

## Search For A Luna

Grant POV

"Did you see the way she ran" howled Mitchell, slapping me on the back as we watched Sarah race towards Jordan with her car "How hilarious" he howled as the other football Jocks we were standing with, in a group laughed with him.

I shrugged. To be honest I wasn't fazed about what was happening to Jordan. We might have been friends when we were younger, but as I grew up and drifted into the popular crowd, I began to see her with new eyes. She was pathetic. A weaking. When she got her wolf, there was no doubt she would be just as feeble. She might be a Gamma's daughter, but evidently, she hadn't gotten the warrior genes from her father. Sarah on the other hand I mused, was completely the opposite. She was like a supermodel, funny, and popular. What wasn't to like? But for some insane reason, my wolf didn't like her. No matter how much I tried to convince Hades that she was perfect for us and future Luna material, he steadfastly refused to even contemplate the thought.

"If she lost some weight, she wouldn't be picked on so much," I said easily with a nonchalant shrug, even as my wolf growled at me in my head "She's only got herself to blame," I told them all.

"Isn't the Gamma of your pack embarrassed to have a daughter like that?"

"Probably," I said "but that's his problem. As long as he does his job, then what does it matter?"

I gave a sigh and wandered to my car. Hades was pissed at me.

Why do you speak about her like that? What have you got against her? She is kind, compassionate, loving and all you see is her body.

Hades why do you care so much about her? She's just a lowly member of our pack. If anything, you should be agreeing with me. She's hardly an asset to the Blood Moon Pack. Sarah is much prettier. We should make her our chosen mate I argued.

You're so stupid he snarled as I opened the driver's side of the car and slid in and it's going to cost us everything.

What do you mean?

You'll find out. I'm not speaking to you right now he huffed.

I frowned and shook my head. Did the damn wolf have to be so secretive? He was keeping something from me. I started the car and began to drive back to the pack, thoughts whirling in my head. I was close to graduating and Sarah was as well. It would be expected of me to choose a Luna if I didn't find my mate. But Hades wanted his real mate. Why did he have to be so stubborn, I fumed. Couldn't he see that I had no desire to find my mate. They weren't in my pack, otherwise, I would have smelt them. I slammed my hand down on the steering wheel in frustration.

I reached the pack and parked my car right in front of the pack house. I never failed to be impressed by the house, which was more like a giant cabin with several rooms. It was homey and very reminiscent of the forest which surrounded the pack. I loved all the little touches my parents, Alpha John and Luna Mary had put into the house, wanting their pack members to be comfortable and well looked after. Nobody went without, and all the unmated males lived in the house, except for the omegas who served and kept the house maintained. Jordan was also an omega, but because her father was the gamma, she wasn't forced to serve in the pack house, like some of the others were.

I opened the door and headed inside. "Grant is that you son?" yelled my father, from further back in the house.

"Yeah, I'm home" I shouted back "Is there something you need?"

"Your mother and I want to talk to you" he yelled, his voice booming throughout the house.

Huh. I wonder what that was about. I put my backpack down and sauntered down the hallway toward the study. My father, mother, Maxwell the Gamma, and Sandy the Beta sat there, obviously in the midst of a discussion. Whatever this was, it was serious, I thought to myself. My mother was standing with her hand on my father's shoulder, her long blonde hair draped over her shoulders, her big blue eyes sparkling. My father grunted and motioned for me to sit down, gesturing toward the empty armchair in the room. I sat, feeling like I was under scrutiny as everyone eyed me.

"What is it?" I burst out "What's going on?"

It was infuriating sitting there as the silence grew. The Gamma and Beta avoided my eyes.

Eventually, my father cleared his throat and looked at me with a grave expression on his face.

"Your mother and I have been talking," he said gruffly "and both of us would like to step down and let you run the pack, however" he emphasized "we don't feel comfortable with you doing it without a Luna by your side. A Luna makes your wolf stronger and even a chosen mate will increase your wolf's power."

I already knew all that. I fought the urge to roll my eyes. I had been taught this since I was a young boy after all.

"We know that you've only just turned eighteen," my mother said anxiously "and if you want to wait we'll respect that choice. But I married your father when I was eighteen and under our guidance the pack has become one of the strongest packs in the country. We feel that you can only make it stronger and more powerful. Besides, once school ends, it will give you more time to spend with your pack."

