

Poppy POV

Anna and Eliza dragged me to the nearest table where they made me sit right in front of them while they ordered shots for us.

"How come there is no one else other than us?" I asked, still feeling the heat of my cheeks.

Anna shrugged. "Who cares? Have fun!" She raised the shot and we clinked the glasses of vodka. "To my loveliest friend Poppy who will lose all her freedom from tomorrow!"

Eliza laughed and I shook my head. We had our shots together on one go. "Aargh!" I rasped. The liquid went straight to my tummy, warming everything in its wake.

The male strippers stripped their shirts, grabbed the pole and looped around it to a complete circle.

"Oooooo!" Anna and Eliza shouted as my eyes became fixed to their broad shoulders. Damn. The werewolf males were all just too sexy.

Another shot was served to us while I ogled at them and Anna and Eliza made whooping noises. They jumped up and clapped their hands, encouraging the strippers to remove their pants when all of a sudden, Kilian and Damon came on the stage. They growled at the strippers in a way that every damn piece in the pub shook.

Seeing their Alpha and Beta together, the strippers bowed to them and... fled!

"Come back cowards!" Anna challenged them. "Don't you fucking ruin my night!"

Eliza and I couldn't help but burst into a laugh so hard at her that it gave stitches in my stomach. While I was relieved, Anna was clearly too annoyed.

Damon and Killian took to the poles. They pouted their lips in that sexy way that made Eliza and I swoon over our mates, and then they started to dance. Gods above. They were just too bad at pole dancing, but I was having the maximum fun of my life.

Damon went and stood in front of Killian, jutting his buttocks out with a pout. Killian gave a heated glance to us and stripped his shirt in one sweep. Damon stumbled back. He cursed Killian and then resumed his pole dancing.

"Booooo!" Anna shouted. "Go away!"

"Yayyy!" I couldn't help shouting, because Damon was looking so cute and sexy. Those beautiful muscles beneath his shirt rippled every time he made some move. And trust me, each and every pole dancing move that Damon made was like the cage fighting going musical. I laughed and laughed until my sides hurt and there was water in my eyes.

While Anna sat with an angry pout all the time, Eliza and I had

tremendous fun. And I realized why the entire pub was empty. It was because Damon must have reserved it entirely for this show.

Thankfully, Damon didn't take off their pants, else I would have become too jealous. They continued to dance for us for the next hour. It was superb. Eliza had brought over a loaded purse and she stashed some cash in my hands. Both of us tossed a lot of dollar bills at our personal male strippers. In the end, Damon jumped off the stage. He prowled towards me with that predatory look in his eyes and picked me up. "How was the show, m'lady?" he asked in a husky voice.

"Wonderful!" I giggled, wrapping my arms around his thick neck.

"Can I take you for dinner? Or if you allow, can I eat you for dinner?"

A purse was thrown on his back. "Fuck off you too! Get a room! Damon, you can't spoil my girls' night out!" It was Anna.

Damon looked over his shoulder, raised his eyebrow and arrogantly said, "It is already spoiled." With that, he strode out of the pub with me. Killian followed with Eliza in his arms as Anna followed all of us with a pout on her lips.

We went for dinner at a restaurant that had a lovely view. It was located over a mound and gave the view of the entire valley in front of us in which the Umbra pack thrived. It seemed that the owner was ready for us because the moment we entered, servers came to us with wine and starters. I was so hungry that I munched on my chicken nuggets hungrily while Damon watched me with

pure satisfaction. What was it with wolves and feeding their mates?

"When do you plan to get married?" Anna asked Eliza and Killian.

Eliza sagged her shoulders. "I want to finish my academy course before marriage."

"But Killian can't go back," Anna stated because she knew that Killian had to stay beside Damon forever now.

"I know!" she whined. "But it had been my dream to finish that course. I don't want to give up now that I am so close."

"You go baby," Killian said as he massaged her shoulder. "I won't stop you."

"What about you Poppy?" Anna directed the question at me.

Her question put me in a tizzy. "I— I don't know."

Damon squeezed my shoulder in reassurance. "Let her get well and if she wants to go, she can."

"I don't think your mom would allow her to leave, Damon," Killian said in a serious voice. "Being a Luna is a full-time job. After tomorrow, Luna Mary is going to train Poppy and I think it is necessary."

Silence hung in the air, heavy and awkward. I took a deep breath in. "I will decide later..."

Anna changed the topic to her latest research and we had food, not going back to that conversation. But as she talked, flashes of me shifting for the first time bounced in my head in bits and pieces. I gasped. Damon noticed my discomfort. He pulled me in his lap. "Are you okay baby?" he asked with a deep furrow in his forehead.

"I have shifted already..." I said in a low voice.

"Yes, you have," he said, stroking my cheek. "And your wolf is beautiful. Her name is Auren."

"Auren..." Her name made my lips curve up. For the rest of the evening, I tried to reach Auren. It was as if she was right there and she needed some push to come out.

An hour later, we drove back to the manor. Anna and Eliza took me away. "You can't meet her till tomorrow evening now!" Anna declared.

Damon leaned over to kiss my lips. "Tomorrow then," he said.

But what happened the next day was unimaginable.