

Poppy POV

Hilda paled as if she had seen a ghost. She sank to her knees on the ground like a sack of potatoes.

I backed up a little and let my grandfather get up. His gray wolf stared at me with wide eyes and then what happened next was astonishing.

His wolf backed a step. My grandfather, James Vincent, the rudest and the most horribly arrogant Alpha of all the packs in the world, stepped back. His gaze was fixed on me. My lips were peeled back to show my canines and I was sure that my canines were too sharp. I snapped them at him as a growl emanated from my chest. My growl was so menacing that all my pack's warriors became silent. They watched me with astonishment in their eyes from out of the magical circle.

Onyx trotted to me with his chin high, proud as hell. He licked me with his bloody tongue and nibbled my ear as if telling me how happy he was to see my wolf. The moment he did that, my wolf Auren pricked her ears. 'Our mate,' she whispered and licked him back.

I asked Auren to give me back my human form and she conceded. As soon as I was in my naked form, I heard a snap of fingers. Clothes appeared on my body. A black shift dress. Onyx's large presence continued to be by my side. I dug my fingers in his fur on the side. My gaze met with my grandfather's wolf who was still

watching me with caution and... wonder?

I chuckled, "Yes, I can shift. My wolf was always there, but it was my beloved nanny Hilda who planned on killing it." I padded towards her. "She made me drink the tea to the extent that I was rendered a helpless human. If it hadn't been for Anna and Damon, I would have never got my wolf back. Although for Damon, it never mattered whether I had my wolf or not. I am his mate and that is all that he ever wants. He loves me unconditionally."

"B— but how is this possible?" Hilda murmured.

I crossed my arm across my chest. "You tried your best to chase me from this pack to make your son the Alpha of the Shadow pack, but Hilda—" I rasped. "You reap what you sow!" I pointed at Sinclair. "You were giving him potions made by your sister to make his body as broad and healthy and glowing as an Alpha's. You wanted him to look like an Alpha even though he had omega blood in you." I scoffed. "Sinclair took the potion and his muscles swelled because of the potion. But do you know that I suspected all this ever since I saw Sinclair at the academy?"

Hilda's mouth opened wide in surprise as she suppressed a gasp.

"Yes, I knew that from the time he was at the academy," I added. "I related my suspicion to Anna and Damon. Damon asked Anna to add a potion in the cookies that would not only kill his wolf, but also make him shrink to his original size." I waved at him. "Now look at him. He is nothing but a husk of his original self." I shook my head and said, "I pity you, Sinclair. Your mother pushed you into making something you were clearly not cut for. And you suffered

for her sins.”

“You bitch!” Sinclair growled as he gave a sinister glance to Anna. “No wonder I was feeling low all the time. Both you and Anna, along with this mate of yours, have killed my wolf. I am going to appeal to the council of Elders against you and strip this mate of yours from his Alpha title!”

I raised my eyebrow and tilted my head. “We killed your wolf, but I remember when you had first shown your face in my apartment with a packet of tea bags that your mother had made for me. You had so lovingly declared her affections for me, urging me to have tea. Should I believe that those tea bags didn’t have poison in them?”

“You— You—” he stuttered, falling short of words. “You have no evidence!”

“In fact, I do have evidence.” Killian came to me and handed me his phone. “I played the video that Eliza had recorded when Sinclair had first come to me at the academy. She had done it as a joke, but it came so handy right now. I held the screen to his face and let the video play. When it stopped, I said, “After this Anna researched those tea bags. Do you want me to repeat what she researched?”

Sinclair’s face became ashen. He had never imagined that his ceremony would go kaput.

“You thought that you would circumvent this whole shifting issue after you would be declared at the Alpha,” I scoffed. “And in the

meantime your mother would help you get your wolf back?" I laughed humorlessly. "I have news for you. You will never get your wolf back! Not today, not ever!"

Damon's wolf was enjoying it too much. He nuzzled his snout in my neck as if saying that he was too proud of me.

I turned my attention to my grandfather. He shifted in his human form and a warrior rushed to him with pants. He slipped those pants, still looking too dazed.

I addressed him, "I thought that by going back to you and showing my wolf, you would be happy, but after you said that you killed my mother and let my father go on a wild hunt to find her, I seriously hate you. I no longer care if you like me or not. After I revealed the conspiracy to you, you still sided with your omega mistress."

"Poppy!" he growled.

"Shut up!" I growled back. "I know that Hilda is your mistress." I peered at Axl's dead wolf on the side. "Axl knew that. Did he not? How else would an omega's son rise to this level? She bedded her way up to get her son to be the Alpha of the Shadow pack. Axl egged on to Hilda to warm your bed because he wanted his son to take over!"