

CHAPTER 8

SKYLAR POV. (Before the dinner)

"What do you think?" My mom asks coming into my room holding two sleeves less dresses. "The blue one or the grey one?" She asks, holding the one up in front of her then the other. I turn around from the mirror where I was busy trying to do something with my hair to look at the dresses. "The blue one, it makes your eyes stand out more." I tell her with a smile.

I myself have chosen a grey long sleeved V-neck shirt with black skinny jeans and my black knee length boots and a casual jacket for the cool night air.

"Thanks, sweetie." Mom says before hurrying out the door again. I turn back to the mirror and sigh in defeat. I let my hair loose and just leave it that way. I apply some light foundation make up, thin line of eye liner, some mascara and some pinkish red lip gloss.

I feel Gemma pacing around restlessly. "What's wrong Gem?" I ask. "I don't know. I feel excited as if something good is going to happen." She says.

"Like what?" I ask curiously. "Don't know, guess we'll have to find out and see." She says and retreats to the back of my mind. I shrug it off and wonder when the guys will get here. Mac and Eric went home to get ready for the dinner at the pack house and they will be picking us up to escort us there.

Looking at myself in the mirror and straightening my clothes, I turn around and go to the living room. Mom is already there arranging things in her purse. She looks beautiful in her blue dress; it hugs her curves perfectly and she also let her hair down with some light make up. She looks up as I enter and smiles at me. "Ready to go?" She asks. "Yes." I reply. "You look great mom, I'm sure Mac's going to ght of quite a few wolves off at dinner." I jokingly say and she blushes. "Well, it doesn't hurt to look nice once in a while... or to wear a dress." she adds eyeing my skinny jeans. I role my eyes at her. She always tries to get me to wear a dress but I prefer pants.

A car horn comes from outside and my mom hurriedly gathers her things and we head out the door. Mac and Eric are already out of the truck and holding the doors open for us. "Hey there Cupcake, don't you clean up nice." He jokes, smiling brightly at me. "Thanks." I say, rolling my eyes at him and I smile back at him. He is wearing black jeans and shoes with a light blue dress shirt and messy styled gelled hair. "You too Mrs. Moon. Doesn't she dad?" He says, opening the door wider for me to get in.

I turn my head to look at Mac and he is standing there with a dazed look on his face, looking at my mom with his mouth slightly open. My mom giggles with a blush on her cheeks when she reaches the car door. She lifts her hand towards Mac's jaw and closes his mouth. "Better close your mouth before you catch ies." She shyly says, smiling. This seems to snap him out of his daze. "Uhm... yeah... beautiful." he mumbles, also blushing and helps her in the car and closing the door. I get in and Eric closes my door and see him wiggle his eyebrows playfully at his dad before coming around his side and gets in. Mac also gets in with very red ears and starts the car and head to the pack house while mom sneaks a look at him every now and then.

I look at a smiling Eric and shake my head grinning at my mom acting like a teenager going on a rst date. We make it to the pack house in silence and Mac parks his truck. The guys jump out to come around and open our doors and we climb out as Luna Rebecca comes out the house to greet us.

"I'm so glad you made it." she exclaims happily while hugging my mom and me. "Come, there's still a couple of minutes before dinner is ready." She says while leading us in the house to the living room.

We enter the living room to nd alpha Phillip talking to a group of people and I suddenly start to feel nervous. There are three other men and two women in the room, which included doctor Missy who has her arms linked with one of the men.

"Ah Vicky, so glad you all could make it." Alpha Phillip says turning to us. "Devon should be down shortly, he arrived back about an hour ago." he says "In the meantime, let me introduce you. This is Gregg, Missy's mate. He also recently joined our pack and is also a doctor." He says motioning to Gregg and he gives a bright smile while shaking our hands. "Nice to meet you." he says. Luna Rebecca motions to the other four guests and says "you remember Alec and Danny from school? They are now two of our warrior ghters of the pack."

"Wow" my mom exclaims. "You've changed so much; I barely recognized you both." She says smiling happily.

"And these are their mates Emily and Annie. Emily is a nurse and Annie has a successful little coffee shop in town." Luna Rebecca says as the women give their greetings.

