw his little tantrum if he wants to, I know Isaiah and Daniel will back me up. For being identical, the three of them are very different. Daniel and Isaiah are my best friends, we do everything together. Callum doesn't care about my friendship with his brothers though. Hatred for me runs to his very core.

I sigh again thinking about what happened last week. Some of the other girls had cornered me in the bathroom of our school. I knew I couldn't fight back, last time I did I got punished worse than the girls. Like I said, Callum hates me. At some point I lost consciousness, only waking up briefly as Isaiah carried me out. He was yelling at someone, one of the brothers, in my state I couldn't tell who though. Luckily wolves heal fast. I was actually pretty popular in our school, just some of the mega popular girls who hung off of Callum as if it was their mission in life hated me. It's whatever.

I made it to the edge at the edge of the woods where a few people were already waiting for the run.

"Hey Danny, Isaiah!" I said, walking up to them.

Turing, Danny saw my outfit and rolled his eyes.

"Do you enjoy us fighting with Callum for you? You know he's going to be pissed."

"I ran out of shirts!" I said while holding my hands up innocently.

"Sure you did" chuckled Isaiah.

Before I could respond Danny asked "Are you excited for your party tonight?"

I groaned in response. Every wolf who turned 18 had a party the night before their birthday, lasting until after midnight. This was so when midnight hit, they had a chance to find their mate at the party. I was NOT looking forward to it. Don't get me wrong, I wanted a mate, but I was terrified of who the mate would be. Would it be someone I liked? Someone I hated? A total stranger? Would I even find my mate? As the question lled my head I heard a low, chilling sound from behind me.

"Elizabeth."

Fuck. Normally Callum just yells at me in front of everyone. Him speaking that low and calm could only mean one thing: he was beyond furious.

I took a breath, noticing Isaiah and Danny's eyes had widened, then turned and said

"Yes Callum".

He sucked in an angry breath.

"Why are you just in that? Where is your shirt? You know better."

"Everyone else is allowed to dress like this, why can't I?"

We go through this every time. My answer only angers him further. He lowers his voice even more.

"I asked where your shirt was. Don't talk back to me, answer the question."

Honestly, this was scaring me more than when he yelled.

"I didn't have any clean shirts Alpha Callum" I said, lowering my eyes. I could feel Isaiah, Danny, and even Callum tense at my words. I never refer to them as Alpha. Even when Callum is screaming in my face, I don't back down to him. Most people wouldn't be able to get away with that, but being friends with some of the Alphas has its perks. But Callum's voice was terrifying right now. It sent chills down my spine and brought tears to my eyes. I'm always nervous around Callum, but this was a whole new level.

Suddenly Callum took his shirt off and shoved it in my hands.

"Wear this."

Though a million questions ran through my head, I kept my eyes down and simply nodded saying "Yes Alpha Callum" in a low whisper. He growled slightly, making me jump, and then left. I quickly put the shirt on, scared he might come back.

It was Isaiah who broke the silence.

"What the f**k was that?"

I jumped again at the tone of his voice.

"Elizabeth?" He said again softer. "El what's wrong? Why are you so scared all of a sudden? You've never called any of us Alpha before. And you've certainly never been scared of me."

"I.. I don't know. I just.. the voice..his voice was so low..normally he just yells at me but today was different...he seemed so much more mad than usual..I just.." Tears came to my eyes again. "I just need to run, how long until the run starts?" I ask, still not looking up.

Isaiah pulls my chin up, forcing me to look him in the eyes, then pulls me into a hug upon seeing my tears.

"He shouldn't have made you scared El, and I think he knows that. The runs about to start, go get changed"

As soon as he released me my eyes dropped again, and I started walking towards the girls area to take off their clothes and shift. As I was walking away I heard Isaiah growl to Danny "I'm going to kill him for that."

He started to say more, but I stopped listening. I got undressed and shifted, then ran out to the edge to await the start of the run.

Something tells me to look up, so I do. My eyes connect with a large, dark brown wolf. Before I can lower my eyes again, he lowers his head to me. A sign of submission, a sign of apology. A sign that I wouldn't have been confused about if it was from any other wolf. But despite the fact that they were identical in wolf form too, I still knew which brother it was. Callum.