

Chapter 14

MIA

All three of us turn around and head back towards the pack house.

The walk back was silent, with only small talk being made. I was feeling overwhelmed, but happy that I was back with my mum.

When the pack house was in sight. I notice a little boy looking over at us. He must have been about six years old. He stares at me and then towards my mother.

Alpha Sam looks over and smiles. We walk closer. The scent of the boy is familiar, but then it hits me like a ton of bricks. I stop suddenly.

My mother stops and looks back at me, and then towards the boy. She smiles. "Mia, this is your brother, Ryland and Ryland. This is your older sister, Mia, I was telling you about," she says, looking between both of us with a smile.

My mouth drops open wide. That explains the scent and why he smelt so familiar. He smells of a mixture of mum and dad. I have a younger brother, then it hits me hard.

I look towards my mother, who looks back at me

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and nods her head. "He came from something bad, but he is also nothing like him either. He is like you Mia," she says, raising her hand to place into mine.

Ryland looks at me and stares with his mouth hanging open. "Mia, my sister is finally here. You look pretty," he says, sounding so innocent.

I laugh, trying to deal with the whole thing.

Ryland comes up to me and hugs my waist. I stiffened, as I never had someone do that to me before. But I soon relax and wrap my arms around his shoulders, pulling him closer to me. He looks up at me with his big brown eyes. "I will protect you, big sis." I smile down at him. "That would be nice, Ryland," I say to him and he hugs me tighter.

I look up and see Alpha Sam wrap his arms around his sister, bracing for her to lose herself. Mum leans against him as her tears flow freely down her cheeks. I couldn't work out if she was happy or sad.

Alpha Sam leans his head on hers. "Both of your children are together at last," he whispers and looks at me with a kind smile. "You must have questions to ask me, for everyone. I will answer them, but first, we must eat," he says, looking towards the pack house door to his mate, who is smiling at us.

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Alpha Sam looks back at me and Ryland, who is now staring back at him. "Come," he said, letting go of my mother and smiling. Moving away from her with his hand in hers as he continued. "There are loads to eat," he says.

Lyla purred in my head but said nothing. I knew

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she didn't want to say anything. This was a family moment, even though she was family to me. This was a reunion that was meant to happen, and boy, was it something I never thought that could have been possible.

Shaking away my thoughts, I watched mum and Alpha Sam walk to the pack house. I felt moved to

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look up at me, making me look at him with a smile. "Come on," he said. "We also make loads of food, and it is delicious." I grinned but said nothing. Ryland placed his hand in mine. We started to walk and headed toward the pack house.

We stepped inside and headed to some huge double doors. Ryland opened it, and I stopped, rooted to the spot. Before me was a grand hall of the castle, which was filled with rows of tables. They placed food along the tables, with chairs on either side.

There were loads of people, which made me feel slightly nervous. I have never been with so many people. Some people looked up and stared at me, but Alpha Sam cleared his throat and smiled. "Everyone," he called out, his eyes roaming over every single person who was sitting. "I know there have been so many questions about our visitor that have turned up, and I will tell you all about her."

Alpha Sam's eyes met mine. He smiled. "Standing next to Ryland," he said. "Is my niece, Mia. She lives here in the pack with us and I hope you all will treat her with the same respect you have given me and my family."

Lyla moved closer and looked through my eyes. I felt nervous, which sent her to look forward. "Mia,"

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she said. "There is no need to be afraid. They will accept you. Your family to the alpha."

"That doesn't make a difference," I muttered. "I don't know if I can get used to this."

Lyla said nothing. She knew how I felt. She could sense it.

"Mum is waiting for us," Ryland blurts out, making me look at him. His eyes were in the grand hall. I looked to where he was looking, and mum walked toward us with a smile. She stopped before us, but her eyes were on me. "I know this is overwhelming," she said, looking over her shoulder and then back at me. "No one here will hurt you. Come and have some food. Then I will show you where you will be staying."

I gave her a nod.

Mum moved away, and we followed. Ryland's hand was mine until we reached the table where Alpha Sam and Luna Sadie sat. There were three seats empty on the other side of Alpha Sam.

Mum motioned for me to sit in the middle seat. I sat down while Ryland and mum sat on either side of me.

"Tuck in," Alpha Sam looked at me and smiled.

I looked toward the food, feeling my stomach grumble. I knew I was hungry again but didn't

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know if I could eat a lot.

