

2: New Alpha

KATHERINE

Unlike my dream, we didn't get to escape. I didn't fall in the woods or get attacked by a large monster whose name I don't know.

Everyone in the pack was squeezed into the living room of the pack house. With our alpha's dead body lying in front of us. As a warning to us.

They wanted us to see how we would end up if we dared to do anything stupid.

There are many cries in the cramped room, coupled with the sweat and more gore stuff I didn't want to know. It wasn't conducive in the least.

The situation made me wish I was locked in my room in the attic. Right now, I'm seeing that my normal life situation is actually heaven.

"The Alpha is here." One of the buff men said, a sick smile making its way onto his face.

More loud cries fill the room.

It made me wish I could cry.

As weak as my body physically was. I couldn't cry. Ever. And everyone knows it too, hated me for it. Hit me more for it.

Many times in school, they did terrible things to me to see if I would cry. But I would pass out before a sound ever made it out of my mouth. Or tears.

They didn't know how lucky they were, to be able to show their pain somehow. I'm forced to swallow it all down.

The so-called alpha. I've heard about him. Mostly when people were whispering. They were scared the alpha would hear and punish them.

The alpha of Scarletmoon pack is a monster. There is no other word that fits him.

He is a power hungry monster that wipes out entire packs if they refuse to bow down to him. He rains terror wherever he goes and there have been reports he was heading this way.

Of course, our alpha was too egotistical to do anything about it. Not that we could fight the man's army.

He had an army of thousands, our entire pack wasn't up to a thousand. We are even less now with others that have left for college.

I couldn't be one of them because no one would pay my tuition. The alpha made it clear I was lucky he let me go to high school.

I feel a stirring in my head. My wolf is usually dormant. Not having enough strength to battle with my human side and take control.

She is only able to shift during the full moon and for other wolf abilities. Mine were pretty much nonexistent.

It was weird to see her making her presence known. And before I could even ask what she wanted. The answer to that question strides into the room like he owns the place.

Pure terror rolls through me when she whispers the last thing I expected. The last thing I wanted.

Mate.

His eyes locked on mine, even though I was asked every which way with other girls like me.

His eyes were a scary gray, no hint of warmth in the dark pools and as he stared at me. I wanted the ground to open up and swallow me.

Something about his gaze made my insides twist and my thigh clench.

I'm hit with an instant wave of lust, one I have never felt before as the need to mate pushes every rational out of my head.

"The men are in the basement."

The voice breaks the spell I was bound under and my senses return. I quickly look away, my nails digging into my palm. I'm desperate for any type of distraction and I hope he forgets whatever happened.

"Members of Harlow pack, meet your new alpha." The man that has been speaking, said once again. His voice boasted with pride.

The only reply he gets is sobs and more cries.

"As a reward for once again conquering your little pack, he gets a pick of his reward."

My stomach sinks, when once again his eyes trail to me. Did he even look away?

"At your pick, alpha." The man bows, smirking as he steps out of the way and lets his alpha take the stand in front of us.

He is still looking at me. I've already broken the skin of my palm. I could feel the trail of liquid down the insides but it doesn't make me stop.

"I'll have you know," he starts speaking. His voice was deep and raspy, once again making my heart gallop in my chest. "I will not take a Luna. You are all prisoners, my prisoners and it would be wise of you to know that."

He wasn't looking at me but I felt the words were directed at me.

With that, he turned and walked toward the direction of the alpha's—well, now, his ome.

His minions direct us on where to go after he leaves. We are to remain in the dining room until told otherwise. We were warned to not try anything stupid, which I guess is running.

With no male pack member in sight, I don't think anyone is thinking of that.

The dining room is dark, as they didn't bother turning on any lights. They'd moved the chairs and long table, leaving the room empty.

"Katherine!" I hear a high pitched voice scream my name.

I roll my eyes when Natasha stands up, her eyes wild as she looks around the room for me. I didn't bother replying to her.

She was no longer the alpha's daughter. And her brother wasn't here to protect her. I felt terrible for being happy about that.

She finds me and rushes over before sinking to the floor. She throws herself on me, forcing me to embrace her as she starts sobbing.

My hand moves to her back, not knowing what to do as she sobs on me.

Well, this is awkward.

Natasha has never willingly touched me. She'd said many times she wouldn't, even if she was falling off the edge of a cliff and I could help her.

It is why she had her brother dish out the punishments she thought I deserved. The only time she ever touches me directly is when she slaps me.

Which has happened more times than I cared to count.

"They killed him, oh my God." She cries. "I don't know where my mum is or my brother. I'm all alone in the world."

I felt pity for her, but I couldn't bring my mouth to move and console her. I let her cry though, and I stroked her back every so often.

I know if I were in her shoes, I wouldn't even get that courtesy. But good thing we're not the same.

We were left in that dining room for a day, maybe two. There was no sign of our new leaders, or rather, keepers.

The kids cried and cried until their voices were hoarse and their throats parched. They kept quiet on their own. Their mothers are too tired to tell them anything.

We didn't have any food or water, and no one was brave enough to get up and ask the men for it.

They had said we should remain there until told otherwise. No one dared to break the rules.

We were all tired and miserable. The place reeked of piss and worse.

On the third day, or I think it was the third day, the door opened. And everyone sat upright. Scared but also relieved.

We were thinking they were finally bringing us something to eat, or drink at least.

Except, it wasn't that.

"Katherine!" I froze when I heard my name.

That same scary man was the one at the door, looking like the demon of death as he yelled my name.

"Who is Katherine Ross?! Don't make me repeat myself."

The entire room turned to me, and when he noticed that, he smirked.

"Come with me." He spins on his heels and walks off, expecting me to follow.

I'm not about to defy him.

Natasha, who has been holding on to me, tightens her hold on my arm.

"Please don't leave me." She cries.

I sigh and lean down, placing my hand over hers.

"I'll come back."

I tell her with no condence in my voice. She nods, her eyes glossing over.

It was the most genuine emotion I've seen her show. And I've lived with her for thirteen years.

I walked over a few people, apologizing as I went past.

The man was leaning against the wall when I walked out. I jumped back, not expecting him.

He pulls out the cigarette that was between his lips and blows out a puff of smoke directly on my face.

"Took you long enough." He mutters.

"I'm sor—"

"Don't repeat it next time if you don't want to see my bad side."

I nodded dutifully and followed him down the hall.

My stomach sank when he headed for the direction of the alpha's ome. I know without a doubt his alpha is in there. And I have an idea what he is going to say.