"Nice to meet you both. "This is my daughter, Skylar." My mom says and I give a small wave at them all. I feel at least a little bit better now that we have all been introduced. My mom and the others start chatting about the mischief they all got up to as kids and I can't help but laugh with them. "Geez dad, I didn't know you were such a delinquent, now I don't feel so bad for the stuff I get in trouble for." Eric says laughing at his dad while we also chip in with ts of laughter. My mom was about to say something when I smell the most amazing scent of sweet honey combs and freshly cut grass. It's absolutely addicting. I snap my head to the living room door and my eyes lock with a pair of electrifying blue ones. I gasp out loud as Gemma jumps up and down in my head screaming "MATE! MATE! MATE!"

I gasp and grab Eric's arm for support as everyone turns to look at me and then at the doorway to see Devon standing there. My heart is beating frantically. His eyes wonder over my face and body and to my hand on Eric's arm. A mix of emotions ash across his face as he growls out "MINE!"

Before anyone could react or do anything, he storms across the room and grabs me away from Eric and engulfs me in a possessive embrace, my face against his chest and he drops his face between my hair to my neck and breaths in deeply. "MY MATE!" He growls as tingles shoot up through my body.

"Oh Gods! Skylar!" I hear my mom scream out and hear murmurs behind me. "Oh, Goddess no! Not again! Please no." I whisper to myself as fear of being trapped falls over me once again. "Sky, he's not Damon. He's our true mate. He will protect us." Gemma says trying to calm me down. "No, he'll hurt us just like Damon did." I whimper back and block her out. "No." I start to push away from his chest but he pulls me tighter to him, growling in disapproval. A shock of fresh fear runs through me and I begin shaking and it gets harder to breath.

"Devon! You have to let her go." The alpha says. From the corner of my eye, I can see the alpha inching closer to me and this only makes Devon take a step back growling. His eyes completely black now. I start to shake uncontrollably and my mind is spinning as I start crying.

"Alpha! He needs to let her go! She's starting to have a panic attack." Missy says and the alpha takes another step forward. "Devon honey you have to let her go your hurting her." Luna Rebecca says. That seems to snap him out of it as he looks down at me shaking and crying in his arms. He loosens his grip on me but doesn't let go. "What's wrong with her?" Devon demands looking at us frowning in anger and confusion.

I'm starting to see black spots and I try to push myself away again from his chest. "P-please let m- me go" d- don't do this t- to me again D- Damon" I beg, sobbing while having diculty breathing. "Who's Damon?" Devon demands angrily.

Everything around me becomes blurry and the people's pleading voices start to become distant. The alpha takes Devon's distraction as an opportunity to grab me from Devon's arms as the pack warriors tackle him to the ground. A loud growl rips through the entire house as he struggles to free himself from the warriors.

Collapsing into the alpha's arms, he lays me down on the oor still shaking and struggling to breath. My heart feels like it wants to explode from the way it is pounding in my chest and my vision keeps coming and going. Images of Damon ashing in my head. Missy, Gregg and my mom are immediately by my side as Luna Rebecca keeps Eric back. "Don't! if any unmatd males go near her now, he will become uncontrollable." She warns him, indicating to Devon.

He nods and takes a step back with a pained look on his face as the alpha tries to calm down Devon who is still ghting with Mac, Alec and Danny. Emily and Annie are standing in the corner looking horried at the scene before them.

"Skylar you need to calm down sweetie, try to take deep breaths through your nose and blow it out through your mouth." Missy says in a soft voice. "N- no, he'll get m- me... hurt me a- again... p-please don't let D- Damon hurt m- me again." I sob out through my shaking.

"Skylar listen to me." Mom says pulling me up in a sitting position and cradling me to her chest. Her scent lling my rapid breaths, calming me slowly. "Damon is not here, your safe here with us and he will never lay a nger on you again... do you understand?" My mom says condently but softly while silent tears run down her cheeks into my hair. Her voice calms my heart down a little and I feel my breathing becoming easier. I lean in closer to my mom, hugging her tight as I take in her scent.

