

Chapter 166: Rogues

Tereshan

We didn't tell the rogues that their Alpha, or whatever Emine is to them, was coming. I was worried she'd back out.

However, the moment we walk into the dining room, it's obvious that she's their Alpha and that they will follow her, no matter where she takes them. I know in an instant, that she's a much better Alpha than her asshole brother will ever be.

"Alpha!" The word ripples around the dining hall like a wave. I watch as the rogues lift their necks in submission to their chosen Alpha. She steps forward, smiling at her pack.

"I see you've all found your mates," she says and instantly they are all up and dragging their mates to introduce them. Their complete and total adoration for this woman is incredible. It's not unlike the pack's response to Claire in the last timeline.

I turn, looking at Nicholas. I see the possessiveness and desire in his eyes that I know is in mine when I look at Claire. Now, we just need to figure out how to get her to agree to letting him mark her.

She takes her time, getting to know all of the mates, listening as her pack seeks her assurance and guidance. When she's done, she turns, looking at me.

"You said there are more in a neighboring pack?"

"Yes, except the three we spoke about," I tell her.

She turns back to her pack. "Who?"

"Robert, Stan and Isaac, Alpha."

She turns back to us. "I'm like to see them before I eat."

"Of course, they have chosen to stay outside the packhouse," I tell her.

She nods and begins walking to the back doors of the packhouse.

"I can have someone go get them..."

"I'll call them," she says.

I look at Nicholas who gives me a 'lets go see' look before he, Claire and I follow her outside.

The minute she steps outside, she lifts her head and howls.

It only takes a moment before we hear four sets of paws racing our way.

I can see her frowning, but I know that one of the females has shifted, keeping her mate company in her wolf form.

When they come out of the tree line, two wolves are carrying their mates and the other two are mates.

They race up, howling their hello to their Alpha.

"You've been reunited with your mates. I very happy for you,"

she says, going to the first wolf.

She leans her forehead down, putting it against the wolf's. He lifts his, accepting her touch.

When she pulls away, she looks at him. "It's time. You're ready to shift."

"No, he can't shift yet," his mate says.

She turns and looks at the woman. "I'm Alpha Emine. I've been your mate's Alpha since you were taken. Believe me, I know he's ready."

Emine turns back to the wolf. "Would you like my help?"

He chuffs at her.

"Will it hurt him?" his mate asks, wrapping her arms around his neck.

"That depends on how much he fights it," she says.

"Are you ready?" she asks the wolf.

He nods.

"SHIFT!" she orders, her Alpha aura rolling over him, forcing his body to start the shift. He yelps once as his bones start cracking, then clamps his teeth together when his mate rushes to his side.

She cries as she strokes his body. "You can do it, you can do it, I know you can," she says over and over.

We all watch as finally, his human body lays on the ground,

panting. His mate curls up around him, holding his head in her lap and stroking his hair, cooing at him.

"Your next, Stan," she says moving to the next wolf. He walks over to her and she runs her fingers through his fur before leaning her forehead against his.

When she stands up, she looks at him. "You're ready as well."

They go through the same process. As he shifts, my warriors come out with some clothes for the men. Their mates help them get dressed as Emine turns to the last wolf.

"Isaac," she says, and he comes forward. She leans her head down again, but this time when she stands, she looks at him sadly.

"You're not ready yet," she says.

His mate whines at him and Emine turns to her. "I would suggest that you shift into your human form. Give him a reason to want to shift. Right now, he has you and his wolf is content to keep things as they are. He's been protecting Isaac for so long that he needs a reason to let go and let him shift."

We watch as she shifts, turning to Emine. Her mate immediately begins to growl. Before I can do it, Nicholas has his shirt off and is tossing it at her so she can cover herself. I notice Emine giving him an assessing look. Good. She needs to realize that he's a good man.

The mate pulls the shirt over her head before turning back to Emine. "But I hurt him so much already. I don't want to cause him any more pain," she says, tears welling in her eyes

as she looks at her mate.

"That wasn't you and we all know that," Emine says to her gently, putting her hand on her shoulder. "What happened to you, to all of you, was out of your control. Your mates know that, I know that, and everyone here knows that. Give him a reason to want to shift. You'll be glad you did," she says.

The mate nods and the wolf comes up, sniffing the shirt, growling low.

"Don't like it, Isaac? Shift and get her one of your own." Emine says, before spinning on her heels and walking back toward the packhouse.

I smile as she passes me. Nicholas is going to have his hands full with her. I look at him, seeing a wide smile on his face before he looks at me.

"What a woman!"

We walk back inside and have lunch, before giving Nicholas and Emine time to get settled in their rooms. By the time they come back downstairs, the others are arriving.

When Keegan and Zoey arrive, Claire squeals, rushing to her. They hug and Claire immediately steps back, looking down at Zoey's stomach. "You're showing!"

"Yep, baby Zoey popped out a few days ago," she says as Keegan comes up and wraps his arms around her waist.

"So, it's a girl then?" I ask.

"Yes, it was confirmed this week." Keegan says.

"We're having a boy!" Claire tells them.

"The doctor already told you?" Zoey asks, surprised.

"Nope, Magnor did, and Damara said if Magnor says it's true, then it's true," Claire tells her excitedly.

"Sounds like your wolf is a little sweet on her mate," Keegan says.

Zoey laughs. "As if Cammi isn't smitten with Dainen," Zoey says, referencing their wolves.

"Come in, we're meeting in the front conference room," I tell them.

"I want to talk while we're here. I heard a rumor that you're building a nursery, a child nursery, not a plant nursery."

"Who's been gossiping to you, old man," I joke with him.

"I've got ears everywhere, young 'un."

"We'll talk. I'm planning to build a school too, and it could be used for all of our children if we want."

"I love that idea," Zoey says.

"I'll show you the plans we've drawn up while you're here for both buildings."

"It's a busy time, Tereshan."

"That it is, Keegan. Busy and good."