

## Chapter 2 - Alpha Zac POV

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The packhouse was buzzing with activity today. The TRTC was bringing in four new pack members. We even had a warrior recruit this round, I had my reservations about her, she is on the smaller side, but all her training test outs had high marks. I'll have to see for myself how she ranks up. Looking over the single page in the file the center sent over, it didn't offer much insight...

ISLA GRACE MILLER

DATE OF BIRTH: JUNE 18TH

AGED: 18

HAIR: AUBURN

EYES: GREEN

HEIGHT: FIVE FOOT FIVE INCHES

GUARDIAN - JUNE DANIELS, RELATION: MATERNAL GRANDMOTHER, DECEASED- CEDAR FALLS.

SCORED HIGH MARKS: TRACKING; HAND/HAND COMBAT; TEAMWORK; FIELD FIRST AID

NOTES: RUN RISK LEVEL 2; ONE ATTEMPT YEAR ONE AT TRTC. RECEIVED COUNSELING. MEDICATED WITH ANTIDEPRESSANT FOR YEARS 1-3. CLEARED FOR DISCONTINUATION OF USE AFTER REASSESSMENT.

"Alpha, you're needed in the main hall" Grayson, my Beta's voice filtering through the mind link. Bringing me back from my thoughts, I closed the folder and placed the new pack member files back in the drawer. "On my way down," I replied. Being a shifter has quite a few perks. Mind linking is probably my favorite, aside from the speedy healing that is.

Making my way down from my office on the second floor of the packhouse, I feel a vibration in my pocket. Pulling out my phone, I see a text from my parents light up my screen.

"Good luck with the ceremony tonight, you'll do great! Love Mom and Dad"

I chuckled as I tucked my phone away. My mom signs all her texts as if I wouldn't know who they were from if she didn't.

The ceremony tonight was to welcome the new pack members in and join them to the pack mind link. This was my first Joining Ceremony since taking over as Alpha a few years ago. I had trained to be Alpha since I could remember. My dad passed it to me and ever since my parents have been traveling the globe seeing all the sights they can see. They stop by every once in a while, I know they miss it here, but they deserve to enjoy some stress-free time away. Technically my mother was still acting Luna as I have yet to find my mate.

Being 25 it wasn't too uncommon to have not found my mate yet. I have always wanted to find my fated mate, growing up watching the pure love radiate between them... I wanted that. Sure, being an Alpha makes me desirable to the she-wolves but I don't want someone just in it for the money and titles. I'm not going to feign innocence and say that I didn't end up in some of those she-wolf beds, but they are nothing more than a good time at the right time. My mate will want for nothing though and I will treat her as if she was the goddess herself.

"Alpha" Grayson nodded as I pulled open the heavy mahogany door and stepped into the main hall. The hall was busy with staff decorating and staging for the ceremony tonight. "Grayson, how can I be of service?" I replied. He shifted his eyes to the main entrance, Fiona. A low growl built in my chest, I cleared my throat and composed myself.

Walking towards the thin brunette, I looked over her 5'10 frame, recalling her bent over my desk last week. She works in accounting for the pack and has managed to be my most recent stress reliever. "Yes Fiona" I stated flatly. A small smile curled at her well-painted lips. "I was wanting to make an appointment with you after the ceremony to go over some projections for the business" She breathily spoke as she ran her hand up my bicep. Crossing my arms, I glanced down into her espresso eyes, such a deep brown, almost black "Not the time or place Fiona" I replied. She slowly batted her long lashes as she gleaned up at me and said, "Sorry Alpha" She stuck out her bottom lip, turned, and headed back out the door.

"I'm heading out for a run and gonna check in with patrols, see to it that the new members get settled in." I holler back to Grayson. "Yeeessss Allphhhaa" He replies in a high-pitched voice mockingly. He's lucky he's my best friend.

### Comments (2)