After an hour, food went by, and ate what I could. Conversation flowed freely amongst everyone, and I tried to listen in what I could, but there was too much going on.

"Mia," Alpha Sam called, making me look at him.

He smiled.

"I know you haven't had long in the pack, and I want you to settle in for a few days," he said and looked toward my mother, who gave him a brief nod. Alpha Sam looked back at me and sighed. "I will want to speak with you about what truly happened in your pack. When you are ready to talk, we can talk about it."

I felt my stomach drop at the mere thought of bringing up what happened to me in my pack. The thought of them being my pack felt like a distant memory since I came here, but there has been too much going on in one day to even think about it. I needed to rest, and Lyla agreed with me. A few days of not overthinking what happened might be what we need.

"I need some time," I whisper, looking at him. Alpha Sam nodded. "I know," he said. "Too much for one day. I get that. Have a few days to get your bearing around here. Then we will talk."

I gave him a nod.

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Another hour passed by. Lyla was laying in my head and listening to what she could from many people. Some were still quiet when it came to me, and no one brought up my pack, which was good.

Ryland let out a loud yawn, making me look at him. He smiled, but you could tell he was tired. "It's getting late," my mother said, making me look back at her. She grinned. "Ryland needs to go to bed," she said. "I'm going to take him up. Do you want to come with us? I can show you where you will be staying."

I gave her a smile and a slight nod. We said our goodbyes. My mum led Ryland and me up the stairs and onto the fourth floor to our room.

Mum stopped by a room and opened the door. Ryland stepped inside but stopped. He looked at me with a smile. "I will see you tomorrow," he said.

I gave him a nod. "I will be in soon," she said. "I'm going to show Mia where she will stay, and then I will get you to bed."

Ryland nodded and moved further into the room.

Mum looked at me and smiled. "He is so excited to have you with us," she says in a whisper.

Mum moved away, and I followed her. She came to another door and opened it. "Here is where I stay, and we all have joining rooms. That room is easier for Ryland, especially when he gets

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exhausted," she said, opening the door. She steps inside and motions for me to follow her.

I follow her and stop, my mouth gaping open, taking in the room. Her room was like an apartment. It had a little lounge area and dining room. My eyes skimmed over the place, but I could feel her eyes on me. I was looking around.

Lyla came forward and gasped. "This is bigger than the cabin," she muttered. I said nothing. The mere thought of the cabin made my stomach churn. I didn't want to think about it, not anymore.

As I looked around, my eyes landed on two doors on either side of each other. "Mine is on the right," Mum blurts, making me look at her. Her eyes glistened slightly as she continued. "The left one is yours. I had it made years ago," she said, my eyes widening at the statement, but I said nothing.

"I knew you would come back to me," she whispered. I stared at her, words failing me. I didn't know what to make of the last statement, but she continued. "I knew someday you would return to me," she said but shook her head. "I shouldn't have said anything."

My eyes stay on her for a moment. I wanted to hug her, but it is hard to let someone in for now after everything I have been through. I needed time.

Mum looked at me and gave me a small smile. "

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You have a small shower room in yours," she said.
"Being older now, you will want your own space."

I said nothing and went to the door on the left. I opened it and walked inside. I knew mum was behind me, but she said nothing. I stepped inside

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and felt slightly dumbfounded. The room was beautiful, full of light purple, which was my favourite colour when I was a child.

"Is light purple still your favourite?" mum blurts, making me look at her.

My emotions were getting to me. Lyla purred in my head, taking in the room. It was better than what I

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had for the last few years. Nothing but a single mattress on the ground and nothing else.

"Yes," I whisper, a lone tear escaping.

"It's beautiful," I murmured, looking at her. She smiled but sniffed. "Well, I bet you are tired and want some sleep. So, I will leave you to do it. I will check on you soon."

I smiled and watched my mum turn and leave. She closed the door behind her.

Looking back, I looked toward the door. That had to be the bathroom.

My body was tired. I could feel it. I walked over to the bathroom and quickly got myself ready.

Once I was done, I turned and headed back into my room. I didn't even bother looking around again. Exhaustion took over, and lay on the bed.

With no time to spare, as soon as my head hit the pillow, my eyes closed and made me drifted off into darkness. Not before Lyla sighed. "Sleep and rest," she whispered, her words fading out. "You deserve happiness now, my dear Mia."



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