

Surprise

Damon POV

"Poppy?" Excitement rushed through me. But at the same time, panic bubbled in my chest. This was such a surprise that it shocked me.

The three other Howlers who had attacked were also taken by surprise. I took advantage of the panic and slashed them with my claws.

As soon as my men saw their Luna, they surrounded us from all sides and stopped attacking us. I noticed that Poppy hadn't come alone. She had brought with her a large number of wolves. All of them were her pack members.

Auren turned her head over her shoulder to look at me and purred. She shifted. I was so overwhelmed that I stood there in my place unable to coin words. When she came right in front of me and craned her head to meet my gaze, I broke, "Do you know how worried I was? Every day was difficult for me without you. I felt like I was going to die! And why have you come? This is the most dangerous place to be in at the moment. I—"

"Can I kiss you?" she said, her gaze darting to my lips.

Everything that I wanted to say to her vanished from my mind. There was a war going on around us but even if the goddess came from above, I couldn't have looked at her. My Poppy was gazing at me. My heart stammered. "What?"

"Can I kiss you, Damon?" she said, her eyes full of anticipation as if I would deny her.

"Oh Poppy!" I grabbed the back of her neck and pulled her to my lips. Her lips crashed on mine. I was so desperate for that touch that I wondered how I was living without her. But Poppy seemed more desperate than me. She curled her arms around my neck as she forced her tongue inside me and the next, I knew that we were tongue and teeth and a tangle of arms. We didn't want to leave each other. The world of chaos faded around us. It was just me and Poppy. Nothing else mattered. I didn't know who was crying between us because our cheeks were wet but I welcomed the feeling.

"I love you!" I rasped and she moaned in my mouth. When I pulled back, she let out a reluctant cry. I rested my forehead on hers and closed my eyes, letting her smell and her warmth seep in me. I was like a desert and she was my oasis. "Why did you come?" I asked in a low voice. It was a complete surprise. I had never expected that Poppy would come and attack Nash. How did she even know?

She chuckled as she cupped my cheeks. "I came because I had to. I couldn't stay there in my pack even for a minute more. We are going to discuss this further but right now I want you to take down that bastard!"

"And then?" I asked, worried that she would leave me again. In fact, a shudder ran down my body at the mere thought. "I can't live without you."

She stood on her toes and kissed me again as if to reassure me. "And then, I have a surprise for you." She kissed me again. "I can't live without you too. So I am not going anywhere!"

My Adam's apple bobbed as tears stung behind my eyes. The baddest and strongest Alpha in America was about to cry because he was just too happy.

"Damon, but that surprise will only be given when you—" she looked to the left where Nash was dealing with her pack members. I followed her gaze. Nash glanced at us and it was evident from his face that he was too pissed off. He hated us. Poppy turned my head back and said, "Just kill him or take him as your prisoner!"

A new energy surged through me. "As you say mate!" I rasped and winked at her. Then I returned my gaze to Nash and saw something silverish attached to his claws. That silver wasn't affecting Poppy's pack members. But how come? They were fighting him with such vigor and speed that he was also a little bewildered.

As if reading my thoughts, Poppy said, "Here have this." There was a green thread-like grass tied to her wrist.

"What is this?" I asked, frowning.

"I had asked Anna to make a potion that would combat silver that Nash and his men were using. She delivered them to me this morning and after my pack members had it, we came here straight away!"

My mouth dropped to the floor. "But how did you know?"

She winked. "I just knew!" She untied the grass from her wrist and gave it to me. I swallowed it down my throat and immediately felt something warm surging through my blood veins. I shook my head but my vision turned silvery.

"Remember, its effect will wear off within five hours."

I nodded. This was just turning better by the minute. Now I could understand Nash's frustration. "I wish all my warriors had it."

She chuckled. "My people are giving it to them. In fact, most of them have already eaten it."

"Mind blowing!" Eyes wide, I scanned at my warriors and they were now actually fighting with the Howlers without dodging them. Not only did Poppy save my men from silver, she attacked Nash's warriors from behind and took them by surprise. Nash wasn't prepared for it at all. I had no idea how Poppy came to know about it all, but my admiration for her rose higher.

She laughed. "Now go my wolf, and get that pussy cat!"

I burst out laughing. With a last kiss on her temple, I rushed towards my nemesis. Nash was already fighting with the Shadow pack warriors. As soon as he saw me, he turned his attention towards me. He lunged at me with his elongated claws and fangs. At first, I dodged. He landed on the other side on all fours. I sneered and with a blood curdling roar, charged Nash with every ounce of renewed energy I had in me.