Behind me, the ghting has stopped and Devon has calmed down. I turn my head to look at him, he is back in control and his eyes are back to the beautiful electric blue. He looks at me with a bunch of emotions on his face. Anger. Hurt. Lust. Confusion. And... love?

"You are all dismissed!" The alpha's voice booms through the living room making me jump. Only then do I notice that there were more people in the room with us. The commotion must have gathered the attention of the other resident pack members but as soon as the alpha spoke, they retreated back to their rooms. Some giving me curious looks as they left.

I turn my head back to look at the people in front of me. "Feeling better now?" Missy asks with concern. I nod my head and motion to my mom that I want to stand up. They help me to my feet and a wave of dizziness washes over me. I quickly sit on the couch as I hear the Luna excuse herself to get us drinks, seeing as everyone has now calmed down.

The Alpha motions for Devon to the chair that's not too close or too far from me. "Alec, Danny, doctors? Would you mind giving us a few minutes please?" The alpha asks, not taking his eyes of his son. "Off course alpha." They bow and motion for their mates to follow them.

Mom comes to sit next to me while Mac takes the other side next to me. This makes Devon growl but he is quickly silenced by his father's warning growl. Eric goes to stand at the back of the couch behind us, arms crossed.

Luna Rebecca re-enters the room with a tray lled with drinks and places it on the table and hands me a glass of water. "Here you go my dear. I put in some sugar for the shock." Luna says with a soft voice and a smile on her lips. "T- thank you." I say, taking the glass. My hands are still slightly shaking and I eagerly swallow a few mouthfuls, suddenly realizing how dry my throat was. I put my glass down while the Luna gives everyone else drinks.

"I'm sorry." Devon suddenly blurts out, startling me, making me look him in the eyes. He has such a soothing voice, I think to myself, and I could get lost in his eyes, it's as if he can see right through me, to the real me.

"I didn't mean to scare you, I- I lost control for a moment and I promise it won't happen again." He says with a look of genuine regret in his eyes. "It's o- okay." is all I can mutter out, before looking down to my hands on my lap.

"Firstly, I'm happy you found your mate, son, but you shouldn't have lost control like that." The alpha says. "Secondly there are a few things that you need to know about Skylar and her mother, Victoria." He continues.

This makes me tense up and I st my hands together in a new found fear. The fear of being rejected once he realizes that I've already been used and tainted by another. "Skylar." I hear Devon repeat my name that his father called me and I remember that we haven't really been introduced. "I like it. It's beautiful." he says with a soft smile. His voice makes a tingle run through my body.

"Remember we told you that Victoria used to be a member of our pack when we were young and that when she met her mate, she transferred packs? The alpha asks. Devon nods, not taking his eyes of me. "Unfortunately, he died a few years ago in a rogue attack and since then they have gone through a very dicult time that they had to leave." The alpha says.

"What do you mean dicult time? What was so bad that they had to leave?" Devon demands, now looking around at all of us and then to me again. I look down, avoiding his gaze and feel my mom wrap her arm around me, rubbing my arms to comfort me. This is it. Once the alpha tells him how used I am he is going to reject me. I say to myself. "No, he won't Sky" Gemma speaks up. "Give our mate a chance, his wolf Bronx already loves us, I can feel it."

"Devon." The Luna calls to her son, gaining his attention. "Their alpha chose Skylar as his mate, when she refused, he went crazy and nearly killed her." She spoke.

"WHAT!?" He screams, leaping to his feet, making us all jump. The alpha grabs him by the shoulders and pulls him down, holding him in place. He looks me in the eyes "Is it this Damon guy you thought I was earlier?" He asks.

He almost sounds hurt for me to think of him as Damon. "What did he do to you?" He demanded as he tried to come towards me but the alpha is still holding him back by his shoulders. I stay silent looking down at my hands again as silent tears start to run down my face. "D- did he...?" Devon's voice trails off, already knowing the answer.

Dread lls me and I start shaking again. I nod my head as I start sobbing while my mom holds me tighter also crying now. A growl escapes Devon as he pushes his father away. Startled, I look up at him and see his eyes are back to black and he runs out the living room and out of the house as he releases a growl. He shifts, running into the forest.