They were being deadly serious. I gaped. Was I really ready to choose a Luna? Sarah flashed through my mind. Hades snarled. I put a block up between us so that he couldn't continue to object. I ran a hand through my hair as I thought about it. It wasn't that unusual for an Alpha to choose a mate so young. In fact, in most packs, it was encouraged. It wasn't like they were asking for something impossible. I just thought I had a bit more time.

"We thought that it would be beneficial to hold a ball with all the unmated females in your age group who are in the closest packs. Maybe your mate might be from one of them" my mother said sweetly.

A ball. What did she think this was? A fairy tale like Cinderella? Both the Gamma and the Beta nodded their agreement. "You'll also be picking our replacements," Maxwell said with a glint in his eyes "so it's imperative that you give this some serious thought. I and Sandy have loved serving Alpha John and Luna Mary but it's time for the younger generation to take over. I will continue to train the pack members, if that is your wish" he offered, and I gave a small nod. I would prefer he continue doing that, he was one of the strongest warriors in the pack. It was going to be difficult to choose a Gamma and Beta that lived up to their predecessors. Maxwell and Sandy were extremely gifted and hardworking, not to mention completely loyal to my father.

My father cleared his head. "What are your thoughts son?" he prompted, his hand stroking his beard.

I sighed. I wasn't exactly against the idea, but I wasn't exactly thrilled about it either. Could you blame me though?

"What if I don't find my mate? What if I decide I want a chosen mate instead? Would you accept my choice?" I asked, eyeing them warily.

"If you don't find your mate, we will, of course, approve of any decision you make. May I ask if you have someone in mind?" my mother pushed.

I gave her a cocky grin. "Now, now Mother, that would be telling you my secret. Besides, you'll spill the gossip to all your friends if I give you a name" I teased and my father gave a hearty laugh.

I knew my mother far too well. She couldn't keep a secret to save her life. My father knew that as well. His eyes were twinkling with good humor as he winked at my mother.

She gave me a sheepish smile.

Maxwell stood up abruptly. "If that's all, I'm going to finish off some paperwork at home," he told my father who dismissed him with a wave of his hand. Sandy also stood up and quietly dismissed himself.

"When is this ball?" I asked, "I'm assuming it's after graduation?"

"We'd like to hold it during the mid-year break between semesters. It will give you a chance to introduce your mate, whoever that is to the pack, and if they are new, acclimatize themselves to the pack."

"Not to get married though?" I checked and they shook their heads. Whew. What a relief.

"We're not complete assholes" my father huffed "The wedding can be scheduled once you have had time to establish a bond and a relationship with your mate. We won't rush that. After all, you both have to be in sync with each other when it comes to leading the pack," he warned "It's common to have disagreements but I'm sure you'll be able to lead in harmony with time and effort. Relationships aren't easy you know" he told me.

The mid-year break was only a few weeks away. They weren't wasting any time. How long had they been planning this?

"Hold the ball," I said firmly as my mother beamed at me "but don't expect me to help with the decorations" I joked.

My mother giggled. "As if I would let you. I'm so excited" she declared coming over and kissing me on the cheek "You have no idea how happy you have made me" she breathed. "Your father and I want to take a vacation as soon as we're comfortable leaving you in charge. He never took me on a honeymoon you know" she complained.

"Well I promise to take you on the one of your dreams soon," my father said awkwardly "I know how much you've sacrificed to be Luna and the pack wouldn't be the same without you."

My mother melted. "Oh John" she breathed.

Yeah, that was my cue to leave. I stood up as my mother approached my father. He stood up and swept her into his arms. They were extremely comfortable with public displays of affection. But they were fated mates and the love of each other's life. I crinkled my nose.

"Get a room" I told them, shaking my head in disgust as they began to kiss.

My father's hand crept to my mother's butt and squeezed it. I felt like gagging. "I think the boy is right" he murmured as I started to walk out of the room "What do you say, honey."

I heard my mother giggle as I headed out, shutting the door behind me. I rolled my eyes, even though it was kind of sweet how much they adored each other. I headed to the kitchen, a cocky spring in my step. Who knows, maybe I'll at least get laid by some of the girls at the ball. Especially those desperate to be a Luna. I grinned. I had no qualms about sleeping with a girl if she offered herself to me. Maybe this ball wouldn't be so bad after all.