

New Beginning

Damon POV

Over the course of the day, Poppy became busy with arranging things in her absence. Anna decided to leave early for the academy saying that she had a lot to cover.

"Gods, I miss the academy!" Poppy said to Anna as the two hugged tightly.

"Why don't you join it back once all this is settled?" Anna suggested. "I will miss you so much! My dorm will be empty."

I rolled my eyes. "Poppy was with me after a few days of coming to the academy!"

Anna shot me a glare as she removed herself from Poppy. "Yes, you stole my best friend! I won't let that happen again."

I let out a possessive growl. "And how will that happen?"

Anna flicked her hair. She turned to Poppy. "Why don't you give him the charge of the Shadow pack too? That way he will be super burdened. You come to the academy and he won't have time to bother you."

That was it. This witch was poisoning my wife. I grabbed Poppy's waist and tucked her closer to me. "That is never happening, witch! Poppy will remain by my side forever."

Anna narrowed her eyes. "Wolf," she growled back. "Are you going to chain her to your bed? Because trust me, I will turn you into a rodent if you do that."

"I—"

She put her hand up to shut me. "Poppy," she addressed her friend. "I will wait for you to come to the academy. After all, you have to finish your course!"

Poppy giggled as the two of us argued. In the end, when she saw that the debate wasn't going anywhere, she interrupted, "Anna, the helicopter is ready for you. The pilot needs to come back and take us to the Umbra pack."

"Ohh!" Anna hugged Poppy again and then dashed towards the helicopter. "I will be waiting for you Poppy," she said before leaving, glancing at me. "And if you want my help, I am just a phone call away."

"I will," Poppy replied, holding her tightly.

Anna rushed to the chopper and waved us goodbye when the bird took to the skies. The helicopter was going to come back the next day after refueling.

That day, Poppy spent most of her time reviewing everything and taking the exact evaluation of the debt that burdened the pack.

In the afternoon, at lunch, I asked, "What about the Beta trials? Have you thought of the criteria for them?"

Poppy plucked a strawberry from a plate and popped it in her mouth. "I have asked Jose to take care of it."

"Good, he seems like a nice wolf. Also, I have asked about ten of my warriors to come here and assist your people."

"Thank you!" Poppy exclaimed as she clasped her hands.

My lips curled up seeing her buoyant after a tiring morning. "They will be coming tomorrow. Five will arrive by chopper and the remaining have decided to drive."

"Wonderful!"

It was in the evening that Poppy finished up her work. In her bedroom she packed her things because we were to leave by the next morning. As she was packing our clothes, she said, "I wanted to go for a stroll in the pack's territory. Would you like to accompany me?"

"I won't let you go alone," I replied, my hackles raised.

"Cool!" She swiftly packed whatever there was and half an hour

later stood in front of me. Wearing blue jeans and a black tank top from which her bra straps were showing, she appeared sexier than sex. She handed me my boots. "Here, wear them." I looked down and found her wearing sneakers. My girl looked like a high schooler. Goddess, could I ever fall more in love with her. I got up, swept her in my arms and kissed her on the lips. Soon our lips meshed and our tongues explored each other all over again.

Poppy pushed against my chest. I groaned when she pulled away. "Baby!" she chided me. "Not now!"

I pursed my lips and slouched. She caught hold of my collar and dragged me out of the house. The servants who we met with while on our way out giggled, seeing how their Alpha was pulling her husband. But I loved it. I loved how possessively she was dragging me. I would be her slave for my life. I think I had a silly grin on my face as I followed her. It was 7 PM and

We walked through the residential areas where people bowed to us the moment they saw us. Some were cutting the hedges, trimming the bushes, children were playing while groups of men and women were chatting. They looked... peaceful and happy.

As we entered the main streets, I saw shops lining them on both sides. Bright lights emanated from the shops but it was sad to see that there were not many people who were shopping. The market streets were mostly empty.

"People don't have the buying power anymore," Poppy said, her lips down turning. "I really want to do something for them."

"Do you know what is the best occupation for them?"

"What?" she asked, whipping her head towards me with interest.

"Agriculture." I waved at all the woods that the pack was surrounded with. "The soil is fertile and I can send my people to analyze it. They can give recommendations on what to grow here. This may take a year, but the yields will be good."

"But I want to do something fast!" she replied impatiently.

"Poppy, I know you want to do things fast, but do them the right way. It will give long term benefits."

"I guess you are right," she sighed. "I really want a new beginning."

We returned an hour later and Poppy was happy that there were no untoward incidents. I feel that the pack members were tired of it all. They wanted peace and Poppy promised them just that. They were mentally exhausted by James Vincent.

Five of my warriors had already arrived and Poppy introduced them to her newly formed pack council.

Next morning Poppy and I flew back to the Umbra pack with all her documents.