

## 9 Prepare to Mark

Alpha Scarlett POV

I pull back from Logan. We should call the Beta's and my parents to come back. I'm sure they didn't go far. Logan laughs "I'm sure your right, Dawson is probably losing his mind waiting for news." Logan takes Jackson out of my hands and my beautiful son lays his head against Logan's chest. I can't believe this is really happening. I say a silent prayer to the Moon Goddess that this be real. A few minutes later everyone rushes inside. My mother looks like she won the lottery when she sees Logan holding Jackson. Let's all have a seat. Everyone takes a seat while I stand next to Logan. As you all know Logan is my second chance mate. "Second chance I'm confused" Dawson says. "I'll explain it to you later Dawson just listen." After our discussion we have accepted the bond. We will mark however we will be waiting to mate until I feel comfortable. "Jackson will be announced as my son from this day forward." I can see Dawson wants to say something, but Logan stops him. "I would think before you speak Dawson, I love you like a brother but if you insult my mate or child there will be consequences." I thread my arm through his and my parents are thrilled. Mom can you take Jackson for a nap please? "Of course, I will." She takes Jackson from Logan and as soon as she leaves Logan wraps me in his arms. Logan we aren't alone, yet I laugh. He sets me down and smiles before he pecks my lips. My dad smiles at me and nods.

Alpha Logan POV

When we leave Scarlett's oce

I know Dawson will defend me with his life, but I need him to understand this is my mate not an enemy. "You can't seriously be ready to have a mate that's not a virgin and has a child by another man." Dawson, I meant what I said to you, enough. I know he will want to talk more later but for now he won't hurt Scarlett. I know we came to talk about being allies but of course that is a moot point now that we know we are mates. "Do you expect her to just turnover the pack and be a Luna to you" Michael says with venom in his voice. I know I should be upset about the way he just spoke to me but just like Dawson he is protecting his Alpha. Before I can say anything, Scarlett speaks rst. "Michael enough I love you but that is no way to speak to Logan." I growl and pull her to me. She laughs "love him like a brother Logan he has a very pregnant mate." I loosen my grip but keep my hands on her. In response to your statement Michael, we will both be maintaining our Alpha status. Our packs will stay separated, but we will open the border between the two packs. We will equally share duties between the two packs. I look to Scarlett to make sure I'm not saying anything she doesn't agree with. She nods and I continue. As far as living arrangements we will decide and let everyone know exactly what we will be doing. The plan will be to mark today and make our announcements. Her father stands coming to stand in front of us. "Congratulations to both of you." "I'm proud to call you my son Logan." He pulls me into a hug before he wraps Scarlett into a bear hug. I love the relationship they have and I'm so happy this is my family too now.

Alpha Scarlett POV

Once my father sets me down, I ask Logan and the others to give me a few minutes alone with Michael. I can see the apprehension on Logan's face, but he kisses me before he leads Dawson out. I know that both our Beta's aren't exactly happy about what is happening. Once the door closes, I turn to Michael. You have known me long enough to know that I value your opinion, but this is not something you get a vote on. I know you want to protect me, but I won't ever let any man change who I am. I think I proved that when I refused to become a Luna for the poor excuse, we call Jackson's sperm donor. He smiles "I know how strong and smart you are Scarlett, but I want to make sure that no person man or woman hurts you again." "Like you said to Logan you are my sister." I trust him Michael, but I am doing this the smart way this time. I love you for wanting to protect me, but I need you to respect my mate as you respect me. "I promise I will and for what it's worth I believe he is going to be a very good mate to you after all he said." I really do to I say before hugging Michael. I suppose I should bring my mate back before he comes busting in here, I laugh.

Alpha Logan POV

As soon as we leave Scarlett's oce, I ask Xander for a place to speak to Dawson. He leads us to an empty oce. Once inside Dawson lets loose. "I don't agree with what you're doing." I growl and I can feel Apollo is ready to kick his a\*\*. I push him down before I respond. Dawson, I meant what I said earlier you will not disrespect my son or my mate. "How could you want a mate that didn't save herself for you?" Did you even stop to think why she got a second chance Dawson? I see the moment he realizes what I'm saying. I don't have to explain my actions to you but because we are friends I will. After I tell Dawson the story, I see the regret on his face. "I'm sorry Logan I just want what's best for you." I know that Dawson but now you understand that Scarlett and Jackson are what's best for me. Apollo has already claimed the pup. He has a look of shock on his face. He nods before he stands wrapping me in a bro hug. Let's get back to my mate. "Yes, I owe her an apology."

We walk back into the oce, and she is wrapped in Michael's arms. I growl release my mate Beta. She turns to me and rolls her eyes. "Logan don't be ridiculous I already told you he is like a brother to me; you have nothing to worry about." Michael smiles and I wrap my arm around her. "I mean no disrespect Alpha Logan." I nod you only need to use my title when we are in a formal setting Michael. "I'm sorry for my outburst earlier as Scarlett said she is like my sister so I will always protect her." I appreciate that but you will never have to protect her from me I give you, my word. He shakes my hand and leaves the oce.

Alpha Scarlett POV

I'm glad that Logan and Michael are good. "Alpha Scarlett I'm also sorry for my behavior." The same goes for you Dawson titles are not necessary. He smiles "I'm sorry for what happened to you and I'm glad that Logan is your second chance." "I will defend you and Jackson with my life." I walk forward and hug Dawson before I'm pulled back by my mate. I laugh and Dawson st bumps Logan before he leaves. "You're going to be a handful aren't you mate?" I turn in his arms probably, but you will never be bored. He laughs before he slams his mouth down on mine. The kiss is amazing, and I can't wait to mark this man.