

## CHAPTER 3

SKYLAR POV.

"We are nearly there" I hear Mac saying to my mother while turning right onto a fork in the road, where a smallish town was becoming visible. I sit up straight from my leaning position against the window where I was dozing in and out of sleep for the last couple of hours. The Blue Moon pack is about an hour drive from the other side of the town and the only way to get there is either through the town or through the forest. And unless we fancy a run in our wolf forms in the forest to the pack house, in which I feel too tired to even think about it, the road through town is our only option.

We pass a couple of cute modern looking houses and local stores which are closed and illuminated by street lights since it's already dark out. Only a gas station and a few twenty-four-hour shops were open, but quiet non the less.

"What time is it?" I ask, yawning. "Just after 10pm." mom replies. "Mac took a couple of detours just as a precaution." Mom adds, turning to look at me and her gaze wonders over me to see if I'm okay seeing as we are getting closer to another's pack.

"Okay" I said, looking out the window again to avoid her searching eyes. Geez I can't wait to stretch my legs; they feel numb from sitting for hours in the car. Gemma nods in my head, agreeing with me. "You'll be starting school the day after tomorrow, I've already signed you up, unless you want to settle in at home rst? my mom says still turned in her seat, still looking at me. "No, no it's ne mom" I say quickly. " I already missed so much, I don't want to get too far behind" I said and look down on my hands. I'd rather go to school than to sit at home. Mom has been trying to get me to open up and talk about what happened. She only knows what the alpha has done to me in the last couple of days before we escaped. She cried hysterically when she found out that he has been abusing me for a better part of a year and she didn't notice anything wrong. Amazing what the wonders of makeup can hide, right?

My mom turns back in her seat looking ahead of her again.

"I already mind linked Alpha Phillip that we will be late." He will meet us at the cabin when we arrive"

I shift restlessly. Just thinking about meeting another alpha make my heartbeat jump in fear. Mom swears that he won't harm us and is one of her closest friends from childhood up to her teen years. Still, I can't help to be nervous about meeting the alpha and our new pack. I shudder just thinking about being in the same room with another certain alpha. I can't think about this, not now. I clench my hands and grit my teeth trying to get rid of thoughts of Damon.

FLASHBACK.

I let out a scream only to let it be mued by a big hand over my mouth. I can feel him behind me, grinding himself on my ass while his other arm goes around my waist keeping me against him. I can feel his hard c\*\*k through his jeans. I was down in the laundry room, about to turn on a load to wash when he creeped up behind me. I've been trying to avoid him for the past week since he asked me to be his mate.

He grunts when he grinds himself harder against me. "I've been looking for you, mate." He says. Emphasizing on the last word. He drops his head to my neck, smelling me. I feel bile rise in my throat but swallow it down. "Your time is up my little Luna. shall I share the news with our pack or do you want us to do it together?" He asks as though there's nothing wrong with the world.

He turns me around in his arms and lifts my head to look at him while his body pushes me against the laundry room wall. I let out a whimper and try to swallow the lump that is forming in my throat.

"I- I'm sorry alpha b-but I can't be what you w-want me to be. I can't be your mate" I say, well aware of the slight fear running through me.

He looks intently at me, eyes turning darker and his hold tightens on my arms.

"It wasn't a request Skylar. I thought I made myself clear the rst time; YOU don't have a choice on the matter" He states.

"P-please alpha, I d-don't want to be your m-mate." I stutter and I desperately want to get out of here. He is scaring me just by the way he is looking at me, his eyes turning almost black now.

His hand closes around my throat, applying pressure to my airway. "You will be my mine." He says and crashes his mouth to mine. I struggle to pull his hand off my throat just as I try to turn my head away to get his lips off me but he only grips me harder. I try gasping in air but my head starts to feel disoriented and light headed.

He uses the opportunity to thrust his tongue in my mouth and his other hand grabs my breast hard.

I start to see spots from the lack of air and started to panic and bite his tongue, making him hiss out in pain and stepping back. I fall to the ground, gasping and coughing in air.

Furiously he grabs me by my hair, pulling me up towards him. "Don't you dare do that again" he says as he raises his hand in the air as though to hit me but he stops himself when he hears someone at the top of the stares.

FLASHBACK ENDS.

"We're here" Mom says, snapping me out of my thoughts. I quickly blink back tears before they have a chance to fall. Only now I notice that we were about to go past the forest tree line, the town long gone behind us and driving up a paved driveway, towards a couple of small cozy houses with a big mansion type house situated in the middle. The houses look like small hunting cabins, giving of a vibe of warmth and comfort. They are built close together but also have enough distance between each other to give the occupants the feeling of privacy. Mac stops at a light green cabin that is close to the edge of the forest.

"Finally," Gemma whines as I open my door to get out and I gladly stretch my legs. The cool air of Autumn wraps around my body as I step closer to the cabin, taking in my surroundings a little more. I tuck my hands inside my pockets of my jacket for warmth.

"Victoria." I go still as I hear a man's voice. "I'm so glad you guys nally made it. I was starting to get worried."

"Mac, no troubles on the way, I hope? The man asks Mac.

"No Alpha, it was a smooth trip." Just took a few back roads just in case." Mac replies and the man steps forward towards us. "It's so good to see you too Phillip." My mom replies and he engulfs her in a loving brotherly hug. "And you must be Skylar?" He says once out of the hug and steps toward me with an extended hand in greeting. My heart jumps and I instinctively inch by his sudden friendly gesture. Quickly, he takes back his hand and I look down at my feet, embarrassed by my reaction.

"S-sorry." I quickly apologise. "I-it's nice to meet you sir." I say, nally looking at him but not making direct eye contact.

"No apologies required my dear and I'm happy to nally meet you. Welcome to The Blue Moon Pack Skylar. I'm certain that you will come to love it here and very soon you'll be one of us. A family, and we always take care of our own." He says and I nd myself smiling at him. Strangely enough, I feel trusting towards him, more welcomed than I have felt in a long time.

"Well, now that I know that you are safely on pack grounds, I can let myself settle in for the night and I'm sure after hours on the road, you two will want to do the same." He says.

"Becca and I will come see you both in the morning and I know she can't wait to see you again." He says smiling brightly and I can see the love in his eyes for this Becca he mentioned that I only can assume that she is his mate. He comes to stand in front of her, facing her and putting a reassuring hand on her shoulder. "And don't worry Vicky, the both of you are safe here." He says but the way he said it let me feel it was meant more for me than for mom.

"Thank you, Phillip. Tomorrow can't come soon enough. I've missed all of you so much. See you tomorrow." said mom. "Goodnight Victoria, Skylar, Mac" and with a nal smile to us he strides away towards the pack house.

"So?... what do you think of the cabin?" Mom asks, trying to hide her excitement at being back at her original home.

"It's cute. Kind of homey." I say and this makes her smile which in turn makes me feel a little bit better. Walking back to the car, I retrieve my bag as Mac hands my mom the keys to go unlock the cabin while he goes to unload the car.

I step inside the small house, following my mom, I can't help but give a small smile. This place feels exactly what it looked like from the outside. Homey. It has n comfortable size living room with a decent sized open plan kitchen. Between the kitchen and living room is n hallway leading to two bedrooms. They are both the same size except the main bedroom has a bathroom attached while the other one does not but it has an extra bathroom at the very end of the wall.

I choose the room without the adjoining bathroom and put my bag next to the bed before lying down exhaustedly on said bed, looking up at the ceiling. Feeling safer than I have felt in months I allow my eyes to close just for a moment, but that moment was all it took for me to fall fast asleep.